

# **President's Letter**

These are certainly extraordinary times that we are dealing with not only as a society, but also as a club of woodworking enthusiasts. Because of the ongoing pandemic the Midwest Woodworkers Association was unable to go about its normal leadership transition process and I have been asked to step in to serve as president for the 2020-2021 club year. As Norm explained to me, it was just time for a change.

I want to take just a few moments to thank Norm for his extended time of service to the club. Norm has always gone above and beyond to help our club learn and grow in our woodworking knowledge and skills. This includes opening his own shop to be used for presenters, he has organized interesting field trips, persuaded members to present and show their skills, and reached out to all things woodworking to present to our club. I believe his leadership has made us stronger as a club and as an organization, and I want to extend to him my heartfelt thanks.

I must warn you, I'm not as humorous as Norm, but hopefully, I can add my own touch to the club as we move forward into the unknown. This brings me to the topic of our immediate plans for meetings and presentations. Based on the short time period afforded to me for the transition, the next meeting will be via Zoom, at our regularly scheduled meeting date and time this Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM.

My plan for Monday's meeting is to have a general discussion to answer anyone's questions about the transition and to gather the club's interest in having in-person meetings beginning in 2021. I would then transition to a presentation on the processes I go through in designing, planning and executing a building project, with the hopes of adding insight from our extraordinarily talented membership on their own processes. This discussion will include how to deal with the gremlins that always seem to spring up when building any woodworking project, and how to avoid some of the gremlins with proper planning. The meeting will conclude with some "show and tell" and sharing of Christmas projects in the process of being completed. The long-term plans for the club will ultimately be decided by the membership, but my current working plan is to begin having hybrid in-person (with proper safety protocols and following mandated guidelines) and Zoom based meetings. This will allow each member to determine their own level of risk and still stay connected as a club. But like many things right now, this could all change.

I did not intend to leave out the many philanthropic activities of MWA, including our support of Coyote Hills Christian Children's Home and wooden toys for children, however, I have not had time to meet with the leadership to determine the best path forward. If anyone has any insight or ideas for our next steps, please feel free to reach out to me.

I want to end by saying how much I have enjoyed the fellowship of other woodworkers during my time in the club and my goal is to grow and expand this woodworking hobby and vocation. Thank you, and I hope to see everyone, and your projects, on Monday at 6:30 PM.

Dean Gregory

# **MWA Toy Project**

As Dean noted above, 2020 has been an extraordinary year in many respects. We were unable to meet to paint toy car bodies and unable to have our usual fundraiser to buy wheels and pegs at the Hartsburg Pumpkin Festival. Also, we assume that many of the places where we normally provide toys such as Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald House would not be anxious to have strangers bring unknown material into their premises where there are already sick children. Currently, we are planning to provide Christmas gifts to the residents of Coyote Hill at Harrisburg in as safe a manner as possible. During the past year the club received several donations of wheels and other wooden toy parts and I have been working on my scrap pile to make toys and incorporate the donated wheels. I have a very poor scrap wood management program so there is plenty of clutter available that probably would have better gone into the barrel stove outside my shop. There are a lot of talented and imaginative woodworkers among us and perhaps those of you with extra time on your hands and tired of Netflix and YouTube have better ideas for gifts for the children. It probably would not be a bad idea to include something for the house parents who have far more patience and grace than I could ever imagine. I will post a few photos below and hope to stimulate others to join in an attempt to try to make Christmas as normal as possible for the residents of Coyote Hill. We have plenty of wheels, some are painted and some are not. If you need wheels, let me know and I will do my best to get them to you. You can pick them up at my shop if you want to go for a drive in the country or I will be glad to put them on your doorstep, ring the bell and run. While we do not have the usual number of toy cars available this year, I do have more than are needed for Coyote Hill so if you know of some organization that could use a few and would be willing to receive them, please let me know. Thanks!

Bob Youngquist

youngquistr@missouri.edu (best method to contact me) 573-474-6737 (land line, not answered until the politicians quit calling, leave a message) 573-355-8235 (cell, poor service in my shop, leave voicemail)



Other ideas? Keepsake boxes? Puzzles? Games? Cornhole game for the whole house? Stepstool for little ones to reach the sink (we know hand washing is important)? Picture frames?

## **Other Woodworking Resources**

Since I have a little more room, do any of the members know of woodworking resources that might be helpful to MWA members that should be added to the list? If so, please let me know and I will add them.

# Woodworking Resources

Cardwell Lumber 5927 Business 50 West Jefferson City, MO 65109 573-893-2836 retailsales@cardwelllumber.com http://cardwellhardwoods.com/ Monday-Friday: 7:00 AM-5:00 PM Saturday: 8:00 AM-12 noon Domestic and exotic hardwoods, sheet goods, power and hand tools, woodworking supplies

#### **Taylor Toolworks**

https://www.taytools.com 610 Big Bear Blvd., Suite 431 Columbia, MO 65202-3737 573-397-6432

#### **Born Again Barns**

Tammy Rosek 874 Anita Ave. Antioch, Illinois 60002

Midwest Woodworkers' Association c/o Bob Youngquist 4435 Highway PP Columbia, MO 65202 youngquistr@missouri.edu 847-265-1500 https://www.facebook.com/BornAgainBarnsAntioch/ ?hc\_location=ufi By appointment only Solid wood slabs and boards, barnwood, reclaimed wood

### Dungarees

10% off orders under \$200 15% off orders over \$200 Free shipping on orders over \$55 Discount code: MWAMMWT used in the last page of checkout https://dungarees.com

## Hahn Custom Laser Engraving, LLC

573-489-8732 https://www.facebook.com/HahnCustomLaserE ngravingLLC/