

# Newsletter

http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org April 2021

#### **President's Letter**

Dear MWA Members,

The past year has been full of unforeseeable challenges throughout the world. This has forced us to suspend our MWA meetings for a period and recently our meetings have been virtual via Zoom. But it is our hope to begin having blended meetings, that are both in person and virtual, beginning this Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. I'm sure this switch will have its own challenges, but just like the woodworkers we are, we will overcome any obstacles. With that being said, we will have one more meeting using Zoom, tomorrow, April 26<sup>th</sup>.

I want to take a moment to thank Terry Selby and Boone County Millworks for allowing us to have our meetings at Terry's place of employment for so many years. With Terry's pending retirement we will be transitioning to a new meeting location, which beginning with May's meeting will be Sawdust Studios once we work through the details. I have spoken to Cruz Chavez, who owns Sawdust Studios, and he is very excited to build a relationship with everyone in Columbia's woodworking community. I have been very impressed with Cruz's flexibility and his desire to work with us.

This month's presentation will be about woodworking hacks and tricks, which there never seems to be a shortage of. I have several that I've compiled that I will go over, but our membership has an abundance of knowledge that I would love for you to share during the meeting. The thing that I've found is that there is about five ways to do any task in the wood shop and the best one is the one that works for your individual needs.

Since I have a son getting married this summer, I'm not going to be able to organize each and every presentation through August because my "honey do list" is as long as my arm and growing. This is why I'm asking the membership to come up with some ideas for May, June, and August. (We are planning to take July off from having a regular meeting.)

A couple of ideas that I plan to have at some point in the future is a presentation on the pluses and minuses of various styles of drawer construction, which was suggested at our last meeting. I would also like to have a presentation on the Japanese art of Kumiko, which I see a lot in Mike Pekevich's work. I think this adds a certain elegance to Mike's work, which I suggest you google and take a look at. And finally, in the same Japanese theme, I would like to learn more

about Shou Sugi Ban and how I might apply it to my own projects. My thought is that this is predominantly used in outdoor projects, but maybe not.

I hope my contribution to the newsletter was not too late for everyone to participate in tomorrow's meeting, and I look forward to visiting with those members that can attend. Kindest regards,

Dean Gregory

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