

http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org August 2022

### **President's Letter**

Summer is flying by and I hope the membership has been enjoying the summer break. I have enjoyed being outside quite a bit, but I've also continued to work on projects in my woodshop, including preparing for a presentation at our August MWA meeting. I've also been thinking more and more about our October fundraiser at the Hartsburg Pumpkin Festival, and all the work we need to complete prior to that weekend.

One of the great benefits of being a member of the Midwest Woodworkers Association is the friendships and connections you can build. I was thinking about this as I went out to Norm Anderson's woodshop to use his drum sander on my current project. If it was not for Norm's generosity, I would still be trying to get my live edge and epoxy tabletop flat. An added benefit was that Norm and Frankie gave me some of their wonderful produce from their garden. But these types of relationships are the backbone of our association and are an integral part of our group's success. It is also why I'm confident that the membership will all come together to assist with the fundraiser this October.

I will have signup sheets available for the Pumpkin Festival fundraiser at the next meeting so that we can start getting organized and outline what will be needed. The challenge this year, now that we are past most of the issues with the pandemic, is that Terry will be enjoying time out of town with his family. Therefore, we will need everyone's help to pull this off.

I'm constantly looking for presentation ideas and was really struggling to find a good topic for our first meeting after the summer break. Then it struck me that I had already developed a presentation over the break when I taught a class on how to do a live edge deep pour epoxy tabletop. So, I know it has only been a couple of years since we had a presentation on the topic, but I believe I can provide a lot of good information and tips for those that might want to try using deep pour epoxy in the future. I will cover layouts, wood preparation, building forms, calculating volumes, tinting, pouring, de-forming, and final finish options.

For those that don't know, I teach woodworking classes on the third Wednesday of each month at Sawdust Studios that usually focus on woodworking fundamentals, but sometimes I teach classes like the epoxy class. I find that the preparation and then teaching of each subject helps me to refine my own abilities. With that in mind, I'm teaching a class on handplanes this Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, that will cover the history, sharpening, set up, uses in the shop, and many of the jigs for using a handplane. If you're interested, you can signup on the Sawdust Studio website.

As I mentioned earlier, I'm always looking for presentations, so if you, or someone you know, would like to present, please let me know. If you don't feel uncomfortable asking, then please give me their name and I'll reach out to the individual. Some ideas I have for later this year are to have presentations on the Wood-Mizer sawmill, building Shaker boxes, wood carving, how to fume wood, how to do Kumiko, green wood furniture making, and I'm kind of stuck after that. If you know anyone that can do these presentations, please let me know.

Since I've been focusing on volunteers during much of this newsletter, it only seems appropriate that I ask for one more volunteer. We need someone to update and maintain the MWA website. It is in desperate need of an update and some TLC. If you have a few hours a month you can devote to this endeavor, we would be very appreciative.

Finally, the Woodturners Club is in the process of purchasing the necessary cameras, computer equipment, microphones, and monitors to assist with viewing presentations. I would like to discuss and vote on the possibility of sharing in a portion of this cost so that we might use it for the MWA meetings in the future. The equipment would help with the Zoom portion of our meetings and provide the ability to show closeup work on a large screen TV. I know any assistance with what type of equipment and how to build this platform would be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting that is scheduled for Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Sawdust Studios at 6:30 PM. Please come and enjoy the fellowship, and bring any project, tool, or tip you would like to share with the group.

Kindest regards,

Dean Gregory,

President, Midwest Woodworkers Association



# **Woodworking Resources**

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### **Taylor Toolworks**

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Midwest Woodworkers' Association c/o Bob Youngquist 4435 Highway PP Columbia, MO 65202 youngquistr@missouri.edu

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