

http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org March 2022

### **President's Letter**

I'm so glad to know that springtime is just around the corner and there is a lot more daylight at the end of the day so I can enjoy the outdoors. The only draw back is that I now see all the projects that I need to work on in my yard, which then reduces my shop time even more. Since I injured myself in early February, I've really struggled to get anything done in my workshop, but hopefully that will change over the next couple of weeks.

I hope the rest of the membership has been working away in your respective woodshops, and I can't wait to see what you have accomplished at our meeting at Sawdust Studios this next Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM. We are fortunate to have not one presenter on Monday but instead we will have three of our members, Norm Anderson, Marika Estrapala, and Cruz Chavez, showing their individual takes on building cutting boards. I'm especially excited to see the 3-D cutting board process.

MWA has several great programs lined up over the next couple of months and I truly appreciate the membership's assistance with building a pipeline of presentations. Next month I'm especially eager to go on our first visit to a member's workshop since I became president. I'm very interested in learning more about the intarsia process of balancing woodworking skills with an artist's eye when we go visit Darren Laupp's shop in April. Then in May we will be hearing from Joe Marschall, a Senior Research Associated from the University of Missouri's School of Natural Resources, on how salvaged trees are used to determine climate change through the centuries. And finally, in June I'm working on a tour of the new MACC Makers facility here in Columbia. The issue with scheduling this tour is they are closed on Mondays, so we will need to discuss maybe meeting on a different day for the month June.

Terry Selby was recently contacted about the Hartsburg Pumpkin Fest, on the weekend of October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, about MWA purchasing a booth for our fundraiser, which we have decided to do. Just to assist in helping any new members on understand why we have a booth at the Pumpkin Fest I want to give a little background. Historically MWA has purchased a booth and provided the parts for children to build their own toy car or truck for a free-will donation. We

then in turn use the proceeds to purchase the materials to make additional toy cars and trucks that we give to local children's charities over the Christmas holidays. We usually make about 2,000 cars and trucks each year for the community.

Historically this fundraising effort has been spearheaded by several of our legacy members who work a very long weekend in October to make all of this happen. However, if we want to continue working this event, we need to have a few other MWA members begin to take some of the load. I for one plan to be more involved this year, and I think it will be a hoot to see young boys and girls probably swing a hammer for the first time and to see the joy on their faces as they build something themselves. Now if that doesn't put you in the Christmas spirit then nothing will.

I look forward to seeing our membership on Monday, either in person or via the zoom link.

Kindest regards,

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Dean Gregory,

President, Midwest Woodworkers Association

# **Woodworking Resources**

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