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June 2009

Volume 17, Issue 6

Lee's Summit Woodworkers' Guild, Inc.

President's Corner

By Greg Hull – Share the Knowledge



more of them by Saturday morning. I worked all last week and was glad to have some dedicated help.

This was an eye opening experience. I was not accustomed to working with people with such a variety of skills. The only thing everyone had in common was a desire to work and help get the job done. I am used to working with do it yourselfers, woodworkers, mechanics, metal workers, etc. Early on, I was asked to do a project plan and include any necessary skills required. Boy, did I learn a lesson. The only specific skill I identified was a plumber for some advice on commercial plumbing (urinal). I had incorrectly assumed that everyone knows how to paint, do basic plumbing, and has some experience with tools. I learned that everyone would like to have these skills but few did. Thankfully, there were some volunteers who had a variety of skills and were willing to share their knowledge. Everyone who was a part of this project was anxious to help and eager to learn. The more

we showed people the more they wanted to know and more ownership they wanted to take. People were all sharing their skills and trying to get everyone else involved.

How does my recent project relate to our Guild? A few weeks ago I attended our spring shop tour. Guild members Lester Gillett, John Freeland, and Randy Bray, all opened up their shops for the rest of us to see and learn. I enjoyed seeing and talking to everyone and learned several things from seeing each of these shops. This exchange of knowledge is what a Guild is all about. While I enjoyed the shop tour, as I'm sure the others who attended did, I think that if you ask them, Lester, John, and Randy, probably had

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As I compose this column, I am tired. I just took part in a great learning experience. My church had an event this past weekend called "every1serve.com".

The goal was to participate in service projects throughout the area and see how much we could collectively accomplish and how many people we could impact. We wound up with over 90 projects and thousands of man-hours.

I was asked to lead a team in remodeling a couple of restrooms in the main church. The project included a little of everything, from painting & plumbing to electrical and laminate fabrication. You know how projects go. The two restrooms in the initial plan wound up being five, and then a scheduling conflict meant we had to complete one of them Friday afternoon and two

NEXT MEETING

Tues, June 9, 2009 7:00pm
Lee's Summit Christian Church
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June Program— Woodworking Joints



As woodworkers we sometimes get 'hung up in a joint'. (*Pun intended*) That is – what joint should I use and how is it made? Or maybe even; what types of joints are there other than what I'm familiar with? Suffice it to say; woodworking is pretty much about joints, isn't it? After all, to build something pieces of wood have to

be put together to make the whole and that requires some kind of joinery.

This month's program addresses this issue of joinery. Mr. Ron Lomax from the K. C. Guild will be showing us some of the things he learned at a school he attended about joints and how to lay them out and make them.

He will have examples of different joints both useful and simply challenging. We might even be challenged to attempt to try a new joinery technique to add it to our repertoire of joint making. ☺

Presidents Corner Continued.....

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the most fun and were justifiably proud of showing off their shops and answering questions. Acquiring skills and knowledge are only part of the joy of our craft. Another part is standing back and admiring the finished product, knowing

that you made it. But it's my opinion that the real joy comes from sharing your knowledge with others. The satisfaction of passing your skills on to another craftsman is a joy that must be experienced to be fully understood.

Please contact Mel Bryant or myself if you have ideas for future programs or you want to share your skills. ☺

Greg Hull

President

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Out of the Workshop-Guild Member Profile Of Gerard Wissman

How many woodworkers can say that their inspiration for woodworking is because of their sister and be proud of the fact? Such is the case for Gerard Wissman, this month's featured guild member. The beginning of woodworking and life began for Gerard in Cape Girardeau in Southeast Missouri. It was when Gerard was about 8 years old, or even earlier, that his sister, who was older than he, helped spark the creative woodworking spirit into life within Gerard. She would go to the garage while their father was away at work and take the hinges off of the tool cabinet, which they were not supposed to get into and was kept locked to keep the tools from wandering off. She would then proceed to entertain her own creative talents by making many things using wood and many of the tools that had been held captive, pleading to be released from their seclusion. Even at the early age of 5 or 6, Gerard was interested in woodcarving. He would be given a dull pocket knife and had to figure out how to sharpen it and begin carving. Then, assisted by his sister's initiative and example, his interest in woodworking beyond carpentry began to blossom. She also encouraged Gerard's creativity and prompted him to build whatever he wanted.

Gerard went to grade school in Cape Girardeau and high school in Jackson, a town a few miles north of Cape Girardeau. He then went to college at Southeast Missouri College/University. During his senior year of high school,



Guild Member, Gerard Wissman

Gerard had a unique experience in that he had complete run of the school shop where he would spend around 3 hours a day working on woodworking. Then he would spend about 2 hours a day in the art department. The result of which for his senior year credits, Gerard received Advanced Woodworking Credit which had been created specifically for him. During college, and some in high school, Gerard worked for a general contractor that built houses and apartment buildings where they taught him to be a carpenter. He then went to work during college, for a company that sold motorcycles and boats. There he did some mechanical work on them, mostly boats, by setting them up and doing some repair.

After college, Gerard went to work for American Greetings as an engraver in the

engraving division that was based in Cape Girardeau. After 5 years he was laid off and moved to the Kansas City North area in 1975 where he worked for an industrial engraving company. That company did engraving for year books, stationery, envelopes, invitations and things of that nature. After working there for 8 years, Gerard started his own business which he has operated for 25 years. His business is making dies for embossing for many different industries such as electronics, fashion, as well as printing. Another part of the business is to make fixtures and jigs for the assembly of the embossed products.

During the busy years of life from about 1974 until 2001 woodworking had to be put on hold. Then in 2001 Gerard started to work for Paxton's Lumber and his woodworking

blood began to be revived. While there he met people that built guitars and got him interested and back into the woodworking. Since then he has built 6 or 7 guitars and a mandolin, therefore, lutherie has become his specialty in woodworking.

Gerard's favorite power tool is the band saw partly due to the fact of its use in his business. Chisels are his favorite hand tool. That's partly due to his carving experience and the skills he has developed in the engraving profession. He says its interesting that his skill in chisel use has come from "not" using them because the techniques used in engraving has given him the dexterity and expertise for chisel work. The favorite wood he would choose is mahogany. While talking about tools and the necessity of acquisition, Gerard says that; "Skill is more important than the tool." Gerard enjoys "making the cut by hand" rather than use a lot of jigs or special tools. The finish that he has the most experience with is nitrocellulose lacquer sprayed on but has recently used wipe on poly and likes it, too.

Some of the projects Gerard has made include; bookcases, cabinets, a portable display rack for rugs, bonsai stands, a lamp table, a chaise lounge made out of ipé and of course instruments. His most challenging project was the mandolin and the favorite has been the Koa guitar. The special memory related to woodworking is his sister in her undaunted persistence to do

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Webmaster Needed

Affective immediately, design or HTML the guild is in need of someone to take over maintaining the guild web site. experience would be helpful.

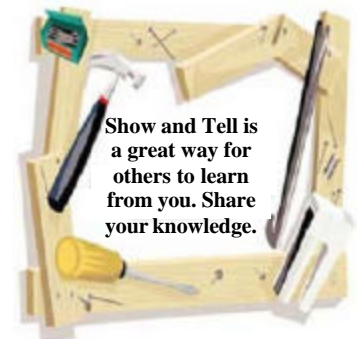
Our current webmaster is moving to Florida to take advantage of a job opportunity and will no longer be able to do this.

This job is an important job and does not require a significant amount of time.

Previous web page

All information would be transitioned to a new person as soon as possible.

Please consider volunteering your time and services to help share the guild information with others. ☺



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Secretaries Notes For May 12, 2009



Secretaries Notes

President Greg Hull called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. General statements made by the President were:

GUILD DUES – Now for 2009 are \$15.00 and are currently being collected. Receive your membership card and you are eligible for discounts at various vendors.

TOY PROJECT -Supporting our raffle gives you a chance to add to your collection of needed supplies and tools and also a way of giving back to the community through your charitable donation. Thanks to those that are supporting this project.

SHOP TOURS – Thanks to members John Freeland, Lester Gillet and Randy Bray for the opportunity to see their shops this month. We always learn something at these shops no matter their size. We look forward to the fall season when we can tour other shops– so get your name on the list.

BUS TRIP – We still are looking for that great place to visit – anyone have an idea that would appeal to us woodworkers?

GUILD LOGO SHIRTS & HATS- Order your preferences now. Check with Mel Bryan.

LIBRARY – Looks like we have this under control – so make use of the books, videos and tools that we have for loan.

MEETING NOTICES – During bad weather tune to CHANNEL 41 for any cancellation of the GUILD meeting.

GUEST/VISITORS - Welcome and please sign the registry (this gets you a copy of the newsletter for the next two months). Attendance was 73.

SHOW AND TELL—

1. Looks like we have this under control – so make use of the books, videos and tools that we have for loan.
2. Daniel Blackmon had a CANDY (GUMBALL) MACHINE with a COIN SLOT.
3. Kevin Newman displayed a COFFEE TABLE made from OAK.
4. Roy Wahl had PHOTOS of a FISH TANK BASE made of MAPLE and CHEERY and also a SET OF BOOKSHELVES made of

POPULAR.

5. Mel Bryan had a PHOTO SHOW of an ANTIQUE POWER SHOW (OLD BELT DRIVEN TOOLS).
6. Bob Perry had another of his fantastic INTARSIA PROJECTS made from NATURAL WOOD TYPES to get the desired colors.

Thanks to those that participated and hope we did not overlook some members project. Also, remember that you are entered in a drawing if you participate in Show an Tell.

PROGRAM—Vice President Mel introduced the program for tonight which will feature the BEST of the BEST (GUILD members) who will lead the discussions toward answering any of those questions or problems that are begging for an answer. We appreciate Daniel Blackmon, Gerhard Wissman, Charlie Brinkley, Kevin Newman, John Freeland and Mel Bryan for stepping to the plate to take on these curve balls that will be thrown their way. All in all this was an enjoyable meeting that was way too short – this leaves opportunity to have a follow up. Thanks to everyone on both sides and don't forget to help Vice President Mel Bryan by keeping a lookout for anything that would be of interest to our members.

COOKIES: Thanks to the guild for providing the cookies.

NEXT MEETING—June 9, 2009.

President Greg Hull closed the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Akers ☺

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LEE'S SUMMIT
WOODWORKERS' GUILD,
INC.

1611 NE Oak Tree Dr.
Lee's Summit, MO 64086



Mission Statement

The Lee's Summit Woodworkers' Guild will strive to promote the exchange of woodworking information and further the craft.

WE'RE ON THE WEB

Web Site: www.lswoodguild.com

Guild Member Profile Continued..

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woodworking by getting into the locked tool cabinet which has helped form his own creative drive. Advice he would offer is; "find someone close that you can 'hang around' that can help you with your questions and provide inspiration."

Another hobby Gerard has is riding motorcycles which he does as a recreational activity whereas in younger days he used to race motorcycles. While in college he also rebuilt two sports cars from the ground up.

Thanks, Gerard, for letting us have this look into your life and background that we might get to know you better. Keep following your

passion and creativity and keep the woodworking flowing. ☺

Mel Bryan

New Members

Congratulations and welcome to these first time new members of the Lee's Summit Woodworker's guild. We're glad to have you aboard. ☺

Welcome Aboard!

Larry James
Lees Summit

Albert Daniels
Kansas City

Raffle—DeWalt Jig Saw

This month we have a Makita Maktec 18v Cordless driver/drill. The model number is MT065SK2.



- This item includes a keyless chuck for fast and easy bit removal.
- 19 torque settings plus drill mode for more power and greater control.
- Forward-reverse switch.
- 2 speed gear switch.
- Rubberized grip enhances comfort.
- Includes: two batteries, charger and case.

Raffle tickets can be purchased at the meeting for \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

All proceeds will be used to benefit our charity fund and the Toys for Tots program. ☺

