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Lee's Summit Woodworkers' Guild, Inc.

President's Corner By Greg Hull



NEXT MEETING

Tues, March 9, 2010 7:00pm
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March is here, the woodworking show is behind us, and I don't know about you, but I'm looking forward to spring. This is the first time in several years that I haven't been able to attend the Woodworking Show on Friday. I was working elsewhere but was there in spirit. I want to start by offering my thanks to Kevin and all the Guild members who manned the booth over the course of the event. This show is really a highlight of my year. Happily I was there all day Saturday and was there Sunday afternoon to learn that Jay Helland and his desk had won the "Show off Contest." (I'm still going to call it the people's choice award,

as it was voted on by the attendees and no one knew who's project was whose.)

To attend and spend hours conversing with fellow woodworkers is great. Sometimes the shows and the weather are better than others, but the conversations are always great and I always learn something new and meet someone new. Since the show, I've been thinking about why we are all members of the guild. I came up with a list and am curious if these hold true for the rest of the members. Camaraderie (fellowship of other woodworkers), Learning (gaining knowledge through our programs and conversations with other members), Showing off the results of our efforts (Show and tell), Sharing Knowledge

(presenting tips, tricks, techniques), Savings (guild discounts), Fun (laughing and joking with each other and of course Kevin's Charity raffle. But I keep asking myself, what's the next step for our Guild? We've added a couple of suppliers into our discount program simply by taking the time to approach them and follow through. Do you know of other suppliers or businesses that you routinely use that we should approach? In the last year or so, we've come a long way into growing the show and

(Continued on page2)

In This Issue:

- Presidents Corner
- Member Profile- Lester Gillett
- Jay Helland Takes the Show



March Program— Box Making By Jim McCord.

We are extremely pleased to have our own Jim McCord bring this month's program!

appreciated as he simplifies the steps and techniques he uses to make beautiful boxes.

you Jim for your expertise and we are looking forward to the program.

Box Making – techniques, tools, work flow, finishing and much more will be covered by our fantastic guild member. Jim's humble and gracious style will certainly be



Have your pad and pencil ready, and be ready to learn about Box Making! ☺

This is certainly a great opportunity to apply some of these techniques to other wood working projects as well. Thank

Roy Wall

Presidents Corner Continued

(Continued from page 1)

tell portion of our meetings. It's now a major part of the meetings. What's next? Do we formalize a Mentor type program? If so, do we use it to work with youth or focus on members who are newer to woodworking than many of our members? Do we get a Guild project (s) that we can work on in teams? I've been approached several times in the last few weeks with various projects and would like your input. Randy will be talking at this next meeting about

an idea he came up with. The Rotary club here in Lee's Summit has asked if we can build a case for them to hold and display their various award banners at their meetings (I'll talk to that this next meeting). Last year, the historical society asked for our help. I'd love to take the guild to the next level with programs and projects but need your input as to the interest. I look at the purpose of any guild as "acquiring and passing on knowledge and skills about our craft". Please take a few minutes to

stop and ask yourself if you think we're doing all we can in this regard or how can we take it to the next level. ☺

Greg Hull

President

Out of the Workshop-Guild Member Profile Of Lester Gillett

Gardner, Kansas was the birthplace of this month's member, Lester Gillett. That is where Lester lived and attended high school until his father took him to join the Army. The Army experience, although somewhat troubling, became more or less a blessing in disguise. Lester had wanted to become a mechanic; however, the high school did not have any shop classes; either woodworking or mechanical. So, thanks to the Army, Lester got his training in mechanics. After Ft. Leonard Wood and the initial mechanic training he went to Ft. Benning to be trained as a tank mechanic.

In November of '65 Lester was sent to Germany for one year. Then it was on to Vietnam where he was a mechanic in the motor pool at Cameroon Bay for 13 months where he luckily didn't work on tanks, but worked on jeeps. After that tour of duty, it was on to Ft. Riley where Lester worked on jeeps until his discharge in 1968. After returning home, Lester began working for a Chrysler dealer in Olathe.

Shortly thereafter, Lester met his wife, Helen, and they were married in August of 1969. Helen's uncle was part owner of a Jeep dealership for which Lester began working. Then after their son, Russell, was born in 1973, Lester got



Guild Member, Lester Gillett

into photography and worked for a portrait studio for 2 years. That career ended when the owner was killed in a car accident. Lester went back under the hoods of Jeeps and they moved to Joplin, Mo. They were there for 5 years then moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma where he worked for another Jeep dealer for 6 years until the 'oil boom' ended. So, it was back to the K.C. area where Lester worked at Lee's Summit Ford for a year then a Kansas City, Kansas jeep dealer for 2 more years. The next 18 years were spent at the Jack Miller Jeep dealership in North Kansas City until that dealership was closed because of the economic slump. Lester was planning to retire soon, so this just brought it on a

little ahead of schedule.

Lester's entry into woodworking began, as many others, when they bought their house in Independence in 1980. He started out with a Delta bench table saw and in the late '80's he and his dad had his shop built in the back yard. He then began collecting tools. He found a pretty good deal on a Delta cabinet saw that has center position in his shop. His dad wanted to try spindle turning, so he got a lathe and began to teach himself, and his dad, how to turn and a new passion began to develop.

Lester discovered some trees that the City of Independence was removing. After contacting them to see if he could have

them they agreed. He then started looking for a sawmill and found Ron Collins. Ron cut his logs and Lester got interested in sawmill work and began helping him with the sawmill work. After Ron's death, Lester looked for another sawmill and found J. R. Jones whom he works with now.

Lester found about our guild at the Woodworking Show and joined in 2000 or 2001. What Lester enjoys about the guild is the camaraderie and learning new techniques and methods. As a result of being a member, he made connections with Sonny Sharar and began turning segmented bowls and improving his turning abilities.

Lester finds that woodworking is a kind of stress reliever for him, plus he enjoys "making" things. Most of his woodworking time comes in the afternoons and evenings. The specialty area Lester engages in is segmented turning and the sawmill work. An area, he would like more skill in is using hand tools. His favorite tool is the lathe and he feels like he is pretty well stocked on tools, however, he would like to have a 24" dual drum sander. Lester's favorite woods are red oak and sycamore.

Some of the projects Lester has made are; a tall clock (Arts & Crafts style), 6 rocking horses, toy boxes, a

(Continued on page 4)

Member Profile Continued.

rocking chair and a lot of turning projects. The rocking chair was his most challenging project because of all the angles plus the fact it was made of white oak. Lester's favorite projects were the rocking horses. Advice from this woodworker to new woodworkers is; take some classes. Lester is willing to mentor anyone, which in fact, he is currently doing, particularly in turning.

Another interest Lester has is stock car racing, both at the track and on TV. He has been to about all of the truck races and collects the die-cast models of the famous drivers' vehicles. As a special birthday present from his sister, he took part in the "Jeff Gordon Racing Experience" where he got to take 5 laps up to 130 mph.

Thanks Lester for letting us get to know you better and keep the chips flying. ☺

Mel Bryan

Items For Sale

Earl Reed has 15 to 20 wood turning tools available. He is selling them for \$25.00 each with \$5.00 from each going to the guild. Buddy Epperson will have them for sale at the March meeting. ☺

Jay Helland Takes the Show-Wood show Winner



I'd like to thank those of you who attended and voted for the bubinga desk that I entered in the KC Woodworking Tool Show "Project Show Off" contest which took place February 19-22, 2010. A special thanks to my good friend Steven Todd, who hauled the desk to and from the show and to the desk's resting place in my office. To follow the journey of the bubinga desk

you can read the previous articles on this website about how my wife (Kay) bought the bubinga for me; to the design challenge conducted at Hollis and Miller Architects, Inc., and finally how I heard about the contest from Kevin Newman and Greg Hall at

process, the educators that present at the Woodworking Tool Shows make the final selection for the Grand Prize. I have no illusions about winning the table saw but it was a very enjoyable meeting and visiting with the others who entered projects.

To keep up with the regional project winners, just check out the Woodworking Tool Show website to view the other outstanding projects from the other cities. <http://cms.thewoodworkingshows.com>.

In closing, I thank God for giving me the gift and talents to do woodworking. *Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone!)*

☺

the Lee's Summit Woodworking Guild December meeting. Thanks Kevin and Greg for encouraging me to enter the contest.

Now that the desk has won the local contest it will be several weeks before we know how the desk fairs for the grand prize of a Delta Unisaw. As I understand the judging

Metro Hardwoods New Location Opening Soon



The New metro hardwoods location is opening in a couple weeks. Jeff says they will be closed on Monday for a few days while they relocate to the new location. just down the road about a block and across the street from the old location on

Noland road. It's in the old Pier 1 imports building which is directly across from Krispy Crème donuts.

Jeff is planning on sending out more information and details once they become available. We will also post it in the newsletter. ☺

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LEE'S SUMMIT
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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

New Members Woodworking Show 2010

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

A special thanks to all the volunteers that worked the woodworkers show year.

We had a great group of volunteers that helped in a variety of ways. From those that displayed and shared their talents with passer by's to those that did demonstrations, it was all greatly appreciated.

It's great to see so many people offering to help out with such an event. Without everyone's efforts the show would not have been the success



it was.

A big thanks to Mel Bryan for updating the Power Point.

We had a great location this year with lots of traffic flow. We look forward to seeing a few new faces at the guild meeting in coming months. ☺

Welcome Aboard!

Mike Fowler - Kansas City

Dick Loneman - Lee's Summit

John Pinnell - Lee's Summit

Geary Rose - Warrensburg

Michael Straughn - Lee's Summit



Raffle—

This months big ticket raffle item is a 12 gallon shop vac.

This Quiet Series wet/dry



vacuum is an economical choice that has even more power and 2.5-Inch accessories to take the work out of messy clean up. The low-profile design, easy moving casters and top carry handle gives this unit the mobility needed to reach the really tough jobs.

If the shop vac don't tickle your fancy, you wish to choose this 6 piece flush

trim router bit set donated to the guild by Woodline USA. This set is a \$60 value.

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. ☺

