



THE NEWS LETTER OF THE GUILD OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WOOD WORKERS
132 DRINKWATER ROAD KENSINGTON, NH 03833

May 1993

Volume 4, Number 4

The President's Message

Well, what a winter we've had. I think that I have spent more time shoveling snow and hauling in the wood for the wood stove in my shop than actually working with wood. Although, technically speaking, splitting and stacking could be considered woodworking.

Since early January, I've been out of my shop 2 or 3 days a week working at a friend's shop on a neat restoration project. He is an antiques dealer and, a few years ago, he discovered a ship's figurehead at an auction. It is a carving of an Indian and his hunting dog.

When I first saw it, it looked more like a pile of driftwood than anything else. There were pieces missing and pieces broken and a lot of what was there was rotted badly. Had the decision been mine to make, I would never have bought the thing. But, my friend, being infinitely more wise than I, bought it.

It turned out to be the figurehead off the ship "WILLIAM PENN", circa 1790 and it was almost certainly carved by one of the 18th century's premier sculptors, William Rush. What a find! My job is to remove the rotten stuff without touching the original visible surface and grafting in new wood to get it ready for carving. It is quite a challenging project.

The other 2 days a week (plus weekends), I have renewed my interest in musical instrument making. This winter, I made two guitars. This work is very finicky and intricate. Consequently, it is hard to get out of them financially, what I invest in them. But, coming up with a new design and making two instruments has been a passionate compulsion for me this winter. However, my wife is very glad they are finished!

The miserable weather was also responsible for the canceled slide lecture that I was scheduled to give at the Art Center at U.N.H. Even though it was snowing hard, I decided to strike out for Durham. However, my van decided to breakdown on I-89 in the middle of the blizzard.

We eventually made it to Concord where some temporary surgery was performed, enough to get us back home anyway. I was very frustrated and disappointed to say the least.

But now Spring has sprung and a woodworker's thoughts turn to the Guild meeting at David Lamb's shop! David's demonstration of carving a ball and claw foot is sure to be a fun day. Don't miss it!

I want to thank Greg Elder and the Dartmouth Student Workshops for the use of their facility for our last demonstration. I also want to thank Peter Bloch for a well presented program. Despite the idiosyncrasies of an unfamiliar lathe set up. Peter's presentation was professional and thorough and was very well received by all in attendance.

While on the subject of demonstrations, I think our meetings are a tremendous resource for all skill levels of our membership. I want to be sure to have a backlog of demos that would be interesting to you. To that end, I would like to hear from you. If you have any ideas for upcoming demonstration subject matter, please drop me a note or call me. Let's keep the momentum flowing.

John Skews and I are currently working on this year's Annual Juried Show. The juror will be Peter Korn, formerly the program director for Colorado's Anderson Ranch Arts Center. Peter has written a new book called "Working with Wood: The Basics of Craftsmanship" due to be released by the Taunton Press (publishers of Fine Woodworking) this year.

Peter is an award winning Craftsman as well as an accomplished instructor. He has opened the School for American Craftsmen - Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Hope, Maine. His unique blend of skills and talents made him an obvious choice for jurying past exhibits of the Guild of Colorado Woodworkers and we are privileged to have Peter as Juror of our annual show.

The show will be in Portsmouth at the Barrett Gallery. Their upstairs gallery space and prime location will make for a quality show. Watch your mail for a call for entry. Let's make this show a real landmark for the Guild. See you all at the next meeting.

Terry Moore

1992 American Woodworker Excellence In Craftsmanship Award

"He who works with his hands is a laborer, (but) he who works with his hands, head and heart is an artist."

-St. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

This quotation is the lead to the JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1993 American Woodworker article on their 1992 Excellence In Craftsmanship Awards. Of particular interest to Guild members in this article is the award and write-up on Terry Moore.

Terry won Third Prize in the Professional category with the table and chair that he exhibited in the Guild show at the Sharon Art Center last fall. In addition to the International recognition that this award brings Terry received a certificate and a check for \$100.

Our congratulations to Terry on receiving this honor for his work. It is well deserved and puts him in good company.

Peter Bloch Demonstrates

One Step Bowling for Woodworkers

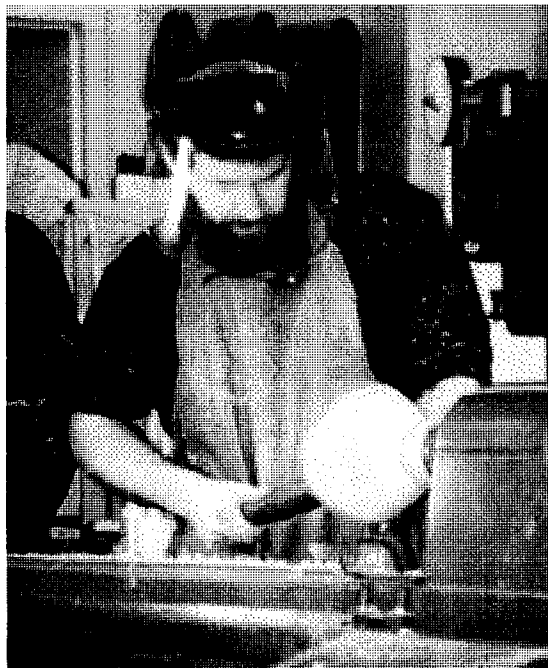
The format of the mid-winter meeting was different from previous Guild meetings. It was held Sunday afternoon, March 7, 1993 at 2 pm in the Dartmouth Student Workshop in the Hopkins Center in Hanover and there was no business meeting prior to the technical session. Many thanks to our hosts at Dartmouth for the use of their fine shop.

Over fifty members and friends watched as showers of water and green chips flew while Peter Bloch demonstrated turning a natural edge bowl from green wood to finish in one step. In this process, the green blank is roughed out on a bandsaw and glued to a waste block using super glue. Super glue used with an accelerator will harden sufficiently for turning in ten minutes.

After mounting on the face plate with screws, the bowl is turned very thin (1/8 to 3/16 inch thick) and is dried later, either naturally or with short bursts of heat in an ordinary kitchen microwave oven.

It is important to work fast since the wood dries significantly during the turning process and starts to take on an oval shape. Peter demonstrated the DSE system of lathe tools which he prefers for hollowing and scraping because the increased control of the tool results in faster and more precise turning. However, 90% of the bowl turning was done with standard bowl gouges.

Green wood turns easily, however it is flexible. Therefore, after rough turning the whole bowl to a wall thickness of about 3/8 inch, he final turns and sands one third of the wall at a time starting with the uppermost third.



Water and Chips Fly as Peter Bloch Turns Green Wood

The wet wood is translucent, and the orange color showing through the bowl from a properly placed light is used to judge the thickness of the wall.

The foot must be equally thin in order to dry properly. Base thickness is measured with a special "bowl base" caliper that Peter has invented.

No matter how skillfully the bowl is formed with cutting tools, at least some sanding is necessary. Peter uses hand held pieces of JFlex cloth backed abrasives, usually starting with 150 or 220 grit and working up to 400 grit. Near the bark edges, he uses either a slow speed mini angle grinder with a soft pad or an orbital sander.

After drying, the bowl is finished with a special rubbing oil which Peter sells under his Bloch of Wood trademark.

Turning green wood is currently Peter's preferred turning process whenever the thinness and the elliptical shape left by the uneven shrinkage during the drying can be tolerated. Green wood is easier to work and there is less dust and less tear out. Also, with this method of turning, side grain, end grain and burl bowls are all done with the same general technique.

There were a number of sample bowls on hand to show the finished results and a wide variety of tools and literature. Peter also provided a sheet of basic information on

wood turning and sources for equipment, supplies, publications and instruction.

Copies of this sheet may be obtained by sending a self-addressed and stamped envelope to him at 2 Otterville Road, New London, NH 03257.

Peter is very well known to New Hampshire residents and visitors. He sells his work mostly through the League Shops and the Annual League Fair, where he is a tenured booth holder. He is currently an alternate on the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Wood Jury. He also gives one workshops on turning in his own shop for beginner and intermediate students.

He has been a self-taught, full time woodworker for 12 years and has been doing turnings for seven years. He produces both small scale production multiples and one of a kind pieces using a small Myford and a large, custom built D/J lathe and a large Inca bandsaw.

An Interview With David Lamb Host of the Spring meeting

O.S.: David, please tell us how you got started.

David: I got started in this business in 1972, when I was offered an apprenticeship with Alejandro de la Cruz. Mr. de la Cruz was an old world master, trained in Madrid under two masters in the 1930's. I had just moved to the Canterbury Shaker Village with my parents (they ran the museum) and Mr. de la Cruz' shop was at the foot of the hill.

O.S.: What was the apprenticeship under an old master like?

David: I was 14 then and still in school. I would come to work for the master after school and on weekends. As an apprentice, I did not work directly on his furniture. I did assist him with the assembly of his work and with restoration jobs.

Most of my time was spent at the bench, cutting joints, and cutting joints, and cutting joints and edge joining boards until there was nothing left to join. This repetitious work was the foundation for patience, attention to detail, and becoming so familiar with what you are doing that all the motions become second nature.

This "old world" approach to teaching is very solid . . . very similar to the "Karate Kid" movie with the "wax on, wax off" type of training. The parallels are amazing. It's the philosophy that to do your best work, you must practice, practice, practice, and work fast but don't cut corners because they will come back to haunt you or affect your reputation. It goes deeper than this but that is another story for another time.

O.S.: What did you do after your apprenticeship?

David: In 1977, I entered the Program in Artisanry at Boston University under our own Jere Osgood and also Alphonse Mattia. This school revealed to me many new

approaches to wood working and design, and was very important in my growth as a craftsman.

After B.U., I operated a shop at Shaker Village until 1986. Then, I bought Mr. de la Cruz' home and shop and have been here ever since.

O.S.: You have worked here for many years, are you satisfied with your shop?

David: It is the biggest shop I ever had, but the 20x40 foot building is getting very tight. Especially, when I began to collect 19th century machinery, line shafting and machine shop tools (thanks a lot, Jon Siegel). My special interest is woodworking machinery made in N.H. by John A. White . . . as if no one knows. It's a good thing that I love my work.

O.S.: Thank you, David for this interesting insight into your apprenticeship. Many of us envy you the experience, although we know that it was a lot of hard work and not all fun. It seems too bad that there isn't a similar opportunity for anyone really interested in a woodworking career today.

Conventional Wisdom And Old Myths

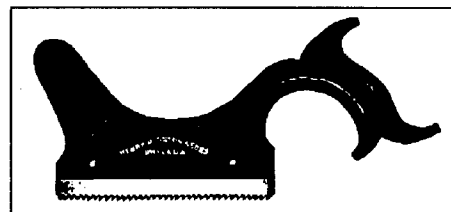
Jon Siegel

A February 10, 1993 article in the Health section of the New York Times reports that "wooden cutting boards kill food poisoning bacteria that survive nicely on the plastic cutting boards that have been widely promoted for years as safer than wood."

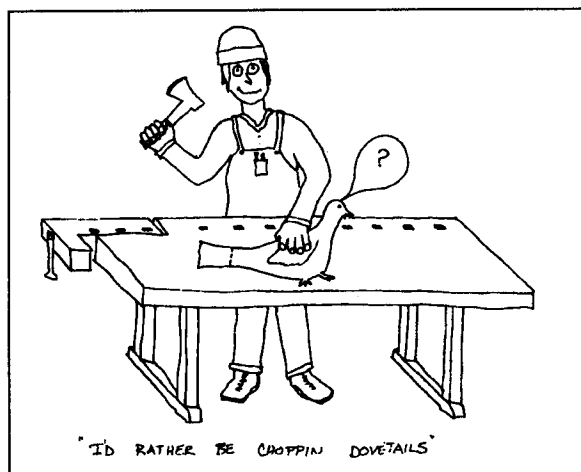
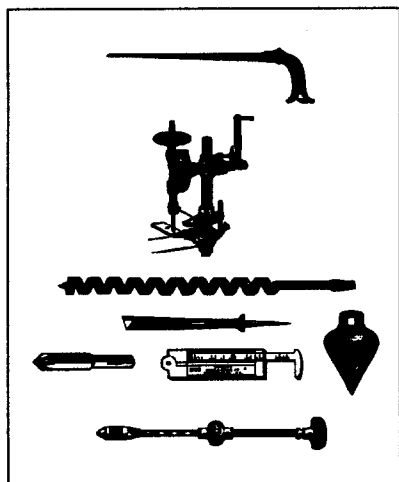
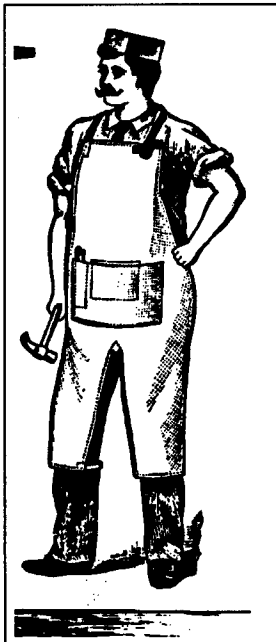
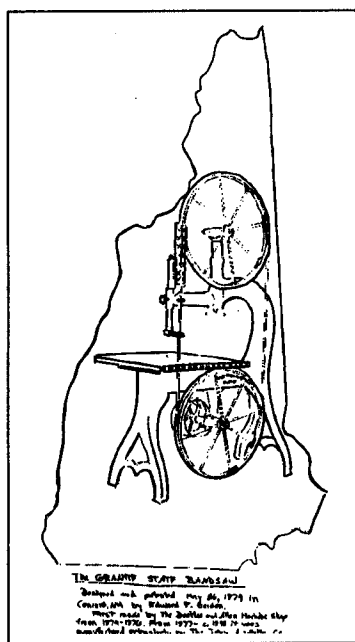
"The scientists ... found that when boards were purposely contaminated with organisms like *Salmonella*, *Listeria* and *Escherichia coli* that are common causes of food poisoning, 99.9% of the bacteria died off within three minutes on the wooden boards, while none died on the plastic ones."

"When contaminated boards were left unwashed overnight at room temperature, bacterial counts increased on the plastic, but none of the organisms could be recovered from the wooden boards the next morning."

The researchers at the University of Wisconsin do not know how or why wood kills bacteria, but they say that after testing many different kinds of wood and plastic that these surprising results were conclusive. However, they "cautioned against being 'sloppy about safety' and warned cooks to be sure to wash off cutting surfaces after cutting meat, chicken or fish, whether the surface used is wood or plastic."



Potential Tee Shirt Designs?



Are Your Dues Paid?

Our treasurer, Teri Browning, reminds everyone again that the annual dues of \$15 per member were due and payable on September 1, 1992. Our year runs from Sept. 1 to Sept. 1.

The Guild policy on dues is that anyone not paying their dues by January 31, 1993 will be dropped from the mailing list.

An unpaid dues notice is being mailed with this issue of the Old Saw. Anyone receiving this notice will be dropped from the mailing list if their dues are not paid by the next meeting. We really don't want to do that, so please get your dues to Teri.

Please send your dues to Teri Browning at:

The Wentworth Collection
Box 131, Rt. 25 at 25A
Wentworth, NH 03282

Canterbury Shaker Village Wood Day Saturday, May 8, 1993

Dave Emerson

It's no mystery that May 8 should be the best Wood Day yet at Canterbury Shaker Village. But, we do have one mystery that may or may not be solved by Wood Day. Is the 28 foot, wooden, Johnson motor launch, coming to Wood Day, the actual boat that the Canterbury Shakers used from 1927 to 1938 to get to their camp on Lake Winnesquam? It appears to be identical! Lou Yelsin really got something started.

In addition to the Johnson motor launch which HiGloss Boatworks of Rockport is in the process of restoring, we have a reproduction of a classic 24 1/2 foot E racer and a 1/4 scale dory to keep Lou's lapstrake canoe company.

I think I know all that's coming to Wood Day, but I generally get a surprise or two (That's plenty). The furniture tent has plenty of furniture, plus boats and a good showing of antique tool dealers.

The Carpenter Shop Gallery design team will finish on time and the brochures will arrive on time. When you read this, everything will be ready. With the opening of the gallery, Wood Day, already famous for fine demonstrations of traditional woodworking skills will become famous for fine individually crafted furniture.

Wood Day will be a great party. I can smell the barbecued chicken already. See you there.

Joint Turned Object/Pottery Show?

Volunteer Coordinator Needed

The Potter's Guild is interested in exploring the possibility of a joint show with the wood turners of our Guild. A volunteer is needed to determine the interest among our members and to coordinate the effort with the Potter's Guild if there is enough interest to warrant it. Any turner interested in such a show is asked to contact either Terry

Moore (863-4795) or John Skewes (778-7360) for further information.

Turning Interest Group? Volunteer Coordinator Needed

Are you interested in forming a Wood Turning Interest Group? From the large and enthusiastic turnout at the Dartmouth meeting, it seems as though there are enough turners among our membership that it may be time to form a special interest group on wood turning.

Such a group would put on special meetings and activities which are primarily of interest to turners although anyone would be welcome to participate. A volunteer is needed to determine the interest among our members and to coordinate the effort if there is enough interest to warrant it.

Any turner interested in such a group is asked to contact either Terry Moore (863-4795) or John Skewes (778-7360) for further information.

Plans For Annual Juried Exhibit Underway John Skewes

As many of you know, this year our Juried exhibit is being hosted by the N.W. Barrett Gallery, Market Street in Portsmouth, N.H. A call for entries will be forth coming but we thought it might be helpful if you knew some of the details ahead of time.

The host will be the N.W. Barrett Gallery, Portsmouth N.H., in the Upstairs Gallery and the juror will be Peter Korn founder of The Center for Furniture Craftsmanship, Camden Me. (see The President's Report).

The show will formally open on Sept. 11, from 3-5 p.m. and will run through Oct. 23 1993.

Eligibility requirements are, any work by a current member of the GNHWW not previously shown more than once in this state.

Jury will be by slide or photo. Work not yet photographed or not as yet made must be represented by high quality drawings and supported by photos of like work. Notice of rejected work will be accompanied by a brief explanation.

Jury fee is \$15.

Gallery commission will be 40%.

Deadline for entry: June 11, 1993.

Delivery date: Monday, Sept. 6, 1993, all day .

We are hoping that on delivery day you will hang around for a while after your piece makes the trip up the stairs so that you can help another. If you think you can help us in anyway or would like to be more involved with the show please contact John Skewes or Terry Moore.

Portsmouth is a busy town in the fall and the Barrett Gallery has a good reputation and a loyal following. I encourage all members to stop by and see the Upper Gallery, it is very nice. I hope that, once again, we can put together a

show that truly reflects the talents of our members. Let's challenge ourselves and stagger the public with a memorable show.

Guild Computer Users Group Meeting June 8, 1993

The next meeting of the Guild Computer Users Group will be held June 8th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Roy Noyes shop in Chester.

The topic of the evening will be Relational Databases. These are the programs that allow you to connect one database to another, i.e. inventory database, sales database and customer information database to produce a report that hopefully has a calming effect. They are extremely customizable and powerful programs but remain a mystery to most of us. Please, attend the meeting and see what they can do for you.

As always, our first hour is devoted to techno-chatter and troubleshooting. Experts and non-experts are welcome, bring a snack. C.U.G members will receive a reminder just before the meeting. To get on the C.U.G. member list write or call Roy Noyes, Editor, The Old Saw.

World Class Craft Fair, June 12, 1993

The Orford Lions Club is holding what they describe as a World Class Craft Fair/Auction from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, June 12, 1993 on the Orford Common to benefit their Scholarship Fund. Rain date is Sunday, June 13. Woodworkers entries are invited. Booth space is \$10.00. For reservations contact Virgil F. Mack (603) 353-4136.

American Association of Woodturners Annual Symposium, June 25-27, 1993

Peter Bloch

The American Association of Woodturners will hold its 7th Annual Symposium in Purchase, NY in June 1993. This is an opportunity that should not be missed by anyone interested in wood turning. Previous symposia have been held in Tennessee, Texas and Utah and this is the first one that has been scheduled in the Northeast. We may have to wait 5 - 6 years 'til it comes our way again.

This is an event that I can recommend without any hesitation ... and I know from firsthand experience, having journeyed to the past two symposia in Dallas and Provo, Utah.



Woodworker's Calendar May 8, 1993

Wood Day at Canterbury Shaker Village, Canterbury, NH. Contact: Dave Emerson -- Days 783-9511, Home 783-4403.

May 22, 1993

GNHWW Spring Meeting at David Lamb's shop, Canterbury, NH. Business Meeting at 11 am. Technical session at 1 pm. Carving a traditional ball and claw foot. Contact: David Lamb 783-9912.

June 8, 1993

The GNHWW Computer Users Group meeting on databases from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Roy Noyes' shop on Route 102 in Chester, NH. Contact John Skewes 778-7360.

June 12, 1993

The Orford Lions Club World Class Craft Fair/ Auction from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday, June 12, 1993 on the Orford Common. Rain date is Sunday, June 13. Contact Virgil F. Mack 353-4136.

June 25-27, 1993

American Association of Woodturners 7th Annual Symposium, Purchase, NY. Contact: AWW, 667 Harriet Ave., Shoreview, MN 55126.

August 7 - 15, 1993

League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, Annual Fair, Mt. Sunapee State Park. Living With Crafts furniture delivery, July 26. Preview, August 6 at 5 pm. Contact: LNHC, 205 No. Main Street, Concord, NH 03301, Tel. 224-3375.

September 6, 1993

Items for the Guild Annual Juried Exhibit are to be delivered at the N.W. Barrett Gallery, Market Street in Portsmouth, NH. Contact Terry Moore 863-4795 or John Skewes 778-7360.

September 11 - October 23, 1993

Guild of NH Woodworkers Annual Juried Exhibit at N.W. Barrett Gallery in Portsmouth, NH. Deadline for entry: June 11, 1993. Contact: Terry Moore 863-4795 or John Skewes 778-7360.



The Editors Corner

Roy Noyes

178 Derry Road Chester, NH 03036-4311

Tel. 887-3682

Please submit any items for the next newsletter to me by Monday, August 9, 1993. The newsletter will be mailed about September 1, 1993.

If possible, please submit copy on either 3.5" or 5 1/4", IBM compatible, floppy disk in ASCII format to save re-typing. If you don't understand what this means, just send either typewritten or clear hand written copy. Thanks!



Classified Advertising

Green Basswood Planks

8/4, 16/4, 24/4 green basswood planks, assorted widths (4" to 12") and lengths (6' to 12'). Small quantity, call for availability and prices.

Bill Huff 802-785-4540

Resaw Fence

Very heavy bandsaw resaw fence with 9 3/4" high solid steel roller. Accurate and true. \$100.

Garrett Hack 802-785-4329

Cast Iron Table

Heavy cast iron pedestal table. 30" x 30" x 34" high. Set up as a spindle sander, but ideal for a router table or shaper. Call for details. Cheap.

Garrett Hack 802-785-4329

The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers

178 Derry Road

Chester, NH 03036

