

St. Louis Woodworkers Guild



July 2014
Issue 346

Our Next Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM
July 17, 2014

Creve Coeur
Community Center
300 North New Ballas Road
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

Stained Glass for Furniture with Dale Preston

Join Dale Preston of
Preston Art Glass Studio as
he shows the guild options
for adding Stained Glass to
Furniture.

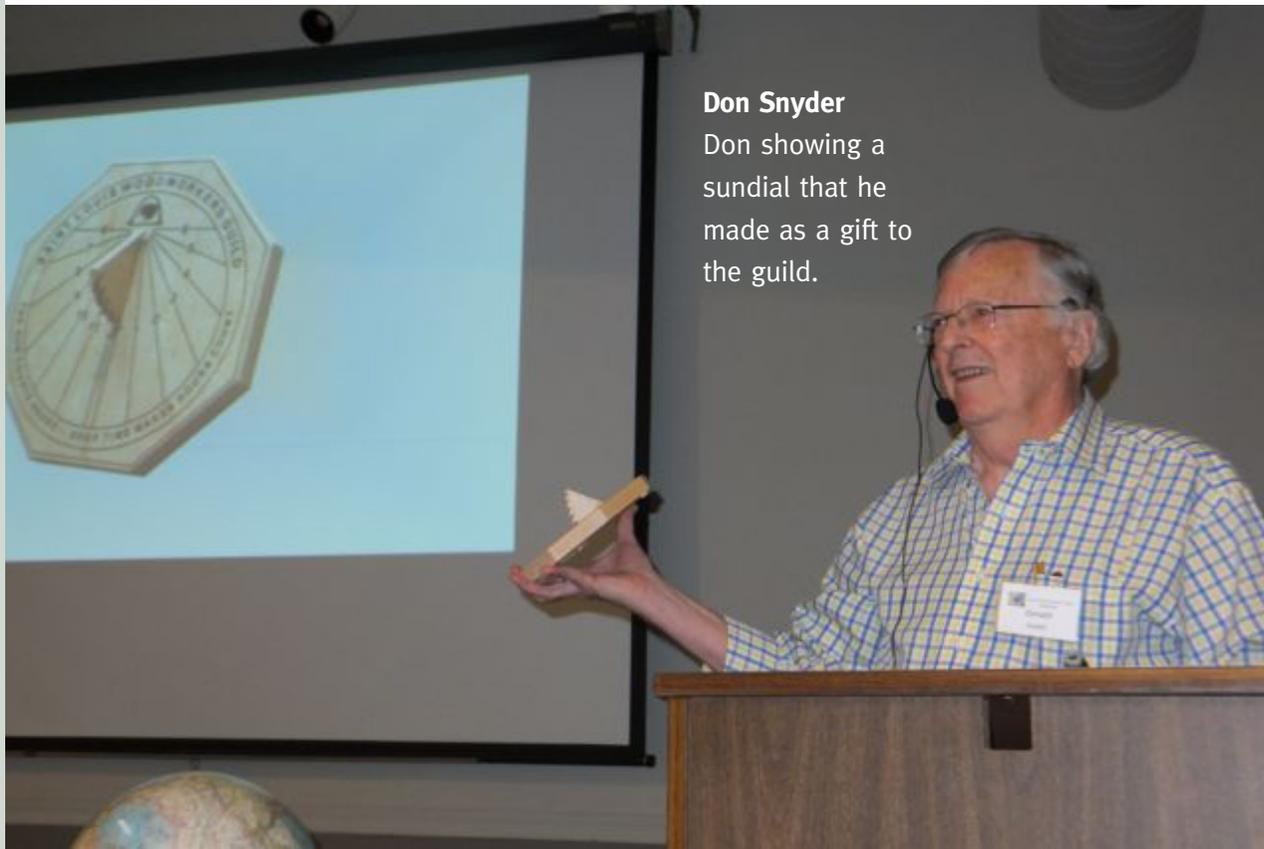
At Our Last Meeting: Wooden Sundials by Don Snyder

At our last meeting, guild President, Don Snyder demonstrated a number of different sundials and why someone might want to build their own. Don said his building of sundials started because they are interesting and challenging. They offer an opportunity to use woodworking skills and artistic expression. They also provide a good educational tool for children. Don explained that one can make them as easy or as difficult as one wishes.

Don next gave a quick overview of the different parts of a sundial. They are the Gnomon which is the part of the sundial that casts the shadow, the style which is the time-telling edge of the gnomon, the Nodus which is a marker along the Gnomon to get an exact point on the shadow, the Hour Lines which obviously give the time of day, Declination Lines which show the path of the Nodus on a given day (ex the equinox around March 20 & September 22), and the style height which is the latitude where a horizontal dial will be placed (ex. 38.6 degrees for St Louis)

Don then covered sundial myths and facts. Sundials don't work in the rain but certain types such as a polarization sundial will work when it's overcast. Sundials, or more correctly Moondials, will work at night. He then showed a number of portable sundials to dismiss the myth that they must be in a fixed location.

Continued on page 4



Don Snyder

Don showing a
sundial that he
made as a gift to
the guild.

Guild Officers

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Vice President
Wayne Watson 314.846.1172

Secretary
Keith Lissant 314.962.1907

Treasurer
Tom Tupper 636.236.3313

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Librarian
Kevin Weisner 618.355.0185

Webmaster
Cecil Robertson 314.605.1410

Membership Committee
Bill Hobson 314.863.6437

Toy Committee Chairmen
John Patton 314.843.0616
Steve Briner 636.866.6121

Woodworking Show Committee
Rich Weitzman 314.872.7866

Sponsors

Woodcraft
woodcraft.com
314.993.0413

The Wood & Shop
woodnshop.com
314.739.0001

St. Charles Hardwoods
stcharles.com
St. Peters 636.926.2000
Fenton 636.717.1770

Rockler Woodworking
rockler.com
314.209.1116

Hydraflow Equipment Co.
hydraflow.com
314.644.6677

Hibdon Hardwood Inc.
hibdonhardwood.com
314.621.7711

U-Pick Hardwood Lumber
upickhardwoodlumber.com
636.485.5217

Shellac Finishes
shellacfinishes.com
858.780.2865

R&B Rare Woods
woodveneers.com
303-986-2585

President Letter July 2014

One of the most positive outreach efforts I see in our Guild's activities is mentoring. This occurs when Guild members share their woodworking interests and skills with other members and the community. Mentoring is one of the most pure forms of sharing we have. It is not just improved skills that come out of the mentoring experience, but also, genuine friendships.

One area of mentoring occurs between new members getting started in woodworking who pair with a member who has been with the Guild for some time. An example is recent member, Jared Bullock (at right), who is presently interacting with Guild member and one-time Guild President Ken Bressler. They are working together to complete a clock Jared is making, with Ken providing his knowledge and guidance. Jack Ripley is building a small cabinet, and I'm



helping a tiny bit as mentor. Another example is member David Brown's interaction with Nick Buescher (at left), a non-member, high-school student working on an Eagle-Scout project to build a cubby-hole storage cabinet for an elementary school. Nick contacted the Guild by e-mail following an internet search

he made that led him to the Guild's website. Nick asked for some help with the project and David stepped forward,

volunteering his time and experience. When Jeanette Lewis (at right) joined the Guild in 2012, she sought and received mentoring help from Wayne Watson while he was still busy being President of the Guild – busy people do find time to share when a cause like this is worthy.



Also, don't forget the Guild's mini-workshop program in which experienced Guild members offer learning opportunities to groups of members on a wide variety of topics. A recent example is the mini-workshop on sharpening of chisels, plane blades and turning tools offered by Dan Coleman and Wayne Watson to a group of eight members. This mentoring workshop took place in the Guild's Faust Park workshop. As an aside, if you have not visited the Guild's workshop, you should because it is rapidly becoming quite a good woodworking facility that is open not just to mentoring classes but, also, for use by all Guild members who have taken the required and periodically offered Safety class. Other mini-workshops recently offered by member instructors to member students include classes on line inlay, making and sharpening a backsaw, use of Google's SketchUp for creating project drawings, spray finishing, and others. There are some upcoming mini-workshops that should not be missed, including one going through all the steps to make a Shaker-style side table and another on making an infill-style hand-plane.

How do you get connected to a mentor? – just ask the Guild President or any of the members of the Executive Board. They will take it from there to do their best to get you connected with a mentor.

How do you become a mentor? – just let the Guild President or any of the members of the Executive Board know you'd like to participate in this way. They will take it from there to get you connected with a member seeking to learn from your experience.

Members helping members is the heart and soul of the Guild's Mentoring Game. Join the game! It will lead to friendships, shared experience, and some really nice woodworking projects. Get started now – the next Annual Show and Tell is only a few months away. It's an opportunity for mentors and the mentored to show off their efforts.

Don

Show and Tell



Rich Sanders – Rich showed a St. Louis arch decoration.



Jack Ripley – Jack showed a jig for making mortises with a plunge router.



Jeff Nasser – Jeff showed two pepper shakers.



Ethan Sincox – Ethan showed two drawbores and a wooden square.

Announcements

There were 58 people in attendance at the June 19th guild meeting

Rockler provided five \$10 gift cards and five organizers for the raffle. Congratulations to all our winners!

Future Workshops

Oct./Nov. Make an infill plane. Taught by guild members Mike Sistik and Robbie Field.

Upcoming Meetings

August 21
Randell Oaks
Oaks Crossing
Repurposing building materials

September 18
Derek Bass
Woodcraft
Topic TBD

October 20
Brad Bernhard
First Aid in the workshop

Events

September 27
Annual Guild Picnic
Augusta, MO

Follow the Guild on Facebook. Stay up to date with Guild announcements, events, and photos.

Toy Report

We delivered a total of 150 toys to 3 hospitals in June 2014. Our year to date total is 918 items. Since 1994 the total delivered is 38,784.

Thanks to those of you that made the toys collected by Steve Briner at the June meeting.

For the next delivery in July/August. We need items such as: cars, airplanes, animal kits (coyotes, cats, bears), and flower kits. Patriotic items like flags are good for Flag Day and July 4th. We have a good supply of butterflies but need the items noted.

If you need patterns see our website to select and print a pattern or you may call and we will send you the patterns by mail. We need about 20 to 30 each of any craft pattern you select.

You may call John at 314-843-0616 or Steve at 636-866-6121 for any of the above or to arrange pickup or delivery.

At Our Last Meeting: Wooden Sundials

continued from page 1

Don moved on to show numerous examples starting with the simplest form of a sundial which is an equatorial sundial. He explained the assumptions (sun's orbit is circular, the sun is far away, and that the sun orbits in earth's equatorial plane) and the math that go into making one. After that Don showed sundials made from wagon wheels, tree stumps, carved and painted dials by Thomas Steiner, and a Viking sundial dated to the 11th century. He showed pictures of rustic sundials made from a simple wood slab and one made from reclaimed barn boards, then a chip-carved example from Italy. Don then presented one he made that was painted with acrylic paint. He showed examples he had made for his grandsons. Don said it is common for makers to put a motto on the sundials they make. Some of the mottoes he shared were light-hearted such as "As time goes by let wood chips fly, and "Time to drink" and some are much more serious such as "As time goes by waste it not", or "One of these hours will be your last."

Don then highlighted a number of sundial examples from around St. Louis. There is a St. Louis Sundial Trail and you can find a map online at <http://DLS-WEBSITE.com>. One of the most interesting is Woodhenge located at the Cahokia Mounds. This site is one of 962 World Heritage Sites, and one of only 21 such sites in the US. Don suggested everyone should visit this site when they have a chance.

So how does one go about making a sundial of their own. First you need to make the design decisions such as: location, orientation, materials to be used, will it be painted, carved, or something else. Next, one has to decide on artistic decisions that make every project individual and special. Then, one would determine the layout of the hour lines. There are numerous websites that can assist in this. One can visit the North American Sundial Society at <http://sundials.org> for more information. Don showed how one can individualize a sundial that will follow a line every year on someone's birthday. One can even put a dot on that line say at the exact moment of someone's birth or marriage.

To end the presentation Don shared the sundial that he had made for the Guild. It's a vertical sundial and the Gnomon is made to resemble a section of a saw blade. The motto that Don selected is "The Sun Counts Hours – Shop Time Makes Hours Count"

So go get in the shop and make something!

Thanks Don for a great presentation.



Policy Changes For Mini-Workshops

The Guild's Executive Board has approved changes to the sign up process for future Mini-Workshops. We have found that too many Members have been signing up for workshops and then not attending since they don't have any "skin in the game." Space is almost always limited for Mini-Workshops and on numerous occasions, we have members wishing to attend classes, but were unable to do to those who have signed up ahead of them. Then we have found that no shows have excluded those who wished to attend when spots went vacant. Therefore the following policies will be adhered to.

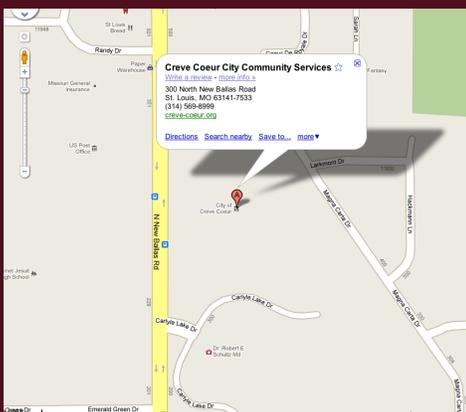
New Tuition Policy

1. Single-session classes - Full tuition to be paid at time of sign up.
2. Multi-session classes - Deposit equal to single-session tuition to be paid at the time of sign up with the balance due before the class commences.
3. 50% refund will be made for cancellations made prior to the last scheduled Guild meeting before the class. This refund will grow to a full 100% refund if all available class slots are subsequently filled with no loss of revenue to the Guild.
4. No refund will be made for a cancellation (or "no-show") after the last scheduled Guild meeting.
5. In the event that an emergency causes a Guild Member to miss a class, a full refund will be made provided the instructor or workshop organizer is notified by phone or e-mail before the class commences.
6. A Member may transfer his slot to another Member without penalty as long as it does not become a "no-show."

We believe these changes to the Tuition Policy will greatly reduce members signing up for classes then not attending, thus denying another member an opportunity to attend.

Meeting location.

Creve Coeur Community Center,
located at 300 North New Ballas
Road, St. Louis, MO 63141.



Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Occupation _____

Type of woodworking you enjoy _____

E-mail address _____

Where did you obtain this application and learn about this Guild?

*If you would like to join the St. Louis Woodworkers Guild please attend our next meeting or mail this application and your check for \$30 for one years dues to:
St. Louis Woodworkers Guild, P. O. Box 411766, St. Louis, MO 63141-9998*