

The Colonial Woodcutter

The Newsletter of the Annapolis Woodworkers Guild

Meeting 7:00 PM October 9th, Davidsonville United Methodist Church



December Meeting:
Annual Guild Christmas Dinner

December 2025

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Newsletter Submissions

If you have new projects, tools or fixtures that may interest to others, or if you have found a wood related news story, please share them with the Guild. Send a description, with pictures if possible, for inclusion in the Colonial Woodcutter to the editor, Duncan Adams at duncanladams@gmail.com. Items submitted by the first Thursday of the month will be published.

Many thanks to those who contributed to this month's issue.

December 2025 President's Message

Dear fellow members,

Thanksgiving is over and we have entered the season of advent, preparing for the celebration of Christmas. Finally, I think I am finished raking leaves. I hope so, because I have Christmas decorations on my front lawn now. My Christmas tree is up and decorated, and I am busy baking cookies. I helped the toy workshop elves pack boxes of toys for classrooms and for the preschoolers in Anne Arundel County. We began delivering them December 1st, and should be finished by the 8th. What a great way to spread a little joy! I am proud to be one of the AWG elves. Thank you, Andy, for allowing us to use your workshop all year. And thank you Duncan for keeping us organized and on track.



Congratulations to Carl Wick, the winner of the 2x4 contest! He made a kaleidoscope and his prize was a paid membership to AWG for 2026. For the rest of us, we need to send a check to Vince (\$50, payable to AWG, mailed to 23408 Neck Road, Aquasco MD 20608); pay with cash or check at the January meeting; or, pay on our website via PayPal (by clicking **Join** from the AWG Home Page).

Remember that the Quiet Waters Artisan Market is open through January 4th. Stop by to see what the artisans have created. You may find a gift for that hard-to-shop-for person on your list.

A few dates for you to put on your calendar:

- December 11: our annual Christmas dinner (in lieu of our general meeting)
 - Remember to bring a home-made ornament
- January 8, 2026: our next general meeting

I hope to see many of you at our Christmas dinner on December 11th. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Holidays, and, happiness and good health in the new year!

Ann
annsentinella@gmail.com
443-742-7037

December Monthly Meeting

AWG Annual Christmas Dinner

Dec 11, 2025
Saints Constantine & Helen Greek Church
2747 Riva Rd.
Annapolis, MD

Time: 6:00 PM
Cost: \$55 per person

Time to Party:

The annual Guild Christmas dinner will be held as the monthly meeting on December 11th. To attend you must have purchased tickets by November 30th.



Check-In & Envelopes:

You must check-in at the door to receive your envelope and turn in your ornaments. Everyone is encouraged to bring a **handmade ornament** and get involved with the ornament exchange.

Gifts:

We are looking for a lot of gifts to be donated for the drawings. Bring as many homemade items as you would like. It would be great for everyone to go home with a gift. Gifts can be wrapped or unwrapped. Please help fill the table.

NOTE: If you have any questions please contact Paul Dodson, Events Coordinator.

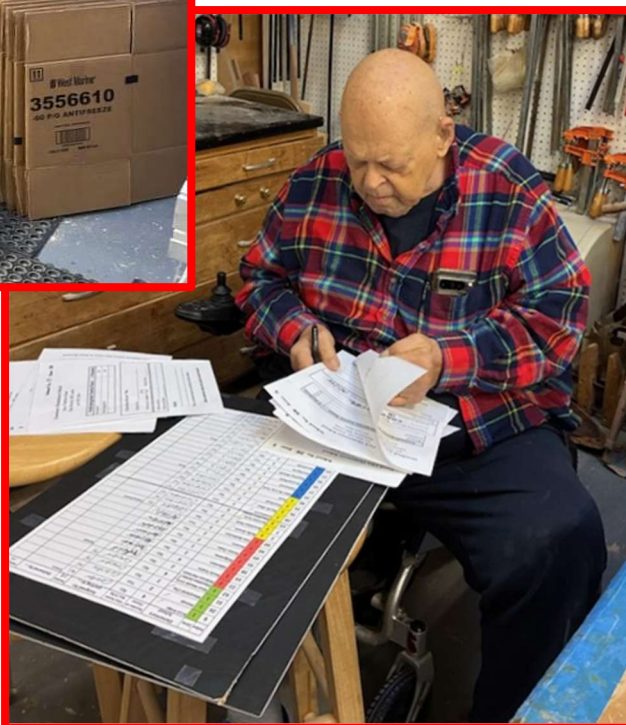


Christmas Toy Donations

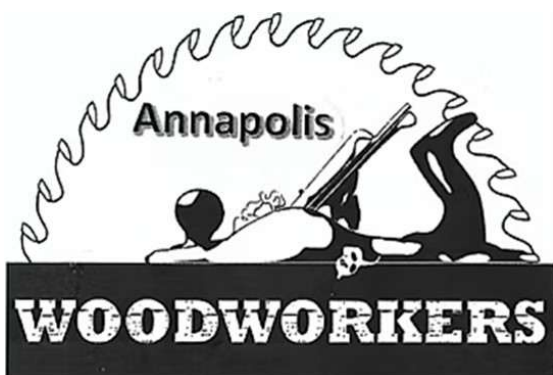
Christmas is just around the corner and the elves in Andy's shop have been working hard. Remember that the success of the Guild's toy donation project depends on funding by the Guild and by generous donations from individual members. We extend our thanks to those who donated this year, and request that any members who can do so consider supporting the 2026 effort. If you want to make a donation, which is tax deductible, contact the treasurer, Vince Antonioli -- vincentantonioli1969@gmail.com



A small part of the boxes packed for delivery



The nerve center of the operation



November Meeting

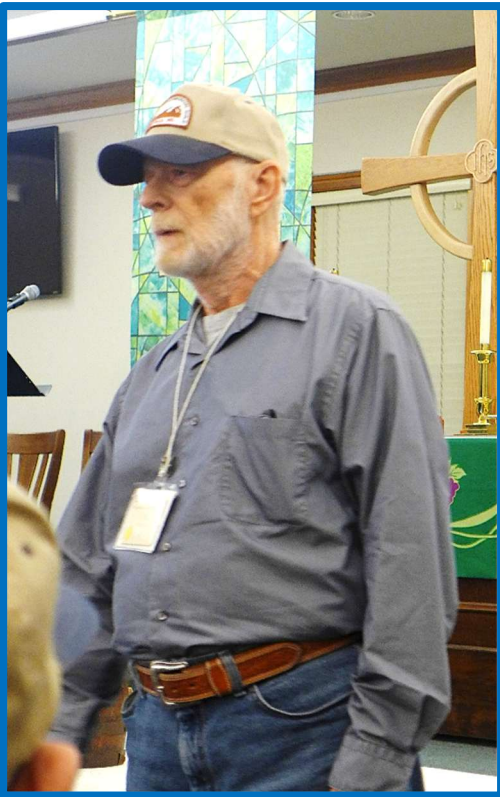
Ann Sentinella opened the meeting as president. She asked new members and visitors to introduce themselves and six people responded. She reminded us that the Quiet Water Artisan Marketplace opens on November 19th and runs through January 3rd.

Ann announced the dates for Rodger Young's lathe tool sharpening classes – November 15, 19 and 22 – and reminded the meeting that Rick Hodgdon veneer class in December.

Finally, she appealed to the members to volunteer for the important roles of program chair and first vice president.



Paul Dodson spoke about the upcoming Christmas dinner (see page 4) in which the Guild will have 2 to 3 gifts for members and 1 or 2 gifts for guests in the raffle.



Harry Chavez urged the members who attend the Christmas dinner to bring an item for the Christmas tree ornament exchange.



November Speaker

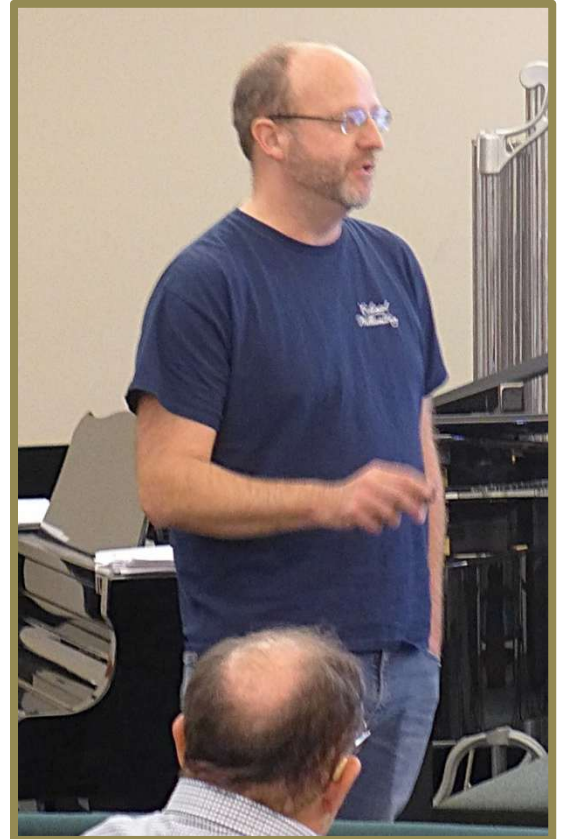
The November meeting's speaker was Harry J Taylor, journeyman supervisor cooper for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, where he has been working for twenty years. He presented the history of cooperage, emphasizing its importance in colonial America. For example, colonial Virginia coopers produced 80,000 hogsheads for tobacco per year, while making a wide array of other containers.



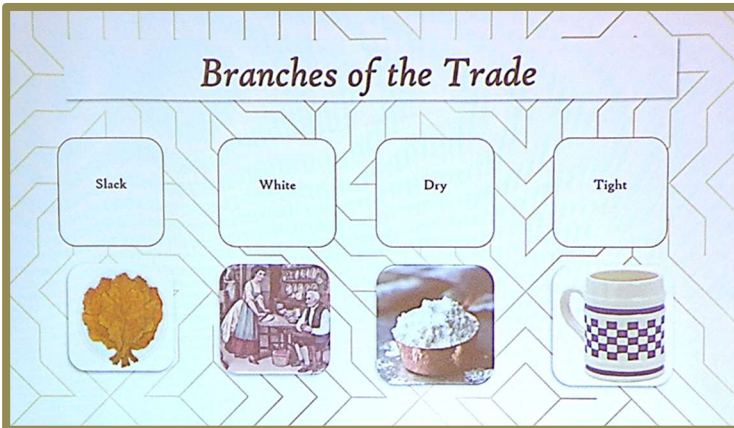
Crest of the
Worshipful Company of Coopers

Harry defined a cooper as a craftsman who makes or repairs wooden vessels formed of staves and hoops, as casks, buckets and tubs, the general trade consisting of specialist branches; slack, white, dry and tight. Slack cooperage is used to contain

bulk dry material, such as tobacco, that does not require a water tight seal. White cooperage consists of containers for household use (as opposed to commercial shipping) such as



buckets, tubs and butter churns, which were wholesaled to stores where they could be purchased by users. Dry cooperage is for containers of fine dry goods like flour or gunpowder. It will not hold liquid without leaking, but will keep water out. In the special case of gunpowder containers, the hoops must be

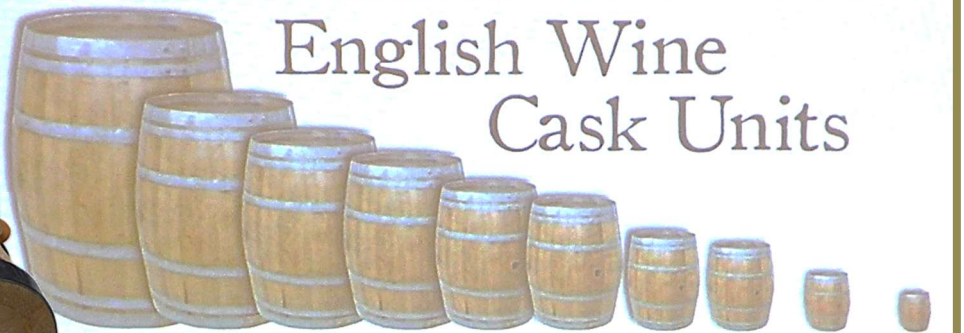


made of non-ferrous metal. Finally, tight cooperage holds liquid goods and attains the water tight seal solely with joinery – without using any sealant or relying on the wood's swelling.



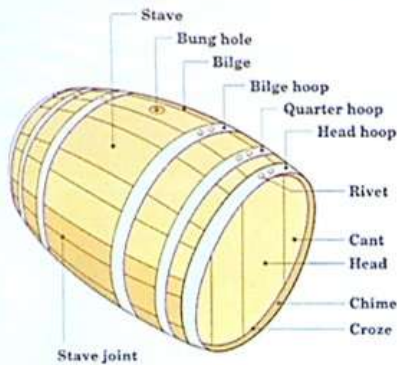
Measurements

English Wine Cask Units



Tun	Butt	Puncheon	Hogshead	Tierce	Barrel	Rundlet	Kilderkin	Firkin	Pin
252 Gallons 954 Litres	126 Gallons 477 Litres 1/2 Tun	84 Gallons 318 Litres 1/3 Tun	63 Gallons 238 Litres 1/4 Tun	42 Gallons 159 Litres 1/6 Tun	32 Gallons 118 Litres 1/8 Tun	18 Gallons 68 Litres 1/4 Tun	16 Gallons 59 Litres 1/6 Tun	8 Gallons 30 Litres 1/32 Tun	4 Gallons 15 Litres 1/64 Tun

Terminology



Stave: wooden strips carved by eye forming the sides of a piece of cooperage

Hoop: metal bands hammered by the cooper to hold the staves together

Bung: stopper for the hole used to fill or empty the barrel

Bilge: bulging middle of the barrel

Croze: the groove cut into the inside of the staves where the heads are fitted

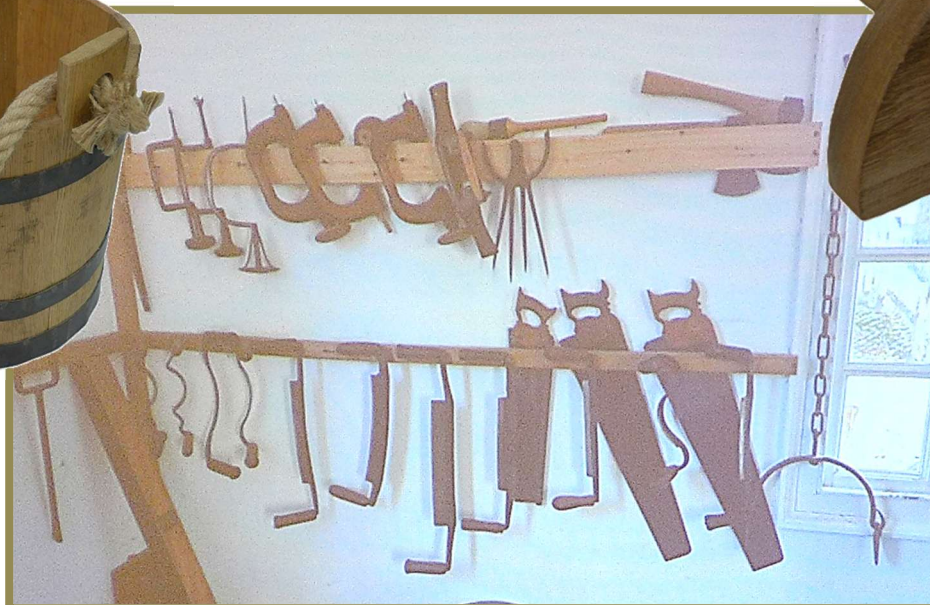
Chime: the rim of the barrel, from the croze to the top

Truss: the process of heating up a piece of cooperage to bend the staves into place.

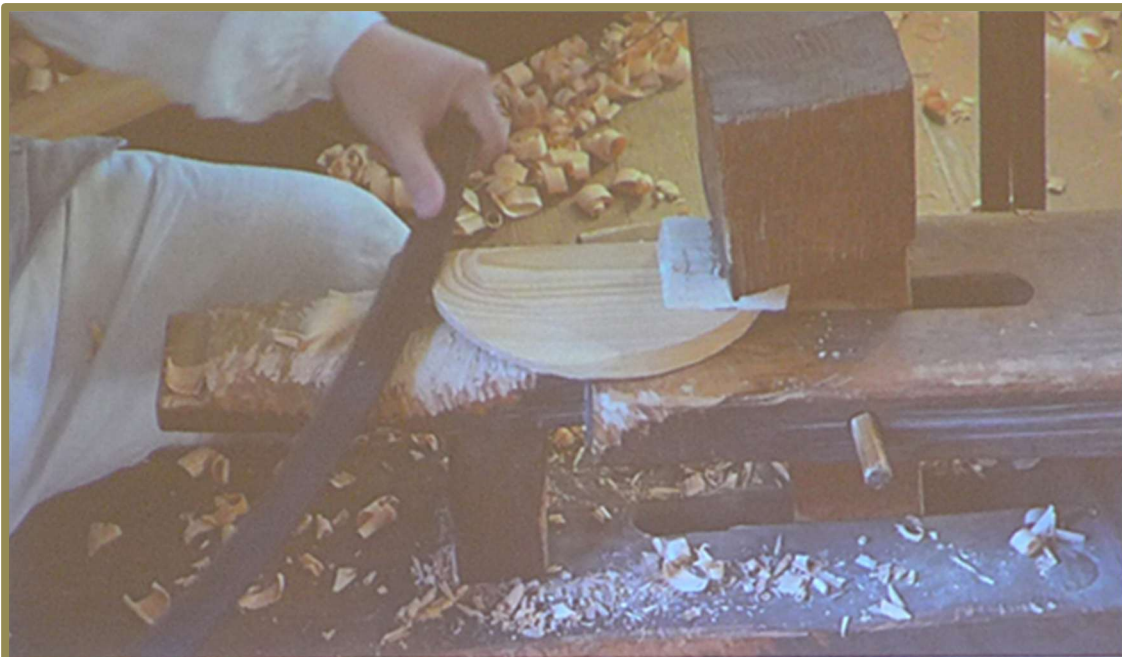
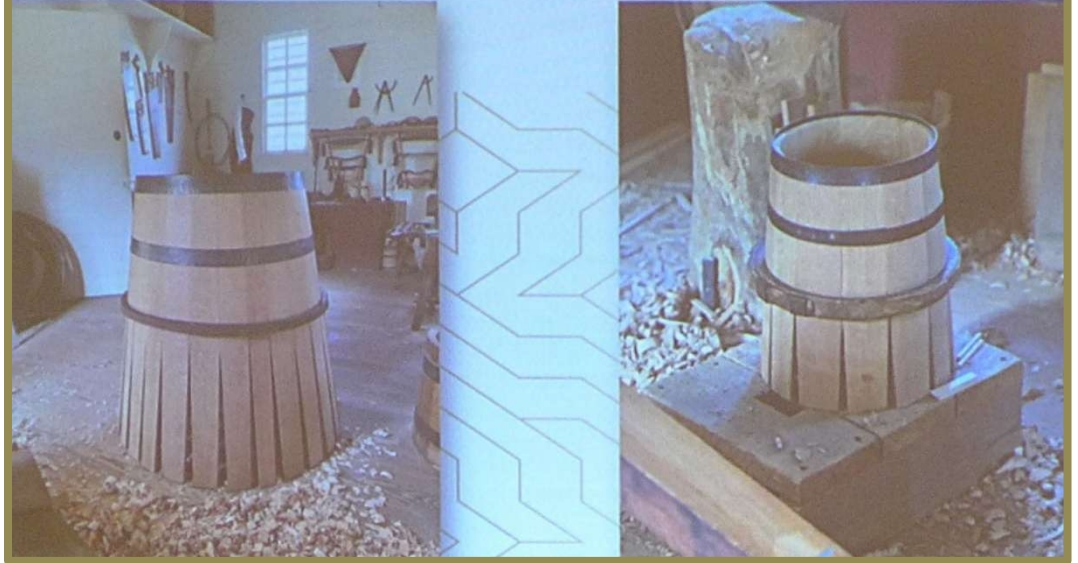


Harry discussed the cooper's tools and construction techniques. Staves start as seasoned wood strips purchased from the woodyard, then sawn to length and cut to rough taper with a cooper's adz. The all-important edge of the stave is shaped on a cooper's joiner, which looks like a long, inverted plane, and the shape is achieved strictly by eye.

The croze (the groove cut inside the staves where the head is fitted) is cut using a tool also called a croze, pictured below.



Raising the Container



Heading

Safety Brief

Chris Bucknall

First vice president Chris Bucknall presented the safety briefing on the subject of eye protection. He reminded the members to always wear certified safety glasses even if you think you are doing a brief simple task. Certified safety glasses protect eyes against flying particles, dust, sparks and chemicals.



Annapolis Makerspace

Need shop space?
Do you enjoy learning?
Want to meet other people like you?

Tools Available: Mitre Saw, Drill Press, Table Saw, Spindle Sander, Drum Sander, Band Saw, 20" Planer, Joiner, Various Hand Tools, 4x8ft CNC ShopSaber CNC Router, 100W CO Laser Cutter, 3D Printers, Cricut, SailRite Sewing Machine

Want to learn more?
Visit our website at:
www.MakeAnnapolis.org

Join Today!

 [facebook.com/ AnnapolisMakerspace](https://facebook.com/AnnapolisMakerspace)
 [@annapolismakers](https://twitter.com/annapolismakers)

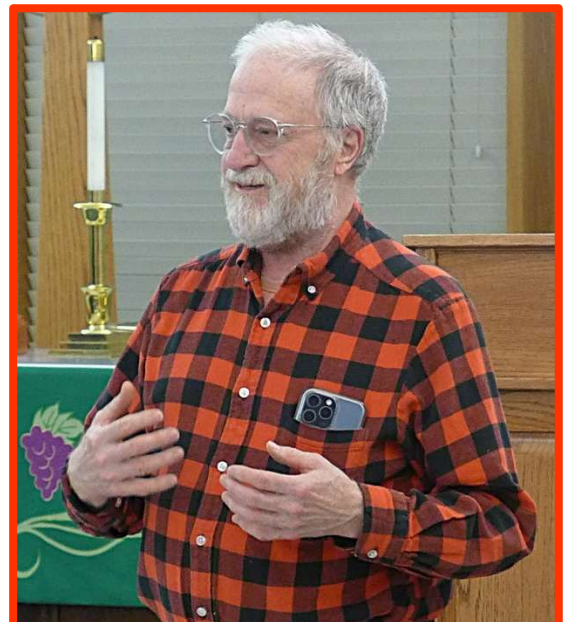
24 / 7 access is only \$65 per month

AWG 2 x 4 Challenge

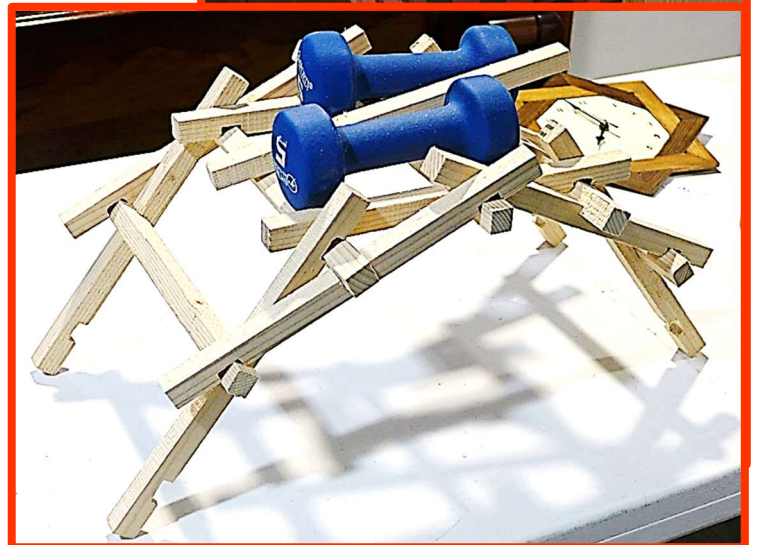
Members were challenged to create imaginative pieces from a two foot long piece of 2x4. The participants are shown here with their projects.



Doug Mar carved a hand.



Andy Gregory made a miniature model of a portable bridge designed by Leonardo da Vinci.

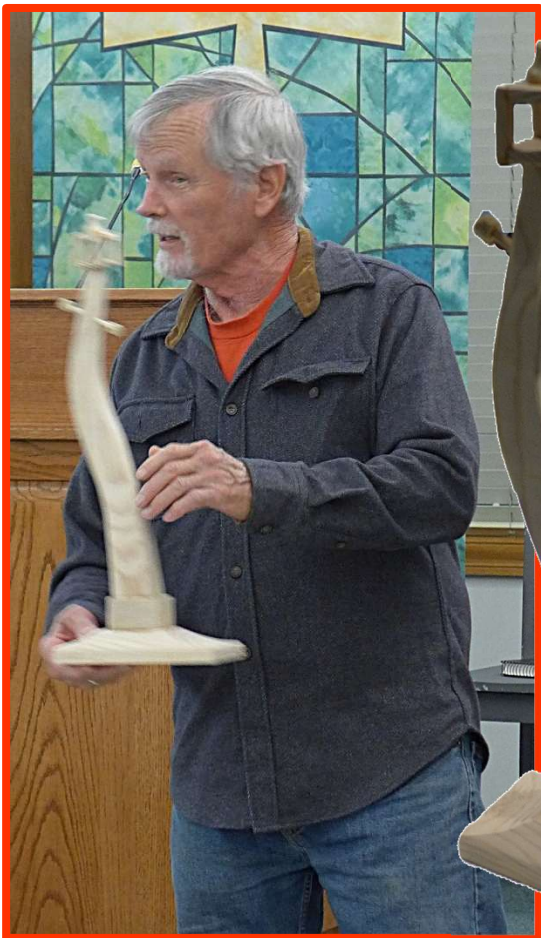


Carl Wick's kaleidoscope won the prize – a year's Guild membership.



Ann Sentinella made a wall clock.





Rick Hodgdon made a Dr Seuss light house.



Harry Chavez made a display frame and three interchangeable scroll saw portraits.





Bill Heath made a lovely pencil box with a gracefully curved handle.

November Raffle

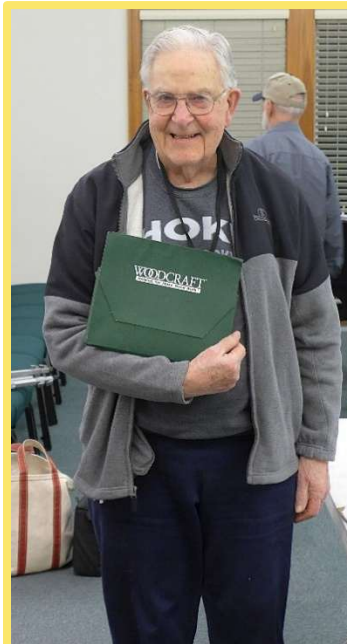
Paul Dodson ran the monthly raffle in which these members won the prizes.



Bill Carbin
Drill Accessories



Joe Lynott
34 piece woodworking set



Karl Hoke
\$50 Woodcraft Card



Charles Kilgore
"Gauge-It" angle gauge



Tim Wilson
Harry Taylor bucket

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NOTE: If you have any questions please contact Paul Dodson, Events Coordinator.

Lathe Tool Sharpening Class

In October, Rodger Young hosted four instructional sessions to teach Guild members the finer points of sharpening their turning tools. The types of tools covered included bowl and spindle gouges, skew, scraper, parting tool and roughing gouge. At right, Rodger gets started with Gary Johnny, Tim Wilson and Joe Lynott. Below Rodger demonstrates roughing gouge sharpening technique.



At left Joe practices on a roughing gouge.



When the sharpening was done the students tested their work on the lathe.



Quiet Waters Park Artisan Market

The Quiet Waters Artisan Market opened November 19th and runs through January 4th. It's located in the Visitor Center at Quiet Waters Park, 600 Quiet Waters Park Road in Annapolis. A few woodworkers from our guild have items at the market available for purchase, along with several other artisans who are selling pottery, glass works, paper crafts, pillows, photography, etc. Stop by to see the beautifully crafted items. You may even find a last-minute gift for that special person in your life.



Reminder: Dues Are Due

Please remember that it is time to pay your Annapolis Woodworkers Guild dues for 2026. You can pay your dues by getting a check to treasurer Vince Antinoili either at a member meeting or by mail. You can also pay through the Guild website using PayPal.

23408 Neck Road
Aquasco MD 20608

One on One Skills Classes and Instructors

Rick Hodgdon is setting up a program that will enable members to learn woodworking skills from experienced woodworkers in one-on-one settings. If you are interested in learning or improving your skills in the areas listed below, feel free to contact the instructor and schedule a session.

Member/Instructor	Skills	Email address
Rick Hodgdon	Veneering -- Table saw	mattaponiguy@gmail.com
Chris Desautels	Chairmaking: Maloof and Windsor	christopher.desautels@gmail.com
Carl Wick	Basic Lathe Skills	cewick70@gmail.com
Bob Ashby	Routers, Shapers & Moulding	toolsrus1958@gmail.com
Paul Dodson	Scroll Saw, Basic woodworking, Shop Safety on any machine	pdwoodcrafts@verizon.net
Harry Chavez	Scroll Saw and Intarsia	harry.chavez@gmail.com
Dennis Harvey	Pen making	denharv@aol.com
Bill Schneck	Woodworking machine operations & safety, Basic joinery, dovetails, mortise and tennon	mrwoodbutcher@comcast.net
Phil Christenson	Handcut dovetails, Tablesaw techniques	machristenson@aol.com

AWG Member Mentors

Want to learn a new skill? AWG has many member-mentors to help you. See the list below to con-tact one.

Have a vexing woodworking problem? There may be many other members with the same situation. AWG has a “problem box” where you can anonymously place your problem or question for discussion and possible solutions at the next meeting. You will find the box at a table near the meeting hall entrance door (when we are back in session at the church). Until then send your problems to the editor, President, or other AWG officer.

Last Name	First Name	Phone	E-mail	Mentor Subject
Ames	Don	410-268-0509	dfames@verizon.net	Use and maintenance of Edge Tools (planes, chisels, scrapers)
Ashby	Bob	410-969-2910	toolsrus58@comcast.net	Shapers, router tables and tooling for same
Chavez	Harry	410-863-5940	harry.chavez@gmail.com	Intarsia
Dodson	Paul	410-984-8488	pdwoodcrafts@verizon.net	Scroll saws and scrolling
Harvey	Dennis	240-463-4641	denharv@aol.com	Pen making
Hirrlinger	Jack	410-798-1339	tjhirr@verizon.net	Toys, tricks and puzzles
Kovalick	Bill	443-822-4850	bkovalick@gmail.com	General woodworking/ Adirondack furniture
McDonald	Chris	410-326-1685	cmcdonald@thewavaz.com	Cabinets

AWG Officers

(June 2025 —May 2026 Term)

President – Ann Sentinella
1st Vice President – Chris Bucknall
2nd Vice President – James Cowan
Secretary – Tim Wilson
Co-Treasurers – Vince Antonioli and
Rodger Young
Tour Coordinator – Rick Hodgdon and
Rodger Young
Program Committee – Chris Bucknall, Sue
Springett, Bob Ashby, and Carl Wick
Newsletter Editor – Duncan Adams

Historian – Mike Arndt
Endowment Coordinator – Bill Carbin
Entertainment Coordinator – Paul Dodson
Out Reach – Candy Van Iderstine
Show & Tell Coordinator – Bill Carbin
Special Projects Coordinator – Open
Membership Chairperson – Harry Chavez
Charity Coordinator – Andy Borland
Webmaster – Tyler Quevedo
Education Chair – Paul Hansen
Church Liaison – Steve Lund

MEMBERSHIP and MEETINGS

Membership is open to all interested Woodworkers.

Annual Dues: Current members renew dues in January at \$50.

New members added during the course of the calendar year will be assessed dues that are a pro-rata portion of the remainder of the full calendar year during the month joined.

General Membership Meetings:

2nd Thursday of each month 7 PM

Davidsonville United Methodist Church

819 W Central Ave, Davidsonville, MD 21035

Executive Board Meetings:

4th Thursday of the Month at 7 PM

By phone/video until further notice

All are welcome at board meetings

Contact a board member for invitation

CONTACT INFORMATION

Correspondence:

Annapolis Woodworkers Guild

P.O. Box 6001

Annapolis, MD 21401

Website:

Annapoliswoodworkers.org

AWG's Supporting Vendors



Exotic Lumber Company

1610 Whitehall Road, Annapolis, MD 21409

410-349-1705 WWW.Exoticlumber.com



Rockler Woodworking & Hardware

12975 Fair Lakes Shopping Center Ste 2975

Fairfax, VA 22033

571-435-8030

<https://www.rockler.com/retail/stores/va/fairfax-store>



Somerset Door and Column Company

174 Sagamore Street, Somerset, PA 15501

800-242-7916 WWW.Doorandcolumn.com



Klingspor

2555 Tate Boulevard Southeast, Hickory, NC 28603

800-645-5555 WWW.Klingspor.com



American Woodcrafters Supply

212 East Main, Box G, Riceville, IA 50466

800-995-4032 WWW.Americanwoodcrafterssupply.com



Bruso Hardware LLC
67-69 Greylock Avenue
Belleville, NJ 07109
212-337-8510 WWW.Brusso.com



Lake Erie Toolworks
1234 Irwin Drive, Erie, PA 16505
815-528-4337
WWW.LakeErieToolworks.com/Pages/Club
10% Online Discount Code: **AWG10**



Würth Wood Group
6660 Santa Barbara Road
Elkridge, MD 21075
410-796-7600
WWW.Wurthwoodgroup.com



Hartville Tools
Hartville, OH
800-345-2396
WWW.Hartvilletool.com

MARYLAND SELECT HARDWOODS
7470 Mason Springs Road, La Plata, Maryland
301-743-2225 Dennis.Woodruff1@gmail.com

Timberline Farms Sawmill
Arnold Sewell, owner/operator
13000 Old Frederick Rd, Sykesville, MD
Phone (410) 707-0158