

# The Colonial Woodcutter

## The Newsletter of the Annapolis Woodworkers Guild

Meeting 7:00 PM June 8th, Davidsonville United Methodist Church

Meeting Speaker  
Michael Jury



June 2023



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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](mailto:duncanladams@gmail.com). Items submitted by the first Thursday of the month will be published.

Many thanks to those who contributed to this months' issue.

# June 2023 President's Message

Greetings to all my fellow Annapolis Woodworker's Guild members.

As most of you will surely know, each June we install a new president and first vice president while our previous leaders rotate out to more advisory roles. Ken Davis, our president this last year, was a most capable and effective leader. He deserves our collective gratitude and thanks. I look forward to his advice and counsel this coming year.

As the incumbent, I should tell you a little about myself: Fifty-seven years ago I was offered an appointment to the Naval Academy from my then home state of Kansas. After graduation I spent twenty years on active duty in locations on both shores; about half of that time as a search and rescue/antisubmarine helicopter pilot, and about half of that time as an aerospace engineering duty officer. During one of my active duty tours I attended the Naval Postgraduate School and received a Master's degree in computer science. Later on, while assigned to the Washington D.C. area, I began (and eventually completed) after-hours doctoral studies in computer engineering at The George Washington University. My education and



experience set me up to receive an invitation to become a civilian professor at the Naval Academy immediately after I retired from active duty. I then spent the next two decades teaching engineering subjects (weapons system fundamentals, robotics, microcomputers, and automatic controls) to Midshipmen at the Naval Academy. I was a department head for several years and was an Academy-wide research director for student research activities before I retired in 2012. I was given the title Professor Emeritus in 2013.

As you can see, there is little about woodworking in my career(s) – woodworking for me is strictly a hobby that I have enjoyed immensely for many years. The hobby really started for me with the need for a couple pieces of furniture in my family's first home, roughly fifty years ago. I still have an end table I built then using a Sears radial arm saw. Sturdy, not necessarily pretty, was the theme at that time. I, like many of you, have progressed over the years, both in the machines I own, in experience, and in the variety of things I've built. I've always benefited from seeing others in action and talking with others about woodworking techniques, which is a decided strength of the Guild.

The Annapolis Woodworker's Guild is, for me, a special mix of fun and interesting people, woodworking related activities, and learning opportunities. When there was a need for someone to volunteer for an open position as First VP a year ago it was obvious that I should at least volunteer to help an organization that I like so much.

I, and the rest of the board of directors, (their names are at the end of this publication) are very interested in what you see the Guild offering you. Your direct input and involvement in AWG activities are essential to the vitality of this organization. By involvement I mean having a conversation with a board member about what you desire, greeting a new or returning member, and stepping forward when and where there is a need you may feel you could fill. Your active participation is how we can keep and even expand the level of service the Guild provides to its members and to the public at large.

I look forward to my year of service to you as president. I will always be open to your input, good or bad, but hopefully not indifferent.

Carl Wick

# June Monthly Meeting

Thursday, June 8th, 2023, 7:00PM

Davidsonville United Methodist Church

819 W Central Ave, Davidsonville, MD 21035

Please join us for our monthly meeting of the Guild. Please consider contributing to the “show-n-tell.” If you have an item you wish to show bring it to any meeting, leave it on the front table. There you will find a sign up clip board. Please write your name and description of the item. When your turn comes describe your project including wood species, finish, special techniques you used and any unusual problem you had to solve.

If you want to show off a project that is too large to bring to the meeting you have the option of showing your work via video or pictures. If you want to present a video or pictures at the meeting contact Chris Desautels before the meeting date at: Christopher.desautels@gmail.com or 301-332-8490.

## June Raffle Items

These fine items will be raffled at the June meeting.



29 Piece Hobby Knife Set

Two JB Weld Products

Rockler \$50 Gift Card

## June Speaker: Michael Jury

Michael Jury is the principal designer and craftsman at M. Jury Woodworks LLC, which he operates with his wife, Amanda, in Springfield, Virginia. They build one of a kind heirloom furniture and decorative woodwork inspired by Shaker, Japanese and Danish designs from the finest domestic hardwoods. Their award-winning furniture designs can be found in galleries and private collections throughout the country and have been featured in local and national media. Michael is a classically trained musician, U.S. Army Veteran and self-taught woodworker.

Michael will share images of several pieces from his portfolio and highlight the pieces like those pictured here. He will also bring a chair and a few tables to show.



## May Meeting

President Ken Davis opened his final meeting. On behalf of all members we thank Ken for his service this past year.



# May Speaker

Joel Lafferiere



This month's speaker, Joel Lafferiere, gave a very instructive presentation on block planes. He believes that you can get good results and save money by buying used planes if you know what to look for. A good used plane will have no crack in the body nor gouges near the throat and have a flat base – or close enough to flat that it can be corrected by honing. His preferred flattening method uses 150 grit sandpaper on glass with camellia oil.

Joel reviewed the basic components and discussed blade angle. In the raging standard vs low angle wars he is firmly in the low angle camp. With regard to keeping a sharp blade he is a strong advocate of stropping.

He concluded by giving demonstrations of smoothing, chamfering and pillowing using a block plane.



## Safety Brief

Carl Wick

Outgoing First Vice President and Safety Officer Carl Wick briefed the attending members on the issue of wood toxicity. It is the nature of humans that “every wood species is toxic to someone and a few species are toxic to all.” Carl presented the kinds of effects (rashes, upper and lower respiratory problems or general malaise) and reminded us that sensitivity to a toxic species gets worse with prolonged exposure.

In general, species that are most likely to be a problem have red or dark colored wood. Prominent examples are western red cedar, cocobolo and all varieties of rose wood. Health effects are primarily caused by exposure to dust and the best defense is to control it – use an air filter and keep your shop clean.

Carl recommends a visit to [www.wood-database.com](http://www.wood-database.com) for detailed data, including toxicity, on any wood you are concerned about.



## Annual Board Election



Ken Davis conducted the election of the new board of directors and introduced the only new member, Jim Cowan, First Vice President. The board for the 2023/2024 year are as follows.

Guild President	Carl Wick
First Vice President	James Cowan
Second Vice President	Ken Davis
Secretary	Jim Menefee
Co-Treasurers	Rodger Young Vince Antonioli
Program Co-Chairmen	Phil Christenson Chris Desautels
Membership Chairman	Tom Dettweiler

## Show and Tell



Bill Carbin built this necklace case for his daughter to specifications that she provided.

Chris Desautels told us about this recently acquired, beautifully restored Stanley 113 compass plane. The 113 was made from 1877 until 1942 and this particular plane was made in 1900. The compass plane is used to smooth curved edges. Chris bought it to replace his previous one which he wore out.



Art Mensch carved these amazing duck decoys.



Bruce Saylor made these beautiful inlaid serving boards highlighted with abalone shell. He also brought some wooded cars he made from various species of scrap.



Phil Foster talked about this floor lamp – a work in progress – that uses mica inserts in the shade. He’s looking for some advice on a finishing problem.

Bill Heath has been making wooden hinges for some projects. One example is these wood holders for business cards.



Candee Van Iderstine has been taking a bowl turning class. She brought one wet and one dry turned bowl.



# The Old Post Office

The investigation into renting the old Davidsonville post office building continues. Ken Davis showed a video of the building's interior and described the facility. The church has not yet stated their asking price, so we are unable to make a decision.

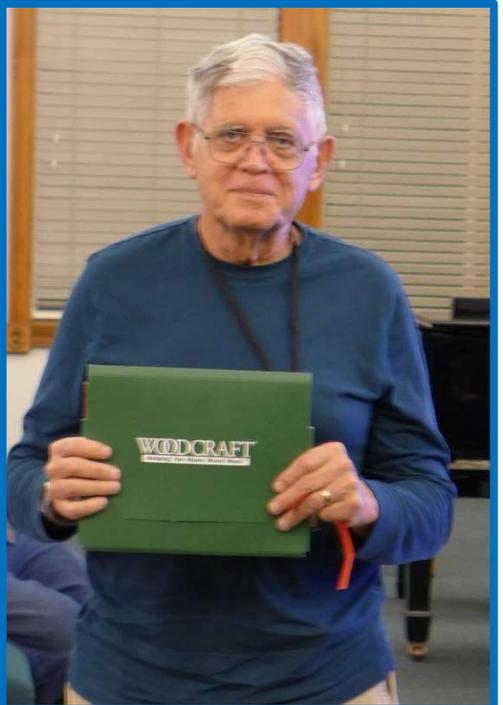
## June Raffle Winners



Bill Heath  
Rockler Bench Cookies



Gary Johney  
Buck Brothers Hand Plane



Carl Wick  
\$50 Woodcraft gift card



# A Handicapped Woodworker

By Andy Borland

"Getting old ain't for sissies". Giving up activities that keep us involved in life as we age has become a real challenge for me. Losing strength in my hands, legs and the body parts that keeps us all mobile is downright depressing.

My hobby is woodworking. I want to keep on creating things. I want to stay involved. I don't want to just sit in my brown chair. When your hands don't work like they used to, it is impossible. Safety has been #1 priority in my shop since it opened. I know that I should not be running a power tool without someone in the shop who could turn off the machine and call 911, if necessary.

Recently, I was asked to make a wedding box (pictured at right) for a friend. There were specifications as to the size, shape and a top with a handle. It had to be 8 1/2 by 11, so that her wedding certificate could fit inside. I refused to let this opportunity pass, but I knew I had to have help, and I knew just who would do this with me, Bill Carbin (below). With a time crunch, we created the box out of walnut with three coats of semi-gloss general finishes. Bill's help gives me the opportunity to continue doing what I love to do.



In years past, the Toy Workshop has made thousands of toys to be distributed all through our community. This year has been no exception, as the workshop has continued to produce. Mondays are reserved for Woodworking. I look forward to it. I work my medical appointments around it. Even with my handicaps, I know that the camaraderie of working in sawdust with this supportive group is as important to my health as all of the pills I put into my body each day.

"Don't quit, look ahead to the next game", I told my players. I intend to "keep on" as long as I have the support of friends like Bill Carbin and our Annapolis Woodworking Guild.

# Tip of the Month

## Mitered Leg Blank

What I wanted for my legs were blanks with no visible glue lines and matching grain on all four faces. Starting from this point, I could make legs that really showed off their shape.

This might sound impossible, but it turns out there's a fairly easy way to make a blank that fits this description. Take a look at the photo at right and you'll get an idea of how this works. With a little careful wood selection, gluing, and cutting, you can end up with a two-piece blank with similar grain on all four faces and an invisible glue line.

As you can see on the end, the glue line runs from corner to corner so it can't be seen on the faces. Even after the leg is shaped, no one will be able to tell that it was made from a two-piece, glued-up blank.

But the real advantage you get from this type of blank is the matching grain. The two halves of the blank are glued up so that the grain on all four faces is a very close match. Just take a look at the large photo at left and you'll see what I mean. The shape of the leg and the grain pattern work together to make a great-looking leg.

**TWO HALVES.** Getting this look takes a little extra work, but it isn't difficult. Basically, you start with an oversized, glued-up piece and then

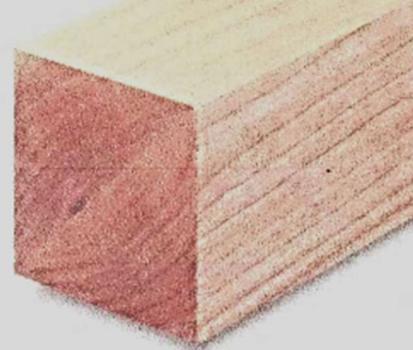
cut a square out of it "on the diagonal" to get the finished blank. The key to getting the right look is in how you match the two halves of the oversized piece. The rest is just simple gluing and table saw work.

For the oversized piece you need two pieces of  $1\frac{3}{4}$ "-thick stock,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " wide. You want to end up with a rough blank that's  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " square.

Take a look at Fig. 1, and you'll see the grain orientation you're shooting for. This part of the process is pretty important. As you can see the rings on the ends of the two halves should form gentle arcs across the width of the pieces. I had to pick and choose the lumber carefully to get it right, but the extra effort really paid off.

**LAYOUT.** After the oversized piece is glued up, check it to make sure it's square. (This is important later on.) Then you can lay out the shape of the finished blank on one end. A hardboard pattern cut to the size of the finished blank does the job. Just trace the pattern on the ends of the rough blanks as shown in Fig. 1a. You want to center the pattern in the oversized piece and the corners should be right on the glue line.

**FINISHED BLANK.** Now cutting the finished blank is straightforward. If you just follow the layout lines, you



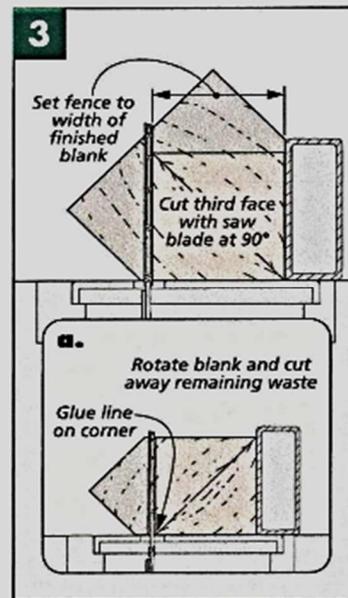
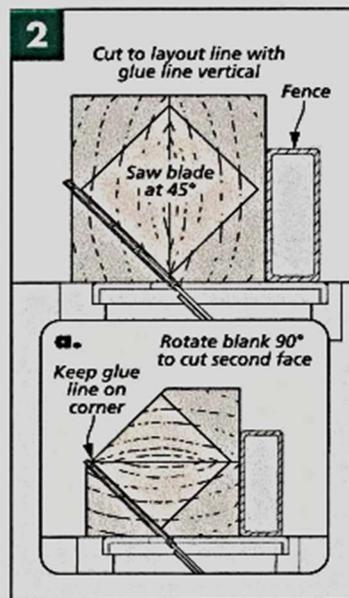
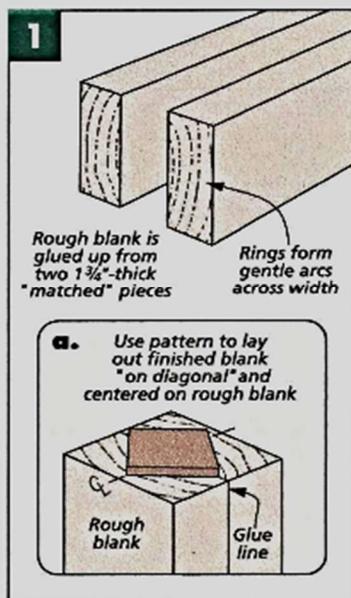
▲ With a "mitered" leg blank you'll have an invisible glue line and matching grain on all four faces.

can't go wrong. With the table saw blade set at  $45^\circ$ , the first cut is made as shown in Fig. 2. As you can see, the glue line is vertical. And you can just sneak up on the layout line by adjusting the fence.

Next turn the rough blank  $90^\circ$  to cut the second face as shown in Fig. 2a. What you're looking for here is the glue line to fall right on the corner of the finished blank.

The final two faces should be routine. Figs. 3 and 3a show you what to do here. With the saw blade set at  $90^\circ$  and the fence adjusted to the finished width of the blank, the glue line will fall right on the money.

That's it. Now you've got the perfect blank for any leg. ■



This month's tip is reproduced with the permission of Woodsmith Magazine.

# AWG Member Mentors

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

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Mentor Subject</b>
Ames	Don	410-268-0509	dfames@verizon.net	Use and maintenance of Edge Tools (planes, chisels, scrapers)
Applegate	Patrick	410-426-8287	patrick__applegate@comcast.net	Finishing with Shellac (brushed and padded)
Arndt	Michael	410-960-3239	MarylandWoodPro@gmail.com	General wood finishing & finish restoration/repair
Ashby	Bob	410-969-2910	toolsrus58@comcast.net	Shapers, router tables and tooling for same
Carbin	Bill	410-647-0393	carbinwilliamj@yahoo.com	Box making
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
Luck	Jim	410-647-6622	jfl639@verizon.net	Inlay and shaker boxes
McDonald	Chris	410-326-1685	cmcdonald@thewavaz.com	Cabinets

# **AWG Officers**

## **(June 2023 —May 2024 Term)**

President – Carl Wick  
1st Vice President – James Cowan  
2nd Vice President – Ken Davis  
Secretary – Jim Menefee  
Co-Treasurers – Vince Antonioli and  
Rodger Young  
Tour Coordinator – Open  
Program Chairperson – Chris Desautels and  
Phil Christenson  
Newsletter Editor – Duncan Adams  
Historian - Open

Endowment Coordinator – Bill Carbin  
Entertainment Coordinator – Paul Dodson  
Show Coordinator– Open  
Show & Tell Coordinator – Bill Carbin  
Special Projects Coordinator – Open  
Membership Chairperson – Tom Dettweiler  
Librarian—Lloyd Gleason  
Charity Coordinator—Andy Borland  
Webmaster— Tyler Quevedo  
Education Chair—Rick Hodgdon

### **MEMBERSHIP and MEETINGS**

Membership is open to all interested Woodworkers.

Annual Dues: New Members Joining between Jan and June: \$50; joining between July and Sept \$25; Free between Oct and Jan, but be sure to “re-up” the following year!

#### **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](http://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](http://WWW.Doorandcolumn.com)



### Klingspor

2555 Tate Boulevard Southeast, Hickory, NC 28603  
800-645-5555 [WWW.Klingspor.com](http://WWW.Klingspor.com)



### American Woodcrafters Supply

212 East Main, Box G, Riceville, IA 50466  
800-995-4032 [WWW.Americanwoodcrafterssupply.com](http://WWW.Americanwoodcrafterssupply.com)



**Bruso Hardware LLC**  
67-69 Greylock Avenue  
Belleville, NJ 07109  
212-337-8510 [WWW.Brusso.com](http://WWW.Brusso.com)



**Lake Erie Toolworks**  
1234 Irwin Drive, Erie, PA 16505  
815-528-4337  
[WWW.LakeErieToolworks.com/Pages/Club](http://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](http://WWW.Wurthwoodgroup.com)



**Hartville Tools**  
Hartville, OH  
800-345-2396  
[WWW.Hartvilletool.com](http://WWW.Hartvilletool.com)

**MARYLAND SELECT HARDWOODS**  
7470 Mason Springs Road, La Plata, Maryland  
301-743-2225 [Dennis.Woodruffi@gmail.com](mailto:Dennis.Woodruffi@gmail.com)

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