

WOODWORKERS GUILD

of Southwest Michigan

<http://www.woodguild.org> January 2020

Next meeting:

January 14th @ 7:00pm

Kzoo Makers Space
1102 E. Michigan
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
kzoomakers.org

Take E. Michigan Ave through town, go under the railroad over pass and continue on E. Michigan Ave. Kzoo Makers is about 1/8 mile past the railroad overpass on the south side of E. Michigan Ave.

Agenda: Mike Belzowski will be our feature speaker. Mike's previous presentation to the group have involved steam bending, custom veneering and marquetry. You can see much of Mike's work at www.belzowski.com

The December meeting was held at the Kzoo Makers Space. A turn out of about 38 members and guests came out for the evenings events. President Bill Wieringa opened the meeting with a welcome and introduction of visitors. Bill mentioned that the guild is seeking for a volunteer to chair the programs committee. The guild also is looking for a volunteer to take over the secretary position. Doug Lynes will continue with the roll until end of the 2020 season, but will be handing over the responsibility to someone else for the 2020-21 season.

The meeting was turned over to our evening featured guest Ted Johnson. Ted gave a talk on live edge woodworking and furniture. He began with a brief history lesson on the father of live edge woodworking, George Nakashima, Japanese-American woodworker May 24, 1905 – June 15, 1990. George's legacy lives on at his home, studio, workshop and national land mark in New Hope Pennsylvania. To learn more about this impressive craftsman check out www.nakashimawoodworkers.com. Ted also mentioned a somewhat local furniture company in Kalkaska MI, Woodland Creek Furniture, www.woodlandcreekfurniture.com.

Ted discussed the wood that he works with can have live edge exposure on the perimeter or interior voids, knots and checking that are filled with colored epoxy or bow tie type splices. It was mentioned that www.slabstichers.com makes affordable unique and custom splice templates. Sometimes the live edge of book matched boards are turned inward with the machine edges on the perimeter to form a table top. Any gaps in the live edges are filled with colored epoxy, creating a river effect. Members discussed their experiences with epoxy and its cost. One reported cost for 30 gallons was over \$750. A propane torch can be used to drive air bubbles to the surface.

Ted discussed the tools that he uses and stated that he will use "anything that will remove wood", power grinders, power planers, hand planers, various sandpaper tools, chisels and scrapers. He typically sands down to 220 grit. There was also much discussion around care needed to make sure there are no hidden surprises in the slab lumber often used in live edge work. Items such as barbed wire, nails, stones and bullets are not unusual to find. And don't forget the oil from poison ivy silently waits for a victim.

Ted also stated that he had acquired over 100 pieces of lumber, 4' or longer destined for live edge projects. His sources include often overlooked live edge slab treasures at auctions and harvested on his own property. Ted had several pieces of lumber to pass around and a finished table with legs made from copper pipe and fittings. This was a great talk on all the challenges of bringing a live edge piece of lumber to a finished work. Thanks to Ted for his time and willingness to share his knowledge.

Before turning the rest of the evening over to show and tell, Bill Crown thanked guild members for close to 300 wheeled toys delivered to Gospel Mission and Portage Community Center. Bill estimates that over the years the guild has provided around 5000 toys and jewelry boxes to those organizations.

Woodworkers Guild of S.W. Michigan

7572 S. 10th St
Kalamazoo MI 49009

The Woodworks Guild of South West Michigan is a group of hobbyist and professional woodworkers of diverse woodworking interests that meet monthly to share knowledge and craftsmanship skills that serve the many facets of woodworking.

Meetings are held second Tuesday of each month from September through May. Meeting time is 7:00pm at a local shop or location of interest.

Annual member ship dues are \$25/year.

Find us on the web at www.woodguild.org



Guild Officers

President - Bill Wieringa 375-1594
Vice President - Gary Foote 616-240-0251
Treasurer - Ted Maxon 477-2577
Newsletter Ed. - Scott McDavid 544-2177
Secretary - Douglas Lynes 324-1449
Photographer - Neal Ferguson 624-6837
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<p>J&J Paint & Glass Steve Klok Scott Miracle Everything in Glass</p> <p>509 East Vine St. Kalamazoo MI 49001</p> <p>Ph 269-344-2834 Fax 269-344-0378</p> <p>Serving SW MI since 1954</p>	<p>S E L E C T M I L L W O R K C O M P A N Y</p> <p>BILL ADAMS PRESIDENT 960 INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY PLAINWELL MI 49080 PH 269-685 2646</p>	<p>THE HERRITAGE COMPANY</p> <p><i>Architectural Salvage and</i> <i>Supply. Buy and Sell old</i> <i>woodwork, doors, windows</i> <i>and all other old house</i> <i>parts.</i></p> <p>Open Wed—Sat 11 –5 269-385-1004 150N. Edwards Kalamazoo, MI 49009</p>	<p>Prairie Workshops</p> <p>Specializing in coopering tools, hand crafted wooden buckets, barrels, pitchforks and hay racks along with hand forged blacksmith items.</p> <p>Chuck Andrews Proprietor</p> <p>www.prairieworkshops.com</p>