

WOODWORKERS



of Southwest Michigan

<http://www.woodguild.org> December 2019

Next meeting:

December 10th @ 7:00pm

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

Take E. Michigan Ave through town, go under the railroad overpass 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: Ted Johnson will do a program on live edge slab treatment.

The November meeting was held at the Kzoo Makers facilities. A turn out of about 35 members and guests came out for the evenings events. President Bill Wieringa opened the meeting. Bags of 40 wooden wheels and axels were made available for the annual toy build. Dozens of hand made wooden toys were entrusted to Bill Crown to deliver to the Gospel Mission and Portage Community Center. Bill asked that all toys be turned in to him no later than the week after Thanksgiving.

The meeting was turned over to Chuck Andrews to begin his presentations. The show and tell discussions were saved to the end of the meeting. For the first part of the presentation Chuck demonstrated a hand cut dovetail technique for building boxes. A shooting board was used to trim the boards to exact matching length. Chuck used his favorite marking gauge from Lee Valley Tools to scribe the depth of the dovetails, equal to the thickness of the boards plus about a 1/32". He also happened to have a carriage makers vise to hold the boards for cutting. A Japanese pull saw along with a jewelers saw was used to cut out the tails. A chisel was used to clean up the cuts taking care to only pare away material from half the thickness of the board, then flipping the board over to remove the other half. The keeps one from driving their nice sharp chisels into the bench surface. There were recollections of the Shopsmith demonstrations from years ago at the Cross Roads mall and a trick of using sawdust and glue to make an invisible filler slurry for lose joints. Chuck had a dedicated arsenal of saws, chisels, makers and other hand tools to make the dovetails. There was discussions around the spacing and angles for the tails and different schools of thought on what those should be. The golden ratio of 1.62:1 is often used to derive those numbers.

For the second half of the meeting Chuck demonstrated how to make a hinge from a strip of copper about 2" wide by 12" long. He first annealed a section of the copper by getting it near red hot with a gas torch and quenching in water. This took the spring out of the copper and made it malleable. Fingers were cut into two half of the hinge pieces. The diameter of the hinge pin will determine the depth of cut to make the fingers. A jeweler's saw is used to make precise cuts, and a little file work allows the finger to mesh freely. A modified pair of slip joint pliers are used to start forming the copper fingers around the hinge pin, along with some delicate hammer work. While modern day hinges are inexpensive and easy to come by, crafted hinges offer endless customization, historical replication and are the signature of craftsmanship. Thanks to Chuck for sharing with the guild his time and talents.

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
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