# THE COLONIAL WOODCUTTER

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The next AWG Guild meeting will be October 10th at 7PM at:

Davidsonville United Methodist Church 819, Route 214, Davidsonville, MD

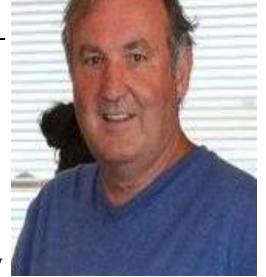
The next AWG Board meeting will be October 24th at 7PM at:

Champion Realty 541A Baltimore Annapolis Blvd Severna Park, MD

## THE PRESIDENT'S ANGLE

Greetings from your faithful but occasionally absent president. It is always something that gets in the way of getting the job done. Like writing this column at the last moment before publication.

Procrastination is another something that gets in the way with getting things done.



I will miss this month's meeting as well due to back to school night that I can't escape from.

You can expect to see me firing up the sawmill with Tom Lahdelma at the picnic and even this Wednesday at the AA County Fairgrounds I should be at the handle of that mill as well. They just got a new 56 inch blade for that one so the sawing should go really well.

So, I look forward to seeing you all at Kinder Farm Park this weekend and maybe at the fair.

Fred

# OUR SPEAKER STU CRICK BY MIKE STEWART

Guest speaker: Stewart Crick, Stu's Woodworks, Manassas, VA

www.stuswoodworks.com

Topic: Designing Arts and Crafts Furniture Posed the question: "Why design furniture?"

Like many members in the audience, Stu started off as an amateur woodworker and worked his way into professional woodworking over a period of time. He discovered that he liked furniture design, especially in the Arts and Crafts Style. The act of changing existing designs allowed him to take his interest in woodworking to the next level. Amateurs start off with existing plans, which allowed him to



hone his skills and experiment with the styles he liked most. Changing an existing design offered new challenges such as accounting for variables like lines and proportions.

He offered advice to the audience based on his lessons learned making this move: Simplify the process.

The hardest part to modifying designs is to come up with a creative idea, an "epiphany" and to put it to paper in the form of a drawing. The next hardest part is the mechanical act of converting the drawing to a piece of furniture. In his experience, he works best when going from a detailed drawing to a prototype, which forces him to work out the details of the joinery, develop a cut list, and lay out the sequential processes he will need to transition into production.

No one designs in a vacuum. We are all influenced by someone else's design. He showed several slides of examples of his furniture with his personal design elements: bed-side table, a blanket chest made with Spessart Oak panels from Germany's old slow growth forest (he tends to use a lot of Spessart Oak because of its tight growth rings, uniform density and strength), a 200 year-old drop leaf table made for the Asheville Grove Park Inn, a Frank Lloyd Wright table, a Greene and Greene dresser with panels, and a Greene and Greene foot stool.

He went into detail about a table and the significance of design elements by discussing his Black Dot Button design element made from Ebony and Spessart Oak. The button mechanically connects the table top to the base. It is a single long piece pin of oak, topped with Ebony, that is inserted through a hole cut in the side of the table top and into the base. The table top slides over the button, which allows him to "feel" how much the table top expands and contracts with the weather. He passed around a sample of his button connector.

Then he presented his concept of Furniture Design. "The epiphany that happens when inspiration drives creativity to pluck random nuggets of design and style knowledge, mixes them together, and spits out something truly unique and pleasing to its creator." The epiphany is the surprise that we cannot control – it just happens at odd moments. Design knowledge deals with strength and proportion. Style knowledge deals with understanding the style you want to build in, such as Greene and Greene or Frank Lloyd Wright "styles".

There are many Arts & Crafts styles. Even though they are all arts and crafts style, there are significant Differences in builders. Examples are Greene and Greene, Gustoff Stickley, Charles Rohlf, and Shapland and Pitter.

What they have in common are:

Utility – does a chair look like a chair?

Honesty of Materials – the piece represents oak as oak; it does not try to make it look like something else. Solidarity of Construction – the structural features are visible.

Adaption to Place – the piece looks right in its environment; the furniture compliments its location. Aesthetic Effort – it is pleasing to the eye.

He described his personal philosophy regarding measures of success with respect to a piece of furniture.

- He must like it.
- It is successful if people want to touch it (tactile).
- 100 years from now, someone will examine it and try to figure out how it was made. He enjoys talking with historians and curators to gain their perspective on furniture design and their elements.

His examples of design elements are:

- Solid wood legs. He uses 5 pieces of wood (3 pieces glued up and faced with 2 pieces of book-matched veneer) with a locking miter.
- Ebony Table Buttons. Discussed above.
- Ingrown Ebony Buttons.
- Greene & Greene leg indent.
- Frank Lloyd Wright spindles and through mortise and tenon joints.
- His favorite Greene & Greene joint is where the tenon is inserted into the mortise. The outside of the mortise is carved out to allow the entire cross piece to be inserted about 1/8 inch into the leg. This method will prevent the joint from opening up a gap.

Each of these elements can be easily modified to be incorporated in different pieces. Individually, they are small elements and are relatively easy to master. Once you master the small elements, they add up to create a more mature design.

If you would like more information or have questions, Stu maintains a blog on his web site.





### EXPERIENCED SAWDUST

#### BY ANDY BORLAND





### Q. TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF: HOMETOWN, BACKGROUND, EDUCATION, PROFESSION, AND OTHER INTERESTs .

I was born in Kentucky, and my family moved to Toledo, Ohio during the depression. I became a bricklayer after high school. I moved to Davidsonville in 1965. I started my own construction business in 1971 and retired in 1985.

#### Q. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INTERESTED IN WOODWORKING?

I have been interested in woodworking for about 75 years and loved making things, still do. Went to the News Boys Club in Ohio, great organization. I had woodworking in grade school and in high school. News Boys club, also, had woodworking shops.

#### Q. TELL US A BIT ABOUT WHAT YOU DID FOR OUR GUILD.

I have held about every office within the Guild. I was in charge of Guild tours for years. I also headed up all the special projects the Guild took on to do.

#### Q. WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN WOODWORKING?

I wanted to make and sell little things, mostly to family, you know for 10 cents or so.





#### O. WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE WOODWORKING PROJECTS?

It is really hard to pick a favorite. I enjoy looking at what I have made and knowing that they would not be there if it was not for me

## Q. HAVE YOU RECEIVED AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS FOR ANY OF YOUR WOODWORKING PROJECTS, IF SO WHAT WERE THEY FOR AND BY WHOM?

I have received several from the Guild for my work within the Guild. The best reward is the friendships for the talented, generous, and friendly members of this wonderful Guild.

Q. WHAT OR WHO HAS INFLUNCED YOUR WOODWORKING INTEREST?

Since I joined the Guild there is no doubt, George Swisher, has had the biggest influence on  $\mbox{my}$  woodworking.

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{Q}}.$  What woodworking publications do you read and which one do you refer to most often?

I think Wood Smith is the best publication. However, I just call my friends in the Guild if I have questions.

Q. DESCRIBE YOUR WORKSHOP (LOCATION, SIZE, POWER TOOLS, IMPORTANT HAND TOOLS, JIGS COMMONLY USED AND IS THERE ANYTHING UNUSAL ABOUT YOUR SHOP.

My shop is in a separate building near my house. I have almost any tool you could want. They might not be the best tool, but good enough. All kind of jigs hang on my walls, mostly made by my son. I am not very neat. When Denny Scrivens (deceased) first went into my shop he looked around, made a face, and said, "I COULD NOT BE CREATIVE IN HERE."

Q. YOU HAVE SPENT YOUR LIFE WORKING AS A MASON OTHER THAN THE WEIGHT OF THE MATERIAL IS THERE ANY DIFFERENCE WORKING WITH WOOD?

The joy of both is the finished project and knowing you created it. SPECIAL NOTE FROM PHOTOGRAPHER BARRY FRANKEL

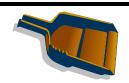
Had a great visit with Harlan...We sent more than an hour going through the house and alking about the many items...There is a common theme throughout...1) Everything that was made by Harlan had a specific purpose, for the family, for the house, for himself. 2) Almost everything was milled from scratch 3) many of the items were done with the help of nembers of the guild and 4) Mentioned several times not only did he build the pieces but HE BUILT THE HOUSE....not bad. I will send them in groups of 5 or 6..Have fun, I did... earned a lot..." Barry

Q. HARLÁN, YOU HAVE MADE A LOT OF THE FURNITURE IN YOUR HOUSE WOULD YOU TELL US ABOUT WHAT YOU HAVE MADE?

I have made most vanities, bed stands, frames, jewelry boxes. I, also, laid the foundation and built my own of the furniture in my house. Some of the items include: beds, desks, mirrors, armoires, tables, clocks, chests shelving, computer setups, home.

## EXPERIENCED SAWDUST CONTINUED

HARLAN RAY, JR. CONTINUED



### Q. HAVE YOU RECEIVED AWARDS OR RECOGNITIONS FOR ANY OF YOUR WOODWORKING PROJECTS? IF SO WHAT WERE THEY FOR AND BY WHOM?

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### NEW MEMBERS



Bill Kovalick

Bill hails originally from the coal mining town of Hazleton, Pa. However most of his adult life he has lived in Davidsonville Maryland. He obtained a forestry degree from Penn State but has worked as a software developer for much of his professional career. Bill's interest in woodworking stems from working with his father doing projects around the house. His woodworking experience totals about 30 years of doing such projects. He has a dedicated shop approximately 15' x 30'. Bill joined the AWG to improve his woodworking skills through Guild activities and training.



Jeff Jacks

Jeff was born and raised in Maryland and spent most of his life in PG County. He had a 4 year tour with the Navy and is presently employed as an Electronic Technician with Northrop Grumman in Linthicum, MD. Jeff also got an early liking for woodworking by helping his father with small projects. He has a shop which is located in 2 separate areas. The first is 10 x 12 and the second area is 10 x 8. Like most new members, Jeff feels that volunteering to work with some of the more skilled members will benefit him tremendously. He plans to take select Guild courses to improve his knowledge and skill.



# MENTOR LIST

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)
Applegate	Patrick	410-426-8287	pappleg@jhmi.edu	Finishing with Shellac (brushed and padded)
Arndt	Michael	410-551-8588	MarylandWoodPro@gmail.com	General wood finishing and finish restoration/repair
Ashby	Bob	410-969-2910	toolsrus58@comcast.net	Shapers, router tables and tooling for same
Borland	Andy	410-647-1242	AHBorland@aol.com	Boxmaking
Chavez	Harry	410-863-5940	harry.chavez@gmail.com	Intarsia
Dodson	Paul	410-760-5382	pdwoodcrafts@verizon.net	Scroll saws and scrolling
Hirrlinger	Jack	410-798-1339	tjhirr@verizon.net	Toys, tricks and puzzles
Luck	Jim	410-647-6622	jfl39@verizon.net	Inlay and shaker boxes

If you wish to be included as a mentor, please drop us a line and let us know. The more we share our knowledge the better the Guild can be.



Work session at Bay Woods of Annapolis woodshop to cut Bluebird house parts for the Home Show. The Home Show is September 20-21 at the Expo Hall at the National Guard Armory.

Pictured from left to right: Bob DeAngelo, Ralph DeLalla, Bob Skord, Jim Francis, Karl Hoke, and Bill Ferris.

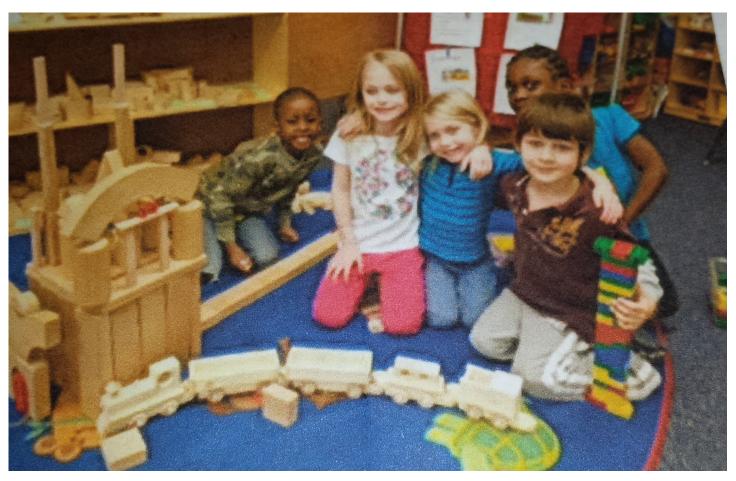
# TOY CORNER

#### DON AMES AND VICKI KUNDE

Are you looking for ideas to make toys for this year's charities? Free toy plans can be found at Allcrafts.net, Craftsmanspace.com., Toymakingplans.com, and Cherrytreetoys.com. All have a great selection of plans for reasonable prices. Pictured are some race car haulers made by retired cabinet maker Paul Downey, a good friend of Tom Lahdelma. Paul lives in Pasadena, is 82 years old, and is a Korean War Veteran. He made quite a few more but the grandkids scooped them up! Thank you, Paul, for donating these awesome trucks.



Train made by toy workshop at Brooklyn Park Elementary.



### **GUILD INTERESTS**



October Speaker: Harold Gooding
Topic: Hand Carving Santa Figurines

Harold Gooding started carving as a method of stress relief from his computer programming day job. He has won numerous competitions in carving duck decoys. Harold's true passion is in carving Santa Claus figurines, a carving heritage he hopes to pass on to future generations. Harold will demonstrate how to carve a Santa Figurine in an hour! He will also discuss carving tools and techniques, tool sharpening, wood selection, and his creative process.

### November Speaker: Wayne Dunlap

### TOPIC: SELECTING WOOD FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT

Wayne Dunlap started a family owned and operated business that has been supplying figured American hardwood lumber to woodworkers since 1975. He will discuss things you should consider while selecting wood for your next project. Topics will include; wood species, air vs kiln dried, lumber grading, and grain direction. Dunlap Woodcrafts is in Chantilly, VA, and can be reached at 703-631-7103.

### SHELLAC CLASS, BY PAT APPLEGATE

Our first Mentors Class of the season will be held on Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> at Don Ames Shop in back of his home on 107 N. Linden Ave, Annapolis. I will teach it and the topic is Hand Brushed or Padded Shellac Finishing.

The class will begin promptly at 9:00am and will continue through approx. 1:00-2:00pm including lunch and will cost \$10.00 for cost of materials and lunch.

You will also need a proper brush and you likely do not have one because it is not designated as a brush for woodworking but a Flat Watercolor Brush from an Art Supply store such as AC Moore or Michaels. Also known as Taklon or Synthetic Sable (one could use a true Sable Brush if you were willing to part with \$125.00 or more). If you shop for one they are known as a "Flat" "Wash" brush and average \$10-\$15 on sale for a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" or 1" size.

I have a few new brushes available at my cost if you cannot find one. This is a hands-on class so in addition to a brush you will need either a small unfinished project or a piece of wood on which to practice technique. It should be sanded with the grain to at least 180 or 220 grit. Class size is limited to six, and if there is more interest we will schedule additional classes. There will be a sign up sheet at the September meeting; if you cannot make the meeting email me at pappleg@jhmi.edu.

## GUILD INTERESTS CONTINUED

### Homestead Gardens

Homestead Gardens has asked if the Guild would be interested in participating in their Fall Festival, and we have agreed. We are looking for volunteers to demonstrate some aspect of woodworking. Currently we have some children's activities lined up and a few other ideas simmering.

The Fall Festival begins the weekend of September 27-28 and runs every weekend through October 25-26. Hours are 11:00 to 4:00 Saturday and Sunday. You **do not** need to commit to every weekend. If you have ideas or questions contact me at rvalentich180@gmail.com or 301-345-8528.

Jim Francis (Guild Historian) presented some history of the Guild as the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary is approaching. He presented the 1<sup>st</sup> half of his summary and will present the 2<sup>nd</sup> half at the picnic. There have been 25 presidents of the Guild. Don Ames was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Present and co-founder of the Guild was in attendance at the meeting. There were a number of past presidents at the meeting.

Mike Stewart announced that Grow Annapolis, a community garden project in Annapolis is asking for volunteers to help them design/build grow beds for handicapped gardeners.

### DVD LIBRARY

- 1. DVDs available for borrowing will be at each Guild meeting with the DVD Librarian, usually located at the back of the meeting room.
- 2. Only 1 DVD can be borrowed at a time by the Guild member.
- 3. The Guild member MUST be current with their membership dues.
- 4. DVDs must be handled carefully. They are given to you in a "jewel" box, and should be returned in the same box by the next Guild meeting. Follow the instructions in the box for proper handling of the DVDs.
- 5. All DVDs are copyrighted, and require compliance with copyright laws. This means that you cannot copy them. There are 3 exceptions in the list see the librarian for which can be copied.
- 6. Many DVDs start up differently on different players. Our DVDs should work fine on nearly all players, while the best performance is from DVDs played on a desktop or laptop personal computer.
- 7. Please report any problems you experience with playing a DVD to the DVD Librarian.
- 8. Remember, these DVDs are for everyone, so keeping them longer than 1 month impacts other people's enjoyment



### SEPTEMBER MEETING SPEAKER

Rich Ellery

Guest Speaker: Carl Swensson

Topic: Hand tool geometry and how to exploit it for greater accuracy and efficiency.

The joinery of traditional cooperage will be used to demonstrate the points of Carl's talk and demonstration. Coopering is the ancient craft of making tapered cylindrical containers that utilize edge-joined staves that are held in place with circumferential hooping. Staved vessels such as buckets, tubs, butter churns, firkins, rundlets, and puncheons were commonly used before factory made containers became available.

Carl Swensson's interests in woodworking include furniture design and construction, shoji screens, post & rung chair making, white coopering and architectural work. He studied Japanese woodworking with Makoto Imai, a master teahouse builder from Japan. He received a unique honor when he was commissioned to build the doors for a Buddhist temple in Kofu, Japan. Non-native craftsmen rarely get the opportunity to work on these types of projects. Carl's woodworking has been the subject of feature articles in "Fine Woodworking", "Home Furniture", and "Woodwork Magazine".

Fine Woodworking #145 - Japanese Planes Demystified: Tuning up a new wooden plane teaches you how to maintain the tool for life. When it comes time for fine handwork, Carl Swensson finds Japanese planes superior. He explains all the steps to conditioning one and details how to tune it, starting off with leaving it alone in your shop to acclimate. His tips for tuning include removing the iron and checking the bevel angle; flattening the back of the iron and sharpening the bevel; working the chipbreaker, shaping the plane's sole and fitting the iron to the body; fitting the chipbreaker, making a final check of the sole, and maintaining it so it can last a lifetime.

Fine Woodworking #185 - <u>Half-Blind Dovetails</u>: Cut perfect joints efficiently by hand. The half-blind dovetail is easy to find, and is often used to join drawer fronts to drawer sides. When made with contrasting woods, the result can be especially striking. Many a woodworker uses a router and jig to cut snug half-blind dovetails with relative ease. But Carl Swensson believes in cutting the joint efficiently by hand. With careful attention to sawing and chiseling techniques, he can cut a snug pair of half-blinds in about an hour.







# WEAR THAT NAME TAG.

People can't get to know you if they don't know your name.

# SHOW & TELL

SORRY, BUT THERE ARE NO PICTURES OF THE SHOW AND TELL THIS MONTH. THE REASON IS, QUITE SIMPLY, THAT NOBODY BROUGHT ANY ITEMS. REMEMBER SHOW & TELL IS FOR THE GOOD, BAD, AND THE UGLY. WE LEARN FROM ALL OUR PROJECTS. BRING IN YOUR MISTAKES, AND WE WILL ALL LEARN FROM THEM. ALSO, YOU WILL RECEIVE A FREE RAFFLE TICKET FOR THAT NIGHT'S DRAWING.

# From the WebMaster,

# by Dave Tate

Do you use the *Members Only* section of the Guild's web site? Although much of the information on the web site is viewable by the public, the *Members Only* section can only be seen by active members. It includes a membership *Directory*, the lending *Library*, and the *Members Home Page*, where the latest updates are posted. You can also update your contact information on the *My Profile* page, and keep your membership up to date with the Pay Dues page.

If you don't remember your password, send email to webmaster@annapoliswoodworkers.org to request a new one. You can also go to the Contact Us page, and fill out the form and get a new password that way. Note that the webmaster can never tell you what your password is (it's encrypted in a way that it can't be decrypted), he can only reset it to something new. You can then go to the My Profile page and set it to anything you want.

Check out the *Gallery* page to see the nice work Chris Mc Donald and other fellow woodworkers have done!



# THE AUGUST RAFFLE WINNERS!



Vince won a \$50.00 Lowe's gift card.





Hugh Houghton won an edge clamp.

Rick Hodgdon won a pair of spring clamps.

#### OFFICERS

The Executive Officers for 2014-2015 are:

President – Fred Oakes <a href="mailto:spresident@annapoliswoodworkers.org">spresident@annapoliswoodworkers.org</a>>

1st Vice President – Bill Carbin <a href="mailto:svp1@annapoliswoodworkers.org">svp1@annapoliswoodworkers.org</a>

2nd Vice President – Paul Dodson <a href="mailto:svp2@annapoliswoodworkers.org">cvp2@annapoliswoodworkers.org</a>

Secretary – Phil Carroll <a href="mailto:secretary@annapoliswoodworkers.org">secretary@annapoliswoodworkers.org</a>

Treasurer – Karl Hoke <treasurer@annapoliswoodworkers.org>

Membership Chairman – Harry Chavez <memchair@annapoliswoodworkers.org>

Program Chairman – Richard Ellery <a href="mailto:sprogchair@annapoliswoodworkers.org">sprogchair@annapoliswoodworkers.org</a>

The other officers are:

Newsletter Editor – Rich Valentich <a href="mailto:semble-red"><u>news@annapoliswoodworkers.org></u></a>

Education Chairmen – Pat Applegate & Mike Arndt <educhair@annapoliswoodworkers.org>

Librarian – Llyod Gleason <a href="mailto:slibr@annapoliswoodworkers.org">slibr@annapoliswoodworkers.org</a>>

- Endowment Fund Coordinator Richard Valentich
- Entertainment Coordinator Al Veiel
- Show Coordinator Paul Dodson
- Show & Tell Coordinator Jack Hirrlinger
- Special Projects Coordinator Harlan Ray
- Tour Coordinator Harlan Ray
- Charity Coordinator Vicki Kunde

# THE ANNAPOLIS WOODWORKERS GUILD IS OPEN TO ALL WOODWORKERS FROM NOVICE TO EXPERT

General Membership Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month 7 PM Davidsonville United Methodist Church #819, Route 214, Davidsonville, MD

> Executive Board Meetings: 4th Thursday of each month 7PM Champion Realty 541A Baltimore Annapolis Blvd Severna Park, MD

Annual Membership Dues \$35 For Information on the Guild call: 240-417-2779

> Address correspondence to: Annapolis Woodworkers Guild P.O. Box 6001