

COLORADO Woodworkers GUILD

February 2006

Encouraging all woodworkers in
self-expression, craftsmanship and
knowledge

Upcoming meetings

March 21st:

Dennis McCaigue: Master Violin Maker
Location: Rockler

April 18th:

Lourdes Mila: Furniture Design
Location: Red Rocks Community College

May 16th:

Craftsman Show Awards & Guest Speaker
Location: Red Rocks Community College

*Visit our website for latest updates on meetings and locations:
www.coloradoodwoodworkersguild.org*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 21st

Speaker: Rich Johnson

Topic: Finishing Tips & Techniques

Where: Rockler

2553 S. Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO

When: Tuesday, February 21st, 7-9pm

As most woodworkers have come to experience, the finish that is applied to your project can be one of the most challenging and frustrating steps. The right finish, well executed, can make your completed project a masterpiece. At the other end of the spectrum, the wrong finish or a poorly applied finish can be a major disappointment.

Rich Johnson, Store Manager at Rockler and accomplished woodworker, will help unlock some of the secrets of the getting a finish that you will make you proud.

Recognizing that there are a vast array of topics relating to finishing, we've asked Rich to start with a brief overview on the basics of finishing, followed by a discussion focused on rubbing out top coats. After these two topics, Rich is willing to address YOUR questions on the science --- or is it an art??? --- of woodworking finishes.

Please join us for what will certainly be an informative session at Rockler --- especially for those of you who are working on projects for the upcoming CWG Craftsman's Show. :-). And don't forget to bring your finishing questions for Rich to answer!

Rocky Mountain PBS Art Auction

Have you ever wanted to be rich and famous? Well, here's your chance to see your work on television. KRMA Channel 6 is looking for your donation for their art auction. The value of your donation should be at least \$75, which isn't that much. A couple hours of your labor and materials should meet this requirement. The majority of art is two dimensional so they are looking to add diversity to the auction. If at least eight guild members make contributions, we will have a complete table and it will be billed as the Colorado Woodworkers Guild table.

Your art is to be delivered to the KRMA studio at 1089 Bannock near downtown Denver by March 18th. Your donation is tax deductible.

We had several members make contributions last year but would like to see enough this year for a table of our own, so think about supporting this function. John Hammer has entry forms. Contact him if you need one. 303-972-8065 or jvhammer@msn.com. We can also arrange for a group delivery if you can't make it. You may not get rich and famous, but it will be fun to watch your item during the auction.

Woodworker Trivia Question:

A cooper is a woodworker who makes chicken houses, Windsor chairs, or firkins and kilderkins?

(Answer on Page 4.)

January's Event Review Steve Shapland , Hand Tool Expert

Submitted by Joe Kuter

Photos by Ron Vanous

Our January meeting was held at Paxton's. It featured a presentation by Steve Shapland titled "Tools for a Desert Island."

Steve, one of the true individuals in our organization, did not disappoint on this occasion. He arrived at the meeting toting boxes of hand tools and sporting a beret and kilt. The "Desert Island" theme was validated with a yellow, flowered Hawaiian shirt. The brown kilt was adorned with about 50 half inch diameter chrome snaps used to change it into different configurations. It appeared to be made of leather, but closer examination was not possible due to a personal phobia involving proximity to men in leather skirts.



Sporting his beret, Hawaiian shirt and "Utilikilt", Steve gave an entertaining and informative review on a wide variety of hand tools. More photos are available on the CWG Website. Look for "Monthly Meetings" in the "Photo Gallery".

The presentation was well organized covering the various tool groups involved in the phases of building furniture or other woodworking projects. He started with harvesting the stock and proceeded to cover stock preparation, layout, joinery, adding ornate details and finishing.

The highlights of this presentation were the many fine antique and contemporary tools from Steve's collection. He covered different hand saw types used for ripping and crosscut. One of his saws featured a custom made handle optimized for the size and shape of his hand. There were many hand planes displayed with some passed around for closer examination by the members. He appeared to know the entire chronology for different models of Stanley planes.

The collection also featured specialty planes used for grooving and shaping. Several drills were displayed including a brace and a breast drill. The drills were accompanied by some interesting "old technology" bits including spoon bits. Rounding out the collection were several sets of fine chisels.

A couple of tools stood out due to their unique qualities. The first was a draw knife with handles that locked into place for use and folded for transport. The transformation from a "U" shape to an "I" must have helped considerably in organization of the tool tote. The second was a steel square that disassembled into two ruler-like pieces and slipped into a sheath for transport.

It was a great presentation with lots of good information – Thanks Steve!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT HAND TOOLS???

Steve has offered to teach a 10-week Hand Tools class this fall where he will guide students through building a box ---using only hand tools--- from rough stock material to completed project. Watch for more information this summer about the class details.



A Master Among Us

Dennis McCaigue
Master Violin Maker



Those of you who attended last October's guild meeting may remember the new CWG member who brought a spectacular viola that was partially built. The woods, craftsmanship and design details were exquisite. That new member, Dennis McCaigue, is a very well known instrument maker, specializing in violas and violins. He recently moved to Colorado to enjoy all that our beautiful state offers (yes, Dennis is a skier) and continues his craft of building some of the world's finest instruments.

Lucky for us, Dennis will be our featured speaker at the March Guild meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 21st, 7-9pm at Rockler. Please mark your calendars as this is an evening that you will not want to miss.

A quick web search revealed some notable information about Dennis, as well as photographs of instruments that he has built. The following text and photographs were respectfully borrowed from the website of Richard Gagliardi, Violin Maker (<http://www.rgviolins.com/index.html>).

Mr. Dennis McCaigue is a master violin maker who specializes in models from the great originals such as Stradivari, Guarneri, Presenda, and Testore among others. His instrument restorations are also of the finest quality and workmanship. Mr. McCaigue's antique copies are very well made with warmth, flair and an incredibly high sound quality. His new instruments are of the finest quality of workmanship and sound of any modern maker seen thus far.

Students as well as professionals from the US and abroad have warmly received his instruments. I've received numerous testimonials raving about the look, feel and sound of the McCaigue instruments. Clients continually marvel at the rich, older quality of sound that comes from these new instruments. A recent purchase of a McCaigue instrument is being played and enjoyed in the NJ Symphony orchestra.

The workmanship of Dennis McCaigue's violin is absolutely exquisite, it has such attractive look and playability. The tone and power is at first rate for a solo instrument, I highly recommend Mr. McCaigue's instrument!

Keng-Yuen Tseng
Violin Faculty, Peabody Conservatory
Artistic Director, Evergreen Orchestra

To Mr. Richard Gagliardi
Recently, while at the shop of Mr. Gagliardi, I was fortunate to play two violins made by Dennis McCaigue. One was a copy of the "Arditti" Strad and the other a copy of a Guaneri del Gesu. I was, quite frankly, overwhelmed by the quality of these instruments. They had power and depth of tone found only in the best of instruments. Furthermore, the thing that really astounded me was that the "Strad" had all the qualities of a Strad- and the del Gesu all the qualities of a del Gesu!!!

I was so impressed by these instruments that I recommended the Strad copy to my best student-and he bought it! May I say in my career, I have played many of the finest instruments and I think Mr. McCaigue belongs among the highest eshelon of violin makers both present and past, and I look forward with great excitement to owning a McCaigue myself!!

Franco Gennarelli
Concertmaster - New York Grand Opera



Dennis McCaigue's talent are displayed above with his "copy" of a Stradivarius violin.

2006 CWG Craftsman Show Update

Submitted by: Andy Zartman



The 2006 CWG Craftsman Show will be held at Red Rocks Community College Library on May 12th-14th and May 19th-21st. Guild members, students and non-members will be invited to enter their items for judging or for display. The purpose of these shows is twofold:

- ✦ First, to give everyone an opportunity to show off their hard work and to help educate and inspire, and
- ✦ Second, to give the opportunity to those who are looking to gain recognition and bring their work into the world for a possible business opportunity.

ENTRY FORMS

We would like to have entry forms (available in the next newsletter) filled out and returned by April 15th in order to create marketing information and advertising for the show. Your work does not have to be completed by then, only the entry form. For those projects that are complete by that date, we would like to get some photos for the advertisements. More information will be provided on this later.



ENTRY FEES & GUIDELINES

We are limiting the number of entries per person to 5 judged pieces and entry fees will be \$15 per piece for CWG Members and Red Rocks Students. Non-members fees will be \$50 (includes a one year guild membership) for the first item and \$15 for any extra items. Entry fee proceeds will be used for advertising, food and drink for the opening night and prizes. There will be no cost to display non-judged items but we are limiting the number of items to 3 per person.

If you have display stands for your pieces, they would be a big help.

JUDGING CRITERIA & PRIZES

I am also working on judging criteria (i.e. design, quality of finish, joinery, craftsmanship, etc) to help the judges critique the pieces. I would welcome input from anyone who participated in the Jeffco Fair or other judged shows. I am proposing the following categories:

- ✦ **Furniture** (tables, chairs, bookcases, beds, etc. even if they have inlay or carving incorporated),
- ✦ **Carving**,
- ✦ **Turning**,
- ✦ **Decorative** (pictures done with marquetry, intarsia),
- ✦ **Accessories** (jewelry boxes, lamps, clocks, etc.), and
- ✦ **Musical Instruments** (flutes, harps, guitars, violins, etc.).

If there are not at least 3 items for a category, the pieces may be combined into a similar category. If I've missed something, let me know.

I anticipate prizes for each category, Best of Show, and possibly prizes for the best overall of the judging criteria (Finish, design, etc.) Any ideas for prizes and or sponsors would be appreciated.

Do you have suggestions or feedback about the 2006 Craftsman Show? If so, please contact Andy (andrew.zartman@sun.com) with your ideas, or better yet, volunteer to join the committee. This is YOUR show and your input and participation are welcomed!

Check out photos from previous years' Craftsman Shows in the "Photo Gallery" on our CWG Website.

Upcoming Classes Taught by CWG Guild Members

Members Marvin Benson (Intarsia), Harold Foos (Scroll Saw), John Hammer (Shaker Boxes) and Leslie Kennedy (Band Saw Boxes) will be teaching classes in March at Rockler or Red Rocks. For information on classes at Rockler, Red Rocks and Woodcraft, please call the stores/school or visit their websites, or see the Calendar on our CWG website.

Woodworker Trivia Answer:

Firkins, kilderkins, and barrels — a cooper is a cask maker.

From Woodwright's Shop,
<http://www.pbs.org/wws/wwit/trivia.html>

GUILD MEMBER DISCOUNTS

20% off of purchases at

The Hardwood Emporium

16043 W. 4th Ave., Golden CO. 80401,
303-277-1488

10% off at:

Abilene Awards & Logos

1730 S Abilene, Aurora, CO. 80012,
303-755-0337

Austin Hardwoods

975 W. Mississippi, Denver, CO. ,
303-733-1292

Centennial Wood Co.

985 S. Logan, Denver, CO.
303-778-6209

Charlie's Secondhand Store

2227 Larimer St., Denver, CO.
303-295-1781

Paxton

4837 Jackson St., Denver, CO.
303-399-6047

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware

2553 S. Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO.
303-782-0588

TC Woods

9776 Arapahoe Rd, Lafayette, CO.
303-494-0425

Tool King (up to 10%, see details on CWG website)

11111 West 6th Ave, Lakewood, CO 80215
303-963-4500

Woodcraft

4403 S. Tamarac Parkway, Denver, CO.
303-290-0007



HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE YET?

Hopefully, all of you have had an opportunity to check out the new, improved CWG website at www.coloradoodworkersguild.org.

Photo Gallery

If you have photos of your woodworking projects or from any of the Guild's events, please either email your digital photos (.JPEG format is preferred) to:

contact@coloradoodworkersguild.org,
or bring a CD with your photos to a CWG monthly meeting and give it to one of the Board Members or Webmaster.

Classified Ads

Got Stuff to Sell? Looking for Stuff to Buy? Please check out our website's Classified Ads feature to post your ads and see what others need or have to offer.

PAXTON: New Discount Policy

The new discount policy at Paxton's is they will only accept one discount per purchase. That discount will be the larger of the discount available to you. An example would be, if you have both a student discount and a guild discount, they would apply the larger discount to you order. They will not apply both, as they have done in the past. This policy is effective 2/1/06.

WOOD OF THE MONTH

Hardwood Emporium:

4/4 Hickory \$2.39 bd ft
4/4 White Oak 2.49 bd ft.

NOTE: *There will be a drawing for any guild members that purchase wood in month of February for \$200 Gift Certificate to The Hardwood Emporium!*

Paxton:

4/4 Russian Birch \$2.51 bd ft.

Centennial Wood Co.:

5/4 Sepale. Beautiful straight grain. Surfaced two sides for \$8.10 per bd/ft.

TOOL KING GUILD SPECIALS

This month's specials at Tool King are featured in the PDF file that accompanied the email distribution of this newsletter. The PDF file is also available on the CWG website under "Resources", "Documents". Note that you must login to view the document.

A sampling of the discounted items offered for February includes a Delta Sander, Delta Professional 8" Jointer, Porter Cable 10" Laser Miter Saw and much much more. Remember to have your CWG membership card with you when shopping at Tool King or with our other discount partners.

Board Members

President:

Dave Vilella
720.229.1185
davev@a1glassinc.com

Vice-President:

Leslie Kennedy
303.478.3890
leslie@woodgal.com

Treasurer:

Chris Pine
303.936.3859
cpine522@comcast.net

Secretary:

John Hammer
303.972.8065
jvhammer@msn.com

Deputies of the Board

Andy Zartman
303.859.0724
andrew.zartman@sun.com

Committees at Large:

Joe Kuter
303.451.8439 (Home)
303.908.5919 (cell)
JoeKuter@juno.com

Committee Leaders

Christmas Toy Program
Bill Hoppers
303.424.6052

Membership Coordinator
Ron Vanous
303.988.6047

Yahoo Group Moderator
Carl Beck
carl@carlbeck.com

Guild Webmaster
Frederick Matzen
webmaster@coloradoodworkersguild.org

Not yet a member of the Colorado Woodworkers Guild?

We invite you to join now. Here are some of the benefits of becoming a member:

Monthly Guild Meetings -- Here woodworkers from novices to highly skilled craftsmen can meet, network, solicit advice, share ideas, and learn

Annual Craftsman Show -- The woodworkers' showcase! A world-class exhibit featuring pieces created by our diverse and talented guild members

Christmas Toys Program -- A great opportunity for novices to work side-by-side with and learn from experienced craftsmen, and in the process create fabulous toys for underprivileged children

Field Trips -- To local lumber yards, mills and workshops

Monthly Newsletter -- That includes meeting announcements, free classified ads and much, much more...

Membership in the Colorado Woodworkers Guild is \$30 per year.

To join, provide the information requested below and return with your \$30 check to:

Colorado Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 480561
Denver, CO 80248

Board Meeting Minutes

To conserve space in the newsletter for articles of interest to our Guild members, we no longer publish the Board Meeting Minutes each month. Copies of the minutes are available upon request by contacting a Guild officer.

Visit our web site for the latest information and late breaking announcements:

www.coloradoodworkersguild.org

Guild Business: Monthly Board Meeting

The next CWG Board Member Meeting will be February 28th, 6 p.m. at Rockler Woodworking. The meeting is open to all members. If you have suggestions on CWG speakers, topics, events or activities, please feel free to contact any Board Member or attend the Board Member meeting.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____