



West Michigan Woodworkers Guild

October 2021
Newsletter

President's Corner

By Les Derusha

Myself, Tom MacDonald and Dale Smith had the opportunity to join with the Mid-Michigan Woodworkers for a session of their “Let’s Talk Shop” ZOOM meeting. It consisted simply opening the meeting to talk about tools, techniques, projects and what’s on your mind, everyone is encouraged to participate.

If you may have noticed in last month’s newsletter I stated “I and the Board agree that a huge percentage of the value of meeting in person are the conversations we have with other members, before, during and after the meetings”. We believe that this Let’s Talk Shop idea meets much of that value.

So... on Tuesday November 9th at 7:00PM EST (remember the Time change on Sunday November 7th) we are going to do our own “Let’s Talk Shop” ZOOM meeting. Please give it a TRY, we think you’ll REALLY LIKE IT! There will be a link in the November newsletter as well as reminder e-mail sent out, but keep it on your calendar.

We value your input and would like your vote for the Winner of Show and Tell for this month. There are three submissions on the following pages : A jewelry armoire by Larry Hilton, a stand cabinet by Phil Miclea, and a scissor lift table by Steve DeVries. There are no criteria about construction methods, finishes, or innovation, simply select the one you like best, for whatever reason you may have. Send your choice via e-mail to les@svideo.org.

As you may have noticed the COVID infection numbers nationwide have dropped substantially in the last few weeks. We are watching this situation very closely to determine when we can meet in person again. We’ll have another update in November (Dreaming of Pizza in December).

Hope you’re having fun in the shop and stay safe.



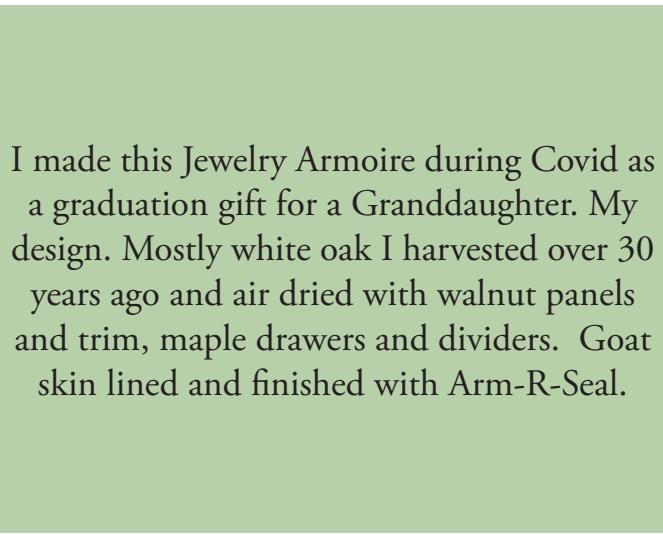
Tuesday, November 9,
2021
7:00 PM EST

No presentation, just
getting together online
for a “Let’s Talk Shop”

More information to
come

Jewelry Armoire

by Larry Hilton



And if the newsletter editor can add his own personal note (because who is going to stop him?) : Um.... WOW. Stunning. The skill involved in this blows my mind. Awesome job, Larry.



Stand Cabinet

by Phil Miclea

My latest project has been on my “want to try list” for a long time. Building a cabinet

on a stand has always seemed to be a challenge combining strength, design, form and function. This stand was designed by Michael Pekovich who is the chief editor of Fine Woodworking. His designs include subtle details like protruding dovetails, choice of contrasting woods, and highlight elements such as kumiko.



I had the fortune of taking a class from Mike this summer and learned quite a few special techniques. Firsts include actually fitting a door to a space using a specific sequence of steps - hinge, bottom, top and then final side. This provides a measured way of getting the clearance tolerances just right. Another first was using a specially beveled table saw blade to cut the tails on the dovetail joints. Much easier than I had anticipated and provided narrower pins than expected. Not sure I'll do that in the future but it made the cuts quick and easy.





Another first was using spacers to cut the mortises and the tenons. The goal that Mike tried to impress upon us is that you really don't need to measure as long as everything is equal and repeatable. The use of spacers eliminates the need to measure each joint location - just set the first and let the spacer define the second. You'll see that concept on the double tenons on the front of the stand. Learning Kumiko was really fun and much simpler than anticipated. It's just angles on a lot of small pieces that create designs. I'll be exploring this on small boxes in the future.



I have always been slightly intimidated by furniture and joinery like this. I love the protruding dovetails on this. I can almost hear the chisels in the mortises when I look at this.

-Steve DeVries



This is a special cabinet intended for my niece. When she was a small girl she used to swing on a tire swing from a walnut tree in her grandpa's yard. The stand legs are from that walnut tree which was harvested before he passed. The ash for the cabinet is from my back yard. I hope she'll be happy with the end result.

Scissor Lift Table

by Steve DeVries

A couple of years ago I built a scissor lift table out of plywood to use as a cabinet jack when I was remodeling my kitchen. And honestly, it was a fast and dirty project using cheap materials and small bolts because I needed it quick. Some of you may remember that I brought it in to show back when we were still meeting in-person.

The old table



I received a lot of requests for the plans for that table, but didn't feel comfortable telling anyone to build it the same way as I did. It just wasn't strong, stable, or well-built enough.



I decided to completely rebuild the table so that I could write up proper instructions using better quality wood, bigger bolts, and all-around sturdier construction.

I needed to build a plywood version and a hardwood version to photograph for the book, but didn't need two full-sized tables. This table shown here is a half-sized table built from Baltic birch.

I think it is kind of cute.... Not at all sure what I am going to do with it though. I built it because I needed the photographs, not because I needed a miniature scissor lift...



Newsletter Show-and-Tell

All submissions should include :

1. Picture(s) of your projects. Send a bunch. I will pick and choose the best ones for the newsletter.
2. One to two sentences describing the project. Try to include what types of wood used, any special techniques, time it took, unique joints styles, finishes used, etc... the more information the better.
3. YOUR NAME. Do not assume that I know your real name based on your e-mail address.

Send all submissions to :

newsletter@westmichiganwoodworkers.org

There will be a \$25 gift card for the monthly best-submission. Winners will be determined by popular vote.

This does not mean the "Fanciest" or "Most complicated" project.
If you turn an awesome baseball bat, we want to see it!

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Watch West Michigan Woodworkers
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Times.

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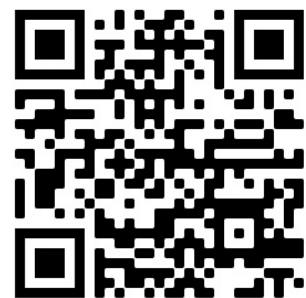
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How Woodworkers Keep in Touch.

There are three ways Woodworkers can keep in touch with one another during this time of pandemic meeting
restrictions:

One: Join the West Michigan Woodworkers Guild (Join Free until 12-31-21)

Two: Receive our Monthly Newsletter (FREE from September through June, annually)
(Send us your contact information, Name, e-mail address, mailing address and phone
number to: information@westmichiganwoodworkers.org)

Three: View and post questions, projects, items for sale or desired or general
woodworking information to our Facebook Page regularly.

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