



# West Michigan Woodworkers Guild

January 2023

Newsletter

## President's Message

By Les Derusha



### Upcoming meeting

**Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

**7:00 PM to 9:30 PM**

**Ideal Park Christian Reformed Church  
Activity Center  
320 56th Street SW,  
Wyoming, MI**

The West Michigan Woodworkers Guild will be meeting on Tuesday January 10th at 7:00PM. We will be meeting at Ideal Park Christian Reformed Church Activity Center, 320 56th St SW, Grand Rapids.

Bring your Show and Tell piece and show us what you do. We are still putting the finishing touches on our Guild Incorporation and Insurance plan.

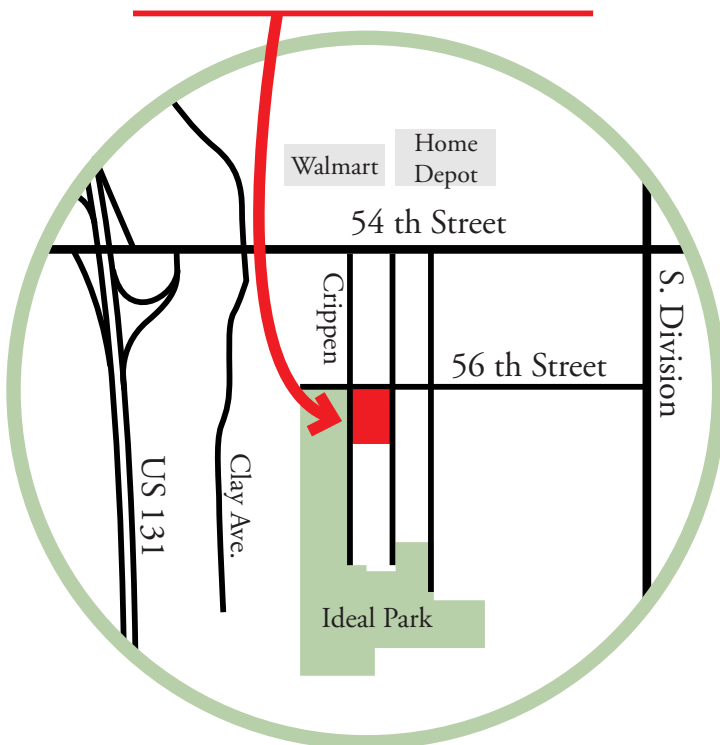
For the Raffle we are asking each person at your option to bring in a no longer needed tool or piece of wood as a donation to the raffle. We will no longer have the 50-50 portion of the raffle. ALL proceeds will be earmarked for our TV/Projector video solution.

Guild Board Member Steve Babcock passed away on 12-27-22. A celebration of life is being planned for Saturday 1-7-23. When we have more information we will e-mail everyone. May Steve Rest In Peace!

For our January Meeting Topic we will be having a Sharing of Jigs and Fixtures that you use and can share how you made it, where you bought it, who you acquired it from, how you use it and why would the rest of us use one.

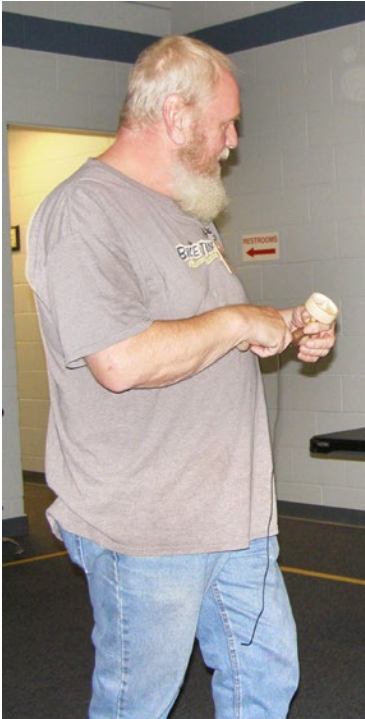
While you're at it, how about any Safety Aids you think the rest of us could use, Like Push Sticks Nifty Feather boards etc.

Put us on your calendar!



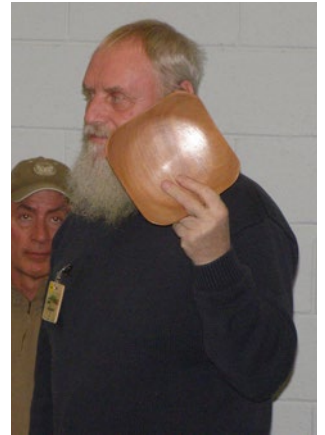
# In memory of Steve Babcock

Guild Board Member Steve Babcock passed away on 12-27-22. Even if you had never spoken to Steve, you probably knew who he was. He had an encyclopedic knowledge of photography, was always interested in learning something new about woodworking, and always willing to help out.



In 2019, Steve got into a wood top competition with Jim Jakosh.

In early 2020, Steve brought in this cool square bowl that he had turned.



Steve Babcock — Celebration of Life  
Saturday, January 7, 2023 11:00 A.M.  
Evergreen Church  
10501 Settlewood Drive, SE Lowell, MI 49331



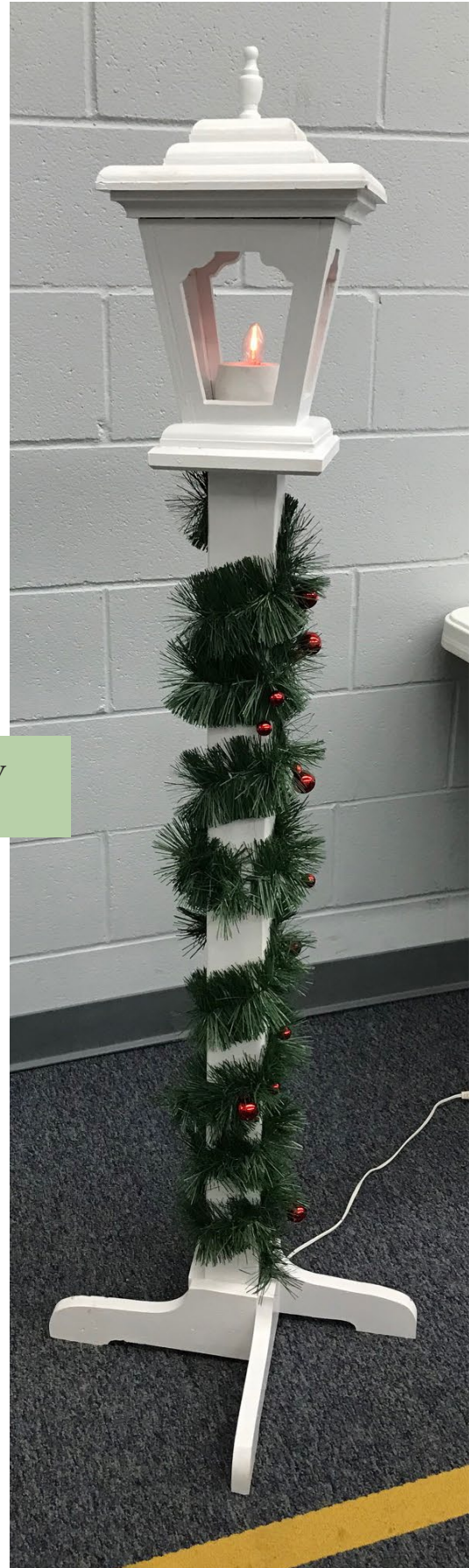
The Guild was a richer place because of Steve.  
Rest in Peace, friend.  
You will be missed.



## Show and Tell



Piano Stool by  
Don Stump



Christmas Lamp by  
Dale Smith

Unknown by Unknown. (But the  
wood sure looks cool)



# Choosing a drill press - my dilemma

Continuing my saga on choosing tools, a new drill press is in my future, and man, have I looked at a lot of them! My current drill press works fine, but it is small really not up to the work I want it to do. A new drill press needs to solve these issues :

- Table flex : This is a huge issue with me. With larger bits or very hard wood, either the table or the column is flexing slightly, mis-aligning my holes. I want precision. So many drill presses on the market have flimsy looking table clamps.
- Stroke length : I have managed so far, but I have often wanted more quill travel.
- Power : My drill press stalls with larger bits or the chuck slips under larger loads. A bench-top drill press should be able to handle a 2" Forstner bit or a hole saw through hardwood.
- Speed changes : The easier the better. I drill many things at the wrong speed due to the difficulty in changing the belts.

Wen 4214  
\$267 (January 2023)  
12 inch swing  
3-5/32" quill travel  
3/4 HP  
150-2800 rpm via Reeves pulley.

Nova Viking  
\$1199 (January 2023)  
16 swing  
4-1/2" quill travel  
1 HP  
150-3000 rpm via direct drive

Palmgren 80157  
\$1367 (January 2023)  
15 swing  
5" quill travel  
1/2 HP  
138-3476 rpm via tri-pulley belt drive



Which would you choose?



The pluses and minuses are my own based on visual inspection and reading lots and lots of reviews. They are my opinion.

+ Cheapest by far (I could buy five of these for the same price!)

+ Lots of good reviews

- Rough castings

- Questionable table clamp

- Noisy

- Limited stroke

- The unknown factor of "getting what you pay for"

+ Easy speed change

+ Quiet

+ Torque

- Difficult to find

- Expensive

- The unknown factor of electronics longevity - can't repair it yourself

+ Large stroke

+ Heavy castings

- Heavy duty table clamp

- Very expensive

- Smallest motor

- More unknown manufacturer

The Guild's  
Facebook page :  
[www.facebook.com/groups/  
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Watch West Michigan Woodworkers  
Guild Facebook Page for Dates and  
Times.

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## FREE Guild Membership!

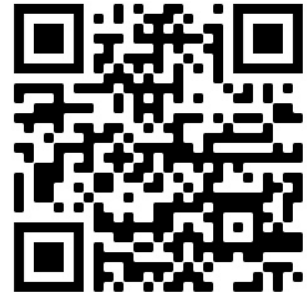
Join the West Michigan Woodworkers Guild for FREE!.

To join the WM Woodworkers Guild and to receive our monthly Newsletters and to post to our Facebook Page, all you have to do is send us the following information:

Your Full Name  
Your E-mail Address  
Your Mailing Address  
Your Phone Number  
Your Favorite Type of Woodworking

Send your contact information to:

[Information@westmichiganwoodworkers.org](mailto:Information@westmichiganwoodworkers.org)



The Guild's website :  
[www.westmichiganwoodworkers.org](http://www.westmichiganwoodworkers.org)

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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

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](mailto:information@westmichiganwoodworkers.org))

Three: View and post questions, projects, items for sale or desired or general woodworking information to our Facebook Page regularly.  
[www.facebook.com/groups/wmiwwguild](http://www.facebook.com/groups/wmiwwguild)





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