

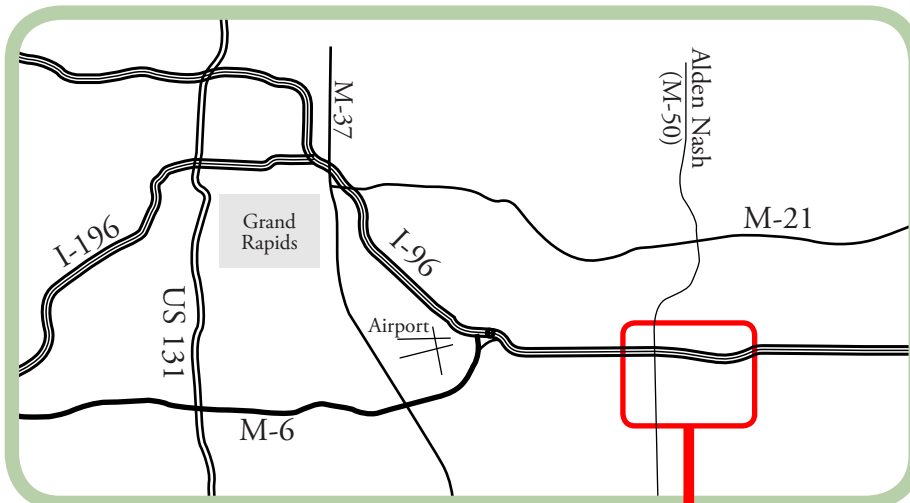


# West Michigan Woodworkers Guild

May 2023  
Newsletter

## Up Coming Event

Our next meeting will be Tuesday May 9th and will be our Annual Picnic. The date change (May vs June) is an effort to avoid the high temperatures of the 2 most recent picnics. In case of rain we will have a rain date on May 23rd.

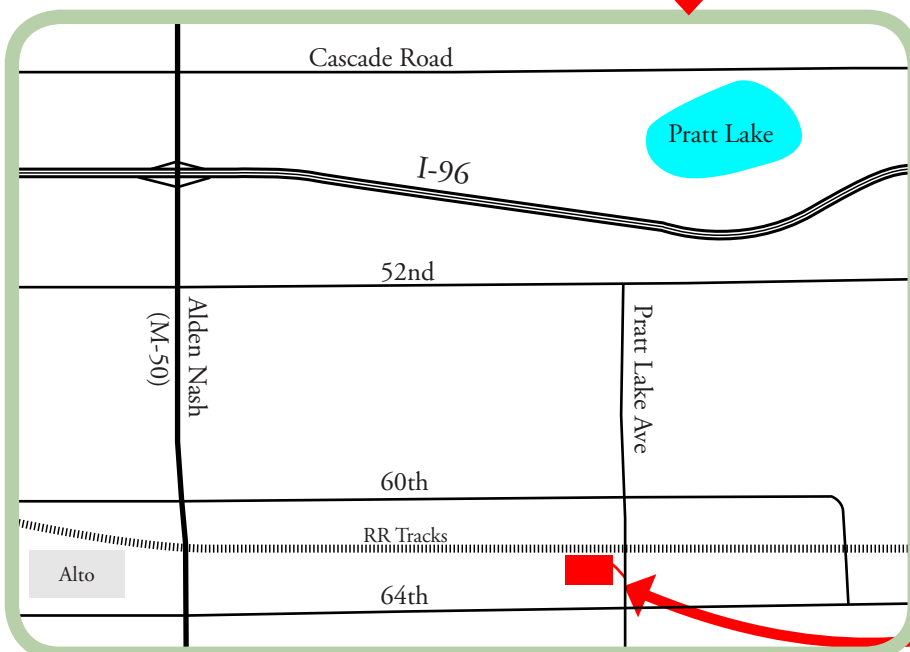


“What am I supposed to bring to this picnic?”

“Can I bring my significant other?”

“What are we eating?”

All this information and more on the next page!



## Upcoming picnic

**Tuesday, May 9, 2023**  
**6:00 PM to 8:30 PM**  
John Pflug Homestead  
6301 Pratt Lake Ave SE  
Alto, MI

## What's happening?

John and Debie Pflug have invited ALL West Michigan Woodworkers, our Suppliers and Supporters, family members, and guests to their home at **6301 Pratt Lake Ave SE** for the 7th Annual West Michigan Woodworkers Picnic. Anyone involved with working with wood is welcome to join us from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM. Setup for the picnic will begin at 5:00 PM, Picnic at 6:00 PM.

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## Do I need to bring anything?

The Pflug's will provide the burgers, hot dogs, soft drinks, the buns, and all the fixings. Guests are encouraged to bring:  
A favorite side dish or dessert to pass.  
Folding chairs and tables for yourself and your guests (No Tables or chairs available)  
A couple of large coolers & Ice for soft drinks (NO Alcohol)

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## Anything else special going on?

In addition to the food and socializing, we will have a demonstration of John's sawmill cutting a slab. John will also demo his 6'x12' 10HP CNC machine.

John will also give a tour of two new Timber Frame buildings he has built.

There will be a 'Tool & Wood Swap & Sell' event at the picnic. Therefore, if you have a Tool and/or Wood you no longer need or would like to part company with, bring all of them to the picnic. The actual 'Tool/Wood Swap-Sell' event will be a 'First there, First Chance to Buy' Event!!

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## Should I let someone know if I'm coming?

The WM Woodworkers Guild is inviting over 300 people to our Annual Picnic. Not everyone who is invited shows up, of course, however, we do need to know you and others are planning on attending so we can have enough food and refreshments on hand for everyone. Call or e-mail us (Les Derusha 616 455-5036 or [Les@derusha.org](mailto:Les@derusha.org)) to let us know you plan on attending AND the number of people that will be in your party.

# President's Message

By Les Derusha

I am not alone in occasionally stacking things on my stationary tools and moving them as needed to work. Sometimes doing some VERY UNSAFE things instead of putting things away where they belong. (like moving a pile out of the way on my outfeed table for a quick cut) We're all guilty of this occasionally and we should stop and think about it for a minute. A Clean shop is a safer shop. Plus it is easier to find things. Having your tools and jigs in a rational layout along with labels on your drawers and cabinets just makes finding things easier and a pleasant reminder of where they are normally stored. And that tool you haven't used in the last 5 years is probably not going to be used in the next 5 so it may be a candidate for this month's Tool/Swap/Sale. Besides it's Spring and time for a Spring Cleaning.



Work Safely!

## June meeting

The June 13th meeting/event will be highlighting a FILES & RASP table, a SCRAPER usage and burnishing table, and HAND SAWS activity table.

## Guild position available

By Steve DeVries

Starting in September 2023, the position of Newsletter Editor will be open! Below is some information about what the position requires.

### What are the tasks to do each month?

- Design layout
- Photographing Show-n-Tell projects at meetings
- Writing down project information
- Obtaining people's names
- Photograph selection
- Photo editing
- Page layout
- Text formatting
- Writing articles
- Send out PDF's to the board for comments

### What software do I use?

I used Adobe InDesign and Photoshop. However, you can use whatever software you are most familiar with. You will need your own software. The guild does not own any.

### Can I redesign it?

Sure, go for it. I will provide the InDesign template that I use, but anyone is free to redesign and create their own templates if you like a different software.

### How much time does it take each month?

Well, that depends on your own personal style. I did a lot of photo editing to isolate people's projects and trim out the backgrounds, but that is just my style. It took me between 6-12 hours a month, depending on how much content there was.

### How do I apply?

Talk to Les Derusha.  
[President@westmichiganwoodworkers.org](mailto:President@westmichiganwoodworkers.org)

# Should I bring my project in for Show & Tell time?

By Steve Devries

I think we have all had this inner debate with ourselves at one point or another, and I daresay some of the following comments may have run through your head :

"I don't feel comfortable since I am new to the guild."

"That other person's project is so amazing, my skill aren't that good."

"People won't be interested in what I have to show."

"My project has this huge mistake and other people will laugh at me."

"No one will like what I made anyway."

Are any of these familiar? Whether you think you are the most skilled woodworker east of the Mississippi, or a novice who just picked up their first board, the Guild wants to see what you do! Every one of us started at the beginning and is at a different skill level in different areas. We all have something to share and something to learn. Projects to show don't have to be polished or even finished. You don't have to wait until you have produced your 'Magnum Opus'. If all of us waited until we had produced perfect work, no one would ever show anything.

So the next time you look around your shop and wonder "*Should I bring that in to show?*" The answer is YES. The Guild is a safe place to appreciate what others have done, and also a safe place where your own work is appreciated.

We are all potential recruiters of new members. It may be a casual social contact with someone who appears to be interested in woodworking. It may be at a craft show where you may notice someone's woodworking product, you can simply introduce yourself, mention our website, our Facebook Group and invite them to our next meeting.

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Even with all of today's technology, research consistently shows that the most effective marketing is still word-of-mouth.

**Bring a friend to the next meeting!**

The Guild's  
Facebook page :  
[www.facebook.com/groups/  
wmiwwguild](http://www.facebook.com/groups/wmiwwguild)



Watch West Michigan Woodworkers  
Guild Facebook Page for Dates and  
Times.

[http://www.facebook.com/groups/  
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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)

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Current Board Members :

Les Derusha - President  
Dale Smith - Vice President  
Case VanderMaas - Treasurer  
John Pflug - Program Director  
Steve DeVries - Newsletter  
Tom McDonald - Guild Contact  
Don Stump - Secretary  
Phil Miclea - Member at Large  
Zach Danzer - Member at Large

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



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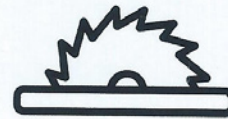


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