

Central Minnesota

C M W A

Woodworker's Association

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER
2023



NOVEMBER MEETING—

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 2023, 7PM.

Paramount Tech Site Building. 248 - 33rd Ave S, Waite Park, MN

NOVEMBER MEETING PROGRAM

Rob Johnstone is the editor and publisher of Woodworker's Journal (which is owned by Rockler). He has more than 3 decades of experience covering the woodworking industry as a journalist and as a craftsman. He is going to come and talk to us about:

- The state of the industry
 - Recent innovations and breakthroughs in woodworking
 - The future of woodworking as he sees it
- The next generation of woodworkers and how to recruit them

If you have questions you would like to ask

Rob, please go to our [facebook page](#) and add them in the comments section. Better yet, come to the meeting on Nov. 15 and ask them in person!



SHOW AND TELL

Please bring in a project to share with the group.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S BENCH

Don Peterson
CMWA President

I am nearing the end of my time as President of the CMWA. Mike Ross will be taking over. I will continue as Vice President and stand in if Mike is out of town. I have thoroughly enjoyed running this organization and plan to continue to be very involved. Thank you all for your support and please welcome and support Mike as he takes over.

Since last month we finished up a couple classes, the Joy of Woodworking and the Mitered Box class. I am very impressed with our shop and how well it functions as a classroom. Both these classes went very well with all the students completing the class project.

Thanks to Mark Voigt and Charlie Gunderson representing us at the Minnesota Woodworkers Wood Expo. Sounds like that was a great event.

Thanks again to Steve Schwartz for the steam bending demonstration in October. That was one of the best demonstrations we have had.

Our November meeting will feature a talk by Rob Johnstone. Rob has been the editor in chief for Woodworker's Journal for more than 20 years (since 1997). He is also the publisher.

The December meeting will be a workshop. Led by Mark Voigt, we will be building a cell phone stand.

See you at the November meeting.

Stay safe,
Don Peterson

CMWA 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WANT TO CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER?

Try: cmwa.member@gmail.com

ROCKLER DISCOUNT

Thanks to Charlie Meyer for working out a deal with Rockler for a 10% discount at their stores. Come to the meeting to pick up your discount card.



The CMWA is a group of men and women from around the St. Cloud, MN area who share a common interest in the art and business of woodworking.

We meet monthly and share information, techniques, and topics of interest in woodworking.

www.thecmwa.com

OCTOBER MEETING

STEAM BENDING DEMONSTRATION

Steve Schwartz

Steve Schwartz gave an excellent demonstration and talked about steam bending at our October meeting. He set up a steam box in the parking lot and demonstrated the bend inside. The sample board was ash, 1 inch square by 42 inches long. Steve bent the first sample board, then two teams of three bent the next two samples.

Steve gave us a short introduction on wood technology. Some of the highlights of his presentation include:

Air dried material is preferred for steam bending. Kiln drying wood causes the lignin to set, making it difficult to bend. 12 to 25 percent is the ideal moisture content for stem bending.

The Fiber Saturation Point of wood is around 30 percent. A tree when cut down can be as high as 300 percent. There are two kinds of water in wood, free and bound. Bound water is the moisture in the fibers, water above 30 percent is considered free water. The free water needs to be out of the wood before bending because it will not compress, resulting in damage to the wood.

Factors to consider when selecting wood for steam bending include: straight grain (preferable), no knots, and air dried.

The best woods for steam bending include domestic hardwoods (white oak, red oak, walnut, elm, ash, and hackberry). Softwoods, exotics, and kiln dried woods are not good candidates.

The bending process:

- Sizing the wood you are going to bend
- Steaming for approximately 1 hour per inch
- Heating the steam box to about 210 - 212 degrees Fahrenheit
- Using leather gloves to handle the wood
- Executing the bend in about 10 minutes
- Letting the piece cool in the bending form for 15 to 20 minutes
- Moving the piece to a drying form that matches the bending form

The equipment needed:

A steam box. Steve's was about 4 feet long and 8 inches square, made of exterior grade plywood. Marine plywood is not required.

Steam source:

Thermometer to know the temperature inside the box

A bending strap and form. Steve's strap comes from Lee Valley. Search for steam bending on the Leevalley.com site.

Steve also referred extensively to a book:

"Wood Handbook" Wood as an Engineering Material. Available on Amazon at this link -

https://www.amazon.com/s?k=wood+handbook+wood+as+an+engineering+material&crd=DVWX2556G258&srefix=wood+handbook%2Caps%2C132&ref=nb_sb_ss_ts-doa-p_2_13

PICTURES ON THE NEXT PAGE 

OCTOBER MEETING STEAM BENDING DEMONSTRATION

Steve Schwartz



OCTOBER SHOW AND TELL



RON MCKEEVER shared a toboggan he built that incorporated steam bending. Ron described his steam bending process and the construction of the toboggan. It is made from ash. The darker boards are stained. The toboggan was finished with 3 coats of polyurethane and held together with stainless steel screws.



TOM ROSGA shared a demilune table that is made from Hawaiian figured koa wood that he found on the island of Maui. After studying multiple plans and procedures, he settled on taking one 8/4 board and resawing it for the top. The two front curved eight ply panels are 1/8" pieces resawn from a second 4/4, epoxied to six 1/8 inch inner pieces of mahogany with a last 1/8 inch backer board, then bent and clamped to a rounded form. The front drawer panel was cut from the main front board before resawing it into plies so as to appear that the curved panels are of the same thickness as the drawer. This maintains the horizontal streak in the tables front assembly.

The square edge molded legs are from another 8/4 inch piece and mortised into the substructure. Finally, the original drawer face is fitted back into the opening and made with mango wood sides and a carved monkeypod seashell handle. All boards display noticeable chatoyance of which Figured Koa is noted for, and is a very prized wood, which ultimately dictates its premium price.



BUILD A MITERED BOX CLASS

On November 7 & 8 six students attended the Build a Mitered Box class taught by Don Peterson and Tim DuBois. This two evening class covered shop safety, use of the table saw, and router table, as well as detailed instructions on building a mitered box.

The box was made of walnut with a walnut plywood bottom and a lift off lid. The top was a Kumiko panel. The panel was custom fit into the box top and backed with a translucent paper. The boxes were finished with shellac and the interior box bottoms were lined with leather, cork, or velvet.



JOY OF WOODWORKING CLASS

DESK ORGANIZER CLASS

Four students completed a 3-night Joy of Woodworking class October 16. Three smaller boxes with lids were housed in a tray. The mitered boxes were finished with spray lacquer. Instructor was Mark Voigt, pictured after the final class with a beverage.



The Minnesota Woodworkers Guild held a Wood EXPO Saturday, October 14. By all reports it was a very good show and well attended. The CMWA had a table at the EXPO. The picture is of Mark Voigt at our table. Charlie Gunderson also helped man the table. Rollie Johnson was also at the show at an adjacent table demonstrating the Shaper Origin.

OCTOBER MWWG EXPO



DECEMBER MEETING PROGRAM



The December meeting, December 20, will be a workshop instead of a meeting. We will be building cell phone holders like the one in the picture. It will be a good opportunity to do a little woodworking, socialize, and walk away with a great last-minute gift. Mark Voigt will lead us in this workshop. The club will provide the wood, the tools, and the plan.

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2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

By becoming a member of The Central Minnesota Woodworkers Association, you can take advantage of these benefits!

- ◆ Monthly Educational Meetings
- ◆ Networking with area woodworking enthusiasts
- ◆ Guest Speakers and Seminars
- ◆ Discounts at retailers & mail catalogs
- ◆ Our monthly newsletter by email
- ◆ An ability to ask questions of members through the CMWA web Site

Existing Member Name: Name _____

Any changes to Address, Phone or Email ? _____

New Member Name: _____

Address : _____

Phone : _____

Email: _____

2023 Dues Renewal: \$30

Donations: (Any amount is appreciated) \$ _____

We are a volunteer club.
A little help from all of us makes it all easier!

Check out our Web Site for Club Meetings and topics

www.TheCMWA.com