

Monthly Messenger

Central Minnesota Woodworker's Association

Volume 6 Issue 6
June 2006

Adirondack Chairs at June Meeting

Several CMWA members have been meeting on Saturday mornings to build Adirondack chairs. At the June meeting, John Skalla will share their techniques and share information about their chairs.



Projects on Display



Scott Randall created this adjustable candlestick (left) for the Northern Woods Exhibition 2006 sponsored by the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild. The exhibition is a woodworking show and friendly competition held each year in Edina, Minnesota.

Brad Knowles shared his knowledge and examples of decorative carving at the May meeting; including this ottoman, grape wall plaque (below), and rocking horse (below right).



CMWA Meeting Recap

Sauk Rapids / Rice Middle School on May 17th, 2006 at 7PM Recap adapted from secretary's meeting minutes

The Art of Decorative Carving

While admiring the intricate cuts of a woodcarver's knife on a beautifully shaped piece of walnut, it's hard to imagine that anyone besides the most skilled artist could accomplish such a feat. At the May meeting, CMWA member, Brad Knowles, shared his techniques and experience of decorative carving and showed that with a little patience and the right tools, decorative carving is not out of the reach of many woodworkers.

See **Decorative Carving** page 3

Door Prizes

- Gredo Goldenstein won the door prize this month. He picked door #1 of 3, which yielded a box of like-new Sanding Belt remnants.

Next Meeting

- Our next meeting will be held at Sauk Rapids / Rice Middle School and will feature a discussion on finishes by Hirshfield's representative.
- John Skalla will share his Adirondack chair building experience.

Annual Swap Meet Date

- The annual Swap Meet date has been set for **September 30th, 2006** and it will be held at the Saint Cloud Armory.



June 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 CMWA	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Next Meeting: June 21 at 7:00 PM at **Sauk Rapids / Rice Middle School Shop** Map page 4.
Board Meeting: June 21 at 6:00 PM at Coborn's in Sauk Rapids

Central Minnesota Woodworker's Assoc.

The CMWA is a group of men and women from around the St. Cloud Minnesota area who share a common interest in the art and business of woodworking. We meet monthly in Sauk Rapids and share information, techniques and topics of interest in the area of woodworking.

June Meeting

Our next meeting will be held at Sauk Rapids / Rice Middle School. John Skalla will be sharing his Adorindack chair building experience.

The meeting will also feature a discussion on finishes by Hirschfield's representative. "Hirshfield's is a Minnesota-based, fourth generation, family owned company in the decorating business for over 100 years." – hirshfields.com



Central Minnesota Woodworker's Assoc.

- President** Dan Iburg
- Vice President** Scott Randall
- Treasurer** Cindy Johnson
- Secretary** John Wilson

- Board of Directors** Ron McKeever, Scott Schroeder, John Skalla, Cy Valerius

- Director of Marketing** Tom Homan
- Newsletter Editor** Darren McKeever
newsletter@thecmwa.com

5%

Remember All Central Minnesota Woodworker's Association Members Receive A 5% Discount On Tools.

MATHEW HALL
Lumber • Trusses • Projects • Interiors

Thank You

Mathew Hall Supports the Central Minnesota Woodworker's Association. Thank You for your business and input on new products. In order to keep up with your needs, please inform us of new products and services you would like to see us provide.

St.Cloud, MN (320) 252-1920 www.mathewhall.com

Decorative Carving

Demonstration by Brad Knowles

Brad Knowles gave an interesting presentation on the art of Decorative Carving.

Brad's love of woodcarving goes back 25 years, and he has taken several classes on the subject. He stated that you don't have to be an artist to produce creative pieces. He does recommend taking classes to get a jump-start on woodcarving.

Nearly all of Brad's carving is done using patterns, which he often acquires through pattern books. He has accumulated quite a few carving chisels over the years to support his hobby and displayed about a third of his collection at the presentation. The main chisels Brad felt were important for a beginner to acquire were a "Firmer" (which is a straight, flat chisel), a "Skew" which is similar to a Firmer, but with an angled edge, and several "Gouges" of varying radiuses. Gouge sizes are based on the "sweep" or radius of the edge. Brad says Sheffield's or Marples are good sources for carving chisels. Brad's favorite brand is "Swiss Made" which is available at Woodcraft. He did not recommend using "Buck Bros" chisels, because he felt they were a poor investment.



He also recommends acquiring a good Mallet. He likes the new poly Mallets (now available at Rockler or Woodcraft for \$20.00) because they're much quieter and easier to use than conventional wooden Mallets.

Brads Safety recommendations were to clamp your work whenever possible. Always keep your hands behind your

chisels and use a metal carver's glove when your hands are at risk.

Brad uses a diamond stone to quickly rough down his chisels, then follows with wet or dry emery followed by a stropping compound. He often uses leather or cardboard to hone his chisels to a fine edge.

CMWA Member Alex Neussendorfer has a video on sharpening for those interested in learning the technique. Brad recommends carving Basswood if you're going to paint your piece when finished.

Butternut is also a wood with a good straight grain. Walnut is hard, as are Cherry and Oak, and all will need a mallet for good success. Birch and Maple are too hard to carve unless the lumber is still green. Walnut is the preferred wood among Master Carvers. Brand likes many types of carving including "Chip Carving" and carving pieces he has turned on a lathe.

For those interested, the Whitney Senior Center holds classes on woodcarving. Alex and Brad would be happy to assist you in getting started. Brad says that his Carving Club has a lot of books in their library for anyone interested.

The CMWA would like to thank Brad for providing this presentation.



Thank you to Palmer Printing for providing printing services to the Central Minnesota Woodworker's Association.



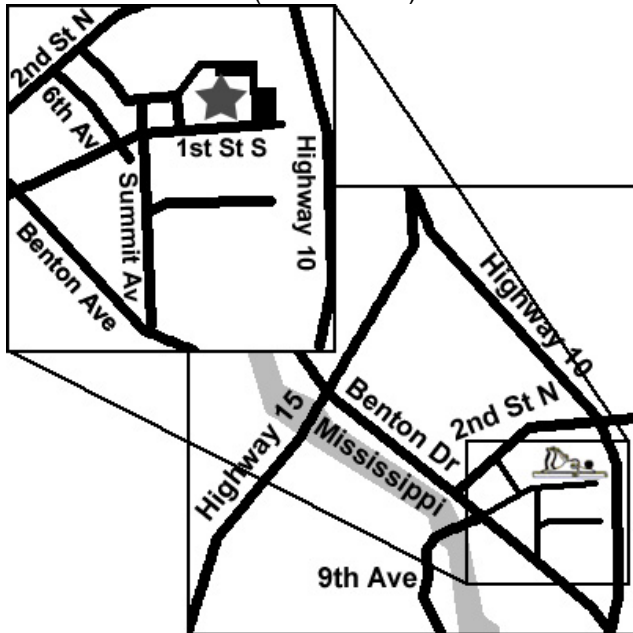
www.thecmwa.com
320-968-7005
newsletter@thecmwa.com

Inside This Issue

CMWA Swap Meet	1
Projects on Display	1
Meeting Recap	1
Calendar of Events	2
June Meeting	2
Decorative Carving	3
Map	4

Sauk Rapids - Rice Middle School

Enter Door 16 (around back) - Room 916



Next Meeting:

**Wednesday, June 21st at 7:00 PM
at Sauk Rapids / Rice Middle School**

Choose from the largest
in-house selection of cabinet
and furniture hardware
in the industry.
*Over 8000 items
in stock.*

Toll Free: 1-800-383-0130
24 hr. Fax: 1-888-811-9850
Web: www.wwhardware.com
Email: info@wwhardware.com

Call for our **FREE 316 page
specification catalog**

Woodworker's Hardware
PO Box 180, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
NOTE: All orders will be shipped Speedee or UPS