



CAPITAL AREA WOODWORKERS

WOODSHOP ADVISOR



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June, 2010



Upcoming Meetings

Annual Picnic
July 17, 2010
Rochester Park
12:00 Noon

The club will provide the chicken, drink and paper plates, etc. Each member is requested to bring a dish to share in accordance with the following schedule.

A-F Salad

G-J Vegetable

K-P Fruit

Q-S Potato Chips, etc.

T-Z Dessert

CAW Officers 2010

President	Roland Folse	529-2940
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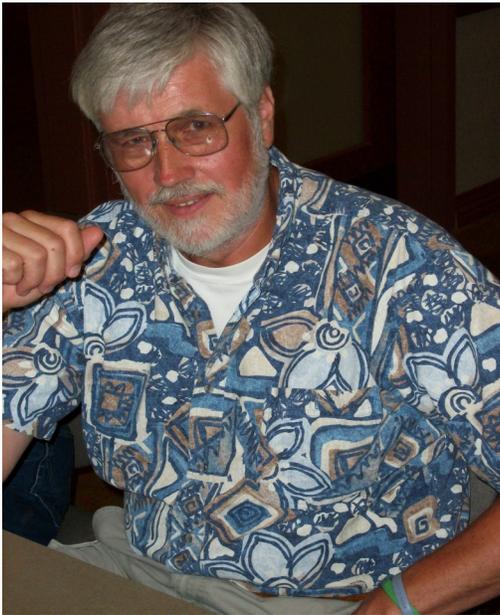


June Meeting Notes

By Dick Metcalf

Roland called the meeting to order at 6:25.
 Announcements by Roland:

- There will be a field trip to Starhill Arboretum on June 5 from 9:30 to 11:30 and Guy Sternberg will give us a tour of his 48 acre plot of oaks and related plants.
- Guy Sternberg is the author of the award winning book, "Native Trees for North American Landscapes"
- The annual picnic will be held on July 17 and silent auctions are planned to sell our wood and any other items related to woodworking. Sign-up sheets will be provided to list items for sale and the owner will be able to list a minimum bid. The bidding will take place at a fixed time and members will be able to list their bid on the sign up sheet. The club will not take any of the money bid on the items.
- The club is looking for a large shop to hold the planned visit with Jeff Miller on August 28.
- Ralph Winch will have a wood sawing workshop at his place on August 7.
- We are still working on a trip to the Mid West Wood Products factory in Pekin at a Time and date in the fall that has yet to be set.



The scheduled program, Native Oak Species of Illinois, was presented by Guy Sternberg. Guy told us that there are 9 species of white oak and 12 species of red oak in Illinois. World wide, however, there are more white oak than red oak. Guy and his wife Edie own the Starhill Arboretum, a 48 acre arboretum, located in Menard County. The mission of the arboretum is to promote an understanding and appreciation of trees and nature through programs focusing on native landscapes and well-documented plant collections. Guy is anxious to have the CAW members come for a visit on June 5. He gave an example of how the arboretum works to promote its mission: Upon receiving a phone call and messages telling of the imminent removal of a hundred plus year old oak tree located on Illinois 97 right-of-way, he gave the tree a name—the Gudgel tree—and provided information on the uniqueness of this tree and issued a warning plea that it should be saved. As a result, people from all over the state asked that the tree be saved—and it was. Further, as a result of his actions donations came in for continued work to save special trees. Guy continued his talk with a brief discussion of all white and red oaks in Illinois. More information about the work of the arboretum can be read on their web site at <http://www.starhillforest.com/>



Dan Schmoker continued the program with examples of Illinois native hardwoods having unusual uses. The first example was that of an apparent ‘cupped’ wood which wasn’t cupped at all. The wood was white oak, cut with a type of circular saw to give the appearance of the wood being cupped. It was used as whiskey barrel staves. Next, was a wooden bowl good for eating oatmeal and another wood, paw-paw with weird characteristics and totally unacceptable for eating most foods. Shown next was black locust, a very strong wood used in construction of windmills and other machines where strength is required. Next shown was a hickory ax handle used for 20 years without requiring replacement. The ash baseball bat was shown next: ash bats have been used ever since the baseball got started in the 1920’s. Next to be shown was osage orange, a perfect wood for knife handles. Why did the early settlers in Illinois prefer cherry and walnut wood over oak? It’s because the humidity causes smaller expansion and contraction changes in cherry and walnut than in oak. Shingles have been made from elm for a long time. Why is elm the preferred wood? It’s because elm doesn’t split like so many of the other wood available in Illinois.

Illinois is blest with having approximately 150 different species of wood, way above the average for most states.

Show and Tell

Frank Thornton brought some of his shaker baskets and jigs and told us how he makes he baskets.



Dick Metcalf brought a hand carved cedar basket his wife purchased at Arthur.



Roland Folsie brought his latest table made with a birds eye maple top and figured walnut legs. Roland also showed us a wood sculpture made from the lag tapers used to build his table.



Guy Sturnberg brought a gavel made by Emit Riley, a former member of our club who has passed on. Emit made gavels from wood milled from a historically significant tree and sold the gavels to benefit the Starhill Arboretum.



INTERNET NOTES

Advisor by E-Mail

If you are not now receiving the Advisor by email and would like to, please send me your email address at: caw.woodworker@sbcglobal.net. If you change ISPs, please email me your new email address.

Club Web Site

The address is: <http://www.cawspi.org/>. You will find meeting notes, the monthly portrait, and pictures of show-and-tell items, as well as meeting and open shop schedules.

The **WOODSHOP ADVISOR** is a monthly publication of the Capital Area Woodworkers Club. Its sole purpose is to keep members of the club aware of the club activities, special events and new developments in the field.

The Advisor is the right of paid membership. Dues of the club are \$20/year if you receive the Advisor via e-mail and \$25/year for the Advisor sent by mail to your address.

Special Event

An all-day Saturday Workshop with Jeff Miller, Furniture maker and author, Saturday, August 28. There will be a \$25 charge for members to attend (which is the cost of the catered lunch to be provided). **Please email Dick Metcalf no later than August 1 of your intent to be there so we have an accurate number of attendees.**

Editorial—Next challenge

Last month we challenged members to bring more show and tell projects to the meeting. Thank you for meeting that challenge. This month, the officers are challenging you to bring to the picnic something to show and something to be auctioned off. The show item need not be something new.

Some of you have been concerned about not getting a fair market price for your woodworking item. Well, forget that! Set a fair minimum price for a usable item and make both you and the buyer happy about the sale. Let's have some fun with this special sale while we enjoy the picnic.