



# CAPITAL AREA WOODWORKERS

## WOODSHOP ADVISOR



Volume 23 Issue 6

June, 2010



### Upcoming Meetings

#### June 2, 2010 Meeting

(Social Time and dinner 5:15 to 6:30)

Meeting starts promptly at 6:30

**MCL Cafeteria**  
**2151 Wabash Ave**  
**Springfield, IL**

#### Program

**Native Oak species of Il**  
**Presenter: Guy Sternberg**

#### Exhibit

**Display of native hardwood for  
 woodworking projects  
 presented by Dan Schmoker**

#### CAW Officers 2010

|                        |                              |          |
|------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| <b>President</b>       | Roland Folse                 | 529-2940 |
| <b>President Elect</b> | Ron McDonald                 | 498-8885 |
| <b>Past President</b>  | Paul Goff                    | 502-3486 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>       | Gary Smith                   | 725-5732 |
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| <b>Web Master</b>      | Chuck Frank                  | 787-5145 |
| <b>Video Librarian</b> | Frank Tureskis               | 483-3669 |



### May Meeting Notes

By Dick Metcalf

Roland called the meeting to order at 6:20.

#### Announcements:

- Wayne and Anna Lovern were introduced by Roland; both are guests invited by Mike Cortelyou. Wayne said that at one time he and his wife owned a furniture factory. At present, he does most of the work that amateurs do and his wife does the finishing.
- Frank Tureskis said he will only bring to the meetings DVD copies from our library unless someone makes a specific request for a VHS called into him before the meeting. Our video library has all been upgraded from VHS to DVD thanks to Chuck Frank.
- Norm Koerner brought with him several pieces of osage orange so the club could auction off the wood and deposit the money in the clubs bank account.
- Roland said he wants us to consider whether the club should take a field trip to Midwestern Wood Products factory in Morton. They specialize in cabinets and many other specialty items. Roland will make the contact for the club to go—possibly joining with the Peoria woodworking club to have some kind of event with them in the fall and on a week day The members indicated we should go.

### OPEN SHOP

Trip to Starhill Forest Arboretum  
 Petersburg, IL  
 Saturday, June 6

Details including time and directions via email as soon as I get them.

The scheduled program on Principles of Design was presented by **Chuck Frank and Frank Thornton.**



Chuck and Frank divided their talk into three parts with the first part, Standard Dimensions for Furniture, presented by Chuck. The first thing you want as a furniture maker, said Chuck, is for the furniture to be functional. There are standard dimensions for building furniture which will guide the woodworker and result in a design suitable for most people. (Standard dimensions for furniture- -beds, chairs, tables, shelves, etc., have been posted on the CAW web site.) We should also consider the period of furniture desired. Chuck encouraged everyone to download the information given on the web site consider it for design of future projects.

The next part of the presentation was made by Frank on the Principles and Elements of Design as they apply to furniture. Frank also presented images he gleaned from FWW to represent the design element. A partial list of the principles with an example are:

- Balance.....Roland’s table
- Proportion.....Highboy (Colonial period)
- Rhythm.....Sideboard
- Unity.....Armoire
- Point.....Cradle
- Line.....Rustic chair
- Form

Frank concluded by saying: The important message is to keep the principles and elements of design in mind when considering the furniture you’ll be making. Some of the discussion which followed was about the “golden rectangle.” Frank and others said the golden rectangle principle usage in design comes from nature. It is pleasing for us to see and has a ratio of 1: 1.6. Another comment was about a recent article in Wood Magazine regarding a Fibonacci Gauge and how to use it to achieve good design. Instructions are given for making the tool via a downloadable plan, item DP-0022a, Wood Online.

The third part of the presentation, Furniture by Style and Period, was made by Chuck. Some of the information he gave follows:

- Jacobean.....1600-1700
- Early American.....1640-1700
- William and Mary.....1690-1725
- Georgian.....1714-1760
- Pennsylvanian Dutch.....1720-1830
- Queen Anne.....1700-1755
- Colonial.....1700-1780
- Etc., Etc.

The comments on this presentation included the following: Most furniture design will fall into one of these classifications. Antique collectors use this system of classification when establishing value and interest. The furniture shop at Williamsburg is a great place to view the construction of colonial furniture. Furniture styles most often are blended styles, not entirely one uniquely of a certain period.

Roland has books which members can peruse to get more information on this subject.

## Show and Tell

This month we are focusing on Roland's project. The table has a spalted hackberry top. It's figured wood with a turquoise stone inlay as was demonstrated by Jim Copper at the April meeting. It's also a floating top set aside from the base by stretchers. The table base is made from walnut and has curved legs. It's a sofa table or a display table. The top has a water poly finish with a liquid wax topping. The base has a traditional polyurethane finish. The legs were cut from a 2x8 slab of walnut and are milled with a



Thanks Roland for showing and telling us how you did it, and for setting a good example for us to follow.

**Dan Schmoker** gave a preview of his talk for next month when he demonstrated a simple test for telling the difference between red and white oak. With a red oak sample he blew into a glass of water and bubbles were very noticeable. When he did the same with white oak, no bubbles were seen. Dan said, that's what we would expect since white oak was the wood originally used for storing and transporting whiskey. The

## INTERNET NOTES

### Advisor by E-Mail

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### Club Web Site

The address is: <http://www.cawspi.org/>. You will find meeting notes 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.

### Editorial—Something to think about

The CAW Officers want more Show and Tell. We know, however, that attendance like the economy, has been down. Also, many of us are spending a little less time on woodworking than in recent years. We are suggesting then, that our members take a few minutes during Show and Tell to talk about current or past projects of interest. The show part of the short talk can be as simple as a small piece of wood and a glass of water. Isn't that what Dan Schmoker used? It could be pictures projected on the screen. Please think about this subject before the next meeting. We all could benefit from this experience.