



CAPITAL AREA WOODWORKERS

WOODSHOP ADVISOR



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The May Meeting

by Dick Metcalf

President **Paul Goff** opened the meeting at 6:30 and discussed a few general issues. The first was the **annual picnic** to be held **July 12th** at the **Rochester Park**. **Four volunteers** are needed to work two hours prior to the meeting to clean up the area, set up tables, and get the chicken. The second was the need for a **volunteer to serve as President-Elect**. It is very important that this position be filled now so the person taking the job will have the experience to lead the Club next year.

Treasurer's Report: **Gary Smith** reported that the Club has a balance of \$1,630 in the bank.

The Program: Greene and Greene Architecture and Furniture by Mike McGrath

Charles and Henry Greene started their architectural business in California at the beginning of the twentieth century. They were advocates of the Arts and Crafts Movement and the work done by Frank Lloyd Wright and Gustav Stickley. They designed their first house in 1902 and ordered the furniture right out of the Stickley catalog. Their work attracted much attention and the Greenes wanted to do much more than just use the Stickley furniture. They set out to design and construct their own furniture, a refinement of the Arts and Crafts designs. To do this they hooked up with two carpenters from Sweden, Pierre and John Hall.

Under this partnership, the Greenes designed the furniture but the Hall's built it. The wood used

was primarily cherry and mahogany rather than the oak used in the Arts and Crafts furniture. The Greenes designs were general in substance; the Halls refined the details as they constructed the furniture. Curvature and details such as "cloud lifts," inlays with copper, and ebony pegs were added to the original work to provide a readily identifiable and unique furniture style. The Halls essentially determined how to build each furniture piece, what the final design would look like, and the placement in the homes designed by the Greenes. Most of this furniture was one-of-a-kind and not reproduced commercially.

The Greenes designed and built some very notable homes between 1902 and 1930 such as the Blackart and Campbell homes located in California. The homes were known for their wide entry doors, mahogany wood, and the trademark design details of Greene and Greene architecture. Unfortunately, many of the Greene's homes have been torn down or extensively renovated and not open to the public.

Mike showed us a picture of the Greene and Greene quartersawn white oak dresser he built for his home and brought with him a nightstand with modified Greene and Greene features. He explained the challenges he had in constructing the furniture and the jigs he needed to build to incorporate the trademark details of Hall's construction. Mike told us that hidden by the architectural features of the Greenes furniture were screws used in the joinery.

Pictures of Greene's furniture are shown on Page 2.

Pictured below are two pieces of Greene furniture, a chair and a desk.



Tom Hayes is involved in Rochester's Summer Recreation Program and made a request of CAW members to borrow--for a few days--any jigsaw they might have for use in a father-son woodworking class. If interested, please let Tom know.

Dave Grubb showed us an example of a picture hanging molding he constructed for his home.

Show and Tell: Jim Neuses showed pictures of red oak bookcases he built. They were designed by his wife.

Mike McGrath showed us a wine rack he constructed to hold six wine bottles. He also constructed jigs for making others.



Birdhouse Building Contest

Don't forget the contest CAW is sponsoring!!

Do you have what it takes to design and build the winning birdhouse? This is the information that was sent out via e-mail.

1. A minimum of five members must enter.
2. All birdhouses must be completed and brought to the June membership meeting.
3. The winning entries will be voted by the members present at the meeting.
4. Prizes will be awarded by 1st (\$50) and 2nd (\$25) place.
5. Winning entries become property of the Club and will be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

If you are interested, please contact President Paul Goff at 502-3486 or handiest11@yahoo.com.

The birdhouse building contest has been cancelled due to a lack of participants

Gene Rhodes: Then and Now by Dick Metcalf

One of our most popular woodworkers of the 1980's and 1990's was Gene Rhodes. He was noted for his minimum cost woodworking projects and his ability to tell tall tales. He loved Show and Tell and would stand up with a big grin on his face and tell us about his latest one-of-a-kind project, all while spinning a good story.

If you were lucky to receive a phone call from him, as Gene Shutt often did, he would first talk to Jean Shutt and say something like, "Hello Jean, this is Gene, let me speak to Gene." That's the kind of humor he spun and it always got a laugh.

One time he informed me that I had doctored his Web picture; that it didn't look like him after I changed him into a middle-aged ugly duckling. I retali-

ated by editing his web picture in PhotoShop, giving him some needed hair to cover his bald head and thick glasses so that he could see clearly. I thought I had got the best of him but at the next meeting he got up and told about the new hair cream he was using, containing Viagra, and the results were spectacular.

Today Gene can be found motoring through Wal-Mart in his handicap vehicle followed by his faithful wife, Alice. Gene now has a number of health problems. He has macular degeneration of the eyes, severe arthritis and must get dialysis treatments twice a week. His positive attitude and sense of humor have not changed. He spun just as many tales as he did in the past and I laughed at every one of them.

Good luck and God bless you, Gene. We miss having you at our meetings!



Thanks Dick for sending this information!

Upcoming June Meeting

The next meeting will follow our 5:30 pm dinner at MCL on **Weds. June 3rd**. I do not know what the program will be since no one sent me info on that.

Officer's Meeting

The Officer's meeting will be held at Gene Shutt's house on **Mon., June 8th at 7pm**. (I assume this because it is usually the Monday following the monthly meeting.) Any interested member may join them if they have something to bring up.

Upcoming Meetings

Unfortunately no one has let me know about the topics of programs that may be planned or in the planning stages for the next few months.

We do know that the **July meeting** is the **annual picnic**. This takes the place of our monthly evening meeting. It is on **Sunday, July 12th at Rochester Park**. More details will be had at the meeting and in the next newsletter.

Open Shops

I do not know if a sign-up sheet was sent around or not and if anyone signed up. If you have an upcoming Open Shop from June on and want details listed in the newsletter, please let me know: who, where, what topic, date and time and anything else you think important.

June--?????

July--?????

August--?????

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 \$12/year if you receive the Advisor via e-mail and \$20/year for the Advisor sent by mail to your address. For more information contact one of the officers.

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