

Saw Dust Chronicles

June 2015

Website: <http://www.hcwg.org/>

Newsletter of the
Howard County
Woodworkers Guild
Volume 25 • Issue 6



Upcoming Monthly Meeting – June 6, 2015

June Meeting Agenda: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

- Greeting by President Rick Munzer.
- Introduction of guests and new members.
- Demo/Presentation
- President's Notes
- Treasurer's Report
- Other Announcements
- Problems Looking for Solutions
- Show and Tell
- 50/50 Raffle All attendees may participate with 50% of the proceeds going to the Florence Bain Senior Center woodshop.
- Monthly Door Prize Drawings: Only members are eligible, and they must wear their badges to be eligible, to win one of the monthly door prizes.

Minutes of the May Meeting

- President Rick Munzer called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.
- Rick introduced visitors and new members: new member: Hank Pao moved to area 6 months ago from Florida. New to woodworking. Randy Smith and son Adam. Randy got a new lathe for Christmas and is eager to learn.
- Tim Jackson provided the demonstration on turning a three-legged stool (see notes, below)
- Treasurer's report by Manny Flecker: \$4979.60 in treasury.
- Membership Report by Gene Torrey: Website now has a "headline" banner for the most recent items. Wood and tools available are announced on the website via this part of the website, and also volunteer opportunities. Membership: 2015-16 dues renewal starts today. New membership cards will be brought to the July 11th meeting.
- Member Show and Tell (see notes below)
- 50/50 raffle and door prizes were awarded: David Tate won less than \$50 in the 50/50. Dave Zeitzer won a Japanese saw, Ron Berndt won a divider set, and David Tate (twice lucky) won a set of clamps.

Guild Announcements

Shop Hours Change: Wayne Austin has resigned his position as Guild Workshop Monitor. Effective immediately, the Workshop will not be open on Thursday evenings. Updates have been made to the [Workshop web page](#) advising of these changes. The Guild is looking for a member to step up and assume this important role. Please contact [Rick Munzer](#) if you are interested.

Service Opportunity: I am the President of the Howard County Historical Society. I spoke with some of your members about the Woodworking Guild. We are currently renovating and redesigning our museum and will need wooden display cases and boxes. We will be happy to provide all supplies needed and will be glad to work with you on the projects. Also, our Museum, which is the historic 1st Presbyterian Church in Ellicott City, is located right next to the Circuit Court House on the hill. The church has a beautiful door that has weathered with age. As a result, it is very difficult to pull the door open because "it sticks." Would it be possible to "shave" the door down a bit so that it is easier to open? We also have some furniture in our collection that might have a

wobbly leg or lose arm. We would be interested in having some of these items re-glued or made more stable. If it is more convenient, we can meet with you at the Bain Center.

We will be happy to give you a tour of the museum at your convenience. We would love to work with you on some of our projects. Please contact us at your earliest convenience. Shawn Gladden is our Executive Director and he will be able to give you details on all projects. The telephone number here is 410-480-3250.

Service Opportunity: I am a Girl Scout leader of 6th grade girls. They have a woodworking badge to complete and I'm trying to find out if there any groups that will teach a 1 to 2 session class to them about woodworking. We have 8 girls. It will probably be 1 to 2 parents. If meeting times are not convenient, we can schedule a field trip & meet elsewhere plus adjust the time. We can make it one session if we do a different day. (I think our regular time will be pretty rushed.) The goals of this badge are to learn how to use a hammer and nails, use a level, use a screwdriver (regular & power), use a saw, and to build something. It would be nice for the girls to make something that they can use or that would be helpful to someone else. Suggestions are: birdhouse, jewelry box, lap desk, picture frame, magazine rack, coat rack, small bench or stool, etc. Thank you very much for your help! Contact Sharon Cohen, dbjtrio@verizon.net

Remaining 2015 Meeting Dates: *(All meetings the Florence Bain Senior Center, 10:00 am unless otherwise indicated.)*
June 6 August 1
September 5 November 3 December 5

Membership Cards: We are starting our new cycle for membership renewals. Bring your checkbook to the meeting and see Gene Torrey to renew for 2015-2016.

HCWG Who's Who: Check out the HCWG website. Members can see past issues of the Sawdust Chronicles, view want ads, access the membership directory, and learn about other members via the *Who's Who* section.

Bain Shop Rules: Only those on the shop monitor list maintained by the Bain Center will be allowed to open the shop. The shop monitor will wear a "Monitor Badge" while in the shop. **He is the boss in the shop while he is on duty! Power equipment will not be operated when only one person is in the shop!** If you don't follow the rules you will be asked to leave.

Shop Monitors Needed: Several shop monitors are currently needed or will be in the near future. Unless a designated monitor is present, the shop in the Bain Center cannot be opened. Contact Wayne Austin if you are interested in helping in this capacity or to obtain additional information.

Trash and Treasures: Do you have a piece of equipment, tool, etc which you no longer use? The table at the back of the meeting room is a place where you can offer it for sale to a member who might need or want it. Bring it in and give it a try. Sometimes there are free items!

Monthly Demonstrations: In the past, a HCWG member who gave a demonstration was given a dues free membership for the following year. Effective July 2013, HCWG members will be reimbursed at the same rate as outside demonstrators: \$100.00. This is for a 45-60 minute demonstration. When multiple members join together to give in effect several mini demos, the reimbursement will be split among the individuals as agreed by the individuals concerned. This reimbursement **will not** be applicable to events such as "jig/fixture-arounds".

Scheduling these highlights of our monthly meetings is not an easy task. An elaborate machine-based demo is not the only way to go. The assembly of a project you have underway and explaining how you got the parts to their current size and shape is okay. An explanation of how and why various joints are used, which adhesives or fasteners work best in a particular application are of interest to all members. How about what you do? Do you have an interesting or different woodworking technique? Something that you know how to do well and think other members may be interested in learning? The way you approach a certain function may be an eye opener to everyone else. There is no single right way for most of our woodworking tasks and each of us can learn something new if given the opportunity. Or, do you know someone who does woodworking who might come as a guest and do a demonstration? The giant TV screen now available is a great method for presenting slide shows although some specific formatting rules must be used. Contact Brian Graham or any of the HGWG officers to schedule a demo for the rest of the members.

May Demonstration

Guild Vice President Tim Jackson demonstrated his techniques for making a three-legged stool on the lathe.

Guild Vice President Tim Jackson demonstrated his techniques for making a 3-legged stool on the lathe. The Guild's JET lathe was brought into the meeting room from the shop for Tim's demo. Tim demonstrated turning a leg and the seat. Tim first put a leg blank in the lathe and turned it round with a roughing gouge. Tim used old fir (at least 140 years old, he thinks) for the leg blanks, salvaged from vinegar vats. Mark Supik taught Tim to make these stools, and it was Mark who salvaged the wood from decommissioned vats in the Baltimore area.



Using the roughing gouge, Tim approximated the tapered shape of the leg. Then Tim used a skew as a scraper to smooth off the rough shape and round the bottom end of the leg. Tim recommends not trying to make the legs all uniform because it makes the stool look manufactured. The skew is introduced to the wood at a 90-degree angle in order to smooth the surface. To size the tenon, Tim obtained a 1" open-end wrench at Lowes and ground one tip of the wrench to a sharpened edge. In this way, Tim uses the wrench itself to shave the tenon to a uniform size. This technique drew applause from the audience. Following this, Tim rounded and smoothed the corner of the tenon with his skew.



Tim sands the leg with a sequence of 80, 120, 220, and 320 grit sandpaper, stopping occasionally to check the surface. For sanding, Tim folds over a rectangle of sandpaper and works from the top, back part of the turning, in the lathe.

Tim prefers a spring-loaded spur center because a catch will not cause the workpiece to be dislodged from the lathe.

Tim swapped out the spur center for a Oneway chuck for turning the seat. He prefers Oneway chucks instead of VicMark chucks. Tim uses a spur center and a thin plywood spacer, driven into a drilled hole in the center of the top of the seat blank. The seat blank is approximately 2" thick and about

11" diameter, made from a glue-up of two narrower pieces. If the piece were rough-cut one would need to clean the bottom up. Since Tim is using a planed piece of wood, he hopes to not have to face the bottom. Tim used a bowl gouge to shape the rounded edges. A bowl gouge is needed because the rounding towards the face of the blanks is very much like bowl turning. Tim recommends one cut from the face towards the edge so that the fibers are supported behind the cutting edge, resulting in a smoother finish. If one were to cut from the edge towards the center, the unsupported fibers would just tear and chip out.

Tim first made sure the blank was round and then began to round the edges for the top and bottom of the seat. Once the edge is shaped, Tim sands the edge and the bottom because it will be harder to do it later when shaping the top of the seat. Tim finds the fir difficult to work with - it tends to splinter and tear. He would not pick fir for this project in the future.

When the sanding was finished, Tim unscrewed the seat blank and removed the chuck. To shape the top of the seat, Tim used a large face plate with a plywood circle



attached. The plywood circle has three holes in it for attaching the blank, and the holes also serve to locate the leg locations. IN this way, the screw holes do not show on the finished project, and the legs are located uniformly around the blank. Tim centers the blank on the face plate by eye. Tim uses hex head screws to secure the legs. The blank and faceplate are then put on the lathe to turn.

The lathe's motor projected beyond the edge of the blank, intruding in the blank space and interfering with the blank. Because of this, Tim was not able to secure the blank and finish the turning of the top. Manny fashioned a spacer quickly in the Guild shop to go between the faceplate and the lathe shaft. This allowed Tim to continue the demo (Bravo, Manny!). Tim used a bowl gouge to shape the top of the seat, working from the outer edge of the blank towards the center. Tim made repeated cuts, passing deeper and deeper into the center with each pass. If the blank were end grain, Tim would have worked from the center out. But this blank is face grain, so he works this part from the edge inward. Tim then used a bullnose scraper to smooth the blank face. He used the skew to smooth the rounded corners of the seat, between the face and the edge.



Tim uses an angled jig on his drill press to hold the seat blank at the proper angle for the legs. The jig tilts the seat at an angle of a few degrees from horizontal, which allows the leg mortises to be drilled at a uniform angle. Tim just used guesswork last night to set the angles, but if he had it to do over, he would have picked a higher angle to provide more leg splay than used on the demonstration stool.

Tim's unusual face shield came from Peachtree Woodworking. It costs about \$40, and Tim finds it cooler in the summer than a hooded face shield.

"Nothing is written in stone," with this project. Tim says that the stool design can be varied in size, wood species, dimensions, finishes, etc. to match one's whimsy. Tim says this is an easy project, but he is happy to help anyone get started at his shop.

May Show and Tell

- Jordon Kitt brought two turned bowls.
- Manny Flecker displayed a turned bowl and two chisel handles.
- Dave Forester showed his stool.
- Nate Amsden brought his joinery demonstration pieces and a dovetailed box.
- Dave Tate showed his push sticks.
- Ron Clements described his great horned owl, keeled-bill toucan, and common loon carvings.
- Rick Munzer brought a scrollsaw basket made from maple laminated with a darker wood.



Safety Shavings

This Month member Ed Fisher provides us with eight rules for lathe safety:

WOOD TURNING SAFETY RULES:

1. **Know Your Equipment and Yourself:** Never operate a lathe or use a cutting tool, chuck or other accessory without first understanding its operation and limitations. Read and know the instruction manual of any lathe that you use. Never perform a procedure or technique that you are unclear about or uncomfortable with. If you are in doubt, stop and ask for instruction. Know your personal limitations.
2. **Police Your Environment.** Keep your work area clean. Store tools safely. Don't allow cords to run across circulation ways. Don't start your lathe if people are in harm's way. Ensure that there is adequate light and ventilation. If you are observing someone else, don't place yourself in harm's way.
3. **Keep Yourself Catch Free.** Long hair must be tied back. No clothing, gloves, jewelry or watches may be worn below the elbow. Necklaces and loose clothing that could be caught by spinning parts must not be worn.
4. **Inspect Your Lathe.** Inspect the lathe for damaged or missing parts before operating it. Before you start, check to ensure that the speed is appropriate, the drive belt is tight, all locking devices are secure and all chuck keys and adjusting wenchers are removed.
 - a. Always spin the wood at least one full turn before turning the lathe on every time.
 - b. Always stand to the side when starting up a lathe.
 - c. Always unplug the power supply before adjusting the belts or touching parts that spin.
 - d. Never leave a spinning lathe unattended.
5. **Wear Safety Equipment.** To operate a lathe or stand near an operating lathe, you must wear eye protection; full face protection when turning bowls. Dust masks are highly recommended.
6. **Secure the Wood.** Ensure that the wood is securely held. Turn between two centers whenever possible, and always use the tailstock with imbalanced pieces. Use a slow speed when first roughing out a piece. Never use wood that is cracked or has other serious defects or significant protrusions.
7. **Practice Safe Techniques.**
 - a. Keep your tools sharp. Don't force a tool or use it for an unintended purpose. Reposition the tool rest frequently to keep it close to the work.
 - b. Keep your balance and don't overreach.
 - c. Always turn the lathe off and allow it to come to a complete stop before adjusting the tool rest.
 - d. Always keep your hands behind the plane of the tool rest. Always keep the tool firmly against the tool rest. Always hold the tool firmly with both hands.
 - e. When using a shear cut, rub the bevel. When using a scraping cut, always keep the angle between the wood and cutting edge at less than 90 degrees.
 - f. When finishing, always remove the tool rest. Use only paper towels, never woven fabric. On exterior surfaces, apply the towel to the underside of the piece with the wood spinning counterclockwise. On interior surfaces, apply the towel in the lower left-hand quadrant also with the wood spinning counterclockwise.
8. **Focus on Your Work.** You must not operate a lathe if you have consumed alcohol or taken medication that carries an equipment operations warning. Don't operate a lathe if you are tired or emotionally upset.

For Sale/Wanted by HCWG Members

Note: Ads will appear for 3 months unless cancelled sooner or an extension is requested. Number in () indicates the number of times your ad has appeared.

Ted Curtis has a 2036 Oneway 2036 Lathe with 3 HP package and many turning tools, accessories, blanks, and lumber available. See the listing on the Guild Website Marketplace. (2)

I have a Norwood bandsaw mill and offer custom cutting of a variety of type of woods at ridiculously low prices. Any Guild members looking for wood are welcome to contact me at 443-904-2067, email: jeffmen515@gmail.com (Jeff Mendelsohn) (2)

Guild Classified

Exotic Lumber Inc. (Frederick), 329 East 2nd Street, Frederick, MD (Formerly in Gaithersburg) has over 110 species of lumber in stock as well as cabinet plywood, veneers, Amana router bits, pen and turning blanks. Complete millwork shop. Present your HCWG membership card at time of purchase for a 10% discount. 410-349-1705

Exotic Lumber, Inc. (Annapolis) has moved to Whitehall Rd, Exit 31B on US-50. This is about 2 miles from the Bay Bridge. Do not take Exit 31-A; use Exit 31-B, just past a shopping center. Turn Right off US-50 and go to the first building on the right. 301-695-1271

Freestate Timbers, 9572 Deereco Rd, Timonium, MD, is now offering a 10% discount when you show your membership card. 410-561-9444

Hicksville Planing Mill 14464 Hicksville Road, Clear Spring, MD 21722. Robert Miller 301-842-3474 Open Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, 7:30-5:00 Sat 7:30-12:00 Closed Thurs, Sun. Inventory of domestic and tropical rough, dried woods; planing and milling services.

Millwork Outlet, 2200 Severn Street, Baltimore City, has surplus molding, railing, columns, and miscellaneous wood products at inexpensive prices. (near Route 95 & Washington Blvd.) 410-355-3426

Chesapeake Promotional Products, 1430 Progress Way, Suite 106 in Eldersburg, MD 21784. They have the HCWG logo on file that can be used on hats or shirts. Phone (410) 552-6667, email: chesproproducts@aol.com.

World of Hardwood, 809 Barkwood Court, Linthicum, MD gives all HCWG members a 10% discount on purchases up to \$100 and 20% for orders over \$100. You need to present your HCWG membership card at the time of purchase. 410-636-3755

Timberline Farm Sawmill 13000 Old Frederick Rd, Sykesville, MD Hardwoods: Cherry, Oak, Walnut, Hickory, Elm, Poplar and others. 410-707-0158.

HCWG Library Items

A list of the Guild's DVDs by title and number has been sent to all members by email, or you can check them out on the web site. If you want to check out an item, contact Bud Nuessle.

Executive Committee

President: Rick Munzer (410) 489-6723		Committee Chairs:	
Vice President: Tim Jackson (443) 223-6396		Membership	- Gene Torrey (443) 535-8873
Treasurer: Manny Flecker (410) 997-0879		Program	- Brian Graham (410) 788-6992
Secretary: Nita Radtke (443) 676-7805		Shop Coordinator	- Wayne Austin (410) 730-0613
Webmaster: Gene Torrey (443) 535-8873		Education	- (vacant)
		Show	- Joel LaFerriere (301) 854-0397
		Sawdust Editor	- David Hickson (240) 401-8964

Committee purposes are as follows:

Membership – maintains a Guild membership manual of all active members.

Program – coordinates programs for the monthly meetings, special programs and seminars.

Education – puts together information for the how-to manual and coordinates classes.

Show – coordinates setting up a booth at shows and fairs.

Sawdust Editor – assembles, writes and distributes HCWG monthly newsletter

Shop Coordinator – oversees overall activities in the shop, qualifies and schedules shop monitors and serves as the point of contact with the Bain Center Staff for shop related matters.