

# Saw Dust Chronicles

August 2015

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

Newsletter of the  
Howard County  
Woodworkers Guild  
Volume 25 • Issue 8



## Upcoming Monthly Meeting – August 1, 2015

### August 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 July Meeting

- President Rick Munzer called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.
- Rick introduced visitors and new members:
- Demo
- Treasurer's report by Manny Flecker: \$5992.63 currently in the bank, and this will rise as the new dues are accrued.
- Membership Report by Gene Torrey: Dues are due for 2015-2016. See notes in "Guild Announcements," below. Some changes have been made to navigation of the website, in response to suggestions from members. The handbook portion will be made public, though the private contact information will remain private. The membership listing used to be sent out via email. Gene will see about getting an updated list out soon. The Guild will no longer mail information to anyone because of the expense and labor involved, but all membership information, etc. is freely available via the Guild website. There was a brief discussion of website security and privacy.
- President Rick Munzer made a plea for demonstrations starting in September. People do not need to be experts to present a project or technique.
- Membership report
- Member Show and Tell (see notes below)
- 50/50 raffle and door prizes were awarded (see notes below)



## Guild Announcements

**Annual Guild Picnic Information:** President Rick Munzer announced at the June monthly meeting that the 2015 Guild Annual Picnic will be Saturday the **22nd of August**, and once again he and Lisa will host the affair at their place in Glenelg. Please mark your calendars to save the date! The Guild scheduled our event so as not to conflict with the Howard County Fair. That way Ron and all the members who staff the fair, and who missed last year, are able to attend this year.

There is information on the Guild website to note that provides: Event date, time, location, and Committee Sign-Up. We hope you'll take a moment to confirm attendance with your family. It really is a great time, and with enough volunteers, not too hard on any one person. And, it is a great time to get to know each other even better. If you have any questions, please contact Membership Chair and Guild Webmaster Gene Torrey.

**Howard County Fair Entries by Guild Members:** The Guild participates in the annual Howard County Maryland Fair to cultivate interest in woodworking, encourage interest in Guild membership and to display our craft for our fellow citizens to enjoy. Ron announced the HC Fair is coming up August 5, 6, and 7. The woodcarving challenge this year is an owl, not to exceed 12" (not the 4" previously announced). Judging is done the Friday night before. The Noncarving challenge this year is a rolling pin. Modest cash prizes are awarded.

To view the Woodworking exhibition rules click [HERE](#) for the online PDF file. The "Woodworking" rules begin on page 139. Don't forget there is a typo for the Owl concept, the size is listed as 4 inches which is incorrect. The actual size is 12".

For a complete description the Guild's involvement in this annual affair, please visit the [Guild's Howard County Fair homepage](#), and for a complete description of the event and location, visit the [2015 Howard County Fair event page](#). The Howard County Fair web site is [HERE](#).

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

**Membership Cards:** We are into a new cycle for membership renewals. Bring your checkbook to the meeting and see Gene Torrey to renew for 2015-2016. Alternatively, checks can be mailed to Manny via the Guild's mailing address. New membership cards are now available at the meetings. Website access will cease at the end of July for unpaid members.

**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.

**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.

**Guild 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.

## July Demonstration

Guild member Howard Esrike provided a demonstration on chair caning. Howard did an earlier demo for the Guild about caning, but this one demonstrated a different kind/style of caning.

Cane chairs, over time, will stretch and rip and need to be replaced. Howard shared a list of the tools and materials needed, most of which are described below (also see picture). This technique uses woven cane (from PeerlessRattan.com) that is cut from a sheet/roll and then held into a groove in the chair via a spline. It comes in standard sizes and patterns. In addition to the caning material, spline of the proper size will be needed to hold the cane in the groove. It is supposed to fit smoothly; splining comes in different sizes. Howard uses a spline chisel, which is a narrow chisel with an edge to dig out the old cane and spline. An old screwdriver could be ground to suit the purpose. Cane wedges hold the cane when pounding the spline in place; they can be easily made from scraps. A razor knife is helpful to remove old caning. Nippers/side cutters come in handy. Needle nose pliers can be used for pulling out scraps of cane. Howard uses plain Elmer's white glue for the spline, a light duty (plastic or wooden) mallet for the chisel and to tap in the spline, and a bucket or basin for soaking the cane.



**Part 1: Removing the Old Seat:** Howard uses a razor knife to break the edge of the cane, cuts the old cane out, and then starts removing the old spline with the chisel or other tool. Howard will sometimes drill holes down through the spline through the chair to break the spline into sections for removal. He also will dampen the spline in case the glue is water-soluble to help loosen the old spline. Howard then cleans the groove thoroughly of any residual pieces of cane or spline.

**Part 2: Installing the New Caning:** Howard soaks the cane and spline materials in water for at least 30 minutes. The spline is spaced exactly for the groove in the chair - measure the groove's width in several places and then refer to the supplier's website to select the proper spline thickness based on your groove. Howard cuts the cane material so that there is a substantial overlap on each side, at least two inches. He drives a wedge into the groove at the front center to hold the loose cane in place. He then drives a second wedge in the center of the back to stretch and hold the cane straight and in place. It's important to make sure the cane pattern is centered and straight right from the start. Howard adds more wedges around the perimeter to hold the cane in place across the width and depth of the seat. He uses another wedge to poke the caning down into the groove around the seat, between the wedges. One has to be careful not to break or tear the caning at the edge of the groove. If this happens, one must start over with a new piece of caning.

Howard uses a half of a wooden clothespin as a narrow wedge to drive the cane in at the radiused corners. He works his way around the seat, poking the cane down into the groove. Check for "squareness" along the way. Howard is able to remove the wedges as he moves along. He goes around the groove a couple times, tapping the cane securely into the groove. When pushed down into the groove, the caning will stay put fairly well as the spline is prepared and installed.



For the next step, Howard takes a chisel (approx. 3/4") and cuts off the excess cane. He cuts the cane on the outside edge of the groove, just about 1/16" below the top surface. Howard works his way around the chair, sometimes cutting off long strands with the nippers. (A question from the floor: Can the spline be put in first, and then trimmed? Howard says yes, but he prefers to do it this way. There was audience speculation that Howard's method leads to having the cut ends buried behind the spline, producing a cleaner finished product. Another observer asked if the caning comes in colors. Howard says he has never seen colored caning, but it can be stained if desired or to match existing chairs.)

Once the cane is trimmed, Howard applies Elmer's white glue to the entire groove. He applies a fairly liberal bead of glue.



The spline material has a wedge shape for easy insertion. He starts the splining by cutting an angled cut at one end to allow for a scarf joint where the ends of the cane loop meet. The spline is applied as one continuous piece. Howard starts splining at the center of the back, working his way around the groove, tapping the spline in place with a wooden mallet. To finish the splining, Howard marks the spline at the cut location, seeking a tight joint. He then slides a small scrap of wood under the spline and makes the final cut with a sharp chisel. The cut end is then tapped into place. A good joint will have not gap. To finish the splining, Howard uses a strip of wood (about the same thickness as the spline) to tap the spline fully home in the groove, working his way around the entire spline to make sure the entire perimeter is fully seated in the groove.



On Howard's demonstration oak chair, he reinstalled the bentwood braces with the original screws. The braces were removed earlier in order to make the caning easier.

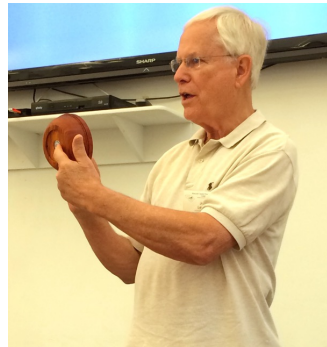
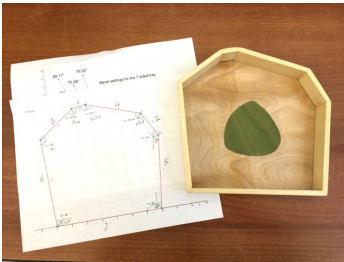


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### July Show and Tell





- Wilbur Hildebrand brought his 7-sided tray with inlay, and plans
- Tim Jackson described some turned bowls
- Gene Torrey showed his hand mirror and a bandsaw box
- Dan Messina brought his crate, a side table, and some puzzles
- Nate Amsden and his son demonstrated their toddler learning tower
- George Adams displayed several bowls
- Ward Ebert showed and explained several slides of his completed workbench
- Jerry Levissee featured his turned cocobolo and cherry bowls
- Rick Munzer showed two travel mugs with stave construction

**July Door Prizes**

- Tim Jackson won less than \$50 in the 50/50.
- Hershel Doss won a moisture meter
- Dan Messina won some clamps
- Robert Dugan won a contractor clamp

**Safety Shavings**

The newsletter editor is seeking Guild member contributions to this column.

**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.*  
**For Sale: Grinder and Woodturning Tools:** Unused low-speed bench grinder (<http://www.amazon.com/RIKON-Power-Tools-80-805-Grinder/dp/B00H2B78YG>) and a set of 6 unused Sorby

woodturning tools: ([http://www.woodcraft.com/Product/146162/SORBY-6-PIECE-TURNING-SET.aspx?gclid=CMDot\\_CBn8cCFcwXHwodzZ0MZg](http://www.woodcraft.com/Product/146162/SORBY-6-PIECE-TURNING-SET.aspx?gclid=CMDot_CBn8cCFcwXHwodzZ0MZg)) for sale. Grinder – \$60, Chisels – \$200  
See the Guild website for information about contacting seller. (1)

**For Sale: Kufo Seco 1550 CFM Vertical Dust Collector** – \$250. This vertical double bag dust collector, model UFO-101, has a 1550 CFM capacity made possible by a 2HP 220v / 60z/ 1ph electric motor. Included are: Lee Valley cyclone garbage can lid that forces out the chips and dust into a standard trashcan; with connection hose about 8' long and connectors. It is ideal for woodworkers. The motor can be rewired to connect to 110V. See Guild website for information about contacting seller. (1)

**For Sale: Furniture Stripping, Finishing and Repair Shop:** Excellent opportunity for someone with furniture repair and refinishing background. Sales average \$100k annually in a one man shop. Could easily be expanded with a little internet and marketing ability. In business in Anne Arundel County for 36 years. Shop has large chemical strip tank (grandfathered in), fully equipped paint booth, small display room, office, delivery van and fully equipped work area (see photos). Owner wants to retire and is willing to work with new owner for three months. See Guild website for information about contacting seller. (1)

**For Sale: Many tools** by Guild member who is closing his shop. Many of the items are additions to those currently appearing on our Marketplace page. See list and contact seller via Guild website. (1)

**Wanted: Craftsman to Make a Paulownia Jewelry Box.** We are looking for a woodworker in Howard County to make a custom jewelry box for our daughter using the wood from a Paulownia tree that her grandparents planted when she was born. We are happy to pay for the woodworker's time. We have 3 logs that are between 4 and 5 feet long and 5 and 6 inches in diameter so believe we have plenty of wood. In lieu of using our wood exclusively for the jewelry box, the craftsman may use commercial Paulownia complimentary milled lumber, as long as some portion is made with our logs too, due to their sentimental value. If interested, please see contact information via Guild website. (1)

**Wanted: Refinishing Expert Advice:** I need advice on refinishing a dining room table now on exhibit at the Howard County Living Farm Heritage Museum. My approach would be to completely sand the table top finish down to bare wood and choose an appropriate finish closely matching the legs. Perhaps the legs would need retouching. Anyone who is willing is invited to meet me at the museum to view and discuss the approach. See Guild website for contact information. (1)

### Guild Classified

**Exotic Lumber Inc. (Frederick)**, 329 East 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### Executive Committee

		<b>Committee Chairs:</b>	
<b>President:</b>	Rick Munzer (410) 489-6723	Membership	- Gene Torrey (443) 535-8873
<b>Vice President:</b>	Tim Jackson (443) 223-6396	Program	- Brian Graham (410) 788-6992
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Manny Flecker (410) 997-0879	Shop Coordinator	- Wayne Austin (410) 730-0613

<b>Secretary:</b>	Nita Radtke	(443) 676-7805	Education	- (vacant)
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Gene Torrey	(443) 535-8873	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.

