

# WOODWORDS ON THE BRANDYWINE

*Woodworkers Guild of Delaware*

*Volume 18, No. 4*

*December, 2006*

## **Dues are Now Due!**

Dues for calendar 2007 are to be paid before December 31, 2006 (preferably by check). If you haven't yet paid please do so at the December meeting, or mail your payment to Richard Libera, Treasurer, 402 Apple Road, Newark, DE 19711. Dues are \$35.00 per calendar year (\$40.00 for family membership).

## **December 20, 2006 Meeting Agenda:**

This meeting's feature presentation will be Jerry Sheeran's "Overview of Veneering, with a Demonstration of Two Techniques". Jerry will also share the jig he used to make those handsome Hungarian snowflake tree ornaments, and your editor expects to present a short subject -- "The Miserly Librarian's Guide to Practical Bookshelves".

This month there will be several gift-wrapped raffle prizes – surprise items each worth \$15.00 or more, with only one prize allowed per winner. As always please bring "show and tell" items; those who do will receive two FREE raffle tickets.

## **November 15, 2006 Meeting Highlights:**

This meeting centered on wooden tree ornaments and other decorations that Guild members made for the Delaware Hospice Christmas Tree Festival. They ran the gamut from simplicity to intricacy with handsome carvings, difficult turnings, delicate scrollwork and a wide variety of original forms and attractive finishes.

The designs and craftsmanship were impressive, and members learned many useful tips as fellow members explained the techniques and materials they had used. Special thanks to all who made ornaments: Tony Albano, Rich Dell, Roger Earley, Ron Haase, Gary Hayes, Frank Hetzell, Judy Hodgson, Jim Kirkbride, Richard Libera, Mike Reese, Tim Sabo, Jerry Sheeran, Joe Tomeo, David Webber and Harry Welcher. Special thanks also to Mike Reese for leading this project, and to his daughters Kelley and Lindsay for taking part.

John Dunbar made a presentation on cabinet scrapers. These simple tools offer an almost dust-free alternative to sanding hardwoods (not softwoods). They cause no tear-out and can swiftly clean up tear-out left by planes and planers. They can remove surface blemishes such as burns and old paint, and can be used between finish coats for the clearest finishes on open grain wood. John explained and demonstrated several uses of scrapers, and simple and

practical ways of sharpening them. Among much else he showed us a file mounted in a 90 degree dado in a block of wood, used to remove the old worn burr and create a new, straight vertical edge ready for the new burr in a single simple step. Many thanks to John Dunbar for a fine presentation.

At show and tell Richard Libera showed us samples of AZEC, a PVC construction material he used in building his new front portico, and pictures showing its construction. The portico features an elliptical arch and a carved pineapple, symbol of welcome. New member Brian Read presented walnut intarsia boots, an Australian lacewood box, and a handsome jewelry box with contrasting walnut and birds-eye maple. Jeremy Noblett presented a small circular staircase carved in Polonia wood and mounted on a dowel. Tony Albano presented a simple and practical lightweight sawhorse design that he has perfected after using other kinds, together with the template he uses to make them whenever he pleases. Our thanks to them all.

Thanks also to Jerry Sheeran, who reported favorably on courses he took on sharpening and on hand plane usage at Philadelphia Furniture Workshop; for details talk with Jerry and visit [philadelphiafurnitureworkshop.com](http://philadelphiafurnitureworkshop.com).

Jim Kirkbride won the raffle prize, a \$25.00 gift certificate from Woodcraft.

### **Member Ailing:**

Richard Libera has suffered a heart attack; as this goes to press he is hospitalized for bypass surgery. Rich is in good spirits, his prognosis is excellent, and he sends best wishes to all. When you read this he is likely to be home recuperating, and he probably will not attend the December 20 Guild meeting.

### **Future Programs:**

Philip Lothrop, a collector of antique tools, will make a presentation at our January meeting. He and his collection were featured in a July 20, 2006 News Journal article.

The Guild has announced a contest for the best frame for a picture, mirror or the like, to be judged at our April meeting. There are no restrictions as to size or shape.

We want to hear more from our members about how you plan, make and finish projects. Please volunteer to make a presentation, and please help us locate other professional woodworkers and knowledgeable amateurs who can be invited to teach us.

### **Membership Program:**

Please help rebuild our membership. Invite woodworking friends and acquaintances to Guild meetings, and encourage them to join.

## Benefactors of the Guild:

Several merchants, suppliers and restaurants have been generous in supporting the Guild; please keep these friends in mind when you make purchases: Woodcraft, Lee Valley and Veritas, Lie-Nielsen Toolworks, Bell's Supply Co. Inc., Café Gelato, Eagle Diner, Fair Hill Inn, Arby's, Giordano's of Kennett Square and Hearne Hardwoods of Oxford, PA.

## Treasurer's Report:

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Balance forward at 9/29/2006     | 1453.37 |
| Dues Income                      | 350.00+ |
| November meeting raffle proceeds | 36.00+  |
| November Newsletter expense      | 87.21-  |
| Ending balance at 11/26/2006     | 1757.16 |

By: Richard Libera, Treasurer

## 2006–07 Meeting Schedule:

**Dates:** Guild meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month of the school year, September through May. This year's remaining dates are:, December 20, January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18 and May 16. The Guild often has a June meeting, and normally does not meet in July and August.

**Place & Time:** During the school year we normally meet in the carpenter shop at Hodgson Vo-Tech High School in Glasgow, DE; June meetings are normally elsewhere. At Hodgson we meet from 7:00 pm to about 9:00 pm. Some arrive earlier, which is fine -- the shop is open to us around 6:00 pm.

The school entrance is on **business** 896 (Glasgow Avenue, old 896) south of Rte. 40, and the shop is in the rear by the dust collection system. Park in the side lot near the shop; **violators of parking rules may be towed.** Also, **bring a flashlight** because the parking lot and shop entrance may be unlighted. If the school is closed due to weather, that evening's meeting is cancelled. Local radio stations broadcast closings and WDEL also reports them online at [www.wdel.com](http://www.wdel.com), News Center, SnoWatch.

**Board Meetings:** The Board often meets at Hodgson immediately after Guild meetings. It sometimes meets at the homes of officers, normally on the Wednesday evening one week after a Guild meeting. Board Meetings are open to all Guild members.

Woodwords on the Brandywine  
October, 2006

Woodworkers Guild of Delaware  
402 Apple Road  
Newark, DE 19711

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**WOODWORKERS GUILD OFFICERS FOR 2006-07**

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