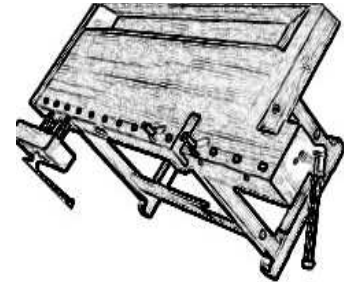


BENCHMARK



Newsletter of the Vancouver Island Woodworkers' Guild
VISIT US AT - WWW.VIWG.COM

Issue: OCT 2004

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

September's meeting marked the start of a new season of Guild meetings and activities. The meeting was well attended due in part to the great guest speaker, Francois Mongeau. Francois gave those that attended an incredible presentation of his carving work. His portfolio seemed to span three different areas of interest:

- 1-His large architectural commissions (doors, windows, glass domes, support beams, etc.) which focus on North American animals and fish,
- 2-His more West Coast native carving in wood, stone etc.,
- 3-His sculptural interpretive work in wood, stone etc.

(Leather Jacket Hanging on Hook). What struck me was his vast body of work, and the incredible talent and creativity behind it. He is very proficient at his art. I found his lecture to be very inspiring – it made me want to learn more about carving. What more could one ask for from a guest speaker? Thank you Francois!

Thank Yous:

Cam Russell made a call for volunteers to build plinth's for the Maltwood Gallery's upcoming show on books and book binding. Ten of us showed up on Saturday the 19th of September at 9:00 am at the Camosun shop to build MDF plinths. I would like to thank all the participants

Cam Russell
Ken Guenther
Karen Trickett
Jim Barker

Phil Makin
Allan Franz
John Magwood
Howard Rossitter

Announcements & Reminders:

Tools and Space announced a full line up of fall courses, as well as their new craft gallery.

The Guild – Door Prize Coordinator Position; we are looking for a member who would volunteer to coordinate door prizes. Colin Knecht has moved up island and is unable to continue. Thank you Colin for your past work. Please contact any executive member for more details.

Canwest Woodworking Tool Show and Sale; I would like to remind members about this exciting event which takes place October 7 -9 at Pearkes Recreation Centre in Tillicum Mall.

Out of Hand Show (November 2004); as reported in last months newsletter, we have again been invited to participate in this annual show at the Victoria Conference Centre. Please contact myself or Phil Makin for further information about showing and volunteering.

As always, if you have any suggestions or ideas for guild activities, it would be great to hear about them. Please give myself or any of the other guild members a call, or drop us a line by email.

Russ Franson, President

OCTOBER MEETING

October 12th.. 7:15 pm

Camosun College Carpentry Building

Don't forget to bring your own chair

Keynote Speaker Program

The keynote speaking portion of our meetings has been a real success. Finding speakers and ensuring they are supported when they say "Yes" takes time but it is important for the guild, so right now I am looking for more ideas for keynote speakers or meeting themes. Please contact Phil Makin, your input is much appreciated.

Keynote Review - François Mongeau

In September, we welcomed Francois and his wife Wendy to our meeting. Francois talked us through an overview of quite a body of sculpture in wood, stone and other mediums. His ability to work in Haida, Japanese and traditional Canadiana styles and methods is a real accomplishment. The journey from starting carving on a 25 week course in St-Jean-Port-Joli, Quebec as an unemployed worker is amazing all by itself. For over 30 years, Francois has applied his energy to creating and collaboration with other artists such as textiles and glass workers. He showed us some of his favorite tools and asked if he could bring his sons to a meeting. We learned a little about artists co-op called The Old School House Gallery in Qualicum Beach. He enjoyed the show and tell portion of our meeting also and commented to me about the spirit of sharing information that we displayed. We all made a friend and hope to see him back with us soon. Francois is very interested in our work in bringing the Furniture Society convention to Victoria in a few years.

Francois received dinner from the guild as well as an economy hotel stay and a cheque for the Vancouver Children's Hospital as part of our support of an out of town speaker.

Keynote for October – Gregory Brown

Way back in 1982, Gregory was part of the guild's first woodworking show, but since then he has been too busy to make a piece for consignment! His many skills range from teaching to boatbuilding, antique restoration (focusing on pieces from 1700 to 1850), tool making, instrument building and restoring including guitars from the beginning of the 17th century and pieces for churches. Most pieces that he builds take between 200 and 600 hours and are on the incredible side – wait till you see them. Matt Ashton and I visited his shop recently and found him to be a very warm and entertaining person. In addition to slides, you will be treated to "some in the flesh" items which will make you smile and perhaps drool a little and that's what happened to me.

P.M.

Calendar of Events

We present the Guild's educational, and meeting plans. We attempt to provide dates on future events of interest to Guild members. If you have event information, please contact Chico Sakman to arrange for publication.

Toys for Kids Workshop
Saturday November 13 in the Camosun Shop
Contact Doug Watson 477-0701

Out of Hand Christmas Fair
November 24 to 28, Victoria Convention Centre
See Article in this Benchmark for details.
Contact Phil Makin 592-4053

Novice Show
April 2005, Victoria Arts Council, Sussex Place
Contact to be determined

Continuing Meetings (Held Monthly)

Open to any interested guild member. Call to confirm or to have an item added to the agenda.

Executive/Committee Chairs
Monday week following Guild Meeting, contact Russ Franson 656-8724
Location is Waddling Dog Pub

Show Committee
First Tuesday of the Month, contact Mike Kattler 592-4938

Education Clinics for Members

Times, locations and requirements vary, normally held the Saturday after Guild meeting
Cost \$10. per member or higher depending on requirements, payable to the instructor.

P.M.

Out of Hand Fair Late November

In 2003, the guild was provided the opportunity to take part in the Out of Hand Fair at no cost to the guild. Nearly 15,000 people went through the doors last year.

The feedback from the owner's regarding the 22 artists who submitted work was very positive. Both the public and other vendors thought we added something important to the fair. So again this year, the owner's of this fair have extended the arrangement. We will be in the same 1040 square foot room at the Victoria Convention Centre. The financial situation is a 25% commission being charge by the owner's when a retail sale is made. They provide full Interact and VISA processing on site.

Our area is more of a gallery space with any backing stock located in storage closets. It is a super opportunity for any member thinking about gaining some exposure and market knowledge. Dates are as follows:

November 24 (*Set up Day*) **November 25 to 28** (*Open for business*) **November 28** (*New Demonstration Opportunity*)

What do We Need

Artists to contribute work - You can sign up by emailing me at pmakin@shaw.ca.

Guild members or any volunteer to staff our area. Last year blocks of three or four hour sessions seemed to work well and two to three volunteers are needed per shift. It goes fast, you can talk wood, the guild and the value of hand-made work – time goes by quickly. You can volunteer your time just by emailing me or calling.

Coordinators Needed - This year, because of timing, I will not be in Victoria when the fair is on. I worked with Matt Ashton last year and really enjoyed it, so someone needs to step forward! Perhaps two people would be even better. I will put some time into the organizing right up to the fair, but need folks to take the lead when the fair is on. It is basically ensuring that the good arrive, the layout of the floor is done (we had lots of help with this last year) with plinthes that we borrow from the Victoria Arts Council and being the person for any questions.

A Note on Jurying

For artists who were in the fair last year, no jurying is needed. New artists will need to have their work photographed digitally (no professional photography is needed here), then the photo is emailed to the owner's of the show for their decision. Jurying ends on November 8.

A Note on Products

The owner's of the fair loved the variety of work which we submitted last year.. This year again any marketing information and business cards can be provided by our members – this is completely open to your wishes.

Need an Idea?

All types of work is required including major furniture items. But in addition, I noticed from the BC Wood Coop that over the past six months several items have been on their small items wish list which should be quite applicable.

Here are a few suggestions:

Children's Mobile, Radios Massagers, Combs and Hair Brushes, Journals, Wooden framed reading glasses, Book Holder for Kitchen Counter, Salad sets with small serving bowls, Door stops, Photo albums, Smooth serving plates, Water coolers, Chess, Cribbage and Dominoes Sets, Clocks, Shoe Horns, Canister Sets, Knife Blocks, Book Stands, Bookends, Christmas Ornaments, Wall mounted magazine racks, End Grain Chopping Blocks

CLASSIFIEDS

Felder KF700 Eco combination saw/shaper. 2
1/2 years old, excellent condition.
Call **Carl @ 888-5067** for information.

TOOLS'N SPACE WOODWORKING

Upstairs Gallery is now OPEN!

**Selling Fine Carvings, Turnings,
Furniture & Gift Items.**

**Made by local BC Artists & Craftspeople.
Now accepting work on a consignment basis.**

**338 Catherine Street,
Victoria BC V9A 3S8**

Contact

**Charlie Middleton, Lauren Vanden Dungen or
Graeme Evans to arrange an appointment
(250) 383-9600**

Workshop Clinics

There is a great deal knowledge and expertise within this guild, my objective is to encourage and persuade people to share it. Everyone has some area of expertise that they could teach others, it needn't be directly related to woodworking. I would also like to bring in expert teachers from outside of the guild. My hope is that you will walk away from a workshop feeling inspired to do something new or with the confidence to do better. It's not just the people attending the course that benefit, I found teaching to be an incredibly rewarding experience.

If you have a suggestion for a course or if you would like to teach one please drop me a line or tap me on the shoulder at the next meeting.

Jesse Williams

OUR SPONSORS

Show your appreciation for the following companies which support the Guild by membership discounts.

Aarrow Safety Inc.
Altech Machining
Columbia Fire & Safety LTD. (10% off Card Required!)

Island Imports
Island Saw & Tool Co.
Mother Computers (See Tony Scott, Card Required!)

PJ White Hardwoods LTD.
Reimer Hardwoods LTD.
Richelieu Panel Products
Skookum Tools LTD.
Slegg Lumber LTD.
Tools'n Space Woodworking
Troy Electric Sales & Service
Victoria Speciality Hardware LTD.
West Wind Hardwoods Inc.
Windsor Plywood on Jutland Rd.

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Past President.....	Phil Makin	592-4053	pmakin@shaw.ca

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Library Committee – Ed Krakowski 656-6727 edshop@shaw.ca
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Sponsor Liason - Max White 381- 2378 maxwell@pacificcoast.net
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STUDENT LIASON REPS :

Camosun College – To Be Determined
Belmont High - Brad Tikk 391-1992
Other High Schools—To Be Determined

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