

## September 2020 Newsletter



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Hi Bruce,

### **Next Meeting**

The next VIWG meeting will be September 8th. The meeting will be online via Zoom as we have done for the past few meetings. Here's the link!

Neil Bosdet is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: VIWG September General Meeting

Time: Sep 8, 2020 07:00 PM Vancouver

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82964402108>

Meeting ID: 829 6440 2108

Our presenter is Dr. Tim Frandy who was born and raised in northernmost Wisconsin. Dr. Tim Frandy is an Assistant Professor of Folklore Studies at Western Kentucky University. Working primarily in Sámi and Anishinaabe communities, his research lies at the intersection of Indigenous studies, public folklore, environmental sciences, and traditional arts and cultures. And over the past ten years, he has worked with Anishinaabe friends to help revitalize traditional arts in the Waaswaaganing (Lac du Flambeau) community. He is the editor and translator of a recent collection of Sámi folktales, *Inari Sámi Folklore: Stories from Aanaar*, the first multi-voiced anthology of Sámi oral tradition in the English language.

**Dr. Frandy will talk about Wiigwaasi-Jiimaanikewin: Building the Birchbark Canoe**

Birchbark canoes are considered an apex of Anishinaabe culture, combining technological sophistication, masterful craftsmanship, beautiful artistry, and deep cultural significance. Today, only a handful of Native canoe builders in the American Upper Midwest can fully construct a birchbark canoe from start to finish. Waaswaaganing (Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin) is home to two of these builders, brothers Mino-giizhig and Ozaawaagosh (Wayne and Leon Valliere). This talk explores the cultural significance of the birchbark canoe, the techniques used in its construction, and the collaborative efforts over the past decade to create more canoe builders in Lac du Flambeau.

## Socially Distanced Wood Fall Sale Sunday September 27th

It is that time - our regular fall sale is coming. We will be accepting RSVP's for 30 minute timeslots in the coming week.

For the first time our guild sale will consist of **individually labelled** boards which members can choose from tops of piles. The labels provide the species, date of milling and the number of board feet and are found on one end of each board.

We are selling **dry oak, unseasoned oak, unseasoned maple and a few other species** (what is paulownia). We also have **unseasoned and seasoned slabs** which are favorably priced.

We will for the **first time be accepting etransfer** for your payment. This is our first choice. If you can't do etransfer, we will accept cheques and as a very last resort cash when we tally your purchase.

Stay tuned for your invitation to reserve a spot for this sale! Any questions, please call Phil Makin at 250.592.4033 or email [pmakin@shaw.ca](mailto:pmakin@shaw.ca)

## Mid-Island Woodworkers (MIWG) Wood Sale

The Mid-Island Woodworkers Guild conduct wood sales on a regular basis and VIWG Members are welcome to participate. Check the MIWG website for dates and times ([www.miwg.ca/events](http://www.miwg.ca/events)). Getting to the location of the wood sales can be a bit tricky the first time so check the directions [here](#).

## Quercus (Latin for “oak”)

A quarterly publication celebrating the art and craft of woodworking by hand, Quercus features the voices of craftspeople and makers from around the world. Named for the genus to which oak belongs, the magazine highlights workmanship and design, woodworking techniques, tools and traditions spanning the centuries. [Click here for more information](#)

## Buy and Sell

There is a feature on the website menu "Buy and Sell" that allows members to see a list of items that are for sale or that are wanted. A listing can also be posted on the website. [Click here for more details.](#)

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## We Want to Hear from You

The following articles have been provided by you to share with other VIWG Members. Thanks to all of you for your input!

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## Thetis Island Arbutus

I spent some enjoyable time in the woodshop recently completing this small sideboard cabinet. It is now in place in a home in Victoria as these photos were taken on delivery day.

The wood is some very special Arbutus that I acquired from Thetis Island in 2010. This is the first sizeable project from the smaller of two trees that had to come down. It was 3' in diameter and we could see that there was some fabulous curly grain as the outside of the trunk was nicely rippled. We had to

cut it into short logs as the trunk had quite a sweep to it so each of two logs was about 6' long.



It was a pleasure to pick through and find the right boards for the doors and top. It is not every day that one gets to make book-matched doors from solid wood 12" wide. The cabinet is actually made from pre-finished plywood, the gable ends were veneered with shop sawn wood and the doors have euro

hinges. This approach helps keep the cost down while still allowing for some extras like the blued steel handles and splash. It is all done to a higher standard than a “kitchen cabinet” while retaining the look of a traditional furniture piece.

Arbutus is a just about the best wood to machine, not only does it work well but it also has a very pleasant aroma which surrounds you as you work. The key to Arbutus is quarter sawn wood from a tree at least 24” in diameter. Stay safe and keep on making chips! (wood chips not potato chips....)

**Michael Moore**

## **Rainbow Bowl**

This spring I came up with this rainbow bowl idea. This one is of eastern hard maple, and transparent acrylic inks. I’ve written an article for the American Woodturner on- line journal, Woodturning FUNdamentals, describing the process, published in the August 2020 issue. You or a turner friend can access it via membership in the AAW, American Association of Woodturners— which has really become an international body.



Phil Cottell

## Help with a Dust System

I am just setting up a shop in my 2 car garage. I have all of my tools on wheels so I can still park cars unless I am in the middle of something.

I have ordered an I-vac switch control for a 1 1/2 HP 240V Delta dust extractor and am just deciding how to run the 4 inch PVC pipe.

Anyone with experience on this would be very useful to talk to. If you know someone who could come over and look that would be great.

I retired on January 28,2020. Since Co-Vid started I have tried to get all non necessary things out of the garage and have built 5 cabinets to get everything away from dust.

John McCann ([drjamc@gmail.com](mailto:drjamc@gmail.com))

## **Price for a Tablesaw**

I am a retired physician. 20 years ago I purchased a General tablesaw made in Drummondville Quebec. Model 350 with a 220V motor and a 55 inch fence. As I am a rank amateur, the tables has had very light use. As I am now downsizing my shop, I plan to sell this saw once this Covid plague is over.

It is a heavy industrial machine and is ideal for a professional shop.

I have looked on eBay and can find no table saws of this type for sale

Do you have any idea as to what price I should ask of a prospective buyer?

I would be grateful if you will put this question to the Guild membership.

Jeffrey Wollach.

## **Couch-side Table**

I've just finished up this latest piece of furniture for our house. It's a couch-side table for our media room.

For this piece I used a really nice piece of Arbutus that I had in the shop. I re-sawed a thick board so that I could get all the case parts from one piece. That way the colour matches nicely. This is especially important with Arbutus as the colour and grain can vary so much between boards. For the legs I created some rift-sawn pieces from a larger board. This made the grain nice and straight on all four sides of each leg. The legs feature a variety of joinery techniques including half laps for the lower shelf, bridle joints for the top stretchers, and mortise and tenons for where the shelf meets the legs.

My original plan for the drawers was to have them run on UHMW plastic runners. With this in mind I routed stopped dados into the case before glue up. But then I thought that the drawers were so small and light that it wasn't really necessary. I went ahead and cut all my dovetails for the drawers. I tried to do the best possible job. Unfortunately, I made an error. I forgot that the drawer sides were thinner than the front and back and as a result I inadvertently made proud dovetails. This can be a cool look but it wasn't what I was going for and would be problematic as soon as the drawer left its pocket. There would simply be too much wiggle room for the drawer to move around.

To fix this issue I basically had two options. One would have been to make new fronts and backs and re-cut all my dovetails. That seemed like a lot of work so I went with plan B. I decided to use the dados I cut in the case to accept a thin piece of UHMW plastic and keep the drawers running straight and true. This worked out great!

The last steps involved veneering on a thin piece of beautiful figured Marri wood to the drawer fronts that I acquired from Australia last fall. Finally, I turned some small drawer pulls from another Australian wood called Jarrah. Thanks for looking!

**Glenn Bartley**

## **Greetings from North Saanich**

In October of 2017 I bought some Arbutus (50 bfm + a bonus board) and a Guild member's 1/4 sawn Garry Oak boards, from a Guild wood sale. I had no plans for using it at the time, but in the last year, and amidst the pandemic, have managed to use all of it, plus additional boards from

Westwind.

I have made a CD cabinet (you older members will know what a CD is) with twelve Garry Oak drawers inside an Arbutus cabinet on legs; a tripod wardrobe ladder that holds pants, using Arbutus beams and Fir rungs; a three leg hall table with two legs of Arbutus, a third of Applewood, and the top of Spalted Maple; and finally three Sam Maloof inspired low back armchairs with legs of Arbutus, seat backs of Port Orford Cedar, and solid wood seats of Sepele.

The Arbutus from the Guild was rewarding to work with, but challenging to flatten large and heavy warped boards. I've spent much time filling cracks, splits and holes with epoxy, because I try to use every bit of a board, not just the "good bits". Since I am my only customer this works out well, and I enjoy the unique character of what would often be regarded as a flawed piece of wood.

I look forward to the next wood sale, as my inventory is low at the moment. Good health to all of you in these challenging times.

John Dennison

## **Grand-daughter Rescued**

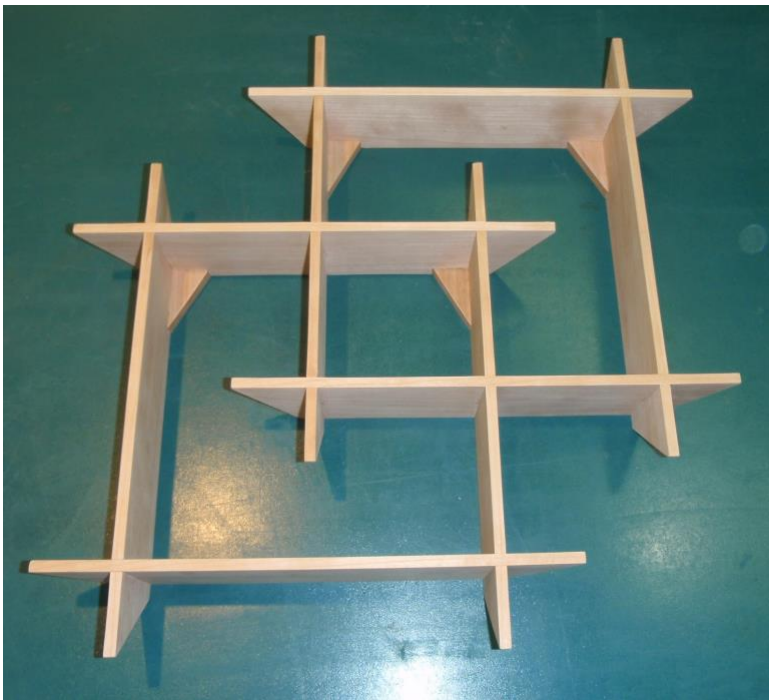
We have a grand-daughter and she is coming 8 months old, she is crawling everywhere and we have to keep her away from the stairs. I couldn't find a ready made baby fence for our stairs due to the design so I made one that fits the contour of the wall. Once I found the radius I made a template and just cut the curve on the band saw and use my spokeshaves to smooth the curve. The slats are mortise and tenon 3in apart and the corners are bridle joint. The glue is Tite Bond 1, the wood is Douglas fir.

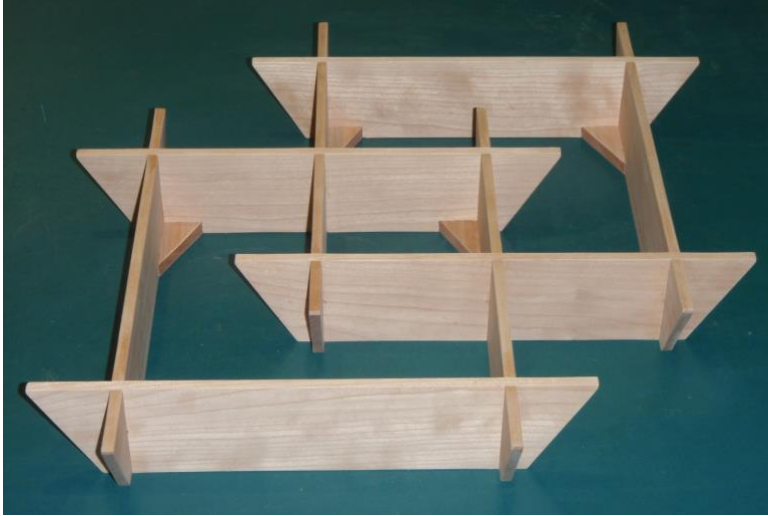
The best part is both my daughters and spouse likes it. It fits with house.

Dany Coulombe

## A Reproduction

Most of my woodworking these days would be classified as home repair and maintenance. But I did a small project for friends whose family is in the process of refurbishing their grandparent's homesteading house, including its contents, located in central Saskatchewan. The two story house was bought out of an Eaton's catalogue, shipped out west by rail, then horse drawn wagon, and put up on the farm, I think in about 1911.





At any rate, I made a reproduction of a wall shelf that was in the home. For the design I used an old photograph showing the original shelf on a wall, with grandma seated nearby, and input from family members. The joinery was basically lap joints and routed keyholes in the small back gussets for hanging the shelf. It's made of American cherry.

**Murray Tomkins**

## **Restored Hand Planes**

I bought 3 Stanley 45 from an auction. The first one on the left is a keeper, it has been de-rusted, cleaned and spray painted with a stainless color paint. I put a blade in it and it works fine, I believe it is a type 7.



The one in the middle is a Stanley sweetheart with no blades, I am in the process of cleaning it and removing some rust spots, about 95% of the nickle plating is there and like the first one it has a secondary adjustable fence. The 3rd one is just coated with oil right now, i used it for parts for the other two and for my 46. I'll try to make some of the thumb screws later and make it

a user. Most of the screws are a 1/4 in 28 tpi and the rods are 3/8 in diameter easy to replace.

It has been fun to do. I enjoy restoring those old tools and to make them usable again.

**Dany Coulombe**

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Regards

Neil Bosdet

President, VIWG

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