The President’s Message
A Look Backward and Forward

In the two years that I have been President, the Guild has begun to come to grips with its rapid growth. Clearly, we had reached a point where there were simply too many administrative problems to leave things to chance, the way we did in the early days. The power to organize people is not my strength, and I owe it all to Ed Epremian and Roy Noyes, who kept me going in the right direction.

Two important changes have occurred. First is the adoption of formal written job descriptions for all of the officers. This document will be invaluable for new officers, or anyone considering becoming an officer. It also gives the President a clear list of whom to call when something needs to be done.

Second is the creation of the new office of Program Chairman and Vice President. Ed Epremian, who worked with Roy on this concept, has taken this position and has brought a new level of organization to every event held by the Guild.

Also, Steve Bussell is now the Publicity Chairman and is making sure that announcements of Guild events appear on the calendar pages of many woodworking magazines.

I wish to give special thanks to Peter Bloch for handling the Video Library and the videography all these years, and to Dick Batchelder for assisting him. In addition, Peter is the fearless leader of “The Granite State Woodturners”, and as such is the drive force behind the Wood Turning Symposium being planned for February.

Being Editor of The Old Saw is a tough job. I know, because I used to do it. Roy Noyes has done it for the last four years and deserves all of our gratitude and support. Between the Old Saw and the Video Library, the Guild has a valuable record of its activities and a source of information about woodworking for all to enjoy.

Last year, the establishment of B.I.G. (Beginners and Intermediate Group) was led by Wayne Marcoux. Shortly thereafter, Jack Grube stepped in as organizational secretary and is planning new events. The activities of B.I.G. fill a void perfectly and supplement the main events of the Guild.

Others who deserve special recognition are:
- Lou Yelgin who has been Treasurer for over two years and who will serve one more year.
- Loran Smith who has been secretary at least as long and who will also serve one more year.
- David Emerson who has organized Wood Day for six years and stepped in at the last moment and rescued the Windsor Chair Symposium.

Finally, I wish to thank Terry Moore for returning to New Hampshire. Between his activities in the Guild, the League of NH Craftsmen and the Furniture Masters, he is an inspiration to all woodworkers. So are Jere Osgood, David Lamb, Bill Thomas, John McAlevey, Thom Duprex, Grant Taylor, Paul Tuller, Steve Cunliffe and many others, who are not currently officers of the Guild, but who keep the Guild operating on the high level that it does.

In the future, I would like to see the Guild accomplish the following:
1. Establish a set of by-laws that describe, among other things, election procedures and operational details.
2. Create a logo that we can all agree upon for use on Tee shirts, etc. (I am still willing to chair a committee to do this.)
3. Be inclusive of all kinds of woodworking - from ash basket weaving to timber framing and everything in between.

This is my last message as President, but I am sure that you will be hearing from me in the future.

I enjoy writing letters to the Editor!

Jon Siegel

NE Woodworking Show at Manchester Armory
September 13-15, 1996
Volunteers Needed for Guild Booth
by Wayne Marcoux

The New England Woodworking Show will be at the National Guard Armory, 771 Canal Street in Manchester, NH on September 13-14-15, 1996. The Armory is a red brick building located at the east end of the Amoskeag Bridge. Parking in back. This is the first time that there has been a national woodworking show in New Hampshire and The Guild Of New Hampshire Woodworkers will have a booth there.

We will have our videos there for purchase and to demonstrate who the Guild is and what we do for prospective members. We need volunteers to man the booth. Two members at a time, on two hour shifts, will allow everyone to see the show and demonstrations as well as answering the booth to answer questions from prospective members and the interested public.

The good part is that volunteers manning the booth get free passes to the show. If you would like to help out, please call me.

Editor’s Note: Wayne Marcoux may be reached at 603-624-4230.
Fall Meeting - Finishes
Keene State College Woodshop
Saturday, September 21, 1996

A “finishes” symposium will kick off the new Guild year on
Saturday, September 21, 1996 at the Keene State College
Woodshop in Keene, NH. Guild members will be on hand to
demonstrate four methods of wood finishing. The presenters are:
David Lamb - shellac and rubbed varnish finishes.
Bill Thomas - chemical dyes and the fuming of oak with ammonia.
Peter Bloch - “Bloch of Wood” rubbed oil finishes.
Ted Blachly - oil and varnish formulations
Finishes can make the difference between a good piece of work
and an outstanding piece. Often thought of as a “black art,” fin-
ishing is something that no one does as well as they would like.
However, here is a chance to get an update on some of the more
popular types of finishes.
Each of the presenters are well known Guild members, with ex-
cellent training and many years of experience in finishing fine
furniture and turnings, and each has his favorite way of finishing
what he makes.

Directions to Keene State
Take Routes 101, 9 10 or 12 to Central Square in downtown
Keene. Go south on Main street and turn right on Winchester.
Butterfield Hall is the second brick building on the left. The
Woodshop is on the first floor.
The Symposium starts at 10 am. Don’t miss this unique oppor-
tunity to hear Master furniture makers and turners discuss how
they finish their craft.
This is a regular meeting with the following activities as usual:
10:00 am Steering Committee
11:00 am General Business Meeting
12:00 am Lunch
1:00 pm Demonstration
The 11 am General Business Meeting is open to all. This is where
discussions of activities of the Guild occur, and decisions by the
Steering Committee are announced.
The tradition of having lunch together, from noon to 1 pm, pro-
vides a great time to talk, share ideas and meet new people. Bring
your own lunch - the Guild provides coffee. There may or may not
be a place nearby to buy food.

Mike Dunbar on Antique Tools
December 14, 1996

The December meeting of the Guild will be held at Michael
Dunbar’s new shop in Hampton, NH. He will discuss “Restoration
and Use of Antique Tools.”
Members interested in old tools may want to read Mike’s book,
“Antique Woodworking Tools”, Hastings House - 1977, before
the meeting. Plan to come with your old tools and questions.
Details on the meeting and directions to Mike’s shop will be
published in the next issue of The Old Saw.
I first learned of Habitat when Jimmy Carter volunteered to work in New York City and Time magazine wrote an article about his experience. I thought, "Wow, that's cool, working WITH people in need of decent housing to help them build their own place".

I'm fairly handy, like to build things, and am thankful to have built much of my own home myself. So, I promised to participate should Habitat ever show up nearby. Well, it did and I did and I learned there was a lot more about Habitat that I really thought was neat.

Habitat is international in scope - houses are built in over 30 countries around the world. But, Habitat is grass roots - each local group follows broad guidelines to develop its own style and policies. That means in NH there are 11 groups that decide for themselves who shall receive a home, what kind of house to build, will it have manmade or wood siding, how long will the mortgage be, and on and on. Global in scope, local in control.

All funds are raised locally. The cost of materials (donated or purchased) for each home is repaid, via a no interest mortgage, to the local Habitat group and the money that is repaid, is used to build still more homes. Most, if not all, affiliates "tithe" 10% of their donations to the international organization.

Guess what? Homes in undeveloped areas cost about 10% of American homes. I always think of it as buy one home, get another for free and 2 or more later. Such a deal!

Overseas projects are governed locally, but developed countries, like Australia and the USA, have to help with funding because many parts of the world simply do not have the wealth to raise money locally. Our Habitat homes do stimulate the local economies and, through the revolving mortgage money, continue to enrich an area.

Unlike simple charity, Habitat is a hand up, not a hand out. Homeowner partners work side by side with volunteers. As a volunteer you know quite well who is benefiting from your efforts and your contributions. While the homeowners sweat in their equity, you have the privilege to sweat right beside them!

Habitat homeowners will repay the cost of their home. They will pay property taxes (the hardest part in NH!). They'll pay insurance and maintenance and all the other stuff that goes with home ownership.

Habitat, besides holding the mortgage, continues it's commitment to it's homeowner partners by helping them with the issues of home ownership such as budgeting, and simple or complex repairs.

Habitat is a good investment because your money grows with each passing year. Habitat is a good cause because it builds self-reliance and confidence. Habitat is a good day's work because you get to spend time in the company of good friends working toward a good and just goal.

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**Habitat Wants You! Volunteers Needed**

There are eleven Habitat affiliates in New Hampshire. For more information on Habitat activities in your area, contact any of the leaders listed below:

- Greater Manchester HfH New duplex in Manchester
  Fred Simmons Tel. 603-626-3944
- Greater Nashua HfH New home in Milford
  Robert Schafer Tel. 603-883-0295
- Greater Seacoast HfH New home
  Bill Stowell Tel. 603-771-8817
- Kearsarge/Sunapee HfH New home in Sutton
  Ed Johnson Tel. 603-526-8464
- Lakes Region Hf/H Two new homes in Conway
  Tom Pettingill Tel. 603-367-8016
- NH Capital HfH New home in Henniker
  Richard Doucette Tel. 603-648-2560
- Monadnock HfH Four rehabs and group house
  Richard Amidon Tel. 603-525-3508
- Mt. Washington Valley HfH Two new homes in Conway
  Mendon MacDonald Tel. 603-524-0976
- Monadnock HfH New home in Sutton
  Richard Doucette Tel. 603-525-3508
- Ossipee Mt. HfH New home in Wolfeboro
  Lynn Butler Tel. 603-569-6620
- Pemi-Valley HfH Two new homes in Plymouth
  Rick Fabian Tel. 603-786-9322
- S.E. New Hampshire HfH Rehab two family in Somersworth
  Bryl Short Tel. 603-433-9555

**July Tour of Three Branches Sawmill Draws About 30 Members**

Summer time vacations did not dampen the enthusiasm of the Guild members that toured the Three Branches sawmill on Saturday, July 20, 1996. Bob Dion, President of the Three Branches Lumber Co. hosted a two hour tour of his sawmill in Plaistow, NH.

The mill saws only pine and is in full operation. Tour members got detailed explanations of each step in the operation, from the delivery of the logs to the finished lumber and the use of the bark and sawdust waste products. In contrast to many NH sawmills, the bark and sawdust are sold for landscaping and cattle bedding rather than being burned to produce power.

There also were tours of the sharpening shop, where the very large bandsaw blades and planer knives are sharpened and kept ready for use, and of the dry kilns which can hold up to 50,000 board feet.
The Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts

by Ed Epremian

The Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts was originally established 50 years ago by Pi Beta Phi, a women’s sorority, as a settlement school to provide education and health services for children in the area of Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Later, when the community was able to provide these services, Arrowmont shifted its focus to arts and crafts to again serve the local community. It grew steadily in scope and attendance, drawing students nationally.

Today, with a campus on the edge of the Great Smokey Mountain National Park, it is one of the leading institutions of its kind, providing instruction, equipment, facilities for the full range of arts and crafts, housing, dining facilities, and an outstanding library of books and videos on arts and crafts.

My wife, Mary, and I went to Arrowmont last May for one week courses on watercolor painting (Mary) and wood turning (me). Both courses had excellent instructors.

In my case, we had Charles Alvis, who is the current President of the 6,000 member American Association of Woodturners. Arrowmont and AAW have a special relationship that goes back to 1986, when a group of wood turners met at Arrowmont and founded AAW.

Alvis began the course by saying that he wanted to convey the things he wished someone had taught him when he began turning. Further, since many of the 12 participants were at an early stage, orientation was on the basics, but there was plenty to learn for all.

The course had a logical progression of work:

- Spindle turning to make a tool handle and grinding a scraper from a blank of high speed steel.
- Face plate turning of a platter.
- End-grain turning of a cylindrical box.
- Bowl turning of green and kiln dried wood, including natural edge.

The instruction also covered turning tools (conventional and unconventional), sharpening, chucking systems, sanding, finishes, and other topics close to the hearts of wood turners.

Arrowmont will soon become a more significant factor in woodworking instruction. A completely new woodworking center is being constructed and equipped for use in 1997. The $1.2 million building will provide 8,000 square feet of useable inside space for furniture making, turning and carving. It will include a demonstration room, auditorium and a separate finishing room with a spray booth. In addition, there will be outdoor work spaces under a roof at the perimeter of the building.

The new woodworking center combined with good food, comfortable housing and a relaxed and friendly atmosphere in the natural beauty of the Great Smokey Mountains should be a great success. However, one barrier for us is the distance of 1,000 miles from New Hampshire. Mary and I drove so that I could bring my tools and we could see our grandchildren on the way back.

Some of our more accomplished members may recognize Arrowmont as an interesting opportunity for brief teaching assignments.

Editor’s Note: For more information on Arrowmont, contact Ed Epremian at 603-763-9208.
Notes From The Granite State Wood Turners
by Ed Epremian

On July 13th, as Hurricane Bertha passed through the area, twenty wood turners gathered at my house in Sunapee for a constructive critique of each other's work. The aim of the session was to learn from each other by discussing what we thought was good about a turning and what could be better.

Peter Bloch, founder and President of the Granite State Wood Turners, led the discussion in which all participated, and which included valuable contributions from Bill Frost, Dick Batchelder and Jon Siegel.

Peter managed to focus the discussion on design issues, although from time to time the participants happily digressed: "How did you get such a smooth surface?", "What finish did you use?", "How can you turn the bottom of a natural edge bowl if you don't have a tail stock on your lathe?", etc.

Each person carried away his own learning from the meeting, so the following brief summary is very likely inadequate.

Bowl design can be viewed in terms of four elements, the lip, exterior contour, interior contour, and base.

- The lip, can slant or extend into the interior, to the exterior or be neutral.
- The exterior contour, with infinite variations, is often the major design feature by offering a pleasing profile and an attractive grain pattern.
- An interior contour which matches the exterior contour, in most cases but not all, provides the most graceful result.
- The size (diameter and height) of the foot, and its proportional relationship to the body of the turning is often a key factor in the esthetic success of the piece. Many bowl turners left the meeting with a determination to make smaller feet on their pieces.

In spindle turning, it is customary to make a bead or cove with the same diameter at each end. Jon Siegel presented a sample spindle turning with dissimilar diameters at the ends of the beads and coves which resulted in a more lively and interesting piece.

We were all so engrossed in the lively discussion that no one seemed to notice that we ran one hour over the allotted time.

Editor's Note:
For more information the Granite State Wood Turners meetings, call Ed Epremian at 603-763-9208 or Peter Block at 603-526-6152.

News From The Video Library
by Peter Bloch

The video library activities continues to grow by leaps and bounds and it is all we can do to keep up with it. I am looking for other members with an interest in video taping to help tape events, edit the tapes and reproduce tapes for sale. We also need access to another Hi-8 tape deck for editing, if you have one available please let me know.

Also, please return any overdue tapes to me, ASAP, so someone else may borrow them.

Editor's Note: Contact Peter Bloch at 603-526-6152

Guild Organization and Procedures
How the Guild is organized and operated.

The Guild is governed by three elected officers and the Editor of the Newsletter. They are supported by the policy making Steering Committee which consists of about ten people. These are the current officers, committee and group heads, and some past officers. The current officers are:

- President: Jon Siegel Tel. 603-933-2765
- Secretary: Loran Smith Tel. 603-859-4700
- Treasurer: Lou Yelgins Tel. 603-424-4888
- Editor: Roy Noyes Tel. 603-887-3682

The Steering Committee meets for an hour before each regular meeting, and also once or twice a year over an pay-for-your-own dinner at a restaurant in Concord. Anyone who wishes to bring an issue before the Steering Committee is encouraged to do so by contacting any of the officers or any of the steering committee.

The schedule for all regular meetings, unless otherwise announced:

- 10:00 am Steering Committee
- 11:00 am General Business Meeting
- 12:00 am Lunch
- 1:00 pm Demonstration

The 11 am General Business Meeting is open to all. This is where discussions of activities of the Guild occur, elections are held and decisions by the Steering Committee are announced.

1996/97 Dues Invoice and Business Survey On Page 7
Roy Noyes

Many members have requested an invoice for the membership dues, which they could put into their accounting system for payment. This is being done this year with the 1996/97 Dues Invoice printed on page seven of this issue of the Old Saw newsletter.

By putting the invoice on page seven, it is printed on the back of the mailing cover sheet and can be detached without destroying any of the other content of The Old Saw and saves the cost and work of a separate mailing.

Also, please note the changes in the membership form. We are trying to update our records and will appreciate everyone (old member or new) filling out the form completely. If you are a professional, full time woodworker, please fill out the business information section completely. I am the Guild contact and referral person and the League of NH Craftsmen refers all inquiries on woodworking to me. I get several phone calls a week for people looking for woodworking help.

I presently use the membership list and my knowledge of members activities to answer these questions. However, I am not familiar with all the members and their woodworking skills and product specialties. Therefore, I intend to place the information from this questionnaire in a database that I can use to answer questions and make referrals.

Your inclusion in this database will help me represent all the members business interests fairly and may bring you some business opportunities.
Woodworker's Calendar
1995-96 Schedule of Events

September 7-8, 1996
Ninth Annual Laudholm Nature Crafts Festival at Wells National Estuarine Reserve at Laudholm Farm in Wells, ME. Spectacular locale, 8-10,000 visitors.
For more information call 207-646-4521

September 13-15, 1996
New England Woodworking Show at the National Guard Armory, 771 Canal Street, Manchester, NH 03101. The Guild will have a booth. For more information, call Wayne Marcoux at 603-624-4230.

Saturday, September 21, 1996
Finishes Meeting and Demo. Keene State College Wood Shop.
Presentations by Ted Blachly, Peter Bloch, David Lamb and Bill Thomas. For more information call Ed Epremian at 603-763-9208

Friday, October 11, 1996
Opening of the Guild's 6th Annual Juried Exhibit, Newport, NH Library and Art Center. For more information contact Ted Blachly at 603-456-2383.

Saturday, October 12, 1996
Guild Beginners/Intermediate Group (BIG). Cal Louks shop, 33 Cole Street, Salem NH. Mortise and Tenon Joinery with Wayne Marcoux and Paul Tuller. For more information contact Cal Louks at 603-893-8286 or Jack Grube 603-432-4060.

Saturday, November 2, 1996 Guild Beginners/Intermediate Group (BIG). Hillside Jr. High School, Manchester, NH.
Wood Movement For more information contact Bob Martel at 603-627-1104 or Jack Grube at 603-432-4060.

Saturday, November 16, 1996, 10 AM
Granite State Woodturners, Unconventional Tools Bring an unusual tool. Pinkerton Academy Woodshop, Derry, NH. For more information call Peter Bloch at 603-526-6152 or Jack Grube at 603-432-4060.

Friday, Nov. 29 - Sunday, Dec. 1, 1996
League of NH Craftsmen - 4th Annual Winter Craft Festival at the Center of NH Holiday Inn, Manchester, NH. For more information contact David Snyder at 603-224-3375.

Saturday, December 14, 1996
Restoring and Using Antique Tools, Michael Dunbar Lecture/Demo/Meeting at his new shop in Hampton, NH. For more information call Ed Epremian at 603-763-9208.

For Sale - Lumber
1/8” Birdseye Maple Sheet Stock
13” wide by 45” long by 1/8” thick.
$2 per sheet Ed Epremian Sunapee, NH Tel 603-763-9208
Spalted Maple 4/4&6/4 Air-dried under cover, $1.00/bft. Steve Cunliffe Henniker, NH Tel. 603-428-6074

Free
Magazines Numerous issues of Woodshop News, Old House Journal, Fine Homebuilding, Journal of Light Construction and Architectural Digest from recent years. Delivered to the next Guild meeting. We need to get things out of our house, so this offer may not be repeated. Take as many as you can.
Free Grant Taylor So.Acworth, NH Tel 603-835-2992
Spalted Maple Logs Two large logs from trees that came down in storms this winter. Good for bowls.
Free Roy Noyes Chester, NH Tel. 603-887-3682
To: All Members
From: Lou Yelgin, Treasurer
Date: August 31, 1996
Subject: 1996/97 Membership Dues

The Guild 1996/97 membership dues are now due and this is your official invoice for them.
The Guild membership year runs from September 1 to August 31 and dues are not prorated. Members whose dues are unpaid on January 1, 1997 will be removed from the mailing list. Your prompt return of your dues makes my job and the job of the newsletter editor much easier.

Dues are $15 per year for individuals and $30 per year for corporate members. Make your check payable to:
The Guild of NH Wood Workers.

Please fill out, tear off and return the form below, today, with your check to: Lou Yelgin, Treasurer, 10 Woodbine Lane Merrimack, NH 03054.
Thanks for your cooperation.

Lou Yelgin

Please Do It Now

Tear off the form below and return it with your check to:
Lou Yelgin, Treasurer, 10 Woodbine Lane Merrimack, NH 03054.