The Guild of NH Woodworkers – Founded 1990
178 Derry Road, Chester, NH, 03036

The President’s Message from Loran Smith

FURNITURE WITH A SOUL
The commission started off innocently enough. Two long time clients of mine had been perusing an antique store in London when they spotted and fell in love with an English style tall clock that was prominently displayed near the proprietor’s desk. Now the husband had been promised the tall clock from his mother’s house upon her death, but as he would later confide to me “she’s seventy five years old, in good health, and she could go on for another twenty years or more”. They decided that it was not worth the wait, and asked the clerk for the price of the clock. He answered that this piece was one of the finest examples that they had ever handled, with works by the eighteenth century master clockmaker John Ellicott and a superbly proportioned plum pudding mahogany case that exhibited Georgian cabinet work at it’s very best. Of course, short of taking the tour of Buckingham Palace and stealing the Crown jewels, there was absolutely no way that they could afford it.

By the time that these two had returned to the States, however, they had hatched a plan. Having managed to hide their sticker shock at the quoted price, they called the antique dealer and convinced him to send a pair of 8 by 10 glossy photographs of the clock as they considered it’s purchase. These were then forwarded to me with the instructions that I should draft up a scale drawing and get back to them with a price. Meanwhile, the wife who is a very obsessive sort and a master of finding most anything via the Internet, went to work on her end.

She found a clockmaker in Pennsylvania who made all manner of brass clock works and began e-mailing him on a sometimes thrice daily basis to gather information. He responded to her questions with the patience of Job, and let her know that he could also orchestrate the work of ordering a hand painted moon phase as well as a silvered and engraved dial face. He gave her ballpark estimates for each, which she added up before e-mailing me with the quotes.

In addition to the total price for all of the works, she was also shrewd enough to include just what her intended budget was for the entire piece. I quickly did the math and found that there was an absurdly low amount left for my end, but by this point I had already become excited about the prospect of working on such a magnificent clock case, something that I had never built before. I figured that she also was deeply committed, so I added fifty percent to her anticipated figure and sent them the bid. It was accepted.

By now the wife was on a "tall clock rampage" of something that I had never built before. I figured quickly did the math and found that there was an absurdly low amount left for my end, but by this point I had already become excited about the prospect of working on such a magnificent clock case, something that I had never built before. I figured that she also was deeply committed, so I added fifty percent to her anticipated figure and sent them the bid. It was accepted.

As a Guild or GST member, you are being given the first chance to register for this event which is expected to draw turners from all of New England and beyond. After February 1st, registration will be opened to the general public. We only have places for 300 registrants, and the spots are expected to fill rapidly.

The program is pretty well set, registration is open, and the brochures are ready to go out!! The Guild and the Granite State Woodturners are ready for you to sign up for the great event, which has been in the planning stages for eight months.

The event is a full day, MAY 6th, from 8:30 am until 5:00 pm. Lunches will be available from a vendor on site who will take orders in the morning and have them available at noon.

Continued on Page 2.
that she had scanned in herself (the scanner was a new toy) even took 37 minutes for me to download. I called her up furious and said that if she ever wanted to send me something of that magnitude again, I would rather drive the hour to her house than be held hostage to my little computer screen.

She responded by ignoring my complaint and stating that now she wanted to build the clock out of plum pudding mahogany like the original. "I don't think you can even find solid plum pudding anymore" I said, and left it at that.

Two days later I received another e-mail that she had found "the last two boards of plum pudding mahogany in North America" via the Internet. The 12 inch wide by 12 foot long planks cost $35 per board foot, and with shipping would add $1000 to the price of the clock. She dropped them on a credit card and had them sent to my shop.

Once the lumber arrived I was hounded to begin work, even though I insisted that I needed the works and face to make sure that everything would fit. The clockmaker was being pestered too, but could not provide the works for some 5-6 months.

None-the-less, I began work on the case, which required over 120 molded elements in 20 different profiles. I poured hours into the clock, and although my hourly rate soon began approaching single digits, I was working now for myself as much as I was for them.

The clock required carving, mitering, turning, and scrollwork. There were dovetails, mortise and tenons, and even brass rods inlaid in wooden grooves.

A hollow space at the top of the bonnet became an impromptu time capsule where I hid some business cards and a spare pair of the delicate fretwork that adorned the piece like a crown. I looked forward to my work each day, and when the last coat of wax had been massaged into place, I was sure that I could not have done anything any better.

During this time, the moon phase was being hand painted in Texas by a woman who had learned the trade from her mother. In addition to two rather winsome looking full moons, it also depicted a ship being tossed by a stormy sea, as well as a tranquil scene of a lake, surrounded by mountains, as seen from a pasture high on a hillside. It was the view from the front door of my client's house.

Meanwhile, the brass dial face had been sent to England for silvering and engraving. The British gentleman who would do the work took his sweet time, letting the clockmaker know that "you Yanks are much too harried and pushy." As he was setting up to begin the work, however, he was waylaid by a hermia and we found ourselves at the mercy of British bureaucracy as we waited for him to be scheduled for his government subsidized operation.

Six months later he completed the dial, and although the engraving was not as deep as normal (he could not lean into his work as much as he would like due to the tenderness in his abdomen), it was a beautiful example of the craftsman's art.

When I finally received the last of the subcontracted parts, I cautiously assembled them into a working whole. Each part spoke to me of the untold hours and dedication of the artisans who would never even see the fruits of their labor in their final home.

Having hung the weights, I pushed the pendulum to the side and released it. Kinetic energy coursed through the brass gears and the clock sprang to life, the tick-tock of the second hand speaking it's contentment. I kept the clock in a corner of my shop for a full week before I could bear to deliver it.

Payback takes many forms, and while I may not have made much money on the clock, I can honestly say that my efforts were paid in full.

Loran

Turning Symposium Continued from page 1.

The program begins at 9:00 am with the Keynote Address by David Ellsworth, noted turner and teacher, who will speak on "A View of Ourselves". He will also be demonstrating during the day.

The next part of the program, the demos and mini-demos, run through most of the day in three, ⅓ hour sessions. This is where you get the opportunity to view many well known turners cover such topics as: Control and Safety, Green to finish bowls in one step, Mini turnings, Finishing your project, Green turned bowls, Turning furniture parts, and Taming of the skew.

There are topics of interest to every type and skill level of lathe enthusiast. In some of the sessions, you will have the opportunity to try new techniques as there will be over two dozen lathes on site.

During the breaks between the ⅓ hour sessions, there is plenty to keep attendees interested. The Trade Show will feature local and national suppliers of turning blanks, lathes, tools, and supplies. One-way will have a major booth set up with two of their lathes, and specialty lumber suppliers such as Black Mountain will be on hand with some of their products. There will also be a Flea Market for people who want to bring their old tools, supplies, and excess items. All items for sale must be marked and priced and a priced list of the items must be provided. A 10% commission will be taken on all items sold.

One of the major features will be the Instant Gallery. This display is open to turners of every skill level from beginner to juried artist. Attendees are encouraged to bring one or two of their creations for display. The Instant Gallery will be open to the local community and is expected to generate plenty of good publicity for the Guild and the Granite State Woodturners. If you are interested in having your work photographed, Bob Barrett, a specialist in craft photography, will have his studio set up and will be offering very reasonable rates.

In general, with three sessions of 7 simultaneous demonstrations, the Instant Gallery, Trade Show, and Flea Market, your biggest problem will be in choosing which of the programs to attend. There's just too much to do in one day.

To make your reservation, use the registration form on pages 9 and 10 of this Old Saw.
Calendar of Upcoming Meetings

For more information see the Guild Web site www.gnhw.net or call the Coordinator listed below

- **February 5, 2000 — BIG**
  Tool Tuning 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
  Hillside Jr. H S, Manchester, NH
  Don’t forget your tools!
  See Page 4. for details

- **February 12/19, 2000**
  WM Powers Tool Sale
  8:30 am - 3:00 pm
  Moultonborough, NH
  See Page 7. for details

- **February 19, 2000 — Guild**
  Design Conference II
  Hooksett Public Library
  Rt. 3, Hooksett, NH
  See Page 4. for details

- **March 11, 2000 — BIG**
  Make a dovetailed box
  9:00 am - 4:00 pm
  Hillside Jr. H S, Manchester, NH
  Don’t forget your tools!
  See Page 4. for details

- **April 1, 2000 — BIG**
  Finishing the dovetailed box
  9:00 am - 2:00 pm
  Hillside Jr. H S, Manchester, NH
  See Page 4. for details

- **May 6, 2000 — Guild/GSW**
  Third Annual Turning Symposium
  David Ellsworth - key note speaker.
  Pinkerton Academy Derry, NH
  See Page 1. for details and last page for registration blank.

Meeting Schedule Notes:

1. **For all Guild meetings**, unless otherwise specified, the Steering Committee meets from 10:00 – 11:00, the general business meeting is 11:00 – 1:00, lunch (bring your own) is 12:00 – 1:00 and the presentation is 1:00 – 3:00.

2. **BIG, GSW and WEG meetings**, unless otherwise specified, are from 9:00 to 1:00.
   - BIG = Beginners and Intermediates Group
   - CNEW = Central NE Woodturners
   - GSW = Granite State Woodturners Group
   - WEG = Woodworking Education Group

3. **For all other meetings** or in case of bad weather or other uncertainty, call the Program Coordinator of the Meeting for details.

4. **Everyone is welcome at all of these meetings**, call the Program Coordinator of the Meeting for details.

Elected officers:  Telephone E-mail

- President Loran Smith 603-859-4700 lswood@worldpath.net
- Vice President Geoffrey Ames 603-269-3571 newt@worldpath.net
- Secretary Bill Hart 603-382-6960 shart80911@aol.com
- Treasurer Steve Belair 603-622-0112 smb1026@mediaone.net

1999/00

**Guild Officers At A Glance**

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- **Wood Days**
  - Geoffrey Ames 603-269-3571 newt@worldpath.net

Errata:

This miniature Chess Board Table was made by Pete Boorum and mistakenly credited to Steve Belair.
To kick off the New Year, our February 19th Guild meeting on Design will be a sequel to our first design symposium held in Concord in the winter of 1994. We have invited three outstanding furniture makers to come together in New Hampshire to share their personal approaches and techniques when it comes to the Design process. In addition, our George Anderson will talk on the engineer's perspective.

The Presentations will include lectures, slides, mock ups and a chance to ask questions. The diverse backgrounds of each of these professionals should make for an interesting day.

Phil Lowe, from Beverly Mass, taught at Boston's North Bennett Street School for 10 years before developing his own set of courses in furniture making that runs in conjunction with his furniture making and restoration shop.

Well versed in traditional styles and woodworking technique, he is a frequent instructor, seminar speaker, and demonstrator at various schools and woodworking organizations throughout the United States and Canada.

Scott Schmidt, has been designing and building furniture in his shop at The Button Factory- an artist collective in Portsmouth since 1983. A graduate of the North Bennett street School and a member of the New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association he is in the vanguard in exploring materials and techniques, both new and ancient. His thoughtful approach to design and love of the experimental aspect of process is pushing furniture way beyond mere utility. Scott's 10 year collaboration with Ed Weinberger recently culminated in a retrospective show at the Barry Friedman Gallery in NYC.

Thomas Hucker's vast resume has taken him from apprenticeship with Daniel Jackson in Philadelphia, through the furniture design and fabrication program at Boston University, to the study of industrial design in Milano, Italy.

A recipient of numerous awards, including a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, Tom is quite active not only in the world of furniture but also as a teacher at design schools in this country and abroad.

George Andersen, designs and builds furniture in his home workshop. Before retiring in 1991, his career in industry was in the field of precision cold forming of steel, working mostly in Research & Development, and for the last 12 years, as an independent consultant. He used pressures of 300,000 PSI to cause steel to flow at room temperature. Obviously, designing of systems to reliably produce product at such extreme pressures is unforgiving.

Though this has nothing to do with wood, it has caused him to always look at the function to be served by anything he designs from an induced stress viewpoint, and to seek simplicity, and therefore elegance in design.

Also, jigs and fixtures are essential in tool production, and this experience does apply to woodworking. It is hoped that looking at design from the engineer's viewpoint will elicit some new possibilities in wood.

This meeting will take place down stairs at the Hooksett Public Library Rt 3 in Hooksett N.H. (just north of Manchester).

**Directions**

*From the north*

Take Rt. 93 south to Exit 13 in Concord (Manchester St.) Follow Rt. 3 south about 8 mi. look for the granite sign on the right for the library. Drive up the hill, the library is to the left of the large building at the top of the hill.

*From the south*

Take Rt. 93 south to Exit 9 and follow Rt. 3 north about 7 miles, look for the granite sign on the right for the library. Drive up the hill, the library is to the left of the large building at the top of the hill.

Tel. Hooksett Public Library 485-6092

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**BIG News**

**John Gunterman**

**Program Coordinator**

Tel 603-268-0011 E-mail spokeshave@mediaone.net

**Tool Tuning**

**Sat Feb 05, 2000 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Hillside Junior High School
Manchester, NH

In this gathering we will be discussing and tuning the various hand tools we will be using in upcoming projects. Members are invited (and encouraged) to bring their tools to the workshop to get them tuned up and ready.

We will primarily focus on chisels, and saws, marking gauges, and other tools needed for dovetailing which is the topic of our next meeting.

I am looking for someone to demonstrate sharpening (jointing, hand filing and setting) a rip saw for dovetails. I'm accepting suggestions and/or volunteers.

Bring along a beat up chisel or two to practice honing. Also, time permitting, we will do a little talk/demonstration/hands-on on basic stock preparation.

How to start with 4/4 RGH lumber and prepare to 3/4" S4S. So, bring your Scrub, & Jack planes as well.

**Dovetailing**

**Sat Mar 11, 2000 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Hillside Junior High School
Manchester, NH

This will be an ALL DAY, hands-on session. We will start no later than 9 and will hopefully not go past 3 or 4.

We will discuss and practice dovetailing techniques and make a lidded dovetailed box. (see: www.geocities.com/Heartland/Pointe/1824/box.jpg )

There will be required tools that you will need to tote along if you wish to participate, as well as some stock requirements. I will provide a list of what is needed prior to the meeting.

**Finishing**

**Sat Apr 01, 2000 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Hillside Junior High School
Manchester, NH

We will fill the requests of several members that have asked for a day devoted to the discussion of finishing. It is my least favorite part of any project. We will have a panel discussion on the different finish types (shellac, lacquers, poly's, etc.), their benefits, and drawbacks, and their proper applications.

I am looking for volunteers to speak on topics they feel comfortable with. Also, I am taking suggestions on craftsmen to approach to speak on specific topics.

Come, bring your friends, learn a little more about woodworking and enjoy these projects.
Scholarship Opportunities Expanded!

Peter Block  Scholarship Committee  Tel: 603-526-6152  E-mail: blockhed@kear.tdsnet.com

During the Autumn, the Scholarship Committee received six applications for assistance, and we are happy to announce that we were able to fully fund every one of the requests. Activities that members are using the money for include:

- Furniture Conference in Toronto
- Restoration Conference in Atlanta
- Homestead Woodworking School
- Turning Class
- Mike Dunbar's Windsor Institute
- Windsor Chair course
- North Bennett Street School
- Relief Carving class

- Wooden Boat School
  Cold Molding course

As you can see, the opportunities are diverse, and show the breadth and depth of the Guild membership's interests. The total of the grants given in this group is $2092 from the '99-00 budget. In the Spring, the rest of the money from the Scholarship budget will be available for grants. There will be a deadline for applications sometime in May. About $2400 will be used for "regular" grants, which are limited to $400 and no more than half of the total cost of the proposed activity.

Also in the Spring, we will be initiating a new grant program. Once each year, a single larger grant will be available, for a member to use for a more elaborate and expensive activity. This year, the "special" grant will be $1500!!! Start thinking of what you might use this money for. It is a great opportunity for furthering your skills and knowledge of woodworking.

Watch the next issue of the Old Saw for details on the May deadlines for both regular and special scholarships. And feel free to contact members of the Committee if you have comments or questions.

Group Purchase — Last Call for Book Orders

Peter Breu  Book Coordinator  Tel: 603-647-2327  E-mail: peterbreu@aol.com

With the temptation of 50% off, we had the largest book order to date with 130 books and videos from Taunton Press. Orders were made from Schiffer and Sterling presses as well. The orders for Putnam (Rodale), Astragal, and Tiller are still open and when enough books are ordered (typically 10 at a minimum) I will place those orders. The next order for Taunton, Schiffer and Sterling will be placed in June. I will have sign up sheets at the meetings, or you can email or call me with your titles. Please remember that books are not returnable since we are being treated as a retailer.

Granite State Woodturners News

Richard Batchelder  President  Tel: 603-744-9993  E-mail: rwb@cyberportal.net

Our last meeting was held on Dec 4th and hosted by Goosebay Lumber in Chichester NH. We where given a tour of the facility where anyone could bring in something they had made or were in the process of making. It was nice to see what talented members we have in our chapter. We will be doing this type of short program several times a year.

Our next meeting will be Sat, Feb 12th. The topic for this meeting will be “Chucks”. So bring in whatever you use to hold your work to the lathe. This is a good way to see what there is out there and if you are by chance looking to purchase a chuck. Kind of like a product review session. The meeting is going to be held at Peter Bloch’s shop in New London.

Looking for Volunteers

How would you like to have the best seat in the house in the upcoming woodturning symposium? Well, the chance to do just that is here, we need up to 10 individuals willing to sit behind a camera at one of the demonstrations. If interested please contact Dick Batchelder at (603) 744-5540 or rwb@cyberportal.net

We also need general volunteers on the day of the event. Your duties might include setting up the demonstrations and answering questions as to where things are located. If interested contact Peter Breu at (603) 647-2327.

Classified Ads

Power tools, Band saws, drill presses, shapers, table saws, scroll saws and others mostly Delta Rockwell.

George  603 622-5604

Wood lathe, Delta 11" with many extras $300.00. Delta shaper with 2 hp motor $500.00. Craftsman 6" Jointer $200.00.

Drafting table, gray metal, one drawer, solid wood top $50.00.

Bob Martel  603 627-1104.

Band saw, 12 in. Craftsman, cast-iron table, rip fence, steel stand, 3 blades and sanding belt. $150

Delta mortising attachment with all parts to fit 12, 14, 15 and 16 1/2 in. drill press. Like new w/1/4, 3/8, 1/2 in. Craftsman chisels and bits. $20

Pipe Clamps, six 1 x 36 in. $20

Cal Louks  603-893-8266

Cherry Burl, 18"D x 24" L $200.

Charles F. Crocker  508-428-8702

Table saw, 10" Inca Model 341, Swiss made, 1.5 HP. With Mortising Table, Tenor, Sliding Table and tooling. $875

Delta scroll saw, 18", variable speed $150

Pete Boorum,  Tel. 603-669-4185

Free

Free to a good home - A carton of Woodshop News - dates from 1985 to 1995

Jerry Burt  603-675-6141

Volume 11, No. 3
10th Annual Guild Juried Exhibit and Wood Days at Canterbury Shaker Village

10th Annual Guild Juried Exhibit
June 5th/25th, 2000

Grant Taylor
Program Coordinator
Tel 603-835-2992
E-mail grant@celticwood.com

The Tenth Anniversary Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers Juried Exhibit will be held at Canterbury Shaker Village from June 5th to the end of Wood Days, June 25th.

This is the site of our first guild show and we will again be exhibiting on the second floor of the Gift Shop.

To get your creative juices flowing, I intend to have this be not only a snapshot of the Guild member’s ability and interest in the year 2000, but I also would like some submissions of the members earlier works of 10 years ago.

I got this idea from looking at Jonathan Clowes exhibit in Henniker entitled Ways of the Wind, 25 years of sculpture. I found it fascinating to see how an artist has grown and changed over a period of time. I know I have changed since becoming a member of the guild.

To encourage an act of bravery to show some earlier pieces, there will be award for the most improved. This will be a one time award so that nobody will win it too many times. Boy, has he come a long way and man, he has a long way to go!

Drop-off of the accepted pieces will be from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday June 4th. Pickup will be at the end of Wood Days celebration Sunday June 25th.

Please look for a call to entry on the next page. Space in the Gift Shop is limited so please return the forms to me promptly.

Wood Days
June 24/25, 2000

Dave Emerson
Program Coordinator
Tel 603-783-4403
E-mail efurnitr@tiac.net

Its our anniversary! Its time to celebrate!

The Guild's Tenth Anniversary means Wood Days should be the biggest and best Woodworking celebration ever. Wood Days and the Annual Exhibit were born along with the Guild. It was our first show and our first major activity. What better time and place to celebrate our incredible success as an organization. So if you've ever participated or just thought of participating now's the time! Wood Days will be held June 24 and 25.

Come to help, share and demonstrate, or just to enjoy.

The camping's great at Shaker Village- swimming, hiking, biking, and parties at Dave's Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights.

Please return the application form below to me within 30 days to ensure a space and program listing.

2000 Wood Days Demonstration and Sales Space Application

I would like to participate in Wood Days, June 24th and 25th, 2000

Name: ____________________________ Names of helpers

Address: ____________________________

Phone Number: ____________________________

I would like to participate Sat./Sun/Both

Demonstration (please describe)

Yes/No Need space to display or sell your work in your demonstration area?

Yes/No General help, guide, setting up/tearing down.

Yes/No Helping with other people's demonstrations.

Yes/No Help in sales tent.

Yes/No Would you like help with your demonstration?

Yes/No 10 x 10 sales space in tent or building - enclose $55.00, includes listing in program.

No charge to participants, i.e. helpers, demonstrators ** Free admission for immediate family or two helpers.

New craftspeople please supply information on what you wish to sell for our approval.

Please return forms within 30 days to ensure program listing.

⇒ Please mail forms to:

⇒ David Emerson 418 Shaker Rd. Canterbury, NH 03224
Voice: (603) 783-4403 (evenings best) Fax: (603) 783-3386 efurnitr@tiac.net

The Old Saw