



The Old Saw

The Newsletter of the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers

President's Message by Claude Dupuis

A New Old Saw

I regret to report that Roger Myers has resigned as editor of *The Old Saw* and from the Steering Committee—see page 3 for more of my thoughts on Roger. With his departure, the Steering Committee was forced to consider the mission and relevance of “TOS” in light of our on-line endeavors.

It seemed to be conceded that TOS, with its traditional content, was no longer pertinent. Guild news and events are communicated now through email and on-line, woodworking content is published in *The Journal* and post meeting write-ups are no longer emphasized and pursued.

Jim Seroskie suggested a more limited role for TOS. Noting Steering Committee work and discussion is often noteworthy but not publicized, he suggested a member of SC write-up and compile articles to promote the Guild, provide information helpful to membership such as policy explanations and Steering Committee decisions, publicize future events, highlight individual contributions, etc. Jim’s suggested format is to publish this new version of TOS as a limited page black & white printed document to be mailed with each issue of *The Journal* (three times each year).

The benefits of a printed version over an

online version include more perceived credibility (especially being mailed with *The Journal*) and more publishing discipline resulting from having real deadlines. Done this way, the estimated cost comes to approximately \$950 annually. However, new cost savings for *The Journal* (you can read about this on page 7) effectively giving us a *Journal* and an *Old Saw* for just \$225 over last year’s expense—a good deal. The consensus was to go ahead and a budget was approved.

Alan Saffron is our Secretary and takes minutes at each monthly Steering Committee meeting. And he has written for TOS in the past on subgroup and general meeting matters. Alan has agreed to be our new *Old Saw* editor.

Recent new members of the Steering Committee are Karen Parks who replaced Dave Michael as Membership Chair, Ed Orecchio who took Steve Colello’s seat as Small Meetings Chair, Tony Immorlica took over the Program Chair for Victor Betts and Michael DiMaggio who most recently joined the Steering Committee as a member at large (www.gnhw.org/steering-committee). ●



by Al Saffron

A New Mission

Did you know the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers has approximately 550 paying members? Its no surprise if you didn't. The Guild's Steering Committee (SC) is aware that most people have no idea of the size of our organization. While noteworthy, the size of the organization is not the point; there are many things about the Guild beyond the events and information on the website and in the TouchUps weekly email that many members are not made aware of.

At the monthly steering committee meetings, the third item on the list is generally membership. To help us keep the Guild on track, we like to know if we are gaining and keeping members. While important to us, it isn't something you'll see on the website or in TouchUps. In 2014, the SC dealt with new membership cards, what to do with the DVD library, the status of various subgroups, posting Guild documentation, the grants and scholarship program, special awards and recognitions, a spring symposium and website development, among many others. All are Guild matters deserving a little more explanation and publicity.

A newsletter with each issue of The Journal will give the SC a way of telling members about many such Guild issues. By focusing on the business side of the Guild, we can report on activities, accomplishments, contributions and decisions that are not widely publicized. Articles will explain how we spend our money, policy rationale, relationships we have with other organizations, how we deal with our education funds raised at Sunapee, and what is happening with the subgroups.

The articles will be on subjects of

general interest and some importance, with topics covered in ways not generally covered elsewhere. Don't look for event listings or other timely information; this newsletter will only be published three times each year.



The Path to 2015

The Guild initiated a newsletter with its first meeting; after the fourth it was named 'The Old Saw'. Through the years it served as the Guild's key communication tool, letting members know about Guild activities, events, contacts, meeting locations and other information. It was mailed often and had real deadlines; it was the only source of timely event and meeting information.

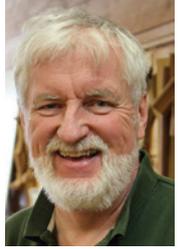


The first Old Saw masthead—Feb. 1991

The Old Saw grew to include more woodworking and human interest articles. Then in 2009, prompted by printing production and cost problems, the Guild made some changes. Contributing to the Guild's education mission, The Journal was created to provide the articles on woodworking that had become so popular. The Old Saw was envisioned to continue publishing traditional Guild content as an on-line only publication.

And, taking advantage of technology, we began the weekly TouchUps email. We did not anticipate how the availability of email

Roger Myers



The Guild, its participants, members and volunteers are always on the move and changing. Roger Myers resigned his seat on the Steering Committee and as editor of The Old Saw due to conflicting schedules and new endeavors with his woodworking business. Roger was engaging and outspoken and that's what people liked about him. He will be sincerely missed at the Steering Committee level where he was admired for his ability to sway opinions with good sound reasoning.

Roger was editor of The Old Saw for the past several years and although he will no

longer be able to continue in that role, he plans to remain active with the Guild. He will be standing in for Matt Wadja for two sessions (BIG subgroup), and he recently hosted a Small Meeting at his new shared woodworking shop. And he is a member of this year's Woodturning Symposium committee. So, as you can see, Roger continues to give of his time and talent.

Thank you Roger. You will be missed at the Steering Committee level.—Claude Dupuis ●

New Mission...continued

and broadband internet would diminish the relevance of the on-line Old Saw with its traditional content. Time sensitive information can now be had through the weekly TouchUps email, the website and on-line calendar. We found, over time that as a tool to run the Guild, the need for The Old Saw was eclipsed by our other digital communication vehicles.

The Old Saw—A New Mission

All this time, the Guild had another little noticed communications problem—the Steering Committee! Yes, the meetings are open to members and the minutes posted on-line, but the SC hadn't reached out to offer explanations or promote activities on the business side of the Guild. Some of the business the SC does is actually interesting! So, with a real need, the SC is re-purposing The Old Saw to let members know about them. *The focus will be on Guild business.*

The Guild of NH Woodworkers

President Claude Dupuis

Vice President Victor Betts

Secretary Alan Saffron

Treasurer Bob Wyatt

Old Saw Editor Alan Saffron
aesaffron@gmail.com

www.GNHW.org

By returning to a printed newsletter and tying it to The Journal print/mail schedule, we think you will see a newsletter delivered three times each year at predictable intervals—fall, winter and summer. The Journal publication cycle has a schedule—a soft one—but it does have one never-the-less, and therefore so will The Old Saw.

We also believe there is value in printing vs. an online only publication. We will be interested to hear what you think. ●

Budget Review—2015



The Guild's mission is "to bring together the diverse interests of the New Hampshire woodworking community" to share their common interest in woodworking, and "is dedicated to furthering woodworking through the sharing of knowledge, skills and experience among its members and the general public." To do this with an organization of growing complexity and more than 550 paying members, the Steering Committee (SC) has developed a spreadsheet report to manage the 2015 budget. Without getting into that spreadsheet, the Guild's finances are organized by its two major categories, the Education fund and the General (operations) fund.

The Education Fund—The Guild supports woodworking education with a scholarships and grants program. The Guild has budgeted \$7,300 for direct support to schools, groups, and individuals to further the craft of woodworking. The money comes from two sources—Sunapee and a tri-annual woodturning symposium.

Every year the Guild raises funds through its participation and raffle at the League of NH Craftsmen fair at Sunapee. The proceeds from last year's raffle generated a record of over \$13,000. This year the SC budgeted \$12,500.

Every three years the Guild's New England Woodturning Symposium draws together talented turners from throughout the region. The 2012 symposium netted about \$15,000 which was split equally between the Education Fund, General Fund and a payout to Pinkerton Academy (our host).

The General Fund—The Guild pays for all the other activities from the General fund. The income for this fund comes from member dues, this year's turning symposium and the annual meeting auction.

The largest expense, budgeted for \$15,500 is The Journal/Old Saw—The Old Saw gets that \$500! Key to the Guild's mission in sharing knowledge, skills, and experience is The Journal. The Journal owes its success to your support. The high quality printing and paper which reproduces the important photographs clearly, commands respect from authors whose articles are in demand from other publications. As a result, Guild members get a nice looking publication that's easy to read and use, with some pretty good content as well.

The next largest single expense, budgeted at \$4,000 is for internet and website

Budget—2015

General Fund Income

Dues	\$24,500
Symposium	\$5,000
Misc. Income	\$2,100
Clothing, Books, Magazines	\$3,800

TOTAL INCOME	\$35,400
---------------------	-----------------

General Fund Expenses

Journal-Old Saw Print/Mail	\$15,500
Internet/Website	\$4,000
Video Expense & Equipment	\$1,600
Operating Expenses	
Membership	\$2,400
Admin	\$1,200
Insurance	\$500
PayPal	\$900
Misc.	\$1,000
Clothing, Books, Magazines	\$3,800

TOTAL EXPENSE	\$30,900
----------------------	-----------------

Dollar amounts rounded to nearest \$100

Thetford Academy Grant

The Guild supports the growth of woodworking with grants to students and schools, as well as the programs members are familiar with. At its January meeting, after what the meeting minutes described as significant discussion, the Steering Committee (SC) approved \$3,000 of a \$4,000 grant request for a new Powermatic 3520B lathe from Chris Schmidt, Design Technology Instructor at Thetford Academy in Vermont. The approval was made confident that the school could find the \$1000 from other sources and they would get the lathe, but we also knew that wasn't certain and our check would be too little.

Was the \$4,000 amount a major concern for the SC? Yes and no. The fund has the

money. The SC considers important factors with each grant request—the situation, the number of people benefiting, the use of the money, and other resources available. These factors become even more important as the amount of money requested gets larger.



Thetford Academy is an independent town academy serving as the public school for grades 7-12 for the town of Thetford, as well as the school of choice for many surrounding towns, including several in New Hampshire. The Design Technology Program serves

continued...

Budget Review...continued

administration, primarily recurring and development support costs. As our website development efforts wind down, this annual expense should drop to about \$1,000 in future years. Website development by itself is ordinarily a major cost for organizations, but other than the support expenses, website development is not budgeted because the work is volunteered.

Even though it is an expense, the \$1,600 the SC budgeted for video equipment is more of an investment. With the growth of web based video, the Guild needs to update equipment to HD quality, and add sound equipment and auxiliary closeup cameras. Some of this equipment is needed for the upcoming symposium, but is then available

for use at more meetings and events through the next few years.

Finally, the SC budgeted \$6,000 for various operating expenses. The membership expense includes a two year supply of membership cards, letters, and envelopes so these costs will drop next year. Administrative expense includes the limited use of CPA services.

Over the years Guild leadership has spent its dollars wisely. The Guild started 2015 with over 80% of the money needed for the general fund already in the bank. Why so much? These funds are needed to insure proper cashflow, cover contingencies and allow for unforeseen opportunities. The Guild's finances are in good shape—AS. ●

Thetford Academy Grant...continued

approximately 100 students each year. Also benefiting from the shop is the Upper Valley Woodturners Club with members from both NH and VT who meet at the shop every other month and support the Academy students. And when possible, the school offers adult education classes that would use the shop to the community as well.

Currently, Thetford owns two Laguna 1 hp lathes and two Delta midi-lathes, all of which are used nearly every day. The Laguna lathes are a bit underpowered, often cutting out when turning larger bowls. One of the lathes has lost its digital speed readout and lacks the hand turning wheel on the headstock. It is in need of new bearings and has no safety shield. Rather than pay to repair this lathe, Chris thought it better to replace it with a Powermatic 3520B, which has a shield guard, a digital speed readout and smoother controls making it a safer machine for the students. The Powermatic would also have the power to turn larger bowls, and an indexing capability allowing students to do more advanced decorative work. Purchasing a new lathe would be a safer investment for the school and offer many years of use for future students.

It was clear that the new Powermatic lathe was needed, a good choice, and would benefit many. But \$4,000 is a very large part of our education funds, and that was a major concern for the SC. How would that limit what we could do for others? Fortunately among the ten of us around the table that night, we had some lathe cost expertise as well as some with familiarity with Thetford Academy. After the SC considered other resources that might be available to Chris, it was decided we could



Sophomore Dillon Piper—the student who got first crack at the new Powermatic. The bowl in the picture will be his entry in the contest at the Guild's May Youth Symposium. He and two other students will be joining Christopher Schmidt for that Saturday.

provide \$3,000, still a significant sum for the Guild, and that we needed to ask Chris and the Academy to make up the rest.

We considered other resources, but we didn't realize there would be several together. First, Dan's Maxsaver of Charlestown, NH, the Academy's local Powermatic dealer came through with a very generous discount, possibly foregoing most if not all their profit. The Upper Valley Woodturners contributed by saving the school the freight and setup charges by doing it themselves, and later may be able to provide some additional turning tools. With those contributions, the Academy was able to cover the balance. The shop got its new lathe on March 9th and the next day the Guild received these photos of the first student turning an impressive looking bowl. Congratulations Thetford Academy on your new lathe.

I wish to acknowledge Chris Schmidt for his contribution to this article, inadvertent that it was. Thanks—AS. ●

Evolution of The Journal...continued

This helps a lot. If this new pricing had been in effect in 2014, our savings on The Journal would have been nearly \$750.

Authors—Our authors are what make The Journal possible. By my count, there have been roughly 85 contributors over the years. Most are members but we have reached out to others, some as far away as Pennsylvania and Oregon. *There is always a need for authors. Currently, we could use five additional contributors. If you have an interest, please contact me.*

Between The Old Saw and The Journal, around 15 authors have been discovered or re-discovered by Fine Woodworking



Magazine—I wish I had kept a list. The first was Marty Milkovits. You can see here The Old Saw cover which caught their attention. Marty went on to write three or four articles

Treasurer's Report

Balances—late February, 2015

General Fund	\$24,790.22
Education Fund	\$12,677.46
GSWT Subgroup	\$372.61
Boat Builders Subgroup	\$852.73
<hr/>	
Total	\$38,693.02

for them with his first making their cover. Matt Wajda and Peter Breu are the most recent. Matt was unique in that he has not actually written for us, but has instead been written about in his role as BIG leader. And Peter was asked to do tool reviews which he has been doing for both of our publications for many years.

We currently send four complimentary copies of The Journal to Fine Woodworking editors at their request. Asa Christiana (special projects editor) has cited The Journal as one of the two best amateur woodworking publications in the country. The other was the American Period Furniture magazine which is the journal of the Society of American Period Furniture Makers. Good company. ●

Guild Advertisers

See the ads — www.gnhw.org/guild-advertisers

Tools & Supplies

Brentwood Machinery
Chester Tool Works
Gary R. Wood & Co.
Liogier Hand Stitched Rasps
Rockler—Cambridge, MA
Rockler—Salem, NH
Williams & Hussey
Woodcraft—Newington, NH
Woodcraft—Woburn, MA

Wood Products

Classic Designs
FBN Millwork
GH Everts & Co.
Goosebay Lumber
Highland Hardwoods
Maine Coast Lumber
New London Wood Products
Northland Forest Products
The Millwork Shop
Wolfgang's Wood

Schools

Homestead Woodworking
McLaughlin Woods
The Breed School
The Windsor Institute
The Wood Finishing School

Services

Manchester Tool Repair
North Road Guitars
Northeast Saw (Sharpening)
Tru-Cut (Sharpening)