As my tenure as your new president begins, I want to thank the membership for their encouragement and support as I assume my new responsibilities. Although relatively new to the Guild, I hope to bring a great deal of enthusiasm and creative ideas to further the development of our exceptional organization. To be part of an organization replete with talent and such creative genius for me is a dream come true. When I moved to Canterbury three years ago, I never dreamed I would be next door neighbors to Furniture Masters Tom McLaughlin and David Lamb and world class turner Claude Dupuis. To say that these craftsmen have been an inspiration to me would be as gross understatement.

What I have learned in my short time here is that our guild encompasses an enormous amount of talent and diversity and that our members are always willing to share their talents and ideas with one another. As a group, I feel that this is our greatest gift, to be able to share our skills with one another and to the public, in an effort to educate one another and further our profession.

To this end, the Mentor Program that has been developed by the Steering Committee is a vehicle by which we may more efficiently accomplish this goal. It is my hope that many of you will become involved in this program and be willing to provide some of your valuable time and expertise in assisting one another—especially the newer members of our guild. We will be disseminating a survey that will assist us in the development of the Mentor program. I encourage all of you to participate as much as possible to make this program a success.

Another program is Jon Siegel’s Guild in School (GIS) initiative which will provide instructional support to students who are interested in woodworking and turning. This program has enormous potential to provide our youth with quality instructional services as well as support our educational system and instructors in varied vocational areas.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you all for your continued and future support, ideas and suggestions. Looking forward to collaborating with you all on future initiatives and projects.

Respectfully, Michael S. DiMaggio—President.
Once again a group of Guild volunteers donated their work and their time to make our annual participation at the League of NH Craftsmen's Fair a huge success. For the second year in a row we sold over $13,000 in raffle tickets!

Generous members donated 38 items. A ukulele, items turned on lathes such as bowls, pens, lidded boxes, vases and lamps. Children’s toys, a jewelry box, a Shaker table, a Shaker cabinet an Adirondack chair, scroll saw art and a rocking boat! To show how these items were made we had members carving, turning, sharpening and strumming. These woodworkers shared their time and skills with enthusiastic fairgoers.

Congratulations to the lucky winners and thank you to the generous donors. The quality of your work is the main reason we have had astonishing success with our raffle. We are all woodworkers of a sort. We do it at all levels—beginning amateurs to juried League members. For some it is your profession. We are all fortunate to do something we are passionate about. We also know how much time is involved with each item. Every piece donated contributes to our success. However I’m sure you will agree with me that some items require us to acknowledge a special effort in time and materials.

continued...
Sunapee Raffle 2015

We were fortunate this year as only six prizes had to be shipped.

Chris Downs serves her guests in Plano, TX using Myrl Phelps versatile wine and cheese server
Ruth Russell of Columbia, MO was thrilled to win Hal Liberties wooden toys which she would bring to her church for young children to enjoy
Rita Roberts, Concord, won the other set
Melissa Weddle’s son is using Ned Gelinas’s lidded cherry bowl in Chappaqua, NY
Julie McLucas, Sturbridge, MA won Tom Donnelly’s spalted maple bowl
Rod Rogers, Shillington, PA won an unnamed turned candy dish
Candy Snyder, Strafford, has George Connolly’s turned vase

Volunteer delivered

Gail Packing, in Epping and expecting her first child won Jim Ray’s rocking horse! How good is that?
Brianna Taylor, in northwestern MA used all her tickets and won Al Carruth’s Ukulele
Emily Walker, Bedford, picked her own ticket for Ed Bartlett’s clip board
Carole, Atkinson, won Bob Katz’s hollow bowl
J Heath, Sanbornton, George Connolly’s red heart bowl
Christie Hillman of the League of NH Craftsmen won Bill Frost’s curly maple servers!
Rachel Ross, Randolph, Mike DiMaggio’s turned mahogany lamp
Dave Dearborn, Manchester, Bill Taylor’s Jewelry Box
Wendy Norris, Providence, RI stopped by exit 10 Rt 89 and I handed her George Connolly’s box elder bowl
K Paris, Manchester, NH George Connolly’s maple bowl
Tom Donnelly Guild member from Amherst, MA Bob Katz’s scroll sawed “Dancers”
Nancy Dolney, Bristol, Marcel Durette’s cherry/walnut lidded bowl—Hope she sees the top is also a top
Harold, Andover, MA won Tim Elliot’s walnut cherry nightstand bowl
Louise, Bristol, Norm Miner’s maple walnut bowl
Cooky, Bedford, Ron Blais’s true stone turned pen
Doreen, Concord, Ron Poulis’ Cherry Bowl
Tina, New Hampton, is enjoying Ken Chase’s bear
Debbie Kinson, Grantham, won Ron Jannino’s segmented bowl
Barbara Brown, picked up John Wills’s PO Box bank at the fair
K Gould, Lebanon, Bob DeAngeles’s large cherry bowl
Ralph Weir, New Boston was also at the fair when he won Claude Dupuis’ yarn bowl
Nancy Birkrem, Canaan, Bob Katz’s scroll sawed Anasazi Dream
Carol Fonden, Nashua, won Dick Weiss’s turned and carved black birch bowl
Marie Drolin, Lawrence, MA, Dave Harris’s cherry bowl
Valerie Santullo, Newberg NY was in Sunapee when she won Ken Chases carved “Tiger”
Sally, Keene, Gary Canning’s Shaker side table
Bailey, Salem, won Les Huckins child’s night light
Olivia W, Bedford, also picked her own ticket for Jim Gold’s turned pen
Kevin Hall, Lowell, MA, Steve Costain’s Shaker chimney cabinet
Julie Spencer, Nashua, Jim Cosine’s Adirondack chair
Sunapee 2015…continued

Checking back on my records, it looks like Jim Cosine has been donating his signature mahogany Adirondack chair every year since 2010, sometimes with footrest or side table. It is almost always the biggest ticket seller and is usually occupied by fairgoers. We thank you Jim.

You had some competition this year and I think it’s a tie for ticket sales (I’m still counting). Steve Costain donated a Shaker Chimney cabinet…with conditions that is...He used traditional pine and it called for a milk paint finish. He doesn’t do milk paint finishes. That said, I contacted Priscilla Chellis who made Fred’s work look so good. Well she did it again this time for Steve. Thanks for such a special donation.

I think Gary Canning has donated three Shaker side tables always generating questions about the excellent finish. When selling tickets we happily direct questions to the maker. Thanks Gary, for all your help.

Alan Carruth was holding forth in the tent a few years ago, demonstrating his talent for creating guitars. I inquired about the chance of him donating a dulcimer in the future. He did…and also brought along a ukulele for the raffle. Both were won by musicians. Well he did it again this year and again I had the joy of contacting the winner—a very happy musician who as I stated earlier had put all her tickets in the jar. Thanks Alan for your generosity and good company at Sunapee.

Thank all of you who participate at Sunapee. It's a special place, a special event and the Guild of NH Woodworkers is very special organization—Al Hansen. ●

Harvey Best

Charlie Sheaf  Al Caruth

Hal Liberty, his wooden toys & friends
The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers has promoted woodworking now for 25 years. Over this time numerous people have contributed to the organization, many without picking up a piece of wood. It is not possible to identify everyone, but all should know that every contribution made has been greatly appreciated.

At September’s Annual Meeting, three of these people were not only identified, but brought forward for recognition. Claude Dupuis was thanked for serving two years as the Guild’s president. He has also served as Secretary and Vice President. The Guild presented Claude with an engraved Lie-Nielsen Low Angle Smoothing Plane.

Dave Emerson, one of the Guild’s founding members, presented Dick Weiss with a plaque recognizing his contributions to the Tools for Kids program run as a part of the Guild’s participation at the League of NH Craftsmen’s Sunapee Fair. Dave recalled the many hours and incredible dedication Dick put in working with the children and keeping the program going. A Guild member since 2007, Dick has participated in many Guild and Granite State Woodturners (GSWT) events.

Guild President Mike DiMaggio, whose own membership began in December 2012, had the honor of presenting one of the Guild’s highest recognitions, a Guild Appreciation Award to a member whose tenure began April 28, 1990 at the first meeting of the Guild—Jon Siegel. Jon’s participation includes terms as president of the GSWT as well as the Guild itself. He has not only written many articles for The Journal and The Old Saw, he established and was the first editor of The Old Saw, giving the newsletter its name. He is well known for doing many turning demonstrations and presentations, but his most valuable contribution has gone unnoticed, perhaps as it has accrued over time. At that first meeting in 1990, Jon agreed to participate in managing this new organization of woodworkers, and has been on, what would become known as the Steering Committee (SC), ever since. Twenty five years of committee assignments, pitching in, making calls, and doing the Guild’s business. His continuing presence gives the Steering Committee grounding and stability. Claude Dupuis wrote in The Journal, “Jon is many times the voice of reason in complicated and controversial discussions regarding the Guild bylaws, rules and policies.” The Guild is truly fortunate to have one of its founders twenty five years later remind us on the SC of what the Guild is all about—AS.
Membership Cards

When you renew your membership, you will receive one of the new cards along with a confirmation letter. It is colorful and durable. We hope you like it.

These cards are processed in batches and mailed for us by a company in Minnesota. We pay a batch fee each time and there is effort on our end to export the batch list, format the data and communicate with our printer. Therefore, we are restricting our processing to twelve times per year—around the first of each month. Which brings up a problem.

It was unlikely that you received your new card before your old one expired.

So we’ve made two recent changes. You will now be reminded of your upcoming renewal date two months prior. Also the card expiration date has been pushed back one month to coincide with your actual lapse date (i.e. end of your grace period).

If you renew anytime before your normal lapse date, you will get your card before it expires. If you wait longer, you may have a gap. However, you can use your renewal confirmation email along with the old card as temporary proof of membership—Jim Seroskie.

The Secret of Our Success

From the very first meeting of the Guild that I attended some 20+ years ago in Mike Fonner’s basement shop, it was clear to me that this organization relied upon volunteers and the spirit of volunteerism. All too soon I volunteered to organize a book purchase (Peter Bloch assured me that all I needed to do was announce it, organize it and it would be a great thing!) and I found myself flooded by boxes and boxes of books and meeting lots of happy guild members. Somehow that led too quickly to becoming president of the organization (that trajectory remains quite mysterious…) and from that high and mighty perch it was even more obvious that the Guild only worked because of the spirit of volunteerism. From presenters volunteering to host meetings, to the hard working folks who man the booth at Sunapee, to the turners who make the amazing Turning Symposium happen every three years, it is those volunteers who make the Guild an amazing and quite unique organization. I have seen first hand several other such organizations and heard of many more, and it is clear that what we created is unique exactly because of the spirit of volunteerism. When new members quickly understand that spirit, by and large they become infected with it, continued…
**Guild ROI**

By now you know the Guild has a new membership card. It’s a real card with fancy graphics and laminations. Oh boy! The truth is the additional cost is minimal, and the vendor’s service is a blessing for our membership chair. But, have you ever considered the real value of that card?

By renewing your membership, you support the Guild as an organization. The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers is well regarded among the region’s woodworking and craft organizations, educational institutions, woodworking professionals, and many vendors. By supporting the Guild, you continue the programs, educational grants and scholarships, and woodworking community support and participation. Show your card with pride.

Then there’s the ROI—that’s return on investment—the savings realized over the cost of an investment. You invest in the Guild, and you get a return by receiving the 10% discount Guild advertisers give on most purchases. Have you seen the list of advertisers lately? The advertisers listed at the bottom of page 8 offer us that discount based on our significant membership.

Let’s put this in perspective. Check out the white oak bookcase I made in the fall of 2014. It took me four to five weeks, part time, to make it. I bought 17 bd ft of 4/4, 20 bd ft of 5/4, and 10 bd ft of 8/4 stock. My discount came to $19.42. And then there were the cherry and mahogany discounts for the stock needed for the two small tables I also made that year. I think my ROI covered my $40 membership.

So whether you’re public-spirited and magnanimous or just financially astute, when you get that reminder email, don’t hesitate. Renew your membership and support your Guild—AS.

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Secret of Our Success…continued

and so it passes on and grows. When we ask presenters at the Turning Symposium to give their presentation gratis, we are asking for something totally unique, but it is understood that everyone who makes the symposium and the greater Guild happen is also working without compensation. I used the word infectious very much on purpose. I am convinced that this spirit is infectious and imbues the Guild with something that continues to bring out the very best in people. It continues to delight me, and I am sure it will continue to be the guiding principle of our outstanding Guild—Peter Breu.

*Editor’s Note: We hope you will think about Peter’s perspective on the Guild when you see a call for volunteers in TouchUps or on the website.*
Mascoma Valley Regional High School in Canaan, NH is undergoing a large expansion and renovation project. Part of the project, a reconfiguration of the school’s entryway and waiting area, has presented an opportunity for some students to make a contribution to their school. Technology Department teacher Dave Shinnlinger has selected some of his woodworking classes to design and build an artisan bench for the new waiting area. This will be no run-of-the-mill class gift. These students are going to create a design and actually make it.

Part of the students’ mission is to design a bench that will have further appeal in the school and community, and design it and create plans for it so that it can be reproduced in the future. To assist in this challenge, Dave Shinnlinger is calling in some professional help. Canaan resident, furniture maker, and Guild member, Gary Wood, who many of us know for his finishing expertise, demonstrations, and products is going to be working with the students in the spring classes. The students will learn and gain experience from a project with real implications.

The Guild has approved a $1,200 grant submitted by Dave Shinnlinger to cover materials, supplies, and Gary Wood’s expenses and modest stipend. The money allows Dave to go forward with this unusual project, which would normally be outside of his budget. The skills and knowledge which we promote, but are often beyond the budgets of many schools, will be able to be appreciated by many more than just the students in those selected woodworking classes—AS.

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<td><strong>Balances—late October, 2015</strong></td>
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**Mascoma Valley Woodworking Grant**

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