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Small Group Meetings
As we say in the shop, we’re almost done when it’s down to the finishing. So many people to thank, so little time. Where do I start? It has been a very successful four years, based on the goals I had set early on to grow the guild membership, have a successful turning symposium, improve the quality of our general meetings and our equipment to record them and to also try and bring as much fun and excitement and sharing to everything I did. But as I’m sure you can guess, I don’t deserve much of the credit for this, it’s your team and your volunteers that made it happen.

First off, I have to bow to and graciously thank both Steering Committees. Our 2011-2012 SC with Bob LaCivita, Claude Dupuis, Alan Saffron, Jim Seroskie, Tony Holmes, Jon Siegel, Al Hansen, Dave Michaels, Bob DeAngelis, Roger Myers and Peter James. For our 2012-2013 SC, I must thank Steve Colello, Claude Dupuis (VP), Alan Saffron (Secretary), Jim Seroskie, Ned Gelinas, Jon Siegel, Victor Betts, Dave Michaels, Harvey Best, Roger Myers, Dave Frechette (Treasurer) and Peter James.

And then there is John Pitrone, our DVD Librarian, and Tony Immorlica, our books and magazine purchase coordinator, Al Hansen for his management and expert coordination of our exhibit and very successful raffle at the Sunapee Craftsmen’s fair. A big thank you goes out to Dick Davis for handling our Guild clothing and also for a major commitment of his time at Sunapee again this year.

Also I have to recognize Jim Seroskie who spends countless hours of his time building and maintaining our world-class website. In Jim’s spare time, he publishes The Journal, the best Guild magazine in the country. As of this writing, the Guild is up to 548 members and that is in a very large part the results that Dave Michaels, our Membership Chair has achieved through his very hard work. Dave also has been the coordinator of our monthly demonstrations at Woodcraft and is involved in the New England Woodshop Teachers group (NEWT).

Peter Bloch has been our Video Editor since, I believe, the third Guild meeting back in 1990 when he said, “we should be videotaping these presentations”. Peter and many of the other founding members of the Guild, like Jon Siegel, have been an inspiration and great sounding board for me. Jon is also our Subgroup Coordinator and has never left the Steering Committee since the Guild was founded. Amazing dedication! I learned a great deal about the Guild and the people who came together to form it when I created the three video series, The Founders, available on our website.

I have to tell you that I am very envious if this guys time management skills. Roger Myers somehow finds the time to be the editor of our Old Saw newsletter on top of everything else he is doing these days. I also need to thank Victor Betts for stepping up and being our Program Chair. He has really done a great job and he is now in the groove.

I would also be very remiss if I didn’t thank my wife Rosemary for her support, encouragement and not complaining about the time we sometimes didn’t have to spend together.

And my biggest thank you goes to all of you, our members, who make this such a great Guild!

Warmest Regards,
Bob
Note from the editor:

This issue of the Old Saw is a bit larger than normal and is jam packed with pictures of Guild happenings throughout the spring and summer. The last published issue of the Old Saw was the February issue, and there should have been an issue in late spring. Just as I was compiling the issue and ready to publish, a number of things came to a critical head including a unplanned hospital stay for my wife (she is fine now, but that was the focus of my attention at the time). Rather than publish a hastily put together issue I made the decision to first postpone, and then ultimately skip an issue. The day to day news of the Guild has been very well covered in the weekly “Touch-Ups” online publication so I hope that you haven’t missed much.

Well, things are reasonably back to normal here (that is to say, they are in a state of controlled chaos) and all of the news and reports I have been saving up will be in the issue of The Old Saw, and perhaps even spill over in to the next. I appreciate your patience and understanding and hope that you have had a great summer in the shop or on vacation!

Roger

Is your membership up for renewal??

Don’t delay, renew today!

Guild members enjoying Boston’s Historic North End during the summer trip visit to The North Bennet Street School. See Story on page 12
Annual Meeting - September 21st

It's that time of year again when the days start to get just a bit shorter each day, the temperatures begin to drop to more comfortable levels, the kids are heading back to school, and woodworkers generally find they have a bit more time in the shop! It is also time for the Guild's annual meeting and auction, an event not to be missed. Put it on your calendar right now... Saturday, September 21st, in Bow NH. That's right, stop reading this for just a minute and pull out a pencil and paper, or flip open your smart phone or tablet and go to the calendar and make a note to attend this year's annual meeting! You are guaranteed to have a good time, find some good deals, learn something new, and catch up with some friends you haven't seen for a while.

The featured speaker for this meeting is a senior editor with Fine Woodworking, Jon Binzen. If you have read an issue of Fine Woodworking during the last decade (and who among us hasn't) then you have seen Jon's work. Jon Binzen has been working for Fine Woodworking since 1993 with a three year detour to work for Home Furniture magazine.

For the past nine years he's been finding and writing about the subjects on FWW's back cover. He has also produced audio slide shows about each of the last 50 or so makers featured on the back cover. In the slide shows he has typically included photos of work from throughout a maker's career, photos of his shop and surroundings, and stories about his work and life. In his slide talk for the NH Guild he will tell the stories behind the makers featured on 20 or 25 of his favorite back covers.

A favorite feature for many people at the annual meeting is the Guild auction. Every year during the annual meeting you have an opportunity to donate some of the lesser used treasures that may have been accumulating around your shop and other Guild members will feverishly bid for the opportunity to take that treasure home with them. People have purchased power tools, vintage hand tools, flat lumber and turning blanks, books and magazines, and some items we still haven't been able to identify! All proceeds benefit the Guild and aside from being a bargain hunters paradise and a revenue source for the Guild, it is a couple of hours of good fun!

Of course, our large Guild meetings also have a business meeting portion to them, and at the annual meeting that also includes the election of our officers. Please note, you must be a paid-up Guild member to participate in the elections, and as many of us have memberships that expire around this time, check your membership status on line and renew your membership if it is time!
**Annual Meeting Agenda**

7:30-8:30  Setup for meeting & auction
8:30-9:30  Coffee & doughnuts/ register bidders for auction
8:30-11:30 (new) Silent auction
9:30-9:45  Welcome, auction rules, introduce guest speaker
9:45-11:15 Annual Auction
11:15-11:30 Short break
11:30-12:00 Business meeting & election of officers
12:00-12:45 Lunch
12:45-1:00 Member recognitions
1:00-3:00 Featured speaker- Jon Binzen
3:00-4:00 Cleanup

Location:

Bow Community Building, 2 Knox Road, Bow NH
On June 15th several members of the Guild arrived early in the morning at the Woodcraft Store in Newington, NH and unlike a normal visit to Woodcraft, they were bringing tools and materials into the store. This was “demo day” and the store hosted a number of demonstrators who set up shop at benches stationed around the store. This was an excellent opportunity for the Guild to extend its reach and explain what the Guild is all about to people who may not be familiar with us. This was the second year that we have had an event like this at Woodcraft and we appreciate their continued support.

Dave Michaels organized the event working with store manager Mark Nelson and assistant manager Fred Chellis. Dave also manned a Guild information table where interested customers could find out more about the Guild and join if they were interested. Demonstrating were Bob Couch, Gary Bashian, Claude Dupuis, and Roger Myers.
A Look Back in Time...How many of these Guild pioneers can you recognize? As we approach 600 members, it is nice to reflect on the early roots of the Guild and the people who started this organization!
The Calculating Woodworker

Volumes

By Bruce Wedlock

Introduction to Volume

Volume measures the quantity enclosed in a three-dimensional space. In general, this space can have any arbitrary shape, but for this discussion we will limit ourselves to regular geometrical surfaces such as cubes, rectangles and cylinders. The unit of volume is the space enclosed by a cube with a side of unit length. The volume within an arbitrary boundary is compared to the volume of the unit cube, and then expressed as a number of those cubic units. For example if the volume within a boundary is equal to seven times the volume of a cubic inch, then the corresponding volume is expressed as seven cubic inches.

The term cube also means mathematically that a quantity is multiplied by itself three times, and is denoted algebraically by an exponent of 3.

For example, we can express the volume \( V \) of a cube which has a side of length \( S \) as

\[ V = S^3 \]

If the side \( S \) equals 2 inches, then the corresponding volume would be \( V = 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8 \text{ in}^3 \) or eight cubic inches. The exponent 3 indicates we have multiplied the side length 2 by itself three times, giving a value of 8, and the unit is “cubic inches”. If the side were 4 feet long, then the volume would be \( V = 4 \times 4 \times 4 = 64 \text{ ft}^3 \) or 64 cubic feet. The proper volume unit is always the cube of the corresponding unit of length.

Rectangular Shapes

A typical board is an example of a rectangular shape.

It is a six-sided figure with each side a rectangle and all angles are 90°. If we denote the dimensions of the edges as \( L \) for length, \( W \) for width and \( T \) for thickness, then the volume contained within the rectangular shape will be

\[ V = L \times W \times T \]

The volume of a board 30” long, 2” wide and 3/4” thick and would be \( V = 30 \times 2 \times 3/4 = 45 \text{ in}^3 \)

Consistent Units

If we wished to calculate the volume of a long board, we would most likely measure the width and thickness in inches and the length in feet. This brings up a very important, but often confusing, issue: consistent units. Mathematically, it is essential that all the numerical values inserted in an algebraic equation be measured in the same units for the numerical result to be correct.

Consider the case of an 6-foot plank, 8 inches wide and 2 inches thick. If we just plug these numbers into the equation for volume, we would get

\[ V = 6 \times 8 \times 2 = 96 \]

But 96 what? It’s neither cubic inches nor cubic feet. If we convert all the dimensions to inches, then the volume is 1,152 in\(^3\). If we convert all the dimensions to feet, then the volume is 0.67 ft\(^3\). So when entering numerical values into equations, be sure each physical property is in the same units.

Convenient Numbers

But now we have a problem of numerical convenience. This common-sized board is a large number of cubic inches or a fractional number of cubic feet. Human nature much prefers small integer values to represent commonly encountered sizes. The inch and foot are examples of this preference in measuring lengths. One would usually say a board is about eight feet long rather than about 96 inches long.
Now lumber is sold by its volume. So to get reasonably-sized numerical volume values, the preferred measurement dimensions are length and width in feet and thickness in inches. Using these units of length, the volume of the 6-foot plank would be

\[ V = 6 \times \frac{2}{3} \times 2 = 8 \]

The units would be inch-feet\(^2\), a bit clumsy to speak and remember, but the number 8 is a convenient numerical size. Hence, this combination of units for measuring lumber volume is given a special unit name – board-feet.

**Board–Foot**

One board-foot is defined as a square piece of wood one foot on each side and one inch thick. The equivalent volume in cubic inches is given by

\[ 1 \text{ BF} = 12 \times 12 \times 1 = 144 \text{ cubic inches.} \]

If one knows a volume of wood in cubic inches, then the equivalent volume in board-feet is given by

\[ \text{Board – foot} \times \frac{\text{Cubic Inches}}{144} \]

This is a very useful calculation for determining the amount of wood a particular project will require. Suppose you are planning a small table with the following rough dimensions in inches:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Width</th>
<th>Thick</th>
<th>In(^3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>8/4</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aprons</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4/4</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apron, Drawer</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4/4</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>4/4</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>82</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,124</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The In\(^3\) volume is found by multiplying the table entries according to

\[ \text{Qty} \times \text{Length} \times \text{Width} \times \text{Thick} = \text{In}^3 \]

The rough thicknesses shown in the table as 8/4 and 4/4 are entered in the volume equation as 2" and 1" respectively.

We now know that the required amount of rough cut stock is 1,124 in\(^3\) which divided by 144 will yield the equivalent amount of board-feet.

\[ \frac{1124}{144} = 7.8 \text{ board-feet} \]

The four legs require a total width of 7”. The top requires two pieces 8” wide. If one resaws 8/4 stock to obtain the 4/4 pieces, then a piece of 8/4 stock 8" wide and 82" long will be sufficient to build the table. This would be just over nine board-feet.

\[ \frac{82 \times 8 \times 2}{144} = 9.1 \text{ BF} \]

Since we used the rough dimensions, a 20% allowance for waste should not be needed.

**Circular Shapes**

Many common containers have a circle as part of their shape. A cylinder is the shape of a tin can.

![Cylinder Diagram](image)

Just as the volume of a rectangular shape can be thought of as the area of one surface multiplied by the perpendicular height of the corresponding plane, the volume of a cylinder is given by the area of the circular base multiplied by the height of the cylinder, \(H\).

\[ V = \pi R^2 \times H \]

A pint can of varnish is about 3.25” in diameter and 4” high. The volume of this cylinder is then

\[ V = 3.14 \times \left(\frac{3.25}{2}\right)^2 \times 4 = 33 \text{ in}^3 \]

The actual volume of a liquid pint is about 29 in\(^3\), the difference being mainly the empty space between the varnish and the can’s cover.

There are many different liquid volume containers each with its own special unit name: cup,
gallon, ounce and liter to name a few. We will study the conversion between their equivalent volumes in the next issue.

**Glossary**

**Area** A measure of the space enclosed by a surface boundary.

**Board-Foot** The basic measurement of lumber size; a piece of wood one foot square by one inch thick.

**Consistent Units** Numerical values inserted in an equation must be measured in the same units.

**Cube** A six-sided rectangular figure whose each size is a square.

**Cylinder** An enclosed space with a circular base and a height.

**Diameter** A chord that passes through the center of a circle; the maximum length of a chord for a given circle.

**Exponent** A superscript number of a mathematical term to indicate how many times the term is to be multiplied by itself.

**Plane** A flat surface of two dimensions.

**Radius** A line drawn from a circle’s center to it’s circumference. One-half of the circle’s diameter.

**Right Angle** An angle of ninety degrees.

**Rectangle** A four-sided figure with opposite sides of equal length and a right angle in each corner.

**Rectangular Shape** A six-sided figure with each side a rectangle and a right angle in each corner.

**Square** A four-sided figure with equal sides and a right angle in each corner. Also, the multiplication of a number by itself, denoted by a superscript of 2.

\[ y \times y = y^2 \]

**Superscript** A mathematical number or symbol written up and to the right of the main expression.

**Volume** The size of a three-dimensional enclosed space.

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**Time To Renew?**

**Are You Due To Renew??**

Many of us have Guild memberships that expire now, and it we can easily overlook the reminder notices that we get, saying that we will get to it tomorrow. And then we don’t. We forget, we get caught up doing something else. Don’t let this be you. Nothing could be easier than renewing your Guild membership. You can do it on-line and use paypal (or a credit card via paypal) to take care of the financial part.

Don’t forget...do it now! (In fact, I renewed my membership while I was writing this!)
Guild Member Show at League of NH Craftsmen Headquarters

This summer the Guild was invited to display members work in a public display area at the new League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Headquarters in Concord NH. We were delighted when the League asked us to extend the showing due to popularity.

September means it’s Election Time

September means that it time for the big elections... No, not the ones to fill seats in Concord, NH or Washington, DC. I’m talking about the really big elections, the election of officers for The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers!

The nominating committee has presented a slate of candidates to the steering committee at the August steering committee meeting and the slate was approved to present to the general membership.

During the business portion of the annual meeting on September 21st, you will have the opportunity to present additional nominations and to vote for the candidates for the offices of president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. We also want to take this opportunity to thank Bob Couch for his leadership of the Guild as president during the last two years.
As I am writing this, big changes are underway for The North Bennet Street School (NBSS) in Boston’s North End. With classes for the new year scheduled to start in just two weeks, movers are busy transporting the entire school from its current location(s) to the new home for the school on North Street, still in the historic North End. Having been at 39 North Bennet Street since it was founded almost 130 years ago, this move is unlike anything the school has faced before but it was a move of necessity as the school had grown over the years and the eight programs were now situated in a number of locations. The move to the new quarters would allow all of the programs to be situated under one roof.

Guild members had a unique opportunity to visit both the current location before the end of the school year as well as see the new building as it was undergoing renovations and also visit a student and alumni exhibition of work in the heart of Boston’s financial district. This was the plan as Bob Couch and Roger Myers, working together with Dan Faia director of the NBSS Cabinet and Furniture Making Program, set out to plan the Guild Summer Trip for 2013.

Guild trips in prior years have visited a number of unique institutions throughout New Hampshire and the surrounding area but we had a feeling that this trip might be a bit special. For one thing, it promised to be one of the last visits possible to The North Bennet Street School, renowned not just for its furniture program but also for its programs in violin making, book binding, jewelry making, piano technology, carpentry, preservation carpentry, and locksmithing. These historic trades are kept alive through the teaching of NBSS and it is considered one of the finest schools of its kind in the country and indeed in the world. Add to that the fact that the school location at 39 North Bennet Street is immediately adjacent to the Old North Church and surrounded by dozens of restaurants and café’s known for their delicious Italian food and we had the makings for a good trip. Thanks to the outstanding cooperation of the school president, Miguel Gomez-Ibanez, we were also given the opportunity to view the new location while it was still under extensive renovation. The new location, situated directly above the entrance to the Sumner Tunnel is a few short blocks from the North Bennet Street location.
Location also provided some logistic challenges for the trip. Parking in the North End on any day can be a challenge, not to mention expensive. Bob working with the Guild steering committee, made arrangements for the Guild to fund the cost of a bus to transport members from New Hampshire to Boston and back again, and arranged pick-up at locations in Concord, Manchester, and Salem. With arrangements made at the school, and the major logistic issues resolved it was now just a matter of seeing if there was interest and how large that interest would be. Turns out there was no problem with that, and the bus was quickly filled and additional members made the decision to drive in on their own. In fact, due to space constraints for the tour (while taking place on a Saturday students were still in the school and engaged on projects) we had to cap the participation at just around 70 people. This was clearly the largest summer trip we had ever had.

In addition to the visit to both the current and future homes of the school, and a look at the furniture, book binding, violin, and piano technology programs, we also arranged for participants to visit a major student and alumni exhibition that was set up at Two International Place in Boston’s financial district. This exhibition is not normally open on the weekend but was made available for all the attendees to visit.

Special thanks go to the administration and staff of the The North Bennet Street School, the students, and especially the volunteer students who led the tours, and to the contractors who patiently put up with 70 visitors on a Saturday when construction was going on and they had very tight deadlines to meet. Once things have settled down in the new location, we have been invited back for another visit!
The Pictures Below show progress on the new school facility in recent days.
Guild steering committee member, and one of the original Guild founders, Jon Siegel, recently spent a few exciting days in Las Vegas. Now this isn’t the place one would expect to find Jon, who is much more comfortable back in his shop in New Hampshire, but this was a special occasion as Jon was introducing on a global scale one of his inventions. For more on the subject, the following is from Fine Woodworking magazine:

Turning veteran and Fine Woodworking contributor Jon Siegel’s reinvention of the spur center-dubbed the “Badger” - is aimed at keeping turners safe by preventing accidental collisions and entanglements with the center’s sharp spurs.

The idea is simple. The Badger incorporates a spring-loaded safety guard that completely covers the spurs. It’s available in two models (Badger and Badger-Pro). The Badger-Pro offers removable spurs that can be re-sharpened. What’s more, you don’t need to worry about sharpening each spur to exactly the same specs. That’s because each spur is independently adjustable. The pro model also offers adjustable spring force. This allows you to beef up the force when turning heavier stock and back off a bit when turning lighter projects like chair rungs that might split under too much pressure.

Siegel actually came up with the idea for the Badger about two decades ago, but it wasn’t until a recent chance encounter with Rikon that he was able to find a distributor with the expertise and funding required to bring his idea from the drawing board to the sales shelf.

The Badger and Badger-Pro will be available for purchase this Autumn. Look for the Badger to retail in the $30-$50 range, and the Badger-Pro to retail for around $80. For more information, be sure to visit Big Tree Tools.
Well, he did it again. He and many good friends and supporters. “He” is of course, Al Hansen and what he did is pull off another Sunapee miracle. With the exception of the weather on one day (which Al can’t control, but I understand he is working on that) this years fair was pretty close to perfect! The supporting cast includes many Guild members and significant others who donated raffle items; helped set up the tent; demonstrated each day; sold tickets; tore down the tent; loaned items for the tent including lathes and workbenches; transported items to and from Sunapee; helped deliver raffle prizes; coordinated sub-group participation; and in general gave a lot of personal time and effort to help with one of the guild biggest undertakings each year. And Al...well, he is far too modest, but the amount of effort he puts in to this event each year is staggering. And, he makes it look effortless, but I know that is hardly the case.

In addition to the sales of the raffle tickets which benefit the Guild’s education efforts, the tent at the fair is our biggest “public event” and shows the face of the Guild to thousands of new people each year. All are interested, many by raffle tickets to help support our efforts, and some join the Guild.

This year, a new tent location made the effort even larger as more coordination was required, but judging from the smiles on both fair attendees and Guild members, as well as the very successful fund raising efforts, this year was another “home run”

Thank you Al, and all of those who support the Guild’s efforts!
Small in Size - Big in Popularity!

When the Guild first started and membership numbers were small, meetings could and would take place almost anywhere. Members shops were large enough to host the meeting and everybody got to know each other and the shop visits were always a highlight. As the Guild has grown this has become one of our greater challenges. I know I can’t host 90 people in the shop at my home, and even half that number would strain my commercial space. How we maintain that opportunity for smaller venues and meetings has always been a challenge and the subgroups and the Small Group Meetings are two ways that the Guild addresses that challenge. Small Group Meetings are just that...often only 6 to 20 people in size, with registration required in order to prevent too many people from showing up at your house, they have proved to be exceptionally popular. On these two pages we’ll share some photos from the Small Group Meetings earlier this year, and remind you to keep an eye out for the next series which is scheduled for October 19th!
During a lull in demonstrating at The Craftsmen’s Fair this year, I took a look at some intricate work being undertaken by one of the luthiers seated behind me. No, he wasn’t setting the action on a guitar, or inlaying a complicated rosette, although I am sure he would have been happier doing either task. No Bud Wilkes was resurrecting a guitar that had been damaged in the fire that had damaged Ray Sanville’s and his shop. Working carefully and patiently he was able to make amazing progress, as can be seen in the pictures here. A labor of love in making an instrument, an equal labor of love in saving it.

Woodworking Apps

As if I need another incentive to buy more tools, I just found out that Lee Valley has an “app” for the i-Pad! The “app” doesn’t feature any way to order tools or hardware directly, that may be my saving grace, but it does allow you to download all of the Lee Valley catalogs and supplements and keep them in an on-line library on your i-Pad. You can bookmark pages and add notes, and the index and table of contents are fully functional. It is a very convenient way to keep their tool, hardware, and gardening catalogs readily available, and if you enable notifications, it will let you know when new catalogs or supplements arrive. At present it looks like it is available only for Apple devices although Rob Lee indicates that they are also developing an android version. I couldn’t find any link to it at the Lee Valley site but if you search “Lee Valley” in the Apple app store, you will find it.
Luthier Sub-Group

Event
Granite State Luthiers
15 Sep 2013 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Location: Ray Sanville's shop in Grantham

Register on-line: http://gnhw.cloverpad.org/calendar?eventId=748015

Going Once, Going Twice....

We all love to get a good bargain, find some unusual item, and add to our tool or lumber collection. September is always a terrific time to do that if you are a woodworker in the New Hampshire area as two major auctions take place during the month. Unfortunately they have just a bit of a scheduling conflict, but there is a solution to that as well.

Arguably the most important is the Guild auction that takes place in conjunction with our annual meeting on September 21st (see related article). Here is a chance for you to check around the garage or workshop and find some items that you just don't use anymore and they are taking up some valuable space. Bring them to the meeting and donate them to the auction. The Guild will benefit from the sale of the item (all proceeds go to the Guild), you will have space in your shop for new tools, and some other woodworker will get a great bargain. What could be better? On the other hand, now that you have a bit more space in your shop and a little spare change in your pockets, perhaps you need to make sure you register at the beginning of the meeting and obtain a bidders number. The process is painless, and you may, make that will, pick up something you absolutely must have and you will only pay a fraction of what it is worth! I have seen wood lathes go for less than fifty dollars, beautiful pieces of lumber for under ten dollars, vintage hand planes sell for five dollars, and more bargains too numerous to list. Be sure to take some time between now and the auction to find the items that you wish to contribute, and put a little coffee cup next to your chair and drop your loose change in at the end of every day...by the time the auction comes around in a few weeks, you may have enough change to buy a lathe, some turning tools, and turning blanks!

Another September auction tradition is the Live Free or Die auction held at the Holiday Inn in Nashua. This is a hand tool Mecca for users and collectors alike. It is a two day auction, beginning on Friday September 20th, and a second day on Saturday the 21st (this is the conflict with the Guild annual meeting). There is absentee bidding available for the auction, so no need to miss the Guild meeting! Friday the action is more on user grade tools, although there are certainly collector grade items offered up, and Saturday the prices are generally considerably higher as more collector tools come up. Not to be missed is the action in the parking lot as there are dozens of dealers selling tools, parts, books, and items of every imaginable description. You will be hard pressed to find more tools at better prices anywhere. For details on the auction, and an online catalog listing, google “LFOD auction”. For the most fun, join us on Friday in the parking lot and check out what the dealers have. Get there early in the day for the best selection. And if you find you bought something on Friday that you really don’t need (or maybe it was part of an auction lot) you can always donate it to the Guild auction the next day! What could be easier!

Please join us for our first meeting of the new season on Sunday, September 15. This will be a very special occasion as we visit the newly-built home and shop of our friend Ray Sanville. You may recall that Ray and his family suffered a tragic fire just before Christmas last year. Many members of the Guild contributed to the recovery so we will celebrate the progress with a concert, open mic and jam session featuring Terry Moore and his band. We will begin with an Open House at Ray's from 11:00 to noon then caravan to the Moose Lodge on Unity Road in Newport for festivities until 5:00.

Ray still needs our help to get his shop operational so that he can resume instrument repair and sales. The concert proceeds will help and donations of tools, materials and cash are certainly encouraged. Ray and his family are grateful for all of your support.

Come join the fun in a great cause!

Jeb, Bud and Terry
The second in the Period Furniture Sub-Groups projects is just winding down, with the last of the meetings held at Al Breed's shop in Rollinsford on July 20th. This meeting focused on the table drawer, one of the more challenging pieces of construction in the table, with oval inlays, cross banding, stringing, and a delicate sawtooth edge banding.

The original table, built by Langley Boardman is on display at The Rundlet May House in Portsmouth, NH, one of Historic New England's properties, and was measured by Al and Roger Myers and plans drawn and made available to participants.

During the course meetings on building this table, general construction was reviewed as well as making the classic turned and reeded legs, the application of the bandings and inlay to the legs, mortise and tenon joinery, and the veneered drawer face. Bruce Wedlock and others described various alternative methods for reeding the legs and for making banding and Freddy Roman and Roger Myers made the classic bandings available for those who didn’t wish to undertake that process. The three bandings included a relatively simple holly and ebony banding surrounding the inlay on the leg; a very delicate holly and ebony sawtooth banding surrounding the drawer; and a more complex banding of holly, ebony, and dyed holly which surrounds the table top.

This table, simple in proportions and general design, is a stunning piece of high style Portsmouth furniture when decked out in the veneer, inlay and bandings. As makers wind down the project, we hope to have some pictures of completed units for the next issue of The Old Saw. If you are interested in the plans or any of the bandings for the table, contact Roger Myers (roger@strathamwood.com)

The Period Furniture Sub-Group is continuing on with its project based format under the very generous guidance of Al Breed, one of the country’s foremost period furniture makers and a recipient of The Society of American Period Furniture Makers (SAPFM) Cartouche Award. The first project was very complicated reproduction of a document chest by noted Newport RI maker John Townsend. The second project brought things closer to home with a bit less complex project, but with plenty of learning opportunities, in a Portsmouth NH table by Langley Boardman (see related article on this project). The focus now returns to Newport and John Townsend with a elegant Pembroke table. From sub-group leader Michael Brown:

The Townsend Pembroke Table, illustrated on page 34 of the book John Townsend Newport Cabinet Maker. This is going to be an exciting project and in addition to the significant learning opportunities we will end up with a beautiful piece of furniture. At our first meeting on October 5 we will focus on the legs and the fluting that is a prime element of the beauty of this table. We will also discuss the wood and if a group buy is justified.
Description from MFA Website: The stop-fluted legs, openwork knee brackets, and cross stretchers between the legs of this table are characteristic of related Pembroke tables attributed to John Townsend. Although British furniture designer Thomas Sheraton noted that Pembroke tables were “for a gentleman or lady to breakfast on,” such objects—fitted with a drawer and with drop leaves supported by brackets—were used on any occasion for which a small table was required: playing cards, writing letters, or drinking tea (for which the Chinese-style fretwork on the stretchers lends an appropriate air).

IMPORTANT – We will require registration (by ALL participants) for this project which we do at the beginning of all new projects. The purpose of this registration is to give all Guild members an opportunity to participate in PFG meetings.

Four Centuries of Massachusetts Furniture

One of the most stunning pieces of furniture made during the federal period is the commode pictured on the top of the next page. Built by the Boston furniture maker Thomas Seymour in 1809, this piece is in the collections of The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. If you haven’t been to the MFA in recent years, you really owe it to yourself to plan a trip, and this year is the perfect time to do so. A major collaboration between eleven institutions kicks off this summer and celebrates and explores “Four Centuries of Massachusetts Furniture”. This description, from the website (http://www.fourcenturies.org) should give you a good idea of what is in store for woodworkers and furniture lovers over the next year:
Four Centuries of Massachusetts Furniture unites eleven institutions in an unprecedented partnership to celebrate furniture-making in the Bay State. The topic may surprise you. Massachusetts brings to mind such diverse images as the Pilgrims or the Red Sox, John Adams or John Kennedy, the Big Dig or the Berkshires—but not furniture. Yet over the past 400 years no state has had a greater impact on this craft. The products of the state’s workmen number in the tens of millions and include some of the finest furniture made in America, from lavishly carved oak chests of the 17th century to the inventive studio designs of today. It is a legacy worthy of celebration.

“The Bay State is where the craft [of furniture-making] began in America and where it has flourished and endured the longest.” Morrison Heckscher, Chairman of the American Wing, Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Between March 2013 and December 2014, we invite you to enjoy a multitude of exhibitions and events organized by our partnering institutions: the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, Concord Museum, Fuller Craft Museum, Historic Deerfield, Historic New England, Massachusetts Historical Society, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, North Bennet Street School, Old Sturbridge Village, Peabody Essex Museum, and Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library.

This web site connects you to a complete calendar of project activities as well as detailed information on Massachusetts furniture from the 1620s to the present. Take a few moments to explore the rich resources of the web site. Sample our visual timeline, which presents an engaging history of the state’s furniture, from the most elegant to the everyday. Make a note of the many events on the calendar: craft demonstrations, workshops, symposia, lectures, and much, much more. Don’t settle for one or two. Make a pilgrimage to them all.

The website is a wealth of information and links of interest to woodworkers and you will also find wonderful images of some iconic pieces of Massachusetts furniture which can be viewed at high resolution.
The February 16th meeting at DR Dimes provided a unique look into a high volume commercial woodworking business that produces period furniture reproductions of the highest quality. The son of the founder and the current head of the company Doug Dimes gave a fascinating tour of the operation and discussion about the company, its roots and the growth it has experienced. Doug was also highly complementary of his work force giving them full credit for the success his company has enjoyed, and for the knowledge and talent they possess. This was not a tour where screens are placed hiding proprietary processes and the secrets to success are well, “kept secret”. No, Doug was very open about his manufacturing philosophy, methods and practices, challenges and pretty much answered any question that was asked. One thing that was very evident is his relentless search for ways to improve his manufacturing and keep his business productive and profitable. To this end, there were many examples of machines that were custom designed and engineered to perform dedicated tasks precisely and repeatedly. This included custom designed dovetail machines and mortise and tenon machines. A few pictures from the many taken that day are shown below.
Save the date...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Where</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 15th</td>
<td>Granite State Luthiers</td>
<td>Bud Wilkin’s Shop, Grantham</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21st</td>
<td>Annual Guild Meeting and Auction</td>
<td>Bow Community Center</td>
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<td>September 25th</td>
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<td>October 5th</td>
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<td>October 19th</td>
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<td>October 19th</td>
<td>Sharpening</td>
<td>Bob Couch</td>
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<td>October 23rd</td>
<td>Steering Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>November 16th</td>
<td>PFG Subgroup Meeting</td>
<td>Al Breed’s Shop, Rollinsford, NH</td>
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<td>November 17th</td>
<td>Granite State Luthiers</td>
<td>Brooks Tanner’s Shop, Manchester</td>
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<td>November 27th</td>
<td>Steering Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Cobb Hill Construction, Concord, NH</td>
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This information is accurate at the time of publication however as things can change, please refer to the on-line calendar at the Guild website. Also note that many meetings request you to register on-line so that attendance can be managed. Small Group Meetings have very restricted attendance due to space limitations and registration is required!!
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