



Old Saw *Articles*

The Newsletter of the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers

by Al Saffron

Mascoma Valley Woodworking Grant

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 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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