

WOODWORKERS



of Southwest Michigan

<http://www.woodguild.org> **December 2018**

Next meeting:

December 11, 2018 @
7:00pm

**Al Collison's Shop at
10292 Douglas Ave.**

Take Douglas North to Cooper, it is 2 ½ miles North of Cooper, on the right (East) side. Or you can take 131 to D ave East to Douglas and turn left, (North). Al will have an orange cone and flashing light out to get your attention.

Agenda: The December speaker will be Chad Stanton. Chad lives in Toledo, has been a professional woodworker for over 20 years. Chad did the video series, 'I Can Do That' for Popular Woodworking Magazine, has a You Tube channel with over 40,000 subscribers, and has just released his first book. He will be talking about how to make money in woodworking, and will include some on his favorite "tips and tricks" of the trade.

Chad's web page is <http://www.woodchoppintime.com>

November meeting minutes: We had a good turnout welcoming a full house including 5 first time attendees. There were several show and tell items - a wall clock with turquoise inlay, some small logs rough cut into decorative Christmas trees, a rolling pin, some cutting boards, a serving tray, a spoon spatula& serving fork set, wooden mugs, and foam material for sanding blocks.

We also saw some helpful shop items. Xfasten makes a double sided tape that Art highly recommends. It has great holding power, but will let you separate your pieces without damaging them or leaving residue on the wood. Art got his from Amazon, Item # B0141L81GS - a 2" x 30 yd roll sells for about \$15. Another item was a Woodtek tapered 10" sanding disc for table saws (not especially Sawstop friendly though). If you're sending Santa your Christmas list, it's Amazon item # B009D5S790 and you'll need to get some PSA sandpaper discs to put on it too. The disc is aluminum and flat on one side with a 3 degree taper on the other. Beyond the super smooth finish, the thing that makes this special is the taper if you are trying to sneak up on an exact width on a piece. By putting the taper side toward the fence and tilting the blade until the taper is perpendicular to the table you end up with a single line of sanding contact for the workpiece directly above the arbor (little heat build up for burning) and you can take off just a little more or a little less by raising/lowering the blade. While you're writing to Santa, you might also want to mention the new Bessey Gearclamp (F style) clamp. It has been redesigned to put the handle around the bar, helping in those situations when you might not have a lot of room directly above/below the surfaces you are clamping.

Our speaker for the evening was Chris Garzella. Chris is in his 23rd year as a teacher, and is currently the Construction Trades teacher for the Van Burn Intermediate School District in Lawrence MI. He also teaches FCS 2400: Wood Furniture Design for Western Michigan University. He has degrees from Ferris State in Construction Management, Western Michigan in Science (Industrial Arts), and Marygrove College in Teaching. In addition to Van Buren ISD and WMU, Chris previously taught for Schoolcraft, Lawton, Calhoun ISD, & Battle Creek . The Van Buren program serves 11 schools in Van Buren County and another 5 from the surrounding area. After completing the Van Buren program, students leave with a pre license and 60 credits toward a Construction Trades associate degree from Southwest Michigan College. They can then transfer to Ferris State and earn a Bachelor's degree in construction management in 3 additional semesters.

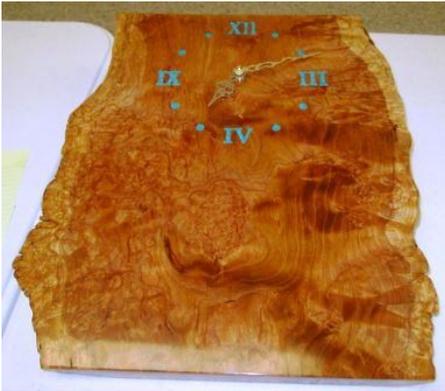
Van Buren county is the second poorest county in Michigan, which often translates to Chris's students coming from less than ideal home life situations. However, the Construction trades program gives them real life skills and teaches them life lessons along the way. A focus on respect for every person is demonstrated daily, including a daily handshake with Chris for every student at the end of the day, good or bad, and an opportunity for some personal positive encouragement. One of his standout students last year left home at the age of 13 with a backpack & a bike. Several years later he's a graduate of Chris's program, and enrolled in Southwest Michigan College's Construction Trades program.

Many of Chris's students start on day 1 with no practical knowledge of wood, tools, or how to use them safely, so there is a steep learning curve. The Van Buren class's first project is a deceptively simple piece shaped similar to the number 1, yet it requires his students to show their ability to safely use all the major tools they will need moving forward and gives them a chance to show the precision they can achieve. The construction trades classroom is a real jobsite – and they learn/work in all weather conditions. Sometimes they will work on Habitat for Humanity homes that are prebuilt in 2 sections at the school. Other times it is in a subdivision owned by the Van Buren School district that will eventually have 23 homes, all built by students from setting the foundation forms and adding the rebar up to the last shingle and finish nail. The homes they build sell for the cost of materials + \$10,000 to offset the cost of roads, and a recent one appraised for \$40,000 more than its \$120,000 sale price. The class has access to a lot of industrial level machinery, and they all learn to use it. They even build their own kitchen cabinets from scratch and can have a complete kitchen with countertops in just 7 days for a cost of \$900 (and yes the drawers are all dovetailed). Working together is a big part of the class, and it help make things go fast too. 17 of them can side the back of a house in about 2 hours! Construction areas covered in this program include: safety, hand and power tool operations, masonry skills, framing, roofing, siding, drywall hanging and finishing, door/trim applications, electrical and estimating.

At the end of the year, Chris holds an introduction class for 6th-8th graders where they make a shelf, pasta serving measurer, and bird feeder.

Like the Van Burn program, the students in his Western Michigan class don't come in with much working knowledge of woodworking or tools. They start simple with some hands on explanations of what 1 board foot is and the many ways it can be configured. Students also review and make their own collection of sample finish boards that include the recipes on the back so they can duplicate them in the future. Their goal is to leave the class with a ready to build project kit that requires no tools for assembly. Chris showed an example of a knock down picnic table that uses mod-eez fasteners and he was able to put together in just a few minutes. Don't let the lack of assembly tools fool you though, the design is solid and he's proven it can hold 4 full size linemen from the Western Michigan football team. One of the class requirements for the final project is a complete route sheet, a document with detailed instructions for every step of the process from getting the lumber to the final coat of finish. His Western Michigan class enrollment is low this year with just a few students, which does leave an opening for adults to enroll in the class as well. The cost is \$75 and wouldn't be through Western; talk to Chris for more info and note that Western Students get priority.

Thanks to Chris for being our November speaker and to Matt Erdmann for taking notes at the meeting.



Woodworkers Guild of S.W. Michigan

7572 S. 10th St
Kalamazoo MI 49009

The Woodworks Guild of South West Michigan is a group of hobbyist and professional woodworkers of diverse woodworking interests that meet monthly to share knowledge and craftsmanship skills that serve the many facets of woodworking.

Meetings are held second Tuesday of each month from September through May. Meeting time is 7:00pm at a local shop or location of interest.

Annual member ship dues are \$25/year.

Find us on the web at www.woodguild.org



Guild Officers

President - Bill Crown	375-1594
Vice President - Al Collison	685-8428
Treasurer - Ted Maxon	477-2577
Web - Mike Cline	685-0535
Newsletter Ed. - Scott McDavid	544-2177
Secretary - Douglas Lynes	324-1449
Photographer - Neal Ferguson	624-6837

Guild Sponsors:

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<p>J&J Paint & Glass <i>Steve Klok Scott Miracle</i> Everything in Glass 509 East Vine St. Kalamazoo MI 49001 Ph 269-344-2834 Fax 269-344-0378 Serving SW MI since 1954</p>	<p>SELECT MILLWORK COMPANY BILL ADAMS PRESIDENT 960 INDUSTRIAL PARKWAY PLAINWELL MI 49080 PH 269-685 2646</p>	<p>THE HERITAGE COMPANY <i>Architectural Salvage and</i> <i>Supply Buy and Sell old wood-</i> <i>work, doors windows and all oth-</i> <i>er old house parts.</i> Open Wed - Sat 11-5 269-385-1004 150N. Edwards Kalamazoo, MI 49007</p>	<p>Ad space available.</p>



American Legion Post 84
410 E. Orleans Street
Otsego, Mich. 49078
"The Francis E. Sanders Post"
"Standing Tall Together"

To: The Woodworkers Guild of S.W. Michigan
Attention: Bill Crown (President)

August, 2018

On behalf of all the 132 members & officers of American Legion Post 84 of Otsego, Michigan, (The Francis E. Sanders Post), we say thank you for the 15 wonderful handmade flag cases. We know these cases were made by people that have a sense of gratitude for our veterans. As time goes by, these cases will be presented by Post 84 to the families of veterans that defended our way of life, and our freedoms that we now enjoy daily.

You might have heard the saying about the DASH that appears on a gravestone between the date of birth, and the date of death. That tiny little dash represents your entire lifetime. So many people don't think about the flag case at all, but months later when the snow covers up the gravestone, or the rains prevent a visitation to the cemetery, the flag case is always at home proudly displaying the veterans achievements during the time of his service for all the family to see. So in some ways, the flag case can be even more important, it can also be passed down to the grandchildren.

Those of us in the American Legion that have done many, many, military funerals know, that the flag case is presented to the family as the last official act by the post, sometimes long after the funeral service has occurred. It's not always an easy position to present this to the family, especially when you have known the veteran, but it is a most important part of the ceremony, showing Honor, Duty, Loyalty, and Respect not only to the veteran, but his entire family. *You see, when the crack of the 7 rifles dissipates, and the smell of gunpowder slowly fades away, and the echo of taps fades into history, it's only the flag case that still remains.* We thank you all for your patriotism towards our veteran's last rights.

PS: (Legion Post 84 never has, nor ever will, make for sale, a flag case for veterans).

Sincerely

David J. Delemme
Allegan County Commander

Charlie Oxender
Post 84 Commander

The American Legion



Certificate of Appreciation

This certificate of appreciation is gratefully presented to

**Woodworkers Guild of
South West Michigan**

**Thanks for Supporting our Veterans by Making
Your Handmade Flag Cases**

We Salute You

On Behalf of American Legion Post 84 of Otsego, Mich.

The Francis E. Sanders Post

Department of the Michigan American Legion

"Still Serving America"

Charlie Oxender

Commander Post 84 of Otsego

Dave Delemme / Allegan County Commander

American Legion Post 84 of Otsego

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"The Francis E. Sanders Post"

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Standing Tall Together

