THE NEXT MEETING  Tuesday, December 16 AT
Kechi Community Center
200 South Walnut

VOLUME 24  ISSUE 12

Social Gathering @ 6:30 PM
Meeting Starts @ 7:00 PM

This months meeting

Program for November
Dennis Laird will show us some new goodies
available at the Big Tool Store

From The President’s Corner –
December 2014

Some Thoughts and a Recap

And now, the end is near.

Not to worry, just the end of my Guild
Presidency.  This follows a year as Vice President
followed by a year and a half of Guild
Membership.  A bit of a meteoric rise (or fall if
you prefer) within the Guild.  Certainly not my
intent when I joined in fall of 2011.  I saw a room
full of other potential office holders in line ahead
of me.  I guess not.

Just like some of my meetings; in some respects,
the year has dragged on.  Sometimes painfully for
some of you.  Well, I (and you) have finally
gotten through it all.  Hopefully, no one has left on
my account.  I'm sure the next administration has

seen the short-comings of this one and will make
corrections as needed.

I now await my upcoming peaceful
relinquishment of what power I may have actually
had.  A sort of Richard Nixon moment (see
attached photo, just mentally replace Nixon's face
with mine).  And like most public figure's pat
answer of "I want to spend more time with my
family", when they confront the inevitable demise
of their power, so similar is mine; "I plan on
spending more time developing the skills that I
wanted to when I originally joined the Guild;
woodworking".  I will enjoy once again sitting out
amongst the general membership on the fourth
Tuesday of every month, absorbing what I may in
terms of woodworking skill.  Taking in what I
may from other's shown work of the Show and
Tell and whatever Program is given.

For me, one of the most enjoyable parts of this gig
has been being up-front during the Show and Tell
portion of each meeting.  Outside of meaningful
programs, it's the most enjoyable and informative portion of each meeting. I loved having the platform to query the makers of these projects to get them to discuss portions of their project. Since there's not much time for everyone at Show and Tell to go deeply into their project, it was challenging to try and lead them to divulging what really interested them about their project; was it the wood they chose to use, the joinery, the hardware, the overall aesthetics of functionality?

Even though we didn't have a weekend seminar or day-long get-together-to-build-something; I think we offered a variety of outlets to learn (or teach others) some woodworking skills. I hope the Hand Tools specialty group will continue to meet. I thank all of those who taught and hosted various Saturday mornings in their shops. I think we had a good, workable number of 'student' guild members at each one. I thank all of those who helped out with organizing and participated in getting a Youth-in-Woodworking program started. I think some members wanted to get something like this together for the past year or so. It was not my idea; I just liked it and tried to encourage it a little to where it became (at least a one-time happening) a reality. Also, the continuation of Burt's Barn is good to see. It has its 'full times' and 'lean times', but overall I think it is and will continue to be, well attended. The next administration may wish to support and continue these, or see a need to encourage other activities. (I bet Burt's Barn will still continue.)

So long from the President's Corner for this president. See ya all next year in January with the judging of the Half-a-sheet O' Plywood Contest.

**Old Business and Regular Monthly Announcements**

**Current Business and Regular Monthly Announcements**

1. Handtools Group:

   Following is a list of dates for future meetings and topics:


   If you are not currently on the e-mailing list to receive notices and updates, please contact Slim Gieser at: sgieser@cox.net.

2. Youth-in-Woodworking Group:

   Clark Shultz is working with a 4-H club (the Achievers) who meet at his shop - on-going. No current schedule at this time.

   If you are not currently on the e-mailing list to receive notices and updates, please contact Bill Tumbleson at: edn732@sbcglobal.net

3. Librarian:


4. Burt's Barn:

   **Purpose:** Learn woodworking using both hand and power tools.

   **Frequency:** Meets the Saturday following the General Membership Meeting; December 20, 2014.

   **This Month’s Project:** Joinery Techniques.

   **Materials:** No materials needed this month.

   **Location:** 2506 W.15th Street N, Wichita, KS. Two blocks north of Indian Hills Hardware to 15th Street N then west to 1st house facing south. Burt's Barn is in the garage behind house, entry on west side.

   **Schedule:** 9 AM to Noon is dedicated to working on common projects. 1 PM to 5 PM is optional. In the afternoon you can continue to work on the common project or any project of your choice. We also help solve woodworking problems and tune up equipment. You do not need to attend the morning session in order to come in the afternoon.
Contact: Burt Unruh, phone 316-655-4151

5. Victorian Christmas Display at Sedgwick County Historical Museum

   Everything is set up and will run through Saturday, December 13, 2014.

   If you would like information, please contact John Belt at: John.Belt@wichita.edu

6. Guild Membership News / Applications

   Sunflower Woodworker Guild caps are available for $12.00 each.

   If you would like information, please contact Bill Patton at: threads1@cox.net

Calendar of Events

December:

December 2-13, 2014: Victorian Christmas Display at the Sedgwick County Historical Museum. See above.

   December 13, 2014: Hand Tools Group, 9:00 am to Noon. Please see above.

   December 14, 2014: Wood Toys on Display at: East Heights United Methodist Church, 4400 E. Douglas. Start time is thought to be around 6:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Kenny Hill at 683-6406.

   December 16, 2014 (Third Tuesday): December Meeting at the Kechi Civic Center (same building as November's Meeting), 220 West Kechi Road, Kechi, KS; Conference Room.

   Those who are submitting a "Half-a-Sheet O' Plywood" Contest Project; bring it to the December Meeting to be logged-in. Bring it back to the January 2015 Meeting for Judging.

   December 20, 2014: Burt's Barn, 9:00 am to Noon. Please see above.

Minutes November 25 2014

President Huntley called meeting to order. He announced that the Dec 16 meeting will again be at the Kechi meeting hall. The previous meeting place at the Senior Center was damaged by a fire. GUESTS: Alan Jaeckel, who joked that since he retired his wife said he needed to get out of the house. And, Al Hamilton from Lee Summitt Mo. Al is Ron Jackson’s brother-in-law.

OLD BUSINESS: Pres Huntley reminded us to look in the Knothole for updates to Guild business and for recurrent information.

YOUTH IN WOODWORKING PROGRAMS; Gary Dougherty and Clark Shultz held workshops for the 4H members with interests in woodworking. More such workshops are scheduled.

BURT’S BARN: This week’s program is hand cut dovetail instruction and practice.

HAND TOOL GROUP: Met at Clark Shultz’s shop. We practiced making mortise and tenons using only hand tools. The next meeting is 12-13-14 at Jerry Carpenter’s shop. The program will be on sharpening hand saws.

VINTAGE CHRISTMAS; John Belt reported that 18 people had made items that represented Christmas gifts from the era about 1914. Examples were; sleigh, playhouse, doll house, doll bed, toboggan, lemonade stand, log cabin, biplane, and sailboat.

   The exhibit will be 12-2-14 through 12-13-14, at the Wichita Historical Museum. There will be a fund raising auction activity too.

NEW BUSINESS; Burt Unruh made a motion for the Guild to apply for” 501C3 tax free status”, and to change the name of the guild to, “Sunflower Woodworkers Guild Inc.”

   Discussion was held. Liability shifting, availability to use free public service announcements, ability for donors to use tax deduction for their donation, were some of the things discussed.

   The vote, in favor of the motion, was unanimous.
**ELECTION OF OFFICERS;** The following were elected by unanimous vote; President Burt Unruh. VP1 Clark Shultz, VP2 Vince Meyer, Treasurer Mike Hutton, Secretary Ron Jackson.

Dec 14th at 6:00 pm at East Heights Methodist Church, 4400 E Douglas.

**SHOW N TELL;**

Clark Shultz - 1. Sleigh made by using only hand tools. It represents 1890 to 1910 era. It was painted by Marilyn Williams. 2. Shop made “router planes” to fit his chisels. Set at 40 degree angles. Attached knobs allow either push or pull use.

Jerry Keen - Vintage style doll cradle with mattress and crocheted blanket.

Appointed positions were announced; Editor Jerry Keen, Membership Bill Patton, Web Master Aaron Rivers, Librarian Bob Ziegfeld.

**TOY PROJECT;** Kenny Hill announced that the toys made by some of the members, to be donated to the Salvation Army, will be exhibited
Bill Tumbleson – 1. Showed a pizza box is a good and cheap way to store a bandsaw blade. 2. Split collar to ease the setting of the depth on his drill press. 3. Router table jig for safer handling of small parts. 4. Cross cut sled. 5. 45 degree miter sled.

Burt Unruh – Modern style chair made for the ½ sheet plywood contest.

Bob Ziegfeld – A jig he used to create cove moldings on the tablesaw. He made them to match some old moldings for a remodel project he was doing to his basement.
George Hanson – 1. A box made of white oak with a decorative glass panel set at an angle for artistic interest. He used hand cut dovetails. 2. A small box made from scrap apple tree wood. He made a handle for the lid with scrap steel. He used Wenge for accents.

Boris Fernandez - He is making upholstered furniture for a doll house. He says the basic furniture was easy but the upholstering was the difficult part.

John Rhoads - A “yule log” candle holder. (reminder; Never leave candles unattended, especially in wooden candle holders)
Program – “Round Saw Blades”

John Rhoads described some of the saw types that use round blades. He discussed some of the advantages of one type over another. He stressed some of the safety concerns of various saws and reminded us to use all the needed safety aids, such as safety glasses and hearing protection. Other safety issues discussed revolved around proper technique, and accurate setup of the saws.

The blade selection depends on the type of saw to be used on (eg miter saw or table saw), the variety of wood to cut (eg. Hard or soft), the quality of the finished cut desired (eg. coarse or smooth), the blade material (eg. steel, carbide, diamond), orientation of cut (eg. rip cut or cross cut), number of teeth, tooth orientation (eg. Alternating top bevel or flat top), hook angle (eg aggressive positive or less aggressive negative), blade thickness (eg. Thin Kerf or regular), and blade quality, (eg. Construction grade vs Finish grade).

Book Nook

This month we would like to study the background of one of the most successful lumber men in American history. Many of you have heard of Weyerhauser because it is one of the largest lumber companies in the world. But rather than study the company, let’s examine the man who started it.

Frederick Weyerhauser was born on November 21, 1834 in Rheinhessen, a region in southern western Germany near the French border. Frederick was one of eleven children born to a farmer who forged a living on a 20-acre plot of land. At the age of six Frederick had the opportunity to attend a local Protestant school, but his education was cut short because his father died when he was just twelve. He had to help on the farm and learned the value of hard labor, which was a lesson that stayed with him all his life.

There were serious political issues in Germany in 1848 that drove several family members to America. Three years later, Frederick arrived as a 17 year-old penniless teenager to northeast Pennsylvania where he lived with a married sister. He worked for two years at brewery but was not comfortable in that business, so he labored on a farm for a year. By this point the rest of the family moved to American and with his portion of sale of the farm in Germany Frederick packed up and moved west to Rock Island, Illinois.

He worked construction for a short time at the Rock Island and Peoria Railroad. Eventually he got a job at a local saw mill of Mead, Smith, and Marsh as a night fireman, but was able to move up rather quickly to yard manager and then to salesman. When the company opened a new yard in Coal Valley, Illinois, Frederick was the manager. Though his yard prospered, the company had financial issues and closed. This is where his money management skills came to play for he used savings from his meager wages and the farm inheritance and bought the mill and began doing business under his own name.

Here was a German emigrant with a sixth grade education who found his life’s work in the lumber business and he make it his business. With his brother-in-law, Frederick Denkmann, he formed the Weyerhauser-Denkmann Lumber Company. In the practical working out of the business, Denkmann managed the local mill while Weyerhauser attended the larger activities.

Those “larger activities” involved the need for logs to cut into lumber so Weyerhauser set out to secure those logs. In the 1850’s the logging industry used rivers to deliver downed trees to the saw mills downstream. Since Rock Island was on the Mississippi, Weyerhauser saw the need to control access to the river to deliver the logs. Since most of those logs came from Wisconsin and Minnesota, he secured control of other rivers as well.

In addition to securing access to the rivers, the mills needed logs so in the 1860’s Weyerhauser invested in timber lands along the Chippewa River in Wisconsin. Other companies followed...
suit and problems developed as thousands of logs floated down the rivers were mixed up. In order to address this issue, Weyerhauser established the Mississippi River Boom and Logging Company in 1872, which was an alliance of mill operators and logging agencies. Driving this need for wood was the growth of America expanding farther and farther west. Lumber was needed to build houses, office buildings, stores, and factories. His business objective was to benefit all companies, not to build a monopoly. So during the late 1800’s he pulled together many diverse businesses so that all were successful. Though he did not like the name, this was known as the “Weyerhauser Syndicate” because the primary connection between them all was Frederick.

In 1881 he gained control of the Chippewa Lumber and Boom Company in Wisconsin that gave him control of thousands of acres of untouched pine trees. The rough estimate from this deal was ten billion board feet of sawn logs in a 20 year span. In 1900 Weyerhauser made a huge deal with Northern Pacific Railroad to purchase 900,000 acres of forest land in the state of Washington and 450,000 acres in Oregon. A few years later he bought five logging companies in Idaho as well.

So here is a man with limited education but was a hard worker who developed into a brilliant business man who created an international company that owned saw mills, paper factories, and other subsidiaries. He passed away in 1914 as one of the most successful business men of his day. He was financially on par with John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie, but he did a wonderful job of flying under the radar so few recognized his business skills (or his empire). As of 2006, the Weyerhauser Corporation was valued at an amazing 72 billion. Though we have painted a pretty picture of Weyerhauser to show his background, he had various challenges over the years with both labor and the US Government.

Enjoy your shop.

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The Sunflower Woodworkers’ Guild of Wichita Kansas publishes the Knot Hole newsletter monthly. Deadline for articles and information is the 2nd Monday of each month. Mailing date is the 3rd week of each month. Permission to reprint original material is granted to other woodworking groups, providing proper credit is given. Articles attributed to publications other than the Knot Hole Newsletter should be used only with permission from that particular publication. Send articles, photos and information to: Jerry Keen
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Sunflower Woodworkers Guild membership is voluntary. Our paid dues list are consolidated after the June meeting, eliminating from that list all those who have not paid their 2014 dues. This list determines who gets the Knothole. New and previous members will need to submit new applications when joining.

Newsletter of the Sunflower Woodworkers Guild
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