



# December, 2010

## NEWSLETTER

The goal of the Maine Woodworkers Association is to bring all aspects of woodworking closer to its members and to educate everyone seeking knowledge from woodworkers in Maine. Meetings are times of friendship and learning, where everyone is welcome to share ideas, camaraderie, and of course, coffee.



*Bench by Ned Merrick, Zebrawood with oil finish*

*(Almost) all programs begin at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month*

**Wednesday, Dec 8 7:30 PM**  
**Holiday Social, hosted by Rod Regier**

- Spouses or guests are encouraged!
- Each member should bring a dish to pass; either a dessert or an hors D'oeuvres
- Each member is encouraged to bring an example of his work, cool tool or an unusual piece of wood. This could include an actual piece of furniture, picture, laptop with pictures, or a hand plane rescued from a yard sale.

While Rod is simply hosting and not presenting at this gathering, I'm sure he will be available casually to talk about the fabulous forte pianos he is famous for building.

**Directions to Rod Regier's**

**From the South**

- Take I-295 N toward US-1/FALMOUTH - go 16.4
- Take exit #22/FREEPORT/DURHAM toward FREEPORT - go 0.2
- Turn Left on MALLET DR (ME-125) - go 0.4
- Turn Right on MAIN ST (US-1) - go 0.2
- Turn Left on BOW ST - go 0.1
- Bear Right on SOUTH ST - go 0.5
- Arrive at 56 SOUTH ST, FREEPORT, on the Right

**From the North**

- From I-295 S - go 30.4
- Take exit #22/FREEPORT/DURHAM onto MALLET DR (ME-125) toward FREEPORT - go 0.7
- Turn Right on MAIN ST (US-1) - go 0.2
- Turn Left on BOW ST - go 0.1
- Bear Right on SOUTH ST - go 0.5
- Arrive at 56 SOUTH ST, FREEPORT, on the Right

**Don't forget items for raffle!**

The MWA Board has decided that a monthly raffle, similar to one done by the Southern Maine Woodturners, would be a good way to raise extra money to put towards programs and special events. The Board is looking into donations from woodworking related businesses but we are also asking members for donations as well. We welcome

contributions of wood, supplies, books or tools you no longer have a use for, or other items you feel may be of interest to the group.

And a reminder - Anything for show-and-tell is welcome at every meeting. It's always good to see what others have been working on, your successes and failures, a new tool you may have discovered, an unidentified piece of wood, and so on. Sharing information is an important part of our mission.

## **November Meeting Gregg Lipton Furniture**

A well rewarded crowd of around 25 attended the November meeting at Gregg Lipton's shop in Cumberland. As we enjoyed refreshments generously provided by our host, there were introductions, announcements and show-and-tell.

### **Show and Tell**

Dave Sprague showed us an interesting marking gage with an eccentric locking mechanism lent to him by a friend. Alan Bradstreet brought in new dust masks he has tried from Rockler and Highland Hardware, lamenting the loss of the popular Dustfoe brand, no longer available. Gregg Lipton showed two 3M varieties available from C.W. Hayden. David Boyle brought in a piece of wood for identification sold to him as Brazilian cherry, which, after some discussion remained unidentified. Gary Kokx brought in a pair of lids to silverware boxes he was making and there was much discussion on veneering techniques. Craig Dietrich brought in a drawer he had made as part of a TV table with an unusual construction, with the drawer built on top of a plywood bottom and a pair of sliders. Ray Voyer traveled all the way from Old Town with images of a sophisticated dog feeding station he is building and marketing [*un-sophisticated dogs don't know how to use it-ed.*]. Greg Lipton showed us some beautiful but skin irritating South American veneer which he donated to our raffle. Dick Merrick noted he has a lot of poplar still on the stump which he will cut and give to anyone who would like some for firewood. I believe his number is 865-3386.

### **Club Business**

Bill Diffenderfer reminded us of recent changes in dues policies, going to a calendar year basis with an increase from \$20 to \$25 annual dues to provide for expanded programs. You will be notified soon by e-mail/regular mail for 2011 annual dues.

A plea was made for contributions to the newsletter including items wanted or for sale, and any news of interest. Contact our editor, Rich Schilling who is listed in the newsletter. Membership discount cards to local businesses were available for members, with new cards due out shortly for 2011. Remember – at Rockler we get a dollar donated

to a gift card every time a member makes a purchase with their discount card, when the total reaches \$20, the club gets a card to raffle.

Next it was on to the raffle, a new feature of our monthly meetings. A variety of raffle items were generously donated by Rockler in South Portland (Thanks Molly!) including a pair of \$20 Rockler gift cards, a caliper setting gage, a Rockler hat, a Delta table saw blade, Rockler Bench Cookies (and several other items which will be saved for our next auction). Additionally, there were donations of several groups of wooden bookmarks (as seen on TV), and a slab of mahogany. And of course the aforementioned veneer from Gregg Lipton. There were many happy winners in the crowd and a nice boost to the treasury for additional future programs.

### **Gregg Lipton, Host**

Without question, his is one of the most interesting shops we could ever hope to visit, built in an old saw mill hovering over a dam spanning a small river in Cumberland. Run by the Montfort brothers from the mid 1800's to the 1950's, Gregg showed us images of the old mill with logs floating in the pond above the mill. Gregg bought the place in 1990 and has made a significant investment in maintaining the dam and the buildings above and beside it.

On one side is the well-equipped machine room next to a large open work space suspended over the river and an office and show room on the other side. His work runs the gamut from case goods to tables and chairs. There is great variety in his work including upholstered pieces and pieces with glass tops and brushed metal inserts. Most of the pieces we saw were contemporary in style.

But the common thread in much of his work is the veneering. And he is very good at it. He uses a lot of high quality medium density fiberboard, as well as solid hardwoods as his base, depending on the piece he is building. A nearly completed veneered oval table awaiting a glass top was evidence of his meticulous attention to detail and the very fine quality of his work. The curved "tusk" legs were perfectly veneered and mated into the oval apron of the top. He showed us numerous images of work in this "tusk" style and another popular style with graceful lines he calls "gazelle". There were lengthy discussions of materials, glues, finishes, sources of supply, and production techniques as Gregg shared the wisdom of many years of experience. Of interest to many as well was his primary use of the internet for marketing his work.

Our thanks to Gregg for his gracious hospitality and for sharing a wealth of information with us.

Alan Bradstreet  
Secretary du jour

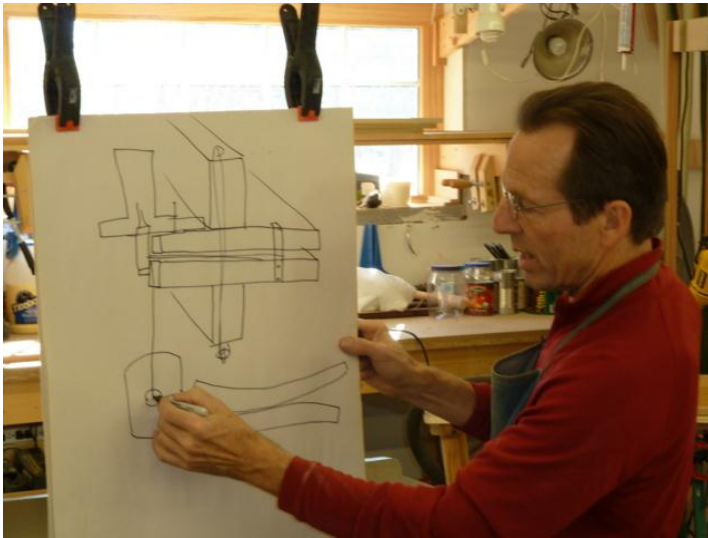
## Veneer Workshop with Darryl Keil

We had 15 members attend the Saturday, November 13 day long veneer course. Dave Sprague hosted the event on a gorgeous November day, but the indoors demonstration and instruction by Darryl overcame the desire to be outside.

Darryl's dynamic and fast-paced teaching style captured



everyone's attention while he covered prepping veneer, planning a 4-way match, cutting and taping veneer, and gluing veneer to substrate prior to using the vacuum bag system. He also talked at length about glue. A great course for all that attended.



**Classified Ads, Pictures of Recent Work, News Events, Etc.**

Please send any and all to Rich Schilling, [rschill@maine.rr.com](mailto:rschill@maine.rr.com).

**MWA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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**Membership Form for Maine Woodworkers Association**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_ Exclude from Shared List

Primary specialty/interest \_\_\_\_\_

Other info you would like to share/comments \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

There are 8 – 9 meetings per year in a wide variety of woodworking shops. Annual dues are \$25.00. Please send payment to Maine Woodworkers Association, P.O. Box 425, Cumberland, Maine 04021.