



News and Views from the Western Pennsylvania Woodworkers, Incorporated © 2012

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## MEETING NOTICE

**DATE: SATURDAY APRIL 14, 2012**

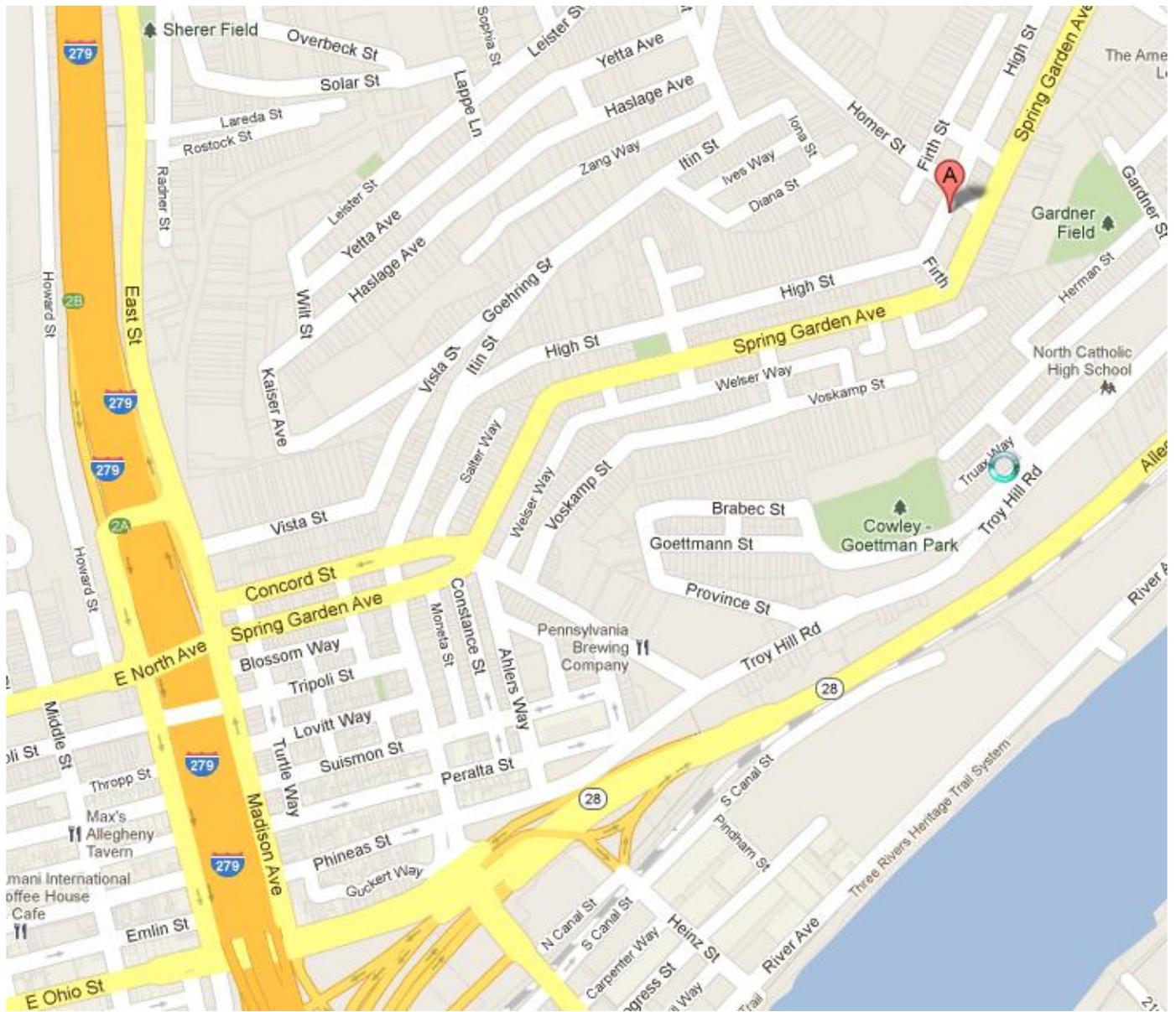
**TIME: 10:00AM**

The meeting will start at 10:00AM and the doors will open at 9:30 AM

**Location:** Artcraft Wood Products

Artcraft Wood Products is located at 1307 High Street, just off Spring Garden Avenue on the "North Side." The entrance is on Homer Street; take Spring Garden to Homer, and turn left (see map below). Park where you can along High, Homer, or Spring Garden.

Our meeting this month will be a field trip to Artcraft Wood Products, on Pittsburgh's north side. Artcraft is a family-owned and operated company that has been manufacturing many different types of molding since 1946, and will give us an extensive tour of their manufacturing facility. We'll see the rough milling, defecting, finger-jointing (they make both solid and finger-jointed sticks of molding), and molder/shaper operations. Additionally, Artcraft has a small retail sales operation that we should become familiar with, because it offers their full product catalog to the public (normal business hours are M-F). Please plan on joining us to tour one of Pittsburgh's hidden gems for woodworkers.



## **SUMMER FIELD TRIP**

Instead of a picnic this summer, the Board is considering a field trip to Keim Lumber in Charm, OH. Several of our members have been to Keim's facility and report that it's a fantastic place to visit and shop (please see their website, [www.keimlumber.com](http://www.keimlumber.com)). They have a large mill-work shop and will give us a private tour that will last about 1-1/2 hours. After the tour, we're free to roam the 125,000 square feet of retail space (all under one roof), which includes a mill-work store, machinery and tool store, kitchen and bath store, and a few other "stores." There is also a cafe on site, and several nearby restaurants and other stores, so that we can include a lunch as part of our trip.

We're considering renting a bus for this trip, and would like to gauge interest at the April meeting, so please think about whether you would like to attend. The bus will hold about 60 people, and the cost per person would be ~\$13-\$17 per person, which is a less than the cost of gasoline if people were to carpool, and much more fun. We have to rent the entire bus, at a cost of about \$1,100, so that's why we need to figure out how much interest there is in a trip like this.

## **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: FRANK WOOLLEY**

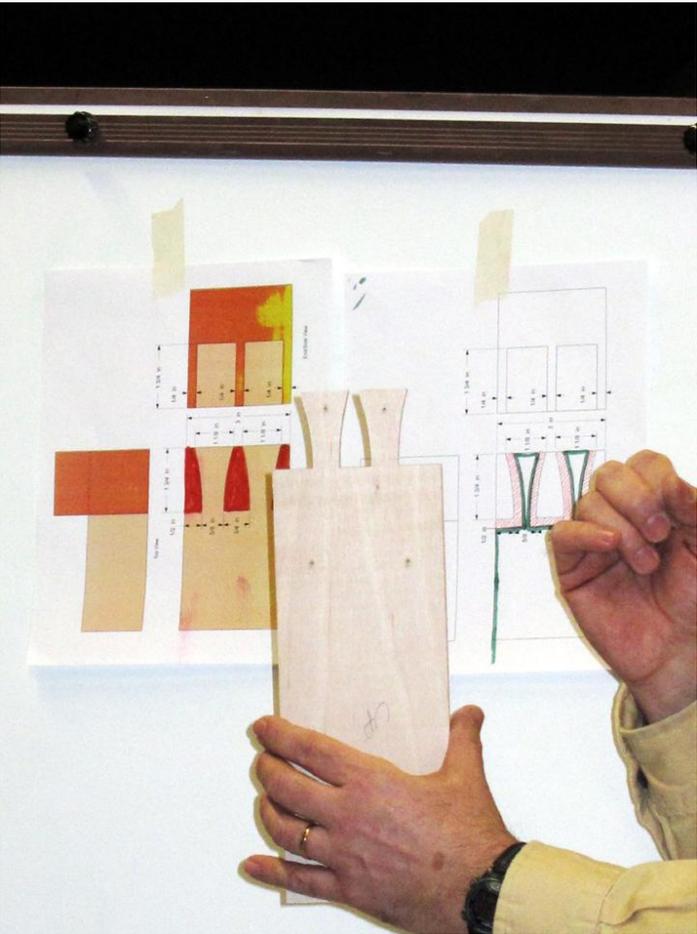
In March we enjoyed another great program by our own master teacher Bill James - this time on making decorative through-dovetails with curved tails and pins. Bill showed us how he generates the curved shapes using a router with a template and guide-bushing set designed for inlay work. The key to this technique is the collars for the bushing that have wall thicknesses exactly equal to the router bit diameter, allowing both male and female parts of the inlay or joint to be cut with the same template. His demonstration of inlaying a butterfly splice into a table top showed that the technique has decorative applications beyond making curved dovetails. Thanks, Bill, for showing us another way to break out of the ordinary with our woodworking.

The Shaker-style table, made by Kelly Mehler during his two-day lecture/ demo in February on making a table from a single board, was won in a raffle by Matt Veltri, with WPW gaining \$177 for future programs. (Including the raffle, the income from Kelly's presentations was greater than all the expenses by \$88.) Matt actually won a kit for a table, since Kelly ran out of time before he had completely planed and sanded all surfaces. Matt decided to assemble and finish it himself with tung oil and wax - perhaps we'll see it again at our next Show & Tell. Thanks to all who participated in the raffle.

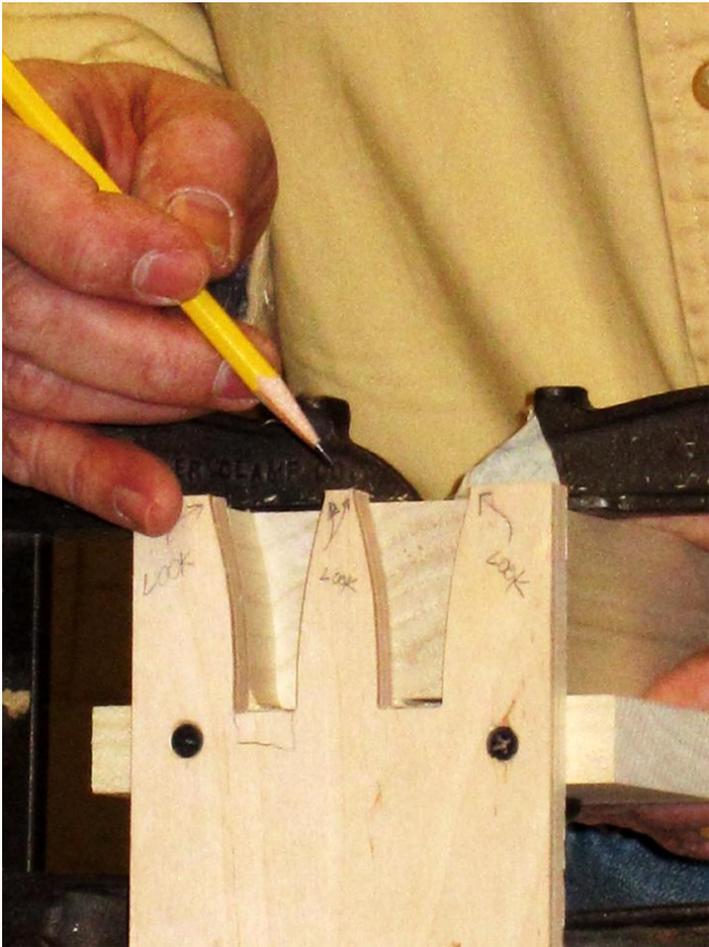
I want to thank the 47 members (3/4 of those present at the March meeting) who took the time to fill out the form for the Interest Survey. Your ideas will be a real help to Bill James, the Program Team and the Board in planning our programs for the coming year. I am still interested in ideas from the rest of you. I will have more forms at our April meeting, so please bring your ideas and preferences.

# MARCH MEETING REPORT

Bill James demonstrated how to make curved dovetails.  
(all photos courtesy Calvin Wilson)



Drawings and an example of curved dovetails



Closeup of one of the jigs



Another jig used to make a “butterfly”.



It's not a “habit” and I can stop buying tools whenever I want, I just don't want to.....

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The content of this newsletter is written by club members **just like you**. If you have an interesting story, tip, plan, or idea, please contribute it to the newsletter. We particularly need shorter articles that would be a paragraph or two. Newsletter contributions may be emailed to [wpwweditor@yahoo.com](mailto:wpwweditor@yahoo.com).

## MEMBER CLASSIFIED ADS

### ADVERTISING POLICY

Club members may submit one non-commercial advertisement per month for publication in the newsletter on a space-available basis. Advertisements can be submitted by emailing a complete, ready to print advertisement to [wpwweditor@yahoo.com](mailto:wpwweditor@yahoo.com). The deadline for submission is the Saturday two weeks before our regular meeting date.

Commercial advertisements for products and services of interest to our members may be accepted at the discretion of the board of directors, at rates determined on a case-by-case basis.

**Machinery Repair and Service** Dean Ridgeway, through his company Ridgeway's Machine Maintenance and Sharpening, offers machinery repair and service. Dean teaches in Westmoreland Co., lives in Butler County, and is willing to travel to work on your machinery. Please contact Dean at (724) 816-6683 or [dabridgeway@aol.com](mailto:dabridgeway@aol.com) for more information.

**Volunteers needed** The World Championship for Puddle Duck Sailboats will be held on August 2nd to 5th at Moraine State Park Apart from the 30 boats that have been built locally we are expecting 20 or more migrating ducks to arrive from Ohio, Philadelphia and even Florida and Canada.

We are looking for two woodworkers to volunteer on each of these days to staff a First Aid Station for injured ducks. Duck Tape will be provided for torn sails, Plywood patches and adhesive for punctured hulls, spare wood for broken tillers and splints for cracked spars plus a good supply of screws, nuts, bolts and wire. Nautical knowledge is not essential, but an inventive mind to nurse ducks back to health will be appreciated. Obviously we hope not to have problems, but like a Boy Scout feel that we should be prepared for emergencies.

Incidentally there will be a lot to see and do at the Regatta on Saturday and Sunday with a big Firework Display on Saturday evening. Dads can try out a canoe, Mum can enjoy all the stalls and kids can fish, enter a Lego competition or climb a wall.

Or, build your own Puddle Duck with the help of your kids, free plans [pdracer.com](http://pdracer.com)  
For Information about the Championship Google [PDWorlds2012](http://PDWorlds2012)  
If you can help please contact John Bridges 724 625 9348 or [brimor@ail.com](mailto:brimor@ail.com)