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 News and Views from the Western Pennsylvania Woodworkers, Incorporated © 2010
 

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## MEETING NOTICE

DATE: Saturday, November 13, 2010

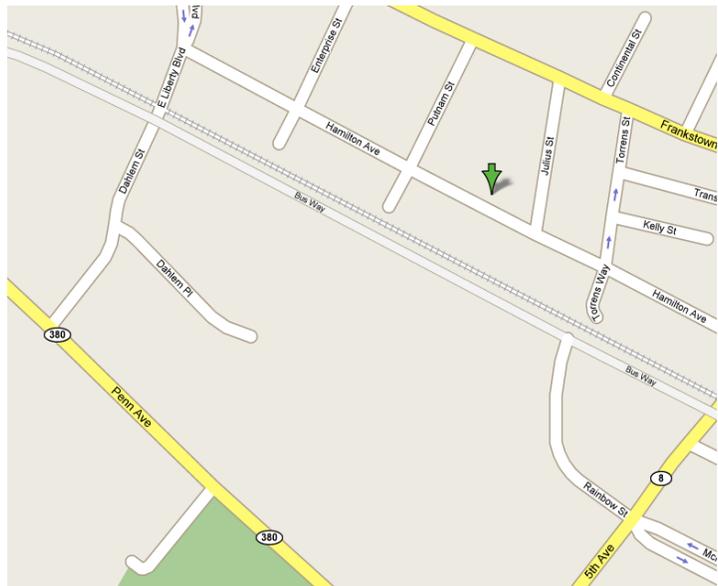
TIME: 10:00 AM, coffee at 9:30 AM

PLACE: The shop of :

Bill James (James Wood Works) and

Craig Marcus (Marcus Studio)

The shop is at 6545 Hamilton Ave. (which is parallel to and between Penn Ave. and Frankstown Rd.). The easiest way to get there is from 5th Ave./Washington Blvd. (the street changes names at Frankstown Rd. -- welcome to Pittsburgh!). From 5th Ave./Washington Blvd. turn west on Hamilton (toward Pittsburgh) and 6545 is 2-1/2 blocks down on the right. We have a large green banner on the front of the building and two company signs on the side of the building.



## MEETING THIS MONTH: STEVE LATTA

Steve is currently Head, Cabinetmaking & Wood Technology, Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, Lancaster, PA, and Contributing Editor, *Fine Woodworking*. In addition to regular articles in *Fine Woodworking* and other journals, Steve is a frequent lecturer and presenter at other schools, museums and guilds. Besides being an excellent presenter, Steve is passionate about inlay decoration, especially the type used extensively on Federal-style furniture in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

The program for our regular meeting will be a presentation (lecture/demo with Q&A) on two topics. First Steve will discuss joinery using power and hand tools – how to do it each way and how to decide which approach to use depending on the number of joints

to make and the precision needed. Broadly, he will talk about extending the capabilities of power tools by adding hand tools to gain greater speed, precision and design flexibility. He will include ways to improve efficiency by designing and sequencing to minimize machine setups, as well as use of hand trimming to eliminate the need for tedious machine adjustments. After lunch, Steve will show inlay and stringing techniques, both hand and machine.

**Our schedule will be modified slightly from normal.** We will start at 9:30AM with coffee & snacks, 10:00AM with Steve's presentation, take a half hour for a simple catered lunch around noon, and finish up about 1:30PM. The actual cost of the lunch (we'll try to keep it \$5 or less) will be passed along to those who chose to partake. We'll poll the membership at October's meeting, and order accordingly. **There will be no charge for this meeting for current members who have paid their dues** (please see Annual Dues section below).

We are planning to make small detail more visible to a larger than normal audience by using our new video camera to project onto a large overhead screen.

**Observer spots are still available** at a cost of \$20 for the Sunday November 14 special workshop at GNA Woodworks (the "hands-on" spots are filled). Details were printed in the October newsletter. If you are interested in an observer spot, please contact Bill James ASAP! – Bill James

## **ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE**

Now that we've started the 2010/2011 program year, please remember that your annual dues of \$20 are **now due**. Normally we try to have all dues collected by December's meeting, but this year we are moving that up by one month because of our outside speaker (detailed elsewhere in this newsletter). **Unlike a normal meeting, we will be checking people in at the door for November's meeting and if you haven't yet paid you will need to pay your dues then.** Non-members who wish to attend this special meeting will pay a \$20 admission fee, effectively joining the club for a year. Your current dues status can be checked on the "Have I Paid?" board by the lunchroom door (or on the mailing label of the printed newsletter). If your name isn't on the list, you haven't paid. If your name is on the list, but it's not marked as paid, you haven't paid. If you're on the list, and marked paid, then thank you for your promptness. Members who are having severe financial hardship because of the current economy are encouraged to seek out a club officer to see if there is something we can do to help with dues. – Bill James

## **LIBRARY UPDATE**

A book is missing! Would the member who removed the book "**Wood Carving Basics**" from the book library last May without signing the library card **please return the book.**

A **big thanks** to **Don Phillips** who donated his Woodsmith Magazine collection to the club library.

## MEETING REPORT: MEMBERS SHOW AND TELL

The October meeting featured our annual show and tell. I'm always amazed by the talent in our club! Thanks to everyone for sharing their work.



First place winner Mark Mooney built a Harvey Ellis Bookcase  
(Photographs courtesy Calvin Wilson)



Second place winner Phil Melnick brought a night stand.



Third place winner Ralph Smailer shows his harp.

## **ONE OF OUR MEMBERS IS A TV STAR!**

Alex Botkin is on TV!! Alex writes:

At long last (isn't it always that way) my TV program "The Woodshop Show" is going on the air. I don't think it will win an Emmy just yet, maybe next year. PCTV is the Pittsburgh area public access channel. On Comcast ch 21 and FIOS 47.

If you are out of the PCTV viewing area, there is a "streaming" of current broadcasts on the website <http://pctv21.org>. It makes use of such programs as Windows Media Player.

## **PROGRAM IDEA**

Last year one of our members approached me about doing a program for the club on Heat Treating & Tempering. This individual indicated that he could explain the basics of how we can perform basic versions of these processes in our home shops with just a few basic tools. Unfortunately, I've misplaced this person's name and contact info. If you're out there and are still willing to do a program like this, please call me (412-363-1115, shop; or 412-612-9074, cell). --- Bill James