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News and Views from the Western Pennsylvania Woodworkers, Incorporated © 2011

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## MEETING NOTICE

**Saturday, September 10, 2011**, 10:00 AM, coffee at 9:30 AM  
at the shop of Bill James (James Wood Works) & Craig Marcus (Marcus Studio)  
(The shop is at 6545 Hamilton Ave., please see the website for detailed directions.)

## MEETING THIS MONTH: SHAKER BOXES AND CARRIERS

Our speaker will be James Kapusta, of Hermitage, PA, who will be presenting a program on Shaker boxes and carriers. Jim will talk about the history of Shaker boxes and demonstrate the steps he uses to make the beautiful nesting boxes, including the bending of the heated (in boiling water) box sides into the classic oval shape of the boxes. He will have several boxes, in various stages of completion, so that he can demonstrate the progression of construction steps. We're presenting this program early in the year so that those of you who may want to try their hand at making Christmas gifts will have some time to do so. For the less ambitious, Jim will also have boxes for sale. You might also want to get a glimpse of what Jim does by going to his website, [TheShakerBoxMaker.com website](http://TheShakerBoxMaker.com)— Bill James

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS FOR SEPT NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to another year of informative woodworking programs and good fellowship. Bill James and his Program Team (Dave Beringer, Dave DeYoung, Dante Dilanni, Mark Mooney, Bob Rice, Mike Silverman, Craig Smith, Frank Woolley) are working on a year of outstanding programs, which will probably include another outside presenter of the quality of Steve Latta.

Many thanks to John and Sheila Bridges for hosting our summer program and picnic, and to the Picnic Team (Alex Botkin, Ed Kardell, Bob Rice) for organizing an enjoyable and interesting picnic. — Frank Woolley

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board of Directors will meet Sept. 10, 2011 from 9:00 to 9:30 AM in Bill James' gallery. One of their principle concerns over the next several months is finding volunteers to relieve some of the individuals who have year after year been taking care of the tasks that keep this organization running smoothly. I remind you that all of the Board meetings are open to any members. Please let me know if you are considering volunteering for a leadership position or would just like to sit in on a Board meeting, so we can have enough seating. We plan to have an election of Directors at the December monthly meeting, and the new Board will then elect or reelect officers for the coming year.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**October 8, 2011** Our meeting for this month (normal day and time, including coffee and donuts, just a different place) will be a field trip to Saw Sales & Machinery (just off of Route 8, just north of the Turnpike), and our speaker will be Mike Giza, and others from the Saw Sales organization. They will present a program about cutting tools (blades, bits, and knives) that will include information about different types of edges/tips, materials, geometry and why a particular type of tip/edge works, and sharpening. After the lecture part of our program, we will go into the shop to see various types of sharpening machinery put a new edge on worn tooling (router bits, saw blades, etc.). Over the years many members have asked about a local source for sharpening services, and now they will have a chance to see one in operation (and know where to send their dull tooling). Additionally, Saw Sales sells a huge variety of woodworking equipment, and their showroom will be open before our meeting begins for those of you in the market for something new (or adding to the wish list). More details to follow in the next newsletter.

**November 12, 2011** Our meeting this month will be the annual members' Show & Tell. We've decided to hold this meeting a bit later than usual to give members some more notice (and time!) to finish that project they have been working on so they can have something to bring. Dan Brown, the manager of our local Rockler store, has again graciously offered us some Rockler gift cards to use as prizes, and there will also be the much-sought-after Reserved Parking Spot prizes as well. More details to follow in an upcoming newsletter, but for now, get that project done!

**Some time in early 2012** Based on the club interest and success of our program with Steve Latta, and WPW-member Dave DeYoung's quick response to Frank Woolley's call for volunteers, we have tentatively set up another weekend-long program with nationally-known woodworker, teacher, and author Kelly Mehler. Dave has taken classes with Kelly and has coordinated the initial details of a program to be called, "Make a Side Table from a Single Rough-Sawn Board." There will be plenty of details to follow, but the name kind of says it all; Kelly will take us through all of the steps

(layout, milling and machine set-up and tuning, resawing, tapering, mortise and tenon joinery, pegging, short-cuts and other tricks, gluing, etc., etc.) necessary to start the weekend with a board, and end it with a side table. This program is also designed to address the requests of some members that we have sequential monthly programs that follow a logical sequence of tasks, instead of presenting disjointed topics over a long period of time.

At the September meeting we'll be trying to gauge club interest in a program like this (so that we can lock up a date), so please give it some serious thought. The actual fee may be somewhat dependent on how many people participate, but for initial planning purposes assume that the fee will be \$100 for members. We're thinking about this for January 14/15, 2012 (we'll have January 28/29, 2012 as a snow date). As part of Kelly's program, there will be a Friday night (January 13) slide presentation (details are still being worked out) that will be our regular meeting for the month. So, please be prepared to indicate your interest when Frank polls the group during our September meeting. – Bill James

## 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).

## COMMISSION REQUEST

Frank Woolley received the following email asking if any of our members would like a commission to build 2 pieces of furniture:

"I am searching for someone to contract build a dresser and crib for me. I have lots of images to build both pieces off of. I have the design figured out, just don't have the skill or tools to do it myself. If I could have a hand in building it that would be great as well."

If you are interested, please respond to Matthew Lynn (at [matthewalynn@gmail.com](mailto:matthewalynn@gmail.com)) and please let Frank (at [frankwoolley@hotmail.com](mailto:frankwoolley@hotmail.com)) know that you responded.

## MEMBER CLASSIFIED ADS

**Ash Lumber** The Ash Borer has reached Gibsonia and killed all my Ash trees. To save the timber I have run it through the sawmill and thus have a quantity of boards, squares and bowl blanks available and I would like to recover 25 cts/Bd Foot for the cost of sawing. Let me know if there are any particular dimensions you need; maximum length 9 feet, maximum width 20". John Bridges (724)625-9348 "

**Hardwood Lumber** MrLumber is a small manufacturing company located in Eastern Ohio. We buy, saw, dry, and deliver high end hardwood lumber for commercial use and also part-time woodworkers. Our stock list includes: quartersawn red oak, qs white oak, qs beech, qs sycamore, flat cut cherry, flat cut red oak. We produce specialty items as well, including 4/4 curly qs poplar and 4/4 red oak qs boules.

We have recently started a free delivery to the Pittsburgh area and had quite a nice response. Our next delivery to Pittsburgh will be the 7th of September.

Our inventory includes 4/4 & 5/4 qs white oak; 4/4 & 6/4 qs red oak; 4/4,6/4,8/4, & 16/4 beech. We also saw curly material as available. Also available: cherry, walnut, red elm, boules and bookmatches. For order details email ([mrlumber@gmn4u.com](mailto:mrlumber@gmn4u.com)), visit us on facebook (at mrlumber hardwood) or call 1-740-310-3984.