



Newsletter

April 2013

The CMWA is a group of men and women from around the St. Cloud, Minnesota area who share a common interest in the art and business of woodworking. We meet monthly and share information, techniques and topics of interest in the area of woodworking.

www.thecmwa.com

Greetings from the CMWA President's Chair. By Denny Myers

Its spring or at least the robins are back telling us that it is almost time for things to green up. "Bout Time."

Our March meeting was the second in a series of sharpening techniques. John did a super job with the Work Sharp system and we received some great feedback from Brad on its use. John has provided a very well written evaluation of the system to send to Work Sharp. Thanks John. Rollie's sharpening demo using granite as a base for a sandpaper sharpening medium was illustrative of a low cost very effective means to sharpen chisels and plane blades. I use the technique Rollie demonstrated as well as my Japanese water stones. I noticed lots of questions and some hands on after the demos.

Now a little about the Wood Expo:

March 30th was the annual Wood Expo. Hopefully you were able to attend. My early thoughts about the date (Easter weekend) were not good. When I left the shop Saturday morning in the pouring rain, I knew that attendance would be down. What a surprise when the rain and clouds cleared off and we had a beautiful day.

Who to thank first; vendors or volunteers? The Wood Expo doesn't happen without the vendors and the volunteers make the WE happen in a positive way for the vendors. Kind of a "chicken n egg" thing. Since this is our club newsletter it's the volunteers I will thank first. THANK YOU! What a super job from beginning to end. Of course a big thanks you to all of our vendors and booth activity folks.

We had a total of 46 booths with a bit of squeezing. This is 2 more than last year. There were 25 Vendors and 16 activity booths with 5 booths left open for a total of 41 booths filled. Each club had lots of activity for attendees to observe. Great stuff. The Antique Tools booth was a big hit. Jim said that he talked to people non-stop. Craig Johnson told me that he had lots of people stop by and ask questions about his chairs; Gary stated that the Mike Hunter tool demo went very well as did the treadle lathe; The Work Sharp demo was well attended; as was Mike Siemsen's hand tool booth; the Paramount and catalog booths were equally busy. Our classroom demos were well attended with lots of questions and appreciation expressed. Kurt's early estimate is we had about 600 people on the floor throughout the day. This includes adult attendees, children admitted free, vendors and their assistants. Darn good for Easter weekend. I would be remiss if I didn't thank the Wood Expo Committee (represented by the 3 clubs) for their hard work. THANKS!!

We were able to take lots of pictures and send them off to each club. Darren has them posted so take a look at our Webpage.

If you have comments about the Wood Expo please send them via the Club electronic suggestion box. (Continued...)

April's club meeting demo will be "Hand Plane Rebuild- Bench and Scrub Planes" by resident hand tool expert, Rollie. Bring a plane and be prepared to ask lots of questions.

Don't forget "Show 'n Tell". Bring a completed, almost completed project, jig or tool you would like to share with the membership.

Craig Johnson had agreed to present his Vidar's chairs at the June Art Crawl. Unfortunately he had to withdraw his offer due to other commitments. We need to fill this as a club activity. Any ideas?

If you have bird house plans, please bring them to the meeting as they are needed for the Paramount Children's Summer Camp.

Just a reminder to those receiving an Irwin/Marples saw blade. We need your evaluations.

I don't think it is too early to mention that our club picnic is scheduled for July 17th. Devin Middendorf has graciously offered to host the picnic and showcase his CNC operation. Thank you Devin.

The Paramount has given their blessing to place our workbenches in the photo-lab area. We need help with disassembly, moving them into the Paramount, assembly and installation of the castors. We will do this as soon as we have help. Also, the club is looking for at least 3 lockable storage cabinets for our tools and other equipment. So far I haven't found anything local. If you have suggestions, let me know. Another project needing our attention is a means to display our library – suggestions are needed and follow-up necessary.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next club meeting on April 17th.

Denny Myers

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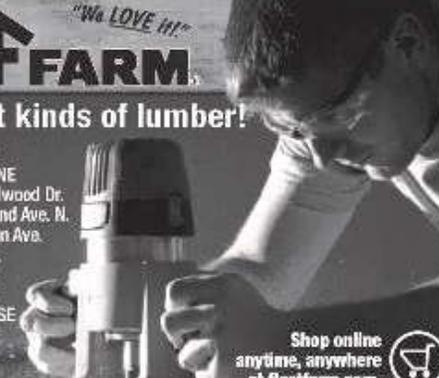
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