

North Star Scrollers

Minnesota's Scroll Saw Artists
Meets 1st Saturdays September through May
9:30-11:30.

www.northstarscrollers.org

Member of S.A.W.



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January 2013 Newsletter

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Next Meeting February 2, 2013 at 9:30am – KC Hall – Lower Level

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Scrollers,

If you missed the January meeting you really missed a unique program. Swede's panel discussion really turned out well and I had a lot of positive comments about it after the meeting. We should consider doing a panel discussion type of program every year. Don't miss Donna's article reviewing the whole discussion at the end of this newsletter or on our new (re-designed) website.

Wearable Wooden Art Contest - Don't forget to make something to enter for our annual scrolling contest. We broadened the contest this year so use your creativity to come up with something that you can wear. You could enter a tie, jewelry, hair pins, a hat, a belt buckle, a bow tie, etc. Just remember the contest is for fun and hopefully you try to learn a new skill along the way.

Keep Scrolling
John

Next Meeting: 9:30 AM at the Knights of Columbus Hall – 1114 American Blvd., Bloomington 55420 – Lower Level

February Meeting Program



OFF TO THE HOUSE OF WHIMSICAL

Denny Schuster will take us into his wonderful hobby of Carving Whimsical Houses out of Cottonwood Bark. No one can do this like Denny can! We know you are going to LOVE this one!

Website Wonders

Reed has been busy upgrading our website. Check it out: www.northstarscrollers.org.
Follow these links to:

- [January 2013 Meeting Minutes](#)
- [January 2013 Feature Presentation](#)
- [January Show and Tell](#)

New Members Welcome!

- Baird, David, Box 238, Lakeville, MN, 55044, 612-308-5163, DavidBaird57@gmail.com
- Schank, Warren, 10266 Brittany Way, Eden Prairie, MN, 55347, 952-941-1913, Wschank@pro-ns.net
- Wakefield, Erik, 1956 S. Ruby Ct., Eagan, MN, 55122, 612-275-7395, ecwakefield81@gmail.com
- Weber, Paul, 4395 Capricorn Ct., Eagan, MN, 55122, 651-454-5762, ppts4_2000@yahoo.com (there

is an underscore between the 4 and the 2)

New Member Celebrity



New member, Warren Schank, was one of the winners in Steve Good's Wooden Nickel Contest.

“Warren, Warren, Warren you have a set of PGA championship tickets on the wall behind you. Your name is Schank. Tell me you don't play golf?”

<http://scrollsawworkshop.blogspot.com/>

CONGRATS WARREN!!!

2013 Scrollers' Art Contest

NO WOODEN TIE CONTEST?



Remember what fun we had last March making, wearing and exhibiting Wooden Ties. Let's do it again – only this time you get to decide what to make, wear, and exhibit. The Challenge...:

WEARABLE WOODEN ART CONTEST



Your entry must be at least partially scrolled and fully wearable.

The main purpose of this contest is to challenge yourself and to have fun! Start planning now.

Like last year, there will be prizes awarded. Larry Gardner has graciously offered to make award plaques for us on his CNC machine. Judging will be based on things like skill, ingenuity, finish, etc. So, start thinking about what you'd make. We're aiming for the March meeting..

TLC Toys



Philip Lagarde reports that 24,000 toys were made and distributed in 2012. This is our club's charity project. Philip will continue to bring in wood for cutting ... cut the toys at home and bring them to the next meeting. Others at TLC will paint them. Contact Katie McBride: kmcb2006@comcast.net if you want her to e-mail you some toy patterns. For more information on TLC Toys see www.TLCToys.org

Show and Tell

Lenn Lacher sent his latest project: Walnut Maple Leaf inlaid into Cherry Jewelry Box. – Beautiful!

Click [slide show](#) for more pictures



See more pictures from the [January Show and Tell](#) slide show on our [website](#).

Future Classes



You may have received this Ad from Woodcraft in an e-mail. Once again Swede will dazzle students and bring them into the fold of Scrollsawing and Intarsia.

“Let Swede Bengtson take you on a journey into the world of intarsia. In this two and a half day class, you will learn the concepts of working with intarsia patterns, selecting wood for color, cutting techniques, shaping, gluing and finishing.”

Woodworking Hazards

– by Bruce Graham

At the “ask the panel of experts” question and answer presentation during the January meeting it was briefly mentioned that we want to keep away from aerosol spray adhesive and finishing vapors while woodworking. Of course the use of eye protection has been mentioned in the past but hearing protection hasn’t come up much, at least I haven’t HEARD any talk about this.



I think some of us feel we are too old and it’s too late to worry about protecting our hearing and some younger people feel they are indestructible and not concerned about things like hearing conservation. Well, hearing loss prevention is something I wish I would have known more about many years ago.

After working around very loud equipment for years without proper hearing protection, my hearing has suffered and it could have easily been avoided. Today in my workshop I wear hearing protection on the noisy power tools I use, to lesson any further damage to my hearing. Dust collection, power saws, router and the air compressor seem to be among the loudest.

The scroll saw is not that loud but tasks that go along with scroll sawing tends to get noisy and could hurt your ears. Things like power sanding and routing your project can get a little loud and also during shop clean up running those loud shop vacs for periods of time certainly doesn’t do your ears any good. Out of the shop chores like snow blowing and lawn mowing for periods of time can hurt your hearing also.

It’s really easy not to wear any protection when doing a quick task on loud power equipment, but every time you are exposed to a loud noise, especially the noise that comes from our woodworking hobbies, you are damaging your hearing. And the bad part of that is damaged hearing cannot be restored. However it’s never too late to start protecting the hearing.





Types of ear protection that you could use to protect your ears include earmuffs – they provide very good sound blockage, but for some people are bulky and uncomfortable. If you wear eye protection and a respirator along with earmuffs you may not get a good seal around the outer ear. The light weight quality disposable foam ear plugs provide very good protection and become so comfortable to wear you'll forget you're wearing ear plugs.

I don't use the preformed foam ear plugs but I use the yellow roll up kind, that when expanded completely fill the ear canal area. I have been advised that these yellow foam roll up plugs block out the sound more than the preformed ones. Pick up some good ear protection and start using it! Just remember we make a lot of noise as well as a lot of dust! - Bruce Graham

Links to Program Topic Suggestions

- Have you ever wondered what the names are for some of the different wood joints and construction techniques are? Here is a web site from Jack Hauser that might help? <http://www.wooduniversity.org/glossary/index.cfm#W> Is this a possible program topic?
- Have you been thinking about selling your craft? Here's a couple websites to get you thinking. [Marketing](#) and [Selling](#) Dave Gade thinks this would be a good program topic.
- Do you have expertise on these topics? Or do you know someone who does? Send contact info to Swede at Swedishgepetto@comcast.net or call 612-723-4346

Club Merchandise



LOGO MERCHANDISE

- New NorthStar "Artistry in Wood" sweatshirts are available. Call Swede: 952-723-4346
- \$15 t-shirt \$12 hat \$6 mug Proceeds go to our club and the advertisement goes a long way!
- Don't forget the thousands of items available to us with the NSS logo. Clothing, mugs, coasters, framed photos – you name it – they've got it available. Check it out at www.taylormadespecialties.com Remember, NO MINIMUM ORDER REQUIRED.

Reminders



- Newsletter Deadline: The 15th of the month.
- Think about the Wearable Wooden Art Contest.
- Send your buy/sell items and interesting links
- Send your own article for publication in the newsletter
- Send your favorite scrollsaw links
- Send a picture of a recent project

Buy/Sell Corner

WANT TO SELL AND/OR BUY ITEMS

- **FOR SALE:** Light table.....42" wide, 32" deep, 37" High.....Great table but must downsize to make room for other stuff. I used it to determine fit of intarsia pieces but now have a small one.....\$25.00. [Click here for Picture](#) Contact Swede: 612-723-4346
- **FOR SALE:** Hydraulic stylist/barber chairs.....I have one at my scroll saw and can raise/lower to relieve stress, aches & pains. I am so fond of these chairs that I am going to have another one for my DEWALT saw. The best chairs go to the first buyers!!!! \$20.00 each. [Click here for picture](#)
- And there will be more...so don't miss out on these deals. Contact Swede: 612-723-4346

January Meeting Minutes

THE OFFICIAL MINUTES FROM OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS WILL BE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE

- You will find a link to the Official Minutes Report [here](#).

Executive Committee News

THE NSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Swede Bengston has been nominated to serve on the Board of Directors for the Scrollsaw Association of the World. The nomination was late, but if you are a S.A.W. member, be sure to sign in at <http://www.saw-online.com/> and write in Swede Bengtson as your vote for BOD members.
- The board asks all membership to work on recruiting new NSS members. Be creative. Bring a friend to a meeting. You never know who might be interested.

North Country Woodshop



A name change for North Country Woodshop to America's Woodshop! Same company, same location, just a different name. They also have rearranged the shop, so if you haven't been there in a while, go on down and see the new configuration!

Club Discounts

VENDORS GIVING 10% GUILD DISCOUNTS WITH NSS MEMBERSHIP:

- Just show your NSS membership card!

Woodcraft

9125 Lyndale Ave South
Bloomington, MN 55420
952-884-3634
Minneapolis-retail@woodcraft.com

Rockler Woodworking

2020 W. Cnty. Rd. 42
Burnsville, MN 55337
952-892-7999
www.rockler.com/retail/burnsville-minnesota-hardware-store.cfm

Rockler Woodworking

1935 Beam Avenue
Maplewood, MN 55109
(651) 773-5285
www.rockler.com/retail/maplewood-minnesota-hardware-store.cfm

Youngblood Lumber

1335 Central Avenue Northeast
Minneapolis, MN 55413-1514
(612) 789-3521 www.youngbloodlumber.com

Forest Products Supply, Inc.

2650 Highway 61 North
Maplewood, MN 55109
651-770-2834 www.forestproductssupply.com/

January Feature Presentation

PANEL OF EXPERTS

By Donna Zibley

What do you get when you put together Swede Bengtson, Jeff Dadd, John Engler, Jim Ryan and Bill Sauer? You get a team of woodworking expertise and experience. These guys made up a great team to run our January panel discussion on woodworking problems, hints, suggestions and questions on a variety of topics as follows:



90 DEGREE SHARP CORNERS:

- Make a direct, sharp turn with the smallest blade possible.
- If you need a sharper corner, back out and then trim.
- The KEY is to use the smallest blade possible (ex: #02).
- Flying Dutchman blades may be easier because they have fewer teeth. That allows you to cut thicker material with a thinner blade.
- FAST cuts turn out truer than a slow cut.
- Use a Diamond HONE to round off the back, squared edges of the blade. With the blade moving, touch the hone to those squared edges to round them off ... it makes cornering much easier

IF YOU ARE BREAKING BLADES:

- Either loosen or tighten your blade tension.
- Change your blade, you may have run it too long.

SAWING HARDWOOD MAKES FOR SMOKE AND BURNED EDGES:

- Wrap your project with clear packing tape and it will lubricate the blade as you saw thru it.
- Use the correct blade ... one with FEWER teeth.
- The harder the wood ... the less teeth per inch you should have on your blade.

CHATTERING SCROLL SAW:

- Put a PAD under your scroll saw before you bolt it to your stand.
- Wildwood Designs has a great pad that is ½” thick.
- ADD WEIGHT to your stand. Have a SOLID, heavy stand. A 3-LEGGED stand works best.
- Every saw has a “sweet spot” at which it runs smoothest. Experiment with speed, push & wood.

SAW SPEED INDICATORS:

- Saw only at a comfortable speed for you.
- Adjust your speed until your flexible blower tube stops vibrating.
- Look at your END CUT. If you are running too slowly – it will be choppy. If you are running too fast – it will be glazed.

PROBLEMS CUTTING A SMOOTH LARGE ARC/RADIUS:

- You are possibly pushing too hard on one side.
- Check and correct your blade tension if necessary.
- Make sure your blade is NOT DULL. Put in a new one.
- Stamped blades cut better going clockwise.
- PGT blades are NOT stamped and so they don’t favor one side.
- Double Tooth PGT blades cut even straighter.

NEW SCROLL SAW CHOICE:

- Excalibur’s advantage is that the HEAD tilts rather than the table. That makes it much easier when you are cutting at an angle.
- Delta’s and DeWalts are also great saws for the price.

HOW TO CUT SQUARE:

- Check the squareness of your blade to the table prior to each Start-up.
- Use a 2” square block of wood. Cut a NOTCH into the wood. Turn it around and if the blade slides in easily, it is square.
- Use a 3” machinists tri-square

DIFFICULTY FOLLOWING THE BLACK PATTERN LINE (IT LOOKS LIKE THE BLADE):

- Use a pattern with RED ink whenever possible.
- Great *lighting & magnification* makes all the difference in the world.
- Your light source should come from *both sides* if possible.
- Sit at the proper level to see the line best. Sit straight and at a flatter angle.
- Buy one of Swede’s hydraulic Barber chairs to get to the right height. 😊
- *Bright*, correctly colored light makes it much easier to see. For example, try a 5,000 – 6,500 Kelvin bulb.
- Use a *Colored Highlighter* to run over your black pattern line. That makes it show up better.

GLUE:

- Intarsia Glue – SOBO seems to work the best. You can buy it from Michael’s Crafts or JoAnn Fabrics. It dries clear, is flexible, non-toxic, and gives you time to work with it before it dries
- Bowls – WELDBOND seems to work the best.

PATTERN GLUING METHOD:

- Everyone on the panel is trying to avoid using spray adhesives.
- Some woodworkers use Rubber Cement.
- Some use double faced carpet tape.
- Some use *Drop Cloth Tape* by Painters Green. Get it online from *Hardware City*. It holds well, comes off easily, and doesn’t peel up.

- Judy Gale Roberts uses a Xyron XRN900 9-Inch Creative Station Multi-Function Crafting System available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).
- Swede sometimes uses Stick Glue .

FINISHES:

- The panel tries to AVOID using finishing sprays. Like the spray adhesives, NOT good for you!
- Use a spreadable Gel, Tung Oil, or Boiled Linseed Oil.
- A Recipe: 1/3 Poly 1/3 Mineral Spirits 1/3 Boiled Linseed Oil
- To clean glue off of wood: Use paint thinner or mineral spirits.

STAIN ONLY WHEN NECESSARY:

- Use Artist's Acrylic Water Bases Paint (tube from Art stores) and water it down enough to make it into the exact shade of stain you want.

SOURCES FOR WOOD: (other than the typical)

- Youngblood Lumber 1335 Central Ave NE Minneapolis, MN, 612-789-3521.
- Forest Wood Products 2650 Hwy 61 Maplewood, MN, 651-770-2834.
- Courtland Hardware & Sawmill 321 Main St Courtland, MN, 507-359-7811
- Jim Mielke (Scroller member) 651-583-2813 jlacm@frontier.com .
- Leonard Eischens Sawmill 23900 Aberdeen Ave, Belle Plaine, MN, 952-492-2568 – Call first.
- Dumpster diving for scraps behind Cabinet shops.

Again, thanks a million Swede, Jeff, John, Jim and Bill! Thanks for sharing your knowledge and years of hard earned wisdom so generously and so kindly to the rest of us.