

## 2012 Woodworking in America Midwest Class Descriptions

- **The Mighty Dovetail – Glen Huey**
  - Today we think of dovetails as decorative joints, but in traditional casework dovetails in different forms are the main structural joints. In this class, Glen will detail which joints are best in different parts of the case, and how to efficiently and accurately make them with hand tools, power tools and combinations of the two. Glen will share his jigs that make it easy (you'll feel like you're cheating), and his no nonsense construction process.
- **Finishes That Pop – Glen Huey**
  - Glen's furniture pieces are instantly recognizable – in large part because of his signature finishes; they make Glen's work stand out in any room. Now, you can achieve the same eye-catching finish with step-by-step instruction from Glen. Whether you work with figured woods such as tiger maple or flame birch, or you use traditional hardwoods such as cherry, walnut or mahogany, this class will show you how to achieve easy, repeatable results, understand aniline dyes, add depth to your finish with boiled linseed oil, discover the secrets of shellac and use glaze to add age and character.
- **Doors: Types, Techniques & Tips – Glen Huey**
  - An in-depth study of door construction including techniques for mortise-and-tenon work from the simple to the complex. Learn how panels differ, and methods used to produce those panels (flat and raised at a table saw, router table or hand-formed using planes). Also discussed are doors built for glass panes, from a simple rabbeted back to a more complex methodology that builds rabbets into the frame as you work. Along the way, pick up tips to make your shop time more effective.
- **Real Details of Arts & Crafts Furniture – Robert Lang**
  - Furniture from the Arts & Crafts period is one of the most popular styles among woodworkers, but it is also one of the most misunderstood, largely due to books and magazine articles about it. In this class, Robert W. Lang, author of “Shop Drawings for Craftsman Furniture,” explores the historic background of original pieces and how they were made, and will demonstrate effective techniques for today’s woodworker to make good reproductions and adaptations with both hand and power tools.
- **10 Things I Wish I Had Known About SketchUp – Robert Lang**
  - SketchUp is a free 3-D modeling program that will make you a better woodworker by enabling you to plan all aspects of your next project, and give you complete information about each and every part on your computer before you cut any wood. In this session, you will learn the common things that most people stumble on when learning to use SketchUp, and the secrets to make this program more like working with real wood in a real shop.
- **Carving a Ball-and-Claw Foot – Mary May**
  - In this class, Mary May will walk you through the steps of carving a Philadelphia style ball-and-claw foot. You'll learn the tools used in each step and pick up tips on how to use gouges efficiently as you discover how to lay out the foot pattern and cut the profile, and the carving techniques to make a ball-and-claw foot look period perfect.
- **Carving an Acanthus Leaf – Mary May**
  - Join renowned carver Mary May as she teaches you the process of carving a basic acanthus leaf on a cabriole leg. She'll show you the necessary tools and how to use them as she demonstrates how to lower the background and carve out a period perfect acanthus leaf that looks as it grew naturally right out of the wood.
- **Build a Sawbench in an Hour – Christopher Schwarz**

- Using stock lumber, a framing square and some awesome old carpentry tricks, you can build a traditional sawbench with angled legs in about an hour. Chris will show you how to do just that in this lecture and give the finished product away to one lucky attendee. Plus, everyone will get complete plans for the sawbench that explains all the geometry and steps.
- **The Furniture Style With No Name – Christopher Schwarz**
  - When it comes to furniture styles, most woodworkers and furniture experts focus on the differences between furniture styles – the decorative details, the wood selection, the carving, turnings and finish. But there is a kind of furniture that had remained unchanged for centuries, is gorgeous in its simplicity and built to stand centuries of abuse. In this lecture, you'll be introduced to a style of furniture that few scholars ever talk about or even give a name to, but it has surrounded us since the 1600s. It's a visual journey with hundreds of images that will open your eyes to an underground wellspring of inspiration.
- **Introduction to Campaign Furniture – Christopher Schwarz**
  - The Napoleonic Wars brought an immense amount of bloodshed, but it also gave the world campaign-style furniture, an enduring form of portable and durable furniture that was popular for 300 years. And it should be popular again. It has simple lines, beautiful joinery and is well-suited for the more modern and nomadic household. In this lecture, you'll be introduced to the major forms of campaign style furniture and their unusual (but beautiful) proportions. You'll learn about the right woods, joinery and hardware that make up high-quality campaign furniture. And you'll see pieces that will inspire you to get building immediately.
- **Finishing For The Frustrated – Steve Shanesy**
  - Finishing is the “dark” science for many woodworkers and this last stage of the project is fraught with fear and anxiety. It needn't be. In this class, *Popular Woodworking Magazine* senior editor Steve Shanesy shares his decades of experience in the finish room. During the class Steve will walk through an easy to understand approach to finishing and shows you the steps to achieve satisfying results time and again.
- **Planning a Successful Project – Steve Shanesy**
  - What are the steps you should take before ever cutting the first piece of wood for a project? In the planning process (and it is a process) you'll learn how and why you need a project drawing, a cutting list (and how to make one), a materials list (including all the hardware, and the building process plan or “Plan of Procedure.” Armed with a properly prepared plan you'll know and understand each step of the project build solving problems before they arise.
- **The Fundamentals of Furniture Design: Proportioning Systems and More – Matthew Teague**
  - What makes a well-proportioned piece of furniture? Here's your chance to learn the fundamentals of good furniture design. If you design your own, would like to, or simply want to understand the methods that have been in use for thousands of years, this is a must-see presentation. Topics covered include: Medieval to Modern, the aesthetics of good design, design ratios and proportions and appropriate sizing for tables, chairs and other projects.
- **The Pegged Joint: Reinforcing the Mortise-and-Tenon – Matthew Teague**
  - Reinforcing a mortise-and-tenon joint with a peg not only lends mechanical strength but also offers a variety of decorative options. From driving simple dowels through drilled holes to square pegs in round holes, and pegging breadboards ends to allow for movement, you'll learn all about this time-tested method for reinforcing joinery. Matthew Teague also

demonstrates what may be not only the best method but likely the oldest: drawboring, an offset peg that allows you to construct bombproof joints without glue or even clamps.

- **The Rake's Progress – Roy Underhill**
  - Rake-Making in the Old Tradition: Old fashioned rakes are useful, attractive and a wonderful introduction to green wood working. Using a treadle lathe, and other traditional tools, Roy will construct a rake during the class.
- **Old Time Sash by Hand – Roy Underhill**
  - See Roy use traditional tools and techniques for making moulded sash with hand tools. He will take great panes to reproduce an old window, and we guarantee that your eyes won't glaze over. If he can cope with the joinery, we all will see the (divided) light.
- **Joinery – Marc Adams**
  - Discover the function and terms of many common woodworking joints, the elements of a joint and how to select the best joint for the job at hand. You'll learn the lay-out process, joint selection, correct cutting techniques for precise-fitting joints and adhesive selection.
- **Advanced Joinery – Marc Adams**
  - When you take your work beyond the ordinary you need to be ready to join any shape in any situation. This class will cover functional and decorative joints, when to use them and how to make them by hand or machine.
- **Woodworking as A Business – Marc Adams**
  - Most woodworkers consider at some point the possibility of starting their own business – but is it a viable endeavor, or is it a way to turn a large fortune into a small one? This class will give you practical things to consider before you take the plunge, and methods to ensure success.
- **How I Make a Windsor Chair – Curtis Buchanan**
  - Spend the afternoon with a master chairmaker as he works through the process of preparation and assembly of this classic form of seating. Turning and seat-carving techniques will be featured, as will the finer points of design.
- **Steam Bending – Curtis Buchanan**
  - A thin piece of wood can be bent to form a strong structural element. In this class you will learn the techniques of building a steam box, selecting appropriate material, generating steam and bending wood to a form. Though Curtis is primarily a Windsor chairmaker, his steambending techniques are applicable to just about any type of curved work.
- **Drawknives for Everyone – Curtis Buchanan**
  - See how this traditional chairmaker's tool makes sense for all woodworkers to own and use. This introduction to choosing, sharpening and using this fundamental tool will move your work to a new level as you discover how to quickly add shapes and curves to your work.
- **Moulding Planes – Adam Cherubini**
  - Sure, hollows, rounds and complex moulders look cool on the shelf, but how in the heck do you use these planes to create an endless array of mouldings? How do you look at a period moulding and figure out how to recreate it? How do you choose the right-sized H&R for the job? And how the heck do you use them? This class will answer those questions, and more!
- **18<sup>th</sup>-century Tricks of the Trade – Adam Cherubini**
  - Every issue of just about every woodworking magazine includes shop tips, tricks and shortcuts from readers. But what if there had been woodworking magazines in the 18th century? What shop tricks might the period Master Joiner have to share with readers? Find out in this presentation of period "Tricks of the Trade." You'll get useful and amusing

period-shop shortcuts you can put to use in your modern shop – everything from layout to stock preparation to finish.

- **Stock Prep by Hand – Adam Cherubini**
  - From Rough Many modern woodworkers use handplanes to perfect machined surfaces. But preparing rough-sawn stock for joinery requires different approaches - and often, different tools. Find out the best way to take your stock from rough to ready using handplanes.
- **Handplane Basics – Megan Fitzpatrick**
  - One of the most often-asked questions is "what planes should I start with?" followed by "how do I sharpen, set up and use them?" This class will cut through the confusion and get you started smoothly. You will learn the advantages (and disadvantages) of vintage and new tools, methods to get and keep them working right, and how to make the most of them in any shop.
- **Workbenches 101 – Megan Fitzpatrick**
  - The workbench is the tool that can make every other tool easier to use. Should you buy one? Should you build one? What material should you use? This class will discuss the differences between forms of benches and how to make sure that the bench in your shop fits you and your style of work. In addition, you'll learn a plethora of methods for holding your work.
- **Hand & Power Tools Together – Ron Herman**
  - Most woodworkers use a combination of hand and power tools in their work, and this class covers when and where each type of tool is the best choice. Learn what tools work best with each other, and what tasks are best suited to the tag-team approach.
- **Handsaws: Selecting, Using & Sharpening – Ron Herman**
  - Handsaws can be incredibly efficient, if they fit you and if they are sharp. Ron has used handsaws on a daily basis for his entire career, and cuts through the mystery of using them. His methods of fitting a saw to your size will give you a running start, and you will leave the class with an understanding of how to sharpen your saw for the task at hand.
- **Shooting Boards for Perfect Joints – Ron Herman**
  - Shooting boards provide a way to tweak any joint to a perfect fit using a plane. This class will show the basic boards, how to make them, what plane to use, set up and troubleshooting and how to use them.
- **A Closer Look at Wood – Ron Herman**
  - The structure of the wood you use can have a dramatic impact on the end result of your project, and this class will introduce you to taking a close look at the raw material. The grain pattern and cell structure will tell you what tool and what finish to use. After the class, loupes will be provided so that participants can take a look for themselves.
- **Working Smarter – Jeff Miller**
  - Jeff's new book, "Foundations of Better Woodworking," is all about strategies for improving your woodworking through better use of your body and a better understanding of the wood and your tools. Learning to work with, rather than against body mechanics leads to more accurate, more efficient and more pleasant work. The more you know about how your tools work with the wood, the better you'll be able to do what you set out to do.
- **Furniture Design – Jeff Miller**
  - Moving from the idea of a piece of furniture to an actual piece requires skills and techniques. There are also tools available that can help. This workshop introduces the fundamental skills, techniques and tools that you need to work up your ideas and turn

them into successful designs. We'll also go through a number of exercises that can help explore your design ideas, including creation of a small model.

▪ **Secrets of Period Finishing – Don Williams**

- Don's professional career began in wood finishing and he has probably examined more examples of antique finishes than anyone alive. In this class, you will learn what types of finishes were used in different periods, how they were applied and how they can be duplicated in the modern shop.

▪ **Marquetry for Furniture – Paul Schurch**

- In this presentation from Paul Schurch, you'll get a comprehensive view into the world of veneering, inlay and marquetry – from historical techniques to the modern-day creation of marquetry. Plus, you'll discover practical techniques that can be accomplished with a minimum of tooling but yield fast and professional-looking results.

▪ **Successful Veneering – Paul Schurch**

- Veneering and inlay can help your projects look "high-end" – and if you haven't tried these techniques before, you'll be amazed at how easy it is to get started. You'll discover the fundamentals of veneering (including flattening, storing, handling and basic cutting techniques) and inlay. Plus, Paul will show you how these techniques can greatly enhance your work.

▪ **Turning Furniture Legs – Lowell Converse**

- Exercise your creativity and learn how to turn legs for your furniture projects. Master turner Lowell Converse will demonstrate how to turn both single-axis furniture legs as in the Sheraton-style and off-center turning techniques required for cabriole legs. You will learn how to properly use each of the tools required for spindle turning: gouges, skews, beading and parting tools, etc., and the basics of lathe safety. Lowell will show you how to accurately duplicate turned legs using calipers and other gauging tools. You'll also see how to turn beads, coves, vase forms and tapers to make beautiful legs that will expand and compliment your furniture making.

▪ **Finials, Pulls, Knobs & Tool Handles – Keith Bundy**

- What's a piece of furniture without beautifully turned decorative elements? In this presentation by expert turner Keith Bundy, you'll learn about the tools and techniques for turning eye-catching finials, well-proportioned knobs and striking drawer pulls and more. After covering basic lathe safety, Keith will discuss and demonstrate how to use the key tools for turning these pieces. Design and proportion will be discussed along with decoration, embellishment and finishing. Keith will conclude his presentation on a more practical note demonstrating how to make a tool handle, whether for a screwdriver, carving tool, chisel or a spindle gouge.

▪ **Bowls & Platters – Dale Miner**

- Now that you've built an heirloom-quality piece of furniture, how about a beautiful turned bowl or platter to display on your work? In this demonstration, expert turner Dale Minor covers bowl turning from tree to table. Dale will pictorially illustrate harvesting wood, cutting and preparing bowl blanks then move on to rough-turning bowls from green wood. Dale will also introduce you to the more creative side of lathe work by turning a natural edge bowl. You'll learn various techniques for mounting bowl blank on the lathe. He'll conclude by showing you a range of options and approaches to produce beautiful platters.