

From the Shop



October Highlights

Robert Ortiz, who designs and builds a line of furniture he calls The Sofia Collection was our guest presenter. He has operated out of his studio/shop located in Chestertown, Maryland, for the last ten years.

Mr. Ortiz was a musician before the urge to work with wood changed his life. He was in Chicago at a conference in 1984, and while looking in a bookstore window he saw a copy of George Nakashima's book, *The Soul of a Tree*. In his words, "Thus began my desire to dedicate myself to making simple, beautiful and well-made furniture." If you have read Nakashima's reflections on wood, you may recall his statement: "Each tree, every part of each tree, has only one perfect use." This helps us understand how Mr. Ortiz was inspired to change careers.

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**October
2005**



For Our Upcoming November Meeting . . .

Ray Haggerty, who has owned an Akeda Dovetail Jig for about six months, will show a Storage Case that he made to store all the accessories for the jig. He will also share his thoughts and observations as a user of this piece of equipment.

Meeting Date: *November 15, 2005—3rd Tuesday of the month*

Place: *Lehigh County Sr. Citizens Center, 1633 Elm St., Allentown*

Main Program: *Russ Reinhard will demonstrate the Akeda Dovetail Jig*



This end table in walnut was a test in angular joinery that Mr. Ortiz executed perfectly.

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The style of his furniture is a blend of the American Shaker and the traditional Japanese. As you can see it is quite pleasing to the eye, not too heavy, but slim of line.

While he explained his design philosophy, Mr. Ortiz also spoke of the tools that he likes to use, and the need to pass on through oral tradition ones thoughts on methods, the wisdom of certain choices, and yes, even the occasional criticism.

Mr. Ortiz had the floor for a much enjoyed ninety minutes and comments by members since the meeting have been very positive. We really enjoyed the evening, and we look forward to a return engagement by Mr. Ortiz in April 2006. We have already secured the use of an LCD unit for the projection of pictures.

We would again like to thank Bill and Sandy Clerval for discovering Mr. Ortiz for us, and opening their home for him to stay the night.



This Coffee Table with the bed of rocks in a tray was innovative, as were the inlaid accents at the top of the legs.



Some of the tools used by Mr. Ortiz.

Drag-in & Brag-on



Kathy Nichols opened with her Teddy Bear Fireman intarsia piece complete with fire hose. She said that husband Dave helped a little, but we think she deserves all the credit.



Dave Nichols brought these two bowls. The larger one we believe is Sycamore, but our notes got a little sketchy at this point. The small one is turned from material call "flex".



Wilhelm Schmidt brought another piece of root stock, this time it was Cherry, that he had cleaned and polished/oiled. His profession as a surveyor has taken him off road enough times in past years to find many of these amazing shapes. (Last month we called Wilhelm just plain Bill. Be advised that if you call him Bill he will not answer you.)



Ellis Valentine made up for missing a few meetings by bringing in three gorgeous turnings. I know the item in his left hand is Cocobolo, and I believe the item in his right hand is Black Acacia. We do not have a picture of the third piece. If we are correct on the right hand, then the missing piece is Eastern Red Cedar. This is the point where you use your imagination.

WOOD SPECIALS

SHADY LANE TREE FARM

Louise & Mike Peters
5220 Shimerville Road
Emmaus, PA
610-965-5612

FLEETWOOD LUMBER & FLOORING

Bill Burkert
27 Rapp Rd.
Fleetwood, PA
610-944-8364 Please call
5% LVWWG Member discount

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441 Mountain Rd., RD#2 Box 38
Kempton, PA
610-756-6827

WOODCRAFT

Mary Winkler
1543 Lehigh Street
Allentown, PA 18103
610-351-2966

Lehigh Valley Woodworker's Guild
c/o Bob Tinsman
247 East Market St
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Next meeting: Tuesday November 15, 2005 @ 7:30 pm
Lehigh County Senior Citizens Center
1633 Elm St. (between 16th & 17th Streets)
Allentown, PA
Please park in rear of Center



*Thanks to Hostwindow
for the printing of our
newsletter.*

Members Mart

Bob Tinsman is selling some excess equipment.
The Planer and Mortiser are like new.

	Value	Price
Delta 10" Contractors Saw w/ 2 cast iron wings, mobile base, dust collection..	\$800	\$350
Delta 12½" Planer, 2 sets blades, dust chute	\$300	\$150
Delta ½ HP Hollow Chisel Mortiser, with 4 chisels	\$270	\$175
Heavy Duty Tripod		\$50
Porter Cable 555 Plate Joiner		\$50

See at next meeting or call at 610 691-3506

The Lehigh Valley Woodworkers' Guild (www.lvwwg.com)
was founded in 1995 by Dave Dreher.

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