

# EASTERN MICHIGAN WOODWORKERS

VOLUME 26 NUMBER 04

December 13, 2011

**The December 13th** meeting will be held at the **Buffey Elementary** beginning at 7:00PM. 4235 Crosby Road • Flint, MI 48506 If you arrive late and the doors are locked, walk around to the Gym in the back and knock on the doors, if they are not open.

*Directions: Buffey Elementary School is located off Genesee Road between Richfield and Carpenter roads. Turn west off of Genesee on Crosby Road. Buffey Elementary is on the north side of the road.*

**December Meeting:** Toys, Toys, and lots of Toys. This is our annual Christmas Toys Meeting. Bring your toys.

## **Upcoming meetings:**

- January CNC Router Demo
- February Salad Tongs & Election

**New Officers:** February is election of officers for the next year and then selecting topics for meeting for March through next February. We need your input for both officers and meeting topics.

**Meeting and Class Requests:** EMW is a club made up of many people, some are very skilled and can share their skill with us. Give your ideas for classes and meeting to Gene or Arnold.

**E & L Hardwoods:** Now give us a 10% discount (see p3)

**Woodworking TV Programs:** On the PBS CREATE channel Tuesday and Thursday night at 10:30 and 11:00 o'clock are two woodworking programs. They run a series and then bring in another series. On Comcast its channel 287. If you use an antenna I think its 19.3 and 28.3. They also broadcast woodworking programs on Saturday afternoon, starting about noon. Some of the programs aired are: American Woodshop, The Woodwright's Show, Rough Cut with Tommy Mac, Woodsmith by Don Peschke and sometimes two different shows on woodturning.

**Sunshine Gal:** Barb Lussier (810) 736-8705, is our Sunshine Gal. She will send get well cards and/or flowers for EMW.

**Roster:** is a hidden file at <http://emw.djwws.com/newsletters/emwroster.pdf> (It's hidden because we don't want all our addresses out for spammers and salesmen.)

**Dues:** Dues start in September, they are \$15 for the year (September to the next September). If you are not current, please mail or pay Dennis Ackerman, 4470 Branch Rd., Flint, MI 48506

**Instructors:** Important!!! I need your class dates, class times, and if lunch and drinks are provided by you or should they bring their own lunch.

**A SAFETY NOTE:** For all hands on meetings and classes you will need to bring your own safety glasses and ear plugs.

**Need an idea for your next project or how to do a special project.**

Have you checked out any of the links on the web site?

<http://emw.djwws.com/links/index.htm> If you don't have a computer ask your grandkids to show you some on them. Take some time and explore some of the links on the web site.

**EMW Library:** Remember that the EMW Library has many books, plans, magazines, and VHS tapes. Check with Larry Keeman before you spend your hard earned money

**Remember if you have something to sell or something for the newsletter, contact Dan Bare [dcbare@comcast.net](mailto:dcbare@comcast.net) or 6295 Flushing Rd., Flushing, MI 48433**

EMW Officers		
President	Gene Munsell	810.686.2182
V-President	Arnold Wagner	810.659-5402
Treasurer	Dennis Ackerman	810.736.4726
Librarian	Larry Kleeman	810.653.2750
Secretary/Editor	Dan Bare	810.240-4192
Past President	Dave McGregor	810.736.4956
Pres. Emeritus	Don Ackerman	810.736.7642

**Graphics Galore (the hat and t-shirt guy)** is located at G-7275 N. Genesee Rd., Genesee, MI. If you are interested in getting a hat or t-shirt, you can stop by and pick the style of hat and shirt. They have the EMW logo on file.

**DEMOTT TOOL AND SAW SHARPENING AND REPAIR:** Eric Johnson is the owner and operator of located at 1919 N Lapeer Rd., Lapeer 48446. Phone 810.667.2005. (Located, in the back, of Lapeer Awning and Window.

**Gene Munsell can** weld band saw blades.

**Is anyone interested in a Shaving Horse?:** I just downloaded plans for a new style of Shaving Horse by Brian Broggs, the chair maker. Let me know if you are interested.

**New links:** from Bob Vale

Charles Brock the Chairmaker <http://www.charlesbrock.blogspot.com/>

Home antique tools <http://www.jimbodetools.com/>

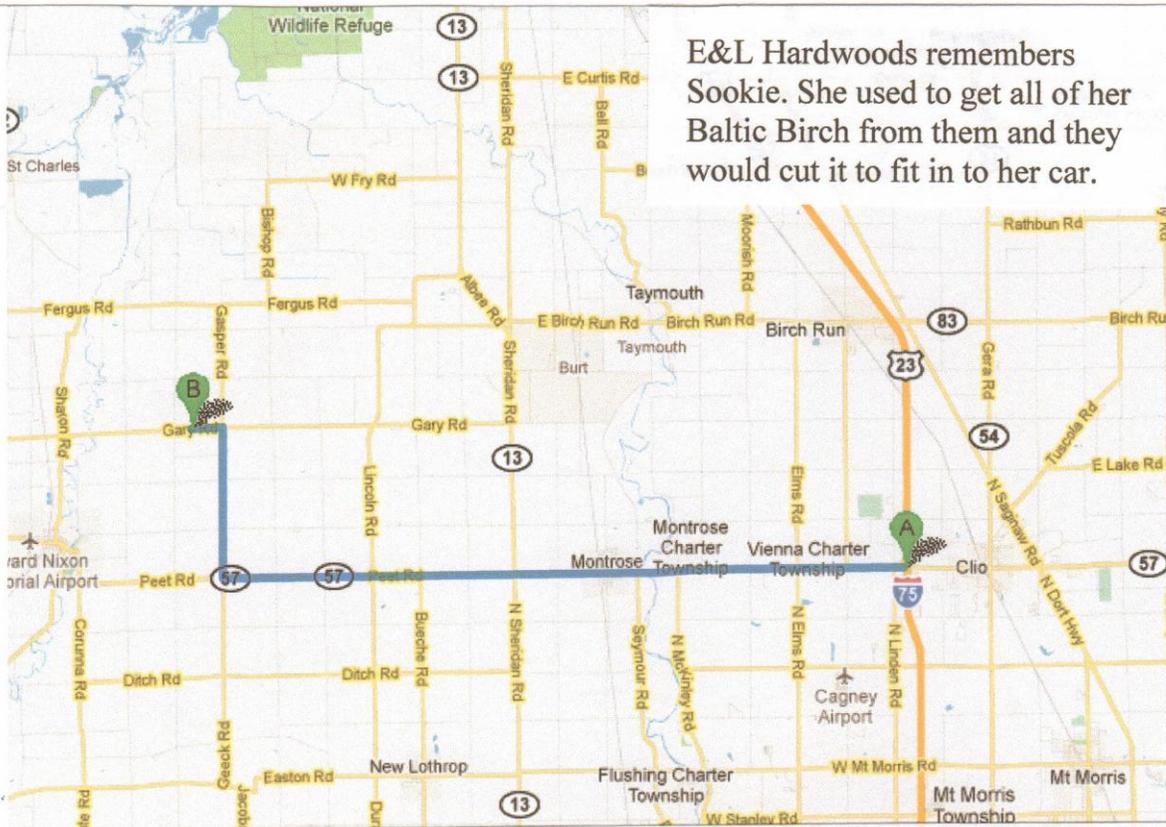
Joshua Clark site featuring woodworking, old tools and tools for sale <http://hyperkitten.com/>

MDF: Consider gloves. The MSDS (Materials Safety Data Sheet) of manufacturer Temple Inland suggests woodworkers use gloves while handling MDF in the shop. And while a conventional dust mask is OK, these folks recommend using an NIOSH/MSHA approved respirator instead. You can easily find a decent respirator for around \$40 and you'll find plenty of other uses for it in the shop, so don't hesitate to purchase one if you do intend to use MDF from time-to-time

**E&L Hardwoods:** I visited E&L Hardwoods, 5365 Gary Road, Chesaning, Mich 48616, which is a little East of Chesaning. They give all EMW members a 10% discount when you show your current membership card. If your dues are not current, please see Dennis Ackerman.

E&L also agreed to send me their current price list so you can check their current price list from our web site.

Below is a map to E&L Hardwoods starting from I75 in Clio.



E&L Hardwoods remembers Sookie. She used to get all of her Baltic Birch from them and they would cut it to fit in to her car.

**A** M-57 W/W Vienna Rd

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <p><b>57</b> 1. Head west on M-57 W/W Vienna Rd toward N Linden Rd<br/>Continue to follow M-57 W<br/>About 20 mins</p> | <p>go 14.1 mi<br/>total 14.1 mi</p> |
| <p><b>➔</b> 2. Turn right onto Gasper Rd<br/>About 6 mins</p>  | <p>go 3.1 mi<br/>total 17.2 mi</p>  |
| <p><b>➔</b> 3. Turn left onto Gary Rd<br/>About 2 mins</p>   | <p>go 0.7 mi<br/>total 17.9 mi</p>  |

**B** Gary Rd

## **A New Type Shaving Horse**

(This is a paraphrased version of a famous chair maker article)

When I want to shape a bent chair leg, I need a lot of holding power. In fact, any organically shaped piece of wood is a challenge for the standard bench. That is why shaving horses are so popular among chair makers.

A shaving horse is not a crude device useful only for rustic craft. A good shaving horse grips a work piece firmly, releases and readjusts its grip as quickly as you can move your foot and allows more control and sensitivity for holding parts without bruising them than any other clamping system I know.

A shaving horse is basically a foot-operated clamp. The lower jaw supports the work piece while the upper jaw presses down on it in response to foot pressure. This is an ideal arrangement for working with spoke shaves and drawknives because the harder you pull with the tool, the more pressure you naturally exert with your feet to maintain your balance. And the more pressure you exert with your feet, the more clamping force you exert on the work piece.

I made several shaving horses, but with my fourth design, I ended up with a horse that makes several departures from its old English predecessors. I built it taller and added a tilted, padded and leather-upholstered bicycle type seat that can be adjusted forward and back. I cut back the front of the horse to allow more clearance forward of the treadle so that curved work pieces could be rotated freely. And I replaced the traditional lower clamping surface with a jaw on a ratchet assembly, which permits quick adjustment of the opening and allows me to keep the work angle constant.

I think this horse is just right for chair making and suits me, you may want to make adjustments to fit you and your work. Start by building the base and saddle. Try getting on and off the horse, and see how it feels. I think the tallest horse you can mount easily is your best height. The taller the horse, the more open the angle of your thigh to your back while you are working, and the less strain on your back. Err on the tall side—you can always shorten the legs.

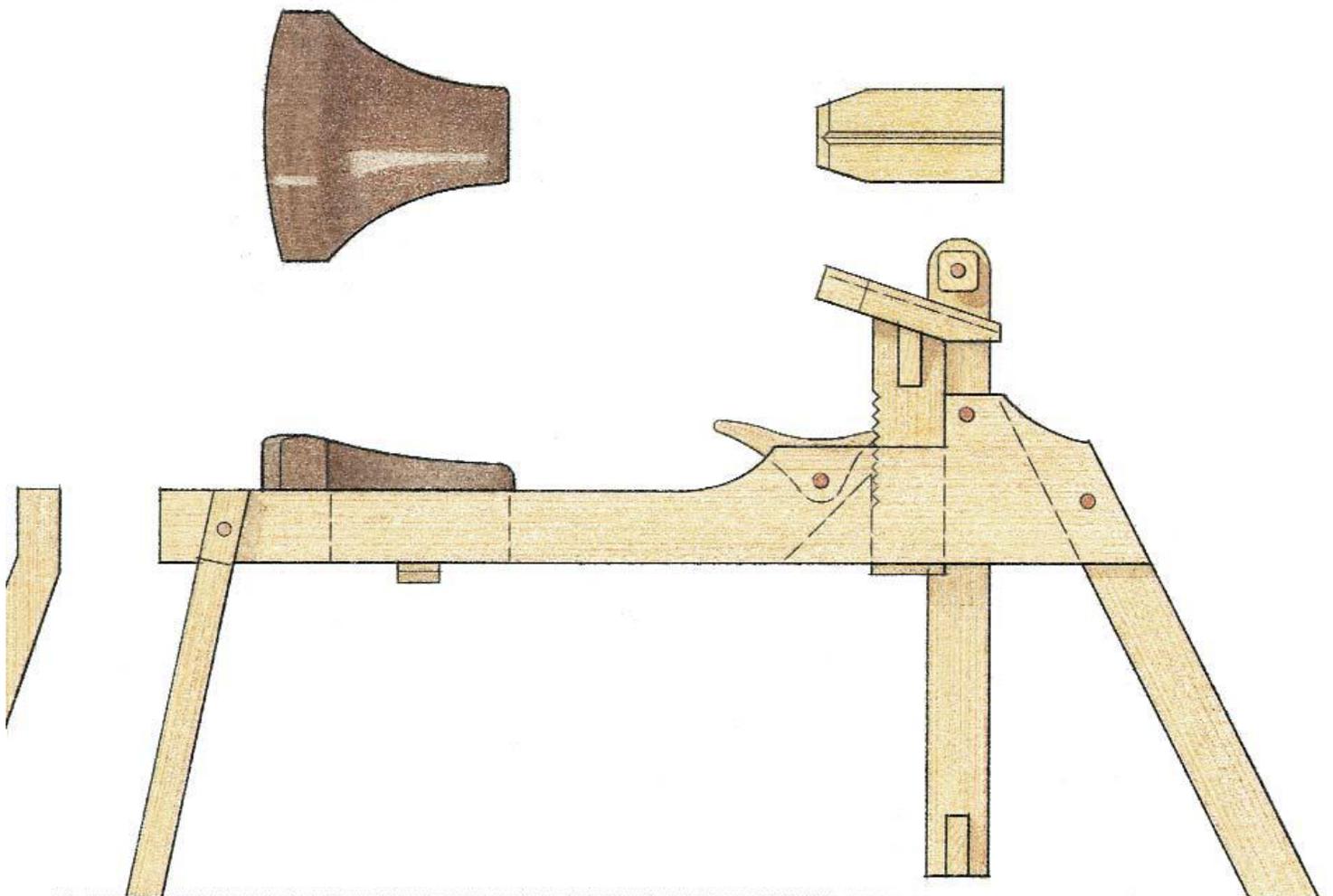
Next, find the best spot for the clamping treadle. It should swing from a pivot point directly above the most comfortable position for your feet, just a little ahead of your knees. You don't want to have your legs fully extended while you are working. When you find the right spot, drill the hole for the treadle pivot pin. Don't cut the treadle to length yet, but fit it temporarily with the foot bar attached. You want the treadle's foot bar to be as low as is comfortable and still clear the floor by about 1 in.

To determine where to locate the upper jaw, you first need to build the ratchet assembly for raising the lower jaw. This mechanism must operate very smoothly and hold securely to be worthwhile, so pay close attention to the alignment of the ratchet key to the ratchet-riser notches. The riser should slide up like a well-made drawer—no resistance but no slop, either. You'll need to plane or scrape the sides of the riser carefully. Wax is helpful, too.

Once you have the ratchet riser in place and working well, it's time to determine the optimal position for the upper jaw. The position of the upper jaw determines the height at which you'll be cutting and therefore the comfort and efficiency of the horse (the lower jaw simply adjusts to

accommodate the thickness of the work piece). The upper jaw is a square piece of stock with rounded corners that is drilled through to accept a pin. For fitting, cut the jaw over length by 1/4 in. so it sits tightly between the treadle posts. Clamp it in place (without the pin) between the treadle posts at about the height of your elbow as you sit on the horse. With a piece of soft wood in the jaws, apply light foot pressure, and take a few practice cuts with a drawknife. Raise or lower the jaw until the cutting action feels natural. Your elbows should be in line with your shoulders, and your shoulders should be relaxed. Then mark and drill the treadle posts for the upper-jaw pin and cut the jaw to its correct length.

When using this horse, keep the lower jaw in the highest position that will accommodate the work piece. For best leverage and leg position, the clamping treadle should not need to travel far from the vertical position. If you find that your legs are stretched way forward, raise the lower jaw. Not only will you be more comfortable in this position, but it will also take less effort to hold your work still. Happy trails!



To view the full story and look at the pictures and drawings go to

<http://emw.djwws.com/newsletters/horse.pdf>

I will have a few copies at the meeting Dec 13<sup>th</sup>.

## EMW Classes for 2011 - 2012

Class	Instructor	Phone	Dates	Time	Bring Lunch
Roll Top Keepsake Box	Jim Carsten	810-232-4685	Jan 12 Jan 14		
Spoke Shave Class..	Gene Munsell	810-240-3710			
Inverted Turning	Bob Neumann & Jeff Munsell	810-659-4717			
Cutting Board	Ken Herriman & Gene Munsell	810-686-6613			
Table Saw Sled	Arnold Wagner	810-659-5402			
Traveser..	Gene Munsell	810-240-3710			
Coopering	To be announced	810-240-3710			
Bird House	Larry Sills	810-635-3784			
Picture Frames	Ken Herriman & Arnold Wagner	810-686-6613	Dec 8 & Dec 10		
Shaker Tray	Gene Munsell & Arnold Wagner	810-240-3710			
Compass Plane	Gene Munsell	810-240-3710			
Chair-Step Stool	Arnold Wagner	810-659-5402			
Box Jig For Router Table	Craig Holobach & Jack Edwards	810-686-6613			
Stool Class	Bob Glaser	810- 688-2558			
Shaker Rocker Class	L Woughter & J Swab	810- 736-8573	Jan 5...	6:00 PM	

### Eastern Michigan Woodworkers Newsletter

Dan Bare  
 6295 Flushing Rd  
 Flushing MI 48433