CENTER for FURNITURE CRAFTSMANSHIP



FROM THE DIRECTOR

ne of the great things about woodworking is that you can always figure out exactly why something isn't working. If a dovetail is too tight to assemble or smoke wafts up from the motor of your table saw, rational investigation will eventually solve the problem. If only the uncertainties of the world outside the workshop were so readily resolved!



I say this in light of the times. Solid ground seems like a rare commodity at present, particularly in the financial world. So I feel especially fortunate that we've had a good year at the school. Yes, the pace of registrations slowed to a crawl when gas hit \$4.00 per gallon. But, despite that, applications to the Nine-month Comprehensive almost doubled from last year, and it opened in September at full enrollment. All three Twelve-week Intensives also ran at full capacity, and the

Workshops were right on target at 82% enrollment overall.

Good governance is essential to the health of a non-profit organization, and I am grateful to be working with an experienced, proactive Board of Directors. Even in this troubled economic period, they are focused on building a better future at the Center. It is strongly to their credit that, as the adjacent article announces, we are well past the half-way mark in our \$3 million Campaign for Creative Excellence that will take the school to new levels of program excellence and institutional sustainability.

Beneath our capital infrastructure of buildings and endowment beats the heart of the school—alumni, friends, faculty, staff, volunteers, and other contributors who participate because they value craftsmanship as a rewarding process of self-discovery and self-expression. Together, we are building the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship into an institution that will carry the craft of woodworking forward through good times and bad, to the benefit of future generations.

For me, the school has the attributes of a healthy workshop. It is a haven of rationality, creativity, and integrity in a crazy world. Thank you all for making it so.

— Peter Korn

CAMPAIGN FOR CREATIVE EXCELLENCE

The Board of Directors of the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship is pleased to announce that it has launched a \$3.0 million *Campaign for Creative Excellence* to implement three key initiatives that will be critical to sustaining the school's future excellence. These are:

- \$2.0 million in new endowment to improve faculty compensation so that the Center can continue to guarantee its students access to the finest instructors from this country and around the world;
- \$500,000 in new endowment to establish a range of needsbased scholarships that will open the school to talented students of all backgrounds who cannot presently afford to attend; and
- \$500,000 in new endowment to create a Visiting Artists Program that will encourage accomplished woodworkers to investigate new directions in their work, provide leadership for emerging makers in our Studio Fellowship program, and further boost creative energy on our campus.

The Campaign for Creative Excellence addresses challenges and opportunities identified by the Board over a two-year planning process. "Our intent is to advance our program quality, societal impact, and institutional strength," says Board Chair Rick Kellogg, "This campaign hits all three nails squarely on their heads."

The 15 members of the Center's Board and Campaign Committee have set the pace for the campaign by making gifts and pledges totaling more than \$1.5 million, including two separate \$500,000 leadership gifts. Additional contributions from alumni, friends, and foundations have brought the campaign total to \$2,018,000. "The commitment of the school's leadership will be very encouraging to alumni, foundations, and friends who want to participate in the Center's growth," says Campaign Chair Peter Haight of Los Angeles, California.

While the current economy presents unprecedented challenges for fundraising, the Campaign Committee is working toward a successful conclusion by the end of 2009. Campaign Committee members are Chairman Peter V. Haight of Los Angeles, California; Vice-chair Richard C. Kellogg, Jr. of Houston, Texas; Lewis Cabot of Falmouth, Maine; Nathan Hayward, III of Montchanin, Delaware; Joseph D. Messler of Camden, Maine; Jeremy R. Morton, M.D. of Portland, Maine; Craig Satterlee of Marietta, Georgia; and Joan Welsh of Rockport, Maine.

Persons interested in learning more about the *Campaign for Creative Excellence* are encouraged to contact Executive Director Peter Korn. We welcome your participation and financial support!

CENTER for FURNITURE CRAFTSMANSHIP

is a nonprofit 501(c)(3)
educational organization.
Our mission is to provide the best
possible education for people who
want to design and build
functional, beautiful, expressive work
out of wood to the highest
standard of craftsmanship.

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DESIGN & PRODUCTION Silverline Studio, Camden, ME

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Center for Furniture Craftsmanship does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, or sexual orientation.

Preview of 2009 Workshops

Course descriptions will be posted to www.woodschool.org by mid-December. Registration begins on January 2, 2009.

WORKSHOPS

June 1-12	BASIC WOODWORKING (Also June 29 – July 10, July 27 – Al August 24 – September 4, October	=
June 1-5	Introduction to Turning	Stephen Gleasner
June 8-12	Vessels Turned and Carved	Matthew Hill
June 15-26	Intermediate Furniture Making	Kevin Rodel
June 15-19	Really Basic Woodworking	Liza Wheeler
June 22-26	Relief Carving	Chris Pye
June 29 – July 10	Intermediate/Advanced Carving	Chris Pye
July 13-24	In the Krenov Tradition	Jennifer Anderson
		& David Welter
July 13-17	Learn to Turn	Beth Ireland
July 20-24	Beyond Basic Bowls	Mark Gardner
July 27–31	Precision with Hand Tools	Garrett Hack
August 3-7	Just Joinery	Pete Schlebecker
August 10-21	Cabinets and Casepieces	Jerry Curry
		& John McAlevey
August 10-21	Building an Elegant Windsor	Curtis Buchanan
		with Nick Cook
August 17-21	Woodturning for Beginners	Nick Cook
Aug. 24 – Sept. 4	Finishing A to Z	Teri Masaschi
September 7-18	Design and Craftsmanship	Ted Blachly & Jere Osgood
September 7-18	Restoration and Repair	Teri Masaschi
September 14-18	Woodturning Fundamentals	Alan Lacer
September 21-25	Woodturning II	Alan Lacer
September 21-25	Computer-aided Design	Paul Loebach
Sept. 21-Oct. 2	Machine Skills and Design	Aled Lewis & Tim Rousseau
Sept. 28 – Oct. 2	THE UNPLUGGED WOODSHOP	Tom Caspar
October 5-9	Hand-Applied Finishes	Teri Masaschi

TWELVE-WEEK INTENSIVES
February 16 – May 8, 2009
June 8 – August 28, 2009
October 26, 2009 – January 22, 2010

ADVANCED VENEERING

NINE-MONTH COMPREHENSIVE September 7, 2009 – May 28, 2010



October 12-16

Tiffany and Jesse Pinegar took the croquet honors on June 26.

2008 CROQUET WINNERS

Darryl Keil

June 5	Lisa Kaliczak and Mike Todd	
June 12	Kim Feinberg and Nick Keslake	
June 19	Tom Clowney and Mike Todd	
June 26	Tiffany and Jesse Pinegar	
July 3	Nick Keslake and Jesse Pinegar	
July 10	Greg Crispell and Steve Harding	
July 17	Allen Beeman and John Jordan	
August 14	Daniel Chesnut and Peter Korn	
August 21	David Haig and Brian Reid	
August 28	Phoebe and Jim Briley	
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NINE-MONTH COMPREHENSIVE BEGINS

The 2008-2009 Nine-month Comprehensive began on September 8. Lead Instructor David Upfill-Brown is being joined for the seven major projects by Visiting Instructors Peter Turner (South Portland, Maine), Aled Lewis (Oxford, England), Brian Reid (Rockport, Maine), Pete Schlebecker (Camden, Maine), Michael Puryear (Shokan, New York), Tim Rousseau (Appleton, Maine), and Tom Kealy (Somerset, England).

Additional faculty include furniture historian Ed Churchill (Augusta, Maine), marquetarian Jim Macdonald (Burnham, Maine), woodturner Stephen Gleasner (Appleton, Maine), carver Valdemar Skov (Waldoboro, Maine), and artist John Whalley (Damariscotta, Maine) The thirteen students pictured here were selected from a pool of 38 applicants.



Chris Atwood Clifton, Virginia



Erin Cullen Seattle, Washington



Ben Fleis Ithaca, New York



Jordan Goodman Chicago, Illinois



Reed Hansuld Mississauga, Ontario



Chris Howe Greenfield, Massachusetts



Tyler Killian Bethel, Vermont



Shona Kinniburgh Glasgow, Scotland



Matthew Miller Highland Park, Illinois



Dave Stetson Wiscasset, Maine



Mike Todd Laguna Beach, California



Jamie Vander Salm Worcester, Massachusetts



Andrea Young Belfast, Maine

FACULTY NEWS

Instructors featured in Taunton Press' new publication, Fine Woodworking's Furniture: 102 Contemporary Designs, include JENNIFER ANDERSON (San Diego, California), TED BLACHLY (Warner, New Hampshire), Curtis Buchanan (Jonesborough, Tennessee), TIMOTHY COLEMAN (Shelburne, Massachusetts), MIGUEL GOMEZ-IBANEZ (Weston, Massachusetts), Hugh Montgomery (Bainbridge Island, Washington), KEVIN RODEL (Brunswick, Maine), JAMES SCHRIBER (New Milford, Connecticut), Peter TURNER (South Portland, Maine), and DAVID UPFILL-Brown (Rockport, Maine). ■ The Mink Hills Band has recorded a CD of bluegrass, swing, and original

music that is due out this Fall: TED BLACHLY (Warner, New Hampshire) on guitar, his wife Val on upright bass, and three other musicians on pedal steel, banjo, and fiddle. ■ Jon Brooks (New Boston, New Hampshire) is exhibiting in "Craft in America: Expanding Traditions" at the Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma through January 18. Two of Jon's pieces are currently being acquired by the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Tom Caspar (Minneapolis, Minnesota) has taken over editorship of Woodwork magazine, in addition to his post as Editor of American Woodworker.

ED CHURCHILL (Augusta, Maine) is publish-



Instructor Beth Ireland, describing David Upfill-Brown's prize catch. (Photo by David Olney)

ing an article on Elias Morse, an early nineteenth century furniture maker and decorator from western Maine, in the Fall issue of Folk Art. ■ Ross Day (Poulsbo, Washington) is featured in the cover story of the December 2008 issue of Woodwork, written by Jon Binzen. ■ AARON FEDARKO (Camden, Maine) is sharing workshop space with LIBBY SCHRUM (Camden, Maine) and has a new web site: www.fedarkofurniture.com. ■ Peter FLEMING (Oakville, Ontario) and PETER PIEROBON (North Vancouver, British Columbia) have work in the "2 Chairs" show at the Winnipeg Art Gallery in Winnipeg, Manitoba through January 18. ■ JOHN REED FOX (Acton, Massachusetts) is exhibiting at the

Washington Craft Show in Washington, D.C. from November 7–9, along with Peter Shepard (Harvard, Massachusetts).

Stephen Gleasner (Appleton, Maine) successfully completed the 2,700 mile Tour Divide '08 bicycle race in 29 days.



Lead Instructor David Upfill-Brown (foreground) celebrated his 60th birthday by preying on the sea trout of Loch Currane, Ireland with Gillie Bob Priestley.

■ GARRETT HACK (Thetford Center,

Vermont) has a family cow for sale. His casepiece "Wekiwa Shimmering" was on the block at the New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association's Annual Auction on October 26, along with pieces by TED BLACHLY, JERE OSGOOD (Wilton, New Hampshire), BRIAN REID (Rockland, Maine), BILL THOMAS (Rindge, New Hampshire), and Peter Turner (South Portland, Maine).
BETH IRELAND (Roslindale, Massachusetts) will demonstrate woodturning on two upcoming episodes of the PBS television show *Cultivating Life.* ■ Tom Kealy (Somerset, England) participated in this year's open-studio Somerset Arts Week. ■ LOEBACH (Brooklyn, New York) exhibited in the Salone Satellite at the 2008 Milan Furniture Fair. PHIL Lowe (Beverly. Massachusetts) has written two articles for the November/December issue of Fine Woodworking: "The High Art of the Lowboy" and "Carve a Decorative Fan." ■ IIM MACDONALD (Burnham, Maine) is working on a commission from the Maine Crafts Association to create a trompe l'oeil marquetry sign for its Center for Maine Craft, opening soon at the new Gardiner Travelplaza on the Maine Turnpike.
TERI MASASCHI (Tijeras, New Mexico) has a new website: www.terimasaschi.com. ■ Hugh MONTGOMERY is participating in "Unexpected Table," a group show at Bainbridge Arts and Crafts from November 7 – December 2. ■ TIM PHILBRICK (Narragansett, Rhode Island) has four pieces in "NetWorks 2008: An Artistic Collaboration" at the Newport Art Museum through January 18, 2009. ■ MICHAEL PURYEAR (Shokan, New York)

was featured in "Carving It Up: A New Breed of Furniture Makers Whittle Away at the Competition" in the September 2008 issue of The Robb Report Collection. ■ Chris Pye (Hereford, England) was recently named Woodcarving Illustrated's "Woodcarver of the Year." ■ In October, KEVIN RODEL spoke at the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, Ct. on "The Contemporary Craftsman: Influences of the Arts & Crafts on Today's Designs,' in conjunction with the exhibition "At Home with Gustav Stickley," on view until January 4. ■ Fine Woodworking is featuring a video on their web site starring TIM ROUSSEAU (Appleton, Maine) in the construction of a frame-and-panel end table with a drawer and a door. BETTY SCARPINO (Indianapolis, Indiana) has been hired as the new editor of American Woodturner, the journal of the American Association of Woodturners. In November Betty has a solo show at the AV Framing Gallery in Indianapolis. "5 Essential Jigs for the Router Table" by Pete Schlebecker (Camden, Maine) appeared in the October 2008 issue of Fine Woodworking.

JAMES SCHRIBER (New Milford, Connecticut) was represented by the William Zimmer Gallery at SOFA Chicago in early November. Also at SOFA, HAYLEY SMITH and TODD HOYER (Bisbee, Arizona) were represented by the del Mano Gallery. In addition, Hayley participated in the Collectors of Wood Art special exhibition "A Perfect Marriage: Wood and Color," curated by Paul Richelson of the Mobile Museum of Art, along with JACQUES VESERY (Damariscotta, Maine).

An ash and hickory blanket chest by Peter Turner will be the subject of an article in the December issue of *Fine Woodworking*. RICHARD VAUGHAN (Queensland, Australia) is on the jurors' panel for the Australian



Instructor Tom Kealy, of Somerset, England, tests a split oak log for comfort while making an outdoor bench for the school last Spring.

national television show "The New Inventors." ■ This August, JACQUES VESERY won the Professional Juror's Award at the Art and Passion du Bois Festival in Breville, France. He is the only artist outside of France ever to be

ALUMNI NEWS

accepted to this event. At the same time he had a solo exhibition titled "Explorations of the Surface" at del Mano Gallery in Los Angeles. Drawings by Jacques will be on display in "First Traces: Artists" Sketchbooks" from Oct. 31 through Dec. 20 at the Center for Maine Contemporary Art in Rockport, Maine. ■ The Glissade desk, designed by ROD and ALISON WALES (East Sussex, England) for Meta, was launched at the 2008 Milan Furniture Fair. Among other current projects, Rod and Ali are consulting for CS Contract Furniture in Shropshire, England. ■ A show of drawings and paintings by John Whalley (Damariscotta, Maine) is on display at the Vose Galleries of Boston from November 15 - December 30.

NEW GENERAL MANAGER



Elaine Ng

Elaine Ng joined our staff this September as General Manager. Creating this position was a critical, final step in a 10-year process of growing a healthy nonprofit organization that will successfully perpetuate its mission and culture. As General Manager, Elaine will be responsible for managing the day-to-day administrative operations of the school.

Elaine relocated to Maine in 2006 from New York City, where she was Managing Director of the Gotham Chamber Opera. Prior to Gotham, Elaine was Associate Director of the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, and most recently, she served as Director of Development for the Center for Maine Contemporary Art in Rockport. Elaine holds both an M.B.A. and an M.A. in Arts Administration from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

A croquet set turned by Jacque Allen (Asheville, North Carolina) during her Studio Fellowship at the Center was a finalist in the IWF Atlanta "2008

Design Emphasis" competition. Jacque's new web site is: www.jdallenstudio.com Cale Caboth (Mt. Pleasant, Iowa) is represented by the Blue Sky furniture gallery in Minneapolis.

A sideboard by Kevin Gill (Rockland, Maine) is featured in Fine Woodworking's Furniture: 102 Contemporary Designs, which came out in September. Other alumni whose work is represented include



New Hampshire) has been juried into the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen. • Jesse Pinegar (Salt Lake City, Utah) is working at Premier

Woodworking & Design in Kaysville, Utah. ■ A rocking chair by Leslie Webb (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) was a finalist in the Furniture Society's Multiplicity exhibition, which can still be seen online at www.furnituresociety.org. Also, Leslie is exhibiting at this year's Philadelphia Craft Show, from November 13–16. ■ Ben Richmond (Westbrook, Maine) is working at Tim Hill Fine Woodworking in Gorham, Maine. ■ Todd

Rockweit (Vinland, Wisconsin) has purchased Bridgeview Woodcraft, an architectural millwork company in Menasha, Wisconsin. A bathroom vanity by Lee Toman (St. Paul, Minnesota) took Best in Show at 2008 Northern Woods, an exhibition sponsored by the Minnesota Woodworkers Guild this past Spring. Brian Weir (South Dartmouth, Massachusetts) exhibited his work at the Paradise City Arts Festival in Northhampton, Massachusetts this October and was featured as a "Show Stopper" in their Fall Guide.



Myrl Phelps

SCHOLARSHIPS EXPAND

In 2009 the Center will award a record \$8,500 in scholarships to Workshop participants, thanks to the generosity of two alumni and their spouses. Two years ago, Jerry Axelson and Nancy Wilson, who live in Conway, Massachusetts, launched the scholarship program. This year they are being joined by Dick and Abby Whittington, of Rockport, Maine.

"My experience at the school was unbelievable!" Dick Whittington comments. "Abby and I want to make that same experience available to others."



Alumnus Dick Whittington, during his Basic Woodworking course last summer

With a permanent scholarship endowment soon to be established through the *Campaign for Creative Excellence*, Board Chair Rick Kellogg said, "We are extremely grateful to the Axelsons and Whittingtons for getting our scholarship program off the ground and giving us a chance to tailor it to the needs of our students."

Scholarship application information will be available on the school's web site after December 15.

MESSLER GALLERY NEWS

CURRENTLY SHOWING

LEGACY OF TALENT: A MOSER REUNION September 12 – November 28, 2008

This exhibition presents contemporary pieces by Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers in conjunction with work by seven accomplished furniture makers who passed through the Moser workshops early in their careers. They are Jas. Becker Cabinetmaker from Wilder, Vermont; Green Design Furniture from Portland, Maine; Huston & Co. from Kennebunkport, Maine; Kevin Rodel Furniture & Design Studio from Brunswick, Maine; Peter Thompson from Cornville, Maine; Vigneron Design Studio from Housatonic, Massachusetts; and Stewart Wurtz Furniture from Seattle, Washington.

In 1972, Tom Moser left a teaching career to build furniture in an old Grange Hall in New Gloucester, Maine. When Bill Huston started working at the bench four years later, he was one of only four craftsmen in the company. Twelve years later, when Bill moved on to found his own company, he had risen to General Manager and Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers had grown considerably. Today Huston employs four craftsmen



Five pieces (foreground) designed by Tom Moser and his son, David, are on display in Legacy of Talent. They include an original Continuous Arm Chair from 1978 and the latest pieces from Moser's new Aria collection.

himself, building a line of residential and institutional furniture that can be seen at his Kennebunkport showroom.

Kevin Rodel worked at Moser from 1979-1985. During that time the Grange Hall was populated by six cabinetmakers and five chair makers and Moser opened a second, larger facility in Lewiston, Maine. Today, Rodel is an international authority on Arts & Crafts furniture.

Doug Green left a small, one-man workshop to work for Moser from 1981-1982. There he discovered a talent for streamlining production techniques that led to a degree in industrial design from Pratt Institute in New York, after which he founded his own company, Green Design Furniture.

The furniture in "Legacy of Talent" tells the story of how passing through the Moser workshops boosted the trajectories of seven talented craftsmen, all of whom have gone on to explore exciting new directions and inspire others with their own significant design accomplishments.

Messler Gallery hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturdays. The exhibition can also be viewed at www.woodschool.org.

UPCOMING SHOWS

IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND: EXQUISITE GIFTS December 5, 2008 – February 13, 2009

This holiday-season show presents small treasures by 23 exceptional woodworkers from the U.S., Germany, France, England, Canada, and Australia, curated by renowned wood artist Jacques Vesery.

Celebrating the Studio Fellowship February 20 – April 17, 2009

Our annual presentation of accomplished, inventive work by past and present participants in the Center's Studio Fellowship Program.

Keturn Service Requested

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