

NEWSLETTER



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Earlier this week I noticed that six of the eleven furniture makers in our current show, "Work By Studio Fellows," moved to this area as a result of their participation in our programs. The earliest was Joe Brewer, who took our first Twelve-week Intensive back in 1994. The most recent is Brian Reid, who first taught here in 2003 and moved to Camden just five months ago.



I also noticed how many people are quietly giving their time to the school as volunteers. Just this week, we have Peter Fleming, a retired hospital management information director, organizing our library; Richard Dunham, a former theatrical lighting designer, illuminating the gallery; Sarah Ruef-Lindquist, a bank vice-president and trust officer, advising our Planned Giving Committee; and Paul Parisi, vice-president of a technology consulting and support firm, troubleshooting our computer

network. Fourteen more people are helping with this week's gallery opening, and, as always, our all-volunteer Board of Directors is working behind the scenes.

Both of these things—the congregation of talented woodworkers and the participation of so many volunteers—signify the growth of the school community. As I am fond of saying, handsome buildings full of sharp tools may be the school's outward manifestation, but the heart of the school is the community of people who participate as students, instructors, staff, volunteers, and contributors, people for whom design and craftsmanship are deeply meaningful expressions of the human spirit.

The school is a catalyst and a resource for a community that is anchored in Rockport and extends around the world. The people of this community, in turn, contribute their time, talents and resources to advance the excellence of the school.

In this troubled world, where cultural, ethnic, and religious communities often achieve identity by exclusion as much as inclusion, the community of the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship is exceptional for its culture of integrity, generosity, inclusion, encouragement, creativity, and excellence. Speaking for myself, it is a privilege to participate.

— Peter Korn

FACULTY FUND FOUNDED

Students rarely request private meetings with the Executive Director, so it was with some curiosity that Peter Korn sat down behind closed doors last September with workshop participant Dick Fink, who hails from Minnetonka, Minnesota.

What was on Fink's mind would have surprised even the most optimistic of executive directors. "I've come here five years in a row," he began, "and I've been consistently impressed with the excellence of the courses I've taken."

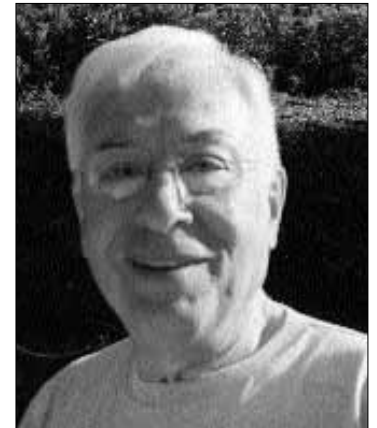
To give credit where credit is due, Fink took Intermediate Furniture Making with Chris Becksvort in 2001, "Design & Craftsmanship" with Craig Stevens and Ejler Hjorth-Westh in 2002, "Chair Making" with Bob DeFuccio in 2003, "Advanced Furniture Making" with Michael Fortune in 2004, and "Sculptural Furniture" with Tom Hucker and Peter Pierobon in 2005.

"I'm going to retire soon," Fink continued, "and am thinking about a significant gift to the school. I am particularly interested in making sure the Center can continue to attract instructors as exceptional as those I've had."

As it happens, the Center's Board of Directors has recently been exploring that very issue. It is a question that faces every non-profit school: How do you pay your faculty as well as they deserve, yet still keep classes small and tuition affordable?

Fink's initiative couldn't have been more timely or more welcome. Following discussion with Korn and the Board of Directors, he made a generous pledge of \$100,000 to establish a Faculty Endowment "to ensure the Center's continued ability to attract and retain faculty of exceptional quality."

"We are deeply grateful to Dick for his foresight and generosity," said Board of Directors President Rick Kellogg. "The Faculty is the single most important asset at the Center for Furniture



Alumnus Dick Fink has established a faculty endowment at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship.

Continued on page 2

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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CENTER for FURNITURE CRAFTSMANSHIP
25 Mill Street, Rockport, ME 04856
(207) 594-5611
cfc@woodschooll.org
www.woodschooll.org

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

FACULTY FUND (continued)

Craftsmanship, and Dick's gift provides a solid foundation the Board intends to build upon in the years ahead. The Faculty Endowment Mr. Fink has so handsomely begun will be critical to the school's continued success in attracting and retaining the very best teachers in the field."

Fink's gift brings the Center's total endowment to \$1,000,000. Two other endowment funds were previously established through the Capital Campaign that concluded in January, 2004. The Studio Fellowship Endowment supports free studio space for six year-round fellowship positions in the Jackson Building. The Maintenance Endowment supports repair and maintenance of the school's physical plant.

The Board of Directors and Staff wish to express their profound gratitude to Dick Fink on behalf of the entire school community!

WEDDING BELLS



photo by Carol Miller

Alumna Michelle Dee and Executive Director Peter Korn were married on April 8, 2006 at their home in Rockland, Maine.

NEW FACES IN THE OFFICE

There have been major changes in the school office since our previous newsletter appeared in November. Jenn Mora left to pursue a Family Nurse Practitioner graduate degree at the University of Southern Maine. Kate Fletcher went to work for a television production company, which is a field more closely aligned with her personal creative interests of photography and theater. Luckily, two equally terrific people have come along to fill their positions.



LAURA WALZ, our new Student Services Coordinator, moved to Maine in November 2005 from State College, Pennsylvania, where she worked as program secretary for the State College School District's alternative high school. She is a graduate of Smith College with a B.A. in geology. Laura has a son who is a Resident Artist-in-Training at Tri-Cities Opera in Binghamton, New York and a daughter who will be studying nursing at Messiah College in Grantham, Pennsylvania.



MARGARET JONES, the Center's new Senior Administrator, comes from a varied background in the for-profit and non-profit sectors, including early childhood education, environmental protection, transportation equipment, and non-profit management. An avid sailor, she grew up in Midcoast Maine, worked for many years in the New York Metropolitan area, and now lives on Saturday Cove in Northport, Maine

FACULTY NEWS SPRING 2006

Jennifer Anderson (San Diego, California), Brian Boggs (Berea, Kentucky), and Peter Korn (Rockport, Maine) will be panelists at this year's Furniture Society Conference in Indianapolis, June 7-10. Jennifer's panel is titled, "Critical Discourses: Manifestoes for the Next Generation."



Beth Ireland demonstrates bowl turning

Brian's is "Down to the Details." Peter's is "Furniture Education: Responding to a Changing Environment." ■ **Bruce Beeken** (Shelburne, Vermont) and Jeff Parsons, of Beeken Parsons, will be participating in the "25th Anniversary Exhibition" at Pritam & Eames, in Easthampton, New York this summer. ■ The New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association is entering its 11th season with two exhibitions and their annual October auction. Participants include **Ted Blachly** (Warner, New Hampshire), **Tim Coleman** (Shelburne, Massachusetts), **Garrett Hack** (Thetford Center, Vermont), **Terry Moore** (Newport, New Hampshire), **Jere Osgood** (Wilton, New Hampshire), and **Bill Thomas** (Rindge, New Hampshire), plus special invited artist **David Uphill-Brown** (Rockport, Maine). ■ **Brian Boggs** (Berea, Kentucky) reports that business has doubled in the past year and he is going to start offering three-month and six-month apprenticeships in May. Also, the Boggs Shaving Horse will be available from Lie-Nielsen Toolworks, starting in August. ■ **Steve Butler** (Worcester, Massachusetts) is teaching workshops and exhibiting at Peters Valley Craft Center in Layton, New Jersey and Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this summer. ■ **Chris Burtis** (Bath, Maine) is studying to renew his 100-ton auxiliary sail master's license for near-coastal waters. ■ **Ed Churchill** (Augusta, Maine) presented a five-part lecture series on the history of furniture at the Maine State Museum earlier this year. ■ **Tim Coleman's**

(Shelburne, Massachusetts) casepiece "Root and Crown" is currently in the inaugural exhibition of the Sharada Gallery in Hudson New York — a new gallery devoted exclusively to studio furniture. Tim is also participating in the Early Spring Show at Pritam & Eames in Easthampton, New York with a fall-front secretary. ■ **Nick Cook** (Marietta, Georgia) will be teaching in the youth program at this year's AAW conference in Louisville, Kentucky, June 22-24. Nick was recently elected to the Board of Directors at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina. ■ Work by **Jerry Curry** (Union, Maine) will be featured on the back cover of the August issue of *Fine Woodworking*. ■ **John Fox** (Acton, Massachusetts) was a 2005 Niche Award Finalist for his Hana Series lamps. In August, The Woodwright's Shop with Roy Underhill will be shooting an episode featuring John in his studio. ■ **Linden Frederick** (Belfast, Maine) is preparing for an upcoming one-person show of his paintings at the Forum Gallery in Los Angeles in October. The show will be titled "Painting Noir" and features night and dusk images with a loose film noir touch. ■ **Stephen Gleasner** (Appleton, Maine) is a demonstrator at the Granite State Woodturners 2006 Wood Turning Symposium in Derry, New Hampshire on May 13. Steve's work will be featured in the upcoming issue of *Woodturning Design Magazine*. ■ **Miguel Gomez-Ibanez'** (Weston, Massachusetts) Botanist's Writing Desk will be featured in the June issue of *House and Garden* magazine, the theme of which is Luxury. ■ A profile of **Garrett Hack** (Thetford Center, Vermont) is featured in the May/June issue of *New England Home*, their first in a series about Master Craftsmen. ■ **David Haig** (Nelson, New Zealand) is going to be a principal tutor at New Zealand's first woodworking school, The Centre for Fine Woodworking, which opens in Nelson late this year. ■ **Ejler Hjorth-Westh** (Elk, California) wrote an article on kiln-drying for the June issue of *Woodwork Magazine*. Ejler is offering an inaugural boatbuilding class this summer in his workshop, making a replica of his trusted Doghole Dory. ■ **Beth Ireland** (Roslindale, Massachusetts) co-curated and made sculpture for "Lanterna Magica," which ran in the Duffy Gallery of the Provincetown Art Association Museum through May 7th. Also, Beth presented turning demonstrations and lectured at the New England Youth Symposium and the 5th New England Turning Symposium at Pinkerton Academy in Derry, New Hampshire on May 12 and 13. ■ A new bedroom group designed by **Marcy King**

(Dexter, Maine), called Circadia, was recently introduced by Moosehead Manufacturing. ■ **Silas Kopf** (Northampton, Massachusetts) is creating a new art piano for Steinway & Sons that will be auctioned next December as a fundraiser for the Henry David Thoreau Institute. ■ A chair by **Nathan Kushner** (Thunder Bay, Ontario) will be on display in the Furniture Society booth at the ICFE, May 20-23 in New York City. ■ **Jim Macdonald** (Burnham, Maine) will be the featured artist at the Downeast Wood Carving & Wildlife Art Show 2006, sponsored by the Maine Wood Carvers Association in Augusta, Maine, October 7-8. ■ **John McAlevey** (Tenants Harbor, Maine) is building a new house and shop in Warren, Maine. John recently completed nine pieces for the Rockland Congregational Church, with help from **Corwin Butterworth** (Pawtucket, Rhode Island) and **Tim Rousseau** (Appleton, Maine). He also exhibited a new carved and painted bowl in a show titled "Black and White" at the League of New Hampshire Craftsman's Gallery 205. ■ **Hugh Montgomery** and family have moved to Bainbridge Island, Washington, where he has a new shop set up in an industrial park just off the north end of the



Silas Kopf, man about town

island, across the Agate Pass Bridge. ■ **Julie Moringello** (Stonington, Maine) is participating in "Unrestricted," an invitational show at the Klein Family Gallery at Florida Craftsmen in St. Petersburg, Florida, from April 7 - June 22, 2006. ■ **Brian Reid** (Camden, Maine) is a founding member of The Stable Gallery Co-op in Damariscotta, Maine. The first show, "Black Tie and Sneakers," opens on June 2. Brian has also been invited to participate in "Finding Balance" at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. The show was curated by sculptor James Surls and opens on October 12. ■ **Peter Pierobon** (North Vancouver, British Columbia) has been renovating his new

5,400-square-foot studio for the past few months, preparatory to moving in. ■ **Michael Puryear** (Shokan, New York) has moved to a farmhouse in upstate New York where he has renovated the barn to include a 1,000 square foot workshop, plus storage. Michael exhibited at the Philadelphia Furniture & Furnishings Show in late April. ■ **Chris Pye** (Hay on Wye, Wales) has been elected a full member of the Master Carvers Association. He is currently lettering a huge number of posts for a countryside arts project and working on another commission for HRH the Prince of Wales. ■ **Pete Schlebecker's** (Camden, Maine) "Breathing Drawers" cabinet will be on display as part of the Furniture Society's new traveling exhibition, "Show Us Your Drawers." The show opens at the Furniture Society's annual conference in Indianapolis, June 7-10. ■ **James Schriber** (New Milford, Connecticut) is participating in three shows this summer: the "25th Anniversary Exhibition" at Pritam & Eames, Easthampton, New York; "The Scale of things To Come," at the Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, Massachusetts; and "New Work from Faculty" in our Messler Gallery. The February 2006 issue of *American Craft* reviewed a two-person show that James did with Wendy Maruyama at Pritam & Eames in August, 2005. ■ **Valdemar Skov** (Waldoboro, Maine) has added hand engraving to his repertoire, and is now engraving fine tools for Lie-Nielsen Toolworks, among other things. ■ **Craig Stevens** (Sunbury, Ohio) has an apprentice/student from Japan in his studio for three months. Her name is Mami Suzuki and Craig met her at the Shinrin Takumi Juku woodworking school in Takayama, where she assisted a workshop he taught. ■ **Jacques Vesery** (Damariscotta, Maine) won the Grand Prize in *Sculptural Pursuit* magazine's Third Annual Sculpture Competition. His entry will be featured on the cover of the Fall 2006 (July) issue. ■ **Geoff Warner** (Stonington, Maine) is launching the Geoffrey Warner Studio Gallery with an opening on June 30th from 4-7 p.m. In addition to Geoff's furniture, the gallery represents local artists in other media, including forged steel, metal sculpture, ceramics, painting, and etching. ■ **Toby Winteringham** (King's Lynn, Norfolk) and **Robert Ingham** (Dyserth, Wales) will be demonstrators at "Art in Action" in July, near Oxford. Toby is also on the judging panel for the Royal Dublin Society's National Craft Awards and has been elected to the selection panel of the 'Craft Guild Mark Committee' at the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers.

CURRY LIBRARY DONATION

Instructor Jerry Curry recently donated the "Wood Smart – North American Collection" to the Center's Fine Woodworking Library. It is a wood sample kit that contains 1/2" x 3" x 6" blocks of 46 hardwoods and softwoods, unfinished. What is particularly useful is that each sample is labeled with the species' density and shrinkage data, while a corresponding chart shows exactly how much you can expect each species to move due to both 6% and 8% seasonal variations in moisture content.



Maine woodworker Jerry Curry

Curry is a self-employed furniture maker in Union, Maine. "North America is blessed with a wide variety of woods, but most of us never move beyond three or four standard species," he said recently. "These samples show what we've been missing." The "Wood Smart – North American Collection" costs \$130 and can be purchased from Jerry at Wood Smart Co., 175 Pound Hill Road, Union, Maine 04862. Telephone number (207) 542-0470.

W I S H L I S T

- Windows-compatible laptop with dvd drive
- All-wheel-drive car in good condition
- Books for the Fine Woodworking Library

WELCOME ABOARD!

GARRETT BOONE of Dallas, Texas joined the Center's Board of Directors last December. An avid woodworker and Center alumnus, Garrett is a founder and Chairman of The Container Store. He also sits on the board of the Dallas Metropolitan YMCA, the Dallas Museum of Art, the advisory board for JP Morgan Chase, and the advisory council for The Dallas Women's Foundation.



Garrett Boone



Don Seeley

DON SEELEY, of Tucson, Arizona and West Bath, Maine joined the Center's Board of Directors this past January. Also an avid woodworker and Center alumnus, he is currently Director of the Applied Investment Management Program at the University of Arizona. Formerly, Don served as Vice Chairman and CFO of True North Communications and President and CEO of the Alexander Consulting Group, among other corporate management positions.

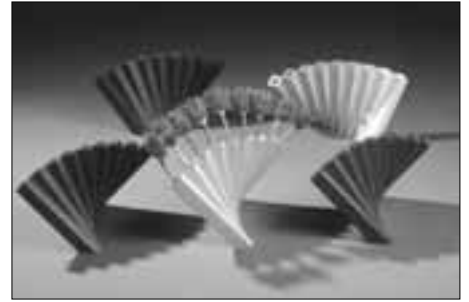
ALUMNI NEWS

Marianne Albanese (Collegetville, Pennsylvania) was an exhibitor at the Philadelphia Furniture and Furnishings Show in late April. Her new web site is:



Jordan Gehman, former student and assistant

<http://sedonagrouppfurniture.com/> ■ Sculptor **Judy Bonzi** (Los Angeles, California) has a new web site: www.judybonzi.net. ■ Alumni exhibiting in "Woodworkers of Midcoast Maine" in the Messler Gallery this Spring included **Chris Burtis** (Bath, Maine), **Libby Schrum** (Camden, Maine), and **Kristin Terpening** (Rockland, Maine). ■ **Jordan Gehman** (Portland, Maine) will be assisting Steve Butler in a workshop at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this summer. ■ **Ken Lindgren** (Norwood, Massachusetts) taught a bowl-turning workshop at the Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton, Massachusetts in February. ■ A table by **Conger Murray** (Orrington, Maine) appeared in the Reader's Gallery of the February, 2006 issue of *Fine Woodworking*. The table was his third project in the Twelve-week Intensive course in 2004. ■ **Bob Rueter** (Brattleboro, Vermont) has opened his own furniture studio and had his first



Leslie Webb's award-winning Spiral Bud Vase

opening on March 17 to introduce a new line of music stands. ■ **Leslie Webb** (Oakville, Ontario) won a 2006 Niche Student Award for a Spiral Bud Vase she designed during her Nine-month Comprehensive course here at the Center last year. ■ **Akiko Yokoyama** (Rockland, Maine) had a footstool juried into the upcoming "Faculty Selects" exhibition at the Furniture Society conference in Indianapolis, June 7-10.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO HAVE FUN THIS SUMMER!

These workshops still had at least one opening as of May 1:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| INTRODUCTION TO TURNING | June 5-9 | Stephen Gleasner |
| TURNING BOWLS & PLATTERS | June 12-16 | Alan Stirt |
| INTERMEDIATE FURNITURE MAKING | June 19-30 | Kevin Rodel |
| RELIEF CARVING | June 19-30 | Chris Pye |
| INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED CARVING | July 3-7 | Chris Pye |
| MARQUETRY | July 10-14 | Julie Godfrey |
| TURNED BOXES FOR BEGINNERS | July 17-21 | Matthew Hill |
| TURNING BOWLS AND MORE | July 24-28 | Betty Scarpino |
| VENEERING | July 31 – Aug. 4 | Darryl Keil |
| CHAIR DESIGN | August 14-25 | Bruce Beeken & James Schriber |
| WOODTURNING FOR BEGINNERS | August 14-18 | Nick Cook |
| TURNED AND CARVED VESSELS | August 21-25 | John Jordan |
| DESIGN AND CRAFTSMANSHIP | September 11-22 | Ross Day & Tom Hucker |
| TURNING PROJECTS FOR BEGINNERS | September 11-15 | Bob Rosand |
| ARCHITECTURAL WOODTURNING | September 18-22 | Beth Ireland |
| CURVED FURNITURE | Sept. 25 – Oct. 6 | David Haig |
| DRAWING FOR FURNITURE MAKERS | September 25-29 | Miguel Gomez-Ibanez |
| THE ART OF DRAWER-MAKING | October 2-6 | Craig Vandall Stevens |
| TURNING FROM A TO Z | October 9-20 | Beth Ireland |

M E S S L E R G A L L E R Y N E W S

CURRENTLY SHOWING

WORK BY STUDIO FELLOWS
April 21 – June 15, 2006

The remarkable work in this show was created by participants in the Studio Fellowship Program, either during or subsequent to their fellowships, and represents significant creative achievement for each of them.

Tim Rousseau is the “oldest” fellow participating, having served his time in the winter of 1998-99. Other exhibitors are Joe Brewer (Camden, Maine), Eric Hurt (Portland, Maine), Nathan Kushner (Thunder Bay, Ontario), Chloris Lowe (New Lisbon, Wisconsin), Brian Reid (Camden, Maine), Libby Schrum (Camden, Maine), Maryah Smith-Overman (Asheville, North Carolina), Kristin Terpening (Rockland, Maine), Ben Watkins (Providence, Rhode Island), and Liza Wheeler (Belfast, Maine).

The Studio Fellowship Program provides advanced creative opportunities to emerging professional and mid-career woodworkers. Fellows receive free, shared studio space in the Jackson Building workshop for anywhere from a month to a year. In return, they commit themselves to full-time exploration of new work. For the emerging woodworker, this is a chance to jumpstart a career. For the established professional, it is a chance to recharge creatively and branch off in new directions.



*Console Table
in cherry by
Liza Wheeler,
from “Work by
Studio Fellows”*

UPCOMING SHOWS

NEW WORK BY FACULTY
June 23 – September 7, 2006
Luminous work from a cast of dubious characters who happen to be some of the finest makers from around the world.

GETTING PERSONAL: MAINE ARCHITECTS DESIGN FURNITURE
September 15 – November 20, 2006
Leading Maine architects have been invited to distill their personal aesthetics into pure furniture by curators Richard Bernhard, AIA and Phil Kaplan, AIA.

CHAIRS N×NE (CHAIRS NORTH BY NORTHEAST)
November 30, 2006 – March 1, 2007
An exhibition of original work by chair makers in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, co-curated by Jon Binzen, freelance writer and former editor at *Fine Woodworking* and *Home Furniture*, and Miguel Gomez-Ibanez, furniture maker, architect, and President of the Furniture Society.



“Work by Studio Fellows” runs in the Messler Gallery until June 15th.

Return Service Requested

www.woodschooll.org • cfc@woodschooll.org
207-594-5611
25 Mill Street, Rockport, Maine 04856

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