

To: Bangor Woodworkers Association Members
From: Allen T. Stehle, Secretary
Re: March Meeting Minutes
Date: March 17, 2022



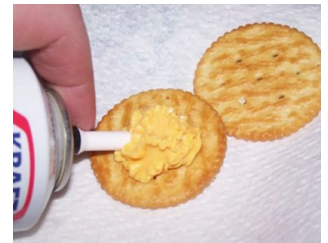
On a Wednesday evening in the North End of Boston, if you listen carefully, you can hear the cry of an aproned momma yelling out of a third story window, “Anthony, Anthony”. On the busy streets, a child with a hungry belly and possessing acute hearing (you guessed it...Anthony) hears the siren calls from momma and runs home to be welcomed to the aroma of freshly cooked pasta. Sure enough, as many of the members might have guessed, it is indeed Wednesday —Prince Spaghetti Day.



Even though this Prince Spaghetti Day commercial was very successful for the company’s pasta and sauces, it pales in comparison to the new Maine tradition of (again you guessed it) the Earle Family Ravioli Night hosted at the Stark’s home on the South Road in Holden for the Bangor Woodworkers Association Members March meeting. The loyal membership had a gustatory experience of epic proportions by being tantalized with homemade ravioli, salad, cake, cheese cake and the cries of “MORE MORE MORE”. Buon appetito!

The stars of the evening and main presenters were Mike Earle, Anne Earle and Emily Earle, pastry chef extraordinaire as well as our Association Vice-President. For a bit of shameless exploitation, Mike and Emily are the owners of Alora Woodworking and one of their products, the ravioli roller, was on full display during the demonstration talk later in the program. If the membership would like to know more about the name of their company, Alora Woodworking, and the word derivation meaning, please consult the February Minutes for an exclusive write up. In a brief summary, I did not write down in my notes Mike’s wonderful talk on all of this and I don’t remember what he said and still don’t...remember the disclaimer I stated in the February minutes along with the hunting camp scenario detailing where complaints against the Secretary will be handled. Also, please be kind to the Secretary and realize that I cancelled my errors and omissions insurance policy when I retired. Nothing here, friends!

In preparing these minutes, I started to think about future meetings and how the hosts will feed and entertain the membership. After this evening’s performance, the bar has been set very high for food variety and quality, so next month’s host better start preparing. Who is hosting the April meeting? Oh yes, it is Mike Starks. I will hold you in my thoughts, Mike. I think that your planned entree might need to be revisited...



Treasurer’s Report

Mike Starks, Treasurer, informed the faithful that the Association has a bank balance of \$1,032.74. As soon as he gave this balance, I witnessed a lot of member cash flowing in his direction to pay this year’s dues. Thank you very much for remembering this. Our dues cycle runs from January 1 to December 31, so those that paid for this year are all set until January of 2023.

Show and Tell

First out of the gate was Rod Chelberg and there was love in the air. He has been doing a bit of turning and made a bowl in the shape of a heart for his love, Jody. Nicely done on both an emotional and woodworking level.



Mike Earle made a profound statement: Out of boredom can come creativity. Using one part wood scraps from Bruce Graybill's, February meeting minutes, breadboard products, Sider's Woodworking, and one part boredom along with good woodworking technique, Mike made a very nice pasta cutter to be used during the demonstration part of the meeting.

Lastly, Mike Starks showed a swing-out reading light bracket to be installed at his lake house. The design is nice so that the light can be out of the way against the wall when not in use and then swung out to provide nice lighting when needed. Very nice work! Mike then showed a chair that was made from walnut and curly maple made by Brian Boggs Chairmakers out of Asheville, NC. The set of chairs will grace his lake house and Mike is working on making the table to go along with these beautiful chairs.



Mike informed the members on a couple of initiatives discussed at the leadership meeting this past January. There is interest from the group on working and building projects utilizing hand tools. To this end, Mike is planning on offering one to two seminars per year outside of the regular meetings. These working days will be focused on making a hand tool or on building a project. Again, these work days would be scheduled outside of the regular monthly meetings. To the left is a picture of a hand plane that Mike Starks made.

Another initiative that was discussed at the leadership meeting was to obtain a small collection of hand tools that can be either purchased or donated by members that can be used at these project day(s) to allow members to learn without having to purchase all of the tools being used. More on these projects will be discussed at future monthly meetings and Mike Starks will hand out a wish list of tools at the April meeting.

Demonstration Talk

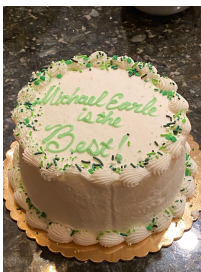
The talk started with a bit of Mike Earle's family history about his grandfather, Leo Clarke, who made nice breadboards for family members to perfect their baking skills. As Emily stated, it was a "rite of passage" to receive the education and the materials of life-long learning.

This bread board was center stage for the "goodness" that was about to take place. In the sequence of photos, the evening from preparation to eating is attempted to be shown.

The ravioli roller, a product manufactured by Alora Woodworking, along with the pasta cutter that was created by Mike Earle out of boredom, were both demonstrated. What a nice looking product! I am not sure how Mike came up with this design but it looks to me like a fuel cell from the "Millennium Falcon" of the Star War's movie or the battery that Rocket stole in Guardians of the Galaxy, Volume 2. In techniques of law enforcement field procedures, it is usually best to not say the first thing that pops into your head. Oh well, I guess retirement dulled my skills.



Social Time



Buon appetito!

The End

