

# http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org October 2023

# **President's Letter**

#### President's letter:

Stepping into the heart of the Hartsburg Pumpkin Festival for the first time was a memorable experience. As I lent a hand at our booth, I witnessed something truly heartwarming – the sheer delight on children's faces as they grasped the wooden cars they had a hand in crafting. Their infectious joy left an indelible mark on me. It's astonishing to think that these simple wooden cars, devoid of batteries and electronics, become cherished mementos for these kids. The nostalgia in the eyes of those who reminisced about their own childhood car-building adventures was equally touching.

As woodworkers, we share a common passion for our craft, one that was vividly apparent at the Hartsburg Pumpkin Festival. The joy we brought to those children through their woodworking experience reflects our deep desire to pass along our knowledge to the next generation. Our main topic at our monthly meeting will be in the same vein. Allan Sharrok, who teaches shop in Huntsville, will be with us to talk about a pressing issue – the shortage of shop teachers in the state of Missouri. While we may not all become teachers ourselves, this topic reminds us of the importance of finding ways to connect the next generation with our beloved craft. As we reflect on the smiles of the kids at the festival, we also ponder how we can do more to ignite the spark of curiosity in young minds and ensure that woodworking remains a vibrant tradition. Join us on Monday as we explore these ideas and seek to make a difference in the future of woodworking in our community.

### October Notes and Announcements:

- The October meeting will be held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Sawdust Studios starting at 6:30 PM. There will be a door prize and a raffle.
  - o Address: 3150 Paris Rd. Columbia, MO 65202
- Setting up electronic payments is still something that we are working on. It one of those things that seems like it would be easy, but there are details that make it a bit tough for a club such as ours. Tom and I will continue to evaluate our options.
- We hope to get the current website updated soon. We will also be working on a plan to make that site a bit more current. My thanks to Erik Betz for his help here.



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#### Resource Tree & Land

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