

# P. U. A. M.

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## PROFESSIONAL UPHOLSTERERS' ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

**NOVEMBER 2023**

**VOL. XXXI, NO 11**

### **P.U.A.M. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Professional Upholsterers' Association of Minnesota is an organization of individuals and firms, joined together to advance, support, and promote the field of Upholstery.

### **Presidents Corner**

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our October meeting which was held at The Recovering Room in Mpls. with our Host Mavis Nelson, who provided a variety of soups, salad, breads, deserts & beverages for all to enjoy.

Sarah Sanna gave a very detailed presentation on making French Mattress Cushions using a few sample cushions which she had previously made, along with a picture portfolio showing each step of her project. There were many questions, comments and discussions which Sara addressed and handled clearly & professionally. I am very thankful for the level of talent & experience each of our members brings to the table which is made so evident during these educational presentations each month. Thank you, Sarah, for the many contributions you make to our organization.

We will be having many more educational opportunities for our members to experience in the coming year, so make it a priority to attend these monthly meetings so that you can benefit from these members knowledge & experience.

Next months meeting will be held at Lakes Upholstery in Wyoming, Mn. where we will be enlightened about zippers, tips & tricks.  
I look forward to seeing you all there.

Your President, Paul Henly

### **GENERAL MEETING**

**(You need not be a member to attend)**

**When:** Thursday, November 9th, 2023  
**Time:** 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**Location:** Lakes Upholstery  
28445 Forest Blvd  
Wyoming, MN 55092

**Directions:** Diana Peltier says GPS will get you there. When you turn off Forest Blvd by the Double mailbox, hers is the Red one, into her driveway she is the 1st house on the right. It is a shared driveway so if you go to the end that's her neighbor.

**Phone:** 651-257-2706

### **Meeting Schedule**

**6:00 – 7:00 pm** Dinner, Refreshments, Social hour  
**7:00 – 8:00 pm** Presentation 7pm sharp!  
**8:15 - 9:00 pm** Business Meeting  
Reports, Old and New Business  
Open Forum & Q&A

### **PRESENTATION**

#### **Invisible Zippers and All things Zippers**

Our very own Anna Thiel is going to give us a demo on sewing invisible zippers. How do you sew zippers in throw pillows? How do you get your zipper slides on? Come to learn and share all things about zippers. Also come and share any tips and techniques you have for any upholstery tasks for a very informative evening.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER INVITATION**  
(You need not be a member to attend)

**MARK YOUR CALENDERS**

It's time to plan for the PUAM Christmas Party, yes, this year has flown by so quickly. So, mark your calendars for **Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup>** !

This year the party will be held at  
Jimmy's Event Center  
3565 Labore Road, Vadnais Heights 55110

**5pm** Social Gathering

**6:00pm** Dinner

Spouses and employees are welcome.

Need not be a PUAM member to attend.

Dressy Casual attire!

Donation of hats, mittens, and gloves will be taken.

White Elephant gift exchange.

**Must RSVP by November 20th.**

Please call Geneva at 651-464-7861 or

[genevaerdman@yahoo.com](mailto:genevaerdman@yahoo.com)

OR Angela at 763-691-1857 or

email [paulhenly@regaldesignstudio.com](mailto:paulhenly@regaldesignstudio.com) to RSVP.

Looking forward to seeing everyone and getting a chance to visit and catch up.

**TIME STANDARD PICTURES AND HOURS**

Please continue to send before and after pictures and the hours it took to do the project. Share as much detail as possible. Send to Angela Henly who has compiled around 42 projects so far.

**651-592-4008**

**REFINISHING & WOOD REPAIR ARTICLES**

In October 2016 we had a Presentation by Kevin Southwick whom specializes in conservation and restoration of antiques and in custom wood finishes. Kevin also teaches furniture repair techniques that save lots of time. You can purchase copies of 16 of his articles about refinishing and wood repair. If you didn't get the opportunity to purchase his articles we have plenty of sets for sale. \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. This is a discounted amount from what he was selling them for. One of the PUAM perks!

**UPCOMING MEETING INFO**

The Professional Upholsterers Association of Minnesota's Education Committee will have some exciting programs at the membership meetings in 2023. The following meeting locations are:

Nov 9	Invisible Zipper and Tips - Lakes Upholstery
Dec 7	Christmas Dinner Party
Jan 11, 2024	Charlotte Fabrics - New location Tour
Feb 8	A-1 Foam & Upholstery Colorist/Artist Daniele Oelschlager

The PUAM meetings are monthly meetings to support each other and to share upholstery knowledge. If you have a topic or location that we can use, please contact Diana Peltier at 651-257-2706. Any suggestions will be greatly appreciated. Thank you! \*All dates and locations are subject to change so watch the newsletter each month for any unforeseen changes. Thanks!

**What helps one of us, helps all of us. We are stronger when we work together, help each other, and share ideas**

**2022-2023 PUAM MEETING PRESENTATIONS**

Upholstery History  
Front end/Order Process  
Channel Back Demo  
Diamond Tufting  
Foam Sculpting  
PUAM Picnic  
Business Liability Insurance  
Tool Library  
Annual Christmas Dinner Party  
A-1 Foam & Upholstery Tour  
Charlotte Fabrics  
Time Standards  
Retying Springs from the Bottom  
Fabric-Ology  
Future Foam Tour  
French Mattress

**Professional Upholstery Association of Minnesota  
General meeting minutes of October 12, 2023  
Co-Secretary – Zoule VonWald**

**Hosted by:** Sweet Mavis, Recovering Room Upholstery

**In Attendance:** Sarah Sanna, Everafter Upholstery (also the special speaker) - Mary Jo & Lyle Van Thomme, Mary Jo's Upholstery & Window Treatments - Paul & Angela Henly, Regal Design Studio - Diana S. Guenther, Shroyer Custom Upholstery - Jennifer Closner, Grahn's Upholstery - Dawn Nelson, Grahn's Upholstery - Geneva Erdman, Erdman Pro Sew - Gina Mejia, Twin Cities Upholstery workshop & TW Senders - Ernest Mejia, Charlotte Fabrics - Diana Peltier, Lakes Upholstery - Mavis Nelson, Recovering Room Upholstery - Zoule VonWald, Bloomington Custom Uphol - Anna Thiel, Anna's Alterations, Restorations, & Upholstery, LLC - Joan Walentiny of A-I Foam & Upholstery

**Our new guests** – Rene Murphy of Love Bay Nay and Kelly Zoellmer, Zoellmer Custom Sewing

**Presentation:** Our sweet Sarah Sanna started our meeting off at 7:05PM showcasing the "French Mattress cushion" (perhaps a lost art) She passed out a beautiful 9 page color packet, showing all the details and information to make this French Mattress, I must admit, I was not interested, until I saw her display of samples she's made and a "lost" art in making this type of cushion, dollar signs went off!! And they really are quite cute. Sarah figured the labor pricing on these "gems" would take around 1 hour to do 4 feet of the edge hand sewing edge roll (that's the part that makes it so unique!) plus whatever time it takes to make the cushion, measure, cut, sew, wrap & stuff. Sarah did an excellent job in explaining how to measure, and the amount of time it takes, etc. A show of hands for who has done a French Mattress, other than Sarah, was, our beloved Paul and a guest Kelly, 3 out of 18! Just in case you don't have enough to do, you might try making a "French Mattress", could be a new niche for your business! \$\$ Thank you again Sarah, You brought the house down!! Good job kid! Break-time.....

**General Meeting was called to order:** at 8:15pm by our faithful dedicated President Paul Henly, there was 10 out of 18, that stayed to hear the rest of our meeting, where we get new idea's, helpful tips, solutions to problems, tour idea's, its really were it all happens to keep us informed and together strong. We understand it is hard for some to stay out that late, but it is totally well worth it!

**Secretary Minutes:** At the picnic we held the Board meeting – it was in the October Newsletter, no general meeting in September, only party time. Board minutes, Diana SG made the motion to accept, Anna 2nd the motion. All in favor. Motion passed to accept the board minutes in October's Newsletter.

**Treasurer's Report:** Trustworthy and faithful Anna that comes all the way from Outing – gave us the balance, that had the expenses for the Newsletter printing and the Google account (\$6.00/month). Diana P made the motion to accept

the Treasurer's report, Angela 2nd the motion, All in favor, motion passed.

**Committee Reports**

**Education:** Diana P. has a call in to Marshal field, Wisconsin to see about a tour on their manufacturing furniture. Its 160 miles approx. 3 hours away, and we can stay with Diana's relatives!! ( JK)

**Marketing:** Ernest made a motion to setting up date's for the out state new upholstery shops, that we could have our meetings at and have a tour of their shops, this would possible take place for our 2024 April and June meetings. This would possible attract other shops in those areas and give the new members from a chance to attend a meeting. If we did a Friday meeting, staying overnight!? Or a Saturday there and back in a day meeting. We all agreed, it would be great! Zoule motioned to accept and Angela 2nd the motion. Thanks Ernest for keeping us alive and fun!

**Membership:** Diana SG reported, at the board meeting we reviewed a membership and approved the shop to be voted on by the general membership. Diana SG motioned to accept – Nichole Barnes, Nikki Barnes Upholstery in Sleepy Eye, MN. Anna 2nd the motion, all in favor, motion passed. Diana SG will order a plaque for her!

**Newsletter:** Diana SG says, keep sending in your tips, cartoons, funnies for the newsletter to keep us upholsterer's entertained!

**Social Committee:** Geneva did it again! Christmas Party – December 7th, Thursday 5PM, dinner at 6PM. Same place as last year "Jimmy's at White Bear". We will be doing a charitable contribution for kids! mittens, hats, scarf's, so start collecting them now, to bring to Christmas party along with a White Elephant Gift!!

**Website, Email:** Nothing

**Old Business:** Mavis asked about the old VHS's from older PUAM meetings, if they had been made into DVD's. Sounds like they have, and for \$25.00 you can be a proud owner of a complete set of "Educational Instructional classes for Upholstery from the old archives. They also talked about putting them on Youtube.com. for anyone interested in watching instructions on upholstery. I have CRS, "Can't Remember Shit" so I'm interested in watching them, like Diana SG.

**New Business:** Ernest let us know, we will no longer have "Speedy" for our delivery from Charlotte. They will be using FedEx, they will have a flat \$20.00 for shipping out orders 5 yards and under, anything over will be charged accordingly.

**Open Forum:** This is where it gets fun, but you got to stay to participate! Geneva told the story, 8 years ago she gave a quote for two chairs and a love seat, that was from Italy 1929, the lady came back after 8 years and wanted them finally done, staying with the quote she got 8 years ago! What's the lesson? Give an expiration date for quotes! Geneva showed us the pictures (before and after) excellent job done, but the lady was not happy because



the price went up! Just like a bag of groceries!! Or a tank of gas! Again with Geneva, she wears a shirt that has funny sayings – to order a funny shirt, she use’s “Favorites.com”

**The following we’re the winners of the drawings (must be present to win):** Gina – beautiful notepad, Diana SG – Candy, and Ernest – Wood pumpkin head

**Information** on your sewing machine repair people:  
David Stiff 651-735-3284 St Paul and  
Chuck White – Midwest Industrial, Blaine 763-784-6101

Mavis used Chuck, very happy with his service, her machine “purr’s like a kitten” For \$85.00 hour!

**Diana P. always gives us good tips** – today’s, was on cushions. She sews her cording on the bands, where most of us, sew directly to the top of the cushion! I’m going to try it! And then again, when sewing circle cushions to keep the fabric in a square, draw your circle, and sew the cording (using bias cording) directly to the square using the circle outline, then, cut it out! Circles and curves always cut on the bias for cording, the rest you can do what you want. Diana P also talked about how she does channels, using old pantyhose to stuff the channels, sew zippers on the back of the channels and wa-la! A perfect channel! We call her, the “pantyhose stuffer”! Oh and this one I do also, the zipper on the underneath of a footstool attached-pillow style, make a big letter “C” with the zipper, and stuff away with ease!!

I think I covered it all, but then again, I am old and have CRS!

**Adjourn:** Angela made a motion to adjourn, Ernest 2nd the motion, All in favor. Meeting Adjourned at 9:17pm.

We all come away with grateful hearts, because of Mavis and her over whelming generosity, excellent treats, excellent soups, salads, wines, candies, candle lights, spiders, everything to make us feel loved and wanted. Thank you Mavis, you’re the best! We love you!



**Sarah's French Mattress Presentation**



**Mavis and Genva inspecting the French Mattress**

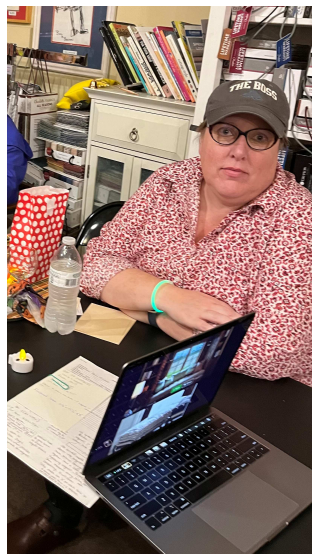


**Showing off our Glow Sticks from Mavis.**





Paul Henly, Anna Thiel, and Zoule VonWald



Sarah's helper  
Rene Murphy



Jennifer Closner and Dawn Nelson



If you're interested in purchasing funny

T- Shirts, Geneva says  
go to Favorites.com  
Click on Tees.



Here's one I need!

## TIPS

When sewing where you need puckers or gathers, mark your tension wheel (so you know where it lined up before this) and then turn to loosen the tension 3 or 4 turns so your machine stitch makes the gathers. Then turn the tension back to line up with the marks so your tension is corrected. You can do this instead of using the elastic gathering method and also when sewing a round pillow to give the edge a gathering for depth. On a round pillow, notch centers and quarters to line up with second side after sewing the cording to first side. Always pull the bobbin thread for more gathers.

Thanks Jim of JC Carlson Uphol. in Duluth.

\*\*\*\*

When making an attached cushion top ottoman, instead of sewing the zipper on the bottom panel to stuff on the diagonal, sew the zipper in a large C shape for ease of stuffing. Lay the zipper on top of the fabric and sew on top of the zipper, then cut the fabric where the zipper is afterwards.

Thanks to Diana Peltier of Lakes Upholstery of Wyoming MN for sharing with us.

## **JOKE OF THE MONTH**

An IRS agent came to St. Patrick's Parish Offices and asked Fr. O'Malley about the tax deduction of a parishioner. "Is Sean Ryan a parishioner?" "Indeed. He's a fine, upstanding parishioner," responds Fr. O'Malley. "Sean Ryan reported on his tax return that he gave \$10,000 to St. Patrick's Church. Is that the case? Did he?" asks the agent. Fr. O'Malley replied, "I don't have my records available right now, but I can assure you that if Sean Ryan didn't contribute \$10,000, he will." (From Geneva)



## **PUAM CLASSIFIED ADS**

Any member may place a free Ad here. Non-members fee is \$10.00 a month. Help wanted equipment for sale, etc.

Contact Diana Guenther, 763-755-9317 [dlsguenth@gmail.com](mailto:dlsguenth@gmail.com)

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

Randy's Booth Co. is a custom hospitality Furnishing Company located in Crystal, MN that is seeking a full time or part time person with experience in Commercial sewing and cutting willing to train if they have some experience.

Email: [bert@randysboothco.com](mailto:bert@randysboothco.com) or  
call (612) 229-4330 for more info

## **HELP WANTED:**

**CAREER OPPORTUNITY** Plymold, 100% employee-owned furniture and fixture manufacturing company. Proudly showcased in restaurants around town including Subway, Dairy Queen, and Buffalo Wild Wings. Plymold offers rewarding career paths where the only limitation is your own dedication. More than 180 make up the team-oriented, fast paced work environment with a focus on continuously improving who we are, what we do and how we do it. We are proud of being an 100% employee-owned company and proud of our products. We are currently looking for upholsterers and industrial sewers to join our work team at our Kenyon, MN facility. Plymold offers reduced work schedules upon business availability, multiple shifts and generous benefits including 401(k) match. Interested in learning more? Take a look at the website with access to an online application at [www.Plymold.com](http://www.Plymold.com) If you have additional questions and/or concerns please feel free to email us at [careers@plymold.com](mailto:careers@plymold.com)

## **MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

PUAM Newsletter with free classified Ads  
Listing on the PUAM website  
Networking Opportunities  
Educational Presentation  
Resource list of services  
Swap and Sell Meets  
Group Marketing  
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Trade Show Participation  
Expand your business and network with other industry professionals by becoming a member of the Professional Upholsterers Association of Minnesota. PUAM was started in 1989 and has members through out the state in all facets of the upholstery industry. Come check us out!



## **Who Are We?**

The Professional Upholsterers' Association of Minnesota is an organization of individuals and firms, joined together to advance, support, and promote the field of Upholstery.

Want to join us? We would love to have you! To receive a membership application, call, go to our web site, write or e-mail us today:

**ADDRESS:** PUAM  
PO BOX 14  
OUTING, MN 56662

**E-MAIL:** [puam@upholsterymn.org](mailto:puam@upholsterymn.org)  
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Would you like to receive this newsletter on a monthly basis, but you are not interested in becoming a PUAM Member at this time? We offer the monthly issues for \$15.00 a year.

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## Inclement Weather

Now that we are in the **server weather** months, this is a reminder that in the case of inclement weather we will not have in person meetings if any of the Twin City areas are under severe weather we may move to Zoom or postpone to another date. \*Watch for Zoom instructions and date changes in your emails.



PROFESSIONAL UPHOLSTERERS ASSN. OF MN  
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