

WOODWORKERS CLUB OF HOUSTON

APRIL 1984

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PAST MEETING

An excellent turn out, but many were disappointed as our speaker Leo Blake cancelled out after the newsletter had been written. We tried to find a replacement to discuss the same subject, but just weren't able to pull it off. Sorry it happened, but thats the first time a meeting got fouled up since we started. Thats not a bad record.

We did get a chance to find out about Ken McBride and Michael Chandlers new woodworkers school. Its going to be strictly hand tools. They hope to have it underway by the end of the summer. They think the cost will be about \$250.00 for an 8 to 10 week course. Thats not bad for 25 to 30 hours of instruction from two professionals with the credentials of Ken and Michael. I'm looking forward to being their first student.

SHOW & TELL

A new member Charles Hoops brought a toy duck that had flapping wings. Very unique Charles, Congratulations.

George Graves showed an oak jewelery box with wood hinges that was made without using any measurements, just shows that you don't even have to read to be one of us woodworkers.

Chuck Maxwell brought his pine chair on wheels.

Herbert brought some very well done belt buckles made from different woods. Some with inlays.

Sid Sabel brought a baby bed with turned posts. The granddaughters and daughters would love to have.

Bill Beggs brought a sample of his band saw boxes made from scrap wood.

OLD BUSINESS

Don't forget the "Hands On " school at Shoptsmith in San Antonio April 28th. Check with Ted King to learn about the car pools and where we are going to meet.

Sharon Buckley is going to place the order for Club Shirts and Caps May 1st. This is your last chance to get your order in. If you can't make the meeting send your check for \$15.25 for the shirt along with color, size and first name and \$5.25 for the cap.

Ted completed his tabulation of the questionnaire passed out at the last meeting. It came out both good and ugh. It showed what tools people have and where some of their interest lie, but we are all too modest or too bostful, when it comes to evaluating our expertises. However, it will still be helpful if you've got a problem, just look up the tool or techinque and see who has done something with it, and may be able to help.

"Two heads are better than one" or something like that. Anyway the results will be passed out at the April 14th meeting.

The Library really grew at the start of the meeting, then shrank at the end. I took home less than I brought, so I guess the library is going to be a success. Any books you wish to LOAN to the library will be appreciated.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Still getting calls from Woodsmith subscribers about the club. Also from Shopsmith demonstrations in the various malls. We are really getting a good cross section of experience and expertise.

Which brings us to something new, because our meetings are only once a month and only for a couple of hours, its awfully hard to really get a feel of something that is being taught. Therefore, we are going to start having private clinics presented by the membership.

Different members will volunteer to teach a private class on something with which they have some expertise. It will be held at the teachers convenience. So far we have three volunteers (you know what a volunteer is?) Bill Beggs will have a clinic on Band Saw Boxes. Chuck Maxwell on a mortising jig and Henry Reed on small joinery required in making clock cases.

Check with the various members at the meeting for time and place and what materials and tools to bring.

This will be just a start. We want more volunteers from the membership, so we can have two to three clinics per month between our regular meeting. How about Rich Kurey on raised panels, or Bob Awe on the jig saw. I'll expect several members to step forward at the next meeting and tell Ted King what clinic you would have when and where and what. Also what clinics you would like to see available.

This should really get the membership involved on a one to one basis. I'm looking forward to trying something new. How about You!

It was decided to charge \$2.00 per person for these clinics. The idea being to have funds to replace broken blades and for parts that may occur during one of these clinics. If nothing breaks and the kitty builds up, we will have a party.

Since our lecture on the various woods got blown and there was quite a bit of disappointment, we are going to try and reschedule it later in the year.

There was some discussion at our March meeting by Michael Chandler regarding allergic reaction to certain woods. In that same vein I have attached an article that was in the Western Ohio Woodworkers Club's newsletter. It was very informative.

#### SOME EXOTIC WOODS CAUSE ALLERGIC REACTIONS

Exotic woods can be beautiful in your home, but if you do craft projects, watch out for serious allergic reactions. Family Handyman's December issue warned that such woods, including domestic redwood and red cedar, can cause skin or respiratory reactions in susceptible people.

The following woods cause skin and eye ailments such as itching, rashes, hives, conjunctivitis, etc.: African blackwood, boxwood, cocobolo, western red cedar, ebony, greenheart, iapacho, katon, mahogany (all varieties), makore opepe, rosewood (all varieties), satinwood and teak.

The following cause respiratory ailments such as bronchial disorders, asthma, rhinitis and mucus irritations and are especially dangerous if you have asthmatis or cardiac problems: Arborvitae (when passed off as white cedar), boxwood, western red cedar dahoma, greenheart, iapacho, iroko, katon, african mahogany, makore, paroba, redwood (sequoia variety) and stavewood.

Filter masks keep ordinary sawdust out of your nose, throat and lungs, but do little to combat toxicity. Sears and 3M offer stronger masks for working with toxic dusts, for about \$15. Wear goggles and long-sleeved shirts, wash thoroughly after woodworking and do not eat while wearing the same clothing.

Launder work clothing separately from other clothes, and do not wear the same garments again if the contain dust from the toxic woods. A second exposure can lead to worse reaction than the first.

#### FOR SALE/TO BUY

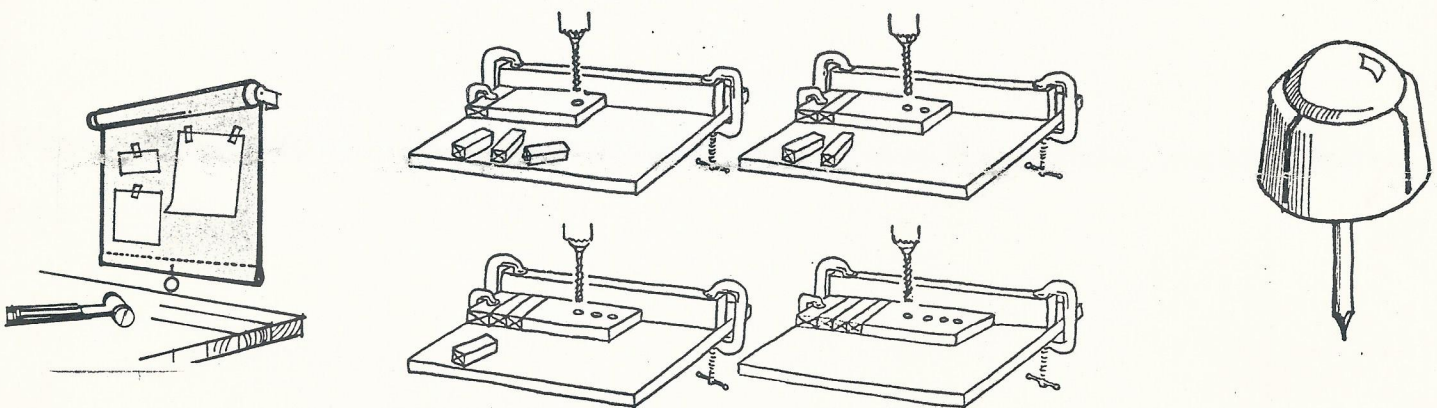
There was a Shopsmith Mark V with accessories listed in the Northwest Greensheet last week for \$895.00. If interested you might check it out.

Call Bill Beggs if you have anything to sell or are looking to buy something.

#### R & D

We should call this tips and tidbits.

1. How about an old window shade mounted over your workbench to attach notes and plans. When not in use, simply roll it up.



2. Step & Repeat I learned this from Ken McBride, but copied out of Fine Woodworker. Its use is to accurately space holes, cuts, routed groves or whatever. Cut blocks equal to the spacing required and then add one between each hole or grove.

3. Supporting idea Everyone needs an outfeed table/roller when ripping or planing. The problem lies in getting the roller perfectly aligned. Why worry-use inexpensive ball bearing furniture caster nailed to scrap wood stand. Alignments no problem now.

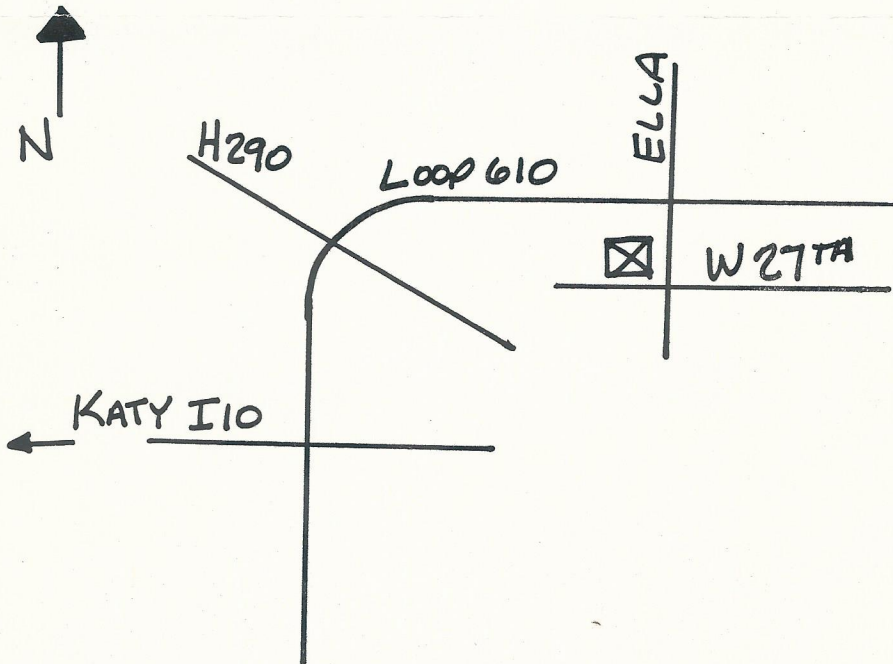
NEXT MEETING SATURDAY APRIL 14, 1984 9:00 A.M.

Circle Saw has agreed to open on Saturday and give us demonstrations on three different jig saws they handle. You might even get a chance to try your hand at fancy cuttings.

It will also give you an opportunity to ask them about their other tool lines without the sales pressure.

It should be very interesting meeting, so try to be early.

Circle Saw is located on the corner of West 27th St. and Ella Blvd, just inside Loop 610 N.



SEE YOU THERE !!!!!