

C W O O D W O R K E R S

CLUB OF HOUSTON

Vol. 1, No. 4

April, 1985

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H.B. Blankenship - Vice-President
Mark McCoy - Sec./Treasurer
Bill Beggs - Newsletter Editor

Sam Zeisman - Board of Directors
Ted King - Board of Directors
Sharon Buckley - Board of Directors
Henry Reed - Board of Directors

APRIL NEWSLETTER

March Meeting

Another great turnout out for a really interesting meeting. Yours truly had to preside because Rick was on vacation, HB & Mark were both late. It felt like old times except there were a lot more faces out there than when we started the club.

Lawrence Cude & Mike Carpenter were our guest speakers and I think everybody wished it could have gone all day. Lawrence gave a lot of information in just 1-1/2 hours and if you could write fast or had a great memory you got it all. The only problem was that Lawrence has so much information stuck in his head, an all day meeting would still have been to short.

Lawrence mentioned doing a workshop later in the year for some of his professional clientele at Finisher's Supply. Maybe we can get him to do a workshop for the club. I would be glad to pay a reasonable fee to learn more about finishing my projects. How about you? Let your officers know if you wish to pursue it further.

One thing I remember Lawrence was to use shellac as a base coat. You can mix your stain in the shellac and never sand the shellac before the finish coat. Only put one coat. Use 3 lb cut shellac and thin 3 to 1 with alcohol. Not bad notes for an old man who can't hear!

Show & Tell

Bruce Dehart brought a new version of his 18 wheeler (which I tried to drop). You get careless in your old age.

Hebert Wilbourn brought three different candlelobbra partridges made from three different woods. Real pretty Hebert.

Chuck Lowder brought several bowls and candle holders he had made on his new Ring Master cutter. That tool is expensive, but I can see the possibilities for someone who wants to make a great number for fairs or gifts.

Bob Soderblow and I brought bowls we had turned at Michael Chandlers lathe class. I finally got to turn a hollow bowl and then I managed to bust it into three pieces getting it off the lathe. Bob managed to saw the bottom off of his. See, I'm not the only one that does dumb things.

Don Sloan is going to be in charge of a new committee to remind everyone about Show & Tell. We want to see more pieces brought to the meeting. Don't be intimidated by the group; we are all amateurs in the sense that we are in a continuous learning cycle. Bill Forkner and Michael Chandler both told me they were continually learning something new from their students.

Take advantage of Show & Tell to show off or use it to get an idea on how you may improve your projects.

Another responsibility of Don Sloan's committee will be to learn what kind of projects members are working on. We will mention them in the newsletter, that way if you've been thinking about doing a certain project, but didn't know how to start, you can give the other member a call. You might even collaborate on a project.

It's a way to get to know your fellow members, give you the incentive to try a certain project, or give you someone to call who has already done it.

Be sure and give Don's committee your full cooperation. I think this will be a great addition to the club's functions. Don will also have a sign up list at the meetings where you can write down the project you're currently working on.

By the way, if your project is to big for Show & Tell, take a bunch of pictures we can pass around.

Old Business

I am sorry to say we were not able to get hold of enough people in the time we had to schedule a siminar by Russ Zimmerman of Vermont. We had about 23 at the meeting that indicated an interest, but we needed about 40 to bring the price down to about \$20.00 for an all day lathe siminar and \$50.00 for an all day hands on class. I hope Mr. Zimmerman doesn't write us off. I would like to schedule time here next year. Maybe next time we can get about a four or five month lead time and really get it set up right, with a good class room, both for the siminar and the hands-on classes.

WVC caps are available from Mark McCoy for \$5.50 and WVC shirts are available throuth T-Shirts Plus, 957-2035.

I will have the Astros tickets (\$4.00 each) for their June 15th game at the next meeting. All the funds from the sale of the tickets go to

the "Make-A-Wish" foundation to grant the last wish of terminally ill children. I expect to sell at least 50 tickets at the next meeting.

The new roster is included with this newsletter. If your name, address and numbers are wrong it's your fault. We've been after everyone to check their space and notify Sharon Buckley of any corrections. By the way, we all owe Sharon a big thanks for the new roster, Thanks!

For you newer members, we have a photo album of various meetings. It's in the library cart. I won't bring it to the Elissa, but I'll put it out at our May meeting, so everyone can get a look at it. Ted King has been taking a lot of pictures, but he doesn't have a wide angle lens. Does anyone out there have a wide angle lens, and wants to volunteer to take a few pictures at each meeting?

Since we have not had members step forward to volunteer to head up the various committees; your Board of Directors had decided they will appoint the various chairpersons. Now is your last chance to pick the one you want.

This is your club and therefore, to make it do the things you want it do for you, you are going to have to put forth a little effort to make sure it's done the way you want it. (That's lousy sentence structure, but I think you get the point).

Program Committee: Arleigh Meyer, Chairman

Newsletter: I will continue to write it, but I would like a chairperson to direct it, so we can get fresh ideas.

Workshops/Clinics: Steve Proctor, Chairman-ask Steve where you can help him.

Publicity/Advertising: Chairman needed.

Duties: find new advertisers for our newsletter, send announcements about our meetings to the Chronicle two weeks prior to meetings and any announcements required for our annual charity sale.

Charity Show: Chairman needed - Sam Zeisman will act a co-chairman, so you already have an experienced person to help.

Exhibit Show/Show & Tell: Don Sloan, Chairman. Don needs a few people for a telephone committee.

We still need someone (preferably with access to a computer) to write the various suppliers, regarding borrowing or renting films that can be used as a program at a monthly meeting, I know there are some out there somewhere.

It appears we lost about 20 to 25 old members. A few have moved or have lost interest, but the majority just forgot to pay their dues and that's a shame. We are going to miss them. If you know anyone that fits this description, tell them we miss them and wish they would come back.

Workshops/Clinics

Steve proctor is our new chairman, so give him your help.

I went to Bill Forkner's clinic Saturday 16th of March. About 20 people had signed up. Bill gave the time and place at our last meeting. Guess how many showed up? TWO - 2 I was really embarrassed for the club. Bill took off his Saturday morning - set up things at the U of H shop and then only 2 people showed.

Because of Bill's good nature, he didn't appear upset, but if it had been my clinic, I would have been damn mad.

These clinics and workshops are a great boon for this club. It gives everyone a chance to learn and share knowledge, but it also carry's a responsibility. If you say your coming to a clinic - do it. If you can't, let Steve know so he can assign someone else in time. If we're not adult enough to show this courtesy then we will lose those members who feel the responsibility and desire to share their knowledge with their fellow members.

Those that have signed up for my band-saw box clinic, have patience. My Shopsmith lost a bearing. I'll have it fixed and one group already taught by the time you get this newsletter. I'll get to the rest as quick as possible.

We have the following clinics available:

1. Raised panelled doors - Chuck Maxwell.
2. Shop layout - Doug Blodgett.
3. Miniature Furniture - Andi Blodgett.

We need clinics on the following, so if you have some competency, please step forward and share your knowledge.

1. Router Techniques
2. Lathe Techniques
3. Veneering
4. Marquetry
5. Joiner Alignment & Proper Use.
6. Woodcarving
7. Finishing

If you want others, let Steve Proctor know, so he can locate a teacher.

Mike Chandler and Ken McBride both are giving workshops on sharpening, tuning, and use of hand planes and cabinet scrapers. Price is \$25.00 for four to six hours of instructions. The time has not been set yet. Check with Mike and Ken at the meeting or call them at their shops for varification.

I have asked both Mike and Ken to develop additional workshops. Each is working on new subjects to teach. You may not realize it, but both these men are highly skilled and excellent teachers. It's a great opportunity for each of us to improve our skills. We owe Michael and Ken our thanks for sharing their knowledge.

Michael's workshop to make the European work benches is set to start April 14th. I don't know if it's to late to sign up. Check with Michael.

New Business

We've lost H. B. Blankenship to North Carolina. He will be on his way the day after the next meeting. We are going to miss you H. B. If anyone is going through Hickory, N.C. give H. B. a call.

The board had to find a Vice-President to replace H. B. and Ray Fortenback was nice enough to offer his services. Welcome aboard Ray. He will be a welcome addition. Not only will we get an experienced woodworker, but we now have our own in-house attorney.

Henry Reed is checking with Gibbs about a permanent meeting place. Chuck Benefiel, who is retired from Baroid, is checking on using the Baroid's large machine shop for a permanent meeting place. Chuck said its very large and has plenty of parking. Its location is in the 2100 block of the Southwest Freeway, which is about the most central spot you could find. All they ask is a waiver signed by the club releasing them of any liability. Ray will have to comment on this. (Isn't it nice to have your own in-house attorney).

Henry Reed and Ray Fortenback have information on a Teflon treatment for the tops of your table saw, joiner, bandsaw, and any other tool with a machined top that is subject to rust. It's a two part treatment - a cleaner and the teflon coating. Both are aerosol sprays. Ray coated his tops over a year ago and it's still on. He said there is no rust, plus everything slides across the top easier.

It's not available at stores, but the distributor has agreed to sell it to the club by the case. The two can kits will cost \$14.50 and there are 12 kits per case. So if you want to stop rust and have a super slick surface on your tools, contact Henry or Ray and give them your order and check.

I found out something new - at least new to me - when I was visiting Ray Fortenback last weekend. He told me about copper nails for outside projects. Marie Fortenback was nice enough to get a current price list from the supplier - John B. Church, Inc. of Houston.

Not only do they have copper nails from 1" to 2", but also stainless steel, redwood siding, ring chank with sinker head, bronze, aluminum alloy and brass. I will have there price list at the meeting, so you can order what you need. One pound of any size is the minimum order.

Church's is located at 115 Naylor off N. Main and their phone number is 222-7347. Thanks Marie for getting us this information.

The club would like to start a photo album of projects done by members. Each member would have one page and could change out the pictures as his projects got bigger, better or more complicated. Do we have an amateur photographer out there who would help get this off the ground.

With a full page per member, you ought to be able to show off from one to six of your projects. That way there would be a permanent record of your accomplishments, plus it may give another member an idea for a project and someone to question if any problems arise.

We are going to start another one page roster of the interest and expertises of each club member. For example, if you wanted to make a clock you look under clocks and find the name of Henry Reed, plus other members who make clocks. Now you have someone to call. We need someone to work up a short questionnaire to be sent out in a newsletter with a return address on the other side, so they could mail it back in. You can list an many interest as you have. Mine may be jewelry boxes, bandsaw boxes & etc.

Our May meeting is tentatively set up for Gibbs Plywood. Steve Proctor will be our lecturer and give information on cabinets and case construction.

Don't forget to give our advertisers your business. MVP Sharpeners on South Post Oak is our newest advertiser. Welcome aboard and thanks for your ad. Charles Burford's Fine Woods of Houston has moved to a new location at 1818 Upland Dr., which is north off the Katy Freeway on the West side of Houston.

Presidents Corner

At just about the time our March meeting convened, my family and I were entering the gate at Disney World in Florida. While the kids were shaking hands with Mickey Mouse and romping around the grounds, I found myself having an attack of Woodworker's Syndrome! Many of you, I'm sure, have this chronic disease even though you might not recognize it by name. The symptoms are easily identified and can appear suddenly, at the most inappropriate times.

Normal people would walk around a place like Disney World wide eyed and bushy tailed. They would become entranced in the world of make believe, enjoying the characters, flowers, rides, and all the other things that the Disney people tried so hard to create.

Woodworkers, however, when attacked by the Woodworkers Syndrome, find that the disease literally yanks at their mind and forces them to study all the mouldings, doors, display cases, building cornises and other woodworking features that exist in the fabulously well done place like Disney World. It's embarrassing to have to try explaining to your kids why you missed Goofy doing the Irish jig because you were studying the block paneling design in the auditorium.

Seriously, the architecture and woodworking at this park is truly top drawer. It's apparent that fine woodworking is still very much alive and well. I would highly recommend it for anyone - even those of you who may also suffer from Woodworkers Syndrome. And if you can fight off the syndrome for even a short time, you might even enjoy the flowers.

Speak Out

This is a new addition to our newsletter. Each month a member will be asked to write a few paragraphs. It can be about or on any subject they want, such as what the club has done for them, what they want the club to do for them, and gripe or anything else. It's your chance to sound off or maybe you just want to pass on a tip you've learned. Our first guest writer is E. J. Lagarde, have at it E. J., it's all yours.

During the relatively short period of my membership in the Woodworkers Club, I have considerably increased my woodworking knowledge. It is truly surprising how much you can learn just talking with other members before and after the meetings.

Our clinics are invaluable for learning the expertise of other members. We certainly should continue the clinics and encourage others to share their knowledge.

As our Club becomes better known and the membership grows, I feel that unless we vote to limit our membership to a given number, we will not benefit as much since it would not enable all members to have a chance to discuss his problems and get the input of fellow members.

An established Woodworkers meeting place would be beneficial but we should continue to seek out people and places to conduct seminar and demonstrations to teach us more about the woodworking craft.

E. J. Lagarde

Tips and Techniques

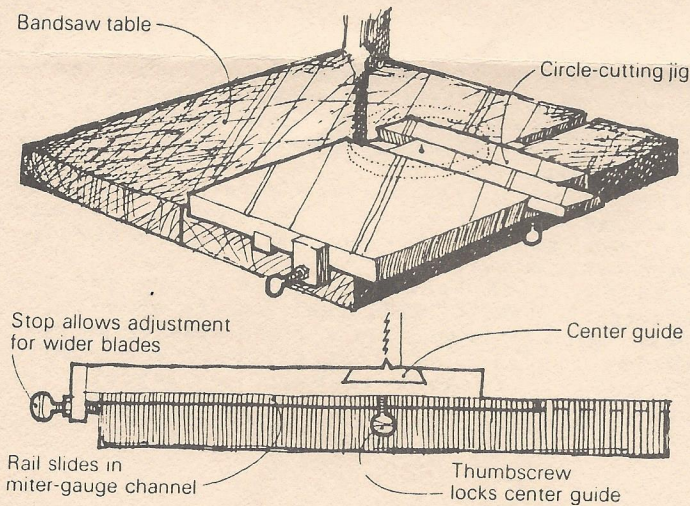
Cutting Circles On The Bandsaw

The circle-cutting jig I use in my shop offers several advantages. First, because the jig used the miter-gauge slot in the saw's table, no clamps are necessary. This not only saves time but also guarantees perfect size duplication even if the jig is removed from the saw. Second, since the jig's base stays in a fixed position relative to the blade, you can put marks on the base to calibrate circle sizes. Third, you can reverse the sliding-dovetail center guide to cut large circles. And last, an adjustable stop can easily be added on the front of the jig so it can be used with a variety of blades. The stop ensures that cutting always takes place at the true tangent of the circle.

To use, set the center guide to the desired radius, lock it in place with the setscrew and place the circle blank on the center pin. If the blank cannot have a center hole in it, then cut a dummy disc from plywood and secure the blank to the dummy disc with double-sided tape. With the jig's rail riding in the saw's miter-gauge slot, ease the jig straight into the blade until the stop contracts the front of the saw table. Then turn the blank until the circle is completed.

Although you can make the jig from solid stock, it is easier to make the dovetail slot if you laminate the base. My jig is made of acrylic plastic, threaded for the two thumbscrews. If you use wood, epoxy in square nuts for the thumbscrews.

Cutting circles on the bandsaw



For Sale-Wanted To Buy

1. Prentiss Crowe still has a planer for sale, Give him a call.
 2. 6" Sears joiner & stand, 1hp motor, extra knives - \$200.00. Call Al Sykes
 3. 8/4 Red Oak - 8" & wider.
12/4 Poplar - 8" & wider.
Formica brand plastic laminates & contact cement. Call Al Sykes
- I'm looking for a company to buy so if you know of anyone selling, give me a call.

You need to let me know at the meeting or call me at least two weeks prior to the next meeting to put in your free ad.

April Meeting

The meeting will be a little different this time is that its a trip to Galveston to tour the ship "Elissa". Bill Elliott gave us a slide presentation in December; now we get to see the real thing.

I would suggest you check the new roster which is enclosed and call people with your zip code, so you can form carpools, It will have the extra benefit of getting to know your fellow members who live near you.

Meeting is Saturday - April 13th at 9:00 AM. There is a \$3.00 admission charge - \$2.50 if your over 60. Just follow I-45 to Galveston when it enters Galveston it becomes Broadway. Go to 22nd St. and turn left to Port Industrial Blvd.

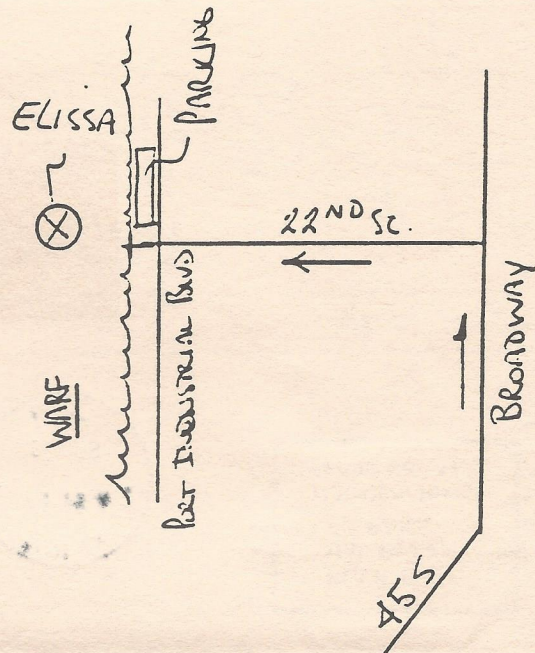
and turn right. You'll see the Elissa and I'll see you there.

TAKE I-45 SOUTH TO GALVESTON.
 I-45 BECOMES BROADWAY AT GALVESTON.
 BROADWAY TO 22ND ST. TURN LEFT.
 FOLLOW 22ND ST. UNTIL IT ENDS AT
 WHARF. PARK IN LARGE LOT AND WALK
 TO ELISSA.

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