

Woodworkers Club of Houston

July 2005 • Volume 21, No. 7 • www.wwch.org

Scrap wood turned into charitable works

Dean Kreider has spent the past seven years turning his woodworking hobby into an act of charity.

Mr. Kreider always loved to build, but after he was in an accident in 1998 and received help from the community, he stepped up his efforts and started donating all of his items for good causes.

Mr. Kreider was injured while working to install a sewer line. The side caved in and he was buried in a trench. He said the owners at Mike & Dot's helped him get back on his feet, so he started his charity building to help them in return.

A few months ago, he donated a portable bar to the Chili Cookoff at Mike & Dot's. He said he feels good about donating to the restaurant because it helps a lot of organizations throughout the year.

His projects run the gamut from bookshelves to children's rocking horses, and everything is constructed using scrap material.

"Scrap lumber's free. All I put into it is time and thought," he said. "It's not the prettiest stuff in the world, but if you run it through the planer, it's beautiful."

He has friends who scrounge scrap material for him as well, and a lot still comes from modular home sites. He also practices the art of "Dumpster-diving," salvaging items such as old floorboards that are discarded when people remodel homes.

"That's why I really don't charge anything for the things I build because I get enjoyment from the things I build and knowing I saved this beautiful wood from going to the landfill," he said.

About 10 years ago, he started building rocking horses, and he said they have been immensely popular.

They are constructed so they cannot flip and are safe for small children. The first one that was auctioned at Mike & Dot's yielded \$300. Mr. Kreider now tries to bring in at least this much for charity every year.

He does not typically draw before he begins building. When he makes a shelf, he screws the first one together and once he is satisfied, he pulls it apart to make patterns.

"I don't know where my ideas come from. They just do," he said. "They pop into my head and I go with them."

Even when Mr. Kreider is not working on a project, he is thinking about what he could build.

"I'd love to build a wooden boat," he said. "That would be fun."

He said his wife sometimes gets frustrated with the amount of material he stockpiles for his projects. But he does not like to waste wood.

"My thought," he said, "is somebody, somewhere can use it."

*By Bevin Milavsky
The Daily Item*

WWCH is forming a group to build toys for Christmas. Board members **Eddie Arnold** and **Dottie Forbes** are organizing woodworkers for this worthy effort. The toys will be donated to a charitable group and they will distribute them. Eddie says the toys will be simple and easy to make. If you would like to participate please let Eddie or Dottie know at the next meeting. Eddie usually is selling tickets at the raffle table and Dottie circulates around the meeting room.

Saturday's Program: Ribbons and Rosettes

By Dennis Serig

You're walking through the woodworking exhibit at a fair or show. Maybe you entered something and are checking to see how you did, or maybe you just want to see what others have entered. Blue, red, white, yellow, green: there are ribbons everywhere. And there are some big purple rosettes too. You look at the entries and ribbons and sometimes you understand and sometimes you don't. It's the same with those rosettes. Can you possibly understand the process for judging woodworking?

Dennis Serig is a certified woodworking judge with 20 years of experience as a chairman in a county fair and as a woodworking judge. He believes that showing and judging of woodworking items can be an important element in the education and skill development of all woodworkers. At our July meeting Dennis will recount some of his experiences at fairs and shows of woodworking projects. Emphasis will be on fair or show organization, approaches to judging, and why you see what you see after the judging is completed.

One of the goals of the Ribbons and Rosettes presentation is to help those members who want to enter their projects in a fair or show to get the most out of the experience. Another goal is to stimulate thinking and conversation within the club about the possibility of establishing a show as a means to reach the broader community of Houston woodworkers.

Call for entries to the Sixth Annual Texas Furniture Makers Show.

A letter from the Kerr Arts and Cultural Center states, "You are invited to exhibit at the Sixth Annual Texas Furniture Show being staged at Kerr Arts & Cultural Center, Kerrville, Texas from October 28 to December 5, 2005." Early applications to this popular Texas furniture show can be made after June 1 with a final application deadline of September 1. The show is juried so it should be a good example of Texas furniture making. **Marcus Brun** passed along the info to the newsletter and he will have information on rules, fees and cash awards in several categories at our next meeting. See Marcus or look online at www.kackkerrville.com. You can also email Jack Davis at kacc@kackkerrville.com or telephone him at 1.830.895.2911 for more information.

There will be three judges for the show; **Jake Cress**, Cabinetmaker, from Fincastle, Virginia has had his work featured in just about every woodworking and art magazine being published. His work can be seen at www.jakecress.com; **Patty Riley-Brown**, ASID of Austin, Texas is a medalist of the American Society of Interior Designers and has served on both the State and

National Board Directors of that organization; **Howard Hale**, Master Craftsman of Dallas, Texas, has been a master craftsman for 22 years, having studied under the great Danish Master Tage Frid in Providence, RI.

There is a lot of talent in our Club and some of it at a very high level of skill. Recently we've seen some outstanding examples of furniture making by members that would stand up well with some of the best work produced in the state. There's plenty of time to get your act together so let's see if we can't have several members represented in the show this year.

Internet web sites offer information, guides and resources for woodworkers.

Several members, including **Andy Anderson**, have submitted web sites recently to the editor to include in the newsletter. Here's a rundown of a few of them.

A general interest woodworker site:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~kvaughn65/index.html>

A site for projects and demonstrations:

<http://www.woodshopdemos.com/menu2.htm>

Articles, projects and techniques:

<http://home.att.net/~waterfront-woods/>

Project ideas, Tradn' Post and links to other woodworkers pages:

<http://woodworkers-exchange.allthingswood.com/index.html>

All about corrosion from the Corrosion Doctors:

<http://www.corrosion-doctors.org/>

The Ryobi BT3 table saw web site:

<http://bt3central.com/>

General interest, discussion groups, huge web site:

http://www.benchnotes.com/Woodworking%20Links/woodworking_links.htm

Woodworking plans for sale:

<http://www.knottyplans.com/>

More plans, tips and tricks, articles, tool room, more:

<http://www.newwoodworker.com/frenchcleat.html>

Editors note: I would like to run an article in a future newsletter that notes WWCH member web sites. Please let me know your web site address and if there's enough response I will include them in a future column. Send your web address to bwhite444@houston.rr.com. And be sure to check out the WWCH web site that is managed by **Gary Rowen**: wwch.org.



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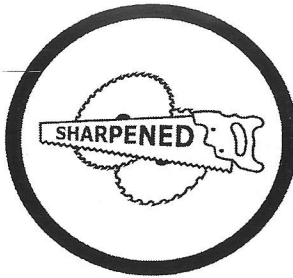
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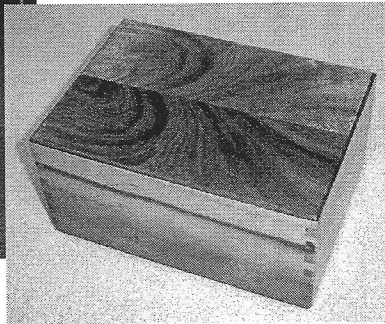
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June projects



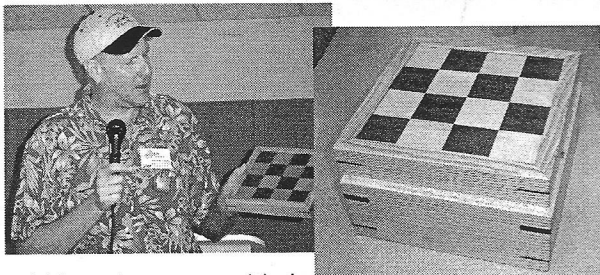
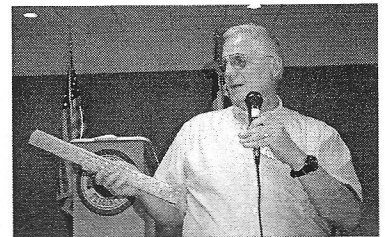
Mason LeGrue stands by his Norm Abrams designed Adirondack chair of cypress wood. Mason used only stainless steel hardware then finished with two coats of Thompson Water Seal. He also shows his box of cherry with bookmatched walnut top.



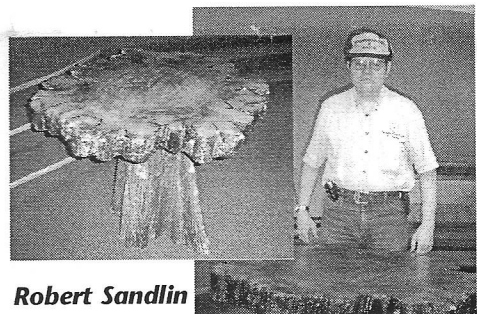
This Mah Jongg tile holder of recycled oak was crafted by **Michael Whelton**.



Brandon Nixon talked about his Brazilian redwood art easel finished with linseed oil.



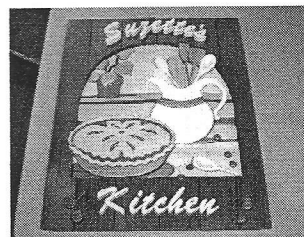
Old barn beams provided the lumber for these boxes designed and crafted by **Rich Thomas**.



Robert Sandlin can't identify the source tree but he did say he paid only \$30 for it to save it from the rubbish pile. Being the woodworker he is he brought it back to life.

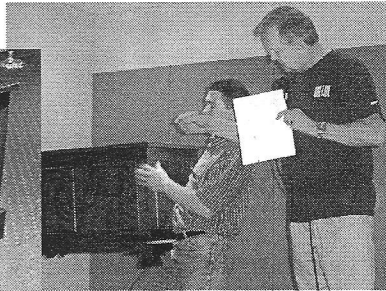


Mike Turner explains how he will install this fluorescent light fixture; a project motivated by the high cost of fixtures at your local home improvement store.



Steve Wavro proudly shows off his intarsia designed plaque announcing his wife's kitchen. Seven shades of red cedar, some maple and padouck make up the design.

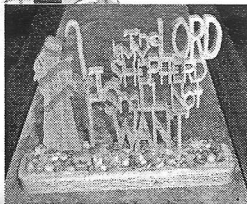
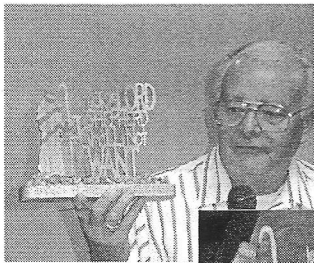




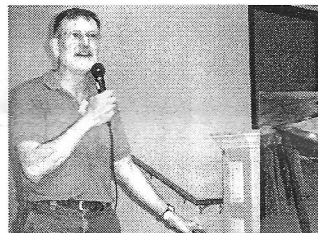
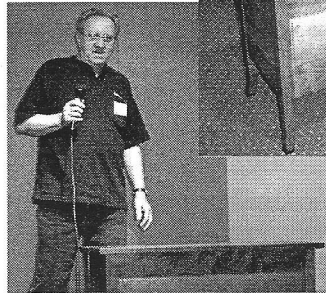
Jack Hutchison points out features of his 18th century Chippendale blanket chest of red gum in a frame and panel construction. It is finished with Minwax stain plus 2 coats clear shellac followed by tung oil.



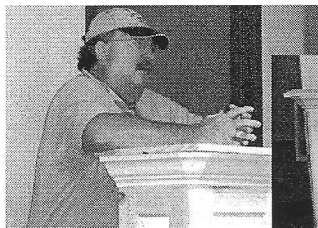
A similar period piece at the Waco Homestead was the source of this blanket chest by **Buddy Grant**. Cherry panels, ebony, mesquite and cedar for the bottom.



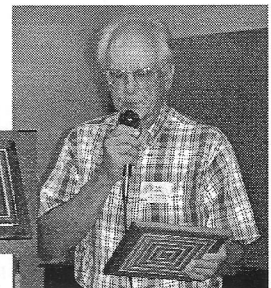
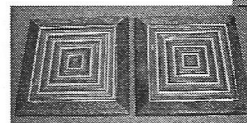
Glen Edwards drove from Austin to attend our meeting and show club members his scroll sawed works of Jesus. Glen used a #5 blade that does a clean cut on both sides. It is finished with shellac.



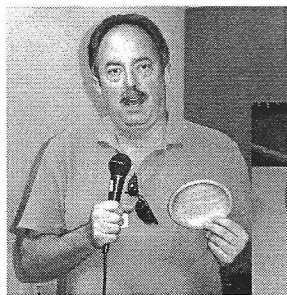
This Baltic Birch top is copper laminated then framed by walnut. **Brian Honey** explained the chemical process used to create the finish. The leg tips are attached by dowels.



Denis Muras rests upon his white pine fireplace mantle, soon to be painted.



Plywood edges glued together create a special effect for these cutting boards crafted by **Lon Kelley**. The frame is only glued at the mitres to allow give and take.



Steve LeGrue did a good turn with these bowls—a quickie weekend project with wood lying around.

Test your gluing knowledge

Presented By: Custom-Pak Adhesives Inc.

True or False:

- | | | |
|---|------|-------|
| 1. All glues are the same; they all work on wood. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 2. There is not one great glue that will do it all. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 3. All white/yellow glues are the same. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 4. Yellow glue is strong-White glue is only used by schoolchildren. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 5. There is no glue like the old hide glue. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 6. Aliphatic glue is superior. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 7. Formaldehyde glues are waterbased. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 8. Water based glues are harmful because they will swell and twist wood. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 9. Thick glue is better and fills gaps and voids. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 10. More glue is better. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 11. More pressure is better. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 12. More catalyst is better. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 13. No glues will take a stain. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 14. Mechanical help such as biscuits or dowels is needed for best edge gluing strength. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 15. Miters and other end grain can be glued with any thick glue. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 16. Moisture content is important; gluing air dried lumber is not a good idea. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 17. Pieces should be assembled as soon as possible after spreading the glue. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 18. There are glues that will set in 3-5 minutes allowing very fast edge gluing of hardwoods. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 19. It's OK to machine immediately from press/clamps. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 20. Heating the glue line will not speed the cure. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 21. "Water Resistant" on the label means the glue isn't affected by water. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 22. Glues with toxic chemicals in them shouldn't be used. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 23. Water based glues can be used as long as the temperature in the shop is above freezing. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 24. Shops don't need to be humidified in the winter. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 25. It's OK to glue bowed, bellied or twisted stock as long as it's pulled tight with clamps. | TRUE | FALSE |

Answers:

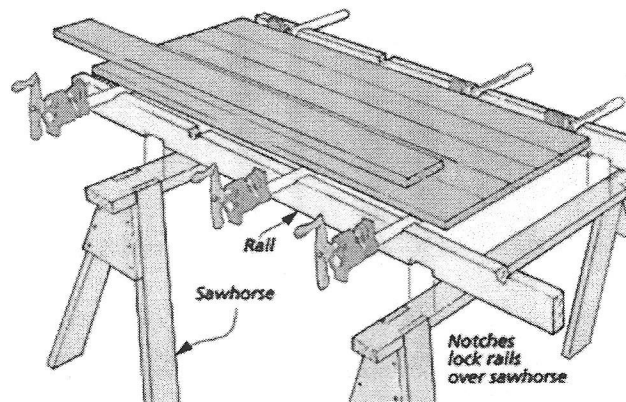
- False There are hundreds of different adhesives formulated for thousands of different applications.
- True Although many glues have multiple applications there isn't one that can "do it all."
- False White and Yellow glues (Poly-Vinyl Acetates) are formulated with different viscosities, solids contents and chemical modifications, for different applications.
- False Color has nothing to do with a glue's strength or quality.
- False There are few, if any, applications in which synthetic glues, such as PVA, can't outperform, hide glues.
- False "Aliphatic" simply describes a broad family of organic chemicals that includes PVAs.
- True Formaldehyde glues, although they have different chemical components, are water based just like PVAs.
- False Most commonly used wood glues are water based and will not harm wood if high solids glues are used, assembly times allowed, and spreads are controlled.
- False Many applications require a glue that is not thick.
- False Actually, too much glue can result in a thick glue line and, hence, a weaker bond.
- False Too much pressure could result in a starved glue joint and a weaker bond.
- False Catalyst levels depend on the glue and specific catalyst formulations. Some catalysts speed cure as they are increased; others slow down the cure rate.
- True Although some glues appear to take stains better than others, there is no glue that is stainable.
- False Using mechanical fastening devices when edge gluing tends to weaken the glue joint by disrupting a smooth true edge joint that will provide maximum strength. Devices such as biscuits or dowels should only be used to maintain alignment or to add strength in miters and butt joints.
- False Gluing end grain may require sizing before gluing and the use of a high solids glue.
- True Ideal moisture content for gluing is 6.8%, therefore, higher air dry moisture should be avoided. Higher moisture levels also result in wood movement after gluing with accompanying checks and splits. Lower moisture content may interfere with the glue's ability to properly wet the surface.
- False Often, it is better to allow the glue to set for a little while before applying pressure.
- False Although there are glues available that will set quickly, strength is often sacrificed.
- False Regardless of the glue used, it is a good idea to allow it to cure for 24 hours before machining.
- True When using conventional PVA the cure rate is not affected by heating the glue line, in fact, bond development may be slowed.
- False Only glues that are "Waterproof" such as Resorcinol Resin will provide absolute protection from moisture.
- False Most glues are made with some chemicals that may be considered toxic. With normal precautions, most glues are completely safe to work with.
- False Although many glues are "freeze/thaw stable" many do not perform well at low temperatures.
- False Many shops become excessively dry during the winter causing numerous gluing problems because of resulting moisture loss from the stock.
- False Often, gluing bowed or twisted stock results in undue stress on the glue joint and glue lines that are either too thick or starved of adhesive.

Knock-Down Clamping Table

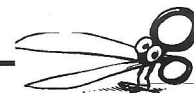
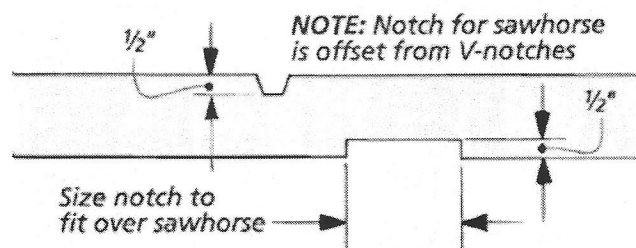
Trying to glue up large panels or frames on a small workbench can be difficult. I often found myself working in the middle of the floor. So, I built this simple knock-down clamping table to make the job a little easier. As you can see in the drawing at right, the table is just a couple of 2x4 rails that sit on a pair of sawhorses. The rails are notched at both ends to allow them to fit over the sawhorses. A series of V-notches along the top of each rail holds the pipe clamps (see detail a.). I spaced the notches for the clamps about 12" apart. And to avoid a "knuckle buster" situation, I made sure the notches for the sawhorses weren't directly under one of the clamp notches.

To use the table I just place the rails over the sawhorses and then set the clamps into the notches. The rails can be placed closer or further apart to accommodate different lengths of clamps. When I'm all done, I just lift off the rails and store them in the corner.

Have a nice weekend,
Ted Raife
Online Editor, Woodsmith



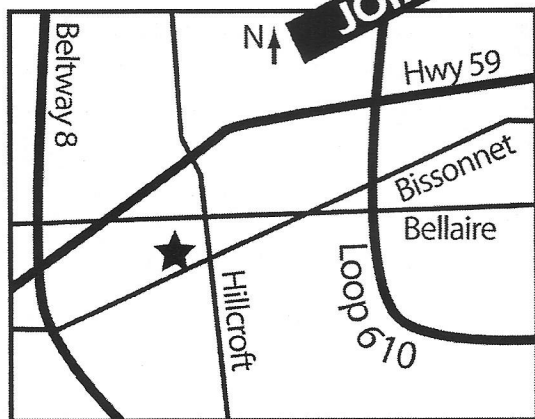
SIDE VIEW



WWCH Monthly Meeting

Second Saturday of every month
We open the doors at 8:30am, program starts at 9:00 and winds up by 11:30am.

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Woodworkers Club of Houston Membership Application

A WWCH Membership is a chance to learn about woodworking, visit with other woodworkers and see some fabulous projects. Your membership includes a monthly newsletter, access to our video and book library, invitation to field trips and occasionally we collectively buy tools at discounted prices. Considering the cost it's a genuine bargain. So, cut out this application, include a check for \$24.00 yearly membership and mail it to the address below. And join us once a month for a good time.

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Monthly Meeting:
July 9

Program:
Ribbons and Rosettes

Next Meeting:
August 13

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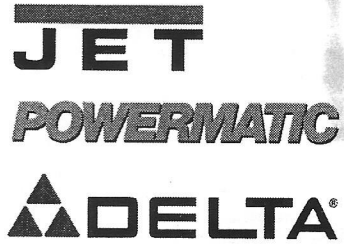
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