

WOODWORKERS CLUB OF HOUSTON

Vol. 2, No. 6

JUNE, 1986

Officers

Steve Proctor - President
Rick Goodheart - Vice President
Harold Evans - Sec./Treasurer
Bill Beggs - Newsletter Editor

Rich Kurey - Board of Directors
Ray Fortenbach - Board of Directors
Mark McCoy - Board of Directors
Bob Soderblom - Board of Directors

MAY MEETING

I don't know about you, but I had a wonderful experience at our May meeting. John Webber was a super host who enjoyed what he does and doesn't mind sharing it with others. You know, that's one of the nice things I like about woodworkers.

John's shop was built in 1908 and some of the equipment has dates way back to 1870. Every tool was set up to run off a spline shaft through a canvas belt and all powered by a 20hp steam engine. Now that is real efficiency; one engine for maybe six to eight pieces of equipment, and they could all be running at once.

John, we enjoyed the tour and the description of each tool and its function. It was well worth the drive to Galveston.

Our 15 minute discussion time had as its subject the problem properly setting up for an accurate three sided dovetail slot for a center leg table. There was not as much input from the group as usual, but I hoped Ted King got enough info to do it better next time.

SHOW AND TELL

We only had one piece, but it created a lot of interest for more reasons than one. George Greider brought a walnut shadow box with a large large mouth bass mounted in it. It was a real nice piece, but what made it so interesting was that the corners were angled hand cut dovetails. Very nice George.

OLD BUSINESS

Steve Proctor has received the branding irons that Ron Kuenning ordered for us. Steve will bring them to the June meeting, so everybody who ordered one can pick it up there.

Check with Mark McCoy if there is something else you might want, that would work well with a bulk purchase, whereby we can get a good discount.

Don't forget your caps and t-shirts. One of the members told me he got a discount when they saw his WOODWORKERS OF HOUSTON cap.

The MAKE A WISH foundation called and asked me to let you know they are having a "Fish-A-Rama" at Hermann Park on Saturday, June 14th, the day of our meeting. They expect a big crowd to show up so kids can fish in the small lake which is being stocked to the brim with 5000 fish. They hope to raise a big chunk of cash for their foundation. They would appreciate any helpers that are willing to donate a few hours.

WORKSHOPS AND CLINICS

No change from last month. A lot of the clinics have already been completed. I've got one to do on band saw boxes that I promise I will get done in June. Just bear with me.

RESIDENT'S CORNER

The Island City Woodworks reminded me a great deal of a millshop I worked in as a student. Locally known as the "planning mill", it is a small church furniture factory; not much larger than the Galveston shop. It is located in the middle of Amish country of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and many of the workers are Amish.

The equipment dated to the twenties, not back to the 1800's like Galveston, and it did not run on shafts, even originally. But the equipment was old, with massive castings and oversize electric motors. The machinery could be very cantankerous, and sometime you had to coax production out of it. We had one semi retired employee that stopped by a couple days a week to oil, sharpen, and maintain the equipment, as he had for nearly 45 years.

Shop layout was by the "as fits" school of thought. Production equipment that should have been sequenced, were scattered in all parts of the factory buildings. We trundled work in process down the beaten concrete on four wheel carts from one wing to another. The entire complex, built in fits and starts over 60 years, had all been constructed by the workers when times were slack.

The factory was owned and run by an old man who had inherited it from his father and grandfather. True to tradition, every time the temperature inside reached 90, the owner would bring out a 10 gallon pot, and mix up homemade limonade. Not the powdered stuff, he cut up real lemons and mixed in just the right amount of sugar. Then he'd ladle out a generous cupful to every employee during the afternoon break. The roughly 35 employees turned out mostly oak church pews, pulpits, prayer rails and assorted other millwork. We did an entire Dupant house, there were master craftsmen, cabinet makers, and production workers. We worked 55 hours a week, with 1/2 hour lunches and 10 minute breaks and loved it. Old Jay Webber must be well past retirement and his kids didn't show any interest in the buisness. I often dream of buying out the old place, really going after some of the bigger architectural millwork in Philadelphia or New York. John Webber at Island City has done a great job, and amybe someday I will be able to follow his lead.

WORKSHOPS AND CLINICS

Nothing new to report. Most of the clinics have been scheduled or have been completed, but be sure and check with Murray Gordon at the next meeting to sign up for whatever is still open. Also, don't hesitate to volunteer to teach a clinic; thats what the club is all about.

PRESIDENTS CORNER by Steve Proctor

The Island City woodworks reminded me a great deal of a millshop I worked in as a student. Locally known as the planing mill, it was a small church furniture factory, not much larger than the Galveston shop. It is located in the middle of the Amish country of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and many of the workers are Amish.

The equipment dated to the twenties, not back to the 1800's like Galveston, and it did not run on shafts, even originally. But the equipment was old, with massive castings and oversize electric motors. The machinery could be cantankerous, and sometimes you had to coax production out of it. We had one semi retired employee that stopped by a couple day's a week to oil, sharpen, and maintain the equipment, as he had for nearly 45 years. Shop layout was by the "as fits" school of thought.

SPEAKOUT by Bob Soderblom

"When It Comes To Workshop Tools, Familiarity Breeds Carelessness"

You guessed it; this months message is on S A F E T Y. NO! NO! Don't turn the page now if you want to continue deriving satisfaction and pleasure from working with power and hand tools.

Our enjoyment can end permanently in a split-second of carelessness in not practicing what we probably already know about safety in the workshop. We can not afford to feel reluctant toward learning all we can about proper precautions while using tools.

Neoma Patterson, a 56 year old nurse, knew she was going to bleed to death on Nov. 5, 1985. She was alone on the family farm 30 miles west of Fort Worth using a bandsaw while wearing a longsleeve shirt with cuffs unbuttoned. When she followed through on a rip cut, the left sleeve was "sucked in" by the blade and it ripped through her arm and tossed it on a dirty work bench.

Miraculously she kept a cool head, stemmed the bloodflow with her right hand, was able to phone for help and made it to a hospital in time.

She was very familiar with the saw, but got careless by wearing loose clothing around power equipment.

Accidents (or carelessness) can happen to you if you are not careful. I have one finger permanently shorter than it should be. How many other members of our club can show their scars and tell their stories? Everyone of us thought it couldn't happen to them.

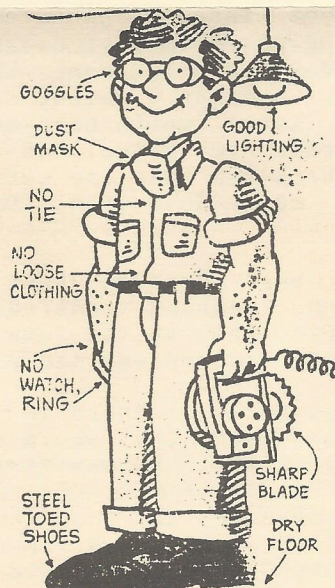
I hope to see more discussions on safety and a sharing of personal experiences by all our members during meetings and demonstrations. I encourage every member to send only \$1.50 to receive an excellent 24 page booklet POWER TOOL SAFETY IS SPECIFIC fardozens of tips on safe operation of all types of power tools. Send to:

Power Tool Institute
Dept. F H
501 W. Algonquin
Arlinton Heights, Il 60005

In the meantime please:

1. Keep your eyes protected and on what ever you are doing
2. Never let your concentration stray from what you are doing.
3. When you feel tired or bored, turn off the powertool and rest.
4. Bring your thoughts and comments about safety to every meeting.
5. Trust your instincts. If you feel what your about to do is not safe, then find another way to accomplish the same task.

THINK SAFETY PRACTICE SAFETY BE HAPPY!



NEW BUISNESS

Don't forget our discussion session. Turn in your ideas to Steve Proctor before the meeting.

The Branding Irons are in. Steve will bring them to the meeting, so if you order one, be sure and come and pick it up. (That's a sneaky way to get you to come to the meetings).

We got a letter from Hana N. Ginzburg, President of the FRIENDS OF BELLAIRE PARKS asking for help in renovating a 60 year old house that is located in the Russ Pittman Park at 7112 Newcastle. This is a Texas Sesquicentennial project with all work done by volunteers. They need help on the cabinets, and etc. To help just call Ms. Ginzburg at 664-4320. That might be a fun project and something a little different from our usual woodworking projects.

I stand corrected from the last newsletter in which I stated that Hubert Wilbourn was revising the Club's Bylaws. He isn't, but he has made some suggestions to make changes in the existing Bylaws. He also worked up a neat leaflet we can have printed and pass out to prospective new members. It briefly tells what the club is all about and what you will get out of it. Your BOD voted to have printed for future distribution.

The first annual Last Chance Woodworker's Show is to be held in Austin on November 8-9. For more info write Last Chance Productions, 2205 Matterhorn, Austin, Tx 78704 or call (512) 441-5902.

The American association of Woodturners is now accepting memberships from hobbyist and professional turners, gallery owners, and etc. For more info write to the association at P.O. Box 982, San Marcos, Tx 78667.

If the association has its headquarters in San Marcos, maybe we can talk one of their local members into giving us a

demonstration or a workshop.

We need to start out on our charity show and we need chairpersons for the various committees. PLEASE volunteer!

One thing we could start on is the production type pieces we plan to sell. Any ideas out there? I've got a couple if someone wants to buttonhole me at the next meeting.

Be sure and give our advertisers your business and be sure and let them know we appreciate having them as an associate member. By the way MVP Sharpener has decided to join us again. Thanks for your patronage.

Your BOD is working on future meetings, such as a hardware demonstration. That ought to be interesting. Some of the hardware offered I'm not sure how to use it correctly.

SALE, TRADE OR BUY

Call Fred at 933-7997 if you're interested in a 10" Craftsman radial arm saw.

Dave Crane at 932-6511 has electric motors for sale at \$50.00 for a 3 phase, type K, 115/230 volt, Frame M56H, 3450 RPM, Doerr electric motors.

JUNE MEETING

It will be Saturday, June 14, 1986 at 9:00 A.M. at the Visserroland Organ Shop at 2033 Johanna.

To get there go Hwy 290 to Austin, take the 34th street - Antoine exit. Proceed to Antoine and turn left. Cross Hempstead Hwy and turn right on Hammerly. Go to Johanna and turn left. There will be four metal buildings when you get to the right address, proceed to the last building. Your host will be Mr. Patrick Quigley.

SEE

YOU

THERE!



Woodworkers Club of Houston
P.O. Box 34481
Houston, Tx 77234

CHANDLER and Co



fine **MARPLES**
woodworking
tools



6007 Milwee 0 709

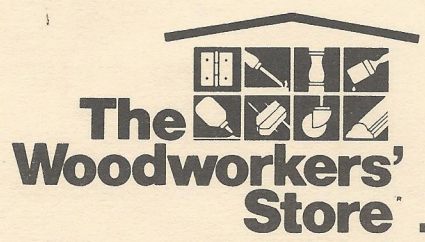
Houston
(713) 683-8455

MVP Sharpeners

11246 S. POST OAK RD. - UNIT 107 - HOUSTON, TEXAS 77035 - (713) 721-3650

EMCO INDUSTRIAL SHAPER \$635. EMCO is made in Austria and has been sold throughout Europe for 40 years. MVP is EMCO's Number One Texas Dealer. If you are considering Inca or Shopsmith, see the EMCO machines and save money. MVP discounts AMANA, FREUD, SYSTI-MATIC BOSCH, PORTER CABLE, RYOBI, and LENNOX. Check our prices before calling a mail order house.

MVP, THE PREMIUM SHARPENERS. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE IN SHARPENING!



21801 Industrial Boulevard, Rogers, Minnesota 55374 (612) 428-4101