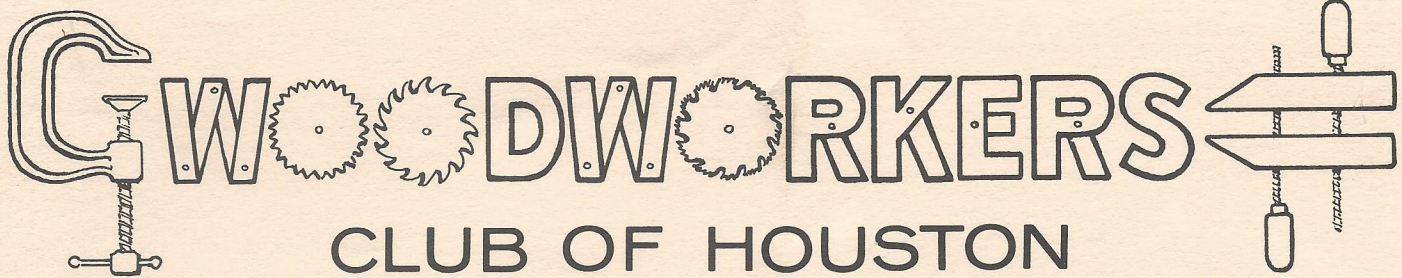


WOODWORKERS CLUB OF HOUSTON



Vol. 1, No. 3

March, 1985

Officers

Rich Kurey - President
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

FEBRUARY MEETING

Well the meeting went off without a hitch, thanks to Bob Boteler's courtesy of letting us use his shop for our meeting. It was a good thing too, because we had 85 show up including 14 guests. Considering a lot of people didn't get their newsletter till Saturday, or as late as the next week, (thanks to our pony express mail system), it's a wonder we had anyone show.

Anyway, the ones that did I am sure enjoyed themselves, thanks to our guest speaker, Royce Bomar of The Tool Shed and his friend Clyde Branch. He showed tools that were over 100 years old to ones that were only 30 to 40 years old. Some I had never seen, much less heard about, & some I had heard about, but never seen. All in all it was most entertaining & enlightening. Thanks Royce and Clyde. Please come visit us again.

SHOW & TELL

Julius Lang, one of our newer members and a lover of shaker furniture brought a shaker vegetable bend out of pine. It showed the Shaker design of uncomplicated and functional design.

Chuck Maxwell - our official jig maker - brought his latest creation; a wire pull jig. It makes rounded wooden pulls for cabinets and drawers. As usual Chuck made a few modifications to the original design.

Yours truly, brought a jewelry box made of butternut, which had a secret catch I designed one night when I couldn't sleep. You might as well be productive instead of just tossing & tumbling.

You newer members, don't be bashful. Bring what you build to the meeting. It gets you a chance to show off, or you might pick up a technique that will help on you next project, and also you may give a fellow member an idea on something new to build.

OLD BUSINESS

Mark McCoy has 10 WWC Caps left at \$5.50. You can order the WWC T-Shirts from T-Shirts Plus on Antoine for \$15.50. Call your order in to 957-2035 and it will be ready by the time you get there.

We apologize to those people that got their newsletter late, but it was our first attempt at having it printed. It really came out nice and a vote of Thanks is owed to John Arnett and his crew at Speeding Printing on West Alabama. They really worked their tails off to get it ready. We've moved our whole process forward one week, so our efficient U.S. Mail System can get it to you on time.

I want you to notice our new logo atop this grand literary masterpiece. Marion Harrison - our own Paul Harrison's wife, did this grand & glorious design. "We've come a long way, baby." Thanks, Marion, it looks terrific.

The following committees still need a few good helpers. It's your club, so put a little effort into making sure it gives you what you want.

Program Committee - contact Rich Kurey or Arleigh Meyer.

Newsletter - contact Sharon Buckley or me. I would like someone to give some input into writing the newsletter. New blood will keep it from getting stale.

Workshops/Clinics - contact HB Blanken-
ship. Mainly just to coordinate and keep
track of the various workshops & clinics.

Publicity/Advertising - Ted needs some
help in contacting possible advertisers, &
also to notify the Chronicle when we have
a scheduled meeting.

Charity Show - Sam Zeisman did an
admirable job last year & wants help for
'85.

Exhibit Show - this is still in the
planning stage. Call Dan Sloan.

Mark McCoy has the info on the brass
knife hinges and the aluminum bar clamps.
See him after the meeting, if you are
paying your dues please pay by check.

We still need someone to write the
various suppliers who advertise in the
magazines if they have films we can
borrow or rent for future programs. If
someones got a computer word processor,
they can fprint up a jillion. The club
will reimburse you for the postage.

A bunch of old members (meaning
they've been in the club awhile) forgot
to pay their dues and won't receive this
masterpiece of literary genius. (Since
I'm writing this, I can brag all I want!)
Pay up fellows - we miss you. Besides
bulk postage is cheaper with more
members.

WORKSHOPS & CLINICS

Our clinics & workshops are starting
to work. We're finally getting some
members to step forward and volunteer.
Especially those who don't show up at
a meeting to protect their interests.
Ha! Ha!

The following clinics are
available:

1. Bandsaw Boxes - Bill Beggs
2. Machine Maintenance - Mike Chandler-
Scheduled for March 10th - 1 to 4PM
3. Raised Panelled Doors - Chuck Maxwell
4. Shop Layout - Doug Blodgett
5. Miniature Furniture - Andi Blodgett
6. Hardware Installation - Bill Forkner
7. Carved Bowls - Charles Hoops

Check with these people at the next
meeting if you haven't already been
contacted to see if they've set a time
and place. My Router Table Clinic may
have to turn into a Workshop. I built my
new table & will bring my first version
to the next meeting. It's a lot more time
involved than I thought. Anyway we will
try to figure out a way to get everyone
who signed up to get a chance to make one.
(How do I get myself into these situations?)

We also have three workshops set up by
our resident Woodsmith. Ken McBride will
give a two evening workshop on how to
tune & use hand planes. I know a lot of
you out there shy away from using hand
planes, but that's because you don't know
how to sharpen, tune & use it properly. I
took Ken's class & took a badly bowed
rough 1 x 12 x 14 piece of maple &
flattened it on both sides & squared all
the edges. Before it was scrap - now its
a usable piece of wood. The whole process
took about 20 minutes & it sure felt good.

Anyway the Workshop is \$25.00 for the
two evening session, which will be held
March 20th & 21st at Ken's shop. Call
him at 683-6029 to get your name on the
list. It's worth the money.

Mike Chandler is also offering a
similar workshop including the use of
scrapers on Sunday - March 31st. So you
have a choice by two highly capable
Woodsmiths - one in the evening and one
on the weekend. Mike can be contacted
at his shop in the evenings & weekends
at 784-0065.

By the way you need to bring your own
planes to tune & sharpen. If you don't
own one, check Mike's store.

The Workbench Workshop by Mike Chandler
will start at the U of H Shop Sunday, April
14th. Nine have signed up so far & there
will not be another till next year, so
better get on the band wagon. The cost is
\$300.00 which includes everything to build
a solid maple 68 x 21 European Workbench.
What a bargain. If you don't think, go
look at Ted King's or some of the other
participants of the first workshop.

Mike is also trying to put together
another wood order so we can achieve a
discount. Check with him at the meeting
if you have a need.

Mike has one more opening for his all
day bowl turning workshop schedule Sunday-
March 3rd. Price is \$125.00 & you're
taught by a Master Turner. It includes
everything except turning chisels. You'll
need a ½" gouge, ½" round nose scraper,
diamond nose scraper and fluted parting
chisel. It will go from 9am to 5pm. (Oh-
my aching feet!)

We are in need of volunteers to teach
the following clinics:

1. Chisel & Iron Sharpening
2. Jointer alignment & proper use
3. Use & tricks of a router
4. Use of a wood lathe
5. Woodcarving tips
6. Finishing

If you can think of anymore, ad them to the list at the next meeting. If you want to teach something, it doesn't just have to be on the above list, contact H.B. Blankenship.

NEW BUSINESS

This is our second printed newsletter. It's looking better everytime. John Arnett & wife have volunteered to help get it mailed, but they may need help, so call them at his shop - 877-8466.

We're still looking for a permanent meeting place. Fred Olsen is checking out the VFW Hall on Mangum. Remember we are a non profit & can't pay more than a nominal fee, but as you noticed at Bob Boteler's, everybody helps clean up & pick up. We want to be invited back. Give any ideas you have to Rich Kurey or Henry Reed.

Future meeting coming up include a tour of the ship "Elissa" located in Galveston in April, Steve Proctor - cabinet case construction in May, & maybe Mike Overstreet of the Gibbs Co. about plywoods & veneers in June.

Russ Zimmerman of Putney Vermont is a master wood turning. You've probably seen his advertisements in Fine Woodworking magazine. Russ & I corresponded last year about him coming to Houston but we could not swing it then as the club was to small. I think the timing may be right to bring in some of the countries top professionals to demonstrate & teach. Russ would give an all day demonstration & lecture from about 9am to 5pm with an hour off for lunch. The next day he would take 6 to 8 students, depending on how many lathes he could locate & find a place to house everybody. The all day lecture & demonstration would run \$20.00 to \$25.00 per person and the all day private school would run \$50.00 to \$60.00 each. That's sounds like a bargain to me. Russ would like to come to Houston April 12,13 & 14th, so we need an answer quickly.

Rich Kurey is contacting Russ to get anymore details. If you have an interest the club would need a 50% deposit before the March 9th Meeting in order for Russ to confirm his schedule. Call Rich & let him know your feelings.

We have two advertisers now in our newsletter - Michael Chandler Co. & Hardware Lumber Company - Please give these shops your business & tell them we appreciate their ads.

I received the following letter from Hebert Wilbourn regarding the clinic he attended. I think it really reflects the reasoning behind having clinics. I also hope it will encourage you to volunteer to teach a clinic in what ever area you possess some proficiency.

"What I Learned At Bill Beggs Bandsaw Box Clinic"

First I learned how to use up some of my small scraps in making useful little boxes, but that was not really the most important thing that came out of this experience.

I learned that most of my problems with my bandsaw were ME. For the past year I have been using a fence that runs from one edge of the table to the other edge. I had problems. Sometimes the blade would creep so far off the line that friction would almost stop it. I could not adjust my workpiece because it was bound against the fence. My piece (and my piece) was ruined.

Bill taught me to use a post type guide instead of a fence, and it works. I have made myself three guides of three different lengths for resawing and found that my bandsaw was not at fault, it was me.

I also learned that the plane in which the blade runs is not necessarily parallel to the plane of the table. The plane of the blade might vary as much as one to two degrees, according to the tension on the blade or where the blade is tracking on the convex surface of the wheels. So I learned that to cut a straight line with my bandsaw I have to adjust the angle of the line to parallel the plane of the blade.

So you guys out there, avail yourselves of these clinics. Even if you don't need a bandsaw box, look at the advantages you can get.

Also plan to give some clinics in your own specialty. I plan to have several this summer, and while I am not an expert in any phase of woodworking, I might know something that would be helpful to someone else.

Hebert Wilbourn

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

One of the potential challenges that may face our club in the near future is membership size. We are quickly finding that there are literally hundreds of sawdust generators in the Houston area, and a lot of them just might be interested in a club like ours. At first glance, the thought of a large membership seems terrific. However, the need for a meeting room to hold 250 people (let alone the cost) combined with the problems of trying to demonstrate table-saw techniques in a ballroom with 250 people gives us a real problem.

It's pretty obvious that we've got to keep our club size small enough to allow active participation and "one to one" contact.

A total membership of 100 to 150 people is about as big as we should get since about 50% of our gang regularly attend the meetings.

There are a whole lot of other folks out there that might want to join, however. If that happens, we all should encourage and help establish other woodworker clubs, maybe one in far South Houston and one in far North Houston.

Let's continue to encourage people to join us or, if they want, to start their own club. After all the real purpose is for everyone to enjoy themselves, learn a bit, and meet fellow woodworkers and any club doesn't have to be big to be good.

EVERYMAN'S GUIDE TO WOODWORKING

PURCHASING LUMBER

There are many things which you need to be concerned with when purchasing lumber. For example, you will need to be able to recognize flaws and defects in planks. As you select your wood in a lumber yard you should carefully look over each plank for defects that may be objectionable for use in constructing a piece of furniture. Of course, sometimes you may want to buy a piece of lumber because it does have some defects in it. For example, if you want to buy lumber to make wall paneling then you may not be worried if it has knots in it, since the knot may add a desirable aesthetic effect.

Here is a list of some of the common defects that may be found in lumber:

Knots - knots are classified according to size, shape and quantity. Sound knots are as hard as the surrounding wood and their fibres are intergrown with it. Rotten knots are softer than the surrounding wood and tend to fall out leaving a hole. Wood with rotten knots should always be avoided.*

Checks - these are cracks which run across the growth rings and usually appear at the ends of a board. Cracks which tend to run the length of a board are called splits, or shakes.

Crook - is a longitudinal curvature of the face.

Bow - is a longitudinal curvature of the face.

Cup - is a curvature across the grain.

*To prevent tear-out around the knot during planing, a fine shallow setting should be used.

When purchasing lumber it is important to know how to purchase it. The first thing to know is what grade of lumber is being purchased. Lumber is graded according to its size and the amount of defects are to be found in it. The best grade of lumber is First and Seconds (FAS). This contains about 10% defective wood and has a minimum width of 6" and a minimum length of 8". The next, lower, grade is Select. Select grade lumber is any plank which has 80% defect free wood on at least one of its faces or surfaces. The minimum width is 4" and the minimum length is 6'. The lowest is #1 Common. This wood must be at least 60% clear of defect and have a minimum width of 3" and a minimum length of 4'. Hardwoods are usually bought in Random Widths and Lengths (RWL) and are usually rough (RGH). If the wood has been surfaced on two of its sides it's classified as S2S. If wood is sold S2S some of the wood has been removed in the surfacing process so that a 1" thick board actually measures 3/4" thick.

Lumber is sold by the board foot. This is a piece of wood that measures 1" x 12" x 12". To work out the number of board feet that you need to make a project (and, therefore, you will need to buy) the following formula is used:

$$BF = \frac{\# \text{ pieces} \times T \times W \times L}{1 \times 12 \times 12}$$

For example, suppose that we needed two pieces of wood that measure 1" x 8" x 48", then the amount of board feet that will be bought is calculated as follows:

$$BF = \frac{2 \times 1 \times 8 \times 48}{1 \times 12 \times 12} = \frac{16}{3} = 5 \frac{1}{3}$$

Stock that is less than 1" thick is worked out as though it were 1". When the stock is thicker than 1" thick the nominal size is used. When the thickness is over 1" and includes a fraction such as 1 1/2" change it to an improper fraction (3/2) and place the numerator above the line and the denominator below the line. If the stock is long and given in feet then one of the 12's below the line in the formula can be dropped.

For further information refer to the following publications:

Understanding Wood by R. Bruce Hoacley

Fine Hardwoods Selectorama by Fine

Hardwoods/American Walnut Association

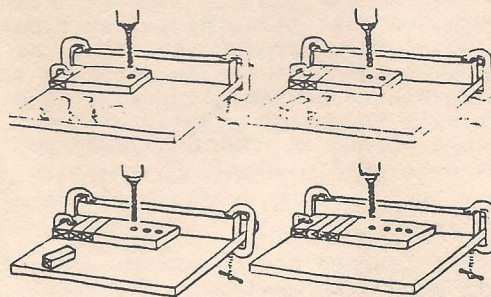
TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Here's a super & simple way to space hole, dadoes or whatever. I used this technique in building a cassette holder have twenty compartments space 7/8" apart. Instead of drilling holes, I cut 1/8" dadoes on my router table.

Step-and-repeat

Step-and-repeat is what die makers call the process of accurately spacing holes or cuts. It is ideal for doweling. The basic setup consists of spacing blocks cut equal to the desired spacing, and stop blocks that define the end spaces. The work is held against a stop block and is then drilled or cut. The work is moved away from the stop block, and spacers are put between stop block and work, one at a time.

This technique has three advantages: It will space as accurately as you make your spacing blocks, you can make any number of pieces exactly the same, and you can make mating parts with exactly the same spacing. Be careful not to get sawdust between the blocks or inaccurate spacing will result.



FOR SALE - WANTED TO BUY

I think Prentiss Crowe has a planer for sale. Chuck bought his 10" Rockwell Contractors Saw.

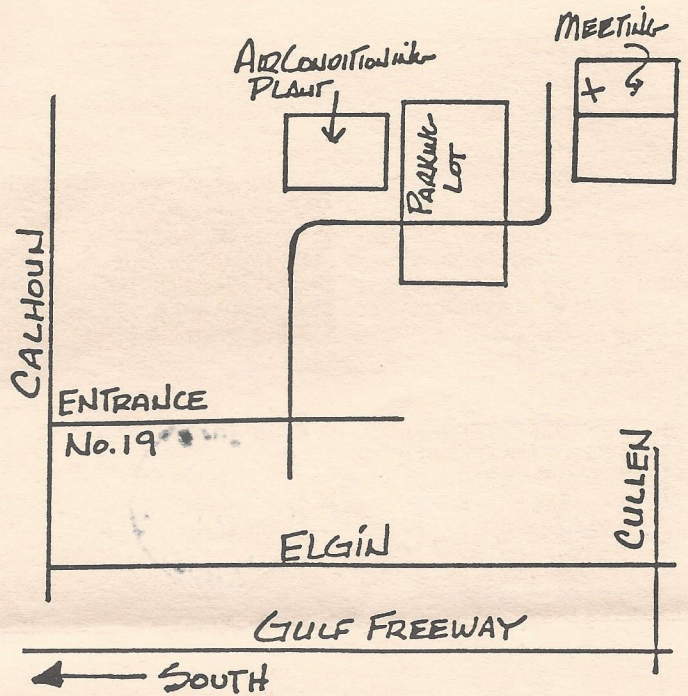
If you want to sell something or are looking for something, see me at the next meeting or give me a call.

MARCH MEETING

This is a meeting I've been looking forward to for sometime. Mike Carpenter and Lawrence Cude of Finisher's Supply are going to lecture & demonstrate some of the tricks of the trade they've learned over the years in how to & how not to, finish a project. Also how to repair some goofs, & other things to look out for.

It's one I think everyone will enjoy. It will be Saturday, March 9th, at 9:00 AM at the Industrial Arts Building at the University of Houston. Dr. Bill Forkner was nice enough to arrange for us to use their classroom again. Attached is the map below.

See You There!



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