

Woodworkers Club

OF HOUSTON

VOL. 5, NO. 12

DECEMBER, 1989

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NOVEMBER MEETING

Our guest speaker was Rodney Hill of College Station. Rodney Hill had some spectacular examples of his and his wives' work. Rodney does this in his spare time as he is a full time Professor at the Design school of Architecture at Texas A & M.

After watching this amazing array of work on slides, one member deemed that Rodney could be no younger than 89 years old.

He became a carver by necessity. When he was designing for an architectural firm, he created a stair with the stair treads carved in the Art Nouveau style. The customer loved the design and the boss told Rodney he had a new project to occupy his spare time.

Rodney brought along some examples of his design students work and the creativity was very interesting. Some of the designs were a wooden working telephone, sharks to alligators, desk lamps shaped like a hand. His students worked on the design and carving of telephone poles for a playground at the River Oaks Baptist Church, this is the largest playground in Texas.

His main choice of wood seemed to be Walnut and some of the native Texas woods like Pecan.

80 % of his carvings are hand carved, he uses power carving only for under cutting.

He does a lot of work for churches: some examples: for the Highland Park Baptist Church he did five carved screens from the bible, he's working on a study of crosses, in Pecan for a New Catholic Church in College station, A Crown of Thorns For an Episcopal Church.

The Texas A & M commissioned he and his wife to do a 100 year history of the school carved in 8 panels 3 foot by 8 foot. It first took him four months of research to make up a composite of the history of the school. Some of the members have seen the panels on display at the school, they are also included in one of the Fine Woodworking Design books.

On the outside of a 4-0 x 8-0 foot coffee table he carved book matched mammals, the coffee table has hidden drawers for books and to open you pull on Antlers or Rams Horns.

In the Texas room in Constitution Hall in Washington D.C. the Hills have carved a Texas symbol 39" in diameter by 5 1/2" thick.

In a Winery in Oklahoma City, the owners commissioned the Hill's to carve a Bacchus, the god of wine in classical mythology, because some groups touring the winery might be offended he had to include carved grape leaves, that could be attached or removed depending on the tour of the day.

One of his Architect friends said he had a most unusual request from a client and would he meet with her. His friend loves to play practical jokes, so he was a little leary when this 30 year blonde wearing boots with horse apples still attached started explaining what she wanted on this 4-2" x 7-0 door for their 3800 square foot weekend house on their 11,000 acre ranch in Austin.

Some of the things she wanted (I didn't get them all as there were so many, just a sample) her 5 favorite erotic picassos, the Logo from the Hamburger Chain that her husband owned, a Dr. Pepper bottle, the Mercedes-Benz logo because her husband collected them, Bi-winged Airplane, Yorkie, 2 great Danes, a tasteful but erotic door handle. It was no joke and he completed the commission.

CLUB BUSINESS

CHARITY SALE we finally got the complete totals.....This years sale \$4,985.40 we also had some carry over from the 1988 sale that came in after the check was presented -- \$273.00 making a grand total of \$5,258.40.

CLUB LIBRARY----Andy Anderson has been responsible for the library for many years, and would like to pass it on to another member, if you might be interested contact Andy.

VIDEO TAPES---Bob Sandlin will be in charge of the Video tapes for 1990. Remember if you don't return them when there due you will owe a late fee of \$5.00.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At the meeting we officially elected your officers for 1990:

President: Don Richardson

Vice-President: Ted King

Sec./Treas: Claude Emory

Board of Directors:

Bill Baker Bob Gallant Bill Hochmuth Bill Sallans

PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Deena Gordon--wants an easy way to finish puzzles.

- 1.) Watco Oil--dip the puzzles and set them on a screen to drain.
- 2.) Just spray them with laquer, etc.

Robert Sandlin has an unlevel Delta 18" scroll table.

BUY AND SELL

Murray Gordon has for sale:

- 1.) Craftsman Miter Box
- 2.) Dehumidifier
- 3.) Skill portable drill, two batteries and charger \$70.00.

Chuck Maxwell has for sale a Mille-route with table.

Art Chester has 19 Fine Homebuilding magazines for sale.

SHOW AND TELL

Chuck Maxwell demonstrated how he fits up crown molding.

Ed Burger showed us a woody car from Wood October Issue magazine and an armored Truck Bank from weekend woodworking magazine.

Ken Wallis had photos of a Maple Roll top Desk for the Smith County Court House. He guarantees us that he got paid for the Desk and it wasn't for Ball Money.

Robert Gooding had some handmade tools that he uses.

Sam Gainers show and tell was so large we all looked around for a Fork lift or a couple of Mr. T's. It was for surfacing stock (from small pieces to logs). The idea came from the July

issue of Fine Woodworking. He made a few changes to the plans by using plexiglass under his router so he could see what he was working on. He added handles to make it easier to use and uses a 1 1/4" mortising bit.

DECEMBER MEETING

WHEN: DECEMBER 9, 1989 9:00 A.M.

WHERE: BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
On Bissonnet at Hillcroft

DIRECTIONS: From the South Loop 610 take the Bissonnet exit, go west on Bissonnet to Bayland Center just before Hillcroft. This is the old Houston Gamblers training center.

PROGRAM: The program will be on everything you ever wanted to know about wood. Its chemical and physical properties. An interesting program put on by the Texas Forest Service.

OUR ADVERTISERS

We would like to thank all of our advertisers for there support in 1989 and all of the previous years they have supported our club. Their ads help us to keep the cost of the newsletter down and for their generosity when we ask them for their help.

MEETING LOCATIONS

One of our big problems in the past have been locations for us to meet.

We would like to thank the Elks Lodge #151 for allowing us to use their great hall.

We can't thank Dr. Forkner and the U. of H for allowing us to use their shop many times this year and in past years.

We called upon Hardwood Lumber many times this year and they have been very gracious in allowing us the use of their facility.

Austin Hardwoods has made room for us to hold a meeting at their place of business and allowed us to tour their shop. Thank You.

In 1989 we started the year, with our largest attendance to date at Houston Wood and Tool.

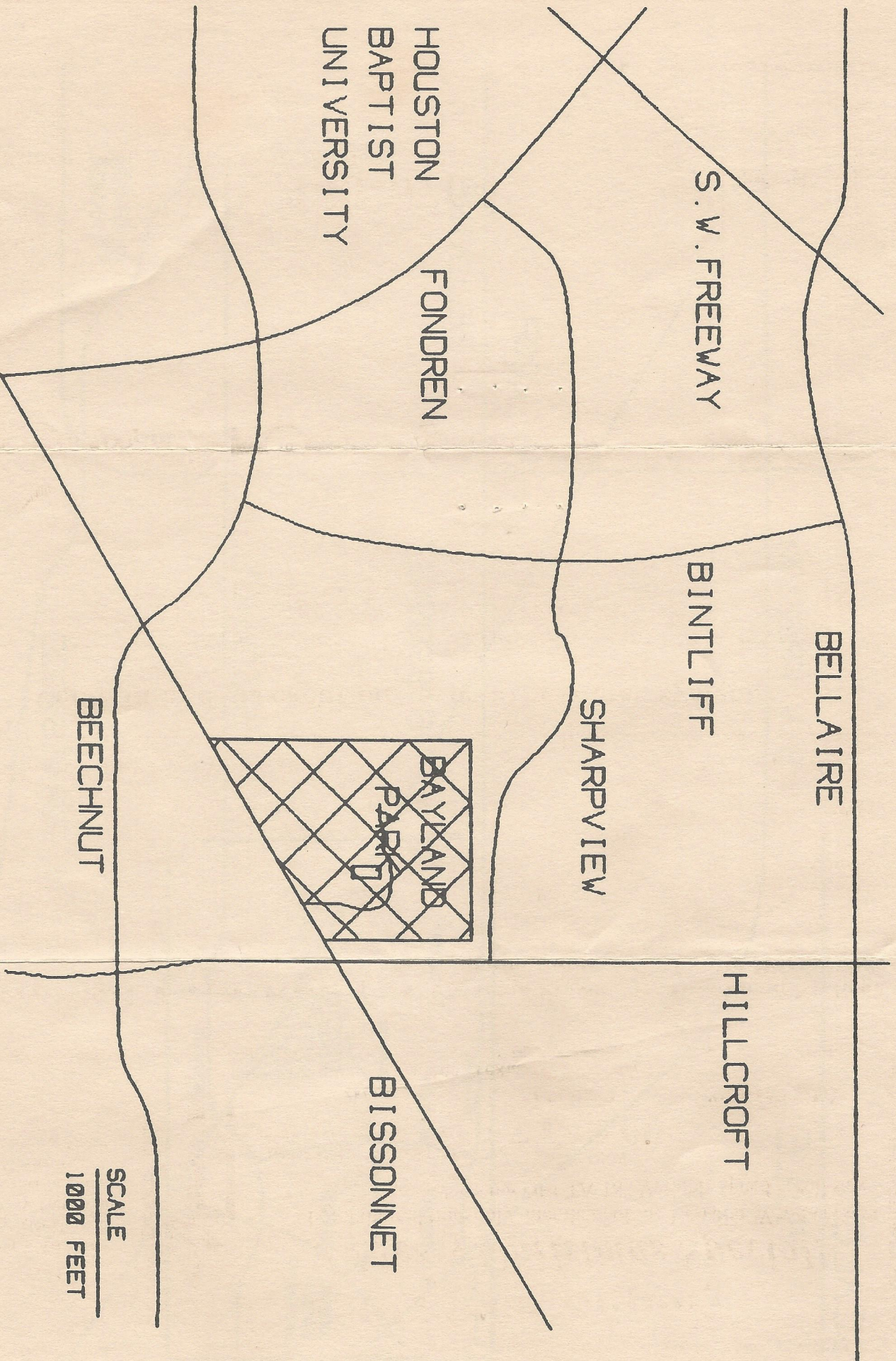
We appreciate all the businesses that have allowed to hold our meeting at their places of business and for all the guest speakers, its been another successful year for the club.

Remember when your looking for a tool or for wood check with our advertisers first, they support us we should always support them.

WE WISH THEM ALL A VERY PROSPEROUS 1990!!!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL AND A SAFE AND SUCCESSFULL 1990!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Don't forget your dues we want to see everyone in 1990. See you there!



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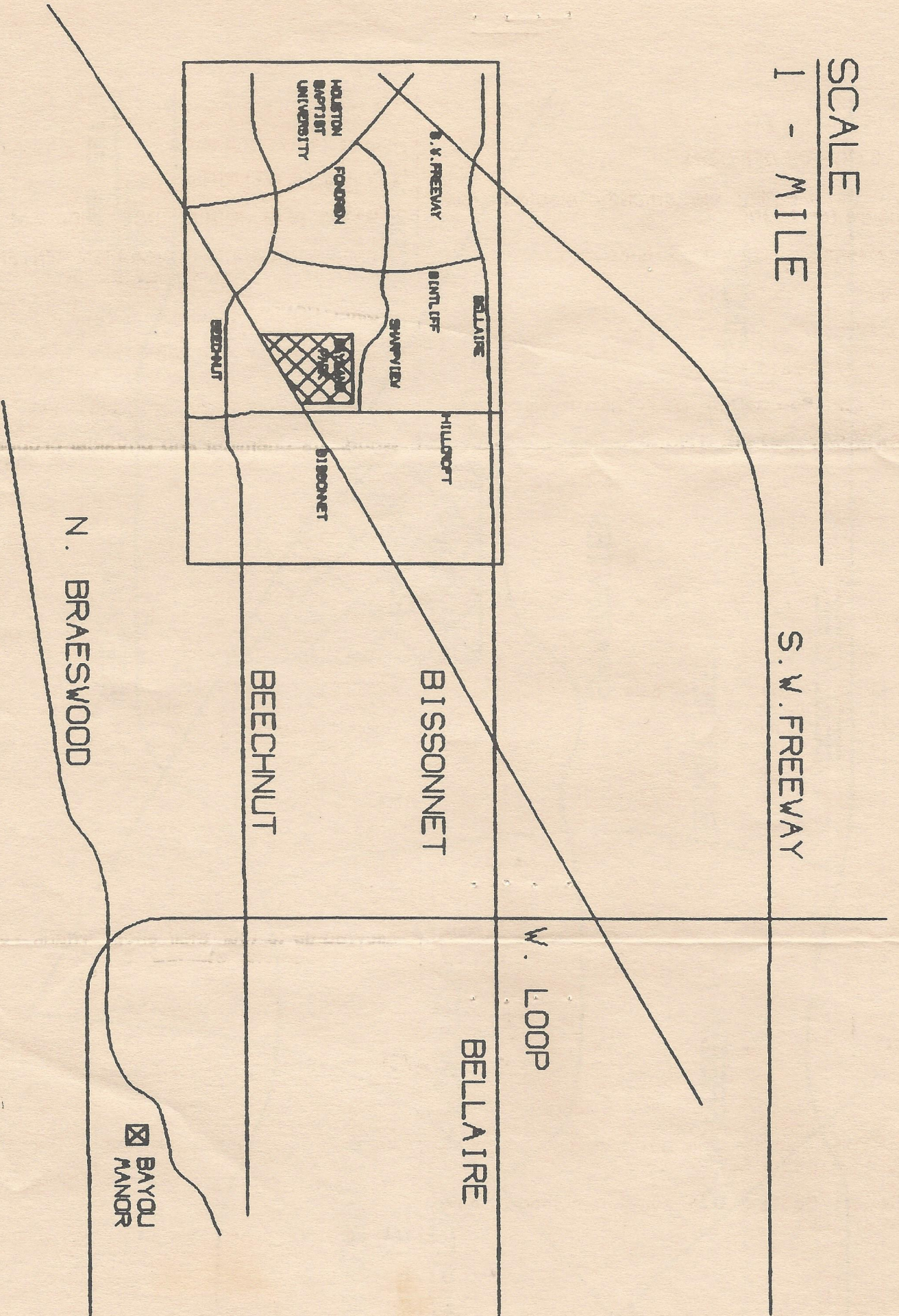
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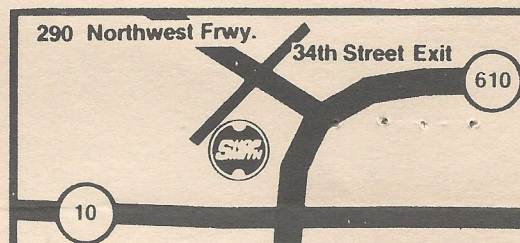
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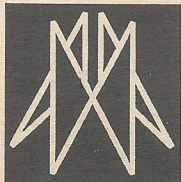
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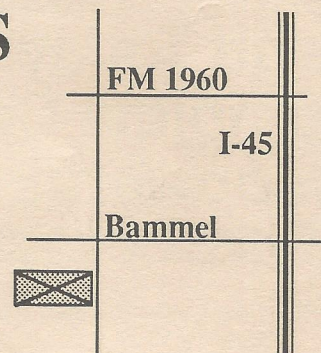
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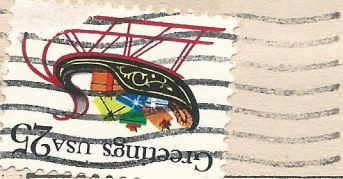
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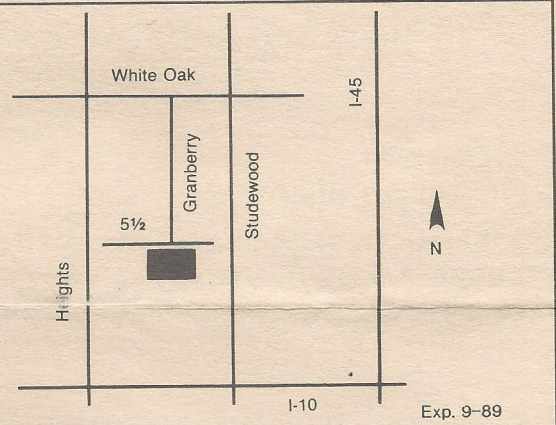
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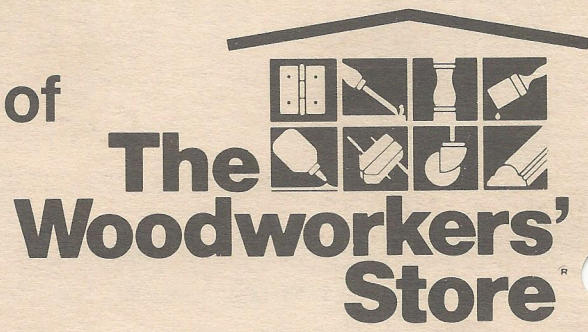
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