

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

## CLUB OF HOUSTON

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#### SEPTEMBER MEETING

We need to thank Reynolds Laminates for their time and courtesy in having us to their warehouse/showroom. We all got an education in various cabinet hardware; its prices and uses.

The new adjustable cabinet hinges sure look easier to use and adjust than the old style. They cost more, but in terms of agravation I bet there's a savings.

#### SHOW AND TELL

What with people bringing in their pieces for the charity show S&T really gets interesting. I think this sale is really going to be successful if the quality of the pieces are like S&T.

Murray Gordon and his wife were our first team to come forward. Murray brought a step stool he had seen in Fine Woodworking complete with through mortises and angled dovetail joints. It was made from birch and mahogany. Very impressive, Murray.

Mrs Gordon was also represented in her first attempt at woodworking. I think you have a future in the business. She made several trivets from dowells and had a unique way of finishing them; she submerged them in Watco. Neat huh?

Ed Caesar brought some very well done signs he cut on his scroll saw. He had "No Smoking, God is Love, Key sign," and others. All pieces were donated to the sale. They ought to go real quick.

Robert Sandlin brought a very unusual hand carve picture. It was really pretty.

Linard Thurmann brought a most unusual inlaid veneer clock and some brightly colored tulips. All to be donated to the sale.

Chet Benefield show a very thin mahogany antique tray that he had repaired and refinished.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Bob Soderblom gave his charity show report. Seems they are having trouble getting any advertising commitments out of the newspapers, radios, or television. This sort of supprises me, since it's for such a worthy cause. Maybe Karen Strand can put a little bug in their ear for us.

Its getting down to the lick log on time left to finish your sale projects. We appreciate everybody's response, but if you have time make one or two more items. I'm not trying to pat myself on the back, but I will have 12 items. It really didn't take me much longer than doing 3 or 4 items.

Remember that our November meeting will be held on Nov. 1st, because of our charity show on the 6th and 7th. Our December meeting will be our Christmas dinner at the Rice Faculty Club. More on this later.

Steve has placed our maple order and it appears its over 4000 BF. At \$.55 a BF that ain't bad.

One other thing on the charity show. We need some kind of upright display rack to show hanging pieces. It could probably be made of peg board. I will be glad to loan plenty of the little metal hangers. Anybody out there willing to make us one? Call Bob Soderblom and let him know.

They are still looking for a teacher or a teacher's helper to teach a woodworking class to the handicapped. I think this would be a lot of fun and very, very rewarding. I don't think it will take up much time. Why don't you give Steve a call and offer your expertise.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Bruce DeHart's problem with the finish drying finally solved itself by drying. Our experts suggested reading the labels very carefully, because some finishes are not compatible with some stains. Also certain woods won't take certain finishes.

Murray Gordon had a problem with Watco oil finish that continued to bleed out on an oak project. The only suggestion was to keep wiping and it would eventually stop bleeding.

Next was how to clean your saw blades. We had three suggestions, (1) use Fantastic cleaner. Chuck Maxwell swears by it. (2) I use household ammonia in a throw away aluminum pizza pan. (3) spray the blade with oven cleaner.

The other question regarding blades was lubrication. Don Sloan told us about DoAll's blade lubber, which he says works great. Somebody else said they used automobile wax on their blade, as it reduced the friction and retarded the pitch build up.

## OCTOBER MEETING

The meeting will be at 9:00 A.M. October 11th at Gibbs Plywood at 1810 Brittmore, which is north of the Katy Freeway. Take the West Belt exit and go one block past the light and you will turn right on Brittmore.

Our host will be Buzz Burkart who is an exceptional wood carver. You'all come now, because you are sure to pick up a tip or two.

SEE YOU THERE!

## NEW BUSINESS

When you work with your hands, you are a laborer.

When you work with your hands and your head, you are a craftsman.

When you work with your hands, your head and your heart, you are an artist.

(Author Unknown)

**IMPORTANT:** Bring items you are donating to the charity sale with you to the October meeting so the pricing committee will have adequate time.

December Meeting - - - Back by popular demand - - - will be Thursday December 11th starting at 7:00 PM, Rice University Faculty Club. Now is the time to make your Reservations for a repeat of last December's outstanding Dinner/Fellowship/"Super" show-n-tell meeting. A form is printed herein for your convenience. We need to let the University know how many dinners to plan for so send in (or bring to next meeting) your reservation forms with check as soon as possible. Actual cost per dinner is a little more than \$12.50 each but your thoughtful and generous club is picking up the tab for the extra amount.

The Super '86 Show-N-Tell portion of the evening is for your "Best of '86" item to be professionally judged for several winners in each of several categories. Last year's items not permitted in this year's contest. If you have not started your best project you still have over 2

months time - - But only after completing your items for the Nov. 7th and 8th charity sale. If you still have our Jan. '86 Newsletter it would be well worth your time to re-read the fine comments about the Dec. '85 Dinner/ Awards Meeting.

Again, please use the form to send in your check for reservations ASAP.

NOTICE !! The TV series "The Woodwright's Shop" currently showing at 2 PM each Sunday on KUHT (Channel 8) is changing time to 12 noon starting Sunday October 12. (Mark your calendars or re-program your VCR - - or you'll miss it)

Also, KUHT announced a new 13-part series "HOMETIME" starting "This Fall" (No dates yet). This new series offers step-by-step instructions on how to accomplish professional - looking home repairs.

The Sept/Oct. '86 Issue #60 of Fine Woodworking, pages 84/87 contains a listing of woodworking guilds, clubs (local, national and foreign) but, as many of us sadly noticed, did not list our Houston Club - - possibly the largest and best "local" club in the U.S. of A.

Rest assured that a letter has been sent to the publisher announcing our existence so as to be among those in follow-up list in a later issue.

M. Chandler & Co. just published a Fall/Winter schedule of woodworking classes. They are not club-sponsored "clinics" or "workshops" but certainly are of interest to our members. Scheduled every Saturday starting Oct. 4th through Nov. 22nd covering a variety of subjects they are "Pay in Advance" classes. Space is limited. Drop by for a copy of the schedule or call for information. (See advertisement herein for address and phone number). Deadline for fees are 2 weeks before each class. Later classes for December and January to be published in October.

Also, a new workbench class tentatively planned starting Nov. 1st (12 noon) with a new supplier of vises (No delays, etc.)

Next meeting of Gulf Coast Woodturners Assn. to be at M. Chandler & Co. on Sat. Oct. 18th 10 AM. Visitors and new members welcome (No fees)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER  
BY STEVE PROCTOR

A good friend of mine expressed an interest in wood working. He was interested in custom building a book case and would need some help in designing and executing the project. I was delighted to help.

It is said that you never know something really well until you have to teach it. This is true in my case. In designing the bookcase, we examined many possibilities and analyzed structural loads to prevent sagging. My friend is an engineer and he asked some pretty good questions as to why certain joints or techniques should be used.

He worked up the design, and the cut list based on some examples of my work, and we purchased the wood together, examining each board for grain and soundness.

I showed him how to set up the table saw, and how to make dado's. Together we cut the pieces. We took it easy and allowed for 1/32" precision. Such accuracy wasn't necessary in such a large piece, but I've found myself very careful with other people's work. (Think I'm too hasty with my own and fine precision suffers.)

He chose a finishing technique - a relatively goof proof oil finish, and is sanding and finishing with care. The whole project is turning out well at this writing.

The experience has been rewarding for both of us. We've both learned something, and he helped me on some of my projects. All in all, its been a win - win deal, which is the way it should be.

SPEAK - OUT  
BY TOM MALDONADO, JR.

When I stop to think back on my experiences in wood working I realize that I can't remember a time when it was not around. Having a father that does woodwork and a grandfather that had been a carpenter, woodwork was a very natural and normal thing in my youth.

The Christmas I remember the most, beside the year I got my first bicycle, was the year "Santa Claus" - brought me a keyhole saw, screwdriver, hammer, pliers and crescent wrench. The day after Christmas Dad and I went to the supermarket to pick up some apple and vegetable crates. Dad put two apple crates together and put a plywood top on them for my first workbench. We then took apart the remainder of the crates which provided me with a good supply of lumber and nails. With dad's help and encouragement, the crate lumber turned into birdhouses, birdfeeders, doll houses, toolboxes, sling shots, rubber band guns and "skate boards." Back then a skate board was a skate nailed to the bottom of a board.

All this reminishing brings me back to the present. At the last meeting Murray Gordon's wife told us about learning wood working from Murray. I think that this type of teaching of our craft is really great. I would like the club to think of having "Clinics" next year to teach the children, grand children and spouses of our members some basic woodworking techniques. I know that there are a lot of daddies and grandpas in our group that can really pass on something valuable to the younger generation. I also believe that it would be good for the teachers. There are many of us that might feel self conscious teaching others that know as much or more about woodworking, but would have no problem teaching someone the basics of woodcraft.

If the club members think that this type of clinic deserves a try, I would like to work with our "Clinic Chairman" to set them up.