

Woodworkers Club

OF HOUSTON

VOL. 7, NO. 7

JULY, 1991

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JUNE MEETING SPECIAL PRESENTATION

The Club presented Dr. Bill Forkner with a special plaque of appreciation for his continuing support of the Woodworkers Club of Houston. Throughout the years he has allowed us to hold our meetings at the University of Houston Industrial Arts Wood shop, he has presented a variety of programs at our meetings and shared with us his vast array of expertise.

Of course the plaque was made out of Maple, because we all know that Doc believes there are two types of wood-- Maple and firewood.

Thank you Doc for your good humor and willingness to share and promote woodworking with all the members.

JUNE PROGRAM

The June program was presented by Gerald Polmateer of Hardwood Lumber Co. at the Heights location.

Gerald took us through the process of how lumber goes from the log, through the kiln, the grading process, to wood identification and ideas on how to make a better and more stable finished product.

First the best lumber is cut in the winter because when it is cut in the summer it has more defects. It is then graded and talled green. The lumber is stickered and allowed to air dry before entering the kiln. They place the stickered pieces right at the end of the boards as the lumber will split right up to the stick because of air circulation. Most defects occur in the first stages in the air drying yard.

When the lumber is first placed in the kiln, the kilns temperature is between 105 to 120 degrees with a humidity level of 95%. The target moisture is 6 to 8 percent.

Hardwoods are dried by moisture content not by time, but softwoods are dried by time not moisture content.

They try to dry the wood as fast as they can because it will yield less defects.

When Gerald chooses lumber for a project he prefers rough lumber as he can see what the wood will do when cut.

STICKER STAIN--- Poplar and basswood stains bad--check every two feet for these stains because if it has sticker stain the stain will go through the entire thickness of the board

WOOD IDENTIFICATION-- Soft Maple looks like a chicken walked all over--little tracks--if olive green its Hard Maple.

The difference between White Birch and Maple is some time hard to detect but look on the board edge--Hard Maple have rays that gleamer.

Red and White Oak--Red Oaks grain pattern is like Ash, it has little marks not over 1" while White Oak has very long marks.

Ash is yellowish white--there is Southern Ash and Northern Ash. The Northern Ash grows slower which results in tighter rings. Bugs get into the sapwood in the log stage turning heartwood brownish.

All the best lumber comes off the outside of the tree as the limbs break off the new wood covers up the knots so all the defects are in the center of the tree.

One advantage of working with low moisture content wood is that if you have made sloppy joints when the wood swells you get tighter joints.

The best way to achieve a very stable piece is to place veneer on both sides of a plywood core.

RAISED PANEL DOORS-- Before you start cutting that expensive hardwood, first make a mock up out of cheap lumber if you don't like it now, you won't like it out of good wood. Also light and dark woods can change the looks of a piece--so if your finished piece is to be out of dark wood paint your mock up piece a dark color and see how it looks.

Gerald prefers his projects to be symmetrical and have an upward lift. He prefers his pieces to speak softly instead of loudly.

Gerald recommends the books by James Krenov, The Fine Art of Cabinetmaking and The Impractical Cabinetmaker.

SAFETY

With no formal discussion planned on safety Zatis asked for an open discussion on safety from the membership.

Don Sloan wanted to know if there was any device that would help him hear the phone while wearing hearing protectors in the shop. Radio Shack sells a couple of devices--one unit will turn on a lamp in your shop when the phone rings, another device uses a loud buzzer and strobe light that flashes when the phone rings, you can use just the buzzer or just the strobe or in combination.

Chuck Maxwell demonstrated a electrical tester to test the plugs in your shop or home, it has three lights that will tell you if you have wired correctly and sells at Home Depot for about \$4.00.

PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

A member wanted to know if a conical sander could or could not be used on the quill feed on a Shopsmith, the instructions said you could and you couldn't--anybody know?

Guy Meaders wanted suggestions on how to eliminate glue from sticking to his wooden hold downs. One suggestion was to wax the clamps with paraffin or bees wax.

SHOW AND TELL

Art Chester made a school desk for his grandchildren from the prototype that Chuck Maxwell had the previous month. Art added additional support under the desk top.

One of our members is a High School Industrial Arts Teacher, he demonstrated some of the items that his students make in class. One was a Walnut Bow saw, they made their own hardware and purchased the blades from the Frog Tool Co. He also had a foot stool covered in Formica and an electrical quad outlet with cord holder.

Tom Gathright showed a very severe piece of twisted Holly.

Zatis Murphy explained that after receiving a lathe as a gift from his wife, he enrolled in the 3 day lathe class that shopsmith offers. He showed us some of the projects that he made in the class: A simple bowl with a Walnut strip in the middle, a bud vase with a lathe duplicator, a bowl made with a ring master and a rolling pin. The course cost \$150.00 which includes all equipment and wood. They suggest that you bring your own lathe tools as they also cover sharpening.

Stuart Murphy demonstrated how he turned a damaged trombone into a renaissance instrument.

FOR SALE AND WANT TO BUY

For Sale: Craftsman 6" Jointer on casters, includes a sharpended set of blades, very good condition. \$150.00 contact Harry Jacobsen 465-4153.

JULY MEETING

WHEN: JULY 13, 1991 9:00 A. M.

**WHERE: BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
ON BISSONNET AT HILLCROFT**

PROGRAM: The program will be presented by Perry Henderson on detailed Models In wood. The program will include the design process and techniques for building highly detailed models.

WOOD CHUCKLES By Gayle Robinson

Last week, there were two workers finishing up a house project. One was sawing off some rafter ends over-head when he accidentally dropped his saw! The falling saw struck his partner and cleanly lopped off his ear.

They quickly gathered up the ear, packed it in some ice and rushed to the hospital.

The team of doctors did a very quick and careful job of re-attaching the ear and before completely bandaging the man's head got a mirror and asked him to inspect their handiwork.

When he saw what they had done, he screamed that it was not his ear that was now in place!

The doctors were quite perturbed about this, and questioned him about how he knew that this was not his ear!!!!

His reply----My ear had a pencil behind it !!!!!!!

CHARITY SHOW

Don't forget we need lots of merchandise for the charity show and sale.....It seems like a long way off but its just around the corner-- lets all get going now.

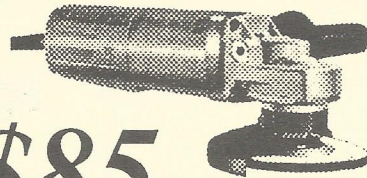
SEE YOU ALL AT THE MEETING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



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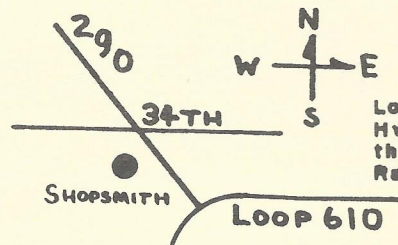
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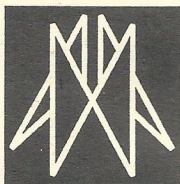


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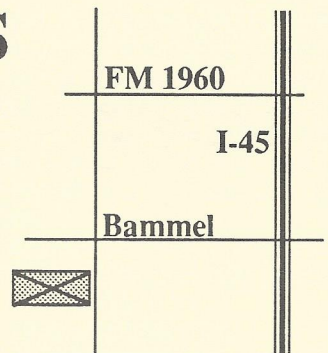
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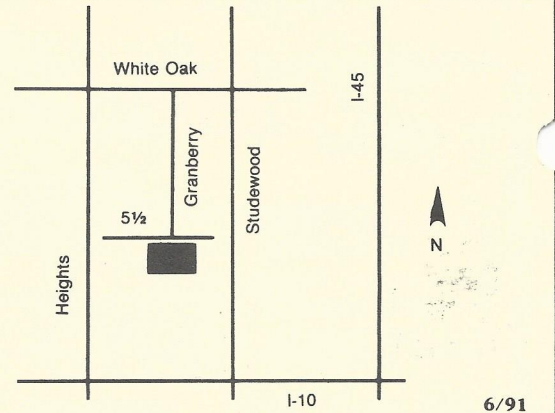


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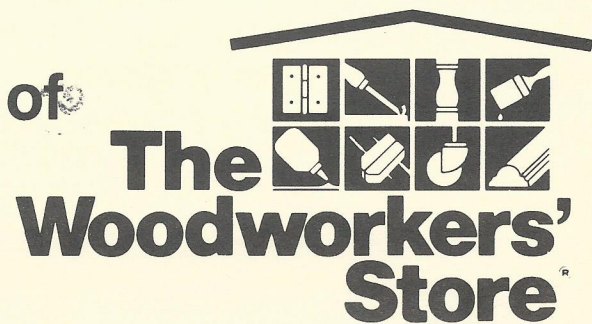
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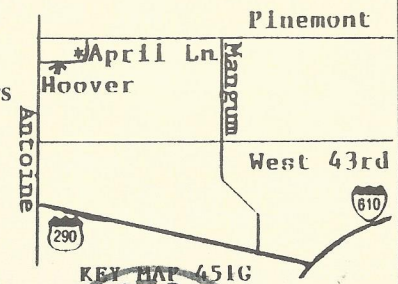
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