

CONEJO VALLEY WOODWORKER'S ASSOCIATION

The Bladerunner

July 1999 Number 41

JULY MEETING

NOTE THAT THE MEETING DATE IS CHANGED TO JULY 8 TO AVOID CONFLICTS WITH THE JULY 4 HOLIDAY

THE REDWOOD SCHOOL SHOP IS BEING RENOVATED, SO WE WILL MEET AT THOUSAND OAKS HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE JULY (and possibly August) MEETING

**July 8 – Gun stock checkering demonstration
- Marshall Nathanson**

Marshall Nathanson, a new member of our Club, has volunteered to present a program on Gun Stock Checkering. This technique is a method of creating a very regular texture on a wood surface. Whether or not you are interested in making gun stocks, checkering is a useful decorative and functional technique.

SATURDAY SHOP TOUR

July 10 – McMullen's Japanese Antiques and Gene West's workshop tour

On July 10th, the CVWA is invited to visit McMullen's Japanese Antiques at 11 A. M. to learn about Japanese woodworking techniques, and tour Gene West's workshop. Spouses are welcome. A map to both locations is in the bulletin.

Mr. McMullen started collecting Japanese Antiques 38 years ago. He travels to Japan three or four times each year to purchase artifacts. Mr. McMullen is very knowledgeable about the woods, cabinetry, and woodworking techniques used in Japan. In addition to his collection of cabinetry and wooden pieces, he also has an extensive collection of clothing and kimonos. Other items in his collection include folding screens, folk art, and rare dolls. Plan to meet at the store at 10 AM, and have a guided tour of the museum at 11 AM.

After the tour, visit Gene West's shop. Feel free to bring a bag lunch; drinks will be served at the shop. Gene is well known for his mechanical toys

and his carving. He visits schools and he often brings one of his unique projects to share at club meetings.

AUGUST MEETING

Aug. 5 - Box Joints - CVWA members

SATURDAY SHOP TOUR

July 10 – Japanese antiques and woodworking methods, and Gene West's workshop

WELCOME GUESTS

We were happy to welcome guests Howard Dunford, Greg Stone, Michelle Tormey, Joe Brenner, Katherine McKenny at the June meeting. We hope that you enjoyed the group and the activities. We look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

PRIZES

April Meeting:

- Brad Ormsby - 4 ft. T-Square
- Howard Dunford - 2 ft. Clamp
- Mike DeCaprio - Feather Board
- John Wagar - American Woodworker Cap
- Ed Bianchi - American Woodworker Cap
- Don Smith - 3 Quick Grip Clamps

We hope that you enjoy the prizes.

THANK YOU AGAIN, JUNIORS TOOLS

The CVWA thanks Junior's tools for "helping out" by donating "Quick Grip" clamps for June door prize. Please remember, when you purchase a tool at Junior's Tools, let the sales person know that you are a member of CVWA. Not only will you receive a discount, but Junior's will credit the tool toward possible future door or raffle prizes.

DEL HRABE

We learned that Del Hrabec passed away at the end of May. Del was a very capable woodworker, and always supported the CVWA. Although he was very quiet, he shared his skills with anyone who had a question. Condolences to his family and friends.. He will be missed by all of us. Any memorial

donations should be made to "Habitat for Humanity" and sent to Hrabe address: Mrs. Del Hrabe, 130 Venus St., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

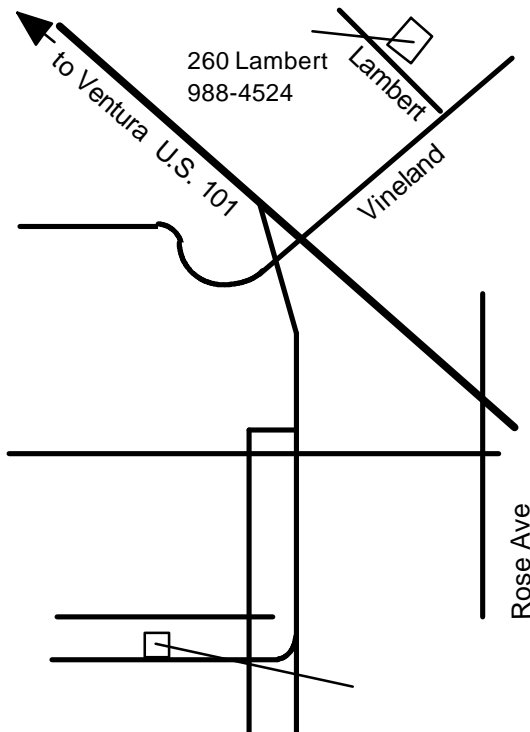
COMING PROGRAMS AND SHOP VISITS

Thursday evening programs:

- July 8 – Marshal Nathanson will demonstrate gun stock checkering.
August 5 – Box Joints – Club Members.
September 2– Gene Strojek will present a program on rocking horses.
October 7 – Brad Ormsby will describe vacuum veneering.
November 4 – Howard Johnson will discuss furniture refinishing.
December 3 – Annual Auction

Saturday Sessions:

- July 10 – Japanese antiques and woodworking methods, and Gene West's workshop
Summer bar-B-Que at Stan Wolpert's home.
September 4 – Gene Strojek's shop. Rocking horse construction.
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Map showing locations of McMullen's Japanese Antiques and Gene West's Home.

WOOD FROM STRAW???

A brief note in the April 5 issue of *Business Week* mentioned that Wolfgang Glasser, a wood science professor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, has been studying the methods in which wood cells grow. He suggested the possibility of making wood from straw. By mixing lignins, the "glue" that holds all plant cells together, with cellulose derived from other plants, and processing correctly, the molecules reassemble into a woody structure. Even if the method could only be used for construction lumber, it would save a lot of wood for serious woodworkers.

NEW AMMENDMENT TO BYLAWS

The following amendment regarding Honorary Membership was added to the Club's bylaws (Article 3, Membership) by vote of the Board of Directors at the June meeting:

"Honorary Member:

"In acknowledgement of a member's multiple, extraordinary contributions to the Association, the Board of Directors may from time to time, by a two-thirds vote, change the classification of a member to Honorary, entitling that member to all the privileges of an Active member, except that member will be excused from paying annual dues until such time as the Board of Directors, by a similar vote, rescinds that action."

JUNE MEETING NOTES

"2 x 4 Challenge"

Three entries were presented in response to the challenge to make "something" from a 6" length of 2x4. Brad Ormsby submitted resawed laminations made into knobs, Guy Buckwitz submitted a letter holder, and Mike DeCaprio submitted a horse carousel. The review committee, Howard Ford, Howard Johnson, and Bill waters selected Mike DeCaprio's carousel as winning entry.

Wood Bending – Bob Peterson

Bob Peterson presented methods that he uses for bending wood. The major equipment he uses is a home-made steam chamber and bending fixtures.

The steam chamber is mounted on 2 x 4 saw horses. The chamber is made from industrial grade PVC drain pipe with a wall thickness of about 1/2 The length depends on the length of the wood to be bent. Plans will be included in next month's "Blade

Bob also showed the bending fixtures. They were made of clamps and clamping straps made from 1/32" or 3/64" thin stock steel. While any steel can be used, Stainless Steel is preferred.

The key points are:

- Steam the wood for a minimum of one-hour. Thick pieces could require up to 12 hours. The maximum for any wood should be 12 hours.
- If more than two pieces are to be laminated, drill holes in the end to tie the pieces together in the proper sequence.
- Material for bending should have no imperfections, such as knots or cracks.
- Once the wood has been steamed, and while it is still hot, the wood should be bent immediately. All clamps, forming guides, and straps should be ready for immediate use. If you don't "use it", you will "lose it."
- Two hands are rarely sufficient to bend and clamp the wood before it starts to lose flexibility. If it is possible, have extra help available.
- The wood is hot. Use gloves to handle it.
- Be sure that there is always sufficient water in the steamer.
- At least 15 minutes are required for the wood to cool before opening the clamps. Thicker wood might require more time. Be sure that the wood conforms to the proper configuration with a minimum of spring-back.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Camarillo Health Care

Mike DeCaprio and other volunteers are supplying 24 wood cut-outs to Camarillo Health Care for their clients activities. The CVWA is purchasing the wood for the project. Recently the CVWA received thank you notes stating how important these cut-outs are. If you are interested in helping this worthwhile organization, contact Mike DeCaprio, 805-388-0983

UPCOMING EVENTS

Design in Wood Program

The 18th Annual *Design in Wood Exhibition* will be held from June 16-July 5 in conjunction with the *San Diego Fine Woodworkers Association*. The

show features 17 different classes of woodworking: contemporary and traditional furniture and accessories, toys, art, models, veneering and marquetry, wood turning, and wood carving. It is well worth visiting, even if you do not submit an item.

AWFS Woodworking Fair

The American Woodworking Machinery and Furniture Supply Fair will be held at the Anaheim Convention Center from July 29 to August 1. Fair hours are from 9 AM to 6 PM, Thursday-Saturday, July 29-31, and 9 AM to 4 PM, Sunday, Aug. 1. See the last issues of the *Bladerunner* for more information.

For additional information, visit the fair website: www.woodworkingfair.org, or write to Woodworking Fair Registration; PO Box 624; Brookfield, IL 60513-0604. **Registration before July 9 is \$10, on site registration is \$20.** Registration can be done by computer or by mail.

A number of members have talked about car-pooling. This will be discussed at the July meeting.

SEND US YOUR NEWSLETTER INPUTS!

Vendors that offer discounts to club members
 Special topics, questions, or local events
 Items of interest to club members
 Items for sale, items wanted, letters and Tips"
 Inputs for the newsletter are needed by the 15th of the month before the meeting.
 Ira Goldberg 805-495-7580 FAX: 805-373-4775
 e-mail: ibgoldberg@rsc.rockwell.com
ibgoldberg@hotmail.com

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