

# CONEJO VALLEY WOODWORKER'S ASSOCIATION

## *The Bladerunner*

December 1999, Number 46

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR DECEMBER

## **Auction Time AND CHRISTMAS POTLUCK**

**Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.  
Redwood School Cafeteria.**

Since December is such a busy time for everyone we decided to cancel our regular meeting and hold a combined auction and Christmas Potluck on **Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. in the cafeteria at Redwood School.** By meeting on a Saturday afternoon we will have more time to enjoy the festivities and by using the cafeteria we won't be as crowded as we were last year. Everyone is invited to come and bring his or her spouse or significant other.

Please bring a dish for the potluck. Finger foods work best. The club will provide soft drinks and paper goods. We've always had great food at these gatherings and this year should be no exception.

Also, please bring your auction items. We will auction white elephant items, woodworking related items, and anything but junk (and we've always been liberal with our definition of junk). If you have the chance, contact a local vendor and see if he is willing to donate something for the auction. Each of us makes unique items that interest other members, so bring some of your work to donate. The money raised at the auction helps support the Club's projects and keeps dues low.

Our auctioneer, Brad Ormsby, will "do the honors" again this year.

Come to the auction. We expect to have a great time and we hope that you will be there to enjoy the food and the fun.

## ***Bring your Christmas Toys***

Please bring your completed Christmas toys to the December Potluck and Auction. We will collect the toys and deliver them to Interface to distribute to the children. If everyone who volunteered to make toys completes their projects, we should have over 200 toys to donate. If you'd like to help and didn't sign up, feel free to make some toys to bring to the meeting. If you need suggestions, ideas and/or patterns contact Joe O'Rendy (phone: 805-492-2994).

On December 12<sup>th</sup> we will receive toys from the Glendale Woodturners Guild at their December meeting which we will add to our donations. This will be the third year our two clubs have worked together on this project.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We were happy to welcome new member Dan Young and guests Terri Carvalho and Jeff Brown. We hope that you enjoyed the meeting and we look forward to seeing you at future meetings and club activities.

### NOVEMBER MEETING PRIZES

Roy Williams	- Set of Marples Chisels
Bill Snell	- 36" bar clamps
John Witt	- 24" level
Rosemary Williams	- Diamond Whetstone
Bill Cook	- Pair of woodworking clamps
Dennis Zurcher	- Bench Dogs

We hope that you enjoy the prizes.



## President's Corner

### John Tarpley

Howard Johnson did a great job presenting our November program. He covered a lot of ground on the subject of furniture restoration. We all learned a lot and want to thank Howard for preparing and presenting the program.

Our November Saturday session was at my shop and we had fun with the lathe. I demonstrated basic cuts and tool control. This was followed by a hands-on session during which everyone attending had the opportunity to try the lathe for himself. I hope everyone enjoyed the morning as much as I did.

The following Saturday eight of us met at Gene West's shop and built "2x4" toys for the Christmas Toy Project. "2X4" toys are built from single pieces of dimensioned lumber. We had a great time and built about twenty-five toys for the project. I especially enjoyed working with Hutch's son Thomas who has the makings of a fine woodworker. We thank Gene for letting us use, abuse, and make a mess of his shop. I hope each of you are working on your toys and will bring them to the December Potluck/Auction on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Don't forget the Los Angeles Woodworking Show, December 3-5 at the Fairplex in Pomona. I'll be doing a turning demo at the Glendale Woodturners Guild booth from 4-7pm on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you're at the show during that time be sure to stop by and say hello.

We are planning our bus trip on Saturday, January 29th to the American Woodworker show at the Ontario Convention Center. Be sure to check out the announcement in this issue of the newsletter.

### COMING PROGRAMS AND SHOP VISITS

Dec.11 – Annual Auction and Pot Luck

Christmas toys due

*Thursday evening programs*

Jan. 6 – Bandsaw boxes and bandsaw techniques –  
John Tarpley

Feb. 4 – Box Joints – Stephen Case-Pall, Brad  
Ormsby

Mar.2 – Woodworking Resources on the World  
Wide Web – Glenn Packard

### WEB SITE

**Don't forget to check out our web site:**

**[www.cvwa.org](http://www.cvwa.org)**

### AMERICAN WOODWORKER SHOW

#### BUS TRIP, JANUARY 29, 2000

On Saturday, January 29, 2000 we are planning a bus trip to the American Woodworker Show at the Ontario Convention Center. Those of you who have attended before know this is a great show and that the bus trip is a lot of fun. The trip saves a lot of driving, and you won't be tired when you get there.

We'll leave Thousand Oaks in time to arrive for the show opening. By being on a bus we'll get to unload right at the show entrance. We'll have group ticketing, with a slight discount on pricing, so that we can walk right into the show bypassing the ticket window line. We'll spend the day at the show and return that evening.

This show has activities during the day so there is plenty to see and do. There is a snack bar area for lunch and snacks, and there are several areas where you can take a break. At the end of the day our comfortable, chartered bus will have plenty of storage for all your purchases. The club will provide drinks and snacks for the trip home. We'll let the bus driver fight the traffic while we kick back and enjoy the ride.

The cost for the trip will be \$30, which includes your admission ticket for the show. Clear your calendar now and plan on making this fun trip. **Reservations are first come first served** and we reserve the right to cancel the trip if we don't have enough reservations. We'll have a signup sheet at the December Potluck and there will be a reservation form in next month's *Bladerunner*.

#### American Woodworker Programs:

This year's show has new activities and events. You can receive great discounts on tools and materials from hundreds of exhibitors, attend workshops and seminars, get inspired by the museum-quality pieces in the Gallery, and watch free demonstrations. Some of the programs are:

Woodworking Workshops for the Family: For the first time, you can work side-by-side with the masters as you build projects and receive expert advice. Workshops will include all the materials needed. These workshops cost \$60 to \$75 each. Advanced registration is recommended (call 1-800-914-9395).

Antique Tool Roadshow Appraisals: Expert Clarence Blanchard, publisher of Fine Tool Journal, will appraise your antique tools free of charge.

Women Woodworkers: Woodturner Judy Dittmer and router expert Carol Reed will share their techniques and help you raise your own skill level.

Seminars: For \$5 per session, you can spend an hour and a half with renowned woodworkers learning wood finishing secrets, woodworking fundamentals, table saw tips and techniques, and much, much more. No advance registration needed.

For more for more details on the programs, call 1-800-914-9395 or go to the American Woodworker Web site, <http://www.americanwoodworker.com>.

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## **SEPTEMBER MEETING NOTES**

### **Furniture Restoration – Howard Johnson**

Furniture restoration and finishing is a vast subject. The type of restoration depends on personal tastes, the value of the furniture, the kind of use it will get, and the amount of time and effort that the refinisher is willing to give to the project. Howard discussed various tricks and techniques for furniture restoration and refinishing or touch-up.

The first question to ask is – why do I want to refinish the project. Is it worth it. Different answers may dictate the method you use. If the furniture is valuable you probably want to keep the patina without sanding or completely removing the old finish. If it is not valuable, and you just want to enjoy its use, extensive repair and refinish might be the best approach.

One of the tasks to try to avoid if at all possible is stripping the old finish. First, find out what kind of finish was used. If the furniture is more than about 30 years old, lacquers and shellacs were most likely used. Lacquers dissolve in lacquer thinner, and shellac dissolves in alcohol. Test a portion to find out. By recoating with the appropriate finish, old finish can be blended into new.

Furniture can be cleaned with 4-0 steel wool and furniture cleaner to remove built-up wax and dirt. Two-thirds of the time might be spent cleaning. Sometimes that is all that is needed to restore a piece of furniture.

Products such as Howard's Finish Restorer or Old English can be used to recolor woods. Touch-

up pens that come in a variety of colors from many different manufacturers can be used to cover bare or worn spots or fill small cracks. A wider range of colors is available from Mohawk in Amsterdam, N.Y.

Burn marks cannot be fixed unless the burn mark is removed and replaced with wood or filler.

White rings can be removed by gentle brushing with alcohol (for shellaced furniture) or lacquer thinner (for lacquered furniture).

Indentations could be smoothed by placing a moist towel over the indentation and heating it with an iron. The steam raises the grain that was compressed.

### **John Tarpley's Shop**

About a dozen members visited John's shop for a wood turning demonstration and some "hands-on" training. John explained some of the basic tools and demonstrated basic cuts and tool control. Then, those who wished could practice some of the training. Everyone who attended had the opportunity to try the lathe for himself. It was a great experience for new and renewed woodturners.

### **Conejo Hardwoods Wood Show**

About six or seven woodworkers attended the Conejo Hardwoods Show. While there were not a lot of visitors, there was opportunity to meet some new people. Our Club had a booth, and handed out brochures as the visitors looked at projects from John Tarpley, Brad Ormsby, Stephen Case-Pall, and Gene Strojek. This gave us some opportunity to introduce ourselves to fellow woodworkers who were not aware of the Club and the activities. We thank Conejo Hardwoods for hosting the exhibit.

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## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

The garage sale at Del Hrabec's family's house raised \$1600 for Habitat for Humanity. The sale was well organized. Everything was marked. To those who organized the sale and ran it, and to those who attended and purchased items, it was a wonderful thing to do. Congratulations!!

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## **UPCOMING CRAFT FAIRS AND SHOWS**

### **Greater Los Angeles Woodworking Show:**

The Los Angeles woodworking show will be held December 3-5 at the Pomona Fairplex (Buildings 5 and 8). The hours are: Friday, Dec. 3, noon-7PM, Saturday Dec. 4, 10 AM-6 PM; Sunday Dec. 5, 10 AM-5 PM. Beside the vendors who offer great

discounts on tools and supplies, there are free and paid seminars.

Free workshops and demonstrations (15 to 30 min):

Table saws

- Pegging joints
- Crosscut sled
- Cove Cutting
- Cutting coves, dados and rabbets

- Table saw kickback
- Table saw diagnostics
- Finger joints

Finishing tips and tricks

- Distressing finishes
- Using putty and fillers
- Sanding techniques
- Stain and dye applications
- Rubbing your finish to a gloss
- Hand rubbed satin finish
- Spray systems

Workshops

- Sharpening
- Build an end table
- Turning green wood bowls
- Caricature Carving
- Making wooden toys

Three-hour seminars – cost \$55

- Solid wood case construction
- Router techniques
- Furniture frame construction
- Small shop layout and design
- Beautiful wood finishing
- Constructing clocks
- Fabulous furniture repair
- Design and building a workbench

For more information contact The Greater Los Angeles Woodworking Show; 310-477-8521

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOK**

Entertainment books with coupons for hundreds of dollars in discounts on travel and at local restaurants, theaters, and a wide variety of stores in the Conejo Valley, Oxnard, and Ventura are available from Howard Johnson for \$25. The usual cost of the book is \$38. Books will be available at the November and December meetings, or call Howard Johnson at 498-9316.

**CLUB CHALLENGE**

The next Club Challenge will be to build a bird house. Woodworkers at all levels can do this whether it is really for birds to live in, a piece of folk art, or a Christmas tree decoration. Think about your project. There will be more information next month.

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

Claro Walnut Slab:

Sometimes we see some noteworthy items that are for sale. Tom Bennett (not a CVWA member) visited Conejo Hardwoods during the show. He brought a beautifully figured and beautifully colored walnut crotch slab. The piece was 76" long, 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" thick, and 38" to 41" wide. The crotch is about 16" wide at the bottom. The asking price is \$460. If you are interested, contact Tom at 805-527-9193.

**Woodworking Sources for CVWA**

Last month the list of suppliers that offer discounts to CVWA members. If you need a copy, please contact the editor. The list can also be found in the November Bladerunner on our website.

**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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before the meeting.

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