

CONEJO VALLEY WOODWORKER'S ASSOCIATION

The Bladerunner

May 2000 Number 51

MAY MEETING

May 4 – Furniture from Scrap Redwood – Eileen and Greg Charles

Most of us think of redwood as a construction grade lumber. When we consider of scrap redwood, we think of it as nearly useless. Most of us don't realize that redwood, with all of its difficulties for woodworking, is intrinsically beautiful. Eileen and Greg realized that the scrap redwood from an old patio, a building overhang, and scrap piles could be converted to unique and elegant furniture. At the meeting Eileen and Greg will discuss this scrap wood was used to make their furniture. Greg will talk about setting table proportions, assembly, and demo a jig he built for table assembly. Eileen will talk about finishing the table.

SATURDAY SHOP SESSION

No Saturday Shop Session is Planned for May

June Meetings

Thursday, June 1 – To be determined

Saturday, June 3 – To be determined

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS

We were happy to welcome new members John Adams and Jeff Lucia, and guests Jodi Worshil, Jerry Baldwin, and Gunther Mowes. We hope that you enjoyed the meetings and we look forward to seeing you at future meetings and club activities.

PRIZES

April Meeting:
Dick Harmon - Timber Wolf band saw jig
Jack Luhrsen - 18 volt drill/driver
Mark Cher - 10" table saw blade
Warren Willis - 25' air hose
Dan Johnson - 18-point pull saw
John Wagar - 24" clamp

We hope that you enjoy the prizes.

THANKS FOR FINE WOODWORKING

The CVWA thanks Jerry Baldwin for donating his collection of the first 49 issues of *Fine Woodworking* magazine to the library. They will be a useful reference for our members.

ANNUAL AUCTION TO BE IN SEPTEMBER

Our annual auction is set for the September meeting. Any donations can be brought to any meeting and Stephen Case-Pall will store them until the auction. Please scrounge the local businesses (of all types) for donations as soon as possible. A potluck will be held at the auction. We will again try to get the auditorium for this special meeting.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR LIBRARY BOOKS

Jack Luhrsen, our librarian, requests that all members look through their homes for CVWA books and videos that are outstanding. They need to be inventoried and made available to all members.

DUES WERE DUE

Remember that our dues year begins in March. Please help us by remitting your dues to Marlene Peters, our Treasurer.

LIBRARY KIOSK IN MAY

Don't forget to visit the library Kiosk. Once again Club members' projects are displayed for the entire month of May. Last year the display attracted lots of people and some guests and new members.

APRIL MEETING NOTES

The CVWA thanks Klingspor Abrasives for their presentation on sandpapers and for bringing samples to the meeting. Klingspor is one of the world's largest abrasive manufacturing companies. It has a production plant off "101" in Camarillo.

NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE

The Club has been exchanging newsletters with several woodworking clubs. Each Club has its own uniqueness and specialties. Over the time that we've been doing this different clubs have also adopted various ideas from each other and expanded the

scope of their activities. I look forward to receiving their bulletins each month.

One very dynamic group is the Long Island Woodworkers' Club. They have interesting speakers and activities each month. They also published Bill Waters' letter on Glue Sticks and Deena Case-Pall's article on the Psychology of Woodworking (with permission, of course). We are glad that they find our material interesting enough to send to their members. The club also has a terrific web site: www.liwoodworkers.org.

The LIWC will also have some interesting speakers. On April 5, John Grey an expert woodworker and employee of L. & J. G. Stickley, Inc. discussed making Arts and Crafts Furniture. On May 3, Mario Rodriguez will describe planing difficult woods. Mr. Rogriguez wrote many articles in woodworking magazines and has a shop in Brooklyn, NY. Other presenters were Frank Klaus, Sal Marino, and Ian Kirby, all well known and accomplished woodworkers.

A different point of view on gluing

Gabe Jaen, former editor, now president of the LIWC reviewed the 3-hour seminar "Furniture Frame Construction" by Kelly Mehler at the New Jersey Woodworkers' Show. An interesting item is Mr. Mehler's use of glues. Gabe wrote:

"He [Kelly Mehler] also made some remarks about glues and gluing such as his limited use of Titebond glue, which, as he indicates, is a carpenters' glue. When he has need for a glue such as Titebond, he prefers white glue. He wants the additional assembly time it provides.

"He said he never uses either of these glues in any mortise and tenon joint. In this case he uses hide glue, first because of its extended assembly time, and secondly because a cured joint can be disassembled using hot water. He also stressed the need for the mating surfaces of the glue joint to be smooth."

We thank Gabe for allowing us to present this interesting idea to our members. – Ed.

TRAVELING AND WOODWORKING

- Ira Goldberg

Many of you know that I've been on travel for a large part of this year. Woodworking and travel are incompatible, although I've taken some carving to do in the hotel room at night. I often wonder how flight attendants would react to see a knife wielding person making wood chips fly. I haven't tested this

because unexpected bumps would be a definite hazard to the carver and the work piece.

There are interesting woodworking moments even on business travel. Here are a few of them.

Woodworkers Warehouse: My wife and I had a free morning in Pittsfield MA while waiting for an afternoon business meeting. Driving into the city the night before, I noticed Woodworkers Warehouse, so I went back the next morning. This is a chain of stores that is a division of Trend-Lines and is primarily in the Northeastern states.

This store was about the size of Junior's Tools, but was dedicated only to woodworking. Pittsfield is located in the very beautiful Berkshire Mountains, a well-known resort area for summer camping and winter skiing, and has a large arts and crafts community (Tanglewood). The store was well stocked with hand- and power-tools, books, and plans. There was even a small section to try out numerous power tools.

The owner of the store directed me to C. M. Goodrich & Son, a lumberyard for hardwoods and softwoods. The yard had a good selection, but the local figured maple and sugar pine were wonderful. If there were more time, I would have purchased a few pieces. Now, I hope to get back there.

If you happen to be in the Northeast, one of the Woodworker Warehouse stores is well worth the visit, as are some of the hardwood lumber yards. Be sure to leave extra room in your suitcase when you pack.

Newport RI: After the meeting in Pittsfield, Susan and I headed for Newport to visit my son, grandson, and daughter-in-law. By the time we started the snow was heavy, and we needed to stop about half-way to our destination. The next morning we continued on.

Newport is historically interesting as well as an artists community. There are several "must-sees."

Historic mansions: Between 1790 and 1910 numerous prosperous families built summer homes along a cliff overlooking the coast. The view of the bay and the ocean are magnificent, as are the homes they built. Many of these homes are preserved by historical societies and are open to the public. Although some may be better known than others, each one is unique, and each one has exquisite furniture and woodwork. Much of the furniture is domestic, but many pieces were imported. Belcourt Castle, one of the museum homes, has a furniture

collection that goes back to the 16th century. Incredibly skilled craftsmen did woodwork in the homes. If you are in the area, pick some to visit. You won't be disappointed.

The Ball and Claw: The Ball and Claw (55 America's Cup Ave., Newport, RI) is a store that features handmade furniture and accessories of 18th century design. Most of the furniture is made by Jeffrey Green, author of *American Furniture of the 18th Century* (Taunton Pr.; ISBN: 1561581046), and the store is run by his wife, Christine. If you are interested in this subject, his book is superb, and the furniture is exquisite. Christine said that her husband has been making reproduction American furniture for about 25 years. He buys mahogany, but finds his own local woods. One of the tables in the store was made out of wonderful tiger maple. If you aren't in Newport, you can visit the store on internet: www.theballandclaw.com.

New Bedford, MA: On another trip to Newport there was time to visit the New Bedford Whaling Museum. Walking from the museum to the waterfront we passed the John Magnan Studio. John, a woodcarver, was outside carving a sign for the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance to be displayed in a local hospital. After he retired he decided to learn woodcarving, and said that he is truly satisfied with what he is doing. This was as good a testimonial for retirement as any I've heard. He lives in an early 19th century house across the street from his shop. The sign he was making, and the album in his shop confirmed his skill and artistry. His work is displayed on his website, www.johnmagnan.com

COMING EVENTS

The Woodworking Show: May 5-7

The Los Angeles woodworking show will be held May 5-7 at the Pomona Fairplex, Building 4. The hours are: Friday, May 5, noon-7PM, May 6, 10 AM-6 PM; Sunday May 7, 10 AM-5 PM. Beside vendors who offer great discounts on tools and supplies, there are free and paid seminars.

Free workshops and demonstrations (15 to 30 min):

Carving

- Fixing Carving Mistakes
- Constructing Flat Relief Panels
- Carving Incised Roman Letters
- Sign Carving with the Router
- Make Your Own Carving Mallet
- Gold Leafing
- Reading Wood Grain in Carving

Woodworking Techniques

- Smoothing a Coopered Panel
- Gluing with Cauls
- Gluing Unusual Shapes
- Using a Belt Sander
- Tune Up your Belt Sander
- Making and Using a Hook Scraper
- Stitch and Glue Boat Building

Workshops

- Making Decorative Boxes
- Japanese Hand Tools
- Build a Curio Cabinet
- Spindle Turning
- Scroll Saw Projects

Three-hour seminars – cost \$55

- Operating the Small Shop
- Successful Wood Joinery
- Router Techniques
- Gluing and Clamping Strategies
- Woodcarving Without Fear
- Advanced Woodcarving

For more information contact The Greater Los Angeles Woodworking Show; 800-826-8257 or 310-477-8521

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.

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