

# CONEJO VALLEY WOODWORKER'S ASSOCIATION

## *The Bladerunner*

August, 2000 Number 54

### AUGUST MEETING

#### Thursday, August 3 – Vacuum Veneering – Stephen Case-Pall and Ira Goldberg

Stephen and Ira are in the process of assembling a vacuum veneering system from parts rather than purchasing an integrated system. At this meeting they will demonstrate how it works, the problems they encountered, and steps they took to correct those problems. The demonstration will include how to veneer a 3-dimensional curved surface. Handouts on types of veneer and veneer patterns will be available.

### SATURDAY SHOP SESSION

August 5<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> a trip to Soboba Wood in Santa Barbara is scheduled. Members who visited said that this shop has a large selection of fine woods. Carpooling arrangements and directions will be made at the Thursday meeting.

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at **6:30 PM**

#### Auction

Our September meeting will be the annual auction. We will hold the meeting in the school "Cafetorium", which will give us more room to view the auction items and to snack on goodies and coffee. The meeting will start at 6:30, a little earlier than usual to giving us more time. Our now famous Brad "Hammer" Ormsby will again be the auctioneer.

Items are beginning to trickle in, and some of our members are really beating the bushes out there to get more interesting items. Please bring items for the auction to the Cafetorium at 6:30. Remember that items for the auction do not need to be woodwork-related.

Since it will be after dinnertime, please bring "pot luck" snacks. Coffee, cookies and sodas will be

provided. This auction facilitates our club programs and activities, and is in itself an enjoyable event.

#### Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> – Kingspor Tour

Did you know that we have a world-class sandpaper manufacturer "next door" in Oxnard. A plant tour is scheduled so you can see how different abrasive products, such as sheets, belts, and drums are assembled.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS

We were happy to welcome new members Charlie Bartolotta, Bill Fessler, Robert Gortman, Chuck Griswold, Owen Lee, Ross Tietje, and Jeff Youngerman. We hope that you enjoyed the meeting and we look forward to seeing you at future meetings and club activities.

### MAY MEETING PRIZES

Bill Kates	- 24" Clamps
Roy Williams	- Fostner bit set
Ira Goldberg	- Bullet point bit set
Mark Cher	- Precision protractor
Bob Holmquist	- Countersink bit set
Dan Gallo	- Book on wood Finishing
Dean Cooke	- Book on wood Finishing
Marshall Nathanson	- Book on wood Finishing
Ken Johnson	- Book on wood Finishing
Don Greene	- Book on wood Finishing
Bill Snell	- Minwax shop apron
Ed Bianchi	- Minwax shop apron
Dan Gallo	- Minwax wood stain
Dennis O'Dowd	- Minwax wood stain
Bill Snell	- Minwax wood stain
Alan Trimble	- Minwax wood stain
Rosmary Williams	- Minwax wood stain
Howard Johnson	- Minwax varnish
Jack Luhrsen	- Minwax varnish
Duane Nightingale	- Minwax varnish
Don Johnson	- Minwax wood conditioner
Owen Lee	- Minwax wood conditioner
Charlie Dietrich	- Formby's lemon oil
Don Greene	- Sanding sponge

We hope that you enjoy the prizes.

## CONEJO VALLEY WOODWORKER ASSOCIATION CAPS

Marlene Peters, our treasurer will bring some CVWA caps for sale to members. There are two styles, the rounded cap and the vertical front, and a variety of colors. Each cap has a logo similar to one-half of the Bladerunner logo, and says "Conejo Valley Woodworkers' Association." The cost of the caps is \$15 each.

### THANK YOU MINWAX

The CVWA sends special thanks and appreciation to Minwax for presenting the Community Craftsman Award to Gene West during the Club meeting, for Bruce Johnson's wonderful presentation and discussion on wood finishing, for providing the brush and Polyacrylic Varnish to each of our members, and for the books and finishing supplies that were contributed to the evening raffle. You made this meeting most significant to all of us.

### JULY MEETING NOTES

#### Minwax Community Craftsman Award

Last March, Minwax informed Gene West that he received the Community Craftsman Award for 1999.

Harvey Sass, Senior Vice President, Sales & Marketing for Minwax, explained that the annual award, started in 1992, is given to persons, groups, or institutions that have improved their community and instilled a sense of pride and satisfaction through working with wood. This is one way that Minwax can return something to the community. Mr. Sass then explained that the winner was selected by a panel and listed some of Gene's many community-oriented projects and activities that made him worthy of special recognition. Among the projects were mentoring new woodworkers, bringing woodworking projects to Braille Institute, teaching concepts and woodworking through mechanical toys, creating displays and exhibits at the children's museum, Moorpark Community College Child Care Center, and the Port of Oxnard museum. The award includes a certificate, a supply of Minwax products, and a check for \$5000.

After the presentation Mr. Sass introduced Bruce Johnson, Minwax's spokesperson and finishing expert. Bruce has worked with Minwax for ten years. Many of us met Bruce Johnson at the American Woodworker Shows where he demonstrates wood finishing techniques. He has also written numerous books and articles on the subject.

Bruce's 15 minute talk lasted more than 1½ hours, and was so informative that no one moved.

#### Wood Finishing Techniques – Bruce Johnson

Bruce's topic was "Why do bad things happen to good wood?" He described wood finishing consists of five parts:

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*Wood* – Wood is generally

variety of problems. Therefore, select the wood that be easily duplicated, but colors can be added. Stains

*Wood preparation*  
well unless you properly prepare the surface.

and rough areas each take stain differently, and need to be removed.

surface use a random orbit or

bad areas, start sanding with 120 grit paper, then go is sufficient.

have finished, if you plan to use wet the surface to see if there are scratches. Since

but you will see any scratches that remain in the oil based stain, wet the

After sanding is completed, wipe off dust with a vac.

coloring and are generally available in three media.

Minwax stains contain both. Dyes are chemicals that the wood by entering porous places in the wood.

provides the longest working time, but has fumes

fumes, dries quickly and permits a wide range of oilbased stains with a gelling agent to

*Stain application* – Some woods, such as cherry and maple tend to blotch when stain is applied. This is because the porosity of the wood varies. To solve this problem apply wood conditioner. Wood conditioner is a thin sealer that closes the pores. It is good for oil and water based stains. Directions should be followed exactly. For example, Minwax wood conditioner is applied and wiped off after 15 minutes. The sealer is too wet after 15 minutes, but is too dry after 2 hours. Therefore stain should be applied between these time limits. If you wait too long, you can sand the surface with 220-grit paper and start over. The conditioner is not sanded before stain is applied.

Veneers and solid woods take stain differently. The thin glue layer between the veneer and the substrate acts as a barrier so the stain doesn't penetrate as deeply in the veneer as in similar hardwood. If your project contains both veneer and solid wood, wipe off excess stain sooner on the solid wood than on the veneer. Practice on scrap first.

Stain can be applied with a brush, paper towel or cloth. Wipe the stain into the wood in a circular motion, then wipe off excess. Water based stains should be wiped within a few minutes so it doesn't dry and leave the excess on the wood surface. When the stain begins to dry wipe across the grain. When it dries, wipe with the grain. One rule is:

NEVER APPLY STAIN TO A PROJECT UNTIL YOU TEST IT ON SCRAP.

*Finish* – The finish protects the project. There are interior- exterior- and "in-between"- finishes. All finishes limit the moisture absorption and desorption. However, the question is, How much protection is needed?

Most finishes are surface finishes. These finishes cling to the pores in the wood. Interior finishes have no ultra-violet protection but are thin and provide a "wood texture" and appearance to the project. Examples are polyurethane and polyacrylic finishes. Exterior finishes are thick and glassy-looking but provide UV protection and abrasion resistance. Examples include Clearshield wood finish. Finishes that are intermediate between these are designed for use on wood that is exposed to light or that takes a lot of abuse such as interior windowsills. An example is Helmsman varnish. Three coats or fewer should be applied since the protection begins to decrease.

Other finishes are penetrating finishes such as tung oil and Wipe-On-Poly that provide little protection but are easier to repair and gives the wood a good appearance. Penetrating finishes should be applied by flooding the surface and wiping off the excess, and allowing the finish to dry. Five to seven coats should be applied. Except for the first coat, each coat should sanded with 900 to 1200-grit paper. The particles then fill the pores and gives a glass-smooth finish.

Bruce spent the remainder of the time answering specific questions and demonstrating some applications.

We express our sincere thanks to Bruce for an interesting and very practical presentation. All levels of finishing were addressed, from beginner through advanced.

### **"Show and Tell"**

Gene West showed some new rotating and ratcheting mechanical models.

Milt Kretsch showed a very attractive carved hands.

Brad Ormsby brought a veneer hammer he made from some wood scraps and a brass insert.

### **Saturday Shop Tour**

Todd Waite, a graphic artist-turned custom furniture maker was our gracious host for July's shop tour. Todd is a self-taught craftsman who demonstrates that skill at working with wood, not fancy tools, is the key to superior woodwork. Todd learned his craft reading periodicals such as Fine Woodworking, Shop Notes, and Woodsmith. He makes most of his own jigs, and with the exception of a couple of Lie Nielsen planes, uses ordinary tools found in everyday workshops. He is also an artist, working in oils, and airbrush, and designs his own furniture with the input of his customers. His artistic background shows clearly in his selection of wood and his work. His specialty is Arts & Crafts style, however he showed a broad variety of styles he had completed. Some pieces were in his home and some were shown in a slide-show presentation for the group. An unassuming person with a quick sense of humor, we hope he will join us at CVWA.

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## WEB SITE

By Howard Ford

Site address- [www.cvwa.org](http://www.cvwa.org).

**HISTORY:** When you see Glenn Packard give him a pat on the back for the work he did to build the initial web site and get it on an Internet site in 1999. Brad Ormsby also had a hand in helping secure the site. We have our own domain and the Internet Service Provider is local. Howard Ford assumed the responsibilities of Webmaster May, 2000.

**NEW WEB PAGES:** The web now has a lot added to it. Take a browse through the new pages!

**GALLERY:** Look at the photographic samples of your fine woodworking. The Gallery has more than 60 pictures of your projects.

**LIBRARY:** Browse through the library listings and see the many books, magazines, and videos that are available for your use. There is no guarantee that the list will be current all the time. See the Librarian for new items that may be available but not yet on the Internet.

**PROJECTS PAGE:** The Projects Page will provide a running history of your special projects and information about your special accomplishments such as the national recognition of Gene West for his woodworking expertise and community service given by Minwax and the woodworking articles that were written by members.

**NEWSLETTERS:** THE BLADERUNNER, will be placed on the web site exactly as it is printed with no editing by the Webmaster. It is in a format that allows it to be downloaded by anyone on the Internet. You can download and print any or all issues for yourself. Be aware that if your name, phone number, address, or any other information is in THE BLADERUNNER it will be placed on the internet.

**GOALS AND FACTS:** The goal is to make the web of value to the members. It will also be valuable and enjoyable to woodworkers all around the world. It will provide information about future events and keep a little history of past events so new members or potential members could see the kinds of things we do. It will provide opportunities for the world to see your woodworking expertise in the Gallery. You can tell your friends and relatives all over the world to take a look at your work.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** This brings up an important issue: Please give good pictures of your work to be

placed in the C.V.W.A. Portfolio. The portfolio serves as the resource for pictures on the web site. Give serious attention to your photography because this also becomes a personal portfolio. Because of the number of photos that this association can produce, please keep in mind that it will not be possible or practical for all pictures in the portfolio to be put on the web. The Webmaster and the Board of Directors will make decisions about the website's contents. If there are too many pictures we may have to start cycling the pictures that are displayed.

It will be important that you provide a narrative with each picture. Put your name on the back of the photo (don't damage the photo) so we can track the photo to you. Providing the name of your project (if it has one) the species of woods used, type of finish, and other unique information that will make the Gallery more interesting and of more value.

In the event that a viewer asks the Webmaster for permission to download or use a photo, it will be the policy of the Webmaster that the photographer will make that decision. Be informed that it will be possible for anyone to download your photo, legal or illegal, without getting permission and use it as they chose.

**CVWA WEB TRIVIA:** Information "everyone" wants to know about our web. As of 7-13-00:

- The web has 292 files.
- There are 193 images including photos and banner/button images.
- It has 357 internal hyperlinks
- It also has 37 external hyperlinks

[While Howard mentions "pats on backs", he deserves one too, for taking over as webmaster and continuing construction of a dynamic website. – Ed.]

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## COMING EVENTS

### Ventura County Fair August 2-13:

Don't forget to visit the woodworking and woodcarving exhibits at the Ventura County Fair. While you are at the fair, stop in and see Gene West's mechanical toys and how they fascinate children (of all ages).

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## WOOD VENDORS

Since we are starting the summer, people are starting to think about new projects. Take advantage of the suppliers listed below, and let them know that you are a member of the CVWA.

Please inquire to the vendor for details on their products and discounts and show your CVWA membership card to receive your discount.

**Conejo Hardwoods**

31275 LaBaya Drive  
Westlake Village, CA 91362  
818-889-0487

**Discount Book Outlet**

255 Easy Street, Unit E  
Simi Valley, CA 93063  
805-582-2665

**Do-It Center**

3775 Thousand Oaks B'lvd  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91561  
805-497-2753 (go to customer service desk)

**Eisenbrand Hardwoods**

4100 Spencer Street  
Torrance, CA 90503  
310-543-3576 (Orders: 800-258-2587)

**H&M Hardwoods & Moldings**

19 Aviator Street (Near 101 and Central)  
Camarillo, CA 93010-8314  
805-987-3877

**Hardwood Specialties**

7801 Canoga Ave. #8  
Canoga Park, CA 91304  
818-703-6472

**Hardwood Warehouse**

3501 Merrick Road  
Seaford, NY 11783  
516-221-4900 (fax 516-221-6566)  
e-mail; [info@hwonline.com](mailto:info@hwonline.com)  
internet: [www.hwonline.com](http://www.hwonline.com)  
CVWA members will be given a discount on phone, fax, or e-mail orders. More on this new store in the next Bladerunner.

**Higgins Hardwoods**

524 Pacific  
Oxnard CA 93030  
800-241-1883

**Integrity Wood Products**

7838 Alabama Ave.(Near Canoga & Strathern)  
Canoga Park, CA 91304  
Phone: 818-704-7490; FAX: 818-704-8912

**Junior's Tools**

813 E. Ventura Blvd.  
Oxnard, CA 93030  
Phone: 805-278-0937; Fax: 805-278-3919

**Mayan Hardwoods**

3130 Paseo Mercado #101 (Behind Price Club)  
Oxnard, CA 90303  
Phone: 800-937-8890; 805-981-4555  
FAX: 805-981-4560

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**ITEM FOR SALE**

Vacuum pump Gast rotary carbon vane steel continuous heavy duty vacuum pump can be used for veneering or vacuum chuck use. On mount with shock mounted 1/3 hp 1725 rpm GE motor. Asking \$125 or trade for 1/4hp 3450 rpm 120 volt ac motor. Contact: Marshall Nathanson 805-495-4820, or [m1911a1@earthlink.net](mailto:m1911a1@earthlink.net)

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**EDITOR NEEDED BY MARCH, 2001**

February 2001 will complete 5 years (60 issues) of editing the Bladerunner. It is time for a new editor to take over for practical and personal reasons. Practically, there is more that can be done – pictures, drawings, new formats to name a few. It is time for someone else to look at this. Personally I learned a lot about woodworking and would like more time to try what I learned.

I would be happy to continue to help and to write. If someone is interested in working with me during the next few months to learn about the newsletter, please let me know.

– Ira Goldberg

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**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.  
Ira Goldberg 805-495-7580 FAX: 805-373-4775  
e-mail: [ibgoldberg@rsc.rockwell.com](mailto:ibgoldberg@rsc.rockwell.com)  
[ibgoldberg@hotmail.com](mailto:ibgoldberg@hotmail.com)

**Conejo Woodworkers Board of Directors**

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