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THE BLADERUNNER

www.cvwa.org

JULY 2002

Number 76

JULY 11 – GENERAL MEETING

**THE ANNUAL PICNIC WILL BE HELD ON JULY 27, 2000, 11:30 AM
LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS**

JUNE SHOW AND TELL

June Show and Tell There were a lot of projects on display this month. Check the web sites for pictures.

Dave Blackburn brought in another group of his burl boxes and a group of vases made from Manzanita burl. It's always a pleasure to see these creative projects from Dave.

Don Green had a problem - how to put casters on a bookcase made from angle iron - and solved it with a piece of square metal fence post and a block of wood. It was a creative and simple solution.

Bob Fahrnbruch brought in an oak medicine cabinet he made for his home. It was designed to sit on a cabinet base. A removable top allowed access to the back of the cabinet to secure the project to the wall. The swinging mirrored doors were secured by push locks at the centers.

Gene West's scroll saw project was a replica of an old pattern that contained all of the letters of the alphabet. Some judicious carving and staining added considerable visual interest to the piece. His delightful duck, carved from avocado wood, generated a lot of interest.

Duane Nightingale brought in a small display box to display his pen and pencil collection. An acrylic shelf supported the pencils upright within a walnut case.

Arlen Handberg clever napkin holders made out of flat planks and dowels sent me to the woodshop to make a few for the family. Great idea.

Felix Masci had turned a bowl out of green wood that subsequently developed a crack. He described how he was able to repair the defect.

Bill Gourlay brought in a napkin holder, whose sides were intricately decorated with scroll saw work. In addition, he brought in pictures of a drop front desk that he had just completed. Good job!

Tim Albers brought in a maple chopping block he made for his wife. The circular block was made from a glue up of 2" blocks.

JUNE PROGRAM

June Program

Stan Wolpert demonstrated his method for sharpening chisels and plane blades. He uses adhesive back sandpapers set on glass plates. The grits of the sandpapers, in order are 120, 220, 250, 280, 400, 600, 1000, 1,500, 2000, and 2,500. He polishes dry on the lower grits and finishes wet with the highest 3 grits. The normal procedure is to go through the entire series of papers to flatten the back of the chisel. After that, he does the front bevel, utilizing the angle of the manufactured piece, again going through all of the grits and removing the burr on the back as he goes through each paper. He then grinds in the micro-bevel on the chisel. Starting with the 600 grit paper, he grinds a secondary bevel into the beveled face of the chisel, working only with a back stroke, again taking off the burr on the back as he goes along. If the chisel is sharpened correctly, it is only the micro bevel of the chisel that will need to be restored after use.

The club is proud and grateful that its members share their expertise with us.

Abrasive papers are available at a variety of sources including, Everitt & Ray, City of Industry, Klingspore, Oxnard and shops that cater to the needs of automotive body repair.

JUNE VISITORS

Michael Crain, Mario Gand, Lyle Johnson and Larry Toops visited with us in June.

JUNE NEW MEMBERS

George Arra, David Monroe, Alfonzo Rice, Fred Hughes, Bob Pratt and David Smith joined (or rejoined) the club in June.

JUNE PRIZE WINNERS

Steven Jones	Sharpening system
Bill Gourlay	Miter box
Mike Crain	Shop apron
Duane nightingale	Shop apron
John Witt	“Complete Book of Sharpening”
Steven Jones...	Metal detector
Ed Darling...	Biscuit joiner

We're glad to see that Ed has returned to the meetings. Ed is the 29th member of the club and we trust that he will share some of his woodworking experiences with us in the future.

JULY MEETING

The July meeting will be held on July 11 at the usual place at 7:00 PM. Come early and help set up the auditorium.

JULY PROGRAM

Want to be an author? Want to find a miter gauge that works? **Tim Albers** will be telling us how to share your expertise by writing articles for the woodworking commercial and trade magazines and will describe a project on miter gauges that he has researched for publication.

Tim is a long time wood worker and has been writing and selling publishing free lance articles for a number of years.

JULY PRIZES

Bonanza Time!! We will have a Delta Grinder, a Delta 10 inch compound miter saw and a DeWalt 7 1/2 inch circular saw up for grabs at the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS THANKS AND OTHER STUFF

Cerritos College The college is sponsoring several seminars this summer that may be of interest to members of the club. Ian Kirby will give a series of 5 lecture-demonstrations on August 16, 17 and 18. The talks vary from shop tool and torsion boxes to design and veneering. Also at Cerritos, Harold Greene will present a 2 day seminar on making wooden hand planes. Details for both of these presentations may be found at www.cerritos.edu/wood/events or by calling 562-860-2451, ext. 2949

Announcements

We have been hearing grumblings about not getting emails or copies of the Bladerunner. Have you changed your address? **Brad Eden** has been trying to keep up with address changes through returned mail, which is a chore. If you don't tell him of changes, you won't get the information.

CVWA Picnic: July 27

Date: Saturday, July 27, 2002

Time: 11:30 AM

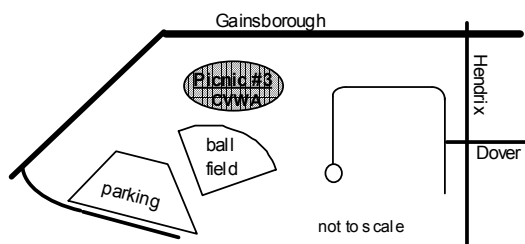
Location: Conejo Community Center
1175 Hendrix Ave
Thousand Oaks

Site: Picnic Area #3

Food: The Club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks.

Members, please sign up at the July 11 meeting to bring an appetizer, salad, or desert call Brad Ormsby to bring a potluck dish.

Questions: Call Brad Ormsby, 818 991-1130



Breakfast. Some of the members have been meeting at the IHOP in Newbury Park on the third Wednesday of the month. It's strictly a nosh and talk session and everyone is invited.

A Little about Gesso (and What You Can Do with It) This often-overlooked material, used by artisans centuries ago, is still useful in today's finishing processes.

By Mac Simmons

In the late 1500s, Old World artisans were using gesso as a primer sealer for filling open-grained woods. These artisans needed to achieve a smooth, flat "base" for their faux paintings and fancy gilding, and the gesso was a very important part of the process. They also used gesso for creating decorative striated stuccos and other attractive relief finishes and as a wood "putty" to correct natural faults, imperfections and defects in the various substrates they worked on.



The first photo shows untreated damage; the second shows how masking tape has been cut and placed over the damaged area to protect the wood around it. The August photo shows how the area looks after the damage has been filled in with gesso. The final photo shows the area after the gesso has been sanded level and the tape removed.

At that time, gesso was a do-it-yourself material. It was made by combining plaster of Paris, or gypsum, with liquid hide glues. The same type of Old World gesso is still used today in some of the finest finishing shops, in applications such as making up casts and molds for reproductions of carvings, rosettes and other detailed work. After these pieces are molded, they are usually faux painted to look like different woods.

Today, there are suppliers that sell a plaster of Paris/gypsum and hide glue gesso in a dry powder package, where the user adds the water. However, most of the gesso sold today is made from acrylic polymers and it is a ready-for-use, white, paste-like product. Color can be added by using a little of artist's acrylic or water colorants. Colors can be mixed and matched to woods or to a final finish.

Repairing wamages [sic] with gesso putty

Gesso makes an excellent wood putty for filling dents, chips, scratches and other flaws in wood or other substrates. When using it for a repair, you should slightly over-fill the area so you can sand it level. There is very little shrinkage when the gesso dries.

Gesso hardens fairly quickly, but if you are in a rush to complete a project, the process can be accelerated with a heat gun or hair dryer. Once it hardens, gesso sands very well. It can be sanded by hand, but power sanding is really the best way to go (remembering to wear a dust mask, of course).

You can color gesso before you fill damages or you can do color touchups after repairs are completed. Gesso filler can be coated over with any of the conventional coatings.

[Note. The preceding article is printed with the permission of CBW Magazine. The current material represents about half of the article. Part 2 will appear in the August issue. The article is printed in its entirety without any editing. Our thanks to Helen Kuhl, Editor-in-Chief, CBW for her generosity in sharing this material with the club. Ed.]

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