

## FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .

Gentlemen,

Those of you who missed our Saturday Field Trip missed out on a nice one. We had 10 people go (wished there had been more). You will find more information about the trip in the newsletter.

Summertime is approaching and if you are like a lot of woodworkers I know, you hang up the chisels come summertime and wait on cooler weather. However, please don't forget us. We plan to have some very informative meetings during the summer and your participation is wanted and appreciated.

This is also the time of the year for one very important project in your shop — SPRING CLEANING. I don't know if you have even thought about what a real fire hazard **your** and **my** woodworking shop is.

First of all most of our shops are wide open areas which lead to rapid fire spread. These wide open areas are also filled with numerous electrical machines, lights, electrical outlets and extension cords, any of which could overheat, short, or spark to provide an ignition source to cause a fire. To make matters worse, a lot of woodworkers carry around an unprotected ignition source between their two fingers — A Cigarette!

Now we have a wide open area with plenty of ignition sources but how about combustible materials to burn? Well if your shop is like mine, you have a big stack of lumber at one end and scrap pieces scattered from one end to the other. In addition to this, there are numerous cans of paint, stain, laquer, thinner, etc. that, not only will burn, but under proper conditions, may actually explode. There is also another little demon that we tend to forget about or simply ignore. That is, those little piles of shavings and fine particles of sawdust that cling and coat our shops from floor to ceiling.

Now it takes approximately 450° to ignite a block of wood — reduce that wooden block to shavings or sawdust and it only takes 275° to ignite and support combustion. Some la-

quers and thinners have a flash point of -32°. A spark, electrical short or burning cigarette generate substantial heat to ignite these materials.

What do you do with your staining and finishing rags when you are through with them? If you throw them in a box, in a corner of your shop, or back in the bench drawer you might as well throw a lit cigarette in your sawdust pile because spontaneous combustion is going to get you.

Since most of us work during the winter months we must heat our shops so we use space heaters of the electrical type (these help overload our already overloaded circuits), kerosene heaters or potbellied stoves, both with open flames or heat ducted in from the house. These will also provide an avenue of fire spread should fire occur.

When you think about it, you might be amazed and grateful that you haven't had a fire already. So what can we do to make sure our luck holds out?

I. Simply make cleaning your shop a routine habit (we train our children to do this to their rooms so why not ourselves). Keep the floors swept and vacuum the **WHOLE** shopbenches, machines (inside out), walls, ceilings, and don't forget those florescent light fixtures.

II. Keep all volatile liquids tightly capped and stored away in a cool place.

III. Keep extension cords off the floor when possible and make sure all connections are tight. Never allow an electrical connection to lay in sawdust or other combustible materials. Make sure all electrical outlets have covers and vacuum them periodically. Make sure all electrical motors are clean so they will properly cool.

IV. Don't smoke or allow smoking in your shop. You are asking for trouble, I don't care how careful you are.

V. Dispose of all oily rags in tightly sealed containers or submerge them in water.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Alabama Woodworkers Guild will be on Thursday, June 14 at 7 P.M. The speaker and subject were unannounced at publication time. The meeting will be held this month at Pelham High School.

The officers and board of directors will meet at 6:15 also at Pelham High.

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## Y'AWL'S POINT. . .

### THE MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS

Your comments or suggestions to the club should be addressed to:

Larry Aaron

Newsletter Editor

5617 12th Avenue South

Birmingham, Alabama 35222

Comments will be passed on to appropriate committees and may be printed when appropriate. Let us hear from you.

Also, we'd like to hear from other Guilds who read our newsletter.

The deadline for next month's newsletter is to be in the hands of the editor by Thursday, June 18th.

## JUST YOUR TYPE

The Guild is looking for a donor of a manual or electric typewriter. If you have or know of a typewriter which is in working condition and can either be donated to us or sold to us cheap, please notify Spruce McRee.

(continued on page 3)

Thanks for your enthusiastic response to participate on our various committees. Below are listed the names of those who have volunteered to help out. This list represents those who have volunteered as of press time. We hope this list will continue to grow.

Anyone wishing to participate on one of these committees should contact the chairman for that committee.

**OFFICERS...**

**President:**  
Spruce McRee, III (663-9453)

**1st Vice President:**  
Richard Gilbert (923-4022)

**2nd Vice President:**  
David Traylor (822-1044)

**Secretary:**  
Spruce McRee, Jr. (871-0237)

**Treasurer:**  
Billy Lee (663-7045)

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| Ronnie Acton<br>(663-0130) | Larry Aaron<br>(595-7844)   |
| Jim Stevens<br>(987-0975)  | Kerry McCalla<br>(967-4556) |
| Tom Godfryd<br>(969-2617)  |                             |

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| Co-Chairman     |          |
| David Traylor   | 822-1044 |
| Co-Chairman     |          |
| Rob Saunders    | 991-7712 |

**NEWSLETTER**

- |                 |          |
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| Joe Vines       | 424-7895 |
| John P. Vinson  | 991-6582 |
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| Joe Ruf        | 664-2908 |

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| Chairman       |          |
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| Joe Ruf        | 664-2908 |

**SHOW**

- |                  |          |
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| Richard Ellicott | 822-0963 |

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| Billy Lee        | 663-7045 |
| Richard Ellicott | 822-0963 |


**SHOP**

- |                  |          |
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| W.W. Gay         | 822-3762 |
| Brad Steffler    | 991-7253 |
| Billy Lee        | 663-7045 |
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**THE FINISHING TOUCH**

This article is a continuation of a series of articles on wood finishing reprinted with permission of Mohawk Finishing Products, Inc.

**THE USE OF REMOVERS:**

Probably one of the most talked about and least understood subjects in wood finishing is the use of products to remove old existing finishes prior to attempting to beautify them with new finishes. Once again, however, as in the use of abrasives there are wrong ways and right ways and wrong materials and right materials for each piece of furniture that is to be brought down to the bare wood by removing in some manner the existing finish.

**SELECTING YOUR PAINT REMOVER:**

One of the first things to consider when attempting to remove existing finishes, is whether or not you have any idea of what

**FIELD TRIP. . .**

On Saturday, May 12, twelve hardy woodworkers ventured to Northport, Alabama for AWG's first field trip. We were treated to deluxe tours of the woodworking shop of Craig Nutt, the harpsichord shop of Anden Houben and the Kentuck Arts and Crafts Center and Gallery.

Craig's shop is a long narrow room with a rather sparse mixture of old and new machinery — the right combination for the artisan/craftsman who does a lot of hand work. Craig's informal question and answer environment allowed us to discover some of the special characteristics of his work-style. I was particularly impressed by his custom-made planes, his lumber inventory and the rustic but practical hygrometer.

The group was then treated to a reception at the Kentuck Arts and Crafts Center, two doors down the street from Craig's shop. While munching on refreshments, we saw woodworking, pottery, jewelry, glass and textiles by a variety of local artisans. The high quality of the pieces was impressive. We also toured the small gallery housing several of Craig Nutt's creations and one of Anden Houben's harpsichords. Imagine seeing a dozen people looking over, under and around the displays, trying the drawers and admiring the moulding of an Italian harpsichord and you will understand the tolerance and courtesies extended by the directors of the Kentuck gallery.

After a short visit to Anden's upstairs shop, the vans headed to Tuscaloosa for a tour of the local Parisians and Brombergs, conducted by our own Richard Gilbert. At his former employer, he had assisted in outfitting both

(continued on page 4)

kind of wood and what kind of existing finish is presently on the piece. Another thought might be whether or not you have the materials on hand to completely finish the task. If the wood is one of the costly hardwoods such as walnut, mahogany, cherry or the like, it does not seem to be of much sense to employ a liquid or paste water wash remover and take the chance of soaking down a valuable piece of hardwood. In addition, if the hardwood is of the veneer type, the water might very well loosen the glue with which the veneer has been applied. By the same token, if the existing finish is of the butter-milk paint type, and you have already applied 3 or 4 coats of the strongest variety liquid or paste remover available without much success, it follows that maybe you should be looking for a product which is designed specifically for

(continued on page 4)

## CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN

In order to take advantage of the Guild's combined purchasing power, the purchasing committee needs to know what supplies, tools or equipment you members would like to purchase.

If you are interested in participating in combined purchasing, complete the information below and return it to the purchasing committee at the next meeting, or mail to the P.O. Box published in this newsletter. (Be as specific as possible using brand names or model numbers, sizes and quantities where possible.)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Supplies \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tools: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Equipment: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## FINISHING SCHOOL

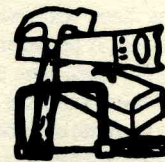
New Orleans Finishing Schools will be holding its second annual class in New Orleans from July 23 through July 27. This five day course is designed for the antique and refinishing trade. Any professional or semi-professional who wishes to learn advanced techniques, to improve either quality or production, should consider this opportunity.

Your instructor will be Mr. Dirk Wormhoudt, of New Orleans. Mr. Wormhoudt possesses an outstanding background in all aspects of furniture finishing and can help with any problems or questions you may have. He was apprenticed at the *Yonke Furniture Studios* of Kansas City, in the "Old World" traditions. This shop was featured in *Esquire Magazine's* section on the "Best of America", which dealt with the restoration of the finest antiques in a twelve state area of the midwest.

Mr. Wormhoudt graduated from Berry College, with a degree in industrial technology and served as finishing foreman and quality control supervisor at *Fox Furniture Manufacturing* of Rome, Georgia, gaining valuable experience in production finish work. He then ran his own refinishing shop until 1977, when he joined *Mohawk Finishing Products, Inc.* and *H. Behlen & Bros.*, manufacturers of finishing materials. Since that time, he has been involved in sales, teaching, and product development for these companies.

Finishing knowledge has been traditionally secretive and closely guarded by the Old World "Masters" in the trade. This school is a unique opportunity (and is offered no where else in the country), to spend five days gaining finishing knowledge acquired through years of professional experience. Students will work on an assortment of woods in an actual refinishing shop, with all materials provided. Enrollment will be limited to the first twenty applicants. If you are seriously interested, please do not delay in obtaining your application form. We will confirm all applications with a list of lodgings in the area. In you have any questions, please call Greg Williams, in Alabama at (205) 489-2604.

Hope to see you in July.



**Terrific  
T-shirts & caps**

The Guild still has a few ball caps and T-shirts for sale with the Guild logo on it. If you haven't seen them yet, they look really sharp. You can purchase them at the next meeting. Only \$5 for caps and \$6 for shirts. Wear yours to the next meeting.

## From The President Continued

VI: Keep a fire extinguisher (ABC type) readily available along with the phone number of the fire department. When buying a fire extinguisher buy one larger than you think you will need (at least a 10lb, 25lb. would be better). If you have a large shop have several located throughout your shop.

As well as being an insurance agent, I have been a fire fighter for the past 10 years. I have fought many house fires and several commercial fires, 2 of which were cabinet shops (both a total loss) and I can tell you first hand that no amount of money or insurance can replace all that a fire can destroy. You cannot replace lost lives and the sentimental value that many of our possessions have, especially the ones we labored over in our shops. All it takes is a little elbow grease on a regular basis and a little common sense and woodworking will continue to be enjoyable and rewarding and not destructive and devastating.

See you in June.

Spruce McRee

## WOODWORKER'S FAIR WELL

The International Woodworking Machinery and Furniture Supply Fair, USA will meet in Atlanta from Saturday, August 25 - Thursday, August 28 at the Georgia World Congress Center.

An application form, too large to print in the newsletter, will be available at our monthly meetings.

If you register by July 31 there will be no registration charge. Also you can notify Highland Hardware in Atlanta who will send you a free pass.

If there's enough interest, we could organize a bus trip to the exhibition. Notify Spruce McRee if you're interested.

The exhibit will feature furniture, machinery and supply manufacturers; a variety of seminars; and other groups associated with the wood industry.

A newspaper/flyer complete with details of exhibits and lodging information is available from Don Bennett, Phone 849-8248.

## The Finishing Touch Continued

removing this type finish. They are available. A last thought would include the fact that by utilizing the last of your proper grade of steel wool, and be forced to attempt to complete the task with scrapers or rags may just prove to be extremely exasperating when only mediocre results have been obtained.

### REMOVING EXISTING FINISHES:

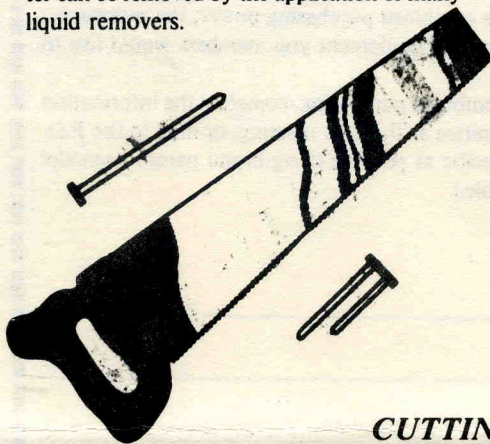
There are 3 basic methods employed in removing existing finishes. They are by **mechanical means**, the use of **heat** and commercially prepared liquids or powders.

Included in the mechanical means are the use of abrasives by hand or by machines, employing cabinet scrapers, or by hand planing. Since this method of finish removal is employed in only a very certain select few instances, very little space will be devoted except to mention that this method can cause damage to the underlying wood if extreme care is not taken. This does not hold as true for the hand sanding as the others. In fact the hand sanding method of removal may be a viable one when finish removal is necessary on a partially completed task. For example, a piece of mahogany has been stained, filled and coated with a thin wash coat of shellac when you notice on the label of the topcoat material that it is not for use over shellac. Since most commercial liquid removers will also remove some stains and virtually all fillers, hand sanding removal of the shellac coat is certainly less costly than the re-application of stain and filler. In this case, only open-coat type abrasive paper should be used.

### HEAT REMOVAL:

The heat removal method is normally associated with blow torches or propane and butane torches. This method is not recommended at all unless you desire the scorched wood look or to blow up your place of business. There are, however, finishes on the market today where this is virtually the only means of removal. These include the two part epoxy finish and the imported furniture employing the use of polyester resins. When employing the heat removal method it is recommended that it be accomplished away from your regular work area, preferably out of doors. Hold the flame from the torch only as close to the material as necessary to cause it to lift and never attempt to point the flame between the wood and the finish or you will spend extra time sanding away the scorch marks on the wood. Remember, you are only trying to cause the epoxy or polyester to buckle and lift from the heat. You are not attempting to cause it to melt. Once the buckling starts, it can be aided along by a long handled putty knife. Make sure the outer edges of the putty knife are rounded off so that the

knife hand moves faster than the hand holding the heat source. Do not confuse polyester finishes with polyurethane finishes. The latter can be removed by the application of many liquid removers.



## CUTTING UP

As you may know, the Guild is offering Freud carbide tipped saw blades to the membership at discount prices. Issue #27 of *Woodsmith* offered evaluations of Sears and Freud rip and cross cut blades. A summary of the article follows.

If you are thinking of buying a blade, you need to know the criteria for high quality blades: *Woodsmith* suggests several. High quality blades have tempered steel plates that are rigid enough to resist bending and have a "run-out" or plate tolerance of .003" or less. They can be run at around 7000 rpm versus 3000-4000 rpm for lower quality blades. Higher quality blades also have 6 to 8 expansion slots. The carbide tips are thicker which means you can sharpen the blade more times. The tips should show no signs of grinding marks which is indicative of a fine diamond grinding wheel used for sharpening.

## Field Trip Continued

of these stores with display cases and fixtures. He gave us informal pointers in how to hang a thousand feet of curved soffit, how to spend three months of your life building laminated hexagonal pedestals and how to handle a customer complaint when you no longer work for the firm. These valuable lessons were worth the price of admission! The stimulating questions and answers, the beautiful furniture and congenial fellowship were just icing on the cake. Plan to attend our next field trip — you will not be disappointed!

Kerry McCalla

Of course, several blades on the market meet these criteria so the next question to ask is whether they cut differently. *Woodsmith* compares the wood cutting characteristics of the Sears 40 tooth blade with the Freud 50 tooth. Both blades are combination blades designed for both ripping and cross cutting work. In ripping, both blades were much slower than rip blades because of the extra teeth, but even so, the Freud produced a better finish (good enough for edge gluing) than the Sears on both hardwood and plywood. As for crosscutting, the Freud again produced a better finish than the Sears.

In summary, the *Woodsmith* editor recommended the Freud 50 tooth blade as the one that comes closest to doing it all.

Walter Barnett

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	USE	EACH
_____	LM 72 M 10" x 24 Teeth	Fast Ripping	38.95
_____	LU 85 M 10" x 80 Teeth	Fine Finish Work	64.95
_____	LU 84 M 10" x 50 Teeth	Combination	39.95
=====	TOTALS		
NAME _____			
ADDRESS _____			
TELEPHONE (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____			

# KRAFTSMAN O R N E R

This month's tips are reprinted from *Woodworker's Journal*.

## BORING WORK

If you must bore different diameter holes in the same piece of work, always bore the larger hole first. The depression at the bottom of the hole formed by the large drill will invariably center the small drill exactly. It is almost impossible to center a large drill in a hole made by a small drill.

## MEASURING MOTTO

We have ruined so much expensive lumber and other materials because we didn't measure correctly the first time, that we now have this motto on the wall of our shop:  
"Measure Once: Cut Twice/Measure Twice: Cut Once."

## DON'T BE A DRIP

When stripping chairs of old paint or varnish, it is easy to drip the paint remover from the legs to the work table or floor. Save that valuable remover by placing each leg in an empty 1-lb coffee can.

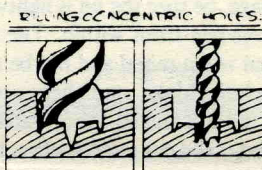
## SAVE YOUR FINGERS

If you remove the blade guard from your table saw (and most people do) you should be even more alert to potential danger to your fingers. Two aids will help keep your digits unscarred.

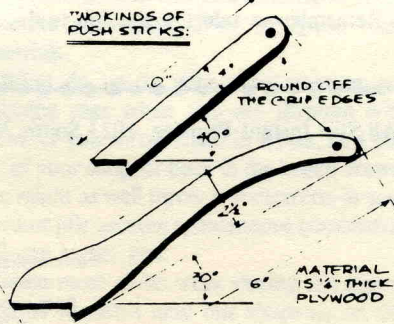
The first is the use of a push stick, in any one of a number of shapes. They're easy to make with a jig or a band saw, and well worth the time. One reminder: the push stick **MUST** be narrower than the width of the cut between the blade and the fence. Otherwise the push

stick could be kicked back halfway across your shop.

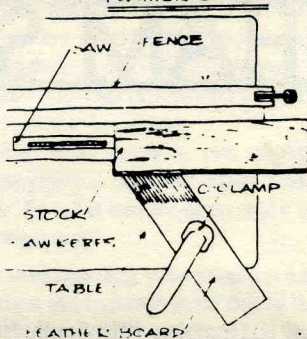
The second aid is a feather board, or spring board, a handy device to use when ripping narrow stock. Its primary purpose is to keep the stock tight against the fence, thus keeping your fingers out of the way. Make your own feather board by cutting kerfs about 1/4" apart into the end of a solid piece of wood. Mount with a C-clamp, as shown in the diagram.



TWO KINDS OF PUSH STICKS:



USING A FEATHER BOARD:



## CHISLER'S CORNER. . .

Are you having a problem trying to buy, sell or trade something? Do you want help on a specific project? Having difficulty trying to locate a rare tool or supply?

Place an ad in our Chisler's Corner column next month. Mail this form 2 weeks prior to the next meeting and your ad will be printed.

Want to  buy  locate  
 sell  swap

Describe item \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name & phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
Larry Aaron  
5617 12th Avenue South  
Birmingham, AL 35222

or  
Bring this coupon to the next meeting.

## NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 14  
7 P.M.  
Pelham High School  
Pelham, Alabama

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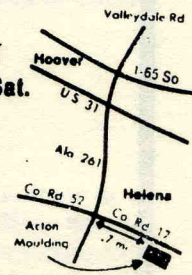
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## **BUILD SAFETY INTO YOUR PROJECTS**

Reprinted from *Hands On*, a Shoptsmith Publication.

Dolls, wagons, trucks and cars. . .they're all popular among children's playthings. Unfortunately, toy related accidents still cause thousands of injuries each year.

High among children's injuries are falls on or against toys, swallowing or choking on small parts, placing tiny toys or parts in noses and ears, and cuts from sharp edges and points.

Certainly *all* safety considerations are based on common sense. But when making toys, give an extra thought. . .you might prevent an injury. Remember these tips:

- Avoid sharp edges and points.
- Avoid hinges where small fingers could get caught.
- Avoid small parts or projections that could easily break off.
- Avoid lead base paints, chemical stains, and finishes. (Best solution is to leave toy projects unfinished.)
- Avoid long strings or cords that could cause entanglement or strangling.
- Frequently inspect toys for damage and discard toys that can't be fixed.

Finally, if you're building a chest or box for toy storage, be sure the lid is lightweight and can be opened from within. The lid should stay open when raised and not be able to fall on the child. Make sure there are fresh air holes in the box and lid. Also, watch for sharp edges that could cut and toy chest hinges that could pinch or squeeze.

Remember, a safe toy is a fun toy!

## **DISCOUNTS, DATCOUNTS**

The Guild now receives free subscriptions to **Fine Woodworking and Woodsmith**. These are available at the monthly meetings or by contacting Spruce McRee.

Also, Guild Members are entitled to discounts on certain merchandise at the following businesses:

Precision Sharpening  
3156 Cahaba Hts. Plaza, Birmingham  
Birmingham Saw  
910 North 28th St., Birmingham  
Acton Moulding & Millwork  
County Road 17, Helena  
Mohawk Finishing Products  
Double Springs  
Floors, Walls & All  
Lorna Road, Hoover

Show your membership card to receive the discounts.

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Ala WATTS 1-800-292-4032

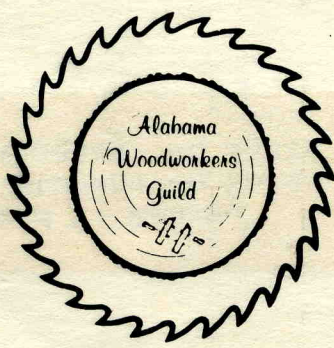
# **BIRMINGHAM SAW WORKS**

This newsletter typeset by Type & Graphics, 1023 South 20th Street, Suite B1, Birmingham, Alabama.



**The Alabama Woodworkers Guild**  
P.O. Box 327  
Pelham, AL 35124



**FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .**

Gentlemen,

Sorry to have missed you at our last meeting but I was in Florida during the week soaking up the sun and stuffing myself on delicious seafood. I understand we had a good turnout and an interesting program. Glad to see a good summer turnout!

Since the recent newspaper write-up about the Guild by the Birmingham News we had had a lot of inquiries and request for membership. We have signed up 8 new members in the last month. We are getting bigger and better and those of you who have not renewed your membership are really going to miss out.

As a follow-up to my letter in last month's newsletter about fire safety in the shop I would like to share with you the President's letter from the Southwest Association of Woodworkers Newsletter on personal safety in the shop. I don't think we can stress safety enough and I hope each of you will read and take heed of any article on shop safety. Thanks to Bob Pettengill - President of SAW for the following.

See you in July.

Spruce McRee

**NEXT MONTH. . .**

Our meeting will be held at Pelham High School at 7 P.M. Spruce McRee will give a talk/demonstration on how to make cabriole legs. Officers will meet at 6:15 as usual. Be there!

**NEXT MEETING**  
Thursday, July 12, 7 P.M.  
Pelham High School

**IT'S BETTER TO BE SAFE  
THAN SORRY**

This article is reprinted from Woodshop Talk by Bob Pettengill.

"It is better to be safe than sorry!" How many times have you heard that statement? I would like to take the time to stress the importance of safety in the workshop. However, most safety considerations apply not only in the workshop but also in your home or at the office.

It would be safe to say that most accidents occur due to carelessness. It is not that people don't know what is safe, but just don't take the time to be careful.

Safety involves many things, from protecting your body (ears, eyes, nose, fingers) to protecting your equipment (proper alignment, no frayed electrical cords) to keeping a clean shop. Let's talk about protecting your body first.

There are many inexpensive items on the market to prevent bodily harm. To start with, hearing is a very important sense to have. It doesn't take long when you operate high speed power tools to damage your ears. A set of ear plugs or ear muff hearing protectors are an inexpensive but quite effective way to protect your ears from high pitched sounds. You say "what?". How about your eyes? Well, if you had an eye damaged from flying wood chips you wouldn't be able to read this wonderful article. You would be a day late and an eye or two short. To prevent this from happening, take the time to put on those safety glasses. Or, if you wear eyeglasses and can't see 6 inches in front of you without them, put on a set of goggles that are made to fit over your eyeglasses (do not rely on your regular eyeglasses for protection). As another alternative you can use a full view face shield. See how easy it is to be safe?

When was the last time you had a check-up for cancer? Did they check your nose? That's right, sawdust floating in the air could ultimately lead to an unnecessary death from cancer. Woodworkers are particularly prone to developing lung and nasal cancer. If you don't buy this, then blow your nose sometime

after working in the shop. Now, how hard is it to plop a dust mask or respirator over those nasal passages and breathe easier? Finally, we have our fingers. I don't know about you but I need all ten fingers to be able to count. There are ways to keep your fingers and it shouldn't cost a dime. Try taking your scrap wood and making push sticks and push blocks. It is much more practical for a saw blade to cut into wood than it is your fingers. Remember, saw blades don't know the difference between wood and human flesh and bones.

Now that your body is safe, how about your equipment? Are all of your power tools in good operating order? Check for dull blades, dull chisels, and worn motor bearings. Don't forget to check for bad plugs and cords that could knock you for a loop if you got across some "hot" wires. Make sure you understand and follow the proper procedures for operating the various tools you have around your shop. If necessary review the owner's manual and always remind yourself of the safest way to do things.

Now that you have taken the time to protect yourself and your equipment take the time to look around your shop and see how many unsafe areas exist. Look out! Don't trip over that power cord running across the floor. Don't hit your knee on that pile of wood sitting in the middle of your shop. Don't let the hammer fall off your bench and hit your foot as you dig through the pile of junk searching for that lost screwdriver. Get the picture? Keep things picked up and in order. I remember a saying that goes, "A place for everything and everything in its place." How profound! It only takes a minute to put a tool in its proper resting place once you are finished using it. So take the time. BE SAFE!

The bottom line to all this safety is common sense. Use it and you should be able to enjoy many years of woodworking, with all your fingers and all your senses. Now, I will be the first to admit that I am as guilty as the next person when it comes to keeping things picked up. As I write this my workbench is piling higher and higher. I think I will go out to the shop and practice what I preach.

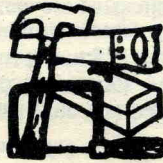
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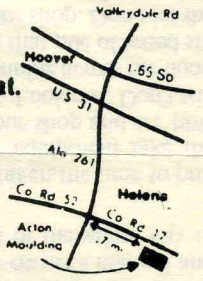
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