



NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank everyone that has made toys and those still making toys for our Toys for Tots program. The response has been great so far and the Christmas Spirit is really starting to show. At the last meeting, a little bit of the kid was coming out in some of you as you proudly brought in your toys. Just imagine how the Tots receiving your toys will be smiling on Christmas morning. I can guarantee you, if you make T.F.T. toys, the joy and satisfaction you will feel will make your holidays great this Season.

There has been a change in the date for Rude Osolnik's visit to our guild due to conflicts in his schedule. Rude will be coming to Alabama Wood Worker's Guild on December 10th rather than on the date earlier announced. November 12th & 19th were not possible because of previous bookings; therefore, arrangements have been made for Rude to be in Birmingham on December 10th. I hope everyone will make plans to attend this workshop; we are extremely fortunate to get Rude, so let this be an early Christmas present to yourself — come on down December 10th.

Elections will be held at our November Meeting (no Democrats nor Republicans — just woodworkers). So, if you are interested in serving as an officer or committee member, let our nominating committee know. We have many new members (and old) that need to be included. We need people to serve on several committees. Think about it and come prepared to raise your hand.

If you have not marked your calendar for December 3 at 6:30 e.t. (eating time), do so now. This is the date and time for our Christmas party. I have been told by some of you that you would like to come but that you did not know that many people!! Folks, this is one of the reasons that we have the party!! No one has ever been bitten at any of our Christmas parties. We are a nice bunch of folks, so make your plans to be there; you wouldn't want to miss it!!!!!!

See you at the next meeting and bring a friend.

Nelson

NEXT PROGRAM NOVEMBER 10 - 7:00 PM

So, you always wanted to know everything there is to know about band saw blades? Now is your chance. Our speaker this month is Mr. Russell (Russ) Butler, Regional Manager for American Saw Company, manufacturers of LENOX band saw blades. Russ covers several states, attends industrial shows with his blades, so we should have a program all of us have an interest in, since most of us have, and can't do without, a band saw.

LAST MEETING — OCTOBER

What did not promise to be anything exciting in the way of a program turned out to be nevertheless interesting. We had a good discussion about the logo — after seeing some suggestions on paper other ideas were presented and discussed. The President outlined the several activities that are scheduled for this fall and into early 1989, and this schedule is quite busy. They are presented elsewhere in the newsletter. After the general discussion, Kerry McCalla presented his antique show. He had been asked to prepare a little longer show since we had no guest speaker. As always, Kerry fulfilled his commission. He has just returned from an antique show in Milwaukee where he participated as an exhibitor. He displayed his exhibit for us and then proceeded to describe each item. The exhibit dealt exclusively with spirit levels. He has levels made by such manufacturers as Stanley, Davis, Preston & Sons, Lufkin, Rabon and Sterrett. It is thoroughly fascinating to see instruments made in the last century that can still be used today. Our forefathers were not exactly dummies, in other words. Kerry attends two such meetings a year and says they constitute The Finest Tool Museum in the world during the time they are in progress. Another interesting point in regard to these antique tools is they, the collectors, are attempting to establish the use, or application, each antique tool had because, unfortunately, the use of some of them has been lost. We continue to appreciate Kerry and his antiques.

Ben Neighbors, TFT Chairman, happily reported that as of then we have some 150 toys toward our goal of 500, or more. If you saw them displayed you know what a great job was done on them, and if you haven't seen them you need to come to the next meeting. You may remember each of us was asked to make 10 toys. One has made 35, one has made 23, one has made 17, and others have made their 10. What a pleasure to complete a toy, or toys, knowing some kid will be thrilled to death on Christmas morning when he or she receives their first wood toy, ever. Toys for girls are lagging a little, but if you will get your wife to help you, you can do something for the girls. Pull toys may be used by both boys and girls; rag dolls for girls; and doll clothes are good for girls. It is important to remember that for every toy you bring your name goes into the pot one time (10 toys, 10 times) and names will be drawn from the pot and ten toy makers will receive a really fine prize of some sort. Funds have been allocated to the purchase of the prizes, and every effort will be made to select good and interesting tools. The drawing will be held at the Christmas party (more about the party elsewhere herein). If you can't get your toys to the November meeting, then bring them to the Christmas party. As a special added attraction, and to promote the TFT program for our Guild, as well as the community, our own Anita Skocjk will be on Tom York's Morning Show, Channel 6, November 9th at 9:00 AM, talking about the Guild and displaying some of the toys.

SHOW AND TELL

Seeing and examining articles made by each other is the purpose in this little exercise. You folks are amazing — you make quality and interesting items and we all enjoy seeing them. If you missed the last meeting, you missed a visitor (who joined the Guild that night) who brought three items to show and tell about. Bill Purson is the Fairfield Postmaster — he showed us a "stacked plywood" end table he made. It looked as though it had been twisted like a bath rag to create a swirl from bottom to top. Then he took a post office box, fitted it into some walnut, finished with rubbed lacquer, and produced a beautiful coin bank. His kite cord reel was a beauty, too. All of this is to encourage you to let us see some of your accomplishments, too.

This is along the line of SHOW AND TELL except, repeat except, it would be of interest to all of our members if you would bring to the JANUARY meeting unusual, repeat UNUSUAL, items such as jigs, puzzles, tools, or hard to guess what it is items. There will be a separate table set aside for you in January for this feature of our meeting. Dig into your inventory and share with the rest of us some of your UNUSUAL treasures.

BLEACHING WOOD

Bleaching is the chemical process of lightening the colour of wood. A bleached finish produces a blond wheat tone or amber walnut. Pigmented undercoats are also used to produce limed finishes and finishes of other tones.

Caution is essential when bleaching wood, since the chemicals used can be injurious to the wood fibres or one's hands. The two-stage commercial wood bleach is made of oxalic acid and sodium hyposulphite plus a borax solution. The latter is an alkalizer which neutralizes the acid after bleaching is completed. Use rubber gloves and a rubber sponge to apply bleach on a surface. Apply one coat of bleach, permit the surface to dry, and examine the tone effect. If necessary, apply a second coat of bleach; if not, sand the surface lightly to smooth it. Should the surface become too bleached, it may be stained again.

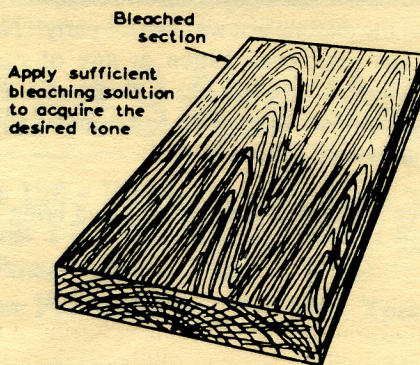


Fig. 6-9. Bleaching Wood

It is advisable to follow instructions to obtain the best results with commercial bleaches.

If your hands or clothing come in contact with chemical bleaches, wash them immediately with soap and water to dilute and retard the chemical action.

The nominating committee consisting of Leonard Sanders, Chairman, Kerry McCalla and Ronnie Acton, will read its slate for 1989 at the November meeting. There are any number of you who can make a great contribution to our Guild by serving. If you are too timid to volunteer when nominations from the floor are called for, get a friend to nominate you; or better still call any of the members of the nominating committee, and tell them you would like, and are willing, to serve. We believe we have as good a Guild or better than most, with the dedication to providing a forum for our members to enjoy learning more about woodworking. It is essential that we keep good Officers and Directors in office so as to continue our tradition.

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After the wonderful party we had last year it is easy to get excited about this year's. It will be the best holiday party you will attend. There are several salient points to remember:

1. The party will be held in the Helena United Methodist Church social hall which has a kitchen.
2. It will be a covered dish party. Each member should bring his wife's best prepared dish which should be enough for his family (his/her should be substituted as appropriate).
3. Coffee and Tea, paper plates, etc. will be furnished by the Guild.
4. No excuses are acceptable for not attending — there will be baby sitting available.
5. There will be entertainment. Sue Acton will bring her thespian group who will present Irma Bombeck's hilarious skit "If Life is a Bowl of Cherries, Why Am I in the Pits?" There may be another surprise or two, too.
6. As previously announced, the TOYS FOR TOTS prizes will be drawn at our party. You do not have to be present to win, but wouldn't you hate to have to go thru all the holidays and to the January meeting without knowing whether, or not, you won a fine tool, or something.
7. The second annual Christmas party will follow the pattern of last year's and at the close of the meeting there will be a drawing for the gifts from our advertisers. Last year there were twenty or twenty-five such gifts, all of which were desirable gifts.
8. A moment of recognition will be observed. (That should keep you guessing).

It was such a memorable party last year, as all of you who were there will remember. Now it is time for the rest of you to put December 3, 1988, at 6:30 pm, on your calendar. We are having it a little early so as not to conflict with other parties this time of year.

Does that name ring a bell? It should, since he is one of the foremost woodturners in the U.S. He was head of the woodworking department at Berea College in Kentucky until he retired in 1978. Since then he conducts turning seminars at his home and in workshops across the country and is in great demand. He has been turning over fifty (50) years and has attained an enormous reputation for excellence. Rude has no secrets. He'll show you every technique he knows, if you're interested, all the while stressing there is no one right way to do any turning. Be warned, though, he makes everything seem easier than it is, all the while inspiring you to begin turning or to strive for better turnings if you are already a turner. When Nelson asked him if a certain make of lathe would be satisfactory for his use, he just replied "Well, it turns, doesn't it?", which was just to say he can turn on anything that turns. While his children were in college he turned out (no pun intended) over 150,000 candlesticks of a certain design to help defray college tuitions. He has a warm personality and includes considerable humor along with his show. You have guessed, by now, we can't handle the cost of a program like this, so it will be necessary to charge our members \$15.00 to attend the all-day program. Please bring your fee to the November meeting so we can avoid this matter the day of Rude's program. The Guild will provide a light lunch, free of charge. So, if you have ever wanted to see a nationally recognized woodworker in action now is your chance. The program will be on December 10, a Saturday, and will be most all day. This is the second thing to put on your calendar, in addition to the Christmas party. Your officers believe they have pulled off a coup in getting Rude to come to Alabama to visit us. Tell Nelson you will be there at the next meeting.

APPLYING WOOD FILLERS

Wood fillers in liquid or paste form are used to fill the pores of most woods and to add beauty to the surface. When the pores are filled, the surface will be smooth, hard, and ready to be finished.

Open grain woods such as ash, hickory, oak, mahogany, and walnut require a paste filler. Closed grain woods such as birch, cherry, maple, and basswood, may be sealed with a primer or a sealer such as shellac or lacquer.

Paste fillers are composed of silix, which is powdered rock quartz, combined with linseed oil, turpentine, drier, and sometimes colouring. Fillers can be purchased in all natural wood colours as well as natural transparent and white. The crystals of silix are inert material that is not subject to fungi or chemical action with most finishes. The filler is generally applied with a cloth after

the surface has been stained.

Procedure for Applying a Filler

1. Mix the paste filler to a proper consistency by adding turpentine.
2. Add an oil stain if toning is necessary.
3. Apply a thin wash coat of shellac on raw wood or over a stained surface. This sealer prevents the oil of the filler mixture from soaking into the wood and darkening it.
4. Apply the paste filler with a stiff brush or a wiping cloth.
5. Rub the paste filler into the pores of the wood using a circular or figure 8 motion.

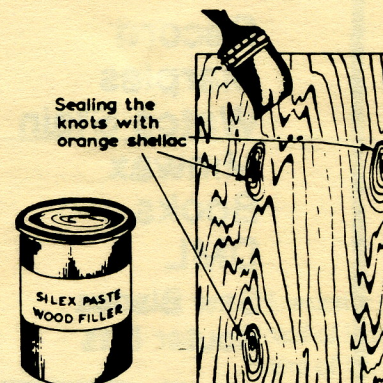


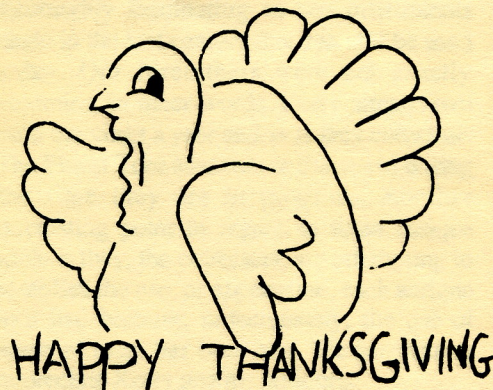
Fig. 6-8. Filler Materials

6. When the filler looks dull, wipe off the surplus before it hardens. Difficult places can be wiped with a cloth over a pointed stick.
7. Finish wiping the surface with clean cloth, stroking the surface with the grain.
8. Permit the filler to dry for about 24 to 48 hours.
9. Sand the dry filler with 6/0 abrasive paper and wipe off with a cloth moistened with benzine.

BUY - SELL - TRADE

Here are a couple of items for sale:

1. Table saw, 8", 1/2 HP motor, \$125. Cliff Phillips — 822-3574.
2. Jointer, 4", with stand and motor, Sears, \$95. Leonard Sanders 822-6876.
3. If any member subscribes to Woodsmith Magazine and will let me borrow NO. 50 issue I'll appreciate it — Leonard Sanders.



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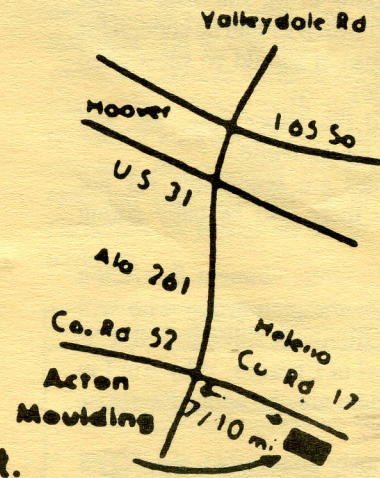
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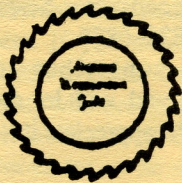
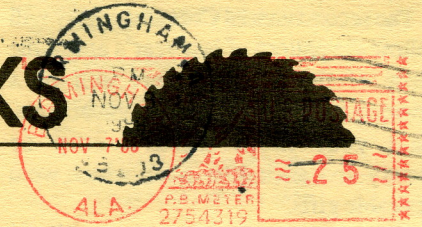
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