



NEWSLETTER

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MAY 1989

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THE SHOW WILL BE AT HOOVER MALL MAY 18, 19, & 20TH

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Finally, our Spring Show location is set, Hoover Mall, May 18, 19 & 20th. There was some concern about the Mall being small but with some advertising I believe we can bring in the people we want there. We are planning some demonstrations and that should interest some people. But most of all it will give us a chance to get together and talk about woodworking. Please be at the May meeting as hours, etc. will be discussed.

Several months back we talked about starting a Woodworker of the Year Award. Since no formal rules have been discussed here's some ideas I have who that person should be. Someone who attends our meetings regularly, brings show & tell pieces, makes toys for our Toys For Tots program, who perhaps has done a regular meeting program, or at least shares information openly and often, participates in our Annual Show, and one who works to help promote our Guild. We will vote at our November meeting to choose this person, so to be eligible you need to be active in your Guild, and to know for whom you will vote; therefore, you must attend our meetings regularly.

See you at the next meeting, bring a friend and something to show off.

Nelson

MAY 11, 1989 PROGRAM - 7:00 P.M.

You have probably wondered many times how to go about designing something you wanted to make. You are in luck — Bill Persons, one of our own members, is going to first talk about the difference between esthetic design and functional design. Esthetics covers how the project looks, and the functional part covers how it is held together. Bill was under the tutelage of an artist for ten years who chose to use wood as the medium for his artistry, so with that background we have much to look forward to. It is Bill's intention to stress the importance of making a scale drawing of our proposed project before beginning it and in fact will show us how to make such a drawing.

LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

We appreciate Frank Jones making advance preparations so as to properly demonstrate making dovetails by hand. Had he not done some of the work in advance, his presentation would not have held our interest as well. (You've sat and watched paint dry, haven't you?) Frank has demonstrated over the years his mastery of dovetails, something most of us recoil from in horror. I think most of us have an ingrained fear of fouling up the dovetails and having to start all over. Frank tried to dispel our fears by announcing such fears are unnecessary, and to make dovetails is just that — make them. Having made three sides of a box in advance he proceeded to make the fourth side without a hitch. During

his demonstration Frank was asked how you know which is the Pin and which is the Tail to which he replied, "one goes this way, and one goes that way". Then someone asked if you could properly describe pins and tails as Male and Female, to which he replied, after casting something of a disgusted look at the questioner, "what is ain't, and what ain't is". So we leave it to you what his answers may, or may not, have meant. Thank you very much Frank, and we appreciate your pitching in whenever called on.

KERRY'S ANTIQUES

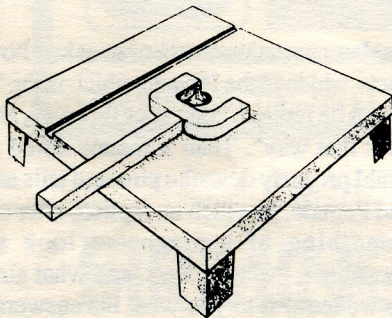
It was immediately apparent Kerry had imbibing on his mind when he left home with his antiques for our meeting. His "items" included 1) Measuring (or gauging) Rod used to measure the amount of wine in a keg — this was done by inserting the Rod about 3 1/2 ft.) into the bung hole in the top of the keg, after removing the wooden plug, sliding the end of the Rod along the bottom of the keg until the front of the keg is reached, at which time the Rod is stopped. Upon withdrawing the rod from the keg the place at which the moisture has reached on the scale along the side of the Rod tells you how much liquid there is in the keg; 2) A bottle measuring folding rule and 3) A measuring stick made by one Thomas Watts, living in Boston, around 1800, which measured the emptiness of a container, rather than the fullness. Is there no end to the interesting and varied "items" Kerry brings to our meetings? We appreciate it, Kerry.

Harry Reach showed us his quilt rack. It was made of oak, and had a trestle (as in a table) for stability low down on the legs. Then there were carvings by Jerry Vines, who had obviously devoted much time to them, and explains why he has won so many ribbons in competition.

Routing Drawer Pulls

A recent project called for three drawer pulls and I decided to make them from wood. After bandsawing the shape, I planned to round over the edges on the router table. The problem was that my fingers would be too close to the cutter for safety.

The solution was to tack the pull temporarily to a length of scrap wood with a hot-melt glue gun. This way I could shape the handle in safety. In my case this was a two-step operation as I routed both the inside and outside of the pulls.



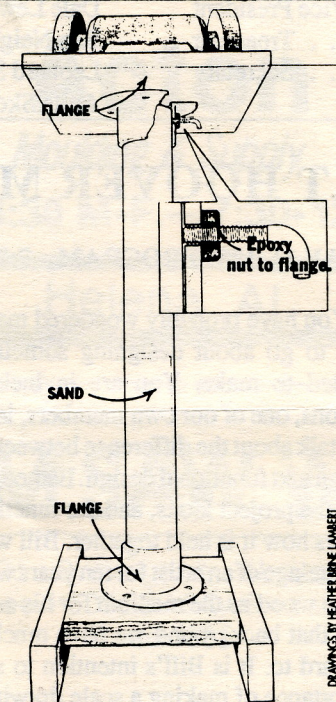
If you apply the hot-melt glue sparingly and remove it as soon as possible, it's easy to separate the workpiece from the scrap.

DEAN ST. CLAIR
Salesville, OH

There were two prizes drawn in April and after much suspense generated by the President the two names were revealed to be Mike Key and Nelson Brown who were awarded sanding blocks. (Just in case you don't know, each door prize each month is worth about \$10, so it might pay you to go to the trouble to sign the attendance sheet on the table where you pick up your name tags).

BUY - SELL - SWAP - HIRE

The only item we have this month is an item for sale. It is a Craftsman 12" Lathe, from Nelson Brooks (988-3530) for \$125.



PVC Pipe Stand

I needed a stand for my grinder and bench-top disk/belt sander, but I was discouraged by the high price of manufactured stands. While at my dad's plumbing shop, the idea came to me to make a stand from 4-in. dia. PVC pipe and two toilet flanges.

I cemented the pipe to the bottom flange and filled the pipe full of sand for ballast. I bolted the flange to a wooden base, but it could just as easily be bolted directly to the floor.

So that the top flange could swivel on the pipe, I drilled a $\frac{9}{32}$ -in. hole in the side of the flange and epoxied a $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. nut over the hole. A $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. bolt bent into an "L" shape locked down the top flange on the PVC pipe.

I mounted the grinder on a piece of plywood bolted to the top flange. I painted the stand gray, and boy does it look sharp. The neat part is that I can use the same base for different tools. I just make a separate flanged base for each tool, and I can swap tools when I need to.

BILL BUHRMAN
Salina, KS

Have you ever been surprised right out of your shoes? We were at the April meeting. We are all familiar with respirators — some with replaceable filters and some you just throw away — but Fred Sandlin (our resident sharpening shop owner) demonstrated a combination hard hat, face shield, battery operated fan, with a battery pack strapped around the waist, and a hose going from the fan to the hat and face area. Fresh air is pumped into the sealed face shield (secured around the edges of the shield with material) thus preventing dust from getting in. Some cooling is afforded as a by-product too. Thanks, Fred, for showing us your unusual respirator.



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Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild meetings are held monthly on the second Thursday at 7:00 P.M. at Acton Moulding & Supply Co. Information concerning the Guild may be secured by writing P.O. Box 506, Helena, AL 35080 or calling the Editor, Leonard Sanders, at 822-6876.

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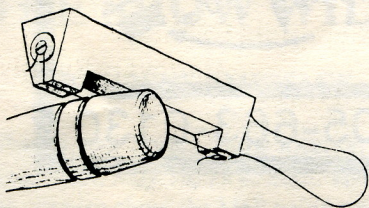
Hardwood Lumber & Plywood
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DISCOVERY PLACE

You may recall we had a representative of the Discovery Place visit us in March asking for assistance in making toys for their June Music Festival at Lynn Park in downtown Birmingham. Plans for the toys were available at the last meeting and several of you took the plans, so we only ask that you not delay too long making your toys.

Charring Decorative Lines

Decorative lines cut into tool handles and similar turned objects are often made more prominent by charring the tool-cut lines with a length of iron or steel wire held against the revolving wood. Pressure on the wood soon builds up enough friction and heat to char a good, black line, but the wire also gets too hot to hold.

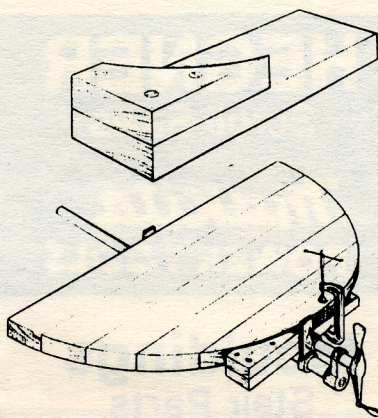


I've made a tool that enables me to do a more efficient job and avoid burning myself. The tool holds a 6-in. length of 18-gauge wire. So the wire can be tensioned or replaced, I twist its ends around screws with washers under their heads to prevent slipping.

PERCY BLANDFORD
Stratford-upon-Avon, England

BUCK CREEK MILL

We appreciate Mr. Stephen Whitley attending our April meeting and bringing us up to date on the progress of the Mill in Siluria (now a part of Alabaster). In time, the Mill should become a mall, with craft booths, offices, a restaurant, retail stores, exhibitions, etc. This would be a good place for any of you who need a place to market your crafts.

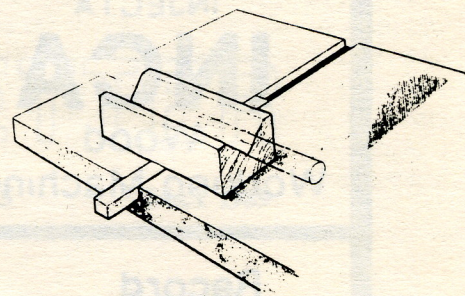


Clamping Curved Edges

Pipe clamps tend to slip on curved edges. Here's a device I made from a 1x2 that allows me to clamp curved edges. I use it mostly for repairing tabletops, but it also can be used to glue up boards that have one straight edge and one curved edge.

I clamp the device to the curved edge with a C clamp to hold it in place. Now the pipe clamp can be installed to clamp the boards together.

KENNETH T. MAY
Jeanerette, LA



V-Block for Round Stock

Crosscutting round stock on a band-saw or tablesaw is easy if you make a V-block jig with a guide strip to fit the miter-gauge slot in the table.

BILL BIGELOW
Surry, NH

NEW MEMBERS

At this printing, the newest of our members are as follows:

Lucius McIntosh
Steven Pritchett
Harry Reach
Roy Veal
A. H. Woodward

ALABAMA DESIGNER/CRAFTSMEN WORKSHOPS

This is something we don't want to miss. We don't get many such exhibitions in Birmingham so it behooves us to take advantage of this opportunity. The workshops will be held at Samford University Art Department, 800 Lakeshore Drive, June 24, 8 am - 6 pm, and June 25, 8 am - 5 pm. John Jordan will demonstrate woodturning and seasoning of green wood; Karon Doherty will show "Fun and Functional Handbuilding Clay"; and John McGuire will be making Shaker Cat Head Baskets. You may attend the workshops for a fee and receive truly professional instruction.

Keeping Finishes Fresh

Here's a way to save paints and finishes in a can. Just pour a thin layer of the appropriate thinner on top of the material and cover. Put the can on the shelf without shaking. When you want to use it, stir in the thinner and the finish is good as new.

FRANK DISTEFANO
Rochester, NY

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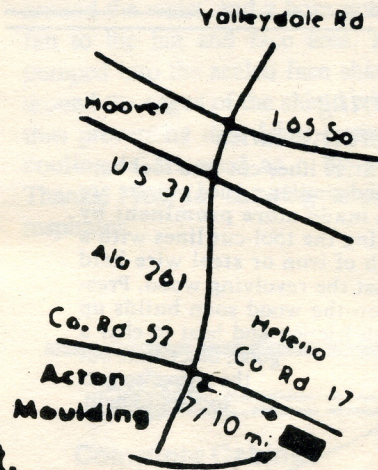
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6 to 4:30 M-F.—7:30-12 Sat.



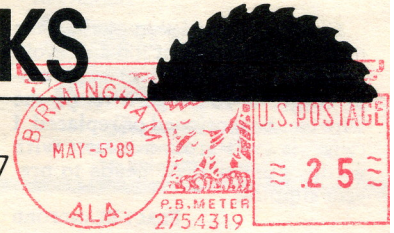
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