



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME VII

NUMBER 8

AUGUST 1989

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OFFICERS MEETING

OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
6:15 P.M. BEFORE NEXT MEETING

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September 8th and 9th!! Mark your calendar and make plans to participate in our Show and Demonstrations at Acton Moulding. If you don't know by now Ronnie is having his Grand Opening that weekend. We need everybody to be there. This should be the biggest event in the history of our Guild. Please try to attend our August meeting to share your ideas on how to make it a huge success.

I know it's hot weather and December's a long way off, but it's not too early to start thinking about making toys for our Toys For Tots Program. Our TOT Chairman, Ben Neighbors has challenged us by raising our goal to 1000 toys, up from the 600 we made last year. I know we can do it, but we need everyone to participate and we need to start now.

See you at the August meeting. Bring a friend and we need more Show & Tell.

Nelson

hand screws, etc. and share his experience and knowledge. If you are interested in making your own tools to save money or the joy of doing it, you need to attend this meeting.

LAST MEETING - JULY 1989

The worst scenario a President, or any chairman of a meeting, can endure is to have his speaker cancel at the last minute. This happened to President Brooks but he took it in stride and in his inimitable style ploughed his way through to everyone's satisfaction. He came up with a VCR tape of shop techniques and practices published by Taunton Press, and it was most interesting and informative. We appreciate Nelson and Ronnie Acton's getting the necessary TV set, VCR etc. together, all hooked up and ready to go and filling the void created by the speaker.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Dale Lewis has struck again!! One of Dale's pieces has been selected to appear in Fine Woodworking's Design Book Five. Early this year FW asked readers to submit photos for a new book they planned to issue once a year, but due to the large task of editing a yearly book they are staying with The Design Book Series. It will go on sale late 1990. Again, congratulations Dale.

NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY AUGUST 10TH - 7:00 P.M.

James Ewing, one of our members will be showing & telling us how to make different tools. James is a woodworker and is in the sawmill business in Alexander City. He will bring some tools he has made, hand planes,

WOODWORKER OF THE YEAR

Well the year is half way gone. Do you know the person who deserves this award? We will vote at our November meeting, for the person who attends meetings, brings Show & Tell, enters our shows, makes Toys For Tots, shares their knowledge, goes that extra mile to promote the Guild and who you feel best represents our Guild.

THE LIBRARY

We want to remind you that our library is growing every week, and it just might be that you can find the answer to some burning question that is bugging you in one of the publications we have. We are pleased to announce that DON BENNETT donated a book entitled WOODWORKERS BIBLE last month, and we express our appreciation to him for it. Maybe some of you would also like to make such a donation, and if so, ask Frank Jones what field of woodworking is needed, since there is no need for duplications. You also don't have to wait until Guild meeting night to visit the library; it may be visited any day from 8:00 to 6:00 or on Saturday from 7:00 until 12:00 (those are Ronnie's open hours).

SEPTEMBER HAPPENING

Probably the best thing that ever happened to our Guild in the beginning, and ever since,

was the participation, encouragement and support of Ronnie Acton! Now it is time for us, as Nelson said, to PAY BACK to Ronnie, Sue and the entire staff by assisting in Acton's GRAND OPENING on September 8 and 9. What's he opening? His newly redesigned and remodeled retail store in conjunction with his affiliation with SERVISTAR. There will be two days of bargains in the store, hot dogs and cokes, prizes, a musical aggregation and US, the Guild. What will we be doing? We will have a display of pieces created by our members; demonstrations of turning, dovetail making, scroll saw products (cutting out names, etc.); band saw cutting; router uses. The display mentioned above refers to THE SHOW as we held it in the Hoover Mall in May, 1989, and we want you to bring your best work so we may help Ronnie promote his opening by letting the public know a woodworking guild, such as ours, exists. We will have T-Shirts with our logo, golf caps with our logo for sale (at cost) as a further promotion of the Guild. We hope to have a swap table set up so we may swap tools or pieces of wood. Think about that - you have two of some type tool, bring one and swap it for something you don't have. The same

applies to wood - you have a piece of some exotic wood (doesn't have to be exotic) and are willing to swap it for some other wood you have a desire or need for. Then there will be a TOYS FOR TOTS table. This will be for those of you, and we are sure there will be many of you, who have already made some, or all, of your TOYS for this year. We want the public to know we are trying to fulfill our obligation to the community by participating in the TOYS FOR TOTS program, as we have each year since our organization in 1983. You know by now that Ben Neighbors is Chairman of TOYS FOR TOTS again this year, after having led us to a great year last year. He demanded at least 600 toys last year and got 'em. Now he has upped the quota to 1,000 and expects to get 'em, and if you doubt his intention just talk to him a minute and you will find he isn't kidding at all. We hope you are sufficiently informed now about what has been labeled the SEPTEMBER HAPPENING and will enthusiastically enter into the spirit of the undertaking and volunteer your help and participation. Nelson is looking for help and we know you will respond as you always have in the past.

FALL CLASSES

Please note we didn't say CLASS, but CLASSES. Plans are being made to add two new classes this fall to the very successful general woodworking classes Fred Baker has conducted so professionally for several years. We have quite a number of "graduates" from his classes, all of whom are most complimentary of the way the classes are conceived, organized and conducted. Now comes the opportunity for some, or all, of you to choose a new class - either woodturning or carving. Both of these areas of woodworking are such fun and can even lead to profit if you choose to get into it commercially. But, you won't know what you want to do with it unless you try. Let Nelson or Fred know you want to participate before the classes are full.



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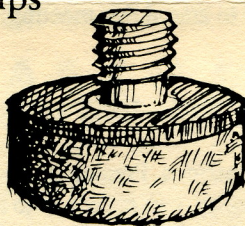
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Door bumpers from cue tips

Replacement leather tips for pool cues make excellent bumpers for sliding and swinging doors on projects. They do a fine job of quieting and cushioning the doors when they are slammed, and they are certainly better looking than the black rubber bumpers that are commonly available. The tips, which can be bought at sporting goods suppliers, have a threaded brass shank for fastening to the cue. To install the tips on a project, drill a slightly undersize hole and use a hammer to tap the threaded shank into the hole. The threads hold like ring nails, and all that shows is leather.



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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We believe the idea of signing-in to record our attendance and to be on the list for the door prizes is catching on. The list of signers gets longer at each meeting. The door prizes, two of them each month, come from the treasury of the Guild and are of such value as to make it worthwhile to win one of them.

The lucky drawees at the July meeting were Bob Hollingsworth — a quart of Danish Oil; and Ben Landrum — a Pony adjustable clamp. Congratulations, guys.

SHOW AND TELL

The talented Frank Jones brought a cigar humidior that he started while demonstrating dovetails at THE SHOW in May. What a beauty. It is about 10" square, made of walnut, all four corners dovetailed, lined with cedar which consisted of four pieces, mitered at each side edge and tapped into the box and with an inlay in the top. The thing is so well designed and constructed it is absolutely air tight. Then Mike Key had two small bowls. Mike is something of a success story. He had never made a bowl on a lathe until THE SHOW. We had imported Ivan Kronberg's magnificent lathe for use in demonstrating turning. Mike, under the tutelage of Dale Lewis, turned his first bowl at that time. It turned out just great and now Mike is a true convert to the art of bowl turning. We say all this to emphasize what can happen to any of us who undertake a new procedure, technique or tool. Thank you Frank and Mike.

Sterling Brewer has a big one for us this month. This shop is located in the Center Point area and may be inspected by calling Mrs. Janice Boggs at 856-9707 or 854-6281. It is important for you to know that all the large tools are three-phase. Available as a lot, or by the piece are as follows:

Powermatic Table Saw
Powermatic Shaper
Powermatic 6" Jointer
Powermatic 8" Jointer
Jet 20" Planer
Craftsman Floor Drill Press

Two 10" Radial Arm Saws
8" x 96" Edge Sander
Air Compressor
Nailer
Assorted portable tools such as routers, sanders, circ. saws, drills, etc.

(This space is blank simply because there was no presentation of antique tools by his Immimence at the last meeting).

NEW MEMBERS

We want to welcome the following new members aboard. Seek them out at our next meeting and make them feel at home.

Jim Barr
Dale Smith
Carolyn Black
Michael Burgin
Clifton Bailey
Richard Rapier

Homemade scraper plane

The cabinet scraper sets the standard of excellence for smoothing wood, but it has some drawbacks: tired, blistered fingers (these things get hot!) and uneven surfaces. Scraper planes are available, but the most common one (which resembles a large iron spokeshave) has such a short sole that it is difficult to control and often chatters.

With these thoughts in mind I decided to make a simple wooden scraper plane. It went together in only a couple of hours and proved to be quite successful.

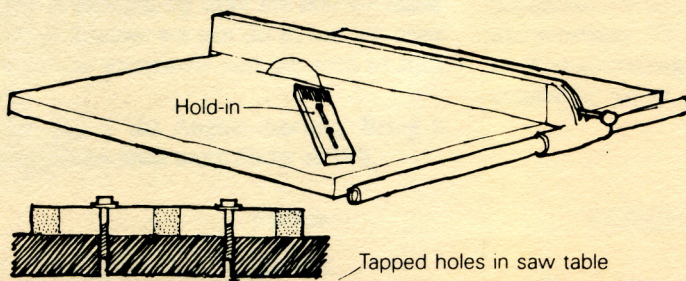
The body of the plane is laminated from three pieces of wood as shown in the illustration. The block against which the blade bears must be dished slightly to spring the blade into a curve. The back of the wedge must be correspondingly convex. This curve should be roughly $\frac{1}{32}$ in. across a $2\frac{1}{2}$ -in. wide throat. The wedge must fit accurately and should extend through the body nearly to the sole. The support provided by the wedge, the curve of the blade and the length of the plane combine to prevent chattering.

A scraper plane is useless unless the blade is properly sharpened. To sharpen, joint the edge with a file, then bevel the edge on a stone to a 45° angle. Hone the edge just as you would a plane iron. Then with a burnisher or hard steel rod, rub back and forth. At first hold the burnisher parallel to the bevel, then gradually tilt it until it is perpendicular to the blade. This technique produces a razor-sharp curl every time.

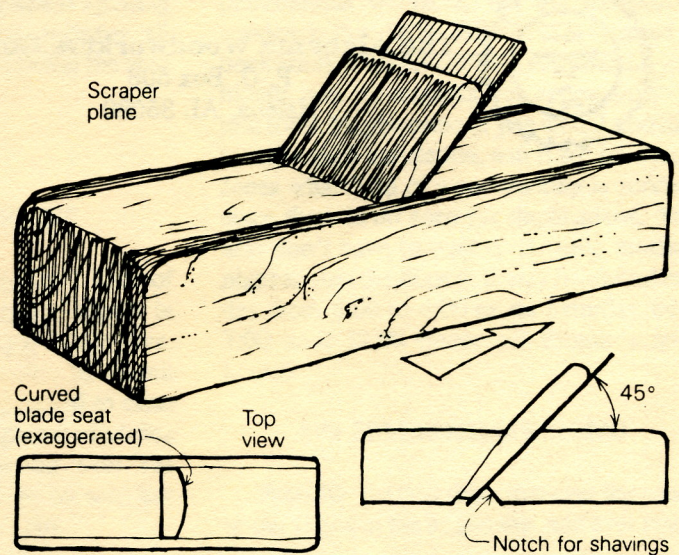
—Bradley C. Blake, Redwood, Miss.

Hold-in improvement

Fingerboards perform much more effectively if you screw them to tapped holes in the saw table rather than clamping them. Clamped fingerboards don't lie flat, and they can slip and lose pressure against the work.



To make the fingerboard, saw kerfs $\frac{1}{8}$ in. or so apart in the end of an angled 1×3 . Rout two $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. slots down the centerline of the fingerboard—one at the head, one at the tail. Now set the fingerboard in position on the saw, so it will exert pressure just ahead of the blade, and mark the center of each slot on the saw table with a punch. Drill and tap holes into the table at these points. Lock the unit in place with cap screws or bolts threaded into the tapped holes.



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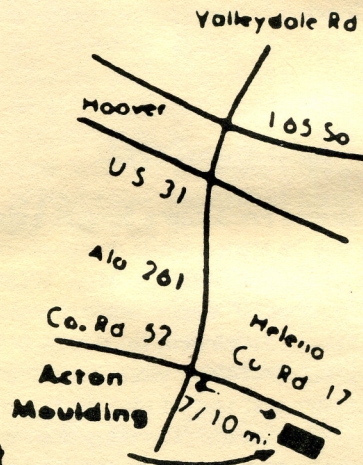
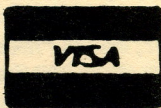
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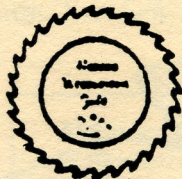
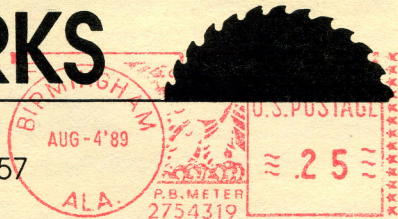
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