

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME X NUMBER 1 JANUARY 1992

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am deeply indebted to the nominating committee for the level of confidence they have shown in me. I am in awe of the fine woodworkers that have preceded me in this position. It is indeed an honor in every sense of the word to have been nominated and then elected and I will endeavor to lead this talented and committed group in directions for the betterment of the Guild.

If you missed the Christmas party, you missed a good one. There is always so much good food. All the ladies are to be complimented for their time and effort in preparing it. A special thanks to Ron and Sue Acton of Servistar for their continuing support of the Guild. Not only do they provide a place for us to meet, they donate five percent of sales to guild members to the guild for our use in workshop and other activities and also they donated a very generous number of gifts that were given out at the Christmas party. Also, let's not forget our other friends at Birmingham Saw Works: Bo Thurston, Joey Jones and all the folks that assist in preparing and processing our monthly newsletter. Thanks also for the excellent group of items that they donated for the party. Thanks Ron and Sue. Thanks Bo.

I realize that in a group the size of ours, that we have many diverse interests: turning, woodcarving, traditional and contemporary furniture building, tool collecting, jig and fixture making and the list goes on and on. This brings me to the question — how may the guild help you this year become a better woodworker? We have many very talented members in all the

above categories in our group. Do we call on them for a series of Saturday morning seminars? Do we bring in someone from outside our group for instruction? Let us know what your wishes are. Please contact any officer or director with your ideas.

Once again, thanks to all our friends and supporters.

See you at the January meeting.

Fred Baker

NEXT PROGRAM

JANUARY 9, 1992 • 7:00 P.M.

Vice-President and Program Chairman, Dale Lewis, is starting off the new year with a most interesting program. It has been some nine years since this guest speaker has brought us a program, but he is back in January. John McGee, Carrollton, Ga. is an expert at making wooden hand planes. He will show us how to shape the blocks, how and what wood should be used, how to finish them, where to get the hardware, and finally how to properly and efficiently sharpen a plane blade. Sounds like a winner, so come to learn and be inspired to tackle this interesting project.

LAST MEETING

Our last meeting was December 6th and it was a super meeting too. The meeting we are referring to was our Christmas party. What a wonderful time we had. Fellowship abounded, children absconded, wives

came bearing loads of scrumptious food stuffs and members who had not turned in the Toys for Tots came bearing them. There were quite a few too. All told, Ben tells us we had some 900 toys we turned over to the authorities. A representative of the T.f.T. folks was there to transport them to the warehouse. Promptly at seven o'clock we made our way through the buffet line where it was very difficult to pick and choose from the enormous selection laid out before us. As usual, there was more than enough of each item (meat, salad, vegetables & casseroles) to go around, a phenomena that never fails to amaze us. How, without designating what each person should bring, can we always have such a variety (oh yes, desserts weren't mentioned above) of delicious food. After dinner we engaged in a song fest of Christmas songs with Linda Caldwell providing the kind of accompaniment that encourages everyone to sing. The fellow who was supposed to be leading the singing couldn't remember the words to most of the songs, so he was a miserable flop. After the song session, it was time to distribute the gifts. The gifts were divided into two groups — the Toys for Tots group and the rest of the members. Thanks to Mrs. Elsie Baker, the following is a list of those whose name was drawn and the gift they received:

TOYS FOR TOTS GROUP

Ed Sheriff	Sander
Wallace Williams	Drill
Jesse Whitfield	Mallet
Lucious McIntosh	Drum Sand. Kit
Gene Bolin	Clamps
Cliff Saxon	Gift Certif.
Roy Bates	Gift Certif.

Ben Neighbors	Chisel (1")
Charlie Brown	Gift Certif.
Hugh Craig	Gift Certif.
Gene Bonetiz	Two Clamps
Bruce Martin	Center Finder
Harold Phillips	Machine Square
Brenda Harper	Gift Certif & Palm Sander
Ben Landrum	Gift Certif.
Jerry Vines	Gift Certif.
Buddy Finch	Gift Certif.
Joe Knapp	Hammer
Frank Ryerson	25' Rule
Dale Lewis	Rosewood Spirit Level
Stephen Powers	Qt. Glue
Jim Caldwell	1/2' Ruler

EVERYONE ELSE

Evelyn Landrum	Saw Blade
Claudette Free	Lamp
Buddy Finch	Kronberg Carving
Randy Hall	Recharg. Flash
Martin Maki	25' Tape
Nola Powers	Hammer
Allison Johnson	Finish. Sander
Whitney Lewis	Bench Stock
Wallace Williams	Drill Stand
Bill Hallman	Stain Kit
Dot Sanders	Stain Kit
Steve Powers	Qt. Oil
Cliff Saxon	C-Clamp Set
Ben Neighbors	Screw Driver
Jim Lee	Sweat Band
M. Martin	Varnish Thinn.
Fay Anguin	Varnish Thinn.
Bob Hook	Hold-Down Clamp
Carolyn Key	Tool Rack
Jim Caldwell	Danish Oil
Maleta Hall	Cordless Drill
Lucious McIntosh	Spoke Shave
Frank Jones	Ear Protector
Jessie Whitfield	Set Drill Bits
Brenda Hopper	Pin Vise
Ed Sheriff	Hammer
Jeanette DeVenny	Danish Oil
Joyce Yerby	Danish Oil
Don Bennett	Safety Glasses
Byron Johnson	Drill Stand
Dale Lewis	Sharpen. Certif.
Don Mahon	Sharpen. Certif.

We are deeply indebted to our sponsors and advertisers for furnishing several of the tools we happily distributed. They include: Acton's, Birmingham Saw, Porter Cable, and Fred's Sharpening Service. The Guild purchased the rest of the tools and gift certificates. We also want to thank the Helena United Methodist Church for the use of their kitchen and social hall.

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.

Another memorable moment we all enjoyed was when Pres. Jim Caldwell called Frank Jones to the front and presented him with a plaque of appreciation for the service he has rendered the Guild over its life. Frank was also designated a Member for Life and his dues are forgiven over the same period of time. We do appreciate Frank and the work he has done with our library and many other projects.

Having had a wonderful meal, much fun and excitement over the gifts, the meeting was adjourned until the January 1992 meeting. We anxiously await next year's party.



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The following is excerpted from the book **GUIDE TO WOOD & WOOD FINISHING** published by H. Behlen & Bro. producers of a premier line of fully compatible wood finishing materials and products. There will be further material from this book forthcoming.

Sanding with the Grain

The cardinal principal in the use of abrasive paper for sanding is that all sanding must be with the grain. Never make cross-grain, circular or diagonal strokes as unsightly scratches are always the result. Under microscopic examination the fibres which form the wood are arranged lengthways with the grain. These fibres are torn, scratched or cut through by the sharp cutting edges of the abrasive paper if the sanding strokes are in any direction other than with the grain. Re-sanding with the grain in the proper manner to remove these defects is often time consuming and in the case of thin veneers could be disastrous.

Rounding off corners or producing a wavy edge can also present problems to the finisher. Unless care is employed and time is taken to insure that the sanding is being done at right angles to the edge and corners, a poor look will result. One way of counteracting the tendency to rock the paper while edge sanding is to sand with the grain in one

It is not too early to be thinking about and even starting your entry in our next show in early summer. If we start now we can make something really high in quality and useful besides. Why not check out a couple of the magazines from our library which are so generously provided by the publishers. There are dozens of ideas of building projects and you just might see something you can't live another six months without making. Given plenty of time, as you have now, no doubt you will make something you will be proud of and that the Guild will be proud of. Your editor has the privilege of reading about a dozen newsletters of other Guilds all around the country. Having a show each year is almost universally the practice of most guilds. Some even have interim "shows" just for themselves at one of their meetings — kind of a show-and-tell on a large scale. We believe going to the trouble to try and produce something really nice helps us to grow as woodworkers. Enter into this phase of membership in the Guild by making something remarkable — try it, you'll like it.

direction only. This reduces the tendency of the wrist to produce a rocking motion. It also helps to make the finisher aware that he is sanding an area that requires thought and diligence not speed.

End grain sanding is every bit as important as the flat surfaces and edges. If the end grain is not properly sanded, the staining portion will cause the end grain to darken excessively because of its porosity. When sanding the end grain the finisher should sand in one direction only rather than the back and forth motion normally employed. This flattens out the wood fibres more readily and make for a smoother surface.

Over the years a lot has been written about the use of water sponging prior to the final sanding. It is our belief that this is only necessary when the use of water stains are to be employed. Under any other circumstances the water sponging only introduces delays and makes the project more costly.

Kinds of Abrasives

Abrasives papers for sanding are made of several different types of materials. The ones in most common use today are as described below:

- a. Flint— An off white mineral of the quartz family. While this paper is used to an appreciable extent by virtue of its low price, it is not recommended as one of the better mediums. The cutting edges are not clear and sharp and the flint has a tendency to crumble in use.

b. Garnet— A semi-precious mineral, reddish brown in color. When crushed into grains it has hard sharp edges and corners. More durable than flint with much better sanding properties.

c. Silicon Carbide— Man made abrasive composed of silicon and carbon. When heat treated in an electric furnace, it is formed into blue-black crystals. May be used where desired in place of garnet. Very hard, sharp durable edges.

d. Aluminum Oxide— Man made abrasive reddish brown in color. Not as hard as silicon carbide but it is tougher and less subject to fracture.

e. Emery— Mined mineral dull black in color. The cutting edges have a tendency to break down under pressure and it is therefore mixed with one of the other harder abrasives. Because it is usually applied to a pliable cloth backing the finer grits are used for the sanding of turnings, spindles and other round surfaces.

3. E
Weight - The heavy weight paper used primarily for machine sanding.

b. Cloth Backing - Specially made and treated for use with abrasives. It is also designated by alphabetical letters.

1. J
Weight - Lightweight cloth. Normally used as a backing for emery cloth or polishing cloths. Also used on the finer abrasive grits on abrasive papers designated Wet or Dry.

2. X
Weight - A heavyweight cloth used primarily in machine sanding operation.

Sanding Tips

In approaching the end of this subject on abrasives and sanding, a few simple suggestions are offered to assist you in laying a proper foundation with which to initiate a successful foundation for subsequent work.

1. Always sand with the grain on all wooden surfaces except end grains.
2. End grains should be sanded in only one direction with the abrasive paper being lifted off and re-established at the starting point each time a sanding stroke is made.
3. Edges and corners require special patience and skill in sanding to prevent round or wavy appearances when they are not wanted.
4. Never use an abrasive paper with a grit coarser than that is necessary to accomplish the task at hand.
5. Always work from the coarser particle size to the finer sizes.
6. Always clean the piece being sanded when going from coarser grits to finer grits. Insure that the pores of open-pored woods also are cleaned. There is nothing more frustrating than to have coarse grit dislodged from an improperly cleaned pore and get lodged under fine sandpaper as you are sanding.
7. Exert even pressure on the entire area of the abrasive being used. This is especially true on thin veneers.
8. When using abrasives for rubbing while employing the use of water, oils or other such lubricants, insure that the abrasive is of the kind designated "Wet or Dry" or "Waterproof".

Grit No's. or Grades

In addition to abrasives of varying materials and backings of numerous types, a third description is employed in describing abrasive papers. This identifier would be in relation to the number of abrasive particles per square inch of backing. In the most commonly used form of abrasive papers, this parameter is often identified along with the weight of the paper or cloth backing. For example, 320A would mean that there are 320 abrasive particles per square inch on this "A" weight backing paper. The higher the number of particles per square inch the smaller the particles are and the smoother sanding properties it has, conversely, the less particles per square inch the larger the abrasive particles are and the rougher the sanding operation will be in appearance. Often times the type of abrasive particle that the paper possesses is not given, or is given in terms of the trade name of the manufacturer. In this case the user must resort to color identification of the abrasive.

Classification

One final parameter deserves mention when describing abrasive papers and that is the terms "Close-Coat" or "Open-Coat". "Close-Coat" abrasive paper has from 90-95% of its surface coated with abrasive particles. This means that there is very little space between them and on many sanding applications, particularly on soft woods, the paper has a tendency to clog excessively. "Open-Coat" papers have only 60-80% of the surface area coated with abrasive particles and as such do not clog as readily. The "Open-Coat" paper is also more pliable in use.

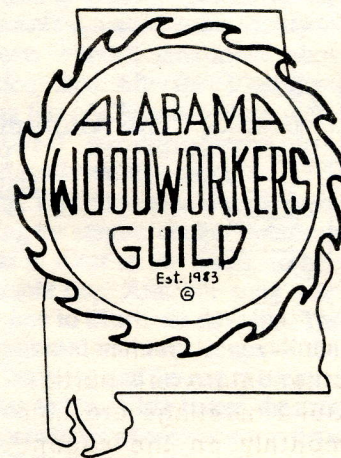
Paper & Cloth Backing

Of equal importance to the abrasives being used, is the backing to which the abrasive has been applied either by a form of gluing or electrostatic deposition. The more common backing designators are as listed below:

a. Paper Backing - A special quality paper that is used in various thicknesses called weights which are usually designated by an alphabetical letter.

1. "A"
Weight - Pliable and soft and is used with the finer grits of abrasives for finish sanding

2. C & D
Weight - Thicker and more durable than the A weight. Used with the coarser grits of abrasives for production sanding.



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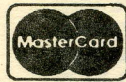
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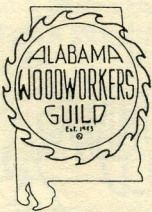
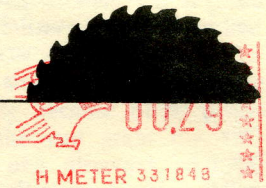
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