## BAY AREA WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Issue 8, Volume 1

# CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Experienced: Carpenter, builder of children's toys, indoor/outdoor play structures, seeks further experience as apprentice, full-time or part-time, in woodshop. Call Alain Duverge at (415) 282-5865.

Wanted: Experienced furnituremaker or cabinetmaker with own shop to design and build high quality custom furniture and/or cabinets for discriminating clients. Contact Ron Hazelton at (415) 929-0218 for appointment.

For Sale: Complete production woodshop. Excellent equipment value. For more information, contact Dave between 6pm and 10pm, Monday through Friday, His phone number is (415) 459-5930.

For Sale: 1963 ¾-ton International Pick-Up, Lumber rack, runs well, very well used. Call Luther at (415) 664-3715.

For Sale: 8/4 Select Teak. Up to 15-foot lenghts, up to 11-inch widths, \$6.90/board foot. Call Steven or Serge at (415) 552-1940. (Editor's Note: We apologize for giving out the wrong number last month).

For Rent: 325 square foot loft space in a 1-person cabinet shop. Oakland, convenient to Bay Bridge & Rt. 80 interchange. Call Marty at 658-1622.

Available: BAWA member seeks freelance or permanent work in cabinetmaking or furniture trade. Ten years experience; has shop but can work in yours if more convenient. Reasonable. Call Brian MacLachlan at (415) 821-2502 evenings and weekends, or write him at 330 29th Street, San Francisco, CA 94131

### THE THIRD THURSDAY SPOTLIGHT

AND SHOP TALKS

We're back in San Francisco for this month's Third Thursday gathering, at Philo Bemis' shop at 305 Vermont Street. Philo, who will both host the meeting and give us a demonstration of his coveted woodwelding machine, has been a member of the woodworking community here in the Bay Area for 3 years.

Under the spotlight are Marty Freedman and Mike Laine, who will both be showing pieces of furniture. Marty, a woodworker for some 13 years, has his own shop in Oakland, and has developed a style of solid-banded ply construc-

tion that has resulted in some stunning pieces of furniture. Marty is currently working on a large rosewood job for a kitchen in Hillsborough, and he'll be going over with us his madness and the method therein.

Mike Laine, host of the August BAWA meeting, has a top-notch Honduras Mohogany dresser, after the Greene and Greene motif, with a modern twist, all surfaces planed but not sanded. This piece is bound for the Mendocino Invitational Woodworking Show, slated to open September 18 at the Artisan's

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Mahogany for Mendocino



#### **BAWA DATA**

The Bay Area Woodworkers' Association is an organization of woodworkers who have banded together to promote woodworking in both technical and aesthetic directions. This newsletter is a monthly publication intended to serve as a communications vehicle and source directory for the membership of this Association.

The Monthly shop talks and demonstrations are held on the third thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m., at a location announced both in the newsletter and at the previous meeting.

Membership Dues are \$20/year, for which any member may participate fully in the Association, in accordance with the guidlelines set forth in the By-Laws. This includes voting power on any issue brought before the membership for a vote, prior notification of the monthly shoptalks and demonstrations put on by the Association, receipt of this newsletter each month, and privilege of particiation in any of the special membership discount programs sponsored by local businesses in conjunction with this Association.

It has been decided by membership vote that non-members may receive two consecutive issues of this publication without cost, at which time they may either discontinue their subcription by not taking action, or may enter the Association as a member.

Checks for membership dues may be made out to the Bay Area Woodworkers' Association, and sent to P.O. Box 421195, San Francisco, CA 94142. Membership cards will be issued to all members in good standing.

The monthly executive committee meetings are held on the first thursday of each month, and are open to any interested members. To arrange attendance, contact any member of the executive committee through the address given above.

Copies of the By-laws are available at all monthly meetings, or can be requested by mail.

**Deadline** for any material submitted for publication in this newsletter is the first of the month in which you wish the ad or article to appear.

#### **EDITORIAL**

My term of office is half over. Elections approach rapidly and it is not too soon for some of you to consider serving in an office that interests you. Our Association is growing in directions that meet our needs. I feel that I've been a part of producing a newsletter consistent with the quality of membership. My intentions in becoming Editor were twofold: first, to contribute to the success of the Association, and second, to increase my personal contact with other woodworkers. The latter goal has been accomplished, and the first is well on the way. However, there is more to serving in this Association than one meeting a month. I've enjoyed the extra time devoted to writing, organizing, proofreading, and sending out the newsletter.

Let's look at some future projects. We've started asking our advertisders to consider offering discounts to our (soon-to-be) card-carrying members. It is our hope that our advertisers, as they offer us discounts, will be able to discern the connection between their advertisements and our response. (I hope this also creates some additional impetus for you to send back those membership forms with a check!) Please remember that our advertisers help to support our organization and to make this newsletter financially possible, and that they would appreciate some recognition the next time you visit any of them.

This month we are asking for interested persons to form a committee to start the

## HANDLOGGERS QUALITY HARDWOOD LUMBER

With the recent increase of softwood prices, hardwoods are now a better deal than ever before. Check our prices.

30 SPECIES

OF HARDWOOD

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Teak and Maple Countertops

Flooring



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Foot of Spring St., Sausalito

332-0506

Monday through Friday 10am-5pm

Saturday 10am-3pm

#### **Association Officers**

Chair & Co-Chair

Ron Hazelton/Lissa Coolidge

Secretary & Assistant

John Levy/Luther Gruelich

Teasurer & Assistant

Robert Schneider/Gary Delnevo

Newsletter Editor & Assistant

Martin Freedman/Edward Stover

#### THE LOCAL ANGLE

We hope to make this column a regular feature of our newsletter, a form through which individual viewpoints on local issues can be expressed. If you see a trend, a problem, or a solution that affects us in the Bay Area, please address it! Submit your writings to the newsletter staff. See BAWA DATA, p. 2, for the Association's address.

Steve Savitch and Serge Bouvessou have been working together in San Francisco for about two years. Their work has ranged from the finest cabinetry and solid wood pieces to paint-grade casework. They share their workload well, and like many of us, are never at a loss for an opinion.

Ed Stover spoke to them at their shop and jotted down some of their philosophy concerning woodworking.

Steve: (This area of the country) is a lot more open to something being new, someone doing something new — a lot more accepting. I grew up in New York and the surrounding area. Boy, nobody believes in anything changing. They're unaccepting, very pessimistic.

Serge: The group we have (BAWA) is made up of woodworkers and as a stereotype it's a group of individuals. I think the hard part is to bring woodworkers together, to break the idea of woodworkers in their shops, seeing nobody and doing what they've learned without necessarily changing. You see people with one style and they keep that style. They don't go around to shops to see what's available — other types of styles, facitlites. These people will use the same hardware all through their lives. They don't learn. I don't mean it's bad, it's just woodworkers being individualistic.

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# SARTOR & CO. 282-6093

## **CARBIDE SHARPENING SPECIALISTS**

Sales ● pick-up/delivery ● prompt service All saws (for wood, metal, or plastic) SHARPENED & REPAIRED 289 BAYSHORE BLVD. SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94124

# SOUTHWESTERN

## **LEATHER**

13651 Burke, Los Altos, CA 94022.

Luxurios whole-hide full-grain upholstery leather.

Available for immediate shipment locally.

5% discount upon presentation of this ad. (415) 948-5300

## All photos in this issue by M. Bry

Third Thursday continued from p.1

Guild in Mendocino. (see Shows and Demons, p.3) Mike, a devotee of the Japanese style of woodworking, adds to his work an extra something that is hard to pin down; perhaps he'll be able to communicate it to us in his spotlight

Isaac Khelif, who shares the building with Philo and a few other artisans, will be talking about cabriole legs. Isaac, who had a traditional education via a trade school in France, studied for 4 years before going into the profession. He had his own shop in Bodega for a couple of years before coming here, where he now works as a detailer for Fink & Schindler, as well as carrying on some work in the same building with Philo. He'll be giving us some tips on how to avoid the hit-or-miss method while making cabriole legs.

Debbie Fong, currently with the technical staff at Cal-OSHA, is scheduled to come by and give us an informational talk on the toxic materials we are in contact with in the course of normal shop operations. There will be a short question-andanswer session after her talk, so you'll have a chance to ask her about that fancy finishing product that you've always wondered about.

Refreshments and Libations will be available (at net cost) for the enjoyment of all.

Everyone who has been planning to become a member: Bring your checkbook so we can begin to meet the rising cost of an expansion organization. We're continuing to develop, implementing and sustaining the kinds of activities that will benefit us all. Membership cards will be given out at this meeting to all members in good stand-

Directions to Philo's: Just get on sixteenth street, go to Vermont Street, and find a place to park. His address is 305 Vermont, San Francisco. The time and date: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, September 16th. If you run into any difficulty finding his shop, call him at 861-2583.

## EAST BAY SHOP HOSTS DEMONSTRATION

All association business was concluded in record time, after which host Mike Laine spoke briefly of his woodworking roots, his shop work, and his affection for the Japanese methods which have influenced his attitudes.

The spotlight was on Craig Wiblin, who had a fascinating, detailed account on his own history in the trade. Craig had done a lot of work to come up with an accurate replica of a Georgian chair, one that could have been built in am American or English shop around the latter part of the 17th century. It was one of a set of four, and

exemplified balanced design. There were the typical period flourishes: Carved back, carved legs, and ball-and-claw feet. Craig spent about a week in the library, sixty hours on the first couple of chairs, and states that he's ready to take orders based on a 40 hour-per-chair schedule, for around \$1,000. per chair. Asked why he spent so much time on the design, he said, "I tried to come up with a really good design," adding, "If your design is no good, why waste the woods?"

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#### THE GEORGIAN CHAIR: A MODERN ANTIQUE



## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

LOOK FOR AN ARTICLE ON THE ADVENTURES OF PURCHASING HARDWOODS SOUTH OF THE BORDER, WRITTEN BY ONE OF OUR LOCAL LUMBER DEALERS.

WE'LL ALSO HAVE AN INTERVIEW WITH ONE OF OUR LOCAL WOODWORKERS WHO HAS MADE QUITE A SUCCESS OF HIS WORK.

JOHN GREW-SHERIDAN IS WRITING UP SOMETHING ON THE USE OF ANIMAL GLUES WHICH SHOULD BE READY FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER.

## SOURCES/ RESOURCES

Perfect Plank, over in Paradise (California), carries butcher block which they will size to your specs: Length up to sixteen feet, width up to fifty inches, and thickness up to six inches. They will ship planks in Alder, Maple, Oak, Mahogany, Redwood, and Sugar Pine, Write them at P.O. Drawer YY, Paradise, CA 95969, or call to order at (916) 533-7606.

Western Hardware in San Francisco: for those of you who don't already know, Western provides a wide selection of woodworking tools. (Editor's note: my experience indicates that they are more than competitive in both quality and pride.)

Tools of the Trades, in San Francisco, has a wide variety of used tools for the expedient outfitting of your shop.

Mendocino Woodworkers' Associaiton: These folks have been a source of information and inspiration to us. They were putting on woodworking shows before we even started getting together. To contact them, write to P.O. Box 991, Mendocino, CA 95460.

Hida Tools in San Rafael — another source of Japanese tools; this place comes highly recommended by BAWA member Mike Laine.

#### SHOWS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

How To's of Working with Wood show. Ft. Mason Center, Pier 3, San Francisco. Juried Woodcarving Show, Diverse Woodworking Exhibits April 22-24 1983. Exhibitor applications due in no later than Jan. 1, 1983.

Invitational Exhibition of Fine Furniture at the Artisian's Guild in Mendocino. For information call (707) 937-5300. Sept. 18 — Oct. 18.

Circular Saw and Bandsaw Workshop at the UC Extension. Contact Dr. R. Szymani at (415) 231-2582 for information on this workshop, as well as on his Wood Matching Seminar. The Bandsaw workshop is Sept. 20-24 and the Wood Matching Seminar is Oct. 18-20. Western States Invitational Show, at the Gallery Fair in Mendocino. Will show work by Bob Stockdale, Garry Bennett, John and Carolyn Grew-Sheridan, Don Braydon, Sam Maloof, Merryll Saylan, and at least 30 others. Begins Sept. 18 — Oct. 31. Call (707) 937-5121 for further information.

First Western Turning Conference at the Calif. College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland. Demonstrations by Doyle, Ellsworth, Glaser, Mitchell, Redman, Saylan, and Stubbs. (sounds like a New York law firm) Call Ellen Jouret at the College by calling (415) 653-8118 ext. 150.

#### 1983 BAWA SHOW

Preparation for a 1983 show will begin at the next meeting on September 16, Anyone interested in laying out the guidelines for this first show should either attend the September meeting or send word. Volunteers will be selected from those interested to participate in the planning stages. Some questions to be considered are: What time of year will be best to have the show, where is the ideal location, who will be invited to participate in this first public appearance.

If you've been waiting to do something constructive within the Association, this is one area where membership participation is necessary and rewarding.

## Fall Classes at Palo Alto Woodworking

Woodworking for Beginning Beginners — Brian Burns

The Designing Process — Art Espenet Carpenter

Steam Bending and Laminating — Art Espenet Carpenter

American Windsor Style, 1725-1825 — John Kassay

Plane Making — Brian Burns

Inside Bill Horgos — Bill Horgos

Solid Panel Cabinetry — Chair Construction — Michael Bock

Introduction to Wood Turning — Steve Johnson

Furniture Design — Merryll Saylan Beginning Casework — Lewis Buchner

Snug the Joiner's Basic Skills — Brian Burns

Japanese Tool Tuning Workshop — Ted Chase

A Radical Approach to Woodworking — Brian Burns

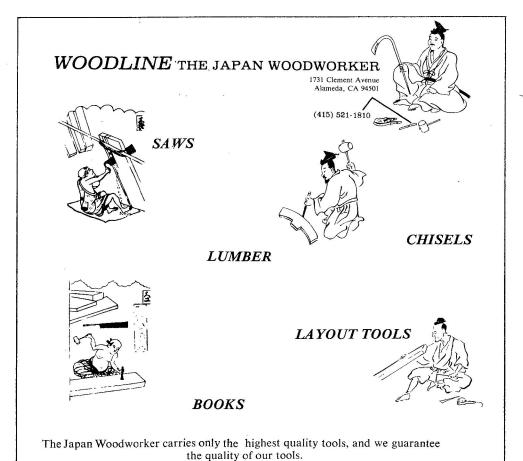
-Evening Classes

— Weekend Workshops —

FOR A BROCHURE DESCRIBING ALL OF THESE CLASSES IN DETAIL, GIVE US A CALL OR DROP US A NOTE AT: Palo Alto Woodworking 820 Ramona Street Palo Alto, Ca. 94301 (415) 327-5335

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOOTNOTES\*\*\*

- \*\*\* The officers of the Association get together each month on the first thursday of that month to discuss all the Association business that is not appropriate for discussing at the Third Thursday shop talk and demonstrations nights...i.e., the stuff nobody else wants to sit through.
- \*\*\* A report was given by the newsletter editors on the financial standing of the newsletter. It was seen that the goal that was set last month (of the newsletter being self-sufficient) should be acted upon. To that end, the committee resolved to budget a decreasing amount of money over the next three months (\$125. for September, \$100. for October, and \$75. for November) with the goal in mind that the newsletter be self-supporting by December. The committee also agreed that an emergency reserve of \$75. be budgeted for use after November in the event that the newsletter costs exceed the newsletter income (through advertising).
- \*\*\*The treasurer's report was heard, to the effect that we have just enough on hand to cover expenses to date. However, past advertisers in the newsletter owe a substantial amount of money. It was also noted that incoming membership dues will help put the Association on a sound financial footing.
- \*\*\*Bob Schneider, who attended a seminar on setting up non-profit organizations, gave a report on his inquiries at that seminar. He also went into the question of the Association's liability in various situations, as well as the possible liability of the members under certain circumstances. Bob will follow up on the subject and report back to the executive committee on the first thursday in October. (In the meantime, anyone who knows anything about this sort of thing, please call Bob at (415) 861-6976.)
- \*\*\*The members of the committee, in an effort to set up a budget for the coming fiscal year, began by tenatively accepting 150 as the expected number of members in good standing by the end of the 1983 fiscal year. The treasurer was asked to draft a rough budget for the year and present it at the next executive committee meeting.
- \*\*\*Gary Carter of Rose Carter Company asked the committee to discuss a 1983 show. This brought up by Ron Hazelton, and a unanimous decision was reached that a show committee would be formed from volunteers at the September third thursday meeting.



## Editorial continued from p.2

process of organizing a time and place (and other details) for a BAWA woodworkers' show. (Yet another reason to join up and receive your BAWA card!) The format of the show is still an open question — jump in and help create the first annual show that will reflect our skills.

Of course, we expect to continue having exciting, impressive, and informative monthly get-togethers. Members sharing work and ideas that are appreciated by an increasing number af attendees.

Last month we enjoyed hearing about the contruction of a chair, we were enlightened about sharpening, and were educated concerning cabinet hardware. The standard has been set!

Marty Freedman: EDITOR

- \*\*\* A need for a coherent method of billing for newsletter ads was discussed. The treasurer and the newsletter editors will meet together to come up with a more effective billing system.
- \*\*\*It was determind that members would be able to receive their cards at the upcoming meeting, and that anyone unable to make it to the meeting could receive their card in the mail.
- \*\*\*Gary Delnevo, assistant treasurer, volunteered and was accepted to chair a membership committee



## Membership Application

#### Bay Area Woodworkers' Association

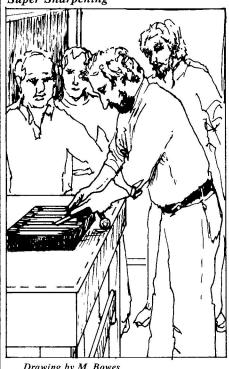
P.O. Box 421195, San Francisco, CA 94142.

Name	Home Address
Home Telephone ( ) Work Telephone	
How did you hear about the Association?	
Check here if you do <b>not</b> want to have your name given to other Associations or businesses.	
Enclosed is a check or money order for \$20., my membership dues for a one-year period in this Association.	
Signed	
Date	

#### East Bay Shop continued from p.4

Brian Burns came up from Palo Alto to give us a first-class sharpening demonstration. Brian teaches woodworking, runs his own sawmill, and hosts diverse workshops at his shop. He has perhaps the most amazing sharpening setup I've ever seen, with a healthy dose of common-sense craftsmanship mixed in, which brought chisels to a razoredge in moments. He was beseiged with questions throughout his talk, which was the best indication of the quality of the demonstration.

Super-Sharpening



Drawing by M. Bowes

#### Local Angle continued from p.3

Serge: I'm a different type of woodworker. I only learned the trade starting about four years ago. And I learned it here with Joel (Grossman). And I was lucky because he had a wide range of different projects from fine furniture to commercial stuff. I didn't learn in Fine Woodworking.

In my mind I can do something with particleboard and enjoy it very much because I like the change more than saying "I like to use hardwood." I don't necessarily say hardwood is better. It just depends on the purpose.

Dovetail (everybody says "Wow") represents a way of building in the old way when glue was not holding very well. Now we have a lot of products where you can create a lot of very strong joints. There's a sort of chiche that dovetails are the 'real thing.' If you don't spend 2 hours doing dovetails, you can spend 2 hours thinking about the design. Those 2 hours may be spent thinking up something tricky. You learn to use particleboard and you get involved in it. We can do paint-grade and have fun.

We have to use what's happening. There are new products. Let's see what we can do with them. My first impressions about particleboard are not the same now. When I work with it I work with surfaces. I may not have to spend so much time with joinery, I can really enjoy taking some paper and drawing things curved, without the limitations of "If I use hardwood is it going to move here? So I can't put this piece there," which is a limitation and a challenge. on the floor, they have a particleboard bookcase, and that's all they could afford. That bookcase can be done with as much pride and done just as well as something

The only thing I dislike about working with particleboard is that we use a lot of power tools and it starts to be unhealthy. We breathe a lot of sawdust. There's a lot of noise. If I use a chisel and do dovetails, it makes me more grounded.

Steve: There are different levels. If someone wants something and all they can afford is so much, and it turns out you can only give them particleboard with iron-on tape, painted, that's as great a masterpiece as anything else if it allows the client to better themselves. Instead of having books

I learned my trade from a German furnituremaker, a very staunch sort of fellow, all hardwood construction, and his attitude was: you did a good job if the thing will last as long as it took the material to grow. If it doesn't last that long you've failed because then you're wasting. And before you cut the board be sure of what you're doing because you don't want to waste it.

It's very valuable material, plus if you're using it up faster than it grows then you won't have any left, sooner or later. There's a responsibility to the customer to give them as much as you can for their money.

The way I used to be was to take it upon myself to change the world. If all you can afford is a particleboard cabinet I'd take it upon myself to make you a solid mohogany one with handmade dovetail drawers and so on. The only problem was that I had to get up at 4 am to deliver newspapers to my bills. For years I gave things away.

I've made some changes. I see that I have to have 'x' amount of money to pay my dues to be here — there's gas for the truck, and food for my Belly, the rent, all that kind of stuff. I started to realize that people are entitled to get what they pay for.

# **WANTED**

EXPERIENCED
FURNITUREMAKER or
CABINETMAKER with own shop
to design & build quality custom
FURNITURE and/or CABINETS
for discrimating clients,
contact: Ron Hazelton 929-0218
for appointment



Michael E. Bry is a professional photographer with a number of books and one-man shows to his credit.

He makes a living by taking photographs for architects, decorators (designers), cabinet makers, real estate developers

You can see his portfolio and ask about prices by phoning 641-9016.

Bry's own work will be displayed at his gallery through October.

Preview and celebration will be there (2859 22nd Street) Friday the First of October from 9 until ??. Open house and refreshments Saturday and Sunday, the 2nd and 3rd, from 11am to 5pm.

At any other time make an appointment by calling the above number.

