

BAY AREA WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

AUGUST, 1989, VOLUME 8, ISSUE 8, P.O. BOX 774, SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94101

THIRD THURSDAY PREVIEW

WHITE BROS. LUMBER CO. IS AGAIN HOSTING OUR AUGUST MEETING WITH A STEAK BARBECUE INCLUDED. ALTHOUGH IT MAY LOOK THE SAME AS YOU APPROACH THE LANDMARK RAILROAD CAR ON TIDEWATER ST., MAJOR REMODELLING HAS TAKEN PLACE THIS YEAR. A WHOLE NEW BUILDING HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED TO HOUSE THE MILL AND ROUGH LUMBER. WE WILL START AT 6:30 THIS MONTH WITH A TOUR OF THE MILL OR COME A BIT EARLIER IF YOU HAVE A BIG LUMBER LIST. ALSO BRING ALONG SOME QUESTIONS FOR THE DISCUSSION TIME AFTER DINNER.

PLEASE RSVP BY AUG.15, BY CALLING 415-537-4096 . MEETING IS THUR. AUG. 17.

DIRECTIONS: TAKE THE HIGH ST. EXIT OFF 880 (THE NIMITZ) HEADING TOWARD ALAMEDA. JUST BEFORE THE HIGH ST. BRIDGE, TURN LEFT ON TIDEWATER. GO ABOUT 2 BLOCKS AND WHITE BROS. IS ON YOUR RIGHT. SEE YOU THERE.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

MY PHONE HAS NOT BEEN RINGING OFF THE WALL WITH EAGER NEWSLETTER WORKERS, SO I STILL NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU ENTHUSIASTIC "BAWANIANS".

THANKS TO MY BROTHER'S VISIT FROM WISCONSIN LAST MONTH, I TOOK A WEEK'S VACATION AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ABOUT 15 YEARS, EXPLORED NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. THE AREA AROUND EUREKA HAS SO MUCH TO OFFER FOR WOODWORKERS, THAT THE IDEA OF A WEEKEND BUS TRIP FOR BAWA MEMBERS WAS DISCUSSED AT THE BOARD MEETING. THE ARCHITECTURE IS PICTURESQUE, THE REDWOODS ARE AWESOME AND THE



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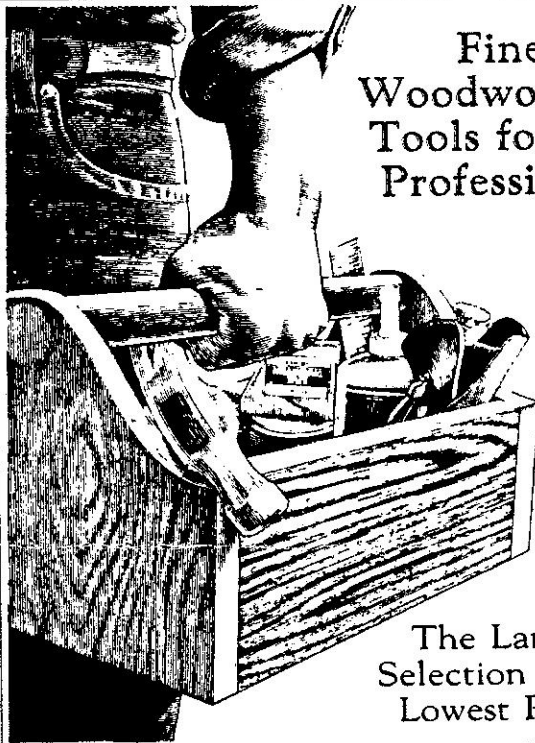
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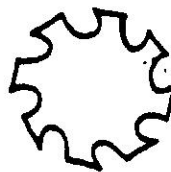


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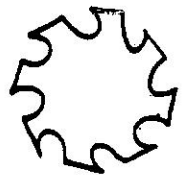
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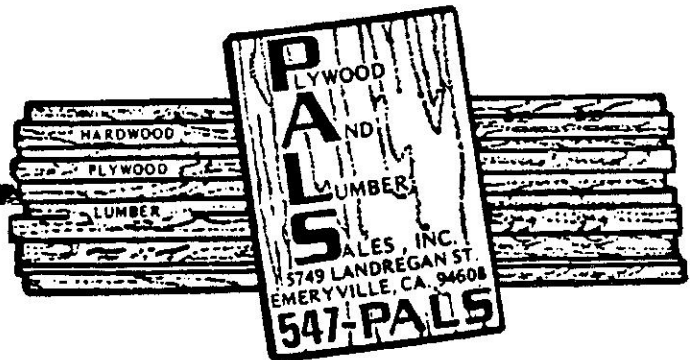
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BIG REDWOOD LUMBER MILL AT SCOTIA (20 MILES SOUTH OF EUREKA) IS REALLY A THING TO SEE. BESIDES ALL OF THAT, THE TOWN OF FERNDALE AND THE SURROUNDING DAIRY FARMS, WAS MUCH LIKE MY HOMETOWN IN WISCONSIN. FERNDALE BEGAN ITS HISTORICAL RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OVER 20 YEARS AGO, SO SEEMS TO HAVE STOPPED TIME IN THE MIDST OF OUR HUSTLE AND BUSTLE WORLD.

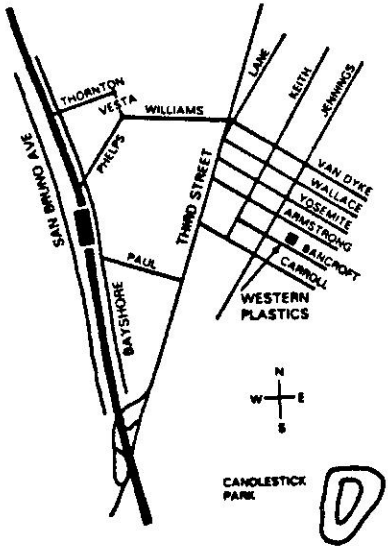
A SPECIAL THANKS TO ELU TOOLS FOR MY NEW ROUTER AND WOODLINE AS HOSTS.

REVIEW OF JUNE AND JULY MEETINGS

We've gotten the summer rolling with two excellent meetings in a row. The June general meeting was held at Peter Good's shop in Oakland. In the feature presentation of the evening, Peter went through a complete step-by-step demonstration of the construction process of core-type doors. We got to see first hand how a door is built using an internal wood frame system with styrofoam insulating panels. This temperature and sound isolating core is then sandwiched between two thin sheets of plywood, creating a rigid torsion box, which is then edge banded and faced with a 3/8" layer of the finish wood on both sides. Peter also showed us how to do decorative v-grooving on the surface for an added effect. Some of the most interesting things were the actual demonstrations of the assembly process. We highly recommend this very informative demonstration to any other woodworking groups who may be looking for people to make presentations at their meetings. Peter can be reached at (415) 530-3198.

The July meeting was held at Woodline in Alameda, which is a veritable treasure trove of woodworking tools, machinery and equipment. We had the full run of the store with the entire staff on hand to answer questions and demonstrate things. At the beginning of the meeting, Dick Redpath, product development specialist for Elu Tools gave us a superb talk about the history, philosophy, development procedures and organization of the Elu tool company, which is a subsidiary of Black and Decker. Several other representatives from Elu, a Swiss-manufactured line, were on hand to demonstrate and answer questions about these fine tools. Elu is an industrial line of tools of superb design with numerous features and capabilities. Quality and safety are top priorities and the equipment is clearly superior. A drawing was held for a top-of-the-line Elu plunge router and guess who won? It was none other than newsletter editor, Norma Brooks. It was an interesting and informative meeting and we want to thank Elu Tools and Woodline for making it a great evening.

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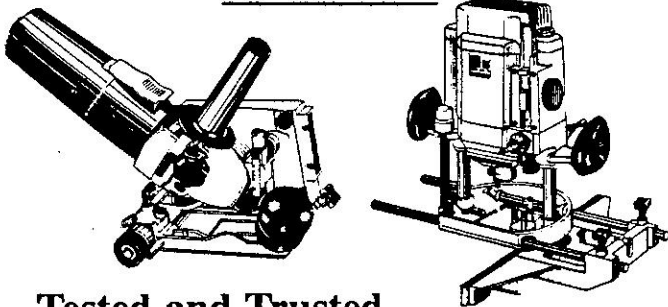
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ON THE ROAD #8:

GETTING THERE IN (WOODWORKER) STYLE

by Peter Good

One spring not long ago, I decided, when wondering what to do with my life next, that the upcoming summer would be a great time to take a driving trip around the country. The timing seemed right since I didn't have anything else planned and it looked like it was going to be a lousy year in the woodworking business anyway so, why not take a long vacation? I've done a lot of camping in my time and enjoy it very much, but this time I thought it would be nice to travel in a way that I had never done before; in a camper. I had always deplored these ugly, bulky contraptions that looked like a giant growth of some kind the back of a pickup truck, and looked with the greatest of disfavor on the people who drove such things down the highways, hogging the road and slowing up traffic. I always secretly thought it would be great fun to see one tip over as it rounded a curve just a shade too fast. Well, anyway, eventually I changed my mind about these aluminum and fiberglass monstrosities when I thought about the pleasures of not having to set up and take down tents everyday or cook dinner outside after dark in the rain using a flashlight. So I gave in and decided to try the comforts of a camper. But I couldn't just go out and buy one of these things. In the first place, I couldn't afford it, but more importantly, I was a woodworker and woodworkers don't buy things, they make them. And furthermore, they make them out of wood. So. I set out to design and build a wood camper to fit on my Ford 150 pickup which, although it was only a half ton truck, was a lot better vehicle than the Dodge 250 that I now use (what a piece of junk!).

It has traditionally been my habit when building things, even houses, to do it without using much in the way of plans. I always have a rough idea of what I want to do, but I pretty much make it up as I go along. The camper was no exception. I just kind of stood in the back of the truck and decided where it would be appropriate to have walls and windows and interior fixtures. Since I'd never built one of these things before, I thought it best to make it a relatively standard shape, and because of the lightweight capacity of the truck, the size should not be excessive. So I built an 8-foot cabover model, for those of you who are familiar with such things, and for those of you who aren't, the floor of it was 8 feet long, same as the truck bed, and there was a sleeping loft which extended over top of the truck cab. The whole thing was as wide as the truck body.

Since I had to keep this camper fairly lightweight, I decided to make the walls and roof hollow and keep metal out of the thing as much as possible. I built the skeleton out of 1" x 1" Port Orford cedar which I had recycled from a batch of 900 used hotel room doors that I bought for a song from a salvage dealer. Turned out to be great wood to make a camper out of. These 1 x 1's were used like studs and roof joists and were spaced 6" apart throughout. All connections were made with screws since I figured nails would just split everything apart. I covered the outside with 3/16" thick strips of Western cedar, the kind you buy in bundles and glue to the walls in your family room to give it a new look. In this case, I put the strips on with panel adhesive and tiny nails. After filling all the hollow areas in the walls and roof with

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1" thick fiberglass heating duct insulation, I covered the inside of the frame with 1/8" plywood and gave it a couple of coats of varnish. To waterproof the outside, I fiberglassed the whole thing, something I'd never done before. Basically, you apply a coat of catalyzed resin, immediately cover it with the fiberglass cloth, and immediately cover that with another coat of resin. I figured the best way to do it would be to roll the resin on with a paint roller. Trouble is, once you mix the catalyst and the resin, you have only a few minutes to work before the whole mess turns, in seconds, to a solid block of plastic. Also, if it decides to turn while you're rolling it on, it suddenly grabs the roller and before you know what's happening, glues it to the surface that you are putting the resin on. So this happened a couple of times and then I had to get out a hammer and chisel, and chisel the paint roller off the side of the camper. Eventually, however, it got done, even though there were a few irregularities here and there where rollers had become entombed in the resin and it had gotten messed up when I chiseled them out.

The windows were all made of Lexan (which I got a deal on because it was leftover stock) and, me being a door maker, it had a rather nice door. The door handle was a real good one because I used one that I had bought on speculation and then couldn't get rid of because none of my customers wanted a door handle set in stainless steel. So I put it on the camper instead. Inside, it had a gas stove, sink, water storage tank and electric lights, which ran off an auxiliary battery in the engine compartment. It also had built-in cabinets, a built-in ice chest, table, bench seating and could sleep 4. All in all, it was a fairly comfortable camper. No bathroom. Sorry about that; can't have everything.

When I got the camper virtually done (ever notice how projects done by woodworker and builder types are almost never completely done, they're always "virtually" done?), I decided to give it a little shakedown run, so I loaded it onto the truck and drove from California to New York and back. Since it was only "virtually" done, I stopped at quite a few hardware and building supply stores across the country to pick up supplies to continue the construction. When I'd stop for the night in a campground, the other folks there must have wondered about me because, whereas most travelers who spend the night in campgrounds do things like cook hamburgers and roast marshmallows, walk around the lake, go to the campfire program, fiddle with blocks under the wheels of their RV to get it level or some other normal and appropriate activity, I would be doing things like laying vinyl flooring in my camper, building a small ladder to get into it, installing window screens and outside marker lights, varnishing various things or cutting holes in the roof for skylights. I was clearly doing construction on the run without a building permit. So, the other folks in the campgrounds would mostly just stare at me and were probably thinking, "crazy Californians!" as they noticed the plates. But every so often there would be a woodworker-builder-handyman type there who just wouldn't be able to stand it and would eventually wander over out of sheer curiosity to see what I was doing, and I'd give him the grand tour and get a couple of beers out of the ice chest and we'd talk about home made campers for the next hour.

I had some great times in that camper and met some interesting folks along the way. Tell you more about them another time.

7 things you can do to help save the rainforests.

1 Don't buy tropical wood products. Skip the rosewood and mahogany furniture. Tell your friends and family that we can live without toilet seats made from tropical hardwoods. If you're a carpenter or building contractor, don't buy plywood made from timber clearcut from rainforests. Refuse to use disposable chopsticks (bring your own).

2 Help protect indigenous tribes and environmental activists who are putting their lives on the line to save the rainforest. The only thing that stands between repressive Third World regimes and rainforest activists is you. Worldwide outcry recently helped free Malaysian activists jailed for protesting the commercial logging of the world's oldest rainforest on the island of Borneo. But that logging continues at the rate of 5 square miles a day, devastating the homelands of the Penan and other indigenous tribes. Send a letter to Malaysia urging that the logging be stopped and that the rights of the indigenous peoples to their homelands be respected.

YAB Datuk Patinggi Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud
Chief Minister of Sarawak and
Minister of Resource Planning
Chief Minister's Office
Petra Jaya
Kuching Sarawak
MALAYSIA

3 Tell the World Bank to stop funding rainforest-killing development projects with your taxes. The dams are costly boondoggles — usually destroyed in ten years by corrosion and silt — that drown thousands of acres of rainforests, displace indigenous tribes and saddle developing countries with a permanent mountain of debt, mortgaging their economic futures to U.S. and Japanese banks. Send a letter to the President of the World Bank urging

him to stop financing rainforest dams and fund small-scale projects that benefit rainforests and their inhabitants instead.

Mr. Barber J. Conable, Jr.
President
WORLD BANK
1818 H. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433

4 Help break the "Circle of Poison" by writing your representatives now. Companies are allowed to export deadly pesticides banned in Canada, Europe and the U.S. to Third World countries for use in export agriculture. Right now, in an effort to eradicate coca plants in Peru, the U.S. State Department is using highly toxic herbicides near the Amazon headwaters, killing rare rainforest plants and animals downstream, poisoning rivers and contaminating the food-growing topsoil of peasant farmers for years to come. Cancer-causing pesticides end up back in the U.S. on American dinner tables in the form of insoluble residue on imported food.

The Honorable _____
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable _____
US Senate
Washington, DC 20515

5 Help put out the raging Amazon fires. The World Bank-financed Cuiaba-Porto Velho highway opened up fragile Amazon rainforests to ranchers and timber barons who clear rainforest by burning. NASA satellites spotted 170,000 fires last year in the Brazilian province of Rondonia, which has lost nearly twenty percent of its rainforest, and is considered one of the richest ecosystems in the world. The burning of the rainforests account for a significant portion of the global output of carbon dioxide, the main cause of the Greenhouse Effect, the cata-

strophic warming of the earth's climate. Send a letter to the General Secretary of the UN Environmental Programme asking for an emergency session to plan global action to put out the Amazon fires.

Mostafa Kamal Tolba
Executive Director
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
P.O. Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya

6 Don't eat fast-food hamburgers or processed beef products. Each year the U.S. imports over 120 million pounds of fresh and frozen beef from Central American countries. Two thirds of these countries' rainforests have been cleared to raise cattle, whose stringy, inexpensive meat is exported to profit the U.S. food industry. Because the beef is not labeled with its country of origin upon entering the U.S., there is no way to trace it to its source. Write to the secretary of agriculture and let him know you want a beef labeling law to specify the country of origin.

Clayton Yeutter
Secretary of Agriculture
14th St. & Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250

7 Talk to others about saving the rainforests. Send us your name and address (and if you can, an additional contribution to help support direct action groups fighting for rainforests) and we'll send you back information on rainforests. Learn more. Talk to others. Rainforest destruction starts here and can be stopped here...but only if enough of us get involved.

Rainforest Action Network
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 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE LAST WEDNES-
 DAY OF EACH MONTH. PLEASE SEND DIRECTLY TO BAWA, 4973 ELROD DR. CASTRO
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June 26, 1989

"CALIFORNIA WOODWORKING 1990", a major juried exhibition of current work by California artists will be presented by the ORANGE COUNTY WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION and THE CITY OF BREA, it was announced today by Association President Al Griffin.

The show will be juried by Sam Maloof, America's eminent practitioner of woodworking, and will bring together 90 to 100 works representing the latest designs, techniques and aesthetic concerns in contemporary and traditional handmade woodwork.

The Exhibit is open to all California woodworkers and will be held at the prestigious BREA CIVIC & CULTURAL CENTER GALLERY January 12 through February 16, 1990.

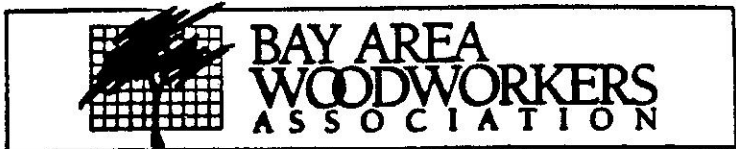
Five categories, I. Furniture, II. Accessories, III. Wood Turning, IV. Sculpture, and V. Made for Children, along with Best of Show will receive \$2,700 in cash awards which will be presented during the Artists reception on January 12, 1990, 7-9pm.

Preliminary jurying is by 35mm slide and the Entry Deadline is October 31, 1989.

The Gallery is located at No. One Civic Center Circle, Brea, California, and the hours are Wednesday & Saturday, 12 noon to 5pm, & Thursday, 12 noon to 8pm.

For information and/or a prospectus please call or write the Show Chairman Bill Docking at 3501 Teton Drive, Fullerton, California 92635, Phone (714) 526-7100.

BAWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Bay Area Woodworkers Association was formed early in 1982 by a small group of dedicated people who felt the need to strengthen the woodworking community by holding regular meetings, establishing an informal forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas, sponsoring shows, and meeting others in woodworking and related fields. Since then, this non-profit organization has grown to many members. Meetings occur in the third week of each month at 7:00 p.m. and are generally held in San Francisco or Oakland/Berkeley area. Meetings usually have a specific topic such as router techniques, finishing, turning, business aspects of woodworking, or focus on a distinguished guest speaker who will give a presentation in their area of expertise. Most meetings are held in members shops, or the place of business of a guest presenter. Members receive a monthly newsletter.

Dues are \$30 per year payable in January, \$22.50 payable April -June, \$15.00 payable July-September, \$7.50 payable Oct.-December.

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WHEN WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST A FUTURE MEETING? _____

* PLEASE CIRCLE - - I DO / DON'T want my name, address, & phone no. on a list circulated to other organizations.

PLEASE INDICATE WHICH COMMITTEES YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN

- A. PROGRAM: Coordinate monthly meeting subjects and locations, field trips, and Saturday workshops.
- B. SHOWS: Coordinate participation in Trade shows and Exhibits of BAWA members' work.
- C. HOSPITALITY: Handle refreshments, sign in, name tags, and greeting people at the monthly meetings.
- D. Historical/Library: Maintain binders with past newsletters, publications, slide collection, and video tapes.
- E. COMMUNITY OUTREACH: Coordinate an annual project such as the Larkin St. Center or several smaller projects.
- F. PUBLICITY: Submit information to area newspapers about upcoming meetings, shows, etc.
- G. SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Coordinate events like the golf tournament, base-ball games, ski trip, and whatever.
- H. NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Select possible candidates for offices to be elected at the November meeting.
- I. NEWSLETTER: Several staff are needed to divide up the job of printing the monthly newsletter. This is a vital part of BAWA both through the income from the advertisers (without their support dues would be doubled) and the communication link to the members.

COMMENTS: _____

