

BAY AREA WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

DEC 1991
VOL.10 NO.12

SERVING BAY AREA WOODWORKERS SINCE 1982

It's Pot Luck for December!

DECEMBER -MEETING-

WHEN

Thursday
Dec. 19, 1991

WHERE

MainLiner Club
42nd & Pacific
San Mateo

SCHEDULE

7:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Sign-in &
Social Time
7:30 - 10:00 p.m.
Program and
Dinner

UPCOMING -EVENTS-

DEC. 19

December
Meeting

DEC. 25

Christmas Day

JAN. 1, 1992

New Years Day

JAN. 16

January
Meeting

**Happy
Holidays!**

December's meeting will be back at the MainLiner Club in San Mateo. Sign-in and Socializing will begin at 7:00 p.m. Our program will start at 7:30.

Joaquin Echauarri has the December Pot Luck dinner organized and ready. We are each asked to bring a dish. The type of dish is based on your last name.

A - F: Appetizer

G - Le: Salad

Li - R: Main Dish

S - Z: Dessert

Bring enough for 6-8 people.

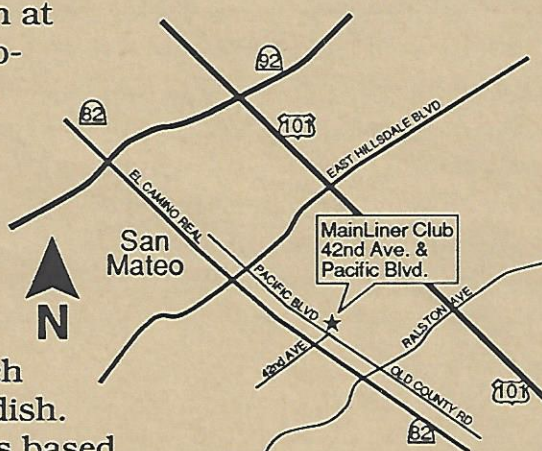
You should bring a serving spoon for your dish. Please try and mark your name or an ID on the serving dish and spoon. Eating plates and silverware will be provided by BAWA.

(Wooden no doubt!). Spouses

are very welcome.

A new Hitachi model M8V,

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When Last We Met

Written by John Weidner on Nov.'s mtg.

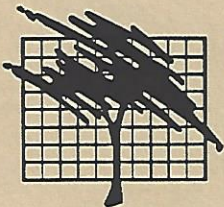
Our November meeting was made notable by the opportunity to purchase pieces from a truck-load of wood that was brought by stairbuilders Louis and Susan Kern, who cleaned-out their shop of years of accumulated odds and ends. They are donating half the proceeds to BAWA. Thanks ! And now for a suggestion from your newsletter edi-

tor—I was just re-reading my copy of the "N. Calif. Wood Resource Catalog", and it's a great

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A Message from Fred

Boy-O-Boy, we had a great turnout for the November meeting and what a meeting!!

There were some very fine projects displayed by the members, including some early donations for our Toys for Tots program.

Thanks to Louis and Susan Kern, BAWA members got a great deal on a truck load of hardwood lumber. The Kerns donated over \$100.00 of the proceeds to BAWA. Thanks to you both, we hope we can have a similar sale in the future.

A special thanks to Dr. John Kassay for an interesting program on Shaker furniture. We learned the early history of the Shaker movement, as well as detailed information on the design, style and construction of their furniture.

A reminder that your BAWA dues of \$40.00 for 1992 are now due. Be sure to bring them to the December meeting so you can collect that extra door prize ticket.



A special welcome to the newest members of BAWA...

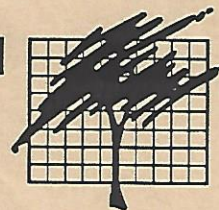
Derek Samson	San Mateo
Horace Sturiale	Los Altos Hills
Art Anderson	Saratoga
Joe Ransil	Saratoga
Nicholas Zagowoli	Concord
Woodul 'Duane' Callvert	Richmond

Let's all make them feel welcome and hope their membership with us will be a long and prosperous one.

Thanks,

Fred Sotcher
President

Season's Greetings



continued from front page

book. It's available, I believe, from places like Woodsmith, or from Wood News Press, 1147 Pulora Ct, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087. It's a mine of information on woods and wood dealers.



Our speaker of the evening, Dr. John Kassay, was introduced by Stan Booker, who learned woodworking from Dr. Kassay many years ago, at SF State. Stan said that his greatest moment in BAWA was being able to introduce the teacher who inspired him not only to be creative, but also to work with youngsters. "He turned us loose and let us be creative. He sat back and watched, and gave us a little inspiration now and then." Stan said that after he left school he didn't see him for 18 years, but when he did, Dr. Kassay recognized him immediately. Dr. Kassay taught for 37 years.

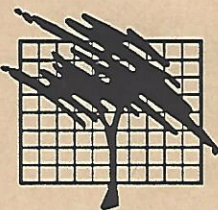
His research on Shaker furniture involved long journeys across the country to visit collectors and former Shaker communities. This was before Shaker had become wildly expensive and fashionable. "I couldn't get that kind of cooperation today," he says. He would typically spend 2 days measuring and sketching each piece. That's why the book is so expensive. Anyone

can do photographs, but the wealth of precisely measured drawings in Dr. Kassay's book, "The Book of Shaker Furniture," are a rare treat.

He showed us some miniature shaker pieces made by a retired doctor in Colorado. An interesting piece of information was that the famous story of the invention of the tablesaw by Sister Tabitha Babbitt of the Shakers is a myth. The tablesaw was invented in England. She did improve it however, by cutting slots in the saw blades to keep them from warping as they became hot.

The main part of Dr. Kassay's presentation was a slide show, a history of the Shakers and their furniture. One interesting piece was a chair he bought for \$25 in Palo Alto, and restored. He said that he knew from the finial that it was from 'The New Lebanon Community', and the small size and the number four marked on the chair told him that it was from room 4 of the children's order. He remembered being in the very room that the chair had come from!

continued on page 4



continued from page 3

Show and Tell

Bill Larkin brought in some shaker-style pieces, inspired by the writings of our speaker, Dr Kassay. There was a bedside table with drawer, a bench and a little footstool with the top woven with cotton tape, very neat. He brought up the question of how long one needs to refrain from setting things, such as doilies, on top of new pieces of cherry furniture, for fear of leaving a pattern as the wood changes color. He not only brought up the question, he got an answer! Dr Kassay said that 6 months was sufficient. (I've never seen that sort of information in a book—makes it worthwhile to go to BAWA meetings!) Dr Kassay also said that he never stains cherry, just uses heartwood, with a clear finish.

Richard Winslow brought in a nice cradle, from a Woodsmith

design. Wilkes Joy showed a metal toolbox fitted with a lot of close-spaced plastic dividers to hold small tools up and visible. Raymond Sanchez brought us a children's pencil and supply box, very neat.

Bob Berryman showed off a Sam Maloof inspired pedestal table, very handsome, and also a collection of different-sized washers, useful for drawing radiuses and arcs. Dick Golden had a sleek hand-carved walnut fork and spoon, sanded to 600-grit and finished with mineral oil. Doug Coper brought in 11 wooden airplanes, for the toys program.

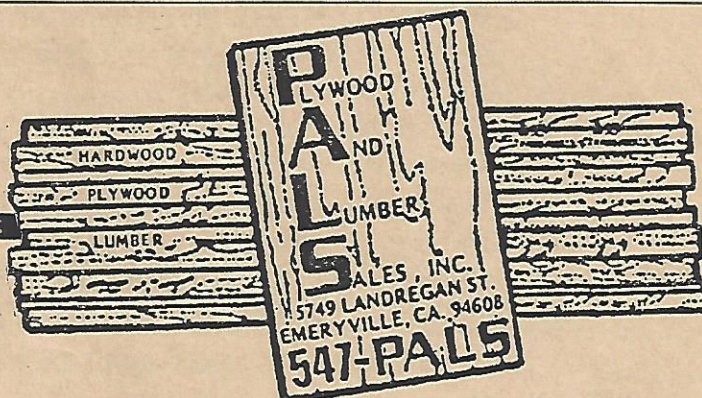
Ernie Werkheiser brought in a stepstool—he used an Inca-Jig to make the finger joints. Also he was inspired by Joanne Lockwood to scroll-saw an intricate fretwork sleigh. It looked appallingly intricate. Lars ? showed us an ellipsograph, a

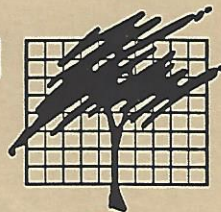


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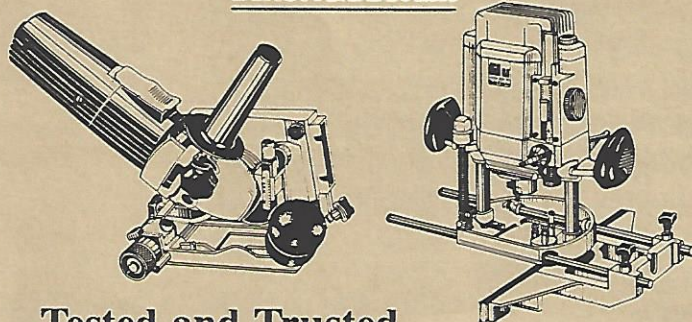
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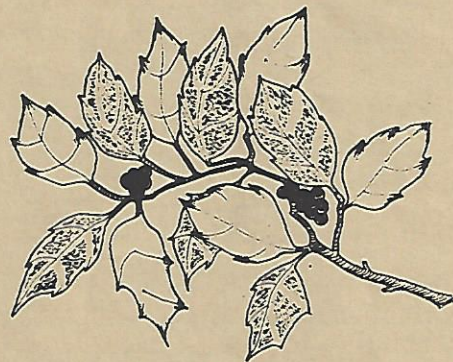
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Announcements

Anne Fuller is looking for some home workshops for our tour Saturday, Jan. 18. She is looking for 4 or 5 home shops in the San Jose area for the first tour. Give Anne a call at (415)508-8930 and get on the list. Shops of all sizes and shapes are needed.



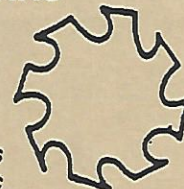
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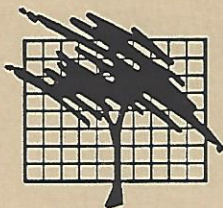
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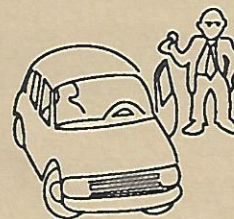
Future BAWA Meetings

December 19

Potluck Dinner
Bring a Toy!

Ride Share

Listed are BAWA members interested in car pooling to our monthly meetings.



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(408)294-0524 (H).
Alton Jensen
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Eugene Louie
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Vallejo

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A Clever Way to Cut Duplicate Arcs

Reprinted from
"American Wood-
worker" Dec. 1991.

By Bob Moran

Discovering a good, new technique always makes my day. I recently made such a discovery while bandsawing identical arcs in a batch of small furniture parts. I noticed how the sawdust on the bandsaw table accumulated everywhere except where the pieces of wood passed. Because I was cutting arcs, the pieces of wood followed a curved

pieces through exactly the same path." In less than five minutes I had cut out my first curved bandsaw fence, clamped it in place, and started feeding the rest of my furniture parts through the saw. The illustration in Fig. 1 shows the setup. The results were not only faster but also more uniform than marking each piece and carefully sawing to the line. I was sold. Curved

FIG. 1: SAWING WITH A CURVED BANDSAW FENCE

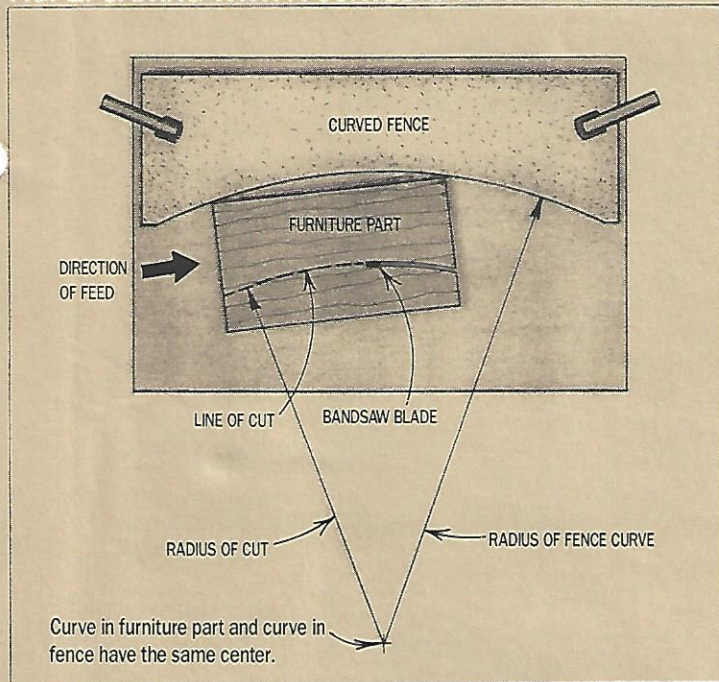
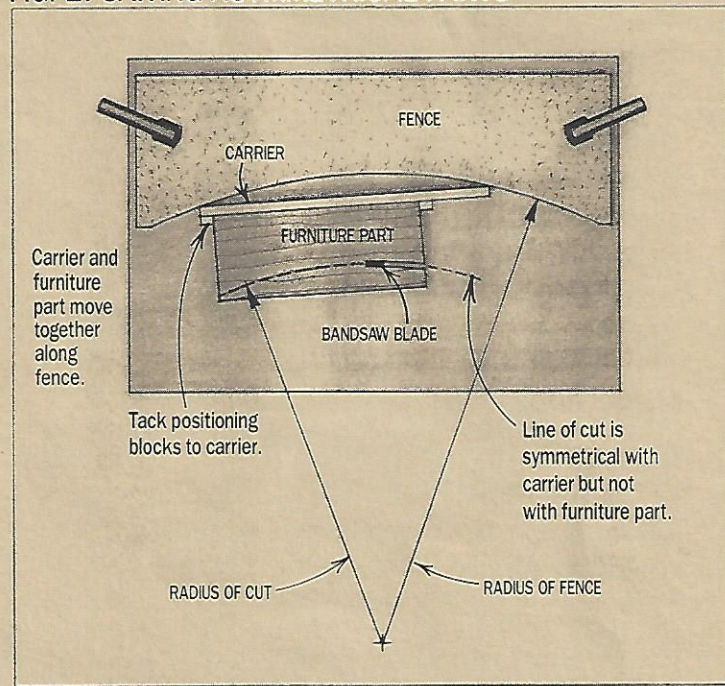


FIG. 2: SAWING ASYMMETRICAL PARTS



DRAWINGS BY FRANK ROHRBACH

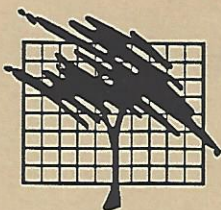
path and the clean part of the bandsaw table had a curved edge.

"Hmmm...", I thought. "A curved fence right where that sawdust lies would guide these

bandsaw fences now have a permanent place in my "bag of tricks."

To get the correct fence curve, I lay out the line of cut directly

continued on page 8



continued from page 7

on a piece of 1/4-in. hardboard, then place a workpiece in position over the line of cut and trace around it. Finally, I draw the curve for the fence so it touches the corners of the traced workpiece. I usually make the fence about two-and-a-half times as long as the length of the part to be sawn. I saw the curve in the fence freehand, then smooth the saw cut with a spokeshave, clamp it in place on the bandsaw table, and I'm ready to feed the parts through the saw.

Notice that the setup shown in Fig. 1 will cut the curve at the midpoint of the workpiece; that is, the finished piece will be symmetrical. That's fine for aprons, rails, door frames and so on, which are usually symmetrical. If you need to cut a curve of this sort in a non-symmetrical part, you'll have to make a carrier like the one shown in Fig. 2. The carrier and workpiece move together along the fence.

If you want your workpiece to have a convex curve instead of a concave curve, you can plan things so the concave piece against the fence is the waste piece. The only drawback to this approach is that the concave waste piece must be wide enough so it won't flex and cause an inaccurate cut. This

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may mean wasting a bit more wood than you would otherwise need to waste.

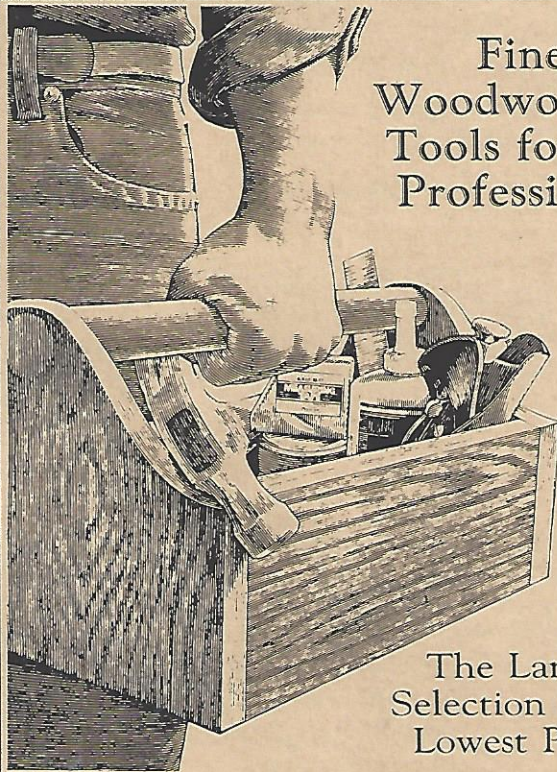
I use a similar technique for sawing curves on the front face of chair rails as shown in the



Tilting the bandsaw table and sawing a curve on the edge of the stock (above) produces the subtle arch in the lower rail of a chair (right).



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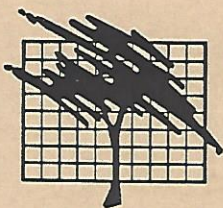
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photos. By tilting the bandsaw table, the blade cuts a curve in one edge of the stock but exits from the face of the stock without cutting the second edge.

Sawing curves with a curved fence on a bandsaw is as easy as sawing a straight line with a straight fence. Try it, I guarantee, you'll like it.

*Bob Moran is assistant editor of
AMERICAN WOODWORKER.*



continued from front page

variable speed, electronic plunge router is being given away as a door prize.

You can double your chances for this great prize by bringing your dues to the meeting and getting an extra ticket. So be sure to bring your check, made out to BAWA for \$40.00 to the meeting.

We will also be holding a special drawing during the meeting for those bringing a toy or toys for our Toys for Tots program. The prize will be a Hitachi model SV12SA 4 3/8 Orbital sander. We hope to see a great turnout and lots of toys for the young people. Our Show and Tell for the meeting will be limited to toys for our program.

So, bring your food dish for the Pot Luck dinner and lots of toys for the kids and lets finish the year with a big bang.

We'll see you there!

Scrollsaw Workshop Update

We are sorry to report that of the eight people that signed up for the workshop only five showed up. The club had to make up the full amount for all the missing members. It cost BAWA \$225.00 because of the no-shows. Very disappointing.



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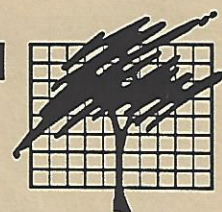
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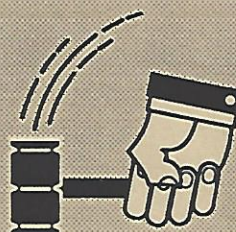
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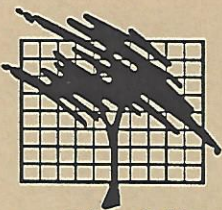
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