

BAY AREA WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

APR. 1992
VOL.11 NO.4

SERVING BAY AREA WOODWORKERS SINCE 1982

Dancing & Turning for April!

APRIL •MEETING•

WHEN
Thursday
Apr. 16, 1992

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

UPCOMING •EVENTS•

APR. 16
April
Meeting

APR. 24 - 26
Woodworkers
Show
San Jose

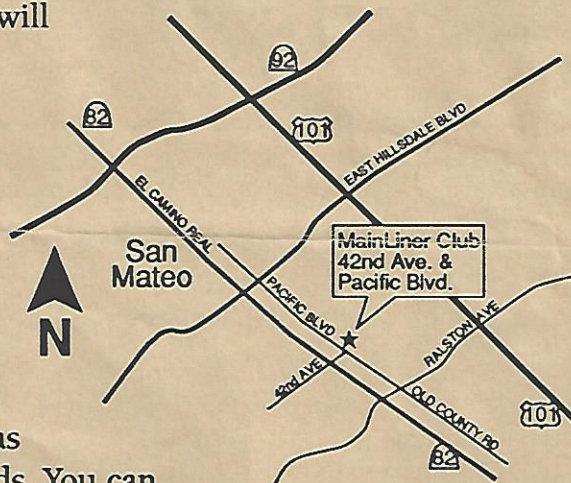
MAY 21
May
Meeting

Aprils meeting will once again be at our regular meeting place, the MainLiner Club. Sign-in and socializing will begin at 7:00 p.m. with our program starting at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting will feature Sterling Dogan and his dancing spindle. Sterling will be demonstrating bowl turning techniques on a lathe. He will share some ideas on basic as well as advanced methods. You can

bet that pin blanks will be available. The meeting will also feature the Woody 2x4 contest. Prizes will include a router table and a grand prize of an airplane ride around the Bay area. Keep those chips flying,

there will be some real competition for prizes like those. Our thanks to Merle Hersom and Bob Berryman for their generosity. So join us for an evening of fun and education.



When Last We Met

Written by John Weidner

Fred opened the meeting with thanks to the people who opened their shops for the shop tour. Pete Meininger said that about 35 people visited his shop and asked questions for hours. The only complaint voiced was that one day wasn't enough time to visit four shops.

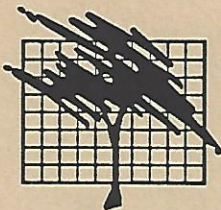
Someone donated a home-made

router table to BAWA, with a top made from heavy guage aluminum. It was auctioned by Fred, and

continued on page 3

What's inside...

Fred's message	2
Show and Tell	4
Classified	6
Ride Share	6
Tech Tips	7
Of Special Interest	9
Local Interest Groups	11
BAWA Specialties	Back



A Message from Fred

Again we owe Ernie Werkeiser a vote of thanks for setting up a great meeting. Musical Instrument Maker, Roger Siminoff provided us with a exciting and full meeting. I learned one more thing that I would not be much good at, but it was fun to see how it's done.

We were very happy to have Gene Wagg and Vern Wastman join us at our last board meeting. They will be working with Ernie Werkeiser on setting up our monthly programs. Gene will be scheduling the meeting, but any one of them would be very open to your ideas.

We also welcome Ann Glynn as our new Exhibit Chairperson. Ann will be calling those that offered to help with the shows. The next show is in San Jose, April 24 - 26.

I would like to thank everyone that has offered assistance some way. It has made a world of difference.

Anne Fuller will be holding the Woody 2x4 contest at the April 16 meeting. Keep those chips flying!

Fred

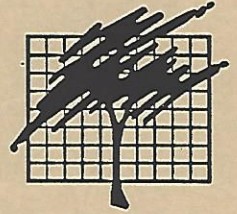
Tip Of The Month

If you have young children around your shop, those Black & Decker cordless screwdrivers are safe tools that they can enjoy. I put in the drill-bit, and my 6-year-old will spend an hour drilling holes in scrapwood & then pounding nails into them. Also, they are very useful gadgets to use around the house. —John W.

If you have a tip that may be useful to your fellow woodworkers, let us know. You just may see your tip in a future issue.



Remember to bring your favorite projects and tools to Show & Tell for our monthly meetings to be eligible for our monthly drawing!



continued from front page

bought by new member Keg Alexander. Sterling Dogan sold a piece of Pink Ivory, a rare wood controlled by the Zulu of W. Central Africa, who only cut a few trees at a time. He said that it holds its color, cuts like butter, doesn't splinter and that small pieces often go for \$6 per oz.

Our speaker was Roger Siminoff, who makes guitars, banjos and mandolins. He has also written three books on the subject, has written extensively for music magazines, is a former editor of "Pickin'" and has researched extensively on the properties of stringed instruments and the woods with which they are made. He's been a consultant to every domestic manufacturer and some foreign ones, including 16 years with Gibson.

He began by showing us a mandolin made with Curly Maple. It was a gorgeous thing, sleek and glossy, with light color near the center turning darker towards the almost-black edges. (This is called a sunburst finish). He played us a bit of a tune, and said, "this is the fun part, you get to play them as well as make them." He told us that the parts are tuned—each part has a note, and they are carved to specific thicknesses to produce that note.

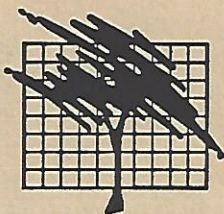
The question was asked, "How long did it take you to perfect your art?", "I don't feel that I have perfected my art." Thirty years ago he made his first banjo, because he couldn't afford to buy one.

The tops and bottoms of the instruments are each glued up from two pieces cut from the same slab, so that the grain pattern on each side is identical. Then they are carved on a pattern carver, a marvellous machine Roger made, a rotating four-sided drum, with a blank and a template on each side. As the drum rotates, the template lifts the bar holding the carving knife so that it carves the correct shape in the adjacent blank.

He works with a great deal of Maple, and mentioned that for years he was puzzled by mysterious holes, like worm holes he would occasionally find. He finally discovered that was where the tree was tapped for Maple Sugar! He likes to use yellow glue on his instruments, because if necessary they can be steamed apart. We were shown how the necks of the instruments have hidden steel truss rods, with tightening nuts, because with 8 strings, with 20lbs of tension each, the necks really want to bend. The curious thing is that flat grain

"...You get to play them as well as make them."

continued on page 4



continued from page 3

resists bending more than vertical grain!

Roger spoke pearls on the subject of bringing out Curly Maple grain contrast. Don't use Potassium Permanganate! It's Icky stuff and it stinks. Use Fieblings Leather Dyes, which are analine dyes available at craft stores. Thin them with alcohol. Wiping over with an alcohol rag will take the dye from areas of flat grain. The curls act like end-grain and don't want to give up the dye. To make the sunburst finish, shade darker dyes into the edges. Lighten the center by polishing with steel wool. Airbrush black onto the far edges. The dyes also work with Cherry, Birch and Oak (where it helps bring out the medullary rays).

Roger sprays with Sherwin-Williams T70-C10 lacquer and buffs with white DuPont Polishing Compound.

Show and Tell

Bill somebody (didn't catch the last name) brought in a low-cost tennoning jig, which screws to the mitre guage of his table saw. Arnold Champagne showed us a jig for hole drilling in cabinet sides, made from aluminum stock over wood.

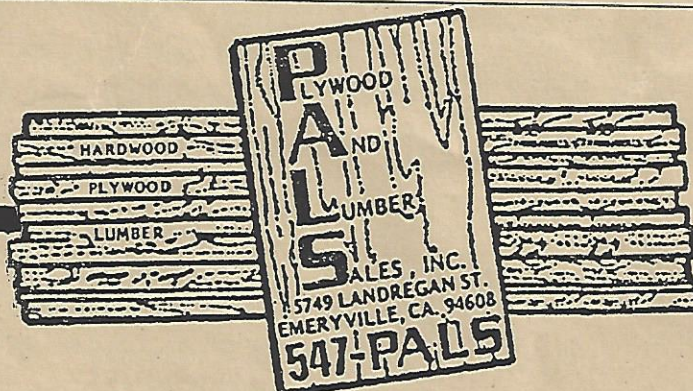
Sterling Dogan shared some very interesting experiences he had turning a replacement for a very old (actual date unknown, but it came to America in 1603) and valuable Lignam Vitae mortar and pestle, which was destroyed in the Oakland Fire. LV is amazing stuff, too heavy to float, so resistant to salt water that it is used for bearings on boat propellor shafts. It was too heavy to turn except between centers—he had to drill out most of the bowl of the mortar to make it light enough to turn the inside. Some people think that the sawdust

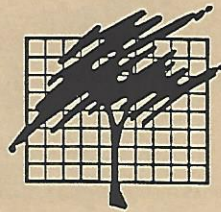
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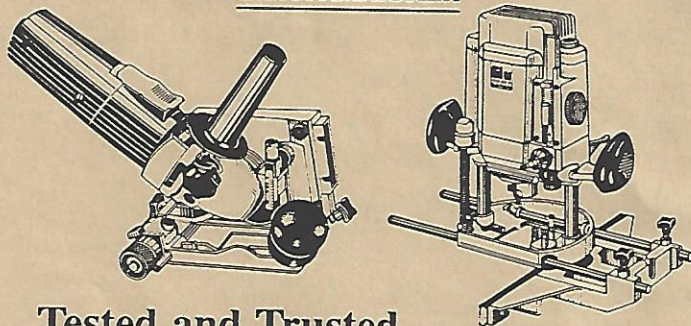
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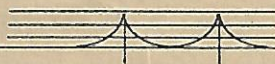
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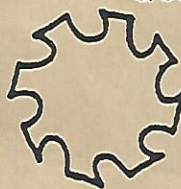
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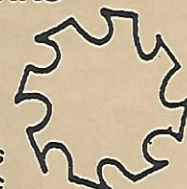
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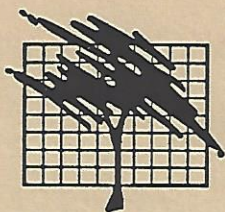
**1 Loomis
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from Lignam Vitae has medicinal properties, and will come to the shop to collect it!

Bob Berryman brought in a beautiful music stand of a Sam Maloof design. The base has four legs that merge together in the center, with a hole down the center for the shaft of the stand. Rather than try to drill that long hole exactly, he cut a quarter of a hole in each leg with the shaper.

Tom McDonnough brought in a nice big rocking horse, with eyes and features carved with a Dremel tool. He says people keep asking for more horses, he's made many of them, for \$125 each.

Woodworking Motto of the Month, from Carl & Arnold:
"Putty and paint makes things what they ain't!"



Classified

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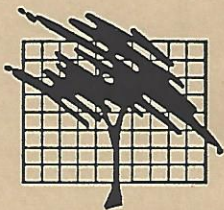


For sale:

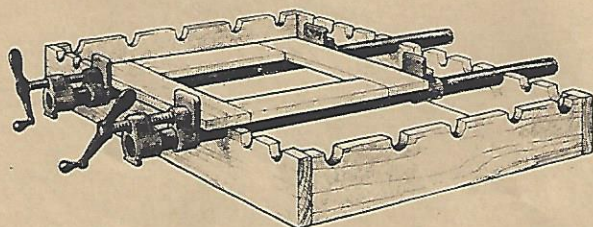
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continued from page 7



Clamping aid

I keep my pipe clamps level, parallel, and properly spaced for glue-ups by arranging them in notches in a frame, as shown. By cutting the notches 3/4 in. deep, the upper surface of the pipes remain above the surface of the notched frame.

Mark McClain

Smoother bandsaw cuts

I rip a lot of stock into very thin pieces on my bandsaw. The blade's narrow kerf saves wood, but the teeth marks are a real problem. To lick the problem, I removed most of the set in the teeth by squeezing the blade in a pair of smooth-jaw pliers. The blade no longer cuts as tight a curve as it did, but it cuts a satin-smooth surface.

Anson Chaney



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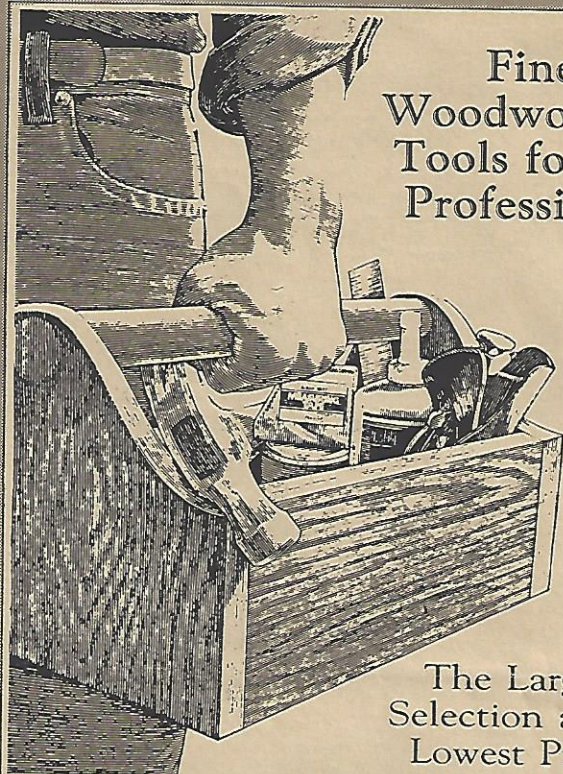
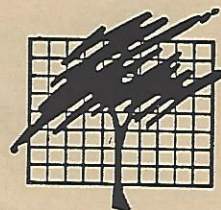
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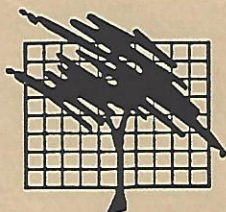
Summer 1992 is fast approaching and Anderson Ranch Arts Center will be holding their Summer Workshop Program from June through September.

Located in beautiful Colorado, Anderson Ranch offers week long workshops in such areas as Painting, Ceramics, Photography and of course Woodworking and Furniture Design. For more information call (303)923-3181.

The Hagley Museum and Library and the Wood Turning Center of Phil., PA are cosponsoring an international World Turning Conference that explores the social, technical and aesthetic context of lathe work. The goal of the Hagley Museum and Library is that the World Turning Conference will enhance scholarship, understanding and continuing dialogue about historical and contemporary lathe-artists, use of the lathe and lath-turned objects.

Interested contributors must submit a completed application by August 1, 1992.

For information contact:
Albert LeCoff
Wood Turning Center
P.O. Box 25706
Philadelphia, PA 19144
(215)844-2188



1st Annual 2 x 4 Contest

All members are challenged to use their creativity and craftsmanship to build an object out of a 2 x 4. All entries must be at the April 16 meeting. Winning projects will be shown at the Woodworkers Show in San Jose (April 24-26) as part of BAWA's booth.

Contest rules are as follows:

1. All wood used in the project must be from one 2 x 4 x 8'. It may be any species of wood. No mixing of species is permitted.
2. No design restrictions.
3. All types of fasteners may be used except nails.
4. All types of ornamental/operable hardware may be used.

Prizes will be awarded. Please refer any questions about the contest to Anne Fuller.

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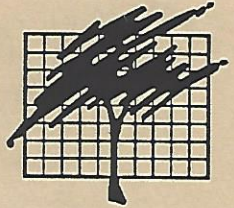
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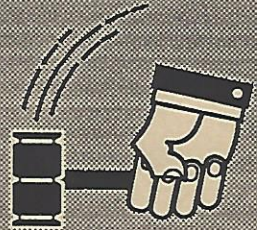
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			Vern Wastman <i>Program Assistant</i>



Local Interest Groups

Pete Meininger is now coordinating the organization of local interest groups. The purpose is to bring together woodworkers residing in local areas to share information and experiences. This will provide a great means to network with fellow woodworkers living in your area.

If you are interested, fill out the form below and bring it to our next meeting.

LOCAL INTEREST GROUP FORM

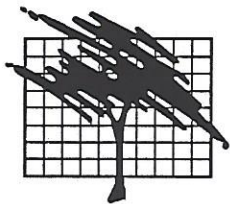
Date: _____

Name: _____

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Woodworking interest: _____



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*To be listed here,
contact:*

*John Weidner/
Editor*

(415)587-0374.

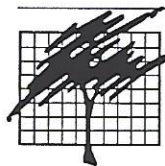
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Classifieds...

Ride Share...

Of Special Interest...

BAWA Specialties...



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