

# BAY AREA WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

April 2000

## THIS MONTH'S MEETING

April 20th                      3rd Thursday  
Refreshments 7:00pm      Meeting 7:30pm

knows all these people around there who do all sorts of other interesting things. There is a guy who pours Babbitt bearings for very old racing cars! Brent's experiences and anecdotes will make for a memorable evening, perhaps one of the best meetings of the year. Here is his address and how to get there:

Brent Merkley Justashop 170 Glenn Way #14 San Carlos, CA Phone (650) 592-1427.

Directions:

**From 101 Northbound:** take the Holly Street exit. Head west over the freeway. Turn right onto Industrial, which should be at your first light after crossing the freeway. Turn left onto Taylor. On the right, just past Glenn Way, is a driveway. Turn in there and you are THERE.

**From 101 Southbound** Take the Harbor Blvd exit, which is reached only by first taking the Ralston exit (take the Ralston exit off the freeway and have faith). Left off of Harbor onto Industrial. Right off Industrial onto Taylor. On the right, just past Glenn Way, is a driveway. Turn in there and you are THERE.

## From Our President

How many of you made it to Mike's shop for a tour? I enjoyed seeing what his shop was like. Mike said he wanted to hold his open shop tour early so everyone could see that you didn't need a big shop to do woodworking, or to show it off.

Have you started working on your name badges yet? I hope so. We never seem to have the paper and plastic ones with us, and I don't know about you, but I think a woodworking club should have wood badges. Why not call up another BAWA member and get together to make your badges. Woodworking is a lot of fun when you do it with someone else. You share ideas and learn a lot from each other.

Here's a couple of reminders for you. Bring something for the auction, and bring something for show and tell. I hear about the things that you're making, but I don't see them

very often. Don't worry if you're a beginner—we've all been there. Bring it in, you'll find you get a lot of praise, and suggestions if you want them. We all DO want to see your work, whatever your skill level.

I did it! I finally found a picnic area. Huddard Park in Woodside had two openings and I went up there to check them out. One area was for up to 100 people. The other area was for 250 people and was one hundred and fifty dollars plus one dollar for every one over 150. The larger space was a covered area on a hill side but much of the parking was down the hill from the space and might have been a problem. After last year only having 40 people attend, I asked for a space for 50 to 100. It was \$50.00 in advance and will be a dollar for each person over the first 50. There is a \$4.00 per-car fee also. There are barbecues, lots of trees, hiking trails, a horseshoe pit, a volleyball court and the bathrooms are being remodeled right now. Beer and wine is allowed but no hard liquor. The picnic date is August 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Bawa Web Page

Out of about 110 members, at least 43 have e-mail addresses. If you all sign on to the web site Jim Voos set up, we can post the newsletter there instead of mailing it to you. You will get it sooner, you will get automatic reminders of upcoming meetings and it will save the club well over \$1,000.00 per year! Think of all the fun we can have with that money if we don't have to give it to Uncle Sam's Snail Mail Emporium. You can subscribe at [www.onelist.com/subscribe/BAWA](http://www.onelist.com/subscribe/BAWA) or submit your email address to the webmaster at [Jim\\_Voos@intuit.com](mailto:Jim_Voos@intuit.com)

## Last Month's Meeting

### Guests

Lance Gunnensen, teaches woodshop. Lance would be an excellent addition to the club, considering our renewed dedication to teaching the fundamentals of woodworking!

### Announcements

Craig Mineweaser has volunteered to fill the Secretary's position. Yay Craig! ☛ Mike Bray reminded everyone that the March shop tour would be at his shop. Mike also announced that he is working on a book on the 2x4 contest. ☛ Linda Salter announced that members should make their own name badges. Use your best woodworking ideas to create a personalized, permanent nametag. She pointed out several examples. ☛ Bill Henzel passed around the sign-up sheet for Christmas-in-April. We have 6 or more projects to staff. ☛ Stan Booker announced that the door prize was a choice of a piece of zebra wood or curly maple. The winner, Al Semenero chose the zebra wood. ☛ Jay Perrine announced that author Galen Cranz was giving a lecture on her book "The Chair" next Tues. He heard her lecture recently and it was very intriguing.

### Show and Tell

Tony Fanning showed us a Walnut keep box for a 100 yr. old mouth harp. A work in progress. ☛ Al Semenero presented a Birch TV tray with polyurethane finish and a custom bent rod as a keeper for the folding leg. The customer ordered one, then more, then cancelled the order. There were understanding groans from all. ☛ Don Naples displayed a Poplar panel from his ongoing wainscot project. With mahogany stain, it had two coats of shellac and one of varnish. He discussed the process he used to do the finish. Don also talked about Walton's Saw Works at 437 Dubois Street, San Rafael, CA 94901 phone 415/456-6320. They do a great job and you can mail your saw blades to them for sharpening. ☛ Guy Marsden passed around his portfolio showing pictures of his work. He'll be at the Cow Palace show in two weeks. (Guy was our featured speaker two months ago.) ☛ Mike Bray showed the bow portion of a bow-and-arrow set he made for his son. It's four strips of tapered White Oak laminated together with one non-tapered strip of Acacia in the center. He also displayed a piece of a redwood railing he made, using a mixture of machine and hand-tool methods.

### Main Presentation

The meeting was held at the Woodworker Academy (WA), located in the Japan Woodworker store in Alameda. Jerry Konicek talked about his Academy and its main goals of teaching safety and efficiency. To make a quick cut he turned on one of his 10" cabinet saws, which was so quiet it was hard to believe it was ON! He discussed some of his methods for making mortise and tenon joints. He had a router set up with edge guides on both sides of the stock, so there was no chance of the bit wandering. It made a very clean job of it. He showed the benefits of using mortising bits, which allow only a 1/4" depth of cut in a pass. It is not surprising that Jerry was a good presenter, but he was actually an excellent presenter. *Thanks, Jerry, for a fun and very informative evening!*

**Newsletter deadline: always the first of the month**

## Christmas-in-April

C-in-A is a nation-wide event, where on the last Saturday in April volunteers descend on houses, schools etc and fix them up.

Every year we provide our woodworking skills (and brute strength) to help. It is a ton of fun, and you can actually learn a lot working alongside other more experienced BAWA members.

We will be signing up volunteers right up to the April meeting. Help your community, learn new skills and deepen your friendships with other members. And get a free t-shirt and picnic dinner! Contact Bill Henzel for more information, or sign up at the April meeting.

## Club Announcements

### BOX COMPETITION

The judging is in Oct. There will be a Beginners, an Intermediate and an advanced category. This new competition allows all woods of any quantity. The only restriction is the format: the entry must be a box. Get started!

### 2 x 4 CONTEST

This years entries will be judged at the June meeting. The entries must be composed of at least 75% wood (for example a table with a Corian top is OK), all wood in the project must be from a single piece of Douglas Fir that is 2" x 4" x 96". Lastly, this 2 x 4 can cost no more than \$10.00. Last year's winning entrant spent under \$3.00 for the wood! Any entry containing wood from any other source will be disqualified.

As an added point of interest, a member of our club has been asked to write a book on 2 x 4 contests, and ours in particular. This book will not be finished until after our contest this year. So, in addition to very cool prizes being concocted at this very moment, you stand a very real chance of making it into the book!

## Members' Voice

BAWA members often make great suggestions. One member recently sent us his ideas by email. Thanks to **Mark Rand**...sorry we had to do some editing. Mark suggests:

"Design a folder which contains: a mission statement; a brief history of BAWA; a list of officers and their phone numbers; a brief synopsis of say the last 3 meetings or 3 typical meetings; list of materials available to members. Maybe update every 6 months, with a note saying the material is constantly changing and to check with the librarian; a membership roster with the city they live in, phone #, email and if they have a specific expertise; a Back to Basics set (once it is rebuilt); a list of Bay area lumber/tool stores with any discount that they offer members. MORE? MORE? Member input on this.

Develop a "buddy" system where an established member can: help a new member get acquainted and involved; answer technical questions or know where to point the person.

Develop Saw Dust sessions. Possibly one in the east bay and one in the south bay. One in SF? Once a month on a specified day. Could be a certain subject or "Bring your Problems."

Scrap the name tag tray. Encourage members to make their own.

The 2X4 Contest. Couple it with a dinner very much like the Christmas dinner. Have it mid-year and announce it way ahead of time. I think a fellowship dinner with spouses should still be held with or without the 2X4 contest.

NOTE: I would be willing to help out with some of these or other ideas. Speaking of getting involved, I mentioned that I don't make too many meetings but I do have a computer and phone. I could help with behind the scenes work. Typing up whatever needs typing, calling people and so on. Wow, what am I saying? Too late, I punched the SEND button. Mark"



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## BAWA Membership/Renewal

Dues are \$30.00 per year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

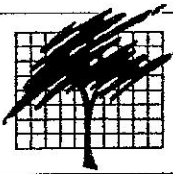
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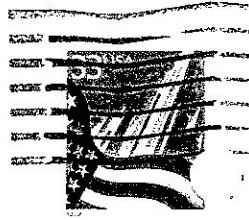
What you want most from being a member: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# BAY AREA WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

PO Box 5481  
San Mateo, CA 94402-5481



## **Join or Renew Today!**

On the mailing label to the left, the date above your name tells when you need to renew your BAWA membership.

To join or renew, simply fill out the renewal form inside or at a BAWA meeting.  
Or: write or call the BAWA Treasurers.

If you haven't joined yet, and there's no date on the label, it means that you must join now, otherwise

**THIS MAY BE YOUR  
FINAL NEWSLETTER!**

## **Silent Auction**

This is a fun way to help the club. Donate charming old extra tools or whatever (1902 manual dishwashers; 7" floppy diskettes etc...). Before the meeting and during the break you can enter your bid and find out before you go home if that cool old doohickey is yours!

All the proceeds go toward funding the newsletter, which if it can hold on another while might just win a Pulitzer. Hey, it could happen! Well, even if its not that well wrote, the newsletter is still an important part of helping us all keep in touch. Please donate an Auction item!

## **BAWA CONTACTS**

### **OFFICERS**

President: Linda Salter 650/365-4093 [lindasalter@earthlink.com](mailto:lindasalter@earthlink.com)  
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### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

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For any questions or information about BAWA programs, contact Arnie Champagne or Jay Perrine.