

BAY AREA WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

March

2001

THIS MONTHS' MEETING

March 15th

3rd Thursday

Technique Talk 7:00pm

Business 7:30pm

Main Presentation about 8:30pm

Our March meeting will open with a **Techniques Talk** by **Paul Cumes** of **FESTO** (www.toolguide.net). Paul will explain the patented FESTO system of using an integrated portable guide system to hold either saw or router on a tabletop or on sawhorses. This presentation will begin *promptly* at 7PM.

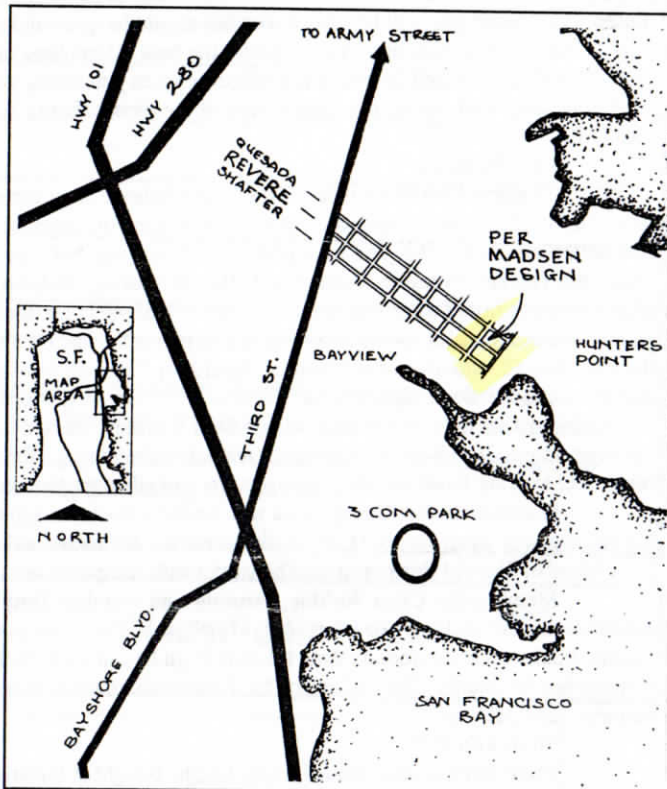
Our main presentation will be by our own BAWA member **Per Madsen** of **Per Madsen Design** (it is a small company dedicated to the making of well crafted, high quality modular furniture for audio video recording media, equipment and more). We will meet at the Per Madsen Design manufacturing site. His customers order by mail or web and seldom if ever does a customer visit the shop, but we get to check it out!

Per has designed a product line that provides many choices in arrangement by the customer. The product line is called **RACKIT** and comes in a choice of woods. Per will give us a tour of the shop. Additionally he may give us some insight into his product design methods and philosophy. RACKIT is advertised in a dozen or so hi-fi type magazines. Here is the web address: www.RACKITtm.com

1081 Revere Street, off Third, in San Francisco.

Directions:

From the North: take 101 to Army Street/Cesar Chavez. Go East (towards the Bay) to 3rd Street then turn right. Head South for about a mile then turn left on Revere (the street names are in alphabetical order). Go to the end of the street (about a mile) to 1081 Revere, in the Bayview Industrial Park.



From the South: take 101 North and exit at 3rd Street just after the Candlestick/3Com park exit. Head North for about a mile and turn right at Revere. Go to the end of the street (about a mile) to 1081 Revere, in the Bayview Industrial Park.

Parking should not be a problem — just don't park in a driveway or in front of a roll-up door. Avoid the residential neighborhood for parking.

There just might be a RACKIT door prize for the lucky winner!

From Our President: *Linda Salter*

I can't believe it's almost time for the **Box Contest**. I haven't even got one picked out yet! Can't have that or I won't live it down, will I? By the March meeting I have to be started on a box. Last year it took me a long time to do it. I hope to see even more boxes this year than last. Need help or incentive? Call one of the more experienced woodworkers in the club. Most of them will gladly give you some pointers. I also hope to see a lot of you at my house on March 18 for a toy workshop. We usually have a lot of fun and you may learn some new skills as well. This is a great one for the new woodworkers. Bring your scroll saws if you have them. Speaking of new skills, last month I learned how to make a segmented bowl, but wait till you see what I learned this month. It will knock your socks off!

Last Months Meeting

by Jay Perrine

Technique Talk

Mike Bray gave a presentation on **Basic Shop Drawing**. Right before our eyes he made a series of quick concept sketches. He suggested that you might want to do this for a piece you want to build. You can work out the details of the joinery you want and what the dimensions of each part will be. These sketches should be quick and spontaneous. Then when you've made your decisions you can transfer the final information onto one clean sheet. Use this sheet of dimensioned drawings as a reference when purchasing your lumber and then post it on your shop wall during the construction of the piece. Thanks for presenting these good ideas Mike!

Club Business

Treasurer **Don Stern** reported the current balance of the treasury as \$2,173.62. Newsletter Editor **Mike Bray** reminded everyone to send him your email so that he can send you the newsletter via email. This will save postage and copying costs for the club. Outreach Co-Chair **Bill Henzel** invited everyone to our fist toy-making workshop of this year. It will be March 17th at **Linda Salter's** shop (Call her at 650/365-4093 for directions.) We'll be making painted wooden puzzles, so bring your spouse to join in the fun. He also reminded everyone of the upcoming Christmas-in-April event on April 28th. This year we'll be helping with cabinetry and other construction projects in San Francisco. Christmas-in-April is changing its name to "**Rebuilding Together**." Hospitality Chair **Stan Booker** collected donations for the Walnut, Zebrawood and Coca Cola to be given away shortly. Don't forget the Open Shop events! Also remember to bring those old shop tools, etc. for our silent auction each meeting.

Guests included: **George Chu** who retired a few years ago and has been working on his cottage; and **Fred Deubert** who's also repairing his house and making some furniture. New Member **Harold Patterson** says he works with computers but wants to make furniture.

Membership Chair **Robbie Fanning** and member **Tony Fanning** discussed an Adirondack chair making class they took, which prompted a discussion of courses available locally. Linda Salter mentioned that Hillsdale High has an adult ed. course in woodworking. Contact her for details. The College of the Redwoods brochure is out. Sign up in March for summer courses there.

Show and Tell

Mike Bray passed around a link belt he bought at **Grainger Supply** (check your white pages for a local store like the one in Berkeley). These work great at dampening vibration on contractor style saws and other belt-driven tools. It worked wonders on his saw as evidenced by the wood sample he passed around with before and after cuts. **Richard Shirasawa** passed around copies of a handy dandy wood screw chart he downloaded from <www.woodmagazine.com>. You can get your own copy there. **Linda Salter** showed a turned bowl she made. It has contrasting colors of different kinds of wood in a geometric pattern. This is her first segmented bowl project and it is beautiful. **Jay Perrine** showed BAWA embroidered shirts that members can order. Let him know which design you would like to buy.

Main Presentation

Jimmy Reinna of **ToolsToolsTools** gave a great presentation on tools, toolmakers and the history of tool marketing. Jimmy's presentation began with a discussion of Homo Erectus, humanity's first tool making ancestors, and ended with modern boutique toolmakers like **Ron Hock**, **Bridge City**, **Holty** and **Lie-Nielsen**. He discussed the effect of the Industrial Revolution on the making of tools, and even more intriguing, the major change in distribution and then manufacturing of tools in America brought about by modern advertising starting in the 1950s and 60s. This branding by **Stanley** and a few other companies allowed them to dominate their competitors in certain tool types (see editor's note below). Jimmy showed some of the books he had used for his research and he displayed many old and new hand tools including a new Holty Plane that costs 'only' \$4,000. Thanks Jimmy for a very interesting and informative talk. We'll now look at our tools with more knowledge and understanding of why they are as they are! Visit his shop in Berkeley to see more.

(Editor's Note. Jimmy told us a story of cut-throat marketing tactics which he learned from relatives in the shirt business - but the exact same thing happens in the tool business. One shirt salesman will show up at a store, buy all the shirts he sees and sell the store his shirts. He then tears out the labels and sells the other-brand shirts to flea-market guys or brand-names-for-less outfits. So he gets his shirts in the right stores, but has to buy the display space. Marketing tactics control our choices more than we would like to think...)

Next Months Meeting

For our April 19th meeting we will return to Foster City for the BOX CONTEST and also a slide presentation by Craig Mineweaser (Yeung will be out of town, but he accompanied Craig on the tours) of a huge veneer plant and McBeath's lumber plant. A very busy and interesting evening is in store for us all!

News Items

Tim O'Mahoney is one of several of our group who has made the two-year pilgrimage to the College of the Redwoods. The woodworking program there is overseen by the legendary James Krenov. It is a rewarding yet very demanding and intense two years... but what do you do when that is over? Well, Tim and his wife Kathie decided to bi-cycled through Europe! Some people sure know how to live!

They had a great time and learned a lot of really useful stuff. If you would like to hear more about their trip or about how to make your own trip, visit an REI store and catch their lecture. Tim says "Kathie and I will be talking about how to plan and successfully execute your own independent bicycle tour in Europe".

Lecture Dates:

Wednesday March 14th at REI Fremont
Tuesday March 20th at REI Saratoga
Thursday April 5th
at REI Berkeley (on San Pablo near Gilman).

All programs run from 7-9pm.
Contact Tim for more info on the lecture or locations.

Phone: (415) 242-0369

Email: tim_omahoney@yahoo.com

Toy Making Workshop

Our first toy making workshop of the year will be at **Linda Salter's** place on March 17th. These workshops not only produce lots of toys for very deserving kids, but are a lot of fun for us. And if you are new to woodworking, this is a great chance to get some experience. Call Linda at 650-365-4093 for directions.

Bay Area Woodworkers Association

Membership form

Please circle all relevant items: New /Renewing member; Amateur/Professional; I can volunteer some time.

Name: First _____ Last _____

Address: Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone number (specify work or home): (_____) _____ (_____) _____

E-mail address: _____

What can BAWA do for you? _____

Membership dues are \$30.00 per year. Benefits include this monthly newsletter, monthly meetings featuring accomplished and/or famous guest speakers, discounts at many tool and supply stores and of course the chance to meet fellow woodworkers and learn/teach new things. Make checks payable to: BAWA. Mail this form and payment to
BAWA Treasurer, 1145 Woodside, Berkeley CA 94708

Book Bonanza!

Locally produced **Woodwork Magazine** has donated a box of books to BAWA. We will be setting aside a few for our Library, but will be raffling off the rest. There is something there for everyone.

The editor is excited about our upcoming Box Contest. Mike Bray will send him snapshots of the entries. If all goes well some of our work will appear in the Gallery section of the magazine! **So get started on that box!**

Woodwork Magazine can be hard to find in the stores. Here is how to contact the magazine if you are interested in a subscription:

Woodwork,
Circulation Dept.,
PO Box 1529,
Ross, CA 94957
Phone 415-382-0580

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209/931-3293

2701-A North Alpine Road, Stockton, California 95205

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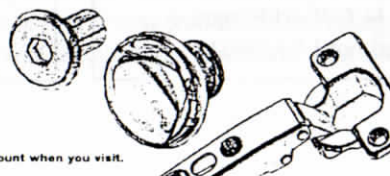
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