

North Texas Woodworker's Association

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Volume 10, Number 3

Newsletter

June 2000

May Meeting Review

By Ken Patrick

Steve Jenkins opened the meeting.

Announcements

We have a need for more programs for the summer meetings. One suggestion was for a program on casting and mold-making. If you have a bright idea, or can do a program yourself, contact **Dennis Furlow**.

Some members have visited the new Elliot's Hardware in Plano (Park and Coit) and found it to be excellent.

Business

Bob Jones reminds you that it's a new membership year. If you have not paid your dues, your subscription to the newsletter will expire *after this issue*. Dues are \$24/year. You can reach Bob at 972-424-8860.

Bring Back

Larry Cumba supplied the Bring Back this month, a three-way outlet with remote-switching, won by **Owen Haggard**.

Bring-Back is a fund-raising meeting event, where participants pay a dollar each for Bring Back tickets. A single winning ticket is drawn, and the winner takes the item offered home to keep. The winner has the responsibility to bring back a new item for the following month's Bring Back event.

Library

Dale Osborn explained that we now have three ways to examine the index to contents of the club library: by subject, by title, and by book number. All three are available during the meetings, or you can call Dale for a special need.

Walter Schuster is the lead man for the library bookcase project. The May shop visit was "converted" into a building day at Steve Jenkins' shop. The following members attended and contributed to the project: **Walt Schuster, Martha Marchant, Ken Glasscock, Jack Edgcomb, Steve Jenkins, George Thornton, Vic Caranna**.

PROCEDURE FOR CHECKING BOOKS OUT OF THE LIBRARY -- Every book and video has a card in a pocket inside the cover. To check out the material, just take the card and put it in the metal box by the bookcase. To check it back in, find the card and put it back inside the cover. Magazines also have a card for each issue, but usually they are in a pocket in the binder holding a year's worth of magazines.

Show & Tell

Vic Caranna brought in a toy box he built of birch-face plywood. It has a pull-out top tray, tip-out storage bins, and a formica top insert. The panel work was excellent. Vic had trouble coming up with a way to get the colors he wanted, so he tried anilyn dye, which worked very well. After trying several applications, he went with an airbrush. You can see the woodgrain thru the dye, yet get a vibrant color saturation. My notes show 110 lbs, but I don't know if that's the chest, the airbrush pressure, or Vic's weight when he finally finished it up!

Dennis Furlow brought in some strips of wood destined for shaker-box sides to show the laser-cut images Bob Jones burned into them.

Martin Lutz has a fairly new interest in milling his own lumber. I wonder if he goes so deep into all his budding interests! He brought in a chain saw with a \$135 accessory jig that allows him to cut 14-inch-wide planks, 1.5-2.5 inches in thickness from a log! He said there was a special extension that allows up to 33 inches width. He has a special ripping chain on the saw. The jig makes it relatively easy to keep the cut planks straight, true, and uniform. He brought in a plank from an oak limb, and there were envious eyes everywhere. He said it takes him less than 3 minutes to cut a 6-foot by 18-inch plank.

Martin scrounges free wood wherever he goes. He's been successful in obtaining cut trees just for the hauling. He also has a kiln, but he prefers air drying, and would like to talk to others who have experience in this area. He puts polyurethane or wax on board ends to reduce end checking during the drying process. He uses exterior plywood "stickers" between planks on 16-inch centers, and places stickers as close to the end of each board as possible to reduce warping and

checking. His drying area is covered on the top with a tarp, but air flows freely around the sides.

Dan Henry showed us a paneled cabinet door he modified to allow for computer equipment ventilation. He replaced the panel with louvers he fabricated. He solved the even spacing problem by building the louver insert, then cutting it to size. His finish presented him with his first blushing experience due to high humidity. He turned on the air conditioner, and it apparently came out without much trouble.

Steve Yauch passed around some really cheap Velcro ties, which he uses to make simple, effective power cord ties. He got them at a school and office supply. Other members suggested any computer store will likely have them, too.

Frank Gregg displayed his pre-production version of his wood edge-clamps. He offers them to club members @ \$15/each, with a free fifth one if you buy four. Compare these with other commercial clamps at around \$40 each.

Frank also brought in the brad gun he bought from Amazon.com for about \$124. Tho it's advertised to use brads 1-inch to 2-inch, he was successful with shorter brads, as well. He got a fine compressor for \$250 used, paid \$40 for a repair to it, and is now ready to nail with the best of them!

Ken Patrick (that's me!) brought in a simple walnut box he and his daughter designed to help develop eye-hand coordination and motor skills in first-grade children. The box is in ¾-inch walnut, has an opening lid, pull-out drawer, two fat brass hinges, and a huge trunk latch on the front.

The box is assembled with barrel nuts and hex-head wide-shoulder screws, so it can be completely disassembled. The hardware is attached with steel phillips screws, so she can control what kind of dis/assembly is allowed. It also has a couple of novelty drawer pulls of a soccer ball and a football. The package includes a hex wrench, stubby phillips screwdriver, tiny line level, miniature retractable steel measuring tap[e, and a child-size Home Depot apron for each would-be carpenter. Ken's daughter reports that hours of enjoyment with fellow students were provided by the continual breakdown and rebuild of "The Box".

George Tosquiny brought in his finished mahogany footstool with carved ball-and-claw feet, cabriole legs, and beautiful gold brocade upholstery. My first meeting last year was the one where George brought one of his legs in for display. He finished it with a stain/wax product, let it rest overnight, and used Viva

towels next morning to a fine polish. He had some darkness in some places, and wanted some highlighting, too, so he successfully used a Scotchbrite pad to detail the finish. The final fish is Sherwin-Williams heavy-buildup lacquer. He noted that the blushing some experience in lacquer can be coaxed out by spraying the affected area with pure thinner, which may dissolve the blushed finish and allow it to re-dry without blush.

Vic and Frank won the Show 'n' Tell \$10 awards.

One member brought in a humongous squirrel cage fan, suitable for a spray-booth, which was quickly auctioned off for \$75.

Program

Jack Edgecomb presented a method for applying a gold finish to cast and cut plaster and/or wood. The materials are available at craft stores. The basic method involves applying an adhesive to the piece to be covered, waiting until it's tacky, then burnishing the gold finish from a piece of Mylar onto the piece. He showed several tools he uses to do this: paintbrush ends, toothpicks, pencil erasers. The films are available in gold (really brass), pewter, and silver. The adhesive is red, and sometimes is left un-gilded for contrast. You must coat the whole piece in clearcoat when you're done, as the finish is delicate, and subject to tarnish and wear. Jack showed us a window treatment with gilded medallions he has in his house.

Don't forget! June's program is a vacuum lathe chuck demonstration by **Dan Henry**, and you're encouraged to bring in any form of turning you think will be of interest to others.

Our August and September meetings will likely be relocated to an air-conditioned meeting place; watch next issue for details and directions.

Shop Tours

No shop tour is scheduled for June, do you want to host one? If you are willing to share your shop with the club, please contact **Ken Patrick** (so your tour can be announced at the meeting) at (972) 734-2392 or kenp@airmail.net Show off your stuff!

In July, the meeting will be at Haggard's Party Barn. We will eat a fine meal, then have a great time with a Tool Swap 'n' Sell session. Start thinking about what you'll bring to sell or swap, or let folks know at the June meeting what you're looking for! Map next issue!

If you would like to try receiving the newsletter via electronic mail, send a message to Bob Jones at <cascademondiale@home.net> and he'll fix you up.

PAID CLASSIFIED: FOR SALE: 1975 Rockwell 10 inch cabinet saw. New 1-1/2 HP motor with less than 2 hours run time. 36 inch T-Square fence. Well cared for and always protected from the weather. \$700.00 Contact Jim Brooks at 214 328-8018, please leave message and I will contact you as to the location of my shop.

Directions to the Meeting:

From northbound on the Dallas North Tollway, exit at Windhaven Dr. (just North of Parker, South of Spring Creek) and go West. Take the first right onto Communications Parkway and turn into the first driveway on the right. Find a place to park along the driveway or on the street and come back to the shop.

Here is a hot link so you can get a map to the meeting place.

<http://maps.yahoo.com/py/maps.py?Pyt=Tmap&addr=6220+COMMUNICATION+PKWY&csz=plano%2C+tx&Get%A0Map=Get+Map>

**North Texas Woodworker's Association
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Current Officers & Directors

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Treasurer	Jack Edgecomb	972-271-0446	972-952-3910	j-edgecomb@raytheon.com
Secretary	Earl Ashurst	972-517-7825	972-478-3393	TBA
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Programs	Dennis Furlow George Thornton	972-436-7975 817-261-1254	214-984-0336 817-239-8199	shakerww@flash.net
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Library	Dale Osborne	214-692-7642	972-883-2025	dosborne@utdallas.edu
Membership	Bob Jones	972-424-8860	972-701-5998	Cascademondiale@home.net
WebMaster	Craig Sullivan	972-381-7102		ntvtexan@wans.net

The board serves from April through March of the following year. Bylaws are available upon request. The board meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at La Madeleine restaurant at Park and Preston, in Plano.

Membership in NTWA is \$24.00 per year. Make checks payable to No. Texas Woodworker's Assoc. and mail to address above. Or come to the next meeting and see Jack Edgecomb.

NTWA Calendar

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 20, 2000 @ 7:00 pm. At Owen Haggard's Shop. Program: **Dan Henry** will demonstrate a slick vacuum lathe chuck, and some turning techniques. **For show and tell, members should try to bring something turned that has artistic or technical interest.**

Shop Visit: None Scheduled this month, how about volunteering?

July Meeting: Tuesday, July 19, 2000 @ 7:00 pm. Haggard's Party Barn, Dinner and Tool Swap 'n' Sell!

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