

Welcome

Vice President Steve Yauch

welcomed everyone to the February meeting.



Guests

Jordan Williams has moved from Garland to Allen for more space to build a shop. He found us online.

Steve Hsu bought a new house in the Colony. He likes tools and wood and wants to do woodworking and other home projects.

Larry Saye has been a woodworker in the past and now that he's retired, he wants to get back into it.

Bernadette Rodriquez has been a woodworker and is known for the Church Gorillas she designed.

Ben Whitcomb is learning woodworking from his dad, club member Jeff.

Announcements

Survey

Jeff Whitcomb discussed the member survey that was emailed to everyone and asked that those who didn't fill it out online, to fill one out at the meeting. The purpose of the survey is to determine what members want out of the club.

He also discussed the mentor program which is addressed on the survey as well.

NTWA is going to develop a database of vendors members recommend.

Elections

The club is still in need of candidates for President, Vice President and Treasurer although Steve Yauch said he will stay on as Vice President if no one else steps up.

Ken Clayton talked about the duties of the treasurer and said you do not have to be an accountant to do the job. It basically involves collecting money from dues, raffles, etc.; depositing payments in the bank account; and paying bills/expenses. It takes him approximately 1 hour per month outside the meetings.

Shop Questions

Steve Yauch is redoing a coffee table and wants to replace the glass top with slate tiles. He asked what to use to hold the tiles in place without

adding a lot of weight to the table. Jeff Whitcomb suggested using hardi-board and thin set. Steve Jenkins said to shim the slate tiles to keep them level while the mastic or thin set sets up.

Larry Maughan is repairing a chair with a broken spindle and he can't take the chair apart. Bill Jacobs said to drill the hole in the top stretcher ½" deeper to allow Larry to insert the top of the spindle far enough to clear the bottom stretcher. He said to drill a hole in the top of the spindle and use epoxy to hold it in place.

Joe Polich is looking for a switch similar to a computer A-B switch that will allow him to switch power from his compressor to an electrical heater. The circuit is 220V 1phase 30amp. He doesn't want to run a new circuit since the compressor doesn't run all the time and the heater is not needed all the time. Gary Turman suggested using a drum switch. Other suggestions included putting in an outlet and using cords to switch from one or the other.

Swede Hansen is looking to buy some entry level tools, but above the Craftsman grade. He will use them to make cabinets and other projects. Currently he uses hand tools. It was suggested he contact Bob Moore who is selling his equipment due to health issues.

Show & Tell



Carl Medina used cutoffs from John Loftis to make this mallet and dust pan.



Bill Jacobs made this scroll sawn plaque for his granddaughter's

sorority out of bloodwood, finishing it with shellac.



Dale Smith made this cutting board using John Loftis' cutoffs. He used his own cutoffs to make bookmarks.



Bill Bailey also used maple and cherry cutoffs from John Loftis plus 8/4 walnut he sourced from Pennsylvania for this end grain cutting board.



Bill Moore made this knife block for his wife's knife drawer to keep the

knives from getting nicked making them harder to sharpen.



Jay Stearns made this puzzle box from deck boards he got from Home Depot. He uses a 1/8" blade and files the back corners of the blade to make it easier to cut tight curves without breaking the blade. He prefers to use Timberwolf blades.



Sidney Futrell made the smaller mallet to use in cutting dovetails. The larger mallet was too cumbersome for this delicate task.

The \$10 drawing went to Jay Stearns.

Raffle

There were two raffles tonight, one for competing the survey and the regular club raffle.

Dale Smith: GVS HESPA dust mask

Gary Turman: Ricon LED light with magnetic base and clip

Bill Jacobs: Protape 16' tape

Chris Hathway: Kapro 24" measure mate straight edge

Survey Raffle:

Jim Cadorette: Spalted mesquite slab

Swede Hansen: Stanley speed square, Irwin Straightline chalk line, Titebond original glue and a Stanley framing square.

Dennis Ambor: 3 pieces of mesquite

Sidney Futrell: Mesquite slabs

The survey raffle prizes were furnished by Jeff Whitcomb. Thank you Jeff!

Program

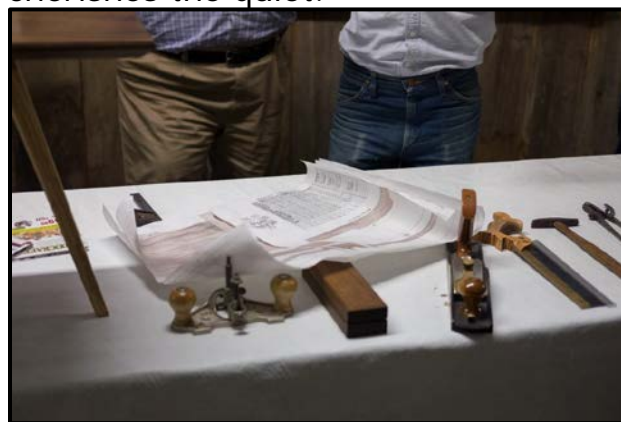
The February program was presented by Matt Harmon of Fine Furniture, a custom furniture maker.



When the band Matt was in while living in Chicago broke up, he had to look for something to do. He had taken shop classes in high school and decided that might be a good direction to go in so in February, 2012 he enrolled in the North Bennet

Street School in Boston. North Bennet is a trade school that provides hands-on training in traditional trades and fine craftsmanship. They offer 10 courses in their two-year program for cabinet and furniture making.

Bennet uses bench exercises and building projects for students to learn techniques using hand and power tools and to gain an understanding of the methods and construction strategies used to create high-quality custom pieces. Matt uses power tools to dimension his lumber then quickly returns to the bench to finalize the pieces with his hand tools where he cherishes the quiet.



One of Bennet's strengths is drawing from the rich tradition of 18th and early 19th century American furniture. As it turns out, Matt prefers this style over contemporary. He says he should have stayed in the Northeast rather than move to Texas where contemporary is king.

Matt designs all his pieces based on customer input and desires. He rarely lets a customer get intimately involved in the design process. He designs and builds to fit the space available.

He has no business cards and does no advertising, depending on word-of-mouth to bring in new clients. He does no shows at this time but is now building a portfolio of his work to start doing shows.

To weed out prospects who aren't serious customers, Matt charges \$250 to do a shop drawing. Once the customer is ready to move forward, he gets a 50% deposit and gives the customer a cut list for the customer to buy the lumber.

Matt says that one short coming of his time at Bennet is that they don't do anything to help you prepare to run a business. Pricing is a continually learning and evolving process where early mistakes can be costly.



One of a pair of end table designed and built by Matt.

Next club meeting:

Tues., Mar. 20th

7:00 pm at the

Party Barn

**Program: Jeff
Whitcomb – NTWA
mentoring program**

Haiti woodshop proposal

*Newsletter edited by: Joe Polich
Pictures by: Sidney Futrell*