



The DoveTale

May 2002

Officers of Woodworkers of SE Texas

President	Cliff McLean, 727-6287
President elect	Waid Gauthier, 735-8392
Secretary	Laura Seelen, 962-7224
Treasurer	Howard Hartman, 835-0564
Newsletter	Richard Hicks, 982-5226
Shows	Rod Ruppel, 898-7041
CP Project	Dean Partridge, 722-7647
Toy Project	Bob & Laura Seelen, 962-7224
Programs	to be appointed
Purchases	Jerry Shivers, 794-2274
Membership	Richard Hicks, 982-5226

Members:	65	Present:	34	Visitors:	2
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Our Next Meeting will be May 27th

April 22nd Meeting

Cliff McLean showed us the club's new PA system. We found a second-hand headset at the Woodworking Show in Houston and a club member, Steve Daigre, donated a karaoke set to complete the system. Now we'll be able to hear the presentations over the noise of the tools at our Saturday Program meetings.

Speaking of Saturday meetings, we had a good one at Jerry Shivers' shop that covered raised panel construction (see the enclosed write-up). The next Saturday meeting will be May 4th at Lyman Frugia's shop and will cover turning (see the enclosed information card).

We felt it might be useful to know how much money our members spent at the Houston Woodworking Show this year. A poll of members present showed we spent about \$5,400 - The show promoters will be glad to know that in addition to a really sharp booth, we supported the show financially. By the way, thanks again to all of you that worked so hard to make our booth so nice. If you had items in the show that you don't have back yet, check

with Howard Hartman. We gained two new members from the show this year!

One of our members, T-Bruce, underwent open-heart surgery. He's recovering nicely, but please continue to keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Howard Hartman brought the set of new books he ordered for the club. Kenneth Boddin, our librarian, will add them to our club collection and they will be available for checkout next month.

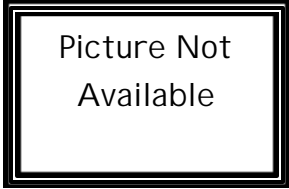
Cliff asked that we start working on toys early so we can get a lot of them done this year. Check with Bob Seelan or Lew Laurent for supplies and patterns.

We're not sure about the location for the May meeting. Cliff will check the school schedule to see if the Mike Taylor Center is available. We also discussed the lack of parking at the center and are actively looking for another meeting place. Since we don't use the shop, almost any place that can accommodate 35-45 people will work. If you know of a place or would be willing to help find a place, contact Cliff.

Be sure to check the 'meeting notice card' for the location of the May meeting!

Red Dressel won the \$25 door prize.

New Members



Tim Stauffer –
I s just getting started in woodworking and is interested in building cabinets, toys and turning.



Jeff & Becky Book –
They found out about us at the Houston Show. They want to learn more about turning and furniture and cabinet making.

Show & Tell



Howard Hartman –
Showed pictures of the mahogany podium he's building for the local Hilton Hotel.

Howard is afraid they will want him to build a lot more podiums for their other hotels.



Lyman Frugia –
Turned a couple of Dogwood vases. He patched several imper-

fections with inlay material. Remember, Lyman will host the Saturday Program meeting on May 4th.



Dean Partridge –
Built a toy truck out of cypress. I t's an easy wood to work with.



Joel McLean –
Got started woodcarving at the Houston Show and for his first project, he carved and painted a fish.



Gerald Brennan –
He brought two show & tells; The first was a very precise measuring tool from Inca-

Jig that he uses to measure and mark some of the really intricate projects he makes. I t will actually measure 64ths of



an inch! He also brought a cut-off jig he made so he could safely cut numerous short pieces of wood for projects.



Marie Badeaux –
Enjoys turning, especially pens. She brought a nice set made out of Zebra wood.



Roy Ward –
His first woodworking project was a table for his side of the bed. But, it turned out so well that his wife wants to put it in the living room.



Cliff McLean – Shows a simple right angle jig he made so he could properly glue some shelves in a

cabinet he made. Remember, jigs do not always have to be elaborate to be useful.

Programs

Half-Lap Miter Joints

Dick Osborn had to make a LARGE (~9' long) bulletin board for his church. For appearances, he wanted to use miter joints on the frame but knew gluing 'end-grain' joints would not hold the weight of the boards. And, to further complicate matters, the frame pieces were different



widths. His solution: Half-lap miter joints – they provide the needed 'face grain' gluing

surfaces for a strong joint with the good appearance of a mitered joint.



First, Dick explained the many different jigs he had to make in order to make the various

cuts. Since the pieces were so long, he had to make most of the cuts with his plunge router. Dick explained that you had to sneak up on the proper depth for the 'half-lap' cuts so they would be precisely the right depth. The miter cuts were the hardest to measure and cut. They

required making a first cut and then adjusting the jig to get the final fit 'just right'. He also showed us a router rest



that he uses to set his hand held router on while he has a bit installed. It's simply one or two layers of $\frac{3}{4}$ "

plywood, a little larger than the router base, with a hole in the center. The hole should be as large as your largest bit or pilot bushing. Great idea - I made one for myself the next day!

Since he used a pilot bushing around his



straight cut bit as a guide, the bit cut exactly $\frac{1}{8}$ " smaller than the jig. He explained that he made a

$\frac{1}{8}$ " shim so that he could properly position the jig to make the cuts in the proper place.

I sure the church is enjoying a really nice board – and they will probably never know how complicated this project was.

Wood Measurement and Grading

Les Vice and Norma Lafargue from Acadian Hardwoods joined Richard Hicks in a presentation about wood measurement, grading and uses. Even though we've done this in the past, we have a lot of new members that need this basic information. We also have a new wood vendor, Acadian Hardwoods, and we all need to have a common understanding of terms and rules around buying, selling

and using wood. Some of the major terms are:

- Hardwoods are generally sold by the board foot. That's defined as the equivalent of 12" x 12" x 1"
- Softwoods and processed woods such as pine, cypress and moldings are sold by the lineal foot
- Thickness is generally expressed as 'quarters', like: 4/4 (four quarter) and it refers to the thickness of the rough board with 4/4 meaning 1"
- The term S2S means 'surfaced on 2 sides'. So, the term S2S 13/16" means surfaced both sides to 13/16"
- The term SLR1E means 'straight line ripped, one edge' which means the board will have 'one straight edge'. Most of the wood Acadian carries is SLR1E which makes it easier to work with on your table saw or jointer

There are 'official' grading rules but they vary by species. For example, FAS (first & second) graded Walnut, the top grade, would grade #1 common by Red Oak rules. Sapwood or color is normally NOT considered in the grading process for any species. It's important to understand the grading rules so you can buy the minimum grade (least expensive) wood for your project. For example, the top grade (usually defined as FAS) does not mean a 'perfect, defect free board'. Check the handout in our library for more information. There are also a lot of 'unofficial' grades - many companies make them up so they can charge more for premium boards within a grade. But the customer gets a more uniform selection of premium grade lumber for the extra cost. This premium grading can apply to

figured or specially cut lumber as well as material selected for a certain color.

Some additional information to keep in mind when dealing with Acadian:

- As club members, we get a discount on wood purchased for our own use
- Length measurements: in whole feet with no rounding
- Width measurements: in whole inches with 'give & take' rounding. Tapered boards are measured 1/3 of the way from the narrow end
- Lumber has a 'base price' with add-ons for services like surfacing and straight line ripping
- Acadian is a 'wholesale' lumber dealer and we should be considerate of their time when they help us make our selections
- They don't mind us looking through several layers to select a board, but, they ask that we neatly re-stack the pile when we finish
- Extensive sorting will incur a substantial up-charge

For a small lumber order, check out Woodworker's Paradise - they recently started carrying lumber and they're open on Saturday for our shopping convenience.