



# The DoveTale

March 2003

Woodworkers of SouthEast Texas

**Officers:**

President Waid Gauthier, 735-8392  
President elect Ray Ward, 898-4542  
Secretary Richard Hicks, 982-5226  
Treasurer Howard Hartman, 835-0564

**Committees:**

Newsletter Richard Hicks, 982-5226  
Shows Rod Ruppel, 898-7041  
Librarian Kenneth Bodden, 962-4997  
Purchases Jerry Shivers, 794-2274  
Membership Richard Hicks, 982-5226  
Programs Rod Ruppel, 898-7041  
Web Master Rob Emanuel, 729-9315  
Projects Bill Chanley, 866-5967

Members:	83	Present:	44	Visitors:	2
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[Our Next Meeting will be Apr 28<sup>th</sup>](#)

## [March 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting](#)

Waid called the meeting to order and welcomed two visitors. The following business items were discussed:

- Bill Chanley will be the new Projects Committee chairman
- Howard reports \$2,474 in the Treasury
- Membership stands at 83 including our two newest members - Larry Dopson & Paul Moore
- Rod Ruppel passed out the worker's list for the Houston Show on March 28<sup>th</sup>
- Willard Morgan made 40 kids happy again with his birdhouses
- Kenneth reports that the library cart is just about full - lots of books are available
- Rob has added some new items to our website - the write-ups of the Saturday Program Meetings and a forum section for tool and supply swaps and a discussion bulletin board.

## [Club Workbench Project](#)

The workbench committee (Dick Osborn, Jewel Hymel & Glen Kenny) finished the design for our club workbench. They decided

on a 30" x 60" traditional workbench with a tool tray, drawer and vise. The estimated cost is \$569. Acadian will sell us the wood at cost and Woodworker's Paradise will do the same for the hardware. Lyman Frugia made a motion and Howard Hartman seconded it, that the club accept the design and build the bench. The motion passed unanimously.

Construction will start Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9AM in Jerry Shiver's shop in Fannett. Bring a lunch and spend the day working together building our workbench.

## [Woodworking Shows](#)

Richard Spinney announced that the Woodcarver's show will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup> at Central Mall. He invited our members to join them at the show. Tables will be \$10 to \$15 and we can sell at the show. Contact Richard to reserve your table.



Our booth at the Houston Woodworking Show really looked great! We had a lot of very nice projects this

year. From the looks of the Houston club's booth, we have really put the pressure on

them because they also had a nice booth this year. Thanks to all the members that worked to make our booth a success.

## Show & Tells



Steve Brady with a mesquite bowl he turned at the Saturday Program Meeting in March



Glen Kenny brought a heart-shaped picture frame with doors that open to reveal the picture.



Kathy Dressel with a pen made from a deer antler and a memorial cross with a clock insert.



Lyman Frugia makes a lot of peppermills. This was his first attempt to turn a laminated one. When you turn the laminated blank, it results in a decorative design on the side of the peppermill.



shop scraps.

Howard Hartman built the wooden train as part of his line of children's toys. He says he built most of it out of



species of woods.

Richard Spinney built this tool box to hold his extensive collection of carving tools. He used many



a circular saw - which proves you don't have to have a lot of expensive tools to do nice woodworking projects.

Tod Braquet built this pine pedestal as a lamp stand for his wife. He built this project with a router and



swirled red streaks running through it.

Pete Nealley turned this bowl from a Box Elder bowl blank he purchased on e-bay. It had beautifully



Paul Smith brought a picture of a banquet bench he built for a church.



Marie Badeaux cut out a pine reindeer with her new band saw.



Sam Tobey built a child's chair out of oak. It was very sturdy and heavy so it should survive several generations.



Richard Hicks with a mesquite bowl he started at the March Saturday Program Meeting and finished at home.



Sue Caldwell brought two bowls - one is mesquite she turned at the March Saturday Program Meeting and the other one is a mahogany one she turned at home.



Gene Warden with pictures of his lawn chairs and an 'Aggie ball' - a wooden ball with a string threaded through it. The ball would fall fast and then slow down before it hit the end of the string.

## Program

### Hand cut dovetails by John Phelps

John's opening statement, "Why would you want to do hand cut dovetails?" sort of summed it up. The procedure is time consuming - John estimates about 4 hours per corner. It's also very tedious work - the cuts have to be carefully done or the joints will not fit properly. But when you finish doing a drawer or box with hand cut dovetails, there's a real sense of accomplishment. Hand cut dovetails are considered a mark of real craftsmanship by many people.

Decide the layout for your dovetails based on the type of wood you're using; 1 in 5 or 6 for softwoods and 1 in 8 for hardwoods. Then mark the baseline completely around the board. Layout the pins and tails - and cut the tails first. Then mark and cut the pins to



match the tails. There are different types of saws, but John prefers a dovetail saw - stiff blade with

a heavy rib on top.

When you finish the sides of the pins or tails, you have to chisel out the remaining stock. Your chisel must be extremely sharp in order to make good, clean cuts. John suggests using pine or poplar to learn and practice hand cut dovetails. It's much easier to cut and chisel. If this sounds like too much work, plan to attend our next Saturday Program Meeting.

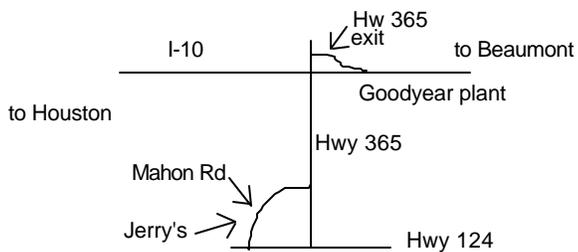
## Saturday Program Meeting

If you think hand cut dovetails are too much work, but still want to use them for their strength and appearance, be sure to attend our next Saturday Program Meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

The subject will be **machine cut** dovetails using routers and band saws. John Phelps and Jerry Shivers will present the program in Jerry's shop starting at 1PM. The program will probably last about 2-3 hours. Directions to Jerry's shop:

**From Beaumont**, take I -10 west towards Houston. Take the HWY 365 exit and turn left on HWY 365. Turn right on Mahon Rd, Jerry's house is the 2<sup>nd</sup> brick house on the right (his shop is in the back). If you get to railroad tracks, you missed Mahon Rd.

**From South County**, go west on HWY 365 towards Fannett. Turn left on HWY 124 and immediately back right on Mahon Rd. Jerry's house will be on the left just before the curve on Mahon RD.



Bring a chair and ear protection (we will be running routers during the program).

## Regular Meeting

Our next regular meeting will be Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at Acadian Cypress & Hardwoods in Rose City. John Olsen, from 'New Good as Old', will present a program on finishes starting at 7PM. John is a master at matching colors and finishes. He will also discuss how to repair and care finishes.

Be sure to bring a chair and if you bring a show & tell, try to get there early so I can take pictures before the meeting starts.