



# The DoveTale

February 2009

Woodworkers of SouthEast Texas

**Officers:**

President Rebecca Phelps, 883-7437  
President elect Tod Braquet, 504-5953  
Secretary Richard Hicks, 553-6157  
Treasurer Howard Hartman, 835-0564

**Committees:**

Newsletter Richard Hicks, 553-6157  
Librarian Rob Emanuel, 729-9315  
Purchases Jerry Shivers, 794-2274  
Membership Richard Hicks, 553-6157  
Programs John Phelps, 883-7437  
Web Master Rob Emanuel, 729-9315  
Toy Project Dean Partridge, 722-7647

Members:	56	Present:	21	Visitors:	2
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[Our Next Meeting will be Mar 23<sup>rd</sup>](#)

[February 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting](#)

We held our February meeting at Acadian Cypress & Hardwoods in Rose City. Business items included:

- Howard Hartman - Balance is \$2,723.98
- Richard Hicks - Currently at 58 members - 50 renewals so far
- Web Site - Rob Emanuel reports that our website [www.wwset.org](http://www.wwset.org) is back in operation.
- Library - We currently subscribe to WOOD, WOODSMITH, SHOP NOTES, WOODTURNING DESIGN - John Phelps, Howard Hartman and Rob Emanuel will review the library and its use
- Programs: New incentives for program presenters - contact John Phelps, Glen Kenny or Tod Braquet

## [Club Library](#)

We discussed the future of the club library. Many members felt the way the library materials were stored and displayed caused them to not be used. "Out of sight, out of mind" and "inconvenient to find what you were looking for" were the predominant comments.

The club executive committee will discuss and see if there are other ways to store and display the materials.

## [Membership renewals](#)

We have 50 renewals so far. The final club roster will be mailed to each club member. In order to protect your personal information, we do not make them available electronically.

## [Work Bench Raffle](#)

Steve Brady is selling tickets for the work bench raffle. The tickets are \$5 each and he's sold 13 tickets so far. The raffle will last for six months and it will be open to the general public as well as club members. Proceeds from the raffle will be used for general club project needs. John Phelps has agreed to assist in the minor repairs the table needs.

## [Business Items](#)

Business items included:

A motion by Dean Partridge to authorize a maximum of \$500 for materials for the toy drive. John Phelps seconded the motion and it passed.

A motion by Tod Braquet to provide a maximum of \$125 to cover the cost of meals for the Old Timer's club. David Mayer seconded it and the motion passed.

A motion by Richard Spinney to provide a maximum of \$200 for the construction of a vacuum veneering table for use by the club members. The table will be built by the Old Timer's Group. Lyman Frugia seconded the motion and it passed.

### Moisture Meter

Do you have or do you know who has the club moisture meter? If you do, please notify Tod Braquet (504-5953) or Rebecca Phelps (883-7437). Tod will take care of the club tools this year. If you need to use a club tool, contact Tod to make arrangements to get the tool.

### New Glue

Wes Vice from Acadian Cypress and Hardwoods demonstrated a new type of glue he's carrying called MitreBond. You apply the adhesive to one side of the joint and the activator (contained in a felt tip pen dispenser) to the other side. Nothing happens to the adhesive until it contacts the activator. Clamps aren't needed - just position the parts and hold for a about 10-15 seconds. The glue quickly creates a VERY STRONG joint.

Wes glued two pieces of wood together and passed it around for us to test. The joint held, but the wood failed. It's ideal for installing crown molding and trim or any other part that can't be easily clamped while conventional glue dries. The glue set comes with the activator pen and adhesive and sells for \$23.75.

### Show & Tells



Richard Spinney carved a whistle with a captive ball in a cage.



Lyman Frugia makes lace bobbins and one of his customers asked him to make a set of miniature lace bobbin earrings.



Howard Hartman brought an electrically operated 'crescent' wrench.



Wesley Cole made a pen out of a rifle bullet shell casing and wood.



Paul Magee brought pictures of bookcases he made from Red Oak with a MinWax stain and Poly finish.



Raymond Fontenote brought his 'Lancelot' carving grinder. It uses a chainsaw blade and has a VERY aggressive cutting

action.



Herman Davis specializes in carving small, intricate items from tallow limbs. This is a 'Tiger Tee' he

carved from a common golf tee.

Tod Braquet won the door prize - \$25 since he didn't have a show and tell item.

## Program

Rebecca Phelps presented a program about making whistles and tops on a lathe.



She makes the tops in two pieces - the shaft and the body of the top. She starts by turning a long piece of wood into a

round stick about 2" in diameter. While it's still on the lathe, she marks 3/8" segments the entire length of the stick. She uses a band saw to cut disks from the stick. A jig and clamp will help make this a safe and accurate procedure. It's important that the disks be flat and that the sides are parallel. Next, drill a 5/16" hole in the center of the disk. A centering jig will help properly position the disk and make drilling the holes easy.

She buys 5/16" luan dowels, but you can also use hardwood dowels - they are just more expensive. Cut the dowels in 2 1/2" lengths. They should snugly fit the holes in the disk. Use cyanoacrylate, woodworker's or gap filling glue depending on how snugly the dowel fits. Leave 1/2" of the dowel protruding from one side of the disk.

Mount the 1/2" end of the dowel in a Jacobs chuck and round over the end of the dowel. Then reverse the top and chuck the long end

in the chuck. Now, shape the sides and edges of the disk and finish by cutting the 1/2" end of the dowel to a rather sharp point. Sand the top while it's in the lathe and decorate the top with water-based felt tip pens.

For whistles, Rebecca starts with 3/4" x 3/4" x 3" blanks and almost any wood will make a good whistle. Now drill a 3/8" hole lengthways in the center of the blank to a depth of 1 3/4". The next step involves cutting the windway slot. The vertical wall of the windway slot should go 1/8" deep into the 3/8" hole. Make the vertical cut about 3/4" from the end, then make a 30 degree cut from the body of the whistle to the bottom of the windway slot vertical cut. The cuts can be made on a scroll saw, band saw or with a handsaw.

Now, make a mandrel out of a piece of 3/8" metal rod about 3" long. You might have to sand the mandrel so that the blank is a snug, but not tight fit. Chuck the mandrel in a Jacobs chuck, push the blank onto the mandrel and bring the tailstock up to the blank. Now turn the whistle to a decorative shape, sand it and apply a finish (if you wish).

Now, you have to make the 'fibble'. Start with a piece of 3/8" dowel that fits the 3/8" hole in the whistle. Flatten one side of the dowel about 1/8" deep. Then cut the dowel into 3/4" long pieces and inset the fibble into the hole so the end is even with the vertical cut in the windway slot. Test the whistle and if it sounds right, glue the fibble in place. Trim any excess dowel and now you have a whistle.

Thanks for an informative program - we look forward to having a lot of whistles and tops for the toy drive this year. Rebecca's instructions for making tops and whistles will be posted on our website for future reference.

## Old Timer's Group

By Rebecca Phelps

The members of the Old Timer's Group of the Woodworkers of Southeast Texas met February 21<sup>st</sup> at Steve Brady's shop to organize and establish their mission. Membership in the group is open to all members of the club. They will meet for about 4 hours one day a month at Steve Brady's shop under the leadership of John Phelps, Steve Brady, or Dean Partridge. They will work on one or more projects that will serve the club while having fun and enjoying each other's fellowship. They will end each session with a lunch and a group decision on when their next meeting date will be. Meeting dates will be announced at the regular club meetings.

Their mission is to act as a service group and a resource for the Woodworkers Club. They will do this by:

- performing such services as preparing stock, making up kits, and doing some pre-assembly in preparation for the club toy workshops.
- assisting in the preparations needed for the club Saturday program workshops, such as building jigs, gathering materials, or pre-assembly of parts.
- constructing a vacuum veneering table whose construction and use will become the source of at least one program for the club as well as a Saturday workshop. When it is finished, it will be available during Old Timer sessions to all the club members for their own vacuum veneering projects.
- preparing for building some more elaborate toys by constructing simple router tables and other jigs

- acting as a club mentoring group to all club members by providing expertise to assist in project problem solving or by demonstrating a specific woodworking technique
- offering work sessions where members can come and make a specific jig or tool for use in their own shop, such as a high rip fence for a bandsaw or a tenoning jig for a table saw.
- offering to construct a specific jig or tool for a club member in return for reimbursement for materials used and a donation to the toy-making effort.

Again, all club members are encouraged to attend a session, see what's going on, and join in if you are interested. Come to one, all, or none as your interest and needs dictate!!

The club discussed the possibility that the Old Timer's Group might build some nice toys for the club to sell at events like the Nederland Heritage Festival. The proceeds will be used to fund additional projects for the club

The next meeting of the Old Timer's group will be on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at Steve Brady's shop in Vidor. The meeting will start at 9AM and last until everyone is ready to leave.

### Next Club Meeting

Our next regular meeting will be Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at Acadian Cypress and Hardwoods in Rose City starting at 7PM. Be sure to bring a chair and a show and tell item. I'll be there early to take pictures of your show & tells.