



# The DoveTale

June 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:	85	Present:	25	Visitors:	5
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Our Next Meeting will be July 28<sup>th</sup>

## June 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

Our June meeting was held at Dr. Vardiman's shop – Waid Gauthier presided. Business items included:

- Howard Hartman – treasury at \$2,472.46
- Richard Hicks – Membership at 85
- Ken Bodden – Has added some new magazines to the library
- Rod Ruppel – Good Saturday meeting at Steve Brady's shop on the WoodMizer. No Saturday meeting in July
- Rob Emanuel – Several new items in the Gallery on our website

## Raffle Item

The Woodline Company donated a really nice set of router bits to our club during the Houston Woodworking Show. The club decided to raffle the set and use the proceeds to purchase the materials for our toy project. Waid Gauthier and Howard Hartman are handling the sales (guess who's taking care of the money). The tickets are \$1.00 each and you can buy as many as you want right up to the time of the drawing, which will be held at the conclusion of the July meeting.

## Safety Item

We discussed the new Saw Stop product. The product is designed to almost instantly stop the saw blade on a table saw if you it contacts your fingers. None of the major manufacturers are putting it on their saws yet. The company that makes the Saw Stop is planning to start selling their own saw equipped with the safety device. They are also trying to get the government to issue regulations requiring its use on all new saws.

It's a really good product but there are several negatives; the device will activate if you try to cut 'wet' wood and once it activates, it ruins the saw blade and the stopping device. Of course, this is a small price to pay if it saves an injury.

## Show & Tells



Jeff Book built this blanket chest for his sister-in-law. The chest is Walnut with Cherry panels.

He intentionally left some of the minor imperfections and sapwood on the top because he liked the contrasts.

## Program



Dick Osborn built this cradle out of Cherry. The kit, with plans, came from WoodSmith. Check issue 48, December 1986,

for the plans. He used a Fruitwood stain and wipe on varnish. Dick estimates he has about \$300 in materials and 60+ hours of labor in the cradle. He's offered to loan his patterns to anyone that wants to make one.



Howard Hartman built this 'cat mausoleum' for his recently deceased cat. Howard's cat was always in the

shop keeping an eye on him while he worked. This was Howard's tribute to his companion.



Jewel Hymel found some really neat plastic wedges he uses to shim or line up things like doors and drawers.

They were originally designed for plumbers to use when setting toilets. They have rough surfaces so they don't slip.



Dean Partridge brought a bread box with a tambour door. He used Red Oak with a natural finish. It's really

too nice to store bread in!

Dr. Vardiman gave us an update on the progress of his boat project. He's says he's on target to have the boat in the water by the end of the year.

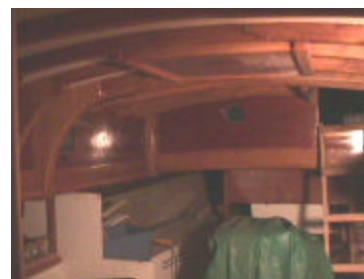
John Alden designed this boat and the original was built in 1921. It's still sailing



today - in fact it was used in the movie 'Message in a Bottle'. It's got two masts with schooner rigging. When completed,

it will weigh approximately 16 tons. Dr. Vardiman got his plans in 1987 and, at the time, he had no idea that it was going to take this long to complete.

The main framing of the boat is made from white oak trees harvested right here in Southeast Texas and air-dried for about 10 years before they were used. The planking is white cedar from Florida and the bottom planking is Mahogany shipped directly from Honduras. He could not find anyone to cast the keel, so he made a hollow keel and filled it with scrap iron. The target weight was 5,500 pounds - his weighed 5,485 pounds. The ribs were either steam-bent or laminated, depending on the radius of the curves. His white oak bent very well - he only broke 4-5 pieces during the bending process.



John has finished most of inside of the cabin. He will have all of the latest navigation equipment: GPS, Radar and radios.

The boat also has an 80 hp motor so he can keep moving when the wind stops blowing.

He's also finished making the mast. He found out a solid stika spruce mast was very expensive and decided to build his own. He built a hollow mast in two pieces. He built the bulkheads and planked the outside surface. He installed his electrical and instrumentation cables and then glued the mast halves together. He plans to have his sails made by a shipyard on the East Coast.

John says he will keep us informed of his progress and he'll invite us to see the launching.

Thank you Dr. Vardiman for taking the time to show us your project every year. We're really looking forward to seeing it in the water.

### Workbench Project

The workbench has been completed and it's on display at Acadian Hardwoods. It is really beautiful and a tribute to the skills of the members that built it. It's available for use in program presentations, etc.

### Our Next Meeting

We'll be back at Acadian Hardwoods in Rose City for our next meeting on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Kathy Dressel will present a program on the basics of scroll sawing. Kathy has mastered about every type of scroll saw project that can be done. Her Intarsia pieces are real works of art and her fretwork, well, I don't see how anyone can have that much patience.

The meeting will start at 7PM. Be sure to bring a chair and a show & tell item. I'll be there early to take pictures of your show & tells.

Reminder: This will be the last opportunity to buy a raffle ticket for the router bit set. The drawing will be held at the end of the meeting.