The DoveTale

March 2011

Members:	53	Present:	24	Visitors:	1

Our Next Meeting will be Apr 25th

March 28th Meeting

We held the March meeting at our regular meeting location, 1685 Ashley in Beaumont. Business items included:

- Waid Gauthier – about $2,403
- Richard Hicks – 53 renewals and roster is final
- Web Site – Rob Emanuel reports that he's having problems with our website and he's working to correct them.
- Library – A lot of new books and videos are available for checkout

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 25th at our regular meeting facility, 1685 Ashley in Beaumont. Earl Rutherford will present a program on turning wooden goblets on a lathe. Directions: Take the MLK exit on IH-10, go South on MLK and then turn West on Ashley. Go two blocks and you're there. The business meeting will start at 6:30 and the regular meeting starts at 7:00. Be sure to bring a show and tell item.

Programs

I'm still looking for ideas for our programs. Let me know if you have an idea or would like to present a program. We have a lot of audio/video capability now and I'm available to help with pictures or other forms of electronic presentation aids.

Shop Safety

One of our members got a pretty nasty cut on his hand when his worm drive saw "kicked back" while he was making a cut in a 3" piece of wood. Kickbacks are always a danger when cutting wood, no matter what kind of tool you're using. Rip cuts on a table saw are especially dangerous and most new saws are equipped with splitters and anti-kickback features – but they don't work if you don't use them.

Another member reported that his router 'flipped' the work piece when he lost control of the piece due to the small contact surface left from a previous cut. Luckily, he was not injured but the potential was there. He believes he could have prevented it by using a feather board to hold the work piece against the fence during the cut. Feather boards come in all sizes, and you can even make your own. Check ShopNotes for plans.

Beads of Courage Boxes

The Beads of Courage program is a national program where children are given a series of beads signifying various steps in their treatment of major illnesses like cancer. When they finish their treatment, they have a string of beads with corresponding descriptions of the treatments as a remembrance of their journey to recovery.

Richard Hicks learned about the Beads of Courage program at the 2010 SWAT symposium in Waco. They were asking woodworkers to make small boxes that the children could use to store their beads. Richard thought it would make a worthwhile project for our club and contacted the folks at The Children's Cancer Center at M.D. Anderson in Houston. They were excited about the boxes and said they could use about 100 per year.

Richard made a short presentation suggesting that the club make the boxes and donate them directly to the program at M.D. Anderson. A motion was made and seconded that the club support the program. Dean Partridge will coordinate the construction and delivery of the boxes and we hope to have example boxes on display at the next meeting.

Tool Reviews

Steve Brady shows his "Dual Saw". It features two counter-rotating carbide tipped saw blades that can cut through almost anything without kickback. It has been advertised on TV for some time and it works just like they demonstrate it.

Jerry Shivers shows his Sears miniature driver. It holds screw-driver bits as well as sockets, and it's indispensable for working in tight spaces like installing cabinet hardware.

Ivan Test brought his Craftsman cordless nail driver. It's great for driving nails in tight places where you can't swing a conventional hammer. Several folks tested the tool and it works.

Show & Tells

Dale Clark shows a picture of a pine picnic table set he made from a set of on-line plans.

Richard Spinney shows a marionette he's carving for his granddaughter.

Richard Spinney also shows a nice jewelry box made of maple and walnut. He made quite a few as Christmas presents.

Jeffery Fritz used African Mahogany and soft maple to make this glass front display case. He also won the door prize.

Raymond Fontenote shows a router bowl he made from some walnut he salvaged from Steve Brady's burn pile.

Mack Trahan shows a small magnolia coffee table he made while he was in high school.

David Mayer shows a woodturning DVD he's donating to the club library.

Larry Trahan shows an oak step stool he made for a small child. He made two sets of stools.

Michael Newell shows pictures of a gazebo he recently constructed.

Program

David Mayer presented an interesting program about the Festool Domino joining system. It's used to join two pieces of wood together much like biscuits or dowels – but with better results. The oversize fence, alignment pins and cutting action make the alignment of the two pieces very precise. Dominos can also be used in place of mortise and tenon construction.

The unique shape of the domino provides twice the gluing surface compared to biscuits and unlike dowels, it also makes the joint "rotation proof".

Dominos come in 6 different sizes to cover almost any size project.

David described how he used the domino on various projects and brought two of his latest projects to show the versatility of the system. He joined the rails to the rosette blocks for his picture frame. He showed the strength of dominos on end grain joints with his chair project – all of the joints were domino glue joints without mechanical fasteners of any kind.

David, thanks for an excellent presentation on the domino joining system.