

SPLINTERS

Tennessee Valley Woodworkers

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November 1999

Editor: Tom Gillard

Meeting Notice:

The next meeting of the TN Valley Woodworkers
Will be held, November 16, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. in the
Duck River Electric Building, Dechard, TN
All interested woodworkers are invited!

TENNESSEE VALLEY WOODWORKERS MINUTES OCTOBER 19, 1999

President Loyd Ackerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Welcome guests were CHUCK TAYLOR, LARRY RHEA, RUTH and WARD PROTSMAN. RUTH and WARD are our newest members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - About 500 people visited the demonstrations at the Coffee County Fair.

Charles Alvis passed away.

The dates for the 2000 Expo will be - Winchester, April 17, Tullahoma, April 24, and Manchester May 1, 2000.

The fall seminar will be held at Tom Gillard's shop on October 30th.

NOMINEES for officers in 2000 are:

President - TOM COWAN,

Vice-president - BOB REESE,

Secretary - JOHN MAYBERRY,

Treasurer - HENRY DAVIS,

Publicity - DOYLE McCONNELL,

SPLINTERS editor - TOM GILLARD.

Nominations from the floor will be at the November meeting with the election following.

The Christmas party and pot luck will be on Saturday, December 4, 1999.

SHOW AND TELL -

LOYD ACKERMAN - a spalted holly bowl, a walnut bowl and a box elder bowl.

BEN WHITEAKER - a clock made from wood reclaimed from his scrap box.

RON DAWBARN - a chest with shelf and cedar lining and plans for his step stool.

JOHN TROXLER - a stool with cabriole legs made at Jim Van Cleaves workshop.

ROSS ROEPKE - a cherry thimble rack finished with Deft and a piece of high-density foam used for cleaning sand paper.

BILLY MAY - a white walnut spirit face carved at the Fair demo and a painted Emmet Kelly figure carved from sycamore.

KENNETH CLARK - a 15-year-old slab from a pear tree and wooden bi-plane WWI trainer made with cherry and maple.

JOHN MAYBERRY - a bud vase turned from poplar.

JOHN GREEN - a sampler of exotic woods from Costa Rica and some jewelry made from some of the woods.

DOYLE McCONNELL - a buffing wheel and a sharpening wheel made from MDF board. Also coping saw blades.

MAURICE RYAN - a suggestion to use coping saw blades or scroll saw blades to carve pumpkins.

LARRY HALBECK - a question about a format to swap, trade or sell items. After some discussion it was decided that SPLINTERS is available to any club member for this purpose.

After a short break Loyd presented a program on the history and uses of the tuaga nut.

A total of 38 members and guests attended. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, John Green, secretary.

FALL SEMINAR -

The 1999 fall seminar was held on October 30th at Tom Gillard's shop with a total of 24 members and guests in attendance. Ted Baldwin demonstrated his shop techniques and methods of construction and design of boxes, book marks, place mats and various other small items that he makes in his College Park, Georgia, shop.



Wood Anecdote

When James Marshall discovered gold at Sutter's Mill on the American River in 1848, the California Gold Rush began. So did the mass harvest of the sugar pine, the largest North American pine.

John Sutter had set up his mill at Coloma to saw sugar pine. The tree's tremendous size -200' heights and diameters of 18' have been recorded-meant lots of quality boards from a tree. And the wood was lighter and easier to work than other pines.

Little did Sutter suspect how his lumber business would boom with the coming of the prospecting Forty-niners. They quickly created demand for boards to build mining shacks, sluice boxes, and flumes to extract the gold from riverbanks and streambeds. It became shoring for miners and bridges to cross the waterways. Sugar pine was used for homes, stores, and roof shingles.

After the Gold Rush, settlers began farming and ranching in the valleys. And just as before, the sugar pine yielded wood for their barns and fences, even though the remaining trees were 100 miles away.

As California's fruit-growing industry developed, growers turned to the sugar pine for boxes and crates because it imparted no taste to the fruit. It was also good looking.

Even after 150 years of harvesting, sugar pine still grows in commercial amounts in California and Oregon. But to ensure future trees, forest managers have been known to hire sharpshooters to drop the

large (10-20" long), otherwise uncollectible, unopened cones from the towering treetops.

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After Ted Baldwin's demos this past weekend this might interest some of you.

Five-dollar flocker puts on a fast, fuzzy finish:

On occasion, I like to finish the inside of a wooden box with a nice flocked finish. But I don't do it often enough to justify spending \$50 or more for a specialized spray gun. Woodcraft's Mini Flocker performs well for about one tenth that price.

At first glance, this product looks like a kid's telescope with one cardboard tube fitting snugly inside another. To use it, pull out the inner tube, fill it about halfway with flocking fibers, then slip it back inside the outer tube. After applying color-matched undercoat adhesive to your project, it's just a matter of pointing the Mini Flocker and pumping out the fine flocking. The flocking fibers and adhesive will set you back another \$16 or so, but will cover about 15 square feet.

I had to keep the applicator pretty level with my bench to get good results-when held nose-down, it clogged quickly. I also found that shaking or turning the Mini Flocker from time to time helped prevent the flocking from clumping up inside. All in all, the process is easy and results in a professional-looking job.

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HO-HO-HO,

Tis the season! Well almost, but Christmas will soon be upon us and you know what that means, the annual TVWW party.

The potluck supper planned for December 4th at the Nazarene Church in Decherd is set. Richard has reserved the Fellowship hall for us. We need to set arrival for 5:30 and supper for 6 PM. Everyone should bring a covered dish. I think I recall that we decided that there's no need this year for the club to buy meat, but we'll supply the soda pop and ice and the members will bring the food.

Loyd

Tom Church will present a program on Windsor chairs based on his week at Brasstown NC school.
