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Officers and Directors

Barry Humphus, Editor, Brent Evans
George Kuffel, John Marcon, Chuck Middleton

APRIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

There's nothing like great BBQ and boy did we get some last month at the Annual LC Woodworkers (Delayed) BBQ. Wayne and Marie Hollier did the cooking at their fine restaurant and delivered a wonderful meal for us all thanks to John Leonard Fontenot's connection with the Hollier's. Much thanks also goes to Robin Richard who arranged with PPG Industries for the venue. We also got some great volunteer help to set up and put away the tables and chairs as well as doing the final cleanup of the PPG Family Center.

Like in years past, members brought guests (and we got a couple of new members from these folks) plus the latest Show and Tell and the annual magazine swap. Forgetting totally about the magazine swap this year Barry Humphus will have twice as many the next time. The only thing Barry did was bring a Powerpoint presentation of all of the work posted on our web site.

Not only is our organization about woodworking education and safety, it is about the recognition of the work we do. So this year, we started an awards program to be hopefully repeated at subsequent annual BBQ events.

The awards were categorized to follow the sub-categories of the Gallery on our website and include:

Cabinets and Furniture — Jeff Cormier
Carvings and Engravings — John Marcon
Toys & Fun Things — Pie Sonnier
Tools and Jigs — George Kuffel
Turnings and Bowls — Gary Rock
Scrollwork & Intarsia — Eltee Thibodeaux
Everything Else — Steve McCorquodale

In addition to the formal awards in the above categories, several awards were presented for other areas of interest:

Best Meeting — Dick Truth
Cleanest Shop — Leoanrd & Theresa Wifret
Dirtiest Shop — Barry Humphus
Best Food — Marie & Wayne Hollier
Largest Shop — Gail & Mickey Hart

Well, I think you get the idea — these were the funny ones.

There were also members remembered in passing over the past several years including Founding Member Rod Stowe, a fine turner Howard Nealy, a fine pen turner Nemo Robinson, pen turner & general wood worker Vince Vincent, box making & veneering Bob Ferguson, furniture making & turning Burl Vincent, toys, pens and many other items.

All of these fine woodworkers will be long remembered by us and many others and of course, we miss them all.

Show and Tell brought several items this month including a couple of fine bowls by Gary Rock and several fine carved canes by Jimmy Everett.

Pie Sonnier, not to be outdone, built a fine looking 1957 Chevy just for Wayne Hollier. Wayne has just purchased such a car to be restored. When its finished, we hope he drives it to one of our meetings so the car can be appreciated.

Jim Anderson blew all of us away with a great table and Gary Rock showed off his portable turning station. Mr. Thibodeaux created a good looking motored Ferris Wheel, complete with riders. How can he find the time to do these!

As always, you can see these and 300+ more at the Lake Charles Woodworkers web site at www.lcwoodworkers.com.

SPECIAL LCWW BADGES

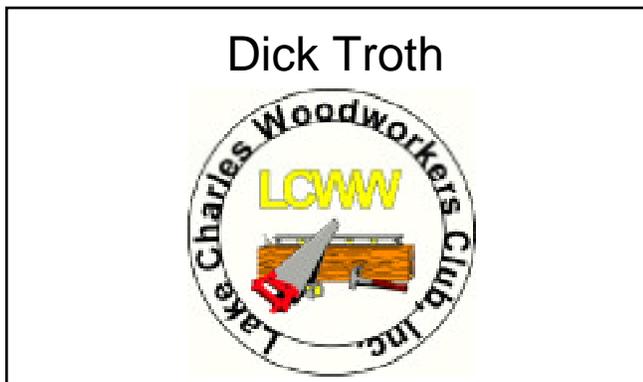
Tired of those old plastic badges we hand out at each meeting.? Then you need to upgrade your tools! Cabinets and Doors has agreed to produce custom laser cut LCWW badges at cost. Dick Truth has supplied the wood and connectors. See the next page for details.

Coming Up . . . The Shop of Dick Truth where you will get the latest woodworking info, Show and Tell and much more. 9:00 a.m. Saturday, 12 May, 2006

SPECIAL LCWW BADGES

Tired of those old plastic badges we hand out at each meeting.? Then you need to upgrade your tools! Cabinets and Doors of Iowa, LA has agreed to produce custom laser cut LCWW badges at their cost (\$8.00 or less). Dick Troth has supplied the wood and connectors. See Dick at the next meeting to order yours.

But here's the deal: you need to tell Dick Troth exactly what your badge will say -- we suggest your name, but that is entirely up to you. If the badges actually cost less than the quoted price, we'll put the extra money in our general fund. The new badges will look something like the following and will include the LCWW logo, be made of wood and have a magnetic clasp.



HOUSTON WOODWORKERS SHOW

The Reliant Stadium Exhibition Hall was the location of the annual Houston Woodworking Show this year and it was a treat to be able to attend.

We saw lots of friends and old acquaintances including members of the LCWW, the Houston Woodworkers and the Gulf Coast Turners. Plus lots of tools and techniques.

One of the benefits of the show are the demonstrations that go on continuously. This year they included turning, joint making and general wood craft by experts in the field.

Other demonstrations were found all across the show at the booths of tool and supplier firms as well as organizations. For example, the Gulf Coast Woodturners had displays of items made by their members as well as live demonstrations of woodturning techniques.

Of course there were tools —thousands of them, large and small.

Some examples were Microjig's GRR-Ripper that is a push block, push stick, hold down, splitter and safety guard for both table saws and router tables. www.microjig.com.

Microplane has long made hand tools for the shop and kitchen. They've introduced a stainless steel sandpaper that fits your orbital sander in various grits. It is said to be 9 times faster than conventional sandpaper and lasts 30 times longer. I tried it and it really works. www.microplane.com.

Our Mr. Thibodeaux purchased some Baddog drill bits and really likes them. They also have what they call a 'rover' bit that allows you to turn corners. See them at www.baddogtools.com.

The sharpening system from JoolTool uses 3M abrasive technology in a unique way. It is a sharpening/grinding/polishing machine where the grit is on the underside of the tool. The support disk for the abrasives has slots in them such that when the tool is rotating, you can see through the disk. The advantage is that you can grind an edge and watch what



you are doing to the tool as it happens. In other words, you see through the wheel as metal is being removed. It works with planes, carving tools and gouges and with a different grit, can be used as a grinder or polisher. www.jooltool.com.

Some interesting carving and steel marking tools are from SpringTools (www.springtools.com). They permit very precise and controlled carving and marking.

The Last Glue from AA Fasteners is a great alpha-cyanoacrylate formulation that has a five year

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shelf life. However, I've never seen a cyanoacrylate work so fast plus it sticks to thing regular glues won't. AA Fastener also markets a neat wire stripper/cutter. Instead of having to size wire prior to stripping, the device does this automatically. Bought one. www.aafastener.com

Micro-Surface manufactures micro-mesh cushioned abrasives. The design of the products (for hand and power use) allows it conform to almost any shape and come in a very wide number of grits from hogging off to fine polishing. www.micro-surface.com.

Rodman and Coinc make a variety of drilling and cutting tools that all seem to work very well.



Besides their standard carbide drill bits, they have what is called The Nibbler. This is a device that attaches to a standard electric hand drill that permits you to cut sheet metal, plastics and fiberglass up to 14 gage. www.rodmanandcoinc.com

Hawk Woodworking Tools sells scrollsaws, router systems, planers, jointers, dust collectors and lots more directly to end users through their web site at www.rbiwoodtools.com and from truck sales that travel the US. They look pretty good and are generally bargains.

TopSaver is an all in one rust remover and lubricant that appears to work well for any steel or iron surfaced tool. We saw it demoed on a scroll saw and it really worked well. In addition, they sell a blade lubricant, pitch remover and even a router bit care product. See them at www.empiremfg.com

Of course, there were also all the usual suspects at the show including a very large Delta Tool display, Jet, Rockler, Mini-Max (very large



bandsaws), Tormex, Lie-Neilsen planes in all sizes, our freind Steve LeGrue of the Cutting Edge.

THE STONE APPROACH

Sharpening stones are the most common form for abrasives. Arkansas stones and some man-made materials are lubricated with light oil or kerosene, which helps float away debris and prevent the pores of the stone from clogging. But oil can be messy, a disadvantage that has steered many woodworkers to waterstones. They are kept in a water bath when not in use, or misted with water just before use. Waterstones cut faster than oilstones but they also wear more quickly and must be flattened regularly. Ceramic stones are another option, cutting faster than oilstones but not as quickly as waterstones. They're also harder to flatten.

The grading system for naturally quarried stone is less precise than the scale used for waterstones. Arkansas stones range from Washita, the coarsest grade, to hard black, which produces a finer edge. By contrast, waterstones are graded by grit, like sandpaper. Coarse stones of 220 grit remove material quickly but produce a fairly rough edge while a very fine 8000-grit stone produces a mirror polish. Common grits also include 800, 1000, 1200, 4000, 5000 and 6000. From *Fine Woodworking*.