

Gary Rock, President
Dick Hopes, Sec. / Treasurer

Officers and Directors

Barry Humphus, Editor, Bubba Cheramie
George Kuffel, John Marcon, Chuck Middleton

AUGUST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Our meeting this month was again in the fine shop of George Kuffel. New president Gary Rock briefed the members on the recent board meeting and went over some of the ideas generated.

One of the items discussed is to create an 'About Our Woodworkers' section on our web site. This would feature brief synopsis' of members on how they got started in woodworking and how their interests have developed over time. To do this, we would need for members who are interested in being featured to write a couple of paragraphs about themselves such as what inspired them to take up woodworking as a profession or hobby, a bit of history of their life and their woodworking focus. Occasionally, we would reproduce this information in our Newsletter.

Another idea is one that is used by the Gulf Coast Woodturners call Bring Back Item. The idea is that members build something small and bring it to a meeting. The item would be given away in a drawing. The winning member would have the option of replacing it with something she or he made or returning it at the next meeting for another drawing.

Dick Trough offered his shop as a place we can have a toy building session. The toys made will go to the Calcasieu Women's Shelter. A date for this is set for July 29.

We had some guests this month, including John Weaver, a general woodworker, turner and whip maker, his brother Shelton Weaver who turns, Tom Bergstead, also a turner and Claude Bevel, a general woodworker and John Newport, a general woodworker.

Gary Rock discussed using personal protection equipment in your shop including full face masks, dust/resporators and ear protection. All members who have worked in the local industrial facilities are well aware of the importance of PPE. Gary will have a breif discussion on safety each month.

Show and Tell brought several items this month including an older peice by Pie Sonnier. It was of course a vehicle, one that your editor and prob-

ably several others have driven: a Willis Overland Army Jeep. I recall that it had 21 grease points and I certainly remember lubricating this Jeep while in Viet Nam.

James Anderson brought a table/plant stand of cypress inlaid with walnut (a very fine design) while Mr. Eltee Thibodeaux had turned a deer antler pen as well as a Brazilian cherry perfume atomizer.

Guest John Weaver showed a neat toy called a Whoopie. It consists of a short stick of about 1/2 inch on each side with a 'propeller' at one end that spins as you stroke the wood. Stroke it a different way and the propeller turns in the opposit direction. The only way to discribe it is to see it and get the explanation on how it works!

Dick Troth showed three sets of turning tools he got from Rockler. Ranging from small (for pen turning) to a larger set, they are inexpensive but high quality HSS but with fairly short handles. The idea for the larger set is that you could re-shape the profiles and add longer handles if needed.

The new wood name tags were distributed by Dick Trough. They have the LCWW logo with your name beneath. For those that want one, Dick Trough needs to send in at least six names to keep the cost low. The wooden, laser cut name tags, cost \$8.00.

Topic discussion included a presentation by Lee Frazier on water based poly and it's use over other finishing products. Lee said that you can use water poly over oil poly as long as the water poly is completely cured. The reverse also will work, again, as long as the underlying finish is completely cured.

Coming Up . . . Saturday, August 12, 9:00 a.m.

Shop of J. W. Anderson. James Anderson lives in DeQuicny so you should get with another member or two to save gas.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am excited to be your new president of the "LC Woodworkers Club." If you have an idea of something in woodworking that you would like to see or do at one of the monthly club meetings, please contact one of the board members or contact me at the house by phone, e-mail or just come by. Call before you do to make sure that I am there. Our board meetings are open to the membership and are held each quarter.

I feel that Safety needs to be talked about at every meeting. It won't be a long and drawn out affair. Last month was about PPE (personal protection equipment). Which, every time enter your shop to work, you should reach for and put on before turning on any equipment. It is no fun to be hurt when it only takes a second to put on your PPE equipment. When it takes less than a split second to get hurt, so always be thinking about the job ahead of time before you start.

We have all different ways of coming into woodworking. Write up something on your self such as: what got you into woodworking, how long you have doing it, etcetera. When you have done this, give it to one of the board members and it will be placed in the monthly newsletter.

I am really looking forward to the "Bring Back Item," and it will be done at every meeting. A number will be drawn to see who gets the "Bring Back Item." You will be given a choice to make a small item or bring back the item you received from the last meeting. It can be a carving, build a small box, toy, etcetera. For we are a cross section of woodworkers that have carvers, turners, carpenters, cabinet makers, model makers, sawyers and etcetera in our club.

We have started the ball moving on the "Holiday Toy" program. Will be meeting and working in Dick Truths shop. If you have any scrape wood such as 2 x 4's, bring them to the monthly meeting so we can turn your scraps into toys for the Calcasieu Women's Shelter. On Thursday, August 10, join us in helping "Santa" in making toys for kids. Usually when the children show up at the shelter, all they have is the clothes on their back. The holidays are not that far away.

GARY H. ROCK, WOODWORKER

From Member Moments

In 1977 I began my woodworking craft in a 6ft. by 6ft. shop that eventually grew to a 20ft. by 30ft. shop. My early woodworking ranged from making toys, to furniture repair, and along with custom wood turning. At that time I started out with a Sears 12 inch wood lathe. I concentrated on turning spindles and bowls. The spindles were Oak to Maple anywhere from 2-inch to 12-inch diameter. The bowls at that time were mostly small. I had not started experimenting with size and color yet, nor with different types of wood.

By 1986 I was running a full woodworking shop along with working a full time job at one of the areas heavy industry plants. In 1987 I bought a home in Westlake where I continued custom woodwork and turning on a small scale.

Then in 1996 I built another large wood shop. In the years following, I have worn out my Sears lathe. Rebuilt it in 2000 and used it full time until 2 years ago. At that time I moved up to an Oneway lathe. Over the bed I can turn a 20-inch bowl up to a 53-inch long spindle. On the out board end I can turn up to a 44-inch bowl.

I now turn soft woods along with hard woods from Southern Yellow Pine to Ambrosia Maple, from solid stock to distressed stock, (that is wood that has checks and voids), as well as knots, or all three together. I still turn small bowls to large deep hollow turnings. Over the years, I have developed an eye for looking at the wood and figuring out what would look good coming out of that piece of wood. I like to turn the distressed wood where other turners prefer to turn solid perfect stock. In these voids, checks, knots, etc. that are in the wood, I like to inlay and or fill with brass, turquoise, a color filling, or a different wood. Besides turning I still do custom woodwork from furniture repair, building toys, plaques, and signs, to church and home furnishings. I am a self taught woodworker and turner. After twenty-seven years I enjoyed taking the opportunity to take classes at the Craft Supply USA in Provo, Utah and am presently hard at work making sawdust.

Every member can be featured in the Newsletter and online in the web site by sending Barry your information. See the entry form at www.lcwoodworkers.com/MemberMoments

LCWW TOY BUILD

On Saturday, July 29, members of the LCWW met at the shop of Dick Trough to build holiday toys for the Calcasieu Women's Shelter. Building the toys were Dick Trough, our host, Jeff Cormier, J. W. Anderson, Theresa Wilfret, Leonard Wilfret, Chuck Middleton, Gary Rock and Barry Humphus.

We likely could not get any more active woodworkers in that shop. Fortunately, Dick has plenty of power tools with which we could build the toys. We used a bandsaw (Theresa and Leonard), two lathes (Gary and Barry), two sanders (Chuck and Barry), a scrawl saw (Chuck), drill press (J. W.) and a router station (Dick). Dick has a great dust collector system, but even with this, there was a lot of wood chips being made, so the system was loaded at times. The shop is also well air conditioned without which we could not have done the job.

While Dick did not make us breakfast, he did provide lunch. Thanks, Dick!

The crew made blanks for nearly a hundred cars and trucks. A meeting on Thursday, 10 August at 6:00 p.m. will allow the group to finish off the toys including glue-up and painting.

ITEMS FOR SALE AND A REQUEST

A few members have some power tools for sale. Dick Trough has a great Sears belt sander (4 x 24). As I have one of these, I know it is a great machine, both sturdy and reliable. Call Dick at 583-2683 for information.

George Kuffle has a 10 inch classic DeWalt radial arm saw for sale with stand, little used, completely functional and a bargain. Call George at 478-2707.

Mickey McMullin needs some back issues of Wood Magazine to complete his collection. If you have some and want to reduce your stack, he's looking for issues 1-3, 98-101, 122, 130-133, 135-136 and 146-148. Please give Mickey a call and see what he'll pay at 337-460-8518.

EMAIL LCWW NEWSLETTER ISSUES

Beginning this month, some members will receive an emailed copy of the Newsletter rather than a mailed one. We save about \$1.00 per mailing per person. To sign up, please contact Barry Humphus.

TABLE SAW SPLITTER

Adding a splitter to a new tablesaw zero clearance throat insert is an excellent safety practice. Once installed, neglecting it requires a conscious effort, so the odds are that it will see everyday, real-life use.

The splitters that come with most table saws are lousey. They get in the way and often as not, the woodworker simply removes them and never uses one again. But without one, you run the very high risk of kick-back and damage to the work piece and worse, damage to you. The splitter has an important function: to keep either piece of board from moving to the back of the blade. If it does catch the back of the blade, it can be hurtled forward at speeds more than 200 mph — one ugly form of kickback.

I've found, though, that the usually recommended procedure of extending the kerf behind the blade and gluing in a wooden tongue is hard to pull off without introducing minuscule errors. The slightest error will result in a device that snags the workpiece. The method below solves those problems.

Raise the sawblade through a new zero clearance plate insert. Then place the insert against a fence on a drill-press table. Align things by lowering a drill bit of a diameter that is equal to the blade thickness (usually 1/8 in.) into the kerf. When the bit is centered in the kerf, lock the fence, change to a twist drill bit 1/32 in. smaller, switch on the drill press and bore a hole near the outfeed end of the kerf. Now push that same bit into the hole, shank up, along with a dab of cyanoacrylate glue. The twist drill bit will now serve as the splitter pin. It will be aligned perfectly with the sawkerf and should have about 1/64 in. of clearance on each side.

I have used many push sticks and quite a few of them have been dinged, or worse. Every ding equals one finger that might have been scarred or lost.

That is a way of saying, use push sticks. But all push sticks are not safe. I frankly think that one of the most common push sticks is also the most unsafe. They are about 8 inches long, an inch wide at most and just unsafe.

I prefer the Craftsman Guide Master (Sears part 932190). It is hefty, keeps your soft parts well away from blades and includes scales, a center finder, blade height indicator and more. *Barry Humphus.*