

Brent Evans, President
Dick Hopes, Sec/Treasurer

Officers and Directors

John Marcon, Barry Humphus
Chuck Middleton, Camile Vincent, George Kuffel

DECEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

2000 CLUB DUES

Mr. & Mrs. Nemo Robinson were the hosts for our annual holiday Show & Tell and Toy Turn-in this month at Nemo's shop. There were lots to show and tell from those attending.

Barry Humphus showed his Stebbins Table prototype built this Fall. He has built 4 of them so far and plans to give some of them to relatives for Christmas gifts. He also showed a sample piece of a sandblasted wood sign that we'll see more of this month.

Gene Young, our resident machinist is always coming up with interesting jigs, but now he's building a wood lathe. He showed one of the castings he poured using aluminum that he will machine into a component for the lathe. The lathe frame is built of heavy angle iron, uses a 3/4 horse motor and will have 14 speeds from about 150RPM up to 2,700 RPM. We look forward to seeing the finished unit at his shop.

Dick Hopes brought one of two examples of a child's cradle he made for a pair of infants. It is built of white wood and finished with a fine wax. He also had the wonderful membership badge box he built that makes it easy to find your name badge at each meeting.

R.E. Huffacker described the bandsaw he built this year. It is a 20" unit made mostly of wood. He described its cutting power and the main blade wheels. He also fabricated a table saw vacume system built from a old house vacume cleaner. He says he really hasn't had time to fine tune it but that it took lots of hacksaw time to fit it to his AMT tablesaw.

John Marcon showed one of his beautiful carvings. This one is going to Canada as a gift. The carving features a celtic cross and is made of basswood. The finish is an analine dye with Watco and brie wax as the final coat. He also told us about a casting shop in Houston where a mold can be made for fast reproduction work.

John L. Fontenot's time has been taken up with the rebuilding of two working tractors — a 1953 Ford and a 1972 British Leland. John described some of the difficulty finding replacement parts for the tractors.

Rusty Carr (Welcome to the Club, Rusty) is in the design stages of a new shop. Rusty needs to finish it in a hurry so we can start having our meetings there! Rusty welcomes any advice from the membership on layout and tool considerations.

Bubba Cheramie showed us photos of the posts for his pencil post bed frame. The posts and bed are made of solid cherry. The posts stand about seven feet tall. He also described a duplicator for his lathe that he got recently for about \$200.

Lois Ferguson brought some wooden toys she found at a shop in Bar Harbor, Main. Simple in design, Dick Hopes will make some templates for us for this year's Toy Program. Lois thanked the membership for the support she has received from the members this past year.

A Special Thanks to Mrs. Robinson for making the brownies and cheese balls and the great coffee!

According to Dick Hopes, Treasurer, we've had 31 renewals for the 2000 membership year. It is not too late to send in your 2000 membership dues. You get 12 great newsletters per year, a couple of nice parties, lots of great advice and ideas and a great time at each meeting. It is only \$20 per year for a family membership (bring your relatives to a meeting!). Your paid up membership also entitles you to get substantial discounts at area hardware, paint and wood suppliers. Give Dick Hopes your check payable to the LC Woodworkers Club at the January meeting or mail it to him: LC Woodworkers Club, Inc., 1139 Green Road, Lake Charles, LA 70611. **THIS IS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES.**

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Wes Guidry has been doing creative design and some wood-working for the past 15 years. You may better know him as the voice of the Golden Oldies show on LA-99 radio every Sunday evening and his work with the Vietnam Veterans of America. His sandblasted and painted wooden signs are all over town and he has done many for the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury. Wes will discuss the techniques and show examples of how easy it is to do beautiful sandblasted signs of wood and other materials.

FOR SALE

Jerry Manuel, O 583-2901, P 437-0357, H 583-7697: 3 hp – 30 gal. 220 Craftsman Air Compressor \$225; Black & Decker Workmate \$40; Delta mortising attachment (no bits) \$30; Pot Belly Stove/Heater Vent pipe & extras \$100; Miter Box (metal) \$35; Sear's Radial Arm Saw \$250 with original blade guard \$300 includes new anti-kickback guard; Extension arm and stop block for Dewalt Miter Saw \$25; Aluminum Extension Ladders (2) \$50.00 each. Jerry's got alot of good stuff. Call him.

2000 TOY PROGRAM

In 1999 the Woodworkers built about 150 toys that were donated to the Calcasieu Women's Shelter. We hope to do better this year, especially if you start now. Again, we have and can get wood scraps and we have some automotive templates for you. Just let Barry (477-8474) know what you need.

See us at <http://org.laol.net/woodworker>

January 8th, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

Sandblasted Wood Signs and Surfaces w/
Wes Guidry, Calcasieu Public Library. See
Map on Back.

February 12th, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Restoring Your
Older Home with Dr. Joe Cash

March 11th, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Precision Wood
working and jig making with Gene Young.

EDGE GLUEING TIP



When edge-gluing several boards to make a panel, start by laying the boards in order on the pipe clamps to be certain that they're arranged the way you want them. Then, very carefully stand each board up on edge to apply the glue.

The only problem is that a board on edge (especially a wide one) will tip over at the slightest bump. And when one board goes, they all go over — just like row of dominoes.

To prevent this from happening, clip a spring clamp on one end of each board (see photo). The spring clamp props the board up above the pipe, and the handle serves as a stand. *From Augusthome.*

SHARP TEETH (Also a nickname for my cat!)

If we were doing things right before starting a project, we would check the angle of the tablesaw blade to the miter gauge. They must be precisely 90 degrees for clean cross-cuts. But a perfectly adjusted saw doesn't guarantee perfect cuts. That's the job of the cross-cut blade, and there are a couple of things to check. Start with the teeth.

The condition of the teeth will determine if the blade cuts cleanly or leaves ragged or chipped-out edges. No blade will cut well if the teeth are all gunked up with pitch and resin. So, if necessary, soak the blade in a pizza pan filled with commercial blade cleaner (*note that oven cleaner or alcohol is a less expensive blade cleaner — BH*).

When the blade is clean, use a magnifier to look closely at the teeth (a 30X illuminated pocket microscope — about \$10 at Radio Shack). Check the top, front, and edges of a few teeth. Each tooth has two cutting edges. The first is where the top and front surfaces of the tooth come together. And the second is where the side(s) and front of the tooth come together. These edges are where the actual cutting takes place.

If the edges look beat up or ragged, it's probably time to have the blade sharpened. But just to be sure, make a test cut. If the blade is really dull, it will show up on the wood. So take a good close look at the cut.

What really matters is the look and feel of the cut off piece. So take a piece of scrap and cut a 3" piece off one end. If the teeth are sharp, there shouldn't be any chip out or raggedness on any of the edges. Next examine the cut-off end. The end should look shiny and feel like it's been sanded. You can see this best when holding the end up to a bright incandescent light. If the blade is dull, you'll be able to see rough tooth marks or burns. So if the cut surface isn't clean and shiny with sharp edges, consider sharpening the blade. *From Augusthome.*

WOODTURNING WEB RESOURCES

The Editor has a new Delta lathe (X-Mas present from the wife!) and is now very interested in turning. Here are some websites where you can get lots of information on woodturning.

The American Association of Woodturners is an international, non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of woodturning. Their mission is to provide education, information, and organization to those interested in turning wood. Find them at <http://www.woodturner.org>

Another good website is <http://users.mwci.net/~rspragg/> which contains about 50 links to other woodturning websites. An introduction to woodturning and its history can be found at <http://www.cuttingedgetools.com/drwood.htm> which is our friend Steve LeGrue's (The Cutting Edge in Houston) website.

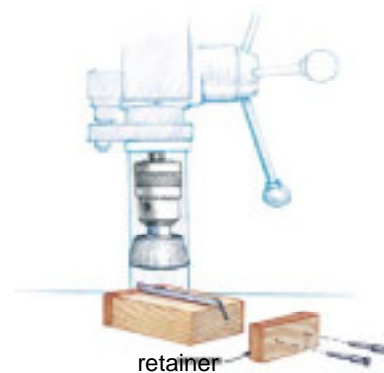
GRIND YOUR OWN KNIVES

With this simple jig, a drill press and a cup grinder, you can sharpen any jointer or planer knife.

First make a hardwood block and cut it to 1/16 in. less than the length of the knives.

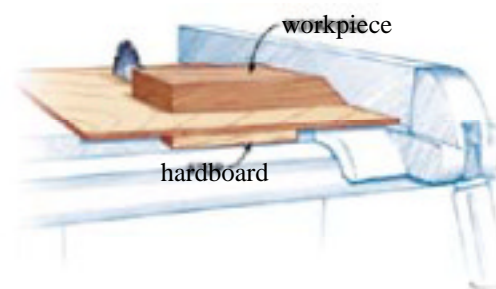
Then you add a retaining piece at each end, as shown. Install a medium-grit cup grinder in the drill press and set the speed at the high end of its range. Lower the grinding wheel until it just touches the blade, then lock the quill. (*We suggest clamping the block to the drillpress table —*

BH). Continue grinding until all the nicks in the knife are removed. Use the same procedure to grind the remaining knives, then hone them on an oil or waterstone in the usual way. *From American Woodworker.*



SLIPPING EDGES

Sharp edges and thin laminates have a way of slipping under the tablesaw fence and ruining a project—or worse. The answer is to lay a piece of 1/4-in. hardboard or plywood up against the fence. A stop at the back prevents the assembly from sliding forward as you push the work past the saw blade. NOTE: Blade guard is not shown for clarity. Use Yours! *From American Woodworker.*



CLASSIC FACE FRAMES

If you make traditional face frame cabinets it's always a problem covering the raw edge of the plywood at the corners. A normal face frame is very obtrusive when viewed from the side. The solution is to attach rabbeted edging, as shown. This gives a finished look and the corner can sustain minor damage without marring the veneer. With a little easing of the corner, the face frame joint is almost invisible. You do have to cut the top and dividers so they are set back from the sides by the depth of the rabbet. *From American Woodworker.*



SPRING LOADED HOLD-DOWN

Router tables are often used for cutting joints such as rabbets and dados. One of the secrets to routing an accurate joint is to



make sure the workpiece is pressed firmly against the router table top.

To apply constant downward pressure, we made a simple "spring-loaded" hold-down. It's nothing more than a piece of wood about 12" long and 6" wide with a 1/8"-thick strip of wood glued to one edge.

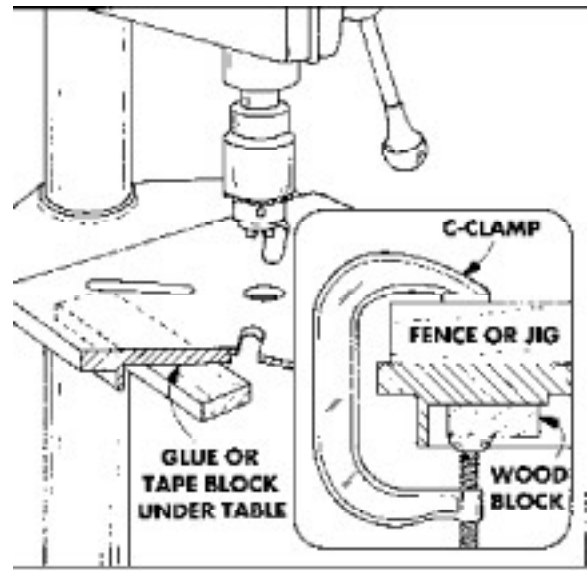
To build in some spring, however, remove two corners from the piece of wood before attaching the strip.

In use, the hold-down is clamped to the fence so enough downward pressure can be applied to the workpiece to keep it flat against the table top — without causing the workpiece to bind. *From ShopNotes.*

DRILLPRESS CLAMPING

Whenever you want to clamp a workpiece to my drill press with C-clamps, the ribs that are cast into the underside of the table are always in the way.

The ribs are spaced so they're always right where you want the clamp to be. And they're so narrow that if you try to clamp to the edge of one, the clamp slips off as it's tightened.



To solve this problem, cut and glue some scrap blocks to fit between the ribs. Because you may occasionally use the slots in the table, you don't have to permanently fix the blocks to the table. So just put a few drops of glue from a hot glue gun on each scrap. Then stick the blocks between the ribs. (You could also use double-sided carpet tape to mount the blocks.)

To remove the blocks, insert a small punch through the slot and tap them out, or pry them off with a screwdriver. *From Woodsmith.*

TABLE TOP RUST PREVENTION

There are two basic steps to follow for maintaining a cast iron table top on a table saw and other stationary tools: remove rust and dirt, and seal it with a protective topcoat.

You should always look out for rust so you can stop it before it becomes a problem, see top photo.



After removing any rust, seal the top by spraying on a protective topcoat, see bottom photo. Spray-on topcoat products are available at hardware stores and woodworking stores (*Spray-on wax also works very well and is cheaper— from John Perry*). In addition to rust protection, they also act as a sort of lubricant so workpieces slide smoothly across the table. *From Woodsmith.*