

Gary Rock, President
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Barry Humphus, Editor, Bubba Ceramic
George Kuffel, John Marcon, Chuck Middleton

DECEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Gail and Micky Hart opened their wonderful shop to our December meeting. It is always a pleasure to have such a great shop to meet each holiday season. Lots of wonderful things to eat were there along with lots of members, spouses and guests.

Mrs. Pie Sonnier won the first raffle, a cypress yard swing built and donated by J.W. Anderson. Steve McCorodale won the other raffle item, an air brush kit donated by the LCWW Club. Barry Humphus won the Bring It Back, a bow saw (which he needed) built and donated by George Kuffel. Mick and Gail also donated a door prize, a Lowes Gift Card which was won by guest Dalton Cantrell.

Among our guests were some of our founding members: Bill Tolin who came with another founding member, James

Couvillion. Another founder, John Perry mentioned that he was invited to become a member as early as 1989, so we need to reset our organization's heritage.

We asked members to bring some their best items of 2006 and we really had a great Show & Tell this month. Included was a Model

A Sportster by Pie Sonnier, a wide leaf maple vase by Dick Trough (he said he ended up purchasing a new tool to get it done). Mrs. Steve McCorodale brought an item her father made: a Christmas angel and a scrollwork minotar.

J.W. Anderson had a beautiful walnut box while Jimmy Everett showed us some of his latest carved canes including an LSU tiger one. Jimmie also

brought his first attempt at a turkey call sound box but he said that it needs to be tuned. If any members have made one in the past, Jimmie would really like their advise.

Rob Standing is a great carver of cypress knees and he brought the three 'wise men' he recently did for Show & Tell this meeting. Rob said he takes eight to ten hours for most pieces but some take more. While he uses standard carving tools for some work, a rotary tool is needed for cross-grain carving. He travels along the river to find the knees but keeps the locations to himself.

James Couvillion brought a box of braces to get some sense of value. All were steel and some were the ratchet type. Most should be valued at two to ten dollars in the antique market but sometimes more.

J.W. Anderson reported that he purchased the rosewood W. Marples brace in Ashville, NC for \$190 and he got a great deal. As reported last month, this brace should sell at auction for as much as \$500 in the U.S. (but could be more at a specialized auction), given its history. J.W. said he's seen one for as much as \$2,000 from England.

Chuck Middleton brought a couple of cars he built from plans. Chuck always makes use of the wood and these were of walnut, oak, maple and purple heart. Chuck mentioned that he is continued to finish his new shop, so perhaps we can have a meeting there in the near future.

Mrs. J.W. Anderson mentioned that we could have a meeting at their shop in the second quarter, perhaps in April or May. Finally, Gary Rock brought us a 'blue pine' platter of about 12 inches as well as a white oak bowl that included an inlay. George Giltner asked about the inlay fills and these are typically two part epoxy. Mr. Thibodeaux recommends 'J.B. Weld' as it is dark grey, turns well after curing and is a great filler for wood. J.B. Weld is not only a great product but we have used it for many applications including wood filler and attaching a metal ornament busted off during Rita. It really works!

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

Shop of George Kuffel. S & T and donuts.



2006 LCWW FINANCIAL REPORT

Beginning Balance 01/01/2006		1,008.61
Revenue		
Advertising	180.00	
Membership Dues	800.00	
BBQ Tickets	320.00	
Raffles	152.00	
Total Revenue	1,452.00	
Expenses		
Postage	156.00	
Printing	371.56	
Meeting Expenses	164.67	
BBQ Expenses	680.92	
Toy Program	269.82	
Legal	5.00	
Total Expenses	1,647.97	
Ending Balance 12/31/2006		812.64

Financial Report Notes:

Dick Hopes reports that we may get back up to \$100 from PPG for the cleanup deposit. However, PPG has not cashed our checks nor returned them. Dick said that if we do receive back the cleanup deposit, it will be reflected in the 2007 Financial Report. Note also that a portion of the the dues reported reflect some 2007 dues. Any further information will be reported at the January meeting.

WOOD TOXICITY

At minimum a dust mask and air cleaner should be on the list of required equipment for your shop, but continued research shows that some woods are more toxic than others.

Without question, sawdust can irritate a woodworker's respiratory system, but some woods can actually cause cancer in the nasal passages (willow is one). Other woods, such as cypress, paduck, rosewood, teak and walnut can cause serious reactions in some people.

A realitively new book, *Woodworker's Pocket Reference* by Charles R. Self (Fox Chapel Publishing, 800-457-9112, \$14.95 plus \$3.50 shipping) is the place to turn when you are wondering if the wood your are using can be toxic. The book also gives great advise on wood hardness, clamps, workbenches, saws and blades, tool sharpening, woodshop math and hardware

Wood toxicity is classified several ways: Irritants, Sensitizers and Unknowns. For example,

some of the more toxic woods include (as mentioned above): willow (sensitizer, nasal cancer, great potency), sasafra (sensitizer, nausea and nasal cancer), great potency), eastern red cedar (sensitizer, respiratory eye and skin, common sensitivity), cocobolo (irritant, respiratory eye and skin, common sensitivity), etc.

An *irriatnt* causes an almost immediate reation each time the wood is used. If you have an immediate reaction, clean up and go back to the shop with at least a dust mask. After use, take a shower.

A *sensitizer* does not necessarily irritate but it can make you more likely to be affected by a wood classed as an irritant. If you are exposed to a sensitizer, you are more likely to have a more serious reaction to the irritant. Again, clean up and take a shower before going back into the shop and wear at least a dust mask. Take a shower after use just to be sure.

If you work with a wood that is both an irritant and a sensitizer plus can cause serious nasal problems, you should always wear at least a dusk mast when working the wood (using an air filter system is also a must), always wash the clothes you were wearing before using them again and always take a shower after working with these woods.

We know this is alot of showers (we want to be sure you smell nice when you come to LCWW meetings!), but at the end of the day, what ever wood you are using, whether it is toxic or not, you should put your clothes in the hamper to be washed and take a shower.

Dick Trough mentioned recently that walnut shavings can kill horses if used as a bedding. Walnut is a sensitizer for eye and skin both for the shavings, leaves and bark. John Perry has mentioned at previous meetings that cypress dust, with long tern exposure can cause sensitivity and respiratory distress. In fact before John retired from full-time cabinet making, he had developed a sensitivity to cypress dust. He purchased the best protection then available, a powered dust mask system. While these have been very expensive in the past, they are pretty reasonable these days. For example, Garret Wade (www.garrettwade.com) has an excellent unit for under \$80 that is powered by 4 "AA" batteries. It comes with two dust and one solvent filter set. *Barry Humphus*.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope that everyone had a great set of holidays and Santa brought all the wood working tools that you picked out in the Big Boy Toy Catalogs. With that said I hope that you read the instruction manuals that come with the equipment, for your safety sake. For no one would like to make a trip to the emergency room for stitches or worse when they are in the middle of a project. Remember always, "Safety First," then on with the work.

If you haven't paid your dues for the year of 2007, they are due now. We would hate to lose a fellow member because they haven't paid their dues.

This month's meeting is at George Kuffel's shop and I want to thank him and his lovely wife Nancy for hosting our monthly meeting. Dick Truth is continuing his series on "Wood Working Joints," along with Show and Tell. Pie Sonnier will have his Bring Back Item at our monthly meeting this month and Barry Humphus will have his at our February meeting.

Our annual Toy Program was a great hit with the Women's Shelter. Ann Pallock couldn't attend our December meeting because she was out of town. Donna Green was stepped in for her at our meeting and when she left we loaded her up with over 200 cars and pull toys made by our members. Dick Truth, Pie Sonnier and J.W. Anderson are the main workers behind the scene, for I had former projects ahead of me to do, so I couldn't be all that much help to them. I want to say THANK YOU for all your hard work. The painting is just about done so we will have another load for the Women's Shelter. And incased you missed it, you now have TV celebrities in the club membership, Dick Truth, Pie Sonnier, J.W. Anderson, Barry Humphus and myself.

Also before I forget, I want to thank J.W. Anderson for donating the Cypress swing that he made for our December meeting raffle drawing. While I'm at it, I want to thank Mickey and Gail Hart for the use of their shop for our Christmas and December meeting. Thank you both for a wonderful meeting.

With the holidays behind us, keep your mind on the "Job at hand and dong the job Safely."

SELECTING QUALITY LUMBER

When sorting lumber at a yard read the boards to steer clear of major defects or badly warped, bowed, or twisted boards. Avoid using presurfaced lumber from a home center. Not only does it cost more, but you're bound by the thicknesses that are commonly available in surfaced stock. And there is no guarantee that surfaced material is truly flat or straight. In rough form, lumber is available in 1/4-in. increments, and referred to as fractions of an inch. For example 1-1/2-in. thick lumber is called 6/4 (pronounced

"six-quarter").

Terms such as "flatsawn" and "quartersawn" lumber refer to how a piece of lumber was oriented in the rough log. A flatsawn board reveals long ring sections that are parallel to the pith of the log. Flatsawn boards are subject to the most seasonal movement. Quartersawn boards are cut parallel to the pith, with the annual growth rings running perpendicular to the surface. These boards will experience far less seasonal movement and will be less likely to cup.

It's a good idea to let your newly acquired rough lumber acclimate in your shop for at least a few days before you start cutting. Keep in mind that due to the internal stresses in rough lumber, when you cut the board into pieces or remove material from the outside, the balance of forces can be disrupted, causing the board to crook, twist, bow, or cup. Cut the boards roughly oversize and wait for the stresses to work themselves out.

If it can be done, it is even better to acclimate the lumber to the place where it will be used (such as your home). For example, I picked up several 5/4"x10"x9' peices from a stickered stack that had air dried for over a year. Instead of putting it in my shop, I put it in the room where the furniture it was destined for. Within a week, one of the boards had cupped so badley, it could not be used for the project.

Start by crosscutting the stock by 1/2 in. to 1 in. over in length. Next get the material roughed out to width. Finally, use a bandsaw or surface planner to rough the board to thickness. (A bandsaw is much safer than using a tablesaw for this ripcut.) Finally, stack the rough-cut pieces between 3/4-in. thick strips of scrapwood and wait. This process, known as "stickering," allows air to circulate around all sides of the lumber freely.

Work the faces, then the edges, and finally the ends ("FEE"). This order is exactly the opposite of the rough milling process. Start at the jointer and flatten one face of the board. Then run the board through the planer with the jointed face down to create a parallel, flat opposing face. After the faces are flat and parallel, work on the edges. Back at the jointer, run the board on edge until it is square to the face. The last edge is cut parallel to the jointed edge on the tablesaw. Finally, crosscut the ends to length. If the board won't get put to use immediately, keep it stickered so it retains its four-square shape.

DUES TIME

It's that time of year again and it's so inexpensive. The LCWW needs your support to continue to bring you hands on education about woodworking. Please send your \$20 check to Dick Hopes, 1139 Green Road, Lake Charles, LA 70611 for a full year of this newsletter and more.

George Kuffel's great shop will be our meeting place this month. It's large, warm and inviting and even larger as George has added a space in the back.

To get there, follow Prien Lake Road to the turn toward Prien Lake (where Prien Lake turns into Ihles Rd.). Prien Terre is the first left before the first big curve to the left. Turn left onto Prien Terre and George's driveway is the first left off Prien Terre at 4309 Prien Terre.

Should you need further directions, please call George or Nancy at 337-478-2708.



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