

BAWA THIRD THURSDAY October 21 Show/Demo in Oakland

John Grew-Sheridan will follow up his article on hide glues (this issue) with a demonstration and talk about the quirks and techniques of hide glues.

In response to the interest expressed within the Association, Robert Hunter Wilson, (an attorney with Stokes, Clayton, and McKenzie) will talk about the legal options available to woodworkers in various tight situations. He'll then open the floor for questions.

In the interest of shop safety, starting this month there will be a 5-minute "Safety Tips" presentation at each Third Thursday get-together. Luther Gruelich will give the first talk; anyone who has found a particular approach to work in the shop that engenders safety should consider passing this information along to the rest of us at one of the meetings.

One of our Oakland members has opened up his shop for our use this month . . . Marty Freedman has a shop on Ettie Street, and he'll be speaking about his work and his business (in 200 words or less) to start off the evening.

Marty's shop is quite easy to find: From the Bay Bridge (or Berkeley) get on Rt. 17 South, and take the Cypress Street exit; go to the bottom of the ramp, turn left on 32nd Street; go 1 block to Ettie Street, turn left; go 1/2 block to 3264 Ettie. Park (and lock your car). If you're coming North on 17, get off at Cypress Street/8th Street exit. Go straight on Cypress to 32nd Street, turn right and go 1 block to Ettie, and left 1/2 block to 3264 Ettie. See you there at 7:30 pm, if you have any trouble, call us at 658-1622.

The spotlight will be on Chip Galusha's stack-laminated ash table. Laminated from 4" ash stock and sculpted with a power-adze, it was finished with acrylic lacquer; Chip will go into detail.



SOUTH OF THE BORDER Never a Dull Moment

"You don't have to be a jerk to survive in business," ventures Tim Mahoney. His feet are crossed up on his desk. Weekend woodworkers pass through his office, nod familiarly to him and select lumber in the next room. Some sit in old chairs and drink coffee and listen to Tim expound on the international hardwood market. It's Saturday at Handloggers Hardwood Lumber in Sausalito and no one feels like moving too quickly.

After seven years of long hours establishing his business, Tim can lean back in his chair and relax. Only recently has he considered taking some Saturdays off. His two employees have long experience at running the shop when the boss is touring Central America and buying exotic hardwoods.

"I wanted to make this an alternative lumber business when I started. I was building a boat in Sausalito and needed a one stop place where I could buy, mill, cut and plane my lumber. That's how Handloggers got started.

"I rented out a 2000 square foot barn and lived on the boat I built. Docked it nearby. Lived on board a forty footer for eight years. Pretty convenient-- I could just roll out of the boat in the morning and stumble into the office. I took a bank loan out on that boat and bought my planers. We started small."

Tim Mahoney grew up in Latin America, the son of an international businessman. After his childhood in Mexico, he was an adolescent in Cuba during Castro's revolution. At sixteen he carried a gun for protection, but when revolutionaries shot at him his family decided it was time to leave. A year after Castro came to power, Tim was in Argentina

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IMPORTANT NOTICE!

All woodworkers who have received two or more issues of this newsletter, and have not sent in their membership dues by October 31, 1982, will not receive further issues of this newsletter.

EDITORIAL

I realized something at the last meeting. I saw a common thread connecting our members. It's integrity! Not all of us are master woodworkers. None of us knows it all. But we care. We want to know new techniques, new hardware, new ideas. We may not use all this information, but in the future we will be able to choose from broader knowledge, ways to achieve good results.

I can't sharpen chisels like Brian Burns or do dovetail drawers like Mike Lane, but I want to do the best job I am capable of each time I come into the shop.

I did an L-shaped desk top this month and the outside corner had a 24" radius: I know about laminating up thin pieces to form curves, but I had not done that procedure before. I didn't electrify my glue, but just seeing Philo Bemis do his demonstration made it much easier for me to tackle my job.

These meetings and this newsletter continue to enrich my professional life. I love the personal contacts I'm establishing. I'm almost overwhelmed with instructive and stimulating information. And last month I made back more than half my membership fee by just taking advantage of the excellent sale prices at Allstate. I haven't seen this month's advertising copy yet, but last month's included the lowest prices for some grades and sizes of ply in the city. (This is a pitch for you to keep your eyes on our ads and also to pay your membership dues so this newsletter will keep coming.)

With this issue, Ed Stover and I are past the half way mark in our terms of office. The success of our work can be seen in growing attendance, the positive comments of the members and the help of volunteers this month. This job is too large for two people to do for six months and my heartfelt thanks are extended to Ross Barker, Dan Brown and Terry Ward.

Please keep in mind that your articles, ideas, and comments are needed and appreciated if this newsletter is to continue to represent the high quality of our association. See you on the 21st at my shop.

Martin Freedman
Editor

HIDE GLUES Learning to use an "old" glue

Our shop started using traditional hide glue (sometimes called animal, or Scotch glue) when we were having a great deal of difficulty with a particular gluing problem. One of our students was putting oak veneer on the curved top of a Grandfather clock and every clamping technique that we tried with Titebond or Plastic Resin glue didn't work. We did not, in addition, want to build an elaborate form.

With the assistance of a bookbinder who works for the State of New Mexico and the Gane Brothers (a bookbinder's supply company in S. San Francisco), we bought a few pounds of the glue granuled and a "Hold-Heet" one-quart glue pot. The cost up to this point was \$60.

The granules should be soaked overnight in about 2-1/2 times as much water as there is glue. The gelatinous mixture is then put into the glue pot where it is to be heated to about 165 degrees. (This should take just a few minutes.) The glue should then be brushed on the joint, which must be promptly closed with a clamp. Within fifteen minutes the glue will be cooled and set; the clamp can be removed.

With our particular veneer application, the proper approach was to coat both the base and the veneer with the glue and allow both to cool separately. We then placed the veneer on the surface and heated it with an iron, which softened the glue and allowed the veneer to be bonded to the underlying surface.

Hide glue methods are explained in detail in *Practical Veneering* by Charles Hayward, and also in *Veneering Made Easy*, by Albert Constantine. We have both books in our shop now. In our search for information we were helped out by the furniture assembly crew at the Pacific-Atlas Co. on 17th Street in San Francisco. I'll be at the next meeting with a little more information on hide glue.
John Grew-Sheridan

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOOTNOTES***

*** Read no further unless you want to know the deep, dark mysterious secrets unveiled and dealt with by the Executive Committee of the Bay Area Woodworker's Association each month on the first Thursday night of the month.

*** There was considerable discussion about the Membership Dues and how to determine when the newsletter mailing would exclude those woodworkers who were no longer interested in becoming members of the Association. Since it was determined by vote at the July member's gathering that only two issues would be mailed out consecutively to non-members, it was decided that there could be no objection to discontinuing newsletter service after three months. The rationale for the one-month extension being the fact that an announcement of the membership vote was not published until the August newsletter went out; this mailing will mark the end of the second month after that announcement.

*** The Treasurer gave the Financial Report; the good news is that the Association has, through incoming yearly dues, set aside a little over \$1,000 towards future BAWA activities (such as our 1983 show). There has

been some tendency towards entropy on the part of some past newsletter advertisers . . . about \$150 is outstanding in this category. Bob Schneider will be working with the Newsletter Staff to iron out this problem.

*** Chip Galusha and Rory Flood appeared before the Executive Committee to request that the Committee give some recognition of his work on behalf of the Association during its initial organization. The Committee will issue to Chip and Rory a letter of commendation in recognition of their extensive efforts.

*** The agenda for the October members' Third Thursday show and demonstration night was reviewed and approved.

*** The Newsletter Report was heard, and advertising policy was reviewed. The advertising plan allowing businesses to purchase six months of advertising space in the newsletter for the cost of five was given support. The status of the newsletter (in light of the goal that it be self-supporting by 1983) was reviewed. An update will be given to the members at the (21st of October) show and demonstration.

BAWA
newsletter staff

Editor	Marty Freedman
Ass't. Editor	Ed Stover
Copy Editor	Ross Barker
Technical Ass't.	Dan Brown
Contributors:	John Grew-Sheridan Terry Ward Steve Savitch

REVIEW OF BAWA MEETING 9/17/82

Everyone who attended September's meeting came away with glowing reports from Philo Bemis' woodwelding machine. This rare tool was developed for airplane construction during World War II and cures glues in laminates in minutes rather than overnight, Philo explained, beaming. Does it emit radiation too? Philo hopes to find out, but it's worth noting that wood welders are a breed that died out, mostly, years ago.

Mike Laine exhibited his Greene and Greene style dresser of Honduran mahogany with ebony accents. Mike planes all his surfaces instead of sanding them. The dresser's drawers, with mahogany faces dovetailed into maple sides, drew admiration

from the many BAWA members who scrutinized the piece during the mid-meeting break. The following day, Mike entered the piece in the Mendocino Invitational Woodworking Show.

Another member of Philo's Portrero Hill Co-op, Isaac Khelif, discussed the intricate planning and cutting of curvaceous cabriole legs. Four years of formal study in a French trade school prepared Isaac for this complex technique. After much explanation of diagrams and templates, the attending BAWA members engaged with new respect for French design and possibly some inkling of the difficult method involved. As Isaac said, "Everything French is a little complicated."

Debby Fong from OSHA distributed information on the employer's responsibility to inform and protect employees when hazardous materials are present in the work place.

Marty Freedman's white oak file cabinets with his characteristic rounded edges led to a discussion of spline joinery. Marty explained the advantage of using a router with a slotting bit rather than a table set up. He also described the platform he's added to the base of his router to clean up the edging on his plywood.

BAWA DATA

The Bay Area Woodworkers' Association is an organization of woodworkers who have banded together to promote woodworking in both technical and aesthetic directions. This newsletter is a monthly publication intended to serve as a communications vehicle and source directory for the membership of this Association.

The Monthly shop talks and demonstrations are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m., at a location announced both in the newsletter and at the previous meeting.

Membership Dues are \$20/year, for which any member may participate fully in the Association, in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the By-Laws. This includes voting power on any issue brought before the membership for a vote, prior notification of the monthly shoptalks and demonstrations put on by the Association, receipt of this newsletter each month, and privilege of participation in any of the special membership discount programs sponsored by local businesses in conjunction with this Association.

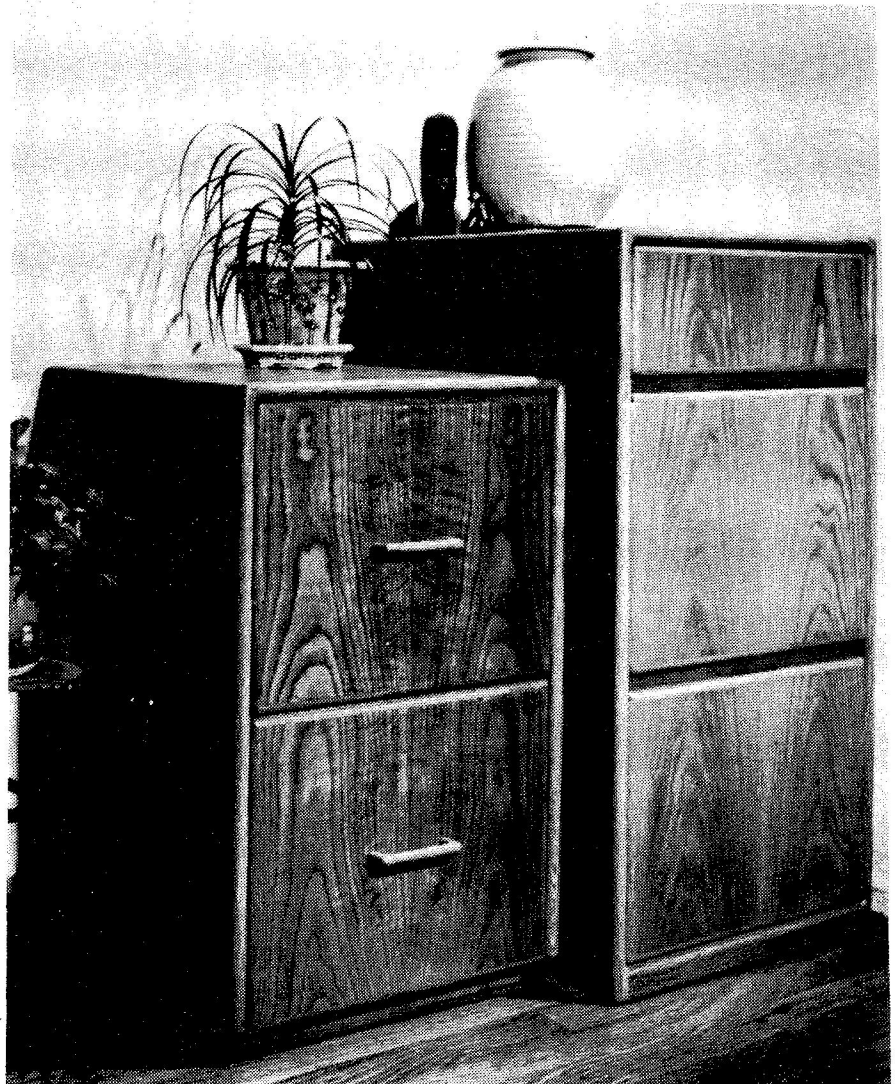
It has been decided by membership vote that non-members may receive two consecutive issues of this publication without cost, at which time they may either discontinue their subscription by not taking action, or may enter the Association as a member.

Checks for membership dues may be made out to the Bay Area Woodworkers' Association, and sent to P.O. Box 421195, San Francisco, CA 94142. Membership cards will be issued to all members in good standing.

The monthly executive committee meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month, and are open to any interested members. To arrange attendance, contact any member of the executive committee through the address given above.

Copies of the By-laws are available at all monthly meetings, or can be requested by mail.

Deadline for any material submitted for publication in this newsletter is the first of the month in which you wish the ad or article to appear.



REBUILDING A TABLE SAW

or

What I Did To The Old Wreck I Bought

A good table saw is not getting any cheaper to purchase new. They've been making them for quite a while now and there are a few run down and abused ones around, that, with some retooling, will work well for any woodworker. Going about the rehabilitation work is neither hard nor expensive. It just takes thought, care and finding the right people around to assist you with the machining work.

First you want to work on the top. A flat table is of prime importance, and removing it is necessary before taking it out for grinding. This exposes the inner works, motor, and gears from above. When you've taken off the top (by unbolting from underneath), clean any dust and burrs you've exposed. Detach the wings from the center table section and clean them all around as well. Now put the wings back on the center section, being sure to average any warp, and take them to a place like General Grinding in Oakland. The man

to speak to there is Vern. He says they can handle up to 119" on the diagonal.

The key to success in grinding is shimming. General Grinding uses a giant electro magnet and it's so powerful that it will pull any warp in the top, grind it, and the, when released, the warp will spring back. Remember - shimming and averaging any warp is necessary. The work I did on mine gave me an average warp of 1/2 of 1/1000". I was impressed - to say the least!

Now it's time to get intimate with the inside of your saw. Study the motor holding, the height and tilt mechanisms, the arbor and its housing. Take out the arbor housing and bring to a good machine shop (I used "Diamond" Tools) and have them press out the arbor for inspection. They should replace the bearings and reassemble the arbor housing. Important - make sure the arbor

shoulder is ground down before you leave the machine shop.

Back in your shop, it's time to take the rest of the saw apart and clean off any more dust you find and deburr where necessary. Inspect any threads and take care of any damage. All parts that rub (gears, etc.) should be waxed with parafin. Put it all back together and adjust where necessary. I added an additional bolt to my motor holding to reduce some of the vibrations that were originally built into my Unisaw.

The last thing you want to do before putting the top back on is to look over everything you've done and feel confident you won't have to take off that top again for a long time. Then set the top back on and fit and tighten it with the same care you've taken so far.

To my mind, the best fence available (and Marty Freedman agrees from 3 years of experience) is the Biesemeyer T-Square Fence. In San Francisco you can talk fence to Eric Weaver at MacMurray Pacific and the Cutting Edge in Berkeley also carries the Biesemeyer T-Square.

So, how much did it cost me to have a saw I know is better than new? The used saw cost me \$1000, the grinding \$84, the machining by friends was \$25 (and a 6-pack), and the set of bearings were \$25. Now, go to it!

Steven Savitch

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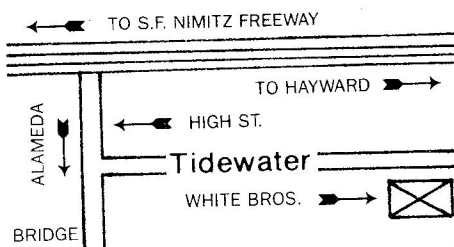
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Newsletter Editor & Assistant

Martin Freedman/Edward Stover

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and then Brazil before receiving a degree in international relations and world business from San Francisco State. After a few years in Haight-Ashbury and Portrero Hill, he began building his boat in Sausalito.

The business of importing hardwoods returns him to Central America every few months. Though he no longer packs a gun, he continues to do battle in the forests.

"I have watched the hardwood market manipulated by the big guys," he says. "Sedua is an African hardwood like a cross between koa and teak with a rich, elegant grain and plenty of fiddleback. A few years ago, some of the big import firms introduced sedua to woodworkers in this country and there was a huge demand for it. Then it disappeared from the market for a few months. There was a supposed shortage of sedua. It just vanished. Then it was reintroduced, but for several times the original cost. This time it blew up in the importer's face, because no one would buy it.

"Africa's difficult to do business with anyway. Some little country will have a minister of forestry and just when you've got a working relationship set up, the government's changed the people around."

Central America has never been noted for its political inertness, but Tim deals mostly with two of the more stable nations, Mexico and Belize. Even that isn't easy.

"Doing business with Mexico is brain damage," he states. As proof, he relates a long convoluted story of bribes, broken contracts, machismo and kickbacks. In the end, Tim finally received his load of bocote, but only after paying for six months' wharfage while the wood awaited transport and even then paying the shipping fee twice. "Mexico is corrupt from the top on down," he says. "The national attitude that pervades the entire society is 'take it while you can.' When you deal with them, you've just got to play their game."

Belize, though, is happy to cater to small importers. The global recession was virtually killed their domestic market for hardwoods and the international market has slowed drastically. One lumber operator Tim dealt with needed money up front just to buy fuel to start up his vehicles. A few years ago, such operations preferred to deal with major importers but Tim notes that "hardwoods, to be profitable for the big guys, must be plentiful and easily marketed. They're not interested in establishing markets for lesser known woods."

Still, one can't buy good wood without competition. "Every sawmill I've been to has been approached by the Japanese first.

They're the wave of the future. They're dedicated and they're real pros. They buy up the timber concessions, buy the best lumber and pay the best price." Japan is now one of the largest sources for hardwood veneered plywood.

"The Japanese will set up their production crews, sleep in separate bunkhouses, cook their own food, do their calisthenics early in the morning and have nothing to do with the Mexicans. They just take over the operation."

Closer to their home, the Japanese lumbermen "have got Borneo damn near clear cut. They're singing the blues over there because every time it rains now, the island washes into the ocean."

After the major lumber firms are through, quality wood is scarce. On one recent trip to Belize, Tim bought only one board out of every fifteen brought to him. Now he has contracted two sawmills to cut to his specifications.

"You can't talk deals unless you're talking several thousand board feet. That's a big outlay of money before a return. There's dressing the wood and grading it, then three to nine weeks in the kiln and then shipping costs."

One major hardwood firm across the Bay

bought up much of a recent load of bocote at Handlogger's and then marked it up 800%.

"No one would believe that my stuff was just the same when it cost so much less. I try to have the lowest prices in the Bay area, but you can't always buy the good stuff cheap."

Sometimes you can't even buy the good stuff at all. Brazilian rosewood is now all but depleted from the market. A single remaining tree can fetch \$40,000 unseen. Less scrupulous lumbermen pass off bocote as "Mayan Rosewood."

When Handloggers doesn't stock a certain rare hardwood, Tim serves as a broker to locate it. His many contacts are coveted by other wood retailers. Once he left a competing lumber dealer in his office for a moment and returned to find the man dashing down notes from the Handlogger Rolodex.

"We can't stock everything, but we can help you find what you need. This is just the place where I'd have wanted to take my business when I was building my boat. We're dedicated to supplying hardwood to woodworkers who are dedicated to making real wood furniture."

Another craftsman in the room nods his approval. Tim finishes his coffee. His feet are still up on his desk and his fingers are laced behind his head. You get the feeling that he's satisfied.

Fall Classes at Palo Alto Woodworking

THE DESIGNING PROCESS - Art Espenet Carpenter

STEAM BENDING AND LAMINATING
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AMERICAN WINDSOR STYLE, 1725-1825 - John Kassay

PLANE MAKING - Brian Burns

INTRODUCTION TO WOOD TURNING - Steve Johnson

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Card-carrying BAWA members will receive a 5% discount on all non-sale merchandise at the Cutting Edge.

Don't miss the next big tool swap at the store Oct. 30th from 10:00 to 6:00.

Sam Maloof will be here for an evening lecture/slide show and an all day workshop December 3rd and 4th.

Our customers often ask us to recommend craftspeople to do specific jobs for them.

Our new Resource Dictionary helps put people in touch with those of you who can do the job. To list your specialty in our directory send brief description and or photos to "Resource Dictionary" at the Cutting Edge.

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SOURCES/RESOURCES

Joel Grossman of Goodwood is putting together a tour of the Federal Post Office and Circuit Court of Appeals Building at 7th and Mission, San Francisco. One sample of area to be viewed is the Judges Chambers where 100 years ago Italian craftsmen did elaborate woodcarving and marble work. (Bring cameras) Those persons interested should contact Joel at (415) 863-5022, or see him at our next meeting.

Sonoma County Woodworkers Association is meeting regularly and putting out a newsletter called Wood Forum. They started in 1978. For more information you can reach them via the mail at SCWA, PO Box 1334, SZnta Rosa, CA 95402.

The Butte County Woodworker's Association has also been in contact with us through their newsletter. Among other things, they're compiling a list of woodworking books and catalogues their members have. Sounds like a good idea to me. They can be contacted by writing to: BCWA, PO Box 3067, Chico, CA 95927.

Now that I've mentioned the existence of 2 more associations, I would also like to extend an invitation to the members of those associations and any of their friends, to attend any of our meetings if they are in the area.

Excellent source of Claro Walnut, Cherry, Sycamore, and other domestics: Scott Wine-land in Chico. Specialty cut prices that are as good as any I've ever seen. Scott can be contacted at (916) 345-4012; don't give up if you do not at first succeed in reaching him; he may be out cutting wood.

Wilco Supply Company in Oakland is a good place to go for any hardware needs. Their inventory is extensive; their prices are very competitive; they cater to the wholesale trade; have a \$35 min. and frequently deliver the next working day through Flo-Del.

H. Friedman and Co. (no relation to editor!) in S.F. has a good buy on furniture pads. (By the dozen- under \$100) and flat nylon cord. Good products at good prices.

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How did you hear about the Association? _____

_____ Check here if you do not want to have your name given to other Associations or businesses.

Enclosed is a check or money order for \$20., my membership dues for a one-year period in this Association.

Signed _____

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CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Barter: Award winning graphic designer wants to trade graphics for cabinets - I need storage cabinets - do you need letterhead, brochures, logo, poster, advertising? Call Maureen at (415) 668-5668.

For Sale: 24" Forsberg planer, just completely rebuilt, \$3500; Rockwell 6" jointer with motor and stand, \$800. Call Palo Alto Woodworking at (415) 327-5335.

Wanted: Band saw, any condition, min. 16" capacity. Call chip at (415) 386-2383.

For Sale: '78 Ford pickup, 44,000 ml., good condition, sturdy contractors rack. \$3300. Call Jeff at (415) 233-9710.

For Sale: '63 3/4 ton International pickup, lumber rack, runs well, very well used. Call Luther at (415) 664-3715.

For Rent: 325 square foot loft space in 1-person cabinet shop. Oakland, convenient to Bay Bridge and Rt. 80 interchange. \$150 month. Call Marty at (415) 658-1622.

Wanted: Used or damaged woodcarving chisels (and other hand tools). Don't be too sure that the chisel you lost the temper on is beyond usefulness. Call Ed Stover at (415) 474-4621.

For Sale: '73 GMC van. 9 feet from driver's seat to back door. Power steering, automatic. Needs work. \$500 or best offer. Call Marty at (415) 658-1622.

For Sale: Complete production woodshop, Excellent equipment value. For more information contact Dave between 6 pm and 10 pm, Monday through Friday at (415) 454-5930.

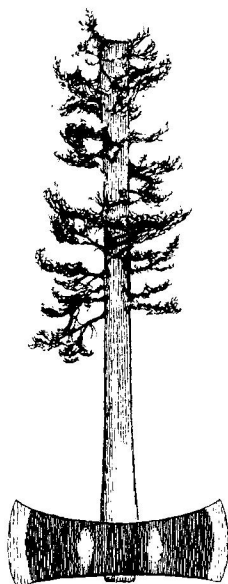
Wanted: Quality original and limited edition pieces for Flood Gallery, a S.F. fine art gallery specializing in custom furniture. Call Rory at (415) 387-8333.

Finishing: Our finisher on call at our shop. Color match, lacquer spray, 'antique' finishes. Call Rose-Carter Co. at (415) 621-3054.

For Sale: Powermatic shaper model 66, 1" spindle, 2 hp, 22v, 1 ph with cutters for windows, interior and exterior doors. Excellent condition. \$1800. Call Chip at (415) 386-2383.

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MY name is Michael E. Bry, and I'm getting this space for the photographs that I contribute to this publication.

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If you are interested in seeing my portfolio and getting an estimate, please phone (415) 641-9016.

