



THIRD THURSDAY PREVIEW

Thursday, July 21, 1983, 7:30 p.m.

Our host this month is Bob Winebarger. His shop is located at 1507 San Pablo Avenue in Berkeley. From the east end of the Bay Bridge go east (north) on I-80 toward Richmond, exit Gilman Street in Berkeley, go east on Gilman to San Pablo Avenue, and south on San Pablo to 1507, on the east side of the street (see map, phone 527-8397).

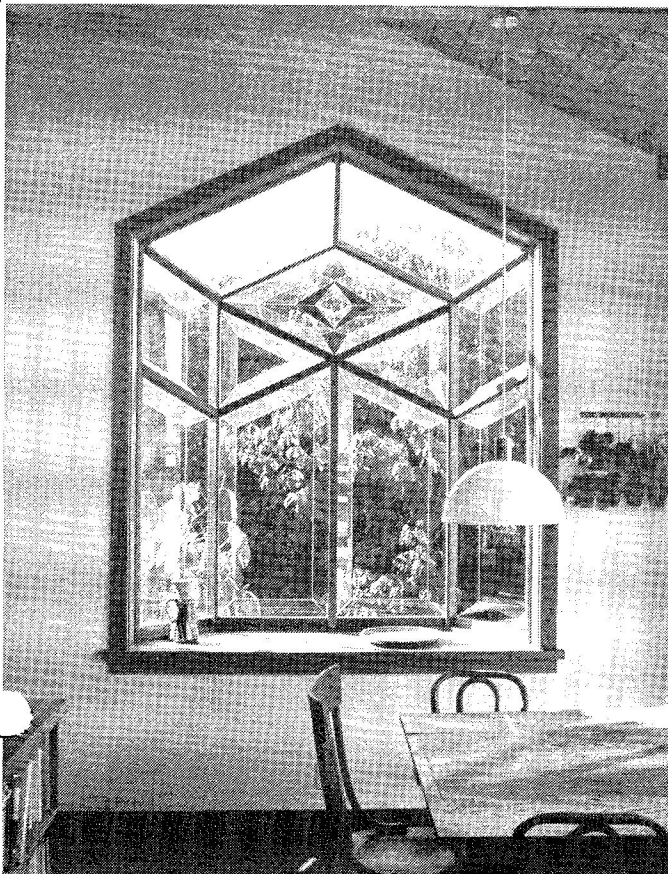
The **FEATURED GUEST SPEAKER** this month is **Joseph Esherick**, practicing architect and professor of architecture at U.C. Berkeley, who will give us an illustrated lecture on his late uncle Wharton Esherick, an early motivating force behind the current renaissance of the woodworker's craft.

The **SPOTLIGHT** this month is on **Bruce Sherman** and his three-dimensional glass work. He will show us slides of his woodworking joinery, how he does compound miters on the table saw, and some examples of his fine craftsmanship.

Also on the agenda is a look at what's been developed for the BAWA logo, and a discussion of financial limit setting, an issue not yet dealt with the current by-laws.

This is the first meeting to be held by the new slate of officers elected last month. Come see Philo flex his new executive wings.

Donald Dupont



*Three-dimensional window
designed and made
by Bruce Sherman.*

JUNE MEETING REVIEW

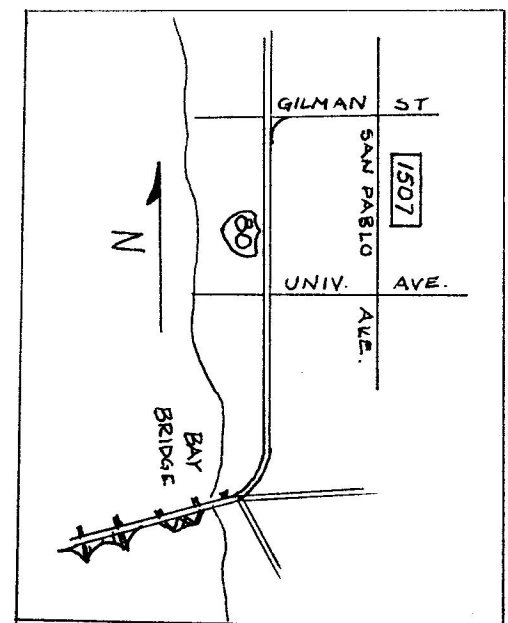
Directed by the outgoing Chairman, Mike Laine, the June 16th General Meeting was a smoothly scheduled success with two fascinating presentations followed by the BAWA elections.

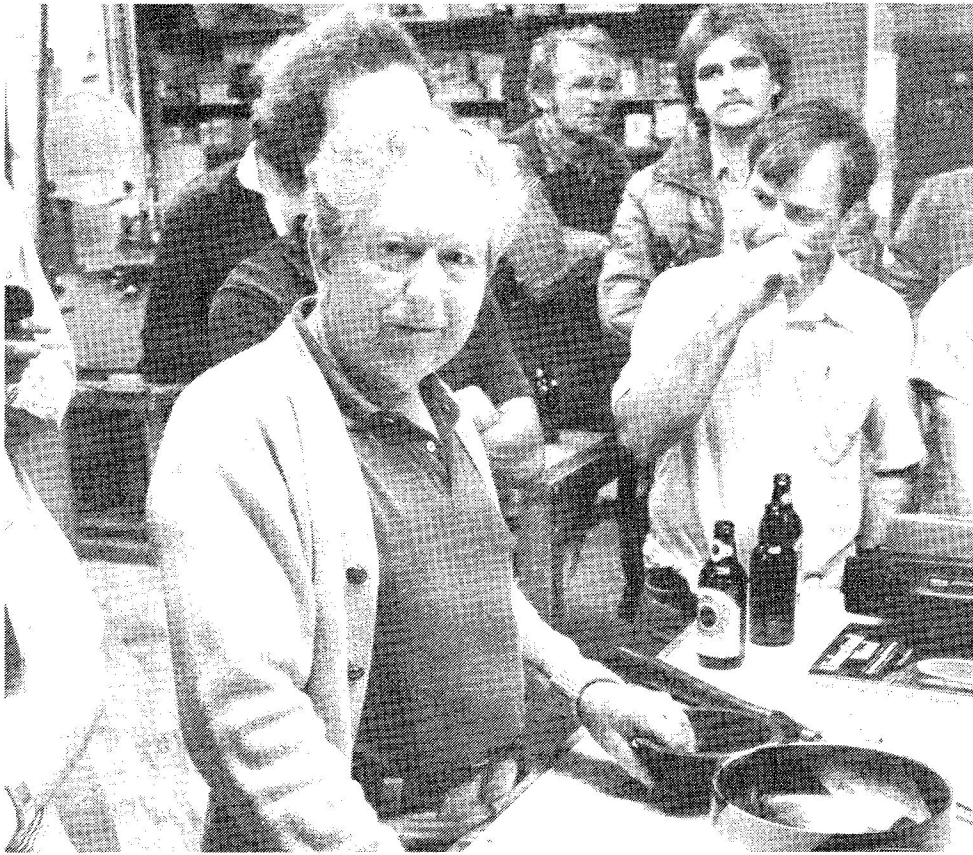
About 40 members and guests attended the event at Larry Borsian's shop, which he now shares with our first-member-to-retire-early and new Co-Chair, Joel Grossman.

Bob Stocksdale, the veteran and expert Berkeley bowl maker, led off with a short slide show of his work and an informal discussion of several thin, elegant examples that he had brought to the meeting.

We were privileged to hear most or all of the details of how Bob creates his masterpieces. He uses exclusively a cutting method with deep oval gouges, which are readily available from woodworking catalogues and stores. In an aside Bob mentioned that the particular tools with his name have not been a great money maker.

Continued on Page 2





Bob Stocksdales with an attentive audience.

Photo by John Grew-Sheridan

Bob swears by the convenience and strength of the machined-screw-chuck for the initial work on the exterior of the bowl. He then switches to the three and four jaw chuck-holding technique when he removes the wood from the interior. Final cutting and sanding is often done with the bowl held between pads in the head and tail stocks of the lathe.

Where possible he prefers to do a good bit of the preliminary sanding with a disc on his power drill while the bowl turns at a low rpm. He finishes the item with two coats of high gloss lacquer followed a day later with a coat of semi-gloss.

The quality of the "line" and the choice of woods in the Stocksdales bowls has given Bob a well-deserved reputation for fine work. His honors, such as being made a Fellow of the American Crafts Council, have been earned through hard and creative effort.

Continued on Page 3

SHOP TIPS

- Fight chemicals with chemicals. Kerodex cream helps protect your skin (hands, face) from water-soluble (KERODEX 71) and non-water soluble (KERODEX 51) irritants. Kerodex 51 is effective against such solutions as alcohol, acetone, carbon tetrachloride, toluol, tetrachlorethane, thinners, paint remover, furniture, glues, lacquers and poison oak and ivy. Kerodex 71 works against various acids, alkalis, detergents, ammonia, bleaches, epoxy resins, urea-formaldehyde glues and even your own body fluids. It's available at drugstores in 4 ounce tubes and 1 pound jars.

Contributed by
Donald Dupont

- Occasionally, a sharpening stone glazes over with bits of metal from chisels and gouges. You can tell when this happens because the chisels seem to glide over the stone without being sharpened. A way to remove the glaze from the stone is to pour silica carbide chips on a glass surface, then rub the stone over the chips. This cleans the stone, and with enough rubbing, can reflatten it. Silica carbide chips are available from lapidary stores and come in different grits. Finer grits cost about \$7.00 a pound.

Contributed by
Carolyn Grew-Sheridan

We, at MacMurray Pacific wish the Bay Area Woodworkers Association and its members continued success.

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Bob Darr, from the Center for Wood Arts (201-3rd St., San Rafael, 94901) presented a selection of slides of the wooden boats that he specializes and samples of the California woods that he mills for boat building.

he Center, which also teaches metal casting skills, takes up to three full-time apprentices and eight part-time students at any one time. They assist in making the 19th Century style boats, which are, for the most part, going to buyers in Southern California. The finely detailed, Hess designed vessels are made in 25 and 32 foot lengths. The latter costs \$60,000.

Darr recommends various native woods for furniture building. He argues that they are easily procured and are often free. The examples that he brought included black locust and pepperwood, which is also called Bay Laurel and Myrtle and must be cut from trees at an elevation of 1,000 feet or higher.

The other woods were Black Acacia, Eucalyptus (which can used if it is quarter-sawn from the heartwood of larger trees), and Osage Orange. Darr said that Dennis Young is one furniture maker who has had good luck with these varieties.

After a short break the assembled members in a jovial atmosphere elected a new slate of officers that will try to put on some interesting meetings and are the newsletter responsibilities.

The new Secretaries will divide their obligations for the minutes with Donald Dupont writing up the Executive committee gatherings and John Grew-Sheridan recording the General Meetings.

The Treasurers, Larry Borsian and Brian McLachlan, will assist Tim Kennedy with the newsletter advertising accounts. Nancy Krompotich, in an ex-officio capacity, is working with Larry and Brian to update the mailing list. Rus Fulk and Gary Gilbert are also helping with the newsletter.

Finally, but certainly not least, Philo Bemis, our new Chairman, praised the leadership and planning time that Mike Laine has given BAWA for the last six months.

John Grew-Sheridan

Summer Woodworking Seminars: July 18-21; August 22-25. Taught by recognized master craftsmen. Subjects such as Door Making; Sculptural Relief, Tambours and Decorative Trim, Furniture Design will be covered. For information contact Baulines Craftsman's Guild, P.O. Box 5166, Mill Valley 94942 or call 381-1316.



Bob Darr explaining milling techniques

Photo by John Grew-Sheridan

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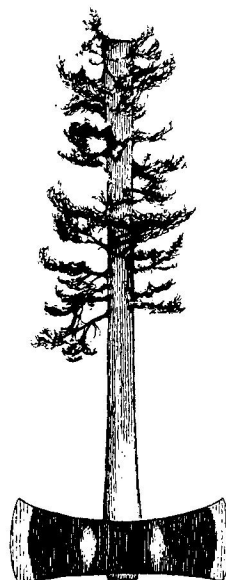
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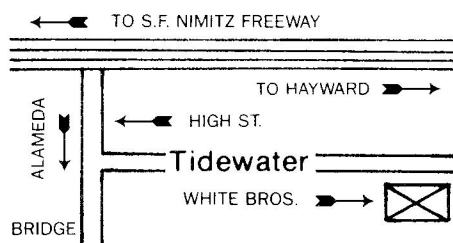


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O A K L A N D**



**BAY AREA
WOODWORKERS'
ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS**

1. **The name** of the organization shall be the Bay Area Woodworkers' Association. (the Association).
2. **Membership** shall be open to anyone in the San Francisco Bay Area who is pursuing woodworking as an artisan or designer or both or who is interested in the field, be they professional or amateur.
3. **The Association** will promote professional woodworking in both technical and aesthetic directions.
4. **The Association** will explore commercial discounts and benefits for the members.
5. **The Association** will regularly offer public shows, a newsletter, educational programs, technical demonstrations, "Spotlight" talks, seminars, and lectures on topics of interest to the members.
6. **The Association** shall be administered by a Chair and Co-Chair, who shall act as an alternate. The minutes of the meetings and correspondence shall be the responsibility of a Secretary and alternate Co-Secretary. The finances shall be kept by the Treasurer and Co-Treasurer. The

newsletter shall be prepared by an Editor and an Assistant. The term of office shall be for six months in order to share fairly the work of running the Association. The positions shall be filled by nominations and a majority vote by the members in good standing, those who have paid their dues.

7. **The Association** shall organize various committees such as a steering or executive committee, a show committee, and other ad-hoc committees as may seem necessary. The responsibilities of the committees shall be clearly stated.
8. **The Association** will set the limits of financial responsibility for its officers and committees.
9. **The Association** shall also organize, if it is necessary, an arbitration committee that will offer to mediate business disputes between the members or between the members and their customers.
10. **Decisions in the Association** shall be by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present except for questions of membership dues, removal of officers, expulsion of members, and changes in the by-laws which shall require a 2/3 vote of the members responding. "Responding" votes require that advance notice of the issue shall

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FOOTNOTES**

Over a dozen BAWA members attended a meeting on June 21st to plan for the next six months. Several areas were covered in a lot of detail by the new and old executive office holders and some interested general members.

First of all, it was decided to bring the mailing list "in house" and to no longer rely on a commercial secretarial service. We will be able to up-date our list more easily and the cost of changes will be lower. Details about this will be given at the next general meeting. It is now the Treasurer's responsibility.

The newsletter has an enthusiastic committee which hopes that by delegating the various responsibilities a more interesting and timely paper will be printed. It was becoming too much of a burden to be carried by just a few members.

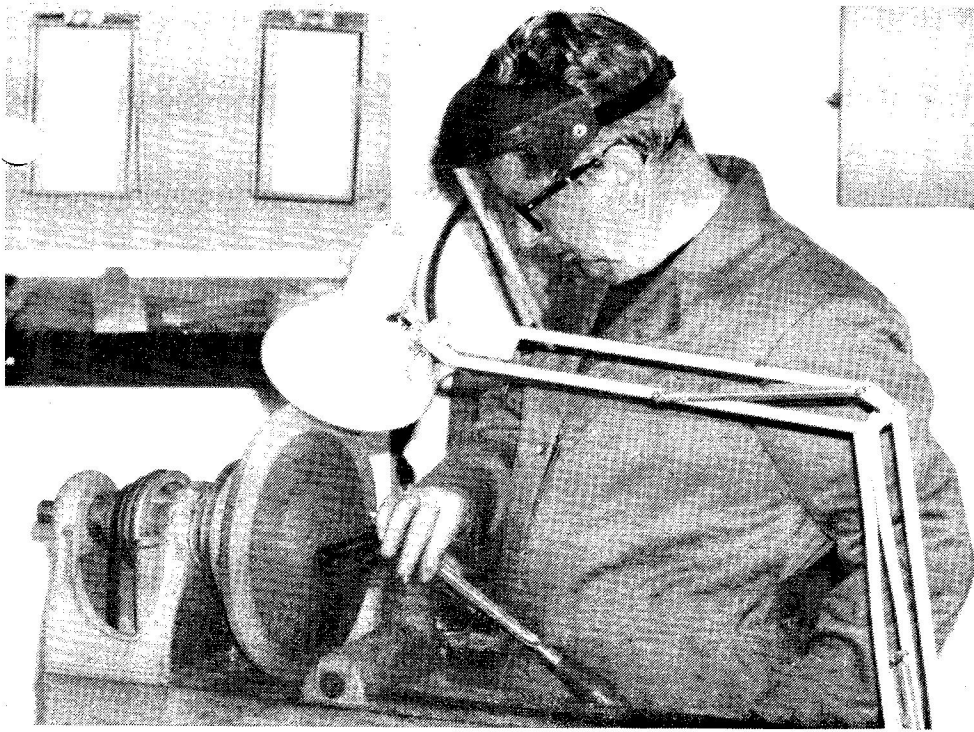
The newsletter staff agreed to a production schedule for the coming seven months to try eliminate some of the uncertainties. Also, a list of technical duties and the items of editorial content have been prepared. Both are available to any members who might want to assist the newsletter committee. Volunteers are welcome.

The executive committee decided to ask the members at the July meeting for guidance about the limits of financial responsibility of the officers. The question is, "How should at least some of the dues money be spent?"

John Grew-Sheridan

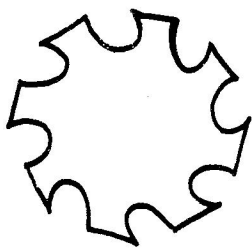
be given at least one meeting in advance at which discussion can take place after all members are notified of the proposal.

11. **Dues** shall be paid on a schedule determined by the finance committee. Any dues paid by an expelled member shall be refunded on a pro-rata basis.
12. **To encourage** the participation of all the members each meeting shall have a time for suggestions for the agenda of the meetings, the admission and welcoming of new members, and the setting of the location of the next meeting. There shall also be a Treasurer's report.



Bob Stocksdales working at his lathe.

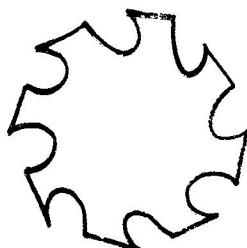
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▪ Chronic wheezing might be one symptom of occupational asthma, caused by exposure to the dust of Western red cedar, pine, birch and mahogany. Short of quitting your job, you can reduce your sensitivity to these woods by buying a good NIOSH approved respirator. Two good publications relating to lung diseases are available free from the American Lung Association in San Francisco at 543-4410. They are: "Occupational Lung Diseases, An Introduction" and "What you should know about on-the-job respiratory protection."

▪ If you must use disposable masks, the only ones I recommend are those approved by NIOSH (National Institute of Occupational Health & Safety) and/or MSHA (Mining Safety & Health Administration). They will have the NIOSH/MSHA approval on the box. One option available is 3M's No. 6983 masks; they're approved for very small levels of lead dust and asbestos. One box contains 15 respirators. They have good durability if they're not folded or crushed. Facial hair should never come between the mask and your face.

Contributed by woodworker
and CAL-OSHA employee
Dr. Ross Fisher



The Cutting Edge is pleased to announce that many of the delivery problems that we had with the Henniker "Versatile Saw" are now a thing of the past. Stop by and see a well-made machine that offers the best features of a radial arm saw as well as the accuracy and safety of the table saw.



CUTTING EDGE

Michael Dunbar, author of "Windsor Chairmaking" and "Antique Woodworking Tools", will be giving a week-long, "Hands On" workshop.

This is an opportunity to learn some uncommon furniture making techniques such as "riving", working green wood, and steam bending.

Participants will learn the use of several traditional tools that are rarely used today, such as scorps, spoon bits, froes, and gutter adzes.

Please contact The Cutting Edge early as enrollment is limited.



A Woodturning Clinic will be held at the Cutting Edge in Berkeley on Saturday, August 20th, between 10:00 and 3:00 p.m. Dave Dempsey will lecture and demonstrate various woodturning techniques. For registration information, call Sherilyn at 548-6011.



5% discount to B.A.W.A. members.

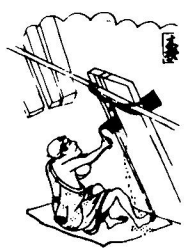
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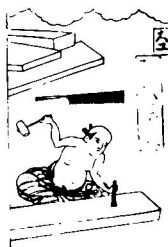


SAWS



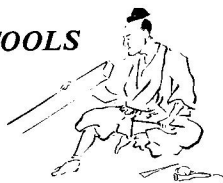
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TRADE SHOW OPENS

Summer Market Week will be happening July 16th-21st in all of the interior design showrooms of the nine-block Showplace Square area. The buildings are "open to the trade" which means that a business card and your resale number gets you in the door. Or should.

The show rooms are offering their new lines and old favorites. Reportedly many are now representing increasing numbers of Bay Area artists and craftspeople. Of course, it is still the case that it is difficult for woodworkers to have consistent sales through the showroom structure because of the necessary mark-ups.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WOODWORKING ASSOCIATION (NCWA) will be on August 6th at 5:30 p.m. at Stuart Welch's shop in Marshall, CA. Stuart's place is 6 miles north of Point Reyes Station and the phone number is 663-1775.

A potluck will precede the meeting which will be informal and a time to generate ideas and explore possibilities for promoting woodworking and sales. All interested people are invited. Chip Galusha can provide rides.

* * *

BAY AREA SOCIETY OF ARTISTS AND CRAFTSMEN (BASAC)

BASAC, intended to be a broad-based non-profit organization, is being formed to serve the needs of craftsmen and artists living in the Bay Area. The goals of BASAC are to promote understanding of the craft movement among the general public to conduct workshops and seminars, to provide legal and financial information on various aspects of craft work and to promote networking among various crafts guilds.

Also, there is to be a slide library of members' work which will be available for viewing by shop and gallery owners. Most importantly, BASAC will create at least one high-quality gallery exhibition per year which will travel around the Bay and sponsor a series of major craft fairs in all parts of the Bay Area.

BASAC is modeled on the Pacific Handcrafters Guild of Honolulu. Two BASAC organizers, Al Zaves and John Coates, were both members of the PHG for several years; Zaves having served as its president for two years. Their goal is to encourage Bay Area craftsmen (no mention of women. Ed.) to organize and protect their own interests. The major emphasis of the group is on providing market opportunities.

Membership is to be controlled by screening and only members will be permitted to be in BASAC shows. Membership will be restricted to residents of the nine counties surrounding the Bay Area. The first show is planned for the Cow Palace at Christmas.

Screening for membership will be first held on Sunday, July 24, 1983, at the California College of Arts and Crafts (CCAC), at the corner of Broadway and College in Oakland. For more information write to BASAC, 67 Hoff Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 (SASE) or call 431-3309.

BAWA Member Profiles

BAWA members interested in submitting a personal statement and in being interviewed for possible publication in the newsletter are asked to contact any of the association officers.

* * *

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Call Michael E. Bry, (415) 641-9016.

John and Carolyn Grew-Sheridan will again be teaching their **Chairmaking Seminar**, sponsored by the Cutting Edge. The 2-day course will cover furniture design and chair comfort. Dates are Saturday July 23rd from 6-9:30 and Sunday July 24th from 10-5:00 at their San Francisco workshop. For registration information, call Sherilyn at 548-6011.

WOODWORKING IN CENTRAL AMERICA

After five years of working with fine tropical woods on his Bello Horizonte hilltop, Barry Biesanz will open his first show on April 5, at the Centro Cultural, San Jose, Costa Rica.

"My shop is small," says the bearded young woodworker, "and I deliberately limit my work to producing custom furniture and turnery. All this time I have been honing my skills, drying a variety of wood and perfecting designs." Biesanz and his six employees have had to work long and hard to accumulate enough for a show, because almost everything he has produced so far has been sold with practically no advertising except by word of mouth.

Biesanz says he began woodworking after reading the philosophy of Sufism, which promotes the idea that to fulfill his human nature and ground his values, everyone should develop useful skills.

"I liked to play country music and read, but I wanted to make something worthwhile and lasting," he says. "I apprenticed myself to (master furniture-maker) Jay Morrison for months before I felt ready to have my own shop. The experience was invaluable, and I'm still learning from books, colleagues, clients — and mistakes."

One of his goals, he says, is "to be one of the world's best bowl-turners," adding that in his quest for porcelain-thinness, a lot of his creations have wound up the sawdust on the shop floor. Another goal is "to create some designs that will have an impact on other furniture makers — not because they express my ego, but because they bring out the qualities of the wood and are practical and functional. Simplicity and quality are paramount. I feel happiest with a piece of furniture when there is nothing lacking and nothing can be taken away. It must have a certain anonymity; the design must not be too quirky."

Biesanz says he and his workers "compose" furniture, working out a piece as they put it together.

"We work from actual shapes of wood, respecting the grain and shape of each piece," he explains.

"My solid-slab tables, for example are 'free-form' in the sense that the wood dictates the form; they are perhaps the pieces I am fondest of, from coffee tables and dining tables to big conference tables."

Barry, who plays several times a week with a country-and-Western music group "Rural Delivery", also wants to design musical instruments. But above all, he says, "I want to do something toward reviving the tradition of high-quality workmanship. I want to make simple modern furniture with traditional joinery — furniture that will be treasured for generations. I refuse to make disposable, throwaway things, despite well-meaning advice that only standardized designs produced in high volume will make money — and that I should be more practical." As a result, Biesanz's beds, desks, looms, tables, cabinets, bookshelves, blanket chests, bowls, jewelry boxes and vases have traveled as far away as England, Germany, Israel, the Netherlands, and the United States.

Because the finer tropical woods are dense, he says, they demand care, time, and attention, and do not lend themselves to factory work. They have a bad name for cracking only because they are often worked too wet.

"The best classic French furniture," Biesanz points out, "was made of some of the same woods we use; it has lasted because the woods were properly dried, joined, and finished. We not only air-dry but also kiln-dry our wood, then spend hours bringing out the grain with scrapers, fine sandpaper, and hand-rubbed oil." He points to a spray gun, rusting quietly in a corner of the shop.

"Thinking primarily in terms of cost and profit is a very efficient form of scorekeeping, but if it becomes the main principle of life, we lose our humanity," Biesanz notes. "I believe that in stressing quality and custom design a woodworker, for example, keeps respect for himself, his fellow workers, his clients, and the wood he used."

"I don't want to compromise at all in the construction of a piece," he adds. "I will take any commission, simple or complicated, but I want every joint to be the best one for the job. If the client wants a lower price, I simplify the design, but I will not cut down on the quality of joinery. The fine woods of Costa Rica are becoming scarcer and scarcer, so each piece must be worth making. I don't want to look back in 10 years and ask myself why I didn't make something good out of that cristobal or cocobolo."

His prices, he says, are in the general range of the more expensive factory-made furniture in Costa Rica, but far below prices for comparable custom furniture in the United States and Europe.

From the "Tico Times," March 25, 1983.

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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 a source directory for the membership of this Association.

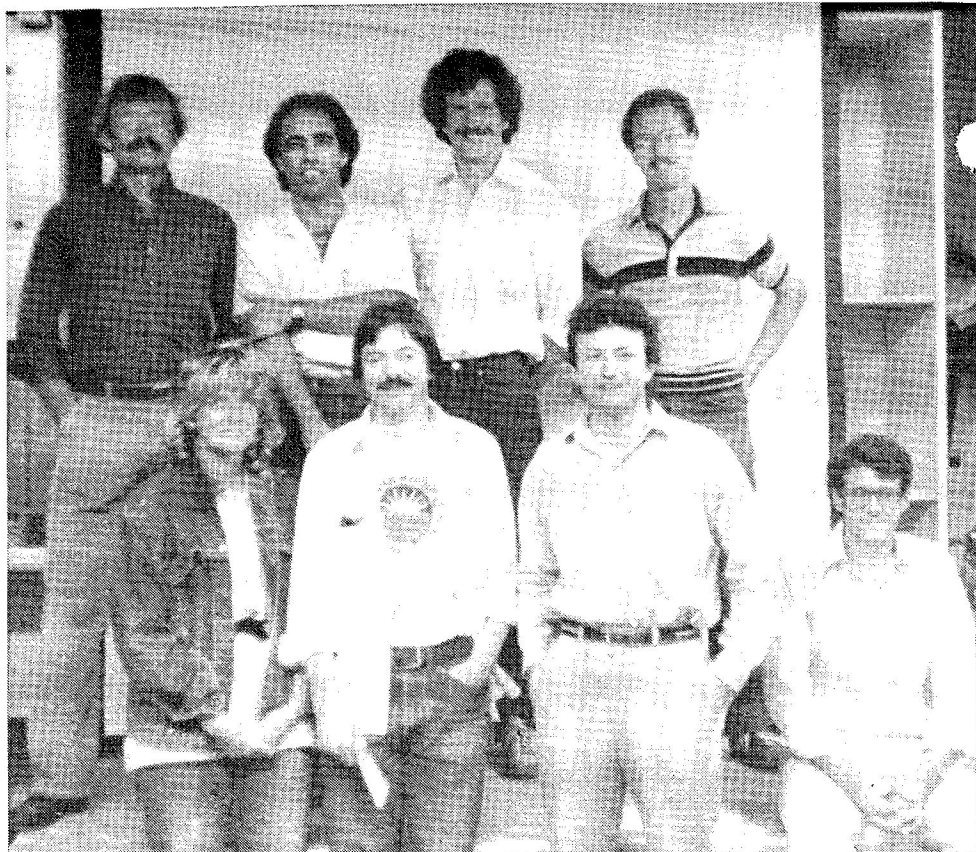
Membership dues are \$20/year, for which any member may participate fully in the Association, in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the By-Laws. This includes voting power on any issue brought before the membership for a vote, notification of the monthly shop talks and demonstrations put on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

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.

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

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.

The monthly executive committee meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of every month, and are open to any interested members. To arrange attendance, contact any member of the executive committee by telephone or the address given above.



New and old BAWA Executive committee members (clockwise): Larry Borsian, Isaac Khelif, Philo Bemis, Tim Kennedy, John Grew-Sheridan, Joel Grossman, Donald Dupont, and Nancy Krompotich

LOST ISSUES SOUGHT

The newsletter committee is trying to complete its files of back issues. If you have an extra copy of the June or September, 1982, issues and would be willing to return it, the gift would be much appreciated.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Chair & Co-Chair

Philo Bemis / Joel Grossman

Secretary & Assistant

John Grew-Sheridan / Donald Dupont

Treasurer & Assistant

Larry Borsian / Brian McLachlan

Editorial Staff

Donald Dupont / Russell Fulk /
John Grew-Sheridan / Tim Kennedy /
Nancy Krompotich
Larry Borsian

QUOTES

There is hardly anything in the world that some man cannot make a little worse and sell a little cheaper, and the people who consider price only are this man's lawful prey.

John Ruskin

The craftsman must resist the invitation to accomplish the impossible by those who do not appreciate what wood really is and how it behaves.

Ernest Joyce

Membership Application

Bay Area Woodworkers' Association

P.O. Box 421195, San Francisco, CA 94142.

Name _____ Home Address _____

Home Telephone () _____ Work Telephone () _____ (zip) _____

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 _____

Date _____