

BAY AREA WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

SERVING BAY AREA WOODWORKERS SINCE 1982

October Meeting

When

October 21, 1993

Sign-in & Socializing
7:00 PM

Where

Small Boat Shop
Maritime Museum
Hyde Street Pier
San Francisco

Program

John Muir
Boat Building

November 19, 1993

David Mark
Furniture Design
Mainliner Club

December 17, 1993

*Annual Christmas Pot
Luck Dinner*

Our Next Meeting

by Bill Henzel

This month, on October 21st, we will have our meeting at the Small Boat Shop in San Francisco. The shop is part of the National Maritime Museum. The members of the shop are involved in both restoration of historical ships and teaching the art of traditional wooden boat building. John Muir will be our host as he shows around the shop and tells us about his experiences in small craft construction. Yes, he is a relative of John Muir. The shop is located at the Hyde Street pier and has a limited number of chairs. You may want to bring your own. This is a great opportunity to learn how small boats are built and see some of the more specialized tools and techniques used in small craft construction. If you always wanted to build a boat, don't miss this meeting!

When Last We Met

by
Ron Gammon

Satellites,
carvings, illusive
creature rockers,
and "In the
black" were all
intriguing. Jim
Lowe showed
how he used

wood became "metal" by the finishing
technique.

His carvings were also beautiful examples of
craftsmanship in their design and execution
along with the use of the wood. Jim's chess set
in marine motif using one species of wood for
both the white and black pieces, and the figurine
of black and white in the same person showed a
unique use and understanding of material.

The September meeting was not a meeting to
miss!

Catching Up

The August meeting at MacBeath Hardwoods
was truly memorable. From the spread of food
laid out for us to the enjoyable and informative

wood and other materials to create models of
satellites that had the appearance of the real
thing. Along with the description of how he
created the various components, he showed how

discussion of woods by an expert in the field, this was a remarkable evening.

Manuel Lavrador, VP and part owner, was our host. Some of the interesting facts we learned were that lignum vitae is the hardest wood and used for bearings, and balsa is the softest, the least toxic is sugar maple and thus used for cutting blocks, most toxic is cocoa balsa (or balsam?), and the wood of ages is Mahogany.

Drawings were made and numerous prizes given out. These included a band clamp set, circular carbide saw blades, Japanese pull saw, Adalox 150A sand paper, leather mallet, and a set of 3 chisels.

Thanks to MacBeath Hardwoods for hosting us!

MESSAGES FROM ANNE

New Members

On behalf of BAWA, I would like to welcome aboard the following new member:

R. H. Reid

Schedule for Board Meeting

WE, THE CLUB, NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THE TOY PROGRAM WORK THIS YEAR! PLEASE HELP! Call Anne Glynn for more information

TRADE SHOW NOVEMBER 5-7 AT SAN MATEO

OPEN STUDIO, October 23rd, 9am - 1pm, San Francisco

Board meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month. All members are invited.

Next meeting: October 26, 1993

Time: 7:30pm

Place: 1499 Bay Shore Hwy. Ste 200,
Burlingame (the cross street in
Malher, near Broadway)

Take 101 to the Broadway exit (Bay side of freeway). Then just follow the street signs to the North. We would like members to take an active part in organizing the regular meetings, so won't *YOU* come to the next Board Meeting and help? The only request is that you let Thane Anderson (w) 415-692-0824 or Anne Glynn 415-967-61149 know, so there will be sufficient chairs available.

TRADE SHOW IS COMING

Have you called Frank Hungler at 415-343-9559 for more information about the trade show? Don't be left out and miss your chance to win a free entrance to the San Mateo trade show, or to show your work to others who attend the show! The show dates are November 5-7.

OPEN STUDIO!

by
Michael M. Bray

Seeing how our fellow woodworkers get things done is often as interesting as the end result. This partially explains the attraction of TV shows like The New Yankee Workshop and the Woodwrights Shop...we get to see the tools, techniques and workspace of other woodworkers. Not too many of us have shops like Norm's, or Roy Underhill's for that matter yet somehow we manage to get our projects done.

The *Open Studio* concept is one where a craftsman/artist invites fellow craftsmen to his/her studio while working on a project. Visitors come to watch and ask questions and see the artist at work.

BAWA has organized an *OPEN STUDIO* in San Francisco and later on will be planning others. If you are interested in showing your shop to fellow members please write to me at the below address for more information. In the meantime here is the info' on the SF *OPEN STUDIO*, which in its inaugural year consists of one shop. So you won't get tired driving all over the city!

SHOP NAME:

Weidner Workshop
Furniture Specialists

MEMBER/LOCATION:

John and Charlene Weidner
215 Corona Court
San Francisco, CA 94127

When?

Saturday
October 23d, 9am - 1pm

DIRECTIONS: **From the south**

Head NORTH on 101.

When you get to the interchange with 280 head SOUTH on 280. This interchange is after Candlestick and the Third St. exits, but before the Silver Avenue exit.

(Take the Ocean/Geneva Avenue exit, keep your eyes peeled and follow the signs for Ocean Avenue.)

(Turn right, uphill, onto Ocean Avenue.)

(Turn left onto Victoria. Go one block.)

(Turn right onto Urbano Drive.)

(Turn right onto Corona Court.)

From the Bay Bridge

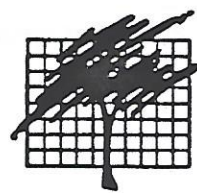
Head SOUTH on 101.

Take the 280 SOUTH exit, it will put you, amazingly enough on 280 heading south!

Follow the directions above that are in (parentheses).

Once again if you need more info on this or future OPEN HOUSEs, please contact me at the address below.

Mike Bray
4240 Montgomery St.,
Oakland, CA 94611
(510) 601-8451



Executive Board Report

A formal meeting was not held during September.

MAKE YOUR OWN MARKING KNIFE THE NEXT TIME YOU BARBECUE!!

by
Michael M. Bray

Accurate joint cutting depends on accurate marking out, and pencils are just too 'fuzzy'. Marking knives are a good but usually expensive way to gain accuracy. Here is how I made my own using scrap wood and a bit of hand saw blade...not to mention a barbecue and some fine spicy suasages!

1) To prepare:

- **find** an old saw to use for raw material;
- **find** some nice hardwood scraps for the knife handle;
- **get out** your barbecue and start the charcoal.

2) Anneal the saw blade:

- **when** the coals are well lit and very hot, place the saw in the barbecue and cover it with a layer of the hot coals. When the saw glows **cherry red** take it out of the fire and let it cool slowly, the slower the better. The steel has now been softened.

3) Food:

- Its best to have someone else do the cooking, as you will be busy, but it isn't necessary.

4) Shaping the knife blade:

- **cut out** your knife blank with a jig saw, and a metal-cutting blade. The blank should be

3/4" wide by about 6" long for a full tang knife, or 2" long for an inset blade. Cut, file or grind one end of the blank to shape the 'business end' of the blade. Roughly shape the cutting edge, which should be about 3/4" long, but don't sharpen it yet. If the blank is not flat now is the time to make it so.

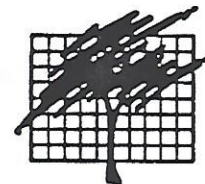
5) Harden the blade:

- **put** the knife blank into the coals where it is good and hot. When the blank is glowing **cherry red** take it out of the fire and plunge it straight down into the water. Move it up and down within the water until it cools. **This is called 'quenching'.** **Your knife blank is now as hard (and brittle) as glass.** To verify this you can try to scratch it with a file, which should skate over the blank without marking it. Handle it gently, or it will shatter.

6) Temper the blank:

- If you haven't already eaten, chow down and relax for a while... Clean the blank of any soot or scale. Have a small bucket of water handy. Starting with the butt end in the flame of a torch or stove, notice the colors that appear on the metal. From a light yellow (or straw) color it quickly darkens through a range of colors to blue. Blue tells you the steel is very soft and yellow tells you it is hard but tough. This is the color you want to see along the cutting edge. It takes some patience and practice to get most of the handle blue and most of the blade dark straw, while leaving the cutting edge light straw colored, but this is your goal.

7) Fit the handle:



- **this** is a slab handled knife, which means it is a sandwich of wood and metal. The slabs should be about 1/2" thick. Finish the front of the slabs where the blade will protrude now but leave the rest rough. Glue the three parts together using water proof epoxy. Clamp it and leave it till tomorrow.

8) Finish:

- Use a wood file to shape the handle, but stop before you get to the metal. Switch over to metal files and sandpaper. A few coats of oil will protect the handle from the elements. Sharpen and hone and start marking out those Joints!

For Sale

This section is for you!! Do you have an item or tool to sell or trade? Make out a slip at the next meeting and give it to Ron Kowalka or put it in "the box."

Questions Wanting Answers

This section is for you!! Lots of us have questions about woodworking and can't find the answer. Shorten your search! Make out a slip at the next meeting and give it to Ron Kowalka or put it in "the box."

Information Items Editor

I recently began receiving a "*Newsletter for and about Woodworkers*." It is called Woodworkers' Network. It included an extensive list of coming

events in Northern and Southern California, a listing of woodworking clubs, a few press releases of events, tips from the readers, and a few advertisements.

Write to them and ask to be placed on their mailing list in return for letting them know about your interest in woodworking, and if you are in it as a business. Their address is:

Woodworkers' Network
PO Box 390670
Mountain View, CA 94039-0670

Thanks to Ron Gammon for his article in "When Last We Met." Ron will be a regular contributor for the newsletter.

Thanks also to Michael Bray. He really outdid himself with his first contributions. I am sure we will all appreciate his efforts in setting up the *Open Studio* visits! The article on making a marking knife is the type we would really like to have in the newsletter. Thanks Mike!

Call for Information

Do you have something about woodworking you would like to share with all of us? If so, please write it up, include simple drawings if possible (or call me and I'll work with you on it), and send it to me. Mike's was given to me on a DOS 3 1/2" diskette which saved me time. Which ever way you do it, just do it..... We want your news and ideas! To get it to me, send to:

Ron Kowalka
203 Winding Way. San Carlos, CA 94070
415-595-0560
or FAX it to me at: 415-852-3762