

SFVW

VOLUME 30, ISSUE #3

MARCH 2020



San Fernando Valley Woodworkers since 1988

<http://sfvw.org/>

Monthly Meetings

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 PM, at the Balboa Park Sports Complex, Gym Building, at 17015 Burbank Blvd, Encino (see page 3 for map).

Meeting Minutes

by Greg Rogers

SFVW Meeting Notes 2-20-2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 by Chuck Nickerson

New guests/ Returning members from the past:

Jim Baldrige (returning) and Scott looking for a work space with a CNC to help him build musical instruments

Special visitor: Lisa Glenn from Family Rescue, which serves the SFV. She thanked the club members for the work we do in making the toys and told of the joy the toys brought to the children. They especially liked the cradles and block trucks. The organization serves about 400 families of which about 40% are children.

Committee Reports

Finance (Jeff) There was a change in the type of bank account that the club has. The previous account was an account designed for a non-profit. The new account is a private account with Jeff and Chuck as owners. It is at Chase Bank. Please make all checks payable
See "Minutes" on page 2

March Challenge

March's Challenge will be a project showing wood plus another material, or three or more woods. In either case the elements must be visible.

Our President says...

by Chuck Nickerson

With Valentine's Day behind us (surely all those projects are done by now) and the December holidays far in the future (except for Toy Committee members), what drives your selection process for which shop projects to work on next? Hopefully the March Challenge is ever-present in your thoughts. Bring something visually involving wood and non-wood OR three or more types of wood. Pen turners: this includes you.

I've been shepherding along three projects but now that we're only two weeks out it's time to select one and focus.

My shop organization was going well until I visited Boris' shop and brought home an assortment of goodies. Where will all that veneer fit? How am I going to catalog and use it? What was I thinking?



March Meeting:

Dennis Hays

Dennis Hays is a Maloof historic house docent and professional design shop wood worker. He will speak about Sam Maloof as a woodworker, and the activities of the Maloof foundation in promoting the art and craft of woodworking. He will show examples of woodworking joints created by Mr. Maloof.



Who We Are

The club was formed in 1988 for the purpose of enhancing skills, providing information and sharing the joys of working with wood. The membership reflects a cross section of woodworking interests and skill levels - both hobbyist and professionals. Annual dues are \$35. Full-time student dues are \$15.

"Minutes" from page 1



to Jeff Bremer, or in his absence, to Chuck Nickerson.

Jeff reminded those who haven't paid their dues for 2020 to please do so. {Prices are above, Ed.}

Toy committee: Chuck explained the toy committee's purpose and operation details.

Sheila shared pictures of kids receiving and playing with block trucks at Cleveland High School's day care facility. Happy faces.

Presentations: Tonight, Tom Ferkel will present on how to build a dulcimer. [Note: this was a quick change from the originally scheduled presenter who disappeared on us, Ed.]

April: Stefen will present on making stained glass.

May: Chuck will present on how to better control hand tools (shooting boards, etc.).

August: Chuck will present on how to build a box several different ways.

September: Jigs and fixtures.

March challenge:

Make something out of wood and another material or something out of three different kinds of wood (all woods must be visible).

Announcements

Ed received an email from a TV show called "America Says." The show is looking for five contestants from our club to participate in a show that is in the "Family Feud" format. Anyone interested see Ed.

Ed asked if anyone would like to be a third backup



Club Officers

President:	Chuck Nickerson	(818) 635-1175 chuckn@srar.com
Program Chair:	Glen Dresser	(818) 980-34932 gombd@aol.com
Secretary:	Ginger Gibson	(818) 506-7261 geegeeburr@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Jeff Bremer.	(310) 740-6892 jabremer@msn.com
Photographer	Calvin Sov	(714) 457-8910 calvin_sov@yahoo.com
Publisher:	Gary Coyne	(626) 799-4196 gary@thecoynes.com
Librarian:	Open	(626) 666-6666 needone@needy.com
Web Master:	Ed Sheanin	(818) 346-6732 ed@sheanin.com
Toy Chair:	Jim Kelly	(323) 254-0837 jimkelly@earthlink.net
Toy Distribution:	Sheila Rosenthal	818-653-4847 sheiladeee@yahoo.com
Refreshments:	Open	(626) 666-6666 needone@needy.com

for the newsletter and website. Ed currently maintains the website with Gary as backup. Gary currently publishes the newsletter with Ed as backup. Stefen volunteered to be the new backup. Thanks Stefen.

Jeff announced the new SFVW online store, which sells a hat, a mug and three types of shirts, all with the SFVW logo.

Items are produced and shipped in 21 day cycles with a portion of the sale price going to the club. Jeff thanked Gary and Sheila for their help and said that he will post the link on FaceBook. <https://www.bonfire.com/store/san-fernando-valley-woodworkers-store/>

Questions

Gary C was looking for information on the durability of the Harbor Freight pancake compressor. Tom said that he has had one for a few years and it is still going. Eitan

See "Minutes" on page 3





Balboa Recreation Center Location
Map courtesy of Google Maps

From The Design Group

February's meeting was a spirited exchange on several topics. On the practical level we discussed clamp racks, clasps for traveling chess boards, and edge support while turning a square bowl.

On a more esoteric level we discussed Frank Lloyd Wright's furniture and methods for cutting angles and bevels for a sinuous sculptural piece. March's meeting is tentatively set for Marc Collins' home. RSVPs are appreciated (marc_collins@hotmail.com). All are welcome!

From the Web

Craft in America: Lowells Boat Shop & Graham McKay
Handmade boat building

<https://tinyurl.com/vtvzryl>

Harold A. Burnham, 11th generation wooden-boat builder

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJWvUv4tIBc>

An amazing (and expensive) drill press

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kck-Cq6wNLA>

The Making Of Traditional Wooden Clogs

<https://tinyurl.com/v2g96bj>

A collection of Wharton Esherick furniture will be auctioned.

<https://tinyurl.com/vt9fcyt>

Essential Craftsman. It's construction-related (not necessarily wood shop) but what a joy.

<https://tinyurl.com/lam5qf>

Steve Sampietro told how he changed the Allen head screws on his Delta band saw to large headed thumb screws. The thumb screws made adjustments much quicker and easier.

John Shared how he uses a mixture of bees wax and mineral oil to treat butcher block cutting boards. You need to heat the bees wax in a double boiler (or a can sitting in water) and gently heat the wax until liquid. Then add the mineral oil while mixing. Let it cool and you're done. [Note: I use 1 part beeswax to 2 parts mineral oil. Ed.]

Show and Tell

David showed two hearts that he made for his fiancée. One was made of laminated strips of various woods and the other was made of iron shaped by hammering hot metal and held to a wood back with copper nails.

Mark Ashley showed a pen that he made of three types

See "minutes" on page 4

"Minutes" from page 2

said that if a quiet one is desired, one from California Air Tools is available for a higher price.



Tips and Tricks

Sam told how he made project protectors out of scrap wood to place between his metal bench dogs and his project pieces. He keeps the protectors in a pouch attached to his workbench within easy reach.

Gary W showed how he made simple, effective cabinet door locks to keep his two-door (mirrored) cabinets closed during an

earthquake.

Jeff told of using hide glue for a project for which he wanted the ability to unglue the joints. It turned out that he did need to unglue some joints and followed Chuck's advice of using boiling water to affect the ungluing. Jeff used a glue pot to heat the hide glue. Others told of using a crock pot or a tea water warmer to heat the glue. There was some discussion on the various types of hide glue available.



Upcoming Wood-related Events & Important News

from Jim Kelly

The following events and announcements were found in the March – April 2020 issue of Woodworker West and may be of interest:

Now – April 12: Japan House Los Angeles presents HIDA: A Woodwork Tradition in the Making, exploring the Japanese woodworking tradition of Hida in Gifu Prefecture and the work of century old furniture maker Hida Sangyo Co., Ltd. More information at: <https://www.japanhouse.jp/losangeles>.

Now – March 29. “Chaffey Community Museum of Art presents Shaping Artists” works by craftsmen influenced by Sam Maloof. More information at: <https://www.chaffeymuseum.org/>.

Now – April 26: Long Beach Museum of Art presents CA Designed 1955, featuring works first shown in their 1955 California Designed show, including works by Charles and Ray Eames, Sam Maloof, and Jerome and Evelyn Ackerman. More information at: <https://www.lbma.org/exhibitions/>

March 14 – 15: Ramona Country Woodcarvers at Valley Wide Sports Center, San Jacinto. More information: www.ramona-countrycarvers.com.

March 19: San Fernando Valley Woodworkers will have a presentation by Dennis Hayes of the Maloof Foundation. More information at: www.sfvw.org.

March 28 & April 18: Channel Islands Woodturners will have a demo by Trent Bosch, and Stuart Batty (respectively). More information at: www.channelislandswoodturners.org.

April 17 – 19: The Society of American Period Furniture Makers will hold its Spring Seminar at Cerritos College. Featured presenter is Don Williams who will

“Minutes” from page 3

of wood: maple, walnut and FOG wood. (FOG = found on ground).

Dale shared an ice cream scoop handle that he made using zebra, walnut and African black. He also shared a salt shaker made of walnut and holly, the whitest of white woods.

Jack R showed pictures of the new dust collection



lecture on and demonstrate Historic Finishing Materials and Methods: Wax and Shellac. More information and to register, contact Brad Ormsby at: bormsby@sbcglobal.net or Bob Stevenson at: bobscww@cox.net. April 19: Glendale Woodturners will have a demo by Stuart Batty. More information at: www.woodturners.org.

May 5-7: National Hardware Show in Las Vegas. Early bird registration ends March 14. More information at: www.nationalhardwareshow.com

May 16: Tool Swap Meet at Anderson Plywood. More information at: www.andersonplywood.com.

June 4-7: (Entry deadline of March 15) The American Association of Woodturners (AAW) announced the theme for its (Kentucky) 2020 exhibition as Step Up to the Plate – Second Inning. More information at: <https://tinyurl.com/rpjku5> or call (651) 484-9094.

June 5 – July 5: (Entry deadline of May 1) The San Diego County Fair Design in Wood will be in Del Mar. More information at: <https://sdfair.com/exhibits/design-in-wood/> or call: (858) 792-4207.

July 17 – August 2: The California State Fair (Sacramento) handcrafts competition handbooks and entry forms are available at: www.castatefair.org or call: (916) 263-FAIR.

July 17 – August 16: Orange County Fair’s Fine Arts Woodworking Show. Entry submission opens mid-March and closes May 29. More information at: <https://ocfair.com/oc-fair/competitions-contests/visual-arts/> or call: (714)708-1624.

News 1: Bridge City Tools has restructured offering a wider distribution market that increases demand and affords lower prices. Check out the new pricing at: www.bridgecitytools.com.

News 2: Popular Woodworking is again sponsoring a Workshop Makeover Giveaway. The grand prize is \$6,400 worth of tools, including a table saw, planer, bandsaw, and more. More information at: www.popularwoodworking.com/winshop.

News 3: The Sam and Alfreda Maloof Historic Home and Gardens is extending its Saturday hours to 10 AM to 4PM. More information at: www.malooffoundation.org.

system he is building. He offered his old one for sale, The old one has a 220V, 2hp, motor [jac32rob@gmail.com].

Steve Sampietro showed how he made a white board eraser pen. He also demonstrated a podium he made for his pint-sized students. It had compact and clever design features.

Grant shared how to extend the life of short pencils by making pencil extenders. One way is to roll the pencil in paper thus extending the length of the pencil. He made a permanent one out of a brass tube with threads on the in-

See “minutes” on page 5



side of the tube for threading a pencil into. The extenders can extend the life and therefore the value of expensive artist pencils.

Presentation

Tom Ferkel gave a talk and demonstration on dulcimers. He began with a brief bio and his history with dulcimers. He covered the history of dulcimers and how they entered

more contemporary music (e.g., Rolling Stones). Then he talked about woods he uses and prefers, the jigs he uses and how he constructs and uses them, how he fabricates the instruments, and the decorative elements that he uses.

The presentation was very interesting and informative.



Free to a good home!

Two solid core doors, 30" X 80" used as bench tops until I got around to building a better bench. Contact Jim Kelly at (323) 254-0837 or jimkelly@earthlink.net to arrange pickup.

In the January Plane Talk, Sheila wrote a beautiful article recognizing all those who participated in last year's Toy Build. However, she left out one person, herself. Sheila made contact with each of the charity organizations, organized the packaging of the toys at the weekend build, supervised at the storage unit, coordinated with each of the charities for delivery of the toys, and conducted follow up with each group for their evaluation of our efforts. On top of all that, she was also a hands-on builder of some of the toys. Sheila is an active member of the Toy Committee and is an invaluable club member in making our annual program a success. Thank you, Sheila, we appreciate what you do!

-Ed Sheanin



Hide Glue

by Tom Ferkel

A question came up at the last meeting regarding hide glue. It was discussed that you can buy it premixed in a small bottle, or in a dry form that needs to be mixed and melted into water. The discussion then touched on using a double boiler in order to heat and mix the glue.

Let me start by saying that I'm not a fan of hide glue. Although, when conservation is an issue, I certainly don't hesitate to use it on an old clock case or vintage instrument. With something old, I generally, if possible, try to use the same type of glue that was used originally. That said, I should add that I have always used hide glue from the premixed bottle with good results, and I should also add that people who know a lot more than I do all seem to share the opinion that mixing your own is better. I have no reason to differ, but still (and maybe forever) I have not tried mixing my own. However, during the discussion I brought up a way to create a double boiler in which to heat and mix your glue that only costs a few bucks. I learned this from a lecture on wooden clock movements and am happy to pass along what was put forth in the presentation. The following is from the notes that I took at the lecture.

• The traditional glue used on wooden movements is hide glue and is recommended for tightening loose posts, etc.

• Use 50% solution of water & white vinegar to clean up hide glue.

• A double boiler can be made to melt Hide glue granules, which are better to use than ready mixed.

A cheap double boiler can be made from an electric hot water/tea maker with a thermostat, A Pyrex 250ml beaker, and a thermometer.

1. Drill a hole in the top of the water heater so that you can insert a thermometer into the water or glue.

2. Put glue granules in beaker and "just" cover them with water.

3. Put beaker into the water in the hot water/tea maker.

4. Heat the glue to 140°.

This is certainly a more economical way to mix the granules with water. The double boilers that are available from luthier supply houses are very pricey. This idea will get you going for much less. If you decide to try this, I hope it works for you. Remember that you don't need a lot of hide glue for a good joint. If you're not familiar with the stuff you may want to read some articles before you move forward. Hide glue can take some finesse. And it can get pretty messy rather quickly.