

SOUTH BAY WOODWORKERS' NEWS

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President's Column

By Jay Perrine



“Accomplishment” and “Teaching” are Worthy Goals

The presentation by **Jim Bender** last month was very interesting as he and his organization, the Adriatic Maritime Institute, combine so many aspects besides just woodworking; languages, adventure, teamwork, leadership, orphans learning skills from elders who unexpectedly become teachers.

How Jim wrestles this all each summer with only \$10,000 is inspiring enough. Learning about the old boat design, finding old boats repurposed and getting them back into original shape and seaworthy is commendable.

I was listening to an FM radio program while driving somewhere in my pickup, when suddenly the person being interviewed stated that despite trying to train ghetto kids to become electricians they have figured out the KEY to SUCCESS is positive reinforcement growing up. That is children who get 80% positive reinforcement versus 20% negative fare much better than those that get 80% NEGATIVE reinforcement. So people who grew up with positive reinforcement can tackle

things they weren't trained for much better than those with negative. WHAT? So with that in my head as I listened to Jim and saw the photos of the orphans making boats it struck me that what they had at the end of the summer (not clear to me how long some of his 'camps' lasted) those weeks with Jim gave them something they accomplished and could have pride and carry that sense of self into new endeavors (like ship building he mentioned in Croatia).

I believe our club thrives on sharing accomplishments we have via our woodworking projects. I see with more advanced project design the pride and accomplishment go further when the club member both designs the project and builds it. Let's keep on doing them and finding rare individuals like Jim that can also fundraise, teach in another language, learn from elders how boats were built, run an organization in another country and use woodworking as the core. Watching for Show-N-Tell in April to see some accomplishments!



Jim with slide of students in three boats on the Una river

April 25th Meeting Pet Projects with Laura Marshall

Laura will share with us three woodworking projects she has done for her enjoyment and the benefit of her pets.

Meeting Location

Saratoga Federated Church
Postal Annex Building
14376 Saratoga Ave.
Saratoga, CA

Map and directions:

<https://www.southbaywoodworkers.org/>

March Program in Review

Tracie Johnson invited **Jim Bender**, who teaches at the Redwood City Continuation High School, to talk about his involvement with the Adriatic Maritime Institute in a youth boat building program.



The five day program serves male and female youths from state run homes in Croatia and Bosnia. In addition to the boat building, the youths are treated to various boating outings. In one of the events, boats are built on an island in the middle of



the Una river where power is provided by a generator because of a lack of a power source. The machine-work on the material is performed elsewhere allowing only the assembly work to be done on the island.



The first year one boat was built. Two boats were built in two sessions the second year the program was offered. The program uses air-dried wood, oak for the frame and fir for the planking. Some frame members need to be bent and they use an unusual method for bending wood. First the wood is soaked in water then heated using a roofing torch. The planking is laid leaving space between to accommodate expansion and contraction. Cotton caulking is placed in the seams using the traditional method. The wooden members are secured using galvanized nails with the heads being countersunk and the pointed ends being bent over. The heads are covered with non-hardening caulk to accommodate movement when the boat is sailed.

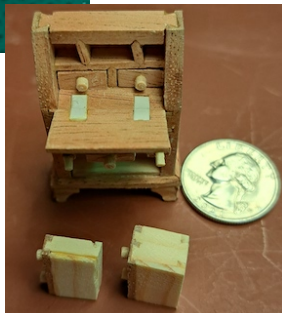
March Show n' Tell

Mateo McCullough carved the comic/film character Victor Vasco (Lackadaisy) from basswood then painted the figure with acrylic paint. The figure stands about three inches tall.



He also crafted a miniature secretary from mahogany and pine. It measures roughly 1 1/2 inches tall by one inch wide by 1/2 inch deep. The drawers actually open, and the desk front can be opened

for writing (by Victor Vasco, no doubt!).



Greg Spencer made a puzzle box from cherry and zebra wood. The lid opens only if you know the secret. The box is tilted slightly sidewise at which point the lid can be slid open a short distance and then the box is tilted in the other direction allowing the lid to be opened all the way.



Pat Igniffo created a knife block from a scrap of 4 X 4 inch unidentified wood salvaged from a dumpster. He finished it with orange oil and beeswax.



Ken Roberge made a chess board from squares of poplar and walnut surrounded by a border of oak all glued to a piece of plywood. Ken finished the top with oil and the bottom with polyurethane.



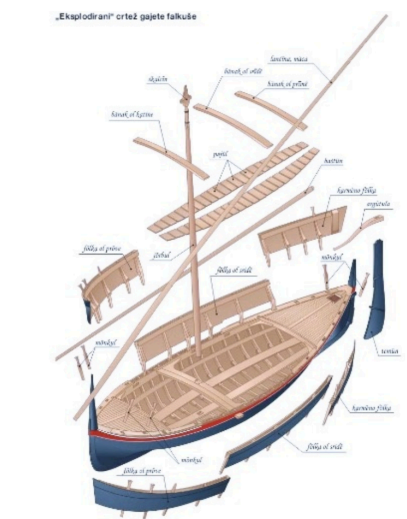
Meeting March 28, 2023

2023 Program Responsibilities

If there are conflicts or need for changes, please contact **Tracie Johnson**.

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| April 25 | Laura Marshall - Pet Projects - Chuck Aring |
| May 23 | Jay Perrine Alter Table for Church |
| June 27 | Bob Konigsberg Update on the house build Matteo McCullough |
| July 27 | Tom Petzoldt Mike Castellanos |
| August 22 | Allan Kutach Terry O'Donnell |
| September 26 | Bill Turner Norm Burns |
| October 24 | Dave Burkett Allen Glesser |
| November 28 | Ron Gerard Dennis Yamamoto |
| December | Christmas Winter Holiday Party TBD |

| 2022 Officers | |
|-------------------|---|
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Sailing and Boat Schematic Courtesy of James Bender Adriatic Institute