

# SOUTH BAY WOODWORKERS' NEWS

Volume 22, Issue 9

September 2014

## President's Column

By Fred Sotcher



**G**reetings:

Blair fun activity last month was a real treat. The creative activity allowed us to get a feeling for what it was like to be woodworker in the 1700 and 1800's.

I am very pleased that Chuck and Karen stepped up to the plate again this year to have the summer picnic. It's such a pleasure to join with others and just talk wood things. Thank you both.

Speaking of going out - as you know this month we are meeting at the Tech Shop in San Jose. It's a chance to learn what facilities are available to us for that special project that a bit more that we can manage at home. I love outing and hope that we can find other places where we can meet and learn together.

At long last our outreach program is finished. At this writing all 130 pieces are finished and ready for delivery. I added up the retail value using a price list from a school supplier and the total for the two schools can to almost \$30,000 worth to furniture. All of you that assisted in the project should be proud. Thank you very much for all your efforts. I know the schools are very pleased.

I understand that our news story was published in the Cupertino Courier. Chuck's efforts are paying off one more time.

Don't forget to bring a woodworking friend and your latest project for show and tell.

See you at the Tech Shop,

Fred Sotcher

## Next Month's Program:

**A** field trip to the San Jose TechShop has been scheduled for September 23 at the usual 7:00 pm time.

There is limited parking at the TechShop. If you find a spot, you must get a parking pass at the front desk. There is validated parking on E. San Carlos St. between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> streets. Keep in mind that Second Street is one way south bound and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is one way north bound. (See map at end of newsletter)

## Minutes August 26, 2014

### Guests

**T**here were five guests present. David McMillan, Jason Rose', Eric Kuehne, Al Holstein, and Tony Pintcham.

### General Announcements

**T**he summer picnic is set for September 14<sup>th</sup> at Chuck Aring's house. Chuck will furnish the ham and members will provide the rest of the menu.

**J**ay Perrine announced the 2014 BAWA woodworking show to be held in October. The opening reception is Friday, October

17<sup>th</sup> from 6 pm to 8 pm. The show continues on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 6 pm and Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 5 pm. It will be held at the San Carlos Woodcraft store, 40 El Camino Real (between Holly and Ralston). The show is open to all woodworkers whether or not you are a BAWA member and awards will be given. For more information go to : <http://www.bayareawoodworkers.org>.

## Main Meeting

**B**lair Glenn's presentation focused on the period of time before machine tools were available.



Next Meeting  
Tuesday  
**September 23**  
By  
Ron Gerard &  
Mike Wirth  
At  
The TechShop  
San Jose  
(See map)  
at 7:00 pm

He displayed spokeshaves, draw knives, shaving horses, various planes, a froe and several other tools explaining their function. The emphasis was on tools used by homeowners and farmers rather than professional or industrial workers. He then invited the members to use the tools.

**FROE**

A froe was used with a mallet or maul for riving boards or shingles from straight grained billets.

**SHAVING HORSE**

One style of horse has a large head above a ramp that applies pressure on the piece being shaped. The bodgers horse has a square foot lever with the ramp sloping down away from the user. This horse was used by the English craftsmen to shape chair legs by carrying it into beech forests. It is lighter in weight than the other horse.



**DRAWKNIVES**

Several drawknives were providing for use. They were used in conjunction with shaving horses. Drawknives were used to rough shape parts while being held in a shaving horse.



**SPOKESHAVES**

Spokeshaves further refined the shape of spindles for its intended use. Blair showed his favorite handmade spokeshave estimated to have been made in the late 1700's or early 1800's.

**A BRACE FOR DRILLING HOLES**

No bits were provided, but two tools were demonstrated that put a chamfer and a tenon on the end of a chair spindle. A dry spindle tenon was then driven into the green seat mortise to produce a tight fit.



**PLANES**

A large number of wooden planes were brought in and described. Blair explained that European planes were far more common than American ones because European craftsmen brought them when they emigrated to the U. S.

Adjusting wooden planes is accomplished by rapping the back of the plane body to loosen the blade or tapping the front to set the blade for a deeper cut.



Shops would have a large array of different shaped planes for making moldings and shaped features on their products. Hollow and rounds were fairly common types of wooden planes and were named by the shape that they produced. Craftsmen would choose soft straight grained wood such as redwood or pine with these planes to prevent tearout.

**BOW SAWS**

Bow saws are used for shaping curved details, but they are hard to master.



**Show & Tell**

**S**yd Dunton brought a small basket back from Vietnam a few months ago and created a duplicate. He made it from some bamboo cutoffs from a flooring job by stringing waxed thread through drilled holes then knotting the thread at each end. No finish was applied.

**T**om Gaston turned two large bowls from camphor and finished them with mineral oil. He also created a piece of art using



sections of birch bark set in a picture frame. The birch bark was cut into small squares then glued to a backing by placing them in different orientations.



**T**om Kenyon displayed two open segmented turned bowls. The maple one shows large differences in segment



thickness. Two different fixtures were required because of the different segment thickness. The wenge bowl incorporates looser layers.



**M**ike Papa brought in joint samples that he has been experimenting with. There was a picture frame with a through mortise and tenon miter joint. The second was a wedged lipped tabled lap joint and the third was a scarf joint.



Our photographer checking his camera.

**South Bay Woodworkers Association**

4107 Acapulco Drive  
Campbell, CA 95008



<b>PROGRAM COMMITTEE</b>		<b>OFFICERS</b>	
September 23	Ron Gerard Mike Wirth	President	Fred Sotcher
October 28	Ken Horner Linda Horner Tracie Johnson	Vice-President	Ken Horner
November 25	Rich Winslow Rex Osborn	Secretary	Ron Gerard
December 19	Officers	Treasurer	Syd Dunton
January 27		Newsletter	Larry Schwarcz
		Photographer	Fred Sotcher
		Librarian	Mike Wirth
		Web Master	Tom Kenyon

October Program Committee  
Please take the ice chest home after the meeting

Refreshment Suggestions  
**Variety of Soft Drinks (48)**  
Water, Regular, Diet, Caffeine-Free, Juices  
**Varied Snacks:** Donuts, Cookies, Chips, Nuts

September 23, 2014 at 7:00pm

TechShop  
300 South 2nd St  
San Jose, CA 95113  
1-408-916-4144

[http://www.techshop.ws/ts\\_sanjose.html](http://www.techshop.ws/ts_sanjose.html)