



The DoveTale

April 2002

Officers of Woodworkers of SE Texas

President	Cliff McLean, 727-6287
President elect	Waid Gauthier, 735-8392
Secretary	Laura Seelen, 962-7224
Treasurer	Howard Hartman, 835-0564
Newsletter	Richard Hicks, 982-5226
Shows	Rod Ruppel, 898-7041
CP Project	Dean Partridge, 722-7647
Toy Project	Bob & Laura Seelen, 962-7224
Programs	to be appointed
Purchases	Jerry Shivers, 794-2274
Membership	Richard Hicks, 982-5226

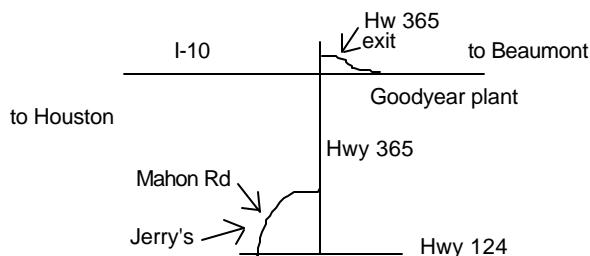
March 2002 Meeting

Members:	65	Present:	35	Visitors:	2
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Saturday Program Meeting

Jerry Shivers will host our next Saturday Program Meeting on April 13th at 1PM. Jerry is an expert furniture and cabinet builder and uses a lot of raised panel construction in his work. Among other things, he'll show us how he measures the frames and panels, sets up his routers and puts it all together in a project. If you plan to use raised panels in a project, don't miss this chance to learn from an expert!

The meeting will be at Jerry's home/shop. Check the map or call Jerry at **794-2274** for directions.



Directions to Jerrys: Take I-10 west toward Houston past Goodyear Rubber plant, exit at Hwy 365 and go left on Hwy 365. Watch for a red barn and one of those yellow highway signs warning "Highway intersection 1500 ft." Turn right at the intersection onto Mahon Road. Jerry's house is

the 2nd brick house on the right. His shop is behind the house.

Note: While traveling on Hwy 365 from I-10, if you cross the railroad tracks, you missed the right turn off 365 on to Mahon Road.

Club Business

We had 2 visitors, Fred Rinehold and Sam Talley.

Cliff received and read a letter from the Lumberton Caring Hearts Association thanking us for the toys we donated to them. Over 300 kids had a better Christmas because of our toys!

Lyman Frugia will host a Saturday Program meeting on May 4th. Lyman's specialty is wood turning.

Cliff shared information and handouts from the recent Shopsmith demo held at Lowes. The demonstrator made a small cabriole leg and turned a spindle with a loose ring.

Lew Laurent suggested the club purchase a small headset amplifier to be used during program presentations. If you can help us with this project, call Cliff at **727-6287** or Lew at **842-6628**.

Show & Tells



Jerry Brennan
A really nice box made with Paduak and Maple. Very intricate joinery and

details done with a router and an incra-jig.



Howard Hartman
A band sawn box he used in his presentation for the BI SD 7th graders and

his Saturday Program Meeting.



Rebecca Phelps
Brought an eagle carved from Ironwood.



Sam Tobey
Brought pictures of a chair that looked like a bear and a wine rack.



Rob Emanuel
Showed us a jig he made to fit his table saw fence when cutting tenons and small pieces.



Richard Hicks
Demonstrated a string clamp he uses when making picture frames and boxes.



Sue Caldwell
Brought a pen and pencil set made from blue Dymond Wood.

Door Prize

Don Lemp won the door prize - \$25 since he didn't bring a show & tell.

Library

Howard Hartman ordered 3 new woodworking books for our library. They are from Tauton Press (they publish Fine Woodworking magazine) and cover shaping wood, detailed joinery and furniture and cabinet construction. Total cost: \$119

Program

Richard Spinney, from the local Wood-carvers Club, presented our program.



He brought a table full of examples of his craft, including a lot of wildlife items such as fish, birds and a buffalo. He also had caricatures, a walking stick, knife covers and a dragonfly. It's obvious that he has a real passion for carving!

Richard says the basic carving tools are a pencil and a knife. The best tool to use is the "one that removes the most wood, the fastest". People have used everything from rocks to chainsaws to carve wood.



He also brought some of his carving knives and explained the

characteristics of a good carving knife. Top quality steel and a comfortable fit to your hand are important. Most of the 'made in china' knives are inferior - the steel is too soft to hold a good edge. He recommends Helby and Flex-Cut knives as being top quality at a reasonable price. Knives come in two basic types - heavy

ones that you hit with a mallet or hammer and smaller 'palm' knives that you push with the palm of your hand. He also said you are better off buying a couple top quality basic knives instead of a cheap set. A good knife will probably cost about \$35. Knives should be sharpened at a 22-24 degree bevel for softwoods and 26-28 degrees for hardwoods. Good knives will only have to be sharpened about once per year, but stropped about every 20 minutes of carving. On good quality knives, when the knife starts to feel dull, the edge is usually just slightly bent. Stropping the knife actually straightens the cutting edge, which makes the knife cut again.

For woods to carve, he suggests you start with Bass Wood or Butternut. The wood is soft, but close grained, so it holds details very well. A good starting project is carving an egg. If you have problems with the shape of a carving project, he suggests you use a mirror behind the object so you can see more of the piece at one time.

Richard also cautions, "If you carve, you will eventually cut yourself. The only question is - how bad will the cut be?"

Richard believes there are a lot of similarities in our crafts and our clubs should work closer together. Perhaps we could have a joint meeting or show. Their club meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in the Art League Building at the Fair Grounds. Visitors are always welcome they will be glad to help you get started with your carving project. You may contact Richard at **866-4629**.

Houston Woodworking Show

WOW! We did it again. We had a super booth at the show. We had a good assortment of woodworking projects – everything from turned bowls to furniture. Once again, in my (unbiased?) opinion, we had one of the best club booths at the show. A lot of people stopped by the booth and asked questions. Everything from “what kind of wood is this?” to “how did he make that joint?” and “what’s the most important tool in your shop?” And, our club members provided the answers they needed. Thanks to Rod Ruppel, who headed up our show effort, and all the members that setup our booth on Friday, manned the booth during the show and tore down the booth Sunday.

And, the vendor booths were well stocked with woodworking necessities. It was like having a ‘live’ catalog where you can check out things before you buy. The vendors also had some really sharp demonstrations. They really know how to make you believe you can take it out of the box use it as well as they can. But, it never seems work that way for me!

Woodworker’s Paradise

B.J. even had a booth at the show. I an Stewart was with him Saturday. I’m sure visitors at B.J.’s booth appreciated having an expert like I an available to answer their questions.

For those of you that looked a tools and equipment at the show but couldn’t quite make yourself buy it, check out

Woodworker’s Paradise when you’re ready. B.J.’s prices, in most cases, are very competitive with the show and catalog prices. And you can get good advice (and sometimes even a story) from B.J. as a bonus!

Acadian Hardwoods

Wes Vice and Norma at Acadian Hardwoods have a good stock of wood for your projects as well as some of the hardware items like drawer slides. They are also stocking custom moldings, trim, sandpaper and finishing materials.

Stop by and let them help you pick out the supplies you need for that special project.