

# LAKE CHARLES WOODWORKERS CLUB, INC.

## JUNE 1998

### Officers

John Marcon, President  
Bob Ferguson, Treas. & Newsletter Editor  
Brent Evans, President-Elect

### Board of Directors

Barry Humphus  
George Kuffel  
John Perry

### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Speaker for our May meeting at the Calcasieu Parish Central Library was Jane Boddie, wife of member, Lynn Boddie. Mrs. Boddie, who is a personal assistant to Mattilda Stream, is currently managing the rehabilitation of the Evergreen Plantation.

Originally known as the Becnel Plantation, Evergreen Plantation is located at Wallace in St. John the Baptist Parish Louisiana. Occupying 2500 acres it has been used to grow sugarcane for the longest period of any southern plantation. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Evergreen is unusual because it is the only plantation to still exist in its entirety, including all buildings which number 39, including the original 22 slave cabins. Today, it remains a private residence located on the west bank of the Mississippi River, about fifty miles above New Orleans.

Magdelaine Haydel Becnel (widow of Pierre Antoine Becnel who owned the plantation from 1801 until her death in 1830) was the daughter of Christophe Haydel, who is believed to be the original owner. The house was remodeled into its present appearance in 1832 by her grandson, Pierre Clidamant Becnel. The actual restoration occurred in 1946 and the current activity is an effort repair damage from time and the elements

Jane Boddie gave us the most informative tour of the major building and discussed many of the unusual problems (and solutions) experienced in the rehabilitation effort.

### THE JUNE MEETING

**Bring us your shop jigs.**

Most of us have either made or purchased some special shop jig which was designed to solve a particular problem. At the June 13th meeting, please bring any shop jig that you purchased or made to solve one of those little or large nagging problems encountered in a project. This could be anything that helps you get something done: a custom attachment for a power tool that you have made or purchased, a small hand tool that just exactly fits a

particular specialized need or purpose - just anything. Members who bring an item will get to tell about the problem and how the jig solved it.

Brent Evans will lead the discussion on using and making useful shop jigs as well as show you a few that he has made over the years.

**Let's make this a jiggling good meeting. Do your preparation now !!!!**

### NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to announce that the following individuals have become club members:

Roland Fontenot  
1206 Virginia St.  
Lake Charles, LA 70607

Chuck Middleton  
727 Roberta Drive  
Sulphur, LA 70663-1036

### NEXT MEETING

**June 13 at 9:00 A.M. at the Calcasieu  
Parish Public Library  
Ernest Street  
Lake Charles, LA**

**Subject: Use of jigs in woodworking.  
A special Show & Tell session.**

### FUTURE MEETINGS

**July 9 - (A Thursday evening)  
BBQ Social at PPG Park**



## WOODWORKERS ANNUAL BBQ

Our second annual **BBQ** is scheduled for Thursday evening on July 9 at the PPG Pavilion (same place as last year). This will be another great fun night

Plans are already being made to organize the annual event and we need volunteers for the Event Committee. Positions that need to be filled are:

**Refreshments** (coordinate/purchase and transport soft drinks, beer, wine)

**Food** (coordinate/purchase and transport main course (steak), salad, bread and condiments)

**Plates and Dinnerware** (coordinate/purchase and transport)

**Pre-Event setup** (chairs and tables set up at the PPG Pavilion)

**Post-Event cleanup** (take down tables and chairs, clean up kitchen area, move trash to receptacles)

**Head Chef** (supervise preparation of food)

**Communications** (contact members)

To make this as successful, fun and enjoyable as last year, we need volunteers. If you want to volunteer for one of the committee positions, please contact Barry Humphus (Work: 439-6383; Home: 477-8474; Email: bhumphus@laol.net). Your volunteer effort is what makes the Woodworkers organization work.

Barry Humphus will again coordinate the event. There will be a pre-event committee meeting (probably June 29th or 30th, although this may change as we get closer) to make certain everything is in place and ready to go.

All of the purchased items will be paid for or reimbursed by the Woodworkers Club. We have some non-perishable items left from our BBQ last year.

The cost is \$10.00 per person. Please encourage your spouse or a friend to join you at the BBQ. You can pay anytime including at the door. However, Barry Humphus will begin collecting for the BBQ at the June 13th meeting at the Calcasieu Parish Library on Ernest Street.

## ANNUAL TOY PROGRAM

Now that you have had an opportunity to get plans and layouts for toys, you need to get to work making them! The Woodworkers Club contributed over 400 items to area needy children in 1997.

Last year, the Woodworkers Club received lots of publicity for our Toy Program. We received complimentary letters from prominent Lake Area citizens and the Mayor of Lake

Charles. We have already gathered scrap wood from donors and it is available from Barry Humphus. If you need any help or some wood for your toys, please contact Barry as soon as possible.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

Dr. Norman Morin has given us three copies of a publication put out jointly by the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center and the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service entitled "**Seasoning to Prevent Defects in Green Wood**". If you are planning to cut down a tree for lumber and to store green wood, this pamphlet contains valuable information on stacking and storage which should make your effort more successful. To borrow one of these copies contact Bob Ferguson at 478-1157.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

**Paid Members:** 60

**Treasury:** \$730

## TIPS FROM THE INTERNET

### Grease and Oil Stains

To remove oil and grease stains from woodworking projects, spray them with automobile starting fluid which contains ether. the stains come off and the wood dries almost immediately.

### Stain Before You Glue

Especially a problem on finishing rather than refinishing pieces, remember to stain before you glue. No matter how fast you wipe off excess glue, it has a tendency to "seal" the wood and when it comes time to stain.. oops! No stain penetrates the place where the excess glue was left. No amount of sanding "unseals" the wood.

## FOR SALE

We have received information on another wood cutting service. Steve McCorquodale in Longville has an electric band saw mill and does custom sawing of logs at his location. He also has for sale some cypress and cherry which had previously been sawn and air dried.

His charges for a thousand board feet are:

\$ 175 for 1" thickness, \$ 165 for 2" thickness.

Steve will also cut on a halves basis: half the wood is yours, the other half is his fee. If interested, contact him at

WOODCRAFTER'S FRIEND

449 McCorquodale Road

Longville, LA 70652

(318)-725-6874



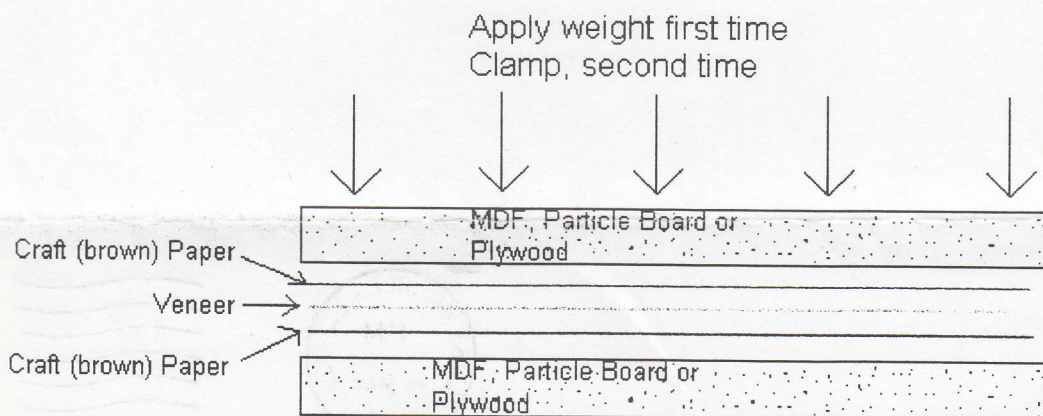
## From The Internet

### Flattening Wavy Veneer

The grain in wood is particularly important in its effect on the figure of wood. Different types of irregular (highly figured) woods may raise, crack or blister. Some of the best examples of this are the burls and crotch veneers.

The first prerequisite for a good veneering job is that the veneer must be flat, clean and dry. Because of the modern method of manufacturing veneer and the nature of some highly figured woods like burls and crotch having no grain direction, they are most often supplied wavy or buckled. The following procedure should be used to flatten wavy veneer prior to bonding it to a surface.

Prepare a solution of 10 percent glycerine (which can be purchased at a drug store) to 90 percent water. Pour this solution into a clean spray bottle (the type used to spray plants). Set the spray nozzle to spray a very fine mist. Next mist both sides of the veneer. Place the dampened veneer between two sheets of brown craft paper, (purchased at any art supply store) make sure there is no print on the paper. Next, place the veneer and paper between two panels. Any stable, flat panel material like MDF, particleboard or plywood will do. Add a minimum amount of weight to the top and leave overnight. Examine the next day, if the veneer is still not flat, repeat the process using new craft paper, this time the veneer should be flat enough so you can clamp it between the panels. Once again leave overnight.



Once the veneer is flat, do not apply any more solution, but change the craft paper every day for about 5 days allowing the dry craft paper to absorb the moisture that you have added during the flattening process. Keep the veneer clamped between the panels at all times until you are ready to bond it. Make sure you have everything ready to go (glue, clamps, roller etc.) before you remove the veneer from the clamped panels.

**Editor's Note:** A special veneer softener is also available from Albert Constantine & Son, Inc.

Their directions are as follows:

**"Constantine's Veneer Softener is a solutions used to treat veneer to avoid checking and cracking when pressed. Commonly used on difficult veneers such as burl and crotch. Veneer Softener temporarily plasticizes wood cells making veneer more flexible. Mix Veneer Softener with an equal amount of water (1:1 ratio) before use. Apply solution to both sides of the veneer by dipping, spraying, brushing or rolling. Allow veneers to stand until dry to the touch abd then stack overnight.. Plasticizing effect will last about 48 hours."**