Lake Charles Woodworkers Club, Inc. February 2012

Mentoring Program - If you have a project, a problem in any woodworking area, these members have volenteered to help. Give them a call. Jeff Cormier: 582-3278; George Kuffel: 478-2707; John Marcon: 478-0646; Chuck Middleton: 625-3134; Gary Rock: 433-1679; Eltee Thibodeaux: 436-1997; Dick Trouth: 583-2683. Each have years of experience and knowledge.

January Meeting Highlights

The January meeting was at the great shop of George Kuffel. Thanks George and Nancy. Also much thanks to Joe Comeaux, Jeff Cormier and Eltee Thibodeaux who contributed to this months Newsletter.

Jeff Cormier, our new president had several comments about his plans for meetings. After showing images of injury caused by a table saw and a discussion of the causes and solutions, Jeff said, "I intend to keep the safety presentation as part of the meeting in my term and hope to have cooperation from some of you with presentations. Remember, a moment of not thinking is all it takes for a serious accident with power tools, even if they are turned off and still turning (free spooling). By the way, the Saw Stop technology is turned off when the motor is off and free spooling. You can still get hurt even with it. Nothing is idiot proof."

Jeff went on to say, "I also intend to make presentations of usable shop jigs and fixtures. These will be multiple use jigs, not something only used for one project. Some can be purchased if you desire, but most can be made from scraps and inexpensive hardware. I am starting this month with my own design of a half-blind dovetail jig. This was patterned after my own Shop Fox jig. I used hardwood and plywood scraps to duplicate the metal parts. Some parts that were adjustable on the Shop Fox jig are permanent on the homemade jig (show pin stop and finger stop). It only cost about $10 to make this jig, so anyone who really wants to can make it and not have to spend $60 to $100 to buy one. You will still have to own a router with the right guide collar and a ½" dovetail bit." After describing how he had built the jig Jeff gave a quick review as how to use the jig. Jeff then passed around a sample dove tail joint for all to check out. This was Jeff's Show and Tell item.

John Griffith: Guitar Stand. John brought a guitar stand he made from cherry. John used tung oil as the finish and used a band saw to construct this project.

Gary Rock: Butternut bowl: Gary turned the bowl and then blasted the outside. Beach bowl: Gary's second bowl was made of beach. He laced the rim with red leather. The bowl was dyed. His dye was mixed with alcohol to help with drying time. The bowl was then buffed with Beall system. Gary's third piece was a turned vessel of ash with an aluminum finial. The finial also included a piece of ebony. The piece was dyed and then had liming was applied before buffing.

Sandy Kramer: Mardi Gras Masks: Sand had two scroll sawed Mardi Gras masks. Popular was used to make the masks. One had a fleur delis theme and had been stained with an ebony stain. The second mask had three layers of masks each one smaller the next front to back. Each layer was paint a different color using the gold, green and Purple colors of Mardi Gras. She then topped the masks off with "bling" feathers, ribbons and glitter. Sandy also had a fret work piece she called "Humming Bird clock" She used cherry and cherry plywood.

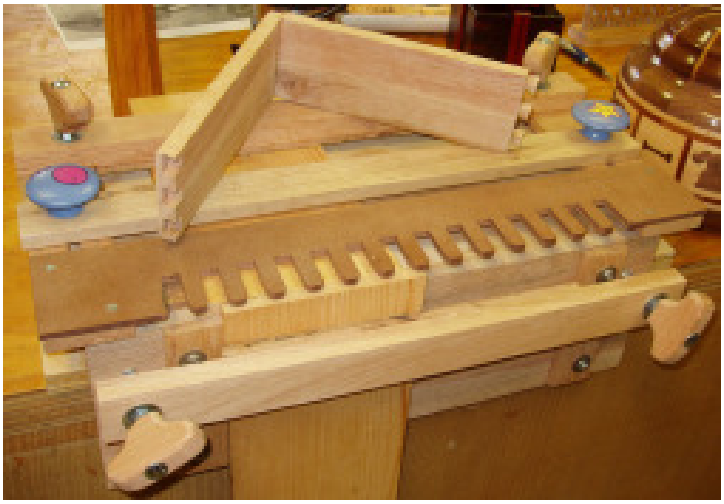
Ronnie Kramer: Ronnie's first piece was a storage center for Sandy's "bling". The unit had rods (pieces of aluminum arrow shafts) to store her assortment of ribbons. He also had draws to allow for storage of smaller items. The unit was made of spalted oak with tung oil followed with a polyurethane finish. Ronnie's second piece was a box made with oak. The box lid had a scroll

Show & Tell continues on Page 2 -->

Coming Up . . . Saturday, February 11, 9:00 A.M. at the country shop of J.W. Anderson.

Show and Tell Continues . . .
sawed fleur delis. This piece also had a tong oil and polyurethane finish.

Steve Thomas: Steve had another of his segmented bowls, This bowl included walnut, maple, mahogany and pear.



The bowl carried a dog treat theme with a rig containing inlays of a bone and silhouette of a dog. The lid of the bowl had dog bone that he had hand carved. The bottom also contained a dog inlay. Steve used a wipe on polyurethane finish.

Jack Stegal: Jack had a bring back item and a show and tell item. The show and tell item was another of Jack's boxes. This one we named "Gift Box". The box was made of wenge wood for the box itself. He then topped that with paduck to make ribbons for the sides and a bow on the top. The bow was cut with his scroll saw. Jack used a polyurethane finish.

The bring back item was a scroll saw project made with mahogany wood. He used a polyurethane finish as well on this piece. The religious themed piece was then won by Joe Comeaux.

Eltee Thibodeaux: Eltee had two items. The first item was his "Alabama National Champs" clock. Sycamore was used to make this clock. Needless to say he did not have any buyers in this group! His second item was a "Welcome" sign of which a horse and buggy scene was painted in black and white. All done with his scroll saw.

Don Elfert: Don had several fret work pieces made from louan left over from his boat project. Don had two wall mount shelves. One had two coats of polyurethane and the second had three coats. Both had been stained with "Early American " stain. Don then showed us a desk name plate sign he made for his granddaughter Michelle. The sign was then stained black. The sign was made of pine.

J. W. Anderson: J. W. passed around pictures of a table he made using cypress for the top and red wood for the legs. The top of the table was 18 ½" wide by 74" long. J. W. then described the problems he had applying a finish to his project. After some problems he went with a water base followed by and oil base on top of that.

Pie Sonnier: Pie showed us pictures of a doll house sized house with a stable theme. He was asked to refurbish the salvaged horse barn. Pie told us of the challenges he faced in getting the barn to a useable condition.

Joe Comeaux: Joe passed around a pen he had turned from a kit that had been lazer cut. The pen had an emblem that is common to the medical profession. The pen was a project to give to a friend recently retired after thirty plus years as a docter. The kit utilized dyed maple and maple that had not been dyed.

Joe mentioned that Dick Trouth was ready to turn in his order for the wooden name tags. Anyone that wants a name tag should see Joe at the meeting.

Last Chance

If you have not renewed your membership in the Lake Charles Woodworkers Club, this will be the last issue you receive. Should you want to continue, just attend a meeting and give $20 to Sandy Kramer or mail it to her at Treasurer, 6821 Bumbury Road, Lake Charles, LA 70605.

Glues To Stick With

My godchild, Sarah Norris Moody, is the paper curator for the State of Texas. She preserves and conserves the documents that are very old and most famous - like love letters from Sam Houston and the like plus many Texas State documents that have seen better days. Her job is to deal with much chemistry including glues that have been used to bind together the artifacts she deals with. Sarah has had to deal with many glues and has some suggestions on how to work and deal with them.

Sarah's work largely means that she has to remove glues from paper and other wood products and very carefully so as not to destroy the underlying work.

But what we want, as woodworkers it that the glue remain in place forever - right? No, what you really want to do is to use something that at least can be reversesed. In other words, if you need to take a glued piece apart for repair or restoration, what do you do to make this happen. Glue does not last foerever no matter how good it may have been when you applied it in a project. We will consider a few of the more common glues.

Yellow Glue This is the stuff we're all the most familiar with. Yellow glue, carpenter's glue… The old stand by. If

Glues to Stick With Continues . . .

Some time ago I helped George Kuffel repair a cain chair and fortunately, the glue was White glue ((polyvinyl acetate). This was fortunate because White glues are mostly soluable in water and if you soak the glue lines in warm water, they can come apart. In addition to warm water, you can use many organic solvents in addition to denatured alcohol. Some of the more common solvents are iethyl ether, cetone, benzene, ethylene dichloride, toluene, xylene and amyl acetate. Some of these are quite toxic and should be used with caution and if you use them, you should be in a well ventilated area. You will likely not find these chemicals in pure form but as ingredients in stain removers, paint thinners and cleaners.

Polyurethane glue is a water resistant adhesive. Polyurethane glue cures in the presence of moisture, so the material being glued has to be damp for this glue to work. That characteristic makes this product a great choice when assembling projects made from pressure treated wood, which is often damp. If you use polyurethane on kiln dried stock you'll have to spritz a little water on the joint in order for the glue to work. End grain to end grain joints are historically problematic when it comes to strength. Polyurethane glue is a good choice for this application, doing a better job than yellow glue of handling porous end grain.

Polyurethane glue is a good choice for gluing non-wood items.It's slightly more gap-filling than other glues, but don't count on it to take the place of good joinery. It foams as it cures, making a big bubbly mess at the joint.So how the heck do you get rid of it?

The simple amswer is acetone; along with denatured alcohol and mineral spirits are a solvent for polyurethane adhesives. They are very useful in cleaning up excess adhesive from joints before the adhesive has cured as well as, removing the adhesive from the skin and other surfaces. My first reaction was to think that the acetone or either one of the other two solvents would degrade the adhesive and eventually render it useless. However, these solvents will not degrade the product after cured.

In fact Dan Crandall of the Gorilla Group suggested that (and replied) that there should be no problem with the addition of the solvent, but he recommend using mineral spirits over the other two solvents. He reasoned that mineral spirits was less volatile and would therefore be somewhat safer in use in your shop.

Cyanoacrylate: CA glue (cyanoacrylate) is the super glue of the wood shop. There are so many places I use this stuff. It bonds quickly. In fact, nearly instantly. It's available in different viscosities, from watery thin to jelly thick. The thin stuff can be flowed into punky wood to reinforce it, saving a piece you might have otherwise thrown out. The thicker stuff will fill gaps. I use CA glue in my woodturnings all the time, and it has saved a number of bowls (where I caught a chisel and broke the rim) from the fireplace. In fact there are products that actually save the punky wood and you can then use it after a treating.

CA glue is brittle. It certainly wouldn't be a good choice for a mortise and tenon joint, or any place where daily stress could crack the glue. Relative to other glues, it's expensive. The fumes from this glue can be irritating, and some people react adversely to them, so be careful guys.

CA glues can be used with or without an accelerator. The accelerator speeds up the cure process, changing a 30-50 second cure time to a right now cure time. If you use accelerator put it on one surface first, since it has a longer open time than the glue. Put glue on the mating surface. Once you touch the two together, you're done. Be conservative with the accelerator. Sometimes using too much can weaken the joint.

Cyanoacrylate was a glue that my dear friend Edward Malowitz taught me about in the late 1970's. At the time, he was the manager of a hobby shop about a mile from the NASA fascility below Houston and his boss and owner of the shop was a real astronaunt for the Gemini Program, James McDivitt.

But Edward was the chemical expert in this area (and still is a great friend).

Acetone is the best cyanoacrylate remover. Cyanoacrylate is the base of super glue and Krazy Glue. Industrial cyanoacrylates that you find on the market include: Pasco Fix, The Last Glue, Miracle Glue, Loctite and Max One. Others can be found in hobby shops.

Nail polish is a readily availabe super glue solvent. Its main ingredient is acetone. There are types of nail polish remover that do not have acetone in them so check the bottle first to make sure it is the right kind. Do not get one that is acetone free.

The only way to remove so-called "Super-Glue" is to use acetone which you can get at almost any hardware store including out local places incuding Stines, Lowes and Home Depot as you wish.

Just get a quart can of acentone and do what you need to do. Note that acetone is rather volitile and make certain that when you use it, you do so in an open area such as outsode where you have a good breeze.