

THE SAWDUST

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

Volume 17, Issue 5

May 2010

Newsletter

If anyone would like to contribute articles, information or provide suggestions for the newsletter, please send them to me. We need to make this a group effort.

Thanks also to Peter Stoffel, who assists with note taking at the meetings, and to Mike Smith for the photos - much appreciated.

Roger Callahan (roger_callahan@bellsouth.net) - Secretary



Carpentry Merit Badge - Can You Help?

Carpentry is one of four Historic Merit Badges to be reintroduced during 2010 for the BSA Centennial celebration. This merit badge was first offered in 1911-discontinued in 1952.

On **May 22nd**, Saturday, we are offering to assist Boy Scouts with the Carpentry Merit Badge. This will occur from 8:30am until approximately 1:00pm at JPM.

Please contact Jim Emory (jemery@carolina.rr.com), if you can help out.

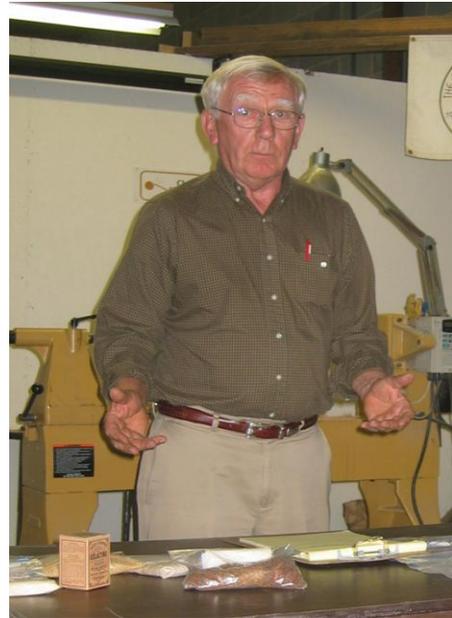
P.S. Checkout the 1928 Carpentry Merit Badge Booklet at <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/Carpentry.pdf>



Photo by Pete Stoffel (Lie Nielsen plane display)

Hide Glue

During our May meeting Eugene Thorndahl provided a most interesting presentation and a discussion on 'hide glue'.



Gene worked for Peter Cooper Corporation for 35 years and starting as a chemists, eventually became its president. Peter Cooper Corporation began making hide glue in approximately 1820's. Hide glue has been around for 4000 years and today one producer remains in the U.S. Following the closing of Peter Cooper , in 1988 Gene started his own company as a part time business selling hide glue. (see: <http://www.bjorn.net/>)

- Hide glue is made from the waste/scrap of the hide that is trimmed off when you make clothes and furniture.
- Different from bone-glue (mainly made in China) – which is not a good glue for furniture.
- Cohesive strength
 - Very hard
 - Bone glue is crumbly
- Hide glue is smelly in the manufacturing process
 - Peter Cooper Company moved around a lot because of the smell!
 - Peter Cooper also made gelatin products – used in desserts!

(cont'd on page 3)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 15th - 6:30pm **CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION MEETING** (Possible presentation on the use of Google SketchUp.)

July 20th - 6:30pm **CHARLOTTE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION MEETING**

WOODCRAFT STORE IN CHARLOTTE UPCOMING CLASSES:

May 29 (Sat.) Table Saw Use & Safety - 1pm - 4pm
 Jun 10 (Thur.) Scrollsaw Marquetry - 6pm - 9pm
 Jun 13 (Sun.) Bowl Turning - 12:30pm - 4:30pm
 Jun 17 (Thur.) Cane Chair Repair - 6pm - 9pm
 Jun 19 (Sat.) Router II - Make a Hinged Box - 9:30am - 4:30pm
 Jun 26 (Sat.) Finishing Your Hinged Box - 9:30am-12:30pm
 Jun 26 (Sat.) Basis Lathe - Full Day - 9:30am - 4:30pm



Photo by Mike Smith (Curtis of Lie Nielsen describing use of different planes.)

Treasurer's Report: as of 4/31/10

Opening balance	1952.33
Deposits	228.00
Checks	179.64
Closing balance	2000.69

LIE-NIELSEN TOOLWORKS HAND TOOL EVENT IN CHARLOTTE, NC

The month of May had a very busy week for CWA. Besides the Monday night regular gathering at the JPM shop to help each other with projects and the monthly Tuesday meeting moved a week earlier to accommodate our presenter, CWA also hosted the Lie Nielsen Toolworks Hand Tool event here in Charlotte that same week. That event required cleaning the shop on Wednesday night. On Thursday evening Lie Nielsen presented a terrific program for CWA-members only. This program covered plane setup/ use and the sharpening of plane blades; and provided an opportunity to try all of their planes. On Friday and Saturday the event was open to the public and CWA volunteers were present to discuss CWA for those who might be interested in becoming new members. On Saturday evening a group of CWA members help Lie Nielsen pack their planes, benches and other material for shipping.

Curtis and Andrew from Lie Nielsen were most appreciative of the support CWA provided and they had a successful event. To express their appreciation and thanks, they donated four (4) new DVDs to our library. (David Powles said he plans to use one of them at an upcoming meeting to discuss workbenches.)

You may have noticed the picture of the plane display on page 1 that Pete Stoffel took. Other pictures from the events taken by Mike Smith are also contained in the newsletter.

Everyone trying these planes quickly recognized their high quality and the superb functionality of these Lie Nielsen planes and the other products they had available at the event.

Thank you to all that assisted to make a successful event.



Photo by Mike Smith
 (see page 9 for additional pictures)



Hide Glue

(cont'd from page 1)

- In the 1800s glue was coming in from Europe. Peter Cooper developed standards for the glue.
- Those standards are still used today. 17 different grades of hide glue.
 - Gram strengths or Bloom value: Signifies ...working time
 - How fast it tacks
 - How fast it sets
- The higher the number the faster it sets and tacks.
 - Highest 512
 - Lowest 32
- Middle ranges (192) used in woodworking.
- A grade of 192 is commonly used for veneering
- When you buy hide glue: Know what the grade it is!
- The grade does not refer to the strength of the glue.
 - From grade 85 to 512 : about the same strength
 - Mid range is 251.
- The higher the number the greater the shock resistance. However, not extremely different shock resistance across levels.
- For a rub joint:
 - 379 gram strength typically used.
 - You want a quick grab, so keep the water down.
- Raw materials used in making the glue.
 - Hide scraps used.
 - Treated in a lime slurry for 60 to 90 days (depending on the temperature)
- You get a certain quality of product:
 - 30 mesh – fine
 - Coarse grade does not need to be ground as much
- Same raw material can produce clear or dark glue.
- Use a different chemical to extract the glue for the clear.
 - Typically can extract 20% of the glue (dark glue) from the raw material.
 - Clear glue 12-15% yield – costs more.
 - Can get clear in all of the grades.
 - Clear finishes have a HC designations for High Clarity (clear and light colored)
- Many times you buy glue they don't tell you the grade number
 - The key is to buy the same one every time
 - You get one that you like and then buy a new bag and then you do not have to adjust to the new product.
 - But a 192 is the same grade the world over.
 - Mid range is 251 - moderate. 1-2minute set. 192 is two grade below that; i.e. longer set.
- The grade number is the amount of weight in grams to push a 1/2" plunger into a jar of glue chilled to 50 F for 17 hours, 4 mm.
 - That indicates molecular weight. The higher the weight the more complex the compound. Denser.
 - The number then correlates to set time, etc.

Hide Glue



- Hide Glue shrinks
 - All the water you add evaporates.
 - A gap between the two wood surfaces is a problem.
 - It is a strong glue, but it doesn't have the internal strength to bridge a gap.
 - One part glue to 1-1/2 parts water by weight.
 - For a shorter tack life, add less water
 - To extend the open time, add more water
 - Example: a 251 can be extended to a 192 or a 164 by doubling the water.
 - When it evaporates you still have the same strength.
 - When you have more glue solids you are less likely to have a "starved joint" with too much water and not enough glue material.
 - Some of that water goes into the wood fibers, some goes out the side of the joint. But eventually, that water is all gone either way.
- Finishing
 - Hide glue will sand
 - Will accept a stain
 - For a smooth surface ("Sizing"): Put on a coat of hide glue. 10-15% solution (8 water to 1); sand; do it again.
 - Sand it
 - Will give you a very smooth finish that reacts just like wood to finishes.
 - A very watered down glue ratio when you are sizing.
 - Good for sealing end-grain
 - Good for stopping cherry from splotching

(cont'd on page 4)

Hide Glue

(cont'd from page 3)

- How do you use it in the shop
 - Mix it with COLD water
 - 1 glue to 1-1/2 water by weight
 - Will look like oatmeal.
 - Soak for 30 minutes
 - Heat to 140 degrees. 130 to 150 fine
 - If it is colder (130) it will set up more quickly
 - Warmer (150) it will set up longer
 - A glue pot will hold the temperature at 140.
 - Can re-use the glue. Helps to put it in the fridge for up a few months
 - Just re-heat it. May need to add a little water to make up for evaporation
 - In the dry form it lasts forever. Over 100 years...
 - Is it food safe? Yes.
 - NOT waterproof!
 - Must be applied hot/warm.
- How do you recognize old hide glue? And how do you make repairs
 - There used to be an easy chemical test
 - Get some chips out of the broken joint and wet it up.
 - If it gets sticky between your fingers, hide glue
- What about product called Liquid hide glue?
 - Set up time 15 to 18 minutes
 - Makes a good bond
 - Downside: the chemical used to keep it liquid will pick up moisture in high humidity (for long period of time) and it will weaken.
 - Will lose impact strength
 - Will lose ultimate strength
- Can neutralize the glue?
 - Use alcohol will break the glue bond
 - Ruins the glue that is on there. Must be all removed and new glue reapplied.
- Strength
 - Shear block tests: 3,000 PSI
 - Wood failure
 - Today? Technology probably makes the chemical glue better/stronger.
 - If your wood is failing first, you really don't need a stronger glue.
 - Hide glue does not creep. The bond will not move.
- Double boiler
 - A glass jar in boiling water
 - It is okay to take it above 150. Time is the key. Don't leave it a high temperature all day!
 - If it gets to 180 – take it off the heat.
 - At 200 you will ruin the glue in a couple of hours
- Adding a pinch of salt will extend your open time
 - To keep it liquid at room temperature – 30% salt to the dry weight of the glue
 - If you just need one more minute – add a pinch of salt
- A aluminum vessel may cause the glue to darken.

Hide Glue

- Glycerin
 - Add 6 – 8% to the glue
 - Makes the glue flexible
 - Not the same adhesion –the glycerin will pick up moisture
- Useful in organ making to make bellows When you have humid weather in the south – does that significantly reduce the strength of the joint?
- Is humidity in this area a problem ?Probably not. To be a problem:
 - Needs to be very humid for a long period of time
 - Needs to be a stress joint
- Clear glue has almost no smell!
 - \$9 per pound for clear glue
 - \$8 per pound for the colored glue.
 - 5 pound bag minimum order
- Squeeze out: - when making wide boards or top.
 - When it gels after 5 or 10 minutes, scrape it off with your thumb nail and peel off the bead.
 - If it is a tight joint it should pull right off.
 - It cleans up easily.
- Can use it as a wood filler
 - Mix it with sawdust
 - Must be a warm mix – 140
 - Must be a fine dust. Sanding dust. Saw dust is too coarse
 - Will finish like wood
- Coarse glue
 - Grabs the water more slowly, wets out more uniformly Fine mesh glue may not absorb the water evenly and you may get dry spots
 - Like mixing water into flower. The finer the grind the more you have to work with it to get it wetted out evenly
 - Very coarse glue, a "Pearl" glue grind – has to be soaked overnight in a refrigerator. That is something else all together. Not recommended for amateurs.
 - 20 mesh is typical; easier to grind. Easiest to work with. Recommended.
 - Fine grind is 30 mesh. Harder to wet out.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON MONDAY NIGHT'S AT JACKSON PARK

Article by Mike C. Smith, CWA member

May 10th, 2010

Hello everybody, I thought I would write a short article on what happens at Jackson Park on Monday nights. A short time after we moved our meetings to our Jackson Park location, the Jackson Part Ministry needed a little help with fixing some furniture or maybe it was a little help with fixing up the shop. In either case, a group of us decided that we could meet on a regular basis on Monday evenings at JP and help out with whatever we could do.

Now Monday's have been expanded to a regular weekly gathering and we do a little of everything. It's a night where a scout might come by to get some help with his project. We have had members come by on Monday who have had a need to use one of the woodworking machines. You do know, the woodworking equipment at JP is available for our members to use.



It's a night to come by if you want to help work on a project for Jackson Park.



(cont'd on page 6)

It's a night to come by if you want a little help with your project.



Sometimes it's a time for a little self study.



The company is always good on Monday nights; the work can be very interesting and rewarding. We can always use extra help and it can be a good way to learn a little bit about woodworking.

(cont'd on page 7)

From the time we have started this, there have only been a couple of Monday nights that we have not had anybody available to open up the shop. Fred Miller (704-650-8520 cell) and Bruce Boquist (704-998-7105) are the people to call if you are going to show up on Monday and you aren't sure that somebody will be there. We generally start around 5:00pm and leave about 8:00pm. The JP site can be made available to members on other nights as well, as long as Fred or Bruce or one of the other key holders are available.

One of our projects was to build a conference table for an organization that Jackson Park was associated with. We used two 9' x 3' solid core doors (donated by Mike Smith) and joined the two doors together, then we used some cherry wood to inlay a cross and banded the table with some solid walnut. Bruce did the finishing work on the table. I think all the regular Monday night people had something to do with making this table (Bruce, Fred, Bob Fields, Mike Smith, John Seaman, Jim Emery and probably others I just can't think of at the moment).



So, if you want to help, or you need to use the shop, or you need some help or advice on a project, or you just want to converse, come on by on Monday evening. You will be welcome.

[Handwritten signature]

Boy Scouts of America

Woodworking Merit Badge:

We anticipate another session for 20 scouts sometime in the Spring. Please be prepared to assist.

Explorers Post:

We have had keen interest from area Scouts. An Explorer Post (A co-ed teenage division of Boy Scouts for 14 - 21 year olds) has been exploring a variety of areas of wood working in the broadest sense including framing, cabinet making, furniture making, wood turning, etc. They' meet at JPM generally meet once a month on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

Post members that want to also join CWA get a student membership rate of \$15/ year.

Bruce Bogust mentioned the Post is finishing up portable tool boxes. Next the Explorers will be working on a 'three legged stool' project, which will give them simple turning, wood planning, and jointing experience.



SHOP TOURS

Mike Smith organizes club membership shop tours. The goal is to have shop tours scheduled that are in the same general geographic area to reduce the distances traveled between shops and permit time to adequately tour several shops in a day.

Please sign up even if you don't have a fancy shop

If you would like to put your shop on the shop tour list, please contact Mike at:
mikececilsmith@carolina.rr.com

Note: all shop tours are for active CWA members only. Please refrain from bringing guests, family members, friends, dogs etc...

Once enough shops are committed a date will be set.



Other Items from the Woodpile

Tony Profera (tprofera@hotmail.com) is willing to do a class on Bandsaw boxes and Mark Willingham (mwillingham@bellsouth.net) will do one on dulcimer making. If you are interested contact Tony or Mark.

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David Powles plans a discussion of workbenches. The CWA library has some new material on this topic. Dave would like to see CWA build a substantial bench for the JPM shop. More to come on this topic.

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The survey conducted by Pete Stoffel about shop tools and the results will be discussed at an appropriate CWA meeting, when time permits.

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Plans for the June CWA meeting includes a discussion and presentation on the Google "Sketch Up" computer drafting tool.

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JPM Shop Use

Any current CWA member who would like to use the shop is welcome to do so! All that is needed is to schedule the time! If you have something specific you need to do and you need our tools or a bigger shop to work in, please do so!

JPM has plans to expand again by adding 3-phase power. Additionally a large classroom will be added. It is planned to accommodate groups of up to 25 people!

CWA will be looking into the acquisition of assorted "Big Iron" (3 phase) shop equipment such as Jointers, Planers, and Table saws. A wide belt thickness sander was noted as good piece of equipment for CWA to have.

To use the shop contact Jim Emory at:
JimE@JacksonPark.Org.



The CWA meeting raffle could benefit from your donation. If you have any tools (old or new) or shop supplies you would like to donate to be raffled, please bring them to the meeting and let Mike Smith know.



CWA MEETING PRESENTERS

All members are asked to keep an eye out for anyone that might make be a suitable program presenter for our CWA club meetings. Who knows, it might even be you!

Recent presentations have included:

- Carving
- Woodworking Project Photography
- Bandsaw Setup and Bandsaw Blades
- Turning an Offset Padfoot Table Leg
- Marquetry
- Sharpening
- Dulcimer making
- Shaker Table Build Workshop
- Wheel making
- Windsor chair making
- Spoon Carving
- Fitting a Drawer
- Power Carving
- Bandsaw Boxes
- Hide Glue

If you know of someone with a woodworking skill that could be of interest please contact Dave Powles at: (704) 506-0403.



LIE-NIELSEN TOOLWORKS HAND TOOL EVENT IN CHARLOTTE, NC

(Additional Pictures by Mike Smith)



(setting blade angle for sharpening with a protractor)



2010 Membership.

Have you renewed your membership? If not, please see Fred Miller during the monthly meeting or mail your dues to Fred at 1208 Salem Drive Charlotte NC 28209.

Dues are \$30.00 for new members and \$25.00 for renewals. Make checks payable to "Charlotte Woodworkers Assoc." or "CWA".

We welcome our returning and new members and encourage you to bring your woodworking friends to our meetings, so they can also join CWA.



CWA Google Groups

There is a new method for CWA membership to communicate!

With a single email we can let you know what's happening. You can also view all the 2009 published club newsletters.

Note: You Can Join This Group on Your Own!

To join:

Paste the entire line below in your web browser's address bar:

<http://groups.google.com/group/charlotte-woodworkers?hl=en>

- Hit "enter", Click the link "Join this Group" (on the right).
- Create a Google account if necessary (all they want is an email address and password). Please save your password in a secure place for future use.
- Once "signed in" select the radio button "Email" at the bottom and enter a nickname.
- Send an email out to the group to introduce yourself!
- Use "charlotte-woodworkers@googlegroups.com" as the "send to" in any email communication to all members of the group.



Boy Scout Woodworking Merit Badge (Spring Session)

JPM has been holding shop sessions for 20 Boy Scouts to work towards receiving a woodworking merit badge. (see info on page 3)

Jim Emery is seeking volunteers from CWA membership to assist with Saturday workshops, as another session will be offered this Spring. Workshop sessions are anticipated to be held as morning and afternoon sessions.

This is an outstanding way to introduce young people to woodworking. With many school shop programs being phased out this may be the only contact our youth have to a woodshop and the craft of woodworking.

If you would like to put your name on that list to help or would like to find out more please contact Fred Miller at: fredmiller2@gmail.com.

Watch for additional information to be published to the CWA Google group.



Regular CWA Meeting Time and Place

Meetings of the Charlotte Woodworker's Association are held the third Tuesday of each month, except for December. Meetings are held at Jackson Park Ministries Woodshop at Sentry Post Drive, Charlotte, NC.

Please check the web site

(www.charlottewoodworkers.org) for directions.

Note: you may see construction on Sentry Post Drive as they have been working the area of late.

A social and refreshment time starts at 5:30pm; our meeting starts at 6:30pm. Come to the meeting early and get to know your fellow woodworking enthusiasts!



Best Quote of Last Few Months

"The most dangerous tool is the next one you will use"

Tony Profera

(editor: A good safety conscious perspective to have.)

The CWA Library

Books and DVDs are available from the CWA library for a buck a month. Contact Maurice Blackburn at MBlackburn1@Carolina.RR.Com

Also, please help your fellow woodworker and make your club newsletter even better by contributing a short book review.

Remember, your review is redeemable for a free DVD rental from the CWA library!

Send your book review to Roger Callahan (roger_callahan@bellsouth.net)



The Classified Section

Other tools may be posted on the JPM shop bulletin board, so check the board at meetings.

This space is reserved for classified ads! If you have any woodworking items for sale that you think would be of interest to the membership please contact: Roger Callahan (roger_callahan@bellsouth.net)

Include a complete description of the items(s) and a picture or 2 (if possible).



2010 CWA Officers



Bruce Bogust
President
(704) 321-0979
bbogust@carolina.rr.com



David Powles
Vice President, in-charge of programming
(704) 506-0403
Sorry, no e-mail available



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Wayne Manahan
Web Site
(704) 786-0768
WManahan@VNet.Net

Directions to Jackson Park Ministries



From the intersection of I-85 and Billy Graham Parkway:

- 1.) Take Billy Graham Parkway South.
- 2.) Turn Right on Paul Brown Blvd / West Blvd. (this will be after the main entrance to the airport)
- 3.) Turn Right on Airport Drive.
- 4.) First left on Sentry Post Drive.
- 5.) At the end of Sentry Post Drive there is driveway on the left. Enter here. Using the photo above, drive down the driveway and around to the warehouse with the "x" on the top.

From the intersection of South Tryon Street and Billy Graham Parkway (where Woodlawn turns in to Billy Graham). Also exit 6 from I-77.):

- 1.) Take Billy Graham Parkway North.
- 2.) Turn Left on Paul Brown Blvd / West Blvd. (this will be at the light after the Tyvola Road exit)
- 3.) Follow from Step 3 above...

CWA SPONSORS

Please thank them every time you use their services.

WOODCRAFT

Mr. David Boyuka
1725 Windsor Square Drive
Matthews, NC 28105
(704) 847-8300

THE WOODWORKING SHOP OF CHARLOTTE

Jim Rivers, Manager
4728 South Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28217
(704) 521-8886
Notice: this shop has **closed**.

WHOLESALE TOOLS

4200 Barringer Drive
Charlotte NC 28217
1-800-438-3580 (Service)
Web link: <http://www.wttool.com/>
5% - 20% discount with current membership card.

FARRIS BELT & SAW

235 Foster Ave.
Charlotte, NC 28203
704-527-6166
complete sharpening services and abrasives

HORIZON FOREST PRODUCTS

...has left Charlotte. We look forward to their return
in another year or two.
Chad Mitchell, Manager
704-369-0485

CWA MENTOR PROGRAM

The following members have offered their help to anyone interested in learning skills or new techniques in their area of interest. Contact each person to arrange times to get together if interested.

Wayne Manahan
Sharpening
704.786.0768
wmanahan@vnet.net

If you are willing to mentor new woodworkers please let us know. Thank you!



"I have a lightning hammer –never strikes the same place twice.

-John Leake

Roger Callahan
3334 Whistley Green Dr..
Charlotte, NC 28269

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
