

Crosscut

Newsletter of the Witwatersrand Woodworkers' Association

PO Box 411346, Craighall, 2024

Stanley #78 Rebate and Fillister Plane

Secretary: Kenneth Jackson (kennethj@mweb.co.za 083 256 1823)

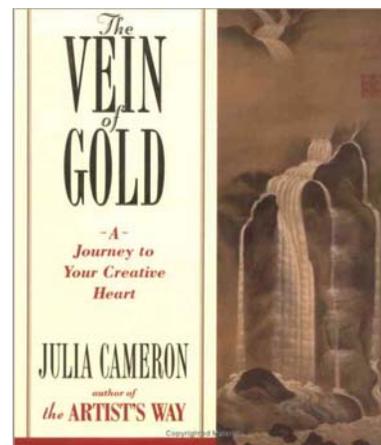
Editor: Trevor Pope (tpope@iafrica.com). All written content and opinions are those of the editor, unless otherwise attributed. © Copyright reserved. Go to <http://mysite.mweb.co.za/residents/tpope/homepage.html> for back issues of *Crosscut*.

Next Main Club Meeting on Wednesday, the 11th October from 18h00 at the new WWA clubhouse at REEA – see map below. First Aid for woodworkers by Jean-Anne Dunsdon.

Next Turner's monthly meeting is on Monday, the 2nd October at 18h00 at the new WWA clubhouse at REEA – see map below. Peter Middleton will demonstrate the making of a box from a cube mounted between centres, with two opposite corners located on the axis. There will be the usual critique on items bought by members as well.

News

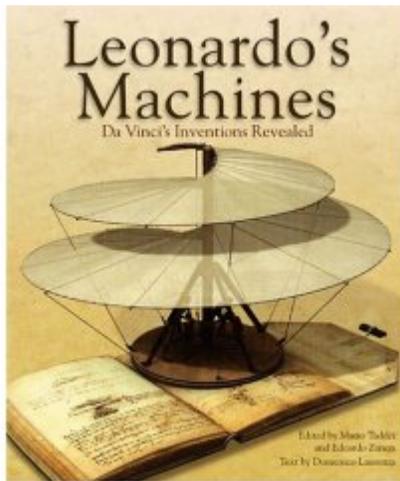
September Main Club Meeting. Greg and his two assistants from Triton put on a most impressive display of their new kit. He made a butler's table, which was constructed in such a way as to maximise the exposure of their products. Several operations that he did, could have been better done by hand, but that wouldn't show off the products! The new 1400W router is significantly improved over the previous model, which was already an outstanding design. They also showed a prototype of their new bandsaw, the sliding extension table, the new li-ion 3.6v screw driver, the 18v cordless drill, two new belt/disc sanders and the jigsaw. Thanks to Greg and his team for taking the trouble to visit us.



September Turners' Meeting. The four groups formed two months ago showed their completed collaboration projects. At Smit from the Pretoria club and Charles Gotthart who is an established ceramic artist visited to give their inputs on the pieces. Charles gave some artistic input and advice, whereas At commented on the technical proficiency of the pieces. Charles also gave some advice on the creative process and how it requires dedication and practise.

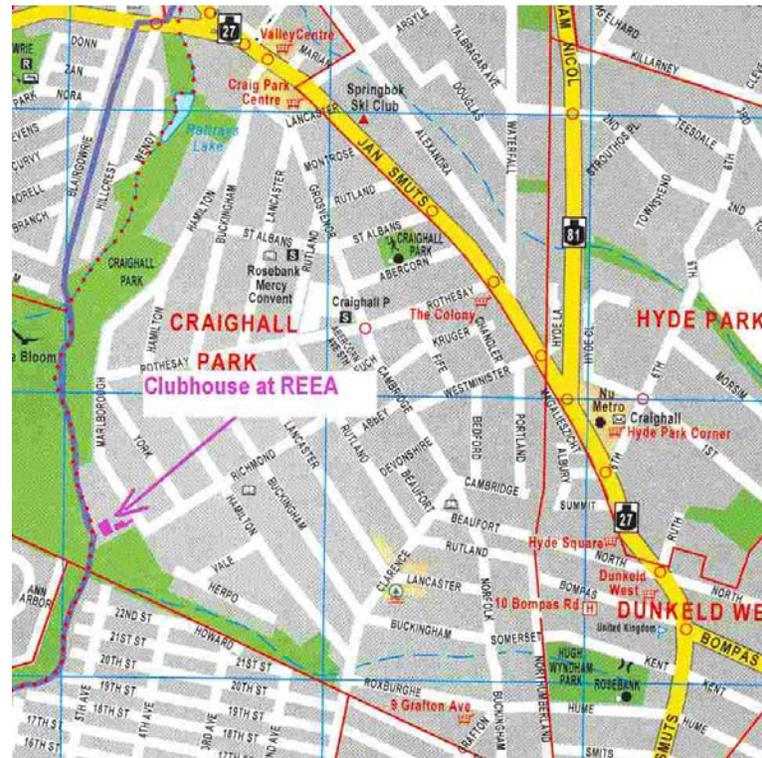
At invited the members to visit his exhibition at the Pretoria Art Association gallery which was on until the 14th September – well done to At for holding the first exhibition of turned work in the Pretoria that we know of!

Charles mentioned two books that he felt could serve as an inspiration for those who want to develop the creative side of their work. **The Vein of Gold: A journey to your creative heart** by Julia Cameron is a book for that guides the creative process. **Leonardo's Machines** describes the designs of Leonardo da Vinci in enough detail to allow them to be replicated. He suggested these might provide the basis for collaborative projects in the main club, with a very marketable product.



From the committee:

Our New Club Premises - Here is a map:



Richard Muller: It is with regret that we have learnt that one of our members, Richard Muller, passed away on 11 September 2006. On behalf of the club, the committee extends their sincere condolences to Richard's wife Aletta and family.

Toymakers. The toymakers will meet on the first Monday of every month, at 09h00 till 12h00 at the new clubhouse, commencing on the 4th September 2006. Contact Eddie Marchio on (011) 678-8062 or renato@pixie.co.za for more information.

Wednesday Workshop. The Wednesday evening workshop will start again, on the first Wednesday of the month, at 18h00 till 20h00, starting on the 06th September 2006. Contact Winston Klein on (011) 674-1513 for more information.

Glen Lopich's cell number was incorrect in the July Crosscut – it is 082 442 7792.

REEA Market. Please bring saleable items to the next meeting. Please mark the items with your selling price and the percentage to be given to the club. (We suggest a two-part ticket with your name and price on both, so that we can keep track of sales. A professionally designed and printed ticket will help sales.) If you are unsure of pricing, then ask at the meeting. There are definite resistance levels at certain price points, so it is well to be aware of this. This is your opportunity to expose your work to the public, to see what is popular and sells and how to price it.

Annual Braai. The annual braai has been scheduled for Saturday, the 25th November 2006 at Greenside High. Due to the rising cost of catering, we will probably have to charge a nominal fee this year. Details will be confirmed.

Pretoria Club – Houtwerk Uitstalling. The Pretoria Woodworking club is holding their annual exhibition on Saturday, the 21st October, 2006 at the Lions Club, in Umgazi Rd, Menlo Park, from 8h00 to 16h00. Adults R10-, children free. Take the Atterbury Road off ramp from the N1 Pietersburg highway and turn West. The Lions Club should be visible from Atterbury road on the left (South) Contact At Smit on (012) 993-1822 or Brian on (012) 361-2756 for more information.

Tables and Cabinets Exhibition. by the *Very Different Furniture Company*. Upstairs @ Bamboo gallery at 53 Rustenburg Rd, Melville, 19th to 26th Sept (9 to 5 Mon to Sat, 9 to 2 Sun)

For Sale:

Thicknesser. Ryobi AP10, Made in Japan, Excellent condition. R2200-00 Contact Norman Cheerin on 27.82.443-7325 (cell) or (011)646-1174 (h)

Incra Jig PRO – Precision Dovetail Woodworking System (to make dovetails, box joints and more) – as new. Includes: Owners Manuals and Projects and Techniques Manual by Perry McDaniel. Extras: Incra Precision Protractor with T-bar, Incra precision Measuring Gauge, Incra Precision Marking Ruler (10 inches and metric mm) (Stainless Steel) .Incra Precision Marking Ruler (12 inches) Ruler and Protractor (Stainless Steel) Price New Incra Jig PRO +/- R2 400.00 Extras +/- R 500.00 Total R2 900.00 **My Price (for the lot) R 950.00**

Amer Saw : Woodmaster Router Lathe Converts a portable router into a woodworking lathe. (The router lathe is especially suited to making table legs and other spindle work which includes beads and coves, spiralling, fluting and contouring). Price New = R2 400.00 **My Price = R800.00**

Lurem Solo 8 Portable Dust extractor (for sawdust and shavings) (in good condition) – seldom used. Technical characteristics: Filter area of fabric bag is 0.8sq m, Plastic bag capacity is 100 litres, 100mm inlet hose Single phase: 220 V motor Price new +/- R2 400.00 **My Price R 800.00**

Contact Butch Smuts on (011) 784-1419 (h) or 082 771 5877 (cell)

Felder Combination. Approx. five years old, used intermittently for pure hobbyist work, so is in good condition. It comes with extension feed table, wheels, spindle cutters and Felder dust extraction unit. Reluctant sale. Replacement cost in excess of R135k Owner down-sizing to the Cape. Price R75k negotiable. Please contact Alan Young on 082 330 0723

Record 9 inch benchvice with quick release mechanism - R500. Contact Frans Joubert on 011 704 2846 or 084 574 3500

Syringa Logs. Heidi Weeks is planning to cut down about 20 trees in the near future, some quite large. Please contact her if you want some wood. Hartebeespoort area 073 439 8820 (Syringa is an open grained wood that looks similar to oak, but not as hard – very nice for turning.)

Chainsaw Maintenance

A chainsaw is the ultimate macho tool. It can fell mighty trees and makes really butch noises – rmm, Rmm, RMM! And size does count! (The picture shows Butch with his big one.)

However with authority comes responsibility. It can remove your limbs just as fast as those of the tree. It also needs looking after. A chainsaw is a high maintenance tool. (Like a spouse – it needs lots of maintenance.)

At the 2005 AWSA conference there was a talk on chainsaws. (Douw Coetzee from Reef Chainsaw Services who sell Husquavarna chainsaws) I was surprised by the amount of maintenance required to keep a chainsaw in good order. This should all be shown in your owner’s manual. (You did read the manual...). To remind you, here are some of the jobs:

Chain oil – check and refill the chain oil tank every time you refuel your saw. Use the correct oil – it is environmentally friendly and has the correct amount of stickiness to properly lubricate the chain, bar and sprockets. Old engine oil spoils the environment and does not lubricate properly. Check that oil is coming out onto the chain – you can see where it emerges and on the chain. Lack of chain oil lubrication is a quick way to ruin the chain, bar and sprocket.



Sharpen the chain. How often you sharpen will depend on the usage and wood you are cutting. If the chain contacts the ground, it will need sharpening. If you are cutting cross grain and only see fine powder, then the chain may be blunt. A sharp chain will produce larger chips. In severe conditions, you may need to sharpen after each tank of fuel. This is a light sharpening, and with practise should not take more than a few minutes. Stihl recommend that you have the dealer sharpen the chain after you have sharpened it five times yourself. This is to restore the correct angles and correct any unevenness that can cause it cut skew. Use the correct file for your chain size with a proper jig, and follow the guide in the instructions. Check the depth gauges for height and even these out to get consistent cutting. (These are the little ramps ahead of each tooth that control the depth of cut.)

Inspect the chain after every five tanks of fuel. Look for damaged teeth and abnormal wear. If the chain is sharpened past the wear limit marks, it is probably worn out. It makes sense to have a spare chain ready for when it needs replacing. Check where the chain runs in the guide and the dogs that engage the drive sprocket. Check the tension when cool and tension the chain according to the instructions. If you tension it when it is hot, it may contract and bind when it cools down. Clean out the guide bar, and check the condition of the sprocket.

Inspect the sprocket every time you fit a chain. Check the sprocket for wear. Don't fit a new chain onto a badly worn sprocket. A rough guide is that the sprocket will last for only 2 chains, before replacement of both is needed.

Inspect the guide bar as per the instructions. The guide bar probably needs replacing for every two sprockets that need replacing! (Or every four chains!) If the bar is reversible, it can be turned over to equalise the wear – make sure that the oil holes are clear.
(These replacement intervals depend on the service conditions – use your judgement.)

Daily. Before each day's work, remove and clean the air filter. Once a week (every 50 hours of use), inspect the spark plug and check the gap, and clean or replace if required – typically every 100 hours of use. If the machine is to remain unused for any length of time, drain the fuel tank – this prevents the fuel attacking the seals in the carburettor and is safer in the event of leaks.

For more info, see:

(links from http://www.woodcentral.com/cgi-bin/readarticle.pl?dir=powertools&file=articles_602.shtml)

[.oregonchain.com](http://www.oregonchain.com)

[.stihllibrary.com](http://www.stihllibrary.com) (PDF file)

[.kadcousa.com](http://www.kadcousa.com)

[.oregonchain.com](http://www.oregonchain.com) (PDF file)

Lastly, a chain saw can be extremely dangerous when used incorrectly. You must know how to use a chainsaw and the dangers. This story outlines just how dangerous they can be:

Somebody I know used to run a tree felling business. One day, when taking down trees in a garden, one of the workers climbed a large pine tree with a small chain saw to remove the limbs and take off the top. There was an accident and he severed his femoral artery while up the tree. It took them 20 minutes to get him down from the top of the tree, by which time he had bled to death.

Be careful! Wear all the protective clothing you have, including a face mask and hearing protection and make sure you are fully aware of the risks of what you are doing when you use a chainsaw. Read the manual and heed the warnings.