



Crosscut

Newsletter of the Witwatersrand Woodworkers' Association
PO Box 411346, Craighall, 2024

◀ A toy car – time to start making toys for the annual braai!

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Editor: Trevor Pope (tpepe AT iafrica.com). All written content and opinions are those of the editor, unless stated. © Copyright reserved.
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Next General Club Meeting on Wednesday, the 8th September 2010 from 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at REEA. Winston Klein will give a talk and demo on resawing thick wooden planks to thinner, thereby avoiding the waste from thickening them down. He will show the use of a resawing jig on the bandsaw.

Next Turner's monthly meeting is on Monday, the 6th September 2010 at 18h00 at the WWA clubhouse at REEA. Steven Barrett will do a demo on making coasters and a rustic holder on the lathe.

News

Turners' Meeting.

Wood of the month: Guaiacum officianale – Lignum Vitae – was presented by Chris van Heeswijk.

Greenish in colour, it is a very high density hardwood (Up to 1.3 specific gravity – will not float in water), with interlocking grain and impregnated with natural oils. It was traditionally used for bearings for shafts, such as for ship propellers. It is presently endangered.

Herman showed how he uses a mandrel to make wooden bangles. He starts by cutting out the inside from a flat plank using a hole saw. After using a round-over bit on a router table, He cuts out the outside using a larger hole saw, before mounting one or more blanks onto a mandrel. The blanks are turned on the lathe and various designs can be cut on the outside, before they are sanded and finished. The mandrel is made up a length of threaded rod, held in a chuck on the driving end and supported at the tail stock end by a live centre. Wooden discs are drilled to accept the rod and sized to suit the work-pieces (the bangles). To hold the discs in place, nuts are screwed onto the ends of the threaded rod.

Main Club Meeting

Bob Stacey, who Alistair calls “Bob the Bandsaw”, gave a talk on bandsaw blades and the importance of setting up the bandsaw correctly. Bob is a partner in GCR Agencies, a company that manufactures bandsaw blades. They manufacture blades to very fine tolerances, but he explained that if the machine is not set up correctly, the user will be disappointed with the results. Bob showed how to tension and adjust the club's Elektra Beckum BAS450 bandsaw correctly and how to avoid problems that will damage the blade or give poor results. He also explained the types of blades available and their applications.



Although GCR agencies do sell direct, they prefer to deal with larger quantities. If you are like Lionel, and buy 60 blades at a time, then go direct to them, otherwise, you can obtain the their blades from Hardware Centre or Aldis (ask for Bob's blades). If there is interest, the club will look at consolidating an order for blades to make up a reasonable quantity – contact Alistair Brande.

GCR agencies can be found at 73 4th Street, Booyens Reserve. Bob can be contacted on 082-441-0864

From the Chairman:

Dear WWA Club Members,

I thank-you for the overwhelmingly positive response for improving our relationship with REEA. Alex Sheppard was very grateful for the help offered. As a first step, he and the REEA Chairman will address the members at an upcoming club meeting, the date is still to be decided.

Our year-end event is looming and starting the necessary arrangements are already overdue. As in the past, this significant club event will be organised by a separate "Year-End Braai Committee" and participation by any of the present WWA Committee will be incidental. So we urgently need volunteers! Clive Stacey has offered to provide the necessary of mentoring/coaching role from behind the scenes. He has all the records, applicable address lists, procedures, etc, well documented which he is willing and able to pass onto the new committee. I will arrange that he meets with the 2010 committee to brief them and to hand over the baton.

It is urgent that we kick-off the arrangements no-later than September's club meetings and I urgently appeal for volunteers, both for an organising committee and for helpers that will, for example, phone organisations for donations of equipment that we can raffle.

Clive suggested that we call for volunteers for the 2010 Year-end Braai Sub-Committee at the September meetings. I'm sure that there are many members who will be able to make a great contribution. Please email me (herman.potgieter@lodox.com) or Ken Mutch (ken.woodman@gmail.com) to volunteer!

Regards, Herman.

Dates to diarize:

East Rand Woodworking Association annual show – Sat 4th September at the Northfield Methodist Church, corner Webb St and Aerodrome drive, Airfield (just off Great North Road) from 9h00 to 14h00. Contact Denis Lock on 011 616 6576 for more information.

Pretoria Club annual show – Sat 17th October. This will take place at the Lions Club off Atterbury Road on Saturday, from 8h30 to 16h00, followed by prize giving (lucky draw and certificates). Take the Atterbury Road off-ramp from the N1 Pietersburg highway, turn to the West and left at the first robot. The Lions club building can be seen from Atterbury Road. There will be the usual exhibition of turnings, fine furniture, tools and machine tools. Contact Anton Louwrens on 012-654-5640 or Lou Coetzer on 012-991-1241 or 082-332-5786 for information.

REEA are celebrating their 75th anniversary this year on the 6th November 2010. They will be holding a charity auction to raise funds, and they are asking for donations of items to auction / sell. Please bring any donations to the club. If you intend making items to donate for sale, simple, affordable items will probably sell quickest. The WWA also plans to be involved in the open day, probably by opening the club house like last year.

AWSA Symposium 24th to 26th Sept 2010 in PE.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS: 2010 / 2011 year

Payment of subs. Final reminder – if you have not paid, this is the last Crosscut you will receive. Refer to last month's Crosscut for payment details.

For Sale:

Fret saw/Scroll saw Diamond Heavy Duty (AF28VS) Price R5 000.00
Fret saw/Scroll saw Hegner Multicut-SE variable speed Price R5000.00 Specially adapted stand – R500-
Oscillating Vertical Spindle Sander (OVS-HK) (Tri-Star) Price R1000.00
Darex Drill Doctor (Model 750 SP): Precision Drill Bit Sharpener Price R1 400.00
Meber SR 600 Band saw (3 phase) Price R11000.00 (includes five blades)
Demoina D2500 dust extractor (Cyclone) plus ducting Price R4000.00
Sash clamps A- Robust T-bar type (Record) Length 1220mm, one of – R140
Length 930mm, one of – R110
B Flat bar type (Record) Length 1130mm, two of @ R100 each – R200
Length 900mm, one of @ R80 – R 80
Length 760mm, two of @ R70 each – R140
G-Clamps (cast iron) (Mainly Record)
Length 200mm, 6 of @ R80 each; Length 165mm, 2 of @ R50 each; Length 100mm, 8 of @ R40 each; Length 80mm, 2
of @ R20 each; Length 60mm, 2 of @ R10 each
Quick Grip and Pony spring clamps Various sizes, 10: all in excellent condition – R200 for all
More details on machines available on request. All in excellent condition.
Contact **Butch Smuts** on 013 744 5114 or 082 771 5877 or bsmuts@vodamail.co.za

Bandsaw - Electra Beckum BAS 500 (large one) R12 000
hicknesser Planer – Metabo HC 260K not model with legs but enclosed pedestal R 11 000
Lathe – Electra Beckum HDM 1000 R6000
Table Saw – Jet CS260? Cast iron table on pedestal with sliding carriage (really a great machine) R22 000
De Walt belt sander and random orbital R1500 ea
Contact **Gordon Edmond** on (012) 641 4194 or 082 964 9501 or EDMONDG@TFMC.co.za

RECORD® Hand Planes
03 Smoothing Plane R350.00
04 Jack Plane R420.00
07 Jointer Plane R590.00
Contact **Alistair Brande** on 079 895 8709 or alistair.brande@gmail.com

Please Note:

Toymakers. The toymakers meet on the first and third Mondays of every month, at 09h00 till 12h00 at the clubhouse. Contact Eddie Marchio on 011-678-8062 or [renato AT pixie.co.za](mailto:renato@pixie.co.za) for more information.

Wednesday Workshop. The Wednesday evening workshops are on the first and third Wednesdays of every month, from 18h00 till 20h00. Contact Winston Klein on 011-674-1513 for more information.

WWA Membership profile – Lionel Soekoe

Lionel Soekoe is well known to most members from his talks on sharpening and the various accessories he makes for woodworking, in particular for turning.

Lionel grew up in the South of Johannesburg, and attended Mayfair High School. Following a five year apprenticeship in the printing industry, he worked in the industry for many years until he eventually retired at the age of 63, which is now eight years ago. Lionel was one of the founder members of the WWA when they were established at Hardware Centre, when they were still in Main Street, so he has been woodworking for many years.

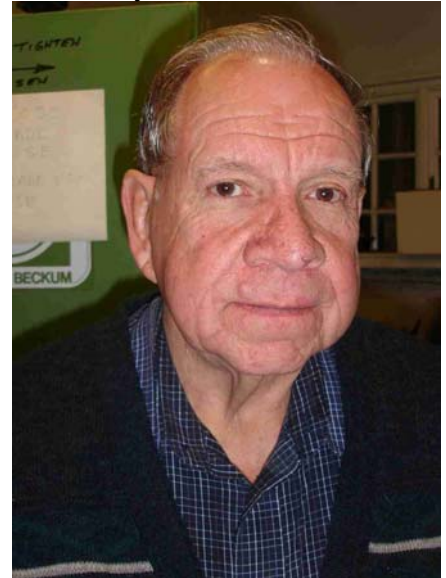
Before he retired, he was already doing some metal working, seeing an opportunity in this area. The acquisition of a small Chinese metal-turning lathe from Toolquip was followed by a small mill-drill

(an RF-31). Lionel started making a number of jigs and fixtures, and sold these into the hobby woodworking and woodturning markets. When he retired, he had a fully equipped woodworking machine shop, but he decided on a change of direction. He sold most of his woodworking equipment, including his Felder, to specialise in metal working.

As his product line and sales expanded, he bought a larger metal lathe and larger turret mill (a Bridgeport clone). His workshop fits into a double garage, so most machines (except the large lathe and turret mill) and all the work tables are on wheels. This allows him to rearrange his space to suite the work in hand, and still make space for his wife's car at the end of the day.

When you walk into Lionel's workshop, you will be impressed how organised and clean it is –everything has a place. He makes his items in small batches, and the work-in-progress is all neatly laid out in rows, ready for the next machining operation. Lionel uses jig wherever he can to simplify set-ups and make his work repeatable and interchangeable.

Lionel's trade name of Sam's Creations comes from the nickname of Sam given to him when he was young. At the time, he was into gymnastics and was compared with a famous gymnast of the time, Sam Busa. Lionel also did body building and waterpolo when he was young. He has recently taken up gym again, which accounts for his new, slimmer look. If he doesn't answer his phone after nine in the morning, it's because he is using his off-peak membership at the gym.



If you need special jigs and tools, he is able to make up prototypes. He has assisted a number of WWA members with special projects such as steadies, tool rests, and sharpening jigs. He is also able to assist with modifications and repairs to machines.

Look out for him at all the local club shows (East Rand and Pretoria) and at Hardware Centre's open days.