



The Blueprint -- July 2008

Welcome to Humboldt Woodworking Society
 P. O. Box 626 Arcata CA 95518-0626
www.woodworkers.name

The Humboldt Woodworking Society is a group of professional, amateur, and hobbyist woodworkers. We meet monthly to share ideas and techniques, participate in the College of the Redwoods WoodFair each year and have a good time talking shop and helping one another grow in our craft. Annual dues are \$25.00.

WoodFair is Nearly Here!
WoodFair 2008 -- July 26-27, 2008
@Almquist Lumber Co. -- 5301 Boyd Rd, Arcata
Opening Ceremony 10 am Saturday
Events 10 am to 5 pm Saturday and 10 am to 3 pm Sunday

Preparations for WoodFair 2008 are well underway. We owe a debt of gratitude to Almquist Lumber for all the work they have done to make WoodFair possible this year. Despite the late start, it looks like we will have similar numbers of entrants and vendor booths as in years past. There will be marquetry, wood turning and wood bending demonstrations both days. There will also be tool demonstrations by Festool and Delta /Porter Cable/DeWalt.

We still need your help. If you are available, we still need a few more Hosts to serve for a 2 hour shift during the WoodFair. The Hosts will be responsible for helping attendees find parking, directing them to the exhibition, vendor booths, retail areas, and restrooms and directing them away from areas of Almquist's that are closed to the public.

In addition, we need your items for sale in our booth. The revenues are totally yours – the Society does not take a percentage. We also need your items in donation for raffle prizes. If you can help with WoodFair and have not already made contact, please call any of the officers listed below.

OFFICERS Contact Information:

Name	Position	Phone	email
Gary Richmond	VP, Acting President	725-3693	ironhorse45@hotmail.com
Dave Ashford	Treasurer	442-9479	davisashford@wmconnect.com
Susan Bicknell	Secretary	768-1975	shbdwb@suddenlink.net
Kai Herd	Librarian	476-9371	kai@acm.org
Bert Hafar	Membership Coor.	443-9260	bhafar@sbcglobal.net
Michael Masumoto	Web Page and Librarian	476-9371	kai@acm.org
Doralee Smith	Program Coordinator	825-9010	rivrwomn@suddenlink.net

MEMBERSHIP FORM:

New members are welcomed at any time into the Humboldt Woodworking Society. Current Members, please share our newsletter with any prospective members. Use this form to join and/or to pay dues for continuing members. Annual Dues are payable in January for continuing members. New members may join any time and their dues may be prorated

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

Mail with a check for \$25 to Humboldt Woodworking Society, PO Box 626, Arcata, CA 95518-0626

Report on the Casting Demonstration from Michael Masumoto:

The casting demo at Whit McLeod's shop on Saturday, June 28, 2008 was interesting and well-prepared. Whit began a little after 10AM with an overview of the sand-casting process.

You start by making casting sand from a combination of foundry-grade silica sand and bentonite, add barely enough water to make the sand clump together when you squeeze a handful, and mix well. We needed something to cast, so Whit gave us little rectangles of redwood which we carved into simple plaques. We broke for a late lunch and enjoyed ourselves at a sandwich shop in a farm/produce store near Whit's place. When we returned, we filled the flask (a two-part casting container) with both the prepared casting sand and the objects to be cast. Once the flask was prepared, we removed the wooden originals, leaving plaque-shaped voids in the sand which would soon be filled with molten metal via a "pouring basin" at the top of the flask. Whit had brought in an extra man to help melt the metal, which involved lots of green fire shooting out of a casting furnace for about 40 minutes. When the pyrometer said that the metal was hot enough, Whit and his helper opened the furnace and together lifted out a glowing crucible using a two-man clamp mechanism. They poured the nearly white-hot molten bronze into the flask, which rested on a metal grate over sand to protect the concrete floor. After the metal had cooled, we opened the flask. Two of the plaques didn't pour completely, but the rest came out perfectly; you could even see the redwood growth rings in the flat surfaces. Whit cut apart the individual plaques using a circular saw, gave them to us as souvenirs, and we were finished a little after 4PM. Thanks again to Whit for preparing a fun and informative workshop; it was exceptional! --MMM

Myth Busting – Grounding Dust Collector Ducts and Finishing the Back Side

Finishing both sides: Bob Flexner writes very persuasively in the July 2008 issue of Woodshop News that "finishing both sides is warped thinking." He states that finishing both sides does not stop moisture fluctuations in wood because wood finishes, although impervious to liquid water, are permeable to water vapor. So, although finishing all sides may slow down the rate of changes in moisture content of wood, it does not stop it. You may read other articles like this one at www.woodshopnews.com.

Grounding Dust Collector Ducts: Rod Cole, research scientist at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, provides an article http://home.comcast.net/~rodec/woodworking/articles/DC_myths.html regarding grounding PVC ducts in shop vacuum systems and other dust collection myths. His article was last revised November 20,

2001. In it he concludes that there is little if any hazard of your dust vacuum ducts, or closed dust collection bags exploding or catching fire due to static electricity with or without grounding. The principle hazard of dust catching fire in your shop is from sparks from metal on metal contact of power tools (like a blade hitting a nail, causing a spark which lands in a pile of sawdust, smolders for a while, and then burns down your house in the middle of the night). His article is interesting, credible, lengthy, detailed, and well supported. I recommend anyone dealing with dust collection in the wood shop read it.

Report on the June 26, 2008 Meeting of the Humboldt Woodworking Society

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Gary Richmond. The meeting was held at the home of Don and Susan Bicknell in Hydesville. Michael Masumoto announced that the metal casting class at Whit McLeod's shop on June 28 still has a few slots open. Contact him at 476-9371. Susan Bicknell reported on the progress of planning for WoodFair 2008. Fund raising for exhibition prizes has yielded \$ 2,950 in pledges so far towards a total of \$3,800 needed. Thank you to all of our generous contributors. Gary Richmond reported that the revitalization of the HWS booth is on schedule and under budget. Dave Ashford announced that Whitethorn Construction has large slabs of Walnut available – contact Ken Forden at 986-7412. He also announced that Janis Taylor has a Rockwell Lathe plus lathe tools for sale for \$500 and a free scroll saw. Contact her at 839-3007.

Doralee Smith introduced Mark Lovelace, 3rd District Supervisor elect, who spoke about his background and experience with CAD (computer aided design) and CAM (computer aided machining). He advocates using CAM to automate the production of parts that need to be reproduced redundantly to free the woodworker to do original and unique pieces. Mark showed pictures of his work and demonstrated Master CAM that enables turning hand crafted objects into computer geometry that can be used to guide automated equipment that ultimately produces the machining surface. - SHB

Report on the Board of Directors Meeting July 8, 2008 at the Home of Dave and Sue Ashford.

The Board of Directors plus Don Ehnebuske of Almquist Lumber and Ahn Fielding of College of the Redwoods convened at 2 pm. The major item under discussion was WoodFair 2008. July 7 was the deadline for applications for exhibition entries and vendor booths. The juried competition will have at least 22 entries and there will be at least 13 vendor booths. Five demonstrations have been scheduled to have repeat performances on Saturday and Sunday. The judging committee is fully constituted and will be headed by Bert Hafar. Fundraising for exhibition prizes has reached \$3050 in pledges and at least 7 additional pledges are still pending. Division of labor was decided for ribbons and certificates, ceremony scripting, program copy, poster distribution, and raffle items. The HWS booth has been refurbished by Gary Richmond and Dave Ashford. Activities at the booth will include marquetry, and others still under consideration including carving, sharpening clinic, and wood turning. - SHB

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS and WEBSITE INFORMATION:

If you have items of interest that you have written or want to write, wood trivia, shop facts or techniques, items for sale, photos of your finished projects, or links to add to our web pages, please submit them for publication in future newsletters to Susan Bicknell at shbdwb@suddenlink.net or call 768-1975 OR to Michael Masumoto at: kai@acm.org .

LINK of the Month: Do you want to know how to build your own vacuum press? Check out <http://www.joewoodworker.com/veneering/welcome.htm>.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

When	Who or What	Where
July 26-27	WoodFair 2008	Almquist Lumber 5301 Boyd Rd, Arcata
August 28, 2008	Almquist Lumber Hardwood Mill	5301 Boyd Rd, Arcata
September 13, 2008	Sue and Dave Ashford BBQ	703 Redmond Rd, Eureka
October 30, 2008	?	
November 27, 2008	Gary Richmond	2261 Lee Court Fortuna
December ?	Holiday Social	

Doralee Smith, Program Coordinator, is actively seeking suggestions for future programs. If you would like to host a meeting, or if you have a suggestion for a topic for a seminar, panel discussion, or instructional class, please pass them along to Doralee at rivrwoman@suddenlink.net or 825-9010.

CLASSIFIED ADS:

Black Walnut Slabs and MORE:

Whitethorn Construction is milling up some very large black walnut logs. Besides boards, there will be slabs 2 ½ “ – 3 ½ “ thick, some over 30 inches wide. They also have a selection of tanoak (and flooring), madrone, chinkapin, pepperwood, black oak, cypress and maple. For more information or to make an appointment to check this out, call Ken Forden at 986-7412.

Saturday Seminars
 10-11am & 2-3pm **FREE**
 Woodworking Society Members Receive 10% Off Hardwood Every Sunday!
 825-8880
START THE YEAR RIGHT!
 Almquist Lumber Company
 5301 Boyd Rd, just off Giuntoli Lane at Hwy 299

Discount is good until further notice.