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From the Chairman



Chairman Neville Comins

The Benefits of Group Projects

Over the last years, we have seen a move to a lot more group projects or common tasks. The Woodcarvers have their regular training evenings, while the Wood Turners have a monthly homework project on a specific theme, and which is evaluated, and constructive comments made the next meeting. With the Cabinet Makers Group, the projects can take longer to complete but an increased number of themes offered to meet particular interests with a specific project linked to each. There were projects from workbenches, boxes, handmade tools, the Napoleon Table, etc. Each varied in complexity and the techniques required.

It is these activities that have started to bring members together and also encourage us to join other groups to expand our skills. By tackling a common project, it becomes an opportunity to firstly learn from each

other, or if experienced to assist others, secondly to be able to share some tools which a member may not have but needs to use for the project, and thirdly there are economies of scale in buying materials, etc. for the projects which may make participation feasible. Such an approach is quite common in various associations in the USA, UK and Australia, or following the processes used in some of the woodworking schools abroad.

A good example of how this can bring about a whole new field of activity. The Napoleon Table Project revealed a need for marquetry inlay on the top, sparking an interest in this subject. This topic attracted members from across the Association and an embryo group for Marquetry and Parquetry was formed. Several meetings were held, and the group was able to source veneers and other tools to begin. There are different approaches and methods and so a few different approaches have been followed and results compared. There has been much sharing of experiences, methods and some 'tricks of the trade' to date. Progress has been good and shows how the broader involvement produces a rapid ability to learn new skills and techniques. I am sure that this addition will have a growing influence on projects undertaken in WAP.

I can see that this type of activity in group work can be attractive to those new members who are keen to grow their skills and I urge them in the New Year to become active in their areas of interest.

Association's Monthly Meeting: 25 September 2019

By Paul Roberts

The monthly meeting was devoted to organisational aspects related to the forthcoming Wood Expo and Craft Festival. Gawie Botha and Braam Burger led the discussion on various aspects. The main objective of the evening was to ensure that there were no gaps in the organisation of the event. The meeting was attended by 39 persons.

Cabinet Makers and Restorers: 14 September 2019

By Paul Roberts

The meeting was held at the home of Marius du Toit and was attended by 15 members. The topic for the day was a review of the Group Projects which had been undertaken during the year. We had a record number of Projects which has added significantly to our objective of skills and knowledge transfer. Neville Comins convened the meeting due to the absence of Paul Roberts.

The Group Projects and respective Group Leaders are:

- Boxes [Leon Wolmarans]
- Shop-made tools [Dries du Toit]
- Napoleon Table [Willie Marnebeck]
- Workshop storage [Gustav Vlok]
- Marquetry [Ben Prinsloo, reported by Neville Comins]
- Workbenches [Paul Roberts reported by Michiel van den Berg];



Leon Wolmarans discussing the Box Group

The Box Group had a different modus operandi than that of other Groups. When Leon was at a different

stage in a box making project he would inform the Cabinet Makers via WhatsApp and people would attend. This system was easy to implement and worked well.



Dries du Toit explaining the marking gauge

The Group consisted of 8 persons. The design was an amended one from Fine Woodworking. An accurate marking gauge with a scribing knife which will cut the wood fibres is an essential tool in a workshop. In fact, use can be made of several such gauges to keep various settings during a Project. The Group met several times and also purchased various components on a Group basis.



Willie Marnebeck pointing out a feature of the Napoleon Table

The Napoleon Table has an intricate design which was developed from a photograph. Various trial designs were tested in cheaper wood until the final prototype was selected. The construction required a variety of machining such as lathe work, routing of joints etc. Various jigs were made to facilitate the process.



Willie explaining the intricacies of the legs



Various jigs were needed for the construction



Gustav Vlok explaining the glue caddy which the Group made

The project selected was a Glue Caddy to hold glue, adhesives and associated applicators. Plans and tutorials were available on the Internet. The group consisted of only two members, Gustav Vlok and Reneé Marais, and proved to be a good opportunity to work together over two Saturdays to complete the build. The project, although simple in nature, entailed various fundamental woodworking activities which provided Gustav and Reneé an opportunity to be introduced to the practical application and refinement of a number of skills. These included dimensioning and milling of the components, cutting of sliding dovetails, sawing of curved shapes, hole-sawing, template routing and finishing of the completed project.

Both Gustav and Reneé (Reneé also made a presentation at the meeting) found the project to be valuable in the context of the group project portfolio in which a project of this nature is being done under the group leader's supervision.



Box with marquetry by Neville Comins

The Marquetry Group had stated this year under the leadership of Ben Prinsloo. Neville Comins presented the Group Report due the absence of Ben. Marquetry is defined by Wikipedia as “the art and craft of applying pieces of veneer to a structure to form decorative patterns, designs or pictures”. The Wood Carvers at this stage were doing Parquetry (inlaid work of blocks of various woods arranged in a geometric pattern, especially for flooring or furniture).



Marquetry by Leon Wolmarans

The Group is undergoing a steep learning curve and the positive results are already apparent.



Michiel van den Berg presenting the Workbench Group Report

Michiel van Den Berg made the presentation on behalf of the Group. The detailed presentation is on the Association’s website under “Past Event Information”. The Group which consisted of ten members, met in Paul Roberts’ workshop each month where various techniques were discussed and demonstrated. The conclusions of the Group are:

- Positive feedback from the Group members;
- Four benches in various stages & more to come!
- Group benefit-learnt from each other;
- Shared equipment & some joint purchases of hardware.



Example of a workbench (made by Paul Roberts)

The general conclusion reached by the attendees was that the Group Projects were highly successful and achieved their objective of training and skills transfer. The Group Model should be continued with and even expanded next year. Refer to the above Editorial “From the Chair” on this topic.

Draaiersbyeenkoms op 28 September 2019

Deur Lou Coetzer

Jan Richter het eers ná 9-uur daarin geslaag om die 30-tal geselsende draaiers op hulle stoele te laat plaasneem sodat die byeenkoms amptelik kon begin.

Twee besoekers, Fred Oosthuizen en Jan du Plessis, asook ons nuwe lid Johan Cramer, is hartlik welkom geheet.

Jan het al die draaiers wat tot en met die volgende byeenkoms in Oktober verjaar, byvoorbaat geluk gewens en opgemerk dat Oktober die meeste verjaarsdae van al die maande onder die draaiers het.

Carel van der Merwe het volledig verslag gelewer oor die pas afgelope AWSA in Knysna. Die aanbiede van die gasdraaier, Nick Agar, was puik en uiters leersaam. Carel se Afrika-kalbaspot het 'n prys gekry en At Smit se spiraalbak is deur Nick Agar uitgesonder as 'n besondere item.



Carel van der Merwe se Afrika-kalbaspot van Europese Essehout met mooi kleure en figure. / Carel van der Merwe's Africa Calabash pot of European Ash with beautiful colouring and painted figures.



At Smit se Viking Sunset bowl van Jakarandahout. / At Smit's Viking Sunset bowl of Jacaranda wood.

Jan Richter is weer geluk gewens met sy verkiesing tot voorsitter van die AWSA-komitee en die puik kongres wat hy en sy helpers gereël het. Hy het op sy beurt sy komitee, waaronder Braam Burger, Carel van der Merwe, Michiel Britz en Francois van Wyk, hartlik bedank vir hulle ondersteuning en harde werk om selfs op kort kennisgewing, iewers uit te help.

Volgende jaar se AWSA-kongres sal in Pretoria aangebied word. Al die draaiers word nou al voorberei om betrokke te wees en deel te neem. Jan sal almal daaraan bly herinner!

Vervolgens is Andy Sutton geleentheid gegee om 'n demo te lewer oor die draai van 'n natuurlikerandbak, m.a.w. 'n bak waarvan die rand nog bas aan het. Andy het verduidelik dat daar verskeie terme in die Engelse literatuur vir hierdie tipe bak voorkom, soos Natural edge bowl, Live edge bowl, Bark edge bowl en selfs Raw edge bowl. Andy het meeste van sy tegniese inligting uit die boek oor die draai van bakke van Richard Raffan, gekry. Die tegniese inligting van sy demo het hy aangebied onder die opskrifte: **Preparing the blank; Mounting the blank; en Turning the blank.** Telkens is 'n deeglike uiteensetting gegee van wat onder 'n bepaalde opskrif verstaan word tesame met praktiese wenke oor hoe om die houtblok uit te meet en te oriënteer. Een van die belangrikste wenke wat Andy uitgedeel het, was dat hout wat in die winter geoes word, hul bas beter vir hierdie tipe bakke behou, omdat die bas minder geneig is om los te kom. Nog 'n goeie wenk was dat hy die beste afwerking gekry het met 'n swaar skrapeer met 'n negatiewe hellingshoek (negative rake angle), hetsy vir binne-afwerking met 'n rondepuntskrapeer of buite-afwerking met 'n reguitpuntskrapeer. Vir die beitelwerk aan die buitekant het Andy 'n bagguts (bowl gouge) gebruik wat teen 40° geslyp is, en aan die binnekant (vir uithol) 'n bagguts wat teen 55° geslyp is.

Sommige van die verskillende stappe tydens Andy se demo word in die foto's gewys.



Andy Sutton verduidelik een van die stappe om 'n bak te draai. / Andy Sutton explains one of the steps to turn a bowl.



Verwydering van die bak se voetjie. / Removal of the bowl's foot.



Andy se bak op die uithol-stadium. / Andy's bowl at the hollowing stage.



Andy se voltooide demonstrasiebak. / Andy's finished demo bowl.

Ná pouse waarin weereens aan Marietjie van der Merwe se heerlike verversings gesmul is, is al die reëlins rakende die draaiers vir die naderende jaarlikse uitstalling van ons vereniging bespreek en sommige gefinaliseer. Braam Burger het lede ook gevra vir skenkings, veral gereedskap soos draaibanke, vir die Goeie Hoopskool waar die uitstalling gehou gaan word.

Hierna het die bespreking van die huiswerk aan die beurt gekom wat Alan Crawford behartig het. Die voorgeskrewe huiswerk was enige draaistuk met kleur op, maar die meeste draaiers is nog skrikkerig vir die idee en tegnieke om die draaistukke te verf. Tog was daar heelwat items wat gekleur is.



Ferdi Bingle se natuurlikerandbak van Rooi-ivoorhout. / Ferdi Bingle's natural edge bowl of Red ivory wood.



Gerrie Grobler se Eikehoutbak met sy "goue" bodem. / Oak wood bowl with "golden" bottom by Gerrie Grobler.



Kobus Mostert se Kiaatvaas, voor sy voetjie kleiner gemaak is. / Kiaat vase by Kobus Mostert before removal of the foot.



Grobbies Grobler se gekleurde bak van Koorsboomhout. / Grobbie Grobler's stained bowl of Fever tree wood.



Leon Langenhoven se oop bak van Peperboomknoets. / Open bowl by Leon Langenhoven of Pepper tree burl.



Gerrie Grobler se turkooisbak van Jakarandahout. / Turquoise bowl of Jacaranda wood by Gerrie Grobler.

Die gekleurde stukke wat die meeste aandag gekry het, was die Viking Sunset bowl wat sommige van ons lede gedraai het tydens 'n daglange opleidingsessie saam met Nick Agar. Die opvallende aspek van die bakke is die metaalvoorkoms daarvan met 'n medalje binne op die bodem. Dan het ons ook Carel se Afrika-kalbaspot met sy dansende figuurtjies baie bewonder.

Die dag se verrigtinge is afgesluit met 'n veiling van kurkeikblokke wat Johan Cramer vir ons geskenk het. Alan Crawford het as afslaer hom baie goed van sy taak gekwyt en het die manne se arms goed gedraai om op die blokke te bie. Al die blokke is verkoop.



Alan Crawford draai die manne se arms om te bie vir die Kurkeikblokke. / Alan Crawford encouraging the turners to make bids for the Cork Oak blocks.

Die draaiers se volgende byeenkoms is op Saterdag 26 Oktober wanneer ons 'n demonstrasie/praatjie oor gesegmenteerde draaiwerk sal kry.

Editorial

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