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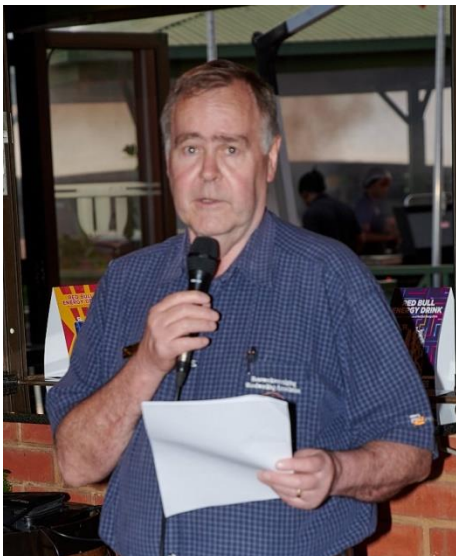
November 2022

Association's Monthly Meeting: End-of Year Function 30 November 2022

By Willem Semmelink and Paul Roberts



Much chatting and enjoying the company!



Chairman Jan Richter announcing the awards.

About 50 members and partners attended the End-of Year function which was held at the Italian Club in Groenkloof. Jan opened the function, and proceeded presenting the certificate and trophy awards, after which dinner was ready. Some 23 certificates were won during the Wood Expo. In total there were 13 Gold certificates, 6 Silver and 4 Bronze which were awarded. The trophies are awarded to the overall winners in the different categories. The Executool trophy for cabinetmaking was won by Sternberg Coetzee for his modified lowboy and would be handed over at a later occasion. The Daan Badenhorst Trophy is allocated to the overall winner and the selection is made by a voting poll of the visitors to the Wood Expo.

We enjoyed a great buffet of various meats, vegetables, salads and breads; and a desert afterwards. Some of the round tables were still occupied late in the evening as members caught up with old friends.



Silver certificate being awarded to Willie Marnebeck by Corneel du Toit for his cabinet entry.



Hennie Ackermann receiving the Keith Jones trophy for the restoration of an old chair.



The Phil Irons trophy for woodturning was won by Andy Sutton for his large platter.



The Secretary Trophy was won jointly by Willie Marneweck for his wooden clock and Corneel du Toit for his chessboard.



The Daan Badenhorst for visitors' choice won by Willie Marneweck for his wooden clock.

Cabinet Makers and Restorers: 12 November 2022 By Paul Roberts

The meeting was held in the workshop of Dylan van Graan which is located in Thornridge Estate, Centurion. Some 17 persons attended the meeting which was the last one of the year. The topic for the day presented by Dylan was **Handplanes**. Nowadays, most people use metal planes which are easy to adjust. Wooden planes were developed in Roman times. Plans of wooden planes are available such as those of James Krenov and Richard McQuire (See his book "The English Woodworker" see also website www.theenglishwoodworker.com). Wooden planes have the advantage that they can be shaped to fit one's needs and hands. The bed is normally at a 45° angle. High angle planes have a 50-60° angle while a low angle plane is around 25°. Grain tear out can be controlled by using a high angled blade.

A wooden plane has a special tactile feeling of wood on wood. A wooden scrub plane normally has a rounded blade for a deeper cut. It requires a wide mouth for clearing the shavings. Any hardwood can be used for a wooden plane, but it needs to be stable, easy to machine and plane. Dylan makes and sells wooden planes (cost R2 500 to R5 000). Dylan then discussed various planes, their setting and application as illustrated in the photographs below.



A typical metal plane.



Block planes.



Planing action using your legs for thrust.



Wooden plane made by Dylan using a conventional blade.



Paul Roberts showed this small block plane made in ironwood equipped with a Ron Hock blade and chip breaker.

At the end of the meeting we had a delicious braai and get-together. Thanks to Dylan for a memorable meeting!

Woodturners end year braai 2022 26 November 2022

By Alan Crawford

The Woodturners end of year braai was held on Saturday 26 November 2022 at Michael Furstenberg's place in Kameeldrift. Michael was a wonderful host and took delight in showing everyone his many diverse projects that he has undertaken, or is still working on.

The first item of interest was his **charcoal maker**. The entire device right down to the perlite bricks were all self-made. His design maximises the efficiency of the heat generated.



Adjusting the blade.



Charcoal maker.

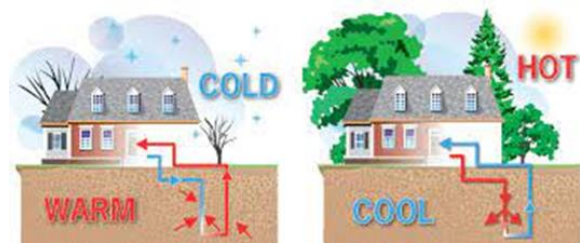


Perlite bricks.

The second exciting device was Michael's **geothermal air-conditioning system**. This device pumps air down into the ground and up to the house. In summer the air is cooled by the deep constant temperature of the ground, and in winter the cold air is warmed. The house it therefore always kept at a constant and comfortable temperature.



Inspecting the geothermal system.



Principle of geothermal air-conditioning.

The next item on the itinerary was the **workshop with large log cutting saw**. The saw allows for both vertical and horizontal cuts, so first pass can be a vertical cut and return pass can be the horizontal cut. The efficiency of this system was amazing



Michael's workshop.



Saw blade in the horizontal position.



Saw blade in the vertical position.



Log cutting saw and partially cut log.

The **wood curing tunnel** was next on the list. This is a rather long tunnel that is covered in plastic, and used to dry out the wood that is cut on site. Incredibly high temperatures are reached through natural sunlight and a high humidity ensures the wood does not dry out too quickly.



Inspecting the wood curing tunnel.



Wood being cured in the tunnel.

Several other projects that included the water distiller and solar water pump were also visited, and the tour was concluded with Michael's **Coriolis water wheel**. The horizontal wheel is the forerunner of the modern water turbine used today for hydroelectric power. The unique feature of the Coriolis water wheel is that it is self-regulating and turns at a constant speed. In the excitement of the day and the loads of information provided, I think Michael indicated the speed of his wheel being 24 revolutions per minute. Water is fed into the turbine via from a nearby weir in a river and the water jet rotates the wheel. The water wheel in turn drives an 800w generator. The flow is then returned to the downstream side of the weir. The efficiency of the wheel over the distance to the house however resulted in a very low power generation, but the magnificence of the project and the sheer joy of watching the wheel in motion far outweighed any need for practicality. What an amazing piece of equipment.



Inspecting the Coriolis water wheel installation.



Looking down into the pit with the wheel.



Detail of the Coriolis water wheel.

Thank you, Michael, Mariekie and Mario for being such warm-hearted hosts and making us all feel so welcome. It was truly a remarkable day.

Editorial

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