



NUUSBRIEF VAN DIE HOUTWERKVERENIGING VAN PRETORIA

Tambotie

NEWSLETTER OF THE WOODWORKING ASSOCIATION OF PRETORIA

www.ptawoodworkers.com

May 2024

Mei 2024

Chairman's Corner

Willem Nordeje



Willem Nordeje - Chairman

Absolutely! The Tambotie edition is a fantastic platform for sharing and celebrating the diverse talents and interests of the community. Audrey's contribution from the carvers adds another layer of excitement to the mix.

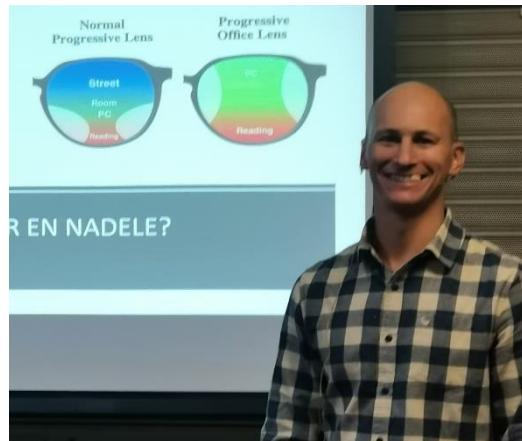
As for the WAP expo, it's undoubtedly a much-anticipated event that brings everyone together to showcase their skills and passions. It's not just about the exhibition but also about the camaraderie and spirit of community that makes it special.

WAP's Monthly Meeting

22 May 2024

Willem Semmelink

Jan Richter het die Mei vergadering namens die voorsitter gelei. Die spreker was Hein Muller, 'n oogkundige van Hillcrest Specsavers. Hy het optometrie by RAU (vandag UJ) gestudeer en agt jaar in Engeland gewerk. Hy spesialiseer in oog patologie en kontaklense.



Hein Muller – Oogkundige van Specsavers

Hy sê oogheelkunde dateer terug na 'n ou Egiptiese manuskrip oor oogsiektes, van sowat 2400 voor ons jaartelling. Sushruta in Indië het 50 siektes beskryf en katarak operasies uitgeoefen. Brille kom uit die Renaissance. Ander landmerke in die geskiedenis was 'n handboek deur George Bartisch (1535-1607) en narkose wat gevvolg het na die werk van die tandarts Willam Morton

(1819-1868). Brille is sedertdien in massa vervaardig.

Moderne oogtoetse sluit oog gesondheid en visie in. Die binnekant van die oog word inspekteer vir gesondheid. Dit was voorheen met 'n oftalmoskoop gedoen. Meer onlangs word 'n retinale kamera gebruik. Ander ontwikkelings is OCT skanderings van lae in die oog en operasies wat die lens kan wysig om sonder 'n bril te funksioneer.

Katarakte is die grootste oorsaak van blindheid. Gloukoom is 'n drukking op die oog en affekteer periferale visie. Molekulêre degenerasie kan oor 'n lang tyd as kolletjies op die oog (droë vorm) ontstaan, of as 'n bloederige (nat vorm) skade aan die visie veroorsaak.

Wat houtwerk betref, sê Hein die groot risiko is voorwerpe in die oog, soos splinters. Dit word met druppels in die oog behandel. Ernstige gevalle word na 'n oogarts verwys. Veiligheidsbrille word as voorkoming aanbeveel. Hein was so gaaf om 'n aantal sulke brille saam te bring, wat onder lede uitgedeel was.



'n Veiligheidsbril wat Hein gebring het

Polikarbonaat versterkte voorskrif brille kan ook gemaak word vir mense wat reeds bril dra. Hierdie aspek het heelwat belangstelling en bespreking onder die lede ontlok.

Nog 'n aspek wat vrae en bespreking uitgelok het, was dat bifokale brille, weens hulle ontwerp, na

die kante toe distorsie en skerppte probleme het. Sulke brille is in die middel op hulle beste. Hein het daarop gewys dat 'n 'kantoor bril' wat gewoonlik voorgeskryf word vir lees, rekenaar werk, en werk in 'n kantoor tot so 3 m ver, ook geskik is vir gebruik in 'n houtwerk werkswinkel waar mens selde verder as 3 meter hoef te kyk.

Voorkoming is beter as behandeling, so uiteindelik kom basiese oogsorg terug na veiligheid in die werkswinkel.

Show and Tell

Na pouse het Nolte 'n 'jig' gewys wat hy gemaak het om dun plankies te skaaf. Die sykante kan verstel word volgens so plankie se dikte, en net bo dit is gleuwe wat presies volgens 'n handskaaf se wydte opgestel is. Die jig kan in 'n bankskroef geklamp word en hou die werkstuk om akkuraat te kan skaaf.



Sykante kan met boute hoër of laer gestel word



Voorkant waarteen die werkstuk vasskop, se hoogte is ook verstelbaar

Cabinetmakers' Monthly Meeting

11 May 2024

Francois van Aswegen

The Cabinet Makers and our friends met again at the KDA Furniture and Lumber showroom on 11th May 2024 – thank you to Pierre and team for once again hosting us and providing the wors rolls and refreshments!

An interesting morning awaited us.

Main Topic: Intro to making stick chairs

Presenter: Dylan van Graan



Members listening attentively to Dylan van Graan

Dylan van Graan described in detail his experiences of making stick chairs. The chairs, originating in Western and Eastern Europe, were made in villages and towns using largely hand tools and hand planes. The chair seats were often made from 'wet' wood that as it dried it shrank to tighten all the joints. The legs usually 6 or 8 sided were from 'dry' wood.



2 Stick chairs made by Dylan

The stick chair is an apt description since very early versions probably had legs and the back-posts resembling 'wooden sticks'. There are now many possible versions of the chairs, with straight splayed legs, and an arm rest and back support connected by straight back-posts. In the high combed-back version the back-posts may also be extended to neck height. The chairs, despite having a very simple design, are reputed to be very comfortable to sit in.

The modern versions were popularized by Christopher Schwarz, and other authors. There is a lovely illustration of a stick chair on the front cover of his book 'The Stick Chair'. In his book he describes the tools and techniques in making these now bespoke chairs from his workshop.

Dylan described his process in making the chairs. First, he made a saw-horse with each leg having the same angle to the seat. However, with the chairs the rake (front to back angle) and splay (left to right angle) may vary according to the desired design.



Dylan showing the drilling jig (left) and marking gauge (right) to ensure the correct angles for the legs and back

He showed his jigs and marking gauges for drilling the holes for the legs and back, and a jig for preparing straight or tapered legs with a hand plane. Discussion was also on making tapered joints and hardwood wedges that would result in tight joints once the legs and back were

assembled. Dylan also discussed the placing of the wedges, that once knocked into place, would not split adjoining wooden parts.

There was also some discussion on methods to ensure that the legs were of equal lengths that once fitted the chair rested squarely on the floor.

The [presentation](#) is available on our web.

Secondary Topic: A short discussion of the use for the ProNature product

Presenter: Sandra Vanzke and Bernhard Lembeck



Sandra Vanzke and Bernard Lembeck showing some ProNature products

Sanda Vanzke and Bernhard Lembeck of ProNature (www.pronature.co.za) concluded with a presentation of applying this naturally based range from ProNature line of interior and exterior wood sealers to wooden cutting boards. The products have a linseed oil base, come in a variety of colour tints, and are locally available.

Show and Tell

Dylan van Graan discussed the jig that he uses on his band saw to cut the wedges that he drives into the round tenon to tighten the joint.



Group Project

The project leaders for the three group projects were announced as follows:

1. Mini Workbench with Bunny Croucamp as the project leader
2. Handmade Hand Plane with Dylen van Graan as the project leader
3. Table Saw Sled as Corneel de Toit as the project leader

Cabinetmakers Challenge

Much interest was shown during the Cabinet Makers Challenge with the theme being a marking gauge, a long clamp, a breakfast tray, or folding chair. The Cabinet Makers certainly rose to the challenge with a number of very well made items from Wayne Barlow, Pieter Nel, Willem Fourie, Dirk van Rooyen, Edwin Carney, Erich Nast, Francois van Aswegen, Karel Calitz, Bunny Croucamp and Neille Stokker. The challenge was won by Wayne Barlow, with his breakfast tray, the second place went to Erich Nast, with the marking gauge that he made and Pieter Nel was awarded the third place with his folding chair.



Wayne's breakfast tray, Erich's marking gauge and Pieter's folding chair

Raffle table

Next on the agenda was the lucky draw for items brought by members, cutting boards sponsored by KDA Furniture and Lumber and variety of items sponsored by ProNature. The last item on the agenda was a lively auction, led by Bunny Croucamp, for a donation of an electric sander.

The meeting concluded with boerewors rolls and refreshments provided by KDA Furniture and Lumber.

Draaiersbyeenkoms**25 Mei 2024****Jan Richter****Fotos: Willem Semmelink**

Hierdie draaiersbyeenkoms het plaasgevind in die werkswinkel by die Nuwe Hoopskool en is bygewoon deur 27 lede.

Die verrigtinge is begin met 'n kort praatjie oor veiligheid. Bert Rossouw het met behulp van verskeie kort video's ons gewys dat dit belangrik is om 'n gesigskerm te dra, wanneer draaiwerk gedoen word. Die gesigskerm sal in 'n groot mate die impak verminder wanneer 'n draaistuk per ongeluk uit die draaibank los kom.

**Bert Rossouw wys sy gesig skerm**

Die onderwerp van dieoggend was fluite insluitend die blokfluit. Alan Crawford het ons meer vertel oor fluite in die algemeen en het ook verwys na orrelpype wat op dieselfde beginsel as fluite werk.

**Alan Crawford verduidelik hoe 'n fluitjie werk**

Braam Burger het in die paar weke voor hierdie byeenkoms hart en siel navorsing gedoen oor blokfluite en het ook prakties gekyk na die maak van blokfluite. Uit sy aanbieding is dit duidelik dat 'n blokfluit eintlik 'n redelike ingewikkeld instrument is om te maak, selfs met die gereedskap wat nou beskikbaar is. Die maak van

die blokfluit verg tapse boorwerk. As mens in ag neem dat die eerste blokfluit al in die 14de eeu gemaak is en ook deur komponiste soos Bach, Vivaldi en Handel in hulle werke geïntegreer is, kan mens nie anderste as om groot respek vir die blokfluit makers van die verlede te hê nie.



Braam Burger verduidelik tapse boorwerk

Braam het verskeie setapparate en tegnieke ontwikkel en het dit aan ons gedemonstreer. Braam se aanbieding "[Making a Recorder Flute](#)" is beskikbaar op die webwerf.

Verskeie lede het deelgeneem aan die draai uitdaging, wat die maak van 'n skoppie en of 'n koekroller behels het. Die wenners was Johann de Waal (1ste) met 'n koekroller, Karel Calitz (2de) met 'n skoppie en Alan Crawford (3de) met 'n koekroller.



Johann de Waal se koekroller wenstuk

Houtsnyers

Audrey Miles

As houtsnyers streef ons daarna om die houtsnukuns te ontwikkel tot 'n hoë standard.

Daar is 'n paar punte waarop ons gaan uitbrei:

- Ontwerp
- Sny-tegniek
- Benutting van hout
- Aanbieding
- Geheel indruk

Daar bestaan heelwat verskillende kategorieë waarin ons kan sny, hierdie kategorieë gaan ons kortlik bespreek.

Oppervlak kategorieë:

- Lynsny
- Pirografie
- Kontraswerk
- Intarsia

Lynsny / Line incised carving

Hier bly die hout oppervlakte glad, terwyl die buitelyne van 'n ontwerp met 'n skuinsbeitel (snymes) uitgesny word. Lynsny moet baie akkuraat wees. Snywerk moet egalig wees daarom moet die snyer volkome in beheer van sy beitel (snymes) wees. Op ligte hout vertoon die lynsny duideliker aangesien die lyne binne-in donkerder word as dit vernis word.



Lynsny voorbeeld: eekhoring

Group Challenge

In our group carving sessions we have challenged one another to “Breathe new life into old wooden bowls / plates”. We all have some form of utensil / vessel that can come back as a treasured item by spending a little time and giving it some TLC.

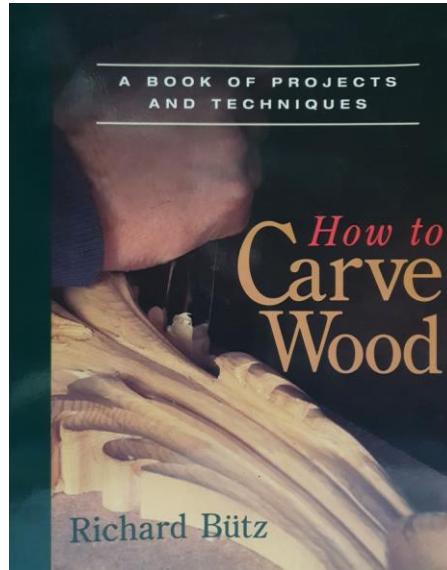
We will display our treasures at the upcoming exhibition for all to admire.

Book Review

Willem Semmelink

HOW TO CARVE WOOD

A book of projects and techniques by Richard Bütz, Taunton Press. 1984



The previous book reviews covered cabinetry and woodturning. This month we turn to woodcarving; an active part of the WAP.

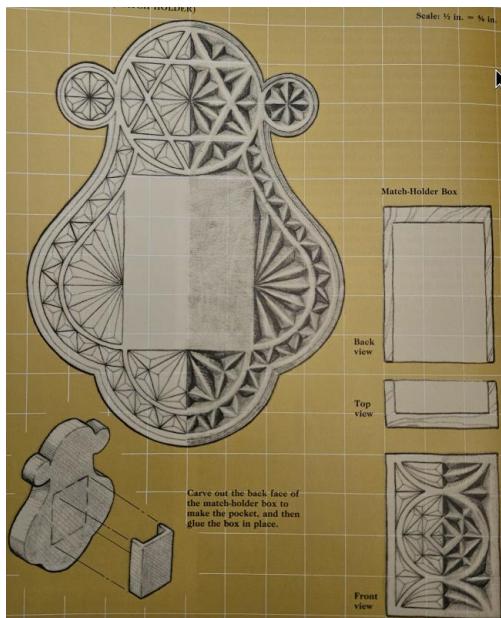
This book presents an interesting overview of the scope of woodcarving. Besides chapters on tools, sharpening, woods, finishes and design; the book also covers an interesting variety of skills, approaches and purposes of woodcarving.

Whittling is the technique of carving animal or human figures with a pocket knife, and the author presents this as a good introduction to wood carving, to develop the skill and coordination necessary for woodcarving.



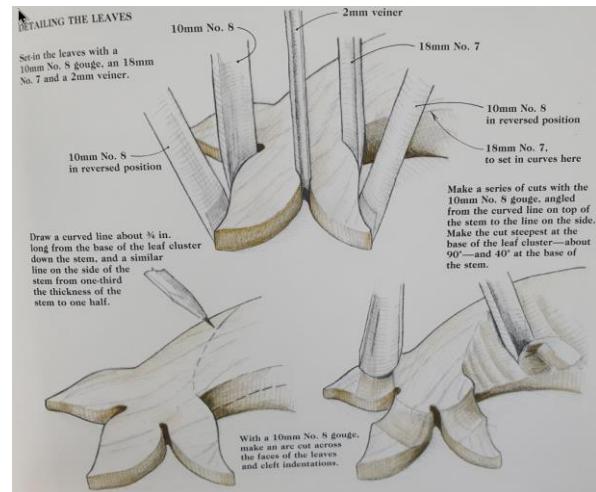
Whittling illustrated

Another chapter concerns chip carving, a form of decorative carving that comes from antiquity. All sorts of geometric patterns like rosettes are made by arranging dozens of small triangular incisions with just one knife. The plan below shows a small project for a matchbox holder that is decorated with this technique.



Chip carving project design

Relief carving is shown in another chapter. This technique, which dates back since ancient Egypt, carves the background away so that the subject stands out. This was quite popular in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in Europe for wall plaques, household decorations, coats of arms and furniture embellishments that remain standards of excellence even today.



Relief carving of a leaf

Wildlife carving, the next chapter, is also an old technique dating back from prehistoric times. Ivory, soapstone and wood were used to carve realistic statues of animals in three dimensions for art, decoys, or even for scientific use.

Today we do lettering with CNC machines, and it is sobering to see a chapter on lettering in a book not so many decades ago. It details the techniques of carving letters by hand to personalise mantels, doors or wall plaques.

The last chapter from this book is about architectural carving – a means to decorate woodwork in churches, manor houses and public institutions from previous centuries, and which provided work to tradesman woodcarvers in years gone by.



Raised panel

In the above photo, a raised panel was shaped in the form of a hanging curtain, using various hand planes and chisels; typically for a wall panel.

Photos and illustrations copied here from the book were by Richard and Ellen Bütz.

Editorial

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