



# PLANE NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 3

February 10, 2001

## From The President Jim Walters

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

February 10, 2001 meeting

The time between our November and February meetings is always a busy time for your woodworking club and its members. This year has been no exception. Chuck Murray has provided an apt account of this year's Toys-For-Tots holiday dinner where members turned in over 1100 toys for distribution to needy kids for Christmas. In January, club members manned your club's booth at the greater Columbus Woodworking show where we displayed examples of our toys-for-tots along with many beautiful personal projects. A special thanks to those members who took time from their busy schedules to help at the show. This activity is our major membership activity each year and many of those fellow woodworkers who signed up to become members will be attending the February meeting, so take a moment to say hello and make them welcome.

During the short business meeting at the Feb. 10th meeting you will be asked to think about and make a preliminary commitment to the following activities: (First) A club sponsored tour of shops. Are you interested in visiting the shops of other members and would you be willing to have your shop open for members to visit? (Second) It has been two years since the club has held a group wood buy. Are you interested in another buy and approximately how much wood would you be interested in purchasing? If there seems to be enough members interested in having a group wood buy we will need someone to be in charge of this activity. If asked, I hope you will be willing to participate and assist.

President's notes, continued on page 3

## November 11, 2000 meeting

Nothing works like a vacuum

President Jim Walters called the November 11 meeting to order promptly at 9:00, as is his commendable practice. He thanked the members for their many expressions of good wishes during his recent recovery from surgery. He looked fit and was in his usual good form.

Two sign-up sheets were circulated, one for the holiday party on December 17 and the other for booth duty at the tool show in January.

President Jim recognized and welcomed first-time attendees representing a wide range of woodworking experience. A good group. And they all had all of their fingers.

Chuck Murray passed around a sign-up sheet for members to demonstrate toy making at the Woodcraft Store on November 18. He also reminded everybody to bring his or her completed toys to the December banquet.

Gene Hull, the editor of this distinguished journal, asked -- no, it was more like begged -- folks to submit articles. He didn't mention how much he pays.

We then turned our attention, and video camera, to the project table, presided over by John Herrell.

Warren Moore brought in a beautiful plant stand with a secret compartment containing four shelves to store strange things out of sight. Bill Stauffer showed us a very cleverly designed machine, made of wood, to punch out holes in labels, thus making the labels usable on a computer and saving his company huge amounts of money. He calls his invention a "hole popper."

Karen Faith displayed a scroll-sawn clock and

November 11, meeting, continued on page 2

bowl, both showing her great talent. She talked about her first experience taking a booth and selling her wares at a crafts show. Undaunted, she says she will do it again.

Always looking for new challenges, Andi Wolfe has taken up carving on her turned bowls. Very impressive. She is also into carving "wood spirits" on walking sticks, though she insists she has no use for one herself.

Frank Sager brought in pictures of a mantel he built and installed on a stone fireplace wall. Quite a major project, and very well done.

John Herrel explained how he used a vacuum bag press to apply book matched veneer to top off a 48" round table top. John's table top used MDF as the substrate, finished on the bottom with veneer for stability and a mahogany edge attached with a spine to add the finishing touch to a beautiful piece of woodworking. Excellent work.

The piece de resistance was Ed Robold's Gatling gun, which he made several years ago. It has 12 barrels, each capable of firing 12 rubber bands. He recently updated it with new wood/epoxy gears. Later in the morning he fired off a volley to the amazement and great delight of all.

At this point President Jim declared a break for refreshment and shoptalk.

Following the break Ruth Baumgardner spoke further of the toy making demos at the Woodcraft Store Saturday November 18. She urged members to attend, participate, and promote the club.

Next, two spalted tiger-maple planks, donated by Joe Vano, were auctioned off with the proceeds going to toys for tots. Dennis Carroll was the auctioneer and Austin Washington made the winning bid of \$82.

Before starting his talk on uses of vacuum, Lou Gatch put in a plug for chair risers. Club members make these for the Arthritis Foundation who distributes them to arthritis victims to elevate chairs. Lou will give you plans; the risers are easy and fun to make.

The main program was a discussion and demonstration of vacuum devices, led by Lou with assistance from Ron Grady, John Herrell, and Ed Robold. Lou opened by sipping cider (or something)

through a straw, a use of vacuum.

Vacuum can be created by the lungs, a vacuum pump, a milking machine, a Venturi pump, a shop vac, an A/C servicing pump and other devices.

Ron Grady demonstrated a "Minimac" vice which uses vacuum from a shop vac to hold stock to a workbench top.

John Herrell showed a corner rounding template (to guide a flush trim bit) held in place by vacuum. The template can be quickly moved around the corners of a tabletop, for example.

Lou discussed how vacuum would hold work on a lathe, such as an inverted bowl on a face plate. (Walt Betley uses such a system.)

Veneering, laminating shaped items such as door and drawer fronts, and any application requiring force over a large area, can be done with a vacuum bag. We viewed excerpts of an excellent video on vacuum shaping; the complete video is available in the club library.

Lou and Ed Robold discussed ways to put together a homemade vacuum system. The pump is the biggest investment, but a used milking machine will work. Standard hose and hose fittings are available from Hirsh Packing and Rubber (Canal Winchester) or Granger. Using sheet plastic (30 mil) and adhesive from Lowes or Home Depot you can make a plastic bag. Ed made his hose connection into the bag using fender washers. You can make a closure for the open end of the bag with interlocking pieces of PVC pipe or wood.

Standard weather-stripping comes in handy in making vacuum hold-down devices.

An important part of any system is the "black box" which controls the vacuum and protects the pump by cycling on and off. See Lou.

In discussing vacuum forming of laminations, Lou cautioned not to use white or yellow woodworker's glue, because it will creep. Instead use a two-part thermosetting glue.

The meeting closed on a high note with an another ride on Ed Robold's railroad, this time with glorious sound effects, both diesel and steam!

Absolutely marvelous! ☘

By Dave Loy

**REMINDER:** Dues for the current year need to be paid. Since we did not include a special reminder in past newsletters, many of our members have not paid their dues. Check your membership cards to make sure you are current, if not, Fred Ball will be available at the Feb. 10th meeting to accept your \$15.00 and bring you up to date.

### TOYS FOR TOTS 2000

"Look at all the toys." "The children we serve will be ever so grateful." These words were expressed by the agencies that benefited from the toys created by our club members this past year.

It goes without saying, the 2000 'WOCO Annual Toys for Tots Christmas Dinner at the Berwick Manor on December 12<sup>th</sup> was an outstanding success. Some of the club members were like kids in a toyshop as they gazed at the different items on display.

Again we had the assortment of airplanes, cars, trucks (to include a good number of those car carriers designed by that astute engineer Lou Gatch). Ed Robold made new and improved catapults. There were cradles (some with dolls included). There were pencil boxes, jewelry boxes, banks, puzzles, race cars, pull toys, tic tac toe games, log carrier trucks, intricate doll table and chair sets, mirrors, and the list went on and on as you looked round the dining room displays.

The total number of toys this year was 1119. ☘

By Chuck Murray, Chairman,  
WOCO Toys for Tots

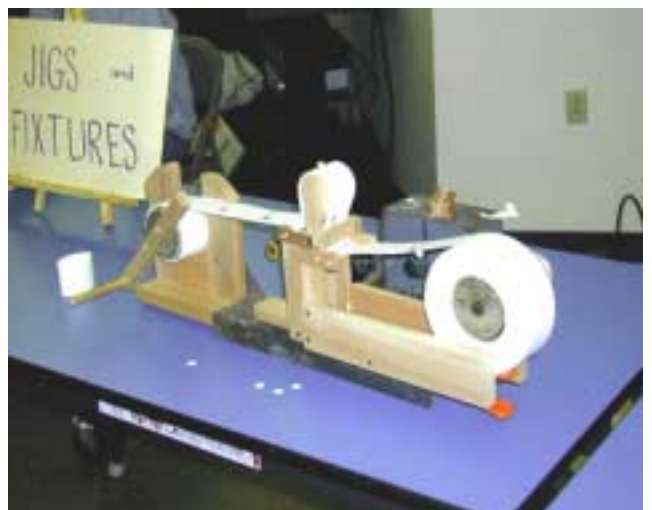
### Woodcraft, 4562 Cemetery Rd, 527-7594

#### Saturday, February 10, 1pm - 4pm

A free demo - bending wood and drawknife use with Michael D. Herrel, Master Chairmaker of the Colonial Chair Company. The focus will be on steam bending hardwood for Windsor chairs and drawknife sharpening techniques.

#### Thursday, February 22, 9am - 9pm

10% Sale on all Woodcraft products except some selected Jet, Powermatic, and Performax items. Orders will be taken for out of stock.



## ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION PLEA

**A second request was made by the foundation for riser blocks.** Since my request at the last WOCO meeting went unanswered, I feel it necessary to offer a few opinions of my own about the lack of support by a large percentage of our membership. We have just completed our annual Toys For Tots program in which a small percentage of the membership participated. This club provides many benefits to the members, and in return all are expected to participate in the meetings, volunteering for the various officer positions and especially in the community projects we support. (Why else would one be a member?)

We have heard all the excuses for not helping the cause but still sit in the background and reap the benefits.

If you do not have the tools or skills to help you can join in a group effort to assist and learn from others or, at the very least donate wood or supplies for the various projects. (Why else would one be a member?)

This group has made hundreds of sets of these riser blocks through the years (usually by the same members). and it is time for those newer members, as well as those long time members who have not made the risers and/or the toys, to do their share. (Why else would one be a member?)

Each set of blocks requires a length of 2"x 6"x 72" long construction grade pine. Drawings are always available at the meetings or call me or any of the club officers for a copy.

If members made just one set per year, we would easily support their needs. There is always something to learn in a group effort. I would be happy to assist getting your group or any individual started in the process.

Listed below are various club activities and the percentage of member participation:

Toys for tots in 2000-----22%

Woodworkers Show Booth -----14.7%

Summer Picnic ----- 10.3%

TV Assessment-----63.2%

Members who have been officers or  
have taken a major role in our meetings-----9.3%

**MEMBERS WHO HAVE  
NOT PAID THEIR DUES  
FOR THE CURRENT YEAR -----45.6 %**

(Check *Your* Membership Card)

**MY PLEA: LET'S GET OFF OUR HANDS AND DO OUR PART!**

**Lou Gatch ` 1/16/01**

## Biscuit Joiner Jig by Ed Robold

There are numerous books available with an abundance of jigs and fixtures to assist the woodworker. Few of these references include help with the biscuit joiner. Once you start using this ingenious tool, you will find yourself looking for new ways to utilize its functionality. Out of necessity and with inspiration from fellow woodworker, Dan Martin, the following adjustable biscuit joiner jig was developed.

The jig was developed out of a need to increase the efficiency, accuracy and speed, of my Christmas toy making. The jig or fixture, if your prefer, was designed to be adjustable in several ways. It is adjustable for wear, for vertical, as well as horizontal placement of the biscuit slot. During development, I gazed around my shop and decided to utilize another useful tool as the mounting plate for the jig, the CFW Router table (photo 1).



Photo 1

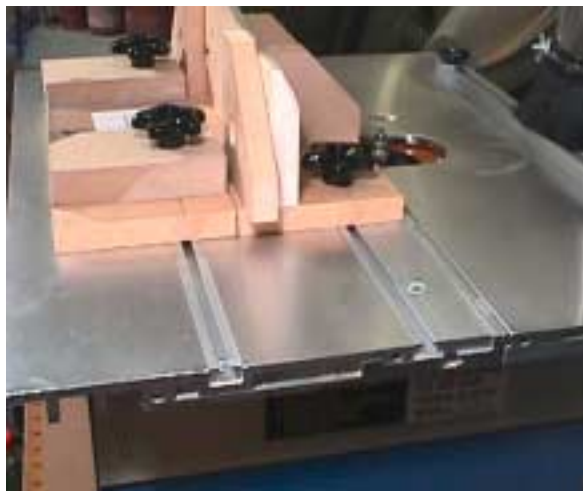


Photo 2

This table was chosen because it was large, had slots that accommodated the heads of standard  $\frac{1}{4}$ " bolts, and was available. The feature I most needed, was its pair of parallel "T" slots (photo 2). This feature allows the jig parts to be moved parallel to each other.

The base of the front part of the jig is made of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick MDF (medium density fiberboard) 13- $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide by 5" deep. On top of this base are added two rectangular, adjustable blocks, 3" x 5" made of one inch thick MDF. These provide the guides for the biscuit joiner (photo 3).  $\frac{1}{4}$ " bolts are run through both the alignment blocks and front base piece, then secured to the "T" track with knobs. These guides allow the biscuit joiner to be easily inserted and withdrawn during the cutting of each slot, yet allowing the slot width tolerance to be maintained when wear occurs.

To provide vertical adjustment of the biscuit slot, pieces of Lexan™ polycarbonate sheet are screwed to the front base piece using flat head screws. The plastic pieces are countersunk so the surface, exposed to the base of the biscuit joiner, remains flat. Different thickness and amounts of the material can be stacked to position the slot precisely.

The back part of the jig has its base made of the same  $\frac{3}{4}$ " MDF as the front and is the same size, 13- $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 5". It is secured to the table with  $\frac{1}{4}$ " bolts and knobs. On top of this base piece, two bracing blocks, 3" x 3" of one inch MDF are glued and screwed. These form the braces for the vertical support (photo 4). The vertical support is 13- $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 3- $\frac{3}{4}$ " tall and it is glued and screwed to the base and back braces to form a rigid vertical support.

Continued on Page 6

This vertical support has two 1/4" slots milled in it, each 3-3/8" long, and 1-1/2" above the base (photo 5). This allows stops on the front of the support to be adjusted. The stops are made of one inch MDF with the corners cut off. T-nuts are counter bored onto the face of each block.



Photo 3



Photo 4

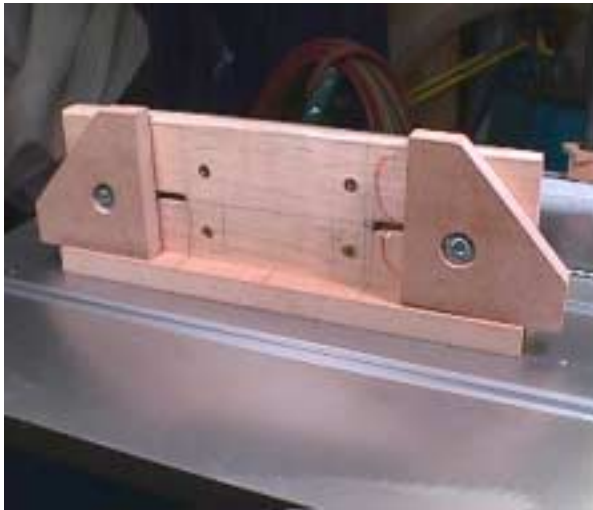


Photo 5



Photo 6

Quarter inch bolts are run through the back of the vertical support and into the T-nuts in the blocks. Photo 6 shows the whole setup in action. Photos 7 and 8 illustrate the ability to adjust the jogs parts parallel to each other.



Photo 7



Photo 8

## Show-and-Tell

Some of the fine examples of work done by our members. You are encouraged to bring your "creations" to show and tell about them.

Photos were taken by Steve Kandel



Plane News is a publication of the  
Woodworkers of Central Ohio  
PO Box 27234  
Columbus, Oh 43227

President: Jim Walters 614 861-5808  
Vice President: Ron Grady 614 237-7871  
Treasurer: Fred Ball 614 939-1950

Meetings are held the second Saturday of  
September, November, February, March, April  
and June  
From 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

at Spring Road Church of Christ  
74 Spring Road Westerville, Oh

Send news items to the secretary/editor of this Newsletter:

Gene Hull  
475 Diven Ln  
Gahanna, Oh 43230  
614 476-4121  
[rhull@asacomp.com](mailto:rhull@asacomp.com)

WOCO web site  
<http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~awolfe/Lab/woco.html>

Deadline for newsletter articles is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month  
before the meeting

#### Newsletter via e-mail

To read it, you will need to have a copy of Adobe Acrobat reader® that is available free from many sources on the Internet. You can download a copy of Acrobat reader® from this web site address <http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html#reader>

You may also read this newsletter in web format at this address.

<http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~awolfe/Lab/woco.html>

#### WOCO & Other Meetings

WOCO meets Feb 10, 2001. Spring Rd Church of Christ,  
74 Spring Rd Westerville, Oh 9:00am – 1:00pm

Woodturners meet, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, each month, 1100 Kinnear  
Road, Columbus. Floyd Anstaett, Pres. 740 967-7304  
Jack and Jean Hock, Co-Secretaries 614 276-8838.

Columbus Chippers Carving Club, meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, each  
month. Northeast Career Center, 3871 Stelzer Rd  
at 7:30 p.m. Paul Herbeck, President 614 268-9603  
Lori Andrews, Secretary 614 882-8239

Woodworkers of Central Ohio  
PO Box 27234  
Columbus, Oh 43227

PLACE  
POSTAGE  
HERE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Place gum label here