



CURRENT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Spencer Cullen... (850)878-8409

TREASURER: Austin Tatum... (850)561-1400

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Joe Doker... (850)509-1337 e-mail tws@redbaystudio.com

Next Meeting: Tues, June 9 @7:00 p.m.

The June meeting will be held at our regular meeting place, Tri States Automotive, 745 W. Gaines Street in Tallahassee. (see map on next page)

This month's meeting presentation will be on Routers. Val Tuck will give the presentation and plans to bring in his custom router table for us to see.

Highlights From the May Meeting

The May meeting had an open agenda. Our president was under the weather so Austin chaired the meeting. We had a new attendee, Tony Grossman. Welcome, Tony.



Austin asked the group if anyone had any projects they wanted to talk about:

Ed Garrett described a noise problem he is having with his new dust collection system. He received a number of good suggestions.

There was a discussion about Computer

(Continued on page 2)

SLIDE SHOW AND TELL

We're still seeking digital photographs from members for an upcoming "Slide Show and Tell". Send your project photos to the TWS newsletter editor.

Buy Sell Or Trade

Our club Treasurer, Austin Tatum, reports he has a bunch of tools for sale and some even for "give-away."

John McDevitt says he has a Sears band saw that he is willing to give away to a good home.

Jan Winans has a nearly new 1.5 hp Grizzly shaper that he wants to sell.

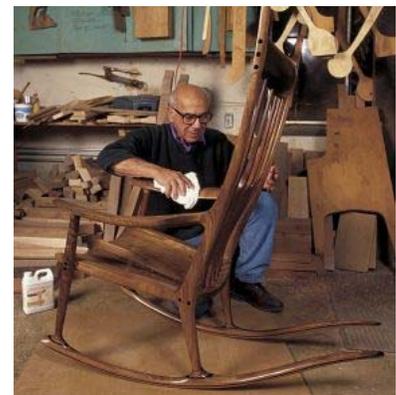
SPLINTERS: Farewell to Sam Maloof, A woodworking classic

Celebrated woodworker and furniture icon Sam Maloof died on May 21st at his home near Rancho Cucamonga, California. He was 93. The Fine Woodworking web site has several nice articles about Sam. The web site is <http://finewoodworking.taunton.com/item/14235/sam-maloof-1916-2009> The following are some excerpts from those articles.

"To this audience, Maloof needs no introduction or historical summary. His signature sculpted woodwork, best illustrated by his famous rocker, is immediately recognizable and many times reproduced. Some would say he invented an entire brand of furniture making with his freehand band saw techniques and sculpted parts.

Born in 1916 in Chino, Calif., the son of Lebanese immigrants, Maloof began his woodworking career around 1948 when he gave up his job in graphic design for his first furniture commission. Within ten years, Sam Maloof's name was known to woodworkers and his collectors around the world, which include Ray

(Continued on page 3)





MEETING HIGHLIGHTS *(Continued from page 1)*

Aided Design (CAD) software and what brands members are using. Several members spoke highly of the use of CAD and explained some of the specifics about their particular product. Joe Doker noted that the free Google software, “SketchUp” seems to be gaining a lot of popularity according to some of the woodworking web sites.

Roger told about some fine Teak lumber he has acquired and initiated a discussion about proper techniques for working with that species of wood.

A question was asked about how to deal with powder post beetles that a member has discovered in some of his wood. The product Tim-Bor was recommended as an effective treatment. It can be obtained from Peddie Chemical in Tallahassee as well as numerous sites on the Internet.

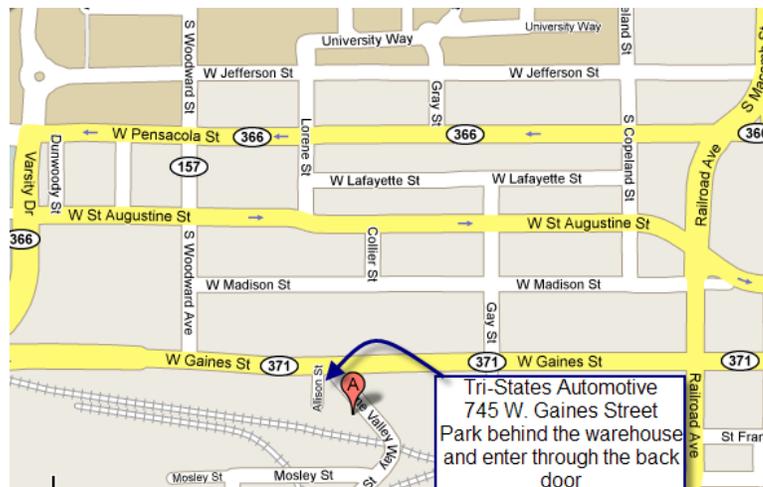
Tony Grossman told about a Live Oak he recently had sawn into lumber. It had a Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) of about 28”. It also had some swollen areas above the butt log from which he had some potentially highly figured table tops sawn. He took home about 250 board feet of lumber from the tree and still has a couple of logs at the saw mill. He used a Sawyer by the name of Williams located on Tower Road. He has a Wood-mizer LT 40 hydraulic mill.

Austin sought input on methods for removing plastic laminate from an old counter top he is refurbishing for a friend. Recommendations included the use of a hot iron. This resulted in a discussion about heating devices and where and where not to buy them. One member was interested in a good heat gun because he likes to incorporate formed plastics into his work. The company “TAP Plastics” was recommended as a good web source for plastics and plastic related material. Their web address is : <http://www.tapplastics.com/>



Looking at some of Austin’s wood stash.

Directions to the regular meeting location.





SPLINTERS: *(Continued from page 1)*

Charles, Former President Jimmy Carter, and Former President Ronald Reagan.

In 1985, Maloof received a prestigious Mac Arthur Foundation "Genius" Fellowship, and he has earned even greater admiration among contemporary furniture makers and woodworking enthusiasts who attribute Sam Maloof as their inspiration.”

From an interview by Fine Woodworking’s editor Asa Christiana in 2005

AC: Do you ever adjust a design for a client's home decor--so the piece will go better with its surroundings?

SM: If the architecture is really heavy, then I can beef the pieces up. I wouldn't want a piece of stick furniture in where they have a great big heavy sofa. I don't tell them what I'm doing, but I just do it. Just recently I made a table that was very heavy—beautiful wood—and I did it that way because I knew it would fit in the house a lot better. If I'd made the same table spindly, it would look lost. I don't know just how to say it, but one piece helps another piece.

AC: I notice you don't use any metal hardware that's visible. Why is that?

SM: I just don't like hardware. On doors sometimes I do have a rod, a steel rod that goes into a steel T-nut. I used a piano hinge, but I didn't like it and I thought, how could I do this? Then I thought I could cut it and run a dado and put the bar in, and then fill it. And I thought, “Well, there's a better way of doing it.” But I just don't like the hardware at all.”

AC: Do you think it clashes with the wood?

SM: For me, it does. Other people, they'll spend hundreds of hundreds of dollars on hardware; I just don't really like it.

AC: How did you come to choose walnut, and why do you use it in so much of your work?

SM: Well, it was one of the woods that I could get a hold of easily. When I started a lot of lumberyards they'd have walnut, they'd have mahogany, you couldn't find curly maple or birdseye maple because it was all mixed in [with the regular maple]. If you bought 100 feet and some of it was curly maple--fine--then all of a sudden they got wise and started separating it [and charging more]. But I liked the way walnut worked. I liked the feel of it. I liked the warmth. It was a very friendly wood to work. Now I do I use maple--it's as hard as a rock--it is not a friendly wood. Macassar ebony is not a friendly wood. Zircote is very unfriendly. But I would say over 60% of the work that I do now is walnut.

AC: Are there aesthetic reasons too?

SM: I love the feel of it. I do not use quartersawn, but I like the flat cut. You get beautiful grain. Cherry is another wood that I like; it works very easy too.

AC: You don't seem to avoid walnut's sapwood, as some folks do. What is your thinking there?

SM: I like sapwood where I can match it. I don't like when you have a piece of dark wood and you push a piece

(Continued on page 4)



SPLINTERS: *(Continued from page 3)*



of sapwood up against it. And I don't like to stain it. I've never stained anything. At first I used to cut it out and then suddenly I thought really I like it. Also, the wood was expensive and I didn't want to waste it. So if two pieces made a beautiful juncture, I'd go ahead and use it. But I would not use it unless the client said it was okay.

From a May, 2008 article

"I was warned that Sam would be busy, but that I might be able to spend a bit of time with him in the afternoon. Sam requested that I join the board members for lunch at the exhibit building, even though I protested that I felt I was intruding. It was a pleasure to meet the outstanding folks who make the Maloof Foundation a success and to break bread with one of my woodworking inspirations. When lunch was finished and Sam had said his goodbyes to several of the board members, we walked down to his shop to look at the double rocker. It was an exciting moment when Sam and Mike lowered the rocker to the floor and anyone in the room could spend a moment savoring the comfort of a unique piece. When the last member of Sam's business entourage departed, there was a brief moment of quiet as Sam, Mike, Larry White, and I sat and contemplated the work at hand. Sam spoke softly of current and future projects, work to be done and then was simply quiet for a bit.

I had met Sam briefly in the past and each time I was in his presence I was amazed at how he has such a wonderfully clear, calm demeanor that puts everyone around him at ease. His smile is quick and genuine, as is his concern for everyone.

For me it was a chance to spend a rare few hours immersed in a world that is at once a typical woodworking shop and a tribute to a truly wonderful human being, Sam Maloof. He has become a living legend who inspires us all to try and be a bit kinder, a bit more romantic, and above all true to our course. "

Highlights from a legendary career

- 1916: Born Jan. 24 in Chino, California
- 1948: Marries Alfreda Ward Maloof and began his career as a furniture maker
- 1971: First featured in the Smithsonian American Art Museum collection at Washington, D.C.'s Renwick Gallery
- 1976: His furniture is exhibited in the public collection at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston
- 1984: Received a Fellowship Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts
- 1985: Featured in the 20th Century American Design exhibit at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York
- 1988: His furniture is exhibited in the public collection at the Metropolitan Museum of Arts in New York
- 1992: Received an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts from Rhode Island School of Design
- 1995: His furniture is added to the White House Collection of Arts and Crafts in Washington, D.C.
- 2001: the Smithsonian American Art Museum creates a special exhibit of his work, including one of his rocking chairs (pictured above), in an exhibit titled "the Furniture of Sam Maloof Retrospective."
- 2001: Marries Beverly Wingate Maloof following the death of Alfreda
- 2003: Maloof's hand-built home receives the State of California's Governor's Historic Preservation Award and is relocated to its current location as a living museum
- 2009: Dies at his home in Alta Loma, Calif."