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Next Meeting: Tues, February 8th @7:00 p.m.

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

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month.

This will be an open forum round table format.

Don't forget your show and tell items.

Highlights From the January Meeting

The January meeting was an open forum round table discussion with a special show and tell by **Rich Wieckowicz** of some of his collection of vises and fixtures.



Keeping warm at the January meeting

It was quite cold the night of the January meeting but our host, **Austin Tatum**, took good care of us by having a group of kerosene heaters stoked up to keep us warm.

Mike Renwick told a tale of woe regarding an antique sewing machine table. It seems his wife set a damp towel on it which caused a milky looking "blush" in the finish. Mike was seeking advice

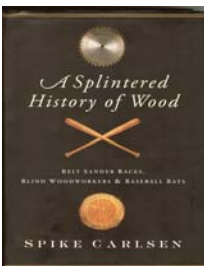
on how he might be able to repair it. Several good suggestions were provided. Mike also asked for suggestions to restore an old roll top desk that use to belong to his grandfather. He would like to strip and refinish the piece and also needs to make some repairs to the roll top where one of the cloth strips that hold the pieces together has failed. This generated some

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DUES ARE DUE

This is a reminder that club dues are based on the calendar year, so it is time to pay your 2011 dues if you haven't already. The amount is \$25.00 and you can deliver your payment to our treasurer, Austin Tatum, at the next meeting you attend.

SPLINTERS: excerpt from Spike Carlson's book "A Splintered History of Wood"



EXTRAORDINARY WOODS

Logging The Industrial Forest

The Duluth Timber Company's stock in trade is reclaiming lumber from yesteryear's buildings. Much of the timber the company salvages is from warehouses, shipyards, and munitions plants built when old-growth pine and fir dominated the land. At the Minnesota sawmill they've handled beams as large as 50 feet long, 16 inches wide, and 50 inches deep. They call it logging the industrial forest.

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“Splinters” Continued from page 1

Ten years ago, companies just gave them the wood, happy to get it off their property. The thirty-some companies now in the reclaimed timber business have awakened the law of supply and demand—with flooring and timbers selling for as much as \$10 a board foot explains sales and marketing manager, Liz Bieter.

As Liz and I walk through acres of timbers and joists stacked outside their warehouse, we come across a pile of 12 x 12 nail-infested beams stacked next to a massive bandsaw with a 36-foot-long out feed table. Before the beams meet the bandsaw, each will be denailed, scanned with a metal detector, then denailed again.

Bill Gates and Microsoft have spawned thousands of satellite companies, but none as strange as the Duluth Timber Company branch in Edison, Washington. While supplying reclaimed timbers for Gates’s house in Washington state, the Duluth Timber Company found itself dismantling buildings on the West Coast, shipping the timbers to Minnesota to be resawn and milled, then shipping them back again. They decided to open a West Coast branch when the project began calling for timbers too long to fit on a truck. And just how big is big when it comes to Bill Gates’s beams? They’re 16 inches wide, 55 inches tall, and 70 feet long—a total of 5,005 board feet per beam. In comparison, the average house built in the United States contains just over 13,000 board feet of framing lumber.

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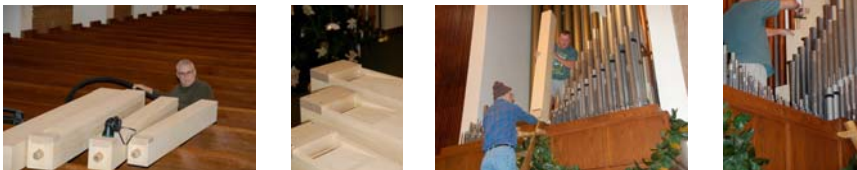
very good discussion.

For **Show and Tell**, **Rich Wieckowicz** dazzled us with some of his collection of vises, jigs, and clamps. Rich says he has a “vice for vises.” He is always on the lookout for these handy items as he travels about and visits various antique stores, tool collectors, and surplus dealers. Some of the items were intended for other purposes in their original life but Rich has cleverly modified them to serve his needs. Besides woodworking, Rich also is a metal working enthusiast.



Rich shows his clamps

Spencer Cullen recently assisted in the replacement of some pipes for the organ in his church. He brought in photos of the process which he displayed on his computer. Although the original pipes were metal, the church realized a significant savings by purchasing wooden replacements. Spencer says they sound great.



Directions to the regular meeting location.

