



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, February 14th @7:00 p.m.

The February meeting will be an open forum round table format. In addition, Joe Doker and Mike Reilly will tell about their recent participation, on behalf of TWS, at the St. Marks Wildlife Refuge festival.

Don't Forget your Show and Tell items.

The 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.

Highlights From the January Meeting

The January meeting was an open forum. **Joe Doker** said he had been contacted about the possibility of our club having a table at the St. Marks Wildlife Heritage and Outdoors festival to be held at the St Marks Refuge on February 4th. **Mike Reilly** and Joe agreed to man the table. Members kicked around some ideas for what to display.

Austin Tatum asked for input for a stained glass frame he is designing. Although it will be under a porch roof, it will be subject to the weather and near the coast. The frame will contain three stained glass pieces, each 3' x 3', with stiles between each piece. The overall dimensions will thus be about 3' tall by 9' wide. In particular, Austin asked for suggestions on

wood type and joinery methods. This generated some lively discussion with numerous suggestions.

Buy, Sell or Trade
<p>Former club member, Val Poliuto, is selling off most of his well stocked woodworking shop. There are too many items to list here but it includes some nice power tools, hand tools, and some lumber. Val can be contacted at 559-0020 to make an appointment. Please do not call him before 9:30 a.m.</p>



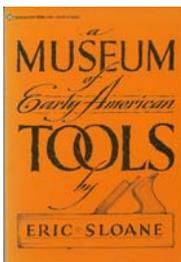
Mike Reilly showed us a new dado cleanup plane that Santa brought him for Christmas. This looks like a great tool for removing those ridges that are commonly left by a dado blade.

Richard LaSalle asked if anyone had made torsion box. A torsion box is a hollow box

(Continued on page 2)

Mikes Cleanup Plane

SPLINTERS: excerpt from Eric Sloane's book "A Museum of Early American Tools"



The Romance of Tools

(Eric Sloane was principally an artist whose subject was Americana. He was also an author of many books on various aspects of Americana. This book, like his many others, is heavily illustrated with his pen-and-ink sketches. Here are some excerpts from the first chapter of the book. Ed.)

"Finding an ancient tool in a stone fence or in a dark corner of some decaying barn is receiving a symbol from another world, for it gives you a particular and interesting contact with the past.

(Continued on page 2)



(Meeting Highlights, Continued from page 1)

with a grid of spacers within. It is a method of making a table top that is extremely strong and stable when properly made. Richard plans to make a torsion box to serve as a support for the CNC router he is constructing. Richard also noted that Home Depot has been intermittently getting in a nice cabinet grade plywood that is made in Chile. He brought in a small piece of 3/4" to show us. It appears to have no voids and is 7-ply. The price was \$27 for a 4' x 8' sheet.



Dave Adams and cradle

Dave Adams brought in a sample of a toy cradle. He made several of these for Christmas gifts last year. He uses a milk paint finish which is non-toxic.

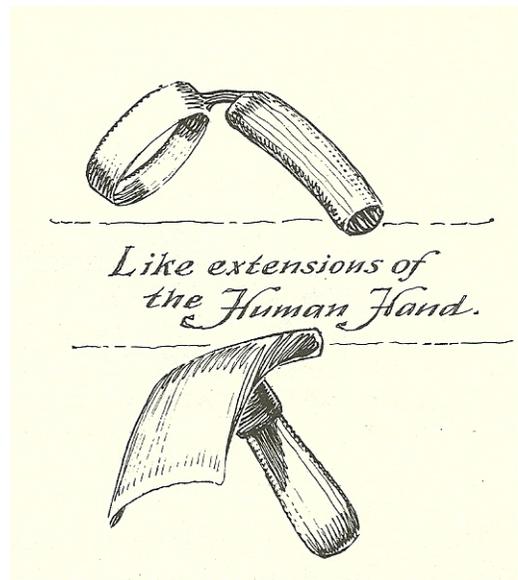
Val Tuck described a mantel project he recently worked on. He was having a hard time matching up the color and grain to the piece the client wanted to match. After some searching, Val found a veneer that worked and the client loved. The species? Sweet Gum.

Spencer Cullen asked where he could get metric drill bits. Recommendations for local suppliers were: Ajax Fasteners, Holly Incorporated, and Cornerstone Tool and Fastener.

(Splinters, Continued from page 1)

Men used to build and create as much for future generations as for their own needs, so their tools have a special message for us and our time. When you hold an early implement, when you close your hand over the worn wooden handle, you know exactly how it felt to the craftsman whose hand had smoothed it to its rich patina. In that instant you are as close to that craftsman as you can be—even closer than if you live in the house that he built or sit in a chair that he made. In that moment you are near to another being in another life, and you are that much richer.

Even the ardent collector is sometimes unaware of the reason an ancient tool meant so much to its user. But reason there is. Henry Ward Beecher said it nicely when he explained that “a tool is but the extension of a man’s hand.” Whereas today’s implements are designed with the idea of “getting the job done quickly,” there was an added quality to the early implements and an added quality to early workmanship too.”



Directions to the regular meeting location.

