

Southwest Tool Collector's Association

**SWTCA Newsletter
September 2008**

visit our website @ www.swtca.org



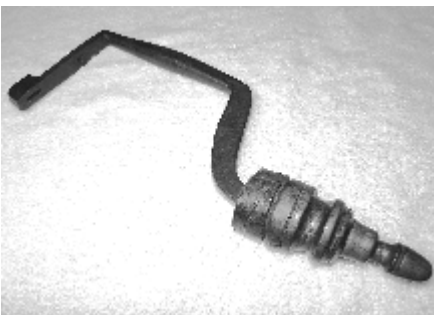
I remember muttering in disgust to myself back in about 1972, "it won't be long before a hamburger, fries and a Coke will cost more than a dollar!". The irony of that statement came back to me a few years ago when I happened upon an old relic of a brace with hand forged iron stock and crudely turned wooden handle. It was at an antique 'fair' in central Texas and the owner was involved mostly with large furniture pieces but had some small odds and ends scattered around as well....this brace was among them.

The shape was not terribly unusual at all and it was obviously Scandinavian by heritage. I had seen a few other early shaped pieces of similar style and composition in reference books and tool meets. What made this one jump out at me was its folksy wooden handle profile (in lieu of the typical mushroom pad) which was decoratively turned and burnished smooth from use. It was quite unsymmetrical and obviously turned on an early primitive lathe. Atop the profile of its quaintly turned fruitwood handle was a lovely acorn finial. The handle almost looks a bit out of place but fits snugly together with a heavy forged iron band (ferrule) which secures its somewhat imperfect shape to the flattened iron bit stock. The narrowly slotted nose piece accepted a spoon bit with a flattened end on it. Missing was a small 'latch' with which to secure the bit once it was inserted into place thorough the narrow slot. There is a small hole through the stock for the rivet which would have secured this latch to the iron stock. This securing method for the bits was popular in the smaller Scandinavian braces. Not a rare type here but this was certainly a distinctive and early example.

"How much do you want for it?". This question was asked with some apprehension as the item was not particularly rare, not exactly a 'thing of beauty' and missing the securing latch. There was no denying however that the irregularly turned handle was in itself rather attractive and a decorative example of early folk art (my particular area of interest). Also, the overall condition was very good and the patina untouched not to mention that a suitable spoon bit was being offered up along with it.

"I tell ya' what" he mused....."how about bringing me a hamburger and some fries for it?". It was about an hour and a half past lunch time and I realized that he had been so busy that he had not had time to take a break.

.....Sometimes, fast food isn't fast enough! I crossed the street, ordered a hamburger, fries and a Coke for him and headed back. The archaic little brace changed hands.....and the value of a hamburger, fries and a Coke once again captured me by surprise though this time accompanied by a wry smile.J. Goodson



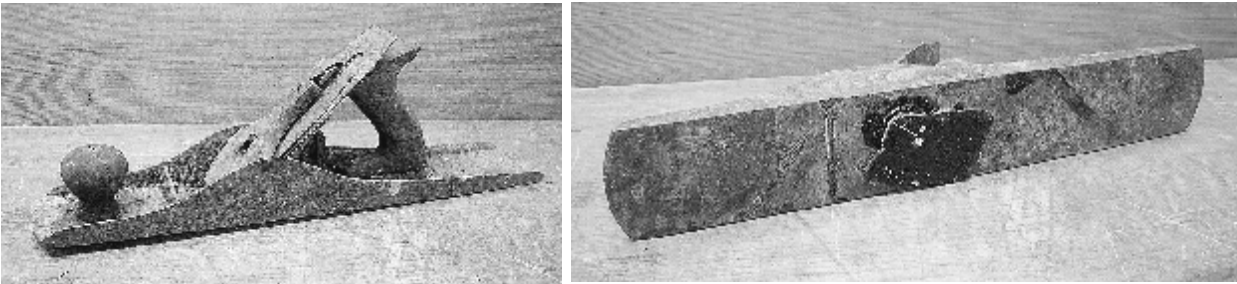
18th c. Swedish brace with owner inspired wooden handle design crowned with an acorn shaped finial

Saved From a Watery Grave – Two Planes

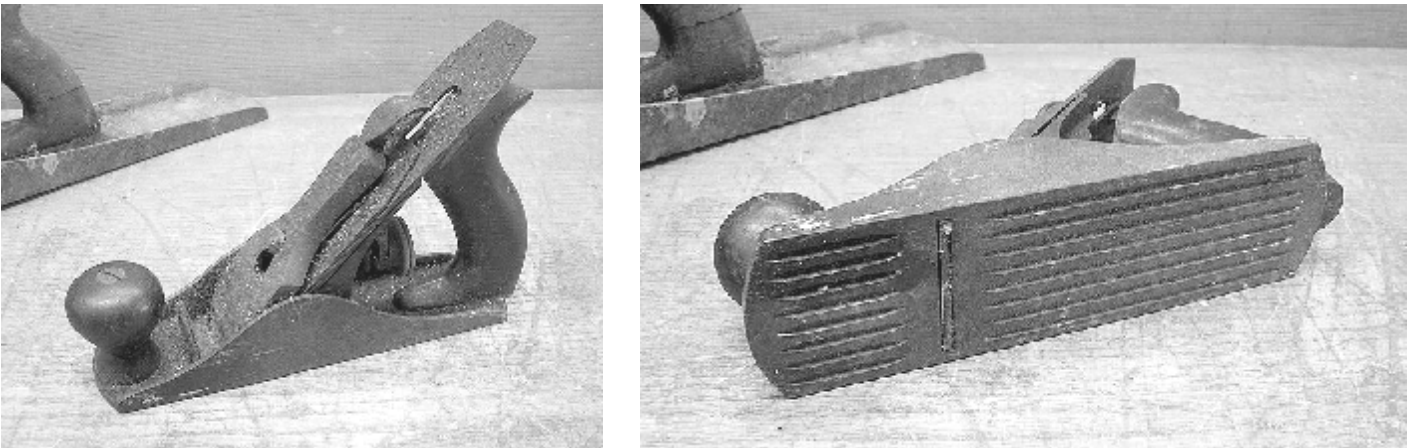
Many of us have been there - a ramshackle, broken down tool shed behind an old farmhouse, whose walls were once perpendicular to the ground, but have now taken on the profile of a lean-to. Holes in the ceiling, holes in the wall, which let the outer elements in - the general appearance of the place telling you it is now a safe haven for spiders, snakes, and other wee beasties.

In such a place I found myself yesterday. A first sweep of the shed yielded a Stanley No. 6 Fore Plane. Quite a bit of surface rust from the outside rain getting in. Most folks would pass on a plane in this condition, but I see getting it back to working condition as a challenge.. Besides, it had a piece of asphalt shingle stuck to the sole, and you never know when that will come in handy.

Here is that sad little monkey:



Most of the other tools on the work bench were in this condition, or worse. The only things in decent condition were hung from nails in the rafters and walls. On my third sweep of the place, I spied a familiar outline on the wall (it took this long for my eyes to adjust to the light, or rather, the lack of light). Halfway covered by fan belts, and gaskets for long dead lawn mowers, was this diamond in the rough:



A Stanley 2C, looking a little rough, but solid tote and knob, with a V logo on the nearly full length iron. The surface rust should clean off to reveal very little, if any, pitting, and the japanning looks to be 90 percent or better once the protective coating of greasy dirt is removed.



It's good not to be a-skeered of spiders, snakes, and wee beasties.

Lynn Dowd

Reclaim Your Rusty Tools!



www.TheRustStore.com

Southwest Tool Collectors Association

The S.W.T.C.A. Newsletter is the official publication of the Southwest Tool Collector's Association. It is published quarterly and provided to each member of the association.

Purpose of the Association:

Section 1

To promote the collection and exchange of tools, implements and devices used by our forefathers.

Section 2

To study and share knowledge concerning these objects and the crafts in which they were used.

Section 3

To promote a spirit of fun and fellowship among persons having these interests

SOUTHWEST TOOL COLLECTOR'S 2008 OFFICERS

President: Emery Goad, Wichita Kansas
Vice President: Bud Blake, Ada Oklahoma
Secretary: Carl Blair, Mustang Oklahoma
Treasurer: Jim Shipman, Mustang Oklahoma

Editor: Jim Goodson
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springhill1@sbcglobal.net
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REGIONAL DIRECTORS:

Oklahoma:	Jim Shipman
Texas (south)	Jim Goodson
Texas (north)	Paul Coppinger
Kansas & Mo.	Tom Mitchell
Louisiana & Ark.	Bill Clark
New Mexico & Co.	Bill McDougall



Errata !
(not erotica)

Please Correct Your
SWTCA Directory
for the Following:

NEW DIRECTORY CHANGES

Sam Scott - 806 W. Sandy Grove Rd
Irving Texas 75060 (214) 762-6721

Phil Whitby newbtr@comcast.net

David McDonald (new e-mail)
drdavidmcdonald@yahoo.com

Jim Shipman-jshipmanx2@sbcglobal.net

Carl Blair - blademok@sbcglobal.net

PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE!!

Please let our Secretary know of changes to your contact information either address, phone no# or e-mail address. He will correct the directory and forward these to me for listing in the Newsletter and dispersal to members.

Contact: Carl Blair
712 So. Linden Ln. Ct.
Mustang Oklahoma 73064-4140
(405) 376-4229

Please Send in a Story, an Article,
An Advertisement or a Topic of Interest For
Publication in This Newsletter

It's Easy, It's Fun and
It Adds Variety to Your Publication

SWTCA Tool & Want Ads

FOR SALE: A new reference book for patent research. A detailed manual on how to research patents on line on the USPTO website. Includes tables of issue dates and patent #'s up to 1900, together with tables of patent classes. All you need to know to locate and print out patents quickly! 73 pp., 8 ½"x 11", spiral bound. \$20.00 + \$2.50 shipping. Contact Philip Stanley, 36 Stockton Street, Apt. #2, Worcester MA 01610 or at philstan@rcn.com.

TOOL SWAP MEET INFORMATION: TOOLSWAP/USA is the Voice of the Independent Tool Collector, Dealer and User. The Web Site (www.toolswapusa.com) links to Old Tool Dealers and Tool Events across the country. We also put on nine Old Tool Swap Meets in Southern CA (2 in San Diego, 4 in LA and 3 in Orange County). If you want to be on an E-mail Reminder List, send your name and email to laura@toolswapusa.com. Plan your next visit to CA around an Old Tool Swap Meet. Check the Web Site for swap meet schedules. Laura Pitney.

INFORMATION: Sign of the jointer in volume 5, continues to solicit wooden plane and planemaker information. The quarterly journal contains articles covering wooden planes and planemakers as well as unpublished marks and new information. New information is solicited from all those interested in wooden planes by American, English and Canadian makers. Subscriptions are \$16 per year. Please contact Pat Lasswell 6211 Elmgrove Rd, Spring, Texas, 77389, 281-251-3121, or by email at pmlasswell@sbcglobal.net.

WANTED: Seeking material for book. All items marked "The Winchester Store" and all pre-1943 advertising, sports items and paper. Also ARMAX, BARNEY & BERRY, CRUSADER, and HENDRYX items. Tim Melcher, (918)-786-8500. tim@wavelinx.net and at www.thewinchesterstore.com

Wanted: Antique Coffin Wrenches or related items. Please contact Tim Hoss at (918) 261-1277

Tired of hauling around the same old tools?

There's a good worldwide market for your collectibles and users tools on Ebay and I'd be happy to sell them for you. I'll research, photograph, advertise, sell and ship your items for 10% of the net selling price.

Contact: **Lee Monahan**, (405) 521-0965 or soonertrackingsolutions@yahoo.com

WANTED: Old metal block planes & parts, regardless of condition. Contact **Lee Monahan**, (405) 521-0965 or soonertrackingsolutions@yahoo.com

WANTED: Figuratively carved or decorated wooden European Hand Tools (preferably 18c.). Planes, Braces, Marking Gauges and other wooden tool relics with carved dates, religious symbols, flowers, plants, any sort of geometric pattern of chains, dots, ropes punch marks, scallops, scrolls, volutes, crosses or stylized horn profiles.

ALSO WANTED: Photos and Information about these tools for reference and a prolific comparative study and record underway. **FELLOW ENTHUSIASTS** to share and appreciate these early folk art pieces with. Please contact James Goodson (SWTCA Editor) at www.springhill1@sbcglobal.net or (713) 869-4435

WANTED: Winchester items. Good + to Mint. David McDonald. 14211 Kellywood. Houston Texas

(281) 558-5236. e-mail:

drdavidmcdonald@yahoo.com.

Lee Monahan sets up sales in the tool room. Lee is happy to photograph and list your e-bay items for sale on line. You may contact her as per her ad (left).



Labor Day weekend marks the end of the Summer (proper) here in Houston though the realities of any temporal change may take another month or six weeks to occur. Coupled with the anticipation of welcomed Fall weather is the added excitement of knowing that all roads North of Houston at this time of year lead to an annual SWTCA tool show and this year the destination was Oklahoma City. In spite of a rash of severe tornados, ice storms, and flooding this past year, I was pleased to find it right where I left it two years ago! They're a resilient bunch there....

Early Friday morning I put away the alarm clock an hour or more before it was set to go off. Too pretty a morning to waste waiting on a clock to catch up with you and by a quarter of five, I was loaded up and Dallas bound. The blackness surrounding me was a quiet reprieve from the hustle and bustle of the big city and I enjoyed every minute of silence until the breaking dawn painted an assortment of vivid colors across the horizon. Just North of Dallas I stopped to pick up fellow member Jeff Gaston and the two of us would spend the remainder of the trip sharing stories and exchanging information on collecting.

The one day Oklahoma City show actually began Friday evening with an open house at Craig Guy's awesome museum building. A light rain hardly dampened the mood there as a dozen or so members enjoyed seeing his incredible display of blacksmithing tools. He has many other tools as well in his purpose built building and a visit there will compete with any memory of the very best Christmas morning you can resurrect from childhood! If you have a pacemaker be sure and turn it way down because it will be 'doing the boogie' by the time you walk out the door.

Craig also hosted our meeting for us once again and made all the preparations for the big day. Attendance numbered some 50 members and 11 walk ins invited via local advertising in antique markets and woodworking shops. Buying and selling went very well according to the members I asked and all enjoyed the traditionally 'ribald & whimsical' nature the SWTCA is typically known for. I've heard it said many times over the last 20 years....the SWTCA is the smallest of the major clubs but it is also the most fun! Quite a few displays this time and it was hard to pick one over another for award presentation. Several of the displays showcased a project being worked on or recently completed. It's always gratifying to realize that there is so much going on behind the scenes. We have some truly talented members and there is much to learn from them outside of the brief encounters availed us through our annual and regional meetings.



First place display was presented to Jim Davis for his incredible display (**'Until Then'**) of carved and decorated tools of rosewood, ivory and brass. His presentation offered a glimpse into the realities many of us as collectors must ultimately face. Unable to acquire many of the truly awesome tools he admired, he resolved to make them himself. Here lying on a display table was a group of some of the most gorgeous tools Imaginable! Each was inspired by similar pieces he had previously admired and all were constructed according to his personal whims of decoration and alteration of design. A truly gorgeous display of accomplishment, ideology and passion.

Second place display was presented to Emery Goad for a large selection of (**'Gauges & Printing Items'**). It was an excellent presentation of an often ignored type of tool that was responsible for the precise accuracy of everything from a piece of furniture to a finely machined part. The pieces comprising his printing items are the printers counterpart to the gauges in that alignment and precise set up were some of the most important objectives confronting the printing business. A wonderful display of shapes, materials and a true test of wit to venture a guess on the purpose of some of these.



Third place display was presented to Jim Shipman for a Windsor Chair (**'New Chair, Old Tools'**) he has completed and many of the hand tools he used to bring it to life. A noble and difficult project well suited to demonstrate the continued ability of antique tools to still do the job they were intended to do.

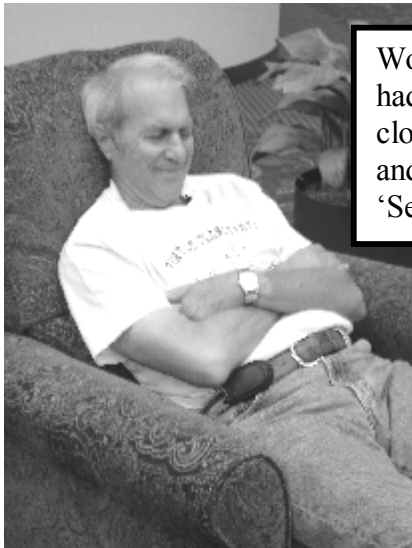


Thanks to all who contributed by setting up a display and to share with other members some of their experiences and knowledge. All winning displays were given 'choice' of plumb bobs or scratch awl hand made by John Walcott of rosewood and brass. Thank you John for your donations to this club of these beautiful handmade gems.



Craig Guy's Office

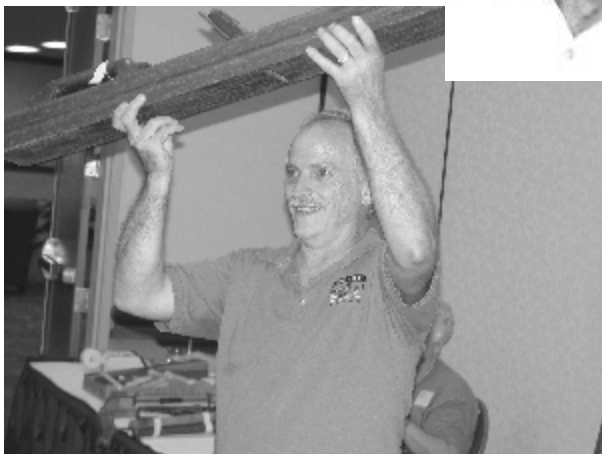
.....and yes, most of it is for sale! As one member mumbled a few years back as he gazed at the immensity of this collection, ('I'm just gonna' go home and close my door!').



Word came down from the 'top' that the SWTCA by laws had been modified recently to require the mandatory closing of the trading room between the hours of 1:30 PM and 3:30 PM.....this designation now being referred to as 'Senior Nap Time'!



Tool Trading Room Clears for Lunch



A lively auction always rounds off an exceptional day with a last opportunity to purchase the frivolous and impulsive.

**There's
no tool
like an
old tool**



GALOOT

Noel C. Hankamer
nhankamer@papawswrench.com



Tool Talk
Forum

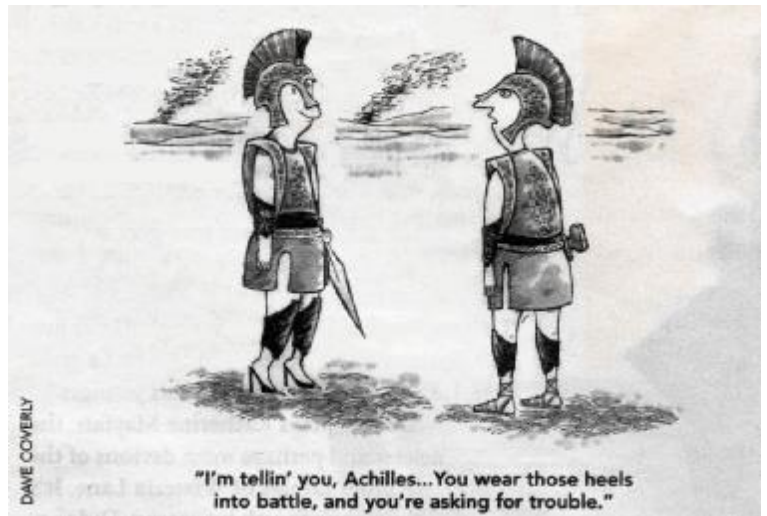
**TOOLGALS-WE CAN SELL GOOD
STUFF ON eBay FOR YOU!!
FOR 10% OF YOUR NET PROFIT**



call 405-521-0965 Lee Manahan (SWTCA member)
or email soonertackingsolutions@yahoo.com



"How shall I torture you today?
Put you on the rack? Boil you in oil?
Make you call a technical support line?"



JIM SHIPMAN <shipmanx2@sbcglobal.net>

A reminder for SWTCA members of the anual tool show at Jim Shipmans barn in Mustang Okla on the last Saturday in Oct , that is the 25th . We will start when you get here and shut down when there are no tools to trade buy or sell. See you there . Lunch will be served. Jim Shipman

Houston Regional Tool Meet: springhill1@sbcglobal.net (713)-869-4435 Jim Goodson

The Houston/Gulf Coast area SWTCA regional meeting will be held on Saturday Morning October 18th at the Hickory Hollow Restaurant located at 101 Heights Blvd. Houston Texas (two blocks South of I-10 almost to Washington Ave. Please join us from 8:00 AM to Noon as we celebrate 15 years of tool shows.

From: Plncrzy@aol.com [mailto:Plncrzy@aol.com] (Mike Urness)



Hello All,

Jim Shipman called today from Mustang Oklahoma to share the news of John Ballintine's passing. John died in his sleep last night in a nursing home in Ohio . He had been moved there just two weeks ago by his nephew.

From what Jim said, the family will ship the body back to Mustang for a funeral service after which John will be transported to Lake Charles , Louisiana where he will be burried next to his first wife.

Just recently, at the MWTCA meet in Erie , PA , Jim Price and I fondly remembered our last meal with John at an out-of-the-way rib joint in Decatur , Illinois . John was digging his rack of ribs so much that when he had an itch on his face, head, arms and legs, he just scratched, and , in the process coated himself in barbecue sauce from head to toe. He did this twice before finishing up. They were fine ribs indeed, and I'll never forget that look of total contentedness on his face as he ate them.

John was a crusty old bastard with a heart of gold, and I loved him like a dear old uncle. The M-WTCA & SWTCA events will never be the same without him.R.I.P. Oldtimer



Tim Hoss and son Eli discuss an
An increase in allowance



Our Trade Room

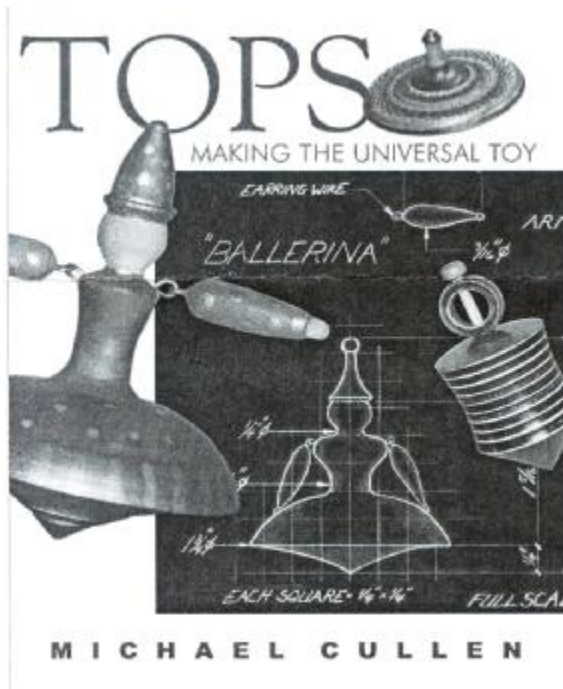


Zsa Zsa Harrison ponders a flax
comb over a chocolate chip cookie



“Fraidy Hole”

Tornadoes (sometimes multiple tornadoes) are a real consideration in Oklahoma City. You’ll find these storm shelters scattered around most communities there. Craig Guy shares with us his pet name for these....established soon after he moved here from his previous home in Ohio.

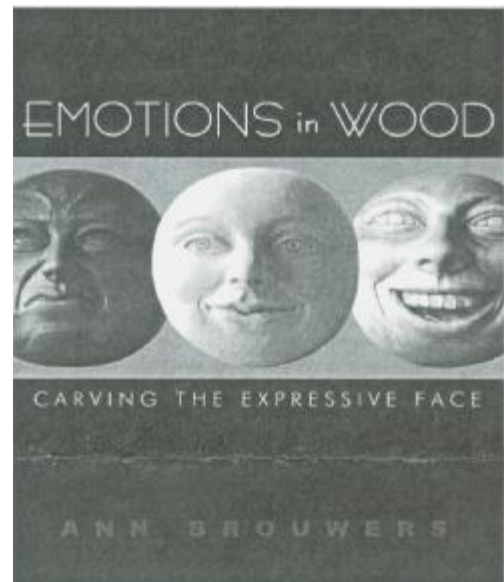


From selecting materials and tools to applying finishes and shellacs, this handy guidebook provides complete instructions for creating 16 unique toy tops. Each project includes step-by-step photos and measured plans. Designs include the Dreidel, the amazing Benham's top (that produces colors when spun, despite being painted black and white), and even a top that flips over. These projects are quick and fun and will appeal to woodworkers and toymakers alike.

Michael Cullen is a professional woodworker. He is the author of more than 40 articles on woodworking

Emotions in Wood: Carving the Expressive Face, by master woodcarver Ann Brouwers, teaches a unique and captivating approach to carving faces. Learn to create strikingly expressive, spherical faces, along with a variety of moods, such as soft smiles, laughter, and tears. Each section of the book focuses on a single emotion, and contains helpful guidelines to tackle this challenging craft.

- The book contains step-by-step instructions and full-color photographs.
- Learn to introduce your own uniquely imaginative designs into the artistic process.
- A superb resource for beginning to intermediate carvers who wish to install realistic emotions into their work (even experienced woodworkers will learn something new)!



Ann Brouwers is an internationally recognized professional woodcarver, and a veteran teacher of both novice and experienced woodworkers.

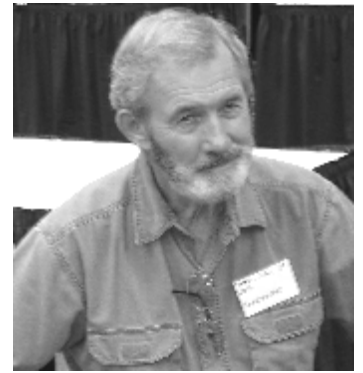
EMOTIONS IN WOOD by Ann Brouwers list price: \$21.95 ISBN: 978-1-933502-16-8 Category: woodworking/carving 128 pp. Color throughout.

Contact Richard Sorsky
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The Fine Art of Jim Davis (Thornfield Missouri)

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