



Januarie 2008

January 2008

## Redaksioneel

Dit is nou werklikwaar die jaar 2008! Waar is 2007 heen? Wat het van al 'n mens se voornemens geword? Dit kan 'n mens morbiditeit maakas jy so aan die tyd wat verby is dink. Dit kan egter ook dien as aansporing indien jy jouself sou voorneem om in die komende jaar moontlik meer van die beskikbare tyd gebruik te maak. Ek hoop dat julle almal die positiewe benadering sal hê en dat dit julle sal aanspoor om in hierdie jaar sommer baie projekte aan te pak. Dit is nou houtwerkprojekte, maar ook al daardie take in en om die huis wat gedoen moet word.

Oor die afgelope vakansietyd het ek myself getraakteer met meer rus, en sleg wees, as wat ek in 'n lang tyd myself veroorloof het. In hierdie proses van grootliks niks doen het ek tyd ingeruim (gehad) om te lees. Ek het ook weer deur baie van my ou boeke, tydskrifte en nog wat geblaai. Sodoende het ek op 'n katalogus: *WOODWORKING the Garrett Wade Tools Catalog/1988* afgekou. Hierdie dokument is iets om te aanskou. Dit het foto's en beskrywings van die beste moontlike handgereedskap, vernisse en olies en nog wat. Dit is egter ook vol wenke en voorstelle oor hoe om 'n groot verskeidenheid houtwerktake aan te pak. Ek was van vooraf opgewonde oor die inhoud en het gewonder of daar intussen 'n nuwer weergawe die lig gesien het, want ek wou sommige van die goed met julle deel. Na 'n kykie op die internet het ek egter gesien dat daar twee kopieë van die katalogus in Amerika te kry is. (Een gebruik en die ander nog nuut.) Al hierdie oorlesery en ondersoek het my weer laat kyk na die skerpmaak van gereedskap. Dit het gemaak dat ek ook weer na my *Tormek* gekyk het en 'n poging aangewend het om hom reg te kry. (Toe ek myne gekoop het, het hulle nog nie 'n vlekvrystel as gebruik nie en gevolglik het die slypwieltjies gebars weens die as wat geroes het.) Om 'n lang storie kort te maak, my *Tormek* is nou weer so goed soos nuut en ek kan met reg sê dat my beitels nou so mooi geslyp is dat ek sommer lus is vir nuwe projekte. Ek het ook gedink dat dit hoog tyd is dat ons weer 'n goeie aanbieding oor slyp moet kry. (Onthou julle nog die poging van Vlooi so paar jaar gelede?) Skerp

gereedskap is tog maar die begin en einde van goeie houtwerk en dit is ook die verskil tussen plesier en frustrasie.

I hope you will all experience a very fruitful wood-working year. The success of our association will largely depend on how we elect the new committee. It is hoped that all our members will realise that we have to elect a brand new committee, as a large portion of the old committee indicated that they will be standing down. It is a pity, as this last lot has just started to become a great team, with good ideas. We need a new committee that will be able to take up where the old one left off. We depend on everybody to take a serious look at eligible people that may be nominated and elected for the coming year.

## Programme for January

- Wednesday, 23 January, at 18h00: Turners meet at the workshop of Francois van Wyk, 330, 31st Avenue, Villeria. The homework for the evening is a piece of your own choice. (Come on guys, surprise the rest of us and bring something new that you made over the holidays or after you received this call up!)
- Wednesday, 30 January, at 18h00: Annual General Meeting, at the Botany Department, University of Pretoria.
- (It is not known what the cabinet makers intend for this month.)

The Agenda for the AGM is included for easy reference.

### Agenda

1. Opening.
2. Presensie.
3. Verskonings.
4. Notule van vorige vergadering:

5. Sake voortspruitend.
  6. Verslag van die Voorsitter.
  7. Finansiële verslag; Tesourier.
  8. Verkiesing van nuwe komitee.
9. Jaarprogram.
    - Nabetragting van afgelope program.
    - Voorstelle vir nuwe program.
  10. Afsluiting.

## Tips

Forthwith I will try to include a few general tips in every edition. These will be tips that I may come across, like the catalogue mentioned on page 1, or it may be those tips that some of you may pass on for publication. I hope that this may serve a purpose. (Let us know what you think of the idea)

- **Sanding sealer.** Because lacquer is best applied in many thin coats, it is important to apply a sealer first. The sealer fills the minute pores in the wood and causes the wood “fuzz” to stand up so it can be sanded smooth.
- **Shellac as a Top Coat.** Shellac is an organic material derived from the secretions of the Lac Bug found predominantly in the Far East. In its dry state, shellac Flakes are classed and priced according to their degree of refinement.

Using the dry flakes together with a top quality solvent is the best way for the craftsman to ensure a long shelf life and a pure, properly refined product. Shellac has many advantages. It can be applied very thin and quickly; it is durable, elastic and flexible, and it will produce a beautiful lustrous finish. (the famous “French Polish” finish often found on the finest antique furniture is basically a shellac finish.

However, Shellac is not heat, water or alcohol proof and has a relatively short shelf life. (For this last reason, it should be mixed in relatively small quantities, and the container tightly sealed to keep the alcohol free of water.)

When making Shellac from Dry Flakes, make a pint or quart of 4 lb. Cut and thin it as you use it. (One lb. Of Shellac Flakes dissolved in one gallon of Denatured Alcohol equals a 1lb. Cut)

Shellac should be put on thin in a 2 or 3 lb. Cut when used as a top coat. It should “run off” your brush in a thin, steady stream and feel 11 “thin” when rubbed between thumb and forefinger. Apply the Shellac rapidly and flow it on in long, full strokes. Wait about an hour and sand lightly. Dust the piece off and apply another coat. After the final coat, allow to dry for several days and then rub and polish in the usual manner. Shellac Finishes are non-toxic when dry.

- **Sharpening.** It’s no over statement to say that any investment in getting your edge tools really sharp and keeping them that way will be repaid many times over. There is no simple answer to the question: “I need a sharpening stone. What should I get?” There are only some guidelines;

First, it’s a good idea to have at least one very fast cutting stone to remove a lot of metal when you nick a blade or try to salvage a bad edge.

Second, you may have never gotten your tools as sharp as you can – and should. The very sharpest edge works best and once you achieve it, occasional honing or stropping will maintain the edge.

But, remember you must use tools with top quality steel to get a really good edge. The edge on lesser quality tools will just “crumble” as you try to get it really sharp.

(The above is out of : The Garrett Wade Tools Catalog/1988)

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