

N*E*W*S*L*E*T*T*E*R

THE

W*O*O*D*W*O*R*K*E*R*S G*U*I*L*D

OF

C*O*L*O*R*A*D*O

August, 1981 * Editor: Michael Fales * 429-9186

A L*E*T*T*E*R F*R*O*M T*H*E P*R*E*S*I*D*E*N*T

Jim Brandt 659-1076

Members:

This being the first newsletter, I have been asked to write a few words as president.

I know that there are probably quite a few new members that don't know the origin of the guild.

Our first meeting was prompted by a lecture by James Krenov. After the lecture a number of Woodworkers were at Paxton Lumber to meet Krenov. I asked if anyone would be interested in forming a guild or just meeting as Woodworkers. The response was great. In about half an hour I had a list of about 25 names.

We met for the first time at my shop on a Saturday in November of 1980. It was decided at that meeting to form a woodworkers guild. So about 9 of those attending volunteered to head a steering committee and start the ball rolling.

Since that time there have been officers and board members elected, by-laws written, seminars held, shows are being presented, tool purchases made, many different shops visited, the beginning of a newsletter, and a lot of good friends have been made.

I think that we've come a long way in a short 9 months. The credit goes to the hard work of our involved membership.

I am certainly looking forward to the future of the guild with the greatest optimism, and to see it grow through your continued involvement and participation.

James W.Brandt

P*H*A*S*E C*O*N*V*E*R*S*I*O*N

By Michael Fales

The first time I visited Jim Brandt's shop, he showed me a new piece of machinery sitting behind his building. Sitting because connecting it to Public Service was going to cost \$1,500.00 and wiring within the building was estimated at another \$1,500.00.

The problem, it seemed was how to run a 3-phase motor in a building wired 220 volt 1-phase.

I began to appreciate the simplicity of my shop which depends on just 110 volt and elbow grease. My shop is zoned residential. What if someone in my situation had to power a large motor?

A nearby machinest has solved his 3-phase problem with a small motor-like device called a phase converter that connects to 220V single phase and then feeds his four 3-phase machines. (One at a time though, since he's only got 2 hands.) He paid \$450.00 for his used machine.

So, I let my fingers do the walking to his supplier: Bill Thielman of A-D Electric Motor Service Inc.; 3080 Walnut, Denver, CO 80205.

For anyone who can't get 3-phase (zoning, cost, etc.) here's what I learned:

Price: Price was favorable compared to Public Service bringing it in. Prices start at \$270 for a Phase Converter that could feed a 3 H.P. (low starting torque) motor.

"Phase": I had no idea what 3-phase and 1-phase meant and never will. All the literature reads like some background dialog for 'Star Trek'. (If I included quotes from the literature I'd have everyone thinking I quit a job with N.A.S.A. before I became a woodworker.)

For a woodworker with an old 3-phase bargain, all he need know is that a 3-phase has an armature wound to work on 3 synchronized power leads going into it, and his shop only has 2 power leads to work with. The converter juggles the 2 and puts out the 3 synchronized leads his machine needs.

Availability: Converters of sufficient capacity for most wood working machinery made are available in Denver in small quantities, about 3 at any one time. But heavy units can be available 2 weeks after ordered.

Capacity: Capacity is measured by the total horse power of all motors fed by the converter. (3@ 1 HP = 3 HP) But the starting torque of an individual motor can affect the actual number of motors running simultaneously and apparently which should be started first.

Installation:

You still should have a certified electrician, although it is a simple operation which you can do yourself. This cost, compared to Public Service and running special wiring makes a converter cheaper. Your talking about simply connecting the converter in line between your existing power and the machine(s) vs. a complete rewire.

Choosing a Converter:

Bill or Braum can pin down the converter you'll need with a phone call. It doesn't cost a thing to ask. The number is 629-0641. But if you lose this newsletter before need arises, just remember "A-D" in the white pages.

Build your Own:

Fine Woodworking has a "How-To" article in their September/October 1980 issue No. 24 (the issue on small shops) page 57. This article describes how to take a used 3-phase motor and wire it in line as a phase converter.

Store bought converters start themselves with the help of large expensive capacitors which can wear out. Home built are manually started with a smaller 110 motor or a pull cord.

"Black Box":

If a converter is too expensive and you're not able to build your own, you might look into a device nick-named a "Black Box". It is a collection of huge capacitors in a metal box. But they are not very highly recommended. They often make the motor run hot, have a very limited output and a shorter life.

L*E*T*T*E*R*S T*O T*H*E E*D*I*T*O*R

Sir:

I'm enjoying my membership in your organization because I'm making friends with other woodworkers. I'd enjoy it more if I could count on talking with members more during the general meetings. I find myself whispering in the corner to introduce myself to a fellow member and missing part of the meeting. Maybe you could meet a half hour sooner and stop a half hour sooner and have a break in the middle for shooting the bull or something.

Signed

E.T.F.

Send Letters to:

Woodworkers Guild
% Michael Fales
7131 Raritan Street
Denver, CO 80221

W*A*N*T A*D*S

Bob Babirad 429-5242

- Wanted: 6" Horizontal Belt Sander call Dennis Allen 452-7985 or 457-9500
- Wanted: 20" or larger Band Saw call Dick Lohner 427-4517
- Wanted: Tail Stock for heavy duty Rockwell Lathe. Call Dick Lohner 427-4517
- Wanted: Six to eight members interested in taking part in an experimental woodcarving exercise, Saturday Sept. 12, 1981 from 10:00 a.m. 'till 4:00 p.m. Lunch will be arranged. No experience necessary! No tools needed! Participants will become acquainted with old style leaf moulding or Victorian appliques. Techniques used will be applicable to furniture. First come first serve. \$5.00 for members \$6.50 for non-members. (Woodcarving classes go for \$45-\$65 for 6 weeks plus tool costs of around \$80+. This exercise represents an economical learning experience.) Call Michael Fales or his electronic clone at 429-9686.
- Wanted: Want ads for Newsletter, call Bob Babirad at 429-5242.
- Wanted: Anyone interested in anything enough to write it down and share it with us. Including jokes. Call Michael Fales 429-9686.
- Wanted: Craftsman to make flute case for "C" flute. Case must be durable, easy to carry with rounded edges and simple design. Call Reginald L. Jessup, 12212 E. Kepner Place, Aurora, CO 80012, 344-1051.