

THE
Woodrack
September 2009



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President's Message

Mike Daum



Having not attended the past two meetings, I really miss you all. Well, most of you. And by that, I mean I've run into or been in touch more recently with some in our group. I wish I could say that I've just been busy in the shop preparing a project for the November Show, but I'd be lying. Truth is I've been busy vacationing in the Caribbean. It's not that I haven't been woodworking - that I do every work day. I just haven't had the inspiration or motivation to start my Show project. I am always pestering the membership to start a project for the Show, but now find myself a complete hypocrite.

The goal here now is to use psychology on myself to become Mr. Motivated and use you all as witnesses. My thoughts are that I need to design and make something in my (very limited) spare time. I've only got 12 weeks before the Show. We'll make it 11 weeks for safety. Of this, I will feasibly utilize 8 hours during each week, and maybe 8 hours each weekend. That's 16 hours over 11 weeks = 176 hours, or 4 weeks and 2 days. Now I feel confident that I have a sufficient time allotment.

I've just spent 10 minutes concentrating on project ideas. I owe a friend a table or small cabinet for the corner of his dining room. He also could use a humidior. Perfect. I've now got the ideas for projects. The next step will be to determine how elaborate a design I can complete in the given time frame. I will consult with my friend to discuss what is desired for the table or cabinet. Include a drawer? Leg shape? Type of wood? This week, I'll have those answers and sketch something out. I'll get the materials together next week and start the table. The humidior will be a surprise gift, so I can start designing this right away.

Thank you all so much for reading my brain drain. You've been a big help and can keep me on task by asking me about the progress I've made on these projects the next time you see me. Unless life gets in the way, expect to see them at the Show. My hope is that I get to see your work at the Show as well!

THIS MONTH:

- PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**
- SECRETARY'S NOTES**
- SHOW BIZ**

SIG NEWS & PHOTOS

Secret Society of Woodcarvers

SHOP VISITS

Gary Mahew

TOOL REVIEW

WorkSharp 3000 Revisited

CLUB HOTLINE
(631) 656-5423

The Woodrack

Volume 21 Number 9

Next meeting
Wednesday Sept. 2nd
7PM Brush Barn

DeWalt/Porter Cable/Delta
Demonstrations



ON THE COVER:

Peter Schultheiss showing his latest segmented bowl, as mentioned in the Meeting Minutes. Here is a close up.



Secretary's Report

Steve Blakley

Once again our President Mike Daum, was absent. There are some rumors going around that he is participating in "Survivor, Las Vegas Strip", but like I said, it is just a rumor....or is it? Bob Urso stepped up, performing a stellar job, starting the meeting promptly at 7 PM. Bob first started by announcing that raffle tickets are available.

Bob reported that the speaker for today was Bill Boxer, from Apollo, the spray gun people. Septembers meeting would be presentations from Dewalt, Porter Cable and Delta. In addition, the representatives from these three companies are willing to do membership shop tours. If you are interested in having your shop visited, notify Bob. The October meeting will be a visit from Frank Klausz. Bob asked for suggestions on what we want Frank to present.

Bob mentioned that the LIW Executive Board made some membership structure changes, both for the general membership and the SIG membership. These changes included, for liability reasons, spouse memberships. While he did not go into the details of the changes, he did mention that they would be discussed at a future meeting. The SIGS then reported on their next meetings. The SSOW would be finishing their tree and starting to paint it; LISA will be working on their cornucopia clock; the LIC will have a round table and the LIWG will have a demonstration on natural edge bowls.

For Show and Tell Steve Eckers showed his homemade lathe he used to make wheels he needed for some toys he was making. Steve used an old sewing machine motor for the lathe. Peter Schultheiss showed us his newest segmented bowl. It is about 1 inch high by 1.5 inches wide.....and it is only 337 pieces! Simply amazing. While not Show and Tell, Dennis Taddeo said he had some video tapes of high speed engravers if anyone wanted them. In addition, he had some wooden ducks that he received from his church. For these ducks he was looking for a donation. Bob asked that a raffle be held and a few lucky members got some real nice stuff!

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Show Biz

Steve Blakley



We are STILL looking for vendors! At the last general meeting there were flyers handed out so you, our trusted membership, can help us get paying vendors for this show. As of now, we have just two commitments, one from Bad Dog Tools and one from Apollo. We were counting on eight vendors, so please use your flyers to get the word out.

The posters, the vinyl sign, flyers and pads should be ready for the September meeting. At the general meeting I asked you to see me if you knew of any woodworking clubs that might be interested in being "guests" of our show. Please don't forget to let me know if you have someone in mind!

At the September meeting there will be sign up sheets for volunteers. PLEASE sign up for something! We need your cooperation and assistance to pull this show off!

As of this writing we have been getting "drips and drabs" of door prizes from various resources. If you stop by your local store, ask them if they are interested in participating by donating a door prize!

Remember, we need:

YOUR PARTICIPATION!

YOUR PROJECTS!

**YOU AS A VOLUNTEER
WORKER!**

MAKE THIS THE BEST SHOW EVER!

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There was a new member tonight, Norm Sellback. Welcome Norm. I am sure you will love the club.

Bob then introduced Bill Boxer. Bill has been a representative for Apollo spray guns for 26 years. Bill started out by saying that he was here to share with us what is currently happening in the world of finishing and coatings. Apollo has a new website, called “thefinishing-store.com”, and on there will be a finishing forum. Apollo has committed to rapid response to questions posted from the general public. He said there is a large customer base, but the sprayer companies are dwindling. Smaller manufacturers are dropping out, but hiding behind the back door, there are a few new players. Accuspray was acquired by 3M but is now closing it out. Manufacture operations are being moved off shore and into a smaller facility. Advertising distribution has also gotten smaller .

Bill went on with one of the most important “questions”. Why do we finish? We finish to make our work beautiful and to protect it. How we do it depends on skills, projects and what we are doing. Small projects can be finished with brush or wipe-on finishes but larger projects look much better with a sprayed finish. What is the difference between a high end (Apollo especially) and a low end spray gun? One of the differences is where the motor comes from. The USA makes the best motors and thus those high-end sprayers are a bit more expensive. The motor quality is directly linked to power or pressure of the sprayers and that relates to a good, clean viscosity and coating of your project. The finer the atomization, the better the finish. In the higher-end sprayer the spray hose goes into the bottom of the spray unit and there is a chamber in the unit that holds air. This makes the unit comfortable and easy to use. In the lower end unit the spray hose goes into the top. It is not as comfortable and there is no quick disconnect. Low-end sprayers might work for very diluted liquids. High end works better with higher end spray liquids.

There are two types of spray guns, the bleeder and the non-bleeder. With a bleeder spray gun, if your using an air turbine sprayer you turn the unit on and hook up the spray gun. In front of the air cap you will feel air blowing out. When you press the trigger of the spray gun the

liquid you have added is mixed with the air and it is atomized. A non-bleeder spray gun is one in which when you release the trigger no air comes out of the spray gun. Gravity feed vs bottom feed: With gravity feed there is a cup on top. Gravity feed is mostly used for expensive paints or finishes because all the liquid is completely used, if you finish up the contents of the cup. There is no real finish benefit between either the gravity or bottom feeding units. True HVLP spray guns using compressed air is still on the same platform for the turbine; air coming from compressor or turbine...due to the configuration of the gun. Standard HVLC spray guns are smaller and have no volume chamber for stored air.

Bill spoke about changes in the world of coatings. Changes in the manufacturers lacquers, enamels, and urethane paints have made it necessary for Apollo to reexamine these liquids and revise their coating instructions. Bill is also working with chemists to develop the perfect water based finish. It is virtually impossible to make one product perfect for both brush and spray applications. Sprayed materials need to be offered at the right viscosity with no thinning or reduction necessary. There is a misconception that the thicker the application, the more solid it is. This is simply not true.

Some questions were asked from the membership:

When do you change the nozzle and needle? When material becomes thicker or coating cannot flow out appropriately.

What about water-borne applications, will they raise the grain? Sand to 320 or 400. There will be no grain raised (mostly) for the first coat or first two coats as a fine mist curls the grain much less.

How do you adjust the gun? Open the paint flow screw one full turn to start and hold it about 4-6 inches from the surface. There should be a light film from the application.

What is the fastest way to clean the gun? With water-based, pour out remains of the liquid and rinse 2 or 3 times. Hold the spray gun upside down, open the paint flow screw wide, pull the trigger and let water flow into the tube, count to 50 once, then do it a second time

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counting to 10. Use warm water.

How heavy of a coating should be applied? 2 millimeter

Do you have more control from a non-bleeder gun then a bleeder gun? No difference.

How do I spray latex paint? Use a larger number tip. However, the spraying of latex paint is hard because of the construction of the latex paint.

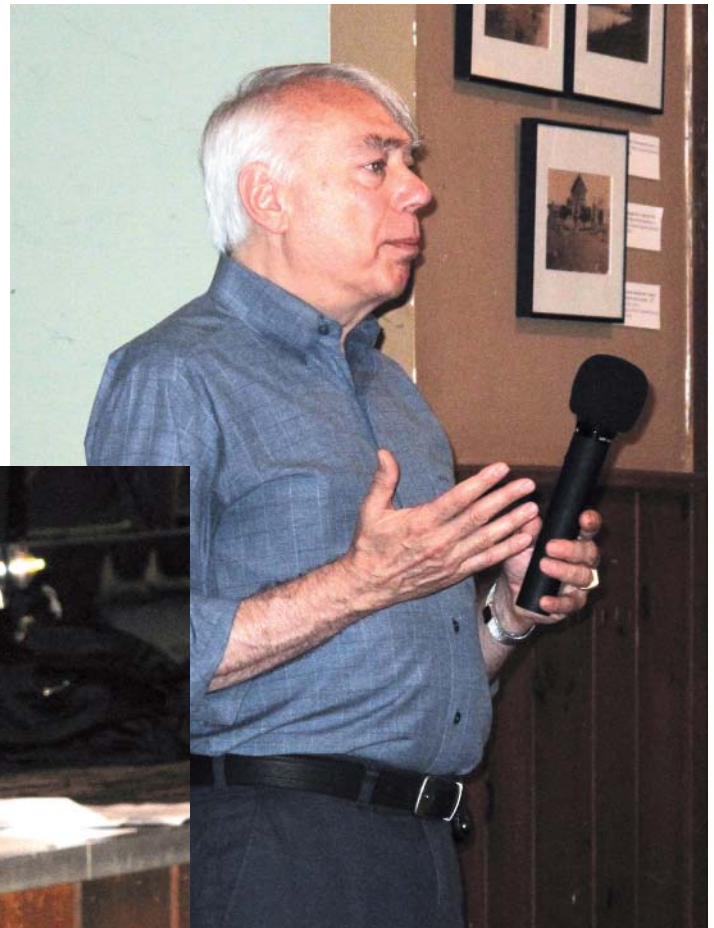


Wooden You Like to Know?

Charlie James

Should you place hand planes on their side when not working with them. Why?

This is a touchy issue. Most woodworkers have an opinion and will not change it, no matter the explanation. I had a shop teacher that made a point of placing hand planes on their sides when not in use. There are two schools of thought on this. The first is, with the Hand plane is on its side, there is no danger of the blade being damaged by accidental movement across the work bench surface. Another thought is that the Hand plane can be placed blade down. At the risk of upsetting some woodworkers that have set opinions, I think either way is fine. It can be argued that, If the Hand plane is on its side, the blade is exposed to damage by an errant tool. Also, If the Hand plane is hit accidentally the tool can fly off the bench. If the blade is flat down on the surface and the tool moves by accident, the tool has a chance of biting in to the bench top and not moving. If you have a wooden workbench why would there be a problem if the Hand plane bites into the bench? I am sure you can think of situations or accidents that can happen to argue either side. Me, I place the blade down on my workbench, most of the time!



At the August meeting:

Steve Eckers (top left);
Dennis Taddeo (above);
Bill Boxer on spraying (right)



Show Biz

Steve Blakley



The SSOW met on July 29, 2009 at the American Legion Hall at 20 Thompson Street, Kings Park, NY.

President Ed Piotrowski opened the meeting a little bit after 7 PM. A membership and Treasurers report was given and accepted. The raffle was a success. Frank Napoli brought in some carving books that he gave away via the raffle process. Thanks so much Frank!

Richard Zimmerman brought in two new chip carving



items he made. Richie used a wipe on gel stain to get the chip carved area's dark, then four coats of Fornbys tung oil as a finish. Very nice! Barry Saltsberg brought in a "Art Nouveau" chair which he made. The idea for this chair was taken from a picture Barry saw in the Museum D'Orsey (<http://members.virtual-tourist.com/m/p/m/15db7d/>) in Paris. It was made of Poplar, mortise and tenon construction with a dark mahogany stain. The reason Barry showed this piece is that he used wood carving tools to decorate different parts of the chair. Barry used his imagination on where he wanted the carvings to be. He is going to get a professional upholstered in Hicksville to make the cushion and the back. Barry also did a little demonstration on how he carved the pieces. Great job Barry! 🍷



Thanks for sharing it with us.

Melissa Bishop attended our meeting tonight. Melissa had back surgery and is temporarily using a motorized wheel chair to get around. It was nice to see her (and Sanjay) back with us!

This meeting we worked on trees with a star on top. Steve Blakley helped out and guided some of our members with this process.

Our next meeting is on August 26 and we will have open carving and hopefully finish our trees. We will also be shown how to paint them.

Come out and join us at the next meeting! 🍷





Member Profile Gary Mahew

Mike Daum

Gary Mahew has been a member of our group since October 2006, after learning about us from a local lumberyard. He has always been a do-it-yourselfer, and credits his cousin as inspiration since Gary was 10 years old. He also gained experience from his High School shop class in Jacksonville, Florida. Gary grew up in the Bronx, and moved to Miller Place with his wife and two girls in 1988.

After visiting his shop and home, it is clear he is very passionate about woodworking, and has beautified his home with many projects. His two car garage is meticulously arranged and afforded with many comforts to keep him in there - I don't have an office chair and tv in *my* shop. The tools he uses are practical, and he often finds great bargains when seeking a new addition to his tool arsenal. Most recently, he found an estate sale on Craigslist and added a Performax 16-32 drum sander for about half the retail price! Upon inspection of the contents of Gary's Snap-on metal tool cabinets, it is clear he takes great care with his hand tools, and is highly organized

His essential tools are a Craftsman Professional table saw, Ridgid planer, Jet 6" jointer. He uses dust collection from a Jet Dust Devil centrally located between these machines. The tool he spends most of his time on these days is his Jet lathe, turning segmented vessels after taking classes with member Peter Schultheiss. And Gary is now a member of the Long Island Woodturners Guild SIG. .



Gary is very personable, which would explain his career as a real estate broker mortgage broker. Since I've known him, he's always approached the membership for answers

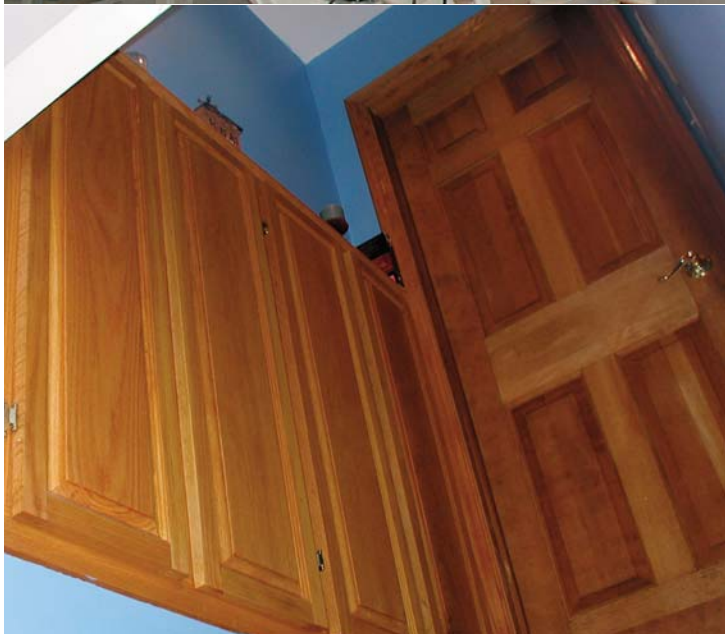




to woodworking-related questions. Yet I've always gotten the feeling that Gary knew the answers, and just wanted reassurance for what he already knew. Now that I've seen his home, I'm more convinced than ever that Gary is quite modest. His basement bathroom is adorned with beautiful cabinetry that rivals any professional shop. He also did the tile and wood trim. Other rooms in the house also boast millwork and projects that Gary built, finished, and installed. He is currently working on his new kitchen cabinetry, and has been taking great advantage of his membership in the Long Island Cabinetmakers SIG (he's a trustee) to design and build his dream kitchen from cherry.

We've seen work from Gary in our annual Show, and anticipate more great projects this year. He rarely misses meetings, and has always been an active participant when approached for assistance. I'm confident that Gary will be giving back much more than he takes from our group, and we should be proud to have him among us.





More of Gary Mahew's
work and shop





WorkSharp Follow up

Daryl Rosenblatt

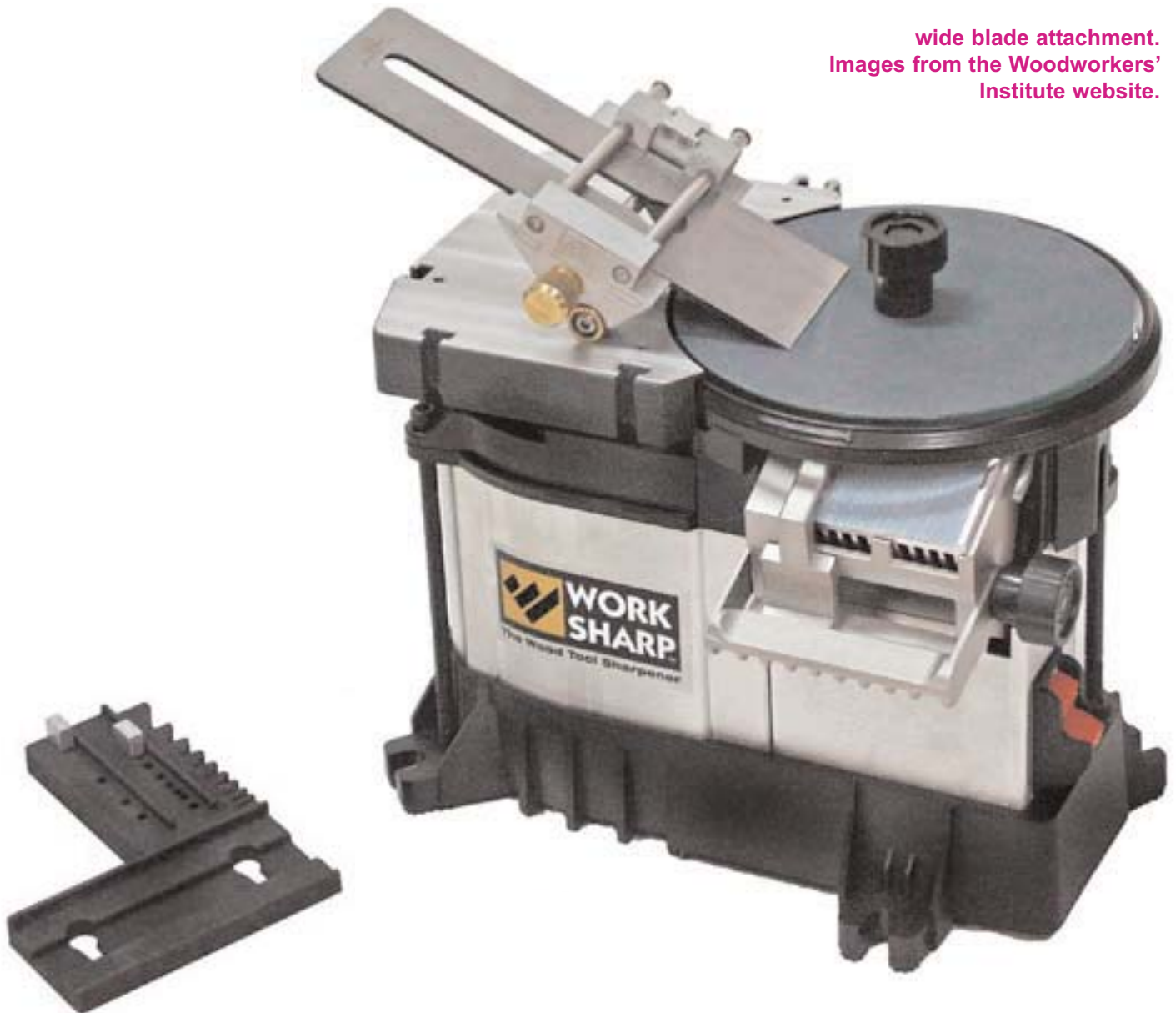
My Shapton Stones are not history; they can't be. I have 3 Japanese hand planes that can only be sharpened by hand. For the rest, I will now tell you that, whether you are a professional or a hobbyist, the WorkSharp 3000 is the way to go. By hobbyist, I mean hobbyist woodworker. If you are a hobbyist blade sharpener stick with your stones. So what finally changed me? Karl Holtey. If you don't recognize his name, they you clearly have no interest in \$12,000 hand planes. To match his planes, he also sells cryogenically treated plane

blades which can fit other planes. I have one such blade, and it sat in a drawer for several years.

That doesn't mean it simply sat there; I did take it out about every six months, resolving to finally sharpen a blade that is virtually guaranteed to dull only after several months of continuous use (there have been numerous articles about what cryogenic—deep freezing at extreme below liquid nitrogen temperatures—does to tool steel. It makes it almost impossible to dull, but that means almost impossible to sharpen). Step one with any plane blade is to lap it dead flat. Every try to abrade away steel that doesn't want to be abraded, by any means possible? So after a half hour or so, I would curse, and put the blade away.

I love coarse grit sandpaper. My Festool random orbit sander becomes a very useful wood grinder once I put on

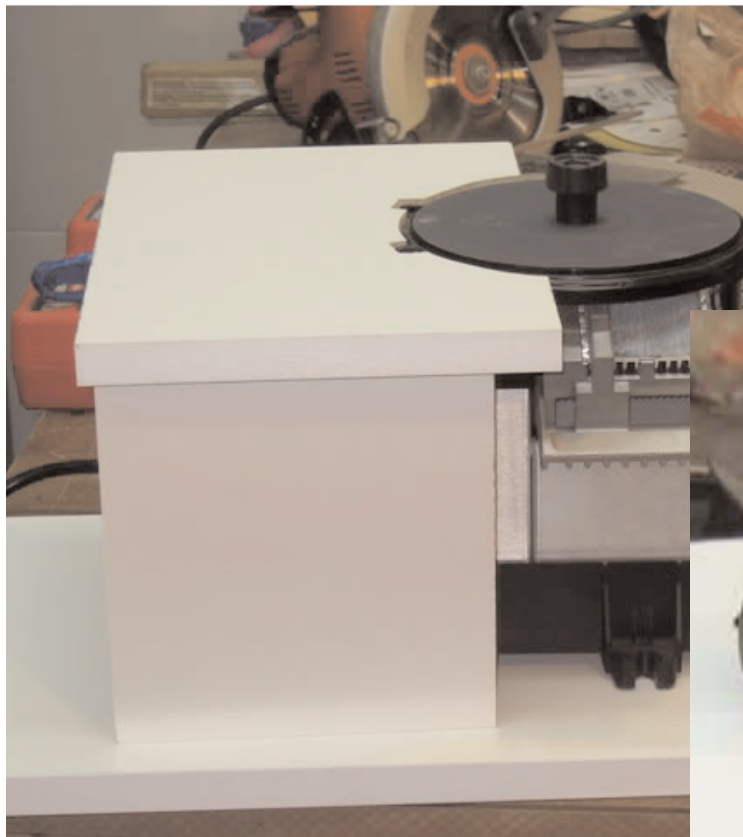
wide blade attachment.
Images from the Woodworkers'
Institute website.



the 36 or 50 grit sandpaper. The WorkSharp sells 80 grit paper (and of course, you can cut your own even coarser if need be—and I needed be). So finally, out came the Holtey blade, on went the coarse paper. Then on when the coarse paper. Then on again went the coarse paper. I needed four sheets of 50 grit (cut myself and glued on with a Glue Stick), then another four sheets of 80 grit paper. And about three sheets of every other grit. That was just for the back, to finally flatten and polish the back. Same with the bevel edge. However, the entire process took about 30 minutes, to finally produce a cutting edge that we beyond acceptable. This was made possible when WorkSharp introduced their wide blade system (you can rig your own, which I believe Joe Gill did). The upside is you can now treat an entire plane blade the same as you could with your chisels. The downside is you can only use their preset angles, which are at 20, 25 or 30 degrees (for the wide blades, more choices for narrower). Which means you have to regrind an entire bevel to fit their presets, which can mean a lot of abrading with sandpaper.

The other reason I am writing this review is that I discovered rust in my shop. This wet summer has done my planes little good. Two of my infills, A Ray Iles and a custom made Steve Knight plane both had rust on the soles, and even some on the blade. So back to work I went. The problem with both blades were the angles. Since I sharpened by hand, I didn't care if the angles were 30 or 33 degrees. However, the WorkSharp does care, so I reground the rusted edge to what was close to 30 degrees, to save on sandpaper.

The downside to the WorkSharp is the blade (like a Japanese blade) is not hollow ground, so you have to abrade an entire edge. You can use their system to introduce a microbevel, which I've personally never been a fan of. There are all sorts of add ons like a felt blade or leather strop, but I've always felt those extra gadgets are a waste of time and money, since you are using tools to cut away wood, and that extra polish really only looks good. So why is this system worth it for any woodworker? Because once you've spent the time to hone a bevel to the WorkSharp standard, rehoning is fast and clean. Much faster than any water or oil based system. And as I used to write (when I wrote lots of articles for The Woodrack) I hate sharpening. So anything that is faster or cleaner (cleanup takes time too) is what I want. To a pro time is money, to an amateur, it's time away from woodworking. So speak to Bob Urso about the unit and wide blade attachment, because it's really worth every penny.



These are photos of Joe Gill's WorkSharp jig, which I cut and pasted from our website.

The Marketplace

4/4 Spalted Beech lumber for sale. Most 9" and wider 8' long, with great figure. http://www.righteouswoods.net/Beech_European_Spalted.html is selling it for \$14.20 a board foot, I am asking \$7 a bf for quantities less than 50 bf, \$5.50 for quantities over.

Powermatic 719A Hollow Chisel Mortiser with 4 chisels and mobile base. Great condition, works like a champ. Asking \$595, about \$950 for all this new, save money and get a great tool.

Bill at wmarr@optonline.net, or 631 312 6617

Performax 25 x 2 Dual Drum Sander with Power Feed; 5 hp 220 V Leeson Motor. Machine has "low mileage"

Bob Urso (631) 724-4625 or through the club website

12" Sear's bandsaw, good condition, \$175, 14" Reliance Bandsaw, good condition \$225, 10" Ryobi Tablesaw, good condition

Charlie Morehouse (631) 271-7251

3 hp 4 bag Reliant dust collector \$275, 12" radial arm saw, rusted but runs. Free to a good home.

Willie (631) 235-0186

Laser etched photos on wood.

Contact Dave Schichtel at (516) 671-5964 or www.the-wood-shop.com

Foley Model 387 Automatic Saw Filer Complete with extra files.

Norman Picht (631) 242-9255

Routers, Sanders, Drills and more for sale,

Dennis Taddeo 631 543 2256

Fine Woodworking Magazines, issues 1-159 plus index to 120 Excellent condition \$475

Woodsmith Magazines, issues 1-143 plus index to 126

Excellent Condition \$300

Gene Kelly (631) 265-5218

L.I. School of Classical Woodcarving & Woodworking Schedule for 2007 visit;

<http://homepage.mac.com/walterc530/>

Need someone to tune a working Craftsman 10" radial arm saw for a fee

Harold Schechtel 631-539-6290

I have a live black walnut tree which is 55 inches in circumference at one ft. above the ground and extends to 25 ft. to the first branch. The tree is yours for the cutting.

Jim Ganci at 631-271-7517 in Dix Hills

Cherry 4/4 and 8/4

Quarter Sawn Red Oak 4/4 by 14" wide
Hard Maple, Curly Maple, Assorted pieces of White Oak, Ash, Lacewood, Honduras Mahogany
Basswood 4/4 and 12/4 12" Wide, Purple Heart, Sequenced matched Birch Plywood 1/4" and 3/4" Partial Sheet of 1/2 " cherry Plywood.

Craftsman bench top router table Free

Freestanding Router Table \$25.00

Common White Pine Assorted width and length Free

Chris Lee (631) 754-2456

Makita LS1013 10" Dual slide compound saw extra blade & Woodhaven .drop stop system .Mint condishion Never moved around. \$295.00

Jim Clancy 516-8228250

Bosch 1594K power planer is perfect shape, compete with case. \$90

**Daryl Rosenblatt (516)581-1843
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LONG ISLAND WOODWORKERS



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South Setauket, NY 11720