

THE Woodrack

May 2011



SPIKE CARLSEN ON HIS BOOK A SPLINTERED HISTORY OF WOOD

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THIS MONTH:**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE****SECRETARY'S NOTES****THE GALLERY****SIG NEWS & PHOTOS****SSOW****TURNERS' GUILD****LISA****LICFM****ARTICLES****AIRBRUSHING IN COLOR****SHOP VIST: COREY TIGHE****BOOK REVIEW AND THE****SPIKE CHALLENGE****HARRY ARISTODOU ON ALAN LACER****CLUB HOTLINE****(631) 656-5423****The Woodrack**

Volume 23 Number 5

Next meeting
Wednesday May 4th 7 PM
Brush Barn

Charlie James on the
art of veneering

President's Message**Mike Daum**

"Earth Day" has once again just passed, and every year I find myself assessing how I have been treating the environment. Like most of us, I separate my trash and recycle my plastic. I make an effort to buy packaging made with recycled materials. I do not litter, and often clean up after others when I can. I feel pretty good about my environmental impact, despite the lamentable dependance we all have on consumer goods and packaging.

I also assess how my vocation as a woodworker effects the earth, and it is here that I am conflicted. One would think that since we work with a natural material, we would be highly praised as being "green". After all, wood is sustainable, recyclable, and biodegradable. This truth, however, is not applicable to all facets of the woodworking industry. Only recently has the governing environmental departments started enforcing strict guidelines in the production of sheet goods and finishes; formaldehyde-free products, low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) industrial glues and finishes being examples.

If you are the average hobbyist woodworker making furniture in the northeast USA, chances are you are building projects with species native to your area. Red Oak, white oak, maple, pine, walnut, birch, cherry, and poplar are the most common. These trees are plentiful, and reforested. Aren't they? I cannot find the evidence to support this statement. And why is it that every year that I buy boards of lumber I find the growth ring count decreasing more and more? Why are the boards smaller and of lesser quality than the lumber I bought twenty years ago? It also seems I am taking more time to sort through a lumber pile to find the best pieces. Are we running out of good quality trees to make furniture? Are the lumber mills being selective about the choice of trees felled for quality, or just aiming for profitability? I am not sure of these answers. But I would like to know.

Woodturners and carvers leave the smallest environmental footprint; most projects are from green (freshly cut) wood logs - often from firewood piles or neighbor's trees. Quite admirable. Furniture makers also have the alternative to make use of reclaimed lumber, recycled shipping crates and pallets, and cut-offs from larger shops. Grasses such as bamboo are also highly popularized for their sustainability. I often use these substitutes. However, these alternatives are restrictive in their availability and selection.

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Take the Spike Challenge!!!

See Daryl's review of Spike's new book
to make some great new projects for
the November show!!! And go to the January 2009
issue of The Woodrack (available online) for the
review of that book.



Secretary's Report

Steve Blakley

The meeting opened with Mike giving a special thanks to the members who put together the Saratoga Trip, especially Joe Bottigliere and Mike Luciano. Mike also thanked Doug Plotke for arranging the dinner. He also mentioned that there was an apparent mix up in the emailed Woodrack. Even though the link appeared to be correct, some of our members were directed to last month's Woodrack. Mike sent out another link which worked correctly. Remember, the email version of the Woodrack ALWAYS contains more information than the printed copy. In this case it is 10 more pages of information!

Mike reminded everyone that name badges are required to be worn during a meeting. New (prospective) members can use a "stick on" name badge, replace it in the box and a regular name badge will appear the next meeting. Speaking of new members, last night we were joined by John of Merrick who is retired, Brian from Nesconset and George who is interested in woodworking as a hobby.

Mike introduced our 2011 Show Chairperson, Robert Coles. Robert said he volunteered because the club has given him so much since he joined that he wanted to give something back. Robert said he still has open positions for volunteers and he encourages members to seek him out during the meeting. Mike said that the time to make our projects was NOW, to get a jump on them so they will be ready for our show.

Mike reported that the Gallery at Bob Schendorf's place of business is now open and encourages all members to bring the pieces they want to sell (or donate) to Bob.

Pete Profeta reported that the donations for his friends little girl (who has cancer) were greatly appreciated and that a few of his pieces had a very nice impact on the overall outcome. He also mentioned that it would be nice to see a link on our Web site to Bob Schendorf's web site so that members and visitors could be directed to it. Pete also brought in some Fine Woodworking Magazines for anyone who wanted them.

Mike reported that the LIW has a number of items stored in the barn. If you want to borrow one of these items and remove it from the Barn, please see one of the Executive Board Members before you remove anything. He also mentioned that in October there will be a demonstration on beginning Airbrushing. Mike wanted to thank Mac Simmons for donating some of his published writings on finishing to the Woodrack for all our

members to read. He then asked for the SIG's to report on their next month's meetings. Barry Saltsberg reported that the LIC (and furniture makers) will have one of their own members, Jim Brown show hand cut dovetails and they will be unveiling their new portable work bench that Jim and other members constructed; Bob Urso reported the LIWG will be working on a subject to be determined (although later it was told to this writer that it will probably be some kind of pen work); Ed Piotrowski reported that the SSOW will be showing completed mail boxes and have open carving and Alain Tiercy reported that the LISA SIG will have a lecture from Mac Simmons on finishing.

Mike mentioned that Charlie Felsen and Ed Piotrowski have been appointed to the election committee. Speaking of Ed, he volunteered to look into the food for the June picnic.

There was some discussion during the night of the importance for woodworkers to pass down our knowledge to the future generations of woodworkers. Remember, what we don't pass down is going to die. Adam Fisher asked if anyone in attendance knew how to teach 7 and 10 year olds woodworking, to please see him. Mike wanted to acknowledge two of our members, both woodshop teachers, Ed Maloney and Mark Suesser for their contribution toward this effort. Mike also reminded everyone that we have a new head librarian, Fred Schoenfeld.

The donations were collected and interesting objects were handed out.

It was now time for our presenter of the night. Mike asked Daryl Rosenblatt to introduce our presenter for the night. Daryl introduced Spike Carlsen, who he said had written one of the most fascinating books on wood, [A Splintered History of Wood](#), that he has read in a long time. Spike said he had a multi-purpose mission to our area. He was going to participate in a "Kids for Hunger" meal event. He and his friends will spend three days packing meals to be sent to Haiti. He is also in the process of publishing a new book and after he leaves here he is going to the toilet museum in Watertown, MA. Spike mentioned that he was going to talk about excerpts from his book, "A Splintered History of Wood". The extra copies he brought sold out quickly.

This book is a fascinating collection of stories of woodworkers from around the world. Spike first got interested in wood when he was 7 years old. He wanted a Montgomery Ward telescope for Christmas. A week before Christmas, a package came that was the exact size of the telescope; on Christmas morning he opened a wooden baseball bat. This started his lifelong association to wood.

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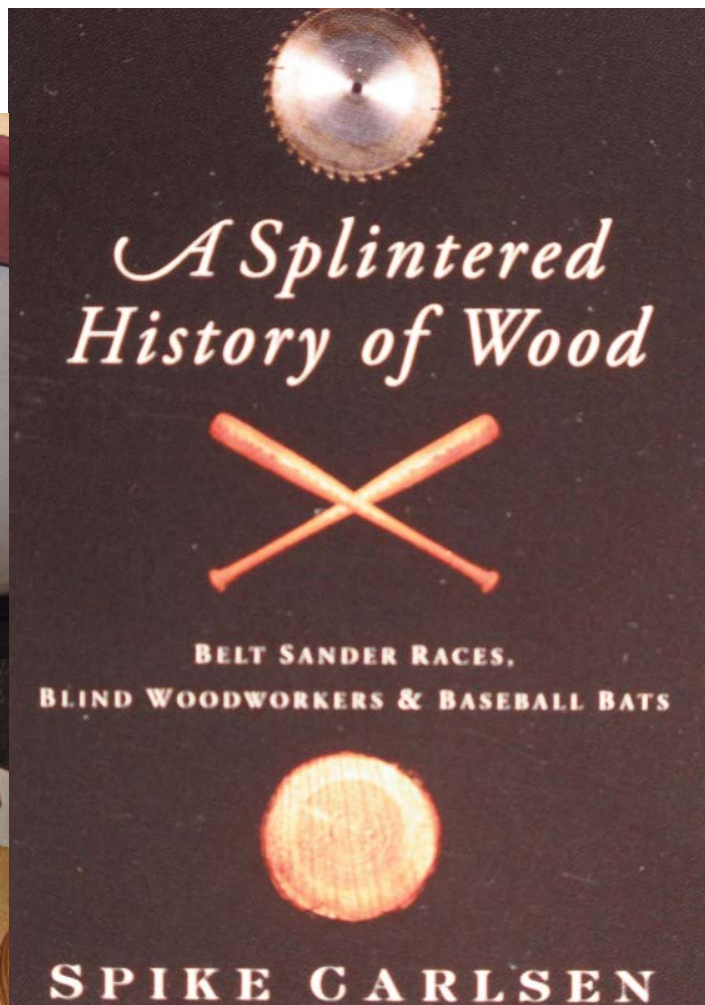
He began to think of what wood has meant to the human population and its growth. If not for wood, we would not have the bed is red evolved the way we have. There might be no trees for fire, books, furniture, paper, etc. Wood has been used to make catapults, bridges, homes, fiddles and butter churns to name a few. Spike showed a section of pipe used to transport water. He mentioned that when there was a fire when the wood pipes were in use, instead of hauling the water from the local stream to put it out, the firemen would find the wood water system, dig down and drill into it. This would supply the water needed. When they were done they would make a wooden plug to close up the hole, thus the name "fire plug". He showed a wooden hat and a big slab of "bog wood". He spoke about a ship, the Wasa, that after being built sailed out into the harbor and after firing a salute with its cannons, promptly tipped over and sunk.

The chapters of the book are done on different subjects, ships, weapons, pool cues, wood collectors, a chain saw artist, blind woodworkers, belt sander racing and the Winchester House, located in Santa Clara, California. Spike has released a new book: Ridiculously Simple Furniture Projects. (see the accompanying review in this issue)

Thanks so much Spike for a great presentation!

What about "exotic" woods? The use of this term is relevant only to the country of origin. Jatoba (Brazilian Cherry) may be exotic for us, but in South America it could as plentiful as maple is here. I love to work with "exotic" wood. Only a few years ago I learned that some species, even Mahogany, is forested overseas with little regard to environmental adversity. Should I feel guilty about choosing to utilize Wenge or Cocobolo in a project? They are, after all, listed on the Rainforest Relief endangered list. At least my favorite wood, Hawaiian Koa, is protected and responsibly harvested from naturally felled trees.

Depending on your outlook for the future of the human race, these words may or may not affect you. Some may think climate change is merely a cyclical non-event and that we will just have to adapt to the conditions. Others have no regard for future generations and make the best of what they have now with what little time they have left. I personally have concern for my children's futures (and my own) and direct them toward responsible co-existence with the earth to sustain their quality of life in the years to follow. This may prove to be an insurmountable task, and "too little, too late". But at least we're trying.





Turners' Guild

Mike Josiah

The April turners meeting was held on 4/14 and led by President Steve Fulgoni. As discussed in the last few meetings, there is a huge turning event coming up:

The National turning Symposium in Minneapolis/ST. Paul June 24th-26th 2011. This is the 25th anniversary and many old and new very talented turners will be demonstrating.

4/29 will be the last sharpening demo at Steve's house. Sometime in early May Steve will be holding logs to blank demonstrations. Bob Schendorf kindly volunteered his shop for the meeting (s).

Ed Piotrowski and Marty Platt will help Bob Urso as co Program chairmen to plan future meetings.

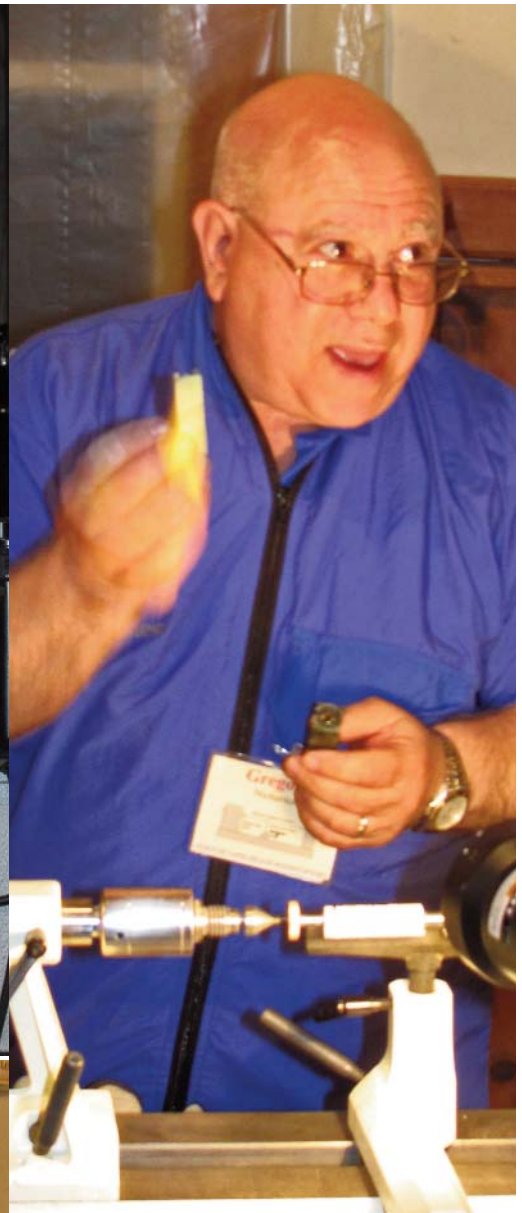
For Show and Tell tonight Marty Platt showed 2 Hollowed vessels both made from "Setauket" maple.

Tonight's meeting was on pen turning.

Jim Macallum demonstrated closed end pens, Greg Nicharico demonstrated Acrylic pens, Joe Pascucci demonstrated Normal wood pens, and Jean Piotrouski also demonstrated wood pens.

Next month is Pepper Mills. If you would like to order a kit, please contact Bob Urso







Secret Society of Woodcarvers

Steve Blakley

The March meeting of the SSOW was opened promptly at, on, or about 7:15PM by the Honorable President Ed Piotrowski. Ed encouraged all members to donate money to the club. As with most all faiths, sometimes when a member donates cash to a worthy cause they miraculously are paid back in one way or another. This happened last night as Tim Reardon received a miracle. Steve Blakley gave a membership and treasurers report.

The group project, which many of the members finished and others are still working on, is a mailbox. If you don't want to do it, you can always "free carve". Wood for the mailbox is \$3.00 and a pattern was emailed to everyone.

There was a new member tonight, Justin Venezia. Justin works in Brooklyn in a door factory making wooden doors. He also joined the LIWG and said turning is his main interest. Well, we forgive him for that.

Steve reported that Itasca Wood Products www.itasca-woodproducts.com is back on line. This is where we originally purchased our basswood. The prices seem fair and the wood has that nice Minnesota basswood quality.

There were a lot of "Show and Tell" items this month. Finished items included mailboxes by Iris and Richie Zimmerman, Matt Reardon, Steve Blakley, George Laue and John Hons; Arizona Santa Stick Santas/Wizards by Steve, Richie and John; a pair of otters (freshly out of the water) by Richie and a pair of wolves by Steve (the otters and wolves are for an ark in another carving club) and a snowman by Ed Jerman. Works in progress included a mailbox by Bob Urso; an Uncle Sam by Steve; a chipmunk by Matt; A bearded santa and a troll queen by George and a spoon by Iris. The interesting thing about the spoon that Iris showed was a notch in the spoon where it could put on the pot so spoon contents would "drip" back into the pot. Check out this website for a picture of some of the kind of spoons Iris is in the process of making: <http://www.woodspoon.com/lazyspoon.aspx>

The meeting was then opened to general carving and miscellaneous discussions.



The Gallery

Bob Schendorf



If you build it, they will come..... I think. So, I'm definitely getting slower as I get older...Wait, did Spike just say blind woodworkers??? Why do I feel like I just got knocked down to "knuckle dragger" on the woodworkers evolutionary chart?

Anyhow, at last month's meeting Pete came up with a great idea: "A Facebook page for the gallery". When I started the whole gallery and make over project, a revamped website was on my wish list. But alas, the best laid plans etc. So the Facebook page was a quick and easy solution.

So I am proud to announce "The Long Island Woodworkers Gallery at Bob Schendorf Woodworking" Facebook page is here! I know it's a long title. But by the time I figured out how to do it and I stared to type, it's all I could think of and I'm way to scared/slow to try and change it. Ok, so thinking under pressure is not a personal strength. The good news is that the Facebook software is intuitive. That means that if you go to Facebook, and in the "search" box start typing the page name, the computer should suggest the right page long before you get to type my name.

I'm sure that all this Facebook stuff is as foreign to a lot of you folks as it is to me, (it's kind of like trying to have a conversation with my wife) but with a little help it's not to bad. (She's from South America) We need people to "like" the page. I don't know exactly why, but we do. I think it helps me get into cyber Heaven when I die. (I hear it's like one eternal Star Trek convention...)

Seriously, I think it's kind of cool. On it I am listing and photographing every piece that comes in and listing it with its item number. This way we are theoretically showing to the entire world. I finally broke down and got a credit card machine so there is no reason why I could not make sales over the phone.

It of course gives the contact information and phone number, and it will even give you a map on how to get

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Airbrushing in Color

Mac Simmons

In the refinishing and restoration business, you never know what your next job is going to be. In this article I go will go back to the fifties and sixties and tells you about the well liked gold and silver bisque finishes that were very popular colors at that time, and was used on suites of bedrooms, living and dining room furniture. This trendy finish came in various shades of antique whites, tans, and blonds, and then they were shaded around the edges with gold or silver. At that time in my finishing career I was doing outside repairs, and restoring the customer's furniture right in their homes, offices, and warehouses. It was well known in the trade that many of the bisque finishes over time would oxidize turning green where the gold or silver shading was sprayed around the furniture's edges. There was other furniture that also had shading around their tops, drawers, and on the sides. In this article I discuss how to repair the bisque finishes using the airbrush, you will see by the end of this repair why airbrushing is such a valuable tool for doing all kinds of damaged restorations.

Photo # 1 shows a green oxidation on a golden bisque finish.

Take a look at photo #1, you will see a simulated green area showing the oxidation from combining a gold bronzing powder into a lacquer coating, the oxidation would appear over time. I can still remember the customers blaming the furniture manufacturers, and in turn, the manufacturers would blame the customers by claiming the oxidation (turning green) of the gildings was caused by acid from their hands, scalp and hair. It was hard not to agree with the manufacturers, as the headboards would show the green oxidation where the pillows touched the headboard, and in the area around the drawer handles. Although, it would show up in other

places where the hands and head wouldn't normally touch the furniture, but one never really knows. There were some finishers who claimed that it was from the acid in the nitrocellulose lacquers that was oxidizing the composition metal's in the bronzing powders that was used in the gilded shading. When a customer would call the store where they purchased the furniture and complained about the gold turning green, a serviceman was sent to make out a report, but no one would repair this problem in the home. The customers would have to pay to have the pieces refinished. In some cases the furniture stores would pick up the pieces and renovate it in their own repair shop, or send it out to be refinished, sometimes charging the customer and sometimes they would not.



See photo #2- shows the green oxidation being sanded off the edges.

WHAT WE HAD TO DO

To remove the green we sanded the finish down until there was no more green color showing, which meant we had to remove the finish. We now had to build it back up to the level of the rest of the finish. At that time, there were aerosols in many colors, clears, primers and sealers, but the key to these repairs was having an airbrush and a small portable compressor. I developed some base colors that were used for blending in the base color coat that I made up with some universal colorants and water clear coatings. We used the base colored toners in the airbrush rather than using the aerosols since the airbrush produced less overspray and fumes. The airbrush also worked well to build up the color coatings fairly level to the surface, but its main job was blending in the shadings of gold and silver. The final clear coats were done with the water clear aerosols to complete the job. Be sure you clean your airbrush as soon as you complete the toning and metallic shading, and then allow your final clear coats to completely dry.



See, Photo #3 – Shows the airbrush first blending in the light base bisque color and then the gold color was shaded in the edges.



See, Photo #4 – Shows the clear coat being applied to seal in the bisque and gold color to protect the finish.



See, photo #5 – shows the completed golden bisque repair after it was repaired.

The photo on the right shows how an airbrush can be used to shade in the edges of a table top or other pieces.

Like most furniture finishes the gold and silver bisque finishes will return some day, but because of the newer gold materials, and the better selection of coatings produced today they won't be turning green any more, unless you mix the wrong coating with some aged or defective bronzing powders



Mac Simmons is a freelance writer, and a 50-year veteran of the furniture finishing, refinishing and restoration trades. Mac has written many finishing articles for woodworking magazines in the USA, in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, and Germany. Mac has 2 new finishing E-Books on CD's; they can be ordered on his web site.

WWW.MACMOHAWK1@AOL.COM

YOU CAN PLACE ORDERS ON PAYPAL.



The photo shows a small portable air compressor with an airbrush and jar.



The Gallery continued from page 7

there. I can't say for sure how you bring it up, but I did it once and looked at it long enough to determine the map was correct. Then POOF! It disappeared into cyber space.

Now, those of you who have gone to the page and did not lose interest before you finished typing in the title, are probably saying, "Gee Bob, most of the pieces are yours" True. And there is a very good reason for that. We don't have enough submissions yet.

A lot of folks have expressed interest, and I guess just haven't gotten around to it yet. For those of you who don't like to be first, good news, you won't be, but we still have quite a bit of room to fill.

True story. Some one brought in a beautiful live edge bowl. Now as I have previously stated, we do get a strong late afternoon sun, and I've installed one hundred percent UV shades to protect the pieces. Well the civil servant in me didn't feel like messing with the shades for just one bowl, so I spent a few minutes every day moving that darn bowl around the shop just to keep it out of the direct sunlight. By the third day I realized how ridiculous this was and decided to stay late a couple of nights to turn some small bowls just to keep the other one company. Now I'm not a great bowl turner, but they were good enough to put out there. A couple of days later, an interior designer, who I do a lot of work for, that does a lot of high end houses came in with two of her assistants and they all fell in love with every thing we had out there. The turnings, the furniture and the scroll sawn pieces. And she wasn't just blowing smoke up my skirt (why I was wearing a skirt is another story) I respect this woman immensely, and she can be brutally honest, and she had not one bad word or critique of our collection. To me it was a strong sign that we are on the right track.

So come on all you bowl turners, you pen turners, you carvers (my sincere apologies, I don't think I've mentioned you guys enough in the past) you scroll sawyers, you cabinet makers, you chair makers you, you what ever you are! Get moving and get your pieces in here!

Hopefully by next month I will be reporting that sales are brisk. Or at least that there are sales. My business is

LISA*Jean Piotrowski*

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by president Rolf.

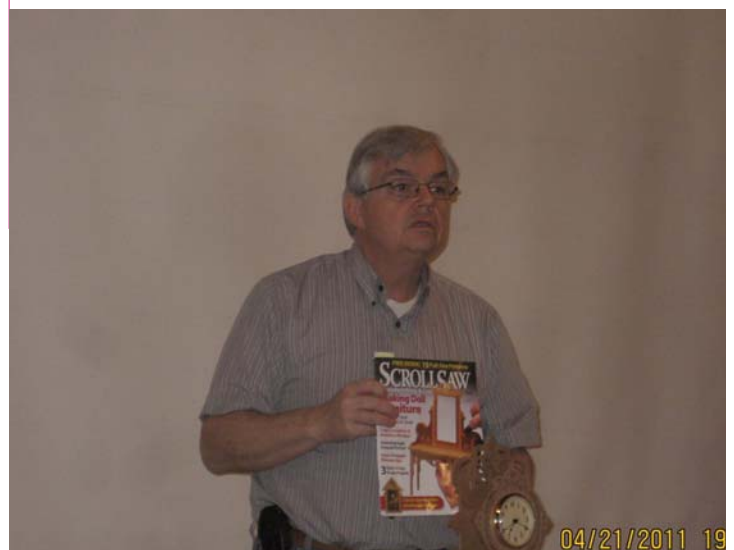
Old Business – Steve Blakely requested that the person who borrowed Issue #42 of Creative Woodworks and Crafts from the club library, please return it.

Bob Urso had some closeout items for sale – cheap.

There was no official new business.

Congratulations to Rolf on having photos of 3 pieces in the current issue of Scroll saw Woodwork and Crafts. One of the pieces, a doll vanity, was on the front cover.

Show & Tell – Alain Showed a small clock made from Zebrawood and Primavera. He will share some tips on assembling such a small piece at another meeting. John Hans showed a puzzle and a tiger face cut from a basswood, natural edge plaque purchased at Michaels. Ed O'Rourke showed some small puzzles cut using 4 x 6 photos. The puzzle pattern was from Steve Goods website. Frank Gulotta did a beautiful job on a Cross cut from Bubinga and a Dallas Cowboys Helmet cut from Oak & Baltic Birch. Joe P. brought in an older piece, a "God Bless America" plaque cut from Yellowheart. The finish was done by Mac Simmons.



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LISA from page 10

picking up, way up. And so are the businesses of a couple of guys I know in the cabinet, home improvement field. I think the time is right, and I think our little gallery is going to do well.

So I have built it.....

Post script ; since writing this we have made our first official sale. A side table . The client loved it , but thought I was a new business because of all the empty shelves! 




That takes us to tonites guest speaker, Mac Simmons, author and finishing specialist. Mac was gracious enough to come to our meeting and share his knowledge on finishing. Finishing can really enhance a piece, when done correctly. Most of us find a finish that we like, based on ease of application, and tend to stick with it. Mac explained that there are many ways to finish a piece and we should try different methods.

As scrollers, we sometimes create pieces that have small openings called fretwork. The finish can easily fill in these holes and ruin the look of the piece. Mac talked about the best way to clean the finish from the design holes to maintain the beauty of the design.

The finish that Mac focused on was Shellac. He showed two techniques for applying shellac, drybrush and wet. Drybrush uses very little shellac on the brush, and is lightly brushed in one direction. It will dry quickly and you can apply 2 – 3 coats in an hour. There is usually no need to sand between coats. He explained that shellac will yellow with age. If you don't want a yellow tinge, stick with an acrylic water-base finish.

Mac went on to discuss the different "cuts" of shellac and some methods of buffing out the finish.

Mac was a finisher before he started selling finishing products. That evolved into him writing articles about finishing for some of the popular woodworking magazines.

Thank you Mac, for teaching us some useful ways to finish. The topic for the May meeting will be puzzles. Rolf will be away at an Intarsia class and Joe Pascucci volunteered to demonstrate how he made some puzzle for his grandchildren. 





Shop Visit Corey Tighe

Mike Daum

The last shop profile I wrote featured woodworking instructors in our public school system. This profile demonstrates the importance of providing these educational opportunities to our youth for nurturing a career in the woodworking industry. One of our youngest members is Corey Tighe, who joined us in 2007 while still attending Patchogue-Medford High School. His parents would accompany him to our monthly meetings, and after meeting Corey's family it was clear that his interest in woodworking went further than the hobbyist realm.

Corey intends to become a professional woodworker, and he enrolled in his high school's woodshop production program to learn his basic skills. Showing an aptitude for building furniture, Corey became confident that he could make this a career. "I entered my first project - a bookcase in poplar - at the Show in 2008", he says. "It won a ribbon". In fact, Corey's projects at our Shows since then have garnered a lot of interest, and more ribbons.

After graduating high school in 2009, his first choice for continuing his education was SUNY Morrisville State College in upstate NY. He entered their wood product technology programs that fall, and will graduate with an associates degree this year. When he is not in school, Corey works in local cabinet shops. I have even had the pleasure of working alongside and teaching Corey some methods of work. "Some of the things I've learned from working in the shops here, I've shown my instructors (at Morrisville). And they were impressed", he proudly states. Corey intends to complete an entrepreneurship for a bachelors degree in small business management in 2013 to round out his goal of opening his own cabinet



shop. He's already got a name for his business, which I discovered on a tour of his house and basement shop.

It's a proud feeling to enter your home and see your child's craftsmanship on display. In the Tighe household, these projects are not hard to miss. Bookcases, cabinets, a coffee table - among other items - are in plain sight and tastefully integrated with existing furniture. In the upstairs hall, a built-in cabinet made by Corey faces a cabinet crafted by his grandfather. "Both of my grandfathers were influences on me to do woodworking," Corey says. "They built some nice projects, and let me use their tools". He shows me some of these tools as we explore his well-equipped shop.

The space may be small, but it is well organized and thoughtfully managed. Corey makes good use of a dust collector as well. He can connect it to his table saw, radial arm saw, jointer, planer, and virtually any tool in the shop. A virtue of a small space. I spy some writing on the wall that reads "CT Wood", and then a wood sign that reads "CT Woodwork. Watch for this name in the future; a prosperous business in the making. For encouragement, Corey displays a note on a pine board from a friend that reads "Corey- Get Wood". I'm shown a beautiful project in the works; a quartered white oak wall mounted arched frame and panel shelf unit, with coat hooks below. It is nearly completed for a customer and looking great. "I'm getting a lot of requests for work now" Corey says. "I do what I can when I'm not in school."

SUNY Morrisville is a highly regarded technical college with a large space and large machinery. Corey tells me about how he's learning about nearly every aspect of a production shop, from the lumber mill to the finishing booth. "We've even made our own stains" he says. Other highlights have been strength tests with glues, and using wood drying kilns - solar and conventional. Like many schools, other departments rely on the woodshop to create projects for their use. "We've made some cool stage





props and sets for the theater program" Corey says with pride. His knowledge in engineering plays a role in the construction as well.

I give much credit to Corey's parents for supporting him in his woodworking endeavors. They are quite proud of their son's accomplishments. I'm now reminded of how they managed to drop off Corey's table project entry last year the night before the Show - coming straight from a long trip out of town without stopping. Whew. Just in time. And sure enough, it won a ribbon the next day. 🏆





LICFM SIG

Steven Price

One new member of both the Club and our SIG was introduced - Chris Signorelli. Barry Saltsberg led the meeting and began by reminding us that the most important purpose of the monthly raffle is to raise money for our group.

SHOW AND TELL: Steve Price showed a small drill bit box of cherry, walnut and maple with a hand-cut mortise in the box top. He also showed a jig for cutting slots for keys in boxes with mitered corners. Several good suggestions were made including the use of shims and making the keys equidistant from the top and bottom of the box so that slots could be cut by simply reversing the position of the box. Frank Pace discussed the difficulty getting white paint to match existing painted surface on doors he was painting. Jim Hennefield brought in wood he had found this past summer. It was Sycamore. Ben Nawrath brought an assembly table he had made. It utilized twin-thread pipe clamps as a vise with MDF faces, had a thick plywood top and wheels at one end so that it



could be easily moved by lifting the other end. Norman Bald made shut-off paddles for his Grizzly cabinet saw. He also made a riving knife. Barry Saltsberg showed a scratch awl he had made from a steel rod purchased at Home Depot. He put a twist on the shaft and tempered the steel himself.

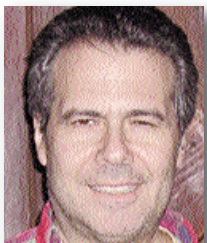
The new workbench is complete, although not yet assembled. Jim Brown's team had built the base and Matt Stern's had prepared the top. Jim assembled the parts of the leg assembly. Unfortunately the top was not there.

The presenter was Barry S. who talked and demonstrated some aspects of mortise and tenon joints. He first discussed the hollow chisel mortise attachment for drill presses. With this tool, as with dedicated mortise machines, the flat surface of the chisel must be parallel to work surfaces. The auger bit hogs out the bulk of the wood from the mortise and the chisel cuts clean corners. He brought in a prototype of the chairs he is making for his dining room. The curved slats on the chair backs had tenons which were straight and square to the original blank. It is easier to cut such tenons before cutting the curves for the back slats. For the curves he made templates for accurate repeatability.





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Book Review and The Spike Challenge

Daryl Rosenblatt

Spike Carlsen's new book, Ridiculously Simple Furniture Projects is deceptive. Upon first glance, I thought it was a beginner's book (the cover has the same "feel" as Aime Fraser's book Getting Started in Woodworking). They are aimed at different audiences though. Spike's book also has a great list of projects using standard hardware store and home supply places, but then it diverges. "Simple" is not really so. While he make the projects look easy, the assumption is you have a working knowledge of woodworking basics. Helping this book is Spike's ability to actually write well (but since you've all read is Splintered History of Wood you knew that already! Haven't read it yet? Shame!! Go read that also. It's on Rosenblatt's required book list. You can't read finish this review until you have. I have time. I'll wait). It's the January 200 issue, and here is the link, so you have no excuse:

<http://www.liwoodworkers.org/media/newsletter/LIWCNnewsletterJan09.pdf>

Usually, when you open a book like this, chapter one is a list of the tools you need, or want, or some idea of what you should get. If that's what you need, go and get Aime's book, then come back to this one. Within the four chapters of the book are projects and, even more important: Techniques. It's not a how to if you don't know how. It's a: Here is a better and easier way to do what you've probably tried in the past. And it's terrific for that.

I love this book on so many levels, I can't really describe how. It has some great things to build, and best of all, they are practical. There are few homes that won't need at least a couple of the things he's laid out for you. Look through the book, read his brief but clear set of instructions, look at the plans, study the photos, learn from his techniques, and the next thing you know, you've got in your home (or given as gifts) some really great stuff.

I can't lie to you, it's not a book for the advanced woodworker. But for those of you who now have a few power tools (a circular saw, router and drill will do you fine for much of the work here), you no longer have the excuse that you can't do more than a couple of bookshelves. Just delve into Spike's work here, and out will come great stuff. Great for your home, and even greater for your growing woodworking skills.



Take the Spike Challenge!!

For those members who don't feel their skills are up to being judged with more complex projects, you no longer have that excuse. We can get copies of Spike's new book at a bulk discount and YOU can pick any of the projects he shows. Build it, bring it to the show, and see it exhibited in a "Spike" corner. If we have enough submissions, maybe we can even have a separate "Spike ribbon!!"

38 GREAT DO-IT-YOURSELF PROJECTS



GREAT LOOKING FURNITURE ANYONE CAN BUILD



HARRY ARISTODOU ON ALAN LACER AT THE MARC ADAMS SCHOOL...

Ok...so I had a great time at the school despite getting there late Monday morning due to flight cancellations (I had booked with Southwest). Despite my love for "planar" furniture making, Alan may have succeeded in convincing me to do a turning fellowship. We learned the basics, spindle turning, bowl turning and end grain turning (turned boxes). Yes, fear not the skew! As always, the Marc Adams School took special care to make our stay as pleasant as possible.

After talking to Alan over dinner, he sounded thrilled to come to speak to our club; in fact he kept reminding me to have our club call him to set a date, as his schedule is pretty booked into the year. I think turning can add another dimension to my furniture design and will now start saving my pennies for a lathe.



2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Complete this application by clearly printing the information requested in the spaces below, and returning this form, along with your check in the amount of **\$35.00** to:

Joe Bottigliere
1238 Church Street
Bohemia, NY 11716

Checks should be made out to the **Long Island Woodworkers**

NAME: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Telephone: _____

E Mail Address: _____

Alternate Telephone: _____

Primary woodworking interest: _____

Other woodworking related interests: _____

How would you rate your skill level: _____

What would you hope to gain from the club: _____

COMMENTS, SUGESTIONS, EXPECTATIONS:

SIGS - \$25 first two; \$15 third; \$10 fourth:

CABINETMAKERS: _____

CARVERS: _____

SCROLLERS: _____

TURNERS: _____

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.

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

Laser etched photos on wood.

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

Routers, Sanders, Drills and more for sale,

Dennis Taddeo 631 543 2256

L.I. School of Classical Woodcarving & Woodworking Schedule for 2007 visit;
[http:// homepage.mac.com/walterc530/](http://homepage.mac.com/walterc530/)

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 516-822-8250

Delta Unisaw for sale (excellent condition) best offer. I recently bought a new 10" Left Tilting Unisaw and no longer need my Right Tilting Unisaw (which is in excellent condition)

Specs:

Model 34-802 10" Right Tilting Arbor Unisaw

3 HP, 230 volt, 12.4 amp Single Phase

Model 34-897 52" Unifence system

Model 34-998 Table and Shelf (extension table and Shelf for above)

Model 34-974 Deluxe Uniguard
"USA Made"

Howard Whitman
Home: 631-586-5815
Cell: 516-805-9651
Email: hwhitbross@gmail.com

16" Craftsman Scroll saw low mileage and was hardly used. Asking \$100

Ken Stoeckert 631-374-9410.

LONG ISLAND WOODWORKERS



4 Pam Court
South Setauket, NY 11720