

# THE Woodrack

---

July 2018



## LIW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>President</i>	Mike Daum
<i>Vice President</i>	Bob Urso
<i>Secretary</i>	Jim Heick
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mike Luciano
<i>Trustees</i>	Joe Pascucci
	Ed Piotrowski
<i>Membership</i>	Joe Bottigliere

<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Daryl Rosenblatt
<i>Associate Editor</i>	Michael R. Mittleman
<i>Show Chair</i>	Harry Slutser
<i>Librarian/Video Library</i>	Fred Schonenfeld
<i>Raffles</i>	Brian McKnight
	Mark Oriano
<i>Refreshments</i>	Jean Piotrowski
	Charlie Felsen
<i>Audio/Video</i>	Rich Riedel
<i>Photographer</i>	Jim Moloney

HISTORICAL  
PERSPECTIVE

ROBERT WOOD

If anyone has any other recollections of our early days, please share them. Otherwise, all we have is a (too easily inaccurate) oral history, and then things get lost. We have copies of our newsletter starting in February 1992, so anything earlier you can send would be appreciated. If you have trouble putting pen to paper, then please contact either Mike Mittleman or Daryl Rosenblatt, and we will help you.

The following is a personal history of my first exposure to the Long Island Woodworkers. I hope that doesn't sound like a disease. It was 1990 and I was at Schindler-Chance Hardwoods in Plainview. I noticed a card on display that was an invite to start a woodworking club. The card was signed by Brian Hayward with his telephone number. I called Brian to say I was interested. Brian returned my call and said we would meet at Dave Chance's hardwood store on Wed. October 24<sup>th</sup>.

## THIS MONTH:

## HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

## TURNERS' GUILD

## LISA

## LICFM

## CONSTRUCTING A KNIFE BLOCK

## HINT OF THE MONTH

I am not sure if this was the first meeting, but five of us were present including Dave Chance. Those present included Brian Hayward, Jeff Berman, a gentleman from Port Washington named Joe and myself. Dues were to be ten dollars. It was agreed that the direction of the club was cabinetry and that the membership should grow naturally, I guess word of mouth. A woodworking show was mentioned. It was to take place at Hofstra for three days starting Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting started with safety and the telling of stories about close calls, mishaps and scars. Dave related a story about cutting plywood on the table saw and the piece jammed and swung around hitting him in the ribs.

The next part of the meeting was about routers and Dave provided ways to use the router for various functions such as dados, edging et cetera. Dave recommended not putting the bit all the way to the bottom of the collet so that heat doesn't get transferred to the armature. Another reason is that the casting at the bottom is not always smooth or even. Another hint was to keep the collet threads clean.

Dave talked about jointers and told us to make sure to push the wood down on the outfeed table. It was a basic tip but to the four of us useful.

Again this was my first time attending the Long Island Woodworkers and I hope you enjoyed the story.



## The Woodrack

Volume 28 Number 7

Next meeting  
Wednesday  
August 1st, 7 PM

Round Robin

The July meeting has been cancelled because it falls on July 4th, and there is no other date available at the Barn. So our semi-Annual Round Robin will now be held at the August meeting. All members are encouraged to participate. Bring a technique, a unique tool, a demonstration, or a project. You can also bring these if you have questions. We are, after all, a club of kibitzers. The formula is 1.73 opinions given per member!!!













Swap meet at the picnic



Presenting  
the new  
club  
bench!!





## TURNER'S GUILD



## BARRY SALTSBERG

Announcements:

Past president Steve Fulgoni led the meeting in the absence of President Mike Josiah, who was at the AAW symposium in Portland, Oregon, along with several other members.

Joe Botts talked about some of the changes brought about by the new dues structure. Every member is, theoretically, a member of every SIG. Instead of having each SIG send emails to the members of that specific SIG, all emails will go to all members from a central source, presumably club president Mike Daum.

Show & Tell:

Nate Lanzilotta showed a Norfolk Island Pine bowl with a wax finish.

Raffles:

The raffles were won by Barry Saltsberg and Abdon Bolivar.

Program:

Steve Fulgoni provided the demonstration, making a “muddler,” a pestle used for crushing herbs to make mixed drinks.

A question was raised about food-safe finishes. Any drying finish is food safe once it is cured.

Steve started by turning a billet between centers. He used a cup drive made by Robust, which is similar to a safety drive made by Oneway. He used a similar device in the tail stock. Steve used a tool rest made by Robust; it has a hardened steel bar that never needs to be filed flat.

Steve located the center of each end by drawing a diagonal from each corner, then he used a spring-loaded center punch to create a dimple at the center.

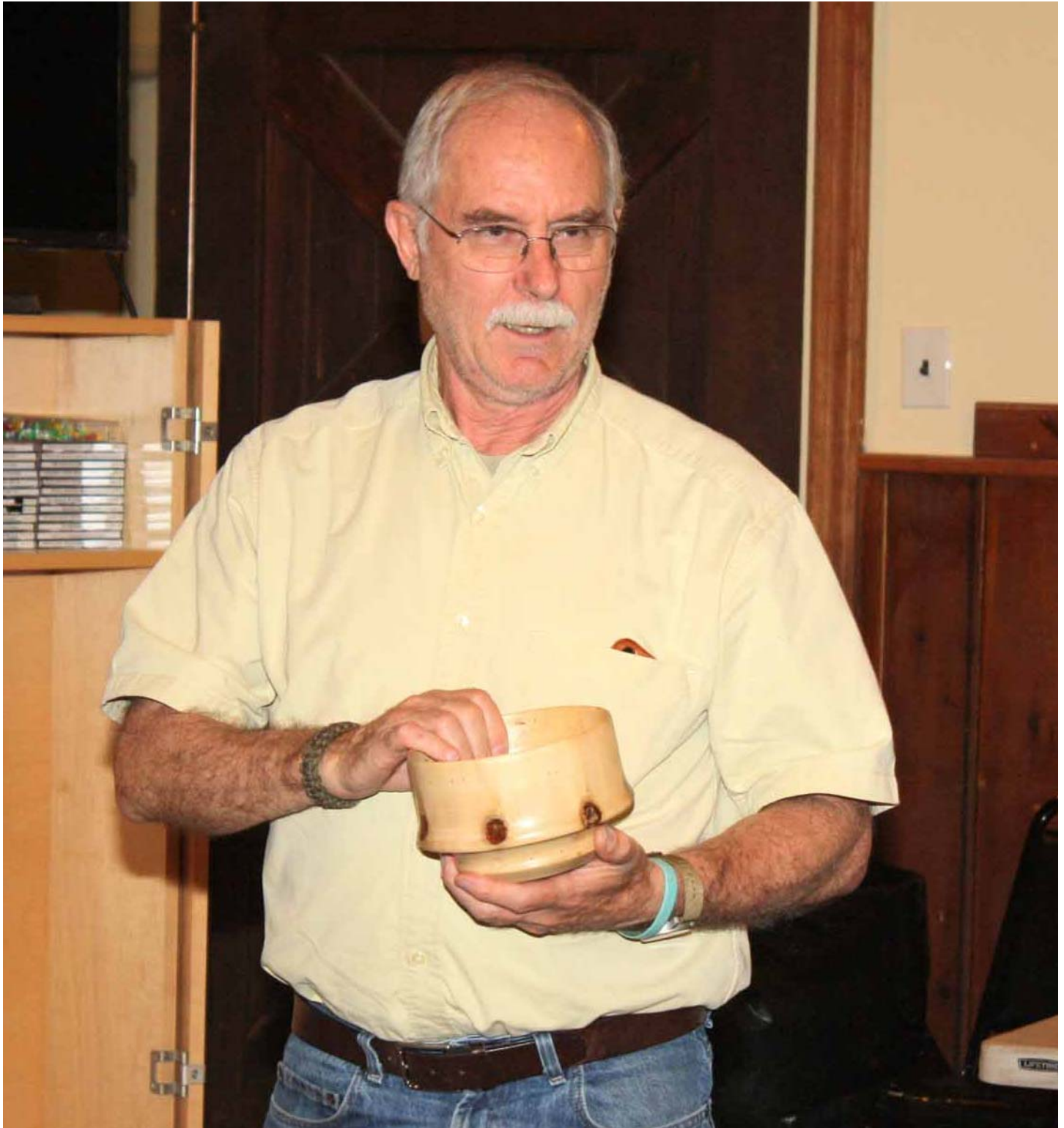
Steve used a spindle roughing gouge (SRG) for most of his demo. He noted that the correct way to sharpen an SRG is with square corners that can be used to create, for instance, a tenon. Steve's SRG was sharpened to a 40-degree bevel. He noted that the proper way to cut is “downhill,” meaning that the turner is not cutting against the grain and the cut is supported by the fibers. He noted that when roughing, one cannot rub the bevel as in most other cuts because the operator is cutting off the billet's corners. Once a cylindrical shape has been achieved, one can rub the bevel in the cuts. The woodturner should be cutting at the bottom of the arc of the SRG. When using the tool's corner, one is still at the bottom of the arc for that position. To execute a planing cut to get a smoother finish, skew the position of the gouge by holding it at an angle. Steve likened several times the similarity of an SRG to a skew chisel, which is a much more challenging tool to use.

After rounding the billet, Steve marked out the elements with a pencil, then used a thin parting tool to separate the elements. He noted that you should use the parting tool at a negative angle, i.e., with the handle higher than the tool's point. Steve switched to a smaller SRG to work between the elements, then used a spindle gouge to refine the some of the elements.

With the shaping done, Steve sanded the muddler, progressing from 120 grit to 1200 grit. He periodically wiped the piece with naphtha to clean off the sanding swarf. Between grits 150 and 220, Steve added some detail lines, which he refined between grits 400 and 600.

After sanding and applying several coats of "Bush Oil," Steve turned the waste on the ends down to a diameter that is safe to hold the piece, but allowed him to mostly finish the ends. Finally, he turned the waste down to almost nothing and sanded the nibs off. He power sanded the ends by holding a sanding pad in the headstock and holding the ends to it and then applying Bush Oil to the ends.

Thank you, Steve for filling in for Mike and for providing a most informative and interesting program. 🍷













LISA



BOB CARPENTIER

**Editor's Note: We are catching up. The Minutes for January, February, April and June are all here.**

### Minutes - Scroll Saw Meeting January 18, 2018

Rolf Beuttenmuller-President

Joe Pascucci presiding, Rolf was ill.

#### Treasurer's Report - \$427

A motion was passed to send Steve Good \$50. Steve runs the *Scrollsaw Workshop* online and sends out a new pattern every Day!

#### Discussion

I posed the idea of selecting one issue of *Scroll Saw Magazine*, and as a club, do every project in that issue. Projects would be due for September's meeting, where we will be photographed sitting at a table with our respective pieces.

We will then send the photo to the magazine accompanied by a note of thanks for supplying wood enthusiasts with challenging and beautiful projects for so many years.

The idea was accepted by the club.

Joe Pascucci suggested we set up a special table of these projects at the Nov. wood show.

We then planned a meeting geared to beginners covering many topics such as the use of the Xyron, contact paper, blue tape, Sand Flee, and many more. Also included were cutting techniques, wood selection, and where to purchase wood.

Suggested topics for future meetings included Mother's Day flowers; sanding techniques; intarsia; wood burning; Box making; and Patterns.

Future chapter challenges were discussed such as Valentine's Day; Celtic; bird houses; fret work; trivets; inlay; and compound cuts.

### Minutes - Scroll Saw Meeting February 15, 2018

LISA President - Rolf Beuttenmuller

#### Old News

- Treasurer's Report - \$50 sent to Steve Good -\$405 in account.

#### New Business

- Bus still available for Saratoga.
- Corey will be heading a group of workers to make a woodworking table.
- Purchase of a light/magnifier for club scroll saw use. The price is \$60-\$70. Voted on and passed.
- L. Nelson- Instructions on using hand tools. Event will be held on 3/9 at Urban Hardwoods

Show and Tell

- Rolf brought in a Corian trivet that he wasn't thrilled with. I thought it was great.
- Joe Pascucci brought in a piece from Scroll Saw Magazine that used 7 layers of plywood; a beautiful piece.
- Barbara Reardon also brought in an excellent piece from Scroll Saw Magazine, an air plant.
- Jack, one of our newer members, brought in some Steve Good designs: a cat and an eyeglass holder. Both pieces were excellent. Jack showed a particular talent in cutting letters, which is not easy on a scroll saw.

#### Discussion

- Since this meeting was geared to inform newcomers about scroll saw cutting, Rolf spoke about the pros and cons of 5 saws: Hawk; Hegner; Excaliber; Delta; and DeWalt. Also highly recommended was The Wood Data Base, which offers a plethora of information.
- There were explanations of 3 major types of work that we do, namely fretwork, segmentation and intarsia.
- Examples were given on how to do various cuts such as circles, veining, teardrops, and the most difficult, straight lines.

#### Presentation

- Alain Tiercy gave a presentation on proper uses of blades for specific tasks. His information comes from experience and a boatload of talent.

### Minutes - Scroll Saw Meeting April 18, 2018

Rolf Beuttenmuller - President

Preparing Mother's Day Flowers

Protocol - Abbreviated due to the prep for this meeting!

Every year at this time the club puts the finishing touches on our own special wooden flowers to be distributed to patients in nursing homes.

Each member makes several flowers from patterns we've used in the past or variations thereof. Several SIG members even make original designs every year. Some flowers had long stems, some were short, and others had no stems at all. One set of flowers was made sitting in a flower pot!

The Brush Barn was set up with long tables which were covered with tubes of paint; paint brushes; cups of water for cleaning brushes; and plenty of paper towels. We usually bring in our completed flowers and then add finishing touches of color and design at the meeting. This year was extra special because of the assistance of a girl scout troop brought in by Ed and Jean Piotrowski. The girl scouts helped in painting and putting designs on the flowers.

This year was very productive with a total of 155 flowers. We would also like to thank Ed and Jean for their tireless work and contributions which make these April meetings particularly rewarding.

Also, thanks to Richie and Iris Zimmerman for donating flowers to St. Johnland. I donated flowers to St. Catherine of Siena.

### Minutes - Scroll Saw Meeting June 21, 2018

Rolf Beuttenmuller - President

Treasurers report - \$489

#### News



- Person to represent LISA at the August round robin to be announced.
- Confirmed the raffle for the Nov. wood show will be a Christmas tree with ornaments made by our SIG. We will also set up a table with the pieces we made from the magazine project (this is the project where we make every project in a selected issue of *SCROLLSAW WOODWORKING AND CRAFTS* magazine).
- Congratulations to Joe Pascucci who is now doing test cutting for *Scrollsaw* magazine!

### Show and Tell

The chapter challenge this month was making baskets from a board, so many projects were baskets.

- Alain has done a masterful job with a fret work piece called “BIRDS OF PREY” from SS magazine. Alain used poplar, cherry and walnut.
- Mike brought in another excellent fretwork piece using aged barn wood.
- Iris showed a beautifully made basket using many stacked rings. She also had a Steve Good pattern of a bit coin, and a really beautiful whale piece which was a Judy G Roberts pattern.
- I brought in a vase which had veneer separating some of the rings, and a bowl with a flared top ring, both were Carol Rothman designs.
- Barbara had a many-layered small piece also with rings, but they were cut at a 2° angle so they would stay put pushing forward and come apart going backwards.
- Joe also brought in a beautiful basket he made for the magazine.
- Rolf also showed some baskets where the rings were wavy and offset by 7° giving it a sort of hypnotic appearance.

### Presentation

Rolf Beuttenmuller made a presentation on segmentation. Segmentation is considered a precursor to intarsia. The major difference being them is that segmentation is all cut from one piece of wood, as in a puzzle. Intarsia uses many different woods pieced together, taking into consideration the grain (busy, straight, wavy etc.) and color (light, dark, yellow, red, etc.).

Some absolutely necessary tools mentioned by Rolf included a dust collection system; scroll saw; shims (for raising pieces to give a 3d effect); 3/4” wood; thin blades; and sanders of all types.

Some of the shaping tools mentioned were the Dremel with a flexible shaft; carving bits for the Dremel; as well as carving tools such as knives, gouges and files. Also mentioned were sanding mops (small strips of sandpaper on a wheel attached to your drill press) and sandpaper for hand-sanding.

Rolf gave a multi-layered and detailed presentation.



LICFM



ROBERT WOOD

The May 8th meeting started with the introduction of a new member, Bob Burke from Fort Salonga.

A reminder for club shirt orders was also mentioned. The annual BBQ picnic is next month which will include a tool sale and swap.

Mike Mittleman's survey for the club continues to establish a topic and interest list.

Charlie Morehouse displayed a small table with two drawers constructed mostly of pine with hammered zebrawood veneer. The legs were also veneered but with oak. Charlie's main points were the application of the veneer and the finish. Charlie used hide glue, a mixture of pearls or pellets with water in a glass container which is then placed in a crock and boiled to heat the mixture. The glue is applied to both the veneer and the substrate and then a veneer hammer is used to press the material onto the substrate. Charlie finished the piece with a light coat of shellac, a seal coat, and then used a couple of layers of water-based Enduro brand polyurethane. Yes, you read correctly – a water-based finish. The item was truly a period piece complete with hand-cut dovetail drawers.

Jim Clancy had some unusual clamps that had a cam, like a U bolt, on one end to lock in the wood and a screw clamp on the other end. These are from a Brooklyn manufacturer, Tools for Woodworking.

Joe Bottigliere made a table saw blade holder, made of wood, in which the blades are held in the holder with a tee nut and the bolt positioned through the center hole. The blades are stored in a cabinet with cleats. Joe also showed an Iwasaki tenon rasp used for cleaning tenons and mortises. The tool is available from Highland Woodworkers.

Scottie McCoy mentioned and showed Beads of Courage boxes that were made by Urban Woods; it was a collaborative effort on the part of Urban and a troop of Girl Scouts who helped with assembly and decorative detail.

Frank Pace is an archer; he made an arrow holder by cutting two identical pieces shaped like a clover on the top and bottom. The two pieces were connected by PVC piping. Frank also showed a tapering jig with one side flush to the blade. Frank made a display to illustrate his method of attaching table tops to the bases with wooden clips.

Don Daily's tip of the month was a measurement aid. When adding fractional parts of an inch, use two rulers. For example, take the first measurement at 1 3/8" and then add 1 5/16". Put the second ruler edge at the 1 3/8" mark then go over 1 5/16". Go up from the 1 5/16" mark to first ruler and it should be 2 11/16".

The main topic of the meeting was used hand planes presented by Joe Bottigliere. Joe's presentation included what to look for in a used plane and how to restore it to working condition.

With a used plane rust is expected but avoid planes with craters or cracks in the casting. See if the parts move and check the blade. Is there backlash on the adjustment of the thread - how much play? Look where the blade rests, check the surface and also the two screws for the frog adjustment. Joe mentioned baked on Japanning versus cheap paint. Lee-Nielsen planes have lots of surface for the blade to rest on and two adjustment screws. Plastic handles stay away. Rosewood handles are an indication of good quality.



The next segment was restoration. First take apart the plane and soak in a solution of white vinegar and salt, the ratio is not important. Second step, flatten with a file wherever there are two contact surfaces. Clear the throat and the angle on the throat. Continue to flatten the frog which can be filed in combination with sandpaper and glass. If the frog adjustment lever is folded over steel; it is a cheap plane. Do not remove such a lever, it is riveted. Regarding the frog, adjusting it back produces a coarse cut and forward a fine cut.

A question about mouth size was responded to with the smaller the better. A wooden plane mouth widens with flattening. Jim Hennefield corrects the widening with a piece of wood or uses the plane as a scrub.

Joe then commented on the sole of the plane. Smoothing planes #3 and #4 have to be flat. The plane must be assembled to establish tension to determine if the sole is flat. To flatten the sole, Joe uses glass and puts water on the back of sandpaper so it sticks to the glass. He uses a straight edge to check the flatness of the sole. The most important sole parts to get flat are the front, the front of the mouth and the rear. Joe suggested putting magic marker on the sole to see high and low spots. If the sole is really bad, start with 80 grit sandpaper and work up to 120 and 220.

The blade was also dressed getting both sides of the blade flat. Flatten the back of the blade and also the chip breaker where it sits on the blade. On a block plane the blade bevel is up and the hold down is also the chip breaker. The breaker must be flattened since there is so little blade contact surface. Clean the mouth gently. Joe recommends the Hock brand blades for replacements.

As usual Joe's presentation was informative, useful and comprehensive.



## PUZZLE PAGE

Michael R. Mittleman

### For A Lazy Summer Day ...

1	2	3	4	5	6
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					

#### Clues

##### Across

1. Last month
7. Swirled
8. Grinned
9. Attribute
10. Puts out
11. Ace

##### Down

1. Advantages
2. Ape
3. Foil
4. Maltreat
5. Attendee
6. Most curious

9	3	5	2	7	1	8	4	6
4	6	2	5	8	9	1	7	3
7	8	1	4	6	3	5	2	9
6	7	9	3	1	2	4	8	5
2	1	4	9	5	8	6	3	7
3	5	8	7	4	6	2	9	1
1	4	6	8	9	7	3	5	2
5	9	3	1	2	4	7	6	8
8	2	7	6	3	5	9	1	4

SOLUTION TO JUNE

## CONSTRUCTING A KNIFE BLOCK



MICHAEL R. MITTLEMAN

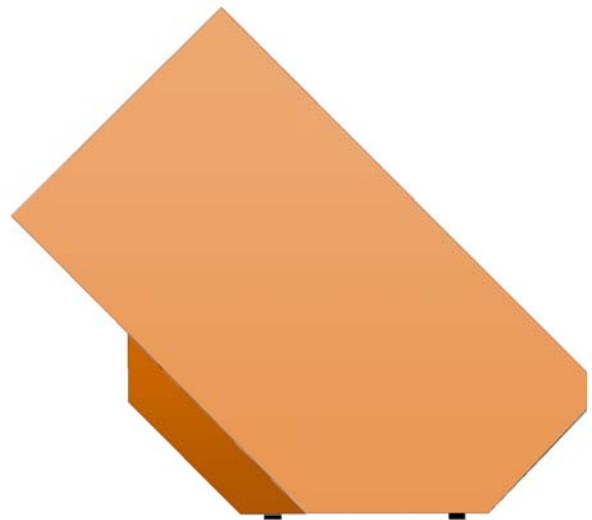
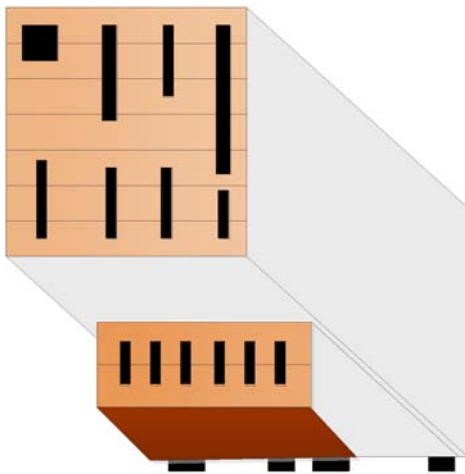
A Single Board Project: **Two Approaches to Fabricating a Knife Block**

Let me start this article with a salute to John Soltysik for donating the wood necessary to this project. As highlighted in the LIW newsletter, *The Woodrack*, John had a lot of hardwood cut-offs ranging in widths from 4" – 7" and varying lengths. Thicknesses were 4/4 to 10/4. I can attest to the great quality of the material. Thank you for your generosity, John. Also, note the past tense used to describe the cut-offs; alas, they have found new homes.

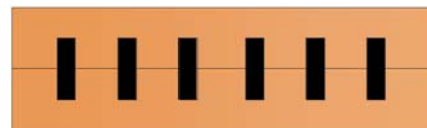
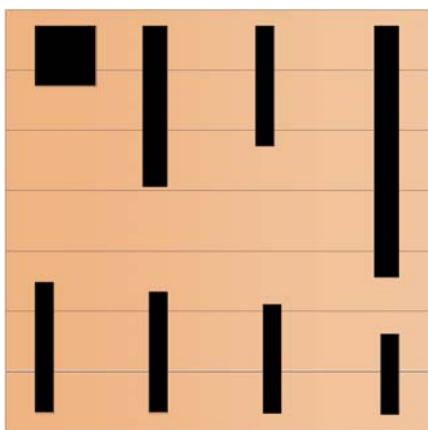
Onto the project; the knife block is essentially a table saw effort. Some basic geometry is helpful with the layout. A screwdriver, clamps, glue, sander, possibly a chisel, and the finish of your choice complete the deal. Oh yes, 4 small rubber feet are needed too.

Two approaches to building the knife block are described below. While both result in nearly identical workpieces, one requires greater table saw and gluing skill.

The secret to success here is careful layout and execution. The first step is to Identify the implements that will be stored in the block and obtain their lengths, widths and thicknesses. Next, draw the design with approximate measurements. For this project various knives, a small cleaver and a sharpening steel are in the top and a set of six steak knives are in the lower portion of the block. While many arrangements are possible, the following was selected for the top and bottom sections:

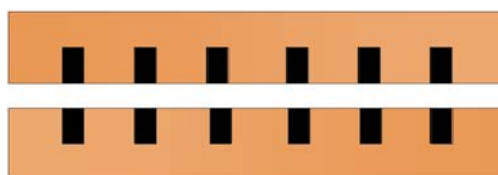




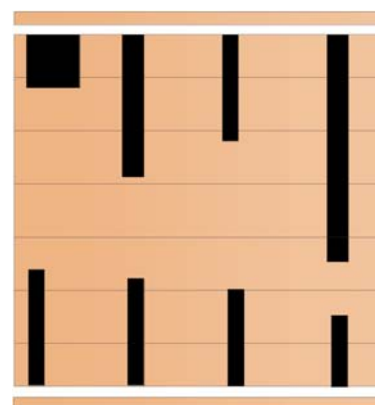
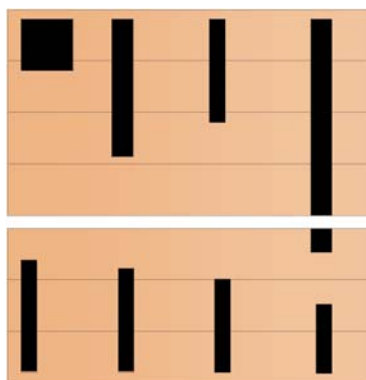


The number of boards required to build the knife block can vary, depending largely on the lumber thicknesses. However, the overall outer dimensions for the top section will be very close to 5 1/2" X 5 1/2" X 10 1/2" before final adjustments. The steak knife portion will be very close to 2" X 5" X 7" before final cutting. The "final" adjustments/cutting relates to the 45° bevel required for both the top and bottom sections. The exact measurements are provided in later drawings.

The "easier" and "more challenging" versions of this project are determined by how the knife blade slots are cut. For example, cutting perfectly aligned slots in opposing sections requires careful saw height adjustment as well as the use of a miter gauge or crosscut sled and stop blocks. Clamping and gluing the two pieces together can provide alignment adventures.

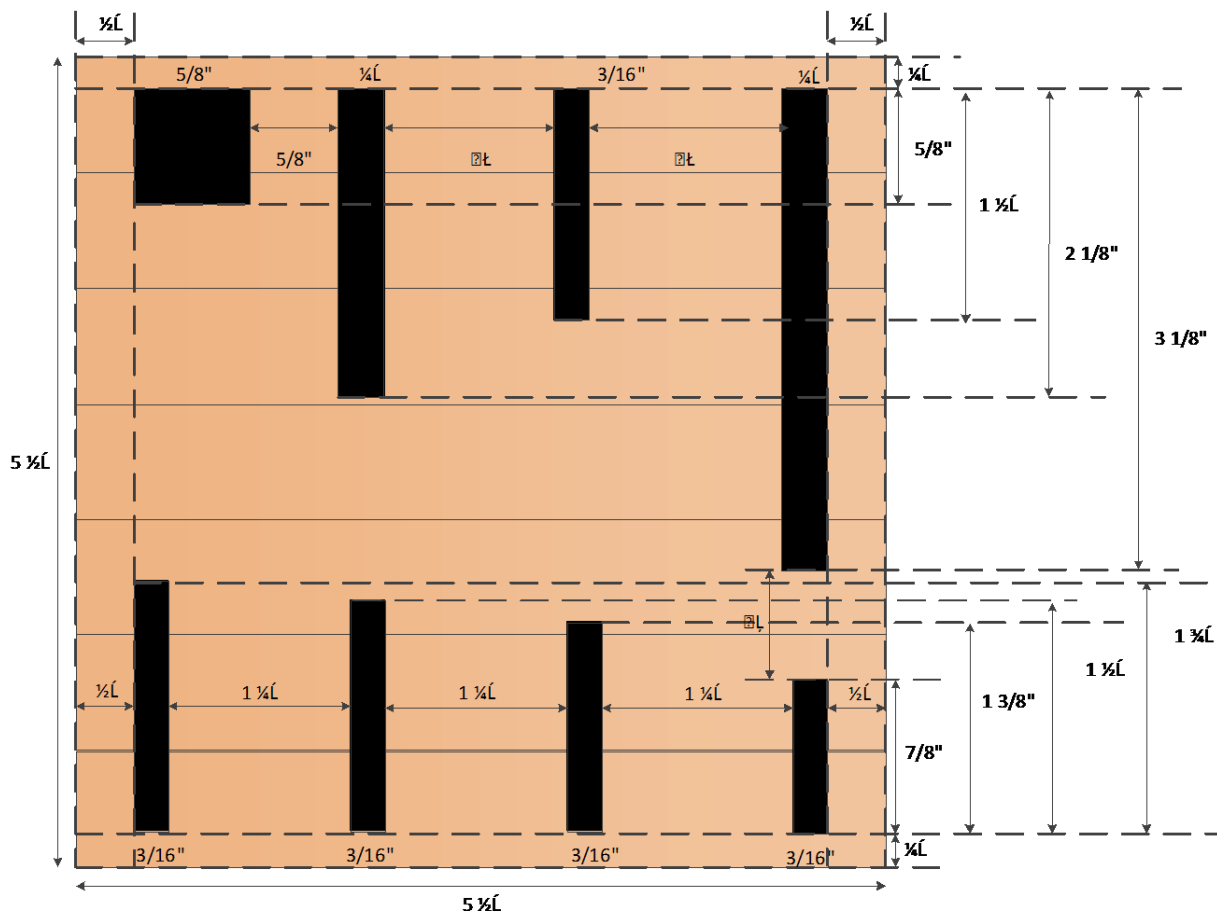


The top portion can be approached in a similar fashion. The fabricator might cut the slots by dividing the boards into two or three sections:



Both techniques require stop blocks, a miter gauge or a crosscut sled. The approach on the right assures aligned slots but means more gluing. Either solution is constrained by the maximum saw blade height which is usually about 3 1/8" for table saws using 10" blades. For this project the meat cleaver was exactly 3 1/8" in width, a stroke of good fortune. For those attempting this project, let circumstances and skills guide the approach.

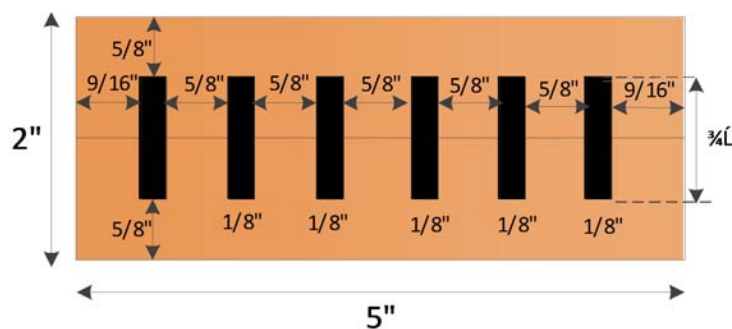
The main section of the knife block starts with the glue-up of flat boards of uniform length, width and thickness (3/4 or 4/4 boards work well). The blade slot cutting technique must be selected *before* gluing; I went with the two-section approach as shown by the left drawing above. Final measurements are given below.



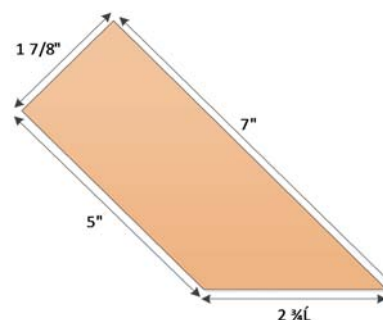
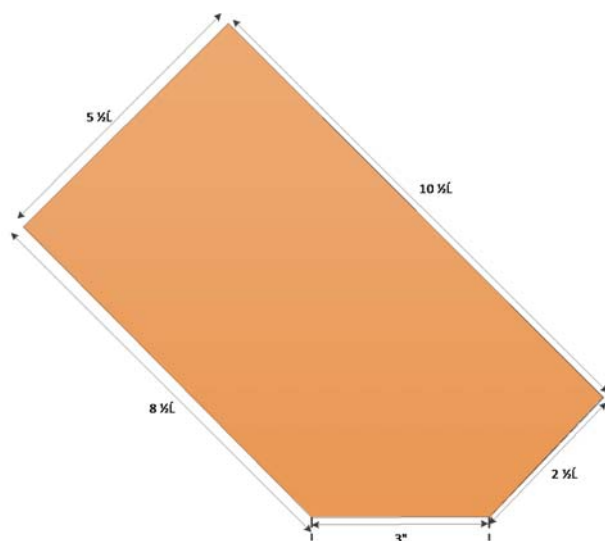
Layout must be done with care before cutting the requisite slots. My dado blade selection did not support 3/16" slots. Instead, a standard 1/8" kerf blade was used, requiring successive small adjustments to achieve the 3/16" slots. The 1/4" and 5/8" grooves were made with dado blades. If small slot misalignments are found, gentle use of a chisel will provide a means to recovery.



The steak knife section slot placements are as follows:



No mysteries here, use the two-section technique and cut the slots before gluing the sections together. The use of stop blocks and a crosscut sled are *recommended*, especially since the pieces are small. If small slot misalignments are noted, gently use a chisel to correct.



Cut the 45° bevels in the main and steak knife sections *before* gluing them together. Once again, use of a crosscut sled or miter gauge is recommended. After the bevels have been cut, carefully align and glue the two sections together.

Sand the completed knife block to at least 220 grit. Round all edges using sandpaper, routing is unnecessary. Use the finish of your choice and do not forget to install the rubber feet.









## HINT OF THE MONTH - APPLYING GLUE

Introducing a new feature, asked for by many members; a Hint of the Month.

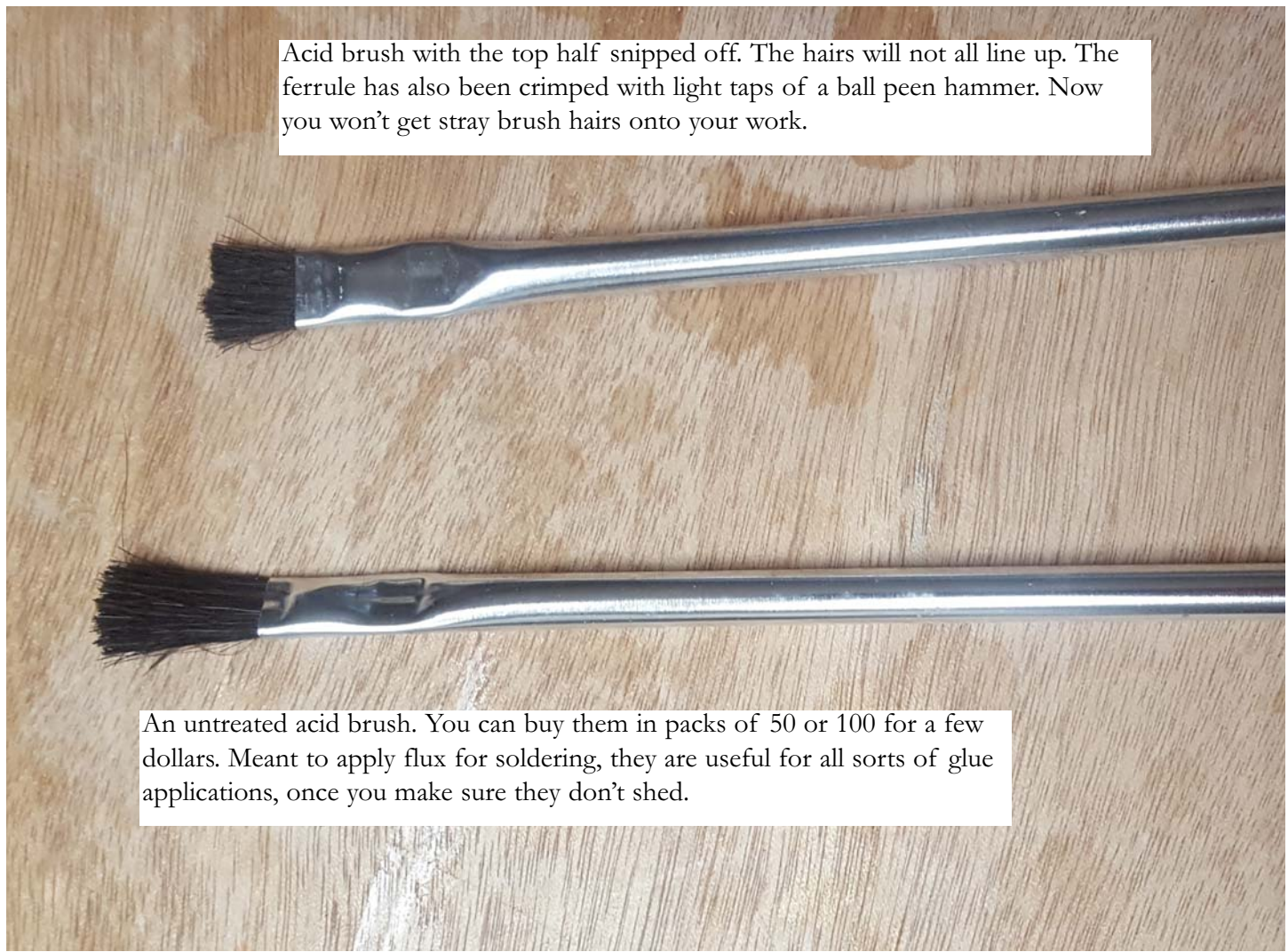
Glue brushes come in many forms, and companies try and tell you to get their really fancy and expensive glue brushes. However, there is never a need to spend a lot on something that doesn't need it. To spread almost any glue, a cheap acid brush (disposable, and sold by the dozens) and a foam roller (available with inserts at any paint supply or even...gulp....big box store or Harbor Freight, will do just fine.

Acid brushes need to be prepped so the hair doesn't come out and ruin your work. Snip the top half of the brush off with scissors...this will take several attempts. Then take the peen end of a hammer and bang in the ferrule to compact it a bit. The brush will stay intact, and will no longer leave brush hairs marring your work.

Foam rollers will spread almost any glue into the thinner layers you really need, since most people apply more than is needed. I buy them in a pack of about 10 (2 to 3" long) at a time. Just match it up with the roller you keep.

Do you have a hint to share? Do you simply have a type of hint you want someone to share with you? Simple, just email me at [darylmros@gmail.com](mailto:darylmros@gmail.com), and miraculously, that hint will appear in an upcoming Woodrack issue. Please send any photos along in JPEG form. Please do not format the article, I will take care of that.

Hint submitted by Daryl Rosenblatt (just to get the ball rolling--I have a bunch more from other members)



Acid brush with the top half snipped off. The hairs will not all line up. The ferrule has also been crimped with light taps of a ball peen hammer. Now you won't get stray brush hairs onto your work.

An untreated acid brush. You can buy them in packs of 50 or 100 for a few dollars. Meant to apply flux for soldering, they are useful for all sorts of glue applications, once you make sure they don't shed.



## The Marketplace



These tools are mint the band saw never used \$500.00

The jointer hardly used \$500.00

The table saw with Biesmeyer fence and accessories hardly used \$750.00

call Garson 516 991 5859