

Long Island Woodworkers' Club

...dedicated to the pursuit of woodworking



Next Meeting

**Program: Alan
Fitchett - Marquetry**

Nov. 16, 1994 7:30 PM

Schindler Chance Hard-
woods - The Wood Store
29 West Mall, Plainview

Many of you know Alan Fitchett for his no-nonsense approach to woodworking technique. Alan has been working in all phases of woodworking for the past 68 years, beginning his apprenticeship under a German master. In 1974, Alan shifted from non-professional to pro when he became the Director of Education Programs for Constantine's, in the Bronx. Alan has taught many classes in woodworking and is probably responsible for more than a few of the LIWC members being able and devoted woodworkers.

Alan Fitchett has exhibited, lectured and demonstrated at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Cooper Hewitt Museum (part of the Smithsonian). He has traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and Canada providing lectures and demonstrations, usually on a weekly basis. Alan has also appeared before many schools and clubs.

We are pleased to have Alan Fitchett present a topic he knows very well and has excelled at, Marquetry - the creation of artistic pictures and designs (parquetry) using wood veneers. The

availability of hundreds of veneer species and unlimited variations of grain patterns make this a wonderfully expressive medium. Marquetry is a technique that does not require extensive equipment or lots of space, only patience and attention to detail.

Coming Up

In December, we will have our annual Toys For Tots event and holiday party. Please consider that we woodworkers have a talent and gift to create things that are special and lovingly created. We want to get more feedback from the organizations that accept the gifts this year. As usual, our holiday party will be sweetened by our traditional "free raffle" where everyone bringing toys gets a ticket.

We are looking for your suggestions for organizations to receive your gift donations. We are also looking for members to help with the distribution and transportation of the toys, too. Please contact Brian Hayward.

Don't forget! The November and December meetings are on the third Wednesdays so as not to interfere with the holidays.

Prior Meeting

Roger Schroeder

From the first slide to the last, Roger Schroeder's presentation held the interest and admiration of the viewers. He started with a view of his completed Victorian-style desk. Before moving on,

Roger described the types of wood that were used - walnut for the paneling and molding, coral walnut for the decorative appliqué surfaces, and poplar for the hidden framing and drawer slides.

The walnut and coral walnut Roger bought were from New Hope Hardwoods in Pennsylvania; the poplar from Johnson Lumber in Vermont.

As he progressed in his slides and presentation, he described the operations he used along with the pitfalls. Due to his shop being in the basement, he constructed the desk in modular form, i.e., basically two pedestals, a knee-hole, the top frame, and the top surface. Since Victorian-style furniture was usually mounted on wheels, he also included cross-bracing in the pedestals for mounting and adjusting the concealed casters. The overall desk dimensions are approximately 32"x 54"x 30" high.

Roger used mortise and tenon joints extensively. To ensure really snug joints, he used the "draw-pin" method of pinning the tenons. This method varies the traditional hole through the two mortise sides and the tenon, and then a dowel is inserted. The hole in the tenon is positioned about 1/8" further up, seemingly an unworkable placement for the dowel pin to pass through. The dowel tip is tapered enough to permit the pin to be tapped in, this wedges the joint tightly together. Ordinary yellow carpenter's glue was used in all the joints.

Roger discussed some of the equipment used in making the desk parts. Very noticeably, he uses a self-made cut-off box for making critical cuts, and for repeated-length cuts.

The presentation was well photo-documented and well explained. Roger encouraged spontaneous questions, to which he responded with fully detailed answers. He offered many good pointers based on his "mistakes" and his knowledge. A lot of good information was given to club members that night.
Burt Eisenstein

(We still need reviews of the Router and Table Saw discussion groups. We need members to write short reviews of the meetings - contact Jay Seligman. There's no long-term obligation, so why not give it a try!)

Inside the Club

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Before the LIWC existed several years ago, I had yearned for a club that could help me grow as a woodworker. Then finally, one day at Dave Chance's store I saw a sign on the wall asking if anyone "out there" was interested in the same thing - a club. I called the telephone number, and there began the relationship with a wonderful gentleman and fellow woodworker, Brian Hayward. Soon after, other founding members met at Dave's store, sitting on makeshift seats, a milk crate, a stump, a few patio chairs - that grew into the Long Island Woodworkers' Club. From the wisdom of many generous and caring people, the club grew; I owe them my gratitude and respect for their contributions; I'm sure you do, too.

As the new leader of our club, I hope that we will continue to grow toward our stated purpose: sharing and exchanging knowledge, improvement of skills, and providing a forum for discussions and demonstrations. We are members of the fraternity of woodworking, and with that belief, I state my position: We are a team and we are focused on a purpose. Along the way

we enjoy the fruits of our efforts, each of us in our own way, yet we remain focused on our purpose - sharing, improving, and growing. This is our club; we do many good and commendable things. We can all influence what the club is, and it is essential that we all contribute our thoughts so that they come to bear on the way the LIWC matures.

I thank you for the opportunity to lead the Long Island Woodworkers' Club, and I seek your thoughts and counsel, always with an open mind.

Two ideas to think about:

1. I would like to see a Special Interest Group set up expressly for the *Professional Woodworker*. As envisioned, it would be a meeting forum for people that do woodworking for money to discuss things that concern them. Members with an interest in going pro or with business oriented knowledge would also be welcome.
2. I would like to see meetings extended throughout the year. The summer meetings would be Special Interest Group format.

What do you think? **Jeff Berson**

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

The New Officers and Committee Members:

President: Jeff Berson

Vice President: Brian Hayward

Treasurer & Membership Committee

Chairman: Joe Pascucci

Assistant Treasurer: _____

Secretary: Paul Cappy

Assistant Secretary: _____

Social Committee: Mike Bonchonsky

Resource Committee (Library, etc.):

Steve Luongo (Chair), Ken LeGrow

Program Committee: , Howard Whit-

man (Chair), Les Swan (Assistant

Chair), John Piccione, Mike Geller,

Brian Hayward, Tom Vati, Graham

Kelly, Jeff Berson

Newsletter Committee: Jay Seligman (Chair), Jackson Lowell (Assistant Chair), Jeff Berson

Membership Committee: _____

The committees' specific functions are:
Membership - membership applications, dues collection, and surveys. **Resources** - video tapes, books & magazines, plans, and other resources. **Program** - program calendar, program articles for the newsletter, organizing & arranging events, scheduling the discussion groups, meeting site arrangements, and correspondence with guest speakers. **Newsletter** - club program articles (review of upcoming and past), calendar (LIWC and outside events), various columns, and publishing the newsletter. **Social** - raffle; refreshments; seating, table & platform setup & takedown; any judging; and any prizes.

We are looking for all members to participate in some way, whether you belong to a committee, or lend support to a committee's activities. This is your club, a club made up of volunteers - only you can make it work. Get involved, enjoy it more!

New Meeting Day Proposed: At the October 26th meeting the idea of changing our regular meeting to the third Wednesday of the month for the whole year was presented. An informal vote was unanimously in favor of the change. If you have a reason why it is not a good idea, please let either Brian or Jeff know your thoughts, otherwise we will change.

COMMITTEE NOTES

Program Committee: Our January meeting is shaping up as one large or a few smaller discussion groups centered on different aspects of finishing. An example is using Bartley's Gel finishes. We'd like to hear your suggestions: What group themes would you like? Who could be a knowledgeable moderator for the group? Contact Howard Whitman.

Newsletter Committee: All members are invited to send letters to the editor for

publication. Let's hear what you have to say, good or not so good.

If you have any ideas for a column, monthly or only occasional, let the editor know. We welcome ideas for articles.

Material can be sent at any time. The newsletter is "put to bed" 2 1/2 weeks before the meeting, so if you want something in a particular issue, don't wait too long. Send all material to Jay Seligman, Editor - address on last page.

Resource Committee: At the October 26th meeting, Bob Eilbacher suggested that the LIWC purchase machinery setup items that could be lent out to club members for a small fee. These items would be of the type that are used only occasionally and are expensive. The Resource Committee and the Board will be meeting to discuss this further and take action.

The library is being revamped to make it more user friendly. You will be seeing and hearing more about this. If you'd like to be a participant in this revitalization, contact Steve Luongo.

Calendar

LIWC Events:

11/16/94 - Alan Fitchett presenting a program on the marquetry - Location: Schindler Chance, Plainview

12/21/94 - Holiday Party; Toys For Tots; prizes and refreshments. - Tenta-

tive Location: Chaminade High School
12/25/94 - Santa's helpers feel a warmth in their hearts knowing they've brought happiness to others.

1/19/95 - Tentative program: Discussion groups on to-be-selected aspects of finishing. Contact Howard Whitman.

Events We've Heard About:

Garrett Wade, 161 Ave. of the Americas, NYC. (1-800-221-2942) has a lecture program series @ \$15 each:

Nov. 17: Lathes & Chucks by Stuart Braunstein

Nov. 19: How to Use and Sharpen Hand Saws by Stuart Braunstein

Constantine's also has an extensive education schedule:

Nov. 19: Intermediate Routing by Sal Marino

Nov. 19: Free Demo - Porter Cable Tools by Chris Lipowski

Nov. 19 & 26: Relief Woodcarving by Steve Meltzer

Dec. 3: Specialty Finishes by Sal Marino

Dec. 3: Free Demo - Vega & Airy Tools by Steve Demonico

Dec. 10: Refinishing Furniture by Sal Marino

Jan. 21: Wood Inlay by Sal Marino

Long Island Antique Tool Collectors Association:

Meets bi-monthly at the Smithtown Barn. Next meeting Dec. 9 - Topic:

Rules & Measuring Tools. For info contact Bill Hermanek, 516/360-1216

Nov. 18-20: 20th Harvest Crafts Festival at the Nassau Coliseum

Letters From Members

Dear Woodworkers,

I wish to compliment the officers of the LIWC on an exceptionally interesting meeting on October 26, at Chaminade. The location of the meeting created an atmosphere conducive to getting together and offered good acoustics.

Jeff Berson's explanations of the workings of the Executive Board and plans for the club drew many comments from the rank and file of the members present. That exchange shows that there is much interest in the club.

When I first joined this club some time ago, I thought that most of the members were professional woodworkers and contractors. Due to this, I was somewhat in awe and almost afraid to ask questions. It was enlightening on October 26 to hear so many people from so many different fields that make up this distinguished group.

Of course, the highlight of the evening was the slide presentation and talk given by Roger Schroeder. In addition to the slides, his description of how he built that magnificent desk, and his comments and opinions on wood, tools, equipment,

Club Insignia Wear Order Form

Item	Color	Size	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Jacket				\$ 28	
Shirt				\$ 15	
Hat		N/A		\$ 10	
Patch	N/A	N/A		\$ 4	

\$

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Give or mail to: Joseph Pascucci, 6 Florence Ct., South Huntington, NY 11746

problems, etc. held the audience practically spellbound. Noticeable was the silence within the audience as they sat in rapt attention, and seemed to hang on Roger's every word.

I had never met Roger Schroeder, but having seen those slides of his work and hearing him speak at this October meeting, I feel that I have now seen perfection in woodworking.

To those that were not at that meeting, I think that they missed one terrific presentation and one heck of a great evening.

In closing, I'd like to offer congratulations to the new Board of Officers and wish them luck in all their endeavors.

As to the newsletter: "The Wood Rack" is starting to take off. Keep up the good work. Sincerely, Andrew J. Kerzner

Tips and Techniques

Roger Schroeder stressed, in his presentation, some of the following rules which he found invaluable in his construction:

1. Making detailed drawings or plans of the item which you are to build.
2. Choose the materials carefully with the end item and function of the pieces in mind.
3. Rough cut all the pieces required for the fabrication of the item you are

building. Mark them carefully, with butt points indicated. Lay out the rough cut pieces in the approximate location they would have in the finished item. In this way, if you have left pieces out, or mis-cut one, you will immediately note it.

4. When you are marking the pieces for final cutting, trimming, etc., *mark out the areas which are to be removed with cross-hatching or other indications.* As Roger so emphatically stated, "There is no worse feeling than removing the area you wanted to keep." (Such an event can be a huge setback.)

5. Generate a parts list of all pieces of wood, hardware, and finishing materials required for completing the item. Compare it to the pieces on hand and check to see that everything is accounted for.

6. Establish a work-flow continuity on your project. Even if you cannot devote a whole evening to the project, touch base with it and give some thought. If you lose contact with your project, you may lose momentum and overlook an important operation or consideration which will affect your final results.

Controlling Glue Squeeze-Out - Saw kerfs (grooves) placed in areas near the edges of some types of joints will provide a bit of space for the excess glue to ooze into before it can cause you trouble on visible surfaces. **Jeff Berson**

Scroll Saw Blade Holders - Use 1/2" PVC pipe and endcaps. The pipe comes in 10 foot lengths. Anyone want some of my leftovers? **Brian Hayward**

Glue Bottle Top Swap - *American Woodworking*, Sept./Oct. '89, pg. 10 - Replace the top of your glue bottle with a top from a liquid detergent bottle. The new top closes tight and there's no separate cap to come off and get lost. **Jay Seligman**

Drilling A Dowel - *Fine Woodworking*, Jan. '79, pg. 17 - If you have a lathe, it's easy to bore a centered hole in the end of a dowel. You can also do it on a drill press if you have a drill equal to the dowel diameter. Clamp a piece of scrap underneath the drill chuck and bore a hole sized to accept the dowel. Without disturbing the scrap & hole position, push the dowel into the hole. Change drill bits and drill the dowel. **Jay Seligman**

Organizing Sheets of Sandpaper - To keep sheets of different grit sandpaper separate and organized from coarse to fine, I use a manila accordion file. I put the grit numbers on the pocket tabs. The file folder can be easily stored on a shelf. Also, the small pieces can be stored with the full sheets. **Jay Seligman**

News, Views, & Reviews

Book Review

Measure Twice Cut Once by Jim Tolpin, published by Better Way Books, offers woodworkers simple, effective ways (with and without a ruler) to measure, scale, draw and calculate to obtain good proportions, get clean cuts, snug joints and the right fit the first time. The book also

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Name

Address

Telephone

covers tricks of the trade for fixing mistakes when the inevitable happens.

Tolpin is a woodworker and author that most of us are familiar with through his many books and magazine articles. In fact, he writes a regular column in Woodshop News and Fine Woodworking. Due to his widespread exposure, much of what he writes is repeated from his other writings. This book is no exception. I would venture to guess that few things in this book are his original ideas. Even with these shortcomings, I still highly recommend this book, since I found a handful of new and valuable tips, and best of all, Tolpin presents an orderly packaged approach to creating a wooden project from beginning to end.

This useful 118 page book has a list price of \$18.95. **Jay Seligman**

Incra Miter Pro - Having purchased a new tablesaw and finding that the miter slots did not line up with my old tablesaw, it was time to replace my well-worn crosscut box. I had become aware of the Incra Miter Pro a crosscut box described by Incra as a "sliding cross-cutting and mitering workstation, its revolutionary design eliminates all of the annoying problems associated with conventional miter gauges and crosscut boxes". The Miter Pro packs a load of features such as a 36" long fence that has adjustable stops and can be accurately pivoted for angle cuts. Based on Incra's reputation for quality products and a guarantee of zero sideplay throughout the cut, I decided to shell

out the hefty \$200.

The unit arrived completely disassembled but with a very detailed assembly and how-to-use book. From here on it went downhill. It took four hours to assemble the unit, not counting the time spent going to the hardware store for missing screws. After assembly, it was time for fine tuning so I would get the "guaranteed precision" which proved impossible to consistently achieve. That finding took four hours of trial and adjustment. Fortunately, it took only 30 minutes to disassemble and repack the unit for return.

I am now happy with my new shop-built, conventional crosscut box. This unit took less than four hours to research, design and fabricate. It is precise and cost a fraction of the Incra Miter Pro. **Jay Seligman**

VIX Bits - Accessories that have proven their value in my shop over and over again are **VIX Bits**. They are accurate bits, to be used with a portable drill, for centering a hole in a hinge plate or other piece of hardware.

Before finding VIX Bits, I would dread the final stage of a project - the mounting of the hardware. Often, one of the screws would not be centered properly and thus not be flush with the surface of the hinge. (This is usually due to the grain of the wood and the tendency of a drill to wander a bit before cutting in.) This problem has been eliminated by the self-centering feature of the VIX Bits. The bit consists of a smooth outer sleeve

with a bevel on the end and a drill bit within the sleeve. The sleeve centers itself in the screw hole of the hardware piece and the bit, guided precisely, drills the pilot hole perfectly centered in the opening. (The perpendicularity of the hole is still up to the woodworker.) Another nice feature is that the depth of the hole can be easily set.

The bits come in five sizes. They are sized according to the screw size being used. I own three different sizes: #3/#4, #5/#6, and #8-#10. Prices range between \$8 and \$10, according to size. Why all woodworkers don't own a few VIX Bits is beyond me. **Jay Seligman**

Router Dust Collection: In the new issue of Fine Woodworking #109, the "Editor's Notebook" mentioned that dust control of routers was an area of growing concern. If any of you have a novel dust control technique for a router, or can design one, Fine Woodworking wants to know about it.

Odds & Ends

LIWC Insignia Wear: At the popular request of the membership last year, The Long Island Woodworkers' Club invested a sizable amount in the creation of full-color rendering of our club logo that can be embroidered on clothing. The company that does our work is excellent and uses top quality hats, shirts, and jackets. Clothing items come in various colors and sizes; shirts and jackets can be personalized with your name, too. There are minimum quantities when we order, so be

Dues submittal form -- cut on dash line & include with payment

Payment either in cash or check - \$ 20.00

Checks should be made out to: Joe Pascucci, Treasurer

The LIWC uses a regular checking account rather than a business account which saves the club over \$250 per year and even gives us some interest income, too! Help us out by remembering to make the check out properly.

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patient. Thanks to Joe Pascucci, these finely rendered products that you will be proud to wear are available to us.. Contact Joe to place your order.

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See the special order form that is part of this newsletter.

The Scroll Saw Special Interest

Group: If there is interest, I would like to start a group that meets quarterly to explore this art form further. Contact Jeff Berson

Dues: Starting this year, dues will also be collected by mail, so don't put it off.

The newsletter will only be mailed to paid-up members starting with the December issue.

Marketplace

Bill Hermanek, 516/360-1216:

WANTED: Any old "Stanley Tool Co." planes, levels, rules, catalogs or advertising pieces...pretty much anything that happens to deal with this company is wanted.

FOR SALE: Antique & usable woodworking planes, levels, rules, scrapers, etc.

Roger Schroeder, 516/691-2095:

FOR SALE: Wood lathe, cast steel, with extension bed and separate motor; many accessories - \$250.

FOR SALE: Jointer, 4 inch, cast steel construction, with 1/2-hp motor - \$85.

FOR SALE: Scroll Saw, 16-inch Delta, like new - \$100

FOR SALE: Shop Vac, very good condition - \$25

Schindler-Chance Hardwoods, 516/756-9292:

FOR LEASE: Shop Space

FOR SALE: Freud Router Bits - 40% off all bits in stock

FOR SALE: Behlen Finishing Products - 50% off all products in stock

FOR SALE: Footprint Planes & Chisels - 30% all products in stock

Good to Know:

President: Jeff Berson,
516/775-6096

Vice President: Brian Hayward,
516/549-9096

Treasurer/Membership Chairman:
Joe Pascucci, 516/385-1877

Secretary: Paul Cappy,
516/499-3756

Resource Chairman: Steve Luongo,
516/541-2849

Program Chairman: Howard Whitman, 516/586-5815

Newsletter Chairman: Jay Seligman,
516/763-0868

Insignia Wear: Joe Pascucci,
516/385-1877

Correspondence to the Editor:

All correspondence for publication in the newsletter is due at least three weeks before the next Club meeting - in person or by mail. Send copy to the editor:

Jay Seligman
40 Capitolian Blvd.
Rockville Centre, NY 11570

Club meets September through June, on the 3rd Wed., 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

Normal meetings are at Schindler Chance Hardwoods - The Wood Store:
29 West Mall, Plainview, NY 11385
Tel. 516/756-9292

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