

The Wood Rack

Newsletter of the Long Island Woodworkers' Club

June 1996

Volume 7 Number 10

**Next Meeting -- June 5
Smithtown Barn
6:30 P.M.**

Annual Woodworking Contest and Barbecue

Urgent: We must know before June 1st how many people are coming to the barbecue. Please fill out and send in the form at the end of this newsletter, or call Howard Whitman at 586-5815.

Thanks,

LIWC Board

President's Message

Looking back on my year as President, I am very pleased with the way the club has turned around and seems to have vitality. When I started my year in September, we had 62 members. As I write this letter, we have 167 members. I have to thank Charlie Felsen for all his efforts in promoting the club in

various publications and for all the members who made subscription flyer boxes for woodworking stores and lumber yards. Let's go into next year (1996/1997) with the same interest and vigor and a better knowledge of our hobby.

Our June meeting is the last one of the year, and as in the past we'll have a barbecue catered by Father Garrett Long of Chaminade High School. The price is \$3.00 per person, and all members and their families are invited. Please fill out your form and send it in to Joe Pascucci as soon as possible.

Remember dues are due for next year, and our treasurer Joe Pascucci would appreciate it if you can send him a check for \$20.00 and not pay at the meeting. Please help Joe out with this request.

Remember elections will be done at this meeting, so if you're interested in running for an office, see Les Swan or any other member of the nominating committee before the June meeting.

This is one time of the year to see some great woodworking from our members. Our contest this year will have the biggest prizes to date. First prize is \$100.00; second is \$75.00 and third is \$50.00. There will be two

categories -- judged and non-judged. If you feel that you just want your piece looked at and not judged, please bring it down. We would like this to be the biggest and best contest ever, so bring what you can, and let's fill the barn with projects. The judging will be done after the barbecue, which should start around 6:30 PM at the barn on June 5th. Hope to see all of you there, and if you can't come, have a great summer, and we'll see you in September.

Bill Hermanek, President
360-1216

Secretary's Report

(Edited by Jim Cosgrove)

The May, 1996 meeting was held at the Brush Barn in Smithtown. Over 100 members attended, including three new members. The meeting was opened by Bill Hermanek, President, who then turned it over to Joe Pascucci, Treasurer.

Joe reported that the club has \$3424.00 in the bank and a total membership of 166.

Members interested in the two upcoming Router Workshops should sign up with Joe Pascucci as soon as possible, as classes are limited to 20 persons. Cost is \$20.00 for members and \$25.00 for non-members. Dates are May 18th for "Novices" and June 15th for "Intermediates."

October 26, 1996 is the date set for the First Annual LIWC Exhibition at the Brush Barn in Smithtown. Hours will be 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The Exhibition committee advised that there will be three live demonstrations, such as carving, turning, and scroll saw work.

The committee is looking for some promotion of this event through newspaper, radio and television. Transportation will be provided if required; also security for your display pieces will be available. Remember, this is not a contest, so bring something to display.

Show and Tell: Peter Walton brought in a beautiful Maple child's rocking chair featuring handmade mortises and tenons. Father Garrett Long exhibited a magnificent four-piece "Bishop's Staff" he made of cocobolo featuring a "windmill" insert. It looks as though a lot of hours were spent on this project. Incidentally, it was made in four pieces in order to facilitate transport.

Art Ruchunas, still thinking of things to improve tool sharpening and grinding, showed the members a neat little adapter for misting water onto a grinding wheel. It was made from an inexpensive airbrush. Art generously gave out some mineral oil for those interested.

Charlie Felsen raffled off three prizes: 1st prize -- a #3 Footprint Bench Plane

won by Bob Frederick,
2nd prize -- a featherboard won by John Keane,
3rd prize -- a 6" Quick Square won by Santo La Carrubba.

Todd Huston of the De Walt Co., who was to discuss the company's interest in a stationary sander at our meeting, could not attend due to illness. De Walt and Todd have donated to the club a DW-705 12" miter Saw to be raffled off at the June meeting.

The meeting was then turned over to guest speaker Frank Pollaro.

Bob Hall

Frank Pollaro on Veneering

(Notes taken by Bob Hall)

Frank, a furniture maker, prefers to make museum-quality reproductions from the Art Deco 1920 period.

The greatest designer of this period was Emile-Jacques Ruhlmann of Paris, France. Frank showed the members pictures of a desk veneered in Amboyna Burl and Shagreen (Stingray skin). His one man shop is located in East Orange, N.J. (approximately 6000 square feet).

50% of the items produced are free standing. He explained that 90% of antique furniture was veneered. Today he applies veneer to furniture grade plywood, MDF, and flakeboard, with MDF being first choice because of its superior stability.

Veneer is usually stored in rolls and must be flattened before use. Crotches and burls are stored in plastic and also must be flattened.

Whenever veneer has been applied and is ready for finishing, Behlen's Rock Hard Table Varnish is applied (Sand between coats.). Please refer to Frank's varnish article in *Fine Woodworking*.

Sources:

Flamingo Speciality Veneer Co. Inc. (Frank's Firm) East Orange, N.J. 201-672-7600

Dover Inlay Co., Maryland - 301-223-8620

Certainly Wood -- Buffalo, N.Y.

Vacuum Pressing Systems -- Daryl Keel - 207-725-0935

Garrett Wade -- N.Y. City

References:

Recent articles by Frank in *Fine Woodworking*, *American Woodworker* and *Woodshop News*

The Complete Manual of Wood Veneering -- William A. Lincoln, 1984, Charles Scribner and Sons Publishers
Bob Flexner's book on finishing

Tools Required:

White Glue (Elmer's)

Veneer Saw

Veneer Paper Tape

Veneer Roller

Tips:

Use raw veneer only, not paper-backed. Do not use yellow glue or contact cement when veneering.

When using a veneer press, use

Unibond 800 glue.

Flattening solution for veneer (by parts) 3-water, 2-white glue, 1 1/2-glycerin, 1- denatured alcohol.

Sharpen your saw with a fine triangular file; file straight across; cut on top of flakeboard using a piece of MDF for a straight edge. Pull towards you!!

Use veneer tape only for joining pieces, not masking tape. Veneer tape is activated with moisture and should be applied to the top of the veneer, not the

bottom. Tape cannot be pulled off. It should be sanded off with 120 grit paper on a random orbit sander.

Finishing: Add a few drops of silicone to your varnish to prevent bubbles. Use 220 dust mixed with varnish to fill in imperfections. Do not add dust to glue. For sanding the edges of veneer a 4 x 2 x 1 felt sanding block is used.

For specific questions regarding veneering call Frank at 201-748-5353.

!996 Long Island Woodworkers' Club Annual Barbecue

Wednesday, June 5, 1996, 6:30 PM
The Brush Barn, Smithtown
(Rain or Shine)

Name of Member: _____

Number in Party: _____

Amount Enclosed (\$3.00 per person): _____

Telephone Number: _____

N.B.: Please address this form to Mr. Joseph Pascucci, 6 Florence Court,
South Huntington, N.Y. 11746-7404.

**The Long Island Woodworkers' Club
c/o Jim Cosgrove
3570 Manchester Road
Wantagh, New York 11793-3011**

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