

# *The Wood Rack*

**April, 1999**

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## **Next Meeting**

Next Meeting - Wed., April 7

Brush Barn - 7:30 PM

Mario Rodriguez will be the featured speaker. His topic is "Soup-up Your Dovetail Saw," as featured in Fine Woodworking, Issue #121, Nov./Dec., 1996. Mario is a frequent contributor to the magazine and has operated his own school and workshop in upstate N.Y. His specialty is hand tools and reproduction work, and he is currently an instructor at the Fashion Institute of Technology in N.Y.C. Members who have been in the club for a few years will remember an excellent presentation he gave on Windsor Chairs.

## **President's Message**

As I write this the holidays are fast approaching. I'd like to wish everyone a Happy Easter and Passover. I know some of us will be traveling to visit family and friends. Enjoy!!!

I'd like to thank Rob Hall and Bob Hall for taking care of the tee shirts. The shirts are \$10.00 each and will be available at the next meeting. Get yours before they run out. I don't know who brought in the pretzels and bagel chips to share with us, but I want to say thank you.

I hope everyone enjoyed last month's speaker. I know I did, and I was sorry that I had to leave early. It's been a long time since our April guest speaker, Mario Rodriguez, has spoken to the club. He will be returning soon afterwards for a Saturday seminar.

The exhibition committees are in full swing. It's not too late to get involved. Please, we need your help. This is a club effort.  
-- Charlie Felsen

### **Secretary's Report**

Club President Charlie Felsen opened up the meeting promptly at 7:30 PM. He asked the members who had taken the patterns from the Sisters of the Poor and made the cutouts to pass them on to other members. Reverend Long was at the meeting. It is the Reverend Long's group of young people who always helps us out during our annual picnic, which is really appreciated by all of us. The Name Tag Contest winners were as follows: First Prize, Alain Tiercy; Second Prize, Rich Weil; and Third Prize, Chuck Papirtis. There were green tee shirts with the club logo on sale.

Expo committee members explained how the various aspects of the show were coming along, such as the tool sale, the need for exhibitors, the entrance fee, and so on.

In the raffle Richard Hickey won clamps; Chuck Bookbinder, blocks; and Owen Brady the veneer.

The speaker was Doug Kenny, a member of the International Wood Collectors Society, who has been featured in Fine Woodworking with his 1/28 scale model of a steam-powered locomotive and several cars. The model was made using the actual drawing used to make the train itself. Aside from the train, Mr. Kenny had several sundials and a host of other artistic forms made in wood that he demonstrates during his many shows which take him nationwide. Mr. Kenny doesn't claim to be a woodworker but an artist who uses wood as

his medium.

In any case, Mr. Kenny never stopped moving or talking. What made this amazing was his age! He was no youngster, but the way he climbed up and down that stage was another show in itself. He spoke until 9:30 PM, and then he made himself available to the members after the meeting. To top this, he was going to pack his belongings and head to Virginia that very evening. All in all, it was an informative evening, and a chance to see some excellent woodworking.

Speaking of fine woodworking, at the Show-and-Tell Father Garrett Long brought in a beautifully carved piece with a sea shell and some turned shafts. In general, Show-and-Tell has been going very well. I think volunteers should not hesitate to come forward and to spend time explaining their projects and how they made them.

-- Gabe Jaen

### **Welcome, New Members!**

The LIWC wishes to welcome the following new members who joined in 1999: Greg Davis, Vincent De Martino, Warren Kent, Kenneth LoFink, Bob Sniffen, John Wagner, and Victor Werny.

-- Frank Gaizo

### **Notes from the Program Committee**

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

April 24: Full-day seminar at the Barn. Speaker will be Mario Rodriguez, and his topic/project will be a Queen Anne Mirror as described in his book Traditional Woodworking. See Steve Costello (427-8070) to sign up. \$35.00 for members; \$50.00 for non members. As usual, lunch is included.

May 5: Constantine's will be on hand and will be accompanied by a representative from Fisch Tools. They are the developers of the new Vortex brad point bits. Constantine's Glenn Docherty will be on hand to familiarize members with their operation. L.I.W.C. friend Sal Marino will most likely join them.

May 8: Annual LIWC Exhibition. Please refer to separate article.

June 2: Annual Picnic. Again Father Long has agreed to be our "caterer" for the day. Let's show him our thanks by cutting out the patterns he supplied at the last meeting.

-- Bob Urso

### **LIWC Annual Exhibition**

Everyone on the Exhibition committee is working hard to make this the best show yet and to set the stage for a much-anticipated annual event. The location this year is SPORTS PLUS in Lake Grove, a family recreation and event center. The entrance is on Route 347, just east of Smithaven Mall. The event center has a separate ground level entrance, is carpeted and well lit. We encourage members to come out and spend the day. There is plenty for the family to do at the complex or close by, so bring family and friends. Admission will be \$2.00 (free to children under 12 accompanied by adults). Free admission coupons for members will be in next month's newsletter.

Member involvement and participation is vital to our success, especially this year. We need members to spread the word any way they can. Fliers will be available at the next meeting; please distribute them where you can. We will be advertising in appropriate sections of Newsday and local newspapers. Any help members can give us with advertising will be appreciated. Contact Owen Brady, who is heading the advertising effort.

Steve Costello will be responsible for the tool garage sale which is a new section this year. Contact Steve if you have something to sell or if you would like to help. Some examples of items offered for sale are Leigh dovetail jig, HVLP compressor, router table, hand tools, etc. Come to the sale to find out who is selling these choice items.

### **Commercial vendors signed up include**

Apollo Sprayer: represented by Bill Boxer (He did the HVLP presentation at our Nov. meeting.)

Cambium Press: Woodworking publications featuring the Ian Kirby books. Ian has agreed to demonstrate to help promote our event.

Constantine's: Woodworking tools and supplies. Members will be able to tell Glenn at the meeting what they would like to see him bring to the exhibition. It is like bringing the catalog to life. In addition Glenn has agreed to list our event on the Constantine's website. Wesley Tools: Manufacturer of industrial grade router bits.  
Wood Ply: Exotic and domestic woods, including turning and carving blanks.

The members' exhibit has filled out nicely. We have limited room available, and we will take no new exhibitors after the April meeting. Brian Monks is in charge of members' exhibits. It is extremely important that members who sign up to exhibit show up. We have had no-shows at past exhibits, and nothing looks worse at a show than an empty space. We are charging admission this year, and we would like all exhibits to stay in place till the show closes. Committee members will be contacting exhibitors shortly before the event to go over any display requirements. Please think about how your item would be best displayed and the amount of space required. Anyone having trouble transporting items should contact us.

## **ACTIVITIES PLANNED**

Raffle: Hourly raffle of items donated by club members and vendors. If we can work out the details and have enough help, we will consider a paid raffle also.

Display of Members' Name Tags: Please let us know if you are bringing tags to the show so that we know how much space to allow.

Demos: Non-stop demos are planned. Ian Kirby has agreed to exhibit his skills all day. Both John Hons and Alain Tiercy will be scrollsawing. I myself and others will be working on the mini-lathe, and Brian Monks will have a router table. We will use some of the small items we produce as handouts or additional raffle prizes.

Tool Garage Sale: Buying and selling of surplus woodworking and related tools. We expect this event to be a big draw. Please contact Steve Costello if you have something to sell or if you would like to help out. Steve and his group will be contacting members shortly about this.

Once again, let's all work together to make this year's show a success. Many commercial vendors have expressed interest in joining us next year, but this will happen only if this year is successful.

-- Bob Urso (724-4625)

## **Miscellaneous**

### **BLOXYGEN**

How frequently have you been forced to discard previously opened cans of varnish and other oil based products, such as wood putty etc., because a skin had formed over them or they had hardened? There is now a product called Bloxygen, which allows you simply to blow oxygen out of the container and then seal the lid of the container. Price is \$8.95 a can. See the review in WOOD, Aug., 1998.

Doug Kenny, our speaker last month, said that you can also use dry ice or even blow into the can.

### **IAN KIRBY**

Ian Kirby now has his own facility and is running hands-on weekend and week-long workshops. Here is the list of upcoming programs.

Week-Long Summer Intensives:

BUILDING A WORK BENCH: June 14-18

BASIC WOODWORKING: July 12-16

MAKING JOINTS IN SOLID WOOD: July 26-30

USING MACHINES AND BUILDING JIGS: Aug. 9-13

Weekend Workshops:

TABLE SAW TECHNIQUES: June 26-27

ROUTER ESSENTIALS: July 17-18

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF HAND PLANES:

Aug 21-22

Weekend Workshops - \$175. Week-long Workshops - \$500. For more information and details, call (203) 847-9663.

--Brian Hayward