

The Wood Rack

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Next Meeting

Next Meeting - Wed., December 1

Brush Barn - 7:30 PM

FEATURING: Annual "Toys For Tots" holiday get together.

President's Message

I hope everyone enjoyed our last meeting. It sure is nice to see club members doing a presentation. Hopefully, we can have more activities like this in the future.

I'd like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday. Remember, this is our Toys for Tots meeting/get-together. We will also have nominations.

I must congratulate our Board for an outstanding job, tremendous commitment, fantastic dedication, and - above all else - excellent team work. I wish that this board could stay intact forever, but I know that this is not possible. I will not be running for re-election. I urge all interested parties to make their decision, commit themselves and run for a position. The LIWC needs dedicated volunteers to help steer us into the year 2000. With your help, the guidance of seasoned members, and the imagination and creativity of new members, the LIWC will be as successful in the future as it has been in the past.

-- Charlie Felsen

Secretary's Report

The November meeting started promptly at 7:30, after a five minute warning from club President Charlie Felsen. the first order of business was the call for new members. New member Joe Howard found out about the club from a friend. His interest in woodworking is at the hobby level.

Charlie spoke to all the members in attendance about the poor showing at the Sal Marino seminar on sharpening. Only five or six members showed up. Those who did attend came back with a wealth of information.

Charlie James went back home, loaded with information from the seminar, and he went right to work on sharpening his planes and chisels. Lo and behold, a hand plane and chisels that really cut wood like butter. I know because he demonstrated them during the altar construction.

Toys for Tots: Jim Clancy was there again with patterns and suggestions for toys that can be made for the December meeting. So let's turn out, folks, and make a good showing.

Comments from the Members: Charlie James touted the book "The Hand Plane Book" by Garrett Hack. Ken Lofink mentioned that Kirkup lumber in Bay Shore will give a 10 percent discount to all card-carrying members. Also, Bob Urso mentioned that Suffolk Machinery in Patchogue will make up some excellent bandsaw blades to your size requirements and give a quantity discount. A few guys could get together and put in an order and end up with some quality blades from a local supplier.

Woodworkers Show in Fort Washington: Car pooling lists were being distributed for those interested in attending. It's a trip worth taking.

Woodcarving: The Long Island Wildlife Woodcarving Academy, located in Lindenhurst, is holding limited size classes in carving. Those interested should call (516) 225-1666 and ask for Mr. Walter Connolly.

Woodworkers Club Inc.: This organization in Norwalk, CT, is giving a seminar on Dec. 12 1999. The cost is \$85, which will include lunch. Our club charges only \$35 a seminar. This organization is a commercial operation that sells supplies and tools and provides a fully equipped shop within their facility which can be used by anyone for a fee. Some of these Woodworkers Club Inc. organizations allow woodworker clubs to meet at their facilities.

Exposition: There was a call for volunteers from the membership to help with the show, which will run for two days. Vendor sign-ups have been good. Club members can bring in their craft items or furniture to sell, but you must man your booth. A fee of 10 percent of sales is your cost for the space. See Bob Urso for details. Gene Kelly and Owen Brady are in charge of publicity. there will be preprinted pads giving details of the exhibition which will be handed out during the December meeting. Members are urged to drop these pads off at their hardware store, lumber yard, or the tool suppliers they deal with. We need some inexpensive advertising, which means you.

Show and Tell: John Hons showed the members his latest scroll saw project. Part of his project was some very fine lettering which he had problems sanding. He solved the problem by reinserting the lettering in the material he cut it out of. Nice trick.

Raffle Winners: Steve Costello picked an 800 grit sharpening stone, Bill Coveny a 1200 grit, and Bub Urso what was left.

Presentations: There was a presentation by Jamie Niblett of DeWalt on their new table saw. He answered as many questions as he could, not having seen the saw, but we'll get the chance if we go to the Smithtown Sheraton on Nov. 16, at 7 p.m.

There was also a presentation by Charlie James on the right side of his entertainment cabinet. It is made of Cherry with a novel corner shelf and a secret compartment. Nice job, Charlie.

We need more of these presentations from the membership which go into some detail as to how we went about designing and constructing the project.

'Little Flower' Alter: Last but not least, four guys got up and talked about the altar they made for the celebration mass for St. Therese of Lisieux, the "Little Flower". It was fun sharing, and making sawdust, but the emotion we - Owen Brady, Steve Costello, Charlie James and I - felt, which we did not express to the membership, was that feeling of having contributed a labor of love and devotion. On the serious side, we rarely get the opportunity to make something that will be used by thousands during a solemn ritual, be it religious or patriotic. It kind of makes you say, "Wow!"

-- Gabe Jaen

Woodworkers' Restaurant Review

One recent Friday night the woodworkers involved in building the table for the St. Therese relics got together with their wives for dinner. It was a job well done, and we had to celebrate. We met at Abel Conklin's Steakhouse in Huntington. It's a very warm, homey atmosphere. I believe it was a home way back when.

The bread basket was varied and never empty. They have a wide variety of appetizers. They have many varieties of steaks and meats - all done to perfection. Surprisingly, they also have quite a few fish choices, and these are excellent as well. Great food, great conversation, great company (even after-dinner mints). What more can you ask for? Nice choice, Owen. Thanks.

I have to give this restaurant the most flannels it can get: 5 flannels.

- Charlie James

Notes from the Program Committee

I am writing this the day after DeWALT hosted an introduction to their new tablesaw. They provided refreshments, and most attendees left with their choice of a 40 tooth carbide saw blade or a DeWALT sweatshirt. Due to the large turnout, some members

received rain checks. DeWALT has done its homework as usual, and the saw seems to be a good value for the money. It was nice previewing a product that most retailers have not seen yet. We were reacquainted with many old friends from DeWALT. My thanks to Jamie Niblett and John Weetenkamp for allowing us to participate. These kinds of events are especially nice, as they do not interfere with our regular meetings, and we hope to be invited to future events.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Dec. 1** Annual Toys-For-Tots and Holiday Party Meeting. jim Clancy has done an outstanding job as usual organizing this annual event. Now it's up to us to contribute to this worthy cause.
- Jan. 5** Hands-on Meeting. Members will be demonstrating tools and techniques at this meeting. Members wishing to demonstrate should please contact Bob Urso. So far we have hand tools, a lathe and possibly a band saw.
- February & March** We are trying to get Hegner scroll saws for one meeting and Aime Fraser (writer and instructor) for another.
- April** Jack Gary, senior member of Stickley Furniture Sample Shop, will be doing a slide show at the meeting and a follow-up seminar on April 8, at the barn. Details will be provided as they become available.
- June 3 & 4** Fifth Annual show and Exhibition. Plans are moving along well. We need you to sign up for various programs as soon as possible. Committee members were busy talking to prospective vendors at the recent show in Pennsylvania. As I write this we have added two new vendors, Ridge Carbide and Matlin.

A representative of the New York Carousel contacted me, looking for volunteers to work on displays for the carousel's new home. I will have more information on this at a later date.

-- Bob Urso

Are You Interested in a Frank Pollaro Veneering Workshop?

Frank Pollaro is probably the foremost veneer expert in the country. His work appears frequently in the pages of Fine Woodworking magazine. When some of us attended one of his workshops several years ago he spent the whole weekend building a sunburst table top and explaining every detail. this is the way to learn! When we left we had the knowledge to build a top ourselves. We have contacted him, and he is willing to give another workshop.

No dates or costs have been discussed. the more people who go, the cheaper the price.

I would like to know how many people would be interested, and whether the interest would be for one day or for the whole weekend. It would mean traveling to East Orange, new Jersey. If you are positively sure that you would be interested please contact me at 549-9096.