

# *The Wood Rack*

November, 1999

Volume 11 Number 3

Contents

[Next Meeting](#)

[President's Message](#)

[Secretary's Report](#)

[Notes from the Program Committee](#)

[Members Join to Build a Table for Saint Therese](#)

[A Visit to the Woodstock & New Paltz Art Fair](#)

[Editorial: The American Woodworker's Show](#)

## **Next Meeting**

Next Meeting - Wed., November 3

Brush Barn - 7:30 PM

**FEATURING:** At the beginning of the meeting, representatives from the DeWALT Company will give a 15 minute presentation on the new DeWALT Contractor's saw. They will also invite club members to preview the saw when it becomes available at a location to be announced later.

The second part of the evening will be taken over by four LIWC members - Owen Brady, Steve Costello, Gabe Jaen and Charlie James, who will explain their work on a table they constructed. It is destined to serve as an altar at a Mass which will be celebrated on the occasion of the showing of a reliquary containing the remains of St. Therese of Lisieux. there is more information on this table in the article "Members Build a Table for St. Therese" below.

## **President's Message**

As the holidays rapidly approach, our thoughts go toward gift-giving. It's a good time to share ideas on woodworking projects that make attractive gifts. It's also a good time to finish up on our contributions to the Toys for Tots drive.

I have been working on some scroll saw designs for Christmas Tree ornaments. If anyone is interested, I can make plans available.

Forms for the payment of dues are enclosed in this newsletter. Please send your check in as soon as possible.

-- Charlie Felsen

## **Secretary's Report**

The October 6 meeting commenced at 7:30 pm sharp. Charlie Felsen, Club President, mentioned the forthcoming American Woodworker Show, to be held Nov. 19-21 at Fort Washington, PA, in the suburbs of Philadelphia. There will be many reasonable priced seminars covering such topics as finishing, staining, sharpening, tablesaw techniques and tips, and routers. There should be carpools forming for members going there. Last year, some members stayed overnight.

Charlie thanked Jim Clancy for all the plans of children's toys he brought and made available to the members so we can have a good showing for this year's "Toys for Tots" effort. The toys varied in complexity, and Charlie said you can make three as easily as you can make one. Ken LeGrow made a brief report on the lubricating product he volunteered to test for the manufacturer. He said it worked fine. Someone commented that he uses Pam, the cooking spray. No one mentioned what its effects may be on the finish.

It was mentioned that the dues will be increased to \$25 and that they are coming due.

The Goudreau Museum of Math and Science, located in New Hyde Park, is bringing to Long Island the "If I Had A Hammer" program. This program involves teaching grade school children a novel approach to math and the sciences. The project consists of assembling a shed that is 8 feet x 10 feet x 11 feet high. Instructors and assistants are needed. These are paid positions. Anyone interested should contact Ms. Beth Deaner at (516) 747-0777.

Show and Tell: Charlie James brought in a beautiful walking cane made of purple heart. All the hardware is available and it goes together like a cue stick. Plans for the clock some of us were interested in can be found in the September, 1996 copy of Wood magazine.

In closing, Charlie mentioned that he has been president for two years, but he will not run for re-election. He is a single parent, and he'd like to spend more time with his daughter Jennifer, whom we've all seen at the meetings. He will still remain very active in the club. He needs volunteers for the nominating committee.

New members were Chris Missardi, who does his woodworking in his home and house projects; Roger Parret, who woodworks as a hobby; and Theo Sotiriou, who is building an 85-foot boat. He is also looking to hire some help with good technical skills in painting, finishing and staining. The boat is located at the Maple Ave. Marina in Bayshore. For more information call 1-800-449-1917.

Raffle winners were Vincent DeMartino, a chisel set; John Driscoll, a clamp; and John Coveny, a bench mat.

-- Gabe Jaen

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

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Nov. 19, 20, 21** American Woodworker Magazine Show at Fort Washington, PA. Carpooling and overnights are best for this show.

- Dec. 1** LIWC Holiday Meeting. This is the "Toys for Tots" meeting. Don't forget to bring your hand-crafted toys; we would like to out do last year's contributions. Refreshments will be served.
- Jan. 5** LIWC Meeting. Demonstrations of Tools and Techniques by club members. I will bring my mini-lathe. We could use another lathe station, and we are looking for more volunteers to run six or eight stations. Please call Bob Urso if your are interested.

-- Bob Urso

### **Members Join to Build a Table for Saint Therese**

Perhaps you've read in the papers lately about the nationwide tour of the reliquary of St. therese of Lisieux, France. the reliquary contains some of the bones of the 24-year-old nun who came to be known as "The Little Flower". despite the physical suffering due to tuberculosis which she endured for most of her life, she tended to the needs of her charges and duties as a cloistered nun. In 1997, Pope John Paul II proclaimed St. Therese a Doctor of the Church.

Owen Brady, one of our members, was asked by his sister if he could make a table to be used as an altar during the Mass when the reliquary is viewed on Oct. 22 1999, at the church she attends in Middletown, NY. Well, Owen enlisted the aid of three other members - Steve Costello, Charlie James and myself. We got together on a design that Steve liked and modified it to suit the necessary dimensions. Once we agreed on the wood we were going to use, ash, we went about purchasing it in two different places. Ash is no lightweight wood, and the dimensions of the table/altar make for a very heavy object. The making of the detail parts of the table took place in each of our respective shops, sometimes independently, but most times collectively. The assembly and finishing was completed in Steve's shop because it has open space and access at street level. Otherwise, it would have been the typical story of a boat built in a basement that you couldn't get out.

The table is a floating top design once featured in American Woodworker magazine. It's dimensions are 29 inches wide by 69 inches long by 39 inches high. The legs are 3 inches by 3 inches, and the table top is 5/4 inches thick. the only design change we made was to incorporate the use of stretchers from leg to leg on the side of the table and a center stretcher from the two side stretchers.

The legs just below the stretchers are tapered. All the joinery was mortise and tenon, except for the top, which was biscuited. The finish will be a golden oak to conform to the existing furniture in the church. there is a deadline for deliver, and we are racing against time, but we are confident we will make it.

The interesting thing about all this is the varying levels of expertise of the woodworkers involved. We got past all that easily, probably because of our common interest in woodworking and sharing. There was some mentoring taking place, some good conversation, a couple of good jokes and a rewarding feeling of contributing. We even had a couple of the members stop by to "kibbitz".

Maybe we'll get to bring in some pictures!

- Gabe Jaen

### **A Visit to the Woodstock & New Paltz Art Fair**

During the Labor Day weekend, fellow club member Harry Diaz, myself and our spouses went to the Woodstock and New Paltz Art and Craft Fair. It was a hot day; the traffic was heavy, and it took a little over three hours to get there traveling the NY State Thruway to Exit 18. We drove through the quaint town of New Paltz with plenty of police traffic control. We thought it would be a nice holiday diversion and a chance to see a craft show of much greater proportion than generally is seen on Long Island.

I also wanted to see what was happening this past year since I hadn't done a craft show this year. I usually do juried craft shows such as this one. My reason for doing juried craft shows is that I don't want to compete with machine-made or flea market items. Besides, the pieces I make are used to attract future business for either Shaker or Shaker-styled furniture, though I have sold big pieces at the shows. This fair is run by the Quail Hollow Events organization ( <http://www.quailhollow.com> ), which organizes many fairs. This particular one had two enormous tents that housed four rows of vendors, with perhaps 25 vendors per row. In addition, there were three additional tents, outside booths, and a building with food and craft supplies. Parking was free and ample. The entrance fee was \$6.50 for adults, \$5.50 for seniors. They had an eating and entertainment tent, a children's center, food concessions, furniture, an architectural crafts tent, and demonstration tents. their web site has excellent pictures and information on their shows.

My observation is that except for a few booths, the woodworking which I was most interested in was much the same as you've seen locally. there was a table-maker, Moran Woodworks that was worth looking at, and a toy-maker with some novel toys, one of which my wife bought. It was a train set made up of large individual letters on wheels which used magnets as couplings, and it included a locomotive and a caboose. There were a few turners, one of whom was a female who was demonstrating bowl turning. The fair would certainly appeal to the ladies because there were all kinds of items for clothing, kitchenware and jewelry.

It was a pleasant experience with great company, and we finished the day having dinner at the Cadillac Ranch, which had great food. The restaurant was very convenient, being located a few hundred feet from the entrance to the thruway in New Paltz.

I enjoyed the Fair, and I fo prefer juried craft shows, but, hey, that's only my opinion. Go visit one and tell us your views.

- Gabe Jaen

### **Toys For Tots Update**

I hope all of you woodworkers are diligently making toys for our Dec. 1st meeting. When you hand in your contribution please enclose a 3x5 index card with your name and a description of your work. All who participate will receive one raffle ticket per toy. So the more toys you make, the more raffle tickets you are entitled to. Any questions? Call Jim Clancy, (516) 822-8250.

. Any questions, feel free to call me at (516) 822-8250.

- Jim clancy

### **Editorial: The American Woodworker's Show**

American Woodworker Magazine is now owned by Reader's Digest, and last year there was some talk going around that because of the new ownership there would be no show this year. That rumor proved to be unfounded, because the show is definitely on again. As in previous years, it will be held at the Fort Washington Expo Center in Fort Washington, PA. The dates are Nov. 19-21.

This show really is hard to beat in terms of the number and variety of exhibitors, many of whom are offering tools at special show prices. Besides that, there are many interesting seminars (only \$5) and workshops (from \$60 to \$75) available on a host of woodworking topics. The presenters are people like Frank Klausz and Michael Dresdner. If you are interested in getting the full details, call 800-914-9395 or visit the website: <http://www.americanwoodworker.com> . The website offers a coupon good for one dollar off the admission price, which is only \$10 for a three-day pass.

Getting there is not really difficult, but it does take a solid two hours from Long Island, so some people will stay overnight. If you are thinking of doing that, book accommodations as soon as possible. Unfortunately, the website does not mention any special deals for motels this year.

Good news for those who cannot make this show! There will be a new show in Central New Jersey at the New Jersey Expo Center, March 31-April 2 2000.

- Jim Cosgrove, Editor in Chief