

THE Wood Rack



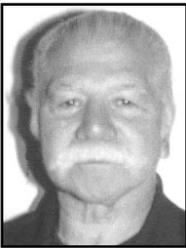
OCTOBER 2000

www.liwoodworkers.org

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NEXT MEETING: Wed., Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m., Brush Barn, Smithtown

The speaker at our monthly meeting will be Strother Purdy. He is a furniture maker, past Associate Editor at Taunton Press and an instructor at both the Woodworkers Club in Norwalk, CT, and SUNY Purchase NY. His topic will be Practical Furniture Design.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Gabe Jaen

During the September meeting I had a number of really gratifying experiences. First of all, I became aware of the increased interaction that takes place before and during the monthly meetings. Members are talking it up. Ask a question; get a few answers. That's good. Another thing I noticed was that there were many new members, some of whom were a result of the Expo, while others came in contact with us through Expo vendors. The Expo has been responsible for some positive exposure for the Club. It even brought in two new ladies to the Club. Another thing is that five members have volunteered for the Membership Chairman and Treasurer positions. This situation is indeed a plus – what with election of officers coming up in November. To top it all off, I have members coming up to me and telling me what great meetings we've been having.

All of this bodes well for the Club – the infusion of new blood, new ideas, new energy. Let's not lose sight of something. It's the membership participation that makes a great organization. Generally, clubs of this nature lose their vitality after a few years. You begin to see repeat agendas, poor attendance, and revised mission statements. Gradual decline threatens every club. So all of those good things that I mentioned mean there is a vitality in

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SECRETARY'S REPORT



Owen Brady
& Steve Costello

Little did we know when the meeting was started by Gabe Jean on Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2000, that it was going to be so interesting and informative. Gabe made an appeal to the members for candidates for Treasurer and Membership Chairman. Joe Pascucci and Frank Gaizo are retiring from these positions after many years of service. The LIWC welcomes new members joining the Club this month: Mary Lou Lallman, Marilyn Oser, Mike Daum, Steve Eckers, and Rocco Romeo.

Show 'n' Tell was interesting when Jack Salerno showed his latest collection of birdhouses, and Graham Kelly presented an adjustable rack. Brian Monks talked of his visits to the National Hardware Shows in Chicago and Atlanta, and of how impressed he was with the woodworking technology he saw there. Gabe went on to say that the Cub Scouts need volunteers to give short presentations on simple topics related to woodworking. He asked that anyone interested get in touch with him. One of our members has a Victorian bed that is need of restoration. Anyone interested? Elaine Deazley is looking for a table saw, any suggestions? Gabe indicated that the website was up and running, and photos of the past two shows were on it.

There was some indication that the Club would sponsor a trip to Roberts Plywood, and approxi-

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President's Message continued

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the Club that will keep it going. The question is, what is the source of that vitality? Is it the woodworking, the seminars, the presenters, the camaraderie? I don't quite know, except that we must keep doing what we're doing.

The Club's objective is to promote the pleasure of woodworking by sharing information on the craft, by being there when a Club member gets in trouble with a project, by actively participating in Club committees, attending seminars, offering suggestions for Club activities, and finally by befriending a less knowledgeable club member and showing him or her a technique or two. There is a great personal satisfaction in helping someone learn, especially if it bears fruit.

There is a thing I learned long ago, and that is whenever I had to teach a group of people how to do a task or learn a subject I found myself doing research on that subject. Invariably, in sharing this information I gained more knowledge myself. There is also something else I learned through all this, and that is, "Cast not pearls before swine." Translation: there are those who say they want to learn but want you to do everything for them. You see no real interest. That's when you take your good will and make it available to others really interested, for those are the ones that will bear fruit.

Secretary's Report continued

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mately 15 people showed interest. Jim Cosgrove made a visit to Dave Sanders Direct in Freeport and indicated that they have a good selection of hardware. He left a number of catalogues for members who might be interested. Alain Tiercy said there was a craft show at the Bethpage Restoration Village and that any donations of crafts would give the donor free entry tickets on Oct 5 of this year.

Winners of the raffle were Celine Blais-Bessey

Woodworking Tips

Raised Panels

I'm in the process of making an oak desk. It's a raised panel affair – something on the order of the old rolltop desks, except this is a corner desk. I've made raised panels before using the table saw and once even using a plane, but because of the number of panels to be made I purchased a router bit to do the job. Well, the router bit worked fine except when it came to the drawer fronts. The bit cuts the panel shape that includes the section that fits inside the groove in the stiles and rails. This shape won't do for the drawer fronts.

As I've mentioned, I've cut raised panels on the table saw before, but I had to tilt the blade. Ian Kirby must have been psychically tuned into my thoughts and whispered into my ear, "Read my book." You see, Ian doesn't recommend tilting your blade. So into the book I went and there – big as life – is his version of a raised panel fixture. It took me less time to make the fixture than all the fussing I usually do when I'm setting up to do the panel by tilting the blade. The fixture works great: it functions as a sled, it's safe, it's a repeatable cut. It can cut the slanted field to a range of depths, and my blade is still at 90 degrees.

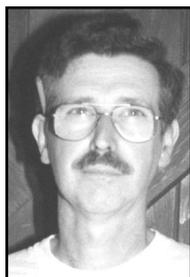
Ian Kirby's book "The Accurate Table Saw" is good reading, and you can see the fixture on page 134. Thanks Ian.

– Gabe Jaen

Editor's Note: If you have any woodworking tips for the newsletter, write your thoughts down on a piece of paper and hand it to Gabe at a meeting, or send e-mail directly to the editor.

clamp; Vincent De Martino-saw blade, and Bob Zuckerman-featherboard. Bob Urso spoke about next year's Exposition and indicated that he will have a meeting soon to start the plans for it. Anyone interested?

The guest speaker was Steve Meltzer, who gives classes at Constantine's. Steve specializes in relief carvings, and he does beautiful work, some of which he displayed to the group. He feels that people should not be intimidated by the idea of carving, and he explained step-by-step how he does his wonderful carvings. His talk was very interesting and informative.



NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

By Bob Urso

Oct. 28 – Strother Purdy will give a full day seminar at the Brush Barn. His talk will be an expanded version of our meeting topic, Practical Furniture Design. It will include lecture/demo/discussion/hands-on sketching/model-making. As always, lunch is included. Please sign up before or during the October meeting to allow us to secure the proper amount of food. You may also sign up on our website and see Steve Costello with payment at the meeting.

Nov. 1 – Ian Kirby will speak at our monthly meeting. Although Ian has enjoyed a long relationship with our Club, this will be the first time he will be speaking at a Club meeting. There will be more information on the topic of Ian's presentation in the next newsletter.

Nov. 3, 4 & 5 – American Woodworker Show Fort Washington, PA.

Nov. 11 – The Woodworkers Club in Norwalk, CT will be hosting Fine Woodworking's 25th Anniversary Celebration at their store. Meet the authors, writers, editors and staff of Taunton Press, including Ian Kirby, Toshio Odate and others. Admission is free, but there is a \$15 fee to hold a seat for the lectures. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with a reception for all attendees at 4 p.m. For more information, call (203) 847-9663.

Dec. 6 – Our December meeting will be our annual Toys for Tots holiday party. The quality and quantity of last year's toys were the best yet. Keep up the good work, and raise the bar again this year.

Jan 3, 2001 – Always a popular program, this will be a hands-on round robin meeting with several demo areas. We are looking for demonstrators

for this meeting. If you have ever wondered if you would like to teach or demo at a meeting or other event, this is an ideal way to get your feet wet. This can be pure teaching, hands-on, or interactive; the choice is yours. This is a member meeting, so get involved and share some knowledge. This is also a good time to show and tell with those new holiday toys. Please contact me if you are interested in participating.

Jan. 27 – Seminar Topic TBA.

June 2 & 3 – LIWC Annual Exposition. It is time to start planning for next year. The general consensus is that this year's show was successful and should become an annual event. The show committee is looking at what we did right and expanding on building on that and at the same time looking at what can be done better. All agree that the show was a lot of work and help is needed from all the membership. While most committee members will stay on, we need to form several sub-committees in order to spread the responsibilities around a little more. Think of what you can do to help, and contact any committee member. The groundwork was set this year, and we expect the show to really take off next year.

Some areas where we need help:

Posters and Signs: Can you paint signs, can you negotiate reasonably priced commercial signs, can you help with placement, can you hand out pads and flyers?

Accommodations: Clean reasonable accommodations need to be secured. High hotel prices can discourage vendors and speakers from attending. Can you help us?

Computer Help: We have accumulated a large number of vendor and customer contacts. The information needs to be assembled in a program that would make the application and notification process less time-consuming.

These are just a few of the areas where we could use help. Think about this year's show and any way you can help next year. Of course, any out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed.

Hope you can help.

THE MARKETPLACE

UNUSED PLANES. I just came into a collection of unused woodworking planes made by Clifton, Lie-Nielsen, Kunz, Lee Valley, Stanley and other makers. These planes are all mint and never used. I also have antique and used woodworking tools for sale. The new tools are priced well below what Garret-Wade sold them for. Call Bill Hermanek 631-360-1216.

ROLLER STANDS. Two shopmade roller stands, wood, wide feet with levelers, adjustable from 30" to 43",

very good condition. \$20/pair. Call Elaine - 631-369-4295.



WOODWORKING SYSTEM. Shopsmith Woodworking System. All attachments. Excellent condition. Call Dennis Taddeo for prices. 631-543-2256.

PORTER CABLE OMNI-JIG. Porter Cable Omnijig 16" with 1/4" and 1/2" half blind dovetail templates and 1/2" box joint template. \$250. Call Bob at 631-271-0012.

OLD TOOLS. 1. U.S. Govt. Tool Box (maple) dated 1950, 2. 10 wood-handled chisels and gouges for wood turning, 3. Tap and Die set. Little Giant #5 in original wood box. Call Richard Hickey, 631-549-7436.



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