

THE Wood Rack



FEBRUARY 2001

www.liwoodworkers.org

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 6

NEXT MEETING: Wed., Feb. 7, 7 p.m., Brush Barn, Smithtown

NEXT MEETING: ROUTER BASICS. HOSTED BY MEMBER CHRIS LUSARDI.

Chris promises to have something for everyone - from newcomers to experienced woodworkers.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Gabe Jaen

Do woodworkers get in a rut, and why? Do they keep making the same thing or some variations of it because they've tapped out their knowledge? Do they hibernate like bears in the winter because they have cold shops or frozen ideas? Do they get bogged down with questions, such as, "What do I do next?" or "What makes me think I can make that?" Are they being stressed out because of the "Honey do" list that's got them bogged down? That certainly can happen; I can attest to it.

When I first joined the club about four years ago, at one of the annual demonstrations we used to have at the Barn I saw a spice cabinet one of the members had made. I've always wanted to make it. It was beautiful -- made of cherry, with drawers and secret compartments - but all of the above things got in my way. I still have the strongest urge to get to work on that piece, and eventually I will, but I have a few things to complete before I can start.

Where is the message in all this? Well, for one thing, most of us are in the same boat for one or all of the above reasons. We beat ourselves up because we can't get to those pet projects we've been daydreaming about, but

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SECRETARY'S REPORT



Owen Brady
& Steve Costello

Gabe Jean required a little more assertiveness to start the meeting on Jan. 3. The members had set up the booths for the demos, and there

was high interest from the start.

Gabe began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and hoping that all the resolutions were being taken seriously. He said he had managed to keep his for more than a week.

He went on to thank Jim Clancy for his outstanding work heading up the committee for "Toys for Tots," and he also thanked Neal Ferguson for his wheelbarrow full of toys from his company, RFI.

Gabe reminded the members that there was no central guest speaker for the meeting. Members were putting on demonstrations in an educational format. This was a time to ask questions, exchange ideas and just find out about each other.

Gabe suggested that these round robin events were a good time to invite spouses to join us. He went on to say that the experience might be the stimulus or the encouragement to buy a new tool. Do you think he was talking about approvals or blessings?

One of the demonstrators who drew a large crowd was Charlie James, who presented his sharpening techniques. It seems that several weeks ago Charlie was about to discard all of his stones to practice the

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President's Message continued

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there are those other pressing obligations, or our own woodworking knowledge limitations.

Isn't it great that we have round robins like we had during our January meeting? It gave some of us an opportunity to see and ask questions about how to turn, how to paint a rosebud, how to finish veneers, how to repair veneers, how to sharpen a chisel or how to engrave on glass. Where can you get all of these opportunities in one night? The great thing about this was that it was possible

Secretary's Report continued

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Japanese method of using the sidewalk curb as a sharpening stone. Change your mind, Charlie? Owen Brady demonstrated his veneering techniques, showing both how he glued up veneer using hot hide glue and how to do veneer repair work. The gallery commented that he was a fine presenter who explained his subject well. Maybe we will see him as a demonstrator at the wood-working shows.

Christine Longo's fine drawings elicited ooh's and ah's from all who saw them. Dennis Taddeo's demonstration of the use of an engraving tool opened up new horizons for some members.

Last but not least was my own, Steve Costello's, exhibit of a variety of veneering woods with various finishings. The veneer used was very attractive, and members were very generous in not commenting on the quality of finishes. To paraphrase a "Look" magazine cartoon, "I said I was a finisher, lady. I didn't say I was a good finisher." Hopefully quite a few questions were answered and the members' appreciation of veneer was heightened.

Gabe reminded all members of the recall on Sears radial arm saws and also of the upcoming woodworking show in Somerset, NJ, Jan. 12-14th. The newsletter is now available through e-mail for those interested. Gabe asks that all copy for the newsletter be submitted before the 15th of the

because of our fellow members. Better yet, two of those members were beginners a year ago, and two were demonstrating for the first time.

I want to thank Christine, Owen, Steve, Bob, Charlie and Dennis for helping us get closer to our pet projects. What about you -- will some of these round robins we have at our meetings help you get closer to your starting your pet project? Perhaps, and how about you out there who have talents to share, will you help?

month. Members are encouraged to write articles on any woodworking subject.

There was one new member, Joe Leonard, who has a keen interest in scroll saw work. You're in good company in this group, Joe. Welcome aboard.

The Show and Tell was of special interest because of the equestrian entries by Frank Allaire, our resident toymaker. He showed double Clydesdale horses made as a rocker for his twin grandchildren. He has 24 of them. He also showed a single rocking horse that was equally beautiful.

Fernand Neuenschwander demonstrated that he is competent with wood as well as with metals. His jewelry box of cherry, with walnut splines and inlaid cover was striking and featured pattern inlay. The box awed us all.

Gabe also mentioned that Marilyn Oser is going to try to get a charter for the Club as a non-profit organization, so that we can do better on bulk mailing charges.

Brian Hayward gave the treasurer's report, and Bob Urso spoke on upcoming activities.

Winners of the raffle were Paul Decker and Christine Longo.

The night was a huge success. People went away with new ideas and shared thoughts. As they say, a good time was had by all.



NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

By Bob Urso

First I would like to thank all of the demonstrators at last month's meeting, especially those members who were demonstrating for the first time. Members tell me that our "Round Robin" meetings are among their favorites. We try to plan at least two per year and are always looking for members to participate. Contact me if you would be interested in joining us at a future "Round Robin" or even in doing a full meeting presentation.

FEB 7: Meeting. Topic will be "Router Basics," and it will be hosted by member Chris Lusardi. At last month's meeting members indicated they would like to see a presentation on routers, and Chris was kind enough to volunteer. He promises to have something for everyone - from newcomers to experienced woodworkers.

FEB. 10: The L.I.Woodturners Club will have Mario Rodriguez at their monthly meeting. This will be a full day seminar, and the topic will be "Architectural Turning." The fee for club members is \$25, and our club members will be offered the same rate. Details will be available at our Feb. meeting for those interested.

MARCH 7: Meeting. Topic will be "Mortising -- Using a Dedicated Machine, Router and Hand Cutting." It will be presented by John Matchack, owner of the Woodworking Club (Norwalk) and Aime Fraser, author, boatbuilder and past speaker at our monthly meetings. They will have some tools available for sale at the meeting (including a Fisch mortising machine) at reduced prices. The Woodworking Club runs many classes at its location, covering a full gauntlet of woodworking topics. Past and future speakers include Frank Klaus, Ian Kirby, Toshio Odate, Mario Rodriguez, Ernie Conover and many others. We look forward

to their presentation.

MARCH 24 & 25: Woodworking show at Saratoga Springs N.Y. presented by the Northeast Woodworkers Club. Steve Costello is organizing a bus trip on Sat the 24th. See Steve if interested.

MARCH 30 31, APRIL 1: American Woodworker Magazine Show at Edison N.J.

MAY 2: Meeting: Topic will be "Veneering Basics," and the speaker will be Mario Rodriguez. He is an author, associate editor of Fine Woodworking and currently teaches in the Restoration Dept. of FIT in NYC. Several club members, myself included, have taken his courses, and he is a very knowledgeable speaker. If you don't learn something from Mario, you're not paying attention.

MAY 12: Full day seminar at the Barn. Speaker will be Mario Rodriguez. This will be a hands-on seminar suitable for all skill levels. Mario will take us through all the steps in making a small veneer inlay. This will include veneer selection, preparation, cutting, shading with hot sand, banding assembly and more. Sign up early (contact Joe Paccucci), as space will be limited. Cost as usual will be \$35 for members and \$50 for non-members. Includes lunch.

JUNE 2 & 3: Sixth Annual Wood Show and Members Exhibition.

Now that the Holidays are past, we are moving along well in all areas. We could write pages about this but will cover some highlights and save further updates for our meetings.

Commercial vendors: We expect a full exhibition hall at show time with many returning vendors and some new products at well. I can't emphasize this enough: save you woodworking dollars for our show and support our vendors.

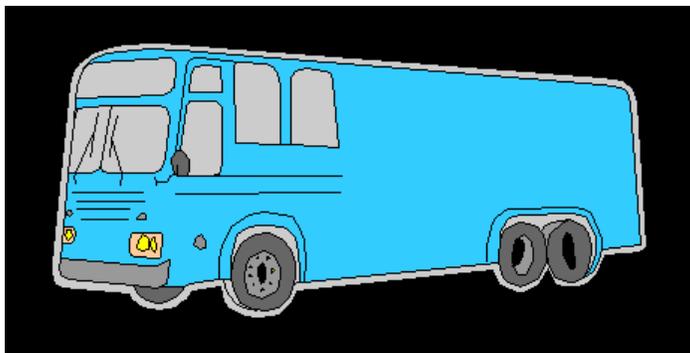
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LIWC Sponsors Bus to Northeast Woodworking Show March 24

There will be a bus ride on March 24, 2001, sponsored by the LIWC to Saratoga Springs to attend the Northeast Woodworking Show.

This will be my fourth show, and each one is better than the last. The show is very different from the American Woodworkers Show, inasmuch as there are extensive displays of members' crafts, free seminars, vendors, woodworking demonstrations, and a large jig exhibit. The most interesting vendors at this show are the ones from the hardwood mills. Well-known craftsmen will be there also to demonstrate and lecture.

We plan to leave early Saturday morning and to



return late that evening. The show will be open between 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The bus will have facilities and VCR's for continuous Norm Abram videos.

Seating will be limited to 50, so if you want to go, get your money in. We believe the cost will be between \$30-35 per person, and again, spouses are welcome. A \$20 deposit will be required to secure your seat. This will be

refundable only if the trip is cancelled.

Call Steve Costello at 631-427-8070, or send a check for \$20 for each person to: Steve Costello, 13 Abbott Drive, Huntington, New York, 11743.

— Steve Costello

Notes From the Program Committee continued ...

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Members Exhibition: Please submit your application as soon as possible. Exhibit space is valuable, and we need to plan as early as possible. The earlier we know your space requirements the better we can display your projects.

Show Help: We would like every member to be involved in some aspect of the show. Basically if you're breathing we can use you. The show will continue to prosper only if you help. In addition to preparation we will need help on Friday, June 1st (set-up), all day Sat, June 2nd, and Sun., June 3rd. Would anyone be interested in working on or chairing a committee to make up a show program?

Elaine Beasley will be chairman of the LIWC area; Ed Strefezza will chair the sign and banner committee, and John Hons will be working on motel accommodations for vendors and guests. They would all appreciate any help you can give them.

Woodcraft Area: Last year we had an area set aside for members to display and sell their woodwork. I feel we should continue this section again, but our committee is divided on this. If we continue again this year we would like more members to participate, and would like to see some larger (e.g., furniture, etc.) pieces in this area. This is an opportunity to sell items or just test the viability of selling work or accepting commissions. Let us know how you feel about this section.

As we did last year, we will have the Tool Garage Sale, the Toy Workshop and quality seminars both days, along with ongoing demonstrations by our club members and affiliated clubs.

If you would like to comment on any of the events, please contact a committee member either at a club meeting, by phone or in the forum area of our web-site.

JUNE 6: Annual Picnic.

Letter to the President: Round-Robins

Hi Gabe,

I do not know how you felt, but I think the member demonstration meetings are excellent. Every time we have one, I find that the time goes by so quickly that I do not even get a chance to see all the demonstrations. If we did not lock the doors, I think some people would still be there It

certainly gives the members time to interact with each other, share ideas, and I believe more importantly fosters teamwork with the members and subsequently makes them want to get involved.

I know that we will still have the few that will always pitch in, but at the last meeting, we had

"It certainly gives the members time to interact with each other, share ideas, and I believe more importantly fosters teamwork with the members and subsequently makes them want to get involved."

– Brian Monks

three new people demonstrate. I was elated to see this. At our show in June, I think we have to get these members (and others) to do demonstrations. It really highlights the talent and diversity that we have in the club.

I would like to suggest that once a quarter

we hold a member demonstration meeting. It would certainly reduce some of the burden from Bob to come up with a speaker every month. Your thoughts?

Have a great weekend,

Brian Monks

Kudos to County Power Tool for a Job Well Done!

As I was in the middle of a project that's been hanging around just a little too long, the router-shaper I was using died. I couldn't get it started, and I tried every thing I knew short of taking it apart. The tool was only 10 months old and still under warranty, so I checked the manufacturer's list of approved repair companies and found County Power Tool in Commack. I went there and spoke to Gary, one of the owners, and gave him a few details about the machine and the problem. His response was, "I'll call you in the morning and let you know how long it will take to get your machine back."

I went home and figured I'd better do some workarounds because I might not see that router-shaper for a while. Well, that same night he called me and told me that I could pick the machine in the morning. That kind of service deserves some kudos, cheers, thank you's and all those good things.

County Power Tool is located on Commack

Road about 500 feet south of Jericho. The owners are Gary and Vin, and they are an authorized repair center for Delta, Hitachi, DeWalt, Black and Decker, Powermatic, Porter Cable and Bostich. Their phone number is 631-499-5666.

– Gabe Jaen

WoodRack Deadline

The deadline for copy (articles, information, items for sale in The Marketplace, and the like) for the March issue of The Woodrack is Wednesday, **Feb. 14**. If you would like to contribute please contact:

Jim Cosgrove

Woodrack Editor-in-Chief

e-mail: ckc@hotmail.com

Address: 3570 Manchester Road

Wantagh, NY 11793

Phone: 516-781-4304.

THE MARKETPLACE

12-INCH METAL LATHE. Includes 5 chucks, 8-inch faceplate, center rest, multi-tool post and many extras. Asking \$550. Call Chuck at 631-261-3950.

½-inch box joint template. \$250. Call Bob at 631-271-0012.

PORTER CABLE OMNI-JIG. Porter Cable Omnijig 16-inch with ¼-inch and ½-inch half blind dovetail templates and



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