

# THE Wood Rack



MARCH 2001

[www.liwoodworkers.org](http://www.liwoodworkers.org)

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

### **NEXT MEETING: Mortising -- Using a Dedicated Machine, Router and Hand Cutting.**

Presented by John Matchack, owner of the Woodworking Club (Norwalk) and Aime Fraser, author, boat-builder and a past speaker at our monthly meeting. 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 complement of woodworking topics. Past and future speakers include Frank Klaus, Ian Kirby, Toshio Odate, Mario Rodriguez, Ernie Conover and many others.



### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** By Gabe Jaen

It was a really good turnout this past meeting. Was it because we were going to have a router demonstration, or was it the weather? In any event, it was good to see everyone. We had two unannounced participants who drew considerable attention – Bob Fioreses with his Vacuum system for holding devices and bag molding for veneering and Larry Mulderig, the new representative for CrystaLac, a popular finishing product. Larry made the offer of a 5 percent discount to club members along with a 5 percent donation to the club coffers.

The event of the evening was the router demonstration that Chris Lusardi gave. Unfortunately, he wasn't able to use the overhead projector for his transparencies. The projector would have been very helpful to those members in the back since the microphone setup was battery dead. Despite those minor setbacks, the demo went well. He was very well prepared with the necessary equipment and information. He spent some time on the comparison of router versus shaper, the various cutter manufacturers and the economics of router selection. His presentation material would have been really helpful had he been

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### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**



Owen Brady  
& Steve Costello

The Feb. 7, meeting of the LIWC was called to order at 7 p.m. by Club President Gabe Jaen. All members were invited to a tool auction hosted by the

Long Island Antique Tool Collectors Club on Feb. 14 at the Brush Barn with an expected 200 to 300 lots going on the block.

The March 24th bus trip to Saratoga for the Northeastern Woodworkers Association's annual SHOWCASE is filling up rapidly. If you are interested in seeing this unique show, which is different from most commercial shows and includes free seminars, please talk to Steve Costello at 631-427-8070 as soon as possible. Several spouses of members are planning to attend. All are welcome.

There was excellent feedback on the Chip-Carving seminar which was attended by 17 members, all of whom went home with a plate covered with a variety of intricate chip carving patterns. John Sieple and his committee reported good progress on the Club's new workbench, which is expected to be completed in time for the March meeting. A recently widowed woman in Suffolk has contacted the Club for assistance in having an armoire, which was being built by her late husband, completed. Any member interested in this project

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## *President's Message continued ....*

### *Continued from page 1*

able to project it on the screen. His philosophy regarding the use of tools and their disposal left some of us with raised eyebrows. I have an old Craftsmen router whose bearing was slipping inside the housing. Well, I must have spent hours fixing it. Was it my only router? No. But some of us will fix things like that, just because!

I liked his table with its adjustments on the fence, and I especially liked his use of the mortising fixture to do raised panels. Having been to his home, I can tell you he's made a lot of raised panels. It was interesting how he turned that length of MDF into a nice piece of molding. That demo has prompted me to look into several things I do and the materials I use, especially after reading the latest issue of Audubon and the article "The Future of Wood."

You want to know what was the most important

thing about Chris's presentation? It was the fact that he volunteered to do it. We've had other members also do a demonstration during the meetings, and they've always had a good response. It's not that you have to be an expert to do a demonstration, but it affords the members an opportunity to see how someone else does a particular task, and members can ask questions or make suggestions. The result is that everyone benefits.

A few final comments: I interrupted the demonstration twice asking the members to speak up so that we could hear the question asked and the response. Another one is the additional meeting going on in the background. Let us in on it if it's about the demonstration going on. We all came to learn and share. Then, of course, there is the courtesy we should give to the speaker, at the podium or in the gallery.

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## *Secretary's Report continued ....*

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should contact Gabe Jaen.

Bob Fiorses, a vendor, spoke briefly about a vacuum clamping system he has developed and marketed that uses less horsepower than similar units. Information on this product was distributed at the meeting to interested members. Additional information is available from: Unique Air Products, Inc., 62-N South Second Street, Deer Park, NY, 11729 Phone: 631-254-3588 or 800-969-3588.

Another visitor/guest at the meeting was Larry Mulderig who spoke about CrystaLac Waterborne Finishing Products which include wood stains, clear topcoats, polyurethane, grain fillers and other specialty and customizing products. He can be reached at 631-207-0328. Rich Weil showed how he made small numerals (385 of them) for model racer cars. He demonstrated an ingenious jig he developed to replicate such a large number of individual pieces.

First Prize in the raffle, a 36" Bessey Clamp, was won by Steve Costello. Second Prize, a half-inch forstner bit, was won by Owen Brady, and Third Prize, assorted sandpapers, was won by Ed and Flo Leitgeb. There was some grumbling since

Owen pulled Steve's winning ticket and Steve pulled Owen's, but these two co-secretaries of the club steadfastly refused to give the prizes back. Owen was heard to comment to Steve, "They can't prove a thing."

Joe Bottigliere reported that there were 15 new members for a total of 125 paid members on the official Club roster for 2001. If the members who have not yet paid their 2001 dues were included, the membership would be in excess of 200. Gabe urged those unpaid members to send in their 2001 dues and reminded everyone of the decision to take overdue members off the mailing list.

The principal speaker of the evening was Chris Lusardi, who gave a masterful presentation of router technique. Chris started with a comparison of the most commonly used routers - their good and bad features, the most popular (and some lesser known) router accessories and router tables. All this led up to a demonstration of Chris's considerable technique in using the router. The best compliment to Chris's skills was the fact that most of the members stayed much later than usual to avail themselves of his knowledge. Well done Chris - thanks!



## NOTES FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

By Bob Urso

**March 24 & 25:** Woodworking show in 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 Woodworkers Magazine Show in 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 Department 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 members and \$50 for non-members. Includes lunch.

### June 2 & 3: 6th Annual Wood Show and Members Exhibition

**Commercial Vendors:** We expect a full exhibition hall at show time with many returning vendors and some new products at well. I cant emphasize this enough: save you woodworking dollars for our

show and support our vendors.

**Members Exhibition:** Please submit your application as soon as possible (see insert in this issue). 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. 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. If we continue this again this year we would like more members to participate, and would like to see some larger (e.g., furniture, etc.) pieces. 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 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 website.

**June 6:** Annual Picnic

### SPECIAL INSERT IN THIS ISSUE

## Attention Members: Expo Sign-Up Sheets Needed ASAP

Please send the Expo information sheet to me as soon as possible. Put in as many details as you can (measurements, times to volunteer, etc.) Even if you're not exhibiting, please fill it out and let me know. It is important that all members become involved, as it is our show. Don't feel that your work

has to be spectacular. It can be puzzles, toys, fretwork or a Queen Anne reproduction. The talent in this club never ceases to amaze me, and this is the place to let it be seen by the public. Time is running short; please fill out the form and mail it while you're thinking about it.

– Charlie James.

## THE MARKETPLACE

**10-INCH COMPOUND MITER SAW.** Model No. 36-220K, Type III with illustrated manual and extra wood fence. Call Chuck at 631-261-3950.

**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.

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



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