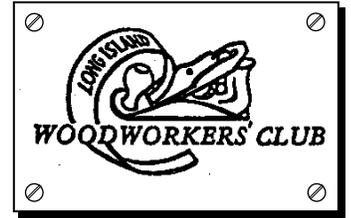


THE Woodrack

February 2007



PRINCE OF PEACE SCHOOL

Lessons in Dovetailing

President's Message



Mike Daum

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<i>Refreshments</i>	Neal Fergenson
<i>Video</i>	Karl Blessing
<i>Photographer</i>	Jim Macallum

FEATURES
 Round Robin
 Prince of Peace School
 Raising the Bar

COLUMNS
President's Message
Show Biz
Turner's Guild SIG
LISA SIG

"The views expressed within are not necessarily those of the Long Island Woodworkers' Club, it's Board of Directors, or the editorial staff".

We all owe a nice pat on the back to everyone who demonstrated at the January Round Robin. I've never seen the participation level so great, and it seems everyone is eager to "show us how it's done"! The next Round Robin will be during our meeting in July.

The Prince of Peace School in Sayville is seeking members of our group to plan their next woodworking project - dollhouses! Now that you've been won over by the 7th and 8th grade students who clearly proved their passion for woodworking at the January meeting (see photos in this issue), this would be the opportune time to work with them. The class will meet on Wednesday afternoons from 1pm - 2:30pm at a date soon to be determined. If you are interested, please contact me by email or phone to coordinate with the teacher, Mrs. Judy Glancy. It has proven to be a rewarding experience for me, and I look forward to future projects with the school.

I mentioned at the meeting that we will be volunteering to install a solid wood floor at the Barn for the Smithtown Historical Society. The area to be done is the tragically tiled room that the Club's mobile library rolls through each month. I'm hoping the projected date of February 24th will work out for everyone who wants to join in. The project will be helpful for anyone thinking of installing flooring of their own!

The proposed Cabinetmaking SIG sign-up boasts nearly 40 members to date. I will soon be announcing a place, date and time for the first meeting, which should be in February. Once it is determined that this SIG is viable, a proposal will be made to the Board of Directors for approval of the Cabinetmaking SIG.

The dues renewal notices have been published in the newsletter since November 2006, yet only about half of our current membership has paid to date. This makes our esteemed membership chairman, Joe Bottigliere, very cranky. It also means we have to unnecessarily pay more in postage to actually mail renewal forms to you. If you have not already done so, please print the renewal form in this issue immediately, fill it out, and mail in your dues now. Your member badges will be missing from the meetings until you square up with Joe. I'm sure you wouldn't want to miss out on the great year we've got planned so far, now would you?

Finally, there has been no word from our renowned meeting refresh-

continued on page 3

The Woodrack

Volume 19 Number 2

Next meeting:
Router Joinery with
Joe Saccente

Starting time 7:00 PM
Brush Barn



Library News

Steve Blakely

There was an announcement at the January meeting of a generous gift to the LIWW library of \$225.00 from the 100 Toy Gang in memory of Owen Brady. Although Mike announced that anyone wanting a specific item should see me during the meeting, there were no members who did so. Therefore, I have canvassed the membership through the LIWW website in the General forum, to make suggestions on what subject matter (or actual titles) of books/DVD's you would like. Updates to follow...

I would like to thank the following people for book and or magazine donations...Steve Gazes, Dennis Taddeo and Rich Weil. I apologize if I forgot anyone else's name. The books and magazines are surely appreciated and will be well used. Our magazine collection is beginning to grow, so don't forget that there are some great articles in them for everyone.

The updated LIWW Library Books (MS WORD) document has been placed on the website, thanks to Harry Hinteman. Do your book search on line and then you can quickly identify the books you want when you get to the meeting. AS A REMINDER, there is a new look to the LIWW Library. Library books are now listed numerically, and those numbers are on the SPINE of the book. To find a book you want, use one of the two LIWW LIBRARY BOOKS binders available at the library. These books are listed in CATEGORY order. Simply find the associated number to your selection and pick out your book. There is a form available for you to log your name, the name of the book, etc. Be sure to give me your book deposit also. As with videos, a deposit of \$10.00 per book will be required; with a \$2.00 late fee each month they are late. Bring them back on time and get your \$10.00 back.

President's Message from page 2

ment provider, Neal Fergenson. He may still be on the road to recovery from a back injury. We wish him well, and unless word reaches us that he plans to return, someone is needed to provide the service. I'm not a coffee drinker - in fact I hate the stuff (along with flagels) - but I miss walking in to the Barn to the aroma of fresh java. Now if I miss it, how about you caffeine junkies? It sure would be nice if someone took the initiative and brought with them coffee, tea, and donuts. The club lays out the initial cost, and your donations keep the brew percolating each month. Let me know that you're interested.

Show Biz

Mike Daum



The Show committee met recently to coordinate the mailings of vendor applications that subsidize the cost of the Hofstra Arena. We thank Karen Saccente for managing this task, as well as Rich Macrae who will be working hard to solicit new vendors to join the Show this year. What is needed most right now is a team of members who have time during the day to make friendly follow-up phone calls to the vendors. We need to insure that they received their Show application, and to determine if a decision can be made of their commitment to the Show this fall. Previous exhibitors are entitled to a priority renewal incentive for their booth(s) if they sign-up early (by March 1st). The vendor receives the application, which, like most of us, then goes into a pile of paperwork for further review and consideration. Before you know it, the early application deadline has past, which can impact a decision to attend. The courtesy call to the vendor will remind them of their incentives to send in their deposits.

Without the vendor exhibition, we cannot produce a Show at Hofstra. We've come a long way from the years at the Brush Barn and Sports Plus in Lake Grove (which is closing it's doors). Any member who can assist in making these phone calls will be ensuring the continuation of our grand event! The LIWC will pay all phone expenses, and we are coordinating a script guideline to assist in the calls. This will make it very easy for you to speak with ease to the prospective vendor contact. To volunteer for this task, please call me at 516-528-1426 or email twwstudio@aol.com. Bob Urso and Rich Macrae will also be available for questions or enlistment in the process. Their contact numbers/email can be found in the member listing on the LIWC website. For general questions concerning the Show, call Bob Urso at 631-724-4625.



ROUND ROBIN

The January meeting was for our semi-annual Round Robin, where members demonstrate various techniques.

TOP ROW L-R: Matt Stern; Karl Blessing; Rich Macrae

MIDDLE ROW: Eliot Silverman; Brian Monks; Frank Allaire

BOTTOM ROW: Richard Strickland; Jim Macallum.

Not photographed (because I used Jim's camera): Mike Daum







Pages 4 and 5 are photos from the Club's Rich Macrae, Frank Allaire and Mike Daum visiting the Prince of Peasce School in Sayville on a weekly basis. This class was on the history and making of dovetails. The project culminated in many of the students coming to the Club during the January meeting, to show off their dovetailed boxes, and having three of them read the papers they wrote, detailing their experiences. They presented Mike, Rich, and Frank with a signed thank you poster. The 3 students chosen to read their essays were presented with a gift of a Japanese Dozuki saw from Rich Macrae.. It seemed unanimous that their presence and workmanship was the best gift the Club could have had.

If anyone is interested in developing an education program with a school, please speak to Mike Daum. The Club's mandate is for woodworking education, and it is our stated goal to help schools develop our craft.





Raising the Bar

Daryl Rosenblatt

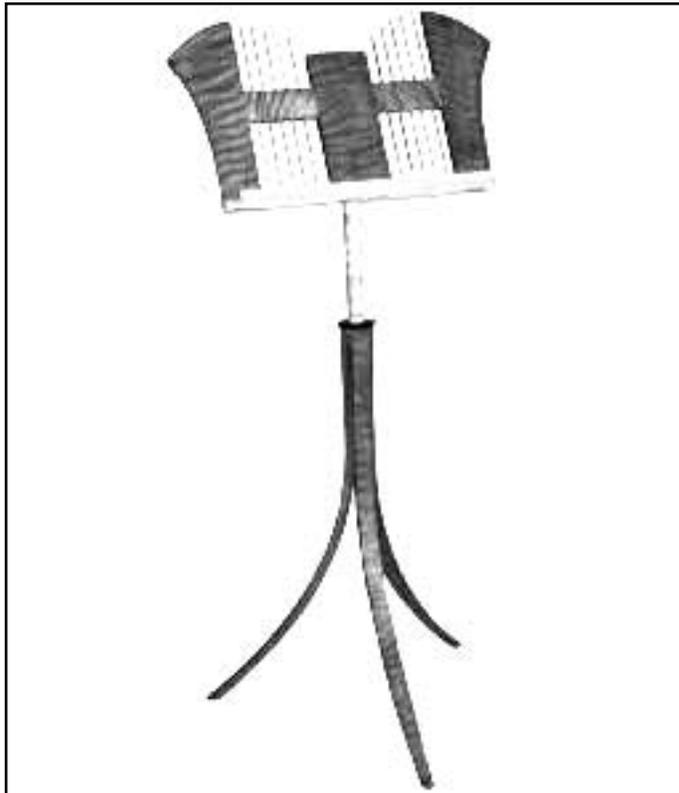
I remember it well. Our first Hofstra Show, and I won a third place ribbon for my demi-lune table. It had a few flaws, but, with the inlay, was a fairly well done piece. You can see it on my gallery page. I'm writing this not to show off, but to let you know what happened next. It's on sale for a lot; one woman at the show asked me how much. I guess she didn't like the answer, as she then said (and you've all heard this), "My son could make that for \$100." Considering the table was made of cherry, plus a monolithic 8/4 top of curly cherry, with ebony and holly inlay, I doubted it.

Assuming her son could actually put some wood together, I knew that she wouldn't think it would look as good. That's why I named this article Raising the Bar. Just what can someone do to make their project go to the next level? Is it fancy tools? No. Is it that big powerful tablesaw? Not that either. It does require investments though. To make your project look like a finely crafted piece not bought at Pottery Barn, you will have to invest in time and some extra money.

The time involved is in planning and selection. As Frank Klausz says, "Your finish is determined at the start of the job." Figure out just how you are going to sand or plane the parts. How will you finish it? After it's assembled? Or will you build in modules and then assemble the finished parts? For that matter, just how will you finish it? Shellac, lacquer, oils, or any other topcoat requires understanding if the wood

needs to be filled or sealed. Perhaps colored. Stained or dyed? Painted perhaps. So this step goes together with the following:

Wood selection. Here is where the time and money gets involved; also why knowing the finish is vital. If you are painting it, then you know a paint friendly wood such as poplar, or perhaps birch, something close grained, with no pores is a better (and cheaper) choice. If you want a curl, or do you want a certain type of grain showing, then you go to something different. Also consider the style. If you are building a Stickley knockoff, or something else Mission or Arts and Crafts, then not only will it be oak, but probably quartersawn.



This is an enhanced photo of my music stand. I did this so you can see the grain, and how it interacts with each part. In the top part, the grain is meant to mirror each other. When you do that, you not only have to look at grain, but color, as a board, especially one as colorful and varied as this, needs equal matching. So you need enough wood to really hunt out pieces, and mark what goes where (I use chalk).

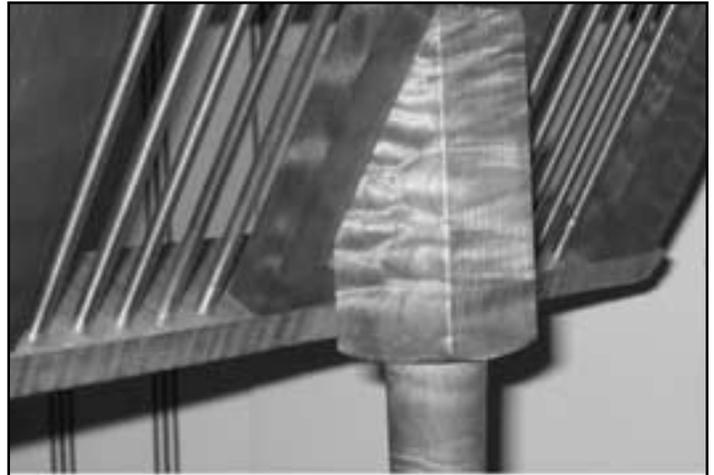
After you've tackled what type of wood, then how do you buy and pick it? This is where the real money and time is spent. My first big project was a workbench designed by Woodsmith (it's from something like issue 50, a classic European workbench). Included with some very good instructions is a cutting list, showing (as they always did, I don't know now) a cut list, complete with board by board diagrams of where to cut what. Fine for a workbench, not so for anything more "showy." When you are selecting and cutting planks of hardwood, you aren't generally going to get all those boards in perfect widths and lengths. Thickness either. There is no rule of thumb, but I generally allow for about 20% more (as measured in board feet)

that my designs call for in wood. The single most important factor in a successful project is probably proportion. The next is a subliminal one, but it makes all the difference in the world: grain alignment. When you are doing frame and panel doors, or drawers, or anything else, spend some time aligning the grain to look "right." That doesn't mean all in one direction, but just what looks "right." The best piece I ever built was my music stand

—Fine Woodworking agreed, as they published it. I also think they would not have if the grain didn't look right. The wood was curly redwood, and I probably had a waste factor of about 50% in getting the grain to look right. The directions mirror each other, the crossbar had to curve just so, the legs (which were laminated) had to have a facing piece break just right. I spent (and I must have driven Mike Daum crazy asking for advice) eight months on the design, a month in planning, and less than three weeks to build it.

You can save some time and wood if you clearly spell out just what you need the wood for, and some general sizes. Our local lumber yards (J&A, Burt, WoodPly, Roberts) are all very helpful for that. My curly maple bed was getting out of hand just in the planning stage, and I needed a lot of very large pieces of curly maple. The supplier I used (MapleLeaf Hardwoods—www.curlymaple.com—I needed a lot, and it wasn't available locally) was invaluable. I let him do the selection for me, and, as I showed on the gallery, there was very little waste, and the grain worked well. However, what you may get is 8/4, which you will have to resaw down. Anticipate bookmatching as well. It's not just a technique for veneering.

Finishing off a project means more than spraying on a lacquer. It means sanding or smoothing every surface. It means seeing how it looks under the light the piece will sit under. And it also means picking hardware properly. Larry Brusso started as a cabinetmaker who couldn't stand the brass hardware he was seeing, so he started making his own. Brusso hinges are now the standard by which all others are measured. Pick something appropriate. It's as subliminal as grain direction, but even more apparent, since things like pulls are used every day. Cheap plated hardware wears off, and after a couple of years, your piece will look drab and worn. Use enough hinges to keep the doors from sagging, but don't just assume large hinges mean a stronger piece. Too many screws look just as bad as too few. And large hinges on small doors look awkward. If your chest of drawers is mission style, then you already know you will be using ebony or bronze. You won't be picking polished chrome, nor should you use something ornate, more suited to a Newport secretary. Don't build the piece, then go to Home Depot for the hardware. By the way, the lumber at Home Depot may be cheaper than the more expensive lumber yards, but that's because it's not stored properly, not dried well, and frankly, not great to look at. If you think the Big Box stores is all you can afford, then spend



In this case, I had to look at color, grain and species variation. Bob Urso turned the spindle for me, and as it came out, it became pretty clear that the top, originally ment to be all round, would work better as a square. The quilting works well with the how the curl in the redwood flows into it. In this case, seeing it was accidental, but still planned, in that it was decided to change how it was intended to be made. It had a side benefit of being much easier to mount together, then the foxglove tenon I originally intended--I used biscuits and glue--there is a lot of surface area to work with.

the time at the store looking for those few rare pieces you can use. And bring a moisture meter. You want to get that wood to the moisture level it will sit in. Or at least, what your workspace is. An easy solution: check your workbench moisture level. Chances are it's been sitting in your shop a few years.

Pick the right finish, and apply it properly. Patience is not only a virtue, it's a necessity. If the oil can says wait 24 hours, then don't assume you can do it in only 8. You can't—I speak from experience here. Shellac is great as both a sealer (I use it all the time), and as a topcoat, but not on a tabletop that will have water on it. Mix your own, the stuff in the can is old, and shellac's shelf life is short. Spend the time sanding after every coat if you have to. I spent more time sanding the bed than applying the six coats of urethane (with 24 hours drying time each), but you can see and feel the difference.

Finally, use the Club as a resource. I've picked the brains from the best we have to offer: Charlie James, Rich Macrae, Harry Hinteman, Mike Daum. Charlie Morehouse has forgotten more about cabinetmaking than many of the writers of cabinetmaking books has known. Mac Simmons is a world renowned finishing expert, and he is OURS!!! Don't look at raising the bar as a chore, but as fun. Building something that gets published, or displayed, or, even better, sold to a stranger, is just about the most enjoyment you can get.

LISA News

Rolf Beuttenmuller



SHOW AND TELL

With a meeting date (the 27th) this close to Christmas I was surprised at the turnout (approximately 20 people). Several members brought in much appreciated Holiday goodies, as we needed the nourishment to get through Joe Pascucci's presentation of the evening.

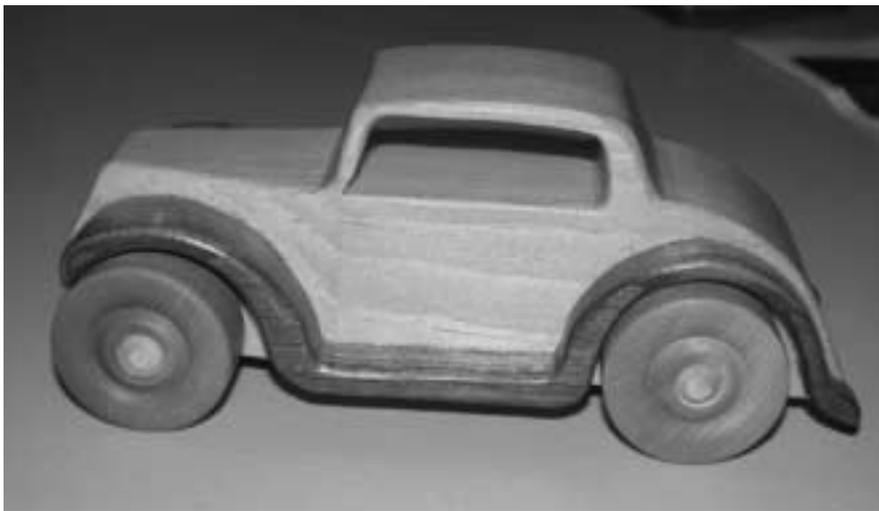
Joe demonstrated the proper way for assembling a simulated woven basket. The basket is a series of concentric rings cut from one piece of wood. The rings are staggered and glued together. The end result is quite stunning as demonstrated by the completed sample provided by Joe. The basket was meant to be a group project, but I think that most of the members didn't have time to complete their baskets. Now that the holidays are behind us we hope to see a few more of them completed.

I got to see my first ever "Flagel" a gorgeous example to be sure.

Steve Blakely brought in a very nice Simulated woven box with an inlayed hinged top. He has alternating layers of light (maple) and dark wood (padauk) for a very interesting look.

I brought in the first toy car I ever made, a 32 Ford coup made from pine with mahogany fenders.

Up Coming meetings:



January 18, 2007 - Tools and Accessories- Share with others some of the uncommon tools you may have, such as sand flees, flap sanders Dremel's etc. Show off some new holiday tools.

February 15, 2007- Selling your Crafts- A discussion of how to best sell your crafts. What sells, where to sell, how much they should sell for. How to display them.

Top right: Steve Gazes' box; middle, Rolf Beuttenmuller's car; bottom; Joe Pascucci on basketmaking techniques.



Turner's Guild SIG

Karen Saccente



Here are some photos from the January Turning Guild meeting.

To the left is a photo (since posted in the Gallery) of a piece by Ed Kelle. He sent the photo to Gabe Jaen. Gabe, a former president and current secretary, has not been feeling well. As such, he wasn't able to make the January meeting, which is why there are no minutes (in truth, with no Gabe there, you can't call it much of a meeting anyway). Gabe then sent it to me, with Ed's description, enclosed, insisting Gabe's name be kept out of it. Too bad. It may have been typical of Gabe's selflessness to keep his name out, but I feel no such pressure. Get well soon Gabe.



I've been busy the last few weeks, and am planning for another five frantic ones to come. I just finished an ornament for another online contest on the turning sites; doing my typical organic look. It's a hollow cherry body with turned, carved and textured walnut top and finial. Of course it took much longer than I expected, and many more hours of carving than I hoped. I had to do the top and bottoms thick and carve away the excess to get these shapes. I even bleached the stem to make it look real and gave it a gap where it twists upon itself. We'll see how well this one goes. I've done well in the past with the online contests.

If that wasn't enough, I am in the middle of much more texturing again, like the platter you saw before, I have a Feb 20th deadline for entry to submit for selection for a special exhibit for the national symposium this year. So far I have done about 20 hours on one platter and I expect about 20 more before it is done. I am also doing a similar textured box with some form of seaweed coming thru the top and bottom. Still no idea how I will do that, I've been considering it for 2 months now with not much insight.

Ed Kelle

LIWC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Complete your renewal by clearly printing the information requested in the spaces below, and return this form, along with your check in the amount of \$35.00 to:

Joe Bottigliere
1238 Church Street
Bohemia, NY 11716

Checks should be made out to the **Long Island Woodworkers' Club**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home Telephone _____ Date Joined _____

E-Mail Address _____

Work/Office Phone _____

The Club Board would appreciate your comments concerning club operations, programs, speakers, seminars, etc. Your input, whether pro or con, is necessary for the club to prosper and be of value to you as an individual member. Please don't be bashful. All comments are welcome. We would also like to know if you are interested in serving on one or more committees and those areas of woodworking that are of greatest interest to you.

COMMENTS:

TO ALL MEMBERS: MEMBERSHIPS RUN FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31. TO REMAIN A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING, YOUR RENEWAL IS DUE BY DECEMBER 31, 2006.

The Marketplace

4/4 Spalted Beech lumber for sale. Most 9" and wider 8' long, with great figure.

http://www.righteouswoods.net/Beech_European_Spalted.html is selling it for \$14.20 a board foot, I am asking \$7 a bf for quantities less than 50 bf, \$5.50 for quantities over.

Powermatic 719A Hollow Chisel Mortiser with 4 chisels and mobile base. Great condition, works like a champ. Asking \$595, about \$950 for all this new, save money and get a great tool.

Bill at wmarr@optonline.net, or 631 312 6617

Performax 25 x 2 Dual Drum Sander with Power Feed; 5 hp 220 V Leeson Motor. Machine has "low mileage"

Bob Urso (631) 724-4625 or through the club website

12" Sear's bandsaw, good condition, \$175, 14" Reliance Bandsaw, good condition \$225, 10" Ryobi Tablesaw, good condition

Charlie Morehouse (631) 271-7251

3 hp 4 bag Reliant dust collector \$275, 12" radial arm saw, rusted but runs. Free to a good home.

Willie (631) 235-0186

Laser etched photos on wood.

Contact Dave Schichtel at (516) 671-5964 or www.the-wood-shop.com

Foley Model 387 Automatic Saw Filer
Complete with extra files.

Norman Picht (631) 242-9255

Routers, Sanders, Drills and more for sale,
Dennis Taddeo 631 543 2256

FREE kiln-dried wood scraps suitable for stove or fireplace. Mostly maple, mahogany, oak, walnut, poplar. Cold weather is only two to three months away!

Roger 631-691-2095

Fine Woodworking Magazines, issues 1-159 plus index to 120
Excellent condition \$475

Woodsmith Magazines, issues 1-143 plus index to 126
Excellent Condition \$300

Gene Kelly (631) 265-5218

Jet 14" Bandsaw (JWBS-14C), riser block, new tires and thrust bearings, cool blocks, mobile stand, 1/8, 1/4, 1/2, 3/4 X 105 inch Timberwolf and Olson blades. Excellent condition. If new would be \$750, asking \$450. Board Buddies (W1104) hold down and anti-kick back for table saws and routers. In original box, never used. If new would be \$50, asking \$25. Pumice and Rottenstone for rubbing out finish. Four pounds of each. Best offer.

Adam Fisher 631.751.6606 or adamdfisher@optonline.net

L.I. School of Classical Woodcarving & Woodworking Schedule for 2007 visit; [http:// homepage.mac.com/walterc530/](http://homepage.mac.com/walterc530/)

Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY 7TH - MONTHLY MEETING Router Joinery with Joe Saccante 7PM Brush Barn

Check the website for all SIG activities.

LONG ISLAND WOODWORKERS' CLUB



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