

THE
Woodrack
June 2011



CHARLIE JAMES ON VENEERING

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President's Message

*Daryl Rosenblatt for
Mike Daum*



The annual June picnic traditionally carries with it some wet weather, and this year may be no exception. Please come prepared, but in the event of rain we will be dining indoors. There will be no formal meeting but there will be a raffle drawing, and feel free to bring in some Show N Tell items to pass around the tables. You may also want to take some time to browse the Library. Have you visited it lately? I'm amazed at the titles and plethora of information that our books, DVDs, and VCR taped collection contains. If you haven't peeked inside, I'm sure you'll be pleasantly surprised and perhaps make use of this valuable resource. Fred Schoenfeld is the librarian, and will be happy to assist you in borrowing some items.

THIS MONTH:

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
SECRETARY'S NOTES
THE GALLERY**

**SIG NEWS & PHOTOS
SSOW
TURNERS' GUILD
LISA
LICFM**

Summer weather is tricky for woodworking. Some of us have shops that are somewhat climate controlled - air conditioning, or working in a cool basement - while others can barely work 10 minutes in their garage shop before profusely sweating. The added humidity is also a concern, especially with making solid wood cabinetry and projects with joinery that will change with seasonal movement. If you are one of us that has your own solution to overcoming this dilemma, please share your experience with others. This topic is a great "icebreaker" among members of our group that find themselves meeting for the first time. I also have a selfish reason to make sure you are working in your shops all summer long (with no excuse for weather); your projects for the November Show. The time will fly by and before you blink... you'll only be thinking about what to make instead of how many weeks to allow before finishing your project(s).

Keep in mind that we all love to work with wood, so any conversation can easily be started just by asking what you do with it. I love to pass by sequestered groups and hear the talk of a new tool, or the confidence in a technique. Occasionally I'll even hear my name mentioned, but usually it's in the context of a complaint. I still love you all anyway.



**CLUB HOTLINE
(631) 656-5423**

The Woodrack
Volume 23 Number 6

**Next meeting
Wednesday June 1st 6PM
Brush Barn**

**Annual Picnic
Note the earlier time**



Secretary's Report

*Jean Piotrowski for
Steve Blakley*

Mike Daum opened the meeting at 7:15. He mentioned some of the suggestions found in the suggestion box – one was for Pizza Night, I was distracted and don't really know what the outcome was.

If you have not been receiving the newsletter via e-mail, please let Mike or Joe B. know. Mailed copies of this month's newsletter did not get out before the meeting, they will arrive late.

This year's picnic is on Weds., June 1st at 6:00. Discounted tickets are being pre-sold, \$10.00 per adult, \$5.00 per child and children 4 and under are free. The day of the picnic adult tickets will be \$12.00, children \$6.00. Tickets will be available at the SIG meetings, or you can contact Ed Piotrowski. Because the picnic is being catered, we are trying to get a headcount. If you know you are coming, but have not purchased a ticket, please e-mail Jean Piotrowski at jeanpio@aol.com.

Reminder – dues should be paid in full by now. If you have not yet paid your dues, please see Joe B.

There were 3 new attendees at the meeting – Bob Martin, a recent retiree from Grumman who resides in Centereach. Rick Nicolini, a locksmith from Franklin Square and Dave Jackel from Port Washington. Welcome to the club.

Mike reminded us all that the workshop can be very dangerous. He witnessed an accident that reminded him how dangerous a joiner is. He urged all of us to be cautious and alert in shop. Wearing gloves when using most tools in the shop can be hazardous.

Anyone interested in veneer work might want to

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The Gallery

Bob Schendorf



Ok, we're all friends here right? So I can share one of my pet peeves with you guys: Someone brings in a beautiful piece to a meeting, the kind that makes you want to put your tools on craigslist and join a knitting club, and the second question is always; "How long did it take?"

Now is that a really a valid question? Somewhere in the back of my mind I am probably wondering the same thing, but something about that question just always rubs me the wrong way. I get that if you are creating something for money, time has to play a role. But I feel that time should be more of a gauge than a goal. The way I see it, efficiency and capability should add up to a shorter work time and thus a more profitable project.

I'm sure that most of us who have ever built case-work have crunched the numbers and realized the profit potential of building kitchen cabinets. I think what happens though, is that to grow you need more help and more machinery (which grows your overhead) so you need more work to cover the overhead. Then maybe you invest in some serious equipment to really help you streamline, and of course, that is leased. So you look for more inexpensive materials and maybe a simple joinery system, and before you know it, to have any chance to make any money, you're only offering customers a choice of three woods and finishes (and the "woods" are open to interpretation, as to whether or not they actually are wood). And of course your custom kitchen can only have eighteen, twenty four and thirty six inch cabinets.

So what's your point Bob?

My point is, the above scenario is what I and every other custom cabinet maker wrestles with. I'm not knocking the kitchen cabinet business. We do need cabinets for the masses. It's just, "custom" is one of

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visit the Wexler Gallery in Philadelphia to see an exhibit of work by Silas Kopf. The exhibit will run from May 6 to June 25th. Interested parties may want to carpool.

The new book by Spike Carlson, "Ridiculously Simple Furniture Projects" is now available. Mike thought it might be fun to put together a Spike Carlson exhibit at the show of projects from this new book.

Exotic Wood Group will be bringing select woods to the meetings at discounted prices. This month there are ebony blanks, 1" square by about 7" for \$6.00 each. Perfect for finials and pens.

SIG Meetings -

The Cabinet Makers will hold a "dull" meeting on sharpening on Tuesday, May 10th at the American Legion Hall in Kings Park at 7 pm.

The Woodturners Guild will meet on Thursday, May 12th at the Brush Barn at 7 pm. This month's project is Peppermills. If you are interested in turning a peppermill, please bring a block of wood, 3" square and 5 - 8" long, depending on the size of the finished peppermill. Please bring lathes if possible. Bob Urso will be doing the demo.

Long Island Scroll Saw Association will meet on Thursday, May 19th at the Brush Barn at 7 pm. Joe Pascucci will do a demo on scrolled puzzles.

The Secret Society of Wood Carvers will meet on Wednesday, May 25th at 8 pm at the American Legion Hall in Kings Park. It will be an open carving session.

Steve Eckers reminded us that the Toy Shop will be back in business at the show this year. If you are willing to volunteer at the toy shop, please let Steve know.

Joe B. was contacted by a woman who is selling

those words that gets thrown around way too much. My point for you is there is a lot to be said for creating something just for the sake of creating. Selling something to a stranger is a validation of your abilities. An appreciation for the work you put into it. Is it as valuable to them as you think it should be? Only the market and experience can answer that.

The gallery is your chance, your venue. Your place. An opportunity to take your work to the next level. I encourage anyone who has wondered about selling their stuff to give it a shot.

We've had a couple of beautiful boxes and a gorgeous guitar come in. The collection is truly eclectic and growing, not as fast as I would like, but it is growing. The same for the clients. They are slowly taking notice and coming in, but frankly we do not have enough for them to look at.

Next month what happens when I ask my Latin wife to say; "deep sea fishing". (Any I Love Lucy fans out there?)



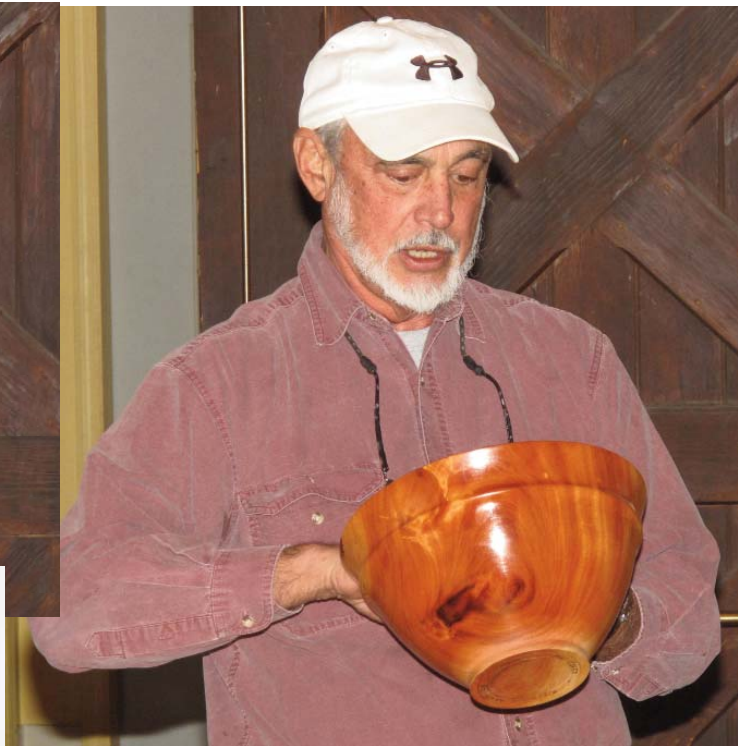
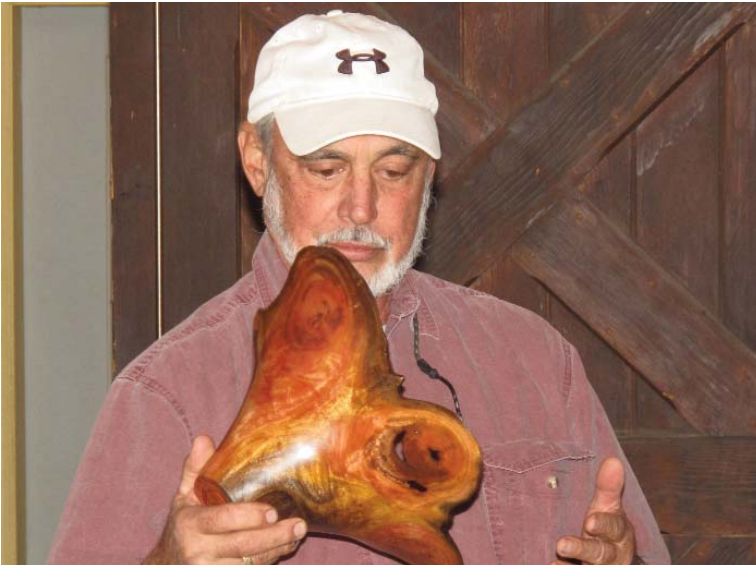
some tools that belonged to her deceased husband. Many of the items are unused. Please contact Joe for details.

Fred Schoenfeld, the club librarian, has requested that anyone who has books belonging to the library, please remember to return them. There are several items missing from the library.

Show & Tell - Ace showed a Mahogany, Maple and Brass Herb Harvesting Knife. He also needs advice on aging some Mahogany, if anyone can offer assistance, please contact Ace.

That ends the business portion of the meeting. The guest speaker for the meeting was Charlie James, resident expert, who discussed Veneering.

Charlie explained a little about how veneer is made by slicing logs into very thin layers. Veneer is best



TURNERS' GUILD PHOTOS





Secret Society of Woodcarvers

Steve Blakley

The April meeting of the SSOW was opened at 7:15PM by the Vice President Frank Napoli. Someone in the club reported our President, Ed Piotrowski had to go to Friendly's and could not make it. Frank encouraged all members to donate money to the club. As with most all faiths, sometimes when a member donates cash to a worthy cause they miraculously are paid back in one way or another. Charlie Felson was the magical winner of the club tonight. Steve Blakley gave a membership and treasurers report.

The schedule for projects was discussed and attending members were asked to pick a project from an assortment of ideas. There was a spirit face hiking stick; a standing bear; a Scotty dog; a carved egg; a miniature mask; an inscribed plate; a love spoon; an old shoe; a swimming dolphins plaque; a stretching cat; Ahab, a sailor; an old style Santa; a chipped carved star ornament and a crocodile slide whistle. Much to the chagrin of this writer one project could not be picked as attending members picked different projects. It was discussed and decided that from now on, projects will be the responsibility of the individual members and we will have open carving sessions. Vice President Frank was very happy about this aspect as he believes we are no longer "beginners" and should expand our own personal horizons.

Steve Blakley will email the project instructions to all those in attendance that picked one of the projects. If you did not attend the meeting and want to do one of the above projects, send me an email and I will send it to you.

It was decided that Steve Blakley should purchase some more bass wood in larger sizes for the group with the donations we have.

In the "Show and Tell" department, the Reardon men showed their mail boxes; John Hons showed a scrolled box (John thought it was a LISA meeting);

Frank Napoli showed a pair of owls he made for his wife; Steve showed a Santa ornament and Ed Jerman showed his cowboy.

Bob Urso said the he might become a dealer for Ramelson tools if anyone wanted them. Steve showed interest in at least two sets. If you are interested in some tools for carving, remember to see Bob for them!

The meeting was then opened to general carving and miscellaneous discussions.

secretary's notes continued from page 4

used when adhered to wood or MDF. MDF works well with veneers, Charlie does not recommend plywood because of its voids. Any imperfections in the surface that veneer is adhered to may show through and ruin a finished piece. Most glues work well with veneer, the glue of choice for Charlie is white glue. However yellow glue and hide glue work just as well.

Charlie showed us the top of a jewelry armoire he's working on using cherry and holly veneer to create an inlay border. On this project he's using hide glue because of it's flexibility. He's able to take it apart and move pieces around.

When assembling veneer designs, he recommends using veneer tape. Blue tape may leave a residue that can affect the finish. Make sure all surfaces are clean of dust before gluing the veneer.

E-Bay is a good source for purchasing veneer materials. When you receive your veneer, it's a good idea to number each piece in order to match the grain patterns. Veneers are best stored flat with a board on top to weigh it down.

Charlie went on to demo cutting and gluing veneer to a piece of MDF. He showed how a defect in the veneer is easily cut away and replaced with a new piece.

Thank you Charlie for another wonderful presentation.

LISA

Jean Piotrowski



In the absence of our fearless leader, Rolf, Joe Pascucci graciously volunteered to run this month's meeting.

The meeting opened around 7:15, I think Joe was hoping that Rolf would walk through the door, however, he did not. So with all the courage he could muster, he opened the meeting.

There were no new members, no new business and no old business to discuss. So onto this month's topic, making puzzles from pictures.

Joe began by explaining how to search for photos on Google.Com and then selecting the correct size and format (Large Photos 1024 x 768). Once you've selected a photo, save it to my pictures and print on photo quality paper. The photo paper works best because it has a little weight to it and it holds up well when glued.

You can use MDF or plywood for the puzzles. Measure the image and then add about 1" for a border. Cut 2 pieces of wood the size that you need. Mark the surface to indicate where the photo will be glued down on one of the pieces. Resting the wood on bench cookies and using a rule stop helps make this process easier. (You can purchase these items from LI Woodworking Supply.)

Drill a starter hole so you can cut the puzzle section from the border. Remember to square your blade first so the puzzle pieces will fit together. Joe recommends #7 Robert Larson Blades (you can also purchase these from LI Woodworking Supply).

Make sure the cut out piece fits back into the frame from any direction. Lightly sand if necessary. Next, glue the frame piece to the bottom piece of wood. (Joe did this step with an unusually large amount of clamps, but he's the expert.) Let the glue set up overnight. You can use white glue for this step.

Next, glue the photo to the cut out section of wood using spray adhesive. Use a roller to press the photo down firmly and get rid of any air bubbles. Use a sharp razor to trim any edges. Use blue painters tape, light tack, to attach the pattern over the photo. Just tack down some of the edges and cut the puzzle, re-tape if necessary.

This was a very entertaining demo, and we all learned a lot. The puzzles are easy to make and the kids love them. You can download the puzzle template at <http://woodworking.com/uploads/public/documents/puzzle-piece/pattern.pdf>.

The second topic for the evening was Alain Tiercy showing us some tips on assembling a small mantle clock. Alain explained that it can be difficult to hold the pieces together when gluing up a small piece cut from 1/8" stock.

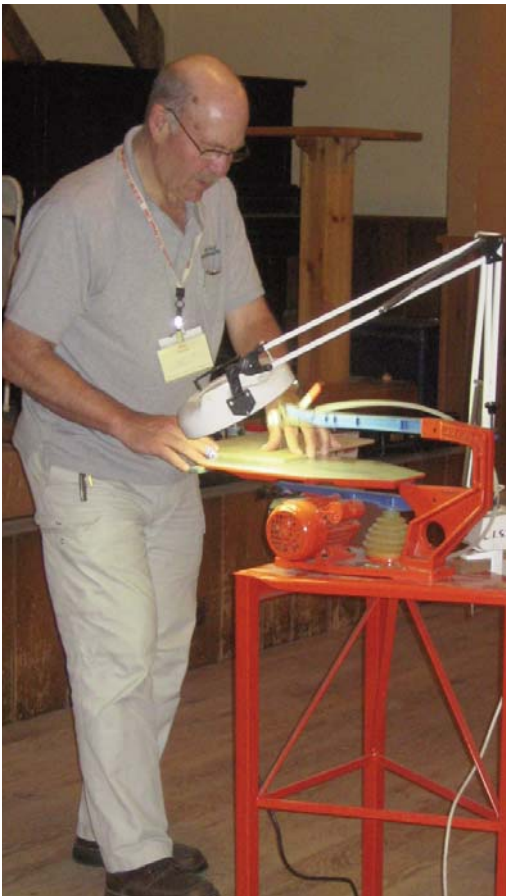
He makes sure he has a flat surface to work on and marks the insides of the pieces with small pieces of blue painters tape. He uses a spacer block on the inside of the clock to help assemble the front, back & side pieces. Then he lays down a piece of blue tape, sticky side up. Then you need to lay down the pieces, bottom and 2 sides, on the tape and lift up the tape, fitting the pieces together. This technique worked well to hold the pieces together.

Thank you Alain for sharing your expertise with us.

Next month's meeting will be on Thursday, June 16th at 7 pm.



Joe P's custom bandaid, soon to be available from Lee Valley



LISA photos above and left;
Meeting photos below





LICFM SIG

Matt Stern
for Steven Price

Matt brought the meeting to order at 7:05 and began with a discussion of the proposed topics for the next several meetings, particularly on Joinery. It was decided that while no member has any pressing issues on Joinery, a workshop on Sharpening is a high priority. This will be given by Matt at the May meeting. In June, we will host a workshop on Hand Plane Identification, Uses, and Tuning (lecturer TBD). Matt reviewed other general SIG business, and also reiterated the need to purchase raffle tickets, as it's not just about winning an item, but also supporting the SIG's needs for additional equipment.

Next, Jim Brown unveiled (and assembled) the long-awaited and desperately needed LICFM portable workbench, thanking all those who were involved in the building of the bench (Barry Saltsberg, Gerry Gorski, Steve Price, Ben Nawrath, Rick Blohm and Bob Filipi). A lengthy discussion of how to clamp the work ensued, including use of the built-in pipe clamp vise, as well as the newly purchased front vise mechanism from Grizzly.

Matt then introduced Jim as our featured speaker and his discussion of dovetails, including a brief overview of through, half blind, blind, and sliding varieties. Jim next discussed the joint's use in cabinetry, and then how to identify the pins from the tails, followed by showing us how to lay out the sides, front, and rear boards, in an "exploded" view. Next, he marked each pair of joints, as well as indicated where the drawer bottom groove belongs (for proper orientation).

Next, Jim taped two drawer sides together and marked them for the tail depths using a homemade (and well-executed) marking tool, which sported a home-made dual-edged marking knife, fashioned from a dull jigsaw blade. Next, Jim showed us how to square up the assembly in a vise using a plain

wooden block (cut at 90 degree angles). Jim continued with how to use dividers to accurately layout the sides of each cut, once the width of the half-tails were determined – all without measuring!

Jim then brought out his set of Veritas western-style dovetail saws, including one for crosscutting (16 pitch) and a 14 pitch blade for ripping. He showed us how it's easier to cut all lines of one angle, then all the lines of the other angle to assist in consistency (instead of alternating cuts at the two different angles). Norm Bald also showed how you could also grip the work so that one of the lines is perpendicular to the bench, cut them, then re-align the work perpendicular to the other line, so you're always cutting straight down.

Jim continued by cutting out the waste between tails using a coping saw with a very fine (and narrow) blade, set at 45 degrees to the handle, then carefully chopped out the final waste with a chisel.

Once the tails were done, Jim separated the two side pieces and lined up one with its mate (per the layout above), and used a sharp marking knife to copy the tail layout onto the end of the pin board. Jim likes to highlight these narrow lines with a pencil; one of the members also noted that you can use a dull pencil mark to actually span both sides of the marked line, effectively "highlighting" it (the line is light between two dark borders).

Jim cut these lines (on the inside) with his saw, and coped out the spaces between the pins, and then carefully chopped the remaining waste square to the board edges.

Finally, with a little (note: *very* little) fine-tuning, the joint was well made with barely discernable gaps.





2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Complete this application by clearly printing the information requested in the spaces below, and returning 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

NAME: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZipCode:** _____

Telephone: _____

E Mail Address: _____

Alternate Telephone: _____

Primary woodworking interest: _____

Other woodworking related interests: _____

How would you rate your skill level: _____

What would you hope to gain from the club: _____

COMMENTS, SUGESTIONS, EXPECTATIONS:

SIGS - \$25 first two; \$15 third; \$10 fourth:

CABINETMAKERS: _____

CARVERS: _____

SCROLLERS: _____

TURNERS: _____

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.

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

Laser etched photos on wood.

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

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

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

I have a live black walnut tree which is 55 inches in circumference at one ft. above the ground and extends to 25 ft. to the first branch. The tree is yours for the cutting.

Jim Ganci at 631-271-7517 in Dix Hills

Cherry 4/4 and 8/4
Quarter Sawn Red Oak 4/4 by 14" wide

Hard Maple, Curly Maple, Assorted pieces of White Oak, Ash, Lacewood, Honduras Mahogany Basswood 4/4 and 12?4 12" Wide, Purple Heart, Sequenced matched Birch Plywood 1/4" and 3/4" Partial Sheet of 1/2 " cherry Plywood.

Craftsman bench top router table Free
Freestanding Router Table \$25.00
Common White Pine Assorted width and length Free

Chris Lee (631) 754-2456

Makita LS1013 10" Dual slide compound saw extra blade & Woodhaven .drop stop system .Mint condishion Never moved around. \$295.00

Jim Clancy 516-822-8250

Delta Unisaw for sale (excellent condition) best offer. I recently bought a new 10" Left Tilting Unisaw and no longer need my Right Tilting Unisaw (which is in excellent condition)

Specs:

Model 34-802 10" Right Tilting Arbor Unisaw
3 HP, 230 volt, 12.4 amp Single Phase
Model 34-897 52" Unifence system

Model 34-998 Table and Shelf (extension table and Shelf for above)

Model 34-974 Deluxe Uniguard
"USA Made"

Howard Whitman
Home: 631-586-5815
Cell: 516-805-9651
Email: hwhitbross@gmail.com

16" Craftsman Scroll saw low mileage and was hardly used. Asking \$100

Ken Stoeckert 631-374-9410.

LONG ISLAND WOODWORKERS



4 Pam Court
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