



# THE Woodrake

January/February 2015

S H O W      2 0 1 4



A WORKBENCH FOR THE  
21ST CENTURY



TOYS FOR TOTS

**LIW BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<i>President</i>	Mike Daum
<i>Vice President</i>	Bob Urso
<i>Secretary</i>	Jim Heick
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mike Luciano
<i>Trustees</i>	Joe Pascucci
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<i>Librarian / Video Library</i>	Pat Doherty
<i>Raffles</i>	Fred Schoenfeld
<i>Refreshments</i>	"Papa" John Hons
<i>Audio/Video</i>	Joe Pascucci
<i>Photographer</i>	Jean Piotrowski
<i>Workshop Coordinator/Food Critic</i>	Charlie Felsen Rich Reidell Jim Macallum Charlie James

**SECRETARY'S NOTES****JIM HEICK**

Our meeting started around 7:10, by Bob Urso. Bob welcomed the members and thanked everyone for coming out on another cold and blistery evening. Bob used a whistle to get members attention and get the meeting started.

We will be holding our Annual Bus Trip to Saratoga Springs for the Northeast Woodworkers Show and Exhibit. The trip is Saturday March 28, 2015. The cost is \$50.00 per person. Cost includes Bus ride and Show entry fee. (Breakfast and Dinner is not included) We will make a stop at a rest stop on the New York Thruway for breakfast. We will be stopping at Carrabas for dinner on our way home from the show.

We will be picking up members and guests at Exit 63 Park and Ride (North , Off LIE – between Hess and Applebees). Bus will be leaving Park and Ride by 6:00am.

We will also be picking up at the Exit 49 Park and Ride (Off LIE- North Servcie Road, between Pinelawn Road and Rte 110. The Bus should arrive around 6:20am and leave by 6:30am.

Please have payment for the trip at March's Meeting.

The LIW would like to welcome new member Brian Thomas. Thomas was introduced to the LIW by his friend Rich Reidell.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Nick Pellicione. Special thanks to Bill Leonhardt for arranging to have Nick speak at our meeting. Nick's presentation on the building of a 21st Century Bench was appreciated by all members. Nicks explanation and great presentation was also a good topic on our forum.

Bill Leonhardt mentioned he will make the presentation available to the members.

Raffle Winners for February were: Frank Pace & Ed Dillon

Membership dues need to be satisfied at this point. Please see Joe Bottigliere, Membership Chairman.

Morgan Center: by Mike Luciano ( The following is from a post on the LIW website Forum)

Thanksgiving is almost here Christmas is close and it occurred to me that many of us are gearing up for Christmas gifts. If you are making gifts for family and friends how about making one more for the Morgan Center kids? Small boxes, bowls, bottle stoppers, pizza cutters, musical instruments, and any other items are welcomed. The annual appeal is in March but I will gladly collect, store and delivery any items you wish to donate. Thanks.

# The Woodrack

Volume 25 Number 1

Next meeting  
Wednesday March 4th 7 PM  
Brush Barn



# SHOW WINNERS 2014



**JOHN J. KEANE AWARD FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN WOODWORKING  
CHARLIE JAMES**

FURNITURE 1 BEDS & TABLES (WITHOUT DRAWERS)



FIRST PLACE - RICH MACRAE



SECOND PLACE - COREY TIGHE

FURNITURE 2 DESKS & CASEWORK/CABINETRY



**FIRST PLACE - CHARLIE JAMES**



**SECOND PLACE - JIM BROWN**



**THIRD PLACE - MARK ORIANO**

FURNITURE 3 CHAIRS



**FIRST PLACE - LEO MEILAK**



**SECOND PLACE - JIM MOLONEY**



**THIRD PLACE - STEVE PRICE**

ACCESSORIES



FIRST PLACE - RICH MACRAE



SECOND PLACE - NORMAN BALD



THIRD PLACE - JIM BROWN

TURNING



FIRST PLACE - STEVE FULGONI



SECOND PLACE - MARTY PLATT



THIRD PLACE - JEAN PIOTROWSKI

SEGMENTED TURNING



FIRST PLACE - CARL SAENGER



SECOND PLACE - RAYMOND BOHN

CARVING



FIRST PLACE - IRIS ZIMMERMAN



SECOND PLACE -  
RICH ZIMMERMAN



THIRD PLACE - ROGER SCHROEDER

SCROLLWORK



FIRST PLACE - ROLF BEUTENMULLER

MARQUETRY / INLAY



FIRST PLACE - BILL LEONHARDT



SECOND PLACE - DARYL ROSENBLATT

TOYS / CRAFTS / GAMES



FIRST PLACE - ROGER SCHROEDER



SECOND PLACE - MIKE LUCIANO

UNIQUE



## FIRST PLACE - MATT STERN



SECOND PLACE - STEVE PRICE

THIRD PLACE - NORMAN BALD

NOVICE



FIRST PLACE - GLENN BOASI



SECOND PLACE - TONY FUOCO

INTARSIA



FIRST PLACE - ANDI STIX



SECOND PLACE -  
ROLF BEUTENMULLER



THIRD PLACE -  
JEAN PIOTROWSKI

JUDGES COMMENDATION



Frank Napoli



Frank Pace



Jim Hennefield



Mike Josiah



Mike Luciano



Tom James

**BURN BARREL****BOB SCHENDORF**

# Ding, dong the witch is dead!

A while back I wrote a column titled; “Signs”. I’m sure you all remember it as it was brilliant, insightful and entertaining. And if the Pulitzer committee wasn’t just another corrupt international organization intent on only recognizing writers who waste their time seeking true happiness or writers who chronicle the plight of left handed orphans in Africa, instead of truly important literary works, I’d be coming to you as an “award winning” author right now.

I digress. In that column I spoke about a handmade sign that I keep around the shop that says; “Shabby chic is for those who can’t finish!” Well I am pleased to announce that shabby chic is dead...Kind of, well, more like morphed or evolved. Yes, that cable TV staple of a finishing style, shabby chic, has now become; RUSTIC.

“What’s the difference?” you ask. Well, as I see it, shabby chic was just a crappy finish put on an otherwise perfectly sound piece of furniture, whereas “rustic” implies that the whole piece of furniture, including the finish is crap!

I believe that here in the information age, many consumers (and again for our purpose, I define a consumer as anyone other than yourself that you make a piece of furniture for) are feeling disconnected from nature and all things natural and organic. It may be our DNA’s way of saying; “Hey hold on there Sid! Where’s our cave? How come we are a constant seventy two degrees whether it’s summer or winter? What is this Starbucks place? There are no animals to hunt or fruit to gather in there!”

And of course, they all want it made out of “reclaimed lumber” which is in itself a racket, because the vast majority of it is old construction lumber. Now granted, a lot of the old Doug Fir and white and yellow pine boards are beautiful, and that’s because they were old growth and couldn’t help but be anything else, and they tend to be very stable due to their age and the circumference of their growth rings. But there’s a reason Duncan Phyfe and his contemporaries didn’t use it. It’s the same reason we don’t (unless you’re an upholsterer) use two by fours to build furniture today.

And I get that it’s cool that these good old boards are not going to be taking up valuable landfill space, and how everybody involved feels like they are an environmental hero for using them, and to be honest, some of the pieces (especially the ones we make) look wicked good.

But, to build this kind of stuff you need a certain temperament. How do you know if you are so inclined? Go down the street to the neighbor’s house, the one doing the big remodel. Pull a two by six that’s chock full of nails and screws out of the dumpster. Take it home and have someone in your household drive the nails and screws deep into the board and then paint it black so they are not so obvious. Next, spend an hour or so removing said metal objects and then mill the board.

Now, as that old board gets milled, and turns your beloved jointer, planner and table saw into very expensive metal detectors that send you ducking for cover every time a blade hits a missed screw or nail, focus on the brand new emotion that you are feeling and then multiply that feeling by about twenty, because you are going to need much more than just a single board to build a table. That’s how you know whether or not you have what it takes to work with reclaimed lumber.

Because mine is a pro shop, (you were just waiting for me to sneak that in there somewhere weren’t you?) we have

systems in place as well as an impressive inventory of reclaimed boards. And if you want me to build you a dining table with this stuff, the price of re-sharpening all of the blades it comes in contact with is built in to the price. It has to be. We also have at least two sets of blades for each machine ready for swapping out once we are done cutting these heirloom boards.

Another challenge is that each client has their own vision of what reclaimed should look like. Usually they come in with a photo of a table that some hack, somewhere built, and it is not at all unusual that the boards are so obviously cupped, that you wonder how anyone would even contemplate enjoying a meal or entertaining at it. So we end up spending a lot of time listening and interpreting (two skills that I am honestly struggling with) what their desires are.

The silver lining is, there's always a silver lining, is that reclaimed lumber can be cheap. (Did he just say cheap? I like cheap.) if you do a little homework and find some good sources. And remember, as far as I know, as of this moment, there are no industry standards governing what is and what isn't "reclaimed". As far as I'm concerned, it just has to be used.

So what's a woodworker who has scruples, morals and skill to do? Whether you do it for love or money, chances are you are doing it for someone else. You see the pit falls of using these materials. You know it's probably just a fad and the fruit of your efforts is probably going to get replaced in a few years, when the person you made it for comes down for breakfast one day and looks at the table you spent many hours building and says; "What the hell was I thinking?" You look around at what's out there and see the work of some hoople who is literally using nails as joinery, and hear some "Real Housewife of Long Island" say; "Oh my God! It's beautiful, it's art!" and you just shake your head and walk away silently.

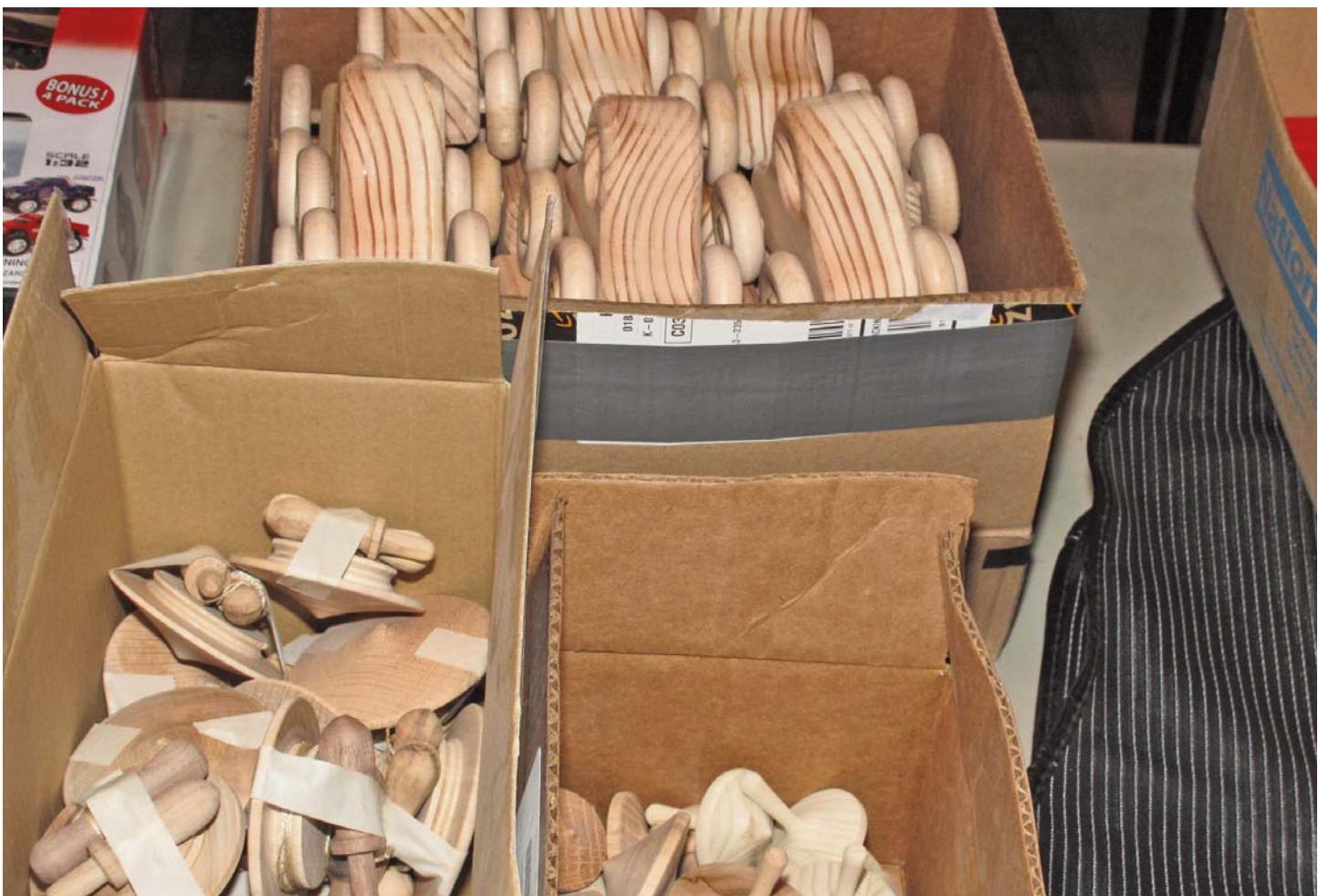
I would suggest doing what we do at our shop. Just hunker down and roll with it until fashions change. And in the meantime, just keep building the best damn mechanically sound, quality pieces you can.....and then take a hammer and gouge to it and make it look like *ora* ....er, I mean, rustic!



## SEVERAL MONTHS OF MEETING PHOTOS















LICFM



BEN NAWRATH

## M inutes of the Cabinet and Furniture Makers meeting, December 8, 2014

Since this was our holiday meeting, it started with a PARTAY!!! After a few beers and a lot of sweet, fattening stuff, Bob called the meeting to order around 7:15.

Bob has been undergoing a reorganization, and offered a Craftsman hand plane and a DeWalt sander for \$10 each. Gary G grabbed the sander faster than you could slap on the next grit.

Bob U made a request for more participation in the Round Robbin at the January meeting of the “big club.”

President Schiendorf stated that mentoring was available for new members who request it or anyone who needs help with a particular technique or operation. He brought up the suggestion that we hold a craft show, which generated some discussion on the subject.

### Show & Tell:

Norm showed some pictures of a display case he made.

Justin had the components of a small table. He is a new woodworker, and had some questions for the group. He got some suggestions on how he might proceed.

The raffle was held. the winners were Dave and Joe V.

The topic for the night was a presentation by Don D. on how to draw or draft your project design (the old fashioned way - by hand - for those who are CAD or sketch-up challenged, like this writer). He gave an overview of the tools needed. He suggested it might be easier to work in decimals, rather than fractions, and showed the correlation between the two. He illustrated the types of views possible to visualize your design idea, i.e., isometric, orthographic projection and 2-point perspective. He illustrated the two kinds of lists necessary to build a furniture project, i.e., a cut list, showing quantity, size in width, depth and thickness, and any notes; and a materials list, showing quantity, size and materials.

Since Don’s presentation was an overview, anyone needing help with hand drawing of furniture plans can request mentoring, as noted above.

The evening started off promptly at 7:10 (February 10<sup>th</sup>) with a general announcement from Bob that in case of inclement weather there will be an email announcement about pushing the meeting back a week.

New members tonight include Jorge, from Setauket, and Michael Ruder who is into furniture and live edge pieces.

Joe Bottigliere reminded us of the Saratoga trip March 28.

For show and tell, Jim Brown showed the fence he made for the router table he built into his table saw wing. It saddles his Biesemeyer style table saw fence, and it's a great solution for a small shop. Steve Price showed a small box he repaired for a friend that required some intricate edge gluing of thin mahogany. Barry S. showed a cutting board he made using a technique from a magazine with wavy strips of bloodwood in maple. On the subject, Gary G. mentioned a program he found online called "cbdesigner" to help layout cutting boards.

This reminded some folks of the importance of proper stock pre/milling from last month, Then I blacked out for a few minutes while Bob ranted...

Tonight's meeting was round robin demo of different methods of mortising using power tools. Mainly a hollow-chisel mortiser, the domino, a router and jigs, and using dowels.

Norm explained the importance of setting up the hollow chisels on his mortiser. He polishes the chisels to make them cut smoother and eject chips more efficiently. It's important to set the bit slightly proud of the chisel so the chips have a place to go. Then square them to your fence. He has a home built (plans from shop notes vol 17 issue 100) X/Y table on his machine. He prefers to always do individual cuts then clean up in between later so the chisels are always cutting wood on all 4 sides and don't bend.

Rich Blohm showed how to make homemade dowels using a Veritas cutter. This allows him to use whichever species of wood he wants on a project. He then uses a jig to make holes and the dowels to join pieces together.

Jim H. uses a plunge router with an edge guide with his work piece wedged between parallel fences to make mortises. He also showed a jig to make mortises in wide boards that is one board the thickness of the router offset hinged to a clamping board. You set the jig along the line of where you want the mortise, flip up the one board, now you have a fence that places the bit right where you want the mortise.

Roger E. demonstrated his domino loose tenon joiner. It is arguably the fastest easiest way to make mortises for loose tenons!



TURNER'S GUILD



MIKE JOSIAH

**T**he January turners meeting started at roughly 7 PM led by President for life Steve Fulgoni

Totally Turning will be held March 28th and 29th in Saratoga Springs. The seminars run both days, but if you want to go one day only, the main club will have a bus going up on Saturday and coming back that night.

The AAW Symposium will be in Pittsburgh this year June 25th - 28th Hotel rooms at the discounted rate are booking fast so if your thinking of going book your room soon!

Tonights meeting was a round robin on accenting/embellishing your work. No turning was done but there were many techniques of Pyrography shown as well as I think almost all the popular burning systems available. Extra wood was provided and all that wanted to could try out a tool or technique.

Also shown was some power carving and the use of mineral inlays.

Almost everyone demonstrating also brought in finished examples of what they were demonstrating so people could see them.

This was a different format than was previously done, but the turnout was great and everyone had a good time and learned a lot!

See you next month!

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The February turners meeting started at 7 PM led by President for life Steve Fulgoni. Totally Turning will be held March 28th and 29th in Saratoga Springs. The seminars run both days, but if you want to go one day only, the main club will have a bus going up on Saturday and coming back that night.

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Steve is looking into having turning smocks made with our club logo. If you know of a good source for the smocks, please let Steve know.

Future meeting topics were discussed, while no formal schedule has been set yet. (Soon) there were discussions on a "Your turn to turn" night where we bring our lathes and create tops or toys for Toys for Tots. The Chapter Challenge will also be resurrected. More info to come on that.

Tonight topic is on Turning Skinny Finials presented by Barry Saltsburg.

Barry like to use a safety drive so that the wood just stops spinning if there is a catch.

The wood used should be dry and have straight close grain. Wood like oak will not work as the grain is too wide. Ebony, maple etc will work fine

Round off the blank, turn a tenon on one end for the chuck. Barry uses an open end wrench to size the tenon. Using Spigot jaws on your chuck, (Small jaws) mount the blank

Using a spindle gouge, start turning the finial at the end of the blank. Its important to leave as much mass as possible on the blank to prevent vibration so always work from the end back towards the headstock.

After an inch or so of turning, turn and sand to final shape and finish as you most likely wont be able to go back to it again.

Turn the tip and then work back to a bulb shape. Barry creates the shape as he goes and does not necessarily have a predetermined shape in mind.

Always turn downhill and not uphill or you will get a catch.

For long thin areas, turn to the desired thickness and use a skew as a scraper to smooth it out.

If using as a top for a vessel you will most likely be inserting the finial into a larger base possible of a contrasting color wood. To do this, cut a small tenon at the base of the finial and undercut the edge so that when installed in the base it will fit well with no edge showing.

Do not part the finial off Start the cut below the tenon and cut off with a hand saw. This will help prevent breakage.

Finials come in all shapes and sizes... Enjoy have fun and experiment!

See you all next Month!







## The Marketplace

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/>

8/4 Cherry S2S \$5.15 / bf  
5/4 Cherry S2S \$4.25 / bf  
8/4 Poplar \$2.30 / bf  
8/4 Ambrosia Maple \$2.45 / bf  
All Jorgensen and Pony Clamps 20% off  
All Woodpecker Product 15% off  
All specials are for in stock items.

This special is for March 2015 only for the LIWA Members

**Urban Specialty Woods 257 Broadway Huntington Station\*, NY 11746 631-903-5944**  
**\*(Editors Note): Do not confuse this address with Huntington, which also has a 257 Broadway, but it's a house.**

Router table complete with PC 895 router, stand, mobile base and cabinet \$300  
**Ed Altman 631-455-1340**

I have to sell my shop; all the tools. They are currently in storage in Garden City, and need help cataloging and sorting it. That also gives you first crack at buying them. Among the tools are a 3 HP Saw Stop; a dust collection system; Sears drill press; Lie Nielsen bench; 2 speed Delta planer; 6" Powermatic jointer; 14" bandsaw; dust collection system; Festool vacuum; router table; air compressor; drills, hand tools etc.

**Harry Aristodou 516-306-4780 aristidouhc@msn.com**