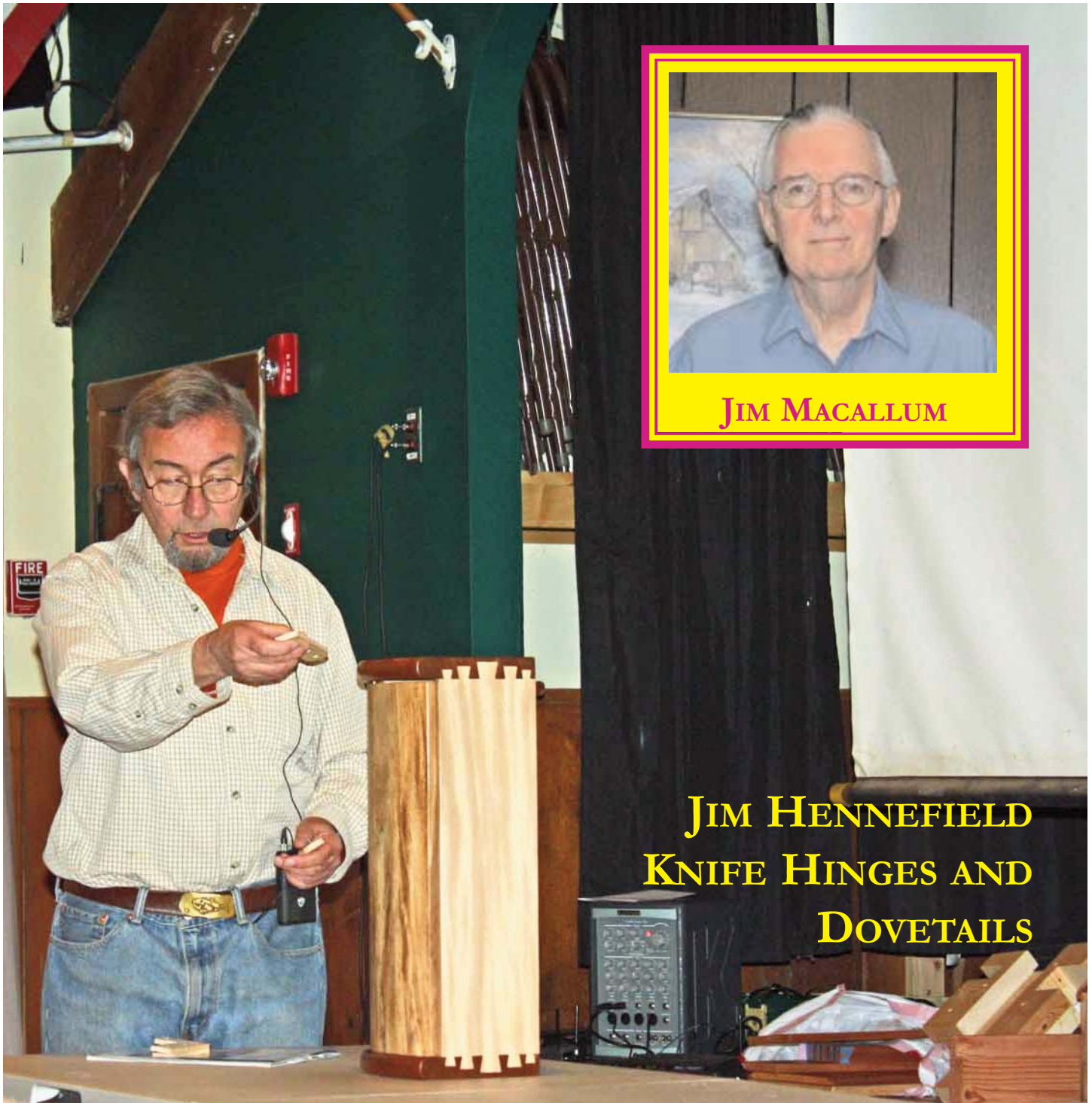




# THE Woodrack

May 2017



JIM MACALLUM

JIM HENNEFIELD  
KNIFE HINGES AND  
DOVETAILS

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<i>Photographer Emeritus</i>	Jim Macallum

## THIS MONTH:

## SECRETARY'S NOTES

JIM MACALLUM

MIKE MITTLEMAN ON CHISEL RACKS

BILL LEONHARDT ON BOARD

STRETCHING

TURNERS' GUILD

LISA

SECRETARY'S  
NOTES

JIM HEICK

Our meeting started at 7:15. Mike Daum, president, addressed the membership. Mike mentioned that a long time LIW member, Mac Simmons had passed away some time ago. The club had only been notified recently of his passing.

New Member- Joe Di Cristina, from Saint James – Welcome Joe...

Mile Luciano mentioned the Morgan Center Fundraiser was being held on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Mike thanked the members who had donated handcrafted items for this event.

Corey Tighe spoke to the membership regarding a guest speaker. Jeff Miller, renowned Craftsman will be giving a demo/hands on workshop Friday Oct. 20, Sat. Oct 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>. Details are in process and will be shared as they develop.

Our June General Meeting, Wednesday June 7<sup>th</sup> is our annual picnic. Due to the overwhelming response of last year's success, we will be catering our own picnic. Volunteers are needed for organizing, shopping, cooking and cleanup. If interested in volunteering, please let us know at the May general meeting, Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Show & Tell:

Corey Tighe – presented a beautiful Jewelry box made of zebra wood and figured maple. Corey mentioned this will be the project students will create at his next upcoming class. More details to follow.

Steve Price displayed a small lidded box made of padauk. Steve mentioned the lid was made of many scraps of wood, leftover over from various projects. He also displayed a scale model of a Tomato enclosure he hopes to build in the near future. He was asking the membership for recommendations on his build.

Andre Mudragel presented a Router table /Tool cabinet which he built. The cabinet has a router lift kit, tool holder and fence.

Norman Bald presented two Roubo Bookstands which he created, inspired by Ben Nawrath's presentation.

Nice job to all!!!

Raffle Winners:

Joe Brescia

## The Woodrack

Volume 26 Number 5

Next meeting  
Wednesday  
May 3rd 7 PM

Mike Daum  
Prepping for Finishing



Bob Urso

Nate Lanzilotta

Our Annual Show and Exhibit is scheduled for Sat Nov 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>. Setup will be Friday Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow. As Mike Daum says” We need Projects, Projects and more Projects”.

The Northeast Woodworkers held their annual Show and Exhibit on Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Long Island Woodworkers were well represented. Congratulations to:

Charlie James – Honorable Mention Furniture

Charlie James – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Accessories

Mike Josiah – Professional Excellence

Our presenter for the evening was Jim Hennefield. Jim spoke about Knife Hinges, both straight and offset. He displayed photos of the cabinet he presented for Show and Tell at last month’s meeting. He followed up each photo with questions and answers from the members. Jim also gave a very detailed presentation on the layout, routing and clean-up of his machine/hand cut dovetails. Jim emphasized his usage of blue painters tape in the layout phase. He explained how he roughs out the material using a router with a spiral upcut bit. He finishes his dovetails using chisels to remove the remaining wood. A special “Thank You” to Jim for his very detailed and interesting presentation.









JIM MACALLUM



DARYL ROSENBLATT



Long time member, and former Trustee and official photographer (our first), Jim Macallum has passed away. An engineer by profession, he was also a very active member of the Club. His expertise was in turning, especially extremely miniaturized turnings, as well as small tables, especially in oak. There are few photos because Jim was too busy taking everyone else's picture and photographing their projects.

His position as official photographer started at the 2004 show, when Jim photographed and cataloged every single project that came in that year, as well as every year after that until he could no longer physically do it several years ago.

When he had to move out of state due to his health, Joe Bottigliere volunteered to sell his tools. I purchased a Stanley 05 that he restored to perfect condition. I can attest to it's perfectly tuned blade, it's Lack of backlash, it's ease in working all manners or wood surfaces. He also belonged to the Antique Tool Club, so his expertise in both restoring and maintaining tools was not in vain. He was a regular member of the Carraba's after meeting dinner every month, and was always a charming, entertaining and witty companion.

Adam Fisher mentioned how Jim teased him that he couldn't draw a straight line because "...my work was all curves! I really enjoyed that."

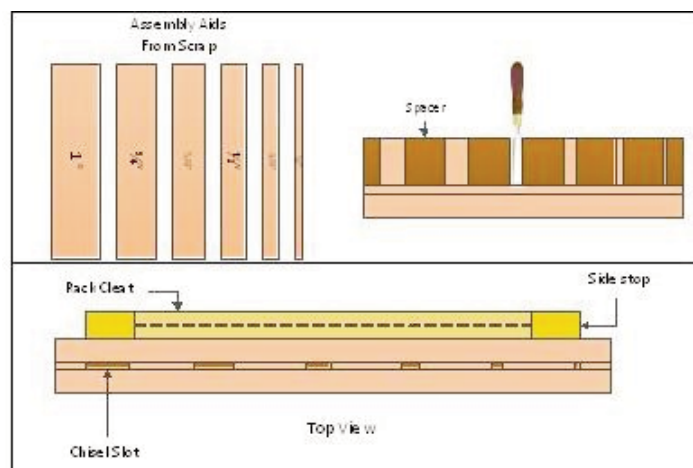


## WOODWORK HACKIN': OCCAM'S RAZOR



MICHAEL R. MITTLEMAN

Whatcha doin? Jus' hackin' around. It was one of those days... had a late breakfast, went to the shop, swept up some sawdust, logged into the web and checked some favorite sites; basically, just doodling. While email was open, one of the "ESPECIALLY FOR YOU," "SUPER SPECIAL," "GOTTA HAVE" messages arrived: a \$0.99 cent sale was available dealing mostly with woodworking projects, of course, for "TODAY ONLY!!!" Scrolling through the offerings resulted in the purchase of five or six selections.



As it turned out, one of the new project plans caught my interest, a rack for chisel storage. The document was a reprint of an early article by a famed woodworker. Yet, respectfully, this article suggests an alternative procedure to complete a portable chisel rack project. Briefly, the original project plan described fitted slots to hold chisels of various widths. To accomplish this goal, the design called for cutting spacers and carefully measured scraps corresponding to each chisel. A couple of pictures may help readers visualize the project: Notice that the chisel slots were constructed by sandwiching the spacers between front and rear pieces. The slot width was established by placing the carefully cut assembly aids between spacers. The assembly aids cor-

responded to individual chisel widths + 1/16". The aids and the spacers were cut from 1/4" stock.

While not explicitly stated, the project plan was probably developed for hand tool construction. Still, the question remained: why weren't dadoes used? These would have obviated the need for spacers and assembly aids, thereby saving the effort and material required for 13 extra pieces (6 aids; 7 spacers). Another niggling issue was trying to figure out the reason a 7/8" chisel slot was skipped. As presented, the rack slots started at 1/4" and continued to 1", graduating by 1/8" widths except for the missing 7/8" slot.

The unexpected intersection between woodworking and Occam's Razor or the Law of Parsimony provides one method for selecting between alternative approaches. The decision rule suggests the simpler construction between comparable plans offering similar results is the better path to take. The qualification in the previous sentence, "...when it can be applied to woodworking," is caused by esthetics, i.e. beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Two objects may be functionally identical, but differ in appearance. If one form is preferred over another for esthetic reasons, the Law of Parsimony may not apply.

The following table underscores the different materials requirements between the two competing approaches for the portable chisel rack:

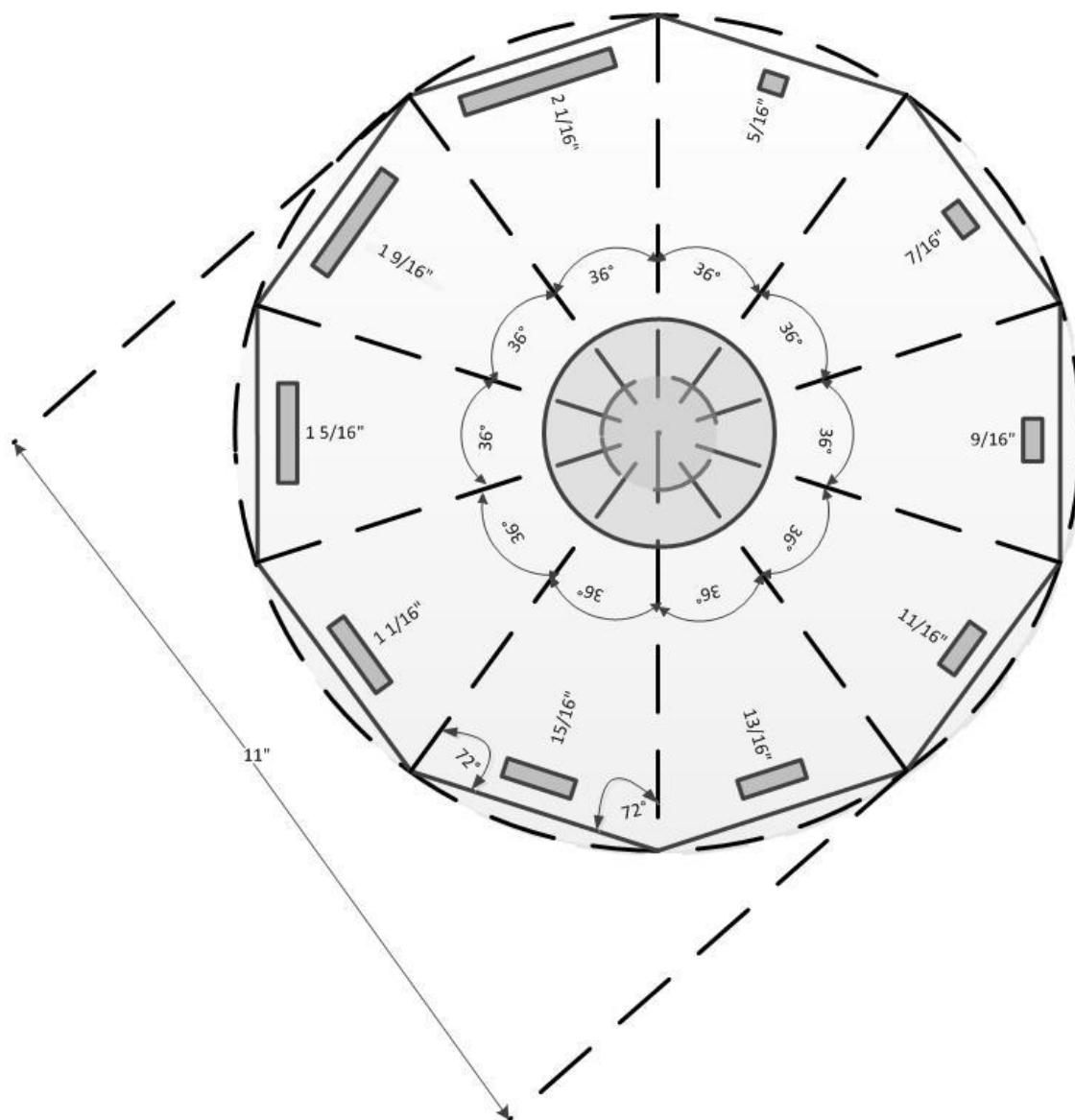
Materials*			
Original Approach		New Approach	
Part	Pcs	Part	Pcs
Back	1	Back	1
Front, upper	1	Front, upper	1
Front, lower	1	Front, lower	1
Rack Cleat	1	Rack Cleat	1
Bench Cleat	1	Bench Cleat	1
Side Stops	2	Side Stops	2
Spacers	7	Spacers	N/A
Assembly Aids	6	Assembly Aids	N/A
Parts needed	20	Parts needed	7

The new approach (dadoes in lieu of spacers and assembly aids) could reduce the parts count further by eliminating the side stops. This would be accomplished by cutting a stopped rabbet of proper dimensions in the rack cleat.

The present case prompts words of caution about the arbitrary use of Occam's Razor. A *reductio ad absurdum* argument could be made for the portable chisel rack to be carved from a single block of wood; clearly, construction time would soar. In summary, a thoughtful balance of efficiency, woodworker skill, available tool set and esthetics must be maintained to achieve a successful project.

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\*The table follows the original design by omitting the 7/8" chisel slot. Adding the 15/16" (7/8" + 1/16") slot increases the Original parts count to 22; the New Approach would remain unchanged at 7 pieces.





TURNERS' GUILD

PHOTOS BY JIM MOLONEY











## LET'S STRETCH A BOARD



BILL LEONHARDT

Recently, I was making a frame as shown in Figure 1 with a close-up of the corner in Figure 2. In a moment of panic, I thought I had cut the sides too short. Luckily, I only suffered from “over thinking” the design and, in reality, the boards were of the correct length.

This got me thinking, though, if there was a way to recover if, in fact, the boards were too short. Perhaps I could add a piece and call it an “aesthetic feature”. I had some scraps, so I mocked on up. I used contrasting wood because, after all, I wanted it to look like I intended to do this. The mockup is shown in Figure 3.

So, what do you think? Could I have gotten away with calling this a “design feature”? Perhaps with a few more, well placed, contrasting wood elements in the overall assembly, I could pull it off.



Figure 1: Pedestal base



Figure 2: Base corner close-up



Figure 3: Mockup of corner with filler piece to "stretch" the sides and ends just a little  
(Note vertical face of filler is 45° to side and end vertical faces)



LISA



**ROLF BEUTTENMULLER**

Arnold was back in charge for this meeting.

I missed my responsibilities for February so combining that with our March meeting.

The scrollers were kind enough to let me run and present the February meeting.

I did a presentation on alternative pattern sources from the normal books and magazines.

Some of those sources are Adult and kids Coloring books, Art books, Clip art pretty much anything that has an image that appeals. If you have artistic abilities you can obviously design your own or with the aid of a light box and a picture you can trace pretty much anything.

Our chapter challenge for February was anything with a valentine theme, and with our normal show and tell it was an interesting display. Bob Carpentier had a very impressive Intarsia motorcycle. We had heart pendants, fretwork signs air plant hangers etc.

March was a really great meeting with a really nice turnout. Iris and Jean lead us through a hands on wood burning session. Those of us that had them brought our own burners. Patterns and wood were provided. Lots of ways for applying the pattern from graphite paper and tracing to using a heat transfer method on a pattern that is laser printed.

The safety aspects were also covered, besides the obvious getting burned and fire it is highly recommended to have a small fan to direct the smoke away from us.

Jean and Iris had several burned and colored samples on display. We all learned something, thank you Iris and Jean.

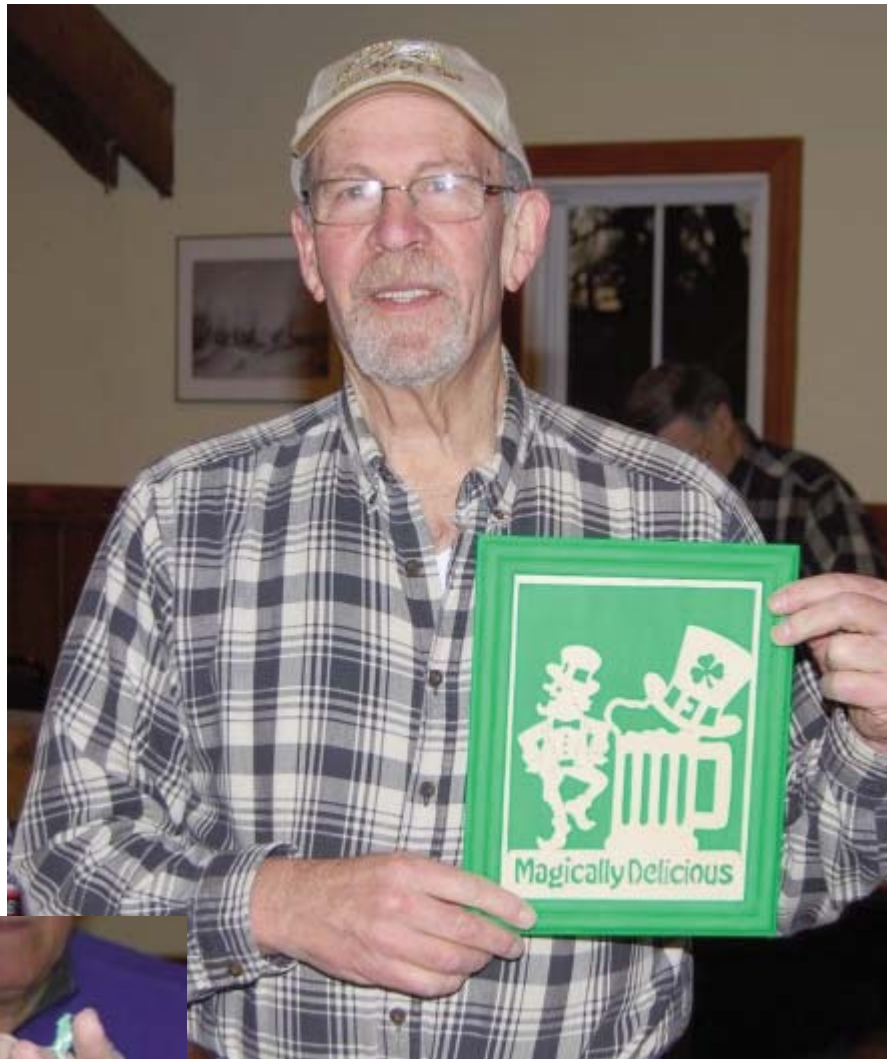
The chapter challenge was an Irish theme.













## The Marketplace

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

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](mailto:aristidouhc@msn.com)**