

THE Woodrack

March 2026



Special
Ozempic
Issue*

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THIS MONTH:

SECRETARY'S NOTES

LICFM

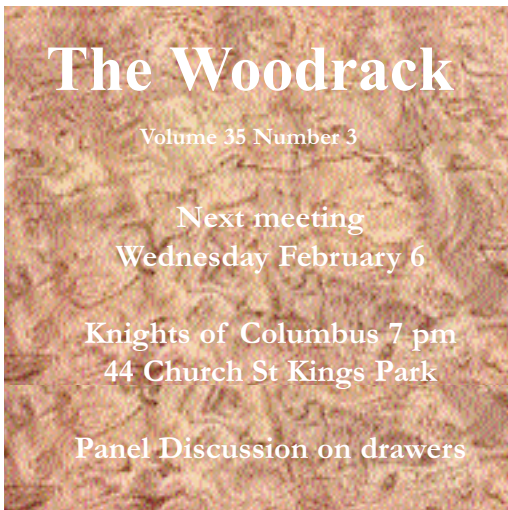
LISA

TRAVELS WITH CHARLIE (QUICK TIP)

TEACHING MODEL SHIP BUILDING

LOCK, STOCK & DARYL

PUZZLE



The General Meeting that never was, February 4, 2026. There was a nice turnout at the Barn. All were ready to enjoy a great presentation when the unexpected occurred: the Barn's sprinkler system alarm triggered. We contacted the Smithtown Historical Society, and we were ordered to vacate the premises immediately.

Apparently, the alarm had been an issue earlier. The Smithtown Fire Marshal ordered the building evacuated until the situation was repaired... only we were never informed. Oops!

Nevertheless, as is its habit, life moved on. At this point, the alarm situation has been addressed, and the Fire Marshal has lifted the vacate order. Then the blizzard struck. Twenty-seven inches of snow. It took days to clear the parking areas and paths around the Barn. The snow plows could not gain purchase on the dirt roads.

As I write this, snow is predicted on at least three more occasions before our March 4th meeting. Rather than risk another aborted meeting, we have relocated the General Meeting to the Kings Park K of C. All of the local roads and the church's parking lot have been thoroughly plowed. See you there!

OTHER BUSINESS

LICFM Meeting, Ben Nawrath, SIG Pres., 2/10/2026, starting at 7 PM. LICFM will be the second phase of our toolbox group project. We'll be talking about making wooden kits, selecting joinery, and asking for help from other members. We may also be organizing a joinery workshop.

LIWG Meeting, Jim Moloney, SIG Pres., 2/12/2026. The Turners will be watching the 2025 highlight video from the Lanchester Woodturners Zoom Coffee Hour (featuring Gary Mayhew). The meeting will be held at the Kings Park K of C and start at 7 PM.

Wood Tech Meeting, Brian Monks, SIG Pres., 2/11/2026. The topic for this month's meeting will be a Lightburn tutorial. Lightburn is a popular software for creating digital files that can be sent to a CNC,

Laser Cutter, Cricut, etc. The meeting is at Joe Daley's shop, 35 Doyle Court, Unit 2, East Northport, and will begin at 7 PM.

LISA Meeting, Patti Lerner, SIG Pres., 2/19/2026. The meeting is at the Kings Park K of C and starts at 7 PM. The scrollers will be discussing alternative materials to cut on the scroll saw.

SSOW Meeting, Frank Napoli, SIG Pres. 2/26/2026. Open individual carving and show-and-tell. Meeting location: The Woodturning Store Warehouse: 81A E Jefryn Blvd, Deer Park, NY 11729. Time 11 AM – 1 PM.

Toys Meeting, Larry Wagner, Chair, 2/14/2026. The meeting is located at 12 Hamilton Lane, Huntington, NY, and will start at 9 AM. A second session will be held on 2/18/2026 at the same location, beginning at 6:30 PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS _The next General Meeting will be held at the Kings Park K of C and start at 7 PM on March 4, 2026.

EDITOR'S NOTE: When it rains, it pours. There are no “real” General Meeting Minutes, since a rogue fire alarm ended it before it ever began; Patti and Bob Lerner could not make the Turners' meeting; and Bob Lerner (there is a pattern here) could not take photos since he was busy demonstrating. So what we have is a March 2026 that has suddenly lost a lot of weight. Hence, our Ozempic issue. Since we could always count on Charlie James, and of course the Three Amigos, as well as my finally getting to write about my teaching experience (you're welcome!) we have the thinnest issue since 2002.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Contact Steve Kelman with any questions: skelman@liwoodworkers.org
Complete this application by clearly printing the information requested in the spaces below and return the form with a **\$75** check (+\$20 family member over 18) payable to:

Long Island Woodworkers.

Mail to:

Steve Kelman
79 Katherine St.
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776

Year: _____

Name: _____

Family Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP Code:** _____

Home Phone #: _____

Cell Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Family Member Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ **Phone #:** _____

Primary woodworking interest: _____

Other woodworking related interests: _____

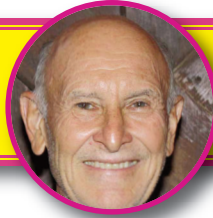
How would you rate your skill level: _____

What would you hope to gain from the club: _____

Other comments, suggestions, expectations: _____

**Your membership dues include full access to all official SIGs:
Cabinetmakers, Carvers, Scrollers, Turners, Modern Tech and the Toy Committee
Visit our website for meeting dates, times, locations and topics: liwoodworkers.org**

LICFM



BOB WOOD

ANNOUNCEMENTS Mike Mittleman started the February 10th meeting by informing the group of a Marquetry workshop on April 25th. The six-hour session will be at Corey's shop and conducted by Chris Mallon. The cost is twenty dollars, and one should bring a coping saw. There is room for eight more people.

Charlie Felsen brought in and shared plans for a toolbox from an old Wood Magazine.

Ray Bohn brought in dovetailed sliders for a leaf table. Ray was asking how to fit the sliders together to support the tabletops properly. The design was actually a bowtie-type of dovetail. Suggestions were made to allow the two parts to slide together and be more supportive. Brian Monks suggested reading the Newsletter. YouTube videos are mentioned to help with the projects.

Makers Day was also brought to the group's attention. It is Columbus Day weekend, and if enough people are interested, hiring a bus would make it easier and cheaper to get there.

PRESENTATION The topic of the evening was about SIG members making toolboxes. Ben made this proposal two meetings ago. It would be a collaborative effort with other SIGs, such as Carvers or the Tech SIG, making decorations or insignias for the boxes. The boxes could be for garden tools or for hobby tools, not just woodworking. Jim Tauby has plans for his box and is practicing incorporating Bermuda Dovetails for joinery. The discussion led to the question of which types of wood to use. For example, if the box is to be used outdoors, Cypress can be used or Sipo for indoor projects.

The next part of the discussion was on where to obtain the wood. Adriatic Wood Supply in Brooklyn was one of the sources. Daryl Rosenblatt mentioned Singh in Far Rockaway and Roberts in Deer Park. One member has extra wood that he can bundle together for the projects.

If anyone needs help, contact other SIG members — Bob Wieser, Daryl Rosenblatt, Jim Tauby, or Bob Demarco all volunteered to mentor people. Names and numbers can be found on the website or by calling Bob Wood.

For next month's meeting, SIG members should bring their project plans. Also, joinery will be discussed. Chat Box (AI) might be helpful with developing plans.

LISA



BOB LERNER

President Patti Lerner called the February 19th meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Safety Discussion Patti spoke about:

Dust

Wear a proper-fitting dust mask with the correct filters

Eye Protection

Always wear safety glasses to protect from dust particles and sharp chips when cutting Acrylic

Hearing Protection

Use noise-cancelling headphones or earbuds

Skin reaction to some species of wood

Upcoming Meetings

March – Hands-on “how to cut sharp corners”. Alain Tiercy

April – Paint Mother’s Day flowers for our Nursing Home donation in May.

Show and Tell:

Alain Tiercy brought in a large selection of projects cut from Corian, Acrylic, metal, and other alternative materials.

Demonstration Patti Lerner did a presentation on cutting materials other than wood (alternate materials) using a scroll saw.

Corian is made from a blend of acrylic polymer and alumina trihydrate (ATH), which is derived from bauxite ore. This combination gives Corian its unique properties, including durability, nonporosity, and resistance to bacteria and mold. The material is also enhanced with natural minerals and pigments for aesthetic appeal and design versatility. It is a great choice for trivets.

Cover the Corian with painters’ tape or Duct tape to lubricate the cut. Apply the pattern with a repositionable spray adhesive like 3m 77.

An Artisan AB #5 16 TPI blade was used. It is designed for Corian and Acrylic.

Use a consistent, slow cutting speed to prevent the material from melting. Let the blade do the work. Change blades often since Corian dulls them quickly.

Acrylic is a highly versatile synthetic material belonging to the family of transparent thermoplastics, often serving as a lightweight replacement for glass. Chemically, the material is designated as Polymethyl Methacrylate (PMMA). PMMA is a polymer, a substance composed of very large molecules constructed from many smaller, repeating subunits. This manufactured material is valued across numerous industries, from construction and automotive to optics and medical devices, due to its unique mechanical and optical traits.

Leave the protective paper on the Acrylic.

Apply the pattern using the method described for Corian.

Use a fine skip tooth blade for best cutting. Slow cutting speed is paramount to keep the Acrylic from melt

ing back onto itself behind the blade. Use 220 grit sandpaper or a Butane torch to restore clarity and smoothness if the edge appears frosted. Wear eye protection to protect from flying chips.

Leather can be cut into intricate designs. It cuts clean and fast. It's great for filigrees or stacked designs.

Support the material by sandwiching it between two pieces of cardboard or thin plywood.

To prevent leather from stretching, use double-sided tape to fasten it to one of the backer boards.

Use a fine-toothed blade with at least 20 TPI for detailed work. Jigsaw puzzle blades work great for this material.

Thin sheet metal, such as aluminum, copper, brass or mild steel up to 1/8", can be done on a scroll saw.

Support the material by sandwiching it between two pieces of thin plywood or MDF.

Use a #3/0 to #5 skip tooth blade. Special metal cutting blades are also available.

Apply a lubricant, such as WD-40, to the blade.

Cut slowly with steady pressure to avoid breaking the blade.

Wear eye protection to protect from flying chips.

We want to thank Patti for the preparation and presentation of using alternate materials for cutting on a scroll saw.

We would also like to thank Bob Lerner for cutting each material during the presentation.

Editor's note: No photos were taken during this meeting.

TRAVELS WITH CHARLIE

CHARLIE JAMES

When I want to get a close "guess" on the center of a piece of wood I use an old plumber's trick they use to find the center of a pipe. Put your finger or something like a dowel under where you think the center is and balance the wood. Think of it like a see saw, when it's balanced you'll be pretty close to center.

(As Michael Mittleman noted, this works with an evenly distributed part, not for something assymmetrically tapered.)



TEACHING INTRODUCTION TO WOOD MODEL SHIP BUILDING



DARYL ROSENBLATT

I'm going to give you a list of names, and I want you to pick out the one that doesn't belong. Yes, this is a test:

Michael Fortune

Scott Grove

Patrick Edwards

Daryl Rosenblatt

Did you pick one? Aha! It was a trick question; they all belong! Yes, even me, because these are some of the teachers at the Marc Adams School of Woodworking and Time-Honored Crafts. It's a list I'm especially proud to be a part of. Marc Adams (as it's called) has an international reputation (for real, I've met many students from Europe, Asia, and South America who made the journey).

The class I taught was Introduction to Wood Model Shipbuilding. Marc accepted the idea and put it on the 2025 schedule. Suddenly, I realized I had a million things to attend to: find an appropriate kit and make sure it would be available; set up a lesson plan for a five-day class; draw up tool lists. Also, pack up my own tools, and some extras for students who didn't have some of them. This was doubly hard since we moved, and all my tools were packed in about 50 boxes. I should also point out that a teacher in a woodworking class has about four times as many tools to bring as any student.

I spoke with the head of Model Expo, and he agreed to have an 18th-century longboat kit available (I needed 13 of them), as well as a few beginner tool kits. I then made two lists of tools: those you required and those that would be helpful, plus a few that would be nice but crazy to buy; I brought some of my own for that. Tool lists should include links and, if possible, current prices. I also wanted to give an alternative to Amazon since I think small businesses should be supported.

Suddenly, an email from the school got me really nervous. I was told not to forget a PowerPoint presentation on my work, something all teachers do during the week, generally on Tuesday. Given what you know about my ego, you are probably wondering why I was nervous. Well... I didn't know PowerPoint, so I had to learn it. And then realized I was not only showing off my work to a school of exceptionally talented people, but also to Michael Fortune, who was teaching that week. Turns out, it was even better that way. Many of you know that Michael and I have known each other for several decades. I think I made him proud since he taught me so much. In fact, in the middle of the week, I took a break and wandered over to his classroom, where he introduced me, "Everyone, this is Daryl Rosenblatt. He started here in this very class (Mastering the Curve) 18 years ago, and now he's an instructor." My proudest moment as a woodworker.

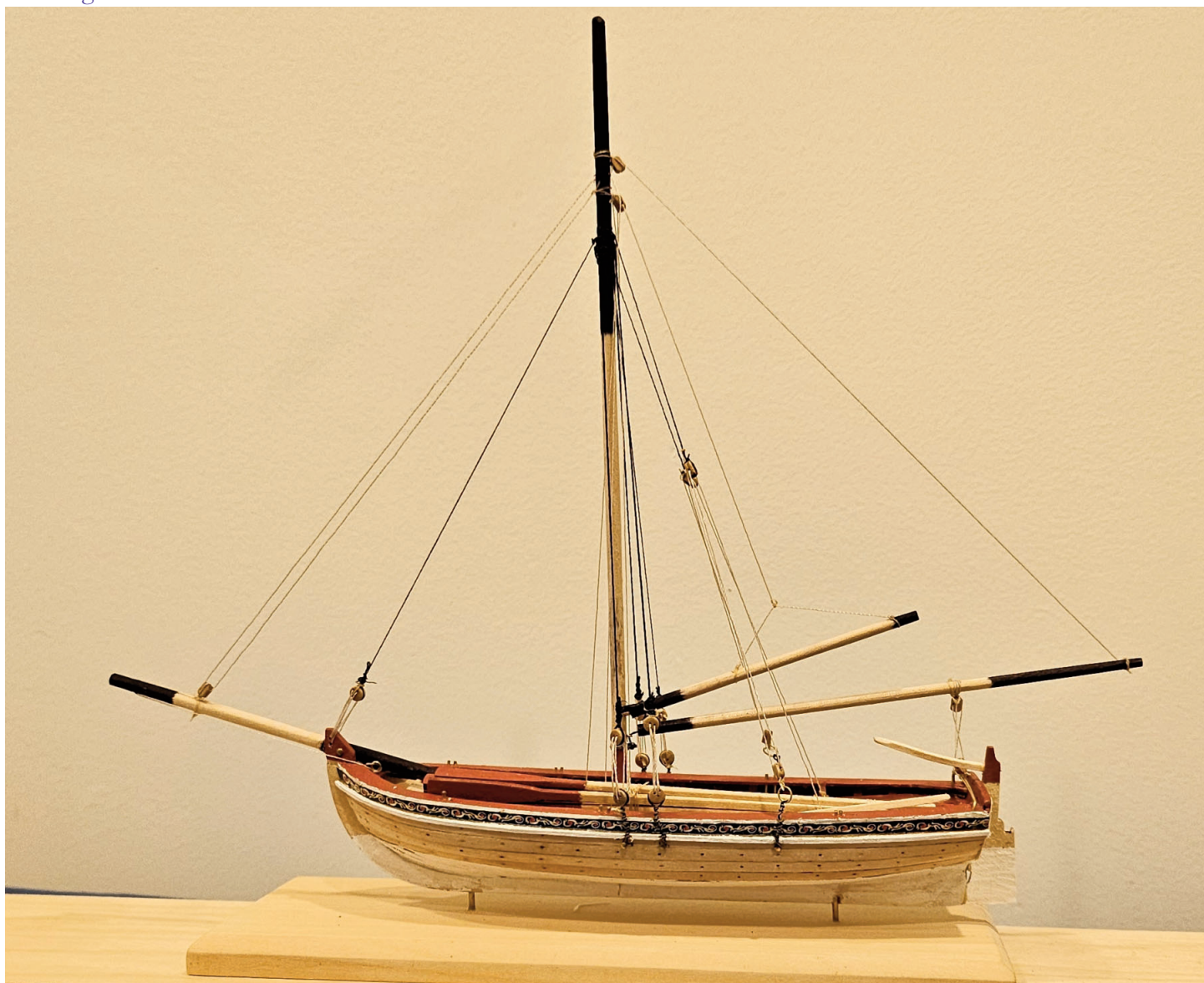
The class itself was terrific. I had nine students, including my son Noah, who really wanted to learn what all that stuff I spent years building in the shop was about. He was invaluable in helping me prepare the tool lists, since he knew nothing about the craft, but he does know how to start with PowerPoint. I was really worried since I knew how these classes went. A student screws up, brings the mistake to the teacher, who, with all their wisdom, sagely teaches what went wrong, and fixes it so everyone is happy. You can guess how I know that part. Except this time, I was

the one who actually had to know how to fix all the goofs. Much to my surprise (for real, ego and all), I was able to help them. The guys (and they were all guys) were really diligent and spent hour after hour at it; they were hoping to finish the full model in a week. I told them this was unlikely, but one person actually did. He spent hours after class every night, but by early afternoon on Friday, he was done.

I've gotten emails from two other students over the last few months, with photos of their finished boats. I learned how to prep for each day, put to-do lists on the board, and give what I hoped were achievable goals for all the students. My respect for what teachers go through week in and week out grew enormously. I was exhausted after one week, but I was ready to do it again. It turned out to be a good thing because Marc told me he might put me on the 2027 schedule. I hope to see some of you there.

The school is probably the best non-professional (or even professional) woodworking school in the world. It offers classes in every phase of woodworking, with unmatched facilities. They also teach many other time-honored crafts. I've taken several knife-forging and welding classes, and I'm thinking of taking glass-blowing and leather-bag making as new ways to waste my time constructively. You can look up their schedule and other information at <https://www.marcadams.com/>.

Here is a link to the class photos: <https://masw.smugmug.com/2025-Student-Gallery/Sept-Oct-2025/Model-Ship-Building-with-Rosenblatt>.



LOCK, STOCK & DARYL

BEN NAWRATH, MICHAEL
MITTLEMAN & DARYL ROSENBLATT**Contributor:** Daryl Rosenblatt**Website:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8YDkFtMutT8>**Presenter/Author:** Rob Cosman**Title:** “Tool .Cabinet Ideas” Part 1, the fold-away cabinet

Description: Rob Cosman is a fairly well known YouTube woodworker and fashionista, and I thought this cabinet deserved a mention. It’s a very clever take on a travelling tool cabinet. I can tell you when I taught at the Marc Adams School (I finally got to writing about it) I brought literally four times as many tools as a teacher than as a student, and Mr. Cosman has to contend with the same issue. He makes and sells some tools on his website, many of them useful; he has excellent hand too; skills, and he communicates very well. I’m writing this before the first LICFM meeting about designing and building a tool cabinet, so this video (and what follows, since this is Part 1) may or may not be topical. It’s nonetheless interesting.

Contributor: Mike Mittleman**Website:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I7q65maD6Q4>**Presenter/Author:** Smart Tip**Title:** A Leaked Idea from a NASA Professor - I Applied It to Make a Wood Bending Jig on a Combination Planer / 10:03**Description:**

This is a video on how not to make a video. Start with the title: “A Leaked Idea from a NASA Professor - I Applied It to Make a Wood Bending Jig on a Combination Planer.” There was absolutely nothing I saw about a wood bending jig. The equipment seen in the video, the table saw, bandsaw, drill, and router, shared some common attributes. All were old and were used in an unsafe manner. There was no fence, blade shield, or miter gauge to be found with the table saw or bandsaw. Each cut was performed freehand. The table saw blade was raised to an unnecessary height. The bandsaw had no visible blade guide near the cutting point, thereby introducing the potential for lateral blade drift.

The jig, yes, this video seems actually to be about making a jig to cut 45° angles, which would have been unnecessary had a miter gauge been available. Moreover, the jig uses threaded inserts and some wood scraps to clamp it to the table saw. Why not just use a couple of off-the-shelf clamps for that purpose?

And the router... watch the loose hardware on the base. Watch the demonstrator cut 45° angles – you guessed it – freehand. Why no guide?

Finally, watch a drill and a brad-point bit being used on lumber lying freely on the saw’s iron table.

See the video – it is a classic on what not to do.

Contributor: Ben Nawrath

Website: <https://youtu.be/LmOu8-Rtffs>

Presenter: Tamar, 3x3Custom

Title: Transform Wood Into 3D Patterns for a Tea Box / 31:04

Description: Boxes! Seems to be a theme these days, hmmm. This video is really about the decorative lid. BUT!!! It's one of the best videos I've seen that shows how to achieve continuous grain around the outside of your box. She shows all the steps very clearly and explains why she does each one. The camera shots and angles really let you see exactly what's going on. It's just plain excellent. She also uses her 3D printer a lot for this. "But Ben, she's making a wooden tea box, how can you print pieces for that?" You'll have to watch and see! Actually, the answer is: she doesn't. But she does make some very interesting helping hands, and she explains some decisions she made with her printer. You Tech SIG guys should appreciate this! Please enjoy.

PUZZLE

MICHAEL R. MITTLEMAN

Time to Put on Your Thinking Caps – Harder than Usual

How to play: Complete the numerical grid so that every row, column, and 3 x 3 box contains all digits from 1 to 9.

2					8			6
		8	4	1				
		7				4		2
7	9			2				
			9		3			
				4			1	9
6		1				3		
				7	4	6		
5			6					7

T	E	S	T	E	D
I	N	T	O	T	O
C	R	I	P	E	S
T	O	N	E	R	S
A	L	K	E	N	E
C	L	O	S	E	D

Solution to February