THE Woodrack

September 2026



LISA IS READY FOR THE SHOW!!

Vol. 35 No. 9The Official Newsletter of the Long Island Woodworkers www.liwoodworkers.org

LIW Board of Directors

President	Mike Daum
Vice President	Corey Tighe
Secretary	Michael R. Mittleman
Treasurer	Steve Fulgoni
Trustees	Robert DeMarco
	Ed Piotrowski
Membership	Steve Kelman
LICFM SIG President	Ben Nawrath
Turner's Guild SIG President	Jim Moloney
LISA SIG President	Patti Lerner
SSOW SIG President	Frank Napoli
Tech SIG President	Brian Monks

Newsletter Editor	Daryl Rosenblatt
Associate Editor	Michael R. Mittleman
Website	Jim Moloney
Show Chair	Bob Lerner
Raffles	Ed Piotrowski
Refreshments	Jean Piotrowski
	Charlie Felsen
Audio/Video	Jim Moloney
Programs	Corey Tighe
Photographer	Jim Moloney

This Month:

Secretary's Notes

Bob Wieser Guitars

LICFM

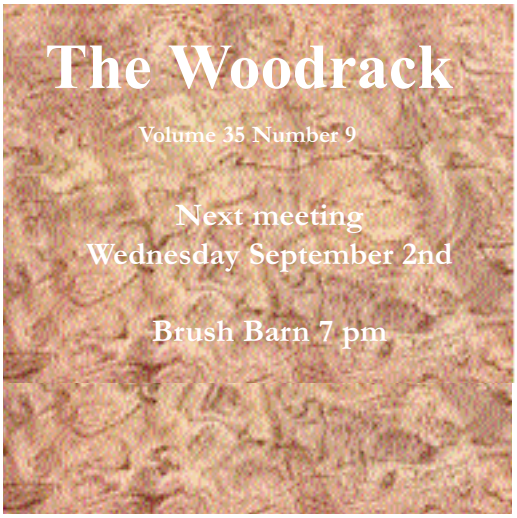
LISA

Turners' Guild Photos

Bob Wieser

Travels with Charlie

Lock, Stock & Daryl



Secretary's Notes



Michael Mittleman

The August 5th General Meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM. The event was held in person at the Brush Barn and available on Zoom. LIW President Mike Daum started the meeting by sharing a few administrative announcements:

There are 38 days until the Annual Show. Show Chair Bob Lerner provided an update. Briefly, show preparations proceed on schedule. As of this date, only 36 project applications have been submitted. Bob reminded all that the cut-off date for projects is August 31st. All paperwork needed is available on the LIW website. For members experiencing technical issues, contact Bob directly at showchair@liwoodworkers.org.

The Cabinet and Furniture Makers are celebrating their 20th anniversary this year. SIG President Ben Nawrath is seeking input from the group members on how to recognize this milestone.

Patti Lerner reported that the switch to daytime meeting hours has allowed two women to join the LISA Special Interest Group sessions. LISA meets the third Thursday of each month at the Kings Park Knights of Columbus from 10 AM to 12 PM. All LIW members are invited.

New Members Matt Grillo is from the Mount Sinai area. He is especially interested in furniture-making. Interesting side note – Matt is a Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) graduate; Go, Engineers! Matt, be sure to meet Ben Nawrath, President of the Long Island Cabinet and Furniture Makers SIG.

Bob Nock is from the Northport area. He is interested in all aspects of woodworking. Bob, be sure to check out our Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

Treasurer's Report Steve Fulgoni, Treasurer, was not in attendance.

Membership Report Membership Director Steve Kelman reported we have two new members.

Other Business

LICFM Meeting, Ben Nawrath, SIG Pres., 8/11/2026, starting at 7 PM. People should bring any last-minute questions for their projects, or show and tell some challenges they've faced that they think may be helpful to others. The meeting will take place at the barn and begin at 7:00 PM.

LIWG Meeting, Jim Moloney, SIG Pres., 8/13/2026. No other information. The meeting will be held at the Kings Park K of C and start at 7 PM.

Wood Tech Meeting, Brian Monks, SIG Pres., 8/12/2026. No other information. 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., 8/20/2026. The meeting is at the Kings Park K of C and runs from 10 AM – 12 PM. The scrollers will be assembling the wheels and axles on the cars we've cut out for the toy giveaway at the show.

SSOW Meeting, Frank Napoli, SIG Pres. 8/27/2026. 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, 8/8/2026. The meeting is located at 12 Hamilton Lane, Huntington, NY, and will start at 9 AM. A second session will be held on 8/19/2026 at the same location, beginning at 6:30 PM.

Show and Tell Jim Tauby displayed a gorgeous piano stool he constructed from white oak that was further enhanced with brass fittings. Jim, be sure to enter it in the upcoming show. It looks like a winner!

Ben Nawrath discussed a precision table saw crosscut sled he made for picture frames and other projects using miter joints. Once set, there are no gaps.

Presentation Mike Daum on Working for Accuracy

Mike led a group discussion principally discussing woodworking tools and techniques for measurement accuracy. He mentioned that tape measures are notorious for inconsistency across different brands and models. He mentioned some strategies for overcoming the errors.

Mike uses 6-inch metal rulers in conjunction with tape measures for dead-on measurements. The distance to a given point is marked by the tape's numerical indicator, not the hook. Then the distance from that point to the opposing surface is gauged by the metal ruler, and that value is added to the previous tape measurement to calculate the exact distance. The square ends of the rulers allow more precise measurements. Another suggestion was never to allow the tape to snap shut. That action can cause the tape hook to loosen and introduce error.

Mike also stated that the most accurate way to mark measurements is by using a marking knife rather than a pen or pencil. He also suggested that a portable light source will contribute significantly to more accurate measurements.

The session was quite interesting and informative. Thanks, Mike.

Upcoming Events_The next General Meeting will be held at the Brush Barn in Smithtown, starting at 7:00 PM on September 2, 2026. This is the last general meeting before the Annual Show, September 12 – 13, 2026.

The 28th Annual Woodworking Show, Sept. 12 – 13, 2026, at The Cradle of Aviation Museum, Charles Lindbergh Blvd, Garden City, NY 11530.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Bob Wieser

Bob sent this through what some of us would call an illegal channel. From him to Jim Moloney to me, which then goes to Michael Mittleman for proofing, then back to me. So if I got something wrong, or you can't figure out what is going on, no problem, blame Bob. Also enjoy, he sent an Instagram link plus these photos of the guitar he's working on. Enjoy.

https://www.instagram.com/reels/Db9ygWDIEDe/

More photos on the next page




"THE CHAMPION"
In The Champion's Mind
He Is Never Ahead.
He Distorts Reality To
Serve His Competitive
Purpose.
He Is Always Coming
From Behind, Even When
The Score Indicates He Is
Destroying His Opponent.
He Never Believes He Is
Performing As Well
As He Actually Is.
FESTOOL


Stewart-MacDonald
PRECISION PARTS


Fender

LICFM



Bob Wood

The Cabinet and Furniture Makers met August 11th at the Barn. Bob Weiser led the discussion, which updated members on the projects the SIG is working on.

Bob started off the meeting by mentioning an electric guitar he is making. The body is tight-grained Ash with a neck of "torrefied" Maple, which is baked. Bob is finishing with twenty-four coats of True Finish. The guitar electronics are being done with a little bit of creativity. The electronics combined with the wood will provide the correct tone. Bob did mention a website called Curley Maple.com, which supplies material for luthiers.

Daryl Rosenblatt mentioned he will be brining an unfinished project to the Show: A new model ship. Another project is a table with the look of draping linen cloth.

A question was raised about planning. Some members use full-size templates while others use graph paper. Daryl uses Foamcore. Bill Leonhardt uses drawings, but also creates a file that he takes to Staples or N&S Blueprinting to get plans. The Patchogue Library has large printers in the basement that can copy plans.

Sharpening was also touched on. Different blade angles are used depending on the wood. Japanese planes are constantly being sharpened.

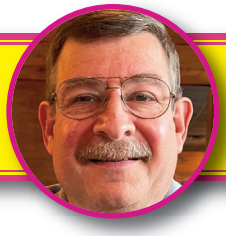
The last subject was joinery. An illustration of various joints was displayed. The discussion focused on which joints best suit particular types of construction or undertakings.

Overall, it was a casual, yet as usual, an informative meeting.





LISA



Bob Lerner

President Patti Lerner called the August 20th meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Upcoming Meetings September – We will have a show debriefing.

Show Setup is on Friday 9/11/26. Show dates are Sat and Sun 9/12 and 9/13. Rolf is bringing his Excalibur and we will bring the club Hegner.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR SHOW PROJECT ENTRIES.

Jim emailed a link to the entry form. It is also available on our website on the SHOW page. Contact Bob Lerner with any issues or questions. A paper entry form is now available. You can print a copy from our website.

Show and Tell Rolf Beuttenmuller – Brought in a scrolled "Scroll Saw Artist, NO LASER, NO CNC" sign he will display on the Scrollers SIG table. He also showed a very nice Cross with a power-carved tree in the center.

Safety Discussion Patti suggested that you should read ALL directions on cans of finish before using them. *

Meeting Activity We finished the toy cars and planes that the members made for the Toy Shop at the show. Over 200 toys are ready to be handed out, including 40 made by the Toy Committee. This should be a good start.

Thank you and Great Work to all who participated!!

*Editor's Note: Said no man ever.



Hard at work



Hot off the assembly line in the Lerner's shop



Lotsa cars



Our newest SIG member, Tony Steinle



Toy assembly in progress



Rolf telling it how it is..
& with his sycamore cross



Turners' Guild



Jim Moloney

SIG President Jim Moloney called the August 13th meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Announcements Potential new member Matt was welcomed to the meeting and filled in about our organization. We hope he joins and attends future meetings.

Ed Moloney donated some books on turning that were distributed to members. We reminded everyone about the upcoming show and the need to submit more project exhibition forms ASAP.

Show and Tell _Charlie Bell brought in whiskey cups with charred interiors.

Brian Roughley showed some potpourri boxes.

Barry Saltsberg showed an ambrosia maple Grecian Urn inspired by a piece he saw in a museum in Sicily.

Joe Pascucci brought in his stool sample (it should be a highlight of the show).

Jim M. brought in a hollowing system made by Ed Moloney which attaches to the lathe ways and holds a boring bar with a carbide cutter.

Mike Josiah showed the Trent Bosh hollowing tool stabilizer which mounts to the banjo.

Presentation The main presentation was a video by Richard Raffan showing his technique on turning a small hollow vase. This included using a small magnet on the tool to indicate the maximum depth of cut and sliding open his shop window to allow him to swing his tool farther away. The video can be watched here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftHhVKzCJK8.

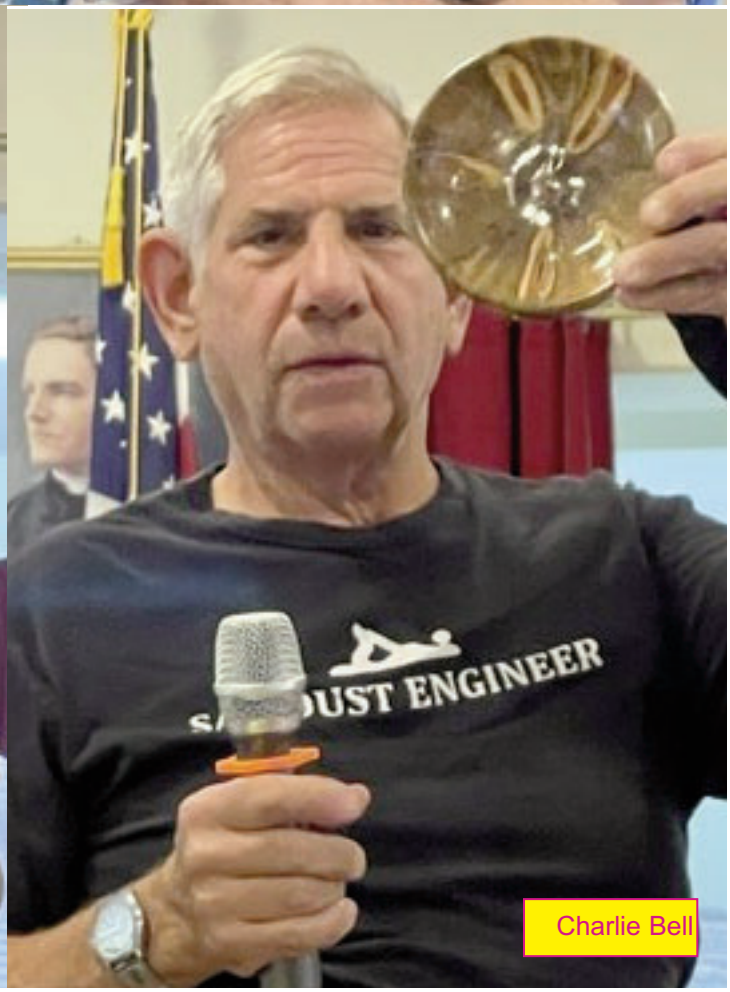
The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

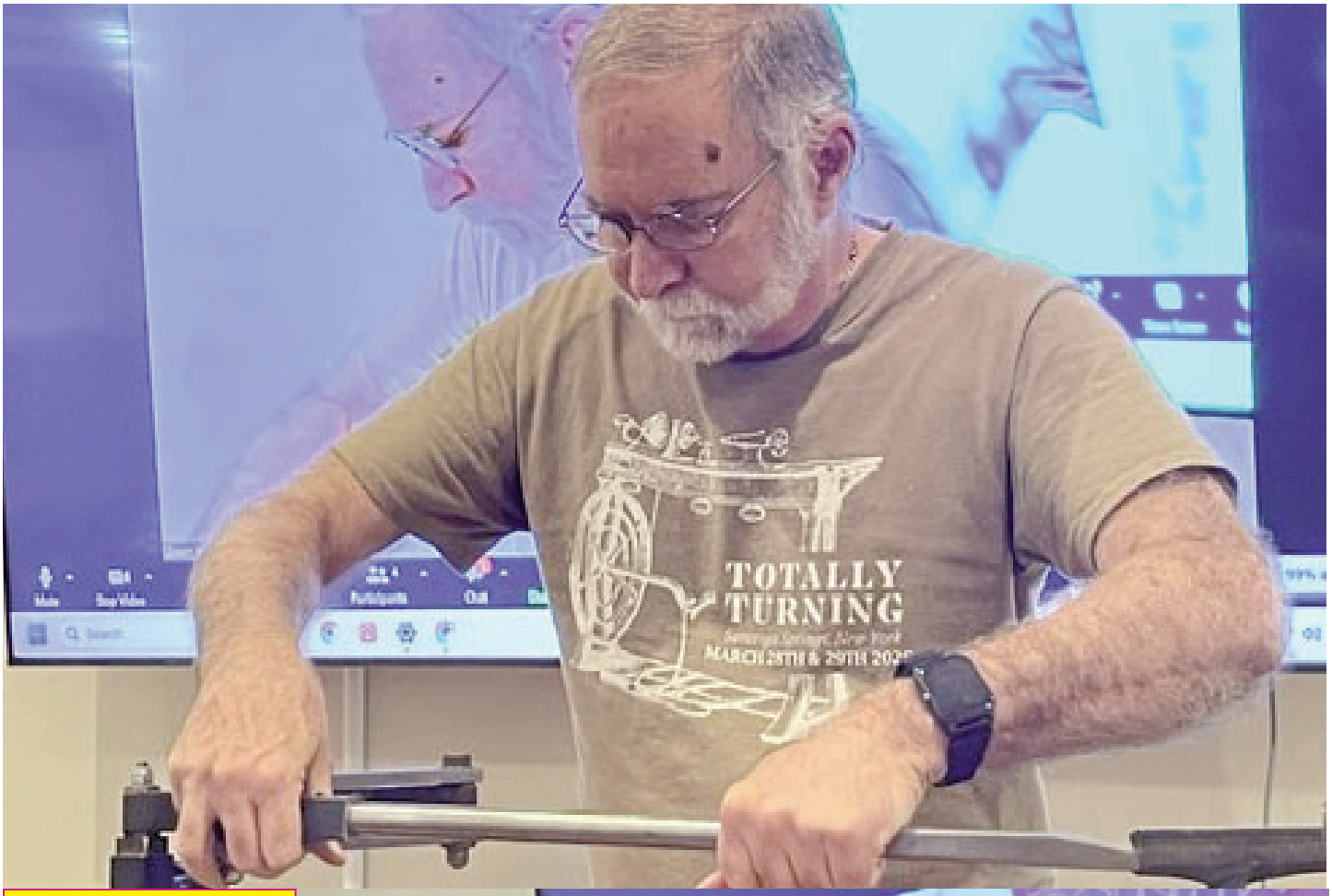


Boring bar for the hollowing system


Barry Saltsberg


Brian Roughley


Charlie Bell



Jim Moloney with his homemade hollowing system



Mike Josiah with some of his hollowing tools

Toymakers



Larry Wagner

Our Toy Group met on Saturday, August 8, and, as usual, the shop was busy.

Rich and Bobbi Fiano arrived with trays of toys. Rich brought 83 oak tractor-trailer trucks, more than double the 34 trucks he delivered last month. Bobbi brought a dozen beautifully hand-painted wooden turtles. All of these toys were made from wood and supplies they had picked up at my shop during last month's meeting.

Rich is continuing to push us toward our goal of delivering 1,000 toys this year. Before heading home, they once again loaded up on oak boards, dowels, and a huge bag containing approximately 500 wheels so they can get a head start on next month's production.

This month we also had a special surprise: Rich and Bobbi's two grandchildren came along. They enjoyed checking out the shop, although they seemed even more interested in exploring the podcast studio on the second floor!

Mark Larkin, a new member, attended and spent his time profiling sanding and rounding over dozens of cars; a very productive session and his first LIWW meeting of any type.

Steve Eckers, sporting his signature suspenders as always, and Larry Wagner continued working on the "Pinball Meets Knock Hockey" game. A couple of months ago, Larry decided to improve the flipper action so it would feel more like a real pinball machine. What sounded like a simple improvement turned into quite an engineering challenge.

One of the Toy Group's unofficial rules is that everything we make needs to be simple, fast, and repeatable. Building one game would not have been particularly difficult, but designing it so we could efficiently make 25 of them turned out to be another story. We definitely stretched the definition of "simple" and "fast" with this one! While our primary purpose is to make toys for donation, it's also fun to try something different and challenge ourselves. And, of course, we get to hang out, shoot the s@#t, and make sawdust together. What could be better than that? Our goal is to get the design to the point where we can make a run of 25 this year and hopefully another 25 next year.

After the meeting, Larry also spent about an hour on the phone with Digital Wood Carver, the manufacturer of his CNC machine. The machine had a problem, and Laney—the salesman who sold it to Larry seven years ago—once again came through on his promise to provide service for as long as Larry owns the machine. After some troubleshooting, we solved the problem.

Getting the CNC back up and running is important because we are planning to produce a run of threading toys. They are extremely fast to make, and we can get approximately 200 toys from a single 4' × 8' sheet of Masonite.

A few months ago, Bobbi brought in a design for a wooden doll cutout that she plans to paint and add yarn hair to. We will also do a sample run of those on the CNC. This addresses a concern Bobbi raised—that many of our toys tend to have a distinctly "boy" orientation. We're looking forward to adding some toys that appeal more to girls to our collection. On this topic, Crayola is selling a box of 24 crayons for 50 cents, so next year we will introduce a crayon holder, and that can surely be gender neutral. Larry bought 120 boxes so that we will be looking for new designs. It will be nice to do something without wheels for a change.

Please join us at a Toy Group session. You don't have to arrive at the beginning or stay until the end. Any time you can contribute helps, and we are always looking for new toy ideas. The meetings are the second Saturday at 9:30 am and the third Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Larry's shop is in his backyard at 12 Hamilton Lane, Huntington. If you plan to attend, please text Larry at 631-335-8637. That way, if something comes up, we can easily reach everyone who planned to attend. If you do not text, come anyway.

Lock, Stock & Daryl



Michael Mittleman &
Daryl Rosenblatt

Contributor: Daryl Rosenblatt
Website: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eMGDJI_oAO8
Presenter/Author: Workshop Companion/Nick Engler
Title: Router problems short video/2:54

Description: Nick Engler is someone I've reviewed before. He is great, folksy, wonderfully clear, and, dagnabit, very helpful. This is a great short clip on how to prevent a router bit from slipping out of your router. What? Has it never happened to you? Well, put it this way, I learned how to paint bird's-eye oak grain in fixing an issue just like this. If only I had seen this video years ago. Dagnabit.

Contributor: Mike Mittleman
Website: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrmVp8EGx3Q&list=WL&index=1
Presenter/Author: Ashton L.
Title: A Weird Fix for Wood Chips and Tear Outs That Makes Them Invisible! / 5:47

Description: This is a short video on repairing dents and chip-outs from lumber using a *secret* process. It is inexpensive and reasonably effective. The *secret* is CA (cyanoacrylate) glue, sometimes with sawdust. What are the problems with traditional commercial wood fillers? They tend to be messy, usually don't match the lumber's color, and take time to dry before sanding. They also often don't work well if staining is part of the finishing process.

In comparison, CA glue cures in seconds and is usually color-neutral (i.e., transparent). They are an effective approach for chip-outs and other minor dings. If the blemish is deeper, pack the problem area with sawdust before applying the CA glue. The video presenter, Ashton L., has found the CA glue approach usually behaves well with wood stains. Ashton also has a video extolling the virtues of a steam iron for ding repair (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6wj0QE5bl8). Clearly, Ashton is not a fan of commercial wood fillers, but, then again, who is?

Travels With Charlie



Charlie James

Originally published in Fine Woodworking, June 2026

I do a bit of traveling with my tools when I do demos. I used to protect the edges of saws and scrapers that I carried in my toolbox with painter's tape. Besides the inconvenience of carrying a roll of tape around and ripping it off a few times, if you leave the tape on too long, the tape can attract moisture and cause rust. My wife is a teacher and uses these sliding bar protectors for plastic loose-leaf covers. I repurposed the protectors; they are inexpensive, hold tightly to the tools, and are reusable again and again. The protectors pictured here are 1/8" and hold very well to saws and scrapers, but 1/4" work as well.







Puzzle

Michael R. Mittleman

The (Annual) Show Must Go On!

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

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

E	S	T	O	P	S
S	H	A	M	A	N
C	I	C	E	R	O
A	N	K	L	E	T
R	E	L	E	N	T
P	R	E	T	T	Y

Solution to August