

# WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association  
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## President's Ramblings

**Greetings Fellow Woodworkers,** Well August is almost over and the weather has been fantastic for getting out in the shop. I have just finished another five days at Marc Adams School of Woodworking working on puzzle boxes with Jeff Vollmer. Jeff has developed his technique over 30 plus years and shared his expertise with his class. I have a simple puzzle box designed by Jeff, he went over with me for our toy program. I can demonstrate this and other boxes for a program some time later.

Due to some scheduling conflicts the Annual club picnic has been moved to September 10<sup>th</sup> noon to 4. Please bring a dish and don't forget to sign up at our next meeting so we have an idea of how much supplies we need.

Our club is once again manning a booth at this years Fall Harvest Festival And Antique Equipment Show, it is on Sept. 23rd, 24th and 25th from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day. If you can help at our booth sign up at the next club meeting what days and times you can help. We also are asking members to donate items they have made for the club to sell and raise funds for our programs. If you have something please bring it to our regular club meeting Thursday.

It's not too early to think about the toys for the needy children

Raffle Tickets, be sure to see John Fluck and purchase yours now and take some to sell to your friends and family.

Consider scheduling a shop visit and get your 2023 dues paid by the club.

Enjoy this weather and Don't let your tools rust!

Your President, Kevin Sturgeon

## Message from member John Fluck

I have some 2x4 cut off's that can be used for making toy cars, if anybody would like any, please let me know and, I will bring them to the meeting.

I can be reached at [jfluck@aol.com](mailto:jfluck@aol.com) or 219-781-1619

Raffle tickets are available, the club and the kids could use your help, we have raffle tickets, you are more then welcome to take some and see if you can sell them, the money does not need to be paid until you turn the stubs in. Remember the tickets go to help purchase wheels and axels for the needy kids toys.

John

## LAKE COUNTY FAIR









**SHOW AND TELL**



**Gene Davis**



**Jeff Snellgrove**



**Kevin Sturgeon**



**Bill Schoech**



**Jon Robbins**



**Rodney Foster**

## **PROGRAM**



## **ITEMS FOR SALE**

**If you have any wood working related items that you wish to sell through the newsletter please contact John Hunter [john.b.hunter@frontier.com](mailto:john.b.hunter@frontier.com) Include a description and the price you are selling them for, also how you may be contacted.**

**If you are looking for a tool that another member would like to sell you can place a wanted ad in the newsletter, just contact John Hunter at [john.b.hunter@frontier.com](mailto:john.b.hunter@frontier.com)**

## 2022

August 25<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

7:00 PM

September 10<sup>th</sup> Club Picnic at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

12:00 Noon

September 14<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

7:00 PM

September 22<sup>nd</sup> Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

7:00 PM Program Favorite/Least Favorite tools

September 22<sup>nd</sup> Setup booth for Porter County Harvest Festival

September 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> Porter County Harvest Festival 9:00 AM to 5: PM

October 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting 5 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road

October 19<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

7:00 PM

October 27<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

7:00 PM

November 9<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

7:00 PM

November 17<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

7:00 PM Toy Program

December 7<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

7:00 PM

December 15<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM Christmas Party, Installation and Awards

## Woodsmith Tips

### Success with Threaded Inserts

Threaded inserts are must-haves in my shop. I keep them on hand for building jigs and fixtures I need to adjust easily. And they come in just as handy for building and assembling furniture projects.

The challenge with an insert is installing it without any problems. To do this, I follow a few simple steps — size the hole properly, prepare the hole for the insert, and then install the insert straight and flush.

**Sizing the Hole.** The first step is to properly size the hole for the insert. The chart you see below provides a good starting point for determining the size of the hole you'll need to drill. In most cases, I drill the hole to match the size of the insert body. The problem here is that in some materials (like hard maple) this may not provide enough "give" for the threads as you screw the insert in place.

INSERT SIZE	HOLE SIZE	
	Softwood & Laminated Materials	Hardwood
8-32	19/64	5/16
1/4-20	3/8	13/32
5/16-18	1/2	19/16
3/8-16	1/2	19/16

NOTE: Sizes shown are for typical brass inserts. The etching of steel inserts is less consistent due to etch and thread configuration. It's best to make a test installation when using any steel insert.

To prevent the workpiece from splitting, I like to increase the hole a  $\frac{1}{32}$ " (or even a  $\frac{1}{16}$ "). Although this makes the insert easier to install, it doesn't provide as much material for the threads to bite into. In most cases, I find it's usually a good idea to drill a test hole in a scrap piece of the same material, install the insert, and see how well it holds before drilling into my workpiece.

One thing that's easy to forget until it's too late is how deep to drill the hole. What you need to keep in mind here is the length of the fastener that will thread inside. You may need to drill the hole deeper in order to provide clearance, as in the drawing below.

**Prepping the Hole.** Once you have the hole drilled, you could install the insert. But I take a little extra time to add a small chamfer to the top edge of the hole.

The reason for this is simple. As you install an insert, the knife-like threads have a tendency to "lift" the material around the edges of the hole. With a chamfer, you end up with a smooth, clean surface.

**Installing the Insert.** All that's left to do at this point is install the insert. Now, don't be tempted to grab a screwdriver and simply drive the insert in place using the slot at the end. It's all too easy to install the insert crooked doing this. And, in some cases, you end up stripping out the slot, ruining the insert and your workpiece.



To get the best results, I like to use an installation tool that threads or locks securely to the insert (see above right). This makes it easy to drive the insert in place by hand so it goes in straight and ends up flush with the surface of the workpiece. (Plus, you can install the insert with the slot down for a cleaner look.)

Since I use inserts frequently, I like to use the installation tool you see in the photo (see right). This tool allows you to install  $\frac{1}{4}$ " and  $\frac{5}{16}$ " inserts quickly and easily with nothing more than a wrench.



Good woodworking, Phil Huber Editor, *ShopNotes*