

# WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association

Volume 24, Issue 12 December 2019

## President's Ramblings

**Greetings Fellow Woodworkers,** December is here and Christmas is a week away. I hope all of you Woodworkers have been good because Santa is watching. I have been making gifts for, family, friends, and our Annual Christmas party. We had a good turnout of support at the November meeting for the Toy Program. You made lots toys for needy children. That is so incredible. Thank You everyone that participated, every gift counts at this time of year.

I have been searching for an obituary for member Robert Flores, and have yet to find anything on him other than his Facebook profile. Robert was a fine woodworker and he will be missed.

Christmas Party is coming up on December 19th , 2019 (a week before our normal meeting and an hour earlier than our normal meeting) at 6 PM in the big hall at the American Legion Post 54. The dinner will be buffet style with the club providing the meat and drinks. Members are asked to bring a dish or two to share. We always have wonderful selection of foods. We are in need of some handmade gifts for or ladies. Please bring a wrapped gift or two for the ladies that support us and participate in our craft.

The Installation of officers for 2019 will be held at this meeting followed by a great dinner.

PRESIDENT – KEVIN STURGEON  
VICE PRESIDENT – JON ROBBINS  
TREASURER – RON BENSON  
SECRETARY - JOHN HUNTER

### Upcoming events:

The Woodworking Shows 2020, Indianapolis, Indiana 1/31-2/3.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 2/21 to 2/23 and Columbus, Ohio 3/13 to 3/15.

More information can be found at [www.thewoodworkingshows.com](http://www.thewoodworkingshows.com).

January Program will be the Silent Auction,

February Program is Shop Jigs

April Program is the 2 x 4 Challenge.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Safe New Year!

Your President, Kevin Sturgeon

## SHOW AND TELL



Dick Sader



Russ Tomjanovich



Kevin Sturgeon



Norm Johnson





Steve Bennett



Jeff Snellgrove



Don Bunce



Bill Schoech



Gene Davis

# TOYS FOR KIDS



American Reformed Church



RAMA



Healthlink  
Porter/Lake County



Family House



Nativity Food Pantry  
Dove



Portage Township Trustee



Ross Township Trustee



## **DONATION FROM CLUB TO POST 54**



## **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)**

### **2019**

December 19<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 6:00 PM Christmas Party, Installation and Awards

### **2020**

January 6<sup>th</sup> Pinewood Derby Workshop 6:30 PM to 8:30 at Trinity Lutheran School 891 Linda

St. Hobart

January 13<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting 7 PM at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage

January 20<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM

January 23<sup>rd</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00 PM  
Silent Auction

February 17<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM

February 27<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00 PM

## Shop Jigs

March 16<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
March 26<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00 PM  
April 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting 7 PM at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage  
April 20<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00 PM  
2 x 4 Challenge  
May 18<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
May 28<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00 PM  
June 15<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
June 25<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00 PM  
July 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting 7 PM at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage  
July 9<sup>th</sup> Set Up Club Booth at Steam Show 3 PM  
July 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Club Booth at the Steam Show at Lake County Fair Grounds  
July 20<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
July 23<sup>rd</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 6:00 PM  
August 6<sup>th</sup> Set Up Club Booth at Lake County Fair 9 PM  
August 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Club Booth at Lake County Fair 10 AM – 10 PM  
August 17<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
August 22<sup>nd</sup> Club Picnic at Hidden Lake Park in Merrillville  
August 27<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00 PM  
September 21<sup>st</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
September 24<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00  
PM Program Favorite/Least Favorite tools  
October 5<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting at 7 PM at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage  
October 19<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00 PM  
November 16<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
November 19<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00  
PM Toy Program  
December 14<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM  
December 17<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 6:00  
PM Christmas Party, Installation and Awards

## **Bob Flexner's Finishing Tips**

<http://www.thefinishingstore.com/>

### **Testing Your Finish for Hardness**

You can use architect's pencils to test for finish hardness (scratch resistance). The lead in these pencils is rated from about 6 or 7B, the softest, to 6 or 7H, the hardest. HB is in the

middle. You don't need to buy all these pencils, just the middle five or six, because most finishes will test to one of these.



To prepare the pencils sharpen them with a pocketknife, not a pencil sharpener. Then ground the tip of the lead perpendicular to the length of the pencil on fine sandpaper, or regular paper if the lead is close to flat. You want the 90-degree angle at the tip of the lead to be sharp.

To perform the test, hold the pencil as if writing and push it forward into the finish, as shown in the accompanying picture. You don't need to use much pressure, but it's important to use about the same pressure with each pencil and on each finish you are testing to get an accurate result.

Begin with one of the softer-lead pencils and work through the hardness until you get to one that leaves a cut mark in the finish. This is the rating for that finish.

You can easily tell if one type of finish provides more scratch resistance than another.

## **Shop-Built Featherboard**

Cutting a raised panel on a table saw requires you to stand the panel on edge when making the cuts. To provide solid support and help make the task go smoother, I made a featherboard.



The featherboard shown at left keeps your fingers out of the way while pressing the panel firmly against the fence. It's made from a strip of  $\frac{1}{8}$ " hardboard that's held in place by an L-shaped block attached to a hardwood runner.

It also works great for resawing on the table saw and even the band saw. To see other ideas for your shop, just visit [PlansNOW](http://PlansNOW.com).

Good woodworking,

Phil Huber  
Editor, *ShopNotes*

