

WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association

Volume 30, Issue 4 April 2025

WOODEN YOU LIKE TO KNOW

Greetings fellow woodworkers,

The Great Chair Catastrophe

Gary was a proud woodworker—meticulous, dedicated, and maybe a little too ambitious. One day, he decided he was finally ready to build the ultimate chair. Not just any chair, but a throne of unrivaled comfort and craftsmanship. The plan? A sleek design with elegant curves and perfect joints. The reality? Well, let's just say... there were some technical difficulties.

First, Gary miscalculated his measurements. The legs were uneven, which he only discovered after sitting in it and sliding sideways onto the floor. No problem! He adjusted, trimmed, and then accidentally overcompensated, creating the world's first "slouch chair"—a piece of furniture that encouraged immediate and uncontrollable lounging.

Still determined, he tried adding armrests but misread the blueprint and mounted them directly in front of the seat. Sitting down meant your arms were permanently locked in place, like some kind of medieval restraint.

The final straw? His masterpiece was too wide to fit through the workshop door. After an intense battle involving strategic tilting, sweating, and one minor existential crisis, Gary eventually decided the best course of action was to turn it into firewood and never speak of it again.

And thus, the world remained one throne short, but Gary gained an invaluable lesson: Measure twice. Then measure again. Then maybe just seek the help of a friendly club member.

Work within your limits but always seek to expand those limits.

In March we added two more Lifetime Memberships to our club. Congratulations to John Hunter and Jon Robbins and thank you for your years of continuing dedicated service to the club.

REMINDERS:

This month's meeting will be on April 24th @ 6 pm at Hobart Moose
April's program will be our annual 2 x 4 challenge. Get those projects completed!

John Hart (tax accountant) will be here to answer your questions on LLC and small business tax laws.

See you at the next meeting,
Jeff Snellgrove
President NIWA

VICE PRESIDENTS CORNER

NIWA Members,
Our first annual group toy build will be the last Saturday of this month. 4/26/25 From 9 AM to noon. 5 sessions will be scheduled this spring, two sessions in May, and two sessions in June. I appreciate the 6 members who have signed up for our first session. Our priority as we start off is safety first. Based on our experience last year, our sessions should be more team orientated. Our charity Toys need to be of the highest quality. So, without intimidation if you see something that needs improvement then say something. We don't want to back track and redo any builds. Above all let's have fun.

George Denton

FROM THE TREASURY

Money talks

April showers ☁️ bring May dues. It's that time of year to pay your membership dues. A reminder that we run on a fiscal year running from May-April. Dues are \$25 for single membership and \$35 for a couple for FY 2025-2026. Please submit any expenses for FY 2024-2025 to me no later than our May meeting so I can close the books.

Now for something new and exciting. Starting this month, we can accept credit card payments for everything except 50/50 and raffle ticket sales. (*State law*). What that

means for the club is we now have the option of paying your dues with a credit card. While we will be adding a small service fee to this service we will be waiving that fee for dues.

This will also give us the ability to sell products and donations at events and accept credit cards. We will be charging a small flat fee per transaction for this convenience.

We believe that this new capability will boost our sales at our events.

As we move forward throughout the year, we will be looking for more opportunities to increase our financial stability along with our ability to increase our membership. We welcome any ideas which will help us in this endeavor. If you have any questions or ideas, please let me know. I now have a new email address which can be used for any communications to the treasurer's office. Treasurer.niwa@gmail.com. We will be adding email addresses for each of the board members shortly.

Dennis Byron

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life membership awarded Two of our club members, Jon Robbins and John Hunter were awarded Life Memberships for their years of service to the club.



Jon Robbins



John Hunter

SHOW AND TELL



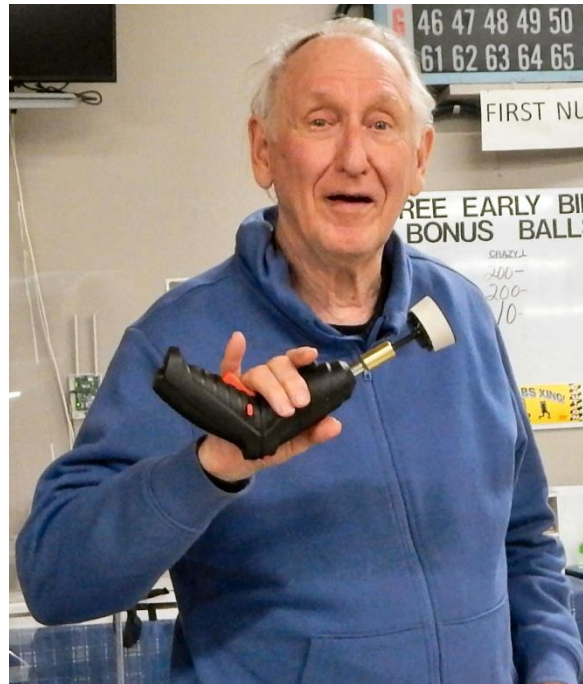
George Denton & Don Miller



Gene Davis



Kevin Sturgeon



Bill Schoech



Jon Robbins



Bob Rinearson



Brian Teixeira



Kevin Klebs



Don Miller



Bryant Mitol



Dick Sader

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 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

2025

March 27th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

April 14th Executive Board Meeting 5:00 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road

April 16th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

April 24th Membership Meeting at at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM 2 x 4 Challenge

May 14th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

May 23rd Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

June 18th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

June 26th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

July 7th Executive Board Meeting 5 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road

July 10th Set Up Club Booth at Steam Show 3 PM at Lake County Fair Grounds

July 11th – 13th Club Booth at the Steam Show at Lake County Fair Grounds

July 16th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

July 24th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

July 31st Set up booth for Lake County Fair **Time to be announced**

August 1st – 4th Work booth at Lake County Fair

August 20th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

August 28th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

August 31st Club Picnic at the Portage VFW at 2803 Monnier St. In Portage IN

12:00 Noon

September 17th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

September 25th Setup booth for Fall Harvest Festival And Antique Equipment Show

September 26th – 28th Work both at Harvest Festival and Equipment Show 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

September 25th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM Program Favorite/Least Favorite tools & Silent Auction
October 6th Executive Board Meeting 5 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road
October 15th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN
6:00 PM
October 23rd Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN
6:00 PM
November 12th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN
6:00 PM
November 20th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN
6:00 PM Toy Program
December 10th Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN
6:00 PM
December 18th Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN
6:00 PM Christmas Party, Installation and Awards

WOODWORKING TIPS



Quick Blade-Height Gauge

This gauge block is the quickest way to set the height of a table saw blade. This one is made from a 3-in. length of 4×4 cut to the settings used most frequently. If you need more settings, just create another block.

Then when it's time to reset the table saw blade, these blocks will help you get the job done quickly.