

# WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association

Volume 14, Issue 10 October 2010

## PRESIDENTS' CORNER

By Lou Takacs

The program at our September meeting from General Finishes was very informative. There were a large number of questions to the representative. I have contacted ZAR finishes and will try to have one of their representatives at a meeting next year. Finishing is always a concern and at times the hardest part for woodworkers. There is vast number of different finishes, oil based vs water based, dyes and pigments, gel vs liquid and the list goes on. But we all know that when the right finish is applied it can really bring out the beauty of the wood.

I want to apologize to anyone who misinterpreted the letter with the raffle tickets and thought I was making the sale or purchase mandatory. That was not the intent. The raffle is voluntary!!!

At the October meeting we will be having the nominations for the 2011 officers. The election will take place at the November meeting. I will NOT be running for an office in 2011. I have served as president for 3 years in the last few years. The club needs some member to step up to the nomination.

I want to thank a relatively new member, George Hamnik, for volunteering to take over the Discount Committee duties.

We have the Toys for Kids program wrapping up for 2010 at the November meeting. Please bring all toys to that meeting for distribution. At the October meeting we will try to get a count on the number of toys we will have to distribute, and we will need the names of any organizations you would like to see receive some of the gifts.

## OCTOBER PROGRAM- STEEL CITY TOOLS

Our program for the October meeting will be a presentation by the representative from Steel City Tools. This company has a large assortment of woodworking tools that have a very good reputation among woodworkers. I'm sure we all can learn a few things about tool set-up and maintenance, even if we are not in the market for a new tool.

## SHOW AND TELL



Kevin Sturgeon



Jim Jones



Fred Baginski



Liz Carlsson



Max Hernick



John Hunter



John Hunter



Lalo Gonzalez



Phil Malavolta



Dick Sader



Kevin Sturgeon



Kevin Sturgeon

## **Toys for Kids 2010**

The 2010 Toys for Kids program is wrapping up. Please don't forget we need the sheet filled out on the finish(s) you used on the toys for our records and so we can try to comply with the government regulation.

At the October meeting we will need to get a count on the toys and gift we will be providing. We also need the names, contacts, and addresses of the organizations you would like to see get some of the items. It will be your responsibility to get the items delivered to your organization(s).

All finished gifts are to be brought to the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting for distribution.

Thanks again to all members who have and are helping make it a Merrier Christmas for some needy kids.

Lou Takacs

## **ELECTIONS COMING IN NOVEMBER**

We will be holding elections for officers for 2011 at our November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. In order to hold the election we will be having **nominations at the October meeting** per our club by-laws. We need a committee to run the election and contact those nominated, who might not be at the meeting, to see if they would accept the nomination.

Please consider running for one of the offices. We will be electing a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer for 2011.

## **Christmas Party**

Our December meeting will be on Thursday, December 16, 2010 due to the Holiday period. As usual we will have a buffet dinner with the club providing the meat and drinks. Members are asked to bring a dish to share such as a vegetable, salad, or dessert. We always have a delicious assortment of foods.

At the October meeting we will start to sign-up members and guests, so we will know how much chicken, etc., the club will need to order from a local grocery deli. We will again be asking for a \$5.00 per person refundable deposit. This money will be refunded to you at the party and is a method started a few years ago as a way we minimize the no-shows.

In the past we have had some quartet musical entertainment, and the board is looking into this type of entertainment for this year, if the price is reasonable. If you can recommend any such groups, please let us know.

## **ITEMS FOR SALE**

**If you have any wood working related items that you wish to sell through the newsletter please contact Lalo Gonzalez [LaLogon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:LaLogon@sbcglobal.net) or 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.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 28	Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake (Jim Arent Steel City Tools) 7 PM
November 16	Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7 PM
November 18	Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake (Toy Program & Elections) 7 PM
December 16	Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake (Christmas Party & Awards Banquet) 7 PM
December 21	Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7 PM

### Bob Flexner's Finishing Tips

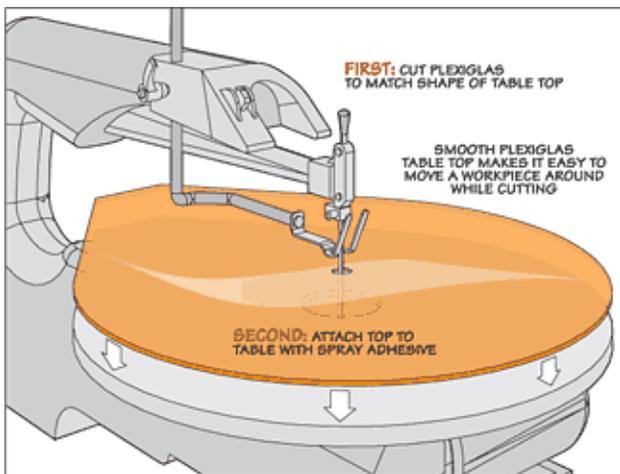
<http://www.thefinishingstore.com/>

#### Tip: Sand with the Grain

Always sand in the direction of the wood grain to minimize visible scratches showing through a stain or finish. An exception commonly occurs when sanding woodturnings because of the difficulty sanding with the grain. To compensate and still eliminate visible scratches, sand to a much finer grit (usually 400 or 600 grit).

You can also sand across the grain using a random-orbit sander as long as you don't move the sander rapidly over the surface. Best practice is to follow the random-orbit sander with at least one hand sanding in the direction of the grain using the finest grit you used with the sander. Do this to eliminate "squiggles," or small circular scratches left by the sander.

### Scroll Saw Auxiliary Table



Most of the work I do on my scroll saw involves fine cuts on small pieces. So it's very important for the workpiece to slide easily across the table. The problem is most scroll saw tables aren't

very smooth. I've tried waxing the table and found that the wax wears off pretty quickly and leaves a residue on my projects.

To solve the problem, I made a smooth-sliding auxiliary top out of a piece of Plexiglas, as in the drawing above. The Plexiglas is the same size as the saw table and has a hole only a bit larger than the blade to provide more workpiece support. I attached it with spray adhesive.

Good Woodworking,

Phil Huber Online Editor, *ShopNotes*

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

# Heavy-Duty Push Block



I find many push sticks somewhat unnerving to use. So I made a sturdy push block for my table saw that keeps my hand well above the blade. And the wide body of the block pushes the workpiece on both sides of the saw blade.

For extra blade clearance, the thick body of the push block is glued up from two pieces of scrap. At the back, I screwed a 1/4" hardboard heel to catch the end of a board and push it through the blade, like you see in the photo.

An ordinary steel utility handle gives me a firm grip on the block. Once the bottom and the heel of the push block get chewed up, you can easily remove the handle and make a new block.

Good Woodworking,

Phil Huber  
Online Editor, *ShopNotes*

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

## HUMOR

Old timer is looking at tools at the local building supply store, he picks up a hammer.  
" Don't make these like they used to," he tells the salesman, " I've had the same one for over fifty years, just had to replace the handle six times and the head twice.

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Old Jake had cut firewood by hand with a swede saw for a living going on 50 years, he averaged about four cords a day. His son was home from college and watching him work remarked, "You could probably cut 10 times as much if you bought yourself a chainsaw."

"Not interested in those new fangled things," Jake responded.

His son returned to college and Jake began to think that maybe the young guy was right, his old body seemed to ache more and more at the end of the day, He went into town and bought a brand new top of the line chainsaw.

The first couple days were not very productive, he only cut one cord each day, by the third day he had cut 3 cords but was dead tired. " This is not working, " he thought to himself, " My son said I should be able to cut 10 cords a day, I'm taking this stupid thing back."

The next day he was in the hardware store complaining to the sales clerk about his lack of production. "Blade seems a little dull, but not that bad, lets start it up," the clerk muttered as he pulled the starting cord.

"What the hell is that noise?" Jake hollered.

## **2010 Committee Members**

President Lou Takacs  
Vice President Dick Sader  
Treasurer Charlie Morris  
Secretary John Hunter  
Achievement John Hunter  
Audit Bill Harbison  
Badges Elizabeth Carlsson  
Bargain Alerts John Hunter  
Christmas Exhibit Nancy & Merle Distel  
Christmas Party Claudia Brazil & Marcie White  
Community Liaison Dick Sader  
Discounts George Hamnik  
Drawings Phil Malavolta  
Exhibits Marcie White & Phil Malavolta  
Field Trips Leon Kozlowski  
Fund Raising Norm Johnson  
Hats & Shirts Fred Baginski  
Historian Art & Helen Willing  
Hospitality Charles Norman  
Lake County Fair Lou Takacs  
Library Bob Roach  
Membership/sign-in George Salatas  
Mini-Seminars John Sturk & Bob Miller  
Newsletter Editor Hilario (Lalo) Gonzalez (lalogon@sbcglobal.net)  
Nominations Joe McDaniels  
Parliamentarian Joe McDaniels  
Pattern Master Stanley Wagner  
Photographer Fred Baginski  
Picnic/Party Marcie White, Claudia Brazil, Lou Takacs  
Publicity John Sturk  
Program John Hunter  
Recycling Claudia Brazil  
Shop Visits Dick Sader  
Show & Tell Denny McCool & Max Hernick  
SIG Carving Carl Mills  
SIG Scroll Saw Dick Sader  
SIG Turning Denny McCool  
Toys for Kids Bob Roach, Claudia Brazil & Skip Brazil  
Videographer Carl Mills & Max Hernick  
Website Bob Roach

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