

# WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association

Volume 30, Issue 9 September 2025

## WOODEN YOU LIKE TO KNOW

Greetings fellow woodworkers,

Our annual club picnic was held on August 31<sup>st</sup>, and we had a great turnout. Lot's of good friends and great food and a beautiful day. Thanks to everyone that participated and helped in any way.

Exhibits Committee Chairman Don Miller is now collecting items for our fall library exhibit at the Lake County Public Library's Crown Point branch. If you would like to loan an item/items for this display, start bringing in your items and/or notify Don of your intentions to do so. You must fill out and sign a club "Item on Loan form".

I love to see all your smiling faces at each meeting. Those of you that regularly attend, those that occasionally attend, as well as new members and guests. It makes for a fun filled and productive time. I would like to take a moment to stress also that your attendance is also very important for us to be able to conduct our business. To be able to legally conduct some of the things that we need to do, we need to have a quorum of members present. In any item that is presented for a vote of the membership on the floor, this is the case. If we do not have enough members (in good standing) present. No vote can be called for and must be tabled for a later time. This is particularly important for the elections coming up soon. PLEASE ATTEND AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN.

### REMINDERS:

This month's meeting will be on September 25th @ 6 pm at Hobart Moose

This month's program will be our best/worst tool program and our silent auction.

Dig out that tool in your shop that you think is the best tool in your shop or the worst tool in your shop, bring it in and tell us why.

Dig out that tool or other related item that you have been hanging on to and now it can find a new home. If you want to bid on an item, write it down, then the next person writes in his increased bid below (do not cross out a lower bid, start a new line and write

in a new bid that is larger!) Items not sold must be taken back by the owner and not left on the premises.

Club Events: The 49th Annual Fall Harvest Festival & Antique Equipment Show at Sunset Hill Farm Co. Park 775 N Meridian, Valparaiso, IN Sept, 26-28 Friday through Sunday 9 to 5. [www.nipa.org](http://www.nipa.org) Set up on Thursday the 25th at 1:00. For those helping to pick up and deliver gear from the storage unit. We will meet there at noon at 2549 Comeford Rd. in Valparaiso. There will be a final chance to sign up to work at this meeting.

Also. If you still have not paid your dues for this year, please do so at this meeting so that we can close the books on that.

See you at the next meeting,  
Jeff Snellgrove  
President NIWA

### **FROM THE TREASURER MONEY TALKS**

What a remarkable year it's been for NIWA!

I'm excited to share that our finances are stronger than ever, thanks to everyone's hard work we've seen a 51% increase in revenue so far compared to last year. The success of our two shows this year not only boosted our bottom line but also helped grow our membership. Our raffle sales have been especially impressive, comprising 60% of our revenue. All because of your enthusiastic participation and support.

Looking ahead, we have one more major event to cap off the year: the Sunset Hill Tractor Show. This is our last big opportunity of 2025 to come together, celebrate our achievements, and make an impact. I encourage every member to join us, bring friends and family, and share your ideas for making this event, and our organization, even better. If you have suggestions for future projects, or ways to enhance our community, we'd love to hear from you at the show!

Your support has allowed us to invest in key improvements that benefit all of us and advance NIWA's mission. We've created an updated tri-fold informational brochure, which will help attract new members and better inform the community about who we are and what we do. By renting a storage space, we're keeping our equipment and materials organized, protected, and ready for use—making it easier for everyone to participate. We also paid the fee to sell merchandise at the Lake County Fair, which significantly boosted our income and gave us a platform to connect with more people interested in our work. I can't thank you enough for your dedication and teamwork. Our financial success and growth are a direct result of your efforts and passion. Let's keep up the momentum. Join us at Sunset Hill, share your ideas, and help make the rest of the year just as fantastic.

Here's to an amazing finish to 2025! – Dennis Byron

## SHOW AND TELL



**Gene Davis**



**Jeff Snellgrove**



**Don Miller**

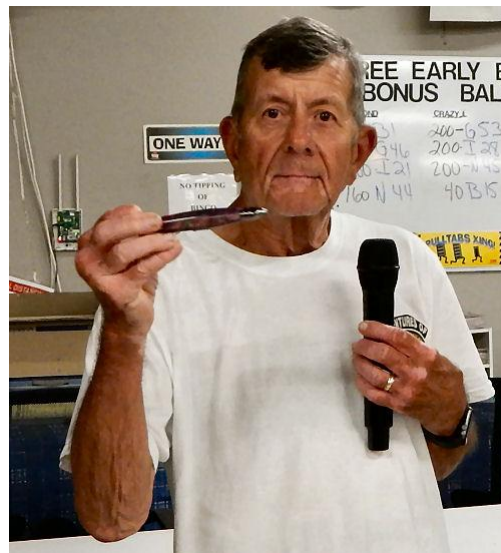




**Bill Schoech**



**Bryant mitol**



**Norm Johnson**

## **CLUB PICNIC**











## **TOY BUILD WORKSHOP**

**George Denton hosted another toy building workshop.**







## **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)**

## **2025**

September 25<sup>th</sup> Setup booth for Fall Harvest Festival And Antique Equipment Show

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

6:00 PM

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

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

6:00 PM Program Favorite/Least Favorite tools & Silent Auction

October 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting 5 PM at Portage Moose Lodge on County Line Road

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

6:00 PM

October 23<sup>rd</sup> Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

November 12<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

November 20<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM Toy Program

December 10<sup>th</sup> Committees Meeting at Moose Lodge, 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN

6:00 PM

## WOODWORKING TIPS

### Card Scraper Honing Jig

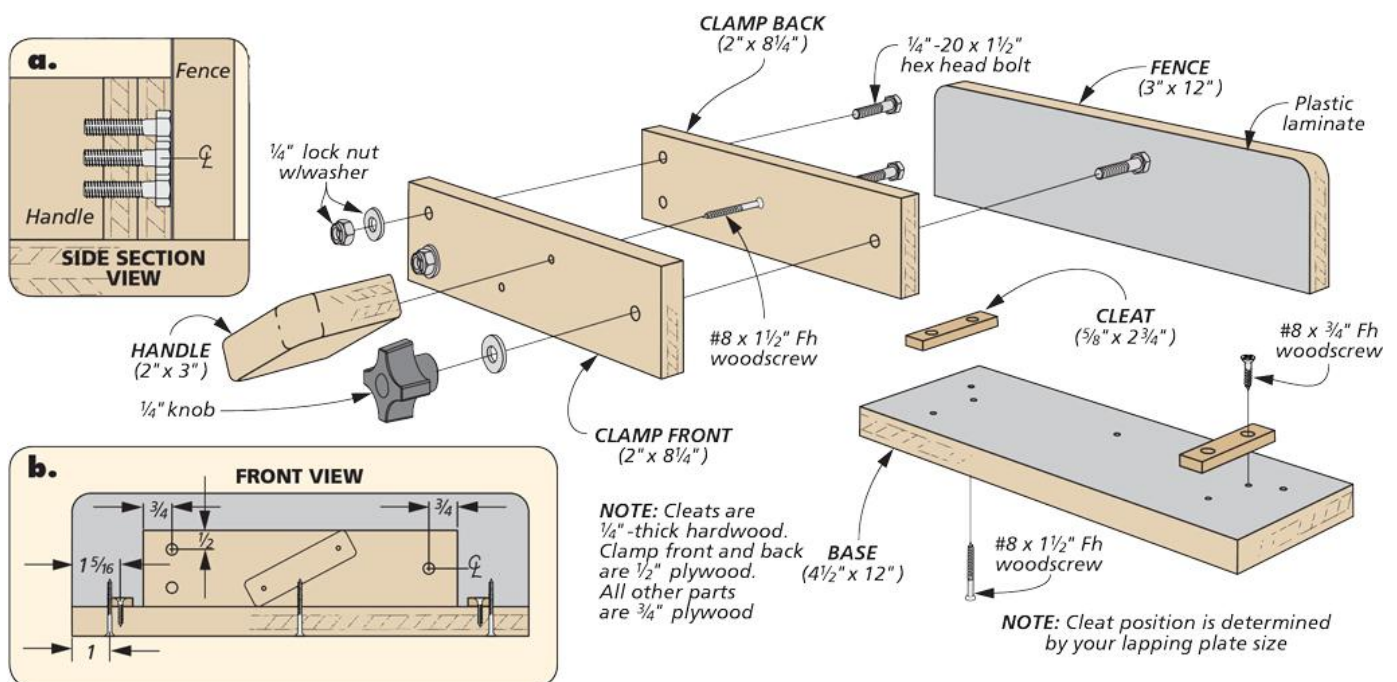
By: Logan Wittmer

**This Jig Helps you get your Card Scraper perfectly Square.**



Getting a 90° edge on a card scraper has always given me a problem. So, I decided to build a jig to help me create a square edge.

**Diamond Plate Holder.** The jig incorporates a plywood base that cradles a diamond lapping plate. A pair of cleats keep the plate from sliding. To hold the scraper square, I attached a fence that's covered with laminate. To hold the card scraper, I built a [clamp](#) using plywood and a couple of bolts and knobs. And a handle provides a secure grip.



**In Use.** Using the jig is straightforward. I place a card scraper into the clamp and tighten down the knob to secure it. Then, I can hold the clamp against the fence as I hone the edge using back and forth movements. The laminate reduces friction and wear. After a few swipes, the scraper is ready for burnishing.