

WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association

Volume 15, Issue 4 April 2011

President's Corner

Hi Woodworkers, I always look forward to the 2x4 Challenge displayed at the April membership meeting. It amazes me just how many things a single scrap 2x4 can be made into. I have even seen a member in the past, buy an oak 2x4 and make a beautiful night stand. Art is still looking for investors for his 2x4 stretcher. There is still time to invest your money at bargain basement prices. Inquires will be forwarded to Art. Anyway if you haven't started your project there is still time. Refer to the rules online at our website.

The Executive Board met in the beginning of April. The minutes are available from John Hunter, our Secretary. Few things we are working on:

1. Since we have moved our PO Box we are updating the banner. There are new business cards. Please pick them up at the meeting. John Hunter nicely designed them with two lines on the back side so you can write something on them easily. Thank you, John.
2. We are in need of members to volunteer for committees. I know, I am always asking, but it is true. We need your help! Part of being in a club is the working together. Some things require very little effort and other things well....those jobs surprisingly go first. Here is a list of the committees needing members
 - A. Audit Committee. We need 2 members right away. Our internal audit must happen in May. Frank Schmidt has participated in the audit as has Charlie Morris.
 - B. Programs Committee. John Hunter has worked with the former chairman of this committee in the past. He is willing to orientate the new chairman. I know that you enjoy the programs.
 - C. Exhibits Committee needs a chairman. This is another way the club reaches out to the community and increases our membership.
3. Special Interest Committees
 - A. Turning chairman is Denny McCool
 - B. Scroll Saw chairman is Dick Sadar
 - C. Carving NEEDS A CHAIRMAN

****Please contact me if you can fill any of these positions****

We have secured Hidden Lake Social Center for our 2011 committee and membership meetings and Christmas Party. We have the pavilion adjacent to the social center for the picnic like last year. Many thanks to our Executive Board for make sure things run smoothly!

Library News Gene Davis is our librarian. The books can be signed out. We have a system in our library that members may not be aware of. Books are on disc. John Hunter has worked hard to make this possible. They can be signed out just like the books.

Many Thanks The Toy Program provides toys to many children in this region. I truly believe that there will be more toys needed this year than ever before. Even though the daily news says our economy has taken a turn for the better the Region has not. We as members of this organization recognize this and do our part by making toys. Recently, Mr. Mrs. Bill Felgenhauer, have donated a vast quantity of wheels and other toy making items. Their generosity is overwhelming! This kind act will allow us to make more toys that will put smiles on children's faces. Thank you Mr. Mrs. Bill Felgenhauer. God's blessings to you for sharing in our toy making.

June Library Display We are in need of items to display in the Portage Library. Start bringing your projects this month. Sign your item and place it in a labeled box, list the type of wood and finish. Viewers like to see this. Also if you know about how many hours it takes to complete the project, list this. Please complete the display sheet. It will be available at the membership meeting.

Fair 2011 We need demonstrators and fair workers. This is a fun time. You get to know the members and have time to learn new woodworking skills from the demonstrators.

Dues Time to pay the dues! Can't believe another year has flown by in the world of NIWA. It's a good club! We do fun thing things & eat all of Charlie Norrman's Cookies. He makes the best sawdust coffee in the county!

Speaking of Coffee... Al Kalos makes a mean pot of coffee! He made coffee last month. I noticed he keeps a close eye on Charlie's coffee. Thanks Charlie and Al for coffee, the gift from above! Imagine how awful life would be without coffee? ME NEITHER!

Show Review I have to tell you about a yearly event I was lucky enough to attend. Last weekend I went to the 35th Annual Duneland Woodcarver's Show held at Woodland Park in Portage. It was great. Upon entering the show I was warmly welcomed and directed to the many fine displays. There were door prizes all during the day. Tickets were sold for 3 carving tool sets and a carving by JR Cadawas who is well known in carving circles. John Dunkle, Judy and Bruce Nicholas, Don the Carving Glove Guy were among the vendors in attendance. Larry Yudis owner of The Woodcraft Shop from Bettendorf IA brought his store to the show. There was a judged competition of some of the finest carvings I have ever seen. This show is already in the planning for 2012. As soon as I find out a date, I will pass it along.. Oh did I tell you Duneland Woodcarvers meet every Tuesday 9am till 11am at Woodland Park, 2100 Willow Creek Rd, Portage, IN. <http://www.dunelandwoodcarvers.com>
The carvers meet in the Blue Spruce Room which is the small building just south of the big building in the park.

Make Sawdust not sadness!!!

Marcia Lichnerowicz

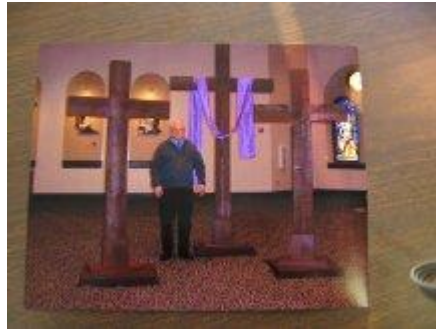
NIWA 2X4 CHALLENGE

This year's 2x4 Challenge will take place at this month's meeting. Pick up a 2x4 and join in the fun.

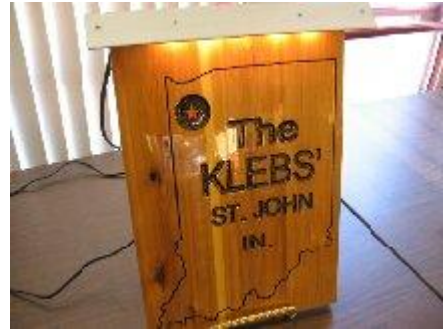
SHOW AND TELL



Max Hernick



Bob Rinearson



Kevin Klebs



John Hunter



Jim Schuster



Jim Schuster



Frank Berzinis



Lalo Gonzalez



Skip Brazil



Ron Benson



Max Hernick

TOY WORKSHOP

Skip and Claudia Brazil will be having a toy workshop on Monday, May 2, 8am-11:30am, at 168 W 850 N, Valparaiso, 46385. There will be a coffee break mid-morning with goodies. Skip has several jobs lined up including drilling, sanding, assembly, etc. Our phone is 219-926-5966. Our email is Claudia35@frontier.com.

We recently received a donation of wheels and pegs plus many other parts for toys. If you need any, please let us know and we can bring them to the next general meeting.

CLUB DUES FOR 2011/2012

Please bring a **CHECK** for your \$25.00 dues (\$35.00 for a couple) to the April or May meeting. CASH IS A PROBLEM WITH CHANGE AND RECORD OF WHO PAID!

If you are going to be out of town you can mail your club dues payment. Make the check payable to Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association, mark it for Dues and mail it to:

NIWA
PO Box 1602,
Portage, IN 46368

THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION

EDUCATION FUND RAFFLE 2011

The committee has set a schedule for the raffle for 2011. The highlights of the schedule are as follows:

- At the April, May and June meetings members will be asked to sign-up to donate a prize for the raffle. The committee members will have the sign-up sheets. All prizes will be due for the July meeting or sooner.
- At the July meeting the prizes will be collected that have been completed. In order for the committee to lay-out and print the flyers that will show the prizes, a Drop Dead date of August 18th has been set. So all prizes will need to be delivered to a committee member by that date, if not provided at the July meeting or sooner.
- Tickets and flyers will be distributed at the August meeting. We will again limit the sale of tickets to 1000 tickets. They will again cost \$2.00 each or 3 tickets for \$5.00.
 - NOTE: ALL MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO TAKE 10 OR MORE TICKETS TO SELL. IT IS NOT MANDATORY THAT YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE RAFFLE, BUT ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HELP WITH THIS FUND RAISING EVENT THAT BENEFITS ALL MEMBERS.
- Tickets are to be sold during September, and most of October. If any member needs some additional tickets or if you need to turn in any unsold tickets, please contact a committee member.
- The drawing for all of the prizes will be held at the October meeting on October 27th. All tickets and money will be due by this meeting or can be turned in sooner. All of the prizes will be distributed to the winners.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Ron Benson 219-762-8416, Norm Johnson 219-769-6519, Lou Takacs 219-465-7207

PORTAGE LIBRARY EXHIBIT

We will be placing a woodworking exhibit in the Portage Library the 1st of June. We need items made by club members for this exhibit. The display case is for small items. All items need to be brought to the May Membership meeting on May 26th and should be accompanied by the Exhibit Form. This is a great way to display items you have made. All items will be returned after the exhibit closes at the following club meeting.

ST. JUDE'S FUNDRAISER

There is a group of local people having a fundraiser for St. Jude children's research hospital which provides hope, and often the cure, for kids with catastrophic illnesses.

Businesses are donating goods, services, and gift certificates to sell at a fundraiser that will be held Friday May 6 from 9 AM To 4 PM & Sat May 7 from 9 AM To ????. It will be held at 509 45th St. in Griffith. This is east of Broad St., and just east of the tracks. This was formerly an auto parts store, located next door to Griffith meats.

The general public will be donating used items in useable condition to also be sold at the event. There will be some really good buys, so please try to be present at the sale.

If you would like to help the kids of St. Luke's, here's how you can help:

Make an item to be sold at the fundraiser

Make a monetary donation

Donate time to solicit businesses for donations (if you can do this please call Ed at 219-887-1240 as soon as possible)

Donate used items in useable condition. No clothes, please. We do not have the manpower to clean donations, so if you choose this option, please donate only items that are clean.

Most of us have a tool of some kind that we rarely use. If you have something like that, it would make a great donation.

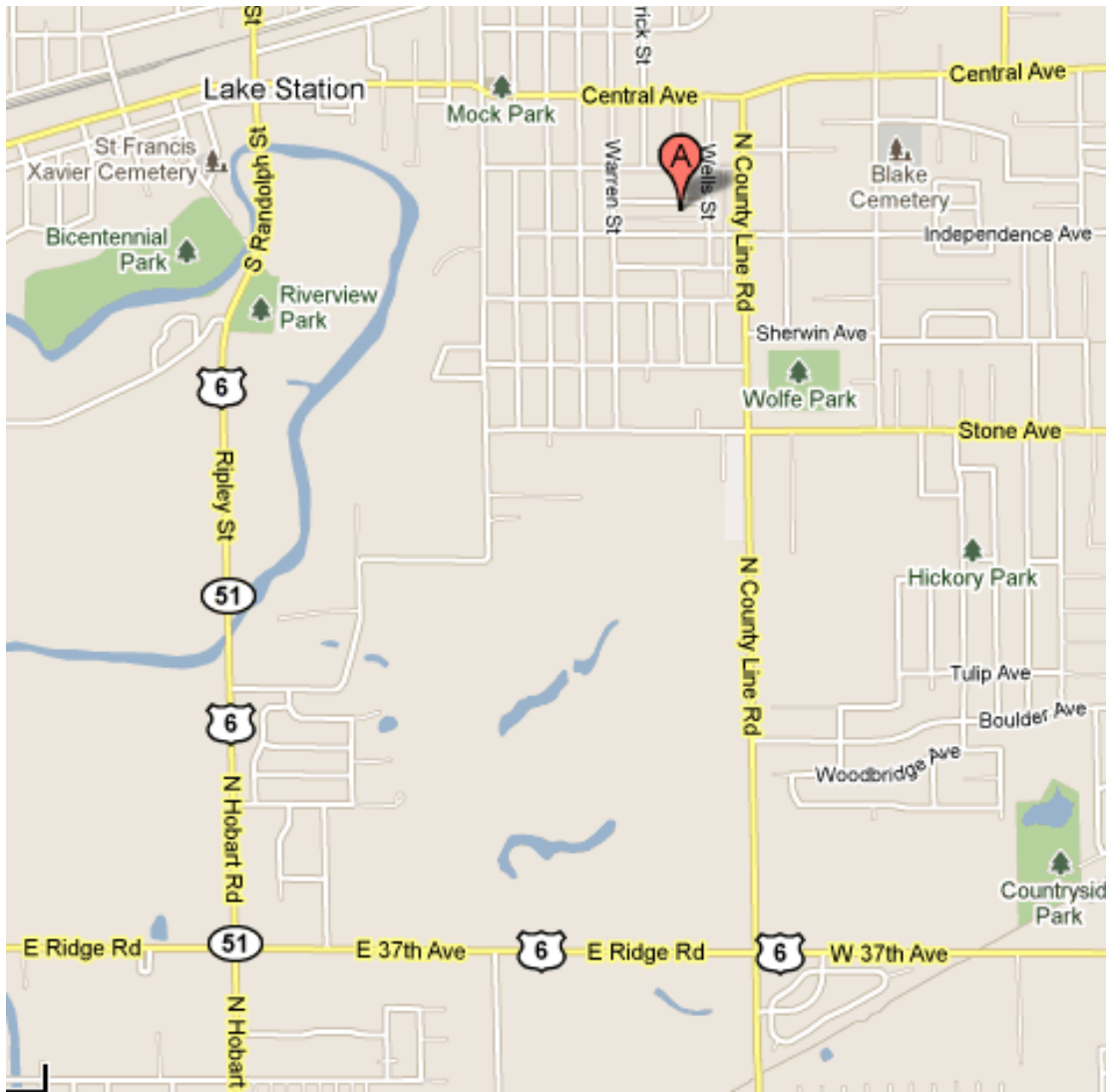
Spread the word about our fundraiser. The more people we have, the more successful we'll be in our fundraiser.

Items will be picked up at the next NIWA Woodworkers meeting on April 28th and if you would like to make a monetary donation, we will have a container for donations.

Thanks very much for your consideration to help the kids.

SHOP VISIT

John Hunter will be hosting a Shop Visit on May 7th from 1-4 PM. John's shop is located in his garage at 4841 East 25th Place, Lake Station IN, 46405. Phone 219-962-4741



John will display various types of shop cabinets including some where space is limited. He will also make a list of those wanting plans for any of the cabinets.

ITEMS FOR SALE

1/550 Workmate bench, excellent shape, never used \$50.00 or OBO

1/225 Workmate bench, excellent shape, never used \$40.00 or OBO

1 Milwaukee 18 volt, reconditioned SawZall, "The Hatchet" saw only \$50.00 or OBO

Items can be viewed, tested at my residence, 601 E. 73rd Avenue. Call Bob at 219-736-9782 or e-mail Roberthamady@AOL.com to make an appointment.

If you have any wood working related items that you wish to sell through the newsletter please contact Lalo Gonzalez LaLogon@sbcglobal.net or John Hunter john.b.hunter@frontier.com Include a description and the price you are selling them for, also how you may be contacted.

HUMOR

Pat sends Mike to the lumberyard, "Need twenty 4 X 2's," he says to the yardman.
"Guess you mean 2 X 4's," he grins, "How long do you want them?"
"Dunno for sure, but it will be a while, he's building a garage."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2011

April 28th Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM 2 x 4 Challenge
May 17th Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
May 26th Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM Freud Tools
June 1st Setup Display at Portage Library
June 15th (Wednesday) Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
June 23rd Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
July 1st Take Down Display at Portage Library
July 11th Executive Board Meeting at Portage Library 7 PM
July 19th Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
July 28th Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
August 5th – 8th Lake County Fair Club Booth
August 16th Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
August 25th Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
August 28th Picnic at Hidden Lake 12 Noon
September 14th (Wednesday) Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
September 22nd Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
October 3rd Executive Board Meeting at Portage Library 7 PM
October 18th Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
October 27th Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM Finishing Lou Takacs
November 15th Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
November 17th Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM Toy Program
December 20th Committees Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 PM
December 22nd Membership Meeting at Hidden Lake 7:00 Christmas Party, Installation and Awards

Bob Flexner's Finishing Tips

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

TIP: Cleaning Varnish Brushes

The standard procedure for cleaning a varnish brush is to rinse in mineral spirits and then wash with soap and water. The problem is the large number of times you have to wash to achieve a good lather, which indicates the bristles are clean.

You can speed the cleaning by rinsing the brush in lacquer thinner after two or three rinses in mineral spirits. The lacquer thinner removes the oiliness of the mineral spirits so the lather can be achieved after only one or two washings.

You can substitute acetone or brush cleaner for the lacquer thinner. In fact, you can do all the rinsings in lacquer thinner, acetone or brush cleaner, but these are more expensive than mineral spirits.



NIWA Exhibit Information

Please complete and return with item to be displayed

Location of exhibit: _____

Address: _____

Member: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip** _____

Item to be exhibited: (use reverse if necessary) _____

Wood Type or Material: _____

Finish: _____

Set Up Date: _____ **Take Down Date:** _____

Exhibit/Event Dates _____

Disclaimer

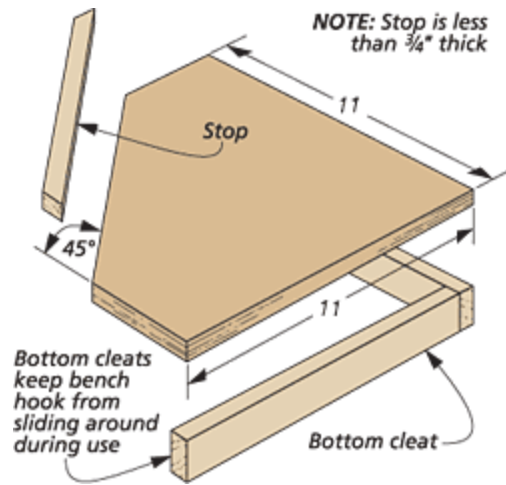
The undersigned does hereby understand and agree that all items presented for exhibit/event will be the owner's responsibility. Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association and members shall not be liable for any damage sustained, loss, theft, or disappearance of said items, or parts thereof, while being on loan for display/exhibit.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Workbench Corner Hook

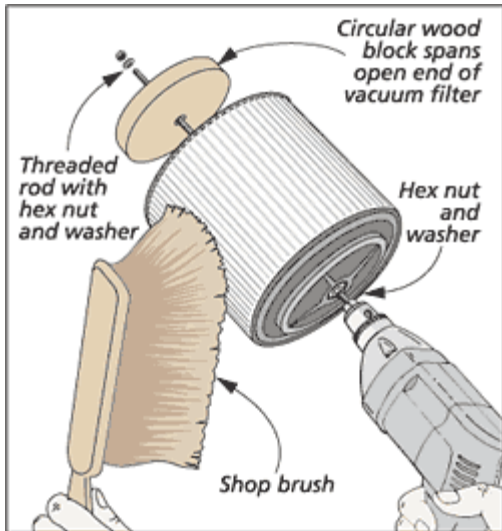


I've found that a bench hook that mounts over the edge of the workbench is a great way to hold a workpiece in place. But the traditional bench hook that I was using had one annoying fault. It wouldn't always stay put. A sudden tip or slide along the bench was a common occurrence. So I came up with the new and improved "corner" hook that you see in photo at right.



The drawing shows how this simple fixture is constructed. The advantage is pretty obvious. The two bottom cleats wrap around the corner of the bench for much better stability. Now I don't have to worry about an unexpected shift while making a critical cut on a workpiece.

A Clean Filter



A shop vacuum works a lot better if you clean the filter regularly. But from the lack of a quick and easy method, I tended to avoid this unpleasant chore. Finally I got motivated and came up with a way to make the job a little more palatable.

My solution was to speed up the job of brushing the dust from the filter by spinning it on a cordless drill. To do this, you'll first need to make an arbor to hold the filter, as shown in the drawing. The arbor starts with a length of threaded rod that can be chucked into the drill. The filter is placed over the rod and sandwiched between a washer and nut on one end and a wood plug, washer and nut on the other.

The cleaning is best done outdoors. With the drill in one hand and a shop brush in the other, I spin the filter, holding the brush against it. The bristles work their way into the shallow pleats and rapidly dislodge most of the dust. The job is done quickly and my shop vacuum is back at peak performance.

Good Woodworking,

Ted Raife
Online Editor, *Woodsmith*

2011 NIWA Committees

Achievement Committee

*John Hunter
Bob Roach
Claudia Brazil

Audit Committee

*

Frank Schmidt

Badges Committee

*Elizabeth Carlsson

Bargain Alerts Committee

*John Hunter

Christmas Exhibit Committee

* Nancy & Merle Distel
Claudia & Skip Brazil

Christmas Party Committee

*Claudia & Skip Brazil
Lou Takacs
Nancy & Merle Distel
Helen Willings

Community Liaison Committee

*Dick Sader
Lou Takacs
Frank Kylsa

Discount Committee

*George Hamnik

Drawing Committee

*Phil Malavolta

Exhibits Committee

*Marcie Lichnerowicz
Phil Malavolta

Field Trips Committee

*

Club Patches Committee

*Fred Baginski

Historian

*Art & Helen Willing

Hospitality Committee

*Charles Norman
Al Kalos

Lake County Fair Committee

Marcie Lichnerowicz
John Hunter
Lou Takacs
Ronnie Rogers

Librarian

*Gene Davis

Mini Seminars Committee

*Robert Miller
John Sturk

Newsletter Committee

*Hilario (Lalo) Gonzalez
John Hunter
Lou Takacs

Nominating Committee

*Joe McDaniel

Parliamentarian

*Joe McDaniels

Photographer

*Fred Baginski

Press Committee

*John Sturk

Picnic Committee

*Claudia & Skip Brazil
Lou Takacs
Nancy & Merle Distel

Programs Committee

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John Hunter

Raffle Committee

*Norm Johnson
Ron Benson
Lou Takacs

Recycling Committee

*Claudia Brazil

Shop Visits Committee

*Dick Sader
*Ron Benson

Show & Tell Committee

*Max Hernick
*Denny McCoolle

Sign in/Membership Committee

*George Salatas

Special Intrest Group Carving

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Special Intrest Group Scroll Saw

*Dick Sader

Special Intrest Group Turning

*Denny McCoolle

Toy Committee

*Skip Brazil
*Claudia Brazil

WebMaster

*Chris Retson