

WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association

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President's Rambling's

Greetings Fellow Woodworkers, Hello everyone Christmas time is here again! Unfortunately we are dealing with this Covid-19 pandemic also. With that our November meeting was canceled because someone at the Moose was exposed to the virus. That person has since tested negative, but they cautioned on the safe side and shut down for 2 weeks for cleanup. A special Committees meeting was called and notifications to the membership was sent by email for Nov, 23 at the Portage Moose to determine what to do for the Toy program and Raffle drawing. (These meetings are always open to the public.) The names were drawn and the winners have been notified (No I did not win). It was decided to rescheduled the passing out the Toy for Kids to December 2nd. We had such a great turnout for this, 1400 plus toys! Thank you to all that participated.

Christmas/ Awards Dinner has been canceled over concerns with how to serve the meal. Indiana has determined self serve style meals have to be banded due to Covid. Our Awards dinner will be rescheduled to a later date to be determined. Anyway we will still have a meeting at 7:00 PM on December 17th, 2020 (a week before our normal meeting) at 7 PM. We will have nominations, elections and instillation of officers at this time. Please attend this meeting there is plenty of Physical distancing room in the meeting hall and sanitizer is available

Up coming events. This is the link to the Woodworking shows. It looks like it will be a virtual event. <https://www.thewoodworkingshows.com/>

FYI, Monday special at the Portage Moose, limited to Moose members, has a great buy on hamburgers fixed on their indoor grill. It is highly recommended. Hobart Moose, open to the public, has resumed their Fish Fry on Fridays. Please support these moose lodges, they allow us to hold meets with no fees.

Enjoy this weather and Don't let your tools rust!

Your President,

Kevin Sturgeon

SHOW AND TELL

Due to Covid 19 our November Club meeting was cancelled so we have no Show & Tell pictures this month.

TOYS FOR KIDS

Many thanks to our members that made it possible to even under the Covid 19 lock downs and meeting cancelations make and distribute 1,453 toys to needy children. And a special thankyou to those that helped display and distribute those toys. Thank you, Kevin Sturgeon, Ron Benson, Dick Sader, Jon Robbins, Lisa Robbins, Jeff Snellgrove, Bill Schoech, Norm Johnson, Al Kalos, John Fluck, Robert Flores and John Hunter.









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

2020

December 17th Membership Meeting at 143 South Hobart Road, Hobart IN 6:00

Bob Flexner's Finishing Tips

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

TIP: Dealing with Bubbles in a Finish

Bubbles in a finish are more likely from brushing than from spraying, though it's possible to get bubbles in a sprayed finish if you have the air pressure turned up real high. Bubbles are caused by the turbulence created by the brush gliding over the surface much more than from shaking or stirring the finish. The problem is worse if your shop is hot or if the finish and wood are at different temperatures.



Because some formulations bubble less than others, especially with varnishes and water-based finishes, you can also switch to another brand, which may reduce the problem. To

remove bubbles that have dried in the finish, sand them out and apply another coat. It's difficult to avoid bubbles if you're brushing, but you can keep them from drying in the finish. Lightly brush back over the finish to break the bubbles (called "tipping off"), or slow the drying of the finish so the bubbles have more time to pop out on their own before the finish skins over. Do this by adding thinner or a retarder or flow additive. Use mineral spirits (paint thinner) in oil-based varnish and polyurethane. Use a retarder for lacquer, and use a flow additive for water-based finish.

Squaring Drawers

Building drawers is generally a pretty straightforward task. But there's one aspect of the job that can easily trip you up and spoil the end result. Once the joinery is cut, you face the touchy job of assembling the parts into a square drawer box. And squaring the drawer is the real clincher.

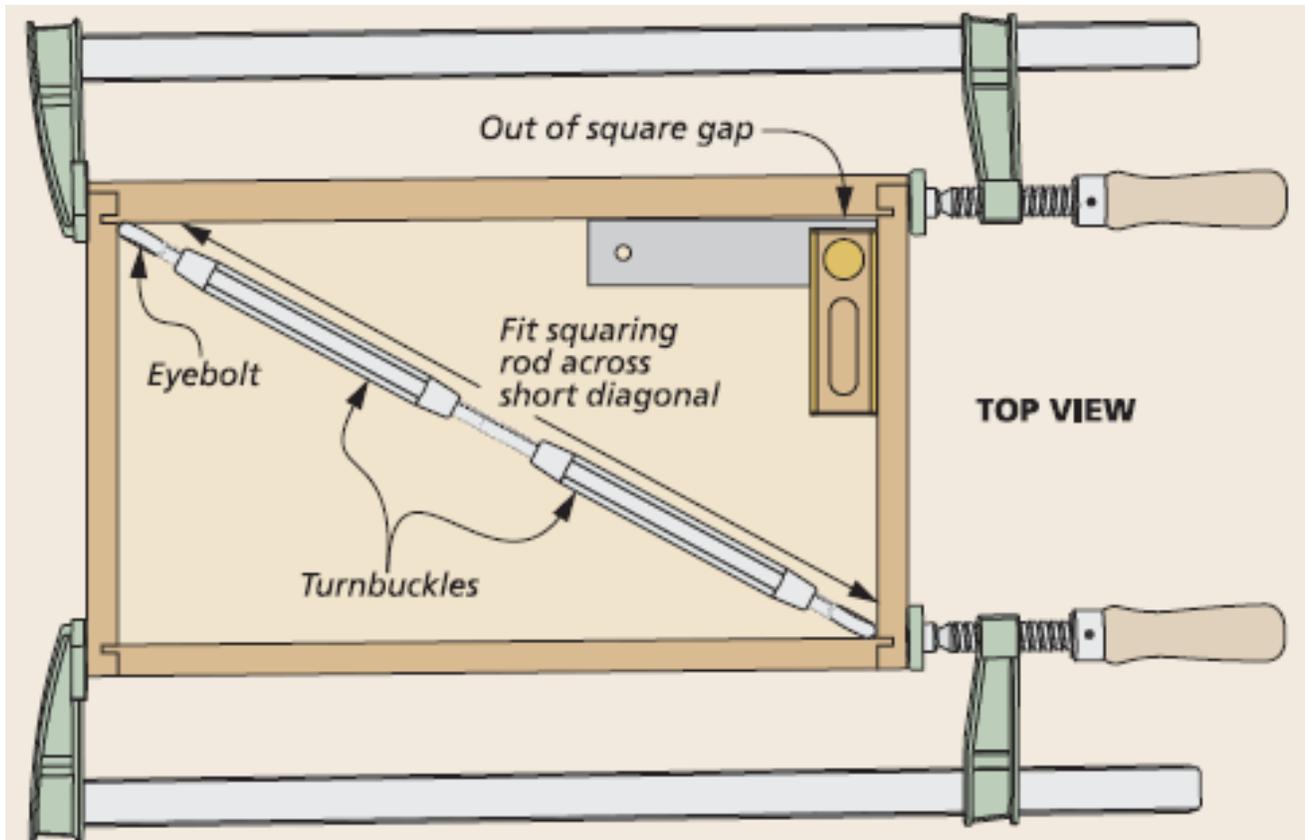
It's easy to check for square by comparing diagonal measurements. But then squaring up an out-of-square assembly is a little trickier. Shifting the clamps slightly is one way to do this, but it doesn't always work for me. So I came up with a more reliable method - the squaring rods you see in the photos.



The concept is pretty simple. The squaring rods are used to apply pressure across the short diagonal of the drawer to push it into square. For large drawers I have a squaring rod consisting of a section of threaded rod, two turnbuckles and a couple of eyebolts. As you can see, the eyebolts wedge into the corners of the drawer to force it into square.

I also have a more compact set of rods for use with smaller drawers, as shown in the inset photo. These are made from threaded rod, coupling nuts and rubber caps.

I keep a variety of lengths of threaded rod on hand to handle any size drawer. And with a minimum of effort, square drawers are pretty much a done deal.



Good woodworking,

Ted Raife
Editor, *Woodsmith*