

WOOD CHIPS



Northwest Indiana Woodworkers Association

Volume 23, Issue 11 November 2018

President's Ramblings

Greetings Fellow Woodworkers, First things first, Happy Veterans Day, Thank You to all that served so we can enjoy our freedoms!

Ju;ie and I traveled to Cassopolis, Michigan for the Fruit Belt Woodcarvers Show on the 4th of this month. This is a nice small show to see. We got to meet up with some of our carving freinds and had a great time. On a sad note some of the talk was that Duneland Woodcarvers show this spring will NOT happen in 2019 due to lack of volinteeres. This was confirmed with a posting on their Facebook page. It's a shame after 43 years that this is coming to an end.

Reminder our November meeting will be on the 15th, one week earlier than normal.

At the October meeting we held the nominations for the 2019 officers. The nominees are as follows:

PRESIDENT – KEVIN STURGEON

VICE PRESIDENT – JON ROBBINS

TREASURER – RON BENSON

SECRETARY - JOHN HUNTER

Additional nominations will be held prior to the election at the November meeting.

The club is also in need to some committee chairpersons:

Our **EDUCATIONAL RAFFLE DRAWING** is at the November meeting. Bring in your ticket stubs. We still have tickets if you want to make any last minute ticket purchases. This money will help our club provide for our Needy Kids Toy Program this year at Christmas as well as educational programs in the future. Thanks to all for helping make our raffle a success

Message from Santa: This meeting we will be distributing the Toys For Kids. If you listed a charitable organization, it will be your responsibility to get the items delivered to your organization(s). Please invite a representative from the organization that you submitted, to the club meeting; we would like to hear from them how this program has helped. Have any spare boxes? Please bring some to help package these toys for delivery.

Thank you Don Bunce for your demonstration on your Rose Engine lathe at the October's meeting. That was very interesting and sounds like a very expensive addition to your woodworking.

Christmas Party is coming up on December 20th, 2018 (a week before our normal meeting and an hour earlier than our normal meeting) at 6 PM and we will have a sign-up sheet for our members and guest. The dinner will be buffet style with the club providing the meat and drinks. Members are asked to bring a dish to share. We always have wonderful selection of foods. We are in need of some handmade gifts for our ladies. Please bring a wrapped gift or two for the ladies that support us and participate in our craft. We will have a sign-up sheet so we will know how many gifts are coming.

Shop Visit: Member Gene Davis will be hosting a shop visit on Saturday December 8th at 461 E. 200 N., Valparaiso, IN 46383-9301. [LINK](#)

Upcoming events: The Woodworking Shows 2019, Columbus, Ohio 3/8 to 3/10

Indianapolis, Indiana 2/1-2/3. Milwaukee, Wisconsin 2/22 to 2/24

Scott Phillips is having an Open Shop on May 11th, 2019.

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

Your President,

Kevin Sturgeon

SHOW AND TELL



Seth Bennett



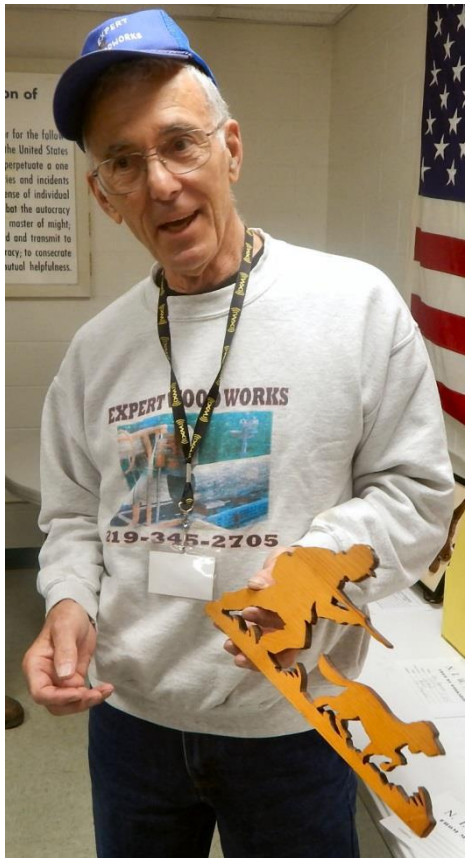
Kevin Sturgeon



Bill Schoech



Rodney Foster



Elmer Phelps



Ron Benson



Dick Sader



Gene Davis

ROSE ENGINE LATHE PROGRAM

By Don Bunce



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

2018

November 15th Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 7:00
PM Toy Program

December 17th Committees Meeting at 2949 Willowcreek Rd, Portage 7:00 PM

December 20th Membership Meeting at 208 South Linda Street, Hobart IN 6:00
PM Christmas Party, Installation and Awards

Bob Flexner's Finishing Tips

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

Coating Over an Existing Finish: A Risky Business that Sometimes Works

Finishes deteriorate as they age. First they dull, then they begin to crack. Exposure to light in the higher ultra-violet ranges, such as sunlight and fluorescent light, accelerates the deterioration.

Finishes also get damaged from abuse, which can cause a surface to look bad. In some cases, the only way to repair the deterioration or damage and make the furniture or woodwork look good again is to strip off the old finish and refinish.

There are many situations, however, where applying a coat or two of finish on top of what is already there can make the old deteriorated or damaged finish look new again. Coating over an old finish has the great advantages of avoiding the always-messy stripping process and greatly reducing the amount of work involved.

But applying a finish over an existing finish is one of the riskiest operations you can do in finishing because it can result in any number of problems. These include blistering, wrinkling, fish eye, orange peel and poor bonding.

Problems are difficult to predict, but there are three measures you can take to minimize your risk:

- Make sure the surface is clean.
- Make sure the surface is dull.
- Avoid using a finish that contains a solvent that could attack the existing coating.

Cleanliness

It's pretty obvious that a surface should be clean for a fresh coat of finish to bond well. There are four types of "dirt" that could cause problems: dust, grease, wax and silicone.

Dust and other common dirt can be wiped off the surface or washed off with water or soap and water. Grease is common in kitchens and can be removed with any strong detergent, TSP, household ammonia and water, or petroleum-distillate solvent such as mineral spirits or naphtha. Wax is a care product often applied to furniture and can be removed with any petroleum-distillate solvent without damaging the finish underneath.

Silicone contamination is common with old finishes and is a particularly difficult problem. Silicone is an oil that is contained in many furniture polishes and is difficult to totally remove from a surface because it gets through cracks in the finish and into the wood. Because it is so slick, silicone causes fish-eye (the finish bunching up in ridges as it flows away from areas, such as pores, where the silicone exists).

To a large degree, silicone can be removed by washing the surface with a petroleum-distillate solvent or with a strong detergent, TSP or household ammonia and water. But if the silicone has gotten into the wood through cracks in the old finish, you may not be able to get it all removed.

To deal with these situations, you can block the silicone fairly successfully by applying a first coat of shellac or you can add fish-eye eliminator to your finish. This product is silicone itself, and it lowers the surface tension of the finish enough so it can flow out over the slick silicone contamination.

In very bad cases, you may need to combine one or both of these remedies with a thorough cleaning to successfully overcome the problem.

Fish-eye eliminator is available from many distributors, suppliers and mail-order sources under several different names. One of the most common is "Smoothie." Add an eyedropper full to a quart of finish and stir in. In particularly severe cases of contamination you may need to add more, but too much will cause a dullness in the finish.

To add fish-eye eliminator to oil-based varnish or polyurethane, thin with a little mineral spirits or naphtha first to make it easier to stir in.

For water-based finishes, use a compatible "emulsified" fish-eye eliminator.

Dullness

All coatings have difficulty flowing out over glossy surfaces and "wetting" them well enough to establish a good bond, so it's wise to scuff these surfaces before recoating. You can do this with any abrasive, including sandpaper, steel wool or Scotch-Brite. (Scuffing also helps with the cleaning by physically removing the "dirty" top layer.)

Don't use steel wool if you intend to coat over using a water-based finish. Any steel shards left behind could rust and cause black spots.

Sometimes you can avoid the scuffing step by using a cleaning product that has the added effect of dulling the surface. Products that accomplish this include household ammonia and water, TSP and “liquid sandpaper,” which is a mixture of solvents (primarily alcohol) that both clean and dull.

Solvent Attack

The above explanations are fairly intuitive and pretty well understood by most finishers: a surface should be clean and dull in order to be coated over successfully. Problems caused by solvents aren't so well understood.

If you think of the number of times you've successfully painted over an old clean-and-dull painted or finished surface, you know that coating over is possible. The reason the paint didn't cause problems like blistering or wrinkling is that the solvents included in the paint were mild. The solvent that causes problems is lacquer thinner, which is included in nitrocellulose lacquer, CAB-acrylic lacquer and catalyzed lacquer.

In fact, any paint or finish that contains lacquer thinner or is thinned with lacquer thinner or with any of the active solvents in lacquer thinner (for example, acetone) has the possibility of attacking an existing coating and causing a problem.

Moreover, lacquer retarders, which evaporate much slower than standard lacquer thinners, are more problematic because they remain in contact with the existing coating for a longer time. This means that “brushing lacquers” are more risky to use because they are made with lacquer retarder. Also, the application of a thoroughly wet coat of a product containing lacquer thinner is more likely to cause problems than applying a thin or relatively dry coat.

So, what should you do if you want to use a product containing lacquer thinner to coat over an existing finish? With the goal of reducing the amount of time the solvents are in contact with the existing surface, here are some suggestions:

Spray a couple of light “dusting” coats of finish and let them dry thoroughly before applying a wet coat.

Avoid using lacquer retarder, even if this means waiting for drier or cooler weather. Also, don't use brushing lacquer.

Apply a barrier coat of shellac between the existing surface and the coating containing lacquer thinner. Shellac is thinned with alcohol, which rarely causes blistering or wrinkling. Be sure to let the shellac dry thoroughly before applying the product thinned with lacquer thinner, and apply this product lightly at first so it doesn't stay wet on the surface long enough to dissolve through the shellac. Also, use shellac that is relatively fresh – that is, made within the last year or so, or it can be the culprit itself in causing the finish to wrinkle.

No matter what precautions you take, there is always a risk of problems. So you need to have a back-up plan of stripping and starting over, just in case.