

## Al Crispo Member Profile

Like many, I became interested in wood working in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade because I had a wonderful shop teacher. He was the kind of teacher who knew his stuff and just got excited to see his students do well. Like good teachers, he would hold after school workshops so those that were interested could come in for one-on-one learning.

My dad was interested in electronics and other things and as such we had a nice workshop with some woodworking tools and lots of electrical tools.

I did not do much in the woodworking area until I finished college and got married. I built some amateur radio equipment but then decided to take some courses in industrial arts at the local state college. I was working in industry and thought I might like to teach industrial arts at the high school level. Here I started to really understand basic woodworking, glues, finishes etc.

Over the next several years I did lots of home projects, finished a basement, installed a Franklin stove and did the brick work associated with that fireplace project. I helped build a screen room, garage, and in later years finished a room and basement in our summer cottage.

I soon decided that those big projects no longer interested me, instead I wanted to work on smaller woodworking projects. When I moved to Lafayette, I became friends with Bill Krug who was a member of the Wabash Valley Woodworkers Club. Between Bill and the club, I learned how to turn, build boxes, etc. While at a wood show I became interested in intarsia when I purchased a piece that I fell in love with. I was always one of those guys that had to try building whatever I saw and liked.

When I saw my first model train layout I had to build one and, as such, I now have a basement full of trains. All of these hobbies forced me to build a shop and I am continuously improving my equipment.





First Intarsia I ever saw.



Carving



Intarsia



Turning



Model Trains



Boxes



Summer Cabin



Ham Radio Hobbie