

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

June 2014, Vol. 23, Number 6

The 2014 NWA Family Picnic

*Sunday, July 27, 2014, 11:00 am
Jonesville Fire Station No. 1, Main St. Jonesville
(Clifton Park)*

By George Rutledge

The Great NWA Family Picnic will be held at 11 AM on July 27th this year at our usual location, The Jonesville Fire Station #1, Main St. Jonesville (Clifton Park.)

The price of admission remains \$6.00 for adults and children under 12 are free and this covers food and soft drinks. Betty Andrews has once again volunteered to be our Gatekeeper and she will gladly take your money and hand you a ticket for a chance to win one of the many fine Door Prizes that will be on hand.

As always, we ask that you please bring a dessert to share with the party. I know this is a week later than our usual date but such are the vicissitudes of event planning. On the bright side, this gives you an extra week to sharpen your best plane, tune up your tape racer or just limber up your casting arm, because this year's Picnic will be replete with all of our usual competitions and events.



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Woodworking 101

By Mary Gillespie

The 10-session, Woodworking 101 class began on a cold and dark January evening. However, the gloomy outside weather belied what actually transpired within the lecture room. From the beginning, it was quite clear that our two instructors, George Rutledge and Dick Flanders, were not only knowledgeable about and talented in the art of woodworking, but also that they could teach, had something to teach, and could impart their knowledge and expertise on multiple levels.

It was both surprising and refreshing to receive, several weeks prior to the beginning session, a detailed class syllabus informing us of topic areas, everything from the natural properties of wood and the use of hand and power tools, to the process of design and interpretation of scale drawings, and everything in-between. Throughout the 10 sessions we were similarly fortunate to receive weekly emails containing readings and websites to augment each class experience and extend the possibilities for our learning and growth.

The reverence that both George and Dick have for woodworking was readily apparent, as was their talents as teachers. George spoke about many aspects of woodworking from the position of someone who has both extensively studied the subject and experienced what he studied. He also has the ability to condense and relate what he learned to our requisite level, whether he was

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New NWA Officers

By Rich Duval

At the May general meeting our new officers were elected.

Our new officers are:
Rich Duval, President
John Heimke, Vice President
Nancy Reilly, Secretary

At this time I would like to thank Karen Arkison for her service as President this past year and now becomes our latest Past President.

OFFICERS

President - Karen Arkison
nydivergirl@earthlink.net

Vice President - Rich Duval
rduval@nycap.rr.com

Secretary - Kitty Scharl 765-3189
crowridge@nycap.rr.com

Treasurer - Austin Spang 393-2859
spang@nycap.rr.com

Past President - George Rutledge
c.howie.dudat@gmail.com

Historian - Wayne Diston 674-4171
wdistin@nycap.rr.com

Executive Secretary - Charlie Goddard
370-0388 Cgodd@aol.com



CHAIRPERSONS

Mid-Hudson Chapter

John VanBuren, President
(845) 444-8281

Sacandaga Chapter

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Don Wilson - 883-3698

Gary Spencer - 863-6433

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OPEN

Showcase Chair

Ken Evans - 753-7759

kevans1@nycap.rr.com



UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

May AWA Turning Demonstration

By Kurt E Roullier

Photos by Kurt E Roullier

The monthly AWA demonstration was given by Paul Petrie, Jr. Paul is truly amazing in all the various forms of texturing, coloring, piercing and adding various shapes to all forms of wood. It takes the control, technique, foresight and understanding of all of these varying skills to complete any piece as beautiful and well thought-out as Paul's work. If you were here Wednesday night you were lucky enough to hear from Paul himself some of the tools and techniques he uses to create these masterpieces. Thank You Paul for sharing some of your time and knowledge with us during this meeting.



Instant Gallery Standouts

This month's instant gallery stand-out pieces were segmented works by Martin McKinney and Nick Kolak. Martin brought in 3 segmented bowls for the gallery but this one was picked as one of the stand out pieces for the month. Nick Kolak's description of what it took to build his flower was incredible. Nick always brings in something different and creative. It's usually made of something out of his backyard for someone in his family. Great job to both Martin and Nick!

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May AWA Meeting Update

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Fun for All

AWA in a joint project with the Elfuns Society is taking on the making of button switches for the physically challenged youth of the Capital District. Please join us on Wednesday night, May 21st at 6:00 at 15 Solar Drive to help make buttons for this worthy cause. Just bring yourself and your tools and we will supply the rest. Let's all get behind this and have fun, we only need to make 100 buttons.

Special NOTES:

- The upcoming presentation for June will be a Q&A session on finishes.
- Remember to mark your calendars with the date for the Third Annual NWA Recognition Banquet to be held on Saturday, October 25, 2014. This year the NWA Member to be recognized is Ken Evans. If you have any items to donate for the raffle please contact Willie Evans anytime.

Check out our new Showcase and Totally Turning page on our web site:

- www.adirondackwoodturners.com

For suggestions, comments or articles regarding AWA Newsletter contact:
Kurt E Roullier 518-283-4743 or KRoullier@nycap.rr.com

The 2014 NWA Family Picnic

Continued from Cover

Bart Chabot will once again be sharing the joy of Fly Fishing with all comers. Bart tells me that he knows there are fish in that lawn and this may be the year he catches one. Bring your keenest edge to the planing competition and vie for the longest and thinnest shaving under the watchful eyes of Dick Flanders and Charlie Goddard.

Chuck Walker and I will oversee the hot and heavy competition for the fastest racing tape and Louie Andrews will be demonstrating the fine art of pen turning. I also expect the NWA Wood Carvers to display their work and demonstrate their skills.

We will of course have an Instant Gallery (with your help), so don't be shy and bring something to show what you've been up to since Showcase. There will also be plenty of time to sit and relax and enjoy good food and conversation with friends in the pavilion or under the pines.

This Picnic is always great fun and no one enjoys it more than the kids who attend so be sure to bring some if you got 'em. See you there.



WOODWORKERS NEWS

is published by the Northeastern Woodworkers Association for its members. The Association's aim is to provide a common meeting ground for lovers of woodworking who want to know more about wood and the techniques for forming it. The newsletter is published monthly. The newsletter is available online at www.woodworker.org



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**NORTHEASTERN
WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION**
P.O. BOX 246
Rexford, New York 12148



Maplewood Offers NWA Member Discount

By David Ashdown

For those interested in developing additional skills with hand tools, the Maplewood Center for Common Craft in Greenwich, NY offers a variety of classes including hand-cut dovetails, timber framing and guitar making. This year's Thursday Afternoon Series begins on June 12th with a hands-on Chisel Sharpening Class. There is also an upcoming class on making a shooting board and a Father's Day spoon making class. All tools and materials are provided for each class. NWA members are given a 10% discount on all workshops. Visit www.maplewoodcraft.org for pricing and registration.



Summer 2014 Workshop Schedule

Thursday Afternoon Hand Tool Series (1pm-4pm)

June 12 - Sharpening Chisels

June 19 - Sharpening and Tuning Hand Planes

June 26 - Hand-Cut Dovetails Made Simple

July 3 - Hand-Cut Mortise and Tenon Joints Made Simple

July 10 - Hand-Cut Dado Joints Made Simple

July 17 - Shaping Wood with Hand Tools

Project-Based Series

June 15 - Making a Handcrafted Hardwood Spoon (Father's Day)

July 17-19 - Shaker-inspired End Table

August 15-16 - Hand Dovetailed Tray

August 19-20 - Hand Dovetailed Tool Crate

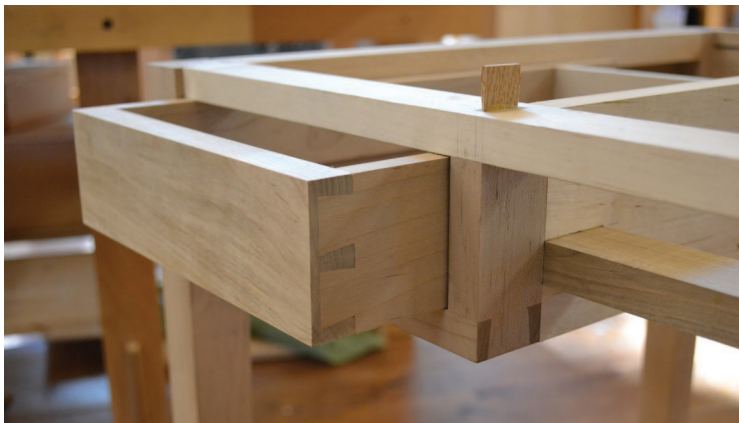
Other Workshops

June 21 - Introduction to Guitar Making

June 21 - Making a Shooting Board

August 7-9 - Introduction to Timber Framing (3 Day)

November 8 - Restoring an Antique Hand Plane



For more information on upcoming classes visit www.maplewoodcraft.org or contact David Ashdown at (518)232-4788 or dashdown@gmail.com

Woodworking 101

Continued from Cover

speaking about the nature of the substance of trees, how to construct a winding stick or hand sander, or the chemical structure of differing wood glues and finishes. In class, it was not unusual for George to be explaining some aspect about woodworking and for Dick to be enthusiastically providing us with a visual representation that would enhance the verbal description. There were other times that Dick would, in an unassuming fashion, state what I refer to as the "complex simple", the simple practices that make a large and complex difference and leave you wondering why you had not learned to execute these techniques, in such a manner, long ago. One such practice he related was, when marking a board to be cut, after taking the measurement, making sure to place your marking instrument on the measurement and bring the square to the marking instrument. The "complex simples" have a way of shattering your past practice and inviting you, if possible, to pay further attention, as they come along so suddenly and unobtrusively, and you would not wish to miss any of them.

Because George and Dick so naturally compliment each other's teaching style and knowledge base, it seems inexplicable that this was only the second time they co-taught the class. Furthermore, it is also distinctive that, in an unfettered fashion, they share, discuss, and demonstrate any differences in their approach, techniques, and/or practice. They accomplish this in a genuine and accepting manner, allowing us to understand that, sometimes, there is more than one correct technique, and giving us freedom to choose a best personal fit.



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CHAPTER NEWS

Mid-Hudson Chapter News

By Wally Cook

Extravagant Inventions:

Chuck Walker presented a slide show about the work of the Roentgen family as showcased at the Metropolitan Museum of Art exhibit

in 2013. Abraham

Roentgen and

his son David created master cabinet work for royalty in

the last half of the 18th century.

The work of Abraham and David are characterized not only by beautiful marquetry, but also by the ingenious incorporation of mechanical devices in the work, which triggered hidden drawers and even activated a robotic dulcimer player. A YouTube video of this amazing automaton can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2OMoo3y5WIQ>.

Although David was appointed as “ébéniste-mechanicien” (cabinet maker-mechanic) to Queen Marie Antoinette, the Roentgens never moved their workshop from Neuwied, Germany. After the French revolution, the Roentgen workshop did not fare well – and many of their pieces were lost to history. The Met produced the exhibit to share documents and furniture celebrating the extant works.



1789 dressing table features hidden drawers and mechanical triggers



The automaton dulcimer player

Chapter Dinner: Ron Roberts was honored at the Mid-Hudson Chapter Dinner held on April 25. Ron has been the driving force behind the Toy Factory at Showcase for the past two years and has been generous with his time for NWA activities. All enjoyed good food, camaraderie and a bounteous raffle table. Thanks to Al Shinker and the Dinner Committee for planning the event.



Ron and Sue Roberts at the chapter dinner

BOCES: The chapter has decided to move forward with a trial use of the BOCES facility in Port Ewen to hold classes that are limited to NWA Members. A small fee will be charged for each class. More information will be forthcoming.

Sacandaga Chapter News

By Gary Spencer

Our May 10 meeting was devoted to a discussion of different essentials that must be involved in any type of wood-working. Gary Spencer lead the discussion dealing with types of wood cuts needed for different kinds of joinery, different types of screws needed for different kinds of wood fastening. Gary also led the discussion on various glues and the more successful use of them. There was also a discussion of the most effective use of the different available saw blades and Gary finished his presentation/discussion with the final step in woodworking, successful finishing of the woodworking project. Everyone knew something about each essential category of discussion but it seemed every person there learned something new too. A good session!

Our regular monthly Chapter meetings are the second Wednesday of each month and begin at 7:00 P.M. But our next meeting will be our final meeting before the Chapter's summer hiatus. It will be June, 11 and will feature a member Bar-b-Que/cookout. Every one attending should bring a dish to share. Also, our meeting time begins at 6:00 pm rather than 7:00 pm. We will meet at our shop at 55 2nd Avenue, Mayfield, NY.

Directions or Information contact:

Don Wilson - 883-3698 • Jim Hopkins - 725-7322 • Gary Spencer - 863-6433

KWA News

By Wally Cook

The KWA has commissioned a series of six sessions to raise money for the treasury. Matt Clarke hosted the third session, *Making a Knitting Bowl*. The next session will be *Traditional Chemical Finishes with Wally Cook* on June 14.

Knitting Bowl Project: by Matt Clarke

About a Knitting/Yarn Bowl:

This is a utility item, not an art project. A knitting bowl is used to store a skein of yarn, while feeding a strand through a slot for knitting. The bowl should be heavy enough to have stability and the slot needs to feed the strand of yarn securely. You will need a blank that is roughly 6½" long x 6½" wide x 6" high. The finished bowl should have an opening about 4½" to 5" in its diameter and about 5" high. At its widest point, the bowl can have an outside diameter of 6".

Tools Needed

For the exterior surface: Spindle Roughing Gouge, ½" (5/8" Shaft Diameter) Bowl Gouge, Parting Tool/Bedan, and ½" Spindle/Detail Gouge.

For the interior of the bowl: some sort of hollowing tool. I generally use the Oneway Termite Tool as a straight hollowing tool, and my *Rolly Munro* hollowing tool as a bent hollowing tool. (Other alternatives include using a ½" spindle gouge as a straight tool and using a hook tool to produce a finished interior surface)

Turn the Bowl

I prefer to orient my pieces so that the grain runs parallel to the axis of the lathe. It will result in the surface of the final form to be all face (side) grain. [If you choose to orient the grain of your bowl so that it is perpendicular to the axis of the lathe, then make sure that you cut your slot into one of the face grain sides of the bowl.]

A. Shape the Outside of the Bowl:

- Step 1: Turn the blank to round.
- Step 2: True the tailstock end of the blank to form a flat and then create a tenon.
- Step 3: Reverse the blank, place it in your chuck.
- Step 4: Shape the outside of your bowl.
- Step 5: Sand to finish quality (400 grit).
- Step 6: At this point, select the place that you wish to drill the hole that will be the end of your slot. Select a 3/8" diameter *Brad Point* or *Forstner* bit and drill a hole to the depth equal to the desired thickness of your bowl (in my case, I drill the hole ¼" deep).

B. Hollow out the Inside of the Bowl:

- Step 7: Use a *Forstner* bit to drill most of a depth-hole through the center of the bowl. I generally use a 1 ¾" bit. My preference is to drill to about a ½" of the final depth and then drill the final ¼" to ½" with a 1" twist drill bit.
- Step 8: I like to use the *Termite Tool* to open up the depth hole quickly and give myself some working room. Do not try to open the whole piece in one shot. Open up about one third of the way down, then use a bent tool (in my case,



Selection of finished knitting bowls

a *Rolly Munro* tool) to refine the sides of the bowl. Use a light touch as you slice the grain and work towards your final wall thickness. I work for a wall thickness of ¼" to 5/16" thick. You want the bowl to have some heft so that it will be stable when in use, but you do not want the wall to be so thick that it looks klutzy.

- Step 9: Once you begin to hollow the bottom third of the bowl with your straight tool, you must be a bit more careful. Use the straight tool to bring you within about ¼" of your final wall thickness or inside shape. This should result in a 'stepped shape' surface at the bottom of the bowl. Then use the bent tool to refine the wall and bring it to its final shape. If you find that you are working a great distance over the tool rest (4 – 6 inches), set the tool rest so that one end is inside the bowl, resulting in a reduced overhang.

- Step 10: The inside of the bowl must be perfectly smooth. If not, the yarn will snag on any bit of roughness. So, make sure that there are no ripples or sharp edges in the surface. Sand the inside of the piece to a minimum of 220 grit.

C. Reversing the Bowl and Shaping the Foot

- Step 11: Reverse the bowl and carve the foot to whatever design you wish. I will demonstrate using a wooden cone that I covered with thin neoprene and non-slip rubber. I typically turn a foot that I can use to insert the jaws of a 4-jaw chuck to control any additional surface treatment and the final finishing process.

D. Carving the slot for the Yarn

Tools you will need:

1 Set of 6 Mini Stump Burrs
(Cylinder Pointed) #21-Set36 - \$5.55

MDI Woodcarvers Supply
PO Box 4
Pittsfield, ME 04967
www.mdiwoodcarvers.com

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KWA News

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Carving the slot for the yarn



Plastic templates are used to transfer the slot design to the bowl

Alternate:

1 Dremel 1-1/2" carbide wood cutting wheel - \$18.81

1 E-Z Lock Mandrel Starter Kit - \$16.53

Home Depot/Lowe's

Step 12: Prepare a plastic template of the yarn slot that you wish to carve onto your bowl.

Step 13: Use masking tape on one side of your template to keep it in place as you trace the first side of your yarn slot. Now tape down the other side of the template and then trace the other side of your slot onto your bowl.

Step 14: Use whichever cutting tool you select to carve your slot into the bowl. Generally, it is best to start your cut at the hole you drilled and work backwards. Carve the slot in two or three sections. When you complete the first section (the portion nearest to the drilled hole), take a strip of 80 grit sand paper and begin to smooth it out. Then use 120 grit sandpaper, then 180 grit sandpaper to make the slot as smooth as you can. Once the first portion is completed, repeat this process for the second, then third portions of the slot.

Step 15: If you plan to apply a surface treatment to your bowl, now is the final opportunity to do so. 🐾

Woodworking 101

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In many ways, both instructors made each class session engaging and exciting. Frequently, so engrossed were we in our learning, that before we realized, it was time to leave. It was not unusual for students to stay after class hours, to ask further questions or talk about woodworking in general. George and Dick were generous with their time (and their tools), and would, with sincere interest, patiently answer our questions, freely impart their knowledge, and go out of their way to be of assistance. From the beginning to end, we were able to assimilate an immense amount of pragmatic and tangible material, from readings in the recommended textbook, other suggested (and excellent) reference materials, weekly handouts, and the knowledge and experiential base of our two teachers.

Highlighting their many teaching abilities, one student wrote that they, "have a great deal of valuable information and experience to impart, a great way of helping others, and seemingly endless patience". Another student conveyed her awe for each of them, and wonderfully expressed her enjoyment of the class, by writing that, on the last night of the class, "just like every other week", she went home smiling. The teaching talents that George and Dick possess are obvious, and equally clear is that they helped pave the way for each of us to learn and grow, at times, in unimaginable ways. 🐾

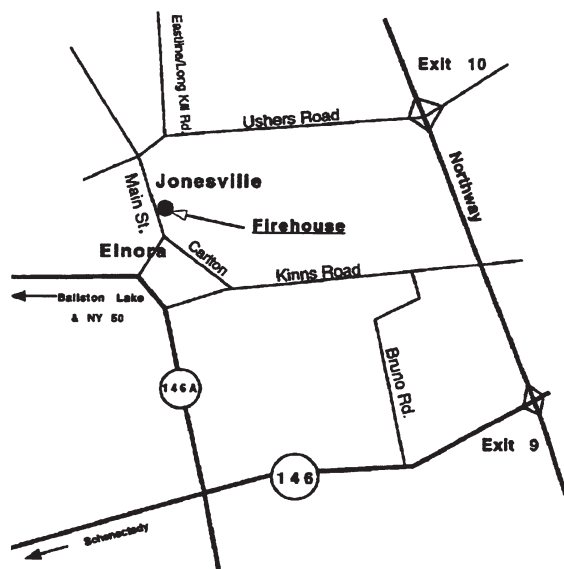
C L A S S I F I E D S

For Sale

Retiring wood turner in Copake, NY would like to sell remaining turning inventory. 10 Cherry burls diameters 10 to 20 inches, Cocobolo blank 12x3, Oregon broadleaf Maple Burl cap 12x6 and exotic Ivory and Rosewood 2x2x6 spindle stock and Woodchuck bowl hollowing assembly. Reiner Kopp 518 325 4604



Northeastern Woodworkers Association
P.O. Box 246
Rexford, New York 12148-0246



Family Picnic

Sunday, July 27, 2014, 11:00 am

Jonesville Fire Station No. 1, Main St.

Jonesville (Clifton Park)

For meeting cancellation
information,
call Ken Evans 753-7759
or Charlie Goddard 370-0388

GENERAL MEETINGS
AND SPECIAL EVENTS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Adirondack Woodturners Association (AWA) - The AWA is active throughout the year. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month (except in January and July when it is the second Wednesday), and are held at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY from 6:30 PM to 9:00PM.

Wednesday "Learn and Turn" sessions occur on all other Wednesdays at the NWA Learning Center. These sessions run 6pm-9pm. www.adirondackwoodturners.com **Contact:** Ken Evans, 518-753-7759 or kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Scroller's Guild - Meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. A beginner's session starts at 6:30 PM followed by a general meeting at 7:00 PM. **Contact:** Jeanne Aldous at AMJAMtat2@aol.com or Barbara Nottke at scroller87@aol.com or 869-6268.

Kaatskill Woodturners - Meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Opdahl property in Hurley, NY. **Contact:** Matt Clark, (845) 454-9387.

NWA Crafters - Meets every Saturday and Tuesday, from 9:00 am until noon at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. The Crafters provide public service woodworking for various charitable organizations, including the Double H Hole in the Woods camp for children and the GE Elfuns toy modifications group, and the Make A Wish Foundation. Sharing information, fellowship, and relating experiences are a major part of these sessions. **Contact:** Dave Axton (518) 237-6942, daxton@nycap.rr.com, Wayne Distin (518) 674-4171, wdistin@nycap.rr.com Steve Schoenberg (518-371-1260), sschoen1@nycap.rr.com for more information.

The NWA Wood Carvers SIG - Meet each Thursday at 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. all year except the 2nd Thursday of each month at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. Programs are determined at the previous weekly sessions. Discussions start at 7PM. The goal is to promote the art of Wood Carving. Individual private sessions are available Wednesday evenings by appointment. Wood, tools, and patterns are available. **Contact:** Ray Gannon. LoRayG@Gmail.com

CHAPTERS

NWA Mid-Hudson - The chapter meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday, except July and August, at the Hurley Reformed Church. The Church is just off the the Hurley exit from Rte. 209. Right at the exit, right at the stop sign and left into the Church parking area. **Contact:** Pete Chast, pchast@francomm.com.

NWA Sacandaga - The chapter meets at 7 p.m. on the Second Wednesday of each month at 55 Second Avenue, Mayfield, NY. **Contact:** Gary Spencer, 518-863-6433.