

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

March 2016, Vol. 25, Number 3

Calling NWA Members Everywhere

By Ken Evans

This coming Woodworkers Showcase is our 25th anniversary show, and we need to do everything we can to make it the best show ever. Forty Five Showcase and Totally Turning Co Chairs have worked hard to make it special. Roughly 400 volunteers will work the week of the show to make it happen. Four thousand attendees will come to the show looking to see and enjoy the wonders of woodworking.

This is where all NWA members enter the picture. We, all NWA members, and many non-NWA woodworkers, agreed to display their projects in the exhibition area of Showcase and in the Instant Gallery of Totally Turning. Some will enter their items to be judged for

the display of beautiful woodworking for the public's viewing pleasure. This presentation of this woodworking is our "reason for being"! And the public LOVES IT. They have come back to us every year for 24 years to enjoy this woodworking "EYE CANDY" and this year, our 25th, will be no different.

Please, register your project—a new project—an old project—a project not yet finished—even a project previously displayed at a previous Showcase can be again displayed.

Our Feature exhibit is Musical Instruments! Please, if you have made a Guitar, a banjo, a violin, a Native American flute, or any musical instrument, enter it in this year's show.

You can be sure my banjos will be there! This means my wife will finally know how many I have.

It will be a long time before there will be another feature exhibit related to musical instruments, and there will

never be another 25th anniversary show.

Please don't miss out on being a part of this special show.

Get an entry form in the newsletter, on the website www.nwawoodworkingshow.org and mail it in to the address indicated.

Thank you,
Ken

If for any reason you have problems downloading or printing the Showcase entry forms on pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter, copy the link below to your browser to access them.

<http://www.nwawoodworkingshow.org/16promo/entryform.pdf>

ribbons, and some will enter them for display. Both of these categories are very important as these are the very items our attendees come to see and appreciate. These displayed items are the **very heart of our show.**

Yes, we have classes, yes we have vendors, yes we have door prizes, and yes, this year we have music! BUT, the heart of the show is

ENTRY CATEGORIES FOR SHOWCASE 2016

ADIRONDACK - Furniture and Accessories	ACCESSORIES 1 - Desktop Pieces, Clocks, Picture Frames	MARQUETRY
FURNITURE 1 - Tables, Beds	ACCESSORIES 2 - Boxes	INTARSIA
FURNITURE 2 - Cases, Cabinets, Desks	TOYS AND PLAY THINGS	PYROGRAPHY
FURNITURE 3 - Chairs	BOATS	CARVING 1 - Chip
SHOP EQUIPMENT	JEWELRY	CARVING 2 - Relief
WOODEN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS 1 - String	SCROLL SAWING	CARVING 3- 3D in the round
WOODEN MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS 2 - Non-String	YOUTH - age 16 and under	CARVING 4- Birds, Fish, Animals, People
NOVICE FLAT BOARDER -age 17 & up, new to wood working in the last 12 mo.	ALTERNATE MATERIALS & MISCELLANEOUS Non-Wood, using woodworking tools and any piece not fitting into any of above categories	CARVING 5- CNC & Laser
		NOVICE CARVING -age 17 and up, new to carving in the last 12 mo.

Instant gallery items for Totally Turning no longer register through Showcase! Instant gallery items will be registered at the Totally Turning registration desk. If an item is to be judged it must be registered before 6 PM Friday. The registration desk will open at 1 PM Friday. There is no limit on the number of items for instant gallery but only one piece per category will be allowed for judging. At the time of registration a card for each item will be filled out to be displayed with the item.

ENTRY RULES

- Any woodworker may exhibit his/her work. You do not need to be a NWA member. There is no entry fee.
- Entry forms must be received by March 26, 2016 to be eligible for judging. Late entries will be entered for display only.
- All Showcase exhibit items must be brought to the City Center between 3:00 pm and 6:45 pm, Friday, April 1, 2016.**
- Exhibits are not to be removed from the floor before 5 pm Sunday.
- You may exhibit any number of pieces in more than one category, but only one piece per category for judging.
- Award winning pieces from a previous Showcase event are not eligible for competition, but may be entered for display and will be acknowledged as previous winners.

Judges have the right to re-categorize entries.

- Pieces entered at Totally Turning will be displayed in the Instant Gallery. Ex., if a turned piece is entered in the Accessories Category, it will not be in the Totally Turning Instant Gallery but in the Main Gallery.
- In order to be fair to everyone, if the judges deem that an entry from Miscellaneous should be in another category they will make the change. If the woodworker already has a judged entry in that category, the changed entry will no longer be judged.
- The exhibit hall is not a commercial area. Price tags or literature other than small business cards are not allowed and will be removed and disposed of.
- The decisions of the judges are final. At the discretion of the judges, some awards may not be given.

AWARDS

BEST IN SHOW: One from any entry
PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE: One per category except for Novice and Youth categories
FIRST PLACE: One per category
SECOND PLACE: One per category
THIRD PLACE: One per category
HONORABLE MENTIONS
CARVERS SIG BEST IN SHOW: one from any carving entry
RICHARD PAGANO MEMORIAL AWARD FOR TURNING

TOTALLY TURNING INSTANT GALLERY CATEGORIES

TURNING 1 - Segmented
TURNING 2 - Bowls, Platters, Plates,
TURNING 3 - Vessels
TURNING 4 - Pens
TURNING 5 - Spindles & Ornaments
NOVICE TURNER -age 17 and up, new to turning in the last 12 mo.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Ken Evans, Showcase Chair
 (518) 753-7759

kevans1@nycap.rr.com

or

Pam Curtis, Judging Co-Chair
 (518) 374-9562

pam4arts@aol.com

Saturday and Sunday, April 2 & April 3, 2016, 10 AM – 5 PM

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

Member: Yes _____ No _____ Professional*: Yes _____ No _____

*Professionals: You are a professional if half or more of your livelihood is derived from woodworking. You may submit an entry in any category except Novice and Youth.

ADDRESS: _____
EMAIL: _____

ENTRY DEADLINE FOR JUDGING IS MONDAY, March 26, 2016. Any entry received after that date will be for display only.

Display Labels will be waiting at the Showcase Office when you bring your entry on Friday, April 1st between 3:00 – 6:45.

PLEASE only pick up labels for showpieces that you have with you as this helps the Judges.

Please Print.

[illegible]

Please read the **ENTRY FORM CATEGORIES** sheet,
Complete this **EXHIBIT ENTRY FORM**
and send it to:

**All Turnings will be
registered at
TOTALLY TURNING,
on premises, April 1
from 1:00-6:00 pm.**

TOTALLY TURNING CATEGORIES

TURNING 1 - Segmented

TURNING 2 - Bowls, Platters, Plates,

TURNING 3 - Vessels

TURNING 4 - Pens

TURNING 5 - Spindles & Ornaments

NOVICE TURNER -age 17 and up, new to turning in the last 12 mo.

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UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

March Meeting

Spoon and Ladle Carving

Thursday, March 10, 2016 7:00 p.m.

*Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY*

By Wally Carpenter

We are privileged to have our very own, Tom Wetzel, join us to share his knowledge of handmade wooden spoons and ladles. Tom is a well-respected professional furniture maker and teacher. He produces some of the finest Windsor Chairs, tables, and other furniture pieces you will have the pleasure of seeing.

Tom has taught many of us how to make Windsor Chairs as well as Maloof style Rockers which are in very advanced courses taking several months of dedicated effort. Tom takes the time to ensure you understand what and why you are performing each task along the way to producing an amazing piece of heirloom furniture.

He will take us through the steps of making spoons and ladles and offer variations in the process depending on whether you have power tools or simple gauges and knives.

I know you will have a wonderful time and learn some new techniques!

Come and join all of your woodworking friends for an educating and enlightening evening.



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



Your next issue of
Woodworkers News

will be published
in early April

Copy deadline: March 15

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**NORTHEASTERN
WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION**

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New Books in the NWA Library

by Darrell Welch

The following is a list of books recently added to the Northeastern Woodworker's Association library located in the Herm Finkbeiner Education Center(Solar Drive Workshop). These as well as the other books and DVD's in the library may be charged out for up to a month. Just fill out the charge card in the pocket attached to the front cover of the book and place the card in the charged out box.

This list comprises books donated to the club by Judy DeWitt, Lew Hill, and others.

Handberg, Ejner

Shop Drawings of Shaker Furniture & Woodenware.

Vol. 1, 16-1, Vol.2, 16-2, Vol.3, 16-3

Maloof, Sam Sam Maloof Woodworker's 16-4

Nakashima, George The Soul of a Tree: a woodworker's reflections

Peters, Rick Woodworker's Guide to Wood 16-6

Calhoun, Ken Cabinet-Making 16-7

Graubner, Wolfram Encyclopedia of Wood Joints 16-8

Abram, Norm The New Yankee Workshop 16-21

Abram, Norm Classics From The New Yankee Workshop 16-9

Moser, Thos. How to Build Shaker Furniture. Revised Ed. 16-10

Hogbin, Stephen Wood Turning: The Purpose of the Object 16-11

Dresdner, Michael The Woodfinishing Book 16-12

Hack, Garrett The Hand Plane Book 16-13

Bridgewater, Alan & Gill Making Movable Wooden Toys 16-14

Waldron & Thomas Dollhouses to Dream Houses, Book II 16-15

Levine, Paul Making Kitchen Cabinets: a foolproof system for the home workshop 16-16

Cary, Jere Building Your Own Kitchen Cabinets 16-17

Jacobson, Edward The Art of Turned-Wood Bowls 16-18

374 Woodworking Patterns 16-19

Blanchard, Roberta Ray How to Restore and Decorate Chairs

in Early American Styles 16-2

Tolpin, Jim The Toolbox Book 16-22

Hoadley, R. Bruce Identifying Wood Cabinets 16-23

Schleining, Len Treasure Chests 16-24

The Furniture Society Mind & Hand, Contemporary Studio Furniture 16-25

Nagyszalanczy, Sandor Woodshop Jigs & Fixtures 16-26

Rowland, Amy Zaffarano and Hylton, William H. Handcrafted Shelves & Cabinets 16-27

Cloudburst. A Handbook of Rural Skills & Technology 16-28

Spence, William P. Finish Carpentry 16-29

Marlow, H. Leroy Woodcrafting Heritage Toys 16-30

Sprigg, June & Johnson, Jim Shaker Woodenware Vol. 1: A Field Guide 16-31

Sprigg, June & Johnson, Jim Shaker Woodenware Vol. 2 : A Field Guide 16-32

Kennedy, Gerrie, Beale, Galen, Johnson, Jim Shaker Baskets & Poplarware Vol. 3:

A Field Guide 16-33

International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (Tokyo Code) 1994 16-34

Coombes, Alan J. Dictionary of Plant Names 16-35

Frid, Tage Tage Frid Teaches Woodworking Book 1: Joinery 16-36

Frid, Tage Tage Frid Teaches Woodworking Book 2: Shaping, Veneering, Finishing 16-37

Frid, Tage Tage Frid Teaches Woodworking Book 3: Furniture Making 16-38

The Wood Carvers in Winter

By George Rutledge

The NWA Wood Carvers have been enjoying the mild weather this year as much as anyone with the result that the attendance at our winter meetings has been high and the energy has been even higher. One aspect of our gatherings that I particularly enjoy is the tremendous variety to be seen in the work our members pursue. On any given Thursday evening, you can see caricatures and chip carving, bowls and canes, letter carving and sculptural work, realistic birds and of course Comfort Birds. Another area where some of our members excel is wood burning or as I prefer to call it, carbonizing. When skillfully done, there is almost no discernible smoke yet the strength of line and subtlety of shading combine for powerful and dramatic results.

Interest in Power Carving is increasing, and in support of that, our own Ray Gannon recently gave an informative and entertaining presentation on the Foredom Flexible Shaft Tool with Ray's trademark strong emphasis on **safety**. Ray and I are currently talking about producing another downdraft table tailored to the needs of the power carver. Upcoming presentations include sharpening and the preparation of stock with the jointer and planer.

On February 12th, it was my pleasure to present, on behalf of the NWA, 15 Comfort Birds to Stride Adaptive Sports to be given to veterans who will attend their 11th annual Wounded Warriors Snowfest this year taking place at Jiminy Peak from March 3rd through the 6th. Pictured with me is Jamie Brough, Stride's Program Development Director at their offices in East Greenbush.

Finally, the Wood Carvers would like to welcome the NWA's newest SIG, the Segmented Turners to Thursday evenings at the Learning Center. I'm sure we'll get along famously, and I fully expect some creative synergy to develop as we all get to know one another better.



Safety First! Tony Lisosky with Teddy, his current project



Foredom Presentation Ray (left) and Tom Collins



Jamie Brough and George

CHAPTER NEWS

Mid Hudson Chapter News

By Wally Cook

Fuselage Frame Canoe: John Van Buren brought in the frame for a single person Wee Lassie style canoe he had recently completed. This design canoe is typically paddled with a

double bladed paddle with the paddler sitting on the bottom of the inside of the hull.

Thus, the paddling position for this style canoe is very similar to that used for kayaks. One could think of it as a kayak with a huge cockpit opening that is very easy to enter and exit.

John based the design on plans and directions provided by Dave Gentry of Gentry Custom Boats. The Western Red Cedar stringers (long narrow pieces) were attached to the Marine Plywood cross sections using lashings. The edges of the plywood were sealed with epoxy. The next and final steps will be to cover the frame with ballistic Nylon cloth that will be sealed using polyurethane. This basic type of construction is similar to that used for early aircraft like the Wright Brothers' planes. John estimated that the final weight of this 13-foot long canoe will be about 35 pounds.



John Van Buren's fuselage frame canoe



Detail of the bow of the canoe



Variant of Mike Dunbar's "ultimate steam box"

Offspring of the Ultimate Steam Box:

Mike Dunbar of the Windsor Institute designed a steam bending chamber for furniture parts using schedule 80 PVC pipe called the Ultimate Steam Box ([American Woodworker](#), Feb. 1995). Wally Cook brought in his version of the unit, based on instructions from Mark Ferraro of the Bay Area Woodworkers Association (<http://www.bayareawoodworkers.org/steambox/steambox.html>). Wally's steam box employed schedule 80 pipe, but differed from that of Mike and Mark in the following ways:

- A larger diameter pipe (6" vs. 4") was used
- Schedule 40 end fittings substituted for schedule 80 to keep the cost manageable. This proved workable because there is double thickness at the ends.
- An important feature of a steam box is the ability to lift the wooden items above the condensed water inside the box. Instead of a series of bolts acting as the steam shelf inside the unit, stainless steel screening was inserted
- Short sections of garden hose were connected to the relief/drain holes on the

bottom of the steam box/pipe, leading to a plastic catch basin for the condensed water.

Mike Dunbar also showed how to make the steam generator and connecting hose from generally available parts. However, Wally used the Earlex steam generator and fitting – allowing the steam hose to be connected to the pipe directly. This was easily accomplished by drilling a ½” diameter hole midway at the equator of the pipe and self-threading the fitting into the hole. Wagner makes a similar system for steam generation.

Some reviews of the Earlex indicated that it produced insufficient steam for large/long pieces. Wally’s requirements were for smaller items; he reported that the unit produced a full head of steam within 15 minutes and worked well to bend wooden spoons with 35 minutes of steaming.



First batch of steamed bent spoons

Sacandaga Chapter

February Meeting

By Gary Ratajczak – Chapter President

For our February meeting, the group gathered at our Mayfield, NY shop location. The night began with our usual raffles. A shout out again to Fastcap for providing several products to add to our raffle. If you are not familiar with their products, be sure to look them up on the internet. They offer some of the best tape measures out there, as well as many other unique products. <https://www.fastcap.com/>

Our featured demonstration was “An Introduction to Hand Cut Dovetails” by Mike Kratky. Mike began the night by walking the group through the sharpening process for chisels and plane irons. Much of the protocol was picked up by Mike after attending a workshop by Rob Cosman held at his shop in Canada. Rob is famous for teaching furniture making as well as hand cut dovetails.

As the group has learned in the past, the first step in hand tool woodworking is ensuring you have sharp tools. Mike showed a diamond as well as shapton water stone. The protocol taught by Rob Cosman is very “down and dirty,” and forgoes the use of any specialized jigs. First step is to flatten and polish the back – same goes for plane irons.



Mike Kratky

Next, the chisel is set just a little steeper than the pre-ground bevel, using only your hand as a guide. A few strokes is all it takes to develop a burr. A little steeper angle on a finer stone, followed by a quick stroke on the flat back to remove the burr. This process took only a few minutes to produce a razor sharp workable edge. Mike pointed out the various grind angles, suggesting a steeper angle be used if you were only working with softwoods.

From there we moved into the basic steps of dovetail cutting. Mike pointed out

that the dovetail is not only a decorative addition to the piece, but remains one of the key functional joints to provide rigidity and strength. Examples of London and Houndstooth patterns were also shown. The variable spacing and variable height of the Houndstooth make it a great joint for a decorative addition to a drawer. The Rob Cosman dovetail saw was reviewed by Mike. This saw is a dual tooth blade, starting out at 22 tpi for the first few inches, then moving to 15 tpi. These saws are hand made in Rob's shop. A hefty brass back gives weight to the saw, letting gravity assist when the cut is made. From everyone's expression in the group, we were amazed at the quick work this saw makes on a cut.

Mike started layout of the tails with a small wooden jig and the use of a set of calipers. The nice part of hand cut dovetails is that the layout is up to you – no predefined distance as set by a machine. A Rob Cosman designed marking gauge is used to scratch a guide line around the board at the required depth. This gives the working line to cut up to with the saw. The Rob Cosman method does not require that the waste be cut out yet. The tail board, once cut, is laid onto the pin board. By offsetting it left and right the thickness of the saw blade, the saw cut from the tail locates exactly to the required position on the pin board. A little confusing to describe, but magic in the process. The traditional method would involve transferring location of the tails to the pin board with a pencil or marking knife. The difficulty becomes evident when you go to make the saw cut. Do you cut on the line, to the right or left of the line? With the Cosman method, alignment is taken care of for you. If you would like to see this method demoed, just search Rob Cosman on Youtube. <http://www.robcosman.com/>

After the cuts are made, waste was removed with a small fret saw. Final cleanup was completed with a downward shear of the chisels. One tip Mike pointed out was to cut back the inside edges of the tails. When glue



Rob Cosman Dovetail Saw



The dovetail results

is applied, this relief cut makes room in the joint to prevent all the glue from being forced out. Once aligned, a few taps with a mallet was all that was required to assemble the joint.

As Mike pointed out, he had only scratched the surface on hand cut dovetails. It was a great introduction. Personally, I had not seen the Cosman method in action. By using the tailboard to align the saw for the pin cuts, much of the frustration and need for adjustment in the final joint is gone. Thanks again Mike!

February NWA Monthly Meeting Summary

by Susan McDermott

Announcements by John Heimke, Wally Carpenter, Dick Flanders

1. Call for donations of custom built burial boxes:

In 2010, bioarchaeological analysis was completed by the NYS Museum. The analyses determined that the remains are about 200 years old and represent 6 women, 1 man, 2 children, and five infants. The burial ground was dated between the 1700s and early 1800s. Historical research indicates that the burial ground was part of a large estate owned by the colonial Schuyler family who owned a number of slaves in the 18th and 19th centuries. The time has come to bury these individuals with dignity and respect.

The Schuyler Flatts Burial Ground Project is currently seeking people willing to build and donate burial containers for these individuals. There is a call for artists and crafts persons (the deadline date has passed, but we will gladly accept additional designs, we have 5 slots remaining) with the members of the Northeastern Woodworkers Association. All containers must be constructed of natural wood and should measure 2 feet long, by 1 foot wide and 1 foot deep (maximum exterior dimensions 2 feet 5 inches long and 1 foot 3 inches wide). The finished piece should have a top which can either be opened or removed and fastened to the container. We have received a donation of rough milled pine for participants who need wood.

2. 25th Showcase Presenters:

Garret Hack - Furniture Making and Design
Phil Lowe - Turning and Carving Flame Finials
Joshua Klein - Furniture Restoration
Jeff Miller - Hand tools in the workshop
Ken Levan - Banjo Making
Paul Hines - Wood identification.

See NWA website <http://www.nwawoodworkingshow.org/demonstrators.htm>

3. Lawn signs NWA members should post lawn signs to advertise the 25th Showcase. The members who attended this meeting took at least two signs for their neighborhoods. Ask Ken, Dick, Wayne, or Pete for more signs at 15 Solar Drive.



4. Volunteers are desperately needed to load and unload trucks for the Showcase Sunday night and Monday morning. Contact Dick Flanders.

5. The new SIG **Segmented Turning** will meet the first, third, and fourth Thursdays 6:30-9:00 PM. See last page of newsletter for contact information.

“A Few Wood Destroying Insects”

presented by guest speaker David Chinery, Horticultural Educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County.

Nearly all species of North America's trees are under the greatest threat these past 15-20 years due to global trade and imports of products from Asia. Pests from these products have infested millions of trees, and there is no natural prey to kill them. David revealed four specific insects that plague trees in the New York regions and throughout America.

The first is the **Asian Long Horned Beetle**. It's 1-1 1/2 inches long with a black glossy shell having about 20 irregular white spots. They love to feed on **all** the



Asian Longhorn Beetle

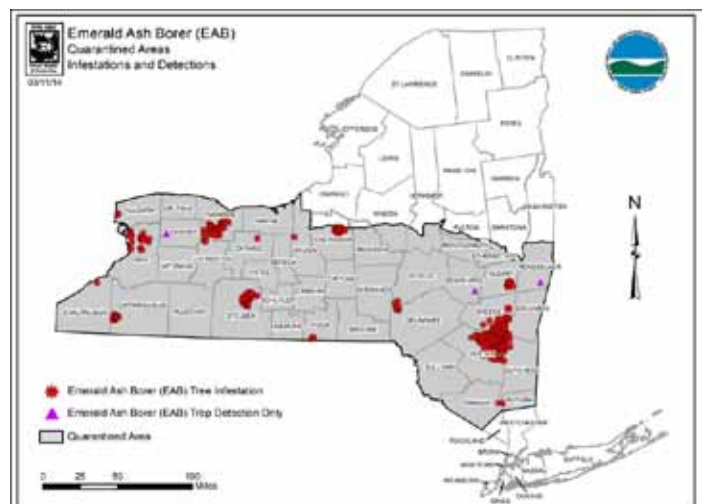
maple species. Since they are poor flyers, they migrate by the transportation of infested wood (especially firewood and untreated pallets). Large populations have been found in lower NY, NJ, and they disseminated all the hardwood trees in Worcester, MA. Chinery encourages the Capital District residents to report evidence of these insects to the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) to halt their multiplying and spread in our area. These pests can be mistaken with the harmless native insect, the Pine Sawyer, so the CCE will correctly identify any bug you suspect. Signs of tree infestation start at the top third of the tree as dieback. The insect holes and tunnels under the bark are not seen early enough, but the death of the tops of trees indicate advanced disease. Tens of thousands of trees have been removed (many urban) to slow the spread of the beetle. When infestation is discovered, trees are quarantined, diseased ones are reduced to chips to destroy the host, and the wood is not removed from the area.



Emerald Ash Borer

The second pest is the **Emerald Ash Borer** (EAB) which came to the U.S. from the Great Lakes where Chinese machinery in wooden crates was imported to Canada and America. It has a bright green metallic shell and is half the size of a penny. Seventy million Ash trees of all varieties have been destroyed and 7.5 billion are threatened. Twenty three states are affected and the pest is moving rapidly west from the Northeast. New York has 900 million ash trees, and large infestations have been found in Saugerties, Selkirk, Albany,

Rensselaer, North Greenbush (See map). Adult beetles leave distinctive D-shaped exit holes in the outer bark of the branches and the trunk. They may be present from late May through early September but are most common in June and July. Signs of infection include tree canopy dieback, yellowing, and browning of leaves. In advanced disease, the bark of the tree is stripped. Like the Asian Longhorn Beetle, EAB is difficult to detect until most of the infested tree has died (within one to three years). One clear sign is the increased activity of woodpeckers at the tops of trees. It will cost \$10.7 billion to rid of the EAB in the next ten years. Chinery urged his audience to be vigilant. Look for signs, hire an arborist to treat infestation yearly or remove an infected tree promptly. Chinery concluded by identifying two native pests to American trees: The Mountain Pine Beetle of the Rocky Mountain region and the Southern Pine Beetle found in the southeastern United States from Pennsylvania and New Jersey to Texas, and from Arizona and New Mexico. Warm winters have encouraged the beetle to move north to New York.



NWA SHOWCASE

APRIL 2nd - April 3rd, 2016

SARATOGA SPRINGS CIVIC CENTER

Kaatskill Wood Turners

By Wally Cook

Segmented ornaments: Bill Thiry demonstrated his process for producing segmented hollow form ornaments. A prime focus was on the jigs that he uses to obtain a consistent product. The process includes preparation of the staved segments to assembling the ball and finial.

- **Segmentation:** Bill uses a variety of material, but has found that $\frac{5}{4}$ " stock is perfect for his desired ornament size: $2\frac{1}{4}$ " diameter. Since he prefers 12 segments to build his pieces, he can standardize on a 15 degree angle to create his staves. Bill made sleds for both table saw and chop saw to ensure accuracy. He set his blade perpendicular to the table, then uses the tilt box to adjust to 14.8 degrees (more on that later). With wedges placed in the sled, the initial segmented blank is cut into staves. Each stave is numbered to maintain grain direction.
- **Glue-up:** Titebond II was used as the glue of choice for assembling the stave sections; rubber bands act as the clamping force. Bill recommends gluing two sections at a time, particularly if the sections will be separated by veneer. Generally, by the time a half cylinder is glued up, some correction is needed. If a strict 15 degree angle is used for the wedges, the half cylinder is likely a bit concave – so that the edges need to be flattened. That is why Bill cuts his angles at 14.8 degrees – the resulting half-cylinder is slightly convex. In this instance, the center may need to be flattened, but the center is hidden and not critical to the finished ornament.
- When the staves are put together for glue-up, they form a cylinder. However, when Bill uses $\frac{5}{4}$ " stock, it results in the inside tips leaving a space in the center. The hole saw is inserted into the end of the cylinder -- on each end. The hole saw has a $\frac{1}{4}$ " pilot drill, so it serves two purposes: a) the hole saw profiles the outside diameter of the cylinder ends b) the pilot drill provides a clean $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole on either centered end of the cylinder. The result is a good registration to insert a $\frac{1}{4}$ " rod through the cylinder to act as a centering device while Bill is gluing the two halves of the cylinder together to make the final blank. The reason for this is that segmentation looks terrible when it is mounted off center. Bill uses the end holes to mount the blank between centers and make a tenon for the chuck.
- **Turning the shape:** The blank is mounted and turned normally, but with these differences: a $\frac{1}{2}$ " hole is bored most of the way through the blank where the $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole had been. The outside is shaped into a ball and --- optionally – this would be the time



Bill's hollow form ornaments



Each stave is numbered to maintain grain direction



A table saw sled is constructed to ensure 14.8 degree angle cuts to create staves for the ornament

when an additional segment can be added by routing a 'vee-flute' perpendicular to the equator at various points around the ball. Gluing small slivers of wood into the grooves makes possible an extra contrast.

Hollowing proceeds with a modified Nano tool which is fixed to a frame and laser pointer. The hollowing process is benefitted by the ability to see the laser spot where the tip of the tool is located inside of the ball. The modifications on Bill's tool were done with a 3-D printer to fashion the handle, frame connectors, and laser mount.

When the ball is hollowed sufficiently, it is parted off and re-chucked to continue working on the other end. Bill made a jam chuck with a ½" dowel to register the ball perfectly. He wrapped electrical tape around the ball, finished the hollowing process, and fine-tuned the outside of the parted end. Sanding works well in the jam chuck for final preparation.

- **Finish:** The hollowed ball is transferred to a ½ threaded rod which facilitates application and drying of finish material of choice. Top and bottom finials are glued in place with medium CA.

Upcoming: The March meeting will feature Win Crans demonstrating the OneWay coring system. This meeting at the Opdahl building will be Saturday, March 12 at 9AM.



Bill's jam chuck features a ½" dowel as a registration jig for re-chucking the hollow ball



Bill hollows the ball with his modified laser-assisted Nano tool

Segmented Turners SIG

by Dick Flanders

The Segmented Turners SIG has started meeting at the Herm Finkbeiner Learning Center. Our meetings are scheduled for the 1st, 3rd and 4th Thursday evenings of each month from 6:30 to 9:00 PM.

Everyone is welcome to join in and learn the processes involved in designing a segmented vessel, preparing the materials, creating the various parts that make up the segments, assembling them into rings or layers and then into the rough shape on a faceplate prior to turning. There will be turning involved as rings are added and prior to completing the buildup, so that internal areas may be finished while accessible.

There are several different processes available for creating and sizing the segments. We will be using a relatively simple and safe process employing the miter saw and disk sanders with special jigs we have built to start with. Once everyone is familiar with this process, we will investigate and try other processes and jigs if we ascertain they can be performed safely in the NWA shop.

We will be using almost all the machines in the shop, so becoming machine knowledgeable and eventually qualified will be part of the learning process.

Feel free to join with us as we start our first project, building covered vessels for the "Beads of Courage".



The Mighty Oak(s)

by Ron DeWitt c.1995

NWA received some requests from members to rerun the DeWitt articles. Some of these requests were in the recent membership survey. Therefore, NWA newsletter will reprint selected articles written by the former member, Ron DeWitt. Ron was a long time member of NWA, serving as president and organizing the first SIG, before they were known as SIGs - the Wood Guild. He was very knowledgeable about wood, including many of the more exotic woods. He was also an active member of the International Wood Collectors Society, and his wood articles were also printed in the IWCS magazine, *World of Wood*. Ron was also responsible for getting Showcase set up in the Saratoga Springs City Center the first time. He passed away in 2013. Below is the first reprint.

The largest genus of trees native to the U.S. is that of oaks. Over half of hardwood produced in the U.S. is oak. Because it is readily available, it is usually the first hardwood that most of us try to use. The hardness, strength, and character of this great wood are what keep us using it whether we are amateur or professional.

There are about 500 species of oak in the world; almost all of them grow only in the Northern Hemisphere. More than half are evergreens, retaining their leaves year round, most notably the southern Live Oaks. The U.S. is home to 58 species of oak, as well as 86 recognized oak hybrids. Because oak crosses so easily, there many additional hybrids whose ancestry has yet to be determined. These variations make it difficult to distinguish many of the species by even an experienced botanist except in a general classification.

The five groups of oaks are usually combined into two general sections: the Red Oaks (which include Red and Willow Oaks) and the White Oaks (which include the White, Chestnut, and Live Oaks). All oaks have acorns and any tree with acorns is an oak. The White Oaks grow larger and live longer; the Red Oaks grow faster and straighter. Red Oak bark is darker than that of the White Oak.

The sapwood (the outer living section) of the oaks is 1"-2" thick and is white. The heartwood (the inner non-living section

which is the majority of the tree, is the source the lumber) of the Red Oaks is brown with a red tinge. The White Oak heartwood is a grayish brown. Red Oak has a more attractive character because its rays (the vertical radial cell strings) are much more apparent, especially if the wood is quarter sawn.

For the wood classification nuts among us, the oaks are ring porous with radial latewood pores. They also have very large multiseriate rays, the largest of any North American tree. These rays are easily seen with the naked eye and are the most distinguishing features of the oaks. Growth rings are very distinct.

Oak bark is a source of tannin used in leather processing. Acorns are a basic food source for many wild animals and are sometimes used for cattle/pig feed, especially in Europe. But the consumption of large quantities of early spring leaves will occasionally poison cattle.

Oak is used for construction timber, railroad ties, rail cars, boats, veneer, pulp, flooring, furniture, pallets, farm implements, caskets, woodenware, and tool handles.

White Oak is slightly heavier than Red Oak (45 pounds/cubic foot vs 42 pounds/cubic foot), a little stronger and tougher. White Oak has better insect and rot resistance. Red Oak must be treated if used below ground. The pores of White Oak are closed which make it ideal for staves in barrels and casks. The open pores of Red Oak staves would leak. White Oak bends very well and is the wood of

choice for applications requiring curves as in boat building.

The oaks work well with sharp hand tools and machine easily. The notable exception is in routing or shaping as the grain tends to tear. Sanding goes slowly, so it's better to cut clean and close to do a minimum of sanding. Nailing will cause frequent splitting. When using threaded fasteners, predrilling is necessary. Oak requires the use of good adhesives and controlled conditions to get

dependable glue joints. Because oak tends to be open and coarse grained, furniture makers often prefer to use a filler before finishing. Oak takes most finishes well except for exterior paint which requires heroic filling and priming work.

If you haven't tried working with hardwoods, give oak a try. The price is reasonable, quantities are readily available (especially Red Oak), and the results with the mighty oak(s) are always satisfying.

NWA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT Wanted - Smiling, Gregarious People

Yes, that's right, the Membership Committee needs gregarious members to volunteer at the Membership Booth for Showcase! ***The Membership Booth is where it's at!***

Our Volunteers will be greeting Showcase visitors and explaining the benefits of our classes, our SIGs, our charitable community activities and most of all, the pleasure of developing lasting friendships with our experienced and dedicated members!

Everyone who comes to Showcase stops by the Membership Booth!

We will be taking new membership applications, selling NWA Baseball Caps and NWA Coffee Mugs, and generally having a good time talking to people.

We Need You!

All it takes is a Smile and a Warm Handshake!

We still have open time slots on:

Saturday

9:45am - to - Noon

Noon - to - 2:30pm

2:30pm - to - 5:00pm

Sunday

9:45am - to- Noon

Noon - to - 2:30pm

2:30pm - to - 5:00pm

If you can help, please respond to nwamembers1@gmail.com

Thank you for being a Loyal Member!

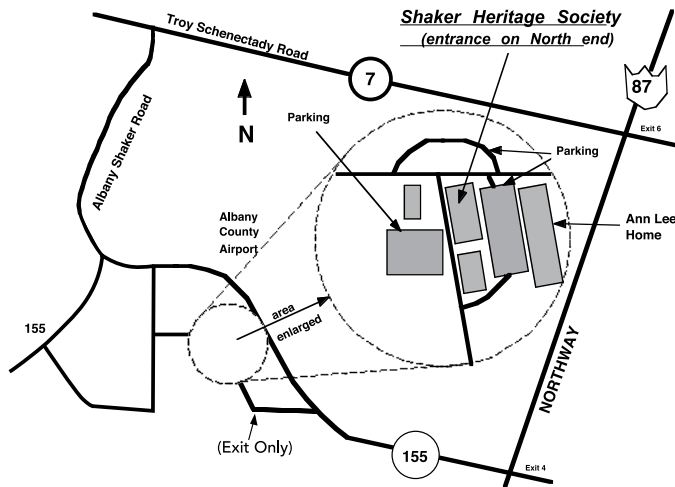
March Meeting

Thursday, March 10, 2016 7:00 p.m.
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY

MONTHLY MEETINGS

April 14, 2016
 Grain vs Design

May 12, 2016
 Furniture Restoration



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

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 9:00 PM.

Wednesday "Learn and Turn" sessions occur on all other Wednesdays at the NWA Learning Center. These sessions run 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. www.adirondackwoodturners.com **Contact:** Ken Evans, 518-753-7759 or kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Scroller's Guild - Meets on the fourth Wednesday 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 (TBA), 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 7:00 PM at the Opdahl property in Hurley, NY. **Contact:** Wally Cook at wally.cook@gmail.com.

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 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.

NWA Musical Instrument SIG - Meets every first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Learning Center. The purpose of the group is to discuss all aspects of all musical instruments, playing, building, repairing, and history. Meetings involve a show and tell table, a program on an appropriate topic, and lots of member interaction. If you want to be on the email list for notifications, **contact** Ken Evans at kevans1@nycap.rr.com or 518-753-7759 or 518-281-0779.

The NWA Wood Carvers SIG - The NWA Wood Carvers SIG - Meet each Thursday at 5:30 PM until 8:30 PM all year at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. The goal is to promote the art of Wood Carving and to have a good time doing it. The only prerequisite is a desire to carve while making new friends. Wood, tools, and patterns are available. **Contact:** George Rutledge (518) 366-3606, c.howie.dudat@gmail.com, Diane Balch (518) 338-5637, signs@balchsigns.com

Hand Tool SIG - Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Herm Finkbeiner Education Center at 15 Solar Dr, Clifton Park, NY. **Contact:** Dave Parkis for further details: dparkis@nycap.rr.com

Segmented Turning - Meets the first, third, and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. **Contact** Toby Pauly 362-6071 (cell), e-mail tobyp@bpipiping.com

CHAPTERS

NWA Mid-Hudson - The chapter meets at 7:30 PM 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. John VanBuren, President (845) 444-8281 **Contact:** Pete Chast, pchastnow@gmail.com.

NWA Sacandaga - The chapter meets at 7:00 PM. on the Second Wednesday of each month at 55 Second Avenue, Mayfield, NY. **Contact:** Gary Ratajczak, President - (518) 852-1204