

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

May 2003, Vol. 12, Number 3

May Meeting

The Woodworking Shop at RPI

- Sid Fleisher

7 p.m., Thursday, May 8, 2003

Shaker-Heritage Society Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road (near Albany Airport)

Sid Fleisher, NWA member, is the Instructor and Shop Manager of Woodworking in the Architecture program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. Sid will present an overview of his program at RPI, where each year a "Project in Design" is undertaken. This year the concentration is on bent and laminated pieces and the use of a new laser cutting tool. He will take us on a tour of the shop facilities and show past projects and experiences through a slide presentation. He will have some of the projects for display. His students have participated in and won awards at various national design competitions.

Remember May is the Annual Meeting and is the election of officers. There will also be a vote on By-law changes. The proposed changes are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter.

The business meeting begins at 7 p.m., followed by refreshments and socializing, and a time to use both the NWA library and Tool Crib. Everybody enjoys Show and Tell - why don't YOU bring something to display? 🐿

Please Return the Postcard

Important to the Future of NWA

The IRS classifies NWA as a 501(c)6 organization, exempt from income tax. However, we are not exempt from sales tax and there are limitations on the amount of money the Fiske Fund may receive in a year. Our Board of Directors has decided that we should pursue 501(c)3 status which will:

1. Eliminate the Fiske Fund restrictions.
2. Make all donations to NWA tax deductible.
3. Pave the way for NWA to be exempt from State and local sales taxes.

Two things must be done before we can submit a request to change our IRS classification. First we must make revisions to our by-laws. This is discussed in another part of this newsletter and will be voted upon at the May 8, regular meeting.

The second thing we must do is to change our certificate of incorporation. When NWA was organized we were incorporated a Type A under the New York State Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, a classification used for fraternal, professional or trade organizations. We need to be reclassified as Type B indicating an education-oriented organization.

To make this change we need approval of 2/3 of our membership. Since it is unlikely that 2/3 of our members will attend a regular meeting we must take this vote by mail. You should have recently received a package that includes a copy of the proposed changes to our corporation classification and a postcard.

Please indicate your preference on the prepaid postcard, sign it and return it as soon as possible.

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UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

From the President

- Jay Van Vranken

It is with deep regret that I announce the passing of Andy DuBois, past president of the Mid-Hudson Chapter. I know he will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. I wish to convey our deepest sympathy to his family and friends. Jay Van Vranken, President

SHOWCASE

Another woodworking show has come and gone and from what I hear, everybody is raving about what a great show it was. The one person that makes this show happen is Charlie Goddard. I thank you, and all the members of NWA thank you, Charlie, for a job well done. (Of course you had the help of yours truly - just kidding! - at the Toy Factory.) Charlie had a great team working with him on this project that started meeting and preparing last October. I may be repeating what he will be saying to all the department chairpersons and that is "Thank you all for all your help."

What a great show, from those who volunteered and worked at the show and all the people who displayed their great works of art in woodworking, the judges and the commercial people, you should be very proud that you were part of it. (I don't think that I could call the wagon I displayed "a work of art" but two grand children in Maryland think that it's the greatest.)

I want to thank everyone who made the Go-Cars before the show. I had purchased 3000 wheel and axles and at the end of the show, I had about 24 wheels left. That boils down to giving away over 700 of those little bugs. The kids put the wheels on about 20% of these themselves and what a ball those kids had as part of the Factory assembly line. Would you believe that George Hackett who came from Shellsburg, Iowa to work in the toy factory, had sent in more than 100 Go-Cars before the show? Richard Weil from Smithtown, Long Island, sent in a gross of Go-Cars beforehand; Richard also worked in the Toy Factory. The Mid-Hudson Chapter as a group donated close to 200 cars and Sacandaga Chapter donated over 100 cars. There were several others that made as many as 50 or more cars. Thank you all for all the hard work. Richard Weil also donated to NWA the display of different types of Go-Cars that he had so artistically produced. Thank you.

I want to thank those who worked in the Toy Factory - from those who helped set up Friday to those who produced helicopters and put wheels on the Go-Cars during the show. (Of course, I had to keep an eye on Bill Reynolds from Mid-Hudson Chapter all the while, just so he wouldn't goof up something. No, just kidding Bill, it was great having you and your associates there and working. The one person that I don't want to miss thanking is Roger Kullman. Roger was my right hand man from Friday thru till we finished picking up Sunday night. Last, but not least, the one person that made the Toy Factory possible was Joe De Julio. It was through his efforts that we were able to have the Ridgid Tools available for our use. Thank you Joe. 🐶

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REVIEW

- Jay Van Vranken

February 27, 2003 NWA Board Meeting

Many of the items normally noted in this review were discussed and acted upon at the last board meeting and are included elsewhere in the news letter.

Treasurer

Dale Swann distributed the financial report for the period December 20, 2002-February 27, 2003. He stated that there was an increase in insurance rates of about 10%, from \$500 to \$567.05, but we are also getting \$2000 additional coverage of NWA property.

Executive Secretary

Charlie Goddard reported three letters from Ken Evans. One notifies NWA that the Adirondack Woodturners Association voted at its February 5, 2003 meeting to become a Special Interest Group of NWA and adopted changes in the by-laws to allow the affiliation. The other two advise NWA of AWA's plans to hold a woodturning symposium and request that the NWA consider helping with the funding of the symposium. Ron

Continued on Page 4

WOODWORKERS SHOWCASE 2003

- *Charlie Goddard, Chair*

Thanks to the many volunteers and to those who exhibited their work, SHOWCASE 2003 was a big success.

Though paid attendance was down some from last year, there seemed to be a steady stream of people coming through the door. Including kids, volunteers and vendors, attendance must have exceeded 6,000. Financially, though some of the bills are still outstanding, it is clear that the Show produced a profit of a few thousand dollars. The Exhibit Hall contained approximately 485 items, displayed by 153 members and a few non-members. There were many excellent pieces on display, especially in the furniture categories. More novices displayed their work than in recent years. The Toy Factory set a new record by giving away more than 700 of the small cars. The turners were just as busy giving away small tops.

All members of the organizing committee worked hard to put together the Show. For example, Ken Miller put together another great exhibit. Building upon his success with the lathe exhibit from last year, he created an exhibit of saws of all sizes and descriptions. Kitty Scharl accepted the challenge of putting the lecture schedule together. More than 1,400 people attended lectures on a wide variety of topics. Herm Finkbeiner put together the Distinguished Woodworker exhibit. It was no small task to locate the woodworkers, convince them to loan us their work, arrange for the shipping, organize the display and get the items returned to their owners. The committee members are listed below. They welcome your comments and suggestions about the Show. The committee has already met to discuss this past Show and to start the planning for next year.

Many of the volunteers also deserve special recognition. Jack Norray made the Best of Show trophy again this year. TerryAnn Lasinski made many of the labels for the exhibits and worked all weekend in the office. Brendan Murphy demonstrated chairmaking and Steve Remis demonstrated furniture repair. Jeanne Aldous organized the scrollsawing demonstration. Pam Cook, Betty Andrews and Jeanne Walker worked much of the weekend in the office. Many others were available throughout the weekend to do whatever needed to be done. Thank you all! 🐿

Committee members

Dan Dearstye	Raffle
Steve Defibaugh	Jigs and Fixtures
Wayne Distin	Volunteers
Ken Evans	Turners
Fran Finkbeiner	Publicity
Herm Finkbeiner	Distinguished Woodworkers
Hans Kappel	Videography
Roland Kullmann	Judging and Awards
Dave Lasinski	Staging
Bill McCormack	Carvers
Ken Miller	Antique Saw Exhibit
John Olenik	Exhibit Area Layout
Rich Pagano	Web Site
Don Partridge	Education Booth
Kitty Scharl	Lecture Series
Jim Schreiner	Professional Furniture
Jim Shea	Safety Officer
Austin Spang	Membership
Gary Spencer	Commercial Sales
Dale Swann	Treasurer
Jay VanVranken	Toy Factory
Tom White	Ticket Sales



*SHOWCASE 2003 Best of Show
Barney Bellinger's Adirondack
rustic fly fishing cabinet*

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 nine times annually, six regular editions and three special editions (SHOWCASE, Shop Tour, and Family Night). The publication is assembled in QuarkXPress 4.0 on a Macintosh G4, duplicated by Shipmates, and mailed to more than 700 addresses.



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NWA maintains two websites,
the first noted here
operates continuously.
We also offer selected
links to other sites of interest
to our membership.
Webmaster - Justin Rohrer
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The second site operates from
January 1 to May 30
and carries specific
information about SHOWCASE.
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**NORTHEASTERN
WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION**
P.O. BOX 246
Rexford, New York 12148

Revisions to NWA's By-Laws

- *Charlie Goddard, Executive Secretary*

At the May 8 meeting you will be asked to vote on some revisions to NWA's by-laws. Changes are proposed to 1) make it clear that NWA's primary mission is education in woodworking, 2) clarify the membership of the Board of Directors, 3) revise the listing of standing committees, 4) revise the process to be used should NWA be dissolved, 5) recognize Chapters and Special Interest Groups as being parts of NWA and 6) eliminate typographical errors and reorganize the by-laws into a more consistent format. The Board of Directors approved these changes at its February 27, 2003 meeting.

As described in another article in this newsletter, we are trying to revise NWA's status with respect to the Federal tax code so that we can become exempt from sales tax and to make any donation to NWA tax deductible. Currently there are restrictions on the amount that can be added to the Fiske Fund each year. In order to qualify for this change in status we must make it clear that NWA's primary mission is education, thus the change in Section II, Purpose. Another necessary change is the revision in Section X, which clarifies that, upon dissolution, the remaining assets of NWA will go to a similar organization which provides woodworking education.

Section IV, Governance, is revised to clarify that, in addition to the elected officers and chairmen of the standing committees, the Executive Secretary, Special Interest Group Representative and a representative from each Chapter are members of the Board.

Section V, Standing Committees, has been revised to identify the members of the Publications committee, to eliminate the Publicity and Website committees and to clarify that the Fiske Fund committee is a standing committee. The Publicity committee has not been active for some time. The Board of Directors has concluded that it is no longer needed. The Website committee has completed its job of creating a website. The role of managing the website will be the responsibility of the Publications committee, which includes the website editor and webmasters.

Since the by-laws were last revised, Chapters and Special Interest Groups have been created. New Section XII describes the process by which chapters will be created, managed, financed and disbanded. New Section XIII contains similar provisions for Special Interest Groups. In addition, it establishes a Special Interest Group Council.

The remaining changes correct typographical errors and reorganize the by-laws into a more consistent format. 🐼

NWA LIBRARY NEWS

When is a library book and a piece of birdseye maple equal?

Some of us have NWA library books which are loooooong overdue. The fines for these overdue books are so great they could equal the price of a nice piece of birdseye maple.

If you bring your overdue library books and videos back to the NWA library at the next meeting (May) or if you mail your overdue library books or videos back during the month of May 2003, the nice librarian, Wilhelmina, will forgive all overdue charges and you can use the money saved to buy a nice loooooong piece of birdseye maple for your next woodworking project.

Mail books or videos to

Wilhelmina Evans, 2062 NY 67, Valley Falls, NY 12185.

Thank you, Wilhelmina 🐼

Board of Directors Meeting

Continued from Page 2

DeWitt suggested the possibility of a \$2000 loan. Ken said a loan would be fine with AWA. Jay Van Vranken made the motion that the Board authorize the \$2,000 advance to AWA for the Totally Turning Symposium contingent upon submission of an acceptable budget, repayment of which would be contingent upon any profitability of said venture. Dave seconded the motion. It passed with one abstention.

Charlie Goddard reported that Jim Lewis asked that NWA put together a referral list of people willing to do work in their special areas of interest. He receives requests from people who are looking for someone to build or restore something. Charlie's concern is NWA liability. Ken Evans recommended putting requests on the website. Wayne Distin said the newsletter also could be used. Ron DeWitt suggested the possibility of accepting referrals with NWA membership.

Dale Swann reported that Habitat for Humanity is going to auction birdhouses again this year. The newsletter will have a request for birdhouses to be delivered at the May 9th meeting. Some will be decorated by artists. The birdhouses will be auctioned at the Mohawk Golf Club at an August event. Ken Evans suggested putting the request on the website.

Charlie Goddard distributed a written report from the **Mid-Hudson Chapter**. Meetings are held every month September-June. Attendance averages 30-35. There were five new people in the past month. They are involved in a joint project with the Catskill Carvers. A very successful part of their meetings is a "show and tell." A budget is under preparation. There is a concern for the total structure of NWA and how chapters relate to the NWA organization at large.

Sacandaga Chapter Mike Kratky said that an arborist has contacted him about marketing 12,000 board feet of six-quarter maple and cherry. One possibility would be to sell it at the auction. Mike reported that the Sacandaga Chapter meeting attendance has been increasing since the meeting place moved from the firehouse to the Mayfield School. Attendance has been averaging about 30-35 people at each meeting.

Education Chairman

Ken Evans said that the in-shop tutor program has about 12 people interested. Ken said that right now the Kids Program is problematic. Dick Grimm had surgery and has not made contact with Ken. There is a weekend scheduled in September on marquetry, and a woodworking weekend scheduled for January.

I just want to remind everybody that the NWA Board meetings are open meetings. Any member interested in attending is cordially invited. We are meeting at Curtis Lumber Yard on Route 67, Ballston Spa in the administration building. The meetings begin at 7:30 pm and the next meeting is on April 24, 2003. - Jay Van Vranken, President. 🐼

Election Time

- Wayne Distin

The NWA By-Laws provide for the election of officers at the May business meeting. The Nominating Committee presents the following candidates: Pat McCord, Vice-President/Program Chairman; Dale Swan, Treasurer. The By-Laws state that the Vice-President/Program Chairman succeeds to the presidency in the year following election. Wayne Distin, current Vice-President, becomes President.

The Secretary and Treasurer are elected for two-year terms with terms staggered so one office is filled each year. This year Dale Swann has agreed to accept nomination for a second term as Treasurer.

Chairpersons for standing and *ad hoc* committees will be determined by the board of Directors and their names will be included in July in the masthead that regularly appears on page two of the newsletter.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor prior to the election; any nominee must be willing to accept the nomination and to serve if elected. 🐾

BUS TRIP:

Philadelphia

Furniture Show

May 2-3, 2003

We still have two seats available for the trip. The bus will leave Crossgates Commons at 7 a.m., Friday morning, May 2, 2003. There is also a pick-up in the parking lot of the vacant Ames store at Kingston Plaza.

On Saturday morning we will go to the Wharton Esherick Museum, Phoenixville, PA and be back in Schenectady by early evening. Cost of the trip, which includes bus transportation, hotel room, admission to the furniture show and admission to the Esherick Museum, is \$115 per person double occupancy (\$169 for a single occupancy).

Call 518-371-9145 to make a reservation. 🐾

PRIZE WINNERS/SHOWCASE 2003

BEST OF SHOW - Barney Bellinger, Adirondack rustic fly fishing cabinet

JUDGES COMMENDATIONS - Sue Sorenson, serving table; Jonathan Sweet, wine credenza; Keith Tompkins, vase

CATEGORY	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE
FURNITURE 1	Andrew Pate dining table	Jim Schreiner end table	Charlie James tray table
FURNITURE 2 Cases, cabinets, desks	William MacTiernan chest of drawers	Eric Marczak floor cabinet	Russ Gleaves armoire
FURNITURE 3 Chairs	Delia Bowstead Savanarola chair	Barry Gregson lilac armchair	Fred Beckhorn armchair
ACCESSORIES Clocks, boxes, desk top pieces	Charlie Goddard French country clock	Pete Robinson humidor	Terry Dote keepsake box
TOYS, MINIATURES Play things, models	Keith Tompkins spin toy/base	Iulia Lee miniatures	Grant Humphreys log truck
TURNING	Paul Petrie pedestal box	Richard Pagano Mata Ortiz jar	John Franklin covered bowl
CARVING	Frank & Carol Ruiz willow patarmigan	Joseph Boek red-tail hawk	Walter Wastowicz woodcock
INLAY,INTARSIA, MARQUETRY	Clark Pell winter barns	Jeffrey Meuwissen Yin yang	Andrew Gisondi chipmunks
SCROLLSAWING	Andrew Gisondi cross	M.K. Purohit grandfather clock	Jean Aldous fretwork clock
NOVICE	Mark Pape canoe	Steve Witham Windsor chair	Thomas Breyette cabinet
OTHER	Tom Benware table lamp	Roland Kullman golf putters	John DeMarco canoe

Videos of SHOWCASE Lectures Now Available in Our NWA Library

NWA's videographers, under the direction of Hans Kappel - Bob Conahan, Dave Ellison, Kirk Hardenburg and Pat Pugsley - taped the following SHOWCASE lectures that are now available to members in the NWA library.

Getting Started in Woodworking, Aime Fraser
Getting Started in Boatbuilding, Aime Fraser
Designing and Setting Up a Woodworking Shop, Hal Bigelow
Beginning Woodturning, Ken Evans
Segmented Turning, Keith Tompkins
Turning Christmas Ornaments, Jim Cameron
Scrollsawing, Jeannie Aldous
A Solar Kiln for Drying Wood, Jack Norray
Using Handtools to Make Furniture, Alden Witham
Sharpening, Wally Holbrook
Intarsia: a Carving and Scrollsaw Hybrid, Chris Knite
Bringing a Marquetry Flower to Life:
 Basic Bevel Cutting Technique, Julie Godfrey
Marquetry: an Introduction to the Boulle
 Technique, Chuck Walker
Carving, Michael Korhun
Goldleafing, Cloud Kennedy
Studio Furniture, Ted Blachly
Timberframing, Paul Petrie

LOST AND FOUND

The following items were found at SHOWCASE.
Describe them and you can claim them at 371-9145.

FOUND: Small, oval, silver religious medallion.

FOUND: A purchase made at Diamond Machining Technology, Inc.

Editor's Note: David Bayne, Furniture Conservator for the NYS Bureau of Historic Sites at Peebles Island presented the Fiske Memorial Lecture last November. He took us on a slide tour of some of the woodworking shops of France.

Open House at Peebles Island

- Pat McCord

An Open House will be held on Saturday, May 17 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the New York State Resource Center at Peebles Island in Waterford. You can get a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the State's conservation and preservation laboratories and offices. Items from all of the State-owned historic sites are sent to Peebles Island for conservation, restoration and repair. The Resource Center will be open to the public and will have exhibits, presentations and demonstrations showing the types of work done there. It's a great opportunity to learn the history of various historic sites and the pieces on display, see how the work is done and talk to

Cabinetmaking Course for Beginning/Intermediate Woodworkers:

NWA offers another subsidized class for members

Hal Bigelow, instructor

**June 14, 21, 28, July 5, 12, 19
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

Tuition for the class is \$150; \$75 is paid by NWA. If you are interested in taking the class, please call Ken Evans at 518-753 7759.

This course will focus on the basics of good cabinet-making. Included will be demonstrations of door, drawer, and carcass construction including associated details such as finishing, design, and the like. It will be a demonstration and Q & A class and will assume the student has access to major shop equipment such as tablesaw, jointer, etc. Students will not be constructing any pieces during the class. The course will consist of six two-hour sessions. Potential students are encouraged to call the instructor before enrolling if there are questions about the content of the course. The course is scheduled Saturday mornings from 9 am to 11am on June 14, 21, 28 and July 5, 12, 19.

Hal Bigelow has been a professional woodworker since 1973. His work focuses on furnishing pieces for the kitchen, bedroom, office, dining room, etc. His is a very practical approach, stressing good basic design and construction. His designs and constructions are dictated by his customers' needs, but have a solid grounding in traditional joinery such as that used by the Shakers.

The course will be held in the instructor's shop located on State Route 32 about two miles north of the Saratoga Battlefield. The address is 469 Route 32 south; there is a green mailbox #469 and a white Methodist church across the street. For questions or directions call 518-587-3847. 📍

Some people know lots more than they tell.

Some don't.

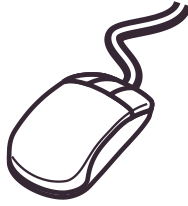
the conservators about the problems encountered and methods used in their work. Each laboratory (Furniture, Textiles, Paintings, Paper and Objects) will display items in various stages of conservation.

You can reach Peebles Island via Cohoes on Ontario Street, Route 470 east from I-787. Turn left onto Delaware Avenue; continue to parking. From Troy, take Second Avenue to the 112th Street Bridge; cross the Hudson River and make the first right onto Delaware Avenue; continue to parking. For more information you can call (518) 237-8643, ext. 0. 📍

Web Sites Worth Visiting

- *Herm Finkbeiner*

To help NWA members find interesting sites we plan to publish a list of those sites that members might find interesting, helpful - or just fun. As you run across woodworking related sites that fit those objectives send the web address to hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com and we'll add them to the list.



Add to Your List of Web Sites Worth Visiting

Catskill Mountain Foundation -
Mountain Culture Festival
<http://www.catskillmtn.org/mcf/woodland.php>

(Some of you met Joe DeBottis of the Canterbury Workshop at the show. He is promoting a series of TV programs for PBS highlighting upstate woodworkers. His crew took some video of the show

- Charlie Goddard)

http://canterburyworkshop.com/NWA_Saratoga_Springs.htm.

Hands-On Marquetry Weekend With Chuck Walker

Chuck Walker will conduct a Hands-On Marquetry Weekend September 19-20-21, 2003 at Curtis Lumber in Ballston Spa. Chuck has been using the French marquetry techniques for some time and recently a Fiske Fund award that let him study with Patrick Edwards at the American School of French Marquetry in San Diego. He will introduce you to this historic yet still current process.

You will learn the basics of the Boulle method of marquetry as you create your own marquetry sample. In the Boulle technique, foreground and background are cut simultaneously and interchanged for final mounting.

The cost for the three-day event is \$60 which includes all materials. Registration is limited to six (6).

Bring a lunch or we will order out.

The schedule is:

Friday	6:00 PM to	9:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM to	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM to	4:00 PM

Checks made out to NWA should be sent to Ken Evans at 2062 NY 67, Valley Falls, NY 12185. Direct any questions to Ken at 518-753-7759. 🐶

Spring is when you feel like whistling
even with a shoe full of slush.

A wise man learns something new
every day; the fool knows it all already.

Jigs & Fixtures

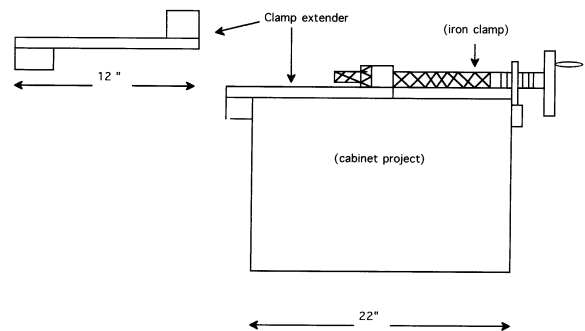
- *Gary D. Spencer*

Clamp Extenders

Often we don't have enough long clamps when we need to clamp up a project. This clamp extender is just the ticket to save the day; I like to have several of varying lengths.

To make: Use any fairly straight hardwood board about 3/4 inch thick and two inches wide. Begin with a 12 inch length board and screw and glue a 6/4 by two inch block to each end, but on opposite sides of the board. Make up several at a time and make them in different lengths.

To use: Just hang one end of the extender over the first piece, then hook your iron clamp to the other end of the extender over to the second piece to be clamped and tighten. You can then use as many extenders and smaller iron clamps as needed for your project.



More sources:

Editors of Popular Woodworking,
"25 Essential Projects for your Workshop,"
Popular Woodworking, 2000.

"Router Tips and Techniques," Bob Wearing,
GMC Publications, 2001, 106 pages.

A Totally Turning Experience

Join us, The Adirondack Woodturners Association (now a Special Interest Group of NWA), for a long awaited weekend woodturning symposium at Sage College in Albany, NY on the weekend of October 25 and 26. This Totally Turning Symposium will offer a buffet of 42 woodturning-related demonstrations, an Instant Gallery, a vendor's area, and a hands-on pen turning class.

The demonstrations will include, along with many other topics, segmented turning, basic spindle turning, bowl turning techniques, piercing and carving on turnings, photographing your work, and turning unusual materials. World famous turners Binh Pho and Alan Lacer together with other talented turners from the Northeastern United States, will make this weekend one to remember.

Registration is limited to 250. The registration fee for NWA and AWA members is \$50. Normal registration is \$60 before June 15 and \$75 after June 15. A box lunch is available each day for \$6.50/day.

Contact Ken Evans 518-753-7759 for a registration form.



SHOWCASE 2003



Bigger toys for bigger boys - the WoodMizer never fails to mesmerize the audience.



The Norray men - Jack, Jack and Jason (they are not pictured here) - generously allowed visitors to play the game they had entered in Showcase competition.



Quality control in the turners' area - give-away tops are customer-tested on a mirrored surface for spinability.



The benches shown here were made by Dave Lasinski and Charlie Goddard for the Shaker Heritage Society. That organization has been good to us over the years, and we do appreciate it.

Wood of the Month

- Ron DeWitt

Atlantic White-Cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*). A Softwood Cupressaceae. Cypress Family

The true cedars are those of the *Pinaceae* (Pine Family), native to the Mediterranean and the northwest Himalayas. These are included in the genus *Cedrus* (cedar). Another group of "cedars" are, in fact, cedar look-a-likes and are designated, botanically, not as true cedars but in the genus *Thuja* of the *Cupressaceae* (Cypress Family). Still another group of cedar imitators is classified as false cypresses. These are included in the genus *Chamaecyparis* (false cypress), also of the Cypress Family.

Unfortunately, our two eastern white-cedars fall into the middle of this name-calling muddle. Their common names are hyphenated to help clarify that they are not true cedars. Our eastern redcedar further adds to the confusion with its one word name, also to signify that it is not a true cedar. It is included in the genus *Juniperus* (Juniper).

The northern white-cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) and the eastern redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) were described in earlier issues of this series. This issue will introduce the Atlantic white-cedar (*Chamaecyparis thyoides*).

The Atlantic white-cedar, also called southern white-cedar, post cedar, swamp cedar, white cypress or, occasionally, false cypress, is a member of the cypress family. There are three native species plus four others in Japan and Taiwan.

The range of the white-cedar is a narrow coastal belt, 50 to 130 miles wide, extending from Maine to northern Florida with some isolated stands into Mississippi and Alabama. It is commercially important in New Jersey, Virginia and North Carolina.

Atlantic white-cedar grows in the more humid areas on wet ground or in swamps, at low elevations. Although it associates with a variety of hardwoods and softwoods, it typically occurs in pure, virtually impregnable stands where it takes the low ground. This tree has a shallow root structure often penetrating only a foot or two. Because of its soft footing and superficial root system, many mature white-cedars are tipped in storms. It has an intermediate tolerance to shade, endures salt water and perseveres even when flooded for several months at a time.

On good sites height growth may be a foot a year for its first 50 years, it then slows for the next 50 years reaching maximum height at about 100 years. Trees mature at about 80 feet. In southern New England trees typically reach 40-60 feet with stem diameters to 16 inches. The largest of these white-cedars grew in the Virginia-North Carolina section where they reached 120 feet with diameters to five feet.



Continued on Page 10

IN-SHOP TUTOR PROGRAM UNDERWAY

- Herm Finkbeiner

The In-Shop Tutor Program is well underway. There are two new additions to the program:

Ned Kneebone, 654-7515, Steam Bending Wood for Furniture.

Ken Evans, 753-7759, How to Turn a Bowl, A to Z

If you are interested in attending any of the sessions, call the NWA member listed.

Current status of the on-going programs:

Charlie Goddard, Niskayuna, 370-0388 - Making small jewelry boxes (One session full, openings in second session.)

Herm Finkbeiner, Rexford, 371-9145 - Make a classic workbench (Underway, one opening available.)

Ken Evans, Valley Falls, 753-7759 - Sharpening turning tools (One session completed, openings available in second.)

There are openings in the following sessions, call for time and place:

Chuck Jones, Canajoharie 673-2827 - Dovetails

Ron DeWitt, Salem 854-3757 - Finger joint boxes

Jack Ericson, Rexford 399-0908 - Precision circle cutting on a bandsaw

Chuck Newland, Slingerlands 439-3462 - Varnishing and marine brightwork

Art Coleman, Ballston Lake 399-5550 - Chainsaw lumber making, openings

George Norton, Kingston 845-331-1705 - Inlay with a router, openings

Earl Liberty, Cohoes 235-6543 - Making raised panel doors, openings

Bill Reynolds, Hurley 845-331-0394 - Turning small items (All area codes are 518 unless stated otherwise.)

If you have questions about the program or if you have a topic you are willing offer to NWA members, please call Ken Evans at 753-7759 and we will add your topic to the list. 🐾

Lumber and Tool Auction

- Charlie Goddard

Though a date has not been set we intend to have another auction in the fall to raise money for the Fiske Fund. If you have tools or lumber that you would like to donate, or know someone who does, please let me know. Remember that donations to the auction are fully tax deductible. If you do not want to donate the full value of your items we can work out a deal to share the revenue. In that case, the half retained by the Fiske Fund is fully tax deductible.

Charlie Goddard 370-0388, cgodd@aol.com 🐾

Wood of the Month

Continued from page 9

Stand age rarely exceeds 200 years but according to “Silvics of North America” one source reports that trees have reached 1000 years.

A big tree was documented in Brewton, Alabama a few years ago at 88 feet with a diameter of 60 inches. Although common in southern New York, no record trees could be found for that area. The Landis Arboretum in nearby Esperance is reported to have Atlantic white-cedars in their collection.

This white-cedar is an evergreen with very small 1/16-inch to 1/8 inch scale-like leaves, flattened and tightly overlapping on multiple forking twigs which form small sprays at an angle with the twigs. Dense foliage of irregular, large, sprays hangs from horizontal branches.

Leaves are dark blue-green above, pale below, changing to a rich brown in winter then dying in their second season. Trees are straight and narrow, forming conical spire-like crowns.

The light green 1/4-inch spherical cones are tight to the branch and covered in a white bloom as they form, becoming leathery brown and opening as they mature at the end of their first season. The light reddish brown bark may be an inch thick, dividing irregularly into narrow flat ridges, often twisted in spirals around the stem and separating into plate-like scales.

Sapwood is narrow and quite white; heartwood is light brown tinged with red or pink. The wide growth rings are distinct but poorly defined and are usually delineated by a band of darker, more dense latewood. Earlywood is white with a gradual transition to the latewood. Transverse rays are very fine forming an inconspicuous ray fleck on radial surfaces. There are no resin canals.

The wood is slightly oily with a unique spicy, cedar-like aroma and a faint bitter taste. Its structure is quite similar to the northern white-cedar. It usually has straight even grain, fine texture and little figure except around the frequent knots. This wood is lightweight with a specific gravity of 0.35 oven-dry and weighs about 23 pounds per cubic foot at 12% moisture content, among the lightest of commercial softwoods. Wood is tough, soft, weak, poor in shock resistance, poor in steam bending but good in dry bending.

The wood dries easily and quickly with little degrade but it has a lot of defects and occasional wind shakes. Shrinkage is low at 2.9% radially, 5.4% tangentially and 8.8% in volume. It works well with hand or power tools to smooth surfaces. Sharp cutters minimize a tendency toward fuzziness, typical of soft, light woods. It takes and holds fasteners well, glues satisfactorily when freshly machined but an alcohol or acetone wipe may improve the bond. Most finishes go down well; a sealer is usually beneficial and oil finishes are best avoided. The wood is quite durable when exposed to weather or soil conditions and extremely durable



in water. Eye, skin and breathing precautions are recommended when working this wood.

The value of Atlantic white-cedar was quickly recognized by early Americans who used it for cabin logs, shingles and other applications where durability was critical. (Shingles would last for 70 years.) So aggressively was it sought that by 1750 the supply was already threatened and the old growth stands have never recovered. The wood is valuable enough today to justify recovering still sound swamp logs, submerged for hundreds of years.

Atlantic white-cedar is occasionally used as an ornamental in the eastern U.S. and in Europe, mostly for its neat conical form and very fine leaf sprays. Deer frequently browse the branches in winter.

This white-cedar is used for utility poles, railroad cross-ties, posts, piles, shingles, fencing, boat construction and water tanks. Some is used for finish lumber, siding, boxes and fruit and vegetable crates. It was often used for barrels and ice cream tubs and earlier for flooring and as a source of fine charcoal for gunpowder. Miles of logs were bored for water pipes.

The wood of Atlantic white-cedar and northern white-cedar are quite difficult to separate even with a microscope and where both are available they are usually mixed in the lumber yards. Among distinguishing features are the sweet, spicy cedar odor of the Atlantic versus the pungent cedar odor of the northern. Also the heartwood of the Atlantic is light brown with a pink tinge versus the paler straw color of the northern's heartwood. When available, the finer leaves and leaf sprays of the Atlantic identify it.

Atlantic white-cedar is in reasonably good supply and is usually available in lumber yards in areas where it grows, at prices that may range to \$3.50/BF for clear 4/4 stock. 🌲

A pessimist remembers that the lily belongs to the
onion family;
an optimist, that the onion belongs to
the lily family.

Wood Questions

Q. How much wood is produced each year by the trees in an acre of forest?



A. Annually, the trees making up an average acre of woods in the Northeast produce two to three tons of new wood.

Wood Definition

Diffuse-porous wood - Describes the wood of a group of hardwoods in which, when viewed in cross-section, the pores or vessels are quite uniform in size and evenly distributed across the width of the growth rings. Diffuse-porous wood is typical of maple, cherry, birch, basswood, etc., those woods that usually provide smooth, closed finished surfaces.

CHAPTER NEWS

Sacandaga Chapter

- Gary Spencer

Sacandaga's February 12 meeting on safety precautions for sign, hearing, vision and limb preservation was followed by a construct-and-assemble session of toy cars for the Showcase Toy Factory. Robert Lamphere won the safety equipment door prize, and about 40 cars were assembled.

On March 12 a discussion of woodworking projects was followed by construction of about 75 more cars and distribution of door prizes - a mortising cutter, a hardback copy of a book on cabinet making and back issues of *American Woodworker*.

The April 9 meeting will be devoted to constructing weathervanes and rooftop cupolas by Jim Anderson and son. May 14 will be an introduction of new products by Whitney Morrey of Woodworkers Warehouse of Johnstown, in addition to description of a new Saturday seminar that will be provided for the chapter in June. June 11 is a reschedule of "The Scroll Saw A-Z" by Jean Aldous.

All NWA members are invited to attend our meetings. They are at 7 p.m. at the Mayfield High School woodshop; light refreshments are served. Call Tom Rullifson (661-5587) or Gary Spencer (863-6433) for additional information.

Mid-Hudson Chapter News

- Chuck Walker

At the January meeting several members of the Catskill Woodcarvers held their regular meeting early and stayed to share in the Mid-Hudson Chapter meeting. This swelled our ranks to 48 in attendance. Since then, a number of the Catskill carvers group have joined NWA. Their most frequent reason is "we want to learn more about woodworking." A joint project has begun to provide a new display board to recognize Eagle Scouts of a local Kingston troop some 75 years old. There are 65 to 75 Eagle Scouts with recognition name plaques and their old display was outgrown. MH will do the woodworking and Joe Boek, president of Catskill Woodcarvers is carving an eagle to be mounted on the board. When this project is complete, it will be featured in the Mid-Hudson Chapter news.

George Norton and his Wednesday morning group of woodworkers continue to pursue worthwhile projects. A unique teaching aid for Central Hudson Energy where we hold our chapter meetings was built. They constructed a series of scale model power poles complete with lines with the whole model mounted on a board some eight feet long. The purpose of the model is to show new truck drivers how and where to locate and park their trucks and bucket lifts for safety and convenience to the workers as well as street traffic. Model trucks are used and thus the new drivers are able to visualize what to do before actually setting out. This project was featured in Central Hudson's in-house publication and has become a new and very useful addition to their training program.

Keith Tompkins who has taken the art of segmented turning to new and lofty levels, proudly showed us a letter he had received from *Fine Woodworking*. It informed him that a photo of one of his very unique vases would be featured in an upcoming issue of the magazine. Keith recently presented his techniques to the Adirondack Woodturners and at Showcase 2003.

UPCOMING EVENTS CHAPTERS

Mid-Hudson Chapter

The chapter meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursdays at the Central Hudson Electric Company Community Center, Route 28, Kingston. For information: Joe Mikesch 845-687-4285.

Sacandaga Chapter

The chapter meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at Mayfield High School in the woodworking shop. School Street begins at Route 30 (look for the Stewart's store), proceed along School Street to the second driveway and go to the rear of the building. Park by the section of the building that protrudes further into the parking lot and enter the nearest of the (5) doors. For information: Gary Spencer 863-6433.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

All meetings are held at the Curtis Lumber Company conference room on Route 67, Ballston Spa.

Adirondack Woodturners Association

Meets the first Wednesday of every month (except January and July when it is the second Wednesday.) Beginner's session begins at 6 p.m. Contact: Ken Evans 753-7759 or Kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Carver's Guild

Meets second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. Contact: Bill McCormack 233-7260

Scroller's Guild

Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. Contact: Jean Aldous 893-2273 or AMJAMTAT2@aol.com

RAFFLE WINNERS

The Ridgid oscillating belt sander, the raffle item available only to volunteers who worked on Showcase 2003, was won by Carol Ayers of Ballston Spa.

The 14" Delta bandsaw was won by Bill Strothenke, Schroon Lake. (Mr. Strothenke made a hasty trip back down from Schroon Lake on Sunday evening to pick up his prize, with the help of his son. Not terribly unusual - except that his son is a NYS trooper and, in full uniform, presented an eye-catching picture as he loaded the machine into their vehicle.) The Porter Cable compressor/air nailer was won by Carolyn Green, Queensbury; the Lie-Nielsen rabbit block plane by Dolores Haberek, Amsterdam, and the assorted turning stock from Curtis by Ron Hilton, Pulaski.

The raffle earned \$3,050 or about \$2,000 net.



Saws on Parade

- Ken Miller

When Don Grogan asked if we were going to have a see saw, I knew that the exhibit was going to be a success.

Many types of saws were paraded along a 60 foot backdrop. The felling and pruning saws contributed by Ken Miller, Bill van Brunt, Alden Witham, and Mike Holst were needed to clean up the tree Sunday evening. There were specialty saws contributed by Mike Miller, Don Griffin, Ken Miller, and Alden Witham, such as keyhole, dovetail, stair, flush, coping and fret, and a mystery saw which baffled everyone although innovative speculation occurred.

Tom DiGiovanni brought six Japanese saws to add a unique dimension to contrast the Western style of wood-working.

Ernie Conover made the sharpening station a success with his spider, jointer, raker gauge, anvil and portable saw vice, as well as Ken Miller, and Charlie Goddard with a variety of saw vices, anvils and sets. Chuck Jones, Charlie

Goddard, and Don Griffin brought frame saws, and Jay van Vranken slipped in a bow saw which actually had a wire for cutting cheese, but no one spotted it. The well-known carpenters' saws contributed by Joe Benkert, John Adams, and Bill van Brunt added a dimension of time, history, style and nostalgia. The exhibit ended with a panel of all kinds of circular saws from the collection, but in use, by Ken Evans, Ken Miller and Don Griffin.

That's not all. The most comments were about the central exhibit. George Hackett noticed that the keyhole saw was a good fit to the keyhole. One visitor asked me demonstrate the dovetail saw. Herm's yellow chain saw was a favorite to many, as well Joe Koos' small saw handle with a dangling chain. You probably can guess that I was a bit embarrassed to introduce these saws into a serious exhibit.

Finally, success of the presentation depended on setup and cleanup done extremely efficiently with the professional help of John Miller, Ron Kullman, Ken Evans, Rich Pagano and surveillance by the excellent team overseen by Wayne Distin. 🐶

C L A S S I F I E D S

FOR SALE: Delta DJ15 6-in. enclosed base jointer \$650.00. Cost new was \$1100.00. Also a Delta 20-in. Model 28-640 band saw \$1600.00. Cost new \$2250.00. If interested contact Mike Barron at 587-4037 or mbarron@nycap.rr.com

FOR SALE: Wood lathe, 30" long, with 10" diameter, mounted on wood stand, \$120. Call Bob Luther at (518) 456-1499.

FOR SALE: Powerkraft table saw 8 1/4", miter gauge, rip fence, new saw blade, wood stand, \$150. Michael Holst, Germantown, 518-537-4530

FOR SALE: Delta table saw 8 1/4", miter gauge, rip fence, new saw blade, table stand, \$160. Michael Holst, Germantown, 518-537-4530

FOR SALE: I will have rough sawn white pine available again this summer. Most will be \$0.40 per bdft. Clear lumber, higher. Let me know if you can use red maple or poplar. Charlie Goddard 370-0388, cgodd@aol.com.

FOR SALE: Specialty lumber. Mahogany. 160 BF, seasoned, originated from 150 year old church pews, 3/4" thick. \$5.00/BF. \$800. Franz Kuhne (607) 965-8803 or FAX 1-800-654-8571.

FOR SALE: Kiln-dried lumber: 5/4 & 8/4 pine, 4/4 & 5/4 oak, some quartered. Curly maple, 3/8" thick in 4" - 8" widths. Also old fir factory beams. Mike (802) 823-5510

WANTED: Manufacturer for board for new pizza paddle product. Requires: Glue up, 15" planer and simple milling work. Need approximately 700 pieces initially. Call Gary: 518-371-3173 (eves).

FOR SALE:

5/4 soft maple, fas & select, 83 bdft @ \$2.35

Comm 1 31 bdft @ \$1.35

Comm 2 17 bdft @ \$.70

4/4 hard maple, fas & select, 150 bdft @ \$3.00

Comm 1 72 bdft @ \$2.00

Comm 2 21 bdft @ \$.60

4/4 red oak, fas & select, 450 bdft @ \$2.00 (\$2.50/10" wide)

5/4 red oak, fas & select, 162 bdft @ \$2.10 (\$2.60/10" wide)

4/4 white oak, fas & select, 198 bdft @ \$2.00 (\$2.60/10" wide)

4/4 white ash Comm 1 and 2 approx 150 bdft @ \$.50 - great for drawer box construction.

Hardwood lumber, all in rough random width and length. Air-dried for a few years from outside to inside the barn. Allow several weeks for wood to balance moisture content in your own environment. Will sell 100 bdft per grade per specie, but if per grade is less than that, would combine all per specie. If you buy more than 500 bdft, grades and species can be combined and a 25% discount applies on prices.

Contact Michael Kronau, Kronau@aol.com. Or call voice relay operator for deaf at 1 (800)-421-1220 and ask for (518)-283-2920 TDD. I have an auto answer machine if you wish to leave a message. Fax (518)-286-2583.

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS - Hancock Shaker Village is looking for volunteers at their machine shop to demonstrate and talk about their 1858 (reproduction) water-powered turbine and turbine-driven lathe and bandsaw, belt-driven from the turbine. Both machines are late 19th century. Any help you can give us would be appreciated. Time commitment is up to the volunteer. Call Todd Burdick at 1-800-817-1137 (ext. 216).



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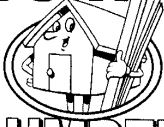
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GENERAL MEETINGS

May 8

Sid Fleisher,
member and instructor
of woodworking
in the RPI architecture program,
will illustrate and discuss present
and past projects.

July 20

Annual Summer Picnic
Jonesville Fire House
Clifton Park

GENERAL MEETING

7 p.m., Thursday, May 8, 2003
Shaker Heritage Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road (near Albany Airport)

MEETING CANCELLATION INFORMATION:
Telephone Jay VanVranken, Wayne Distin
or Charlie Goddard

