

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

October 2010, Vol. 19, Number 8

October NWA Meeting

*Thursday, October 14, 2010, 7:00 pm
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany*

The Fiske Fund

*By Tom Osborne
Chairman, Fiske Fund Committee*

Applications for Fiske Fund grants have been slow again this year. The same is true for enrollment in most of the classes at the woodworking schools that I have contacted. It is no surprise that the consensus is that the slow down is due to the poor economy.

However, even with the down-turn, the Fiske Fund has grant money available for classes.

To receive a Fiske Fund grant it is necessary to submit an application. For Fiske Fund information and application forms go on line to the NWA web site, click on About Us and scroll down to the Fiske Fund. There will also be forms available at the general meetings. I will have brochures from a number of schools to help you find a class that is of interest to you. For additional information about classes do an online search for Woodworking Schools or come to the October NWA meeting and talk to a group of people that have received Fiske Fund grants in the past.

The October NWA meeting is the Fiske Fund presentation given by the awardees who have received grants during this past year. I personally look forward to the meeting and the presentation about the classes that were attended. The meeting always makes me aware of a new aspect of woodworking and woodworking methods. As mentioned earlier, this program is a great place to get the information you need about schools and classes. Along with the presenters there are dozens of people that have taken classes in the past and I am sure that some will be at the meeting and be glad to answer your questions.

There is information available on the NWA web site about the Fiske Fund and Dr. Milan Fiske for whom the fund is named, but not much about the committee members that do the nuts and bolts work of running the fund.

Many thanks to all who make the Fiske Fund possible. I know you will have an enjoyable evening.

Beginning Woodworking, at an Early Age

**NWA Members Teach
a Kid's Class**

by Herm Finkbeiner

In June Charlie Goddard got a phone call from Rachel McDermott who had found an old flyer from the days when NWA regularly taught a kid's class at the Sears workshop. Rachel wanted to know if NWA was still teaching youngsters.

After some back and forth it was agreed that NWA would do a three session program at the Stillwater shop on July 14, 21 and 28 from 10:00 am to noon.



Lochlan starts to build a pen

Bright and early on the morning of the 14th, Rachel, Heidi Ricks and Beth Bidwell brought their sons, Zach, Lochlan and Nathan to the Stillwater shop. After meeting the three NWA volunteers, Charlie, Dick Flanders and me, the fun began. The first project was to build a step stool (none of the woodworkers is tall enough to reach the bench top). The stool was based on a similar one that Charlie had used in the



Continued on Page 2

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UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

Woodworking at an early age

Continued from Page 1

days when he taught woodworking to 4-H youngsters. After less than an hour, each of the students had completed a stool that required nailing together the parts that Charlie had prepared before hand, and they were ready to start on project #2, a tote-box. The tote was a little more complex: it required drilling holes for the wood screws, partially assembling three sides, inserting the trapped bottom, cutting the handle to the proper length, inserting the handle and fastening the fourth side to complete the tote. All of this was finished by a few minutes after noon.

On July 21 each of the three students was back once more ready to go to work, this time to learn about and use the scroll saw. Warren Stoker and Charlie started the class with some of the animal patterns used for the kids at HH that Warren had provided. After getting used to the scroll saw by cutting out the animals, they cut out three small VW-shaped cars, bored holes for the axles and put them together. (Actually the holes were bored first.) Each one went home with numerous animals, three cars that would roll, and big smiles.

For the last part of the program the students tackled the lathe. Ken Evans, Louie Andrews and Dave Jarose instructed. First, Ken demonstrated the fundamentals of turning for the boys; that is, to have the gouge firmly down on the tool rest, then how to approach the work piece from the correct angle, and most importantly, to go slowly. Each of the students went to his own lathe and with the help of the three teachers, mounted pen blanks on a mandrel and turned the barrel of a pen. By noon each of the youngsters had completed the project and had written some words with a pen they had made themselves.

As one of the mothers wrote:

"From the perspective of a parent, I can tell you that the classes went VERY well! Lochlan LOVED it! He is so proud of the things he learned and created with your wonderful group of volunteers. We would be most interested in continuing if/when it gets organized. I will send some photos I took too. Feel free to use them however you see fit. Thank you so much for passing your knowledge on to the next group of woodworkers."



Lochlan, Zach and Nathan getting the details from Ken Evans



Lochlan getting the fine points of filling nail holes from Charlie Goddard



Graduation day! Nathan, Lochlan and Zach with their step stools. Background contributors, Dave Jarose, Ken Evans, Louie Andrews, Charlie Goddard and Herm Finkbeiner



Summer Fairs

By Louie and Betty Andrews



We simply want to thank all of you for your continued support of AWA turning at the Washington and Schaghticoke fairs. Our turners gave away more than 350 turned "Harry Potter" Wands in addition to tops, pens, and honey dippers at each event.

Your continued service has made the turning exhibits a destination point for many children and increased interests in turning by all. We have added some general photos for all to see and look forward to seeing you again next year.

The success is yours!



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. It is assembled in QuarkXPress 5.0 on an iMac G5, duplicated by Shipmates, and mailed to more than 1,000 addresses.



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WEBSITE(S)
www.woodworker.org
www.nwawoodworkingshow.org



NWA maintains two websites,
the first noted here
operates continuously.
We also offer selected
links to other sites of interest
to our membership.
Webmaster - Kurt Hertzog
kurt@kurthertzog.com

The second site operates from
January 1 to May 30
and carries specific
information about SHOWCASE.



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

2011 Showcase Workbench Display – What's your story?

By Judith Albertson



Photo of door on sawhorses

We all admire and maybe drool over the fancy benches in the woodworking magazines and catalogs. Few of us have either the time to construct or resources to purchase such benches. Our workbenches happen out of need. It may be a flat uncluttered work surface like the photo above, or a place for all our stuff - photo right.

As we discover our interests we create something to fit those needs. Pete's story (the bench to the right) may remind you of your beginnings in woodworking.

Pete built his first workbench in 1975-76 after he moved to an apartment. The bench was made of found materials, it was small, and on wheels – so it would roll in and out of a closet. Using this bench, Pete made the tool boxes shown in the picture. They were practice pieces for family gifts. The bench is now used for tool storage and the hobby vise is for whatever metal work that comes along. Pete has moved on to a bigger bench, also made of found material. He claims to do just general woodworking and handyman things. Don't we all?

What's your story?

To submit a workbench, send the following information in by email:

- Your name, address, phone,
- One or two photographs of the bench – digital would be best.
- Approximate workbench dimensions, type(s) of wood, finish, etc.
- A brief history and description of your bench

Send information to: judith.albertson@gmail.com



Photo of Pete's bench on casters

Delay is the deadliest form of denial.

C. Northcote Parkinson

Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.

Rachel Carson

CHAPTER NEWS

NWA Mid-Hudson Chapter News

By Wally Cook

The annual chapter picnic was held at Bob and Viola Opdahl's Wynkoop Farm on September 11. It was an opportunity for many of the member families and spouses to share beautiful surroundings and perfect weather.

Joe Benkert made twenty-five pounds of sausage for the event, which was served by chef's Fred DuBois, Ralph Zimmerman, and Ron Roberts. Many thanks to Fred DuBois, who prepared peppers and onions and

precooked the sausage! Ron Wolfeld, Rich Shoulkin, George Norton, and Joe Kelly helped with set-up. Accompanied by hamburgers, hotdogs, and side dishes provided by the members, the picnic was a feast.

It was also an opportunity to remember Stan Rosenberg. A plaque was constructed in memory of Stan – it will be installed in the Opdahl Building. President Pete Chast and Past President Joe Kennedy made the presentation of the plaque with Lorri Rosenberg in attendance.



George Norton cuts rolls; chef Fred DuBois in background



Past President Joe Kennedy presents plaque commemorating Stan Rosenberg



Stan's plaque to be placed in Opdahl Building



It was a great opportunity for good food and conversation



NWA Mid-Hudson members gather near the raffle table

CHAPTER NEWS

Sacandaga Chapter

By Gary Spencer

Our beginning program for the new season on September 8th was a very successful one thanks to Mike Kratky. His program was a unique presentation on "How to Make a Carver's or Woodworkers Mallet" for one's shop on a lathe. We had good attendance and much interest in making such mallets. The presentation was well worth everyone's attention with many expressing a desire to try to make their own at home. Kudos to Mike for a well done presentation!

Our next program on October 13 will be a slightly different format. We will meet as usual at Mayfield High School at 7:00 P.M. and after a brief business meeting we will double up in our cars (due to a shortage of parking space) and travel to Dale Brown's house on Sacandaga Lake for a presentation and showing on "Making Antique Reproductions and Cabinets". This should be an exceptional chance to see the efforts of an outstanding furniture and cabinet maker. After the presentation by Dale, those who left their cars at the High School will be taken back to them.

Our regular monthly meetings are the second Wednesday of each month and begin at 7:00 P.M. at Mayfield High School woodshop. Our next regular meeting will be Oct. 13th, 2010. Come on out!

Remember we have door prizes and light refreshments are served.

For directions or information contact:

Clyde Cheney – 661-5138

Ray Laubenstein – 863-6071

Gary Spencer – 863-6433

NWA Activities

By Herm Finkbeiner

In the 20 years of its existence NWA has had a wide variety of activities for the members, for the community and for other organizations. I am trying to compile a list of all the activities and functions that have been a part of NWA's history and need your help.

Please send me a list of any function, activity or program in which you participated, just remember or only heard about. Approximate date would be nice but not necessary. Your list can be sent by e-mail to hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com, or mail it to Northeastern Woodworkers Assoc. PO Box 246 Rexford, NY 12148.

Thanks for your help. 🐶

Membership Renewal Time!!

By Susan Howe

NWA memberships expire August 31st of each year. Please check your address label on this NWA Woodworkers News. The upper right corner shows the month and year your membership expires. If your label says "Aug 11" you're already paid up...thank you. If it says "Aug 10" you need to renew.

Renewal notices were mailed in August. If you haven't already renewed, please take a few minutes to review and/or correct the information at the bottom of the letter, detach it, include your fee (\$25 single or \$30 family with check made out to NWA) and mail it in the envelope that was provided to NWA, P.O. Box 246, Rexford, NY 12148

Any questions or concerns you can reach me at showe@nycap.rr.com or (518) 885-9331

C L A S S I F I E D S

For Sale

Dunlap Jigsaw, with tilt base, 110 Volt motor, 6.5" blade, 12.25" armature throw. Runs great! Ready to move to your woodworking shop. (Needs new blades).

\$125.00 Can be picked up in Argyle, NY. Call: Al: 518 638 6292

KWA News

By Wally Cook

Two Easy Pieces: Matt Clarke demonstrated creation of two simple holiday ornaments: a snowman and Christmas tree. Both are turned between centers and partially painted or stained. Weight is an issue for ornaments – the AAW recommends that ornaments weigh in less than two ounces. Both projects can meet this requirement.

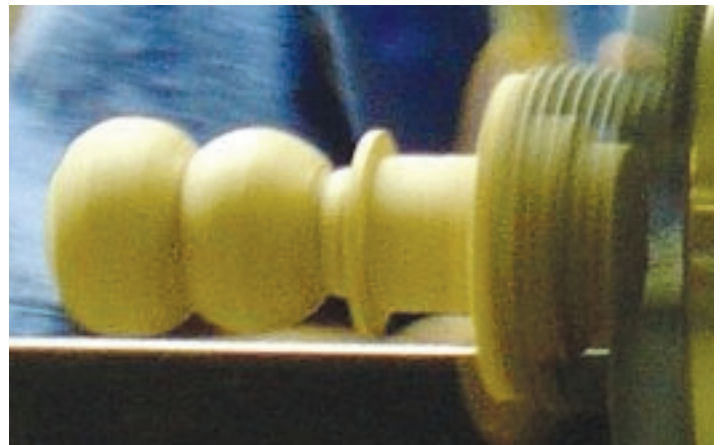
Snowman: This project is an opportunity to practice beads. Round a blank approximately three inches in diameter by six inches long. Cut a tenon for chucking on one end (in fact, Matt creates a stepped tenon, in order to have a second spigot when finishing the hat). The blank is chucked on the hat side of the project and work proceeds from base to hat. Divide the blank into base, belly, head, and hat. The proportions can vary, but the base is the largest bead, diminishing to the head. Head and hat will be roughly the same diameter. Drill a hole through the base with Forstner bit to the junction of base and belly. The hole size is dependent on the size of the base and is meant to reduce the weight of the ornament. Use a smaller drill to drill further into the piece to eliminate more material. Remember: OD must exceed ID where the beads meet.

Turn a bead for the base and a smaller bead for the belly of the snowman. The head will be half a bead, terminating in the brim of the top hat. The barrel of the top hat should match the diameter of the head. Paint the body of the snowman while on the lathe using white acrylic paint. Part the snowman off the tenon and paint the hat black. Add eyes, nose, and button with acrylic “Scribbles” paint.

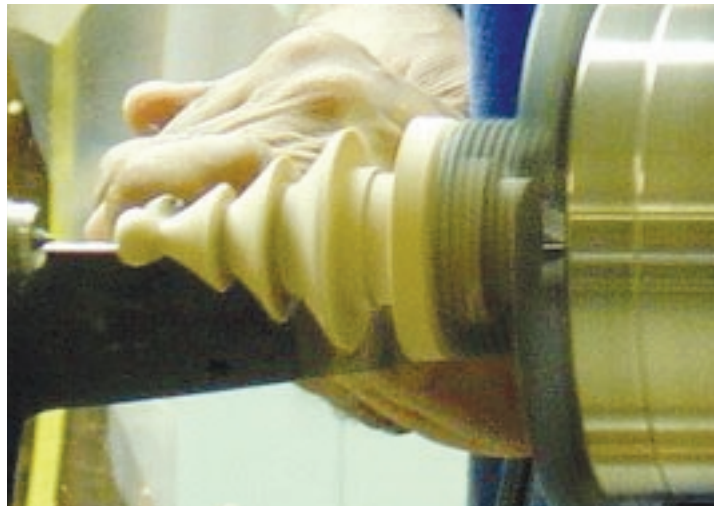
Christmas Tree: An opportunity to practice coves. Round a blank approximately three inches in diameter by six inches long. Cut a stepped tenon for chucking the base end of the tree. Shape the blank into a cone with a 3/4” bead on the end (the bead will later be refined). Mark three segments between bead and base – these segments will become the boughs of the tree. Score the segments with a parting tool. Use spindle gouge to produce three coves between the marked segments; flatten the underside of bough with a parting tool. Refine the ball at the tip of the tree. Create a tree trunk at the base of the tree. A bedan will assist reduction of the tree trunk to a dowel shape. Leave a wider base at the foot of the trunk, so the tree can stand on it’s own. Paint the tree while it is on the lathe: gold for the ball top, colors of choice for the branches and trunk. Use “Scribbles” to represent “ornaments” on the tree. 🌲



Matt shows definition of snowman segments



The snowman is ready to be painted and parted off the lathe



The Christmas tree ornament sections are displayed as Matt defines coves

NWA Woodworking Classes

Using a Hand Held Router

Date: Thursday, Oct. 7, 2010

Time: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Stillwater Shop

Presented by Windhover Studios

Instructor: Dave Mobley

Cost: \$30

According to the author Bill Hylton it truly is router magic.

The router is the most versatile tool in the shop doing everything from squaring an edge, setting locks & hinges, making curves, copying a template to mass producing dovetailed drawers. Dave will start with router basics and then move on to ways of getting much more out of your router. Safe use of the router will be emphasized throughout. In this class the focus will be on hand held routers - both fixed base and plunge machines.



Topics that will be covered include: router features and uses, bit selection, cut depths, feed rates and the use of jigs and templates. Dave will demonstrate eight jigs and accessories that make your router more productive. Especially and throughout the program it is recognized that power tools must be treated with respect and safe use of the router will be emphasized.

This course is designed for beginning to intermediate woodworkers and is a strongly recommended pre-requisite to the plunge router class, router accessories and router table classes which are coming up later in the year.

Send an e-mail to hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com or call 518-371-9145

Woodturning Fundamentals

Date: This class will have 8 sessions: Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, Feb. 1, Mar. 1, Apr. 5 and May 3

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Stillwater Shop

Instructor: Ken Evans

Cost: \$40

Wood turning is one of the best ways to learn many aspects of woodworking and at the same time enhance your appreciation of the marvel that is wood. The class is largely for beginning woodturners but even experi-

enced turners will benefit from the skills of master teacher and turner Ken Evans. He has taught this class in his shop in Valley Falls twice a year for many years. But last year moved to the NWA shop at Stillwater where hands-on work is be part of the class. He will cover safety, lathe selection, tools and tool selection, use of tools, sharpening, mounting work on the lathe, sanding, finishing and lead you through actually turning a candlestick. NWA will supply all the tools necessary.

To register send an e-mail to:

hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com or call 518-371-9145

The Tablesaw

Date: Tuesday, Oct. 5

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: The Stillwater Shop

Instructor: Allen Craft

Cost: \$30



The Next Installment in NWA's Power Tool Fundamentals Series

In the vast the majority of woodworking shops, there is one tool which plays the most important role and has the highest frequency of use. The machine that becomes this centerpiece in most woodworker's shops is likely to be a tablesaw of one type or another. As woodworkers, we sometimes take this machine for granted both in its great versatility and in its ability to do physical harm to its user.

This class will investigate both the range of possible uses to which a tablesaw can be applied, the jigs that help to make it so useful and the safety issues involved in using this machine. This is a demonstration class and is intended for beginners to intermediate users of the tablesaw.

To reserve your seat, drop an e-mail to

hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com or call 518-371-9145. 🐾

Extreme Pen Class with Kurt Hertzog

by Ken Evans

Having spent the week “Tuesday through Friday” at the Kurt Hertzog “Extreme Pen” Class I want to provide some feedback to the membership.

First off, the class was originally designed to be taught in five days. A number of members have asked me, “what on earth can you possibly learn about pens that would take five days?” Let me tell you what.

How to make kit pens, how to make numerous holding jigs, how to make pens without bushings, how to select and use the proper tools, how to sharpen tools using Ralph’s angle (to find out Ralph’s angle you have to take the class), how to maintain your lathe, how to make pens without a kit, how to make desk sets, how to paint and finish pens, how to pay attention to what Kurt calls the “fit and finish” of a pen (I need to take a breath here) were all covered in the class. These topics were only the beginning to what was to come later.

Students learned how to cast acrylic resin pens containing everything from colored rice to coffee grounds, how to turn acrylic resin pens, how to sand acrylic, how to make pens with no center band, how to make all the metal parts of a pen from alternate materials such as Corian, how to make a snakeskin pen, how to make a laser cut pen, and all presented in Kurt’s “I really know you can do this and I want you to be successful” style of teaching. Kurt wants you to be successful and have fun making pens.



Students received a load of materials including blanks of wood, cast acrylic, a laser cut kit, two different pens, a sandpaper kit, and much more so they could go home and continue to learn. What a deal!

I told Kurt the course was improperly named. It should have been called “Five years in Five Days”. For our members, it was “five years of pen turning experience learned in four days”! I have never seen so much pen making information delivered in such a short time. Wow! This old pen turner learned a whole new bunch of making pens tricks.

Please don’t call me on Monday, I am off to trying them out in my shop. (Kurt squeezed it all into four days for NWA due to the Labor Day weekend). If you see this class offered by NWA again, and I suspect you may, it would be wise to enroll. Five years of pen turning experience acquired in five days is a deal not to be missed.

Thursday evening, Kurt was the program for the September meeting of NWA. He presented techniques for flatboarders and turners alike to enhance their creations with inlay, painting, pyrography, and piercing. It was a great program. I suspect we will see the results of Kurt’s class and presentation at next year’s Showcase.

Wilhelmina and I hosted Kurt at our home for the week while he presented the Extreme Pen Class at the Stillwater Shop. Kurt and I have been woodturning friends for a long time and Kurt is an NWA member and has been a friend to NWA also for a long time and serves as the webmaster for the NWA and Showcase websites.

From a member who was a student:

Dear Herm et al.

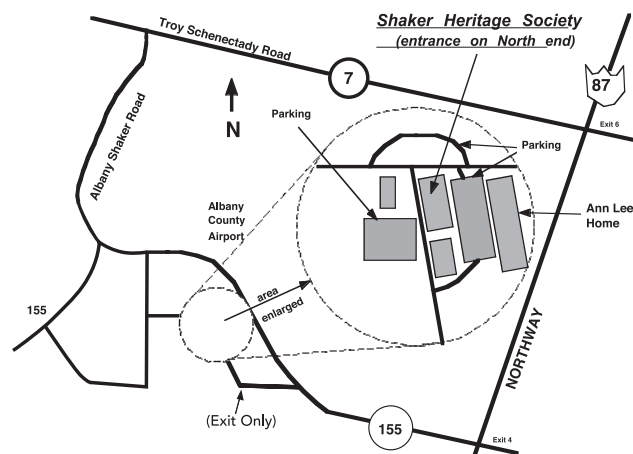
Thank you and NWA for presenting the Extreme Pens with Kurt Hertzog. I have learned so much. Kurt stated in class that he has additional techniques. I would appreciate it if you offer More Extreme Pens.

*Again thank you
Mariruth Brown*





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



October Meeting

Thursday, October 14, 2010, 7:00 pm
Shaker Heritage Society Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany

GENERAL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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

NWA 2010-2011 General Meetings

November 4, 2010
Fiske Lecture
Phillip Lowe / Herm Finkbeiner

December ??, 2010
Holiday Party / Family Night
Dan Tipton

January 13, 2011
Planes & Precision With Hand Tools
Garrett Hack / Peter Howe

February 10, 2011
Program / Presenter Needed
Host Needed

March 2011
Frank Lloyd Wright Structure Design
Kyle York / John Olinic

April 2011
Woodies – Wooden Cars
Presenter's Name Needed
Steve Schoenberg

May 2011
Mid-Hudson Turners
Peter Ghast / Tony Barrara

July 2011
Picnic
Dan Tipton / new VP

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Adirondack Woodturners Association - The AWA is active throughout the year. Meetings are every first Wednesday of the month (except in January and July when it is the second Wednesday), and are held at the Curtis Lumber conference room on Route 67, Ballston Spa. Beginners' sessions begin at 6 pm; the main program at 6:30 pm. Wednesday "Learn and Turn" sessions in Stillwater are also scheduled from 6 pm - 9 pm except on AWA member meeting nights. www.adirondackwoodturners.org Contact Ken Evans, 753-7759 or Kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Carver's Guild - meets every Friday at the Clifton Park Senior Center from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Sessions are intended for every NWA member who is interested in carving, from beginners to those wanting to learn a new technique. No reservations are necessary, just show up! Contact Bill McCormack, 233-7260.

Scroller's Guild - Meets on the third Wednesday of the month at The School at Northeast, 1821 Hamburg St., Schenectady. A beginner's session starts at 6:30 PM followed by a general meeting at 7:00 PM. Contact: Donna Phillips, (518) 372-3337 or dlphill@nycap.rr.com.

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

Jim's "Hole in the Woods Gang"

Meets every Saturday and Tuesday, from 9:00 am until noon at Jim Kennedy's shop at 86 Guideboard Rd. in Halfmoon (just 1 mile east of the Halfmoon Diner on Rt. 9). Our general purpose is public service work for various charitable organizations, including the Double H Hole in the Woods camp for children and recently the GE Elfuns toy mods group. We strive to foster a learning environment for our members through the projects we work on and the informal training/learning sessions given by and for our members. Sharing fellowship and relating experiences are a major part of our sessions. Contact Pete Howe (518) 885-9331 (phowe1@nycap.rr.com), Ed Buell (518) 384-0413 (KC2NMY-eab@nycap.rr.com) or Dick Flanders (518) 393-5215 (rflander@nycap.rr.com) for more information.

CHAPTERS

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

NWA Sacandaga - The chapter meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at Mayfield High School in the woodworking shop. Park by the section of the building that protrudes further into the parking lot and enter the nearest of the (5) doors. Contact Gary Spencer, 863-6433.