

# WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern  
Woodworkers  
Association

September 2008, Vol. 17, Number 9

## September Meeting

*Thursday, September 11, 2008, 7:00 pm  
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse  
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany*

### *What Is Shaker Furniture?*

*By Jerry Grant*

Jerry Grant is the Director of Research and Library Services at the Shaker Museum and Library in Old Chatham, New York. His professional training is as a librarian with a specialty in rare books and archives. Jerry has been on the staff of the Shaker Museum and Library since 1987 and has worked in jobs related to the history and practices of the Shakers for nearly thirty years. He is the co-author with Douglas Allen of *Shaker Furniture Makers and Noble but Plain: The Shaker Meetinghouse at Mount Lebanon*. While choosing a career in research and rare books, Jerry has worked both as a curator and as a craftsman – making replicas of Shaker oval boxes.

For years there have been debates about what is or is not Shaker Furniture. Jerry will present an illustrated lecture on changing opinions of what is included in the phrase, “Shaker Furniture.” Early writers on the Shakers



*Shaker Style Table courtesy of editor*

focused on a very limited number of pieces of furniture that met their stylistic criteria for being included in the category of Shaker furniture. Over the years the definition of what is Shaker has broadened, but Jerry believes it has begun to once again contract. He will show examples of this change and give his opinion on what it is that makes something not only a piece of Shaker furniture but an exciting piece of Shaker furniture.

Members of the Shaker Heritage Society have been invited to join us at this meeting. 🐾

## Annual Lumber and Tool Auction

*Saturday, September 20, 2008 • Shaker Barn*

*By Charlie Goddard*

This year's auction is scheduled for Saturday, September 20, in the Shaker Barn on Albany-Shaker Road, near where we hold our monthly meetings. The doors will open at 10 AM for inspection of the items for sale and the auction will begin a noon.

For lumber there will be pine, black locust, black cherry, maple, sycamore, ash, aspen, large chunks of ambrosia silver maple, 3 large chunks of camphor tree, eastern red cedar, some exotics from Joshua's Trees, large sheets of oak veneer, various small turning blocks and the remainder of the American chestnut from last year.

There will be a large selection of tools, including a Stanley #45 molding plane, heavy duty Parks 14", 3 HP planer, clean looking Shopsmith (with table saw, scroll saw, and drill press), old classical work bench with 3 drawers (will need some repair), shop vacs, compressor, 8" radial arm saw, 4 wooden step ladders, chop saw, 3 HP Ryobi router, dust collectors, table saws, sanders, power drills, various hand tools and bundles of sandpaper. By auction day I'm sure this list will have grown.

Auctions do not run themselves. It takes quite a bit of work to move the lumber and tools from storage, lay out the items for sale, measure the board-feet of lumber in each pile, mark all the items, display the items during the auction and keep the records of who bought what and for how much. If you can help please let me know (370-0388, cgodd@aol.com). We will start laying out the items at 9 AM on the Wednesday before the auction.

The auction is the primary funding source for grants issued from the Fiske Fund. Last year we made about \$9,000, most of which has already been distributed in grants to attend woodworking courses. 🐾

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UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE  
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

# The Fiske Scholarship Fund

*By Joe Kennedy*

We made grants to eight people at the end of the second quarter. This was a record. It is good to see so many members take advantage of the Fiske Scholarship Fund.

**David Bird** took three introductory turning classes at the Brookfield Craft Center. **Bob Boisvert**, **Jack Collumb** and **Bill Reynolds** took a basic intarsia class near Gatlinburg, TN. They drove down and back together to save on fuel, a great idea these days. **Tom Osborne** attended a Sculptural Furniture class at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport Maine. As previously mentioned, **Austin Spang** also attended this class.

**Camilo Marquez** took a basic woodworking class at the Banner Hill School in Wyndham, NY. This is a new school, at least to me. Since it is so close to all of us, it might be worth checking it out at *Bannerhillllc.com*. (Note that this address has four l's.)

**John Hodgson** and **Joe Benkert** are enrolled in Finishing classes with Teri Masaschi at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship. John will take a one week class and Joe will take a two week class.

If you plan to take a class, please send me your application. An application received by September 30 will be processed in October.

I am stepping down as Chairperson of the Fiske Scholarship Fund. With the cost of fuel increasing, I don't want to drive to the Albany area as often as I have done in the past few years. I will continue to serve for the time being until a replacement is named.

*Editor:* Joe, You will certainly be missed as you are an excellent leader and supporter of the program! 🐶

## Letter to the editor:

I have been a fan of new approach that NWA is using in getting a supply of wood for the annual wood auction, the acquisition of a trailer ever since the idea was proposed. It allows us to collect logs to a single site and keep what would be beautiful lumber from becoming firewood or, heaven forbid, shavings under a lathe. However, until I read the article by Ken Evans in the August newsletter I did not realize that the loading and unloading system is truly unique and does indeed merit a whistle.

The new NWA LOG TRAILER was there with logs brought in from some distant site for sawing. Pretty nice rig, if you ask me. Slick as a whistle it loads and unloads BIG logs by a wench and pulley system only an engineer could devise and operate.

This trailer will bring many logs to the Shaker site for sawing and eventual sale at the yearly Fiske Auction in September. If you have or know of any logs available to NWA, please call Charlie Goddard at 518-370-0388

I am sure that this new system will attract many admirers and can only hope that there won't be a problem with more watchers than workers.

Herm Finkbeiner

Time is what we want most, but what we use worst.

Wm. Penn

# Mid-Hudson Woodworkers Second Annual Showcase

*By Wally Cook*

## Call for Entries:

The Mid-Hudson Chapter Show is just around the corner on Saturday, September 27. Your projects and involvement are needed! All NWA Members are invited to display their work. Arrangements can be made for your articles to be picked up at the Wood Auction on September 20th. Alternately, you can bring your entries on Friday evening between 6PM and 8PM or by 9AM on the day of the show.

We would like the displayed articles to have a professional looking entry card. Duane Henry is prepared to print out a card for each piece, if you email him the following information:

- Your Name
- Short Description or Title of your entry  
(e.g., "turned salad bowl", "end table", "intarsia", etc.)
- Type of Wood(s)
- Type of Finish

## Please Note:

All information must be emailed to **Duane at [duhenry@optonline.net](mailto:duhenry@optonline.net)** as soon as possible. If the information is received by September 15th, the cards can be printed. Otherwise, you must hand-write the information on provided cards when you bring the display items.

## The Show:

Plans are finalizing for the show day. Indoor activities will include demonstrations with both lathe and scroll saw. A work bench for hand tool demonstration is planned. The children's' workshop will feature construction of tool/toy totes and toy cars. Outside activity will include a Wood-Mizer Sawmill demonstration in the parking lot.

Volunteers are still needed for floor guides, setup and tear down. Please call George Norton at (845-687-6099) if you wish to help at the show. For all volunteers and exhibitors entry to the show is free. There is a \$3.00 charge for all others, including volunteers' and exhibitors' guests.

We will have a sale of donated items and a raffle of some beautiful tables and other donations. Please consider supporting this effort with additional donations.



*Al Shinker with pair of tables donated for raffle*

**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.



Your next issue of  
**Woodworkers News**

will be published  
in early October

Copy deadline: September 15

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## WEBSITE(S)

[www.woodworker.org](http://www.woodworker.org)

[www.nwawoodworkingshow.org](http://www.nwawoodworkingshow.org)

## Blog Site:

<http://woodworkerorg.blogspot.com/>

Website Editor

Position to be Filled

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  
[rohrej@woodworker.org](mailto:rohrej@woodworker.org)

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



**NORTHEASTERN  
WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION**

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# Mid-Hudson Wednesday group visits Taunton Press

*By Chuck Walker*

A group from the Mid-Hudson Wednesday morning woodworkers visited the offices of Taunton Press in Newtown, CT on July 23. The trip was arranged by Richard Shoulkin who contacted the publisher of "Fine Woodworking" magazine to give us a look at where and how the magazine is assembled. Anatole Burkin, publisher of FWW welcomed the group. In the conference area we were shown walls of article pages arranged so the staff can view the upcoming issue as a whole and make suggestions about the order of presentation before going to press. Anatole explained how articles go through the selection and editing process. For authors in the woodworking world, editors and illustrators are assigned to assist with final preparation. It was evident that there is a great deal more to preparation of articles for publication than one might think.

The editorial policy of "Fine Woodworking" magazine is to appeal to furniture builders. FWW attempts to serve this audience by limiting actual project articles except as used to introduce techniques. Their mainstay articles are generally about tools and techniques. How to submit tips to the magazine was explained in detail. After discussion Anatole gave us a tour of the shop area showing us a few projects that had been featured in earlier issues. The shops are divided into three rooms. One is primarily for testing, assembling and photography. The second has power tools of various types and manufactures. The tools are representative of what woodworkers might have in their own shops. The last smaller room is for hand tools work and finishing and is separated by a glass wall from the power tools. We all developed an appreciation for the skill and effort it takes to produce a quality publication. 🐼



*Duane Henry, Joe Benkert, Tommy Gallagher, George Norton (partially hidden), Chuck Walker, Dap Cole, Al Shinker, Bobby Doran, Bill Sterling, Anatole Burkin, Richard Shoulkin, Fred DuBois, Pete Chast.*



*Anatole Burkin describes the main workshop.*



*New articles pinned up for viewing and arrangement in the upcoming issue.*

# Wood of the Month <sup>©2008</sup>

- By Ron DeWitt

## Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) Hartw. An Evergreen Conifer Cupressus - The Cypress Family

The common name Monterey comes from its native habitat along Monterey Bay on the Pacific coast of central California in the United States. Seed of this tree was collected there in 1836 by A. B. Lambert, taken to Europe and widely distributed. Trees were collected and named by Theodor Hartweg in 1846. This tree was planted in New Zealand as early as 1848.

There are, arguably, eight true cypresses found in North America, seven in the U.S. and one in Mexico. Others, located in southern Europe, North Africa and China, number about seven more for a worldwide total of perhaps 15. Adding to the usual difficulty when placing species in a genus, there is also a disputed number of what may or may not be varieties. Some taxonomists contend that there are as many as 26 species in this genus. In an attempt to achieve some clarity and based upon new genetic data, it has been suggested that *Cupressus* be divided into two genera, one for "Old World" and one for "New World" cypresses.

The Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*), also known simply as *macrocarpa*, is probably most notable for its remarkably constrained native area--two rocky headland areas along the central Pacific coast. The largest, located near Pescadero about 30 miles (48 km) north of Monterey Bay, is only about 2 miles (3.2 km) long and 220 yards (0.4 km) wide. The second, about 75 miles (121 km) south of Pescadero at Point Lobos, is much smaller. Combined, these two groves occupy approximately 300 acres (81 hectares), the smallest native range of any tree in the world! Fossil records, however, indicate this tree existed 140 million years ago in an area covering much of what is now western North America.

This tree must be described in several ways, depending upon habitat. In its native range the Monterey cypress is a very picturesque, small- to medium-size, slow-growing tree reaching heights of 15 to 60 ft. (4.5 - 18 m) with stem diameters of 2 ft. (0.6 m) dbh. Young or sheltered trees may be columnar with

symmetrical crowns, often becoming flat-topped with spreading tops as they age. On their seaside precipices, branching is sparse and wind-contoured giving trees an almost defiant appearance. They have a very high salt-air tolerance. Old trees may reach 300 years. Common associates include Monterey pine, another restrained endemic.

Elsewhere this tree is considered medium to large. It is planted extensively outside of its native range, often naturalizing easily, growing bigger, better and faster than in its native environment. Its potential range in the U.S. extends along a coastal band from Massachusetts to Oregon. It is grown in western and southern Europe for its timber, as an ornamental, and for shelter belts. Australia, New Zealand, South America, and South Africa plant it for timber. It is content in a wide variety of full-sun conditions, from moderately dry to wet but well-drained clay, sand or loam, slightly alkaline to very acidic, mountainous to flat, at various altitudes. The form in these areas tends towards tall, slender and conical, and growth rates might be two to three times that of trees in the native area.

*The National Register of Big Trees* reports the largest Monterey cypress in the U.S. at 102 ft. (31 m) tall and almost 15 ft. (4.5 m) dbh, growing in Pescadero County, California. Substantially larger trees can be found in almost every other country where it has been introduced. Great Britain has a tree 118 ft. (36 m) by 10.5 ft. (3.2 m) dbh. One in New Zealand is 157 ft. (48 m) tall, another is 16.5 ft (5 m) dbh.

Leaves of Monterey cypress are opposite, scale-like, dark green, bluntly pointed, placed alternately in four rows along the rounded branchlets which have a ropy or cord-like appearance. Leaves become red-brown after their first winter and may persist for three or four years before dropping. Foliage develops in dense three-dimensional sprays. Crushed fresh leaves have a pleasant resinous-lemon scent.

Small inconspicuous yellow flowers appear in February or March. Fruit, a rounded cone 1 to 1.4 in. (2.5 to 3.5 cm) long, is the largest of any of the cypresses. It is composed of 6 to 8 pairs of very hard, tight scales. Cones ripen from green to brown in their second year. The cones are described as moderately serotinous, remaining closed and hanging long after the seeds inside are mature. They usually require the heat of a fire to melt the binding resin, releasing the seeds. The enclosed seeds may be viable for 20 years. Although the tree is considered "rare and threatened" in its native habitat, current attitudes toward fire suppression may be a factor.

Bark is pale brown and lightly ridged on young trees becoming pink-brown to gray, rough and coarsely fibrous with age.



*Continued on Page 7*

# August Adirondack Woodturners Association

By Ken Evans

The Board met at 5:30PM. Peter Case informed the Board that Totally Turning was progressing very nicely. Cooperation between the AWA and the KWA will produce a very nice Totally Turning Symposium. Matt Clark of KWA has lined up Jimmy Clewes, Michael Mocho, and Rolly Munro as professional presenters for TT2009. Molly Winton will join the turning group as a Showcase presenter to produce a very impressive array of turners for the event.

As everyone knows by now, Totally Turning and Showcase 2009 will both take place March 28 and 29 in Saratoga Springs at the City Center/ Saratoga Hilton complex.

There were about 40 members present for the August meeting of the Adirondack Woodturners. This is about average for the summer months especially August.

The raffle had all the usual items and sales were brisk for the goodies and the Club store sold out of Anchor Seal within the first few minutes.

The Instant gallery showed some very fine work including a jig by Ian Panek using a barbecue rotisserie to slowly turn a turning for finishing. Pretty slow rotations and pretty cool.

Dave Jarose provided the turning program for the meeting. His topic was inside out turning to produce very unique candlesticks. Without a lathe, and with only examples of his work, Dave provided an extremely well done program which kept everyone informed, amused, and at times laughing out loud. The program was very well done, lighthearted, and exactly the kind of program we need. Thanks, Dave.

Wednesdays at Stillwater has been suspended until September or October as the lathes are needed for the upcoming County Fairs. AWA will be demonstrating at the Washington County Fair and the Schaghticoke Fair. Come see fellow club members at these fairs.

Membership was advised that elections of positions to the AWA Board are up-coming at the December meeting. A nominating committee will make nominations to the group. Nominations from the floor can be made at the September or October meeting. Voting ballots will be mailed to MEMBERS in November. These ballots can be marked and mailed back postmarked by the December meeting or brought to the December meeting. Ballots will be counted and the winners announced before the conclusion of the December meeting.

Only AWA members may vote. To be an AWA member, you MUST BE AN NWA member AND have filled out an AWA membership application during the time frame

December 2007 and November 2008. NWA membership period ends in August, so check to be sure your NWA membership is paid as we will use the NWA membership list to determine members.

If you have done these two things, then a ballot will be mailed to you in November.

See everyone in September. 🐉

# NWA Woodworking Classes at the Stillwater Shop

For more information about any of these classes log on to: <http://wood-worker.org.blogspot.com/>

## The Tablesaw

Ken Evans

Tuesday, September 16

6:30 PM

Cost: \$20

## Lamination, the Basics and Beyond

Garrett Hack

Sat. & Sun. October 18 & 19

9 AM to 4:30 PM

**Registration for this session opens on Sept.2, 2008**

Cost: \$150

## Hand Plane Tune-up Clinic

Tom Osborne & Bill VanBrunt

Sat. & Sun. October 18 & 19

1 PM to 4 PM

**This session will be held at the Kennedy Shop in Halfmoon**

Cost: \$25

## Toymaking

Warren Stoker

Wednesdays, Oct. 8, 15 & 22

10 AM – 1 PM

Cost: \$60 plus materials

To register contact Gerry O'Brien at: [go12211@yahoo.com](mailto:go12211@yahoo.com) (518)459-9266



About the time we can make  
the ends meet, somebody  
moves the ends.

Herbert Hoover

# C L A S S I F I E D S

## For Sale

I have a slab of **sycamore with two natural edges**. Dimensions are 9' long, approximately 23" wide and 2" thick. I am asking \$200. My phone number is 518-765-3189, [crowridge@nycap.rr.com](mailto:crowridge@nycap.rr.com). If you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks. Kitty Scharl



## Wood of the Month

*Continued from Page 5*

The Monterey cypress is susceptible to the coryneum canker fungus, for which there is no known cure. Infestation begins in the crown and can progress down the tree to kill it. Control of the white canker involves cutting out and burning affected parts, but badly infected trees may require removal. The fungus seems to follow this species wherever it is planted.

Wood of this tree may be described as somewhat similar to bald cypress and equally variable in properties. Specific gravity is 0.49 to 0.60; weight is 31 to 37 pcf (497 to 593 kg/m<sup>3</sup>) at 12 % M.C. Freshly cut wood sometimes has

an unpleasant odor. Wood air- or kiln-dries easily with little tendency to warp or check. Sapwood is pale to creamy-white; heartwood is the color of pale straw. It is medium- to fine-textured, moderately hard, and moderately heavy with straight grain. The wood works easily with sharp-edged hand or power



tools and finishes nicely. It has excellent durability in contact with soil or when exposed to the weather.

No specific safety hazards were found related to working with Monterey cypress, but some species in the *Cupressus* family are known to cause skin, eye, nose and throat problems. Those precautions are advised.

Monterey cypress is one of the most widely-planted tree species in the world. Where planted, the timber of

this tree is used for general construction. Its durability has made it useful for fence posts, boat construction, siding, mine timbers, log cabins, and shingles. Some is used for trim work, cabinetry, furniture, novelties, boxes and coffins. Also it is used for shelter belts, noise and sight barriers, and frequently as an ornamental. Many cultivars have been developed for garden planting.

In some of those countries where it is heavily planted, especially in South America and Africa, the rapid production of wood from Monterey cypress has made it an important component of the local forest economy. In those countries it is used internally and for export to reduce pressure on native stands.

This is another example of a fine tree that does its best almost anywhere away from home.

## Wood Questions

Q. What is the only jewel of plant origin?



A. Amber. Varying from transparent to opaque and from golden yellow to dark brown, amber consists of fossilized terpenoid resins, mostly from long extinct pines.

## Wood Definition

*- Ron DeWitt*

**Coppicing** is a traditional European method of woodland management in which tree stems are cut down to near ground level. In subsequent growth years, many new shoots will emerge. After a number of years the cycle is repeated. This is an effective way to increase wood production, especially for firewood on small wood lots.

Coppicing is being experimented with to produce biomass--large amounts of plant or tree fiber for use as fuel for power generation.

## Membership Renewal Time!!

*By Susan Howe*

NWA memberships expire at the end of August 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 09" you're already paid up...thank you. If it says "Aug 08" you need to renew.

Renewal letters were mailed in August. If you haven't already renewed 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) and mail it in the envelope that was provided.

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

# CHAPTER NEWS

## *Sacandaga Chapter*

*By Gary Spencer*

The Sacandaga Chapter of the Northeastern Woodworkers Association last met on June 11th, our program involved a shop visit to Barney Bellinger's Sampson Bog studio. This was an excellent program and fitting for our final program before our summer break.

Our first program of our new season will be September 10th. Our program will highlight the activities and skills of Charlie Kested at the Scroll saw. Charlie has brought in pictures of some of his creations and they were outstanding thus an invitation to do this month's program. If you want to see some exciting scroll saw projects and also learn how to do scroll sawing yourself then this is the program for you!

During the summer break we had some of our members involved in a community restoration project, The Italian Gardens in Broadalban a structure involving columns and beams, both exposed and covered, in a park like setting, which has deteriorated but is salvageable. This project involved much dismantling, raising some fallen columns, getting rid of some rot and rescuing some old timbers and replacing some, also replanting some shrubs and other vegetation. This project has grown larger than expected but morale is high and everyone is having a good time doing a good thing for the community.

Our elected Chapter officers for next year are: Co-presidents will be Clyde Cheney and Ray Laubenstein, The Treasurer will be Arnold Jaffee, our Board Representative will be Mike Kratky and our Liaison person will be Gary Spencer. With the Chapter in these hands we look forward to an excellent and productive year.

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 Sept. 10, 2008. 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

## *Mid-Hudson Woodworkers News*

*By Wally Cook*

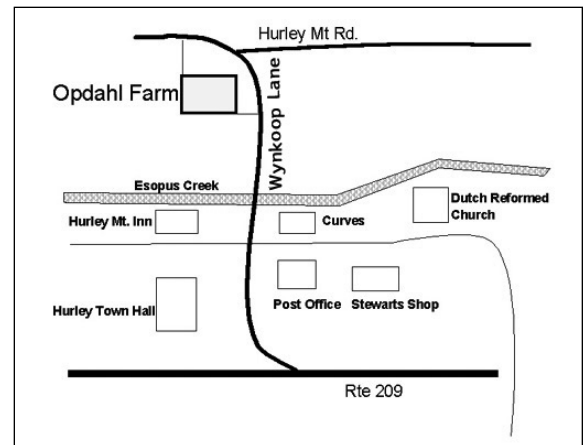
**Whose Cuisine will Reign Supreme?** Chef's Bob Doran and Bill Reynolds will be the designated delectifiers at the Mid-Hudson Picnic to be held on Saturday, September 6 from noon to 4PM. Bring your lawn chairs, pot luck dish to share, and an item for the raffle. We guarantee a delightful afternoon! The picnic will be held once again on the grounds of the historic Opdahl property in Hurley (and many thanks to Vi and Bob).

For those who have not been there previously, please see the map.

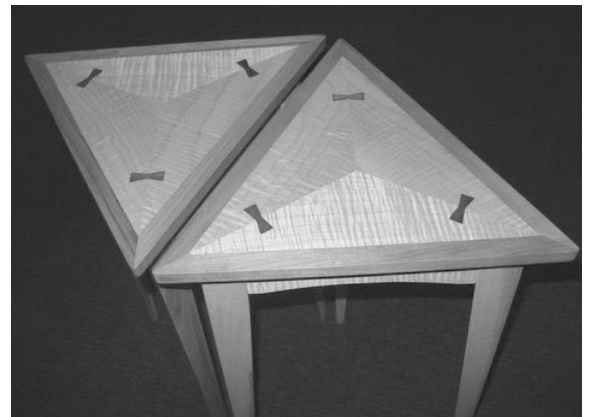
**Another Season, Another Show:** The Mid-Hudson Chapter's Second Annual Mini-Showcase is planned for Saturday, September 27. The purpose of the show is to draw attention to the work of the NWA in the Hudson Valley. Al ("The Finisher") Shinker has donated two beautiful tables for the raffle -- and the Wednesday gang worked on another table (sapelli mahogany) for the event.

We could use donations of handmade items for the sales and raffle tables -- last year, this venue was a big hit with the audience. Please call contact Bob Doran (sales table) or Bill Reynolds (raffle table) if you have items to provide.

**Day Jobs:** The Chapter manned a demonstrator booth at the Hurley Corn Festival on August 16. The event draws over twelve hundred visitors each year. This year our chapter showed techniques for woodturning, scroll saw, and lutherie. The Wednesday Group has been meeting at George Norton's shop this summer. Recent activities included demos on veneering (Al Shinker) and the Leigh D-4 Dovetail jig (George Norton).



*Map to Mid-Hudson Picnic*



*Al Shinker tables for Mid-Hudson Showcase raffle*

*Continued on following page*





*George showing the Leigh dovetail jig*



*Sapelli Table  
from the  
Wednesday  
Group*

## MID-HUDSON WOODWORKERS SHOW

**September 27, 2008**  
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
at the  
**HURLEY REFORMED CHURCH**  
**HURLEY, NEW YORK**

- Displays of fine woodworking items
- Demonstrations of woodworking techniques
- Children's Workshop: make a free tool tote
- Raffle of selected fine woodworking items



**For more information see our web site at :**

[www.midhudsonwoodworkers.org](http://www.midhudsonwoodworkers.org)

**Admission: \$3 (Children under 12 free)**

The Mid-Hudson Woodworkers is a chapter of the Northeastern Woodworkers Association, an all-volunteer, non-profit organization.

## Upstate N.Y. Expo Focused On Education

*Brian Caldwell Woodshop News July 2008*  
[b.caldwell@woodshopnews.com](mailto:b.caldwell@woodshopnews.com)

Each year, the Northeastern Woodworkers Association, the largest woodworking guild in New York, presents its "Woodworkers Showcase," an exposition of fine woodworking featuring hundreds of pieces of furniture, carvings, turnings, toys, miniatures and sports equipment by the region's finest woodworkers. The 2008 Showcase was the 18th annual event and was held April 5-6 at the spacious Saratoga Springs (N.Y.) City Center. The total volunteer effort takes between 275 and 300 people to put on the show.

"Our exhibitors are amateurs and professionals, and our organization has both amateurs and professionals in it," says Ken Evans, 2008 showcase chair. "There were roughly 400 items exhibited this year. It's an educational event, and it's just for the viewing pleasure of the public; the items are not for sale."

The event includes a woodworkers' competition with awards, a special theme display, exhibits by guest organizations, experts available to answer woodworking questions, continuous free lectures and demonstrations, and special exhibits and sale of products by national and area businesses of interest to woodworkers.

"[Northeastern Woodworkers Association] started in the capitol district [Albany, Schenectady, Troy] around 1991 with people from General Electric and, from that, it grew into about 800 members now," Evans says. "We have three chapters: one in the capitol district, we have one in the mid-Hudson district in Kingston, and we have another chapter in Sacandaga Lake. We also have a number of special interest groups; 'SIGs' we call them, consisting of two turning groups, a carving group and a scroll-sawing group."

Each year there is a theme-based feature exhibit and this year it was Adirondack furniture. The showcase also provides woodworking education.

"We had four lecture rooms running a different lecture every hour for the two days," Evans says. "We hire four nationally known woodworkers, and the rest of our presenters are regional presenters, both from our club and other clubs. We use the nationally known woodworkers also as judges because some of the pieces that are entered are entered for judging. The judges were Pete Korn, Doug Stowe, Chris Schwarz and Wayne Barton."

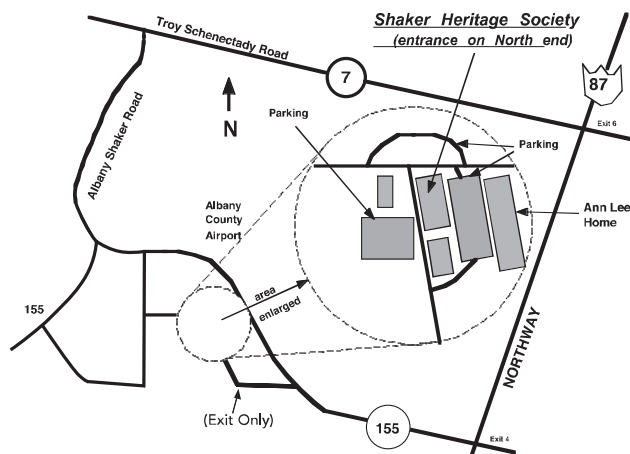
There was a vendors' area with more than 75 booths where items are sold, but the exhibit area and the professional gallery are strictly for display.

"We probably had 3,500 to 3,600 attendees, somewhere in that neighborhood," Evans added. "Show [attendance] of this nature is down. We're told it's the biggest show in that facility attendance-wise."

The 2009 showcase is scheduled for March 28-29 in Saratoga Springs. 🐾



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



## September Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 2008, 7:00 pm  
Shaker Heritage Society Meeting House  
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany

### GENERAL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

#### NWA Program Schedule 2008-2009

September 11, 2008  
Shaker Furniture Talk  
Gerry Grant

October 9, 2008  
Fiske Fund Recipients

November 13, 2008  
Fiske Fund Lecture  
Ernie Howe

December 4, 2008  
Family Night

January 8, 2009  
Jim's Hole in the Wood Gang

February 12, 2009  
Solid Wood Case  
and Drawer Construction  
Bill McTierman

March 12, 2009  
Shaker Boxes  
John Wilson

April 10, 2009  
Sagandaga SIG

May 14, 2009  
Jigs & Fixtures  
(Mid Hudson)

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

### 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](http://www.adirondackwoodturners.org) Contact Ken Evans, 753-7759 or [Kevans1@nycap.rr.com](mailto: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](mailto:dlphill@nycap.rr.com).

**Kaatskill Woodturners** - Meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Opdahl property in Hurley. Contact George Norton, (845) 331-1705.

#### **Jim's "Hole in the Woods Gang"**

Meets every Saturday, 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. 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, as we do accomplish many tasks during our times together as well. Contact Dick Flanders, (518) 393-5215 ([rflander@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rflander@nycap.rr.com)) or Darrell Welch, (518) 477-8431 ([ydwelch@taconic.net](mailto:ydwelch@taconic.net)) 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 Joe Kennedy, (845) 473-1598

**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.