

# WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern  
Woodworkers  
Association

September 2017, Vol. 26, Number 7

## September Meeting

### **Rough to Finish Lumber**

*Thursday, September 14, 2017 7:00 PM*

*Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse*

*Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY*

*By Dick Flanders*

Many people question the use of rough sawn lumber from the saw mill, preferring to buy ready finished lumber from the home centers, etc. However, some of the issues that are found in lumber as it dries are still evident in finished lumber from the home center, such as cup, bow, twist etc.

Dick Flanders and Joe Pelcher will discuss what to look for in your lumber pieces and how to work with any issues in the process of getting them ready to build a piece of furniture. This involves understanding of wood movement, identifying where the boards came from within the original logs, and how their movement differs, all by looking at the grain of the wood. Once you recognize the piece of wood and where it came from, you will know what to look for regarding cup, bow and twist, as well as preferred grain appearance in your finished product. Next is what to do regarding these issues, and how to make the best of what you are working with.

You may resolve issues with hand tools, (hand saws, hand planes, etc.), or with power tools, (jointer, planer, band saw, table saw, miter saw), or a combination of both. We will be discussing and showing examples of each defect and ways to overcome them.

Join us for an interesting session with examples, demonstrations and answering your questions.

## **ANNUAL LUMBER AND TOOL AUCTION**

**Saturday, September 16, 2017**

at the  
**Shaker Heritage Society Barn**  
on Heritage Lane  
near the  
**Albany International Airport**

**Doors open at 10:00am,  
Auction begins at 12:00 noon**

**Lumber will include cherry, red oak,  
white oak, butternut, basswood,  
maple and walnut.**

**In addition, there will be small  
quantities of many  
exotic woods.**

**Tools will include table saws,  
Shopsmith lathe and accessories,  
planers and jointers, small power tools,  
hand tools, turning tools, etc.**

**Proceeds benefit the  
Fiske Scholarship Fund.  
No Buyers Premium, No sales tax.  
Bob Williams, Auctioneer**

**Northeastern Woodworkers  
Association**

**Call 518-370-0388 for Information**

# Showcase Positions Available

*By Wally Carpenter*

Ken Evans recently retired after several years as our Showcase Event Chair. Our collective thanks go to him for his dedicated efforts and leadership. He spent the last several months training me on the nuances of his position, so I hopefully can keep Showcase a relevant and wonderful event.

At the same time, we have several co-chairs who have honorably served and find a need to take a break from their years of service. I completely respect this as I have done the same in past co-chair positions.

With these changes come opportunities for others of our organization to step up to the challenges of leadership roles. While the pay is awful (in fact it's zero), the personal benefits are tremendous. This is a chance to work on a project much bigger than any one SIG or Chapter can manage. It offers a chance to work with woodworkers with varying interests and ensuring we provide one of the finest annual events held at the Saratoga Convention Center and Hilton Hotel.

We will be starting our monthly meetings on September 12 at our Clifton Park Learning Center, leading to our March 24-25, 2018 event. I would love to see new faces in attendance with our current amazing co-chairs. Learning and participating in this team will provide you with new tools in organizational skills plus you'll make new friends in the process!

Never fear, we will help you get on your feet with training and support.

Some co-chair positions currently open are:

Presentation Video

Door Host

Vendor Booths

Please feel free to contact me by email at [c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net](mailto:c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net) or phone at 518-434-1776, if you have an interest in these or other areas. We can always use help in all areas.

And once again, my sincerest thanks to all who have served and those who continue to serve.

## NWA Annual Family Picnic

*by Joe Pelcher*

Members and their families turned out for a sunny Sunday gathering at 11:00 AM July 16, 2017. The buffet foods served by volunteers were plentiful: barbequed chicken, coleslaw, potato salad, green salad, potato chips, iced drinks, and homemade desserts. The pictures tell the story. Ticketmaster, Wally Carpenter gave introductions, announcements, and thanks to NWA volunteers. Wally's wife, Celia, did a yeowoman's task of setting up and cleaning up. There are always the few who make our events such great a success. The brains behind the picnic's organization and publicity, Vice President Joe Pelcher, deserves our applause (editor's note).

Some new games were established and wonderful displays of members' woodworking, as well as scroll saw instruction provided a full day of participation.

Congratulations to our winners this year in the games. Harrison Schuck and Mia Stolicky took first place in the watermelon golf ball toss game with Kara Stolicky coming in second. The Stolicky family continued with their winning streak with Mia Stolicky taking first in the tape measure race and her sister Kara coming in a close second.

Not to be outdone by his daughters, Chris Stolicky came in first in the hand plane contest with our treasurer Ron Roberts came in second.



*Dig in!*



## OFFICERS

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*Wilkins music sweet to our ears*



*Picnic's food*



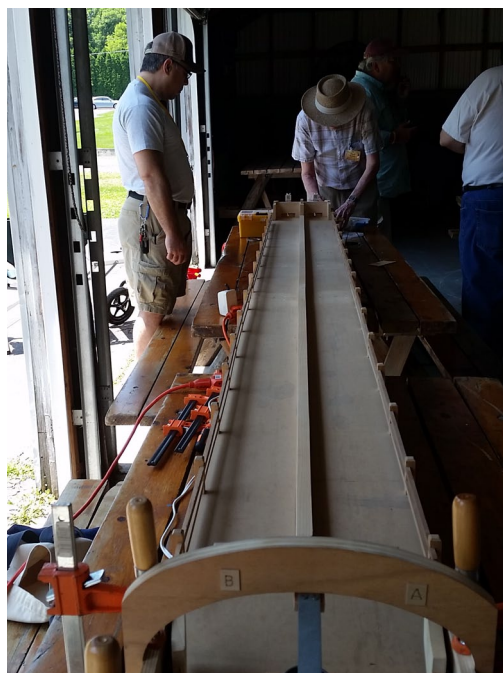
*Mike's amazing skill*



*One of a kind*



*For horse lovers*



*The race track*



*The finish line*



# WOODWORKERS NEWS

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



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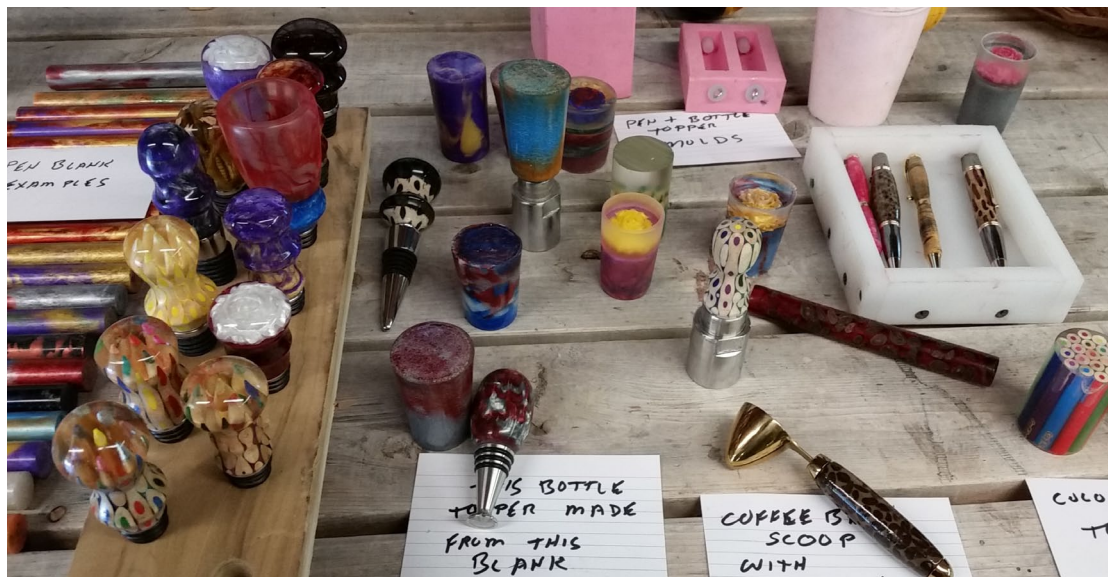
**NORTHEASTERN  
WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION**  
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*Stack those blocks*



*Mom dares to remove one*



*A turner's results*



*Some many tasty desserts*





*Flower vase*



*The beauty of wood*



*Flander's fun*



*Scroller's instruction*



*Watermelons used for a game*



# A Visit to Ken Evans' Shop

*By Susan McDermott*

Back in January Ken offered a Beginners' Woodturning class to meet for three evening hours of the last Tuesdays of the month. About 12 of us signed up ASAP because we all knew about Ken's many years of wood turning experience, his motivating teaching style, his great stories, his many warnings of safe turning techniques, and the beautiful projects he has made. I put "beginners" in quotes because it was obvious to me that most of my classmates had considerable talent and resources that I didn't. But I had the benefit of two NWA mentors, John Heimke and George Jones, to help me with setup, tool position, body movement, and demonstrations. This is a course I would definitely take again!

On Tuesday, June 27, 2017 the beginner wood turners were invited to Ken Evans' home shop. He lives near Schaghticoke (a pleasant drive from anywhere to see his machines, turning tools, and banjo projects in their various stages. He has unique custom made jig by John Michne who designed it to perfectly marry the neck to the pot assembly of a banjo.

Ken's note: The Beginning Woodturning class will be offered again in October or November 2017.

Banjo Building V will likely be offered again in November.



*Ken's wood vases*



*More of his vases*



*Ken's color - coded turning tools*



*Ken's wood lathe*

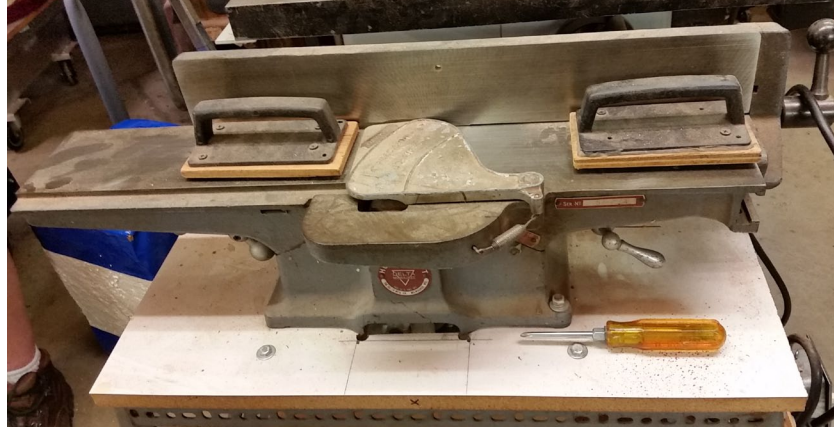


*Ken's pen collection*





*Custom made support for turning large projects*



*Very small planer of Ken's father's*



*Ken's office*



*Michne banjo jig for neck mount*



*Storage for banjo parts*



*Delicate turnings*



*Ken's collection of hardwoods*



# Chapter News

## Mid Hudson Chapter News

by Wally Cook

**Summer in the Valley:** It was a busy summer season for Mid-Hudson woodworkers with many presentations and demos. Recapping the high points:

### - June

- Ron Moore hosted a discussion on LED lighting for shop use
- Keith Tompkins demonstrated the turning method for a winged bowl
- Club members provided woodworking demonstrations at the Hudson River Maritime Museum

### - July

- Chapter picnic held at Central Hudson Training Facility; approximately 30 members participated in BBQ, swimming, and raffle.
- Wally Cook provided a slide show on garden totems and stacked sculpture
- Chapter members participated in the Catskill Forest Festival

### - August

- Doug Scharf presented Understanding Wood and Getting the Most Out of It (more below)
- Jerry Peterson did a slide show and instruction on producing dovetails on a table saw

**Thinking Inside the Box:** Doug Scharf did a superb overview of grain, figure, and cutting approaches to maximize the best features of a timber. His talk covered the structure and botany of wood and the figure that is produced. Examples of various figure were shown on both exotic and domestic woods: curly, quilted, blister, fiddleback, birdseye, crotch, and angel stairs. Doug also explained the causes for different types of figure, including bacterial and insect effects, such as spalting, ambrosia, 'jaguar maple', and flame box elder. Doug described the varieties of spalting: black line, mineral stain, white rot, zone spalting, and extended black staining.

He focused on cutting strategies for crotches and burls, particularly for woodturning. Doug is a



Wally Cook's totem



Keith turning a winged bowl

Keith Tompkins' winged bowl 'Dawn'



Doug Scharf discussing an example of figure in a red oak burl bowl

wood purveyor and brought many exotic woods with excellent figure. We talked about CITES and tree species now under controlled export, such as rosewoods. Some Interesting woods that were passed around were:

- Flaming copper pot (alcalypha inferno), whose color becomes more vibrant as it ages.



- Monkey puzzle wood, the national tree of Chile and a cousin of Norfolk Island Pine. Monkey puzzle should not be confused with monkeypod wood which can be the cause of serious wood sensitivity.
- Cadagi eucalyptus, which stores water and resin in such quantities that it leaves voids or pockets as it dries. The cadegi actually uses insects (particularly bees) to distribute its seeds.

Doug has a summary handout which can be requested as a softcopy by contacting wally. cook@gmail.com

### Upcoming:

- Shop tour of Catskill Mountain Crystal – Rodney Sage in September. Contact Wally Cook for details. Rod makes top of the line crystal oil candles, using a ‘glass lathe’.
- Chapter Show will be held October 14 at the Hurley Reformed Church from 10AM-5PM. This is the eleventh annual chapter show and promises to be a good one with prizes, displays and raffle of donated wood projects.

## Slant Board Thank You

*by John Hoff*

The General Electric Volunteers (GEV) Toy Modification Program thanks the Crafters Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Northeastern Woodworkers Association (NWA) for their continued support. The Toy Modification group modifies toys and equipment and provides them to therapists at agencies throughout the area. GE provides a work area and a yearly grant to support this greatly appreciated effort. These items enable clients young and old to learn and enjoy items that they would normally find difficult to operate. We also thank the Woman’s Club of Albany for collecting peanut butter jar type plastic caps that we use in our large “enabling” switches.

The slant boards are a flat surface that can be positioned at various angles with an integral carrying handle for convenience. They are used to hold written material, pictures, paper, or flash cards. The design was developed by Frank Cembalski of the Toy Modification Program and further refined by the Crafters. The Toy Modification Program is happy to provide slant boards for therapeutic use to the facilities we support. Our program provides items for direct use by therapists in their sessions with clients.

Slant boards are used by children and adults with neurological and physical disabilities to

improve their visual-motor and perceptual skills, eye-hand coordination, and figure ground skills (ability to focus on a specific piece of information in a busy background) deficits.

Additionally they:

Encourage efficient marker grasp. The best hand position for handwriting and holding a

writing utensil is in wrist flexion. The angled position of the slant board promotes this position, which provides better support for correctly holding a pencil.

Provide an easier to reach work surface for children who have difficulty reaching the entire paper that is flat on a desk. The slant board requires a shorter reach to go from the bottom to the top of the page. It also lessens the range of focus one has to use to see an entire page well.

The GEV Toy Modification Group, therapists, the many families involved, and most importantly the clients thank the Crafters for their excellent work and support.

John Hoff and Earl Barnes, GEV Toy Mod co-chairpersons.

*Editor’s note: Both men worked so very hard to not only to make 15 slant boards, but to modify the design for ease and safety of the kids.*



*Jerry Verner (left) and Chuck Watson*



# NWA Scrollers' News

by Thomas O'Donnell

The June 28th meeting of the Scrollers Guild held at 15 Solar Drive presentation was on Resin Casting by Rich D'Ambrosio. He focused on the process, taking the group through the steps used for Clear Cast 7000.

- Starting with wood cutting
- Preventing color leaching including several methods and products for sealing
- Attaching wood so it wouldn't move or float when adding the resin.
- Needing accurate measuring
- Mixing & how to tell when it's mixed enough.
- Coloring products and demonstrated several colors.
- Pouring and intermixing of different colors
- Methods of removing bubbles
- Finally cure times

Discussion included the differences in using Alumilite.

## Changes to the Guild Officers:

Jeanie Aldous: President

Tom O'Donnell: Vice President

Barb Nottke: Secretary & Treasurer

Scroller's Guild - Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. The 2nd Wednesday is a project night, open from 6:00 PM to 8:30 with no presentation. On the 4th Wednesday a beginner's session starts at 6:00 PM followed by a general meeting at 7:00 PM. Contact: Jeanne Aldous at [AMJAMtat2@aol.com](mailto:AMJAMtat2@aol.com) Tom O'Donnell [todonnell180@gmail.com](mailto:todonnell180@gmail.com) or Barbara Nottke at [scroller87@aol.com](mailto:scroller87@aol.com) or 869-6268.



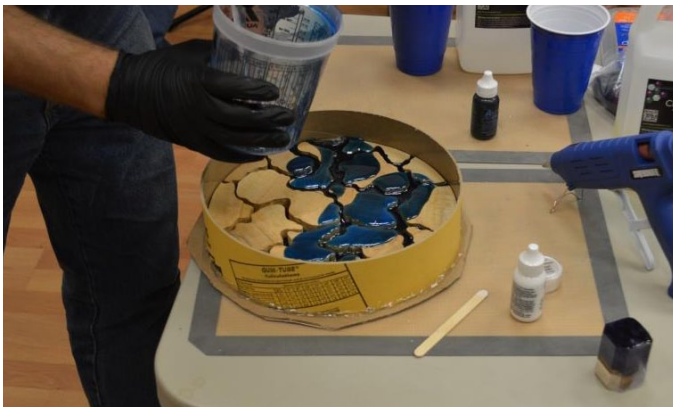
Barb introducing Rich



Rich speaking to the Scroller Guild



Rich is removing bubbles from resin



Rich is pouring resin into mold with wood



# A Woodturner's Poem

*By Ken Evans*

Chips, Chips  
Chips, Chips, I make them for fun!  
The more I make, the more I have fun!  
Chips, Chips, I am REALLY having fun!  
I will make them all day and still not be done!  
Chips, Chips, on the floor of my shop!  
Please, please, don't make me stop!  
Chips, Chips, all in my hair!  
From my spouse I am met by only a stare!  
Chips, Chips, fill all of my pockets!  
Honey, don't take my picture out of your locket!  
Chips, Chips, on the stair treads!  
I can tell by the look I may have something to dread!  
Chips, Chips, are on the hall rug!  
It will be some time before I get a Hug!  
Chips, Chips, they are getting everywhere!  
"Well", is not how I am going to fare!  
Chips, Chips, they have gotten into our bed!  
Oh, my! I really think I am going to be dead!

## Classifieds

My sister 40 years ago and her husband ran a sawmill in Stephentown, NY and did custom sawing. I purchased from them a pine plank which is 14 feet long x 32 inches wide by 2 5/8 inches thick. I would like to sell it. It has been in my garage, protected from the elements. One end has a slight crack going in about 12 inches. It is rough sawn and thoroughly dry.



Asking \$90.00 which is what local lumbermen say it is worth at present day lumber prices.

Contact Frank Lukovitz at [fluko@fairpoint.net](mailto:fluko@fairpoint.net) email address or phone by 518-766-5135. I live near Averill Park NY which is about 12 miles from Troy.

# NWA Library Is Getting a Revamp

*By Irving Stephens*

NWA's new librarian is Irv Stephens. Over the summer Irv started evaluating and processing gift books as well as re-organizing the magazines. Since June more than 100 new woodworking books have been added to the collection, and a current holdings list of magazines is being prepared for release by early fall.

Later in the fall the books will be reorganized into 8-10 categories. Each category will be identified by a distinct color label facilitating faster retrieval and minimizing the effect of miss-shelving errors. This approach should also make it practical to keep related electronic media near books in the same category.

Over the summer the Mid-Hudson Chapter closed its library. These materials are now stored in bins at the library. The goal is to incorporate unique titles into NWA's main collection. Once the current backlog of gifts and the Mid-Hudson books are reviewed, an inventory will be made that eventually will provide another way for members to identify library resources.

Irv is also considering occasionally selling unneeded duplicate copies of library and gift books at monthly meetings and, perhaps, attempting to sell select books at the Showcase as a means to generate additional library funds. If you have a question about the library or would like to donate books or other materials to the NWA Library, please contact me at [irvstephens@gmail.com](mailto:irvstephens@gmail.com).

## Woodezine.com

We've updated the woodworking club listings at <http://www.woodezine.com>.

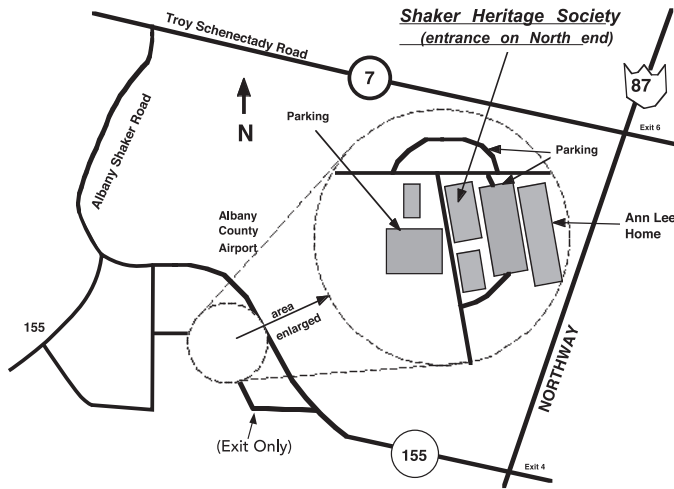
We've been a free resource for woodworkers since 2003.

John English, (605)591-2947  
[editors@woodezine.com](mailto:editors@woodezine.com)



# September Meeting

Thursday, September 14, 2017 7:00 PM  
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse  
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY



## 2017-18 MONTHLY MEETINGS\*

Unless noted otherwise, held at the Shaker Meetinghouse  
on the Second Thursdays at 7:00 PM  
For meeting cancellation information,  
call Ken Evans 753-7759 or Charlie Goddard 370-0388

### September 14

Rough to Finish - Presented by Dick and Joe Pelcher

### October 12

Scrolling Puzzles - Presented by Barbara Nokke

### November 9

Fiske Lecturer - TBA

### December 14 - Family Night

### January 11

Router Potential - Presented by Dave Mobley

### February 8

Fixing Mistakes - Presented by Logan Simms

### March 8

Turning Techniques - Presented by Trent Bosch

### April 12

Small Power Tools - Presented by Dick Flanders

### May 10 - TBA

\*To be updated with additional information

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

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

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

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

**Kaatskill Woodturners** - (will now shift to) Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM -- the second second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 until October. at the Opdahl property in Hurley, NY. **Contact:** Wally Cook at [wally.cook@gmail.com](mailto:wally.cook@gmail.com).

**NWA Crafters** - Meets every Saturday and Tuesday, from 9:00 AM until noon at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. The Crafters provide public service woodworking for various charitable organizations, including the Double H Hole in the Woods camp for children and the GE Toy Modifications Group, and the Make A Wish Foundation. Sharing information, fellowship, and relating experiences are a major part of these sessions. **Contact:** Wayne Distin (518)674-4171, [wdistin@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wdistin@nycap.rr.com), Ken Evans (518)753-7759, [kevans1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:kevans1@nycap.rr.com), or John Heimke, [heimkej@sage.edu](mailto:heimkej@sage.edu) for more information.

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

**The NWA Wood Carvers SIG** - The NWA Wood Carvers SIG - Meet each Thursday at 5:00 PM until 8:30 PM all year at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. The goal is to promote the art of Wood Carving and to have a good time doing it. The only prerequisite is a desire to carve while making new friends. Wood, tools, and patterns are available. **Contact:** Diane Balch (518)338-5637, [signs@balchsigns.com](mailto:signs@balchsigns.com)

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

**Segmented Turning** - Meets the first, third, and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. **Contact** Toby Pauly phone 788-7253, e-mail [tobypauly@yahoo.com](mailto:tobypauly@yahoo.com)

## CHAPTERS

**NWA Mid-Hudson** - The chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday, except July and August, at the Hurley Reformed Church. The Church is just off the the Hurley exit from Rte. 209. Right at the exit, right at the stop sign and left into the Church parking area. John VanBuren, President (845)444-8281 **Contact:** [info@midhudsonwoodworkers.org](mailto:info@midhudsonwoodworkers.org)

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