

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

April 2009, Vol. 18, Number 4

April Meeting



*Thursday, April 10, 2009, 7:00 pm
Shaker Heritage Society Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany*



Join us as The Sacandaga Chapter is Highlighted

Member Profile – Fred DuBois

By Joe Kennedy

NWA is fortunate in having many members who can always be counted on to step up to whatever needs to be done. Sometimes they are called the “usual suspects.” Fred DuBois joined the Mid-Hudson Chapter a few years ago and immediately became one of our best “usual suspects.”

Fred lives in New Paltz where his family can trace itself back to the founding days of the French Huguenots. Fred even lives on a street named after his family, Dubois Road. Now that he has retired he recently had a modular home erected. (If anyone is interested in going modular for a new home, Fred has a complete set of photographs detailing the construction and installation process.) This home has a large full basement, about half of which contains Fred’s woodworking shop. One thing a visitor notices is that he seems to have two of everything, such as two table saws, two jointers, and two planers. He does get by with only one band saw and one lathe, however. Fred did not plan to have two of everything. He just seemed to acquire a second machine over the years from family and friends and has found the second machine useful.



The other half of Fred’s basement is now being converted into a recreation area, which includes a special up-flush toilet, a nice convenience. This makes a nice spot for visitors to sit and drink coffee. Recently many members brought a cake here for Fred to help celebrate his 65th birthday.

Most members know that many of the Mid-Hudson Chapter’s usual suspects meet at George Norton’s house on Wednesday mornings. Lately, George has been calling this event his Senior Citizens Daycare Center. In late Fall-to-Spring, George heads down to Florida. For the past two years, Fred has been gracious enough to run this Day Care Center in his shop. Among the many club activities taking place are the making of components for the Toy Factory and Children’s Workshop for Showcase. I am not sure how we could cope without Fred’s heated workshop and continuing assistance to all. Recently, the Mid-Hudson Chapter has decided to create a SIG for its Wednesday morning activities. Fred has agreed to become its first President.

Fred has many interests in addition to woodworking. For example, he has for many years been an active member of two rod and gun clubs in the New Paltz area. He is also an avid camper.

Besides actively participating in Showcase each year, Fred has been instrumental in all aspects of Mid-Hudson’s own Woodworking Show, sometimes called our “mini-Showcase.” Fred is there from start to finish at each show. He uses his pick-up truck to deliver and return whatever needs to get there and actively participates in each show. Of course, he also displays some of his fine woodworking skills. Fred is both a flatboarder and a turner and is quite good at both. He is anxious to help other members and it is always a pleasure to work with him on any project. 🐦

OFFICERS

President - Warren Stoker 439-6089
wstoker@nycap.rr.com

Vice President - Owen Arkison
518 459-5348

owen.Arkison@earthlink.net
Secretary - Kitty Scharl 765-3189
crowridge@nycap.rr.com

Treasurer - Austin Spang 393-2859
spang@nycap.rr.com

Past President - Pete Howe 885-9331
phowe1@nycap.rr.com

Historian - Darrell Welch (518) 477-8431
ydwelch@fairpoint.net

Executive Secretary - Charlie Goddard
370-0388 Cgodd@aol.com

CHAIRPERSONS

Mid-Hudson Chapter

Pete Chast, President 518-945-1636
pchast@francomm.com

Sacandaga Chapter

Co-Chairpersons
Clyde Cheney - 661-5138
Ray Laubenstein - 863-6071
RLAUB@Roadrunner.com

Education

Gerry O'Brien 459-9266
go12211@yahoo.com

Adult Programs

Position To Be Filled

Youth Programs

Ray Gannon 518-664-2229
raymond.gannon@wildblue.net

Fiske Fund

Tom Osborne
TTomosborne@aol.com

Hospitality

Al and Emily Stahl 587-2420
astahl@nycap.rr.com

Library

Wilhelmina Evans 753-7759
wiltw0@nycap.rr.com

Membership

Susan Howe 885-9331

Programs

Ken Evans 753-7759
kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Publications

Wally Carpenter 434-1776
c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net

SHOWCASE

Ken Evans 753-7759
kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Videographers

Dave Ellison 872-0980
ellisd@rpi.edu
Hans Kappel 861-8753
bluespruce@juno.com
Pat Pugsley 634-7144
ideas@mhonline.net
Bob Conahan 355-9032
conahanbob@hotmail.com
Kirk Hardenburg
725-1997

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

Auriou Rasps Are Back

By Wally Carpenter

Just in case any of you really hardcore rasps users out there were concerned Auriou Rasps from France had permanently gone the way of so many other tool makers, have no fear! They are back and Lie-Nielsen will be carrying them again very soon. I can assure you the price hasn't gone down but hopefully neither has the quality. Keep your eyes open and be ready with those check books.

The following was an email correspondence I had with a Lie-Nielsen Rep only a few days ago.

Hi Lie-Nielsen Team,

I thought I would take a shot at finding out if Auriou rasps are available again but your site says no. I did find this site in the UK who seems to imply they are now available again.

Here is the site:

<http://www.classichandtools.com/acatalog/Auriou-rasps-rifflers.html>

Can you tell me if this is real? I'd much rather go through you to get more Auriou rasps if in fact Auriou is making rasps again.

Wally Carpenter

Lie-Nielsen's Team Response:

Wally,

The Auriou Rasps are indeed back in production. We are hoping to have some available very soon. If you keep an eye on our website you will see when they are up again. If you do not yet receive our e-mail newsletter you can sign up for it from a link at the bottom of this e-mail. We announce any new tools in the news letter. It should be soon.

*Thank you,
D.*

Mid-Hudson Chapter Banquet

By Joe Kennedy

Please note that the Mid-Hudson Banquet will be held this year on Friday, April 24 at Twin Lakes Resort in Hurley. This is the usual site of the Banquet and is located just a few miles from the Kingston exit off the Thruway. Admission is \$27 per person. We will commence with an open bar at 6:00 PM and serve dinner at 7:00 PM.

Mid-Hudson traditionally has a great raffle. Prizes consist of donations of tools, supplies, gift certificates, books, etc. (obtained through the efforts of Bill Reynolds) as well as very nice woodworking items made by our members. This year should be no exception.

The Mid-Hudson Chapter honors its Member of the Year during the Banquet. After presenting a plaque and gift certificate to the Member of the Year, we always have a lot of fun teasing this person. This year our Member of the Year is **Chuck Walker**, whom most of us know fairly well. All of us in Mid-Hudson feel this is a well deserved and long overdue honor.

If you want to participate in a great raffle and help us toast and roast Chuck, please plan to attend. It is always fun. Checks should be sent to Bill Fiederlein, 795 Cold Spring Road, Stanfordville, NY 12581. 🍷

Alimony is like buying hay for a dead horse.

Groucho Marx

AWA Meeting

By Celia J Carpenter

Blue Ribbon Demonstration!

This month we were privileged to have a demonstration by an award winning turner, our own George Gurtler. George owns the category of Open Segmented Turning at the NWA Showcase in Saratoga.

George is mostly self taught with his intelligence and curiosity which allows him to figure out most things that others shake their head and turn away. He has not only been able to master the method of segmented turning but has created jigs and has been able to incorporate his artistic talent too. George took us through the entire process from designing the pattern, to figuring out the cuts (lost some of us through no fault of George) and to the use of his jigs.

George was introduced to segmented turning by his dear late wife, Maralyn. When at the local Woodcraft store while George was shopping, Maralyn found a book that interested her. She then showed it to George and unknown to George purchased it. Later she challenged George to try his hand at segmented turning and presented him with the book. She was always very proud of his work and his greatest fan.

George also is an excellent teacher and will offer anyone help at Stillwater on Wednesday nights. He challenges me every week but is always there to help me when I stumble.

Thank you, George for an excellent demonstration and for your willingness to always teach and encourage. You are the essence of what the NWA club is all about. 🐼



NWA Woodworking Classes at the Stillwater Shop

For more information about any of these classes log on to:
<http://woodworkerorg.blogspot.com/>

Drilling a Windsor Seat, The 4th Installment of the Windsor Chair Series

Tom Wetzell

Saturday & Sunday, April 25 & 26, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Cost: \$75 plus materials. All remaining sessions in the series are sold out

Beginning Bowl Turning

Don Orr

Saturday, May 2, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Cost: \$45 plus material

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

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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will be published
in early May

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Wally Carpenter, Editor
(518) 434-1776

c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net
Elizabeth Keays Graphic Artist
Designer



WEBSITE(S)

www.woodworker.org

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

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

Kaatskill Woodturners Monthly News

By Wally Cook

Skew Tips: Joe Larese covered the most feared woodturning tool in the most recent KWA meeting: the skew chisel. Joe described characteristics of a skew and demonstrated various cuts while turning a shop mallet from a maple blank.

There are a variety of skew chisels in the woodturning arsenal, but the workhorse of the skew family is probably a flat one inch chisel, ground to a combined bevel angle between 35-40 degrees. For finer cuts, the tool can be ground to a combined 25 degree angle. Either way, it

is important to have “line of sight” from the bevel edge to the tip of the cutting edge; this presumes a slight hollow ground sharpening. The angle of skewness that best provides both clearance and a strong long point is approximately 70 degrees. A popular notion is to curve the blade -- an arc from long to short point. In addition, Joe suggests that rounding the narrow shoulder of the tool leading to the short point will help with rolling cuts.

Clearly the skew is a versatile instrument that has the ability to slice wood fibers, leaving a polished surface. Mike Darlow describes six types of cuts that can be made with a skew; Alan Lacer details twelve. Some of the cutting techniques involve roughing a blank to desired size or shape (roughing, rolling, vee-cut, or peeling), but most involve a final cut for planing, beading, fillet, or coves.

Joe demonstrated peeling the blank to proportionate size. Done properly, this operation was impressive in the efficiency of reducing the wood diameter and outlining a



Joe using a planing cut



The finished mallet

basic shape. Peeling was done in sections using a flat sided skew (oval skew shoulders not recommended) with a rounded blade. The rounded blade takes the long and short points out of contact with the wood. In this operation, the skew handle starts low and is raised until the bevel engages the blank in a peeling motion. The cutting edge is presented above the midpoint on the blank. The tool rest should be approximately one half inch from the stock and lathe speed does not need to be above 1000 rpm.

Space constrains the details for additional cuts, but other cuts were demonstrated and references were cited for additional reading:

Rolling cut: Generally where most catches occur, a rolling cut is the precursor to the final beading cut. The tool is rotated around the short point shoulder and may need to slide slightly along the tool rest. An ‘underhand’ grip is recommended by Darlow.

Vee-cut: A vertical movement, the vee-cut enters with the long point first. The handle is raised and forward pressure scores the blank. The vee is widened by repeating the movement with left- and right- angle entrances, following the bevel angle on each side.

Planing cut: This final surface cut is accomplished moving laterally along the blank with the short point leading, cutting with the lower third of the blade.

Parting cut: A skew can act as a parting tool by repeating vee-cuts until the blank diameter is severed. During this process take off some of the pressure of the tail stock and slow down the rpm.

References:

Skew Demo Handout*: Joe Larese (available on request at cooker.1@earthlink.net)

Mike Darlow, *The Taming of the Skew*, Fine Woodworking, Sept. 1982

Keith Rowley, *Woodturning*, A Foundation Course (available as book, ebook, or dvd)

Richard Raffan, *Turning Wood with Richard Raffan* (available as book or dvd)

Alan Lacer, *The Skew Chisel: The Dark Side and the Sweet Side* (dvd)

Alan Lacer, www.alanlacer.com/handouts/ho-skew_chisels.html



Pasta rolling pin, weed pots and other items turned by Joe

CHAPTER NEWS

NWA Mid-Hudson Chapter News

By Wally Cook

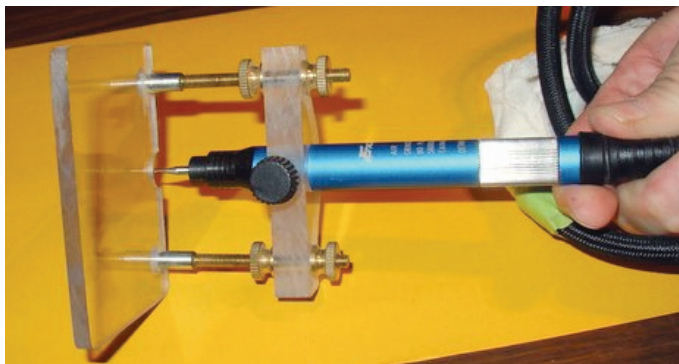
Pearl Inlay: Bill Sterling reported on a class he attended with assistance from the Fiske Fund. Bill took the opportunity to study with Dave Nichols at Custom Pearl Inlay in Whippleville, NY. As a luthier, Bill is interested in application of inlay to guitar making.



Examples of Bill's inlay: mother-of-pearl and ebony

There are two major aspects of this fine inlay:
a) sawing the inlay material and b) creating the negative space to insert the inlay.

A design must be transferred to the inlay material. Generally, the outline is etched with an Xacto blade and chalk is rubbed into the cut. Once the inlay design is marked on the mother-of-pearl or abalone, cutting is accomplished by use of a jeweler's saw and very fine saw blades -- so fine that the teeth can be detected only by touch or the use of magnifier. The blades do not last long in the hard material. Bill went through 45 blades in the week long class.



Air powered router used to prepare the receiving surface

Creating the negative space on the ebony background employs the use of mini-router (a modified pneumatic die grinder). Spiral up-cut bits are recommended -- down-cut bits retain sawdust and quickly dull the cutting surface.

The risk is great for exceeding the tolerance of the inlay to the negative space as each is cut separately and with separate tools. Use of a lighted magnifier -- gauged to the desired focal point -- is a required tool. The calcium

carbonate is a respiratory irritant and care must be taken to wear the appropriate filter mask (N-95 rated respirator).

New Sign: Thanks to Bob Boisvert and the scrollers for producing a new chapter sign for Showcase... their work in progress is pictured below.



New chapter sign

Member of the Year: The chapter's annual dinner will take place on April 24 at Twin Lakes in Hurley. We will honor **Chuck Walker** as Member of the Year. Chuck has done so much to establish an education program for the chapter.

Primarily, we have learned not to race tape measures against him. However, we have also learned that submarines cannot be constructed of red oak, oxalic acid will indeed remove iron stains from

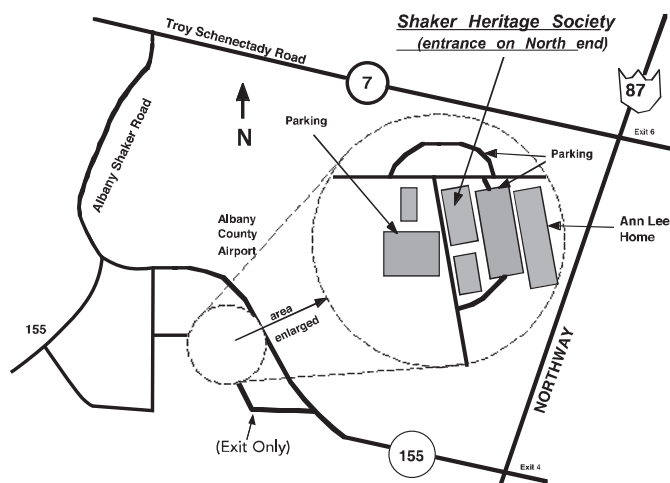


Chuck Walker is 2009 Mid-Hudson Chapter Member of the Year

cherry, and that marquetry has nothing to do with Madison Avenue. In addition, Chuck instituted the famous "No Scrap Left Behind" program which has resulted in kitchen cabinets everywhere being filled with tiny pieces of unused wood. Please join us for a merry evening to celebrate with Chuck. Contact Bill Fiederlein (845-868-7819) to purchase tickets (\$27 per person).



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



April Meeting

Thursday, April 10, 2009, 7:00 pm
Shaker Heritage Society Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany

GENERAL MEETINGS
AND SPECIAL EVENTS

NWA Program Schedule 2009

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 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, 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) or Darrell Welch, (518) 477-8431 (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 Pete Chast, (518) 945-1636.

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.