

# WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern  
Woodworkers  
Association

February 2018, Vol. 27, Number 2

## February Meeting

### Fixing Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

*Thursday, February 8, 2018 7:00 PM  
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse  
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY*

*Presented by Logan Simms*

Does this sound familiar? It's 10 PM. You are bushed after a long day at work, but hey, you've been more tired than this before. So, as the avid woodworker you are, you plunge ahead into that drawer corner that has been staring you down for the past week and a half, determined to get something done in your "creative space". Chips fly and shavings roll to the floor, and within an hour or two (if you're any good) you have the clamps set up and ready for the glue-up. Then...@#\$% %&\*, you have just discovered that in the flurry of saw strokes and chisel chops, you've sawn on the wrong side of your line and a beautiful sliver of light shines directly from a place where wood ought to be. You, then carry your shame (and expletives) into bed with you as you fall asleep wondering why the universe seems to hate you.

In this upcoming meeting, we will be having discussion / demonstrations on how to fix some of the problems that arise from that particularly annoying characteristic of wood known as



"you can't put it back". We will go through some steps to turn a "chuck it" into a "design opportunity", as well as discuss when it is best to throw in the towel and start afresh. We will also cover a few finishing tips and fixes to help salvage a seemingly botched or damaged finish. Lastly, we will see a few gadgets, widgets, methods, and mindsets to hopefully help make the road to a successful piece just a bit smoother.

I hope to see you all there!  
Your fellow creator of gaps,  
Logan Simms

## January's General Meeting

*By Joe Pelcher*

January 11, 2018. The night opened up with updates from Wally Carpenter regarding the 2018 Showcase and the urgent need for someone to be the volunteer coordinator. No experience necessary but this is a very important position as the Showcase simply doesn't happen without our volunteers.

Dave Mobley gave an update on the search for new shop space and a plea to all members to ask anyone they know for suggestions. Dave has a sheet available with details on the specifics of what we need. If you email him at [dmobley@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dmobley@nycap.rr.com) he will send it to you. I suggest you keep it with you in case you happen to come across any possibilities.

## The Router's Potential

Dave Mobley gave a presentation on ROUTER POTENTIAL. What can you do with a router? Rabbits, dados, box joints. These can be done on a table saw, but the router is well known for shaping edges, template routing and rail and stile joinery.

If you have a board that is too wide for your planer, then with the proper jig, you can flatten both sides with a router.

The ideal hand held router, both fixed and plunge base is 2½ hp which is powerful enough and light enough to handle.

Dave demonstrated both feed rate and feed direction of the router. The feed direction should be counter to the direction of the spinning bit. If you invert the router in a router table, it reverses feed direction from hand held.

Dave reviewed safety rules that he observes every time he uses a router:

Safety Glasses

- Is the operator ready?
- Is the router ready?
- Is the work piece ready?
- Is the jig or guide in place and ready?
- Is the path clear to move the work piece or router?

Dave then reviewed the basic types of router bits, a mortising jig, a circle cutting jig, an offset base, and the use of guide bushings.

Dave continued with a demonstration using guide bushings making a bow tie cut.

He finished with a quick review of some new CNC routers for home use.



*Dave Mobley talking about routers*



*Dave routing the inlay recess*



*Template for inlay routing*



*The finished bowtie inlay*

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# Showcase Depends on YOU!

*By Wally Carpenter*

Each year the call goes out for volunteers for Showcase for an excess of 650 positions and time needs. Every year you come through to full-fill those needs which is amazing to see and be a part of this outstanding event. Our thanks to each of you in advance of March 23-25, 2018.

Actually, many may be surprised to know the volunteer work starts in earnest March 22 and doesn't end until March 27. So many of you jump into action each and every year without even being asked. Our sincerest thanks again knowing we can count on you.

We have many members who may think they can't help due to age, health, or other concerns. Let me say we have specific tasks for each of you, and we have many positions which don't require physical strain or even standing. Let us know you are interested, and we will connect you with a real need that also fits your ability and desire.

Our co-chairs are working toward making incremental changes which will keep Showcase a relevant and desirable event for years to come. One of those key elements I continue to mention is a need for more Social Media (example: Facebook) which will draw in more members looking for that tactile experience that cannot be realized by watching a smart phone or laptop.

In short, March 24-25, is coming like a freight train and will be here before we realize it. Please continue to support Showcase with your talents, skills, and desire to teach and learn.

Please contact me, Wally Carpenter, or any of the Showcase co-chairs for specific times and needs. Co-chairs will be reaching out to those who volunteered last year so please support them when they call. Thank you!

# February 2018 Library Update

*By Irv Stephens*

Thank you again Mid-Hudson Chapter for bringing your library collection to Solar Drive. Your books and DVDs have significantly enhanced the resources that now are available to all NWA members. The NWA Library's catalog now exceeds 800 titles and also includes the collections of the Turners and Scrollers. The Scrollers' books are identified by the collection label, "SIG Scrollers" indicating that these books remain physically within the group's work area, but are available to other NWA members.

Someone recently asked me what the library's acquisition budget was. I answered that there really is no acquisition budget. There is just enough funding to cover supplies. So far, this does not seem like a problem because 1) some of SIGs use their budgets for library materials, and 2) our members continue to donate their personal books and media to the library.

## 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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### WEBSITE(S)

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In my view, I think it makes more sense to have NWA's accomplished woodworkers providing these materials to the library, than to have one person, like me, trying to anticipate what new book or DVD might be useful. This approach also lets me focus on keeping resources accessible and relevant to members' interests and experience levels.

Finally, a note about how library collections are organized. In case you haven't noticed, related DVDs are shelved at the end of each book category. Also, as an experiment, there are a few "subcategories" identified by labeled shelf dividers for a couple of the large categories. For example, in the **Projects & Designs** category, subcategories follow the main section for **Chairs, Toys, and Boxes**. This is an attempt to bring into one place, books relating to areas with a lot of woodworker interest. If you think of other needed "subcategories," let me know; or, conversely, if you think this is simply confusing, let me know that too.

## Kaatskill Woodturners' Association

*By Wally Cook*

**Twist Pen with a Twist:**  
Wally Cook provided the January demo on penturning. Based on member feedback, topics were identified for the 2018 season. One of the topics receiving interest was an introduction to penmaking. Wally chose to feature Kurt Hertzog's approach for eliminating the slimline kit centerband to increase design opportunities.



*Pen turning accessories*

The basic slimline twist pen comes with a nib, transmission for extruding the ballpoint parker-type refill, centerband, end cap and clip. Nib and end cap are press fit into brass tubes which are sheathed with a wood or acrylic pen blank. Bushings are supplied to assist reducing the blank's diameter to the desired outside dimension.

Most commercial pen kits are constrained by the hardware, e.g., it is expected that nib and cap will define the dimensions of the ends of the pen. Pen kits that include a centerband also dictate some design limits for the middle of the pen as well. Kurt's suggestion to explore options without the kit-provided centerband frees up the maker to redefine the entire shape of the writing instrument.

The centerband is a bearing surface for the slimline twist pen. That is, the top half of the pen rides on the centerband as it turns the transmission. Replacing the centerband requires some consideration of the bearing surface – Wally prefers an acrylic section. In this demo the riding surface is a plastic grommet. This section was glued and

turned along with the top half of the blank; its length exceeds the brass tube by 1/16". A detailed look at this approach may be found in Kurt's article, Penturning Primer in the April 2016 issue of *American Woodturner*.

Using this approach also allows for some creativity at the cap. For instance, the cap and clip may be dispensed and an extra section added to the top half of the pen. The addition may be a simple finial or other design element.

The second part of the demo showed a pen being deconstructed.

Flaws in a pen may not surface until it is press-fit together. What to do? Well, a deconstruction kit is worth the cost. Essentially, this kit is a graduated series of drift pins along with a padded and shaped set of locking pliers. The appropriate size pin is inserted into the pen tube, held by the pliers, and smartly tapped with a mallet. Disassembling a pen requires some patience, but that patience is rewarded by the ability to rework the pen blank.

The last topic of the demo involved finishing a pen with CA and boiled linseed oil (BLO). In this approach, Wally applied four coats, using thin CA (many turners prefer medium CA), and a tightly rolled paper towel slightly wetted with boiled linseed oil. Each coat was briskly rubbed on with the lathe running at very low speed, smoothing with the paper towel. (Care needs to be taken when applying CA while the lathe is turning – proper safety eyewear is a must). The blanks were wet sanded with micro-mesh and then buffed. Barry Gross has advocated buffing as a necessary step in the finishing process, and Wally believes that it makes a noticeable difference. A small, two wheel acrylic buffing



*Slimline pen without centerband -- why not add a finial instead of cap and clip?*

system is available which works well. Blue abrasive charges one wheel and the blanks are buffed holding them at 45 degrees to the face of the wheel. The wheels are soft and there is less chance of the wheel grabbing the blanks. The blanks may be held with golf tees in either end to improve grip. Once buffed, the blanks are ready for press-fit.

**Upcoming:** The topic for February is 3D printing, presented by Walt Stolte. Walt made his own printer from a kit and will demonstrate its use. We will discuss possible application for woodturning projects. The March demo will feature Carl Ford and his shop made Trent Bosch-style 'visualizer' – a camera system which allows viewing of the inside of a hollow form during the hollowing process.

The meetings will be held at the Opdahl building on Saturday mornings at 9AM, weather permitting. Check out the KWA on MyGrove.co. Schedule information is also posted on Carl Ford's website, [carlford.info/kwa](http://carlford.info/kwa).

# Fixing Woodworking Mistakes

By Susan McDermott

NWA offers wonderful classes taught by our talented members, SIG leaders, and nationally known woodworkers. This lengthy article is intended to show our members the depth, practicality, and inspiration our classes deliver to small group learners of every level. When you read about what a one-day long class taught by Bob Van Dyke can bring to 15 NWA members of wide and diverse abilities, perhaps you will suggest new classes we could offer and enroll in the valuable learning opportunities NWA offers. Our Education Director, George Jones, is the man to contact. [nwaeducation@gmail.com](mailto:nwaeducation@gmail.com)

On January 14, 2018 Bob Van Dyke gave a class on fixing woodworking mistakes: misplaced hinge mortise, miss-cut tenon and its replacement, repair of damaged table leg, hole disguised as a “pitch pocket”, and corner broken off door or drawer panel. Bob could make these mistakes disappear with careful matching of wood, precise cutting with table and band saw, planing to blend surfaces flawlessly.

In 2000 Bob founded The Connecticut Valley School of Woodworking in Manchester, Connecticut where he teaches furniture building. He also writes for *Fine Woodworking* magazine, and you can view him on many videos about tool use and furniture building. Bob has taught many classes here at the Learning Center. The class Bob brought to NWA Learning Center is his latest class for NWA members and his first on fixing joinery mistakes, surface repairs, dovetail and hinge corrections. The wood worker first assesses if a piece is worth saving when grain and color must be matched. Always save all the scrap wood from what you cut since they may be the pieces that you will use to “save” a critical part of your build.

Bob cut a hinge mortise using his custom-made hinge mortising jig and hand router in about a minute. He demonstrated how a hinge mortise cut on the wrong side of the board can be repaired, not by a patch, but by a matched strip of wood glued to the entire length of the board whose edge has been cut to a rabbet joint with the table saw and cleaned with a shoulder plane. Bob used a piece of scrap from the same cherry board and carefully matched grain pattern, direction, and oxidation tint. The secret is to use a patch with grain patterns that match the original.

As Bob demonstrated this he offered commentary on the plane’s grip and fingers to guide his strokes. Stanley used to make low profile rosewood knobs which allowed the wood worker to correctly hold the plane. But to save a few cents,



*Bob's hinge repair*



*Clamp positions to repair hinge mortise*



*Repaired board after planing*

the manufacturer made smaller diameter, higher knobs that contradict the natural and correct way to hold the plane. Bob searches for the lower profile knobs for his planes.

Bob never uses dowels or biscuits to glue edge joints. A carefully planed surface edge, proper application of glue, and strategic clamping will render a butt joint that is stronger than the wood itself.

Bob's next demonstration was a tenon repair. A good tenon will fit into the mortise with friction without the use of a mallet. Yellow glue will cause the tenon to swell in the mortise. With a dry fit, shave off the tenon's sides and lightly plane the cheeks of the tenon with a shoulder plane to achieve a snug fit. When trimming a tenon, use a plane, not a sanding board which will raise wood fibers and make the tenon too tight when glued. Use pencil marks on both sides of the tenon each time you plane, so you can see exactly how much wood you are removing. If you remove too much wood, it will result in a tenon that is too loose. The pencil marks are "your eyes" to show how much you have shaved off. If you have shaved off too much, Bob demonstrated how a pine shaving glued to the tenon's side can restore the desired friction fit.

When using a knife to mark cut lines, a series of light strokes is more accurate than one strong stroke.

Bob showed how he sets his Stanley #4 plane with Hock iron using a short piece of 1/4 inch thick rectangle pine wood set in the bench vise. Take three strokes with the center, left, and right of the iron. Uniform shavings will show the plane is correctly adjusted. Although he owns many planes Bob typically uses only three planes for all for most of his projects: a Stanley #4, a Lie-Neilsen block plane, and a Clifton shoulder plane

Bob showed the proper technique to prevent glue squeeze out when gluing a mortise and tenon joint as excess glue cannot be cleaned from this joint's finished surfaces by planing. Squeeze out in this type of joint is difficult to impossible to remove. Bob discussed the idea of using the properties of various glues to your advantage. Unlike brown glue, yellow glue dries quickly, swells the fit of a joint but using a wet rag or toothbrush to remove squeeze out can result in problems later when finishing. Old Brown Glue, a room temperature hide glue, is slower drying, easy to wipe off the wood surface, and behaves like grease to ease the friction fit of a tenon. When putting together a tight joint, bits of glue wiped into the surface will not affect the finish later. It is still a strong glue, but it needs to be heated in hot water bath to flow. Heating a little to improve its viscosity, but the shelf life is a little shorter than other glues. Note: Don't ever take a chance on using a glue that might be out of date- the glue is the cheapest part of any project- why risk all your work just to save a couple bucks??

What if you have a beautiful board with a screw or nail hole? Bob created a faux pitch pocket to hide the hole. He cut a small tear drop shape on the grain line of the hole. He then



*Gluing the repair strip*



*Wood shaving to tighten a tenon*



*Excess glue is brushed off the interior of the joint*



*Best for dissolving glue*

mixed a five-minute epoxy with a black or burnt umber tan pigment (Winton or Master Color, artist's oil pigments) on scrap wood with a wooden coffee stirrer and smeared the mixture into the tear drop. Let this dry overnight, and scrape the excess with a card scraper.

Bob showed us a damaged table leg, scarred on one side. Using the joiner, he shaved off 1/16" of the damaged side and glued on a board the length of the leg. After drying he the ripped most of the new piece off but left a heavy 1/16 of the newly glued on "patch". After hand planing the surface, he planed the glued piece to the dimension of the original leg and shaved a small bevel on the corner edges of the leg which hid the glue line. Bob showed us the push tools he prefers for the joiner.

After lunch, Bob demonstrated correcting a misplaced mortise with a rectangular wood plug which will be hidden inside by the apron when glued. Creating a new tenon was a greater challenge. Bob use a custom built tenoning jig on the table saw to cut a groove into the board's end. He then fitted a new tenon into the groove.

Bob showed us a hardwood brace for a drop leaf table part that had a three-inch split in the end. He clamped the wood below the end of the split and pried the top wider with a putty knife to accept glue. Using a vacuum tube with paper towel and a shop vac with a wet rag on the end to act as a "gasket", he sucked the glue from one face of the board through the split and onto the other face of the board's split. He removed the putty knife and clamped the split end until the glue was dry. Planing the surface revealed a clean face with no trace of the split!

As the class drew to a close, Bob explained the challenge of setting a hinge precisely. If the screw hole is not perfectly centered, the screw when driven home, can pull the hinge slightly which would ruin its fit. He showed us his technique for centering the screw hole which involved beginning the hole using a countersink bit in the hole and then extending it with a 1/16" bit holes. If the 1/16" hole is drilled straight (think "drill press"), the screw will be perfectly centered. For drilling, Bob recommends Fuller bits. He first sets the hinge against the mortise's cut edge and secures it with painter's tape. He countersinks hinge holes to ensure dead centers. When installing any hardware Bob recommended using steel screws throughout the fitting process and only installing the softer brass screws once after the finish is completely done. Their heads do not



*Mixing epoxy and pigment*



*Applying to faux pitch pocket*



*Leg repair*



*Bob planes the leg*

tear the way softer brass screws do. When he is satisfied with the hinge's location and function, he replaces the stainless screws with appropriate brass screws. In the unlikely event Bob has that a hole is drilled off center, it is an easy task to drill a 5/16" hole, glue in a 5/16" plug, trim it flush with a sharp chisel and re-drill the screw hole- more carefully this time!

It was a very interesting and informative day, and I would recommend any of Bob's classes- either here at the Learning Center or at his own school which is only two hours away.



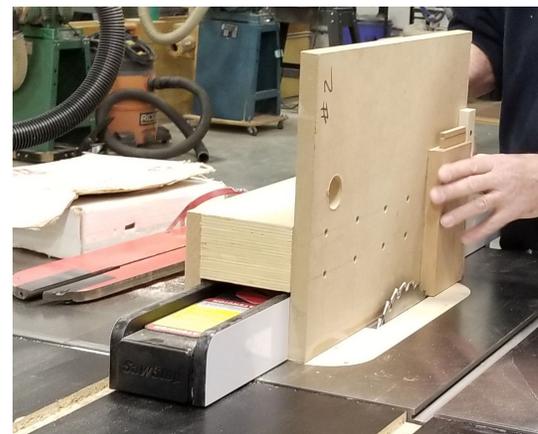
*Bob hides the glue line by planing a small bevel on the leg's edge*



*Counter sink bit in "egg beater" drill*



*Correcting a miscut mortise*



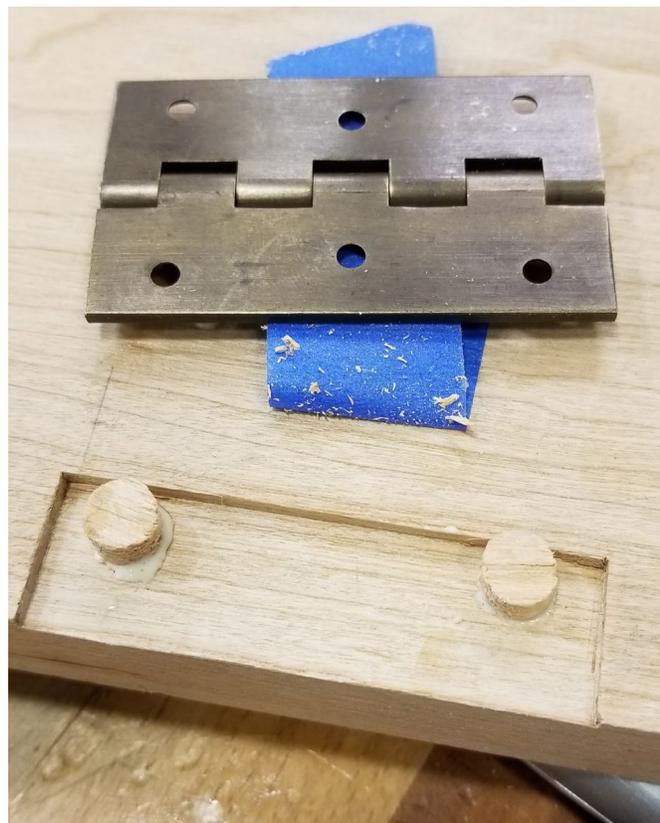
*Cutting the groove to insert a new tenon*



*Fitting the new tenon*



*Securing a hinge with painter's tape*



*Hole plugs to fill incorrect hinge holes*



*Preferred push tools for joiner*



# Showcase Sale Agreement

## Name of Piece and Description

PRICE  
\$ .00

Pick up  
method

Customer picks up and takes on Sunday 5:00 pm.

Free delivery by seller within 10 miles of City Center, Sun. PM

Arranged between buyer and seller. **Delivery Charge** \$

Please Print Neatly— this information will be kept confidential.

First Name	
Last Name	
Street Address	
Town	
Zip	
Home Phone	
Mobile Phone	
Email	

You Must Include a Photo of the Item You are Selling!

I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to allow the NWA to sell my wood creation at the Showcase Sales Boutique. I understand that NWA will keep a 20% commission of the selling price



## SELL YOUR WOODWORKING AT SHOWCASE

There have been many requests in the past that NWA woodworkers be able to sell their work displayed in the Exhibit Hall and the TT Gallery. This year, for NWA Members only, we are trying something new. Any NWA Member may choose to sell one exhibit entry piece.

As always, only the exhibit card and optional business card, may be displayed with your entries. *No prices are ever allowed* on the exhibit floor or the TT Gallery.

## HOW THE SALE WILL WORK

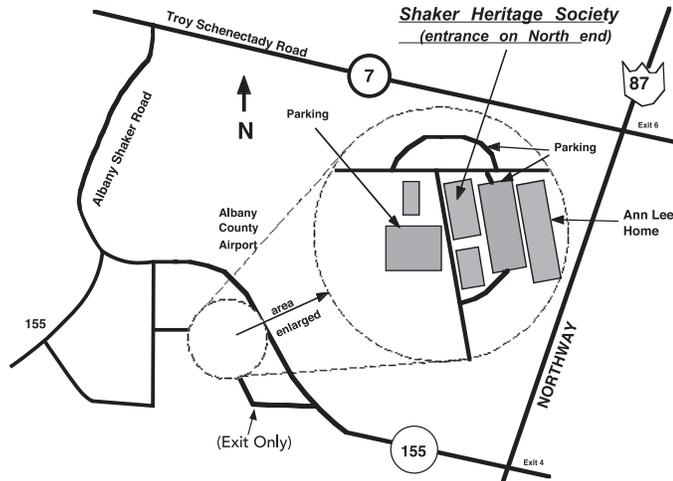
You must give a completed Showcase Sale Agreement with a **photo of the piece you are selling with your name on it**, to Pam Bucci or Pam Curtis, or email it with the subject listed as “Showcase Sale” to [Pam4arts@aol.com](mailto:Pam4arts@aol.com). Your agreement must be received by us by March 20, 2018

1. All sale information and transactions will be done through the NWA BOUTIQUE on the Vendor Floor. You must be an NWA member with current paid status.
2. You must properly register your piece to exhibit as you would normally do. This agreement is not a registration for your piece.
3. You may choose only one of your pieces in the Showcase Exhibit Hall or the Totally Turning Gallery to make available for sale.
4. When you bring your items in on Friday, March 23, get your registration card and sale card at the Showcase office or your display card and sale card from TT Registration.
5. NWA will take a 20% commission. Sold pieces may not be removed from the display area before 5:00 on Sunday. Someone will be at the display area to facilitate the pick up. A check will be sent to you within 2 weeks
6. Please make sure that you list current contact information for the Saturday and Sunday of the show so if there are questions we can reach you. All personal information will be kept confidential.
7. You may want to include several business cards for interested parties.

Keep this side for your records

# February Meeting

*Thursday, February 8, 2018 7:00 PM*  
**Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse**  
**Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY**



## 2018 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

### March 8

Turning Techniques - Presented by Trent Bosch

### April 12

Upholstery - Presented by Mike Mascelli

### May 10

Small Power Tools - Presented by Dick Flanders

\*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. **Contact:** Pam Bucci, President - 429-6440, woolglass2@gmail.com

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

**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 or Barbara Nottke at 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.

**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, Ken Evans - (518)753-7759, kevans1@nycap.rr.com, or John Heimke, 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 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)885-9899, signs@balchsigs.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 - 458-7242 for further details: 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 - 788-7253, e-mail 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. **Contact:** Jim Lee, President - (845)382-6045, dlee1963@aol.com

**NWA Sacandaga** - The chapter meets at 7:00 PM. on the Second Tuesday of each month from Sept through June. at 55 Second Avenue, Mayfield, NY. **Contact:** Gary Ratajczak, President - (518)852-1204, info@sacandagawoodworkers.org