

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

January 2017, Vol. 26, Number 1

January Meeting

**Prototypes/Templates/Story Sticks
Planning and Executing/
Order of Work**

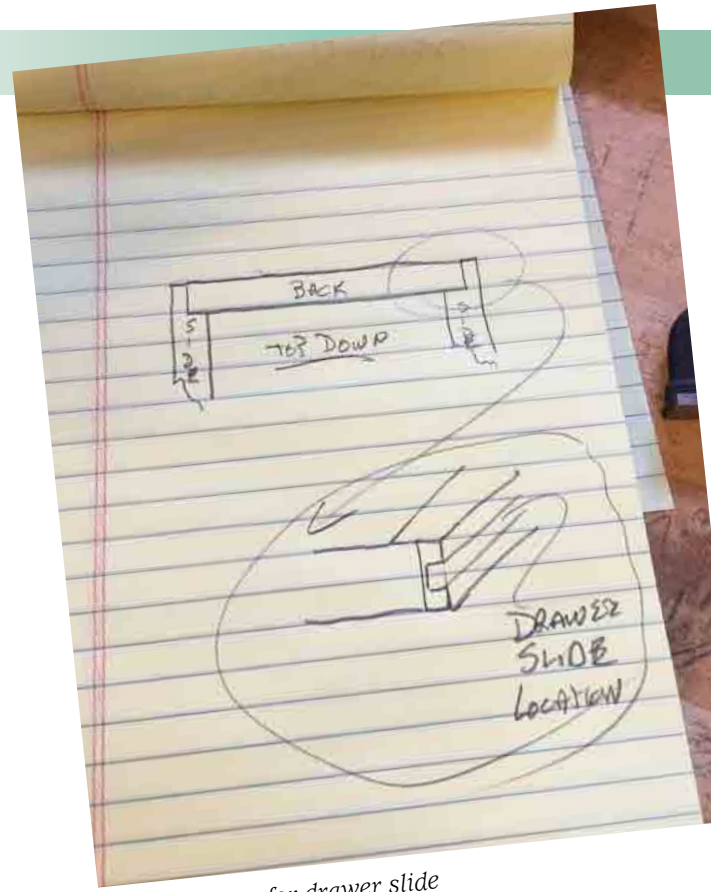
*Thursday, January 12, 2017 7:00 PM
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY*

By Wally Carpenter

All, I plan to cover a number of areas of woodworking in the form of a project planner and will be demonstrating different ways of approaching and successfully completing those projects. This presentation will less on design and more on sequence of steps we should be considering utilizing things such as templates and story sticks, developing models and prototypes, and executing in a sequence that makes the overall job easier and more professional.

Many of us have be trained by others in specific tasks we need to perform to complete a project but perhaps have not been exposed to such things as building models or test parts in constructing an heirloom piece of furniture, box, scroll work, etc. I will show how and why all these items are important to making the best piece you can while considering the order of making those items.

I look forward to your thoughts and suggestions as well. As I have said many times, we have enormous talent within our association. Let's use this opportunity to learn and teach together.



Prep drawing for drawer slide



Defining cut lines on drawer

Annual GE Volunteers and NWA Turners Make "Enabling Switch Bases"

By Susan McDermott and John Hoff

On November 21, 2016, the Monday Night Turners coordinated by Pam Bucci gathered at the Herm Finkbeiner Learning Center to turn wooden blanks into button bases for "enabling switches" for physically challenged youth. The goal for NWA turners is to meet every Monday night until 150 buttons are completed. The plastic caps are the donation of the Woman's Club of Albany, residents of Albany's Helderberg Neighborhood, and NWA contributors. The Woman's Club has conducted a year-long campaign of its members to collect 3" and 5" caps which are donated monthly. The wooden bases and plastic caps will then be electronically wired by GE volunteers to aid special needs children's manipulations in daily tasks and play.

The modified toys and equipment that are operated by plug-in switches are teaching aids used in therapy sessions to enhance motor/verbal skills and to reinforce cause and effect relationships. Many of the toys and equipment provide sensory feedback such as lights, sounds, and vibration is very important. Many of the clients were medically fragile as infants and had very limited sensory stimulation to help their nervous system grow, develop, and cope with today's intense levels of sensory inputs. Much of this equipment encourages social interaction by requiring cooperative efforts to operate a toy or arts and craft device. As you can tell, the switches are an integral part of the

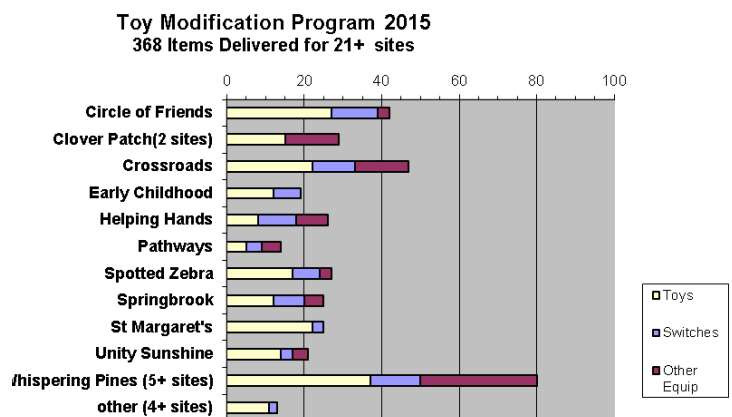


Stan Blanchard trains NWA Turners

therapies as many toy/equipment switches require a high degree of hand/eye coordination.

According to John Hoff, a GE volunteer who is co-chairperson of the project, the history of the design and production of switches and the modification of toys into "therapy equipment" began 20 years ago as a supplement to a University of Albany modified equipment library. After the university phased out its program, the Schenectady GE Elfun supported modifying toys into therapy equipment and production of the enabling switches. The GE Volunteers and the GE Foundation then supported the project as the GE Elfun Society was retired. The current 13 GE volunteers meet Thursday mornings at the Schenectady GE main plant campus. All walks of life are represented in the volunteers as it only takes basic hand tool usage and no knowledge of electricity. The group has held workshops where parents have modified their children's special toys and completed all the work themselves.

The assembled buttons are delivered by the GE Volunteers to therapists in 15 licensed service providers in the Capital District who customize the buttons' functions to be used for home devices and toys. The chart below shows the sites benefitting from the GE Volunteer Enabling Switches Project:



The Project would like to expand to the Albany-Troy area with the hope that students of wood working and electronics from Hudson Valley Community College and the Troy Arts Center might volunteer their time as part of a community service program.



Foam squares act as springs under cap



Blank custom turned to fit plastic lid



A button connected to toy



Box of poplar blanks



Quality control: Lid passes tests



A blank about to be turned

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Non-Traditional Segmentation Techniques

By John Franklin

Traditional methods of segmenting involve careful cutting, flattening, and grain alignment. In the past few years, I have experimented with alternate approaches to segmentation in woodturning. Here is a summary of my experiences with random segment construction, bandsaw segmentation, reverse segmentation, and what I call “tile floor construction”.

Random Segment Construction: A glue-up of multiple blocks and cross-cutting through the resulting blocks, and regluing, until you have a large enough block to turn.

The platter below was made with random cuts/glue-up of various pieces of wood. The block was glued up then recut and then re-glued until it was large enough to create the platter. Although it looks nice, this random segmentation can lead to problems with uneven expansion of the various woods with changes in humidity. With numerous end grain to side grain glue points, it is prone to breaking apart over a season unless it is extremely well sealed. It should be sealed on both sides with epoxy for moisture proof finish.



This vase “Random Hearts”, is constructed with a combination of both random segment construction by glue-up, and bandsaw segmentation. As in the plater above, the top and the bottom of this vase were created by progressively gluing/cutting numerous pieces of red-heart and yellow-heart. The pieces were progressively glued, then recut and additional pieces were then added to create a large enough piece to turn the top and bottom piece. The center of the vase was simply 7 layers of solid $\frac{3}{4}$ ” yellow heart with random bandsaw cuts through the block for placement of red veneers. When doing bandsaw cuts for veneer insertion, it is imperative that the wood block remain a rectangle block. Never try to



WOODWORKERS NEWS

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will be published
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**NORTHEASTERN
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cut a cylinder in the bandsaw. Dowels were drilled into the x points created by the veneers for a visual focal point. Everything was done randomly, so no part of the vase is symmetrical except the outside shape.

Reverse Segmentation: Is done by cutting a single block of wood visually into many smaller parts while constructing the vessel. This is done most often by deeply incising with a router. You can make shallow router cuts to give the top appearance of segmentation and not show through the bottom. You can also make the router cuts deep enough to pass completely through the vessel wall so the whole turning appears to be made of many separate parts.

The peppermill on the right was made with a single piece of clear maple. It was incised with a router to create numerous segment-like shapes. The individual separated pieces were dyed red and black. The shallow (1/8" deep) router cut was then filled with gold acrylic paint to create the clear separation of the individual pieces. This peppermill looks like a segmented piece but is still only one solid piece of wood.

The Sunburst Bowl, below was actually made the same way as the peppermill above, but the router cuts were made about 3/8" deep. The segmented bowl was formed by routing grooves on the inside of a large cherry blank that had a large crack in it that made it unsuitable for use for a cherry bowl. After routing, the individual triangular pieces were still attached to the block. The separated pieces were dyed red, yellow, and black. Then the routed space between the pieces was then filled with clear polyester. The remaining outside cherry wood form was then turned completely away leaving the separate pieces to appear to float in the air.

Tile Floor Segment Construction: Creating a mosaic tile-like floor starting with a pre-shaped sacrificial wood block. Numerous pre-cut pieces are glued on the block and then the space between the wood pieces is filled with an epoxy grout. Once the new surface is finished, the floor is removed completely leaving only the applied tile surface. This method allows the turner to create almost unlimited pieces. You can make a combination of random and fixed geometric shapes when you glue up the "floor".

The piece pictured next, "Broken Hearts", was made with random triangular parts of Purple-heart and Yellow-heart glued on a pre-shaped



scrap bowl blank. The blank also had a large crack so it was not suitable for a bowl on its own right. It however made an excellent sacrificial shaped block on which we would build a new bowl. 3/8" thick tiles were cut from Yellow-heart and Purple-heart and glued to the inside surface. After the black epoxy was grouted into the triangles, the whole sacrificial wood bowl was eliminated leaving only the triangular pieces to appear floating in the air.

This method has almost unlimited choices.

This piece at left was made the same way as the piece above, but was made by gluing on thin vertical strips of Red-heart and Yellow-heart and some clear acrylic on the side of a pre-shaped solid wood cone. Again, the spaces between the wood strips were filled with black epoxy. This method requires a relatively straight cone shape as the "floor" Once the outside was done, it was coated with several layers of clear epoxy to strengthen the wall. Then the inside is turned completely away until you meet the outside wall looking in. The inside is then also coated with a layer of clear epoxy for strength. When done, the inside and outside were coated with several coats of high gloss polyurethane.

This goblet vessel, right, was made with a combination of both random segment tiles and some pre-laminated vertical tile segments. A straight surfaced cherry wood cone was made as the floor, and the tile applied to the floor. A combination of straight laminated ebony pieces, and the small random segments of Yellow-heart were glued on the sacrificial blank. The spaces were filled with thickened black epoxy. Once the outside surface was completed, the inside scrap cherry wood cone was turned away until the outside wall was visible. The inside surface also was finished with clear epoxy and then clear high gloss polyurethane. The lower portion of the goblet was created with standard build-up and segmentation techniques. It was made with ebony, red veneer and 1/8" thin yellow heart wood.



NWA SHOWCASE MEMBER CHALLENGE

Hey fellow woodworkers, we have brought back the
NWA Member Challenge for Showcase 2017.

The challenge this year is:

Create something using a 2"x4"x8' construction grade stud.

- More than one person can work on the challenge together but only one stud (That's one board) will be allowed per entry.
- You must be a NWA Member in good standing to participate.
- 75% of the project must be made from the stud.
- No exotic woods allowed.

Trophy and ribbons will be awarded.

Please register your project on the Woodworkers Showcase exhibit entry form.

Ken Evans

Family Night December 1, 2016

By Susan McDermott

At 7 PM NWA members and their family members gathered at the Clifton Park- Halfmoon Public Library's Meeting Room A-B to enjoy home baked cakes, cookies, dips, and beverages provided by members. Four tables were laden with holiday goodies, and each members' tables had "square" snowmen centerpieces made by the NWA Crafters. The evening was concluded with drawings to award the centerpieces.

Dick Flanders coordinated the Show and Tell by announcing each of the contributing members' exhibits of arts, crafts, musical instruments, and wooden projects. The pictures reveal the variety, skill, ingenuity, and beauty of these items. The editor's apologies for anyone's item not acknowledged or the misspelling of names.



Dessert table (one of four)



Snowman Center Piece



Mike Mascelli's Victorian sleigh



Eric Marczak's three guitars, arrowheads, and beaded pipe bag



Mike Kratky's cutting board and bread knife



Marian Kratky's oil painting, local scene



Peter Howe's flag case and Dick Flanders' segmented vase and pocket knives



Steve VanDerZee's three and four legged bowls



Wayne Distin's cookbook shelf



NWA members gather



Dave Mobley's "Wood Crystals Series called 'Family Portrait'"



Tom Hutchinson's pull toy and Charlie Goddard's box



Bob Reinhardt's wooden clock and Charlie Goddard's Shaker boxes



Pam Bucci's fiber tools, drop spindles, wool and woolen wear.



Dick Flanders' tool tote and red oak stool



Bob Reinhardt's slab table



Steve Mapes' candle sticks (tin-ware)



Ken Evans' turning tool sheaths



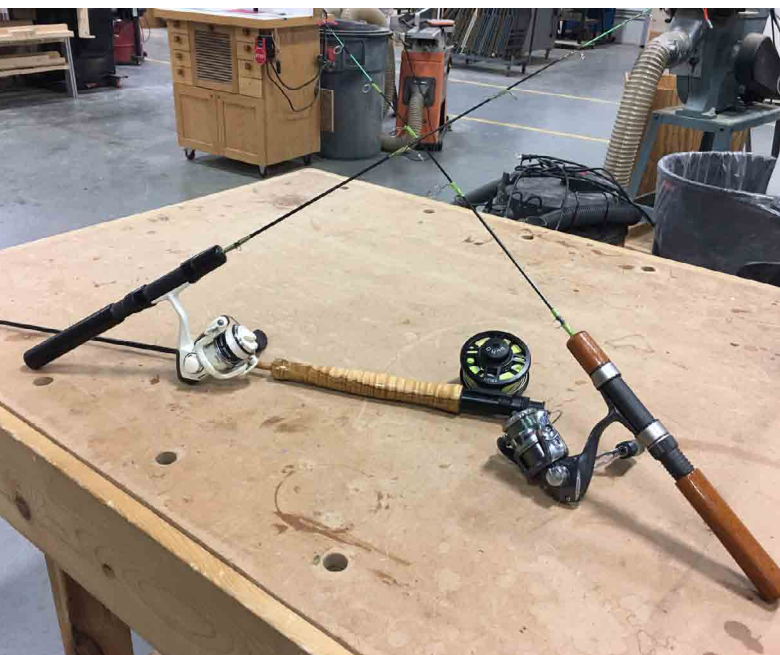
Celia and Wally Carpenter's collection of local wood work



Charlie Goddard's tennis racket rack



Member plays holiday music



Glenn Flagler's fishing poles



Beverly Reinhardt's "Puff"



Roy Watson's carved walking stick (Maltese dog's head)

Message from the NWA President

By Wally Carpenter

A new year is upon us which is a great time to reflect on past years and plan our goals for 2017.

As I have been considering areas we at NWA could and perhaps should be focusing, I return to the fundamental reason NWA exists. We exist to provide safe training and education in all areas of woodworking. This is done through formal education classes as well as those informal yet vital opportunities to learn from our more senior woodworkers.

I am continually pleased to see the interaction of our members as we freely and openly share ways of approaching and completing projects. One of the greatest things is that while each of us may have some expertise in some areas, we can recognize and seek knowledge from others when addressing an area of woodworking we want to pursue.

I recognize that we are a relatively large woodworking population with specific, yet diverse interests. That is perfectly understandable and acceptable. We have numerous Special Interest Groups (SIG's) which focus on many of those desired skills.

However, due to our structure, work schedules, family commitments, and other various reasons, it can become frustrating for some of our members to find a path to gain the knowledge that they joined NWA to receive.

I have strongly been considering a project where each member could post his or her current skills and then pool those talents into a data base where each of us could draw from when we have questions or concerns in those areas. It's certainly ok if you don't feel you currently have skills at a level you could train someone else. It does however give each of us a focus to become one of those who ultimately could provide such help. With member to member training and education, what wonderful years of growth we could experience. I'm hoping you will hear more on this in coming months.

I am also aware some of us are perhaps timid in reaching out to persons we don't know and asking of their time and talents. I can tell you without reservation if you contact anyone in your NWA presidency, we would be more than happy to help make those contacts for you.

Your Presidency contacts can be found under "Officers" in each monthly newsletter. Again, we have enormous talent in all types of woodworking within our organization, and members are more than happy to give their talents freely to those wishing to improve their own skills. Draw upon members and give yourself that opportunity to grow. After all, that's why we're here.

Chapter News

Mid Hudson Chapter News

by Peter Chast

At a festive December 14 meeting with home-made cookies and Irish Soda Bread, Mid-Hudson held their bi-annual election of officers. The new officers are:

Jim Lee, President – dlee1963@aol.com
Bob Lawless, Vice President
R Roberts, Treasurer
R Moore, Secretary

January 19, 2017 Meeting will be a discussion of saw sleds. Please bring one for show and tell.

Classifieds

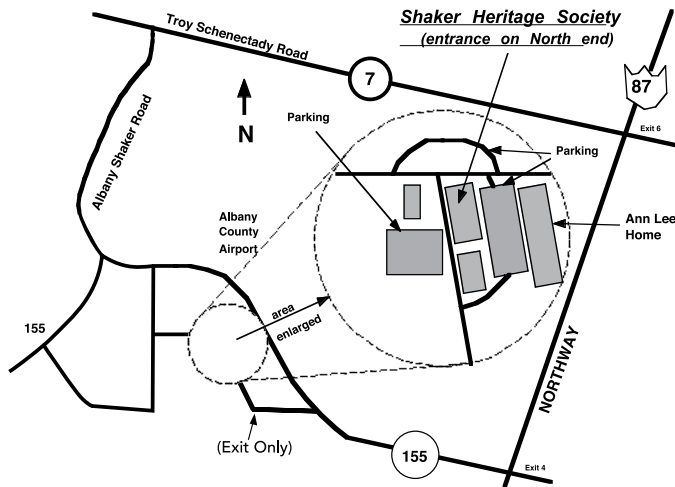
WANTED: 2 Hickory or 2 Oak Logs, minimum 8.5 feet long, 8 to 10 inches in diameter, preferable debarked and not green.

Hickory slab, one natural edge, 3 inches thick, 6 inches wide by 9 feet long, dried. Please contact Carl Heiner at cheiner12@yahoo.com or 518-466-0307.

**The reprints of Ron DeWitt's
"Tree of the Month"
will continue in February
and the following months.**

January Meeting

Thursday, January 12, 2017 7:00 PM
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY



2016 - 2017 MONTHLY MEETINGS

Unless noted otherwise, held at the Shaker Meetinghouse
on the Second Thursdays 7:00 PM)

January 12, 2017

Prototypes/Templates/Story Sticks/Planning and
Executing/Order of Work - Wally Carpenter

February 9

Tool Sharpening - both power and hand tools - Dave Parkis

March 9

Shop Tips & Techniques, plus Jigs & Fixtures - Pete Howe

April 13

Fundamentals of Bowl Turning - Rick Angus (Dave Mobley)

May 11

World Famous Tool Chest - Mike Mascelli (Wally Carpenter)

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

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 **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 Saturday of each month 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:** Dave Axton (518) 237- 6942, daxton@nycap.rr.com, Wayne Distin (518) 674-4171, wdistin@nycap.rr.com 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) 338-5637, 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

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

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:** Pete Chast, pchastnow@gmail.com.

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