

# WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern  
Woodworkers  
Association

July 2005, Vol. 14, Number 7

## 2nd Annual Tape Measure Stakes At Summer Picnic

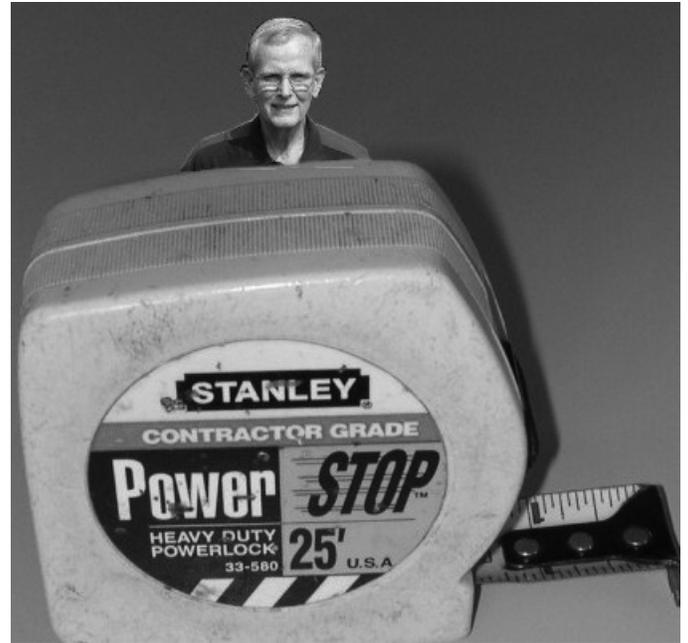
- Herm Finkbeiner

When tape measure adversaries show up at the starting line there is no predicting the lengths to which they will go. In this confrontation it not just winning that is everything... it is the means, fair and fowl, which are used to achieve an ill gotten advantage that seems to inspire the competitors. Be assured that this is not a time for the chicken-hearted.

In 2004 there were rumors of electric motors being hidden in the tape measure cases, Teflon coatings being applied to the undercarriage, the tape measure base being ground down to provide to thin rails on which the tape would ride and even a spring from an 8-day clock being substituted for the original. In the latter case the accusation may have had some foundation since one entry did crash through the finish line and threaten the very safety of the spectators.

Be assured that in 2005 the judges will be diligent in identifying and evicting any deviants that attempt to bend the rules.

With that assurance every NWA member is urged to bring along his or her steed, be it a recent acquisition or a faithful companion of many years. As in the past there will be prizes and trophies. It is even rumored that there will be active wagering with a prominent local track follower handling the book for the races. 🐾



Winner of the 1st Tape Stakes, Chuck Walker, has publicly stated that "size does matter". Some believe that this is a diversionary tactic, but you can never be sure.



After a brief consultation the judges disqualified this entry.

## NWA Annual Picnic

Sunday, July 24th • 12 P.M. (Noon) to 5 P.M.

Jonesville Fire Station No. 1, Main Street, Jonesville (Clifton Park) N.Y.

Don't forget to bring your favorite dessert, tape measure, 2 x 4 project and donation for the silent auction.

## OFFICERS

**President** - John Michne 371-6690  
jmichne1@nycap.rr.com  
**Vice President** - Ken Evans 753-7759  
kevans1@nycap.rr.com  
**Secretary** - Kitty Scharl 765-3189  
crowridge@empireone.net  
**Treasurer** - Austin Spang 393-2859  
spang@nycap.rr.com  
**Past President** - Pat McCord 439-1232  
tmccord@localnet.com  
**Historian** -  
Position to be Filled  
**Executive Secretary** - Charlie Goddard  
370-0388 Cgodd@aol.com

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**Sacandaga Chapter**  
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Dick Edel 773-5345  
**Education**  
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hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com  
**Adult Programs**  
Position To Be Filled  
**Youth Programs**  
William Van Brunt 767-3060  
wvanbrun@nycap.rr.com  
**Fiske Fund**  
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Cgodd@aol.com  
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wiltw0@nycap.rr.com  
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butternuthill@taconic.net  
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Ken Evans 753-7759  
kevans1@nycap.rr.com  
**Publications**  
Clark Pell 731-2475  
cepell@MSN.com  
**SHOWCASE**  
Larry Zinn 583-1227  
lrzn@aol.com  
**Tool Crib**  
Tom White 489-6360  
twhite10@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

## From the President

- *John Michne*

Summer is now upon us, along with barbeques, days in the park, or perhaps longer trips to the mountains or seashore. Not much in the way of shop work gets done. It seems that there is always something else to do, places to go, and the lawn needs cutting again. One thing that has been done by the NWA program committee is the planning for next season's events. The line-up is impressive...look for the calendar of events in the next issue.

Just because there are no regular NWA meetings until September is no reason to hang up the hand tools and unplug the table saw. Why not spend a day in the shop with a 2 x 4 and make something from it? That's right, use only the wood in one ordinary construction 2 x 4 to create a work of art, bring it to the NWA picnic on July 24 and maybe go home with a really nice prize. The full list of rules appears on the next page, or give me a call at 371-6690 for more information.

The NWA standing committee chairs have been filled for next year with the addition of Pam Cook as Membership Chair and Clark Pell as Publications Chair. We extend a warm welcome to Pam and Clark and look forward to working with them. 🐾

## Fiske Fund Committee Awards Four Grants

- *Charlie Goddard*

Four Fiske Fund grants were awarded for the application period which ended April 30. Mariruth Brown will be taking an introductory woodworking course at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy. John Hodgson will be taking a basic woodworking course at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport, ME. Joe Kennedy will be taking Garrett Hack's course in inlay technology taught at the Woodcraft store in Manchester, CT. Mike Wayne will be studying hand tool skills with Philip Lowe, also at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship.

The next application period will close September 30, 2005. There are many courses available and the Fund is able to support additional grants. If you need information about available courses contact Bob Kehn who maintains a listing. The internet is also a great place to find out about courses, by searching for "wood-working courses".

For some time the Committee has been considering ways to make the application process more flexible in order to make grants available to a greater number of people. The committee has decided to open up the application process to allow submission of applications four times each year. After September, due dates for applications will be December 31, March 31, June 30 and September 30.

The Committee is now made up of:

Joe Kennedy (Chairman)	845-473-1598	jkenn23333@aol.com
Dave Lasinski (Treasurer)	518-439-0617	dhlasin@nycap.rr.com
Jim Hartlage	518-370-4127	jmhartlage@aol.com
Bob Kehn	518-861-6423	bobkwila@yahoo.com
Mike Kross	518-370-1302	mkross@nycap.rr.com

## Bill McCormack's Carving Wins Award

- *Pat McCord*

A carved cane and a carving of "The Last Supper" done by Bill McCormack, who heads the NWA Carving SIG, won awards in a recent exhibit at the Stratton Veterans' Hospital in Albany. "The Last Supper" was named "Best in Show". The 3' x 5' pine carving depicting the famous religious scene will now be judged along with other regional winners at the national competition in Colorado. Congratulations, Bill! 🐾

# The Great 2005 Two by Four Challenge

- Herm Finkbeiner

NWA president John Michne has issued a challenge to test the ingenuity of NWA members. To wit: build something interesting, useful, funny or all of the previous using one construction 8 foot 2x4 as the only source of wood.

It is open to any thoughts you might have and even some you have not yet had. The pictures show some of the attempts that have been made thus far but surely many members can give their imaginations free reign and outdo these. It would be a terrible shame if there were so few entries that the judging was easy.

## 2 x 4 Challenge Rules

1. Build or make anything from a single construction 2 x 4 eight feet long, using only the 2 x 4 as the source of wood. Cutting an equivalent piece from larger piece, such as a 2 x 6, 2 x 8, etc., is not allowed. Premium grade wood as seen in Lowe's or Home Depot may be used provided it is a construction 2 x 4.
2. The wood may be cut, carved, turned, drilled, routed, etc., using any normal woodworking operation.
3. The piece may be fastened with screws, nails, glue, etc.
4. Additional parts, such as wheels, knobs, hinges, fabric, etc., not usually shop made, may be used.
5. The piece may be finished in any way common to a wooden piece.
6. **Bring the piece to the annual NWA picnic on July 24**, where you may donate it to the silent auction with the proceeds going to the Fiske Fund. Your piece may be entered for judging, which will be by People's Choice. Really nice prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third, depending on the number of entries. 🐾



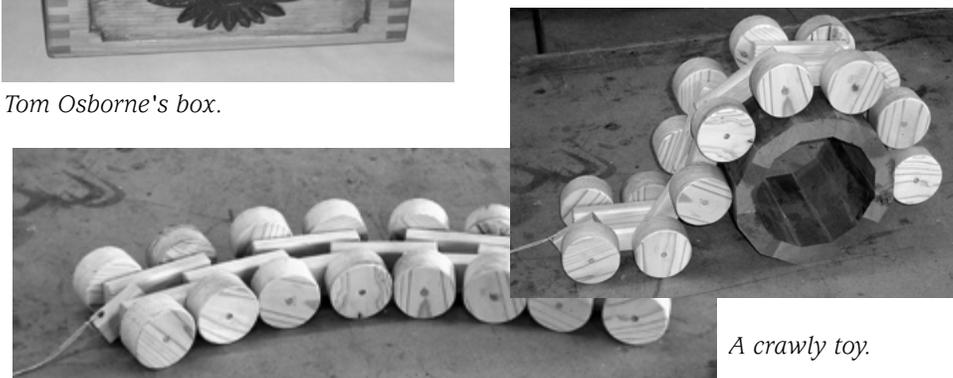
Dick Flander's 2 x 4.



Tom Osborne's box.



2 x 4 stool by Tom Osborne.



A crawly toy.

**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 a Macintosh G4, duplicated by Shipmates, and mailed to more than 850 addresses.



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Clark E. Pell, Editor 731-2475  
cepell@MSN.com  
Elizabeth Keays Graphic Artist  
Designer



**WEBSITE(S)**  
[www.woodworker.org](http://www.woodworker.org)  
[www.nwawoodworkingshow.org](http://www.nwawoodworkingshow.org)

Website Editor  
Clark Pell 731-2475  
cepell@MSN.com

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

# A Great Year for Hole in the Woods (and for NWA)

- Herm Finkbeiner

On May 18th Fran and I took a load of kits to Hole in the Woods. It was the second delivery this spring and marked an all time high for the number of kits that were built for the kids. NWA members built almost 400 since last summer; at least 43 members contributed to the project and I may have missed counting some of those that helped.

In this delivery there were 52 puzzle chairs, 63 catamarans, more dragsters than I wanted to count, bird-house kits, critter cages of three kinds as well as wooden cut outs, animals and star fighters.

A few days after we delivered the "load" I had a phone call from Eileen Minder, the crafts program director.

She had not been there when we left the kits and called to say that Christmas had come while she was out. I wish it had been possible to record the conversation I had with her since her enthusiasm and gratitude would have gladdened the heart of everyone who helped.

Of course the kids will get a great deal out of all that NWA has done but a very important effect will accrue to NWA. I think everyone who helped, whether working individually or as a part of one of the groups, got a tremendous reward from using their woodworking skills for such a worthy cause. In some respects I think it made us better woodworkers and certainly it was a lot of fun to do.

Of course we all realize that the reward for doing a good job is being asked to do it again. **Next year is coming!**

PS: I have lots of parts for almost completed kits. If you have a little time and would like to help finish the ones that are partial completed give me a call at 371-9145. 🐿



*Kits ready to go.*

# Annual Lumber and Tool Auction

- Charlie Goddard

The date has been set for the next lumber and tool auction...September 17, in the Shaker barn near the Meetinghouse where we hold our regular meetings. This is the main funding source for the grants which are awarded from the Fiske Fund.

Stored in the barn are about 900 bd-ft of walnut and 1,000 bd-ft of cherry. There will also be smaller quantities of maple, butternut, oak, elm, birch and others.

A few tools have been collected but we could use more. If you have a tool that you would like to donate let me know at (518) 370-0388, cgodd@aol.com. Make more room in your shop by moving those extra tools into storage in the barn. All donations are fully tax deductible. If you do not want to donate the full value of the item we can share the proceeds from the auction. The share which goes to the Fiske Fund is tax deductible. 🐿

# Fran Finkbeiner Leaves Publications Chair

- Pat McCord

Publications Chair Fran Finkbeiner has decided to lighten her workload and "retire" from the position. We are all very grateful for Fran's tireless dedication to preparing the numerous newsletters, brochures and other publications over the years. 🐿

The one grand stage where he enacted all his various parts so manifold, was his vice-bench – a long, crude, ponderous table fitted with several vices, both of iron and of wood.

Herman Melville

# CHAPTER NEWS

## *NWA Mid Hudson Woodworkers: The Cutting Edge*

- *Wally Cook*

How do you choose a circular saw blade? John Franklin suggests that sharpness, shape of the tooth and its angle of attack, durability, speed, consistency, and cost are the major factors in distinguishing cutting edges for circular saws, jig saws, and hole saws.

John provided a PowerPoint presentation at the May meeting to compare and contrast benefits of over twenty saw blades using examples of Freud products. Starting with the basics, John summarized the two major blade categories below.

### **RIP**

#### *Use*

- Designed for 5-7 teeth to be in the cut at any time
- Expansion slots to dissipate heat and reduce harmonic vibration
- 30 Teeth good for wood 1" thick
- Flat Top teeth

#### *Characteristics*

- Deep gullets to clear wood fiber

### **CROSS-CUT**

#### *Use*

- 5-10 degree hook angle
- 40-80 teeth
- Alternate Top or Hi Alternate Top Bevel teeth

#### *Characteristics*

- Small gullets

John went on to define the angle of attack presented by each saw tooth profile; that is, the hook or rake angle. As the angle of the tooth to the wood becomes more positive, the greater the volume of material that may be removed. Positive rake is well suited for ripping, but can be too aggressive for radial arm saws. Neutral rake angle will produce a sheer cut such as seen in a veneer blade, while negative rake may be used to cut metals.

The introduction of the laser cutting process for blade manufacturing has allowed the use of harder material for saw blades, therefore more rigid blades overall. Design changes can accommodate thinner kerf blades and even asymmetric tooth patterns. John covered various tooth patterns (flat top, alternate top bevel, triple chip) as well as specialty blades for wet wood and remodeling.

### **Outreach Projects**

Thanks to the volunteers that participated in the Kingston High School Bird House Construction project. Ten members worked with students to construct 26 bird houses in 45 minutes as part of class project in environmental studies.

Don't forget the demonstration booth sponsored by the Catskill Mountain Foundation at Hunter Mountain on July 9-10. See Joe Mikesch for details.

### **Classes**

Contact Stan Rosenberg, Matt Clarke, or Bernie O'Malley if you have interest in beginning woodturning class. The first learn 'n turn session went very well. The three day sessions are being scheduled 9AM to 4 PM and will introduce both spindle and bowl turning.



*George Norton assisting students during bird house construction.*



*Kingston High School students show off their products.*

# CHAPTER NEWS

## *Sacandaga Chapter News*

- Gary Spencer

The Sacandaga Chapter has recessed for the summer with our next regular meeting on September 14th. We did have an excellent session on intarsia by Jeff Meusen. Everyone went home enthused and eager to try out his techniques. Thanks to Jeff for a job well done!

On June 11th we had shop tours in the Sacandaga area. Thanks to Ray Rodrique, Ed Tanner, and Mike Kratky for going to the trouble of cleaning up their shops and having memorable tour stops. We were able to see something unusual or new at each stop, and had good refreshments too.

### **Our new Officers for the 2005/06 year are:**

*Co-presidents:* Joe Artkuski and Mike Kratki, *NWA liason:* Gary Spencer, *Newsletter:* Dick Solar

We hope everyone has a productive and enjoyable summer and will attend our Sacandaga meetings come September 14th. Remember we have door prizes at every meeting but you do have to be present to win!

Our regular monthly meetings are the second Wednesday of each month and begin at 7:00 pm at the Mayfield High School woodshop. They are open to all, and light refreshments are served. Come on out!

For additional info or directions contact : Joe Artkuski , 883-4430, Mike Kratky, 863-6433 or Gary Spencer, 863-6433.

## *Kaatskill Woodturners: May and June Meetings*

- Wally Cook

The Opdahl building has been a busy place in the past two months. A chemical toilet facility was installed and space is being prepared for the sawdust collection system. Work is also underway on mobile cabinets that will serve as woodcarving benches as well as storage for mini-lathes.

All this activity is driven by the diverse interest groups using the facility. Wood carvers, scrollers, and turners have established schedules for different venues, necessitating design for multi-use. George Norton has been named the Building Manager in order to keep the focus on efficient use of the space.

The Kaatskill Woodturners have put on two terrific programs in back-to-back months, as well as starting a series of learn 'n turn classes for beginning wood turning.

In May, Ken Evans demonstrated spindle turning projects for the group. Ken turned candle holders, while showing wood selection and tool use (and the cool magnetic pencil tip). The event was well attended and Ken's skill as an instructor was evident. Many thanks to Ken as well for donating four bowls for the raffle held that evening.

June's program was about deep hollowing techniques, presented by John Franklin. John has been experimenting with methods to produce thin wall tubes for segmented construction of vessels. John's most ambitious work to date is a 30 inch tall walnut vase.

John covered the importance of steady rest for long pieces, as well as internal support (insertion of tight fitting wooden blanks) for the hollowed segments while shaping the outside surface.

Stay tuned ... upcoming events for July and August include turned boxes and inlay techniques for musical instruments.

*John Franklin uses a cherry blank to insert in the hollowed piece while turning the outside.*



*John Franklin shows extender for Forstner bit.*

*Ken Evans teaching at the Opdahl building.*



# Scrollers Test Latham Fire Response

- Tom O'Donnell

The June 15th meeting of the NWA Albany Scrollers' Guild was a smoking success.

The new 'beginners session' started at 5:15 at Woodcraft in Latham. Two new members Chris Smith & Brenda Mattison attended the first beginners' class that focused on scrolling blades. After a brief intro they were invited to try several types of blades and different types of cuts.

The regular meeting began at 6 PM with 18 members in attendance. The meeting commenced with a report on NWA upcoming events and the Scroller's Guild planned participation, followed by members showing their woodwork with a discussion of wood used, blades and finishes. Then volunteers picked up wood for a co-op project of a chess set for Double H Hole in the Woods next year. A short demonstration on resawing was attempted but resulted in a visit from the Latham fire department. It seems that band saw blades smoke a lot when dull and full of pitch. Guess we won't do that again. After three fire engines and a police car arrived the meeting adjourned. Still no sign of our new Papa and resident firefighter Will Charbonneau whose wife had a daughter 5 weeks early on the 12th of June.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 20th of July at Woodcraft in Latham at 6:00 pm. The beginners' session starts at 5:15 pm and the subject is wood types and project planning.

Contact Tom O'Donnell [todonne3@nycap.rr.com](mailto:todonne3@nycap.rr.com) or (518) 879-3173. 🐾



Mark Hammond with lion and lamb intarsia.



Jeanne, Brenda and the Latham Fire Department.



Fish and 9/11 scene by Glen Cullen.



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

**For Sale:** Delta band saw, bench model, next to new, 7 1/2" cut, \$50.  
Bob Luther, (518) 456-1499; e-mail [rcl@lanepressofalbany.com](mailto:rcl@lanepressofalbany.com)

**For sale:** Delta 6" jointer model 37-195, 5 years old but not heavily used, enclosed factory steel stand with dust chute, 3 knife cutter head, \$350. Bob Scardamalia, (518) 797-3163 or [roberts355@aol.com](mailto:roberts355@aol.com) roberts355@aol.com

### Lumber For Sale:

Soft Maple - 4/4, 6" to 12" wide, 4 to 14 feet long; 8/4, 8 feet long, \$1.50/BF  
Ash - 4/4, 6" to 12" wide, 10 to 14 feet long, small quantity of 8/4, 4 feet long, \$2.00/BF  
Poplar - 4/4, 4" to 12" wide, most is 8 feet long, some longer, \$1.50/BF  
Spruce - 4/4, 2x6, 2x8, 2x10, 2x12, 6x6, 5x5, 4x4, 8 to 14 feet long, most of the 4/4 is 14 feet long, \$0.50/BF  
The hardwood has been partially planed. All lumber is located in Vermont. Delivery can be arranged.  
Charlie Goddard, (518) 370-0388, [cgodd@aol.com](mailto:cgodd@aol.com).



# New Members

## - Austin Spang

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to NWA:

Kevin Aldrich	Troy	NY	Ray Lemka	Castleton	NY
Lou Aply	Troy	NY	Anthony Lisosky	Castleton	NY
"B" Basirico	Clifton Park	NY	Jack and Justin Lynch	New Paltz	NY
Jimmy Benn	Delmar	NY	Rich Macrae	Greenlawn	NY
Ted Bochenek	Scotia	NY	Bob McCormack	Queensbury	NY
Nicole Bouchez	Guilderland	NY	Carrel Moore	Bennington	VT
Mariruth Brown	Ballston Spa	NY	Paul Nicholson and Joan Hornbeck	Poughkeepsie	NY
Joseph Bucci	Albany	NY	George Nigriny	Scotia	NY
Chris Calyer	Nassau	NY	Tom Noonan	Kinderhook	NY
Rob Camardello	Ballston Spa	NY	Bill O'Donnell	Lake George	NY
Norman Clo	Gloversville	NY	George Olsen	Richmondville	NY
Jon Cochran	Round Lake	NY	David Otto	Wilton	NY
Jayson Cote	Charlton	NY	Dave Page	Poughkeepsie	NY
Brian Culwell	Ellenville	NY	Pat Paraggio	La Grangeville	NY
Joshua Cummings and Emily Oswald	Saratoga Springs	NY	Eric Pederen	Monterey	MA
Mike Czaja	Adams	MA	Al Pratt	Poughkeepsie	NY
Kevin Duffy	Voorheesville	NY	Rajiv Rajan and Vrinda Rajiv	Schenectady	NY
John Dundon	Fort Edward	NY	Mark and Dorline Rokjer	Clifton Park	NY
Glenn Durlacher	Delmar	NY	Bob Ruck	Watervale	NY
Dak Esberg	Saratoga Springs	NY	Michael Ryan	Scotia	NY
Jared Evens	Fort Ann	NY	Richard Sanderspree	Queensbury	NY
Peter Fernandez	Albany	NY	Paul Schwartz	Saratoga Springs	NY
Marc Hafensteiner	Selkirk	NY	Matt Shean	Woodstock	NY
James Harrington	Bennington	VT	Michael Sherin	Ballston Spa	NY
David Hassel	Wynantskill	NY	Jack Shields	Watervilet	NY
Ernst Hladik	Amsterdam	NY	Bill Stamm	Rosendale	NY
John Homes	Waterford	NY	Evelyn Ting	Saratoga Springs	NY
Tim and Elizabeth Horvath	Cherry Valley	NY	Chuck Trabold	Syracuse	NY
Al Johnson	West Chazy	NY	Micheal Vermouth	Bristol	NH
Joe and Susan Kiaunis	Amsterdam	NY	Roger Walter	Accord	NY
Joe Kirk	Hyde Park	NY	Roger Whiting	Middle Granville	NY
Liz Kormos	Voorhesville	NY	Bruce Wight	West Carlton	NY
Gene Latham	Oxford	NY	Jack Wyatt	Ballston Spa	NY
Alonzo Lee	Poughkeepsie	NY	Janice, Eden and Gar Zeitler	Troy	NY

We hope they enjoy being a member and participating in the activities of NWA.

Please give them a special welcome when you see them at any of our activities. 🐾

## Wood Needed by "Nuns With Knives"

- Pat McCord

The woodworking nuns at St. Joseph's Provincial House led by NWA member Sister Mary Ellen Putnam (known locally as the "Nuns with Knives") are in need of wood for carving and woodburning. If you have any scraps of usable pine, please bring them to the next NWA meeting (or picnic) or contact Bill McCormack at 233-7260. Bill will be glad to arrange to pick them up. Who knows? Maybe you'll be "rewarded" for your good deed! 🐾

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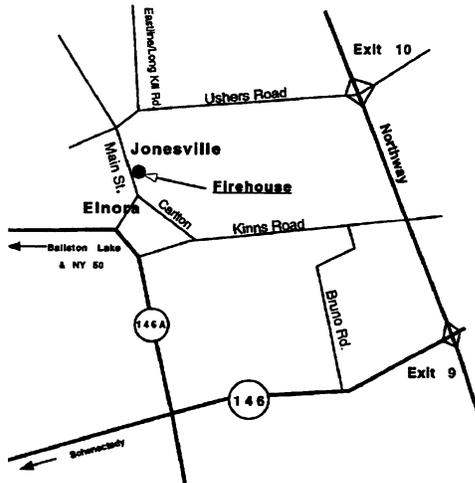
Ph: 802-843-2594

Fax: 802-843-2274

Email: trade@vermontel.net



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



Summer Picnic, Sunday, July 24  
12 P.M. (Noon) to 5 P.M.  
*Jonesville Fire Station No. 1*

GENERAL MEETINGS  
AND SPECIAL EVENTS

For meeting cancellation information,  
call Pat McCord 439-1232,  
John Michne 371-6690  
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. Saturday "Learn and Turn" sessions are also scheduled. [www.adirondackwoodturners.org](http://www.adirondackwoodturners.org)  
Contact: Ken Evans, 753-7759 or [Kevans1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:Kevans1@nycap.rr.com)

**Carver's Guild** - meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at the Clifton Park Senior Center from 6:30 pm to 9:00 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 the third Wednesday of each month at Woodcraft, Latham. Beginners' session starts at 5:30 followed by a general meeting at 6:15.  
Contact Tom O'Donnell (518) 581-1167 or [todonne3@nycap.rr.com](mailto:todonne3@nycap.rr.com).

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

### CHAPTERS

**NWA Mid-Hudson** -The chapter meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday, except July and August, at the Central Hudson Electric Company Community Center, Route 28, Kingston. Contact: Joe Mikesh, (845) 687-4285

**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.