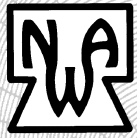


WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

March 2003, Vol. 12, Number 2

March Meeting *Doors of Distinction*

- Ken Miller

7 p.m., Thursday, March 13, 2003
Shaker Heritage Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road (near Albany Airport)

The Miller family designed and built an energy efficient house in picturesque Rensselaer County. A stand of northern red oak was harvested, quarter sawn, and is being used for the flooring, doors and trim. Veneers provide patterns for the panels, rails and stiles.

Classical methods of making doors with lumber core, surfaced with quarter sawn veneers will be the focus of this talk by Ken Miller who is an NWA member and retired from RPI (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy). Three approaches to making doors utilizing the principles of wood technology will be discussed. Slides of some of the 17 completed doors will be presented and a discussion of the remaining six doors will complete tonight's talk. (Collecting tools and creating arts and crafts objects have occupied Ken's spare time - and led to this lecture. He is also chairing the special saw exhibit at SHOWCASE 2003.)

Ken went to Lane Technical High School in Chicago and trained to be a machinist. Sputnik intervened and he pursued a career in chemistry, specializing in computer modeling of DNA. He grew up in a family of craftsmen trained in Europe. Conversations at family gatherings included projects, decorating and problem solving. That's why he went into research. Also his in-laws had a farm which provided a wonderful source of southern hardwoods for experimentation. When Ken's son asked whether he will get the same intellectual stimulation out of woodworking in retirement as he did in scientific research, Ken replied, "It boils down to problem solving, creating, and teaching. Yes!" Most important, he said "I'm retired from RPI but not life!"



Chuck Walker, shown here demonstrating how to use his chevalet de marqueterie or "cutting horse" at the last NWA meeting, recommends the marquetry video in The Woodwright's Shop series, Season 20: Marquetry Master Patrick Edwards. French 18th century "ebinistes" made furniture decorated with pictures composed from thin sheets of colored wood. Trained in Paris, Patrick Edwards shows the tools and techniques of this lost art. 30 minutes, one tape. Item Code WOWS9208 \$14.95. PBS at <http://SHOP.PBS.ORG> or 877-PBS-SHOP. (This is the tape promised as part of the January program, but time ran out.) You can see more of Patrick Edwards on www.WPatrickEdwards.com. Contact Chuck Walker for a marquetry bibliography and for an Edwards class schedule (845) 221-2359.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. with a brief business meeting, followed by refreshments and socializing, and the opportunity to use both the NWA library and the Tool Crib. Everyone enjoys Show and Tell - won't YOU be one of those who displays something there? 🐾

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UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

From the President

- Jay Van Vranken

As I sit here on this cold winter day, I can't help but to look forward to that nice warm weather again. Even though I have a brand new furnace in my shop (which is in a separate building), I am reluctant to run it on particularly cold days like this. Warmer weather reminds me that our woodworkers show is just around the corner. Have you started your project that you want to enter into the show yet? You haven't got much time. And - I'm happy to announce that our friend George Hackett, who sent us those 100 Jeeps for the Toy Factory last year from Shellsburgs, Iowa, will be coming here so he can help us out at the show! Talk about a long distance volunteer! He will be working in the Toy Factory and I'm sure that Jean Aldous will want to latch onto him to work with the scrollers, too. Be sure to stop by and say hello to George - I know that he'll will be eager to meet you. 🐾

Ed. Note: A lot of effort is necessary to run an organization like ours, one with more than 800 people and with no paid staff. The Board of Directors feels that you should know more about what goes into providing the services that NWA offers to YOU. These and upcoming brief reviews of Board of Director's meetings should be an eye-opener for many.

FROM THE PRESIDENT - Jay Van Vranken

A few items from the December 19th Board of Directors meeting...

Education

Ken Evens says that the chairman of the Kids Program is recovering from an illness so the program must wait. Also, we still haven't found anyone to chair the adult programming. A discussion was held about the possibilities of having "in-shop" sessions. Several persons have volunteered to hold individual demonstrations of different aspects of woodworking in their own workshops. If there are several individuals that would want to attend some of these sessions or hold a demonstration in their own shop, let me, Charlie Goddard, Herm Finkbeiner, or Ken Evens know.

Web Site

Bill Fahy has been appointed web site editor. Bill will report to the president and will serve as a member of the Publications Committee that is chaired by Ron DeWitt. Bill will interface with the respective web masters and his responsibilities will include editing, scheduling and coordinating all material to be included in NWA web sites. Any member who has something that he/she feels would be of interest to the rest of the members and would like it displayed on the web-site, should contact Bill Fahy. His e-mail address and telephone number is listed in the masthead on page two of this newsletter.

Bill reports that Justin Rohrer has made a good start on the web site. In the future they intend to include animation. Bill has been thinking about links to popular sites; he wants to make our site read like a good book. Herm Finkbeiner said there are other woodworking organizations that have good sites, and it would be beneficial to have links to them. Ken Evans stated that before we invite people to our site we should spruce up both content and layout. Justin is working on another format, but his job doesn't include content. Stay tuned.

Membership

Charlie Goddard reported for Austin Spang. Austin has sent 268 reminders of unpaid dues. The suggestion was made that people who don't renew could be asked why they don't. Fran Finkbeiner thinks a handy renewal envelope included in the September newsletter would be a good idea; Ron DeWitt said he will see that this happens. Austin also has stated people may join for more than one year at a time if they wish.

Old Business

Dale Swann reported that he has an attorney to work with regarding the change to 501(c)3—Rob Coan of Higgins, Roberts, Beyerl & Coan. Rob Coan will draft an Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation by January 15 for review at the next board

Continued on Page 4

WOODWORKERS SHOWCASE 2003

March 22 & 23

- *Charlie Goddard, Chair*

Showcase will be here soon. I hope that you are planning to participate in as many ways as possible.

Entries

I wish I could report that the forms are streaming in, but as I write this, we have received only 10 entry forms. Please send in your forms now, even if you haven't finished your entry. Knowing what items will be entered helps a great deal in designing the layout for the exhibit hall. Also, those making the labels for the exhibit items do not appreciate the usual mad rush to get them made a day or two before the show. Please fill out the form completely and legibly. If you have misplaced your entry form there is another copy included in this newsletter. Also, the entry form can be downloaded from the website, www.nwawoodworkingshow.org.

I encourage everyone to consider entering at least one item. For those who are new to woodworking we will have a separate area reserved for novice pieces. Exhibit items may be entered for judging or for display only. Rules for judging are found on the entry form.

All display items must be delivered to the City Center Friday night. Once the exhibit hall is set up it is very difficult to include pieces on Saturday morning. If you need help getting your exhibit items to Saratoga, please let me know. We can make arrangements to have them picked up.

Volunteers

Showcase is a very big volunteer effort. The only people who are paid are the uniformed guards that we hire to safeguard the various exhibits. NWA members and their families perform all other work. By the time you read this you should have been contacted to work in some capacity at the Show. If you did not sign up to work, please reconsider. If you have signed up, consider working more than one shift.

Don't forget, all volunteers are eligible to enter the drawing for a Ridgid oscillating belt/drum sander.

Lectures and Demonstrations

One of the most popular aspects of our Show is the lecture series. We know that many people come to the Show to take advantage of these free lectures. Some stay all day Saturday and come back again on Sunday. Total attendance for the lectures last year was over 1,400.

In addition to the many lectures given by our members, as shown on the schedule included with this newsletter, there will be lectures by four nationally known woodworkers. (See Featured Speakers, p. 5 for information about a special session by Ernie Conover.)

This year, all lectures will be held in meeting rooms of the adjacent Sheraton Hotel which is now called the Prime Hotel and Conference Center.

Distinguished Woodworkers

Each year the Show includes a special exhibit. This year we have asked famous woodworkers from around the country to lend us an item of their work. (See Gallery of Distinguished Woodworkers, p.6)

Toy Factory

The Toy Factory will be making toys to give to all kids who stop by. This year each one will be offered a small car. In addition, throughout the day there will be drawings for a larger toy, a helicopter.

The Toy Factory still needs more of the small cars. The plans were included in the December newsletter. If you cannot put your hands on that issue, give Jay VanVranken a call.



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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 nine times annually, six regular editions and three special editions (SHOWCASE, Shop Tour, and Family Night). The publication is assembled in QuarkXPress 4.0 on a Macintosh G4, duplicated by Shipmates, and mailed to more than 600 addresses.



Your next issue of
Woodworkers News
will be published
in early May.

Copy deadline: April 15
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NWA maintains two websites,
the first noted here
operates continuously.
We also offer selected
links to other sites of interest
to our membership.
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The second site operates from
January 1 to May 30
and carries specific
information about SHOWCASE.
Webmaster - Rich Pagano
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Richpagano@earthlink.com



**NORTHEASTERN
WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION**
P.O. BOX 246
Rexford, New York 12148

SHOWCASE Tool Exhibit

-Ken Miller

This is a marvelous opportunity for you to participate in the second annual antique-to-present tool exhibit. The "Lathes through the Years" of last year is being followed in 2003 by "Saws ...", a title which will be modified at the last minute to accommodate all of the wonderful items that are being lent for exhibition. We are limiting it to blades, to eliminate the difficulty of moving heavy equipment.

Presently, we have about enough to make a great show, but additional pieces will make it Grand. So, if you have any saws, related material such as saw sets, files used to sharpen saws, jointer tools, vises, literature, catalogs, sayings, funny setups, etc., bring them to the March 13, meeting. Mark your items in some manner. Last year everything was returned to the owners safe and sound. Wayne did - and will again - provide continuous surveillance. We will design a walking tour and train the helpers to discuss the various items in the exhibit. So, put on your thinking caps! 🐶

Eight Seats Left on Bus Trip to Philadelphia Furniture Show

- Herm Finkbeiner

Forty-four members have signed up for NWA trip to the Philadelphia Furniture Show on May 2-3, 2003. We have just eight seats left.

The premier show of "one of a kind furniture and furnishings in the East" features the work of more than 250 craftsman. Included are original designs of tables, chests, desks, chairs, bookcases, etc., AND accessories such as hand-made paper lighting, modernist-patterned rugs, sleek silver-ware, glass and ceramic vases and intricately inlaid boxes.

The trip will leave the Schenectady area at 7:00 am, pick up members of the Mid-Hudson chapter in the Kingston area, drive to Philadelphia, check in to the Hampton Inn and then spend the afternoon, (2:00pm to 9:00pm) at the show.

On Saturday morning we will go to the Wharton Esherick Museum and be back in Schenectady by early evening. Wharton Esherick is considered by many to be the father of American craftsmanship. The museum is the home and studio that Esherick built and hold many of his pieces.

The cost of the trip, which includes bus transportation, hotel room, admission to the furniture show and admission to the Esherick museum, is \$115/person double occupancy (\$169 for single occupancy).

To sign up call 371-9145 or send an e-mail to hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com

For more information about the show or the museum the web sites are: www.pffshow.com and www.levins.com/esh3.html 🐶

Board of Directors Meeting

Continued from Page 2

meeting. NWA will need approval of 2/3rds of the entire membership to change the Certificate of Incorporation, but since this is not possible at a meeting, the recommendation is that it be done by mail ballot with a cover letter indicating the importance of responding. We must get 2/3rds of the membership to proceed. Dale said we must define who is a member, and decide if business members and family members can vote. The process of changing to the 501(c)3 could be a lengthy process, but according to the attorney, that other similar organizations have gotten the 501(c)3 is a good sign. And, the By-Laws need to be changed to reflect the changes that have transpired over the years since NWA began. Charlie Goddard is reviewing the By-Laws and will be presenting his recommendation in the near future.

New Business

Regarding the bus trip to the Philadelphia Furniture Show, Herm Finkbeiner says there will be another article in the next newsletter, and that e-mails have been sent. So far 27 people have signed up, and we need another 23. The trip will also include a visit to the Wharton Esherick Museum.

A discussion was held on how to make our organization better known throughout the Northeast. Herm said that bumper stickers are 28 cents each, and decals are \$1.50. Jay VanVranken suggested that we consider lapel pins and tie tacks. There was some discussion, but no resolution to proceed with any of the items.

Herm thinks we should appoint a committee to investigate the future of Family Night. He said the object was originally for people to bring in work to show off, but he was disappointed in that only four or five people brought in pieces. A committee will be appointed; and we are looking for a person or persons to head up the Annual Picnic and Family Night. If you are interested, please let me know.

The general feeling of those present was that the Fiske Memorial Lecture this November was more consistent with what it was intended to be. Jack Norray has built a prototype award piece—a plane. Herm would like to add a plaque and present one to each of the Fiske lecturers. It was also noted that the same design could be used for a best of show award for Showcase (or other awards), with a suitable plaque.

Remember that **SHOWCASE 2003** is just around the corner, so get those items built and your application sent in.

- Jay Van Vranken, President 🐶

Fiske Fund Application

The next Fiske Fund application period ends April 30, 2003. Due to the very successful lumber and tool auction last September the Fund has sufficient money to award a number of grants. Grants are available for anyone, member or non-member, to attend organized courses which will enhance the applicant's woodworking knowledge. If you would like information about available courses, Ralph Lichtenstein (413-698-3123, RCVino@aol.com) has collected literature about many woodworking courses. Application forms and further information are available from Charlie Goddard (370-0388, cgodd@aol.com)

Wood of the Month

- Ron DeWitt

Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*). A Hardwood.

Aceraceae. Maple Family

There are 13 species of maple native to North America; a total of about 148 species worldwide. Maples may be found from Alaska and Canada to Guatemala and across Europe into China, Japan, Malaysia and Africa.

No other species is as important as the sugar maple, a.k.a. rock maple or hard maple (*Acer saccharum*) because of its quality and quantity of wood and its "maple products." The red maple (*Acer rubrum*), also found in North America, has significant commercial value and is also worthy of consideration by woodworkers.

The maples tend to be classified as hard and soft maples. The hard group is made up of sugar and black maple; the soft group includes, red, striped, silver, ash-leafed (boxelder) and the big-leaf maples. On a general basis the hard maples are heavier, harder, stronger and more wear resistant than the soft maples. Of the soft maples, the red maple is the best in terms of these factors.

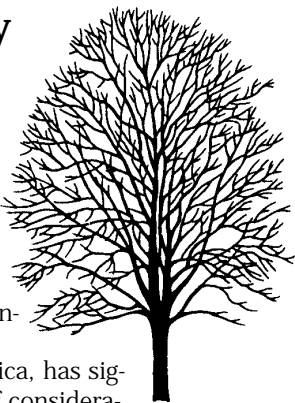
The red maple is also called scarlet, swamp, soft, Carolina red, Drummond red, water or white maple. This tree, one of the most abundant and widely dispersed trees in eastern North America, ranges further north and south than the sugar maple and is found in most of the area from Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, south through most of Florida and westward from Manitoba and Minnesota and south into eastern Texas.

Red maple does well in a wider range of soil, moisture, pH and elevation conditions than any other tree in North America. This maple probably grows best on moist, moderately well-drained sites. It is common in mountainous country on drier ridges and in peat bogs and swamps, the extremes of soil-moisture conditions, either very dry or very wet. It shows little preference for directional exposure and associates, often in pure stands, with a wide variety of tree species, hardwoods as well as softwoods. Red maple is considered to be a "sub-climax species" that can occupy over-story space but eventually is likely to be replaced by other species. It is also classified as shade tolerant.

Red maple grows to large tree size, 75-95 feet high and 30 inches in diameter, with a compact, narrow or rounded crown and may live 150 years. On better sites it produces good saw logs, clear of branches for half of its height but often it's poorly formed with multiple stems. Red maple is considered "susceptible to defect" and is very sensitive to mechanical branch and stem damage and insect leaf damage that can result in form and internal defects.

A huge tree in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee, is reported to be 141 feet high and just over seven feet in diameter. New York's big tree, about 76 feet high and seven feet in diameter, is located in Annandale, Dutchess, County.

Leaves of the red maple are opposite, 2 1/2" to 4" long and wide with three to five lobes and prominent, red lower veins, suspended on four inch long red or green petioles (leaf stalks). Leaves are light green on the upper surfaces and whitened underneath. Twigs are shiny red to grayish-brown becoming smooth and light gray as the branches mature. Bark on old stems thickens to about a half-inch and fissures into long longitudinal plate-like scales, slightly upturned outward on both ends.



Featured Speakers at Woodworkers Showcase 2003

- Herm Finkbeiner

In addition to our own NWA experts, four invited lecturers will provide a range of topics as broad as we have ever had at SHOWCASE.

In keeping with our special exhibit on saws, on Saturday morning **Ernie Conover** will present *How to Make Your Saw Sing*, a double session that will cover the basic uses of hand saws, sharpening and care. Then, following the pattern set last year, on Sunday, from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm, he will give a workshop on *Hand Tool Joinery*. The basics of making all the common wood joints will be the subject and he will finish the program by making a raised panel door.

There is an extra charge of \$10 for this session to help defray the additional costs.

Julie Godfrey is bringing her marquetry talents to the show and will give two programs on Saturday and again on Sunday. Those NWA members attended our January meeting will have already seen examples of her work as a part of Chuck Walker's presentation. Her presentations, *Bringing a Marquetry Flower to Life: Basic Bevel Cutting Technique* and *Inseparable Layers: Harmonizing Marquetry with Cabinet Design* will be immediately followed by NWA's Chuck Walker who will continue the topic with, *Marquetry: an Introduction to the Boule Technique*.

Garrett Hack is back with us. For those who follow the appearance of various woodworkers in the magazines, you will know that Garrett has been very visible in the two years since he was last here. He will give two programs on new methods of *Sharpening* and then continue the emphasis on special techniques that he began here two years ago. On Saturday he will give a session on *String Inlay* and on Sunday his subject will be *Perfect Surfaces*.

Aime Fraser is a newcomer to WOODWORKERS SHOWCASE. Her specialties are teaching beginning woodworkers and boat building. On Saturday she will start the day with *Getting Started in Woodworking* and follow immediately with *Getting Started in Boat Building*. Aime's approach to starting woodworking is to build a few items that, while worthy in themselves, also help to develop the skills and understanding that will be a part of any future project - no matter how intricate. Her boat building method is much the same, learn what needs to be done and understood before a boat building project can even get started. 🐾

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Birdhouses for Habitat

- Dale Swann

Many of you will remember that in 1998 NWA members built over forty birdhouses that Habitat for Humanity auctioned, raising over \$800 to help finance building homes for low income families. Habitat is going to do it again and seeks NWA support.

Birdhouses, butterfly houses, feeders and carvings are needed. Local artists will decorate some of the birdhouses. The items will be auctioned on August 1 at the Mohawk Golf Club in Niskayuna at an event to be announced. If you can help, you may bring your birdhouse, etc. to the May NWA meeting, or contact Dale Swann (346-4172) or Trish Savage (393-4111) to make arrangements for your donation to be picked up.

If I were one of the Ken Evans gang, I would say that this is an opportunity to do a good "turn." 🐿

Gallery of Distinguished Woodworkers

In 1995 WOODWORKERS SHOWCASE featured a special gallery of work by distinguished woodworkers whose work is widely recognized. The exhibit was so successful that we decided to repeat the idea this year. An outstanding group of exhibitors have agreed to send us examples of their work, or in a number of cases, they will bring their own work and be with us during the show.

At this printing 20 exhibitors will participate with about 45 pieces. As examples, two of the turners represented will be Beth Ireland and Linda Salter; marquetry will include the work of Silas Kopf, Julie Godfrey and Darwin Rossman. Among the distinguished carvers are Stef Rocknack and Ivan Willock; furniture makers include Ted Blachly, Jere Osgood, Ian Kirby and Tim Coleman.

If you save back copies of *Fine Woodworking* you will find many of our exhibitors featured both with illustrations of their work and with articles. This is a chance to see - up close - some of the best work in the country and in some cases to meet the woodworkers themselves.

SHOWCASE 2003

Continued from Page 3

Carver's Corner

The carvers will demonstrate various styles of carving. This area is always crowded with people fascinated with seeing figures emerge from a block of wood.

Education Booth

NWA's main mission is woodworking education. The Education Booth is one way we can help those who would like to become woodworkers and those who would like to improve their knowledge of woodworking.

Woodturners

The folks who delight in making little round things will be back in full force. They will be making tops to give out to the kids who stop by. The names of winners of larger tops will be drawn periodically throughout the weekend.

Professional Furniture Makers

About a dozen professional furniture makers will be exhibiting their furniture in the Gallery area of the adjacent Prime Hotel.

Exhibit of Antique Saws

If you attended last year's Show no doubt you recall the exhibit of antique lathes. This year Ken Miller has organized an exhibit of saws, saws and more saws.

Jigs and Fixtures

Many Show attendees are fascinated by the many jigs and fixtures that our members have devised to make their work easier, faster and safer. Some are very simple and excel at performing a specific job. Others are quite complicated and can be used to perform a variety of functions.

If you use jigs in your woodworking and would like to share them with others please give Steve Defibaugh a call. (587-1868)

Raffle

The main item for this year's raffle will be a 14-inch Delta bandsaw, a pneumatic nailer and compressor and hardwood from Curtis Lumber Company.

Portable Saw Mill

Located in the Loggia, WoodMizer will be demonstrating their portable sawmill throughout the weekend.

Commercial Exhibitors

Just about anything you may need for your woodworking will be for sale in the commercial area. Wood, tools, power equipment, supplies and services will be available.

Parking at Showcase

Fortunately we get few complaints from Showcase attendees. But when we do, it is usually about the lack of nearby parking. One way you can help is to park your own vehicle in one of the more remote parking lots. This newsletter includes a map that shows the locations of the parking lots. When you come to the Show, please park in one of the lots on the west side of Broadway so that there will be more parking for the public in the large lots behind the City Center. Thank You. 🐿

Better done is better than better said.

- Benjamin Franklin

Things may come to those who wait, but only the things left by those who hustle.

- Abraham Lincoln

The Corner Computer Cabinet:

Part Three – Finishing the Project

- Dale Brown

Somebody said, “It’s not finished until it’s finished” or something similar. Boy! You can say that again.

In fact since the last newsletter the appearance of the cabinet wouldn’t be much different than those previous photos. However, many details have been completed and I hope a few issues resolved.

The staining (two coats of Minwax Golden Pecan) and varnishing of the Luan plywood was all done after dissembling the top and bottom sections. Therefore all surfaces could lie flat. After staining, I used Waterlox (two coats Original) and final coat using Waterlox satin. I wet-sanded between coats using a Dewalt 5-inch orbital sander and 320X wet dry sanding disks. After this it was determined that the exposed edges of the pine frames (shelves) needed to be painted. After three tries and three trips to the paint store I finally got the color right. Looks good!

I also stained and varnished the undersides of the shelves but I didn’t do this to the top sides. This is because I still needed to re-assemble and glue both the shelves to the sides and the vertical support pillars between the shelves (see Figure 2, Part 2) - and I didn’t want any stain or varnish to interfere with the glue’s adhesion between the base of each of these pillars and the plywood. (The top of each pillar is against the cherry edging described in Part 1 that, at this point, also still remains unstained and unvarnished).

Reassembly of top and bottom involved sequentially gluing the shelves to the sides and in the same order sequentially gluing the support pillars to the top and bottom edges of the shelves. (Remember these all have dowels that pierce the shelves and go into the top and bottom ends of each pillar).

Both sides of the two pine boards required to close up the truncated back have been veneered. One-inch diameter holes have been drilled in these above each shelf location to allow for cables and power cords.

Using pine, I have practiced making the cherry cabinet doors frames with the beaded inside edges using matched inch radius ovolo and cove router bits. The height and depth of the cove cut needs to be carefully adjusted to get a perfect fit. Also the inside or bottom edge of the rail ends containing the cove cut needs to be trimmed back just a hair beyond the cove cut so as to fit the stile. The slot for the panel will use a 3-wing slot clutter.

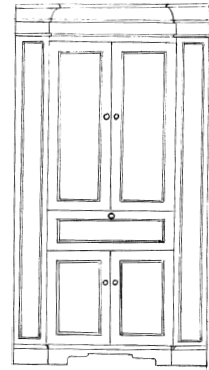
For a long time I worried about how to make the long joint between the door frames and the long vertical side panels that back angle off to meet the walls of the house. These vertical side panels unite the design (see Part 1). They also need to be removable in order to separate the top and bottom sections. I almost abandoned this segment of the design but Norma encouraged me to continue as is. I then proceeded to simulate this joint using two 6 foot long pine boards by cutting one edge to a 45 degree angle and then clamping on this board and the other to simulate the door frame. This showed that this joint would be feasible. Whereas the joint on the left side was perfect, the angle of the shelves (horizontal frames) going to the wall on the right was too large and produced an open joint. The angle error

was about 5 degrees. I now plan to cut the door frame outside edges at an angle of 5 degrees or more and get the fit by adjusting the angle of the cut on the inside edge of the vertical side panel styles.

But now what would be the best way of fastening the side panels that extend past the edges of the sides? The long sideboards described last time will help to do this since the outside backside edge of the style of these long panels can be fastened (glued) to the front edge of these sideboards. The present thought of how to hold the inside style of these panels firmly against the door frames is an unusual one.

By now you should have guessed where the secret drawer will be.

(Editor’s Note: Dale is doing his best to finish the piece to take it to SHOWCASE 2003 - it may be just short of completion - but it will be of great interest to woodworkers of all skill levels no matter which stage it is in. Watch for Dale! 🐾)



Twelve Days of Christmas, Miller-style - Ken Miller

(I asked my son how many lathe jigs I gave him so that I could sell my surplus to the turning club. Here’s his reply. (To be sung to tune of The Twelve Days of Christmas...))

“I got....

- 12 old chisels
- 11 wall-mount shelf supports
- 10 fluorescent light parts
- 9 - teen Craftsman screwdrivers
- 8 hyperlinks to Delta 24” jigsaw auctions
- 7 boxes of upholstery tacks
- 6 jars of galvanized nails
- 5 goooooohhhhhlden Lie-Nielsen planes
- 4 planks of walnut
- 3 cords of apple turning blanks
- 2 3/8” drive long screwdriver-like things - and yes,
- 1 sharpening jig for lathe tools.”

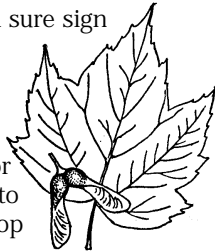
“Thanks! Good luck selling them.”

What hair color do they put
on the driver’s licenses of bald men?

Wood of the Month

Continued from page 5

Showy bright scarlet flowers appear in March or April, the first of the maples to flower and a sure sign that spring is coming. The flowers appear before the leaves unfold, as multiple tassell-like small bundles on the previous year's twigs. The fruit develops in spring or early summer as a two-winged, two-seeded key or samara whose close, parallel wings diverge to about 60 degrees at maturity, when they drop individually.



The wide sapwood of red maple tends to be more white than that of hard maple. Heartwood is light brown or beige, occasionally streaked or tinged light gray or greenish. The wood is finely-textured and relatively straight-grained, usually with less figure than hard maple. Occasionally red maple can be found with the more intense figure of bird's eye, curly or fiddleback.

Care is required in stacking, stickering and ventilating red maple to avoid warping or a tendency to stain when air drying. Shrinkage from green to oven-dry is nominal at 4.0% radially, 8.2% tangentially and 12.6% in volume. Once dry it is quite stable but is not at all durable when exposed to moisture or soil conditions. It is always susceptible to staining until it is protected by a finish.

Red maple, typical of all maples, is diffuse-porous. Pores are small, plentiful and uniformly distributed, occurring singly and in radial multiples. Rays are visible on transverse surfaces without a hand lens, evenly spaced, intergrading in width from the largest that are about as wide as the largest pore. Rays are 1 to 5 seriate, producing a conspicuous, close ray fleck, dark against light on radial or quartered surfaces. Growth rings are not very distinct, delineated by the narrow band of darker fiber in the latewood.

Specific gravity is about 0.54 oven-dry and it weighs about 38 pounds per cubic foot at 12% moisture content, a little heavier than cherry. In comparison, hard maple has an average specific gravity of 0.63 oven-dry and weighs about 44 pounds per cubic foot at 12% moisture content.

Because of the similarity of maples a chemical test is sometimes used to separate red maple from sugar maple. A few drops of a saturated solution of ferrous sulphate in water are applied to the woods. Sugar maple becomes a greenish color while red maple develops a deep bluish-black color.

Red maple works more easily than hard maple. It works quite well with hand tools and holds clean edges. A little care is advised with power tools to avoid a slight tendency to burn. Some dulling of cutting edges may be noticed, a result of mineral deposits in some trees. This maple takes and holds fasteners well with a minimum of pre-drilling, glues nicely and smooths to a glossy surface that stains uniformly and takes any finish well, including paint. It turns very well and is considered a good wood for steam bending.

There have been no health hazards reported related to working with any of the maples, but the usual dust precautions are advised.

Red maple and the other soft maples are used for the same applications as hard maple except when the greater

strength and hardness are required. It is used for case goods, kitchen cabinets, furniture, furniture frames, turnery, boxes, crates, pallets and gunstocks. It is also used for woodenware, toys, wall paneling, plywood core stock, veneer for furniture and interior plywood, pulpwood and railroad cross ties - when thoroughly treated.

The astringent bark of red maple was boiled by Native Americans to make a decoction for treating eye ailments. The bark has also been used to treat intestinal parasites, as a general tonic, by new mothers as a muscle toner and as a poultice for bruises, skin abrasions and boils.

Red maple, typical of the soft maples, produces copious quantities of crystal clear sap in early spring, useful in producing good quality maple syrup. Unfortunately, sap of the red maple is about half a percent lower in sugar content than sap of a hard maple growing in the same area. To the "maple producer" this means about 52 gallons of this sap are required to produce a gallon of syrup versus about 40 gallons of hard maple sap. The first sign of color in red maple buds is also the signal for the end of the sugar season as syrup flavor then changes.

The rapid growth of the red maple, its ability to do well in most locations and its bright red colors in early spring and early fall have also made this tree a popular ornamental or shade tree.

Red maple is in good supply and soft maple, in general, is at least as available as hard maple. Characteristics of all of the soft maples are quite similar so red maple and the other soft maples are often acceptable substitutes for their harder, heavier cousins, especially at 60% of the price of hard maple. Local suppliers carry soft maple in thicknesses of 4/4 to 8/4 in various grades, figures, and at least several species. Check with NWA business members, Curtis Lumber, Wightman Speciality Woods, and Joshua's Trees. 🌲

Wood Questions

Q. How much lumber will be used in the U.S. in 2003?



A. The Western Wood Products Association is forecasting that total U.S. lumber consumption for 2003 will be 54.7 billion board feet.

Wood Definition

Ring-Porous Wood - The wood of a group of hardwoods in which the pores or vessels are comparatively large at the beginning of each growth ring and decrease in size, more or less abruptly, toward the outer portion of the ring. The distinct inner band or zone of pores is known as the early-wood; the outer zone of smaller pores is the latewood. Ring-porous wood is typical of the oaks, ash, hickory, elm, etc., those woods that usually require filling to achieve a smooth finish.

CHAPTER NEWS

Sacandaga Chapter

The chapter's December program with Jean Aldous was cancelled due to a bad ice storm; she will be rescheduled for later in the spring.

On January 9th, a hands-on session with dovetail jigs and mortise and tenon fixtures was featured to a good turn out. A door prize program has been initiated; a drill press mortising attachment was won by Ron Custer.

The February 12th meeting began with a short program by Gary Spencer on shop safety. A discussion of basic safety precautions for sight, hearing, vision and limb preservation was held. This discussion was followed with chapter members making and assembling toy cars for the Showcase Toy Factory who will give them to children who attend the show. Almost 40 cars were assembled.

The door prize for the meeting was several pieces of safety equipment in keeping with the topic of the evening. The prize was won by Robert Lamphere.

The March 12th meeting will again have a short discussion program on woodworking projects and then we will continue to construct and assemble toy cars.

Members of NWA are invited to attend the 7:00 P.M. meetings at the Mayfield High School woodshop; light refreshments are served.

For information or directions call: Tom Rullifson - 661-5587 or Gary Spencer- 863-6433.

UPCOMING EVENTS CHAPTERS

Mid-Hudson Chapter

The chapter meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursdays at the Central Hudson Electric Company Community Center, Route 28, Kingston. For information: Joe Mikesh 845-687-4285.

Sacandaga Chapter

The chapter meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at Mayfield High School in the woodworking shop. School Street begins at Route 30 (look for the Stewart's store), proceed along School Street to the second driveway and go to the rear of the building. Park by the section of the building that protrudes further into the parking lot and enter the nearest of the (5) doors. For information: Gary Spencer 863-6433.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

All meetings are held at the Curtis Lumber Company conference room on Route 67, Ballston Spa.

Adirondack Woodturners Association

Meets the first Wednesday of every month (except January and July when it is the second Wednesday. Beginner's session begins at 6 p.m. Contact: Ken Evans 753-7759 or Kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Carver's Guild

Meets second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. Contact: Bill McCormack 233-7260

Scroller's Guild

Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. Contact: Jean Aldous 893-2273 or AMJAMTAT2@aol.com

ED NOTE: *Even though you may receive this after-the-fact, we'll print it - just to give you an idea what to expect at a special AWA meeting.*

Adirondack Woodturners Host Beth Ireland

- Ken Evans

The program of the Wednesday, March 5, 2003, meeting of the Adirondack Woodturners Association (an NWA SIG) to be held at Curtis Lumber in Ballston Spa will be given by New England woodturner Beth Ireland. Beth will begin by helping with the Beginner's Session which starts at 6:00PM.

The main program will begin with Beth on "chucking methods-including making chucks and new ways to use old chucks" at about 7:15PM and conclude at 9:00PM.

Everyone is welcome! 🐾

Adirondack Woodturners Association Becomes a SIG of NWA

- Ken Evans

The Adirondack Woodturners Association (AWA) has become a special interest group (SIG) of NWA. The AWA has a membership of about 100 woodturners who meet the first Wednesday of each month, (except January and July) at Curtis Lumber in Ballston Spa. In January and July, the turners meet on the second Wednesday of the month. Meetings begin at 6:00PM with a beginners session and the meeting begins about 6:30PM. There is a very short business meeting, lots of coffee and munchies and time to talk turning and then a rather informal turning topic program. Meetings generally see about 55 members in attendance. There is a Show and Tell table, a free wood table, and a raffle. The group supports a lending library of books and videos related to woodturning, a newsletter (*The Mushroom*), and a web-site at www.adirondackwoodturner.org. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy the meetings!

Psssssst!! The brownies and the fudge aren't bad either! 🐾

"I am" is reportedly the shortest sentence
in the English language. Could it be that
"I do" is the longest sentence?

Web Sites Worth Visiting - *Herm Finkbeiner*

One of the great advantages of the Internet is the ease of getting all sorts of information. One of the disadvantages is finding the information among the millions of choices. To help NWA members find interesting sites we plan to publish a list of those sites that members might find interesting, helpful - or just fun. As you run across woodworking related sites that fit those objectives send the web address to hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com and we'll add them to the list.

Woodworking Organizations

The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers	http://www.gnhw.org/
Long Island Woodworkers Club	http://www.liwoodworkers.org/
The Triangle Woodworkers Association	http://www.trianglewoodworkers.org/
San Diego Woodworkers Association	http://www.sdfwa.org/
Minnesota Woodworkers Guild	http://www.minnesotawoodworkersguild.com/
Woodworker's Guild of Georgia	http://www.woodworkersguildofga.org/index.shtml
New Hampshire Furniture Masters	http://www.furnituremasters.org/
Fox Valley Woodworkers Club	http://www.fvwwc.org/index.htm

Museums and Shows

Philadelphia Furniture & Furnishings Show	http://www.pffshow.com/
TheWharton Esherick Museum	http://www.levins.com/esh3.html
The Mercer Museum	http://www.mercermuseum.org/
The Museum of Woodworking Tools	http://www.antiquetools.com/

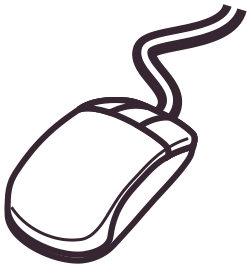
Classes, Courses and Workshops

Rosewood Studio	http://www.rosewoodstudio.com/index.html
Marc Adams School of Woodworking	http://marcadams.com/site/index.html
Conover Workshops	http://www.conoverworkshops.com/
W. Patrick Edwards Marquetry	http://home.pacbell.net/ebeniste/
Lamar Crafts Woodturning	http://www.laymar-crafts.co.uk/index.htm
Homecraft Woodworks	http://www.handcraftwoodworks.com/classes.html
Wood Central	http://www.woodcentral.com

Tools and Supplies

Lie-Nielsen Tool Works	http://www.lie-nielsen.com/
Vacu-Press	http://www.vacupress.com/index.htm
Hiraide America	http://www.japanesetools.com/
The Woodworking Web	http://www.woodworkingtools.com/
Ashchem Crafts	http://www.ashcrafts.com/
Prairie Tool (metal working tools)	http://www.prairietool.com

These websites have been found by other NWA members to be useful and interesting to woodworkers and, as such, are offered for your consideration. NWA does not endorse any content found on these sites.



C L A S S I F I E D S

FOR SALE: Logs and limbs from BARK EATER TREE SERVICE, Schenectady. If you're interested in what is available, call Peter Frisoni at 518-381-4325.

FOR SALE: The Adirondack Woodturners have about a dozen gallon cans of Minwax Antique Oil finish for sale. Each gallon has been tinted walnut. Each gallon is priced at \$10. If you are interested in a gallon of this popular finish, please contact Ken Evans 518-753-7759 - and we can make it happen.

WANTED, WOODWORKER: Part-time help wanted in woodworking business in Schenectady, N.Y. In business for 25 years making wood jewelry chests, www.woodjewelchest.com. Some ability for fine woodworking, will teach, interesting work, call for details Rick 518-370-4329.

SMALL JOB OPPORTUNITY: I'm looking for about 150 bd.ft., 4/4 #1 soft maple, surface planed, two face, and one edge straight-lined. I can assist an individual, or if your a job

shop and can do it, that would be fine. Contact Charles Frank atztzafo@localnet.com or 374-0434 (Niskayuna).

FOR SALE: Art Hartwig has moved from Poughkeepsie to Mount Holly, NJ, but retains his NWA membership. He has been helping to set up a woodworking shop in a retirement community there and offers the following. "... We retrofitted a Grizzly 3 HP Dust Collector with a cyclone set-up from Oneida Air Systems. The unused parts consist of the base with castors, the two "ring" assemblies with their attached bags (four) and the bars that connect the rings to the base, and the output duct from the Grizzly blower that connects to the "rings", with its three rubber seals. I am offering these items as a group to any NWA member for \$60.00. Delivery might be most economically done if I drive up to a meeting and exchange the parts for cash there. Could you include a synopsis of this info in the classified section of the newsletter?" Art Hartwig, 96 Woodside Drive, Mount Holly, NJ 08060-5274, (609)518-7661.



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GENERAL MEETINGS

March 13

“Doors of Distinction”
Ken Miller, member.
Shaker Meeting House

March 22 & 23
SHOWCASE 2003
Saratoga Springs

May 8

Sid Fleisher,
member and instructor
of woodworking
in the RPI architecture program,
will illustrate and discuss present
and past projects.

July

Annual Summer Picnic
Jonesville Fire House, Clifton Park

GENERAL MEETING

7 p.m., Thursday, March 13, 2003

Shaker Heritage Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road (near Albany Airport)

MEETING CANCELLATION INFORMATION:
Telephone Jay VanVranken, Wayne Distin
or Charlie Goddard

