

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

May 2009, Vol. 18, Number 5

May Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2009, 7:00 pm
Shaker Heritage Society Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany

Jigs and Fixtures

By Joe Kennedy

Jigs and Fixtures! It's that time of year again. For the past few years the Mid-Hudson Chapter has been pleased to coordinate the May meeting wherein we talk about some of the latest jigs and fixtures made by our members.

Once again, Mid-Hudson members will do a "Show and Tell" on some interesting wood-working aids.

We would like to emphasize that all members are invited to participate. The more the merrier. I am sure you probably have some jigs and fixtures that other members would like to see. Please plan to bring them to the May meeting.

Once again, we will introduce each member who will briefly explain what items he/she has created. Then, all of the members can walk around to look closely at and hear a more detailed explanation of some of the latest ideas. This format seems to work well. We look forward to seeing you all on May 14, 2009 at 7:00 PM.



Joe Kennedy and Richard Shoulkin

Showcase 2009

By Ken Evans

Hello everyone!

The Showcase 2009 floor has been swept clean and the City Center doors have been locked for another year. Showcase 2009 was a giant success by all reports.

NWA, the 26 committee co chairs who plan Showcase, and I would like to thank each and every volunteer who came to Showcase, helped produce the show, and to have fun working together with other NWA volunteers to make Showcase the biggest and best woodworking show in the eastern USA. Everyone did a really super job contributing to Showcase. NWA is an educational organization and Showcase is an educational event. This year we really educated the general public on so many aspects of fine woodworking. We should all be proud of this event.

Thanks to all those who placed banners and signs along the roadside. Attendance was up from last year surely due to those signs and banners.

Let's take them down now and return them to me at any meeting. Thanks again!

Annual Lumber and Tool Auction

By Charlie Goddard

The next lumber and tool auction will be held Saturday, September 26, 2009 in the Shaker barn. This is the primary fund raising event for the Fiske Scholarship Fund. All donations are fully tax deductible. The full value can be donated or we can work out a share of auction proceeds. This is your opportunity to convert tools or lumber that you don't need into grants to attend woodworking schools. Woodworking education is NWA's main mission.

So far we have some red oak, a large quantity of ambrosia silver maple and smaller quantities of cherry and black locust. We definitely need more lumber. We are also very short on tools. If you have some woodworking tools which some other woodworker could put to good use this is your chance to get extra space in your shop. That extra space can then be used to put the new tool you have been dreaming about.

For tool or lumber donations contact Dick Flanders 393-5215 or rflander@nycap.rr.com, Warren Stoker 439-6089 or wstoker@nycap.rr.com or Charlie Goddard 370-0388 or cgodd@aol.com.



OFFICERS

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

Vice President - Owen Arkison
518 459-5348
owen.Arkison@earthlink.net

Secretary - Kitty Scharl 765-3189
crowridge@nycap.rr.com

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

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

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

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

CHAIRPERSONS

Mid-Hudson Chapter

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

Sacandaga Chapter

Co-Chairpersons

Clyde Cheney - 661-5138

Ray Laubenstein - 863-6071

RLAUB@Roadrunner.com

Education

Gerry O'Brien 459-9266

go12211@yahoo.com

Adult Programs

Position To Be Filled

Youth Programs

Ray Gannon 518-664-2229

raymond.gannon@wildblue.net

Fiske Fund

Tom Osborne

TTomosborne@aol.com

Hospitality

Al and Emily Stahl 587-2420

astahl@nycap.rr.com

Library

Wilhelmina Evans 753-7759

wiltw0@nycap.rr.com

Membership

Susan Howe 885-9331

Programs

Ken Evans 753-7759

kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Publications

Wally Carpenter 434-1776

c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net

SHOWCASE

Ken Evans 753-7759

kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Videographers

Dave Ellison 872-0980

ellisd@rpi.edu

Hans Kappel 861-8753

bluespruce@juno.com

Pat Pugsley 634-7144

ideas@mhonline.net

Bob Conahan 355-9032

conahanbob@hotmail.com

Kirk Hardenburg

725-1997

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

Annual Rustic Furniture Fair

By Charlie Goddard

The 22nd Annual Rustic Furniture Fair will held September 5 and 6 at the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake. It will include examples of both traditional and contemporary styles of furniture. There will be entertainment both days as well as demonstrations of furniture making, wood carving and painting. More information can be found on the museum's web site, www.adkmuseum.org, by clicking on Exhibits and Events, and then Special Events. 🐾

Early Showcase Entries

By Charlie Goddard

For the past two years we have offered prizes to those who get their Showcase entry forms in early. Getting this information in early is a great help to those who are planning the show. Last year it worked – about 70% of all entries were received two weeks before the show. This year, fewer than 50% got their forms in early.

Were this year's prizes less enticing? Did we do a poor job notifying members of the prizes? Simple procrastination wins again? Suggestions?

This year's winners were Brian Matthews and Bill Stoddard. Brian (not a member) is a professional woodworker who entered the cylinder phonograph record cabinet. He won the \$150 certificate from Lie-Nielsen. Bill, an NWA member from Schenectady, entered an oak end table and won the \$50 gift card from Lee Valley. 🐾

AWA April Presentation

By Celia J. Carpenter

This month's demonstration was at the request of many club members. Ed Buell taught us the basics of getting a satisfactory photo of our work. Since some of us sell or give away our work it is nice to be able to have a record. Also, many juried shows require a photograph prior to entering.

Ed took us through selecting a camera. It was good to know that you can achieve a very good result with a very basic digital camera as long as you know some basic techniques.

He reviewed depth of field, discussed types of lights and how they affect the results. Ed also gave us information about what programs to use for enhancements and how to store our photos. Ed stressed the point that we need to back up our work and to store it in a safe place.

It was obvious that Mr. Buell knew a lot about photography and how to achieve the best results in photographing work. His presentation was prepared and very informative.

Thank you, Ed, for sharing your talents! 🐾

Scholarships for Timber Frame Construction Workshop

By Charlie Goddard

The Shaker Museum and Library is sponsoring five full tuition scholarships (valued at \$1,100 each) for a two week workshop on timber frame construction. The program will be held at the Mount Lebanon Shaker Village, August 3 - 13, 2009, under the direction of the North Bennet Street School from Boston.

Workshop participants will construct a new timber frame structure using traditional techniques and tools and will participate in the restoration of the wooden members of the 1829 Brethren's Workshop.

Scholarship applications are due by May 8. For application, selection criteria, and further information, visit: www.shakermuseumandlibrary.org. 🐾

This Makes It All Worthwhile

By *Charlie Goddard*

I was in the Education booth at Showcase when Dianne Mosher, one of our members from Berlin NY, stopped by to thank those who make toys for the kids at Double H Hole in the Woods camp. Many of them are made by the Saturday morning (and now Tuesday morning) group which meets in Jim Kennedy's shop, Jim's "Hole in the Woods Gang".

Dianne is a teacher and she told us about one of her students who had gone to the Double H camp for a number of years, confined to his wheelchair. Cooper had assembled some of the kits and was particularly proud of a race car he had made and the trophy he had won racing it.

Sadly, Cooper passed away in February from muscular dystrophy. Dianne went on to tell us about a fund raising effort to raise funds to fight muscular dystrophy – a Rock-a-Thon (think rocking chairs). As part of the event some of the kids in attendance staged a race in Cooper's memory, using 12 Mini-Coopers which Dianne's husband, Bruce, had made.

There is no better way to thank those who donate their time and talents than to hear stories like this. Dianne, thanks for sharing this with us. 🐾

Referral List

By *Charlie Goddard*

It has been quite some time since we last published the Referral List. Frequently NWA receives inquiries from the public or from its members asking who can perform specific woodworking tasks. For example, we have been asked who can refinish a table, make a new part for a piece of furniture, make a bookcase, repair a table leg, cane a chair, etc. To help respond to these inquiries NWA has compiled the Referral List which will be republished in the May newsletter. If you would like to have your name added to the list please complete the following form and return it to:

Referral List, NWA, PO Box 246, Rexford NY 12148.

Or the information can be emailed to: **Charlie Goddard – cgodd@aol.com.**

In either case make sure to provide all of the information requested.

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Business: Full Time ___ Part Time ___ By Appointment ___

Describe Specialty: _____

Do you want your name included if the list is made available at a public event?
Yes ___ No ___

Do you want your name included if the list is made available on the website?
Yes ___ No ___

WOODWORKERS NEWS is published by the Northeastern Woodworkers Association for its members. The Association's aim is to provide a common meeting ground for lovers of woodworking who want to know more about wood and the techniques for forming it. The newsletter is published monthly. It is assembled in QuarkXPress 5.0 on an iMac G5, duplicated by Shipmates, and mailed to more than 1,000 addresses.



Your next issue of
Woodworkers News
will be published
in early June
Copy deadline: May 15
Wally Carpenter, Editor
(518) 434-1776
c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net
Elizabeth Keays Graphic Artist
Designer



WEBSITE(S)
www.woodworker.org
www.nwawoodworkingshow.org
Blog Site:
<http://woodworkerorg.blogspot.com/>

NWA maintains two websites, the first noted here operates continuously. We also offer selected links to other sites of interest to our membership. Webmaster - Kurt Hertzog
kurt@kurthertzog.com

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

Miscellany at Kaatskill Woodturners

By Chuck Walker

Although the plan for April's meeting was to give everyone some turning and learning experience, we were captivated by a new (to us) lathe in the shop. A Nova DVR was set up and Steve Sherman was persuaded to give it a check ride. The finial

meister put it through its paces and pronounced it wholesome and one of the smoothest running lathes he has used to date. In addition he passed on some helpful tips about turning finial tips first to let the mass of the material provide stabilization for the small tip then proceeding to turn the rest of the form working toward the headstock. Other useful hints were passed along about tool size and sharpening angles etc.



Karen Aune shows one of her very nice tool handles.

The instant gallery was again quite nice. Karen Aune had some tool handles she had made and some very nice mini hollow forms. She likes to turn small forms as prototypes for larger shapes. Carl Ford showed a number of items he learned how to make at a class from Michael Mocho at Brookfield Craft Center. This class was on using texturing tools that make spirals and others. Ron Mower had a most intriguing low hollow form textured and ebonized with black gesso sprayed with lacquer. A gold highlight inside adds a highlight of attraction. Ron also had a triangular box with lid and finial. Matt Clarke exhibited two triangular boxes such as he demonstrated at the recent Totally Turning Symposium in Saratoga Springs. He also had some small tops capable of spinning for a very long time. 🐾



Ron Mower's ebonized low hollow form.



Steve Sherman checks out the Nova DVR with a spindle shape as Roger Klein looks on.



A trio of three cornered boxes. The two outer ones are by Matt Clarke and the center one was turned by Ron Mower. All are beautifully finished.



Textured disc by Carl Ford using a spiral tool and leather stamps for the stars.

C L A S S I F I E D S

Delta 10", 3hp, 220v (single phase), unisaw with Tenoning jig and accessories. Asking \$1000.

Walker-Turner Lathe, 12x38 with 14 chisels, chuck, and accessories. Asking \$1000.

Contact: Steve Dunn – (518) 943-3785, or Turk Dunn - (518) 943-2724

NWA Member Profile - Jay Van Vranken

By Ron DeWitt

Jay Van Vranken is one of our members who help make the NWA a strong and vital association. His personality, enthusiasm, background and life experiences permit him to cheerfully make valuable contributions whenever and wherever he is needed.

Jay was born and raised in the Stillwater area along the Hudson River on property that had been in his family for a number of generations. He graduated from Stillwater High School. At SHS his homeroom was the room that is today the NWA workshop. When asked his age, Jay reported that he is "....a few days older than Herm Finkbeiner which makes him a youngster to me".

After working for General Electric in Waterford for a few years he got wanderlust, joined the Navy to see the world and see the world he did.

In his four years of destroyer duty he served as a fireman, pipe fitter and hard hat deep sea diver. His deployments included the West Coast, and trips through the Panama Canal, around the Pacific Rim, through the Suez Canal into the Mediterranean and beyond. One of his ships operated off the coast of Korea during that conflict. Jay still remembers well his initiation on becoming a "shell-back" at his first crossing of the Equator.

After the Navy he began a 36 year career with the New York Telephone Co. [now Verizon]. Starting as a lineman he worked his way through various assignments but repair, service or special circuits were the ones he enjoyed the most. He retired in 1991.

Jay's interest in woodworking began soon after he and Anne were married in 1955. On a limited income and needing furniture he figured out how to make it and did it. He then switched to "nail-banging", beginning construction of their home in Stillwater, with the help of his brother. They set the foundation and framed the house before overtime demands of his job halted construction. A contractor was called in to finish the house. The garage in one part of the basement became his first workshop.

A few years later he began construction of a second larger home across the driveway from the first, only to be delayed again. He capped it at one story and it became his shop. [Anne is still scratching her head over that.] Like many of us he slowly accumulated tools at auctions and garage sales. His first new tool was a Craftsman 12" table saw. His inventory of tools has improved considerably since those days but that saw is still the basic element of his shop.

Jay got hooked into the NWA when he attended our third show, the one at Shenendehowa High School in 1994. He joined immediately. The following year he volunteered to help on the Saratoga City Center show and worked at



the portable sawmill demonstration. From there he matriculated into the Toy Factory to graduate as director where he served for six years. Jay says he really enjoyed the Toy Factory, choosing which toys to make, how to do it, what tools to use and then procuring them. He feels the talented help he received made the job a lot of fun. Contributing to the happiness of all those kids, both young and old was a very rewarding experience.

Not having been warned of Herm Finkbeiner's dreaded "free lunches" Jay next attended one of those occasions only to become Program Chairman and then President of the Association.

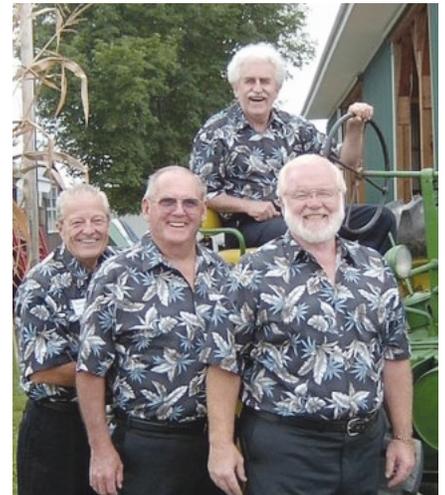
About the time Jay joined the NWA he started a woodcraft business with a partner who was a talented painter. Jay created toys, decorative items and tavern signs, his partner painted them and for the next seven years they were quite successful selling at craft shows and fairs.

Today Jay still considers toy making as his favorite woodworking projects and cherry and maple his favorite woods. As for a favorite tool he says it's a toss-up between the table and scroll saws. He does some turning but says he is mostly a flat boarder, preferring to work with fewer limitations. After 54 years of woodworking, he is quite proud of having all of his fingers [although I think there were suspicious scars on a couple of them].

Jay is also very active and has served in leadership rolls in many community service and social organizations including the VFW, American Legion and Stillwater United Church. He is Past President of the Stillwater Board of Education, Stillwater Cemetery Association and Stillwater Free Library. In 2001 he

was honored as Stillwater's "Citizen of the Year". In his spare time he has been a member of the Racing City Barbershop Chorus for the past 34 years and has been singing in the Elderly Brothers Quarter for seven years.

Jay and Anne still live in Stillwater on the bank of the Hudson River. In spite of his many outside activities, after 54 years they are still happily married. They have also found time for four children who have now given them nine grandchildren. 🐾



CHAPTER NEWS

NWA Mid-Hudson Chapter News

By Wally Cook

SOF: Building a skin on frame (SOF) kayak is an eminently achievable and cost-effective project. John Van Buren demonstrated the techniques for a modern take-off on an historic craft.

The SOF kayak has its roots in Inuit watercraft meant for seal hunting. The updated boat is constructed from plywood, pine strips, artificial sinew, and Coverene PVC. The frame and coaming are spare, resulting in a boat which is both light (30-35 pounds) and flexible (a necessary performance characteristic)

Once the specific kit or design is chosen, the steps to build the boat are as follows:

- Cut the forms and stringers
- Fit and glue the stringers
- Construct the support frame
- Apply the stringers to the forms
- Fit the bow, stern, and coaming
- Cover and seal the frame

The forms are constructed from plywood. John's stringers are 1x2" pine cut to length. Stringers may be fastened to the frame in a variety of ways: screwed and glued, pegged and glued, or simply lashed with real or artificial sinew -- or a combination of sinew and fasteners. Sinew does not hold a knot easily, so a series of slip knots are used. The resultant slip knots are actually strong enough to hold 360 pounds. John described his method of lashing and the use of "Y" and "H" knots. Reinforced sections will require stainless or aluminum bolts and washers.

A covering is secured to the lashed-up frame. Traditionally, sealskin was used as the cover material. Alternatives include canvas sealed with latex or urethane (for salt water application), polyester or nylon sealed with varnish, or Coverene -- an 18 oz. waterproof PVC fabric. Coverene is woven, glued, and stapled to the frame/stringers. PVC cement is used as the glue and a heat gun facilitates the drying as each section is applied. Coverene is sold in 61" bolt width and it's important to allow a solid piece on the hull overlapping the gunwales by at least two inches. Be sure to use stainless steel staples to fasten the covering.

References:

Robert Morris, [Building Skin on Frame Boats](#)
Chris Cunningham, [Building the Greenland Kayak](#)
[http://yostwerks.com/ Kayak Building Manuals](http://yostwerks.com/)



John showing the kayak frame



Kayak and cover



Close-up of lashing



Coverene and artificial sinew

Wood of the Month ©2009

- Ron DeWitt

Slash Pine (*Pinus elliottii*) Engelm. A Coniferous Softwood Pinaceae - Pine Family

Derivation of the genus name *Pinus* is from the Greek, pinos, for the pine trees. The epithet or species name, *elliottii* is derived from the name of its discoverer, Stephen Elliott (1771 - 1830), botanist and banker of South Carolina in the U.S.

The pines number about 95 worldwide, all but one of them (in Sumatra) ranging north of the equator. There are 36 native and one naturalized species in the U.S., 17 more in Mexico, 3 in Central America, and 4 in the West Indies. Eurasia and North Africa have about 35 more.

In attempting to reduce some of the confusion within the *Pinus* genus, several groups of pines have been designated as either "soft pines" or "hard pines." The soft pines are the five-needle pines like our eastern white pine. Within the hard pine group a sub-set of two- and three-needle pines is usually designated southern yellow pine, southern pine or simply as yellow pine. It should be noted that any one of these designations for southern yellow pine may be applied to any of 11 different species, the most common of which are the longleaf, shortleaf, loblolly, and slash pine.

Hardly lessening the confusion, taxonomy of the slash pine has been divided into two varieties based on differences in geographic location and tree form. The South Florida slash pine is confined to the southern part of Florida and the Keys. This is a smaller tree with longer needles, smaller cones, and more dense foliage than that of the typical variety. It is the typical variety to which the balance of this article will be directed.

Slash pine, also called yellow slash pine, swamp pine, Cuban pine, pitch pine, Honduras pine, Florida slash pine, or Dade County pine is native to the coastal plains of the U.S. from South Carolina to central Florida and west into Louisiana. It has been planted as far north as Tennessee and has become naturalized in Kentucky, Virginia, and Texas in the U.S. This tree is one of the most frequently planted timber species in North American. Its desirability for timber has made it popular in many subtropical and temperate areas worldwide. It has become naturalized in South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Slash pine prefers growing areas with warm, humid, wet summers and dryer springs and falls. It survives temperatures from 0 degrees F (-18 C) to 106 degrees F (41 C). It grows well in a wide variety of moist but well-drained soil types, and is only moderately tolerant of shade or of competition for moisture or nutrients. It grows with a large assortment of associates or in pure stands.

This is a medium to large pine growing 75 to 100 feet (23 to 30.5 m) tall with diameters of 3 to 4 ft. (0.9 to 1.2 m) dbh. Crowns may be irregular oval or pyramidal with a spread of 35 to 50 ft. (10.7 to 15.3 m). This species matures in 100 years and may live for 200 years. A record tree, reported in the (U.S.) *National Register of Big Trees*, is 144 ft. (43.9 m) tall by 3.6 ft. (1.1 m) dbh with a crown spread of 54 ft. (16.5 m), growing in Duval County, Florida.

Leaves of the slash pine are needles, 4 to 11 in. (10 to 28 cm) long, usually bundled two in a fascicle but often found in twos and threes. White lines of stomata are found on all surfaces. The stout, stiff, slightly pale green needles extend in a disorderly brush-like way from around the branch. The needles usually extend further along the twigs than they do on the other yellow pines.

Loose, thin bark on twigs and branches gives them the appearance of being fuzzy. Bark on branches and stems become thick, scaly and brown, then forms overlapping, large flat plates with a tan to purplish cast. Branches extend horizontally from the stem, drooping with age and weight. Lower branches self prune to maintain a neat, stately-looking appearance.

Slash pine is monoecious (having both sexual components on the same tree) and is wind pollinated. Cones mature about 20 months after pollination. Cones are 2.5 to 6 in. (6 to 15 cm) long, egg-shaped, glossy dark brown with short stout prickles on the keels of the cone scales. Good cone crops occur every three years. Seeds may germinate in two weeks and growth is rapid. The tree is supported by a moderately deep tap root and a broad lateral root system.

Trees can reach saw-timber size of 60 ft. (18.3 m) in 25 years. This tree can be easily confused with the longleaf pine which commonly occurs in the same range. Slash pine is a bit of a "sport," easily hybridizing with many other pine species.

Wood of slash pine is among the heaviest and hardest of conifers, very similar to that of sugar maple. At 12% M.C., average sp. gr. is about 0.59, and weight is 43 pcf (690 kg/m³), slightly heavier than longleaf pine. Wood of old growth timber is significantly harder and heavier.

Transition from the lighter colored sapwood to the heartwood is distinct. The earlywood to latewood transition is abrupt. Wood texture is medium and grain is uneven. Resin canals are large, solitary, plentiful, and uniformly distributed in the latewood. The wood is challenging to work with hand or power tools. It's very resinous. Latewood bands are wide and much harder (3x) than the earlywood, a combination causing saw chatter and resin buildup on cutting surfaces.



Sixty ft. x 18 in. slash pine draped in Spanish moss.

Continued on following Page

Sandpaper loads up quickly. Sanding needs to be done with a rigid pad to avoid wash-boarding. Fasteners hold well, but pre-drilling is beneficial in minimizing splitting and assuring direction. This wood is not desirable for turning or carving. Good finishes, except with paint or oil, are achievable with care. Non-turpentine base sealers are important to avoid softening the resin. The wood polishes to a soft, pleasant, satin glow. Slash pine is quite durable when exposed to the weather and moderately durable in the ground.

Skin, eye, nasal passage, and respiratory problems can develop from working with the hard pines. Appropriate precautions are well advised when handling or working with these



Leaves and cones of slash pine.

woods. It should also be noted that green needles are sometimes poisonous to grazing cattle.

Native Americans used fresh pine needles for a restorative tea and for breathing and chest afflictions. Pitch gum was chewed for sore throat. Early Americans used huge amounts of hard pine timber, especially slash and longleaf, for naval stores—pitch, tar, rosin, and turpentine. In the year 1787, the port of Charleston, South Carolina exported more than 4000 barrels of tar and pitch and almost 4000 barrels of turpentine. By 1815, total exports from the U.S. increased to 57,000 barrels of pitch, tar, and rosin and 76,000 barrels of turpentine. In 1840, total naval store exports from the U.S. had increased to 619,000 barrels.

Today slash pine is most often used in construction for dimensional lumber, rough and finished flooring, plywood, and paneling. The high pitch content makes it ideal for railroad cross-ties, poles, and piling. It has been found to grow well when used to stabilize soil and rehabilitate coal mine spoils. Some is used for furniture and paper pulp. Slash pine has become popular in landscape planting.

Fallen old growth tree stems are recovered, cut, and split into pencil-sized pieces to be sold as “fat lighter,” an excellent fire starting material. Masses of dry needles are sold as pine straw for mulching and animal bedding.

So valuable is old growth timber of the hard pines, today it is being recovered from old buildings and mills in the southeastern U.S., re-sawn, and sold as beautiful high-end flooring and cabinet wood.

Supplies of second growth timber are good and relatively unthreatened. Large areas are being reforested, and the range of slash pine is being expanded worldwide. It is readily available in lumber yards to be sold with any of the hard pines as yellow pine. Old growth slash pine is in very short supply, and demand is high.



Twelve in. flat sawn slash pine plank.

Wood Questions

Q. What wood is/was used to make clothes-pins?



A. White or yellow birch, depending on availability; used to make most of the various kinds of wooden clothes-pins. These woods have a light color so it looks “clean,” are strong, and machine well in high volume production equipment.

Wood Definition

- Ron DeWitt

Kerf - The open space made by a saw or saw chain as it cuts through a board, timber, log, etc.

Hi Wally:

Gerry directed me to you to see if I could get a little piece in the next upcoming newsletter. As you probably know, I was a presenter at the last Showcase and I just wanted to thank everyone involved for providing me with such good hospitality, not to mention the well-organized support for the jurying tasks and for my presentations. I really enjoyed myself (well maybe not all the hand-wringing and soul-searching involved in some of the judging process!). As my friend Chris Schwarz pronounced, it really is one of the best woodworking shows going.

A second part of the notice: A young man approached me at the end of one of my hand plane fundamentals lectures and asked me to sign one of my books (Woodworking Wit and Wisdom)--but I lost track of him in my rush to get out of the room for the next presenter. I'd like to ask him to get in touch with me at jim@ptwoodschoool.com so I can send him a signed copy. I'm hoping he is a member and reads this newsletter so he can respond.

Thanks!
Jim Tolpin

The Last Man Out - Wayne Distin

By Ken Evans

Who is this very mild mannered man of NWA?

Wayne Distin worked for the New York State Department of Transportation and the New York State Thruway Authority as a Traffic Engineer. He and his wife Penny of 21 years are residents of Rensselaer County. Wayne was an active member of the Kiwanis for 30 years.

I have known Wayne Distin as long as I have known NWA. I have never seen him in anger, nor have I ever seen or heard of him refusing to help someone in need of assistance. He was present at NWA meetings as far back as I can remember. Wayne Distin is the LAST person to leave the Shaker Site after each general meeting. This is NOT his job; it is just the way it is with Wayne. He turns the lights out, makes sure William the cat is in the building, and he locks the door—every meeting Wayne is the LAST MAN OUT. Wayne has served as NWA Vice-President, President, and board member. Presently, Wayne manages the raffle at each general meeting. He purchases the items, choreographs the raffle, sees to it the prizes are fun and useful, and sees to it everyone has a good time.

Wayne, with the help of his wife Penny, has been active and a significant contributor to many Family Nites and Picnics which we have all enjoyed over the years. For many years, Wayne and Penny were the hospitality team providing refreshments at the general meetings of NWA at the Shaker Site.

For many years Wayne was part of a planning group which selected and coordinated the general meeting programs for NWA. This vital work provided quality programming for NWA meetings.

Wayne has been an active and knowledgeable figure at every Showcase which I can remember. As the weekend of Showcase 2008 slowly passed, I became aware of Wayne's presence around the NWA Office, helping people in need of help, doing whatever needed to be done without being asked, and providing good solid information to those asking questions. Wayne did this both Saturday and Sunday. I remember Saturday evening especially. Everyone had left except the photographers, my wife and I—AND WAYNE DISTIN. The photographers were taking pictures of the winning entries and Wayne was helping to find the items and bringing them to the Photographer. This was the job needed to be done, and Wayne was there to help. Unasked, unsolicited, this wonderful man had simply stayed to help do the job. Wayne may not remember these few hours, but I will not forget them. Wayne's help was very much needed and appreciated that evening.

With the last picture taken and the last entry returned to its proper place, we all left the Saratoga City Center. We all walked out in front of Wayne. On the drive home, I commented to my wife how Wayne was again as always, THE LAST MAN OUT! Thank You, Wayne, thank you very much for your help.

By the way, Wayne was the Volunteer Coordinator for Showcase for many years. He knows the value of a volunteer. Next time you see Wayne, shake this man's hand and say thank you for NWA for the many things he has done and still does for NWA and its members. 🐾

New NWA Members

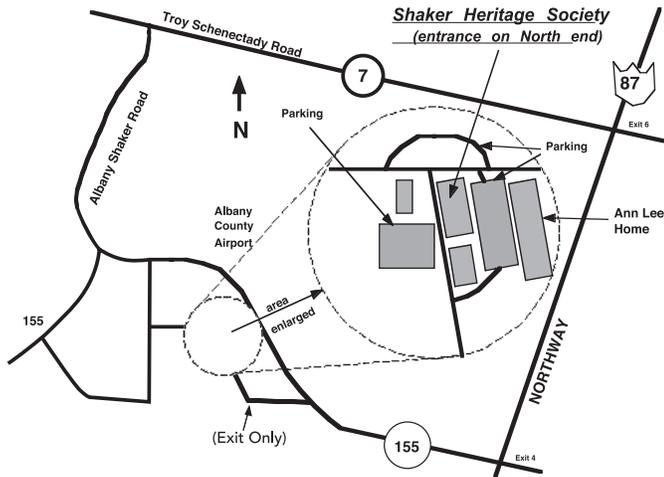
By Susan Howe

We want to extend a huge welcome to all our newest members. We hope you enjoy belonging to NWA and participating in the many activities that are available.

Tim Albright, Coxsackie, NY
Joe Slack, Altamont, NY
Karen Aveyard, Delanson, NY
Frank Snyder, Queensbury, NY
James Behan, Loudonville, NY
Buzz Spiezio, Greenwich, NY
Paul Billingslea, Ballston Lake, NY
Clayton Stevens, Valley Falls, NY
Joe and Linda Bozicevich, Schoharie, NY
Earl Taylor, Porter Corners, NY
Nate Butterly, Saratoga Springs, NY
Jon Teetz and Jeanne Smith, Gloversville, NY
Jim and Lynn Cameron, Lake Clear, NY
Andrew and Nancy Chyko, Waterford, NY
Alfred Tesch, Ballston Spa, NY
Pete Cowie, Schenectady, NY
Keith Tompkins, Tivoli, NY
Edmondo DeCesare, Albany, NY
Greg Towsen, Harrisburg, PA
Tony DeLuca, Hagaman, NY
Howie VanDusen, S. Bethlehem, NY
Tim Donovan, Ballston Spa, NY
Bob and Cheryl Volpe, Niskayuna, NY
Stan Fontaine, Greenwich, NY
Brian Walsh, Delmar, NY
Ray Fyfe, Amsterdam, NY
Rose Marie Warman and Anne Brown, Niskayuna, NY
Ray Goodlander, E. Springfield, NY
Peter Hammerring, Poughkeepsie, NY
Jessie Watson, Middle Grove, NY
Walt Hayes, Scotia, NY
Lisa Wilson, Scotia, NY
James Hussey, Ballston Spa, NY
Bill Ralston, Cooperstown, NY
Markus Vock, Lee Center, NY
Tom Hutchinson, Clifton Park, NY
Scott Simonson, Clifton Park, NY
Joe Jankowski, Clifton Park, NY
Keith Kinsella, Wexford, PA
Jim Kopec, Broadalbin, NY
Alex Kurimsky, Rensselaer, NY
Charlie LaPrease, Baldwinsville, NY
Jim Lemrow, Waterford, NY
Michael Levi, Troy, NY
Dustin Lewis, Albany, NY
Allen Look and family, Ballston Spa, NY
Fred Ludewig, Saratoga Springs, NY
Charles Mohr, Hannacroix, NY
Claude Moyses, Altamont, NY
Robert Murname, Petersburg, NY
Edward Murphy, Troy, NY
David Parkis, Albany, NY
Jerry Pucci, Albany, NY
Carl Rubino, Elizabethtown, NY
Paul Ryan, Coeymans, NY
David Schriver and Catherine Norr, Glenville, NY
Thomas Seagrove III and family, Rock City Falls, NY



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



May Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2009, 7:00 pm
Shaker Heritage Society Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany

GENERAL MEETINGS
AND SPECIAL EVENTS

NWA Program Schedule 2009

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

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Adirondack Woodturners Association - The AWA is active throughout the year. Meetings are every first Wednesday of the month (except in January and July when it is the second Wednesday), and are held at the Curtis Lumber conference room on Route 67, Ballston Spa. Beginners' sessions begin at 6 pm; the main program at 6:30 pm. Wednesday "Learn and Turn" sessions in Stillwater are also scheduled from 6 pm - 9 pm except on AWA member meeting nights. www.adirondackwoodturners.org Contact Ken Evans, 753-7759 or Kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Carver's Guild - meets every Friday at the Clifton Park Senior Center from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Sessions are intended for every NWA member who is interested in carving, from beginners to those wanting to learn a new technique. No reservations are necessary, just show up! Contact Bill McCormack, 233-7260.

Scroller's Guild - Meets on the third Wednesday of the month at The School at Northeast, 1821 Hamburg St., Schenectady. A beginner's session starts at 6:30 PM followed by a general meeting at 7:00 PM. Contact: Donna Phillips, (518) 372-3337 or dlphill@nycap.rr.com.

Kaatskill Woodturners - Meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Opdahl property in Hurley. Contact Matt Clark, (845) 454-9387.

Jim's "Hole in the Woods Gang"

Meets every Saturday, from 9:00 am until noon at Jim Kennedy's shop at 86 Guideboard Rd., in Halfmoon. (just 1 mile east of the Halfmoon Diner on Rt. 9). Our general purpose is public service work for various charitable organizations, including the Double H Hole in the Woods camp for children. We strive to foster a learning environment for our members through the projects we work on and the informal training/learning sessions given by and for our members. Sharing fellowship and relating experiences are a major part of our sessions, as we do accomplish many tasks during our times together as well. Contact Dick Flanders, (518) 393-5215 (rflander@nycap.rr.com) or Darrell Welch, (518) 477-8431 (ydwelch@taconic.net) for more information.

CHAPTERS

NWA Mid-Hudson -The chapter meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday, except July and August, at the Hurley Reformed Church. The Church is just off the the Hurley exit from Rte. 209. Right at the exit, right at the stop sign and left into the Church parking area. Contact Pete Chast, (518) 945-1636.

NWA Sacandaga - The chapter meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at Mayfield High School in the woodworking shop. Park by the section of the building that protrudes further into the parking lot and enter the nearest of the (5) doors. Contact Gary Spencer, 863-6433.