WA OOD DW ORKERS Northeastern Woodworkers Association

May Meeting

Furniture Repair and Restoration

Thursday, May 12, 2016 7:00 PM Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY

By Wally Carpenter

The May 12th meeting at the Shaker Meeting House will present Dick Flanders, Charlie Goddard and Joe Bucci discussion and demonstration of furniture repair and restoration. They will attempt to answer members' questions on this topic. Every woodworker has had to repair pieces in his/her own home, then for family and friends, and neighbors. Woodworkers may begin by being self-taught, then reading and watching videos or demonstrations, experimenting with various methods and materials, and attending a class taught by other NWA members or professionals. They continue to learn and progress with their expertise, and eventually through wordof-mouth advertising, many have made repairs for paying customers.

Regardless of our individual methods or ideas, we are all more than willing to share our knowledge with others and help them understand and try their own hand at repairing furniture, toys, household trim pieces, etc. So plan ahead for this May NWA meeting and bring your questions and/or small items for discussion and potential solutions.

The 25th Anniversary of Woodworkers Showcase

By Ken Evans

Let the History Books state the 25th Anniversary of Woodworkers Showcase was a great success and a great deal of fun for about 4000 people.

Let's get some numbers:

- Paid attendance was about 3400, and this is average for many years.
- There were 270 attending Totally Turning
- There were roughly 600 volunteers from NWA members, NWA family members, and The Patriot Guard Riders.
- Add in the vendors, and we had well over 4000 at the show.

The NWA store, something we did many years ago, was returned this year and was a success. Items made by our various SIGS were sold at reasonable prices, and the attendees liked the concept. Many thanks to Charlie Goddard who helped make this happen.



The NWA Store

The raffle this year made more money than it has in a very long time. Our new raffle co-chair Marilou Pudiak-Town should be very happy. Thank you Marilou!

The Feature Exhibit of Musical Instruments was a huge success under the guidance of Nancy Reilly. We had many beautiful instruments on display with owners present to speak about them to our attendees. (See this newsletter's article by instrument maker Martin



Guitar with intricate inlay

Macica) The room was always crowded.

The Bluegrass Festival complete with food service for our customers was a new concept this year, and



One Step Closer

was it ever successful. Bluegrass bands played from 12 noon to 3 PM on Saturday and from 12 noon to 4PM on Sunday. The room was filled throughout the time period. The food was great and many of our attendees took advantage of the opportunity to have lunch and enjoy some music. This was all provided by the efforts of the Adirondack Bluegrass League (ABL) and its members. Their raffle of a bluegrass banjo brought them \$1500 + .

The Make a Pen area of the show where

attendees young and old could make a beautiful turned pen was busy all weekend. There were long lines of



Pens

attendees waiting to make pens throughout the weekend. Thanks to Jay VanVranken for all his hard work.

There were many children walking about Showcase carrying wooden items they made

in our **Toy Factory.** What is cuter than a child with a toy clutched in his/ her arms? Thank you Mid-Hudson.



Future woodworker



Learn by doing



Scrolling

Scrolling and Woodcarving were on display for our attendees to enjoy in the Carver's area and the Scroller's area. Thank you all.



Our lecture rooms were very well attended and served to meet our educational mission.

Logan Simms Saw Sharpening Demo

The Invitational Gallery co chaired by John Heimke was new this year and seemed to be something our guests appreciated. We plan to have this concept of highlighting the work of individual NWA members continue next year.

The Exhibition Room under the direction of John Olenik is directly related to the

mission of Showcase which is to educate the public about the wonderful things that can be made from wood. The works in this year's Exhibition Room were outstanding. The display of items made entirely of toothpicks amazed our attendees.





Fine furniture tall clock



Toothpick marvels

Our vendor area was well populated this year and all the vendors seemed to do quite well commercially. We always need more vendors, and if you see a possible vendor in your woodworking related travels, please remember to mention Showcase, and tell them how to contact us for a booth at Woodworkers Showcase.

Totally Turning which is held in the Hilton Hotel did very well this year. The 370 attendees was the highest ever in attendance. The Totally Turning Committee did a great job of producing the event and making its customers happy. Each Totally Turning attendee got a ticket to Showcase, so these two events were tightly tied together.

OFFICERS

President - John Heimke heimkejohn@nycap.rr.com 279-9073 Vice President - Wally Carpenter c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net 434-1776 Secretary - Nancy Reilly nreilly@nycap.rr.com Treasurer - Lee Hilt Jamtgs@earthlink.net Past President - Rich Duval rduval@nycap.rr.com Historian - Wayne Distin 674-4171 wdistin@nycap.rr.com Executive Secretary - Charlie Goddard 370-0388 Cgodd@aol.com

که

CHAIRPERSONS Mid-Hudson Chapter John VanBuren, President (845) 444-8281 Sacandaga Chapter Gary Ratajczak, President 852-1204 Education Tom Moran nwaeducation@gmail.com Position Open Youth Programs Wayne Distin - 674-4171 wdistin@nycap.rr.com Fiske Fund John Kingsley jkingsley1@nycap.rr.com Hospitality Francis Legac Library Darrel Welch - 477-8431 ydwelch@fairpoint.net Membership Peter Lofrumento nwamembers1@gmail.com Programs Wally Carpenter - 434 1776 c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net **Publications** Susan McDermott - 438-1909 s.mcdermott@hvcc.edu Publicity OPEN Showcase Chair Ken Evans - 753-7759 kevans1@nycap.rr.com

-

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518



Turner's demonstration



Inlay bowls

All the positive reports on the areas of the show mentioned above were made possible by more than 600 volunteers of NWA members, family, and friends. Without these volunteers, the show is not possible. Many thanks to all who volunteered for the show. A special thanks to Maria Witkins who was our new volunteer cochair for both Showcase and Totally Turning. Maria filled every spot required to produce the total show. Thank you, Maria!

Over all, both Woodworkers Showcase and Totally Turning had very successful events and yes, with your help, we will do them both next year on April 1 and 2, 2017.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR -- APRIL 1 & 2, 2017!

To view 286 photos of the show taken by Chris Stolicky, click on this link : https://www.flickr.com/photos/stolickyalbums/72157664403229854

WOODWORKERS NEWS

is published by the Northeastern Woodworkers Association for its members. The Association's aim is to provide a common meeting ground for lovers of woodworking who want to know more about wood and the techniques for forming it. The newsletter is published monthly. The newsletter is available online at www. woodworker.org



Your next issue of **Woodworkers News** will be published in early June Copy deadline: May 15 Susan McDermott, Editor (518) 438-1909 s.mcdermott@hvcc.edu Elizabeth Keays Graphic Artist Designer



WEBSITE(S) www.woodworker.org www.nwawoodworkingshow.org

Webmaster - Kurt Hertzog kurt@kurthertzog.com



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



Showcase 2016 Lecturers

By Wally Carpenter

When I was given the co-chair opportunity of finding lecturers for the 25th Annual Showcase event, I wondered how I could possibly provide better folks than in our previous years. I must say, I believe we succeeded in doing that with both our vast depth of local talent as well as known world class professional woodworkers. We brought in Garrett Hack of Thetford, VT who has written numerous articles for *Fine Woodworking* (FWW) *Magazine* as well as presenting woodworking skills across the globe. Philip Lowe of Beverly, MA is also well known for his articles in FWW and recipient of the Cartouche Award in 2005. Jeff Miller of Chicago, IL is the author of numerous woodworking books and articles. Finally, among our professionals was Joshua Klein from Brooklin, ME who has created his own magazine as an outstanding furniture restoration expert. These experts were among the most courteous and friendly experts we have had the opportunity to share with our guests.

I do want to mention the caliber of local and near local talent we had the pleasure of enjoying: George Rutledge, Anthony Ruscitto, Logan Simms, Martin Macica, Dave Parkis, Rick Angus, Mike Mascelli, Ken Levan, and Paul Hinds. These folks presented a wide range of topics and were professional, interesting lecturers one and all.

While we did not cover every aspect of woodworking, we did have interesting topics ranging from classical hand tools, furniture restoration, turning, carving, wood identification, to musical instruments. I hope each of you had the opportunity to see some portion of these lectures because they really are designed to benefit all of us in our woodworking skill development.

Next year, please feel free to provide me names and connections to folks you would like to see at Showcase 2017. This one may be very hard to top!

Annual Elections to be Held at the May Meeting

In accordance with the By-Laws of NWA, the election of officers will be held at the May 12 meeting. The nominating committee offers the following slate for the positions indicated: Dick Flanders - Vice President. Additional candidates may be nominated by the membership prior to the election, as long as said candidates have agreed to serve if elected. Nancy Reilly, our current NWA Secretary is doing a wonderful job, and we are hopeful that she will agree to serve another term. The By-laws also provide that the current Vice President, yours truly, will become the President for the coming year at the end of the May meeting. Our President, John Heimke will become the immediate Past President and as such will serve as a special advisor to the NWA Board of Directors for the coming year.

Hand Crafted Musical Instruments at Showcase

By Martin Macica

It was great to be a part of the NWA Woodworkers Showcase this year. The show featured Hand Made Musical Instruments, and there were booths, presentations, and demonstrations from luthiers and woodworkers alike. There were a plethora of different handmade instruments to view such as banjos, guitars, mandolins, violins and flutes.

It was nice to be among so many instrument makers

(Luthiers). Instrument making is unique because it is as though you are making a fine piece of furniture that has to sing. It was so nice to have a few tables that were dedicated to displaying students' work from the Violin Making Class and the Arch Top Guitar Class. Many of the students volunteered their time to answer questions about their experiences in the process of instrument making and talk about their finished pieces or works in progress. I think they all have done a great job, and I thank the NWA for the opportunity



to teach what I love to do. It has been a great experience for all involved.

Much of my time at the show was spent doing demos on making instruments with hand tools. There seemed to be a great interest from observers in hearing and seeing parts of this process. It seems to be in people to want to be creative and understand the process of how something is made.

For more information on this year's showcase, feel free to check out my Blog at www.macica.com.

A Thank You Note

from Maria Wilkins, Volunteer Coordinator

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the volunteers who worked the open slots for the 25th Anniversary Showcase and 2016 Totally Turning Symposium. Your friendly and helpful presence made these events an unforgettable experience for the 4000 + attendees, lecturers, and vendors. Every volunteer should wear his or her 25th Anniversary commemorative Lapel Pin with pride.

A special "Thank You" to the NWA Office members and our committee's analytics and software expert for their help running the volunteer operation and for making the participants feel welcome and appreciated. They made my job much easier.

PS. If any volunteer who did not receive a lapel pin at Showcase, please see me at Wednesday's Turning Meeting at Solar Drive, or at the monthly NWA meeting at the Shaker site. While the Turners, Scrollers, Carvers, Musical Instrument Crafters, and Fine Furniture Makers exhibited hundreds of beautiful items, a few items find themselves in unique categories.



Buster's Memorial Box: love lives on



Jorden Mapes' Moxon Vise: combines art with practical tool



Bill Rogers, Gardener's Basket: a novice to woodworking



Mechanical Toy: hours of amusement

Jim Ritter, boat builder from Sag Harbor, NY invented a sharpening jig for a wide variety of chisels and plane irons. He demonstrated his patent pending devise at Showcase. His Alpha Sharpening Jig can sharpen 15 to 55 degree angles, micro-bevels, and blades up to 2¾ inches wide. He demonstrated the jig's versatility by sharpening any and all blades and irons visitors brought to him. We hope he finds a manufacturer or his invention! Curious? You can inquire at www.ancorayachtsevice.com, email Jim at ancorayachtservice@gmail.com, or phone him with any questions 516-509-2765.



Alpha Sharpening Jig



Alpha Jig sharpening a plane iron

Kaatskill Wood Turners

By Wally Cook

Vacuum chucking systems: Bernie O'Malley provided a description of vacuum holding systems for woodturners. Vacuum systems have been around for a number of years, however, Bernie has found that their use has been inhibited because some turners have their own procedures for finishing the bottom of bowls and see no need to change. The other reason is that some wood turners – particularly those who are just starting -- have said that they did not know much about vacuum systems, never used a vacuum system, or never watched as one was being used. Bernie set out to demystify and explain the elements of a vacuum system and showing how it may be used for finishing the bottom of a bowl.

A woodturner's vacuum system consists of three major components: a) the **pump** which provides the vacuum, b) the **adapter** that connects the pump to the lathe, and c) the **chuck** that holds the work on the lathe via vacuum. All of these components are available commercially or can be adapted to home-made variations. Top of the line commercial systems can cost upwards of \$600, but alternate solutions can be built for approximately \$100. Perhaps Oneway's system is best known, but Stubby Lathe and JT Tools also sell vacuum systems which are worth a look (see a review of JT's system at www.kurthertzog. com).

The first component of the system is the pump. This is the engine that creates the draw for the vacuum. Vacuum is measured in inches of mercury. Each inch of mercury equates to .49 lbs. per sq. inch of pressure. A good pump can displace 26 lbs. of mercury, resulting in 12.74 lbs. per sq. inch of holding pressure. Generally, a minimum of 7.5 lbs. per sq. inch is needed for safe holding on a lathe. (See a succinct overview at www.joewoodworker.com).

There are many different types of vacuum pumps made – a rotary vane pump is recommended. Vacuum pumps can be oiled or oil-less. Gast has been noted as a reliable pump manufacturer, but check out the specs for each model as there are diverse products. It is helpful if the pump has external filters to reduce excess dust, water or oil.

Used or surplus pumps are available for \$50 or less. Pumps from air compressors may also be re-purposed. However, is it



The heart of the vacuum system is the pump



Bernie showing a vacuum adapter he made



The JT Tools precision hub got good reviews

important to make a distinction that vacuum **pump** systems are different than **venturi** systems (e.g., Hold Fast vacuum generator) which employ air compressors to create suction; venturi systems must cycle frequently to maintain vacuum pressure.

The second component of a vacuum system is the adapter. The adapter is an airtight tube that conveys the vacuum from the pump through the lathe headstock and terminates in a free

spinning rotary union. Adapters are lathespecific. Most commercially available vacuum systems for woodturners will have options for your lathe model (exception: Oneway's adapter is only made for Oneway products). It is also possible to make your own adapter – Bernie made one essentially from lamp parts.

The third component is the chuck itself. The chuck is an airtight hollow cylinder, connecting to the headstock spindle, which directs the vacuum to the work piece. A variety of commercial and homemade chucks are possible. Oneway chucks are made from machined aluminum; others are PVC or wood cylinders fastened to face plates or tapped fittings. The opening is always fitted with thin closed cell foam or neoprene to establish an airtight fit as well as creating a non-marring surface for the work piece. Of the chucks that Bernie displayed, he favored the JT Tools precision vacuum hub. This product allows the user to add common schedule 40 PVC pipe and fittings for custom chucks.

Diameter of the chuck opening is important. The larger the chuck opening, the greater the surface area, and the greater the holding force of the vacuum. An efficient pump drawing through a very small opening may be unable to provide suitable holding power – so the largest chuck that can fit a work piece is the safest rule of thumb.

A detailed exposition of building a vacuum system is available from Carl Ford's website: www.carlford.info.

A better detail gouge: Keith Tompkins brought a modified detail gouge to show the

group. This tool featured three modifications of the typical "skewge": a) a 3/16" HHS rod was embedded



Keith Thompkins new take on a detail gouge

in a thicker hollow rod for stiffness, b) a micro bevel was added to the tip of the tool, allowing smooth cutting and shear scraping, c) the handle was turned on multi-axis to provide a reference grip and reduce rolling when placed on a flat surface. Nice job!

Upcoming: The KWA is switching meeting times during daylight savings. We will meet on the second Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM. The next demo is scheduled for May 11, where Bernie O'Malley will demonstrate the making of square bowls.



Bill Thiry's segmented ornaments won two ribbons at Showcase

Classifieds

For sale

Woodturning lathe – Jet JWL 1220 Condition NEW with set of Crown Tools call 518 289 5115

Wood working bench - pictured

(Clamps and table vise not included) \$500 or best offer Call/text Polly @ 518.506.6275 or email: pollykaris@gmail.com



CHAPTER NEWS

Mid Hudson Chapter News By Wally Cook

Targeted Forestry Solutions: Forester Ryan Tripani and wildlife specialist John MacNaught from the Catskill Forest Association visited our chapter meeting to highlight programs their organization offers to assist landowners in increasing habitat for

wildlife. The CFA is centered in Arkville, NY.

Ryan reviewed the changing cycle of our northeast forests. As farms were abandoned in the last two generations, open areas and fields have grown over. Understory



John MacNaught and Ryan Tripani from Catskill Forest Association

vegetation (the layer beneath a canopy of a forest) and shade intolerant trees have retreated in the face of spreading canopies of maple, beech, birch and hemlock. Consequently, forest floor sunlight has decreased and "forest wastelands" have proliferated, exposing bare ground under the canopies. Chestnut oak and white oak are usually the first species to lose out in the competition for sunlight, but red oak, cherry, apple, sugar maple, and serviceberry are also affected.

Sparse ground cover also reduces biodiversity in terms of both food and shelter. White tailed deer are a baseline species for gauging habitat. Recorded weight and size of antlers have decreased steadily since the 1950's. Reduction of browse (vegetation for grazing) has forced deer into more cultivated areas, such as power line easements, where clear zones have allowed brush and saplings to thrive. One deer may consume four to six pounds of new buds each day with sugar maples being a preference.

The mission of the Catskill Forest Association is to target certain areas for increased understory sunlight. In particular, areas where adjacent trees have grown to the same height exhibiting canopies of twenty feet or more across are candidates for remediation. The resulting meadow land not only provides germination for diverse tree species, but also attracts a greater variety of song birds, grouse, pileated woodpeckers, owls, and hawks.



An example of hinge cutting



The hinge-cut plot one year later

Selective clear sites are accomplished by:

- 1. Patch clearing: Trees are clear cut in defined areas to create opportunity for meadow growth
- 2. Hinge cutting: In small plots saplings are cut down, but mature trees are cut 2/3 through the trunk. The resulting tree fall provides cover for bedding and new browse.
- 3. Snag tree development: Tree girdling usually accomplished by two cuts through two tree growth rings. The result is referred to as a dead standing snag.

John MacNaught showed trail camera footage which demonstrated that deer are unfazed by the cutting activity, but are immediately attracted to the downed trees for both browse and cover. Buds are generally stripped from the tree fall within two days.

John and Ryan described their program to install owl, duck, and bat boxes on the edges of the newly created meadow habitats. Generally, duck boxes are installed from 8-15' high, close to wetland areas. Screech owls prefer nest sites 15-25' off the ground, while barn owl boxes are affixed to trees 25-30' high. Barred owls nest at least 30' high and typically pick out nest sites a year in advance; they have a ranging area of approximately six acres. Owl nests do not have perches, but feature horizontal grooves in the wood for talon holds.

The Catskill Forest Association is scheduling a demonstration of a **Deer Exclosure Fence** and presenting a **Forestry for Wildlife**

workshop on May 28. More information and sign-up is available by

contacting the CFA at 845-586-3054 or emailing cfa@catskill.net. Check out their website at catskillforest.org.

Tools Needed: Bring your hand tools and working power tools to the May meeting for donation to Camp Pattersonville.

Thanks: To all who assisted at Toy Factory or other Showcase venue – or participated by displaying work – a big thanks for making this event special!



Ahoy!

34th Annual Antique & Classic Boat Festival

August 20-21, 2016 (Sat., 11 am-5 pm; Sun., 11 am-3 pm)

Brewer Hawthorne Cove Marina, 10 White St., Salem, Massachusetts

\$5, children under 12 free

Info & Boat Entry: 617-666-8530, 978-448-6757, www.boatfestival.org,

You don't get to see boats like this every day! See a wonderful variety of rare vintage motor yachts and sailboats. Meet skippers and crews and vote for your favorite boats. Children get to make their own wee boat, and all can board real ones. A crafts market, artists, old-time band music, the Blessing of the Fleet, Parade of Boats and more!



Ryan installing an owl box 30' off the ground



Fred DuBois discussed a variety of jigs for table saw use

April NWA Monthly Meeting Summary

by Susan McDermott

Announcements:

John Heimke

- 1. 2016 Showcase had 4000 attendees and 280 Totally Turning participants.
- Saturday, April 16 pen turning instruction for disabled youth at 15 Solar Drive 10-12 noon.
- **3.** Wayne Distin still needs a volunteer for the monthly raffles

Dick Flanders

- 4. Expressed appreciation for the volunteers who loaded and unloaded trucks for the four days of Showcase set up and breakdown.
- 5. Saw milling of donated logs. Recently cut trees must have 8-10' long logs, no less than 36" in diameter. White oak is in great demand, cherry and walnut desired.

George Rutledge displayed his walnut bathroom sink, his cat carving with the grain flow enhancing its grace, and his custom





Custom router jig

Cat Carving

made router gig for the joinery of the burial boxes or ossuaries featured in last month's newsletter.

Wally Carpenter Order of business: Dick Flanders is a candidate for Vice President. Wally will become NWA President at the end of May 2016

Wood Grain Trick and Treats

Wally Carpenter gave a Power Point presentation on the selection of the best cuts and grain patterns of lumber for furniture making. He advised studying each board top, bottom, left, right, and ends for grain potential. Then make a prototype in poplar of the piece you want to create in the hardwood.

Thomas Hucker described the basic styles of furniture:

- Primitive- no joinery, just functional
- Rustic- furniture with fasteners, basic joinery
- Country- 18th and 19th Century styles
- High Style- veneers hide joinery

John Reed Fox disposes of 50% of the walnut he buys, selecting only parts of boards to get the right grain pattern and wood color for his custom made furniture.

Wally defined the three levels of craftsmanship:

 Studio - highest quality, custom made, one of a kind pieces which

may take years to make. They



John Fox Reed gallery piece

are very expensive as much carefully selected wood is sacrificed to make beautifully grained pieces.

- Production neutral and straight grains minimize wood waste. Examples are Stickley, Thomasville, Barrow.
- Hobbyist- self-explanatory!

Wally explained general cut categories to the novice wood workers:

- Flat cut reveals cathedral grains.
- Riff cut creates straight grained patterns
- Quarter sawn has less distinct grain, but advantages in cost, warping and moisture resistance.

Wally showed how four table legs and 2-3 boards may come from the same large, riff cut board to yield book matched pieces and legs that look good from all sides.

Wally showed the audience grain flow in a rocker he made that invites us it sit in it!

He displayed a Yellowheart wood drawer as part of a set with carefully matched grain and color. Close observation reveals accent wood pieces which are deliberate, careful wood combinations that surprise and please the viewer.



Wally's Rocker



Yellowheart drawer



Drawer's detail

Wally then showed the audience a rocker seat made by Joe Pelcher. It had a large wood void blemish which could not be seen until the seat had been carved out. The offending board could not be removed without destroying the skillful assembly, but he assisted Joe in making a patch that blended into the seat's grain as to be barely detected. When it was pointed out to observers, we could not help but admire the skill that went into making that patch!

Wally concluded by saying the 25% "waste" in his furniture making is not



The "patch"

really wasted as he saves the remnants for making small boxes, pens, and jewelry.

Eastern White Pine (Pinaceae Family)

by Ron DeWitt c.1995

This is the third article reprinted in the NWA Newsletter as part of a series to increase the understanding and appreciation of woods.

We tend to group all of the conifers or softwoods and call them pines. There are, however, several large families in the order Coniferales including fir, cedar, spruce, larch, redwood, hemlock, and Douglas fir as well as pine. The pines of the world number about 100 species, 36 of which are native to the U.S. The form or characteristic shape of pines is established by a main stem or trunk with lateral side branches. They have needle or scale-like foliage which is usually evergreen, although they replace their needles regularly.

The Eastern White Pine *(Pinus Strobus)* is the largest of the Eastern pines and is probably the most important of all the pines. It provided more timber in the last century than any other tree in the U.S. (from stands that were estimated to be in excess of 900 billion board feet).

This is the original "pumpkin pine" of early New England history, so called because of the beautiful orange patina it develops over time. The species is also the "tall pine" of Paul Bunyan lore and is the wood used to build most of the towns of the Midwest. It's hard to think of a product of our forests which has contributed as much to the building of our country as this great timber.

The Eastern White Pine grows from the Rocky Mountains to the East Coast and from Newfoundland to the Allegheny Mountains, into Tennessee and Georgia. It typically to 100 feet today; although in the old growth forests it reached 200 feet. As with much of our timber, there are very few virgin trees of this species remaining. The largest living specimen is five and a half feet in diameter and 201 feet tall, growing in Marquette, Michigan.⁽¹⁾

The Eastern White Pins, Western White Pine, and Sugar Pine are considered as a group to be "soft" or "white" pines, differentiated from the "hard" or "yellow" pines primarily by their lower density. The similarity in characteristics of the soft pines makes them difficult to identify individually except in the laboratory.

Eastern White Pine has large resin canals which are numerous and evenly distributed. It has a pleasant piney odor-nice to have in the shop. The grain has an even appearance; the transition from earlywood to latewood is gradual, but the latewood is in a relatively narrow band. The cream-colored heartwood is distinct from the narrow white sapwood and darkens to orange-brown tones upon exposure. Knots are darker shades of orange-brown. This species is the softest and lightest of the pines, at about 23 pounds per cubic foot, specific gravity of 0.35. Early lumberjacks gave it another common name- "cork pine" because it floated so high in the water on the way to the sawmills.

The soft pines all have five needle clusters which makes the Eastern White Pine tree easy to identify in our area. It's the only five needle pine growing naturally east of the Rockies. (Don't be fooled by the five needle Bristlecone Pine growing along Herm Finkbeiner's driveway!)

Eastern White Pine air dries easily and quickly- 60-200 days for one inch thick green lumber. It has little shrinkage and is quite stable. It is straight-grained, uniform in texture but low in both strength and resistance to shock.

This wood works very easily and well with either hand or power tools. Turning is a notable exception because of its softness. It is not suitable for steam bending. It takes fasteners without predrilling, sands easily but best with a block, and glues well with any adhesives. If unfinished, it cups and checks when exposed to the weather, but it takes all stains and finishes well. It deteriorates or becomes bug food quickly if left on the ground or used below grade. There seems to be no health hazards from working with this wood or its dust, but normal precautions are advised.

Most Eastern White Pine is sawed into lumber and used for just about anything. About 90% goes into construction. High quality material is used for foundry patterns. It is the material of choice for sash, doors, furniture, trim, cabinets, paneling, toys, and shipping crates. Some is used for caskets and burial boxes.

Today the supply is somewhat limited, but through reforestation, it is recovering. It will probably never be as plentiful as it was in the late 1800's. Clearer grades are not readily available, but since Eastern White Pine branches out at 18 to 24 inch intervals, even the lower grades provide lots of short clear pieces which are ideal for small projects. Nice boards of this wood can be purchased from local area sawmills, rough sawn and air dried for \$.80- 1.00 per board foot. Expect to pay up to \$3.00 for premium planed per board foot.⁽²⁾

^{1.} In the "National Register of Big Trees" (54), there are two champion white pines: one in Michigan is 168 cm (66 inches) in diameter and 48.2 m (158 feet) tall, and the other in Maine is 173 cm (68 inches) in diameter and 44.8 m (147 feet) tall, as of 2008.

^{2. 2016} prices from local saw mills

May Meeting

Thursday, May 12, 2016 7:00 p.m. Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY



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

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Adirondack Woodturners Association (AWA) - The AWA is active throughout the year. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month (except in January and July when it is the second Wednesday), and are held at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM.

Wednesday "Learn and Turn" sessions occur on all other Wednesdays at the NWA Learning Center. These sessions run 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.www.adirondackwoodturners.com **Contact:** Ken Evans, 518-753-7759 or kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Scroller's Guild - Meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. A beginner's session starts at 6:30 PM (TBA), followed by a general meeting at 7:00 PM. Contact: Jeanne Aldous at AMJAMtat2@aol.com or Barbara Nottke at scroller87@aol.com or 869-6268.

<u>Kaatskill Woodturners</u> - Meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Opdahl property in Hurley, NY. **Contact:** Wally Cook at wally.cook@gmail.com.

NWA Crafters - Meets every Saturday and Tuesday, from 9:00 AM until noon at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. The Crafters provide public service woodworking for various charitable organizations, including the Double H Hole in the Woods camp for children and the GE Toy Modifications Group, and the Make A Wish Foundation. Sharing information, fellowship, and relating experiences are a major part of these sessions. **Contact:** Dave Axton (518) 237- 6942, daxton@nycap.rr.com, Wayne Distin (518) 674-4171, wdistin@nycap.rr.com Steve Schoenberg (518-371-1260), sschoen1@ nycap.rr.com for more information.

NWA Musical Instrument SIG - Meets every first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Learning Center. The purpose of the group is to discuss all aspects of all musical instruments, playing, building, repairing, and history. Meetings involve a show and tell table, a program on an appropriate topic, and lots of member interaction. If you want to be on the email list for notifications, **contact** Ken Evans at kevans1@nycap.rr.com or 518-753-7759 or 518-281-0779.

The NWA Wood Carvers SIG – The NWA Wood Carvers SIG – Meet each Thursday at 5:30 PM until 8:30 PM all year at the NWA Learning Center located at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. The goal is to promote the art of Wood Carving and to have a good time doing it. The only prerequisite is a desire to carve while making new friends. Wood, tools, and patterns are available. Contact: George Rutledge (518) 366-3606, c.howie.dudat@gmail.com, Diane Balch (518) 338-5637, signs@balchsigns.com

Hand Tool SIG – Meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Herm Finkbeiner Education Center at 15 Solar Dr, Clifton Park, NY. Contact: Dave Parkis for further details: dparkis@nycap.rr.com

Segmented Turning - Meets the first, third, and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM at 15 Solar Drive, Clifton Park, NY. Contact Toby Pauly 362-6071 (cell), e-mail tobyp@bpipiping.com

CHAPTERS

NWA Mid-Hudson - The chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday, except July and August, at the Hurley Reformed Church. The Church is just off the the Hurley exit from Rte. 209. Right at the exit, right at the stop sign and left into the Church parking area. John VanBuren, President (845) 444-8281 **Contact:** Pete Chast, pchastnow@gmail.com.

<u>NWA Sacandaga</u> - The chapter meets at 7:00 PM. on the Second Wednesday of each month at 55 Second Avenue, Mayfield, NY. **Contact:** Gary Ratajczak, President - (518) 852-1204