

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

November 2007, Vol. 16, Number 11

November Meeting John Reed Fox – Elements of Design and Craftsmanship

Thursday, Nov. 1st, 7:00 pm
Clifton Park Senior Center
Clifton Commons
Vischer Ferry Road, Clifton Park

Note! The date of the November meeting has been changed to November 1 and will be held at the Clifton Park Senior Center, the place where the December Family Night is held.

The November meeting, which honors the memory and contributions of Milan Fiske to NWA, each year brings to the capital district a distinguished woodworker who exemplifies both outstanding craftsmanship and artistry in woodworking.

John Reed Fox, who has twice been a featured contributor to our Saratoga show will be the speaker this year. John opened his studio in Acton, MA in 1979 and has been making one of a kind pieces ever since. He is a furniture maker who in addition to being an outstanding designer and craftsman has mastered Japanese hand tools over twenty-five years of use. His work is exhibited in a wide variety of venues including at the Smithsonian, at both the Philadelphia and Baltimore ACC craft shows and in national magazines such as in *Woodwork* (August, 1997), *Home Furniture* (Summer, 1996), *The Custom Furniture Source Book*, and *Modern Woodworking*. Last year his work was featured on PBS on the *Woodwright's Shop*.



John also is a regular at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Maine where he teaches advanced woodworking and Japanese hand tools. To learn more about John check his web site: www.johnreedfox.com/gallery.html and plan to be at the November meeting.



His presentation will focus on the fact that while it may differ somewhat from person to person, the understanding of the relationship among design, materials and process is critical to a craftsman's ability to produce the best work. He will discuss how he defines his own sense of craftsmanship and how this influences his process and in turn integrates with and determines his use of materials and designs.

His talk is both an esthetic and practical discussion. He feels that understanding the question "How do I do this" in the context of "Why do I want to do this/Why am I doing this" has important implications in an esthetic as well as practical sense and is, he believes, particularly relevant to the amateur woodworker. 🐿

SHOWCASE 2008 April 5 and 6, 2008

6 months to go !

Professional Presenters:
Wayne Barton • Peter Korn
Chris Schwarz • Doug Stowe

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Message from the President

- Pete Howe

FAMILY NIGHT AUCTION

BETTER TO GIVE THAN RECEIVE!

After the success of the auction at last year's December family night we are expecting to repeat that success at this year's family night. We will again need your HELP and donated items for the auction.

We have shown a few examples of the donated items made by our talented members that will make great Christmas gifts for the winning bidders or a keep-sake piece for their home.

Bart Chabot, our resident auctioneer and humor producer, will add his talents to the festivities. Time constraints to make an item will not take you off the hook. You may have a treasure at home just collecting dust that someone may love to possess.

I look forward to seeing you all at a great evening full of fun.

If you have any questions, please call me at (518) 885-9331 or email me at phowe1@nycap.rr.com 🐾

Family Night

- Warren Stoker

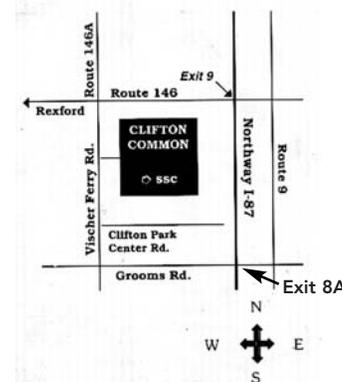
The holiday season is fast approaching and all those projects you make for presents are still not done. The NWA Family Night is part of the wonders of December. As in the past, we have the display of projects, completed or uncompleted. Members will again show how talented and diverse we are. The Family Gallery will be only as good as your imagination so bring along any projects whether wood or metal or fabric or whatever to make the tables groan with the samples of your awesome work. We learn so much from each other.

There will be conversation, music, laughter, conversation, a coffee and drink area, and those delicious desserts. The pastry chef of your family can show the wonders of the kitchen as everyone brings along a dessert of sweets or fruit or whatever. An instant gallery of members work will exist as well as an auction (Remember Bart??) of items members wish to donate with proceeds to support the NWA education classes.

For me, I look forward to seeing all of you and what I can learn from seeing the projects. 🐾



The monthly meeting on
November 1st
and
Family Night
on December 6
will be held at the
Clifton Park Senior Center



Special Guest at the November 1, NWA Meeting

- *Herm Finkbeiner*

Max Yurenda, the Executive Director of the Double H Ranch at Lake Luzerne will be a special guest at the November meeting. Max will be at the meeting to thank NWA and meet the many members who have contributed so much to Double H. NWA members have been making items and helping with woodworking projects since the creation of the Double H Ranch in 1991 but many know little about the Ranch and its operation. 🐾

Last Call to Renew!!

- *Susan Howe - Membership Chair*

NWA memberships expire in August of each year.

Renewal letters are sent out in September of each year as reminders that it is time to renew our memberships. Most renewals are received this way.

In addition, a membership renewal table was set up at the September and October monthly meetings for those attending who had not yet renewed. Many took advantage to renew at these meetings.

If you are unsure of your status please check your address label on this NWA Woodworkers News. The upper right corner shows the month and year your membership expires. This November newsletter will be the last one received by anyone who has not yet renewed their membership. But...there is still plenty of time before the December newsletter is printed to renew your membership.

Many volunteers are working hard to educate and assist members who love woodworking and want to learn more about woods or techniques. There are classes, lectures and meetings to attend. So...don't be left behind. Re-up today!

Send your check (\$25.00 for single, \$30.00 for family) to:

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

Any questions please call me at (518) 885-9331 or email at showe@nycap.rr.com

Evans'isms

Bud walked into a doctor's office and the receptionist asked him what he had. Bud said, "Shingles." So she took down his name, address, medical insurance number and told him to have a seat.

Fifteen minutes later a nurse's aid came out and asked Bud what he had. Bud said, "Shingles." So she took down his height, weight, a complete medical history and told Bud to wait in the examining room.

A half-hour later a nurse came in and asked Bud what he had. Bud said, "Shingles." So she gave Bud a blood test, a blood pressure test, an electrocardiogram, told Bud to take off all his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later the doctor came in and asked Bud what he had. Bud said, "Shingles." The doctor said, "Where?" Bud said, "Outside on the truck. Where do you want 'em?" 🐾

For an idea that does not first seem insane, there is no hope.

Albert Einstein

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.



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Position to be Filled

NWA maintains two websites, the first noted here operates continuously. We also offer selected links to other sites of interest to our membership. Webmaster - Justin Rohrer rohrej@woodworker.org

The second site operates from January 1 to May 30 and carries specific information about SHOWCASE.



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

FISKE FUND

- Joe Kennedy

Many thanks to the Fiske Fund awardees who participated in the special presentation at the October 11 meeting. It looked to me that it was an interesting and educational experience for everyone.

If you weren't there, I would like to point out that all of the awardees expressed their gratitude to NWA for their grants and encouraged us all to make use of the Fund. I especially liked Karen Aune's remark that "You're nuts if you don't use the Fiske Fund" if you take a class.

We currently have two applications pending. Bill Sterling took a guitar making class with Dave Nichols in Malone, NY. Steve Mapes took a furniture construction class with Garrett Hack in Shelburne, VT.

Please note that it is possible to take a class before your application is approved. The main thing is that you must submit your application before you take the class. We still have enough money in the Fund to help you take your class.

Enjoy some of the photographs from this past year's awardees.



NWA Woodworking Classes at the Stillwater Shop

For more information about any of these classes see: <http://wood-worker.org.blogspot.com/>

Windsor Chair Turnings

Tom Wetzel

The 1st Installment in the Windsor Chair Series

Sat & Sun Nov. 3 & 4

The 'Hands On' portion of the series is sold out.

This class is only available on an audit basis

Cost: \$30

Beginning Bowl Turning

Don Orr

Saturday, November 10
from 9 AM to 4 PM

Students should have some fundamental turning experience

Cost: \$40 plus materials

Turn a Mini Birdhouse Ornament

Louie Andrews

Tuesday, November 6
6 PM to 9 PM

Cost: \$25

Hand Cut Dovetails & Handsaw Techniques

Tom Osborne & Bill Van Brunt

The 2nd Installment in the Hand Tool Skills Series

Sat & Sun Nov. 17 & 18

Cost: \$40

Plunge Router Pencil Box

Dave Mobley

Monday Nov. 19 & 26 and Dec. 3

To register
contact Gerry O'Brien at:
go12211@yahoo.com
(518)459-9266



Warren Stoker, Toy Maker and More

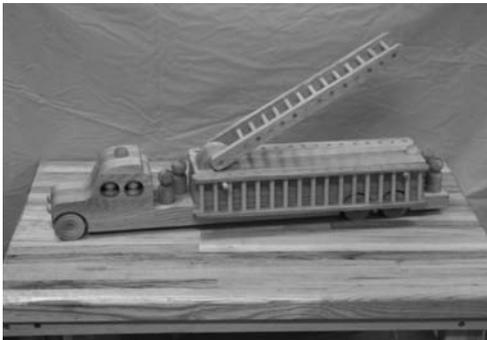
- *Bill VanBrunt*

A car. A tiger. A truck. A cow. A train. Sorting “scrap” wood with NWA Vice President Warren Stoker is always interesting, fun and educational as he visualizes toys in the “scrap” pieces as he sorts them. And does he have scrap wood to sort. He gets barrels (sometimes 5 or 6 at a time) of cut-offs and scraps several times of year from a friendly local professional woodworker in Delmar. What is even more fun than sorting the scraps is watching him turn the scraps into toys, which he sells at his church’s annual fall sale each November. He doesn’t make just a few toys, we are talking boxes and boxes and boxes of toys, all made from wood someone else was throwing away.

His well equipped shop is in an addition to the back of his garage, and is heated with a wood stove. So even the very few of the scraps left over from his toy making ultimately also get used in heating his shop.

Warren grew up on a dairy farm in central New York, and learned early how to use everything completely and not to waste what might be useful in the future. He talks about delivering milk to the dairy on his way to school in the morning. I guess that explains why most days he’s up and in his shop before the crack dawn, even in January, when the fire has gone out and the shop has cooled off overnight.

A member of NWA since “the early years” he remembers when the meetings were held at Price Chopper in Schenectady. While wood-working currently takes up much of his time, education has been at the center of his life since kindergarten.



While most of us were looking forward finishing our schooling, Warren continued on and became a school teacher. He taught middle school social studies in Delmar until his retirement then was elected to the Bethlehem School Board of Education, and has served the school district for 9 years. That means he’s been involved in education as a student, teacher or administrator for all but the first 5 years of his life. Warren has also continued to use his teaching skills in the toy making classes he taught for NWA members. In addition to teaching, Warren has continued as a student, and in addition to toy making has expanded his woodworking to include turning among other interests. He is also always looking for new classes to take.

One of the highlights of his teaching career was the year he traded jobs with a teacher in Australia. From Warren’s perspective he learned as much as his students, as they taught each other their “language”. Yes, they do speak English in Australia, but it is Australian English, not

U.S. English. Amazing the different meanings words have in the two countries. If you get a chance, ask Warren about his Australian adventure. He even did some woodturning in the school shop while in Australia.

While his first big woodworking project was a kayak, making toys, in his own words, “is his passion.” It all started innocently when a friend introduced him to toy making around 1980. He now makes hundreds of toys each year, and has shared his passion for making toys with several NWA members. If you talk to him about his Australian adventure, be careful as he may get you hooked on toy making too. 🐼



CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale

Sycamore - 1/4 sawed @ \$6 per BF; 4/4 x 4" - 10" x 8'
Oak - 1/4 Sawed @\$3 PER BF; 4/4 x 3 1/2 - 10" x 8'
Cherry - 4/4 - @\$4 per BF; 8" - 12" X 8'
Maple - 4/4 - @\$3 per BF; 8" - 10" X 8'
Dick Remis , phone: 518-785-7795 (leave message)

Avid collector of hardwoods, must sell entire stock acquired over 50 years. Small pieces of cherry, walnut, maple, and oak still available.

Also for sale: Assorted tools

Located on the east side of the Tomhannock Reservoir, Abbot Wiley, 55 Ashcroft Rd. Valley Falls, NY.

Will be available to sell to all woodworkers any Saturday afternoon. Appointments for other times are appreciated and are made by calling 518-753-4335. Please leave a message.

Wood of the Month ^{©2007}

- Ron DeWitt

Common Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) L. A Deciduous Hardwood Ebenaceae - The Ebony Family

There are about 400 recognized deciduous and evergreen species of ebony worldwide. Most are tropical trees. Two, however, are native to North America. Two are found in Puerto Rico, two in Hawaii and the balance occur in Madagascar, Africa and Malaysia. The two North American species, *Diospyros virginiana* and *D. texana*, Texas persimmon, are both found in the United States.

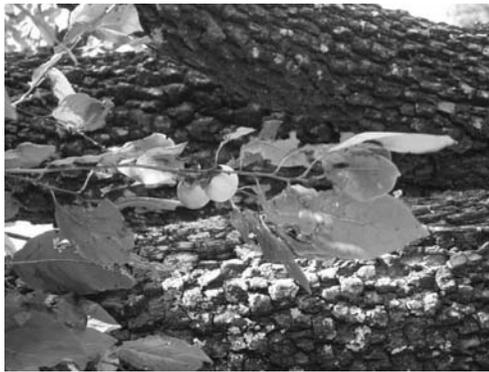
Common persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) may also be referred to as persimmon, possumwood, simmon, eastern or Florida persimmon or date plum. Its native range, all in the U.S., extends from southern New England south to southern Florida and westward across southern Indiana into eastern Iowa, Kansas and Texas. It is especially abundant in the southeastern U.S. The common persimmon is of value for its timber and fruit.

Common persimmon grows well in a very wide range of growing conditions--extremes of dry to wet, poor to rich soils, sandy to muddy river-bottom flats to rocky to steep, often doing roadsides or pioneering on vacant land. Best "commercial" development is in areas of moderate precipitation and temperatures of 95 deg. F (35 C) in summer to 10 deg. F (-12 C) in winter. It is well suited to high insolation and dry conditions.

Not selective in choosing forest associates it is commonly found with oaks, southern pines, hickories, yellow-poplar, maples, elms, and sycamore. Although plentiful at times, it does not occur in pure stands.

The persimmon is a small- to medium-size tree, inclined toward shrubby growth but more typically reaching heights of 30 to 60 ft. (9 to 18 m) at maturity. In ideal conditions it reaches 70 to 80 ft. (21 to 24 m) and a diameter of 20 to 24 in. (51 to 61 cm) dbh. Bigger trees, to 125 ft. (38 m) have been reported, although *The National Register of Big Trees* lists the current champion common persimmon, in Portsmouth, Ohio, at 82 ft. (25 m) by 45 in. (114 cm). These trees may live several hundred years.

This tree is very slow growing, usually on a short stem with spreading branches, producing a dense, rounded crown. Branches tend to become pendulous as the tree matures. It can be quite variable in character. Twigs are zig-zagged, brown to gray, and may be hairy. The gray-brown bark on young trees is rough with orange-edged fissures. As the tree matures, bark darkens and thickens to one inch (2.5 cm) becoming broken into small (distinguishing), blocky squares.



Leaves are simple, untoothed, alternate, 4 to 6 in. (10 to 15 cm) long, elliptic with rounded bases, dark green and somewhat glossy on top, pale green underneath. Leaves often have black blemishes on their topsides.

Persimmon is usually dioecious, having male and female sexual components on separate trees. The small, yellow, fragrant bell-shaped flowers of both trees are about 0.4 in. (1 cm) long. On male trees the flowers are numerous, usually in groups of two or three. On the female or seed tree the flowers are solitary. These flowers produce a good quality honey.

The round, plum-like fruit is an edible seeded berry, 1 to 2 in. (2.5 to 5.1 cm) in diameter. It ripens from green to yellow-orange or cantaloupe-orange with a red blush in autumn. Fruit is unpleasantly astringent and mouth-numbing until becoming somewhat over-ripe or tinged by frost, improving its juicy sweetness and flavor. The fruit may persist on the branches through winter. Trees may bear fruit in as few as six years.

The wide sapwood of persimmon is white to pale yellow, darkening to yellow-brown or tan on exposure. Heartwood, first developing after the tree reaches a hundred years or so of age, is narrow, dark brown to black, irregular and often streaked. Most wood used for commercial purposes is sapwood.

Persimmon is a semi-ring-porous hardwood. Earlywood pores are solitary or in multiples of two or three, easily visible to the naked eye. Pores are very thick-walled and decrease in size toward the outer margin of the growth ring. Rays are fine and only visible with a hand lens. Growth rings are indistinct and quite narrow, averaging 14 per inch (5.5 per cm), producing a heavy, very hard, very strong, fine-grained wood of little figure.

Average sp. gr. of the sapwood is 0.74 and weight is about 52 pcf (833 kg/m³) at 12 percent M.C., not quite as heavy as Osage-orange (*Maclura pomifera*). Drying shrinkage is very high as 11.2 percent tangentially, 7.9 percent radially and 19.1 percent in volume making it prone to warping and troublesome to dry. Once properly dried it is very stable in service. The wood is difficult to work with hand tools but is rated average when machining. It does burn easily unless saw or router cuts are made boldly. It turns nicely, requires careful control when glueing, is very wear resistant, but is not very durable. Pre-drilling is required for fasteners. It takes and holds a high polish when finishing. The wood is without a characteristic taste or odor.

There is some possible health impairment, e.g. dermatitis, asthma, conjunctivitis and toxic effects reported when working with various species of *Diospyros*. Appropriate precautions are well advised.

Common persimmon wood has been used for golf club heads, turnery, billiard cues and spinning wheels. Some is still used for furniture veneer, tool handles, shoe lasts, wood plane soles, parquet flooring and sometimes for low grade lumber.

Common persimmon is an important source of food for a wide variety of wildlife. It was equally important for food and medicine for Native Americans. The fruit, referred to as persimmons or locally as "pawdads," was

Continued on following page

easily dried, like prunes, and stored or carried when traveling. Fresh or dried fruit was also baked in bread or pudding. Early European settlers in America used the fruit in pie or cake. Fresh fruit was boiled down to make molasses or mixed with cornmeal and hops to make beer. Vinegar could be made from the fruit and whiskey; leather was tanned and stained in a fruit slurry. During hard times dried and roasted fruit seeds substituted for coffee.

Native Americans (and early Americans) used north-side or inner bark infusions and fruit syrup for sore throat, thrush or general mouth problems. Inner bark was chewed for toothache. The same bark infusions treated venereal disease, indigestion, diarrhea and worked in a wash for hemorrhoids. Bark added to the steam bath treated skin problems, poison ivy and general malaise.

In the American South and Midwest persimmon fruit may often be found in markets in the fall. It continues to



be popular in local dishes and desserts. Several tree varieties have been developed for their improved fruit quality. The tree is also sometimes planted in landscapes or for windbreaks.

As for the wood, supply is good but demand is low. Common persimmon is not sawed out very often. Best sources will be small local mills in those areas where it is plentiful. The price will be high.

Wood Definition

- Ron DeWitt

Pith flecks: Flecks or narrow brown streaks resembling pith, on the surface of a piece of wood, caused by insects boring in the cambium layer, producing wound tissue.

Wood Questions

Q. Which one of the following species is most likely to take stain well: pine, maple, white oak or Brazilian cherry (jatoba or courbaril)?



A. White oak.

Special Class Announcement

In addition to the tried and true variety of individual classes which has been so well received, the Education Committee is pleased to announce a somewhat different twist on this year's program.

We have assembled 2 class groupings which are designed to explore all of the various skills needed to complete a specific woodworking project. All of these classes will be both entertaining and informative in their own right, but if an entire grouping is taken as a sequential series, each class builds upon the skills learned in the previous sessions and ultimately results in a completed piece to be proud of.

First up is the **Hand Tool Skills Series**. This group of classes will help you develop your abilities with hand tools and culminates in building a Shaker Table with a drawer using your new found talents. The series kicks off with a Hand Plane tune-up clinic on October 27 to help get your tools

working at optimum levels. Next is a class on Hand Cut Dovetails & Handsaw Techniques on November 17 & 18. Apply your planing and sawing skills in Building a Dovetailed Box on January 12 & 19. And finally bring everything together when you Build a Shaker Table with Hand Tools on February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 4.

The second series will take you through the entire process of building a **Windsor Chair**. If you've always dreamed of trying one of these classic beauties, but lacked the time or finances to travel to a specialized school here's your chance. Tom Wetzel has put together a program to explore each process individually and ultimately assemble a completed chair from the pieces. Start off with Windsor Chair Turnings on November 3 & 4 then move on to Carving a Windsor Seat on December 1 & 2. Next you'll learn how to Drill the Seat to accept the angled legs on January 5 & 6.

Learn shaving techniques when you explore Windsor Spindle Making on February 2 & 3. Try your hand at Steam Bending next on March 1 & 2 and finally assemble your personal masterpiece on March 14, 15 & 16.

In case you haven't noticed, both of these series wind up with a finished project sometime in late March. That's not a coincidence! Showcase is the first weekend in April, and Windsor chairs, Shaker Tables and Dovetailed Boxes all make excellent display pieces. Watch for upcoming details on special pricing for those who take an entire series. And keep in mind that a certificate for a class or two would make a wonderful gift for the sawdust addict on your holiday list.

Current information on all of NWA's classes is available on the Blog at <http://woodworkerorg.blogspot.com>

Or contact Gerry O'Brien at: go12211@yahoo.com or (518)459-9266. 🐾

Ken Miller's Breadboards

- *Wally Carpenter*

Our own Ken Miller has been at it again. He came to Jim Kennedy's on Saturday, Oct 6, with all the materials and examples of making Breadboards using "scarp" wood pieces.

I was reminded quickly that woodworkers only recognize wood as three categories: Trees, lumber (which is differentiated only by size), and kindling.

With that said, Ken showed how he takes those small pieces and makes some wonderfully exotic looking breadboards that would be at home in the finest homes.

We all learned that there were as many variations of end products as there are wood pieces.

Ken's talents and creativity are almost boundless and he knows how to challenge each of us to work outside of our comfort zones. As a result of his direction on Saturday, my wife was so excited she had to try this. She immediately produced a beautiful board from materials I may have left for the kindling pile!

Enjoy the photos and perhaps we can get Ken to run a class on this in the near future. 🐾



Adirondack Woodturners Association Monthly News

- *Celia Carpenter*

October's Meeting

This month was a preview of the Totally Turning 2007 event. Bud Escher gave us a review of turners expected at the event and reminded us that there would be an auction at the dinner where Mylan Fiske and other turners (past and present) would offer work for support of the Fiske Fund. Paul Petri is currently scheduled to show us some incredible Christmas turning pieces next month!

Monthly Demonstrations

Since the demonstrations are meant to benefit the group, we want to meet your needs. Please give Ed Van Wormer your suggestions or email them to myself at c.j.carpenter@earthlink.net. If you would consider demonstrating please let the board know.

Wednesdays at Stillwater

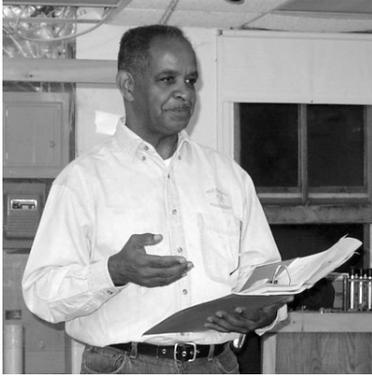
The activities have returned to the second Wednesday in October. Come to have your questions answered or come to answer questions. We have a wonderful time. One of the great benefits of being a member of this club is the friendships that it brings. Remember to join us at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings. 🐾

CHAPTER NEWS

Mid-Hudson Chapter News

- Wally Cook

Come See! Preparations are being finalized for the first Mid-Hudson Chapter mini-showcase event on November 3. The show will be held at the Reformed Church Hall in Hurley from 10AM to 5PM. Please join us if you can! Contact Wally Cook for directions at cooker.1@earthlink.net.



Matt Clarke describes answers questions about the by-laws

Woodworking demonstrations are planned, as well as sawmill activity outside the Hall. Members are invited to bring items for display on Friday during set-up. Several cherry tables (courtesy of Bill Fiederlein) will be raffled and Christmas ornaments will be available for sale.

By-Laws: KWA members passed the by-laws at the October meeting. Part of the by-laws specifies that the KWA officers will also be AAW members.

Viva La Vega!

Jim Zitz has made a Vega lathe available to the Kaatskill Woodturners Association. The lathe will be used

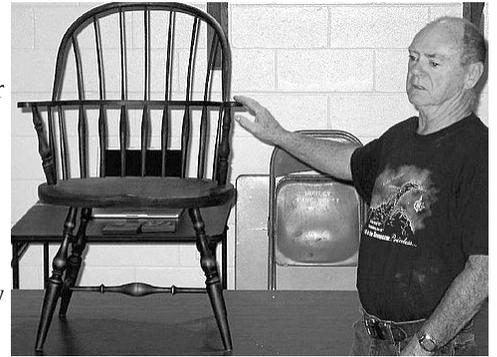


Box elder vase in need of healing

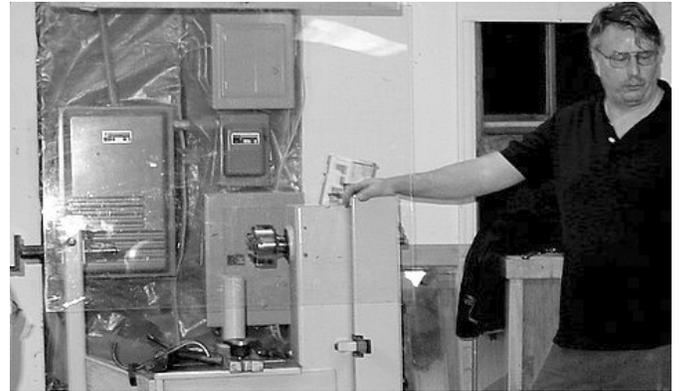
for demonstrations at the Opdahl Barn. In addition, we are trying out a new Shop Fox 1758 lathe -- 2 hp, 16"x43" bed. Check it out!

Show'n Tell: Recent items featured Bob Lawless' Windsor chair, constructed entirely with hand tools. Bob still has the indent on his forehead from bracing the spoon bit. He was able to complete the chair-making class with assistance from the Fiske Fund.

Matt Clarke sponsored a "Little Shop of Horrors" night for the KWA, where members brought in their worst mistakes to share with the group. We had great discussion about what went wrong and how to "re-purpose" pieces gone bad.



Bob shows off handmade Windsor chair



Jim Zitz discussed features of the Vega

Sacandaga Chapter News

- Gary Spencer

The Sacandaga Chapter of the Northeastern Woodworkers Association last met on October 10th. Our featured speaker was Paul Petrie and his topic was on wood turning. His presentation was "What You Never Thought You could do with a Lathe". Paul proceeded to demonstrate offset turnings, first on one axis then two different axis's an eventually he produced a turning with four different axis's on the same piece. Paul also demonstrated how to turn a bowl with two different axis's shaped into the bowl. This presentation was fantastic, everyone was astonished by the results. Thanks to Paul for another outstanding presentation.

Upcoming for November 14 the Chapter will welcome Don Flaws, also an NWA member who will bring us something different. His presentation will feature history and function of 18th century woodworking tools that were prominent in the New York and nearby New England area. Don has been involved with antique tools for some time and exhibited at the NWA Showcase. This should be a unique and interesting program.

Our regular monthly meetings are the second Wednesday of each month and begin at 7:00 P.M. at Mayfield High School woodshop. Our next regular meeting will be November 14th, 2007. Come on out!

For Directions or information contact:

Cliff Danke – 883-6011 • Carl Siegel – 853-3866 • Gary Spencer -863-6433

Totally Turning 2007

- Ken Evans

As far as small woodturning symposia go, Totally Turning takes a second place to none other. This years Totally Turning 2007 is in the woodturning history book as a great success. Attendance of 200+ woodturners from around the northeast USA and Canada attended the symposium held in the New York State Plaza Convention center on October 13 and 14. They shared their individual knowledge of woodturning, learned from master turners, saw and bought all the wonderful tools related to woodturning, and feasted their eyes on all the eye candy of the Instant Gallery.

The banquet of Salmon, chicken, and beef with all the trimmings was pruuuurty good fare after a long Saturday in the classrooms. The auction held many wonderful items related to woodturning including tools, demonstration turnings, and many items which featured works from Milan Fiske. All proceeds went to benefit the Fiske Fund. Several of Milan's works sold for well over \$100. These were sought by NWA members wishing to own a piece of Milan's work. A bottle stopper by NWA's own Keith Tompkins sold for \$125 with fast and furious bidding.

This was the fifth woodturning symposium sponsored by the Adirondack Woodturners Association and its success can be attributed to the hard work of many AWA and NWA members. Thank you all !

Join us next year for a wonderful two days of nothing but Totally Turning. 🐾



Message from the Librarian

- *Wilhelmina Evans*

Beginning in January of 2008, FINES for OVERDUE NWA library books will be \$1.00 per month.

If you have overdue NWA library books or videos you can bring them to the October meeting, the November meeting, or to Family Night, or mail them to the librarian at the address below and there will be no fine imposed.

January 1, the fines begin.

The NWA library works as follows:

At each NWA regular meeting except the November meeting and the December meeting, NWA members may check out library books and videos for \$1 each. These books and videos are borrowed until the next regular meeting. Books and videos may be returned at any regular meeting.

A book borrowed in Sept. is due in October.

A book borrowed in October is due in November.

No books are borrowed in November. (Fiske Lecture)

No books are borrowed in December. (Family Night)

A book borrowed in January is due in February.

A book borrowed in February is due in March.

A book borrowed in March is due in April.

A book Borrowed in April is due in May.

A book borrowed in May is due in June.

A book borrowed in June is due in September.

If you mail an overdue book to the NWA librarian during the month it is due, there is no fine.

When Sending books to the NWA librarian send them at the "MEDIA MAIL" Rate (which is very inexpensive) to the address below:

NWA Librarian
Wilhelmina Evans
2062 NY 67
Valley Falls, NY 12185

Kaatskill Woodturners Happy Hollow-een

- Wally Cook

John Franklin discussed three approaches to deep hollowing as a preview of his offering at Totally Turning: a) design trickery, b) segmented hollowing, and c) the real deal. This article will focus on design trickery in deep hollowing.

Several variables constrain deep hollowing. Tool overhang provides a limit on the depth to which a smooth and safe cut can be completed. Generally, John uses a rule of thumb that the practical limit of a tool's extension is 15x its shank diameter.

In addition, the piece itself may start to flex at certain levels of thinness. Such movement can result in tears and catches.

Some of the risk can be contained by incorporating design

elements which enhance the appearance of depth, but allow fabrication without specialized tools. John calls this approach 'design trickery'.



A collection of John's hollow vessels

One method of design trickery is to create a hollowed tube, which can be turned intact with a foot or later fitted with a bottom 'plug' or foot.

A consistently thin vessel can be constructed by drilling a vessel blank with a Forstner bit, using extensions if necessary (see note on safety). Finish the inside and then

turn a dowel to exactly the right fit for the hole in the blank. Cut an air groove in the dowel along its full length. The dowel will be the right size when there is a snug, but moveable fit.



A properly cutting Forstner bit leaves this type of shaving

With the dowel fitted back into the hole in the cylindrical vessel, the blank is turned between centers. The outside of the vessel can now be turned quite thin without flexing the geometry of the piece. John regularly turns cylinders to 1/16" thickness.



A thickness gauge for deep hollowing



Dowel partially inside turned cylinder - note air groove on dowel

John's Tips:

Safety: most manufacturers now avoid 'ganged' extensions for Forstner bits. Be cautious in using extensions. Garrett Wade and MCLS extensions work well. Always begin drilling without an extension and add only at the point where it is needed. Remember that a blank can be drilled out from both ends to extend depth -- and a plug or foot added later.

If a plug is added, be sure that the grain is aligned to help disguise the joint. Titebond II is great for end grain joints, Titebond I for face grain joints.

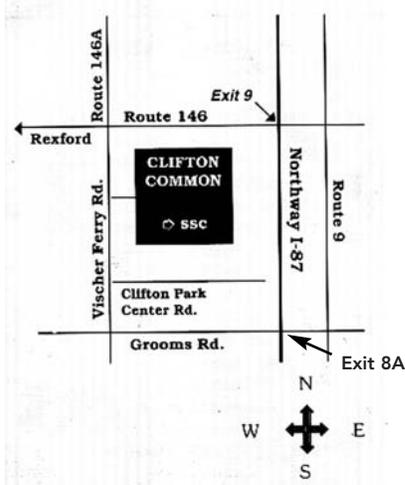
If a plug is not used, finish the bottom of the cylinder by drilling the last distance with a Forstner bit that has the point ground off. 🐾

Committee - A group of men who individually can do nothing, but as a group decide that nothing can be done.

Fred Allen



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



NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, Nov. 1st, 7:00 pm
Clifton Park Senior Center
Clifton Commons
Vischer Ferry Road, Clifton Park

GENERAL MEETINGS
AND SPECIAL EVENTS

NWA Program Schedule 2007-2008

November 1, 2007
Fiske Lecture (John Reed Fox!)

December 6, 2007
Family Night and
Member Donated Auction

January 10, 2008
The Workbench (Herm Finkbeiner)

February 14, 2008
Dutch Ship On Rust (Local construction
of the first Dutch ship built in the USA)

March 13, 2008
Musical Instruments Making

April 10, 2008
Fly Rod making
(Howard Bartholoemew)

May 8, 2008
Spec. display (By Mid Hudson Chapter)

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. Saturday "Learn and Turn" sessions are also scheduled. 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 George Norton, (845) 331-1705.

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 Joe Kennedy, (845) 473-1598

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.