

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

October 2004, Vol. 13, Number 9

October Meeting

Presentations By Fiske Fund Recipients

- **Charlie Goddard**

7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 14, 2004
Shaker Heritage Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road (near Albany Airport)

The October meeting will present an opportunity to learn from other NWA members who have attended woodworking courses funded in part by Fiske Fund grants. Those who receive Fiske Fund grants are asked to share what they have learned with the membership. The program will be short presentations by four recent grantees, including:

-**Austin Spang**, who took Garrett Hack's "Elegant Casepieces" course at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport, Maine;

-**Larry Zinn**, who built a hall table at the Dana Robes Workshop, Enfield, New Hampshire;

- **Bill MacTiernan**, who learned how to carve acanthus leaves for period furniture at the Fletcher Farm for Arts and Crafts, Ludlow, Vermont; and

- **Mark and Barbara Turpin**, who made hand crafted paddles at the Wooden Boat School in Brooklin, Maine.

This is the second year we have had a meeting devoted to Fiske Fund grantees. Last October three members gave excellent presentations describing their woodworking course experiences. Unfortunately attendance was poor and many members missed out on one of the best meetings of the year.

The business meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., followed by socializing, refreshments, and time to use the Tool Crib and Library and for viewing items brought in for Show and Tell. Don't forget to bring a project (in process or complete), tool or jig that might be of interest to others.

Totally Turning 2004

A Woodturning Symposium

Sponsored by
The Adirondack Woodturners Association
An NWA Special Interest Group

Totally Turning 2004 will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 30 and 31, 2004 at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany, NY.

Totally Turning 2004 is open to all NWA members at a reduced registration fee of \$70.

The event will feature nationally known woodturners and regional woodturners demonstrating their special skills. This year the nationally known turners include Michael Hosaluk, Bonnie Klein, and Clay Foster. The event will offer 42 presentations,



Nationally recognized turners Michael Hosaluk and Bonnie Klein are two of the featured presenters at *Totally Turning 2004*.

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OFFICERS

President - Pat McCord 439-1232

ptmccord@mybizz.net

Vice President - John Michne 371-6690

jmichne1@nycap.rr.com

Secretary - Kitty Scharl 765-3189

crowridge@empireone.net

Treasurer - Dale Swann 346-4172

SwannD@RPI.edu

Past President - Wayne Distin 674-4171

wpswan@capital.net

Historian -

Position to be Filled

Executive Secretary - Charlie Goddard

370-0388 Cgodd@aol.com

CHAIRPERSONS

Mid-Hudson Chapter

Joe Mikesh, President 845-687-4285

Sacandaga Chapter

Co-Presidents - Bob Beyer 883-3617

Dick Edel 773-5345

Education

Ken Evans 753-7759

kevans1@nycap.rr.com

Adult Programs

Position To Be Filled

Kid's Programs

Dick Grimm 587-0030

boltdmkkk@aol.com

and

Austin Petrie 686-4285

Holley222@cs.com

Fiske Fund

Charlie Goddard 370-0388

Cgodd@aol.com

Hospitality

Position To Be Filled

Library

Wilhelmina Evans 753-7759

wiltw0@nycap.rr.com

Jim Hartlage 370-4127

JMHartlage@aol.com

Membership

Austin Spang 393-2859

spang@nycap.rr.com

Programs

John Michne 371-6690

jmichne1@nycap.rr.com

Publications

Fran Finkbeiner 371-9145

FranFinkbeiner@aol.com

SHOWCASE

Charlie Goddard 370-0388

Cgodd@aol.com

Tool Crib

Tom White 489-6360

twhite10@nycap.rr.com

Videographers

Dave Ellison 872-0980

ellisd@rpi.edu

Hans Kappel 861-8753

bluespruce@juno.com

Pat Pugsley 634-7144

ideas@mhonline.net

Bob Conahan 355-9032

conahanbob@hotmail.com

Kirk Hardenburg

725-1997

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518

From the President

- Pat McCord

Now that this year's programs are underway, it's time to take a look at other aspects of NWA that need attention...and your help. Our major events such as *Showcase*, *Woodworking Weekend* and the *Totally Turning Symposium* have been successful because of the dedicated volunteers involved. However, many NWA activities such as classes, workshops and trips largely have been the result of the efforts of very few people. That clearly puts a strain on those few persons and discourages others from participating because of the large individual commitment required.

Join in the effort to make NWA an even better and more dynamic organization. Please think seriously about volunteering for one of the committees described in the article on 'Committee Volunteers Needed' in this issue, or sign on to help with an upcoming event. With more people involved, we can improve our programs without "burning out" the few. NWA will benefit from your efforts and you will have an opportunity to present your ideas and views. Best of all, you're sure to enjoy meeting and working with other members. 🐾

Hudson River Dinner Cruise

- Ken Evans

The Adirondack Woodturners Association, a Special Interest Group of NWA, is sponsoring a Dinner Cruise on the Hudson River aboard the Captain J.P. II on the evening of Saturday, October 30, 2004 as a part of its annual Totally Turning Symposium. All of NWA is invited to join the Adirondack Woodturners for this cruise along the Albany Skyline. Everyone will enjoy a great meal and be treated to a slide presentation of wood turning designs by noted designer and turner Giles Gilson.

Boarding is at 5:30 PM at the Troy Dock next to City Hall. The boat departs at 6:00 pm and will return to the Troy dock at 9:00 pm.

The cruise is part of the Totally Turning 2004 symposium sponsored by the turners during the weekend of October 30 and 31 at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany, NY. It is not necessary to attend the symposium in order to join the turners for this dinner cruise.

See the website www.totallyturning.com for full details regarding the symposium.

Tickets are \$30 per person for the three-hour cruise aboard this very big and very new ship.

The Menu: (buffet style)

Roast Beef, Turkey, Ham
Potatoes, Veggies, Tossed Salad
Deserts
Soft Drinks, Cash Bar

Call Ken Evans at (518) 753-7759 for details or to make a reservation. 🐾

To the Editor, "Woodworkers News"

Being vilified and maligned in the press appears to be the thing these days if one pays any heed to election rhetoric. But I feel compelled to clarify the **tape** report printed in your otherwise excellent journal. If I did not **measure** up to **standards** on a **scale** of 1 to 5, clearly the effort alone merited a 6! Moreover, I take issue with the reporter, that scurrilous wag Finkbeiner, who attached the moniker "two foot" to my normally ordinary name. While I appreciate the "good old boy" feeling that generates, perhaps it should have been "two **feet**" since that was roughly the margin of victory of my steeds at the great race!

Chuck Walker
Hopewell hooligan

Ernie Conover Weekend Sparkles

- Ken Evans

What a time we all had at the Ernie Conover Weekend at Sears in Colonie Center. It began at the Thursday evening NWA meeting when Ernie discussed the ways in which wood is worked, and this discussion was continued all day Friday. Saturday morning was a primer on spindle turning followed by everything, and I do mean everything, you always wanted to know about planes and how to use them.

Friday and Saturday saw the floor of the Sears facility covered with wood chips and shavings made by chisels, lathe tools, hand planes and backsaws. The sights, sounds and smell of freshly shaved wood is about all woodworkers need to be happy. And happy we were.

It was obvious to this woodworker why NWA keeps asking this man to come back. Ernie's extremely broad knowledge of woodworking topics is supported by his obvious love of the historical aspects of woodworking. Furthermore, the delivery of information in a calm, non-threatening and confident manner makes his presentations a true learning experience for all in attendance.

Highlights of the weekend included the following:

* Watching and hearing up close the sounds of a true expert using a hand plane to flatten and smooth a rough piece of lumber producing a "first side", and then preparing the "first edge". Hand-planes really do "sing", and we all heard them sing with Ernie.

* Discussing old hand-planes and their market value as collectibles. I was surprised at the number in attendance who had a plane collection. There may be a hand plane SIG in the making.

* Watching Ernie effortlessly turn several basic woodturning shapes used in spindle turning, followed by the production of two full-sized table legs and a serious discussion of sharpening lathe tools. The presentation was intended for those woodworkers who might want to make a turned set of four legs for their woodworking project, and was very useful for most woodworkers who might not be turners.

* Seeing flying mallets and chisels effortlessly produce several types of hand-cut dovetails. What a joy to watch this beautiful woodworking accent executed by an expert...while he assured everyone they could do the same.

Questions were asked and answered and many were followed by discussions. The interaction was excellent...the group learned from Ernie and we learned from each other and we learned about each other.

This is what NWA is all about. 🐿



Ernie Conover cutting mortise and tenons by hand.

WOODWORKERS NEWS is published by the Northeastern Woodworkers Association for its members. The Association's aim is to provide a common meeting ground for lovers of woodworking who want to know more about wood and the techniques for forming it. The newsletter is published monthly. It is assembled in QuarkXPress 5.0 on a Macintosh G4, duplicated by Shipmates, and mailed to more than 850 addresses.



Your next issue of **Woodworkers News** will be published in early November. Copy deadline: October 15
Clark E. Pell, Editor 731-2475
cepell@MSN.com
Elizabeth Keays Graphic Artist Designer



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

Website Editor Bill Fahy 869-0954
BBFahy1@nycap.rr.com

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

The second site operates from January 1 to May 30 and carries specific information about SHOWCASE. Webmaster - Rich Pagano
279-0936
Richpagano@earthlink.net



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

A number of NWA members participated in the 17th annual Rustic Adirondack Furniture Show held at the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake on September 11th, 2004.



Barney and Susan Bellanger, Mayfield, N.Y.



Jim Schreiner, Hadley, N.Y.



Bill Coffee and Russ Gleaves, Northville, N.Y.



Barry Gregson and daughter, Scroon Lake, N.Y.

Photos by Mike Kratky



Tom Benware, Middle Grove, N.Y.

Membership Renewals

- Austin Spang

Thanks to the many members who responded to my letter and have already sent in their membership renewal dues for the 2004-2005 year. I'm processing them and will be sending out membership cards shortly. For those who have not sent in dues, please look at the address label of this newsletter. If it says "Aug 2004", please send in your dues if you haven't already done so. If it says "Aug 2005", you have already renewed your membership and should have previously received a membership card. If you have any questions about your membership, contact me at (518) 393-2859 or at spang@nycap.rr.com. 🐾

CHAPTER NEWS

Mid Hudson Chapter News

- Wally Cook

The first meeting after the summer hiatus was held on September 16, and was packed with reports on summer activities as well as planning for new events.

President Joe Mikesh reported on the NWA booth at the Dutchess County Fair. The DC Fair is the oldest fair in NY State and is surpassed in size only by the New York State Fair in Syracuse: over 500,000 people attended the DC Fair this year.

NWA Mid-Hudson set up a booth to demonstrate wood turning and scroll sawing. Bud vases, bottle stoppers, puzzles, and scrolled animals were created at the booth and distributed to visitors in addition to the remainder of the toy cars from Showcase 2003. Member projects such as turnings, scroll saw items, intarsia, furniture, and carvings were on display at the booth and were well received by the viewing public. Thirty-six NWA members participated in making the booth a success. Great participation!

A follow-up benefit of the Fair was the attraction of new members...ten new members attended the September meeting with most becoming aware of the NWA through the DC Fair booth.

The next event being planned is a similar booth at the annual Sheep and Wool Family Festival at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds on October 16-17. This venue is geared toward 4-H participants, weavers, and other craft persons, with an expected draw of 25,000 people. The NWA activities will include the construction of bluebird house kits by children ages 8-12.

Show and tell projects at the September meeting featured a 16 ft. kayak made by Lou Via. The kayak was constructed of marine grade African mahogany 3/16 inch thick. Lou made the kayak from a kit prepared by Chesapeake Light Craft. The 45 lb. kayak is stitch and glue construction; that is, it has no ribs. Instead the mahogany panels are formed over the bulkheads to the desired shape and held in place using copper wire and brass ridge nails. After the hull is fiber glassed, the twisted copper wires are cut off. The result is a smooth profile and a lighter watercraft.

The next meeting of the Mid-Hudson Chapter is October 21 at the Central Hudson Building at 7:30 PM.



Joe Mikesh demonstrating wood turning at the DC Fair



Lou Via with his kayak project



Turned vase with gilt edges by John Franklin



Joe Benkert salt & pepper shakers: wenge, padauk, maple, and purpleheart

Opportunities to Get Involved

- Pat McCord

Now that NWA has grown into an organization of more than 850 members, it's a good time to review some of our strengths and weaknesses, how we can best serve the interests of the members and how to further our educational mission.

Education Committee

Ken Evans, NWA Education Chair, has been organizing classes, workshops, etc. for a long time without benefit of a committee. It's been a lot of work and Ken has certainly done a great job. However, it's time to recognize that such a big job needs more than a committee chair...it needs an active Education Committee to share the workload.

We need a small group of volunteers who are willing to pitch in and help by identifying topics and instructors, making some phone calls and coordinating the classes, workshops, etc. The amount of time required for each committee member will be small if each does a little. It's a great way to meet other members and become part of the most important activity of NWA. Please contact Ken at (518) 753-7759 or by email at kevans1@nycap.rr.com if you're interested in joining the Education Committee or have suggestions for consideration.

Website Committee

The NWA website has been a topic of discussion at NWA Board meetings recently. The general consensus is that the website needs to be reviewed and perhaps modified to more accurately reflect NWA activities and project a more professional image of the organization. The addition of an interactive "Bulletin Board" will also be considered.

If you have any interest and/or expertise in website design, or thoughts on what the NWA website should contain, please consider membership on the Website Committee. Contact Pat McCord at (518) 439-1232 or tmccord@localnet.com if you'd like to be part of this group or have ideas about the NWA website.

Building Committee

The mission of NWA is to promote woodworking and provide educational opportunities to its members and the public. Activities within NWA such as *Showcase*, *Woodworking Weekend*, *Totally Turning Symposium*, *Special Interest Groups*, and many other courses, workshops and classes have served that mission well.

To further enhance these efforts and to overcome some logistical difficulties of workshops, classes and our general and administrative meetings (committees, Board of Directors, etc.), the NWA Board has decided to explore the acquisition of a building. Other woodworking groups have been successful in operating facilities that house workshops and where meetings, classes and "open shoptime" are held. Having a well-equipped shop where members can spend time on individual or group projects could provide a valuable benefit as demonstrated by weekly shop sessions held by the Mid-Hudson Chapter, and the recent birdhouse project for Camp Hole in the Woods. Such an undertaking would be a very big step for NWA so member input is essential. If you would like to participate in this committee or have ideas about such a project, please contact Pat McCord at (518) 439-1232 or tmccord@localnet.com. 🐿

Mid Hudson Picnic

- Chuck Walker

The Mid-Hudson Woodworkers held their third annual picnic at Bob and Vi Opdahl's 17th Century Dutch farmstead on September 11, 2004. The charming historical location and spectacular weather were only part of the formula for another wonderful family outing. As for food, there was plenty available from a potluck dinner, but the homemade sausage from Joe Benkert and ably grilled by the maker was the hit of the day. Many lined up for seconds of this wonderful treat accompanied by onions and peppers cooked over an open grill.

As always, almost everyone brought something for the raffle. There were wooden projects along with some fine

needlework and many other donated items. The raffle helps to defray the food costs. Mid-Hudson

raffles are legendary

and no one was disappointed.

There are always more than enough items to go around.

Afterward, Vi Opdahl gave tours of the farmhouse which was once used as part of the set for the movie "Tootsie" with Dustin Hoffman and Charles

Durning. Others inspected the progress of the

work by the Mid-Hudson Woodworkers to turn a former three-bay garage into a facility fit to house a newly forming special interest group (SIG) for turning. Materials have been garnered from several sources to provide insulation and ceiling tiles. A number of power tools and lathes have already been acquired. Some of the building materials have been recycled from previous industrial or commercial use and were obtained at modest cost. This shop will provide a place to have demonstrations and classes. 🐿



Lee Crummins, Joe Benkert and Bob Opdahl discuss food preparations.



Chef Benkert grills his famous homemade sausage for the hungry crowd.

To prop up a sad and discouraged mind
is better than to conquer a kingdom.

Martin Luther

Basic Lathe Safety Part Two

- Ken Evans

Most accidents on the lathe result directly or indirectly from one or more of the following:

1. Centrifugal forces acting on the wood as it spins.
2. Increased rotational speed of the wood as the diameter of the piece being turned increases.
3. Vibrations that occur from spinning unbalanced pieces.
4. Errors in the choice and use of tools.
5. Operation of the lathe under less than ideal conditions.
6. Lack of plain old common sense.

Part One of this series on Basic Lathe Safety explored the first item. In this second article on lathe safety, I will discuss item two from the list. The rotational speed of the piece of wood on the lathe is often misunderstood, and usually not considered at all by beginning woodturners.

Consider two identical lathes, A and B, each with identical pieces of wood mounted between centers, except the piece of wood on lathe A is 4 inches in diameter while the piece of wood mounted on lathe B is 12 inches in diameter. Both lathes are set to 1000 revolutions per minute.

If you were to place a tape measure around the circumference of the piece of 4 inch diameter wood on lathe A, you would find the tape measure tells us it is approximately 12 inches or one foot around. The math involved is $C = \pi D$ where C is the circumference, π is pi or 3.14, and the diameter D is 4 inches. The same tape measure would tell us the approximate circumference of the piece of wood on lathe B is 36 inches or three feet around, $C = \pi D$ or $3.14 \times 12 = 36$.

Each revolution of lathe A causes 12 inches or one foot of wood to pass the tip of the turning tool. At 1000 rpm, 1000 feet of wood travels past the tip of the turning tool in one minute. At 1000 rpm, the speed of the wood on lathe A is 1000 ft per minute at the edge of the wood.

The situation is quite different on lathe B, where each revolution of the lathe causes 36 inches or 3 feet of wood to pass the tip of the turning tool. At 1000 rpm, 3000 feet of wood travels past the tip of the turning tool in one minute and the speed of this wood is 3000 ft per minute at the edge.

Both lathes are running at 1000 rpm, but the speed of the wood on lathe B is 3 times faster than the wood on lathe A. (Note: rpm tells us only the revolutions per minute, NOT the speed of the wood) Should a piece of bark fly off the wood on lathe A and hit you, it is traveling at 1000 feet per minute. A piece of bark from the wood on lathe B is travelling at 3000 feet per minute and can be expected to do far greater damage if it hits you than the piece from lathe A, all other things being equal.

At any given rpm, increasing the diameter of a piece of wood increases the speed of the wood and the number of feet of wood which passes the tip of the turning tool per minute.

As the diameter of the wood placed on a lathe increases, it should make sense that we must reduce the rpm of the lathe. There are published tables giving recommended rpms for various diameters of wood on the lathe. Be advised these tables usually show maximum values under ideal conditions, which are rarely the conditions under which we turn. Stay safe and turn slower. Never turn at a speed that makes you uncomfortable. 🐘

Fine Woodworking Back Issues Available

- Ken Evans

NWA has acquired many *Fine Woodworking* magazines and has no need for them. In the past, we have sold them on EBAY and the proceeds have gone to the Fiske Educational Fund. However, there may be NWA members who would like first chance to purchase them.

A description follows of several groupings of FWW and the price to NWA members. Obviously, it is first come, first served. If you are interested, please contact Ken Evans at (518) 753-7759.

Batch # 1

FWW magazines 1 through 133. None missing, good shape. Issues 1 through 24 are hard cover bound. Most of the issues have a single label on the cover stating they are NWA property.

Price \$300

Batch # 2

FWW magazines 30 through 133. None missing, good shape.

Price \$200

Batch # 3

FWW magazines 56 through 121. 86-87-89-90 missing. Good shape.

Price \$150

Batch # 4

FWW magazines 91 through 158. None missing, good shape.

Price \$75

Classes From WOODCRAFT – October, 2004

October 2, “Carving the Little Guy”,
Instructor Larry Spinack.

October 3, “Scrollsaw 3-D”,
Instructor Wil Charbonneau Jr.

October 14, “How To Achieve A Flawless Water Base Finish”,
Instructor John Olenik

October 16-17, “Introduction to Segmented Turning”,
Instructor Keith Tompkins.

For more information, contact **WOODCRAFT** at the address, phone number or email listed on page 11.

New Members

- Austin Spang

Paul Barrowman, Voorheesville, NY
Bill & Dolores Galusha, Argyle, NY
Mark Hammond, Ballston Spa, NY
Barbara & John Nottke, Albany, NY
Woody Whitman, Gloversville, NY

Fourth Woodworking Weekend To Be Held January 29 and 30, 2005

- Matt Bell

The Northeastern Woodworkers Association is pleased to announce the 4th annual *Woodworking Weekend*. Open to all woodworkers...beginner to advanced, turner to furniture maker, amateur to professional...there will be something for everyone at the NWA *Woodworking Weekend*.

Registrants will be able to choose from eight rotations of seven rooms for a total of 56 lectures and demonstrations by nationally known and regional experts. The classes generally will be 90 minutes long, and will cover all aspects of woodworking such as scroll sawing, carving, woodturning, wood technology, finishing, dust collection, veneering, antique restoration, Japanese joinery, kitchen cabinets, jewelry boxes, inlays, use of epoxy, making drawers, marquetry, basic use of machines (tablesaw, bandsaw, jointer, sander, lathe and drill press) and a beginners clinic.

Pre-registration is required to take advantage of lunch provisions; however, walk-in attendees are welcome. More information will follow in the November, 2004 NWA newsletter, and can also be found on the 4th Annual *Woodworking Weekend* website at www.nwawoodworkingweekend.com. The website contains a complete list of classes being offered, along with registration forms, class times, directions and other details. Please contact Ken Evans at (518) 753-7759, or kevans1@nycap.rr.com with any further questions.

Date

January 29-30, 2005

Approximate Times

9:00 am – 5:00 pm
(times to be confirmed,
check back in November)

Location

Empire State Plaza Convention Center,
downtown Albany, NY

Cost

\$95 per registrant (total for both days)

Bent Nails and Splinters

- Steve Eckers

* Get a small first aid kit specifically for the shop. Mount it on the wall right by the phone. Put 'today's' date on it. Check it every year to make sure it does not need any refills or change of first aid ointments. Be sure to add a good pair of splinter-removing tweezers.

* Taunton Press (publishers of *Fine Woodworking* magazine) has an extensive list of books they publish. Subjects range from building a workbench to finishing and everything in between. Many of these books are available at Barnes & Noble and Borders. They are all well written and hold lots of great designs and ideas for the beginner, intermediate and advanced woodworker.

* Too many people run a drill press at a slower speed than is really needed. Most drills, Forster bits and spade bits will cut smoother when run at a high speed. Just watch your feed rate.

* When using PVA type glue, do not use a wet rag to wipe off 'squeeze-outs'. This will only spread a thin layer of glue all over your project. Let the glue skin over and then use a putty knife to scrape off the glue, or better yet, let it dry completely and then use a chisel to carefully shave off the hardened glue. The clear plastic lid from a coffee can or yogurt container makes an excellent glue pallet. Yellow glue will not stick to it. To clean up, let the glue dry, flex the lid and the hardened glue will pop off.

* Keep an old 'Ace' bandage in the shop. It makes a good band clamp when assembling small boxes. Do you make miniature pieces? Old fashioned spring clothes pins make great clamps for this work. You can also reshape the tips for getting into really small spots.

* Use a magic marker and write the proper bandsaw blade length inside the top wheel cover. This will remind you of the proper length when purchasing new blades. This is very important if you own more than one bandsaw.

* An inexpensive dial micrometer is a handy thing to have in the shop. Use it for setting the final cut of your surface planer. It's also handy for finding drill bit sizes when you can't read the markings on the bits.

* When placing a bit in your router, push it all the way to the bottom and then pull it out 1/8". This will allow the bit to run truer.

* Bicycle chain lubricant/cleaner is great for the gears inside your table saw. It lubricates without gumming up or retaining saw dust.

* If you use a 'screw gun', remember there are three different sizes of Phillips head screw bits commonly used in woodworking. They are #1, #2, and #3. The size is usually marked on the shank of the screwdriver bit. If you are chewing up the screw slots, it is time to get a new bit. The #2 is the most common with the #3 used for heavy hinges and the #1 for really small screws.

* Are you having trouble driving 'glazers points' into picture frames to keep the picture in place? Use a large pair of pliers to squeeze the point in place. Be sure to use a piece of cardboard between the jaws of the pliers and the outside of the frame.

* Your local carpet store is always throwing out cardboard tubes that carpet comes on. A section or two make great storage containers for long dowels.

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Bent Nails and Splinters

Continued from Page 8

* Most of the electric supply houses sell a clear plastic 'safety tube' that slips over your florescent bulbs. If you accidentally hit the bulb and shatter it, the tube keeps the broken tube from raining down on you.

* A shop vacuum cleaner will work wonders in keeping the dust from migrating all over your shop and your house. Be sure to get extra filters for it. Some are quieter than others. Check the noise level before purchase. Get an extra hose and narrow crevice tool for reaching those tight spots.

* Do you use a hand saw? Rub a little bit of paste wax on the sides of the blade. It helps you cut more easily, especially if the wood is wet.

* Invest in a file 'card'. Get the kind with a short wire brush on one side and a stiff bristle brush on the other. The wire side is used for cleaning files and the brush side is great for 'Sur-Form' rasps.

* Keep a can of 'Waterless Hand Cleaner' (Goop) in the finishing area. It's great for removing paint or stain from your hands and it will not dry out your skin. Just be sure to replace the can top so it does not turn to liquid (it will work in liquid form but it is messier to use).

* Are your table saw blades 'gummed up'? Place the blade on a plastic bag and spray it with 'Simple Green' cleaner. Let it soak on for a few minutes, use an old toothbrush to scrub it in and then rinse it off. It's a lot safer than oven cleaner and a lot less toxic too.

* Are you going to paint the edges of a piece of plywood? Coat (fill) the edges with a thin application of drywall compound. When it is dry, sand it and then seal it with Bins or Kilz white shellac. The edges will now take a coat of paint and the wood plies will not 'telegraph' through.

* If you are just starting to learn to use a lathe, hardwood will give you better results than softwood. Softwood tends to tear if your tools are not sharpened properly. Use scrap maple or other close grain hardwood.

* Are your feet getting tired from standing on a concrete floor? Get a piece of scrap carpeting large enough to stand on. It also protects the sharp edges of chisels if you drop them.

* If you drop a sharp tool, resist the impulse to grab at it as it is falling. If you get your hand in front of the sharpened cutting edge, it can (and will) do some serious damage to you.

* Two frequent questions that come up are "What finish should I put on my cutting boards?" and "What is a safe finish for wooden toys that small kids may put into their mouths?" In both cases the answer is mineral oil. It soaks into the wood, gives a nice finish, will not turn rancid as vegetable oils do, is non toxic, and best of all, it is readily available in almost any food or drug store.

* An Emery Board makes a great 'detail sander' for small pieces. It has two different grits for various applications. It

is inexpensive and can be trimmed to fit very small areas if needed.

* Do you need to drive a nail or brad close to the edge of a board? Are you afraid of splitting the wood? Use a hammer or a file and FLATTEN the point. This will allow the nail to punch through the wood rather than have the point act as a wedge and split the wood.

Editor's note: Steve Eckers is a retired high school shop teacher and a member of the Long Island Woodworker's Club. 🐶



The NWA Board of Directors meets each month to discuss and act on items such as policy, programs, issues and other general business of the organization. All members are welcome to attend, and may request time on the agenda to bring any relevant matter before the Board. Pictured from left: Ken Evans, John Michne, Kitty Scharl, Pat McCord, Bill Fahy (back to camera), Wayne Distin, Mike Kratky, Dale Swann, Herm Finkbeiner. Not pictured: Fran Finkbeiner, Austin Spang, Clark Pell.

Totally Turning 2004

Continued from Page 1

an Instant Gallery of Fine Woodturning, an Instant Gallery Critique, and a Trade Vendor's area offering tools, lathes, and turning wood. The dinner cruise Saturday evening will feature a slide presentation by noted designer and woodworker Giles Gilson.

The website www.totallyturning.com has further information including the presentation schedule, notes on presentations, and short bios for all presenters. Registration forms are present on the website as well as directions to the Convention Center.

The Dinner Cruise on the Captain J.P II on Saturday, October 30 is \$30 per person and is open to all NWA members. It is not necessary to attend the symposium to attend the dinner cruise. The boat is heated and air conditioned and seats over 500. Please contact Ken Evans at (518) 753-7759 for more info.

Come join the turners for a good time on Halloween weekend. 🐶

Fiske Fund Auction A Rootin', Tootin' Success (I think)

- Clark Pell

A large, rowdy crowd with deep pockets gathered at the Shaker Barn on September 25, 2004 to seek out deals and steals at the annual Fiske Fund auction. Almost 100 bidders shelled out a ton of cash to buy everything from a Skil saw with a severed cord (donated by Herm Finkbeiner) to prime walnut for less than \$5 bd ft.

What is it about an auction that turns normal human beings into impetuous, irrational boobs? I carefully scoped out the wares, made detailed notes of what I might want, wrote down my maximum bids. And then... I didn't want the stuff, I didn't need it ...you probably couldn't have *given* it to me. But when I saw that those 4 half-sheets of plywood (and the two 4'x 8' imitation Indonesian? ironwood? panels that no one wanted, further sweetening the deal) were going for the ridiculously low price of \$5 I couldn't stand it. Before I knew what happened my arm shot up faster than Dr. Strangelove's to raise the bid to \$7.50, and I won, I won! Now I had everything I needed for my *Showcase* project.

Later, my wife wandered over and casually asked if I had bought anything. I proudly pointed to the plywood and panels and said, "I got it all for only \$7.50." Her response... "You have *got* to be kidding. I wondered who the idiot was that bought that junk."

Hey, one man's trash.... I probably would have gone \$10. Furthermore, I can buy it again next year since I have decided to donate it to the 2005 auction. 🐾



John Olenik checking for scratches, dents, worm holes and possible nativity scenes in a batch of walnut prior to the Fiske Fund auction.



"Sold to the fella with the big buck teeth and long flat tail!" Auctioneer Bob Williams racks up another great deal on wood for one of the 100 bidders at the Fiske Fund lumber and tool auction.

C L A S S I F I E D S

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

Referral List

- Charlie Goddard

If you would like to be included on this list please complete the following form and return it to: Referral List, NWA, PO Box 246, Rexford NY 12148.

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____ Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Business: Full Time _____ Part Time _____ By Appointment _____

Describe Specialty: _____

Should the list be made available to NWA members only? Yes ___ No ___

Should the referral list be made available on the website? Yes ___ No ___

Should the referral list be made available at Showcase or other public events? Yes ___ No ___

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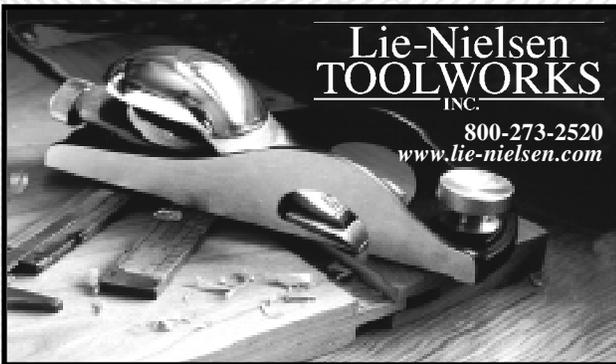
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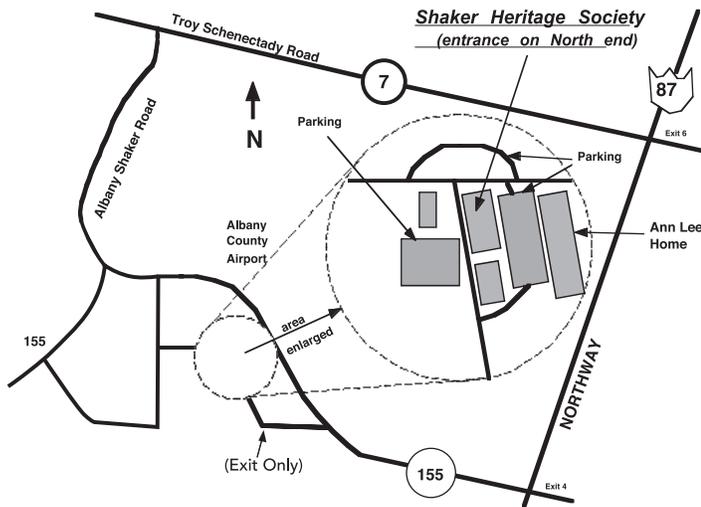
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Northeastern Woodworkers Association
P.O. Box 246
Rexford, New York 12148-0246



NEXT MEETING:

7:00 p.m. Thursday, October, 14 2004
Shaker Heritage Society Meeting House
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany
(near Albany airport)

GENERAL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

NWA Program Schedule – 2004-2005

Oct. 14, 2004	Fiske Fund Grantees Shaker Meeting House
Oct. 30-31, 2004	Turning Symposium Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Nov. 11, 2004	Fiske Memorial Lecture Michael Puryear Unitarian Church, Schenectady
Dec. 9, 2004	Family Night Shenendehowa Senior Citizens Center
Jan. 13, 2005	“Post and Beam Construction” Shaker Meeting House
Jan. 29-30, 2005	Woodworking Weekend
Feb. 10, 2005	Mid-Hudson NWA Program Shaker Meeting House
March 10, 2005	“Finishing” with Jeff Jewett Shaker Meeting House
March 11-12, 2005	Jeff Jewett Workshop
April 2-3, 2005	NWA Showcase 2005 Saratoga Springs City Center
April 14, 2005	“Turning” Shaker Meeting House
April, 2005	Workshop Tours Dates and Locations to be Announced
May 12, 2005	“Double Bevel Marquetry” - Clark Pell Shaker Meeting House
May 14, 2005	Marquetry Workshop – Clark Pell Sears

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 Tuesday evening at the Clifton Park Senior Center from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Sessions are intended for every NWA member who is interested in carving, from beginners to those wanting to learn a new technique. No reservations are necessary, just show up! Contact Bill McCormack, 233-7260.

Scroller’s Guild - Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Woodcraft, Latham. Contact Will Charbonneau, 371-3709 or wcharbol@nycap.rr.com

CHAPTERS

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

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