September 2020, Vol. 29, Number 7

Our Pop-up Shop from Showcase is Back!

The Shaker Heritage Society of Albany New York will be hosting a

Fall Harvest Craft Fair

September 12 -September 13, 2020

Northeastern Woodworkers Association will have a double booth, coordinated by Pam Curtis, in the Pavilion behind the Shaker Meeting House, (the same one where our monthly meetings are held.) You can purchase all types of wood working related items such as Turned bowls, Toys, Cutting Boards, Wooden Jewelry, Work Aprons and much more.

Please come visit and support our club!

Below is excerpted from the Shaker website.

It's back!! Bring your family for a safe and fun weekend featuring pony rides, wandering musicians, and over 50 vendors at our beautiful site.

To make this event as safe as possible, we've made a few new changes this year: All VENDOR BOOTHS will be OUTDOORS in the fresh air and sunshine. Vendors will be at least 12 feet apart, and we ask you to do your part and maintain your social distance, too!

MASKS ARE REQUIRED. For the safety of our staff, volunteers, and vendors, please make sure your mask covers both your mouth and your nose! If a mask is not feasible in the heat, please wear a face shield to help protect others.

Tickets may be purchased <u>ONLINE</u>. In recognition of the economic hardship faced by many members of our community, admission fees are *PAY-WHAT-YOU-WILL*. You can set your own ticket price when you checkout.

We need volunteers to help work the booth during show hours. Shifts are available Saturday, Sept.12 and Sunday, Sept.13, 2020. We will provide visors if you want them. All proceeds go to the NWA's general funds. Please call Pam Curtis, at 518-374-9562, if you can help. THANKS!! Pam Curtis

From Your President, Irv Stephens

Greetings, Woodworkers - I hope you are all staying safe and, more importantly, healthy. In the months ahead I will be using this space as well as occasional Constant Contact messages to let you know about what is happening in NWA because I that believe that maintaining communication with everyone is especially important during unsettled times.

First, I want to thank those members who recently have clicked on the NWA website's **DONATE** button and contributed to this organization. Your support has helped to mitigate the effects of income

lost due to the cancelation of Showcase 2020 and educational activities. I hope all members will think about supporting NWA in this way. As is frequently heard from on-air fund raisers, no amount is ever too small...

Since the Shop closed at the end of March, the COVID-19 pandemic seems to have challenged NWA on almost a daily basis. From my perspective, however, I see NWA's responses to the crisis as reflecting the leveraging of its members' collective knowledge and experience that has sparked a useful rethinking of some of "our business as usual practices."

For example, the difficulties of complying with social distancing and cleaning requirements in the Shaker Barn led the Auction Committee to initiate the online sales of tools to via NWA's website. All members were alerted about what items were available instead of just those few people who might have been in town on a particular Saturday and able to attend the auction. Whether or not, online sales entail more or less work remains to be determined, but it certainly seems to have opened this event to wider audiences and sets a precedent for other kinds online sales in the future.

On a related note, NWA's pending participating with the Shaker Heritage Society's September 12 -13 Crafts Sale also expands opportunities for members both to participate in these activities and to help two organizations. Thanks to Rich Cerruto and Pam Curtis for working on this new endeavor.

Another effort is now underway that will lead to your being able to view selected

NWA meetings and other activities online as either live streamed or as recorded videos via YouTube. To date the Wi-Fi has been checked both at the Shop and Shaker Heritage Meeting House, and available equipment is now being checked. If you happen to be familiar with creating and posting content to YouTube, please contact me because, I for one, would benefit by working with people who know what they are doing! Your getting involved at the ground level might just help to speed things up!

The reopening of the Shop on Railroad Avenue in early August reflects the collective efforts of different committees and individuals all working together to achieve a distinct goal. As I write this, all has gone well so far - face masks and social distancing seem not to have posed any problems for members using the Shop; and most importantly, those members who have come to the Shop have appeared comfortable and relaxed. All of us, however, recognize the reopened Shop as work in progress and always subject to the whims of a virus. Copies of the current Reopening Plan are now available at the Shop and electronic versions can be found on NWA's website.

Finally, for members who are refraining to come to the Shop or attending other NWA activities for the present time, we miss you but understand your concerns about risking exposure to possible COVID-19 infection. I hope you will stay tuned in and in touch via the NWA's Newsletter, Constant Contact emails, the website's Forum and/or an old fashion phone call to another member until we can enjoy each other's company in person.

NWA Shop Officially Opened August 4, 2020

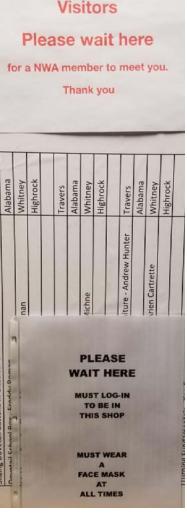
By Susan McDermott

Under the leadership of Irv Stephens, NWA President, Governor Cuomo's guidelines for reopening the NWA shop at 97 Railroad Avenue has practices in place to provide a safe environment for wood working activities by members who follow the rules of specific practices for the health and safety of its members and the community at large. These rules have been approved by the NWA Board of Directors.

Anyone who enters the shop will follow the following steps as illustrated by the following captioned photographs:



Step 1: Entering the shop sign-in



Step 2: Info for visitors



Step 3: Six sanitizing stations

Step 1 Sign in. Have a mask on or purchase one.

Step 2 Visitors' requirements Step 3 Use any of the six sanitization stations around the shop.

Always keep six feet social distance. Wear your mask while you are in the shop. Sanitize your hands often. There will be no food or beverages in the kitchen. One restroom will be open and sanitized daily.

Please do not enter the shop if you are unwell or have been near someone who is positive with COVID.

The President, Vice President and members of the LCOC* have primary responsibility to develop, maintain and/or implement the preparedness, response and recovery plan as well as serving as the association's contact(s) in case of an outbreak. As of July 2020, these people are:

President Irving E. Stephens - irvstephens@gmail.com - 518-598-4362 Vice President Richard DiGuilio - digiulior@live.com - 518-488-2803

LCOC* Member Wayne Distin - wdistin@nycap.rr.com - 518-674-4171

LCOC* Member Richard Flanders - rflander@nycap.rr.com - 518-461-7339

LCOC* Member John Heimke - heimkj@sage.edu - 518-279-9073

LCOC* Member James Lefebvre - jtldc@aol.com - 518-269-1989

LCOC* Member Steven Mapes - mapessteven@gmail.com - 518-527-2976

LCOC* Member Raymond Puffer - ray.puffer@gmail.com - 518-272-6421

* Learning Center Operations Committee

The NWA Library

By Susan Hill

The NWA shop welcomes back NWA members to safely use the books, DVDs, and magazines in the NWA Library! Over the years, the NWA library collection has grown to over 1000 items. The NWA library space may be small, but as a specialized subject collection, it is much larger than any woodworking section accessible from any area public library. If you have not made use of the unique materials available, now is the time to take advantage of this membership-only benefit.

Library Highlights:

- 1. BORROWING ITEMS: NWA members may borrow BOOKS and DVDs for home use. Simply fill out the card found in the item pocket and place it in the file box.
- 2. RETURNING ITEMS: Loan period is ONE MONTH. Please RETURN items to the bin marked "Return Books Here".
- 3. MAGAZINES are for IN-SHOP use only. You may make copies of articles of interest.

In addition to over a dozen well-known woodworking magazines covering interests from fine woodworking, turning and carving, the NWA Library has acquired a full-text digital version of the complete 258 issue archive of WOOD Magazine. Look on the shop computer desktop and click on the shortcut "WOOD Archive 2017".

TIP: to save time searching for WOOD Magazine articles that may be of interest to you, you may wish to use your home computer to search the article index on the WOOD Magazine website using this link: https://www.woodmagazine.com/magazine/index. Then, on your next visit to the NWA shop, pull up the article on the shop computer and print or mail yourself a full-text copy.

4. INTEREST AREAS in the NWA library are color coded on the shelves: Refer to the colored dot chart on the bookcase to easily find your interest area. Interest areas include Wood & General Works, Hand Tools, Power Tools, Projects & Designs, Carving, Scrolling, Turning and more. Books are arranged in their color-coded shelf area by the last name of the AUTHOR. DVDs are located at the end of each interest section and are also shelved by author.

THE NWA LIBRARY ONLINE CATALOG

Did you know you can easily search the NWA library from your home computer?
From the NWA webpage
(www.woodworker.org): Select Library Catalog from the list under the heading Education & Shop. At the bottom of the page in yellow: "Click here to search titles" and open the catalog search page.

Search for books, DVDs and magazines by entering one or more words in the search box. To see more detailed information about an item, just click on a title from the result list. Each item detail screen shows a heading marked "Collection". By clicking on the collection area name in blue, you can browse all the materials that the NWA library owns under that subject.

Keep in mind the online catalog is updated frequently to reflect what the library currently owns. It does not tell you if a specific item is in circulation. You must check the shelves in person at the shop.

DONATIONS

Donations to the library are reviewed for condition, title duplication and general subject need due to limited space at our location. This is especially true for donations of magazine collections. Some items that duplicate cataloged collection titles may be offered for sale to members. You may wish to check the online library catalog before considering a donation, or contact Susan Hill, susanh1122@ att.net.

SAFE USE OF THE NWA LIBRARY

In order to respond to and comply with general policies governing use of the NWA shop during the pandemic:

1. BEFORE removing any materials from the shelves - Use hand sanitizer provided!

- 2. DO NOT RESHELVE any books, DVDs or magazines you remove to either browse or check out. Please place browsed books in the bin marked "Return Books Here". Also return books to this same bin that you have previously checked out to take home.
- 3. All items removed from the shelves and placed in the bin will be reshelved for member use following the recommended quarantine period as per the guidelines described in the updated REALM Project Test 2 report which addresses detectable SARS-CoV-2 virus on typical library materials. These are the same guidelines being followed by Capital Region public libraries.

Classified

Request to buy exotic wood

I'm a luthier specializing in the double bass. The fingerboard of a bass is a large piece of ebony. Ebony's attributes are hardness, durability, small pore size, stability, and its rich, black color. Because I'm concerned about the human and environmental costs of getting this precious piece of wood to me. I'm eager to explore the potential of domestic species such as hop hornbeam and osage orange.



McIntosh instrument

I would need pieces with minimum dimensions of 36" \times 6/4" \times 4". Slab cut is good but not essential. The less figure the better, and the tree must not have grown in a spiral. Color is not critical. I'm willing to pay a reasonable price.

I have a website: mcinbass.com.

I can be reached via email: mcinbass@gmail.com; or via phone: (518) 677-3151.

South End's Children's Café receives NWA Built Pantry

By Susan McDermott

On Tuesday afternoon June 9, NWA Crafters Tom Moran and Pete Howe presented the Children's Café with a pantry they built to hold nonperishable foods and PPE supplies. Crafters plan to build more pantries for the Capital Region's food banks when the shop reopens. Tom and Pete said it took them five to six days of five to six hours to build this prototype. They expect the pantries to follow to be constructed much faster with 15 Crafters.



The South End Children's Café

The pantry is two-piece construction measuring 2x3x3 feet with plexiglass doors and vinyl siding. It was delivered by Ben Watsky founder of Open World Relief, a community service disaster response organization established in 2016 to aid victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. Ben is a captain in the National Guard who has recruited about 50 volunteers in parts of America to build these pantries. See website https://openworldrelief.org/

Astrid Miller, Director of Events and Planning for Open World Relief gave an interview for this newsletter. The current project is responding to the COVID pandemic and the hardships it has caused with shortages, shutdowns, unemployment, and increased poverty. There are three organizations currently building pantries: 125 veterans in Detroit hold workshops with prefabricated models. Springfield, Illinois has 16 pantries installed. Broward County, Florida has three.



Ben Watsky, Founder of Open World Relief, delivers the NWA pantry



Ben's team



The pantry's base

OFFICERS

President - Irv Stephens irvstephens@gmail.com 518-273-4843

Vice President - Richard DiGiulio digiulior@live.com 518-488-2803

> Secretary - Chris Stolicky stolicky@hotmail.com 518-272-7325

Treasurer - Ron Roberts nwatreasurer1@gmail.com 845-245-8308

Past President - Rich Cerruto r_cerruto@yahoo.com 845-706-7718

Executive Secretary - Charlie Goddard Cgodd@aol.com 518-370-0388



Mid-Hudson Chapter

Jim Lee, President - 845-382-6045 debbielee3649@gmail.com Sacandaga Chapter

Vacant

CHAIR/CONTACT PERSONS

Auction and Hospitality Lee Hilt

NWAAuction@gmail.com

Banquet

Kay McCampbell kmccampbell@nycap.rr.com

Education

Chairperson - Steve Mapes mapessteven@gmail.com 518-374-2207

Registrar - Chuck Watson nwaeducation@gmail.com Members - Jim Lefebvre, Rich Glover, and Mike Mascelli

Fiske Fund

Chairperson - Bill Sterling fiskefund@gmail.com Treasurer - Juliana Shei John Betterly • Woody Bowler Dick Flanders

Historian

Wayne Distin - 518-674-4171 wdistin@nycap.rr.com

Learning Center

Operations Committee (LCOC)

Vacant

Library

Susan Hill - Cell 954-557-3146 Susanh1122@att.net

Membership

Bob Stanley - 518-429-5362 (cell) nwamembers1@gmail.com

Programs

Richard DiGiulio - 518-488-2803 digiulior@live.com

Publications

Susan McDermott - 518-438-1909 Nwanewsletter1@gmail.com

Publicity

John Olenik - 518-587-0306 jolenik@nycap.rr.com

Showcase Chair

Wally Carpenter - 518-434-1776 nwa.showcase.chair@gmail.com



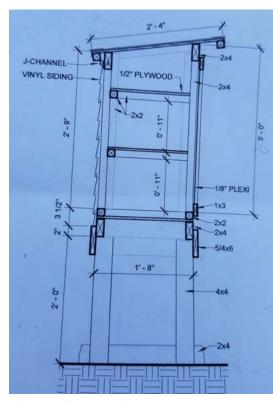
Volunteers Ryan Perez, Jamal Martinez, Lily Killar, and Director Tracy Killar



Tom Moran, Pete Howe, and Tracy Killar

Tracy Killar is Director of the South End Children's Café at 25 Warren Street which opened five years ago. It provides to go meals for children and families. During the school year, it helps with homework, provides academic enrichment and arts and crafts for children grades K to 4. The café's chef and volunteers cook healthful dinners served to the children and their families at 5.

Director Killar is assisted by her daughter Lily, a Criminal Justice major who graduated from Sienna this May and will attend Albany Law School this fall. Tracy is the recent recipient of the Willie White Award for Service to the South End Community.



Blueprint of pantry's dimensions

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



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Susan McDermott, Editor
(518) 438-1909

Nwanewsletter1@gmail.com

Elizabeth Keays Graphic Artist
Designer



WEBSITE www.woodworker.org

Webmaster: Andy Moss nwawebmasterhelp@gmail.com



NORTHEASTERN WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 246 Rexford, New York 12148



A Follow Up on the Pantry's Success

By Brea Barthel

"Community." Tracie Killar, director of the South End Children's Cafe, said the word with no hesitation, and it came as no surprise. See http://www.southendchildrenscafe.com/

When I heard that two Crafters from NWA built the lovely pantry outside the SECC in Albany, two of my worlds collided. I have been an occasional volunteer with both groups for years and now the circles overlapped. My experience showed me first-hand how each set of folks share a strong connection not just to each other, but to the larger world around them. But this time, Tracie was using the word to describe the most important benefit to come from those cupboards.

SECC has provided an opportunity for donors to share food and toiletries with people in the South End for years. When the pandemic closed their after-school program, collection was limited to noncontact drop offs one afternoon a week. But the weekly events under a tent sometimes led to people grouping without masks, presenting health concerns. And SECC's usually lively on-site dinners for children and their families were replaced by a much less engaging weekly food delivery service. But as Tracie pointed out in our phone interview, the cupboards created the chance for people to stop by with (or for) goods at any time. Vendors at the Delmar farmers market, for instance, now leave donations after the event on Saturday, or people unavailable during the coordinated collection bring items at other times. Tracie and her crew now see heaps of produce, products, and nonperishable items come and go throughout the day. She said that she could put something into the cupboard, "...and in an hour it's gone."

Tracie noted an important additional benefit. No longer is the world divided into donors and recipients. Instead, neighbors now bring items they do not need, cooperatively sharing with others. The trading builds that sense of community by, as Tracie said, "...giving people the opportunity to care for each other in an unstructured way."

The cupboard itself is now an important piece of SECC's mission. More than that, Tracie is deeply appreciative of the care the crafters gave to building it, noting that "creating something of beauty and quality available in the neighborhood" showed a respect for a section of town that is often dismissed.

When asked if SECC had any other needs, Tracie explained that the space had high ceilings, and that a loft platform for storage would free up more floor space, thus allowing for more children to participate in the program while meeting physical distancing guidelines. Any takers?

If you are interested in seeing the cupboard, stop by 25 Warren Street any time. The cupboard will be there, ready to accept any food or personal care items you wish to leave. Or trade! If you are interested in more information or volunteering, you may contact Tracie at 518-275-8890 or tracie@southendchildrenscafe.com

A Decade of Curtis Car Show Trophies

By Ken Evans

Curtis Lumber and the Northeastern Woodworkers Association have had a very long relationship, and it was no surprise when Curtis Lumber a decade ago asked NWA to make some of the trophies for their annual Car Show in 2010. NWA was delighted to assist Curtis in any way possible for the

many courtesies Curtis lumber afforded NWA over the years.

The request from Curtis to NWA was for 20 + small trophies and for two larger trophies.

The trophies were to be of wood and suitable in design for a car show. Curtis provided all the materials, and NWA provided the design ideas and the woodworker labor.

NWA put a few interested woodworkers together, and we began to plan for the design and

construction of the trophies. As with most projects, the mix of people involved usually determines to a large extent the quality of the product. We were lucky with this project as the TROPHY TEAM over the years had some very talented NWA members skilled in design, woodworking, finishing, and woodturning.

The design for the 20 + small trophies was a chevron with a gearshift pattern in the center and a gearshift knob rising above the pattern. The trophies were to be made from exotic woods of extreme color and grain. The gearshift knobs were to be turned on a lathe using exotic woods and chosen to accent to the wood of the chevrons.

The process of making these trophies involves using a planer for the thickness the wood, a jointer to straighten one edge of each board, a table saw to rip each board to width, a bandsaw to rough cut the chevrons to shape, a router table to



Chevrons



2016 Gas pump trophies trophies

finish shaping the chevrons, a CNC guided router to cut the gearshift pattern and engrave the Curtis logo, a surface sander to smooth each chevron, and a wood lathe to shape the gearshift knobs. There were many NWA members involved in the process of making these trophies. Each trophy was finally

sprayed with a durable glossy finish.

The two larger trophies were a somewhat different story. They were to be different and special each year. A new design needed to be created each year and the design had to be executed in wood. These trophies needed to be unique and memorable.

The ten trophies to date are shown by "date" to indicate the year they were presented. Each is secured upon a standard base structure of walnut or maple with a unique theme mounted on top of the base. A plaque is applied to each designating the category and the year.

Who knows what next year will bring?



2019 trophies



Keychains



Spark plug trophies

Be Careful What You Use to Seal Your Wood

By Lee Hilt

Like many, since retiring I find myself with time to do things, I didn't have time to do when working. One of these things has been to use my sawmill more often. During one such occasion, I accidently added a new wrinkle to the mix with respect to the sealer I used on newly milled lumber.

Although sealing wood is an important part of the process, I didn't stress over what I used to do so. As far as I know the main goal with sealing lumber is to slow the drying process from the ends of the wood. If the ends of a log are exposed before milling or the lumber ends are after milling, they accelerate drying along the ends which will cause uneven drying and lead to checking.

Because of this lack of concern with what I used for sealing purposes, I typically used whatever I could find in my basement. Like many I have a collection of paints, stains, urethanes, etc. During a recent trip to my basement, I ended up with three different part-cans of paint used long ago on interior walls of my house. At this point, I wasn't concerned with the color but only the volume. Wherever I mixed, it turned out to be a gallon of something resembling Pepto Bismol: bright pink. No biggie, I'm only using it to seal rough cut lumber. Who's going to see it anyhow?

I milled the wood into "chunks" at my childhood home in Averill Park, sealed it completely in the PINK paint, and loaded it into my truck to bring home. On the way home I stopped at a local 7-11 to grab a cup of coffee. I came out of the store to find a group of older gents standing around the back of my truck.

As I approached the group, one asked, "What kind of wood is that?"

- "Black Locust," I answered.
- "I never saw wood that color PINK before."
- "It's not the wood that's pink. It's the paint."
- "Ya painted it? Why?"



Milled Black Locus Logs



Pink Black Locust

I explain the sealing process and how it was used to allow for even drying to prevent checking. I was fairly sure I knew what the next question was so decided to head it off by also explaining why the color wasn't really an issue in the sealing process.

They were still talking to each other about the color when they walked away.

It's not like my basement offers me a lot of choice with what I use for sealing purposes. But until it does, I guess I should expect this kind of attention from the locals at the 7-11 in Averill Park!

Kaatskill Woodturners' Association

The Gouge Bowl Challenge

By Wally Cook

In order to keep skills sharp, KWA members have been participating in monthly challenges designed to improve skills. July's challenge was suggested by Doug Scharf: turn a bowl no larger than 6"x6", using only one bowl gouge. The One object was to produce a fine surface both inside and out

with that tool – and no sanding. It was allowable to use an oil to bring out the grain.

Doug participated in a similar challenge in his Florida woodturning club and came in fifth with a beautiful entry pictured at right. Several members tried the challenge, but only Win Crans toughed it out without sanding. Most of the rest of us resorted to sanding.

Even so, it was a useful learning experience. I tried two bowls: one cherry and one of walnut. The first bowl (cherry) was very dry wood and was attempted with an Ellsworth signature gouge. I figured, well chefs can work with large knives, so I should be able to do this...Not so much! Outside went well, but all my cuts were pull strokes in the relatively narrow, deeper



Doug's Spalted Maple



Paul's Spalted Elm



Unfinished bowl



Win's Cedar bowl



Unfinished Walnut



Finished bowls

opening. Finally, I took a chunk out of the rim and broke the tenon as well, as it flew out of the chuck. Surface was pretty smooth, but for some tear-out at the inside transition. It brought home the lesson of consistent pressure without pressing too hard.

The second bowl of walnut was accomplished with a Doug Thompson ½" bowl gouge. A less aggressive too with lighter strokes seemed to work better for my skill level. However, I still had tooling marks that I couldn't eliminate. By that time, I had grown attached to the wood, noticing a pattern of spots that looked really nice. Oh well – had to use a scraper to clean up the bottom and a small nano tool to define the bead and rim.

Paul Phillips had the same dilemma. He completed a beautiful entry, but knew it could look better...his finished elm bowl is also pictured.

We learned a lot, Doug - great suggestion! Next month: the challenge is to make a garden bug.

Successful Sale of Large Power Tools

By Susan McDermott

Lee Hilt is the new Chair of the NWA Annual Auction. Since the COVID 19 prohibited a public sale at the Shaker Barn this August, Lee organized the sale of 15 large power tools to NWA members in good standing via an E-Blast. The response was robust! Some items could have sold six times

over, but they went to the earliest buyer. One buyer waited until 12:00 AM August 5 when the sale officially opened to buy the Rigid bandsaw. Another buyer purchased four power tools and managed to cram them all into his Dodge van. Lee is very physically fit and moved these heavy items out of the barn to buyers' vehicles. Juliana Shei was recording sales and taking cash payments. Please consider volunteering to help in future sales of tools and lumber.



Michael Barrett buys drill press



Happy bandsaw buyer,



Lee on right



Third of four items crammed into van



Buyer and Lee load the bandsaw



Lee, Juliana, and Steve Wing, buyer for four large power tools

On the Road: Hancock Shaker Village

By Brea Barthel

Most, if not all, NWA members are very familiar with the Shaker Heritage Society. In pre-pandemic days we met in the Meeting House and held lumber sales in the Barn. But this is just one of the many Shaker sites in our region that preserve the history of the uniquely American religious sect of the "Believers in Christ's Second Coming." If you are looking for a fun day trip that also feeds your interest in woodworking, consider visiting Hancock Shaker Village.

HSV, just this side of Pittsfield, comprises 20 buildings and thousands of artifacts from the Shakers. The architecture alone is worth the trip: check out the incredible round stone barn that simplified the process of bringing in hay for the cow, the beautiful Meeting House, and the 1830 brick dwelling, which shows incredible built-in storage as well as furniture and devices tailored to simplify many tasks. Of special interest to NWA members will be the Brethrens' Shop, which shows tools, workbenches, and more that supported the Shakers' woodworking and other crafts. See how they created power tools before electricity. For shop background, see https://hancockshakervillage.org/shakers/museum/historic-architecture/brethrens-shop/.

HSV offers a variety of workshops, which will resume once the pandemic passes. For now, buildings and grounds are open, but reservations must be made in advance to allow for physical distancing. To schedule a visit, see https://hancockshakervillage.org/. Enjoy your trip!

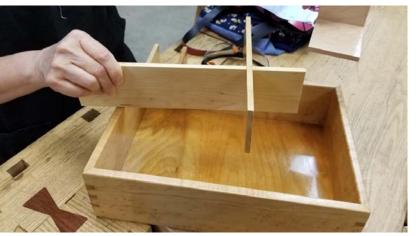
The Living Room Companion

Crafter Juliana Shei built a Birdseye Maple box with removable compartments sized to hold TV remotes, a tissue box, cell phone and charger, and miscellaneous items. It would be also useful as a bedside companion or desk mate. The finish she used to achieve a smooth high gloss is Solarez "I can't believe it's not lacquer", UV one- minute cure in sunlight. See product description https://www.solarez.com/product-category/browse-all/ Juliana said the small dents in the grain of the Birdseye Maple were filled in with the application of the finish.

When asked if she would teach a class in making this box, she said the NWA Education Committee would have to approve scheduling a class limited to eight students, but she is willing!



Mitered box joints



Removable partitions



Living room companion

Helping Kids Learn to Read with A Little Dog and Woodworking!

By Debbie Lee

When I went to our local Farmer's Market eight years ago, I thought I was bringing home some fresh veggies. Instead, I came home with something much more special than fresh corn.

As I browsed the tables of produce, I happened to look up and saw a perfectly groomed Toy Poodle wearing a bandana that said "Adopt Me." Our local shelter (Ulster County SPCA) had brought dogs needing forever homes to the market, hoping they would be adopted. Ignoring the veggies, I went to the little black dog and asked his volunteer handler if I could pet him. As many times as I tried, he always turned his back on me. Undaunted, I tried to take his picture. Again, he turned away.

I left the market and drove home. Half-way there, I called my husband Jim and told him about the little dog up for adoption. Previously, I had a therapy dog who visited nursing homes. For years my dream was to have a dog who would become a "Tail Waggin' Tutor"- certified therapy dogs who visit libraries where children practice their reading by reading to a dog. As soon as Jim heard about the dog he said, "Go for it".

I immediately went to the shelter to fill out the adoption papers. But when I met him in his room, again he ignored me. His sister, however, was another story. Unlike her brother, she was yet to be groomed, and was nothing but a teeny matted mess with her legs shaved. Every time I tried to pet her brother, she repeatedly pushed him aside, wagged her little matted tail and tried to get on my lap. After filling out the



How Jim lays out the patterns on plywood



Side view of the pattern stacked on sheets of scrapbook paper

paperwork, I left, and remembered feeling bad for the little scruffy dog who desperately tried to get my attention. "Oh well, I thought, someone will adopt her."

Days later the shelter called and told me the perfect little poodle I wanted had been adopted, but his sister was still there-would I be interested in adopting her? I immediately said yes and went to visit her. When I walked into her room, she crawled onto my lap and snuggled, matted fur and all. I petted her knotted fur, she licked my face, and it soon struck me-my future therapy dog had chosen me.

After her adoption in July, I enrolled Zoey into a basic obedience class, and then a class to get her ready to take her test to become a certified therapy dog. That same December, she passed her test through Therapy Dogs International, and we were proudly presented with her therapy dog tag and bandanna.

At the time, library dogs were not well known and several times I had to explain exactly what a "Tail Waggin' Tutor" was. As explained on Therapy Dogs International's website, "Therapy Dogs International's "Tail Waggin' Tutors" program encourages children to read by providing a non-judgmental listener and furry friend to read to that won't laugh at them if they make a mistake or stumble over a word, but rather lie next to them and enjoy the story being read to them. The children learn to associate reading with being with the dog and begin to view reading in a positive way. Over

time, the child's reading ability and confidence can improve because they are practicing their skills which will make them enjoy reading even more"

Wanting to give our readers a token to bring home after reading to Zoey, I mentioned to Jim that a bookmark would be a good idea. Being a woodworker, he immediately came up with a solution that the kids absolutely love. Instead of copying a standard bookmark, why not make one with a little paw print on the top using his scroll saw? I started searching for cardstock to use that would be suitable for all our readers. From sports to polka dots, I found what we needed in scrapbook paper.

Jim started the project by stacking 50 sheets of scrapbook paper. He then cut a 1/4" piece of plywood to the size of the scrapbook paper.

We next found a picture of a little paw print that would match the size of Zoey's foot and made a pattern with the paw print on top of a standard bookmark base. Jim then photocopied the bookmarks, cut them out and laid them out on the paper. The key is to stack your patterns efficiently, so you get the most bookmarks out of the scrapbook paper. Once the patterns are on, he used clear packing tape to secure the paper to the plywood.using a #5 or #7 blade, he stacked and scroll sawed each bookmark.



Zoey and Jenna with all the books she read in one session



Sample bookmarks Jim has made

I soon discovered that the kids are thrilled to receive a bookmark, especially when they hold it up to her foot and discovers that it fits exactly (I tell them we used her foot as a pattern!) Some even ask for a bookmark to bring home to their siblings!

The best part of using scrapbook paper is that you can design your bookmarks to match holidays: we have done pumpkins on top for Halloween and rabbits for Easter. When Zoey visited the school where I work, we designed a custom bookmark in our school colors with our school's mascot (a mustang sticker). In the eight years I have been volunteering with her, we have visited school book fairs, a science fair (complete with rocket bookmarks) and four local libraries. In those eight years, Jim created thousands of bookmarks for our readers. Zoey even has her own Facebook page: Read to Zoey.

The joy you see on a children's faces when they realize they can read a book is priceless. One of our very first readers (pictured below) went from not wanting to read at all to reading ten books at one session! And even

more satisfying is the fact that a woodworker can add to that happiness by simply using a scroll sawand some imagination.

For more information on therapy dogs visit tdi-dogs.org



Zoey's official therapy dog picture

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

September Meeting

Cancelled

2020 MONTHLY MEETINGS*

Unless noted otherwise, held at the Shaker Meetinghouse on the Second Thursdays at 7:00 PM

For meeting cancellation information, Charlie Goddard 370-0388

October 8 TBA

November 12 TBA

December 10 TBA

January 14 TBA

February 11 TBA

March 11 TBA

April 8 TBA

May 13 TBA Election of NWA officers

*To be updated with additional information

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs):

Please note meetings will commence at our new location at 97 Railroad Avenue.

Adirondack Woodturners Association (AWA) - The AWA is active throughout the year. General Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month (except in January and July when it is the second Wednesday), at the NWA Learning Center located at 97 Railroad Avenue, Colonie, NY from 5:30 PM to 8:45 PM. Contact: Kevin Ramsey Cell 518-769-9665 or kmrammer@yahoo.com

<u>Spindle and Pen Turners</u> - Meets Mondays 5:30 PM - 8:45 PM. Contact: Pam Bucci at 518-429-6440 or woolglass2@gmail.com Wednesday "Learn and Turn" sessions occur on all other Wednesdays at the NWA Learning Center. These sessions run 5:30 PM to 8:45 PM.www.adirondackwoodturners.com **Contact:** Kevin Ramsey Cell 518-769-9665 or kmrammer@yahoo.com

Kaatskill Woodturners - Second Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM at the Opdahl property in Hurley, NY. Contact: Wally Cook at wally.cook@gmail.com

<u>NWA Crafters</u> - Meet Tuesdays and Saturdays 9:00 AM to noon. They 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:** Wayne Distin at 518-674-4171or wdistin@nycap.rr.com, Ken Evans at 518-281-0779 or kevans1@nycap.rr.com, or John Heimke at heimkj@sage.edu for more information.

The NWA Wood Carvers SIG – Meet Thursdays 5:00-8:30 PM all year at the NWA Learning Center located at 97 Railroad Avenue, Colonie, 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: Diane Balch at 518-885-9899 or signs@balchsigns.com

<u>Hand Tool SIG</u> – Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00-9:00 PM in the Herm Finkbeiner Education Center at 97 Railroad Avenue, Colonie, NY. **Contact:** Dave Parkis at 518-429-6581 for further details: dparkis@nycap.rr.com

CHAPTERS

NWA Mid-Hudson - The chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday, except July, at the Hurley Reformed Church. The Church is just off the Hurley exit from Rte. 209. Right at the exit, right at the stop sign and left into the Church parking area. Contact: midhudsonwoodworkers.org Jim Lee, President - (845)382-6045