

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

February 2021, Vol. 30, Number 2

February Meeting

Building a Skin-on-frame Pack Canoe presented by Rich Cerruto will be a virtual meeting February 11. Watch for an e blast from President Stephens.



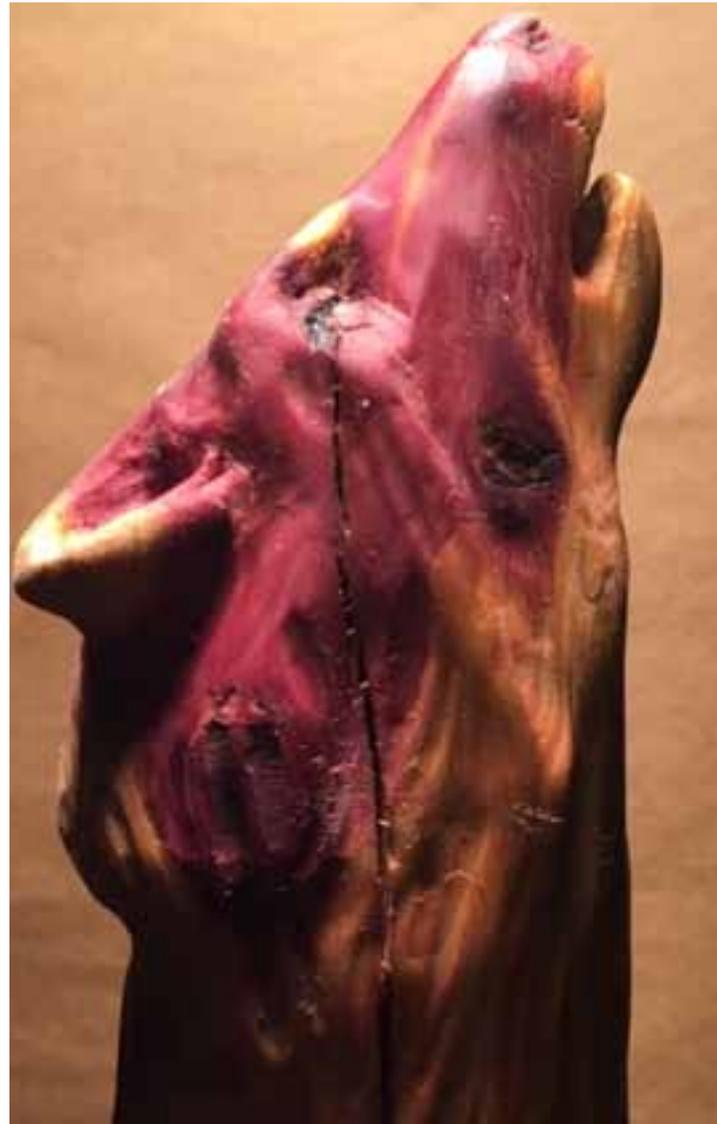
NWA Carvers' COVID Crafts

This editor requested photos of Carvers' projects and received some impressive results.



These are three pictures of a walking stick Scott carved on commission for a client in NJ who wanted it as a Christmas present for her ailing father in ME. He had just lost his beloved husky named "Geronimo." She hopes it will encourage him to walk for the exercise he needs to recover.

Walking stick is 54" carved from a length of red cedar harvested from Scott's property. The stick features a lone howling wolf topper, a diamond pattern handgrip, and the name "Geronimo" carved in the shaft. Red maple finished in two coats of hand-rubbed tung oil.





Scott's sperm whale plaque carved on commission for a client in NYC who has an interest in "Moby Dick." He intentionally exaggerated the head's flukes at client's request. The plaque is 20" long carved in poplar and finished in Minwax "whitewash" stain; then sealed with an acrylic fixative.



Juliana Shei's first relief carving



Jan McEneny's custom carved house sign



Diane Balch's cats are carved from basswood and painted with acrylic craft paint. Frodo was 16, Valentine is her cat and is 17.



Red headed woodpecker. Basswood, size: 6 1/2" in length. Hand painted. Completed in Dec. 2020 by Tony Lisosky

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Linda Reiss' burned triptych of scenes at Saratoga Lake, the Adirondacks, and Joshua Tree National Park.



Reiss' cherry carved spoon



Reiss' Beatrix Pottery character, Jeminia Puddle Duck

Ken Evans' Message

A very big THANK YOU to all from the NWA Family who sent well wishes to Wil and me after my heart attack, we thank you very much! Knowing there are so many caring friends helped greatly getting on the road to recovery. Wil and I wish everyone a 2021 better than 2020, with better health and a better ability to socialize with friends and family. Ken/Wil Evans

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



Your next issue of **Woodworkers News** will be published in early March

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"MEMBER'S WOODWORKING TRICKS"

End Grain Gluing

Submitted by Juliana Shei



From notes of a lecture by Bob Behnke, Technical Service Manager for Franklin Construction Division.

As the technical lead for Titebond-branded wood glues, Bob Behnke is often asked by woodworkers around the world whether end grain gluing can achieve a strong joint. Synthetic wood glues are based on an emulsion polymer composed of polyvinyl acetate (PVA) stabilized with polyvinyl alcohol (PVOH). What allows these polymers to stick to wood so well is that the PVOH has an affinity for cellulose. This attraction coupled with the strength of the PVA polymer makes for a strong bond.

Compared to face grain, end grain of wood has much less cellulose available for bonding that makes gluing weak. For porous wood such as red oak, an adhesive is transported through the end of pores by capillary action causing a starved wood glue joint. In water-based adhesives, water could get sucked from the adhesive so quickly that the glue dries too fast before the parts can be assembled. Wood with high oil content can be especially difficult.

To maximize the bond of end grain gluing, a high viscosity glue should be used to keep the adhesive from disappearing down the end grain. Titebond No Run, No Drip (pictured) is recommended for most woods. Alternately, lower viscosity quality glues can be used by first priming the end grain with a 50/50 mixture of glue and water and allowing it to dry. This will plug the pores of the wood without covering up the cellulose for subsequent gluing. The end grain can then be glued normally without issues of premature drying or a starved glue joint.

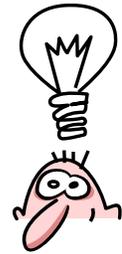
Send us your woodworking tips and tricks for a prize.

NWAnewsletter1@gmail.com

Submission deadline is the 15th of each month (except June and July).

Classifieds

CHESTNUT LUMBER - Approximately 250 Board Feet of wormy American Chestnut lumber, 4-14" wide and 8-16' long. Sawn in 1952 and stored in barn. \$900.00 for the whole lot. Contact Matt Barra at 607-264- 3242, address: 3310 Otsego County 33, Cherry Valley, NY. Contact after 6pm evenings or Sunday.



A Look Back: Repairing Masts on Tall Ships

Brea Barthel

Woodworkers today are used to having plenty of power tools, and numerous options for acquiring wood for projects: big-box home stores, specialty wood stores, pickup or delivery. But imagine that you are in the seventeenth century, on a ship in unknown waters, in a wooden vessel powered only by sails hanging from tall wooden masts. Now imagine that a mast breaks and needs to be replaced. Henry Hudson faced that problem in 1609. Three hundred and eighty some years later, on a replica of Hudson's ship, William Reynolds replaced a mast by using mostly traditional hand tools.

Hudson's ship the Halve Maen (Half Moon) sailed from England on March 21, 1609, on a voyage of exploration that eventually took it up the river that now bears Hudson's name. The ship, a traditional "jacht," had three two-part masts: fore, main, and mizzen. As Robert Juet, Hudson's First Mate, recorded in his journal, later published in 1625, on June 15th while at sea they "had a great storme, and spent* ouer-boord our fore-mast, bearing our fore corse low set. The sixteenth, we were forced to trie with our mayne sayle, by reason of the unconstant weather...the one and twentieth...we had a trie* with our mayne sayle." The asterisked footnotes explain that "To spend the Mast, is understood of breaking it by foule weather only" and that to trie is to "bare no more sayle but the mayne sayle, etc." (Journal, page 4/16). In other words, having lost use of the foresail(s), they just made do with what was left.

A month later as the Halve Maen approached land (probably near what is now Penobscot, Maine) the crew went onshore and cut a new foremast. On the 21st they "rode still [lay at anchor] and did nothing, but about our Mast." Then, on the 23rd, "At eleven of the clocke, our fore Mast was finished, and we brought it aboard, and set it into the step, and in the after-noon we rigged it." (page 7/16). The ongoing maintenance and repair of wooden ships made the carpenter a valued member



Illustrated Half Moon

of the crew, the equivalent of an engineer on modern vessels.

In his long career sailing replicas of 17th, 18th, and 19th century ships, including his 20+ -year tenure as captain of the 20th century replica ship Half Moon, William "Chip" Reynolds oversaw replacement of masts using two quite different approaches. In 1999, shortly after he started with the ship, Chip discovered rot in the "step" (supporting structure for the two-part foremast). The challenge: remove the mast, rebuild the step, and re-set the mast. The Port of Albany offered dockage as well as use of its crane. The project started by swinging the ~ half-ton rigged mast across the sky and lowering it onto land. One volunteer crew worked on removing the rigging, a two-part web of steel-reinforced lines (ropes to the landlubbers among us) while another team rebuilt the structure (step) and repaired the heel (base) of the mast, shaped primarily with power tools. A few days later, the crane swung into action to raise, position, and lower the new rigged mast into its new step. This was a 20th century approach. But as Chip recounts, a later mast repair relied "about 90%" on simple hand

tools that would have been aboard the original Halve Maen, primarily an adze, a broadaxe, and planes. In Chip's experience, the traditional tools were as efficient as the power tools.

Shortly before a scheduled appearance at a festival at the Hudson River Maritime Museum in Kingston in 2013, Chip noticed that the ship's main topmast had developed a check (split in the wood) that affected the structural integrity of the main topmast. The Half Moon was due to arrive at the festival in full sail, with Kingston's mayor, tv crews, and potentially hundreds of visitors awaiting the vessel. Replacing the mast before sailing was not an option, so Chip decided to turn the project into a woodworking demonstration during the festival. In advance, he and a friend felled two trees and removed the large limbs with chainsaws, then transported the trunks by tractor-trailer to Kingston. After the ship made its dramatic arrival in Kingston, future work on shaping, fairing (smoothing), and stepping (reseating) the replacement mast using traditional tools. The crew and volunteers, many of whom had limited experience with hand tools, received training and supervision from Jon Edginton, a woodworker in Cooperstown who specialized in creating timber-framed houses. Most of the work was compressed into a few days. After a week of school tours, the Half Moon left Kingston with its new mast. Chip commented that the 1609 crew "were more efficient than we were, but they didn't have to deal with crowds at a festival."

When asked what tips he may have for woodworkers exploring the use of traditional tools, Chip stressed the importance of attention to ergonomics. "Technique is especially important: proper set-up, body posture, and movement," adding that well sharpened tools and good techniques were "big parts of being safe, being efficient, and ending up with an attractive product."

Resources: For a full transcription of Juet's Journal, see <http://halfmoon.mus.ny.us/juets-journal.pdf>. Some spellings have been updated here for clarity. For background on building and sailing the replica ship Half Moon, see blog postings at the Hudson River Maritime Museum's site, starting at <https://www.hrmm.org/history-blog/building-sailing-the-half-moon-part-1> and continued on -2 and -3.

To read about Jon Edginton's timber-framed houses, see simpleintegrityllc.com.

Many thanks to Chip Reynolds for his assistance with this article. After 15+ years volunteering with the Half Moon, including transcribing Juet's Journal, I am honored to call Chip a friend.



Tree trunks for masts



The shaped mast



The stepped mast with its support shrouds and stays.

NWA Tool Market

By Lee Hilt and Juliana Shei

The NWA Tool Market is one of the fundraising activities managed by the Auction Committee. Thanks to those who participated in the January event.

The Tool Market site sold (26) of the (30) items offered this month. Members were able to buy quality hand and power tools donated to NWA. Pick-Up of purchased items will be held during the 2nd. & 3rd. Saturday mornings of the month at the Shaker Barn by appointment only.

Tool Market will open at noon on the first Saturday of each month for purchase requests and end after three weeks. New items will be added during the week before the next opening date, so check back at that time to see what is new. An email reminder will be sent to all members. If you wish to donate or sell a tool, please read the Tool Market Rules at <https://woodworker.org/tool-market/#rules>.

The Tool Market schedule for 2021 is as follows:

February 6, March 6, April 3 (Lumber Sale), May 8, June 5, July-August (closed), September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4

Manuals Available

Over the years, NWA received numbers of donations of tools for the Annual Auction. As much as the Auction Committee tries to keep manuals with tools donated, some of the manuals are separated from the tool itself. We currently have the following manuals available to the members who could use them (free). Please send an e-mail to nwatoolauction@yahoo.com before February 1, 2021.

Bosch portable planer model 3365
Bosch trimming router, laminate trimmer 1608 series
Central Pneumatic professional ½” twin hammer impact wrench model 94803
Craftsman 3-D –deluxe router pantograph model 335.25187
Craftsman 10” radial arm saw model 113.29460 Craftsman router
model 315.175040, 315.175060, 315.175050
Delta 12 ½” portable planer model 22-560, 22-565
Delta XL-10 table saw model 36-380
DESA International portable forced air heaters
DeWalt DW101 3/8” V.S.R. drill
DeWalt ¼ sheet sander DW412
Grizzly (disk/belt) combination sander, model G1014Z
Homelite XL2 chain saw
Porter Cable random orbit sanders model 332, 334, 333VS
Rotozip spiral saw models SCS01. SCS02. RTM01
Ryobi cordless chain saw P540
Ryobi cordless trimmer P600
Skil router model 1810, 1815, 1820, 1825
Skil router table model RAS450, 451
Vermont American router-lathe part number 852
Vermont American taper jig



Lost item

Jacquelyn Donahoe is missing a small black toolbox with red handle and a partially carved polar bear with cub on her back. Lost during or after our first shutdown. If anyone finds this, will you e- mail her and put this in a safe location in the conference room? Thank you! jaydeecarven@gmail.com >

February Meeting

**Our February 11 Meeting
is Virtual.**

**Watch for an e blast
from President Stephens.**

2021 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

March 11 TBA

April 8 TBA

May 13 TBA Election of NWA officers

*To be updated with additional information

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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

Spindle and Pen Turners - 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

NWA Crafters - 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 518-674-4171 or wdistin@nycap.rr.com, Ken Evans at 518-281-0779 or kevan1@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

Hand Tool SIG - 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

Scrollers SIG - Meets every Monday and Wednesday 6 to 8:30 PM. Contact Pam Bucci woodglass2@gmail.com 518-429-6440 (for Mondays) Kay McCampbell kmcccampbell@nycap.rr.com 518-371-9608

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