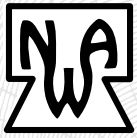


WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

September 2021, Vol. 30, Number 7

September Meeting

By Carl Stoner, NWA Vice President

Thursday, September 9, 2021 7:00 PM
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse
Albany-Shaker Road, Albany, NY



Parkis's Millers Falls Plane

We are starting off the Fall Monthly Meeting schedule with a demonstration by our Hand Tools SIG. No matter what type of woodworking you do, it can be very interesting to get new ideas for different situations. The Hand Tools SIG has had some very informative meetings over the summer, and we encouraged anyone with any level of interest to attend. (And just a reminder, as a member of NWA we are all members of any and all SIGs that we are interested in.)

Dave Parkis, Julianna Shei, and Jorden Mapes will be demonstrating and answering your questions. It will be a great opportunity for all, whether you are a hand tool “addict” or think a scraper is for cleaning out the peanut butter jar! **Please watch for an e blast to members about meeting details.**

Dave’s recently commented: “Hand tools offer several advantages to machinery. They are safer, much less noisy, less expensive and a whole lot more fun. They can also be more efficient and quicker than machines. It’s often faster to cut dovetails by hand than spend hours tweaking a dovetail jig to get the joints to fit properly. If you finish a tabletop with a plane, there’s no need to sand. Plus, you can listen to music or have a conversation while using hand tools or work while the rest of the house is asleep.”

President’s Message:

Hello, Woodworkers - As I’m writing this column in August for the September Newsletter, COVID-19 infection rates have returned to “high” levels in the Capital Region as well as up and down much of the Hudson Valley. Although I am now mostly accustomed to masking, I admit to not especially liking it, but I keep remembering that it is really more for the benefit of others than for ‘ole’ vaccinated me.

With that said, despite the uncertainties of these times, many NWA members are busy working to restart many familiar activities such as Shop classes, monthly meetings at the Shaker Meeting House and, of course, the Saratoga Showcase. We all need also to remember that all these events will probably need to be tweaking to accommodate increased use of new technologies, the varying availability of NWA volunteers as well as the changing constraints imposed by the seemingly ever evolving COVID-19 virus.

Our experiences over the past 12 + months has required NWA to explore different ways of doing things while our usual venues have been closed or severely restricted. Many of these efforts have been very successful. The most visible one that comes to my mind is NWA’s use of its website for

ongoing lumber and tool sales. These sales have reached a wide member audience resulting extra income to NWA but ongoing workloads for just a few volunteers. The sales have also motivated many members to contact the Auction Committee about either selling or donating items to NWA to sell. As it turns out, we will call this a “good problem” in that the Auction Committee now must look at the volume and character of items that the Auction Committee can handle and what kinds of items will actually sell. The Committee has looking at these issues and will be forwarding its recommendations to the Board for review in the upcoming months.

Regarding another problem, but of a lower order of impact, we are starting to address the issue of members periodically receiving phishing emails from unknown rascals posing as NWA members that typically ask the recipient to purchase gift cards for disabled veterans or similar scams. The approach to reducing this annoyance involves eliminating personal email addresses and phone numbers from NWA's online resources. Although this information is mostly missing from our webpages, it is now being removed from the Newsletter because those issues are posted on NWA's website. Generic email addresses will replace personal contact data for Board members, SIG and Chapter leaders and Committee Chairs who want to be contacted from Newsletter or website sources. However, personal emails and phone numbers will continue to be used in direct personal correspondence within various groups as well as in Constant Contact communications. This approach will probably take several years to have a noticeable effect, but it's time that we got started.

- Stay safe, help others & keep woodworking, Irv Stephens

Lumber and Tool Prep

Lee Hilt, Auction Committee Chair

Donors

Dave Axton	Tom Rees
Rick Bird	Jean Sagendorph
Joe Bucci	Kathryn Scharl
Antonia Cowie	Steve Schoenberg
Dan Dearstyne	Juliana Shei
Patrick Destefano	Jim Silva
Michael Donovan	William Solis
Ken Evans	Phyllis Spencer
Frank Fisher	Austin Sprang
Richard Flanders	Adam Stewart
Ron Foran	Greg Stoddard
Lee Hilt	Tohru Takekoshi
Debbie & Jessie Hoffman	Robert Wareham
Brian King	Darrell Welch
Susan McDermott	Brad Workman
Jack Murdock	Peter Zwagerman
Rodger Myers	

We made a gross sales (including donors' share and expenses) of \$20,610. This accomplishment was not possible without our dedicated volunteers who swept dusty floor and lifted heavy tools in near zero temperature and sauna level humid heat. Last, but not least, we thank all the members who purchased items.

Volunteers

Jon Bennett	Dave Mobley
Rick Bird	Andy Moss
Woody Bowler	Don Orr
Jon Cochran	Raymond Puffer
Patrick Cronin	Juliana Shei
Richard Flanders	Austin Sprang
Charlie Goddard	Irving Stephens
Lee Hilt	Bill Sterling
Pat & Tom McCord	Bob Stevens
Susan McDermott	Steve VanDerZee



Juliann Shei, Rick Bird, Steve VanDerZee, Jon Cochran, Lee Hilt

Old Firehouse Becomes New Shop, School, and Gallery

By Susan McDermott

A scenic hour's drive from Albany to Charlton brings you to the old firehouse at 786 Charlton Road which was built in 1922 and renovated in the 1950s and served as the town's fire station for over 50 years. Jason Nemec grew up in this town and has a deep fondness for its farms and folks. When the firehouse came up for sale, Jason's vision of using the sturdy building with its 4000 square foot floor to build a woodshop, classrooms and art gallery was exactly what the town board and townspeople approved of. The historic value of the firehouse repurposed as a crafts, arts, and educational center was a win-win for everyone. Jason's 12 years of woodworking in his cramped garage is about to transform a dream into reality. Jason explained the inherent value of the old firehouse as essential to the town's history and identity.

"This firehouse has been a central community space in this small town for the last 70 years. I want this to continue. I see this as a new kind of community-building space, where people can learn a new skill, meet new people, bring meaningful and authentic things home with them, whether it's a new piece of art, a piece of home decor or furniture, or just find a new appreciation of what hand-made means, in terms of quality, our local economy, and our shared environment."

Upon closing on the property in February, Jason began renovation in May with major upgrades in the electric, insulating and sound proofing the entire building's walls and ceilings, and installing a large high-end dust collection. Neighbors will not be annoyed by the sound of power tools, and woodworkers will be comfortable in summer and winter temperatures.

"My goal is to have the shop/studio operational in August. I hope to have the gallery/showroom open in November, and the instructional studio open at some point in the summer of 2022."

The NWA Newsletter's visit to the firehouse in June captured a few photos of the shop's beginnings. Another visit is planned for early August to photograph the progress and some of the beautiful turned bowls and chairs Jason has made from locally sourced woods.

Here is some of Jason's background in his own words. "I've spent the last 25 years in the software product design and interactive media space. For the last 12 years, I have spent my nights and weekends



Jason Nemec



The old firehouse



Shop's progress

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Vice President - Carl Stoner

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Treasurer - Paul Ruud
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Pete Chast
Wally Carpenter
Rich Duval,
Susan McDermott



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Sacandaga Chapter

Vacant



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working with wood. I took a class at Anderson Ranch in Colorado with Michael Hosaluk and was hooked. I came home, and immediately bought a lathe."

Jason's vision of the future of the old firehouse, the community, and his own dream is passionately interconnected. "I see my work and my interests moving in the direction of small batch, hand-made products/art for the home, made with locally-sourced raw materials. I am also interested in meeting other craftspeople and artists who do the same. I have space and plans to build a gallery showroom and instructional studio. It's my hope that these are both opportunities for other local makers to show and share their work and knowledge with a new audience."

To be sure, NWA members will be inspired and impressed when they visit the firehouse. Contact information if you wish to follow his progress and "like" Jason Nemec Design on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/jasonnemecdesign> or on Instagram at @jason_nemec.

His email address is jason@jasonnemec.com. He welcomes your visits and communication, and we can expect to meet Jason at the March Showcase. "I'm looking to meet other local craftspeople and artists, particularly those who do simple but beautiful things with local raw materials in any medium."



Showroom and teaching space



Stephanie's chairs



Past work

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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will be published
in early October

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**NORTHEASTERN
WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION**

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Rexford, New York 12148



Celebration of Woodworking

Members, The Mid-Hudson Woodworkers chapter of NWA is announcing the return of its own show.

It is titled **"Celebration of Woodworking"**.

The show will take place **on October 2nd & 3rd, 2021**

at the Barn within the grounds of the
Hudson River Maritime Museum (HRMM).

The show hours are

Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday 12 to 5 pm.

This year's show is looking to be an exciting event that will showcase the extraordinary talents of NWA members to a much larger group of people than in the past. In addition, it will further highlight the activities of the Hudson River Maritime Museum and Boat School. The Museum will have some activities during the show that relate to boat building.

Since we did not have a show last year and we anticipate a different audience, we are allowing members to display items from years past, along with new items made during the pandemic shutdown. We also need items for the sale table.

Admission will be free due to the logistics of the Museum grounds, but we will have donation boxes with appropriate signage. There will be a map of the museum grounds with a schedule of events to minimize conflicts between the pen turning, scrolling, Logs to Lumber and other demos.

Our goal is to have a show that will attract visitors year after year. Full participation of members will help MHW achieve this goal. Think about how you can contribute.

Members can volunteer for the following areas.

- Setup Friday afternoon & evening.
- Cleanup Monday morning.
- Toy raffle for children.
- Sale table
- Scrolling demo
- Pen turning
- Floor monitors within the display area
- Sawmill assistants
- Provide sale table items

The display entry form will be available as a hard copy and online at the Mid-Hudson web page. One version of the online form will be a pdf form that can be completed on a computer and sent via email or the US post office.

<http://midhudsonwoodworkers.org>

Bob Boisvert

MHW Show Coordinator

рабоisvert47@gmail.com

Carvers SIG Assembles Every Thursday Night

By Susan McDermott

Practicing all safety protocols for Covid, the Carvers gathered at their long table to work on their projects since last March. They catch up on socializing, share delicious home baked desserts, and strive to get back to normal.

Diane Balch, the Carver's coordinator introduced a new member, Welcome Lavonia!

Tony Lisosky displayed his golden eagle, and Jordan Mapes tapered birch legs to stools the Carvers created. Jordan also gave hand tool instruction in Dave Parkis's SIG. In short, the Carvers have not been idle these past five months despite the pandemic.



New member Lavonia Malloly



A stool awaits its legs



Jordan rough cuts birch



A special tool tapers and smooths one end of each leg



The tool at work



One of five finished stools



Tony Lisosky's golden eagle

Member Gets Creative with Redwood Studs

Todd Koblensky purchased nine 2 x 4 Redwood studs at the NWA lumber sale, May 8. He wasted no time using them to make a decorative retaining wall for his firepit.

Todd explained his design, “The blocks were stacked and filled with concrete in every other opening, and then filled alternatively with crushed run. The rebar is in the openings with concrete. The boards were kept as 2x4 (not cut to 1x4) dimensionally, and then cut to fit the necessary height of the wall.”

“The other side will be a mosaic koi river and the walking area around the firepit, a compass.”



Concrete block as foundation



Redwood over the block makes an attractive wall.



Completed firepit with mosaic

Dave Parkis Holds Instruction on Hand Planes

By Susan McDermott

On the evening of August 3, the Hand Tool SIG leader, Dave Parkis, held a two-hour session on types of hand planes, their functions, and features to 17 masked attendees. Dave has his own vast collection of hand planes he has acquired and refurbished. He brought a variety of block planes, smoothing planes, Jack planes, and router planes to this class. The attendees' knowledge of planes ranged from basic to very experienced, and Dave handled the members' many questions deftly and with wit. He clearly enjoys sharing his considerable knowledge with respectful, clear, spontaneous answers.

Most of the attendees brought their treasured planes. Two were particularly unusual as photos will show. One is a German made wood ECE or ULMIA plane about 70 years old used by a Swiss professional furniture maker. The other is a Stanley No. 45 tongue and groove plane circa late 1800's or early 1900's. Dave displayed the features of his rare Stanley Bedrock plane, manufactured in the early 1900's that featured a frog that provides maximum support to the iron almost to its cutting edge. The mouth can be quickly adjusted from behind the frog without dismantling the lever cap and iron to reach the frog's adjustment screws(as in conventional planes).

The presentation concluded with Dave examining attendees' planes and commenting or advising on their use. Click on the link to view photos. <https://woodworker.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Parkis-planes.pdf>



Dave Parkis displays router plane

What Are the Crafters Up To?

By Susan McDermott

A visit to the 97 Railroad Avenue shop any Saturday or Tuesday morning will find our Crafters SIG very busy with community service activities. Currently, our volunteers steam clean, sand, and refinish tables and benches for the Rensselaer County Community Hospice. They are also making 50+ picture frames for the special children of the Double H Ranch. And they are making 55 trophies for the 2021 Saratoga Showcase of Homes. The pictures show us the Crafters' contributions.



Steam cleaners Ron Wager, worker, and Bill Winters, director



Trophies will be engraved with 2021 details by Dave Mobley



Frame makers Rick Bird and Chuck Watson with suspenders

COVID-19 guidelines for indoor activities

1. Sign in required.
2. Unvaccinated members are required to wear masks and practice social distancing
3. Masks and social distancing are recommended in groups where vaccination status of members is unknown.
4. Facial masks and vaccinations may be required by SIGs, Chapters or Class Instructors for specific activities.

Proposed statement:

The NWA Board of Directors encourages all members using the Railroad Avenue Shop or participating in other NWA group activities to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission to other members. The Board expects that unvaccinated members will take necessary precautions, including masking and social distancing, to help keep themselves and fellow NWA members safe.

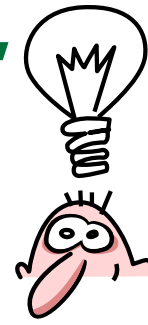
Shop Opens for Wood Sale

By Juliana Shei

While NWA Tool Market was taking a summer break, the Auction Committee held a special turning wood sale on July 14th. The woods were recently donated to NWA by Ken Evans and are the fruits of his years of collecting. In addition to familiar species, there are many exotic woods to choose from. The woods are a variety of shapes, sizes, and types such as: African Blackwood, Black Palm, Briar Burl, Bubinga, Cherry Burl, Cocobolo, Ebony, Eucalyptus Burl, Jarrah, Lignum Vitae, Maple Burl w/Birds Eye, Myrtle, Pink Ivory, Red Heart, Red Mallee Burl, Rosewood, Sapelli, Tambootie, Walnut, Yellow Heart, and Ziricote. The event was well attended and appreciated by our turners. **Remaining woods are available at the Railroad shop during the hours it is open through the end of August. Take advantage of this if you missed the event.**



"MEMBER'S WOODWORKING TRICKS"



Wonder Mender

Submitted by Juliana Shei

When the hook of the dust hood on my DeWalt planer broke off, wood shavings and dust flew all over my workshop. This dust hood appears to be ABS. ABS is abbreviation of Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene which is a type of engineering plastic. Depending on the application, the composition of A, B, and S varies and usually requires special adhesive to repair. Because the part broke off had a very small surface area to apply the adhesive, the bonding surface would be too small to form a strong joint. It was difficult to glue the piece back on. While looking for an adhesive substitute, I remembered the thermoplastic pellets I had in my drawer.



Picture 1

Thermoplastic resin softens with heat and hardens as it cools down. Originally, I purchased a bag of pellets to make protective covers for my chisels. I melted the pellets in hot water and then wrapped a wad around the tip of chisel. My first try did not work out because as the resin cooled down and hardened, it shrunk and stuck to the chisel. Next, I remelted the resin in hot water, wrapped it around the chisel and kept wiggling it occasionally as it cooled down. The result is a not so pretty but made perfectly snug fitting cover (picture 1).

Would the resin mend my dust hood? The result was, again, not so pretty, but it made a perfectly functional hook (picture 2, right side hook). I have been using the dust hood for several months now, and it is holding great.



Picture 2

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).

Center for Furniture Craftsmanship Offers Free Video Library

The well-regarded Center for Furniture Craftsmanship (Rockport, ME) has recently made public a series of 51 instructional videos free of charge.

Thanks to Wally Carpenter for bringing this to our attention.

Here is the link <https://woodschool.org/videolibrary/>

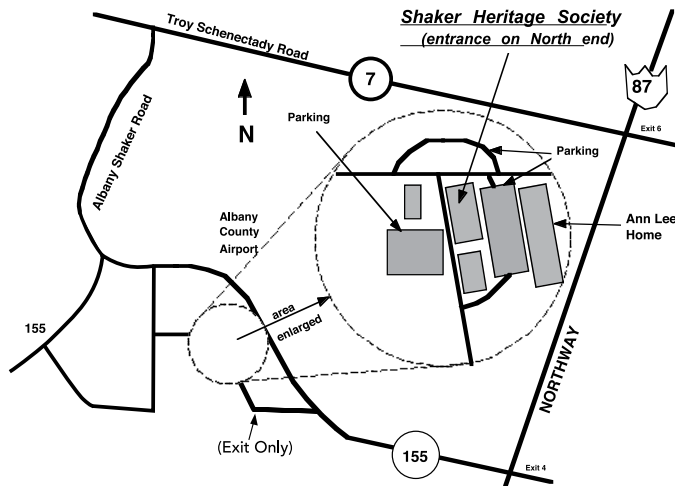
The link has also been posted on the NWA web page at <https://woodworker.org/links/>.

Feel free to reply to this message if you have other resources that are worthy of posting on our site.

Rich Cerruto, NWA Past President (2019-2020) r_cerruto@yahoo.com

September Meeting

*Thursday, September 9th, 2021 7:00 PM
Shaker Heritage Society Meetinghouse
25 Meeting House Road, Albany, NY*



When Will NWA Shop Classes Begin?

According to the new Education Chair, John Slezak, a committee has been established to review new safety rules, revamp course outlines, seek NWA members' course preferences and times, and establish a calendar of classes offered. John hopes our first class or classes will be held in the fall, September or October, but this depends on variables beyond current predictions. COVID is certainly one of those variables. John will be reaching out to NWA members for suggestions of course offerings, but feel free to communicate with him about your particular desires nwaeducation1@gmail.com. Also, if you have a special skill or experience in woodworking that you might like to teach, please tell John. Watch for an e-blast announcing upcoming classes.

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 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

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 on Zoom at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday, except July. Post Covid, in-person meetings will take place on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Hudson River Maritime Museum located at 50 Rondout Landing, Kingston NY 12401 **Contact:** midhudsonwoodworkers.org Bill Sterling, President - 845-532-3754 wster1156@aol.com