

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

January 2022, Vol. 31, Number 81

NWA Members!

Watch for an E blast from Carl Stoner about
January's General Meeting program.



President's Column - Taking Stock 2021

Hello, Woodworkers -

Happy New Year and I hope that everyone of you has found something to be thankful for during these winter holidays. Although we still must remain alert to the uncertainties that COVID-19 may pose in the coming months, NWA, I believe, is poised to get to a better "new normal" on 2022; and I want to take this opportunity to thank as many members as I can in this allotted space for helping to get us all where we are now.

First, we are now gaining new members, and these woodworkers with only 1-3 years of NWA experience are starting to help sustain NWA. In the past year, new members have helped with addressing technological issues, providing important editorial services, and making presentations; and some have stepped up to take on important leadership roles in finance, membership, and education. Thank you.

That said, there is also NWA's list of "usual suspects," those long term members who have provided me with important advice and counsel, or sustained operations like website maintenance to stocking essential Shop supplies, meeting Newsletter deadlines,

planning for Showcase 2022, managing new online tool & lumber sales, or volunteering to be Education Registrar - to name a few. Together, you all are too many for me to name...but nothing better reflects on the character of NWA's membership than that fact.

And, secondly, there were two initiatives undertaken this past year that will affect NWA, I believe, for the better into the future. NWA's By-laws were updated and approved by the membership. The revisions both reduced the size of the Board and changed the terms of office for the Board members. Thanks to Rich Cerruto for leading and developing these revisions. The other initiative was the start of NWA's ability to have a video presence on the web being developed by Carl Stoner. Carl's efforts are ongoing, but already seem to be paying off by making some programs available to remote members and by increasing NWA's visibility among the general public. This work has proved to be timely and important to NWA; and in the coming year, we will need to find ways to support and build upon Carl's ongoing efforts.

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

Paul Reinhardt Makes Generous Donation to Tool/Lumber Sales

By Susan McDermott

Paul, brother to NWA members, Bob and Bev Reinhardt, donated power tools which were: 36” drum sander, Delta metal motorized cutting saw, 36” belt sander on wheels, 24” scroll saw with table, and a stand for a table saw. These are all functional. Paul had doubles and triplicates of power tools as his father was a woodworker. He plans to donate more!

Paul is a very passionate, experienced scroller as these photos confirm. His spouse, Elizabeth has a booth called “Dreams in Color” in Vermont that displays his work as well as her needlework and jellies.



Paul's mobile



Paul with one of his scroll signs



Paul's scrolls



Dentist's sign



Paul's music group

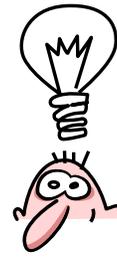


Coffee shop

"MEMBER'S WOODWORKING TRICKS"

Setting Stops on Miter saws and Chop Saws

Submitted by Bill Winters



For cleaner cuts on both miter saws and chop saws, when making multiple cuts of the same dimension, use a shim between the stop and the work. Line the work up with the shim in place and remove the shim when making the cut. This takes the stress off the work and can produce a cleaner cut.



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).

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Sacandaga Chapter

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The Fiske Fund Can Assist You with Expenses Incurred When Furthering Your Woodworking Education.

Grant Amounts

Fiske Fund grants are available to individuals for up to 50% of approved expenditures for tuition (\$100 or more) and lodging, but no more than \$750.00 per year or \$2,000.00 for a period of five consecutive years. Multiple grants are available to individuals, but the amounts awarded may not exceed these amounts and stipulations.

Award monies are disbursed upon submission to the Fund of receipts for actual expenses of approved amounts along with a statement or certificate of completion (if available) within three months of the class completion.

Eligibility

Fiske Fund grants are available to members of the woodworking community in the region served by the NWA (within a 400-mile radius of Albany, NY). Membership in the NWA is not required to receive a Fiske Fund grant. Preference is given to active NWA members in good standing regardless of residency.

Terms and conditions

Fiske Grants are awarded subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Fiske Fund grants are awarded for courses provided by woodworking schools, programs, or instructors which promote the acquisition of woodworking skills and knowledge.
2. **An application for a grant must be submitted to the Fund at least 10 days before the course begins.**
3. A grant application is required for each course.
4. Grants are awarded solely at the discretion of the Fiske Fund, and no other rules apply.
5. The availability of funding for any approved grant request is limited to the availability of funds designated by the Fund for funding grants.
6. Awardees are requested to share their learned skills with the NWA membership. This includes individual or group reporting at an NWA monthly meeting or Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting, making a presentation, writing a newsletter article, or teaching a course.

How to Contact the Fund for Requests and Information

Questions and requests should be directed to fiskefund@gmail.com. Both the Fiske Fund guidelines and the grant application can be found in the NWA website by clicking EDUCATION and then clicking on FISKE FUND in the drop-down bar.

Information About Woodworking courses

Thanks to the Internet, there is a wealth of information available to those seeking out woodworking schools, courses, and instructors. A simple Google search of *woodworking schools*, or *woodworking courses* gives you a vast array of information about schools and their locations.

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 February

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Most now have their own websites that provide detailed information about course availability, etc.

Woodworking publications are also a major source of information about woodworking course availability. A trip to the local library can yield many leads. Another valuable source of information is your fellow members of the NWA. Ask around, when you are at an NWA function; most members know of or have heard of places and courses that you can check out.

Origins of the Fiske Fund

The Fiske Fund is named in honor of Milan Fiske, one of the eight founding members of the Northeast Woodworking Association (NWA). Milan donated his woodworking and lumber collection to the NWA, which used the money raised from the sale of the collection to establish the Fiske Fund for the express purpose "...of providing individual grants for the pursuit of woodworking programs which enhance and advance the understanding and application of woodworking techniques and principle for amateur and professional applications."

Over the years, the Fund has grown thanks to the many people who have contributed their time, effort, and energy to make it the success that it has become. That success is also, in no small part, due to the generosity of the Fund's many benefactors who have made generous monetary contributions as well as donations of wood, tools, and hand-crafted pieces which have been sold at auction or by raffle, the proceeds of which replenish the Fund. The Fund's status as a non-profit organization makes any donations to it tax deductible. Members and non-members alike are encouraged to consider giving to the Fund for the furtherance of woodworking craftsmanship.

The Fiske Fund Lumber and Tool Sales

NWA holds Lumber & Tool sales on a scheduled basis. Proceeds from these events go to the Fiske Fund to defray costs of woodworkers' education as well as supporting NWA general funds. Lumber, tools, and machines donated by friends and members of the NWA are sold during these events. Consignments are accepted as are donations.

Showcase Road Signs

**NWA Members,
We are looking to collect any Showcase
2020 Road Signs. We will update the signs
to reflect our Showcase 2022 dates of March
26-27, 2022.**

**Please drop them off at our 97 Railroad
Ave, Albany, NY entrance. If the doors are
closed, please leave them behind the bench
at our entrance. We will collect them.**

**Thank you VERY MUCH,
Wally Carpenter
NWA Showcase Chair, 518-434-1776**



Bandsaw Box Class Taught by John Slezak

By Susan McDermott

November 13 and 14, Saturday and Sunday, held full day classes conducted by the Education Chair, John Slezak, who has a lifetime of wood working experience. He taught at Woodcraft (now in Manchester, CT) for five years before moving to Clearwater, FL where he taught at Woodcraft for 15 years. He also has his own business in woodwork (WeBee Creations) where he has made a great variety of boxes. John was also a beekeeper and accomplished tailor as his avocations.

John is a natural teacher who can individualize instruction for levels of students' skills. His pedagogy integrates three learning reinforcement methods: hearing the instructor, watching the process, and hands-on doing the particular skill. Bandsaw boxes require mastery of many subskills such as using templates, precision cutting on the bandsaw, careful gluing and clamping, sanding curves on three types of mechanical sanders, and applying a finish.

The class learned that using an 1/8-inch bandsaw blade with 15 teeth per inch that cuts 18/1000-inch kerf can achieve interior curves that need minimal sanding. The outer profile of the box is trimmed of its waste and a 1/4 inch back using a 1/4 inch blade with five teeth per inch. The kerf is wider, and the surfaces require considerable sanding.

This link to a PowerPoint will illustrate the steps to making a bandsaw box and the participation of John's class of eight NWA members.

https://woodworker.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Bandsaw_Box_class.pdf



Diane Discovers a Great lumber Source

Carver Diane Balch visited a huge hardwood store (2+ times the size of the wood section of Curtis Lumber wood section in Ballston Spa). They have wood from all over the world - 100+ varieties in many widths and thicknesses. They are well organized and have a sample wall. And they have a cutoff/ shorts section. They also sell flooring and plywood and other sheet stock.

Highland Hardwoods, 407 NH Rt 125, Brentwood, NH. Phone number 603-679-1230

Website www.highlandhardwoods.com

November 18, 2021 General Meeting:

Kurtis Albright An Introduction to CNC for Woodworkers
with contributions by Ernie Balch and Dave Mobley

By Diane Balch

Dave Mobley. Dave used his CNC to do the rough carving of the body and dress which were copied from clay sculptures he created. Several more steps were needed to get to the finished piece, including the pierced carving of the dress. The body is cherry, and the dress is basswood.



"Summer Breeze" by Dave Mobley

President Irv Stephens began the meeting by explaining that future general meetings will be streamed and recorded on You Tube for NWA members and the general public to view. (Use the URL in this article or the link from NWA's Website.) Irv praised NWA Vice President Carl Stoner for the many hours he has devoted to assembling various configurations of existing and borrowed video equipment (monitors, cameras, microphones etc.) in his quest to find the optimum set up for NWA.

Carl explained this medium is a work in progress, unedited, with some rough edges. The benefits of video graphing meetings and classes are obvious. You Tube preserves these events to be viewed by anyone at any time in one's own home which expands NWA audiences many-fold.

Instant Gallery

Carl introduced Eric Marczak who displayed his 37th guitar made of various woods and non-wood materials. View the video for his description of this beautiful instrument.

Announcements

Maria Witkins was present to encourage the audience to volunteer for Showcase.

Pam Curtis will manage the Showcase NWA Store. She invites members to sell their items with a commission. Donations are very welcome.

The Program

Dave Mobley introduced Kurtis Albright: "An Introduction to CNC for Woodworkers with contributions by Ernie Balch and Dave Mobley." The program can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRCjC7GiMQc&t=34s> here.

Diane's description of the program and her photographs are below:

Carl Stoner recorded the program for You Tube along with the aid of Dave Mobley and



CNC items made by Ernie Balch - Jatoba wood, 2-sided Seahorse shelf bracket/corbel



Howling Wolf sign made by Ernie & Diane Balch

Ernie Balch. The presenter was Kurtis Albright who has a CNC Router and Laser in his home. He owns a carriage factory in Troy, NY which is his sideline business. CNC is great for making templates, custom jigs and tools, art, and bookcases.

The topics he covered in lecture and PowerPoint were:

Anatomy of CNC tool:

1. Computer & CNC machine
2. Router or Spindle
3. Dust Collection
4. Tooling (bits, hold down, zeroing methods)
5. Software programs (free or purchased)

Workflow:

1. Design/CAD
2. Programing/CAM Machine

Kurtis uses Vectric 3-D/Aspire as his software for designing and running his CNC Machine. He briefly went step-by- step to design a sample file and set up of its tooling. He showed a variety of his CNC router bits. He said it is best to use a vector program, and there are several software programs available. Vector art is like a line drawing (Think of a kid's coloring book).

He also uses good clip art. An excellent source is DOVER BOOKS of clip art. The clip art comes on a CD, all vectorized and in various formats. Once the woodworker has drawn the project, he or she will go to CNC program. The tool paths, feeds, and speeds will be generated. When the files are set up, they can be profiled with pocketing, drilling, thread milling, engraving, inlays, lithophanes, fluting, texturing, moldings, and chamfering.



Dave Mobley's miscellaneous CNC projects

Machining: Needs to consider :

1. Power availability
2. Price
3. Space
4. Reliability and Expandability
5. Robust quality tools and hold-downs to secure the wood
6. Dust collection is vital! It needs to be grounded so you don't get zapped.

Equipment costs:

1. Hobby-sized CNC \$100 - \$1000
2. Desktop CNC \$1000 - \$9,000. up to 2-foot X 4 foot
3. Full size CNC (4-foot x 4 foot to 4-foot x 8 foot). Starts at \$10,000 and a 4 x 8-foot costs \$20,000 + .

It is also necessary to choose either a general purpose router or a more durable spindle.

NWA Board Passes Newsletter Classified Ad Policy, Effective 11/23/2021

Current members of the NWA may place free classified ads in the newsletter to sell tools, logs, lumber, and related woodworking items. An ad may include up to two photos and up to ten items. The complete text, including description, price, or best offer, and contact information, will not exceed twelve lines. Members may repeat an ad for unsold items up to two times within 12 months of the original ad.

Non-members may place one ad per year for \$25, paid by check or cash prior to publication. The ad may be repeated within 12 months of the original ad, up to two times for \$25 each.

The ad should be a PDF or MS Word file Times New Roman, twelve font size. The newsletter editor may rephrase and reformat ads. The newsletter editor will exclude items that the editor considers irrelevant to woodworking and may limit the number of ads that appear in any newsletter issue.

Hand Tools

Dave Parkis Presented Buying Used Hand Tools on December 7, 2021

By Susan McDermott

This session discussed what to look for when buying used hand tools such as hand planes, saws, braces, auger bits and chisels. There are a lot of decent quality user grade tools out there, but there are also many poor-quality tools that will only disappoint you. Some issues are minor and are easily corrected while other issues are more severe and will probably render the tool unusable. This session talked about how to tell good quality from poor, which defects are minor and major, and how to tell the difference. The first Tuesday of each month is well attended, and this was no exception. About 25 members benefitted from Dave's extensive knowledge of used hand tools.

The first and major part of his program addressed hand planes. Dave favors the older (pre-World War II) Stanley/Bailey, Union and Miller's Falls as the steel was better before the War. Dave said the Northeast of our country is "tool rich" if one knows where to look. With luck and knowledge of what to look for, one can find a vintage hand plane for \$10-30. When restored, it might match the pricey Lie Nielsen or Lee Valley (Veritas) planes in performance. Dave's true love is a Stanley Bed Rock plane (1898-1935). Why? The frog design has a larger surface that fits into a groove on the body to solidly seat the plane iron and prevent its vibration. Beware! The lever cap may be stamped "Bed Rock", but the rest of the plane might not be. If one finds a genuine Bed Rock, buy it!

Regardless of the vintage plane found online or estate sales of wood workers' shops, be wary of the following flaws:

- Cracked or chipped mouth
- Frog made of rolled steel gives weak support
- Sole rocks on a flat surface
- Cracks in the cheeks of the body
- Body is blue or maroon hue (junk!)
- Adjustment wheel looks like a soda bottle cap

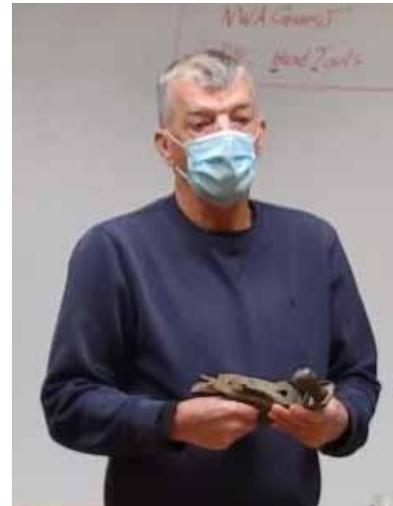
Parts like the iron, front knob, tote can be replaced. Some rust or minor pitting should not discourage the plane's purchase. But lever caps, chip breakers, bronze adjustment wheels, and adjustment levers may be a challenge to find. A

little "backlash" or play in the adjustment wheel is normal. Good features on a vintage hand plane are the following:

- Solid casting of the frog
- A Sweetheart iron
- Pre-WWII type II small brass adjusting wheels which is free turning by a finger
- Heavier, seasoned casting holds its shape
- A hinged lever cap is a plus
- Lateral adjuster lever moves and holds during planing

Dave showed the class a Sargent block plane with an adjustable throat (mouth) opening. A standard angle block plane has a 20-degree bed angle with a 25-degree blade for a total of 45 degrees. A low angle block plane is about 1/8 inch lower with a cutting angle of 35 to 38 degrees.

Dave concluded his discussion of planes with wooden body planes used for centuries and often made by a wood worker. Since wood has movement due to temperature, humidity, and ageing, the bodies must be "trued" seasonally.



Dave Parkis's demonstration



Two Miller's Falls planes compared (but right one of value)

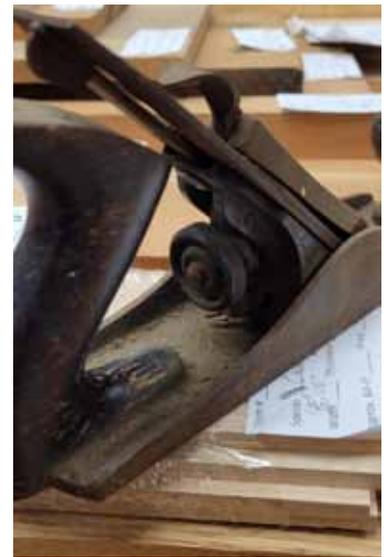


Restorable plane with cracked tote, a film of rust, and small pits

The remainder of the program considered quality chisels, hand saws, and braces.

In summation, chisels of worth are the old Buck Brothers with stag's head insignia, English Sheffield, Barr, Blue Spruce, Lie Nielsen, Two Cherries, Witherbee, Swan, and the better of two qualities of Czech Republic Narex. Two styles of handles are the tang and socket (which is easier to repair). Japanese steel is the best if one is fortunate to find a rare chisel. Dave advised not buying sizes one will not use. 1/8, 1/4, 1/2, 3/4, and 1-inch chisels should be sufficient. A 1 1/2-inch chisel is good for paring inside mortises. The classic design has beveled sides with a narrow land for close dovetail cuts. The back of the blade should be polished to a mirror finish from the tip to an inch.

The handsaws Dave displayed were a back saw with a spine and plate saws. Cross cut saws have teeth crisscrossing cutting wood perpendicular to its grain, and rip saws have chisel-shaped teeth in a straight row designed to cut along the wood's grain. Good Philadelphia saws (pre 1921 and 1921 to 1945) were Disston. Other worthy brands were Atkins, Spear and Jackson, and G. Bishop.



Plane with Bakelite adjuster which replaced brass ones during WW II



Plane with brass adjusting screw, high knob, and lateral adjuster



Low angle block plane worth restoring

Showcase Gallery Needs Items for Competition!

Please enter your wood projects (furniture, turned bowls, carvings, musical instruments, etc)

A valid email address is required for the online form. Please type your email carefully for an address where you receive emails!

NOTE1: There is still a Printable Paper Form you can submit, if that is your preference:

PDF FORM:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1yQPzeZMg7fgh27o8fCVScnBujXV4N8W1>

Category & Challenge Details:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1vNfUmWB9n-Y4pKGfAFWuLVkZSxoVbmUq>

NOTE2: There is no need or benefit if you submit both paper and electronic forms.

If you have any issues or suggestions with this form please contact us by email: ShowExhibit@gmail.com, Dale Lombardo, Showcase Entry Judging Co-Chair

NOTES for Totally Turning Participants

Totally Turning Instant Gallery items are not registered through this form! But registration instructions can be found on <https://woodworker.org/totally-turning-instant-gallery/>

Workbenches on YouTube Part II

By Joe Kennedy jkenn23333@aol.com

Part II of Three Part Series for the NWA Newsletter

Ready Made Benches

Some of the most beautiful workbenches I have seen are those made by Lie-Nielsen. They come with nice vise options and the dimensions can be specified. The only drawback is the cost of about \$3,000. (They also sell what they call a basic bench for about \$2,000, which is described in one of Chris Schwartz' videos.)

Benchcrafted is most notable for its beautiful vise hardware. They also sell a ready-made Roubo style bench for about \$3,000. Look at their website to see this very nice bench. I have even seen a bench that sells for \$11,000. See the Gerspach Handcrafted Woodworking site. This looks like a beautiful bench, but I do not think any of us would want to pursue this. There is also a woodworker named Frank Strazza who will make a custom bench to your specifications. I suspect the cost would be high. See Strazzafurniture.com.

Such benches are beyond the budget of most of us, even though one could not argue that it is overpriced. Rob Cosman has a beautiful Scandinavian bench. He estimates that he had to spend close to \$2,000 on wood and hardware.

Another beautiful workbench is that made by Sjoberg. It is well made with nice vise hardware. At about \$2,000, it is a cheaper alternative to the Lie-Nielsen, although it is still beyond the budget of most of us.

Sjoberg makes a smaller bench, which is nice, but not suited for heavy use. One could, however, reinforce this bench. You can also find benches by Ramia in both the Rockler and Woodcraft catalogs.

The most cost-effective store-bought workbench is by Harbor Freight. It comes with a tail vise only and costs about \$160, quite a bit cheaper than the previous two. This a light duty bench, but it also can be reinforced to do heavier work. See *William Lutes*.

One should always keep in mind that occasionally a used workbench may become available at a reasonable cost. For example, there is a bench with two nice vises on sale on our

used tools website for \$150. This is a bargain when one considers the cost of two nice vises.

Materials for a Bench

The most common choice is to use a hardwood such as maple. Hardwood is stronger, heavier, longer lasting and aesthetically pleasing. It is, however the more expensive option.

Softwood boards can be glued together, typically face grain to face grain, so the top is end grain with a thickness of 3-4". Pine is often used. See *Stumpy Nubs*, who has an eight-year-old pine bench. He argues that such a bench will last a long time. When purchasing Pine at Home Depot or Lowes, it is better to select 2"x12" or 2"x10" very long boards. Such boards are usually drier, more knot free and straighter than narrower stock. One expert argues that Poplar is also a good wood for a bench. See *Wortheffort*. There is an interesting example of a bench with two tops separated by a 7" tool tray. *Demas Woodshop*.

The most unique use of materials I found was at *Josh Wright*, who uses scrap wood about 12" long glued up in a brickwork pattern. If you follow this approach, there is no need to restrict yourself to such short boards. One could use longer scraps to make life easier. Some people also like to use pallet wood to make a bench. Using either approach you will have to spend more time in stock preparation. There are always tradeoffs.

Some people make a bench top (either hardwood or softwood) with Multi-Function Top holes. *Anna Craft*. I could see that this could be helpful in many situations, but I do not think it is a necessary feature for most people. Most people like to minimize the number of holes put into a bench. I remember talking the Frank Klausz years a. at Showcase when he just started using a holdfast. He explained how he was reluctant to drill a hole for it, but felt it was worthwhile. (If anyone is not familiar with Frank Klausz's workbenches, they are beautiful as well as functional.)

Another type of bench top uses wood for the front section of the top and MDF or plywood for the rear section of the top. One can do heavy

work such as pounding with chisel or sawing on the wood section and use the MDF or plywood half for assembly work. Of course, one could also use MFT holes if desired.

Rob Cosman has an alternative idea to his classic Scandinavian bench. For new woodworkers he recommends a 3" top made of glued up MDF panels. This is a quick way to make a top. One might want to place a small piece of plywood or a flat board underneath any work one intends to pound with a chisel. A related approach is to make a top with one layer of 3/4" plywood over two layers of 3/4" MDF. See *JoeThings*. Still another is to follow Paul Sellers way of using plywood edge grain for the bench top. He has detailed instructions in his video. *Paul Sellers*. It seems to me that if your top is made of plywood or MDF, it would be a good idea to make your face board of edge grain wood 3 or 4 inches deep. This will give you a solid foundation for pounding with a chisel.

I have seen a plywood torsion box used as a workbench. If the top is reinforced where necessary for a vise or a hole for a bench dog or holdfast, this can be an effective option. One can see the details of this at *King Post Timber Works*, *Popular Woodworking*, and *ICDT*.

Another approach to a bench top is to use half-lap joints for face grain hardwood. See Garrett Hack's article in *Fine Woodworking* 209 about the type of bench. The extra gluing surface makes for a very strong top. Also, the half lap approach can be used to offset any tendency of the top to warp.

Still another approach would be to incorporate either T-track or dovetail slots in the top of any style bench. See *Microjig*. This could be helpful for a variety of tasks.

Part III will be published in February's newsletter.

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 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:** Steve VanDerZee stevedz@msn.com

CHAPTERS

NWA Mid-Hudson - Presently The chapter meets on Zoom and at in-person meetings on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM except the month of July. Meetings are 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