

WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

June 2022, Vol. 31, Number 84

Estate of Jack Ericson Donates His Entire Shop to NWA

By Susan McDermott

On April 6, 2022, nine volunteers of NWA led by Lee Hilt met at the home of deceased John Ericson, a founding member of NWA, to empty his shop of lathes, drill press, band saw, table saw, dust collector system, and other large power tools. Jack also had some high-end hand tools, clamps, and hardwoods which will be sold on the NWA On-line Tool Market (members only)



Four NWA Founders : Left to right is Jack Ericson, Dale Brown, Dave Mobley, and Herm Finkbeiner

<https://woodworker.org/tool-market/>

John (Jack) served in WW II as a private in the Airbourne Division and fought in the Battle of the Bulge where he was awarded a Purple Heart. He attended RPI, majoring in engineering, and was then employed in GE's Knolls Atomic Laboratories. At one time, he was Commissioner of the Rexford Fire Department.



Showcase awards



June's newsletter is the last to be edited by Susan McDermott. September's issue needs two Co-Editors to take charge. She will help the transition and contribute articles. NWA wishes its members a great summer making chips fly!



Award for NWA -Curtis Lumber Fine Woodworker(Furniture)



One of four trucks and trailer loaded by volunteers Lee Hilt, Don Orr, Don Reiss, Rick Bird, Steve Mapes, Matt Jeskula, Ray Puffer, and Juliana Shei.

According to his caretaker of his final ten years, Jeanette Gibbs, Jack made furniture, toys, and jewelry, as well as some ingenious jigs, tools, and home items. She gave the volunteers a tour of his home and allowed photographs of his woodworking awards and toys.



Ericson's wood projects and toys

This editor spoke with Joyce Newkirk, Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer of the Empire State Aerosciences Museum in Glenville, NY. She knew Jack well as he was a volunteer and on the Board of Trustees from the late 1980's until 2012. Joyce spoke of him fondly about his woodworking skills and generous support of the museum. He built exhibits and their display cases which are the quality of fine furniture. He visited the museum nearly daily until he was no longer able to be mobile. Joyce saw him in fall 2021 when his caretaker brought him. By February 2022, he passed.

Totally Turning Gallery Turns Heads at Showcase

Totally Turning 2022

WELL DONE TURNERS!

By Don Orr

The Adirondack Woodturners successfully produced another excellent Totally Turning symposium in conjunction with NWA Showcase in Saratoga Springs over the last weekend of March 2022. Finally, back in action after a 2-year absence



Jewelry by Don Orr

due to the viral pandemic, many volunteers pulled together and put on an outstanding event. Led by the ever-capable Todd Gunter and his team, many turners from around the Northeast and Canada

were able to enjoy such well known turners as Rudy Lopez, Rebecca DeGroot, Nick Cook, Lyle Jamieson, and Stuart Batty, as well as our incredible regional presenters of Paul Petrie, Ray Puffer, Carl Ford, and Alan & Lauren Zenreich. Our sincere thanks for all the excellent demonstrations.



Mixed Media by Todd Gunter

Many different topics were presented from basic bowl turning to creative artistic textures, colors, and other enhancements, to resin casting and cool spindle-oriented work, and more. Special thanks go to Jack Betterly and John Kingsley for their extensive work in organizing all the materials required for the demo rooms and guiding their team of volunteers to set up and take down five demo rooms and keep them running as smoothly as possible all weekend.



Novice pen turner Mia Stolicky

Novice pen turner Kara Stolicky



Facetted bowls by Stan Blanchard

The Instant Gallery was

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spectacular as always with incredible work by some of the best turning artists found anywhere. I am sure the judges had a very difficult time figuring out who should get the ribbons in the various categories.



Angus ash bowl

Hopefully, we can do it all again in 2023 if the virus is kept in check. Thanks to all the volunteers who made it happen, for without them, it would not. Working with all these amazing people is great fun, and you get to see some fantastic demonstrations. But remember, we can always use more volunteers to share the load.

Click on this link to view the winning entries for NWA Totally Turning.

<https://woodworker.org/Totally-Turning-Winners-2022>

More Beautiful Turnings



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 September

Copy deadline: August 15

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Honing Guides for Sharp Tools

By Susan McDermott



Dave Parkis

On Tuesday, May 3, 2022, Dave Parkis, who heads the Hand Tool SIG and four of his SIG members introduced nine different honing tools and discussed the pro and cons of each.

Dave began with five of his own and emphasized any honing guide must be consistent with the angle of

the cutting edge it produces on a chisel or plane iron every time. His discussion was as follows:

- Eclipse guide was popular in the 1960's and can be purchased from Amazon for \$15. It is used with a projection table like Juliana Shei's combination toolbox and table. Although affordable, the guide does not firmly hold the chisel's beveled sides, and it can rock side-to-side as one pushes the cutting edge on the stone. It cannot hold Japanese chisels or chisel



Dave's collection of honing guides



Eclipse gauge made by Juliana Shei

shanks less than ¼ inch wide. Lie Nielson makes a similar design for \$135, designed for its brand of chisels.

- General Honing Guide has only four settings marked on the tool to accommodate the thickness of the stone or glass plate. Its back wheels ride on the bench top. It is better used on a glass and sandpaper surface as a stone is too small to allow adequate strokes forward and back. It costs about \$30 but may be hard to find.



General

- Veritas Mark II has a basic honing guide for \$80 which is good for plane irons and chisels ½ inch and wider. A chisel will still pivot side to side, but there is an optional narrow chisel holder that prevents pivoting, but hand tightening may be insufficient. Its camber roller can make secondary bevels on chisels. The whole kit is \$140. A skew registration jig is an additional purchase.



Veritas Mark II

- Worksharp 3000 is a powered disk (tempered glass wheels with either sandpaper disks adhered) or CBN disks with two grits that does not heat up the chisel and ruin the steel. It adjusts to four preset angles and is particularly good for secondary bevels. CBN disks have two grits per disk (80, 180) (400,600), (800, 1200).



Worksharp 3000

A Slick Stick is used to clean out the metal particles from the diamond disks. Warning! Do not flatten the backs of your chisels with the Workshop. After Dave uses his Worksharp, he will use his 1000, 5000, and 8000 grit stones (Shapton Pros).

NWA member, Gustave Mueller, showed his Fastrack M Power honing guide, with 25- and 30-degree fixed angles. The kit is \$90 with 100, 220, 450, 600, 1200 grit stones which are easy to change. It will hone 1/8 inch to 2 ½ inch blades.



Fastrack M Power

Michael Donovan showed his Woodpecker system, 220 version for \$200. He bought an extra guide to have wheels in for plane irons and wheels out for chisels to quickly change for sharpening his tools without loss of time from his slab table production. The angle finder will measure 15 to 45 degrees in 5-degree increments.



Veritas Accessories



Woodpecker system



Custom honing guide not in production



Magnetic holder



Juliana Shei's hand made guide



Honing block



Scott Oliver showed the audience two of his shop made items. The first is a 30-degree angled block of wood with Eclipse marks on the side. Another item is a magnetic holder for spoke shave blades which is easier than using fingers to sharpen the small blades.

Juliana Shei displayed her hand made hone guide which cost less than \$3 in materials.

Dave concluded the demonstration with a request for member suggestions for more hand tool seminars. Please send your suggestions to dparkis@nycap.rr.com

NWA General Meeting April 14, 2022

By Susan McDermott

The meeting began with brief announcements about the success of Showcase and Totally Turning returned to Saratoga Civic Center after two years absence due to Covid. To view the entire meeting on YouTube, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tgEFh629TRM>. All our NWA videos can be found on our website <https://woodworker.org/videos-from-nwa/>

Instant Gallery (These can be viewed eight minutes into the video)

John Ryan showed his acrylic pens, coffee bean scoop, colored pencils, and printed pens.

Todd Gunter displayed his acrylic and wood turnings and explained how he experimented with colors.

John Slezak showed what he can make with pine 2 X 4's. He had a stack of Shaker oval boxes, a chess set with pieces resembling tools, two guitars, and a toy rocker for an infant.

Pam Bucci introduced sublimation patterns printed on wood with durable surfaces, her favorite new tool-a 20-volt grinder/buffer, and a ball gouge made by Arbortech.

<https://www.arbortechtools.com/us/shop-online/power-carving/attachments-accessories/ball-gouge>

Guest Speaker Brian Seitz, Owner of Urban Industrial Design

Brian was a vendor at this year's Showcase, and Vice President Carl Stoner arranged Brian's visit to the Learning Center to talk about his custom production of slab tables (dining and conference tables), long bar-tops, and smaller tables. He and his two employees have milled hundreds of hardwood slabs, kiln-dried, and stacked for sale or use in custom orders. His temperature controlled 5000 square foot shop is located at 24B Lisha Kill Road, off Central Avenue in Albany.

<https://uidwoodworks.com/> There are great photos of the products they make on their website. Their new shop will be on Morris Road. Business hours are 7:00A.M. to 3:30 Monday to Friday.

Their recent addition of a 5' x 10' Laguna CNC facilitates the cutting and smoothing tasks of tabletop production. The epoxy products Brian has used over two years are Eco epoxy, an odorless, self-leveling epoxy for bar-tops and small filling jobs. The shelf life is six months. The resin and hardener react quickly and can smoke when combined; and Flowcast used for deep pours (as much as 1 1/2 inch thick). These products can be purchased at the shop. The shop also has slab sales four times a year.

Brian brought a small, finished tabletop to demonstrate the steps of the process for a sample slab pour.

1. Select dry hardwood, kiln dried to 8-9% moisture content.
2. Make it flat by planing if necessary (no twists).
3. Use MDF (light) forms covered with Tuck Tape from Canada, so the epoxy will not stick to the forms. Build the forms the day before the pour.
4. Make the epoxy pour wider and longer than the final dimensions of the tabletop
5. Level the slab, forms, and bench they sit on before the pour. This is critical.
6. After the pour, exert downward pressure with MDF blocks clamped to the table or add weights.
7. Apply heat as bubbles rise to pop them. Brian uses a Harbor Freight heat gun.
8. After the epoxy cures (several days), cut the table to the specifications of the customer's order, and sand the surface with 80 to 220 grits. A slow cure prevents cracking or crazing.

It is best to view the video for more detail and visual content. Brian invites members to stop by the shop to watch the production of his tables. You may meet his friendly German Shepherds!

NWA Online Sale Wrap Up and Return to In-Person Auction

By Lee Hilt

With the onset of covid restrictions in early 2020, the NWA Auction Committee had to transition to a safer format for handling member sales of lumber, equipment, and tools. From the restrictions of covid, was born the NWA Online Sales Tool Market.

The first online sale was announced in August 2020 and was followed by two more

that year with another ten in 2021. The May 2022 sale was the third this year and marks the final online sale offered by the committee. The sales provided members an opportunity to buy lumber and tools and generated much needed operating income for NWA. However, with the loosening of restrictions, the need for this format has declined. The committee has

planned a transition to a return to an in-person auction at the Shaker Barn, September 17th, 2022. Details will follow later this summer.

Everything sold online began with a donation to NWA. A quick count of donation letters issued to donors during this period, shows (73) such letters were provided. About a quarter of these involved a shop cleanout.

Additionally, each item taken in was photographed, cataloged, and assigned an inventory number. Although we still have many items in the barn needing assigned numbers, the last number was 1445. Including the additional items yet to be assigned a number, the online sale process handled over 1500 items from its start in August 2020. And many of these numbers were assigned to bundled items.

With the conclusion of the online sales, it is important to recognize the fact that there were many hands and backs, involved in this process. There are, however, simply too many volunteers than I can possibly thank with any degree of accuracy. But I am safe with recognizing one person, with whom the process would never have been possible without her endless help.

Julianna Shei has been the brains, organization, and drive behind the program from the first day. The time and work this lady devoted to the Online Sales program was nothing short of amazing. It is safe to say that the process would not have gone as smoothly or efficiently had Julianna not been there every step of the way.

Thank you, Jules!

In addition to an annual fall auction, the committee is discussing a quarterly lumber and tool sale as a garage sale format directly from the barn. Members have expressed the need to buy these things on a more than yearly basis. Details will follow.

Finally, the committee will continue to receive donations. Members' support can be as simple as giving the potential donor my email address (nwauction1@gmail.com) or cell, 518 698-3751. If you provide me with the donor's contact information, I will contact them.

Thank you, committee and volunteer members for your continued support.

NWA Auction Committee

Classifieds

For Sale

NEW! Fast Joint Precision Joinery System
(used with a router but not included) Cash Only - \$65

This system makes unique Joinery and has everything you need to start making projects that will stand out above the rest. The Fast-joint™ jig system will handle stock up to 14" wide and 1/4" to 3/4" thick. Some of the specialized joinery and templates are shown. *Additional Templates included but are not part of the Joinery's System are:*



Full Dovetail Template, Half-blind Dovetail Template, Arrowhead Template, Instructional CD

You can purchase more accessories and templates from Peachtree Woodworking www.ptreeusa.com

Please Note: this system is designed for table mounted routers only.

Porter Cable Pneumatic 18 Gauge Stapler In good condition Cash only - \$35.00

1 Box of 1/2" Staples, 1 Box of 9/16" Staples



Heavy Duty 4” Caster Set Cash - \$20.00 each set 2 boxes left

Set includes 4 swiveling casters, 2 of which have wheel locks, nuts & bolts
175 lb. load rating per caster, wheels are 4” in diameter x 2 1/8 “ wide measures 5” overall height

Heavy Duty 3” Caster Set Cash - \$15.00 each set 8 sets left

Includes 2 swiveling casters, 2 fixed casters, nuts & bolts for installation

Peter K. Lofrumento

18 Spinnaker Drive Malta, NY 12020

518-330-5949 pkloft@gmail.com

Rockwell Versacut mini-Circular Saw w/Laser Cash only - \$75.00

Comes with (6) 3-3/8” 44 Teeth Wood Blades, (3) 3-3/8” 60 Grit Diamond Blades

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 and Bowl Turning 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:** Maxwell Ferris at maxwellferris@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 - KWA SIG no longer meets the second Saturday of the month. KWA plans a January meeting to establish a schedule for 2022 and to hold elections for officers. 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 stevevdz@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