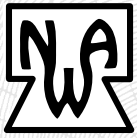


WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern
Woodworkers
Association

November 2025, Vol. 34, Number 9

A Message from the President

Folks,

Here we are, once more in the midst of Fall. Millions of lovely colorful leaves decorate our beloved trees and cover the earth. I am looking forward to gathering our rustling harvest. I hope your summer, so recently gone, has been at least as good as mine.

A bit of news. Jim LeFebvre has stepped down as the Fiske Fund Committee chair. Bob Fleury, a current committee member, has graciously offered to step into the role.

Our Bylaws Committee continues on with the revamping of the Executive Secretary role. It will be a long hard slog. Please cheer them on in their efforts. I look forward to seeing the result.

I hope that you all have a warm, happy season, with plenty to be thankful for.

In friendship and sawdust,

Kay

Crafters Replace the Cherry Hill Arch

By Rick Bird

The Crafters group built several small wooden sailboats for the Historic Cherry Hill Home in 2023 for their use in their children's programs. In March 2025 Albany County Legislator Lynne Lekakis contacted Susan McDermott and me on behalf of Historic Cherry Hill. Lynne is a Cherry Hill board of directors member and was inquiring about NWA assisting Cherry Hill with another project. There is an old garden seating arch/arbor on the property that is in disrepair and Lynne was inquiring if the NWA/Crafters SIG would be in a position to repair it or build a replacement structure. At the time we decided it was not something that the Crafters could work on, but we referred Lynne to club members Pete Howe and Tom Moran who agreed to tackle the project on their own.

They visited the site on South Pearl Street, took appropriate measurements and photos, and determined that repair was not an option, so they opted to build a new structure. As seen in the photos, the structure is approximately six feet long



New arch

OFFICERS

Some recent position changes are not yet reflected

President - Kay McCampbell,
nwa.president@woodworker.org

Vice President/Program Chair
Roy Richardson

Recording Secretary - Linda Reiss

Treasurer - Alan Hayes

Executive Secretary - Vacant



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Mid-Hudson Rep: Pete Chast

Board Members at Large:

Jordan Mapes

Diane Balch

Doug Wildes

Board Member Emeritus:

Charlie Goddard



Mid-Hudson Chapter

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Rich Cerruto, Vice President

Patsy Boisvert, Treasurer

Phil Dudek, Secretary



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Totally Turning Chair

Todd Gunter

and six feet across, a substantial arch indeed! Tom and Pete procured materials and donations from Curtis Lumber and built the arch and bench structure in Pete's home shop. They used pressure-treated lumber and laminated several pieces together to construct the arch. The unit was stained white to match the original item. Lee Hilt helped with final installation which required removal of the old cement piers, digging for new sonotube and concrete piers, and then installation of the arbor, bench, and arch assemblies. All this installation took place on site which is up a hill in the back to the Cherry Hill property.

Our thanks to Pete, Tom, and Lee for stepping up and tackling this substantial project. A job well done! Stop by Cherry Hill to enjoy the new bench/arch and tour the Cherry Hill home itself.



Under construction



Original arch

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
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A Busy October for NWA Volunteers

By Lee Hilt

Following a successful September Auction during which we again had dozens of NWA members working this yearly club event, we continued with a remarkably busy October for NWA volunteers.

The month began with the moving of Shaker style benches from a home attic in Schenectady to the Shaker barn. The benches were originally made for and used in a play that was held at the Shaker meetinghouse this past summer. The owner agreed to donate them to the Shaker Heritage Society. Thanks to the following members for help with the move: Bruce Nelson, Bill O'Brien, and Denise Watso.

This was followed by the wife of a former member who had approached us at this year's auction regarding donating her late husband's shop. The lady was so pleased to be able to arrange the donation so that her husband's tools would continue with another woodworker. Thanks to the following that helped with the Ballston Spa shop move: Rick Bird, Matt Jaskula, Bruce Nelson, Don Orr, and Yusuf Silk.

We continued our activities October 11 with a sawmilling day, at the Shaker site. We milled a bunch of beautiful cherry and maple which was on the heels of our July milling day that added some nicely figured silver maple and hickory to the NWA inventory. Thanks to our lumberjacks for their time: Rick Bird, Bruce Nelson, Bill O'Brien, Bill Rodgers, Chuck Thorn, and Denise Watso.

Our final push was an ambitious October 17th which completed two projects on the Shaker Heritage Site in Colonie. The chilly Friday morning started with eleven volunteers working to scrape, wire brush and prime the Shaker Bridge that NWA constructed in 2011. ([Click here](#) and scroll down for the original story). Although still structurally sound, the exterior of the span was weathered and in need of repainting. A few top handrails were also added during the project. See a following article for illustrated details.

Thanks to the bridge artists for their time and talents: Walt Addicks, Rick Bird, Dale Kasson, Sue McDermott, Bill & Meg O'Brien, Linda & Don Reiss, Yusuf Silk, Alan Silvia, and Denise Watso.

To top off the day, Charlie Goddard's replacement doors were installed on the Shaker Drying House. Charlie began the project in early spring with rough sawn white oak that needed to be milled and laminated in order to reach the 2" stock needed for the door's rails and stiles. Charlie chose white oak for its durability and weather resistant properties. The final process produced two 4-paneled 7'x30" heavy as heck painted doors. Each door was hung on three 6" hinges which were chiseled into the stiles. Thanks to the door crew who helped Charlie with the install: Walt Addicks, Alan Silvia, and Denise Watso. See a following article for illustrated details.

We are an extremely lucky organization to have so many folks willing and able to give their time and energy for such events. A big Thank You to all who made these projects a resounding success for NWA.

NWA Members Paint the Shaker Foot Bridge

By Susan McDermott

On a sunny, cool day Friday morning, October 17, 2025, Lee Hilt assembled twelve volunteers to scrape and paint the foot bridge over Shaker Creek. NWA members built this bridge fifteen years ago, and it needed some board replacements and a fresh coat of white paint.

Our spirits were high as we scraped loose paint, applied fresh paint, socialized, and enjoyed the results of our labor. The warm sun and babbling brook beneath us made it a perfect day.

When we finished, Shaker Heritage Museum Director, Johanna Batman, came to inspect the work and expressed her appreciation for the beautiful bridge.



Bill O'Brien Creek Side



Tall Rick Bird and short Denise Watso work together



Two hours of scraping



Lee Hilt replaces several boards



Johanna Batman inspects and approves our work

Shaker Herb Drying House Gets New Doors

By Susan McDermott; photos by Denise Watso

One of NWA's longest-tenured members, Charlie Goddard, has given his skills to the Shaker Heritage Society (America's first settlement of Shakers) for many years. Some of Charlie's contributions to the Shaker Society include the display cases he built in the gift shop, the picket fence around the Herb Garden, and signage for tourists to learn about the buildings on the site.

Recently, Charlie built and painted two new doors for the Herb Drying House. He and NWA volunteers from Lee Hilt's bridge-painting crew replaced the old, rotted base doors with the new ones. Lee transported the doors to the site, and Charlie clamped the old doors, aligned with the new, to cut the recesses for the hinges.



The Herb Drying House



Volunteers help remove old doors



Charlie measuring for the hinges



Lee aligns an old door with the new as Charlie mortises the new for hinge placement



Volunteers help move the heavy doors



The new doors installed

KWA News

Wood Stabilizing

By Wally Cook

Dave Ruger provided a demonstration of wood stabilization at the October Meeting. It is an effective application for wood that is starting to deteriorate, or is going to be subjected to the elements, such as knife handles or kitchen utensils. Dave uses it in segmented turning to salvage soft and punky wood, and where it is important to decrease seasonal wood movement.

It is important to start with dry wood. Dave uses a scale and toaster oven to achieve the required dryness. He will heat the wood between 100 and 180 degrees for as long as twelve hours. As the wood dries, it loses weight. The wood is heated until it no longer loses additional weight. At that point it is sealed in a plastic bag to prevent moisture absorption.

A vacuum chamber and vacuum pump are used to draw resin into the wood fiber. Dave purchased a vacuum chamber from Hold Fast, which needs to be set up with the necessary gages and shutoffs. Dave recommends a chamber that is specifically designed for wood, such as Turn Tex



Dave Ruger with the equipment needed for stabilizing wood

vacuum chambers, as they come ready to use. The chamber itself is a schedule 40 PVC pipe at various diameters and height. The vacuum chamber system includes a slotted hold-down to allow resin to be added without floating the wood in the chamber. A plastic or glass plate is laid on top of the chamber and is held in place by the vacuum pull created by the pump. Dave counseled against using a plexiglass cover, as these have been known to crack. He uses ¼" thick glass plate. Dave cautioned that some chambers are fitted with drains to release the used resin, but they become quickly unusable, as they immediately clog. He does not rely on the drain and simply pours the used resin into a storage container using a funnel.

The chamber is powered by a vacuum pump, which is purchased separately. The pump is connected to the chamber via a clear tube. An expensive vacuum pump is unnecessary. Dave uses a Harbor Freight pump. The pump must be capable of running for 12 hours straight.

Once the wood is at room temperature and ready to be inserted into the chamber, resin is added. The resin of choice is Cactus Juice and its companion activator. Dave buys Cactus Juice from Turn Tex by the gallon. It comes with the resin and a small bottle of activator. In this form its shelf life is about 3 years. Once it is activated the shelf life is about 1 year. This resin should be stored in areas that do not rise above 85 degrees.

The activator is mixed with the resin and poured such that the wood is submerged by 1½ to 2" – it should cover the wood by at least 1" throughout the entire stabilizing process. Dave cautions that the resin will foam up when the pump is turned on. This can cause overflow and bleed-back into the pump, so over filling is to be avoided. The vacuum is run until all bubbles stop and then the wood is left in the chamber twice as long as it was under vacuum.

At that point it is removed from the chamber and placed in the toaster oven at 200 degrees for a minimum of 2 hours. Generally, the wood cannot be overcooked, but it can be overheated – causing the resin to bleed out. While the resin will seal the pores and

strengthen any punky areas, surface cracks may not be completely filled. In these cases, Dave will wrap the blanks in aluminum foil to keep some of the resin from dripping off. A tray at the bottom of the oven is meant to catch any spillage.

When dry, the blank can be cleaned up by sanding and used in a project. It tools well and can accept any finish, but film finishes are preferred because the wood will no longer absorb penetrating finishes.

More KWA News



New deck at the shop provided by Mike Guiliano and Greg Lapp



A tool sale held at the shop attracted a number of people and helped to reduce excess equipment in the storage shed

Grain-oriented Chuck Mounting

By Robert Fleury

As a member of the Adirondack Woodturners Association and a Fiske recipient, I recently traveled to Provo, Utah to attend a week-long Craft Supplies USA Signature Woodturning Course taught by nationally known woodturner Matt Monaco. (See October 2025 newsletter)

Matt's style of instruction was to demonstrate a technique on the lathe or with a tool while giving a running commentary. He then allowed time for each class member to improve their skills in that technique or with that tool. The running commentary often included helpful pieces of information that could prove useful across many techniques.

One of these pieces was a demonstration of grain-oriented chuck mounting, whereby a bowl or other blank prepared with a tenon, which is intended to become part of the finished product as a foot or mounting base, is mounted in a four-jaw chuck with the long grain fibers aligned with the spaces between the jaws.

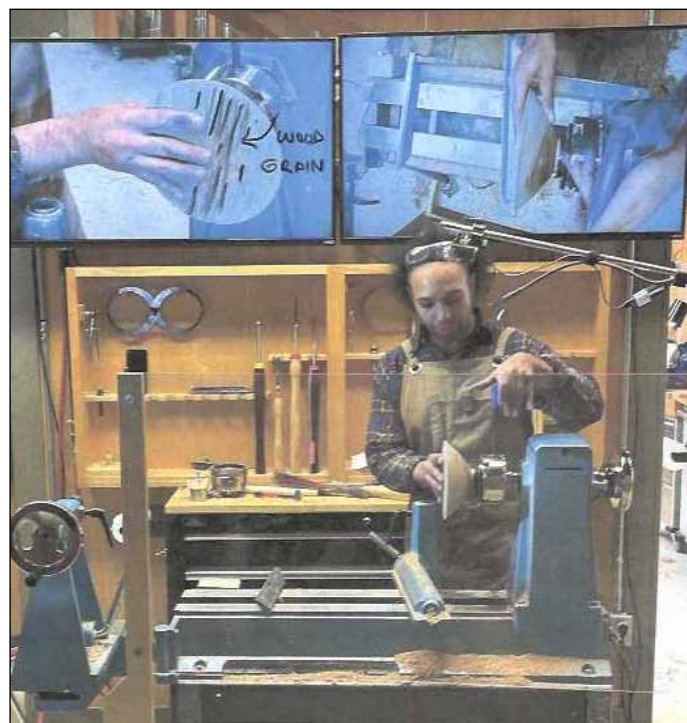
The picture provides an example. In it, Matt mounts a bowl blank onto a four-jaw chuck. In the picture, the video monitor behind Matt to the left shows where he highlighted the grain orientation of the bowl blank using pencil marks along the long grain. What is not seen clearly is that the pencil marks, and therefore the long grain fibers of the blank, are aligned so that they correspond to the gaps between the jaws as shown in the other picture. Some may ask, "Why take the time and go through the effort of aligning the grains?" Matt surmises that the benefit of aligning the grain with the jaws comes from the equal compression of wood fibers consistent with the fiber orientation of the workpiece. In other words, equal compression occurs as the jaws close on to the workpiece tenon, which minimizes damage to the fibers by accounting for their natural structure.

A four-jaw chuck in compression mode demonstrates optimal holding power when the gap between the jaws fitted to the workpiece tenon does not exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or 6mm. Fitting a tenon in this manner reduces the risk of overtightening the jaws and thereby reduces damage to the fibers. By preventing damage to the tenon, the need to true up a piece after it has been placed into the chuck is reduced. Additionally, this preserves the quality of the tenon as a foot or base for the finished piece.

If you have any questions about the technique or the trip, contact me at constablefleury@yahoo.com



An example



Grain-oriented chuck mounting

Scott Oliver Introduces Froes and Axes in Hand Tools Demonstration

By Susan McDermott

On October 7, 2025, at 7:00 PM, fifteen NWA members registered to learn about slicing straight grain logs with two types of hand tools. Scott Oliver has volunteered his time and expertise on several Tuesday night sessions to instruct members on lesser-known hand tools and techniques. His classes are well attended (limited to 20) as he shows how to carve chair seats, stool legs, spokes, and arcs that power tools cannot duplicate. As a former blacksmith, Scott custom makes many of his tools for new uses. He makes his own chisels, tool handles, draw knives and taught a class in constructing shave horses. He loves salvaging hardwood logs. Whenever he hears a chainsaw, he follows the sound.

He first explained his selection of a hardwood log (ash) with very straight grain since hewing it into quarters with a froe and hatchet allows straight cuts following the grain in less than a minute. Scott intends to make stool legs 24" long with tapered vertical cuts that are wider at the floor rather than from the seat. He planes the legs or uses a draw knife to fit the legs into the stool's seat. Scott makes relief cuts so as not to split off more wood than intended.

Scott talks as he cuts and answers spontaneous questions from the attentive audience. His froe is designed by Drew Langser and sold by Lie Nielson.



Ash log air dried about two years



The froe removes the bark and quarters the log



This box with adjustable black bolts secures the wood while Scott trims the bark off one quarter



The froe club is used to strike froes and hatchets. Never use a metal hammer.



The froe follows the grain, and Scott will use a hatchet to keep the wood from springing shut.



Scott trims the leg with a very sharp hatchet



Relief cuts prevent too much slicing



He planes the blank with a wide mouth wooden plane that cuts thick shavings



Scott's wooden sole plane



Note the wide mouth makes aggressive quick cuts



Kent Pattern Hewing Axe. Note the single sided beveled edge.



The Sheffield Axe from Wood Tools. It is a carving hatchet in the Scandinavian style made in England.

Musical Instrument SIG: All About Gibson Guitars

By Ray Puffer

The October 14th meeting of the Musical Instrument SIG focused on the history, evolution, materials, and design of the Gibson Flat Top Guitars. The Gibson Guitar Company was founded by Orville Gibson in Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1894. Initially focused on mandolins and archtop guitars, by the 1930s they were also making flat top acoustic guitars, as well as one of the first commercially available hollow body electric guitars, popularized by Charlie Christian. Our presenters for this event were Ray Giguere and Greg Cuda.

Ray Giguere is an amateur finger-style acoustic blues guitarist and a founding member of the Saratoga Acoustic Blues Society (2014), one of four guys who love and promote this style of roots music. For eight years SABS hosted a monthly evening event performing and celebrating acoustic blues that was held at Caffè Lena in Saratoga. Ray's interest in the old blues, as well as in vintage acoustic guitars, came from experiences while living years ago in Hannover, Germany. He bought his first vintage guitar around 1978 at Elderly Instruments in Lansing, MI – a '57 Martin 000-18 that he wishes he had never sold. In the 1990s Ray took up interest in vintage Gibson acoustic guitars, especially those from the 1930s and 40's. These days he plays regularly at Caffè Lena's open mic nights and occasionally at other public venues.



Ray Giguere discusses the history and evolution of Gibson guitars



Ray Giguere plays a finger style blues song



Greg Cuda plays a vintage Gibson

Greg Cuda built his first guitar in 1979 while attending the Northwest School of Instrument Design in pre-Microsoft era Seattle Washington. The course focused on utilizing hand tools to construct traditional Spanish style guitars. Since then, he has built several steel-stringed instruments and has also utilized his hand tool skills to build bamboo fly rods. Greg plays guitar, mandolin and fiddle in the Old Time and acoustic blues styles.

Our presenters, as well as several SIG members brought in some of their Gibson guitars, discussed them with the group, and played them for us. Our presenters also played several blues songs, highlighting the differences in the sound from the various vintage guitars. The evening program was entertaining and informative.



Several attendees with their Gibsons, and a couple non-Gibsons

NWA Crafters Support Showcase of Homes 2025 with Custom Awards

by Dave Mobley



Some of the Saratoga Showcase of Homes 2025 awards, made by NWA Crafters, on display at a Showcase home

In the first two weekends of October, the Saratoga Showcase of Homes offered tours of twelve custom homes in Saratoga County. Ticket sales for the tours raised money for Rebuilding Together Saratoga County and Habitat for Humanity of Northern Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties. Organized by the Saratoga Builders Association, this event has been a successful fundraiser, providing a combined \$60,000 donation to the two charities in 2024.

For a number of years, the NWA Crafters have supported the Showcase of Homes by providing custom made awards in the shape of houses. This year, the Crafters supplied over 7 dozen awards made of maple and sapele and engraved with the Showcase of Homes logo, award details and recipient names. The Saratoga Builders Association pays for all materials and supplies, and makes a donation to NWA as a thank you for our efforts. The awards are presented at a banquet to the home builders, architects, designers, decorators, and landscapers, to recognize the impressive examples of their work that they put on display.

The Sale of Dick Flanders' Home Shop

By Susan McDermott

On Saturday, September 27, 2025, Dave Parkis coordinated the sale of our long-time member Dick Flanders's wood shop in Niskayuna from 10 AM to 3 PM. Several members were there to buy his Sunhill jointer, Saw Stop, and many choice pieces of lumber.

Some quality hand tools are still for sale. Dick posted them on Facebook and Craig's List. Below are listed those items which will go fast as they are now public.

- Pneumatic finish nailer w/nails, framing nailer w/nails
- Electric skillsaw
- Auger bits, belt sanders, pad sanders
- Electric planer
- Jig saws (2)
- Roll of punches & chisels
- "mouse" sander, 4"
- Angle grinder
- Drill bits, Drill Dr. (for sharpening drill bits), Forstner bits
- Two bench grinders, 6" and 8"
- Electric body saw
- Swivel head metal shear, air chisel
- Sanding drums
- 10-gallon compressor
- Ceiling mount air hose reel, ceiling mount air cleaner
- Delta bench top router/shaper
- Delta 9" disk/4" belt sander with stand
- Two dovetail jigs for use with a router, craftsman router
- Full set of craftsman battery tools - saw, drills, three lights, two chargers

Call or text for more info and location.
Richard Flanders (518) 461-7339

Wooden You Like to Know

By Charlie James

Whenever I make dovetails I also make a template with aluminum step flashing 5" x 7" x 0.12". You can purchase a packet of 25 at a roofing supply for around \$20. Marking new work with an old template saves me some time as a slight shift in position might be all that's needed. Mark the width and score the flashing with a knife, bending it back and forth to break it free. Mark the tails and score the bottom, you can cut the tails with a scissor and break them free. I drill a hole in the templates and hang them on a pegboard, so they don't get lost in my shop.



Mark a cut off for the template



Score with a knife



Bend back and forth to break it off



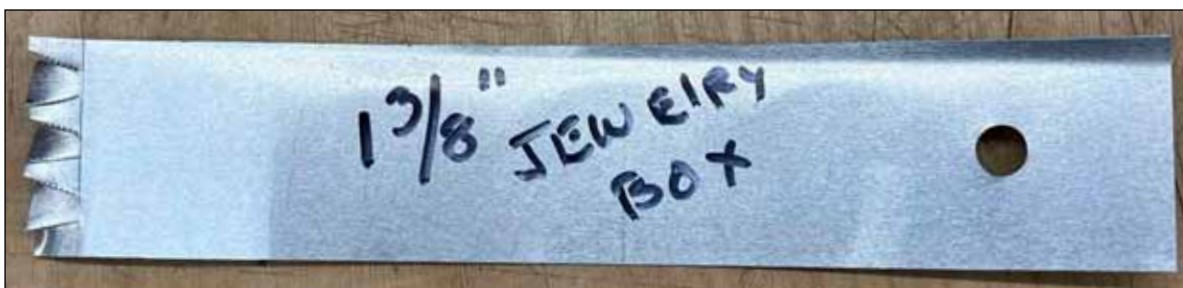
Layout



Cut with scissors



Break of the waste



Done

January 2025 Cabin Fever Repeated at September Auction With a Happy Story Ending

By Lee Hilt

Most of you will remember my club newsletter article of last March ([see it here](#), on page 6) in which I detailed a shop clean out in the middle of the winter, on one of the coldest days of the year and in the hilly southern Albany County town of Feura Bush. What I didn't know at the time was that, hidden somewhere among the contents of five fully loaded pickup trucks and numerous Tupperware containers packed into cars and vans, there were documents that would eventually lead us back to the original family, bringing the story full circle eight months later.

As usual, auction set up began the Wednesday before the Saturday auction with a couple dozen volunteers moving tons of woodworking tools, equipment, and lumber from storage in the Shaker Barn to the sales floor. As has been said each year, it's a miracle just how much work gets done in such a short amount of time by a handful of folks. Amazing.

Somewhere during the sorting of the 100's of tools, someone came across a folder which didn't seem to belong with donated woodworking tools. Later in the day, the folder ended up with Juliana Shei and me. In leafing through the thing, we found names, addresses, dates of birth, social security numbers, and a bunch of documents related to a NYS retirement. These were documents that needed to be with someone else.

I called a phone number that I had found scribbled on a script in the papers, left a voicemail message, and later that day, answered a return call to my cell. It was a call back from an elderly lady who informed me that she first thought I was a scammer, and she had checked me out on Google. I still don't know what she found or didn't find on me, only that I was legit. She told me that she is the sister of a late brother who passed over the winter. I told her I would be happy to return the papers to her. Turns out she lives in the Village of Colonie and less than a mile from me. She was extremely happy to know that there were folks in the world who handled her family's personal info as seriously as she did. I dropped the papers in her mailbox the next day and that was that. Almost.

A week after the auction, I received a call from the same kind lady who had been so relieved to have her brother's documents returned. This time, she was calling to thank me again—she had just learned that additional similar papers had been delivered to her nephew's home in Rotterdam. Her nephew's doorbell camera had even captured a man in a white van placing the documents in the mailbox.

I explained to her that I was not responsible for this second delivery. We talked further, and I shared details about the auction, suggesting that perhaps a purchaser had discovered the remaining documents and taken it upon themselves to return them. During our conversation, we pieced together the full story: her late brother was the owner of the shop we had cleaned out back in January, and her nephew—the one now handling the estate—was the same person who had been overwhelmed by the process. He had been deeply impressed and grateful for the twelve NWA volunteers who arrived on that snowy January morning, accomplishing what he thought would be impossible in just three hours.

Once again, the lady expressed her gratitude and happiness, saying it restored her faith in society to know that there are good people—especially woodworkers—who handle sensitive matters with such care.

So, whoever you are, the man driving the white van who dropped papers in a Rotterdam mailbox, thank you. I hope you're part of NWA membership. And if you're not, please contact our Membership Chair woodworker14142@gmail.com and let's get you signed up.

Finally, for those reading this, please keep our auction in mind as you interact with folks throughout the year. If you know of anyone who has tools, machinery, or logs to donate, please provide them my contact info (below). As a qualified 501(c)(3) organization, all accepted donations to NWA are documented with a donation letter to the donor, which could result in a qualified charitable contribution at tax time.

Lee Hilt, Auction Chair
(518) 698-3751 • LHHAGRH@Earthlink.net

Classifieds

For Sale – New in the box Powermatic safety switch, for 5 H.P. motor, 3 phase 230/460 V. Can be used for Powermatic table saw, or any saw with compatible electronics, \$75.

Also, wood for sale – Unique, spalted, distressed maple. Wood is solid, no punk. 40 B. F. milled to 7/8", 60 B.F. rough cut 1 1/16". Most boards are 1x12x10. Total 11 boards. \$190 or B.O.

John Olenik, irmjohn@aol.com, (518) 587-0306



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs):

Adirondack Woodturners Association - The AWA holds a general meeting (usually including a live demonstration) at 6:00pm on the first Wednesday of each month (except for January and July, when the meetings fall on the second Wednesday). AWA also hosts Open Turning where turners can come to learn and refine their skills from 5:30pm to 8:00pm on all other Wednesdays. Contact: Bill O'Brien at williamobrien33@hotmail.com.

Spindle and Pen Turners plus Introduction to Woodworking - Meets Mondays 9:00 AM to noon and Mondays 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM, including holidays except Christmas. **Contact:** Pam Bucci at (518) 429-6440 or woolglass2@gmail.com. Wednesday "Learn and Turn" sessions occur on alternate Wednesdays at the NWA Learning Center. These sessions run 5:30 PM to 8:45 PM. www.adirondackwoodturners.com **Contact:** Pam Bucci at (518) 429-6440 or woolglass2@gmail.com.

Kaatskill Woodturners - Also an AAW Chapter. Meetings are held at 12 noon on the second Saturday of the month at the KWA Shop, 2076 Sawkill-Ruby Road, Kingston, NY. **Contact:** Stan Pressner 917-535-4195 or spressner@me.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, Saratoga Builders Association, the Warren Washington and Albany Counties ARC (A Respectful Commitment), and the Northeast Construction Trades Workforce Coalition which is the non-profit arm of Curtis Lumber. Sharing information, fellowship, education, and relating experiences are a major part of these sessions. **Contact:** Rick Bird biggrbird@gmail.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 dbalch1@nycap.rr.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 Mondays 5:45 to 8:00 PM - new scrollers welcome. Wednesdays 5:45 to 8:00 PM - machine qualified scrollers only (possible demonstrations) **Contact:** Stephen Koonz (518) 290-0722 (text only)-

NWA Musical Instruments SIG – Meets at 97 Railroad Avenue shop 6:00 to 8:00 PM, second Tuesday of the month. **Contacts:** Jon Hedman, jonwhedman@gmail.com, (518) 399-7849; Ray Puffer, Ray.Puffer@gmail.com, (518) 272-6421; Eric Marczak, epm03@hotmail.com, (518) 872-9324.

CHAPTERS

NWA Mid-Hudson - The address and hours for the Mid-Hudson shop to be changed. **Contact:** Bill Sterling wster1156@aol.com or Wally Cook wally.cook@gmail.com for details.

Boat Building SIG – Tuesdays at Rich Cerruto's shop in Gardiner, NY from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm with a lunch break. r_cerruto@yahoo.com.