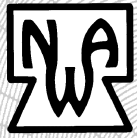


# WOODWORKERS NEWS



Northeastern  
Woodworkers  
Association

June 2007, Vol. 16, Number 6

## Precision with Hand Tools Class with Garrett Hack

- Chris Knite

It was standing room only as 14 NWA members squeezed into the Stillwater shop for an information-packed 3 day class on hand tools. Garrett Hack's reputation as a teacher is so great that we could easily have had twice as many students if space allowed.

Many of us could have renamed this class "If you think your tools are sharp, you're wrong" as we learned why it is so critical to have razor sharp planes and chisels. Once the tools were properly sharpened, we began to learn how to use them effectively.

The first project we completed was flattening and thickness planning a board using hand planes which is a great exercise to get the user in tune with his hand tools. The class moved on to ever more challenging tasks such as perfectly fitting a drawer front, putting a concave or convex curve in a desk top, and making matching under bevels on a table top. All exercises were accompanied by open discussion on not just why it is important to use these techniques, but also different ways to apply them in a woodworking project.

Since student skills varied from beginner to advanced, everyone moved at their own pace as we also learned inlay techniques, chamfering and tapering of table legs, lambs-tongue and stopped chamfers, and other decorative techniques. We also had many other topics covered and discussed - from fitting a table apron, to cooping a barrel, and making unbreakable and invisible glue joints. Surprisingly, we learned that these techniques could often be quicker and more "organic" than when done by machines - if they can be done by machines at all.

Everyone who attended the class learned much and we often had trouble breaking up the sessions in order to eat lunch or go home for the night. One of the most memorable elements of the class was the individual attention that Garrett was able to give each of us, in spite of the fact that the class was larger than ideal. It was definitely a fun and informative event for all. 🐾



Mike Wayne observes Garrett's jointing technique



Paul Hesse checks the progress of his glue joint



Tom Osborne & Mike Wayne compare notes



Owen Arkison learns that you don't always have to push a plane, while Chris Knite checks his work in the background.



Sure it was crowded, but nobody complained (too much)

**SHOWCASE 2008**  
Saturday and Sunday  
April 5 and 6, 2008

Only 10 Months to go!

Just enough time to tell  
ALL your friends  
about the Show

## OFFICERS

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phowe1@nycap.rr.com

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ideas@mhonline.net

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conahanbob@hotmail.com

Kirk Hardenburg

725-1997

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, PHONE  
NUMBERS ARE IN AREA CODE 518



*"Clark, Thanks for 5 years as Editor !"*

## 4th Annual Tape Measure Stakes

*- Herm Finkbeiner*

The NWA picnic is Sunday, July 22 at the Jonesville Fire Company grounds. Once more a challenge has been issued. The 4th annual tape measure races will take place to determine the winner of the coveted Tape Measure Cup. NWA members will enter their prized tape measures and the winner will be the one that surges in front by at least a 1/64 of an inch (or perhaps by half a millimeter) over their competitor.



When tape measure adversaries show up at the starting line, no chicanery is beyond their determination to win. Lying, cheating and stealing have been factors in past competitions. In this confrontation it not just winning that seems to drives the rivalries. Every method, fair and fowl, is used by the competitors to achieve an ill gotten advantage.

This year there will be two classes of competition, racers without wheels and those with wheels. We once more have to contend with a special interest group within NWA who asserts that wheels being round, the wheel vehicle competition is exclusively theirs. More about that later.

With or without wheels, every NWA member is urged to enter his or her steed, be it a recent acquisition or a faithful companion of many years. As in the past there will be many prizes and trophies. It is even rumored that there will be active wagering with a prominent local track follower handling the book for the races. 🐾



# The NWA PICNIC Cometh !

- Ken Evans

What really COMETH are the TAPE MEASURE RACES ! The NWA picnic just happens on the same day as the Tape Measure Races. Oh sure, the picnic has good food, lots of friends and family, great music, sawmilling demonstrations, fly-fishing demonstrations and classes, wonderful weather, sporting events, door prizes, calorie-less desserts, and a host of other things quite enjoyable for an afternoon in July with friends and family all for \$5.00, BUT the Tape measure RACES have ""BRAGGING RIGHTS""! Let's get our priorities straight here! Bragging Rights are what it is all about.

Now it is true there are two categories of Races this year. Wheeled and unwheeled. Last year these categories were raced together. I will admit that a turner did not win first place in the race, but one (I) did come in second. What a RUSH!

So, I have begun work on TURNICUS DOMESTICUS II, a wheeled measure whose purpose it is to wreak havoc on all who enter the racetrack.

It is likely SLIPPERY CYCLONE I, a teflonesque beauty will also be ready for the flatboards of the unwheeled race.

The Gloves are off!

I DO INTEND TO BRAG!

I urge all flatboarders to prepare their entries. I urge all turners to prepare their entries. I urge everyone to prepare to be whupped! 🐾

## May 2007 Woodworkers News Correction

- Don Orr

In the interest of clarity and accuracy, I would like to address some information credited to me in last month's Woodworkers News regarding my demonstration for the Kaatskill Woodturners.

In the ABC's of woodturning, 'A' stands for Anchor. We anchor the tool to the rest and our body for safety and a smooth cutting action. The 45-45 angle concept only applies to the skew chisel. The 'B' does stand for Bevel and we do rub the bevel of the tool on the wood so it acts as a guide, but the rule of thumb of the bevel length being 1.5 times the thickness of the tool again only applies to the skew chisel. Sorry for the misunderstanding.

I thoroughly understand how things get confused as I can jabber on about many different topics, and I spent over 2 hours talking and turning that evening. I had a great time with their club and I hope they learned something that can help their turning skills develop.

Thank you. 🐾

## Fiske Fund

- Joe Kennedy

So far this year we have made nine awards for a variety of classes. In addition to those already mentioned in previous articles, **Matt Clarke** will take an advanced workshop with David Ellsworth at the Anderson Ranch in Colorado. **Joe Gleeson** will take a Windsor Chair class at the Campbell Folk School in North Carolina. **Ed Pieper** and **Joe Tann** will each take a hat turning class at the Johannes Michelson School of Woodturning in Vermont.

So far I have had one serious inquiry about the Rosewood School scholarship. If you plan to attend this school, let me know.

We still have some money left for your class. If you submit your application to me by June 30, it will be reviewed in July. Application forms are posted on the website. 🐾

## Annual Lumber and Tool Auction

- Charlie Goddard

The next auction is scheduled for September 15, 2007, at the Shaker Barn.

We have one very interesting stack of rough sawn American chestnut stored in the barn for the auction. According to the donor the lumber was sawn in 1908 and has been stored in barns ever since. In total there is more than 1,000 board-feet of various widths and lengths. Most is a full inch in thickness.

If you have lumber or tools that you would like to donate please let me know at (518) 370-0388, or [cgodd@aol.com](mailto:cgodd@aol.com). If you do not want to donate the full value we can share the proceeds. All donations including the NWA shares are fully tax deductible. 🐾

**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. It is assembled in QuarkXPress 5.0 on an iMac G5, duplicated by Shipmates, and mailed to more than 1,000 addresses.



Your next issue of **Woodworkers News**

will be published in early July

Copy deadline: June 15  
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Elizabeth Keays Graphic Artist  
Designer



**WEBSITE(S)**

[www.woodworker.org](http://www.woodworker.org)

[www.nwawoodworkingshow.org](http://www.nwawoodworkingshow.org)

**Blog Site:**

<http://woodworkerorg.blogspot.com/>

Website Editor

Position to be Filled

NWA maintains two websites, the first noted here operates continuously.

We also offer selected links to other sites of interest to our membership.

Webmaster - Justin Rohrer  
[rohrej@woodworker.org](mailto:rohrej@woodworker.org)

The second site operates from January 1 to May 30 and carries specific information about SHOWCASE.



**NORTHEASTERN  
WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION**

P.O. BOX 246  
Rexford, New York 12148

# Nottke Shares Strategies for Intricate Scrolling

- Donna Phillips

If you attended Showcase and saw Barb Nottke's prizewinning cheetah, you probably asked yourself, as many of us scrollers did, "How did she *do* that?" At the April scrollers meeting, Barb graciously shared with us some of her secrets in making such an intricate piece.

*Sand the wood smooth before applying the pattern.* For Barb, this means a thorough sanding with at least 220 grit sandpaper. If you try to sand the piece after it's done, you'll damage fine details. While this is always good advice for scrollers, it's imperative with intricate pieces like Barb's cheetah.

*Glue the pattern, and then apply clear packing tape.* Some of us usually prefer to apply the tape and then glue on the pattern in order to avoid the gummy mess of glue on wood or the annoying reflection off the shiny tape as you cut. With intricate cuts, however, gluing the pattern and then taping over it helps prevent damage caused by bits of adhesive that sometimes stick along the cuts. After the tape is removed, a thorough spray or soak with mineral spirits will loosen any remaining paper or adhesive from the finished piece.

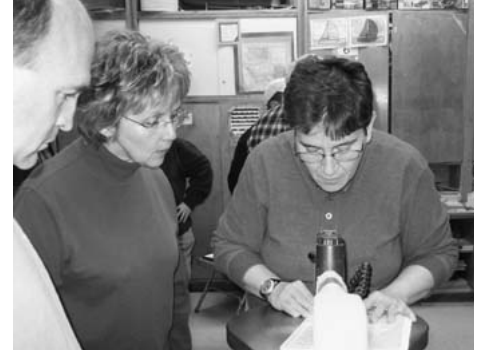
*Drill a few holes at a time.* Barb likes to finish up an evening's work by drilling 30-50 holes for the next night's cutting. Where she might be easily confused about what to cut out and what to keep, she sometimes puts pencil marks in the waste wood—X marks the spot where a hole needs to be drilled. It's exasperat-



ing to find you've drilled a hole where you don't need one! Barb also uses spiral blades and finds it best to drill holes near the center of smaller areas instead of near sharp corners where scrollers are usually taught to put the drill holes in order to facilitate tight turns.

*Use a small spiral blade.* Barb was using #0 spirals in her demo. To improve blade life and tension, she flattens the ends slightly with needle-nose pliers.

*Work in sections from the center to the outside.* Barb finds the lines that hold the finished piece together and uses those to determine how to section off the piece. She advised us to cut out the smallest pieces within those area first, then larger areas that affect the stability of the piece. If a larger piece is removed early in the cutting, she sometimes lightly tapes it back in place, front and back, to help maintain stability as she moves to other sections.



*Cut thin, protruding pieces first.* Especially in going around a large area, it works best to cut thin pieces such as blades of grass at the beginning to improve stability.

*Don't be shy about turning the wood.* Even though spiral blades are designed to cut in all directions to avoid turning the work, there may be times where the cutting will be more accurate if you stop, turn, and push the wood into the blade as you normally would with other types of blades.

With Barb's coaching, many of us tested those fine spiral blades on what Barb called "an easy piece" (though it looked pretty complicated to us). It was nice to make some sawdust, meet five new scrollers, and collect lots of good ideas.



## C L A S S I F I E D S

### For Sale -By Herm Finkbeiner

Because of some cancellations in our Lie-Nielsen tool order there are three items that do not have buyers. Before I return them to Lie-Nielsen they are being offered to NWA members.

The items are:

**Medium Shoulder Plane** \$148.75

**#7 1/2 Low Angle Jointer** \$250.75

**3/16" Bed Float** \$42.50

If you are interested in any of these tools contact Herm at 518- 371-9145 or e-mail: hfinkbei@nycap.rr.com

### Wanted to Buy

**Taunton Fine Furniture magazines.** Issues 1,3,6,7,8,9,10,12  
John Miller 356-3261

**Scrap wood.** "One man's scrap is another (wo)man's masterpiece"

A beginning woodworker 'wood' like to purchase material for practice, practice, practice pieces. Small is good for  
1. turning, 2. scrolling, 3. carving - jewelry, ornaments, inlay, pens, tops, puzzles, name plaques for toddlers,  
3-D- compound pieces

(I would like to make a chess set for my son), segmentation (eventually intarsia!)

Please contact Mariruth at cofgmb@omh.state.ny.us



# CHAPTER NEWS

## *Sacandaga Chapter News*

*- Gary Spencer*

The Sacandaga Chapter of the Northeastern Woodworkers Association last met on May 9th. Our featured speaker was John Olenik of Balston Spa. John has been a member of NWA for many years and has an excellent reputation in fine furniture making.

His topic for this meeting was "Design Features of Green & Green Style Furniture and How to Make Some of the More Unique Decorative Enhancements". This was a fine program about the design features of two historic Furniture makers presented by an excellent furniture maker in his own right. There was a very good attendance for this outstanding program and no one was disappointed. Thanks John for another stellar showing!

This evening was also our elections of officers for next year. Cliff Danke and Carl Siegel will be our co-presidents, Don Shanahan and Joe Artikuski will share Secretarial and Newsletter duties, Arnold Jaffee is Treasurer, and Mike Kratky and Gary Spencer will continue with NWA Representative and Liason activities.

This past meeting was our last program before our summer hiatus, but we do have an informal activity set for Saturday June 16th. We will have Shop Tours again to several of our members workshops. The tour will begin at 9:00 A.M. at the shop of Tom Ruliffson, 136 Birch Lane, Mayfield, NY then we will proceed to Paul Vingerhoet's shop at 108 Easterly St., Gloversville and finally to Kirk Hardenburgs shop at 4 Pleasant View Drive also in Gloversville.

Our regular monthly meetings are the second Wednesday of each month and begin at 7:00 P.M. at Mayfield High School woodshop. Our next regular meeting will be September 12, 2007. Come on out!

## *NWA Mid Hudson Chapter*

*- Wally Cook*

*Net: It's All About the Wood*

Collin Miller provided a follow-up discussion on the Catskill WoodNet. Last year, Collin was just starting the effort to connect wood purveyors and wood consumers within the Catskills (defined as Delaware, Schoharie, Sullivan, Green, and Ulster counties). Now well established, the Catskill WoodNet features sawmills and woodworker listings, a member network (with featured member section), and local outlets. The project is part of the Watershed Agricultural Council's Forestry Program.

The main point of Catskill WoodNet is to promote forest land conservation and thereby maintain the natural water filtration system. Collin's objective is to create a network of individuals who share a basis for sustaining the forest and its products in the Catskill Watershed.

Check out the website at [www.catskillwoodnet.org](http://www.catskillwoodnet.org).

## *Got to Keep On Movin'*

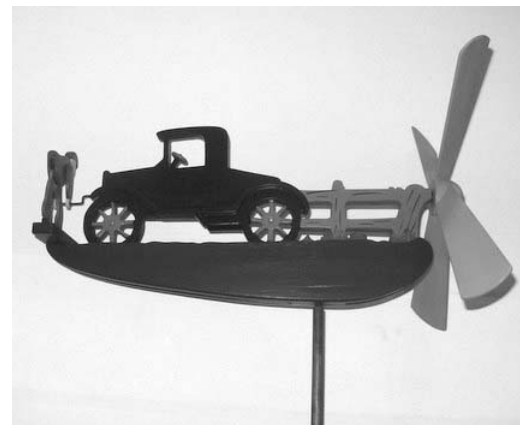
Ron Mower was the winner in the first annual kinetic sculpture challenge. The object was to create a wooden object that typified movement: rock, roll, spin, or leap (leap?). The Model T whirligig was a good example of Ron's fine attention to quality! Thanks as well to all the members who entered projects for this event. The entries will be donated to the Hurley Heritage Society for their silent auction on June 3.



*Collin Miller cranks up the pc to display the Catskill WoodNet web pages*



*Ron Mower provided the winning entry for the kinetic challenge*



*Ron's Model T whirligig*



## Questions to the Editor

All, I recently received a question from one of our members which triggered me to think that this may be an interesting way for us to learn from our veteran woodworkers. Let me know what you think. If you have a question, please forward them to me. If you would like to be one of the editor's resources, I'd love to add you to the roster.

Editor

### Question:

Hi Wally - I don't know who to send this question to, so I figured I'd start with you. A friend of mine has an unfinished desk made out of black walnut. I haven't seen it yet, but he says its medium grey in color.

The question is: What's the best finish to use on it? Thanks.

Howard R.

### Answers:

I would use a wiping varnish or gel varnish. These finishes are very easy to apply with rags; one to apply and a clean one to wipe off the excess. I have had good luck with soft paper towels. One downside is that each coat is very thin so the finish builds slowly. Each coat dries quickly so it should be possible to put on more than one coat a day.

With walnut, which has an open grain, the thinner wiping varnish can be used to fill the small pores. After applying one or two coats, put on the next coat of the varnish using a sheet of 600 grit wet/dry sandpaper. Rub it in with the grain and slurry will form which will fill the voids. Wipe off the excess and the wood surface will be very smooth.

As for the color of the wood it could be butternut as Ken suggests. Butternut is much softer than walnut. Also, the walnut that is purchased from the lumber yards has been steamed to make the sap wood look like heart wood. The steaming process tends to make the wood black or very dark grey. Much of the deep brown which will be seen on air dried walnut is lost. I really do not like the looks of the commercial walnut.

Charlie Goddard

On this one I don't know what to think. When the piece is described as grey in color it could be that either it is quite old and has surface bleached or it has lots of sapwood. At least I have never seen a clean fresh walnut surface that I would call grey in color except areas that definitely are sapwood. Perhaps the other guys have a different thought. As to a finish, walnut accepts almost any clear finish, I like wipe on polyurethane just because it is simple. It builds very slowly so patience is required.

Herm Finkbeiner

I have seen lots of hand made walnut furniture, but I do not recall any that turned "grey". Almost all the walnut furniture I have seen made was sprayed with nitrocellulose lacquer. Wonder if the gentleman refers to butternut --sometimes called "white walnut". This wood is somewhat on the grey side or at least not as deep brown as walnut.

Ken Evans

## Kaatskill Woodturners

### The Making of Fantasy City

- *Wally Cook*

Carl Ford III has been experimenting with the Michael Hosaluk grind detail gouge. His two-day class, Mastering the Detail Gouge, focuses on the various cuts that can be made with the Hosaluk grind.

Fantasy City is an exercise to practice beads, coves, and shearing with the detail gouge. As a consequence, each 'building' within the city is meant to feature various cutting problems.

Of course, with Carl's love of color, painting is an integral part of the class process. Fantasy City allows for a bright palette of colors and paint application while each piece is on the lathe. Mixing the paints is an important part of the process, working with over 40 samples of acrylic paints and glazes.

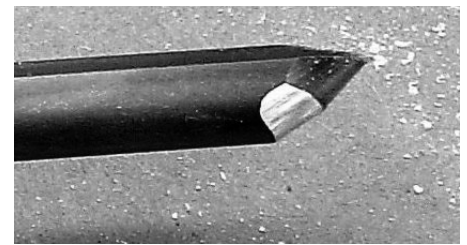
The finished product included spindle-turned cherry, mahogany, ash, and maple. Buildings placed in an ash base. Carl uses a template to plan the 'real estate' map, before placing the buildings on the base.

### Carl's Tips:

1. The Fantasy City shapes look best when less than 50% of the surface is painted.
2. Golden brand acrylics (GAC 200) are personally preferred for wood.
3. Avoid large areas of dark color - light, bright colors work best.
4. Use classic color combinations, such as found in school color combinations: red&yellow, green&gold, etc.
5. If brighter color is desired, first prime with white gesso.
6. Use dots, hashes, etc. to break up large areas of colors.
7. Create burn lines on the building while lathe is moving fast and paint in between the lines while the lathe is moving slowly (100-200 rpm).
8. The painted shapes can be finished with Watco Danish Oil without damaging the acrylic paint.



*Finished Fantasy City project*



*Double bevel Hosaluk-style grind*



*Application of paint in sections and between burn lines*

# Work Sharp Tool Purchase

- Gerry O'Brien

The follow are details associated with this order:

1. The prices on the order form are all-inclusive. There are no additional charges for shipping, handling, etc.
2. Estimated delivery date will be ~ 3 weeks after the order is received. So if I send in the order in mid to late June, delivery will be around mid-July.
3. They do not offer an option of C.O.D. The merchandise has to be paid for at the time of the order, which of course means I'll have to collect payment from you up front.

If you need a refresher on the machine and a listing of what is included in the kit, the Garrett Wade website has a good description and price comparison as well as a video of the tool in use. Go to: <http://www.garrettwade.com/shopping/product/detailmain.jsp?itemID=112349&itemType=PRODUCT&iMainCat=12000&iSubCat=12000&iProductID=112349>

So all that's left is for you to decide what you want, fill out your order form, make a check payable to me, Gerry O'Brien, for the total of your order ( make sure you add up the "your price" column)and then mail the order form and check to me at:

Gerry O'Brien  
557 Albany Shaker Road  
Loudonville, NY 12211

I will consolidate the orders and send it to the manufacturer along with full payment on **June 15, 2007**. Any orders I receive after that date will be returned to you. They are limiting me to a single order at these prices so



**WOODWORKING GROUP: SPECIAL ONE TIME OFFER!**

ITEM	MSRP	YOUR PRICE	ORDER QUANTITY	EXTENDED PRICE
WS3000	\$249.95	\$159.95		
Glass Wheel	\$29.95	\$19.95		
Slotted Wheel	\$29.95	\$19.95		
Leather Hone	\$39.95	\$29.95		
Coarse Abrasive Kit	\$19.95	\$14.95		
Fine Abrasive Kit	\$18.95	\$14.95		
Honing Abrasive Kit	\$19.95	\$14.95		
Slotted Abrasive Kit	\$19.95	\$14.95		
			<b>TOTAL: \$</b>	
<p>Deposit _____ Balance Due _____</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Email Address: _____</p> <p>Phone#: _____</p>				

there are no second chances. Mail your order early to avoid missing out on this special deal. When the merchandise arrives, I'll sort out the orders and contact you to arrange for pickup.

If you have any questions or lost your order form and need a replacement, drop me an e-mail: [go12211@yahoo.com](mailto:go12211@yahoo.com)

I go to nature to be soothed and healed, and to have my senses put in tune once more.

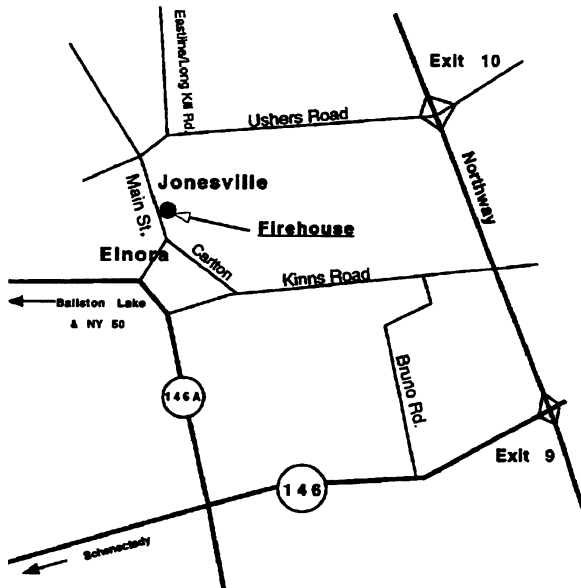
John Burroughs

Do not go where the path leads; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Northeastern Woodworkers Association  
P.O. Box 246  
Rexford, New York 12148-0246



**NWA Picnic, Sunday, July 22**  
**12 P.M. (Noon) to 5 P.M.**  
**Jonesville Fire Station No.1**

**GENERAL MEETINGS  
AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

June, 2007 - NO MEETING

July 22, 2007 - NWA Picnic  
Jonesville Fire Station

August, 2007 - NO MEETING

For meeting cancellation  
information,  
call Ken Evans 753-7759  
or Charlie Goddard 370-0388

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

**Adirondack Woodturners Association** - The AWA is active throughout the year. Meetings are every first Wednesday of the month (except in January and July when it is the second Wednesday), and are held at the Curtis Lumber conference room on Route 67, Ballston Spa. Beginners' sessions begin at 6 pm; the main program at 6:30 pm. Saturday "Learn and Turn" sessions are also scheduled. [www.adirondackwoodturners.org](http://www.adirondackwoodturners.org)  
Contact Ken Evans, 753-7759 or [Kevans1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:Kevans1@nycap.rr.com)

**Carver's Guild** - meets every Friday at the Clifton Park Senior Center from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Sessions are intended for every NWA member who is interested in carving, from beginners to those wanting to learn a new technique. No reservations are necessary, just show up! Contact Bill McCormack, 233-7260.

**Scroller's Guild** - Meets on the third Wednesday of the month at The School at Northeast, 1821 Hamburg St., Schenectady. A beginner's session starts at 6:30 PM followed by a general meeting at 7:00 PM. Contact: Donna Phillips, (518) 372-3337 or [dlphill@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dlphill@nycap.rr.com).

**Kaatskill Woodturners** - Meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Opdahl property in Hurley. Contact George Norton, (845) 331-1705.

#### **Jim's "Hole in the Woods Gang"**

Meets every Saturday, from 9:00 am until noon at Jim Kennedy's shop at 86 Guideboard Rd., in Halfmoon. (just 1 mile east of the Halfmoon Diner on Rt. 9). Our general purpose is public service work for various charitable organizations, including the Double H Hole in the Woods camp for children. We strive to foster a learning environment for our members through the projects we work on and the informal training/learning sessions given by and for our members. Sharing fellowship and relating experiences are a major part of our sessions, as we do accomplish many tasks during our times together as well.  
Contact Dick Flanders, (518) 393-5215 ([rflander@nycap.rr.com](mailto:rflander@nycap.rr.com)) or Darrell Welch, (518) 477-8431 ([ydwelch@taconic.net](mailto:ydwelch@taconic.net)) for more information.

### CHAPTERS

**NWA Mid-Hudson** -The chapter meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday, except July and August, at the Hurley Reformed Church. The Church is just off the the Hurley exit from Rte. 209. Right at the exit, right at the stop sign and left into the Church parking area. Contact Joe Kennedy, (845) 473-1598

**NWA Sacandaga** - The chapter meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at Mayfield High School in the woodworking shop. Park by the section of the building that protrudes further into the parking lot and enter the nearest of the (5) doors. Contact Gary Spencer, 863-6433.