



October, 2016

NEWSLETTER

The goal of the Maine Woodworkers Association is to bring all aspects of woodworking closer to its members and to educate everyone seeking knowledge from woodworkers in Maine. Meetings are times of friendship and learning, where everyone is welcome to share ideas, camaraderie, and of course, coffee.

Dear Members

Maine Woodworkers Association is at a crossroads. We have existed for approximately 30 years. Beginning in the 70's, woodworking in this country experienced a renaissance. There was a kind of thirst for knowledge of techniques and tools and the work of fellow woodworkers in other corners of the country. Information on woodworking has since become very much more easily accessible, especially with the advent of the internet. Sources and variety of tools have increased exponentially. Perhaps related to these many changes, it seems that having a club like ours is less of a draw. Younger woodworkers, especially, seem indifferent to joining. We have a membership of a little over 50 now, ten to fifteen of whom show up at meetings. Venues for meetings have been increasingly difficult to come up with without repeating past sites; several members have hosted repeat meetings.

In light of these issues, especially that of difficulty in finding new venues for meetings, the board has met twice and arrived at the following changes for future club meetings :

- The focus of future meetings will be social in nature.

Hosts are welcome to share images of their work, techniques, jigs, or anything relevant, but are not obligated to do so. They

will decide the structure of the meeting, but current expectations are only for social time.

- The club will reimburse hosts for the cost of refreshments, up to \$30.
- We will no longer have raffles.
- We still encourage members to bring “show and tell” items, photos of work, etc.
- Meeting times will be 6:30 to 8:30
- The traditional December “dessert” meeting with spouses will continue, as well as the June speaker meeting.
- No meetings will be scheduled for January and February.

The club is completely dependent on volunteers, so we encourage any ideas, willingness to host meetings, contacts who might be willing to present slides or other demonstrations, etc. If you would like to contribute in some way please contact Ned Merrick at 233-2128 (nedmerrick@gmail.com) or Erik Flanagan at 577-6095 (flanagan.erik@gmail.com).

Meeting Host Schedule

2016

October– Chris Becksvoort

November—Randy Blake

December – Fat Andy’s with Andy Walsh, Holiday Social, Pot Luck Dessert

2017

January and February – NO MEETINGS

March—Rich Schilling

April – Erik Flanagan

May – Rod Howell

June – Annual Guest Speaker – TBD- Pot Luck Dessert -

Jul – Alan Bradstreet

Aug – Michael Hetzel

September – Ned Merrick

Current Meeting Host

Wednesday, October 12, 6:30 pm, Chris Becksvoort, 186 Durham Rd, New Gloucester, ME

About

Our October meeting will be held at the shop of Chris Becksvoort, Wednesday October 12, at 6:30 pm. Chris will discuss the Herbie Project, New England's largest elm, taken down in 2010. Over 70 woodworkers made the wood into a variety of projects, which sold at an auction for the Yarmouth Tree Trust. Herbie was probably the most valuable tree ever cut in Maine. Frank Knight, the Yarmouth tree warden played a major role in keeping the tree alive over the last 50 years.

<http://www.yarmouthcommunityservices.org/herbie/>

Directions:

From Yarmouth head north on Main St., route 115. Continue straight on route 231. About 3 miles past Pineland, turn right onto the Woodman Rd. Follow signs to the shop.

From Portland follow route 1 to Yarmouth, (above), or follow route 100/26 through Gray. About 4 miles north of Gray, take a right on Gloucester Hill Rd. At the stop sign (route 231), go right down the hill. At the second RR track, take a left on to the Woodman Rd, and follow the signs to the shop. From Auburn go south on route 202/4/100. About 4 miles past the ME TPK entrance, go left on route 231 at the blinking yellow light. Through New Gloucester, down the hill and turn left at the second RR track onto the woodman Rd. Follow the signs to the shop.

Parking is limited to the side of the dirt road.

For Sale:

For sale: exotic wood.

Cocobolo, 3/4 x 5 1/2 x 74 \$70.

3/4 x 4 1/2 x 80 \$70.

3/4 x 5 x 86 \$75.

Bubinga 1/2 x 5 x 66 \$50.

3/4 x 4 x 39 \$30.

Zebrawood 2 pieces 1/2 x 13 x 96, \$80. each

1 x 11 x 96 \$120.

Contact Chris Becksvort 49woodtech@gmail.com

MWA BOARD

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