

Maine Woodworkers Association
P.O. Box 425
Cumberland, Maine 04021



October, 2007

Membership form for Maine Woodworkers Association

Name _____

Date _____

Address _____

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Town _____ State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____ E-

Mail _____

Member information (woodworking specialty, interests, web site, etc. Up to 125 characters, for inclusion in member roster:

There are 8 – 9 meetings per year in a wide variety of woodworking shops. Annual dues are \$20.00. Please send payment to Maine Woodworkers Association, P.O. Box 425, Cumberland, Maine 04021.

MAINE WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION OCTOBER 2007

NEWSLETTER



*Dark Seas Arising 4" x 2.2" D carved textured cherry, oxidized silver leaf
Jacques Vesery, 2005*

Programs for 2007-2008

October 10, 7:30 p.m., Jacques Vesery, demo at Fat Andy's, North Yarmouth, 829-3386

November 14, 7:30 p.m., Quarter Point Woodworks, CNC custom work, Robert Small,
Windham, 892-7022

December 12, 7:30 p.m., Fat Andy's new shop, with insurance discussion, North Yarmouth

January 9, 7:30 p.m., Katahdin Music Company, furniture for musicians, John Stass, Lewiston,
783-2969

February 13, 7:30 p.m., Craig Warren, archery bow maker, New Gloucester, 926-4133

March 12, 7:30 p.m., Kevin Rodel, Arts & Crafts furniture, Brunswick, 725-7252

April 9, 7:30 p.m., Rich Schilling, The Gentleman Cabinet Maker, Portland, 772-9908

May 14, 7:30 p.m., Bill Diffenderfer, furniture maker, Raymond, 655-8546

June 11, 7:30 p.m., Pot Luck Dessert, speaker and location open for suggestions.

(Almost) all programs begin at 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month

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 the great State of Maine. Meetings are times of friendship and learning, where everyone is welcome to share ideas, camaraderie, and of course, coffee.

OCTOBER MEETING

Wednesday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.

Jacques Vesery creates wood art pieces in his shop in Damariscotta. Striving to evoke the spirit of nature, his work is greatly influenced by the source of his medium, the living tree and the great circle which is life. After serving as a submariner in the Navy, he became a scrimshander in Hawaii and later, Cape Cod. He then served as a forest ranger and forest fire warden in northern New Jersey. A self taught artist, Jacques now works in wood, a more environmentally sustainable medium.

From a catalog of Jacques's work, his "richly carved vessels participate in the great decorative arts tradition of objets de vertu: confections of craft skill and rich material that have little point other than their fabulousness. Vesery's precursors are not necessarily to be found in the woodturning movement, but rather in the deluxe playthings of the wealthy: Faberge eggs, Meissen porcelain cups and the like. Though some of the materials are the most obvious touches of luxury, the small scale of his objects is the real key to their sense of preciousness."

Jacques will share his thoughts and techniques on his work through an image presentation that will include some collaborations with his peers. He will also give us a demonstration on some of the texturing and coloring techniques he uses to create illusion in his work.

Jacques's presentation will be at Fat Andy's Hardwood Co in North Yarmouth.

Directions: Fat Andy's is at #373 Walnut Hill Road (Main St./Rt. 115), 3.6 miles west of Yarmouth village, just before the intersection of Rt. 115 and Rt. 9. From the north or south take exits #17 or #15, respectively, off I-295 to Rte. 1 and the turn onto Rte 115. The telephone number is 829-3386.

September Meeting

The fifteen or so members of MWA who joined the audience last month at the Center for Furniture Craftmanship were greeted with frozen custard, and then sat down to enjoy a double show: self described "wood rounder" Alan Lacer who called himself the "warm-up act", then furniture maker Jere Osgood.

Alan's slides began with an image of his first lathe, a Craftsman he bought for \$3.95. He illustrated his evolution as a turner, beginning with understanding (with his second lathe, a better one) that he could turn circles, not ovals. During his twenty-five years as a turner and teacher Alan has learned how to work with live-edge material, to make deep forms worked only through a small opening, to make translucent, eggshell-thin forms, and to create odd, weirdly inviting shapes by encouraging natural distortion. He becomes "excited with bug holes" in material like wormy persimmon. Tame species for Alan are osage orange, spalted sycamore, ebony, or madrone burl.

Jere Osgood had been in architect school for three years before realizing he "disliked large forms" and preferred working with interiors instead. His earlier training was evident, though, as he discussed design and form, how furniture "influences space in a room", and his interest in having his shapes imply movement. He spends a lot of time with spokeshaves and rasps, tending to avoid joinery that is square or flat. Jere's slides illustrated work that ranged from jewelry chests to tables to his signature writing desks. Visit www.PritamEames.com, the website of the legendary Long Island gallery Pritam and Eames, to see more of his work.

Thank you Peter Korn for another evening at the Center for Furniture Craftmanship that was enjoyable while challenging our horizons.

Rod Regier

Miscellany

MWA members Alan Bradstreet, John Bryan, and Peter Turner were selected to participate in "Maine Wood 2008" at the Messler Gallery, Center for Furniture Craftmanship, Rockport. Work by Maine carvers, sculptors, turners, and furniture makers will be exhibited from November 29, 2007 through March 14, 2008.

Ian Smith has been burning the candle at both ends to be back in his shop by winter. With luck he hopes to cut his first board in early November. Many thanks to those that helped out following the fire.

Joyce Hanna forwarded this note from George Walker, Canton, Ohio:

I am a SAPFM (Society of American Period Furniture Makers) member and I'm writing to you in regards to a video series I am working on with Lie-Nielsen Toolworks. It covers traditional furniture design with a focus on the architectural roots that inspired American period furniture. The crux of the series explores traditional design theory and how that design language can be applied to the modern workshop regardless of style. Right now we are slated to begin filming in April 2008 up in Warren. I am trying to assemble some furniture to use on our set and wondered if you would be interested in allowing some of your work to be filmed? We are looking for good examples of period reproductions as well as some more modern furniture pieces that are inspired around classical proportions. The folks at L-N have been encouraging me to look for Maine connections if possible, so do you know of any other Mainers who might have an interest in this project?

George Walker
walkergeorge327@earthlink.net

E-mail newsletters. Are there members who would prefer to receive their newsletter via the internet? File size is typically 300KB. Photos

would retain their original color, rather than losing it in the B & W photocopying process. Contact Rod Regier (samrodff@aol.com) or Andy Walsh (awalsh@gwi.net) if you want to switch from printed to E-mailed newsletters.

MWA website www.mainewoodworkers.org. A sample site was launched a year ago. There are currently numerous place-holder pages and errata, but Executive Committee members hope to have the clean website finished by Halloween. This should create substantial member benefit, both for contact within the MWA as well as for communication with the larger world. The format will start as:

Home page – description, history

Calendar

Member listing for those who wish it – any combination of name, street and/or E-mail address, telephone number, link to web site.

Previous newsletters

Classified listings of items for sale by members

Possible photo gallery of members' work

Possible paid advertising

Possible hints and techniques

A more concrete description will be discussed when we meet in October. Contact anyone on the Executive Committee if you have comments.

MWA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	??????????
Vice president	Chris Becksvort 926-4608
Treasurer	Andy Walsh 829-3386
Editor	Rod Regier 865-6687

Members at Large

Fred Barstow	729-5809
Richard Blake	799-1473
Alan Bradstreet	688-4728
Bruce Brennan	837-1926
Richard Schilling	772-9908