



# WNYATCA



## WESTERN NEW YORK ANTIQUE TOOL COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Website: <http://wnyatca.org>

The next meeting of WNYATCA will be held **September 24, 2017** at the Quality Inn, Batavia, NY, just off the Thruway, Batavia exit.

**\*\* Tool trading opens at 9:30 am...No Charge for a Trade Table  
\*\*Meeting starts at 10:30 am**

(Early birds get there around 8:30.) Come early and enjoy the trading, talking, coffee and pastry.

### Meeting Dates for 2017:

(Please write these down)

- ❖ March 19, June 4, September 24, November 5
- ❖ Membership \$15.00/year payable at your 1<sup>st</sup> meeting
- ❖ Regular Meetings held in Batavia, NY 4 times/yr.
- ❖ \$5.00 Meeting donation to help with room rental

We value Members' input w/Programs and Newsletter.

### At September 24, 2017 WNYATCA Meeting:

- ✓ **Jim Altemus will be speaking on gunsmithing**
- ✓ **Check on the payment status of your 2017 membership**
- ✓ **Buy raffle ticket(s) to support the club**
- ✓ **Consider donating an item to the raffle**

### 2017-2019 Officers

President: Otto Dole 315-524-7108  
585-503-2230

Vice President: John Rogers 585-445-7443

Secretary: Keith McCormick 518-365-8399

Treasurer: Reid O'Connell 585-266-5286

### Meeting Contributors

Benefit Drawing: Tim Rhubart

What's It & Show Table: Dan Weinstock

Website: Joel Havens

**Western New York Antique Tool Collectors Association**  
**June 4, 2017 Minutes**

**Attention club members:** Please ensure your dues are up to date. If you are unable to pay your dues at a meeting, mail checks, made out to WNYATCA, to Reid O'Connell at his home address 146 Pinecrest Dr., Rochester, NY 14617.

**Welcome:** The June 4, 2017 meeting of WNYATCA convened at 10:39 AM at the Quality Inn in Batavia, NY. President Otto Dole presided. 29 members were in attendance; no guests were present. President Dole welcomed everyone to the second meeting of 2017. WNYATCA officers Vice President John Rogers, Treasurer Reid O'Connell and Secretary Keith McCormick were introduced to the members in attendance. President Dole reminded everyone that WNYATCA formally has the meeting room between the hours of 8:30AM and 2:30PM. Tool trading starts at 9:30AM, the official meeting starts at 10:30AM and the guest speakers conclude by 1:30PM. President Dole asked the members in attendance regarding their thoughts on one versus two guest speakers per meeting. The general consensus among members was that one speaker per meeting is adequate, Reid O'Connell and Terry Page confirmed. September 24th and November 5th are the remaining meeting dates in 2017. President Dole mentioned the loss of club members Jim Bovay (past President) and Max Rodgers (past speaker). \$50 donations were sent from the club to EAIA in honor of Jim and to Max's wife for contribution of her choice in memory of Max. President Dole thanked Reid O'Connell for sending the donations and Terry Page for personally delivering Jim's to a recent EAIA meeting. It was noted that an addition to the club bylaws is in order to address the loss of club members.

**Contributors:** President Dole thanked all meeting contributors. Secretary Keith McCormick for preparing the meeting minutes and sending the Newsletter mailings. Treasurer Reid O'Connell for preparing the Treasurer's report, maintaining club member information, logging member sign-in at meetings and interfacing with the hotel on behalf of the club. Vice President John Rogers for preparing the Vice President's report and coordinating the guest speaker series. Tim Rhubart for administering the benefits drawing and Dan Weinstock for leading the What's It and Show tables. President Dole thanked all members that bring tools for trading, donating items for the raffle drawing and bringing examples for the What's It and Show tables.

**Member's Tasks:** Club members were reminded of the various ways to support the club by paying the yearly membership fee (\$15) and meeting room use fee (\$5), reviewing membership spreadsheet at check-in time to ensure contact information is correct, bringing What's It and Show Table items to future meetings, buy raffle tickets, bring a potential new member to the meetings, reading the Secretary's report in advance and wear a name tag. All members were thanked for their dedication to the club.

**Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's report was sent prior to the meeting. No additions or corrections were made by meeting members in attendance and the report was accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report indicated a checking account bank balance on 2/28/17 of \$1558.56. Income since the last report was \$521. Expenses since the last report were \$466.88. The checking account bank balance was \$1,727.68 on 4/30/17 and the checking account checkbook balance was \$1,627.68 on 5/30/17. The checkbook balance is lower due to \$50 memorial checks sent during May 2017 in memory of Jim Bovay and Max Rodgers. Both balances include \$272.00 for the projector fund. The net gain since the last report was \$69.12. There are currently 77 members. The membership list dated 3/19/17 totals 78 reflecting passing of Jim Bovay, but not Max Rodgers. Max Rodgers passed away after the most recent list was prepared. Therefore, we have a decrease from 79 to 77 since the last meeting. 55/77 memberships (71%) are paid through 2016 or later (54/79 = 68% last mtg). 22/77 memberships (29%) expired 2015 or earlier (25/79 = 32% last mtg.) Identical to areas figures reported at the 3/19/17 meeting, our list carries one membership that expired 2011, two that expired 2012

and five in 2013. **We are shooting for \$450 to fund a club Computer Projector. We are 60% of the way there! Members are encouraged to keep our goal in mind. 2017 donations have decreased vs. 2016.** The Treasurer's Report is filed subject to review.

#### **Vice President's Report:**

- 1) Member name tags** – John Rogers confirmed we will keep using the sticky name tags during club meetings.
- 2) WNYATCA info cards** – A draft club info card was passed around the meeting for club members to review. John Rogers agreed to modify the draft card with updated information (meeting dates, meeting location and contact information) and submit it to Keith McCormick for distribution to club members for review. The purpose of the info card is for club members to distribute and gain new WNYATCA membership.
- 3) Speaker series** – John Rogers suggested all members email him recommendations for potential guest speakers and topics. He will generate a list of speakers and topics and report on the list during future club meetings.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- 1) What's It table items** – Two tools were left on the What's It table after the 3/19/17 meeting. The tools were returned to their owner during the 6/4/17 meeting.
- 2) WNYATCA website** – Need commitment from Joel Havens to lead website. A recommendation was made to modify the website search criteria to start off with "Antique Tool Collectors" first, instead of "WNY" so it comes up quicker in a web search.
- 3) WNYATCA info cards** – refer to Vice President's report, item #2
- 4) Library display** – Chris Tahk discussed the idea of a WNYATCA library display to gain exposure for the club. This remains a work in progress by Joel Havens.

#### **New Business:**

- 1) New York State Designer Blacksmiths meeting** – President Dole attended the New York State Designer Blacksmiths meeting that Leon Golder discussed during the 3/19/17 meeting. Professional blacksmiths Mike Hutter and Dave Hammer were demonstrating.
- 2) Glenn H. Curtiss Museum** – President Dole mentioned that a master craftsman tool chest is on display in the museum located in Hammondsport, NY. The chest belonged to Arthur Halpin of Poughkeepsie and Hyde Park, NY. In addition, there is a large cooper's plane on display. Several club members commented on the Glenn Curtiss's contributions to the aerospace industry and the Hammondsport community. It was also noted that Curtiss pioneered water plane takeoffs. A workshop at the museum has a nice display of old tools. In addition, the museum has a P-40 WWII fighter plane restoration project underway.
- 3) Website links** – Chris Tahk suggested the benefit of adding links to other websites on the WNYATCA site to activate interest.
- 4) Membership growth ideas** – John Rogers suggested contacting a local newspaper to write an article on the club as another idea to further the club membership. He is currently exploring this idea and will report on the outcome. Myrna Coleman suggested the use of Facebook as it is widely used. Other ideas shared by club members were to potentially have a joint meeting with another organization, such as the Rochester Woodworkers Society, based on common interests in tools. Distributing club info cards to cooperative shops and maker's spaces was another idea to gain potential new membership for the club.
- 5) MWTCA & EAIA applications** – Frank Kosmerl brought along membership applications for MWTCA and EAIA.

#### **Show Table items, presented by Dan Weinstock**

- 1) Nantucket basket** – handcrafted basket made of Indonesian rattan cane and New England white ash. Looks similar to a fisherman's creel. "B" stamped on the bottom of the basket.

#### **What's It table, presented by Dan Weinstock**

- Item #1** – hammer with curved claw or peen. Suggestions on the use or trade of this tool were a crating hammer or for railroad couplings.
- Item #2** – #5 Jack plane. Marked with two 1902 patent dates behind the frog. Has a Stanley old style Bedrock lever cap and Stanley Sweetheart iron from the late teens. The plane's frog has no Bedrock adjustments.

The interesting aspect of this plane is the nickel plating present on the side rails, lateral adjustment and cap iron. Mark Eastlick commented that Stanley made a limited number of nickel plated planes for hardware stores and they were very uncommon.

### **Benefits Drawing**

A sum of \$94 was raised for the raffle drawing consisting of five items.

At 11:58AM, the official business portion of the meeting was adjourned.

### **Speaker Series – Mark Eastlick, A Quick Look at Planemakers of Western Pennsylvania**

Mark Eastlick presented a chronological history of western Pennsylvania planemakers and brought along many fine plane examples for the club to enjoy. Mark described how the westward migration of early American settlers through Pittsburgh, the "Gateway to the West", created a need and market for tools in the region. Mark also explained how competition from larger factory planemakers (e.g. Chapin and McMaster) forced many of the regional planemakers out of business, attributing to the rarity of western PA planes. Mark's presentation handout is included below for reference.



**Examples from Mark Eastlick's western PA plane collection**



**Unique 3 wedge plane by J. Coates**



**6/4/2017 pre-meeting tool trading and discussion**



**Show Table Item – Nantucket basket**



**Mark Eastlick – Planemakers of Western Pennsylvania Presentation**

A Quick Look at  
Planemakers of Western Pennsylvania  
Mark Eastlick  
2017

Listed in Chronological Order

Ian Morrison - The earliest known plane maker dated about 1790 as a cabinet maker in Pittsburgh. Recent documentation shows earlier than AWP information. AWP rated 3 star rarity.

Walter Lithgow - 1800 - 1813 Worked in Pittsburgh and served as a militia Captain in the War of 1812. Became ill in early 1813 and died later in the year. Possible mentor to later area plane makers William Evens and William Scott. AWP rated 4 star rarity.

Michael Reager - 1800 - 1813 Meadville - Being a frontier town in Northwestern Pa., it was where Reager worked. Until recently none of his planes were thought to exist. Documents show different spellings of his name as was often the case at the time. AWP rating 5 star rarity

William Scott - 1802-1843 Pittsburgh - The most prolific plane maker of the region as well as possibly the most known documentation related to his life. Moved several times and worked in conjunction with other makers. Documentation shows that Scott engaged in a variety of enterprises to supplement his income. AWP rating of 2 stars for A mark, 3 stars for B mark and 5 stars for C mark.

M. Ellis - 1806-1807 - Referenced in an 1806 ad from the Pittsburgh Gazette. No marks known to exist.

John Boyd - 1808-1820 West Middleton - Various occupations in his working years. AWP rating of 4 stars.

David Arneel (O'Neil?) 1810-1831 Zelenople - Planes marked with as DARNEEL with a tiny heart between the D and A. Records indicate different spellings of his name. AWP rarity of 4 stars.

William Evens 1813 -1852 Pittsburgh - Born in England and worked with Lithgow and Scott. He bought Lithgow's property upon his death and went into business for himself. His mark also has a small heart between the W and E. He was also a "Professor of Music" which allowed him to circulate among the upper income citizens of the town. Suspected that he made few planes once his music enterprise developed. AWP rating of 2 stars.

John Barkley 1815 - 1816 Pittsburgh - From Baltimore where he returned in 1816. Pittsburgh AWP mark 3 stars.

Lindenberger 1817 Pittsburgh - One of the R.I. Lindenberger sons who ended up working in Ohio. AWP rarity of 5 stars.

Swetman and Hughes 1818 -1820 Pittsburgh - James Swetman and William Hughes, a short-lived partnership where they both later went to Cincinnati and Swetman left for Canada. AWP rarity of 4 stars.

David Long Circa 1820 Wheatfield, Pa. - Long was the brother of plane maker Mathias Long of Reading, Pa. AWP rating of 4 stars.

Thomas Clark 1820 - 1850 Pittsburgh - Clark was a runaway apprentice from Hartford CT. who found success in Pittsburgh. Most likely the second most prolific regional maker. AWP rating of 3 stars.

Jacob Angermyer 1823 - 1828 Zelenople - Early resident who may have moved to Ohio. AWP rating of 4 stars.

Harmony Society 1824 - 1852 Ambridge - German religious community produced planes for their own use. AWP rarity of 5 stars.

Bright and Chappell 1836 - 1839 Pittsburgh - A. Bright and James Chappell partnership. Planes exist with just Bright's name, just Chappell's name and both name's. AWP rating of 4 stars.

C.S. Irwin 1830? - 1840? Pittsburgh - Iron body plane based upon Knowles patent. Nothing is known about Irwin. There was a Irwin iron foundry but records show no person with those initials related to the business. Very rare plane, about 10 exist.

Allen B. Wallace circa 1840 - 1850 Pulaski - Listed as flume stock maker, master carpenter, plane maker, house builder. Several buildings of his still exist in Pulaski. AWP rating of 4 stars.

James Coates 1846 - 1859 Washington - Worked with Wm. Steele in Wheeling, Va. before setting up for himself. Some examples have unusual configurations. AWP rating of 3 or 4 stars.

William Wilson 1847- 1862 Pittsburgh - The last of Pittsburgh area plane makers. Used a small heart in his imprint and may have learned from Wm. Scott. AWP rating of 4 stars.

William Hopper 1855 Pittsburgh - Hopper patented a smoothing plane with an adjustable mouth. It is not known who manufactured his planes. AWP rating of 4 stars.

Nathaniel White circa 1870 - 1890 Meadville and Edinboro - House builder and furniture maker. Houses and furniture still exist in Edinboro area. Possibly resold some planes made by others. Plane exists with N.White Edinboro, Erie County. Family unsure of history. AWP rating of UR.

Marvin Wight 1870 - 1882 Corry - Made planes and shaves for pattern makers. Extremely rare with only two planes known to exist. AWP rating of 5stars.

Edwin Walker Tool Company 1885- 1890 Erie - Produced patented plow plane with sliding plates to match cutter profile. Also made surface and marking gauges and chisel sets.

Mark Eastlick  
2017