

# WESTERN NEW YORK ANTIQUE TOOL COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Website: www.wnyatca.org

The next meeting of WNYATCA will be held March 24, 2019 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 2019:

- ✓ March 24, June 23, September 22, November 3
- ✓ Membership \$20.00/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 March 24, 2019 WNYATCA Meeting:

- ✓ Fred Jordan of Livonia, NY will speak on bookbinding tools
- ✓ Check on the payment status of your membership
- ✓ Buy benefits drawing tickets to support the club
- ✓ Consider donating an item to the benefits drawing

### 2019-2020 Officers

President: Otto Dole 585-503-2230 Vice President: Leon Golder 607-962-4733 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: Keith McCormick

# Western New York Antique Tool Collectors Association November 4, 2018 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 November 4, 2018 meeting of WNYATCA convened at 10:31 AM at the Quality Inn in Batavia, NY. President Otto Dole presided. 35 members were in attendance. President Dole welcomed everyone to the 4th and final meeting of 2018. President Dole introduced new member Toby Dean, who has woodworking interest and collects bottles. For your planning, tool trading starts at 9:30; meeting begins at 10:30; meeting/program complete by 1:30; and room must be cleared by 2:30. 2019 WNYATCA meeting dates are March 24, June 23, September 22 and November 3.

**Contributors:** President Dole thanked all meeting contributors. Secretary Keith McCormick for preparing the meeting minutes, sending the Newsletter mailings and maintaining the club website. 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. Dave Iverson for administering the benefits drawing on behalf of Tim Rhubart 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 benefits 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 (\$20) 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 benefits drawing 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 the members in attendance and the report was accepted as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report indicated a checking account bank balance on 8/31/18 of \$1,587.33. Income since the last report was \$487. Expenses since the last report were \$368.30, which included a Quality Inn invoice for the 9/23/18 meeting for \$368.30. The checking account <u>bank</u> balance was \$1,587.33 on 9/30/18 and the checking account <u>checkbook</u> balance was \$1,706.03 on 10/27/18. Balance includes \$428 for the projector fund. The net gain since the last report was \$118.70. Difference between checkbook and bank balances are due to the \$487 deposit and the \$368.30 check to Quality Inn not reflected in the 9/30/18 statement.

There are currently 73 members, an increase of one since the last meeting. This reflects deletion of Eric Poysa of Ithaca, NY (the last two US Mailings have been returned) plus addition of new members John Deegan of Albion, NY and Tom Dickey of Ashland, MA. Tom is currently staying in West Seneca on a work assignment.

77% of members have paid dues through 2017 or later. 23% of memberships expired 2016 or earlier. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

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

1) Speaker Series – Martin Donnelly is speaking today, 11/4. No speaker in place yet for 3/24/19 meeting.

## **Unfinished Business:**

- **1)** Club computer projector & PA system Target is \$500 for projector. We can consider using the PA system from the hotel if economical.
- 2) WNYATCA website Keith will continue to work on site updates as necessary.
- **3) Library display** Joel Havens and Terry Page have replicated the Orchard Park display at today's meeting. The display features tool manufacturers local to Orchard Park.

#### **New Business:**

1) Officer Nomination Committee – Leon Golder will assume President in June 2019 and Otto Dole will continue as President for March 2019 meeting. Dan Weinstock will assume Vice President role. There were no Treasurer nominations from the floor. The Treasurer position will be referred back to the nominating committee and will be revisited at the March 2019 meeting. Keith McCormick will continue as Secretary.

#### Show table

- 1) A set of rules in a custom wood container, not a matched set. Shrinkage rules from Phelps, NY or possibly tailor's rules for garments or pattern layout. All rules were graduated differently.
- 2) A brace made of beech, ebony and stuffed with boxwood. A Marples Ultimatum brace.
- **3)** An alligator and adjustable wrench from Sweeden. Vanadium steel and marked Bahco Stockholm. The company made wrenches for Volvo. Purchased Record Tool Company and was later sold to the Chinese.
- **4)** A handmade model, brace and marking gauge. Corfu land office and Holland land office donation pieces.

#### What's It table

Item #1 – Hammer saw set for large crosscut saw, marked Fishers, NY

**Item #2** – Tool with block that lifts. Iron slug for heating in fire place. Used for flattening something out with heat? A production piece with stenciling on it.

Post-meeting Item #2 update courtesy of Frank Kosmerl, Doug Magin and Annita Breitweiser:



#### https://www.antiqbuyer.com/All\_Archives/IRONS\_ARCHIVE/Great\_arch.htm

Rare Plaiting / Pleating Machine / Iron Rare, rare, rare---this is the earliest and most unusual mechanical plaiter I've ever offered. In fact I've never seen another example of this one in any of the many, many iron collections I've viewed. I don't believe there are any others known.

Plaiters fit well into pressing iron and fluting iron collections. Quoting Mark Durham in his book More American Fluting Iron Patents from the 19th and 20th Centuries, plaiters "are used to impart a sharp-edge fold, or plait (pleat) in fabric." Compare this with fluters, which "impart a series of rounded grooves or waves in cloth or a sharp, shallow crimp." Durham explains that there are two categories of plaiters: 1) plaiting boards that rely on manual setting of the plaits and then pressing by a sad iron, and 2) machine (or mechanical) plaiters.

This mechanical plaiter has a complex and elegant design, with two stepped sawtooth arms that slide back and forth underneath to adjust both the size and spacing of the folds. Each of these sawtooth / stepped arms can be adjusted independently of the other to create just the right plait or pleat.

This plaiter is unmarked as to manufacturer or inventor. The patent that most closely resembles it is the June 19, 1877 patent # 192,216 by Barrow & Solter, which can be viewed using Google Patents, although the unique adjustment mechanism is not mentioned. A later improvement?

The overall condition is very nice. There are some losses to the paint decoration but much of it still remains bright and colorful. The entire machine was nickel plated and parts are very nice but again there have been some losses. The mechanical mechanism operates properly and smoothly. The adjusting bars operate properly. This rare plaiter didn't come out of an iron or any other collection, it's fresh from a New England barn found by a picker who primarily dealt in large artifacts. Highly recommended!!

**Item #3** – A leaf spring attached to hardwood. Contains the words Patent Applied For. Brass tip. Paper clip for store receipts?

Item #4 - Tongs, spring loaded, hammered ornamentally along edges. Ember tongs for lighting a pipe?

Item #5 – Bell, rose gold colored alloy. Casting # present. A trolley car or cable car bell?

Item #6 – Small Starrett stainless steel micrometer. Can seam micrometer for tin cans?

**Item #7** – Aluminum spanner. 2,600x patent number, 1940's-1950's. For cables? For opening a large water valve? Marked Bergman Safety Spanner 101.

Item #8 – Steel blade, sharpened with scraper action. Folded metal over top that resembles a bow adze.

Item #9 - Rough cast iron piece with steel dowel. Handle present. No ideas?

#### **Benefits Drawing**

A sum of \$157 was raised for the benefits drawing.

At 11:35AM, the official business portion of the meeting was adjourned.

#### **Speaker Series**

Martin J. Donnelly

Avoca, NY auction scheduled for July 18, 19 & 20, 2019

In reference to the Show Table rules, Martin opened up with a document titled, "Cutting a Fashionable Fit" by Claudia B. Kidwell. The document illustrates the complexity of tailors specialty rules for parts, pleats, etc. and mechanical devices for tailors. Martin demonstrated a database of tool makers compiled from the internet. L. Ward was a rulemaker in NJ and NY as discussed in the Show Table session.

Martin described the rich history of western NY and its development after the American Revolution. A 1720's era map of NY state was shown, illustrating how the state was controlled primarily by Iroquois Indians. A second map showed how western NY was undeveloped. Revolutionary war soldiers were promised 100 acres of land as a form of compensation, called the Military Tract of Central New York. Further, in 1788-1789, the Phelps and Gorham Purchase was the purchase of 6M acres of land that is now currently western NY from Massachusetts for the price of \$1M. Robert Morris of Philadelphia, a financier of the American Revolution, purchased some of the land that had not been re-sold. The Morris Reserve was the Genessee Valley area. The Treaty of Big Tree signed away the Seneca Nation's rights to all their territory west of the Genesee River. The Holland Land Company, a group of Dutch investors, ultimately purchased the western two-thirds of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase known as the Holland Purchase.

Martin went on to present a graphical illustration of how western NY developed using planemakers, gunsmiths and edge tool makers as examples combined with Google maps. Using a database of manufacturer's names, working dates, town and zip code, Martin created a timeline overlay onto a Google map of NYS. With the use of computer modeling and adding successive dates, the transportation-related development of NYS became clear along the Erie Canal and major railroads. Maps with marker locations of wooden planemakers, gunsmiths and edge tool manufacturers were developed, successively adding them to the map decade by decade. The take home message presented by Martin was transportation modality – more manufacturers markers popped onto the map with time along major transportation routes and settlements.

Thanks to Martin for presenting an innovative way of learning the historical development of Western NY!



Library display – Orchard Park, NY manufacturers – Joel Havens and Terry Page



What's It Table items