

The primary mission and purpose of Vermont WoodNet is to address the needs of the Vermont woodworking community and all those in it, professional, amateur and academic, WoodNet members and non-WoodNet members, by maintaining a network of communications, creating and sponsoring educational programs, workshops and symposiums, providing FSC certification assistance, and generally expanding opportunities and effectiveness for all those involved in the creation of “Vermont Made” products, the sustainability of forest resources, and the maintenance of a healthy environment.

Story of the Last State House Elm Tree

The story of the last State House Elm Tree begins in the 1850s. The State House was built and a number of Elm Trees were planted as part of the landscaping. The story is not done yet!

After a long life of 146 years the final Elm Tree on the State House lawn was cut down in 2001. Over the next two years the wood was milled, dried, stored and thought about by lots of people. A committee met for many hours and developed a design for two tables to be presented to the State of Vermont for the Governor’s Conference Room. Twenty-six woodworkers from across the state contributed their expertise in turning the wood into 2 magnificent tables and a podium. From the time they were delivered to the Governor’s office they have been used for every press conference and meeting held there. Though the project was authorized by then Governor Howard Dean it was completed and delivered at the start of the first term of Governor Jim Douglas. (continued on page 2)

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Vermont WoodNet Quarterly Meeting January 13, 2011 at North End Hardwoods

The WoodNet Quarterly Meeting on January 13, 2010 is going to be awesome! The topic is “Everything you always wanted to know (or share) about wood. We have an amazing list of presenters lined up to talk about all aspects of wood, from the tree to the end product. Each will give a 10 minute presentation followed by a lively question/answer/sharing time. The sharing time is for you, our WoodNet members and guests, to share your thoughts on your favorite native wood to turn, most hated wood to work with, finishes you love, or whatever.

Our panel members/speakers and their topics are:

Bob DeGeus - Vermont Forests and Parks, Vermont Forests

Marshall Webb - Shelburne Farms, Land use/management

Gerald Bouchard - Charlotte, wood from the sawyer’s view

Dale Bergdahl - Solar Drying

Sutherland Welles - Mary - Tung Oil Finishes

Adam Tanych - North End Hardwoods, native/regional wood for sale

Bruce Beeken/Jeff Parsons - Beeken Parsons, Inc., using native and non-FSC wood in furniture building

This is going to be a great Quarterly meeting. Plan on being there and bring a friend!

Calendar Dates

Jan 13, 2011	WoodNet Quarterly Meeting at NorthEnd Hardwoods
Dec 31, 2010	VWMA Membership Dues due
Jan 28, 2011	VWMA Quarterly Meeting, Pittsfield
Sept, 2011	Second Annual Wood Symposium at Shelburne Farms

**WoodNet Quarterly Meeting
January 13, 2010 at 7:00 PM**

**NorthEnd Hardwoods
31 Adam Drive
Williston, Vermont**

**NorthEnd Hardwoods is located
on Adams Drive which is just off
Williston Road.**

(State House Elm - continued from page 1)

Two slabs from the butt log were cut and preserved for studying and dating of the tree.

Eight years later a new chapter in the story of the Elm has been added. A small table top had been built to test a technique being considered for refinishing the table tops and was now scrap wood. Russ Fellows of Skunk Hollow Studio used his considerable skill to turn it into an exquisite segmented bowl. On December 15, 2010 that bowl was presented to outgoing Governor Jim Douglas and will be used either in the Conference Room or the Governor's Office.

The story is not done yet! There was a lot of wood in that old Elm Tree. The lumber from it that was not used for the tables, podium and bowl has been stored in a state owned building in Brandon since 2002. Perhaps it could be used in the creation of 14 chairs to replace the current 14 chairs that ring the two conference room tables (they are really in need of replacement). Perhaps one woodworker from each of the 14 counties of Vermont could work on their "county chair"!

Jewelwood of Vermont

Cindy Weed is owner/operator of *Jewelwood of Vermont*, a small wooden jewelry business in Enosburg Falls. Weed began her woodworking career in the early seventies making softwood toys for children at the Montgomery Schoolhouse, Inc. After decades of creating a variety of wooden craft projects and helping her husband in his wooden sash windows and door business, she started making wooden jewelry full time in 1987.



Weed strives to bring the inherent natural beauty of native and exotic hardwoods alive in each piece she fabricates. She designs all of her own pieces and enjoys using recycled woods such as woodworkers' cast offs and pieces too small for their projects. She accents her creations with semi-precious stones, sterling silver, copper, brass and gold-filled embellishments. Her one of a kind work, including earrings, barrettes, pins, necklaces, and an assortment of men's bolo ties, tie clip and tacks, sells nationwide at fine gift shops and galleries. Weed also sells her work at area craft shows. In 1992 Weed's work was featured in Fine Woodworking's Design Book #6.



Weed is also journalist; photographer; grant writer; musician and songwriter; gardener; and the wife and mother of three adult children. Weed's son, Ben Weed, has operated Weed Sash and Door in the same location as his mother for seven years.



Planning Meeting



Model of table and podium



The Logs



Leveling the slabs



Finished slab



Cutting the logs



Transporting the Lumber



Delivery



Just fit in the elevator



Tables in Conference Room



Seal on Podium



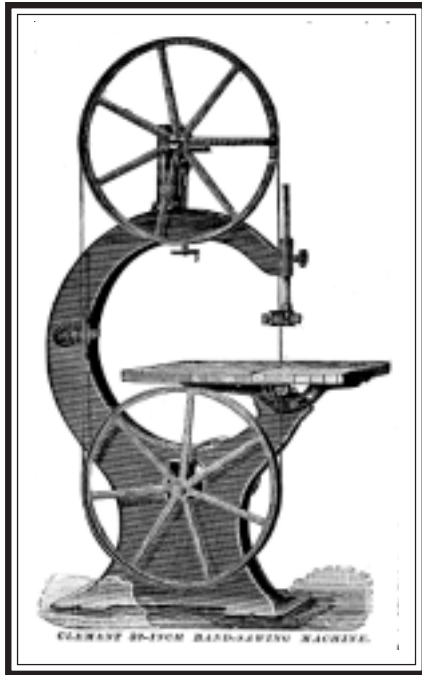
Plaque



Ben's Mill – History of the Band Saw

The band saw that sits on the main floor of Ben's Mill was made by The F.H. Clement Co., Rochester, N.Y. around 1883.

The band saw's predecessor was the up and down saw. The band saw was invented in 1808 in England by William Newbury. It was not, however, considered practical. There were problems with the blades. At that time saw blades were still fairly primitive. By mid-century two advances in saw blade technology



lead to practical band saw blades. Mlle. Crepin, in France, developed a method for brazing the saw blade ends to produce the circular saw blade required for a band saw. Simultaneously steel makers developed a technique for rolling spring steel. Voila, now good blades for the band saw were available.

By the 1860's the band saw became a practical, efficient, and time-saving machine. They were primarily made in large sizes for industrial use, but as the turn of the century approached smaller, less expensive models were being developed for small shops. According to an article in the August, 1879 from The Manufacturer and Builder magazine the band saw was three times as efficient as the "to and fro moving scroll saw."

The F.H. Clement Co. opened their doors for business in 1879. The company made a variety of woodworking machines but specialized in band saws. The company was committed to providing an excellent machine at less expense. The 32-inch model in the engraving above was particularly popular. The same article mentioned above describes their band saws. "The machines here represented (in the engraving above) are unlike anything now in the market; the material is distributed according

to the best principles of construction, and they are designed with special regard to strength, durability, simplicity, and accurate workmanship."

An ad in the May 1889 issue of The Wood Worker states "Patent improved wood-working machinery. Shops fitted throughout the very best manner. For carpenters, cabinetmakers, chair makers, carriage and wagon builders, jobbers, etc., First class work only. F.H. Clement, 124 Mill St., Rochester, N.Y."

In 1897 the American Wood Working Machine Co. was formed by the merger of F.H. Clement and 11 other companies.

Ben's Mill is in Barnet, Vt and is open on weekends from Memorial Day to Columbus Day. Details can be found on the Ben's Mill website: www.bensmill.com.

VWMA has a great opportunity for members!

Learn the latest software tools and techniques with www.Lynda.com

Lynda.com is a web site with access to over 900 online training courses. Whether you're into digital photography, web design and development, motion graphics, or just need to brush up on Excel, you can learn all the software skills you need to gain a competitive edge with our online tutorials. Master software from Adobe, Apple, Microsoft & more. Watch any video, any time. Play, pause & rewind.

The Vermont Wood Manufacturers Association has purchased one year's use of ten licenses for their members to use. We will give every member a Lynda.com username and password. You sign up with us by sending in the signup form to reserve one of ten available license slots for up to ten days at a time. During your allotted time, you can sign in and use the all the training time you can, even share with your staff. After your ten days the license slot is assigned to another member. You may put yourself back on the list for another slot. Lynda.com remembers your personal profile and where you left off.

Saving Herbie

The State of Maine has its own Elm Tree Story. A huge American Elm in Portland finally lost a long battle with Dutch Elm Disease and was cut down in 2010 after 217 years. You can read the story titled “New Life for a 217-year-old American Elm” by Scott Gibson that was published in the November issue of Northern Woodlands Magazine online at: <http://northernwoodlands.org/articles/article/saving-herbie-new-life-for-a-217-year-old-american-elm/>

11 Qualities of a Perfect Small Business

By Craig Wallin

If you plan to start a small business, what qualities should the business have that make it more likely to be successful, profitable and make you happy to go to work each day? Here are eleven that have been proven to work by thousands of successful small business owners.

1. The business can be home based. Operating a small business out of your home can be a real time and money saver. Without a commute, vehicle operating costs are reduced and commuting time is less than a minute to your home office or shop. In addition, there is no store, office or shop rent to pay, along with the extra cost of utilities and maintenance. Start up costs are reduced by working out of your home as well, allowing you to conserve funds for other business expenses.

2. The business is about something you enjoy . Almost all successful business owners love what they do. As Groucho Marx once said, “Find something you love to do so much, you’ll do it for nothing. Then do it so well, people will pay you to do it.” Folks who love dogs often start a pet related business, like pet sitting. Book lovers could start an online used book business. The old adage “Do what you love and the money will follow” really is true, so take a serious look at any new business idea to make sure it is work you will enjoy. If you do, you’re almost sure to succeed, both in profits and personal satisfaction.

3. The business is different than the competition . What can you do to set your business apart from your other similar businesses in your area or field? Can you offer more choices that make your customers choose you? A

flower grower, for example, can offer larger cut flower bouquets. An errand or courier service can offer extended hours. A window cleaner can include screen cleaning at no extra charge, or add-on services such as gutter cleaning or screen repair, that the competition does not.

4. The business does not require a lot of inventory. You don’t need to be an Einstein to understand this equation : $INVENTORY = OVERHEAD = EXPENSE$. Find a business model that does not require a lot of inventory, or find ways to reduce inventory costs. An example of that could be setting up a drop-ship arrangement with suppliers to keep your inventory to a minimum. Another could be providing information products as CDs or E-books rather than as traditional printed and bound books.

5. The business is based on human needs rather than wants . If your small business fits this description, you will have a much more stable, recession proof business. Do you supply a product or service (food products or grocery shopping errands for home-bound seniors, for example) that is more necessity than choice? If you ignore this quality, and provide , for example, hand-made jewelry or other “discretionary” products and services, you may find yourself a victim of any economic downturn in the future.

6. The business has multiple customers, not just a few . Whatever your choice of business products or services, aim for a broad customer base instead of just one or a few. That will protect you in case your largest customer dumps you unexpectedly. A friend whose specialty was writing grant proposals for a large school district lost two thirds of his income when they turned to another provider. Lesson learned: Many customers mean you are in charge, not the customer!

7. The business has several income streams, not just one. Your local car dealer is a good example, as they get a big chunk of their income from service and repair work, as well as car sales. A window cleaning service can offer additional related services. Property inspectors might diversify into property preservation and maintenance. Errand runners can offer personal shopping and pet sitters can offer house sitting or dog walking services. Your imagination is the only limit here.

8. Customers pay for the products or services immediately. There is nothing quite like approaching the end of the month with business bills to pay and nothing but a stack of accounts receivable to offset them! Find a small business that offers immediate cash. Service businesses are especially good - examples include window cleaning service, yard maintenance service, pet sitting, handyman service, etc.

If you sell a product, try to structure the business in such a way that you get paid when you deliver the product. Selling on Ebay, or at a Saturday market are good examples of this. A friend who sells potted herbs at the Farmer's market takes only cash. Her herbs cost \$6 or so, and a \$2,000 cash-in-hand Saturday is commonplace. Her biggest complaint: Those customers who spend \$6 and hand her a \$100 dollar bill in payment.

9. The business has low start-up costs. Most of us don't qualify for a government grant or have a rich uncle. That's why it is important to make sure that any small business opportunity has affordable startup costs. Don't make the mistake of signing up for an expensive franchise and shackle yourself with high monthly payments you may have trouble repaying while you're growing the business.

10. The business earns repeat income . Can your small business supply you with regular repeat income? Many businesses sell a product or service that the customer only needs once, like a sauna or roofing. After the sale, it's off to find the next customer. That can get expensive. A better business model focuses on repeat customers so the marketing costs are low. Examples include repeat services such as a window washing business or pet sitting, or consumable products such as vitamins that customers buy again and again.

11. The business does not depend too much on employees . Finding good employees and keeping them happy and productive is one of the biggest challenges facing small business owners. Instead, think about keeping your business small enough that you can handle it all yourself. The time you won't have to devote to managerial and administrative overhead will be yours to do with as you please, so enjoy those extra hours doing something you love.

A small business does not need to have all the listed qualities to succeed. The more desirable qualities a small business has, the more likely it is to be a satisfying, profitable and long-lasting business for you. In the book " The Millionaire Next Door", the authors point out that many of the millionaires they interviewed owned a small business that had many of these qualities. Add the ability to live "below your income" so you can save and invest the difference, and you too could be on your way to your first million.

About the Author: Craig Wallin is the author of over ten books about home-based businesses, and the editor of Extra Income Bulletin, a resource about honest, home-based businesses you can start on a shoestring. To learn more about starting the perfect small business for you, go to: <http://extraincomebulletin.com>

Classified Section

For Sale, Services, Wanted

Nova3000 woodturning lathe for sale

Lightly used. Excellent condition. 1.5 HP, 110V, 16" swing, 24" between centers, comes with: tool rest, spur center, live center for tailstock, handwheel, spindle adapter 1 1/8" to 8 tpi 1", knockout bar and owners manual. \$900 Contact Ted Fink tjfturnings@gmail.com 985-2923.



Wood and Equipment For Sale

4" Craftsman jointer complete with stand and motor.

Approximately 500 bdft of 1" x various widths x 8' native white cedar stacked and stickered in a greenhouse. Has been air drying for over a year. \$1.40/bdft.

Approximately 2000 bdft 1" x 4" to 12+" x 8' maple. Has been air drying for over 5 years. This material probably has some sticker stain. Ideal for projects where small pieces are required. \$1.15/bdft.

Approximately 1200 bdft of 1" and 2" ash. Sawed 2 months ago and stacked and stickered in a greenhouse. \$1.85/bdft.

3000 to 4000 bdft of 1-1/8" maple Various widths and 8 to 16 foot lengths. Has been air drying for 4+ years. \$2.00/bdft.

2 hickory logs, 1 ash log, and 1 cherry log. I can saw them to your specifications.

Some 1" black birch recently sawed.

Some basswood pieces. I have a tree's worth.

Some native white cedar that was sawed 3/4" thick for bird houses.

A few pieces of juniper sawed 5/8" thick

A few pieces of black oak sawed 3/4" thick

Some quarter sawn (1-1/4" thick) curly maple

Misc. other woods.

Wood-Mizer DH4000 Dehumidification Kiln Kit. Asking \$3500.00.

Contact Gerald Bouchard
Charlotte, 802-425-6291

For Sale

Vintage 16" Walker Turner bandsaw. I bought a bigger one and just don't have space to keep both. I used this saw for over twenty years. The tires, guides, and motor are all good. It is wired for 220, but could be switched back to 110. It is ready to go. \$600. Call Russ Fellows for more information. 899-3059



For Sale

Ulmia mitre box. It is not an antique, probably from the 70's? I got it in a package deal and have never used it. \$100. Call Russ Fellows for more information. 899-3059

**Services**

Saw milling services. Log dimensions limited to 36" in diameter and 20'-6" in length. With the extension bed (no longer portable) can saw up to 26'-6". Yes I will saw as few as one log, however I would prefer that you bring the logs to me when there are only a few. 425-6291.

Planing services. Lumber dimensions limited to 18" wide and 6" thick.

Contact Gerald Bouchard
Charlotte, 802-425-6291

Save the dates

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- Dec 31, 2010 VWMA Membership Dues due
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- Sept, 2011 Second Annual Wood Symposium at Shelburne Farms

Vermont WoodNet Board Members

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 David Spooner, 229-4800, dspooner@pshift.com

Wanted: items for Classified Section

Have you got items to sell or services others might not know about? Do you need something? Send your stuff to Barry at batcabins@aol.com and he will get them into the newsletter.