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The President’s Page

Membership Counts

By Paul Van Pernis, President EAIA

Growing and maintaining membership— it’s the elephant standing not so quietly in the corner of every board meeting of civic organizations, historical societies, collectors clubs, and organizations like EAIA throughout the country. EAIA has experienced a steady decline in its membership over the past ten years. It would be convenient to blame the decline on a “graying” of the population or a “lack of interest” from “younger people” (i.e. anyone younger than you or me) in early American industries, but that’s not the case. Interest in traditional crafts, skills and early American industries remains high, but younger people communicate, network, and learn in ways that weren’t available when many of us joined EAIA. Social media sites offer a venue for information, networking, and knowledge sharing among like-minded people that used to be only available through print media and association meetings. These sites allow individuals to interact and engage with each other on their own time, anytime, and with almost anyone in the world. Despite all of that, there’s still strong demand for quality print publications and quality face to face meetings.

The EAIA Board of Directors has been watching this “elephant” for many years and has instituted programs to face this pachyderm and send him packing. The EAIA Website Committee is working hard to continually update, improve and utilize the EAIA website to reach out to those with interests in early American industries and crafts. Please take the time to visit the EAIA website and watch the progress. The Board has also committed to a revitalized and active membership growth and retention program. Pam Howard chairs that committee, and the Board members are providing her with the financial and personal support to help her committee succeed. But, we need your help. Each of us needs to be a membership recruiter! The best way to increase membership is for each of us to have a one on one conversation about the value of membership in EAIA. Membership dues remain our major source of revenue. So, here’s how you can help:

1. Recruit a member. If half of us recruited a single member, our membership would immediately increase by 50 percent.

2. Give a gift membership this coming holiday season to a friend, family member, child, or grandchild.

3. Your alma mater, local historical society, museum, library, or technical school would welcome an EAIA membership. You might also contact the members of these groups. Membership Chair Pam Howard contacted the John C. Campbell Folk School in her hometown and brought in quite a few new members.

4. Help your doctor, dentist, podiatrist, or other health care provider update those boring outdated publications in their waiting rooms with a gift membership that will bring them The Chronicle on a regular basis.

5. Mention EAIA on your e-Bay site or web page. Put some membership brochures and copies of The Chronicle on your trade table at tool shows, flea markets, or wherever you sell or trade tools.

If you want membership brochures or back issues of The Chronicle, call or e-mail John Verrill at 410-749-1965, or executivedirector@earlyamericanindustries.org.

Thank you for your help!
From the Executive Director

Harvest Time

By John Verrill, Executive Director

The corn and soybean fields that surround the building in which my office is located have changed since I last wrote a Shavings message. Today as I look out the window, I see a combine moving slowly across the corn field raising a cloud of dust and debris. Soon it will disgorge its load of golden kernels into a waiting farm truck for delivery to the grain elevator. The bean fields have turned a golden yellow and will be harvested next month after most of the leaves have dropped. The same combine that harvested the corn will again move across the field spitting out leaves, stems, and pods. The technology that makes all this possible has its roots in the American Industrial Revolution. Would Cyrus McCormick, James Watt, Eli Whitney, Jethro Tull, John Deere, or Joseph Dart recognize today’s methods of planting, growing and harvesting crops? I doubt that they foresaw such innovations, but each of them was responsible for creating the tools that make modern agriculture possible. Oliver Evans’s designs for handling the milling of wheat and corn laid the foundation for the mills that will process the crops harvested today. Turning corn and soybeans into flour, feed and the thousands of other useful household and industrial products is quite efficient because of early innovators like Evans.

The innovators, inventors, and inventions that make our modern society possible hold great interest to me and to you, our members. The Chronicle tells the stories of the processes, the machines, the tools, and the people that came before us and laid the groundwork for modern life, agriculture, and industry. The EAIA founding statement (which evolved into our current mission statement) was “to study of and better understand of early American industry. The EAIA founding statement (which evolved into our current mission statement) was “to study of and better understand of early American industries in the home, in the shop, on the farm, and on the sea also to discover, identify, classify, preserve, and exhibit obsolete tools, implements, and mechanical devices that were used in early America.”

With this in mind, I would like to issue a challenge! Our membership has diminished in the last ten years, and we want to reverse the trend. There are a number of reasons for this decline including an aging membership base, changing interests, and perhaps, a lack of persistence in promoting and marketing EAIA. We know you are interested in EAIA because you are reading this column; we would like to enlist your help in discovering and signing up new members. Tell a friend about our organization, share a copy of The Chronicle, take your children or grandchildren to a museum or into your shop and show them how interesting tools and technology can be, or initiate a discussion of the innovators that created our industrial revolution. There are so many interesting people to discuss—Cesar Chelor, Oliver Evans, Samuel Slater, E.I. DuPont, Thomas Livezey to name just a few whose names and accomplishments have graced the pages of The Chronicle.

If you need additional copies of The Chronicle to share with a local museum, trade school, friend, family member, or library, I’ll gladly send them to you—just call or e-mail me.

Thank you for being a member of the Early American Industries Association and helping to share our message and interests with others! With your help, we can harvest a bumper crop of new members together.

Shavings

Number 230 Fall 2013

Patty MacLeish, Editor

The Early American Industries Association preserves and presents historic trades, crafts, and tools and interprets their impact on our lives. Membership in the EAIA is open to any person or organization sharing its interests and purposes.

For information or to join, visit www.EarlyAmericanIndustries.org or contact Executive Director John Verrill, P.O. Box 524, Hebron, MD 21830 or e-mail him at executivedirector@EarlyAmericanIndustries.org.

Shavings, the newsletter of the Early American Industries Association, Inc., is published quarterly: February, April, July, and November. An electronic version is available to all members who have provided the EAIA with an e-mail address. To opt-out of receiving the print version of Shavings e-mail executivedirector@EarlyAmericanIndustries.org. The current and past issues (beginning with issue 204) of Shavings is available at www.EarlyAmericanIndustries.org. © 2013 EAIA.

Editor: Patty MacLeish, 31 Walnut St., Newport, RI 02840; 401-846-7542; pmacleish@verizon.net [Include “Shavings” in subject line.]

The deadline for the next issue (no. 231 Winter 2014) is January 8, 2014.

Opt-out of paper Shavings. To only receive the e-version of Shavings, send an e-mail to executivedirector@EarlyAmericanIndustries.org. Include your name and address in the e-mail.

Submissions. EAIA’s Shavings is a member-driven newsletter. Contributions are always welcome and needed. Please observe the deadlines.

Reporting an Address Change. Please notify Executive Director six weeks before the change.

Advertising. Turn to page 12 for more information and advertising rates.

Requesting a replacement copy. Contact Executive Director John Verrill.

Shavings is printed by Cayuga Press, 215 S. Main St., Cortland, NY 13045; 607-299-0500. Both Shavings and The Chronicle are available on microfilm from UMI, 300 Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106.
When I was growing up, Pittsburgh was referred to as the “three-shirt-a-day” town due to the haze and smoke created by this industrial powerhouse. But starting in the 1970s, the city began a renaissance making a transition into a medical and educational mecca known for its clean air, river scapes, and diverse ethnic neighborhoods. In recent decades, Pittsburgh has ranked high on the “Most Livable Cities in America” lists, and the pulse of vibrant cultural and corporate and artistic activity has replaced the hum and grime of industry. The area, however, very much appreciates the layers of colonial and industrial history that made Pittsburgh great, and we are going to get a wonderful sampling of that during the EAIA Annual Meeting.

Our meeting will begin on Wednesday, May 28, at our headquarters at the Pittsburgh Airport Sheraton, which will be newly refurbished shortly before our visit. The room rate will be $99 a night (www.sheraton.com/PittsburghAirport). If you plan to fly in, take advantage of the free shuttle service offered by the hotel. We’ll get things started by saying hello as we tailgate in the hotel parking lot from 1–5 p.m. Meanwhile, registration will be take place in the hotel lobby from 1–7 p.m.

We will meet again in the morning at our buffet breakfast from 7–8:30 a.m. and get ready for our first day of activities. We’ll carpool to Old Economy, the Pennsylvania and Historical Museum Commission’s acclaimed restoration of a nineteenth-century Utopian community about nine miles (a twenty-minute drive) from our hotel.

Old Economy staff will greet us and give us an overview of the Harmony Society, a Christian commune created by the followers of George Rapp in the 1820s on the banks of the Ohio River. His followers, or “Rappites,” grew grapes for wine, started a successful silk industry, ran woolen and cotton mills and made their own unique furniture to fund their venture. In fact, the commune was so successful, President Zachary Taylor visited the Harmony Society to learn more about their business and agricultural practices.

During our visit, we’ll divide into groups to hear special presentations for EAIA including a presentation about the Rappites silk industry, observe silk being spun and see a brand new, special exhibit on textiles and clothing made at Old Economy.

We’ll also have an opportunity to see examples of the society’s unique furniture and the planes used to make the items. Finally, we’ll take a look at mechanical drawings produced by the Harmony Society. Some of you might even be able to help identify what the drawings represent!

While you aren’t in a special presentation, there will be plenty of time to wander the restored site. There’s lots to admire especially the Germanic-inspired early-nineteenth century architecture of Old Economy. The large Feast Hall is a particular marvel, and the Rappites “Natural History Museum” of native animals and plants will amuse and educate. Old Economy’s staff also tells me that many flowers will be blooming in the site’s beautiful gardens. Find out more about Old Economy at www.oldeconomyvillage.org.

In the afternoon, we’ll have the option to travel 30 minutes down the Ohio River to Darlington and visit the McCarl Industrial and Agricultural Museum of Beaver County, a property of the Beaver County Historical Society. This new museum, founded in 2007 preserves tools and equipment made in the region between 1900 and 1980. The museum houses a massive 1903 Champion Horizontal Engine, an operating Corliss Steam Engine and several other large engines in addition to dozens of horse-drawn agricultural items and equipment. To see some of this equipment, visit www.bchistory.org.

After a full day of exploring, head back to the hotel to rest up and have dinner. We’ll meet again and extend a warm welcome to newcomers at the “First Time Attendees” session and then head over to the famous “What’sit’s Session.” Every year, someone brings a tool that stumps the audience. Will this be the year you bring one?

Friday, May 30, we’ll meet again for breakfast and announcements. After breakfast, we’ll get into buses to travel twenty minutes to downtown Pittsburgh and the Fort Pitt Museum, located in beautiful Point State Park. The park is so named because of its location at the very point where the Ohio River is formed by the meeting of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers.

Native Americans, the French, and the English fought over the strategic point, desperate to control access to the interior via the Ohio River. The English built Fort Pitt, named for Prime Minister William Pitt, Pittsburgh’s namesake, between 1759 and 1761. Over the past few years, a new museum staff has updated the museum and its exhibits into a showcase of the importance of the Pittsburgh area and the “Ohio Country” during the colonial era.

During our visit to the Fort Pitt Museum, we’ll divide into groups to:
- explore the museum’s unique collection of Colonial artifacts;
- take a close look at rare muskets and rifles that would have been used at the fort;
- hear a presentation from a soldier from the 60th Royal American Regiment and learn what life was like at Fort Pitt;
- go into the Fort Pitt Blockhouse, maintained by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Built in 1764, the blockhouse is the last surviving remnant of Fort Pitt, the oldest structure remaining in Pittsburgh, and very possibly the oldest surviving structure in the Mississippi River drainage basin (fortpittblockhouse.com); and
- wander Point State Park, enjoy the amazing views of Pitts-
Mike Burke, an employee at Fort Pitt, made this powder horn. Examples of Mike’s work and rare, original powder horns will be on display at the Fort Pitt Museum.

burgh and visit the site of Fort Duquesne, the small French fort that proceeded Fort Pitt.

After our enjoyable morning, we’ll get back on the buses for a short drive across town to the Heinz History Center. This award-winning museum, housed in a former ice warehouse, focuses on the region’s rich iron, steel, and glassmaking heritage, and has incredible displays on those industries.

At the Heinz History Center, we’ll see the museum’s special visiting exhibit: “Treasures from the Steamboat Arabia.” Those of you who attended the Kansas City meeting will remember our visit to that amazing Steamboat Arabia Museum and will get another chance to examine the incredibly well-preserved tools, textiles and everyday items excavated from a fully-loaded supply steamboat that sank in the Missouri River before the Civil War. If you weren’t in Kansas City and will be seeing the artifacts for the first time, you are in for a treat!

Of special interest to many of us in EAIA, the Heinz holds the Charles W. Prine Collection of Hand Planes, a fascinating collection of wooden planes made in the early Federal period in the Western Pennsylvania region. Like me, many of you may own Prine’s book, Planemakers of Western Pennsylvania and Environs, and I am delighted to tell you Mr. Prine, an EAIA member, will meet us at the exhibit to discuss his collection and to sign his book. So if you own it, bring it to get signed. If you don’t, you’ll be able to purchase one there! Learn more at the Web site for the Heinz History Center and Fort Pitt Museum: www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

We’ll head back to the hotel in plenty of time to have dinner and to peruse the offerings for the Great Planes Trading Company auction. Mike Urness, owner of Great Planes, tells me he has been stockpiling some fantastic tools for the auction. If anyone would like to donate an item for the auction and have the proceeds benefit EAIA, contact Mike at 314-497-7884 or mike@greatplanestrading.com

Saturday morning, May 31, we’ll begin the day after breakfast with the tool sale and trading show, and of course, the fantastic exhibits of amazing items from your collections. I’m amazed every year by the rare and unique artifacts that are displayed. Just another reminder of the importance of our organization in protecting our craft and industrial heritage. This year’s theme will be: “Tools for the New Frontier: 1790 to 1840.” That’s a tip of the hat to Pittsburgh’s important role in providing goods that were shipped down the Ohio River to enable America’s rapid growth.

Did you know that in 1815, planemaking was the 12th most important industry in Pittsburgh, as plane makers got premium prices for their goods? Charles Prine told me that fascinating tidbit. Want to know what the first eleven industries were? Come to the meeting!

We’ll have some interesting lectures in the afternoon on Saturday, I’m still ironing out those details, and will have those surprises posted in the February newsletter! But you’ll want to make sure you get some rest before our banquet that evening. Before our main meal, we’ll enjoy some appetizers and the Silent Auction, one of the meeting highlights. Every dollar raised in the auction goes to our great organization.

Bill and Judy McMillen have graciously agreed to run this year’s silent auction. But don’t worry, I’ll still be around to whip everyone into a buying frenzy!

I can’t wait for this meeting and to see you all again. As a native of the western Pennsylvania area, I’m so anxious to show off the region’s rich heritage. Stay tuned for final details on the conference in the February Shavings!
The happy participants at the Historic Trades Sampler. From left are: J.B. Cox, Carol Culnan, Ken Culnan, Bob Roemer, Bill McMillen, Val Berghaus, Alice Roemer (kneeling holding the floor cloth she made) Don Carpentier, John R. Green, Tom Elliott, Bob Zoni, Tom Densmore, Jeff Elliott, Carol Coutinho (holding small cup), Laurie Elliott, Gloria Elliott, and Win Bigelow. Not pictured are Joe Brien, John Verrill, Olof Jansson, Steve Smithers, Toby Hall, and Judy McMillen.

All photos John Verrill.

Eastfield Village Historic Trades Sampler—2013

The nine trades presented at the 2013 Historic Trades Sampler were different from last year and gave everyone a chance to taste and experience trades that we would not ordinarily have the opportunity to try. Eighteen of us, with different skill levels, shared this wonderful experience. Many of the trades were presented in the 1836 church that was relocated and restored at the foot of the Eastfield Green. Many other typical buildings have been brought to Eastfield, by Don Carpentier, and are arranged around or near the Village Green including the Doctor’s Office and the John Brook’s white house.

Blacksmithing by Olof Jansson was focused on the making of an eighteenth century fireplace toaster. It was hot work and challenging but rewarding. Olof also brought his violin to the Saturday night tavern dinner, prepared by Judy McMillen and many helpers. We shared roast beef, fresh corn and fresh oven baked pies. With a full stomach and candle light, Olof’s music created a mood that was spellbinding.

Craig Farrow presented the art of shell carving. The shell is the central feature of many period highboys. Craig also presented a session on the drawknife, its sharpening and many uses. This is a woodworker’s essential tool that has been much overlooked and under rated.

Bill McMillen gave us an opportunity to try our hand at making a tin cup similar to one that he demonstrated at...
The author at work preparing sketches of the tools of the trades.

Endowment Fund
Remember When You Joined?

Do you remember what motivated you to join EAIA? I do. I was checking out a local antique show in Williamsburg when I came across some wooden planes. They were Baltimore-made, and I had never seen one. I was intrigued by what I saw—the look, the feel, the history, the beauty of the planes. I bought two, and spent the next several weeks trying to find more information on the subject. At that time, there were no computers, and there were few books about planes. I was browsing in a bookstore when I found a book with various antique clubs and associations and found EAIA in the listings. I hadn’t a clue what the organization was about, but I wrote a letter, joined the EAIA, and later started attending annual EAIA meetings. I have no expertise in antique tools but I love my hobby, and my long term membership in EAIA.

We usually support those interests with which we feel closely affiliated: schools, churches, charities, and other institutions. In order to carry on the tradition of EAIA, I know full well we will need more than dues to sustain us. I invite you to perpetuate your love of trades, crafts, and tools, by contributing to the Endowment Fund. I have and will continue to do so and hope you will too, as we approach that time of year when we consider which charitable donations we will make for the year.

Looking for you at the next tool show and or meeting. Richard P. Cunningham

Make Your Donation to the Endowment Go Farther This Year

Just as Shavings was about to go to press, we received news that was so exciting we had to shout, “Stop the presses!” An anonymous donor has agreed to match up to $1,000 all donations to the endowment received before the end of the year. Because of this generous match, if you send a $50 donation today, it will be matched, and the endowment will receive $100.

Help us meet the $1,000 total of this match. It will mean $2,000 additional in the Endowment Fund and help bring us closer to our $500,000 goal. Donate today. Mail your check to John Verrill, Executive Director, EAIA, P.O. Box 524, Hebron, MD 21820.

The finished cloth base on the design above was made by Gloria Elliott (it is pictured in the photograph on the previous page.)

Laurie Elliott working on her floor cloth.
President Tom Elliott called the meeting to order at 7:45 P.M.

He first thanked Paul Van Pernis for planning this year’s meeting. He also thanked the featured speakers of that afternoon: Bill McMullen for his presentation on the History of “Tinsmithing in America” and demonstration of crafting a tin mug without machines, and Chris Schwartz for his very practical and informative talk “Plain–Not Fancy Tool Chests.”

The minutes from the May, 2012, Annual Members’ Meeting in Solomon’s Island, Maryland, published in Issue 225 of Shavings, were unanimously accepted by the members present.

Treasurer’s Report. The treasurer’s report was presented by Paul Van Pernis, 1st Vice President/Treasurer. He noted that:

- The overall financial situation continues to be stable and is little changed from 2012; and
- EAIA ended the year in the black for the second year and unless things change we can expect a slight surplus at the end of 2013. He thanked John Verrill for again managing the budget so well.

Endowment Fund Report. Paul then made the report on the Endowment Fund on behalf of Chairman Rich Cunningham:

- This past year $60,000 was given to the Endowment Fund with $35,000 coming from member contributions in the last 16 months.

- The current balance of the fund is just over $400,000, and the income from it is being used to further the organization’s mission and goals.

- Lastly, he reminded the group that they should continue to give to the fund to help it reach $500,000. He noted that a donation of tools to the EAIA is a good way to give; the proceeds from the sale are designated for the EAIA. He also reminded members of the importance of estate planning and drew attention to the new Estate Planning tri-fold pamphlets at each table. He encouraged everyone to consider a gift to EAIA as part of their estate planning process.

Paul also highlighted the importance of membership, particularly younger members, to our sustainability as an aging org-

### The Early American Industries Association, Inc. Abbreviated Annual Financial Report

For Years Ending December 31, 2012 and 2011

The accompanying financial reports provide a summary of the EAIA’s assets for the year 2012 as compared to 2011. Copies of the Audited Financial Reports are available from the Executive Director upon request.

#### Statement Of Financial Position 2012 2011

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<th>Assets:</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
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<td>Inventory</td>
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<td>Investments</td>
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<td>125,271</td>
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<td>Property &amp; Equipment:</td>
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<td>Office Equipment</td>
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<td>Less Accumulated Depreciation</td>
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<td>-23,187</td>
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<td>Net Property &amp; Equipment</td>
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<td>848</td>
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<td><strong>Other Asset:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$490,603</strong></td>
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<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>889</td>
<td>608</td>
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<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
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<td>45,234</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$46,192</strong></td>
<td><strong>$45,842</strong></td>
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| Net Assets               |       |       |
| Unrestricted             | 194,087 | 160,905 |
| Temporarily Restricted   | 6,179  | 6,179  |
| Permanently Restricted   | 286,408 | 277,677 |
| **Total Net Assets**     | **$486,674** | **$444,761** |

Total Liabilities & Net Assets: $532,866 $490,603

#### Operating Revenue and Expenses

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<td>$1,668 (2012) and $2314 (2011)</td>
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<td>Eastfield Program, net of related cost</td>
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<td>Interest &amp; Dividends</td>
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<td><strong>Total Support &amp; Revenue</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$129,914</strong></td>
<td><strong>$146,926</strong></td>
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The Early American Industries Association, Inc.

Minutes of Annual Business Meeting Saturday, May 18, 2013

Shavings 230

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organization, pointing out that one new member from each person at the meeting would increase our membership by 10%.

Judy McMillen, chairperson of the Nominating Committee, reported new and returning board members: Chris Bender (2013-2016), Clarence Blanchard (2013-2016), Pam Howard (2013-2016), and David Lauer (2013-2016).

Tom Elliott announced the new officers:
- 1st Vice President – Pat Lasswell (2013-2015)
- 2nd Vice President - Denise Richer (2013-2015)
- Secretary – Bob Roemer (2013-2016)

Tom Elliott recognized Sara Holmes for her years on the Board and her great contribution to the website. He noted that Sara had agreed to stay on as the Webmaster. He recognized Don Stark and Heidi Shoaf for their service and contributions to the Board of Directors and Gary Roberts for producing the CD of The Chronicle.

Pat Lasswell presented the awards for the displays at the 2013 meeting. The awards were as follows:
- **Display In-Theme.** 1st place, Frank Kosmerl: W.S. Loughborough’s patent and personal history; 2nd place, Rod and Denise Richer: History of Stearns Co.; 3rd place: Tom Elliott: Patriot Plane Makers of the French & Indian War and American Revolution.
- **Display Out-of-Theme.** 1st place, Art Gaffar: History of Maine Charitable Mechanics Organizations; 2nd place, Craig Farrow: Chest patterned on one made by James Symonds; 3rd place, Louise Muse: Tools Used in Classic Greece.

Co-chairman of the Awards Committee, Roger Smith, advised that there had been no nominees for the 2013 Hatch Award.

Jay Gaynor announced that two EAIA Grants have been awarded for the coming year:
- James Andrew Neill, Winston-Salem, N.C., “He Who Dwells in Our Town Shall Dress as a Brother”—The Business of a Tailor Shop in a Moravian Town; and

He also noted that 110 grants had been awarded since the grant program was announced and the first grants were awarded in 1978.

Paul Van Pernis reminded everyone that the 2014 meeting would be in Pittsburgh and thanked Dana and Heidi Shoaf for all the effort to date in arranging for the meeting. He also noted that the 2015 meeting would be in Quebec City, Canada. Roy Shoalts will serve as program chair for that meeting. The 2016 Annual Meeting will be held in Cooperstown, New York, and Denise and Rodney Richer will serve as program co-chairs for that meeting.

No new business was brought from the floor.

Tom Elliott moved to close the business meeting; the motion was seconded and carried to close the 2013 Meeting.

The EAIA business meeting was closed at 8:30 p.m.

Immediately after the business meeting attendees were entertained by “Miles Standish” from Plimoth Plantation in the person of Scott Atwood who gave interesting accounts of the early days of the colony and answered questions from the audience.

Dana Shoaf presented the results of the Silent Auction which brought in a total of $11,685.
Short Subjects
What does Wiggins Old Tavern have to do with EAIA?

Here’s what—on August 31, 1933, the EAIA was created! Lewis N. Wiggins was owner and proprietor of the Northampton Hotel and Wiggins Old Tavern in Northampton, Massachusetts. He had an extensive collection of antique tools which he exhibited. One summer day as he was installing part of his collection, Stephen C. Walcott of Virginia introduced himself and struck up a conversation about tools and his acquaintances that collected them. He proposed forming an association for “mutual aid and pleasure” in furthering their interest and knowledge. Mr. Wiggins responded by inviting Mr. Walcott to gather his friends at the Tavern as his guest for luncheon and discussion. Thus was born the Early American Industries Association “to encourage the study and better understanding of early American industry in the home, in the shop, on the farm, and on the sea...”

That small group of founders lost no time in getting the organization established, collecting artifacts and information, and publishing a quarterly journal, The Chronicle, to record and preserve that information. The Association grew rapidly, and its membership rolls soon included many of the leading antiquarians, historians, and museum curators of the day. The EAIA established itself as the leading organization for research and publication in the area of early American tools and trades. The membership continued to grow, and articles published in The Chronicle produced an ever-increasing resource of historical information in the field.

In 2013, the Early American Industries Association celebrates its 80th anniversary. During this time interest in the history of tools, trades, and the mechanical arts has grown from a handful of antiquarians gathering up obsolete implements to a large company of serious collectors and scholars, knowledgeable and appreciative of the role that tools have played in the lives of those who made the United States a great industrial power. To this growth of interest and knowledge, the EAIA has constantly made a significant contribution. On our eightieth anniversary, we return thanks to Lewis N. Wiggins for his part in our creation.

A proclamation with this brief history was presented at the 75th anniversary meeting in Albany, New York. It has been updated to reflect the fact that EAIA is now celebrating its 80th year of existence. We look forward to a bright future for our organization.

Regional Meeting in Auburn, New York

On Saturday, September 21, members and guests of EAIA enjoyed a wonderful day at the Ward O’Hara Agricultural Museum in Auburn, New York. The day started with a couple of hours of tailgating complete with coffee and donuts. Along with the great array of tools available, one of our members, Chuck Williams of Skaneateles, New York, had a display of his glass cutters along with his wonderful new book, Glass Cutters with a Brief History of Flat Glass.

Then members convened to the conference center for our first speaker, George Steigerwald. George was employed by Auburn Correctional for many years and gave a wonderful presentation on the history of tool making at Auburn Prison in the nineteenth century. He brought along some fine examples of tools made at the prison, and members enjoyed inspecting and photographing them. We thank George so much for sharing his knowledge and collection. The members had many questions, and all enjoyed his lecture.

Our second speaker of the day was Ms. Holly Ketcham, of Liverpool, New York. Holly is an EAIA grant recipient for 2013 and is doing extensive research on the Simmons Axe Co. of Cohoes, New York. Daniel Simmons, founder of the company is Holly’s third great-grandfather. She gave a wonderful lecture on her current research and also provided some nice folder handouts to all attendees of the meeting with fifteen pages on the history of the Simmons Axe Co. and some photographs.

Following lunch (with much tool talk as well), members were treated to a guided tour of the Ward O’Hara Agricultural Museum. Museum volunteers George and Arlene Saxton were so much help

Stanley Woodworking Tools—The Finest Years

A collection of the Stanley Tools columns by Walter Jacob from The Chronicle, 1998-2010

The “Stanley Tools” column by Walter Jacob has been a regular and popular feature of The Chronicle of the Early American Industries Association since 1998. The articles have been updated, indexed, and arranged by topic. The columns cover the story of the Stanley Tool Company, including advertising and marketing campaigns, and type studies of tools and Stanley lines, such as Four-Square and Defiance. The book includes numerous illustrations as well as essays by Elton W. Hall, John G. Wells, and Suzanne Fellman Jacob.
during the course of the day and then led the tours in the afternoon. Thank you.

Thanks to our members and guests who attended the day’s festivities. And special thanks to our two speakers George Steigerwald and Holly Ketcham for their wonderful presentations.

We would encourage any of our members to visit the Ward O’Hara Agricultural Museum. It is a wonderful, large museum with many exhibits of tools and tool companies from the Auburn area as well as great displays of agricultural implements. The museum (6880 East Lake Rd., Auburn, N.Y.) is open seasonally; call before you visit to check hours (315-252-7644).

Rhode Island’s Digital Archives
Rhode Island historical public records, dating as far back as 1638, is now available online. Among the holdings are images of original letters from Thomas Jefferson and John Hancock and an application for the first driver’s license in the state. To view the State Archives tab on the left. Once there, you may browse/search the State Archives Catalog.

Army Museums Closed
The Chief of Military History has made the decision to close numerous Army Museums including the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland and the Watervliet Arsenal Museum in Watervliet, N.Y.

The Watervliet Arsenal was “temporarily” closed on September 30, 2013. The museum was housed in the cast iron building constructed in 1859. The cast iron building may be the only remaining all iron building still in use. All artifacts not related to Watervliet Arsenal were to be transferred from the museum. The machine shop was to be left on site. As of last week all artifacts, including Watervliet Arsenal artifacts are slated for transfer, excluding the turn of the century machine shop. The museum may be reopened as a Gallery, which has yet to be defined.

Dealing with Death
“Ghosts, Ghouls & Gravestones: The Trades of Burial,” an exhibit at the Museum of Early Trades and Crafts opened in September and will continues at the museum in Madison, New Jersey.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the museum is presenting two lectures, “Folk Traditions in New Jersey Grave Memorials” by Gordon Bond on Sunday, November 17, at 2 p.m. and “Carved in Stone: Looking at American Art in New Jersey Burial Grounds” by Kate Nearpass Ogden, Ph.D., on January 26. Call 973-377-2982 x13, for more information or visit the museum’s Web site (www.metc.org) The museum is located in Madison, New Jersey.

Working Wood for 2014 & Antiques Forum at Colonial Williamsburg

The pieces to be built cover a range of complexities. Colonial Williamsburg’s Hay Shop staff will reproduce one of the icons of Virginia and Southern high-style furniture, the elaborate sideboard table made by William Buckland and William Bernard Sears for the Tayloe family of Mount Airy plantation.

On February 14-18 Colonial Williamsburg will also present its 66th Antiques Forum, with the theme, “New Findings in the Arts of the Coastal South,” which will plumb recent developments in topics such as southern portraiture, early Annapolis cabinetmaking, and Charleston silver, to name but a few. Forum guests may register for optional hands-on workshops with the Colonial Williamsburg collections as well as private tours of historic homes in the region. This promises to be an eye-opening Antiques Forum.

Calendar
Delaware

Indiana

Massachusetts

Haverhill, November 9. Historic New England’s Behind the Scenes in Stitches—A special textiles only tour with curator Laura Johnson from Historic New England’s out-

A CHALLENGE— Who Will Help Preserve the Skill of Hand Carving (Dutch) Wooden Shoes?
America’s last master wooden-shoe carver (age 88 & slowing down) has a complete set of tools available and will help you learn the craft.
Bob Siegel
woodenshoecarver@milwpc.com
(262) 242-1571

Wanted:
Useful hand tools, all trades, woodworking, machinist, mechanic, blacksmith. Shop and estate lots in coastal NE

Liberty Tool Co.
(sponsor of the Davistown Museum)
888-405-2007. 501 (c) (3) donations also solicited.
Open March – December
Check website for hours and photo tour: www.jonesport-wood.com
standing textile collection. See fashions from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries; shoes, hats, children’s dresses, needlework, window and bed hangings, knitting, lace, quilts, and coverlets.

New Jersey

High Bridge, February 2, 2014. Crafts regular meeting at 1 P.M. For information e-mail John Czekaj at jrczekaj01@gmail.com or check the Tool Shed or Crafts website at craftsofnj.org.

High Bridge, April 6, 2014. Crafts regular meeting. High Bridge, NJ. Meeting starts at 1 P.M. For information e-mail John Czekaj at jrczekaj01@gmail.com or check the Tool Shed or Crafts website at craftsofnj.org.


Pennsylvania


Camp Hill, November 3. EAIA Board Meeting 7:30 a.m. Radisson Hotel.


Virginia

Broadway, October 26. M-WTCA & EAIA Guests, Tool Meeting 8 a.m. Sunset Drive United Methodist Church.

Leesburg, November 17, PATINA, American Legion Post 270.


ITALY

Pisa, June 14–17, 2014. International Plumb Bob Collectors Meeting. For more information visit www.plumbbob.de or e-mail plumbbobwolf@t-online.de.

ENGLAND

Shropshire, April 4–6, 2014. TATHS 2014 Annual Conference will be held at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum in Shropshire.

CANADA

Ontario

Markham, November 16. Tool Group of Canada meeting, 9 a.m., Victoria Square Community Center.

Advertise in Shavings

ADVERTISING: Contact Editor Patty MacLeish, 401-846-7542; E-mail: editor@earlyamericanindustries.org (Subject Line: Shavings Ad); or mail to 31 Walnut St., Newport, RI 02840.

Display Ads

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<td>Quarter Page (two sizes: 2.375”h x 7.5”w or 3.625”h x 5”w):</td>
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<td>Business Card (2”h x 3.5”w):</td>
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20% discount on three or more display ads for members. Ads do not need to run consecutively to receive discount. Display ads are published in full color in the electronic version of Shavings. Advertisers may also add links from the ad to Web pages or e-mail addresses.

Classified Ads

25 words or less—$4.00; 15¢ per word thereafter. Box around the ad—35¢ (A word is anything with a space on both sides of it.) Please make checks payable to EAIA. (Non-Members add 20% per ad for either display or classified.)

2013-14 DEADLINES: January 8 (January/Winter issue); March 1 (March/Spring issue); July 2 (August/Summer issue).
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January 25, 2014, Holiday Inn, York, PA

TOOL SALE is on Saturday morning. Show time from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. About 60 tables of tools for your review and purchase. Show managed by the MWTC Area P. For Tool Sale Information or Table Rental:

Don Stark
(717) 367-5207
Starkcd@aol.com

THE AUCTION starts at 1:00 p.m. and includes Stanley planes Nos. 1, 2, 9, 42, 56, 64, 72, 74, 85, 87, 164, 196, 212, 340, 444 and most of the others including an all most complete set of Bed Rocks. Sandusky Tool Co. center-wheel plow with six ivory tips. Stanley tools in the original boxes including a No. 1 in the box. Patented planes and braces. Early decorated axes. Disston saws. Davis inclinometers. Horton and framed braces. English infill planes. Plumb bobs, ivory rules and pretty tools of all types and sizes. And, as always, a good selection of high-quality box lots. Approximately 450 lots of outstanding tools. All offered for your consideration without reservations or reserves. Preview 11:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. List mailed and available online on December 13, 2013. Full online and mail bidding. List mailed upon request or free with 2013 and/or 2014 International Antique Tool Auction Catalog subscription.

Other Brown Auctions for 2014 include:
44th International Antique Tool Sale & Auction
March 28-29, 2014. Camp Hill, PA
Shavings
The Newsletter of
The Early American Industries Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 524
Hebron, MD 21830

Fall 2013

Alice Roemer learning to start a fire without using matches at the Eastfield Historic Trade Sampler this summer.
Photo: John Verrill