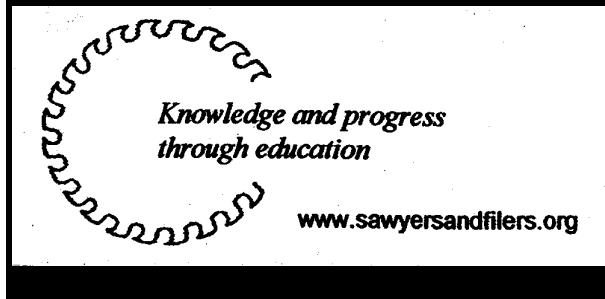


SPRING 2006

Newsletter # 73



## President's Message


By Frank Piccolella

As a sawfiler, it's a privilege to be president of LEOSFA during its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I've been filing for 10 years, and have been involved in the organization for six years, so this is an exciting opportunity for me.

I am employed at G & M Bandsaw, Inc., in Montgomery, PA, a bandsaw service and manufacturing facility, and have worked for G & M for 9 years.

This year's annual meeting will be held at the Genetti Hotel, Williamsport, PA, and will include several interesting topics ranging from bearing installation, selection and maintenance and heat-treating wood to control pests and insects for international shipment.

Keep checking the newsletter for information on upcoming workshops, and, if anyone has a topic that they'd like to see covered at a workshop please let me – or any of the directors – know.

I hope to see you at the annual meeting in September! 

## Upcoming Workshop

By Gene Lunger

There is a “Where to Start” Workshop to be held on October 14, 2006 at Patterson Lumber, Galeton, PA.

The topics include “**Trimmer, Bullgang, and Edger Alignment.**” If interested, please call Gene Lunger at (814)-848-9922 or email at [genelunger@yahoo.com](mailto:genelunger@yahoo.com).



## Going for the Silver

By Ken Kasprzyk (Life and Charter Member LEOSFA)

LEOSFA will soon be 25 years young. Our founding meeting was at the Olean Holiday Inn in January of 1982. Ronald Reagan was in his first term, the Soviet Army was deeply involved in Afghanistan and most of my hair was brown.

In January of 1981, the Forest Industry Resource Study Team (FIRST) and many of our founding members thought it would be a good idea to have a course on circular saw hammering.

John Walters, Jim Peek and David Bruce located two instructors, Bill Martin and Harvey Hendrickson from the Mid-West, and the hammering course was held that January at the Fitzpatrick and Weller Sawmill in Ellicottville, N.Y. The course filled a serious void. At that, time there were very few saw “doctors” who really understood the art and science of making a sawmill run properly. There were even fewer who could or would teach their skills to new learners.

## 2 Lake Erie & Ontario Sawyers & Filers Association

Some of the lessons learned were learned the hard way – one being that an 80-year old wooden floor with lots of spring in it was not conducive to consistent saw benching.

Another was that an unheated shed in January did not produce happy hammerers. Several of those first course attendees thought that the sharing of knowledge and camaraderie should continue so the idea of a group was tossed around.

Some parts of the country had associations of band mill filers; others had sawyers only as members. It was decided that the Eastern Great Lakes area did not have large numbers of filers like the West Coast and that circle mills and band mills had more in common than they had separate. So the idea of a Sawyers and Filers Association was accepted.

What geographic area to cover was also a problem being other groups in various parts of the country. Most of the potential members were from areas surrounding Lake Erie – New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and the Canadian Province of Ontario. Hence was born the name Lake Erie and Ontario Sawyers and Filers Association.

Some violent arguments arose that “Lakes” might be the more appropriate term than “Lake” but the “Lake” faction prevailed. So, in late 1981 plans were made to have a charter meeting. Win Hollis of Simonds Saw in Fitchburg, Massachusetts was the keynote speaker.

I don't think we ever have had as many people as came to that first meeting – I think the count was around 180.

As usual, Mother Nature provided a wintry mix of wind, snow, and freezing rain but people still came.

One lesson learned was that future meetings should be held in better weather so our “second” annual meeting was also held in 1982, in September. That meeting was also at the Holiday Inn in Olean. That hotel has since been torn down, so we can't go back there for our silver anniversary. Some critics of the unique food at that facility will probably feel that is not a major loss.

So, we will be celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> year of bringing “Knowledge and Progress through Education,” a motto that borrows heavily from co-operative extension, which was one of the founding groups behind FIRST, which was one of the founding groups behind LEOSFA.

Exactly when to celebrate might be a little tricky. As I count up this will be our 26<sup>th</sup> meeting in our 24<sup>th</sup> year. Twenty-five years exactly will be in January of 2007, but we should look with pride on a quarter-century of sharing knowledge, friendships, and good times.

Enclosed is a list of meetings we've held and who was President when. There are a few gaps in our records and/or memories. If you can help us remember, we would appreciate you sharing your memories with us. We will try to have similar lists for courses we've put on over the years, too. 🏠

### 3 Lake Erie & Ontario Sawyers & Filers Association

#### L.E.O.S.F.A.

1982–2007

<u>President</u>	<u>Time in Office</u>	<u>Annual Meeting Location</u>
Jim Peek	Jan. 1982 – Sept. 1982	Jan. 1982 – Olean, NY
John Walters	Sept. 1982 – Sept. 1983	Sept. 1982 – Olean, NY
George Bronkwart	Sept. 1983 – Sept. 1984	Sept. 1983 – Ellicottville, NY
John Walters	Sept. 1984 – Sept. 1985	Sept. 1984 – Ellicottville, NY
Dave Ellis	Sept. 1985 – Sept. 1986	Sept. 1985 – Location Missing
Casey Creamer	Sept. 1986 – Sept. 1987	Sept. 1986 – Brookville, PA
Ken Kasprzyk	Sept. 1987 – Sept. 1988	Sept. 1987 – Ithaca, NY
Rob Lynerd	Sept. 1988 – Jan. 1989	Sept. 1988 – Grand Island, NY
Roger Rorabaugh	Jan. 1989 – Sept. 1990	Sept. 1989 – S. Williamsport, PA
Dave Ellis	Sept. 1990 – Sept. 1991	Sept. 1991 – Jamestown, NY
Casey Creamer	Sept. 1991 – Sept. 1992	Sept. 1992 – Owego, NY
Sherry Sabbatini	Sept. 1992 – Sept. 1993	Sept. 1993 – Tunkhannock, PA
Garth Nash	Sept. 1993 – Sept. 1994	Sept. 1994 – Horseheads, NY
Ken Kasprzyk	Sept. 1994 – Sept. 1995	Sept. 1995 – Salamanca, NY
Joe Shortino	Sept. 1995 – Sept. 1996	Sept. 1996 – Wellsboro, PA
Dave Born	Sept. 1996 – Sept. 1997	Sept. 1997 – Cortland, NY
Garth Nash	Sept. 1997 – Sept. 1998	Sept. 1998 – Horseheads, NY
Bruce Moore	Sept. 1998 – Sept. 1999	Sept. 1999 – Williamsport, PA
Jeff Lisk	Sept. 1999 – Sept. 2000	Sept. 2000 – Norwich, NY

## 4 Lake Erie & Ontario Sawyers & Filers Association

Ken Kasprzyk	Sept. 2000 – Sept. 2001	Sept. 2001 – Niagara Falls, NY
Bruce Moore	Sept. 2001 – Sept. 2002	Sept. 2002 – Niagara Falls, NY
Gene Lunger	Sept. 2002 – Sept. 2003	Sept. 2003 – Watsonville, PA
Garth Nash	Sept. 2003 – Sept. 2004	Sept. 2004 – Tunkhannock, PA
Rudy Zimmerman	Sept. 2004 – Sept. 2005	Sept. 2005 – Syracuse, NY
Frank Piccolella	Sept. 2005 – Sept. 2006	Sept. 2006 – Williamsport, PA
Bill Whyland	Slated for Sept. 2006 – Sept. 2007	Yet To Be Determined



The Goodyear sawmill in Austin, Pennsylvania

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