

JULY 2019

STWG

SUSQUEHANNA TRAIL WOODWORKERS GUILD

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

There's more to life than woodworking. Take some time, and enjoy the other things. The weather is nice, so I think I'll go catch some fish, and spend time in the garden. The shop will still be there when I return.



Do you have an suggestions for upcoming STWG meetings? Any business's that may make an interesting field trip? What about any new, interesting projects that would add to the "show-and-tell" segment of the monthly meetings? Just say something to any board member, or send an e-mail to stwg@comcast.com.



THE JULY MEETING



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www.stwg.org

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JOIN US!

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 22nd, at 7 pm. The usual location:

York Town Craft Guild

Friendship Fire Co #8

639 N Franklin Street

York, PA 17403



IT'S EXPENSIVE!

While it's highly dependent on market forces, African Blackwood has been listed as one of the world's most expensive woods. You can find African Blackwood for about \$90 to \$100 per board foot. African Blackwood is not yet listed as an endangered species, but since the tree requires 60 years to mature, and smugglers transport it illegally to countries such as Kenya, supply is becoming increasingly scarce.

It can only be found in Tanzania and northern Mozambique. Mostly used for woodwind instruments, and has an almost completely black appearance. It's worth noting that this tree is no longer considered ebony, as this name is now completely reserved to species of the genus *Diospyros*.

History places African Blackwood as the original ebony, as this wood was imported and used in Ancient Egypt thousands of years ago. Another advantage of this type of wood is that it is one of the hardest and densest in the world.

Very difficult to work with hand or machine tools, with an extreme blunting effect on cutters. African blackwood is most often used in turned objects, where it is considered to be among the very finest of all turning woods—capable of holding threads and other intricate details well. When made into clarinet or oboe bodies, the wood is typically processed on metal-working equipment, giving it a reputation as being metal-like in some of its working properties. -Luxefeed, wood-database.



IT'S CHEAP!

As with the very expensive African Blackwood, the cheapest wood is also dependent on local market forces. Depending on the grade that has been selected, Pine is generally considered to be one of the least expensive woods, and can usually be purchased for a few dollars per board foot, (in lesser grades) It's easily worked with standard woodworking tools.

