



NEW ENGLAND KILN DRYING ASSOCIATION

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Our 2014 **Spring Meeting** of the *NEKDA* is being held at the
***Quality Inn and Conference Center in
Brattleboro, Vermont on
Wednesday and Thursday, April 2 - 3.***

1. Your Board of Director's has put together an excellent meeting program with important and interesting topics and opportunities for kiln operators and managers, along with interesting tours of ***Lashway Lumber***, in Williamsburg, MA <http://www.lashwayusa.com/> and Cersosimo Lumber, in Brattleboro, VT <http://www.cersosimolumber.com/Lumber.html> The Quality Inn is conveniently located just north of Brattleboro at 1380 Putney Road (Route 5), Brattleboro, VT 05310. From I-91 take exit 3, enter and take 3rd exit out of roundabout to Route 5 north and the Quality Inn will be on the left. We have obtained excellent room rates of \$62 per night, including breakfast, and suggest that you make your reservations promptly (**802/254-8701**); be sure to tell them that you are with the NEKDA to receive our group rate. Further detail can be found on their website <http://www.qualityinn.com/hotel-brattleboro-vermont-VT027> .
Please mail your preregistration form (enclosed) and check directly to Bill Smith promptly (**to be received by March 26**); note the \$15 per person surcharge for late registration. Call 315/470-6832 or 6880, or email to wbsmith@esf.edu with questions; fax 315/470-6879; www.esf.edu/nekda. **Tour participants are required to preregister.**
2. Included with this mail please find your ***2014 NEKDA Membership Dues form***. Your membership and contributions are most appreciated and enable the NEKDA to maintain its activities, mission and service to the wood drying and processing industry. Prompt mailing of your updated membership and payment will insure correct listing in the 2014 Membership Directory. Please note the information about your products and services being requested to make our Directory more useful to customers and suppliers. Also, to facilitate electronic communication, please be sure to provide email addresses.
3. The NEKDA is again sponsoring its annual ***Jim Catterick Industrial Recognition Award*** to recognize outstanding performance in the area of dry kiln and drying related and/or associated manufacturing, and ***Bill Rice Achievement Award*** which recognizes outstanding people who have made significant contributions in service, education, and/or technology in the area of dry kiln and drying related and associated operations. Award application forms must be submitted by March 26 and can be found online at www.esf.edu/nekda , or from any NEKDA Officer or Board Member whom you can also contact with any questions.

"Always Quality Kiln Dried Lumber"

Wednesday, April 2

Plant Tours (pre-registration required, please wear appropriate footwear, and bring hardhats and safety glasses)

Lashway Lumber 8:30 tour

Lashway Lumber www.lashwayusa.com/ saws and produces high quality kiln dried lumber using vacuum and dehumidification kilns. Their products range from hardwood to construction lumber, timber frame columns and beams, bark mulch, sawdust and shavings, and firewood. We will see their manufacturing and kiln operations. The mill is located at 22 Main Street (Mass. Route 9) just east of Williamsburg, MA 01096.

Cersosimo Lumber 10:30 tour

Cersosimo Lumber www.cersosimolumber.com/Lumber saws and kiln dries high quality hardwood and white pine lumber. Our tour will include their sawmills, new kilns and cross-flow predryer, planer mill, state-of-the-art grading line, and wood-fired boiler system. From I-91 take exit 1; coming from the south bear to the right, from the north bear to the left - then drive ~2 miles to the bottom of the hill, turning to the right onto Route 142 (Vernon St) for ~ 2 miles.

Wednesday, April 2, continued

at the Brattleboro Quality Inn and Conference Center

1:00 - 1:15 **REGISTRATION and Lunch** (in the meeting room)

WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS, **Dave Nichols**, NEKDA President (*Technical Services*, Claremont, NH)

1:30 ***Kiln Drying for Quality – Market Expectations***

Jack Little, *Keiver-Willard Hardwoods*, Newburyport, MA

2:00 - 5:00 **“KILN OPERATOR'S CLINIC”** -Informal and practical instruction and discussion on such things as the basics of kiln operation, maintenance, stacking, DH, conventional, and high-temperature drying, stain and discoloration, scheduling, changing species, wood-moisture fundamentals, kiln loading and baffling, moisture meters, restarting kilns, drying degrade, etc. Bring your individual problems, questions, and solutions! Please note any particular interests for discussion at the clinic on your registration form.

3:00 - 3:15 REFRESHMENT BREAK

5:30 - 6:30 STRESS RELIEF

6:30 - Banquet, Industrial Awards

Thursday April 3

at the Quality Inn

7:00 - 7:45 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

7:45 - 8:10 REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

8:10 - 8:15 Welcome and Introductions

Dave Nichols, NEKDA President (*Technical Services*, Claremont, NH)

Moderator: **Tom Graber**, NEKDA 1st Vice President (*Baillie Lumber*, Smyrna, NY)

8:15 ***Vacuum Kiln Drying – What is it and its Application***

Jim Parker, *Vacutherm*, Warren, VT

Larry Lashway, *Lashway Lumber*, Williamsburg, MA

9:15 ***Implementing Drying Improvements- Repair and Maintenance***

Chuck Sackett, *King Forest Industries*, Wentworth, NH

9:45 Questions and COFFEE BREAK

Moderator: **Art Routhier**, NEKDA 2nd Vice President (*Maine Woods*, Portage, ME)

10:15 ***Managing Predryer Operations – Cross and Down Draft***

Scott Ferland, *Cersosimo Lumber*, Brattleboro, VT

Jason Ayer, *Hardwick Kilns, div. of Cersosimo Lumber*, Hardwick, MA

11:00 ***Drying White Maple***

Bill Smith, *SUNY ESF*, Syracuse, NY

Questions, Discussion of Drying Stress and other Issues

12:00 LUNCHEON BUFFET

NEKDA website. Please check regularly our NEKDA website at www.esf.edu/nekda for information on upcoming meetings and events, award applications, membership forms, current and past program details, technical presentations, contacts, and other worthwhile information on drying and wood products manufacturing and processing. You might also want to show your NEKDA membership, with a link to the NEKDA site, on your own website.