

The Natural Fibers Group Presents

# Oak and Ash Workshop

With **Joel and Dawn Simpson**

Two day workshop, May 16 –17, 2009

Lynn Hoyt's studio, 549 Bluebird Trail, Blounts Creek, NC

**Saturday, May 16**, 8 hours, 8:30-5:30: The first half of class will be learning to **process a white oak log into splint**, using traditional methods, from splitting the wood to finishing techniques.

- A. Discuss the properties of the white oak tree and how that compares to other types of wood - why white oak is one of the chosen materials for basketmaking.
- B. Discuss the selection process - how do you pick the right tree? Only about 1 in 20 to 1 in 50 makes ideal materials.
- C. Proceed with splitting the log (in halves and then quarters) with wedges and a sledge (outside, of course)
- D. Show how the large and small froe are used to further size the material before the 'splints' are done.
- E. Split the oak down to usable sizes.
- F. Scrape the splints to the correct thickness and finish.
- G. Trim splints to width.
- H. Split material for rims and handles. I. Carve and bend rims and handles.



During the second half of class, we'll make the **Small Oak Gathering Basket** (pictured above) using the splint we've processed and additional materials that the Simpson's will bring. Approx. 4" H, 6" across rim. Tools loaned.

**Sunday, May 17**, 6 hours, 8:30-3:30: We'll be making the **Mini Apple in Ash**. (pictured left) It's woven in Black Ash over a unique mold that produces a "kicked-in" bottom. Uses a chase weaving technique to allow continuous weaving on an even number of spokes. Woven base with white oak rims and handle. Mold is loaned. 4"H w/o handle x 4 1/2" D

Registration to the public starts April 6.

Registration: **\$145 for the 2 day workshop.**

This rate reflects price reduction supported by the Grassroots Grant issued by the Beaufort County Arts Council.

April 13, any remaining slots will be available on a single day basis.

Existing NFG members \$80 Saturday only, \$65 Sunday only

non-members \$95 Saturday only, \$80 Sunday only

Class size is limited. First come first served. No refunds except in the case that class is cancelled entirely.

**Bring: standard basketry tools, potluck dish on each day, and a beverage of your choice.**

Provided: Breakfast goodies, plates, eating utensils, ice

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Make check payable to: Natural Fibers Group. Send to Pamela Zimmerman, 207 Holly Dr, Washington, NC 27889)



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Directions to workshop on request