Our 2005 **Spring Meeting** of the **NEKDA** is being held at the **Clarion Hotel & Conference Center** in **Northampton, Massachusetts** on **Wednesday and Thursday, April 13 - 14**.

Your Board of Director’s has put together an excellent meeting program with important and informative topics and opportunities for kiln operators and managers, along with an interesting tour of **Cersosimo Lumber Company** in Brattleboro, Vermont. The Clarion Hotel is conveniently located in scenic central western Massachusetts, off of I-91, about 15 miles north of the Mass Turnpike, 40 miles south of Brattleboro. The hotel is about 0.3 miles off of exit 18 from I-91. Turn right at the bottom of the ramp and look for the hotel behind the Mobil station. The hotel has great facilities for our meeting, and after our technical sessions you might want to enjoy their heated indoor pool. Further detail can be found on their website at [www.hampshirehospitality.com](http://www.hampshirehospitality.com). We have obtained excellent room rates of $87.96 s/d, and suggest that you **make your reservations promptly** (800/582-2929 or 413/586-1211); our **room block** and **this rate** are being held till **March 14**. Be sure to tell them that you are with the NEKDA to receive our group rate.

Please mail your preregistration form (enclosed) and check directly to Bill Smith promptly (to be **received by April 8**). Note the $15 per person surcharge for late registration. Call 315/470-6832 or 6880 with questions; fax to 315/470-6879. Also, please note that **tour participants are required to preregister**.

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"**NEKDA, only the Best Kiln Drying**"

**Wednesday April 13**

**Wednesday Plant Tour** (on your own as you travel to the meeting, preregistration required)

**Cersosimo Lumber Company**,  
Brattleboro, Vermont  
**Tour at 9:30 am**

Cersosimo Lumber Company saws and kiln dries high quality hardwood lumber. Our tour of their operation will include the hardwood sawmill, pine planer mill, state-of-the-art grading line, kilns, and wood-fired boiler system. Tour participants should bring their own hardhats and safety glasses and wear appropriate footwear. From I-91 take exit 1; coming from the south bear to the right, from the north bear to the left - then drive ~ 2½ miles to the bottom of the hill, turning to the right on Route 142 for ~ 2 miles. Look for the mill on the west side of the road.

**at the Clarion Hotel**

12:30 - 1:15 **REGISTRATION and Lunch** (in the meeting room)  
WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS, **Ann Johnson**, NEKDA President (**the A. Johnson Co.**, Bristol, VT)

1:15 - 1:45 **Heat Treatment: Hardwood and Softwood - International Standards**  
**Jeff Easterling**, **NELMA**, Cumberland, ME

1:45 - 5:00 **“KILN OPERATOR'S CLINIC”** - led by Bill Smith and Pete Garrahan, participation by all. 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**
5:00 - 6:00  STRESS RELIEF
6:00 - 7:30  BANQUET
Jim Catterick and Bill Rice Industrial Awards

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NEKDA, only the Best Kiln Drying
Thursday April 14

at the Clarion Hotel

7:00 - 7:45  BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
7:45 - 7:55  REGISTRATION AND COFFEE
7:55 - 8:00  WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

Ann Johnson, NEKDA President (The A. Johnson Co., Bristol, VT)

Moderator: Sean Barrows, Mill River Lumber, NEKDA 1st Vice President

8:00 - 8:40  Day-to-Day Kiln Operation:
Trials and Tribulations of Boilers and Kilns
Ed Dorrick, Rex Lumber, Englishtown, NJ

8:40 - 9:20  Controlling Stain while Air Drying Pine and Hardwoods
Scott Ferland and Adam Collins, Cersosimo Lumber, N. Hartland & Brattleboro, VT

9:20 - 10:00  Where We Have Come in Kiln Drying
Bill Rice, Kiln Drying Consultant, South Hadley, MA

10:00 - 10:15  COFFEE BREAK

Moderator: Scott Ferland, North Hartland Kilns, NEKDA 2nd Vice President

10:15 - 10:55  Heat for the Kilns: Making Energy Decisions at the Mill
Jeff Ward, Ward Lumber, Jay, NY

10:55 - 11:45  Modern Kiln Controls and Systems
Peter Garrahan, Forintek, Ottawa, ONT

11:45 - 12:30  Stain Prevention: Treatments, Procedures and Regulatory Issues
Lance Johnson, ISK Biocides, Memphis, TN

12:30 - 12:40  Question, Discussion
12:40 - 1:30  LUNCHEON BUFFET