

## Division 5 Contributes to Wood Culture Symposia and a Tour in SE China

Two Symposia and a Wood Culture Tour were held September 1-7, 2012 in Zhejiang and Anhui provinces, in SE China. Andrew Wong, Division 5 Coordinator from Malaysia and Howard Rosen, 5.10.01 Wood Culture Working Party from USA were among the attendees. The 2012 International Wood Culture Society's (IWCS) International Wood Culture Symposia was held on 1-2 September 2012 at the Zhejiang Agriculture and Forestry University, Lin'an, Zhejiang, near Hangzhou, with 23 speakers on various topics of wood culture from the historical to the current utilization, buildings and other products of wood found in China and other parts of the world. Andrew also gave a brief symposium opening remark on behalf of Division 5. Also included in this Symposium were competition hands-on crafts projects from wood including wood sculpture, wood construction, and a young children's drawing contest depicting "love for trees"—all done to educate people of the beauty and importance of wood use.



Over 30 people took part in the post-symposium tour on 3-6 September 2012, which consisted of visits to many ancient cities and villages to see the use of wood in construction, furniture, and decorations from ancient



times (Hongcun from 1300 AD, Xidi from 1049 AD, and Huizhou from 1600 AD). We also visited the Anji Bamboo Gardens to see 45 species of bamboo and even a few pandas raised in captivity, the Huzhou Taihu Ancient Wood Museum of Art, (still being constructed as we toured) to see



amazingly large wooden pieces from all over Asia, and a wood processing company "Dehua Tubao Decoration Material Co." that produced decorative dyed and sliced veneers for indoor products. The highlight of the trip was Huang Shan (Yellow Mountain) 6000 feet, including a cable car ride almost to the top and 60,000 carved steps to

walk along the top of the ridges. Our group hiked about 4 ½ miles at the top of the mountain and used only a small fraction of the steps.



The final day, 7 September 2012, was at Anhui Agricultural University, Hefei, Anhui, near Shanghai, where The International Wood Culture Symposium of Traditional Huizhou Houses was held with 7 speakers from China discussing the culture, art, architecture and use of wood in these beautiful houses with simultaneous translations to English. Howard, on behalf of 5.10.01 and IWCS, gave a brief symposium opening remark. This was accompanied by the university's Key Laboratory of Wood Science and Technology.

More information about both these symposia and the wood culture tours can be found at [www.iwcs.com](http://www.iwcs.com).

Howard Rosen  
5.10.01 Wood Culture Working Party Chair  
Andrew Wong  
Division 5 Coordinator