

knotty or twisted or anything. I mean it has to be pretty much so perfect in order to use these, in order to keep the grains and all the same and so, so. To keep them from cracking. And you season them before you start carving. The time limit on season really doesn't have a long length of time. But say three or four days after cutting. You...

(Do you keep them in the sun during this time?)

Yes sir. It's more or less in the sun. To, in other words, take out all the sap as much as you can, the moist and the green. Then you shape it roughly and after that, you let them lay again, about another, same length of time. And then you go into the actual shaping and in all, total, I guess, two weeks, before you have a complete set of ball sticks. Yet, they are still green but not as green as you know, just cutting them, you know, and they'll last longer and you have something a long life time, a pair of ball sticks. And if you're going to use the, say the layer, the outer layer part it is a big tree. And if you're going to use the inner part, it is the hard club, is the small tree. Either way as long as you can see the grains and you which way to turn, which way to cut and which way to twist it. But avoid the knots and avoid the twisting of a natural tree. Just to the best you can find, try and find a perfect tree to start off with. That way no problems, but your hickory tree is your main tree that you use to make ball sticks. And I've made them over the past years and it's money in my pocket. That's when I have nothing better to do, other than painting.

(Now all these ball sticks, pardon me, you twist them back. What type of, part, do you use when you are making the net part of the stick?)

Well, that's on your own, when you start making the net part. You soak your net part in boiling water, very boiling water, pretty hot in order to soften your wood after so long of seasoning because your wood has already