



NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

March, 2010

Next Meeting: March 2nd, Hillcrest Park Lodge

7:00PM General Meeting

1717 South 13th Street, Mount Vernon

Phone: 360-770-7203 or 360-387-4174

I-5 exit 226 (Kincaid Street Exit). Go East up the hill. This is Broadway Street. Continue on Broadway to

S 13th Street (which is about 5 to 6 blocks from the freeway). Turn right (south) onto South 13th and go about 6 blocks. The park is on the right. Turn into the park, the parking lot is in front of the lodge.

SRO at NCWA's Amazing Gathering in Bellingham

The February Meeting attendance was outstanding with more than 70 members present at Windsor Plywood in Bellingham. This number of show-ups is 85 percent of the current membership! A lack of chairs left many standing, but the enthusiasm was high in such comfortable woodworking surroundings. President Jim Torrence welcomed three guests and new member Stephen Wood from Anacortes.



Photo by Drake

Membership renewal for year 2010 was uppermost in the mind of Treasurer Doug Duehning who asked defunct members to pay their dues for the new year. Several did. He reported our Treasury balance at \$5,200. Members lauded newsletter editor Charley Drake for an excellent first effort in publishing the January issue. Charley took over the Editor's job this year from former Editor Nick Van. The Club Library is enjoying a surge in donated books and videos, according to Librarian Gary Dainilson. The library has a liberal annual budget for woodworking books and DVD's, but lately members have been sharing their former texts and videos by donation. A listing of library titles can be found on our website.

Education Chair Chuck Robertson

reminded everyone that several exciting woodworking classes are coming up at this time of the year, including the second offering of the popular, hands-on, Val Matthews one-day class on "Make A Plane." Other courses coming up include "Carving and Sculpting" from RP Myers, and a triple-set offering in cabinet-making that includes three separate

sessions: "Cabinet-Making," "Cabinet Door Making," and "Cabinet Drawer-Making." (The subsequent "Carving and Sculpting" session was given at Matthew's shop in Bow and attracted 15 members who gave it a thumb's-up rating.)



Gene and Old Yeller

Photo by Drake

Val announced he is geared up to start Toys for Tots work on the forthcoming Friday morning. He invited the membership to join him in the start of production for this year of the familiar "Animated Dog." Chairman Gene Benson encouraged members to set up groups to begin working together on Toys for Tots projects. Meanwhile, Gary Weyers, Activities Chairman, was enthusiastic about the projected number of boxes that will be exhibited at the March meeting. The latest count, 15, will probably be exceeded when it was made clear that multiple entries were welcome. The box-making contest was delayed a month to accommodate the Bellingham meeting.

Your scribe took the opportunity to insinuate himself into the Woodworker of the Month program and droned on too long about his dismal past. Better effort from willing candidates will be forthcoming next month as we revive this feature at our monthly meetings of getting to know our members better.

Bring 'n Brag. A toy made for my great grandson was exhibited by your scribe as the only Show 'n Tell of the Month. The working Catapult model was adapted from a plan by Veritas and consists of more than 30 wooden parts. All joints are made with dowels and glue. The power comes from twisted string which hurls a pingpong ball about 15 feet. My demonstration caused some consternation from those in the forward seats, for which I sincerely apologize.

--Jay Geisel, Secretary



Photo by Drake

Jay "Fire in the Hole" Geisel launches another round

Boxes R Us for March Meeting

Bring your boxes for a super Bring 'N Brag at the March 2nd meeting. Gary Weyers will host this popular event.

Shop Tour

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 24th. Members will host shop tours in the LaConner/Shelter Bay area. Stay tuned for details.

MAKING TABLE LEGS

The ideal table leg would be made from straight grained, rift sawn wood. What's rift sawn wood? Rift sawn wood occurs when the growth rings run diagonal or corner-to-corner on the end of the wood. Rift sawn wood will produce legs with a similar grain patterns on all four sides. The uniform grain pattern greatly enhances the appearance of a project.

If you do not have rift sawn stock, you can create it if your stock is thick enough. Simply make a square template. Place the template on the end of the piece orienting it so that the growth rings runs corner-to-corner. Mark it and cut it out. Leave the pieces a bit oversized because removing wood in this manner greatly alters the internal stresses in the wood. Let the piece relax for a several days before bringing it to the final dimensions.

You can laminate stock to achieve your desired thickness. If the legs are to be tapered, make sure the laminations are thick enough so that you do not cut through a layer before the end of the taper. Cutting through a layer will expose a horizontal seam consisting of end grain.

I'm using this technique for a writing desk I'm working on.

by Andrew Pellar



Photo by Andrew Pellar

Windsor Plywood Meeting a Sell Out!

What a surprise! Attendance at our February meeting was the mother of all congregations for this forty-some year old woodworking society. Meeting at Windsor Plywood in Bellingham, north county members took advantage of the short trip and helped fill the house. It was standing room only for most as the crowd exceeded the expectations of our hosts, who are one of our most active discount sources. The invitation to explore another popular Washington woodworking dealer's domain added credibility to the mantra that you can't have too many clamps, or tools, or wood.



Photo by Drake

Business was brisk, considering the down economy, as many took advantage of a deep discount in clamps, hardwoods, and other specials. In a brief introduction to the local Windsor Plywood store we received a catalog and leaflet covering their major product, hardwood plywood. Store executives provided commentary on basic plywood types, their configuration, advantages and pricing, and answered many questions concerning wood in general and why prices fluctuate. The store has a huge information board on the wall behind the cashier stand where the current lumber prices are marked. These prices per board foot are set from Canadian headquar-

ters and sent daily to the 60 franchises. Half of these outlets are in British Columbia, with only four in the United States. Spokane, with two, and Great Falls, Montana are the other U. S. stores.

Windsor Plywood is a major source for our woodworking needs and we are gratified that they have chosen to participate in our Club's Member Discount Program. They offer an important line of home living and outdoor products as well as tools, exotic woods, hardware, and finishes. It is to our advantage to take note of what a large, competitive retailer can offer woodworkers in terms of price and quality.

Only a few months ago we held a similar meeting at Sound Cedar's store in Mount Vernon. It, too, was well-attended. Program Chairman Jim Bucknell may have found the golden key. He plans to hit the road with another Bellingham monthly Club meeting in June, at Targo Woods, a popular Club discounters with a knack for finding exotic and unusual species of timber. You won't want to miss this one either.

--Jay



Small sample of Targo stock

Minutes of the NCWA Board Meeting

February 17, 2010 The Farmhouse Restaurant

Members Present: Nancy Anderson, Gene Benson, Jim Bucknell, Jerry Couchman, Phil Choquette, Charley Drake, Doug Duehning, Jay Geisel, Ed Pyshe, Chuck Robertson, Andy Swanson, Jim Torrance. Members not present: Gary Danilson, Mike New, Nick Van, Gary Weyers.

1. Agenda approved by acclamation.
2. Treasurer Doug Duehning reported our regular checking account balance as \$4,428.30 and our savings account balance as \$986.00. As of today's board meeting we have 90 paid members. The Hillcrest Lodge is asking NCWA to reserve dates for 2011. Doug will pay for 2010 reserving all months but April, May & August. The rates have increased to \$55 per meeting. A 60-day cancellation is required for a refund. It was agreed that Doug would reserve all months in 2011 except April and August. We will not get a credit for February 2010 but we will receive a credit for the date in 2009 when we were unable to get in because the locks had been changed.
3. Committee participation is a key component of the clubs success. The response to committee signups in January was poor. A consensus was reached that committee chairs should seek out individuals to participate on their committee. Face-to-face interaction asking for specific actions is the next best recruiting effort.
4. There was no further old business
5. Jim Bucknell reported that the April meeting is not yet confirmed the May meeting is confirmed at Targo Hardwoods. June is almost finalized, July is Tips and Tricks and

August is the picnic.

6. Ed Pysher purchased a 50-Cup coffee pot for meetings. Ed also asked the board members to review the list of members who had not renewed and check off those they would be willing to call and encourage to renew. The list was passed among the board members for said action.

7. Jay Geisel reported the two "woodworkers of the month" for our March meeting are Phil Choquette and Andy Swanson. Jay will canvas the members at the March meeting to determine any interest in a club caravan to the "South Suppliers" (Auburn/Tacoma area wood merchants).

8. Gene Benson picked up donated alder from Washington Alder. Anyone interested in using the wood for a Toys 4 Tots project can contact him.

8. Phil Choquette reported on the Woodfest event. It was agreed that NCWA would participate as a vendor this year and will support Mike Stewart with judging. The board authorized Phil to apply for 2 10'x12' adjoining spaces. The cost is \$40 each and NCWA is required to bring tables and chairs. The event is Saturday April 10th from 10-5 and Sunday April 11 from 10-4. Bonnie Yost will assist Phil at the March meeting in gathering sign-ups to man the booths. Jerry Couchman volunteered to donate a raffle item. Phil will get with Nick Van to obtain a Best of Show prize.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM.

Respectfully submitted: Bonnie Yost

Wood Doe Base for sale. Your container. \$15.00/Quart. Steve Intveld 360-592-5670
'wood doe base' is a MEK, toluene fast drying product that the floor layers use to fill holes in new floors. Mix with fine wood dust and it makes an invisible patch.

Interesting Web Site for Members

For those of you that are into furniture building this web site should interest you. For all other members you will get a kick out of looking at the projects this guy made. He really has a crazy imagination and great building skills. I envy him. My favorite project is the "Bad Table" but then I have a weird and sometime sick imagination. Following is the web site. www.straightlinedesigns.com
I hope everyone enjoys looking at the site as much as I did.

Gary Weyers



Cabinet from Straight Line Designs. The river rocks are wood, made from mountain pine beetle forests. The web site is well worth your time.
Charley Drake

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COMING EVENTS

March 2	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge, Mt. Vernon
March 6	10:00 AM	Cabinet Making	Bill Baer
March 17	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant
March 20	Sunset	Newsletter deadline	Charley Drake cndrake@wavecable.com
March 20	10:00 AM	Cabinet Doors	Jim Bucknell

The NCWA is open to all interested woodworkers, and was formed to promote high standards in woodworking, woodworking education and showcasing local woodworking. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Location is announced in the newsletter. Dues are \$30 per year, payable to NCWA, 150 Swinomish Dr., Laconner, WA 98257. Newsletter submissions are welcomed and are due by the 3rd Saturday of the month. Submit to NCWA Newsletter, 5955 Central Ave., Anacortes, WA 98221, or email to chdrake@wavecable.com or call 360-588-8448.

2010 Officers and Chairpersons

President:	Jim Torrance	(360) 629-6670	Education	Chuck Robertson	(360) 387-6333
Vice President	Jerry Couchman	(360) 366-5169	Librarian	Gary Danilson	(360) 424-9268
Secretary	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-1281	Newsletter	Charley Drake	(360) 588-8448
Treasurer	Doug Duehning	(360) 466-5910	Membership	Ed Pysher	(360) 770-7203
Board at Large	Nancy Andersen	(360)-318-1840	Shows	Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320
Board at Large	Andy Swanson	(559) 970-9601	Toys for Tots	Gene Benson	(360) 466-3004
Programs	Jim Bucknell	(360) 766-5088	Webmeister	Mike New	(360) 707-2314
Activities	Gary Weyers	(360) 380-0888			

**NCWA NEWSLETTER**

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