



# NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

**September 2010**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday September 7th, 7 PM**

**Duluth Timber Company  
5715 Gilkey Ave., Edison, WA**

**Directions: From I-5 north:** Leave I-5 at exit 536, turn right on Bow Hill Rd., following it west into Edison. Bear right on McTaggart Ave., to Longhorn Saloon. Turn right on Gilkey Ave, and drive into Duluth Timber.

**From I-5 south:** Leave I-5 at exit 531, SR 11. Follow SR 11 7 miles, turn left on West Bow Hill Rd. at the Bow Post Office, into Edison. Bear right on McTaggart Ave., Turn right on Gilkey Ave in front of the saloon, and drive into Duluth Timber.

**From Anacortes, LaConner & Whidbey Island:** Turn left from SR 20 onto Farm to Market Rd. 7 1/2 miles to Edison. Turn left on Cains Ct., right on Gilkey Ave. to Duluth Timber.

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

## The Program for September

We will have the opportunity to visit beautiful downtown Edison in September. Duluth Timber Co. is widely known for salvaging large timbers from mills, bridges, etc. and recycling it into useful dimensioned wood. This is a fantastic 'green' wood supply company. Check out their web site for examples of their wood and applications.

<http://www.duluthtimber.com/>

## Annual Picnic

Some 80 woodworkers and turners dropped in on the Matthews' garden estate last Saturday to observe their annual rite of summer that features outdoor feasting and relaxation. No one-legged races, athletic contests, or lawn games for these people. Yakity-yakity was everywhere as couples and singles meandered through the gardens or sat under sun-dampening umbrellas



## The Homestead

to enjoy good summer weather in an outdoor setting with old and new friends.

The annual picnic is one of the most pleasant perks granted NCWA members and it's all made possible through the generosity of Laura and Val Matthews who have been our hosts for many years. In essence, it has become a summer's afternoon lazing in the Garden of Eden,



savoring the warmth of the sun and the hot, sumptuous banquet that we call our Picnic. We are subdued, non-sweating creatures who crave good food and pleasant discourse in the midst of plenty: the gorgeous flowers and gardens, green lawns, and a surfeit of delicious food. Can anything top that?

Bargain Hunting

ladies, too, handled the food service. All together, they did a tremendous job while the rest of us couldn't stop talking about how hungry we were getting. Throughout the afternoon people were looking for bargains and making choices at the auction tables over by Val's big shop and where



BarBQue Roundup (must have big hat to play)

As with any worthwhile endeavor some people have to sweat it. That was true for our President Jim Torrence and VP Jerry Couchman who manned the smoke and heat of the ranges to bring us those great burgers and tasty brats. The



he was displaying some of his old cars. John Black drove his hand-made, all wood body bob-tailed roadster, based on a 30's Ford.

Following the conclusion of the silent auction, we held a lottery drawing for the two-piece cabinet made in three of our shop classes



Car Show

last winter. The winner turned out to be Jim Torrence.

It was a fun day and we enjoyed once again the company of woodturners and those great spouses who encourage our woodworking habits. We thank all those people who made our 1010 Picnic a success, especially the Matthews whom we owe a lot of hugs and love.

--Jay

### More Bargain Hunting

Speaking of bargains, I heard there is a place in Auburn to buy Jet equipment that has cosmetic damage, has been surplused or discontinued. The rumor is true.



Storefront



Helpful sales crew

George Way and I went on a road trip to Equipment Sales and Surplus. We picked up two Jet AH-1000B fine dust filters for \$185.00 each plus tax. That's about half of the listed price. Both had very minor cosmetic damage.



Call ahead to find out what's available and price. They also sell new equipment at very good prices, but surplus equipment drives most of the sales.



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by Charley Drake

### Meet the New Members



Meet Jim Hickey. Jim grew up in the Midwest, but has spent many years in Washington and loves the area. He and his wife live in Bellingham. He has been a professional woodworker since the 1980's, and currently works part time building custom furniture for Greg Aanes Furniture in Bellingham. His home shop is well equipped and comfortable. When I visited him, he was completing a wedding gift of some beautiful

padauk trays with ebony dovetail keys. He has built many fine pieces for his home and is looking forward to displaying his work at Arts Alive in November. He recently acquired a veneer vacuum press system and has found that it is serving him well. Maybe he can teach the rest of us!



Meet David Helm. David grew up in Ohio, but has lived in the Bellingham area for about 40 years. After a career as a builder, David switched to the home inspection business, in which he is still involved along with teaching the profession at Bellingham Technical College. His woodworking interests include West Coast Indian mask carving, and building furniture and built-in cabinet work with beautiful live edge slabs. He also built a beautiful home office in the back of his property for his wife. David is in the process of rebuilding his shop as the result of an unusual accident. The shop was essentially destroyed last November by an out-of-control Suburban that failed to stay on the road! David was actually in his office at the time, on the opposite side where the Suburban plowed in, and credits his survival to his table saw. It helped slow and deflect the uninvited vehicle just enough.

Jerry Couchman

**Legs**

If you have a set of legs for a lathe and want to sell them contact Jim Bucknell. 360-766-5088

**Board Minutes**

*Arts Alive!* Crisis Captures Board's Attention

In the past 60 days the NCWA Board of Directors has been working on problems much more serious than the usual kind at their monthly meetings. Loss of venue could spell disaster for our participation in future *Arts Alive!* events.

Most of you know that the LaConner Chamber of Commerce has denied our use of the Civic Garden Club building this November. It is their determination that the building should be used for local and professional artists to exhibit their work during that weekend as additional display space is needed to augment space in Maple Hall. That edict could put NCWA and NWWA out of business unless we find a suitable venue in the next few weeks.

President Jim Torrence and Venues Chairman Phil Choquette have been leading the search for an alternate venue. The down economy has forced the closing of several stores on First street and that has led to consideration of renting a vacant store for the three-day festival. We have an understanding and pending offer for one of three possible vacant store sites that have the size to handle our combined clubs' exhibitions, provided that they are not leased prior to *Arts Alive!* In the meantime, your club is registering with the Chamber to participate in the event again this year just as if we had a venue.

Our mission since NCWA was founded is to "promote high standards in woodworking, craftsmanship, education, and to showcase the work of our local woodworkers." Our primary "showcase" for more than 20 years has been *Arts Alive!* With WoodFest continuation uncertain, *Arts Alive!* is a significant event for our club. Board members are hopeful that a rental solution will succeed, but we have

probably seen the last of the Civic Garden Club.

In other business, the Board defeated a motion that would print a detailed Treasurer's report in the monthly Newsletter. The practice of reporting the treasury balance at the monthly general meeting will continue.

Jim Bucknell, Program chairman, reported problems with the planned September program by a Festool rep. He proposed that the presentation be scrubbed. The Board approved.

Educational classes for the next term will likely begin in late September, according to Chuck Robertson, Education chairman. Although his full calendar of classes has been approved, venues for the first few have not been settled. Chuck said that his committee now numbers six individuals.

Jerry Couchman reported that an opportunity to rent booth space at a forthcoming woodworking exhibition in Port Townsend had been received. The offer was discussed but the booth was small and the price high. In addition, Board members felt the difficulties in ferry scheduling added problems to seller and buyer alike. The Board moved to decline the offer.

Treasurer Doug Duehning reported a Treasury balance of \$4,433.

At 8 p.m. the Board voted to adjourn.

---Jay Geisel, Secretary



## HOLDING WORK

Sometimes figuring out how to hold a work piece can be a challenge.



My tenon cutting jig uses a cam with an off-center pivot point to secure work vertically. It is much faster than a clamp, the four cuts – 2 on each end – require just the flick of a wrist to reposition and secure the work. And it is strong. I cut tenons on the end of a work piece 3" thick, 5" wide, and 48" long.

Small work can present big challenges. My shop made hold down adjusts for different thicknesses and widths. Because it is made of wood, I never have to worry about the saw blade contacting the clamp head. Easy to make and cheap, I use these on my cross cut sled and tapering jig.

Andrew Pellar

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**COMING EVENTS**

Sept. 7th	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Duluth Timber Company
Sept. 8th	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Inn
Sept. 18th	Sundown	Newsletter Deadline	Charley Drake
Sept. 25th	10 AM-1 PM	Wood Movement	Phil Choquette

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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 [cndrake@wavecable.com](mailto:cndrake@wavecable.com) or call 360-588-8448.

**2010 Officers and Chairpersons**

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Vice President	Jerry Couchman	(360) 366-5169	Librarian	Gary Danilson	(360) 424-9268
Secretary	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908	Newsletter	Charley Drake	(360) 588-8448
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Board at Large	Nancy Andersen	(360) 318-1299	Shows	Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320
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**NCWA NEWSLETTER**

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