

NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

February, 2010

**Next Meeting: February 2, Windsor Plywood
1208 Iowa Street
Bellingham
7:00PM General Meeting
Facility Tour to Follow
Phone: 360-770-7203 or 360-387-4174**

January Meeting Sets A New Direction for NCWA Programs

It's a new, exciting season ahead, with a change in officers, ideas and plans for year 2010. NCWA's new course starts with a membership of 104 woodworkers, a new high as rosters go, and these newest members are sure to add energy and vitality to our guild. President-elect Jim Torrance and sidekick Vice President Jerry Couchman are dedicated and talented woodworkers and both have promised to vitalize our interest in working with wood by generating monthly meeting programs from ideas that spring from the minds of different individuals on the NCWA Board. Each meeting program for this year will be the brainchild of a volunteer Board member, all under the overall supervision of our Program chairman, Jim Bucknell.

January's program was a sequel to a favorite practice of sharing jigs, fixtures, and new tools with others. Tips and techniques offered

by the membership are an additional way to advance personal proficiency in the woodcraft art. The traditional eight-month educational program offers dozens of classes in specific woodworking tasks and is one of the best ways members can find answers to project-working. Two of these classes are always over-loaded and must be given several times a year to match the demand. They are, of course, Val Matthew's plane making classes and Jerry's jewelry box sessions. This year's class offerings include a new triad for cabinetmakers that encompasses the basic cabinet and then additional classes in making cabinet doors and drawers, all to be given this Spring.

Next month's meeting will be in Bellingham at one of our discounting stores, Windsor Plywood (1208 Iowa Street) for a tour and product presentation. In March we will be back at Hillcrest Lodge to answer the Gary Weyer wood box challenge that promises to feature offerings from two dozen of our own Club members. Future monthly meeting programs are pretty well set, according to Bucknell.

President Torrance opened the meeting with tongue planted solidly in cheek to ask how we're going to pronounce year 2010: "Two thousand and ten, or 20-10," he suggested. A motion from the floor produced "20-10," which was properly seconded and carried. Jim's first official transaction of the year was secure. Many guests were in attendance and we obtained membership applications from several of them.

Torrance announced that he had appointed two persons to fill vacancies as Board Member-at-Large. Those appointees are Nancy Anderson and Andy Swanson. Meanwhile, Treasurer Doug Duehning was busy all evening taking dues payments before the end-of-month deadline.

Program Chair Bucknell demonstrated NCWA's new cordless microphone, a portable communicator for use by a speaker up front or a mike that can be sent into the audience. According to Nick Van: "The speaker will be able to speak in a normal voice to our vast membership audience, provided that one stands exactly 10 feet from the East wall and exactly 19' 6" from the North wall. Otherwise, the speaker will be obliged to speak in a loud voice to a half-vast audience." Kidding aside, the improved electronics are expected to help those seated in the back of the hall.

We have a great new addition to our club library. Gene Benson has donated the 1975-2008 digital archive collection of Fine Woodworking. This DVD-ROM gives you quick computer access to the first 201 issues of the magazine. That's 3 decades of articles, tips and techniques-all at your fingertips. Thank-you Gene. Since our Feb general meeting will be at Windsor Plywood in Bellingham we will have limited library access. We'll bring this new DVD, our other DVDs and some of our newer books. You

will be able to return material to the library and check out what we bring as well as books returned that night. See you all in Bellingham.

Your Library Committee- Steve Johnson, Jim Torrence, Gary Danilson

Education Chair Chuck Robertson outlined the next two month's classes that include "Sketch Up," the hands-on "Making the Braeden Workbench." He also pronounced the \$5 class sign-up fee a success. He said that members have accepted the idea and absenteeism is no longer a problem. He also welcomes new class ideas from the membership for next year's educational program.

Membership Chairman Ed Pysher described the work of his committee and made a plea for members to sign on for other committee work by routing a new sign-up sheet to those present. Help is needed to most of the Club's committees and members should feel obligated to take on some of these services. Committee work expands your personal contacts and adds to the fun of joining the best woodworking group in the world.

Gary Weyers, our Activities Chairman, reminded us that the planned-to-be annual affair, "Box-Making Contest," will take place at the March meeting. (It was previously scheduled for February but has been moved to March to enable us to meet at Windsor Plywood in February.) Gary was enthusiastic that so many members have committed to the event and promised that the winner of the grand prize will have absolute bragging rights for the year.

Charley Drake, Newsletter editor, wants your input; his readers are asked to contribute articles to the Club Newsletter and not many are taking advantage of this opportunity. "After all, Charley said, "this is your Newsletter and your thoughts and ideas can

be published.. You're all welcome to submit articles, anecdotes, items of humor or help, and anything pertinent to the activities of the Club and its members."

Program Chairman Bucknell explained that he now has a team of a dozen committee members, comprised of your officers, committee chairmen, and other Board members, each ready to organize one meeting program for the year. He anticipates that such a large committee should conjure up a variety of new and interesting program ideas for the woodworkers.

Bring and Brag

Cometh the Biggest Builder. Up stepped prolific Bill Baer, our one-of-a-kind creator of wood things who never tires of showing us what he can do in his workshop, a doing, I might add, that must keep him shop occupied until the late night news show. Bill knows no genre; he makes whatever strikes his fancy and the variety is expansive. Tonight he showed us a six foot sleigh made for a friend. On a nearby table he had arranged lidded boxes, small hand mirrors and several table top swing mirrors. To make the latter, he showed us a router and jig attachment that carves out the recess in the hand mirror back piece.



The sleigh is a sturdy vehicle that should last a long, long time, especially if we have little snowfall, as in 2009. Bill said he didn't have a plan for it; it was all in his mind. The smaller projects, Bill said, were made from cutoffs from the sleigh work. He said the wood was salvaged from timbers used to store propane tanks and old decking and, as each project was completed, off-cuts were stored for use on the next project. (Bill, like your scribe, is hard of hearing. This is not always bad. For me it stops nagging, lessens the honey-does, errands, and household chores and gives me extra time in the shop doing the things I like best. Maybe that's how Bill picks up extra shop time to boost production.)

--Jay

Jig Night Spotlights Some NCWA Favorite Work Methods

The ever-popular Jig Night program usually has something for everyone, and I don't think anyone was disappointed by the program that unfolded at the January meeting.. Program chairman Jim Bucknell provided eight members time up front to describe a jig or shop process that works well for them.

Bucknell, first up, showed off his new spirit level that works in all positions and gives angle readouts. He also demonstrated a favorite dado tool.

Ed Pysher likes his new lightweight Colt router from Bosch, but he reserved his biggest praise for the MJ Splitter system from MicroJig.. The newest model fits two splitters on a table saw, shop-made zero

tolerance insert board to hold the work piece in position and keep it from lifting and thrown back at the operator. The dual splitter is designed in tandem formation. The rear one keeps the kerf open.

Charley Drake showed a jig he made to do resawing on his band saw. The ten-inch high jig clamps in two places on his table and allows him to steer the board through the blade.

Nick Van made a raised panel sled that allows the blade to be tilted . his innovation was mounted on a "cheap piece of plywood."



Photo by Nick Van

Chuck Robertson displayed a jig for making dado slots, replaceable and reversible.



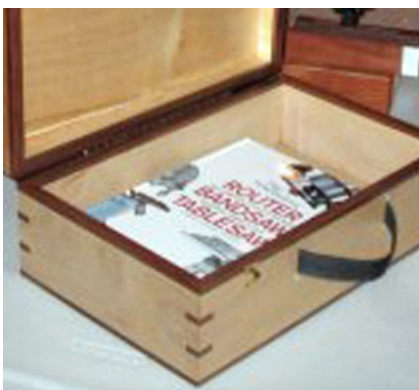
Photo by Nick Van

Jerry Couchman showed us one of his box-making jigs mounted on a quarter-inch Melamine base.



Photo by Nick Van

Box Making Contest



Bring your box to the March meeting. Bragging rights could be yours!

Shelly Clouse says she likes her chrome scraper for general duty in the shop and her plastic, disposable cutting sheets. She also showed a drying stand for beads and domino holding jig.

Table Saw Tamperer Booked

OLYMPIA, Wash.

Court papers allege that an Olympia woman, angry that her husband left her, tampered with his power tools so that he received a powerful electric shock.

Carolyn Paulsen-Riat was booked into the Thurston County Jail for investigation of third-degree assault, domestic violence, and second-degree malicious mischief. A judge released the 33-year-old woman on her own recognizance.

Court documents say that on Jan. 1, the man was using a 220-volt table saw when he received the shock, knocking him to the ground. Thurston County sheriff's deputies said the man did not need to go to a hospital.

In the documents, deputies said the woman told them she had reversed the wires on his power tools because she was angry he was leaving.



Photo from web page

Phil Choquette stresses that he builds his jigs the best he can. He showed square-sided sanding jigs, alignment guides, a neat corner block cutting jig, and glue blocks, all built to last and finely finished.

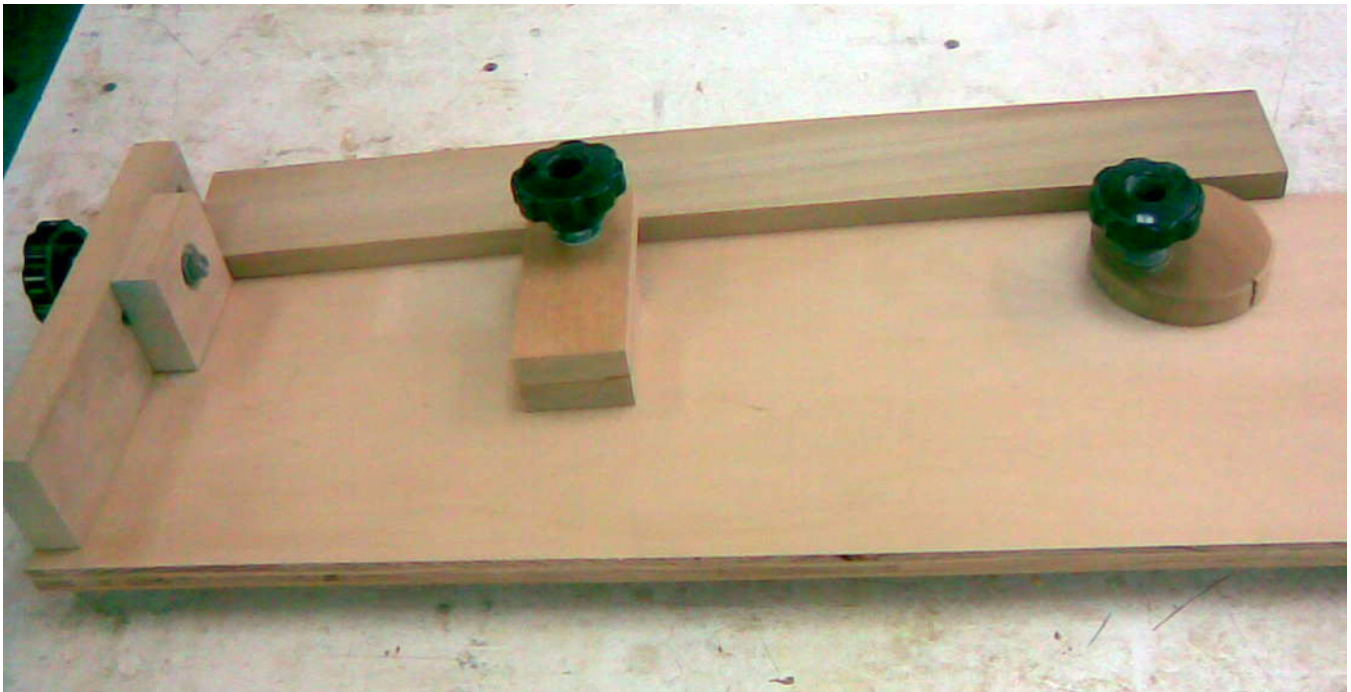


Photo from web page
Builder unknown (at least to me)

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President's Corner

As President of NCWA for the year 2010, I have been thinking about the year ahead and NCWA. I have come realize that NCWA is a remarkable organization. Where can you get so much for \$30 a year in dues? You get a newsletter each month, a monthly meeting with a program, a vendor discount program, access to an outstanding woodworking library and the opportunity to participate in an educational program at a nominal cost. In addition you get the camaraderie of associating with a great group of people who share a common interest in woodworking.

But hold on, the cost is not just \$30 a year. NCWA is an all volunteer organization. Absolutely nothing happens without members volunteering. Without volunteers NCWA would not exist. Rarely are organizations static. They constantly change for better or for worse. Over the years NCWA has gotten better. The membership has grown, the library has expanded, the education program has grown and the vendor discount program has emmerged. Oh, let's not forget the Toys for Tots program. None of this would be happening without volunteers.

What will happen in 2010? Will NCWA continue to get better? That depends on YOU. Get involved. Take advantage of what is offered. Participate by signing up for a committee. Let's commit to make 2010 another great year for a great organization.

Jim Torrence

Vendor Discount Program

We have two changes to the vendor discount program. Bob's Super Saw is no longer able to give us discounts. They tell us their products and services are too deeply discounted now; another 10% puts them in the hole. Payment with credit cards only makes the situation tougher for them. They have assured us they will continue to give us the superb service and have the same great products available for us, so don't write them off.

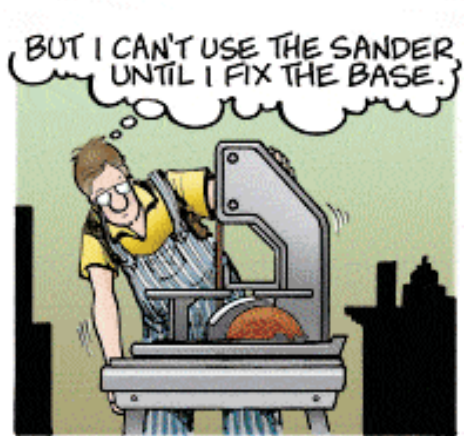
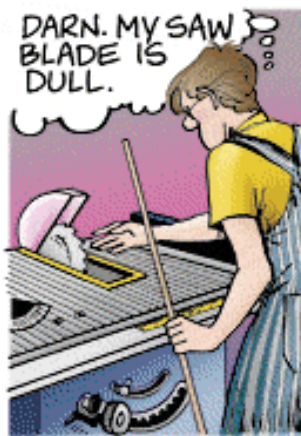
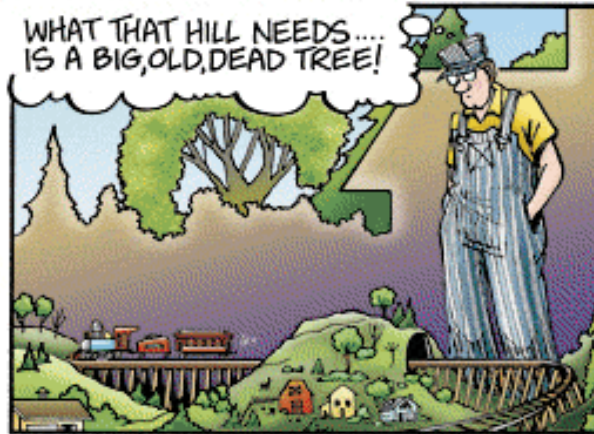
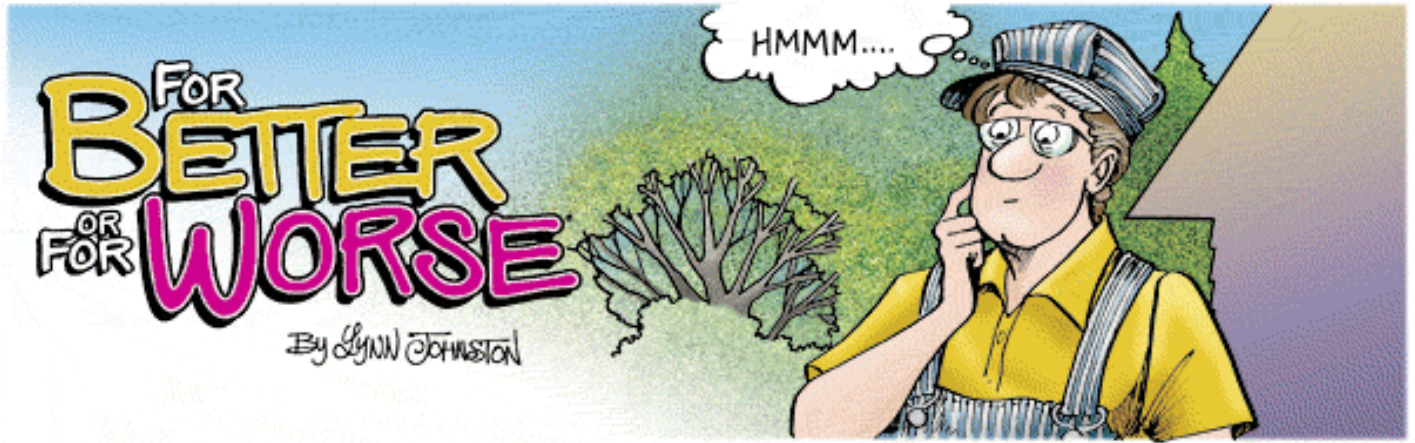
The second change is the addition of Sound Cedar, which is located in the NE corner of the Anderson Road exit off I5. We had a main meeting there last fall. Drop by when you have a chance and check out the products.

Both these changes will be noted on the back of your 2010 membership cards and in the list of vendors at the end of the newsletter.

Membership Cards

The 2010 membership cards will be available at the February meeting, provided you have paid your dues. All the vendors have been notified the new cards will be out, so they will be asking for them when you make a purchase.

If you haven't paid, bring a check to the February meeting, and plead for mercy. :) Jerry Couchman will be in charge of the cards. Look him up.



COMING EVENTS

Feb 2	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Windsor Plywood, Bellingham
Feb 6	1:00 PM	Sculpturing Class	
Feb 17	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant
Feb 20	Sunset	Newsletter deadline	Charley Drake cndrake@wavecable.com
Feb 19&20	9:00 AM	Make a Plane	Val Matthews

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 Anderson	(360) 318-1299	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			

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