

NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

March 2011

Next Meeting: March 1st, Karl's Paints 7:00 PM General Meeting 1515 Freeway Dr. Mount Vernon

From I-5 North or South, take College Way exit in Mt. Vernon. Turn West, toward Lowe's. At the light turn left on Freeway Drive. Go about 2 blocks. Karl's Paints is on the right.

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



Busy February Meeting and Ten New Members

Our February meeting highlighted a Bellingham professional woodworker as speaker, heard about a new venue to take the place of our participation in Arts Alive!, set up a meeting schedule for the year, and changed the date for the 2011 Toys for Tots presentation.

President Jerry Couchman called for an introduction of guests and new members before launching into the subject of committee reports. Our membership renewals have been good, Treasurer Doug Duehning reported \$5,984 in the bank and said fewer than 10 members decided not to renew; some late-payers are still expected to be on board. He forecasts a member total of 115 this month,

Membership Chair Ed Pysher introduced nine new members, the largest group to be entered on the roles in a one-month period. Pysher also talked about the vendor discount program and announced two new retailers have been added to bring the total to 16. They are Martin Lumber & Hardware in Everett and the Mount Vernon Building Center, a division of Pacific Lumber Products, Inc. The latter will host our May meeting at their store, 815 Roosevelt Avenue. The Building Center carries a variety of domestic hardwoods and exotics.

Jim Bucknell has been working with Mount Vernon's Cascade Mall officials to set up our first woodworking exhibition at their Center Court. The new venue will take the place of Arts Alive! on a two-day weekend as early as mid-June. Bucknell also gave a run-down on expected NCWA meeting events in the next few months. In March we will meet at Karl's Paints, near Lowe's, for a look at their inventory of tools and finishes and get solid advice from Earl. In April when the Hillcrest Lodge is closed to us during the Tullip Festival we will visit with host Lynden Green at the Anacortes Maritime Museum. June's program is tentative, but in July we will revisit our popular lumber guru, member Steve Intveld's sawmill and lumber company on Mount Baker Highway.

Our big December meeting when we gather all our Toys for Tots and hand them over to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve will move to November to accommodate the Reserve's timetable for distributing toys. Chair Gene Benson noted that our donations arrive too late for the same year Christmas distribution. The volunteers who place our toys in the hands of the needy children will now have sufficient time to complete their job. Gene also noted that toy donations for our area were down 25% in 2010. NCWA's donation was up.

WoodFest, a celebration of student woodcraft at

Sedro Woolley High School, occurs in early April. We promote high shool education in woodworking and annually support the two-day event with a judging team and a quality tool for the People's Choice Award. The event has had a rocky time of it during the past two years when the sponsoring Sedro Woolley Chamber of Commerce cancelled the event in 2009 and gave it weak support in 2010. Phil Choquette, our Venues Chairman, asked for volunteer judges and a determination of member exhibitors for this year's Fest. While some responded, Phil admitted that he had little information as to dates and plans from the high school shop training teacher. .(See February's Board Meeting report in this issue).

In other announcements Jerry Anderson, our new Educational Chair, reminded us of the classes that were scheduled for February (Scroll Sawing and Veneering) while Gary Danilson, our Librarian, announced that those enjoyable tours of members' shops would resume in March.

Woodworker of the Month was Andy Pellar who described some of the frustrations of a beginning woodworker trying to make a box with hand tools.

Bring and Brag. A fine line-up of members' projects was seen at the February meeting along with a few new B&B faces. Alden Wendt finished the box he



Alden Wendt's Box

started in Jerry Couchman's class. "Nice work," Jerry told him, obviously very pleased. Bob Gaubatz showed us his four-foot wide adjustable, rolling work stand that was almost too nicely finished to be used in a workshop environment, and Andy Pellar had a tool box on display that was part of his Woodworker of the Month talk. A big hit of the evening was Jim Bucknell's six-sided box crowned with a lid of matching triangular planes that swooped upward to a single point. Quite spectacular. Steve Altchison's conemporary hall table sparkled with a stunning top. The yew board, shaped by its natural edge, floated above its base in an atractive combination of mixed woods that included contrasting stripes on each leg.

Jay Geisel, Secretary



Jim Bucknell's Box



Bob Gaubatz's Work Stand



Steve Altchison's Table



Hartville Raffle Let's Clear Up A Misunderstanding About the Hartville Tool Discount



Andrew Pellar's Tool Box

There has been some misinformation in earlier newsletters regarding 15% discounts from Hartville Tool. The catalog company is listed on the back pages of our monthly Newsletter as an NCWA discounter. Hartville Tool no longer gives discounts to members, so don't expect them when you order from their catalog.

Their savings plan for NCWA and similar woodworking organizations resulted in an annual refund to our Club in the form of a cash voucher good for purchasing Hartville Tool merchandise. Value is based on a percentage of what our woodworkers spend. The 2010 reward was won in a raffle at our February 2011 meeting. The Company also offers free shipping on orders of \$100 or more and does not charge a sales tax.

When we agreed to the Hartville Tool discount plan we were given discounts of 15% for the first year, 10% discounts for the second year, and no individual discounts after that. Instead, Hartville said they would initiate a Club refund program for the ensuing years. Year 2010 marked the beginning of the Club program. Hartville is our favored catalog

company and we will continue to honor them as a discounter.

--Jay

Professional Woodworking Skills Are Within Us All, Speaker Says

David Selditz assured us Tuesday night that good woodworking has no rules we are obliged to follow.



David Selditz

"We each do things differently," he said, "and that means better design and techniques."

David displayed several of his furniture pieces, all inspiring, of course, and said "This is all I do. It's not rocket science." With a nod towards Andy Pellar's box and his early difficulties with only hand tools, Selditz suggested: Do things your own way and you'll ultimately be successful.



Selditz Table



Our speaker is a professional woodworker who specializes in the Arts and Crafts school of furniture design. He resides in Bellingham where he makes a living constructing customdesigned works of artistic beauty.

Selditz Container

"American Arts and Crafts styles are simple,

functional designs," David stated, "and you can use hand or power tools, whatever makes you comfortable and helps you get it done."

White oak is a favorite wood that shows well with his finishing methods. David uses a thinned shellac as a pore-filler and after 15 minutes he sands the surfaces before spraying his first coat of polyurethane. After a light sanding, he adds another or even a third coat of poly, with light sanding between coats,

This amiable, very talented woodworker surprised us all when, after the meeting, he chose to be a member of NCWA.

--Jay

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

February has been a very active month, with four classes being held. Thirteen woodworkers attended the excellent Joinery class taught by Gary Holloman. He displayed and explained several types of wood connections, and demonstrated making joints with a biscuit joiner.

March classes will feature: **March 5th** - Sharpen your Chisels and Blades; **March 12th** - How and When to Use a Plane; **March 19th** - Make-a-Plane. All of these classes are full.

NCWA has experienced an influx of members with limited woodworking experience requesting beginner type classes. Requests for some type of advanced project classes have also been received. The Committee will explore these requests and

report to the membership in the near future.

Many thanks to all of our members who volunteer to teach the classes scheduled throughout the year!

NEW CLASS OFFERING!

Val Matthews wishes to teach a *Basic Toy Making* class for new members with limited woodworking experience. This class will demonstrate skills and tools required for making toy cars, boats trains and similar items. To provide a maximum of hands-on experience and safety, the class will be limited to four. This will be a one-on-one class with an experienced woodworker assisting each student.

The class will be held on March 12th at Val's shop from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please bring a lunch with you. Coffee & cookies will be provided.

Each person must bring: *Hearing; Eye (not regular glasses) and respiratory protection!* If you don't yet have any of these, they are readily available at most hardware stores.

Call Jerry Anderson at 360-770-8559 or <u>GCONSULTING@WAVECABLE.COM</u> to sign up.

MEET THE NEW MEMBER

Roger Shimer spent most of his life in Turlock, California southwest of Sacramento, and he and his wife only recently moved to Bellingham to be closer to their daughters. Roger just retired from teaching middle school earth science, but has also worked in agriculture as a crop consultant and as an entomologist. When he was growing up, he and his brother were always building things under their dad's supervision. Once they even built a wooden kayak! Roger enjoys building furniture for their home and is currently working on an extensive cabinet remodeling project.

Jerry Couchman

BOARD NIXES DUES SWAP

Two long-time member-instructors who have yet to re-up in 2011 requested the NCWA Board of Directors to pay their membership fees to offset the cost of their class materials. The Board, meeting on February 9th at the Farmhouse Restaurant on Route 20, turned it down. Instead, the Board listened to arguments for repaying instructors for their materials and other out-of-pocket expenses used in shop classes. A motion was proposed that any teacher may submit an expense request for material out-of-pocket costs. The motion was approved. The personal expenses will be paid largely out of the \$5 per student class that is collected when members sign up for one of the many shop classes offered. Initially the charge was created to keep students committed to the classes they selected.

In a break from tradition, the Board was asked to consider awarding complementary memberships. President Jerry Couchman, elated by guest speaker David Selditz' desire to join our Club, proposed complementary first-year memberships for Selditz and other guest speakers in an effort to enroll high profile professionals to our organization where everyone could benefit from their experience and advice. The motion was approved.



Roger Shimmer

Treasurer Doug Duehning reported a current Club treasury balance of \$6,656 and a 2011 membership total of 115. He offered a refined, final 2011 Budget that was studied and approved by the Board.

In Couchman's introductory statements to the Board he declared that our meetings were running too long and said he was trying to end them within the oneand-a half-hour time period, or 8:30 p.m. Sessions have been running as much as an hour over the time limit.

Education Chair Jerry Anderson, aided by Ed Pysher and Andy Pellar, have been working on a plan to bring basic woodworking instruction back into our educational program. They are concerned that our fast-growing Club is over-looking the needs of the beginning woodworker. Pysher sees a three step program of constructing simple projects that get tougher a step at a time. Pellar said that basic training should start with tool introduction. Jerry believes an effective basic woodworking plan can be worked out within the structure of our current educational program. Anderson is looking for a qualified teacher for his proposed carving class and is asking everyone to help him out. He further declared that the \$5 class fees are to be paid directly to him and not the Club Treasurer.

Old Business topics included an up-date on the Cascade Mall exhibition plans, future meeting programs, and the purchase of a new audio-visual system. Jim Bucknell's plans for holding an NCWA exhibit at Cascade Mall were explained and a suggested date to coincide with Father's Day weekend, June 18th and 19th was suggested. With 300 square feet available at the mall's center court, Jim envisions many tables of member exhibits, both completed and in partial assembly. He also wants Club woodworking demos to be performed. Our aim, he said, is to promote good woodworking as a hobby and to gain new members. A committee of Bill Baer and Ed Pysher will assist Jim in reviewing content for the event. A motion to proceed with the Cascade Mall exhibition in place of Arts Alive! was made and approved.

As to future programs, Bucknell listed firm meeting plans for next month, a visit to Karl's Paints in Mount Vernon, and to Anacortes Maritime Museum in April, and to the Mount Vernon Building Center in May. Another firm date is set for July, a visit to member Steve Intveld's sawmill and lumber yard on Mount Baker Highway.

The quest for a new audio and sound system is slowly but surely taking place. Charley Drake, who has been spearheading this task showed the Board our first piece of equipment, an a-v camera. Other components are due to arrive soon at better than predicted cost, Charley said.

New Business matters started with a discussion of what reward should be given guest speakers and whether to re-order our soon-to-be-exhausted supply of coffee mugs that served us in the past. The mugs, which can be bought by members for \$10, carry the Club logo and must be ordered by the club in quantity. Phil Choquette, Keeper of Kups, will check current prices and minimum orders; he will report back. In the matter of payment to guest speakers, the Board has budgeted funds to repay them for their travel expenses.

Librearian Gary Danilson has slated a Spring Shop Tour for Saturday, March 26th in the Bow, Burlington, and Sedro Woolley areas that will lead members to the work havens of Bill Baer Jim Bucknell, John Bellinger, and Andy Rudy. Driving instructions will be published.

Phil Choquette, Venues Chair, had discouraging news about WoodFest. Our decades-old partnership may be ending. The on-and-off WoodFest event is sponsored by the Sedro Woolley Chamber of Commerce and Phil has had no response from his repeated calls to the school and the Chamber. No one is saying whether WoodFest is on or off and the first weekend in April is approaching fast.

Toys for Tots Chairman Gene Benson advised the Board that the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's local Post would like to receive our annual toys donation

Page	7
------	---

in November rather than December, as has been our practice in years past. The reason, they state, is that 2010 toys, for example, arrive too late for the Christmas toy distribution that year. They are held in storage for the following year. A month's more time will allow the Corps to reach the various charitable organizations that put the toys in the children's hands during the same season they are received. A motion to change our donation party from December to November was approved.

New At-Large Board member Mike Titus brought our attention to the Port Townsend Wooden Boat Show on Whidbey Island in September. Mike vouched for the widespread interest in this annual event that features tool techniques, demonstrations, classes, and vendor participation over a three-day span of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 9th through 11th. Edensaw, one of our vendors, provides attendees with transportation to their facility where they offer special sale prices for lumber and other woodworking items.

Board Members present: G. Anderson, J. Bellinger, E. Benson, J. Bucknell, P.Choquette, J. Couchman, G. Danilson, C. Drake, D. Duehning, J. Geisel, A. Pellar, E. Pysher, and M. Titus. Two members were absent.

Jay Geisel, Secretary Harbor Freight in Town

Harbor Freight, the purveyor of dirt-cheap tools, has recently opened a retail store in Bellingham. It's at 1155 East Sunset Drive, Suite 118, in the Sunset Square Shopping Center opposite Lowes.

Mike Titus

Hand Tool Event

Lie-Nielsen is holding a hand tool event at Seattle Central Community College on March 11 and 12. They usually have other hand tool manufactures on hand, like Glen-Drake or Blue Spruce. Check the link below for more details.

http://www.lie-nielsen.com//?pg=1 Mike Titus

Classifieds

For Sale: 2 Lee Valley "Wonder Dog" bench clamps. I bought 4 and have never used more than 2 at a time. \$50/ pair (\$75 new).

For Sale: 6" Grizzly G0452 jointer. 6"x42" bed, mobile base, 110V. Purchased April 2007, good condition, manual included. \$275.

For Sale: 4" Woodcraft diamond jointer hone. 300 and 600 grit surfaces. \$20 (\$34.99 new).

Mike Titus, 360-714-8182, mjt365@comcast.net

For Sale 7/8" thick, random width and length madrone, dry, stored inside and mostly clear. \$5.00 a board foot. Seattle price \$6.86 a board foot.

Phil Choquette– Raintree Woodworks, 360-675-8320

For Sale

1) 8" delta jointer model dj20 (37-350) at \$950.00 (new \$2040.00 incl taxes)

2) freud biscuit joiner at \$150.00 (new \$287.00 incl taxes)

3) General hollow chisel mortiser /brand new/ model 75-050t at \$450.00 (new \$743.00 with taxes)

4) 16" planer model spw162 with extra blades at \$200.00

5) grizzly 14" band saw model g1019 3/4 horepower at \$150.00

I live in south surrey/white rock/crescent beach area, BC

Don MacLean, 604 538-1420

All Members are Welcome

If you would like to attend the board meetings please feel free to do so. The Farmhouse has good food, and the board discussions can be entertaining. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 P.M.

Charley Drake

NCWA Documentation:

At the January meeting, one of the members asked for a copy of the membership list. If you would like a copy, or a copy of any of the following, please let me know and I'll be happy to email it/them to you:

- Membership list, with addresses, phone numbers and email addresses
- By-laws
- Committee descriptions
- Officers and committee chairs, with phone numbers
- Instructions to sign up with Hartville Tool, which sells only through catalog

Ed Pysher Membership Chair 360-770-7203 epysher@aol.com

Meet the new members:

(Photo 1) AI Ashley retired last summer and now lives on Highway 9 north of Arlington. He has a stand-alone shop that is well equipped with machinery he has found on-line and is in the process of designing a dust collection system. The shop, by the way is disgustingly clean! AI is interested in furniture and arts and crafts.

(Photo 2) Ken Sutherland retired from a career as an auto race track manager. He is building his shop and likes to build outdoor furniture. He has some in his back yard to prove it, and the pieces are very good! Ken is interested in furniture and arts and crafts.

(Photo 3) Karl Reuble and Ken Sutherland are neighbors and I got the distinct feeling they collaborate a lot on their projects. Karl is also building his shop, and is interested in furniture, turning, boxes and chair making. Karl and Ken win the prize for our easternmost members. They live in Concrete.

(Photo 4) Joseph & Cecily Hoffman recently retired from apple farming and are in the process of converting part of a heavy equipment shed to a shop. (I wonder if they would store some wood for me.) They are new to woodworking.







Northwest Washington Woodturners present John Jordan!

The Northwest Washington Woodturners are presenting an all day seminar and demonstration by John Jordan on Saturday March 19th, 9am to 4pm at the Anacortes First Baptist Church. Cost is \$35.00 preregistered or \$40.00 at the door and that includes lunch, snacks & beverages! While this presentation is primarily about woodturning, there will also be a great deal of information that can be useful to other woodworkers and carvers.

John Jordan is a woodturner from Cane Ridge (Nashville), Tennessee. Known primarily for his textured and carved hollow vessels, John has been featured in nearly every major turning exhibition the past twenty years. His work has received numerous awards, and is in the permanent collections of many museums and corporations. You can see John's work at :<u>WWW.johnjordanwoodturning.com</u>

In the morning: John will discuss the aesthetics and properties of wood that every woodturner needs to know.

- How to use grain & color for the best effect
- The advantages of using fresh, green wood
- Why wood cracks and how to prevent it simply
- Dealing with wood movement & shrinkage
- The myths about using green wood

In the Afternoon: John will demonstrate & discuss how he

creates his famous signature pieces using the hollowing, carving and texturing techniques he has developed during the creation of hundreds of pieces.

To register, mail your check (payable to Northwest Washington Woodturners) to: Greg Anderson 23607 Hidden Valley Road Granite Falls, WA 98252







Announced sale or marked-down items will not be further discounted; some manufacturers may restrict dealer discounts of their products.



Page 10 COMING EVENTS

March 1st	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Karl's Paints
March 5th	9:00 AM	Sharpening	Charley Drake's shop
March 9th	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Inn
March 12th	9:00 AM	Plane Use	Charley Drake's shop
March 12th	10:00 AM	Basic Toy Making	Val Mathews's shop
March 19th	?:00 AM	Make a Plane	Val Mathews's shop
March 26th	9:00 AM	Shop Tour	Gary Danilson

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 or call 360-588-8448. **2011 Officers and Chairpersons**

President:	Jerry Couchman	(360) 366-5169	Education	Gerald Anderson	(360) 766-6248
Vice President	John Bellinger	(360) 708-4036	Librarian	Gary Danilson	(360) 424-9268
Secretary	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908	Newsletter	Charley Drake	(360) 588-8448
Treasurer	Doug Duehning	(360) 466-1281	Membership	Ed Pysher	(360) 766-0136
Board at Large	Andrew Pellar	(504) 339-0871	Shows	Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320
Board at Large	Mike Titus	(360) 714-8182	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			



5955 Central Ave. Anacortes, WA 98221