

# NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

April, 2009

**Next Meeting: April 7, 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.**

## March Meeting Attracts Large Turnout

New members and several guests added to a large turnout of 50 plus woodworkers at our meeting in on March 3. President **Jeff O'Donnell** welcomed the new faces and introduced two volunteers who presented us with their 2009 challenge for the restoration of Camp Kirby on Samish Island.

The women's Skagit County leadership group is seeking help from tradesmen and other public spirited individuals to repair and restore the cabins and other structures of the 42-acre Campfire Girls' camp on Padilla Bay, known as Camp Kirby. The work will be completed this spring in time to re-open the campsite in early summer.

Camp Kirby first opened in 1923, but in the last few years it has had some tough years and "it now needs an

extreme makeover." NCWA members were asked to help with the restoration. The first working day is scheduled for Saturday, April 4. Several members have agreed to help.

## April Program

**Greg Cox** of *Lee Valley tools* will be our featured speaker at the April 7 meeting.

Greg will be bringing Lee Valley's full selection of planes and will discuss planes and their use. He will also provide members with an opportunity to try these planes.

We will have some Black and Decker workmate-type benches available. It should be a fun and informative, hands-on session.

-- Jim Bucknell

Librarian Chair **Gary Danlison** had his books and videos spread out over four large tables to show members the extensive coverage of woodworking subjects available in the club's library. **Nick Van**, our Newsletter editor, welcomes articles written by members. Send them to Nick as e-mail in MS Word format.

**Ed Pysher**, Membership Chair, has been handing out the new 2009 membership cards and called attention to the names of the NCWA discounters printed on the reverse side. These nifty cards, by the way, are contributed by **Cec Braeden**. Venues Chair **Phil Choquette**

announced the official cancellation of the 2009 WoodFest at Sedro-Woolley High School. Organizational problems within the SW Chamber of

Commerce led to the cancellation of this year's woodworking festival.

**Gene Benson**, our very enthusiastic Toys for Tots chairman, displayed a framed certificate that announced our organization as winners, for the second year in a row, of the USMC Reserve "Toys for Tots Achievement Award." Gene said he is busy organizing some neighborhood woodworking teams and getting Saturday workshop activities going. "Wood is no problem," he said, "Let me know what you need."



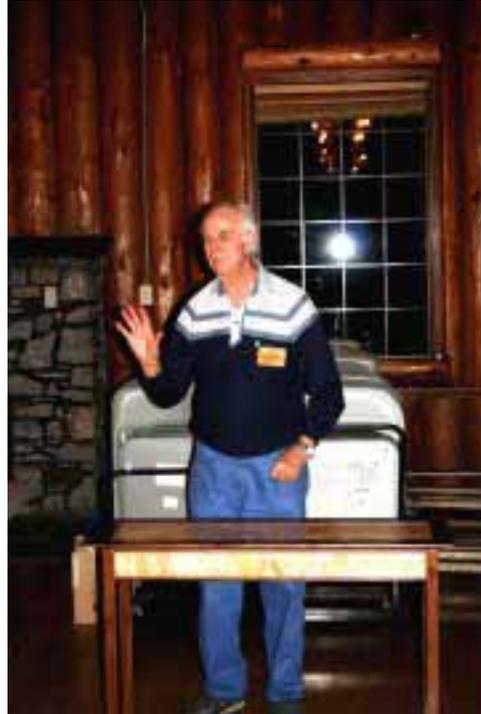
Congratulations to Glenn and the members who support Toys for Tots

**Chuck Robertson**, Education Chair, listed class schedules for the rest of the season and asked members what type of training they would like for the next round of classes starting in September. Coming up on May 16 is a class in building the world famous "Cec Braeden Workbench," the one that gained national notoriety in "Fine Woodworking" magazine. A full schedule of classes can be found on our Website.

Bring 'n Brag featured Cec displaying his latest project, a hall table in maple and walnut with eye-catching legs that splay outward at the feet. The work employs a top of maple veneer, the first veneering attempt he's made. Cec thanked Bob Doop for his counsel during the project and added, "If you don't know how to do something there's someone in this group that can help you," Cec said in regard to the veneering challenge.

**Larry Tomovick** offered members the opportunity to use his jig to make bending laminations. The jig was a necessity when Larry undertook his rocker project. **Troy Burk** showed us his attractive recipe box that features vertical maple splines on the corners. The box is made

of Allowood. **Laura Matthews** is turning out great stuff with her new lathe. She brought a delightful cherry bowl finished in walnut oil to the meeting.



Cec's Walnut and Maple Table



Ed's been meaning to get that arm fixed

In the program that followed the break, several members offered their choices of low-cost tools, jigs, and products that make a difference in their shops.

**Ed Pysher** likes his GRRipper that keeps his hands safe above the tablesaw blade and the new Rockler 4" plastic dust collector tube with bellows construction that can be expanded and wrapped around a post or other obstruction or make sweeping 90-degree curves while holding its shape, a neat solution to troublesome vacuum piping problems.

**Nick Van** displayed a hole-drilling jig that allows him to quickly and accurately drill holes for shelf supports.



Willie Wonka (Phil Choquette)  
and his magic machine

**Phil Choquette** brought his quality tenoning jig that never fails to give him tight miter joints. The device features an angled tenon making fence that slides and locks the work piece in a tight grip that assures perfect cutting and a 90-degree glue up of the two parts. Other pet tooling included 36-inch straight edge with a wide base that allows it to stand on edge, a 45-degree clamp from Gross Stabile that makes it easy to clamp picture frames. Pysher added that he now has a 60-inch engineering straight edge that he's willing to loan to club members.

I ended the session with some of my pet low-cost tools and a display of new dust collection devices offered by Rockler that included a rubber collar on a blast gate that allows a quick on-and-off connection to any metal port. Another new item is a blast gate that can be screwed directly to a wall to give it strength and stability to support the 4" hose. —Jay Geisel



Hitch 'em up! Move 'em out to the  
Woodworkers Show in Seattle

## Woodworking Show Draws Interest

Now only a few weeks away, the Woodworking Show is expected to lure a couple dozen or so NCWA members to the Seattle Center beginning on Friday, April 17 through Sunday, April 19. Six volunteer drivers offered rides in a car-pooling organizing session at the March meeting.

Those planning to attend Friday's show are **Jim Corbin, Jim Davis, and Jim Torrence.** **Jeff O'Donnell** can take riders to the Saturday show. **Nick Van** and **Jim Bucknell** are offering rides and can attend either Friday or Saturday.

The Woodworking Show, the largest of its kind in our neck of the woods, is being held in only four cities this year. Hours on Friday are 12 noon to 6:00PM. On Saturday, show hours are 10:00AM to 6:00PM and on Sunday, show hours are 11:00AM to 4:00PM.

—Jay Geisel

### FOR SALE - GRANDFATHER CLOCK

Black walnut grandfather clock built by Larry Tomovick with Westminster chimes. Excellent condition. \$300. Call Larry at 360-293-4580

## Ryobi Circular Saw Recall

Ryobi Power Tools has recalled 12,400 corded circular saws, purchased at Home Depot, October thru November 2008. The return spring on the circular saw's lower blade guard can break, posing a laceration hazard to users. Models affected are CSB123, CSB131L, and CSB142LZ, with manufacturing date codes between 0836 and 0842. Ryobi is offering free repair. For Info, call: (800)525-2579 (Reported in Woodworker West, March-April 2009) — Jay Geisel

## Toys for Tots Committee

If you read the March newsletter, you may know more about Toys for Tots than you care to know. Ah, the information age.

**Ed Pysher** is leading a “cradle workshop” and has two other members of his group. **Glenn Koontz** has a team working together making toys. If interested, call or e-mail Glenn. **Nick Van** is beginning to get a Camano Island/Stanwood team together at his shop.

Everyone knows **Val and Laura Matthew** and the work they have done for the toys program. Val will announce his group's toy making days at the monthly meeting or by e-mail if other dates are scheduled.

I'm still hoping to get a “T4T” team together to make toys in Anacortes, Bellingham and Ferndale. There are a lot of wood savvy members in these two areas. If others, unknown to me are interested in cradles, or any other projects regarding Toys for Tots, let me know. I have committed to giving my shop time to people who want to learn more about woodworking while making cradles for Toys for Tots. I will send an e-mail each weekend informing interested parties as to the days I'm available to work with you. Call me at 360-466-3004 or e-mail contact me at [snooks@valleyint.com](mailto:snooks@valleyint.com) if interested.

I know many wood workers would rather work alone. Your choice, but especially for “Newbies,” teaming is a great way to learn woodworking and have fun with your team members. Please let me know how you want to involve yourself in “T4T.” I need to hear from you. There is lots of wood available at my shop, free for toy making. — Gene Benson

## Shop Tours – Loads of Fun

(See Pictures on Pages 5)

We held our first shop tour of the year in February and had a great response by club members. Our best estimate is that 50 to 60 members and guests toured the four shops that were open for the tour.

We're grateful to **Jim Corbin, Ed Pysher, Jim Bucknell** and **Val and Laura Matthews** for opening up their shops and hosting the day's tour. We saw a lot of sample projects, innovative shop ideas and good cross-section of small to big shops. There were also lots of cookies and good coffee to keep us going through the day.

If you weren't able to make this tour then mark your calendars for June 6 and plan to see some more great shops of your fellow woodworkers. If you have any suggestions about future shop tours be sure to talk to **John Bellinger** (360-708-4036, [Jr.bellinger@verizon.net](mailto:Jr.bellinger@verizon.net)) or **Gary Danlison** (360-424-9268, [gdanlison@hotmail.com](mailto:gdanlison@hotmail.com)). — Gary Danlison

## Library Report

There was a good response to the “woodworking magazine exchange” at our last meeting. We will, again, have a box available for anyone who wants to give their old magazines a new life for a fellow woodworker.

There will be no checking out or keeping track of magazines. No red tape whatsoever, we promise. So wipe the dust off that stack of old woodworking mags and bring a few to share with others.

We are also currently considering which additions to make to the library so if you have any suggestions please bring them up to one of the committee members. Your library committee is **Steve Johnson, Jim Torrence and Gary Danilson**. — Gary Danlison



John Bellinger describes magazine gig

## Shop Tour -- A good time was had by All



Da Boys -- The plot thickens



How can I get my hands on that coffee



You're sending this to Congress?  
Who's that nice lady below?



Nothin' like a couple of old buzzards!



## Shop Tools Explained

**Drill Press:** A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

**Wire Wheel:** Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, "Oh sh(ucks)"

**Electric Hand Drill:** Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.

**Pliers:** Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

**Belt Sander:** An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

**Hacksaw:** One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

**Vise Grips:** Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

**Oxyacetylene Torch:** Used almost entirely for setting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub from which you are trying to remove a bearing race.

**Table Saw:** A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing the integrity of the wall directly in line with your belt or pant zipper.

**Hydraulic Floor Jack:** Used for lowering an

automobile to the ground, after you have installed your new brake shoes, and trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

**Bandsaw:** A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut perfectly good aluminum sheet metal into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

**Engine Hoist:** A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

**Phillips Screwdriver:** Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.

**Slotted Screwdriver:** A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and also for butchering your palms.

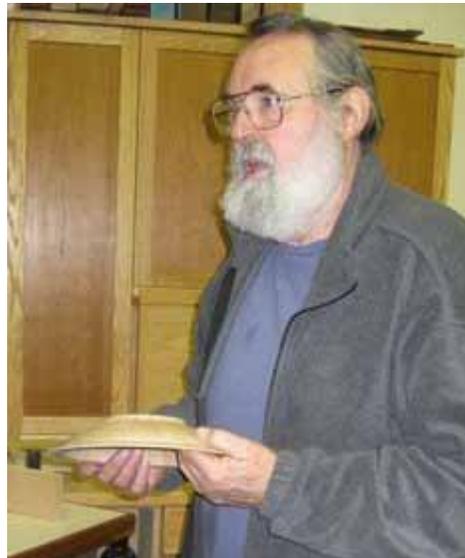
**Prybar:** A tool used to crumple the expensive metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

**Hose Cutter:** A tool used primarily for making hoses too short.

**Hammer:** Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate those more expensive parts that are immediately adjacent to the object we are actually trying to hit.

**Utility Knife:** Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on their contents, such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while being worn.

**D\_\_m-It Tool:** Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling "D\_\_m it!" at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need. -- Jerry Couchman



Bob Doop learning about simple bowls



## Woodworking Calendar of Events

**April 3-5** Artists of the Northwest Crafts Alliance presents their annual *Spring Best of the Northwest*. This show features work by more than 170 artists working in all craft media.

**April 18-19** Quilceda Carvers *Artistry in Wood Show* at Evergreen Fairgrounds in Monroe, WA (Call Nancy March, (360) 629-2710)

**April** Artwood presents *Lathe Turnings* as their featured exhibition for the month. 1000 Harris Ave., Bellingham, WA (360) 647-1628

**Thru June 27** Whatcom Museum of History & Art presents *World of the Shipwright: From Wood to Fiberglass*. This exhibit explores the golden years of boat and shipbuilding in the region from the late 1800's through 1965

**For Sale.....** 14" Rockwell Bandsaw. Excellent condition. Wheel rubbers replaced last year. Guide blocks refaced last month. Smooth running bearings. 3/4HP 120/240V motor, motor mount, and v-lock belt. Make an offer. I might laugh, but make one anyway. Call Nick Van 360-348-4174.

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**COMING EVENTS**

April 7	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge, Mount Vernon
April 15	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
April 18	7:00 PM	Newsletter Deadline	Nick's Email (nvan@verizon.net)
May 5	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge, Mount Vernon

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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, 24 Jacks Pass Court, Camano Island, WA 98282 or Email to nvan@verizon.net or call 360-387-4174.

**2008 Officers and Chairpersons**

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**NCWA NEWSLETTER**

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