

# NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

September 2007

**Next Meeting: September 4th, 7:00 pm**  
**Awood Night at Chemco**  
**4191 Grandview Road, Ferndale**  
**Phone: 360-770-7203 or 360-319-7600**

#### Directions to Chemco:

From North I-5. Exit at Grandview Road, Exit #266. Proceed West (left) on Grandview approximately 5 miles. Immediately after crossing Kickerville Road, and just before crossing the train tracks, you will see the entrance to CHEMCO's facilities.

Hi folks!

Summer is coming to a close and in short order the rains will begin. That means less yard work and more time in the shop. The timing is perfect for an Arts Alive project. Arts Alive, the premier woodworking show in our part of the NW, is the first weekend in November. Give some thought to the kind of project you would like to show off. Like me, a lot of our members are relatively new to woodworking and are kind of reluctant to display some of our work. But that's what it is all about. Pieces from us beginners show the skill progression that members enjoy as a result of membership in NCWA. Don't be afraid to show off what you have done/can do! Call either Nick Van (360-387-4174) or Phil Choquette (360-675-8320) and let one of them know you will be having something to contribute.

Once again, Val and Laura Matthews produced some great weather for the annual NCWA picnic. A grand time was had by all. The Matthews deserve a standing ovation for all their work in preparing their place for this event. (That's another way of saying that each year, Val seems to be able to get everything done on Laura's Honey-Do list.) They deserve our personal thanks.



Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see information about the education program and how to sign up. When you sign up, please remember that in many of these classes, the presenter invests a great deal of time putting together the materials and otherwise preparing to lead the class. That last thing the presenter needs is "no-shows". Likewise, there frequently are members that would like to attend a class, but the class is full. "No-shows" mean these folks waiting in the wings are shut out. Please, people, if you cannot make a class that you have signed up for, go to the website and "de-register", so a "standby" can take your place. If your plans change at the last minute, in addition to de-registering, give the presenter a break and call him/her and let them know. Please also call Nick Van, who handles the online schedule so he can notify a "standby" member.

Enjoy the weather, folks. Something tells me it ain't gonna last much longer. I'll see you on September 4. Don't forget "bring-n-brag" and don't forget your name tags.

Ed

Fast Eddie assaults the dog with mustard!

## NCWA SUMMER PICNIC SOOTHES THE HEART, SPARKS YOUR APPETITE.....

Wow! What a picnic. I don't remember enjoying a Club event better than this. The people, food, the beautiful park-like picnic grounds, and even the weather combined to make this one *A Day to Remember*. Everyone who played a role in making the 2007 spectacular such a huge success deserves our deepest gratitude. Our hosts Laura and Val turned their home into fantasyland and one would be hard put to find a more attractive location than theirs. The lawn and garden are works of art. Stunning!

The work of Bob Doop and a few helpers in preparing another sumptuous feast and providing us with tables and chairs to enjoy it was another masterful effort. Huzzah!

About 36 members and spouses were on hand to celebrate another NCWA milestone that featured the drawing for the latest Cec Braeden workbench. Late in the afternoon, after some last-minute raffle ticket selling by Glen Koontz, we were able to draw the winning ducat and pronounce fellow-member Troy Burks of Anacortes the luckiest man of the day. Troy needed a good shop bench and he won one, and the winner was at the picnic too.

Troy's workbench was the sixth edition of Cec's handiwork, but not the last. At the August Board meeting

he volunteered to make another raffle bench to be given away at Arts Alive in early November. People disappointed at not winning one in the past two raffles will have a third-chance soon to own their genuine Braeden-

built, innovative, and highly publicized woodworker's bench. Cec's interesting design was featured in *Fine Woodworking* magazine almost three years ago. Can you imagine how many have been built by others around the world?

The popular silent auction of tools and other woodworking items continued at this year's picnic but not with the same bidding intensity. It was fun, though, and many of

us ended up with stuff we couldn't live without and will probably offer it back for sale next year.

### September Program.....Alowood

The September 4th meeting will be held at the Chemco facilities in Ferndale, WA where we will see first hand how Alowood is made. Alowood, as you may know, is an organically hardened wood offering an alternative to expensive, high-demand, or increasingly scarce hardwoods such as ebony, rosewood, and walnut. It is environmentally responsible and cost effective and can be produced in virtually any color. During the meeting you'll learn more about Alowood, get a tour of the plant to see how Alowood is manufactured and have some hands-on time with the product so you can experience yourself how well it machines and how easy it is to work with. As an added bonus, everyone that attends the meeting will get some Alowood to take home with them.

The program will run from 7pm to approximately 8:30pm. A short business meeting will follow.



It's always interesting at picnic time to visit Val's big shop and see what's happening. Last year's storm that took down a big cedar tree and damaged the northeast wall of his shop is almost forgotten. Repairs are done and the shop glistens with a new coat of exterior paint. Inside sits Laura's new lathe, a top model Powermatic, with long bed and all the bells and whistles, including a non-revolving headstock that slides the

length of the bed for 90-degree turning. They picked it up at a good price while attending the Turners' Symposium last month in Portland. Laura's old General? You'll find it sitting in Gene Benson's shop.

I couldn't help notice a new contraption behind Val's radial arm saw consisting of a couple pulleys threaded with a rope

and tied at one end to an old double-pane window sash weight. Mounted to the wall behind the saw blade and guard assembly, this novel fixture is attached to the saw's cutting carriage and keeps it from creeping forward. After you make a cut the weight returns the saw blade carriage to its home position snug and safe behind the fence. I've got the same creeping situation with my RAS and I'm stealing Val's solution. Meanwhile I can hardly wait for next August. —Jay

## TOYS FOR TOTS

As summer is ending it is time to turn our thoughts to our Toys for Tots projects. Our first need is for volunteers to be Area Coordinators to spear head the projects in the various areas we live in. The Coordinators will need to find volunteers in their area who will work together to build wooden toys. They will need to find a work place, a project to make and establish a time line to complete these projects. This is a wonderful opportunity for friendships to develop.

With the current awareness of toxic finishes and small parts (ie no magnets) we need to be vigilant concerning our designs and finishes.

Val and Laura Matthews have created a wooden grasshopper and have the pattern to make it. Gene Benson is again making cradles and I have a sample for the wooden trains. We have a supply of alder and more material is coming.

Please email me with any questions or if you are willing to be an Area Coordinator.

Glenn Koontz  
[glynnk@localnet.com](mailto:glynnk@localnet.com)  
 466.5910

## THE WINTER CHALLENGE.....

Well all you crafters, the winter challenge has been extended. Because of the meeting being held at the Chemco plant in Ferndale I chose to extend the winter challenge a month. It will now be held at the Oct. meeting. We will be quite busy with the Alowood tour and knowing how long it takes to vote for the challenge contest its best to postpone the challenge a month. Besides, it will give all you procrastinators another month to finish your projects. Get busy everyone; lets make this the biggest contest yet. Make your project the best and win the gift cards. Remember, there three cards to win, one 50.00 dollar card and two 25.00 dollar cards. A reminder folks of what the challenge contest is. Make anything that shows or represents

“winter”. It can be something Christmas, Snow, Cold, New Year, Drinking & Partying, etc. Use your imagination.

Good luck to everyone-- Gary  
 My home page.  
<http://home.comcast.net/~knottyplayhouse>  
<http://www.picturetrail.com/mageez>

### It's ARTS ALIVE! (November 2-3-4)

Seventy Three days to go from today (15 August). Are you ready? Let's make it a great show like we had last year! Your project can be a work in progress, a completed piece or a piece you made years ago. It does not have to be for sale but it could be if you wanted to. If you do not want to sell it, remember, put a “Sold” sign on your work rather than a “Not for sale” sign. It is a little less off putting, lets people know that other pieces are for sale and is a subtle sign of success. Support this opportunity to showcase our club, its members and yourself! !



## LIBRARY ADDITIONS.....

The club has three additions to the video section of our library, two new DVDs and one video tape donation. The DVDs are BASIC BOX MAKING by David Stowe and DOVETAILA DRAWER by Frank Klausz. Club VP Walt Meyers has donated a video tape titled PROFESSIONAL ROUTING SECRETS from the woodworking editors at Rodale Press. These new additions will be available, along with

other videos, at the next monthly meeting.  
 -Jim Torrence

## DOVE TAILS from the library.....

If you are like me (and I know a lot of you are not), you try to do as much woodworking as possible using a machine. There are many teachers, however, who believe that the path to expertise begins with the using of old tried and true methods with hand tools. In many situations, a hand tool such as a plane or chisel is the only method to accomplish what you are trying to do.

For some people, the use of hand tools is the easiest and fastest way to accomplish a task. This is the case with Frank Klausz. One of the new additions to the club library made by our Librarian, Jim Torrence, is Dovetail a Drawer with Frank Klausz. The club version is on a CD but I happened to pick up a copy of the same subject on tape at the picnic and I watched it when I got home - it is fantastic!

I think everybody enjoys watching a master at work and that is what you see on this video. Frank Klausz says that he does his drawers by hand because he believes that it is faster than trying to set up a jig. It is his opinion that speed is important, certainly, for the person that is in business but also for the hobbyist. The first because time is money and the latter because the hobbyist has only limited time to devote to his hobby.

Although speed is not one of my considerations (and why it takes me forever to do anything), the methods of working certainly are and this CD has a lot of techniques that I think are of value to everyone. There is no point in my trying to explain everything about the CD - you should watch it yourself to see if my recommendation is valid. I am sure that you will find your time watching this video well spent so contact Jim Torrence at email: [jetink@hughes.net](mailto:jetink@hughes.net), phone 360-629-6670 to reserve the CD and enjoy! -Walter Meyers



### A message from Vicki Parry.....

NCWA sent flowers to the family of Don Parry in memory of his passing in July. The following message has been received from his family:

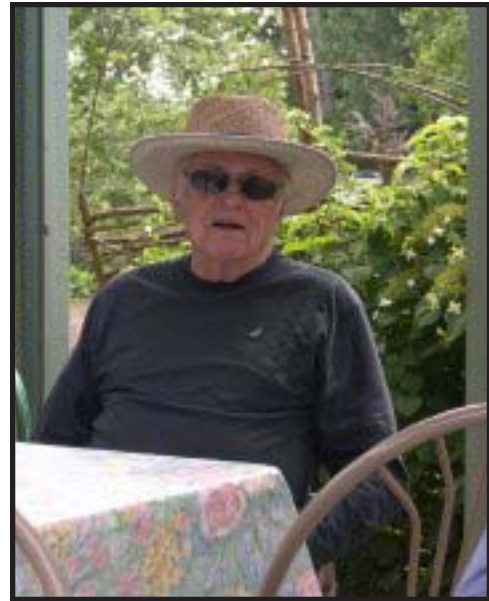
*Gentle People.....*

*My children & I thank you for the beautiful plant arrangement. Don so loved your woodworkers group....he always came home from the meetings with some little nugget of knowledge, from you men & women, about wood.*

*Your kindness is appreciated.*

*Vicki Parry*

**PICNIC 2007.....Memories, food, friendships new and old, food, Glenn hawking raffle tickets, food, Troy won the Braeden Bench, food, silent auction, food, fun, food.....Thanks to all who made it possible.....and a SPECIAL thanks to Val & Laura for hosting another memorable day!!!**



***AS THE WEB SPINS.....***

A sneak preview of our September program.....here's the **Alowood** website. Lots of great information! [www.alowood.com](http://www.alowood.com)

***FROM OUR WEBMASTER.....***

Any members who have a woodworking related website are invited to submit the URL to their website for inclusion on our NCWA website. To see examples of websites already listed, go to [www.ncwawood.org](http://www.ncwawood.org) and click on "resources" and then click on "woodworking links". This is another benefit of NCWA membership! - Greg Shumate

***THE WOOD SHED.....***

**MAPLE 'R US!**

Lots to choose from in a wide selection of sizes.....\$.75-\$2.00/ BF. Call Steve Intveld 360-592-5670

**DELTA MODEL #46-700 VARIABLE SPEED WOOD LATHE**

12" x 36" w/ #2 morse taper, 2 tool rests (4" & 12"), spur drive, dead center, knock out bar, 2 face plates (3" & 6") and instruction manual. \$150 Laura Matthews 360-757-7730

**VARIABLE SPEED MOTOR**

1 HP Totally Enclosed Fan Cooled DC Motor w/ electronic speed control. \$350  
Laura Matthews 360-757-7730

**POWERMATIC MODEL 100 12" PLANER**

3HP Baldor 3 phase.....can be run on single phase power with the addition of a static phase converter. New knives. Good condition. \$795 Rick Anderson 360-650-1587

## COMING EVENTS

Sept. 4th	7PM	Membership Meeting	Chemco, Ferndale
Sept. 19th	7 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
Sept. 22nd	Noon	Newsletter Deadline	Rick's Email Box
Oct. 2nd	7 PM	Monthly Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge, Mount Vernon
Nov. 2-4	10-5	Arts Alive!	LaConner

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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, 1331 Meador Ave., Suite J105, Bellingham, WA 98229 or Email to rick@gardenarches.com or call 360-650-1587.

### **2007 Officers and Committee Chairs:**

President:	Ed Pysher	(360) 766-0136	Librarian:	Jim Torrence	(360) 629-6670
V.P.	Walter Meyers	(360) 279-8632	Newsletter:	Rick Anderson	(360) 650-1587
Secretary:	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908	Membership:	Walter Meyers	(360) 279-8632
Treasurer:	Doug Duehning	(360) 466-1281	Shows:	Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320
Board at Large	Glenn Koontz	(360) 466-5910		Nick Van	(360) 387-4174
Programs:	Cecil Braeden	(360) 588-9830	Projects:	Val Matthews	(360) 757-7730
Activities:	CHAIRPERSON NEEDED		Toys for Tots:	Glenn Koontz	(360) 466-5910
Education:	Chuck Robertson	(360) 387-6333	Webmaster:	Greg Shumate	(360) 387-2066



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