



NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

September, 2009

Next Meeting: September 1, 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.

The New Year Begins

Our last event of the year was our club picnic. And what a time we had! About 60 or 70 members, spouse, friends and relatives of NCWA and the woodturners showed up to enjoy each other, the remarkable culinary delights brought to the table by those who attended, the expert and flamboyant chef display by our members **Bob Doop** and **Jim Torrence** and the fun, games and raffles held by the Toys for Tots gang. All who attended had a great time. We are very happy to have been invited and entertained so thoroughly by our hosts, **Val and Laura Matthews**. Thank you.

Now, however, summer is waning. Your lawns will

need attention for only a short while longer. Skinny dipping in the lake will require more and more courage and, oh yes, there aren't any fish in the streams anyway. The fall colors are only a short while away and its time to get down to the business of making wood chips and sawdust.



The Annual Picnic was an unqualified blast!

The agenda for NCWA for the year (September through June) is ambitious, eventful, and stimulating. Our Education program for the new year should be posted on the club's website by now and it is also shown elsewhere in this newsletter. New members are popping up everywhere and our meetings will be full of interesting programs, projects completed by the membership and great coffee and cookies.

Our Library continues to expand, not only with great woodworking texts, but also is beginning to develop a wonderful collection of CDs. The club sports one of the finest websites you'll ever visit. There will be shop tours during the year and sometime in the Spring we'll collectively visit a woodworking exposition either in western Washington or in southern British Columbia.

And don't forget Art's Alive in LaConner in November. All members of the club are encouraged to finish your projects and show just what this organization is made of. You can show your work, and either sell it on site, take orders for future sale, or just display for the sake of demonstrating your particular skills and crafts. It's a great weekend. Be sure you contact **Phil Choquette** and volunteer to help with the various activities associated with Art's Alive.

So look forward to another productive, informative and beneficial year with NCWA. When the time comes to volunteer, raise your hand and get in the swim of it. Most important, though, enjoy yourselves for another year. – editor

Education Class Registration Fee

Starting with the first class in September, there will be a \$5.00 registration fee for each class. Your board of directors has decided to have this charge for two main reasons. First, many of the instructors have been absorbing the costs of handouts, materials, etc. and your directors thought that the club should be paying for those items. Your registration fee will be used for that purpose. The fee is also an attempt to reduce the number of "no-shows" which were a problem with some classes last year. Hopefully, it will work.

Class Schedule for 2009 - 2010

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day of Week</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
09/19/2009	Saturday	10:00 AM	Wood Preparation: Rough to Useful	Benson
9/22/2009	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Wood Types and Identification	Torrence
9/26/2009	Saturday	10:15 AM	Field Trip to Edensaw Lumber	Geisel
10/13/2009	Tuesday	7:00 PM	How and when to use a plane and scraper	Blair
10/24/2009	Saturday	10:00 AM	Sharpen Your Chisels, Plane Blades and Scrapers	Blair
11/10/2009	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Dust Collection	Anderson
11/21/2009	Saturday	10:00 AM	Tune Your Bandsaw: Charlie will come to Camano Island	Drake
12/8/2009	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Table Saw Topics	Choquette
12/19/2009	Saturday	10:00 AM	Tune Your Bandsaw: Charlie will come to Mt. Vernon	Drake
1/12/2010	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Planers and Jointers: Tuning and Changing Blades	Drake
1/23/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Sketch-Up	Drake
1/30/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Build a Workbench	Braeden
2/6/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Frame Making	?????
2/20/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Make-a-Plane	Matthews
3/6/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Cabinet Making	Baer
3/20/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Cabinet Doors	Bucknell
4/3/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Drawers	Robertson
4/10/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Scroll Saw Techniques	Weyers
4/20/2010	Tuesday	5:00 PM	Boxes	Couchman
5/1/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Shop Organization	Strauss
5/8/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Wood Turning 101	Doop
5/22/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Finishing I	Choquette
6/5/2010	Saturday	10:00 AM	Finishing II	Choquette

To register for a class you can sign up at any of the monthly meetings or on the club website. Sign up sheets will be available and someone will be there to collect your \$5.00. Or, you can send a check or cash (bills only) to **Chuck Robertson**, 130 Pleasant Lane, Camano Island, WA 98282. Make the check out to NCWA. Be sure to include the name of the class for which you are registering.

If you have registered for a class and find you will not be able to attend, you can get your money back by calling either Chuck (360-941-0005) or the class instructor at least 12 hours before the class starts. If you decide at the last minute that you would like to attend a class, contact the instructor and be ready to give him or her the \$5.00. If you have any questions, please contact **Chuck Robertson** at 360-387-6333 or 360-941-0005 or at his email [address cerjor@hotmail.com](mailto:cerjor@hotmail.com).



Class Schedule for 2009-2010

The facing page lists the class schedule that begins in September. Your education committee listened to your requests to include some new classes as well as repeat some “oldies but goodies.” Take a look at the first two classes. The first class of the season will use **Gene Benson’s** experience to show us how to make a rough piece of wood useful. The second class will be a repeat of **Jim Torrence’s** very popular class on wood identification. If you take these two classes, you will be well prepared to take the field trip to **Edensaw Woods** in Port Townsend

as you will know what wood to buy and how to make it into a useful piece for a project.

In November and December, **Charlie Drake** will be tuning band saws. He will visit shops on Camano Island in November and in Mt. Vernon in December. Let him know if your bandsaw needs tuning.

There will be three classes in the spring on building cabinets. Learn the fundamentals from **Bill Baer** and then get some hands-on experience building the doors and drawers.

Of course these are only examples from the exciting list of classes. Look over the list and join your fellow woodworkers at the ones of your choice.

ToysforTots

We are entering the most exciting toy making period of the year, the run-off to Christmas. We have three months to dedicate some of our time making a bunch of kids know that someone

cares. Our wood toys are the “belle of the ball.” Please, join the toy making effort and get the greatest gift you can ever receive, making this Christmas the best ever for some kids who will experience a rare moment of joy during the Christmas Season.

The “Toys for Tots” program also needs financial support, so our U.S. Marine detachment is conducting a raffle to raise funds to purchase toys for this season. A \$2,500 dollar gift certificate

One Man’s Trash becomes another’s Treasure

THANK YOU NCWA MEMBERS!!

The Toys 4 Tots raffle at the annual picnic raised almost \$100! Many thanks to the members for their generous support at the event. For those of you with too much wood, donations from your wood pile for the next raffle is always welcome.

Toy building is the focus for fall.

Only 90 days left until Christmas!



OUR RAFFLE WINNERS

Dave Peters (3 times!)
Phil Choquette (twice!)
George Way
Lee Schuirman

Mike New (3 times!)
Buttons LaMarche
Juanita
Steve Intveld

from **Costco** is being raffled off at \$5 per ticket. I will be selling tickets at our September, October and November meetings. 2,500 tickets are to be sold, hopefully, so your odds of winning are 2,500 to one (editor's note: I did the math. Blame no one else if the calculation is incorrect). What are the odds with the Washington State lottery? 127 million to one?

I hope you will all participate, not necessarily to win the prize, but to support "Toys for Tots," cited as the best child charity in the country. 100% of the money that our "Marine Detachment" receives goes for the purchase of toys for kids in Skagit, Whatcom and north Snohomish counties. They have no other source of income other than the raffle and donations, plus dues from Toys for Tots members.

We will not have a "wood raffle" at our September meeting but will continue the raffles at subsequent meetings.

Anyone interested in getting into toys, need wood for building Toy for Tots, want to work with a Toys for Tots group, or just help our members who are building toys, please contact me at my e-mail address (snooks@valleyint.com) or call me at 360-466-3004. —Gene Benson

Welcome Aboard Sound Cedar

Sound Cedar, Inc. of Mount Vernon has agreed to become one of the Association's preferred vendors and will now be accepting NCWA cards and providing discounts on selected items. We are still working out the details, but for those of you not familiar with Sound Cedar, they are located

just East of I-5, near the Anderson Road exit south of Mount Vernon. As you can see from their information, below, they offer a variety of products. I can tell you from experience, if you are looking for high quality cedar, you won't find better material than at Sound Cedar. Mike and Patt Woods, the owners, have also offered to host a meeting at their store and we intend to schedule a meeting there sometime in 2010. In the meantime, take a look at the material below and welcome Sound Cedar into the NCWA family.

Sound Cedar Lumber Center, founded by owners Mike and Patt Woods, opened its doors in 1980. Their high quality product line aims at helping homeowners and contractors by offering sustainable wood and eco-friendly products.

Sound Cedar offers dimensional cedar lumber of unparalleled quality. From fencing to decking, siding to structural timbers, everything needed to build or improve your home is offered at their 26,000 sq.ft. indoor warehouse and showroom.

Other species of wood, offering dimensional stability, are in stock and include: VG Douglas Fir, IPE, Mahogany, Alder, Pine and Spruce. Custom milling, pre-staining and priming are additional value added services available to their customers.

In addition to lumber, Sound Cedar offers several outdoor living and backyard retreat products. Their indoor showroom will certainly inspire you to vacation in your own backyard. You're invited to stop in today, or visit them online at SoundCedar.com —Jim Bucknell

By-Laws Change

At the July 7 regular meeting a change to the NCWA by-laws concerning the election of officers was approved. Please make the following changes to your copy of the by-laws.

Article X - Nominations and Elections, Section 1 Nominating Committee, last sentence, **delete the word November and insert the word October.**

Article X Nominations and Elections, Section 2 Election, first sentence, **delete the word December and insert the word November.** – Jim Torrence

Fun Time – Let's Make a Box

Well People, by now most of you that wanted to make boxes have gone through Jerry Couchman's box making class. Now comes the fun part.

The board thought it would be a good time to see how much you all learned. It's time for another contest. So let's put all your skills to work and come up with a truly spectacular box. The prize will be bragging rights. You will have plenty of time to make the box. We will have the contest end at the February meeting. Good luck to all. —Gary Weyers



Master Chef Bob Doop Samples His Work

Will wonders never cease?

Once upon a time there was a man that thought he would like to learn woodworking. His name was Wannabe. His closest friend was an accomplished woodworker, and over the years Wannabe's interest had increased.

Now it happened that Wannabe had finished a new house and had included a nice shop area in the garage. As time passed, he accumulated quite a few tools. He assembled them and tested them, and sometimes afterward he even used them, but not very often. His shop gradually took shape and he even built a very good dust collection system with the help of one of his woodworking friends.

Now it came to pass that Wannabe got involved with a program called "Toys-for-Tots," and under the skilled eye of another friend, who had also become a very accomplished woodworker, Wannabe began to develop some basic skills of his own. In the Toys-for-Tots program, Wannabe learned a powerful lesson. You have two choices when you make a lot of toys. You can either spend the rest of your life sanding with a random orbital sander, or you can by a drum sander. And so Wannabe decided it would be much better to have a drum sander.

Wannabe started watching the sales and sure enough, one day his favorite toy store, Rockler, had a terrific sale on tools and he decided to buy a

drum sander. He and some of his woodworker friends were on their way to a woodworking show in Seattle, and Wannabe talked them into a short detour to Rockler, where he did indeed step forth and purchase a drum sander.

Then, a problem developed. It was spring, and Wannabe found himself spending all his spare time whacking weeds, spreading manure and doing all manner of things outside, including "honey do's," but nothing in his shop. So the drum sander sat in his shop, in the original boxes, gathering dust and making a very nice home for the brown recluse spiders and potato bugs in the area.

Slowly, Wannabe's friends began to inquire, discretely, of course, as to the status of his drum sander. But over time the inquiries became less discrete, but nevertheless good natured with a slight tinge of understanding as to the extent of his outside work. Not enough understanding, however, to get in the way of unmerciful ribbing and other ribald, good clean fun. Wannabe did not mind at all, because these were good woodworker friends and he very much enjoyed their company and it would not have done him any good to have registered any complaints anyway.

Now it happened that one night Wannabe called another good friend that had loaned him some western movies which he wanted to return, and the two of them met at the Farmhouse for dinner. The friend pitilessly inquired as the status of the drum sander (the machine having become famous



The Joys of the Picnic; Salad, shade and Sittn'

for the length of time it had languished in its boxes in Wannabe's shop) and Wannabe informed him of the status quo. Where upon the friend shook his head and, smiling pathetically at Wannabe, stated that if he had purchased such a tool, it would be out of the box within five minutes of his getting it home. The two of them had a good laugh, although Wannabe was really crying on the inside.

On the way home, Wannabe thought about his screwed up priorities (after all, we are talking woodworking here) and the wonderful tool he had left in its boxes all those months. The very next

day, he began to assemble his drum sander. It was amazingly easy! The drum head was not parallel to the drive belt, but that was easy to fix. He plugged in the machine, turned it on, and then stood there for the longest time, pathetically wondering why he hadn't assembled it sooner.

And so, wonder of wonders, the Bow Community Drum Sander is now up and running and Wannabe hopes to live happily ever after.

The end. –Ed Pysher

Fiction and Fact from Nick's Almanac.....

- ... Caesar salad has nothing to do with any of the Caesars. It was first concocted in a bar in Tijuana, Mexico in the 1920's. Some hombre stood up and said, "Friends, muchachos, countrymen, lend me your ear." Somebody they call "Cec" did, and the chef cut it up with the exclamation, "Let's Hear it for Cec's ear!"
- ... Ingrown toenails are hereditary. Caughtcha lookin'!
- ... A full 7% of the barley crop in Ireland is used to make Guinness Stout. Why?
- ... Los Angeles's full name is "El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula." Nobody really knows what all this means, but part of it tells us to turn right at Cucamonga and proceed directly to Pasadena.
- ... A goldfish has a memory span of about 3 seconds. I dated a gal like that once.
- ... Montana mountain goats will butt heads so hard their hooves fall off. There was a fellow in Cle Elum that drank like that.
- ... In England, the Speaker of the House is not allowed to speak. Oh, Glory!!!
- ... And finally, Virginia Woolf wrote all her books standing. Now there's a case of hemmoroids for you.

THE WOOD SHED.....

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COMING EVENTS

Sept 1	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge, Mount Vernon
Sept 16	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
Sept 26	Noon	Newsletter Deadline	Nick's Email (nvan@verizon.net)
October 6	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge, Mount Vernon

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.

2008-09 Officers and Chairpersons

President:	Jeff O'Donnell	(360) 678-2205	Education	Chuck Robertson	(360) 387-6333
Vice President	Jim Torrance	(360) 629-6670	Librarian	Gary Danilson	(360) 424-9268
Secretary	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908	Newsletter	Nick Van	(360) 387-4174
Treasurer	Doug Duehning	(360) 466-1281	Membership	Ed Pysher	(360) 770-7203
Board at Large	Glenn Koontz	(360) 466-5910	Shows	Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320
Board at Large	Dave Blair	(360) 733-3911	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			

**NCWA NEWSLETTER**

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