



Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

**Next Meeting: Rick Anderson's Shop 04/06/04 7:00 PM
1331 Meador Ave, Bldg. J105; Bellingham, WA Phone: 360-650-1587**

Note: The speaker will be Doug Farvo, owner of Bob's Super Saw Service!

Driving Directions:

Northbound on I-5;

Take Exit 253 (Lakeway Drive). At the stop sign go straight ahead one block to the next stop sign which is Lincoln St. Go left on Lincoln approx. 1/4 mile to the bottom of the hill to Frasier Street. You will see a sign for Haskell Business Center which is the complex we are located in. Take a right on Frasier Street and go approx. 3 blocks to Express Drive. Left on Express Drive until it ends at Meador Ave. Bldg. J is straight ahead on the other side of Meador.

Southbound on I-5;

Take Exit 253 (Lakeway Drive). Turn left on Lakeway passing under the freeway to the second stop light which is Lincoln Street. Left on Lincoln approx. 1/4 mile to the bottom of the hill to Frasier Street. You will see a sign for Haskell Business Center which is the complex we are located in. Take a right on Frasier Street and go approx. 3 blocks to Express Drive. Left on Express Drive until it ends at Meador Ave. Bldg. J is straight ahead on the other side of Meador.

Please don't park on the street. There is plenty of parking on both the side and behind the building.

President's Newsletter Message

April 2004

Another month has flown by and it's almost time for our next meeting! Thanks (once more) to Gary Hollo-man for hosting our March meeting in his newly expanded shop. It's always inspiring to see what's new at Gary's shop.

I sometimes cruise the Internet while eating lunch.....I especially like to check out Fine Woodworking's Knots Forum to read the discussions about tools and techniques. The other day a posting about vacuum bagging caught my eye and that led me to a great site called JoeWoodworker.com which is dedicated to the joy of woodworking as a hobby. The following words are from Joe:

"Woodworkers are fortunate people. Providing tremendous growth opportunity and personal satisfaction, woodworking as a hobby has fast become one of America's greatest pastimes. What makes the hobby so

satisfying? Any woodworker will tell you the personal reward of creating a finished piece from rough lumber is certainly the largest aspect. In most cases, each piece we build is better than the previous and with the right thinking, each piece will continue to improve. This idea gives a woodworker a dream of *something* he or she will create *someday* knowing it will only be better than what he or she has made today.

As woodworkers, we are also rewarded by the admiration of our work from those who normally wouldn't appreciate ordinary items like the furniture and keepsakes we make. Though all of us have furniture and wood items in our homes, those which have been hand-crafted, retain an uncommon and secret beauty. These items are the unique connection between a woodworker and the rest of the world; the link between maker and user.

I guess it should be mentioned that the work of any hobby, and the products of it, should be purely for the sake of personal growth. For most of us, it's not a competition to be the *best* woodworker. It's just a wish to be a *better* woodworker. Ultimately, our goal is to develop new skills and create something more memorable than the last. And regardless of whether our woodworking endeavors are criticized or celebrated, a talent will have developed in the process.

The point of the journey is not to arrive!"

Great words.....let's enjoy the journey!

Rick

Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2004

Gary Holloman's Shop in Sedro Woolley. President Rick Anderson's call to order at 7 p.m. was honored by more than 40 members and guests who turned out to hear the Artwood story as presented by manager Erica Hume. Rick opened the business part of the meeting by asking committee chairmen to present reports.

WoodFest in April. Details were given previously by Phil Choquette for the up-coming WoodFest activity at Sedro Woolley High School where club volunteers will man the sharpening demonstration and wood-working display tables for eight hours on both days. The event kicks off at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 3, and concludes on Sunday at 5 p.m. Several members will display their woodworking skills with projects created in time for this event; some items will be offered for sale. Our always-popular sample wood joinery display will be exhibited again. Set-up time on Saturday starts at 7 a.m. and concludes at the show's opening.

The Sedro Woolley HS woodshop training program has continued to thrive for many years despite the state's shrinking numbers of school woodworking shops. The school receives widespread community support in this annual student showcase activity, and for many years our Club has backed the school's efforts to offer young people opportunities in woodworking education by demonstrating woodworking techniques at WoodFest and through other contributions. This year we have donated more than a dozen member-made birdhouses and feeders to the school's silent auction.

Member Surveys. Vice President James Haddock who heads up the Membership Committee distributed a

survey sheet that asked members to list their levels of interest in woodworking programs. It is hoped that data will show where we should concentrate our efforts on educational and meeting programs. Haddock also is requesting that members check off their names on an attendance sheet when they pick up their name-tags. This will identify member participation at all Club functions.

Treasury Notes. Treasurer Ed Pyscher is trying to get a few slow-paying members to send in their 2004 dues money before new membership cards are issued next month. He doesn't want to drop them from the roles prematurely, but points out that these individuals are already three months late. Today's treasury stands at just over \$2,200, he reported. With more merchants contributing discounts to members, the new wallet-sized membership cards will be laminated to improve their usefulness. This from James Haddock.

Education in Basics. Ed Pyscher, who also chairs the Education Committee, announced that a basic course of study for members new to woodworking will be the focus of the committee's first efforts this Spring. An outline of courses to be offered at Saturday Workshops will feature lessons in selection and use of the primary power tools used in the home workshop environment. Experienced and professional member woodworkers will serve as instructors. Detailed outlines have been generated and instructors will stress operational safety along with basic machine operations. Schedules and venues will be announced soon via the Newsletter, Pyscher said. The Workshops will be given over a period of several weeks and will be free to paid-up members. The comprehensive program is being billed as *An Introduction to Woodworking*.

Other committee Reports. Chairmen announced they have initiated meetings with their committee members and would make plans known soon. They included Mike Larvia, Projects; Nick Van, Historian and Special Activities Committees; and Bob Doop, Programs. Your Secretary, chair of the Tours and Interclub Activities Committee, is encouraging individuals to make their Club tour interests known so that a variety of venues and purposes can be reviewed and put to a vote. For starters this year, we have scheduled a tour of the Bayliner boat manufacturing plant in Arlington. The visit will be highlighted by an inspection and briefing on Bayliner woodshop facilities. The tour is limited to eight persons and is given only on weekday afternoons while the plant is in operation. Eight have signed on for the first tour, which will occur in early April. A second tour will be arranged later if there is interest.

Bring and Brag. Al Stafford displayed an interesting woodturning activity. He has turned bowls, lots of them, using the Ringmaster fixture. This commercial unit mounts on the lathe and allows the turner to retain almost all his wood stock by carving out a sequence of 3/4-inch thick rings cut on a 45-degree bevel using a pair of mounted cutting knives. The largest ring is cut first and the rest get progressively smaller. Once glued up, retooled, sanded, and finished they result in the pattern continuity and beauty of bowls turned in the conventional way, but with very little loss of wood. Al displayed several bowls in various stages of turning.

The results of another interesting woodturning technique were shown by Dave Blair with his first try at making a propeller bowl. This somewhat risky turning requires special mounting techniques to hollow and shape a long and narrow bowl the size of Dave's. The bowl measured about 4 x 12 inches. Dave also showed three round bowls he turned from poplar and madrone.

Lift and Drag. President Rick is moving his shop into larger quarters. He offered a lumber rack to anyone who wanted to cart it away.

Jay Geisel,
NCWA Secretary

Artwood: How Much Is That Table in the Window?

For most of us, selling our own handcrafted *objets d' arte* is alien to our nature. Usually we are not, by choice or training, marketing-oriented people. So the creation of Artwood in 1987, by woodworkers, for woodworkers, brought fine furniture and other artistic creations out of the home workshops and on display under the lights of a sympathetic gallery management team. It was a fortunate mating of creator and seller in the consignment business. To have work displayed and sold, woodworkers needed to pass strict quality tests and price evaluations. That high level of quality has never changed.

Today, Artwood occupies the same building in the old Fairhaven district of Bellingham where it moved in 1988. The neighborhood of brick buildings is the art center of the city and draws shoppers from all over the Northwest. At any one time more than 100 craftspeople have their work on display at Artwood.

Manager Erica Hume has been the heart and soul of Artwood since its beginning. Husband Jim is a renowned carver, woodturner, and imaginative creator of record-breaking racing cars who helped form, with eleven others, the Artwood venue. All twelve founders contributed cash to breathe life into an idea that local fine woodworking artisans could profit from their talents without succumbing to the low-end shares charged by the big city studios and galleries.

Erica traced the history, talked about the good times and the lows, and gave us insight into the competitive gallery business. One of the bright spots, she said, was the day a buyer visited the studio and within a couple hours had purchased items totaling more than \$20,000. Is Artwood a success? Definitely. But, from a business standpoint, Jim admits that the owners have not taken money out of the gallery, rather, new business partners have had to pay significantly more in entry fees. But Jim likes it that way. Artwood is making its mark. The backers now number twelve with six associates. Erica stated that gross annual receipts have ranged from \$160,000 to well over \$200,000. She also stated that there is no discounting and when works sell, artists are paid immediately.

Erica answered a lot questions from the assembled members, and she encouraged anyone with a fine piece of work for sale to submit it for evaluation. Three members of the active twelve owners rotate the duty and meet once a month to determine if a submitted piece of work is suitable for sale in the gallery. It must meet the high quality standards and appropriateness of other items on display.

“Some items are beautifully designed and constructed,” Erica noted, “but the finish might be lousy. Artwood makes no concessions on quality. It’s an honor to have your work displayed.”

Jay Geisel

Don't forget “Bring or Brag”, We all do something unique

Tip of the Month

Reading the Glue Codes. If you question the freshness of your glues and are puzzled by the codes on your glue bottles, here's help. Franklin International states that white and yellow glues have shelf lives of two years, polyurethane and hide glues one year. A code will show a series of numbers and letters. The first two have meaning to us. For example, "2G525H." The first letter stands for the year it was produced, 2002, and the "G" stands for the month, "A" being January, "B" is February, and so on. There's no "I" because that looks like the number "1." Elmer's glue has a code series starting with an alphabet letter that identifies the year of manufacture, "H" for 2002 and "I" for 2003. The next two numbers identify the day and the following letter designates the month, "A" being January, "B" February, etc. With glue, use the Code; don't sniff it!

By the Numbers

- 3 Members whose names end in "ick"
- 4 NW Washington Counties with NCWA members
- 79 I-5 miles from David Sophusson's shop in Custer to Doug Wharton's in Everett
- 2 Members residing in Concrete
- 1 Members who travel by boat to meetings
- 34 New NCWA members since June 2002
- 73 Total members in February 2004

JG

Library FYI

Many members do not know the club has a library or how it works. Our library has a great many books and videos as you will see by the attachment.

How it works:

The library is available at all meetings. (Look for three plastic storage boxes.) The two large boxes have books and the smaller box contains video tapes. Feel free to browse through the material. If you see something you want to check out, fill out the card located inside the book cover or on the tape box. Be sure to list your name, phone number and date (something like 4/04 is OK for April 2004.)

The items have no real due date, but two months is reasonable. New books are limited to one month because others might want to read them.

Several new books are on order and may be available at the next meeting. The following are on order :

The Basics of Craftsmanship, Ingenious Jigs and Shop Accessories, Joinery, Shaping and Milling,, Practical Design Solutions and Strategies, Woodworking Techniques

If you have any suggestions for additions, please let me know.

Tom

For Sale:

Maple, rough cut, unseasoned., straight grained with very few knots. 1 1/4- 2 1/4", 8-9' long, 6-12" wide. \$1 - 1.25 bdf.

Steve Intveld 360-592-5670

For Sale:

For Sale at 1/2 new purchase cost, Appolo HVLP spray Set up .2 qt pressure pot with 2 regulators and gauges, 6' fluid and air lines, cup yoke and gun assembly and complete set of Nozzles and air caps allowing capability of spraying all sprayable coatings. \$ 400. firm. contact Julian Lee (360) 299-2900 or julianengrep@earthlink.net.

The NCWA was formed to promote high standards in woodworking, woodworking education, and show casing local woodworking. The NCWA is open to all interested woodworkers.. Dues are 30 per year, payable to NCWA, 5268 Island View Way Bow, WA. 98232. Newsletter submissions are welcomed and are due by the 18th of the month to NCWA Newsletter, 925 South Hills Dr. Bellingham, WA., 98229. or call (360) 734-9473, or Email, tc1376gp@aol.com. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Location is announced in the newsletter .

2003 Officers and Committee Chairs:

President: Rick Anderson	(360) 671-0532	Editor:	Tom Chartier	(360) 734-9473
VP: James Haddock	(360) 650-1562	Tours:	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908
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