



NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

April 2005

Next Meeting: April 5th, 7:00 pm

The Wood House

3111 T Ave., Anacortes

Phone: 360-202-0099 or 360-319-7600

To get there, take Hwy 20 and turn North at the first stop light in Anacortes onto "R" Ave. Turn right on 34th St. and then left on "T" Ave. Proceed about a block and a half. Shop is on the right (East) side of the street.

From Your Humble Prez.....

For members that are new to us reading this April newsletter, we are about to enjoy another Wood Fest event on April 2nd & 3rd. Other places in this fine journal, you will find details regarding Wood Fest, however, I want to make sure that a few things regarding our continued NCWA support of this wonderful event are not lost in translation.

The focus of this event is to acknowledge area high school students, who have begun a trip down a road familiar to so many of us that would not have been possible but for a public schools availability to woodworking. We (like these young people today), soon found that splinters and all, we were hooked and our interest to willingly undertake the learning necessary to improve, seemed to be the treat of our days. Sound familiar? I think it is still the treat. I find great joy in the fact that young people today are discovering this treat, I hope they have the opportunity to continue to do so. With that said, I'm going to take the easy way out and say "see you at Wood Fest,

enjoy what these young people have accomplished and the display of our own members work". I will also reserve my purely editorial rants for another venue, on the topic of "industrial art extermination" but please do understand that our public school industrial arts programs are under ENOURMOUS pressure to stay afloat. Please attend Wood Fest and let these young people know how much you appreciate their discovery of this great craft we share.

To all that have asked the question regarding our monthly meeting places, let me take a few minutes to clear the air. Some have expressed concern that meeting **every** month at the Hillcrest facility will now eliminate one of the great things that all members enjoy, meeting at other members' shops for our programs. We have always enjoyed the time and experiences when in another member shops for NCWA programs and events, and we will continue to do so.

We are **not** going to be meeting at Hillcrest **every** month. Instead, the



Photography by Doop

Hillcrest facility, member shops and other venues will be enjoyed each month but with a watchful eye on the stark reality borne to a growing NCWA; parking accommodation and facility size. When we plug in the “**20-40 cars/trucks, 45+ people**” portion of the equation, many of us simply cannot accommodate.

Having said that, where we can, we will continue to enjoy member shops for monthly meetings and outside of that, in smaller more accommodating group sizes through several avenues such as; Member Shop Tours, Education Classes, Toys For Tots, Mentoring and my FAVORITE method, “Hey, great, you’re in your shop, I’ll be there in ten minutes!”.

So, relax, put your feet up, look at the schedule and figure out what next NCWA event will get **you** into a different member shop, dial a number or plink a keyboard. Don’t forget a pair of tweezers though, not for any slivers, but to pick a few member brains while you’re there! Enjoy the craft, enjoy your NCWA. Ok, gotta go, nine more pieces to glue up!
-James-

Presidential Achievements recognized.....

Three NCWA past Presidents whose terms of office ran from year 2001 to the present have been honored at recent meetings. Gary Holloman, Nick Van, and Rick Anderson directed the affairs of our Association with resolve and a firmness of conviction.

During their administrations, these men introduced ideas to strengthen and build a better brotherhood of NCWA woodworkers, and their efforts were rewarded with dramatic growth and an increased participation in member activities. We thrived because of their leadership, and that was the tone of the ceremony that honored them. We are now 70+ members’ strong, our future is bright, and our expectations high. That’s what happens with good leaders.



Past President awards w/ Walnut bases turned by Bob Doop.

Paperweight type trophies of cast brass routers mounted on turned wood bases and individually inscribed with name and year were presented to Gary, Nick, and Rick. Holloman’s award recognizes his two-year’s service as President in 2001 and 2002.

About our April Program.....

How many of us really know the modern techniques of cabinet making? In all probability, very few of us are ready to jump in and build a full set of kitchen cabinets for the house. Many of us could find a reason to build cabinets for our shops (and then maybe feel brave enough to tackle the kitchen job). Dave Curwick, the owner of Wood House Custom Cabinets in Anacortes, will conduct our April program. He will tour us through his shop and address the cabinet manufacturing process from “Soup to Nuts”. Dave has a lot of mill ends that he is willing to sell at bargain prices. So bring your pickup for this one.

Coming in May.....

Start your planning for the special May meeting, which will be held on Saturday, 7 May on Guemes Island. The meeting will be hosted by Dick Iversen, an all around talented guy who turned a curiosity concerning some driftwood that washed up on his property into a thriving hobby-business making driftwood furniture. Ferry information will be provided in the next newsletter. Car-pooling is encouraged.

Minutes of the March Meeting.....

We met on March 1, 2005, in what is to become our frequent meeting place, a new home centered in the three-county area that we call the Northwest Corner of Washington. The Hillcrest Park Lodge in Mount Vernon is both comfortable and economical, a solution to our growing organizational needs.

President James Haddock opened the session with a welcome and introduction of guests. First on the business agenda was Woodfest, the April celebration of high school vocational education classes in woodworking. As it has in the past, NCWA will set up demonstration tables and exhibit its member's woodcraft along with the work of the students.

This year's two-day event in the Sedro Woolley high school gymnasium starts at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 2, and concludes at 4 p.m. on Sunday. Awards for student work and the annual auction of materials donated by participating vendors will occur on Sunday. Chairman Phil Choquette issued a call for volunteers to man the NCWA tables on both days. Our exhibits will include samples of several dozen wood joints and other woodworking materials. Sign-up sheets were circulated and volunteers proved plentiful. Those exhibiting or selling their work are reminded to bring their materials between 7 and 9 a.m. on Saturday. NCWA is a staunch supporter of vocational education at the high school level and officers ask members to show their appreciation for this strong school program by attending Woodfest and viewing and commenting on the efforts of these students.

Chair Cec Braeden announced the speaker for the April meeting would be the Mayor of Stanwood who has a reputation for building fine children's toys. (Editor's Note: The program had to be cancelled in late March due to a sudden health problem and will probably be rescheduled later.) Cec also polled the group for a meeting date in May when members will journey to Guemes Island to meet woodworker Dick Iversen, a man with a talent for creating artistic driftwood furniture. Members elected to change the regular meeting date to Saturday, May 7, and spend more time in the artist's island workshop. Ferry schedules will be announced in the Newsletter. Mr.

Iversen's shop is only three houses from the ferry dock so ground transportation is unnecessary.

Acting for the Club, Jay Geisel presented Gary Holloman with a Past President's trophy in recognition of his service to NCWA during two years of office in 2001 and 2002. Gary was praised for his generosity and leadership in keeping the Club alive and moving forward, and I cited him for capturing the hearts of hobbyist woodworkers who found a leader to teach and inspire them. By his diligence, Gary kept us together through the rough times and helped us find new levels of woodworking competence.

Bob Doop, by his own admission, is finding enjoyment in hunting down, photographing, and writing a short bio on new members. His first three Newbies made last month's Newsletter. Bob admits to having difficulties in finding some of them in our big northern corner area, but find them he did. The Vice President has added these new responsibilities voluntarily to his dual role as Membership Chairman.

Woodworker of the Month Herb Laiche (Anacortes) joined us last month at the urging of his friend Cec Braeden, who mentored him through the construction of an intricate secretary, a small writing desk. Having successfully passed muster in Cec's eyes, Herb gladly took membership. He told us that he was a retired naval aircraft officer, served aboard carriers, and later worked for Shell Oil. Always interested in working with wood, Herb finished the inside of his house in 1977, and then did another. "The more woodworking I did, the better I got," Herb said. Later he began projects, made an Adirondack chair and then built many more. Recently Herb helped Cec build a large maple kiosk for their church, a major undertaking. "Cec is costing me money," he complained, "I got so interested that I bought a 4-in-one Woodmaster."

Bring and Brag. Nick Van has us all curious. For some weeks now he has asked each member to donate a piece of hardwood of specified dimensions to an unknown cause. The mystery continues and all Nick will confide is that "we all will take pleasure with using this wood in an exciting program."

In case you didn't know, Nick is busy building additional cabinets in his dining room.

Glenn Koontz shared information about a present recall of the Craftsman radial arm saw. Owners can notify Sears and receive major new parts to rebuild. The offer includes the saw table, he said. Larry Tomovick also reported good news from another supplier, Jorgensen, the clamp people. He got an immediate response, and a free replacement part, when the cranking head of his K body clamp broke. Larry also announced that he was going to purchase a quantity (in gallon size) of Titebond II Extend and would like to hear from others who would like a share of the glue at a discounted price.

Gary Weyers impressed us with his original idea for making the images in his scroll saw cut pictures more attractive by adding varied color backgrounds under his cutouts. He showed a framed, scroll-cut image of a house front with long vertical slits that revealed the home interior in colorful detail.

Always the Master of Promptness, Nick Van delivered 6 doll cradles for the Toys for Tots program.....and it was only the 1st of March! Using remnants of oak flooring, Nick built them to the modified design developed by Rick Anderson last season. While he was in the process of building cradles, Nick also built several additional sets of patterns which will be available to other members. Great job Nick!

Gary Holloman exhibited an unusual table he designed and crafted out of apple wood. The legs are gracefully curved and then tapered in reverse order, that is the beefier part of the legs are at the lower end. The structural round sections of the stretcher framework is also interesting. It's a great design that he duplicated several times and sent to Artwood.

Jay Geisel, Secretary



Gary Weyers shows off his latest scroll saw masterpiece



Christmas in March! Toys for Tots doll cradles by Nick Van



An exquisite apple wood table by Gary Holloman

Woodworkers See the *Light*.....

The words *Studio Photography* evoke images of tripods, light booms, scrims and barn doors, umbrellas, color filters and reflectors, rolled paper backgrounds, and lots of lamps punching out temperature-corrected, 3200-Kelvin light. Trevor Kyle, a retired Anacortes professional photographer, set us straight about film-less photography at our March meeting in Hillcrest Lodge. Mr. Kyle professes the theory that single-source lighting is as natural as, well, the sun, where more than a single shadow makes no sense at all.



Our speaker.....
Professional photographer Trevor Kyle

Kyle has done away with most of his equipment and now relies on one or two normal lamps, background paper, reflectors, and a pixel-laded, digital camera. That's it. Electronics have made salon photography simple for the masses. Lighting a woodworker's treasured creation, he points out, is doable with minimal equipment and a little know-how. Kyle espouses the single-light, low-power approach to avoid

a conflict with the multiple-shadow problem. Dim lighting, impossible for film cameras, is well within the range of most electronic photography, and this seemed to amaze those present who were invited to train their digitals at the turned bowl that served as a model for his talk

Kyle offered advice on how to tone down a strong shadow and strengthen the textural appearance of the bowl by using a homemade Nylon or Dacron reflector and by bouncing a single-source light onto an object with a white illustration board. He also used a shop lamp as another bounced light source. Members who use photography to place their work in galleries or sell directly to buyers were well-informed by Trevor Kyle's presentation. -JG-



Using simple, diffused light Trevor Kyle demonstrated how we can produce photos of our projects that accurately reflect their beauty.

Butternut Bowl by Dave Blair & Walnut Secretary by Cec Braeden

Projects Committee.....

Great news! We have commitments for 47 cradles to date. The boys' toys situation is looking up with the latest commitment by Julian Lee for six boats and seven to eight vehicular prototypes made by Gary Weyer. Thanks to all who have committed to Toys for Tots.

Come to Woodfest in Sedro-Wooley to see what has been accomplished so far this year. Also, if you missed the T for T logo by Gary Weyer, this is a must "see".

There is alder still available for both cradles and "boy toys", just contact me. My kiln has just been rebuilt and now being loaded with the first maple to be dried, to be followed by prepping and then available for toys.

Join the team; this is a super great year for Toys for Tots.

Gene Benson

Proposed Tour Ideas for 2005.....

With Winter fading, NCWA tours to interesting woodworking venues have sprouted in the minds of the Activities Committee. Chairman Nick Van and Jay Geisel have perused several members' suggestions, and their own, to find attractive destinations for group enjoyment. Back in the line-up is a crowd pleaser from last year that will be repeated, the journey to the big Cloverdale, British Columbia, Wood and Tool Show in September.

Members may also consider other tour possibilities, such as:

- A visit to Washington Alder's industrial milling operation on Farm-to-Market Road just north of Highway and a few miles east of Anacortes. This is a large mill that processes raw logs into lumber that is directly usable by the furniture industry. (Car pools)
- Attend Edensaw's annual summer open house in August and see tool demonstrations by national tool representatives. This could include a visit to scenic and historic Port Townsend, and possibly the old Port Townsend Foundry. (Charter bus)



Gary Weyers presents his scroll sawn Toys for Tots sign. Thanks Gary!

- A weekend, two-night trip to the Portland area's McMinnville Air and Space Museum, a visit to the notable Timberline Lodge built by the WPA in the 30's and a fine example of woodworking craftsmanship, and then a short hop north to the Columbia River to visit the Fort Clatsop replication of Lewis and Clark's winter layover. The Air Museum, modern and well stocked with historic planes features Hughes' huge flying boat, the Spruce Goose. (Small groups in car pools)
- A visit to an active lumber mill in Darrington in the morning and then an active veneer mill in Bellingham in the afternoon. (Charter bus) This tour could also include Washington Alder, for three lumber mills in a single day. The Activities Committee is giving serious consideration to arranging this tour for late Spring or early Summer.

Shop Tours.....

Shop Visitation Day for the Bow, Burlington, Mt. Vernon, Arlington, Stanwood, Camano Island and other southern Skagit County and northern Snohomish County shops will be Saturday, May 21 from 9AM through 4PM.

Please mark your calendars, and plan to attend this fun and rewarding experience. Get to know our club members in their own habitat. Witness the work they perform and the techniques they use. See strange and unusual tools, fixtures and jigs, and enjoy the unique methods they use. For those of you who live in the communities listed above, and who will be willing to open their shops to the membership, please contact Nick Van at 360-387-4174 or by e-mail at nvan@tgi.net.

Education Committee.....

We are rapidly closing in on the conclusion of this first-ever-in-a-row presentation of the Introduction to Woodworking Series. Following are the remaining sections. I'll get back to you with a separate email after we have had the dry run on each of the above,

but these last sections should be great. I'll also include step-by-step directions to Mike's shop. Be sure to put them on your calendar. Let me know if you would like to attend any of these sections. 360-766-8019 or epysheer@aol.com.

EDUCATION SERIES SCHEDULE

<u>Section</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
Layout, Measuring & Takeoff	April 4, Mon.	Mike New's Shop	Gary Holloman
Basic Finishing, Part II	April 18, Mon.	Mike New's Shop	Phil Choquette

NOTE: ALL CLASSES START PROMPTLY AT 7 PM & END AT 9 PM

Group purchases at reduced cost.....

Frontier Industries in Anacortes, that gives us a 10 percent discount, has agreed to give us a further volume discount if we buy certain items by the case. The items involved here are three products that I use a lot of and they are: Titebond II with an extended open time of 20 minutes, Profin (gloss) hard-oil finish, and Top Coat (a spray on lubricant for use on jointers, planners, table saws, etc.). Prices are as follows:

Top Coat: \$11 per can.

Profin: \$10.75 per quart.

Titebond II glue: \$8.50 per quart.

Note: you need to bring your own container for the glue since it comes in one-gallon bottles (plastic water drinking bottles seem to work well). The prices include sales tax and must be made by telephone (my number is 293-4580 afternoons and evenings) by April 20th. Orders can be picked up at my home, in Anacortes, after the May meeting on Guemes Island. Please bring exact change for your order.

Thanks! Larry Tomovick



Vern Tator

Meet a member.....

No other NCWA member face quite the commute to meetings as Vern Tator. Vern lives with wife Susan on San Juan Island and makes an hour + ferry ride each way.....all in order to enjoy our company each month. It's too late after our meetings to catch a ferry home, so he camps out with friends and catches the "red eye" at 5:30 the next morning! Vern has lived in the San Juan Islands for more than 20 years, and prior to that was a contractor in the Vail Colorado area and spent his "spare" time on ski patrol and teaching ski school.

These days, Vern is the proprietor of Schooner Woodworks where he crafts fine handcrafted doors.....specializing in knotty and rustic. He ships doors all over the United States, last year 18 huge doors for a Catholic church in Chicago. Check out www.schoonerwoodworks.com. In recent

months Vern has become a serious wood turner and is pictured creating a salad bowl set for his daughter's August wedding. Rumor has it that a brand new Vicmarc 300 lathe has replaced the Jet Mini Lathe in Vern's shop! But, apparently business and turning don't keep Vern busy enough as he fills his "spare" time with training for and running marathons, biking, and contra dancing.

Don't Miss WOODFEST '05

April 2 & 3 at Sedro Woolley High School Gym
Come support your club & high school
woodworking!

As the Web Turns.....

This month, some online gatherings of woodworkers! Includes many interesting links.
www.woodcentral.com
www.shavings.net

COMING EVENTS

April 2 & 3	9-5	WOODFEST	Sedro Woolley High School Gym
April 4	7 PM	Layout, Measuring & Takeoff	Mike New's Shop (Bow)
April 6	7 PM	Monthly Meeting	The Wood House (Anacortes)
April 8-10	All Day	The Woodworking Show	Tacoma Dome (www.thewoodworkingshows.com)
April 18	7 PM	Basic Finishing, Part II	Mike New's Shop (Bow)
April 20	7 PM	Board Meeting	The Farmhouse Restaurant
April 23	NOON	Newsletter Deadline	Rick's Email Box (Don't Be Late!)
May 7	TBA	Monthly Meeting	Guemes Island
May 21	9-4	Shop Tours	Member Shops (Skagit County & south)

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, 5268 Island View Way, Bow, WA 98232. 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.

2005 Officers and Committee Chairs:

President: James Haddock	(360) 650-1562	Newsletter: Rick Anderson	(360) 650-1587
V.P. Bob Doop	(360) 293-4522	Librarian: Tom Chartier	(360) 734-9473
Secretary: Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908	Shows: Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320
Treasurer: Ed Pysher	(360) 766-0136	Membership: Bob Doop	(360) 293-4522
Programs: Cecil Braeden	(360) 588-9830	Activities: Nick Van (Acting)	(360) 387-4174
Education: Ed Pysher	(360) 766-0136	Projects: Gene Benson	(360) 466-3004



NCWA NEWSLETTER

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