

NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

www.ncwawood.org

August 2005

Next Meeting: Saturday, August 6th , 2:00 pm

ANNUAL PICNIC

Laura & Val Matthews

7550 Ershig Rd, Bow

Phone: 360-757-7730

The easiest route: From I-5 Bow Hill Exit, proceed west on Bow Hill Road about 1 1/2 miles to Ershig Road. Turn left onto Ershig Road and drive south. When you cross the railroad tracks, look for the very first driveway on the right.

For the more adventurous, there are other possible routes: Chuckanut Drive North to Ershig road just north of Allen (immediately after crossing the Samish River Bridge) and then follow Ershig Road north to the last driveway on the left just before the railroad tracks. For our further West members Highway 20 to Farm Market Road, then North through Edison to Chuckanut Drive (by the Bow Post Office). Go straight ahead across Chuckanut and up Bow Hill Road to Ershig Road. Right on Ershig Road and drive south. When you cross the railroad tracks, look for the very first driveway on the right.

A SPECIAL WORD FROM "EDDIE THE HAMMER"....."Be sure to wear your name badge to all meetings, otherwise I will "allow" you to contribute a buck to the vocational education fund!"

Numbers, numbers, numbers.....

"Cut it three times and it was still too short"....."I had to look at the numbers six times before I believed that I had actually won the lottery, glad I didn't have to add them up or anything...."....."Well Officer, you see I'm from Canada, and I guess I was reading the numbers on this speedometer wrong thinking I was doing 100kph and guess I was doing 100MPH. I was wondering why traffic was so slow...."

Yep, numbers, they are important to all of us, they help us make good decisions if we understand what they mean. The numbers generated by all of us from the survey we took at our last meeting, have helped Officers and Committee Chairs understanding how we can better shape our NCWA, over the next year, assisting us in greater enjoyment of our shared craft. First of all, my hat is off to all involved in this herculean effort to get this important

survey in front of us, as I'm sure you were able to see, considerable thought went into each category. Second, every members input to this process is very important. For those of you that could not make it to the last meeting, the survey will be at the picnic, and I'll be constantly reminding you to fill yours out. The NCWA is yours to enjoy, take the time over your burger, auction and visiting to get this done.

Of other great opportunities in our NCWA, and as mentioned at our last meeting, I wanted to see the hands of those that are going to step up to some well telegraphed Chair vacancies that will become open at the end of this year. We all have lives outside of our fine group, and the unselfish guidance and contributions that our respective committees and their Chairs have given to us, we should not only be thankful for, we should also stand and applaud them.

The enjoyment we have of the NCWA is due in large part to these fine folks, now is the time for new and ongoing members to step up and help. Education, Activities and Tours Committee Chairs will need new faces come the first of the year, within the next month I'd like you to contact current Chairs Ed, Nick and Jay to learn more about what's involved so you can give a little back to a club that offers and has given you, fun and knowledge through great camaraderie in the craft and organization we share.

Is it time for the annual picnic already? Wow. This year's picnic is going to be another great one, made even better by inviting our local woodturners association to join us. Welcome woodturners! Did you all catch that I said "auction" earlier? Don't forget your checkbook! Cec has all the great picnic details later in the newsletter, it will serve as our August "meeting", and great time for us all.

I'll look forward to seeing you all at the picnic, but right now it's back to additional finish coats.
James Haddock, President

Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2005

"Do it Now!" he said. VP and Membership Chair Bob Doop greased the wheel bearings on the NCWA Express with a "Who are we?" and "Where are we going?" opinion poll at the July meeting. The search for personal ideas and expectations occupied both business and program hours and proved to be a comprehensive brain-teaser to express desires for the future direction of Club activities.

Thirty-two members gathered in Mike New's workshop to answer questions about their likes and dislikes, and what



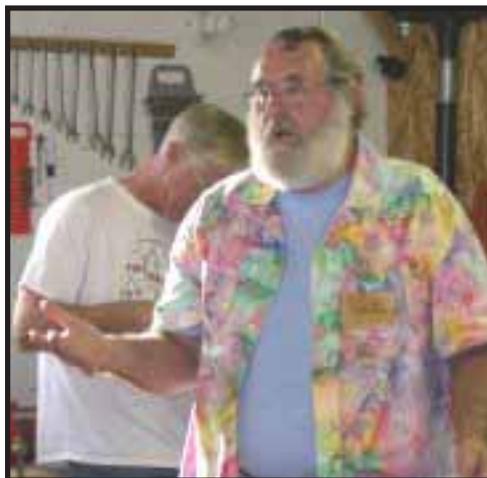
Ed & Bob had lots of questions for the members.....and elicited thoughts about the future direction of our great organization.

they envisioned a bunch of woodworking fanatics should be doing when they get together, in some cases on several Saturdays a month. Survey results will be analyzed and sifted to glean cold facts that will help officers and committee chairmen steer the organization in a manner designed to please the majority.

The seven pages of questionnaire included pollings from four other committee chairmen: by Ed Pysher setting up our next series of educational programs; by Cec Braeden on the selection of programs for meetings; by Mike New on the effectiveness of the Club's new website, and by Rick Anderson who queried readers about their Newsletter attitudes.

Get Pumped! NCWA's educational program must be the prime motivator attracting new members and keeping others active. Early survey results analyzed by Education Chairman Pysher show that we have 392 student classes lined up for the new training series starting this Fall. "These are astounding figures," Pysher declared.

Big Prize. Cec put his celebrated plywood workbench on display, kicking off a series of raffle sessions to determine a final winner at our Arts Alive woodworking show in LaConner's Garden Club building on the first weekend of November. Cec has donated net proceeds to NCWA, money that will become part of our Vocational Education Fund to honor talented high school woodworking students in our five-county area. Raffle tickets will be sold during the next three months.



P i c n i c . Announcements concerning forthcoming events followed. Cec gave last-minute details on the picnic, a pot-luck affair at Laura and Val Matthews' home in Bow on Saturday, August 6. The Northwest Woodturners

members and guests have been invited to the outing.

Fall Specials.

Activities Chair Nick Van has established another Shop Visitation session for the Saturday following Labor Day. I urged members who want to make the trip to the Vancouver Wood and Tool Show in Cloverdale, B.C., to make their intentions known soon. The October trip by charter bus will be available on a first-come, first serve basis. Reservations for the 36-seat tour bus will be accepted at the picnic and through the first meeting in September. The bus will depart Mount Vernon at 8:30 a.m. and make a scheduled stop in Bellingham to load passengers from that area.

Treasurer Pysher reported a treasury balance of \$1,793.33.

Librarian Tom Chartier noted that the Club Library is

under-used. "We have a fine collection of woodworking books, a good annual purchasing budget, and we are starting to buy DVD's, but only a few members are using these materials," he said. Tom has to lug a hefty bunch of books to meetings each month and he is thinking of ways a member can reserve a volume in advance that can be delivered to the meeting place. A

AUGUST MEETING.....OUR ANNUAL PICNIC

The NCWA and the Northwest Woodturners will hold their annual picnic at the home of Val and Laura Mathews on Saturday the 6th of Aug. starting at 2 PM. This is a family affair.....bring your spouse, bring your kids! The club will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, condiments, buns, plates and utensils. We will eat after the silent auction ends and the tables are cleared around 4 PM. Bring your favorite potluck goodies, your favorite beverage, a chair to sit on and all the good humor you can muster up. We WILL have a good time!

A new addition to the picnic will be a *Silent Auction Tool Swap*

For those of you who have never participated in a silent auction, the rules are simple. The seller displays the item for sale with a sheet that lists the item, the seller's description of the item, condition (e.g. new; works good; needs repair; etc), the seller's name, and minimum allowable bid, if the seller wishes one. Anyone interested in buying the item writes down the amount they wish to bid and their name. Anyone else interested in the item can overbid by writing their bid amount and their name on the sheet. Normally, bids should advance by at least 10% over the previous highest bid. Check back often to see if you are still the highest bidder. The highest bidder at the sale cutoff time wins the item, if their bid exceeds the stated minimum bid. The buyer should then pay the seller for the item and take possession. **Bring items you wish to sell** along with the silent auction bid sheet (attached). **Also, BRING MONEY and/or a checkbook.** You never know what might show up for sale!

There will also be a raffle of donated goods held at the picnic with the proceeds going to our Vocational Education Fund. Bring items you wish to donate such as tools, wood, books, and videos. Raffle tickets are \$1 each.

Raffle tickets will also be sold for the workbench designed and built by Cec Braeden, which is to be featured in the Fine Woodworking magazine. Tickets are \$5 each and sales will continue through the November Arts Alive show in La Conner. Again, proceeds will go to our Vocational Education Fund in support of high school woodworking programs..

complete listing of Library items is carried on our club website. That way most of the Library isn't transported.

Bring and Brag. I gave members a look at my thread-sizing gauge for small bolts and nuts. The color-coded reference jig allows the user to quickly differentiate between 6-32nds and 8-32nds, for example, which simplifies mating nuts with their correct bolts. It's also a great help in organizing that coffee can full of fasteners.

Jay Geisel

It's Bring 'n Brag Time!

The past few months our Bring 'n Brag has dwindled. A special effort will be made at future meetings to carve out time for this well liked part of our meetings. So be sure to bring your latest project (or photos if it's too big to bring), your favorite jig or special tip and share your experiences (good & bad) with your fellow members.

Dear Editor: I Enjoy “Fine Woodworking”

That’s the sum and substance of the message we gave FW editor Mark Schofield at Hillcrest Lodge in Mount Vernon on a Tuesday evening’s buffet get-together. Mark was in town to do a photo shoot of Cec Braeden’s innovative plywood workbench for an up-coming issue of the magazine and agreed to dine with NCWA members that evening. And Editor Schofield even picked up the tab for the meal!

About three-dozen members showed their enthusiasm for the publication that has been the teething ring for tens of thousands of woodworkers over the past 20 years. *Fine Woodworking* is recognized as the international woodworking bible among a dozen or more periodicals vying for readers in this fast-growing hobby.

Who reads FWW? Mark gave a clear picture of how readership and skill levels affect subscriptions by drawing a pyramid to represent circulation. About two-thirds of the way to the peak he drew another line parallel to the baseline; that lower area reflects the skill level of beginners and intermediate woodworkers who subscribe to his magazine. Subscriptions taper off as woodworkers’ skills reach the Master Class level and older readers no longer find a need for the magazine. “We’ve taught them all we can,” he declared.

Most of the men and women in the audience acknowledged that they were long-time subscribers. From humble beginnings, FWW readership reached a quarter-million Americans in only a few years, and its continuing popularity has attracted competitors who are also successful in this booming market.

Kudos and Gripes. There were a few of each. Nick Van objected to the new mailing wrapper that protects the magazine and wished it were bagged like others he receives. Nick declared that it was a chore to remove the covers and the gelatin-like adhesive on the spine. He didn’t find many sympathizers in the audience, though. Mark defended the magazine’s decision, made following a readers’ survey, to eliminate the plastic bagging and substitute covers that add two pages of editorial content to the issue. A full-page

woodworking tip and a material list and cutting diagram for the premier monthly project are printed on the heavy paper, protective covers.

Most of those present wanted Mark to know how much they appreciate the woodworking help they receive. Larry Tomovick, in particular, spoke about the magazine’s truthfulness in its product reviews. He recited the celebrated router bit test of 1999, the test that pitted 19 brands of straight bits against a CNC router that edge-trimmed 2-inch thick oak boards. The lineal distances covered by the bits before wearing out were duly reported to readers. In truth, only 7 manufacturers’ products were involved, but many highly-rated brands failed early on. Some angered makers cried “Foul!” in their subsequent Letters to the Editor, but the magazine stood by their test results even when threatened with the loss of advertising revenue. One bit maker has never advertised again, Mark said. He explained that the editorial and advertising departments occupy different buildings and the ad people never try to influence the magazine’s editorial content. “Nor would we allow it,” he added.

Mark contributed several Taunton books and a valued CD to a Club raffle preceding his talk. Tomovick won the prized offering. Our thanks go to Cec for arranging this enjoyable evening.

The Shoot. Although Mark Schofield is one of the magazine’s editors, he is also a skilled photographer. Under his direction, Cec Braeden’s workbench story was pieced together step-by-step at his Anacortes home workshop. Cec had everything well organized, including scene-by-scene check sheets covering each operation in building the bench. Information included the specific bench materials, tools, and other things needed for a particular operation. Herb Laiche stood off-camera and called out the required materials for every scene while I shot some of the action with Cec’s camera. The photos printed here show actual glue-up of various assemblies with particular attention to the unusual plywood mortises and tenons, or such was my intention. But you get the picture. Right?

See Photos on Page 5

—Jay



THE BRAEDEN BENCH

(See FWW photos shoot story on page 4)

Cec Braeden's innovative work bench, which will be featured in an upcoming issue of Fine Woodworking magazine, will be raffled off to benefit our vocational education fund. Tickets will be available at the picnic, at all meetings, and at Arts Alive in November. Be sure to buy your ticket(s).....and encourage your woodworking friends to buy tickets too! **Thanks to Cec Braeden for his generous contribution!**



Shop Tours....September 10th

Another great day of touring member shops is coming up! This tour will be in the Whatcom County area, including Bellingham, Ferndale, Everson, Lynden and all points north of the Skagit County line, and will be Saturday, September 10th from 9:00AM through 4:30PM.

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. Get great ideas from projects in process.

This event occurs only twice each year, so take advantage of the opportunity. You won't regret the experience.

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.

Nick Van

Projects Committee: Toys for Tots

With the summer half over, I can see September on the near horizon. With the summer over, this will give us only three months to make our contribution to T for T. I sincerely hope those of you who have made an early commitment and have yet to fulfill this commitment will not let the kids down. Others who are not yet involved, I truly hope will join us in making a better Christmas for a bunch of kids. This is a great way to show you care.

We have two cradle designs that are great. We have a number of Boy-Toy "options. I have Lincoln Logs, a set of blocks and a train that you can use for prototypes. If you don't have a jointer/planer for prepping the rough wood, I do and will gladly, with your help, do what is needed. We have all the wood you could use, both maple and alder. Please join the T for T effort.

Gene Benson

Library Report

Thanks to Bob Doop for suggesting two videos by Rob Cosman on *Hand-Cut Dovetails* and *Advanced Hand-Cut Dovetails*. These excellent videos tell everything needed for strong and good looking joints.

The books and videos in our library are listed on our NCWA website. Take a look.....you will likely find something of interest. Your board has provided budget for additions to the library so if there is a book or video you would like to see added be sure to let me know. Also, **Please check** your video cabinets, bookshelves and workshop for club library items. Several books and videos have been out for far too long.

Thanks, Tom Chartier, Librarian

Greetings from the Education Committee

The turnout for the July meeting was spectacular! 32 members came and provided us with all kinds of information about their educational needs. A summary of the questions provides some interesting statistics. The Introduction To Woodworking Series started out with 13 classes. There are now 28 and the Series will probably get expanded further by another 5 classes, to respond to further suggestions. The 30

folks that turned in questionnaires at the meeting Tuesday evening signed up for a total of 392 classes. That's an average of 13 each. Eight folks signed up for over 20 classes each. 15 folks volunteered their shops for classes. 16 folks volunteered to help/teach. The minimum number signed up for a class is 8 for table saw 1 and 8 for dust collection systems. The highest number for a class is 18 for Planes 1 and 3 and finishing 1. All but one or two members either signed up for a class or volunteered to teach/help. Clearly, we are doing something worthwhile. I can only imagine what we will have when we hear from the other 50 members. I'm almost afraid to think about it. Your committee and class presenters will meet on Monday, July 25 to begin to get organized. We have a lot of work to do if we are going to begin the series in September. All of us involved in the program want to thank all of you for your help and your interest. Please be sure to call/email me if you have any other thoughts, suggestions, comments or are eager to help. Ed

IN MEMORIAM MARY STAPP

Mary Stapp was an early member of NCWA and a founding member of Artwood in Bellingham. A retired Anacortes teacher and resident of Guemes Island, Mary became well known for her skilled carving of creatures big and small.....especially her bird carvings. Accurate detail yet often with a touch of whimsy were the hallmarks of Mary's work. Mary was actively involved in Artwood right up to her passing on July 4th at age 83. A collection of Mary's work is on display at Artwood in the Fairhaven District of Bellingham.

Member Discounts (Clip and Save)

Several merchants offer 10% discounts to Northwest Woodworker members and we are proud to display their names in our Newsletter and promote their patronage. Discounts are applied at the register and we urge you to show your NCWA membership card or name badge. The current discounters are as follows:

Bob's Super Saw, 1121 Cornwall Av., Bellingham, (360) 733-4610 (Sharpening, router bits, bandsaw blades).

EdenSaw, 211 Section Road, Port Townsend, (800) 745-3336 (Hardwood, domestic, imported, and exotic; plywood and other sheet materials; tools, fasteners, glues, etc.).

Note: Delivers to mainland weekly; no delivery charge on \$250 minimum orders.

Frontier Industries, 1911 Commercial Av., Anacortes, (360) 293-4588 (Full scale lumberyard and hardware, paint, etc.).

Karl's Paint, 1515 Freeway Drive, Mount Vernon, (360) 336-2855 (Wood finishing products, paints, solvents, sandpaper, painting supplies). Note: Paint discounts apply to gallon sizes only.

Puget Sound Woodworking Center, 2416 California St., Everett, (425) 252-5677 (Hand and woodturning tools, shop accessories, turning supplies, saw blades, etc.) Note: Discounts do not apply to corded tools.

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware, 3823 Stone Av., Seattle, (206) 634-3222 (Same items found in their woodworking catalogs). Discount applies only in this store, not on catalog orders.

Western Tool, 2001-A Iowa St., Bellingham, (360) 715-1310 (Full line of woodworking tools and supplies). Discount applies this store only.

Woodcraft, 5963 Corson Av, Seattle (Take Michigan St. off-ramp) (Full line of woodworking tools and material). A catalog outlet, discount applies this store only.

Note: In most cases discounts will not apply to sales items already discounted.

NUMBERS . . .

- 82 Current membership
 - 3 Months to finish Arts Alive projects
 - 22 Years' old in March, NCWA's Birthday
 - 5 Counties served by our organization
 - 7 Number most feared by others
- (Why? Because 7 8 9)

by Jay

IMPORTANT STUFF!

If You Missed the Last Meeting.....

We still need your input. The questionnaires distributed at the July meeting will be available at the picnic and also will be posted on our website www.newawood.org. Please take a few minutes and complete your questionnaire. Your input is needed AND appreciated and will help guide our club's activities, classes and programs in the coming months. THANKS!

AS THE WEB SPINS.....

This month, a potluck of interesting sites:

Here is a good link with lots of articles about tools, old & new.

www.supertool.com/oldtools.htm

Just in case Ed does get that bandsaw of his dreams, here's an excellent article on fine tuning your bandsaw.

www.owwm.com/files/PDF/FAQ/110124076.pdf

And for those of us with an interest in woodturning, this site is sure to provide inspiration.

www.kestrelcreek.com

THE WOOD SHED

MAPLE FOR SALE

Very nice maple boards for a great project! Will cut my logs to your specs. Steve Intveld 592-5670

JOINTER FOR SALE

6" Rockwell (Delta) Model 37-220 jointer. 1/2 hp Baldor motor. Enclosed Stand. Good Condition. New knives. \$350 Rick Anderson 650-1587

DELTA DRUM SANDER FOR SALE

Model 31-255X Brand New! Still in box. New \$899 Asking \$750 Bob Bates 671-5097

RADIAL ARM SAW FOR SALE

9" Dewalt Model MBF. Vintage quality. Good condition \$250 Rick Anderson 650-1587

COMING EVENTS

August 6	2PM	Annual Picnic	Laura & Val Matthews (Bow)
August 17	7 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
August 20	NOON	Newsletter Deadline	Rick's Email Box
Sept. 10	9-4:30	Shop Tours	Whatcom County Member Shops
Sept. 21	7 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
October 22	TBA	Cloverdale Show Trip	Cloverdale, BC
Nov. 5 & 6	TBA	Arts Alive	LaConner

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

1331 Meador Ave, Suite J105
Bellingham, WA 98229