



Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

, 2003

Next Meeting: 12/02/03 7:00 pm, Julian Lee's Shop

Julian Lee's Toy box directions :- Take highway 20 west bound directed to Oak Harbor, at Pass lake turn right on Rosario road go 1 mile, turn hairpin left on Cougar Gap road and Turn immediate right into my driveway - Rosario Crest Lane, head right up the hill and turn right to the workshop. Park on the apron in front and to the East of the shop . Location is on the South end of Fidalgo Island 1/2 mile from Rosario Beach 3701 Rosario Crest Lane. 360 299 2900.

November 16, 2003

Prez Letter – November 2003

Is this a great group, or what? We have just completed one of the finest Art's Alive festivals we've ever had and have enjoyed a very informative Router Workshop where, not only did about half the club attend, but the instructors were superb. This is, without a doubt, one of the most talented and illuminating group of individuals I have ever been associated with and, to all of you, thank you.

Art's Alive started and ended with a bang. It was well attended and the general public seemed to have a genuine interest in what we were all about. The highlight, in my humble opinion, was the work of Larry Tomovick, who displayed his gold medal award winning side table and several other of his exquisite creations. Thanks, Larry. And, thanks Phil Choquette, for your leadership and hard work to make the event a success.

This years' Art's Alive produced seven new members and, I believe, there's more to come. Welcome to each of you. Make yourselves known by attending as many meetings as possible and jump into the activities and committee work that the club can make available to you.

My personal congratulations to those who submitted entries in the Bird House and Bird Feeder competition. Let's hear it for Jim Murphy, who won both first and second prize in the Bird House competition, and to Ron Grant who won third prize. And high fives to David Solie and Steve Inteveld who won first and second prize in the Bird Feeder competition (My bird feeder was the third entry, and I was not eligible for prizes. Dagnabit!!). All twenty entries were very creative and the workmanship and variety were without peer. In my opinion, the competition was successful and, in the future, can help to raise money for the club. Those entries that were not sold at Art's Alive will, with your permission, be held over for Woodfest in Sedro-Wooley in the spring. All in all, it was a good effort by our members. Congratulations to you all.

The Router Workshop was held in Gary Holloman's shop. Our member instructors were Val Matthews and Gary Holloman, with a very helpful assist from Phil Choquette. Our guest instructor was Paul Johnson, who, without a doubt, can squeeze more from a router than any individual around. He plowed through his material like a tornado in Kansas, offering assurance that there is nothing a router cannot do or accomplish. I am personally grateful for the opportunity to have attended and learned a great deal from it.

And finally, your officers and committee chairs will meet at the Farm House restaurant on Wednesday, December 17, 2003 at 7:00pm to discuss club business and other shenanigans. If you want to attend, please let me know so we can be certain there's another chair for you.

So this has been a fun month. Much has been accomplished. We now begin the holiday season with good spirit and goodwill for all. Happy Thanksgiving to each of you and your families and, as we enter this year's Christmas and Hanukkah celebrations, peace on earth, goodwill to all.

Nick

For the Record:

It Was A Fun Arts Alive with Great Participation from Our Members

Despite early doubts that our woodworkers would not be able to pony up a good representative furniture display, Phil Choquette hounded us and we responded with a bounty of nice looking projects. Some things seldom change, however. The arrangement of exhibits in the LaConner Municipal Garden Club building looked all too familiar.

Phil, as usual had the greeter's spot by the door, Judy Hemenway's dove boxes were tabled in the right rear corner by the fireplace, the Woodturners had the opposite corner running to midway down the length of the hall; Vern Tator's door display was next, and the cashier's table was set by the doorway across from Phil. Prominently centered in the room was a Rick Anderson cedar arbor, a beacon to lure visitors to the beautiful furniture pieces surrounding it. Our sharpening crew was in its familiar spot near the kitchen door, and outside Rocky MacArthur was making noise and carving out bears with his chain saw.

But there was something new from 2002. Over in the corner behind the cashier were tiers of birdhouses and feeders. Whoa! This was a surprise. Members had responded to President Van's challenge in a big way. There were 25 entries of well-crafted abodes waiting to be judged in our first-ever birdhouse competition. There was money to be won. Creative and original, these designs were all excellent and proved to be a difficult but enjoyable chore for the officers doing the judging.

But when the scores were added up, nesting areas hollowed out of logs proved to be most popular. Jim Murray got the big cash awards, winning both first and second prizes in the birdhouse

category. Jim used sections of logs with bark intact for his winning work. Third place went to Ron Grant for his lathe-turned nest of contrasting woods. Skillful craftsmanship was evident in all pieces. Dave Solie's soaring lighthouse bird feeder dominated the exhibit. Outstanding workmanship, a good design, and skillful use of different materials made a winning creation. Second place in the bird feeder category went to Steve Intveld who crafted a feeder from a natural log. In all, the Club handed out \$180 in cash prizes. The entries were priced and offered for sale to the public during the two days of Arts Alive. Those unsold will be offered to the public again at the Woodfest celebration at Sedro Woolley High next April.

Our other exhibitors and sellers for the 2003 Arts Alive included Dave Blair (plant stand), Bob Doop (chess boards), me (tables), Gary Holloman (bench), Mike Hess (chests), Ray McInnes (Adirondack chair), Val Matthews (wall cabinet), Jim Murray (box), Bob Robison (benches and plant stand), Bob Stewart (wall clocks and a truckload of chainsawn birds and animals), Larry Tomovick (boxes and a return visit of his prize-winning table), and Vern Tator (a prize-winning table and his rocking chair).

Visitors were sparse on Saturday, but the tempo picked up Sunday afternoon. Sales appeared to be less than a year ago, although Phil sold most of his cutting boards while demonstrating scroll cutting to an appreciative audience. Our demonstration team also attracted crowds again as Ed Pysher, Dave Blair, and Mike Larvia showed off their razor sharp skills. Food was provided demonstrators and exhibitors by the Woodturners and our Club.

This is the final activity report and Newsletter for the year. New officers will be elected at the December meeting. St. Nick and the gang wish you Happy Holidays!

Jay Geisel, Secretary

It became one of those down-and dirty, hands-on demos you dream about. We were gathered in Holliman's shop in Sedro Woolley listening to the "experts" wax eloquent about their passion for routers and routing jigs when Gary pulled out his low-tech, unrefined tenoning jig consisting of two pieces of joined wood with an ordinary screw clamp attached. He quickly routed the male joint, and added the comment, "No big deal."

And indeed it wasn't. But it was quick, efficient, and accurate. Here's a successful production shop doing

serious woodworking on marine interiors and furniture with some tools that are relatively simple.

Along came “Low-Tech Phil” Choquette to marvel at his high-tech router edge guide, with accessories and available in three versions of different leg lengths. It’s a precision tool with a price to match. But Phil also showed us a neat jig he made to set up dado routing of a board; it works great for a board of indeterminate thickness, such as plywood. No measuring and no error. It’s neat and cheap.

Educational chairman Val Matthews opened the day’s activities before two dozen eager members looking for help and ideas. The pros did not disappoint. Val discussed routing basics and some advanced techniques. He displayed routers and a line of his favorite shop-made jigs, the result of a decade of work as a carpenter. “You’ve got to have the right tools for the job,” he declared. His jig work is clean and professional and addresses a variety of routing needs and short-cut aids.

The last professional member of the day’s quartet was Paul Johnson, a career vocational training instructor now retired. Paul touts an unusual design for his “PJ Router Table System” developed for his students to construct. The table, an elaborate three-part system that knocks down for easy transportation, includes a base unit with drawer and a mid-component with a drawer, storage space, dust control, and electrical switch. His tables features dado slots that run 90 degrees to the normal miter slot to accommodate his many sled and cutoff box jig designs. He also showed a bench-mounted router table with aluminum top and dual slots. A do-all system, Paul’s full router table design includes a pin router, a pivoting fence that is clamped at one end for dado, groove, and jointing operations; a cut-off box and fence for rabbeting, and a slotting fence used to cut splines, panel grooves, and moldings. Other speciality forms that he designed and uses include a tenon, plunge, and dovetail cutoff box, and a faling jig. Paul demonstrated the use of most of these jigs on three of his tables and gave us a look at a few of the interesting projects his students favored, such as a tambour-

topped tape cassette box constructed from a template and the pin router. We are indebted to Paul for making the 39-page hand-out available; it includes full plans, cutting lists, and illustrations for making the *PJ Router Table System*.

Once the talking was over we got down to the dusty business of trying out the jigs for ourselves. We examined them close up, we asked questions, got answers, and gave it a try. All the expert jiggery was fun to use and many of us planned to make them for our own shops. The session closed at mid-afternoon when the last of the woodworkers left, sated for now but wanting more. Do more workshops like this, Val. They’ll come.

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Routermania . . . The Wind Blew; Wood Dust Flew

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Left: Nick Van, Mike Larvia and Dave Blair in a sharpening discussion. Right: an oak rocking chair by Vern Tator.



Birdhouses and bird feeder entries for the President’s Challenge.



Larry Tomovick’s award winning table. Good job Larry!

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 spaying all sprayable coatings.\$ 400. firm.contact Julian Lee (360) 299-2900 or julianengrep@earthlink.net.

Jake Strauss

Kiln dried NW Washington hardwood lumber. (Sales by appointment only)
6389 North Star Rd.
Ferndale, WA 98248
(360)384-3948

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	Nick Van	(360) 387-4174	Education:	Val Matthews
VP	Rick Anderson	(360)-398-158	Public shows/exhibits:	Phil Choquette
Sec.	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908	Club Projects	Gary Holloman
Treas.	Ed Pysher	(360) 766-0136	Historian	Ray McInnes
Library	Tom Chartier	(360) 734-9473	Roster	Larry Tomovick
Programs	Bob Doop	(360) 293-4522	Membership cards	Vern Tator
Editor	Tom Chartier	(360) 734-9473		

NCWA Newsletter
925 South Hills Dr
Bellingham WA. 98229

Seasons Greetings!

