

Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

November, 2002

**Next Meeting: Gary Holloman's Shop
500 Metcalf St. Sedro - Woolley, WA. (360) 855-3376
January 7, 2003 7:00pm
Speaker: Stuart Welsh, Bellingham Technical College Woodworking Teacher**

Notes from the Vice Prez:

**WARNING:
TO NW ABOVE KNEE AMPUTEES**

From the VP,

After showing a great use for a surplus prosthetic knee in the shop I realized I might have increased the value of these artificial limbs to the extent that burglary or hard-core robbery may suffer a tremendous increase. I would therefore warn amputees in this category to follow these precautionary suggestions: Avoid woodworkers who see to be coveting your prosthesis. If at a public swimming pool be sure and use a secure locker. And finally, you may want to sleep with your prosthesis on or have it chained or handcuffed (huh) to a bedpost.

As far as the rest of the meeting went I have to apologize for the near anarchy. I had forgotten I was the VP. Once I realize this I jumped up on the throne (stool) and with your patience and help was able to take charge. I enjoyed my short-lived power trip and was glad to see the two motions pass unanimously and that most of us had an opportunity to share our views on the "Arts Alive" woodworking show.

A little follow-up on Dave Blair's "bring and brag" presentation of the Triton router. I called the Triton representative (888) 874-8661 and found out that the base plate bolt pattern is the same as the porter cable #7518, which is there 3-½ hp barrel type router. In addition they were able to give a more up-to-date answer to Phil's question about the use of template guides. I was informed that Triton now has a template guides holder for their router that uses the porter cable bushings. The more I thought about the great features this router had to offer I began to wonder "hadn't my porter cable bogged down a little bit last time I used it?" Thanks Dave.

Finally I hope you all enjoyed the meeting as much as I did. I found Mike Murphy's wonderful energy to be contagious and enjoyed his personal history as much as his bag of tricks. Welcome to the newcomers and see that the next meeting.

Larry

NCWA Meeting, December 3, 2002

Thirty-six members and guests almost overfilled Larry Tomovick's Anacortes garage *werks* to hear shipwright Mike Murphy's story on how a furniture-making student found happiness and success in the boat-building business. In the absence of President Holloman, host Larry conducted the final business meeting of the year and then introduced his friendly fellow woodworker and speaker of the evening. Ray DeVries popped in with a container of utensils left at his place during the September Club picnic. Guest Don Parry was introduced and three others became new members: Gary Meyers, Ferndale; Jack R. Thomas, LaConner; and Zeke Secules, Bellingham.

Old Business Matters

The Secretary re-introduced his earlier motion to raise membership dues by \$6.00 (total \$30) effective January 1. It would become the first increase of membership dues in the Club's 18-years' existence. The motion passed.

The Secretary also cited the need for the issuance of membership cards starting with year 2003, and he promised to have printing cost estimates avail-

able at the next meeting. Larry, heading the roster booklet committee, said he is already seeking printing estimates for the additional pages that will be needed to update the membership list. The loose pages will be issued to all booklet holders to insert in the spiral binders.

Grumbles and Mumbles

Is *Arts Alive* a proper venue for *NCWA*? Bernard Dorman questioned the merchandising aspects of our annual participation at the Garden Club building and Larry White worried that we were running out of space for future exhibitions. These and other issues led to a lively discussion of the Club's premiere public display, and there was no shortage of ideas or opinions. Phil Choquette and Nick Van, two of the three *AA* committeemen, maintained perspective by explaining that we were the invited guests of the town of LaConner and participate under the sponsorship of Stuart Hutt, owner of the *Wood Merchant* store who organizes the Garden Club building exhibition each year and arranges insurance coverage. If either of the two invited woodworking organizations (*NCWA* and *NWWA*) fail to fill the building with exhibits and salable items, Stuart is ready to add additional merchandise from his store. (His furniture supplemented *2001 Arts Alive*.)

While it's true that some of our furniture is "not for sale" (and this dismays many hopeful buyers), the annual event is an established LaConner commercial weekend that attracts thousands of holiday shoppers from the surrounding areas. "Buying," not "exhibiting," is the driver that motivates this crowd. Other concerns regarding table and floor space apportionment and who is invited to participate (other than club members) are topics that will be up for discussion by the committee throughout the year as they continue to refine our role, coordinate matters with Stuart, and keep us alerted.

In new business, Larry asked for a volunteer to chair the selection of candidates for the election of officers for year 2003. Bob Doop offered his help and named Nick Van and Ed Pysker as his committee. They will present their slate of candidates at January's election meeting.

Bring and Brag

With some struggle Roger Pierce held up a cloth bag of birdshot that he finds useful in safely ripping boards on his table saw. Dave Blair gave everyone a first look at the

new Triton router out of Australia. The 3-1/4 h.p. plunging machine has many features that make it ideal for table use, chiefly an above table tool change with an automatic power lockout. Larry told a story about finding a discarded prosthetic leg and having no use for it. But he didn't throw it away. Larry also discussed a wall lamp project that required table router template work with a trim bit fitted with a bearing. He tried out a new up-cut spiral bit, also with a bearing, and found it to be quite aggressive compared to his double-fluted, shear-cutting bit. He advised members to be extra careful with the spiral bit to prevent tear-out.

Next, Larry demonstrated how easy it was to convert his 12-inch Robland European jointer to a planer. With my help, the heavy table castings were swung out and I transferred the 4-inch vacuum hose from my end to Larry who reached up and brought down his old prosthesis, hinged knee joint and all, that was attached to the ceiling. It was a perfect hanger for the long bight in the vac hose! Larry pointed up at the wood and chrome device and beamed while the crowd roared with laughter.

Mike Murphy never planned to work on boats. He attended woodworking schools in Seattle where he learned cabinet- and furniture-making skills. But needing extra money, he was steered by his instructor to some short-term work rebuilding boat interiors. After a few of these excursions, Mike became more experienced and was a popular marine turn-to guy. Eventually, after finishing his schooling, Mike found that jobs on boats filled most of his working days.

Mike was always passionate about acquiring old hand tools; those that were not completely worn out he would fix in the school shop and add to his toolbox. After years of finding, repairing, and swapping you would expect some sophistication or advanced technology to emerge from this collection.

That didn't happen. Mike dumped his canvas bag of tools on Larry's worktable and no one was impressed. It was a motley group of hand tools for the most part. His most used, a small adjustable end wrench and a knife he keeps ready in his pocket. The others were very ordinary tools like files (sheathed), pliers, screwdrivers, small saws, and putty knives. This from a celebrated toolaholic? But as Mike went through this assortment you could see a few pearls here and there. Marking and measuring tools. And

that beautiful, trusted angle-halving instrument was his pride and joy. Mike demonstrated how useful it was determining complex interior angles aboard ship.

Mike also builds homes and furniture and is a familiar sight roaming the Anacortes waterfront. Many of our Anacortes members know him, enjoy his fellowship, and say good things about him while admitting to his extraordinary workmanship. Mike still enjoys boat work and collecting old tools. But, as Doop was often heard to say, "And his wife has a fulltime job."

Treasurers Report:

Beginning Balance:	\$617.48
Checks and Payments	653.75
Deposits and Credits	<u>596.36</u>
Ending Balance	\$560.75

Treasurer's Note:

Dues are due for the year 2003 at the January meeting.



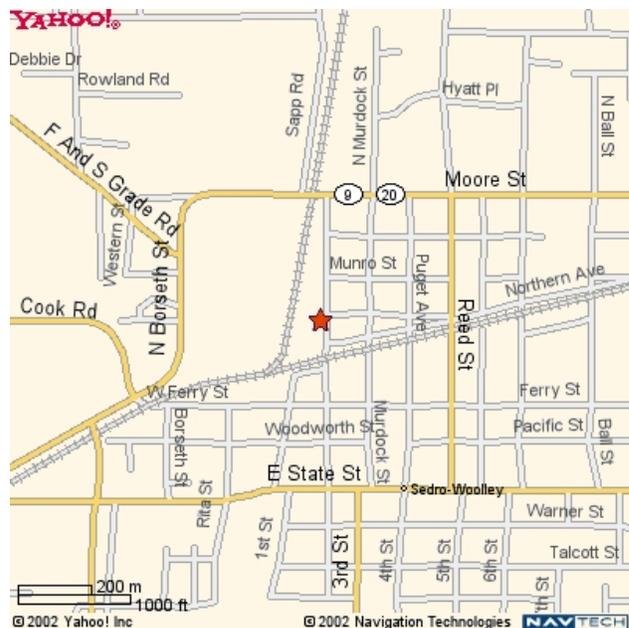
Roger Pearce discusses using how useful a bag of lead shot can be in the shop.

Driving instructions to Gary's shop:

Take Highway 20 through Sedro Woolley until you go under the Railroad trestle. Take an immediate

Right onto Metcalf. Turn right into industrial area just before you get to the railroad tracks. Go to left rear buildings. (This is one of the old Skagit Corporation Buildings

Map to the Meeting Place



Dave Blair showing the features of his Triton router.



Michael Murphy talking about his woodworking background and his craft. Michael showing some of his favorite tools.

Jake Strauss

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

Changes to Membership Roster:

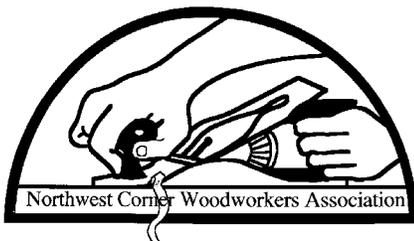
Lonny Heiner's Email address change to leheiner@fidalgo.net

The NCWA was formed to promote high standards in woodworking, woodworking education, and showcasing local woodworking. The NCWA is open to all interested woodworkers.. Dues are \$24 per year, payable to NCWA, 7550 Ershig Rd. 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., 98226. Or call (360) 734-9473. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Location announced in the newsletter

2000-20001 Officers:

President	Gary Holloman	(360) 855-3376
VP	Jim Fox	(360) 647-7039
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Treas.	Laura Matthews	(360) 757-7730
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Programs	Larry Tomovick	(360) 293-4580
Editor	Tom Chartier	(360) 734-9473

NCWA Newsletter
925 South Hills Dr
Bellingham Wa. 98226.



Seasons Greetings!

