



# Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

## Next Meeting: , Julian Lee's shop July 6, 2004 7:00 pm Featuring Tracey Powell, stone and wood carver

My Shop 3701 Rosario Crest Lane, Anacortes. [6 miles South of Anacortes on the South end of Fidalgo Island - On Sares Head above Rosario Beach] From I 5 take SR 20 East and follow Oak Harbor directions .At Pass lake turn North on Rosario Road for 1.25 mi. turn left on Cougar Gap Road and immediate right into my driveway-Rosario Crest Lane Follow the Lee sign right ,and up the hill, turn right at top and park on the apron in front and East of my shop. [www.powelstudios.com](http://www.powelstudios.com)

Hello!

First of all, THANKS to Gary Holloman and Bob Doop for presenting a very interesting and informative program on veneering at our June meeting. The level and variety of expertise within NCWA is impressive. I hope more members will step forward and share their special skills as future programs.

We all have to stop once in awhile and tidy up our shops. NCWA is no exception, so this month we will look at a few items needing attention.

First, you will find in this issue of our newsletter notice that we will be voting on a change to our bylaws at the September meeting. The purpose of this proposed change is to bring the bylaws into conformance with our election schedule as it has been held the past few years. Your board was unanimous in deciding to present this proposed change to the membership. Please read it and give consideration and be prepared to vote on the change at our September meeting.

Second, your board felt that it was important to be clear on the use of the member information that NCWA collects. At our June Board meeting the following guideline was unanimously approved:

*NCWA maintains lists that include the mailing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of our members. The purpose of the lists is solely for the dissemination of NCWA newsletters, an-*

*nouncements and other communication and information appropriate to the craft of woodworking.*

We ask your care and cooperation in the use of our member information in accordance with these guidelines.

Third, Tom Chartier has advised that this will be his last year producing our Newsletter. Tom, it's certainly been a job well done! THANK YOU!!! So now it will soon be time for someone else to volunteer to take over this extremely important role. Tom will provide all of the necessary training and the club provides the necessary software. All we need is someone to "volunteer" between now and the end of the year. All interested members please contact either Tom or me for further information.

Our new Project Committee Chairman is Eugene Benson. Within 24 hours after "volunteering" Gene was already researching a club project and providing a detailed report at our Board/Committee Chair meeting! THANKS Gene for saying yes!

Our first Shop Tour Day on Saturday was a great success. THANKS to Nick Van for organizing the day.....and to all the shop owners who made their shops available. Here's hoping that the tours will become an annual tradition.

I'll see you all at our July meeting at Julian Lee's.....it should be another great evening of learning and sharing!

Rick

PS: Don't forget to mark the August 14<sup>th</sup> picnic on your calendar.

### **Minutes of General Meeting on 1 June 2004**

About three dozen members gathered in Gary Holliman's large woodworking shop in Sedro Woolley to see and hear first-hand and up close how to apply wood veneers. The program followed a short business meeting.

**July Meeting.** President Rick Anderson opened the general membership meeting promptly at 7 and asked for committee reports from all chairmen. Bob Doop, Programs, explained that all the details for the July meeting were not complete. That meeting with Julian Lee as host will be held outside in a Washington State Park or at Julian's Anacortes shop. Confirmation will be made in the Newsletter, he said.

**Annual Picnic,** Saturday, August 14, also has been declared the month's general meeting night. Picnic activities will start at 2 and the pot-luck dinner about 5. The site, Laura and Val's home in Bow, is the same as last year. Laura suggested everyone bring their choice of meat for their barbecue; fires would be provided. Attendees are also asked to bring a covered dish for six people, either an appetizer, salad, vegetable, or dessert. Laura has issued personal invitations to former NCWA members and their spouses to join current members in this fun event.

**Wood Fest Gifted.** The Club has received a letter of thanks from the organizers of the Sedro Woolley High School 2004 Wood Fest. They reported receiving \$282 from the sale of the 18 birdhouses and feeders contributed by our organization, according to Phil Choquette, Venues Chairman. He also announced the forthcoming Arts Alive event would fall on the first weekend of November. In other matters, Ed Pyscher, Education Chair, announced that the basic table saw course was being given in two parts owing to the volume of material being presented. Both parts and a repeat of the first part, three classes, will have been given by mid-June in Val Matthews' shop. The date for the much-anticipated bus trip to the Woodworking and Tool Show in Cloverdale, B.C., was put to vote by a show of hands. The choice was a

Saturday or Sunday trip. Preferences were for Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Add that to your calendars. Activities Chairman Nick Van announced that Lyle Hand's shop had been added to the northern section shop tour schedule, making seven shops available for Saturday, June 28. Addresses and driving instructions will be sent to all members.

**Dovetail Jig Clinic.** Larry Tomovick was asked to report on the extra-curricular educational session he hosted for demonstrating the effectiveness of different dovetail jigs. The Saturday shop clinic was attended by six members, four of whom demonstrated their own equipment, which included a Porter Cable Omnijig, a Keller, a Leigh, and an Akeda. Ed Pyscher said he would like to reprise the demonstration in a larger shop to accommodate more participation.

**Bring and Brag.** Although it couldn't be dragged to the meeting, enough members had seen Larry Tomovick's newly completed, 7-foot tall, nine drawer walnut and birdseye maple bookcase to bring it to the attention of the others at the meeting. The major work was almost seven months in the making and has received kudos from all who have viewed it.

Vern Tator joined the turning ranks and showed members a bowl that he recently turned. Not to be outdone, Julian Lee exhibited five bowls from madrone that he turned on his new Vicmark lathe.

**Table Stripping, Part II.** In the continuing saga of Phil Choquette's trials and tribulations in stripping an old floor finish from his client's tables, we had an opportunity to hear remedies from other voices. Phil related that a super stripper recommended by Doop didn't work; others suggested burning it off, using naphtha or citrus cleaners, or the abrasive powers of a Dremel tool. The Western Big Leaf Maple tables still cling tightly to three coats of floor finish, resisting every effort by Phil the Refinisher.

On a more positive note, Treasurer Pyscher reported a bank balance of \$2,553.

Jay Geisel, Secretary

### **Veneering: Art or Craft?**

The Dynamic Duo of Bob Doop and Gary Holliman displayed professional skills at our June meeting in Gary's Sedro Woolley woodworking shop. It was as nice a planned program as you'd want to witness. Both have years of veneering experience and they compressed this knowledge into a two-hour presentation that effectively informed and impressed us.

Doop, as set-up man, gave us insight into the techniques involved, the tools, materials, and the things you have to do to make the veneering task work. For example, experience has taught him the best way to file the teeth of the veneer saw before you start cutting, what tapes to use, what adhesives and finishes are best. Bob passed around samples of his classic chessboard projects to show how the thin veneers must be squarely cut to avoid any bevels when they butt together at the joint lines.

Is it Art or Craft? As demonstrated by Gary in the second part of the program, I'd say it's both. Gary and his boat interior furnishings company are doing big business with veneers. Built-in boat furniture is all about arcs and curves to match the shape of a hull. Lamination is the practical answer and usually that's wood and wood veneers.

Gary started veneering four years ago and on our night he showed us some excellent marine cabinetry in various stages of completion.

His demonstration of veneering a 2-foot-square MDF panel with four raw pieces, or "pages," of commercial grade hardwood veneer started with the selection of four pages in the order in which the veneer was removed from the log. From this "fitch," Gary carefully marked the pages to retain their book-match order before starting his design on the substrate. How the veneer is "presented" after all the rotating, reversing, flopping, cropping and matching that Gary does is the "art" part of the equation. He tries and rejects until his creative sense, his mind's eye, tells him this is the very best arrangement.

To complete the project, Gary carefully marked out the best area of each page to avoid pinholes and blemishes before measuring and squaring the pages for trimming. He trimmed each page individually on a squaring jig using a router. Once the veneer pieces were glued to the substrate, the panel was placed in a vacuum bag where the clamping action holds assembled parts in place during curing, which is normally a four-hour process.

Gary's designs, mixed with inlays of lines and forms, can

turn ordinary veneer tabletops and countertops into stunning displays of a woodworker's art. Such is the power of veneering when taken to the upper level. And that's where Bob and Gary live.

Jay

#### JUST PLANE CHATTER

**Super Saw Squeeze.** When **Doug Favro**, owner of Bob's Super Saw, took me on a tour of his lower-level shop the other day, I was amazed at the proliferation of blade grinders and other sharpening machines all crammed into such a small space that only single file movement was possible. Doug is equipped to sharpen almost anything. Paper cutters are still a big part of the business, from print shops to newspapers and G-P. Most machines, such as his new table saw blade sharpener, are automated. He sharpens everything from kitchen knives to 3/4-inch thick brush cutters. Despite the cramped quarters on both floors, Bob's business seems to be flourishing. They'll be moving into a larger building, probably late this year. Good prices on router bits continue. I picked up a piloted 60-degree chamfer bit (great for beveling countertop laminates) for \$5.

**Wood You Know?** I discussed Lyptus, the new, fast growing plantation hybrid that's a dead ringer for scarce mahogany at a Wood of the Month session a year ago. The South American tree is harvested mature after only a ten-year growth period. Lyptus is furniture-quality wood sold at attractive prices and can be seen and ordered from Edensaw in Port Townsend. The store in Seattle is a regional distributor of veneers. When I visited, they informed me they are not a retailer but admitted they do sell odds and ends from a large rack near the office area. You can find long pieces from broken flitches, maybe enough for a medium-sized project. Be prepared to pay cash since they have no cashier. Brookside Veneers ([www.veneers.com](http://www.veneers.com)) sells natural veneer faces, edgebanding, natural fitch stock, and natural paperback. Their Colorply line of decorative composite lumber is a favorite of woodturners ([www.colorply.com](http://www.colorply.com)). Request their catalogs. **Bob Doop** is using veneer from a bargain box he bought for around \$150 a few years ago.

**Smooth Sailing.** When **Julian Lee** was introduced to catamaran sailing on his recent trip to Israel he liked it so much he went back for seconds. Asked about veneering, Julian said he's never done that but likes intarsia, cutting veneers with an Xacto knife.

**Harley, Har, Har.** A week in the saddle would be painful for most anyone, but **Gary Holliman** is looking forward to getting away from the shop this summer. He and a couple buddies will not be hiking the trails and fishing this time. They'll be hogging the roads to Wyoming to visit another friend and camp along the way.

**It Never Stops.** Fresh from completing his seven-month, seven-foot tall walnut bookcase, **Larry Tomovick** is back at it again. This time he's replacing two matched end tables. Lucky relatives get those.

**More Smooth Sailing.** When **Ken LaMarche** called for a sanding source for his big tabletop, I referred him to the WoodHouse in Anacortes where they operate three large drum sanders in their kitchen cabinet shop. He seemed pleased with the results and prices. Co-owner **Cerwick**, a former member, is offering surplus oak, maple, and other hardwoods for \$2.50 a board foot, a good price for select lumber.

**Good Buy.** An old friend to local woodworkers is hanging it up in Anacortes. After 32 years in business Flounder Bay Boat Lumber has a new owner. The Picketts held a sellabration party June 11, the day the deal was done. The new owner, a violinmaker from Auburn, will sell musical instrument materials and other wood merchandise. Erica Pickett will continue to work at the new store.

Jay

## CATALOGS GALORE:

Hi folks. Have you ever tried to find a hard-to-find tool? One of the folks in the Table Saw Basics session asked if I knew where he could get 9" blades for his saw. That reminded me I had a catalog of catalogs that was sent to me as part of my subscription to Woodworker's Journal. I checked and there are three pages of vendors that sell cutters, blades and bits. Somewhere in there, there will be a source for 9" blades.

If you have a need for something and can't find it, email/call me and I'll send you the pages of the catalog that apply to the whatchamacalit that you are looking for. You never know, it might actually save you some time.

Ed Pysher (epysher@aol.com) 360-766-8019

## Wood Cleaner Recipe courtesy of Mike Larvia

Here is a copy of the post from [www.woodcentral.com](http://www.woodcentral.com)

Both Shellac and oil finishes will drink dirt over a period of time. To clean the finish it is necessary to slightly soften the surface as you clean. This will release most of the dirt and get you back to the original clean finish. You can imagine, this is a little more delicate than just washing down, but not such that anyone couldn't have a try. This is a recipe given out by the British Museum for furniture restoration :-

8 oz Turpentine  
4 oz Denatured alcohol  
2 oz White Vinegar  
1 oz Murphy's oil soap  
1 oz Brasso

1 tea spoon household ammonia

Mix in the order given and shake well.

Test the area to be cleaned and find out if the finish is shellac (susceptible to softening with alcohol) if so you might want to back out a little alcohol, but it isn't necessary if you keep your eye on the work. If all is going well and you just would like the solution to be a little more aggressive, you can add a little more ammonia (but not more than double)

Use in a well ventilated area.

Regards Sam Simpson.

I copied this from a message I sent a while back. I found it by doing a search in the archives. It will work in your case too.

Addy Protocol -- City and Guilds in finishing science, Antiques restorer for twenty years, member of American Institute for Conservation of Historic artifacts.

*A Real Life Story . . .*

## Be Penny Wise, Not Foolish

I was watching a carpenter doing some repair work on my home siding and eaves a few years ago. He was Australian, living in Mount Vernon, and hired by the bank footing my home loan.

"Do'ya 'ave a 10 penny nile?" he asks. "Dunno," I replied, wondering what on earth he was talking about. He held up a nail. "A 10 penny nile." he repeated. "Oh!" I said as I ran into the house. "I'll look."

I replied, wondering what on earth he was talking about. He held up a nail. “A 10 penny nile.” he repeated. “Oh!” I said as I ran into the house. “I’ll look.”

I immediately went to my shop reference book and quickly discovered that a 10 penny nail was equivalent to a three-inch long common nail, of which I had many.

I don’t know if he was “putting me on” or not, but it gave me some satisfaction knowing that I hadn’t let him stump me in the carpentry and woodworking department.

Look at any box of nails sold today and you will see each label identifies the box by inch and penny size, the lower-case letter *d* (16d, for example is 3-1/2 inches.) I decided that I should know a few basic facts about the *penny* system.

Size	Length (inches)
4d	1-1/2
6d	2 (Memorize)
8d	2-1/2
10d	3 (Memorize)
12d	3-1/4
16d	3-1/2
20d	4
(Memorize)	
30d	4-1/2

From the above, you can see there are no *odd* numbers and no 14 or 18 penny sizes. Remember that 6d, 10d, and 20d represent 2,3, and 4 inches, respectively, and all the half-inch sizes from 1-1/2 inches thru 3-1/2 inches are doubled progressively (4d, 8d, and 16d). That’s it for light construction.

*Jay Geisel*



**Above:** Bowls by Julian Lee.

**Below:** Vern Tator’s first turning in fifteen years.



**Don’t forget “Bring or Brag”, we all do something unique or have something that others would enjoy seeing.**

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 \$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 .

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