



# NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

[www.ncwawood.org](http://www.ncwawood.org)

July 2005

**Next Meeting: July 12th, 7:00 pm**

***NOTE: Due to the 4th holiday, we are meeting on the 2nd Tuesday, NOT our usual 1st Tuesday.***

**Mike New's Shop  
7349 Teal Lane, Bow**

**Phone: 360-707-2314 or 360-319-7600**

**From the South** via I-5, take the Chuckanut Drive exit (231), head North on Chuckanut 2.8 miles, turn right onto Ershig Road (just past the little store). Continue on Ershig 1.5 miles until you cross the railroad tracks, then turn right on Allen Road. Take the first left onto Teal Lane, drive to the end of the cul de sac and bear right into the driveway. The shop's on the left.

**From the North** via I-5, take the Bow Hill exit, turn right onto Bow Hill Road. Go about a mile and turn left onto Ershig. Go another mile or so and turn left onto Allen Road (just before the RR crossing). Take the first left onto Teal Lane, drive to the end of the cul de sac and bear right into the driveway. The shop's on the left.

## **Hello Fellow Splinters,**

For those of you that were able to join us at NorthStar Woodworks, I am not alone in saying that we could have enjoyed another few days there when in actual production.

What a great story of two partners, and a greater story of their success in a marketplace that many of us I'm sure, were surprised to understand exists, and to the high level that it does. Thanking again our hosts and company owners Frank and Michael for the extension of their time and resources, I was also sure to mention that should the head count of their Martin equipment be a bit short in the morning, they would have 47 likely suspects on their hands, yours truly included! Thanks again to Rick's fine work in the Programs Committee for setting this one up, another great NCWA program we all enjoyed.



NCWA Style!.....Prez James models the latest in safe wood-working fashion.

We had several visitors and now new members to our humble group of sawdust heads at our last meeting.

**WELCOME** new members! Mr. Bob will be getting your mug shots and bio goods in the newsletter over the short time to come, thanks for coming onboard with us! We will look forward to your involvement in your NCWA, growing your own skills, letting others benefit from your knowledge in our shared craft. There are several different ways to get "plugged in" to the NCWA, please do so, the rewards are many.

With a quick look at the calendar, have we already rolled through over half of this year? Yes, hard to believe, but we have. Looking back, we have had a number of **GREAT** opportunities to beef up

the area usually reserved for hanging our hats. Really, when you think of what we have done so far, and what we have planned for the rest of the year, wow. Having said that, beyond the remainder of this year and looking forward, we all need to look at our Education/Mentoring road map, which will be the topic of our next meeting July 12<sup>th</sup>. Both Ed and Bob need our input, so lets be ready to give it.



### JUNE WOODWORKER OF THE MONTH

Dave Frederick & his rocking chair project.

discovered it the other day, a childhood present from his father, stored away a long time ago. It was this little machine that prompted his life-long interest in woodworking.

The meeting was brief, but we took the time to introduce six guests, all of whom became new members before the night was over. Nick Van thanked the crew that held their workshops open for the Club's latest shop visitation day and Larry

Tomovick announced that he had brought with him the last of the discounted shop materials (Titebond Extend, Profin, and a top-saving spray) all ordered earlier and now ready for pick-up. Larry also described a change in his technique of applying ProFin to his furniture projects. After further experiments, he believes a better-looking finish is possible if only the last of three or more coats are sanded instead of only the first coat. Larry now suggests that you wet sand the final of at least three coats with 400 grit paper. Allow each of the coats to air dry for a couple hours and then sand only the last coat, is his message.

Dave Frederick, an engineer, gave us a very brief look into his life as our Woodworker of the Month. Dave selected Tom Chartier as our next featured woodworker.

Program Chairman Cec Braeden announced that there was still time to make reservations for Meet the Fine Woodworking Editor's address and buffet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28, at Hillcrest Lodge. The meal price of \$7 will be collected at the door but reservations are required. Cec also announced that he is donating his innovative workbench, the subject of Fine Woodworking magazine's interest this month, to the Club to use as a raffle during Arts Alive in November.

Ok, enjoy this June newsletter, lots of great news and information. While your doing that, I'll go back milling some logs, seeing what beauty lurks beneath the surface.....See you all on the 12<sup>th</sup>!

Enjoy the craft, enjoy your NCWA,

James Haddock Sr.  
President  
NCWA

### Minutes of the NCWA Meeting June 7, 2005

The Prez opened the meeting to 47 members and guests gathered at **NorthStar Woodworks** in Ferndale while balanced on an unsteady lumber cart with a small red plastic box in hand. He repeatedly asked: "Do you know what's in this box?" And of course nobody had a clue. With triumph in his voice, he declared it to be a combination machine tool, the likes of which we'll never see again. Before opening the box, James Haddock declared its virtues to be a jig saw, a lathe, a disk sander, and a drill press. He

Looking at the Mattell combination tool, reminded me how short market life can be even with a strong, well-designed product. Barbie and Ken have taken over, but not before James' lifetime vision took charge.

—Jay Geisel, Secretary

### Door-Making Visit Like “Eye Candy” to Woodworkers

What if you, a hobbyist woodworker had unlimited funds to equip the shop of your dreams? What would you buy? For starters, how about skipping the always popular Felders and opting for some of those really expensive, \$60,000 CNC machines from Germany, Italy, or Switzerland, companies with names like Martin, Matea, Mayer, Shoda, Morrison, or Orma; these wonders can be programmed to do everything but cook your dinner. Just load a work piece and push a button. But, ask one to trim a quarter-inch off your board and it could take hours of reprogramming and frustration. And then there's the training you'd need to prepare for all this.

We spent an enjoyable evening at *NorthStar Woodworks* watching the automated industrial machines show their capabilities. They don't require the guiding hands of a woodworker, but the operators must be highly trained.



*NorthStar Woodworks* has selected 30 workers to create architecturally designed custom doors and windows for commercial and residential markets. The 20-year old Ferndale door-maker occupies a sizable

building loaded with expensive machinery and enjoying a booming West coast business. The products are first-class with prices to match. Typical doors are 3-inches thick, some 10 feet tall, and veneered with matchless beauty. Panels are solid wood, sometimes exotic or imported, or made from artistically etched glass.

Owners are partners Frank Chambers and Mike Anderson, and they seemed honored and eager to show Club members the everyday operations of the business. (Thank Rick Anderson, who

knows these fellows, for putting together this great program.) Frank and Mike planned for the event by calling in one of their engineers to aid in the presentations with a demonstration of CNC machining.

*Le Tour.* Each partner took half the group on a shop



tour that included many eye-opening demonstrations of automatic machines. A table saw, for example, had no human controls, no knobs, wheels, switches, or

*The July Program* will be dedicated to our education program and we will be unveiling the new and expanded program as well as the presentation schedule. We will have comprehensive descriptions of each section.

We hope to see you at the July meeting and will be talking with you to get your input. This has been a great program, but it can be better and with your help, it can address far more questions than it has in the past. Please come and help us do that for you. What we really need now is your input. We need to know what you need to know.

NorthStar Woodworks partners (and former NCWA members), Frank Chambers (L) & Mike Anderson (R)

levers, with only an electronic keyboard to get its attention. A miter saw with a long track boasted unerring accuracy with an automated stop that zipped to its appointed destination. Another machine quickly and accurately dug out a mortise in a 4x4 without human interference. And how about those veneering machines that re-saw lumber so efficiently? And when it was time to assemble and glue up a door, big clamping stands sprouted dozens of pipe clamps torqued by floating power tools. Throughout the shop veneering hot presses, wood drying kilns, automated band saws, planers, and jointers, all looking vaguely familiar yet commanded by memory devices, dominated the floor area.

*Best presentation* of the evening was a beast of a machine that routs the final features into doors as large as ten feet in length. Here, on a horizontal, zero-indexing metal frame a door is placed for final sizing and finishing. Looming slightly behind and above the door is a robotically controlled, four-spindle mechanism fitted with a variety of router bits ready to mill, in three-degree of freedom, the essentials to complete a product. The operation is done in a programmed sequence that lasts about five or six minutes. First, the door is edge trimmed to final size; next, various bits are brought into play to give one edge a 1-1/2 degree bevel and a cove (for nesting with another door). Finally a spiral bit digs recesses into each side for hinges, doorknob, and locking hardware according to the design specifications. All of the machine's gyrations are organized, preplanned, and introduced in the control system by an engineer who translates design data submitted by the architect. The whirling and bobbing was a dance enjoyed by all. A corollary device that



Orion explains & demonstrates how a door is set up on **NorthStar Woodworks** CNC router for final sizing and machining for hardware.

also garnered looks was the vacuum loader that picked up and moved the heavy doors. It was explained that before acquiring this machine, the operator, who worked alone, had to ring a nearby bell to summon help to move the doors on and off the router machine. For many it was a trip to Fantasyland. — Jay

### **Greetings from the Education Committee:**

The Introduction To Woodworking series took one year and 2 days to build and deliver the first time. We have a fairly complete set of discussion outlines and other materials and will be ready to start the series over again in September.

We are working on improving the series and have changed the schedule a bit. For example, the hardware sections will not be scheduled, but will be given as and when required. There is no minimum number of participants. If a member (new or “old”) would like to see one of the sections, it will be given, even to only one participant.

The former Scrapers, Planes and Chisels section is being redesigned into a “hand tool” series and will be greatly expanded.

The Techniques and Project Planning sections will be pretty much the same, however, several of the sections will be expanded into more than one presentation. We simply did not have enough time with one section to do justice to the subject.

One of the things we would like to do when we start up again is have the sections in more shops. Also, we plan to break the presentations into “north” and “south” presentations, so folks in Ferndale don't have to drive to Camano Island, and vice versa.

The July meeting will be dedicated to the education program and we will have an unveiling of the new and expanded program as well as the presentation schedule. We will have comprehensive descriptions of each section. But the program is not limited to those sections in the agenda at this time. We can add new sections whenever there is the need expressed by the members. What we really need now is your input. We need to know what you need to know.

We hope to see you at the July meeting and will be talking with you to get your input. This has been a great program, but it can be better and with you help, it can address far more questions than it has in the past. Please come and help us do that for you.

I want to particularly thank the committee and the non-committee presenters for their enormous effort to get this program launched. You would not believe the number of hours these guys have put into the development of their presentation materials, their “dry runs” and to the planning for the Series; Gene Benson, Ray McInnis, Phil Choquette, Dave Blair, Bob Doop, Gary Holloman, Rick Anderson, Jeff O’Donnell and Mike New. Particular thanks also to Val and Laura Matthews, who graciously submitted their shop to our abuse when ever asked. It was a heck of a year, and these folks deserve a standing ovation. —Ed Pysher

### **Make Plans Now for Cloverdale’s Bargain-Basement Tool Show**

Don’t miss our chartered bus trip to the Cloverdale Wood and Tool Show on Saturday, October 15, an exhibition billed as the “Biggest woodcraft show on the West Coast.”

This annual event just across the Canadian border is a special treat for NCWA members. It’s the only Club charter trip scheduled for this year and it was such a huge success in 2004 that it demands a repeat visit.

If enough members make early reservations we can confirm a bus charter for up to 36 passengers. Last year several spouses enjoyed the carnival-like

exhibition. This is a major attraction every year. Advance reservations will be taken at the July 12 meeting and again at the Club picnic in August. By that time we should be able to determine if we have enough ridership. Seats will then be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. A fare of \$30 will nail down a seat and is refundable through October 5, if you or the Club cancels.

Participation requires normal border-crossing documents, *e. g.*, your Passport or Certificate of Birth, and a driver’s license with your photo. Checks should be made payable to “NCWA 2005 Tour” and submitted to the Club Treasurer, Ed Pysher, or to one of the Activities Committeemen, Nick Van or me. — Jay Geisel

### **WunderOil**

*We all have WD-40*, the fabulous spray of a thousand-and-one uses. It was invented by three San Diego rocket technicians in 1953. Water displacement no. 40 was the final experimental compound that gave us WD-40. Convair bought it in bulk to use on its Atlas rocket program, but so much of it was “liberated” by workers anxious to use it at home that the originators saw other commercial possibilities when they packaged it in an aerosol can. The formulation is a carefully guarded secret, like Coca Cola, and is known to only four people, only one of which is the ‘Brewmaster.’ More than two-and-a-half million gallons are manufactured in a year. People use WD-40 for most everything, including pain relief for arthritis and fire ant bites. Woodworkers know its value for unsticking drawers, stopping squeaks and rust, removing tape residue, and lubricating moving parts. It’s also great for removing shower door scum, cleaning plastic surfaces and waxed floors, and removing bug guts from your car’s finish. But a couple other uses are remarkable, too. WD-40 attracts fish. Spray only a small amount on live bait or lures; in some states it’s illegal. And another use just in: WD-40 keeps flies off cows. — Jay Geisel

(Editors Note: Jay was last seen running through a Skagit Valley pasture with blue and yellow can in hand.....)

## **This ‘n That. . .**

Good news for you wannabe veneer-ers. If you haven't bought a vacuum press, save big bucks! Just out is a product called **HeatLock**, an iron-on veneer adhesive that makes vacuum bagging unnecessary. Especially helpful when trying to control curved or contour work, the new product from JWW Services, Inc. is available in pint bottles for \$13.95 and in gallon sizes for \$34.95

Described in the March issue of Woodshop News, **HeatLock** will bond both raw and paper-backed veneers to wood, MDF, and particleboard in quick-cure time that allows products to be stained the same day. The material cleans up with water and is claimed to be environmentally safe. (Phone 888-598-3633, or [www.betterbond.com](http://www.betterbond.com).)

If your frustration with finding match-ups between machine dust ports and dust collectors or vacuums is reaching the boiling point, listen up! The **Fazlok Universal System** allows users to adapt 4" hose connections to smaller ports with 1-1/2", 2-1/4", 2-1/2", and 3" diameters. The system adapter fits over or into most hose and port sizes, including bench-top equipment. The system is priced under \$10. Flex Nozzles are under \$5. From Woodworker's Supply (800-645-9292, or [www.woodworker.com](http://www.woodworker.com)). — Jay Geisel

### **AS THE WEB SPINS.....**

Are you planning a new shop? Or want to rearrange your present shop? Grizzly Industrial has a neat shop layout program on their website. It allows you to enter your shop dimensions and then provides you with templates of all your tools (They are Grizzly tools, of course, but the relative size is very similar to other brands of machines. Check this out.....it's pretty cool! Go to the Grizzly website and click on the "Build your Dream Workshop" button in the lower left corner of the page. Now you can rearrange your machinery without back aches!  
[www.grizzly.com](http://www.grizzly.com)

Another great source of information for woodworkers is the Fine Woodworking Magazine website, especially their Knots Forum.....where you can pose a question to the participants and receive lots of facts, comments and opinions from your fellow woodworkers. The forum is divided by subject matter. Also on the Fine Woodworking website are always a few tips and video clips with tips on techniques, jigs, etc.  
[www.finewoodworking.com](http://www.finewoodworking.com)

Woodworking clubs and guilds are found all over the world, but none are any finer than the one you will find on this recently posted website. Check it out frequently!  
[www.ncwawood.org](http://www.ncwawood.org)

### **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. \$375 Rick Anderson 650-1587

**More glimpses of NorthStar Woodworks.....the finished products!**



## COMING EVENTS

July 12	7 PM	Monthly Meeting	Mike New's Shop (Bow)
July 20	7 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
July 23	NOON	Newsletter Deadline	Rick's Email Box
August 6	TBA	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
October 15	TBA	Cloverdale Show Trip	Cloverdale, B.C. via Charter Bus

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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