

# NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

July 2006

**Next Meeting: July 11th, 2006**

**Hillcrest Park Lodge**

**1717 South 13th Street, Mount Vernon**

**Phone: 360-202-0099**

Take I-5 exit 226. Go up the hill (east) on Broadway Street to South 13th Street (which is about 5 to 6 blocks from the freeway). Turn right (south) onto South 13th and go about 6 blocks. The park is on the right. Turn into the park the parking lot is adjacent to the lodge.

**What are your special gifts & talents?** We all have them! Where will they fit into our guild? As a group of people whose interest is woodworking, we have banded together to share our common love of working with wood in it's many facets.

We have a very diverse group: Ages 19 to 84; male & female; working & retired; beginners to experts. In a volunteer guild/club, how do we get everyone involved & contributing their talents?

I can assure you that the more I have gotten involved in our guild the more I have received: Enjoyment. New friends. Sharing of good times. Growth as a woodworker and as a person.

If you ask **“where can I get involved?”**, here is a starter list:

- Help in setting up chairs and tables for our meetings.....and then putting them away after the meeting.
- Help get the word out about our guild.....share your experiences with prospective new members.
- Bring projects you are working on or have completed to our meetings.....and share your experiences. If the project is too big bring photos, or contribute photos and descriptions for the newsletter.
- Serve on your Board! We will be adding 2 members at large to the board soon. The board is vital in providing direction to the guild. Most of our future officers come from the ranks of the board. We need your input!

- Assist with the newsletter. Provide articles and/or photos. Or volunteer to become the new Editor beginning next January.
- Open your shop up for our shop tours. We all have something to share and even the most basic of shops are of interest to our members.
- Help on the Program Committee. Give a demonstration, arrange for a guest program, or suggest ideas for future programs.
- The Education Committee needs your help. While this doesn't necessarily mean teaching a class, you will be amazed how much you will learn by sharing your skills.
- Volunteer to help with our Shows Committee. Arts Alive and Woodfest are our 2 times each year to show our work to the community and, for those who wish, a chance to sell our crafts to the community.
- The membership needs a member (or 2) to help put together a member packet which will contain all of the guild information in one convenient packet.
- Our guild/club has a colorful history (well, at least two tone) and help is needed with collecting and documenting our history.
- Tours/outings.....always fun and a chance to see new things along with lots of good company. Last weekend's trip to Edensaw in Port Townsend is a wonderful example. Please help with ideas and organizing these outings!

Please share your talents with your fellow guild members. Be involved!

**I teach.....you watch,  
I teach.....you help,  
You teach....I help,  
You teach...I watch!**

Be sure to mark our August 5<sup>th</sup> picnic on your calendars....it will be a fun time!  
bd

## Meeting Minutes of 6 June 2006

When last we met the issue of participating at the Edensaw Open House in Port Townsend was a hot topic. We learned that low tides would eliminate the first two normal ferry runs from Keystone on June 24, and chances of getting an auto on board the 10:15 a.m. crossing were not good. With an 11 to 3 p.m. schedule, our visit to the popular wood store looked fragile indeed. Pres Doop thought otherwise, deciding to put his big Chrysler SUV in the ferry boarding line at 8 a.m. to assure a beachhead for all. A few others decided to do the same. (A report of the Saturday outing can be found elsewhere in his issue.)

The business session was brief and so were the announcements. Treasurer Doug Duehning reported a membership total of 82 and noted that for various reasons 14 members of last year failed to re-sign.

Program head Cec Braeden laid out plans for the August 5<sup>th</sup> picnic at Val and Laura Matthews' home ion Bow. Northwest Washington Woodturners will again join us for an afternoon of good food, fun, and fellowship that starts at 1 p.m. Julian Lee will set up

his 60-foot model racing car track for afternoon contests.

Wives, of course, are encouraged to party with us, and members can bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. The Club will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, sweet corn, and all the trimmings, as well as soft drinks and other beverages. (No beer, please.) A popular event last year, a "silent auction," will be repeated. Members should bring tools and materials they no longer want and sell them throughout the afternoon.

Education Chairman R. P. Meyers announced that organized shop tours will be suspended during the summer and that monthly "open shops" will be re-started in September. To shorten travel time, monthly Saturday "open shops" will be grouped in pairs, one pair in the North and another in the South, he said.

Independence Day falls on the first Tuesday of the month. Our Club is moving the date of the next meeting to Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. See you all then.

Suddenly it was time for Dr. Phil.

Jay Geisel, Secretary

## **M-m-m . . . the Appeal of Biscuits**

Neither Seabiscuits, nor tea biscuits will work. "What you need are beech biscuits," according to Phil Choquette who lectured us on Tuesday night. He

was talking, of course, about the techniques for attaching pieces of wood together using a plate joiner. Small football-shaped wood wafers called "biscuits." are glued into opposing slots cut in two pieces of wood about to be "joined." The plate joiner cuts the slots and the resulting joint can be quite strong. "Biscuit joinery has just about replaced the use of dowels," he declared.

Phil and Cec Braeden put together a show-and-tell program of biscuit joining. Phil led off the presentation and Cec later showed us how to mark and cut slots at different angles by correctly positioning the adjustable joiner fence for each type of cut. Joiners of various qualities and features are available and Phil gave us pointers on how to chose

### **Our July Program.....**

Cec Braeden will present the program for the July meeting in which he will discuss the making of his recently completed rocking chair. He will have on display the various tools and fixtures required for construction of the chair and the parts and pieces of the second chair he is making. He says you will see that there is a lot of detail that goes into making the chair but that the processes are within the capability of most of our woodworkers. You will have the opportunity to handle the semi-completed as well as the rough pieces of the chair and gain an understanding of how all the pieces come together. Cec will be available after the program to answer questions and discuss in detail any aspect of the construction. Don't miss this program. Learn how you too can step up to the next level of woodworking expertise.

Whether you are a novice or more experienced, you will probably learn something at this meeting. Don't miss it!

one that will give a woodworker adequate help and satisfaction. He described the action of a Porter Cable joiner and showed us its real value in having a good, accurate fence and other precision parts.

An 18-year old table-mounted machine, an early joiner, was displayed by Phil who said the heavy, somewhat complicated, device is no longer made, but he finds it useful in his work even today. In discussing biscuits, he explained that they are compressed while dry and it is the glue that moistens them and causes the biscuit to expand for a tight-fitting joint.

“Humidity in the shop will also cause unprotected biscuits to expand,” he said. “They’ll expand so much that they will not be usable. But you can put them in the microwave for about 15 seconds and usually they’ll dry out.”

As for plate joiner safety, Rick Anderson reminded us that the machine can take a dangerous and unexpected side kick if the blade is not allowed a



Rick explains the face frame joinery capability of the Porter Cable plate joiner with John Erbstoesz and Doug Deuhning looking on..



Richard Zegers tries plate joining a miter joint under the guidance of program co-organizer Cec.



Phil brought along his vintage Delta bench top plate joiner. It's no longer produced, and Phil assured us he isn't ready to part with his!

**It's Picnic time! Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 to whenever**, at the home of Val and Laura Matthews, 7750 Ershig Rd., Bow, WA. We will plan to eat around 3:00 o'clock. Bring your family, a side dish, (salad, desert, or veggie), and an appetite. There will be hamburgers, bratwurst, corn on the cob, soft drinks, coffee, and tableware provided. Bring your lawn chair.

Once again we are inviting the woodturners to join us. There will be a rerun of the soap box derby event. All are invited to build a car and participate. There are only three rules of construction. Your entry must not exceed five inches in width, seven inches in length, or eighteen ounces in weight. Jullian will have his track set up for the event.

We will also have a silent auction for used or unwanted tools. One man's trash is another's treasure. The woodturners will bring their trailer with lathes and Laura's lathes will be available. The shaving horse will also be there for all to try out..

Look forward to seeing you there! -Laura

#### DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS:

From the North, take the Bow Hill Exit at the Skagit Casino. Follow Bow Hill Rd. For a mile or so and take a left on Ershig Rd. Continue south to the bottom of the hill and over the RR tracks. First driveway on the right.

From the South, take Chuckanut Drive exit and follow it to Allen where you will cross the Samish River bridge, take an immediate right onto Ershig Rd., and follow it for a mile and a half. Our driveway is on the left just before the RR tracks.

From Anacortes, travel highway #20 to the Avon Allen Rd., turn left and follow it around the hill and across the flat to the intersection with Allen West Rd. Jog to the right and catch a left on Chuckanut to the Samish River bridge. Make an immediate right onto Ershig Rd. Follow that for a mile and a half. Our driveway is on the left, just before the RR tracks.

few seconds to get up to speed before the operator makes the plunge cut. —Jay

### **A Day Well Spent at Edensaw**

**It was a sumptuous plate** of food, fine woods, and entertainment, all served up by Edensaw, that greeted us on a warm summer day in the historic environs of beautiful Port Townsend. Tool demonstrators were on hand to show off some of Edensaws' new marketing line and keep our interest high for the other displays. Food and music were served all day and at noon we lined up for hot sandwiches, fruit, and desserts.

Twenty members made the journey on the first ferry of the day, the 10:15 a.m. sailing. Some of us got up at 5:30 a.m. to get a car into position to board. Most were walk-ons. It was no

problem. We all made it to the Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, Open House.

The featured Silent Auction honored the American Cancer Society and piles of select lumber, tools, bundles of woodworking books, and other items were offered for bid. Our Club donated one of Val Matthew's celebrated hand-made planes to the cause; meanwhile some of us took a shot at the bidding. Big winners, Jim Torrence and Bob Doop picked up some great items at low cost. Jim was low bidder on a large stack of highly figured, 4S finished butternut lumber, and Bob's bid was successful to earn him a bundle of five woodworking books. In another area a raffle, popular with NCWA members, was underway to win one of three great prizes that included a first-rate wood kayak, a handmade outdoor patio set, and a

Festool vacuum. Again, proceeds were earmarked for the Cancer Society.

Tool reps and Edensaw's sales staff gave us opportunities to see some new tooling that included Kreg, Blum, Festool, Woodstock, and Senco lines, among others. I particularly enjoyed watching the latter's rep shoot a stream of screws into wood with a new air-powered screw gun.

Of course the biggest attraction was the wood exhibited by Edensaw in its refurbished showrooms and warehouses. North American wood and foreign exotics were all there in a museum showing hundreds of species. Many of us spent more than an hour perusing the colors and figures of this grand collection. One member, Logan Sullivan, was seen loading a cart with some of the exciting hardwoods on display. Overall, however, our hosts didn't seem too intent on selling that day. It was time to party, and we all enjoyed our visit.

In attendance were Rick Anderson, Gene Benson, Dave Blair, Troy Burk, Phil Choquette, Bob Doop, Doug Duehning, myself, Lyle Hand, Steve Intveld, Lyle Koontz, Ken LaMarche, Val Matthews, Laura Matthews, Walter Meyers, R. P. Myers, Logan Sullivan, and Jim Torrence. —Jay



Who cares about looking at wood when there's so much good food to be eaten!



Edensaw has it all! From plywood to an entire Bubinga tree.....just waiting for your next project.



Have you hugged your board today??? You will if it's \$16/bd. ft. figured Bubinga!

More Edensaw.....



An Edensaw employee explains the workings of their new double sided planer to Val & Laura.....a finished board in one pass!



Logan & Lyle contemplate wood for their next projects. Logan was last seen boarding the ferry with his pickup full of wood!



A SIX headed molder! Quite a monster indeed. It takes a while to get it set up, but once it is it makes all imaginable shapes in one pass. It's brand new and not yet run.

***THE WOOD SHED.....***

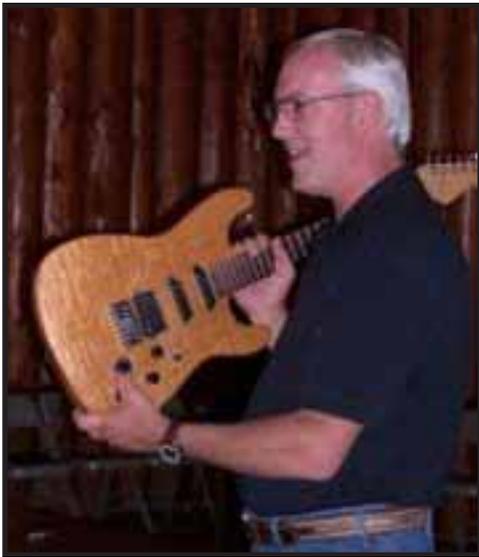
**AMERICAN ELM SALE**

5/4 X 8-10" Widths. 6' lengths. 200bf. \$1.50/bf \$1/ bf for whole lot. And, of course, Maple 'r Us! Steve Intveld 360-592-5670

**From Larry Tomovick.....**

For any members who were interested in buying "verawood" from Carl Stout.....only to find it was no longer available.....a new source has been located. Go to [www.westpennhardwoods.com](http://www.westpennhardwoods.com), click on Woods, then click on exotic woods and check out **Lignum Vitae Argentina**. It's described as an olive-green wood which is characteristically very figured. Larry has used this wood as trim accent on several of his projects. According to Larry it's the same wood.....and he's hopeful enough members are interested to make a group purchase. Contact Larry at 360-293-4580 for further information.

**Bring 'n Brag.....an NCWA Tradition.....**



Bill Dowe shows off an exquisite electric guitar.....along with a promise to play it for us soon! Maybe at the picnic?? Richard Zegers displayed what could become another Toys for Tots production.....a great helicopter pull toy. And Doug.....well, the editor forgot what Doug's creation does.....but if it's paddle ball, it appears to have a flaw!



**A sign of the times.....**

NCWA members Chris Daly and Tom Rosaduik contributed their talents (and Tom's shop) to the making of a new sign for the water entrance to Shelter Bay. Chris reports the board is a piece of tight knot cedar 16'6" long by 8" thick by 28" high. A saw mill in Forks custom cut it. The routed letters are 3/4 inch deep. A print shop created the letters on sticky back patterns, which were used to make templates for routing each letter. The sign was floated into place on a high tide and then lifted onto the pipes.

## COMING EVENTS

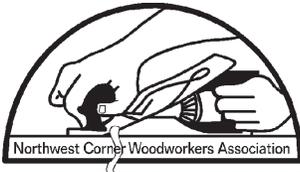
July 11th	7:00PM	Monthly Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge in Mount Vernon
June 19th	7:00PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
June 22nd	Noon	Newsletter Deadline	Rick's Email Box
August 5th	1:00 PM	Annual Picnic	Laura & Val Matthews, Bow
Sept. 5th	7 PM	Monthly Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge in Mount Vernon

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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, 1331 Meador Ave., Laconner, WA 98257. 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](mailto:rick@gardenarches.com) or call 360-650-1587.

### **2006 Officers and Committee Chairs:**

President:	Bob Doop	(360) 293-4522	Librarian:	Jim Torrence	(360) 629-6670
V.P.	Ed Pysher	(360) 766-0136	Newsletter:	Rick Anderson	(360) 650-1587
Secretary:	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908	Membership:	Ed Pysher	(360) 766-0136
Treasurer:	Doug Deuhning	(360) 466-1281	Shows:	Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320
Programs:	Cecil Braeden	(360) 588-9830		Nick Van	(360) 387-4174
Activities:	CHAIRPERSON NEEDED		Projects:	Val Matthews	(360) 757-7730
Education:	R.P. Myers	(360) 708-4677	Toys for Tots:	Gene Benson	(360) 466-3004
Co-Webmaster:	Greg Shumate	360-387-2066	Co-Webmaster:	Mike New	(360) 707-2314



**NCWA NEWSLETTER**

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