

NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

March 2006

Next Meeting: March 7th, 2006

Hillcrest Park Lodge

1717 South 13th Street, Mount Vernon

Phone: 360-202-0099

Coming from the North take exit 226. Turn left to go under the freeway and up the hill. This is Broadway Street. Continue on Broadway to S 13th Street (which is about 5 to 6 blocks from the freeway). Turn right (south) onto S 13th and go about 6 blocks. The park is on the right. Turn into the park the parking lot is in front of the lodge.

Coming from the South take exit 225. Turn right off the freeway then take a left onto Cedardale, which is the frontage road to the freeway. Go to the stop sign. Turn right at the stop sign onto Blackburn, go about a block and turn left (north) onto S 13th Street. The park entrance is on the left about a block from the intersection, just past the soccer field. The parking lot is on the left with the lodge in the northwest corner of the parking lot

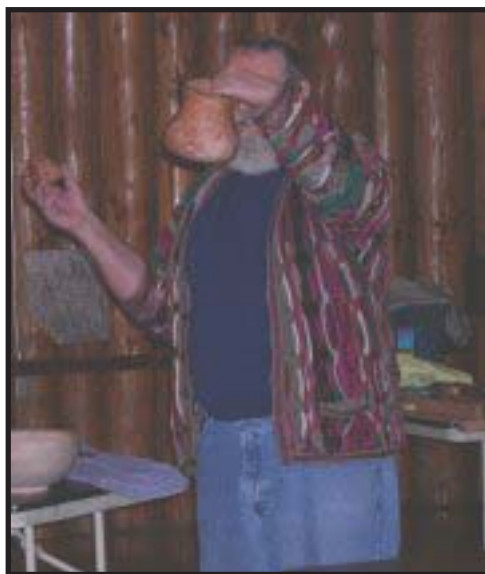
Doin' the Reps.....

Repetition verb ("re-pe-'ti-shen) to practice, repeat, seasoned, dry run, hone, polish, rehearse, run through, sharpen, train, tryout, tune up,

Ahhh, the Silver Bullet....

We oftentimes try to buy our way into perfection. We are at a trade show, we see the demo where Billie Bob takes the widget and does wonders. A dovetail joint in 2 ½ minutes, WOW!!

We buy two of the widget-thing and rush home to try it. Damn thing does a very poor joint. How was it that Billie Bob did it?? Well, 40 shows a year, 3 days a show, 9 hours a day, 5 demos an hour. Repetition – that's 5400 times in one year



Prez. Bob starts off Bring 'N
Brag with one of his own
madrone turnings

and we thought it was the widget that made the difference!

If you made 5400 dovetail joints a year, wouldn't you be good???

For me, the fun-joy-love of all this is in growth. Learning to do it a little better each time. Taking the time to do "the reps" until we OWN it, whether it is tweaking the design, making eight mortise & tenon joints on scrap wood. Veneering the test door panels, mastering the hand plane before we try to fit the only matched drawer fronts....or testing the finish on left over pieces of the same wood. It is all repetition and practice, not the widget, not the silver bullet.

Let's have fun learning!!!

bd

Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2006

It was that time again to focus on the seasonal WoodFest event coming up fast in a few weeks. More than a dozen officers, committee chairmen, and others are committed to contributing their handcrafted projects to the Club exhibition, while others offer their items for sale or demonstrate sharpening, joinery, and other techniques throughout the two-day Fest at Sedro-Woolley High School on April 1 and 2.

Meeting once again at Hillcrest Lodge in Mount Vernon, Co-chairs Phil Choquette and Nick Van promised to make our 2006 participation the best ever after several years of declining interest on the part of members. NCWA is dedicated to promoting woodworking education in area high schools. While state-wide funding has dwindled, closing many vocational classes in other schools, a few high schools in Whatcom and Skagit Counties continue to keep their woodworking classes going, and we want to work hard to keep public interest in vocational education from flagging.

Our Vocational Education Fund stands at \$777, highest ever; it is the source of our awards fund for teens showing the greatest woodcraft skills. Five members with project or display experience have volunteered to judge this year's student gallery from the two or three high schools that usually enter the competition. The 2006 judging committee of Rick Anderson, Cec Braeden, Phil Choquette, Bob Doop,

and myself will make a decision on Saturday, and the presentation by Nick Van will be made shortly thereafter.

Treasurer Doug Duehning reminded those present that 33 members have not paid their 2006 dues, a matter that "Bull Doug" does not take lightly. Pres Bob Doop announced that Jim Torrence has accepted the duties of Librarian.

Tom Chartier has held that position for umpteen years and has done an excellent job providing a sizeable load of books and videos at every meeting.

Vice President Ed Pysher, who also chairs the Membership committee, has relinquished his Educational Committee Chairman's job to new member RP Myers, an Anacortes commercial architect. RP will take over the operation of the Club's prime training program. Members showed appreciation with their enthusiastic applause for Pysher's untiring efforts in setting up the basic woodworking programs. RP also announced that a new, volunteer, once-a-month Open Shops program will be tried out to give members a chance to visit with fellow members who are willing to open their workshops for woodworking conversation and visitation on a given Saturday. RP suggested two open shops each in the north and south counties. These cross-town visits will not

change the annual Spring and Fall multiple Shop Visitation Day that occurs alternately in the North and South areas. Bob Doop will host a two-day veneering class in his shop on March 4 and 11.

The Snooks Report. Eugene Benson, the Toys for Tots Chairman, was given a brief amount of time to re-group his volunteers for the 2006 toys production effort. His

March Program

Chances are that you have heard Larry Tomovic extolling the virtues of Daly's Profin finishing product. He has converted Julian Lee to be an advocate as well. Julian has arranged for Kyle Peterson, a long standing Daly's Rep to address our group at our March meeting. He will acquaint us with the entire Daly's product line and a line of lacquers that he reps. Julian says he will be able to answer every finish question we throw at him. Most of us do not know that the Daly Company, maker of Profin, Benite, and other famous finishing products is a Seattle based company. In the early 1930's Walter J. Daly arrived in Seattle from Texas. He worked as a designer, painter and wood finisher. In the mid 30's he was asked to make a wood bleaching system to use in the restoration of Seattle's historic Olympic Hotel. Soon, contractors in the area were pressing Walter to make the Bleaching System for their own work. The product line expanded, and a store was opened on Stone Way in Seattle. It was about that time that his nephew Herb Paulson started working at Daly's. Walter kept his sons, Jim and Bill busy collecting the empty juice bottles that he filled with wood finishing potions. The store and the factory flourished. Sadly, Walter died at an early age but his family carried on the business. Daly's Wood Finishing Products are still manufactured locally and can be found in 16 states across the US. Daly's is now in its third generation of ownership with Walter's granddaughter, Robin Daly, following in the family footsteps. Daly's continues to evolve but the goal remains the same – provide only the

enthusiasm does not accept excuses such as “rest for the weary” or “burn out” to dilute the drive to make toys early. He issued a strong challenge for members to commit now and tell him what their contributions will be.

The Val Matthews Push Stick Challenge was answered by 14 individual entries of good, bad, and the downright ugly. It was a lot of fun to pick the winner from among the humorous types and those that were exceptionally practical. When the dust cleared, though, it was very clear that wood locksmith Don Parry’s off-the-wall creation appealed to all who hadn’t voted for their own push stick. Parry was rewarded with an NCWA-inscribed coffee mug. Larry Tomovick’s blood-stained prosthetic arm-and-claw entry was also notable.

Val, our Projects Chairman, gave us an interesting glimpse at what’s ahead. The workshop for crafting handmade wood planes meets again on February 25. Val showed just how good these planes can be with one he created and demonstrated at the meeting. It was a beauty and a slick cutting tool that everyone wanted to try. Ahead is a March collaborative effort to build a shaving horse. Following that, in April, will be the 2x4 Challenge, a contest to find examples what can be built with an eight-foot long timber.

Program Chairman Cec Braeden and Julian Lee announced a continuing wood finishing program for the March meeting at Julian’s shop. A representative from Dalys, the company that manufactures *Pro Fin*, will address members and give advice on how to use a range of products that include Benite, paste wood fillers, and others. Rick Anderson, our Newsletter Editor, said there were opportunities to publish woodworkers’ photos of their projects in the Newsletter, particularly large structures that couldn’t be shown at Bring and Brag. Doop reminded everyone that

the insulated and inscribed Club coffee mugs were available for purchase at \$15. See Cec Braeden.

Bring and Brag. Vern Tator, whose interests in wood have changed from making big entry doors to woodturning, displayed three medium-sized walnut

bowls he recently turned wet. Doop also exhibited three bowls turned wet from madrona. Nick was pleased to display an attempt at veneering a book-matched panel that had given him some problems early on. He took it to the

veneer-guru, Doop, who guided him to a successful completion.

Jay Geisel, Secretary

Please share your time & talents.....

While we are making progress in filling our committees, we still need more volunteers to serve on committees and help with our numerous projects and activities. Please be involved.....Please Volunteer! And to those who have already volunteered.....your contributions are greatly appreciated.

THANKS! -bd

Stuart Welch Remembers...

Renowned Local Furniture Designer-Maker Describes the Life of a Studio Designer

Stuart Welch’s memories of a young, scholarly furniture designer working as an apprentice to Wendell Castle, one of the country’s finest manufacturers of studio furniture, were re-told Tuesday night as the Club’s featured program. Stuart has addressed our Club before, three times in fact in the past seven years. It’s always a pleasure to get a prominent designer and craftsman to appear before our group. In his most previous appearance at Holloman’s old shop in Sedro-Woolley, Stuart concentrated on the woodworking aspects of following a designer’s plans, translating cutting lines accurately from drawing to table saw. His tips and advice were far beyond what we practice in our shops and proved to be of great help to all. He is a master woodworker who creates furniture pieces that



Our February speaker, Stuart Welch, gives us an insider’s glimpse at the world of studio furniture.

woodworker who creates furniture pieces that

sometimes command \$100,000 or more; that should make his ideas and craft tips truly golden.

His program at Hillcrest Lodge was a commentary and slide presentation of some of the fine furniture examples that graced our country's golden age and inspired American designers and their styles. His photos embraced all types of furniture from the absurd to truly beautiful and artistic creations found in museums. Stuart's exemplary craftsmanship showed up in later slides when he focused on his own studio (one-of-a-kind) works that encompassed chairs, tables, cabinets, and other forms.

Stuart's time ran out before we could question him on his current furniture-making activities. We know that this multi-talented local resident owns and operates the well-known Rexville Grocery on Best Road. His little store is crammed with the most sought-after gourmet foods from around the world, and it recently made the features page of the Seattle P. I. newspaper. His culinary talents are exploited by Gretchen's of Mount Vernon where Stuart conducts classes to teach men how to cook.

When you next cross the South branch bridge over the Skagit coming west from I-5, drop in the grocery, shake Stuart's hand, and tell him you're a

WOODFEST 2006..... CELEBRATING WOODWORKING!

Please select your most recent, most loved, best built, and/or your most stylish project, large or small, softwood or hardwood, flatwork or turning, glued or pegged, finished or unfinished and enter it in our Club's display.

Our role in Woodfest is to display a community of woodworkers of all skill levels. It is an opportunity for us to "show 'em what we got!" It is not a competition nor is there a requirement that you sell your wares (for those of you who want to sell your wares, that's OK, too). It is a large scale "Bring 'n Brag" for our membership.

Please contact Nick Van, 360-387-4174 (or by e-mail, nvan@tgi.net) and let him know what project you will be entering. If necessary, Nick and/or another member of the Club will pick up your project, transport it to Woodfest, and make certain it is returned to you in good condition, with as few dings and dents as possible. So, let's get crackin' and let Nick know what you'll be showing. This will be a lot of fun for all. -Nick



Push Sticks galore.....from the simple to elaborate to cute. A fun project for all who participated!

woodworker, too. You'll enjoy good food and, if you ask, Stuart will dig out his scrapbooks and show you some of the best furniture he ever designed. It's worth the trip. —Jay

Push Stick Challenge a great success"

Thanks to all who participated in the "Push Stick Challenge". The variety of design was amazing! Don Parry took home the peoples choice award (a very nice Craftsman drill bit assortment, donated by Bob Doop) with his decidedly organic stick. In the juried division, our panel of woodshop dropouts lived up to their reputation and failed to come to a conclusion. Actually, I must take most of the blame myself as I was, typically, totally disorganized.

That combined with the extra length of the meeting, had most entrants going home with their sticks about the time our distinguished panel was ruminating on the decision. Hopefully things will go better next time. -Val Matthews

Time for a shave!

The projects committee will be undertaking the construction of a shave horse to be used in demonstrations at "Arts Alive" in November and other future shows. Anyone wishing to be a part of this project need only sign up for the projects committee.

Val Matthews

Monthly Open Shop Visits start in March

To help promote a feeling of fellowship and friendship, our organization is going to schedule weekends where members will open their shops for other members to stop by and visit in a very informal setting. Each month, starting in March, a couple members could volunteer to host an open shop where members could gather to share ideas, projects or just generally BS and get to know each other in a more casual environment than the more structured monthly meetings. We would like to have a member or two from the north and one or two from the south, each month, volunteer to open their shops for other members to just stop by and visit. Members could go to any shops open shop they feel they have the time for and get to know their fellow members. They could visit all open shops if they want.

There are several advantages to the monthly open shop concept: 1. More frequent contact with fellow members help develop a feeling of friendship, particularly with new members, 2. If a member can't make any given shop tour, he doesn't have to wait 4 to 6 months for the next opportunity to interact with fellow members, 3. This gives members an opportunity to learn what their fellow member's do, learn who might have a specific expertise and provide resources when they need help with a specific issue, 4. This is not be a formal "tour" and members do not need to feel compelled to have their shop spic-n-span clean, but more of a, gathering around the wood stove concept, to share ideas, projects, swap materials or plans, etc.

If any member has any questions, ideas or concerns for the education committee, please feel free to contact me or any committee member at any time. We want to make this organization meet YOUR needs.

The first two open shops will be March 11th from 9:00 AM to whenever: NORTH: Ray McInnis, 3400 Taylor, Bellingham, 360-734-1186 and SOUTH: Jim Torrence, 4909 300th St NW, Stanwood, 360-629-6670. Bring a sack lunch if you would like to spend the day. RP Myers rplyers@rplyers.com 360-708-4677

First Annual 2 X 4 Bakeoff.....

Hear ye, hear ye! Thanks to a suggestion from Gary Weyers, you have your next chance to win a major award! "The 2X4 Bake Off" challenges you to build something way cool from a standard construction 2X4 with a maximum length of 8 ft. The rules are as follows; Take one (1), and only one, construction grade softwood 2X4, and perhaps some glue, and construct something that will blow our collective minds. (Some of us don't have far to go, as we are already seriously bent!) So as to give you plenty of time and also not to interfere with your plans to display something at "Woodfest" in April, this challenge, should you accept it, won't be due until the meeting of May 2, 2006. As most lumber yard 2X4's are fairly damp, you should get one now and put it in a nice dry location. Should you get in a bind, just remember, the walls of your home are just full of nice dry 2X4's. (Hint: interior walls will be drier than exterior walls!) Val Matthews

Plea from the Collector of the Dues:

Dues for 2006 are still \$30. Most have already paid. If you haven't yet - YOU'RE LATE!! Please make your check payable to NCWA, and mail to your new Treasurer, Doug Duehning, 150 Swinomish Dr., LaConner, WA 98257. If you can't afford the new cost of stamps, please remember to bring your check/cash to the next meeting.

If you feel \$30 is too cheap for such a fine organization as NCWA, it's not too late to contribute to Doug's "Planer Fund." We also accept contributions to the NCWA Education Fund.

Please, please, please help Doug - he'd rather spend his day sawing wood than calling delinquent dues payers. If for some strange reason you don't intend to renew, please email Doug at daduehning@yahoo.com or phone (360) 466-1281, so that he doesn't continue to pester you.

Toys for Tots

I'm glad to report we have a net increase of ten new members supporting T for T. Thanks for joining up. Shelter Bay woodworkers take notice. Nine members are in Shelter Bay, four are toy makers. We would like to follow Julian Lee's group example from last year. By co-working, three guys did a great job, much better than would be expected by individual effort.

Only Gary Weyers matched them. With a cooperative effort, we could make more toys by sharing the load, doing items that we either like to do or use our special skills. Also, we might have fun working together.

This idea of group toy making can apply to any members that are friends or live in the same area or want teaming so as to learn more about woodworking. Let's try it. Contact me with your suggestions. -Gene Benson

Boeing Future of Flight Exhibit Proposed for NCWA Spring Tour

A Spring bus tour to a new Seattle landmark is in the planning stage and will become a reality if enough members give the go-ahead. Club officers are proposing a family-style rendezvous with the future for a Saturday or Sunday in April or May. The target is the newly completed Boeing Future of Flight Museum in Mukilteo, a big 63 million dollar extravaganza that encompasses 73,000 square feet of space to show off Boeing's plane of the future, the 787 Dreamliner. The all-day Boeing Museum and Plant Tour costs \$15 for adults, \$14 for seniors and military members, and \$8 for children, except for those under 5, who are admitted free.

Fares for our comfortable tour bus will be determined by the number of riders, from \$15 to \$22 on a 42-passenger coach. We need to determine member interest now. No reservations or final commitments yet, but if you have an interest please express it by calling me at 360.466.3908, or by email at jaygeisel@yahoo.com. Or you can notify me at the

March meeting. The following is a description of the Museum tour, which can be made only by advance reservation. Be one of the first in the Northwest to see this fabulous museum.

Boeing's New Future of Flight Center.

Predicted to be the next most popular Seattle visitor destination is the new Future of Flight Center and Boeing Plant Tour. Now, for the first time, visitors can have an up-close, hands-on experience with aircraft that will dominate future flight. The flight aviation center is open to public tours seven days a week. Reserved, guided tours leave on the hour at 9, 10, and 11 a.m. and at 1, 2, 3, and 4 p.m. You are seated in a fuselage mock-up of the 787 Dreamliner jet and experience its flight through a multi-media presentation. Visitors can walk up to, and touch, the giant 777 engine, so large that a 737 jet fuselage can fit inside it. Other exhibits for hands-on exploration include a "classic" 747-100 tail fin that weighs 4,200 pounds and stands four stories tall and a one-piece rivetless barrel section of the Dreamliner. Other displays and exhibits include what is in store for future in-flight entertainment and an opportunity to see what an airplane shower will look like.

Visitors will be given an opportunity to design their own commercial jet on a computer where they will test various fuselage, wing, and engine combinations. For the more adventurous, and an additional fee, visitors can ride an XJ5 Simulator at supersonic speeds. The Museum also includes a touchable 747 jet. - Jay Geisel

THE WOOD SHED.....

MAPLE FOR SALE

Very nice maple boards for a great project! Will cut my logs to your specs. Steve Intveld 360-592-5670

JET 6" JOINTER FOR SALE. Includes stand. \$250. Phil Choquette 360-674-8320

SHOP SMITH & RADIAL ARM SAW FOR SALE

Shop Smith Combination Saw System complete with Band Saw, Jig Saw, Planer/Jointer, Belt Sander, Table Saw, Disk Sander, Lathe plus other attachments...\$1500

DeWalt 12" Radial Arm Saw with Mobil Table...\$275

For both items, Contact Jim Corbin, 360-766-8705, jscorbin@wavecable.com. If you would like to stop by, please call first to make sure I am home...5792 Inez St., Bow [2-blocks north of the White Church next to Bow Hill Road midway between I-5 and Chuckanut Drive]

BRING 'N BRAG

TORSION BOX WORK TABLE

The table is 4x6 feet and 4 inches thick. The interior grid, top and bottom surfaces are MDF. The grid is approximately 6" square. The edge is trimmed with Acer intveldum (from Steve Intveld). Listening to Larry Tomovick sing the praises of Profin, I finished it with 5 coats of Profin and 3 coats of paste wax.
-JimTorrence



Val gave us a preview of the forthcoming plane building classes. Be sure to sign up!



Is this what happens when a woodworker designs a UFO? Nope.....just another of Val's great creations....for gentle stirring of finishes without causing air bubbles. Rumor has it he now rides a unicycle.



Undaunted by the Seahawks loss, Gary Weyers keeps the team spirit alive!

AS THE WEB SPINS.....

Val has sounded the bugle on page 6 for our first ever **2 X 4 BAKEOFF**. Here's a couple of links to inspire our creativity.....the projects of those who have gone before us with 2 x 4's in hand. There's some pretty amazing stuff here. The second link is our friends to the North at the Pacific Woodworkers Guild. Be sure to click the "Results and photographs from previous 2x4 Challenges" link on that page.....it will lead to the winning entries of all their contests since 1999.

<http://www.woodcentral.com/shots/shot500.shtml>

<http://pacificwoodworkersguild.com/2x4.htm>

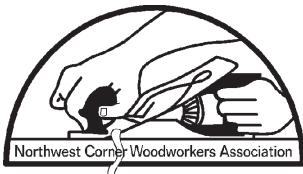
COMING EVENTS

Mar. 7th	7:00PM	Monthly Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge in Mount Vernon
Mar. 15th	7:00PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
Mar. 18th	Noon	Newsletter Deadline	Rick's Email Box
April 1st	9AM-5PM	Woodfest	Sedro Woolley High School Gymnasium
April 2nd	10AM-4PM	Woodfest	Sedro Woolley High School Gymnasium
April 4th	7:00PM	Monthly Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge in Mount Vernon

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.

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
			Webmaster:	Mike New	(360) 707-2314



NCWA NEWSLETTER

1331 Meador Ave, Suite J105
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