



NORTHWEST CORNER WOODWORKERS ASSOCIATION

October 2006

Next Meeting: October 3rd, 2006, 7:00PM
Tour of Washington Alder Mill
Farm to Market Road near Highway 20
Phone: 360-202-0099 or 360-319-7600

Take Highway 20 East or West to Farm to Market Road. (Note, Farm to Market Road runs north from Highway 20 and the road running south from that intersection is Best Road. Both roads are noted on the highway signs.) Proceed north across railroad tracks to the entrance (Approx. 2 blocks). Please use the Office Entrance, NOT the Truck Entrance. We will gather at the office which is a white building on the north side of the complex. Please bring a hard hat and safety glasses, and wear shoes rather than sandals of any type. This will be a very interesting evening!

MEMBERSHIP: According to Webster, a participation agreement, brotherhood bound, the body of members.

Whatever the definition of membership, it's another of the "ships" that I discussed in last month's letter. But what does it mean to be a member of NCWA? We are not a service club which requires a pledge of x number of hours per month. We are not a Little League or Girl Scouts that expects you to sell candy to raise money for equipment and activities. We are not a country club with \$4000 per year dues. We are just a group of people with one thing in common.....our love of working with wood.

So what does it take to be a guild member? Where do I put my hand to the oar? As a volunteer group we ask that *all* members contribute to the operation of our guild. And there are lots of opportunities for that participation:

Program Committee: This group of 5 is responsible for the main event of our meetings.....an opportunity for our own members to provide 10 programs a year. We also need 3-4 people to set up and clean up our meeting place, 1-2 to set up coffee and treats, 1-2 to greet guests and introduce them to the joys of membership.

Show Committee: 2-4 to organize our show efforts & 80+ guild members to bring their work for display to the community. 10-15 members to work shifts to man the show, welcome guests, explain what we are about. If you haven't done this in the past, give it a try. It is FUN! In addition we need 8-10 members to serve as judges at the Woodfest show each spring.....judging the high school competition. It is one of our main contributions to Woodfest and high school woodworking.

Education: 5-7 members in the education group. The guild will put on more than 50 classes this year. We need teachers and host shops to make this work. This is one of the most vital functions of our club.....and nearly every member has benefited from this program. It is a major undertaking and needs your help.

Library: One of the benefits of membership is access to our collection of books and videos. We currently have 1 member doing all of the library functions. It would be nice to have 1 or 2 more to help share the load.

Toys for Tots: One of the most dynamic functions of our guild....last year contributing more than 250 toys to the children of need in our communities. We need

members to lead specific toy making efforts.....either in individual shops or group workshops.

Finally, the nominating committee I have appointed (Nick Van, Rick Anderson, Gary Holloman) is looking for those willing to serve as officers of the club and as board members. New this year, we will also be electing 2 members to serve as Board Members at Large. Most of the clubs direction and business happen at board meetings (all members are welcome to attend). We need members willing to be involved in the leadership of our guild.

We are what we are today because of members who have stepped up and served.....please share your time and talents in order that our guild will continue to grow and thrive. Grab an oar and give a pull.....you will learn a lot.....and it is FUN!
bd

Twenty-Three Members Show Their Stuff

The Jig is Up, way up, in popularity with woodworkers. And so we built a meeting around the concept of what fixtures and jigs turn us on. A great idea, masterly handled by program Chairman Cec Braeden, stirred almost a third of the members into a stage appearance on last month's Jig Night at the Gary Holloman Center for Craftsmanship. More than 60 members and guests showed up for the event, and it was a howling success. By the time the show was over we had seen 40-some jigs, fixtures, and tips presented by 23 men and women of our organization.

Jigs ran the gamut from simple to sublime. Top Jiggers included Phil Choquette and Ray McInnis. Ray's three-jig set for regulating compound cuts in picture-frame-making needed a secondary instruction at the saw during the break. Phil's

multiple piece dado-cutting device was large, somewhat unwieldy, but required a lengthy explanation. Both fixtures could have been demonstrated for clarity, if time allowed. Ray's documentation helped.

Cec had asked presenters to submit a sketch or building plan of

their jig. Only a few did. And that's a problem we've always had. How many can remember who presented what, or how to recreate another member's idea? A sketch, photo, or dimensional drawing would have been most helpful in almost every case. For the beginners, and intermediates, too, illustrated instructions are necessary. Blah, blah, blah just won't

cut it unless you're working one-on-one in a shop atmosphere. A few jigs were projects gleaned from magazines and, in a couple cases, their makers were able to cite volume and page number.

Speakers all brought one or several jigs

ideas to the platform. They included the following:

Larry Tomovick showed us a jig he devised for making his signature handles on drawers, boxes, etc. The jig allows him to shape small pieces of wood safely on the router table.

Dave Blair also showed a jig that can hold small wood pieces safely when being worked on the table saw or with a router. He presented a two-piece, novel construction device.

Ron Grant showed the jig he made to get repeatable 15-degree table saw cuts for his segmented bowl pieces. He showed how to rearrange twin clamps for straight and compound miters to get any angle desired.

ARTS ALIVE ALERT!
Woodworkers start your projects! Arts Alive! is coming **November 3, 4 & 5** in LaConner. This is our chance to show off our craft! Member sales are permitted, but optional. Let's show our community what we do instead of mowing our lawn! For more details, contact Phil Choquette or Nick Van.

Calling all Hammerheads!
We will be demonstrating the use of our club's Shaving Horse at **Arts Alive!** in November, with club members making hammer handles throughout the show. Of course, every hammer handle needs a head.....so if you have any handleless hammerheads laying around gather them up and bring them to Arts Alive! where they will be reunited with a handle! And plan to try your skills at making a hammer handle too. For further information contact Val Matthews or Lucinda VanValkenburg

Lucinda Van Valkenburg showed a versatile depth-setting jig she made from several dowels and a laser pointer to measure the depth of hollow vessels while they are on the lathe.

Lyle Hand illustrated how to cut legs from oak, for example, to take advantage of the original quarter sawn or plain sawn faces, assuring that they would present a common look. Not a jig, really, but an idea of how to present consistent faces when tabling.

Nick Van showed several jigs he uses to control the sanding of chamfers, edges, and corners against a belt sander, and for sanding ends of dowels and inside corners. He also had a tapering jig for table legs that he found in *Woodsmith*. Two eccentric wood circles quickly lock the leg in position on the table saw carrier before it is aligned against the rip fence for cutting the tapers.

Doug Duehning presented his router circle-cutting jig that uses a nail as a center pivot. The pivot slides in a slot to accommodate any desired circle diameter and is clamped into position.

Shelly Clouse made a spline-

cutting jig for the table saw. The jig fits over the rip fence, which guides the clamped work piece through the blade.

Bill Thisius had a clever idea for keeping track of a shop pencil. Glue it to a wood clothes pin and fasten it onto your hat or clothing. He made 2!

John Gruenwald showed us his strong mobile fence that he uses to make finger/box joints on the table saw. He actually presented three jigs. The box joints can be spaced and sized differently by changing the size of the key. He credited *Woodsmith* for the idea.

Richard Zegers trotted out a vacuum box to hold a shop vac hose when drilling or sanding on the drill press. The fixture can be quickly bolted to the drill press.

Phil Choquette brought two of his many jigs to the stage. One, an angle and spline-cutting jig rides the rip fence while the second, a large affair, consisting of a couple T-square wood pieces and cross-links allow the woodworker to router-cut dados that precisely match the thickness of the pieces fitted in the dado cut. The versatile jig captures the router base and also allows the worker to cut accurate mortises. Phil cited *Fine Woodworking*, issue number 185.

Jerry Couchman showed us his easy-to-use melamine jig for making dove tail keys on the table saw and router table while constructing mitered boxes.

R. P. Myers presented two jigs, one a clamping method for mounting his oscillating sander upside down on a stand and

features a non-skid collar. His other jig was an original design for hanging 2x3 lumber and plywood shelves off the ceiling and walls of his shop. He uses slim 3-inch long bolts with small eyes that accept "S" hooks and chain for hanging storage shelves in the unused spaces above his shop floor.

Ray McInnis came prepared with a multiple sheet handout to help describe how he solved problems when making shadow-box type picture frames that require compound miters. The system involves several McInnis-designed jigs to set up the required 30- and 45-degree

angles on the radial arm saw. Biscuit joints and 6-part clamping are used to join the 30-degree angled pieces.

Bob Doop showed a jig that allows the worker to cut inserts with repeatability. Eight inches must be added to the work piece before routing with a bearing bit.

Julian Lee recently came

up with a bent metal clip that is used in pairs to properly space Hardiplank siding during construction. Welded handles speed up the installation process and allow easy disengagement.

Tim Hyatt introduced a picture-framing jig that uses a roofing square and consists of a stop and five hold-down clamps. The jig runs in the saw's miter slot. The jig is featured in *Fine Woodworking*, number 176, on pages 69 to 73.

Walter Meyers showed four vacuum clamping jigs that help him with veneer work. He uses one-half inch thick Lexan to help square and align the veneer.

Cec Braeden uses two runners in the table saw slots to set up an accurate 90-degree crosscut woodworking sled. It features a sturdy blade guard and means for stopping the sled before the blade exits the guard. Cec issued a fine schematic drawing and step-by-step instructions for making the sled.

Rick Anderson explained how he uses his cut-off box to make half-lap and dado cuts by moving the work piece to key on a small indexing strip. A spring-loaded hold down swings down and is secured with a toggle clamp to apply hands free pressure to hold the boards to the cut-off box.

Gary Holloman demonstrated two of his favorite jigs. One, a tenon-making jig, is screwed to the bench top. Screw holes in the block jig are used to clamp the work piece in place. A tenon-shaped recess in the top of the jig

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allows the worker to route the tenon in three passes using a down-cutting spiral bit. The tenon shoulders are cut with a chop saw. Gary also demonstrated a circle-cutting jig for the band saw.

Your Scribe showed a working model of his Diverter, a table saw fixture for cross-cutting wood repeatedly and safely without stopping the saw. The device alters the course of small off-cuts so they can't kick back, diverting them to the right side of the blade.

The evening proved we love our jigs, and we can't stop talking about them. Now, let's show others how to make those jigs. Most of the ideas are worth the extra effort. —Jay



Just a few of our members who brought jigs to share: (Clockwise from upper left)
Bill Thisius, Shelly Clouse, Gary Holloman, RP Myers, Lucinda VanValkenburg, Walter Meyers, Cec Braeden, Tim Hyatt & Jerry Couchman.



OPEN SHOP SATURDAY

Saturday, September 16 was a special day. We were treated to another in a series of shop visitations on a perfect, sunny day. After a beautiful drive from Camano Island, we were welcomed by the host of our first shop visit, Rich Zegers.

If any of our membership ever wondered about how they could have their own shop, and fretted about not having any space in which to enjoy the fine craft of woodworking, and despaired about where in the world you could store yours tools, jigs, fixtures, nails, screws and wood stock, you only have to visit the neat, well organized and very functional shop in Richard Zegers' garage.

Consider this. Rich begins his workday by opening his garage door and moving the Buick outside to the parking area across the lane. Then he proceeds to set up his very portable workbench and picks up where he left off the day before. At the end of the day, he removes his tools to their assigned locations, stores the workbench, sweeps the floor (fore and aft) and moves the Buick back into this SINGLE CAR GARAGE in his condominium complex.

Rich's shop is a marvel of what can be accomplished with limited space. His jointer is a small 4" machine stored in a pullout drawer and he uses it "in place." His vacuum system is housed in a sound deadened corner of the shop and each of his machines is connected to it. In addition, Rich has fashioned a horizontal boring machine from an old radial arm saw, has developed unique and useful jigs and fixtures galore, and each has a place in the grand order of his shop.



Richard Zeger's shop.....a study in efficient use of space.....complete with "jointer in a drawer".

To look at Rich's shop, you'd think that he spends more time trying to figure out how to utilize a few more inches of wall space or how to get better use from a particular drawer but that is certainly not the case. Rich's wood work is exceptional. He has projects started for his children and grandchildren for Christmas and other important dates. His toy designs will be enjoyed by children through the Toys for Tot program. I particularly enjoyed his toy helicopter constructions. His work demonstrates a passion for design and detail and a precision worthy of the highest praise.

It was a joy to visit with Rich and to see his unique woodworking shop.

After a quick lunch at the deli, we proceeded to the Bellingham waterfront to visit Targo Woods, a company that deals in imported and domestic hardwoods. Not only were we greeted with enthusiasm, but treated to a salmon barbeque with all the fruit and salad trimmings. Well, you can imagine that, after just filling up on a deli lunch, our capacity for more food was limited but the smells were wonderful, and our host, Oby Johnson, was full of energy and congeniality. He showed us through the hardwoods and highlighted a number of different varieties, some of which would make you salivate. Oh, to put a plane or a scraper to some of the highly figured maple, or the beautiful mahogany in his inventory.

Apparently, Targo Woods will be moving their warehouse in the near future because of redevelopment that will occur on the Bellingham waterfront. We're not certain where their new location will be, but you can be certain that they will continue to demonstrate a zest and a passion for finding and purveying unique hardwoods and veneers.

This was a day that was very much worth the trip.
--Nick Van

Ring a Ding Ding!

Please, if you bring your cell phone to meetings.....turn the ringer to a silent alarm. It will be appreciated by all!



The sign says it all.....Targo woods is a feast in wood.....and the food was great too! Thanks Oby!

(Thanks to Charley Drake for Open Shop photos!)

Final Call for Bus Tour To Cloverdale Tool Show

Only nine seats remain for the NCWA 2006 bus tour to Cloverdale, British Columbia, and the big Wood and Tool Show on Saturday, October 21st. A final call is issued for anyone who would like to join the group outing. The fare is \$20 per person and must be paid by the October 3rd meeting. First come, first served.

Schedule: Passengers will load the Hesselgrave chartered bus first at 8:30 a.m. in Mount Vernon and an hour later in Bellingham. The Mount Vernon departure is 8:30 a.m. from Lowe's parking lot (SE corner) on W. College Way near I-5. Our bus will arrive at the entrance side to the Food Court at Bellis Fair Mall in Bellingham about 9 o'clock. There will be time for a quick breakfast or coffee before departing the Food Court at 9:30 a.m. with our northern passengers on board. The Canadian arrival will take another 30 or 40 minutes. We plan to arrive back in Mount Vernon about 5 p.m.

All passengers must carry proper border-crossing documents with them. A Passport alone will suffice, but those without passport will be required to show two items: an original U.S. Birth Certificate and another photo ID such as a Driver's License. I understand that an expired passport is also being accepted in some cases. One of the joys of crossing by bus is the expediency offered. Busses and trucks use a different route and gate over the border, which usually means a faster crossing. Also, on return, riders can obtain instant refunds of the GST taxes for items they purchase. The Tool Show offers plenty of good tool-working seminars. To fit these one-hour demos in your schedule, we suggest you plan your day's activities as soon as you get a copy of the day's planned events. Wear comfortable shoes and enjoy the experience! --Jay Geisel, Tours

Toys for Tots

Are we prepared to do NCWA proud again this year like we did in '05? With a bit over two months left before the Dec. meeting, there is still ample time to make any number of kids happy at Christmas. In truth, toys can be given until a few days before Christmas. Please, those who have pledged to support the T for T program, be generous with your time. The kids need your help. They have no choice in their status in this life. We can at least, at this time of year, bring a bit of joy and happiness to the newest generation. For those who had not decided to do toys, maybe you can see it in your hearts to take a few hours and make a toy or two for a little tot. The choice is all yours. Some little one will be grateful. --Gene Benson

GARRY KNOX BENNETT EXHIBIT.....

The Garry Knox Bennett exhibit of studio furniture chairs is currently showing at the Bellevue Art Museum until November 26th. On Saturdays there are free docent tours of the exhibit. Not enough people have shown interest in this event to arrange a group trip, but anyone interested in getting together a car pool or two please contact Rick Anderson 360-650-1587 or rick@gardenarches.com for further details.

GREAT MASTERS OF FURNITURE DESIGN.....

In conjunction with this exhibit, the Bellevue Art Museum is putting on a **GREAT MASTERS OF FURNITURE DESIGN** lecture series. 5 designers will be relating their thoughts on chair design and other relevant subjects. Foremost amongst these speakers is **Wendell Castle** on October 20th and **Sam Maloof** on October 27th. Both events are at 7pm and require reservations and tickets (\$10). This will be a rare opportunity to hear these and other masters present their ideas. More information at www.bellevuearts.org or call 425-519-0770.

THE NEXT CHALLENGE !**1st ANNUAL FOUND OBJECT CONTEST**

Thanks to all who participated in the "2 x 4 Bake Off", both those who actually built projects and those who took the time to vote for their favorite 2 x 4. There has been some comment about the short lead time (2 months) for this contest, therefore, you are now being given **6 months warning** of the next challenge. This yet to be named contest will involve building a woodworking project around a "found" object. You may use anything from a rusty hinge to a '53 Cadillac bumper, complete with dagmars, as a basis for this project. Now is the time to get started! Begin by combing secondhand stores, garbage dumps, or roadside ditches (perhaps in that pile of junk you keep behind your shop) for that perfect object to construct your masterpiece. This challenge will be terminated at the **Feb., 2007** meeting and it is fully expected that someone will not have had enough time to complete a project, don't let it be you! Hopefully this project will get everyone's creative juices flowing and all will be awed by the collective brilliance of our constructions. Personally, I hope to be dumbfounded! -Val Matthews

CLIP & SAVE!

THE WOOD SHED.....**Free Magazines**

Fine Woodworking magazines from 92/93 to present. Also some American Woodworker magazines. Free!
Larry Tomovick 360-293-4580

Maple 'r Us!

Lots to choose from in a wide selection of sizes.....\$.75-\$2.00/ BF. Call Steve Intveld 360-592-5670

COMING EVENTS

Oct. 3rd	7:00PM	Monthly Meeting	Washington Alder Mill
Oct. 18th	7:00PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Restaurant on Hwy 20
Oct. 21st	Noon	Newsletter Deadline	Rick's Email Box
Oct. 21st	8:30AM	Cloverdale Show Trip	See Page 3 for details
Nov. 3,4,5	10AM-5PM	Arts Alive	LaConner Garden Club Bldg.
Dec. 5th	7:00PM	Monthly Meeting, Toys for Tots Night	Hillcrest Lodge

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, 150 Swinomish Dr., 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 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

1331 Meador Ave, Suite J105
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