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# Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

**December 2012**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday December 4, Hillcrest Park Lodge**  
**7:00 PM General Meeting**  
**1717 South 13th Street, Mount Vernon**  
**Phone: 360-770-7203 or 360-387-4174**

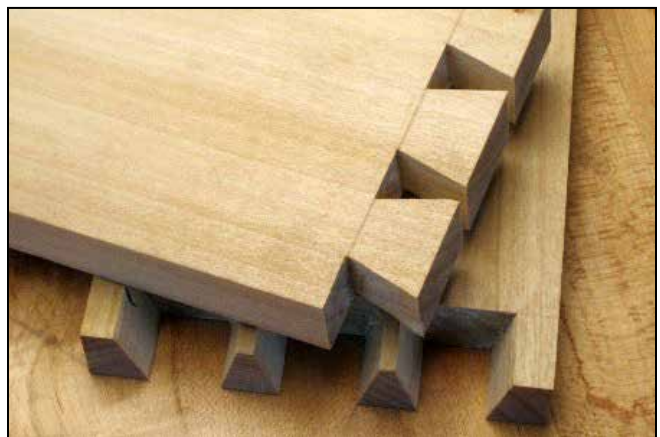
I-5 exit 226 (Kincaid Street Exit). Go East up the hill. This is Broadway Street. Continue on Broadway to S 13th Street (which is about 5 to 6 blocks from the freeway). Turn right (south) onto South 13th and go about 6 blocks. The park is on the right. Turn into the park, the parking lot is in front of the lodge.



## **December Program:** **HAND-CUT DOVETAILS** **BY STEVE DANDO**

**Steve Dando, regular instructor at the Seattle Woodcraft store,** will return for our December meeting to do a demonstration on hand cut dovetails. Last January, Steve demonstrated three dovetail jigs for cutting dovetails with a router, and this time he'll show us how we can all master hand cut dovetails with a little practice. Steve teaches a variety of classes at Woodcraft in Seattle.

For more information on Woodcraft courses, see this link: <http://www.woodcraft.com/stores/storeclasses.aspx?id=307&page=classes>



## President's Note



We had a good meeting in November for the Toys for Tots annual pizza feed. There was a good turnout from the Toys for Tots community. I think we had a lot of competition from a certain national event so our membership turnout was not as good as usual. However, we had a lot of fun and great salad and pizza thanks to Laura Matthews and Ed Pysker. Our normal coffee master could not make the meeting so Jerry Anderson stepped up and did an excellent job; thank you Jerry!

On Saturday November 10th Andrew Pellar, Val Matthews, Marlene Bellinger and I filled the display case at the Burlington Library with a sampling of the work our members produce. Thanks to everyone who loaned us items for the display.

John Bellinger  
President



## Dues Time!

Once again, it is time to make a deposit on all the money you will save with the NCWA vendor discount program.

Dues are due by the end of January, folks. At that time we notify our vendor support group to look for the 2013 membership card. The cards will be available at the December and January meetings for those who have paid.

The best deal in town is still only \$30. Bring your check payable to NCWA to the December or January meeting or send it to our Treasurer:

Doug Duehning

## Novembers Secretary Report

# Big Night: Toys for Tots & Pellar is Our New President

A stellar Club toy donation and an election highlighted the November general meeting at Hillcrest Lodge on Tuesday evening, November 6, 2012. The annual collection of toys from our prolific toymakers is a hallmark, good fellowship get-together to swell the Christmas toy chest of our local needy children. Marine Corp reservists were on hand with their big truck ready to accept our more than 300 hand-made wooden toys and begin the process of distributing them in the Skagit County area.

The meeting also featured the annual NCWA election of officers for next year. Former VP Andrew Pellar was elected President as members approved the four-officer slate presented by the nominating committee. Our new Vice President-elect is Kent Crouse. Doug Duhening and Jay Geisel continue as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

Fifteen special guests from the Corp and Skagit Valley Herald sat down with members and their wives to enjoy a salad and pizza meal before the ceremony. Speeches were short and comments brief, but everyone present applauded the quantity and quality of our toys, which ranged in size from doll cradles and high chairs to model racing cars and very small vehicles. The attendees contributed about \$400 in cash donations and earlier receipts from a raffle and other donations brought the total cash contribution to over \$1,200.

Toys for Tots Chairman Bill Baer was in charge of the ceremony. Bill and Val Matthews, plus others, worked hard all year to assure a good toy production. "Santa" Val held Friday workshops in Bow during the year with a group of members who volunteered their efforts. Val's shop alone produced 95 significant toys and 60 small vehicles. Others, like Gene Benson, Roy Little, John Gruenwald, and many more worked in their own shops during the year to add significantly more gifts.

The overall dollar value of the Club's effort is difficult to imagine. Doll cradles and their layettes, for example, are the Club's signature toy, the most cherished, and undoubtedly the most laborious to make. It is estimated that 16 to 20 hours are required to complete a cradle. Time and material charges to make such a cradle in a professional shop could easily cost several hundred dollars. Our woodworkers match wood patterns, sand end grains, and give painstaking attention to details, resulting in a fine furniture quality. Benson made 80 such cradles last year and had another big cradle-making year in 2012. When so much effort is put into the program you know just how passionate we are and how much heart we have for Toys for Tots.

Jay Geisel  
Secretary

A little additional information:

The Toy count was 338      Top stuffers-457; These were donated by, "NWW"

Handmade bears-63 by Lorraine Baer and friend

In attendance were several members from the Ladies Group- school bus drivers, Sedro-Woolley Worker Bees for Toys for Tots.

One guest- Ted Carney, Commandant, Skagit Valley Det. 1043, Marine Corps League

## A Festive Evening with Toys for Tots and Santa's Helpers



### Santa's Helpers

Starting from left: John Braun, Bill Bauer, Jerry Anderson, Andrew Pellar, Richard Carey, John Greenwald, Val Mathews and Jack Dunphy.

Look at all the Toys for Tots  
Donations!

338 Toys were made by club members!



MY, OH, MY!!

Cradles, doll beds complete with blankets and pillows, trains, cars, beautiful boxes, handmade stuffed animals, tops, airplanes, buses, and critters of all shapes and sizes.





**Santa's helpers were very busy, in deed....**



**Special PR event: Skagit Valley Herald wants to interview and take pictures at Gene Benson's cradle making shop  
This will be great for NCWA!**



**Gunny Sargent Shane Inman accepted the toys on behalf of the Marine Corp. He just returned from his fourth deployment to Iraz and Afghanistan.**



**Ms Heather Hernandez, Publisher and President, Skagit Valley Herald. She showed great enthusiasm and pride in our clubs contributions.**

## Special Interest Groups

As our club grows, new members join us with different interests, goals, and skill levels. It is hard for the club to be all things to all people. But we have a secret resource – our fellow members. Never before have I associated with a group of folks so generous with their time and so willing to share. I’ve picked up the phone and asked for help. And I’ve reciprocated by helping others.

I’d like to be able to do this for the whole club. But I need your help. Woodworking is a very broad craft. If you want to learn more about a specialized aspect of the craft, you are not alone. Many people I’ve spoken to ask me – “who does . . .?” A SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) program has been proposed as a way to help

What is a SIG? A group of members who want to learn more about a specialized aspect of woodworking.

What are some of the possible groups? I’ve been asked about Veneering, Boat Building, Home Improvement projects like built ins or running trim, Inlay, Furniture, Tool Building, Hand Tools, Scroll Saw, Boxes, etc. .

How would it work? Contact me. I would write an announcement concerning the SIG for the newsletter and follow up in person at the next meeting. From there the group decides where they will take it. My hope is that the group would get together and learn. Perhaps after meeting and sharing techniques, people would build a project incorporating a new technique and share their accomplishments at Bring and Brag. Perhaps, they would sponsor a class. Maybe offer a demonstration of their skills at a meeting or at an event such as Wood Fest or at the Father’s Day Mall show.

Opportunity knocks!  
- Andrew Pellar

## Library News

NCWA members have recently donated a variety of books and DVDs to the library. New additions include, but aren’t limited to:

- “Popular Woodworking”, all 2000 through 2007 issues on DVD
- “Cabinetmaking Procedures for the Small Shop” - Fristad & Ward, softcover
- “Small Woodworking Shops” - Best of Fine Woodworking, hardcover
- “Scroll Saw Fretwork Patterns” - eidle, softcover
- “How to Sharpen Every Blade in Your Workshop” - Geary, softcover
- “Making Toys that Teach” - Neufeld, softcover
- “Spacious Storage Shed” - project plans by Workbench Magazine

Submitted by Mike Titus



## December Education Committee Report

Four classes were scheduled for December; but two, Build a Workbench and Shop Organization were cancelled for lack of participation. However, the two classes that were held were a great success! Many thanks to Jim Torrance for teaching the techniques of Building a Native American Flute, and to Bill Baer for teaching three members to build a stool in the Introduction to Woodworking class.

December's classes are:

Dec. 1: Joinery Techniques taught by Charley Drake and Jim Bucknell. CLASS IS FULL

Dec. 8: Small Shop Organization taught by Roy Little. ROOM FOR TWO MORE PARTICIPANTS.

Please check the NCWA calendar for other classes to be held in the months to come.

Respectfully submitted:

Jerry Anderson, Chair

## NCWA Board Meeting November 14, 2012

**The Board of Directors conducted its monthly meeting at the Farmhouse Restaurant** on Route 20 near Mount Vernon, with 10 members attending. The meeting started at 7 p.m. with President John Bellinger presiding.

**Bellinger announced that he has selected a second Member at Large** as dictated by our By-laws. His nominee is Al Ashley, who was presented to the Board at the meeting. Al will serve a two-year term. Samantha Chang has another year to serve as an earlier appointee.

**A summary report of the meal activity** preceding the Toys for Tots ceremony was given by Membership Chair Ed Pysher. He reported that 15 meals were furnished to invited guests and dignitaries at no charge. Members and their wives purchased 55 meals at the \$5 rate, a total of 70 meals served. Member attendance was slightly below expectations, incurring a small monetary loss. Ed also noted that our roll now stands at 157 members.

**Program Chair Jerry Couchman discussed program opportunities** for the coming year. Jerry announced December's presenter, Steve Dano of Woodcraft would provide instructions for making hand-cut dovetails. Jerry asked Board members for future programming ideas and suggested that another popular "Jig Night" or "What tool did you get for Christmas?" were under consideration. Also being considered is a visit to the stores of one or two of our discount vendors.

**Tony Konovalaf, a talented woodworker from Oak Harbor**, will be our featured speaker in January, Jerry said. Tony has declared that he doesn't own or work with power tools and his presentation is based on how to produce quality woodworking with hand tools alone.

## Board Meeting Report cont...

**Vice President Andrew Pellar** who has taken responsibility for establishing an early audit of the Club's finances noted that Treasurer Doug Duehning would be returning from vacation soon and an audit committee will be formed. Al Ashley pointed out that a good audit requires good records. Members entered into a discussion, concluding that our Club needs to organize better bookkeeping based on a voucher system that tracks where our money goes and comes from. Such receipts will lead to a "paper trail" needed for future audits.

**President Bellinger said he has been asked** to consider moving the November dinner meeting to December as a Holiday event thus giving more time and attention to the Toys for Tots event. After discussion, no action was taken. John also noted that our Burlington Library display is attracting interest and suggested members take a look. Without timely planning, John noted, our Club was unable to hold its Fall tour of member workshops. John has taken personal charge to make sure the Shop Tours program will occur in late March or early April next year.

**Newsletter Chair and Editor Sherri Greenleaf** put a November 22<sup>nd</sup> deadline on submittals for the December issue. There being no further business, the Board of directors adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Members present:** Ashley, Bellinger, Samantha Chang, Phil Choquette. Couchman, Jay Geisel, Greenleaf, Pellar, Pysner, and Mike Titus.

Respectfully submitted, Jay Geisel, Secretary



*Happy Holidays to all of you!*



## VENDOR SUPPORT GROUP

### NORTH:

Hardware Sales	2034 James St. Bellingham	360-734-6140	hardwaresales.net
Stockton's Paints	1413 Railroad Ave. Bellingham	360-733-5630	
Targo Woods	1100 C St. Bellingham	360-738-9140	Targowoods.com
Windsor Plywood	1208 Iowa St Bellingham	360-676-1025	

### WEST:

Sebo's Hardware	1102 Commercial Ave. Anacortes	360-293-4575	Sebos.com
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### SOUTH:

Martin Lbr/True Value	2730 Broadway Everett	425-259-3134	Martinlumbereverett.com
Arlington Hdw & Lbr	215 N. Olympic Ave. Arlington	360-435-5523	arlingtonhardware.com

### CENTRAL:

Karl's Paints	1515 Freeway Dr. Mt. Vernon	360-336-2855	Karlspaints.com
Mt. Vernon Bldg Cent.	815 Roosevelt Way Mt. Vernon	360-424-9073	
Sound Cedar	2600 Cedardale Rd. Mt. Vernon	360-424-4548	Soundcedar.com

### SPECIALTY:

Edensaw Woods	211 Seton Rd. Port Townsend	360-385-7878	Edensaw.com
Hartville Tool	Catalog only	800-345-2396	Hartvilletool.com
Rockler Woodworking	3823 Stone Way Seattle	206-634-3222	Rockler.com
Woodworker's Supply	Catalog only	800-645-9292	Pro.Woodworker.com
Woodcraft	5963 Corson Ave. Seattle	206-767-6394	

### Newsletter editor needs your help!

As a new kid on the block, I need some help identifying our member photos. I spent a few hours just looking up old issues to identify the photo's for the last meeting, but still couldn't locate them all. It would be helpful if each person filled out the slip of paper with member name, item description, and date for each item brought into the meeting.

Ahead of time, I apologize for any identification bloopers I made!

Thanks for you help!

**COMING EVENTS**

Dec. 4	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge
Dec. 12	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Inn

**FYI:**

Our January club meeting will be on the second Tuesday, the 8th due to the New Years Day holiday.

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, 5955 Central Ave., Anacortes, WA 98221, or email to sherrigreenleafs@gmail.com or call 360-899-4154

2011 Officers and Chairpersons

Past President	Jerry Couchman	(360) 366-5169	Education	Gerald Anderson	(360) 770-8559
President:	John Bellinger	(360) 708-4036	Librarian	Gary Danilson	(360) 424-9268
Vice President	Andrew Pellar	(504) 339-0871	Newsletter	Sherri Greenleaf	(360) 899-4154
Secretary	Jay Geisel	(360) 466-3908	Membership	Ed Pysher	(360) 766-0136
Treasurer	Doug Duehning	(360) 466-1281	Shows	Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320
Board at Large	Samantha Chang	(360) 941-3294	Toys for Tots	Bill Baer	(360) 766-6020
Programs	Jerry Couchman	(360) 366-5169	Webmeister	Mike Titus	(360) 714-8182
Activities	Gary Weyers	(360) 380-0888			



**NCWA NEWSLETTER**

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