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Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

February 2013

Next Meeting: *Monday, February 11 Burlington Library*

7:00 PM General Meeting

820 E Washington Ave, Burlington, WA 98233

Phone: (360) 755-0760

From I-5 traveling North or South:

Take exit 230 off I-5 (Burlington/Anacortes)

Turn right at the light at the end of the off ramp onto Hwy. 20/Rio Vista Ave.

From the South: Turn left at the 2nd light onto Burlington Blvd.

From the North: Turn left at the 3rd light onto Burlington Blvd.

Turn right at the first light onto E. Fairhaven Ave.

Turn right at the four-way stop (approx. 8 blocks) onto S. Anacortes St.

Turn left at the first intersection onto E. Washington Ave.

The Burlington Public Library will be on your right.

February Program

Our February meeting program will consist of three parts (note the date change to Monday Feb 11th and the location change.)

First, don't forget to bring your latest **President's Challenge** projects to share; any item for the kitchen (but not the kitchen sink! **It has to be made of wood!**)

Second, what did you get in the way of **tools for Christmas?** Share your latest cool tools with the rest of us.

And finally, **have you ever made a WOODWORKING MISTAKE?** This month, we will provide a panel of "experts" to look at project mistakes, make recommendations for how to correct the problems and lead a membership discussion on fixes to the problems. We **all** make mistakes and these can actually help us improve our woodworking. Have you ever heard the term "**design opportunity?**" Bring that mistake to the meeting, or if you've already burned it, just describe it to us.

The President's Corner February, 2013

I am an amateur wood worker and proud of it.

The dictionary defines AMATEUR as: (1) A person who engages in any art science, study or athletic activity as a pastime rather than as a profession. 2. One lacking professional skill or ease in a certain area, as in art (3) not professional; unskillful. It is unfortunate the word implies a lower standard. The Latin word it came from, AMATOR, means a lover.

If you are fortunate to have something you love to do, relish it. Celebrate your status and make the most of it.

The Society of American Period Makers awards it's Cartouche Award to recognize lifetime achievement in American period furniture. The 2006 award went to self-taught hobbyist, Fred Lee Stanley. He impressed the judge with his attention to detail. One of the judges, Windsor chair maker, Mike Dunbar said "He made a large variety of furniture forms and he made them very well. He added that the design and construction were correct. He examined original pieces in person instead of just taking cues from photographs". Mr. Stanley is a lover.

I may never win an award from my woodworking but I love making stuff. I make jigs and simple projects and more challenging projects too. And I make mistakes. Mistakes are part of the process and are great teachers. It is okay to make them. You will learn a lot from them. So why not make them on a practice piece? Try new things on scrap or on projects that will live in your shop.

Woodworkers don't tend to practice. There is a notion, reinforced by magazines, that we can substitute a new/better machine for skill or thoughtful application to a task. While a machine can make life easier; it is no substitute for skill and motivation. Motivation is more important. For with it, skill will come. While visiting New York City years ago, I asked an older gentleman "how do I get to Carnegie Hall" He answered "Practice, practice, and more practice." Go make something, you'll love it!

- Andrew Pellar

Projects Plus -- Step by Step

The next Step by Step project based mentoring endeavor will be a small, stylish Arts and Crafts book case.

This is a great project – simple enough for a beginner yet having a few details which look harder than they are. The router will get a workout. But there will be some handwork too. And it is a small project so you won't need a lot of wood.

It is a great opportunity to improve your skills and meet some of your fellow members. If you want to join us please contact me.

– Andrew Pellar

JANUARY MEETING NOTES

Year 2013 Woodworkers Off to Fast Start

New President, Andrew Pellar, presided at the year's first general meeting of NCWA on January 8, 2013. He greeted the more than 100 attendees (a new record!) and called for an introduction of several guests. Past President John Bellinger was honored for twelve months of successful guidance of NCWA affairs that saw enrollment rise to its highest peak of 168 men and women.

Pellar and Awards chairman Jay Geisel presented Bellinger with the Club's gratitude, a gift card for \$150 from Lee Valley.



Chairmen of our various committees were asked to come forward and give a short description of their group activities, which was followed by the routing of a sign-up sheet seeking volunteers to assist in committee work. The committee chairmen included Jerry Anderson, Education; Bill Baer, Toys for Tots; Jerry Couchman, Programs; Phil Choquette, Shows; Gary Danilson, Library and Shop Tours; Ed Pysher, Membership; Mike Titus, Webmaster, and Gary Weyers, Member Activities.



Pellar has fostered an educational woodcraft program called Step-By-Step that assists others in improving their woodworking skills via personal mentoring. His first effort was on display with members Al Ashley and Alden Wendt who were obviously satisfied with their wooden bench productions. The project called for some advance techniques, such as amortise and tenon joints, and Pellar set the pace with knowledge he has gained from professional teachers.

He announced that his next mentored project would be a bookrack featured in a recent woodworking magazine. He desires to have other capable NCWA monitors available for similar one-on-one type instruction.

Jay Geisel, Secretary

Bring 'n Brag

A half-dozen members had something to show, and the entries all demonstrated high-caliber workmanship.

Busy Bill Baer produced not one, but two different three-legged stools. They featured thick, natural wood tops with legs cut from tree limbs. One stool was from a Big Leaf Maple with Maple Legs. The other was from a English Walnut slab. Baer used a clear finish with an added dollop of Japan dryer to speed up the drying time. (right)



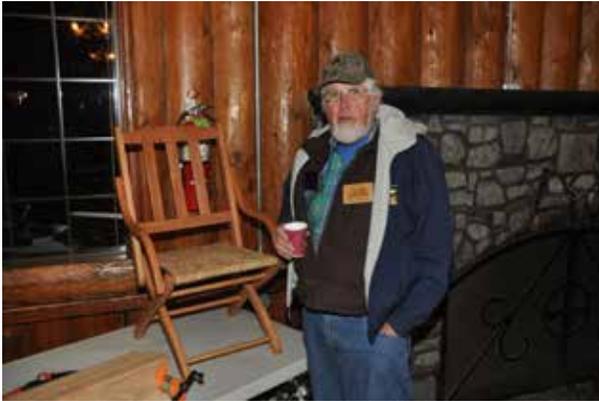
Busy woodworker Jerry Couchman constructed an unusual woodworking item when he designed and made a cello stand for his wife. His wood choice was sapele finished in lustrous varnish. He used a floating tenon with a mortising machine. (left)

John Erbstoeszer crafted a small jewelry cabinet with six drawers and an outstanding spalted maple top with crown moldings. The drawers featured well-designed walnut handles. (right)



Bob Gaubatz, another frequent 'B-&-B'er, created a large, hinged maple box highlighted by pine dovetails and walnut inlays. He finished the chest with shellac. Left

Jerry Haynes presented us with another unusual project, a Civil War mobile officers chair with lots of curves and arcs. The efficient, full-size chair easily folded into a small profile for moving from camp to camp.



Val Matthews gave us another shop tool to make. His easily-made dovetail vice consists of some heavy wooden members and two sacrificial pipe clamps to give the fixture a great platform for routing both pins and tails

Our featured program was a discussion on hand plane techniques and sharpening by former NCWA member and author Tony Konovaloff. Tony has been creating furniture and cabinet projects since 1986 and decided very early in his woodworking career to do all his work strictly with hand tools.



Tony works only on commission now. He keeps his tools razor sharp and obtains extremely smooth, silky finishes.

Wood Raffle

Can you ever have too much wood? We are kicking off something new – a wood raffle.



Your hard working board will kick start the effort by bringing wood donations. Members are welcome to donate wood as well. After that it is up to the membership to sustain it. It is a good way to help keep your shop clean and help the club at the same time.

Tickets will cost \$ 1.00 per ticket or \$ 5.00 for 6 tickets. Names will be drawn from a hat. The winner can choose one item.

If any wood does not sell, the donor can take it home with them or place it up for grabs on condition that you will have to choose between (A) bringing a donation of wood to the next meeting; or (B) bring a project, made from the piece you took, to Bring and Brag two meetings later; or (C) buy an excuse for \$ 5.00 for not doing (A) or (B) like you said you would. Remember it is for a good cause.

The proceeds will be put to good use continuing to improve your club.

Seattle Hand Tool Event

Lie-Nielsen will hold their annual Seattle Hand Tool Event at the Seattle Central Community College, Wood Construction Center, 2310 South Lane on Friday, February 22 and Saturday, February 23. The hours are 10am to 6pm on Friday and 10am to 5pm on Saturday. Admission is free and open to the public.

Lie-Nielsen will have their entire tool line available for woodworkers to try, and two or three workbenches with lots of scrap wood to try the tools on. In addition, Lie-Nielsen staff offer impromptu lessons on sharpening, hand planing, and sawing throughout the day. If you're having trouble with a particular tool or technique, the staff are happy to help.

In addition to Lie-Nielsen, there will be exhibits and demos by Kevin Drake of Glen-Drake Toolworks (inventor of the Tite-Mark marking gauge), David Jeske of Blue Spruce Toolworks (maker of highly-regarded chisels and marking knives), and Gary Rogowski of the Northwest Woodworking Studio (Gary is a long-time author of woodworking books and Fine Woodworking magazine articles).

Mike Titus

February Education Committee Report

2013 classes are off to a great start! We've added two new committee members, Bob Gaubatz and Jim Sickler.

There are ideas for two new classes, ...small tables and "Fear does not Equal Respect" focusing on power tool safety and Problem Solutions. The classes will to be taught by Tom Dolese and Jim Hickey, who are very experienced woodworkers. Classes start in the fall/winter of 2013. We are anxious to receive any other ideas from NCWA members.

Jerry Couchman has offered to teach a second box making class on Saturday, May 25th. (Memorial Day weekend). There is room for two more participants. Please contact Jerry Anderson to sign up.

FEBRUARY CLASSES

Saturday Feb. 2nd: Box Finishing – Flocking. This class will be held at Kent Crouse's shop in Bellingham. Please bring respiratory protection, as Kent will be demonstrating this technique.

Saturday, Feb. 9th: WoodTurning 101 – This class date is tentative at this time. The Wood Turners have a very busy calendar, and we may have to reschedule. NCWA members who have signed up for this class will be notified individually as soon as we find out.

Saturday, Feb. 25th: Make a Spokeshave – This class will be taught by Steve Wagoner at his shop. The class is full, with no wait list.

Please keep bringing class ideas to us. We'll do our best to find instructors for them.

Respectfully submitted:
Jerry Anderson, Chair

Membership

Dues are past due on Jan. 31! Bring your money or a check to the meeting or mail it to Doug, our treasurer. Dues are payable to NCWA, 150 Swinomish Dr., Laconner, WA 98257

Membership Cards:

Be sure to pick up your membership cards for 2013 if you have paid your dues. During the first part of February I'll be notifying all the vendors that the 2013 cards are out and their staffs should be asking for them.

I'll have the cards at the February meeting. Let me know if you need your card before then.

Ed Pysher
360-770-7203

February Presidents Challenge

Hello fellow woodworkers.

Just a reminder for the presidents challenge coming up soon. February 11th. For those that don't remember what the challenge is, it's to make something for or related to the kitchen such as a cutting board, spice rack, trivets or what ever. Get busy people only a couple of weeks to go. Looking forward to your projects.

Gary

New Members

MEET THE NEW MEMBER

David Shull grew up in Puyallup, WA and is currently an oceanographer at WWU. His profession took him to Japan and Massachusetts before finally landing his "dream job" in Bellingham. He recently became seriously interested in woodworking in order to make improvements to his home. He completed several nice furniture projects, then started an ambitious kitchen remodel that includes dovetailed drawers, concealed drawer slides with beautiful cherry fronts and shaker style doors. His shop is also getting attention with a new tool cabinet with hand-cut dovetail drawers. His woodworking skills have advanced rapidly since taking Jim Tolpin's Hand Tool Heaven course in Port Townsend last year.



MEET THE NEW MEMBER

George Schmidt recently retired from the Bellingham School District where he taught shop for over 30 years. His home is near the Fairhaven District in Bellingham and highlights many of his woodworking projects, including hand crafted kitchen cabinets and many pieces of arts and crafts style furniture. Since his retirement, he attended Tom Dolese's chair course, then built not just one, but two sets of beautiful chairs for his home; one in maple and one in cherry. His shop is well equipped, comes with a fine view of Bellingham Bay and even has an outdoor fire pit in front of the main entrance for disposing of scraps!



Spring Shop Tour

SAVE THE DATE.

On March 16 we are heading up to Bellingham for our Spring Shop Tour. One highlight of the tour will be to visit Tom and Jennifer Dolese's where Tom will give you a look inside their craftsman style home filled with his work. Jennifer will be in her shop/studio offering a demonstration of her beautiful marquetry work. The tour will include several dust collection systems and some great examples of shop-made infeed and outfeed tables. We'll also see how to make good use of space in a smaller shop. Plan to spend a Saturday morning seeing what other members are doing in their shops.

Gary Danilson

Tours It's Time To Ride Again!

How would you like to take a comfortable ride North to one of the best woodworking stores in the World? It's time we repeat the most fun-filled journey in our Club history. We did the trick about six years ago and it was the most-favored bus tour we ever made. All that is possible again as we plan a late April tour to Vancouver for shopping and sightseeing in a nearby capital city.

A decade ago we made our first of several resources bus tours to Seattle and to two National Woodworking Shows in Cloverdale, B.C. In Seattle we visited the Northwest Gallery of Fine Woodworking and lunched at Pioneer Square. On that day we spent time at Crosscut Hardwoods, Hardwicke's new and used tool store, Rockler, and Woodcraft. It was a great time to enjoy our fellow woodcrafters and make new friends. Our bus tour included wives and friends and cost only \$19 for the day. Bus fares are much higher now and often include surcharges for high-priced fuel.

At the February meeting we'll ask for a show of hands to see if we've got enough members interested in another shot at Lee Valley Store, one of the biggest woodworking stores around. If you'd like to join the tour, show your interest at the next meeting. There will be no commitment at this time, however we will need your reservation and money at the March meeting. Prices, date, and specifics will be announced at the next meeting. We plan to lunch again on Granville Island where we can enjoy the many notable arts and crafts stores.

On our previous trip to Lee Valley we were entertained by a retiree who displayed more than 300 different hand planes and gave an interesting hour of his fascinating experience and knowledge. This is a woodworkers' opportunity that's too good to miss!

Jay Geisel

Website Review for February, 2013

This is a new feature, hopefully for many newsletters to come! We'll select a woodworking website each month and summarize it, so NCWA members will have an additional resource.

This month's site is woodworkingformeremortals.com.

This website features many tips for new and experienced woodworkers. The website was found in Wood Magazine, and is hosted by Steve Ramsey, a frequent contributor. His goal is "to reclaim the woodworking hobby for the average guy or gal". There are currently 112 videos of different projects & techniques, with a new one posted each Friday. One of the best features is a 5-year archive of these videos, showing dozens of projects with great color photos.

Your comments and ideas are greatly appreciated. I'm always looking for new websites.

Jerry Anderson

Hartville Tool News

Hartville Tool produced a new Master Catalog in November 2011. I had a supply sent to us that was made available to members at a subsequent meeting. I'll have another supply at the February meeting for anyone who would be interested in one.

Hartville still has free freight on any order, regardless of size, which makes it a pretty good deal.

Hartville has a new website. Here are their instructions for making sure you get their discount:

"Go to our web site (www.hartvilletool.com) and shop as usual. When you are ready to check out be sure to mention that you are an NCWA Club Member in the checkout notes and we'll be sure to give you the discount on all applicable items, as we currently physically review every order that comes through. The discount will not show on your e-receipt, but it will show on the hard copy that comes with your order."

Let me know if you have any trouble..

Ed Pysher

Need clean newsprint to protect your bench?

The Bellingham Herald sells the remainders of the large newsprint rolls they use on their presses. Rolls are available in 22" widths for \$3 or 33" widths for \$5. Lengths vary, but are probably around 125 feet. The rolls can be purchased from the customer service window on the 2nd floor of the Herald Building in downtown Bellingham.

Mike Titus

NCWA Board Meeting January 9, 2013

The NCWA Board met at the Farm House Restaurant on Route 20, Mount Vernon at 7 p.m. on January 9, 2013, with President Andrew Pellar presiding. The Board had a full slate of issues on its agenda.

Old Business.

Providing interesting programs for its members is the first priority for any organization. Our Program chairman is constantly looking for speakers in the woodworking genre, ones that can graphically communicate or demonstrate techniques that are important to our members. Jerry Couchman heads up our programming committee for the second season. He has secured many talented woodworkers in the past who define these goals, but he needs our ideas to keep this vital part of our meetings in top form. Pellar is asking every Board member for ideas heading into the next several months.

Pellar promised our self-imposed audit will begin soon. Needed data is still being assembled. Treasurer Doug Duehning reported new dues collections as being slow. Our current bank balance stands at \$6,900.

Audio-Visual purchases budgeted by earlier Board action were reviewed by Charley Drake who is responsible for completing our Club's A-V system. Charley presented the Board with a proposed list of video equipment for a quality system and one that is adequate in his estimation, leaving it up to the Directors to make a choice. Both systems use identical light stands and tripods. The differences lie in the choice of HDMI projector and switcher versus used S-VHS camcorders and switchers. The two systems are estimated at \$1,560 and \$840, respectively. The better equipment would have a warranty, give high quality images, and assure a long term investment. The Board deferred selection until next month when Treasurer Doug Duehning submits the annual budget.

The Board is still considering how to get members to volunteer for committee assignments. There always has been hesitancy on the part of many members. One solution is to have follow-up talks with new members who have been encouraged to select a committee when they signed on board.

Work on a new Club workbench is underway. The Board will use a new and better bench to serve future purposes such as demonstrations at venues and Hillcrest Lodge. The new Eurostyle bench should be ready for use at Cascade Mall in June.

A lengthy discussion reopened last month's request by Val Matthews to observe December meetings as Christmas celebrations where members and families can share holiday festivities at a sit-down dinner. This would do away with the dinner that accompanies our November Toys for Tots special event. There appeared to be a favorable feeling for Val's idea this time around. Pellar asked members to email their opinions and stated that he would prepare a simple question for members to vote on at the next general meeting.

January Board Meeting cont...

New Business

Shop Tours, a popular NCWA activity that usually occurs twice a year. According to Chairman Gary Danilson the tentative date of March 13 is set for our next shop date, if there is not a conflict with Saturday educational classes. The committee is looking for volunteer hosts to open their shops to visits in the Bellingham area and north to the border.

A Saturday all-day group tour to Vancouver and the Lee Valley company is planned for late April or early May, depending on conflicts with educational classes, according to Tours Chairman Jay Geisel. The proposal for another chartered bus tour to the Canadian company would be the first in six years. The attempt to find sufficient ridership to pay for a chartered bus will be proposed to members at the February meeting. Available dates, bus fares, and details will be available to measure member interest.

Our Third Annual exhibit on Father's Day weekend at Cascade Mall will be organized by Shows Chairman Phil Choquette. He will be assisted by volunteers Jerry Couchman and Jim Bucknell, the coordinators of the first two shows. Fathers' Day weekend falls on June 15 and 16.

Another show to be coordinated by Phil is Sedro Wooley High School's WoodFest, which usually happens on the first weekend in April. Phil and Jim Torrence will be in contact with the Sedro Woolly Chamber of Commerce, the WoodFest sponsor, to pick up details on the battle of area high school woodworking shops. NCWA also assists and exhibits in that event each year and offers a prize (a Veritas wood plane) to the "People's Choice" winner.

Ed Pysher, Membership Chairman, is running low on NCWA color brochures and will be comparing bids for another printing.

Pellar furnished members with copies of his "Goals for My Presidency," a two-page declaration of his aims for the year. Among the listed items was a program to award members for their active participation in the many Club events. Points for attendance, committee work, Toys for Tots participation, etc. Biggest point winners would share prizes at years' end. Board members vetoed that idea on the basis of a score-keeping nightmare. Other ideas more kindly received were a revenue-raising plan to raffle donated wood at meetings, expanding his Step-By-Step inauguration, and taking existing programs to a higher level. Work will continue on many of these ideas.

Newsletter Editor Sherri Greenleaf has set a firm deadline for members to submit materials for publication. The third Sunday of the month is now the official Newsletter deadline.

Members present: Ashley, Baer, Bellinger, Chang, Choquette, Couchman, Danilson, Drake, Geisel, Greenleaf, Pellar, Pysher, and Titus. Guests included Bucknell, Mathews, and Torrence.

Respectfully submitted by Jay Geisel, Secretary

Reminder!

Name Tags should be worn at the meetings. It will cost you a \$1.00 if you don't wear it. Charlie Drake is drawing up a shopping list of new goodies for the club and we will welcome all the fines because Charlie has expensive tastes.

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	

COMING EVENTS

Feb 11	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge
February 13	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Inn

REMINDER

Our February club meeting will be on Monday, the 11th at the Burlington Library, 820 E Washington Ave, Burlington, WA 98233

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 generally 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, 4212 Kiowa Drive, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273, or email to sherrigreenleafs@gmail.com or call 360-899-4154.

2013 Officers and Chairpersons

Past President	John Bellinger	(360) 366-5169	Education	Gerald Anderson	(360) 770-8559
President:	Andrew Pellar	(360) 708-4036	Librarian	Gary Danilson	(360) 424-9268
Vice President	Kent Crouse	(360) 224.5532	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

4212 Kiowa Drive
Mt Vernon, WA 98273