

Ncwalogo.tif

Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

April 2013

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2013

7:00 PM General Meeting

****2109 Queen Street, Bellingham Phone:(360) 389-2714 ****

Exit 254 in Bellingham from I-5 and turn right (East) on Iowa St (like you would to go to Grizzly Tools). Take the first left at the light on Pacific St, then an immediate right on Kentucky St.

Take the next left on Queen St, and his shop is on the left at 2109 Queen St. Parking is available in front of the shop and also on Kentucky Street as you come in.

April Program REVISITING FURNITURE MAKER GREG AANES

On April 2nd, we go back to Greg Aanes's shop in Bellingham whom we visited four years ago.

Greg has been making furniture commercially in the Northwest since 1981. He's mostly self-taught, and has developed a style that blends work similar to Thomas Moser, Sam Maloof and James Krenov. He has about four employees and uses specialized jigs and machines to make the business profitable (although, he is the first to acknowledge that this economy has made that very difficult.) His showroom is packed with excellent examples of his work. He has specialized in chairs, rockers and bar stools, but has recently added many other furniture items and also does custom work. Many galleries carry his work. I first learned about him in the early 90's when I saw a beautiful Koa rocking chair in Artwood in Bellingham. I'm still kicking myself for not buying it (for a mere \$900!) Seating in Greg's shop is limited, so you might want to bring a chair. Greg's website is gregaanesfurniture.com.

The directions for getting to his shop are:

Exit 254 in Bellingham from I-5 and turn right (East) on Iowa St (like you would to go to Grizzly Tools).

Take the first left at the light on Pacific St, then an immediate right on Kentucky St.

Take the next left on Queen St, and his shop is on the left at 2109 Queen St.

Parking is available in front of the shop and also on Kentucky Street as you come in.



The President's Corner

April, 2013

The month begins with April fool's Day. Why? I don't know.

Ever read a magazine article about a FOOL PROOF way to do something? Only a fool would think that anything in woodworking is fool proof.

Are all woodworkers fools? Who would purposely try to make things out of a material that really doesn't want to be made into anything? Wouldn't it be easier if the stuff stopped moving? Had a more consistent color and grain? Weighed less? Wasn't so messy to work? We take a big piece of wood. Make it smaller. Glue it back up into a bigger piece. And hope it stays together after all that. A journalist asked Frank Sinatra why he had his Christmas tree up in July. Sinatra quipped "for me it is Christmas every day of the year." I feel that way about too. For me, it seems that every day in my shop is April 1st.

But I do have fun with it.

A big part of having fun is staying safe. Safety is no laughing matter. Attitude is important. Protecting your eyes, ears and lungs is easy if you actually use your safety equipment. Attitude is important as I said. Make it a habit. I use my push stick for almost every rip cut I make at the table saw. I keep it close by at the ready so I'll use it. It is habit because it is easy.

If something doesn't feel safe. STOP! Think it through. Not sure about it, call a fellow club member for advice. Repetitive operations require extra attention. Late in the day try to do something else that doesn't involve a cutting machine. Try cleaning or sharpening,

Have the right attitude a you'll be nobody's fool. – Andrew Pellar

Wood Raffle

We had a another wood raffle at our March Meeting, an activiity which we hope to continue. Several members donated wood for a raffle to help with additional club costs. Tickets were one dollar each or six tickets for five dollars. Though there were just a few pieces this first meeting, there were some very happy winners, as well as a bit of cash income for the club.

This months lucky members were:

Bob Gaubatz

Mike Titus

Jim Gleeson (2)

Dale Brandland (4)

Tom Thornton (3)

Tom Dolese

Jerry Haynes (2)

Bill Rawls



Thank you to all who donated!

March Meeting Notes

NCWA Mourns Loss of Roy Little

The membership was saddened by the loss of Roy Little. The announcement at the March meeting caught many by surprise. Roy was ill for some time and died while in the hospital. The popular Sedro Woolley woodworker was active in NCWA activities for several years and taught classes in shop layout. Roy's life in a wheelchair did not discourage him from woodworking tasks and he became quite adept at adapting his machines and their floor locations to his own use.

President Andrew Pellar welcomed four guests in attendance and two new members. Jerry Couchman, Programs, announced an off-site program for April, a return visit to the Aames Furniture Company in Bellingham, a company noted for its line of fine rocking chairs. Like the Maloof rocker, Aames chairs are in high demand and fetch a good price. The quality work that goes into an Aames chair will be defined as we make a tour of the production facilities. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. (Every April the Club vacates Hillcrest Lodge during the Tulip Festival while the Kiwanis Club serves special salmon dinners throughout the month.)



Pellar invited eight members who completed the recent spokeshave class to front and center to show their new tools. Each held up a spokeshave and identified its finish. Students included Gerald Anderson, Colin Davidson, Jim Gleason, Laura and Val Matthews, David Shull, Mike Titus, and Alden Wendt. John Gruenwald, speaking for an absent Gene Benson, read a certificate to the members from the local commandant of the U.S. Marine Reserve Corps. The citation

honored members of NCWA who participated in the 2012 Toys for Tots contribution. John added that we produced more than 300 toys.

Gary Danilson and John Bellinger announced their plans for the Saturday, March 16 Shop Visitation Day in the Bellingham area. A time schedule and driving directions to six shops will be posted on-line, they said. The visits will conclude at 1 p.m. at David Helm's shop where a light lunch will be served.

Jerry Couchman introduced the evening's program dealing with methods of vacuum pressing for woodworkers.



Jim Torrence led the demonstrators with an inexpensive (\$128.) system recently discovered on the internet (www.roarocket.com). The system allowed Jim to make a bow-front table recently and he brought the mold that created the bow to the demo. The system uses a small hand pump and the power of a vacuum cleaner. The hand pump is used in the final evacuation of air and takes only a couple minutes of easy pumping. The bag is of generous size and the kit includes enough sealing material for several uses. The demonstration was a success.

Greg Koeneker brought his system in a shop-built pack that includes two tanks of compressed air. The system makes use of a venturi that creates a vacuum by passing compressed air through the device instead of pumping it out. He demonstrated another use of use for the vacuum: clamping work to the bench. A two-way module fitted with air hose openings to both faces can hold work at the same time it grips the bench top.





Charley Drake and Jim Bucknell purchased Bob Doop's vacuum equipment and are presently building a large, curved panel cabinet. The Mercury Vacuum Press they pictured on the big screen includes a very large 4 x 8 foot heavy duty bag and a Membrano steel tank. No current website has been found.



Tom Dolese uses a VacuPress, model 5STP.05102, in his shop. He gave a dramatic demonstration of forming a simulated chair back curve in quick time using his large pump. The model number has since changed but can be found at www.vacupress.com.

Bring 'n Brag



Tom Dolese displayed a two foot walrus horn carving that was both unusual and impressive.

Charley Drake has been turning one year now and gave us a look at his first birch green wood bowl. He textured it with a Dremel tool and slot cutter, colored it with India ink and then, like so many wet turnings, it warped. He gave it a coat of polyurethane. Charley has taken up whitlin' and showed us the early result of a troll out of basswood.



Jerry Anderson made a mallet out of wood scraps and told the crowd why the business ends were angled. The natural pounding action of your arm lets the mallet head strike an object squarely, he said.

Nancy Anderson is making boxes. She is using her scroll saw cutting ability to form intricate fretwork designs that make the four sides of her boxes. Nancy chose black walnut and eastern maple for her two boxes and finished them with shellac and wax.



Jerry Haynes picked up some sound-makers that he called frogs. He used some black shoe polish to make them look presentable.



Kent Crouse is at it again. Two boxes, one of red elm and coated with an oil/varnish blend and the other of spalted birch with a padded super blond shellac finish.



Andy Rudy brought his quilt display rack out of red oak.



Sphere-man Ben Gage keeps pushing the envelope This time a sphere within a sphere. He selected walnut and a polyurethane finish.

Val Matthews plans ahead. He created a wheeled fixture to put the proper angle on the blade of his new spokeshave when he's ready to sharpen.



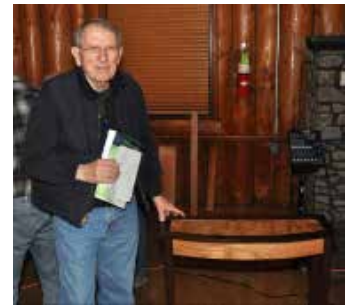
Steve Wagoner made two awls and a float.

Jaime Lajarin offered up a Trifecta. A chessboard, box, and wooden clamp.



David Shull exhibited a pagoda box out of figured maple and cherry finished in shellac and wax.

Jim Torrence displayed the bow-front table made with the vacuum bag he bought online. Later he demonstrated how he did it. Made of Peruvian walnut and English walnut.



Jerry Couchman. Split Top Coffee Table. Top, Walnut. Base, Maple Peruvian Walnut Beam. Joined with Rosewood Dovetail

Bill Baer. Bench Seat. 10 Year old Big Leaf Maple, Cedar rail from Neighbor, linseed oil, poly



Buterfiles. Oil Varnish, Sam Maloof & Wax

=Jay Geisel

All photos in the meeting section by Dale Brandland. Photos in the shop tour section by Charley Drake. Motivation to get Drake back into newsletter editing by Sherri Greenleaf.

WIN A FREE TABLE SAW BLADE!!

Irwin Marples Co. has provided five 10", carbide tipped table saw blades for NCWA members to evaluate. They've asked us to use them and provide input via an Email survey.

Here's how you can win one!!

Simply attend the April NCWA meeting. Five winners will be drawn from members names in the roster. Nothing to buy.!

This is a great freeby...each blade is sold for about \$45.00.

Classified Ads/ Announcements

Wood Available at the ReStore in Bellingham.

The ReStore in Bellingham currently has "wormy" alder for sale at \$5 per board foot. The boards are kiln-dried, 4/4, 10' long, in widths from 4" to 6". This wood was recently milled, it is not salvaged.

A contractor is de-constructing an old building in downtown Bellingham and has a large number of old-growth, Douglas Fir beams for sale. Here's what is currently available:

- 260 Pieces of 3" x 11" x 18' Fir Solid Sawn Old-Growth (4680 LF)
- 12 pieces of 15.5" x 11" x 18' Fir Solid Sawn Old-Growth
- 11 pieces 12" x 12" x 9' Fir Solid Sawn Old-Growth

Prices are \$1.60 / BF with a possible discount for larger quantities. Call 626-808-5053 for more

Website Review for April, 2013

This month: woodmagazine.com/tips, is our topic. This website has a shop tip of the day, with back & forward arrows to quickly scan tips. In addition, tips can be searched for by category or by key word. The website also features woodworker forums; plans; videos; photo gallery; materials guides; tips & techniques; tool advice; and much more. You can even subscribe for a digital issue of Wood Magazine with the first month free!

Please let me know how these reviews help you. Your comments and ideas are greatly appreciated. I'm always looking for new websites.

Jerry Anderson

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April Education Committee Report

APRIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

April classes are:

Table Saw Tune up & Maintenance: This class is currently on hold until a new date can be confirmed. **CLASS IS FULL...NO STANDBY LIST.**

Inlay Techniques I: Thursday, April 16th – 6 to 9 p.m. Taught by Steve Durkee at his shop near west Mount Vernon. The class is full, with no standby list.

Sharpening & Using Card Scrapers: Saturday, April 20th – 10 a.m. to noon. Taught by Andrew Pellar & Jesse Charette. Shop location to be announced. Class is full. Those attending are encouraged to bring their card scrapers and sharpening equipment.

Box Making; Session 1: Wednesday, April 27th – 1 p.m. til 5 p.m. The class will be taught by Jerry Couchman at his shop, 3450 Meadow Wood Lane, Ferndale 98248. This class is full with standby list also full! No more open slots for this class until next year!

Planning for the 2013 – 2014 season is starting. Many thanks to the current Education Committee members; Jerry Anderson, Bill Baer, Dave Strauss, Al Ashley, Jim Gleeson, Charley Drake, Ron Peterson, Dale Brandland. Please take a minute to thank these members for their help in planning & carrying out our woodworking classes!

The NCWA calendar will be updated once all classes for 2013 / 2014 are determined.

Respectfully submitted:

Jerry Anderson, Chair
Education Committee

Library News

Our April meeting in Bellingham has limited space so we'll bring just the DVDs and some newly purchased books to the meeting. You will be able to check out these items and return any books that are due. You'll notice that our books have a new numbering system and instead of listing the author on the checkout sheets we are asking you to list the book number that will be on the front of the book. This will make it easier to track books and keep an accurate inventory.

Did you know that you can go to the NCWA website and see everything the library has to offer. You can reserve any library book by contacting Gary Danilson and asking him to hold the book for you. New titles that will be available at the Apr meeting include Illustrated Guide to Tablesaws, The Complete Book of Woodworking, The New Complete Guide to the Band Saw, Complete Illustrated Guide to Routers and The New Turning Wood (DVD). You can go to the website and look at these books and others since Mike Titus has linked all of our books to the Amazon website.

As always, if there is a specific book title or a topic you would like to see added to your library, please contact any member of the library committee: Laura Matthews, Steve Wagoner, Jim Torrence, Mike Titus and Gary Danilson.

“A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life”

Henry Ward Beecher

Shop Visits Get Another A-Plus

Visitations to other members' shops is always an experience in how we construct something rather than what we make. These trips are enjoyable peeks into what other woodworkers consider the tools and layout that satisfies them.

These visits are becoming one of NCWA's most cherished activities, so we do them every Spring and Fall. Well, almost twice a year. Shop touring resurfaced this month after a one-year hiatus that had members demanding its return. Gary Danilson and crew put together a six-pac event in Bellington on Saturday, March 15th, that put us right again.

These county-wide expeditions, which can take a woodworker 100 miles or more afield, pay valuable rewards in evaluating and selecting tools, planning a shop layout, or determining how to design a dust control system. Mistakes can be costly and member's comments and recommendations are never taken lightly. But for the most part we enjoy the camaraderie and opportunities to talk with old friends and find new ones. And, of course, we enjoy the opportunity to discover new equipment, see how they work, and get the reactions of their owners.

We came to close grips with the widely hailed SawStop machine that can't cut a wiener, nor your hand, and the highly valued Festool Domino that sets new standards for a plate joiner. In Dale Brandland's three-garage shop he has an elderly ShopSmith still on duty amid his newer tools. And that rare horizontal mortiser we found two years ago in Tom Dolese's shop can be exciting, too.

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Saw Stop at Dale's shop. If you're thinking about a cabinet saw for your shop this one's hard to beat.

At our stop at the Tom Dolese residence we found a demonstration going on. Tom and Jennifer are artists. Each has a Bellingham studio. His is a school for woodworking, a large shop outfitted with fine tools where he constructs gallery and commission pieces and teaches students. Her studio is in a large building behind their home where specialized equipment and a scroll saw allow creative hands to do marquetry, the artful blending of wood veneers into beautiful designs that she works into Tom's furniture, the cabinets, lamps and lampshades, wall hangings, etc. Jennifer also works tile and glass into art forms.

Jennifer devoted half of her day to demonstrate for us the layout and selection of veneer and the sawing and assembling of her items to complete the marquetry techniques involved. The home interior is an amazing collection of their art and capabilities. Outside, you wonder again at the eye-catching home design and its attractive character. This is a team hitting the right notes.



Jennifer Making a Veneer Sandwich. The use of sand on a hot plate to shade veneer peices was unusual and creative.



George Schmidt's Garage Shop. The outfeed table works for both the table saw and planer. Just one example of George's thoughtful shop layout.

Lunch at David Helm's shop.
One more great use for an outfeed table!





Our final destination put us into David Helm’s large shop building where he keeps an assortment of tools he uses to carve those fascinating West Coast Native American masks. More recently David and his wife Cindy have found a market for a medium-sized box that features a top with an inset of attractive and colorful fabric dyed, painted, and illustrated by Cindy. David carves masks in his office-studio, a separate room in his shop, while sitting in a comfortable upholstered chair. His “bench” is a wood stump on which he carefully chops away the waste wood. David has a large assortment of sharp chisels, knives, and adz to work with. The completely tooled shop features excellent workbenches and a Wells-designed dust control system. A satisfying light buffet lunch completed the event, but rain kept individuals from enjoying the beautiful grounds and an anticipated visit to Cindy’s fiber artist’s studio in her home.

Steve Wagoner explaining to Jim Bucknell and George Way that he often builds a stool to get warmed up for the intricate shapes and joinery for a Windsor chair.



Part of Wagoner’s tool storage system.
A special place for each tool.

--Jay

Meet the New Members!

MEET THE NEW MEMBER

Jim Friberg (pronounced free-burg) lives in Bellingham in a custom house his dad helped design and Jim then built. He used live edge fir trees from the property for major structural elements, and it is stunning inside!

Jim is originally from Moscow, Idaho, and has lived in Bellingham since 1970 after serving in the Army in Germany and Viet Nam. He studied industrial arts at WWU with the goal of becoming a shop and drafting teacher, but changed his mind after observing those unpredictable junior high kids during his student teaching! He ended up in a safer environment working for the Postal Service for 25 years.

Jim has a small shop on his property and has made an attractive cabinet to house antique swords and at least two very nice Native American style carvings. His latest challenge is a large circular mirror frame.

Welcome, Jim!



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.

NCWA Board Meeting March 13, 2013

NCWA Directors met at the Farm House Restaurant on Route 20, Mount Vernon, at 7 p.m. with a quorum present.

President Andrew Pellar addressed the 2013 Budget issue and considered a final draft submitted by Treasurer Doug Duehning. Earlier, the Board approved a \$1,000 limit for needed A-V equipment as recommended by Charley Drake. The 2013 budget was approved by the Board as submitted. Board members are intent upon improving the audio system as attendance grows to more than 80 persons at our monthly meetings. Having a quality microphone is an issue.

Phil Choquette gave members a review of WoodFest arrangements and progress to date. The Sedro Woolley High School event is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 6 and 7, at the school gymnasium. NCWA has 16 volunteers ready to man our exhibition tables throughout the two days. Set-up time is 7 to 9 a.m. on Saturday. WoodFest gets underway at 9 a.m. Saturday and closes at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Open hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. The Club will provide a quality hand plane engraved with the words *People's Choice Award* for the student selected by popular vote. Ballots will be provided by the Club and issued to attendees at the door. Competition by students from three county high schools is expected.

Phil said that members are invited to exhibit their woodworking projects on the two large tables that will be provided. Nancy Andersen will demonstrate scroll saw cutting during the show. WoodFest is an annual Sedro Woolley student competition tied to other events during the month-long Tulip Festival in April.

Jerry Couchman announced that next month's meeting will be held at Greg Aanes Furniture building in Bellington and he expressed some concerns with crowding within the shop areas. Future programs include a visit to Jim Hume's shop in May, the Cascade Mall exhibition in June plus a look at the creative furniture of Eberhard Eichner from recycled cabinets, old furniture, and whatever else he can find at the ReStore.

In planning for the appearance of Garrett Hack, contributing editor of Fine Woodworking Magazine, in September, Jerry has been given a \$500 budget for the special Saturday afternoon program at the Shelter Bay Yacht Club. Members decided it necessary to collect a fee of \$10 from each member attending.

A small change in the wording of our shop class Waiver form (a release from blame) that students sign was made and approved by the Board. Members also decided to take a bigger step in promoting the sale of NCWA embossed caps, aprons, and coffee mugs at our meetings. Also approved was an amendment to our banking request for additional members with authorization to our treasury fund. The additions include the current President and Vice President.

Irwin has donated five new table saw blades and \$45 to the organization. The blades will likely become raffle items. Choquette announced that we have received notice from the Cascade Mall management that approves our selling of non-business member projects at our next Mall exhibition.

cont...

Members present: Gerald Anderson, Al Ashley, John Bellinger, Samantha Chang, Phil Choquette, Kent Crouse, Jerry Couchman, Gary Danilson, Charley Drake, Doug Duehning, Jay Geisel, Sherri Greenleaf, Andrew Pellar, Ed Pysner, and Mike Titus.

Respectfully submitted by Jay Geisel, Secretary

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

March 5	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Hillcrest Lodge
March 13	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Inn

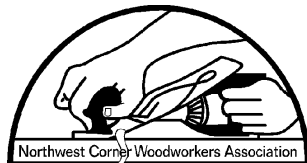
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The NCWA is open to all interested woodworkers, and was formed to promote high standards in woodworking, woodworking education and showcasing local woodworking. Meetings are generally held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Location is 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 sherrigreenleaf@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
Board at Large	Al Ashley	(360) 474-9711	Webmeister	Mike Titus	(360) 714-8182
Programs	Jerry Couchman	(360) 366-5169	Activities	Gary Weyers	(360) 380-0888

Al Ashley (360) 474-9711



NCWA NEWSLETTER

4212 Kiowa Drive
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