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Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

May 2013

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 7, 2013

7:00 PM General Meeting

❖❖22334 Prairle Rd, Sedro Wooley Phone: (360) 856-1646❖❖

Directions to Jim Hume's place: 22334 Prairie Road, Sedro Woolley.

From the west, and from Burlington, Mount Vernon and Bellingham, take I-5 to the Bow Hill exit 236. Turn east and at the bottom of the hill cross Old 99 onto Prairie Road. (Bow Hill Road becomes Prairie Road on the east side of Old 99.) Jim's house and shop are on the right, 5.6 miles from I-5.

From the east, and Sedro Woolley, drive north 5.7 miles on Hwy 9 from Hwy 20, and turn left on Prairie Road. Jim's shop is on the left, 2 miles from Hwy 9.

Jim's house and shop are red with white trim. Some GPS units miss Jim's house by almost a mile, so watch for the house number!

May Program

On May 7th we revisit Jim Hume's fabulous shop. Jim is one of the founding members of our club when it started in 1984, and also a founding member of Artwood, a cooperative art gallery in Bellingham. Jim's wife, Erica, is Artwood's manager. Jim has literally spent his life working on cars and woodworking. His cars range from hot rods to dragsters and even include a car that is currently undergoing testing/trials with the goal of exceeding the conventional, wheel-driven piston-powered auto speed record by at least 100 mph! He's currently modifying a 38 Ford hot rod with a Corvette drive train and frame. His woodworking includes beautiful furniture, segmented turnings, jewelry boxes and cabinets.

His shop is amazing and big enough for us to hold a meeting in, but if you would like to rest your feet, bring your own chair. To learn more about the land speed record car, check out <http://Target550.com>.



Jim Hume takes a break to let the file cool down.



The President's Corner

May, 2013

Is it art?

Woodworking is a great creative outlet. I'm amazed at the diversity of work out there. My reactions vary – what were they thinking? How did they do that?, That's clever, how did they come up with that?, Wow!

In the end, it only matters whether you like it and whether the piece functions. I've seen pieces that look great and were put together with pocket screws or biscuits. Nothing wrong with pocket screws or biscuits, they can be great time savers and can be entirely adequate for the task at hand. I've also seen pieces that were well built but left me feeling uninspired.

I get excited when somebody brings their work to Bring and Brag. I revel in sharing their enthusiasm, motivation and toil that went into the piece. Even more, I enjoy watching member's work develop over time.

How do you develop as a woodworker? Motivation, the desire to try new things. Building similar pieces with small variations. Using mock-ups to refine construction techniques. Refine details. This last one, refining details, for me is important. A little extra effort in wood selection and careful assessment of proportions can pay huge dividends.

When I started, I gave my 1/4" round over bit a good work out. But I thought some pieces could be improved by employing other profiles. Was buying a new router bit the answer? It did not have to be. Marrying power tools and hand tools has been liberating for me. No longer is my work dictated by my router bit collection. Are you a slave to your tools or are you their master?

Now back to the original question – Is it Art? - Who cares? Have fun, try something new and make some sawdust!

- Andrew Pellar

Classified Ads/ Announcements



For Sale: 8" Microplane rasp with regular blade (lightly used) and fine blade (new, unused). \$10.

Contact Mike Titus at mjt365@comcast.net or 360-389-3469.

Special Meeting Program September: Garrett Hack

We have the honor of hosting a special guest speaker for our September meeting, so mark this on your calendar: **Saturday, September 14 at the Shelter Bay Community Center, starting at 10:00 am.**

This is to be our September meeting and is scheduled for Saturday to fit Garrett Hack's schedule while he is teaching at the Port Townsend School of Woodworking. Garrett plans to drive over from Port Townsend that morning for the presentation, which will include hands-on instruction at the end of the session.

Garrett specializes in building contemporary interpretations of Federal and classic American style furniture. He uses both power and hand tools, and incorporates fine details in all his work, often with special tools he creates in his workshop. He also teaches woodworking frequently throughout the year. His presentation will include some live demonstration and instruction, and he is open to our suggestions. Fine Woodworking Magazine has featured numerous articles over the years that he has written as contributing editor.

If you have a **specific topic** that you would like Garrett to cover at this meeting, contact Jerry Couchman or Andrew Pellar. Because of the fee that Garrett charges for speaking engagements, there will be a **\$10 charge for admission to this meeting**, but well worth it!

To learn more about Garrett, see his web site:
<http://garrethack.com/>



Reminder!

Name Tags should be worn at the meetings. It will cost you a \$1.00 if you don't wear it.

Feathery Shavings!

Start with a small piece of steel. Add a file, some sand paper and dash of enthusiasm and you get shavings. With a little coaching by Andrew Pellar and Jesse Charette, club members – Bob Gaubatz, Stan Brown, Scott Sutton, and Clark Douglas followed the recipe to sharpen their scrapers. (April 20th) In the end, it was nothing but smiles and shavings.

- Andrew Pellar



*Just a reminder of how beautiful the Pacific Northwest is!
One of the many, many gorgeous Tullip Fields in Skagit County...
There is still plenty of time to enjoy!*



Table Saw Maintenance & Tuning Class Highlights

Eight NCWA members gathered at Jim Gleeson's shop to help renovate Jim's elderly Craftsman table saw.

It was hard to determine if Jim or the saw was the oldest!



Charley Drake explained the types of electric motors used to power the saw, and then led us in a step-by-step teardown of it.



We all had a chance to examine the saw's components and then assist in cleaning, lubricating, and putting it back together.



Charlie, you are having too much fun!!

You've got it, Geary Greenleaf!

Quality control faltered momentarily when it was discovered that the tilt mechanism shaft was put into the wrong side of the gear case.

However, a quick fix had the saw running almost like new!

Since the class, Jim has polished the case and waxed the top and reports the saw is operating well.
Jerry Anderson



Host Jim Gleeson & Dale Brandland

Photos courtesy of Chuck Burnett

Wood Fest 2013

Wood Fest's continue existence always seems to be in doubt and this year was no different.

But when the word was received that it was a go, the NCWA responded. Although the weather was cold and rainy, the NCWA shined. Continuing our long term support of this event, we had a good display of the breadth and width of our clubs' collective talents on the tables. Jim Torrence was immortalized playing one of his Indian flutes in a Skagit Valley Herald photo.



We awarded our usual prize, a Lie-Nielsen Block Plane, in an unusual manner. This year we awarded it as a "People's Choice" award as decided by show attendees. Sedro-Woolley High School senior Ryan Percy was the winner with a very nice bass guitar.

I was impressed by the student woodworker's strong commitment in overcoming limited class time in order to be able to have something to display. It makes you wonder where the education system is taking the kids of today and where the woodworkers of tomorrow will come from.

~Andrew Pellar



Several NCWA Club members displayed their handcrafted and beautifully finished wooden wares.



Bill Baer and Samantha Chang displayed many of the wonderful toys that are Club member create for Toys For Tots.



Nancy Anderson presented several domos using her scroll saw.

One of the donated Silent Auction items.



Pictures courtesy of Jerry Couchman

May Education Committee Report

Excellent comments have been received from the NCWA members who attended the April Table Saw Maintenance & Tuneup and Inlay Techniques I classes taught by Charley Drake and Steve Durkee. Thanks to Jim Gleeson, who “volunteered” his elderly Craftsman tablesaw for complete overhauling. All who attended this class had an opportunity to get their hands dirty & greasy, in the name of woodworking education.

May classes are:

Finishing I, April 4th from 10 a.m. until about noon: This class will be held at Andrew Pellar’s shop at the Skagit Regional Airport and taught by Phil Choquette. The class is full with no standby list. Attendees should bring a stool or folding chair.

Finishing II, April 11th from 10 a.m. until about noon: This class will be held at Andrew Pellar’s shop at the Skagit Regional Airport and taught by Phil Choquette. The class is full with no standby list. Attendees should bring a stool or folding chair.

Inlay II, May 18th from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.: The class is being divided into two sections to be taught at different times. Steve Durkee will contact all class members regarding the dates & times. All attendees are asked to bring their own magnifying headgear.

2013 – 2014 planning is underway. Here’s your opportunity to request a skill or topic you’d like to learn more about.

Respectfully submitted:
Jerry Anderson, Chair

Website Review for May 2013

This month: toolreviews.woodmagazine.com is our topic.

Almost every power tool is reviewed in this extensive website. General categories of power tools are broken into smaller sections, showing tool name and model number, allowing a very complete search. One to five star ratings by both magazine editors and users, along with comments are shown. Video demonstrations of many power tools are also available. This is a great resource for anyone thinking of purchase new or used tools.

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

April Meeting Notes Greg Aanes' Showroom

Fifty two members attended this month's meeting at Greg Aanes' shop/showroom in downtown Bellingham.

After we had an opportunity to view Greg's many production tools and watch a demonstration of his large CNC type router, Greg discussed the many facets of developing his business to its present status. He also told us of the complexity of preparing Mango wood from its arrival at his doorstep in very wet (with algae & mushrooms growing on it) condition to the time and work it takes to get the moisture content to a workable level.



After Greg's presentation, and a question and answer session, many of us then toured his showroom, where we saw many examples of well-crafted and finished chairs, rockers and tables.

There were five lucky winners in a random drawing for 10" table saw blades (retail value \$45 each) given to the NCWA by Irwin Tools. All the recipients have an opportunity to take part in an online survey in order to qualify for a top prize of \$500 worth of Irwin tools.

Photos courtesy of Dale Brandland

Library Report

Popular Woodworking recently had a 50% off sale on a variety of their books and DVDs, so the Library Committee purchased three new Chris Schwarz DVDs:

"Build a Sawbench", "Mastering Hand Tools", and "Super-Tune a Handplane".

These DVDs will be available for checkout at the May meeting at Jim Hume's shop.

Mike Titus

NCWA Board Meeting April 10, 2013

The Board met at the Farm House Restaurant on Route 20, Mount Vernon, at 7 p.m. with a quorum present. President Andrew Pellar issued an e-mail Agenda prior to the meeting. Minutes of the March Board meeting were read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

The first item of business was the status of our audio-video purchases. Charley Drake told members that he has received the new microphone and stand that is expected to be used whenever speakers address the assembly, replacing the inconvenient wearable mic presently used. Drake said that the other A-V items, a video projector and camera, have been ordered and are expected to be received later this month.

Pellar asked members to critique April's WoodFest and called for suggested improvements in the manner in which we support the event. Phil Choquette and Jim Torrence who represent our organization to the Sedro Woolley Chamber of Commerce and the Sedro Woolley High School, reported on the positive and negative aspects of the 2013 event. Our organization has for some time given an award to the student with the best wood project. For several years volunteer judges from NCWA determined which students were award winners. This changed a few years ago when the high school manual training teachers decided that they would do the judging and our award would be given to the people's choice vote, with little or no recognition to NCWA. The prize donated by our Club is usually a top quality hand plane.

The Board voted unanimously to retain our original prize procedure and re-instate our own panel of judges to determine the winner of our award. Starting next year, we will select a five-member judging team to determine who receives our "Best of Show" award. With it will come a renewed recognition of our organization and the quality of workmanship for which we stand. A guitar-building senior from Sedro Woolley High won our award this year. Phil cited Spring Break as one of the reasons why many wining students were not on hand for Sunday's awards ceremony.

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Board cont....

On another subject, Choquette reported that all the preliminaries have been met to ensure a successful Father's Day exhibit at Cascade Mall on Saturday and Sunday, June 15 and 16. That's the weekend our Club will entertain and educate the public with our third annual woodworking show in Mount Vernon. The big difference this year is that Mall officials will allow our members to sell their projects during the two-day event.

Our new Budget has been updated.

NEW BUSINESS

Program Chair Jerry Couchman outlined the planned programs for the next several general membership meetings, including the summer picnic at the Matthews. The pot luck and silent auction attracts a large crowd of woodworkers and woodturners to a feast of brats and burgers and an afternoon of sun and socializing. Jerry said Jim Torrence and Charley Drake will be cookin' and ordering the food.

Information will be published in The Newsletter soon regarding the special presentation by Garret Hack on September 14th at Shelter Bay. Other programs include a visit to Jim Hume's shop on May 6, to Bellingham ReStore on June 4, a boat building session on July 2, and a presentation by member Tom Dolese in October.

Gary Danilson and John Ballinger are at work planning the Fall shop tours program slated for members' workshops in the Sedro Woolley area. The autumn trek likely will be in October.

Tentative plans for our Club Christmas party were discussed as was a timetable for selecting a 2014 Officer Nominating Committee.

President Pellar offered some relevant questions concerning our educational classes. He noted that a wait list of members wanting a certain class was a lengthy 12 months, and he asked if classes and sign-up spaces for all classes could be put out in the Fall, some many months before they will be given. The items were discussed but no action taken.

Pellar also probed members for thoughts on extending meeting times from two hours to three. Our woodturning brothers meet for three hours and often longer when they serve a pre-meeting dinner, he added. Few Board members expressed an interest in extending the traditional two-hour meeting length.

The Board meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Members present: Gerald Anderson, Al Ashley, Samantha Chang, Choquette, Couchman, Kent Crouse, Gary Danilson, Charlie Drake, Doug Duehning, Jay Geisel, Sherri Greenleaf, Andrew Pellar, Ed Pysher, Jim Torrence, and Mike Titus.

Respectfully submitted: Jay Geisel, Secretary

(See Wood Fest Photos on Page 6.)

TARGO WOODS:

Targo Woods, one of our hardwood suppliers in Bellingham, has moved. Their new address is 1401 “E” Street, Bellingham. It is about 4 blocks from their former location on the dock. Head downhill on Holley, hang a right on E street and go one block. They are on the corner. They have the same phone number.

Ed Pysher

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	1401 “E” Street 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

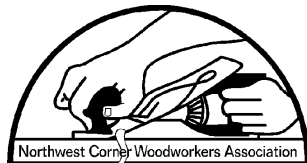
COMING EVENTS

May 7	7:00 PM	Membership Meeting	Jim Humes, 22334 Prairie Rd, Sedro Woolley
May 15	7:00 PM	Board Meeting	Farmhouse Inn

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) 708-4036	Education	Gerald Anderson	(360) 770-8559
President:	Andrew Pellar	(504) 339-0871	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



NCWA NEWSLETTER

4212 Kiowa Drive
Mt Vernon, WA 98273