



# Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

[NCWA Website Click](#)

June 2018

**General Meeting  
Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM**

**Hillcrest Lodge  
1717 South 13th Street  
Mount Vernon**

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



Jerry Couchman at work

## June Program

### WOODWORKING WISDOM I'VE LEARNED

**How long does it take to become a woodworker?**

**How many times do you have to make the same mistakes before you finally get it!**

In 1986, Jerry Couchman began his woodworking career after several items of furniture were destroyed during a USAF move from the Philippines to Hawaii. That accident inspired him to start making his own furniture, which eventually led to a woodworking business. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, he'll discuss important lessons he's learned over the past 32 years that has made his woodworking safer, more accurate and more enjoyable. His presentation will include a slide show and live demonstrations. One of his favorite sayings is "The more mistakes you make, the more you learn!" If you've ever taken his box making class, you may have witnessed him making some of those mistakes in action! As an added bonus at this meeting, you could win a custom jig made in his shop that will be included in the June raffle!

## NCWA General Meeting Notes May 1, 2018

- The meeting was convened by NCWA President Dale Brandland at 7:00 p.m. at the Hillcrest Lodge in Mt. Vernon.
- New Members and Guests were introduced.
- Announcements.
  - Bill Pierce reminded everyone about the Mary May Carving Demonstration on May 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Sascha Vandette gave a report on Woodfest. She thanked the 30 club members who had participated. We had a number of very good comments by attendees and the event organizers were very pleased.
  - King Dahl announced that there would be a project to help an elementary school build bat boxes from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on May 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - John Green announced that he was selling the lathe in the back of the room. (it subsequently sold.)
  - Jerry Anderson announced the following tool sales:
    - Bill Baer Tool Sale – (This will help Bill’s widow) 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on May 5<sup>th</sup>.
    - Doug Dunning Tool Sale – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on May 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - Jim Bucknell stated that he had a Forstner Bit the exact size of the ‘Beads of Courage’ logo if anyone wished to borrow it to help mount their Bead on their box.
  - Gary Danilson reminded NCWA members that he would be enrolling club members with the online vendors, Hartville Tools and Klingspor. Only names and addresses will be given. Emails and phone numbers will not be shared. Anyone wishing to ‘Opt Out’ of the program, please notify him before the end of May.
- Bring & Brag.
  - Jerry Couchman showed off the Iris that he made with marquetry as a demonstration project at Woodfest. It was made with Purple Heart, Ebony, Maple, Walnut, Holly, and Bloodwood. It was finished with shellac and Oil. Really nice job, Jerry.
  - Dennis Lindsay displayed a hatchet handle that he carved by hand using rasps. It was made out of Oak.
  - Kevin Osterman presented the bowl he made in Jerry Anderson’s Routed Bowl Class. It was made out of Spalted Maple & Mahogany. He finished it with lacquer. It was his first bowl and looked fantastic.
  - Roger Shimer exhibited his ‘Beads of Courage’ box. It was made out of Cherry, Walnut, and Rosewood and finished with Shellac + Polyurethane. Nice job, Roger. It will be treasured by the young recipient.
  - Mike Forst showed off his spectacular Koa wood box. Great Job!
  - Keith Woods displayed another ‘Beads of Courage’ box. It was made out of spalted Birch. Really nice job, Keith.
  - Bill Pierce exhibited a really unique Scotch Bottle Trivet (without the scotch bottle...darn). It was made out of Walnut and finished with wipe on Polyurethane. The carving imitated the texture and appearance of the Scottish castles. Neat project.
  - Phil Humphreys displayed a really nice live edge box he made in Jerry Couchman’s Live Edge Box Class. It was made out of Walnut and Peruvian Walnut. It was finished with wipe on Polyurethane. Phil strongly recommended Jerry’s class. It is a beautiful piece.
  - Tim Wynn exhibited three items:
    - Six-sided ‘Beads of Courage’ box made out of Poplar and maple finished with a mixture of Tung Oil + Boiled Linseed Oil + Polyurethane.
    - Box made out of Bocate and Cherry. The lid panel was distressed cherry stabilized with epoxy. The box was finished with the same mixture as the Beads of Courage box.
    - Bowl made in Jerry Anderson’s Routed Bowl Class. It was made out of Mahogany and Maple and finished with the same mixture as the rest.
  - Bill Rawls showed off his ‘Beads of Courage’ Box made out of Maple, Purple Heart, and Mahogany. It was finished with Polyurethane. Really nice job, Bill.
- Raffle.
  - 6” engineer’s square – Dave Steele
  - Digital Calipers – Phil Choquette
  - T-shirts – Laura Matthews, Jeff Haines, Dennis Lindsay, George Brooks, Charley Drake, and Roger Shimer.

- T-shirts – Laura Matthews, Jeff Haines, Dennis Lindsay, George Brooks, Charley Drake, and Roger Shimer.
- Program. NCWA member George Knutzen has taught at the Port Townsend School of Woodworking, and at the Marc Adams School of Woodworking in Indiana. George walked us through some of the highlights of building a Greene & Greene inspired end table. He talked about wood selection and layout, mortise and tenon joinery, wood movement, and breadboard ends. Some of the points he made are below but to really get the benefit of his extensive knowledge, you need to take a class from him.
  - Wood Selection.
    - Quarter sawn for tops. Plain sawn prone to warping. Stay away if possible.
    - Rift sawn good for legs.
  - Allow wood to acclimatize to shop – generally a couple of weeks. Optimal final moisture content is around 8%.
  - Layout.
    - Use flat carpenter’s pencil. It doesn’t dent the wood.
    - Denatured alcohol will take away pencil marks easily.
    - Be consistent with your markings.
    - Generally try to cut pieces with an extra 2” in length.
    - Rip with an extra ½”.
    - Always mill extra spare parts in case you screw up.
    - Mill spare trash pieces to test cuts and prevent sniping.
    - Use slip mortises whenever possible.

## **Beads of Courage**

We have had great response to our President's Challenge to make boxes to be donated to the Cancer Care Unit of Seattle Children's Hospital. Remember to bring your boxes to the June 5 meeting. We'll display the boxes as our Bring and Brag portion of the evening.

Bring and Brag

Jerry Couchman



Dennis Lindsay



Kevin Osterman



Roger Shimer



Mike Forst



Keith Woods



Tim Wynn



Bill Pierce



[CLIC K HERE to view Beautiful large photos](#)

# NCWA Pearls of Wisdom

## David Helm

Engage brain before pushing start buttons on any machinery.

## Val Matthews

Woodworking is not about power tools. Learn to use hand tools first. This will give you a much better understanding of not only how tools work, but also the wood you are working with. Only after this will you have a full appreciation of power tools.

OR

A CNC machine can do wonderful things but it doesn't have much to do with woodworking.

## Andrew Pellar

1. Buy extra wood for your project
2. Keep all scrap until you are finished with your project
3. Let your wood acclimate to your shop before milling
4. Mill incrementally and sticker between milling sessions
5. If something seems in any way unsafe STOP. Think about it overnight and revisit it tomorrow
6. Use a push stick
7. Learn to sharpen and set aside some time to do it
8. If you are doing something new, do it on scrap first
9. Projects for your shop are a great way to build skills
10. Buy a Starrett square - #5 is his top choice and #2 is his second

## Jerry Couchman

If I am limited to just one, I would have to say shop safety with power tools. That's something you either learn from someone with experience, or the hard way. And I really liked how Andrew said it: If something doesn't seem safe, STOP.

## Tom Dolese

I build quite a variety of furniture pieces and using the horizontal mortiser makes it easy and fast. With some of the joinery I do, I wouldn't know how to start without the mortiser. Festools Domino can duplicate some of what I do with the mortiser. I think a good quality bench to work from is essential. And the longer I build furniture the more I use the band saw.

## Mike Chaplin

Proper stock preparation--Making your project wood straight, flat, and square is the foundation of fine woodworking. The success of your woodworking project depends on it so learn and practice proper stock preparation.

## George Knutson

Take your pick:

If you always do your best work, your work will always get better.

If you're precise and accurate in your milling and joinery, your assembly will go much smoother and final results will be much better. Take your time and be fussy!!!!

Try different methods. You may find a better way!! Or you'll confirm that the method you've been using is still the best for you and be even more confident with that method. Just remember, no one method is best for all circumstances.

If a part gets damaged during processing, fix it even if you have a replacement part, just for practice. Someday, you won't have a replacement part and you'll HAVE to fix it, so now is the time to practice. And in my opinion, the best craftsmen are those who can hide the mistakes or problems that inevitably happen to all of us.

## Jim Hickey

My words of wisdom are to always strive for greater and greater accuracy while allowing yourself to make mistakes. Fixing a mistake is the best teacher.

## NCWA Class



Handcut dovetail class given by Val Matthews in May

## For Sale



Used Saw Stop Overarm Dust Collection System for sale for \$50 to any Club member. Originally cost \$200.

Call Dick Schofield at 360-333-7400."

Estate Sale: Band Saw, Jointer, Table Saws, Spindle Shaper, 20" Planer  
Call 360-366-5028

## Magazine Recycling

At our regular meetings, you will find two tables of woodworking magazines in the back of the room. These magazines have been read and then donated by various members of NCWA, and are free for anyone who wants to take them. You may take them, read them, and then return them at a later meeting, or you may keep them permanently.

NCWA members are invited to donate used woodworking magazines they no longer want. HOWEVER, with the exceptions noted below, we request that members not donate magazines more than 10 years old. There is little demand for old magazines, particularly ones that focus on tool reviews.

Please just recycle them, otherwise the Library Committee will have to carry them home and recycle them ourselves.

Exceptions: These magazines contain timeless information on projects and techniques, and old issues are sought after by NCWA members:

Fine Woodworking

Shopsmith

Woodsmith

Michael Titus, Library Committee

## Club Facility Search

We wanted to let everyone know that your Board of Directors is taking the crowding issue at our meetings seriously. While Hillcrest Lodge has served us well in the past we have been exploring the option of finding a new meeting place. Jerry Anderson, Sascha Vandette and Gary Danilson have been actively searching for possible facilities but with limited success.

So we are reaching out to you for help. Some of the obvious possibilities have already been checked out (such as the Burlington and Mt Vernon Senior Centers, the fairgrounds, public schools and convention centers ). Do any of you belong to or know of a church or organization that would have a meeting area available? We need a facility in the Mt Vernon/Burlington area with a capacity of at least 150 people and adequate parking. Facility owners will hear the words "woodworking club" and think machines, noise and sawdust. You can assure them that these issues can be dealt with. If you have any ideas for a new meeting place please let Jerry, Sascha, Gary or any board member know.

Thank you for your help.

### New Member Jim Baker

Jim Baker learned about the club through Craigslist! He saw an ad about wood for sale by one of our members, Jeff Haynes; they connected, made a deal and Jeff asked if he knew about our club. Originally from Snohomish, WA, Jim is a retired welder/pipe fitter and got into woodworking about a year ago. He did a tour of duty with the USAF in the 60s and got into welding while visiting his brother in California in 1969. His career took him all over the country including Alaska, but eventually, he took up roots in Whatcom County and now lives in Bellingham. Jim joined last October, and has already been on one of our shop tours and taken a class from Greg Koenker. He has acquired two incredible antique machines for his shop and just about everything else a woodworker needs. One of those old machines is a 1911 Crescent 16" Jointer, and is fully operational. He is currently restoring an Industrial Saws Band Saw made by a Seattle company in the early 1900s that has an incredible throat capacity and should have it running soon. His shop is a good candidate for a future shop tour! He has already started making furniture that blends his welding skills with nice wood and has made some sales in Seattle's Fremont district at their Sunday market. Welcome to the club, Jim!

Jerry Couchman



Phil Humphreys' Bring and Brag Box

## NCWA Board of Directors Meeting May 9, 2018

- The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. by President Dale Brandland at the Farmhouse Restaurant in Mt. Vernon.
- Member's Present: Tim Wynn, Al Ashley, Phil Choquette, Gary Danilson, Kent Crouse, David Strauss, John Braun, David Vandette, Sascha Vandette, George Knutson, and Dale Brandland.
- Treasurer's Report – Al Ashley stated that the club had a total of \$5,765.96 in checking and savings as of 05/09/2018.
  - We have a total of 209 members compared to 197 members at this same time last year.
  - The Mary May Carving Demonstration on Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup> has had 15 members sign up as of May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- President Dale Brandland led a discussion about the size of the club given the restrictions we have in our meeting venue. Some of the BOD opined that we should back off recruiting at the Woodfest and Anacortes Arts Festival and try to stabilize at our current size. Other members of the BOD voiced the opinion that reducing recruiting could very well backfire and cause a reduction in the membership over time. Dale announced that he didn't have a good answer but thought we needed to start the discussion.
- Sascha Vandette pointed out that the NCWA was still actively looking for other venues. She was going to be visiting one in the near future and would let the BOD know if it looked like a possibility.
- Gary Danilson suggested that the NCWA cancel the Bring & Brag at the next General Meeting to make time to showcase the many boxes constructed for the 'Beads of Courage' program. The BOD agreed with this suggestion.
- Gary Danilson announced that the online vendor program would be in place once again by the June General Meeting. Only five members had 'opted out' of the program so far.
- Programs.
  - The June Program will be given by NCWA member, Jerry Couchman.
  - The July Program will be given by NCWA member, Jameson Hawn.
- President Brandland led a discussion on the flow of the General Meeting. After discussion by the BOD, it was decided that the following changes would be taken:
  - Give a time limit to the program presenters...45 minutes was suggested with a hard cutoff time of 8:30 p.m. to allow 15 minutes for questions.
  - Questions will be discouraged during the presentation to give the presenters the ability to get through their material.
  - Time for the raffle would be reduced by eliminating T-shirt raffles.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



May General Meeting Highlight with George Knutson

## Vendor Support Groups

### NORTH

Hardware Sales	2034 James St.	Bellingham	hardwaresales.net	<b>360-734-6140</b>
Bellingham Millwork Supply	3879 Hannegan Road	Bellingham	Bellinghammillwork.com	<b>360-734-5700</b>
Hard Woods To Get	1405 "E" Street	Bellingham	hardwoodstoget.com	<b>360-738-9140</b>
Windsor Plywood	1208 Iowa St.	Bellingham	windsorplywood.com	<b>360-676-1025</b>

### WEST

Sebo's Hardware	1102 Commercial Ave.	Anacortes	sebos.com	<b>360-293-4575</b>
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### SOUTH

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

### CENTRAL

Karl's Paints	1515 Freeway Drive	Mt. Vernon	karlspaints.com	<b>360-336-2855</b>
Mt. Vernon Bldg Center	815 Roosevelt Way	Mt. Vernon	mvbc-online.com	<b>360-424-9073</b>
Cedar Creek Lumber	950 B Fountain St.	Burlington	cclumber.com	<b>360-757-6343</b>
Sherwin-Williams Paint	1526 Riverside Drive	Mt. Vernon	sherwin-williams.com	<b>360-428-3775</b>

### EAST

E & E Lumber	201 W. State Street	Sedro Woolley	eelumber.com	<b>360-856-0825</b>
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### SPECIALTY

Edensaw Woods	211 Seton Rd.	Port Townsend	edensaw.com	<b>360-385-7878</b>
FASTCAP	5016 Pacific Highway	Ferndale	fastcap.com	<b>888-443-3748</b>
Rockler Woodworking	832 NE Northgate Way	Seattle	rockler.com	<b>206-634-3222</b>
Woodcraft	5963 Corson Ave.	Seattle	woodcraft.com	<b>206-767-6394</b>

## Officers and Chairpersons 2018

President	Dale Brandland	(360) 961-0102	Programs	Bill Rawls	(360) 387-2993
Vice President	George Knutson	(425) 753-4476	Education	Greg Koenker	(360) 543-7090
Past President	Dave Strauss	(360) 391-6367	Librarian	Gary Danilson	(360) 540-5768
Secretary	Tim Wynn	(360) 739-0515	Newsletter	Jane Wynn	(360) 224-7001
Treasurer	Al Ashley	(360) 474-9711	Membership	Tricia Steiner	(360) 319-9734
Webmaster	Mike Titus	(360) 525-4131	Toys for Tots	John Braun	(360) 708-0055
Member at Large	Phil Choquette	(360) 675-8320	Member at Large	Kent Crouse	(360) 224-5532
Member at Large	Sascha Vandette	(360) 755-3043	Member at Large	Mike Chaplin	(360) 305-5112
Shop Tours	John Bellinger	(360) 708-4036	Shows	David Vandette	(360) 755-3043

## Future Events

June 5	Tuesday	NCWA Meeting
June 13	Wednesday	NCWA Board Meeting
June 16	Saturday	Newsletter Deadline
July 3	Tuesday	NCWA Meeting
July 11	Wednesday	NCWA Board Meeting
July 21	Saturday	Newsletter Deadline

## [NCWA Website](#)

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 \$35 per year, payable to NCWA, 26220 48th Ave NE, Arlington, WA 98223. Newsletter submissions are welcomed and are due the 3rd Saturday of the month. Submit by email to [janekirstine@comcast.net](mailto:janekirstine@comcast.net) with subject line as NCWA Newsletter.