



# Newsletter

**Next Monthly Meeting — April 4, 2023 at 7 PM**

**held IN-PERSON at the**

**Mount Vernon Christian School**

**820 W. Blackburn Rd. , Mount Vernon**

## YOUTUBE

Check out our instructional videos on our YouTube Channel

## BRING & BRAG

Click above to be taken directly to view projects from fellow members

## MEETING MINUTES

Click above to see what you might have missed at the last meeting, or the Board of Directors meeting

*Click the underlined title in the boxes above to be taken directly to that section of the newsletter.*

## **A Message from the President...**

As our club has increased in size, so increases the scope of various interests of our members. To attempt to satisfy these interests we are constantly striving to provide a much broader range of experience based programs and presentations. Ranging from a very basic time for visiting and socializing to the nationally recognized presenters we have enjoyed via ZOOM presentations. The Board of Directors spend many hours each month in planning and obtaining things like our annual picnic, local presenters for in-person meetings, bring 'n brag, field trips, shop tours, toys-for-tots workshops, specialized classes, one-on-one mentoring, Preferred Vendor discount program, festival and event planning, raffles and refreshments for meetings, special wood and tool sales, membership promotion, and so on and so on.

**Connect with your fellow members:**



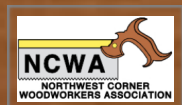
[Instagram](#)



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We currently have two committees with no chairperson or committee members. (Programs and Shop Tours). Two more committees have only a chairperson with no committee members. (Toys for Tots and Shows) Our B.O.D. Members-at-Large are doing the work of the Programs Committee (and doing an excellent job), but we need to fill the committee positions.

In the last three months we still have positions to fill. I suspect that many of our long-time members feel they have done their share (and indeed I would agree with them)! Also, perhaps our newer members feel in-experienced or intimidated to come forward. To them I always say there is no better way to learn about the club and get to know people.

We are often complimented on the various perks that our club offers to our members. The diversity and high quality of these programs depend on people that are willing to help make them happen. If you have any inclination of being one of these people, PLEASE contact me or any board member for more information.

*John Ellis , NCWA President*

Email: [sunnydaydulcimers@gmail.com](mailto:sunnydaydulcimers@gmail.com)

Text or call: 425-426-4531

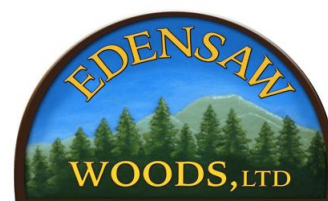
## **April 4th at 7 PM!**

**Mount Vernon Christian School**

### **The Amazing World of Wood**

Russ Yerger is a Washington native who grew up in Everett went to WWU and has been a resident of Skagit County for 33 years, hiding up in Alger. He has been working in wood related businesses since 15; starting at a small cabinet shop in Everett, at one time was with the second largest manufacturer of cabinets in Washington, many years with Builders Alliance in Bellingham, a stint with Pacific Woodtech in Burlington and recently the past 19 years with Edensaw Woods out of Port Townsend.

He does not claim to be an expert on anything but has many years of experience and exposure to many aspects of the wood world. At Edensaw he has the everyday pleasure of helping solve "wood" needs for professionals and hobbyists throughout Northwest Washington. He will share some of the information that he has gathered about wood with NCWA and of course give a little information about Edensaw Woods.



## Mark Your Calendars

**March 25th, 9AM - 12:30 PM – Class: Bill Pierce, Advanced Architectural Carving: Carving the Egg and Dart** There is one spot left . PREREQUISITES: Fundamentals of Woodcarving class OR prior experience carving in relief. If interested, please contact Andrew Pellar at: [andf32plr@yahoo.com](mailto:andf32plr@yahoo.com).

Class Size: 1-3

Location: Bill Pierce's Shop: 32324 SR 9 NE Arlington, WA 98223

Materials Fee: \$10

**April 4th General Meeting (IN PERSON)** – Russ Yerger from Edensaw Woods.

**May 2nd General Meeting (VIA ZOOM ONLY)** – *Design Without Recipes* presented by George Walker, co-author of *By Hand and Eye*, and expert woodworker.

**June 6th General Meeting (IN PERSON)** – Jewell James, master totem carver, author, and environmental activist.

**Jim Redding's Woodblock Printmaking Class** – to be from the last week in May through the first week in July. The class is offered to a minimum of two and a maximum of four students. Because Covid 19 is still present and continuing to kill people in our community, I am limiting this class to those who are vaccinated against Covid 19.

There will be 6 three hour class sessions, one per week for six consecutive weeks, held at the printmaking studio located at my house, 1305 9<sup>th</sup> St, Anacortes. I will coordinate the exact times and days for the class sessions with the students after they have signed up for the class, in order to find the best combination to meet the needs of those who are taking the class.

The cost of the class is \$40 for materials and tools, payable to me at the first class session. I will provide to each student the necessary plywood printing blocks, printing paper and printing ink, a type of pen that I know works well for marking on the block and a 4" brayer, a rubber ink roller. The students can keep the putty knife, pen and brayer after the class. I will not provide wood carving tools, which the students will need to provide for themselves.

If the students don't already own small wood carving tools, I will provide a list of what I consider a good quality minimum set of wood carving tools that would be adequate for the upcoming woodblock printmaking class. The total cost of these is somewhere around \$100. Cheaper wood carving tools can be found but I will recommend tools that I know are from personal experience to be good. While previous experience carving wood is useful, of course, it isn't necessary. Of the people who have taken my class before, only one of them had prior wood carving experience but the other students also made very nice prints. – *Jim Redding*



## Raffle Prize at the March 7th Meeting!

This month's raffle includes two items. A Rockler 18" Magnetic Tool holder (\$20 value) and a Wixey WR300 Digital Angle Gauge (\$27 value), battery included!



## Bring and Brag

**Urn** –*Jerry Couchman* One of Jerry and Julia's nephews passed away recently and Jerry built an urn from Zebra wood and black walnut. Finished with Livos.





**A/V Cabinet** – *Jerry Couchman*, Last year, Jerry Couchman's church asked him to build a secure cabinet to protect their A/V equipment. He used cherry plywood and solid stock plus hardware from Rockler.

Rockler sells a pocket door system normally used in the vertical for TV and computer cabinets, but in this application, it was used for the front door which is stored underneath when open. Rockler also sells excellent cabinet locks and unique 270 degree hinges, which allows the top section to open and hang on the back during use. Finish was Livos.



**Tree Sculpture**– *Barry Tonkin* Maple Burl with a Walnut Base. Finished with Walrus Oil Wood Butter.



**Letter Opener** – *Barry Tonkin*

Rosewood and Maple, finished with Walrus Oil Wood Butter.

**Intarsia Turkey** – *Joan Mann*

176 pieces of wood from Poplar, Zebra, Blue Pine, Rosewood, Maple, Pine, Purpleheart, went into making this Intarsia creation.

**Guitar** – *Dennis O'hern*

Guitar with Rosewood back and sides.



**Stool with Carved Seat** – *Phil McCloud* Sapele and Cherry, finished with Osmo.



**Salmon** – *Dave Steele* Cottonwood mounted on an American Chestnut Root, finished with Shellac.

**Wooden Boxes** – *Clark Douglas* - 1 & 2) Oak, Padauk, Spalted Maple 3) Zebrawood Base with various species for the top. All finished with Osmo.





## THIS JUST IN!...

A woodworker in Duvall is downsizing and liquidating his shop equipment. Club member Phillip Kezele has met with him and shared our club history and purpose, and the woodworker has decided to DONATE to the club at least a RIGID 6" Jointer, an upright Mortiser, and possibly a SAWSTOP table saw with extension

table and other accessories. (Also miscellaneous hand tools of unknown types.) There will be more information on this at the Regular Meeting on April 4th. Be sure to attend!



## Library Open for in-person business at April 4th Meeting

– Submitted by Bill Pierce

The NCWA Library will be **mostly** open for business at the April meeting. This means we should have books, plans and DVDs on tables and available for browsing and check-out. Returns will also be processed. Be sure to record your library activity on the logs provided. There should also be a magazine-exchange table set up.



If you have a few old issues of *Fine Woodworking*, *Shopsmith*, and the like, you would like to pass on, or you are looking for some new issues to read, this table is for you.

If there is a specific item you want to check out, please let Richard Gillingham know a day or two prior to the meeting and we will have it waiting for you.

– Your Library Committee





## Community Bulletin Board

*If you'd like to let other members know of tools or wood you have for sale, or if you offer any type of service you feel would benefit members, here's the place to post it. Just send King Dahl an email at [kingdahl1@gmail.com](mailto:kingdahl1@gmail.com) for inclusion in the monthly*

*newsletter.*

### **WANTED –**

I wish to purchase a used floor mounted dust collector that will be attached to a single lathe.

Please contact

Dennis Waller

[denniswaller@comcast.net](mailto:denniswaller@comcast.net)

360-305-5984

### **FOR SALE: 4-Drawer Mobile Storage Unit For Sale**

**Contact Phil Humphries at [pilipo.two@gmail.com](mailto:pilipo.two@gmail.com) or 360 303-0155**

You want sturdy? This is built like a brick s...house. Drawers are lockable. Bottoms are foam-lined. Overall height is 42.5", basic cabinet H 34.5", W 27", D18". External removal brackets. **\$40 obo**



## Delta 10" Table Saw with Accessories For Sale: Price \$950

**Mark Kraus** at [mark.kraus@outlook.com](mailto:mark.kraus@outlook.com)

I bought this Delta Unisaw table saw new and have carefully maintained it over the years. Very well aligned, no rust, fully functional. A complete table saw package.



- 3 HP, single phase, 240 VAC 20A
- 52" table with Unifence rip guide
- 4" dust port

*Also Included are:*

- Outfeed table (with shelf beneath)
- Saw table has 9 1/4" x 11 3/4" cutout for router lift with dust collector box beneath (wood insert in cutout) (router lift not included)
- Sliding crosscut sled - very accurately aligned
- Tenon jig that rides on Unifence
- Delta brand mobile base for the table saw
- All original Delta manual



**Kiln Drying:** Jim Baker (360-739-6390) is offering his newly constructed kiln for the purposes of kiln-drying wood for members. The kiln can hold between 350-400 board feet at one time.

- To Dry Wood - .50 cents/bd ft (max 8' 6" L X 2' W)
- To Kill Bugs - .30 cents/bd ft (140° for 4 hours)

# Meeting Minutes

## Minutes of the NCWA General Meeting

March 7, 2023

Call to order: 7:10

### Presentation

Brian Griffin, Griffin Ukuleles

- Started woodworking in his youth but ukulele-making is new to him, started 12 years ago at age 78. Works out of his 2-car garage workshop in Bellingham.
- Started selling them at \$400 but charges \$1500 now, working on his 205th
  - Also makes travel "pinecone" ukes; a banjo ukulele out of an old tambourine and a turned wood body; a "gutbucket," a 2-stringed upright base instrument
  - Has made ukuleles with pickups so they can be connected to amp via bluetooth
- First 100 ukes were standard with normal bracing but now uses Kasha bracing technique that has a soundhole in the corner so more of the soundboard vibrates
  - Learn more about Kasha bracing by watching this interview by famous ukulele player Stuart Fuchs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5pYy3zBmpk>
- Wood choices:
  - Bubinga, Englman and Bearclaw Spruce, Bigleaf Maple, Redwood (old NYC water tank), Finish/curly Birch (sent to him from a customer in Finland), Cedar, Ovankol, Sycamore, London Plane Tree (Sycamore and Oriental plane tree cross)
- How to bend the sides:
  - Prefers to use a hot pipe (iron pipe with a soldering iron in it), gets up to 370 degrees. Keep the form nearby as a guide so you can check the shape.
    - Prefers that to a bending machine. You can feel the wood and know when it's ready to bend. Has never broken a piece of wood bending by hand but has in the machine.
    - Runs some wood under the tap to get wet but does not soak wood.
    - Toughest wood he has ever bent is tiger stripe maple, it's easy to break
      - Hardly puts any moisture on the maple when bending
    - East indian rosewood is easy to bend
      - Brian has excess bookmatched pieces of East Indian Rosewood from the former owner of Grizzly. Meant for guitars. If you want to purchase any, contact him.
  - After you bend it with the iron, put it in a form. Then allow it to dry/cool in the form
- Finishing:
  - Uses French polish even though it takes a long time.



- Uses everclear, has tried denatured alcohol and can't really tell the difference except it's not as safe healthwise.
  - Recipes are online. Use half the shellac flakes because it dries faster
- Why French polish? It's very thin so thought to be the best acoustically. Spraying on a thick coat of finish will dull the sound. Also, workshop is in the basement of his house, so he wants to keep fumes down.
- Can build a ukulele in a week or less but it takes 3 weeks to put the finish on
- Q&A:
  - How do you know it's going to sound good when you're done with it?
    - You never know. If you have decent plan and follow it, you'll have a good instrument. Has never made a really bad one but has made a few that are exceptional, including his 100th with a redwood top.
  - What type of glue?
    - Uses LMI glue that shows blue under black light so you know it's all cleaned up before you put the finish on. (<https://www.lmii.com/glue/2959-babebot-with-lmi-glue-4-oz.html>)
  - Does it matter how thick the wood is?
    - Thickness of the wood makes a huge difference. You have to make it thinner than you're comfortable with the first time. Most use a drum sander. 0.075" is a good thickness.
  - How do you make the frets?
    - Buys the metal frets and made a jig to cut the grooves on a table saw with a thin saw blade. Used to hand cut them but it's really difficult.

## **Committee Reports**

- **Treasurer:** New members may not have received their cards. Check with AI if you haven't gotten yours. Wooden name tags are available if you haven't received yours.
- **Membership:** New members - Roger Smith, Shoreline; Mike Quinn, Camano Island.
- **Library:** First time having the library back in person since early 2020. Find a book, sign it out, cross your name off when you bring it back. Same for DVDs on a different sign out sheet. 3-month checkout time. There is also a magazine exchange table. Take what you want, bring magazines you want to give out. Brannon and his wife stored the library in their home the last 3 years, so HUGE thanks to them!
- **Education:** Green&Green mirror classes are full, but waitlist is available. One opening in vacuum press/veneering class.
  - Asked members if they were interested in:
    - Teambuild, a team of people on one project, knock out multiple copies - some interest

- Symposium, getting a group of like-minded people interested in a topic to get together and share knowledge - some interest
- Multi-installment class led by an instructor who walks class through one step, students go back to their shops and do the step, return to instructor and repeat. Opens the possibility to more complex classes - more interest
- Demonstration day, several people demonstrating a certain technique or machine, have groups come through at different times, like a shop tour - little interest
- Extended bring and brag, where people discuss building a certain project in their shop, including design, jigs, finishing, etc - more interest
- **Toys for Tots:** Barry Tonkin invited committee up to see his shop in Bellingham and it looks like a good place to convene. More info is coming.
- **Shop Tours:** No committee right now. If you're interested, let John Ellis know.
- **Preferred Vendor Liaison:** Christi will be working with businesses in Skagit, looking for liaisons for Whatcom, Island, Snohomish counties. Let John Ellis know if you want to do this.
- **Members at Large:** Craig, Chuck, Peter, and Tony are acting as the Program Committee.

### **Old Business**

- Library doors are about ready to be delivered

### **New Business**

- Jim Baker will kiln dry your wood, but needs larger quantities of wood in order to run the kiln. So look through your shop and if you need wood dried, reach out to Jim.
- If you have input on how meetings are run, something you don't like or could work better, or class suggestions, make the suggestions on the little slips. Anonymous. You can also contact John Ellis directly.
- Val Matthews is very ill with cancer and would love to have your company. If you know Val, call him and talk to him, or schedule a time with him or Laura to stop by.

### **Bring and Brag**

- Clark Douglas: Built 2 more boxes based on Jerry Couchman's class. Red oak and padouk and book matched spalted maple; zebra wood, dovetail keys, picture frame top. Each have dividers inside
- Phil McCloud: 3-legged stool based on an article in Fine Woodworking. Has a carved seat and turned legs. Cherry top and Sapele legs. Intends to make a set of three.
- Dave Steele: fish using a bandsaw and sander. Fish is cottonwood, base is american chestnut root, which kind of looks like stones

- Barry Tonkin: tree, bookmatched maple burl and walnut base; rosewood and maple letter opener with brass inlay on the handle
- Joan Mann: Intarsia turkey, 176 pieces including poplar, pine, zebra wood, rosewood, cocobolo, blue pine
- David Shull: brought ukulele signed by Tiny Tim
- Dennis O'Hern: Guitar out of rosewood back and sides, spruce top, rosewood fingerboard (swapped out the ebony)
- Dana Wolf: Small table, top of the table is the depiction of the caffeine molecule made out of marbles. Top, legs, and stringer are hexagonal
- Jerry Couchman: Cabinet for his church to hold computer screens and sound board. Pocket door hardware to fully close the cabinet and lock it. Cherry with Osmo finish; Also made an urn for his wife's nephew out of zebra wood, walnut, dragon on top for the knob

Winner of raffle: Chuck Barnett

Adjourn: 9:05pm

## **Minutes of the NCWA Board of Directors Meeting**

**March 16, 2023**

### **Attendees:**

John Ellis, Nick Pederson, Chuck Barnett, Greg Koenker, Christi Brua Weaver, John Braun, Al Ashley, Andrew Pellar, Tony Etienne, King Dahl, Jerry Couchman, Bill Pierce

*Call to order: 7:04 by John Ellis*

### **Treasurer's Report - Al Ashley**

- See Al's report for details
- Have almost \$2400 more than this time last year
  - Biggest expense last month, \$282, Directors and Operators insurance policy
  - \$72 brought in for tool raffle and \$154 for hats, only 1 hat left
  - Some members expressed interest in ordering more hats to sell
  - Motion made and approved to order approximately 50 more hats
- 208 members vs 205 a year ago; 9 new members this year

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Shows Committee - King Dahl**

- Woodfest: Monique has not responded to King's emails/questions
- April 29, just one day with option for a second day at a second location (Eagle Haven)
- Hoping for more volunteers, particularly demonstrators and greeters and people to organize them



- Where are benches, tables, etc. David and Sascha still have them as far as anyone knows. King will reach out to them. Shave horse and 1 workbench at at MVCS.
- Christi, Nick, John Ellis (all day), King, Al volunteered to be greeters
- John Braun will be doing Toys for Tots
- Andrew will send out request to people who have taken classes so far to see about demonstrators
- If you want to bring something to sell, you need to be a greeter for at least 1 shift + 10% commission to club
- Setup: King, John E,
- Teardown (4 or 5pm): John E
- Greg has a small TV that he'll bring
- Jerry will not be there but club can use his trailer. John Ellis will pick it up.
- Discussion about Woodfest being less organized than in the past.
  - New director of SW Chamber of Commerce, Monique, appointed last month.
  - Will club donate something to raffle again? Undecided but doesn't look like it.
  - Should club continue to support Woodfest? Club has been paying \$250 for sponsorship, \$100 for booth, gift for Woodfest student winner, misc expenses; total of about \$600-700/year.
    - Started doing it for the kids (most schools don't have woodshop program anymore) and to be a part of the community, club doesn't get much from it aside from an occasional new member.
    - One of few opportunities to live up to mission statement - spreading joy of woodworking. There are festivals all summer. Maybe there are other opportunities beyond Woodfest?
  - Decision made to pay \$250 sponsorship and purchase the engraved block plane as a gift for the winner (total approximately \$475)
    - We will re-evaluate continued sponsorship after this event; perhaps we should meet with Monique to discuss observations. If we decide to stop sponsoring, we owe Chamber a written explanation.

### **Membership Committee - Jerry Couchman**

- 5 new members in February; 1 registered (not yet paid) for March
- Non-renewals list: Jerry plans to divvy it out to Membership Committee
- People are finding us by member referral, brochures in a vendor, online
- Just received a batch of 500 rack cards
  - Christi should deliver fresh rack cards to Skagit vendors; need other vendor liaisons
  - Jerry will make some more brochure stands to give out to vendors
  - John Braun is a vendor at a farmers market and will put them out at his booth

### **Education Committee - Andrew Pellar**

- Good reaction for class instructor showing the details of a step and then people going back to their shop to do it. For a bigger project.
- ShopTalk format - people talking about a single subject
  - Will try to organize a few
- Idea for machine maintenance, George Knutson's bandsaw will be the patient for Charlie's fixup class
- Frustration over small class sizes, people can't get in
  - Perhaps "audit" the class. You don't take up the instructor's time but can sit in
  - Or processing wood beforehand so it's ready to go to speed up classes (Marshall offered to help)
  - Encourage people who took the class to get together to practice or teach people who couldn't take the class
  - Will also run programs over the summer
  - Trying to get people with larger shops to host but not teach
  - Still need more teachers

### **Library Committee - Bill Pierce**

- Operating at meetings again
  - 32 checkouts last meeting (1 or 2 a month during pandemic)
- George Knutson offered his cart that improves the display
- Jerry is going to bring books from a friend's shop to the next meeting to see if Library Committee wants them or wants to sell them
- Bill will reach out to people who wrote reviews before or are checking out a book, particularly a new book, to see if they would like to write a review

### **Toys For Tots Committee - John Braun**

- No new business to report
- Has plenty of car bodies and parts ready for Woodfest
- Idea for kids to build something for mothers' day at Woodfest, but that is too complex for the little time we have with each kid

## Preferred Vendors offering DISCOUNTS to NCWA Members:

### NORTH –

Hardware Sales

Bellingham Millwork

Hardwoods to Get

Windsor Plywood

Village Books

### WEST –

Sebo's Hardware

### SOUTH –

Martin Lumber/True Value

Stormo Hardwoods

### CENTRAL –

Ekrem Hardware

Karl's Paints

Mt. Vernon Building Center

Cedar Country Lumber

Sherwin-Williams Paint

### EAST –

E & E Lumber

### SPECIALTY –

Edensaw Woods

FASTCAP

Klingspor

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. Dues are \$35 per year, payable to NCWA, 26220 48th Ave NE, Arlington, WA 98223. Submit newsletter articles by email to [kingdahl1@gmail.com](mailto:kingdahl1@gmail.com).

### NCWA 2023 Board of Directors:

**President** – John Ellis

**Immediate Past President** – Greg Koenker

**Vice President** – Nick Pederson

**Treasurer** – Al Ashley

**Secretary** – Christi Brua Weaver

**Members at Large** – Peter Gantt, Chuck Barnett, Craig Edwards, Tony Etienne

#### Committee Chairs:

**Programs Committee** – TBA

**Library** – Bill Pierce

**Education** – Andrew Pellar

**Membership** – Jerry Couchman

**Shows** – King Dahl

**Shop Tours** – TBA

**Toys for Tots** – John Braun

**Webmaster** – Michael Titus

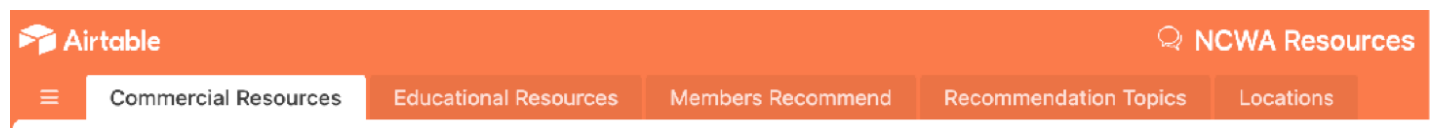
**Newsletter** – King Dahl



## NCWA Resources

Click this link – [NCWA Resources](#) – for our user-friendly database serving the purpose of storing information about recommendations from NCWA members.

There are 5 tables (1 tab for each) across the top, you can click each one to see its contents. This page is evolving and being updated in real time, so there will be new additions frequently.



- **Commercial Resources:** list of companies (incl website and phone #) and what people recommend them for
- **Educational Resources:** online resources for different topics, grouped by topic (this doesn't have to be limited to videos, we can have books and other stuff too)
- **Members Recommend:** This table is automatically generated by the first two, and keeps track of who's recommending what
- **Recommendation Topics:** This is another automatic table, and lists commercial resources (the first table) grouped by topic
- **Locations:** a final automatic table that lists which commercial resources (again, the first table) are located in which cities, so that it's easier to see what's near you

Let Tony know, or post on NCWA-Chat, what you think. This has the potential of being a super convenient, user-friendly database for all members.