



Newsletter

Next Monthly Meeting — June 6, 2023 at 7 PM

A VERY SPECIAL FIELD TRIP

See Details Below

NCWA CLASSES

Check out
Photos from Recent
Classes

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.

**Please Welcome our *NEW* NCWA
President, Nick Pederson!**

A Message from our New President...

It's my unfortunate duty to let you know that our 2023 president, John Ellis, has stepped down from both the presidency and the club. Besides being a genuinely nice guy, he was also a dynamic and involved member of the club who will be missed. At an impromptu meeting of the board, it was decided that I, as vice president, would assume the presidency for the remainder of John's term. I'll be working closely with the rest of the board and past presidents to minimize any disruptions to the ongoing club operations while I transition into my new role.

Feel free to reach out to myself or other board members if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

Nick_pederson@hotmail.com

425-647-8373

**Connect with
your fellow
members:**



[Instagram](#)



[Facebook](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Website](#)

June 6th at 7 PM!

AN NCWA FIELD TRIP

Richie Adams' Shop
1307 W. Smith Road in Ferndale



Our June 6th meeting will be a field trip in the Ferndale area at **1307 West Smith Road**, at Richie Adams' shop. It will be at the usual **7pm Start Time**. In addition to being a contractor, Richie runs a business that mills and dries mostly hardwood slabs. One of the kilns he built is totally solar!

He has a large inventory of slabs, and is going to give us a tour of his operation. Slabs, both large and small, will also be available for purchase. He will demonstrate, weather permitting, milling a slab, and talk about the process he uses to procure, handle, mill, and dry his slabs. He acquires many of his trees by offering free tree removal to certain customers.

A few notes about the field trip:

- There is plenty of parking, but carpooling is encouraged.
- You are encouraged to bring your own hearing and eye protection.
- Due to the nature of the off-site venue...
 - We will not have our standard coffee and cookie station, but you are welcome to bring a snack and/or beverage
 - We will forgo Bring and Brag and the in-person Library this month

Mark Your Calendars

JUNE 6TH GENERAL MEETING – The June 6 program will be a field trip to the shop of one of our newest members, Richie Adams, who lives in the Ferndale area and operates his own woodworking company, – Wayneson Custom Wood Working. He “rescues” nice trees that could end up as firewood and chips whenever he can, and turns them into beautiful live edge slabs. He has his own sawmill and kiln and will show us his operation. He also has a nice supply of live edge slabs that can be purchased.

JULY 11TH GENERAL MEETING – Summer is Here! **B.Y.O.B.!**

Perhaps you remember the 2019 version of **Bring Your Own Boat** night? Those in the club at that time will remember how much fun that was and the interesting conversations we had!

July 11th, at 7 PM, at the Mount Vernon Christian School we get to do it again!

This will take place in the parking lot, of course, where members can wander by, stop to admire the vessel and ask questions.

The programs committee is hoping to see boats that were displayed then and ones that might be new. If you want to bring your boat(s) or have questions, please contact Chuck Barnett at CharlesFBarnett@gmail.com.

Someone asked if this was limited to full sized boats. Hey, bring what you've built; we'd love to see it!

August 12th ANNUAL PICNIC — This year's picnic will be held in conjunction with the Northwest Woodturners Association as in years past, and will be held on the grounds of the Mount Vernon Christian School. Get out your favorite side dish or dessert recipes. The grill will be smokin' with complimentary burgers and dogs, and all the fixin's. Plus a Tool Sale and more. Stand by for additional details.

Raffle at the Tuesday Meeting!

Every member gets a FREE Ticket for a chance to win one of TWO Raffle Items...

A Wixey Digital Angle Gauge WR300

OR

A Wixey Digital Height Gauge WR200



Highlights from some recent NCWA Classes —

This past May offered a members a chance to learn to cut their own hand-cut dovetails in a class taught by member, David Shull. The class was very informative, and some darn good dovetails resulted from David's excellent instruction. There was one snafu that occurred, however...



...When it came time to use a little sawdust and glue to fill in any gaps from the hand-cutting process, the class came up short! It turns out classmate Marshall Eberhart mistakenly used the saved sawdust as creamer for his coffee! Proving once again,,"One man's sawdust is another man's coffee condiment!"

Overheard during the class... Marshall complimenting David on his excellent, fresh-roasted, full-bodied, coffee – such complex, bold, and woody overtones...reminiscent of oak and poplar, with hints of walnut!

Also this past month, George Knutson opened his well-appointed workshop on the outskirts of Bellingham, and welcomed Charley Drake to spearhead a Bandsaw Maintenance Class. Charley took apart a 14" Delta Bandsaw and replaced numerous worn out parts, and lubed and tuned the others.



Bring and Brag

Hand-crafted Garden Trugs – *Loren Steel* Garden trugs I recently finished. Both are mostly from scraps including red oak, pine, birch dowels, poplar and limbs from brush piles. The idea is to collect garden harvest stuff in them and hose them down.



They'll also fit in the kitchen sink. I used brass brads and Titebond III to (hopefully) withstand the water and finished them with beeswax and mineral oil.



Bathroom Vanity – *David Shull* Craftsman-style, White Oak Bathroom Vanity.

For me, the most useful design principle from “By Hand and by Eye”, by our last presenter, George Walker, was the use of whole-number proportions. I used this principle throughout the design process.

For example, the thickness of frame and drawer supports was around $13/16"$. (I like to plane stock to something a little thicker than $3/4"$ so it looks a little more substantial than typical stock.) This was my base dimension. The legs and door frames were $3 \times 13/16" \sim 2 \ 7/16"$, so that they would be in whole-number proportion to the base dimension. The widths of the drawers were also (approximately) multiples of the base dimension with a linear increase in height from top to bottom. Also, the widest and narrowest parts of the curved bottom stretcher are proportional to the base dimension.

To determine the widths of the cabinet doors and drawers, I had to work within some constraints. The cabinet needed to be just a little wider than the sink. And the length of the vanity was determined by the length of the wall in the bathroom (+ the size of the cupboard I plan to build next). I played with some proportions until I found a set that worked and looked good to me. Imagine that each cabinet door is 2 units wide. I built the drawers to be 3 units wide. That means the entire cabinet under the sink is 4 units wide (2,3,4 – whole-number proportions).



Koa Side Table – *Jeff Palmer* A chef/cousin asked me to make her a live edge dining room side table with a shelf suitable for displaying her large cookbooks. The project really came to life with the purchase of the koa. It took me a few months to complete in my 12' x 23' shop. There were lots of design elements to consider and it involved several techniques that were new to me. It required slab flattening, resin fill on cracks, bow tie inserts, ebonizing wood, use of a new tool (Festool Domino), as well as two different finishes. I have about twenty photos. Here are four that show the before and after. I thought they might be timely given talk of a future sale of more koa to club members.





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 for inclusion in the monthly newsletter.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the NCWA General Meeting

May 2, 2023

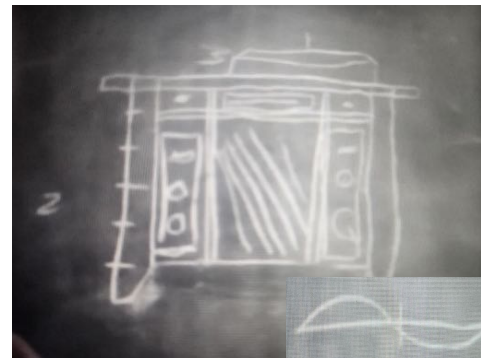
Call to order: 7:22

Presentation

George Walker, Design without Recipes

- Wrote "By Hand & Eye" and three other books with Jim Tolpin, another coming next year
- <https://www.byhandandeye.com/>
- Does most of his designing with pencil and paper or chalkboard
- Teaches timeless principles to design furniture - less about measurements and more about proportions - a handful of fundamental skills that allow you design without "recipes" and with confidence
- Proportions
 - Can use proportions to
 - Create symmetry (1:1 ratio) - takes eye to a focal point
 - Create asymmetry (2:1 ratio, etc. - major and minor) - parts that complement or harmonize with each other, more interesting than 1:1
 - There is an infinite number of asymmetrical ratios you can use, but traditionally 1:2, 2:3, 3:4, 4:5, and 3:5 were common ratios
 - Create punctuation (like 1:8 or 1:10, large major and small minor) to create transitions
 - Like borders or framing; moldings; legs that frame a case
 - Important to keep in mind what you are punctuating
- Geometry
 - A lot of furniture is based on simple square, 1:1 ratio, can stretch it to 2 squares horizontally 2:1 or vertically 1:2, or different rectangles like 2:3, etc.

- Common ratios are those listed above
- Can add curves, but often you start with a basic rectangle
- Patterns - breaking up a rectangle to make it interesting
 - "Traditional design abhors a grid" - grids are efficient but static and dead, when there are even rows and columns, your eye wants to go to the middle, and it ends up on nothing
 - To avoid a grid, divide into thirds rather than an even number of spaces
 - Traditional design often has the 2 flanking thirds narrower than the middle one, like 2:3:2 ratio
 - Divide vertically into thirds where the bottom is narrower than the top, and the middle is the widest, like 2:5:1
- Designed a record cabinet to hold turntable, speakers, using 2:3 ratio and connecting all
 - Height is 6 equal modules
 - Length is 9 equal modules
- Curves
 - Always judge a curve against a line - fast vs slow (gradual) curve
 - Can have a symmetrical curve
 - Asymmetrical curve 2:1, major and minor curve, like the on an acoustic guitar
 - Punctuating curve - big major and small minor, like if someone is turning a pot on a wheel - something is end and coming up to a transition or border
 - Can overlap curves to create interesting shape
- Questions
 - Does he use the Golden Ratio (1:1.68)? No, it's absent from all historical literature, a lot of modern literature will talk about how they think it was used a lot but there is not hard evidence, became popular in the 1900s, ratio of 3:5 is really close
 - Why does he always use whole numbers? Perhaps in the tradition, there were a lot of workers who were illiterate so needed to come up with something somewhat simple. It's easy to divide rectangles into halves, thirds, fourths by using diagonal lines
 - Do the same ratios and dimensions apply to sides/depth? A lot of traditional designs do use the same ratios, but you also have to consider function and the space you have for it. Ratios get you in the ballpark but he's not rigid about it when you're getting into the adjustments. If you need to narrow up the leg, the tradition would have you make it 1/6th narrower (or wider by 1/6th), it's enough of an



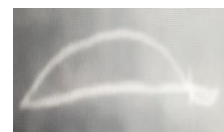
records,
elements



straight



profile



about to



adjustment that you notice but it's not drastic. Forces you to think about proportions, not of measurements, and how elements correspond to the parts around it.

- If there is an arched apron or rail at the base of a piece, do you consider the widest or narrowest part of that piece in proportion of the whole piece? He considers the whole envelope and what looks right. If the curve is too steep and makes the middle look too thin, it wouldn't look right to your eye.
- Are there differences between American, European, and Asian proportion standards? A lot of agreement between European and early American furniture and design. Some turn up in Eastern design.

Treasurer's Report

- Nothing

Committee Reports

- Education: Andrew Pellar
 - A few openings in Jim Redding's print making class on May 27 and following 5 Saturdays. Bandsaw Maintenance, May 27, 12 slots available. Email Andrew
- Shows: King Dahl
 - WoodFest attendance was great from a NCWA member perspective but not a lot of actual attendees. WoodExpo, new this year in early April, might be a better fit for next year
 - Shows Committee needs a new chair. If you're interested, reach out to King or Nick Pederson. King will stay on the committee and help whoever takes over. Great opportunity to meet club members and build relationships
- Programs: John Ellis
 - Next meeting, June 6th, 7pm field trip to a slab business run by Richie Adams, new member, in Ferndale - will do a demonstration and sell live-edge slabs to anyone who's interested
 - Bring earplugs!
- Library: Bill Pierce
 - Have two books by George and Jim in Library: "Truth to Tools" and "By Hand and Eye"
 - Will be teaching "Math for Woodworkers" again later this year

Old Business

- Upcoming tool sale: See newsletter for details

Bring and Brag

- David Shull: Vanity using George Walker's principles and whole-number proportions when designing it. Made a jig that positioned all drawer pulls so they would all be the same distance from the top of the drawer.
- Jeff Palmer: Dining room side table with a shelf - used koa slabs purchased at club sale. Top, shelf, and supporting structure made of Koa, maple bow ties, legs out of ebonized sapele, finished with Osmo on top, wipe-on poly on ebonized legs

Adjourn: 8:57pm

Minutes of the NCWA Board of Directors Meeting

May 11, 2023

Attendees:

John Ellis	Christi Brua Weaver
Nick Pederson	Brannon Mucke
Al Ashley	Kate Hirning
Andrew Pellar	Bill Pierce
King Dahl	Chuck Barnett
Peter Gantt	

Call to order: 7:04pm

Treasurer's Report - Al Ashley

- See Al's report for details
- About \$2,600 more than this time last year
- Haven't spent much in rent because we've only had a few in-person meetings
- 215 members (includes late renewals) vs 209 a year ago; 15 new members this year
- Commission from WoodFest member sales: \$28.50
- Board approved report

Committee Reports

Membership Committee - Jerry Couchman: Absent

Programs Committee - Chuck Barnett

- June trip to Ferndale, live-edge slabs - Wayneson Custom Woodworking, Richie Adams
 - June 6th, 7pm, wear outdoor shoes

- Only regular business will be important announcements, maybe 5-10 minutes max, such as tool sales, Arts Fest, etc., no refreshments
 - Will have wood for sale: will cut slabs, weather permitting; 2 types of kilns
 - Encouraging carpool (4WD is probably best) but there is room for a lot of cars
- July (will be July 11th) - TBD
- August - picnic, Woodturner's year
- Sept - TBD
- October - ZOOM, Coopering - Seth Rolland - (Is it possible for him to do in person, maybe on another topic? We have the cash for a hotel.)
- Nov - In-Person, using vacuum in Woodworking
- December - In-Person Year in review
- Other program ideas?
 - Another field trip option?
 - Manufactured homes builder in Whatcom, north of Ferndale, that builds high-end custom homes, state-of-the-art plant. Not a lot of interest in this.
 - Slab cutting north of Bellingham. Offered to have club visit his saw mill. Club preference for next spring so it's not right after the June saw mill tour
 - Some members creating canned presentations for when presenters fall through
- School may start doing both a fall and spring drama event, which would take up the time we would be meeting. Club is on the schedule for the rest of the year, John will confirm.
- Discussion about meeting more in person to be consistent. It's hard for members to keep track of how we're meeting and sign up for classes.
 - Since we can have in-person meetings, why have Zoom?
 - Some presenters are in different time zones. Members could watch them on YouTube for free, but would lose opportunity to interact
 - Wide support for in-person as much as possible. Suggestion that Programs committee does its best to find in-person presenters and Zoom only necessary

Library Committee - Bill Pierce: No news

Shows Committee - King Dahl

- Need a new chair ASAP before planning for Anacortes Arts Festival
- Moderate time commitment
- Involves being liaison with show organizer, filling out paperwork, getting committee members to help organize volunteers

Education Committee - Andrew Pellar

- Trying to come up with different types of classes, including less hands-on, to get more teachers - ideally would have 40 teachers
 - “Building Better Boxes” - hopes to get people who have taken Jerry’s box-making class and ready to take it to the next level, challenge to bring in new type of box. Class will probably be in late June, hosted at Barry Tonkin’s shop.
 - Has gotten a response to club-wide email for bandsaw class
 - 2 spots remaining for print class

Toys for Tots - John Braun

- John is absent but reported nothing major to John Ellis
- Thinking about once a month meetups where parts are made, people take home the parts and assemble the toys on their own

Old Business

Report on Woodfest

- Had a great showing of volunteers at WoodFest booth, but not a lot of attendees
 - Communication with organizer wasn’t great, other vendors agree
 - Chamber director was temporary for much of the time during organizing; she was given the job in February, so not a lot of time for her to organize
 - Maybe time of year could change so it’s not competing with Tulip Fest?
 - Used to do a Christmas show in La Conner years ago
 - Did NCWA start WoodFest? If so, could we take it back?

Wood Expo

- WoodExpo is possible alternate show, organized by [Skagit Wood Network](#)
- Kate and Brannon attended WoodExpo with Wood Turners
 - There is a fee to have a booth but the Wood Turners negotiated no fee because they were demonstrating all day and were a big draw
 - Communication with event coordinator was better than WoodFest, particularly closer to the event
 - Had all day Friday to set up and had a barbeque for all vendors to meet
 - \$7 entry fee for attendees
 - Sunday afternoon auction went to a Hospice of the Northwest Foundation
 - 2 buildings filled with vendors, main arena had demonstrations
 - Most vendors were wood-related
 - Seems like there were as many attendees per hour as WoodFest had all day, probably more, someone was at the Wood Turners booth constantly
 - Sold almost \$600 of stuff, but not the expensive items
 - A lot of people were there to buy slabs

- Mainly the people were there to buy wood, not really there to buy art. Don't expect to sell high-end stuff.
 - Promoted the club, gave out a lot of brochures and got new members
- Things that draw kids to the booth would be most impactful
 - Long demonstrations might not work as well. Wood turning is fast and you don't have to stay long to get the whole picture
- Brannon asked organizer about showcasing local high school woodshops. Organizer wanted to do that this year but didn't get a lot of response from schools. Would like to try again next year
- Sascha attended WoodExpo and sent her opinion: all positive, thinks club would benefit
- Discussion on whether to continue with WoodFest or try WoodExpo tabled until late this year/early next year when we have to make the decision

Tool Sale Progress

- Al is putting together inventory list and will send that out
- Thinking sale will be mid-June but date is not set yet

Hats

- George received 50 hats with the old logo, has reached out to manufacturer

New Business

Backup person(s) for club-wide emails

- Al is only person, he maintains the list, but would need someone for when he's out
- John and Christi are OK with being backups
- Nick suggests shared Google or OneDrive that the whole board has access to with the roster and other documents. Nick will look into creating this

WoodFest Award

- Abby Russel, Mount Vernon Christian School, was presented with the block plane for most outstanding WoodFest project

Adjourn: 8:34pm

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

E & E Lumber

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.

NCWA 2023 Board of Directors:

President – Nick Pederson

Immediate Past President – Greg Koenker

Vice President – To be announced soon

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

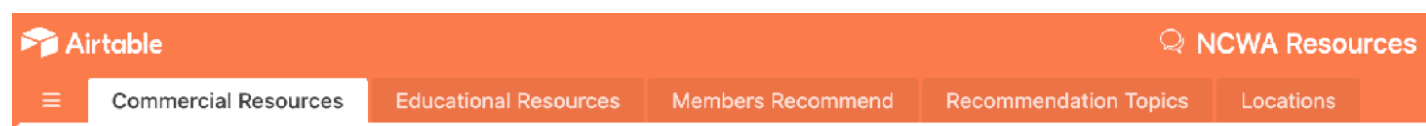
Webmaster – Michael Titus

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.