



Newsletter

June General Meeting

WILL NOT take place at the Mt. Vernon Christian School

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Check out the classes
your club has to offer

JUNE PRESENTATION

Details for the
Grizzly Tour

BRING AND BRAG

Member projects
shared in May

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

President's Message...

June is upon us, how time flies. I think next month Costco will have their x-mas trees up ! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone next week at Grizzly. It will be an exciting trip and event. A quick kudos to the programs group for the fantastic programs this year and every year, frankly. They do a great job of showcasing the club's varied talents, skills, and passions. While also bringing in diversified outside voices and widening our own knowledge.

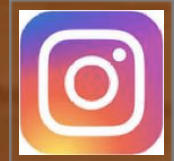
Also, a special note of thanks to Andrew and the team for all the hard work behind the scenes building new opportunities for us in education.

Enjoy the summer ahead and have a great time in the shop.

Reminder, the July 1st in-person membership meeting is the due date for the president's Challenge "Inspiration." I have seen some great pieces over the last couple of months, all worthy of winning, so it should be a good contest!

– Barry Tonkin, President

Connect with
your fellow
members:



Instagram



Facebook



YouTube



Website

**REMINDER —
NO IN-PERSON MEETING
at the Mount Vernon Christian School
THIS MONTH
INSTEAD...**



Members who have made reservations for the **June 3 Grizzly Tour**, we will be meeting at the

Grizzly Industrial showroom at 1821 Valencia Avenue in Bellingham.

Coffee and donuts with a meet and greet will start at 9 a.m. and the facility tour and equipment demonstrations will begin at 9:30.

With 80 members registered for the tour, we would recommend carpooling if you can. Please be sure to wear your NCWA name tags and hats.

Any questions can be directed to Earl Kessler at earl@earlkessler.com or 360-296-6995 - cell/text.

This is a golden opportunity to peek behind the scenes at the Grizzly Industrial headquarters in Bellingham. Grizzly is known for quality and affordable machinery and accessories for woodworking and metalworking. The tour will include:

- CNC demonstration (brand new area that will be completed in time for this visit)
- Tour of Grizzly, including warehouses, photo studio, videography studio, QA area, office
- Metalworking demonstration on lathe and/or mill

In addition, Grizzly will be holding its annual Dads and Grads Sale in their retail store so should you decide to make a purchase, this will be an opportunity to take advantage of sale prices.

The tour will include a catered lunch and a gift for each attendee.

Any members that can take photos at Grizzly Tools on June 3rd are asked to send some photos to Mark Kraus (mark.kraus@outlook.com) for inclusion in next month's newsletter.

May Meeting Recap:

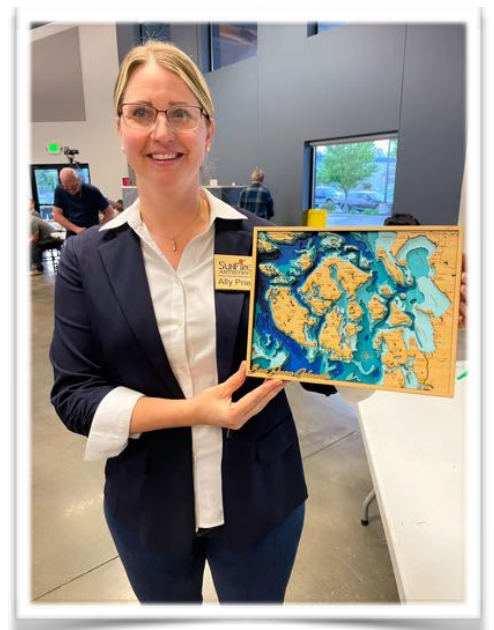
Three presenters described advanced technology that they utilize as part of their woodworking.

Greg Koenker described his experience using two different CNC machines: OneFinity CNC and the Shaper Origin. Each has its advantages and uses, which makes it possible to machine shapes with high precision.



Michael Kessler spoke about his interest with 3D printing machines and the evolution of this technology over the years. His additive technique is capable of building complex shapes such as the gyroscope that he showed.

Alyssa Pries of Sunfire Artistry talked about her use of lasers to cut and engrave wood and other materials in her business. She started by decorating kitchen spoons by hand before utilizing a laser system to greatly increase the volume and versatility of her products.



Monthly Newsletter Inputs by Members If any member has an input that they would like to share in the monthly newsletter, such as tools / wood for sale, an upcoming woodworking event or some other pertinent woodworking news, please send to Mark Kraus (mark.kraus@outlook.com) by the last Monday of the month for inclusion in the next NCWA newsletter

Bring and Brag

- Barry Tonkin-chair made of sapele from a class which required multiple jigs



- Chet Noll-collection of butterflies and hummingbirds made from a wide range of woods(rosewood, pink ivory, purpleheart, cherry, satinwood, boxwood, teak, ebony and walnut) using a process he developed for piecing them together

- David Schull-David built a custom enclosure to safely house a laser engraver, with a safety window and a vent for fumes





- Jerry Couchman and Jim Hickey-Jerry completed a cherry and maple table that Jim Hickey started before he passed away

- Loren Steel-Pine box with carved top lid



- Randy Pederson-Dice cup turned from locust wood felled on Camano Island



- Scott Thomas-Rocket made from multiple woods



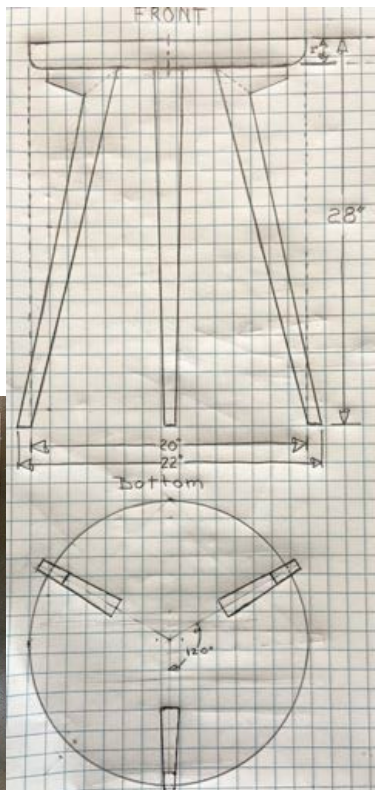
Education Committee

Submitted by Andrew Pellar – Typically, people are enjoying the weather outside of their shops as the weather warms. However, as the club has grown, we will try to schedule classes for July. The new Shop Talk format is being well received. It's a great way to get to know some of our members, learn a thing or two, and eat some cookies.

SHOP TALKS:

BOB LAUFENBERG - Epoxy Table (Wednesday, June 11 from 10-Noon)

Bob will discuss the design and construction of his round epoxy table he shared at Bring and Brag recently. Aspects of the discussion will include: layout and design, epoxy mold preparation and pouring, leg design, jigs, construction, and assembly, and finishing choices and application. Questions and discussion regarding any aspects of this project or others will be welcome. Coffee and cookies will be provided. Bob is located at 151 Ridgeview Ct. on Camano Island. To attend, please RSVP to Bob at rslaufenberg@gmail.com



MARK KRAUS - Dresser Project (Wednesday, June 25 from 10-Noon)

Mark is currently working on a bedroom dresser in the same design style as two other pieces that were built by Gary Kinion years ago. Mark will discuss designing and making a smaller version of the original. These pieces (shown in the photos) are 46" and 55" tall. The piece Mark is designing and making is 28" tall with three drawers. Glad to talk about that piece or any other woodworking topics. Coffee/cookies to be provided. Mark is located at 341 Tillicum Way, Camano Island. To attend, please RSVP to Mark at mark.kraus@outlook.com



REGULAR CLASSES:

Jointer Maintenance - 06/14/25 - full

Build a wooden Hand Plane - 06/21/25 - full

RECENT CLASSES:

Submitted by David Shull – On a rainy Saturday morning, on the eve of the 45th anniversary of the eruption of Mt. St. Helens, Parker Abercrombie, Scott and Dylan Thomas, Keitlyn Watson, and Wes Taylor met at David Shull's shop armed with dull, bent, and rusty saws. Some of the saws they left with were still a little rusty, but they were all straight and much sharper. The intrepid students began the class by assembling a saw vise from a kit provided by the instructor. They then examined their saws. Two were bent. The instructor demonstrated how to straighten a bent saw. The saws were straightened. After a brief introduction on how to joint, shape, set and sharpen a saw, The students clamped their handsaws into their newly assembled saw vises and jointed and



sharpened their saws. At the end of class all saws were tested against David's sharpened saws. They performed admirably.

No blood was spilled during the sharpening process. No coffee cups were contaminated with saw dust. And no local volcanoes erupted. It was a good way to spend a rainy Saturday morning.

Tune Up and Use a New Block Plane was recently hosted at Nick's shop in Anacortes. Starting with an unboxing of a new block plane, the crew, led by Andrew and ably assisted by Don and Bob, brought their blades to mirror polish. The blades were sharper than sharp, cut you once bleed you twice sharp, end grain shaving sharp. Then the fun began as we learned to tune up and use the plane. And use it they did. Soon the shavings were flying! End grain, face grain, against the grain, it did not matter. Ribbon Sapele and figured maple were tamed. Y'all done good!



FUTURE CLASSES:

Fall is starting to fill up. Jerry's ever-popular Box making extravaganza returns in November. The Design Symposium will once again be held in Nov/Dec. Others are in the works but no dates as of yet. Stay tuned.

HELP!

We strive to do our best and bring great classes to the masses; but we are few and you are many! Please consider joining us to continue doing what we do. Please contact me at andf32plr@yahoo.com to help out. - Andrew Pellar, Education

In Memoriam



Submitted by Samantha Chang –

An obituary for longtime NCWA member Cec Braeden is in the Skagit Valley Herald. Many members remember his beautiful rocking chairs, which were sold at the Wood Merchant in La Conner.

<https://www.evanschapel.com/obituary/cec-braeden>

Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2025

**Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association
Business Meeting**

President: Barry Tonkin

Vice President: Earl Kessler

Call to order: 7:01

Approximately 75 members in attendance

Announcements

- Classes, Andrew Pellar: sign up sheets - Build a hand plane, tune up a hand plane, jointer maintenance, sharpening a hand saw; upcoming shop talks with Jim Bucknell, Dana Wolf, Mark Kraus, Bob Laufenberg
 - Also looking for one or two more people to help with Education Committee
- Library - some upcoming meetings won't be at the school, so please consider when you can return your library loans

- Tool Sale on Saturday May 31, Jerry Couchman - Phil Humphries is moving to Seattle, lots of really good stuff, table saw, Veritas hand tools, Grizzly jointer with helical cutterhead, bandsaw, lots of little things and wood too. Sale list and pictures will go out by email in about 2 weeks. Lake Padden area of Bellingham
- Grizzly tour sign up - June 3 - must RSVP beforehand; tour is in place of regular monthly meeting

New Members

- New member: Joe Jowdy, Greg Jacobs, Chet Noll, Dick Raymond (expert scroll sawer), Charlotte Tucker, Ryan, Cyndi Ottoway, Jason LLoyd
- Guest - Bryn Gier

Bring and Brag

- Barry Tonkin - Sapele chair made in Process and Jigs class with George Knutson to help him get ready for teaching a class in Connecticut with Darrell Peart, not finished yet
- Chet Noll - Butterflies and hummingbirds (actual species) pieced together using several types of wood including rosewood, purpleheart, satinwood, cherry, boxwood, teak, walnut, ebony; replica of an 18th century harpsichord made of satinwood, African mahogany, and rosewood, instrument is 9-feet long and he finished it yesterday - took about 1200 hours
- Scott Thomas - Rocket made up of a lot of scrap walnut, maple, and birch, dowel in the center
- David Shull - Laser engraver in a box that he built made of plywood and a panel that absorbs light so it's safe to look at the laser without glasses, air pump and fan to blow out smoke to not interfere with laser
- Randy Pedersen - Dice cup for dice games, black locust finished with tung oil
- Loren Steel - An improved version of his Oreo box, if it works out, he'll make another for his friend's birthday
- Jim Hickey and Jerry Couchman - Cherry, ebonized red oak, and maple veneer side table. Jim started the table three years ago shortly before his cancer diagnosis; Jerry finished the table by ebonizing the lower shelf, adding veneer to the top, and finishing with Livos oil; also finished another project, a cabinet for Jim's Sprinter van

President's Challenge

- Due in July! Something you built after you were inspired by something from the NCWA library, something from a magazine, anything! Just bring what you were inspired by.

Raffle

- Narex 18 oz carving mallet - Alyssa Pries

Presentation

Gadgets for Geeks

- Michael Kessler - 3D Printing
 - Has been working with 3D printers for more than 15 years
 - Used 3D printing for:
 - Ukulele sound hole templates
 - Jig for making dovetails in ukulele neck
 - French cleat mounts for hanging tools
 - Dust collection adapter (including with a squishy material to allow for more leeway in precision)
 - Squishy clamp handle
 - Toy gyroscope (using joints inside of other joints)
 - Tricycle pedal to replace a broken pedal
- Alyssa Pries - Sunfire Artistry - Laser Engraving
 - Started with wood burning with a hand burner on wood spoons but moved to engraving to expand her business (started in 2015)
 - Uses Epilog Laser Mini machine - small commercial-grade laser, cost about \$19,000 when she bought it several years ago (smaller versions of the Epilog are not compatible with Apple)
 - Came with software for basic shapes
 - Will engrave and cut, and can rotate pieces while it engraves
 - Engraves bar glasses for several businesses in Arlington
 - Tips for business
 - Choose what medium you want to work with
 - Used to draw all of her artwork by hand but it doesn't always scan properly so she learned computer design - software program she uses is [CorelDRAW](#)
 - Stick to a theme so you're easily identifiable. She sticks mainly to:
 - 3D layered maps
 - Etching on glass and acrylic
 - Engraving her art on wood spoons and cutting boards
 - Wood and slate coasters
 - Is it worth selling? Profit margin versus time - got her spoon burning down from 15 minutes to 15 seconds and the designs got more complex with use of laser engraver
- Greg Koenker - CNC Machine
 - Shaper Origin handheld CNC router

- Corrects you and keeps you on the path you want
- For the people who think using a CNC in woodworking is cheating
- OneFinity Woodworker CNC
 - 32"x32" bed
 - You load the file, switch router bits, and hit a button, really helps with things you have to make a lot of

	Shaper Origin	Onefinity
User Involvement	Shaper does NOTHING without the user being involved	Onefinity can run with the user only having to switch router bits as needed
Programmable Z Axis (ability to go up and down to various depths)	Only uses the Z axis for zeroing the bit (a user operation)	Can make full use of the Z-axis (think 3D carving)
GCode - on standard CNC routers, you can create your design and then select each tool path (or group of tool paths) and then run them through a post processor compatible with your specific machine. That process creates GCode, the actual instructions that your machine's controller uses. Club name badges took more than 15,000 lines of GCode.	Does not require you to go through a post processor so you can make design changes on the fly	
Cost	\$2,899 (reconditioned with 1-year warranty is \$1,899) Work Station is \$495	8 models from \$1,887-\$3,974 plus display, and either spindle or Makita palm router and any extras you may want
Recommendations	Great for one-offs and joinery Works better for smaller things	Better if you make a lot of the same thing Better for larger things

- Origin Projects:
 - Inlay fish - precision to cut thousands of an inch so you can creep up on the cut until inlay plug fits perfectly
 - Other inlay designs
 - 6-sided mortise and tenon - was able to do it on the machine without any CAD program
 - Box with knapp joints (first made in 1880-1905) with file he designed himself
 - Uses [Affinity Designer](#)
 - Tool doesn't allow you to go outside of your design line

- Onefinity Project:
 - Set of 6 bread cutting boards
 - Uses [Vectric VCarve Pro](#)
 - Cut the pieces in several passes so it's 3D, precision to hundredths of an inch

April 17, 2024

**Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association
Board Meeting**

Attendees: Barry Tonkin, Earl Kessler, Al Ashley, George Knutson, Christi Brua Weaver, Andrew Pellar, Don Carlson, Bill Pierce, Don Mason, King Dahl, Mike Titus, Jerry Couchman, John Braun, Mark Kraus

Call to order: 7:07pm

Survey

- Earl, Don, and Mark will help Barry with survey
- Mike can help finalize

Treasurer's Report - Al

- See Al's report for details
- About \$1,00 less in the bank than at this time last year,
- 250 members - (242 last year); 18 new members this year (30 last year)
- Biggest expenses: General Liability Insurance policy renewal, school rental, presenter fee

Programs - Earl

- Lynden Door - Earl and Craig toured the Technic Training Center which is a shop program for school-age youth; would be interested in hosting a future tour for the club. Would also welcome members as volunteers who want to help with educational component. Shop instructors have been offered honorary membership.
 - Mark brought up idea of having guild facility; will gauge membership interest in the upcoming survey before pursuing further
- Grizzly tour: June 3 - 9am meeting time, tour begins at 8:30, lunch afterwards; 80 people have signed up and registration is closed - wear your nametag and hats!
- July: Build a cane fishing rod
- August: picnic - booked a new location with Wood Turners
- September and October: in talks
- November: building a workbench; other ideas under consideration
- December: in talks for something a little more festive than recent years

Membership - Jerry

- A few new members this month and a returning member

Tool Sale - Jerry

- Phil Humphries tool sale - May 31 - Finishing up inventorying tools tomorrow and should have the spreadsheets ready to go in the next few days; many items will be available, including some high-value items
- Another sale happening in Snohomish County - email will go out in the next few days

Library - Bill

- Made \$20 during May sale; library has a budget to purchase new materials
- Experiment going back to manual check in/out and got no complaints - may go back to that for circulation for the time being

New Website Discussion - Mike

- Will have to use a password service because of multifactor identification requirements - One Password family plan will count \$50/year
- Will be for email, domain register, Mail Gun, and other accounts related to the website and web hosting account
- Wood Turners uses ClubExpress

Toys Program - John

- Skagit group has been working at Val's every other week
- New toys program name and logo has been finalized and banner is in the works

Newsletter - King

- No updates
- King is resigning from newsletter at the end of the year; looking for someone to take over

Anacortes Arts Fest - King and Jerry

- Organizers are planning on having artist vendors on the first block between Commercial and where we were last year, so that might be enough to help draw visitors

Education - Andrew

- Shop Talks - has had luck getting people to host, social aspect could be helpful in integrating new members into the club
- Classes - a few upcoming classes, working on organizing fall classes but it's a little far out for confirming dates with teachers
- Committee needs an administrative backup to help with coordinating and organizing shop talks
- Apprenticeship program: Build a handplane class and hopefully other classes

Other Business

- Former club member Cecil Braedon passed away on May 4 - his tool bench was featured in an issue of Fine Woodworking

Adjourn: 8:34 pm

Next Board Meeting: May 15, 2025

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

Stockton's Paints in Bellingham and Mount Vernon

Mt. Vernon Building Center

Sherwin-Williams Paint

EAST –

E & E Lumber

SPECIALTY –

Edensaw Woods

FASTCAP

Klingspor Woodworking Shop

Rockler (in store only in Seattle and Northgate)

TrueTrac (use discount code WWGuild10)

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 2025 Board of Directors:

President – Barry Tonkin

Vice President – Earl Kessler

Secretary – Christi Brua Weaver

Treasurer – Al Ashley

Members at Large – Don Mason, George Knutson, Mark Kraus, Don Carlson

Committee Chairs:

Programs Committee – Craig Edwards

Education – Andrew Pellar

Shows – King Dahl/Jerry Couchman

Toys for Tots – John Braun

Newsletter – King Dahl

Library – Bill Pierce

Membership – Jerry Couchman

Shop Tours – TBA

Webmaster – Michael Titus

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.