



# Newsletter

**Due to NCWA's participation in The Anacortes Arts Festival,  
there will not be an August meeting.**

## BRING & BRAG

Photo Recap of July's  
Projects

## ANACORTES ARTS FESTIVAL

Click for info

## ANNUAL PICNIC

Click for Details on  
this year's picnic and  
tool sale

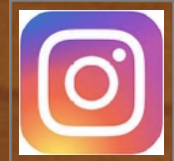
*Click the underlined title in the boxes above to be taken directly to that section of the newsletter.*

## **President's Message...**

Hi all, It's Earl. I am proud to be part of the group and revving up for my tenure as next year's president by writing this message for the August newsletter. Your board of directors has been busy with upgrading the future of our club. 2026 should prove to be a glorious year and I'm hoping all of you will consider making small contributions of your talents to our group. It may be as simple as helping with folding chairs and tables at our meetings to sharing your expertise in some aspect of woodworking. Please say yes when one of our committee members asks for your help. I always found I learn more when I teach others.

**Software Update** In our most recent Board of directors meeting, we discussed our transition to Club Express, a comprehensive multi-level club management program that we will be transitioning into in September. It will manage our dues, club roster, newsletter and mailing broadcasts and make it easier to do everything from website management to calendars and appointment reminders. As with any new software, we will probably have a pothole or two during our transition period, but we expect once we are comfortable with it, our workload will be greatly reduced and run with higher efficiency.

**Connect with  
your fellow  
members:**



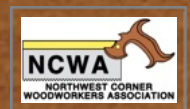
Instagram



Facebook



YouTube



Website

**Assistance** That brings me to our next need and my sincere hope that we can find a few talented individuals who would be willing to step up and help us with a few upcoming positions that need to be filled. We need a few computer savvy people who are able to dedicate 2 to 3 hours a month in learning and helping to run our new Club Express program. I understand it is user friendly and we have training and support from our purveyor. Please let Barry or me know if you are willing and able to step in and give us a hand.

**Club Picnic** The August meeting will be our annual joint club picnic hosted by North Corner Woodturners Association on **August 16th** at Riverfront Park in Sedro-Wooley, starting at 1 pm, with food service starting at 2 pm. It's potluck, so please plan on bringing a dish that will serve 6 to 10 people of your favorite picnic food. Bring your own beverage, portable chair or blanket, umbrella or shade and a healthy appetite. There will be a silent auction of tools and wood by the woodturners. Bring cash or checks for person to person sales if you are the successful bidder.

**WinterFest** The upcoming WinterFest celebration will be our regular December 2 meeting. Our celebration will be held at the new Mount Vernon Commons Library convention center. We will have a sack raffle of lots of great items that woodworkers would be happy to own. The club will be providing light hors d'oeuvres and deserts. The gem of the evening will be a highly prized woodworking accessory to be auctioned off at the end of the evening. We will have a promotional brochure emailed to us in coming weeks with additional details. Please stay tuned.  
will want to attend.

– Earl Kessler, Vice President, and incoming 2026 President



## ANACORTES ARTS FESTIVAL AUGUST 1-3

All members are encouraged to visit the NCWA booth at the corner of 7th St and R Ave in Anacortes. We will be located between the Wood Turner's booth and the Depot Gallery on R Ave.

**Hours are 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. each day.**

There will be displays of class projects, member-created items, and even projects for sale. Our Kids Korral will include Build-a-Car and Jack McKee's wonderful Builder Boards. Additionally, you'll get a chance to view live demonstrations by our members and a chance to ride the club Shave Horse with a drawknife or a spokeshave! Joan Mann will be demonstrating Scroll Saw Intarsia all three days.

Other demonstrations include:



## DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY

	Bench 1	Bench 2
10AM-12PM	Sharpening Chisels	Festool Domino Joinery
12PM-2PM	Constructing and Tuning a Marimba	Decorative Inlays
2PM-4PM	Restoring a Hand Plane	Picture Frames

### SATURDAY

	Bench 1	Bench 2
10AM-12PM	Constructing and Tuning a Marimba	Decorative Inlays
12PM-2PM	Narrow Band Looms	
2PM-4PM	Splitting Wood with a Froe	Shaping Wood with a Spoke Shave

### SUNDAY

	Bench 1	Bench 2
10AM-12PM	Narrow Band Looms	Decorative Inlays
12PM-2PM	Joinery	Sharpening
2PM-4PM	Sharpening a Hand Saw	Restoring a Hand Plane

If you plan to bring items for display/sale, please contact Jerry Couchman at [sofa01@hotmail.com](mailto:sofa01@hotmail.com), or (360) 255-1984.

If you want to display items, but won't be able to bring them to our booth, contact King Dahl at [kingdahl1@gmail.com](mailto:kingdahl1@gmail.com) or (702) 596-9727.

***All display and sales items will be locked in our trailer each night.***



## Annual Club Picnic

**NCWA/NWWWT Picnic & Auction  
August 16, 1 PM**

Our annual joint picnic with Northwest Washington Wood Turners will be on August 16th at the large picnic shelter in Riverfront Park, Sedro-Woolley.

This year, the Turners are hosting and will grill burgers, hot dogs, and brats and provide buns, condiments, and non-alcoholic beverages. **Members are encouraged to bring potluck side dishes, salads, chips, or desserts.** Please consider bringing your own plates and cutlery to minimize trash generated. Napkins are provided by the Turners.

We will gather at 1 p.m. and serve food at 2 p.m.

Bring tools and wood that you would like added to the silent auction to sell to fellow woodworkers and turners. The Silent Auction will close at 4 p.m., so also bring cash or checks for payment if you are the final bidder on any items.

### **Silent Auction at the Picnic**

For those of you who have never participated in a silent auction, the rules are pretty simple. The seller displays the item for sale with a sales sheet that lists the item, the seller's description of the item, condition (e.g. new; works good; needs repair; etc.), the seller's name, and the minimum allowable bid, if the seller wishes to state one. Anyone interested in buying the item writes down the amount they wish to bid for the item and their name. Anyone else interested in the item can overbid by writing their bid amount and their name on the sheet. Normally, bids would advance by at least 10% over the previous highest bid. Check back often to see if you are still the highest bidder. The highest bidder at the sale cutoff time wins the item, if their bid exceeds the stated minimum bid. The buyer should then pay the seller for the item and take possession. Bring items you wish to sell along with the silent auction bid sheet. Also, bring money and/or a checkbook. You never know what might show up for sale!

## Silent Auction Bid Sheet Example

Place your bid on the sheet below. Check back periodically to see if you are still the highest bidder. If not, bid again! **Bids should advance by at least 10%.**

Auction ends around 4 p.m. by an announcement.

Item \_\_\_\_\_ Condition \_\_\_\_\_

Seller \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum bid \_\_\_\_\_

Bid Amount      Bidder's Name

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:** There is a 27-space RV park in the park if you are interested in camping for the night. Reservations can be made with the city of Sedro-Woolley on their website. (<https://secure.rec1.com/WA/city-of-sedro-woolley-wa/catalog>)

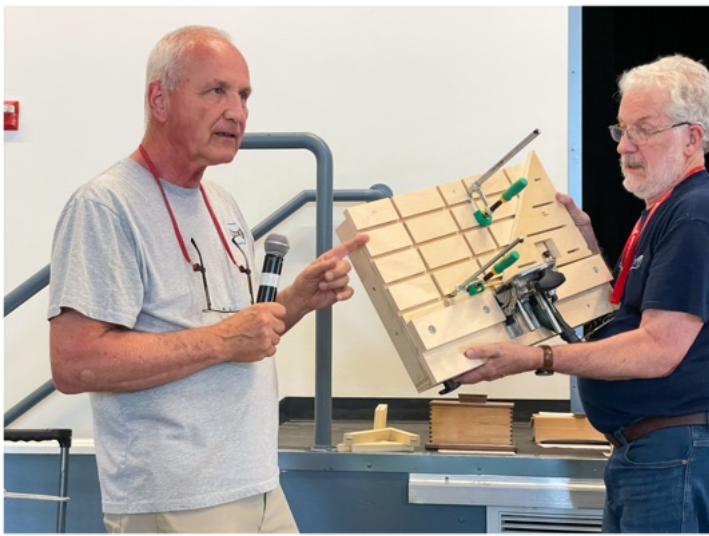


# Bring & Brag Photo Recap

## July 2, 2025













## Education Committee

*Submitted by Andrew Pellar –*

August is a quiet month for the club. I hope members participate in the Anacortes Art Festival. It's a great way to meet your fellow members, promote the club, and learn a thing or two while having fun. Please contact King Dahl or Jerry Couchman to help. And don't forget the picnic.

For the benefit of our newer members, a word about the club's Education program. We offer classes at the shops of your fellow members. They generously donate their time and knowledge for you. Sign-up sheets are available at the meetings. If a class does not fill at the meeting, it will then be offered via email to the membership. We would love to offer more classes. The bottleneck is teachers. We are slowly growing the teaching pool with apprentices that have previously taken the class. This is a great way to up your game. Consider helping us help you.

In addition to the formal classes, we also offer Shop Talks. These are informal meetings where a host will discuss their work. The purpose is to get to know fellow members, learn about what they do in a low-pressure social setting. It's a chance to ask questions and learn from the host and other attendees. Shop Talk events are announced in the newsletter. People wanting to attend will RSVP directly to the host. This is a great way to get involved. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to share your enthusiasm for woodworking.

Finally, we can use some help on the committee. Many hands lighten the load. Please consider helping out in some aspect; you and the club will be better for it.

If you have any questions, concerns, or want to help, contact me at [andf32plr@yahoo.com](mailto:andf32plr@yahoo.com).

- Andrew Pellar

Upcoming Classes:

September 13, 2025: Sharpen and Tune Up a New Block Plane

September 27, 2025: Build a 12-sided Waste Basket - Bevels Galore!

Classes Under Development - Box Making, Router Tables, Table Saw Usage

December - The Design Symposium returns with a new slate of presenters. Big and better, we hope. And Jerry's Box Making extravaganza returns too.



## NCWA Library: We take requests.

– Submitted by Bill Pierce and the NCWA Library Committee

Since there is no in-person meeting in August due to the club's participation in the Anacortes Arts Festival, there will not be on-site Library services this month.



## Community Bulletin Board

*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 a write up to Mark Kraus ([mark.kraus@outlook.com](mailto:mark.kraus@outlook.com)) by the last Monday of the month for inclusion in the next NCWA newsletter.*

# Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2025

## Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association Business Meeting

President: Barry Tonkin

Vice President: Earl Kessler

Call to order: 7:00

Approximately 65 members in attendance

### Announcements

- Book sale - \$1, \$3, \$5
- Anacortes Arts Festival August 1-3 - **NEED VOLUNTEERS!** Greeters, demonstrators, toy making, Builder Boards supervisor - contact Jerry Couchman if you'd like to volunteer or have display/sale items.
  - We have enough volunteers for set up but need a few more for breakdown
- Jet 16/32 drum sander, \$700 - if you're interested, contact Jerry Couchman for a chance to win the opportunity to purchase it. See newsletter for details.
- Earl gave a brief Grizzly tour recap; Grizzly will now give club members a 5% discount.
- Brusso Hinges - solid brass hinges - if the club has an order large enough, we may be able to get a discount. If you're interested in purchasing Brusso solid brass hinges, reach out to Andrew Pellar.
- Classes available for sign-up:
  - Build a 12-sided trash can
  - Sharpen and tune up a new hand plane
  - Box making classes in the works
- Tacoma Screw may be interested in offering the club members a discount - Jerry will reach out to them.

### New Members

- New members: Bonnie Ingram, Marysville - found us at Wood Expo; Abe Nurkiewicz, Bellingham - found us at Wood Expo.

### Raffle

- 5x12" bar clamps - Dylan Thomas
- 3.5x12" bar clamps - Dave McCandless

### Bring and Brag



- Earl Kessler - walnut and maple box made with a box joint jig
- Christi Brua Weaver - block plane made in Dave Lindenbaum's class, maple, purpleheart, and cherry; finished with walnut oil and wax
- Joan Mann - intarsia wolves, walnut and eastern maple, blue pine and eastern maple

### **President's Challenge**

- Loren Steel - Oreo box versions 1, 2, 3, and 4; maple, purple heart, walnut, pine
- Greg Koenker Festool Domino jig inspired by a YouTube video; Woodpecker and Lee Valley made versions
- Roy Collison - Maple excavators with moving parts, made from plans in a Wood magazine article
- Jim Bucknell - jatoba and alder box modeled after a cardboard box mockup his wife designed.
- Charlotte Tucker - walnut and eastern maple panda inspired by Joan Mann's intarsia, and Richard Raymond helped her make a 1" 3D bunny.
- John Braun - alder and cherry quilt rack inspired by a Wood magazine article, bent wood lamination.
- Dana Wolf - inspired by a print by MC Escher, made of a dodecahedron out of thin plates with beveled edges, also made one inspired by a COVID-19 virus and other shapes - most made out of quarter-inch birch, also padouk and one acrylic; also made a tilted router box.
- Dave Shull - sapele and ebony end table inspired by a design by Darrell Peart and a presentation by George Knutson, finished with Osmo, used a piece of ebony he won at a previous club meeting.
- Tim Shannon - bag to store a fishing rod, hexagonal cedar tube to protect it, and then another bag to protect the tube.
- Bill Keeler - 6'8" 3-weight bamboo fly rod, "the fairy," inspired by Doug Moore when he was preparing to teach today's class; bamboo (13 coats of gun Tru oil) and curly maple (5 coats of boat varnish).

Runner Up - Loren Steel's Oreo boxes.

Winner - David Shull's end table.

### **Presentation**

#### **Bamboo Fly Rod - Doug Moore**

- Bamboo is flexible and strong, fiberglass has generally replaced it.
- Tonkin culms "Tea Stick Bamboo" grow singly, easy to cultivate and harvest, dense power cells, less pith, well-spaced nodes, making it superior for rods - best pieces of bamboo are selected for rods.

- Culms are 12-feet long, every culm is unique, different wall thicknesses, generally can get 1.5 rods per culm but you have to select the right culm for the rod you want to make.
- Nodes need to be filed down first, then flame the bamboo culm to drive out moisture, making it harder (but more brittle) and darkens the color.
- Split culm into strips and remove dams at the nodes (mark the culm so you know what order to put the strips) - can be anywhere from 3-14 sided but 6-sided is most popular; it's very straight-grained so generally splits straight but you have to be careful at the node.
- Stagger nodes (weak spot), cut strips to length so the nodes are at different spots on the rod.
- Prep rectangular strips, then heat and straighten the strips (nodes generally have a kink), and use a 2-way vice to press at the node to straighten and flatten the heated node.
- Mill rectangular strips into triangular shapes, bind for heat treating (20 min at 350 degrees), the binding helps them stay straight and darkens the color.
- Scrape off outer surface "enamel" after baking and then make a final pass over the nodes.
- Taper - they get narrower further down the rod but still need to join perfectly to the strips beside it.
- Planing form - 2 strips of metal with a v-groove in the middle that can be adjusted to get the width/taper you want, plane off the top or use a specialized mill machine to mill the tapered strips.
- Hollowing a rod - take off the apex of the strip's pith - lighter weight but still strong.
- Glue-up - Unibond 800 glue - lay out strips and tape them, put glue on the inside and then roll up and secure with binding using a binding machine with binding going in both directions (if you only bound in one direction, you would have a spiral rod). He marks strips with black so he can line up the black to ensure that his strips are oriented correctly.
- Curing - hang the rods to dry and provide heat.
- Cut rod sections to length, turn butt section for reel seat.
- Glue ferrules - Super-Z style ferrule - uses ferrule glue that you heat (for putting arrow tips on arrows).
- Make a cork handle - comes in ½" rings that you glue up and then turn on a lathe.
- Add a reel seat and then finish; types of finish - Tru-oil, Epifanes.
- Finishing touches - Thread wraps on guides.
- How much do rods go for? \$300-400 for a good rod, but up to \$4,000 for a brand name.
- Doug has made several jigs, but many of the tools are commercially available but can be hard to source.

Adjourn: 9:03 p.m.

Next Meeting: Sept. 2, 2025

**July 17, 2025**

# **Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association**

## **Board of Directors Meeting**

### **Attendees**

Barry Tonkin, Earl Kessler, Christi Brua Weaver, Jerry Couchman, King Dahl, John Braun, Don Carlson, George Knutson, Peter Gantt, Bill Pierc, Mike Titus

Call to order: 7:01 p.m.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- See Al's report for details.
- About \$1,900 less in the bank than at this time last year.
  - About \$1,000 spent for Club Express set up.
- 255 members - (250 last year); 23 new members this year (37 last year).

### **Programs - Peter Gantt**

- August 16: picnic being organized by Turner's membership chairman, at a park in Sedro-Woolley.
- September and October: in talks.
- November: building a workbench.
- December: Winterfest at the Mount Vernon Library Commons - has audio-visual equipment, kitchen, covered parking, setup and cleanup included.
  - Will have picture slide show that will run throughout the event.
  - Will have food and may ask for membership to bring potluck dishes.
  - Evening will begin with short business meeting, member of the year, new officer election.
  - Will have sack raffles and auction for larger prize if needed.
    - Members can donate items, committee will ask vendors for donations.
  - Budget will be somewhat offset by raffle items, potentially fully offset.
  - Members can bring guests, but will require an RSVP.
  - Committee will bring a budget to August meeting for Board approval.

### **Membership - Jerry Couchman**

- 1 pending meeting since the last meeting.
- Currently at a lull, but membership is highest it's ever been at 255.
- Confident that Club Express will help membership grow and improve club communication.
  - Al and Jerry are working with Club Express to design the website; Club Express will provide training so the committee can add future webpages.
  - The next design meeting will be on July 29.
  - Club Express will go live in September.



### **Anacortes Arts Fest - King Dahl and Jerry Couchman**

- August 1-3, set up on July 31 (5 p.m.)
- Most shifts are covered, but it would be helpful to have more coverage during each shift.
- Need more items for display/sale - reach out to Jerry if you have items to display or sell.
- Christi sent King the demonstration schedule to have printed on sandwich board.

### **Library - Bill Pierce**

- Made about \$45 on a book sale in July.
- Switched circulation/tracking system from databases to paper logs and Excel.

### **Tech Update - Mike Titus and Earl Kessler**

- Headed towards One Password to ease logging in.
- The survey has been finalized and will be sent out soon.

### **Toys Program - John Braun and Christi Brua Weaver**

- More than 300 car kits are ready for the Arts Festival.
- The printer has banner and sandwich board designs.

### **Newsletter - King Dahl**

- Send entries to King soon so it can be sent out before the Anacortes Arts Festival.
- Still looking for a replacement for King, who will step down after December.

### **Picnic - Earl Kessler**

- The email will go out to the membership specifically about the picnic.
- Will need to take notes on what will be needed for next year if we're going to host at the same location next year.

### **New Vice President**

- The search is on! Earl will move to president in 2026, so we will need someone to take the VP role
- Board made a few suggestions about members to approach.

### **Tool Donation - George Knutson**

- Club Member John Green had a business and is downsizing. He would be happy to donate all of his tools to the club for a dedicated club space
  - Survey should tell us if the membership is interested in acquiring a dedicated club space.
  - Not sure of the timeline. There is a possibility to rent a storage space if he needs to clear out his space soon.
  - Connect him with Mark Kraus.

Adjourn: 8:12 p.m.

## 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](mailto: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

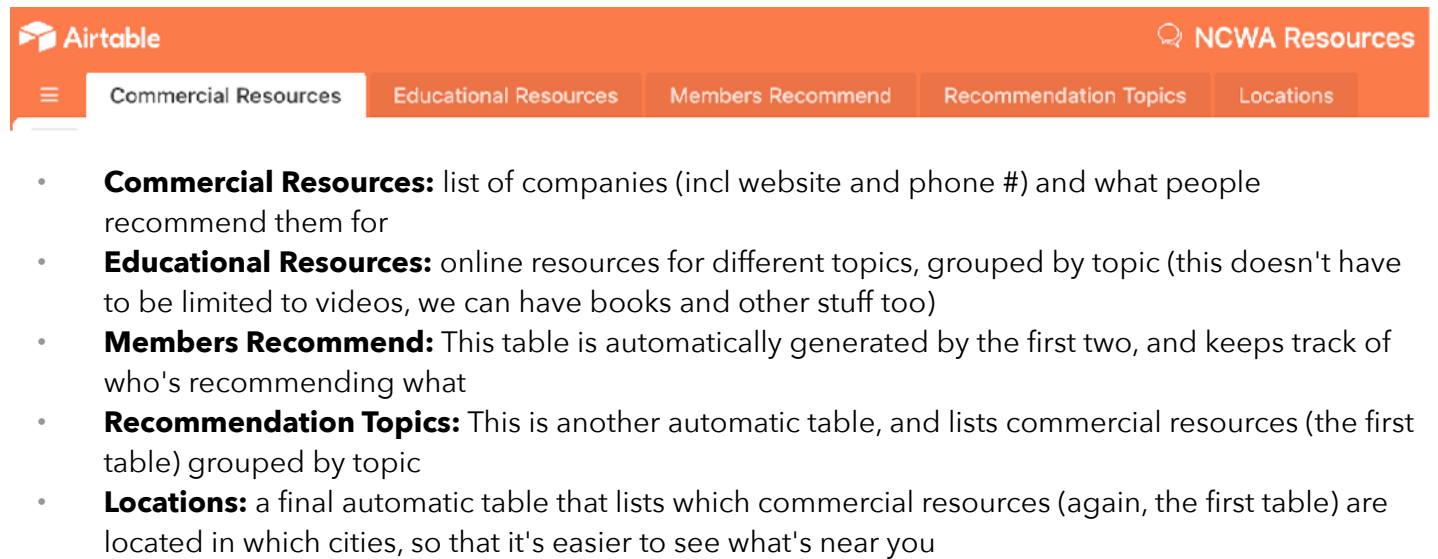
**Shop Tours** – TBA

**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.