



# Newsletter

## September General Meeting — September 2nd, 2024 at 7 PM at the Mount Vernon Christian School

### EDUCATION UPDATE

Check out upcoming  
NCWA Classes

### ANACORTES ARTS FESTIVAL

Photo Recap

### ANNUAL PICNIC

Photo Recap

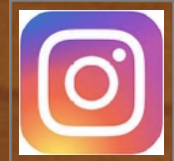
*Click the underlined title in the boxes above to be taken directly to that section of the newsletter.*

### President's Message...

We are finding that the peak of the summer has passed and it's time to consider woodworking projects for the fall and perhaps even Christmas gifts. Often we are searching for creative ideas that will challenge our skills and build new ones. Consider the many resources we have at our fingertips. Not only do we have peers and mentors within the Club with hundreds of years of experience, but our library and the internet offer countless ideas and plans that can offer inspiration. A simple design can showcase the most abject beginner's, as well as the seasoned woodworking veteran's skills, and offer paths to learn and perfect new skills. Don't forget to share your accomplishments with the group through either "Bring and Brag" sessions at each meeting as well as posting your photos on chat. We all look forward to sharing new ideas upon which we can hone our skills.

In an effort to increase our connection and learning between members, our newest acquisition is the Club Express integrated software that will incorporate our new website, financial management, chat and online communications, roster management and public awareness of our group. It promises to be a

Connect with  
your fellow  
members:



Instagram



Facebook



YouTube



Website

timesaver, as well as a major upgrade to our current system. We are hoping to go live with it in the next 2 months. Watch this space for timing on the launch.

The results of the recent membership survey are in and the board of directors will be directing and massaging these data next month and we hope to report how we will adjust our management of club affairs to meet the needs and desires of the members. Stay tuned and we will be announcing our upgrades and adjustments according to your suggestions. Thanks to all that responded.

We all enjoyed the joint picnic with our Woodturners Club. The park setting in Sedro-Wooley was an idyllic spot and we had a great attendance. Tools, wood and jigs were offered in a silent auction and many great deals were struck. The burgers, brats and potluck dishes made for a fantastic luncheon and the nearly 100 attendees enjoyed cool summer weather.

– Earl Kessler, Vice President, and incoming 2026 President

## September 2nd Presentation

### Paul Throne - Blacksmith

#### Thorne Metals



In addition to presenting an overview of blacksmithing, Paul will show how to make a chisel from some old tool steel.

Paul Thorne's ancestors come from a long line of skilled workmen including a blacksmith, carriage maker, tool and die maker, pattern maker, machinists, locomotive engineers, mechanical engineers and teachers. Paul has been a working blacksmith since 1983 and has worked in the

metalworking industries his entire adult life. His architectural and sculptural work is found in fine homes throughout the Pacific Northwest. He has demonstrated in numerous conferences and taught students, apprentices and fellow smiths out of his own shop for many years. You will find his teaching thorough, understandable, patient and enthusiastic. Paul's passionate life calling is to create beautiful ironwork and pass on this craft to the next generation of blacksmiths.

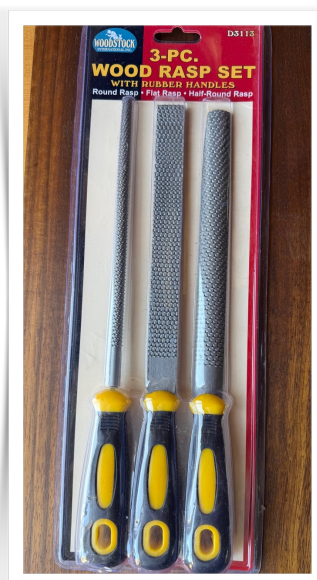
## September Raffle Prizes!

This Month's Raffle Drawing!

This month's raffle includes a nice Flush Cutting Saw from Crown Hand Tools in Sheffield, England with very fine teeth and a flexible blade. Value, \$30 at Rockler.



Plus a three piece Wood Rasp set from Woodstock. Value, \$20 at Grizzly. Remember, tickets are free and you can't win unless you attend the meeting!







## ANACORTES ARTS FESTIVAL Photo Recap

The NCWA Working Studio Booth at the Anacortes Arts Festival was a big success this year. Foot traffic was up and down, as is usual, with long periods of great activity from enthusiastic attendees. The Farmer's Market just around the corner from our booth, generated some extra activity on Saturday.



Several members sold items with a combined sales total of just under \$2500. Jim Bucknell and Joan Mann topped the sales charts with over \$800 in sales, each!



Our Builder Boards area in the Kids Korral, and the newly revamped Toys For Tots station – now called “Wood For Good” – were smash hits! A big shout out to Jack McKee for the Builder Boards, and our entire Wood For Good crew!



The demonstrations by various club members are always a unique aspect to our booth, and this year was no exception. Thank you to all who participated in demonstration a woodworking skill, technique, or process. And a big thanks to the many volunteers that assisted in setting up and tearing down the booth. And a HEARTY Thank You to Jerry Couchman for his continued willingness to store the club's benches and booth items at his shop, and transport everything in his trailer, not to mention all the time spent coordinating with the AAF planning team.











## Annual Club Picnic Photo Recap

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









# Education Committee

*Submitted by Andrew Pellar –*

September, 2025

The classes are coming, the classes are coming! Not quite Paul Revere, but important information. Fall is fast upon us, and we pick back up with renewed vigor.

1. A few reminders about how NCWA does education. Sign-ups for classes will be offered at the meetings first. If they don't fill, a club-wide e-mail will be sent to attempt to fill the class. If the class is full, please enter your name on the wait list.

Shop Talks are a type of class. They are designed to be less formal and more interactive. The newsletter will announce them and will contain registration information. Please don't be shy about registering with the host. That is why we provide their email address in the newsletter.

2. The survey had some interesting information. If you said you might be willing to teach, please contact me at: andf32plr@yahoo.com. We sure could use the help. Not ready to teach, consider being a class helper. I would love to hear from people that want to help and learn too. Too much effort, consider hosting a Shop Talk or a class in your shop. There are many ways to get involved. The club will be better for it, and you will be a hero.

3. These things don't happen on their own. Many hands make light work, and we could use some help to make the magic happen. We could use some people to help with administrative aspects as we are getting ready to transition to Club Express. And the team could use help developing new classes.

Now onto the other stuff.

**Classes:** 09/13/25 - Sharpen and Tune up a new Block Plane

09/27/25 - Build a twelve sided waste basket - Full

10/04/25 Sharpen and Tune up a new Block Plane

11/08/25 Chip Carving - New

11/15 Engineering for Woodworkers - New

Up Coming - Boxes and more boxes, Routers, Design Symposium

## **Shop Talks:**

We have 2 great offerings this month on September 10 and 24. To register use the contact information provided. A \$ 5.00 fee for refreshments is suggested.

### SHOP TALK # 1 Chet Noll - Big and Small

Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM - Noon

Location: 826 Van Dyke Road in Lynden

Host: Chet Noll

A \$ 5.00 refreshment fee is suggested.

To Register Contact Chet chetnoll@icloud.com

Chet is a newer member but a long-time woodworker. Chet does fine work both big and small in his new shop. He shared his beautiful butterflies at a meeting, but the Harpsichord was just too big to bring. Here is your chance to get to know yet another one of our talented members.

The butterflies are born on the band saw and finished with sanders. As impressive as these are, Chet is building a replica of a late 18th. Century early Harpsichord. It has 2 keyboards, is nearly 9 feet long, and features exotics galore. Wow is all I can say when I saw the pictures, which I am sure don't reveal all its splendor.

Special Driving and Parking Directions: Please note Chet's shop is at the end of a ¼-mile-long driveway. The numbers on the street are out of order. Be sure to look for the mailbox that has 826 on it. Please respect the neighbors and drive slowly as children may be present.

### SHOP TALK # 2 - ROUTER ROUND TABLE with Bob Pavia

Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM-Noon

Host: Jim Corbin and Bob Pavia Moderator with Andrew Pellar Special Guest

Location: 5792 Inez St., Bow

A \$ 5.00 donation is suggested for refreshments

To Register Contact Andrew at: andf32plr@yahoo.com

Want to learn more about routers? Do you have questions about routers? Well, this is one Shop Talk you will want to attend.

What will be discussed is up to you. There is no outline. It's a Shop Talk. A fun and flexible format for you. So bring your questions, bring your curiosity, and bring your experiences to share with



others. This will guide the conversation to help you face your deepest fears about the dreaded router.

This session is extra time, so feel free to bring your router, some bits, and your personal safety gear as it may get loud.

What happens at this session will serve as a basis for future router classes. If you are keen and want to up your router game and be a club hero, I will be seeking assistants who will be trained in a special session to help with the future router classes. More about that at the Shop Talk.

### **Activity of Interest**

Woodcraft of Seattle  
5963 Corson Ave. S., Suite #120  
Seattle, WA 98108

In-store demonstrations by Woodpeckers tools Friday and Saturday September 12 and 13. Then on September 20 Hand Plane Setup. More details at: <https://www.woodcraft.com/pages/store-events/seattle>. You can use the NCWA chat to coordinate car pooling.

## **In Memoriam**

Some very sad news...Val Matthews has passed away. Val was a long time friend and mentor to many of us and was a huge part of our Toys for Tots project. No services are planned at this time. His passing just happened August 27th. A more expansive tribute will appear in next months newsletter.



## **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

August 21, 2025

Northwest Corner Woodworkers Association

Board of Directors Meeting

## Attendees

Barry Tonkin, Earl Kessler, Al Ashley, Christi Brua Weaver, Jerry Couchman, Mark Kraus, Don Carlson, George Knutson, Andrew Pellar

Call to order: 7:18 p.m.

## Picnic Recap

Location was great and should be considered for next year

Canopies may be a nice addition, particularly if the weather may be rainy

## Anacortes Arts Festival Recap

Went well, many people watched the demonstrations, location had more traffic than last year. There were food vendors between Commercial and working booths this year.

Builder boards were very popular

231 cars made and \$299 in donations for Wood for Good program

Need more volunteers for next year so volunteers who were there don't have to be there all day, every day

Jerry will be resigning from Shows Committee at the end of this year

Will need an extra canopy next year

Board approved purchase of canopy

## Treasurer's Report - Al Ashley

See Al's report for details

About \$2,000 less in the bank than at this time last year; Toys program (Wood for Good) has fund balance of about \$1,600

\$2,487 in sales from Anacortes Arts Festival

\$700 received by club for sale of drum sander

258 members - (253 last year); 26 new members this year (40 last year)

Expenses: reimbursements for supplies, Club Express, and rental and deposit for December meeting

Al will present tentative budget at next meeting

Board will discuss club dues at next meeting

Discussion about getting a club card reader. Christi will gather cost information and present at next meeting.



## **Bylaws Amendment**

Changes being proposed:

Rather than clubwide on January 1, new members would renew on the anniversary of the date they joined. Existing members would continue to renew on January 1.

Membership will be terminated if dues aren't paid within 30 days following renewal anniversary date.

## **Toys for Tots Committee** is renamed **"NCWA Toys Program Committee (Wood for Good)"**

Changes will be emailed to membership for a vote during October meeting

## **Club Express**

Barry walked us through new website; different versions for members and nonmembers

Website is still under development but will hopefully be live in the coming months

## **Survey**

Barry will email survey results to the Board for review and discuss next month

## **Education** - Andrew Pellar

Shop talk scheduled for September

October - sharpening class run by prior class assistants

Upcoming - Router Roundtable - ask questions, get help; Class for teachers; Another box class

## **Membership** - Jerry Couchman

5 new registrants in August but only 4 have paid so far

## **Programs** - Earl Kessler

September - Chisel making

## **Technology** - George Knutson

Will want to make sure that the September presentation will have all A/V equipment necessary.

George will reach out to Craig next week.

The school has been updating its equipment. If a lapel microphone isn't available, George has a boom for a handheld microphone.

Adjourn: 8:56 pm

Next Board Meeting: September 18, 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](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

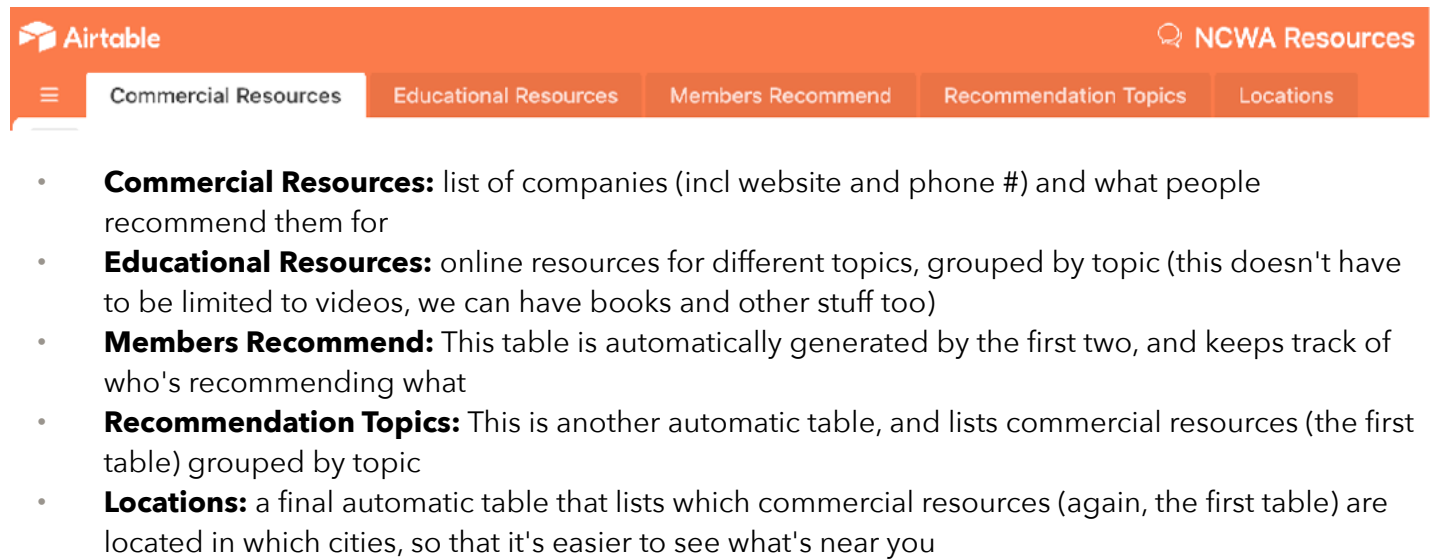
**Webmaster** – Michael Titus



# 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.



The screenshot shows the Airtable interface for 'NCWA Resources'. At the top, there's an orange header with the Airtable logo on the left and 'NCWA Resources' on the right. Below the header is a row of five tabs: 'Commercial Resources' (selected), 'Educational Resources', 'Members Recommend', 'Recommendation Topics', and 'Locations'. Below the tabs, there is a bulleted list explaining each table:

- **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.