

## ***Northwest Woodworkers Association***

# ***THE SAWDUST NEWS***



**August 2019**

An association for woodworkers of all skill levels to share their common interest

## ***The Next Meeting***

**Date:** September 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM (Note time change)

**Location:** Woodcraft Supply

5963 Corson S.

Seattle, WA 98125

**Program Highlight:** Japanese Wooden Boat Building

**Speaker:** Cory Cross

## ***August 2019 Meeting Highlights***

***Meeting Photos by Scott Wilson***

***Meeting Notes by Tim Newsome***

The **August 2019** meeting of the **Northwest Woodworkers Association** was held on **Thursday, August 29, 2019** at **Rockler, Northgate**. We want to express our appreciation to the **Rockler Northgate** staff for providing a wonderful venue and refreshments for this meeting. We really appreciate your long-standing support of the **Association**.



Twenty-two members and guests attended this interesting and informative meeting, conducted by **Steering Committee Member Don Beacom**. We were also delighted to have a special guest **Ilan Epstein's** daughter, **Clementine**, attend our meeting. We hope you catch the woodworking bug, too, **Clementine!** 😊 Over the years we have had some very talented lady woodworkers included in our membership!



In addition, we welcome new member, **Dan McConnel**, a friend of **Mark Martinez**. **Dan** explained that he is starting up a new tech startup related to woodworking which will also provide a marketplace for woodworkers to sell their work. Great idea, **Dan** – we wish you success in your new venture! We look forward to future updates on your project.



## **Program Highlight** **Mega Show ‘N’ Tell**



**Mark Martinez** showed us some photos of his workbench build. He noted that the materials used included oak for the top and walnut, milled from a tree from a friend’s yard. Bench components included vices with wooden screws.



**Mark** also showed us photos of his new workshop build. He got a nasty surprise when he discovered an extensive bee’s nest inside one of the walls. Apparently the nest was abandoned, so he didn’t have to contend with live visitors, but he noted that it was quite a task to get it all removed and the wall repaired. Matching the old wall covering panels was also a challenge. His build also included an outdoor addition for storage and his dust collector.

He noted that he used plywood to cover the walls of the shop to facilitate attaching cabinets and other equipment to the walls. He also installed abundant 120V and 240V electrical outlets in the walls for connection of his present and future shop tools. He also utilized French Cleats on some of the walls.

Putting his new shop to good use, **Mark** built a fireplace mantel and built some end tables which he sold through new member **Dan McConnel’s** business. Looks like you have been a busy guy, **Mark!**

**Tom Howorth** showed us several projects he has been working on, including an exotic push stick, and a Stanley 45 hand plane. He machine to fabricate the the plane and accessory magnets to hold things in custom made the replica originals.



custom box for his vintage noted that he used his CNC internal parts for the box to fit parts and used imbedded place. He also noted that he stickers for the box from old photos of the





**Dan Cordwell** noted that the space beneath drill press stations, workbenches, etc. is frequently underutilized because typically drawers in such cabinets are too deep to be functional. He noted that most of us find ourselves with drawers full of tools and accessories all piled on top of one another, making finding what we are looking for a real challenge. So he decided to take a different approach and fabricate new drawers with a shallow profile, designed specifically for the tools being stored, allowing only **one layer** of treasures. Adding dividers to the drawers also improved the efficiency of this approach. He noted how great it was to open a drawer and actually **see** the item he was looking for! 😊



**Josh Gary** showed us photos of some beautiful cherry furniture he had made for his home. He said the China cabinet was fashioned with glass panels in both sides, as well as in the wooden framed doors.



**Josh** said he was concerned that since the two projects were made at separate times, the color of the Cherry wood appeared to be different. The response from the group was that this is a natural aging characteristic of Cherry, and that over time color differences between the two pieces, exposed to the same lighting environment, will eventually even out.

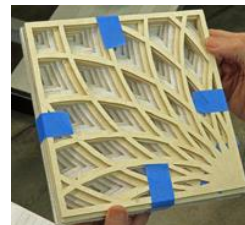
He also mentioned that he made the large cove moldings at the top of the China cabinet on his table saw, using a diagonal cutting technique, which had described as a somewhat scary process!



Those are truly beautifully designed and crafted pieces, **Josh**. You should be deservedly proud of such outstanding work! They will be treasured heirlooms some day!



**Charlie Culler** displayed several of his recent scroll saw projects. These included some bookmarks made from the hardwood veneer that was gifted to the **Association** some time ago. He also showed us some finely crafted plaques, including a Harris Hawk, a Stag, a Jackrabbit, and a geometric pattern.



**Charlie** noted that the project patterns were from the **Scroll Saw** and **Woodworking** magazines.



**David Ord** brought along a short piece of a hardwood log he picked up at a farm in Georgia on a recent trip. For its size, the piece of log was amazingly heavy. Looking at the end grain, it looked like some species of Ash or Oak, but no one present was able to positively identify the species. So, David is still seeking identification of his mystery wood.....stay tuned.....!

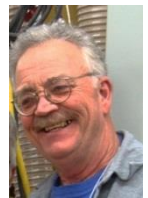


**Herb Stoops** brought along the rest of the lot of wooden block planes he had made and donated to the members at the **May 2019** meeting. Those who missed that meeting were invited to select one to take home and use in their shops. He also described the interesting series of operations he had performed to make the planes. He generously donated the remainder of the lot to the **Association**, which **Don Beacom** said was a welcome gift which he would use as gratuities for future guest speakers and hosts for group tours.



Thanks, **Herb**, for generously sharing your talents and gift projects with the **Association**.

**Scott Wilson** said that his project was a little too large to bring to the meeting, since it was an outdoor privacy fence and complementary cedar bench, but he did show us some photos of this well executed project.



He also noted that he used one of **Herb's** wooden block planes to chamfer the sharp corners of the bench – and that it worked really well!



**Chris Green** astounded us yet again with another of his finely crafted, complex artistic creations.

**Chris** noted that there were some **1,650** separate component pieces used to make this highly decorative turning. He said that he spent a considerable time and effort to ensure that the many species of wood with their wide variety of colors and grain patterns would be arranged to produce a pleasing complementary visual effect. He also noted that there were many glue-ups, sometimes utilizing all his available clamps!



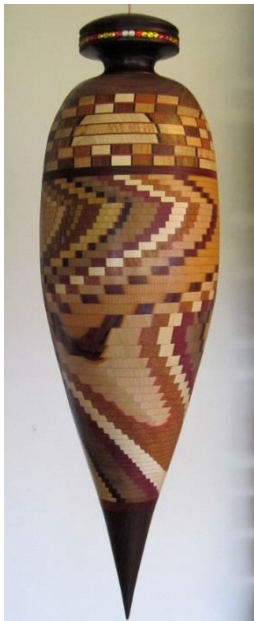
As can be seen in the photo, **Chris** inserted red and black solid colored veneer strips in his sandwiched glue-ups to further enhance the array of colors and emphasize the variety of segments.



As shown below, after gluing up several boards into a block, **Chris** cut the block into a large number of 1/8" thick slices, which were stacked and rotated slightly before gluing. Sections of this block were subsequently band sawed into rough dimensioned rounds before gluing into the final block to be turned -- saving a lot of turning operations (and making piles of shavings.....!).



The finished turning exhibited some remarkable color and grain patterns, enhanced by the curvatures of the various areas of the turning.



Topping off this exquisite turning, **Chris** adorned the circumference of the uppermost segment with a row of glittering Swarovski crystals.



Not wanting to waste such an interesting collection of leftover cuttings, Chris decided to assemble them into a panel for a wall hanging! What a beauty!!



**Tom Nailor** was sharing with me some of the idiosyncrasies involved with living on a houseboat. He explained that due to severe space constraints, he had to sell all his power tools and now just works with hand tools. He said that when he talks to people about his woodworking arrangements he doesn't know whether to tell them that he does his woodworking in the bedroom or that he sleeps in his shop.....!! 😊



**Tom** noted that he has two workbenches – one located in his sleeping quarters and the other out on the rear deck of his houseboat. Like many us, he also looks for ways to utilize the space that he does have available for his woodworking hobby. So, to that end, he decided to build a set of drawers to install in a cabinet under his workbench. Using hand tools, he built the drawers with dovetail joints. Bottom-mounted skids act as runners for the drawers. His source of wood for the project was some sort of cast off from Ikea! He also used some unique hardware gathered up from somewhere to use for drawer pulls!



Great job, **Tom**! And a great shout out for the opportunistic use of available materials!



**Tim Newsome** mentioned that he had recently taken an **Introduction to Woodworking** class at **Pratt Institute**. He shared that his class project was fabrication of a **Minecraft** box. Nicely done, **Tim**! Ya did good!!



## **Field Trip**

After the recent field trip made by some of the members to visit the shop of **Seth Rolland** at Port Townsend, a second trip was made to Bellingham. **Steering Committee Member Don Beacom** submitted this report on this enjoyable adventure:

*“On August 24<sup>th</sup>, a small group of us went to Bellingham. We started at the home of Tom and Jennifer Dolese. Jennifer wasn’t home but Tom graciously gave us a tour of the house and an AirBnB they have on the property – so we got a chance to see a lot of his furniture and examples of Jennifer’s marquetry – as well as visiting her shop which is in the house.*

*After a refreshing lunch we spent the balance of the time in Tom’s shop. In particular, he wanted us to see the mortiser he uses. This was a tool that he came across 27 years ago and eventually purchased the rights to make the tool and has made it available – read more about how he uses this amazing tool at the website listed below (including videos).*

*I am always impressed, when visiting the pros, the extent to which they have developed appropriate controls over their processes so they have repeatable outcomes. Tom’s thorough, and patient, review of his mortising process was a clear illustration of just how much thought has gone into his work.*

*Tom teaches classes both at his shop and at the Port Townsend School of Woodworking. Just spending a few hours with him I realized that he would be a very good instructor – check out his upcoming classes at the website listed below.*

*Visit their website at: [terrafirmadesignnw.com](http://terrafirmadesignnw.com)*

*These two experiences have made some noteworthy impressions on me:*

- 1. I continue to be amazed at how generous woodworkers are. In almost all cases when I’ve asked someone to come and present to our club at our regular meetings I get a positive response. I was floored that Seth and Tom would be so generous with their time and insights.*
- 2. There are people doing amazing work in our area and it’s a real treat to be able to visit them in their shops and see how it happens.*

*I will plan more field trips next year and if you have a suggestion for someone we should try to go visit let me know.”*

## **Notes from the Editor**



What an interesting and entertaining meeting with an encouraging turnout of members and guests! We sincerely appreciate all of you who attended and especially those of you who enriched our meeting with your **Show’N’Tell** project presentations. Collectively, the **Northwest Woodworkers Association** has a rich cross section of resourceful, innovative, inspired, woodworkers. Our membership runs the gamut from new woodworkers just starting out to professional and semiprofessional craftsmen. It is always a delight to see and hear members share their projects, large or small.....and the inevitable mishaps that go along with woodworking. Frequently, we learn valuable nuggets of information from the shared experiences of others, as well as being inspired to try some new technique, or an innovative new tool, or how to troubleshoot some problem we might be having on our own current project. We encourage all members to ask questions and share what they are doing – without feeling at a disadvantage because they may be new to woodworking – we were all new once! We are all willing to help!

Happy and Safe Woodworking,

Paul

# **Northwest Woodworkers Association Sponsors**

We appreciate the generous support provided by our NWWA sponsors, from providing member discounts on purchased items to providing state of the art venues for us to conduct our monthly meetings. Thank you, Sponsors!

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If you have a woodworking-related problem, question, comment, or item that may be of interest to the membership, we encourage you to contact any of the above individuals. We will endeavor to connect you with someone who can help.

In addition, please visit our website: <https://www.nwwoodworkers.org>