

Northwest Woodworkers Association

THE SAWDUST NEWS

September 2013

<http://www.nwwoodworkers.org>

Next Meeting: Double Feature

Bob Schaefer:
"Golden Ratio"

Patrick Metiva
**"The Application of Wood
Carving to the Asian Stone
Appreciation Art Form"**

September 26, 2013

► **6:30 PM** ◀

Woodcraft Supply
5963 Corson Ave S
Seattle, Wa 98108
206-767-6394

There were 17 members and two guests present. Guest Tiffany Chen came to the meeting seeking a woodworker-mentor for a Bellevue Community College class project she is planning for the Spring 2014 semester (details follow the Minutes), and Patrick Metiva, a bonsai craftsman interested in furthering his skills in creating carved wooden Diazas for stone art forms. Patrick also mentioned that he has available miscellaneous wood pieces, many of which are best suited to turners.

Paul Stoops noted that the Association is still seeking a volunteer back-up minute taker for meetings the regular secretary, Jan, is unable to attend.

Tom Howorth read an announcement from the NW Corner Guild about a presentation on "Working Smart" by Garret Hack on Saturday September 14 in La Conner. Garrett is a nationally known Fine Woodworker who has had many articles in the "Fine Woodworking" magazine.

Our webmaster, Tom Howorth, noted that he hoped to add a forum feature to our Association website (<http://www.nwwoodworkers.org/>) where this kind of news could be posted. The forum will also allow members to chat with each other on-line about woodworking questions and hints.

The Steering Committee is working to set the 2014 meeting agendas. Paul emphasized the Steering Committee's interest in getting program ideas from members and welcomed volunteers to do presentations of 15-20 minutes on their area of interest. Herb Stoops and Scott Wilson each volunteered to do a presentation in 2014. Reminder to members: look at the "gallery" on the Association website to see some works by members.

Association Officers

President—Open Position
Membership—Allen McCall
Treasurer—Chris Green
Secretary—M. Erickson
Raffle—Herb Stoops

Steering Committee
Allen McCall
Chris Green
Herb Stoops
Paul Stoops

The following are volunteer positions and are not Officers of the Association

Webmaster
Tom Howorth
thoworth@gmail.com

Newsletter
Steve Krauss
catbert@oz.net
425-746-5067

Show and Tell

Dennis Harrison, who often displays his marquetry creations nationally, showed his latest work, a nativity scene. He humbly announced that in addition to showing pieces around the country, he will have a one-man show in Reno in mid-November to mid-January.

Chris Green showed members his latest art nouveau creation of an apple wood vase set in a torsion-fit triangular vase holder. We were all left scratching our heads wondering how, exactly, he did that! Dennis Harrison suggested he pursue museum galleries to show his high quality work.

2 X 4 Challenge

The highlight of the meeting was our first annual 2 X 4 Challenge, in which each member was encouraged to submit one or more projects made from construction grade 2 x 4's. Members voted for their first, second and third choice among the 11 projects submitted. While Chris Green tallied the votes, each submitter took the floor to describe their piece and the techniques and issues they faced in making it. Pictures of these wonderfully unique items appear later in the Newsletter.

Jan Erickson displayed the huge bag of sawdust and tiny toothpick holder that were the result of her first try. "Enough said" she concluded.

George Knutson showed the two trugs (garden baskets) he made out of his 2 X 4 cedar stud in a "Greene and Greene" style. He noted that cedar doesn't lend itself to precision work because of its softness.

Chris Green detailed his technique in making a 51 block, twisting aerial sculpture he named "Gigantus Anobium Pancatatum" (giant furniture beetle larvae) which even the best aesthetician would have a hard time describing! He also showed a prototype piece with similar construction.

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A forum for woodworkers of all skill levels to share their common interests



Northwest Woodworkers Association
Steve Krauss, Newsletter Editor
16204 Main St
Bellevue, WA 98008

Member's Discounts

Crosscut Hardwoods

4100—1st Avenue S.,
Seattle 98134

10% Discount

Rockler Woodworking

3823 Stone Way N.
Seattle 98103

10% Discount (not valid on power tools)

Woodcraft Supply

5963 Corson S.,
Seattle 98108

10% Discount (not valid on power tools or workbenches)

Edensaw Woods

8032 S. 194th St.
Kent, WA 98032

Rockler Woodworking

345 Tukwila Parkway
Tukwila, WA 98188

10% Discount (not valid on power tools)

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Allen McCall noted that in the shop stool he created, he used every scrap of his 2 X 4 and only glue to assemble it.

Robert Purdy Klein described his “Pirates Chest” as a work-in-progress. His technique of using a burning pen to create the look of old weathered wood was fascinating.

Allen McCall’s second project was an end grain cutting board in which he cut his pieces at a 20 degree angle to emphasize the end grain pattern. He then arranged them so as to maximize the effect of the grain patterns and colors. The finished piece almost glowed.

Dennis Harrison showed his “Noah’s Ark” complete with cut out animals. He said his grand-kids enjoy dragging it across the floor but noted that it doesn’t exactly float.

Dan Ford showed incredible skill and imagination in crafting a working water wheel intended for placement in his garden. He noted that one of his biggest challenges was figuring how to get all the pieces out of a single 2 X 4!

Jan Erickson showed her second attempt, a storage box with lid. She noted that her fir 2 X 4 kept reshaping itself by warping and twisted almost as she watched.

Bonnie Purdy Klein showed a delightful footstool she created and decorated with a wood burned, faux rattan, top. Her issue was finishing the end grain and she told of the multiple products she tried.

After the presentations Chris announced the winners as follows:

- **First Prize** -- Bonnie Purdy Klein for her expertly crafted Footstool.
 - **Second Prize** -- Chris Green’s unique and complex sculpture.
 - **Third Prize** – Robert Purdy Klein for his highly crafted Pirate’s Chest.
- Participant’s Prize Drawing** -- George Knutson was the lucky winner.

Raffle

Five items were awarded to those with the lucky numbers including two Rockler gift cards

NOTE!!!

Be sure to use your Association membership card when making purchases at Rockler. Members not only get 10% off their purchase but for every 20 times an Association card is used Rockler donates a gift card for the raffle!

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Volunteer Opportunity

Tiffany Chen, a student at a local college, is seeking our help in making a wooden item for donation to a charitable organization. The project is part of a Bellevue Community College class in February. The item could be a turning, a kid's toy, a decorative item, etc. Please help Tiffany with your expertise and shop!

If you recall, David Beyl had recently provided similar mentoring help and expert assistance to student Creston Bunch in his table and chair set project. As a member of the Association, David's willingness to share his expertise and encouragement was a key factor in Tiffany's decision to seek similar help and support from us for her project. Please consider offering your services for this worthy cause.

Contact :Tiffany Chen at 425-894-1386 or tiffanyc214@gmail.com

Submitted by: Jan Erickson, Secretary

STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

We are currently considering the meeting agendas for 2014. We are in need of members to volunteer to give a presentation regarding any subject which might be of interest to the membership. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your expertise and showcase your skills. We know that all of you have a wide variety of subjects or projects that you have built that would be of interest. All of us who have made presentations have found that it is really easy to talk about something you care about or that you have done.

In addition, we welcome suggestions from the membership regarding possible local shop tours, outside speakers, and subjects of particular interest. This is **our** Association – please help us make our meetings as interesting and informative as possible. Be a proactive member, not just an observer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We have a double barreled program for our upcoming September 26th meeting. Our past President, Bob Schaeffer, will be giving a discussion of the "Golden Ratio" – a mathematically derived formula that has been used since ancient times for the proportioning of furniture components. Application of the concept is quite simple and can provide substantial improvements to the look and appearance of our furniture projects – particularly those we design ourselves.

In addition, new member Patrick Metiva, is going to give us a presentation related to woodworking and Asian art forms. I'm sure his presentation, "The Application of Wood Carving to the Asian Stone Appreciation Art Form", will be one that you won't want to miss. It should provide an interesting look into the very unique world of Asian art forms and the complementary relationship of carved wood and stone objects. Patrick introduces his topic as follows:

"I have always loved stones -- been picking them up ever since I had pockets. As a landscaper and general plant geek, I joined the Puget Sound Bonsai Association in an effort to learn how to keep some of the plant specimen's I had collected from various locations alive and flourishing. However, when a gentleman mentioned that there was to be a stone collecting trip to the Sauk River, the door to Suiseki and organized Stone Collecting opened.

Suiseki is a Japanese term that literally means "water stone". While Bonsai is better known, Suiseki or Asian Stone Appreciation dates back prior to the Ming Dynasty in China. Stones were originally collected to remind the literati or the educated elite of the peacefulness, beauty, and imperfection of Mother Nature in conjunction with the influence of Daoist and Zen religions. Stones mainly represented landscapes but animals and shapes that hold special connotations such as dragons, turtles, or Buddha are also collected.

Various methods have been utilized to display these stones in their best perspective, including ceramic and bronze platters filled with sand or water, pillows, and carved wooden bases called Diaza. Each Diaza is created to complement a specific stone.

Over time, I found that I had some sort of aptitude for creating Diaza to complement matching stones. With the support of the local group of collectors, I have been able to expand my knowledge of this art form. These contacts have also opened doors to other collectors who are always on the look out for carvers of Diaza. Slowly, I am building a nice reputation in regards to aesthetics and quality while continuing my education in Suiseki (Japanese), Gonsi (Chinese), Suesok (Korean) and Viewing Stones. "

We encourage all members to come and enjoy both of these interesting topics as well as the warm fellowship of our members in our shared love of woodworking.

We will also have a Raffle and Show 'N' Tell. Please bring items to donate to the Raffle and projects to share in the Show 'N' Tell.

August Meeting Photos

Photos by Scott Wilson











