

### When Last We Met

By Gord Bednard

#### Next Meeting:

- Tuesday Apr 18th.

It's nice to be needed. It's nice to be appreciated. But it's even nicer to gain the recognition of one's peers and be respected for your talents. Now, I'd like to think that's what happened when I arrived (late as usual) for the March meeting. But I'm still not sure, as when the door opened and I walked into the bright interior of Bill's shop, the following acclamation went up from the assembled masses: "the scribe's here!". I guess I should be honoured by any kind of recognition I can get. Lord knows, the receptionist at work still can't spell my name correctly 7 times out of 10, and is often unsure if I am even in the office on any particular day, even when I have bade her good morning and listened to her latest gossip. So I suppose being recognized for my writing talent (or notorious for my lack of it) should be regarded as a complement. At least that's the way I'm taking it, so don't bother correcting my delusions.

I thought I detected a notable sigh of relief from Denis as he handed me his notes from the beginning of the meeting, even though I was more than prepared to allow him to come out of semi-retirement and take over the reigns of scribe for the evening. In fact, not since Wyatt Earp has there been such a fast draw, and I had those notes in my hand before you could say "roman ogee" (whatever that is!). At any rate, I was more than happy to oblige and that is how we find ourselves here again gentle reader, with you relaxing with a glass of wine in one hand and this prose in the other. Either that, or, with you reflecting on why a tree had to die in the forest so that I could once again annoy you with such a long and rambling introduction, as you slide this page under the family budgie.

At any rate, and as I have nothing better to do this evening, I shall begin this report.

There were three visitors to the Guild at the March meeting: first up was Wayne who was just visiting and made wooden puzzles (more on this later), and then Peter who enjoys woodworking in his spare time. Don't we all wish we had more of that! And finally, Ray. Sorry, that's it. I don't have any information on Ray, as he is either shy, or more likely, spoke too fast, or too softly for notes to be taken. I hope they will all return (and after joining the Guild) add to the collective wisdom and general camaraderie of the group. Remember, we're all in this together, and a rolling stone is worth two in the bush.

Some correspondence of note was brought to the attention of the members:

- Northwest Woodworking Studio sent a brochure regarding their upcoming summer workshops – more information can be had from their website at "[www.northwestwoodworking.com](http://www.northwestwoodworking.com)".
- The Richmond Carvers Society invited the Guild to utilize a free table for demonstrations and display at their annual Woodcarving Show and Trade Fair on May 27 and 28.
- Surrey Arts council sent an invitation to crafters to participate in a Mother's Day Gift Show and Sale. It was short notice and if you haven't already entered, better keep it in mind for next year as the entry deadline has passed. The Show, however is still upcoming on April 21 and 22 at the Ocean Park Community Association at 1577-128 Street, Surrey. More information from the website at:

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Please direct newsletter submissions to the newsletter editor, Steve Hansen, via email: [urquell@shaw.ca](mailto:urquell@shaw.ca) or call 604-986-5471.

The Pacific Woodworkers Guild is a non-profit association of British Columbia Craftspeople dedicated to excellence in woodworking. Guild members meet on the third Tuesday of each month (except July and August) in Richmond, B.C.

The newsletter is published monthly, ten times per year, and distributed free to members and associate members. Membership is available to anyone interested in any form of fine woodworking. Membership fees are \$25 for twelve months; Associate membership fees (newsletter only) are \$15 for ten issues.

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## Guild Directory

### Elected Officers

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<i>Treasurer</i>	Lou Hafer
<i>Secretary</i>	Paulin Laberge
<i>Members-at-Large</i>	Paul Townsend
	Bill Fox
	Art Liestman
	Bob Bedier

### Committees

<i>Newsletter</i>	
<i>Publisher</i>	Steve Fairbairn
<i>Editor</i>	Steve Hansen
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<i>Mailout</i>	David Sweet
<i>Reporter</i>	Gordon Bednard
	Steve Hansen
<i>Guild Liaison</i>	TBA
<i>Webmaster</i>	Steve Fairbairn
<i>Entertainment/Workshops</i>	Paul Blattler
<i>2x4 Challenge</i>	Paulin Laberge
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<i>Cloverdale Show</i>	Richard Heath
	Hugh MacGillivray
	Wally Sommerfeld
	Kelly McClay
<i>Other Shows</i>	TBA
<i>Christmas Toy Work-</i>	TBA
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<i>Chauffeur</i>	Bill Fox
<i>Library</i>	Bob Bedier

## Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Pacific Woodworkers Guild will be held on Tuesday, April 18th starting at 7:00pm. This month's meeting is the annual 2x4 Challenge and will be held at the Sapperton Pensioners Hall in New Westminster.

## Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for submissions for the April newsletter is April 6th. Please send your submission to the editor: Steve Hansen at [urquell@shaw.ca](mailto:urquell@shaw.ca) or contact by phone for snail mail address.

## Calendar Of Events

- \* **April 18, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting—**2X4 Challenge**. Meeting at Sapperton Pensioners Hall.
- \* **May 16, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- \* **June 20, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- \* **September 19, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- \* **October 17, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting
- \* **November 21, 2006**—Pacific Woodworkers Guild Meeting

## President's Message (con't)

*(Continued from page 1)*

[info@artscouncilofsurrey.ca](mailto:info@artscouncilofsurrey.ca).

Ivan (remember him – the guy with the two headed gavel) announced another Bowen Wood Weekend starting April 29. It's BYOWood if you want some logs of your own cut up. Contact Ivan for more information.

Paulin made a last pitch for entries to the 2X4 Challenge, April 18, at the Sapperton Hall in New Westminster. With an entry fee of only \$0, it's likely the best deal of the season for displaying your woodworking prowess. Some of the new members, and even some of the visitors spoke up and said they would get an entry together. Paulin announced a sort-of secondary challenge to the event – the "I made it in just four hours" category. That should create some enthusiasm, if not some sawdust. Remember the theme (or "guideline" as it is also called) – Something that is used by (or in) your hands.

The evening guest speakers were then introduced: Bruce Jackson and Ian Salomon from Worksafe BC (the organization formerly known as WCB). This tag team led the presentation and Q+A session that followed on the topic of "Safety in the Workshop".

This presentation was very interesting and, at least I found it, also somewhat intense. Did you know that a 10" saw blade moves faster than most light aircraft at 120 miles per hour (that's about 200 kph for you metric types)? And, as they explained, that blade has no empathy towards the operator and would just as happily slice off a finger or hand as cut through a piece of mahogany. Sobering stuff indeed!! Bottom line – mistakes always have a bad outcome, so get and use a guard on your cutting equipment and install a large stop button which can be reached by using a knee. Other safety tips included – use a push stick or block to keep your hands away from the blade, clean up the shop to prevent slips and keep a phone and first aid kit (with eye wash) handy just in case.

Aside from malicious machinery, there are other health hazards in the shop including allergic reactions to various woods. While we may be aware that many tropical hardwoods

can cause reactions, even local softwoods such as pine can create problems with exposure to the dust from machine operations. Wood dust is also a proven carcinogen. Both hard and softwoods have been linked to nasal and bronchial cancers which have a long latency period (the time it takes to actually show up following exposure) of tens of years in some cases.

Exposure to dust is also a recognized respiratory risk. Fine particles of dust less than 1 micron in size are the worst. Finishing and stripping chemicals are also a hazard and you must protect your eyes, lungs and skin from most products by using goggles (or face shield), appropriate gloves, and proper respirators. Only two strap masks with NIOSH certification are any good, the one strap models are useless!! A cartridge respirator (with organic cartridges) is essential for vapour protection.

These are just some of the tips and ideas which were related in this discussion and the Guild heartily thanked Bruce and Ian for their time. Bruce can be reached by e-mail at: [bruce.jackson@worksafebc.com](mailto:bruce.jackson@worksafebc.com).

Show and Tell included Wayne Helfrich (remember him from earlier) who brought some puzzles and asked advice on making pyramids. The advice came thick and fast (never a lack of suggestions from this crowd). Marco showed off some homemade turning tools which were shameless copies of some he had seen. He also had a custom storage box for electrical equipment and asked what he should charge for it. Again, the members were enthusiastic with advice. Finally, one of the newer members, David Brody, displayed a Windsor chair he had made. A lovely piece with milk paint finish. David has agreed to give a workshop on building Windsors on April 22, starting at 10:00 at Bill's shop.

And last but not least, Katie reminded the members to be building a toy per month to be ready for Christmas.

The raffle was then drawn and prizes awarded accordingly.

TTFN

Gord "the scribe" Bednard

## Next Meeting: 2006 2x4 Challenge

The next meeting of the Pacific Woodworkers Guild will be held on Tuesday April 18th, starting at 7:30 pm. This meeting features the presentation and judging of the **2006 2x4 Challenge**.

The guild heartily encourages you to bring along your friends, neighbours and family to join in on the fun of this year's 2x4 Challenge. The venue is *Sapperton Pensioners Hall, 318 Keary Street, New Westminster* (see map at right). Keary runs between Royal Columbian Hospital and Labatts Brewery. The Hall is across the street from RCH and the brewery, just a few paces up Keary. Parking is available mostly along Columbia street and some on Keary. Be mindful of the residents only parking restrictions on Keary. Hope to see you all there with a handful of buddies.

Note: If you are bringing a project to display or enter, please be at the hall by 6:00 p.m.

