PICTURE FRAMING, IT'S NOW SERIOUS BUSINESS

By Tim Taricco, Colorplak

In the past, the picture framing industry has largely been a mom-and-pop single-store mentality. Today everything is changing and if you don't change with the trend, you won't be around to see the future. That may seem like a bold statement, but it is true. If you look around at the changing marketplace, you will notice that multi-store picture framing chains are taking over most of the neighborhoods.

In the Pacific Northwest, we currently have a large percentage of "mom-and-pop" stores, a few local chain stores, the big national craft stores and the independently owned franchise stores. That list of competition is nothing compared to what is coming. Picture framing is going the same way as the office supply business has gone, big time. Fifteen years ago, did you know about Office Depot and Staples in the Pacific Northwest?

In the coming years, the Pacific Northwest is going to be introduced to Aaron Brothers and Corners Custom Framing. Both stores will bring big marketing budgets to our region. This will mean stiff competition for "mom-and-pop" frame shops and the local chain stores.

(Continued on page 3)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Paul Knoop, the framemakers Tacoma



What an exciting Spring Festival!! Over 100 framers, vendors, and family members attended our 6th annual educational programs, framing competition, and banquet. The classes were all very well attended and professionally done; the 12 entries in the competition were all eye-catching, and the dinner speaker, Dennis Tilley, was exceptional. My personal thanks (again) to all those who attended

and especially to those who worked so hard to make it all happen. If you have any comments concerning the day's activities, please be sure and let us know-your (Continued on page 6)

CLASSIFIED ADS 5 EDUCATION FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS 8 1999 PRICING FOR PROFIT SURVEY INSIDE EVENTS CALENDAR BACK



April 1999

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Have you ever wondered how museums handle, frame and store their art treasures? Are you curious about how a museum protects their art collection while it is on display? Do you know what UHU is? And just what do conservators do with that stuff. anyway? Ann Jesperson and David Anderson of the Frye Art Museum are offering us the opportunity to visit behind the scenes once again. This special tour is available only on Thursday, April 15, at 6 PM. The tour is limited to 20 people. Call Terry Scidmore to reserve your space. 206-433-1145

THERE IS A MEETING NEAR YOU THIS MONTH

Bellingham - April 13th

Olympia - April 13th

Yakima – April 27th

How To Contact Us

Membership Dues, Advertising Payments:

Kioski Toda, EPFG Treasurer 3058 Issaquah-Pine Lake Road Issaquah, WA 98027 425.557.5494

Change of Address:

Nancy Chapman 15209 263 Ave. SE Issaquah, WA 98027 425.392.7334

For changes of address please include old and new address information.

Classified Ad Copy, Display Ad Artwork:

Tim Taricco P.O. Box 411 Redmond, WA 98073 frameguy@myframeshop.com

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Didplay Ad ArtworkDigital artwork is requested. Submit via e-mail or on PC

Publishing Deadline 20th of the month prior to distribution

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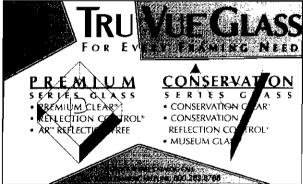


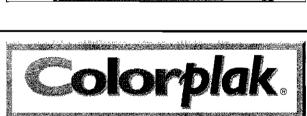
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FEBRUARY IN REVIEW

CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

I am writing this article so we all can be informed and will have time to get prepared. Corners Custom Framing (formerly Frame King Express) currently has 24 stores in San Francisco and Boston. This year they will open 45 new stores in New York City, New England and San Francisco. The following years plan for 25 to 50 stores in each of the following regions: Baltimore/Washington, Chicago, Atlanta, Seattle/Portland.

I know your next question is, "How can I get ready to compete?" My first answer is to join the Evergreen Picture Framers Guild and attend as many meetings as you can. Besides learning new framing techniques, our meetings involve discussing business issues that we all face.

My second answer to that questions is, get organized and educated. To do both those things, you need a computer. If you are running your frame shop without a computer, you are doing business at a disadvantage to your competition. Computers are cheap these days. You can get a complete system, with a printer for only \$800.

Once you've got your computer, you need some good software to help you get organized and you need Internet access to get educated. Now you are probably asking, "How much will the software and Internet Access cost." You can get both for FREE, but remember, you get what you pay for.

Get your computer and check out the resources below to help yourself get ready for the new competition coming to town.

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FREE Internet Access - http://netzero.com



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- FRAME SHOP in Seattle for sale. Contact Mike at 206/634-1558 for details.
- FOR SALE: Phaedra measuring system and chop saw with spare blades, wood and metal. Like new, and little use asking \$650.00. Contact Geraldine 253/566-9037 for details.
- WANTED: Mat cutter, 48" with measuring stops, etc. Contact Lisa 253/274-1683 for details.
- EOUIPMENT FOR SALE: 40 x 60 Corona Vacuum Press, complete \$600. C&H 60" Pro Wall Cutter, like new \$800. Fletcher 2100 40" mat cutter w/ production stops, \$600. Eight department cash register, new \$80. Zon Jr. XL credit card terminal, \$150. To view the equipment, call Philip at 206/281-0054.
- MAT CUTTER FOR SALE: C&H 60" mat cutter with measuring stops and squaring arm, \$650. Contact Lisa at 253/565-3711.
- THUMBNAILER FOR SALE: Includes router bits and inserts, \$500. Contact Lisa at 253/565-3711.
- SHRINK WRAPPER FOR SALE: Traco 40" Super Sealer with heat gun, \$150. Contact Lisa at 253/565-3711.







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Jim Jillard - Branch Manager

PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

feedback on this and all other aspects of the Guild's program is vital.

Well, as you probably know by now, our "Road Show" is taking off again this month, with programs in Bellingham, Yakima, Olympia, and a Frye Museum tour in Seattle. I know we will make some new friends, and hopefully gain some new members to the Guild who will contribute to the strength of our organization. If you can't make one of these meetings, yet would like information on a program, or have a question on framing, please don't hesitate to contact us. Remember, our purpose is to help each other and to improve the art of picture framing. Something we have not covered lately that you can help with? Let us know, and we will be happy to arrange for you to share your information with us at a meeting, or, how about just writing a short article for the Newsletter.

Pricing, a subject near and dear to all of us; you have an opportunity for input into this important area of business. Please take a few minutes to complete and return the pricing survey before April 15th. Your input is vital to getting a clear picture of how picture framing is priced in our regional area. Have you ever wondered how your prices compare to your neighbor's across town? Now is your opportunity to evaluate your costs and prices with other shops in the area. This survey has proven to be a subject of heated discussion in past years, and we will have numerous opportunities to review the various elements in the coming months, but we need your help.

> Paul Knoop **EPFG** President

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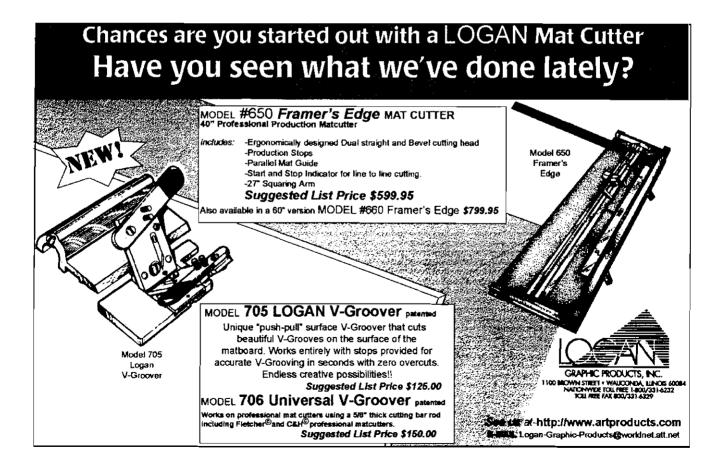
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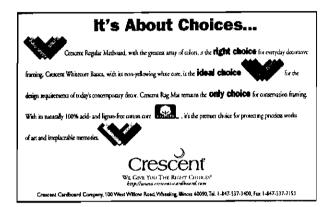
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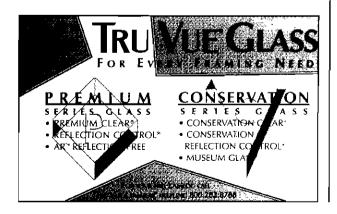




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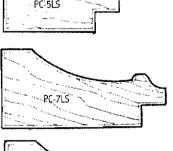


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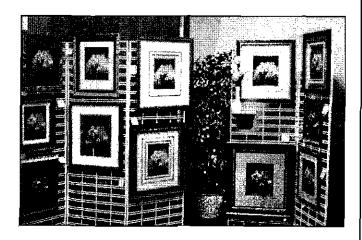
Scoop.







THE PRINT COMPETITION



Thank you to all who contributed to the Print Competition at the Education Festival, it was a wonderful success! Half of the prints sold came back as finished pieces for the competition, a high percentage. If you attended the banquet and saw the entries, you know how interesting and diversified they were, no 2 were even similar, a credit to your creativity. The judges want the participants to know how difficult it was to judge them, each had great qualities. As shown by the ballots cast for Popular Choice, someone liked each of them the best!



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13th - General Meeting - 7 PM Art And Frame - Bellingham Glazing & Beyond 15th - Field Trip - 6 PM Frye Art Museum - Seattle

13th - General Meeting - 7 PM Olympia Framemakers - Olympia Mounting Sumi & Rice Paper 27th - General Meeting - 7 PM
Framemaker - Yakima
Installations

May 1999

11th - General Meeting - 7 PM

The Mitered Corner – Seattle Pricing Round Table

25th - Board Meeting

June 1999

8th - General Meeting - 7 PM

Rainy Day Frames – Seattle Tricks of the Trade

July 1999

13th - General Meeting - 7 PM

Lake City Picture Framing – Seattle Fabric Mats

27th - Board Meeting

August 1999

Annual Picnic

September 1999

14th - General Meeting - 7 PM

Larson Juhl - Seattle

28th - Board Meeting

October 1999

12th - General Meeting - 7 PM

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ATTENTION: FRAME SHOP

1999 PRICING FOR PROFIT SURVEY

THE BOARD OF EPFG IS DOING A PRICING SURVEY. We would appreciate you filling out this form and mailing it before April 15th. We will be running the results in the May or June issue of the EPFG Newsletter. We can only do this with your cooperation. All responses are confidential, in fact, we don't even ask your name. We need at least 40 responses to accurately calculate the averages. Please do not assume we will have enough without you. WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

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This year we would like to ask some questions	which have come up at several meetings.
-	, What is your rent (including NNN) \$/month
	e job?; Average number of frames per week?
Do you have an automated mat cutter?	
•	cluding getting the mat out, sizing the outside, cutting the opening,
	itting the cutoff away for future use?
How much do you pay for a 32x40 regular mat	•
	yourself) in your shop?, part time employees?
· · ·	ire:; 2 years?
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	hat do you pay yourself? per month.
	bloyees? Health Ins? Dental Ins? Retirement?
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Please price these	Frame Size: 28 X 36
Frame Size: 16 X 20	Frame: Larson Juhl #559WS
Frame: Nielson 05 Silver	Glazing: Cons. Clear Glass
Glazing: Regular Glass	Mat: Hand wrapped Linen mat with
Mat: 1 Cons. Mat	Larson Juhl fillet #150WS in opening
(Crescent 1610) Ψ	— #159WS in opening. • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

The Board of EPFG hopes that this survey will help make your business more profitable. If you have any questions you would like to see on next year's survey please jot it down anywhere on this form.

Please take a few minutes to answer the questions on the other side of this form.

WE DO NOT WANT YOU TO SIGN THIS FORM.

The survey printed in DECOR is based on a small selected group of frame shops across the country and we know the information may vary greatly from area to area. As a service for our members EPFG is doing its own pricing survey. Upon your return we will compile the data and publish the information on low, high and average prices in our area. We appreciate your cooperation.

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