

# OREGON WOOD WORKS

## THREE MAJOR PROJECTS FINISHED!

What a summer it's been for Guild woodworkers. Three large projects were begun and completed. Each very different in each of their own ways. All were announced to the general membership. Some chose to participate, many did not. You only learn by doing, so many of you missed adventures of a lifetime. Read on in the following pages about each of these projects; woodworking at its finest.

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**Replica 1835 Stagecoach makes ninety-mile journey through Washington.**



**Salem Police Display Cases**



**AHC Sponsor Board**

# THE PRESIDENT: MAKING GUILT WORK FOR ME

BY LEE JOHNSON, PRESIDENT

*It's the same problem,  
just a different order of  
things*

I don't know about you, but I've had one outrageously busy summer; family stuff, Guild stuff, and darned little work in between. It is actually a relief to get back to work (since for me, that's woodwork, and so it's play too.)

I've a little theory about the "stuff" we do. The stuff we do all falls into three categories: the Gotta Do's, the Oughta Do's and the Wanna Do's.

Now, when you're still working, punching someone else's clock or making a living punching your own clock, that's the big Gotta Do. Then there's getting the kids all the places and things they need, that's a big Gotta Do. Pay the bills, take care of the house, get the car's oil changed -- more Gotta Do's.

Then there's the never-ending lists of Oughta Do's. Build those shelves in the Garage so you can straighten stuff out; learn how to categorize your tunes in the new i-phone; get some contact cement on that loose corner of countertop; write your Guild newsletter item today; clean your closet & take the old stuff to Goodwill -- it's a list without end.

So what happens to the Wanna Do's? Read through the new Highland Hardware Catalog; learn how to find the short leg of a golden ratio; order a new saw blade from Mr. Tashiro; get to the shop to build that end table! Regrettably, the Wanna Do's tend to fall off the end of the "stuff" scale.

Well, when I retire, I'll have time.

Fat chance! As an already once-retired guy, I can tell you that a terrible thing happens. When you retire and the kids are gone, some black magic wreaks itself upon you. Your

@#%\$###@ Oughta-Do's graduate up to Gotta-Do's. Yep, those things you could put off until tomorrow got to the tomorrow off to which you put them.

The still-working spouse also realizes that your Big Gotta Do (punching someone else's clock) is gone and so gives you a whole new list of Oughta-Do's masquerading as Gotta's -- stand in line at the Post Office; wait on hold for your cell phone service provider for as many hours as it takes; stop at the store for something for dinner. **ARRG!**

So don't kid yourself working-stiffs-who-expect-more-shop-time-when-you-retire. It is the same problem, just in a different order of things. The solution isn't having fewer real "Gotta-Do's". The solution is guilt management, just like it always was.

The trick, I find, is to teach myself to feel more guilty about not putting in enough shop time rather than feeling guilty about all that other stuff.

And after such a busy summer, I'm feeling really, really guilty about not getting in enough shop time, and so that's where I'm going right now. And if you wanted a longer or more meaty and thoughtful message from your Guild President, you're just out of luck. My new-found guilt complex is taking me right to the last coat of finish on the Architectural Heritage Center sponsor board, fairing the frames on the walnut panels for the "Trillium Room", and fitting the new zero-clearance cabinet saw insert that came last week from Lee Valley.

Oh dear! Do those sound like "Wanna-Do's". Well, what's a fella to do in the face of such overwhelming guilt?

<b>WELCOME NEW MEMBERS</b>
Welcome to the Guild these new members: Dave Maguire, Mark Roberts, Brian Noel, Bill Adams, John Deer

## OUR NEXT MEETING—OCTOBER 17, 2007 7:00 PM

The October Guild meeting will be on Oct 17 at **Hardwood Industries**

20548 SW Wildrose Ct. in Sherwood

We will be touring their facility with Doug Wirkila, and no doubt will have lots of questions he will answer. We'll all meet in a room followed by a tour.

With any luck there may be a presentation by Lee on

the Sponsor board. Rumor has it that it's too heavy to drag around much. We'll see.

General meeting begins at 7:00. Social time starts at 6:30

Directions: From I-5, take the Tualatin exit. Head west on Tualatin-Sherwood road about 3 miles to Wildrose Place. Then North a block to Tualatin Industries.

# THE MAIL MUST GO THROUGH

BY BOB OSWALD

The mail DID go through. This is the last article in this four month series. This incredible stagecoach building project ended with a bang September 23 when the it rolled into the capitol city of Washington, escorted by the 4th Cavalry in civil war regalia, escorted by the sheriff and local police from Olympia, and received by dignitaries of Olympia. You can not imagine how what started out as a ‘simple’ woodworking project turned into an event that brought literally thousands of residents out of their homes to city parks, stagecoach stops, or just along the highway to see this historic recreation.

This was an incredible Adventure

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, 1 day before the start of the Territo-

types of joinery. bent laminations;

Ten small Washington towns creating a stagecoach stop and a community celebration

The journey – there were a few breakdowns along the way. And the drivers, rather than being upset, cajoled and reassured the passengers, “This is just like it used to be in the 1800’s”. Problems do occur. The most serious, in a time consuming way, was that one leather strap in the thorough brace suspension snapped from metal abrasion. This let the coach settle about an inch and rubbed on the brake bar making it inoperable. So the spare coach came on line for the final leg of Day 1. An all night session in the Centralia parking lot rebuilt the brace and it made the rest of the journey uneventfully.

Two days into the trip this realization dawned on me. “We have already traveled *eighty miles*. This is incredible for a project that had only 2 miles of road testing in benign conditions. And the mail that came on board at Longview, the U.S. Mail, has been transported by stage eighty miles already. We’re almost there!”

This was another of the grandest adventures in which one could be involved. It’s where belonging to the Guild (*and getting involved*) can lead you. What started out to be an interesting project, a curiosity, an opportunity to help build something a little unusual, turned into an event that was shared by thousands of people. Young children studying history through



**Rolling into Centralia, Washington**

rial Express stagecoach run, this project in my mind was still an object, now very large and heavy, made of wood and iron. It was joinery and glue. Thursday, the morning of departure, parts were still being attached, ornamentation mostly, but still a work in progress. At 9:00 am the coach was pushed onto a U-haul car carrier and headed north to Longview to educate some grade school history classes at the Kelso Fair-ground. On arrival it was surprising to see so many people waiting for it; and this was just the beginning of this adventure.

Some facts: We stopped at a closed weigh station late at night along the I5. “Want to see what it weighs?” says Rob. the coach weighs 1520 pounds. Roughly \$20,000 in material and purchased parts (the wheels for example). May 15 to September 15 construction. Four months for a project that normally takes two years. Many



**Ninety miles of highway—The mail must go through**

*(Continued on page 4)*

## STAGECOACH MAIL RUN (CON'T)

homestead programs; communities at each stagecoach stop chatting with neighbors; people along the highways and in the farms rushing out to the street to wave; cell phone cameras and conversations behind the wheel "You won't believe this, I'm driving past a stagecoach....".

And the team members. This was a woodworking project. But as it progressed, it became a community effort; bits of help came from many directions.

Two men from the Trimet repair crew stopped by frequently to monitor progress. A problem with a big weld job caused delays. One of them is a professional welder. He took the part home and returned it the next day, perfectly done.

Four men, horse and mule drivers, were interested from the beginning. A surly bunch sometimes, but underneath, when you got to know them, people talented in their field and incredibly willing to share. None of them had ever done an event this big. Four drivers traded off legs of the journey. They all were asking when we would do it again, a big change from guarded involvement at the start. The last leg of the trip into Olympia, they rigged a 6 mule team and shared animals among themselves. They rigged three stagecoaches to make that last journey. No one giving directions, just four guys who fell in love with an adventure.

And the mastermind, the drive, commitment and enthusiasm behind this, Rob Lewis, woodshop manager at OCAC. Reflecting late at night, first night 'on the trail' I realized that he is a pioneer. A man of dreams and of vision. And all of it focused on sharing life with others. No self driven motives for materialistic reasons, just a desire to make life grand. We had hurdles along the way, in the construction, in the planning, and



**Core Building Team: Rob Oswald, Robert Lewis, Amanda Wal Graff, Rob Lewis**

in the execution. A serious breakdown en route. But Rob worked all night to fix the breakdown and endlessly during the whole project to guide it and make it happen. Sounding perhaps too corny, Rob is what makes up the spirit of this great country. People who will step out and do the unusual, the impossible, and bring the rest of the world along with them.

Rolling into the capitol city, the band is playing, dignitaries are making speeches. The First Gentleman of Washington, Mark Gregoire rode the last leg in shotgun position. I talked with him, shook hands, reclaimed my coach gun from him. Photos, interviews, applause, celebrations. Wow.

Get involved folks. Life is short but the journey can be fantastic. It was for me. And there's more to come.

## WOOD MAGAZINE WANTS YOUR SHOP

### WOOD magazine is looking for photogenic shops

Do you have the kind of shop other woodworkers like to visit? Is your shop filled with clever ideas that help you work smarter, faster, or safer? If so, submit your workshop or individual shop projects for publication in *America's Best Home Workshops, Volume 2*.

In Volume 1, the editors of *WOOD* showcased 15 shops and dozens of individual projects from shops around the country. Now, they're looking for more great shops to feature. To

learn more, visit [www.woodmagazine.com/homeshops](http://www.woodmagazine.com/homeshops)

link for more info:

<http://www.woodmagazine.com/wood/story.jsp?storyid=/templatedata/wood/story/data/1129152374140.xml>

Marlen Kemmet  
Managing Editor  
WOOD magazine/Online

# ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE SPONSOR BOARD

BY LEE JOHNSON

What takes a year and a half in gestation and a short, hot summer to create? A Guild Project, of course.

In this case, it is the Architectural Heritage Center's (AHC) Sponsor Board. The Sponsor Board is the place for the AHC to thank the people who donated money and time to rehabilitating the building which now is the Center. It is located at 701 SW Grand Avenue. There were a large number of building industry people who donated time, labor and money (more than \$1000), those who donated money, and those who will donate money annually will all be recognized on the donor board.

The Executive Director of the Center, Cathy

got the OK fairly quickly. But then the Director went out for surgery. By the time she was back, I went out for sur-



gery, and other things interfered, but we finally got started on a warm evening June 14, 2007.

Eight Thursday evenings later, we had our board built -- last work session on August 30. There were some hot nights, and some late nights, and some un-heart-healthy, but tasty, barbeque or German sausage dinners behind us, and a marvelous product in front of us.

I'll give a brief overview of the construction for you mechanical-minded types.

First, we needed a torsion box for the upper section, tied to plywood for the lower section, the two sections held together by dovetails, and firmed up by the side columns. That is what I refer to as the "bones" of the project.

Because both the front and back "skin" of the torsion box needed to be solid wood (this is a mahogany project) to allow letter carving, we had to make both the front and back skin of 1/2 stock & joint the whole thing to allow movement of the box against the columns. If you're interested in that detail, ask and you shall receive. (I learned torsion box construction from a John DuBay guild workshop -- paid off.)



The "bones" also need three half-circle bent laminations for the three arches; we made the forms, bent the laminations, and threw away the forms as soon as we could bring ourselves to part with such carefully-made items. Torsion

*(Continued on page 6)*



Galbraith, gave me a sketch of a three-section donor/sponsor board in about January of 2006. It was very plain. I said it simply would not do & responded with a drawing which would be a quite complex board reflecting the façade, and especially main entry of the building -- and 1883 Italianate design. Cool.

There was a little bit of back and forth with committees & stuff, but we



## SPONSOR BOARD (CON'T)

(Continued from page 5)

box, columns, lower section and columns all tied together created the framework. We just all worked on that stuff.

Then it was a matter of doing the decorations. Gene Shaw wanted the turnings -- good man. Bob O'Connor, Steve Philips and Marilyn Welter handled the half-round facings and major front panels. Larry Butrick was our col-



Marilyn Welter, Gene Shaw, Ron Senger, Steve Philips, Lee Johnson

umn plinth man. Ron Senger and Gene teamed up for the volute brackets and spades on the upper columns. Ed Ferguson stopped by on one of his infrequent trips back to Portland and did stuff; Marilyn became expert with molding planes and scratch stock to do moldings and beads. I did whatever they needed me to do -- mostly finding tools for them and only occasionally actually doing some actual work.

The product is in my shop at this writing awaiting its third and final coat of finish. It is to be installed for an "unveiling" at the Center's annual auction. We'll let you



know when that is -- I think sometime in October.

While it is a great product, the purpose of doing this and other projects by the Guild is two-fold. First, it is a community service. Giving back to the society that allows us to do this thing we love to do; work with wood. Secondly, we learn stuff, and we make friends. This was a good project for both purposes. We like what the Architectural Heritage Center does: help preserve the early architectural heritage of the place we live, much of which is woodcraft. That's right down our alley. And I, for one, not only learned stuff about woodworking (because a couple things on this project pushed me pretty hard), but also came away with an even greater appreciation of the folks with whom I worked.

Consider participating in one of these projects if you can. It is a heck of a lot of fun.



## YOU AND THE GUILD

BY ARIEL ENRIQUEZ

... **A WORD ABOUT THE STATE FAIR:** This is my plug for working the State Fair booth: People, if you haven't done it, at least once, then you're denying yourself of one of the most wonderful times you can have as a woodworker. You go and perform some piece of woodworking piece, people watch you, y'all chat about it, they catch the 'bug', and you are SMILING as big as your face because it's so much fun.

You say you're not "That good..."? So what? Nothing draws the Looky-Lous in so quickly as giving them the opportunity to show you a better way to perform a cut or a scrape or something. Go spend the day. Work the booth half the time then go see all the great sights like the biggest horse in the world or the neat handicrafts done by all your regular everyday citizens like yourself. And they do it just for fun!

Unfortunately the state fair was over before this went to press. But it STILL APPLIES and it applies to every event in which the guild participates. The Woodworkers Show at the Expo is coming soon. Call Clyde Hastings at 503-774-7416

## SALEM POLICE BADGE DISPLAY BOXES

BY ARIEL ENRIQUEZ

It's funny how things just flow one-into-the-other sometimes. Back in February, at the monthly meeting, I ran into John Dubay. John mentions to me that the cop shop in Salem has a need for some woodworking volunteers for a project.

*If you were around in '06 you know of the group project for the German-American School. Guild volunteers donated over 200 hours making bookshelves, a table and one "fun piece", a pyramid/shelving unit which turned out to be a thoroughly wonderful puzzle. We all learned a lot from that piece. Many were interested in a future project.*



So along comes John. He laid out a description of the

project and I knew immediately that it would be a perfect fit for us. John agreed to act as liaison with the Salem Police Department.

A meeting with John and Officer Isham got into the details. They had existing display cases made by a now-unknown volunteer some years ago. The cases were simple and elegant forms that did their job adequately. The cases were viewed from the open-air atrium of the Salem city hall building. It is a very neat and eye-catching sight for visitors. The wall space was only about one third occupied which is why they wanted more cases.

Apparently trading shoulder patches is a common hobby between police departments and their collection literally filled boxes. They had hundreds of patches, beyond those on display, from departments all over the world. It was determined that 18 more cases would fill the empty space.

Eighteen cases; remembering the 20 bookcases we had made for the school...did we want to do that again? Fortunately the budget wasn't bottomless after cost estimates for eighteen cases, the quantity was reduced to ten.

The GAS project was successful partly due to the introducing of a new skill/tool, the Keller dovetailing jig. Everyone loves getting their hands on a new tool. I needed a 'hook' for this project and determined that box joints would be a great way to introduce people to the MultiRouter.

The MultiRouter is basically a milling machine utilizing a router as its cutting tool. As with a mill, the operator has a 3-axis capability for tooling the work surface. Nearly every professional woodworker I know, even those who claim to eschew machine work for its lack of 'woodworking spirit' has one. The joinery we would employ was not only going to be interesting to create but the results would be stronger and more visually appealing than the mitered corners. This would be a breeze!

We are fortunate to have the Franklin High school available through the goodwill of Chuck Landers and Bill Bree, Chuck let us work one evening during the week and Saturdays. Bill graciously opened up and gave us the run of the facility on weekends. We couldn't have done this project without them and the Franklin shop.

The word of another project went out and the volunteers promptly stepped up and I actually had to turn people away. Making 18 cases now seemed a welcome idea but sanity soon returned to me.



The volunteers on this project were half from the previous year's project, Kerry Walker, Dennis Dolph and Dick Emmel and some new faces, Gig Lewis, Michael Denham and John Dubay

The work involved was quite straight forward stuff. Stock preparation was done with the donated facilities of The Joinery, where I'm employed. The quarter-sawn red oak was wide-belt sanded to uniform thickness.

### Some interesting things we learned were:

We didn't like the water-based polyacrylic liquid that was supposed to be a wipe-on but yielded a cloddy (the best way I can describe it) uneven surface. We scraped off the stuff and went with oil. Everyone, including the clients, liked the results of the oil.

Climb-feeding on a router table; this was very interesting. Cutting with the cutter, instead of against it, is



# POLICE BADGE DISPLAY CASES (CON'T)

something no tool manufacturer will advise but nearly every professional woodworker will tell you is the correct way to avoid tearing out in some woods. This was especially true for the quarter-sawn red oak. I don't think anyone on this group had ever done this, but now they can. I wish someone had would have taken pictures of the white knuckles from holding so fast to the work pieces that wanted to fly away.



MultiRouters: For some, this was the first time to use this tool. Everyone is now quite proficient at making box joints with it and that just scratches the surface of what it can do. I wouldn't be surprised to see a MultiRouter in some of their shops in the future.

Dealing with mistakes: everyone makes them. Starting over when something goes wrong just isn't feasible or even necessary sometimes. Learning to patch up a tooling error, and making the patch virtually invisible, takes focus and attention to detail. It's a real spirit-lifting kind of thing to bring back a piece from the brink of being merely adequate to being virtually perfect.



Vix bits are neat! These self-centering drill bits have been around for years. They make hardware placement a breeze. It was a new insight for some. They come in various sizes and I bet most of the people in this project now own at least a couple of the bits; excellent time savers.

Estimating jobs, a tough task! I learned on this job that entering a pre-determined cost estimate in a fixed contract takes special skill. Several factors during the work led to cost overruns. A wise piece of advice I received since then will stick with me now is to estimate what you will need and then double it. If the client

won't accept it, well, there will always be another job in my future and another bidder willing to take the low ball.

Volunteers are great! This small group of woodworkers are only a fraction of the body of the Guild. None of the work of the Guild can get done without the efforts of volunteers. Here's a nugget for all of you to hold on to. Volunteering always yields more for the giver than the receiver, Every single person on the project will tell you that they walked away with more than they gave. The camaraderie, the knowledge gained, the experience and practicing of their skills, all of it surely tops the few hours traded. If you've yet to get your hands 'dirty' then I urge you to do so. You'll never regret it.



My thanks to all of the group for all your fine efforts. Special thanks to John, whose experience with the governmental procedures and protocols I found immensely useful. John also did the shopping for us at the sewing goods store to get the cloth liner which had to match the previous backgrounds (a task I didn't look forward to). And special thanks also to Chuck Landers, the 'angel' of the Franklin shop.

It's your Guild! Get into it!



**Kerry Walker, Dick Emmel, Gig Lewis, Dennis Dolph, Juhn Dubay, Ariel Enriquez**

## TWEET OF DWEAMS CONTEST 2008

BY BOB OSWALD

It's time for the annual Tweet of Dweams contest! Build a house, bath, or feeder for the birds and for the benefit of Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve. Your entry will be judged in a friendly

competition in May 2008, with a Grand Prize of \$1,000 for the best overall entry.

Other prizes will be awarded in several contest categories.

All contest entries will end up on the auction block at

the annual Tweet of Dweams benefit auction to be held at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Education Center in Hillsboro, Oregon in May 2008. All proceeds support activities for children, families, individuals, and for wildlife habitat improvements.

I entered last year and won 2nd place in ornamental. It was a thrill to see my entry on the auction table.



2nd Ornamental—Bob Oswald



1st Functional

Details on the contest and entry forms can be found at [www.jacksonbottom.org](http://www.jacksonbottom.org). Then click on the Tweet of Dweams icon for complete information.



1st Ornamental

Photos by Jason Kinch Photographic.

## FOR SALE — HELP WANTED

FREE: .(100) 1-1/2" wood wheels and (100) 2" wood wheels for toy cars & trucks. Also a lot of scrap alder and maple and iben

4 old growth quarter sawn pine boards 1-1/4" thick x 20' wide x 8 + feet long. And two the same dimension x 3/4" thick. Knot free. Rough cut in the 1920's \$100 each board.  
Frank LaRoque 541-296-1066

A small, wood products manufacturing company in Molalla, OR needs For 18 years they have manufactured handcrafted, traditional, Japanese-style soaking tubs, each a beautiful masterpiece designed and constructed by our master carpenter. The company sells tubs and bath surrounds in the US, Europe, and Asia and has been featured in national magazines like Sunset, House and Garden, Interior Design, and New York Magazine. Their master carpenter passed away recently and they are searching for a replacement, or two part-time woodcrafters if possible.

Mr. Eugene Jackson, President Oregon Hinoki Products, Inc.  
[eandcj@molalla.net](mailto:eandcj@molalla.net)

## 2008 INTRA-GUILD SHOW

BY BRIAN WARRINGTON

It's never too early to begin a project for this event.

Hi every one, the 2008 intra-guild show is a few months away, but we are gearing up for it a little early this time. I am seeking input for it, whether it be positive or negative. I have had a couple of complaints about last years show, so I am moving now to improve it.

If you have any ideas or offerings, please tell me. Complaints or suggestions, resolutions to whatever you may find lacking, changes in the way judging has been done or awards are given, anything, let me know. This show is yours, and Marilyn and I are here to ensure it runs to your satisfaction. It is governed by nobody but guild members, so let's make it as awesome as the projects that are shown at it. I hope to hear from you.

E-mail me at [kingnomad3@yahoo.com](mailto:kingnomad3@yahoo.com), or call 503-366-7925; leave a message as necessary with a good time to call back. Any and every suggestion/complaint/whatever will be taken into account.

Thank you  
Brian

## ART AND THE PEARL

The Guild returned to Art in the Pearl after several years absence. Ron Senger and Elliott Zais demonstrate techniques for an unidentified by-stander.



## I LEARNED ABOUT WOODWORKING

BY BOB OSWALD

Again, will I ever learn? Every project has to have some kind of error. Some are recoverable; well all recoverable if you throw enough money at it. So I know once again about measure more than once. I know I did but I managed to read the scale consistently wrong every time; 29 does not equal 39. I pulled the frame for this wine bar project out of clamps tonight and set it on the floor. MAJOR problem. It's only 29 inches high and is supposed to be 39 inches. Ever done that stupid trick?

*The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is a group of professional and amateur woodworkers like you, committed to developing our craftsmanship and wood-working business skills. The Guild offers many benefits for members, including:*

- *monthly educational meetings*
- *monthly newsletter*
- *mentoring program to help members develop their skills in specific areas*
- *discounts*
- *woodworking shows*
- *network of business partners (the key to our development as members and as a Guild, providing additional learning opportunities)*
- *and a network of support.*

*For information on how you can become a member, contact Guild President Lee Johnson at 503-292-4340 or email [leejohnson13@comcast.net](mailto:leejohnson13@comcast.net)*

## **GUILD OF OREGON WOODWORKERS**

P.O. Box 13744, Portland, OR 97213-0744

### **CLASSES, SEMINARS, DEMOS, AND SUCH....**

**Northwest Woodworking Studio** 503-284-1644, [www.northwestwoodworking.com](http://www.northwestwoodworking.com)

**Rockler Woodworking** 503-672-7266, [www.rockler.com](http://www.rockler.com)

**Oregon College of Art and Craft** 503-297-5544, [www.ocac.edu](http://www.ocac.edu)

**Woodcraft** 503-684-1428, [www.woodcraft.com](http://www.woodcraft.com)

**Woodcrafters** 503-231-0226, 212 NE 6th Avenue, Portland, [www.woodcrafters.us](http://www.woodcrafters.us)

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\* Some sponsors offer discounts to current Guild members. Refer to the website under *Benefits/Discounts* for details and restrictions. Remem-

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### **Guild of Oregon Woodworkers**

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**We're on the Web!**

[www.GuildOfOregonWoodworkers.com](http://www.GuildOfOregonWoodworkers.com)