

OREGON WOOD WORKS

IT'S BEEN A SLOW MONTH ...

BOB OSWALD. PRESIDENT

I can't believe the ironic irony. Last night as I was reviewing the newsletter status and came to the sled article later in the newsletter I thought, is this still relevant? It happened pretty early in the month. It's late February, the sun has been visible. So of course I awoke this morning to two inches of fluffy snow covering a layer of ice. Never fails when I have an important appointment in town, that the whether god's challenge it.

So, what to write about. Since I write most of the newsletter, it's hard to dream up something *presidential*. So this lofty column may come and go unless you all give me food for thought during the month.

But for this month, well, I've been meaning to build those end tables I mentioned last month, or was it the month before that? It's amazing how when you're retired, you have so little free time. On that note I looked up the date and discovered it was six years ago this month that I walked through that door for the last time. It's incredible where time has gone.



On the other hand it's been a slow month for building things, so there wasn't as much

(Continued on page 9)

Tool of the Month

Inside this Issue:

<i>A Slow Month</i>	1
<i>Toshio Odate</i>	2
<i>Seminars & Classes</i>	3
<i>Safety: Give it a Twist</i>	4
<i>Take it Apart</i>	5
<i>Workshop Tips</i>	5
<i>FSC Certification</i>	6
<i>Hardwood Industries</i>	7
<i>Guild Tasks</i>	8
<i>Classifieds</i>	8
<i>Abhh, the Irony</i>	9

NEXT MEETING—MARCH 18, 2009 7:00PM

Franklin High School, 5405 SE Woodward Portland, OR

This month we will have demonstrations on power tool safety. We all know power tools can be dangerous if not lethal, so how do you ensure your well being when using them?

Do you have a special jig you have made or purchased that you can show, or better yet, demonstrate? Do you have skills on a table saw, router, planer, etc., that can be displayed to the group for our mutual benefit? I'm seeking volunteers to help with this meeting,

We currently have two confirmed exhibitors, Clyde Hastings will show you how to cut a plywood sheet sized piece of wood on a table saw safely, straight/clean. Bob Oswald, router man at Rockler, has a few tips about how NOT to have your own "Router Rocket". This will be an interesting demonstration.

We can use several more people. Even a single thing would make for smaller groups and more to learn. One person, a pair or a group can volunteer. So help each other by sharing knowledge. Contact Brian at kingnomad3@yahoo.com

AND... two other firsts at this meeting: The swap meet prior to the meeting and an opportunity to buy a guild logo shirt. Swap meet starts at 6:00, ends at 7:00.

Directions:

Crossing the Ross Island Bridge eastbound, take SE Powell to 52nd, turn North to SE Woodward, then right on Woodward; the shop is on the corner on the left.

Board meeting will be at 5:30 pm.

SPRING WOODWORKERS SHOWCASE

BILL BOLSTAD

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers will hold a show of their work on April 24--26 at the Oregon Convention Center. The show is held in conjunction with the Oregon Potters Association and other Oregon crafts guilds. Other media being featured include pottery, jewelry, glass, beading, and sculpture.

The Guild will have thirteen booths; a 10'X10' booth space for members is \$325. Our showroom will be coordinated with Northwest Fine Woodworkers in an adjoining showroom.

Show space for Guild members will be available for

single item display in a Guild booth. Additional items may be displayed for \$10.00 per item.

Booth space may be shared with another Guild member. To sign up for a booth or to share a space, or arrange to display your work, contact Bill Bolstad at 541-327-2280.

All Guild members should plan to come observe some of the best woodworking in the northwest along with many beautiful crafts made in our area. This is a "Don't Miss!" event.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

BOB OSWALD

Carl Enzenberger, Jerry Catlin, Dave Gende, Dennis Hemken, Jim McDermott

We're happy to have you with us. Please introduce yourself to me at the next meeting. I don't know who you are, and I'd like to say Hello. Bob Oswald

GUILD MEETINGS

COMING SOON

APRIL...SCROLL WORK

Terry Foltz, a scroll saw artist from Battleground, Washington will be our guest at the April meeting.

A Vietnam Vet and retired engineer, he now spends his time with his saw making stunning works of art. Look under his name in the artist search on the following website:
www.olympicartgallery.com

MAY...GUILD CONTEST

As they say, hard to believe another year has gone by. May will be the Intra-guild contest. Members are invited to display their woodworking project for member admiration, judging, and prizes.

There are three categories of skill: beginner, intermediate and advanced. It's a self assessment, but sandbaggers will be frowned upon. Some cash prizes for the first three places.

So start thinking about an entry. Something made of wood, has not been shown before, that you built yourself. Furniture, boats, windmills, stagecoaches, you name it and

TOSHIO ODATE RARE VISIT

BY THE TIMBER FRAMES GUILD

Japanese craftsman and author Toshio Odate will be making a rare West Coast appearance as the featured presenter at the 23rd annual Western Conference of the Timber Framers Guild, March 27-29, 2009 at the Sunriver Resort in Sunriver, Oregon.

He'll spend the entire weekend giving numerous demonstrations and spending time with attendees, sharing his vast knowledge (and plenty of stories).

For complete information on the Conference, go to

<http://www.tfguild.org/confs/cfwest2009.html>

Conference fees vary from \$200 to \$300 for non-members depending on events. Check the registration form for details

Toshio Odate has been a sculptor and furniture maker for more than sixty years, forty of them in the U.S. He is a noted author and teacher, and he delighted participants at the last Eastern Conference in Maine with his energy, humor, skill and passion for woodworking. He liked us, too, and wants to come to Sunriver, where our western members will get a rare chance to see him in person (he lives in Connecticut). His main presentation, tentatively scheduled for Sunday morning, is titled "The Morality of the Craftsman," and will be preceded by demonstrations throughout the weekend.

These demos include sharpening and survey of three basic Japanese tools: the plane, chisel and saw. Toshio welcomes you to bring your own tools for him to evaluate and offer recommendations for tuning up and improving. We will also provide a time for him to show slides of some of his monumental sculptures that he feels will be of great interest and inspiration to timber framers. Toshio's enthusiasm; generosity and boundless energy guarantees that everyone will get a chance to learn the most from this legendary craftsman.

CLASSES & SEMINARS

STEAM BENDING SEMINAR

WITH GORDON KELLER

Saturday March 14th, 2009. 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Place: Gordon's Shop in Dunthorpe area of Portland
Cost: \$25 for members (includes a sandwich lunch)

Gordon will talk about the theory of steam bending, what types of woods are suitable for bending and what types are not. We will discuss different application for bent wood and Gordon will show us examples of his work using bent-wood components. He will show us what a "steam chamber" or "steam box" looks like and where to find them. We will discuss how to mold the wet steamed wood, using a mold and/or strapping. After lunch, we will bend some different species of wood. Everybody will have a chance to try this technique.

Gordon is a professional woodworker who uses bent-wood components in Windsor Chairs and other furniture projects. He has a masters certificate from the Marc Adams School of Woodworking.

Note: The steaming will be done outside. If we have serious rainfall, we will try for the following Saturday, March 21st.

COOPERING

WITH ALEXANDER ANDERSON

April 18, 10:00-4:00, Franklin HS Shop
\$45 for members, \$55 for others (cost includes a sandwich lunch)

Come learn how to make curved panels or doors, as well as curved table bases or columns. This the art of the barrel-maker, and the use of glued up staves of wood to formed curved forms.)

Alexander will discuss glueing up and clamping the panels as well as finishing the outside as well as the inside curved surfaces. He will talk about making simple home-made planes to accomplish this.

Alexander studied with Master Carver Jesse Johns as well as completing a two year Mastery Program with Gary Rogowski. He grew up in northern California near the College of the Redwoods, where he was greatly influenced by James Krenov.

BASICS OF FINE WOODWORKING

One opening left in the April class. A fall series just announced, starts in September and is totally open. Call Gig Lewis at 503-646.7056 to reserve a spot.

SHAKER BOXES

WITH KERRY WALKER

April 4th, 2009 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Franklin HS Woodshop, SE Portland
\$80 for members (includes \$35 material fee & lunch)



Learn how to make traditional Shaker boxes. You will build a set of three boxes, sized from #1 to #3. We will begin by discussing some of the original methods used by the Shakers before moving on to a more modern approach.

We will prepare the bands, cut the fingers, soak the bands, bend the bands and tack them, put them in the shapers, create and fit tops and bottoms and finally discuss an appropriate finish. By the end of the class everyone should have one set of three boxes to take home. Class limit 10.

DON DE DOBBELEER CLASSES

Don DeDobbeleer, a Siskiyou Guild member, has taught several class for our Guild. He is offering some advanced technique classes at his shop in Etna, CA an hour South of Ashland. These classes include, mortise and floating tenon techniques, the bent lamination curve, vacuum bag veneering, freehand dovetails with your router, mastering the curve, building your own fine dining chairs, and building your own expanding dining table. More information is available at his web page finecustomwoodfurniture.com

CLASS CARPOOL

GIG LEWIS

Bob O'Connor and Gig Lewis will be driving down to Don DeDobbeleer's in California May 1 for a 2-day class on Dining Room Table Design with part of the time spent on making the necessary Jigs for building the table. The fee is \$150, three nights at a motel for \$150, plus food and gas. Carpool space is available for 2 more . Call Gig at 503-646-7056 for more info.

To sign up for a class, Go to the Guild website.

Under the Events menu, click seminars. Under Registration, click the link to Flyer. Print the form, fill and mail it with a check to the address on the form. Note: The list on it is a little out of date. We'll get that fixed. But write in what you want. From the list under the Seminars page.

If all else fails, contact:

Bob O'Connor 503-774-5123

bandjoconnor@comcast.net

SAFETY: GIVE IT A TWIST

BOB OSWALD

Ripping things on the table saw, something we pretty much take for granted. Yet there are numerous circumstances where a rip cut is the practical and quick way to do the job but the configuration is such that you can easily experience kickback.

NOTE: All safety guards have been removed for clarity

Kickback, the event that occurs when the rising back side of the saw blade catches the wood firmly enough to throw it back towards you, usually off the saw and into the space beyond. In general this can be in the form of 1) a 'spear' or 2) a Frisbee. The spear is a narrow strip of wood between the blade and the fence, that get launched straight back off the table.

The Frisbee is a 'square, flat piece of wood lifted off the table and sent spinning backwards, to exit the table in most any direction.



Figure x. A Safe Configuration.

As shown in Figure 1, ripping a long narrow board is probably the safest configuration. But watch the board as it exits the blade. Be sure to push it all the way past the blade to prevent it from kicking back.

While the main cause for kickback is the same, the back of the blade catching the wood, the dynamics are slightly different depending on the cutting configuration.



Figure 2. A Safe Configuration.

In Figure 2, the situation looks and feels safe. A large piece of plywood is held against the fence. The things that make it safer are the long contact area with the fence and the mass of the wood. However, if you push close to the fence, this board

can still twist towards the blade, put pressure on the blade, and very possible get tossed off the table.

Now in Figure 3 take that same piece of plywood only eight inches square. The fence contact area is short, so there's a much greater chance of letting the far end of the plywood come slightly off the fence as it's pushed past the blade. Aggravate the situation, as shown in the photo, but

the cut piece being wider than it is deep. Where the hand is position, safely to the right of the blade, it's prone to let the board twist counterclockwise. As the board reaches the back of the blade, it most often has a tendency to press against the blade rather than the fence. The odds are very high that the blade with grab it, pull it further into the blade and the lift it up over the top of the blade, spinning it counterclockwise off the table, leaving an ugly track on the bottom.



Figure 3. Marginal Configuration.

A splitter or a riving knife will help but may not necessarily prevent this situation. Both devices are a short distance behind the blade. Depending on the length of the board, they may not be in contact at the right time.

Solutions to this situation include: 1) Use a crosscut sled, by far one of the safest tools. The limitation here is that it may not fit the configuration of the piece. 2) apply a force as shown by the black arrow in Figure 3 as the wood progresses along the fence. This keeps the leading edge firmly in contact with the fence, and hence much less likely to make excess contact with the saw blade. In other words, your hand is applying force in four directions. A) downward on the table, B) forward to move the board past the blade C) to the right to hold it against the fence and D) pressure in a clockwise direction to assure contact with the fence at the far end.

Figure 4 shows the most unsafe configuration, cutting a long piece off a narrow board. This should not be attempted. It's a perfect application for the miter sled.

What dimensions are important in these scenarios? There's no best answer. Ultimately it takes experience, hopefully safely obtained, to learn the limits. When in doubt, especially if you're apprehensive, don't do it.

While no process involving a table saw is totally safe, this 'twist' concept will significantly improve your cut quality and stability. As in all cases involving power tools, if you are not comfortable or experienced in the operation, you should not perform it. Obtain assistance or professional training.



Figure 4. Unsafe !!!

TAKE IT A PART

BOB OSWALD

Go ahead, tear it apart. How many times have you, like me, wished you'd done something a different way. Built that cart with swivel wheels instead of fixed..... TAKE IT APART. In many cases it's just wood.

You see people tear houses apart all the time. We call it remodeling. People take furniture apart that they buy from someone else on Craig's list and rebuild, restore, modify, whatever. But when YOU build it, it's sacrosanct, it must live forever. It just doesn't come apart. Well, it's just wood. A saw fixes anything made of wood☺ Here's my experience with a tool cart.

I bought a forge recently, the last item needed to be an amateur blacksmith. (Anvil, Hammer & Tongs, Forge).

The forge was part of a larger forging center. It had its own stand but was not useable in its configuration. I needed a cart to get it up in the air and allow movement in and out of the garage. You can see in the photo the perspective of the forge to the stand that was finally built. I didn't know what I wanted. That's a common problem.

With experience from other adventures, it would be a steel framework – incredibly strong and light compared to a wooden structure. I bought the iron and welded it together; it worked out well. Then a wood deck and a block to adapt the forge to it became obvious after the frame was built.

Initially I intended to move it with a hand truck but loose fire bricks and other unattached things dictated the need for wheels. BUT the forge is already bolted in place.

The wheels go on the bottom. It has to be taken apart !!.

Finally a little voice said "Look dummy, just do it. It's only three bolts." So it got unbolted and set aside. Of course it was easy to add the two casters and a fixed leg so it wouldn't roll around during use. Perfect. Reassembled, ready to fire it up. Good – to – go !!

The first time I wheeled it outside, lifting like a wheelbarrow, with all the iron, propane tank, bricks, etc, well it weighed a little more than I expected. Long term it was not going to work. It needs wheels on all four corners..

But, darn, it's all assembled (again). I have to "Take All That Stuff Apart" to turn it upside down and modify it. Does that fit any pattern you recognize in yourself.

The reality of the task - - - move a few items to a box. Unbolt, modify and make it right. It took less than an hour to do it, and the results will last forever.

This story is about procrastination. Don't look at cutting the leg off that table, ripping the drawer apart, whatever, as an insurmountable task, especially if you built it yourself. Take it apart. Fix it. A week later you'll be so proud of yourself for getting on with it and making it right.



WORKSHOP TIPS

FRANK LAROQUE

Ed: Quite a while back, Frank LaRoque sent me a number of very wise tidbits of advice to publish. I used them for a while and then misplaced the original document. My computer needs organizing like my shop. I remembered and located that file today. I'll publish these now until I run out. Thank you again Frank!

As a lad, I have had many very good mentors and one of them was a world class gunsmith that I studied under on and off for 15 or so years. Some times it was just for a few days. He taught me how to compare similar types of woods for the moisture content, (at the time he called it wetness).

Take all of the wood of one specie, hold it vertically and rap the end with a ball-peen hammer. After a few boards you can hear the differences in tone/pitch. The dryer the wood, the clearer and sharper the tone. When the wood is wet, there will be a decided 'thunk'. A quick check is to touch the wood with your lips, (the only place on the human body that can detect moisture). I use the hammer method. It is kinda'

hard to explain to a client why you were kissing boards out of the wood rack :o)

There was life before technology and it worked for them.

A fun thing to do is take a 1 x 2 x 3" log of red oak and one of white oak. One can blow through the red oak and nothing through the white. Red oak has cells up to 36" long and white's are 1/10" long. You think this the reason that red is so darn hard to grain fill ?????

The Next Shop Organizer Project



My tools need sharpening. This area is not appealing.

I promise to make this my next project, and a March newsletter article

FSC CERTIFICATION—WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

REGIS DEANDRADE

I don't know about you, but I have a wood addiction. Sometimes I go to the lumber yard just to look at wood and see what's available. Then, there is this beautiful board just sitting there. Rich color, unusual grain. A "once in a life time" piece of wood. Just like the other 50 "once in a life time" boards sitting on my lumber stack. So, I buy it. Not because I need it, but just because it is a nice board to have. And the hope of one day finding a project for it is enough to justify the purchase.

But then I started wonder about all this nice wood. Where does it come from? How much is left? Will it last forever? Well... these are all difficult questions to answer. So, I decided to look for options. The first option that came to my mind was FSC lumber.

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) was created to promote sustainable forestry worldwide, and its standards for forest management are currently been applied in over 57 countries. The U.S. chapter of the FSC was established in 1995.

Certification is conducted by request from landowners. Once the initial contact is established, the business seeking certification selects a certification body (an accredited independent surveyor). Then the certification audit takes place and the information collected is used to make the certification decision. If a certification is granted, the FSC certificate is issued. Once certified, the forest landowners enter in a 5-year contract in which he/she commits to continue practicing forestry according to the certification standards. At the end of these 5 years, if the landowner wishes to renew the certification, a new assessment of the forestry practices must be conducted.

In order to be certified, these 10 principals must be met:

1. Compliance with all applicable laws and international treaties
2. Demonstrated and uncontested, clearly defined, long-term and tenure and use rights
3. Recognition and respect of indigenous peoples' rights
4. Maintenance or enhancement of long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities and respect of worker's rights in compliance with International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions
5. Equitable use and sharing of benefits derived from the forest
6. Reduction of environmental impact of logging activities and maintenance of the ecological functions and integrity of the forest
7. Appropriate and continuously updated management plan
8. Appropriate monitoring and assessment activities to assess the condition of the forest, management activities and their social and environmental impacts
9. Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs) defined as environmental and social values that are considered to be of outstanding significance or critical importance
10. In addition to compliance with all of the above, plantations must contribute to reduce the pressures on and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.

Unfortunately, FSC certified lumber has some limitations for us woodworkers. You can find some certified furniture grade lumber, but most FSC certified lumber is destined to the construction and paper industries.

Our next option is to buy reclaimed or recovered lumber. I will be talking more about this in a future article after I visit some of the local suppliers of reclaimed or recovered lumber. The first one will be Tyler Evans, of Urban Hardwood Recovery. I will visit his mill soon and bring more information about his operation and current inventory.

For more information about the Forest Stewardship Council, check www.fscus.org

Also, if you know of any supplier of reclaimed, recovered or FSC lumber, please let me know so I can try to visit them (locally) and share the information here in the newsletter.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

BOB OSWALD

Put pictures of your work on our website!. Your professional membership gives you that opportunity. Take a look at the website for examples. Then send a good quality JPG file with a clear description and a good biography to Dave Dougherty, webmaster..

For examples go the to website, Professional Gallery. Select a member and "submit" that name. Follow that format.

OCAC EDUCATION

BOB OSWALD

Check out this summer's wood-working classes and workshops at OCAC! The entire catalog can be found on their website by following this link. http://www.ocac.edu/downloads/catalogs_schedules/SS_Summer09_schedule.pdf

LAST MEETING: HARDWOOD INDUSTRIES

BOB OSWALD

A delightful twosome—a visit to Hardwood Industries and a party. A great turnout, better than would have happened if we tried to hold our Christmas party as originally planned. Almost a balmy summer evening.

The evening started with food, and plenty of it. Time to relax, have a plate, get to know someone new. Ask a few questions about how to solve a workshop problem. Very casual and very enjoyable.

Then Jeff Wirkkala, president of Hardwood Industries, talked to us briefly about what they do. In a nutshell, grad-



Jeff Wirkkala, President

ing. They take the lumber that barely makes spec in the typical grading categories and further refine it so that their customer get what they actually need for their jobs,



Alder: 20,000 bf graded to 600 bf

not something that marginally passed muster to make it to the select category.

There's a little price to pay for grading, but as Jeff pointed out, in the typical customer job, the price is more than offset by guaranteed quality level, no risk, more hands on time making the final product instead of trying to make mediocre lumber useable.

A tour of the facility gave us a chance to see

the grading process as well as a lot of processing capability. They can make molding, cut lumber to spec, generally do most anything to customize raw lumber. One customer had built up an enormous "butcher block" counter, for a restaurant. Measuring about 12 x 3 feet, and 4 inches thick, they couldn't surface it. Hardwood Industries can.

An intriguing example of selection, and what it takes to make the cut sometimes, 20,000 board feet of alder produced 600 board feet that would meet the customers spec. Can you imagine, being that customer, having to buy that much lumber and grade it yourself? Hardwood Industries can do this for you.

They are very supportive of small businesses also, so give them a call and see what they can do for you.



No shortage of good food



Relax, socialize, network



Norm enjoys a 2nd Christmas

BUILDING PROJECT

RICHARD HALL, LIBRARIAN

You've been forewarned about the bookcase building project. It's getting closer.

We'll be building cabinets to hold the Guild library. It will probably take one Saturday, but of course most things never go according to plan. In any case, we can use a few volunteers to help put them together.

The current plan is to build them at Franklin High School, sometime in April or May. The dates are not set yet. We hope that guild members will enjoy a day together building them, so if you have an interest, there will be a signup sheet at the next meeting.

Questions, contact Richard Hall, at
diwest@ix.netcom.com

We will also need a member with a pickup, van or trailer to transport the plywood and other materials to Franklin the day of the big build.

WEBSITE HELP WANTED

BOB OSWALD

I've been discussing some modifications to the website with Dave Doughty. Dave doesn't have time at the moment to do the development. If someone with the appropriate skills is available, the task is well defined and could use some help.

You would need software development experience in web programming using ASP.NET, C# and SQL.

The tasks include expanding our professionals and our sponsors section, to make them more visible on the home page.

Please contact me if you're interested and have the capability. At the moment this is a one time task, not assuming the role of web manager.

Bob Oswald 503-985-7137

SWAP MEET

BOB OSWALD

This is the first meeting to try out the swap meet idea prior to the general meeting.

Here are the guidelines

- ◆ You can start as early as 6pm
- ◆ Only at Franklin High, not any of our sponsors
- ◆ No big loads of merchandise. Keep it simple.
- ◆ Put your name and price on a piece of paper on the item
- ◆ Discussions must stop precisely at 7:00 for the general meeting.

GUILD LOGO SHIRTS

BOB OSWALD

With no feedback on shirt choices, I will bring samples of the shirts I've selected to the March meeting.



This is a one time order. It might be repeated in a few months but only if there is overwhelming demand.

Two styles, a denim long sleeve (\$22) and a short sleeve polo (\$24). Guild total minimum quantity is 12 to get this price. Your order must be prepaid at the March meeting. Cash or check made to Bob Oswald. Delivery will be at April meeting. Questions?

. TimberCreek08@gmail.com or 503-985-7137

EMAIL HOUSEKEEPING

A number of you use your work email address as the Guild point of contact. This is certainly your choice, but be aware that your automated 'out of office' replies clutter my inbox. When a mailing goes out from the Guild, for the newsletter announcement, or anything, I always get a dozen pieces of junk mail that I could do without. Please consider using an email address that doesn't do this.

FOR SALE: TOOLS

Jet 6" jointer

\$375. Excellent condition and extra knives included. Contact: Dick Pettigrew at 360-735-1791 or nemahpro@msn.com

LEGACY ORNAMENTAL MILLING MACHINE

This machine was purchased by my father-in-law about 15 years ago when he was some 90 years old and he only used it for three short spells. The machine has been in storage ever since. As a result, it is in an almost new condition and my father-in-law's eldest son is now wanting to sell it. The machine is a "Legacy 1200" which now markets for \$3,095. You can see the machine and its details on line at: legacywoodworking.com/products.cfm?product=5. They are asking \$1,000 for it and along with the machine there is a Hitachi router to operate on the machine along with about a dozen 1/2" drive router bits. If you are interested or have questions regarding the machine, please call Jim Hall at 503-655-1716.

SLOW MONTH (CON'T)

(Continued from page 1)

material for the entertaining tidbits that make up this newsletter.

What HAS occupied the majority of this month is a project that started at OCAC last summer with Rob Lewis. He built a one-quarter scale wagon for the college last spring, to auction as a fund raiser.

It brought in about \$3000. The photo here does not do it justice. That was such a success for the college that they requested another one for the Spring 2009 Art and Craft on the Vine auction to be held on March 14.. Rob decided to build a Peddler's Wagon.



I happened along, as I happen to do, early summer 2008 and Rob invited me to help him. He decided to build seven

wagons, because when he started cutting out the first part, that's how many pieces he got out of the board. So I committed at least one day a week to the OCAC wood studio, building wood parts. A significant part of the summer was working on the running gear, the chassis if you will. Even for a model, angles, detail, all had to be accurate. It was a summer of inventive jigs to hold smaller than normal parts at odd angles for the table saw and the router.

My desire was to also build a set for me in parallel. They're so darn cute.

So the summer went on and the wood parts were made. I think I mentioned this in a previous article, but we made over 500 spokes, all mortise and tenon joined to the hub and the fellows (the rim). Making an extra part or two has been a useful lesson, especially if it's delicate or complex. When you have a blowout, you don't repair, you toss it. This doesn't work well on a spare top for a table, but it's not a totally bad idea on a leg.

The hubs, in true scale, required mortises. Fortunately today's world allows the use of a multi-router, a tool I'll be the pioneers wish they had.

I could go on for an entire newsletter about the adventures of building wagon parts. The lessons were many. Patience, make it accurate, don't hurry to be finished. Make extra parts. Don't be afraid to throw parts away and do them over.

It is absolutely mind blowing how simple an 1800's wagon is and yet how complex it is. So today, nine months later, I'm at home in the shop finalizing my running gear. The photo taken today 2/28, shows it sitting on the dining room table. It still needs a little detail work but I'm glad it's to this stage. A diversion to other media, iron, has brought a n anvil and forge to my shop. I'll talk more about multi-media in a future article.

This wagon has no glue. It was bolted together in the old days, so the replica is also bolted together. It's an interesting challenge to work in scale. One quarter isn't bad. The finished wagon will be about the size of your Radio Flyer, but the quality, well, it looks real. I'll bring it to a show-and-tell one meeting this spring.

Rob's in the process of building the final wagon for the auction. A peddler's wagon, it will be full of quarter scale odds and ends. It will be a real work of art.



AHHH, THE IRONY

BOB OSWALD

Looking for something to fill in this last little hole, I remembered the "yet another snowfall" in the great Northwest. It has to be our winter-i-est winter ever. And just when I put the chains back in the garage, just when I moved the lawnmower from the barn to the garage, just when I refilled the propane tank for more outdoor back porch barbecues.... it snowed again.

Ironically, a customer appeared with a small repair job just a few days prior, to fix the broken slats on her childhood sled. It was propped against the porch on that memorable day. I struck a chord. I grew up way up north, in Northern Michigan, so this kind of weather is not foreign, although not totally welcome. But this sled parked on the porch, beat up but still functional, took me back a half century to that gentle time of youth. Perhaps this photo can do something for one of you.



The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is a group of professional and amateur woodworkers like you, committed to developing our craftsmanship and woodworking 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, see the Guild website listed below.

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

Rockler Woodworking 503-672-7266, www.rockler.com

Oregon College of Art and Craft 503-297-5544, www.ocac.edu

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We're on the Web!

www.GuildOfOregonWoodworkers.com