

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
**GUILD OF
 OREGON
 WOODWORKERS**

**OREGON
 WOOD
 WORKS**

Vol. #36, Issue 11
 November, 2019
 Portland Oregon

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM:

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

All members and their families invited.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

SET UP 5:00PM, PARTY STARTS 6:00PM, BUFFET OPENS 6:30PM

MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER AUDITORIUM (MAC)

7688 SW CAPITOL HWY, PORTLAND

Hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and got their fill of turkey and pie as in just a few short (and cold) weeks the Guild will be hosting our annual holiday party! This year on December 17th, the party will be held at the MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER auditorium. Please bring your significant others/spouses and kids as this is a family event and a great opportunity for your family to meet who you spend all your time with! Remember this is a potluck, so be sure to bring your favorite dish to share. Although it is a potluck event, the Guild will provide a large ham, lasagnas, and drinks.

Setup for the party will begin around 5:00-5:15 with the official start of the party beginning at 6:00. So please feel free to arrive early and lend a hand or just begin the festivities early. The buffet line will open around 6:30 which will be followed by some Guild announcements and of course the highly anticipated gift exchange.

As always there is a gift exchange. If you bring a gift you will go home with a gift. This is a chance to make a special gift to share with another member. While we encourage members to craft their gifts, purchased gifts that don't exceed \$25 in value are also very welcome!

See you all there!

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions please contact CJ Marquardt via email or phone: cj@cjmwoodcraft.com, 503-267-1930



NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT



Steve Poland

First, I'd like to draw your attention to the piece VP Gary Weeber assembled on [page 5](#) in this issue that illustrates the nearly mind-boggling amount of work your volunteer committees have been involved in this past year. The Guild has been on a huge growth trend over the last few years, and

this planning is geared to ensure that we are working from clear goals, appropriate management strategies, and always keeping focused on what you, our members, appreciate about the Guild experience.

Second, you should appreciate that our growth and visibility is drawing in new possible community connections, and opportunity for some of our members to assist with other well-established, youth-focused hands-on skills programs. Just in the last month two organizations have reached out to us:

Peter Crim of *Wind & Oar* operates a program using small wooden boat building as an armature to engage students from several alternative high school programs in skill and confidence building activity. He is developing a new curriculum for this and is interested in the potential that the Guild might provide a few volunteer mentors to work with his professional educator staff. We also indicated that he and his staff could apply for either educator or professional membership, and take advantage of our safety and tool skills training.

Sarah Persha is an educational consultant and operates a Portland program for young adults transitioning from various supportive therapy programs into independent life. Sarah is actually a new member of our Guild, and like Peter, is looking for assistance with guiding her clients in some hands-on projects like the skate board manufacture and furniture repair they have been doing in small shop space in North Portland. Interestingly, she inherited a (Great Pelican?) boat her father built in the Bay Area, and a special activity students actually enjoy is sanding therapy on the boat.

Our member Roger Leverette has recently volunteered to lead our study of how best to step into this youth education arena as part of our Community Outreach focus. If you have an interest in potentially serving as a volunteer mentor in this type of program, please contact Roger - leveretter@gmail.com.

Please also check out the Organizational Charts on pages 7 & 8 of this newsletter (and also on the website) for a view of the various board members and committee chairs.

And last, as we pull our chairs up this holiday season and revel in family and feasting, please also keep in mind that this awesome Guild is powered by incredible volunteers. Let them know how you appreciate their efforts, and keep in mind that while there are a lot of disparate ideas out there about how best to do what we do, our success is built on the collaboration and mutual respect that sometimes takes just a bit of extra effort.

See you at the December dinner (Dec. 17) and have the best of holidays!



Jeff Knipe on the Toy Team has been building some beautiful wooden tools for kids.

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is...

..., a group of amateur and professional woodworkers committed to developing our craftsmanship.

Our Mission: To promote the craft of woodworking to the woodworkers of today and tomorrow.

Our Vision: A community of woodworkers that provide significant opportunities to develop, practice, enhance, and share woodworking skills.

The Guild offers many benefits for members, including:

- ◆ Monthly programs
- ◆ Monthly newsletter
- ◆ Weekly Volunteer Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- ◆ An education program to help members develop woodworking skills through a variety of hands-on and lecture classes
- ◆ Sponsor discounts
- ◆ Woodworking shows (such as Gathering of the Guilds)
- ◆ Network of business partners.
- ◆ A woodworking shop
- ◆ A network of friends and opportunities to volunteer and make a difference in our community
- ◆ Free and low cost community programs to join in learning wood-working skills through special interest groups, community build, & estate sales volunteering

What you can do for the Guild

- ◆ Volunteer your time to contribute, assist, organize, lead, teach
- ◆ Take a class
- ◆ Contribute your knowledge

For more information see the Guild website or visit the shop.

Guild Shop - 7634 SW 34th St, Portland, OR 97219

Guildoforegonwoodworkers.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest **34** members. We're happy to have you with us and hope you'll make a regular appearance at the monthly program, contribute articles to the newsletter, and volunteer in other ways. Say hello at the next meeting so we can get to know you. New member orientation is 6:30-6:45 at each monthly meeting.

Gregory Baty, Rachel Bennetts, Stuart Brown, Thomas Check, Graham Clement, James Cohen, Stuart Ellis, Michelle Fong, Shanan Gardiner, John Harden, Andy Hatch, Trevor Hiscocks, Bob Hodel, Corinne Hodel, Steve Kemper Elaine Lees, Santos Littkie, Tim McMillen, Butch Molnar, Carlos Ocejo, Jim Powers, Steve Roberts, Armando Rodriguez, Nils Schongalla, Richard Schultz, George Sebastian, John Seelke, Benjamin Sorensen, Jan van Es, William Vandiver, Curtis White, Nils White, Nick Wolf, Shane Zeeman.



Many of us who have joined the Guild recognize that woodworking can be a lonely avocation. It's fun to get together with other woodworker's to swap stories, share successes, and failures, and to ask questions. Come join the fun at the next MEET-UP ...

MONDAY DECEMBER 2 - 11:30AM

Salvador Molly's

1523 SW Sunset Blvd, Portland

About a mile from the Guild Shop in Hillsdale

MONDAY, JANUARY 6 - 11:30 AM

The Lodge at Cascade Brewing

7424 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy, Portland

It is just west of New Seasons Market

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3 - 11:30 AM

So Kong Dong Korean Restaurant

2850 SE 82nd Ave Suite 11 Portland

Located in the Fubon shopping center. Great Korean food, soups for both carnivores and vegetarians.

MONDAY MARCH 2 - 11:30AM

WildFin

2725 SW Cedar Hills Blvd Beaverton

Located in the same building as Kingpins Bowling

MONDAY, APRIL 6 AND MAY 4

Locations to be announced

MONDAY, JUNE 1 - 11:30AM

Sinnot's Lil' Cooperstown

5851 Ne Halsey St, Portland

Old school neighborhood pub.

Looking forward to meeting up with fellow members for some lunch and conversation. There may even be some talk about woodworking.

The monthly Meet-Ups are held on the first Monday of the month and try to visit all parts of Portland. The goal is to allow members to get to know each other and develop friendships. Attendees order off the menu and pay on their separate check.

All the Meet-Ups gather at 11:30 am, but late comers are always welcome. Everyone in the Guild is invited.



STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL #3:
Maintain woodworking resources that meet the needs of the Guild today and in the future.

Gary Weeber, Vice President

As a member, this is YOUR organization's Facilities Planning Group (WRAP): Steve Poland, President; Gary Weeber, Vice President; Gig Lewis, Past President; Chip Webster, Past Education Chair; Julie Gredvig, Education Registrar; Jesse Smith, Member; and Carol Boyd, Member.

The last meeting of the WRAP Group was on Nov. 13. The meeting focused on a list of immediate tasks which would advance the goals and objectives for our committee and focus our work. Everybody left with assignments. We also agreed that running several tracks at once is a productive approach. The team will remain in close contact, with incremental information and results from committee members shared with all.

We focused on the following.

1. **FUTURE STRATEGY:** We had initially approached our task with the goal of developing two or three models to present to the Board in January, 2020. After extensive discussion we concluded that it would be more practical to approach this differently. Specifically, we will define our "Facilities Strategy" in terms of a Phase 1 & 2.
2. **CURRENT SHOP FACILITY LEASE:** We will proceed at this time assuming that the lease of the existing shop is likely to be renewed for a new term. The term of that new lease will be determined later since there is currently an existing lease. **CURRENT LEASE:** The WRAP Group rep will secure a copy of the existing lease terms and prospective renewal terms.
3. **MODIFICATION OF CURRENT SHOP:** We will investigate what retooling of the current shop may be possible to support immediate use of the facility (education, toy build, project build, open studio, other).
4. **MAC SPACE OPTION:** We are exploring the availability of the MAC space to support Phase 1 Guild programmed activities. We are in discussion pending further clarification on who might successfully use Cottage 5 as classroom space.

5. **REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENT:** We will engage a commercial real estate agent and determine if they can assist with our property search.

6. **COMMUNITY PARTNERS:** Jesse and Gary developed a list of potential community partners and categorized them by four criteria of relevance:

- a. Information Source
- b. Funding Resource
- c. Program Partnership
- d. Facility Sharing Potential

We will reach out to community partners based upon determined priorities.

7. **FINANCIAL PLAN:** It was agreed that we need to begin developing a financial plan for future facility development. This includes a development plan to better organize our work product in anticipation of project funding requests and building a plan to enhance/grow our Guild revenues through existing mechanisms. It was suggested that the next step is to assemble an Ad Hoc group to look at membership dues and develop a proposal for future consideration.

NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 11, 2019 at the home of Gig Lewis.



IT'S THE LISTING TIME OF THE YEAR

Gary Weeber, Vice President

It is that time, is it not? The time to list all of the things we are thankful for; list the holiday movies and TV shows to watch; and, most importantly, develop the gift list for our own personal Santa(s).



This has been nearly a mind-blowing year for the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers. We have not

only climbed to over 1,000 members but we have jumped into the pool of strategic planning with a passion.

As leaders many of us are being challenged to just stay on top of everything that is going on. As general members not involved in leadership...it must be really difficult to keep track.

So, for transparency and in the spirit of the 'List Season', here is a list that will give you a sense of just how much is...well, goin' on. At some point in reading this you will say... "ya got to be kidding me!" Nope. This really is going on.

New Board Structure: As developed through our strategic planning process, we proposed (and you have approved) a new board structure. This structure is a clear shift to a Board that is focused on the management of the Guild as its primary function.

WRAP Group: The Woodworking Resources and Planning Group was initiated in late summer to begin planning for the future. With the growth of the Guild, and the nature of that growth, it is important that we look to the future. Does that mean a bigger facility...or more facilities? Stay tuned as we take this journey.

Education Program Development: The Education Committee/Team has been industriously working to better define its mission, goals, and structure. Education Director Doug Drake and team members are defining the program in terms of different levels with the intent of designing pathways for members to achieve specific goals for themselves. This is exciting stuff since woodworking education is such a large part of what we do.

Communications Plan: Our communications team is working on a plan that will detail the focus of activities for 2020. Communications Director Roger Crooks and his team are already improving our google drive document storage system; improving the website; and implementing an email address system that utilizes a Guild address that

will allow the use of the same email address for various positions irrespective of who is in that position. It is complicated stuff...but a strong step toward the future.

Financial Plan: We have recognized the need to update our approach to financial operations and planning. We now have a Finance Team headed up by our new Treasurer...soon to be Finance Director Bill Hamilton. This enhancement will provide us with increasingly better information and also provide reports that will be a key to our annual planning efforts.

Volunteer Team: We recognize that volunteers are the fuel that makes our engine go...i.e. we cannot deliver programs and provide administrative support without have a well-developed Volunteer Team. Kudos to Charlie Meyer who is stepping up to lead our current and future efforts as the new Volunteer Director. We are promoting a culture that we hope each of you will honor. As members, we get the most by giving the most. If you are a member of the Guild, do you have to be a volunteer? No...but we need you...and are going to increasing look at this as an expected part of our culture. The opportunities are unlimited. Interested in volunteering? Check out our Volunteer Opportunities page on the website.

Shop Safety: Our Safety Committee is again meeting on a regular basis and diving into the challenge of shop safety. New Lead Jeff Hilber brings 40 years of professional woodworking experience to the position and is working with committee members to target the most critical safety issues that exist in our shop. These are not easy issues to wrestle with, especially considering that our shop is a 'community shop' where multiple users are present at one time. These users are not all the same and bring a variety of skill levels, physical sensitivities and perspectives.

Diversity: We are well aware that historically woodworking has been primarily a male vocation and avocation. In addition, our organization has been historically primarily male Caucasian in composition. That is changing...and our operations need to reflect that change. We are now initiating an ad hoc group to look at diversity as an issue in our improvement as an organization. How do we ensure that we respect diversity in our membership? How do we pursue community outreach goals with diversity in mind? If this is an area of interest for you, please let us know.

Program and Position Descriptions: Planning Director Ed Ferguson has been leading our strategic planning effort. Part of that has been clarifying what programs we

[continued on page 6](#)

LISTING TIME OF YEAR...*continued from page 8*

currently have in the Guild and, through a program description, actually writing down what the programs do. This of course leads us to determining what volunteer positions 'make the program go' and how do we describe those positions. With position descriptions it helps interested volunteers decide if that is something of interest and what the expectations are.

Insurance: We are reviewing all aspects regarding insurance for our organization and making sure that we have the coverages that are prudent.

Employee vs. Contractor: We are also reviewing the best information we can get to ensure that we are following employment law regarding any individuals who provide paid services to the Guild. This primarily, at this time, relates to our educational instructors. We are contacting other Guilds in the country to find out their practices (and rationale) and will likely be pursuing a final conclusion in the next few months through legal assistance.

Membership Fees: An ad hoc group is just now beginning to look at our membership fees and prepare recommendations for the future. This is a group which is beginning with Treasurer/Finance Director Bill Hamilton and me but we are open to additional participation. If you are interested in participating, please contact one of us.

Social Aspects of Woodworking: One of the real values of our organization is the ability to spend time with wonderful folks who have this common interest. We are trying to increase those opportunities. If you are shy and reticent...don't be. You can learn amazing things by being social in the Guild.

Ship Shape Shop: Operations Director Ken Hall and his volunteer maintenance team have really been working on getting our shop in shape. This shop has never been better.

Culture: What is the culture of the Guild? What do we want it to be? How do we communicate it and get buy-in to the culture that we want to have? These questions permeate almost all of the discussions we have these days in regards to determining our best future course.

Shop Certification: With the increase in membership we have found ourselves unable to ensure adequate safety training for new members in a timely manner. Our education and safety team members have a combined sub-group that is currently considering ways to make this process better and more timely. It is hoped that a specific proposal will come to the Board in the first part of the year.

WOW!!

Ok, enough. That is a LOT...and there is more. It is sometimes hard to believe that we are where we are...and that we are doing almost all of this with volunteers. We are clearly a different organization than we were a few years ago and we need to recognize that. That means doing some things differently and it also means transition...which can be difficult.

When I look at my lists for this time of year, I have one list that stands out. What am I thankful for? One answer to that is...I am really thankful to be part of this wonderful organization. I appreciate those who not only provide me with woodworking knowledge but also treat me with respect, with patience, and with heartfelt support.

I had a Guild leader recently tell me 'We have to take care of each other.' He is so right. As we move forward and challenge ourselves, let us be supportive, tolerant, and understanding of each other. What we are doing...it is not an easy job...but somebody has to do it.

If you are interested in contributing to any of these efforts in any way, please contact me and I will hook you up with the right person.

So, there you have it. Go make some sawdust (with respiratory protection if needed)...and Happy Holidays!



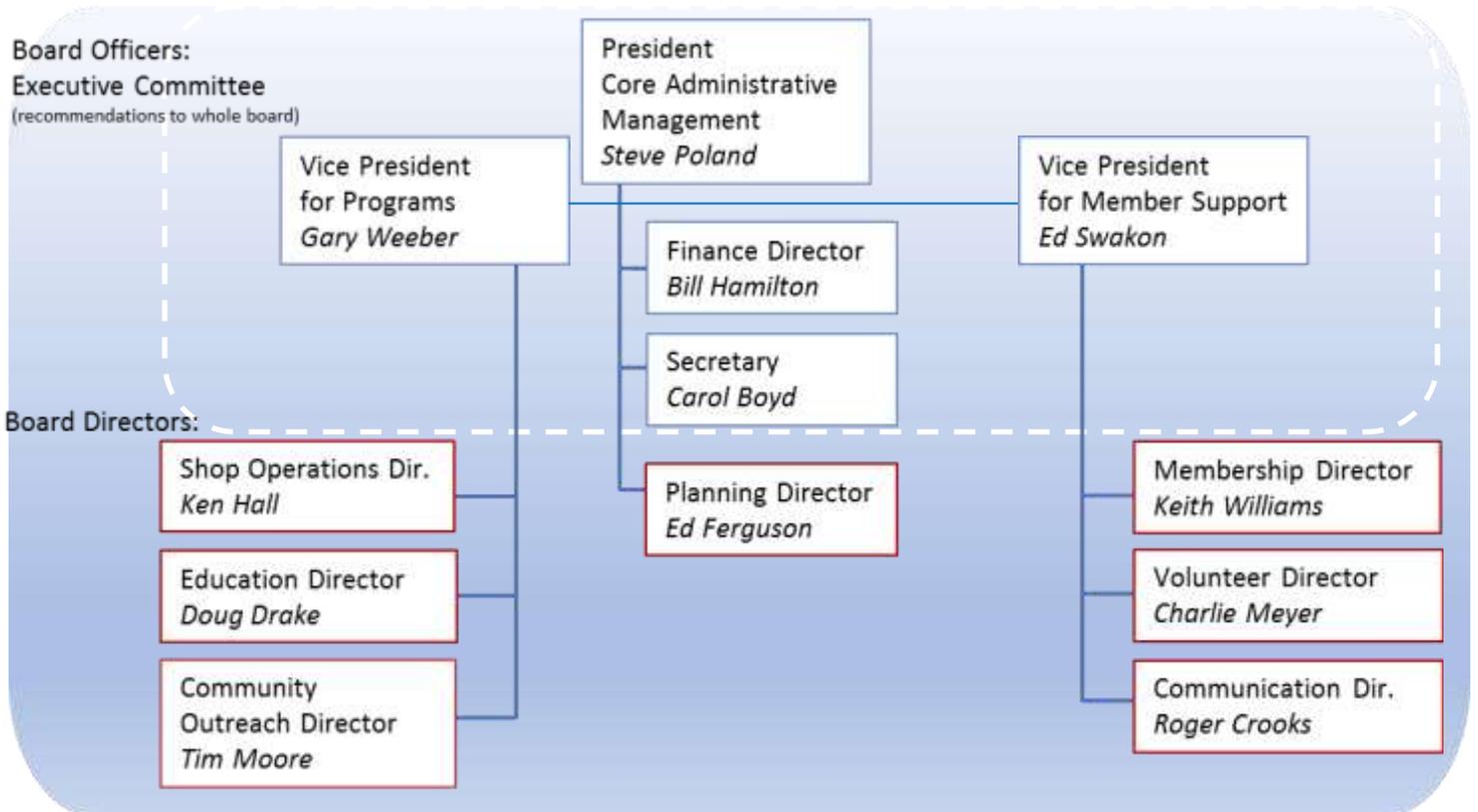
2020 GUILD ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

After extensive planning over the last year, a new structure has been implemented for 2020. The board is made up of 12 volunteers and if you count all the tasks and committee lead positions you will see over 30 additional volunteers that are dedicating time and energy to running the Guild. On top of those 42 people are those that volunteer for shows, estate sales, shop attendants, Toy Team, Project Build, Community Projects, class coordinators, etc. We have a huge organization that 100% runs on volunteers.

We encourage all of you to take a look at this widely varied array of volunteer activities and think about where your experience, interest or curiosity could be applied. Feel free to talk to any of these leaders about what they do and how you might be able to help. This is a terrific group of people to get to know and you will be inspired the their collective energy.

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS -

Approved November 19, 2019

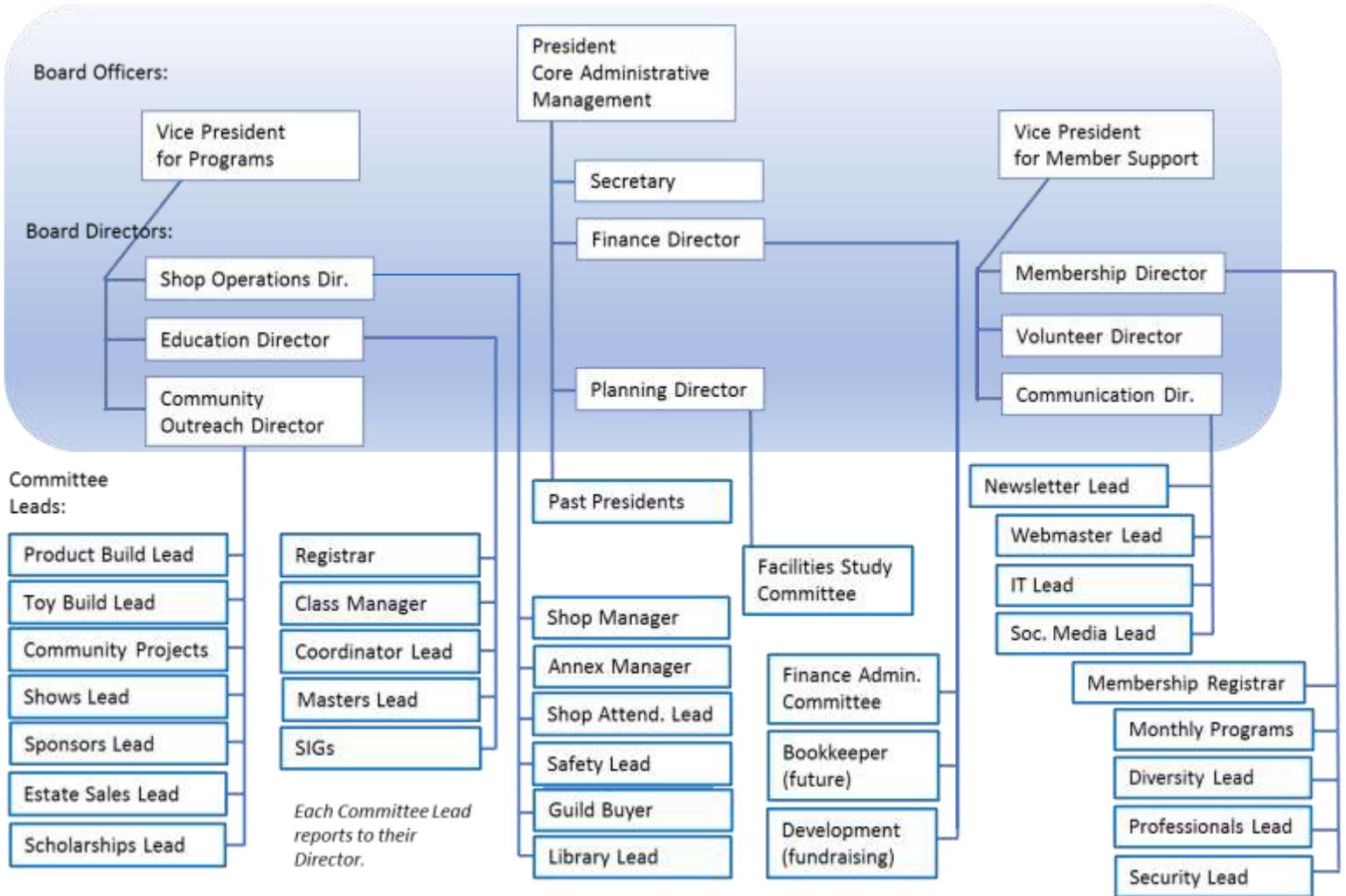


12 Member Board
7 required for Quorum

See next page for an Organizational Chart showing the Board plus the various committees

2020 GUILD ORGANIZATIONAL CHART - BOARD & COMMITTEES -

Approved November 19, 2019



GUILD CLASSES - *See the Guild website for registration and details. Contact the Class Coordinator with questions. All classes are held at the Guild Shop unless otherwise specified. 7634 SW 34th St, Portland, OR*

**BASIC BUILD -
MAKE YOUR FIRST CUTTING BOARD**

Mike Chia

Dec 11, 5-9

Class Fee: \$60

Class Coordinator: Tom Rich

This is an introductory hands-on class where students will learn to make a laminated cutting board. You will glue up your own board, and then practice milling and shaping on demo boards while the glue dries.

FOOLPROOF SHARPENING

Asa Christiana

Dec 14, 9-5

Class Fee: \$140

Class Coordinator: TBD

If you can't get your chisels and hand planes truly sharp, you'll never experience the true joy of using them. In this 1-day workshop, you'll learn a guaranteed way to do just that. As a bonus, you will build a simple jig for holding the stones and setting up the guide.

FOUNDATIONS OF CLASSICAL CARVING

Chuck Rinehart

3 Sessions, Jan 18-Feb 1, 10-4, \$190

Multnomah Art Center

Class Fee: \$190

Class Coordinator: Larry Wade

This three session class covers the essential topics of classical carving. No prior carving experience is required. The class will prepare you for more adventuresome carving projects. You will be expected to do some homework or practice between sessions, but 2 hours of each session is allocated as an opportunity (optional) for you to practice with assistance available if needed.



AFFILIATE UPCOMING CLASSES

See their websites for more details and offerings.

ANVIL ACADEMY

MAKE A CLEAVER

Dec 4 & 11

Instructor: Chuck Cook

LEAF MAKING BLACKSMITH CLASS

Dec 12

Instructor: Dan Bowyer

NORTHWEST WOODWORKING STUDIO

COOL PROJECTS: SHAKER BENCH

Tuesdays, Jan 7-Mar 10

Instructor: Gary Rogowski

AUSTIN HEITZMAN FURNITURE

BUILD A STYLISH & FUNCTIONAL FLOATING SHELF

February 1-2 9am- 5pm

February 22-23 9am-5pm

Cost \$395- Materials included

Develop your wood-working skills, and have fun, while learning to build a stylish and functional floating shelf.

This two-day class will cover material selection along with how to treat and create a dynamic

live edge. Learn dado blade joinery along with a discreet hanging technique. We will also explore simple, non-toxic, chemical dyes to make your piece really pop! Class is limited to 4, so everyone will receive plenty of one-on-one instruction. Materials are provided and every participant will go home with an assembled shelf. Class is held in a professional woodworking shop near the Rose Quarter and downtown Portland, with easy freeway access to I-5 and 405. This class makes a great Christmas gift for the beginner to intermediate woodworker.



Two upcoming winter dates, to sign up visit:

<http://www.austinheitzmanfurniture.com/classes>

Also sign up for the mailing list

at www.AustinHeitzmanFurniture.com to receive notifications about future classes.

CARVERS - INTRODUCING MASAMICHI NITANI

Larry Wade

“Masa” Nitani is a 67 year old Japanese bowl and wildlife carver now living near Lewis & Clark College. He apprenticed for three years as a teenager in Sapporo (a Portland Sister City) and has 50 years of carving experience. He will be teaching new bowl and Japanese technique carving classes next year and if you are interested in a five-hour pilot class sign up on the interest list by [click-](#)



[ing here.](#)

Sapporo is the fifth largest Japanese city, the capital of the Hokkaido region of northern Japan, and the center of their indigenous population known as Ainu (I-new), [click here.](#) Masa is an Ainu by birth, and since 1983 a Portlander by choice.

In 1987 Masa carved and donated to the World Forestry Center a three-foot-long, 100 pound Ainu-styled Bear from Black Walnut. He



carved it from a portion of a diseased tree removed from the South Park Blocks, which was given to the Western Woodcarvers Association (WWA), a club that predates our Guild. Masa was new to Portland at the time and gave this work in appreciation for the help he received settling here.

Hokkaido carvers produce many objects but the bear is the most iconic, especially one with a fish in its mouth. Bears are popular art objects in several cultures, including in the Black Forest region of Germany and in Russia. There is history to suggest ([click here](#)) that the Ainu bear popularity was highly influenced by the black bear carvings in Birenz, Switzerland, near the home of Pfiel and Swiss Made tools. The Birenz School of Woodcarving is itself a fascinating story ([click here](#), and [here](#)), dating to 1884 with a local industry at one time growing to over 1,000 carvers.

Masa learned to carve bowls as an apprentice but fell in love with carving wildlife. Today he does both, but for the Guild, we will focus on bowls and similar sculptural objects.

Carving basics are the same around the world, but the techniques and nuances vary. Traditional Japanese tools are laminated with a hard steel core and soft steel outsides. The Japanese carving tools are especially tough, and in the hands of an expert are sharpened to perfection (with water stones). Masa typically buys just the steel blades and focuses on making his own unique handles, which give him the power and finesse to execute great details (see close-up of the bear). In his classes, he will demonstrate his tools and their handles, the techniques he uses and his sharpening method.

An example of technique is how he carved the bear out of a large green log and kept it from checking. He carved it green, encased the entire bear in paraffin wax to slow the drying and drilled holes up under the belly for moisture to escape. This



Bowl Photos by Hiroshi Iwaya

[continued on page 11](#)

CARVER... *continued from page 10**Photos by Hiroshi Iwaya*

controlled, slow drying gave him the wood stability he needed.

Bowls can be simple or complex, and they are related to other sculptural vessels. Masa has made a variety of designs over the years, and sold some at Real Mother Goose for a few years. These photos are examples of his recent work. He said mostly he carves from dried wood purchased at Woodcrafters, because he has a relationship with Steve, the owner.

In the U.S. we tend to think of "Traditional Carving" as European, but all regions of the world have their own "traditional" carving methods and styles. Japanese carving

also has branches that include the Ainu carvings that Masa practices, the miniature Netsuke figurines popularized by the Samurai, woodblocks for printing, religious applications in temples, statuary and figures, and adornments for castle and temple buildings themselves. One of the most recognized is the three wise monkeys from a 1600's era Nikko temple ([click here](#)), see no, hear no, speak no evil.

Other traditions are the masks and totems of the North American First Nations, Masai of Africa, and works from Sri Lanka, China, India, Indonesia, Scandinavia, etc.

Stay tuned for more information about Masa's upcoming classes.



These photos
courtesy of
M. Nitani



BUILD A TEA BOX

Steve Anderly

On Oct. 26, Asa Christiana conducted a class on how to build a tea box. The tea box is sized for stacks of tea bags but is also perfect for cooking salts or other small items. In this fun class ten members learned a host of invaluable lessons for future box-making, including milling wood four-square, cutting accurate miters on the table saw and miter saw, cutting apart a closed box to separate the lid, fitting an attractive liner, and adding keys that strengthen the joints and beautify the box, and a basic oil finish.

Everyone left with an attractive box and the jigs and setups to make multiples in plenty of time for the holidays.



Tea Box and Jig

Project Build - Bird House Kit Wood Needed



Every summer, the Guild introduces the public to woodworking at county fairs, Multnomah Days, and a few other family-oriented events. A very popular part of our displays is an opportunity for kids to have a hands-on experience building a bird houses.

The Project Build team makes-up kits so a youngster can safely assemble the bird house with hand tools, and a little guidance from a Guild volunteer. Last summer nearly 350 aspiring woodworkers took home a bird house he or she made — along with a positive introduction to woodworking

and the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers. We're aiming to complete 400 kits for next summer.

Each kit consists of six pieces that Project Build volunteers cut to size and pre-drill. The pieces for each bird house kit are cut from recycled cedar donated by Guild members and supporters. To hit our goal of 400 kits, Project Build is calling for donations of cedar that's millable to 3/4 inch thickness, that can be cut into two sizes: 7"x7" and 5 1/2" x11".

If you have cedar — or know someone who has — left from an old fence, deck or other project that you

would donate to the Guild, please contact Nolan, 503.781.4520, nolan@volat.us



AS OF JANUARY 1, 2020 SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATES

Steve Poland

Your Safety Committee has recently presented an update in PPE standards for use in the Machine Room.

The most important change is that from January 1, we will **require ANSI Z-87 labeled safety glasses** to be worn in the machine room. This is an individual requirement, however the Guild has purchased a few pairs you can borrow when you forget. No guarantee they will be clean.

Since I wear prescription lenses, and I'm cheap (unless it's for a tool with a cutting edge), I went to Malory Safety & Supply at SE 3rd and Taylor and asked for Z-87 safety rated over glasses. They said no problem and pulled a pair of Honeywell UVEX S2500C (Clear) that list at \$11. When I said I would take half a dozen (anticipating that repeated cleaning will scratch the lenses fairly quickly) he asked if I would take them for \$9 per pair. Much cheaper than prescription safety glasses! They seem to fit and stay on reasonably well, do have the side-shield and molded in Z-87+ rating and have adjustable length temples. The only disappointment is they provide no improvement in dork factor.



The jewelry & clothing provision still **requires** confinement of long hair, and any dangling clothing, straps & strings, removal of all jewelry. The ring provision was amended during the November Board meeting to integrate the statement: **“De-gloving accidents are serious and debilitating. GOOW highly recommends removal of all finger rings while in the machine room, however this is matter of personal responsibility.”**



Safety Committee has researched the Epoxy use issue extensively and proposed that only small volumes of epoxy such as patching a 2" diameter knot hole may be machined in our facility, and only after the material has cured 2 weeks. Due to component toxicity prior to cure, no mixing or pouring of epoxy, or storage of material not cured 2 weeks is to be done in the Guild facility.

The Board voted to approve this policy, however since the board could use some additional time to study the research material, the implementation is held until January 1. It is anticipated that epoxy glue line machining will also be allowed by time of implementation.

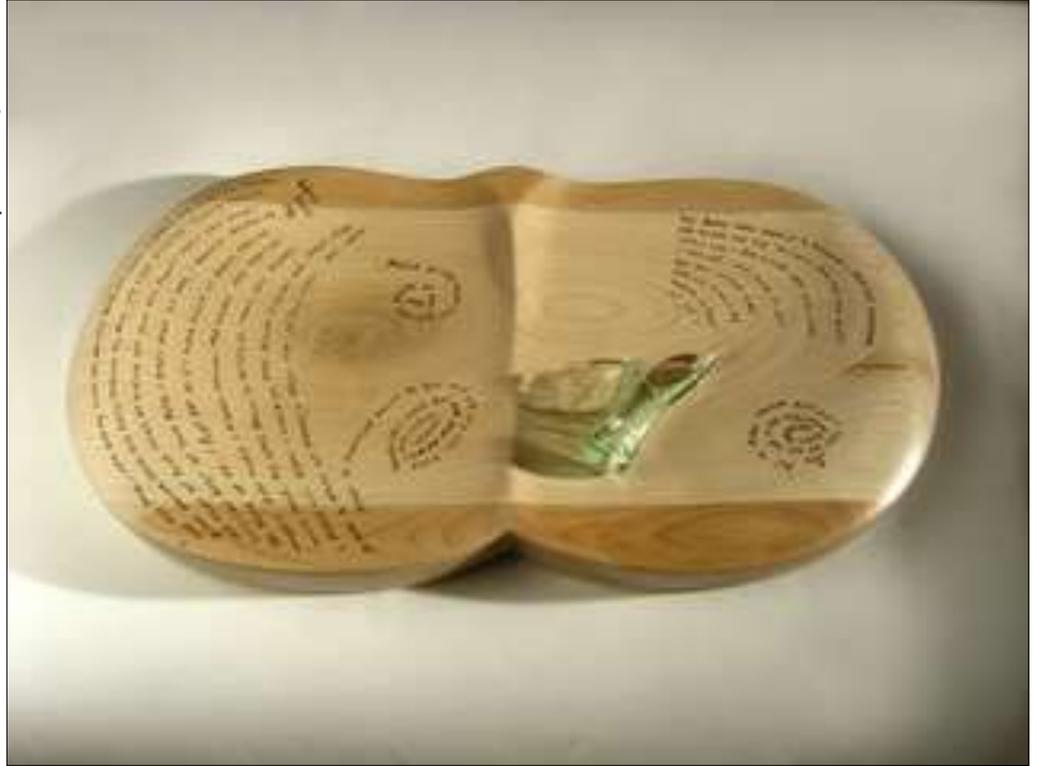
The existing interim policy remains in place and is essentially the same.



What Our Members Build

Send in your photos - Please send us photos and notes about your wonderful work. Please include a little info on the piece: type of wood used etc. Send your photos to newsletter@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org

John Sheridan's sculpture, "Legacy of Pain," symbolizing and narrating a story about female genital mutilation was elected for the enGENDERing Change exhibition at Adams State University in Alamosa, Colorado. The piece was originally made for exhibit in the San Francisco Main Library. It is Oregon big leaf maple and broken glass, with text on both sides. A photo of the work is in the November-December Woodworker West magazine as a part of a mention of the exhibit.



John Sheridan

"Swing", 46" x 4" x infinite, in Maple, copper rivets, and nylon line, designed by Carolyn Grew-Sheridan and made by John Sheridan was juried into *2020 Handcrafted* at the Howard Arts Center in Rocky Mount, NC, for the first three months of 2020. The juror was the mixed media artist, Michelle Davis Petelinz.



NEEDED: NEWSLETTER ASSISTANT

Step in to assist the Newsletter Editor with the production of the monthly newsletter by tracking Guild activities, assisting with layouts, working with article writers, coordinating the procurement of photos and other miscellaneous duties.

Contact: Linda Howarth
at newsletter@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org.

SHOP PARKING

The shop is experiencing an uptick in members not following the parking guidelines. One of our SAs recently had to deal with a very irate tenant when a member parked in their space. The following is from the Shop Attendant Handbook under the heading Shop User Protocols:

The parking lot at the Guild building is small and is shared with other tenants. Therefore, the three painted parking space next to the building are the only parking spaces users are allowed to park in.

However there are several parking options in the neighborhood. The street parking along 34th is always available to shop users, in addition we are allowed to park in the parking lot at the Multnomah Art Center. Also the dental building across from Starbucks is available AFTER 5PM weekdays or all day on the weekends only. These options provide plenty of parking for almost any activity we have. Please respect the neighbors and neighboring businesses parking.



IT WOULDN'T HAPPEN WITHOUT A SHOP ATTENDANT.

Hey, Guild Members, the holiday season is upon us: family, friends, turkey, good cheer, and merriment. As a guild member I ask that you do not forget the Guild's Shop Attendants all year but especially at this time.

I am sure you all know that the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is an all volunteer organization. If you go into our Shop, just to cut that long piece of board that is too big for your own shop, or if you are there all day, using all the machines, or maybe asking questions like "how can I do (what ever)?" - It just wouldn't happen without a Shop Attendant. The doors would not even be open. And they are volunteers, too. So next time you are in the shop, please stop and say, "Thank You, for your time and help."

Happy Holidays, Dave Wiper



Child in the hospital playing with a fire engine built by the Guild Toy Team.

GUILD DIVERSITY

Jim Spitzer

I belatedly discovered the Guild in 2012, shortly after retirement. At that time we had fewer than 300 members and no shop. There were a number of young members and women members, but mostly I saw it as an organization of old (aka good life experience) white guys. It takes one to know one.

Since then we have had more emphasis on attracting younger folks, women, and generally a more diverse and much larger membership body (over 1,000!). For example we have a scholarship giving young folks free access to courses and the shop, women have been, and are, Guild officers and hold key volunteer positions, there is a Women's SIG, and Ruth Warbington and Heidi McNamee recently coordinated Guild courses taught by nationally renowned wood carver Mary May. And I certainly don't

want to leave out the excellent editor of our Newsletter, Linda Howarth! But we have a ways to go. Perhaps twenty men attended November's monthly luncheon meetup at the Night Hawk Café. Well into the gathering, in walks a new Guild member, a professional woman woodworker who works with youth at risk. She initially felt out of place but was welcomed by Guild President Steve Poland and a number of other members at that end of the table and was soon made to feel comfortable with the Guild and welcoming members.

But as a long time shop attendant, I had never experienced a shift with more than one or maybe two women at work. Today (November 9th) I was a drop-in shop user and was surprised to find that the majority of shop users during Jim O'Rourke's morning shift were women, each working on their own projects.

We are making good progress toward the Guild being a more inclusive, welcoming organization to all pursuing the art and craft of forming wood into beautiful, useful objects.

Here are photographs of Alison Reyes, Mary Nolan, and Mianne Irick at work in our shop. Regrettably Sarah Livingston was done with her work and left before I thought to document this milestone.



Alison, Nolan, and Mianne



SCROLL SAW TIPS AND TRICKS

Mark Sherman

I was working with the Guild's Toy Team and someone asked for some assistance with the scroll saw. I volunteered to lend a hand but then discovered I had never used that specific brand/model of the jig saw. The next week I was prepared to lend a hand but didn't see the person who asked me for assistance. These are the tips I was hoping to share with him. I hope you find some of them useful. This is my first article for the Guild. Send your comments and suggestions for future articles.

Tip 1: Lighting

The more light you have, the easier it is to see your blade and the line you are trying to follow. Magnification is useful. However, even with the best magnification, you can't saw in the dark. When I have sufficient lighting I don't need to magnify what I am looking at.

Tip 2: Correcting Drift

I used to struggle with following patterns. At times I'd be right on and then it seemed like no matter what I did, the blade would drift away from my line. The problem was that I was not standing directly in front of the blade. I tend



to stand slightly to the right of the blade and my cuts would tend to drift to the left. If your cuts tend to drift, check where you are standing and shift in the direction of the shift. I now regularly check my position before I begin to cut to insure I am staring down the center of the blade. In this pic, I am standing to the right and my cuts drifted left.

Tip 3: Pre-flight Check

I release the tension on my blade when I am not using my scroll saw which is most of the time. Once in a while I'll forget to tension the blade before I turn on the saw resulting in a broken or bent blade. I now leave a reminder note on the saw table when I release the tension as a visual reminder. Then when I return hours or days later, I won't bust another blade.

Tip 4: Unlabeled Blades

When I bought my scroll saw I received hundreds of blades in various sizes and conditions, mostly in bags not clearly marked. In addition I am pretty disorganized and will often fail to return blades to their original packages. Eventually I wind up with a ton of mystery blades in a nice neat pile. I can't easily tell if the blades in the pile are sharp or what kind they are. My solution is to physically attach the blade package I am using to the saw. If I decide to change blades it goes back into the (hopefully) correct package.



This may seem like common sense. However, it is amazing how quickly things become disorganized in the shop, especially if you suffer from ADHD.

Tip 5: Sharp Angles

It is possible to make really tight turns with a scroll saw. However, sometimes I want a sharp angle to look like a sharp angle. To do this, I first cut to the intersection of the two lines. Then I will back track a short ways and turn the work piece around and slide the blade backwards to the intersection. I then rotate the work and continue cutting creating a sharp angle. In this picture you will see a small circle cutout just left of the blade. That is where I made my U-turn.



Tip 6: Go Slow

If you look closely at the pressure foot in the above picture you can see that it has some grooves in it. That's from me

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TIPS AND TRICKS...continued from page 17

trying to cut faster than the blade wants to cut. The blade deflects backwards into the foot. Some pressure is required. However, scroll saw blades are small and will deflect.

Also, check your blade tension. It may benefit from a bit more tension. However, too much tension will brake your blade.

Tip 7: Use a Sharp Blade

If you notice a lot of deflection first make sure your blade is sharp. In addition, check that your blade is appropriate for the piece of wood you are cutting. The chart to the right gives you an idea of what to look for. Using the optimal blade will reduce deflection and give you a cleaner cut. If you don't have enough pressure foot, your work piece may bounce a bit. When it bounces its moving with the blade and not cutting. Keep your work from bouncing and you won't have to push it so hard.

If the bottom of your board has a fuzzy line or excessive tear out, use a reverse blade. This blade will create a clean cut on the up stroke of the cut.

Tip 8: Contrasting Colors

If I try to trace a dark line drawn on a dark wood with a black blade and a black pressure foot, I find it hard to see where I am cutting. Try drawing your lines in a contrasting color. I use a 0.9mm mechanical pencil and just found out there are color choices for leads. Pens work well to. I'm thinking of painting my pressure foot white as well.

**Tip 9: Slow Down**

My RBI Hawk scroll saw is an old model and does not offer variable speed. I've gotten used to sawing slowly with a constant speed scroll saw. However, there is less blade control and cuts can get away from you, especially on thin wood. Don't run the saw so fast that you loose accuracy. The complexity of your pattern will dictate the speed you can cut without losing control. The scroll saw ain't gonna cut like a band saw. Take a breath and take your time.

score the workpiece on the upstroke.
Adjust feed pressure to prevent burning.

Reverse Tooth Blade Specifications:

No. 44002	Univ. No. 2/0R		
Width	Thick	TPI	No. Rev.
.026"	.011"	28	21
For wood up to 1/4" thick.			
No. 44302	Univ. No. 2R		
Width	Thick	TPI	No. Rev.
.029"	.012"	20	14
For intricate fretwork in wood up to 1/2".			
No. 44602	Univ. No. 5R		
Width	Thick	TPI	No. Rev.
.038"	.016"	12.5	9
For very tight radius cuts in hard wood up to 1/2" thick and soft wood up to 3/4".			
No. 44802	Univ. No. 7R		
Width	Thick	TPI	No. Rev.
.045"	.017"	11.5	8
For tight radius cuts in hard wood up to 3/4" thick and soft wood up to 1 1/2".			
No. 45002	Univ. No. 9R		
Width	Thick	TPI	No. Rev.
.054"	.019"	11.5	8
For hard wood up to 3/4" thick and soft wood up to 1 1/2" or more.			
No. 45302	Univ. No. 12R		
Width	Thick	TPI	No. Rev.
.062"	.024"	9.5	6
Heavy duty for hard wood up to 1 1/2" and soft wood to 2" thick.			
No. 42002			
Width	Thick	TPI	No. Rev.
.100"	.030"	8	4

Tip 9: Wear a Dust Mask and Hearing Protection

The air hose that will keep the fine saw dust off your cut line, will blow it into your face. I feel a dust mask is required. While this isn't the loudest tool in the shop, its loud enough and you'll be using it for a sustained period of time. Hearing protection should be worn as well.

WALNUT SLAB INTO A KITCHEN BAR

Jenny Jecmen

I advertised for someone in the Guild to take a walnut slab, purchased by a client of mine, to cut, mount, finish, and install in her house as a kitchen bar.

I got two calls and went with one of our professional members, Morgan Patton of Mason Bee Wood Craft.

He was professional, detailed, with an eye for design and balance.

Both my client and myself were beyond pleased!! Excellence at its best!



The finished piece.

THE WILLAMETTE STONE PROJECT

Roger Crooks

If you have a background in surveying, you may know about The Willamette Stone, if not, join the rest of us. This is the reference point for all those strange numbers on a survey. It so happens to be two miles from my house on Skyline near the Barnes Road intersection and it is a state park. Here is a piece on the actual monument by KOIN TV. <https://www.koin.com/news/where-we-live-the-willamette-stone/>

The request was to take a burl (from Northwest Figured Woods – Figure 1) and fit a 10 pound metal monument (Figure 2) together. The organization that cares for the Willamette Stone (yes there is one) will auction this off each year to raise funds. The fellow who was driving the



Figure 1 - Raw Burl from Northwest Figured Woods

project heard about us via all of the above contacts and Mike sent it out to a few people that he thought might be crazy enough to take it on.

Not something to chuck on a lathe, I got my carving tools out and opened up the top to fit the monu-



Figure 2 - 10-pound monument test fit

ment. The problem, once it fit nicely was to secure it. The burl was mostly rotten inside and the space was very open, so a mechanical fastening was not feasible. The final solution was lots of epoxy – the challenge was to figure out the contact points, apply the epoxy and keep it from showing.

The most time was spent dealing with the burl. A long crack was filled with thin CA glue. The outside was cleaned with a stiff brush and an air compressor. Once it was clean, I put on over 10 coats of shellac starting with brushing it on until it stopped soaking in then finished with multiple coats of spray shellac to build a sheen.

Bottom line – it was a fun project, very different from anything else I’ve done and went for a good cause.



Figure 3 - Final product front



Figure 4 - Final product back

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