

NEWSLETTER FOR THE

**GUILD OF
OREGON
WOODWORKERS**

**OREGON
WOOD
WORKS**

**Vol. #38, Issue 8
August 2021
Portland Oregon**

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING: ONLINE WITH ZOOM

The online invitation will be sent out 24 hours before the event.

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

**CHIP WEBSTER
THE FINE ART OF ANTIQUE RESTORATION**

The problem: A friend comes to you with a family heirloom and wants it repaired. What do you do?

If you are our fellow Guild member, Chip Webster, you know the answer. If you're not Chip Webster (and only one person is), then tune-in to Chip's presentation on repairing "Grandma's Table" at our September 21st monthly meeting.

Chip has been building and restoring furniture in Portland for 15 years. After moving to Portland from the Atlanta GA area, he started [Furniture and Finishes](#), his furniture restoration company.

Central to any restoration is planning. Before beginning any work, Chip assesses the piece to discover its structure and its restoration potential. Some questions he asks before he starts work are: Are the joints solid or do they require re-assembly? Can the piece be stripped to bare wood to provide a clean start? What type of finish should be applied? What color is desired?

Only after answering these questions, and many similar questions, can the work begin on the piece. Chip creates a detailed work plan. He advises us to envision the final result and work toward that vision. A detailed plan should arise out of that vision and guide your work.

Chip has been a long-standing member of the Guild, serving in many capacities, not the least of which is as a teacher. On the day of our meeting, for example, he will be teaching an advanced course on the router. Chip's deep interest in the advancement of the Guild has been demonstrated by years of service. Don't miss Chip's presentation at the September meeting as he shows us how he works his magic with wood, turning what was once almost worthless into a family heirloom.



Flame Mahogany - before and after of a yard sale find turned into an heirloom. This piece is called a server and was coated with paint hiding the beautiful crotch mahogany veneer. This now resides in Lebanon, KY.



NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT

By: Steven Poland

If it hadn't been so amazingly hot this summer, it might be hard to believe that summer is almost over already! But it has so far been a reasonably good year for the Guild, considering the health and economic whirlwind we are living through.

The Board, and a sample of other members who have demonstrated a commitment to the Guild have just finished our yearly retreat to take stock and outline our next goals and needed actions for the coming months and years.

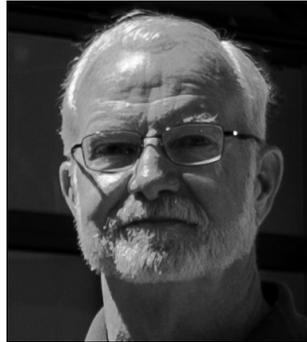
Financially we are in the black and slowly rebuilding our reserves. Shop certification classes have been running frequently and full, and a few new Shop Attendants will enable more open shop sessions to be scheduled. We do hope to be able to hold more evening and weekend open sessions, dependent on SA availability, and we can always use more of you to volunteer and receive free training for SA qualification.

Toy Build Fridays and Project Build Wednesdays are ongoing and will welcome new participants, again these are free activities and do not require shop certification, as there are experienced mentors participating to guide you in safely building confidence with the tools.

We are preparing for new Board Elections to occur in November. Eight of our twelve officers & directors are fully committed to returning, which is terrific for continuity. Having served as President for 3 years now, I am working on discussions with other current Board members about moving out of that position, fresh blood will be good for the Guild. Doug Drake has served as Education Director for several years, supported by a key team including Chip Webster and Gary Weeber, and they've proposed to rotate with Gary volunteering to take the Director seat.

Shop Operations Director Aboo Balamwalla has been doing a demanding job of making sure the shop equipment is kept up and running despite our heavy and occasionally ham-handed use of those machines. He could really use more support in this maintenance from the rest of us, including Monday evening work sessions, and we are thinking about instituting group maintenance training and work-sessions for programs like Toy Build and Project Build. Another idea is to stage machine maintenance classes like the Saw-Stop sessions we've hosted in the past. If we step up to assist Aboo we should be able to inspire his ongoing amazing support for the shop.

The other Officer position that will open for next year is Secretary, as Ken Fairfax would appreciate rotating out of



that position, which is a great one for a new Board member to get familiar with the inner workings of this all-volunteer organization.

Paul Ehrlich Planning Director will be moving to Minnesota next year, but has agreed to stay active in that important role by remote control, which is greatly appreciated as we work on our major facility and program questions. We are also likely to reinstitute the role of Sponsors Director for 2021, as any facility expansion will require a variety of additional income sources.

Outside of the Board, there are a few other volunteer positions that are opening for next year, including Joe Wheaton who is retiring as monthly programs lead, and Dan Haggerty who would like to retire from his SA coordinator role. If you have a desire to add your volunteer energy, please, please feel free to contact any of the current position holders or Charlie Meyer to get more understanding of the roles.

Speaking of volunteer opportunities, a very fun one is coming right up on Memorial Day Weekend – Art in the Pearl is a high-quality curated art fair held in Portland's North Park Blocks. For several years now they have invited the Guild to provide an informational booth at the fair to show off some of our work and explain what we are all about. It is a three-day show, with morning and afternoon shifts, and we need several more volunteers, you can find the sign-up opportunity in the website calendar.

As you can see, everything we do is dependent on all our members enthusiastically jumping in to see how they can help advance the Guild's mission. Don't be shy, we can use your energy.

This is another beautiful piece restored by Chip Webster - a drop leaf dining table. The client wanted to return her mother's heirloom piece to its original luster and to turn a leaf up to show off the beautiful flame mahogany. The modification was done in such a way as to preserve the original drop leaf intent if they chose to do so in the future. This table was photographed in the client's entryway in Roswell, GA.



Chip will talk at the next General Meeting Sept. 21- he will share how he works his magic with wood, turning what was once almost worthless into a family heirloom.

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 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

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



Many Guild members 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 ...

NOW ON-LINE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 AT 11:30 AM
On-Line - ZOOM

To allow members to keep the comradery of our monthly lunch meetings going, we host a Zoom get together.

Since it's going to be difficult to eat lunch together in a restaurant, we thought we could go around the gathered group and briefly discuss what we may or may not have been doing in the shop. If you have any pictures of items you'd like to share, have them available on your PC or Phone (depending on what you're connecting to the meeting with), and we'll be able to share your screen.

For security reasons we do not publish the meeting information on the website. We will send out the invite by email the day before—watch for it.

For information on using Zoom, click [HERE](#)

Remember to have your favorite beverage and eats too.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest **18** members. We're happy to have you with us and hope you'll make a regular appearance at the monthly program (online at present), contribute articles to the newsletter, and volunteer in other ways.

Deborah Bartoli, Mark Bisaccio, Michael Bourgo, John Bouwsma, Eduardo Estrada, Sam Freedman, Lori Gamroth, Ellis Hahn, Alan Kolibaba, Shannon Lee, Kenny McLemore, Charles Mengis, Justin Ouellette, Troy Prater, Tyler Register, William Resley, John Henry Souza, Tom Wildman, Aaron Han Wong

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

By: Paul Ehrlich, Guild Planning Director

The Guild Planning Committee oversees helping to set a course for the future of our organization. Much of the previous effort has been on the development of a strategic



plan including our mission and charter. Over the last year, this committee has focused largely on keeping the Guild on course during COVID. Our current focus is on developing a new facility plan that will help us make decisions and raise funding to be ready to move into a new facility in 2023. There are several drivers for this move. The first is that as the organization has grown, we are increasingly constrained as far as shop and classroom capacity. The second driver is that our landlord is exploring other options for our current space in Multnomah Village.

There are many decisions that need to be made as we work on our new facility plan. Should we have one or

more locations? Where should the shop be located? Should we co-locate with other guilds or crafts? What tools and facilities should we include? What can we afford? And finally, is it better to rent or own our space? These are all questions that we need to answer and document in the plan.

What is included in this plan needs to be largely driven by input from our members, therefore one of the first parts of our planning process is to gather that input. This includes asking members to share their vision for the future of the Guild, and to provide input on specific issues including programs, classes, location, tools, hours, fees, etc. The process that we will be using to gather input is going to be through a series of small group meetings. During August and September, we will be scheduling a series of 8 – 12 of these sessions. Each will be on Zoom and will be a moderated group discussion with a series of open-ended questions, intended to raise discussion and gather input and suggestions. We would like to get broad involvement across our membership on these calls, so invitations to participate will be sent to randomly selected members. We also want to make sure that we don't miss anyone! So if you would like to be included in one of these sessions, please feel free to sign up directly once they are posted on the Guild calendar – or send an email to Paul Ehrlich (paul.ehrlich@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org) and we can send you details on how to register.

TRACKING SHOP TIME

We currently track member's shop use by punching slots on their shop time cards – either a 2-hour or 4-hour block of time. This requires the member and SA to remember to do it and doesn't always accurately reflect the amount of times a member used the shop.

We are developing a new system, called the Shop Time Bank, which simplifies and streamlines the process. It replaces physical shop cards with automated tracking based on when you log in and log out of the shop, in 30-minute increments. This means that if you only need an hour of shop time you are not penalized by losing an entire 2-hour

or 4-hour slot. We will continue to have unlimited passes available and this will be recorded in the database so that you don't need to have the physical pass with you.

We plan on implementing the new system October 1 and members will have until the end of the year to turn in their physical cards for entry into the new system. We are still working out the details of this and there will be more information available in the coming weeks.

THANK YOU

The Guild would like to thank and recognize the following individuals for their generous donations to the Guild – May through July: Marc Auerbach, Terence Strom, Greg Baron, Jeremy Schultz, Glenn Seim, Emarie Vandrer, Steve McGowan, Sarah Spencer, John Gustafson, Kody Conrad, Bob Tompkins, Joshua Weinberg, Kathryn Albert, Fred Williams, Julie Boyles, Timothy Robinson, Cory Bessette, Daniel Haggerty, Stephanie Fitzgerald, and Steve Bauer. Diane Solomon made a donation in memory of Alan Boyles and in Honor of Julie Boyles.

GUILD CLASSES

We have space galore in our *Introduction to Guild Safety* and our *Shop Certification* classes! If you have been waiting for the right time, the time is NOW. Sign up and join us in the shop!

Please note that we are following Oregon Health Department directives. Bring and wear your (valveless) face masks for all in-person activities.

ONLINE

Monthly Special Interest Groups (SIGs), classes and gatherings

[Tips and Tricks with Michael Fortune](#) A series of 4 2-hour Zooms 9/7-9/22 with additional in-person classes available in October for those who attend the series. (This class is full, but we have a waitlist)

[CNC SIG 9/9](#) 7pm

[Carvers' Guild: Monthly Meeting Carving Holiday Gifts](#) 9/14 7pm

[Carvers' Guild: Monthly Meeting Pyrography Enhancements to Carving](#) 10/12 7pm

IN PERSON CLASSES & SIGs

Classes require a shop card and shop certification. SIGs only need shop Certification. Classes with openings are listed here; go to the [website](#) to add yourself to waitlists.

[Handtool SIG](#) 9/22 7pm, Guild Shop Ken Hall

[Tips & Tricks with Michael Fortune](#) (In Person) *Prerequisite: [Tips and Tricks with Michael Fortune](#) (September Zoom)* 10/6 9:00am, Guild Shop

[Tips & Tricks with Michael Fortune](#) (In Person) *Prerequisite: [Tips and Tricks with Michael Fortune](#) (September Zoom)* 10/6 1:00pm, Guild Shop

[Design Exploration Workshop with Michael Fortune](#) 10/7-10/9 9:00am, Guild Shop

INTRODUCTION TO THE GUILD

New members: This is where you begin! This class is a prerequisite to all others and to participating in hands-on [Community Projects](#) groups. There is pre-class work, so bring your homework to class.

[Introduction to Guild Safety](#) 9/5 9:30am Guild Shop, Jeff Hilber

[Introduction to Guild Safety](#) 10/3 9:30am Guild Shop, Jeff Hilber

SHOP CERTIFICATION

If you are new to woodworking, we ask you to take "Getting Started-Shop Safety for Beginners: Hands On with Portable Power Tools" before taking Shop Certification

classes. You must complete "Intro to the Guild Safety" before taking these classes.

[Shop Certification](#) 2 sessions, 9/7 & 9/14 1pm Guild Shop, Dennis Dolph

[Core Tool Practice Training](#) 9/19 6pm Guild Shop, Gary Weeber & Carol Boyd

[Getting Started - Hands On With Portable Power Tools](#) 9/21 9am Guild Shop, TBD

[Shop Certification](#) 2 sessions, 9/21 & 9/23 5pm Guild Shop, Mark Klein

[Getting Started - Hands On With Portable Power Tools](#) 10/5 9am Guild Shop, TBD

[Shop Certification](#) 2 sessions, 10/5 & 10/12 1pm Guild Shop, Dennis Dolph

[Shop Certification](#) 2 sessions, 10/12 & 10/14 5pm Guild Shop, Mark Klein

[Shop Certification](#) 2 sessions, 10/26 & 10/28 5pm Guild Shop, Dick Rohrbaugh

ADVANCED TOOL CERTIFICATION

Prerequisites: Shop Certification Card. Some classes are for Shop Attendants Only and are marked as such.

[Sliding Table Saw](#) (SAs Only) 9/18 9am Guild Shop, Tim Moore

[Router & Router Table](#) 9/21 1pm Guild Shop, Chip Webster

[Wide Belt Sander](#) (SAs Only) 10/16 10am Guild Shop, Tim Moore

[Multi-Router](#) 11/16 1pm Guild Shop, Mark Klein

AFFILIATE CLASSES

Gary Martin, Martin Model & Pattern - martinmodel.com
Email martinmodel@comcast.com or call for more information. Sign up on his website.

Basic Woodworking 101 Part 1, Thursday evenings 6-9 pm, 10 weeks, Oct. 7 to Dec. 16 (no class Nov. 25), \$350 covers all materials and supplies. Limit of 8 students.

Build a Train Conductors Stool while learning how to properly use all of the major power machine tools in a typical woodshop and then some.

Skills, Techniques, Safety, Tips and Tricks and more from a lifetime of experience 60 year woodworker.

Basic Woodworking 101 Part 2, Monday evenings 6-9 pm, 10 weeks, October 4 to Dec 13 (no class Nov 23) \$350 covers text book, materials and supplies. Additional tool

AFFILIATE CLASSES...continued from page 5

Gary Martin, Martin Model & Pattern - martinmodel.com
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Build a Train Conductors Stool while learning how to properly use all of the major power machine tools in a typical woodshop and then some.

Skills, Techniques, Safety, Tips and Tricks and more from a lifetime of experience 60 year woodworker.

Basic Woodworking 101 Part 2, Monday evenings 6-9 pm, 10 weeks, Oct. 4 to Dec. 13 (no class Nov 23) \$350 covers text book, materials and supplies. Additional tool purchase required. Prerequisite Basic Woodworking 101 Part 1, Limit of eight students.

Learn how to make most all common woodworking joints in a very accurate manner using high quality layout tools and techniques.

Projects Classes. Wednesday 6-9 pm, Friday 1-4 pm OR Saturday 9-12 am, 10 weeks, Oct. 1- Dec. 11. \$350 covers all shop time & supplies. Buy your own wood for your special projects. Some wood is available on site for purchase at reduced cost. Limit of eight students per session

Woodturning, Saturday 9-12 am, 7 weeks, Oct. 2- Oct. 16 & Nov. 20, Dec. 18, \$275 covers most materials and supplies, some extra cost for optional projects of your choosing. Limit of six students. John Beechwood will teach tool techniques and skills. Bowls & plates, handles & knobs, turned boxes, vases, salt & pepper shakers, the list is endless.

Lathe Toolmaking, Saturday 9-12 am, 5 weeks Oct. 23-Nov. 20, \$275, limit of 6 students. covers all materials and supplies to make four lathe tools with a value of over \$500. John Sutter will help you create four different carbide tipped tools using a metal milling machine, drilling and tapping, and turning your own custom handles.

Woodturning & Lathe Toolmaking Combination, 11 weeks, Oct. 2-Dec. 18, \$495

CARVING SIG

Upcoming Programs (all Zoom, Tues, 7:00 – 9:00 PM)
9/14 Carving Holiday Gifts, [click here](#)

10/12 Pyrography Enhancements to Carvings, [click here](#)

11/9 Oil Painting of Carvings (tentative), [click here](#)

Upcoming Classes (all Zoom)

9/18 Introduction to Carving (Incised), Sat, 1:30-4:00, [click here](#)

10/16 Introduction to Carving (Incised), Sat, 1:30-4:00, [click here](#)

10/30 thru 12/4 Relief Carving Workshop, Sat, 9:30-11:00, [click here](#)

11/20 Introduction to Carving (Incised), Sat, 1:30-4:00, [click here](#)

Carving Picnic, COVID Style



Twenty-five carvers and guests gathered safely for three hours on Aug. 14 for our first in-person gathering since the pandemic. Distancing and masks were required, and the picnic and BBQ was greatly simplified to minimize risk. It was held in a residential backyard, using two Guild canopies for shade. The three original demos were cut to just one for safety. Masa Nitani demonstrated his surface texturing techniques using his unique handled tools, with opportunities for others to try. Most of us are eager to do more together in-person.



Leif Benson Sculpture
Setziol Style

CORE TOOL PRACTICE TRAINING – SUCCESS

By Gary Weeber

We piloted a new training session on Friday evening August 20 at the Shop. We held our first Core Tool Practice Training and it appeared to be very successful.

This training provides a practice opportunity for new members who have recently completed the Core Tool Certification Training. By doing this, we hope it will help bridge the gap between the core safety training and actual use of the Shop. The excellent training provided in the core tool training can now be followed by the opportunity to practice what was learned before independently coming to the Shop.

Six trainees and three trainers worked together during the three-hour session to provide trainees with hands-on practice under guidance. Each trainee had specific tools that they wanted to practice on. By the end of the session, all of them were feeling much more comfortable both with the machines and the Shop. As trainers, it was rewarding to provide this assistance to newer woodworkers as they begin their woodworking experience with the Guild.

If you are a graduate of the Core Tool Safety Training during this past year and have not yet independently used the shop, you now have this inexpensive way to experience guided practice in tool use.

Watch for future training sessions!

Participant Comments:

“I would say that this class was an opportunity to practice skills on the machines that we learned to safely operate from the previous class. The controlled setting and helpful teachers allowed for some loose but productive project time. I found it very helpful and am already planning out future projects!!”- Jason Hoyer

“This session was very helpful in getting more practice with some of the larger tools. I spent a lot of time at the bandsaw trying to cut out curves smooth enough to take over to the sanders. The Shop Attendants were incredibly helpful (and patient).” – Matt DeRosa

“As someone with anxiety about “wasting” time, I appreciated that this opportunity to use the shop for the first time after orientation was both 1) free, and 2) did not require a project. I knew that I could likely use scrap to practice on the machines I wanted if the project I wanted to work on first did not require use of those particular machines, and I didn’t have to worry as much about what the best use of paid time would be and could just use it to get more comfortable around the shop.

It felt reassuring to know I wouldn’t be in anyone’s way if I was slow to figure out how to get started or the best way to approach a cut, and that I wouldn’t feel rushed by other, more experienced members waiting for me to clear an area.

Thank you again for this opportunity, I know that having had the experience will get us back to the shop sooner rather than later!” – Alex Milidrag

“I thought it was a tremendous opportunity. The basic safety courses introduced us to the milling machines, but this course allowed us to actually practice those principles toward a design that we brought. I’m not sure this class needs to be completely free. If students have a reasonable cost opportunity to mill materials and gain experience and insight for further use of the guild resources I believe they would take advantage of it. I certainly would.

I had a great experience. Thank you”! – Gregg Holt



ADVANCED TOOL SAFETY-CERTIFICATION CLASS

By: Steve Anderly

Tim Moore is certifying Tom McCloskey on the use of the Wide Belt Sander (WBS) in this picture taken on Aug.7.

The Guild has started training Shop Attendants (SA) on the safe and correct use of Advanced Tools, which include the WBS, the Panel Saw, the Pantorouter, and Multirouter. The plan is to get all SAs certified on these machines. For members to use the machines requires the oversight of a safety-certified SA. The class included Tom McCloskey, Bruce Coopender, and Mike Sandmann, with Steve Anderly assisting and Tim Moore instructing.



This safety class knows how to keep their ten fingers.

MICHAEL FORTUNE RETURNING TO PORTLAND IN OCTOBER

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers has been the beneficiary of several visits from Michael Fortune since 2015. Many of our members have had the pleasure of learning new techniques from this internationally renowned furniture designer, maker, teacher, and frequent contributor to Fine Woodworking magazine.

We have expanded our membership significantly in the past six years since Michael first visited so many of our new members are not familiar with him. Therefore, we are presenting a refresher for some and an introduction for others.

Michael Fortune operates out of his design studio and workshop located about an hour north of Toronto, Canada. He has been designing highly acclaimed contemporary furniture for over fifty years for clients in North America and around the world. The Canadian government recently commissioned Michael to create several original pieces of furniture for their embassies around the globe.

In addition, Michael loves teaching. He is in demand in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and Scotland, to name just a few locales. He is also a frequent instructor at the Marc Adams School of Woodworking in Indiana. Michael is particularly known for:

- ♦ Design ... he rarely uses straight lines in his work;
- ♦ Band saw work.... his favorite weapon of choice in the workshop;
- ♦ Wood forming ... if you can bend a piece of paper in a smooth curve, you can learn to bend wood to shape;
- ♦ Milling and drying lumber ... he operates his own mill; and
- ♦ Building emerging economies through woodworking.

The Guild has worked with Michael during the COVID pandemic to develop a virtual series from his well-equipped workshop. In four Zoom sessions, scheduled for September, Michael will discuss and demonstrate well over 100 Tips and Tricks he has developed over the years. These tips and tricks range from his use of a band saw, jointer and planer as a team, to bench work, drills and drill presses, routers and, finally, fixing mistakes. These sessions will be recorded for access by registrants after the event.

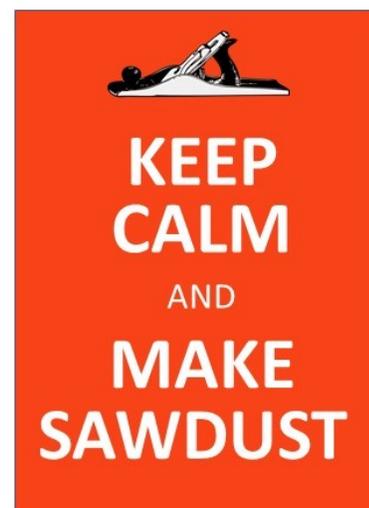
Video sessions can be very informative, on their own, but in this case we have also scheduled two in-person seminars with Michael Fortune, in October, as a follow-up for those Zoom session participants who are interested in meeting with him face to face. ***The virtual sessions sold out very quickly and are limited in capacity to best manage the interaction between the audience and Michael. However, the edited recordings of the sessions will be made available for a reduced fee to any member who desires access.***



He will also conduct a three-day Design Exploration Workshop in October.

You can learn more about Michael Fortune at his [website](#) and at Instagram [here](#).

This is a great opportunity to spend time with this renowned designer and craftsman. Come and join us.



WOMEN'S SIG NEWS

By Ruth Warbington, SIG Lead

The Women's Special Interest Group met on ZOOM last winter and got back into the shop in April. We started talking about Kumiko on Zoom; a couple of gals had learned it in a class. Ruth made jigs and put together kits and seven of us have been giving it a try. It is a hands-on project that responds well to a sharp chisel, a plan, and attention to detail.

This summer we have had open shop for our members once a month and attendees have worked on their own projects, small tables, Kumiko, and sharpening. Tim Moore has been our valued Shop Attendant and mentor. Women can register for our shop time the first Thursday of the month. Watch for a different day in October when Michael Fortune gets our usual date. Gals, for information, or to be added to the email list, contact Ruth at ruth.warbington@guildoforegroundwoodworkers.org.



Here Deb Jones works on her Kumiko project.



CFC OFFERS FREE VIDEO LIBRARY

The Center For Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport, Maine, has launched a free online library of 50 professionally filmed, instructional videos called **Welcome to WoodSchool**, presented by Lead Instructor, Tim Rosseau. Topics range from tool sharpening and hand-cut dovetails, to five different ways of machine-cutting tenons. There is also material on building forms and laminating curves. Check woodschool.org/videolibrary/

FIELD TRIP TO HAWAII

By: Linda Howarth

I was looking through old files and was reminded of a wonderful trip to Hawaii that my husband, Gig Lewis put together in 2010.

One of the things Gig liked to do was to get people together for field trips, whether it was close by (Mt. Angel), in another state (Port Townsend), or even to Hawaii. We never made it to Japan but that was on his to do list also.

We had been to Oahu, Hawaii in 2009 for a workshop that I was involved with and as we were waiting for our return flight in the airport we saw a lovely display that featured woodworking in Hawaii. The display gave us the idea that we needed to come back to look into Hawaiian woodworking more. By the time we arrived home Gig had decided that our next trip needed to be a field trip for a group of woodworkers to explore with us. He began planning for February the next year.



The trip was wonderful and we got to spend time with a few woodworkers (Bob O'Connor, Bob Oswald, and John Carter) and their wives. We visited a Koa factory with a tour given to us by the president of the company. We attended the Inter-island woodworking show. We received a wonderful talk by the lead builder for the ocean canoes they were building at the Polynesian Cultural Center. We were given a tour of the Kamaka Ukulele factory by Mr. Kamaka himself. And then finally we spent the afternoon with Ron Kent, a woodworking artist, at his home and shop. A fantastic trip. All that and we got to be in Hawaii for all! Not bad.



The reason I wanted to tell you about the trip is because it was a wonderful trip and we learned a lot. But also, this is a challenge. Once the world opens up again someone should organize another field trip somewhere, ... where? Port Townsend? New Zealand? Maine? California? Japan? I can help if

you tell me where you would like to go.

The following is the write up that Bob Oswald wrote for the newsletter at the time.

WOODWORKING IN HAWAII - 2010

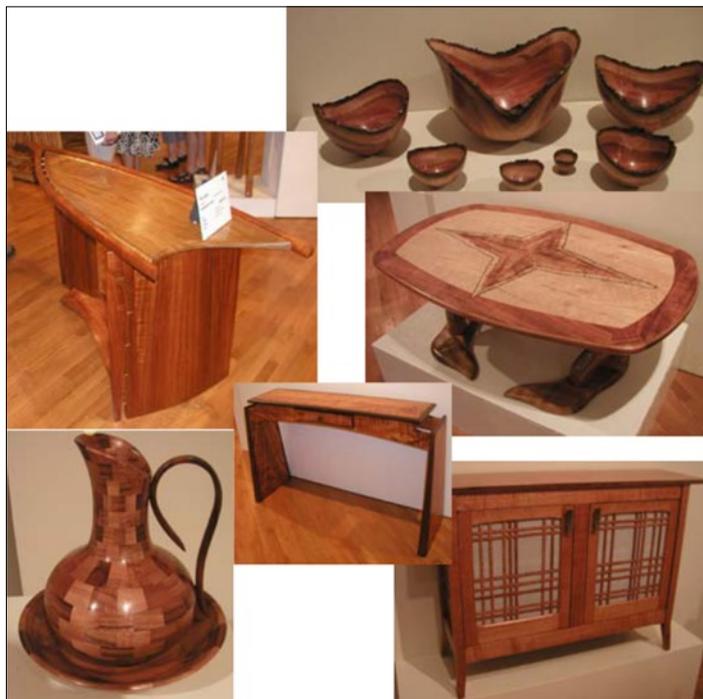
By: Bob Oswald

Well folks, it was a fantastic trip, this Hawaii woodworking excursion. First is a large thank you to Gig Lewis for making it happen. We had six great events compacted easily into three lazy and fun days. Here's a little summary in chronological order

Martin and MacArthur – Koa Factory

<https://martinandmacarthur.com/>

You haven't seen Koa until you've seen Koa furniture. I have to say this wood even exceeds the fantastic Oregon Black Walnut and Curly Maple. Jon Martin, president and co-founder of this furniture company, gave us an in-depth view of the workings of their "factory". Starting in the showroom, from \$60 tabletop pieces to \$20,000 furniture, I have never seen such glorious wood. A tour through the lumber storage area revealed heart-stopping wood. At \$30 per board foot, there was easily a million dollars in inventory.



continued on page 10

HAWAII... *continued from page 9*

Inter-Island Woodworking Art Show



We next went to the Academy of Art in Honolulu, where for a couple of weeks this all-island art show is held. This was the event that started this whole adventure a year ago. We all were prepared for a Ceramics Showcase kind of

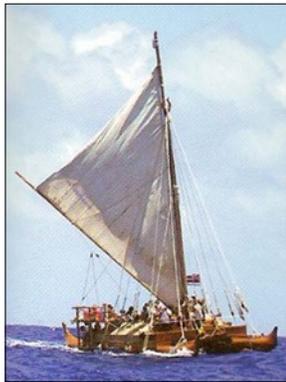
event. It was an unmanned art show with a caretaker who knew an impressive bit about each entry.

A slow tour of the gallery provided ample time to study, analyze and enjoy every piece of art.

Polynesian Cultural Center Ocean Going Canoe

This was not just a canoe, this was a near religious experience, from the woodworking effort involved to the incredible journey on the open ocean.

If you're a sailor as well as a woodworker, this was an inspirational visit. We spent well over an hour hearing from Kawika Eskaran, a native Hawaiian co-builder of this fantastic adventure. Nine months from start to finish, it was the product of most of the community. Any who wanted to help was given a task. This was a venture of Brigham Young University Hawaii, funded with a large generous grant from Kellogg.



Can you imagine spending 24 hour days for a month sailing the open South Pacific in an outrigger canoe. Sometimes the seas and winds were so heavy it took the entire crew to maintain control. They lived off the sea, catching most of their food. They also used all traditional methods to build the canoe and to navigate.



(2021 editors note: check out the YouTube video about the ocean-going canoes we visited and toured that day, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mk1gYmPjdyY>

Byodo-In Temple

A little side trip on the way across Oahu included this replica of the 950-year-old Byodoin Temple located in Uji, Japan was an example of post-and-beam construction. In this case made of concrete, it was still impressive to see the simplicity as well as the strength of construction.



Feeding the birds was a recommended activity. And a little walk through a bamboo forest left us breathless, the enormous size and strength of this 'grass'.



Said to grow a foot an hour in some conditions, one could scarcely imagine what a jungle of bamboo would be like to traverse.

Kamaka Hawaii, Inc

A spectacular tour of this 94 year old company, led by Mr. Fred Kamaka, Sr, one of the son's of the founder.

Ukuleles—priced from \$600 to \$1800,. Incredible quality. Today sons run the business and one tradition still holds true, every ukulele shipped from this factory is personally inspected and approved by one of the owners.



Uke's are made of Koa with Ebony or Rosewood covering on hardwood necks. There are many steps in the assembly process. Overall it takes about 30 days to travel through

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HAWAII... *continued from page 10*

the factory. Reaching into a barrel and pulling out a handful of sawdust, he exclaims “\$ 30 a board foot !!” The company is wise in it’s use of wood because at those prices.

**Ron Kent, World-Class Turner and Wood Artist**

Next we visited Ron Kent who is a gracious host living in a beautiful location in Kailua, on the East coast of Oahu. The home now sports nearly solid glass walls, an upgrade from 10 years prior when Ron bought it. Sitting in the living room feeling like we were outdoors, Ron started talking a bit about turning, how he started with a toy lathe gift from his wife to be, then thirty years later, he is now a world famous artist. Discovering that we were not ‘dedicated turners’ but woodworkers in general, the talk turned to woodworking, and a tour of their home loaded with furniture, turnings, an eclectic kitchen counter top of OSB and dozens of art pieces of Ron’s creation.



His workshop, a dream place has a double garage door open all the time with the Trade Winds wafting through, carrying shavings to all corners of the shop. It was a simple shop with a basic table saw, miter saw, drill press and bandsaw. His primary tool was a lathe located next to the open door, that he has since sold in retirement. Deeply tanned, Ron obviously loves the sun and the outdoors. Exotic artist, yes. Exotic woods, no. Much of Ron’s beautiful work is made of plywood. The colors in the edges make glorious effects, when you know how to bring them



out. And fine woodworking, well it’s all in the finished product. He was in the process of shaping a 3-foot tall sculpture with an angle grinder and orbital sander with 30-grit paper. He doesn’t go much finer than 80 grit. Impossible! But with a million coats of lacquer, the sheen is as fine as sanding to 5000 grit. This was a very, very eye opening experience. Simple tools, simple materials, simple methods.

The visit ended with a delightfully ice cream treat and a chance to meet and talk with Ron’s wife Myra. Two more gracious and charming people you could not meet.



Meet the Pros...

Milwaukie Hardwoods, LLC

Thanks to Vince C and the GOOW for the opportunity to tout our services and products. We have been a proud member of the GOOW for several years and have worked with many professional and hobbyist guild members providing wood for their projects &/or milling, processing and kiln drying members logs and wood.



For those of you who don't know us, we mill and repurpose urban wood it into high quality slabs and lumber for woodworkers, furniture builders and hobbyists. Our mission at MHW is to save urban hardwoods from going up

in smoke, compost, or waste. We sell indigenous hardwoods such as Apple, Oregon Ash, white and red oak, Black & English walnut, madrone, black locust, cherry, maple, and misc. other species. We stock burls, slabs, dimensional lumber, mantle/gun stock and turning blanks. We also stock some softer woods, including western red cedar, redwood and straight grain fir. We have a limited supply of exotic hardwoods including African Ebony Blackwood, Bubinga, Cocobola, Padouk, Purple Heart, Honduran Rosewood and Samoan Teak.

Our services include transporting logs with an 8,000 lb capacity boom crane truck, milling wood on our Woodmizer LT-50 wide or Lucas 6-18 mill, capable of milling as wide as 34" and 50" respectively. We kiln dry wood in our 4 kilns including a I-Dry vacuum kiln.

If you are looking for reasonably priced kiln dried or green wood we are a great resource. If you have some logs that need transporting, milling, or kiln drying we can also help.

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 email: milwaukieshardwoods@gmail.com
www.milwaukieshardwoods.com

By: John Sheridan

Guild members interested in exploring the best of modern chairs might consider the catalog of the 113 chairs in the collection of the Designmuseum Danmark. For example: Ladderback 1946



By: John Sheridan

From Canada the Flexi-Felt furniture pad. Better adhesive. Thicker natural felt



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