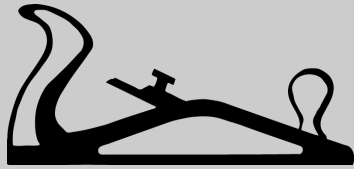


Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild



SHOP CHATS

These are informal and informational gatherings for members and friends to meet, share their shops, projects and ideas with each other. If you can carpool, great, and bring a snack or beverage to share if you can. Any member is welcome any time to announce an impromptu shop-chat if they have a special project, tool, or idea they want to share with SWG members. Just send Tom an email with the date, time and place.

9/20 Sat. 10:00a ~ noon at Gary Adler's place

10/18 Sat. 10:00a ~ noon at Will Sears place

Message from the President

Hi SWG members,

Do you have any wood stored away that's too special or odd to use? Are you waiting to find just the right use for some boards? Here is what happened to me: Back around 1977 I was taking an acoustics course in college. I decided to build a wooden tone drum for my class project. I found a short, knotty log of Tennessee Red Cedar in the basement of (my wife to be) Maureen's grandfather's house. The old dairy man let me have the cedar. With my handsaw, I ripped out 3 planks ~ 10" wide x ~20" long. I built a hand dovetailed box with those. Having no thicknesser available, I must have hand-planed and power sanded the boards. I bought a board of cherry for the top and cut the tone 'fingers' with my Bosch jig saw (still have it!). I don't think it had such a good sound, but I passed the class anyway. I'm not sure what happened to that original drum. I did make several more before realizing that they were costing too much and that domestic wood tops don't sound as resonant as the exotic wood ones found in many music stores.

We moved west in 1978, packing my '57 Chevy with all we needed that included the 2 'cants' left over from my school project. Don't even try to imagine how many times I moved, tossed, and tripped over those 2 oddly shaped chunks of cedar. Fast forward 36 years. Spring of 2014 and I'm in my 'good' wood shed looking for who-knows-what when I see these two pieces again. The timing is right and an idea is born. I now have two grandsons (6 and 8 yrs. old) and they both like making wooden swords and stuff. Finally a project! 2 boys = 2 cants; 1 cant + 4 legs = 1 stool. We

found some sturdy branches (birch, plum, and fir) from my 'other' wood shed and sawed the leg sections. Using my drill press, we cut round 1" tenons on one end of each leg. The boys decided to leave the bark on their birch and plum legs (the fir set was extra). Before we drilled 1" holes into the underside of the cedar for the legs, there was lots of scorping, spoke-shaving, and shaping required to clean up the aromatic cedar log form. Then back to the drill-press. On an angled platform we cut pitched leg holes that didn't break through the top. Next, we fit the leg tenon to each hole, which required some fancy shoulder scribing. The legs were shimmed to level the tops so that we could scribe their feet to the floor. The top surface was left flat to be versatile.

During the months of constructing these I remembered I had tenoned a third set of fir branches with an extra leg from the previous sets. Didn't I have a cedar slab (from an SWGer's moving sale) buried in the furthest back corner of my 'good' wood shed? After digging through the pile, I was rewarded by the sight of a lovely ~17"x ~57"x ~1 & 1/2" plank with pleasant natural edges. This became a five legged piece that may be either a bench or coffee table.

These three items were on display at Dan Fisher's June shop-chat and were well received by the ~6 visiting SWG members. I revealed the carved date and initials on the underside of each piece and proudly told the story of how two boys under the age of 10 built their own 'seats' alongside their grandpa with wood dating back two generations. Those boys now have a useful product that already carries memories from beyond one lifetime. ~ Tom Phillips



Tom and his two grandsons!

Member News

Byrd Cutterhead Upgrade: The Byrd cutterhead is an after market upgrade option to the standard straight knife cutterhead found on most jointers and planers. It uses individual square carbide cutters positioned in a spiral pattern and also angled for a shear cut. Great design for dealing with gnarly woods. The cutterhead is also FAR less noisy than the standard straight knife cutterhead. I have a 2002 Felder jointer planer combo (nice machine!). Last year I decided to upgrade this machine to the Byrd cutterhead. I received the cutterhead at the end of 2013. I finished a commission for a client in Febuary 2014 so I decided this was a good time to perform the upgrade. I knew it would take some time since I did not know the machine well. However, I made the mistake of dismantling the machine before closely examining the Byrd cutterhead. As it turned out, the reverse threads on the end shaft of the cutterhead were terribly mangled. This was due to poor quality control. I had to ship the cutterhead back and wait about two months for a new one. I was down for some time. Fortunately, I did not have any jobs in the queue at this time! Now that the upgrade is finished and the frustrations are in the distant past, I'm pleased with the results. But it was a long and spiral road!

~ *Herbert Edwin Harris III*

FALL SHOW SCHEDULE

9/27: Sat.. 10:00-11:30am, One-n-Only Show Meeting, @ Morgan Pierce's job site. Bring in your registration form and fees. Be sure to call Tom with your participation info if you can NOT come to this meeting! We will be planning our preparations, advertising and setup, as well as requesting our locations in the OSF Great Hall.

10/10: Due date for registration forms and \$!

11/17-21: Window display setup TBA sometime during this week (usually one morning).

11/25: Tues 5:00p, meet at the Stor-a-While south end Siskiyou Blvd., near Tolman Crk. Rd. We need trucks (or Morgan's) and some folks to move boxes, panels, and lights to the OSF room.

11/26: Wed. 9:00a ~ 11:00a, deliver and set up! Once unloaded you can work as required. Remember to be ready with the display equipment that you need and to be flexible working with your neighbors for good visibility and flow.

11/28: Fri. 8:30a- 9:30a, final Set-up! 9:35a: Pre-Show meeting with all participants! 10:00a - 7:00p: Open to the public (until some-time after the parade dust settles).

11/29: Sat. 10:00a - 6:00p, open.

11/30: Sun. 10:00a- 4:00pm, open. At 4:15p show wrap-up meeting and pizza party until ~5:00p: Break down, pack up, clean up.

12/1: Mon. 8:30a, final clear out for anything left from night before. Truck(s) and people needed to take SWG display gear back to Stor-a-While.



OUR MISSION

The Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild is a regional association of woodworkers encouraging a wide range of skills, knowledge, and interests. Our mission is to offer fellowship by providing networking among our members. We value the principles and practices of fine woodworking by encouraging technical discussion and development. We promote an appreciation of quality workmanship to the general public by providing access to our products, experience, and design expertise through shows, classes, and other events.

2014 OFFICERS

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REMINDERS: Please send contact information updates to Herb Harris. To save on mailing costs, notify Herb if you wish to receive only e-copies of our mailings. Also, we greatly encourage members to post their bio's on our members website page! Contact our webmaster Eric Olson for more information!