NEWSLETTER FALL 2019





SHOP CHATS

Shop-Chats are our method of getting together during the year to see what other members are doing and how they go about it. Exploring other shops can often reveal ways to improve one's own shop. We try to find new locations and/or new members to have us over for a visit so that we have 'fresh' shops to tour. We hope to 'explore' your work, hear tool opinions, and tips for getting 'it' done right. Sharing snacks and stories allows us to learn more about our skilled members.

9/28: Sat. 9:30am - 11:30am At Russell Beebe's shop: He'll be working on another large carving with gouges and chisels for cutting all kinds of shapes.

10/19: Sat. 10:00am ~ noon At Christof Buchler's shop/farm: Christof is an early SWGer having shown his HAND-made furniture and teaching in the 1980s. Yes, he does his work without power tools! He since has focused on barn building - again by hand. When he recently got an electrician to wire his shop for lightening he was talked into putting in some outlets. He's still not sure what he'll use them for!

Message from the President

Hi Woodcrafters,

Most of you know that early this summer I was hit by a drunk driver from behind while bicycling. I am very fortunate to still be alive. My recovery from the multiple bone breaks, fractures, and internal damage has been a new chapter in my life's story. I am steadily improving and am now doing physical therapy to increase my left arm's mobility and strength. So far there is no sign of diminished mental ability (if I ever had that...) and I'll be able to coordinate and participate in the Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild's 40th Annual Harvest Show on Thanksgiving weekend.

Yes, it is remarkable to think that for 40 years I have helped to gather talented woodworkers from southern Oregon and northern California to show off their beautiful products. That there are still a few of us around who have participated in many if not most all the shows is a wonderful reality (don't forget there were some summer shows as well). While 40 seems like such a big number for me it is just a reference point. How many different craftspeople have been involved in various ways over those years? Maybe 2 dozen have participated as officers, coordinators, and webmasters. Around 100 as showing members. At least 20 as teachers. If we consider the visitors to our various shows there have been many thousands. Of those, a couple hundred have taken our Insight Into Woodworking classes. There have also been many who have become customers.

I could try listing names of the many folks who have volunteered their time to keep the SWG functioning but no doubt I would probably forget a few. So instead I

suggest that you think about the craftspeople you've met, been inspired by, and seen giving some extra effort towards making our guild so beneficial. We each have connected in various ways to this network of designers / builders and hopefully learned how to be more creative, safe, and effective from this.

I was given a couple of books to read about the development of various woodcrafts that were needed to produce useful and durable products - from ax handles and pulley-blocks to snow shoes and wagon wheels. These items were essential to human civilized growth and each had specific requirements to consider and resolve in order for a satisfactory outcome. Understanding the qualities of different tree species and when and how to harvest wood which was best suited for specific tasks was not a simple process. These 'truths' and skills were refined and passed along person to person for generations. Now it's our turn to use and share what we've learned with others who seek to pursue woodcrafts and build wood products.

As we prepare to celebrate our 40 years presenting woodcrafts in southern Oregon remember that we represent centuries of knowledge carried along in the strong arms and hands of the capable and 'crafty' people who have passed on. We probably all can think of a SWGer who is no longer 'with us'. During my collision I was just a few inches away from getting totally smashed. I'm fortunate to still be above ground and functioning. I hope that by continuing to network and share we can assist each other to appreciate wood as an amazing resource. I wish that the involvement and connections we make through woodworking last a

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lifetime and beyond.

So let us woodworkers gather again and put on a fine show and allow people to see what the craftspeople of today have brought to fruition. May we be delighted and impressed by these accomplishments.

- Tom Phillips



John Harden: "I have been to 5 art shows in Oregon and California and have 5 to go. This is a booth shot from Bodega Seafood ART and Wine Festival!"



Mallory Hicklin: "About the time I got my new metal knee I was given a boat. A 16 ft plywood out board. Made in Washington in 1958. Has been in a barn for 55 years. Needless to say a bit dried out. New glass on the bottom and working inside now. Took windshield apart and re-glued it. Also made corner brace hand holds. Varnish inside and out. Getting close. Anyone have a motor they want to part with?"



Lewis Meyers: "Everything you need is most likely right in front of you, or to quote Teddy Roosevelt, "Do what you can, where you are, with what you have"."

John Jory: "Battery powered LED light strips costing less than \$5 a yard on eBay and can be mounted around curves by cutting them apart and using fine wire to reattach them."

FALL SHOW SCHEDULE

10/5: Sat.. 10:00-noon. SHOW MEETING at Morgan Pierce's shop. Please contact Tom if you cannot make it to this meeting but wish to show! If you are unsure of your show status but are interested in displaying (solo piece or more) then please send in a registration form before this meeting but wait on the fee payment.

10/10: Show registration deadline. Participation fee due.

~11/18: Timing and date TBA. WINDOW DISPLAY setup at the Great Hall. (Usually a Mon. morning starting at 9:30am.)

11/26: Tues 5:00pm. MOVE GEAR from storage unit to OSF show location. Stor-a-While is located at 2315 Siskiyou Blvd. near Tolman Creek Rd. in Ashland The storage unit is the first lane on the right, 2/3rds down.

11/27: Wed. 9:00am ~ noon (later upon request). SET-UP SHOW. Show participants will be notified of any schedule adjustments.

11/29: Fri.

8:30- 9:30am. Final Set-up! 9:35am: Pre-Show meeting with all participants! 10:00a - 7:00p: 40th Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Harvest Show Of Fine Woodworking!

11/30: Sat. 10:00am - 6:00pm. Open.

12/1: Sun. 10:00am- 4:00pm. Open. After that we'll have our show review meeting and pizza party. 5:00pm pack up and clear out.

12/2: Mon. 9:00am. SWG gear gets loaded out and moved back to the storage unit. Final room clean up.

By the way, if you ever forget the schedule for our various meetings, Jeff has included a month-by-month event calendar on our website. Go to the Event section, then click on Calendar!



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.

2019 OFFICERS

President Tom Phillips

Treasurer Jens Sehm

Secretary
Herbert Edwin Harris III

Webmaster
Jeff Roberts

Steering Committee Herbert Edwin Harris III,

Eric Olson, Tom Phillips, Morgan Pierce, Jeff Roberts, Will Sears, Jens Sehm, David Stan, Wayne Tarris, Jay Treiger

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.