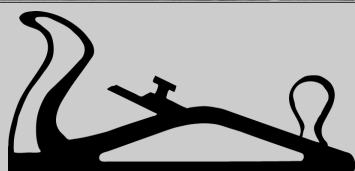


# Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild



## 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.

**3/12:** Sat. 10:00am - noon  
At Russell Beebe's outdoor carving shop:  
This is a Medford address but his home/workshop is located a little west of Talent and Pheonix. It's a 100 yards south from the intersection with Pioneer Rd. Russell's carvings are always impressive and significant, often from one trunk section of some large tree. He regularly provides some interesting stories about each project he gets involved with.

**4/23:** Sat. 10:00am ~ noon  
At Jerry Penzick's shop.  
Jerry Penzick is a third-generation woodworker residing in Jacksonville. A graduate of the Furniture curriculum at Palomar College, Jerry specialized in early American chair making concentrating on American Windsor chairs and ladder-back chairs. Jerry also does woodcarving and sign-making. He is a member of the Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild and a sustaining member of San Diego Fine Woodworkers.

## Message from the President

### *Letter from the Prez:*

I am going to tell you a bit more about one of the founders in order to 'pat his back' and talk about his talents and his dedication to our guild and the power of networking. Before I get to that, I'll ask how many of you know about another founder Will Sears who as a wood turner has brought his collection of madrone bowls to our show for many years? It's possible that he has been in every show! Did you know he used to build musical stringed instruments? That is until his shop burned down and most of his wood and tools were gone. A few of us witnessed his creative carpentry skills during a Shop-Chat last fall when he showed off his finally finished, finely funky, and unique house in the hills above Talent.

But it is Jay Treiger (rhymes w/ tiger) that I'm going to focus on here. He has helped develop and support the SWG mission in many ways. As a young carpenter he became a part time logger as a partner in the Select Timber Co. bidding for trees to cut and haul out on his 1941 GMC 1 & 1/2 ton flatbed truck to get milled. Although capable of crafting rocking horses and furnishings with hand-tooled details, he soon focused on remodeling to support his family. He moved several old houses to new locations which solidified his interest in maintaining the character and details of older structures. His building projects also included a new house of his design that highlighted wood from his own collection. Over time he became the go-to guy for many historic renovations and has consulted on several 'state level' projects. He developed a remarkable skill for 'saving' old window frames and making them operable again. A few of the places he has done window restoration are: the Kerby Museum, the Holly Theater, Peerless Hotel, and the Lithia Springs Hotel.

With the SWG he is known as a founder, early show-er, teacher, class coordinator, Steering Committee member, Shop-Chat host, as well as a very helpful and information packed

guy. I cannot tell you how many times he has loaded and unloaded our show gear, even when he no longer was participating in our events. We've shared tools and techniques year after year and have also worked together. Being recently retired, he passed a job over to me which required cutting a 3" thick Black Walnut plank to length. It was soon after the new year's snowfall when I asked to borrow his beam saw to do the job. To avoid driving he put the saw in a box and lashed it to his bicycle rack! He then rode down Ashland Mine Rd., pedaled up N. Main St., and delivered it with a big smile to my shop. At the shop he assisted me with the work (keeping the offcut steady). I took further advantage of his help to lift my 36" bandsaw's upper wheel back into place and hold it while I bolted the babbitt bearing cover back on. It would have been hard to have done these tasks safely without help or the right tool. FYI, I returned that saw by car.

Since his wife Dorise (rhymes w/ Maurice) is Swiss, Jay learned to speak that language and they raised their 2 sons to be bi-lingual. Before 'landing' near Ashland and becoming parents they bike toured around the west coast looking for a place to settle. When their boys were youngsters they all uprooted from Ashland and moved to Switzerland for a couple of years to get a full taste of European life. He worked there with other carpenters learning to restore and repair old-world buildings. Upon returning he continued his work as a general contractor, passing on his interest in building to both boys who now work in the construction world (though each on a different scale).

This family has always been eager for adventures including backpacking, bicycling, and skiing. Jay and Dorise once took an extended trip (1 & 1/2 years) to several Asian countries in order to explore that part of the world. Last year they completed the entire Pacific Crest Trail. They split the route roughly in half and hiked from their house north to Canada in 2019 and then in 2021 from the Mexico

border to the top of California. There were sections they had to avoid due to snow or fire conditions but they had a good system figured out. Jay drove the support vehicle ahead while Dorise kept walking north. He would park and hike south to meet up with her and then turn around and hike north together. As he says, 'he has hiked only about 1/2 of the trail, though twice....'

I've presented all this gossip about Mr. Treiger to remind us that when we get to know each other a bit better we can discover some remarkable aspects of our SWG members. The accumulative years that we could tally of our members developing eye, hand, and mental skills along with design, problem solving, technical, and mechanical skills would be impressive. I suggest that the experiences of SWGers beyond the shop and work-site are also important. There are many who have been involved with the SWG for decades and we have benefited from their creativity, cooperative spirit, and willingness to share information.

I hope we can gather in 2022 and benefit from knowing more about you.

*Your prez, Tom*



*A young Jay at our show horsing around...*

## 2022 Activity Schedule

**2/26:** Sat. 10:00-noon.

### **Annual General Meeting:**

Located at Green Mountain Woodworks: 225 Rogue River Parkway in Talent. This is just south of downtown Talent. Turn west off of Talent Ave. at the Police station. Then turn right into the last driveway or park on Rogue River Pkwy. and walk in the short distance. If the weather is nice we can use some outside space although the interior warehouse area is fairly roomy. We ask that you bring a chair for yourself and that inside people will have a mask on. We will provide some coffee and treats, as usual, and Membership cards will be available for those that wish to pay their 'early bird fee' of \$30.

More information about membership renewal can be found at:

<https://siskiyouwoodcraftguild.org/renewing-members/>



## 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.

## OFFICERS

### **President**

Tom Phillips

### **Treasurer**

Jens Sehm

### **Secretary**

Herbert Edwin Harris III

### **Webmaster**

Jeff Roberts

### **Steering Committee**

Jeff Behrends,  
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 Herbert Edwin Harris III.

**Important Shop-Chat Information...** See the schedule on page 1 of this newsletter. We expect that people will be required to wear a mask if they choose to visit a shop. We hope that these can go forward and perhaps use outdoor spaces and distancing for members to meet as safely as possible. Of course, if you are not feeling well or feel vulnerable then it's best not to come.