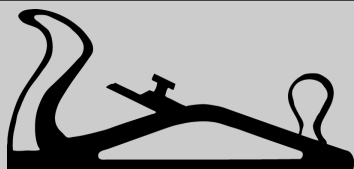


Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild



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.

TBD - Stay Tuned!



PHOTOS OF OUR
SUCCESSFUL
THANKSGIVING
WEEKEND
HARVEST SHOW OF
FINE
WOODWORKING
2023 CAN BE SEEN
ON OUR WEBSITE!

Message from the President

Hello Splinter Cushions,

As many of you are aware the SWG started in 1980 with our first Thanksgiving Weekend show that fall. A small group of woodworkers promoted their craft to the public with the goal to impress, inspire, and sell their talents. This will be the 45th year that 'we' have been working to connect craftspeople with others in the broader community. During the recent two years of cancelled shows we created a Virtual Gallery to allow members to promote their products for sale on our website. (Note that the Virtual Gallery continues to be active).

After the first few years of existence the guild decided that the title of president would be placed upon my shoulders since I was the one who called for meetings and planned ahead for a few activities - one of which eventually led to our Insight into Woodworking classes. Well, I am proud to be the 'leader' of this Guild. However, the title of president has not been a comfortable fit for me. I consider myself a promoter of our craft by working for my clients and doing my 'job' keeping things going with the SWG. One dictionary has this to say about the word "promoter": "...a person who alone or with others initiates and takes the preliminary steps in a scheme or undertaking for the organization of a company...". Which can also apply to a guild.

As such I have the distinct honor of answering a variety of email questions, phone calls, writing newsletters, making signs, assisting and teaching for the Insight into Woodworking series, scheduling and visiting our Shop-Chats, checking on and helping to update our website, coordinating the fall show, and more. These tasks are all part of creating a network of communication between

woodworkers and allowing the public to contact people with the skills and services we can offer. Fortunately there have been many helpers along the way. The SWG Steering Committee is loaded with such helpful members, including Jens Sehm (your treasurer), Herb Harris III (your secretary), David Stan (class coordinator), and Jeff Roberts (webmaster). The committee also includes our founding members: Will Sears and Jay Treiger. The continuity and dedication of these people has supported our mission and allowed us to continue to promote our cause.

I mention all this to acknowledge these important current volunteers and to 'toot' my horn a little bit. There are others who in prior years were involved developing and assisting with guild activities - too many to list here. I'm NOT reminding you of all their effort in order to have you stand by a busy road waving a SWG banner or to have 10 people compete for the treasurer's job (although this may be OK some situations). The point is to encourage you to take more advantage of the networking and activities that are available due to our continuing, promotional, collective, volunteer commitment!

For example: Members can take a solo class, use our group email system, get discounts, promote and sell their craft on our website and at a show, and visit Shop Chats. (I am particularly surprised when only a small group of members are at a Shop-Chat. The host member has usually gone out of their way to clean the shop and prepare some interesting things for others to review). Members can use the email group to share a photo of a recent project, construction detail, or special jig. This can often inspire others to respond and even try new techniques. The guild's website provides the Members Showcase that

publishes member contact and website information for the public. The Members Showcase helps members promote and sell their craft with job inquiries and/or referrals.

Yes, it does take some extra thought and time to take advantage of these activities and services. However, remembering a Shop-Chat date and taking that Saturday morning 'off' from your other duties can be a rewarding experience! Or keeping track of the class or 2 that you missed way-back-when you were enrolled in the Insight into Woodworking series so that you can complete the series may also be rewarding! Taking a 'quality' photo of a piece that you would like to promote for sale in our Virtual Gallery is one way to market your work and may be rewarding and lucrative!

You can PROMOTE woodworking, too, by being involved with the SWG.

- Tom Phillips



2023 Thanksgiving Show Floor entrance...

Winter 2024 Activity Schedule

2/3: Sat. 10:00-noon.

Annual General Meeting:

At the Ashland High School Woodshop which is located below the parking lot at the eastern corner of Siskiyou Blvd. and Morse St. in Ashland. The entrance to parking is along Morse St. This is our biggest gathering of members each year. We hope to fill the room and let people introduce themselves and assist us in 'putting a face' to many names that grace our membership list. We will review the plans for this year's activities, elect your officers and Steering Committee members. Seating, coffee, scones, and companionship will be available. Remember to bring your checkbook or \$30 to get your 2024 membership card (that's \$5 off the regular fee of \$35 that kicks in on 3/1/24).

Note that dues can be sent anytime to the guild's address at:

**Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild
60 Fifth St, Ashland, OR 97520**

ShopChats:

T.B.A. These simple tours allow members to connect and learn about some new or different projects, methods, and tools. I'll have a sign up sheet at the AGM for members who can host a visit to their shop. Dates will be determined after that. Usually we hold these on Sat. mornings from 10:00a to Noonish. Stay tuned!

Insight into Woodworking Classes:

These will be offered April thru May. David Stan is working on planning the teaching staff and schedule. If you are interested in teaching or taking these classes please contact David at:

dstan8446@yahoo.com



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.

OFFICERS

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Steering Committee

Herbert Edwin Harris III,
Eric Olson, Tom Phillips,
Morgan Pierce, Brent Poulton,
Jeff Roberts, Will Sears,
Jens Sehm, David Stan,
Wayne Tarris, Jay Treiger

REMINDERS: Please send contact information updates to Herbert Edwin Harris III.