

# 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.



**03/15: Sat. 10:00am ~ noon**  
At Morgan Strickland's homestead

There are numerous new improvements to check out inside and out since his last shop chat. His home and shop is quite a showcase of beautiful woodworking from a corner Tansu to the Torii gate. There is also a new cabin as well as a kitchen project.

More shop chats coming - stay tuned!

## Message from the President

### Hello Wood-carriers,

So much of our time is centered on moving wood from place to place! We prefer to have a truck, lumber rack, or a van to collect our logs, slabs, and boards from a 'yard'. Loading and unloading these piles is not always easy. It can be hard to find a storage location that's dry, level, and out-of-the-way yet available when we want to dig through it. You probably had to move a bunch of 'stuff' to make room for this new delivery. When looking for the right boards to use all these 'sticks' will get handled again, up & in or out, re-stacked, shuffled around, and brought closer to your tools.

Next is all the handling you do at each work spot to bring that material closer and closer to the right dimension, shape, and fit. After all that marking and processing is completed it is often time to sand-sand-sand (and then the 320). Once done smoothing every inch it's time to brag about how many coats of finish you applied to get such a lovely and protective finish. If it was already assembled you can be proud of how many (or few) clamps you used - which required getting the material out, setting up for a dry clamp, then actually using before returning them to their resting spot. More carrying!

It would be important to mention that moving isn't only 'grunt work' as there are so many things you might bump into along the way: doorways, tools, and other parts of the project. Don't forget that as each piece gets closer to 'done' that it becomes more and more delicate and you must proceed with great caution so you don't cause a 'problem' to repair. Hey, so I lost count a while back. It has got to be dozens of times you lifted each part from rough start to a polished finish!

Where ever I look in my shop there is usually something that needs to be moved before I can get work done on the current project. Tools to pull out or put away and parts to relocate for their next step. Maybe we should be called the Siskiyou Wood-movers Guild.

On another topic, maybe you noticed that we were searching for a SWG member to volunteer for the On-Site Class Coordinator position. We did finally get a reply from a member who seems like a good fit! Chuck Root is his name and he has been with the guild for many years. As I recall, he also took the insight classes. We are thrilled to have his assistance and look forward to working with him to present the 2025 series.

I am presently communicating with teachers from last year and will let you know if/when we are looking for new people to cover certain topics or even some different ones. At our Annual General Meeting (see our schedule of activities) I will report on our situation. Stephen Bacon, one of our teachers and once-upon-a-time class coordinator, has just 'retired' having sold the Bellwood business to a very capable person. Now he has to sort through all his own stuff and try to make a workspace for all the projects he's being wanting to do. FYI, we are always interested in adding new teachers to our 'staff' so please let me know if you would consider taking on a topic.

May 2025 go well for us all, 'carry-ing' on in our shops and beyond. May you find a way to get value from your membership in the SWG, finding tools, tech tips, wood, help, and pals during this year.

- Tom Phillips

**PHOTOS OF OUR SUCCESSFUL  
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND  
HARVEST SHOW OF FINE  
WOODWORKING 2024 CAN BE  
SEEN ON OUR WEBSITE!**

<https://siskiyouwoodcraftguild.org/pictures-from-fall-show-2024>



*Cabinet on display at the show -  
by Mallory Hicklin*

## Winter 2025 Activity Schedule

**2/1: 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 2025 membership card (that's \$5 off the regular fee of \$35 that kicks in on 3/1/25).*

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

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

### **Shop Chats:** 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. Non-members are welcome as well.

### **Insight into Woodworking Classes:**

Insight into Woodworking Classes will be offered April thru May. Herb Harris is handling the registration process. A file with the reg form can be found at our website under Events (select "Classes" and not "Class Schedule" on the right). Tom Phillips is working with the teachers to set up the schedule.

Chuck Root will be our On-site Coordinator this year. If you decide to take a solo class contact him.

When completed a final schedule will be available on our website Class page (without addresses).



*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

### **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, 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.