



Siskiyou Woodcraft Guild



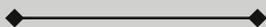
SHOP CHATS

These are informal gatherings for members and friends to meet and share their space, projects, and ideas with each other. Carpool if you can and bring a snack or beverage to share.

Any member is welcome anytime to announce an impromptu open house/shop 'flash-chat' if they have a special project (about to be delivered), tool, or idea they want to share with SWGers. Notify Tom and feel free to broadcast to the guild members the date, time, and place using the guild's group email address:

swgmembers@googlegroups.com

You can also ask Tom Phillips or Herbert Edwin Harris III to broadcast this information.



Oct 4: Sat. 10:00am ~ noon
At John Harden's shop.

Expect more shopchats to be announced later!

We will e-send out the exact address and other details for these shop chats during the week prior to each gathering.

Message from the President

Hello Well Splintered People,

To-be or not-to-be.... Scammed that is. I got an email recently asking if I made wood products. Well, of course I do and I replied yes to that and asked 'where are you located'. Then I got the reply email:

"Thank you so much for getting back to me. i need a King Bed – 76" x 80" and Custom live edge dining table, wood slab, ..Height 31" Width 42 Length 96" Steel Legs Metal Frame, Also, I will be arranging how it will be picked up from your workshop. That's my plan, you will get me your estimate to build. Thanks and I will be happy to hear from you soon."

That email included a couple photo attachments of such items. I responded saying I was interested only in making the table and I tried to scare off the potential client by saying that slabs could cost \$2K~\$5K in addition to my labor and the price of the metal legs along with some other information about wood that I had. Then I got the reply email:

"Yes, I need 2 tables and you can use beautiful Cherry wood boards to build it for me , i will await to read from you soonest so from there we can proceed."

This was all sounding good but curious as well. The client did not provide their location. All of a sudden 2 tables were requested. No screaming about potential costs or comments about 'single slab' vs. 'glue-up'.

Fortunately I got to talking to our secretary Herbert Harris and he pointed out some clues to look for in a possible scam. He experienced a similar potential scam when he was selling a woodworking machine on Woodweb a number of years ago. Look out for scam clues such as a series of emails with no specific information about the buyer, most questions unanswered, no real interaction regarding the details of the project, and no phone calls. A common thread with these scams is

that the buyer will arrange for the pickup. As we all know, dealing with shipment is a pain. Having the buyer handle this is nice! The buyer will offer to pay by either check or cashier's check handed over by the driver upon pickup. A separate payment for the driver's services may be required upon pickup. *This means that the victim here is the one making this payment - most likely in cash.* However, the scammer/buyer will certainly cover that fee by adding that fee to the amount on the cashier's check. No worries. Of course, the seller/potential victim is wise and will accept only a cashier's check and, with the idea that a cashier's check is safe, will proceed with the transaction.

As it turns out, cashier's checks are not all that safe. Now, banks are required to immediately accept a cashier's check and provide you the money. However, your bank will then go to the issuing bank that supposedly created the cashier's check and this transaction can take a week or more. The so called issuing bank will flag the check as a fraud and not pay your bank. Your bank will now go back to you and demand their money back.

So the victim has to pay back the bank and has no money from this deal. The scammer is long gone. The victim has also lost all the money paid to the driver. Oh yes, the victim no longer has the product that was sold!

With Herbert's suggestion, I decided to 'drop out' and not continue communications with this vague and changeable e-person. My general policy on payments is to have the materials cost plus 1/3rd of my labor estimate paid up front. Then another 1/3 payment is required once I have completed most of the construction followed by the final payment upon delivery. That means I will not lose everything if the final payment is bogus. Besides that, having all that hard work disappear as well would be the 'pits'!!!

I don't have a way to accept credit card payments (directly to me) and I have a limited web presence in an attempt to avoid these types of issues. I want to have a good direct communication with any client. During the design phase I have questions and sometimes I am able to have clients come to the shop to review mock-ups and samples. It is possible to develop a plan thru emails if the client is able to visualize details from some drawings but this does require good and clear communications.

May this experience be a reminder to be as careful in the 'web-world' as you are in the shop. Make sure you know what you are getting into with projects and people. Jumping into something can lead to problems later that can be costly and/or dangerous. If something does not seem right then it probably is not right. Please protect yourself and feel free to ask for opinions or guidance from our guild members.

-Tom Phillips



Two Haudenosaunee Story Poles carved by Russell Beebe and finished in 2023. These were shipped to a customer back east. These carvings are about 15' high!. Definitely check out videos with Russell talking about these poles and showing all the wonderful carving details!

<https://siskiyouwoodcraftguild.org/member-showcase/>

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!

We have our newsletters on file there, too!

FALL SHOW SCHEDULE

Our policy for participating in the show is as follows: Returning members who have previously been juried and recently participated in a show are grandfathered in and can request the same location they used in previous shows. This allows for better preparation and easier setup and tells us how much space is available for members showing for the first time. We try to bring in as much variety to our shows as we can fit in. Please contact Tom Phillips before **9/20** (if you have not already done so) to tell him one of the following...

- 1) *You have recently participated and would like to participate again this year.*
- 2) *You have recently participated but will not participate this year.*
- 3) *You have never participated in the past and would like to be juried at the show meeting to participate this year.*

The show registration form can be downloaded from our website (scroll down to the bottom of the page):

<https://siskiyouwoodcraftguild.org/events/annual-fine-woodworking-show/>

Important dates!

09/27: Sat. 10am ~ noon

One-n-Only Show Meeting.

@ Morgan Pierce's shop in Ashland. His address will be e-sent out the week prior to the meeting. Send in your Registration form or bring it to this meeting. We will be planning advertising and setup. *New participants:* We will jury new participants here so bring a Reg. form and couple of pieces for assessment. Pay show fee afterwards if accepted.

10/10: Fri.

Due date for Registration forms and fees.

11/25: Tues. 5:00pm

Meet at the Stor-a-While (south end of town on Siskiyou Blvd. near Tolman Creek Rd.) Our unit is down the first lane on the right as you enter. We need volunteers to move boxes, platforms, and panels to the OSF room. *You do not need to be a show participant to volunteer!*

11/26: Wed. 9:00am ~ 12:00am

Deliver and setup time! Once you are in the room you can work as long as you need. Remember to be ready with the display equipment that you need and to work things out with your show neighbors for good visibility and foot traffic flow.

11/28: Fri.

8:30am - 9:30am: Final Set-up.

9:35am: Pre-Show meeting with all participants!

10:00am - 7:00pm: Open to the public (until some-time after the parade dust settles).

11/29: Sat. 10:00am - 6:00pm:

Open ...

11/30: Sun.

10:00am- 4:00pm: Open ...

4:15pm: Show wrap-up meeting and Pizza Party!

5:00pm: Take it down, pack it out (as much as possible), and clean it up...

12/01: Mon. 9:00am

Final Clear out. Pick up anything left overnight. Trucks and folks 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.

2024 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 Harris