

NEWSLETTER FOR THE  
**GUILD OF  
 OREGON  
 WOODWORKERS**

OREGON  
 WOOD  
 WORKS

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 Portland Oregon

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**NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT**



*Steven Poland*

I hope all of you are fortunate to have so far avoided this Covid19 scourge and will continue to fortify your luck with protection, distancing and sanitation. I also hope you are finding ways to keep sane and busy. Surviving the long-procrastinated home maintenance projects can also be very exhausting, but at least there is satisfaction in completion. So far I've patched, cleaned and painted the side of my garage on the property line with my neighbor, cut back my wood deck another 6" to clear growth of an adjacent giant cedar trunk, replaced the last of its original 35-year-old deck planks, pressure washed all hard surfaces in

the yard (6 hours!), and chain sawed in half, lengthwise, the wild cherry log sections harvested last November so they are light enough to pick up and transport to Milwaukee Hardwoods for rough milling.

The printer supply cabinet I started last month hit a snag as I realized I had no way to resaw my milled stock. I was shocked we are at a point where the big box places and even Woodcrafters do not carry a single hand carpenter's saw, let alone a rip version? Even Winks does not have a rip saw, only crosscuts. I attempted to Paul Sellers my way through hand ripping short pieces with both western cross cut and Japanese style rip saws, and could tell I would not survive the effort. Makes you realize what an awesome resource our Guild shop has been!



More seriously, since your Board has now met twice by Zoom conference and other members have not had a chance to sit in, I'll try to give a bit of an update on that activity. This method seems to work well, and we plan to expand use of that utility to maintain contact among all of the membership. Both the Education and WRAP committees have also been conferring through Zoom and continue to make progress. As you saw in Roger's weekly email blast and on page 3 in this newsletter, the May Meetup will be on Zoom which should be an adventure!

**A SUMMARY OF BOARD DISCUSSIONS:**

**Insurance** – With the great advice of member David Chamber's wife Ethel, we put together a proposal request for coverage that more closely and thoroughly addresses Guild programs and assets. Tom McCloskey volunteered his daughter-in-law, a professional at Brown & Brown NW agency to put out our proposal request to about 6 insurance providers who are experienced with non-profit organizations. We also received a proposal from our existing agent on the same basis. We have now finalized a policy with Great America Insurance that adds coverage of all of our tools, secondary liability coverage for volunteer drivers, and a couple of other items, all at less cost than our old coverage.

**Financial** – Bill Hamilton has been tracking and projecting income and expense scenarios as impacted by our closure, including a significant fall-off in new memberships and renewals. We can report that even with a closure of several more months, we are not in danger, and may be able to avoid dipping into our certificates of deposits if we can restart by fall.

**PRESIDENT'S NOTE...continued from page 1**

**Restart Criteria and Strategies** – Carol Boyd has started a folder in our Google Drive to collect input on this topic, and several folks have contributed many key concepts. First is that we will not jump ahead of our local government recommendations, so whatever strategies we assemble for restart are in preparation for a timeline we do not control. The Board voted to extend our physical shop and meeting closure through May. Prior to that we are committed to ramping up on-line opportunities. It is likely that until there is confidence created by a vaccine, we will be continuing to require masks, personal distancing, and thorough sanitation strategies. To succeed we will probably also need to have a strict limit on the number of people in classes and shop sessions. Things will be very different for many months ahead.

**On-line programs** - We realize it is very important to maintain contact across membership while we all deal with this challenge. The easy ones are committee meetings and we will try restarting the SIGs this way. We are open to any of your initiatives if you want to try your own project show-and-tell sessions, virtual shop tours or the like. Conversion of our education classes to video delivery is more complex. Our instructors are not video producers and it would be great if there are any experienced videographers in our ranks who could step forward to assist with this potential strategy... contact with Doug Drake or Roger Crooks would be appreciated.

**Taeho Kwan classes** – Taeho has very graciously committed to working with us to reschedule as soon as we are able to accommodate his very popular class offerings. Education will issue a statement about your registration fee options.

**Shop Safety Certification** – While not finalized, it is likely that the HOST option will go away on reopening, and the new more efficient skills classes will be put in action. This will insure that every new user has the same practiced knowledge of our safety and machine operation standards.

**Also under Safety – Background Checks** – The Strategic Planning effort completed last year identified the importance for every shop user's personal safety of having background checks for key people. This was highlighted in talks with Multnomah Arts Center, as Bureau of Parks and Recreation requires this for

any instructor in their facility. Gary Weeber is leading this strategy and Parks will provide checks at no cost to the Guild! It will most likely apply to all Shop Attendants, Instructors, and others with access to financial accounts and hard key access to the shop. A plan for privacy and security of the information is being established.

**WRAP** – Future facility planning committee is continuing to work on making contacts with potential partners and property owners, although need and timing is completely up in the air due to the Covid19 situation. We have let our current landlord know that we want to keep the option open of renewing the lease in July 2021.

**Membership Fees** – It is not appropriate to increase fees until there is a real need to address additional budgeted expenses such as for a larger facility. A concept is being explored that will provide extended period prior to renewal, proportional to the duration of our shut down.

**Planning Retreat** – Planning Director Ed Ferguson has outlined an agenda for a “virtual retreat” in June. It will be a Zoom conference and broken into two half-day sessions.

**Website Update** – Roger Crooks and his communications crew have posted a “draft” version of redesigned website for review and comment by various content leaders, and is looking for their input before committing to converting. It will be much cleaner visually and much easier to locate the contact you are interested in.

So that's what your Board has been up to, and we hope to expand how we can maintain contact with and between all of you!

Steve



This is still woodworking, right?



### **The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is...**

..., a group of amateur and professional woodworkers committed to developing our craftsmanship.  
 Our Mission: To promote the craft of woodworking to the woodworkers of today and tomorrow.

Our Vision: A community of woodworkers that provide significant opportunities to develop, practice, enhance, and share skills.

The Guild offers many benefits for members, including:

- ◆ Monthly programs
- ◆ Monthly newsletter
- ◆ Weekly Volunteer Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- ◆ An education program to help members develop woodworking skills through a variety of hands-on and lecture classes
- ◆ Sponsor discounts
- ◆ Woodworking shows (such as Gathering of the Guilds)
- ◆ Network of business partners.
- ◆ A woodworking shop
- ◆ A network of friends and opportunities to volunteer and make a difference in our community

What you can do for the Guild

- ◆ Volunteer your time to contribute, assist, organize, lead, teach
- ◆ Take a class
- ◆ Contribute your knowledge

For more information see the Guild website or visit the shop.

Guild Shop - 7634 SW 34th St, Portland, OR 97219  
[Guildoforegonwoodworkers.org](http://Guildoforegonwoodworkers.org)



Many Guild members recognize that woodworking can be a lonely avocation. It's fun to get together with other woodworker's to swap stories, share successes and failures, and to ask questions. Come join the fun at the next MEET-UP ...

**NOW ON-LINE**

**MONDAY, MAY 4 - 11:30 AM**  
**On-Line - ZOOM**

In an effort to allow members to keep the comradery of our monthly lunch meetings going, we will be hosting a Zoom get together at 11:30am on Monday, May 4.

Since it's going to be difficult to eat lunch together in a restaurant, we thought we could go around the gathered group and briefly discuss what we may or may not have been doing in your shop. If you have any pictures of items you'd like to share, have them available on your PC or Phone (depending on what you're connecting to the meeting with), and we'll be able to share your screen.

For security reasons we do not publish the meeting information on the website. We will send out the invite by email next Sunday, May 3.

For information on using Zoom, click [HERE](#)

Remember to have your favorite beverage and eats too.

*If the world is open...*

**MONDAY, JUNE 1 - 11:30AM**  
**Sinnot's Lil' Cooperstown**  
 5851 NE Halsey St, Portland  
 Old school neighborhood pub.

**MONDAY, JULY 6 - 11:30 AM**  
**Salvador Molly's**  
 1523 SW Sunset Blvd  
 Portland 97239  
 About a mile from the Guild Shop

**MONDAY, AUGUST 3 - 11:30 AM**  
**Zoiglhaus Brewing Co.**  
 5716 SE 92nd Ave.  
 Portland 97226  
 Near the Foster exit to 205

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 5 - 11:30 AM**  
**Dullahan Irish Restaurant**  
 352 B Ave.  
 Lake Oswego 97032

## ONLINE CARVING CHATS WITH CHUCK



*Chuck Rinehart*

Join us for free hour-long meetings to explore how online learning could work.

Thursdays, 1:00 PM, nominally one hour

Weekly on May 7, 14, 21, 28

Register by [clicking here](#)

You will be emailed the Zoom meeting link two days before each meeting

Weekly topics will be Signs, Lettering, Borders, Tools & Sharpening

We don't know how practical or desirable it will be to learn this way, but we need to start somewhere. We want to build experience using this technology, gauge interest, and provide some content.

Chuck Rinehart is our resident expert carving instructor and has been teaching the topics above for three years.

For questions contact Larry Wade, [lpwade@gmail.com](mailto:lpwade@gmail.com), 503-312-7745.



*Bob Gaubatz nears completion of carving in one of Chuck's classes last year.*



*Steve Hickox working on a carving during one of Chuck's classes last year.*

## PROJECT BUILD ANNUAL REPORT 2019

### Goals of Project Build

Provide opportunities for woodworkers to develop their skills by working with other experienced woodworkers on a variety of projects.

- Provide opportunities for members to become proficient in the use of Guild Shop resources and prepare for shop certification.
- Provide opportunities for members to become more engaged with the Guild and take on volunteer roles such as Shop Attendant, instructor and other leadership positions.
- Provide opportunities to socialize with other Guild members.
- Support the Guild by building items for use by the Guild.
- Support the larger community through donations of items and outreach programs such as the birdhouse kit assembly events.

### Member Impact:

# of members participating throughout the year ..... 33+

# of Project Build shifts throughout the year ..... 48

*Promotion of Project Build members to higher levels of participation in the Guild:*

Shop Attendants newly qualified in 2019 ..... 2

Newly qualified for shop card in 2019 ..... 5

Members teaching or organizing classes in 2019 ..... 5

### Benefit to the Guild Shop:

- Remove and relocate cabinets for the back of the shop
- Build and install new cabinets in the bench room
- Build safety rail in bench room entry
- Build pantorouter rolling cabinet
- Work party for annex reorganization
- Work party with toy group to build storage racks in CJ's pole shed
- Gathering-of-the-Guilds setup team participation
- Build and sell small and medium sized projects for the Gathering of the Guilds and ALGP (See details below) providing income to the guild. (\$2000+)

### Benefit to Other Nonprofits

*Birdhouse Builds* — Birdhouse kits were assembled by project build and approximately 30 Guild members volunteered at the events to help kids build their own birdhouse.

- Tualatin Nature Center
- Clackamas Co Fair
- Multnomah Days

### Beads of Courage

Build octagonal bead boxes and pass them to the Turner's Guild to turn tops and bottoms before they are delivered to children's hospitals. (30 kits were sent to the turners)

### Preschool Tote Project

Joyful Noise Child Development Center. Build 40 tool tote kits and help preschool teachers guide their students through assembling their own totes.

### Assistance League of Greater Portland (ALGP) <https://portland.assistanceleague.org/>

The Guild has partnered with ALGP to sell some of the items that Project Build has created in their Consignment Shop. ALGP is an all-volunteer run, non-profit that has a Thrift Shop and Consignment Shop to raise funds to clothe needy school children. Their Consignment Shop has sold over 27 Project Build items returning to the Guild a total of \$1,140 while supporting their charitable programs with \$760 in consignment fees. This partnership has been a great benefit to both organizations.







## Ask the Experts

Send us your questions and we will publish the answer.  
No question is too basic or complex for this new column.  
We can all learn something.

[newsletter@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org](mailto:newsletter@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org)

**Question #1:** *Where can I see a good selection of wood?*

**Answer:** from Doug Drake

These are my usual suspects for local sources of wood:

Currently these businesses are all open, some with restricted hours etc. Be sure to call them before visiting. You will likely need to have your own mask and perhaps gloves.

**Crosscut Hardwoods** - North Portland - Massive warehouse stocking hardwood decking, lumber, countertops, marine ply, veneer & sheet goods. <http://www.crosscuthardwoods.com/> - They are currently operating on restricted hours so check their website for details.

**Hardwood Industries** - Sherwood - Great place for hardwood and sheet stock. <http://www.hardwoodind.com/> Yes they are open these days.

**Sustainable NW Wood** - SE Portland - Small outfit, but offer Forest Stewardship certified wood from our region. <https://www.snwood.com/> Please read their alert on the website and call with questions and notify them if you want to go to their store 503.239.9663. Their showroom is closed to walk-in traffic, but they are OPEN for business!

**Milwaukie Hardwoods** - Milwaukie - Guild members Ken Vetrick and Dave Mealy's operation on Lake Road. Portable milling, transporting, drying and sale of locally harvested urban hardwood. (503) 309-0309 <http://milwaukiehardwoods.com/> Call.

Also go to You Tube channel about wood: **Woodworkers Source** - This outfit has wood supply business in Arizona, but their videos on domestic and exotic woods are pretty darn good! <https://www.youtube.com/user/WoodworkersSourcecom/featured>

**Question #2:** *How should I prepare a natural live-edge slab?*

**Answer:** from Kurt Clagstone

### PREPARATION & CREATING LIVE (NATURAL) EDGE SLABS

Live-edge slabs are becoming more popular for giving your table a "natural" look. The live edge is the outer edge of the tree where the bark is. Below, I will briefly touch on two approaches of preparing/creating this character:

- Preparation of an existing/natural edge typically with the bark still on
- Creating a faux live edge look from dimensional (straight) lumber

**Suggestion:** If you have purchased an expensive hardwood slab and are attempting this for the first time, it's advisable to practice on a cutoff piece or other similar wood to confirm the look/final texture you want.

### PREPARATION OF EXISTING LIVE EDGE

The first process is to remove the bark from the edge as with time, it almost always separates from the inner core of wood. This is best done with a chisel initially and followed up with a fine wire brush on an electric drill or 90 deg. grinder to remove remaining items along with the thin outer membrane below the bark. Some woodworkers will use a coarse brush which leaves slight "groove" marks for a different look along with rasps, chisels, etc. to further shape the piece – there's no limit to creativity when it comes to producing natural wood appearances.

Many times you'll find your piece has insect holes near the edge – I fill these with a clear glue or leave them as is – it's not always necessary to fill these as they can add to the character of the natural look. Once the bark is removed, I take a flapper sander on my drill, or rotary sander, to complete the final prep before the final finish.

For the final preparation, I slightly smooth the edges with sandpaper. Then I start hand sanding with 120 g and finish with 220/320 g depending on how smooth I want it.

### CREATING A FAUX LIVE EDGE

Many woodworkers create their own live edge "look" from a straight square cut edge which with a little skill, is hard to distinguish from a natural outer edge – suggest you review other tables/pictures of finished tops to get an idea of the variety of shapes.

The following is a process for accomplishing this:

- Sketch an irregular line near the edge in the shape you want for your cut. Remember to inset this as necessary for the angle/bevel cut to ensure you cut through the entire thickness of your board.
- Use a jigsaw set at your angle of cut (typically varies

*continued on page 7*

### Q&A—LIVE EDGE... *continued from page 6*

from 10 – 40 deg.) to cut your bevel. A Sawzall can be used for thick slabs.

- Once the cut is made you can further create irregular angles with the use of a spokeshave or grinding wheel.
- Other textures can be created using a flat ,and or, curved lathe chisel, angle grinder with carbide wheel, Dremel tool, etc. The intent is to create a natural/irregular surface that doesn't reflect a saw cut.
- Follow up with the preparation techniques listed above.

#### Final Note

For a darker look on the edge use a torch to slightly burn the wood and follow up with a wire brush/sanding to give a non-uniform look – don't over-burn the surface. A dark gel stain can also be used to darken the edge.

Remember, it's hard to make a mistake with these techniques as the intent is to yield a unique "natural" look – experiment and be creative!

#### Resources

Watch youtube—these topics – building a live edge table, finishing a live edge, creating a faux live edge, etc.



### Question #3: *What finish should I use?*

**Answer:** from Frank LaRoque

I have been finishing for more than 60 years in one form or another. I have done auto finishing, house painting, cabinet and furniture finishing, and even automated painting of adjusting clips for bras.

One of the things that I run into is the sanding of wood before finishing. The comment is "I sand as smooth as I can down to 400 grit or finer". DO NOT DO THIS! Over sanding is really harmful for finish adhesion. I sand down to 100 grit which leaves the wood slightly rough and when the finish is applied, the grooves make an anchor for the finish. It also enhances the color when staining the wood. Trust your finish to fill the tiny groove left by sanding. The sealer coat will fill these grooves. There is not a magic finish that will do every job. There are specific finishes for each situation and end use.

One rule that pertains to all finishes is that gloss is the most durable. The reason behind this is: the lower the sheen the more additives in the finish. This will lower the shine and lower the durability and the softer the finish will be. I apply a gloss finish first, then apply a lower sheen finish over the gloss, this gives a tough base, and then apply a lower gloss finish.

I recommend the use of sealer that is made for the specific finish that you are using. One exception is shellac. Shellac is compatible to use under almost all wood finishes. It has been in constant use for centuries, even on wood in the Egyptian tombs.

There are many formulas of shellac, the most common for the woodworker is made by "Bullseye" which comes in clear and amber. I prefer the amber because it makes the

wood grain "pop" and gives the finish an older look, which I need for antiques. - Neat fact is that when properly processed, shellac is used for the shine on boxed candy - I apply shellac over raw wood as well as stained wood. The drawback of shellac, as a finish, as it will be harmed by water and will be completely destroyed with any kind of alcohol. This means that you should overcoat it with your preferred finish. All the "urethanes" will grab onto the shellac making it an ideal finish.

Some of the easy finishes are the following:

**Danish oil by Watco:** This needs to be applied with a cloth and rubbed out with the same cloth to remove excess, wait 24 hours then lightly sand with 320 sand paper.

**Wipe on Poly by Minwax:** Is an exceptional finish for the beginner wood worker. It is also applied with a small folder cloth and generously applied and the excess wiped off and buffed to even out the finish. Let it dry overnight, then sand gently with 220 sandpaper and apply another coat. Do this until you like the resulting smoothness. You might like an open grain look and a few more coats might be enough to satisfy you. (use a minimum of three coats)

**Brush on Finish by Minwax Spar Gloss, solvent or water borne:** Brush on thin coats, waiting 24 hours between coats and lightly sand between coats. (Note: always clean a new brush to remove the stuff used by the maker to hold the brush bristles in shape. Recommend cleaning with lacquer thinner. Wash twice with clean thinner each time)

## CHERRY SPOON IN SCHOOL'S 50 YEARS CELEBRATION

### John Sheridan

This cherry spoon, (10" x 4"), handcarved in 1973 has been selected for a September show in the Clifton, NJ, Art Museum to celebrate 50 years of the Peters Valley School of Crafts in Layton, NJ. John was an apprentice there.



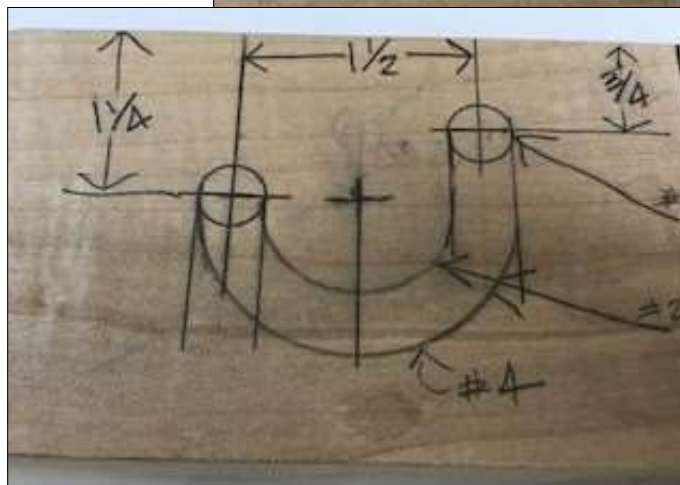
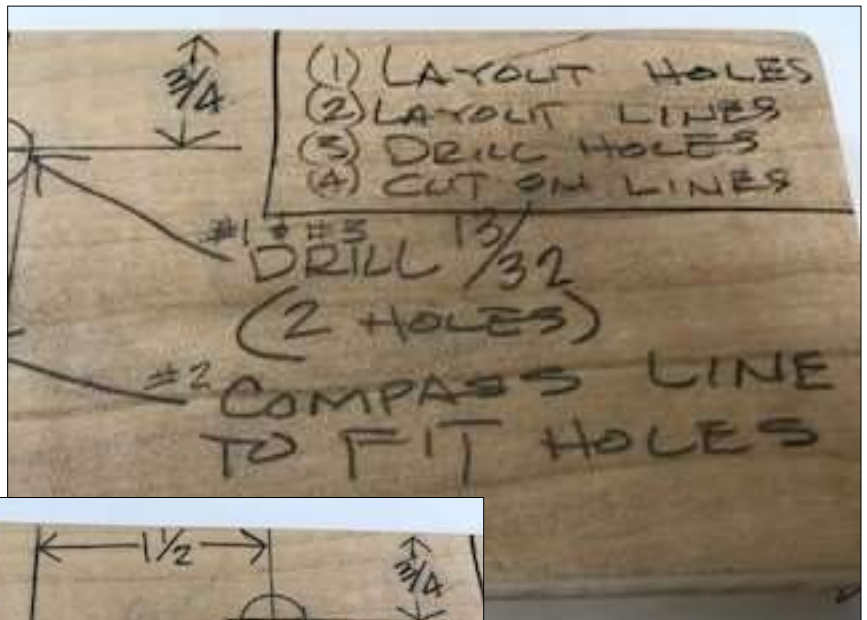
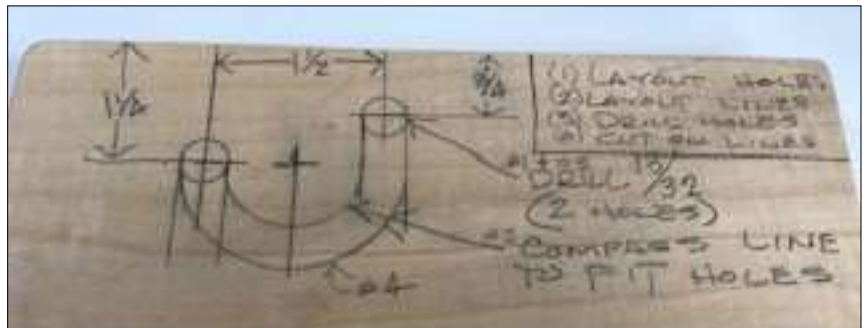
## WORKBENCH ADDITION

### Gig Lewis

A few of months ago I took members of the Toy Team on a "Road Trip" to visit with Frank LaRoque in The Dalles. The Guild is really fortunate to have Frank as a member. He is extremely knowledgeable and extremely capable with his woodworking. For a number of years Frank has been focusing on repairing antiques, some of them in the \$500,000 range.

On this visit Frank showed us a workbench that he uses to work on projects that are the size of a kitchen cabinet. The bench is about 3-ft high, about 3ft x 5ft, and with power-strips on each leg. And true to Frank's shop it had an extra dead-simple part that really improved the usability of the bench.

Frank has installed two bolts on each side of the bench that match the cutouts on each of four boards he has installed. These 1in x 4in boards each have two "U" shaped cutouts. The boards can be raised to be a "stop" to keep a project from sliding off the bench, or they can be lowered to create air-space for a larger item. For those of you that are setting up a shop this could be a good idea for you, and you pro's out there could use this to improve any stand-alone benches. I have included pictures of the drawing as I received it. Use it in good health.





## NEW SHOP AND PROJECTS

### *Chuck Rinehart*

I finally have my shop up and running after insulating the garage, installing a heater, and connecting a dust collection system duct work to the major power tools.

First project is a wine storage cabinet for our dining room, a two part unit, a base cabinet and an upper wine bottle storage, 45 degree angled grid unit. My son has a growing collection of wine, now in boxes.

The two photos below show the current status of the base unit, one the internal structure of "runners and kickers" for the drawers and the enclosed storage enclosure.

The second is the completed base unit, minus hardware and the completion of the door, which will have Holly "stringing" reflecting the 45 degree grid above.

The primary wood is beech and the drawer fronts are sapele.





## THE GUILD IS PROUD TO BE SPONSORED BY:

The Guild is grateful to be supported by numerous local businesses, our sponsors. Please patronize them when you can. Most offer some kind of discount to members, with some restrictions. We hope you will thank them for their support when you are at the cash register. *Click on their logos below to go directly to their website.*



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