

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
**GUILD OF
 OREGON
 WOODWORKERS**

**OREGON
 WOOD
 WORKS**

Vol. #37, Issue 12
 December 2020
 Portland Oregon

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING: ONLINE WITH ZOOM
The online invitation will be sent out 24 hours before the event.

MELINDA ROSENBERG

Tuesday, January 19, 2020

Social Time begins at 6:30pm, Meeting begins 7:00pm

By Joe Wheaton

Melinda Rosenberg has been an artist working with wood for over 25 years. I first saw her work about 15 years ago in Columbus, Ohio, where I was living at the time, and was immediately fascinated by her use of color, shape, and design. I now own two pieces and need more.

In an interview in preparation for her presentation, I asked Melinda questions about her inspiration, her design process, and the woodworking techniques she uses to achieve her work. This is an edited summary of her responses. See also this [short video of her at work](#).

[Joe] Where do you get your ideas?

[Melinda] I see my work is a symbol for growth. Ideas also come from the wood and an interest in the versatility of the wood – its texture, color, luminosity, how it decays, how it takes the paint in the wood grain. I use old wood, sometimes even discarded wood from trash heaps. I see the new versus old wood as a metaphor for growth and change.

Some of my inspiration comes from architecture, especially Japanese teahouses. To me they represent the juxtaposition of logic, rationality, and our intangible self. I start with a question, and then find the answer through metaphor.



Design Process

[J] Let's talk about how you design a piece. What are you thinking about first – color, shape, the wood, something else? Do you have a concept in your mind before you start or is it more spontaneous?

[M] When designing a piece, I am not thinking about all the philosophical stuff I mentioned earlier, but working out a relationship between color and the characteristics of the wood.

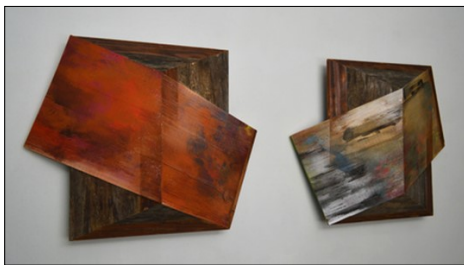
[Melinda has a long history making work in certain shapes, which collectively form a series. The following references to these series come from her website: <https://melindarosenberg.com/>.]

Some forms I have been doing for years, such as the “[Board Series](#).” I think about the piece as a pattern, as a relationship. I am combining geometric and organic things together. The process is like collage and can even be rather emotional.

Other works are more figurative. The “[Boats](#)” were inspired by Japanese teahouses and the tea ceremony. The tea ceremony seeks to have participants refresh their appre-

[continued on page 2](#)

MELINDA ROSENBERG...*continued from page 1*



ciation of nature and their relationship to it by experiencing simple things. Each of the simple, elongated shapes also contains an unrefined piece in the stick,

hopefully combining the natural and the constructed. To me, each piece has a feminine element to it. The feminine is exemplified by the boat carrying a natural form., in this case, the stick.



The “Unfolding” series is combining boats and boards, if you will. I’m trying to convey the feeling of looking around the corner of a painting. It is as though you can see the front and the sides at the same time.

In the “Inverse” series, the inside of one piece is the outside of the other. As with all of my work, the boards are beveled on the interior edges so that the piece stands out from the wall, giving the work depth and creating shadows.

In all of these pieces, I am continually asking questions of myself: Does this work with that? Do these colors work together? The piece can change many times before I’m satisfied.



Woodworking Techniques

[J] How do you layout your work? How do you solve the special challenges with all the angles that is so characteristic of your pieces?

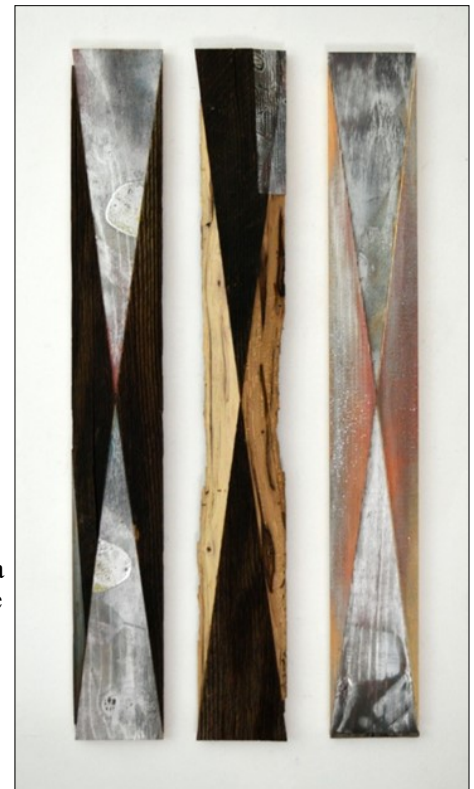
I have made sleds to make many of my cuts and then I

have templates or forms to hold the pieces while I experiment with the composition and construction. I also use these forms for holding the pieces while they are being glued.

Some pieces are particularly challenging because I’m working with old lumber and natu-

ral forms, like sticks or barn siding. The “Folded Board,”

for example, was particularly difficult. It was made from mulberry, which is springy and difficult to cut accurately. The grain has a “memory.” After I cut it, the board wanted to go back to its original shape. I had to cut it repeatedly because it kept changing as it was cut. Because the pieces had not only to fit together accurately, but also had to be the same size, a mistake on one piece required re-cutting them all. With each cut, I lost a bit more of the grain, and my fear was that, if I cut too much the grain it wouldn’t flow. It came out alright in the end though, I think.



[J] I’ll say it turned out alright. This piece fascinates me in its complexity. How did you cut it and put it together?

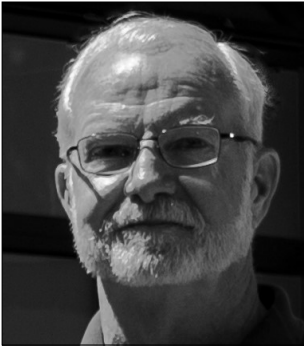
To create this piece, I started with squares and then cut up each square using a table saw sled. I then cut the pieces on the diagonal, beveling the edges with each cut. Finally, I glued each piece to its neighbor. It’s not that complicated, really, but it requires precise cutting. My table saw sled is invaluable. Of course, conceptualization and planning is key.

[J] Well, I am certainly looking forward to your presentation on January 19 at the Guild general meeting. I’m certain the members will be delighted. Thank you.

[M] It will be fun and I’m looking forward to it.



NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT



Steven Poland

By now we've all made it through the strangest holiday season ever, and I hope you all have resolved that 2021 will be a far better year in every aspect. Zoom for Guild meetings is working quite well, but it just doesn't cut it for family holiday get togethers!

I see on the Guild Facebook group that many of you have been productive in your own shops, creating gifts for family members, and it looks like there are some new tools for Christmas that will make your shops more enjoyable and efficient for the coming year.

While we wait for the Governor and health agencies to put us in a more favorable Covid-19 Risk Level, please rest assured that the Shop Operations and Safety committees have reviewed and enhanced shop protocols so when we can re-open, we are well prepared. It may be a couple more months to opening, and many for normal in-person operations to resume, but I am impressed by the work that is ongoing with the Electronic Media working group to get more video content on-line, preparing for the new Show & Tell and Project Mentoring zoom sessions, and Estate Team's new on-line store operation, and the continuing Project Build and Toy Team work.

This truly is an amazing group, made all the more impressive by the fact that it is operated all by I'm guessing around 100 volunteers in leadership and very active working committees. My sincere appreciation goes to all of you, including our December Volunteer of the Month Paul Ehrlich, and it is all the more appreciated that you've honored me as Woodworker of the Year.

Good health to all of you and let's have a fun January.

Steven Poland

TAKE THE SURVEY

If you haven't taken the survey about General Meeting presentation topics, now's your chance. It (and I'm serious) only take about three, yes three, minutes.

Thanks. Joe

TAKE THE SURVEY NOW!

2020 WOODWORKER OF THE YEAR STEVE POLAND

By Ed Swakon, VP Membership

Each year the Guild presents the "Lee Johnson Award," aka "Woodworker of the Year" This year's recipient is Steve Poland, our current President.

Steve stepped up and into the President's position a couple of years ago at a challenging time in the Guild's past. He has had a very steady and calming hand in all that the Guild has been dealing with since. Steering us through the COVID pandemic, dealing with our financial issues, looking for new space to house the Guild's activities, working through a significant restructuring of the Guild's operating and Board structure. He did all of that and more while still being an active participant and leader in Project build and many other Guild endeavors.

Steve agreed to an additional term as President when it was clear that wasn't his first choice, but he did it for all of us. For all of the above, the **Board of the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers awarded Steve Poland Woodworker of the Year for 2020.**

Under normal circumstances, we would have presented the Woodworker of the Year Award at our holiday gathering. But alas, this is 2020, and there isn't anything normal about 2020, and we did not have a physical meeting. We wanted to do something a little more than present Steve this award at our Zoom General Meeting.

We arranged a fictitious meeting with Steve at the shop on Sunday, Dec. 13th. We asked to have as many Board Members present as possible, with masks and appropriately socially distanced from one another – to present him the award. We were successful.

Thank you and congratulations, Steve, well deserved.



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



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, JANUARY 4 - 11:30 AM

On-Line - ZOOM

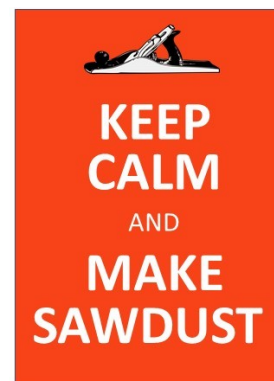
In an effort to allow members to keep the comradery of our monthly lunch meetings going, we will be hosting a Zoom get together.

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 the day before—watch for it.

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

Remember to have your favorite beverage and eats too.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest **21** members. We're happy to have you with us and hope you'll make a regular appearance at the monthly program (online at present), contribute articles to the newsletter, and volunteer in other ways.

Ryan Cook, Bamba Cuesta Figueroa, Gina Fleschner, Michael David Fleschner, Sebastian Fleschner, Scott Forslund, Louis Hall, Patrick Key, Dean Large, Patrick McFate, Mark Moulding, Gwen Parret, George Petzen, Kipper Reinsmith, Michael Richardson, Kobi Saha, George Sorensen, Dyana Thomas, Gabriel Toth-Fejel, Ken Vaughn, Celeste Willis

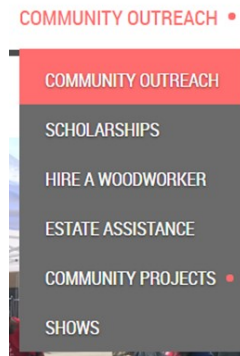
GUILD WEBSITE – COMMUNITY OUTREACH TAB

By Roger Crooks

The Guild's new website was designed to serve two communities – those looking to join the Guild (public) and current members (you). Last month we reviewed the Member's tab and its features. This article will review the Community Outreach section.

This is the second of four articles about using the website.

- ♦ Members – December article
- ♦ Community Outreach – This article
- ♦ Education
- ♦ Shop Use



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

This tab highlights what the Guild does for the community. It is available to the public (and members). Here the public can learn more about key initiatives of the Guild including.

- ♦ **Toy Team** – meets once a week to build impressive wooden toys
- ♦ **Project Build** – meets once a week to work on projects that go to a good cause or we can sell to raise funds for the Guild
- ♦ **Community Service Projects** – usually a big project that may take months to complete and goes to a worthy cause. Usually meets weekly.
- ♦ **Scholarships** – the Guild has a scholarship account that can be used by any member for educational purposes. Some of the money was donated to the Guild to be used with specific requirements while other money can be used at our discretion. Members can learn how to apply for the money here or a non-member can be enticed to join for the scholarship money opportunity.

- ♦ **Community Projects** – Details past projects the Guild has delivered from the Toy Team, Project Build or Community Service team.
- ♦ **Shows** – Details about upcoming shows (after the Pandemic).

HIRE A WOODWORKER

- ♦ This has been one of the most successful initiatives the Guild has undertaken. The public can send in a request for help and weekly, we send out all the requests to our membership. On average, we usually get around five a week. The pickup of these requests is very high although we cannot prove it as we get very little feedback but the feedback we do get is great. The reason I can say the response is high is because we do hear from anyone with a bad experience and that is extremely infrequent and often just miscommunication. The other reason I can say the response is good is many of the recommendations come from Rockler, Woodcraft, Woodcrafters, The Joinery and other local vendors.
- ♦ Many thanks to our members who respond to these requests.

ESTATE ASSISTANCE

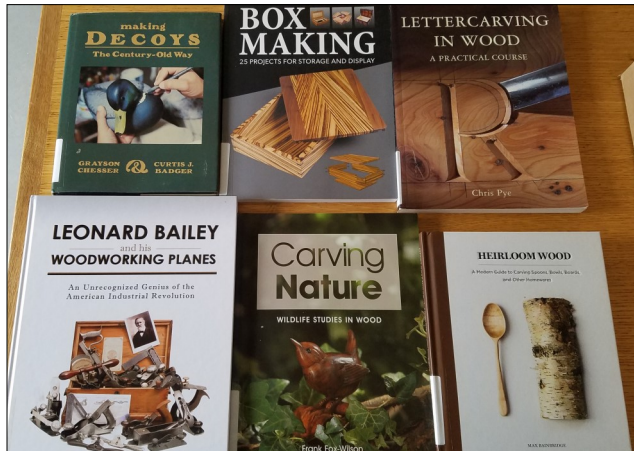
- ♦ Another highly successful initiative has been the Estate Program. It is a true win-win program that benefits both our members and the public. Having an organization like ours step in to help a family during a very stressful time is a huge community service. Details of the program and how to participate are described on this page.
- ♦ The Pandemic has required us to move this to an on-line activity and is on-going until we can do physical sales later this year – we hope.
- ♦ Again, many thanks to the members that help with these sales as it is a lot of hard and dirty work.
- ♦ See [page 7](#) in this issue of the newsletter for a year end report about the Estate Assistance Program

LIBRARY ROUNDUP

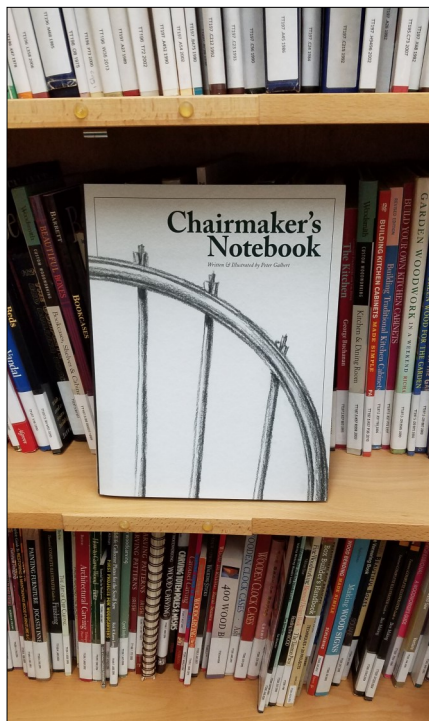
By Ruth Warbington, Guild Librarian

Time to round 'em up!

Our wonderful Guild library of 1000+ books, DVDs, and plans has been serving many of us well. There are 150 items checked out to more than 50 people, some for a loong time. The great thing is the materials are getting



used. But it has been hard to impossible to borrow and return books this year so some will be getting under piles and forgotten. I'm calling them in, with your help. In the next two weeks I'll send emails to everyone who has filled out checkout cards and we'll figure out how and when to get the materials back to the Guild. I expect to have difficulty tracking down some people so it will really help for borrowers to also reach out toward me; some may have forgotten to fill out a card so I don't know who they are. A preferred option for returns will be to coordinate with



me to drop them off at my house not far from the shop. That will be a big help for me in keeping track of what comes in and what is still out. I'll also be holding the checkout cards and reshelving all the rounded-up items during this time. Please do look around your home for strays. If you have a question and don't hear from me, please send me an email.

In other library news, materials continue to be added: the new edition of Country Woodcraft, two new

Mike Pekovich DVDs, and several other new books and lots of donated books of all kinds. For instance, we have a rich selection of books with plans of traditional American furniture, both simple and very complex, which show construction details and design proportions; great inspiration for reproductions or your own designs.



You can see what we have in the "Library listing" on the Guild website Library page. There are two "sheets" in the file, one listed by Library of Congress number (how they are shelved) and one grouped by Keywords. Both sheets can be searched using the "Find" button. I think I'll add a third sheet for "New Books" soon. I don't know when the Shop will be open for access to the library; perhaps some special arrangements for checkouts can be made if it doesn't open in a few months. But for now, I'll be focusing on the round-up.

Thanks in advance for your help! Library materials being used is great! Library materials getting returned for the next user is the BEST!

Reach me at

Ruth.warbington@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org

HERE ARE SOME ITEMS ADDED THIS YEAR:

- ◆ *Woodsmith Shop: Season 12 DVD*
- ◆ *James Krenov, Worker in Wood*, by James Krenov
- ◆ *Teaching Your Router New Tricks*, by Nick Engler
- ◆ *Cutting-edge Band-saw Tips & Tricks: how to get the most out of your band saw*, by Kenneth Burton
- ◆ *Construction of American furniture treasures: measured drawings...photographs...* by Lester Margon
- ◆ *Making authentic country furniture : with measured drawings of museum classics*, by John G. Shea
- ◆ *Complete Woodfinishing*, by Ian Hosker
- ◆ *Portable Arts and Crafts Book Rack (Plan)*, by Gregory Paolini
- ◆ *Mortise and Tenon Magazine: Issue Eight*

EAP 2020 YEAR-END REPORT

By John Middleton

Around mid-year, we formed a new Estate Assistance Core team. Our members are:

Steve Anderly	Bland McCartha	Charlie Meyer
John Middleton	Steve Moore	Tom Rich

Like so many Guild teams, we've been hard at work. A quick snapshot of what we were able to accomplish across the back half of 2020 is quite a list. The program remains very popular, and continues to support the Guild, its members, and their families. Just in case you haven't stayed in touch with our work on behalf of estates and donors, here's a recap:

- ◆ We formed a management team with cross-training and backup roles which should allow the EA program to have capable volunteers ready to step into key leadership positions on an ongoing basis.
- ◆ We've consulted with over two dozen clients about their options in dispositioning shop tools and equipment. Actions have included shop evaluation and sales potential assessment, referrals to tool collectors' organizations, helping with owner run sales (at one sale we helped drive \$7,000 revenue with just two volunteers), and preparing estate and donation inventory for online sales. We also conveyed donations of ductwork to Guild shop operations and exotic wood cut-offs to the toy team, in-kind value of about \$1000.
- ◆ The Estate Assistance web page has been streamlined to help prospective clients understand our services and initiate their contact with us.
- ◆ With essentially zero start-up costs, an entirely new sales channel was created for tools and materials from donations and estates in the form of our EA Online



Estate Assistance Program

Store. Since opening in October, we've taken 22 orders, representing 50 different items and well over 100 units. Revenue sits at more than \$1500.

- ◆ Currently on deck for sales we have over 900 bd. Ft. of exotic lumber measured, photographed and cataloged. \$8,000 worth of Cocobolo alone!
- ◆ In preparation for the eventual return of on-site estate sale events, we've revised and documented roles, procedures, and check lists, spreading out some responsibilities to reduce dependence on a single manager.
- ◆ We trained up on our online tools capabilities, getting our documentation posted in sharable virtual locations.
- ◆ And, by the way – since we got started after the pandemic hit, we've pulled all of this off without ever having met in person as a team. Everything has been done via email, text, phone calls, 1-2 person visits and field chores, and about 25 regular zoom meetings. Not bad for a bunch of... woodworkers.

Thanks again EA Core Team for making all of this happen. In 2021, we'll be moving out of start-up mode, and perhaps even holding an 'old fashioned' on-site sale or two. We'll see you there!

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

The Guild is trying to find important and interesting topics for our monthly presentations, and you can help. We have created a **short survey** (really, really short survey – **five questions**) about topics for our presentations. If you have not taken it already, please take **three minutes** to complete our survey. Thanks.

Joe Wheaton, Program Chair

[Link to survey](#)

TOY BUILD TEAM 2020 YEAR-END REPORT

By Carol Boyd

While this has been a year I'm sure we're all glad to see in the rear-view mirror, we have still been able to make and distribute lots of toys. A benefit of lots of things being closed is that several of us have spent more time in our home shops and wiled away the hours making toys. This year we have made almost 2,300 toys and distributed almost 2,000 of them. We decided to hold some for the start of 2021 so we can meet any needs that might arise.

Many of our normal distribution networks were not available as they have been closed since March due to the pandemic. With the impacts of the pandemic and the fires this summer, we knew the need was even greater than before so looked for new partners. We were able to continue our partnership with the Washington County Courts, Troutdale Police, Open House Ministries, and Toys for Tots in Bend. We added new partners in the Portland area, in southern Oregon and on the Coast. This year's distribution partners are:

- ♦ Washington County Courts
- ♦ Troutdale police
- ♦ Open House Ministries – shelter for homeless families in Vancouver, WA
- ♦ Neighborhood House – provide innovative and high-quality education, anti-poverty and senior support services located just around the corner from our shop
- ♦ Toys for Tots in Bend, Ashland, and Portland
- ♦ Packed with Pride - a food distribution group in Tigard
- ♦ Jackson County Early Intervention Program serving Medford and Ashland
- ♦ Estacada fire victims
- ♦ Specifically Pacific – a business in Newport organizing a toy drive for local fishing families
- ♦ Pink Lemonade Project – group in Vancouver that works with breast cancer women (and one man) going through treatment and just into recovery in the greater Portland area. Toys will be added to holiday gift baskets for those with children.



VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH -2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

By Ed Swakon, VP Membership

The Guild is an all-volunteer organization, and currently has approximately 1,000 members. The Guild has a culture that believes the best way to receive is by giving. It is an organization that is successful because of the work of its volunteers. In the Guild, being a volunteer is not just desired it is expected and greatly appreciated!

In 2020 we named 10 Volunteers of the Month. When you see any of the members - Say Thanks

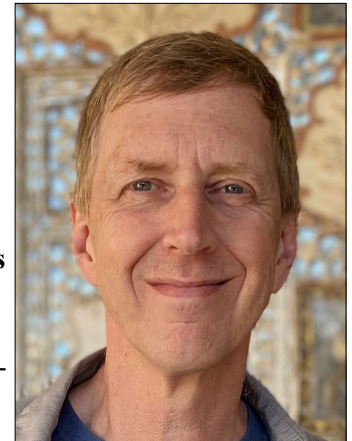
Guild of Oregon Woodworkers 2020 Volunteers of the Month	
January	Aboo Balgamwalla
February	CJ Marquardt
April	Bill Cogswell
May	Mike Sandman
July	Carol Boyd
August	John Middleton
September	Vince Corbin
October	Chip Webster
November	Tom McClosky
December	Paul Ehrlich



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH: DECEMBER 2020 *Paul Ehrlich*

By Ed Swakon, VP Membership

Each month the Guild awards one of its most prestigious awards, the Volunteer of the Month. Because the Guild is run entirely by volunteers recognizing our volunteers is essential. The Award is given to our unsung members who, for the most part, work behind the scenes quietly and keep the Guild operating. **This month's recipient of the Volunteer of the Month is Paul Ehrlich.**



Paul has been an active participant since joining the Guild in January of 2019. His most recent role was Lead Shop Attendant. Paul got actively involved in the Guild's 2020 retreat and jumped in with both feet during the budgeting process for 2021. Paul has agreed to step up and become a member of the Guild's Board of Directors for 2021 and be the Planning Director and was voted into that position at the November General Meeting.

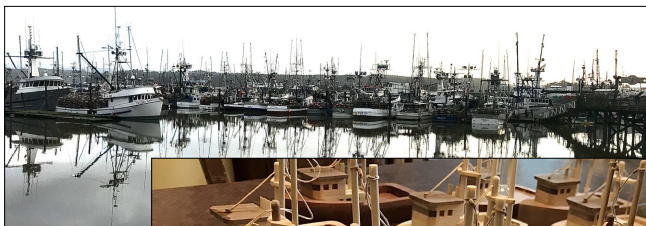
For all of the above, the Guild is pleased to present the December 2020 Volunteer of the Month award to Paul Ehrlich.



One of the premier awards given to Guild members is the Volunteer of the Month (VOTM) award. These awards recognize exceptional volunteer service by a Guild member. As we know, the lifeblood of the Guild is volunteerism and we have hundreds of volunteers annually. When you have a chance, please shake the hands of our VOTM folks in particular because their contributions have been truly outstanding.

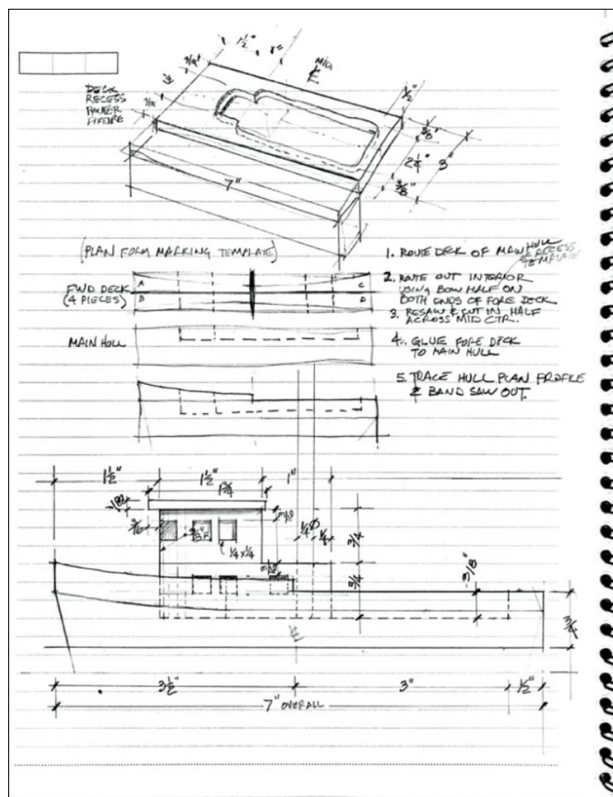
COMMERCIAL FISHING TRAWLER : CARPET-BOAT TOY TOY TEAM 2020

By Steve Poland



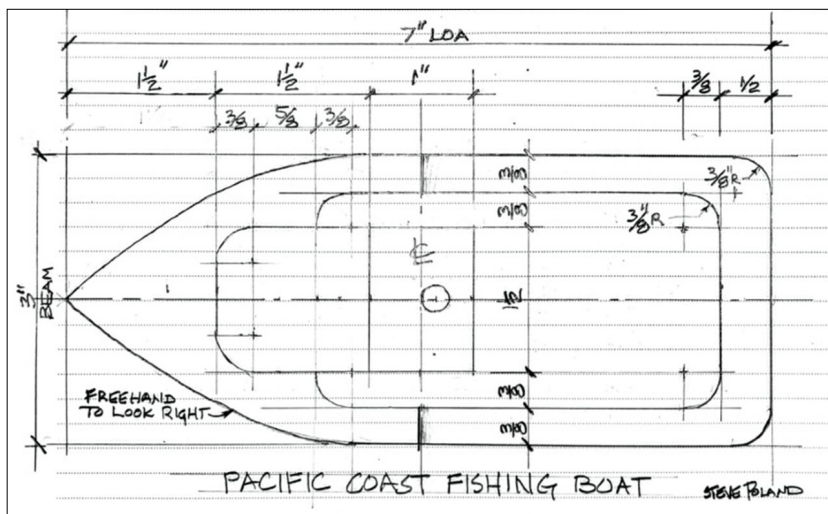
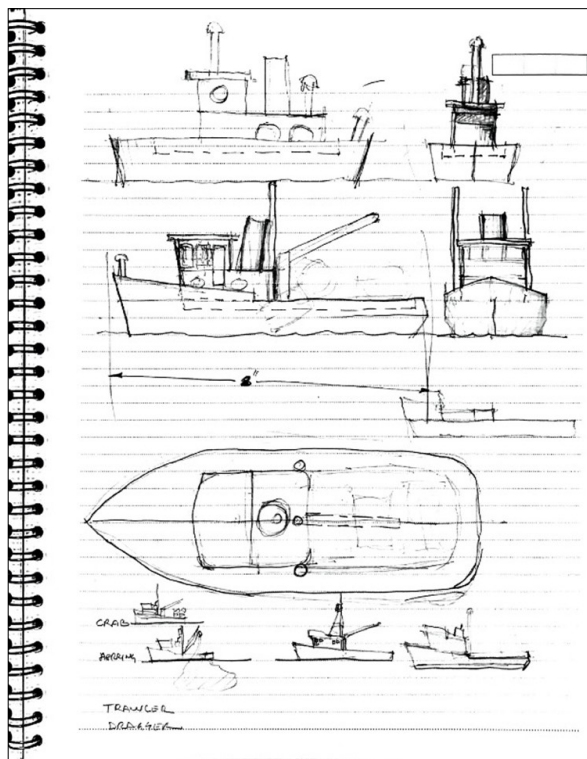
DIMENSIONED DRAWINGS

- ♦ To facilitate impatience, the drawings were developed during the prototyping process
- ♦ One piece hull shown, milled down from 1" blank
- ♦ Two piece hull is 1" thick aft, with 3/8" overlaid foredeck



DESIGN CONCEPTS

These started from memory of visits to the coast, then internet search for "Oregon Commercial Fishing Boats" images revealed that there, of course, are many different types of vessel; partially developments over time, and partially due to different fisheries. It is evident that some contemporary boats may be configured for multiple seasons during a year.



continued on page 11

CARPET-BOAT TOY...[continued from page 10](#)

PATTERNS/FIXTURES/JIGS

- ◆ Whatever you call them, patterns will eliminate a lot of freehand work, create efficiency and allow for repeatability in a production run
- ◆ #1 Deck recess pattern, using 3/4" Forstner bit and fret saw, smooth with flat files. (save the center piece #1a for hull plan form locating boss)
- ◆ #2 Hull plan form pattern
- ◆ #3, #4 Shear line pattern (1 for each side)



1. Hull Blank

- ◆ Select hull material & mill to 1" thickness
- ◆ Cut strip to 3" wide on table saw
- ◆ Cut blanks to 7" long on miter saw

2. Deck Recess

Deck recess template #1, and hull blank clamped in bench vise. Use shallow end cut pattern bit in plunge router, take ~1/8" to 3/16" depth per pass, to 5/8" depth below template (3/8" thickness remains).

It is easy to cut into template material, go easy to avoid damaging guide



face. Have bondo or epoxy available to patch your excursions into the pattern. (Bondo is brittle and chips out easily, probably better to make a dutchman repair).

3. HULL PLAN TEMPLATE

- ◆ Cut and smooth hull plan pattern #2
- ◆ Locate position and glue deck recess cut-out piece #1a centered on hull pattern #2 located 1/2" from stern edge
- ◆ Insert hull perimeter pattern into deck recess of the hull blank



3b MARK HULL PERIMETER LINE



- ◆ Trace around template #2 marking hull perimeter onto hull blank

4. ROUGH CUT HULL PLAN FORM

- ◆ Cut ~1/8" outside the mark with bandsaw



[continued on page 12](#)

CARPET-BOAT TOY...*continued from page 11*

5. PATTERN BIT TRIM

- ◆ Straight-cut pattern bit min. 1" cutter
- ◆ Insert the hull plan form template boss into deck recess
- ◆ Place template on table, hull above
- ◆ Adjust pattern bit bearing to follow the pattern. (use bottom bearing)



- ◆ Crosscut at midship center-line
- ◆ 4 foredecks out of 1 hull blank



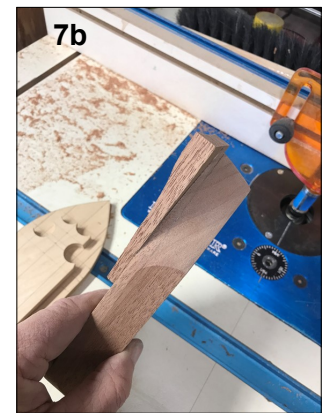
6. FLARED HULL OPTION

- ◆ Sides can be rough beveled on bandsaw w/ table tilted 10deg
- ◆ Fair the shape with block plane then smooth with 80 grit sandpaper and work up through 240 or 320. This is faster on a belt/disk sander, but easy to take off too much material



7c

- ◆ Glue foredeck over hull, aligning deck recess.
- ◆ Invert and bandsaw outside of hull perimeter
- ◆ Block plane foredeck flush with hull
- ◆ Convex spoke shave and sandpaper to fair curve of deck



7. BUILT-UP FOREDECK OPTION (LOTS MORE WORK)

- ◆ Start with a 1" hull blank
- ◆ Mill out the deck recess using only the bow half of the recess template, reverse the blank so the bow recess is cut on both ends, and same on opposite face of the blank
- ◆ Resaw the blank in half so you have 2 pieces with the deck recess almost through cut
- ◆ Bandsaw the foredeck shearline arc

RAISED DECK ADD-ON FINISHED



*Carpet-Boat Toy
to be continued in the next issue of the newsletter.*

TEN DESIGN IDEAS: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

By Flora Lee Continued from the November issue of the newsletter. The following was presented as a PowerPoint presentation to Project Build members during a November 2020 Zoom meeting. The objective was to provide thought-starters for everyone’s projects, current and future, with a variety of Design Ideas for all levels of woodworkers. I've used photos that were readily available of pieces I made in the past.

DESIGN IDEA #5

STACKED RECIPE CARD BOXES

Maple and Brazilian walnut
Each box is 4H x 6W x 4D



- ◆ These two stacked boxes interlock and are interchangeable.
- ◆ **Design Opportunity:** The lid could add interest.

SOLUTION:

FOUR-WAY BOOK MATCH VENEERED LID



- ◆ *Other ideas: Marquetry, decoupage, etc.*

DESIGN IDEA #6

TAMBOUR BOX

MAPLE AND
CHERRY
12W x 7H x 6D



CHALLENGE THE DESIGN!



- ◆ **Design Challenge:** Symmetrical box design suggested a symmetrical base -- too predictable??

- ◆ Boxes usually do look best with bases, but there are options other than “feet”, per this box and the prior one.

DESIGN IDEAS ...[continued from page 13](#)

DESIGN IDEA #7

HEADBOARD

Cherry 24 H x 75 W x 3 D

SOLUTION: FOUR DIFFERENT THICKNESSES



- ◆ This creates contrasting reveals and shadows, adding “life” to a flat design



- ◆ **Design Concept and Challenge:** *Capture the negative and positive space of trelliswork.*
- ◆ *But add more interest to its inherent “flatness.”*

DESIGN IDEA #8 —10

The next Design Ideas came together in one project.

PROJECT GOALS

- ◆ Build a console that will visually balance with a large, wall-mounted TV screen above it.
- ◆ Incorporate storage for media and media players (vintage 2009, like a “TiVo” and a CD player!)

DESIGN IDEAS

- ◆ Create a sense of volume, but not too much!
- ◆ Combine curves and straight lines, and hard and soft edges
- ◆ Incorporate relief and reveal details

[continued on page 15](#)

DESIGN IDEAS ...[continued from page 14](#)

DESIGN IDEA #8—10

CONSOLE
20 H x 67 W x 21 D



- ◆ Cherry exterior, maple interior
- ◆ Push-rebound drawer slides and door opener



DESIGN IDEA: 8

- ◆ Asymmetry, to contrast with the TV screen.

DESIGN IDEA: 9

- ◆ Curved side panels, with curved legs/posts (bent laminations) to create a sense of movement and lighten the look.

DESIGN IDEA: 10

- ◆ 3/16" drop relief on top surface, to break up the large, heavy top surface.



BONUS IDEA:

- ◆ Edge profile, combining defined edges, corners, and asymmetric roundovers, to carry through design themes.

DESIGN IDEAS ...[continued from page 15](#)**Idea Summary****Unusual finishes**

- ♦ Veneers (incl. book-matched and marquetry)
- ♦ “Antiquing”, glazing, etc.

Custom door and drawer pulls

- ♦ Handmade, themed
- ♦ Hidden/built-in

Design details, for visual interest and “staying power”

- ♦ Reveals and reliefs, for shadow play
- ♦ Contrasting lines and curves
- ♦ Edge profiles
- ♦ Asymmetry

Bend the “rules”, be opportunistic

- ♦ Capitalize on unique wood grain
- ♦ Combine symmetry and asymmetry

Final Thoughts

- ♦ The ideas presented are just thought-starters. Brainstorm and build on them.
- ♦ “Borrow” ideas from the masters, and then make the piece your own with added details.
- ♦ Carry through design themes, for a cohesive look.
- ♦ Experiment, play, have fun!

Tips & Techniques**Finishing 101**

with Bob Flexner, expert finisher and finishing seminar teacher.

Edited by John Sheridan

- ♦ There are only three tools used to apply finishes: a rag, a brush, or a spray gun. All finishes can be applied with any of these tools. A rag is cheap and efficient but leaves ridges in the finish. A brush is slow and inefficient but is the least wasteful of materials. A spray gun is fast, lays a level finish but is wasteful and requires a compressor and an exhaust system.
- ♦ The only thing that you can do in finishing that can't be fixed fairly easily is to blotch the wood with a stain. All other problems can be fixed, with the worst case being that you have to strip off the finish and begin again. To fix blotching you have to plane, scrape and sand the wood to below where the stain penetrated.
- ♦ The first coat of any finish seals the wood; all additional coats are topcoats. Products that are sold as sealers don't seal the wood any better than the finish itself. They just solve a technical sanding problem.
- ♦ Apply a wet coat of stain and wipe off the excess before it dries. This is the basic instruction for applying all stains. The only exception is when you spray the stain and leave it as sprayed. You don't get a darker color by leaving the stain longer, because the liquid saturates the wood and prevents more colorant from getting it. A second coat will usually not provide a darker color. Adding more pigment or dye to the solvent will darken.
- ♦ Dye dissolves. Pigment suspends and settles. Dye penetrates all the wood. Pigment lodges in scratches and pores in the wood. Dye colors more evenly and pigment highlights grain patterns. Dye fades quicker.
- ♦ The thinner you make any finishing products the easier it is to apply.
- ♦ The basic rule for using a spray gun is to pull the trigger and keep the gun moving. It is not hard to use if well-maintained.
- ♦ When sanding wood or finish, choose a grit of sandpaper that removes the problem without creating greater problems. For example you would choose a coarser grit (80 or 100) to remove severe jointer and planer washboarding. But you would begin sanding with 150 or 220 if you were just cleaning up after using a stripper to remove old finish. Or 220 and 320 to remove brush marks. For new work one sequence is 100, 150, 220, 320 grit, then the finishing.
- ♦ Finishes bond to each other in two ways: chemical and mechanical. Chemical bonding occurs when the applied coat dissolves into the existing coat. Examples are lacquer, shellac and catalyzed finishes. Mechanical bonding, with varnish, rub-on oil mixes and polyurethane over existing finishes requires a surface roughened with an abrasive such as steel wool or fine sandpaper.
- ♦ An old finished or painted surface should be clean and dull for successful recoating. If there is grease or dirt on the surface, or if the surface is glossy, a new coating may not bond well. If an old surface is made clean and dull, new paint or finish will bond well mechanically. Cleaning can be accomplished by washing with soap and water or by removing part of the surface with steel wool or sandpaper. Dulling can be accomplished by abrading the surface with steel wool, sand paper or a wash of trisodium phosphate (TSP), ammonia or alcohol, all in a well-ventilated space.

More Tips and Techniques on [page 20](#)

SHOW, TELL, AND MORE



HELP!.....I need somebody ...

HELP!.....Not just anybody ...

HELP!.....I need somebody ...

...with woodworking knowledge and experience that can help me with my woodworking problems and a place where we can share ideas.

By Joe Wheaton

My apologies to the Beatles, but I don't think they will mind because it's for a good cause. The Guild is starting a new Zoom meeting on the **fourth Tuesday of every month**, starting January 26, 2021 at 7:00pm. This meeting is designed to help you and share ideas. This is much more than a show and tell. Yes, we do want us to show us your work and tell us what you are doing, but it is also a place to get feedback and advice from your fellow woodworkers. It is also a place for you to share your expertise and knowledge with others. Don't miss it.

Getting in and sharing is easy.

Go to <https://zoom.us/j/94210347522?pwd=cVFGYTfaY1pQUznLl1FaMkNLUUtiZz09> (the link is on the Guild calendar and it is the same every month).

After you join the meeting, you will be asked to add your name to the chat, which will be our sign-up list.

If you want to take pictures of your project and share your screen, great, but that is not required.

What is required is that we all have some fun talking about woodworking.

**JOIN US FOR OUR
GUILD SHOW, TELL, AND MORE**

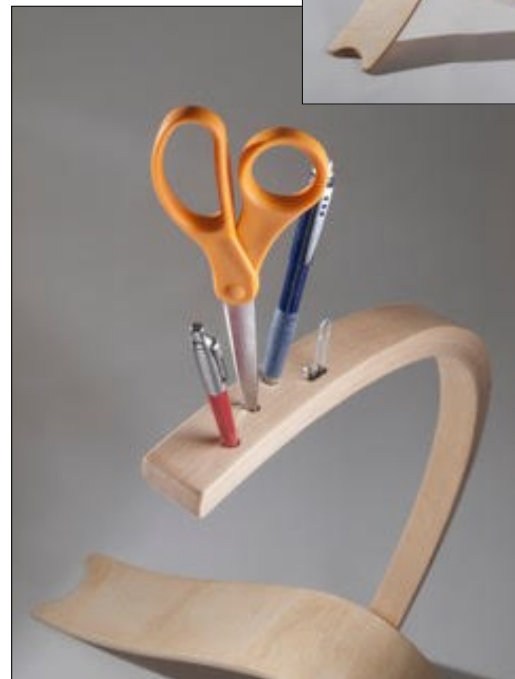
Starting January 26 at 7:00pm

See you there.

WHARTON ESHERICK MUSEUM

An unexpected gift of 10 million dollars from the Windgate Foundation of Little Rock, Arkansas, to the Wharton Esherick Museum of Paoli, PA, will create an endowment to preserve and present the home, work and legacy of Wharton Esherick (1887-1970). Wharton Esherick was a sculptor who worked primarily in wood, especially applying the principles of sculpture to common utilitarian objects. Consequently, he is best known for his sculptural furniture and furnishings. He is a leading figure and influence on the fine crafts woodworking community. The museum also sponsors the creation of new woodworking through its annual thematic competition. Guild member John Sheridan's desk caddy was accepted into an exhibition looking for new ideas for desk accessories.

John Sheridan
Desk Caddy
Laminated maple
Three foot tall



THANK YOU

Note sent to Jim Spitzer

I wanted to get back to you and the woodworkers guild to thank you for all you did helping us find a good craftsman to build our garden arch.

We spoke with several gentlemen that called about this project and decided to go with Wes Taylor Custom Cabinets out of McMinnville. Wes came to our house, measured the old unit, took pictures and then got back to us with a price and estimated delivery time within a week. We had only three requirements about the new arch and they were that it was to be made out of cedar, that the bird house had to be removable for cleaning and that we wanted to see the unit prior to delivery. Wes had no problem with those requests and went to work on the project and sent us pictures as the work was progressing. He called about three weeks later and said to come out to his shop to check out the finished product. We took off that afternoon and were very pleased with what he had done, the job was superb!! (he also has a great shop that you might like to see)

Bottom line, we could not be happier with his work and again, Thank You for all your help and the Woodworkers Guild for having this type of contractor locating service available.

Sherry and Jerry Feakes

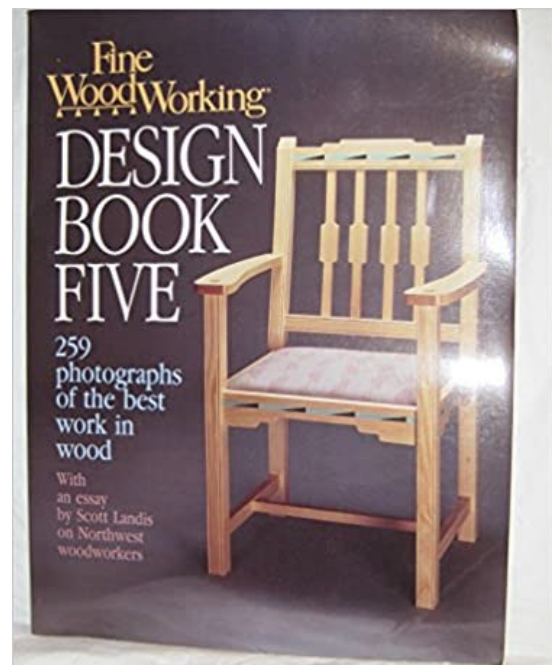


FINE ARTS PORTLAND

By John Sheridan

I just discovered, while clearing out some books, that the *FWW Design Book Five* with Lynette Breton's chair on the cover, has a 38 page article with many photos and interviews, by Scott Landis about the woodworking of the Pacific Northwest.

The information is from 30 years ago. Many woodworkers were busy after the recession of 1987. But all the galleries mentioned have closed since or are vanishing. The Guild had a different focus. Leroy Setziol was still alive. The Portland Art Museum was still interested in woodworking. It is sobering how things have changed. I suppose it is always a good idea to set new goals as things change. I recommend reading Landis' report, *Design In Context, Woodworkers of the Northwest*, page 146. I can send a copy to anyone who doesn't have access to the article.



The Real Mother Goose fine crafts store at the airport has closed, following the closure of the downtown location several years ago. The store has ended on its 50th anniversary. Its demise reflects the continuing contraction of the Portland fine crafts community.

On a positive note, The Joinery is still downtown and has a new manufacturing facility and second showroom near the St. John's bridge.

2021

GATHERING OF THE GUILDS

2021

By Roger Crooks & Bob Hargrave

Usually... Gathering of the Guilds (GOTG) is our premier annual show. It is one of the largest, high quality art shows in the country. GOTG is a huge show with six different Guilds represented (Oregon Potters Association, Creative Metal Arts Guild, Oregon Glass Guild, Guild of Oregon Woodworkers, Portland Bead Society and Portland Handweavers Guild). Nearly 350 artists make custom, one-of-a-kind products to sell. We usually have 60,000 sq. ft. at the Oregon Convention Center. Over the last four years, attendance increased from 10,000 to 18,000 mostly due to a large advertising budget and word-of-mouth. It is run by a seven-person steering committee with one representative from each of the six Guilds and one lead person.

This is a quick article to let you know the plans for GOTG 2021 – it will be a virtual show this May. Details are still being worked out and the below may change. When registration opens, you will be informed in the weekly email blast that comes up every Sunday.

2021 Gathering of the Guilds Tentative Plan

Below is from the GOTG central organizing committee. Due to the pandemic, the 2021 show will be a virtual show. We have looked at similar shows over the last year and have taken the best aspects of each. The basic plan is to use the GOTG website as the launching platform for all six guilds. From the GOTG website, the user will go to each guild's website. We will develop a template for the guilds to use for a consistent look and feel.

Details

Date – the first weekend in May is the kickoff date (April 30). We will keep the website open for a period of time. Your feedback is appreciated on how long this should be.

Cost – the cost for a virtual booth will be set by each guild. The GOTG costs are the development of the template, website work, optional postcards for promotion,

advertising, etc. We are still working on this, but the cost to participate is expected to be in the \$50 range and depends on how many “booths” sold.

Requirements – to buy a “booth”, vendors will need an email, their own website (or Etsy), a PayPal account (or similar) is highly recommended. and will need to adhere to the template. We will distribute some guidelines with the template, but photography will be an important factor in your success.

Payments – Payments will be between the customer and the buyer. Neither the Guilds nor GOTG are in the middle of any transaction.

User Experience – The goal is to make the user experience as seamless as possible. To buy an item, they will be on three websites – GOTG website à Guild website à Vendor website. The first two sites should look seamless. The vendor website/Etsy should have the same look and feel but it is not something we feel we can control.

Schedule

Vendor Communication – NOW

Vendor Signup – January TBD – March 31 (sooner the better after registration opens)

Template Distribution – February 1

Draft Template submission to GOTG – April 1

GOTG website Testing – April 4 – 18

Final Template submission to GOTG – April 19

Go Live – April 30

EDUCATION

Affiliate Classes

Guild member Gary Martin of Martin Model is offering classes in his shop located in Scappoose, Oregon. Gary has 60 years of experience in woodworking with expertise on a wide range of woodworking topics. Currently, classes are offered most evenings during the week along with turning classes offered on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Be on the lookout for more woodworking class offerings.

Please contact Gary at: martinmodel@comcast.net

Be sure to visit his website to view and sign up for his classes at: <https://www.martinmodel.com/collections/class/class>

EVERGREEN HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WOMEN BUILD

By *Linda Humason*

Dear fellow Guild members, I am a member of the Evergreen Habitat for Humanity Women Build (EHFHWB) committee in Clark County, Washington. We raise funds to help build homes and offer low-interest loans for low-income residents. Here is a link to our website: <https://www.ehfh.org/women-build/>

I am organizing a virtual workshop to build birdhouses as a fundraiser for EHFHWB to take place in late-February or early-March.

I would like to reach out to the Guild membership for donations of 1" x 6" cedar wood planks and volunteers to help cut the wood into the bird house parts to create kits that will be sold to participants in the virtual workshop to

raise money for EHFHWB. I will supply the cutting instructions and dimensions for the pieces of the kit I need.

If you are able to donate materials, or your time to cut out for build kits, please email me at Linda@LindanCustomDesigns.com.

Thanks for your consideration of my request. Have a safe and joyous New Year! I hope 2021 brings everyone good health, peace, and prosperity.

Linda Humason

Lindan Custom Designs LLC
Owner, CEO, Sales Manager

Tips & Techniques

WOOD FINISHING

...a summary of a complex subject much discussed in the woodworking community.

By *John Sheridan*

The "finish" is a surface on wood to enhance, protect, and preserve the wood. The "finish" may or may not include coloring agents, dyes or pigments to add or shift the wood color.

Preparation: first of all protect the work from dents and damage as you proceed. Remove those dents that happen by applying steam with a damp rag and household iron. Sand with 100, 150 and 220 sandpaper. "Raise the grain" with a damp cloth wiping. Sand off the roughness with 320 sandpaper.

Choose your finish. Criteria are performance, cost, application, appearance, time and equipment available, personal ability and the toxicity of the material.

Types of finish for most woodworkers: evaporative (shellac and lacquer) and reactive/oxidizing/non-reversible (varnish or rubbed oil) Plus choices of the liquid medium: solvent versus water-based/waterborne polyurethane. A professional shop will likely use a catalyzed lacquer or a conversion varnish

Added coloring. Yes or no. Natural look or enhanced. Possibly using stains, dyes, pigments, paints (full strength or diluted), or bleach. Always experiment on samples.

How much finish and how thick? The goal is .006" of thickness. Or two pieces of copy paper. The approximate equivalents are 4-6 coats of gelled oil finish. Three coats of water borne polyurethane, and 3 coats of brush-applied varnish.

A summary recommendation: preparation sanding that removes all the machining marks, coloring if desired, water based Polyacrylic for low toxicity or "Gel" Good Stuff applied with a rag that has to be carefully disposed off to prevent a fire. A light sanding of 320 or 400 between coats and, possibly a final waxing.

Comments are welcome.

Here's to a
VERY HAPPY and HEALTHY
NEW YEAR TO ALL.



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