

NEWSLETTER FOR THE

GUILD OF OREGON WOODWORKERS

OREGON WOODWORKS

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Portland Oregon

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING: ONLINE WITH ZOOM

The online invitation will be sent out 24 hours before the event.

DOUG STOWE: WOODWORKING & LEARNING

TUESDAY, JULY 21

SOCIAL TIME BEGINS AT 6:30PM, MEETING BEGINS 7:00PM

We are extremely fortunate to have Doug Stowe as our featured presenter this month. Doug spent a week with us a few years ago and his classes were very well received. Doug is known by many of us for his books on making boxes, but he also has a passion for teaching, especially kids.

Doug will talk about his approach to woodworking, and a bit about how box making came into play. His favorite topic is what he calls *Wisdom of Hands*. It is a philosophy of how your hands are essential to learning, whether for children or adults.

After tonight, you may look at your woodworking a bit differently. He welcomes questions about his work.

Doug's website: dougstowe.com

Doug's blogs: wisdomofhands.blogspot.com, boxmaking101.blogspot.com, and sawzen.blogspot.com

Doug's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs80i6iIQdDtwwpTZLbDG7A>



Social Half-Hour

We are trying out having a new "Social Half-Hour" starting at 6:30. If you log in before 7:00, you will go into one of five random waiting room. The idea is for you to meet and talk with other members in a small group setting. Introduce yourself and learn more about others in your room.

At 7:00 everyone will be moved into the General Meeting.



NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT STATE OF THE GUILD – IT'S GOOD!



Steven Poland

The COVID Pandemic has hit every business and organization around the world. Some that were “on-the-edge” unfortunately will not make it. *I'm proud to say that the Guild is in a sound financial position, and we WILL make it.*

The Guild has always been fiscally conservative, and that has allowed us to build a substantial reserve. We had planned to use that reserve to expand our facility and offer more services to Guild members. That is still the plan, but obviously, now is not the right time to grow. Now, we're going to use some of that reserve to support the Guild's fixed expenses, like the rent of the shop space.

The good news is we will be opening our shop, with some restrictions, starting July 1. We are beginning to schedule classes, both basic shop skills, and more advanced courses such as with Taeho Kwon. We will continue to take full advantage of *Zoom* to provide learning and social opportunities, like Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings, monthly lunch meetings, etc. We are also working on plans to keep members involved who will not be willing to come into the shop in the near term.

Over the past three months, we held no classes and no open shop sessions, and as a result our revenue stream has dried up. On top of that, we have some members not renewing their membership because nothing was happening or their financial situation may have required them to cut back on spending, and we understand that. For those members who can afford to hang with us, we're asking you to renew your membership when due. If you want to go further and make a donation to the Guild, now would be a great time. We completely redesigned our website during the past several months to make it more user-friendly and made it easy to donate by providing a “Donate” button on every page of the new website.

So in summary, what can you do?

Be patient – we are adding activities as fast as we can and are allowed. We are working to minimize the changes, but your safety is always our number one concern.

Renew your membership when due. Aside from the money, more importantly, it tells us if we are doing the right thing and have your confidence.

Be positive – attitudes spread like a virus. If you keep a good and understanding attitude, others around you will also.

Donations are always appreciated – some will be used for members who may need financial help with dues or classes, and will help us build reserves so when the need is proven, we will be in a position to consider facility expansion.

Volunteer – be part of the solution. We are starting up the Estate Team again, and these small fund-raising programs will need help. Note that we are working on opportunities for members who may not be able to come into the shop. Please pay attention to our weekly email blast for requests for help.

Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to making sawdust with you soon.

Steve Poland, President

With input from the Board of the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers:

Gary Weeber, Vice President for Programs
Ed Swakon, Vice President for Members
Carol Boyd, Secretary
Bill Hamilton, Finance Director
Ken Hall, Shop Operations Director
Doug Drake, Education Director
Tim Moore, Community Outreach Director
Ed Ferguson, Planning Director
Keith Williams, Membership Director
Charlie Meyer, Volunteer Director
Roger Crooks, Communications Director



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, JULY 6 - 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.

If the world is open...

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest **47** 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.

Will Baker, Chad Barrington, Darrell Buckley, Sean Byram, Amber Capwell, James Carlo, Jack Coleman, Peter Crim, Dan DeHaven, Joshua DeMuth, Sue Densmore, Jon Edwards, Abraham Ewing, Don Fitchett, James Flaherty, Shawn Freitas, Steve Gottsacker, Ev Hu, Robert Janowski, Jon Keller, Rob Lewis, Sofia Linden, Bruce Loffland, David Lowe, Che Lowenstein, Timothy Maguire, Ronald Matson, David McBride, Quinn McCarthy, Ken McDaniel, Brian McIntyre, Ryan Melanson, Darin Molnar, Greg Neps, Sophia Perdikkakis, Nikki Peters, Ella Poff, Tyler Ruhl, Richard Schuler, Jon Scott, Phil Seder, Samuel Serling-Sutton, Scott Slich, James Smittb, George Stimson, Jessica van Waardenburg, Cody Vitt

THE BARGAIN

Gig Lewis



The Guild is a 501(c)(3) organization. What is a 501(c)(3)? And how does the Guild fit into this? (Thanks for asking—this is a REALLY important question)

We have a **Bargain** with the IRS that is known as a 501(c)(3) a federal IRS tax designation for a charitable nonprofit organization.

GOOW is a 501(c)(3); we are a public charity and, as such, we follow strict guidelines for our programs and our finances. As a 501(c)(3), donations to GOOW are tax deductible (donations that go above the services received). Anyone, members or not, can donate money, machines, wood, or anything else of value to the Guild. The donor can write that donation off on their taxes, another **Bargain**. GOOW can then take that donation and apply it however we would like. A big WIN-WIN.

The IRS recognizes GOOW as a volunteer organization; we do not offer compensation for our members that are on the board and we have a few hundred members volunteering

their time, skills, and services. Not all 501(c)(3) organizations have an entire volunteer crew that manage, run, and organize the organization, but GOOW does. This makes our funds stretch considerably further. At this point, the only Guild members that are paid are some of our instructors for the quality work that they do. The other half of our instructors offer their services for free. Another WIN-WIN.

As a charitable nonprofit, we also work with other charitable nonprofits. GOOW members are able to gain skills, share skills, explore new methods in the woodworking field, AND give back to their community. Another **Bargain** for our members. GOOW has built numerous garden benches, secure garbage can containers for the forest, chests of drawers, and movable library bookshelves for various nonprofits that have found our services invaluable. We've also donated over a thousand toys to Volunteers of America, Toys for Tots, and Raphael House (a domestic violence shelter). The impact that the Guild has had on our struggling, marginalized, or challenged population has been stellar. Another BIG WIN-WIN.

Busy, Busy, Busy

Gary Weber, Program Vice President



The last three months have been pretty darn strange, have they not? Worldwide, we have been shoved into this weird bubble that only vaguely feels like the life we knew before.

That is certainly true for our world in the Guild. The shop and face-to-face interpersonal activities stopped. Just like that. It was a little like coming to a T-intersection and asking, 'where do we go from here'?

Although many Guild members have found themselves to be less active with the Guild, many of the Guild leaders and other members have been very busy during the past three months in an effort to make sure the Guild is prepared for our forthcoming 'new reality'. Here are some examples.

GUILD SHOP: A team lead by Carol Boyd has been working during this time to gain as much information as they could about the Covid-19 virus and related concerns. The team has been developing plans that would allow the re-opening of the shop in a manner that is safe for members. Their hard work is now becoming visible as we prepare to again make some sawdust in the Shop.

Watch for more information; take personal responsibility for yourself; respect the needs and welfare of others; and have some fun.

NEW SHOP ATTENDANT LEADS: Paul Ehrlich and Dan Haggerty have stepped up to be the Co-Leads for our valuable team of shop attendants. They have been developing plans for SA assignments, training and recruitment. They are now working with a key group of SA's that have volunteered to serve as SA's during our Shop re-start.

WRAP GROUP: The Woodworking Resources and Planning Group has continued to meet virtually during the shutdown. Future planning is being adjusted based upon the evolving nature of our world and, as a result, there will be some extension of timelines in order to meet both current and long-term needs.

Our potential expansion to Cottage 5 at the MAC is currently on hold, at least in part due to the MAC being closed through the end of the summer. In the near future, we will again be meeting with the MAC folks to talk about future partnering.

Expect more info on these planning activities to be coming out soon.

NEW WEBSITE: As many of you now know, Roger Crooks and the communications team have invested vast amounts of time in reshaping our existing website into a format that is now more user-friendly. This will be an ongoing process so we know that Roger and his team will always be happy to hear constructive comments and suggestions.

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BUSY, BUSY, BUSY... *continued from page 4*

VIRTUAL WORLD: While some Guild activities slowed down we learned that others could actually ZOOM. Our evolution in the use of ZOOM technology was stunning and again, Roger and his team deserve credit for the hours and hours of work put into this venture. During our shutdown, we learned the following activities could be done with success:

- Board Meetings
- Toy Build Team and Project Build Team Chats
- Committee Meetings
- SIG Groups
- Special Group Meetings (like Planning Retreat)
- Monthly Program Meetings (with distant special guests)
- Monthly 'Meetups'

We also started a feature called V-Day every Wednesday. On V-Day, a selected video on woodworking is provided to the membership as recommended by members and leadership.

We have learned that this virtual world holds real promise for some future Guild activities so plan on it being a part of our new reality.

EDUCATION: Education Director Doug Drake has been working with the education team to plan upcoming education activities in the context of this new reality. Through collaboration between Education and Safety, a redesigned certification program for use of the Guild Shop has been developed and is ready to be implemented. This new system should produce more consistency in knowledge, practice and understanding among all users. It will also clarify and simplify the process.

In addition, Chip Webster has been working with Visiting Master Taeho Kwon to be available late this summer or early fall. A planned visitation by Mike Pekovich for this fall is presently on hold.

Again, watch for more information on this program and upcoming educational offerings.

PLANNING: The Guild planning process has continued under the leadership of Director Ed Ferguson. This included a very successful two-day planning retreat held on June 19 and 20. A total of 22 Guild leaders and general members participated in a ZOOM session. This critical input session on future Guild direction covered areas including recent accomplishments; the status of our organizational finances; discussion of what the 'new reality' may be and how that may affect Guild activities; the status of membership, how to engage members and future plans; a review of the volunteer program and suggestions regarding continued development; and the development of Guild leader-

ship. The input from the planning session was rich in content and will be refined into action plans in the immediate future by the Planning Committee.

A special thank you is appropriate to the following participants of that session: Aboo Balgamwalla, Carol Boyd, Julie Boyles, Roger Crooks, Doug Drake, Paul Ehrlich, Ed Ferguson, Leslie Kantor, Ken Hall, Bill Hamilton, Jeff Hilber, Gig Lewis, Bland McCartha, Charlie Meyer, Tim Moore, Julie Niemeyer, Steve Poland, Mike Sandman, Ed Swakon, Chip Webster, Gary Weeber and Miguel Gomez-Ibanez.

The planning committee has also been continuing to work with George Thorne, our planning consultant. These consultations are provided to us through a grant by the Regional Arts Coordinating Council.

FINANCES: During this shutdown, the Board of Directors has been carefully monitoring our financial condition with the help of Treasurer Bill Hamilton. Although there was clearly a drop in revenue (understandable) and some falloff in membership, these are perceived to be a short-term situation and there is no concern about the stability of the Guild's financial condition. On the other hand, as we come out of this, the financial support of the membership in terms of continuing memberships and donations is genuinely appreciated since there is a hill we need to climb to get back to a more comfortable level.

ESTATE TEAM: No Guild activity was impacted more than the estate team. How do you still provide a valuable community service in such a restrictive environment? In the middle of revamping the team and refining the process to better divide the labor, the team developed an online strategy for estate sales that proved extremely successful during the weekend of June 27-28.

VOLUNTEERS: Volunteer Director Charlie Meyer has continued to keep tabs on our volunteer needs and develop longer term plans. In discussion after discussion during the last three months, the importance of Guild volunteers has been expressed and underlined.

Volunteerism is perhaps the most critical part of our organizational DNA. The culture we build, feed, and maintain must include a commitment to volunteering. The appreciation of those that volunteer can never be adequately expressed. If you are not currently volunteering for something, please consider it...even if it is not a lot of time that you are able to invest.

For more information on volunteering, go to the Volunteer Opportunities page on the new website. If you still have some questions, give Charlie a call. You know how to find his number. He would love to talk to you.

Enough said. On to the future, shall we? Let's make some sawdust...and do it safely.

GUILD'S NEW WEBSITE – www.guildoforegonwoodworkers.org

Roger Crooks

A new Guild website has been developed from the ground up and is open for business. The previous website was over 8 years old when the Guild was around 200 members, offered just a handful of classes and did not yet have a shop. The Guild today is a totally different organization and thus we needed to design the site for today's Guild. We had the following goals.

- Make it easy to find what you want
- Explain what we are, what we do, and our goals
- Entice new members to join
- Pages are clean, concise, using the same fonts, colors, and layouts
- Modernize the Look and Feel with moderate use of graphics

In the process we reduced the number of pages almost in half, reduced the forums from 13 to 3, removed information that is no longer of interest, and for each page we asked – do we really need this, does anybody care, is it concise, is it clear. We hope you all agree that we did and if not, please let us know. Also we need to know if your browser has an issue as we cannot test on all the browsers on the market.

Some informational pages are still under construction, but the meat of the website is done and working. We do understand that changes will be needed, and we welcome your feedback especially for spelling and grammar errors. Navigation problems or missing information is of special interest.

What You Need to Do

- Please log into the new website. *Your old password should work but if not, use the "Forgot Password" feature to set a new one.*
- When you are logged in, update your Profile by clicking on your login name and then View Profile
- Upload a photo of yourself (while in your Profile)
- Check out the website!

Smartphone Use and Wild Apricot App

The website works best on a large screen PC or MAC but it also is usable on your Smartphone browser. We picked a design that was designed to be Smartphone friendly. However, there is a special app that provides member information, events/calendar, events that you are registered, and your profile.

Smartphone Apps

- Download "*Wild Apricot Member*" App from your Apple or Android Store. Wild Apricot is the website vendor and there is also an "Admin" app – you want the "Member" app.

- Login with your current username/password
- Navigate the app as needed. It is designed to provide information about all events, your registered events and member information plus you can check/modify your profile.

For your Smartphone browser – it works pretty well, but for a small screen, there are obvious tradeoffs. Unfortunately, we are limited to what we can do in this area.

Many Thanks

Many thanks to all the people who contributed to the new Website. I'm sure I missed someone but many thanks!

Abou Balmgawalla, Bland McCartha, Jason Ray, Ginny Benware, Julie Niemeyer, Doug Drake, Ken Hall, Steve Poland, Gary Weeber, Linda Howarth, Tim Moore, Vince Corbin, Bruce Coopender, Charlie Meyer, Colin O'Reardon, Andy Woodruff, Barry O'Mahony, Dan Haggerty, Dave Cassinelli Mark Moore, Nathaniel Newton, Paul Ehrlich, Rebecca Fakkema, Russell Conine, Steve Anderly, Terry Burnside, Tom Check; Bill Hamilton and all the others who helped.

Home Page Features

- One click to the Guild Calendar and the Newsletter at the top
- The top of the page is oriented to the public and new members
- The bottom of the page is targeted for members with Quick Links to what we think you might want to do

Details

- Login in and edit your Profile
- Get the latest Newsletter
- Calendar shows all events, classes, and meetings. Link to our Facebook page
- Important Information – when there is an important message, click to read. The date of the last posting will be listed so you only check when something is new..
- A quick way to jump to just what you want. Mostly for current members who know where they want to go.
- Contact Us – who to talk to with questions.

Every Page

- The header and footer provide quick access to the Calendar, Contact Us, Facebook, Search option, and the Donate button.
- Breadcrumbs – at the top of each page above the title,

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Guild's New Website ... [continued from page 6](#)

is the path of how you got to that page simplifying navigation

Calendars

There are two calendars – one for the shop scheduling and one for all other events.

- **Guild Calendar** - for events such as classes, meetings, and shows
- Some of the Education and SIGs pages show their specific upcoming events and are a subset of this calendar.
- **Shop Calendar** – For using the shop, sign up for shop time, see what days and times are available

Contact Us

We have moved away from putting individual names and emails on the website. Instead we use “role” emails such as President@GuildofOregonWoodworkers.org. This way when new people move into new roles, the IT department just changes who receives the emails and no changes are needed on the website. There is a Board of Directors page under Organization that lists all board members.

NEW CARVING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)

SIGs come and go but this one is coming and will generally meet online with Zoom, monthly the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, free.

The first one will be July 14th. You don't have to register but it helps to get a sense of interest in the topic. The Zoom link to each monthly meeting will be sent to my current list about two days before each meeting. To register and to be included on this list, [click here](#).

We experimented with weekly Zoom carving meetings during May and there was enough interest to warrant continuing, but at a slower pace.

The first meeting will feature member Terry Burnside, who will focus his presentation on **Sketching by Hand for Carvers**. Terry moved to Portland a year ago from Florida, has a substantial carving background and will potentially teach in the future. His talk is not about SketchUp, it is about developing the necessary freehand skills that carvers need for their projects. These skills are in some sense generic and could be applied to other woodworking projects.

For the SIG my goal is to have a running three month set of topics so you can see what is coming up. Of course I expect that we will have Chuck Rinehart present, but we've contacted Jeff Harness, a former instructor now living in Arizona, and we expect him as a visiting guest, and my dream is to have Mary May join us for a meeting in the future. However, SIGs are viable only if there is a critical mass of support and local speakers, and we will tap into our own members to share their experiences and projects, as well as invite other local carvers who may not be Guild

Membership Renewals

The automated membership renewal system on the website works great and will inform you when you need to renew your membership. It is not really set up for easy early renewals. So, while we do appreciate your effort to send in more money, it is best that you wait and renew when asked.

Website Forums

We have three Forums; [Buy/Sell](#), [Woodworking Tools](#), [Woodworking Topics](#). To subscribe to a Forum, go to that Forum and click on Subscribe (next to Create Topic upper left). To control the frequency of emails or stop them, go to your Profile (under Login) and click on Email Subscriptions then Edit. Options are Immediate, daily and weekly.

- Members receive notification each morning (default setting-daily) of all new posting in the Forums for which you are subscribed. If you have not seen the many new postings this last week, check your profile

Forums are open to the public to read but only members can post

members. Stay tuned for getting to vote via a survey on a list of potential topics and speakers

GOOGLE GROUPS - CARVING SIG

The Guild is moving in a big way to using Google Groups as a technology platform to support various committees, SIGs, boards and teams. To that end we have a designated Carving SIG Google Group and in the next month or so you will get an invitation from me to join that group. The organizational benefit is that we build resilience for the Guild by putting lists in a neutral place and removing them from private computers. The benefit to members is a more consistent communications from the Guild, and you control the frequency you see correspondence (all, daily, weekly), and you can change preferences as you go.

Larry Wade 503-312-7745

ONLINE LECTURES AT THE NORTHWEST WOODWORKING STUDIO.

This is a new online series. The of the series is July 1 on *Milling Lumber: From Rough to Finish*. It's a Zoom lecture. There is more information here: <http://northwestwoodworking.com/classes/summer-2020>.

NEW SAFETY COMMITTEE LEAD

Leslie Kantor is the new Safety Committee Lead. Many of us know Leslie due to her experience with the Guild and are excited that she is bringing her safety knowledge and leadership to the Safety Committee. She is not only a knowledgeable woodworker but she is also a safety professional who is currently in charge of the safety program at the Oregon Zoo.

Prior Safety Committee Lead **Jeff Hilber** brought considerable energy, organization and focus to the Safety Committee when it was very much needed. Jeff is excited about his new role of being in charge of the Safety and Orientation program and serving in other situations as an instructor. Jeff's experience in woodworking makes him a true asset to Guild members in the role of instructor.

Thank you Leslie and Jeff. Volunteerism is the heart of the Guild and you both could not be better examples of that.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PROGRAM CHANGE

Bill Tainter: Volunteer Appreciation Program Facilitator
Normally, at this time of year, we would be asking for you to report your volunteer hours and place orders from the catalogue. Due to the shutdown and lack of activities this year, we recognize that few people will have much volunteer time to report and given that we need a quantity of items to avoid special charges in ordering, we are delaying the program to the end of the year.

As we start to resume activities, you will have the chance to earn more hours. At this time, we are planning on resuming the Appreciation Program at the end of the year. Please continue to keep a record of your volunteer hours from Dec 1, 2019 and you will be able to report the hours you have earned for the year.

Thank you for all you do to help the Guild function and to provide service to the Guild and our community.

A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ESTATE SALES

The Guild's estate sale program has seen some very significant changes. COVID-19 has resulted in cancellation of all on-site estate sales until at least September and a change in leadership has us looking for a better way to distribute the workload. We are now seeking an Estate Sale Coordinator as well as team of volunteers who will have specific roles as we head toward reopening.

The Guild website is being updated for all the estate sale roles and a direct message will be going out to those who have previously volunteered to solicit signing up under the new plan. Please look for additional information and consider joining the estate sale team and finding a role that fits your circumstances. If you would like more information, contact charlie.meyer@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org.

My father, who was a cabinetmaker, told me, 'Wood has a grain and if you go into the grain, you have beauty. If you go against it, you have splinters - it breaks.' And I took that as my view of life. You have to follow the grain - to be sensitive to the direction of life." Christian Louboutin

Send us your questions and we will publish the answer. Send us your tips and techniques too.
We can all learn something. newsletter@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org

MICRO-BEVEL SHARPENING

John Sheridan

What can be done to make the cutting edge of a wood-working tool sing?

The technique involves both proper tool edge and tool back preparation.

Considerations:

- Cutting edge angles, usually 25 degrees, and sometimes less or more for complex woods.
- When sharpening holding the tool or cutter with both hands. It is usually more accurate.
- Being aware of your balanced body stance.
- Using a controlled pressure and a constant angle.

Wheel grinding:

- Needed if the edges are chipped or if the tool has a rounded bevel.
- Use a slow speed, 1800 rpm grinder, preferably with a white, 60 grit, Aluminum Oxide, friable wheel.
- Do not use a black, Silicon Carbide wheel, which is used to grind cast iron and will easily overheat tool steel.
- Dipping the tool edge in water frequently is mandatory.

The “stones”:

- There are a variety of oil, water and diamond products. They have to be flat. See below for flattening stones.
- The selected grits of waterstones are often 1,000 and 8,000.
- Dozens of possibilities are sold by Woodcraft and others.

A sturdy surface

The technique:

- Be sure that the back of the blade or plane iron is FLAT.
- If not, prepare it with stones like the extra coarse DMT, (Diamond Matrix Technology), 3x8” stone, which is also useful to flatten Japanese water stones. Again, always use water.
- Use straight or figure eight motions when tool sharpening.
- Create the wire edge of the micro-bevel on the fine stone with the bevel

down. To flex and remove the burr alternate the bevel and bottom.

- It goes quickly. The fine stone (Arkansas, DMT, or water) cuts and polishes the micro-bevel that does the cutting.
- In a commercial shop one is expected to prepare a chisel in just five minutes.
- Remember, no back bevels or the tool won't cut.
- The idea of sharpening is to have one smooth steel surface meet another and go forward to cut the wood, which is like a bundle of soda straws held together by lignin, the wood's natural glue. In theory the cutting edge has no thickness.

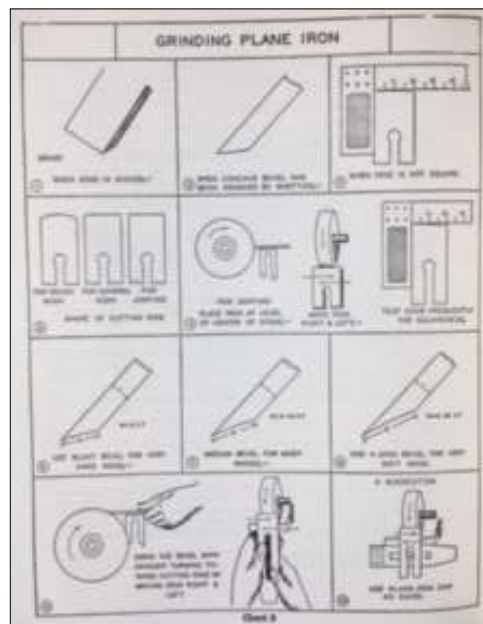
Mirror Buffing:

- Optional. Use a buffing wheel with green rouge applied.

References:

The Complete Guide to Sharpening, Leonard Lee, FWW.

Fine Woodworking magazine, July, 1981, pp. 66-73.



LA ROQUE ON THE LOOSE



Frank LaRoque

This lawyer's book case came into my shop in three boxes. The only glass in tact was the leaded glass, all the rest were either missing or broken.

All the frames were coming apart and needed to be re-glued. The sliding mechanisms were bent and rusted, the knobs were tarnished beyond recognition and all the glass stops were gone. The cases were water damaged from the client's use; they were her flower case!

I had to replace all the backs and re-veneer the top and base. The crown was severely damaged, all the joints were apart and all the glue block were missing. The base and the drawer were in one box and had to be totally reconstructed. I replaced the bottom because it was beyond repair and

added a bright red felt over the bottom. The felt was glued to a one eighth thick plywood and is removable. One of the drawer handles was missing a hoop that held the handle and I carved a new one out of solid brass to match the others. I found glass that was from a ghost town by the name of Kinzua, (it was down by Fossil). Kinzua was a wood mill town and was completely dismantled in 1978 and replanted with Ponderosa pine trees. The client was delighted to have her grandfather's case completely restored. My client's husband said that he would never have thought that anything could be done with "That piece of fire wood".



TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Frank LaRoque

I have found that the majority of white rings found on table tops are caused from water that was allowed to dry on a waxed surface. When the water dries, it dries out the wax and a white ring appears. Most of the time the solution is very simple. Use a small wad of terry cloth with a small amount of rubbing alcohol. This removes the wax and the ring. ALWAYS test this on the bottom edge of the top to make sure that the finish is not affected. The alcohol will remove a shellac finish if the piece is very old. If this happens call me for a fix...grin...Or, French polish the whole area. YouTube has a lot of information on French polishing techniques.

Home Woodworking Project - A Mini Bench

Dick Harbert

A Need is Identified

Before the Governor's *Stay Home, Save Lives* orders to not congregate in groups and to maintain social distancing, Dave Heim came over to my shop to help me saw better dove tail joints. We had a practice board secured in my work bench vice. He observed that due to my height, my form and saw stroke were not good for accurate and smooth sawing. I raised the board only to find the extra length allowed the board to flex. Dave described how one of his instructors, Steve Latta, used a bench build on a bench to get detail work like inlay to a good working height. I recalled that Larry Wade built some portable table risers for the Guild benches to raise carving work to a better level. Intrigued with the idea, I found a description of Latta's mini workbench in a *Fine Woodworking* magazine (#244). Other designs were posted on YouTube.

Custom Design

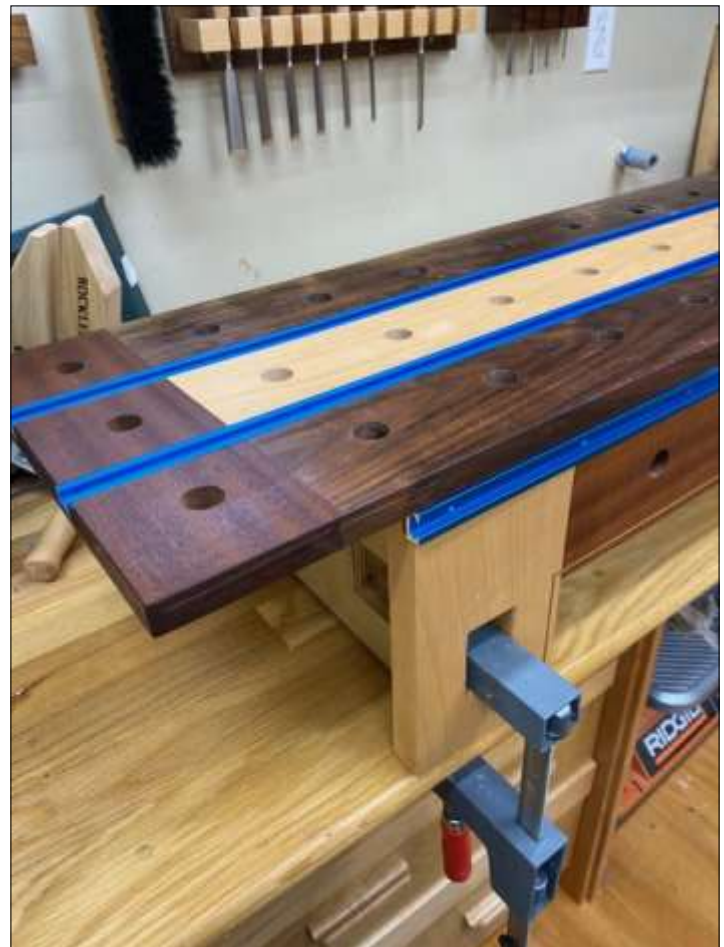
At this point we were all told to stay home, and I wanted a project to keep me occupied. I decided my bench must be built from leftover wood found in my scrap bin and then experimented to find the most comfortable height for me at my work bench. I needed a means to hold work down but did not want the weight of a vice. Ideally, I wanted to be able to clamp this mini-bench to my work bench when needed and then easily move it when it was not needed. My shop already had hold down methods for my Festool Multi-Functional Table (MFT) – clamps and dogs and I also had some T-track clamps and knobs from my Woodpecker drill press table. Then I remembered seeing a table built by Jim O'Rourke that had Rockler T-tracks embedded in the top and so set out to design a customized bench-on-a-bench incorporating these ideas.

The Results

The pictures show the result. The dimensions are similar to Latta's mini workbench. I have incorporated a grid pattern of holes, matching the MFT and the three T-tracks in both the top and front apron to give me even more versatility. The wood is walnut, maple, and mahogany. The finish is Waterlox Original wipe on oil using the approach I learned from



Austin Heitzman. I now have had a couple of months to test my new bench-on-a-bench and find that it has indeed improved the quality of my work and made my shop more efficient.



Elliptical Table with Solid Wood Rim

Vince Corbin

Photo 1 shows a table with an elliptical top, consisting of plywood with shop made cherry veneer, and a solid wood rim. (The oval cutout in the center is glass so the client can display a photo underneath.) The closeup photo 2 shows in more detail that the rim is seamless in its joining to the plywood core and in joining of the 8 rim segments. *How do you do that?* That is what I will be describing. (I learned these techniques in a one-on-one class with a top-notch woodworker named Don DeDobelleer.)

I made several precision patterns: a pattern for the core (the top less the rim), a true complement of that pattern, a pattern for each segment of the rim (see photo 3), and a pattern for the outside of the top. I could start with either a jig to draw an ellipse, or draw up the design in SketchUp. I prefer using SketchUp (see drawing 1).

Using SketchUp, I created an ellipse by stretching a circle, design the top, and create a PDF file of the top and took it to FedEx Office and had it printed full size, several copies. I then cut out the shape of the core and pasted it to a sheet of 5/8" MDF using spray adhesive. Then I used the band-saw to cut it out with about 1/16" from the edge followed by shaping it right up to the edge using a stationary disk sander. To get a truly fair curve, I used sandpaper glued to a long flexible 1/4" thick pad to sand the edge smooth. This gave me a pattern for the table core. I did the same for the full outside.

Next, I made a precise complement of the core pattern, that is, a pattern with a hole that exactly matches the core pattern. My preferred approach requires the creation of a pattern with a hole that is exactly 1/2" oversize, and then using that to create a pattern with a hole of the desired size. This requires two special router bits (see photo 4). The first is a 1/2" diameter pattern bit. I used this routing against the core pattern attached to a larger MDF sheet using double sticky tape to cut all the way through the second piece creating a hole exactly 1/2" larger than the core.

The second router bit is a special concoction: it is a 1 1/4" diameter bearing attached to a 1/4" diameter spiral carbide router bit. I placed the oversize hole pattern over a third sheet of MDF, again with double sticky tape, and route around the inside edge cutting into the third sheet exactly 1/2" inside the oversize hole. This created a hole that exactly matched the original core pattern. The rim segments that about the core used the curvature of this complement pattern.

Revisiting photo 3, I then divided the rim into eight segments, numbered one through eight, as shown. I made a separate rim pattern for each segment out of 5/8" MDF. For an elliptical curve, the rim pieces fit only in one location. They could not slide much in either direction. If the core pattern were perfectly symmetrical, like having been cut using CNC, I would only have needed three unique



Photo 1: Elliptical coffee table with solid wood rim



Photo 2: Close up of just the top shows better the perfect fitting of the rim.



Photo 3: Pattern for the elliptical core with smaller patterns for each of the 8 segments that snug up to the core

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ELLIPTICAL TABLE ... [continued from page 12](#)



Drawing 1: In SketchUp the author creates an elliptical pattern by stretching a circle, then makes a top view, uses Lay-Out to create a scaled PDF file, and gets it printed full size for making the patterns.

patterns. But, having used a bandsaw and sander, I get better results if I make all 8 patterns. Next, I rough cut each of the eight segment patterns, leaving a little extra on the inside, and leaving the sides about 1/8" long, but I marked exactly where the end of the segment should be. (Note that these segment patterns have various ears on them which are needed when the assembly is clamped.) Then for each segment pattern, I attached it to the complement pattern in its correct position using double sticky tape and use a traditional pattern bit on the router table to cut the inside curve on the segment pattern from the complement pattern. At this point I had eight segment patterns that exactly fit snugly to the core pattern in their appropriate locations (see photo 4 again). To get the ends of the rim segments to fit snugly, I used a special technique during assembly, called "chasing the miter".

For this table, the core consists of hardwood cherry plywood with shop sawn cherry veneer on the top. There are 10 pieces of veneer, arranged in a book-matched configuration. I sliced the veneer using my bandsaw and took it to Creative Woodworks NW where they sanded it to .080" thickness using their small wide-belt sander. I used patterns cut from the SketchUp full-size prints to trim the veneer sections, taped them together with slight edge sanding by hand, and glued the assembly with Titebond III and an MDF caul and lots of clamps.

I then used the core pattern to trim the core of the piece. Then I rough cut pieces of the rim from solid cherry, 1/8" thicker than the core, the size of each rim segment pattern, and used each rim segment pattern to route the inside face

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Photo 4: Special router bits used for creating a true complement pattern of the core ellipse.



Photo 5: Clamping jig for holding rim segment part and pattern for routing the inside curve.

of the corresponding rim segment. Sometimes I just use double sticky tape to attach the pattern to the rim segment, and other times I use a clamping jig as shown in photo 5. (Remember that each rim segment piece should be, like the corresponding pattern, about 1/8" longer than its final length.) I did the final trimming and dry fitting as follows ("chasing the miter"):

1. Make sure the core is marked exactly where each segment should end
2. Pick a segment, call it segment 1, typically an end, and trim the segment to its exact final length using a stationary disk sander, making sure each end is perpendicular to the curvature of the inside edge; clamp this piece in place.
3. Pick the next piece, call it segment 2, I typically go clockwise around, and trim the left end of it to be where the segment end should be, but also as an exact match to the right end of segment 1; I use a second disk sander with a much finer grit to get a really exact match; in like manner, trim the right end of segment 2 to be where the end needs to be and perpendicular to the curve edge; clamp segment 2 in place, and use the little ears to clamp segment 2 to segment 1
4. Pick segment 3 and do to it the same process as with segment 2. Work segment by segment around the rim until you have only one segment left, the last one
5. For the last segment, this is a bit tricky; trim each end to exactly match the segment it needs to mate too, but leaving it a little long (you might need to partially disassemble the adjacent segments in order to do this); then little by little work the end of the last piece down until it "almost" fits; final clamping should snug it all together with a good fit.
6. Disassemble the clamps but leave the segments in place.

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ELLIPTICAL TABLE ... *continued from page 13*

To strengthen the joinery, I used biscuits, but a special type, Lamello #11, as shown in photo 6. These give more strength than the common #20 biscuit because they are 13mm wider and because the grain goes straight across, not diagonally as in the #20. I cut the slots on the router table using the slot cutter shown, and placed the slots as



Photo 6: Author uses Lamello #11 biscuits (round) 36mm dia, compared to #20 biscuits (football) that are 23mm in width. Slots for the biscuits are cut with a 1 15/16" dia by 4mm slot cutting bit, shown.

follows: one at the end of each segment (bridging the two segments and the core), and about 3" apart along each segment. The slots are centered vertically on the core and separately centered on the rim segments. I dry fit it again with the biscuits to make sure the biscuit slots were correct.

Now I prepared numerous clamps, and with all clamps ready, reassembled with biscuits and glue, using long open time Titebond III. I used spacers of various thicknesses to raise the rim pieces so clamps could grab them, and raises the core so an equal amount of excess rim pieces showed above and below the core. The glue up required no-nonsense quick work because I wanted clamps to be able to still slide the segments a bit when I put in the last piece. Also, I may have needed to adjust clamping as I went to make sure all the joints were snug.

After the glue was dry, I flattened the rim pieces to the level of the core. I used a special router jig or a sander. Then I used the full outside elliptical pattern to mark, bandsaw and route the outside of the top. When you route to outside of the top, for half of each segment you will be going with the grain and for the other half you will be going against the grain and may get strong tear out, especially if you are using a really hard wood for the rim like wenge. To prevent this tear out, I usually do a climbing cut, which is not easy to do. The key is to use a large hand-held router, not a router table, use lots of downward pressure on the router, and cut in several light passes if you can. (Another option is to cut the portions that are with the grain, then turn it over and change to a router bit with the bearing on the other end, and cut the remaining portions.)

Finally, I profiled the outside edge with a table edge profile bit I chose, in several gentle passes and finishing with a climbing cut. Final sanding and it's done.



THE GUIDE TO WOODWORKING WITH KIDS

Bob Sokolow

This month at our July monthly virtual Guild meeting we are pleased to have Doug Stowe Zoom in and give a talk about his expertise in a variety of woodworking topics. Doug is a master woodworker and it is likely many of you know of him, have some of his books and a few of you were fortunate to attend some of his classes when he taught in the Guild shop a few years ago. Complete information about the meeting is on the website.

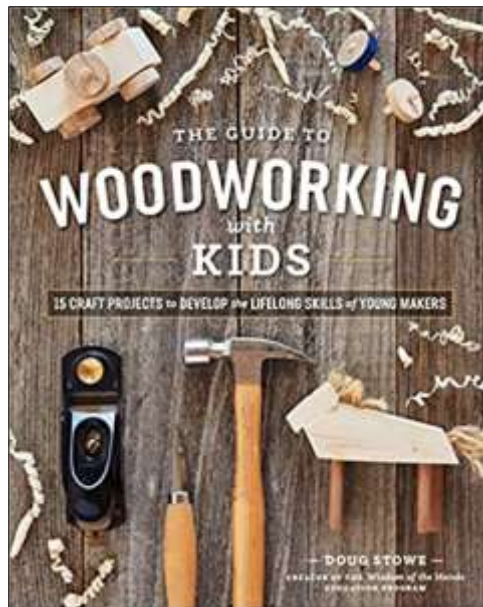
Doug has published a number of woodworking books teaching us many ways to build boxes, box guitars, furniture, and toys. His most recent publication is titled *The Guide to Woodworking with Kids*. Along with woodworking his passion is teaching and he has been

teaching a woodworking program at the Clear Springs School in Arkansas for almost 20 years. He has a strong interest in manual arts education and what is called Educational Sloyd. This is a strategy for a child to learn from play. Much more on this and his teaching ideas are in the book. Doug also initiated a blog, *Wisdom of the Hands*, after he started teaching to share his ideas to people around the world. It is worth signing up for this very interesting and educational blog (<http://wisdomofhands.blogspot.com/>).

The Guide to Woodworking with Kids is for teachers, parents, and grandparents, who want to be involved in teaching and working with wood with kids. It isn't just a series of projects to build something with kids but a holistic approach to woodworking with kids. The book is well laid out, fun, easy to read, and filled with many pictures and excellent descriptions of the various topics.

The two parts of the book are Getting Started and Projects. Getting Started is devoted to the basics of woodworking with kids, materials, safety, workbench, and of course the tools. The Projects section has a number of fun things kids can make with ways to modify the wood to make them unique.

When helping kids through the process of making things, Doug suggests using softer woods because they are easier to cut and when using small nails there is less opportunity to split the wood. He also says to make a prototype first. This allows you to be better prepared when working with the kids on their projects. It also helps you to be prepared to show the students how to best work with the tools and material in a safe manner. Preparing the wood components ahead of time is also an important element. Safety of course is always at the forefront of working in a woodshop, whether using a simple knife or saw to the tools with an electric



cord attached. Doug describes the proper use of using tools and encourages the three-handed approach, using vises and other methods to keep materials steady while being worked on. Holding the wood in a safe way is most important. There are also instructions for the different tools to introduce to kids at various ages. One nice feature in the book is a description and plans for the Clear Springs School Workbench. It is a kid-sized workbench with a vise that has a unique leg system that allows it to grow as the kids get taller.

The last part of the first section has a series of tools describing their safe and proper use in the shop. As a segue to the second section, Projects, there is description of how to make a basic tool

box. You can help kids make this tool box then as their tool inventory grows (it starts young doesn't it), they have a nice box to hold everything.

Doug found in his teaching that sometimes kids do not always want a structured class. This book has a number of things to make but sometimes kids just want to make things with wood from a pile of wood scraps and letting their imagination go wild. The Projects section starts with a chapter called Platforms. This is a very clever idea, giving kids blank pieces of wood to create new things. Sometimes there is collaboration among a few of the young woodworkers to share a platform with the things they make.

There are a number of chapters on how to make things like cars, animals, wheels, super heroes, puppets, and of course boxes! Also included are descriptions of jigs to make wheels and a simple miter box. As you read through the Projects section you see many of the final products the kids made are decorated with paint, markers, and colored pencil. This allows the student to make their project unique to their design when the wood parts are the same for everyone.

This is an excellent book if you have the wonderful opportunity to work with kids making things out of wood. It will give you the basics to make you feel comfortable working with kids in the shop. I was not a woodworker when my kids were growing up but as a grandfather it is giving me lots of ideas to share the love of woodworking with my small granddaughter. Doug's passion of teaching is evident in this book.

Again, we are fortunate that Doug has agreed to give a talk at our July virtual Guild meeting. I encourage you to join in and listen to this master woodworker and educator. Visit his website dougstowe.com for more information about Doug.

INTARSIA PROJECT

Al Arntsen especially loves intarsia projects, and this recent one is of his beloved beagle Tanner, so named because of a streak of tan in his coat. Tanner was so loved that he became the namesake of the street where Al lives with his wife Rose.

Al used a common process starting with a photo that was parsed by Rose into a pattern that Al then turned into a piece of art using his Dewalt 788 scroll saw and relevant woods of many colors. This particular piece used Cherry, Walnut (light and dark), Ebony (for the nose), and Aspen that was whitened with tipping made by Masters, and finished with five coats of DEP semi-gloss. Al started doing intarsia fifteen years ago after seeing a magazine article. Some projects are from patterns sourced by their authors in TN and MI who he met while on road trips. You might ask Al about intarsia - who knows, maybe you will find a photo that you would like turned into a memento.



FISH RATTLES

John Sheridan

These are 6" long fish rattles that were designed by Karl Seemuller and made by me, his apprentice. We made them for craft fair sales. One is walnut and the other is rosewood. The

idea is to take a block of wood close to the final shape, cut the block in two on a diagonal, hollow out the interior with a die cutter grinder, glue it back together, and bandsaw and shape with a free running abrasive belt to the final fish form. The finish is a non-toxic mineral oil since infants will be chewing on the wood. These are the only two left from the early 1970's and will be on display at the exhibit at the Hunterdon Art Museum in Clifton, New Jersey, celebrating the 50 years of Peters Valley School of Crafts. The show is titled *From the Ground Up*.



"RECYCLED" CARVING MALLETS

John Sheridan

If you are looking for excellent, thick hardwood stock for a carving mallet, look no further than the cast-off ten pins at a bowling alley. Despite the tough, plastic skin the interior, usually maple, is a ready-to-be-revealed-on-the-lathe mallet that can be custom cut to fit your hand, grip, and carving style. If a lathe isn't available, the mallet can be shaped to fit with rasps, files, scrapers, and sandpaper.

The plastic should be removed from the pin with a utility knife and with the pin held securely in a vise. Removing the plastic on the lathe is not recommended. I have tried to do so. Vicious, sharp whips of plastic are created. Also, don't try to cut off the plastic on the bandsaw; the curved pin will spin on the blade and possibly cause a severe injury.



The bowling alley pin is a musical instrument. The distinctive "pong" sound is produced by a hollow in the wood made by drilling the maple with a Forstner or multi-spur bit. If the hole is drilled in the bottom there is plenty of wood for a mallet with as much heft as you want. If the holes are drilled elsewhere, as in my photo, the mallet is a discard.

Making a mallet, or the dozen that I cut for the shop at Oregon College of Arts and Crafts nearly twenty years ago, is a delightful exercise in re-use. There are thousands of bowling pins going into landfills worldwide.

FROM THE GROUND UP

John Sheridan

Dear Friends, I would like to alert you and the woodworking community to an exhibition opening in October in New Jersey with a good sampling of woodworking.

The Hunterdon Art Museum, in Clinton, New Jersey, is hosting "From the Ground Up," Peters Valley School of Craft, the 50th anniversary, from October 4th, 2020 to January 10th, 2021. The catalogued show will explore all the craft media. The website of the museum has a clarifying statement of the purposes of the installation. Elizabeth Essner, the curator and Kristin Muller, the director of Peters Valley, have more to say if you care to contact them.

My late wife, Carolyn Grew-Sheridan, and I received our early training at Peters Valley in 1973 and 1974 through an arrangement created by the late, Dan Jackson, the brilliant furniture maker in Philadelphia.

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