

NEWSLETTER FOR THE

**GUILD OF
OREGON
WOODWORKERS**

**OREGON
WOOD
WORKS**

Vol. #37, Issue 10

October 2020

Portland Oregon



IN THIS ISSUE

President's Note	2
MEET-UP	3
Membership	4
VOTM	4
Shop Talk	
Shop Use & Main.	5
Branding Irons	6
Education	
Classes	7
Shop Stool	9
Furniture Design	10
File Away	10
Joinery Techniques	12
Community Service	
Estate Assistance	13
Student Lap Desks	14

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: ONLINE WITH ZOOM

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

**DARRELL PEART
GREENE & GREENE EXPERT AND CRAFTSMAN**

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

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

We have had a string of guest presenters joining us at our monthly zoom meetings that has been outstanding. In November, we will do it again!

Darrell Peart visited our Guild in 2009 to teach his Greene and Greene design elements workshop. He is a highly regarded expert on Greene and Greene, a master in furniture design, and an expert in production craftsmanship with over 40,000 followers on Instagram.



He was born in Wenatchee, Washington in 1950 and currently resides in Seattle, Washington, with his wife Terry. He has three children and seven grandchildren.

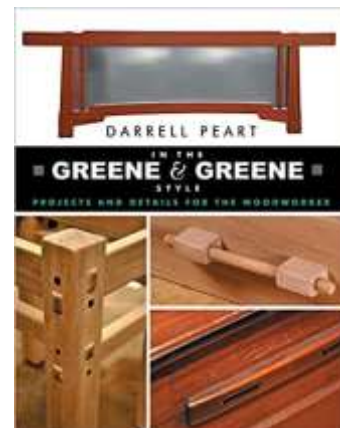
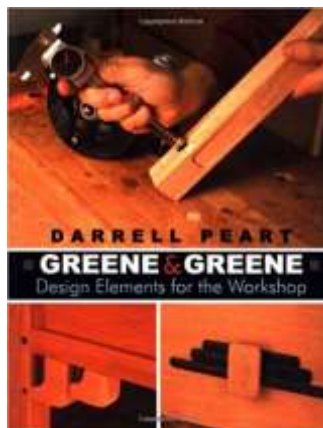
He started his career making and selling small wooden items at Seattle's Pike Place Market. To broaden his experience, he then worked for many years in various high-end custom shops throughout the Puget Sound area gaining an extensive background in both commercial and custom furniture making.

Darrell also writes and lectures about design, woodworking, and the history of Greene & Greene. He has written articles for Home Furniture, Today's Woodworker, Fine Woodworking, Woodwork, Popular Woodworking, American Woodworker, Woodworker West, Style 1900, British Woodworking, 360 Woodworking, The SAPFM Journal, and Australian Wood Review. *(Credit to info from Darrell's website).*

Darrell has also written two books: **Greene and Greene: Design Elements for the Workshop**, and, **In the Greene & Greene Style: Projects and Details for the Woodworker**. He is currently at work on his third book (to be published by Linden Press in 2020) which will be on furniture design.

Join us if you interested in Darrell's work and information on the Green and Green furniture style. In addition, we plan to take a virtual tour of Darrell's shop.

At our October meeting we had 79 participants. Let's break that record in November. You will thank yourself for attending.



NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT



Steven Poland

Greetings Woodworkers,

I don't have a whole lot to say this month, but I am especially happy that our board Nominating Committee has worked hard to assemble a great slate of nominees for the 2021 Board of Directors. We have a very healthy 50% returning folks on the list for continuity, and the

other 50% will provide fresh perspective, energy, and leadership for the future. As presented at the October General Meeting, the Board approved slate is as follows:

(Italics = Continuing Position)

President – *Steve Poland*

Secretary – Ken Fairfax

VP for Programs – Carol Boyd

Finance Director – Tom McCloskey

VP for Members – *Ed Swakon*

Planning Director – Paul Ehrlich

Shop Operations Dir. – Aboo Balmawalla

Education Director – *Doug Drake*

Community Outreach Dir. – *Tim Moore*

Membership Director – Julie Boyles

Volunteer Director – *Charlie Meyer*

Communication Director – Bland McCartha

In the November General Meeting, the bylaws have us presenting this slate, asking if there are any nominations from the floor, and then holding an election among all present/participating members.

Huge appreciation goes out to 2020 board members who will be retiring from their positions: Gary Weeber from VP Programs, Secretary Carol Boyd (agreeing to run for VP Programs), Finance Director Bill Hamilton, Planning Director Ed Ferguson, Shop Operations Director Ken Hall, Membership Director Keith Williams. Thank you all for your hard work and contribution to the Guild's continuing strength through this challenging year!

Financially, I'm happy to report that while our ~\$65,000 annual hard expenses have had us operating at a modest loss out of cash budget, we are still preserving \$85,000 reserve fund. We project that the more realistic new membership and renewal fee will by end of next year fully cover these existing hard expenses even with a conservative

projection of a 20% dropout of members who have not been active. This allows the Education program to continue to plan classes at reasonable costs that avoid loss, while contributing along with Shop Time sales, Estate Sales, and your generous extra donations to fund other free programs such as Toy Build and Project Build and our ongoing scholarships and grants.

I am also encouraged to see that our carefully planned and managed COVID procedures have allowed in-shop activities to begin to fill up, including Toy Build, Project Build, and Open Shop. Further, the Education and Safety committees have now scheduled two per month of each of the new Shop Certification classes, so our ongoing new members will have an opportunity to join us in the machine room. Other education offerings are beginning to be posted as well so you all should keep an eye on the Guild Calendar, and Upcoming Classes list on the Education/Woodworking Classes web page.

The reserve funds remain critically important, as we monitor financial health and demands on the available space that are now exacerbated by the six person limit. We continue to look forward to the interim potential for fit-up and engagement of a lease on the Multnomah Arts Center Cottage 5 space, when and if the conditions warrant.

Enjoy the rest of the November newsletter!

Steve Poland

Show-N-Tell

ALERT: Show & Tell Is Back!

Along with social time, business, Volunteer of the Month, Shop Talk and our presenter, Darrell Peart, we will again be having time for Show & Tell at our zoom Monthly Program Meeting.

Have your latest work available and ready to 'present'. Please keep the presentation to less than 2 minutes so that we can give others time.

See you Tuesday night, November 17.

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, NOVEMBER 5 - 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.

WATCH FOR IT!
FUTURE GENERAL MEETING
December - Dennis Loveland

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest **31** 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.

Frances Anjanette, Derek Boonstra, Brandon Bremen, Steve Brox, Aiden Burden, Richard Caplan, Erik Chapman, Quinn Colling, Jeanette DeCastro, Ben Doron, James Ellis, Bob Gallucci, Frederick Gilbert, Tim Himes, Ben Hokenson, Will Kane, Flora Lang, Kelly Limbaugh, Silas Lortz, Connor Mally, Porter Margaretsen, Steven Masters, Kim Montagriff, Lucas Moser, Ben Neubauer, Michael Palmer, Katie Richards, Dylan Sarber, Steve Silverstein, Marlin Snyder, Egon Sohn

GUILD DUES

Ed Swakon, VP Membership



In last month's newsletter we outlined the rationale for the dues increase that will go into effect on November 1, 2020. I'd just like to remind everyone what the new dues structure will be.

The new membership categories will be as follows:

1. The annual dues for a General Member shall be \$75.00 per year.
2. The annual dues for a General Family Membership shall be \$100.00
3. The annual dues for a Professional Member shall be \$100.00, plus \$75.00 for each additional firm member.
4. The annual dues for a full-time Student Member shall be \$25.00 per year.
5. The annual dues for a verified High School Wood-Shop Educators shall be free.

These changes become effective on November 1, 2020, for renewals and new members.

In addition to the membership categories outlined above, we created additional support categories if you are interested in helping us generate more sawdust. The following membership categories provide that additional support:

- Bandsaw Supporter - \$250/year
- Jointer Supporter - \$500/year
- Table Saw Supporter - \$1,000/year

These membership categories provide all of the benefits of a General Member and Recognition (if desired) in the Newsletter and on the Website. Thanks to you all for your continuing support and contributions.



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH: OCTOBER 2020 CHIP WEBSTER

Chip Webster has been a professional Guild member for many years, serving in various capacities including instructor. In particular, Chip has been the Lead on our Masters Program over the past few years. That program consistently brings in international master woodworkers to provide lectures and workshops to members every year.

This past year has been exceptionally challenging due to the pandemic and necessitated that we cancel one planned instructor. We did however, after much adjustment, renegotiation and work manage to bring master Taeho Kwon in for workshops in both September and October.

Chip expended MANY hours on this task in order to bring Taeho to Portland. In addition, he led work teams on both occasions to prepare hundreds of board feet of stock in preparation for each workshop.

Chip is a genuine jewel in our organization and we want to recognize him for his work by naming him the October 2020 Volunteer of the Month.



SHOP USE & MAINTENANCE: CARING FOR THE EQUIPMENT

Ken Hall, Shop Operations Director

For the past few weeks, the Guild's Shop has held Open Shop sessions limited to 6 members and a Shop Attendant. Several Open Shop sessions have had less than 6 members. We hope you can schedule some Open Shop time soon.

The Shop Maintenance Team comes in each Monday evening to clean and repair the machines and hand tools in the Shop. All Guild Members are invited to join the Maintenance Team. Just sign up for a Shop Maintenance Session on the Guild website.

During the past month, the Maintenance Team has seen several problems that are the result of improper use or cleaning of the tools. We would like you to help us to keep things running smoothly by returning the tools to their default condition or storage location as soon as you are finished with them. The Shop Attendant can show you the default condition if you are not clear what it is. Doing so will make sure they are ready for the next user in a consistent way. Please remove bits from the router table, return table saw to combo blade, make sure sanders have useable sanding media, and clean around the tool.

Return tools to their default condition or storage location

One place we need you help is with the checking of the level of chips in the dust collector barrel. The barrel can be filled by less than 20 minutes of planer or jointer use. When the barrel is filled to the top, the chips begin to go into the filters and clog them up. The barrel needs to be emptied if the chips are less than 6-8 inches from the top of the barrel.

If you use the planer and/or jointer for more than 10 minutes, please turn off the dust collector, go to the barrel and check the level of chips with a flash light. If you see a full barrel, let the Shop Attendant know immediately. You can assist the Shop Attendant with the emptying of the barrel, but please don't attempt it unless you have been shown how.

When the dust collector barrel is filled to the top, the chips begin to go into the filters and clog them up.

An over-filled barrel will put chips in the filters and clog the system. If you find an over-filled barrel, the dust collector should be shut down, the filters will need to be blown down and the black pans checked and emptied. Whenever this happens, several hours of manual cleaning of the dust filters is required to bring the dust collector back to full capacity.

Your frequent checking of the chip level can help the Shop Maintenance Team to keep the shop running smoothly.

Please note in the Dust Collector Log, hanging by the barrel, whenever you empty the barrel, check the dust pans, or blow down the filters.

We have noticed several issues with the Saw Stop table saws. Remember these are industrial saws that have **3 switches**: a disconnect/lockout switch (on the left side), a red and yellow power switch that turns on the electronic controls, and a large, paddle switch that turns on/off the motor. The default positions are the disconnect switch is on, the power switch is off, and the paddle switch is off. Whenever you walk away from the saw, both the power switch and paddle switch should be off, and no lights should be on. When the next user comes up to the saw and turns on the power switch, the electrical system in the saw will run its check to make sure that the safety system is running correctly. We have noticed that this procedure has not been followed as the power switch is frequently on when the Maintenance Team arrives.

Saw Stop Table Saw - The default positions are the disconnect switch is ON, the power switch is OFF, and the paddle switch is OFF.

Another maintenance issue with the Saw Stops is that whenever you are cutting thin strips that might drop below the table into the dust collection system, please check that these thin pieces do not remain in the dust collection system. Please turn off the saw using all switches. Remove the throat plate. Look into the dust shroud, and clear any debris. Then open the large door on the right of the saw and check to see if the flexible dust pipe has debris in it. You may need to disconnect the pipe to do this. If you see lots of sawdust on the floor under the saw when the door is open, it indicates that the ducting is plugged with debris and needs cleaning. If you need help with this, please see the Shop Attendant.

We have seen several of the sanders that show signs of misuse, namely gummed up sand paper. The SuperMax Drum sander was found at the beginning of a shop session with the sanding drum completely plugged with gum from misuse. The gummed-up sandpaper indicates that the user was trying to cut too much off the wood and over-heated the wood and the sandpaper. Overheating the wood causes release of resins which clog the sandpaper. When using the SuperMax sander, you set the drum to barely touch your work piece. You lower the sanding drum in very small increments. More thin passes give a better result for both the machine and the work piece. A feed speed, that is either too slow or too fast, will also result in poor results.

Sanders are not a replacement for a band saw, a planer, a jointer, a hand plane, or a rasp for removal of lots of material.

[continued on page 6](#)

Shop Use & Maintenance... [continued from page 5](#)

We have seen similar problems on the edge sander and the disk/belt sander where gummed sandpaper is caused by pushing your wood too hard into the sandpaper. All the sanding machines work best with a gentle touch. They DO NOT cut better with more pressure or a bigger bite. They are not a replacement for a band saw, a planer, a jointer, a hand plane, or a rasp for removal of lots of material.

If you see that you have messed up the sandpaper or the sandpaper needs changing on any machine, please let the Shop Attendant know so that the problem can be fixed.

The Shop Maintenance Team is working on detailed documentation on how to clean and setup the machines in the Shop. We hope to have this completed soon so that everyone can help us to keep things in safe, working order.

Please see the Shop Attendant if you have any questions about running or setup of any of the machines in the Guild Shop. Shop Attendants are there to help you use the Shop equipment as it's intended, and safely.

We all need to remember that the Guild Shop belongs to ALL of the Members and if we don't take good care of our tools, they won't be available for our use in the future.



BRANDING IRONS

Tom McCloskey

As the Toy Build Team discovered, the Guild Branding Iron is just a bit too large for some of the toys we make. We were looking for a smaller brand and happily discovered that we already own the GOOW.ORG domain name.

A few years ago I purchased a personal brand from Custom Branding Irons, so I decided to give Terry (the owner) a call. After explaining to him what the brand was for, Terry informed me that he definitely wanted to support us and that he would build and donate the Iron to our Guild.

Here are pictures of the original and new brand, and some cars that I anointed. The brand took about 3 seconds on each car. The final picture is the brand Terry made for me a few years back. Mine is heated with a torch. If you are thinking about having your own mark to your work, please consider contacting Terry.

Terry Desilets

www.brandingirons.biz 586-484-7713



GUILD UPCOMING CLASSES

Most of the classes posted right now are those that lead to certification to use the Guild Shop. The usual high demand for these classes has increased while things were on hold for the virus. If you are eager to complete these classes, we have two suggestions. 1. Add your name to the wait list. If we get a cancellation, we want to be able to fill that slot. 2. Watch for new sections of the classes to be posted for next quarter.

TABLE SAW TEA BOX GIFT

Asa Christiana

Oct 31, 9am-2pm

Class Fee: \$100

Class Coordinator: TBD

A useful, attractive gift is a great way to share your woodworking passion with friends and family, and this tea box is perfect for the job. Emphasis will be on jigs and setups that allow you to make multiples in plenty of time for the holidays.

GETTING STARTED — HANDS ON WITH PORTABLE POWER TOOLS

Jeff Hilber and Ginny Benware

Two Sections: Nov 1 and Dec 6, each 9am-12:30 pm

Class Fee: \$85

Class Coordinator: Doug Drake

The Getting Started class is a continuation of the safety process in good woodworking practices taught in the Intro to the Guild class. Getting started is a required class for those needing experience with the safe and appropriate use of portable power tools.

BUILD A BOTTLE CADDY

Asa Christiana

Nov 7, 9am-2pm

Class Fee: \$100

Class Coordinator: Doug Drake

Brush up on your bandsaw skills as you make this rustic tote for bottles and cans of all sizes.

Intro to the Guild Safety

Two Sections:

Nov 11 with Gary Weeber, 5:30-8:30pm

Dec 20 with Jeff Hilber & Ginny Benware, 9:30-12:30

Class Fee: \$20

Class Coordinator: Doug Drake

This is the first Shop Safety class and is required for every Guild member regardless of skill level that wishes to take

other Shop classes or participate in the Community Projects groups. This class replaced the old Safety & Orientation class — if you have completed that class you satisfied this requirement.

SHOP CERTIFICATION

Dick Rohrbaugh

Nov 10 & 12, 5pm-9pm

Class Fee: \$160

Class Coordinator: Doug Drake

This class is designed for the member to obtain a Guild Shop Card (formerly called the Green card) and is required to work in the Guild machine room or to take classes using the “core” power tools. The class consists of two 4-hour sessions and will certify you in the commonly used core power tools: chop saw, bandsaw, jointer, planer, table saw, stationary sanders and the drill press.

GREENWOOD SPOON CARVING

Rose Holdorf

Two Sections: Nov 12 and Dec 10, 10am-4pm

Class Fee: \$100

Rec Center, 3075 NW Circle A Dr, Portland

Class Coordinator: Larry Wade

Rose will guide students through traditional greenwood spoon carving. All tools will be provided or students are welcome to bring their own. Some carving experience will be helpful, but is not required.

SHOP CERTIFICATION

Mark Klein

Nov 17 & 19, 5pm-9pm, \$160

Class Coordinator: Doug Drake

This is another section of the class described above.

BUILD A LETTER TRAY

Asa Christiana

Nov 18, 5pm-9pm

Class Fee: 75

Class Coordinator: Doug Drake

See the Guild website for registration and details. Contact the Class Coordinator with questions. Classes are held at the Guild shop unless otherwise specified - 7634 SW 34th Avenue, Portland, OR 97219. Be sure to bring your usual shop PPE and also to follow COVID safety measures.

[continued on page 8](#)

Timber Frame Joinery Techniques for Furniture-Making Class

Dennis Dolph



Great class: Learned a lot about Asian joinery, machine and hand-tool techniques
Great teacher: Thank you, Taeho Kwon
Great Coordinator: Well done Chip Webster
Great Students: Fun group, all eager to learn

AFFILIATE UPCOMING CLASSES

See their websites for more details and offerings. The sites for Anvil Academy and Portland Community College should be the soonest source of information as they restart classes. Northwest Woodworking Studio is offering some face to face classes, but more virtual classes at this point.

Northwest Woodworking Studio **The Complete Novice Too**

Tuesdays, Nov 3 - Dec 1
 Instructor: Jeff Miller

HOW TO SAFELY USE A TABLE-SAW PUSH-STICK



Watch this YOUTUBE video presented by Norman Pirollo using John Sheridan's Push Stick

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgcPG9qX_iA

BUILDING AN A. LEWIS INSPIRED SHOP STOOL WITH TAEHO KWON

Gary Weeber

I finally did it. I took a deep breath and put some bucks down to get some ace instruction...from an ace.

We all know from recent experience that Taeho Kwon is a master. I missed him during his first trip to our Guild and failed to get on the stick and register for his first series this year in September. My luck came with registering for this year's second series in October. Yay! I was in.

On October 19 and 20, six of us showed up as students for an intense two-day workshop building the 'shop stool'. We were assisted by Shop Attendant Greg Weigel and coordinator Chip Webster. As we know, this ain't no silly ol' shop stool. It is a stool that was based on, and inspired by, Aled Lewis, a furniture designer and maker who has worked both in America and the United Kingdom. It is a piece of art with many of us planning to ensure that such stools never get close to a shop once completed.



This was not a dance class but we certainly learned a lot about jigs. Taeho provided us with basic instruction about the anatomy

of the stool and then the step by step process for turning the stock into components. He broke us into two work groups and we dove into the machine room (well, not literally). We began to see the importance of sequence in our work and how each step led to the next.

Taeho would show us how to use the jigs; set up the machines; and then demonstrate the use of the machines. Often these steps involved the use of more than one student so we would all assist each other as needed. We took full advantage of Guild equipment by using the table saws, router tables, miter saw, bandsaws, multi-router, plunge routers and various hand tools.



We learned the importance of precision, both in terms of outcome and the critical role of precision in measurement and machine setup.

For two days, Patrick, Mathew, Julie, John, Bill and Gary plunged, cut, routed, measured and 'jigged', with more parts being made each day.

One of the more challenging aspects of the chair design is the seat. It is made of two pieces that are connected to the legs with finger joints (open mortise/tenon joints). These two parts are not only mounted at slightly different angles but also need to be carved out for seat to match seat (so to speak). With precision setups we created the finger joints on the seats and legs using the multi-router. To create the initial pro-

file for the scooping of the seats, Taeho used a technique with the table saw to cut the initial profile by repeatedly cutting strips in the seat blank at progressive heights that matched the scoop profile (thank you Greg for your help in this segment). It will now be our responsibility to 'knock out' the remaining waste from the cuts and finish the seat profile.



A couple of us are considering starting an ad hoc group of students that took the class in these last two sessions to share information on our finishing experiences and talk about our experiences making additional stools.



Thank you Taeho for a great class. I really encourage others to take similar classes. It increases your skill level and provides you with the satisfaction of knowing that you are growing in this craft.

FURNITURE DESIGN – THE FOUR OBJECTIVES

MICHAEL DUNBAR, WINDSOR CHAIR MAKER.

Rules of Thumb, *Fine Woodworking*, April, 2001,
transcribed by John Sheridan

When you design a piece of furniture you have four primary objectives. The four goals are function, comfort, durability and beauty.



1. Does it work? The function of a piece is axiomatic. It must do its intended job. Function implies a generally accepted definition of purpose.

2. Is it comfortable? A piece of furniture not only has to do its intended job, but is also must be comfortable and commodious.

3. Will it last? A piece of furniture should hold up under its intended use. The life expectancies of differ-

ent pieces vary and are linked to their particular functions. Durability is often confused with quality, but in reality quality requires successful accomplishment of all the design objectives, including the next one: beauty.

4. Is it attractive? In the days of the craft shop, appearance was the one objective that separated the journeyman from the master. By virtue of his training, the journeyman

knew how to accomplish the first three objectives. However, only the master understood form well enough to produce the masterpiece. A masterpiece is a decorative object that not only satisfies the first three objectives of function, comfort and durability, but the piece also transcends time and culture.

We all want people to notice our woodworking and to appreciate the effort we invested in making it attractive. And we know intuitively that the things we make will survive us and be used by future generations. We want them to appreciate our work as well.

The masterpiece's transcendence is frequently not detectable to someone living in the period and place in which it was made. This quality emerges only as the winds of time winnow out the merely fashionable.

Some modern furniture has generated enough universal acclaim, for enough time, to suggest similar transcendence. Sam Maloof's chairs are good candidates for masterpiece status.

Quality furniture meets all objectives. The four objectives are in constant tension with each other. However you cannot make good furniture by emphasizing one or more objectives at the expense of another.

SOMETHING TO FILE AWAY

Bill Cogswell, Social Media Coordinator for GOOW



Files and rasps top the list of unappreciated tools in woodshops. Savvy woodworkers know files and rasps in woodworking can provide quick solutions to perplexing problems or where 'finetuning' is needed. But there is a problem. Files and rasps wear down with use. Nobody wants to use a dulled tool.

Sharpening these particular tools is not something that a woodworker can easily perform. Unlike a plane blade, sharpening a file, without specialized equipment, is next to impossible. But what else can you do other than buy a new file or rasp?

This is where the Boggs Tool & File Sharpening Company can help. As a woodworker, this is a company you might want to get to know.

After I found their company online, I decided to send them some of my files. The results were so amazing I



decided I needed to share this with other woodworkers. I reached out to the company and set up an interview with Harry Boggs, the current company president.

Here are some of the questions I asked Harry.

What is the background of Boggs Tool?

My grandfather started business in 1932 in California. As the USA grew in manufacturing, we served the California aerospace and technical communities.

Ours is the only remaining file/rasp sharpening company in the country. The second to last company doing file sharpening company was Save Edge, located in Xenia, Ohio. They have since changed their business focus to horse hoof rasps.

How big was this industry back when the US was a manufacturing powerhouse?

There were six or so companies that did file sharpening back in the 1970s and 1980s. They were mostly focused on

continued on page 11

FILE AWAY...*continued from page 10*

aerospace companies. Since manufacturing has moved to become assemblers of overseas parts and work on the 'just-in-time' model, the smaller sharpening companies were phased out.

How has the business changed since the 1990s?

There was a time when Boeing would send us 12,000 files at a single order to be re-sharpened. And we used to sell the ones that were rejected like crazy. We still get those orders but not at that level.

How has the Boggs company adapted to the changes?

We have found different markets. We enjoy working with the black powder rifle groups, the Windsor chair makers, and archery folks who make their own. Over the years, we worked with Sam Maloof and other noted woodworkers. And of course, DIY machinists use our file sharpening services.

How do you sharpen a file or rasp?

We use a liquid honing process driven by a steam press. Sharpening can also be done with air sandblasting, but we have used liquid honing methods since the early days.

It seems files are underappreciated? Why is that?

Well, they are slow. And there are much faster



ways to cut wood. A Windsor chair can take up to a year to make, and files are undoubtedly handy for fine-tuning the work.

What is the best way to clean and maintain files and rasps?

Use a medium-stiff brush. I don't prefer the wire on a file card. The wire is much too harsh. The stiffest brush is too rigid. I like a bristle brush on a file to get the crud out. A medium-stiff brush is better than wire.

As for storage, don't throw them in a drawer where they can rub against each other. Files need to be protected. Uses a hose or split vinyl tube. Another option is to use a pegboard to put the tangs in and hold them upright.

Rust will not matter on sharpening a file. A rusted file can be brought back to a sharp edge, even if it was pitted. The most important thing on a file is the edge.

What is the life of a file?

We are honing the tooth you give us to work with, and we are limited by the amount left on the 'tooth.' If there isn't enough left, we will reject the file. Rejected files are dipped in red ink on the tang.

A bigger file or rasp can only be sharpened one or two times. They are case hardened, and once you get 'below the case,' it will seem sharp, but it won't really cut because it loses its hardness.

Files can only be sharpened so many times. If a woodworker sends us files, we will sharpen and test them. They may be improved 10 times over, even if we reject them. But this limitation is something to be aware of.

What are some things that you tell woodworkers when you talk to them?

I usually just have to tell them what I do, and the questions start right away! Many woodworkers might not be aware that the files they buy off the shelf are not necessarily as sharp as they could be. People send us brand new Nicholson #49 patternmaker rasps and #50 rasps and



continued on page 12

FILE AWAY...*[continued from page 11](#)*

we make them much better than the factory. We even buy the Nicholson files to sharpen and resell. Wood and laminate workers go crazy over that.

I also like to tell woodworkers to try vixen files. Vixen files are primarily designed for use on aluminum. Though they are mainly used in autobody shops, wood laminate workers love them once they try them.

What final thoughts or advice?

If someone wants to 'try us out,' we will sharpen one or two files 'gratis' for them. That will help them decide

whether they might like to send more. We back up everything we do, and a lot of people find our work to be incredible. We encourage people to check us out.

Boggs Tool can be found at <http://www.boggstool.com/>. Their telephone number is **(800) 547-5244**.

The prices for file and rasp sharpening are:

\$.22 per linear inch for **American Pattern Files**

\$.50 per linear inch for **Vixen, Swiss and Wood Rasp Files**

Shipping not included.

BOGGS TOOL PROCESSING & FILE SHARPENING CO. 14100 Orange Ave. Paramount, CA 90723 Office (562) 634-1081 FAX (562) 634-0839 Website: www.Boggstool.com Email: www.Boggstool@com			
FILE PRICE LIST COST COMPARISON PURCHASING NEW FILES VS. RESHARPENING			
Size	Type	New File(s)	Resharpen
14"	Half Rnd Bastard	\$ 15.00	\$ 3.08
14"	Flat Smooth or Lathe	\$ 15.50	\$ 3.08
14"	Mill Bastard	\$ 13.50	\$ 3.08
12"	Round Bastard	\$ 9.00	\$ 2.64
12"	Mill Bastard	\$ 10.50	\$ 2.64
10"	Half Rnd Bastard	\$ 10.00	\$ 2.20
10"	Flat Bastard	\$ 7.50	\$ 2.20
10"	Multi-Kut or All-Purpose	\$ 10.50	\$ 2.20
8"	Mill Smooth	\$ 6.75	\$ 1.76
8"	Flat Bastard	\$ 6.00	\$ 1.76
8"	Half Rnd Bastard	\$ 8.35	\$ 1.76
6"	Mill Bastard	\$ 4.00	\$ 1.32
4"	Mill Smooth	\$ 5.50	\$.88
4"	Flat Smooth	\$ 5.50	\$.88
12"	Flat Vixen	\$ 25.00	\$ 6.00
10"	Pillar Swiss	\$ 25.00	\$ 5.00
#49	Nicholson Cabinet Rasp	\$ 45.00	\$ 8.50
#50	Nicholson Cabinet Rasp	\$ 55.00	\$ 8.50

SHARPENING COSTS	
\$.22 per linear inch for American Pattern Files	
Rejected American Pattern Files are \$.25 each	
\$.50 per linear inch for Vixen, Swiss and Wood Rasp Files	
Rejected Vixen, Swiss and Wood Rasp Files are \$.50 each	
14" Flex, Shell or Bull Nose Vixen	\$ 9.50
Rejected 14" Flex, Shell or Bull Nose Vixen	\$ 1.50
12" or 14" Flat Babbit Vixen	\$ 7.00
Rejected Flat Babbit Vixen	\$ 1.00
14" Bent Body File	\$ 5.00
Rejected Bent Body File	\$ 1.00
10" #49 & #50 Nicholson Cabinet Rasp	\$ 8.50
Rejected #49 or #50 Nicholson Cabinet Rasp	\$ 1.50
6" Checkering Swiss	\$ 6.50
Rejected 6" Checkering Swiss	\$ 1.00

ESTATE ASSISTANCE IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

Estate Assistance Program

Charlie Meyer

Like so many other programs, the Guild's Estate Assistance efforts have been significantly affected by the ongoing pandemic. Families still have need of support in

dealing with the dilemma of how to handle a woodworker's shop, but the traditional on-site sales are not currently viable as the risk to the owners, volunteers and buyers can be high. Our team is hard at work, though, and has been active in delivering variety of ways to help estates make decisions about what to do with their woodworking tools and materials:

Consultation - Many people responsible for managing the disposition of a shop need help in understanding what the function, age, working condition, and ultimately the market value and level of demand for the various tools and equipment. Our team provides info in all these areas, helping the client make good choices about what to sell, what to donate, and how to go about it.

Advertising - Reaching an audience of interested woodworkers is a key element for selling estate items, so communication to the Guild's membership as well as other relevant communities represents a great benefit to estates.

Sale Support - For people who want to conduct their own sale, we can apply all the support elements above along with many checklist items for conducting a sale.

New Online Store - Recently the Guild has received donations of several woodworking tools, so we have created a virtual marketplace on the Guild website where such items can be viewed and purchased with the touch of a button. In the future, we expect to

receive additional items from estates. Estate assistance volunteers coordinate with the donors and estates to ensure that items are evaluated and priced appropriately. The proceeds from donated items go directly to the Guild, and proceeds from estate items are apportioned with the estate.

As this variety of services suggests, there is more to our program than on-site sales, hence the adoption of a slightly different program name: "Estate Assistance". John Middleton is now the Estate Assistance Coordinator for the Guild, working with a small core team of experienced estate experts and an overall volunteer roster of about 20 members.

Please spread the word to members and beyond that our Estate Assistance program is up and running, providing a number of ways to help with estate matters and donations. An overview of services and contact info is available on the Guild website. Select *Community Outreach* on the home page and then *Estate Assistance*. <https://guildoforegonwoodworkers.org/Estate-Assistance>

And - check out the new **Estate Assistance online store** to view the current items available for purchase. The store is located off the Estate Assistance menu at <https://guildoforegonwoodworkers.org/Online-Store>. Each sale item includes a picture and description, and can be purchased using the familiar process of adding to your cart and making payment by credit card or PayPal. You will then receive a confirmation email to use when picking up your purchase. (If you have any tools that you would like to donate, contact the store team at estate.store.admin@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org. Tools should be in good working condition.)

If you are interested in volunteering with the Estate Assistance Program, we have many roles, and welcome new team members. Please contact the Guild's Volunteer Director at charlie.meyer@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org



THANK YOU TO THE PROJECT BUILD TEAM FOR STUDENT LAP DESKS

Linda McNamara, Program Director, Neighborhood House Connect Program

"The dedication, time and energy spent by the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers has had a wonderful impact on the community. Forty-one students from low income families



have been the proud recipients of specially designed and built wooden desks specifically for their needs as they embark on distance learning. They (GOOW) have spent months planning, purchasing, and building

foldable wood tray desks for students. The families and students' lives have been improved by having a stable place to learn. Often in small apartments there is just not enough space to have a firm working environment. This leads to greater distractions, reduced attendance rates, and even a total disconnect from the learning process.

Neighborhood House Connect Program saw the need for these foldable wooden desks over the summer. When we reached out to the Guild, they eagerly accepted the challenge of designing, building, and at even taking on the costs associated with these desks. We recommend donating to this Guild and volunteering if they ever ask. They have shown these students and the 49 more we are in the process of getting desks out to where they matter! Our students have overcome so many things in their lives. You have made them feel seen and supported with your efforts in building these.

Your impact cannot be measured in words. The sincere and utter joy of mothers being able to provide a secure place to do distance learning.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart."



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