

NEWSLETTER FOR THE  
**GUILD OF  
 OREGON  
 WOODWORKERS**

**OREGON  
 WOOD  
 WORKS**

Vol. #40, Issue 8  
 August 2023  
 Portland Oregon

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**GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION:**

**2ND ANNUAL GUILD MEMBER APPRECIATION  
 OPEN HOUSE**

Guild Shop—7634 SW 34th St, Portland, OR 97219

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 7PM**

Unfortunately, we had to postpone our August meeting at the studio of Gideon Hughes: Custom Design and Style because of the heat that day. We will work to re-schedule that event.

This month (September 19<sup>th</sup>), we'll be hosting the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Guild Member Appreciation Open House**. This is a great opportunity to visit the Guild's Shop, the Bench Room, and the Educational Studio. We'll have representatives from Toy Build, Project Build, Shop Attendants, Education, Shop Maintenance, Information Technology, Hand Tool Sig, Carving Sig, Women's Sig, CNC Sig, and Box Sig there to answer any questions give you the opportunity to join in the fun. If those reasons weren't enough to attend, we're also planning on having some beer and pizza.

**Please don't park in the Guild's lot that night.**



**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

**Guild Officers**

President -----Ed Swakon  
 VP for Programs -----Aboo Balgamwalla  
 VP for Member Support---Mike Sandmann  
 Secretary -----Kate Thornton

**Directors**

Finance -----Tom McCloskey  
 Planning-----  
 Shop Operations -----  
 Education-----Gary Weeber  
 Community Outreach-----Tim Moore  
 Membership-----Stuart Brown  
 Volunteers-----Charlie Meyer  
 Communication-----Bland McCartha

Newsletter Editor/Publisher.....Linda Howarth

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

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



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome to our newest **67** members. We're happy to have you with us and hope you'll make a regular appearance at the monthly program (online or in-person), contribute articles to the newsletter, and volunteer in other ways.

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Nilmini Abeyratne   | Sean Harry                |
| Anthony Abraham     | Heather Hendricks-Thurber |
| Tom Andrews         | Chris Hildebrand          |
| Travis Anglin-Dodd  | Jominee Hosek             |
| Lindsey Bellamy     | Greg Howes                |
| Jon Billinger       | Avery Hoyt                |
| Kevin Bowhay        | Mark Hudspeth             |
| Lisa Brown          | Leah Isip                 |
| Paul Brown          | Jeremy Johnson            |
| Sean Callahan       | John Brian Kirby          |
| Ben Cardenas        | Ajit Limaye               |
| Trent Chappell      | Matthew McKenzie          |
| Patrick Cleary      | David McMorries           |
| Jack Coleman        | John Mesberg              |
| Jim Connolly        | Nicholas Montan           |
| Geoffrey Corvera    | Joseph Nasello            |
| Parker Daudt        | Lucca Nasello             |
| Jennifer Davidowitz | Kevin Poorman             |
| Melanie Dickinson   | Nick Reynolds             |
| Jeffrey Dilba       | Joel Rubenstein           |
| Edgar Duenas        | Kayla Sanford             |
| Kenneth Fang        | Tara Scoville             |
| Rachel Finch        | Rick Smith                |
| Joshua Fisher       | Robert Sprinkle           |
| Kim Foley           | Charles Stephens          |
| R Fountain          | Phi Tran                  |
| Ethan Fullman       | Joan Vardanega            |
| Paul Gelburd        | Stephen Werner            |
| Noah Gerlach        | Jenny Wilder              |
| Mogenns Gilmour     | Evan Woodrell             |
| Yon Gomez           | Elizabeth Woodward        |
| Daniel Grandquist   | Lucas Woodward            |
| John Griffin        |                           |
| Louise Griffin      |                           |
| Eric Groves         |                           |

## NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT

*Ed Swakon, President*



### **Art-In-The-Pearl – Volunteer and have some fun. Labor Day Weekend**

This is one of the largest fine arts shows in the country. Located in the beautiful Portland Parks Block, it is one of Portland's most popular events. The Guild has a demonstration booth where we promote the art of woodworking

to the public with interactive demonstrations and displays. We are seeking volunteers to staff the Guild's 10' x 20' booth on Labor Day Weekend, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, September 2-4, from 10:00-6:00 (4:00 on Monday). No special skills are needed other than the ability to interact with people, explain the Guild, and tell people why you love woodworking. We need three people per shift for the Hand Plane Demo making cedar sachets and, for the carving side, a carving demonstrator and carving greeter for each shift. [Sign up here](#). We were given a number of Art-In-The Pearl T-shirts. They will be given out to the first volunteers who sign up until we run out – First Come, First Served.

### **Consider being part of defining the Guild's future.**

We need to fill positions throughout the Guild's organization chart. Taking a leadership role is not that difficult and we need more members to step up and help when asked. Just like many organizations, the bulk of the work is done by a very small percentage of the members. This leads to burnout and some frustration. Let's all pitch in and contribute. Become a class assistant, a shop attendant (SA), organize a presentation at a SIG, or volunteer to help at one of the many fairs and events where the Guild displays a booth. Find out where you might help at the September Open House. We need your help.



### **The Board helps fund some fun to Honor our Volunteers.**

We recognize the work that our Volunteers give us day in and day out. The Board authorized some "seed money" to get the party started for the following groups: Toy Build, Project Build, Shop Attendants, Education, Shop Maintenance, Information Technology, Hand Tool Sig, Carving Sig, Women's Sig, CNC Sig, Box Sig. The money is to help fund a get-together for some food, drink, fellowship, recruitment, and team building. We thank you for all of your efforts in supporting our Guild.

### **Join us at El Tapatio for lunch.**

We will meet for lunch on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> (the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday because of the Labor Day weekend and Art in the Pearl) at El Tapatio (2627 SE 82<sup>nd</sup>, Portland, OR 97266) at 11:30 AM. This is an informal get-together to chat and share conversations with your fellow Guild members. Please join us whether you're a longtime member or just recently joined.

Make friends, get involved, and make sawdust with the Guild!

## BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR!

When parking in the Guild parking lot, be a good neighbor by not parking in, or blocking, those spaces reserved for WBS. If none of the spaces marked for the Guild are available, there is almost always plenty of parking at the Multnomah Arts Center. To avoid carrying wood and other supplies, temporarily park in the spot reserved for loading and unloading. Once loading is done, if all of the parking spots marked for the Guild are full, please move your vehicle to street parking or the Multnomah Arts Center parking lot.

## THANK YOU, JOHN!

This month **John Sheridan** donated a number of boxes of teaching aids to the Guild from his years as a professional and woodworking instructor. John's sincere desire to pass this wonderful craft on through his activities as a Guild member has been a constant reminder of the care and passion that he has for this craft. We are so lucky to have John as part of our community.

## GUILD MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

**By Stuart Brown**

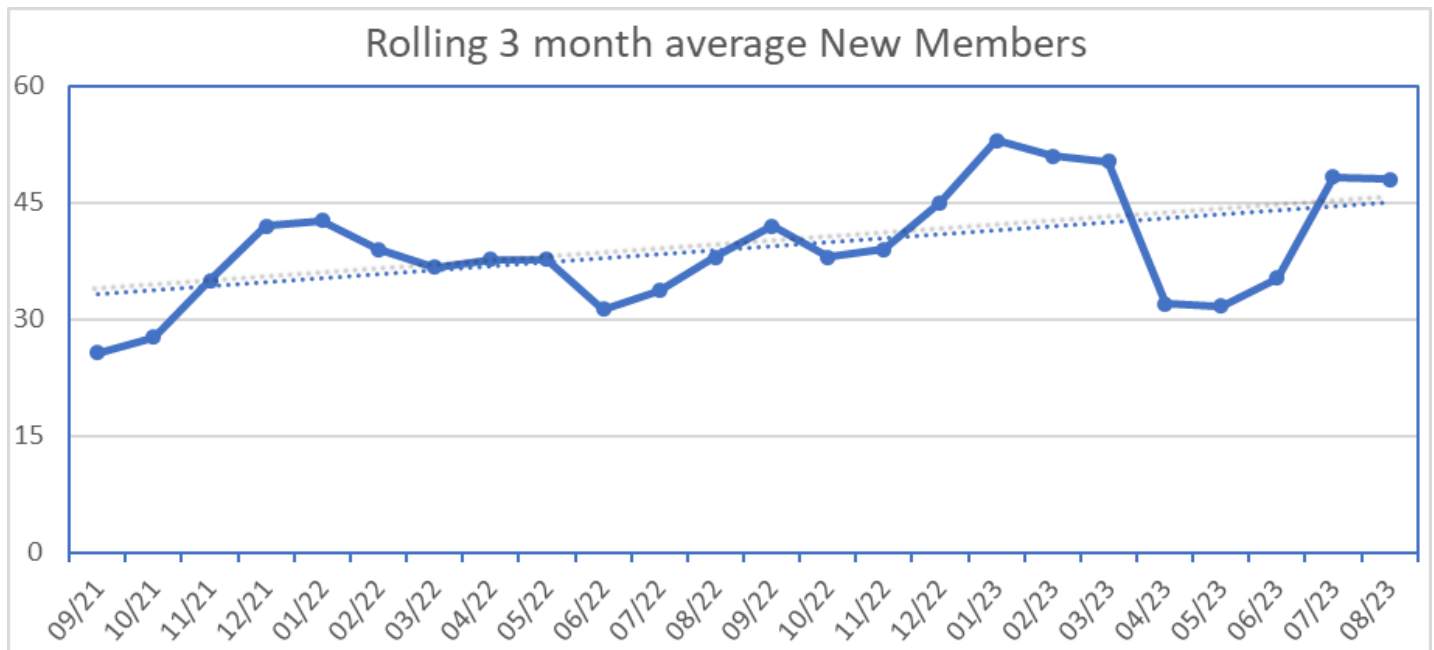
In July, the Guild reached an all-time high in total membership - more than 1,100 members spanning all types of membership. Over 90 percent are individual or family members.

The rate of new membership growth has increased over the last two years, as illustrated in the chart below. The three-month rolling average has gone from 26 new members per month in September 2021 to 48 per month in August of 2023. During early 2023, the 3-month rolling average exceeded 50 per month.

Some of the Guild’s growth may be associated with the COVID pandemic. People were looking for creative outlets, and some turned to woodworking. Other factors, like our community service activities, have created increased

awareness of the Guild. The Guild is attractive as it offers broad education programs and, of course, the Shop.

Our membership growth has strained our ability to provide safety training, educational opportunities, and shop access. These are limited by our volunteer groups of instructors, class assistants, and shop attendants. To better match our growth with our ability to provide a positive experience, the Guild implemented a membership pause in April which resulted in a much-needed time for us to catch up on training. Beginning in July, a 40-person per month cap on new memberships was started. These steps were taken in an effort to better serve new members. The Board and Membership Committee will continue to evaluate ways to manage growth in line with our ability to train, educate, and support new members.



## GUILD CLASSES

### ONLINE & IN-PERSON CLASSES & Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Classes require a shop card and shop certification. SIGs only need a shop card. Classes with openings are listed here; go to the [website](#) to see all classes and add yourself to wait-lists.

[Women's SIG](#) 9/5 5pm Guild Benchroom

[Painting 101 with Kelley Stadelman](#) 9/12 7pm Guild Studio and Zoom

[CNC SIG](#) 9/14 7pm Guild Studio

[Hand Plane Skills](#) 9/15 5pm Guild Studio, Tim Moore & Ruth Warbington

[Box SIG](#) 9/27 5:30pm Guild Studio

[Hand Tool SIG](#) 9/28 6:30pm Guild Studio

[Intro to Hammer Veneering](#) 9/30 9am Guild Studio, Jeff Hilber

[Basics of Fine Woodworking](#) 7 weekly sessions 10/2-11/20, Guild Studio

[Coasting into Kumiko](#) 10/6 5pm Guild Studio, Ruth Warbington

[Triptych Boxes with Kelly Parker](#) 10/16-10/20 Guild Studio

[Embellishment Techniques with Kelly Parker](#) 10/21 & 22 Guild Studio

### INTRODUCTION TO GUILD SAFETY

New members: This is how you get your shop card. The Guild Safety class is a prerequisite to all others and to participating in hands-on [Community Projects](#) groups. There is pre-class work, so bring your homework to class.

[Intro to Guild Safety](#) 9/2 9am Guild Studio, Jeff Hilber

[Intro to Guild Safety](#) 9/23 9am Guild Studio, Jeff Hilber

[Intro to Guild Safety](#) 10/7 9am Guild Studio, Jeff Hilber

### SHOP CERTIFICATION

You must complete "Intro to Guild Safety" before taking these classes. If you are new to woodworking, you then take "Getting Started-Shop Safety for Beginners: Hands On with Portable Power Tools" before taking Shop Certification classes.

[Core Tool Certification](#) 9/23 & 9/30 1pm Guild Workshop, Bruce Coopender

[Core Tool Certification afternoon](#) 10/3 & 10/10 1pm Guild Workshop, Dennis Dolph

[Core Tool Certification evening](#) 10/5 & 10/12 5pm Guild Workshop, Sou Mo

Upcoming classes are posted on the bottom right of the [Woodworking Classes](#) page.

For the full list of education & shop training classes go to:

[GUILD EDUCATION CALENDAR](#)

## GRADING LUMBER

By *John Sheridan* [johnsheridan1944@gmail.com](mailto:johnsheridan1944@gmail.com) excerpted from *Hardwood Lumber Grades* by David Sloan, Fine Woodworking, January, 1985

Woodworkers buying wood for a project are sometimes surprised when they discover that hardwoods are graded at the mill that cuts the logs to a standard that judges for utility and usable lumber, and *not* appearance. The actual decision by the trained grader takes about two to three seconds per board for the person, lumber rule in hand, to decide on which of the five standard grades apply.

The concept is simple: defects alone matter since most wood used commercially will be stained, the final color chosen by the manufacturer. The standard grades are firsts and seconds (FAS), selects, No. 1 common, No. 2 common, and No. 3 common. The last is usually reserved for pallets and shipping crates. If a retailer mixes the top two grades it is called selects and better. FAS, which was once two different grades, is often further divided to provide an inventory of FAS one side.

The more expensive grades have more productive "cuttings" of clear wood for whatever the buyer is making. A cutting unit is 12 square inches of board surface, which can be long and thin or short and wide. The cuttings in each board represent the clear, knot-free wood available. The rules vary slightly by species depending on the value of the wood species. All cutting and grading is designed to maximize the value of the timber. Wide boards will usually be ripped narrower to increase the grade and the value.

To read the complete rules contact the National Hardwood Lumber Association, PO Box 34518, Memphis, TN 38184. Their pocket-size rule book is \$10.00, including postage, available in four languages. The patented, hooked grading rule is \$116 in several lengths. Finally, it is sometimes suggested that the custom woodworker should consider buying No. 1 common since it will cost about 40% less than FAS.

## EDUCATION NEWS

**Education Leadership:** Due to life demands, we have needed to spread out leadership responsibilities in Education for the remainder of the year.

*Doug Drake and Gary Weeber* will co-lead the Education Program through the end of the 2023.

### GARY WEEBER

- ◆ Core Tool Classes
- ◆ Other Machine Tool Classes (formal Advanced Tools)
- ◆ Obtain Class Assistants for these classes
- ◆ Handle reimbursements for Core Tool and Other Tool classes
- ◆ Prepare the weekly Education information for the Upcoming Events email
- ◆ Website Updating

### DOUG DRAKE

- ◆ Woodworking Classes – Priority only on existing classes
- ◆ Procure Class Assistants for these classes
- ◆ Handle Reimbursements for woodworking classes
- ◆ Special Interest Groups
- ◆ Woodworking Classes and any SIG reimbursements
- ◆ Coordination with Membership on new member process
- ◆ Calendaring – Studio

### JULIE NIEMEYER

- ◆ Manage the Intro to Guild Safety, Getting Started classes and FastTrack Core Tool classes. Schedule the classes and procure the instructors and class assistants. Have the responsibility to handle reimbursements for these classes through Steve Poland.

### STEVE POLAND

- ◆ Oversee the Studio Facility and Machines.
- ◆ Serve as the ‘Director Signoff’ for all Education reimbursements

### CHIP WEBSTER

- ◆ Masters Workshops and will work directly with Steve Poland regarding reimbursements.

### WHOLE TEAM

- ◆ Routine Education Leadership Team Meetings.
- ◆ Ongoing budget management in 2023 or budget preparation for 2024.

**New Education Leadership Team Members:** John Mafrika, Adam Cox, Glenn Simpson, and El Cook have all agreed to join the Education Leadership Team. We welcome these new members and their fresh perspectives.

**New Instructors:** We have been able to add to our instructor team over the past few months. Emerging as instructors during this time have been *Stu Brown (Core Tools)*, *Bruce Coopender (Core Tools)*, *Mike Sandmann (Core Tools)*, *Shou Mo (Core Tools)*, *Eric Marks (Scraper Sharpening)*, *Michael Rothman (Getting Started)*,

*Paul Barker (Basics of Fine Woodworking)*, *Rick Martin (Scroll Saw)*, *El Cook and Helen Helfin (Intro to Woodworking and Furniture Design Series)*. We have now created a **New Instructors Packet** that is being provided to all new instructors. We had an Instructor Orientation meeting on August 26 and hope to have another sometime this fall.

**New Class Assistants:** We have also been experiencing the addition of numerous new Class Assistants. At the risk of forgetting some, those new volunteers this year including *Roger Gonzalez, Emily Thackrey, Pat Wheeler, Keith Burgess, Craig Turner, Pat Shuff, Jim Meyer, Micah Stolowitz, Sarah Mattocks, David Neff and Jordon Schilleman*. A **New Class Assistant Packet** has also been developed to help those that are coming on new by providing them with the updated information for CAs.

**Strategic Planning:** The Education Leadership Team will be holding a Strategic Planning Session in October, lead by team member John Mafrika. This should be a great opportunity to develop an operations plan for 2024 that will be exciting and full of learning opportunities.

**Instructors as Independent Contractors:** The Board recently determined a new and clearer policy regarding any payment to instructors. Such occurrences will be limited to only those situations where the instructor has a past or current history of providing related services to the community via an established business relationship...much like we have done in the past with our Visiting Masters. A simple contract will be completed between the Guild and the contractor for instructional services. By policy, Education leadership will prioritize using only volunteer instructors for all safety and basic woodworking classes.

**Kelly Parker Workshops:** We have another International Master coming to the Guild in October. Kelly Parker has been here before and we know that the two workshops coming up in October will be great! If you are interested in volunteering in some capacity for this workshop please contact our Masters Lead, Chip Webster. If you are not familiar with Kelly, you can check out her website at: [https://woodsongstudio.com/?fbclid=IwAR2I9AGfRD\\_7WpBcBUNQq-WRI6hMqjjC-rIHFHl7xFXEDLIV-sw\\_n6GVdlU](https://woodsongstudio.com/?fbclid=IwAR2I9AGfRD_7WpBcBUNQq-WRI6hMqjjC-rIHFHl7xFXEDLIV-sw_n6GVdlU).

**New Classes:** Over the past few months, a number of new classes have been introduced. These classes include the Basics of the Scroll Saw; Scraper Sharpening; Jigs, Jigs and More Jigs; Intro to Hammer Veneering; and Getting Started II. In addition, we now have our seven session foundational series, *Basics of Fine Woodworking* being offered on a quarterly basis. Finally, local professional and Guild member Helen Helfand is slowly introducing her new series, *Introduction to Woodworking and Furniture Design*. More new classes are on the drawing board – watch for them!

## TAKE TEN HOME CLUB

Aspiring to excel in woodcraft starts with the Guild's Take Ten Home Club.

### *Introduction to Guild Safety* Aug 15

*Introduction to Guild Safety* notes...

The overriding reasons for safety and a tidy woodworking process are fingers and wood are hard to put back on and every tool has limitations. There is nothing in this shop, or your project, that is worth losing a finger, an eye or worse. Your hands are more than convenient places to keep splinters. Do not turn on a tool if you can't see both of your hands.



### July 29, 2023 *Tool Box Class*



## INSTRUCTORS COMING TO TOWN: KELLY PARKER

### KELLY PARKER - October 16 - 22

Summer is rapidly coming to an end. It's time to get back into the shop and Studio to make something and learn new skills!

Kelly Parker is returning to Portland in October.

Kelly has just completed a workshop in Florida on making this trio of decorative boxes using advanced band saw and router table techniques. She is bringing this workshop and an embellishment workshop to Portland October 16 - 22. You can see some images and reels from the Florida School of Woodwork experience at Kelly's Instagram page [here](#) and below.



*From Kelly* – “This class is so much more than everyone just using my jigs to step sequentially through the operations to create these boxes. To me this is a problem-solving class. I'll talk through each jig, how and why I made it (i.e., the problem it was solving), and common elements of all jigs. I really want folks to take away the

importance of jigs and their role in safely, accurately, and repeatably doing an operation. This is an important skill to develop as we start designing our own work. Given the size of the boxes (3", 4", and 5" tall) there is special emphasis on working safely with small parts.”

The box workshop focuses on the techniques and process to fabricate curved forms on the band saw, make the necessary joinery to pull it all together, and address some embellishment techniques. The embellishment workshop delves more deeply into various embellishment techniques that can be applied to any project. If you think you don't have the skills for this class we will have plenty of class assistants available to coach students as you learn some next level band saw and router skills, as well as embellishment techniques.

Kelly's recent work was featured in the October 2023 issue of Fine Woodworking



There are five spaces still open for the box workshop on October 16 through 20. You can register [here](#). There are seven spaces available for the embellishment workshop on October 21 and 22. You can register [here](#).



## INSTRUCTORS COMING TO TOWN: PHILIP MORLEY

### PHILIP MORLEY - January 15 - 21, 2024

Philip Morley is coming to Portland!

Philip will be teaching the design and techniques of his wall cabinet featured in FW Issue No. 291 (Dec. 2021).

In this seven day workshop students will build a Morley Wall Cabinet. This wall cabinet was inspired by the works of James Krenov with a Scandinavian influence. Philip designed this piece originally for a client who wanted to display some small pieces of artwork in a tasteful way with the cabinet itself being a statement of art. The cabinet is also grounded in traditional joinery making it a piece built with integrity.



Students in the class will learn:

mortise and tenon joinery, frame and panel door, how to cut their own shop-sawn veneer, smooth drawer construction without the use of hardware, how to cut dovetails, a bending technique using a saw kerf and vacuum bag, how to use forms in conjunction with a vacuum bag, and edge profiling by hand.

Philip Morley is a custom furniture maker located near Austin, Texas. His studio is a one-man shop in which he designs and builds one-of-a-kind furniture for clients across the United States. His studio is also his home where he resides with his wife and four children. Philip was originally trained at age 16 in carpentry and joinery under the City Guilds of London, England. He had the opportunity to work on everything from marine boat veneer to refurbishing historic buildings in London, including a project at Covington Gardens. His interest turned to furniture while working alongside a Rhode Island School of Design graduate. Philip quickly fell in love with the precision and craftsmanship required in furniture making and the unique challenge that every piece brought. Every project transformed a piece of wood into functional yet aesthetically inspirational pieces of art. Philip was able to apply his knowledge of traditional carpentry and joinery to the art of furniture making, and thus, the journey to starting Philip Morley Furniture Company had begun.

After moving to the United States in 2003, Philip continued exploring furniture design under Richard Chillcott in Apollo Beach, Florida. Working with the Chillcott Group opened his eyes to new design possibilities. After the birth of their first son, the Morley family moved to Texas where he served as an apprentice to master craftsman Michael Colca for six years. Under Michael, Philip truly honed his skills in furniture construction. As well, he was introduced to Austin Community College. Philip has been working as an adjunct professor in the Building Construction Technology Department teaching Advanced Woodworking, Cabinet I, and Jigs and Joints. Through teaching, he has been able to share his passion for his craft with others.

Mark your calendars for January 15 through 21. 9 AM to 5 PM for this exciting workshop and watch the Guild website to register.



*Contemporary cabinet, p. 28*

## BUILDING BIRDHOUSES WITH KIDS - MULTNOMAH DAYS AND CLACKAMAS COUNTY FAIR

### Ginny Benware

If you want to have fun on a Saturday morning nothing can be finer than building birdhouses with young children. For the past eight years the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers and specifically Project Build has taken its show on the road and set up at Multnomah Days and the Clackamas County Fair. These are some of the young folks having fun.



All year long Project Build cuts parts for the houses - top, two sides, back and bottom - from donated

wood, primarily cedar fencing. Holland Golic has been our champion for the last two years and has done an excellent job of keeping inventory as parts are cut. He makes sure when the day arrives each location - the County Fair and Multnomah Days - gets enough of each piece to build from 150 to 175 houses. By the way, Holland is looking for a replacement so if this sounds interesting please contact Project Build

([project.build.lead@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org](mailto:project.build.lead@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org)).

There is a playbook to follow and regular guidance for this lucky volunteer. This is also a good link for donating cedar fencing.

**History:** For quite some time the Guild has looked at ways to get children involved in woodworking through various projects. These were restarted in 2012 by Larry Wade. In 2015 tool totes and birdhouses were activities the Guild worked on. By 2015 the Guild realized that these child friendly activities needed a home at the Guild. Ed Ferguson



suggested that PB carry the torch and the group has done so since then.

Bland MaCartha assumed the day's overall coordination responsibilities at Multnomah Days - arranging for the tents and tables, arriving at the beginning of set up and being there at the end for wrap up. Steve Anderly took the coordination responsibilities for the County Fair. Project Build is also looking for a new overall Multnomah Days coordinator.

**Tualatin Wildlife Refuge** has been a regular partner on this project and currently loans the Guild its small hand held drivers which are perfect for small hands.

**Multnomah Days** volunteers included: Ginny Benware, Bland McCartha, Roland Zapata, Ashley Cohn, Mike Sandmann, Daniel Tariku, Dennis Brown, Richard Jacobson, Nandita Kohli, Arnav Bansal, Stuart Brown, Mike McGeoy. Built 175 houses

**Clackamas Fair** help was provided by Guild members: Phil Scott, Steve Anderly, Jerome Bier, Michael Reed, David Wiper, Earl Swigert Jr. and Bob Mack. Built 109 houses.



## GIG LEWIS VOLUNTEER-OF-THE-MONTH AWARD



Each month the Guild awards one of its most prestigious awards, the Gig Lewis Volunteer of the Month. Because the Guild is run entirely by volunteers, recognizing our volunteers is essential. Previous recipients of this award have volunteered in many ways. They might have actively participated in one or

more of the many Community Outreach programs the Guild has or in Education or Shop Operations or contributed with a one time project for the Guild. Some have taken on a role behind the scenes that is important to the Guild's ongoing operations. There are many ways and roles that members take to contribute to the Guild's ongoing success.

### AUGUST 2023 – MATT DEROSA

This month's recipient of the Volunteer of the Month is *Matt DeRosa*

Many of our members who have been recognized as Volunteer of the Month have been retirees that have more freedom of schedule and have been generous with sharing that time as a Guild volunteer. But the Guild does not live by retirees alone. We also have many members who are able to juggle jobs, and family, and the myriad of other responsibilities, and also find a way to volunteer as well. Matt is one of those volunteers. He works a full time day job **and** commits to many evenings and weekends as SA for the Open shop. Matt takes a special interest in giving shop opportunities to people, who, like him, are unable to take advantage of the shop on weekdays.



Matt started his volunteer journey as a member of the

evening Project Build Team and he now serves as a volunteer in the role of shop attendant. He will keep an eye on the members and the equipment to ensure that safety is maintained and then report on any equipment issues that need attention.

Another great way to get involved as a volunteer, which Matt has also done, is to serve as a class assistant in helping to prepare for and coordinate the classes in the Education Program.

Comments from Matt:

*Volunteering at the shop has become a beloved part of my weekly routine. I am grateful to be able to work from home, but it means that I have lost some of the "Third Places" in my life that are separate from work or home. The Guild has provided a special space for me to interact with people in a meaningful way. I enjoy being there when folks have questions or need a hand with a glue up. I am also very grateful for the other volunteers who have helped me grow into this space - special thanks to Dave, Carol, Mark, Mike, Shou, and Gary.*

We are pleased to have Matt DeRosa as our Gig Lewis Volunteer of the Month for August, 2023.

If you would like to nominate someone to be Volunteer of the Month contact the Volunteer Director, Charlie Meyer at [charlie.meyer@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org](mailto:charlie.meyer@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org)



## FUN WITH PLYWOOD

*It comes to life!*

*By Dave Heim*

The plan for this T. Rex was posted online by a gentleman who had made one for his son. The parts were cut out of  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch plywood with a jigsaw. They join with half-lap joints, so all the parts simply slip together, which makes for easy disassembly for storage. Since this will reside outside, however, I added a small strap and screws to secure the tail to the body, and I put a hole in the pelvis which allows it to be steadied by a pipe driven into the ground. The plan gives a six foot T. Rex, but a gentleman in New Zealand scaled it up to about 11 feet, which looked quite impressive in his photo. Mine will make appearances at holidays, and I'm thinking about a set of antlers and a red bulb for the nose at Christmas time. The pattern will be around for a while in case anyone is interested.

Dave Heim (romlulus@gmail.com)



On raccoon duty in the vegetable garden

## A TROLL IN PORTLAND

### *From the Editor*

My sister and I had the pleasure of visiting the latest Troll in the world. This one is in the garden of the Nordic Center at 8800 SW Oleson Rd. Here are a few photos of the troll made out of recycled wood. What a great attraction! Well worth the visit.

The artist is Thomas Dambo and he is known internationally for his larger-than-life troll sculptures for his project titled "The Trail of a Thousand Trolls." Apparently there are 115 of them around the world so far.



## FREE WOOD DELIVERY

By Terry Burnside

There is a free wood delivery service in the Portland area. The wood comes from trees felled by arborists in the area. There is no charge for either the wood itself or delivery. You specify any criteria you might have, for example, a type of tree, length of logs, or diameter. When there is a match for your specifications the arborist will contact you to confirm the delivery. The only stipulation is that you cannot return the wood that is delivered.

The link to the information and sign up site is <https://freewoodportland.com/>.

## HEARTFELT THANKS

By CeCe Connors

My neighbor and friend Jim Koobatian shared with me the Guild's involvement with donating wooden toys for needy children. I shared with him my connection with and admiration for *With Love Oregon* that provides incredible support in clothing, equipment, toys, etc. to foster children. My understanding is that Jim then spoke with Carol Boyd about the possibility of sending some toys to *With Love*. Next thing I knew: Jim brought me a box of absolutely wonderful, varied, and beautiful wooden toys! A grand surprise! Just the type of treasure a child may take along when returned to his/her parents after foster care or is adopted!

Below is the link in case you want to learn more about the organization:

<https://www.withloveoregon.org/>

Yesterday I donated the box of toys to With Love, and was, as expected, thanked profusely for the wonderful donation. Clearly the thanks goes instead to Carol, Jim, and the woodworkers who made the toys!

On behalf of *With Love* and the foster children who will receive the lovely wooden toys **I SEND MY HEART-FELT and GREAT THANKS.**

Sincerely, CeCe Connors, former foster parent and *With Love* volunteer

## RING FOUND

Found in the Guild parking lot. Please claim by calling John Sheridan at 415-647-9190



We look forward to meeting with fellow members for some lunch and conversation. There may even be some talk about woodworking.

The monthly Meet-Ups are held on the first Monday of the month (note because of Labor Day weekend we have moved the September group to September 11) and we try to visit all parts of Portland. Attendees order off the menu and pay on their separate check. All the Meet-Ups gather at 11:30 am, but late comers are always welcome. Everyone in the Guild is invited.

**September**  
Monday September 11 at 11:30am  
El Tapatio  
2627 SE 82nd Ave  
Portland, OR 97266  
(503) 774-6316

## A MOMENT IN THE GARDEN



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