

NEWSLETTER FOR THE

**GUILD OF  
OREGON  
WOODWORKERS**

**OREGON  
WOOD  
WORKS**

Vol. #40, Issue 12  
December 2023  
Portland Oregon



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**GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION: HYBRID**

**PHILIP MORLEY: CUSTOM DESIGN AND FURNITURE**

Guild Studio, 7634 SW 34th St, Portland, OR

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024**

*7:00pm*

*By Joe Wheaton*

Welcome to 2024 (well almost). This is going to be a good year. How do I know? Because we are lucky to have Chip Webster as one of our members. Chip and our Educational Leadership Team, led by Gary Weeber, find some of the best instructors in the country to teach at our Guild. In 2023 alone, they brought in Doug Stowe on making boxes (March), Mary May on carving (May), and Kelly Parker to show us her work and design concepts (October). Keeping the streak going, [Philip Morley](#) will be joining us in January to teach how to build a uniquely designed wall cabinet. Somehow, and I really don't know how he does it, Chip is able to convince these instructors that it would be wonderful if they could teach all day then do a presentation for us at night. Sure. That sounds like a good idea...Not. But, who cares, we are the beneficiaries.

Philip is teaching a class on [building a wall cabinet](#) (as of this writing, there were only two spaces left), but he has many fascinating designs in his repertoire. Philip has a one



-person studio near Austin, Texas, but his journey to Austin was not exactly a straight line. At 16, he trained in the City Guilds of London, England where he refurbished historic buildings. Not content with bringing the past back to life, he turned his attention to furniture design and construction, where his love of precision and craftsmanship could bloom. So off he went to Florida to spend time with the [Chillot Group](#) before moving to Texas to work with [Michael Colca](#) in Austin. If raising a family were not enough, Philip also teaches at the Austin Community College. One of his courses is on making jigs and tools. Jigs and tools? What woodworker doesn't want to know more

about jigs and tools? I know this, you can count me in.

Philip describes [his mission](#) as "to build unique modern pieces of functional art while maintaining the time-honored integrity of traditional craftsmanship." His design aesthetic ranges from the straight lines of mid-century modern to pieces with sweeping curves, each reflecting his woodworking skill. Again, count me in.

You won't want to miss the January presentation. We are fortunate indeed to have woodworkers like Philip share their design methods and construction skills. Our good fortune continues with having members like Chip Webster, Gary Weeber, and the educational team who could entice nationally prominent woodworkers to come to our Guild. Two-thousand-twenty-four is starting off lucky indeed.

Thank you, Chip. Thank you, Gary. And thanks to our educational team for all they do.



Contemporary cabinet, p. 28

**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 ----- Open  
 VP for Member Support---Mike Sandmann  
 Secretary -----Kate Thornton

**Directors**

Finance -----Tom McCloskey  
 Planning----- Renee Fontenot  
 Shop Operations ----- Open  
 Education-----Steve Poland  
 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 **47** 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.

- |                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Cary Albonico    | Randy Kane               |
| Joel Allen       | Phillip Kast             |
| Rebecca Allen    | Jeremy Keller            |
| Erik Ayala       | Uli Kirchler             |
| Cecilia Bahls    | Vanessa Layoun           |
| Jeffrey Blattner | Alan Leonard             |
| Erin Boland      | John Monroe              |
| Craig Bryant     | Blythe Mueller           |
| Elie Bulka       | Gerard Mullally          |
| Ashley Carfine   | Julia Nesbitt            |
| Jamil Cubit      | Shannon Newmark          |
| Sheri Dover      | Andrew Nichols           |
| Patrick Farnach  | Olivia Paulson           |
| Greg Finnegan    | Kelly Perry              |
| Michael Girard   | Michelle Schratzenholzer |
| Jacob Hicks      | Tim Scott                |
| Abraham Hilfman  | Curt Shaw                |
| Mark Hinrichs    | Darrin Shore             |
| JJ Hoffman       | David Smith              |
| Paul Hosey       | Kyle Smith               |
| Andrew Howard    | Leezá Steindorf          |
| Ji Yoon Hyun     | Carena Thompson          |
| Kristen Ige      | Tom Whitehead            |
| Lane Johnson     |                          |



## NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT

*Ed Swakon, President*



First, I trust everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah. Did you get that hand tool you were yearning for? If not, the Guild has you covered. Visit the bench room and start making some shavings for 2024.

### Holiday Party

We had a wonderful time at the Holiday party at the MAC. Thank you, Joe Wheaton, for all the coordination. Thank you to Allison Reyes for preparing the lasagna. Thanks to everyone for all the great side dishes and desserts. Thank you to Bland McCartha for organizing and running the gift exchange.

### Woodworkers of the Year

We asked our past Woodworker of the Year recipients to make this year's selection. Chaired by Carol Boyd, last year's Woodworker of the Year, the group selected not one but two very deserving recipients. **Congratulations to Tim Moore and Ken Hall.** Tim and Ken have devoted years to the Guild and deserve the recognition! The announcement was made at the Holiday party, but because we didn't have the award plaques, we will formally present the awards to Tim and Ken at our January meeting. I would encourage everyone to attend.

### Volunteer of the Month

We also awarded Bob Mack the Gig Lewis Volunteer of the Month award for December 2023 at the Holiday party. Bob has been a member of the Guild for three years and has contributed in a number of ways. Bob has become a shop attendant and instructor, participated in project build, and recently played a significant role in the making of the hand tool storage boxes. Thank you, and congratulations, Bob! Read more about this on [page 13](#).

### Don't miss the January General Meeting

We are thrilled to have Phillip Morley as our speaker on Tuesday, January 16, in the Studio. Phillip, one of our visiting Masters, will teach a class at the Guild that week. If you're unfamiliar with his work, visit his YouTube channel. (<https://www.youtube.com/c/Phillipmorleyfurniture>)

As mentioned above, since the actual plaques for the Woodworker of the Year were unavailable at the Holiday party, we will present the awards to Ken and Tim that night. Finally, we would also encourage members to bring show-and-tell items.

### Pictures by Email.

We need your pictures to document all that we do. If you attend ANY function of the Guild, take a picture. We need these pictures to document everything we do for our newsletter, future donors, and website. To make it easy, we've set up an email address, [photos@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org](mailto:photos@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org), where you can send them. To be super helpful if you could rename the photos with the activity and date. If you know the people in the images, please include that info in the body of the email.

### End of Year Giving

Thank you to everyone who responded to my request for donations to the Guild as part of your end-of-year giving effort.

### Join us at Linn City Pub for Lunch

We will meet for lunch on Monday, January 8th, at 11:30 AM at Linn City Pub (19389 Willamette Dr. West Linn, OR 97068). This is the second Monday because of the holiday. Please join us whether you're a longtime member or just recently joined.

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

### Lee Johnson Woodworker(s) of the Year Ken Hall and Tim Moore

Here Ed congratulates Ken at the Holiday Party.  
Watch for more in the next newsletter.





## 40 YEARS! OF THE GOOW NEWSLETTER

**Editors Note:** As I was prepping the newsletter file ready for December, I suddenly realized that “Vol #40” on the front page means that this is the 40<sup>th</sup> year of having a Guild newsletter! I can’t believe it took all year to realize this but there it is.

So, 40 years of newsletters for the Guild means that we need to acknowledge this somehow. I looked around the membership to find members who might have been around for all or a lot of that time; maybe we could come up with some articles. Ed Ferguson, Jeff Hiber, and I got together and decided that we can work on it. Our conclusion, over the next year we (and hopefully others) will write a few articles to commemorate more than 40 years as the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers. The Guild began in 1982.

Here is a list of all the newsletter editors .

1983	Pete Clark & Mike Jesse
1984	Mike Jesse
1985	Nan Bolstad
1986	John Masciocchi
1987	Tomas Darby
1988	C. Force/C. Grant
1989	Jeff Hiber
1990	Ed Mattson & Ann Altman
1991	Ann Altman
1992	Jeannine Grafton
1993-97	Larry Piper?
1998-99	John Buesseler
2000-02	Tom McCann
2003	Christin Smith
2004-18	Bob Oswald
2018	Bob Oswald & Linda Howarth
2019-present	Linda Howarth



I am proud to be the 16th editor for the Newsletter!

Plus have a look at this letter that was sent around to woodworkers in the area in 1982. What would you have answered to the survey.

Peter Clark  
6054 SW 48th  
Portland, Ore. 97221  
fall 1982

Dear Woodworker:

I have spoken with many people in this area who have shown an interest in participating in a woodworkers guild or co-op. I feel the time is ripe to get such a group started. Following is a questionnaire which should give us some idea of where to start. If you are interested in such a concept please fill out the questionnaire and return it to me. If you have any additional comments, questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to enclose them.

If you would like to know the outcome of this survey, please enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope with your questionnaire and I will send you the tallys and comments.

\*\*\*\*\*

I am:  a full time professional woodworker.  
 a part time professional woodworker.  
 an amateur woodworker.  
 a novice woodworker.

I am primarily a:  furniture maker.  
 sculptor.  
 turner.  
 cabinetmaker.

The co-op should:

A. be for the purpose of buying and selling tools thru meetings or a newsletter. yes\_\_\_no\_\_\_

B. be for the purpose of buying wood as a group in quantity. yes\_\_\_no\_\_\_

C. be educational, ie sponsor workshops etc. yes\_\_\_no\_\_\_

D. sponsor and run woodworking shows. yes\_\_\_no\_\_\_

E. run a woodworkers gallery. yes\_\_\_no\_\_\_

F. have meetings \_\_\_times per year.

G. have a news letter \_\_\_times per year.

H. have dues of no more than \$\_\_\_per year.

Would you be willing to donate your time to such a group in any capacity? yes\_\_\_no\_\_\_

NAME:  
ADDRESS:  
PHONE:

Going through the old newsletters I see that the annual membership dues were \$15. That was 40 years ago! Now they are up to \$75 and that comes with an amazing array of classes, a full shop and studio to work in and to have our meetings in, plus woodworking masters coming to teach special workshops, and more. That is quite a deal we are getting now.

In future issues of the newsletter I look forward to learning, and reading, about the beginnings of the Guild, the 2002/03 Flag box project, the 2x4M Design Challenge, all pros to mostly hobbyists, the building a showcase for the Magna Carta, and more.

If you would like to contribute to articles or items about the last 40 years of the Guild please send it to me or get in touch so we can find out more.

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

## 1982

**Jeff Hilber contacted Michael Jesse (one of the Guild's founding fathers) and asked for some memories of the early days.**

1982—"Pete Clark was the first to organize the group in his shop. A lot of the guys attended because of a wood furniture show sponsored and held at the World Forestry Center. John Economaki was tapped to find woodworkers to show and since he didn't know everybody... those not invited got together (to do their own show). Pete and the rest of us wanted to be all inclusive but on a professional / business level. We all wanted to make more money and get more exposure.

Pete's shop got pretty crowded so we decided to move the meetings around to each other's shops: see new tools and set ups and not disrupt anyone's shop for more than a day. We picked Friday afternoons with the idea that if you had a business you could get by missing a half a day once a month and that non-professionals could probably make time as well, if they wanted to. Fridays 3-5 at alternate shops, with beer and pizza after, for those so inclined. I learned as much from the after-meetings as from the programs.

Initially, we all wanted to do a show and a gallery owner stepped up and offered a space so we all concentrated on developing a really nice outline for a show. After 6 or 8 months of planning and going through the "who gets in, how do we jury..." etc. The gallery owner cancelled about 5 weeks before the show date. I thought the Guild, a name we decided on after much discussion, would fold. But we enjoyed each others company and we were all learning a lot from each other and so we kept going.

Pete got tired of all the tasks and focus being on him and asked me if I would take over the presidency. Being a new businessman and surrounded by a lot more competent woodworkers I begged off but said I would help in another capacity. I became the newsletter editor.

Sam Bush stepped up to become the second president and we worked together to plan the meetings and keep communication going throughout the membership. Sam was a genius at bringing people in to talk to the group and after a while the plan became to alternate programs between business activities, technical proficiency, and aesthetic design. Each meeting was to feature an outside speaker that could benefit our skills in the woodshop, with our business, or to make more pleasing and creative furniture. The first part of each meeting was to allow the host to talk about his shop, tools, and methods of finding work.

I enjoyed working with Sam and also Ken Altman. I wrote the newsletter with help from as many members as I could cajole, and Ken put it together on his Commodore 64. We spent hours in his attic. Then after I got tired of standing at the copy machine and licking stamps and folding we gave

the job to a Kinkos-like copy shop. Talking the board into paying for what had been volunteer donated labor was a chore. One that never ceased.

I feel that with Sam's efforts and vision and my making the newsletter the communication link we got the Guild off to a good start. Doug Courtney, one of those more competent woodworkers became the third president of the Guild. Helped in no small part by having one of his pieces, a rosewood display cabinet, featured on the cover of Fine Woodworking. He was a good guy, still in the area if he hasn't moved. Most of the next presidents had their business in or near Portland and we did shows at the forestry center, the convention center, Montgomery Park, the state capitol, and participated in fairs at Salem and downtown.

I was asked later to be president of the guild as I knew most of the members and had participated in many board meetings and committees. My wife said, "that will look good on your resume, past president of the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers, divorced father of two..."

I hope this information is clear and others may remember differently but this is my recollection. One of the best things we did was sponsor the woodworking show at the State Fair, for high school students. Great exposure and helpful to educators and for the public to see great student work. "

## A LOGO IS BORN

GUILD OF OREGON WOODWORKERS  
Newsletter Office  
P.O. Box 15075, Salem, OR 97309 (Ph)370-9183

March 1983

Our last meeting was at The Swiss Cabinetmaker. We elected new officers, reviewed the idea for a logo and selected a typeset for reproduction into a sign. The Home Show people are all set for the March 24th to April 1st show. Walter gave a good demonstration on frame and panel construction, emphasizing speed and short cuts. Wouldn't we all love to have a shaper like Walter's!

OUR NEW LEADERSHIP

Board of Officers	Committee Chairmen
President: Sam Bush 771-6162	Shows: Lewis Judy 327-2543
Vice President: David Knoll 668-4544	Programs: Sam Bush 771-6162
Secretary: Nancy Horne Sladstol 292-1928	Purchases: Kevin Kiker 967-4222
Treasurer: Doug & Jonelle Courtney 248-9984	Newsletter: Michael Jesse 370-9183

Other committees by appointment.  
\*\*\*\*\*

A NOTE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT:

As the Guild starts it's second year, I think our thanks and appreciation go to the outgoing Steering Committee, and especially to PETE CLARK, for hard work getting this group off the ground.

I was gratified by our efficiency at the last meeting, particularly as to working on the Guild logo. Thanks are in order for all those who submitted materials, with extra to Ed Gordon, whose attractive and appropriate typeset was adopted. Two large signs in his design were immediately ordered. The symbol portion of the logo, a simple, identifiable device, either abstract or representational, still needs form, so please bring your ideas and drawings to the March 16 meeting.

1984 promises to be a year of great growth for this young group; a lot of work, but with much benefit to be achieved. I look forward to your ideas and participation, as well as to knowing you all better.

Sam

## GUILD MEMBERSHIP IS STILL A GREAT VALUE WITH THE NEW DUES SCHEDULE

As you read in the last newsletter, membership dues and shop fees are changing on April 1, 2024. The annual membership fee will be \$85 for General Membership along with a \$10 increase for all other membership levels. Shop time will be \$15/hour but with the added benefit of 2-hour scheduling increments instead of 4 hours. Despite increased utility, rent, insurance and supply expenses, the Guild has been able to keep fees level since November 2020.

Do you ever wonder how your dues are spent? The major expenses for the Guild are the monthly rental of the facilities (shop, annex, studio), utilities, and shop maintenance (new and replacement parts, and equipment). We all know that utilities, supplies, and equipment prices have all increased since 2020. The Guild has reached a point where we need to increase fees to cover those increased costs. Member dues represent a significant contributor to Guild income at 18% of total income.

The Guild remains an all-volunteer organization which is one of the ways that fees, even after the increases, are a great value. Your dues support things that you use as a Guild member – the shop, the special interest groups and the Guild’s social events. Dues also support things you may not see directly, such as website and membership database hosting, PayPal fees, and insurance.

In addition to our annual dues, the mission of the Guild is supported by other income streams. The Community Outreach programs which include Estate Sales, Toy Build, and Project Build generate money for the Guild. The Education program - central to our mission - is supported by tuition.

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is regarded as one of the pre-eminent Guilds in the country. We are fortunate as members to have a place we can call our woodworking home - with our own shop, committed volunteers, friends, mentors and creative, talented, and engaged members.



## NEW MEMBER OPEN SHOP - SIGN UP TO KEEP THIS GOING

The membership team learned that our newer members were unsure about using the shop once they passed the Core Tools Class. The team came up with an innovative solution - New Member Open Shop. They reasoned that if the Guild’s newer members had support they would be more likely to use the shop.

Thus a pilot project for November and December was created to support the Guild’s newest members - those who had passed Core Tools but had not yet used the shop. On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 1pm to 5pm the shop is staffed by an SA and a Shop assistant in an effort to provide additional support to our newest members. The program seems successful and the enrollment cap was increased from four to six.

We will continue the program in January and February. As long as there are participants and volunteers to take the

lead the program will continue. One of the attendees, Brad Hoffman, said he “Loves it. It is nice to have one-on-one support for using new tools such as the domino joiner.” Brad found this particularly helpful as he constructed a new fireplace mantle. Maria Kallman has traveled in from White Salmon twice in order to take advantage of one on one help from SA’s and shop assistants. She commented that she has learned there are lots of ways to do things and she finds this, “a more friendly environment.”

SA’s and shop assistants who have volunteered are: Mike Sandmann, Jon Harvey and Robert Mack, Flora Lee, Ginny Benware, Kate Thornton, Kim Montagriff and Marty Lawrence.

## UPCOMING CLASSES FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

### JANUARY

INTRODUCTION TO HAMMER VENEERING	01/06/24	Instructor Jeff Hilber
OPEN STUDIO HAND TOOL MENTORING	01/07/24	Mentor Tim Moore
SCROLL SAW BASICS	01/09/24	Instructor Rick Martin
MILLING FOR BEGINNERS	01/10/24	Instructor Dick Rohrbaugh
COASTING INTO KUMIKO	01/12/24	Instructor Ruth Warbington
INTRODUCTION TO CNC ROUTING	01/13/24	Instructors: CNC Team
MAKE A BOX WITH HEART INLAY	01/23/24	Instructor Carol Boyd
SHARPENING CHISELS AND PLANE IRONS	01/25/24	Instructor Tim Moore
HAND CUT DOVETAILS FOR BEGINNERS	01/26/24	Instructor Bob Mack
GREEN WOODWORKING WORKSHOP	01/27-28/24	Instructor Ryan Carpenter

### FEBRUARY

GETTING STARTED II – BUILD A TOOL BOX	02/03/24	Instructor Jeff Hilber
BASICS OF CONNECTING WOOD WITH METAL	02/11/24	Instructor Tim Moore
BEGINNER MACHINE MAINTENANCE TRAINING	02/17/24	Instructor Shou Mo
SHARPENING CHISELS AND PLANE IRONS	02/18/24	Instructor Tim Moore
BUILD A CROSSCUT SLED FOR YOUR TABLESAW	02/22/24	Instructor Dick Rohrbaugh

### SERIES CLASSES

The Basics of Fine Woodworking	January 29, 2004	Instructors: Instructor Team
Intro to Woodworking and Furniture Design	January 31, 2004	Instructor: Helen Helfand

For Safety Classes and more detail on the woodworking classes, see the Guild Education Calendar at <https://guildoforegonwoodworkers.org/Education-Calendar>.



The 2024 Class Catalogue is now online. Check it out at <https://guildoforegonwoodworkers.org/resources/Documents/2024GUILDCLASSCATALOGUE.pdf>.

You can routinely find it on our website under EDUCATION/Education Program.

*Providing the pathway for members to improve their woodworking knowledge, skills and abilities through their experience with the Guild.*



## HAND-CUT DOVETAIL DRAWER BOX CLASS

*By Steve Poland*

The Hand-cut Dovetail Drawer Box class was piloted this month with four students, and the amazing mentor/student ratio of 1:1. Two of the students had a good deal of woodworking experience, and two were fairly new to the craft but enthusiastic about taking on new challenge.



The class was four half-days, the plan being to introduce and practice typical through dovetails the first day, similar with half-blind dovetails the second day. The third day we started the final drawer project including rough fitting of drawer parts in a receiver box, and beginning to cut dovetails in final drawer parts. The last day was final assembly of the drawer and careful shaving of the drawer for a piston fit in the receiver box.



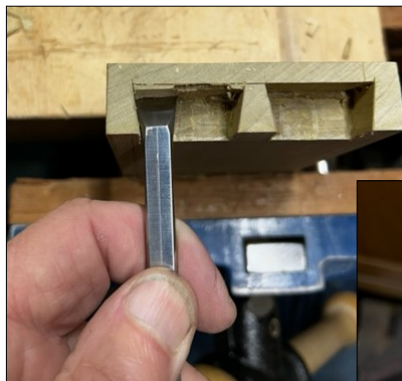
We found that the experienced students were able to easily complete the project in those 4 half days, while the less experienced students clearly needed

an additional session for completion. When the class is staged again, we will schedule 5 half day sessions, and think about spreading them out to one per week to allow student practice time before taking on the final project joints.



Several of these enthusiastic students had no home shop facility, so they were not able to practice between class sections. Because repetitive practice really is an essential part of building dovetail skills, we will work on making individual practice time available in regularly scheduled Mentor sessions, or in Open Shop Bench Room sessions.

Absolutely amazing and critical to success of this class were the very complete hand tool kit boxes assembled by Product Build, and populated with high quality tools thanks to a very generous and anonymous donor! We can't thank this donor enough for their foresight on how critical these tool kits will be for years to come.



Also the class and I want to thank Bob Mack, Marty Lawrence and Doug Drake for their valuable assistance and patient mentoring – great team!

Stay tuned for a reprise of the Handcut Dovetail Drawer class in the second quarter.





## BASICS OF FINE WOODWORKING – IT'S ABOUT TEAMWORK

*By Gary Weeber, Education Support Manager*

Once upon a time...actually many months ago...a group of dedicated volunteers began delivering a new class series with the goal of giving beginning and basic woodworkers foundational education on the craft of woodworking. This series has now been delivered three times. It has evolved into a seven-session series that covers:

- ◆ THE PROCESS OF WOODWORKING
- ◆ UNDERSTANDING WOOD
- ◆ BASIC JOINERY
- ◆ INTRODUCTION TO HAND TOOLS
- ◆ GLUE-UPS
- ◆ INTRODUCTION TO FINISHING

For new woodworkers, the craft can be a bit daunting. This series helps by providing the broad information that many woodworkers have never had. The class size is small (six students) to make sure that the opportunity to learn is maximized. The series is also purposely affordable with the total cost being only \$415.

It is important to note that this never could have happened (and will not happen in the future) without many hours of

volunteer time invested by this dedicated team of members. This group developed the curriculum, piloted the sessions, and serves as the ongoing instructors and leaders of this series. When you have a chance, please thank the following volunteers for their dedication to our woodworking community:



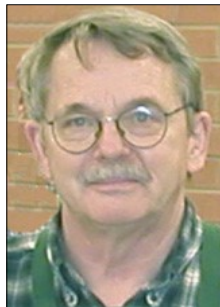
Also assisting in various ways have been members Tim Moore, Jon Harvey and Martin Torch-Ishee. Let us not forget that these are all VOLUNTEERS and receive no compensation. As an organization, that is how we do it and make it affordable for our members.

The next series **begins on January 31, 2024**. This should be posted soon so SIGN UP.

Start your woodworking journey the right way. You won't regret it!



*Ed Ferguson*



*Dennis Dolph*



*Bill Hamilton*



*Heidi McNamee*



*Keith Burgess*



*Paul Barker*



*Chip Webster*



*Leslie Kantor*



*Robert Mack*



*Ken Hall*

## MAKE A COMFORTABLE COUNTER HEIGHT CHAIR WITH MICHAEL FORTUNE IN APRIL, 2024



Have you ever wanted to build a chair with a master chair maker? Here is your opportunity without having to travel to the far ends of the earth. Michael Fortune will be teaching how to build this chair in a seven-day workshop in April.

This tall chair builds on the comfortable Number Nine dining chair that Michael developed during an extended teaching engagement in New Zealand. With the additional height comes a footrest and additional structural members. The chair students will make can be customized to fit most

counter or bar heights. This chair involves mortise and tenon construction throughout, with a coopered seat and back to make it wonderfully strong and comfortable. We will be making our chairs in ash and cherry. During the week, each student will make the patterns so you can build more chairs once you return home. You can register [here](#).

For more information, contact Chip Webster at [jdwebster3@gmail.com](mailto:jdwebster3@gmail.com).

## WHAT IS AN INLAY?



An inlay normally involves taking a flat surface, creating a recess, and then filling that recess with another material. Normally we think of inlays being wood of a different appearance that then presents a visual contrast to

the base material. Of course, other materials can be used to create the inlay such as stone, resins, metals, etc. Inlays can be purely decorative or they can have a function, such as bowties in wood cracks.

Historically, inlays were done exclusively with hand tools. The hand tools included mostly saws (coping saws) and chisels. Now they are frequently done with routers or other power tools. When using routers, the router is usually a plunge router that allows the bit to be 'dropped' to the exact depth of the recess. They can be done



free-hand but more often involve the use of a template or pattern. Because the precision of the cut is critical (both for the recess and the inlay) many current woodworkers use an inlay bit set. This ensures that the edges match exactly.



If you are interested in trying inlays for yourself... we have a class for that! Every quarter we hope to post the class **Make a Box with Inlay**. The class is delivered by instructor Carol Boyd and gets very high reviews.

What? Is there a class coming up soon, you ask? Well, yes there is. It will be on Jan. 23 in our Studio from 2-5pm! Sign up now, if there are still openings. If the class is full, get on the Waitlist. Here is the link: <https://guildoforegonwoodworkers.org/event-5499730?CalendarViewType=1&SelectedDate=1/11/2024>.



**By Jeff Hilber, Instructor**

The *Introduction to Guild Safety* class is a comprehensive introduction to the craft of woodworking and related safety requirements. Attendees get their gold stripe Shop ID card and become members of the Take Ten Home (fingers that is) Club.

For new members intending to use the Guild's Open Shop times, *Intro* is a required class and the beginning of the Education pathway. While structured for beginners, this class contains valuable information for every skill set.

New members are evaluated by the Instructor into their next Guild class, either *Getting Started* or *Core Tools*. Advanced members with sufficient experience are registered for the *Fast Track* class.

Twenty-two *Intro* classes were taught in 2023.

Evaluated to Getting Started - 173

Evaluated to Core Tools - 204

Recommended for Fast Track - 34.

2023 total new members inducted into the Take Ten Home Club - 411.



Stu, representing the Membership Committee, leads the Welcome to the Guild presentation to start the Intro class.

For the December 19th *Introduction to Guild Safety* class, the entire waitlist was also invited. Glenn, in front, was the much appreciated class assistant.



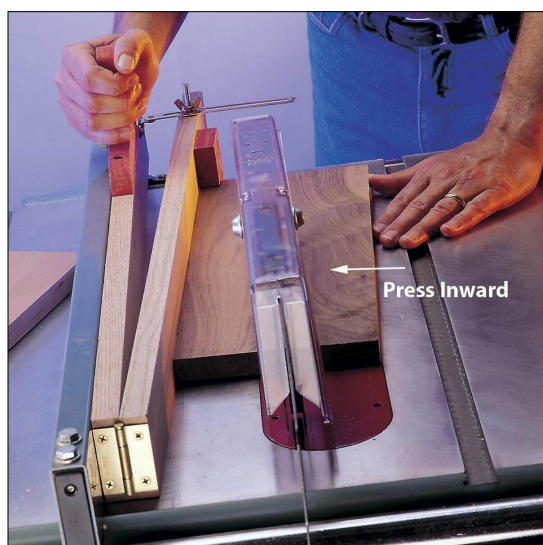


## CORE TOOLS: SAFETY

*By Rick Braun*

During introductions in Core Tools class on December 5 I told the class how my front teeth were blown out in a table saw accident involving a commercially available tapering jig.

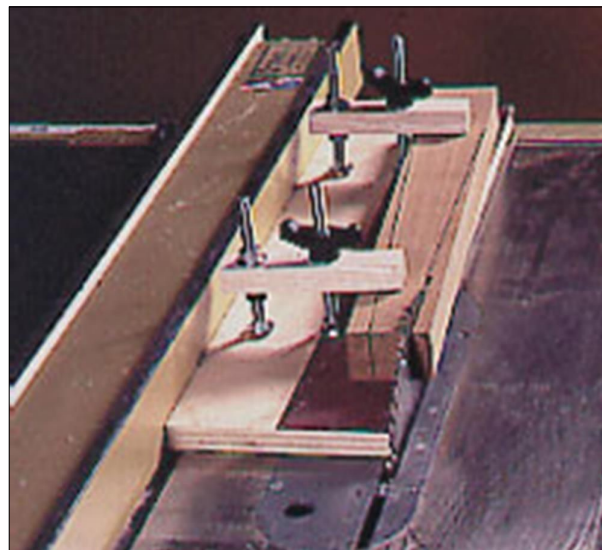
I was making a small table in my workshop and wanted tapered legs. I bought the jig locally and it was reasonably priced. It is an aluminum jig that is hinged at the apex and has a small “pusher” fence for the workpiece. The workpiece is not fixed to the jig, just pushed by it. See Illustration 1 which is somebody’s shop-made wood equivalent of my flawed aluminum jig.



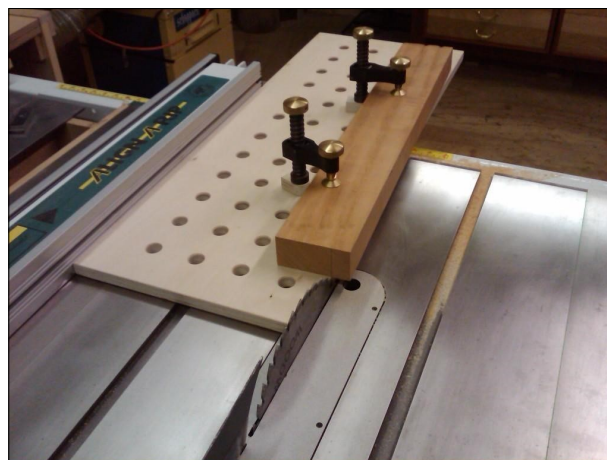
As soon as I told my story the instructor, Dennis Dolph said “that jig is dangerous. You can’t control both the jig and workpiece. Lose control of either one and you are inviting kickback.” That is exactly what happened to me. The jig tipped over the outfeed area, hit the blade, kicked back, and knocked out my front teeth, six of them. The blade was ruined. \$7,000 to the dentist and a bunch of pain and hassle later I have teeth that will never yellow. The jig went in the garbage. An accident like mine has effects beyond the physical injury. Afterward, I didn’t touch a table saw for years. I am still tentative using the saw which itself is unsafe.

Note that at the end of a cut with the defective jig you end up with three loose items to control, (1) the jig, (2) the workpiece, and (3) the off cut. You are working close to the blade. And you only have two hands. I am told that accidents similar to mine are not uncommon with the “pusher” type jig.

Dennis pointed out that there are far safer tapering jigs that can be cheaply shop made. They are distinguished by firmly attaching the workpiece to the jig, so that jig and workpiece work as a unit. There is only one unit to control, much like simple ripping on the table saw. Illustration 2.



Other jigs are commercially available that work on the same “one unit” principle. Illustration 3.



Eventually the unitized tapering jig will need to be replaced on account of cuts made for differing tapers, lengths of workpiece, and wear. But what would you rather replace, a piece of plywood, or your front teeth?

The bottom line is that any tapering jig meant for use on the table saw that does not firmly hold the workpiece to the jig is unsafe. Avoid them.

## 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.

### DECEMBER 2023 – BOB MACK

This month's recipient of the Volunteer of the Month is Bob Mack.

Many of us know Bob. Since joining the Guild, he seems to have taken to volunteering like a duck to water. Dr. Bob (Veterinarian) has been an outstanding example of the best in what we see in our volunteers.



In the Education Program, this has been especially true. He has served as a class assistant on many occasions and is now a very active instructor. Bob teaches one of the core tool classes plus the router certification class. He is also the developer and instructor for our new class, Hand Cut Dovetails for Beginners. Additionally, Bob has been involved in our new series the Basics of Fine Woodworking, serving as an instructor for the Glue-Ups session and as a class assistant for other sessions. Feedback from students reflects his knowledge, patience, and caring as an instructor.

Bob has been active in Project Build sessions. He brings creativity a high level of skills and a willingness to help in any way he can. Most recently he has teamed with Ed Ferguson to build several specialized tool chests for the Annex that will contain the set of hand tools needed for an individual student in class. It is a pleasure watching Bob's creative process works.

We are pleased to have Bob Mack as our Gig Lewis Volunteer of the Month for December 2023.



This is a cartoon that appeared in a 1997 edition of the Guild Newsletter



## 70 COMFORT BIRDS HAVE FLOWN THE COOP

By Julie Niemeyer

The Comfort Bird collaboration between the Oregon Carvers Guild and the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers has made its first large donation of 70 beauties. Jim Spitzer, Larry Wade, and Julie Niemeyer met with Lorna Day, the founder of the Sam Day Foundation in November to hand over the birds in their velvet bags. They will be added to 70 Wellness Boxes which she gives to young patients of childhood cancers in the Portland/Vancouver area throughout the year.

Recently, 20 boxes traveled to a southern Oregon hospital for children there. One bird was delivered to an adolescent patient in Beaverton with a reoccurring, stubborn, and rare, sarcoma which doctors cannot rid. Lorna reports, "that her face just lit up when she received her Comfort Bird."

While we were happy to be adding comfort and care in the Wellness Boxes, we were profoundly humbled by the information that over 65 children in one year alone, in our area, have been diagnosed with pediatric cancers and received the boxes. Additionally, that nationwide, only 4% of cancer research funding is allocated for childhood cancer research. The SFD has now committed to raise and donate \$1,000,000, *per year*, for the research of pediatric cancers.

The below excerpt is from [The Sam Day Foundation](#) website.

*"The Sam Day Foundation started as a group of people who loved Sam Day and were compelled to fight for him and other young people dealing with the brutality of childhood cancer. While Sam was still alive, friends came together and raised over \$350,000 for Ewing Sarcoma research through another organization. But Sam was never able to benefit from that research.*

*With his passing in 2016, his circle of support felt a profound sense of loss, anger and sorrow. We have become keenly aware of the devastating effects of cancer and the need for better treatment options. In 2018, we decided to launch the Sam Day Foundation.*

*What started as a proactive effort to save Sam and other young people battling Ewing Sarcoma, has grown into a strong community of compassionate philanthropists and advocates of all ages advocating for young people dealing with those brutal and forgotten cancers. Today, our hope is to generate enough attention and resources to promising research so that one day, kids with cancer can survive and live well.*

*Since the Sam Day Foundation launched in 2018, more than \$1.5 million has been committed to research and multiple projects continue to be vetted for additional funding."*



The Comfort Bird project has over 75 people working on it, in some manner. We can all be proud and happy to be truly making a difference. I, personally extend my deepest and heartfelt gratitude to everyone working on this project. When we meet people like Lorna Day it's the reminder and joy of why we do what we do. Thank you all!



Lorna Day (center), with Guild members Julie Niemeyer, and Larry Wade.



## 2023 GUILDS IN THE VILLAGE

The second annual Guilds in the Village succeeded in its two primary goals. The show aspired to be fun and to provide a new home for some of our creations. It was fun for our members and the public to gather and share an interest in the crafts of woodworking, jewelry making, woodturning and print making. The two-day event that presented the work of four guilds was held Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1 and 2 at the Multnomah Arts Center.

Members from each of the four guilds offered lots of moderately priced products which were the most frequently sold items as well as some sophisticated projects that demonstrated the peak of their craft. The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers grossed \$3,938, the bulk of which came from sales by the Project Build and Toy Build Teams. The proceeds of those sale go directly back to the Guild for its programs. The nine individual members who offered their work took in \$1,484 from the sale of their work. For some

of them it was the first time they were able to get feedback on their work from someone other than their friends and family.

The Guilds in the Village planning group has already reserved the space for Dec. 7-8, 2024. They will begin their planning in January. There are already notes from our participants on ways to make this event better in the future. One idea that has gotten traction is to have more of a presence on social media promoting the show. Look for more on this leading up to next year's event.

The GOOW representative on the event's planning group has been Mike Sandmann for the past couple of years. He is looking for one or two people with an affinity for planning who can spend 16 hours throughout the year working with Mike and the other Guild's planners to make this event even more successful in the future.





## GATHERING OF THE GUILDS 2024 – RESERVE YOUR BOOTH NOW

Register [HERE](#).

For more information contact:

[Bob Hargrave](#) – Show Coordinator for Booth vendors

[Roger Crooks](#) – Show Information

### Details

**Location** – Oregon Convention Center, Hall D

**Move-In** - April 17,18

Wednesday - 2:00 – 6:00

Thursday – 9:00 – 9:00

Overnight security will be provided Thursday night

### Show Hours:

Friday – 10 – 7

Saturday – 10 – 6

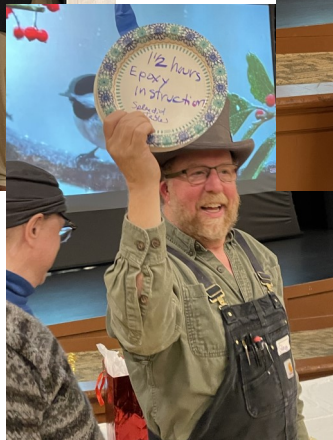
Sunday – 10 – 4



### Why buy a booth

- ◆ It is one of the largest art show this side of the Mississippi with over 300 artists selling one-of-a-kind design.
- ◆ \$30,000 advertising budget. Get your photos in ASAP to be considered for use in our advertising campaign.
- ◆ Booths are available in various sizes from 10’ to 30’ or larger.
- ◆ For new vendors, this is your chance to test the market.
- ◆ Past shows have attendance between 12,000 and 18,000 with an expected 15,000 this year.
- ◆ Right before Mother’s Day ad free entry.

Here are a few images from this year’s holiday party held on Dec 19 at the Multnomah Arts Center. A good time was had by all.





*Editor's Note: Had to share. My sisters and I were able to catch the storm show at Shore Acres State Park on the south coast. Check out those WAVES!!!!*

Happy New Year  
Cheers!!



Many Guild members recognize that woodworking can be a lonely avocation especially if you work alone in your shop. It's fun to get together with other woodworker's to swap stories, share successes, and failures, and to ask questions.

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

**JANUARY**

Monday January 8 at 11:30 am  
(2nd Monday because of the holiday)

**Linn City Pub**

19389 Willamette Dr., West Linn, OR 97068  
(on Hwy 43)

## A MOMENT IN THE GARDEN

*Editor's Note: Not from my garden this time but one of my favorite photos from my travels in England this year. This was taken during one of my walks to see the Seven Sisters (they are those white cliffs) on the south coast near the town of Hastings, and such a gorgeous day too! I could live with this view from my garden.*





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