

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
**GUILD OF
 OREGON
 WOODWORKERS**

**OREGON
 WOOD
 WORKS**

Vol. #40, Issue 3
 March 2023
 Portland Oregon

IN THIS ISSUE

<i>President's Note</i>	3
<i>Education</i>	4
<i>Field Trip</i>	9
<i>Mentorship</i>	10
<i>Meet-Up</i>	11
<i>Volunteer Corner</i>	12
<i>Cut Offs</i>	13

**GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION: ZOOM
 THE BEAUTY OF SIMPLICITY AND
 EXPOSED JOINERY**

PRESENTER: MORGAN STRICKLAND

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023 7PM

Zoom only but you can join others in the Studio to participate

By Joe Wheaton

When planning each monthly presentation, I look for topics that, I hope, will be interesting to my wood-working colleagues. These topics end up falling roughly into several broad areas (very roughly, is more like it): Tools, design, technique, and materials.

Our April presenter, Morgan Strickland, covers all these areas, and then some.



Morgan is a designer, a craftsman, and a master of materials on both the large (see the entertainment center) and small (the jewelry box) scale (videos on these pieces are available on [YouTube](#)). Not settling for being a master woodworker, in his previous lives he has been a tech entrepreneur and stage actor.

His journey into fine woodworking began when he came to Portland for one of Gary Rogowski's week-long classes. After that, there was no turning back. As he says "I was all-in." Later, he took classes at Mount Diablo Adult Education in Pleasant

Hill. The woodworking bug stung deep, apparently. Since he started fine woodworking in earnest in 2018, he has completed over 40 pieces of furniture, and counting.

Morgan describes his woodworking technique as a hybrid of using hand tools and (when necessary) machines. As you can see from the pictures below, his aesthetic is inspired by the simplicity and the exposed joinery found in the Arts and Crafts movement and Japanese style furniture. He loves mixing materials, especially wood, stone, and metal in his pieces.

For more examples of Morgan's completed work, go to his web page at: <https://www.morganjstrickland.com/woodworking>. And catch his work in program on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/morganjohnstrickland/>. Also check out his videos on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCija1QY7OvFeozQon-XrvnQ>

Morgan lives in Ashland, Oregon, so this **meeting will take place only on Zoom**, but you're welcome to join other members at the Guild Studio for socializing and more fun than sitting at home. To join the Zoom meeting go to <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96184696029?pwd=MWZOUeZsejJua0pJY2tvbjVSViFuZz09>
 Remember: **The Zoom link never changes** for the monthly meeting. If you have it saved from a previous month, it will always still work.

Also, send me recommendations for presenters. The best presenters come from your suggestions. If its something you're interested in, it will almost certainly be interesting to others as well. Thanks.

I am also the volunteer coordinator for the biggest event on the Guild's calendar: The Gathering of the Guilds (April 27-30, at the Convention Center). Please volunteer for this fun and important event by going to the [Guild Calendar](#) and signing up today for a 3-4 hour slot. Many shifts are available each day. See [page 12](#) for details.



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 Balmawalla
 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



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest **52** 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.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Randy Ainslie | Jeff Lichtman |
| Meredith Alcorn | Jordan Livermore |
| Scott Atkins | Audrey Magwili |
| Jesse Beard | Andy Martin |
| David Benedict | Matthew Martinez |
| Kerry Bott | John Mc Quillan |
| Clemens Briggler | David Neff |
| Stephanie Briggler | Christopher Newell |
| Ian Burnett | Ian O'Gorman |
| Katie Campisi | Zac Oshima |
| Julia Cleary | Laurie Perron Mednick |
| Megan Cleary | Brad Pierce |
| Nick Congelosi | Art Pohlman |
| William Den Beste | Tristan Powell |
| Ryan Dillard | Stephen Randall |
| Taizoon Doctor | Rindert Schutten |
| Sean Duffy | Frederick Shannon |
| Fred Gerendasy | Pat Shuff |
| Michael Gonzalez | Lauren Sullivan |
| Charles Hambelton | Gary Swanson-Davies |
| Danny Harden- | Gabriel Tong |
| Ramella | Joaquin Viego |
| Brett Harsha | Jonathon Ward |
| Rod Jacobs | Suzanne Willette |
| Al James | Kristi Willingham |
| Nicholas Kim | Cameron Wohlfeil |
| Richard Knight | |

NOTE:

Please see article on [page 13](#), **TEMPORARY PAUSE ON ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS**

NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT

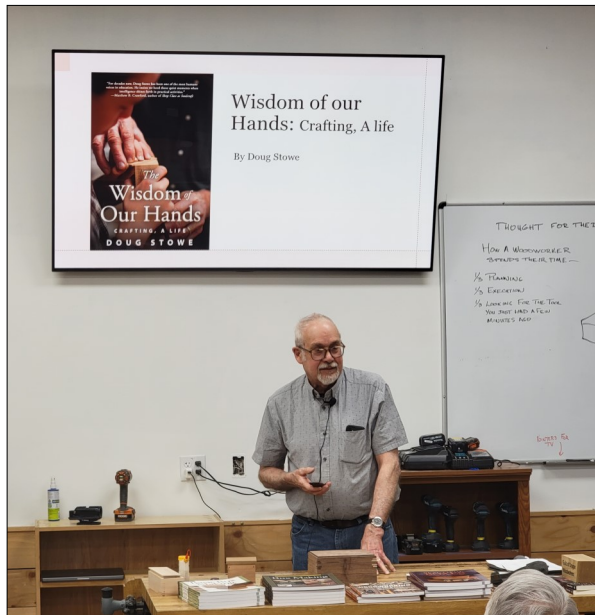
Ed Swakon, President



Doug Stowe visits the Guild

Doug Stowe visited the Guild in March as part of our master's program. He taught several classes on box making. In addition, he met with a group of our instructors to relay his thoughts on how to teach the art of woodworking better. Something new for our group of valuable instructors. We

were fortunate to have Doug as our March general meeting presenter in the Guild Studio. Doug is full of wisdom and conveyed that to the gathering of nearly 100 (both in person and via zoom).



We presented the Gig Lewis Volunteer of the Month to Mike Chia. Another of our members, whom I can't believe, hasn't received the award before.

We had two very interesting show-and-tell presentations by C.J. Marquardt and Gary Martin. I'd again like to encourage everyone to bring show-and-tell items to our general meeting. Our formal meeting starts at 7 PM, but get there early and mingle with your fellow Guild members.

The Board adopts a 60-day pause on accepting new members to the Guild effective April 1.

This action was taken to improve the Guild's ability to get our new members ready to use the shop in a timely manner. We are experiencing a 60-90 day wait time to get new members scheduled for our Safety and Orientation and the Core Tool classes. We think that's not serving our members well. Our information suggests that if a new member gets involved early, either in a SIG, Community Project, or some other volunteer activity, they stay a member of the Guild longer. That's important. We would also like to take this time to encourage more of our existing members to GET INVOLVED. Become a Shop Attendant, a Class Assistant. Volunteer to help with the Gathering of the Guilds. There are a lot of opportunities.

Guild's Revenue Review Committee

The Guild's Revenue Review Group is wrapping up its work. Many thanks to all involved. We'll be having an informal informational briefing with the Guild's Board of Directors on April 11th at 4:30 PM on the group's findings and recommendations. The Revenue Review group's recommendation will be discussed at a Guild day-long planning session tentatively scheduled for May 13th. The end result of both the revenue review group and planning session will be recommendations to the Guild's Board. If you are interested in learning about or participating in the Guild's future, I encourage you to participate.

Join us at Buster's BBQ for lunch - Meet-Up.

Members are invited to meet for lunch April 3 at Buster's Texas-Style Barbecue (11419 SW Pacific Hwy, Tigard, OR) 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. There is more to the Guild than cutting wood and making sawdust. We'll be meeting around town at various locations on the 1st Monday of the month. Mark your calendars.

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

GUILD CLASSES

We've got a great collection of classes coming over the next few months. Come build your skills and have some fun at the Guild!

If your first options get booked, sign up on those waitlists. There are often opportunities for those with flexibility....

And if you are a professional member, check out the new one-day options for doing a 'Fast Track' on your core tool certification. Note that pre-approval is required; see the class postings for details.

Do you remember the first time you built something? What was it? Who's tools did you use? Who helped you or celebrated your work with you? How did it make you feel?

If this trip down memory lane resonates, join other Guild members as we put tools in the hands of kids to build and help them create their own memories!

[Birdhouse Build](#) April 12, 4:30pm Greenway Elementary School, Beaverton

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 waitlists.

[Women's SIG](#) 4/6 5pm Guild Benchroom

[Introduction to CNC Routing](#) 4/8 9am Guild Studio

[Carving & Art Nouveau with Mark Downing](#) 4/11 7pm Guild Studio or Zoom

[How to Carve an Ainu Bear](#) 4/12 1pm Guild Studio

[CNC SIG](#) 4/13 7pm Guild Studio

[Hand Tool SIG](#) 4/27 6:30pm Guild Studio

[Bolstad Table Build](#) 4/29 & 4/30 9am Guild Studio

[Sharpening Chisels and Plane Irons](#) 5/7 1pm Guild Studio
Tim Moore

[Tips and Tricks with Mary May](#) 5/16 10am MAC Auditorium and Zoom

[High & Low Relief Carving with Mary May](#) 5/17 & 18
9am Guild Studio

[Open Carving Workshop with Mary May](#) 5/20 & 21 9am
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](#) 4/18 9am Guild Studio, Jeff Hilber

[Intro to Guild Safety](#) 5/2 9am Guild Studio, Jeff Hilber

[Intro to Guild Safety](#) 5/23 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.

[Advanced Tool Class — Router and Router Table Class](#) 4/12 5pm Guild Studio Bill Hamilton

[Getting Started - Hands On with Portable Power Tools](#) 5/9 8:45am Guild Studio, Jeff Hilber

[Core Tool Certification - evening](#) 5/9 & 5/16 5pm Guild Workshop, Mark Klein

[Core Tool Certification - afternoon](#) 5/23 & 5/30 1pm Guild Workshop, Mike Chia

[Core Tool Certification - evening](#) 5/23 & 5/30 5pm Guild Workshop, Shou 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](#)



Hammer Veneering, an introduction to veneer. One project was a book-matched walnut panel.

NEW FORMAT FOR OPEN CARVING WORKSHOP WITH MARY MAY

[Open Carving Workshop with Mary May](#)

May 20th & 21st, 9am-5pm

Cost \$350

We have adjusted our weekend class with Mary so it better meets the needs of our local carvers and are excited to announce a mentoring-focused two-day open-format workshop.



Students will bring in their own projects and get individual assistance from Mary and from the group. With just 10 students, this will be a dynamic and very personal experience. And because the projects are likely to vary

widely, everyone will be exposed to many carving challenges in a friendly, low-stress environment.

This Workshop will provide guidance and encouragement to all carvers except the very beginner. If there is a tricky technical challenge you have been itching to try, this group will help you get there! If you are newer on your carving path, we will inspire you and support you as you deepen your skills.

THE DETAILS:

Mary will connect personally with each student before class to coordinate tools, wood, or anything else needed so

everyone can be prepared. If she has samples or ideas from her shop, she will bring them.

Projects can be whatever your heart desires. Maybe you have an older project you put aside because you weren't sure how to proceed...maybe you saw something on her website that you want to try...maybe you are thinking about a new technique...maybe you have an idea for a fresh new project and this is the time to get started!

If you aren't sure what to work on, Mary and your Guild class volunteers are happy to help you with ideas. If you want to work on a project from Mary's collection of [online lessons](#), (including the Gothic Leaf that we had originally scheduled) she will give you free access to the relevant videos before the class so you can prepare.

Also before the class, we will schedule some sharpening clinics and a gathering to make carving blanks for those who want that assistance. Your class team will make sure everyone is ready for Mary's visit in May!



BOXES SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

In the wake of Doug Stowe's successful visit here, we are starting a new Special Interest Group on boxes.

Tom McCloskey, the Guild 'box man', has agreed to lead this group. The focus will be on...well, boxes. Different sizes, different joints, different woods, different styles, etc. Boxes are one of the very best ways to learn woodworking and we expect this will open up creative avenues for you as you take your own woodworking journey. Of course, since Tom is our Treasurer, he thinks that boxes are perfectly designed to keep money in.

The group will be available at no additional cost and will meet monthly. Watch for future information on specifics!



WHAT'S UP WITH ED?

By Gary Weeber, Education Director

Aristotle said, "We are what we repeatedly do."

I have no idea what Aristotle may have known about wood-working but he seems to have picked up on something in regards to human behavior. Repetition, right? That's how you really learn how to do hand-cut dovetails...and other stuff.

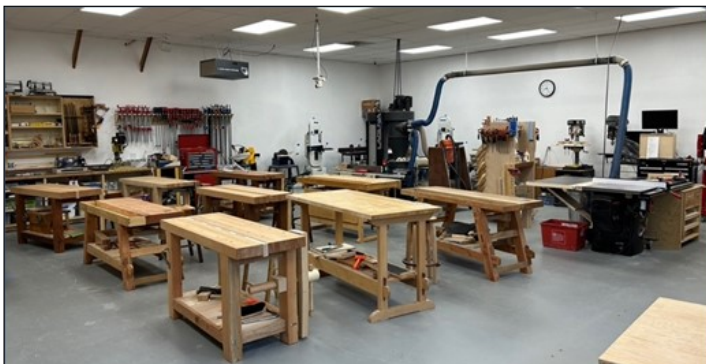
We now have a nearly completed treasure – **The Studio**. This project has taken SO MANY hours of volunteer time and so much financial support but we have been able to pull this off. As for our future behavior in this new space we have the opportunity to *build the right culture now*.

There are going to be expectations of each of us as members regarding how we treat this new space. If we have something personally that we really treasure, most of us treat that with a sort of reverence. Now, it might be a stretch to say that the Studio is the new location of the "Church of Woodworking" but it is worth considering that kind of reverence when using this space. Let's treat this space and each other with respect. If we see something that is not right, let's bring it to someone's attention and not just ignore it.

We are talking here about some of the expectations that our parents may have had of us at one time.

- ♦ if we move something, we put it back
- ♦ we volunteer to help
- ♦ we are respectful and supportive of others
- ♦ if something seems to be wrong, we either fix it or bring it to someone's attention
- ♦ we clean up after ourselves
- ♦ If we see that some items are missing, we bring that to someone's attention

So, this is our chance to start the process of repetitive behavior that is consistent with our values. Let's all treat the space as if it is the new car we are just driving home for the first time. Oh, and be respectful of others on the road.



In that light, we have just recently posted some basic regulations regarding the operation of the Studio at this time. If you are not aware of these, please look through them.

STUDIO — Initial Use Rules

As we know, the access to, and use of, the new Studio presents different challenges than our existing bench room and shop.

For the present, these will be the Rules of Use for the studio.

1. **MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETINGS:** Require the presence of an SA and participation is limited to the legal capacity. Event must to be on Studio Calendar.
2. **CLASSES:** Requires the presence of an SA. Event must to be on Studio Calendar.
3. **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS:** Require the presence of an SA. Event must to be on Studio Calendar.
4. **MENTORING SESSIONS:** Require the presence of an SA. Event must to be on Studio Calendar.
5. **LIBRARY:**
 - a. Available when Open Shop is in session in the main shop. Member must check in with Shop SA to enter and check in with SA when leaving. SA will make sure space is secure.
 - b. It is also available when another activity is occurring in the Studio but access should be subtle and not affect the ongoing activity.
6. **EDUCATION WORK PARTIES:** Require the presence of an SA. Event must to be on Studio Calendar.
7. **MEMBER WORK ON CNC EQUIPMENT:** Use of machinery in the Studio is prohibited unless at least two persons are present.
 - a. **Woodworking Equipment:** When any of the floor-based power tools are used, two persons must be in the Studio and one must be an SA.
 - b. **CNC Equipment:** The only members permitted to access and use the CNC equipment are the current members of the CNC Team. They are allowed access under the following conditions:
 - c. **CNC Mentoring:** It is permissible if a CNC Team Mentor is going to hold a mentoring session with a student. This can happen during one of the routine CNC Mentoring slots on the calendar by signing up for the event. If the mentor is not an SA, this will require approval by the Director of Education.
 - d. **CNC Team Member Use:** The only other access allowed would be a request on the part of a CNC Team certified member to use the equipment. *This access can only occur when there is an existing Open Shop session occurring in the bench room/*

WHAT'S UP WITH ED?... continued from page 6

Shop and no other events are taking place in the Studio that would be incompatible with CNC use.

This requires that *two persons* be in the Studio when such use is occurring. The user would sign in for 'open shop' in the bench room and check in with the SA. This use would not be included in the maximum six persons for open shop and would not require calendar registration. At the end of the CNC machine use, the user would check out with the Open Shop SA and sign out on the computer.

NOTE: This procedure for access to the CNC machines is temporary. As soon as possible, the rules will reflect the same procedures as currently in place in the shop.

STUDIO Q&A

How can I schedule an event for the Studio?

Doug Drake, Class Manager, currently is doing all scheduling of the Studio. If you want to schedule something...Contact Doug.

WHAT LEVEL ARE YOU?

By Gary Weeber

We all know that with 1,200 members, the Guild has woodworkers that are at various levels in their woodworking knowledge and skills. As we try to connect the right members to the right programs (especially classes) we consider these categories seriously.

When we offer classes, they require different levels of skill and knowledge if the student and the class are going to be a good match. For example, there is a significant difference between making a simple box or cutting board vs. a class where the student makes a table of varying features and complexities.

We don't have any formal way of recording your level in this process. We may advertise more classes with the descriptor that indicates what level woodworker you should be if this is going to be a successful experience. Be honest with yourself. It is important.

Below are the four levels and definitions that we will be using. Assess yourself and be honest.

BEGINNING WOODWORKERS: A beginning woodworker is a member who has very little experience in using hand tools, power tools and machinery.

BASIC WOODWORKERS: Woodworkers at this level have moderate experience in the use of woodworking tools/machines. The members may have had some experience working with hand tools and other tools but have limited experience related to fine woodworking.

INTERMEDIATE WOODWORKERS: These members have sufficient experience woodworking that they are able to complete a variety of woodworking projects independently. Intermediate woodworkers are familiar with the woodworking process and able to complete both simple projects and those of relative complexity.

ADVANCED WOODWORKERS: Woodworkers at this level are often professionals or non-professionals who have spent years engaged in the craft. These woodworkers have the knowledge, skill and expertise to complete varied and complex projects with excellence.

So, have you now figured out what level you are at?

MAY 2023 GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION

This year we have had one month after another with great presenters, but get ready for May, Mary May that it is. Once again, one of our nationally known instructors is not only teaching courses on carving, but also presenting to our group. Don't miss this one. May promises to be outstanding (both the month and the presenter).



Introduction to Guild Safety, Two hundred ten new additions to the The Take Ten Home Club, 3/5/23.



Stu Brown presenting the *Introduction to Guild Safety* class information on Guild orientation.



Getting Started, with portable power tools. Learning how to be ambidextrous with four hand-held tools

FIELD TRIP TO KASTERS KUSTOM CUTTING

By Bob Mack

A group of Guild members recently had the privilege of visiting Kasters Kustom Cutting, a woodcutting facility in Mulino, Oregon owned by Kevin and Karolyn Kaster. They specialize in producing slabs and some lumber from a wide variety of local wood species including black walnut, maple, oak, redwood, and many others.

The facility features hundreds of slabs of various thickness, width, and length for clients to inspect and purchase. Kasters also provides slab flattening and custom



Kevin showing us some Western Maple logs that might turn out to have nice figure...you don't really know until you open them up.



The storage shed is filled with treasures. In addition to slabs, you can purchase FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified milled products like paintable beveled Doug Fir siding for half the cost of cedar siding.

lumber milling for local and distant companies as well as for private owners engaged in large remodeling and renovation projects. In addition, they produce bevel lap siding, board and bat siding, beam wrap, beams up to 32', and decking.

Kasters has two large kilns on site and slabs are allowed to air dry for two years prior to being placed in kilns to dry to the correct moisture content. Slabs are then heated to kill any undesirable insects. Other kiln drying services are also available for private and commercial purposes.

While Kasters does not generally produce dimensional lumber that we, as woodworkers, would typically purchase, they can custom cut large pieces of wood to our specifications. Logs would need to be transported to the sawmill, and Kevin suggests that his team inspect the log prior to transport in order to identify any unseen issues that might impact the overall yield or value of the finished product.

If you need a log or beams custom-milled remember that this really is custom. Specify if you want actual full dimension lumber or standard nominal sizing.

Guild members thoroughly enjoyed the visit to Kaster's facility, and appreciated Kevin's willingness to answer all of our questions. Kevin has also donated lumber to the Guild, including much of the cedar that was utilized for the recent birdhouse constructions. We are thankful for his hospitality, and for his ongoing support for the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers.

If you have any questions about Kasters Kustom Cutting's services, check out their web-site at kasterskustomcutting.com. You can also reach them at 503-829-4167 or visit their facility at [29700 South Beaver-creek Road](http://29700%20South%20Beaver-creek%20Road) in Mulino.



Kasters can flatten 6' wide slabs; a selection of these is for sale in their retail shop

MY WOODWORKING JOURNEY WITH ED

By *Martin Torch-Ishii*

My history with the Guild began in 2017, when I joined with almost no woodworking experience or equipment. I took as many Guild classes as I could and started volunteering at Project Build. There, I met many other Guild members and was soon involved in some challenging projects. Little did I know that the most consequential result of volunteering was meeting Ed Ferguson, leader of Project Build at that time. Ed would eventually become my mentor, meeting with me almost every week for the next five years.



Before I really knew him, I always thought Ed was a very friendly and accessible person in the Guild community. I sensed early on that he would make an amazing teacher, but I was nervous to approach him for help. My wife heard all of my excuses, and finally convinced me to reach out to Ed, pointing out that I had nothing to lose by asking. I was pleasantly shocked when Ed said he was interested. After a few short initial get-togethers, we started meeting once a week, alternating between our home shops.

The early months at my place were spent putting together a functional shop. We built basics like a crosscut sled, a table saw outfeed extension, many jigs, and lots of storage under my machines. Once we had a workable space, we got started on some furniture projects, including an office desk, a live-edge end table with a live-edge lower shelf, a coffee table, a dining table, and a set of six dining chairs. I learned a great deal about wood, hand tools, different types of joinery, and how to use and maintain all of my machines. Ed also helped me overcome my fear of design and drawing. I'm still no artist, but now I can sketch out basic ideas, draw scale models, and build prototypes using cardboard, hot glue, and wood.

At Ed's space, I got to work on his sea kayak, various shop projects, furniture pieces, an outdoor potting bench, and much more. I was always struck by the level of trust he placed in me. There were so many times that I could have completely ruined one of his projects, yet he never seemed worried! Instead, he was always calm, generous with his time, willing to answer questions, and very flexible about accommodating my needs and interests.

Ed taught me how to slow down, carefully plan projects, and have fun with woodworking. I still remember a scary

moment when we glued up the base of the dining table that I had been working on for about a year. The cross braces were almost eight feet long and the joinery had double through-tenons on both ends. We labeled everything and rehearsed the glue-up multiple times. Despite our best efforts, we still managed to glue the wrong end of the cross braces to the side support. I panicked, thinking about all the work we had lost, but Ed just looked at me and stated matter-of-factly in his usual calm voice, "Well, it looks like we glued it up backwards. I guess we'd better take it apart and try again." To my amazement, it all ended up working out just fine (thank goodness for a spray bottle of water), but this was definitely a symbolic moment that taught me a lot!

Through Ed, I was able to meet a number of other talented Guild members too. Mike Chia taught me the basics of Sketchup, and in addition to much helpful guidance and inspiration, quickly became a very good friend. Ken Hall would sometimes drop by Ed's shop and I would learn more about hand tools. The legs on my dining chair project



required bent lamination, something neither Ed nor I had any experience with. In came Chip Webster with his expertise and generous offer to bring the Guild vacuum press to the project.

Sadly, our in-person meetings are coming to an end as my family prepares for a major relocation to Ottawa, Ontario, this June. I will really miss my weekly sessions with Ed and will also miss other close friends I have made here in Portland. I entered into this arrangement with Ed thinking that our relationship would simply revolve around the shop, but as we got to know each other, our meetings became a social highlight of each week. We plan to keep in touch to share updates on our projects and our families. I take this opportunity to thank Ed sincerely for sharing his deep knowledge and life experience with me (woodworking and non-woodworking). I never imagined we would accomplish as much as we did together.

continued on page 11

MY WOODWORKING JOURNEY WITH ED... *continued from page 10*

I'm also thankful to the Guild for providing me with the opportunity to meet Ed. Should the Guild, with its large and diverse membership, ever consider supporting a mentorship program, I think that many other mentors and students would find each other and that their experience could be as rewarding and impactful as mine has been.

MONDAYS WITH MARTIN*By Ed Ferguson*

Working with Martin has been a joy. When I pass by the sea kayak hanging in the garage, the small occasional table in our entryway, or the hand tool cabinets in my shop, I am reminded of his contributions to those projects. Martin has been generous in crediting me in his development as a woodworker. In truth, we have learned from each other and learned together as we explored different aspects of woodworking.

Woodworking is a wonderful avocation. The facets to be explored, the skills to be developed, and the creativity to be exercised are inexhaustible. But it can be a solitary pursuit. Trading sessions with Martin, working in each other's shops, has been a wonderful experience. Over the past five years, I have watched him grow from a novice to a skilled woodworker. And I've had the pleasure of getting to know his family and being on hand for the birth of his daughter and son. I'll miss our sessions together as Martin and his family move to pursue new opportunities, but I'm excited for them as they embark on their new adventure.



GUILD MEET-UP!

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 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.

April

Monday, April 3rd - 11:30AM
Buster's Texas Style BBQ
11419 SW Pacific Hwy., Tigard

May

Monday May 1st - 11:30am
Old Market Pub & Brewery
6959 SW Multnomah Blvd.
Portland, OR 97223

June

Monday June 5th - 11:30am
Thai Fresh
8409 SE Division Street
Portland, OR 97266

GIG LEWIS VOLUNTEER-OF-THE-MONTH AWARD

MARCH 2023 – MIKE CHIA



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.

This month's recipient of the Volunteer of the Month is Mike Chia.

Mike is one of those individuals who is able to make long term plans that envision how things could be and also be hands on. He has participated in long range planning for the future of the Guild and helped to develop overall direction for the Education program and curriculum to provide that program.

Mike has also been hands on in teaching classes such as: Sharpening Chisels and Hand Planes, Basic Build - Make your first cutting board, Intro to SketchUp for woodworkers and has been a long term stalwart in getting our new members underway with their core tool certification.

Here is what Mike has to say about volunteering with the Guild

"So many volunteers help to make the Guild the amazing organization that it is, and I'm excited to be a part of the team delivering the wonderful classes the Guild provides. It's very rewarding to help others learn our craft, and I learn just as much from all the thoughtful questions

and comments that challenge me to think about wood-working in new ways."

We are pleased to have Mike Chia as our Gig Lewis Volunteer of the Month for March 2023.

Special note... We had to take on an accomplice to catch Mike for the photo. Mike is the one on the right.



GATHERING OF THE GUILDS

Please volunteer for this fun and important event by going to the [Guild Calendar](#) and signing up today for a 3-4 hour slot. Many shifts are available each day. Click the Volunteer image below for more information and to sign up.



Even if you are not showing and likely selling your work, or volunteering at the Gathering of the Guilds this year, it is a wonderful show for all interested in the arts.

Bring your family too. The Gathering will be at the Oregon Convention Center, Hall A in Portland.

April 28, Friday - 10am to 7pm
 April 29, Saturday - 10am to 6pm
 April 30, Sunday - 10am to 4pm

Free Admission!!

YOUR NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Do you know someone who should be recognized as Volunteer of the Month? Did you know that you can nominate someone? Any Guild member is eligible to make a nomination of any other Guild member just by sending an email to the Guild's Volunteer Director, Charlie Meyer (charlie.meyer@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org) and we'll follow up with you from there.

TEMPORARY PAUSE ON ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers has been experiencing exceptional growth in the past year. Nearly 300 members have joined us in the past six months alone. New members are experiencing extended wait times for registration for introductory and core tool classes. Despite opening our new Studio which is dedicated entirely to classes, increased demand for classes has outstripped our ability to handle the onboarding.

We are recruiting Instructors and Class Assistant to increase our ability to offer classes. In addition, we are looking for more members to become Shop Assistants so that we can schedule more open shop time.

The board has decided to put new member applications on a waitlist starting April 1. This will allow us to catch up on the backlog of new members who have been patiently waiting to sign up for classes. Starting in April, visitors to the website will be invited to sign up on the waitlist. We anticipate that the new member waitlist will be in place for about 60 days. If you have any questions about this pro-

cess or if you would like to volunteer to be a Shop Attendant or an Instructor, please contact Mike.sandmann@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org

This is how you can help:

Recent members - please sign up on the waitlists for classes. This helps us gauge the number of people in the queue for specific classes. We also want to thank you for your patience - it can be frustrating to wait when you're anxious to get started.

Current members - we need to add Instructors, Shop Attendants, and Class Assistants to the existing cadre of dedicated volunteers. We would like to increase the Guild's capacity to provide classes and open shop time.

With these changes and your help, we can continue to provide the quality environment for woodworking, learning and fellowship that all current and prospective members deserve.

MAC INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

Multnomah Arts Center is looking to hire teachers in woodturning, youth wood shop, and other wood-based workshops in their wood shop. They will not compete with the Guild's program, but believe the additional opportunity for Guild members to teach may be welcome, and have different offerings that serve different age groups and levels of experience.

MAC's current woodturning instructor, Jerry Harris, is retiring. Classes have been full with waitlists every term, and there is a lot of interest to keep this part of our program continuing.

For decades MAC has offered woodworking classes for youth (some with parents - for the very youngest ages), with ages running from 2-18. They are hoping to bring the program back, after being on hold during the pandemic.

Additional opportunities in all wood arts offerings are available, and interested educators are welcome to apply.

Below is the link to the call to educators from the City. They hope to hire instructors for courses beginning this summer and beyond.

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/portlandor/jobs/3850853/recreation-employment-music-and-arts-centers-ages-18-open-continuous>

For more information, please contact

Nicole Rawlins (*she, her, hers*), Adult Visual Arts Coordinator, Multnomah Arts Center

503-823-2787 (MAC Main Office) or 503-823-2280 (Nicole's Desk) Nicole.Rawlins@portlandoregon.gov

Editor's Note:

I am off to England once again, consequently the April 30 Newsletter will **NOT** be published. The May 31 issue will be the next you will receive. My apologies in advance but one must travel while one (still) can.



A MOMENT IN MY GARDEN



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