

NEWSLETTER FOR THE
**GUILD OF
 OREGON
 WOODWORKERS**

**OREGON
 WOOD
 WORKS**

Vol. #40, Issue 10
 October 2023
 Portland Oregon

GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION: HYBRID

**CREATING YOSEGI ZAIKU (JAPANESE MARQUETRY)
 OR MY TRIP TO JAPAN**

PRESENTED BY JOE WHEATON
 Guild Studio
 7634 SW 34th St, Portland, OR 97219

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023 - 7PM

By Joe Wheaton

The subtitle for this newsletter piece might suggest that I am going to show you slides from my trip to Japan in September. Luckily for you, that is not the case. However, you need to see the amazing marquetry of the intricate geometric designs called *yosegi zaiku*. Our group visited the town of Hakone, a pleasant resort town southwest of Tokyo, which has been known for this technique for hundreds of years. Hakone was a stop on the Tokaido, the road from Kyoto to Edo (present day Tokyo), and items made using this technique were sold as souvenirs to travelers. The technique is commonly associated with puzzle boxes but can be used to decorate almost any item.

Yosegi zaiku makers arrange small pieces of wood into intricate patterns and then cut off almost unbelievably thin slices that are then glued to a box, a tray, or other item. To make the patterns, woods of distinct colors are cut and then glued together in increasingly complex designs. These designs are then glued together to form a solid block. Traditionally, a hand plane, which cuts on the pull stroke, is then used to shave off the thin slices, but there are now machines that can make the slices. The result is dazzling.

You will not want to miss this presentation, if for no other reason than to see if a modest Guild member (me) can pull this off.

To really appreciate what is involved in the creation of yosegi zaiku, check out this short [video on YouTube of a master](#).

The presentation will take place at the Studio, but of course it will be available on [Zoom at: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96184696029?pwd=MWZOUeZsejJua0pJY2tvcjVSVlFuZz09](#)



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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 **40** 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.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Ruben Alcazar | Henry Kaplan |
| Mark Altenhofen | Benjamin Knapp |
| Emma Anholt | Griffin Lasker |
| Gabriel Bruneau | Stacey Lebenzon |
| Richard Bustamante | Patrick Leis |
| Ryan Carpenter | Lew Lewis |
| Shanita Conerly | Robert Lewis |
| Sean Dolinsky | Justin Loveless |
| Kelley Duilio | Dylan Lyons |
| Sharon Fong Mo | Michael Martin |
| Justin Ford | Megumi Nishimura |
| Kevin Graham | Glendale Phan |
| Matt Haas | Kristina Rasmussen |
| Kyle Haggart | Adam Smith |
| Elizabeth H Jackson | Catherine Smith |
| Renee Jenkins | Huy Vu |
| Emily Johnson | Michael Wahl |
| Josiah Johnson | Mary Yan |
| Miles Johnston | Bryan Young |
| Sung Kang | Robert A Zmuda Sr |



**MAKE
SAWDUST
&
VOLUNTEER**

NOTES FROM THE GUILD PRESIDENT

Ed Swakon, President



October's General Meeting featured Kelly Parker

Kelly Parker, one of our visiting masters, gave us a presentation about her design process. The presentation was a soup-to-nuts presentation (design, idea generation, problem-solving, construction, and finally finishing). From

a picture of chevrons on the cowling of a Boeing Dreamliner to her Dreamliner stool. It was truly an inspirational presentation. Kelly was here for the week teaching two separate classes.



Education Offers Class in Machine Maintenance.

So, you've been to a number of Guild Estate sales and are assembling your home shop with equipment. But do you know the right way to maintain it and keep it in top operating condition? If you need help, then this class is for you. The first offering is already full, but we're looking to schedule more soon.

November General Meeting Creating Yosegi Zaiku (Japanese Marquetry)

Joe Wheaton, our Program Chairman, recently visited Japan and, during his travels, gathered some interesting information on the art of *Yosegi zaiku*. He's got a presentation about this interesting technique. He promises it won't



be a travel log of his trip. Bring something for member show and tell. Future meetings will include Phillip Morley, also a visiting Master, in January. We will not have a "traditional"

general meeting in December, but instead, we will have our Holiday party. That event will be at the Multnomah Arts Center. We will have a gift exchange. I would encourage everyone to make something.

Gary Weeber Receives Volunteer of the Month

We've been presenting the Volunteer of the Month award for about four years now. We try not to duplicate recipients (although it has happened). Last month, I was shocked to learn that Gary Weeber had not received the award before. For as long as I've been a member of the Guild, Gary has always been involved at least 150%. Gary is a very deserving recipient. Thanks for all you do, Gary.

Proposed Candidates for Officers and Directors 2024

At our November general meeting, we will be voting for our Officers and Directors for 2024. The nominating committee has proposed the following candidates.

Position	2024 Proposed
President	Ed Swakon
VP - Programs	Open
VP - Member Support	Mike Sandman
Finance Director	Tom McCloskey
Secretary	Kate Thornton
Shop Operations	Open
Education Director	Steve Poland
Community Outreach	Tim Moore
Planning Director	Renee Fontenot
Membership Director	Stuart Brown
Volunteer Director	Charlie Meyer
Communications Director	Bland McCartha
Immediate Past President	Steve Poland

As you can see, we have a critical position of Shop Operation open. We will be creating a steering committee in an attempt to restructure the tasks needed to complete the work required here. We still 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.

Join us at So Kong Dong for lunch

We will meet for lunch on Monday, November 7th at 11:30 am at So Kong Dong (2840 SE 82nd Ave. in the Fubonn Shopping Center) 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!

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 waitlists.

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](#) – 11/05/23

[Intro to Guild Safety](#) – 11/19/23

[Getting Started](#) – 11/21/23

[Getting Started](#) – 12/05/23

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](#) – 11/18/23

[Core Tool Certification](#) – 12/05/23

Independent Tool Certifications. You must have completed "Core Tool Certification" before taking these classes.

[Sliding Table Saw Certification](#) – 11/21/23 – 1-3pm

CARD SCRAPER CLASS

If you have always wanted to create beautiful shavings rather than tear-out in birds-eye maple, keep an eye out for the next scraper sharpening class, probably in February. Learn how to sharpen and use both card scrapers and cabinet scrapers, for that really demanding wood.

GENERAL WOODWORKING

[Scraper Sharpening](#) – 10/28/23, 2-5pm

[Leatherworking for Woodworkers](#) – 10/29/23, 1-5pm

[Introduction to CNC Routing](#) – 11/11/23

[The Basics of Milling](#) – 11/18/23 – 9am-1pm

[Introduction to Hand Cut Through Dovetails](#) – 11/18/23 -1-5pm

[Open Studio Hand Tool Mentoring](#) – 11/26/23 -1-5pm

[Hand Cut Dovetail Drawer Box](#) – 4 sessions – Dec 2-Dec 10

[Open Studio Hand Tool Mentoring](#) – 12/10/23 – 1-5pm

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](#)

STAKE LEG STOOL CLASS

The Stake Leg Stool class was October 8. Students had the option to use a curved track router sled to dish the seat and hand planes to bevel the bottom edges to mimic the same curve.



LtoR: Earl Swigert, Madeline Edwards, Ginny Benware class assistant, Robert Criteser, Quin Colling, Molly Gergetta. Steve Poland instructor sitting, Tim Moore also assisted.

TAKE TEN HOME CLUB

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

A first step for new Guild members, The Take Ten Home Club in *Introduction to Guild Safety* classes. 10/7/23



Awesome display of advanced technology, *Introduction to Guild Safety*, 10/24/23



The second class in the *Getting Started* series. Let's make a tool box. Instructors, Tim Hryciw and Jeff Hilber.



A recent General Meeting.

THE WORLD OF DOVETAILS

INTRODUCTION TO HAND CUT THROUGH DOVETAILS

November 18



We all know that dovetails are one of the signature joints of quality woodworking. Many of us also know that making dovetails can be approached in different ways.

The Guild is going to open up the world of dovetails to you by offering classes that introduce you to dovetails and with classes on different ways to make them.

We are starting with the class **INTRODUCTION TO HAND CUT THROUGH DOVETAILS** on November 18 from 1-5 pm in the Studio.

This is where you get started. Learn how to mark out dovetails and the proper sawing technique. You will also learn proper chiseling techniques. This class will not make you an expert but it will give you the information needed for you to get the right start!

INSTRUCTOR: Bob Mack

What's Next: Making dovetails with the table saw? The bandsaw? WHAT? Just watch.

HAND CUT DOVETAIL DRAWER BOX

December 2,3,9,10

A second class will teach you how to make dovetails as part of a piece of furniture. **HAND CUT DOVETAIL DRAWER BOX** is being offered in December. This is a deeper dive into dovetails that will occur over four sessions. Those sessions are on December 2, 3, 9, 10 in the Studio. The participants will learn the basics of hand cutting dovetails for a drawer that will fit into a simple plywood box. You will master layout, cut, and fitting of the through and half-blind dovetail joint. You will leave with a final drawer box that will show off your newly learned dovetail skills!



INSTRUCTOR: Steve Poland



YURI KOBAYASHI

The Mid-Willamette Woodworkers Guild based in Corvallis, Oregon is hosting the artist and woodworker Yuri Kobayashi at the Corvallis Museum. This will be a captivating talk that will give woodworkers a glimpse into Yuri Kobayashi's unique artistic journey. Yuri will showcase her work and introduce the principles behind her unique approach to woodworking.

<https://www.yurikobayashi.studio/>

Yuri Kobayashi will offer a lecture on her unique curved work on Friday, November 10 from 7-9 pm at

the Corvallis Museum, 411 SW Second Street, Corvallis. She will teach a workshop the next day but it is open only paid Mid-Willamette Guild members. She was featured recently in American Craft magazine.

If you have any questions please email, text, or call.

Stan Hall
Mid-Willamette Woodworkers
Publicity Coordinator
541-990-3867

A SOMEWHAT LESS THAN FINE WOODWORKING PROJECT — FOR THE BIRDS!

By Jim Spitzer

Around this time of the year I am working hard making a bunch of small, but refined gifts for distant relatives and a few lucky locals. Examples from a three-year period include the pictured Ying-Yang bowl, a Gary Rogowski inspired box, and a folding book/music stand. And I just attended Ruth Warbington’s Box-making SIG that featured methods of making different boxes using methods in higher volume, benefiting from efficiency through an economy of scale.

What to make this year?

My wife and I have long supported the birds. We are members of Portland Audubon, our small garden is a Certified Backyard Habitat, and we maintain six bird feeders during the cold weather months. How about expanding these efforts through a few friends and relatives around the country? I’ve seen the ‘deluxe’ suet feeders with a roof and a tail to help support larger birds.

With a very little bit of creativity I figured I could make a better looking form (to humans) with a bit of creativity applied to the roofs and tails. They only have one joint, a mortise and tenon attaching the tail to a wood floor to which the bottom of the suet feeder is attached. The tails are inspired by those of several species, with the swallow being the most conspicuous. The roofs are basic roof forms including one that is Asian inspired. The hanging wire is 1/16 stainless steel cable simply threaded into holes in the roof and secured by dripping CA glue into the hole. The suet feeder cages are readily available from the Portland Audubon store and other sources.

Here are a few photos:



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.

OCTOBER 2023 – GARY WEEBER

This month's recipient of the Volunteer of the Month is Gary Weeber. Gary is pretty hard to pigeon-hole into an area of volunteer work because he has volunteered in almost everything the Guild does. While currently serving as Education Lead he has also served multiple times on the Board of Directors; Programs; Shop Attendant; he served as the Guild's vice president for a couple of years, and too many others to list. But perhaps his greatest contribution to

of time and provides an example for all of us of volunteer commitment to our all-volunteer organization.

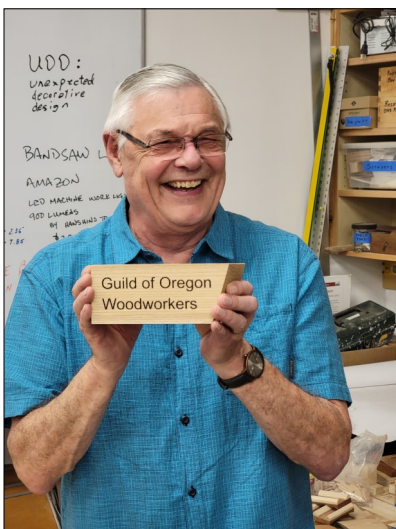
Since Gary is not your typical volunteer and he always puts his unique touch on things, here is what Gary has to say about volunteering for the Guild:

I am honored to receive this. Although the award points me out it really represents everyone who volunteers. Volunteering is so much a part of the Guild DNA that it comes naturally. The MANY volunteers of the Guild share this with me because the Guild thrives only due to what we all contribute.

We are pleased to have Gary Weeber as our Gig Lewis Volunteer of the Month for October 2023

the Guild is his energy, his willingness to assist others with anything from a simple question to a long term vision for various functions, projects and just about anyone asking for his help.

His second greatest offering to the Guild is his smile. Somehow that makes it seem that everything is all right. All that means that he has volunteered massive amounts



VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR RECOGNIZING OUR DONORS.

The Guild is fortunate to have a number of donors that help support our mission. We are seeking a volunteer to prepare and send letters to our donors thanking them for their contribution. This volunteer role works with the Guild Treasurer who provides the information to the Donor Acknowledgment volunteer to prepare and send a letter of thanks and acknowledgement to the donor

You would be able to work from home and prepare and mail about 15 letters per month and a bit more at year end. In addition to carrying a prestigious title this position also qualifies you for the volunteer appreciation program.

If you are interested in taking on this volunteer role or if you just want more information reply to Charlie Meyer, Volunteer Director at charlie.meyer@guildoforegonwoodworkers.org.

SIGs

EAST WEST - OLD MEETS NEW

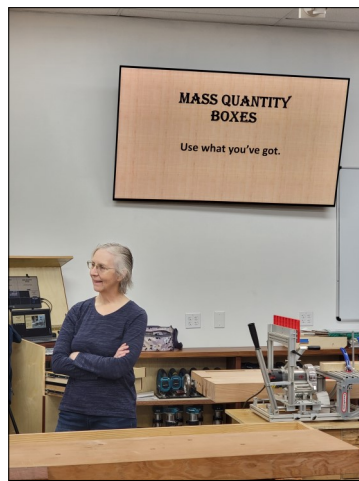
SPOTLIGHT ON CNC SIG

You are probably aware of the ancient Japanese art of Kumiko, making beautiful geometric patterns with small precisely cut wooden pieces. Many of you have taken Kumiko classes from Michael Pekovich or Ruth Warbington.

Guild member Rich Bader has spent countless hours during the past few weeks using his CNC to make Kumiko designs. Kumiko on CNC!?! Brilliance or blasphemy? While coaster-size projects can fill an afternoon with Zen-like delight, larger scale projects can test anyone's pa-

tience. With its precise repeatability, CNC is the ideal tool to crank out dozens or hundreds of pieces, opening the door to a wide variety of projects.

If you Google "Kumiko on CNC" you won't find much. No one has recreated the same beautiful joinery. Until now. Rich Bader has developed a process to create Kumiko on CNC with results that mimic hand cut work. Come see how it's done at the upcoming CNC SIG meeting. In the Studio, Thursday November 9th at 7PM. Click [here](#) to register.



Box SIG with Ruth Warbington

BROKEN ON THE ROCK OF WAR

Has been selected for the nationally juried exhibit, Our True Heroes, at the Gilroy, CA, Center for the Arts, 64 W 6th Street, (408-206-0018). The November show contact is Emily McEwan-Upright.

John Sheridan's sculpture consists of twelve small stools designed, made and painted red, white, blue and black, placed in arcs around a block of Sierra granite strewn with broken bits of stone and a hammer. The stools are made of recycled plywood from shipping crates. In a permanent installation the seating would be cut stone.

First made for a meeting of the California Statewide Collaborative (for assistance for discharged veterans) *Broken On The Rock of War* was made by John Sheridan of Portland, Oregon.

The installation invites visitors to use the setting for meditation, contemplation and discussion about what should be done to assist military veterans, particularly the youngest, who have served in the "war on terror" and have not had the opportunity to deal with the psychological aspects of what they experienced. The setting is intended to provide a place to search for reflection and inner peace.

The colors of the stools, of course, are the colors of the American flag and reference to patriotism and, with the black, to the despair and helplessness that may affect up to 50% of the combat veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.



MASSIVE OLD TOOL AUCTION - DEC 2ND RARE TOOLS & ROSEWOOD SLABS!

Many of our Guild members also enjoy the monthly meetings sponsored by the PNTC, the Pacific Northwest Tool Collectors. They generally meet 10 times per year in Oregon or Washington, and each meeting features displays, tool sales, auctions, and a lot of well-informed talk about old tools.

The PNTC also handles estates in their auctions, but they have had so many requests for this service that they were already booked until next April, according to Bill Racine. To dissolve part of that logjam, they have decided to hold an extraordinary auction in December, at Bill's place in Hillsboro. This address is 12780 SW 231st Pl, Hillsboro OR 9712. The auction will consist of at least 300 lots, or triple the usual auction. It starts at 9:30 and Bill expects it to run until 3:00 or so. There will be a break for lunch which you can purchase for \$7:00.

Check out their website to get an idea of what an auction lot looks like

<https://pntc.website/pntc-meeting-schedule>

Rosewood slabs.

Bill is selling some of his own stock of wood in the second auction of the day, which he thought would start about 10:30 or so. In addition to oak and walnut, Bill is auctioning off some rare slabs of Honduran rosewood.

They are typically 3" by 17" by 8 feet.

Yes, you read that right.

These slabs will have a reserve price of \$24 per board foot, but the auction will determine their final price.

This will be a very special event.



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.

NOVEMBER

Monday, November 7th at 11:30 am

So Kong Dong

2840 SE 82nd Ave. (in the Fubon Shopping Center)
Portland OR

DECEMBER

Monday, December 4th at 12 Noon

(please note this change of time for this one Meet-up).

Victoria Bar

4835 N. Albina Ave. Portland, OR

This is a (mostly) vegan Bar/Restaurant. They also have a few gluten free options. (And meat based options for the carnivores in the group.)

The restaurant opens at noon. On street parking only.

Three blocks east of the Alberta St. exit off I-5.



Jim Spitzer's Bird Feeder



A MOMENT IN THE GARDEN

THE GUILD IS PROUD TO BE SPONSORED BY:

The Guild is grateful to be supported by numerous local businesses, our sponsors. Please patronize them when you can. Most offer some kind of discount to members, with some restrictions. We hope you will thank them for their support when you are at the cash register. *Click on their logos below to go directly to their website.*

