

GUILD OF OREGON WOODWORKERS

P.O. Box 13744, Portland, OR 97213-0744
<http://www.guildoforegonwoodworkers.com>

Our 21st Year!

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 21, No. 5 May 2004

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 16th at Crosscut Hardwoods in Portland, located at 3065 NW Front Avenue. Gary Rogowski of the Northwest Woodworking Studio will lead the program, which will include creating a stool using green wood and a draw knife on his knife horse. This will be a meeting you won't want to miss! The board meeting starts at 5pm; general meeting starts at 7pm. All members are welcome to come to the board meeting.

Directions from I-5 going north or south:

Take I-405 towards US 26W
Take Hwy 30 W to St. Helens
Merge onto Yeon
Take the Front Avenue ramp to Terminal 1-2
Turn right onto NW Front

FROM THE PRESIDENT by John DuBay

John Economaki has shown us again his value as a supporter and inspiration to the Guild. His demonstration of Argon, the 3-D, surface rendering, and solids representation CAD program at the last meeting was stunning. As Lee Johnson explains below, what we now call "the Economaki Challenge" raises the bar for everyone who aspires to do the kind of woodworking that justifies accolades and also, as John phrases it, is "worthy of the space it occupies." We all owe him our gratitude for his help in lifting our standards of craftsmanship and the worthiness of our work.

John points out that meaningful work and the true reason for being a woodworker should be based on "an understanding of the principles that drive our perceptions of beauty: proportion, harmony, grace, eye flow, texture" and the other elements that make up great work. These all contribute to the "form" of a piece that is more important than craftsmanship or how the piece was put together. This view seems to apply to designer-craftsmen who aspire to be both artists as well as craftsmen. With some exceptions, it is difficult to see how it applies to those who build from plans and those who emphasize utility, durability or other non-aesthetic values.

I'd like to offer an alternative view that other reasons exist for being a woodworker, and that producing a beautiful form may not be the paramount motivation, or even a necessary one. Better minds than mine have said so. For example, re-read "The Impractical Cabinet Maker," Ch. 1, by James Krenov.

I believe many of us do woodworking simply for the enjoyment and pleasure it gives us. That is, the *experience* of woodworking, the enjoyment we get from it, is reason enough why we do it. As a personal example, I recall the wooden lap-strake canoe I built from plans about 20 years ago. I had no boat-building

guru to advise me and no ready source for long boards for planking. Yet, when I look at her today, I relish the memory of lofting her lines on the garage wall, sawing and mounting the frames on the mold, scarfing the eight-foot Port Orford cedar boards into 16-foot plank stock, shaping and fitting each plank to the molds, clench nailing and riveting the planks together, fitting all the odd angled pieces for thwarts, breasthooks, and wales. She was, to me anyway, a beautiful and shapely craft, and I was proud of her. I still am.

The point is that the *experience* I had turning flat boards into a curvy boat and the sense of accomplishment from the doing of it is why I do woodworking today. That may also explain why so many experienced woodworkers have proudly showed me the first box or bookcase they ever built.

So we will work with John Economaki to make his “challenge” another learning experience for Guild members. I agree that a higher order of woodworking can be achieved through diligent attention to design principles and craftsmanship. But I will always give equal billing to the simple pleasures of the work itself, namely, the pleasure of creating and then being able to touch and smell and feel your creation. We cannot all become Sam Maloofs. But we can all experience the same enjoyment in woodworking, and feel that marvelous sense of accomplishment from having done it.

MEETING MINUTES:

In our continuing effort to provide a more interesting and informative newsletter, our format for providing you with information from the board meeting has changed slightly. Rather than providing board minutes, board announcements will now be featured under the General Meeting minutes.

GENERAL MEETING:

President John DuBay opened the meeting and asked new members and visitors to identify themselves so we could welcome them to the Guild and called for updates:

New Seminar Chairman

John Sharp will be taking over as seminar chairman. The Board has officially nominated him, and the members will vote next meeting to install him permanently. Eric Snow asked to be relieved of the duty because he is being kept more than busy with his nuclear engineering degree studies. Thanks, Eric, and welcome, John.

Scholarship Status

Vice-President Lee Johnson reported the first “internal” Guild scholarship for \$300 has gone to Bob Passaro of Eugene, to help pay tuition for his Mastery Program at Northwest Woodworking Studio. Two third-year students at the Oregon College of Art and Craft, Matt McCalmont and Todd Isaacs, each received \$250 from the Guild’s “external” scholarship program. In addition, the Northwest Woodworking Studio is advertising for women candidates for a summer program scholarship (NWS is adding money to the Guild’s \$500 to do this one.) We hope to open another round for applications for the internal Guild grants soon.

December Show Status

Shows Chair George DuBois said planning and subscription to the December show is going well. This is the show being done with the Best of the Northwest. We have 50 booth commitments, three new sponsors, and three schools (NWS, OCAC and the American School of Lutherie) joining the show. We are looking for a sponsor to fund student prizes. There will be a non-professionals booth for Guild members who want to show but not sell, and there will be a booth for professionals who want to show and sell but not rent an individual booth; a fee schedule will be established for each entry. There will also be the 2X4M competition, which is always a great deal of fun; hoping for at least 20 entries, with a \$10 entry fee to be used for awards.

Volunteer Needs

Vounteers Chair Earl Swigert then briefed on the need for volunteers to staff the Guild's booth at both the Salem Art Festival and the State Fair. Those interested should contact Earl and get on his schedule. If you haven't already gotten a note from Earl with the schedules, you can contact him by e-mail or by phone (he's on the Website.)

Program

President John DuBay then turned the meeting over to our host, John Economaki, the director of Bridge City Tool Works. John presented a program on designing woodwork on the computer – and gave the presentation on a computer projector. It was a fascinating exposition of Argon, the design program that allows surface, solids and 3-dimensional views of your work. It is clearly a design tool at the cutting edge. Be sorry if you missed the presentation.

However, it was John's introduction that caught our attention. He noted with some approval our Guild habit of calling for "show and tell" items, but said he would offer a \$25 Bridge City Tool Works gift certificate to those who might be willing to step up and show and tell *why* this piece is worth occupying its space – "what's left over when the work is done?" John noted that most buyers of our product first see the overall shape, then see the finish, and almost never closely examine the craftsmanship, but that the craftsmanship is almost always the focus of us woodworkers – when we're not showcasing our own ideas of fantastic woods and grains.

This sounded like a challenge. Was he serious? We followed up with him the next day. He is serious. Here is what he is telling us: "Through this challenge, it is my hope that the true reason for being a woodworker comes front and center; an understanding of the principles that drive our perceptions of beauty. Proportion, harmony, grace, eye flow, and texture are but a few of the elements that make up great work. To be brutally honest, when we are all gone, of the work that remains, NOBODY is going to give a hoot about HOW it was made. Material choices may enhance the appreciation of the effort, but what really remains is the form. Here's an example of what I mean. Sam Maloof is a good friend of mine, and the number one question he is asked about his chairs when he speaks to woodworking groups is, 'What glue do you use?' It is an incredibly ridiculous question that ignores why he is who he is, and those attributes have nothing to do with glue. So, I am on my mission to make woodworkers (who I think are the BEST people on the planet) aware that there is a big responsibility when they commit time and resources to a project. It is an opportunity for immortality! How many others get this opportunity? What transcends the passing of cultures but the art?"

John also started us with a list of questions that go to *why* a piece was made; how you arrived at this design; why you chose these proportions; relationship of pieces to the whole; interaction of the piece with the space around it, including negative space; once built, how would you change this piece and why didn't you see it before you built it? He has offered to follow up with us to make this challenge an instructive reality, and we will take him up on it. Stay tuned.

By the way, his challenge already provoked some reaction. Member Les Hedquist sent this quote:

"He who approaches the temple of the Muses without inspiration in the belief that craftsmanship alone suffices will remain a bungler and his presumptuous poetry will be obscured by the songs of the maniacs." -Plato

Want to send in your own thoughts on the matter? Send them to Vice President Lee Johnson at leejohnson13@comcast.net and he'll compile them. We'll find a way to share them all with you, either by a little special insert or article in the next newsletter or by a separate mailing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOW HERE'S A REALLY BIG WOODWORKING SHOW

(See the Guild website for updates, including the Show's schedule of events.)

The Best of the Northwest joins with the **Guild of Oregon Woodworkers** to present, "A Marketplace for Fine Art and Crafts and a Fine Woodworking Exhibition." The show will be held at the Portland Convention Center December 4th and 5th, 2004. Besides the fine art & crafts area, the woodworking show will feature the work of more than 40 craftsmen, including fine furniture, carving, sculpture, marquetry, intarsia and wood turnings. The show is a first in collaboration between an established fine arts & crafts show and a woodworking guild in which the fine woodworking occupies a major portion of the show. The woodworking area alone is nearly 5,000 square ft. There will also be historical and educational exhibits featuring a Master's Showcase, a High School Students' Showcase, a Woodworking Schools' Showcase and a showcase of work by non-professionals. We hope to make exhibitor awards as well. A prospectus & application are available online at <http://www.guildoforegonwoodworkers.com/Shows.aspx> or by mail. Applications are due by September 1, 2004. Additional information can be obtained from George E. DuBois, show chairman, 1325 Cara Ct. NW, Salem, Or 97304 - Tel: 503-365-7636 or by email at duboisge@comcast.net.

GUILD FIELD TRIP ITINERARY FOR JUNE 26, 2004:

1. Lee Radtke's shop: Lee is a Guild past president, one of its founders, a working professional, and a great teacher. Plan on about 2 hours at Lee's shop.
2. Bill Bolstad's shop: Bill is currently a Guild member and another of the Guild's founding father. Bill has made his living for the last 25 years designing and making the beautiful boxes he sells all over the world. He is a steady supplier for the Real Mother Goose and will show us some of his box-building techniques.
3. We'll have a picnic lunch (bring your own) either at Lewis Judy's place or at Bill Bolstad's place. After that, it's on to:
4. Lewis Judy of Northwest Timbers: Lewis is a sponsor and Guild founding father. He will show us his shop, kilns, and the most beautiful wood on the planet. He specializes in curly and quilted Western Maple, Oregon Walnut in all figures, birds-eye and quilted hard maples, some fantastic Oregon Myrtle, and beautiful burls. Bring lots of money or you'll miss out.

GUILD FIELD TRIP FOR JULY 10, 2004:

We have scheduled a field trip to visit one of our sponsors Goby Walnut in Albany. Dr. Gary Goby is the largest purveyor of Oregon Black Walnut© in the country, and he sells it all over the world. He will delight us with a very special tour of his facilities and show us some of his more than 250,000 board feet of stock. He has every imaginable type of figured walnut and some of the most beautiful Oregon Black Walnut veneers that you will ever see. He also has one of our very own professionals, Doug Vincent, making veneered panels that will totally blow you away. Hopefully, we can get Doug to accompany us on this trip as well. There is no other place like this in the world, so come and enjoy. We'll also have a picnic lunch at Goby Walnut, so bring your bag of goodies and a full pocketbook of moolah.

2x4M CONTEST FOR DECEMBER SHOW

Here's a new contest to provide you with an opportunity to get really creative using a 2x4. Following are the rules to participate in the contest. The Guild will be establishing a group soon to get things underway. Contact George DuBois in Salem at 503-365-7636 for more information about contest rules.

2X4M[©] Two-by-Form Design Challenge[©]

Rules

1. The material used should be a single piece of soft, clear, easily workable wood such as poplar, alder, pine or fir, but any wood is acceptable.
2. The dimension of the board must be 2" x 4" x 96", milled reasonably straight and square.
3. From this board, you may construct an object or several closely related objects of any kind, whether artistic, demonstrative, functional or kinetic.
4. At least one-half of the volume of the original 2x4 must appear in the final design.
5. While any means of machining, forming, fastening and assembly may be employed; unusual or complicated joinery is of no advantage unless it is a necessary part of the design's intent.
6. One other type of material may be included in the piece, i.e. Mirror for a frame, glass for a table, hinges, or upholstery. This extra material should not dominate the design.
7. While finish or paint of a single color is allowed, finishing techniques do not contribute to the main objective of the 2x4m Design Challenge.
8. The idea is that designing with a limited volume of material will inspire each participant to unlimited creativity.

Additional questions may also be sent to Jeff Hilber at zeke@2x4m.com.

WALNUT TREE BRIGADE

Volunteers on the "Walnut Tree Brigade" will have an opportunity to purchase harvested wood at \$2 bd. ft. The brigade of Guild volunteers is continuing to work on cutting down a group of walnut trees in Independence. The group will be scheduling another weekend soon for additional work. Contact George DuBois at 503-365-7636 if you are interested in helping.

LAST CALL ON THE FLAG CASE PROJECT

Volunteers have been working on building flag cases for families of the victims of 9/11. There are 14 cases, already cut and ready to assemble. If you would like to help on this important project, contact George DuBois at 503-365-7636.

STUDENT SHOW

The Student Show is calling for entries for this year's show at the Oregon State Fair. The show runs from August 26th through September 6th and is open to all Oregon students of at least middle school age. Help us get the word out! For more information, contact Mitch Patton at: 1292 White Cloud Dr. SE, Salem, OR 97301, 503-884-3713, psmr@cpmcast.net. You may also contact Drew Parrish at 90000 Prairie Rd., Suite #26, Eugene, Oregon 97402, 541-689-9021, drew@playful.com.

The Student Show is done in conjunction with Woodcrafter's in Portland. Robert Markley, Woodcrafter's graphic designer, makes the annual posters, and prepares and makes all the direct mailings to schools which include the invitations to compete and entry forms. Robert tells us that thanks to his new electronic mailing capability, the mailings went out in February this year. That will give the students more time to prepare – thanks, Robert. Woodcrafter's has also historically furnished gift certificates as prizes in the competition.

GUILD OF OREGON WOODWORKERS 2004 SEMINAR SERIES

*****Please note that one of the dates has changed.*****

The Guild is very happy to announce this year's bumper crop of woodworking seminars, designed to meet the needs of all levels of woodworkers. Please register for the classes you want by filling out the registration from below (see the form after the class list) and returning it to the seminar chair, John Sharp, at a guild meeting or by US mail. You are registered only after the Guild has your check and form. Class space in most

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seminars is limited. Classes that do not have a minimum number of registered folks two weeks before the event may be subject to cancellation, so register early. Cost is \$40 for members and \$50 for non-members; registration on the day of a seminar is an additional \$10.00. Questions about individual seminars can be addressed to presenters whose contact information is on the Guild's web site, or you may contact John Sharp at jsharp_112@hotmail.com or (360)892-2325.

SEMINAR	INSTRUCTOR	DATE
Making your own fine hand tools	Eric Hayes	June 12
Building a simple web site	Regis Perigrin	June 26
Establishing your own woodworking business	Dean Mattson	July 17
Design and the art of Chair Making	Terry Bostwick	July 31
Finishing 2, use of Milk paint, crackle finishes and other unique finish materials.	Gavin O'Grady	Aug 7
How to use "Ecabinet Systems" computer design software	Jason Susnjara	Sept 18
Carving Ball and Claw Legs	Lee Johnson	Sept 25*
Veneering 1	Doug Vincent	Oct 9
Veneering 2	Doug Vincent	Oct 10

*indicates new date

2004 Guild of Oregon Woodworkers Seminar Registration Form

Name	Seminar
Address	Guild member Y N
Phone Number	Cost
Email Address	
Mail checks payable to the Guild of Oregon Woodworkers and send to:	
John Sharp	
12018 NE 28 th St.	
Vancouver, WA 98682	

THE GUILD LIBRARY

The Guild Library is open to all members and is continuing to grow. Please check out the Guild's website for a full listing of our collection & for information on how to check out some of these resources.

MENTORS WANTED: The Guild has several members looking to expand their skills. Therefore, we are in need of additional mentors. Come share in a great opportunity for growth and fellowship among your Guild brothers and sisters. Your skill level is not so important as is your willingness to share what you know. All specialties are welcome! We can make the introduction for you, and after that you and your student decide where and when to get together. This has been a very gratifying experience for past mentors and students and it's just waiting for you too! To take part, start by contacting your mentoring coordinator, Ariel Enriquez (email: arielyphyllis@msn.com, or leave a phone message at 503-286-4828).

Email Updates: We need your current email address. If and when you change addresses, please notify the Guild so we can keep our records up to date. Notify Joe Stoltzfus, who keeps track of the membership master list (joemarj@earthlink.net). Thanks!

Put pictures of your work on our website! Webmaster David Doughty is seeking photos from professional members for the website gallery. This is an easy way to showcase your work to the public at no cost to you! He will also publish a brief biography of the member and information on how to contact you. Check out the website to see how it works, then contact David and send him your material. This is yet another way the Guild serves its members.

Joining the Guild: If you wish to join the Guild or renew your membership, please contact Joe Stoltzfus at 503-763-0829, or joemarj@earthlink.net. And be sure to promote the Guild to your friends and associates who have an interest in woodworking. The Guild is a great resource!

EDITOR'S CORNER

When submitting information to the newsletter, please use the following guidelines: information should be complete; no fancy fonts or font colors and no tables or graphics, all of which take a tremendous amount of time to reformat. The information you submit should be what you want to see in print. The editor does only minor editing.

Reminder: DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER is 5pm on the Wednesday following the Guild meetings. Classified ads run for only one issue. Contact me to renew your ad at fundingsolutionsnw@comcast.net, 503-371-8886, 1665 Diamond Peak Ct. NW, Salem, OR 97304.

CLASSIFIEDS

(Reminder: Ads need to be resubmitted each month, by 5pm on the Wednesday following the Guild meeting, if you want them to run again. Thanks!)

Maple Burl all shapes sizes and colors, exotics: 20 years experience in the trade means a lot of excellent burl and good deals. Contact Tim Shipp at 1-800-656-0677 or 541-367-3495.

2 Shop Spaces Available: One space open beginning in July; another space opens beginning in September; each space \$650/month each plus shared utilities, currently \$50/month each. The shop is fully equipped with 2 table saws, band saw, edge bander, planer, jointer, spray booth, stationary sanders, mortiser and more. You will have to supply your own power tools and hand tools and have liability insurance. Please contact Christoph at 503-232-3985 or come by and take a look at 2837 SE 17th.

Oregon Black Walnut©, 1/4 through 24/4 –matched tabletops, figured lumber (over 300,000 B.F. inventory), veneer .040 (1mm) thick enough to sand, leaves up to 20” wide and 12 ft. long. Contact Goby Walnut Products at (541) 926-1079 or www.gobywalnut.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING (Classes, seminars, demos, and such)

Northwest Woodworking Studio

1104 NE 28th, Suite A230, Portland (503) 284-1644

<http://www.northwestwoodworking.com>

Gary Rogowski offers both lectures and one-on-one study. The Mastery Program is a 2-year program with fall entry only. Gary is taking applications now for fall 2004 for both the Local and Distance Mastery Program. Call or email Gary now for a prospectus or to be added to the Studio's mailing list.

Rockler Woodworking

*11773 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, Beaverton
(503) 672-7266 www.rockler.com*

Demos and classes on a variety of subjects; call the store for details and see their **Free Saturday demos!**

Oregon College of Art and Craft *8245 SW Barnes Rd, Portland
(503) 297-5544 www.ocac.edu*

OCAC WOOD WORKSHOPS

Table Design Intensive; WD790 • July 12-16; M-F 9-4pm

A simple table with a subtle design problem will be the focus of this one-week workshop; students explore 18th century design solutions as well as contemporary versions from the simple to the sculptural, including creating the perfect prototype. Register by June 25. Paul Henry, Instructor

The Sculptural Object; WD791 • Aug 16-20; M-F 9-4pm

Students explore creative possibilities using wood as a primary material to make small to medium scale sculpture; develop a free flow of ideas with an emphasis on intuitive and spontaneous responses; various approaches to carving and shaping wood; developing a painted surface; examples of other artists working in wood. Register by Aug. 9. David French, Instructor

Woodworking with Hand Tools; WD801 • May 24-June 30 (11 sessions); M/W 6:30-9:30pm; examine the important furniture-making foundation of hand tools; explore the performance of saws, chisels and hand planes and produce several projects, including a dovetail box or small stool incorporating dovetails. Come ready to build. Register by May 17; Allen Kinast, Instructor

Woodworking with Machine Tools; WD802 • May 25-July 1 (12 sessions); T/Th 6:30-9:30pm; safe and efficient techniques in the use of woodworking with machine tools, including the tablesaw, planer, jointer and plunge router; construct a small table project using mortise and tenon joinery; hand-applied finishing techniques; students choose from a variety of furniture plans with cut lists and time lines. Chris Guttinger, Instructor

Projects; WD803 • May 22-Aug 14 (12 sessions); Sat 9am-12pm; allows students to complete their own project ideas through topical demonstration and hands-on experience. Register by May 14. Seamus Holley, Instructor

Chair Basics; WD890 • July 7-Aug 15 (10 sessions); M/W 6:30-9:30pm; focus on the complexities of chair design and construction through demonstration and hands-on instruction with an expert in the field; basic upholstery techniques for a padded seat will also be demonstrated; Dennis Loveland, Instructor

Woodcraft *12020 SW Main St., Tigard (503) 684-1428*

Call store for details of class content, tools required, etc. or visit their web site at:

<http://www.woodcraft.com>

Woodcrafters *212 NE 6th Ave., Portland (503) 231-0226*

Free Saturday demos from 10am to 3pm by a variety of local and nationally known artisans. Call the store for details of upcoming classes.

GUILD OF OREGON WOODWORKERS
P.O. Box 13744 Portland, OR 97218

First Class Mail

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is proud to be sponsored by:

Barbo Machinery, Portland
Bridge City Tool Works, Portland
Crosscut Hardwoods, Portland
Euro Assembly Systems, Forest Grove
Goby Walnut Products, Albany
Hardwood Industries, Tualatin
Lumber Products, Tualatin
Northwest Woodworking Studio, Portland
Oregon College of Art and Craft, Portland
Rockler Woodworking, Beaverton
The Tool Peddler, Portland
Woodcraft, Tigard
Woodcrafters, Portland