

OREGON WOOD WORKS

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY JOHN DUBAY

At the June meeting at SawStop in Wilsonville, we witnessed a dream come true for three Oregon woodworkers. What a story. Three woodworkers, two of them patent attorneys, invented a system to brake a spinning sawblade and instantly lower it below the saw table top when the blade contacts flesh. While their design goal was to limit cutting to no deeper than 1/8th inch, an injury requiring at most a stitch or two, I could barely see the nick on the demonstration hot dog.

But there's more. After failing to convince saw makers to incorporate such a remarkable safety measure into saws now on the market, the three-man team took it on themselves to design a new table saw. It includes additional safety features as well as provisions to maintain blade alignment and dust collection by means that will warm a woodworker's heart. The saw is so thoughtfully engineered and constructed, many members opined they wanted a saw like that even without the signature braking system.

Since the saw has been on the market (I'm told they sold over 700) they have received seven reports of "saves" where the system avoided serious injury or amputations. You can see the names and dates of some in the full-page ad in the August issue of Fine Woodworking.

The bad news is that the designers no

longer have time for woodworking. They quit their jobs and now report they are enjoying new careers selling the saw and designing new tools using a similar braking system.

This story reminds me of the many woodworkers I've met in booths at the annual woodworking tool show selling tools they designed. They once had an idea to improve a tool or procedure in the shop, and followed through to produce and market their tool ideas. They mostly started in a shop like many of us own, usually in a garage, but all had a desire to find a better, faster or easier way to add to our woodworking bag of tricks. Examples include the Micro Fence for routers, the DUBY table saw sled, the Keller dovetail jig templates, and, of course, the whole Bridge City Tools catalogue.

The point I'm trying to make is that I'm continually impressed with the talent and capacity of woodworkers to invent and design the tools of the craft in addition to the things they make with wood. Guild activities foster such creativity through its seminars, and opportunities to exchange ideas at every meeting. Yet we could do more to recognize woodworkers who devise a new jig or process on their own. Why not encourage ingenuity at the Show and Tell portion of the meetings? We may not discover a new table saw very frequently, but I'm always up to see a new dovetail layout device.

NEXT MEETING: ANNUAL TOUR OF SHOPS

Always wanted to tour other woodworker's shops? At our next meeting you have the chance!

NOTE: This is NOT the normal Guild meeting night – it's a **Saturday!** July 23rd, 10:00a.m.

Woodcraft Eugene (starting point), 1530 Coburg Road, Eugene, OR, 541-685-0677

Tour begins at Woodcraft. We will carpool to the shops, have lunch and browse at the *famous Eugene Farmer's Market*. Then see more shops and go home with new ideas. This promises to be loads of fun, so don't miss it! More information and a map will be on the website. Maps will be at Woodcraft to the shops, so if you are a little late, you can join us enroute.

Directions:

Take I-5 South past Salem, Corvallis and Albany.

Take exit #195B onto Beltline Hwy.

West toward Florence/Junction City - go 1.1 mile

Take the Coburg Road exit

Turn Left on Coburg Road - go 0.7 mile

Arrive at 1530 Coburg Road, Eugene, on the Right

LIBRARY: There will be no library available for the July meeting in Eugene or the August Picnic meeting. Any checkout for the June meeting is not due until the Sept. meeting. Over due fees for earlier checkouts will not accumulate for July or August.

STAIR RAILS TO BIRDHOUSES

by George DuBois

About two years ago we had this new member from Sublimity who showed us the curved stair rails that he was making for a job. What beautiful workmanship. What talent. Last meeting he brings in several bundles of bird houses that he was donating to the Guild for our Kids Program at the Salem Art Festival. I had given him some wood to use but he said that it would have been more work to plane and get ready so he went out and bought some nice cedar.

At the meeting he also showed me several hundred (?) bird houses that he had made and had around his home and shop. WOW! Now who would have thought that this was the same guy that made those beautiful stair railings. Well it is, so the

next time you see Larry Lofdahl go up and say hi and ask him to show you his collection of bird houses. You'll be amazed. Now look at the sample that he made for us to use at the Salem Art Festival.

Great job Larry and thanks for being a member. BTW, this is the same guy that donated one whole week of his time to help one of our members finish the drywall in his shop.



THE 1ST ANNUAL INNER GUILD SHOW

by Bob Oswald

It was a grand evening. Our wonderful hosts, the folks at Hardwood Industries, provided a very large conference room with chairs and more than enough room to swallow up 25 woodworking contest entries. First class snacks and beverages kept the members and guests well supplied. And there was a great tour of their Tualatin facility, and an introduction to the new wood, Lyptus.

One couldn't help but admire the work that was presented in this show. There were three categories, Professional, Intermediate, and Beginner. In each category there was a 1st and 2nd place cash award and an honorable mention. In addition there was a category called "Best of Show", the prize being the newly instituted "George E. DuBois Award".

I wish that I had finished one of my projects to enter in the show. On the other hand I have to say I'm glad I wasn't competing. But seriously, the real joy of this show that I think

everyone left with, was not the competition, not the winning of prizes, but simply and joyfully the display of works that each person put heart and soul into. There was no such thing as a piece too simple or too grand. All entries were mighty fine pieces of work. And as President John said last month, every person who supported the Guild and reached out beyond comfort zones deserves a warm vote of appreciation.

So we had 25 entries, pretty well distributed among all three levels, beginner, intermediate and professional. I'll tell you that the Guild has some very talented beginners. Of course this category catches the people who have probably just built their first 'official' piece. They're not really ready to be called intermediate because they haven't built a number of projects. So the winners are presented below. Regrets that space doesn't permit photos of all the entries. See the website for a few extra photos.

GEORGE E. DUBOIS AWARD

The Guild, in a recent move to recognize the tireless efforts and the inspiration provided by George DuBois and the inspiration he provides, decided that we needed a special award for this 1st annual Intra-Guild show. The plaque will be made new each year and has a brass plate for the winners name to be engraved. The award will be given for winner of Best of Show. The entry may be at any level. This year's winner, the first winner of the award, is Len Walko in the Intermediate class for his veneer table called "Ellipse". Read his article for the details.



BEST OF SHOW

It was the 3rd veneered piece I made after taking Doug Vincent's basic veneering seminar. My interests have been in veneering for the past few years. After seeing Don DeDobbel-er's award winning Demi Lune table at the Best of the Northwest show, I was pretty much hooked! I developed a friendship with Don, and hosted his 2-day seminar event at my shop. I really learned a lot of advanced veneering techniques that weekend, and wanted to put them to use as soon as possible before I forgot about them. The result is my elliptical coffee table I refer to simply as "Ellipse".

There were a lot of firsts in this table for me. First time making re-sawed veneer, first original design, first time doing a bent lamination, first time using catalyzed lacquer. Don was always just a phone call away, so in the process, I ran up some phone charges, but it saved a lot of mistakes from the trial and error method. Plus I have a really good friend out of the experi-

ence.

When George signed me up with the guild, he said I would become "A better woodworker". He was definitely right on that one!!! I attended quite a few seminars, got my first booth in a show, helped put together one of the best seminars I ever attended and really learned more than I could have ever imagined working on my own experimenting with the trial-and-error method.

"Ellipse" is the 7th piece of fine furniture I've ever made, although I've been a carpenter and cabinet maker for around 30 years. Furniture is a whole different world. I am proud to be the first to have received the "George E DuBois Award". So a special thanks to George! I hope to see this annual guild show grow and have a larger number of entries next year. Woodworking is what we're all about. Might as well strut our stuff!!! I know I'll be better next year!!!! Who knows, I might even sell something one of these days.



Len Walko – "Ellipse"

BEGINNER 1ST PLACE



Steve Haskett – 2x4 chair

What inspired me to make the folding chair? I was making a project for the 2x4 competition last December and thought I would have time to complete two of them. Well that never happened. I completed one project and part of the other. The chair was not finished in time. I finished it in January and had been thinking about making a set of 4 to have on hand for special events at home. I got the idea of the folding chair when we sometimes have functions at home and don't have enough chairs for people to sit. When not in use it folds up and you put them in the closet. The chair is made out of a 2x4x96 inch piece of Tali, some of that inexpensive African hardwood that came available last fall.



BEGINNER 2ND PLACE



Bob Youngren – Farmhouse Coat Rack

BEGINNER 3RD PLACE

This project was built for my granddaughter Kelsey. She also had a doll named Kelsey. Unfortunately her doll got lost and so I decided to keep the bed for now. Although this was the first major project that I have done, I have made several others. But this one was the first real delicate piece that I have attempted. This piece also has no nails in it. Also as I was building it I found out that my scroll saw was running about three to four times faster than it was supposed to be. When the factory rep saw the work that I had done so far on it he was amazed. Once the saw was running correctly things went a whole lot smoother.

Ron Rosgen – Kelsey's Victorian Doll Bed



ROUTER MORTISING FIXTURE

Continued from last month's router issue, here is the other half of using floating tenon joints. Since last month I had occasion to try out this joint. I Love It. What a great discovery – sitting cross legged in the library. This simple fixture is used to route a mortise of a fixed size into most any leg, apron, rail, stile or what-have-you.

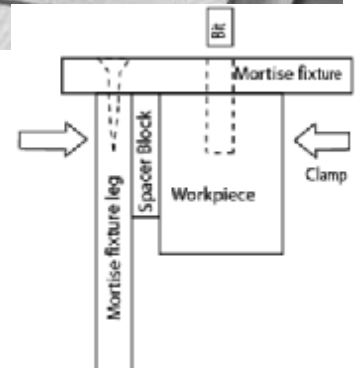
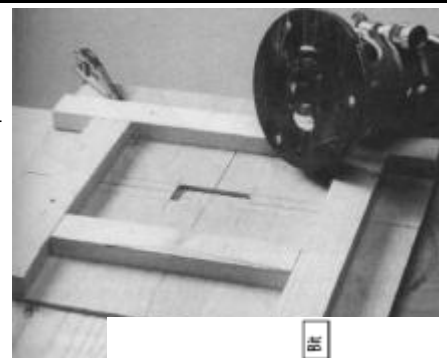
The fixture is a simple tray in which the router basically runs around the inside of the guides. The guides are spaced end-to-end for the length of the mortise. They are spaced side-to-side for width, with one important consideration. The finished slot should be slightly wider than the router bit. This way the bit will be making the proper direction in all directions and will leave a clean cut on all sides of the mortise.

For example, for a $\frac{1}{4}$ " bit, space the sides $\frac{1}{16}$ " wider and then make and use $\frac{3}{16}$ " tenons.

Build a fixture for each different size mortise and tenon you normally use. You could build an adjustable one, but they are so simple that you're safer to never have to calibrate an adjustable one.

There are different options for clamping it to your workpiece. One choice is to screw a vertical board to the fixture as shown below. Then use a spacer block to adjust the center of the mortise to the workpiece. Other options include holding the work on your benchtop in your wood vise and clamping the fixture to your workbench, centered over the work.

By the way, if the size of the mortise is a tiny bit larger than you planned, use masking tape on the inside edges or ends to shim them out.



INTERMEDIATE 1ST PLACE



The inspiration for this chair came from...where else...my wife. A farm table caught her eye in a catalog. It had barn wood aprons and was of heavy pine construction. She liked it, but since our furnishings are mostly cherry and tend to Shaker design, it wasn't suitable for us. So I designed a Shaker style cherry table for our breakfast alcove and edge laminated weathered wood reclaimed from a 100 year old barn in our neighborhood between thin strips of cherry for the aprons. We were quite pleased with the result.

To complement the table I designed and made four armchairs, continuing the motif by using cherry and barnwood aprons. The mortise-and-tenon joints are pinned, with walnut plugs accenting the pins. The finish is oil and polyurethane. They are in daily use in our home.

Tom was not able to be present,
so no photo

Tom McCann – Cherry
and Barn Wood Chair

INTERMEDIATE 2ND PLACE



Len Walko – Mission Style Veneered Sofa Table



ANNOUNCEMENT:

As always, check the Guild website for other announcements, list of officers, or to update your address, phone number or email address.

INTERMEDIATE 3RD PLACE



Jim Lucht – Shaker Style Pedestal Table

My project was inspired by my daughter's old house that she bought and is restoring to the early 1900's in the German, Shaker with some early contemporary style. I had been wanting to do a Shaker style something and now was the time. My project is a Shaker pedestal style table constructed with tiger maple with a water dye concoction that turned out just the right color., 2 coats of shellac sealer, 4 coats of lacquer and 2 applications of

clear Bri-wax. The legs were attached with sliding dovetails evenly spaced around the pedestal, an accomplishment in its own right. This was a nice project to expand new skills and with my Windsor Chairs projects makes for a nice setting.



PROFESSIONAL 1ST PLACE



Hamilton Byerly – Auction table

The first small round table began as a challenge to use some leftover building materials from a large stair job I did a year or two ago: cut off scraps of bender board, three old oak stair treads, etc. I chose to make a round table because I was tired of making things square. I wanted to do something different, something with a few new challenges. If you want challenges, curves are it.

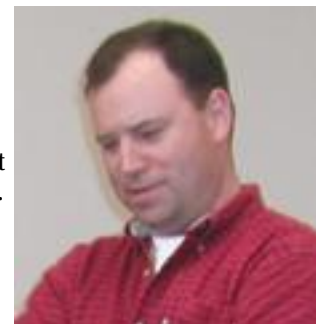
New for me on the first table design were: veneering, joining the legs to the curved

apron, shaping the legs, and public presentation of my work. The scale of the piece was dictated by the material I had on hand. Since I had the form from the first table, I decided to make a second to donate to Providence Montessori School, where my daughters attend, for a benefit auction.

Following is a description of the steps I took in building this piece: I built the circular form and used it to glue up three layers of "bender" board (3/8, 3/8, 1/8 plywood). I trimmed this blank to size, placed it back on the form and glued on the veneer. I used a caul of 3/8 bender board to hold the veneer flat under about 50 clamps! I trimmed the veneer back to the

edge and then laid out where the legs would be mounted. I milled the leg blanks square and then routed a dovetail on each side at the top about 5" long. I transferred the dovetail shape to the apron and the curve of the apron to the leg, squared the lines down the face of the apron, and made the cuts with a hand saw. I used a chisel and a gauge to hollow out the back of the leg/dovetail area to fit the curve of the apron. I fine tuned the fit with a rasp. I shaped the legs with the band saw, belt sander, grinder, rasp, and sand paper, doing as many operations as possible with the three legs clamped together to keep them as close to the same shape as possible. At this point, with the legs shaped and fit to the apron, I decided that the bottom edge of the apron, being square, didn't quite fit with all the other curves. I decided to cut some scallops in the bottom edge and played around with several design / layouts (ended up using a Fibonacci series) before settling on the one I used. I traced the shapes onto the apron and cut them out with a jig saw. I cleaned up the cuts with a rasp and glued on scraps of veneer using the cutoffs as clamping cauls. I trimmed up the veneer, sanded, and got it ready for finishing. The top was glued up, rough cut on the band saw, edge routed using a circle cutting jig, and sanded, sanded, sanded... I sprayed about ten coats of water based poly onto the top and apron and I sprayed several coats of black paint onto the legs.

I glued and screwed everything together and voila (or rather, after 100 hours or so) I had one small round table ready to be auctioned off for the benefit of Providence Montessori School. Table number three is stirring in the back of my mind.



PROFESSIONAL 2ND PLACE



George DuBois – Greene & Greene Sideboard

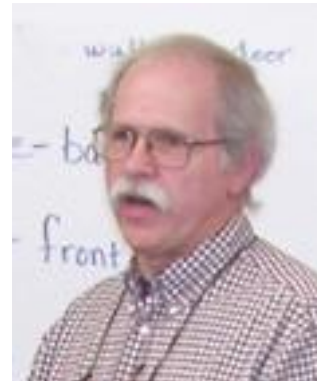
The inspiration for this sideboard was the article done in Fine Woodworking by Gary Rogowski. At first I wanted to duplicate his piece but decided that I should “build my own” in “my interpretation” of Greene & Greene style that I so dearly love. I had just agreed to mentor one of our newer members, Ed Ferguson, so we set out to design and build this piece. Because Ed could only drive to Salem once a week it took a full year to complete the sideboard. Ed is a woodworker who delights and excels in handwork so this piece was a testament to his skills. It was a delight to me seeing the outcome and then receiving a 2nd Place award in the First Annual Intra-Guild Show.



PROFESSIONAL 3RD PLACE



Lee Radtke – Conference Accessory Table



BIRDHOUSES: A warm round of thanks to Larry Lofdahl and Dave Doughty for the large number of birdhouse kits. You guys outdid yourselves!! The Salem Art Festival is coming up in less than a month. Contact George if you plan to help out with a kit OR assist at the show – 503-365-7636. Show time is coming fast. It runs July 15, 16, 17.

THE JUDGING

We had a fine panel of notable and talented judges, people who are sponsors of the Guild and who were willing to help out. In alphabetical order by last name, many thanks to:

Denise Anderson – Rockler,
 John Economaki – Bridge City Tools
 Gary Goby – Goby Walnut Products

Russ Little – Woodcraft in Tigard
 Gavin O’Grady – OCAC
 Marilyn Welter – Crosscut Hardwoods (retired)

They spent their time wandering, thinking, crawling under, analyzing..... all in all a difficult job to pick winners out of so many great pieces of work.



Denise Anderson



John Economaki

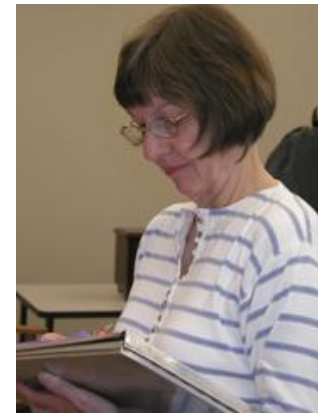


Gary Goby

Sorry, no picture available for Russ Little



Gavin O’Grady



Marilyn Welter

Editorial Note:
 Each winner was contacted to obtain the name of their piece and a short write-up on why it was made. My heartfelt thanks for the contributions.

THE HARDWOOD INDUSTRIES TOUR

Hardwood Industries, to put it simply, grades lumber at this location. They pride themselves in, and have carved out a share of business, providing lumber guaranteed to meet consistent standards. So when a cabinet-maker calls for an order of maple, it can be done with the confidence that the grades of lumber will be consistent to a narrow range of specification and that there won’t have to be a pick-and-choose through it when it arrives.

On the tour we saw grading stations, full warehouses of lumber and what seemed like the world’s biggest supply of Lyptus. They generously donated a number of Lyptus boards as door prizes. And as if Len Walko hadn’t done well enough to win two prizes in the competition, he walked away with the pick of the lumber in the drawing. One has to wonder what it takes to live such a charmed life.

The following comes from the Hardwood Industries website. “Lyptus® is a premium plantation-grown hardwood from Brazil. A natural hybrid of *Eucalyptus grandis* and *E. urophylla*, Lyptus® features many desirable characteristics, including exceptional workability, machining properties, density, finish tolerance and overall strength. This makes it well-suited for diverse high-end applications like furniture, cabinets, flooring and architectural millwork. Building with Lyptus® is a wise environmental choice. Wood is produced using proprietary technology in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner. Eucalyptus is grown on very productive plantations, where stands of indigenous trees are interspersed to preserve natural habitat. Wood can be harvested in just 14 to 16 years – much faster than other premium hardwoods grown in colder climates – ensuring reliable supplies throughout the foreseeable future.”

SHOP OF THE MONTH

Is there any interest in a shop-of-the-month article? I'm tempted to take a couple photos and talk about mine, but I think this kind of article needs participation from the 200+ members of the Guild. Do you love it when someone visits your home and wants a tour of your shop? Would you be proud to talk about why you do what you do? Well, do it! Let me hear from you.

CLASSIFIED ADS

½ HP Skil Model 530 – includes planer attachment, edge guide, 14 assorted Router bits, planer blade, collet wrench and manuals. \$50.00 Call George DuBois 503-365-7636

These machines are really nice from my private shop. All have new Baldor 5 HP single phase motors & magnetic starters. Contact me for further details by e-mail or telephone.

Steve Wray, 541-997-2270 or 541-997-7676, Florence, OR, coastjewelers@qwest.net



Powermatic model 160 Heavy Duty 16" Planer - Recently refurbished. Sharp. \$2950.00



Oliver 38" Bandsaw - Totally re-built: Carter guides: New tires, etc. Smooth, Quiet 21" re-saw capacity. "The Best" \$4500.00



Wadkin Shaper 1 1/4" Spindle - Sliding table with support arm. Router built in the wing. Like new. \$4500.00

The Guild of Oregon Woodworkers is a group of professional and amateur woodworkers like you, committed to developing our craftsmanship and wood-working business skills. The Guild offers many benefits for members, including

- *monthly educational meetings*
- *monthly newsletter*
- *mentoring program to help members develop their skills in specific areas*
- *discounts*
- *woodworking shows*
- *network of business partners (the key to our development as members and as a Guild, providing additional learning opportunities)*
- *and a network of support.*

For information on how you can become a member, contact Guild President John DuBay at 503-391-7890 or email jldubay@comcast.com

GUILD OF OREGON WOODWORKERS

P.O. Box 13744, Portland, OR 97213-0744

CLASSES, SEMINARS, DEMOS, AND SUCH....

Northwest Woodworking Studio 503-284-1644, www.northwestwoodworking.com

Rockler Woodworking 503-672-7266, www.rockler.com

Oregon College of Art and Craft 503-297-5544, www.ocac.com

Woodcraft 503-684-1428, www.woodcraft.com

Woodcrafters 503-231-0226, 212 NE 6th Avenue, Portland

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* These sponsors offer discounts to current Guild members. Refer to the website under *Benefits/Discounts* for details and restrictions. Remember to thank them for their generosity.

Guild of Oregon Woodworkers

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We're on the Web!

www.guildoforegonwoodworkers.com