



Wood FORUM

Newsletter of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association

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May 7th Meeting with Greg Hay, 7 pm

by Art Hofmann



Our next meeting features long time SCWA member Greg Hay, a local woodworker who has been in the game for 23 years. He makes chairs and tables, and other furniture, though his specialty is chairs. Greg's work comes largely through commissions via architects and designers. After more than two decades of work, his enthusiasm for the medium remains high, and his attention to detail undiminished. Greg will talk about his years in the business and his techniques with hand tools, and will show slides of his output. He invites your questions.

He has a large well-organized shop south of the Hessel area that is well-appointed with German machinery and Japanese hand tools, both of which he knows how to use to produce excellent outcomes.

Directions: From 101 take 116 West for 2.9 miles. Turn left on to Hessel Road and continue until Turner Road appears on the left. Take a left on to Turner and continue to Blank Road, and then a left into 5000 Blank Road. You will see a sign that says 5000 Blank Road and Reed Brothers Woodworking. Pull forward to the first building with a blue shipping container to its left. Park on the roads on either side or in back, keeping the center open. Bring your own chair if you expect to sit down.

Business Meeting

by Bill Taft

The business meeting of the SCWA was held on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Cotati Cottages Clubhouse prior to the regular monthly meeting. Jim Heimbach, SCWA treasurer, presided over the meeting in the absence of a chairperson, and Program Chair Art Hofmann, Show Chair Bill Taft, and Guild Chair Larry Stroud were present.

Fourteen of fifty-six members in good standing of the SCWA (25%) were present at the beginning of the meeting, constituting a quorum.

The first item on the agenda was to hold an election for the Chairperson position. The nominating committee recommended Bob Moyer for the position and he has agreed to take it. Bob Moyer was elected, receiving 18 votes, a unanimous decision.

A request for nominees for the Wood Forum Editor position was made. This is the only open board position. There were no nominations for the position at the meeting.

Larry Stroud had four Irwin ten inch circular saw blades that he received for trial. These blades were given to four members whose names were drawn from a hat by our meetings' presenter Elizabeth Lundburg.

Michael Wallace was selling The Furniture Society's book *Mind & Hand* for \$10. These books were donated and the proceeds of the sale will go to help support the work of the students at the Rancho Cotate High School woodshop classes.

A committee has been formed to work on updating the SCWA website. Larry Stroud spoke briefly about some of the proposed changes. A questionnaire will be sent to our members soliciting their opinions on the inclusion of some features. Larry asked for volunteers that have some website experience to help with the changes.

Theo Mueter announced that this was the last meeting that he will be able to attend. Theo and his wife are moving to their new home in New Mexico. He has been a member for about 30 years and was our photographer for many of them. Our best wishes

to Theo and Linda as they embark on this next adventure.

The business meeting adjourned at about 7:25 PM.



General Meeting

by Chuck Quibell

Our April "First Tuesday" program hosted an unusual woman who happens also to be, or to have been, a whole host of things unusual for a woman. Had it been the first of the month instead of the second, one might well have wondered at times if Elizabeth Lundburg's sense of humor wasn't toying with us.

Growing up in northern California, both in urban and Sierran settings, she was introduced to an amazing number of experiences not commonly enjoyed by members of her sex, many of which strongly influenced her continually evolving life.

She describes this adventure as being a "Life in Three Acts". Turning and decorating vessels with striking

designs from parts of trees she dissects with her several chainsaws, is apparently only one element of this perhaps not last act. Elizabeth currently is also re-building and re-modeling the bathroom of her Benicia home and studio ... all on her own!

She comes by her interests and talents in woodworking quite honestly, having been influenced by both a Swedish-cabinet-shop-owning grandfather and an architect/furniture-designer father who preceded her at U.C. Berkeley. She was allowed to play in granddad's shop while dad helped his father with furniture and cabinet making. Her shot at Berkeley began in engineering, but she soon migrated to the School of Forestry for her B.A. Graduate work at "an east coast school" quickly convinced her that she MUCH preferred the west and its comparatively laid back culture.

Her "Second Act", which lasted some three decades, played out in the Bay Area where her "engineering mentality" and training led to positions as a "Systems Engineer" an "Application Engineer" and "Tech Support" for such as Oracle, an ice cream manufacturer, and U.C.S.F. These all demanded long hours of programming, from which she found she needed diversions and distractions.

And those she found in woodworking and in some ceramic/pottery-making, which in turn led to her "Third Act". Some of her small-furniture-making entailed using a lathe for leg spindles and this, plus the pot-making and an interest in photography led her to trying 3-D possibilities on her lathe. Wood vessel-turning "sort of brought it all together" and her woods-walking natural history experiences influenced many of her surface designs, such as the inter-twined dogwood flowers.

The more striking forms she found online in images of animals such as sea anemones and the skin of fossil armadillos! Other inspirations included photomicrographs of pollen grains, which are accessible with Google Images.



Not so easy is the capturing of these in wood, which she does with the lathe, and a Dremel tool with a wide variety of different shaped bits. She also uses a burning tool with a similarly wide variety of tips. And she even admitted that a dull Dremel bit can function as both a carving and a burning tool simultaneously!



Elizabeth's infectious enthusiasm was apparent throughout the evening, even prompting her to say at one point "isn't aging fun?" (I am not sure all of us would agree with that!)

In wrapping up she admitted that she is not trying for some distinctive, recognizable 'style' or mode but rather is making statements and telling stories. Further, she admits that although she does not care to live on the east coast, she finds it far better as a market for wood art. "West Coast doesn't buy wood the way Pennsylvania and New England do." And, she added final words of wisdom to those of us working at fairs and such: "Sell your wood art where there's lots of wine and no children, and plenty of 2-D art on the walls." Elizabeth received several hands of applause for her spirited presentation



2013 Artistry in Wood

By Bill Taft

The 2013 Artistry in Wood Show will run at the Sonoma County Museum from August 31st through September 29th. Entry day will be August 21st, just a little more than three months from now. I hope that everyone is busy working on their entries. Complete entry information will be available on the SCWA website in May.

This is the 25th (Silver Anniversary) Show to be held at the Sonoma County Museum. In honor of this anniversary we are planning the following to note the occasion:

- We are challenging all our members, especially prior Show Award winning members to enter something special this year.
- There will be a display about the history of the SCWA and the Artistry in Wood Shows. We are looking for input from members having information for this display.
- There will be a video slide show of many of the award winning entries from previous Shows.

Wood Forum Editor Needed

The position of *Wood Forum* Editor is now vacant and we are actively in the hunt for someone with Adobe *InDesign* or MS *Word/Publisher* skills and a willingness to devote a small amount of time to generating our monthly newsletter. The *Wood Forum* Editor also enjoys a seat on the board of elected officers for the day to day decisions of the organization. Please contact one of the officers below if you could spare a few hours per month to help our organization.

Officers of the Association

Chairman Bob Moyer 762-3713 Secretary Steve Thomas 568-7062

Program Chair Art Hofmann 542-9767 Guild Chair Larry Stroud 823-1775

Treasurer James Heimbach 355-9013 Show Chair Bill Taft 794-8025

Wood Forum is the monthly newsletter of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association. Please feel free to submit articles and photographs for inclusion in the publication. You can send your submissions to the Wood Forum Editor at SCWAMESSAGES@gmail.com. Advertisements are also accepted with a per-entry cost of \$5 per column inch.

Membership Application

I would like to join the SCWA to meet other people interested in the craft, the art and the business of fine woodworking. Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$35 for the annual dues. I understand that this fee entitles me to attend monthly meetings and to receive the Wood Forum newsletter by email or via the SCWA's Web site.

I am enclosing an additional \$15 to receive the Forum by regular mail.

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____ Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Please send check and completed application to:

Sonoma County Woodworkers Association, PO Box 4176, Santa Rosa, CA 95402