



WOOD FORUM

Newsletter of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association

Volume 39, Issue 6

July 2019

SuperGlue in a Woodshop?

Our next meeting will be at 7pm, July 9, 2019, at 180 Studios on Todd Road, Santa Rosa. Our featured speaker will be Guild member Mark Tindley, who promises an entertaining and educational evening. Mark is a professional woodworker and confessed SuperGlue addict. He plans to spend the evening bombarding us with little tips, tricks and hands-on demonstrations, with the promise that at least 50% of them will be about CA glue. Avoiding clamping, fixing mistakes, making jigs, template routing, inlay work - all with Superglue. We will also learn about the importance of viscosity, the joy of capillary action, and the use of accelerators.

Every woodworker has a few clever tricks up their sleeve that they invented or picked up along their woodworking journey. Mark has many more than he can fit into one evening, and intends to cover a lot of ground. He hopes that all skill levels will be able to glean something useful from the talk.



Mark is the current Guild Chair of the Sonoma County Woodworker's Association. He trained in Cabinet Making, Machine Woodworking and Fine Woodworking in London, England. He worked for and with many furniture makers in London and then the Bay Area before setting up Mark Tindley Woodworking in 2014. He is a licensed specialty contractor for cabinetry, finish carpentry, and millwork. His professional work includes a large variety of cabinetry, furniture and other custom woodworking projects. Right now he is building a pair of 24 foot wide driveway gates in western red cedar.

Mark is no rookie when it comes to speaking about woodworking. In fact, this will be his third talk before the Association. Some of you may remember the other two, one about copying a Stradivarius violin, and the other describing his process of building a pair of tables in the Greene and Greene style.





We recently received the sad news that on June 5, 2019, man of many hats Art Hofmann had passed away.

Larry Stroud remembers the good times...

Last week SCWA lost one of its longtime members and great contributors as word reached us that Art Hofmann passed away. Art had just completed cataract surgery, and his vision had improved greatly. He and I were planning a visit to Chuck Quibell and his new shop, but fate would have it otherwise. On Wednesday morning, June 5th, Art suffered a heart attack while walking Ivy, his trusted boxer companion, in Ragle Park in Sebastopol, and died a few hours later.

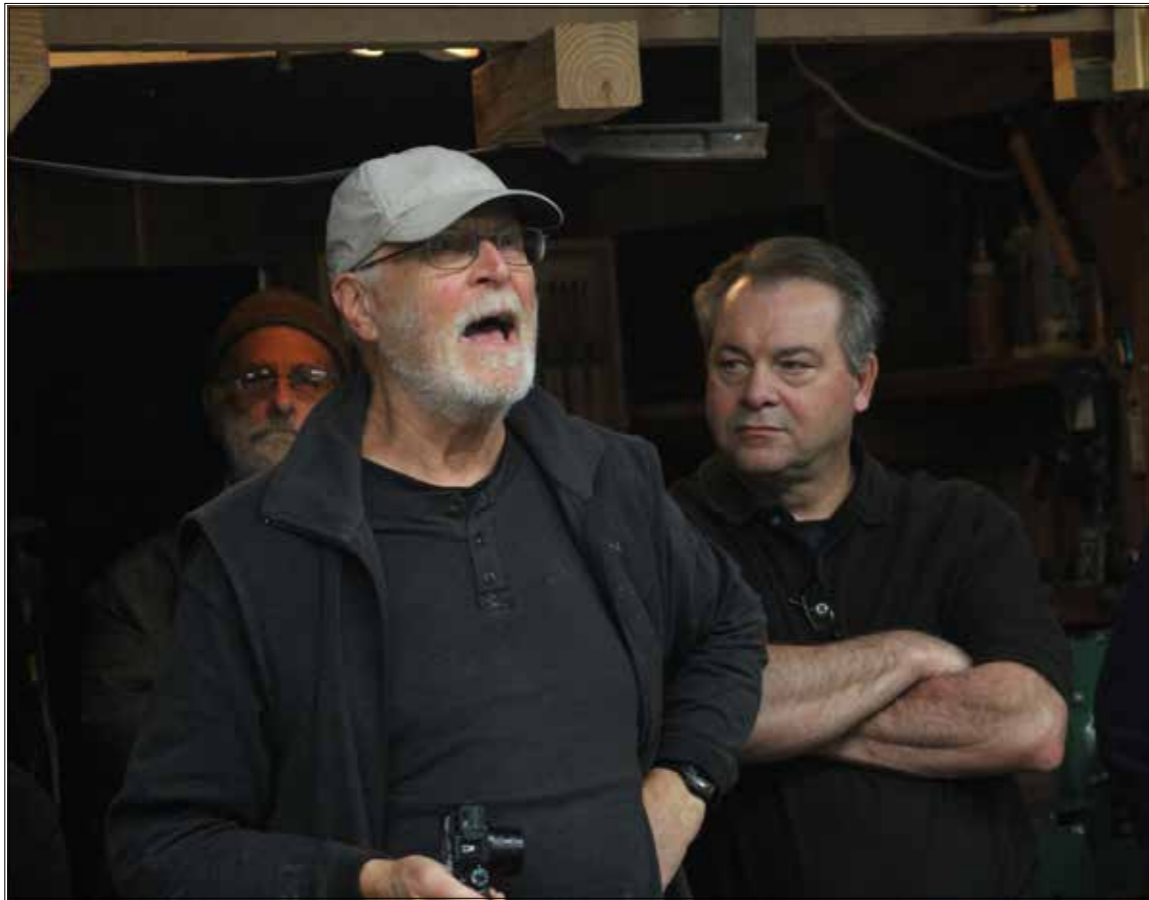
Art's contributions to SCWA were numerous and added depth to the organization we know today. Although Art was a member in the early days of our organization, he didn't increase his participation until after his retirement in 1997 from Santa Rosa Junior College, where he had spent thirty years teaching German in the Modern and Classical Languages Department, and was Department Chairman during the last seven years of his tenure.

I met Art in 1999, and as we turned the corner on Y2K we both became volunteers in the SCWA. Art took an active role as Secretary, not only recording the minutes of our board meetings, but offering to write a summary of our monthly speaker's presentations for our newsletter. He did those tasks with a thoroughness and accuracy that was unparalleled. Art would record each meeting on tape and then thoughtfully summarize the meeting, always articulating in a clear, concise, yet comprehensive, and accessible way for our monthly newsletter. Given the varied types of presentations, this was not the easiest of tasks, but Art persevered in this valuable way over a five-year span until 2004.

In 2005 Art assumed the role of Show Chairman for our annual *Artistry in Wood* event. He coordinated all the activities with the Guild, the volunteers, and the museum staff. He recruited the judges (and developed the idea of remuneration for their services), organized the entries, and executed all the myriad tasks assumed by one wearing this hat. He elevated the quality of our show, introduced photography of the pieces, organized dinners with the judges, and added other nice touches. And he chaired or co-chaired this event for five long years.

Far from being done, Art, the indefatigable servant of the SCWA, assumed the role of Program Chair in 2010, another task requiring many hours each month. He canvassed the Bay Area for the most talented people he thought might be of interest to our organization, from furniture makers, boatbuilders, and luthiers, to CAD experts and woodworking educators ... a wide gamut of diverse speakers whom he introduced each month in an informed and interesting way. He also arranged various field trips to unique venues (sawmills, organ makers, etc.) that kept participation lively. Art worked in this capacity through 2016.

In conjunction with these roles, of course, he served on the board of the SCWA and attended all the board meetings and helped make informed decisions, steering our organizational ship through periods of growth, and transitions to the digitalized world. He was one of the core members of the development committee which undertook a major revision of our website. In addition to his leadership within our organization, Art participated in various outreach programs (birdhouse projects for and with children) and demonstrated woodworking in "Maker's" classes at local schools.



Program Chair Art Hofmann



Art's Double Tansu

All along this journey he developed his skills as a craftsman (attending summer programs at The College of the Redwoods) and occasionally contributed pieces to our annual *Artistry in Wood* show, winning an award each time he entered. His first was for “LP Cabinet” (he was an avid jazz aficionado) and his second for the beautiful “Double Tansu” which was featured in Fine Woodworking magazine. Through his artistic prowess and his innumerable contributions to the organization he was elected to the Guild in 2011.

Art Hofmann left the SCWA richer for his many contributions and the knowledge that he shared. He was a wise and gentle spirit, performing his tasks without ego, without fanfare, simply to make our organization the best that it could be. We have lost a role model and a great friend.

- Larry Stroud



Holding forth in his shop, August 2014



Art was one of the very first members of the SCWA, and contributed countless hours to the organization, serving as program chairman and newsletter editor for many years. He had a long career teaching German at SRJC, until retiring about 10 years ago. Art was nearing his 83rd birthday. His many woodworking projects exhibited a fine sensibility to wood design and aesthetics. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

- Philip Nereo

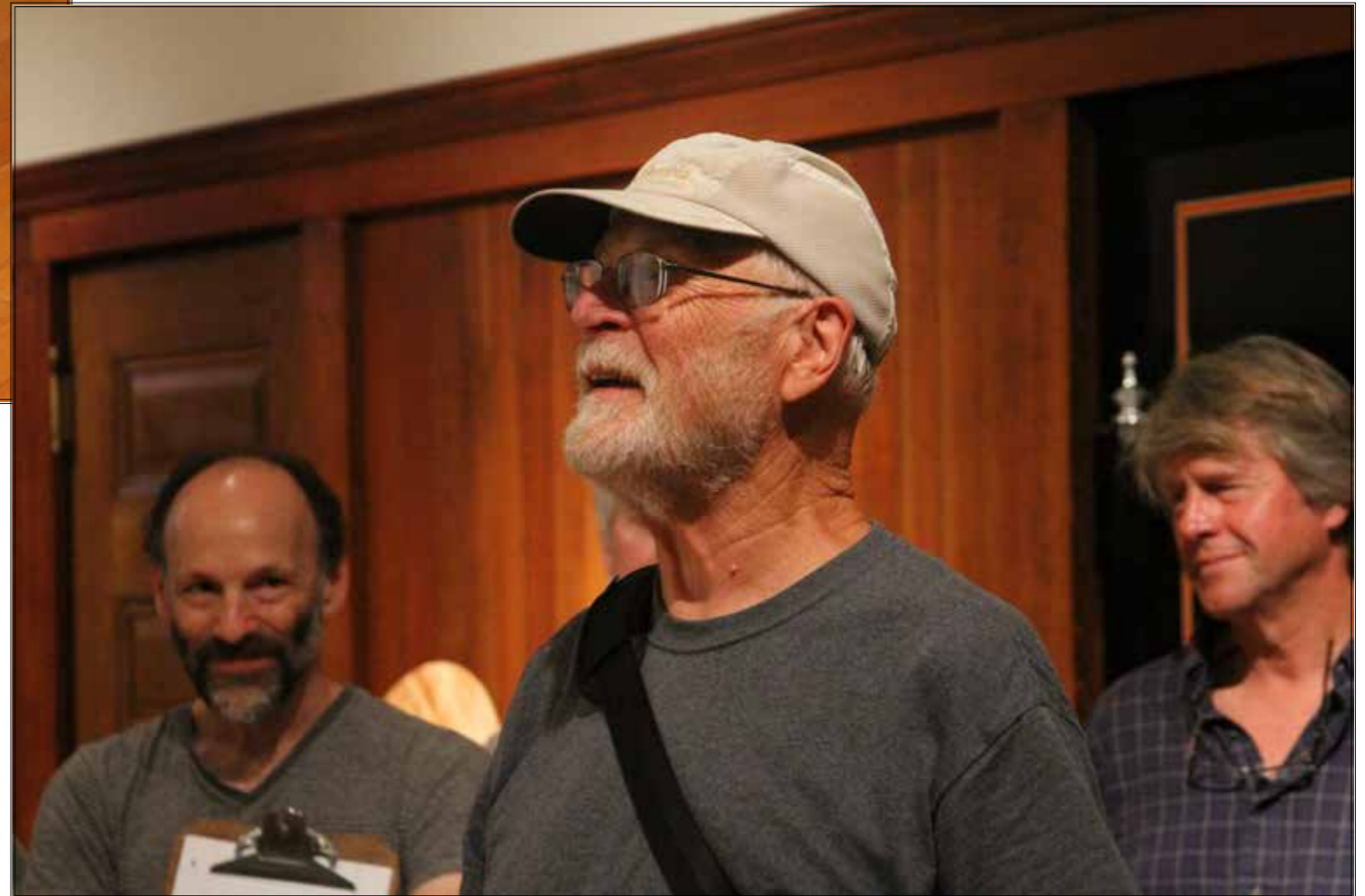
Guild members on jury day



Art's LP Cabinet

A memorial will be held at Art's home in Santa Rosa, 1128 Utah Ct. on Sunday, July 28 starting at noon.

Judgment Night 2015



Besides his enthusiasm for things in the woodworking world, Art had other interests too. A history buff, he had a serious website dedicated to Bertolt Brecht of Three Penny Opera fame. I liked the song "Mack the Knife" (Moritat) and Art filled me in on the background.

My wife and I are birdwatchers, and discussed this with Art, who knew a thing or two about birds. We also joined him and Judy for several jazz outings, usually to the JC to hear the Bennett Friedman Quartet perform, but also to the San Francisco Jazz Center to hear pianist Abdullah Ibrahim, a favorite of mine. I am grateful to have shared these things with him. We have all lost a wonderful friend.

- Joe Scannell

Minutes of SCWA Officers Meeting 17 June 2019

Officers attending: Mark Tindley, Rod Fraser, Don Jereb, Judi Garland, Joe Scannell, Lars Andersen, Chuck Root.

Other members attending: Tom Rogers.

Tom Vogel was present before the meeting was called to order. Tom resigned as Chairperson. The Officers have elected Lars as Vice-Chairperson to carry out the duties of the Chairperson.

Lars called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

1. Treasurer's report.

a. Financial report for 2018.

Judi reported that Rod and Lars are in the process of auditing our 2018 financials. The financial report for 2018 will be shared with the Officers when the audit is complete, and then posted on the website.

b. Financial report for 2019 year-to-date.

Judi presented the year-to-date financials for 2019. We are running a surplus, partly because our membership dues are front-loaded with many of our members renewing in January and February.

Judi said that the biggest issue is the budget. Because we run SCWA on a "cash basis" instead of an "accrual basis" and with the Show now happening at the end of the year, many Show expenses end up hitting our financials the following year. In other words, we have Show budget for 2019, but the Show expenses for our 2019 financials become a mix of some late expenses from the 2018 Show and some early expenses from the 2019 Show.

Judi will lock in a set of income/expense categories to be used going forward. Keeping the income/expense categories the same year after year makes year-over-year comparisons easier.

Mark asked that the meeting expenses for monthly meetings be split into speakers' fees and other fees such

as travel/hotel/dinner. We decided to budget \$3,000 for speakers' fees and \$2,000 for other fees.

Don asked that the budget for the Summer BBQ be \$300. This not-to-be-missed event will be held at Don's house Aug 10, 4-8pm.

2. Financial compliance with the requirements for 501(c)(7) organizations.

a. Update from the Chairperson, and next steps.

In our last Officers Meeting, we discussed SCWA's compliance with the requirements for 501(c)(7) organizations. We had a number of questions. Are we formally a 501(c)(7) organization? Does this come with constraints regarding income/expenses? Are we supposed to file a "tax postcard" to IRS annually? If we are but have not done so in the past, could it be a problem to start filing this now? These questions have not yet been answered. Lars will own this, working with Judi and Rod. As a start, Judi will look for any information she can find. The Officers have authorized a \$500 spend, in case CPA input is needed.

3. Show Chairperson's report.

a. Update about the Show for 2019.

Don reported on the Show. The Museum Director really liked the Show last year, and has been very supportive. We have the same time slot as last year – mid-November to early January. For the 2019 Show, Don is considering a format change – not having judges. Don presented his thinking:

- On the one hand, Don recognized that some members may have liked the competitive aspect, feeling inspired to work harder/better/smarter in their quest to receive praise/award. We may attract some makers because of judges/awards. There have been years, such as 2018, where the feedback about the judges and their comments has been very positive. We have a solid Show – why change anything?
- On the other hand, there have been years where the feedback about the judges has been less-than-

stellar. It is one-way communication. The meeting nearly always runs far longer than scheduled, and this need to "move it along" robs members of the opportunity to interact with makers/judges. It is sometimes difficult to find judges. It is also possible that there are members who are hesitant to enter a piece because they know that their piece will be judged publicly. Finally, our Show is a museum exhibit, and such exhibits are typically not judged. For this reason, the Museum Director is supportive of eliminating judging. Don also noted that in the distant past the Show did not have judges.

Don has weighed the pros/cons, and has been leaning towards making a change. We would spend two Show meetings discussing the pieces. There would be ample time for presentations by makers and questions/comments from members. The Guild would provide comments and encouragement, as appropriate. How much "bang for the buck" do makers get from comments provided by judges vs. interactions with regular/Guild members? It is hard to know.

Don noted that doing away with judges would also mean doing away with awards. We might keep the People's Choice Award as it is attendance/membership oriented, but we would eliminate the rest.

Lars expressed his support for Don's thinking. Lars said that we must be willing to sometimes try something different. Lars pointed out that we would not be locking in the new format in perpetuity – we would try it for one year, and then re-assess.

Don asked how the Guild sees this. Mark said he does not instinctively oppose it. Mark said he thinks the biggest risk is tinkering with something that is working so well. Mark said that aside from perhaps a low number of large furniture pieces, last year's Show was an absolute triumph. Mark asked if a competitive element perhaps attracts more entries than it deters? Mark does not know the answer, and he does not know how to get the answer. Mark noted that people from far away may enter due to the possibility of

receiving an award. Mark's concern with changing the formula is that it could water down the entries – either the number of them, or the quality of them. Mark emphasized that he is not speaking for the entire Guild, and that he would personally like to see the Show be more inclusive for members. Mark also acknowledged that in the past there has been some snobbiness by some judges. Mark pointed out that we once juried pieces out because the Museum was unhappy about the lack of quality. We have not juried many pieces out the last few years. However, if abandoning judges were to lead to lower quality submissions, then we would have to either jury out more pieces or accept that the quality level of the Show will be lower. We all agreed that it goes without saying that our bylaws' Jury Guidelines for Show pieces should remain intact, and that the Guild should jury out pieces which do not meet the Jury Guidelines.

We discussed our categories. We essentially have a Best of Show award, four Best of Category awards, and a number of Honorable Mention awards. Joe once proposed a category for young people, but the proposal did not gain traction at the time. We discussed if the Museum would allow a high school category. We discussed some sort of open category, where entries could be entered but not judged. We apparently had such a category once, but we did away with it because no one used it.

Mark proposed possibly surveying the membership about judges vs. no judges. Lars expressed the view that the membership has elected a set of Officers, and that it is our decision to make. If the membership is not satisfied with our decision, then they are free to elect other Officers. Don also had concerns about a survey. After lots of spirited debate and with a need to move the meeting forward, Lars talked about decision-making. Lars explained that when groups of people make decisions, it is sometimes helpful to initially set aside the content of the decision (WHAT are we deciding?) and instead seek clarity around how the group should make the decision (HOW are we

deciding?). There are several ways to decide:

- Consensus – everyone agrees.
- Majority – the majority decides.
- Consult – one person decides after consulting with a group of stakeholders.
- Command – one person decides.

Lars made it clear that these ways of deciding are not about right or wrong, that each method has its pros and cons. Lars pointed out that in this case we jumped right to the content of the decision (should we have judges or not), skipping past any discussion about how to make such a decision. As for “how,” there are a couple of valid viewpoints.

- We have a Show Chairperson who should make the decision after consulting with the Officers.
- The Show is so important that this type of decision should be a majority vote among Officers.

Lars observed that in this case, the two might be more similar than they are different. Lars said that if he were to vote, he would vote for Don making the decision – not based on the content of the decision, but to support Don as Show Chairperson. Lars said that he sensed that many of the Officers were leaning this way. This comment got several nods and affirmative comments – in other words, a formal vote would likely end up with support for Don making the decision.

In the end, Lars asserted that Don is authorized to make the decision by the end of June. This leaves time for Don to internalize the feedback from the meeting, for Mark to talk to the Guild, and for Officers to provide additional feedback to Don. Mark pointed out that it might be a lot of pressure for Don to single-handedly make the decision, and that there might be value in the Officers having held a majority vote on this issue. If Don is not comfortable making the decision by the end of the month, he will contact the Officers.

We discussed the idea of making a short “Show and Tell” segment – bring something you are working on,

present it, get some feedback – a part of each monthly meeting, or even dedicate a full monthly meeting each year to several “Show and Tell” segments. The idea is to encourage members to bring half-baked ideas/stuff, and get feedback. It would be very much the opposite of the Show – no jurying or judging here.

Don reported that in the past we would 1) give the Museum a donation for using the space, and 2) supply the Museum with merchandise (small woodworking pieces) to sell in their gift shop, and then receive money from the Museum for a portion of the sale. Since these nearly cancel each other, Don and the Museum Director decided to simplify it – we will not give a donation, and we will not receive money back. We will re-assess this arrangement if the amount of merchandise were to change dramatically. Don will be encouraging members to help make small pieces for the Museum.

4. Program Chairperson's report.
 - a. Monthly meetings for 2019.

Chuck reported that the following is planned:

- July: Mark Tindley, super-glue.
 - August: Summer BBQ at Don's house.
 - September: Debey Zito.
 - October: Kalia Kliban, finishing.
 - November: Show #1.
 - December: Show #2.
- b. Monthly meetings for 2020.

Chuck said that he is tentatively planning a presentation about ukulele making for early 2020. Chuck said that his goal is to lock in speakers for January and February by the end of the year.

5. Annual Meeting for 2019.
 - a. When do we hold the meeting?

We unanimously decided to conduct the Annual Meeting for 2019 in Dec (Show meeting #2).

b. Officers for 2020.

We discussed Officer positions for 2020. Tom will not stand again. Chuck will not stand again. We thanked them both for their service to SCWA. The remaining six Officers are all willing to stand again. This means we seek a Program Chairperson and a Chairperson. If a Chairperson is difficult to find, Lars is willing to fill that role. This would open up the Secretary position.

There was broad agreement among the Officers that the Program Chairperson is the most critical position to fill – without monthly meetings, the “music stops.” We should focus our energy here. Mark suggested that one of the best things we could do in the second half of the year is to at least tentatively fill the entire calendar for 2020. This would allow a new Program Chairperson to ease into the role and start working on the calendar for 2021. We all agreed to pitch in. For contacting potential speakers, Mark offered to create a short write-up – who is SCWA, what are SCWA’s activities, how do monthly meetings work, what are we asking for. As we all contact potential speakers, Mark offered to collate the information. Our focus at this point should be on finding speakers – the logistics around meetings can be done later, possibly by the new Program Chairperson.

Lars offered to write a blurb for Wood Forum soliciting volunteers. Lars suggested that finding a single Program Chairperson may prove difficult, and that we might instead seek a number of volunteers to participate on a committee. Assuming four members on the committee (in addition to two Officers) and eight meetings to arrange (plus Guild, Summer BBQ, Show x 2), each committee member would essentially do the work to arrange two meetings. We agreed to explore this direction.

Mark said that we tend to book a speaker and they speak about “something.” Sometimes it is fascinating, sometime less so, sometimes it is mostly a presentation of their portfolio. Mark suggested that we perhaps spend more time discussing with potential speaker what they could speak about. Mark suggested that

we try to get away from pure slide show meetings, recognizing that the best presentations have a hands-on instructional component. While such presentations may be more difficult to prepare, we should be mindful of future opportunities to incorporate such components into our presentations. Joe summarized it well – the best presentations are a mix of “talk and stuff.”

c. By-law changes for 2020.

No by-law changes are planned for 2020.

d. Membership dues for 2020.

We discussed the membership dues for 2020. Mark proposed lowering our dues from \$35 to \$25. Tom Rogers pointed out that in his experience our membership dues are very reasonable compared to similar organizations. The Officers voted, and agreed to keep the membership dues at \$35. We discussed whether to do something special for students / young people. Don shared his wife’s experience from the Beekeeper’s Association, with reduced dues for students age 24 or under. Lars pointed out that “free has no value.” In the end, we decided unanimously to lower the membership dues to \$10 for students age 25 or under. This includes all high schoolers, and will be a good opportunity for us to promote SCWA within the various high school woodworking programs.

6. Miscellaneous.

a. Should we buy a video camera for SCWA meetings?

Mark proposed that we buy a video camera for SCWA meetings. Sometimes there are small details which would be useful to see on a live feed projected to a large screen. One example is the Garrett Hack demo class. Another example is some of our upcoming monthly meetings, some of which will likely feature demos of various woodworking techniques. There was broad agreement that this was a good idea and a worthwhile use of SCWA funds. Lars pointed out that we are too early in our buying process to know what to buy –

what features do we need, do we buy an inexpensive or expensive model, etc. In the end, Chuck offered to rent a camera and have it set up for the July monthly meeting. The Officers will revisit the issue after the July monthly meeting.

b. Other.

Rod mentioned that he often gets requests for a list of local places to take woodworking classes. Mark mentioned that we might have put such a list together years ago. We decided to all provide our input to Rod, who will compile the list and post it on the website.

Mark noted with sadness that Art Hofmann passed away recently. Joe said that Art was walking the dog and had a fatal heart attack. Joe is working with Larry Stroud and Chuck Quibell to prepare a write-up for Wood Forum. Joe will contact Larry to get more information about a memorial service for Art. The Officers unanimously approved sending something on behalf of SCWA, with Joe owning the details. Mark will contact the Guild members to solicit photos of Art, to be added to Wood Forum. We also discussed the idea of naming some sort of Show prize for Art, with Don owning the details.

The meeting ended at 8:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lars Andersen
SCWA Secretary.

SCWA Officers for 2020

by Lars Andersen

As you may have read in the minutes from the last Officers Meeting, Tom Vogel has resigned as Chairperson for SCWA. The Officers have elected me as Vice-Chairperson. This lets me carry out the duties of the Chairperson, allowing SCWA to function seamlessly.

Chuck Root will not be standing again for 2020. This means SCWA will need a new Program Chairperson for 2020. Needless to say, Tom will not be standing again for 2020. This means SCWA will need a new Chairperson for 2020. If no Chairperson can be found, I am willing to step into this role. This switch would mean SCWA would need a new Secretary for 2020.

Per our by-laws, these are the duties of the Chairperson:

- Is the representative and spokesperson for the SCWA and directs its affairs and activities.
- Presides over all regular, annual, special and officer meetings and creates the agenda for those meetings.
- Shall be an ex-officio non-voting member of all standing committees.
- Appoints members in good standing to serve on committees and as chairpersons of committees.
- Disburses funds in the absence of the Treasurer.
- Has final authority on the content of controversial articles in the newsletter.
- Conducts an annual audit of the Treasurer's records and reports the results to the membership.

Per our by-laws, these are the duties of the Secretary:

- Records the minutes of each meeting in which SCWA business is discussed or transacted. Those minutes shall contain the time and place of the meeting, a list of officers present, the number of

members attending, and the proceedings of the meetings. The minutes of officers meetings must be approved by the officers at the next officers meeting.

- Shall post all approved minutes to the SCWA website and forward them to the newsletter editor in time for the issuance of the next edition.
- Maintains a copy of the bylaws on the SCWA website.

Per our by-laws, these are the duties of the Program Chairperson:

- Arranges and coordinates the woodworker program for regular meetings.
- Submits program details to the Newsletter Editor in a timely manner.
- Maintains the Program Information on the appropriate pages of the SCWA website.

In addition, all Officers participate in running SCWA day-to-day. This is mostly done over email. If you have questions about any of these duties, please reach out to an Officer.

I'll let you in on a secret... Having done the job of Secretary for a few years, it's really not that much work. You basically take notes at one or two Officers Meetings each year. If you have an interest in participating as an SCWA Officer, consider grabbing this opportunity before someone else does - first come, first serve.

The job of Program Chairperson is key to SCWA. Without monthly meetings, the "music stops." We have 12 monthly meetings. The Show fills two slots, the Guild takes one, and so does the Summer BBQ. That leaves eight meetings. Please know that if you are up for the challenge of being Program Chairperson for 2020, you will have the full support of the other Officers to help you as needed. We aim to have most of the names for 2020 penciled in when the terms starts,

allowing you to work on the 2021 calendar as you arrange the logistics of the 2020 meetings.

It is possible that being Program Chairperson is not for you at this time. That said, we can all help with something. If you enjoy attending our monthly meetings, could you volunteer to come early to set up the chairs or stay late to put chairs away? Could you even do a bit more? Maybe others have complementary skills/interests, and could also do something? Taken together, maybe it adds up? For this reason, SCWA is considering a Program Committee for 2020. Maybe four members-at-large participate with two Officers, and arrange the meetings? Maybe each member-at-large arranges two meetings? Or maybe there is a better way to break up the work? We don't know. What we DO know is that SCWA needs help to arrange its programs for 2020.

I love statistics, so I will share one with you. Did you know that if you have a medical emergency on the subway, you are more likely to receive help if there is one person on the subway car than if there are ten people? It seems crazy, but the study has been repeated - it is indeed valid! Why is that? It's because when there are ten people on the subway car, everybody looks around and thinks that someone else will help. Whereas when you're the only one on the subway car, you know that "you're up."

If you were the only one, would you help? If there were ten people, would you still help? If the subway car was instead the SCWA, would you help? If your answer is either "yes" or "maybe" please come talk to an SCWA Officer.

Lars Andersen

SCWA Vice-Chair and Secretary

Officers of the Association

<u>Chairman</u>		<u>Secretary</u>	Lars Andersen
<u>Program Chair</u>	Chuck Root	<u>Guild Chair</u>	Mark Tindley
<u>Treasurer</u>	Judith Garland	<u>Show Chair</u>	Don Jereb
<u>Editor</u>	Joe Scannell	<u>Web Master</u>	Rod Fraser

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 SCWAEditor@gmail.com. Advertisements are also accepted with a nominal cost for paid members.

Membership Application

I would like to join the SCWA to meet other people interested in the craft, the art and the business of fine wood-working. 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 website.

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____ Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

What can you do to help further the organizational goals of our volunteer-run association? Please tell us how you would like to help:

Please send check and completed application to:

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