



WOOD FORUM

Newsletter of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association

Volume 40, Issue 6

November 2020

Getting Back Together

It has been a long road back since our last live meeting in March, and our members have been as busy as the proverbial bees, using the time to feed the creative juices. Time spent alone, in the shop, can be very restorative, but it's still nice to get together with friends - remember what that was like?

Well, we are going to try to get back that old feeling on Tuesday, October 27, at 7pm (6:30 sign on), when the SCWA will be holding a ZOOM meeting, moderated by our Show Chair, Don Jereb. Details will be distributed by email to members.

The plan for this meeting will consist of a panel of experts who will field questions from the audience on woodworking related subjects, and hopefully will be able to help us with ongoing projects, or simply expand our skills.



The panel members are:

- Steve Wigfield, who ran a wood working shop in Petaluma until his 2014 retirement. He is expert in all aspects of millwork, especially door and window making, and spindle turning. For more on Steve, see the December 2013 edition of the *Wood Forum*.
- Greg Zall, whose credentials are legendary among high-end furniture makers and marqueterians. He is also a very adept teacher, and happy to share his skills.
- Mark Tindley, the Guild Chair of our Association. Mark received his early training in London, England, and is an amazing professional, doing custom work in Sonoma County. You may recall his Stradivarius replica that he spoke about in 2015 (see the June 2015 *Wood Forum* for more on that project).

Artistry in Wood (Lite)

In the last issue of the *Wood Forum* it was announced that the Sonoma County Museum was planning an exhibition of woodworking art beginning in December. We now have more details.

- On November 1 the Show Chair will send a notice to Association members inviting them to submit photos and a brief description of piece(s) they would like to submit for consideration.
- To be considered for the exhibit, makers are asked to submit one or two photos of their piece along with a brief description to the Show Chair via email (djereb8494@aol.com) by November 13, 2020.
- Makers will be notified by the Show Chair on November 20 about acceptance by the Museum.
- December 1: Delivery of display pieces to museum
- December 2-11: Setup/installation
- December 12: Show opens



"What Lies Beneath" Table by Carol Salvin, AiW 2013

Wooden Spoons and Kuksa by Rick Gorman, AiW 2015

Minutes of SCWA Officers Meeting September 2, 2020

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

Other members attending: None.

Vice-Chairperson Don called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

1. Financials.

a. Update on financials for 2019.

Judi presented the 2019 financials. They are ready for upload to the website. Rod has audited the financials, and they look good. It was pointed out that expenses for a Show span two different calendar years. It was pointed out that SCWA operates on a cash basis. Mark's motion to accept the 2019 financials as-is was seconded and passed unanimously. Rod will post the 2019 financials on the website.

b. Update on financials for 2020.

Judi reported that our current balance is \$16,325.09. We have a pending deposit of \$867.21 (mostly membership dues), and a pending check of \$561.64 (domain name and web hosting from Aplus and Wild Apricot). The balance at the beginning of the year was \$12,067.80.

c. Membership dues.

Judi reported that we have 124 active members, 25 pending online sign-ups who have not yet paid, and 17 pending renewals. Annual income from membership dues amounts to roughly a quarter of our reserves. While SCWA has had some limited activities in 2020 – two monthly meetings, several newsletters, regular website updates – there has clearly been a significant drop in activities due to Covid-19. Given this backdrop and the fact that we should not expect a return to

normalcy for some time, Lars made a motion that SCWA extend the membership due date of every active member (as of today) by one year. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. State of SCWA and SCWA activities for the next 6-9 months.

a. Online monthly meetings.

Michael proposed that we create a YouTube channel. This gives anyone the ability to share their workspaces and woodworking projects. In lieu of monthly meetings, crowd-sourcing content from members would be a way to stay connected. If we email members and ask for their support, some would likely participate. Michael would be willing to set it up, and moderate the channel. If Michael needs a blurb about SCWA, it is available on our website. Michael would seed the channel with his shop tour video, and some other videos – including Joe's slide shows of past Shows – we have available on Vimeo. Rod will make these available to Michael on Google drive, and provide him access. Over time, we might decide to record future monthly meetings – whether conducted over Zoom or live – and make these available. Michael will also add a simple set of "Here's how you make a YouTube video" instructions. Basically, you can do a lot with a phone, a tripod, and a video editing software program.

We discussed whether to also create an Instagram account. We have a lot of photos available, which could be posted. We decided to revisit this prior to the 2021 Show.

Don reported that the Sonoma County Beekeepers' Association has had good success with Zoom meetings, and that their demographic membership profile is somewhat similar to ours. We decided to try this for our October meeting. We will hold this at our normal time, Tuesday October 6 at 7pm. We decided to try a format where a panel consisting of Mark and three other Guild members answer questions from members – either pre-submitted questions, questions entered into chat, or questions asked live. We will use Don's

Zoom account (which can accommodate up to 100 members), and Don will moderate the discussion. Once Mark has the three Guild members lined up, Rod will announce the meeting.

b. Small Museum exhibit for 2020.

Don reported that the Museum understands and supports our decision to cancel this year's Artistry in Wood Show, but that they have requested a small Exhibit of woodworking items. They are struggling financially, and they are doing what they can to stay afloat. They have been changing with the times, and offered a number of online feeds and programs including their sculpture garden. Their thinking is to partition the large space in the Museum, and use a portion of it to display something like 10-30 different pieces created by SCWA members. It is possible it will be available only for online viewing, but if the situation improves it might also be available for limited in-person viewing. The idea is that SCWA members would simply drop off their pieces at the Museum, and leave. There would be no fee. Depending on the volume of pieces received, the Museum will decide which ones to display. The Museum will be in charge of layout and setup, as well as photography. Don considers this a nice request, and would like to support the Museum. All Officers agreed that this would be a good way to support the Museum, which is an important organization we hope to partner with for a long time.

The Officers had several questions for Don. Would the pieces have to be original, or could they have been displayed in a Show previously? If original pieces are displayed, can they still be entered into a Show at a later time? Would pieces be for exhibit only, or could they be for sale? Don will check with the Museum, and report back to the Officers over email. At that point, we can write a communication for the SCWA membership.

c. Annual Meeting for 2020.

We decided to tentatively target the first Tuesday of November for our Annual Meeting conducted via

Zoom. We will work out the logistics after our October monthly meeting. All seven Officers are willing to stand again.

d. Other

Mark will draft a state-of-SCWA write-up. It will be shared with Officers for feedback, and it will then be published to members.

3. Miscellaneous.

a. Future venue for in-person meetings.

Judi reported that 180 Studios is closed indefinitely. She is not sure if they will ever re-open. They are not open for members, and they are not charging their members. They changed the locks before Covid-19. The owner of the property is the President of the Board, and he has been supplementing them financially. There are a few tenants, and the income they provide is enough to pay for the utilities. Some of these tenants have talked about moving out by the end of the year. While they keep exploring ideas and still have a base of volunteers, Judi's sense is that we should anticipate that they may shut the doors for good.

Mark said that 180 Studios has been one of our best-ever meeting venues. That said, we had venues for meetings before 180 Studios. People generally liked visiting members' shops, and it has the added advantage to spread the meetings around the county. Mark said that he and Greg are likely to have additional space available in the near future, and that once this is ready he will happily offer it up as a venue. As it is on country property, we would need to think about parking on dark and rainy winter nights. We should encourage anyone with a space bigger than a bay in a garage to offer up their shop for meetings.

We decided to table further discussion about future venues for later.

b. PayPal for payment of membership dues.

Lars asked if we should support PayPal for membership dues. Don reported that Wild Apricot does not support PayPal, but that they have an alternative payment

platform. Don reported that the Sonoma County Beekeepers' Association uses it with some success. Given that there will likely be far less membership due payments over the next year, due to 1c, and that we also need to consider third party fees involved, we decided to table this discussion for a future Officers' Meeting.

c. Standards for electronic record-keeping.

Rod shared his thought process around standards for electronic record-keeping. Rod envisions some sort of central repository, which would have helped us mightily last year when we searched for records as to whether SCWA was formally registered as a non-profit. It would ideally be an online/cloud repository – some are free, some come with a cost – to help transfer records as Officers rotate in and out. It would be available in perpetuity, and security concerns would be addressed. It would be a positive step for our association to formalize our recordkeeping. All Officers would have access to it. It is not difficult, and our first step would likely be to outline a set of policies. As a simple example, Rod pointed out that generic Gmail accounts are available for each Officer, but despite that we still tend to use our individual emails for communication. It would be natural to switch to using only generic Gmail accounts for official communications, and then transfer these as Officers change. Don suggested that a sub-committee might look into this deeper, starting small. Rod will propose a simple way to get started, and send it to Officers for review. Lars offered to help.

d. Other.

Judi reported her progress towards formalizing our tax status as a 501(c)(7) ("Social Club") non-profit. Our bylaws must clearly state that we are not-for-profit, and they do. We will need to send this information to both federal and state authorities. We will have to file a tax postcard in 2021, but we will not need to pay any taxes. Judi will continue to own.

Lars made a motion that we add a simple "Black Lives Matter" statement to our website, as a symbol of being

an inclusive organization. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Joe will publish the September newsletter as-is. As additional content is finalized – Exhibit write-up from Don, state-of-SCWA from Mark, minutes from Lars – Rod will post it to the website and Joe will add it to the October newsletter.

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lars Andersen
SCWA Secretary.



Spalted Vessel by Steve Forrest, AiW 2013

Artistry in Wood



Stack of Bowls by Hugh Buttrum, AiW 2012

...meandering down memory lane.

Fly Table by Michael Cullen, AiW 2012



Shoe Storage Bench by Larry Stroud, AiW 2013



China Guitar by Larry Robinson, AiW 2013



Segmented Flower Bowl by Alan Brickman, AiW 2014



Desert Urn by David J. Marks, AiW 2013



Walnut Dining Chair by Anthony Leighton, AiW 2014



Early internal Combustion Engine by Donovan Miller, AiW 2014



Violin - Copy of 1721 "Kruse" Stradivarius by Mark Tindley, AiW 2015



Escher's Inspiration by Joe Scannell, AiW 2015



Hall Table in Maple and Jatoba by Rod Fraser, AiW 2016

In The Field by Paul Marini, AiW 2016



Display Box for Antique Flute by Joshua Smith, AiW 2016



Torii II by Larry Stroud, AiW 2016



*Comfortable Interpretation of Gerrit Rietveld's
Red/Blue Chair 1923 by Don Jereb, AiW 2017*



Shiva/Shakti by Jeffrey Dale, AiW 2017



Lady Gaga Rocker by Dugan Essick, AiW 2017



Cowboy Hat by Dan Neff, AiW 2017



High Seas in the Bath Tub - Blue Wave by David Stohl, AiW 2017



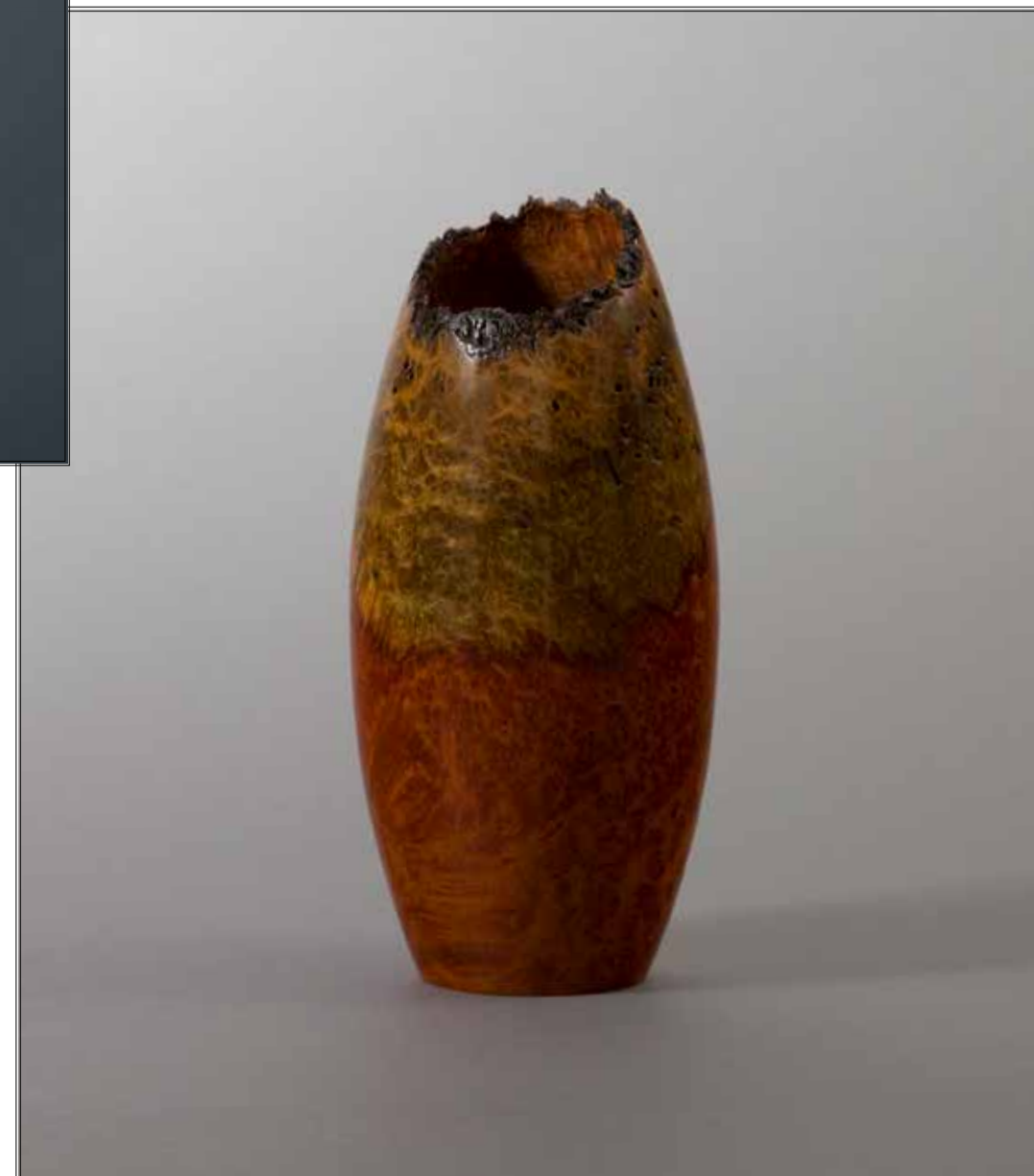
Coastlines by Carol Salvin, AiW 2018



Greene Time by Robert Roudman, AiW 2018



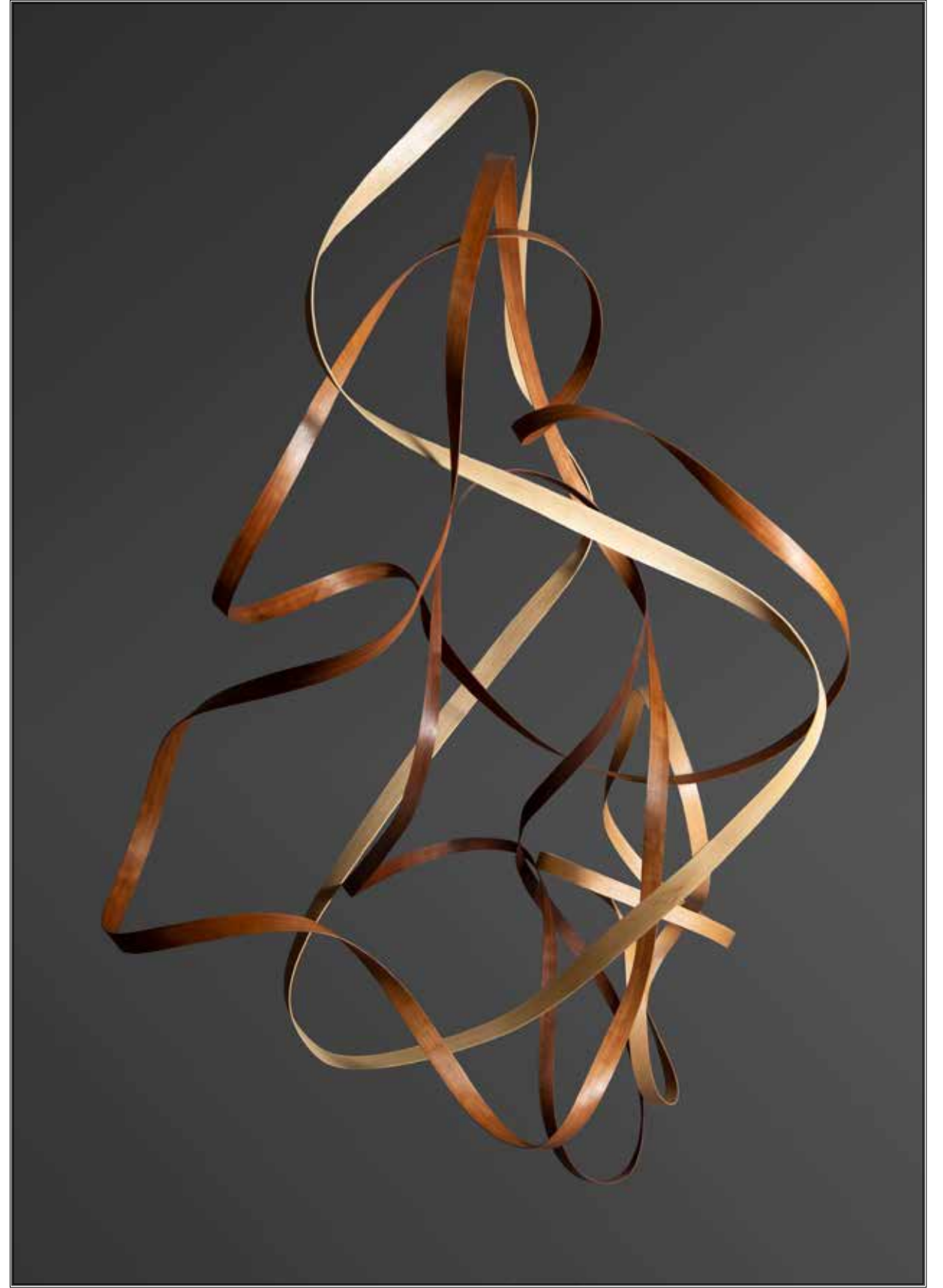
Migration by Bill Taft, AiW 2018



Hollow Form by Robert Nelson, AiW 2019



Cello by Andrew Carruthers, AiW 2019



Möbius Tangle by Don Jereb, AiW 2018



*Dual Junction of Wedded Wood Bowl with Propeller
Handles by Patrick McDonnell, AiW 2019*



Octopus by Charlie Saul, AiW 2019

Officers of the Association

Chairman

Secretary

Lars Andersen

Program Chair

Michael Finizio

Guild Chair

Mark Tindley

Treasurer

Judith Garland

Show Chair

Don Jereb

Editor

Joe Scannell

Web Master

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