



# WOOD FORUM

Newsletter of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association

Volume 40, Issue 5

September 2020

## Virtual Show and Tell



The last issue of the *Wood Forum* ran a bit long at 26 pages, but I haven't heard any complaints, so here we go again. I don't have as many stories to tell this time, but I think you will enjoy what we have.

And if you do enjoy this kind of sharing, please think seriously about being a contributor for the next edition.

The stage is ready, so let's get on with the show!





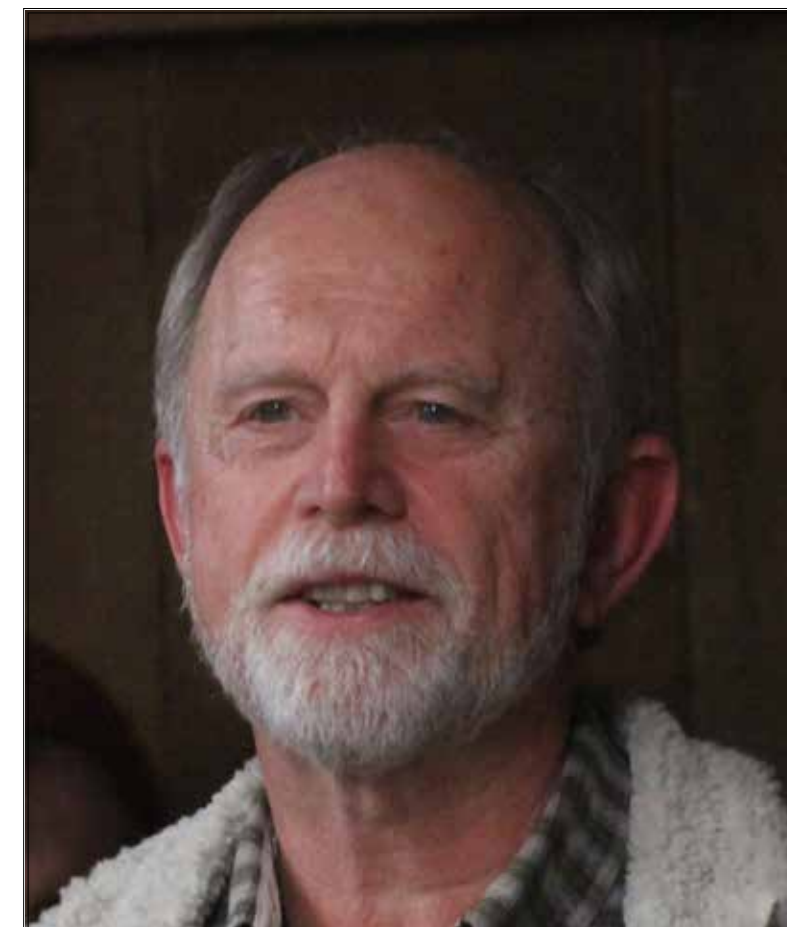


In the last issue **Bill Taft** told us about his scaled-down boatbuilding adventures. But he is also an accomplished marqueterian, as the piece at right demonstrates.

*Hiding* by Bill Taft







**Rod Fraser** wears many hats. Among these he is a woodworker and a photography enthusiast. He explains how he has combined these two interests into a nifty project:

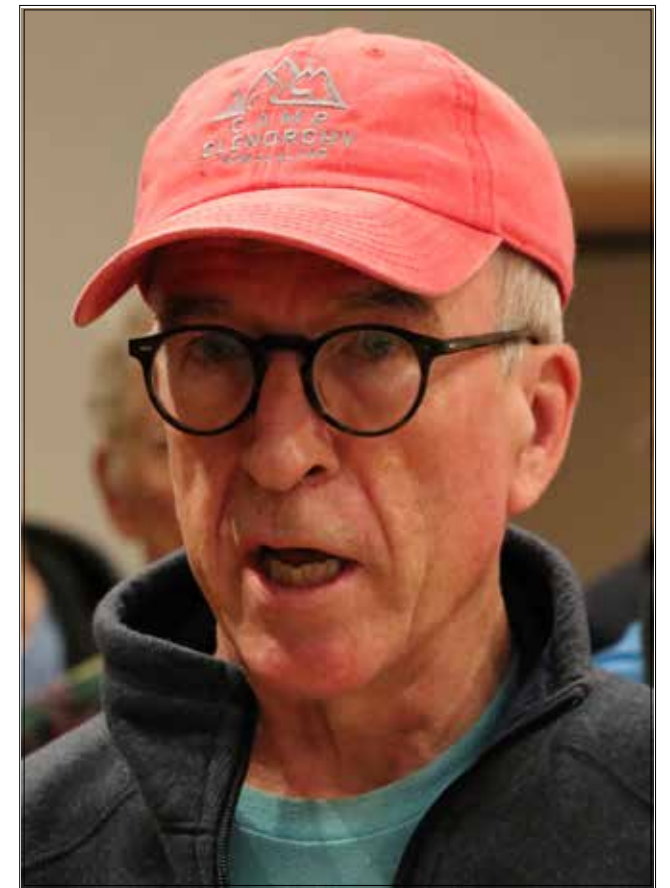
Those of us who enjoy photography are confronted with the perennial problem of what to do with our art. I'm sure 99% of our creations either sit in drawers or, more likely, as digital copies on storage media somewhere, never to see the light of day. In an effort to find a way to easily display photos, I came up with an idea. Basically, a lattice mounted on the wall into which photo frames fit, held in place by rare earth magnets. The frames are all the same size, allowing them to be rearranged – sometimes a change is as good as a new photo – and the magnets facilitate the process. I also left areas open for the wall to show so as to introduce different-size photos and make it more interesting. This is a one-off project so I am sure there is much room for improvement.



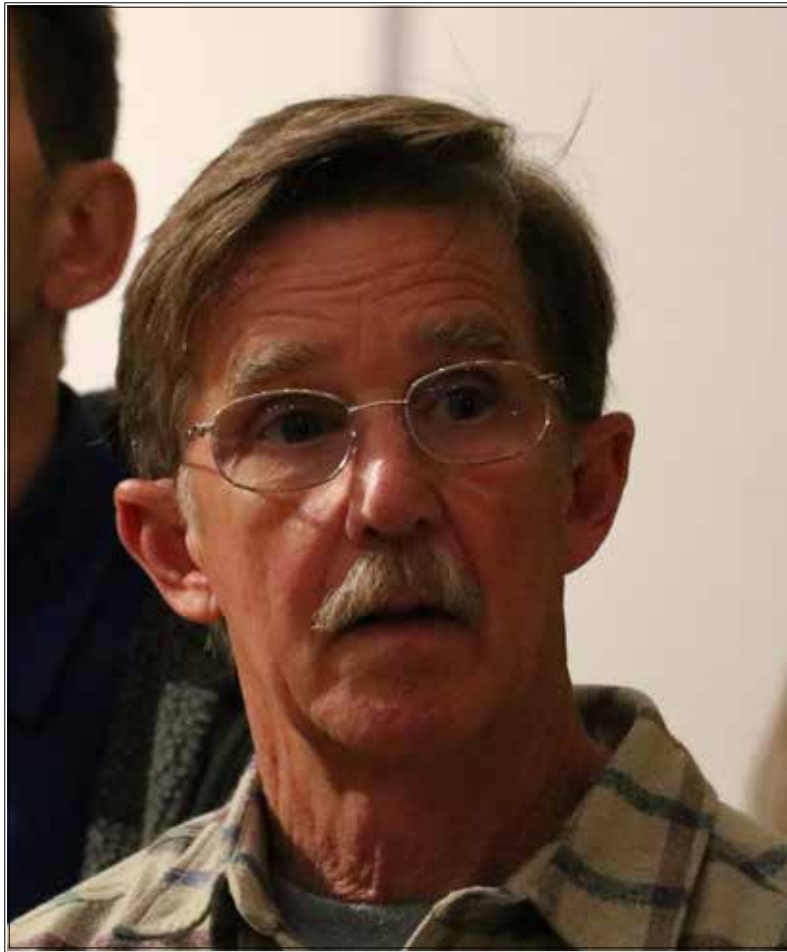


**Dominique Charmot** has been working on a jewelry box lately. As he describes it:

I have been cutting my teeth on marquetry using a mix of different techniques (traditional Boulle and double bevel). Not yet to my liking but getting there. I make my own veneer out of exotic and domestic lumber. For this box I used lacewood, cypress, cedar, poplar and curly maple. The body of the box is 3/8" and 1/2" plywood. The finish is polished Crystalac lacquer.







The handles start as 3" x 2½" stock. The bevels are cut on a table saw, then placed in a jig that accommodates the bevel, and the handle hole is plunge cut with a router. He works with a long length, then cuts off each handle once the handle holes are cut. Once glued up, he cuts the opening on the band saw. The carriers feature Brusso stop hinges, and are lined with pigskin. There are two finger openings, so he says it took a few tries to get the correct size magnet to keep these shut. Finish is wipe-on poly and Renaissance wax.



**Kent Parker** has been working hard on these single wine bottle carriers.

He's buys the unwanted grain cut-offs from a local cabinet shop that doesn't want the crazy grain in their cabinets.

He resaws the pieces to 1/8", then feeds them through a sanding planer to smooth. The curved fronts and backs are laminated over a jig for a total 3/16" thickness and are a mirror image of each other.





By the time this edition of the *Wood Forum* goes to press, the man who taught me so much about making my way in the world will be 97 years old. He was living in San Rafael until a few weeks ago, when he moved to the San Diego area to live with my sister, a M.D., and her husband. After he moved south my



brother and I were tasked with clearing out his apartment. In the process I came across a binder of photographs of woodwork my father, Joseph Scannell, had completed in the years following retirement from the San Francisco Fire Department, where he was an Assistant Chief.

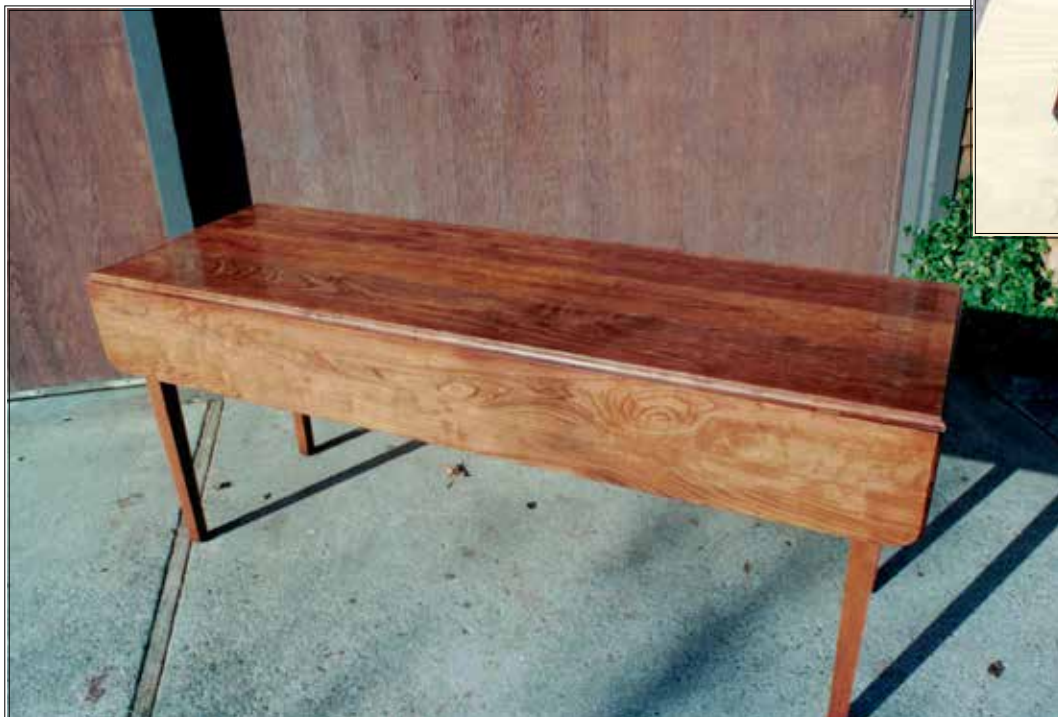
To be honest, I really didn't realize the volume of furniture he had turned out in his retirement years. He was always busy, of course, helping each of his five children with projects, as well as his own kitchen remodel, two bathroom remodel/additions, a swimming pool (where I became a brick mason), and a complete overhaul of a cabin by Lake Tahoe, where he has a view of the lake when the neighbors are kind enough to open their curtains. The man in those years was a human dynamo; nowadays, less so. Recently, he was out for a walk around Ramona, where my sister lives, and passed by a local firehouse, where he chatted up this fellow (*left*), offering him tips on firefighting no doubt.

But getting back to his woodwork. Of course I have memories as a young boy of him always making things, anything we needed. I just assumed that's what everybody did; I found out later that wasn't true. But between he and my mother, and my grandmother, they made virtually everything we needed, and thus the seeds were planted for the next generation.

Retirement afforded my father time he'd never had when he was working, and he burned it like a fifth alarm fire. I don't know where he acquired most of his designs, I suspect he just saw something he liked and adapted it to his needs. Many times he made multiples, as when he made desks for several of the grandchildren. He worked often in oak and cherry, and when another of my brothers, a cabinetmaker, bought a huge pile of highly figured alder from Mount Storm which he used to build cabinet doors for his house, my father took the offcuts and made a game table (*photos at right*).





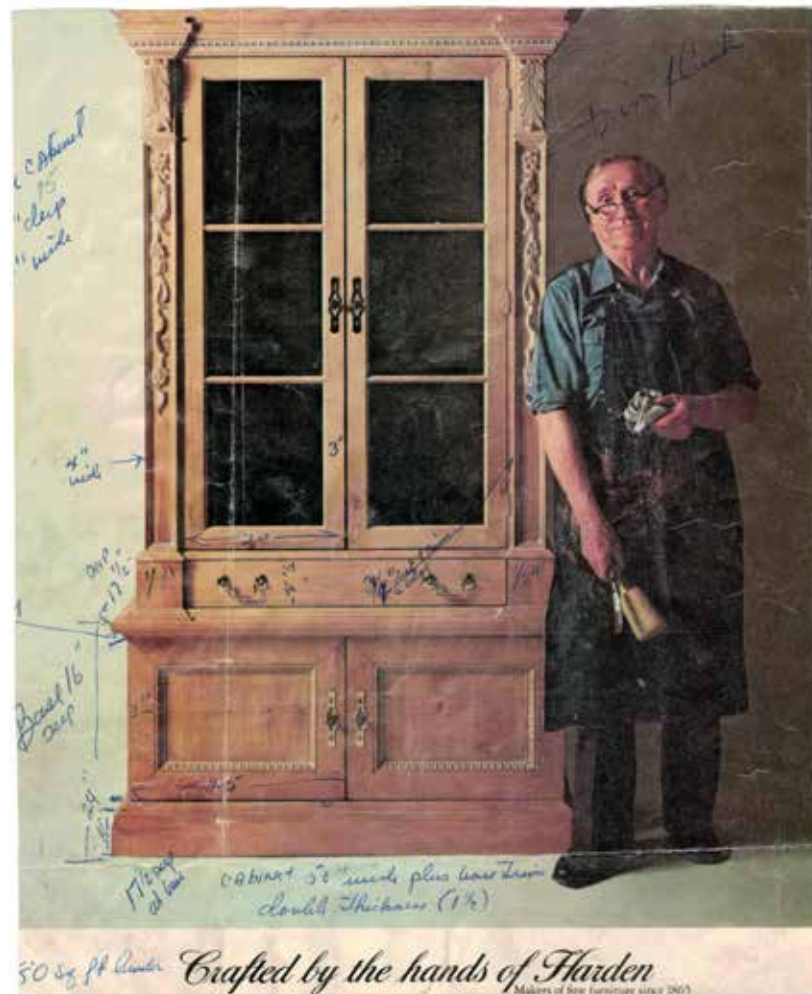


When he and mother bought that Tahoe cabin, it was unfurnished, so he addressed that problem by building five beds, a dining table, a computer desk, a coffee table, and probably a few other things I've overlooked.

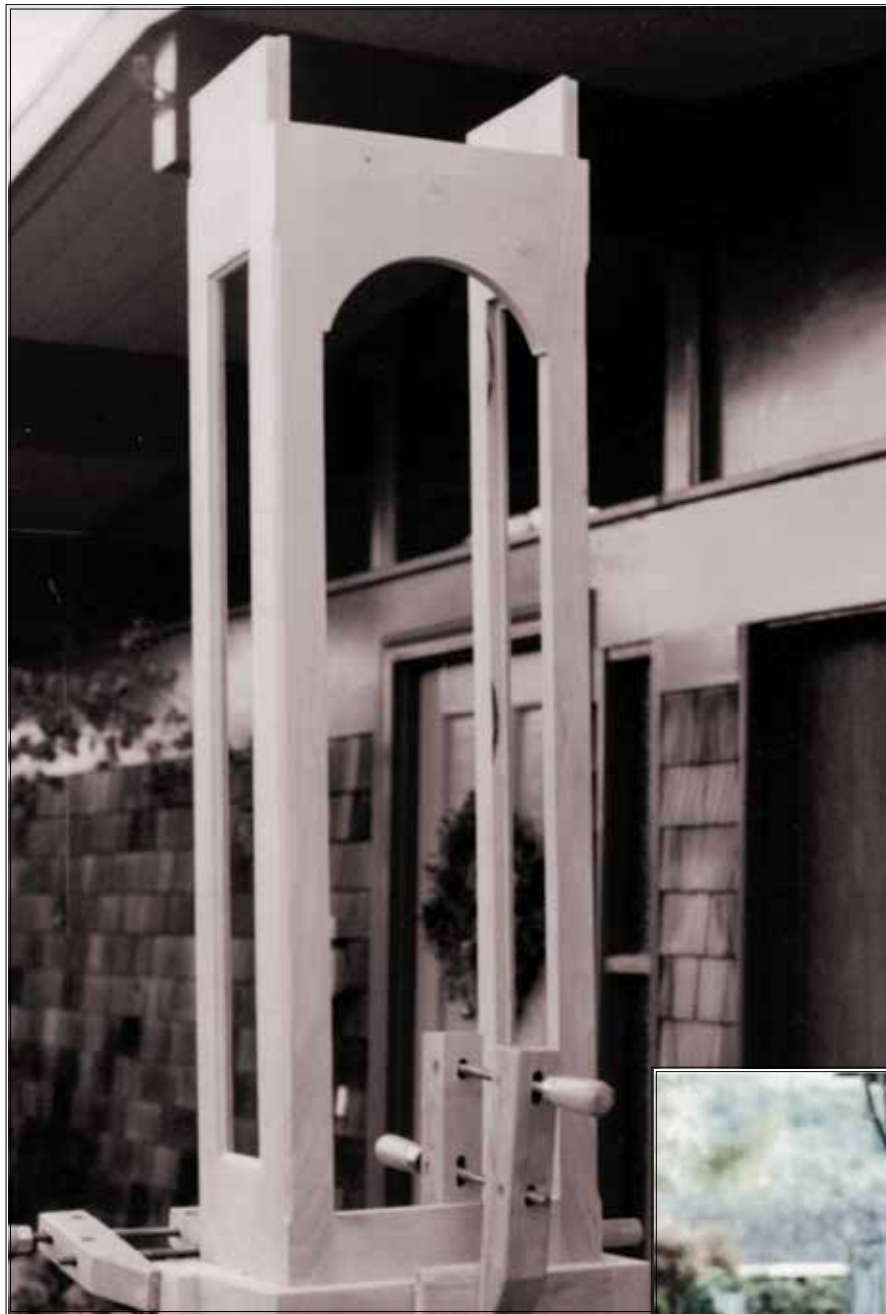




Of course, there were also bookcases, an entertainment center, the aforementioned kitchen cabinets, and two identical china cabinets, the design for which I know because he included the magazine ad of the model, including his notes of the important dimensions.







Perhaps my personal favorite of all this work is the grandfather clock which today stands in my living room and reminds me hourly that time waits for no man.







**Happy  
Birthday,  
Pop!!!**





# Artistry in Wood (Lite)

The museum has made a request of our organization that we display member creations in a portion of the Art Museum building. This would start in early December and probably run through the end of January. Our Board of Directors is in favor of proceeding with this endeavor, and details are still being developed. Stay tuned.

Display pieces will be chosen by the Art and History Museum Directors. Individuals will submit a photograph and brief description of their piece for evaluation for inclusion in the exhibit.

Creations previously exhibited in *Artistry in Wood* shows may be submitted, with the exception of the 2019 show. The Museum is flexible as to floor space and the number of submitted pieces.

I encourage Association members to consider being part of this effort by the museum. This is also a chance to see how our work is displayed in a more modern Art Museum setting. They sincerely value our creativity, and look forward to the return of the usual *AIW* in 2021 in the History Museum setting.

- Don Jereb djereb8494@aol.com



*River Rock #2* by Grif Okie, Best in Furniture, 2012 *Artistry in Wood*

Members are reminded that the Wood Forum is *your* publication, so if you have something you want to say, or show, or advertise, or whatever, please submit you ideas, photos, text, to the Editor, Joe Scannell, at the email address listed on the following page.





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*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](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_

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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