

East Tennessee

Woodworkers Guild

ETWG Newsletter

January-February 2024



Next Meeting March 11, 2024

The ETWG March meeting will be in person at
Woodcraft 6:30 p.m.

Look for email notification closer to the event for Zoom Link or go to the ETWG website.

President's Message

President's Message 2-15-24

Hello all! I joined the Guild in 2019 and attended one meeting before the world shutdown for Covid-19. At the time, I was planning on retiring, so I was looking to expand my network. I've always been inspired to go beyond my comfort level by associating with those who possess superior skills, and the Guild seemed like the perfect match. I'm not exactly sure how it happened, but after some coercion, here I am. I hope to contribute to continuing the excellence I've witnessed thus far.

The East Tennessee Woodworkers Guild exists to encourage the development and appreciation of superior woodworking skills. To maintain the high-quality content we've come to expect requires all of our participation. We aim to improve everyone's skills regardless of their level of expertise. Your support in shaping the content of our programs will help us provide the stimulating environment we strive for. We are seeking ideas for programs; whether it's something you wish to learn or a skill you'd like to share, please let us know. Additionally, we are in need of participation on the board; our combined expertise makes the Guild the vibrant environment we aim for. Furthermore, assistance with meeting setup and take-down is appreciated; feel free to come early and stay late to help with these tasks.

Thank you all.

Mike Casey



Presentation-Brad Sells

Our presentation was given by Brad sells. Brad is a sculptor/woodworker from Cookeville, Tennessee. He presented slides of his work as well as showing and discussing some examples of his current work. The discussion included his background, his design process, how he thinks about his work as *“an experiment in form and aesthetic.”* He also showed various tools that he uses to do his carving explaining how he uses them from course carving to final finishing.



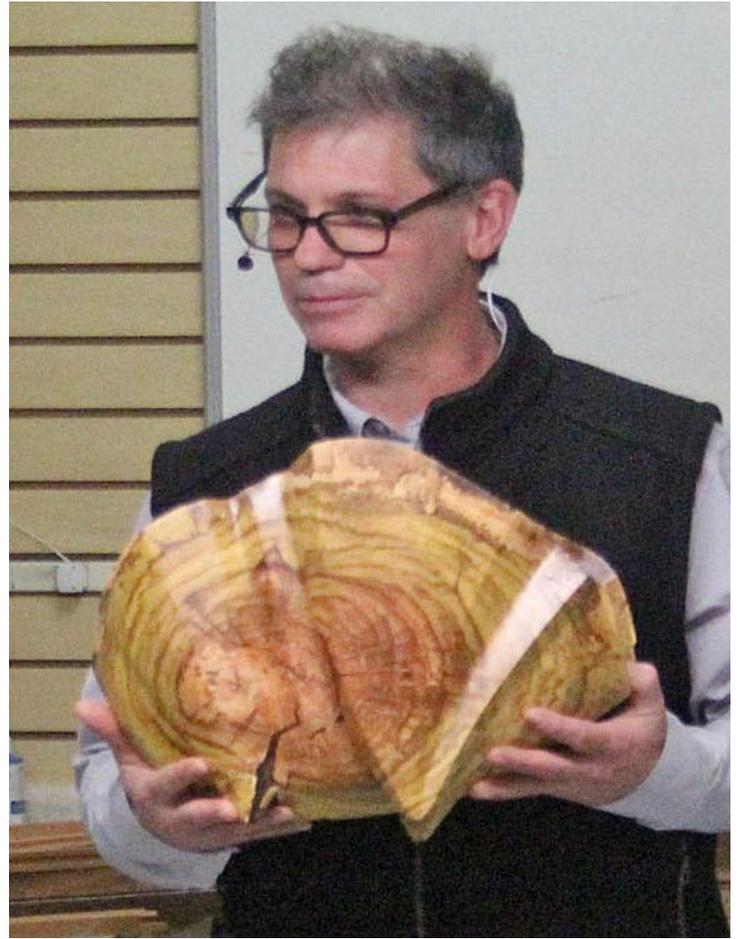
“I appreciate the relationship between man and tree. There is a co-evolution present. I am interested in how man uses the forest and how the relationship grows and thrives in worldly cultures. My curiosity has taken me as far as South Africa and Hawaii where indigenous people believe the forest is a spiritual place where ancestors dwell.” Brad participated in episodes of *Tree Safari* a PBS documentary, see links below.

Presentation-(cont'd)



“My work is an experiment in form and aesthetic. I try to design consistent with the flow of life, a repetitive design of nature bursting with cycles and revolutions. My process is hard and consuming like tending a crop. The results should reveal the tree’s character and spirit. My work is observations of science and nature disguised by soul philosophy. I toggle between these realms creating art, hoping to form a sense of connection that is necessary and lasting.”

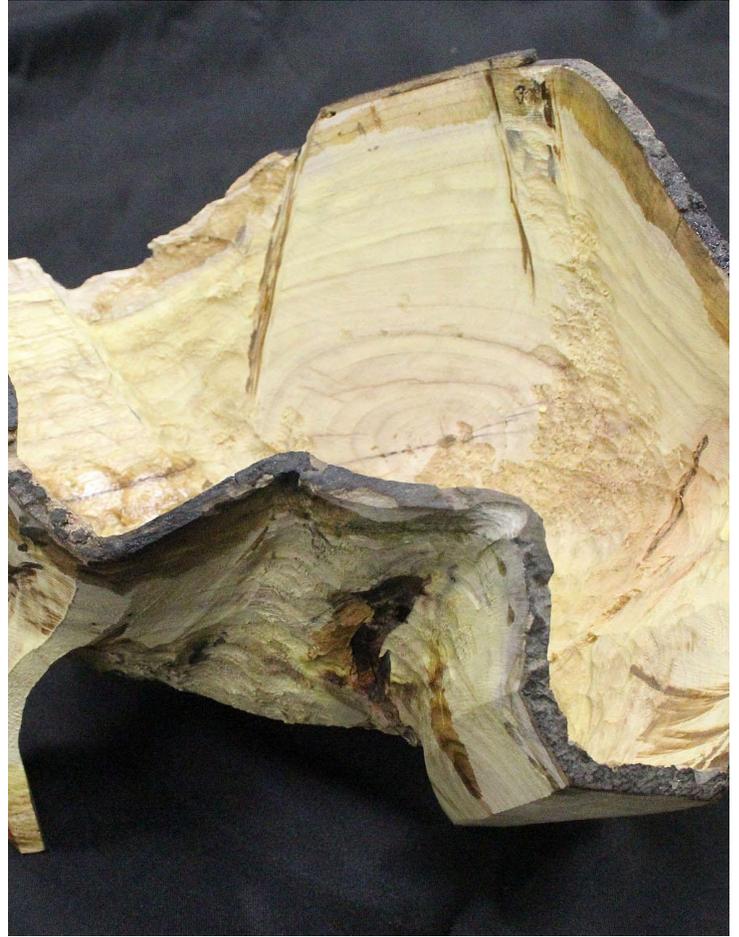
Presentation-(cont'd)



Various pieces being shared, there was something special about touching these as they were shared, sacred, reverence...



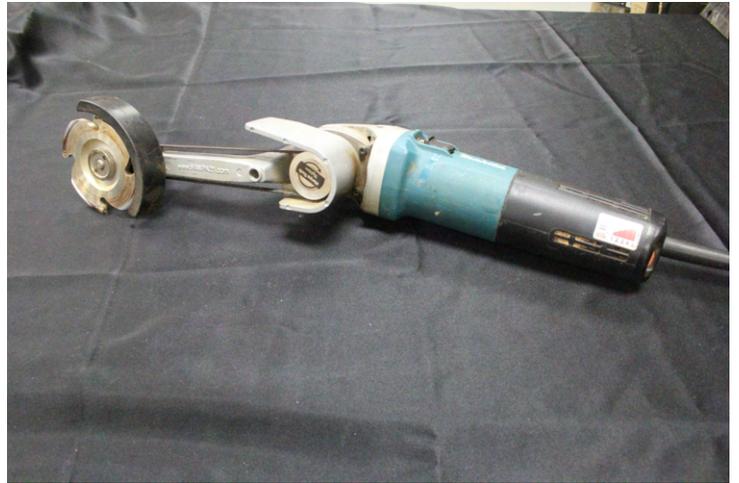
Presentation-(cont'd)



More pieces that Brad brought to share, various woods and some dyes used to enhance color, mostly on the sapwood.



Presentation-(cont'd)



Various tools, note modified handles with knuckle guard.



Presentation-(cont'd)



For more about Brad see the following:

[Youtube](#) , [Gallery](#) , [Facebook](#) , [Instagram](#)

Also see Tree Safari (highly recommended if you haven't seen it): [youtube.](#)
[Africa](#) , [youtube.](#) [Hawaii](#)

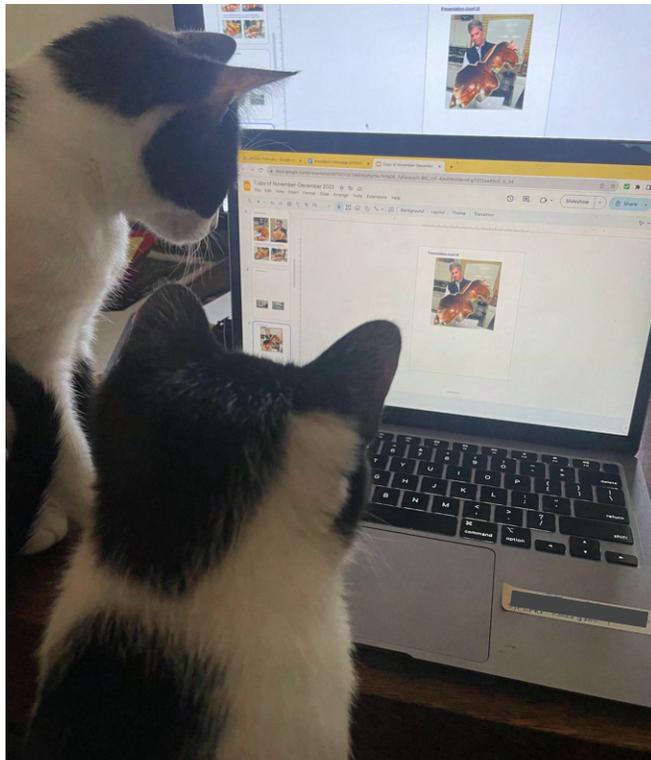
Show and Tell

Music Box by Lou Mansur made to house a friend's traditional music box mechanism.



Show and Tell

Small cherry burl platter by Tom Ehrnschwender, below are helpers with this months newsletter, Pepper and Parsley.



Education

Tom McLaughlin - The Art of Chairmaking

- **Date - April 6, 2024 (Saturday)**
- **Time - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM setup will begin at 8:00 so you don't have to wait until the store is open. Enter through the training room door.**
- **Location - Woodcraft in Knoxville (their training room)**
- **Cost - \$30 (includes lunch - pizza, drinks, and cookies)**
- **Tuition due March 11 or with registration (send check to:**

Bill Key

3314 Turtle Cove Rd.

Louisville, TN 37777

At our next meeting Guild members will still have an opportunity to register for both the April 6 presentation by Tom McLaughlin on chair building.

Reminder - Class tuition is \$30 due starting March 11. Please bring your fee to the next Guild meeting (March 11) or send a check to Bill Key as soon as you can.

Woodworkers Weekend at Arrowmont

- **Date/Time - Noon April 26, 2024 (Friday) to Noon April 28 (Sunday)**
- **Location - Arrowmont Wood Studio, Gatlinburg, TN**
- **Cost - \$50 Tuition, \$85 Meals, + Lodging (max Of \$250 min of \$90)**
- **Tuition due March 11 at the meeting or send check to:**

Bill Key

3314 Turtle Cove Rd.

Louisville, TN 37777

Instructor will be Michael McDunn a recently retired professional woodworker from Greenville, SC who has shown at our Master Furniture Makers show several times. A gallery of his work can be found at www.mcdunnstudio.com.

The two days class will be a hands-on experience focusing on intermediate to advanced topics in veneering beginning with a review of adhesives and substrates, the use of vacuum and mechanical presses, using commercial and shop sawn veneers with a class project of building a parquetry serving tray.

Vacuum presses and some tools will be available for shared use. Various commercial veneers will be available and students will get the chance to develop their own shop sawn veneers during the class.

A more refined course description and a tools list should be available at the next meeting. The class may have a materials fee for some items, but we will attempt to limit additional costs.

Education (cont'd)

Lodging/Meals Details

The attachment provides a listing of the different lodging options at Arrowmont and their costs. As noted the 5 meals will be a total of \$85. Make reservations by calling the registrar (Sonny Moyers) at 865-436-5860, ext.23. You can begin registration Monday March 4. Note that the less expensive room options are limited. Also, Arrowmont's regular cancellation policy is no refunds for cancellations within 4 weeks of your reserved date (March 29). We have asked for relief of this policy and will let you know of any change.

Arrowmont Registration (Lodging and Meals)

ETWG and Smoky MTN WT April 26-28, 2024

Name (Male Female)

Street Address

City / State / Zip

Cell Phone

E-mail

Housing (Per Person – Per Night)

- New Dorm Single \$125 (Queen bed)
- New Dorm Double \$75 (2 Twin beds)
- Teachers Single \$65 (Queen bed)
- Teachers Double \$55 (Twin Beds)
- Teachers Triple \$45 (Twin Beds)

Meals:

FRIDAY: Dinner

SATURDAY: Breakfast /Lunch/ Dinner

SUNDAY: Breakfast

Total Meal Package: **\$85.00** per person.

(25 people estimated)

Payment By Phone: 865 436-5860 ext 23 Sunny Moyers

Membership

Please contact Mike Casey if you need a nametag. mecasey4235@gmail.com
A new Membership Directory is available to members. Be sure to pick one up at the meeting.

Membership Dues for 2024 will be collected at the meeting, See Charlie Cutler.

Mail your check for **\$50** to Charlie Cutler.

East Tennessee Woodworkers Guild

% Charlie Cutler

1631 Laramie Lane

Seymour, TN 37865

Juried Membership

In perusing the membership contact list, you will notice that about one in five is designated as having juried status. The term denotes the highest level of achievement in woodworking, as rated by a jury of the most accomplished woodworkers within the Guild. Juried members serve as a resource, who can be consulted on a wide range of questions ranging from design, to specific techniques, tools and methods.

To seek juried status a member may request that their work be evaluated. To help decide whether work is ready to be considered by a jury, it is recommended that you start with self-evaluations. First, do your pieces meet your own highest standards? Be honest and critical. Second, as objectively as you can, compare your pieces to recognized works of merit.

Examples may be those displayed at the ETWG Master Woodworkers Shows, at national shows generally acknowledged to highlight the finest furniture and woodwork, and within highly distilled magazines like Finewoodworking. If your work does not do well by comparison, in your judgement, then delay your request to be juried. Make some improved pieces based on what you have learned.

If you are ready to take the leap, contact Lou Mansur our ETWG standards committee chairman mansurk@comcast.net.

Your Guild

How can you be more involved?

- We are currently looking for someone to take Bill Key's place as Education Committee Chair. Contact any Member of the Board if you have an interest in being more involved. Bill and has done a wonderful job, but it is time for someone else to step up. If this position doesn't fit there is most likely another position that will help you be involved.

Guild Staff

Board of Directors and Special Advisors

President	Mike Casey
Director Treasurer	Charlie Cutler
Director Secretary	Tom Ehrnschwender
Director	Jim Vogelsang
Director	Lou Mansur
Director	Jeff White
Director	Bill Key (end of term)

Committee Chairs and Project Coordinators

Education Committee	Bill Key (end of term)
Standards Committee	Lou Mansur
Membership Committee	Mike Casey
Door Prizes	Charlie Cutler
Newsletter	Tom Ehrnschwender
Web/Audio Visual	Jim Vogelsang
Photographer	Tom Zachman
Assistant Photographers	Brent Quarles & Pat Bryan

