



WOOD FORUM

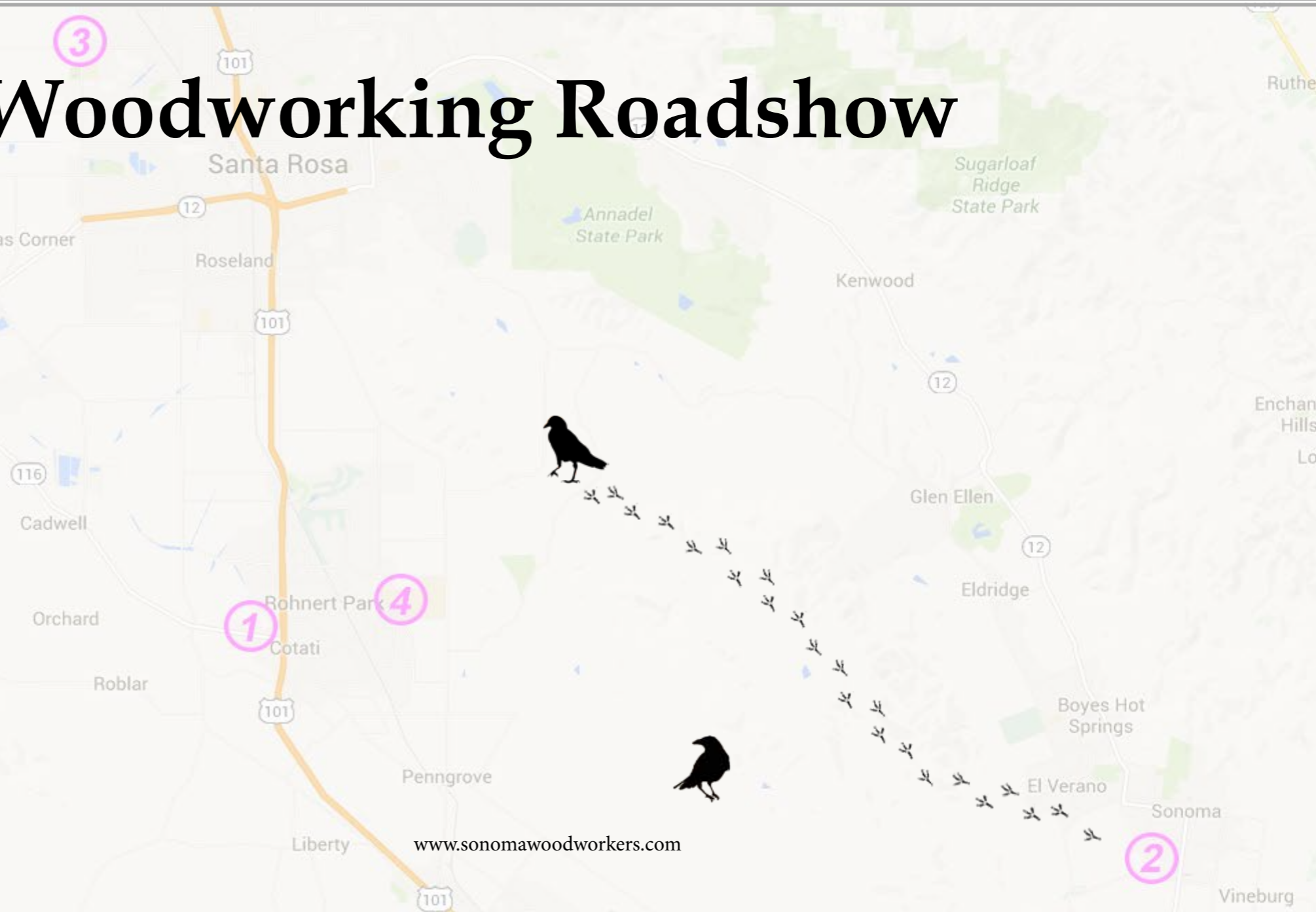
Newsletter of the Sonoma County Woodworkers Association

Volume 36, Issue 8

August 2016

A Woodworking Roadshow

August will feature our Small Shops meeting. Because members seemed interested in the small shops they visited two years ago, on Saturday, August 13 of this year we will visit the shops of Bill Taft in Cotati, Hugh Buttrum in Sonoma, Frank Moraes in Santa Rosa, and Bill Hartman's woodshop at Rancho Cotate High School, not exactly a small shop, but an important educational element for woodworking in Sonoma County. Afterwards, there will be a BBQ at Don Jereb's house in Santa Rosa. More information on page 2.



www.sonomawoodworkers.com

Small Shops 2016

Produced and Directed by Art Hofmann

This year's offerings and what you will see are various. Feel free to mix and match; attend all or just some of the open shops. Or attend just the BBQ. Its up to you. Please consult Google Maps for locations.

The schedule will be as follows:

Bill Taft: marquetry and more

9:00 AM Bill Taft lives at Cotati Cottages, well known to us as the site of their clubhouse where we often have our meetings. Bill's address is 7940 Scriver Court, Cotati, CA 94931. It is one block west of the clubhouse.

Bill's specialty is marquetry, and he will be showing us just how he creates his prize-winning pieces. He also promises to add something about the boats he has built and worked on over the years.

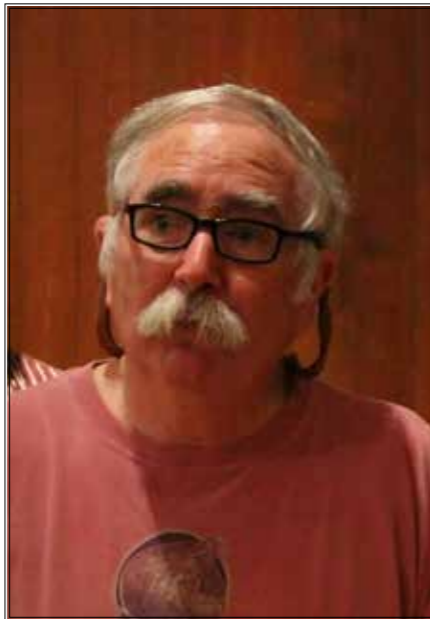
Hugh Buttrum, turner

11:00 AM Hugh Buttrum is a noted turner, whose work has consistently won prizes in our *Artistry in Wood* show over the past ten years. He is renowned for his turned and carved ginger jars.

He lives in Sonoma, where his address is 20160 Fifth Street W, Sonoma, CA 95476.

Note the W, for 'West.'

It is 3/4 of a mile south of the Safeway store, a gray house with a wire fence; the shop is in the back. Best to park on the house side of the road as there is more room to park. It is a busy street; some parking may be found in the driveway.



Frank Moraes, general woodwork

1:00 PM Frank Moraes lives in Santa Rosa. His address is 2535 Sam Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, in western Santa Rosa, off of Fulton Road near Piner Road. His shop is about 300 sq.ft., filled to the gills with mostly Grizzly and home built machines, such as a router table and woodmilling machine. It is a miracle of organization. He has a bench, a table saw, a planer, a sander, a chop saw, a dozen routers, a dust collection system, and, and, and... Small shop? You ain't kidding. But in there, Frank gets it all done: at the age of 90 he says, "I can build anything." Let's hope we can all say that at his age. Woodwork obviously keeps him young.



Frank does an array of general woodwork and has had pieces in our *Artistry in Wood* show. His specialty is restoring old furniture, such as a little foot powered pedal-less trike for his great-great grandson. Currently

he is working on four dining chairs, and a little puzzle box. He says that he hopes to have it finished in time for your visit to his shop. As an added inducement, he says that he will put a \$20 bill in it, and the first one to open the box gets to keep it.

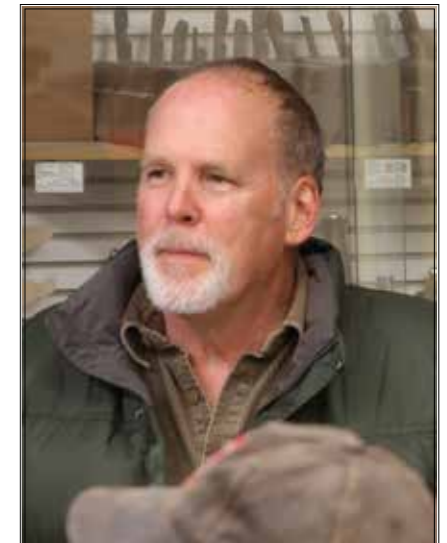
Bill Hartman. High School woodshop

3:00 PM Bill Hartman's Rancho Cotate High School woodshop is one of our venues for our monthly meetings. It is very well organized, and Bill runs a large program there, with kids building a variety of items for themselves and the community. Bill will discuss his woodworking program and a project in which he had his students build several dozen armoires for the new SAY facility in Santa Rosa, a home for teens.

Another purpose of opening his shop is that Bill has, over the years, acquired some wood collections and is selling some of it off. Included in the sale will be many hardwoods and some exotics. The prices, Bill says, will be reasonable.

The address is 5450 Snyder Lane, Rohnert Park. Rancho's campus is close to Sonoma State University. If you are coming from the west, north or south, take East Cotati Avenue for the Freeway and turn north on Snyder Lane. The parking lot is on the north end of the campus. Once parked, look for the flag pole, and walk in that direction until you see the plainly designated Woodshop in the northeast corner of the campus. It can be recognized by the huge dust collection cyclone and dumpster in front of it.

For details about the BBQ, see the next page...



BBQ at Don Jereb's

5:00 PM To round off the day, there will be a BBQ at Don Jereb's house at 3110 Montecito Meadow Drive in Santa Rosa. This is in the area of the old Community Hospital up off of Chanate Drive. Bring your family and friends!

SCWA will provide water, soft drinks, burgers, franks and buns. Please bring a side dish, or chips. Bill Hartman, by the way, say he enjoys BBQ-ing and smoking meats. He'll be there, and you can try his fare.



Galaxier by Steve Forrest

Photo by Tyler Chartier

Artistry in Wood 2016

Show Schedule

Thursday, September 8, 9 am to 4 pm - Entry Day

Wednesday, September 14, 7 pm - Judging and
SCWA Show Awards meeting.

Friday, September 16 - Museum members
Opening Reception

Saturday, September 17 - Show Opening

Tuesday, October 4, 7 pm - SCWA members
meeting at the Museum

Sunday, October 9 - Show Closing

Monday, October 10, 9 am to 4 pm - Pick-up Day



A Note from the Chairman

Bill Taft

Well, no meeting this past month. Sometimes things don't work out as we would like them to. It looks like we will have the meeting at Tripp Carpenter's shop some time next year. In August we will be having four meetings, all on one day. We are holding our "Small shops tour" and you can attend any or all of the four open shops. I am starting it off with my shop being open starting at 9 am. Check the website for all the information about this event.

What if we only had a few meetings next year? What if there was no *Artistry in Wood* Show? Would you still be a member? It could happen, because four board members are vacating their positions at the end of the year. I am one of the four that will be stepping down, and the other three hold key positions, being responsible for our programs and Show.

Entry Day for our *Artistry in Wood* 2016 Show is September 8, 2016. The schedule and all of the information about entering work is on our website. Please consider volunteering to help with the Show. I think that you will find it a rewarding experience. We will be sending out the requests for volunteers starting in mid-August.

Once again, my goal is to bring more members into sharing the duties of running the Association. If you are interested in finding out what is involved, please contact me.

Feeling Rejected?

Have you ever had an idea that you wanted to share with others, an idea so good that you felt it should make it into print? So you put together a proposal and submitted it to *Fine Woodworking*, *Popular Woodworking*, or one of the other print magazines. Or perhaps you submitted your article to one of those new online newsletters, such as *Highland Woodworking*. And what happened? You got the proverbial pink slip. Or whatever they call rejection letters nowadays. I guess "rejection email" would be more accurate.

So, what now? Your idea is a good one, but you seem unable to sell it, or even give it away. Does this sound familiar? It does to me - I have a small collection of "Thanks but no thanks" notes I've acquired over the years.

But now a solution may be at hand. There's this really terrific online publication operating on the West Coast, with a large, genial editorial staff standing by to put your ideas into the hands of readers like yourself. All you have to do is call the Editor-in-Chief and discuss the details. Or drop him an email at

SCWAEditor@gmail.com



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The Future of SCWA

by Lars Andersen

Since you may not know me, let me briefly introduce myself. I am new to woodworking. I slowly developed the interest a few years ago and made a few picture frames, and two years ago I decided to explore it more seriously and to start making furniture. I joined SCWA online on a Monday night in August 2014. I realized my first opportunity to go to a SCWA meeting was at Michael Cullen's shop the next night. I was a bit apprehensive about going, but when I learned about Michael's rock-star status I decided to go. (Also, my wife told me I'd be an idiot for not going...) My "goal" for the night was to talk to people to possibly learn more about the various woodworking resources in the county. I had little skills/tools, so I thought maybe taking a class would be better than just starting out in the garage by myself.

The first person I talked to was Bill Hartman. He told me about a set of woodworking classes for adults at Petaluma High School, and that Bob Moyer was a volunteer there. I met Bob, and with his strong encouragement I signed up for the class the next day. It started a month later, and by the end of the year I had nearly completed my first piece of furniture, a simple night stand with a drawer and a lower shelf. Since then, I've made a second matching night stand, and a couple of other simple pieces. Then I got interested in bamboo. I didn't quite know where to start, so I talked to Scott Clark about it at a SCWA meeting. It turned out Scott had a buddy who would be happy to provide a bamboo sample for me to play with. I cut a mortise/tenon and a dovetail, decided it was workable, bought a bamboo sheet, and made two side tables for our home. Out of courtesy, I



Lars Andersen

showed Scott a picture of the final result, and he encouraged me to submit a piece to the upcoming *Artistry in Wood* 2015 show. I took the leap, and the piece was accepted into the show.

Subsequently, Joe Scannell asked me to write an article for the newsletter about bamboo, which I happily did. My next project will be a bench for our garden.

How would my woodworking hobby have developed without SCWA? Who knows? I'm a resourceful guy, maybe I could have figured something out. However, there is no doubt in my mind that without the various components of SCWA - the website, the meetings, the show, the newsletter, and all the skilled/helpful people linking all this together and making it all happen - it would have been a longer and bumpier journey. Big Thank You!

As we all know, SCWA is a volunteer-based organization. Without volunteers (board member, committee member, meeting speakers, meeting hosts, show helpers, etc.), nothing happens. SCWA has eight board members. Five of the eight board members plan to retire at the end of the year. If replacements are not found, that leaves SCWA with three board members - two of which have served for only six months. Anyone can see that this is not sustainable. Long term, SCWA would probably fold. Short term, we might try to keep the organization going, but it would have to be at a much-reduced level. If no one is willing to be the newsletter editor, maybe we won't have a newsletter. If no one is willing to maintain the website, maybe it will be static. If no one is willing to be the program coordinator, maybe we won't have monthly meetings. If no one is willing to chair the show, maybe we won't have a show. What kind of club would that be?

I decided to step forward last year when Bill Taft asked for volunteers. The SCWA organization was so helpful to me when I first joined that I thought I would “give back” a bit. While I have a demanding fulltime job and therefore don’t have a lot of free time, I decided I could spare a few hours for SCWA. I’m glad I did.

But enough about me... What about you? What’s your story? What has SCWA meant to you? Has the website helped you? Do you enjoy the monthly meetings? Do you submit pieces to the show and/or attend the show? Do you enjoy reading the newsletter? Do you enjoy socializing with like-minded people? What would be the impact on you if it all went away and there was no SCWA? Is SCWA worth volunteering for?

Obviously, I cannot tell you whether volunteering for SCWA is the right choice for you. How could I? I don’t know you. I don’t know your life situation. I don’t know the many demands on your time. I don’t know your skills and interests. I don’t even know your views on SCWA, and how strongly you may feel about keeping SCWA alive. So what am I asking here? To share your thoughts with one of the board members. Basically,

we are trying to find out if members are aware of what may happen to SCWA in January 2017 if no one steps forward, and whether members are okay with it. Is it worth keeping SCWA going or not? Can you help? It’s okay if you cannot help, but we would like to know. It will help us decide how to operate going forward. You can email me at larsandersenwoodworking@gmail.com or call me at (415) 741-0876 or grab me at a meeting, or you can contact any other board member.

If you are thinking about volunteering, you may be feeling a bit apprehensive because you are concerned that you may not be able to do as well as the person you are replacing. That’s understandable - but respectfully, I’m not convinced it’s true! Let’s take an example - Art Hofmann. Art has been our program coordinator for a decade. By all accounts, he has done an outstanding job. Throughout this time, he has coordinated most of SCWA’s monthly meetings. The speakers have been knowledgeable and varied. If you missed a meeting, fear not - Art recorded them, and transcribed the presentation for the monthly newsletter, complete with a generous amount of pictures. It’s as if you were

there. How can anyone top that? Probably no one can, but that does not mean that someone else cannot also do an excellent job - it will just be different. Art did the best he could with the skills and interests he had, and he did well. Similarly, you will do the best you can with the skills and interests you have, and you will do well. Maybe you have experience with social media, and can use crowdsourcing to find speakers Art could not reach? Maybe you focus on local speakers, and in turn the meetings become more intimate? I don’t know. What I do know is this: just because you do something differently than Art doesn’t mean it will not also be good. A job is what you make it. The goal is not to do what Art did, it’s to do what YOU can. If you have the interest, you will do well. Please consider stepping forward, and helping SCWA.

In summary, I ask you to spend a couple of minutes thinking about SCWA. Are you aware of what may happen to SCWA in January 2017 if no one steps forward? Are you okay with this?



Artistry in Wood

...coming soon to a
Museum near you.

(Volunteers needed)



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Photos by Jose Cuervo

Officers of the Association

<u>Chairman</u>	Bill Taft	<u>Secretary</u>	Lars Andersen
<u>Program Chair</u>	Art Hofmann	<u>Guild Chair</u>	Larry Stroud
<u>Treasurer</u>	Judith Garland	<u>Show Chair</u>	Scott Clark
<u>Editor</u>	Joe Scannell	<u>Web Master</u>	Michael Wallace

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