

President's Message



It's my pleasure and honor to greet you as the new President of SDFWA! I'm excited to step into this role and want to thank Travis Good for the transformational work he did as President the last 3 years.

I joined the association four years ago and am truly impressed by the caliber of members and volunteers that make it what it is. Over this period, I have become more passionate about my own woodworking, what's going on in the association, and playing a role in helping to move forward.

While we've made great progress, we've also had to deal with the ever-changing Covid landscape. This has forced us to adapt and rethink how and what we do. With guarded optimism the COVID landscape will be improving, I believe 2022 will provide us with some exciting opportunities to not only recover from COVID impacts, but also to reinvent some of the things we had to stop and start new things as well.

I've started making the rounds to meet the volunteer core and very active members to find out how they're contributing and what they'd like to get from SDFWA. A key mission of mine is to make changes that will foster volunteerism without burning people out and add value for all our members. I will be spending time to figure out ways to establish two-way communication with as many people as possible. Stay tuned.

Here's a sampling of priorities for 2022. As I get to know people and where the energy is, things can shift, but I believe this is a good start.

- Volunteer recognition and appreciation
- Fully support Design in Wood
- Shop 3.0 Expansion
- Reboot legacy activities like field trips and shop tours

- Reimagine and restart a formal mentoring program
- Organize community outreach work
- Find ways to improve general meetings for our diverse membership
- Develop quality video/audio capability for hybrid online meetings as well as many other uses
- Website maintenance to ensure it's stable, secure, and as useful as possible
- Foster networking, connection, and inclusivity through social events
- Streamline tasks to make volunteering easier and more effective

It's a big list but I'm excited to take it on. I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work but I'll need help. If you're interested helping, please contact me at president@sdfwa.org. I'd also love to meet you in person so please come to our events and introduce yourself.

Jeff Romek
President, SDFWA

Next Meeting

January Meeting

7:00 PM Wednesday January 26th

Zoom Only

[Punchpass Link](#)

[Zoom Link](#) (password if you are prompted: 420303)

The Next General Meeting will be at 7:00 PM Wednesday, January 26th . Due to the resurgence of COVID, this will be an online only meeting. For safety reasons the meeting will be produced at the shop with very limited attendance.

We are hoping to increase our audio and video performance. Drop by and let us know how we are doing.



Raffle

Lie-Nielson

The raffle prize is a Lie-Nielson 4 1/2 smoothing plane. If your in attendance at the meeting you could win a prize that will really up your woodworking game.



The guest speaker

Russ Filbeck will be our guest speaker. Russ is a master chair maker. Lots of time that term master craftsman is thrown around rather loosely, in Russ's case it is absolutely appropriate. You should check out Russ's [website](#) and learn about his vast array of skills. The bottom line is that Russ is an amazing guy who has brought a lot to the SDFWA.

Russ will be showing us how he does bent wood lamination. He uses this technique to achieve those amazing curves on his rocking chair. Drop by and learn from this master, just how it is done.



Holiday Gift Sale

The 2021 Holiday Gift Sale was a huge success, due in large part to the support of many Members who donated, shopped and brought their friends and neighbors. When the final tally came in, we generated approximately \$30,000 for SDFWA and had a LOT of fun doing it! Nice job everyone!

With the Holidays behind us, it's now time to look forward and begin to produce items for the 2022 Holiday Gift Sale, November 18-19. That may seem like a long time from now, but it's not. We have a huge need if we want to come anywhere close to the 2021 results and we need your help!

Here's what you can do:

1. Join us for our every other week "Builds" on Friday mornings, anytime between 8am and noon. You can bring in your own project to work on, help with those we have going or just check it out. If you're not a Shop Member (not safety certified), you can still help us in the bench room with shaping, sanding, gluing and finishing. Check the Shop Schedule on the web site.
2. We've just begun another "Build" on every other Friday Evening, from 5 – 9pm for those of you who prefer that time. We are tailoring this to newer woodworkers, but everyone is welcome. (Again, for safety reason, non-Shop Members are not able to use power tools.)
3. Build and donate items from your own shop. We need virtually any item you can think of. But if you need ideas, plans or wood, let us know. We especially need turned items, including pens, bowls...especially yarn bowls, Christmas items, etc. Utensils, boxes, cribbage boards, chess boards, are just a few of the items we know will sell. This past years sale had over 500 different items, so be creative!
4. Donate materials. We have a never-ending need for wood of all kinds, as well as other supplies. If you can help, please [let us know](#)!

With your help, we can make this year's Holiday Gift Sale the very best yet!



Toy Program

Toy Program

Since our last report the following toys have been completed in 2021:

53 Car haulers with 3 cars Jerry's Toy Group

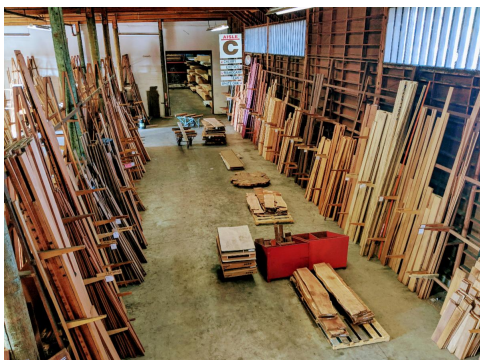
51 Animal glasses holders Jerry's Toy Group

Our toy production total for this period was 104 and 312 for 2021.

ROGER SOLHEID, TOY PROGRAM CHAIRMAN



Frost Hardwood



[Frost Hardwood](#) is one of SDFWA's founding [sponsors](#). They have been an outstanding member of both the woodworking and the county at large. James Frost provided us with the following comments on the ongoing supply chain issues.

San Diego Fine Woodworkers Newsletter

Supply Chain Disruptions and its effect on Wood Products

As our economy reopens we are seeing unprecedented price increases and shortages everywhere. We are hoping that these bottlenecks will be corrected soon but nobody knows when.

We are seeing shortages in labor and commodities that we have not seen in a long time but there has been a perfect storm of problems that are driving our costs higher but the underlying issues of supply and demand remain a constant.

The Port of Los Angeles handles close to 40% of our nations imports. They are almost at capacity. Shipping rates on a container coming from overseas ran \$3000 a year ago. Today it is currently \$24,000. When ships cannot unload for weeks this bottleneck and surging demand due the Christmas buying season, is affecting everything that is imported to this country. This problem is spilling over to our domestic market. So you say why not just buy things manufactured here in the US as the cost of imports is going up? That is what is happening in some industries such as wood products. First of all, domestic manufacturers have high cost of labor (if they can find enough workers) so do they want to be competing against lower cost manufacturers overseas who's products are still cheap but excess freight puts them at a disadvantage? Domestic suppliers are raising prices to stave off this new increase in demand that will max out their order files. Domestic plywood mills order files are currently 2-3 months.

Some of this is pure nonsense as our government/union policies are too strict. Fortunately, recently some rules were changed to alleviate this congestion. First, the ports unions (Longshoreman) would only load containers during daylight hours but now it is 7/24. Truckers have been waiting 4 hours to load their trucks and have spilling into the adjacent neighborhoods. Just to get a sense of the magnitude of this problem as of this writing there are 100 ships waiting to unload and each container ship needs 8000 trucks so do the math. There needs to be 100 x 8000 truckers/trucks (800,000 total needed) to unload what is sitting off the port right now. Trucker can only work a 14 hour shift legally before having to take a 10 hour break and they waste half of their day just sitting....very similar to the container ships and their crew. Truckers are not only restricted to limited hours per day but also new California mandates regarding exhaust emissions are going into effect at the end of this year. Truckers are leaving the state in droves to get around the strict emission compliance standards. Recently, I spoke with a trucker moving to Idaho as he is in his 60's and getting close to retirement and cannot afford the upgrades to his truck and does not have enough years left to go out and buy a new truck.

Although we see these disruptions as temporary it does expose the true cost of this pandemic and the results of trying to stop and start a somewhat healthy economy.

I have found that not everything is going up as drastically as others. Plywood's, in general, have increased in general, due to the fact that they are related to commodities and imported plywood. Most imported species of lumber have seen tight supply and exotics have been even harder to find.

The exception to this rule in the domestic species are red oak, hickory, cherry and ash. Poplar made a big run initially but has settled back down and still is 25% higher from last year and 25% below what it was a few months ago. Certain species are oversold such as White Oak (especially Rift cut), Walnut, Basswood and White Hard Maple.

With inflation trending higher, it would be safe to say that everything will cost more down the road than today but to ask how long this may last and will prices be less several years down the road only time will tell. I would at least give a few years before these disruptions work themselves out.

The key drivers for most species are led by the cabinet and furniture industries. Color trends for projects coming from architects and designers help fuel the lumber trends as hardwoods compliment these colors on projects. Ranch style projects in residential would be mostly white paint grade with a compliment of darker woods such as walnut. Ranch style could also be the rustic wood tones in White Oak. The problem with white oak is that it the only wood that staves for barrels can be made from due to its cell structure. Not only do we have furniture and cabinet uses for White Oak but worldwide demand for American white oak barrels. The whiskey and wine barrel business has remained healthy during these pandemic times.

I have attached a link here to check out a lumber species guide with their woodworking properties courtesy of the Hardwood Distributors Association: <http://www.hardwooddistributors.org/species>

I hope this information was useful

Jim Frost

President of Frost Hardwood Lumber Co.

Design In Wood



I am pleased to announce that the 22nd Agricultural District Board of Directors has approved the budget for the 2022 San Diego Fair, including the Design In Wood exhibition budget. Finally, we will be able to put on the 39th Design In Wood exhibition of fine woodworking.

Our Ad is in the January Woodworker West magazine. In addition to the Ad, DIW is mentioned in two additional places, under "Woodworking Observations" and a paragraph under "OPPORTUNITIES".

The theme for the 2022 Fair is "Heroes Re-Unite!". The fair will start a little later this year. Wednesday instead of Friday.

Dates: Wednesday, June 8th – Monday, July 4th, Closed every Monday and Tuesday, except July 4.

Times: Sunday thru Thursday: 11AM to 10PM. Friday and Saturday: 11AM to 11PM

Entries close April 29th. Setup starts May 15th.

Ed Gladney
Coordinator, Design In Wood
619-251-4410 Cell
858-484-4366 Home




Frankie McWhirt

David Albertson

39TH Annual DESIGN IN WOOD

The International Exhibition of Fine Woodworking

San Diego County Fair
In association with the
San Diego Fine Woodworkers Association

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR in DEL MAR, CA
JUNE 8 to JULY 4, 2022

Call for Entries

Over \$20,000 in Prizes
\$1,000 Best of Show

For additional
entry information
visit the web site:
**www.sdfair.com,
www.sdfwa.org, or
call 858-792-4207**






Steven Coffey

Andy Goldman

Vicki Hemmon

Entry Deadline: April 29, 2022
All Entries must be submitted on-line at www.sdfair.com

Entry Categories

- Contemporary Furniture
- Contemporary Accessories
- Art Furniture
- Chairs
- Clocks
- Traditional Furniture
- Furniture—Laser and/or CNC
- Traditional Accessories
- Veneering/Marquetry—Art
- Veneering/Marquetry—Furniture
- Veneering/Marquetry Laser and/or CNC
- Model Building—Scale
- Model Building—Not to Scale
- Musical Instruments
- Made for Children
- Woodturning—Face Work
- Woodturning—Center Work
- Woodturning—Laminated
- Woodturning—Mixed Media
- Scrollsaw—Intarsia
- Scrollsaw—Fretwork
- Wood Carving—Animal
- Wood Carving—Bird
- Wood Carving—Marine
- Wood Carving—Open
- Wood Carving—Human Form
- 2022 Theme: Heroes ReUnite

Education Team & Classes

Have you ever watched a good plan come together and mesh like the gears on fine machinery? I have had the distinct pleasure of watching as the education team has built a juggernaut of classes, instructors, and happy students. The team plans the courses they are going to offer, finds the space and the materials required, recruits the volunteer instructors, and publicizes and signs up the students. It is quite the intricate ballet as they balance all the competing issues. Judging by how quickly the classes fill they seem to be doing something right. The revenue they bring is a big part of financing Shop 3.0 and the expanding offerings of the association. Again, this a group of volunteers that is making a huge difference for both SDFWA and the community. Please take a moment to **thank the education team** of: Scott Sypkens, Julia Cornuelle, Paul Schankin, Sharron Sykora, David Weissman, Nadine Dunphy, and Larry Brown (Semper Fi).

You can check out their work and current classes [here](#).

