

Well-Known Craftsmen Share Knowledge at AWFS Fair

The Handcrafted Furniture track of the College of Woodworking Knowledge (CWWK) is a special feature of the AWFS education program, extremely popular with high-end hobbyists and small custom shops. The presenters are high-profile craftsmen, authors and instructors in the world of fine furniture making. The 2013 roster includes Paul Schürch, Darrell Peart, Tim Celeski and Roland Johnson.

Paul Schürch, a Fair favorite and “Best Speaker Award” recipient, will deliver a four-hour session on Tuesday, July 23—the pre-show day—entitled, “Incorporating Marquetry in the Modern Shop.” Paul is a master of marquetry as well as of instructing in it. He takes a practical approach and guides class participants in the techniques as well as methods to incorporate marquetry into normal woodworking products to enhance client appreciation and product value.

On Wednesday, Schürch teaches the popular “Vacuum Forming and Pressing” demo-workshop, discussing substrates, preparing veneers, making your own vacuum bags and more. The seminar is geared to small or medium-size production or prototype shops and teachers who want to introduce veneering in the classroom.

Darrell Peart, dubbed the “Guru of Greene and Greene” by the Robb Report, shares his design expertise in a session called, “Design DNA with Arts & Craft Flavor,” running on Wednesday, July 24. His approach includes a nod to traditional rules but then moves on to a more intuitive approach to design and creating an individual style.

Tim Celeski of Celeski Studios in Washington State was an advertising and marketing whiz before becoming a fine furniture maker, which makes him the ideal person to present, “Shake the Shop! Creative Paths to New Markets and Products.” Often talented furniture makers suffer because of a lack of know-how when it comes to finding their customer base. Celeski’s view is that small shops are the ideal vehicle for exploring markets never before considered and developing new products and services that customers want because when you are small, creativity and flexibility are two of your greatest assets. Attendees can gain a fresh perspective on their marketing tactics and how they are perceived by the larger market.

Roland Johnson, contributing editor for *Fine Woodworking* magazine will lead two sessions on Friday, July 26. Running in the morning is “Mastering Handplanes: The Woodshop Stalwart.” Roland will discuss and demonstrate choosing the right plane, tuning, obtaining top-quality results for a host of common wood tasks as well as disassembly and rebuilding. Friday afternoon Johnson will present “Fixing Common Woodworking Mistakes,” offering relief to those who fear a mistake means scrapping an otherwise expensive and labor-intensive project. Johnson shares multiple methods for recovery including disassembling without more damage, splicing and other tricks, and repair of joinery, broken tenons and spindles, dovetails and more.

To register or to view the full 2013 CWWK schedule, go to www.AWFSfair.org. You can also contact AWFS at 800-946-2937 or e-mail nancy@awfs.org.