

Woodlanders Gathering – A Rustic Arts & Nature Crafts Retreat

July 13-16, 2023

It's like summer camp for adults! Whether you're a beginner or an experienced craftsperson, you are in for an incredibly fun and creative time with nearly 40 nature-based workshops to choose from and more than 30 talented instructors to work with. Create rustic furniture, gourd art, pottery, or garden projects; try your hand at blacksmithing, woodcarving, nature printing, fabric dyeing, and more. Start your days with morning coffee and treats on the Art Cafe patio, enjoy daily lunches on the Green, and browse the incredible Woodlanders Silent Auction featuring rustic arts, nature crafts, books, tools, and more donated by instructors and students and benefiting Shake Rag Alley scholarship students. Take time to relax, soak up the sunshine, enjoy the company of a great group of nature-loving folks, and discover the magic of Shake Rag Alley's lush gardens, tall trees, historic buildings, and natural spring-fed stream.

Come for a day, two, three, or the entire weekend and have the time of your life!

Choose your days, then fill them with as many workshops as you can fit into your schedule (be sure your choices don't overlap times). Register online or call our office.

Fees

Day Fee (Thursday-Saturday): \$115 *includes* your choice of workshops, lunch, snacks, beverages, and some evening activities.

Half Day Fee (Thursday-Sunday): \$60 *includes* your choice of workshops, am/pm snacks, and beverages. Does NOT include lunch, which can be added on.

Material fees are additional and listed at the end of each workshop description. Friday and Saturday evening dinner picnics are also additional.

WOODLANDERS WORKSHOPS, THURSDAY, JULY 13

7:30-8:30am REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN: Shake Rag Alley Art Cafe, 18 Shake Rag St.

8:30-11:30 A01 EMBOSSED GOURD VASES: READY—In this class you will select from various designs and colors to be used on your gourd vase. Different methods and embellishments as well as an embossed texture to choose will be your choice. No two are alike and you will create your own style. Materials: \$35

8:30-11:30am A02 LEARN TO USE A POTTERY WHEEL: WHITES—Sisters and potters, Katie and Joelle White will give you an introductory lesson in how to throw clay pots on a spinning potter's wheel. Once you've learned to control the lump of clay centered on the wheel, you'll have a lifetime skill. This is a class just for learning that essential skill. You

will leave with the know-how to make pottery in the future. If you'd like anything fired, a firing and shipping fee will be applied. Materials: \$10

8:30-11:30am A03 CHALET DIE BESTÄUBERN (THE POLLINATORS' CHALET): SPELIC'—Build an attractive home for the tiny pollinators in your garden. Using basic carpentry tools and skills, you'll assemble a stylish little wooden lodge, then fill it with the cozy materials that encourage beneficial insects — like lacewings, mason bees, solitary wasps, and hoverflies — to remain in your yard year-round. If there's time, you may decorate your bug chalet with both found and provided doo-dads. Viel Spaß! (Have fun!) Materials: \$18

8:30am-4pm A04 CARVE A RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD: SCHEUER—Strop your carving knife and with the help of Nick, an expert woodcarver, get ready to carve and lightly paint a delightful red-winged blackbird. Nick will demonstrate a simpler version for novice carvers, as well as a more detailed version for those with more experience. This free-standing carving will look great on a shelf or mantle back home. Materials: \$25

8:30-11:30am A05 RUSTIC SHELF: NELSON—Join Phil to make a primitive-style shelf composed of wood plank and sticks. Hanging hardware included. Materials: \$20

8:30am-4pm A06 WOVEN BASKET TOTE: RILEY—This woven basket with fabric liner makes for a very useful basket, to hold a craft project, knitting, crocheting, quilting, or as a catch all in your car. The handles are cotton shaker tape. Materials: \$45

11:30 am-1pm LUNCH ON THE GREEN: A chance to chat, meet new friends, and reconnect with old friends. (Lunch is included in your day fee Thursday-Saturday. If you wish to add a Sunday lunch or bring a guest during the retreat \$10.)

1-3:30pm A07 WASHI EGG ORNAMENTS: READY—In this class you will choose from a variety of Washi papers or small print fabrics to make egg gourd ornaments. The best Washi paper is handmade by a few remaining artisan families in Japan. It is made from the mulberry plant and is more flexible and "forgiving" than regular bond paper. These egg ornaments can best be used to decorate all year long — for any season. Materials: \$35

1-5pm A08 FARMHOUSE CLOCK: SPELIC'—Start with assembling slats of wonderfully weathered wood, then cut out the 18" circle. Roughly sand the edges for a really rustic look. Using stencils and paint, you'll make the large, easy-to-read dial. For a truly customized product, you can also add personalization like ours, which celebrates the founding of Shake Rag Alley! Stylish and useful, this farmhouse clock will add a warm flavor to your home or workshop — or maybe that of a friend, if you're feeling generous. Materials: \$20

1-5pm A09 RUSTIC ACCENT TABLE/PLANT STAND: SOMAN—A Woodlander favorite. Create a charming accent table or use this useful table as a plant stand, 32" high with a shelf at the top and the bottom. Dan, an expert rustic artist, will provide a variety of rustic materials, recycled boards, twigs, and curly willow. Materials: \$25

1-4:30 A10 HISTORICAL BLACKSMITH DISPLAY: MCKERNAN—In this drop-in session, you'll learn about the history of blacksmithing, and get to see original tools (and

equipment) made by blacksmiths from the time of Mineral Point's settlement. Learn about this trade and functional art, and maybe get inspired to try it yourself! No registration required. Free.

1-4pm A11 NATURE'S BOUNTY: THE MANY USES OF WILD PLANTS: EAGAN—Join David, naturalist and ethnobotanist, for a ramble around the Shake Rag Alley campus to identify and explore plants for their uses and delights. Discover how wild plants can be used for food, fire, cordage, utilitarian objects, medicine, magic, and more. Everyone will make a natural fiber twine bracelet. Free.

WOODLANDERS WORKSHOPS, FRIDAY, JULY 14

7:30-8:30am REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN: Shake Rag Alley Art Cafe, 18 Shake Rag St.

8:30-11:30am B01 FORGING HOOKS & LEAVES: AAVANG—Learn the basics of blacksmithing from Hal, as well as how to use a portable propane gas forge. You'll learn the use of the hammer, anvil, and vise as you practice drawing, tapering, and twisting. And you'll make decorative and useful hooks and leaves. Materials: \$10

8:30-11:30am B02 LEAF STAMP & STITCH PILLOW COVER: THULI—You can never have too many pillows! Create a unique, one of a kind pillow cover that combines a love of nature and mindful, relaxing stitches! You'll find the perfect leaves to hand print on prepared 20" slip covers. Add some simple running stitches to complete your design to remember your weekend at Shake Rag Alley! Materials: \$20

8:30-11:30am B03 BROKEN PIECES MOSAIC TILE: FLEMING—Hammer out a beautiful tile! Break plates and other ceramic material to create a unique one of a kind tile using basic mosaic technique. No experience or specific skill needed. If you have some special plates, pottery, or glass-flat not curved is best-bring them, otherwise materials are provided. Materials: \$15

8:30-11:30am B04 PERSONALIZED WALKING STICK: WHITTS—This walking stick will take you to new adventures in nature. Marcia and John will supply willow saplings, dried, debarked, and with character. You'll adjust height and sand, then using a wood burner, inscribe designs or words to make it your own. Add a compass, a leather wrist strap, and voila! (We will also have "blanks" available for \$10 purchase.) Materials: \$20

8:30-11:30am B05 CREATE A COMFORTING DOODLEBIRD: RISTOW—Ann will provide a charming little hand-carved wooden bird and show you how to add your own unique doodled designs. Ann has lots of fun ways to help you create beautiful intriguing structured patterns and add a wax finish. When life feels challenging, wrap your hands around your Comfort Creature, give it a rub and remind yourself to have a wonderful day. Makes a lovely gift. Materials: \$25

11:30 am-1pm LUNCH ON THE GREEN: A chance to chat, meet new friends and reconnect with old friends. (Lunch is included in your day fee Thursday-Saturday. If you wish to add a Sunday lunch or bring a guest during the retreat \$10.)

1-5pm B06 FORGE A CALLA LILY: AAVANG—Hal will lead you in blacksmithing an attractive calla lily flower on a stem or stand, and you'll get some good practice in heating iron rod in a propane gas forge and hammering it into shape on an anvil. Materials: \$10

1-4PM B07 NATURE'S GARLANDS: THULI—Garlands have been used in many cultures across the world as symbols of beauty, peace, and gratitude for the great bounty here on Earth. Foliage, dried fruits, and other natural materials, delicately strung, have been used as decorations since the beginning of time. Join us as we collect and arrange natural materials to create a beautiful, one of a kind garland for your fireplace mantel, fall table, or above your front door to offer guests a warm welcoming greeting! Materials: \$16

1-4pm B08 NATURE IMPRINTS IN CLAY: JOHNSTONS—Create a unique hand-built bowl and imprint the clay with natural textures with expert potters Diana and Claire at the Johnston's fabulous Brewery Pottery Studio at 276 Shake Rag Street. After your bowl dries, the Johnstons will glaze and fire it in their stoneware kilns. Materials: \$15

1-4pm B09 BOARD-MOUNTED RUSTIC HOOKS: EAGAN—Add a charming touch to your walls that's perfect for hanging hats, coats, bags and more. David (whose grandson calls him Grandpa Sticks) has an eye for useful branch shapes on native trees and will provide many to-be-finished hooks to choose from. Bring a special board from home, or use one provided, then make and attach your unique set of hooks. Materials: \$10

1-4PM B10 WILLOW GARDEN TRELIS: ARENDT—Rummage through a stash of long green willow withes, then bend and shape your wands into a flat trellis sized to fit your garden. You'll enjoy working with Jim and you'll be really happy with your willow creation. Materials: \$30

1-5pm B11 SPIRIT OF THE GARDEN TWIG SCULPTURE: KINGERY—Todd is a master furniture maker but this year he's into super powers and rustic play. He'll challenge you to create a human 4-6' high sculpture from branches and twigs, and give it mastery of the garden. You'll have fun playing and sculpting and take home a unique garden guardian. Materials: \$35

5-6:30pm B13 PICNIC ON THE GREEN—A great time to relax and share your day's creative adventures. Stick around for the fun evening event. Fee: \$12.

6:30-8pm FRIDAY EVENING FUN EVENT: Watch the website for details to come!

WOODLANDERS WORKSHOPS, SATURDAY, JULY 15

7:30-8:30am REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN: Shake Rag Alley Art Cafe, 18 Shake Rag St.

8:30-11:30am C01 FORGE A TRIANGULAR DINNER BELL: TUFTEE—Bob will teach basic blacksmithing skills to complete this project, hammering, tapering, drawing out, and how to tend a coal fire. With his help you will make a triangular dinner bell plus a wall mount bracket to hang it from. Materials: \$10

8:30-11:30am C02 RUSTIC GARDEN BENCH: KULICK/ARENDT—Max and Jim are the perfect rustic woodworker team to assist you in making your very own rustic bench from scratch. You'll choose and trim up a slab, make rustic legs, drill holes, fit the legs, and go home with a family heirloom! Woodlanders have been making slab benches for years — definitely a favorite! Materials: \$35

8:30-11:30am C03 SILK SCARF DYEING & PAINTING: WELCH—Come create two beautiful silk scarves with Nancy, a teacher of playful art classes. She will show you how to dye silk fabric in a microwave oven for easy yet gloriously colorful results and she'll also show you how to paint flowers or other art on your scarves. Materials: \$30

8:30-11:30am C04 SOAPS & SCRUBS: KULICK—Megan will show you how to use a variety of household products to create simple, fun sugar scrubs. You will also make melt-and-pour goat's milk soap with fragrant add-ins such as coffee, herbs, and sprinkles. You will leave with several attractive scrubs and soaps. Once you learn how easy it is, you will be re-creating these recipes at home! These soaps and scrubs make nice gifts, and if time permits, you will learn charming ways to package your creations. Materials: \$10

8:30am-4pm C05 FACE OF NATURE: BIRDS—In this workshop we will be making masquerade-style masks out of natural materials. You'll start with a pre-made paper clay sculpted face form and a variety of natural materials that have been prepared for you to custom-create your own masquerade-style mask. We hope that after making this piece you will walk away with a new perspective and the appreciation of the beauty that nature can provide in color, texture, and form. Materials: \$20

8:30am-4pm C06 BOTTLE CAP FISH SCULPTURE: WOLLANGKS—It's a unique way of upcycling bottle caps that normally would find their way into the trash. You will hammer bottle caps flat and attach them with small nails to a wooden fish form David will provide. The overlapping bottle caps create the effect of fish "scales." Your resulting fish sculpture will measure 21" long by 3 1/2" wide, a real "keeper." All tools will be provided. Materials: \$5

11:30 am-1pm LUNCH ON THE GREEN: A chance to chat, meet new friends and reconnect with old friends. (Lunch is included in your day fee Thursday-Saturday. If you wish to add a Sunday lunch or bring a guest during the retreat \$10.)

1-5pm C07 ROCK & BOTTLE RAIN CHAIN: ROGNESS/SPELIC'—Rain chains have hundreds of years of history — not only as unique decorative enhancements to home and garden, but also as useful art. And not only creating a pleasant sound, but also channeling rainwater from roof to rain barrel or basin. Jamie and Carole will provide you with the materials to create your own unique rain chain, 8-10' long, using rocks, bottles, beads, chain, charms, and whatever you might wish to add. Materials: \$25

1-5pm C08 CARVE A DOODLE FOX OR CAT: RISTOW—Ann will provide a red cedar blank for you to carve a charming little wooden fox or cat and then show you how to add unique doodled designs. Ann has lots of fun ways to help you create beautiful, intriguing structured patterns and add a wax finish. When life feels challenging, wrap your hands around your little critter, give it a rub, and remind yourself to have a wonderful day. Makes a lovely gift. Materials: \$25

1-3pm C09 WOODTURNING DEMONSTRATION WITH THE HARRY NOHR WOODTURNERS—Harry Nohr was the father of modern woodturning and lived for a time in Mineral Point, serving as postmaster, and creating and selling his bowls on High Street. For many centuries, we have used wood for shelter, furniture, utensils, and fire. When using wood for decoration, we usually look for some way to make an item more appealing or expressive. Woodturning uses a method where the piece is spun against a stationary tool to remove the excess wood. While woodturning has been around since ancient times, tools and methods have changed dramatically in the last 20 or so years, allowing the hobbyist greater flexibility, and the artist even greater artistic expression. No registration required. Free.

1-5pm C10 RUSTIC TWIG SIGNS: KINGERY—Todd will provide a variety of twigs for you to create your own personal signs on barn board. You will have an assortment of options and expect to make two or three signs during this workshop with natural or painted backgrounds. Materials: \$25

5-6:30pm C13 PICNIC ON THE GREEN—A great time to relax and share your day's creative adventures. Stick around for the fun evening event. Fee: \$12.

7:30pm SATURDAY EVENING FUN EVENT—Watch the website for details to come!

WOODLANDERS WORKSHOPS, SUNDAY, JULY 16

7:30-8:30am REGISTRATION & CHECK-IN: Shake Rag Alley Art Cafe, 18 Shake Rag St.

8:30-11:30am D01 FAUX SCRIMSHAW ON DEER BONE: KOSTOHRYS—Jim, an excellent wildlife artist, will help you create a scrimshaw-like image on a deer shoulder bone. You don't have to be an artist to create a really beautiful work of art. You will transfer Jim's finely drawn wildlife images (or your own) in scrimshaw style using a micropen. Materials: \$5

8:30-11:30am D02 RUSTIC WOOD GARDEN JOURNAL: KUBASTA—Make the perfect garden journal using rustic boards for your cover and hand-sewing a visible binding that allows your book to lay flat for easy note taking. Choose handmade end papers with leaves and flower petals pressed into the paper, and we'll sew in an envelope at the end for seed collecting or plant tags. Materials: \$25

8:30-11:30am D03 FORAGING FOR CERAMIC MORELS: CARTER—If you've ever foraged yourself, you know the delight of finding morels (and the disappointment of going home empty). Join Liz Carter of Mineral Point's Driftless Studio & Gallery in making small ceramic morel mushrooms, so you'll always have your very own. These small treasures are made by hand using an intuitive process and each will be utterly unique. Materials: \$15

8:30-11:30am D04 ELGIN TWIG MOSAIC: JOHANNA—Elizabeth was inspired by the art that longtime Woodlander Paul Elgin creates using twigs. Get those pruners warmed up and make a charming piece of nature art for your wall. Elizabeth will provide a hand-

carved heart or moon for you to set between cut twigs you'll glue to a rustic board.
Materials: \$10

8:30-11:30am D05 WEAVE A MUG RUG: RILEY—Weave a simple mug rug using cotton thread/yarn on a simple loom. Materials: \$25

8:30-11:30am D06 COPPER WIRE & STONE TREES: SMEJA—Build a miniature tree using copper wire and stone beads. Bring along a pretty rock, a piece of driftwood, a shell, or whatever you would like to display in your 3" to 4" inch high tree. You are welcome to bring your own jewelry pliers, fine wire cutters, and beads of your choice, however all tools and materials can be provided. Materials: \$20

11:30am-1pm LUNCH ON THE GREEN: A chance to chat, meet new friends, and reconnect with old friends. Feel free to bring a guest. Fee: \$10.