

Resident on Display



Judge Clint Balmforth

I began working with wood when I was a small child. I'd spend my .25 per week allowance on a red wagon full of scraps. It continued on with wood work classes in High School and throughout my lifetime. One day I happened to read an article about wood pictures called intarsia. That was about 15 years ago. Intarsia involves the use of wood of different species for their color and grain. Generally no stains are used. It involves putting together a puzzle (to form a picture) after shaping each piece of wood. Whenever possible I like to use woods from our local area, for example the white wood on the Tiger is Box Elder from a tree that I harvested when the State rebuilt Redwood Road about 10 years ago. In the Elephant all the wood came from scrap out of a wood container. The full-body Tiger has some Peruvian walnut from South America, and incidentally is made up of 262 pieces. To this day I am always on the lookout for interesting chunks of wood.