

Master Horner PROFILES

This is the eleventh and twelfth articles in a series on those members of the Honourable Company of Horners who have achieved the status of Master Horner. Articles on Master Horners Ed Long and Walter Mabry are featured in this publication, while Master Horners Rex Reddick and Tim Sanner will be featured in the Fall 2018 *Horn Book* issue. Following publication, their profiles will also be featured on the Guild's *Website* at www.hornguild.org along with the other Masters.

Currently there are 14 members who have attained Master Horner status and each one has played an integral role in the Guild, with their demonstrated artisan skills, leadership abilities, and being instrumental in the growth and development of our organization. The 14 members mentioned include:

**John Proud | Lee Larkin | Willy Frankfort
Roland Cadle | Art DeCamp | Erv Tschanz
John Kiselica | Joe Becker | Carl Dumke
John DeWald | Ed Long | Walter Mabry
Rex Riddick | Tim Sanner**

In accordance with the Guild's Standing Rules, for anyone to become a Master Horner, an individual must "demonstrate a superlative level of ability in carving, heating and pressing, turning, engraving, and integrating woods and metals with cow horn by presenting three horn objects that demonstrate his or her ability to the Awards Committee for evaluation," plus give "an original written and oral presentation to the HCH at an annual meeting or to another accredited organization on some aspect of horn working or its history." Needless to say, this is a high standard that has been met by only a few members (less than 4% of the HCH membership), and each has played a vital role in making the HCH what it is today.

Introducing Master Horner Ed Long



It's always interesting to observe talented horn artisans to see what path they have taken in achieving their goals, what specialty areas they have chosen, and the role they have and will assume in the further growth and development of our Guild.

Master Horner Ed Long's path is certainly one of interest, one which saw him attain two of the highest goals possible in the Guild - Guildmaster and Master Horner. Only seven other Guild members have achieved this level of leadership and craftsmanship, an enviable accomplishment indeed!

Ed was born and raised in the Keystone State of Pennsylvania, served his country in the U.S. Army and upon discharge joined the Pennsylvania State Police where he served for 31 years. As a State Trooper he became an integral member of an elite and specialized unit within the organization.

In the early 1970's Ed became interested in black powder hunting from which his interest in horn making evolved. He made two powder horns, one for himself and one for a friend; the seed was planted but lay dormant for a couple of decades, although he still hunted with a flintlock. It wasn't until the late 1990's that he once again started making powder horns.

Ed stated that "In early 2000 I met Bob Chattin at a Jacobsburg rendezvous just outside of Nazareth, Pennsylvania, he was a blacksmith there. We got to talking, I showed him a powder horn that I had just recently completed and during that conversation is when he told me about the HCH and suggested I join. Well, I did, and that started it all. My interest in horn work was re-ignited. The rest is history. The decision to join this great organization, I will never regret!" Ed joined the Guild in 2001 where a new journey began.

In March 2009, he attained Journeyman status and was also elected as Guildmaster Elect. The following year he was elected as Guildmaster serving a two year term from 2010 to 2012. Of our 16 members who have served as Guildmaster, only five to date have served two year terms. Following his Guildmaster tenure, he continued serving as the coordinator for the the Annual HCH Summer Reception at Dixon's from 2015 to the present and as the Meetings Committee Chairman from 2016 to the present. And on March 3rd, 2018 he achieved another ultimate goal - Master Horner! Quite the resume!

Ed's favorite style of horn, and perhaps what he is best known for, is the flat horn as he stated without reservation: "My favorite is without a doubt a flat horn. To me they are so practical for use, can be carried in the pocket, in your bag or a larger one attached to bag or strapped under your arm, just so less intrusive. Most horns suitable for flattening are less desirable and rarely get picked out of a horn pile for use as a powder horn. Can you imagine yourself being a horn lying in a pile and everybody gets picked but you? Or that moment arrives when you finally get picked up, examined, but then thrown back! Hence, I feel that I am creating a new life for a horn by making it feel wanted. I am also a big fan of the F&I war period map horns and love recreating them."



Ed has won numerous awards over the years both at Dixon's and at the Guild's Annual Horn Fairs. He stated that three have special meaning: "Of all the awards I have received, there are three that I cherish the most, a Madison Grant Award for a Southern banded horn and two Tom Ames Awards for two different style flat horns. All three were achieved at Dixon's Accoutrement judging."



A horn project that had special meaning was a Campaign Powder Horn which he made for his grandson, SP /4 Chris Davidson, which highlighted his tour of duty in the U.S. Army, including an Afghanistan deployment. (See Summer 2011 issue of *The Horn Book*, page 24.)

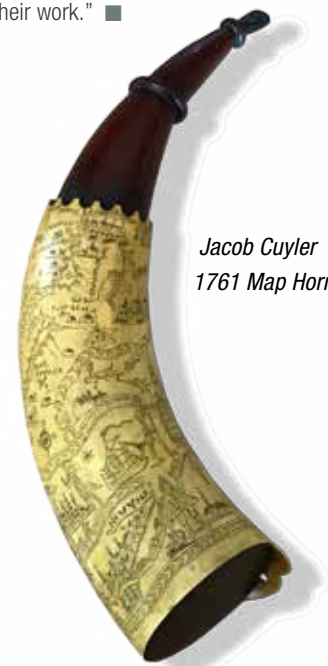
Ed's horn work has been featured in both *Muzzle Blasts* and *The Horn Book* as well as some being part of a display at Dixon's Muzzleloading Shop.

Where does all this creativity take place? His shop of course, and as Ed stated: "My shop is not

the most organized, but I can tell you this, I know where every single item can be found when needed! I would describe my shop as visually unorganized to a visitor, but organized in my mind."

As one can ascertain, Ed is a serious student of horn work and serves as a role model for all future horners. The advice he has to offer can best be summed up in his own words: "I consider myself a self-taught horner, learning mostly through trial and error along with extensive research. I also took advantage of the Accoutrements Judging at the Gunmakers Fair at Dixon's in Kempton, Pennsylvania by submitting numerous horn items over a period of years and attending the many horn related

seminars. I learned something from every critique sheet and followed up on the suggested advice for corrections. I also learned from entering the HCH horn competition at each Annual Meeting. It always helped to observe and query fellow horn workers about their work." ■



Jacob Cuyler
1761 Map Horn)

Congratulations to Ed Long and for achieving the well earned title of Master!

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