

# Al Zold

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Working with wood has been a big part of my life. In my youth, I made model sail boats, airplanes and tree houses. I felt my father's work bench belonged to me, since I was always busy there. In adulthood, my free time was spent designing and manufacturing custom light fixtures and jewelry boxes, as well as constructing many home remodel projects.

Creating art in one form or another has been my long-time passion. I got interested in making wood sculptures after seeing numerous metal abstract sculptures. Having worked mostly with wood, I proceeded to make a couple abstract sculptures which took on forms I felt were only producible in metal. I was satisfied with the results and decided to concentrate future efforts on repurposed weathered wood as my media.

I find it rewarding to take something that would normally be thrown in a landfill and creating sculptures which can be enjoyed for many years to come.

Al Zold

## Art pieces now adorn city roundabouts!

### WEATHERED WOOD FOR SCULPTURES CAME FROM AN OLD RED BARN

It was Claradell Shedd's idea to place art work in the middle of our city roundabouts, but like most good notions, it took a lot of work to make it all come true.

As a member of the Sammamish Arts Commission, Claradell helped reach out to Sammamish artist Al Zold, a retired Boeing employee with a special interest in artistic woodworking.

Zold, whose work has been featured at the Sammamish Arts Fair and in local galleries, noted that weathered wood, the most appropriate material, was not easy to come by.

As luck would have it, though, an old red barn was about to make way for the new Metropolitan Market project at the intersection of 228th Avenue

and Southeast Fourth Street.

So, Claradell arranged for her husband Harry and the owner of the barn, Norbert Woloszyn, to collect the old wood as they dismantled the old barn.

Today, that weathered wood has

Fire Station 83.

The third location for roundabout art is at 216th Avenue Northeast and Inglewood Hill Road. There you will find a sculpture titled "Forms in Flight." All three of the new art pieces were created by Al Zold.

"We should thank Claradell and Harry Shedd, Al Zold, and Norbert Woloszyn for all the work they put in to make this happen," City Manager Lyman Howard said. "Many thanks also to the Sammamish Arts Commission for their help and support."

With more weathered wood still available from the old red barn, and more roundabouts to adorn, the Arts Commission hopes to install additional sculptures later this year.



*"Circle the Roundabout" at N.E. 8th St. and 244th Ave. N.E.*

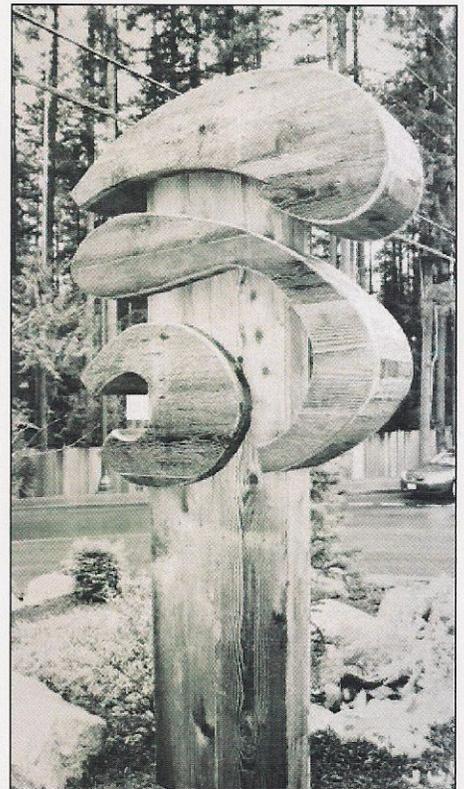


*"11 Steps; Ladder 83" at S.E. 32nd Way and Issaquah-Pine Lake Rd.*

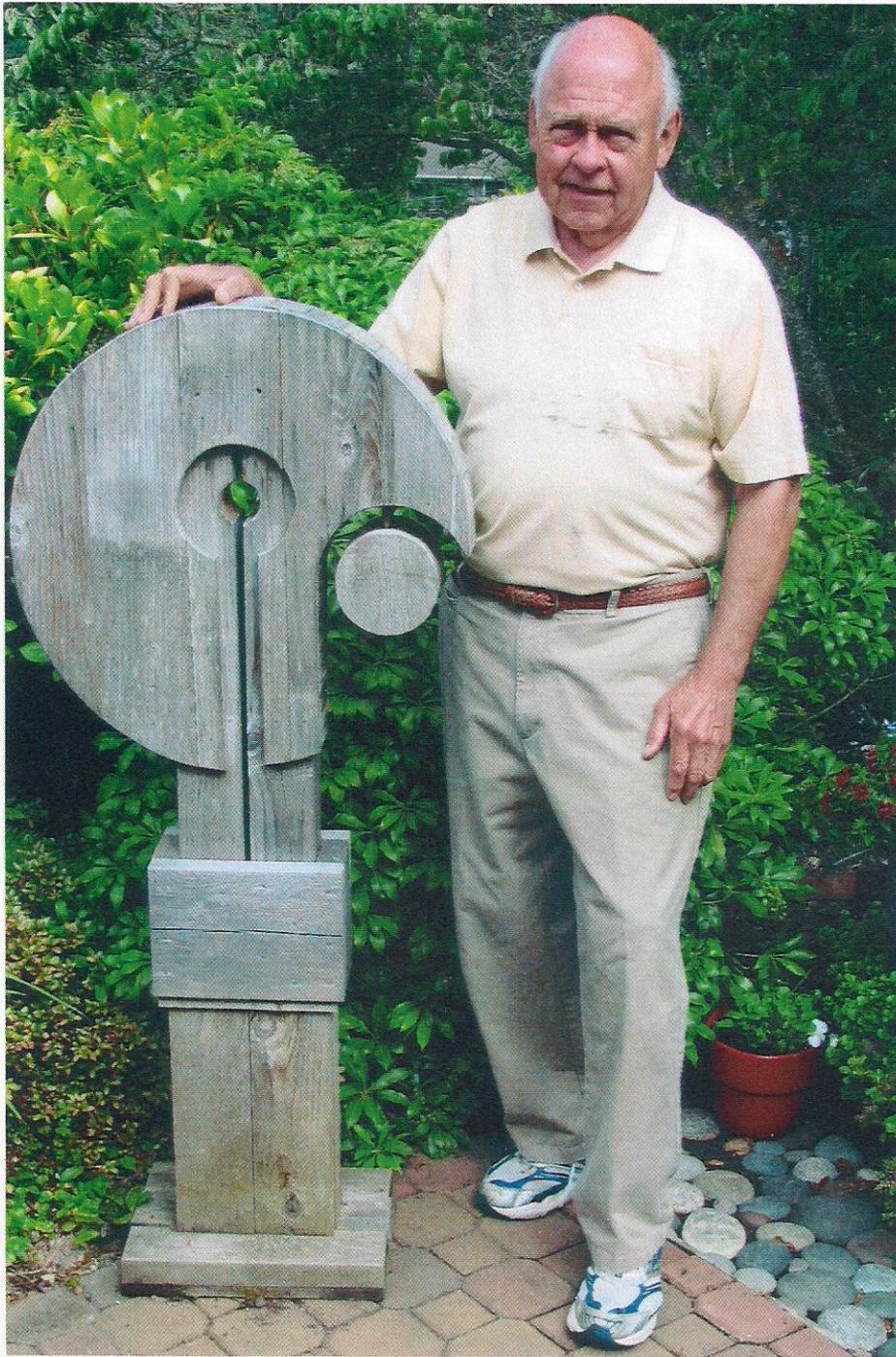
been repurposed, carefully sculpted, and placed in the middle of three roundabouts.

One, titled "Circle the Roundabout," is located at the intersection of Northeast Eighth Street and 244th Avenue Southeast.

Another, titled "11 steps; Ladder 83," is in the roundabout at the intersection of Southeast 32nd Way and Issaquah-Pine Lake Road, which also happens to be the location of

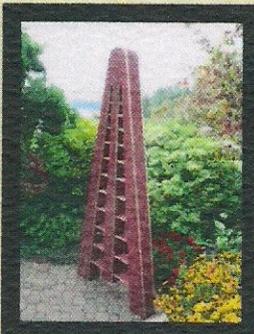


*"Forms in Flight" at 216th Ave. N.E. and Inglewood Hill Road*



**Al Zold** Abstract Wood Sculptures

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## Details on weathered wooden sculpture at roundabout at SE 32<sup>nd</sup> Way and Issaquah-Pine Lake Road:

For the last two years, the Sammamish Arts Commission has been planning the creation and placement of artistic sculptures to enhance Sammamish roundabouts.

Last week the Sammamish's Public Works Department installed the weathered wooden sculpture "11Steps; Ladder 83", so named to honor our Sammamish firefighters. Station #83 is adjacent to this roundabout. The roundabout is located SE 32<sup>nd</sup> Way and Issaquah-Pine Lake Road. Other roundabout sculptures installed last week were at 216<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and NE Inglewood Hill Road and NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 244<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.

This sculpture intentionally utilized the weathered red barn wood for the fire station ladder. The sculptures are the work of a Sammamish artist, Al Zold, a retired Boeing employee whose interest is artistic woodworking. His work appears at local galleries, and Al has been a participating artist at the last two Sammamish Art Fairs held at Sammamish City Hall.

When approached by the Sammamish Arts Commission to consider creating sculptures for Sammamish roundabouts, Al responded that weathered wood is just not readily available. The property holding the famed Sammamish landmark, the green caboose, (and a weathered red barn) was being sold to TRFPacific (Metropolitan Market). In February, 2015, one of the Arts Commissioners, Claradell Shedd, approached the owner of the property at 228<sup>th</sup> and SE 4<sup>th</sup> Street and implored that when the barn was demolished the owner would consent to giving that "historic" wood to her who in turn would be able to supply Al Zold with the materials necessary to create his wooden artistry. The barn owner consented, and he and Claradell's husband began



the demolition June 3, 2015. Immediately the wood was stored at a remote secured site. The caboose was purchased by local Sammamish residents and relocated on June 15, 2015 to their property in Cle Elum (now visible from I-90). They will refurbish the caboose there. Eventually the sculpture will bear a plaque showing the barn as the historic origin of the weathered wood. We hope the story of the historic significance of the wood will make it more

meaningful to your adjacent neighborhood as you daily navigate the roundabout.



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*"11 Steps; Ladder 83"*



Roundabout #1



Roundabout #1