

Newsletter

Volume II

No. 12

December 1984

From the President ...

Gentlemen,

It's time for all the finishing touches on those toys from Santa's helpers. I sincerely hope you have had fun building something new and different. It was a nice experience for me. I also found it quite a challenge. My biggest problem was my two boys who tried to wear out the toy truck before it gets to the show. I solve that problem by making two trucks: one for them and one for the show.

I desperately hope that more of you than we have commitment forms for are making toys. So far we have received 21 forms. That's not a great response from 175 members. Our goal is 150 toys. If you haven't made a toy or two, let me encourage you to do so. The Guild and some needy kids are depending on you.

The last few Saturday mornings have seen Ronnie Acton's shop busy with members buying toy parts. Parts, plans and ideas are available. We can help; let us know. I promise you'll enjoy it.

We are very high on the mini-workshop idea. So far, no one has responded. Many folks have verbally shown an interest. Someone needs to start the ball rolling. I promise that each one of you has something to share and we need your participating to make this organization work and grow. I'm sure no one wants to see us die on the vine.

There will be no meeting in December because of the show. The show, however, promises to be a wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship. The show will be Saturday, December 15, in the auditorium in Liberty National's home office, at the corner of 20th Street and 3rd Avenue South. The Birmingham News and Channel 13 will be there Friday night to make pictures while the toys are arriving and the show is being set up.

Don't forget that we will have some nice prizes to give away and you must be present to win. So, see you elves at the show.

Spruce McRee

Show Schedule

**Set up - Friday, December 14,
3:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

Bring all toys then, if possible.

**Show - Saturday, December
15, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Open to general public.

**Social & Supper - Saturday,
6:30 till ?**

Food needs:

Not Permitted
~~If your last name begins with A-G, bring a meat dish that will feed 5-7 people; H-N, a vegetable dish for 5-7 people; O-U, a desert; V-Z, bread or snack! Drinks will be provided by the guild.~~

It has been suggested that the supper and social be for adults only. Santa Claus will be coming and taking toys and small children might not understand.

We Need Your Type

The Guild is looking for a donor of a manual or electric typewriter. If you have or know of a typewriter which is in working condition and can either be donated to us or sold to us cheap, please notify Spruce McRee.

OFFICERS ...

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David Traylor (822-1044)
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Richard Gilbert	923-4022

Woodbutcher of the Month

This month's journey latched me up with Jim Ross, who is one of our most enthusiastic members. Jim was born in Memphis but at age 5, his parents moved across THE river to Blytheville, Arkansas. His father is a dentist and although he does work well with his hands, wood is not his specialty. Therefore, Jim's first experience with woodworking came not from his childhood, but while he was a student at Georgia Tech. During a summer break while at Tech, he built a stereo in his folk's basement.

Upon completion of his schooling at Tech, he started medical school at the Medical College of Georgia. After completing school he served his residency in Augusta.

Jim's woodworking interest really began getting cranked up after his residency when he put out his shingle in North Carolina. There he made several friends who were woodbutchers.

Later, through a former neighbor in Arkansas, Jim was contacted to come to Birmingham. In September 1981, he joined the Southern Medical Group, which is limited to the practice of Emergency Medicine. Now Jim is a busy man when he is on call at Baptist Montgomery.

Jim lives in Inverness with his delightful wife, Susan, and their three children: Mary, 7; Jim, 5; and John, (almost) 2. Son Jim is already helping Dad in the shop, and it wouldn't surprise me a bit if we have a new member before long.

Jim's favorite project is a double pedestal mahogany dining table with two leaves. What he thought would be a relatively simple project turned out to be a real challenge. The result, however, is an award-winning piece of furniture. Jim's primary interest is in reproducing furniture in the Sheraton, Chippendale, and Queen Anne styles.

Because of Jim's challenging occupation, he is pleased to be a member of the Guild, so that he can get away from it all once a month. The meetings seem to be a source of rejuvenation. The fellowship and camaraderie means a great deal to Jim and helps him avoid total burnout.

Although Jim has been in several locations since his days in Blytheville, I know you'll join me in saying what a genuine pleasure it is that he found Birmingham and our guild. He is a great guy who contributes so much to those he comes in contact with.

Permit me to take this opportunity to wish each of you and yours a super Holiday Season and most fabulous 1985.

Dick Beecham

From the Editor ...

It was recently brought to my attention by Ken Warr, a guild member, that many members are not familiar with some exceptional woodworking magazines. I personally find these periodicals informative and inspirational and highly recommend them as does Ken Warr. I am listing the names, addresses and subscription rates for anyone who might be interested. If you would like to see samples of these magazines, I'll be happy to share a peek. But you'll have to buy your own!

Fine Woodworking
The Taunton Press
 52 Church Hill Road
 Box 355
 Newtown, CT 06470
 1 year (6 issues) \$16.00

The Woodworker's Journal
 517 Litchfield Road
 P.O. Box 1629
 New Milford, CT 06776
 1 year (6 issues) \$12.00
 2 years (12 issues) \$22.00

Woodsmith
 1912 Grand Avenue
 Des Moines, IA 50309
 1 year (6 issues) \$10.00
 2 years (12 issues) \$18.00

**Better Homes and
Gardens - Wood**
1715 Locust Street
Des Moines, IA 50336
1 year (6 issues) \$15.00

Note: The November 1984,
Popular Mechanics has a special
section on woodworking shops,
which may be of interest to some
of you.

Some of you seem hesitant to
admit you have skills that could
be shared with other members.
Perhaps those of us who have
specific needs should step forward
first. I personally need knowledge
of lathe turning and tool
sharpening techniques. I also
need a good workbench and router
table. Perhaps a group could get
together and construct together
these accessories, using each one's
knowledge. If you have specific
needs; let us hear about them.

Y'awls Point

Let's have your comments and
suggestions. Address them to:

Dale Lewis
Newsletter Editor
1720 Driftwood Lane
Birmingham, AL 35235

Comments will be passed on to
appropriate committees and may
be printed when appropriate. Let
us hear from you.

Also, we'd like to hear from
other Guilds who read our
newsletter.

For Sale
4" Jointer for use with Craftsman
9" or 10" Table saw (mount
saw). \$60.00

Wanted
14" Rockwell or Powermatic
Bandsaw (used). Contact Fred
Sandlin 663-7524 or 252-5121.

For Sale
6" Powermatic Jointer - 1 hp.,
220V, singlephase motor. \$550.
Danny Saxon, 967-7309 shop,
969-3386 home.

6" Delta-Milwaukee Jointer - 32"
bed, 110V motor, \$250. Kerry
McCalla, 967-4556.

Sheet Rock Screws

I have found that hardened
steel sheet rock screws work well
for assembling cabinets, shelves,
jigs, and the like. They come in
sizes from 1" to 3½" inches long
and cost only about \$2.50 per
pound. They have phillips heads
and can be used with either a
screwdriver or a clutch driven
power driver on a drill.

They are very economical and I
have found multitudes of uses for
them in my shop. They even work
well with composition board.

Roger Urce
Saint James, N. Y.

Mini-Workshop Form

I will be willing to host a mini-workshop on _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ on _____

Workshop Location: _____

Date: _____

Approximate Length: _____



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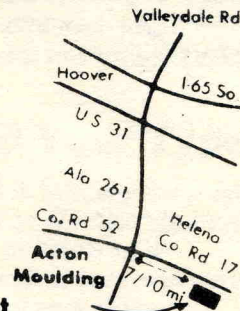
VEGA
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Marples
Watco Stain
Minwax
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DML
Saw Blades
Router Bits

Mouldings
Stair Parts
Hardwood Lumber
Cabinet Plywood
Hardware — Handtools

Acton
Moulding & Supply

6 to 4:30 M-F. — 7:30-12 Sat.



County Road 17

Helena, Al.

205-663-0130

Kraftsman Corner

Radial Arm Saw Tables

I've had a problem with the saw kerfs in the surface of my radial arm saw table. The saw kerfs accumulate to the point that there's quite a large gap in the table.

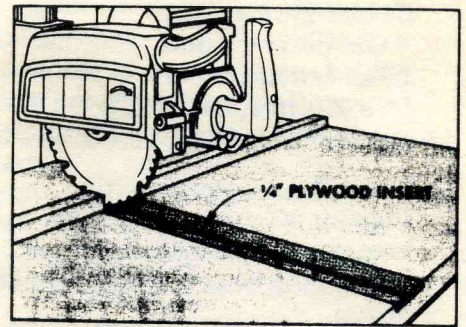
To avoid replacing the surface of the table every time it gets bad, I rout a slot in the table, slightly off-center with the blade, to accept an insert of 1/4" plywood. The inserts are about 2" wide, and as long as the table is deep. They fit

in the table slightly off-center with the blade.

When the insert gets chewed up, just turn it end for end. Because the insert is slightly off center with the blade, you'll get a fresh surface for the saw kerf. By turning the insert over, you've got two more new surfaces, or a total of four per insert.

An added advantage to a clean saw kerf is cutoff accuracy. By making your cutoff mark on the bottom edge of the board, the mark can be very easily aligned to either the right or the left edge of the saw kerf.

*L.A.D. Colvin
Satellite Beach, Florida*



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Mobile, AL 36609
(Local) 666-1180

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Birmingham Saw Works
910 North 28th Street
Birmingham, AL 35203
(Local) 252-9737
Ala. WATTS 1-800-292-4032

BIRMINGHAM SAW WORKS



The Alabama Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 327
Pelham, AL 35124

