



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME VI

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SEPTEMBER 1988

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September is a big month for most of us. The kids are back in school, football season is back and *we get back into our shops* to resume the best hobby on earth – woodworking.

We discussed last month that some existing Guild membership application forms have our old Pelham Address on them. After one year, the post office will no longer forward mail — this could be the reason some of you have not been receiving our newsletter, nor are you listed in our new directory. If you know of someone in this category, please let us know or have them contact Kerry McCalla, Walter Barnett or me. I've also enclosed an application form for you to give to a friend or neighbor. If they join now through the end of the year, the membership fee will only be \$10.00.

In the next two to three weeks, every member will receive a letter and follow-up telephone call from a member of the TOT Committee regarding Toys for Tots. I encourage every member to consider making something to help these kids. We have set a goal of 500 toys; there is no reason why we can not accomplish this goal or even double it.

The committee will be contacting you to get a feel for how many toys we will actually be able to produce, so please, take some time

to plan and then use your talent to make as many special toys for these special tots that you can. Remember, as an added incentive, we are going to draw for some nice prizes given by the Guild and hopefully some prizes which will be donated.

I feel it is time for the Guild to offer new baseball caps and T-shirts. If you have an idea for a new design, draw it and bring it to the next meeting. We will look at all of the design ideas, along with the old design, and decide which we like best.

Thanks to all of you who have been bringing show and tell pieces to the meetings, bring some more this month and bring a friend!!

Nelson

MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 8 AT 7:00 P.M.

We truly have a marvelous program coming up. Jim and Linda Caldwell, guild members, are presenting a "first" for our guild. Jim makes, and Linda plays, Harpsichords and Clavichords. Let's stop right here and define what these are. Harpsichord — A keyboard instrument, precursor of the piano, in which the strings are plucked by leather or quill points connected to the keys. Clavichord — An early keyboard instrument producing a soft sound by means

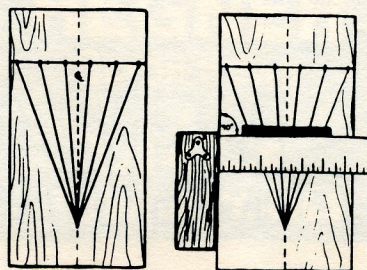
of metal blades attached to the inner ends of the keys, gently striking the strings. Jim has been employed by South Central Bell for 28 years, after graduating from Mississippi State University with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He has been a woodworker about 10 years and has been a Guild member about 3 years. He secures the hardware for his instruments from a supplier, but makes the cases himself. (If you saw the bookcase he entered in our show, you know he knows how to make cases). We especially want to welcome Jim's lovely wife, Linda, who will demonstrate the instruments by playing them. These instruments have metal strings which create tremendous stress on the joints and travelways, so we look forward to learning all about it.

LIFE IS LIKE A DOG SLED TEAM; IF YOU AIN'T THE LEAD DOG THE SCENERY NEVER CHANGES.

AUGUST MEETING

You should have been there. We are talking to all of you who missed this meeting. Rick Hunt presented an extraordinary program on leaded glass. Most of us had never been exposed to this form of art, and it was obvious from the attention and questions the members found it fascinating. It is an ancient art as can be seen by traveling to Europe and seeing the stained glass windows in the

thousands of cathedrals. Rick explained that glass is nothing more or less than super cooled liquid, and that glass never quits "moving" (just as wood does). He suggests the next time you are examining some old stained glass windows, look closely at the bottom of a panel and you will discover the glass is thicker at the bottom than the top — this confirms that the glass has continued to "move" after it was cast and placed in the window. There are three methods of setting the glass. First, the Tiffany method. The edge of the glass is "taped" with a copper foil, and after the two meeting pieces of glass are placed side by side, solder is applied which adheres to the copper thus making the sealed bond. The second method may be employed with either lead or zinc. Lead Came is used for windows and Zinc Came is used for doors. The Came comes in strips and has channels on each side into which is inserted the piece of glass and when the pieces are placed in their final position, the ends of the Came are soldered to each other. Zinc is quite hard, hard to work with too, but is necessary for strength and security in doors. After the product is completed the solder may be chemically treated to produce a copper color or a dark color. Patterns and magazines are available if you are interested, and supplies may be purchased at Touch of Glass on Valleydale Road. We do appreciate Rick giving us this program.



AN EQUAL DIVISION LAYOUT DEVICE

I learned this technique from a guitar maker and the concept has proven useful for a number of jobs. Guitar makers and repairmen need to be able to lay out six equal divisions for the guitar's nut. Nut lengths are not the same so a sliding scale like the one shown here works beautifully. To make this device, simply draw a line square with an edge across the blank. A small scrap of 1/4" birch plywood makes a good blank. Divide this line into the number of equal divisions needed by measuring with some convenient dimension, say 1/2". Locate the center of the divided line and drop a perpendicular line down to a point a convenient distance away. Draw lines from this point to each of the division marks on the first line. You can now lay a square on the edge of the jig and place the part to be divided on the blade of the square and slide it up or down until you locate its length. Equal divisions can now be marked on the part.

TOYS FOR TOTS

This years committee, chaired by Ben Neighbors, held a meeting recently. Out of that meeting came the proposition that instead of having a sale this year and then turning the money over to the Toys For Tots group in the Birmingham Fraternal Order of Police, that we produce a minimum of 500 toys which will be given to the T.O.T. people for direct distribution to the children. A representative of the FOP will be at the next meeting to discuss this plan. It is believed that there are thousands of small children out there who have never seen a wooden toy. Such toys that most of them have seen, if any, are plastic. Toys made of wood are durable, as well as fun to play with, and therein lies the thinking. It will require 50 members to make 10 toys each to reach our goal of 500 toys. Your committee believes there will be more than 50 of you who will participate and we may well have 700, 800 or 900 toys to turn over to the T.O.T. Some 38 of you signed up to make some at the last meeting. That won't do it — so a telephone committee will be activated and you will be called and asked to participate. A community project like this will not go begging for participants, we are sure. As a special added attraction, and incentive, a points system has been devised whereby for every toy you make and turn in (and we want you to turn them in as you make them) you will receive brownie points which will be dumped in a pot, and at the November meeting some really nice tools, as prizes, will be awarded the participants by a drawing. Naturally, the more toys you have made, the more points you have in the pot, and the better

KERRY'S ANTIQUES

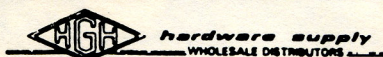
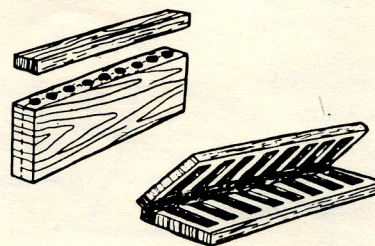
It was good to have his eminence back from vacation and showing us his tools again. This time he started off with four-fold rulers — or, blind man's rule. He showed us the usual four-fold but then produced a truly blind man's rule — one with braille. It had metal dots, or studs, at each point of measurement — certainly a blind man's rule. Then he held a "What's It" session. Most of us didn't know what that was until he explained that at Antique Tool Conventions they have such sessions. Kerry had a V shaped wooden instrument about 12" to 14" long, on which were markings (much like a ruler) but the word Fathoms was printed on it. Then on the back were some hand-written numbers as though the user had found he needed to make corrections to measurements on the front side when taking or making measurements. Are you sufficiently confused by now? Well, anyway, we are glad Kerry is back and hope he returned from the convention with a bushel or two of antiques to show us down through the years.

chance you have to win a prize. Come on guys and dolls, do some kids a favor and have fun doing it too.

ROUTER BIT STORAGE

Convenient storage of router bits can be a problem, especially as your inventory of bits increases. A simple container similar to the one shown here can help organize these important tools. The box can be made as large as you desire. Its low profile design makes it possible to keep it in a drawer comfortably. The lid is designed so the bits will be retained, side to side, thus eliminating the possibility of bits hitting each other. Each bit has its own resting place.

The box can be made by first boring a series of stopped holes, 1/4" or 1" in diameter along the edge of a board approximately 1 1/2" thick. After all holes have been bored glue a piece of 3/8" stock to the edge, covering the holes. Next, resaw the box, cutting it down the center on a band saw. Install two butt hinges for the lid and sand and finish to suit.



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INSTRUCTION CLASSES

It was announced that Fred Baker, whom we have come to admire and respect, will become a full time employee of Acton Moulding & Supply on October 1, 1988. Fred will be operating the specialty shop where special order items are manufactured. That is good news for Fred, but also for us. He will be available to teach our classes this fall. As you know, we didn't have them this summer, but it is time to settle down for our long winter's nap and get on with it. The class will be both for beginners and for intermediate woodworkers. It turns out that many of the so called beginners last year were more accomplished than they thought they were and the group had a wonderful time learning how to do some of the things they had only read about before. Get your name on the list before the class is full, and have a great time learning.

WHEN SOMEONE DESCRIBES SOMETHING AS "IT DEFIES EXPLANATION," YOU CAN BE PRETTY SURE HE IS GOING TO HAVE A GO AT IT ANYWAY.

NAME TAGS

Most of you got your name tag out of the accordian file and wore it as the last meeting. They are very well made and we are indebted to President Nelson for securing them for us. Also, our President has had printed a new roster book of the membership. As it sometimes happens, some names were left out, primarily because they joined after the book went to press. If an error appears, please tell Kerry so it may be corrected. Back to the name tags — at the time you get your tag, please register your attendance on the tablet placed there for that purpose. There are three reasons we want you to "sign in please" (as they used to do on What's My Line). First we want to know you were present; second in order to be eligible for the door prize drawing your name must be on the list; and third, in order to keep our discount on purchases we must attend at least two meetings a year. The door prize last month was a Radi-Plane, and it was won by Bill Mahan who can now chamfer the heck out of all edges he creates. So, please take a minute and get your name tag and sign the attendance tablet. We hope you will remember to return the name tag to the file at the end of the meeting, too.

BALDNESS IS WHEN THE WIND THAT USED TO RUFFLE YOUR HAIR MERELY RICOCHETS.

BUY-SELL-TRADE

You are invited to list these types of items whenever you have them.

For Sale — An 18" Sears Jig Saw, about 20 years old, good condition, except needs blade guide, heavy industrial model, \$25 — call Charles Brown at 871-1407.

NEW MEMBERS

One of the nicest articles one can put in the newsletter is listing our new members. If we are continuing to attract new members we must be doing something right. The following are the newest members:

Sterling Brewer
Mack Chapman
Al Craig
Harold Dye
Neal Hearn
Robert Jones
Eddie Lawley
Delores Melton
Nellie Nanning
M. G. Rekoff
Jere Sandidge
John Self
Ed Teasley

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF JULY 30, 1988

12/31/87	Beginning Cash Balance		\$3,488.82
	Receipts 1/1/88 - 7/30/88		
	Dues	\$2,410.00	
	Interest	<u>126.02</u>	
	Total Receipts		2,536.02
	Disbursements 1/1/88 - 7/30/88		
	Door Prizes	79.54	
	Newsletter	742.56	
	Gifts & Contributions	502.53	
	Party Supplies	59.81	
	Show Expenses	<u>168.55</u>	
	Total Disbursements		<u>1,552.99</u>
7/30/88	Ending Cash Balance		<u>\$4,471.85</u>

INJECTA
INCA

Wood
Working Machines

HEGNER

Scroll Saws

Makita
POWER TOOLS

VEGA

Wood
Working Machines

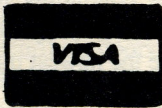
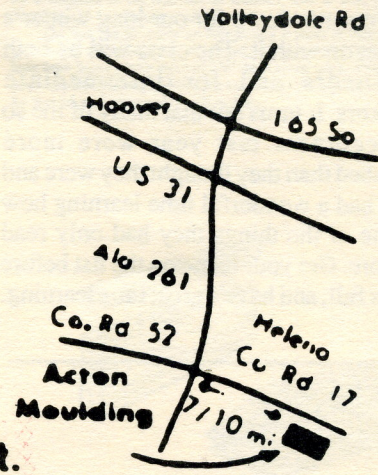
Record
Marples
Watco Stain
Minwax
Books
DML
Saw Blades
Router Bits

Mouldings
Stair Parts
Hardwood Lumber
Cabinet Plywood
Hardware — Handtools

Acton

Moulding & Supply

6 to 4:30 M-F.—7:30-12 Sat.



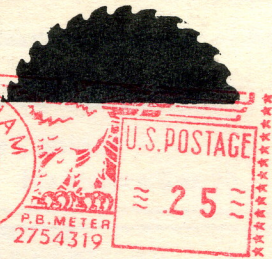
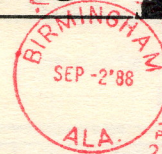
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