



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME VII

NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 1989

OFFICERS

Nelson Brooks	President	Jim Caldwell	Newsletter Editor
Ron Acton	1st Vice President	Ivan Kronberg	Board of Directors
Frank Jones	2nd Vice President	Dale Lewis	Board of Directors
Walter Barnett	Treasurer	Ben Neighbors	Board of Directors
Kerry McCalla	Secretary	Leonard Sanders	Board of Directors
		Anita Skocik	Board of Directors

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring Show!! You will be hearing those two words a lot in the next few months. At press time the exact place and time has not been finalized, but we're shooting for early May as the date. I know several people are almost finished, so if you're like me, better dream up something quick and start cutting some lumber!

This year we will have the opportunity to do some different things for our Spring Show. First, we're going to add the 2 X 4 challenge. A lot of Guilds around the country have been doing this, and because of our busy schedule there never seemed to be the right time so I guess the only thing to do is do it. You take a 2 X 4 stud, 8 ft. long and let your imagination run wild. You can rip, turn, bend and build anything. You can use screws, nails, hinges, and glass as in a cabinet or coffee table, but no other wood. So for \$1.55 stud what do you have to lose? We will have a separate display for this and I think the public will enjoy it also.

The Discovery Place has contacted us about making some musical instruments for them. For those of you who don't know about the Discovery Place, it's a hands on adventure place for kids in Birmingham. They have thousands of school kids from all over Alabama go thru it each month. Ms. Ann Winslow was at our last meeting and gave me some plans on the order of what they are looking for. I'll copy them and have some copies available at the next meeting. It would be great to build them some musical instruments, enter them in our Spring Show,

and deliver to them after the show. We would have a separate table set up just for this display, and I feel it would showcase our Guild to the city in a positive way.

This will be a juried show, but as in the past if you don't want it judged it won't be. The thing is we want everyone to enter and show us what you have been working on. Prizes and awards will be given out and plans are being made for a social get together, before, during or after the show.

For those who waded through the water and mud last month, good news!! Ronnie now has a concrete parking lot. Great!!

See you at the next meeting, bring a friend and something to show off.

Nelson

NEXT PROGRAM FEBRUARY 9, 1989 7:00 P.M.

We are fortunate to have lined up another power tool demonstration which has been a popular type program in the past. The S C R O L L S A W will be the subject this month. This unique tool has its place in our shops since there are cuts you just can't make with any other tool. Mr. Jan Purvis, Jr., Sales Representative for SAKURA, U.S.A., will present The Scrollmate, a 14", 3 speed scrollsaw made by his company. We hasten to add, these representatives are prohibited from making any sales pitches, but are expected to

demonstrate the uses of the machine as well as the advantages. If you have wondered what all can be done on a scrollsaw, now is your chance.

LAST MONTH (January 1989)

One of our very own did a splendid job of introducing us to the world of bending wood — yes, bending wood. Many of us have tried, on a trial basis, to bend wood at one time or other and found it to be out of our realm of operation. Well, Charles Ellis, professor at Indian Springs School, and maker of musical instruments, showed us how. It does require some trouble, however. You must have a large pan, or tank, under which there is a source of heat to make water boil and into which the wood to be bent is placed for softening. Charles demonstrated how to bend the sides of a guitar (there is one for each side of the instrument) around a form designed and made for that purpose. The wood to be bent should be heated approximately one hour for each inch the piece is long. The form around which the piece is bent is equipped with clamps to hold it in place until it has cooled, and Charles indicated the clamping should be tight so as to prevent "spring back" when it is released from the form. He said wood has a memory, and wants to return to its original state upon being released from the form. Professor Ellis displayed a partially completed Lute (about 2/3 complete) made of curly maple. What a lovely thing it was. Made up of some eight or ten "ribs" all cut on compound angles and glued together after having been bent in the

semi circle. The body of the lute appeared to be some eight inches deep. He was asked what type glue was used to which he replied yellow glue or titebond. It is entirely appropriate to report Charles was dealt a bad hand by the Gods of Thunder, Lightning and Rain. The roof of the shop in which we meet is corrugated metal and just about the time Charles began his demonstration all H_____ broke loose and no matter how loudly he yelled he couldn't be heard past the second row. He took the adversity in stride, however, and after the storm subsided could be heard and appreciated.

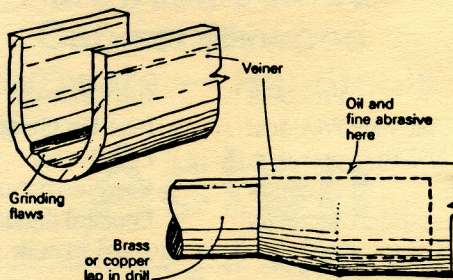
POTPOURRI

We will include in this section several things mentioned at the last meeting. We are admonished to begin making our entries for the Spring Show. This has been a fun thing in the past — it could be called our annual SHOW AND TELL function. It is when we show each other what we have done, and can do, as well as the public. So, get cracking men. President Nelson announced we will have a "Woodworker Of The Year" this year. Details of how the program will be operated will be forthcoming. The president also announced we will be visiting two or three professional shops this year. We have been invited to the shops of Messrs. Craig Nutt in Tuscaloosa, and Dean Black in Springville. We don't have an invitation to Mr. Andy Horman's yet, but hope to so we may see Harpsichords in the making. We had a lovely visitor, Ann Winslow, who asked any of us who would, to come to the Discovery Place and make things for the children to play on and with.

DOOR PRIZE

His name was drawn and Richard McRee smilingly strode forward to claim his prize — a sharpening stone. Then, since Charles Alexander was unable to attend the Christmas party and had not received his TOYS FOR TOTS prize, and since he was present at this meeting, he got his two wood hand screw clamps. That should teach you to attend all the meetings, Charles.

Correcting veiner flaws



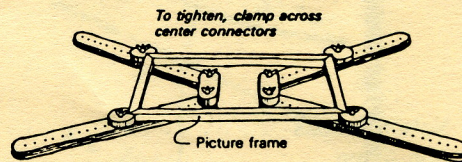
I bought a veiner carving tool with grinding imperfections that made it impossible to sharpen. The inside radius wasn't true and the inside face was grooved. I chucked a brass rod (copper works as well) in my drill and lapped the inside face using fine silicon-carbide abrasive and oil. It trued the radius and eliminated the groove. —Ellis Thaxton, Arlington, Tex.

Picture-frame clamp

This picture-frame clamp beats anything else I've tried. Make the device from 3/4-in. thick, 2-in. wide hardwood strips. I covered the hardwood with smooth Formica for extra strength and for freer action of the parts. You'll need four 16-in. legs, two 4-in. connectors and four 2-in. discs notched to hold the corners of the frame.

To use, determine the positions of the notched discs on the legs through a dry run. When everything is ready, apply pressure to the frame using a parallel-jaw wooden clamp across the center connectors.

—John L. Van Scoyoc, Bartlesville, Okla.



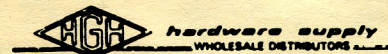
Ferrules from end caps

Over the years I have seen all kinds of homemade tool handles ranging from an old corncob jammed on the tang of a rasp (a surprisingly comfortable improvisation) to ornate, French-polished creations. For most of us whose efforts fall between these extremes, locating a suitable ferrule is a larger problem than turning the handle. Plumbing stores stock an attractive, inexpensive solution—copper-tubing end caps. The end caps, available in several sizes, are tough enough to

WHATCHAMACALLIT NIGHT

Much fun was had with this. The President demonstrated a two-inch in diameter, one inch thick device with holes drilled on opposite sides, and offset from each other. It is a Thumb Twiddler—you put a thumb in each side and revolve it, thereby twiddling your thumbs. Really, Nelson. Ivan Kronberg showed us some of his superb carved figures; Kerry McCalla showed us a gimlet (5" shaft) then floored us with a gimlet with a 30"-35" shaft; Jim Caldwell mystified us with a piece of wood which was finally identified as Mesquite; Mr. Superb (Dale Lewis) showed us a cabinet, with doors, drawers inside, standing on two legs, designed and finished perfectly, and which turned out to be a jewelry cabinet; Leonard Sanders showed a folding Roman chair, made of walnut, consisting of nine curved and bending legs some 3/4" square and pinned together with threaded rods. We probably will have more such interludes in our meetings.

Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild meetings are held monthly on the second Thursday at 7:00 P.M. at Acton Moulding & Supply Co. Information concerning the Guild may be secured by writing P.O. Box 506, Helena, Al 35080 or calling the Editor, Leonard Sanders, at 822-6876.



Complete Cabinet Hardware Supply

- ABRASIVES
- CABINET HARDWARE
- DECORATIVE WOOD MOULDINGS
- APPLIANCES
- COMMERCIAL HARDWARE
- GLUES
- LOCKS
- EXTENSIVE LINE OF WOODWORKING MACHINERY



3912 Second Avenue South
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35222
TELEPHONE 205-595-4655

ALABAMA LUMBER & SUPPLY CO.

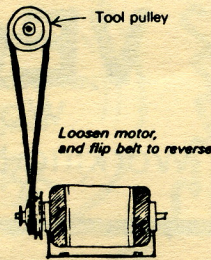
4204 1st Avenue, South
592-6331

Hardwood Lumber & Plywood
Builders & Cabinet Hardware
Ray & Ralph Zorn

Reversing belt-driven tools

It's easy to reverse disc sanders and other belt-driven tools if the motor is mounted perpendicular to the shaft it drives, so there's a quarter-turn in the belt, as shown. To reverse, simply loosen the belt, flip 180° (on either pulley) and tighten. The twist in the belt seems to dampen vibrations—an added advantage.

—Roger Lynne,
Bloomington, Minn.

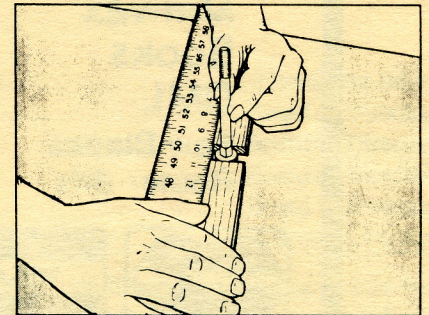


We are glad to include such items as any of our members have in these categories. Nothing for sale or swap this month, but we do have an ad for employment: **HELP WANTED IN WOODWORK SHOP — IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE EQUIPMENT BUT LIKE TO DO WOODWORKING — SALARY NEGOTIABLE — CONTACT DON BENNETT 849-8248.**

TWO WAYS TO MEASURE DIAMETERS

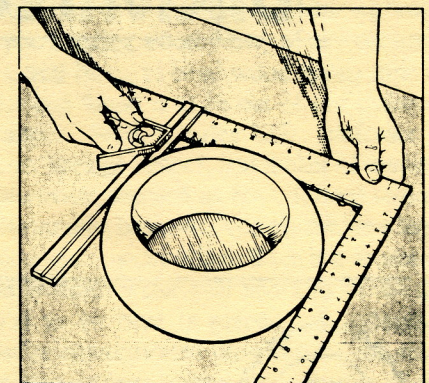
Accurately measuring the diameter of an object smaller than 1" can be difficult if you don't have a calipers. Likewise, it's tough to determine the exact diameter of larger round objects.

TIP 1: Use squarely cut wood strips and a ruler to determine the diameter of small objects, such as bolts or toy parts. Butt the two strips against the item you're measuring, and align one end with a mark on the scale as shown *below* to take your reading.



TIP 2: On larger objects, use two framing squares or a framing square and a combination square as shown *below* to determine the object's diameter. To ensure accuracy, measure the item twice.

—Denis Marchand,
Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada



NEW MEMBERS

The latest list of new members received by press time is as follows:

- Donald Asbeck
- Henry Beeler
- Oscar Griffith
- John Kinkade
- Edwin Sheriff
- M.A.D. Spanos

It is always a pleasure to receive new members and we hope you will enjoy your membership as much as the rest of us do.

ALABAMA WOODWORKERS GUILD LIBRARY

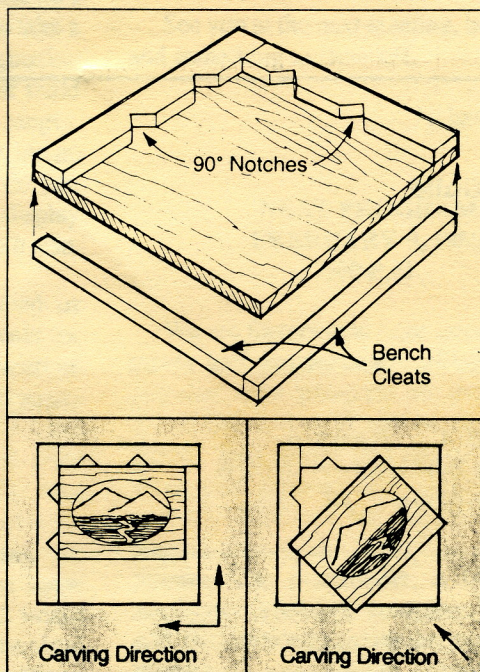
Frank Jones, High Cyclops of our started library, has constructed the first of however many cabinets we will need to house our books, magazines and video tapes. The cabinet is a beauty, as you might expect from Frank. We expect to have an excellent library shortly and then when you want to know how to make a certain joint, turn a special bowl or spindle, construct a cabinet, make raised panels for a door, or just about anything you need help with you can check out one of our publications. There will have to be, of necessity, rules governing the borrowing of publications and they will be ready and available by the time the library is ready.

BENCH HOOK SECURELY HOLDS WOODCARVING STOCK

Relief carving requires using both hands on the carving tool. For comfort and safety, securing the carving on a tabletop helps greatly.

TIP: You can easily make an inexpensive bench hook to hold carving pieces. Along two adjoining sides of a base of 3/4" plywood, attach 1x2" rails with 90° notches cut to your needs. Fasten 1x2" cleats along two sides of the bottom of the base in the opposite corner from the notches. If possible, hold down the bench hook by securing one of the cleats in a vise. You can omit the bench cleats and clamp the assembly to your benchtop with C-clamps.

—John Roccanova,
Riverdale, N. Y.



WOODWORKING CLASS

Fred Baker will be teaching another class, starting in a few weeks. If your intrested be sure to attend the Feb. 9 meeting as time and day of week class to be held will be discussed.

INJECTA
INCA

Wood
Working Machines

HEGNER
Scroll Saws

Makita
POWER TOOLS

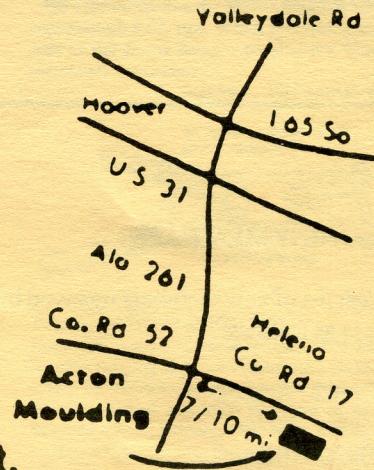
VEGA
Wood
Working Machines

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.



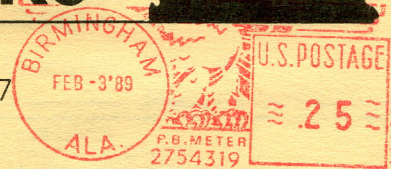
County Road 17

Helena, Al.

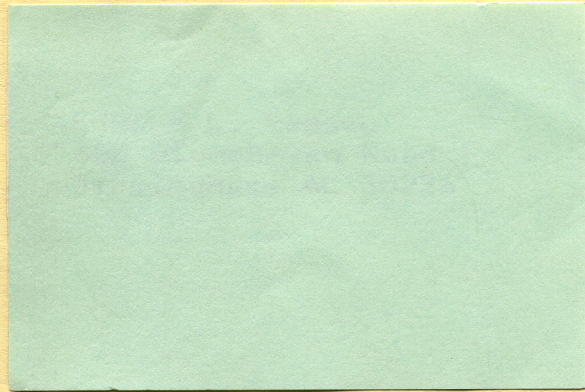
205-663-0130

BIRMINGHAM SAW WORKS

P.O. Box 126 • Birmingham, Alabama 35201
Call Us Toll Free 1-800-289-SAWS • Local 252-9757
Since 1885



The Alabama Woodworkers Guild
P. O. Box 506
Helena, AL 35080



4RG