

NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 1990

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is well along on their project for the Spring Show. Don't forget we set up Saturday, June 2, 1990 in the South Central Bell Headquarters Building Lobby, 600 North 19th St. We have added a separate category for toys this year. This is the chance to showcase and example of what you plan to mass produce for TOYS FOR TOTS!

The Guild visit to Kentuck Center is something you don't want to miss. Graig Nutt will show us his shop and his current work. Anden Houben will be there to show us his musical instrument shop. Both Anden and Graig are truly outstanding craftsmen.

We will also get to see the pottery, glass and blacksmith shops. At the moment we are not sure that all three will be in operation that day but there will be a guide to show us what they do and tell us something of the methods employed.

The Kentuck Museum will have an exhibit of "Art for The Birds" in the progress. They have had several artists turn ordinary bird houses (wooden of course) into works of art.

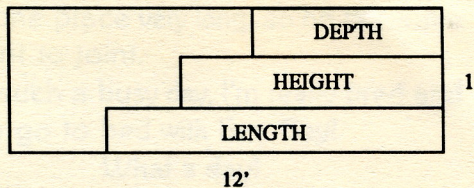
Sounds like an interesting day. I hope to see you all at the Kentuck Center — 10:00 AM on April 28, 1990.

Jim Caldwell

LAST MEETING — MARCH 1990

Craig Butterworth, a former professional cabinetmaker, now a whiz in public relations, demonstrated the "Story Board." What's a Story Board, or Story Pole, as some call it? Listen up and we'll try to explain it. The

cabinetmaker goes to the site of the new house or office and surveys the space in which the cabinets will be placed. He takes measurements to include windows, sinks, lavatories, doors, etc. Then on a board 1' x 12' he lays out the measurements to fit cabinets into the space provided. On the board, he drafts a strip to represent the width, next to which he drafts a strip to represent the height and next to those he drafts a strip to represent the depth. When all this drafting has been completed, he has three parallel lines some three inches wide with the ends enclosed to set the length of the strip. Using these dimensions, he has the measurements for the cabinets, no matter how many such cabinets he has to make for that job. While making the strips on the Board he also takes into account base cabinet toe space; framing; drawers; plumbing and wiring; and his material list and cutting list. Principally, what is accomplished is not having to spend time bent over drawings for dimensions, material list and cutting list. Mr. Butterworth made it clear that the Story Board will work — he successfully used it himself. We appreciate his joining us for his program and the following is a rough idea of how it looks.



NEXT PROGRAM: APRIL 12, 1990

Grab hold of your chairs, hitch up your girdles and get ready for Frank Jones (you know, the one who brings his dilapidated stool to the meetings and sits on it) who has been persuaded, after much coercion and bribery, to show us how he makes furniture. Before you say "huh," consider the fact that Frank makes lovely furniture and makes it well, that is, to last. He will go into a simplified method of laying out the mortises and tenons; marking with a knife rather than a pencil; use of jigs he has developed; tools he uses and methods of ensuring you will get the piece of furniture you started out to make.

APRIL FIELD TRIP

During the history of our Guild we have utilized the field trip to the benefit of our members. On April 28th, a Saturday, we are going to Northport (across the river from Tuscaloosa) to the KENTUCK CENTER which some kind of a crafts museum and gallery. What you see there will inspire you to bigger and better undertakings in your woodworking. While in the neighborhood, we have been invited to visit the shop of Craig Nutt, about the nearest thing we have around here to a celebrity/professional woodworker. His furniture borders on art, rather than just furniture (he has had an exhibit at the Birmingham Museum of Art recently). Craig has brought us our program a couple of times, has been the judge at one of our annual shows, and we have visited him in Northport before. In addition to Craig Nutt, we can visit the shop of Anden Houben, harpsichord and clavichord

ANNUAL SHOW

maker. Jim Caldwell benefited from consulting with Mr. Houben when he, Jim, built his harpsichord. This is quite an opportunity for us to increase our knowledge of what can be done with wood. We are encouraged to take our wives (or someone else's wife if necessary) on this trip. We have set 10:00 o'clock at the Kentuck Center as the meeting time. Directions for getting there are as follows:

Take I-20W/I-59S to Tuscaloosa
At Tuscaloosa take the I-359N exit
Get off I-359 at First Northport exit,
just after crossing the river
Exit to the right
Turn left on Rice Mine Road and go to
Main Avenue.
You are there — at Kentuck Center

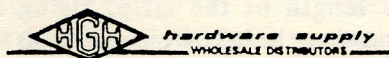
MEMBERSHIP CARDS AND ROSTER

At the April meeting there will be available to us our 1990 membership cards. They will have been signed by the President and Treasurer, but you will have to fill in your name. Also, you may pick up the 1990 membership roster and save us postage in mailing it.

SEMINARS

By the time you read this, we will have had one of the two seminars we will hold this year. A report on the March 31st meeting with Ben Erickson will be in the May newsletter. Bill Purson is working on a seminar to be conducted by a friend of his in Baltimore. These plans are not final yet, but will let you know in due time.

Most of you are familiar with this activity, but for the benefit of some of our newer members, we hold a week-long showing of our work. Each member is encouraged to enter anything he or she has made either for judging or not for judging. It is kind of fun to have your work judged, however. There is a form you fill out describing the piece you are entering, whether it is an original design, or a copy, or from a plan; what material was used, etc. Then the judge uses spaces on the form to critique your piece. This can be interesting for you since an expert will tell you whether your joints are good or bad, whether the design is practical or useless, and whether the finish is good or bad. It is a learning process to enter the Show. The categories which will be the format for the show are: Furniture, both traditional and contemporary; Turning; Small Objects (jewelry boxes, or anything smaller than furniture); Carving; and Toys. There isn't a single one of you who can't make one or more of these categories (you can enter as many pieces as you want, in as many categories as you want). The show will be held the week of June 4 - 8th at the South Central Bell building at 600 North 19th Street in downtown Birmingham. The lobby has been remodeled somewhat since the last show we held there, and the lighting has been considerably improved. While they (S.C.B.) don't undertake to guarantee the security of the show, the lobby is very restricted, and security personnel of the Company are on duty



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in the lobby 24 hours a day. We have held two of our previous shows there and no one has had anything bothered, so that is not a major consideration. We will be required to deliver our work to the building on Saturday, June 2nd, and we may retrieve them on Friday afternoon of June 8th. There are lots of people in and out of the lobby who will enjoy looking at our work. You should tell your friends and neighbors about it too. More about this in May, but for now please don't delay beginning your piece, or if you have already begun, finishing it.

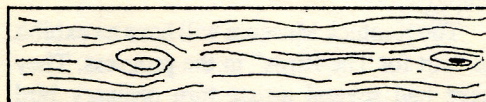
IN MEMORIUM

We are sorry to report the death of Coy Ellis's wife. We did not know about it to report last month and take this opportunity to extend to Coy our sincere sympathy.

NORM ABRAM

Most of us know who he is, but in case you don't, he is the woodworker who puts on the TV program NEW YANKEE WORKSHOP. While it is not very sophisticated, it is informative and interesting. It comes on at 10:00 P. M. on Thursday night on Channel 10. There are several programs left in the current series dealing with Chest-on-Chest, English Garden Bench and Armoire. There may be repeats of previous programs so consult the TV schedule for the remaining programs.

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.



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We are sure you have noticed the Acton advertisement on the mailing address side of our newsletter. Well if you haven't, you will want to from now on. Included in the lower right-hand corner will be this month's special being run for Guild members on Guild night. So, include this reading when you read the rest of the newsletter.

After missing this feature of our meetings in February, it was nice to have Kerry back. This time he brought a thoroughly fascinating collection of marking gauges. We never fail to be impressed by the tools our forefathers devised. Mortise and tenon joints certainly aren't new and the marking gauges Kerry displayed bear out that fact. He showed us some with a nail protruding for marking and others with a knife blade protruding for the same purpose; some made of rosewood; some with lovely brass inlays; an 1892 Stanley; an English model - Sheffield pattern with screwdriver adjustment; Scottish model more decorative with rosewood and ebony inlay; American model, Star Pattern, 1868, with elliptical adjustment. Thanks much, Kerry.

This month we had three exhibitors. Charles Brown (no kin to Peanuts) brought a piece of Mesquite (as described in the February newsletter); Ben Anguin had a meat cutting board designed for the handicapped as described by Judy Roy at the February meeting; and Dale Lewis had a bowl and some furniture (two tables named Frankie and Johnny). Thanks fellows, and some of the rest of you do the same next month.

DOOR PRIZE

Ivan Kronberg, our 1989 Woodworker of the Year, donated two blocks of Cedar as the door prize and Wallace Williams got 'em. Remember, if you don't sign in you aren't in the drawing.

WOODTURNERS

Nelson Brooks announced that the American Association of Woodturners will have its national symposium and classes in October 1990 in Gatlinburg. He is desirous of getting a contingent of Guild members to attend, and since there are some 28 members of A.A.W. in Alabama, 10 of which are members of our Guild, it sounds like a worthwhile trip that should be attractive to all of us.

GUILD CAPS ETC.

Walter Barnett reminds us he has plenty of caps, golf shirts and tee shirts with the new Guild logo for sale. This merchandise is first quality, and it is kind of fun to wear them and explain to people who we are when they ask about the logo. You have seen many of our members wearing theirs, so get with the program and get yours.

* WANTED *

GOOD WOMAN WHO CAN
CLEAN AND COOK FISH,
SEW, DIG WORMS, AND
OWNS BOAT & MOTOR
SEND PHOTO OF
BOAT AND MOTOR

Joys of Aging

I Have become quite a frivolous old gal.
I'm seeing five gentlemen every day.

As soon as I awake, Will Power helps me out of bed. When he leaves, I go see John. Then, Charley Horse comes along and when he's here, he takes a lot of my attention. When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint.

After such a busy day, I'm really tired and ready to go to bed with Ben Gay!

What a day!

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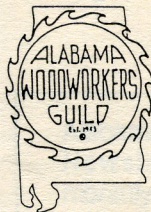
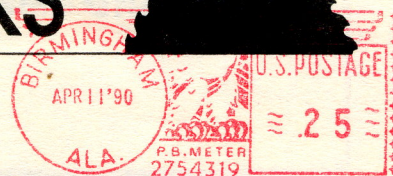
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