

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME IX

NUMBER 5

MAY 1991

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 1991 Spring Show is shaping up to be an exciting affair for the Guild. The opportunity to exhibit our work in a gallery setting and provide live demonstrations is a real opportunity for all of us.

The judge for the show will be Van Yeager from Greensboro, Alabama. Van is an accomplished professional woodworker doing restorations and furniture design and construction. We are pleased to have him judge our work.

Speaking of judging — we will have the same categories as last year with two skill levels, Intermediate and Advanced. If you want your work judged you will be asked to fill out a form on each entry telling us the skill level and category. The categories are:

Traditional Furniture	Contemporary Furniture
Wood Turning	Small Objects
Wood Carving	Toys

First, second and third place ribbons will be awarded for each category and skill level. Award presentations will be Saturday afternoon May 25 at 5 PM. Following the awards we will go somewhere for dinner. The place will be decided before the May meeting.

A people's choice award will be voted on by the Sloss visitors viewing the work in the gallery. This award will be made at the July Guild meeting.

See you all May 9th.

Jim Caldwell

NEXT MEETING MAY 9, 1991 • 7:00 PM

We have another good one coming up, thanks to Dale Lewis. His name is Jerry Schoel and he is an attorney. That isn't why he has been invited to present our program, however. As far as we woodworkers are concerned, his claim to fame is his interest in and devotion to building model ships. Now ladies and gentlemen don't get disturbed without reading further. Jerry's models are almost big enough to ride in. He is bringing a couple of his beauties: one, a tall ship which measures 50" long and 50" tall; two, the battleship Missouri, dimensions unknown at this writing. These models are made to scale and he makes all the parts from wood. The painting and finishing is also done by hand and according to those who have seen some of his work, we are in for a very good treat.

LAST MEETING • APRIL 1991

Some of our more talented members with the router were invited to share with the rest of us some of their techniques and demonstrate some of their jigs. It was a pleasure to have members willing to share with us in such a great way. In the order of their appearance, FRED BAKER: Fred displayed several of his routers explaining why he likes this or that about each one and when he uses a particular one. Then he encouraged us to read all the books on routing we can get our hands on if we really

want to learn about routers. As for bits, he recommends making the additional investment, which is minimal, and get bits with 1/2" shanks, mainly for safety reasons, and suggested a good way to store bits when not in use is in film canisters, those little black containers film comes in.

HARRY REACH: Harry displayed his router table which has a 1/4" thick stainless steel top. Now there is a router table top, a beauty. He also showed us a device for converting the router table into a shaper. If you're interested in this, ask Harry.

FRANK RYERSON: Frank, always a favorite of the Guild, brought his router table also. It has a jig for making box joints and has a chip collection chute for attaching a vacuum cleaner; he showed us a band saw jig for making dovetails and showed us dovetails made with it; and showed us some children's building blocks (as shown in WOOD MAGAZINE) which make a castle. His civic club, Kiwanis we think, made toys for children in the Tuscaloosa area and Frank made quite a few sets of these blocks.

BEN LANDRUM: The "ole pro" at making hand mirrors demonstrated how to do it with his router. The recess for the round mirror is hogged out with a router and then you turn it over so as to address an inlay on the back. Ben has a jig for cutting the recess for the inlay, as well as a jig for cutting the inlay, which is usually from some kind of wood other than that from which the mirror is made so as to have a contrast. He proceeded to use these two jigs, and when he placed the inlay piece in

the recess and tapped it with a hammer it dropped in the recess perfectly. Ben suggested when routing inside a circle to travel clockwise, and when outside, counter clockwise.

RICHARD BREWER: Richard had two interesting twists (no pun intended) for our consumption. There was the sphere — yes, a sphere. The jig is a rectangular box in which the blank is placed, and to which the router is attached. When the router is swiveled on the axis of the jig, a small amount is removed at each pass, and you can, and do, end up with a sphere. His other jig is built for the purpose of making dowels. Using a core box bit, with the router attached to a jig in which there is a hole, and the bit hanging in the hole, a blank is fed into the hole, in which the turning bit is located, by having inserted the end of the blank in a portable drill. Okay, with the stick in the drill, being fed into the jig with the router running, out the other side comes a dowel. It happened.

DALE LEWIS: Last, but not least. As we all know, Dale is a creator and original designer. In making his furniture he occasionally needs to cut a recess in a coffee table or other piece, and when this need arises he turns to his router. He, too, uses the core box bit for this procedure and his demonstration bore out the usefulness of being able to rout recesses. He showed how you cut the deepest part first and gradually shorten the depth of cut as you ascend to the surface of the table.

We appreciate and applaud our members who are so willing to encourage the rest of us by showing us how they operate their routers and make their jigs and make it look easy.

NEW MEMBERS

It is always a pleasure to announce the addition of new members to our family of woodworkers. There probably isn't a more

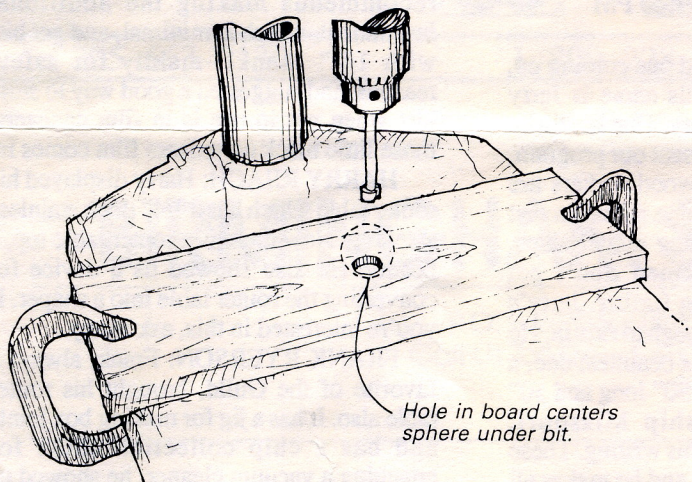
congenial and dedicated group of people who band together with similar interests than woodworkers. So, with pride we announce the newest new members to whom we extend the warmest welcome possible:

Richard Brewer Richard Strahan

DOOR PRIZE

We keep harping on you folks to sign in when you arrive but some still don't, and we have to delay the meeting while you get your name in the pot for the door prize. We continue to emphasize it is not just to have your name in the pot for the prize that we want you to sign in, it is our record of your attendance at meetings. So much for that — on with the fact that Jerry Deviney had signed in on the right line and walked away with a pair of vise-grip pliers (why do they call it a "pair" when there is only one plier?).

Drilling centered holes in spheres



In my high-school woodshop class, we needed to drill 1/2-in.-dia. holes partway through 100 1 1/4-in.-dia. hardwood balls. I suggested to the instructor that we clamp a board to the drill press table and bore a 3/4-in.-dia. hole in the board to serve as a socket to hold the ball being drilled. Then we chucked a 1/2-in.-dia. Forstner bit into the drill press and set the stop to the desired depth. One student held each ball while another drilled. Each hole was perfectly centered. This technique worked so well that my instructor suggested that I submit it to the "Methods of Work" column. Many of the methods shared by readers of *Fine Woodworking* have been put to good use in our shop and I hope that this idea may be useful to another woodworker.

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FIELD TRIP - MAY 11

We will be going to Dean Black's new gallery and shop on Saturday, May 11. Dean is a furniture builder, bowl turner, metal worker and gunsmith. He is one of the top craftsman in the Southeast.

We will meet from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. So plan on bringing a sack lunch or eating fast food locally. The Guild will supply soft drinks.

Dean's new shop is a woodworker's dream (4,000 sq. ft.). If you haven't met Dean or haven't visited his new shop, mark your calendar and plan to be there.

DIRECTIONS: Take I-59 North until Springville exit. Exit, turn left, go approximately one mile to the 4-way stop (hwy 11). Turn left, go one-half mile. The shop is on your right (white building).

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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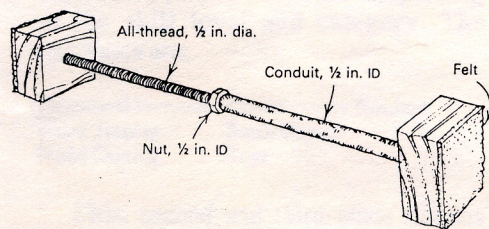
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The object has finally been sold. Several years ago when it came time to do our Toys for Tots thing we decided to try and find a place where we could sell our toys and give the proceeds to the TFT program instead of just giving them the toys as we do now. Arrangements were made to display our products during the day at the Harbert Center so the multitude of civic club members who come and go in droves during the lunch hour could see and purchase our wares. There was produced a large variety of products both large and small, but what we didn't count on was these business people were always in such a hurry they wouldn't take time to inspect our things — they were in a hurry to get to lunch because they were running late and when their meeting was over they were in a terrible hurry to get back to work. We did sell a few things but nothing like we had hoped for. Included in the offerings was an outstanding creation by Frank Jones, a crane. A crane, you say? Yep, and it was a beauty, too. The functional boom was eleven feet long and made of walnut. The cab was large enough for a small child to get into and was made of good hard woods. The flexible track was maple (I think) and the bloomin' thing worked when rolled. It had a price tag of \$1,000 on it, and it was worth every cent of it. It was almost bought but not quite. After these several years of storage we learn Frank sold the crane. Congratulations Frank, and it was more than generous of you to donate the proceeds to the Guild.

Furniture disassembly jack



Those of us who repair furniture often come across a chair or table that is so loose it needs to be totally disassembled and reglued. But invariably there are always two or three joints that, unlike the rest of the rickety piece, will not come apart no matter what. I use a shopmade jack to solve this problem. The jack, shown in the sketch, is composed of a short length of 1/2-in. conduit, a piece of 1/2-in.-dia. all-thread, a nut and two padded blocks. When you tighten the nut against the end of the conduit, even the most reluctant joint will give up, usually with no damage.

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Our annual summer seminar will be here before you know it. Randy Cochrane, who presented our regular monthly program in March, will do a seminar on CHAIRS on June 15th from 9:00 to 5:00. It is not known yet what it will cost but it is expected that it will be a nominal amount.

THE SPRING SHOW

We are coming down to the wire and our committee has been working hard to make all necessary arrangements to make the show a success. Ed Sheriff is chairman of the committee and if you have any questions you need answered he is the one to call at 991-8233. As previously announced, it will be held at Sloss Furnace in downtown Birmingham. There probably isn't, but just in case anyone doesn't know where the Sloss Furnace is located, proceed East on First Avenue North (away from town) and turn left at the first traffic light after crossing the viaduct; at the next street where you can turn left, do so and from there follow the signs. Parking is available under the viaduct and convenient to the show room. We now know we can bring our show pieces to the show room until 6:00 P.M. on Friday, May 24, 1991, and from 8:00 to 10:00 A.M. on the morning of May 25th. Judging will begin promptly at 10:00 so please don't bring anything you want judged after that time. Our judge this year is eminently qualified to judge our work since he is a professional woodworker. He is Van Yeager whose shop is located in Greensboro, Al. He is a designer as well as a restorer, and among his many qualifications he has studied with Craig Nutt with whom we are all acquainted in our Guild. As previously announced we should leave our pieces on display for some two weeks. The security at the show room is excellent, meaning we should have no fear of anything happening to our work. There probably are a few of our newer members who are not participating in the show this their first year as a member and we are sorry you didn't. We encourage you to attend the show and tell all your friends and neighbors about it. The Sloss people are notifying their friends on their mailing list so there won't be a shortage of visitors. Another reason for you newer members to attend is to see that participating in the show is nothing to be afraid of since we all just make some pieces and boldly display them, some even with pride (which we should).

As has been our custom almost from the beginning of the guild we publish a "roster" of the membership each year. Those who have renewed their membership by March 31st are included, and if you are not included it usually can be traced to annual dues not being paid by the deadline. The directories are now available at the regular meetings and are readily visible at the table where we sign in. There will be no mailing this year due to postage expense.

NEW BOOKS

The Taunton Press, publishers of *Fine Woodworking*, and benefactors of our Guild with a free subscription to their fine magazine, announces four new books worthy of investigation. They are as follows:

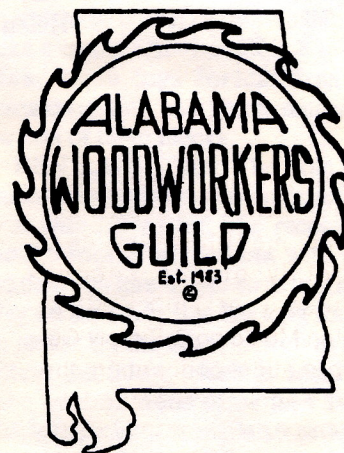
TRADITIONAL WOODWORKING TECHNIQUES
TRADITIONAL FURNITURE PROJECTS
MODERN WOODWORKING TECHNIQUES
MODERN FURNITURE PROJECTS

These books are softcover, four-color photos and illustrations throughout and sell for \$14.95 each.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following is an abbreviated financial report submitted for your consideration by Roy Bates:

Beginning balance March 1, 1991	\$3,873.66
Receipts, March 1991	962.42
Total funds available	4,836.08
Disbursements	229.15
Ending balance March 31, 1991	<u>\$4,606.93</u>



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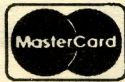
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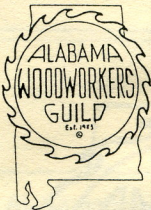
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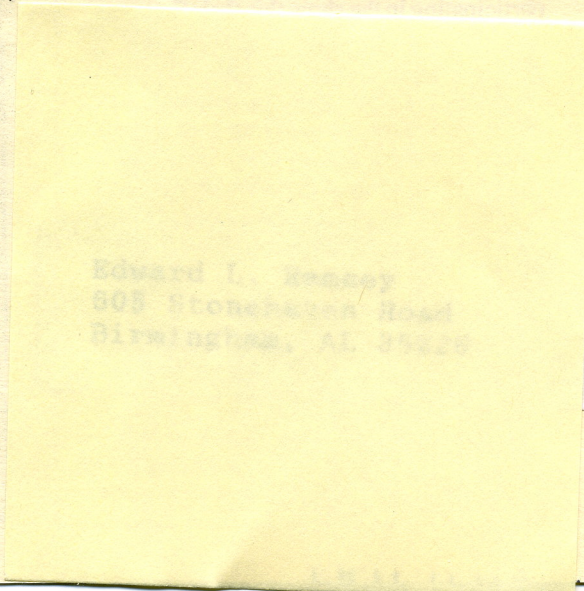
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