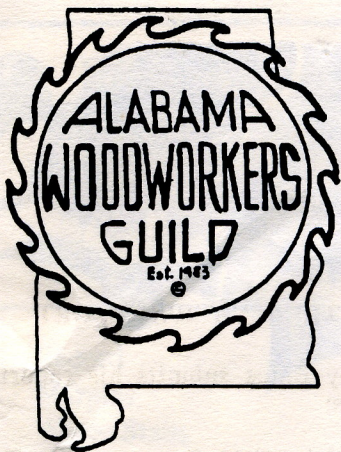




*MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY
NEW YEAR*

It is time to once again anticipate the Guild's annual Christmas Party. This is no small event. When you see the enormous spread of quality foods laid out on the buffet tables there is no way not to be impressed. Some of you haven't been to one of our parties -- that is your loss. It is at that time we recognize the member who made the largest number of toys. It is also at that time we draw names from the pot for numerous tools and/or shop supplies, a festive Christmas experience. We will sing a few carols accompanied by no less than Linda Caldwell. There will be a display of toys made this year by having selected one of each kind so the families, and we for that matter, may see what the others made. We will begin promptly at 7:00 PM, on December 6th. Each family should bring a dish of something -- whatever is the best dish at your house. The Guild will supply coffee, tea, water, plates, eating tools and napkins. Can you think of a nicer way to spend a couple of hours? See you on the 6th.



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME IX NUMBER 12 DECEMBER 1991

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Bill Purson

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank every member of the Guild for the very successful year we have had in 1991. It has been a busy and exciting year and 1992 should be even better. We have an outstanding slate of officers taking over for 1992.

If you received the Craft Supplies Woodturners Catalog for 1991/92 I am sure you noticed the colorful tops on the cover. I recently talked to Bonnie Kline Purdy who turned the tops on the miniature lathe the company offers for sale. A very interesting lady and an obviously skilled turner. She told me she does seminars and hands-on workshops all over the country. If there is interest in a specialty seminar on small scale turning we should be able to get her to come to Alabama some time in 1992. She lives in Renton, Washington -- a long way from Birmingham, but she will be in the East several times during the year. We could probably work out a schedule that would bring her to Birmingham while she is in this part of the country. She is skilled in a number of unusual wood lathes techniques such as chatter designs, screw thread cutting in wood and miniature turning. The lathe by the way weighs 11 pounds and can turn 6" over the ways.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. Look for some wise words from Fred in this spot next month.

See you at the Christmas party.

Jim Caldwell

LAST PROGRAM

What a fine program we had. Too bad only 85 of us got to see it. Ed Sheriff, a long-time member of the Guild, did himself and the Guild proud by showing us how he builds jewelry and music boxes. He concentrated on a jewelry box with approximate dimensions of 12"x15" and some 6" high. It is made of vermilion with an oak burl veneer in the raised panel top. The completed box has two drawers and a recess under the top which raises on hinges. It has a lock, as one might expect, but this lock activates a hidden brass rod which locks the two small doors on the front which hide and protect the drawers. Ed starts with the material he has selected for a box and resaws the boards to a thickness of 3/8", which is the thickness he prefers for his boxes. It should be stated up front, however, he drafts the plans for any given box in detail complete with minute measurements before he secures the material or makes the first cut. When possible, he book-matches the material for the beauty it creates. He uses epoxy exclusively in his construction. All joints are splined and all shelves (above and below the drawers) are mortised into the carcass. After all laminations and mortises in the carcass have been made, a dry-fit is attempted. The drawers, which have a distinctive design so as to permit a way of pulling the drawer out, are dovetailed. Ed cuts his dovetails on the table saw, which incidentally, is an 8" model he has had several years and is more than adequate for his style work. The grooves in the sides of the drawers fit maple glides glued to the

insides of the carcass. He makes an eggcrate for the top drawer, and it is adjustable should the user need larger pigeon holes for her earrings, etc. The bottom drawer has ring holders made of dowels covered with ultra suede. The completed box is given several coats of lacquer and should anyone want to buy one for their lady-fair it will cost you \$1,600. The line forms to the right. We sincerely appreciate Ed making the some 150 slides depicting the dozens of steps and operations he takes to produce his magnificent productions.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Ben Neighbors, Chairman of the campaign for several years, introduced Officer Gray, Birmingham Police Department, representing the Toys for Tots Program. Officer Gray presented a Certificate of Appreciation to President Jim Caldwell on behalf of the Program. He outlined the process the Program goes through and ended by saying the people who need or want the toys have to register in advance, and the distribution is finally made on or about December 15th. Toymakers were asked to give their names and numbers of toys brought to the meeting on a tablet passed around, and the result was 635 delivered that night with the promise of another 135, and these together with those that are customarily brought to the Christmas Party we are assured of between 800 and 900 toys. This is great, Guild members, and we only regret all the members haven't participated and

experienced the feeling of satisfaction one gets when he or she has unselfishly given of himself to those less fortunate. We hope anyone who would like to participate at this last minute will do so and bring them to the Christmas Party.

SHOW AND TELL — PART I

We had a fine collection of show and tell this month. Robert Hook had some bowls of pecan; another (we didn't get his name) had a snow man about 12" high with a knob at the belly button which changes the date (for his grandchild); Dale Lewis had bowls of apple and osage orange — also several hand mirrors of unique designs and one of which was named "Spittin' Image" (named as only Dale can name things). More Show and Tell, elsewhere herein.

LIBRARY

We haven't mentioned our library lately, and we don't want you to forget we have one. We have gratis subscriptions from FINE WOODWORKING, POPULAR WOODWORKING, WOOD MAGAZINE, WOODSMITH, WOODWORKER'S JOURNAL and AMERICAN WOODWORKER. These are fine publications and if you don't take any of them, or take only one or two of them, the others are there for the checking-out. Frank Jones is, and has been, our only librarian, and will assist you on meeting nights (only). There are some 20 or 30 reference books on just about anything you might want to do with wood. Why don't you check out the library at the next meeting.

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.

AUGUST 1991 PROGRAM

Do you remember Robert Long, Boaz, Alabama who presented our program in August on Bent Willow Furniture? Well, if you were watching Good Morning America the other morning when they were broadcasting from Asheville, N.C. you saw him demonstrating his craft at a craft center. You just never know who will be our program, so don't miss an opportunity.

SHOW AND TELL — PART II

This is a continuation of the column elsewhere herein. In addition to those fine pieces brought by our members, Randy Cochran was present with a stool and chair he began work on last May at our spring seminar. He thought, rightfully so, we would be interested in seeing how they turned out. They were lovely pieces and we were glad he brought them. When asked what finish he used on the stool he responded that he had "ebonized" it. It was such a lovely dark ebony color everyone wanted to know the procedure. We asked Randy to let us in on his procedure and here it is: (1) After finish sanding, wet with sponge to raise fibers and when dry sand again; Sponge on a coat of tannic acid. Mix 1 3/4 oz. of tannic acid in a quart of hot water and allow to cool. A product called "Ivy Dry" may be purchased at a drug store and used as it comes. Allow to dry and sand to remove any raised fibers. (2) Sponge on a coat of Iron Water. This may be obtained by: pouring white vinegar over steel wool (degreased) and allow to sit over night; or 1 3/4 oz. ferrous sulfate dissolved in a quart of hot water and allowed to cool. Anyone attempting this treatment should be warned to wear rubber gloves because there is no known material that will clean it off your hands. If the color isn't dark enough repeat (1) and (2) above. After thoroughly dry, finish with oil, lacquer, varnish or whatever you prefer.

DOOR PRIZE

Having done his duty and signed in on the attendance sheet located near the coffee pot like all of us are supposed to do and which 85 of us did at the November meeting, Jerry Darnieder was the happy recipient of a quality bench chisel when his name was selected by a visitor from Los Angeles. President Jim wanted to know if he came from Los Angeles just to see and hear our program.

NEW MEMBER

We are pleased to announce that Mr. Bob Edenfield attended our November meeting and was so impressed, he joined. Glad to have you Bob. Continue to attend and respond when called upon to contribute.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Roy Bates submits his report as follows:

Beginning balance Oct. 1		\$3,466
Receipts, October 1991	\$1,255	
Expense, October 1991	(2,134)	(879)
Balance 10/31/91		<u>\$2,587</u>

WINTER/SPRING CLASSES

We have reached the end of our fall classes of instruction. We now announce the winter/spring classes will begin late in January and will cost between \$60 and \$70. The classes will be held at and instructed by David Traylor who has been our guiding instructor for some time. The classes will be held at David's shop which is located just behind 84 Lumber, just off Highway 31 and Valleydale Road. There was no turning class this fall due to lack of interest, but if enough of you would like to have it revived please tell Jim Caldwell or Dale Lewis. If the turning class is revived it too will be held at David Traylor's shop.



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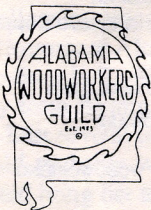
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