

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XII NUMBER 2 FEBRUARY 1994

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ethel Owen and Dale Lewis made an excellent team for presenting the program last month relating what is involved in participating in arts and craft shows. Both are veterans of the circuit and show at some of the most prestigious gatherings in the southeast. Many thanks for the good and interesting program, Ethel and Dale.

Richard Brewer, Annual Show Chairman, and I spent an hour with Ron Bates at Sloss Furnaces last week concerning plans for this year. Sloss has some big plans in the works, not the least of which is constructing a center to house a permanent museum and much more adequate space to house other exhibitions such as our own. In addition, an outside organization may be contracted to stage their activities. At this writing definite plans to use Sloss have not been firmed, but it would appear that we will have the show the last couple weeks in August as we did the last two years. We complained about the noise (Yes, noise!) and unprotected nature of our demonstrations last year and hope that situation may be rectified. So think about what you are going to enter in the show, and if it is now merely an idea in your mind, why don't you put some sketches down on paper and start making sawdust. August will be here before we know it.

It is my hope that we will be able to expand our membership this year. Some years ago we had over 200 members and that might be attainable again. We are

going to place in appropriate stores pads of invitations to visit a meeting in the near future so as to catch some people that might not know about the Guild. If you know of anyone who might be interested in woodworking, invite them to join us at a meeting. We'd be glad to have them aboard.

Contained in this newsletter is a questionnaire concerning programs that you would like to have at our meetings. It has been included for your convenience to fill out at your leisure and turn in with your \$25 dues. John Parker will turn them over to our Program Chairman. If you have a subject that is not on the list, by all means write it in under Item 24.

Don't forget the Annual Show! See you on Thursday, February 10 at 7:00 PM.

Ed

NEXT PROGRAM FEBRUARY 10, 1994 • 7:00 PM

What is the most annoying aspect of having a shop? D—U—S—T! VP Richard Brewer thinks we should have a program of dust collecting and has arranged for several members to bring their dust collectors to the meeting and explain them. So far, Richard will be a demonstrator as well as Dan Browning and Leonard Sanders. These fellows are putting their reputations on the line for you all so try and be present and see if you can confuse them with questions.

LAST MEETING — JANUARY 1994

We had a splendid program put on by Ethel Owen and Dale Lewis. These two are veterans of the arts and crafts shows, and their insight into the joys and problems was informative. Dale began the program by giving us a little background on his participation. He began entering juried art shows in 1987 and now enters some five shows a year but he does enter some nonjuried shows. He explained how one gets his work entered in a juried show. One must submit three slide pictures of the items he wants to enter. The selection committee decides which items will be admitted from the slides. Some of the juried shows charge \$15 for reviewing the slides. Ethel Owen enters local shows mostly and particularly the Bluff Park Show, the oldest in the area. This show is a one-day affair, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, with \$7,000 in prizes. You have to submit three slides, pay a \$20 entry fee plus 20% of your proceeds. Dale discussed the Kentucky Show in Northport, AL. It is a two-day affair in October, has an \$80 entrance fee and no commission. Then there were some other shows discussed: Lynn Park accommodates some 100 artists, has no entry fee, charges \$20 handling fee but charges no commissions. Fairhope, AL has a three-day show, has a \$140 entry fee, no commission, but a \$15 fee for slide judging. The discussion turned to display area and methods of displaying. Ethel and Dave have a canopy (tent) in which to make their displays. These tents are priced from about \$500 but offer excellent protection

from the elements for their displayed works. There seems to be a diversity of rules to be followed with respect to sales tax and licenses and you should inquire about these problems in the locality of the shows. Both of our speakers emphasized that when submitting slides for entry, the slides must be of good quality so it behooves you to invest in good camera and lighting equipment. After all the do's and don't's were explained, both of them expressed the great satisfaction that comes from having their work admired enough for someone to purchase it. There is just something that can't be explained about selling your work. Both our speakers did a truly fine job of explaining the in's and out's of entering arts and crafts shows. We appreciate their bringing slides for us to admire and better understand this pleasant way of adding joy to woodworking. Thanks Ethel and Dale.

NEW OFFICERS • NEW YEAR

January, being the first month of the new year, (and always has been) brought on our new team of leaders. Secretary-Treasurer John Parker, was busily taking in 1994 annual dues; Vice-President Brewer had a fine program for us and President Ed Sheriff began his opening remarks by explaining how he had been presented with a huge box of records of the Guild and after wading through them put them where they would do the most good — in the attic. We are not sure, but we think there's a message there.

DUES — DUES — DUES

Remember the annual ritual we go through in January each year? It IS important that we get our dues paid by the

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.

February meeting. Not only does the Guild need the funds to keep afloat, but it is necessary to know who will be members in 1994 so we can go to press with our membership roster. Please come to the February meeting prepared to pay your \$25 or if you know you won't be able to make that meeting, mail your check to John Parker, 712 Cecil Court, Birmingham, 35226. It probably isn't necessary, but be reminded the amount of the annual dues is a small price to pay for the enjoyment and informative programs, NEWSLETTER and prizes at the Christmas party.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was announced we have received a thank-you note from Children's Hospital for the toys and things we supplied them at Christmas. On the subject of the Hospital, Ben Neighbors, Toys Chairman the last several years and this year too, called for volunteers to make writing desks for use by wheelchair patients. They consist of a piece of plywood with a cut-out so the desk can accommodate the body of the patient and can rest on the arms of the wheelchair. Ben Angwin and Frank Jones volunteered to make the desks. Thanks, men. Then Pres. Ed announced Richard Brewer is Chairman of our Show this year. We probably will hold it in the same place, Sloss Furnace. Mr. Ed (remember that program?) also cautioned us we will have the visits to our members shops pretty soon, so get them cleaned up, folks. There is the possibility we will work up a field trip to the POWERMATIC factory in Tennessee and/or visit a furniture factory in Georgia. It was also announced David Traylor, our woodworking instructor extraordinaire, will have a class again this year but the class is almost full. If you are interested, call David at 985-9620.

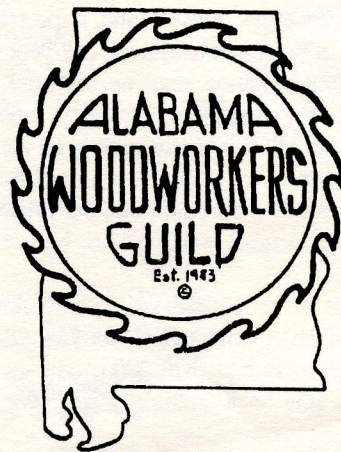
SHOW AND TELL

Sterling Brewer, in addition to being a woodworker, is a master clock repairer. He showed us an antique clock he picked up some time ago which dates to 1730 - 1735 period, contains 1,295 hand-made parts, and is chain driven. Sterling has built a fine case for it, and we thank him for bringing it for our enjoyment. Ivan Kronberg, master bowl and platter turner, had a lovely bowl with a brass band around the opening to the interior, and a platter only he makes, thin and scalloped around the edge.

Leonard Sanders had two week pots and a bowl made of "Rainbow Wood". This is plywood made of twenty layers of colored plywood, 1/64" thick. Each layer is dyed before being glued and compressed. This material makes an unusual product. Also Leonard had a lidded urn patterned after an antique and made from a piece of dogwood that was a victim of the snow last year. Thank you, fellows.

SALE — BUY — SWAP

There hasn't been much activity in this area lately, but we have something this month. Richard Brewer has need of some 220V wiring in his shop. If one of our members has talent and know-how in this area, please call Richard at 822-1119 and he will discuss a barter or fee with you. If you have a tool you no longer need or want, why not let us know and we will list it in the NEWSLETTER. What you may not want may just be what someone else is looking for. There is also another area some of us could take advantage of. There are talented members of our Guild who can and will help each other with problems or areas of expertise another member may not possess. Say you want to build a Queen Anne chair but don't know how to get started on cabriole legs. Ask at the next meeting and you will probably get the help you want. Also there are dove tails, for drawers of cabinets — we have experts in this area who would be thrilled to give you a hand. Maybe you bought too much material for a project and want to sell it and buy a different kind of material for a new project. Let us know and we will list it.



DOOR PRIZE

We had 72 present at the meeting and with that many there whose name do you suppose was drawn for the prize? Nelson Brooks, our past president. Well, he probably needs a tool or something.

NOISE LEVELS IN THE SHOP

We have attempted to mention topics of safety and similar topics heretofore, and this month we want to mention noise. It was timely for WOODSMITH to have an article in the February 1994 issue on this subject. It is an excellent article, and we appreciate WOODSMITH giving us permission to reprint the article below.

Hearing loss is an invisible injury. When I'm in the shop, I tend to be more concerned with keeping all my fingers and eyesight. But hearing loss *can* occur if your ears are not protected while in the shop.

Loss can occur regardless of the amount of time your ears are exposed to high noise levels — even if only for a few seconds.

CUMULATIVE LOSS. Hearing loss is cumulative. A little noise here and a little there adds up. And over a lifetime, even a few hours a week in a home shop can lead to some type of permanent loss.

After thinking about this, I decided to give OSHA a call to find out what they had to say about hearing protection. They consider noise levels below 85 decibels (dB) to be safe. Anyone experiencing noise over 85 dB (for *any* length of time) should use some type of hearing protection.

Once I knew this, I got to wondering how much noise is created in the *Woodsmith* shop. So I purchased a sound level meter to check our levels. (I knew our tools were loud, I just wasn't sure how loud.)

NOISE LEVELS. I expected the thickness planer and the radial arm saw to register the loudest noise. When cutting 6"-wide hard maple, each tool produced a noise level around 105 dB.

But I was surprised with the other tools. When routing an 1/8"-wide groove on our enclosed-base router table, a reading of 103 dB was registered with the doors closed. And with the doors open, the router table

had a noise level of 106 dB. The table saw registered 104 dB.

However, the biggest surprise had to be the hand-held circular saw. It put out 110 dB while cutting 3/4"-thick plywood. The only tools that didn't put out a dangerous level were the edge jointer, band saw, and drill press. (And the shop toilet — it spiked an 80 dB noise level.)

PROTECTORS. There are a number of protectors available to guard your hearing. Some go in your ears, others go over your ears. Most have a noise reduction rating (NRR) from about 21 dB to 33 dB. Using a protector with an NRR of 25 brings the noise level in our shop down to a safe 85 dB level.

I use foam plugs because they're inexpensive and they don't get in the way of my glasses. But "earmuff" style protectors aren't expensive either (they're also a little more comfortable over a longer period).

Which ones should you use? Whichever ones you *will* use. The point is this: you don't want the family sitting around yelling at you during some future Thanksgiving dinner.

Program Questionnaire

The Guild continues to try to present programs at its regular meetings that the membership wants to see. With that in mind, it would be appreciated if you would complete the following questionnaire.

A. The following is a list of program subjects which may offer possibilities for future programs. Please check those that you would like to see arranged.

1. Band Saw Boxes
2. Band Saw Jigs
3. Bench Saw Jigs
4. Biscuit Joinery
5. Carcase Construction
6. Drawer Construction
7. Drill Press Jigs
8. Tool Comparisons of Different Manufacturers
 - a. Routers
 - b. Finish Sanders
 - c. Rough Sanders
 - d. Drills/Drivers
 - e. Planers
 - f. Plate Joiners
 - g. Lathes

9. Face Plate Turning & Lathe Chucks
10. Frame & Panel Const.
11. Gluing and Clamping
12. Hand-Held Router Tech.
13. Inlay, Marquetry & Intarsia
14. Making Gunstocks
15. Finishing
16. Other Crafts
 - a. Pottery Throwing
 - b. Enameling
 - c. Basketry & Gourds
 - d. Stained Glass
 - e. Paper Making & Marbling
17. Sharpening Curved Blades
18. Shop Safety
19. Tenons, Splines & Dowels
20. Toys of all Types
21. Dust Collection
22. Photographing your work
23. Router Table Techniques
24. Other So State:

B. In the past, do you feel that members or guests have presented the best programs?

- Members
 Guests

C. Would you be agreeable to do a 40 to 50 minute program or a 10 to 15 minute partial program with other members at a future meeting?

40-50 minutes Yes No

Subject _____

10-15 minutes Yes No

Subject _____

D. Would you like to propose another member of the guild present a program which you know that member has demonstrated skill in doing?

Name _____

Subject _____

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