

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XII NUMBER 7

JULY 1994

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Newsletter Editor Sanders advised me to be short-winded this month (short-pencilled, that is) because of the space taken for the two forms that are included in this issue. I am quite happy to comply.

Please do fill out the forms that he referred to. One is for entering the annual show, and there are instructions elsewhere on how to do so (and I do hope you will). The second is a questionnaire intended to get some ideas from you on the conduct of the Toys-for-Tots program. We will be kicking off that effort with the September meeting and need your input. Again, there is a short article accompanying the questionnaire and instructions for responding.

I hope everyone has been crowding into Acton's Hardware to spend money and read the revised by-laws that are published in our library windows. We will be voting on the new organizational regulations at the next meeting.

You will have another opportunity to reserve a bus seat and purchase registration to the Atlanta Woodworking Show for \$15 at the next meeting. Bus departs at 6:00 AM on Thursday, August 25 with return that evening. An additional amount will be collected when we board the bus—I expect that to be \$10 if there are sufficient travelers.

We are also considering a trip to Powermatic at McMinnville, Tennessee in the second half of October. This is farther afield that we have gone before and the bus trip will be more expensive as well as longer on the road. John Parker will pass a tablet around at the next meeting to get an idea of

who and how many are interested in the trip. A bus seat shouldn't be more than \$30.

The Taunton Press, publishers of *Fine Woodworking*, have called for submissions for tool boxes that you may be proud of. Here's a chance to get published. See me at the next meeting for details.

Additionally, *American Woodworker*, the magazine published by Rodale Press, will pay the guild \$5.00 for every subscription that members take. I subscribe and feel it's one of the better woodworking magazines. They publish 7 issues per year and the cost is \$19.95. Make a little money for the guild and enjoy the magazine.

If you attended the June meeting, you heard Frank Jones talk of how entering the annual show improves your woodworking skills. The mechanism is being more careful and planning the outcome of what you are doing. It's like the title of that new book by Jim Tolpin, "Measure Twice, Cut Once." In any case, I hope you are well along with a project of which you will be proud. Your show committee which consists of Richard Brewer, Chairman, Jerry DeVenny, Sterling Brewer, Fred Baker, Mike Key and Ed Ramsey met with the Sloss Furnaces folks yesterday, and plans are coming right along. We will have some glassed-in lighted cases for displaying some of the smaller items in the theater. Sloss is going to rent us a tent this year to keep the demonstrations out of the sun and away from the yodelers—that will help. Fred and Mike will be in touch with you to volunteer for demos in the near future.

Keep those show-and-tells acoming. See you on July 14.

Ed Sheriff

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, gang, it's that time of year again. Summer is officially here, which means that we are coming up on one of our organization's biggest events, the annual gallery show. Once again the show is to be held at the Sloss Furnace Gallery, who have been so accommodating to us in the past. Set-up is slated for August 15 and take-down on August 26th. We are also planning to have our demonstration booth at the Kudzu festival again this year, as it seemed to be so well received last year. Also, we have the directors of the Hoover Public Library coming out to the show, and we will be discussing the possibility of extending the show into their facility. Craig Nutt of Northport, Alabama has agreed to serve as the judge again this year. He judged the show a few years ago, and he is probably our state's most famous woodworker, having been published many times in several national magazines.

Our show keeps getting better every year, and certainly a large factor is that more of our members are participating each year. More participants in the show bring a broader diversity in the types of work displayed, which in turn makes the show more interesting and impressive over all. I'm sure there are still a few in our midst who would like to enter their work, but they are afraid their work wouldn't stand up to that of Ivan Kronberg, Dale Lewis, Frank Jones, Ed Sheriff and their ilk. But, you know, that competition will do wonders for improving your technique. If you know that your project is likely to be displayed next to that

of some of our more accomplished craftsmen, then you'll likely take that extra time to make sure that your joints fit just so, that any cross grain in your sanding is cleaned up and that your finish is the best that you can achieve at your skill level. Whether your piece wins an award or not, you will have gotten the real satisfaction that your piece was very well made, and your best effort to date. Then perhaps next year, fueled by the memories of past successes, you'll come in and sweep up several of those ribbons. Who knows, one of us might even take that Peoples Choice award away from Ed Ramsay one of these years.

So partners, let's get those saws to whirring, make those chips fly, and whip out the Watco to polish up on our best work yet for the big 1994 show. We'll show this town what woodworking is all about.

Richard Brewer

NEXT PROGRAM

JULY 14, 1994 • 7:00 PM

We are pleased to announce our Vice President and Program Chairman, Richard Brewer, has persuaded one of our favorite woodworkers, Fred Baker, to present a special—and specialized—program. If you attended the open house and buffet at THUSTON'S recently, you saw the manufacturer's representative demonstrate the JOINTECH MACHINE, an I.P.M. (Incremental Positioning Machine). It is a special device for attachment to your router bench and with it you can make the most outstanding dovetails never before possible. This machine actually makes making decorative dovetails look easy. You have seen these pretty dovetails, in magazines, where the basic wood used was a light color, such as maple, and each dovetail appears to be lined with walnut or some darker wood. Well, you are going to see this magic

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.

performed before your eyes by Fred, himself. Come early and get a front seat.

LAST PROGRAM — JUNE 1994

What a delightful program. Jack Winslett, owner of Winslett Millworks talked, not about millwork, but about building airplanes—that fly—that he flies. We learned that the wings of the WWII planes, at least many of them, were made of poplar or yellow pine wood. The wings were veneered with 1/16" mahogany plywood with poplar core, and a sheet of it costs some \$200. The fuselage was usually tubular steel covered with Dacron cloth. It is necessary to steam bend the plywood covering around the leading edge of the wings because of the sharp angle of the bend. An overlapping of the plywood is called a scarf joint, and where the lap occurs it is leveled by hand with a rasp. Mr. Winslett actually talked in soft reverent tones when discussing his favorite airplane, the BELLANCA. He told of purchasing a 1971 Bellanca which had been setting up for some seven years in an Atlanta airport and how much work he and another man had to do to get the machine flying so they could get it to Birmingham. This is Jack's hobby, not his profession, but we began to assess him and his knowledge about building airplanes along the lines of being just about as proficient at building airplanes as making millworks. We thoroughly enjoyed this presentation and appreciate his coming.

IN MEMORIUM

We regret the necessity of announcing the death of Oscar Griffith, a long time and faithful member. A thank-you note has been received from his family for our response to his death.

DOOR PRIZE

When the attendance was counted and the magic number applied to the list of names, George Shoppert won the gift certificate good for whatever he might want at Acton's as long as it doesn't cost more than \$15.

ACTON'S CHECK

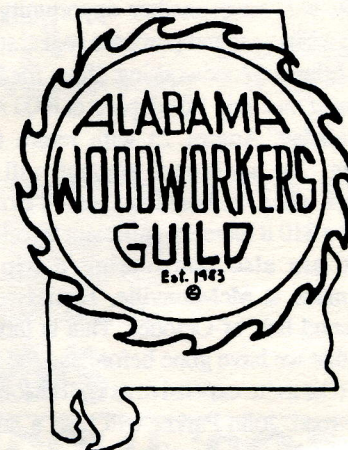
One again, we have received a check from ACTON'S donating the profit they made on purchases by Guild members at their store. We appreciate very much this gesture toward us by Acton's.

WOODWORK MAGAZINE

Imagine our surprise when we opened up our August 1994 issue and on page 62 found our President, Ed Sheriff, has a full page spread of some of his exquisitely crafted pieces.

SHOW AND TELL

It doesn't seem possible that a month went by without anyone bringing anything to share with the rest of us. Please don't let this happen again for this is about the most liked part of our meetings. Bring your things and share what you are doing with us.



TELEVISION SHOW

Thanks to Nelson Brooks for this information. The Alabama Public Television (Educational Channel) has no plans to carry a new TV woodworking show that is being carried in other cities. It is called The American Wood Shop and the craftsman is Scott Phillips. We are asking our Guild members to call APT and ask them to carry this new show — the telephone number is 328-8756. It will only take a minute to make the call and if enough of us do so they might start carrying it. Then we would have one in addition to Norm Abrams on Saturday night.

THE SHOW

There is a lot more elsewhere in the NEWSLETTER about our August SHOW, but we thought you might be interested to know that both FINE WOODWORKING and WOODWORK have our SHOW listed under "events" in their most recent issues. They list shows like ours, and others, so if the traveling public would like to stop in the city of a show and see it, they will know where and when it is going on.

OUR CHRISTMAS TOY PROGRAM

For many years the Alabama Woodworkers Guild has had some type of activity to help the "Toys For Tots" program at Christmas time. This has ranged from building items that were sold at auction and the proceeds given to "TFT" to our present program of making high quality toys and other items and giving them to various "TFT" groups and The Childrens Hospital. I feel our success has been well below this group's capability with only 30 to 35% member participation. The following survey is to help the board of directors know how you feel about our participation if the TFT and Childrens Hospital program.

Please fill out and return to:

Ben Neighbors
1129 Columbiana Rd.
Birmingham, AL 35209

1. Do you participate in the Toys for Tots/Childrens Hospital program?
 Yes No
2. Do you think the program is worthwhile? Yes No
3. What should the club do to improve this program?

4. Please give any changes that would cause you to participate in this type program.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING ENTRY BLANK

Exhibit space for your woodwork is preplanned. Therefore, the approximate dimensions in inches of each piece should be listed, as well as whether it should be exhibited on a table (pedestal), floor or wall. Because of the planning involved for accommodating each piece in a designated space in as pleasing a manner as possible, late entries cannot be accepted. It will also be helpful in planning to list the category (Contemporary Furniture, Traditional Furniture, Turnings, Carvings, Accessories, Toys and Hand-made Tools) of the piece and the level (Intermediate or Advanced) of your work. Entry blank is below:

ENTRY BLANK - WOODWORKERS' ANNUAL SHOW AUGUST 15-26, 1994

All woodworkers entering the show should complete this form and mail it to Sterling Brewer, 1806 Thornton Place, Birmingham, AL 35226 so that it is in his hands no later than Thursday, August 11. They may also be delivered to the July or August meeting. If you are interested in selling your entries, we will put your telephone number on the identification tag that will identify your entry in the show. Additionally, you may want to display your entries at the Hoover Library following the show. Please indicate below whether you want either or both of those options.

WHAT IS IT?	DISPLAY ON TABLE, FLOOR OR WALL	DIMENSIONS (L x D x H)	CATEGORY, & LEVEL
-------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------

- | | | | |
|----|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Are you interested in selling your entries? Yes No If yes, what is your phone number? _____

Are you interested in displaying your entries at Hoover Library? Yes No Underline those pieces above.

Member's Name _____ Date _____

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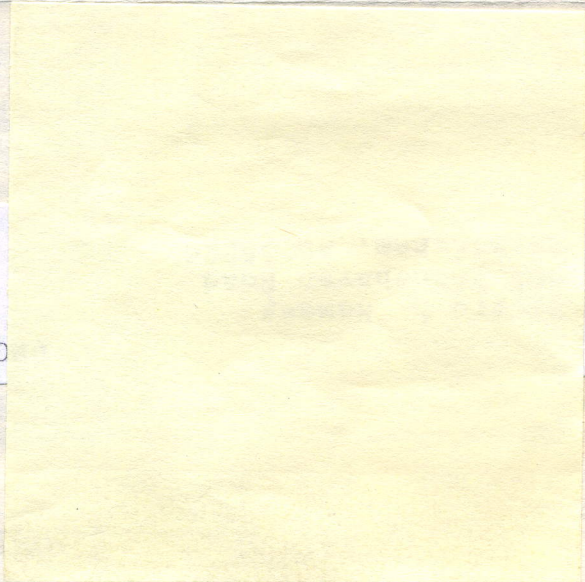
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8 TO 6 M-F — 7 to 12 Sat.



The Alabama Woodworkers Guild
P. O. Box 506
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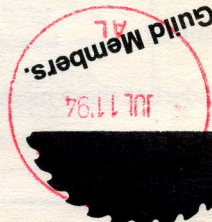
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