

GuildNews

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GUILD HAPPENINGS

Yessiree Bob—it's time for me to get my ducks in a row—literally. This is the time of year I've pledged to building toy ducks—at least until I get them right. Can't wait for Toy Night—It's amazing with what all you come up with. A group of adult woodworkers turn into three year olds. All that, and more, at our next meeting.

Note: Our next meeting is November 14 not November 7 as I published last month. Counting to two always give someone who thinks in binary trouble. (Just a little inside humor—very little!)

On to the Guild Happenings.

November 14 -Toys For Tots RoundUp.

Time to bring in all those wonderful toys you've been producing. Also there will be a continuation by John Tow on Finishes. He will be finishing off the finishes.

Finishing a Wooden Boat

by Charlie Ard

When I coerced Steve into taking the job as editor I promised to help him by writing articles about woodworking. Steve has reminded me of that promise and held me to it repeatedly, even when I could think of nothing to write, so if you are tired of reading my stuff you have only him to blame. When I was casting around for something to write this month I thought about what Ernest Hemingway said—when he could not write he went fishing. So, at great personal risk and with the best interest of the guild at heart, here's what I did:

My wife, myself, and four friends arranged a charter of the motor vessel Enterprise, owned and operated by Captain Kirk (what else could he name it) out of Destin, Florida. M.V. Enterprise is 48 ft. long, 14 ft. wide, weighs 28 tons and is built entirely of juniper (known on the east coast as eastern white cedar). Not

evil glass fibers or smelly herbs but honest lumber, caulked with cotton. In her first 37 years her only affliction has been one wormy plank. The captain believes she will last another 37 years with a little care and I don't doubt it, looking at the workmanship.

Early Saturday morning before daylight we left the dock and headed out into the gulf. On the way out I thought about Isaac Walton's "soulful murmur of the bird and brook" as I listened to the "murmur" of the two big Detroit diesels while standing

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This year is almost over and this is the last letter I will be writing as president. It has been a lot of fun the past two years and I would like to thank everyone for all your help and support. I could not have done it without you. Next year looks to be better than ever and your new officers will need your continued support.

For all those who weren't at the October meeting, the shirts and jackets are in. Walter Barnett has them, so see him at the next meeting. Walter has informed me that we can order again at the same price if we order twelve or more. If enough people are interested, we plan to order more.

Toys, toys, toys. That's what we need at the November meeting. Our annual Toys for Tots drive is upon us. Please bring in as many toys as you can. If your toys are finished in time, you can bring them to the Christmas party. Many thanks to everyone making toys this year. Toys for Tots is a worthwhile project that we should be proud to be a part of.

The Christmas party is Saturday, December 14—the Second Saturday of the month. It will be held at the Helena United Methodist Church on county road 17 in Helena. Come and bring your favorite dish and join in the fun.

Walter Barnett and the nominating committee have come up with a great list of nominees for this year's

officers.

They are:

President Dan Browning
Vice President Dale Lewis
Secretary treasurer -
Newsletter editor Leonard Sanders
Board of Directors - Paul Mancill and Richard McRee

Please come and cast your vote.

See you at the meeting

Mike

under a driftwood sign that read "the Lord does not subtract from man's allotted span the time spent fishing", attributed to Saint Peter but I don't know the verse. I interpret that rule to include the time spent planning the trip, driving down, fishing, driving back and telling the truth about it later.

As we are catching our bait, the first light reveals that we are floating on liquid crystal, so clear I can see the bait fish 20 ft down. Every time the exhaust pipe on my side rolls under water it throws up a great cloud of spray that the first rays of the sun sparkle into a tiny rainbow that ends right at my feet. I know it's going to be a fine day and we are going after king mackerel, one of the best fighters in the gulf.

We get to our fishing spot and put out the lines in much anticipation but nothing happens. We troll for a while and my mind begins to wander. Dianne has been rolled out of bed far too early and her eyelids begin to get heavy as she sits in the fighting chair, holding a rod the size of a broom handle with a reel the size of a boat winch.

A silver streak cuts the surface of the water at 90 mph and jumps in the air with Dianne's bait. She is jerked out of the chair and

GOOD WOOD NEIGHBOR

Q&A

Kenny Hall of Lake Woodworks in Verbena (that's just south of Clanton for you NonVerbenites) has walnut, cherry & pecan for sale. All kiln dried. You can contact Kenny at 205 755-5268.

20% Off Sharpening for Month of November at Thuston's.

Bo is giving Guild Members 20% off tool sharpening for November. You may have to remind him, but it would be a good time to sharpen all those blades and bits that got dull doing Toys for Tots.

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 PM at Acton Moulding & Supply Co. Information concerning the Guild may be secured by writing P.O. Box 506, Helena AL 35080 or calling Steve Onisick at (205) 942-8075.

runs to the back of the boat hollering for help. I hold her rod while she cranks as hard as she can, but the line is going out faster than I can believe. We are both being yanked around like we've hooked a Soviet submarine. The fish then decides to run toward the boat and Dianne winds furiously to take up the slack. As soon as it sees the boat it's back out with another 200 yards of line. Finally the fish is close enough to gaff and it's a big king (over 3 ft. long). Dianne is exhausted and her arms are plenty sore but she is now wide awake. Bream fishing will never be the same after this.

Many more fish are caught this day but none more exciting than the first (and none in excess of the legal limit). On the way back I convince all aboard that a boat is the highest and best use of a tree (possibly I have expressed that feeling before). And here's how one of my fish was caught:— the mate put the bait on my hook and let it out behind the boat. A fish bit just as he was locking the reel and he set the hook. He then handed me the rod and I reeled it in. He gaffed the fish and put it in the well and later cleaned it.

I realized I was finally doing something the EASY WAY!

Some Words from a Departing Newsletter Editor
by Steve Onisick

When Charlie asked me to be newsletter editor, I thought all was in place and quiet on the work front. Then 2 out of our group of 3 programmers decided to go into business for themselves. Things have been and are still a whole lot busier than I druther. I have tried to get something interesting, informative and a little innovative out to the Guild. I have not always succeeded. Thanks to the good members who contributed fine articles like Charlie Ard, John Tow, Ed Sheriff—we had something to give you. I about ran bone-dry on Tool tips and the help from experts like Charlie Brown was appreciated. I have also learned during the past year that if I had my druthers, I'd be in my garage doing woodwork rather than on my computer writing about it. I know you'll be in good hands with Leonard. I will be more than happy to contribute an article upon occasion like Easter and

Christmas. I do love the Guild and the fine friends I've acquired and look forward to being an enthusiastic Guild participant.

The Alabama Woodworker's InterNet Connection
by Steve Onisick

No two people ever do the same job the same way. When I took over as newsletter editor, I brought with me a background in computers. It's how I earn my living—I'm a programmer. Well unbeknownst to some of you, the person who had been doing the layout of the paper was my old boss and friend from BellSouth, Dan White. Well, we figured that two computer guys could figure a better way to get to the press than running down to Riverchase Print and Copy to exchange paper.

Dan and I tried a few communications from our homes and concluded we didn't have the right software to make this easy. It was kind of nerve-racking. So we hit on a solution of using email through the InterNet—Cyberspace. Dan has an internet address on America Online

(danhwhite@aol.com). So I complete the text at home. Dial into my office computer where I can send internet email. I simply attach a Microsoft Word Document to my email and let Dan do the rest.

My fingers do get awful tired sometimes—ah life in the fast lane.

The Guild Officers

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Vice President and Program Chairman:
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Secretary/Treasurer:
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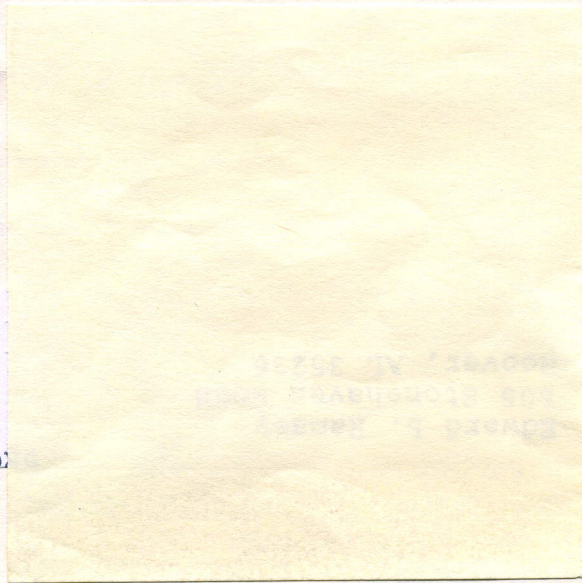
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