

GuildNews

VOLUME XVI

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JANUARY 1998

President's Letter

Happy New Year—I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season and Santa Claus brought you all those special woodworking tools on your wish list.

I'm really looking forward to 1998 as a year of continued growth for the Woodworkers Guild—that is, increased membership, and a variety of programs, and workshops as well as continued fellowship with a great group of woodworkers. The January 8th meeting should be a great start. I expect the program to be very interesting and educational.

If you missed our annual Christmas party you missed a great time and a great kickoff for the holiday season. The attendance was one of the best ever, and, of course the food was wonderful. Following dinner we had some great music and gave away lots of "goodies" in our drawing. A big thanks to Ronnie for donating a number of real nice items to be given away. Also, a big thanks to Ronnie and Sue for helping put the party together. Their contribution to the guild continues to be invaluable.

It's hard to say enough about the 1997 toys program—over 1400 toys contributed! This kind of effort puts a smile on lots of "little faces" and certainly is a tribute to you—members of the Woodworkers Guild and to the hard work and effort put forth by Pete Jensen.

Last, but not least—just a reminder that January is the time to pay your 1998 dues.

See you January 8, 1998,

Dan

*Next Program—
January 8, 1998 • 7:00 PM*

Charlie Ard, our Vice President and Program Chairman for 1998, is starting the year off with a bang. He has secured the presence of Dean Black, the ultimate in professional woodworkers. Dean has visited our meetings many times and has presented our program several times. He likes to say he feels like a member of our Guild, and that is all right with us. Dean has also acted in the capacity of judge of a couple of our annual SHOWS and has always done a fine job of it. We, as a Guild, have also visited his shop and studio in Springville at least twice. So, we are not having a stranger in our midst for the January meeting. As for what kind of program he will be presenting, that is not known at the time of this writing. Charley says he has told Dean there will be any machine he needs if he wants to demonstrate something. By the way—if you attended the barbeque supper at Thuston's last year, Dean was demonstrating turning on a new POWERMATIC LATHE out in the main part of the store. No matter

what Dean chooses to do for us, it will be informative and entertaining.

Christmas Party

There were several of you who didn't make the party. Well, you missed a great evening. The food was superb and there was no lack of it. After dinner the program began with Debbie Browning singing Jesus Bambino, a universally popular Christmas composition. Debbie is a most talented soloist having been trained early in life and was a runner-up in the Miss Alabama contest a few years ago. This was the cultured part of the music. Then came Leonard with the uncultured part with his song sheets and corny jokes, and in spite of him the group seemed to enjoy singing the songs we all enjoy at Christmas. Then came the distribution of the gift certificates to those members who participated in making toys this year. After that there were quite a few gifts from Ronnie and Sue Acton drawn by lottery. We surely appreciate the Actons and their contributions and support to our Guild. The party ended with exclamations by everyone that it was the best party we have ever had.

Toys for Children

The year 1997 was the best year ever with respect to the quantity and the quality of the toys. It is absolutely amazing what you guild members can do with both scraps and nonscraps when making your toys. The quantity this year surpasses all previous years, and that takes in some fourteen years. The number produced this year was 1,446 toys by 48 of our members. One of those 48 member participants is Virgil Rice. Virgil has, for the last three years, been unable to attend either the November meeting or the Christmas party but has produced more than his ten toys each year and had someone bring them to the Christmas party. He is an inspiration to the rest of us, and we wonder why the other 100 of us didn't do as well or much. Three of our members met or exceeded 100: John Farmer 141, Robert Moore 101 and Elsie Baker 100. (Too bad Fred couldn't do as well.) The representatives of both Children's Hospital and University Hospital were at the November meeting to transport the toys to the hospital. Accompanying the University Hospital representative was Linda Phillips, daughter of Dot and Harold Phillips, whom we could not do without in the running of the Guild. The University Hospital presented a plaque of appreciation to our Guild for our toy contributions, for which we are all justly proud. A picture of the presentation will be in the February GUILD NEWS. Included in this newsletter is a collage of some of the toys brought to the November meeting and to the

Christmas party. Last year is behind us now, and it is time to begin thinking about 1998 so let's get to it.

We must pause here to express our appreciation to Pete and Alice Jenson for the time and effort they put into our Toys program last year. There were many hours and days devoted to it, but if you say anything to them about what they have done they both respond with what an inspiration it was to be associated with the program. We applaud you and thank you for making our Guild a little better known and appreciated.

Dues—Dues—Dues

We can't make it more clear than that. It has been our practice for lo these many years now to expect all members to pay their dues for the year in January. You must know we operate on the dues received in January all year and by the end of the year it is about all gone. Please be prepared to pay your \$25 to Charley Yerby at the next meeting. Thanks.

Dale Lewis

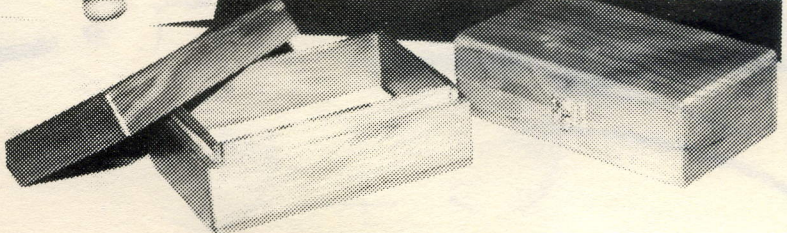
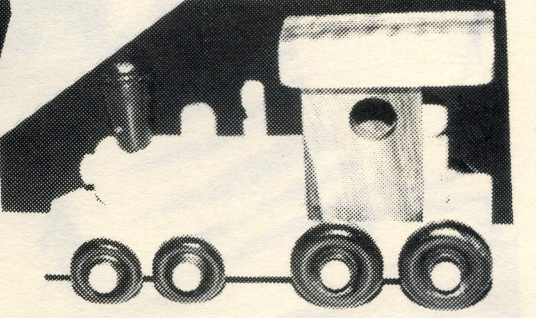
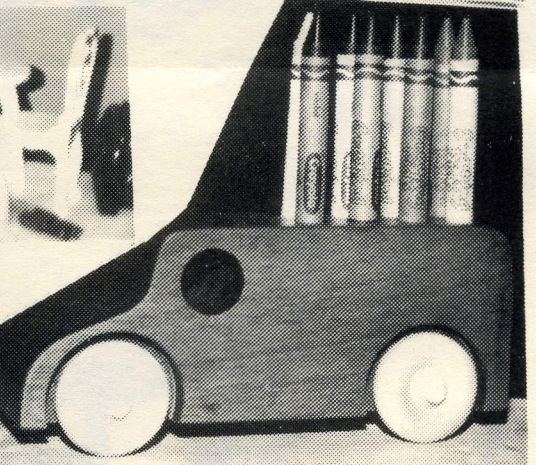
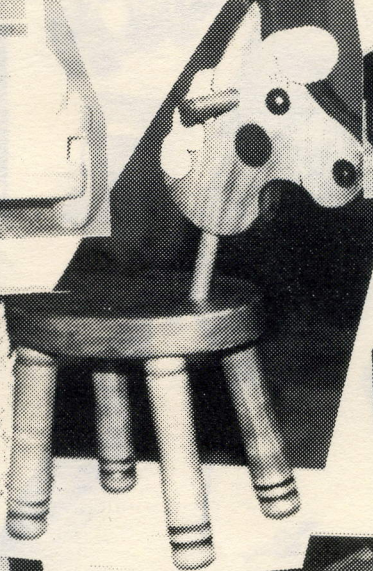
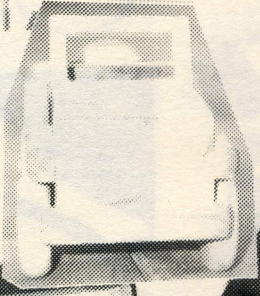
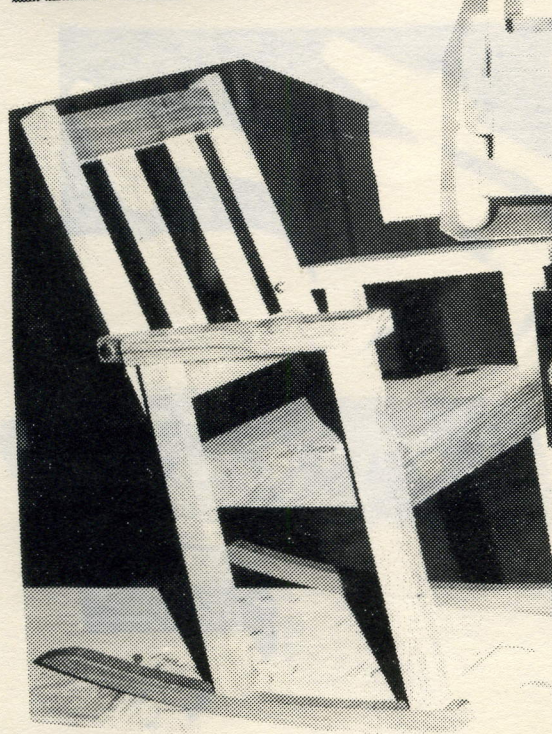
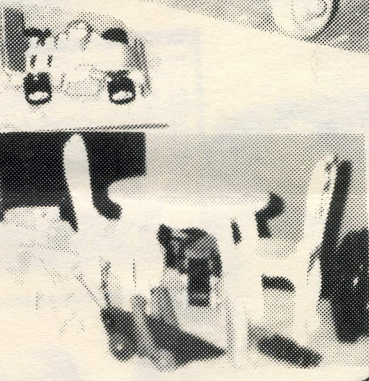
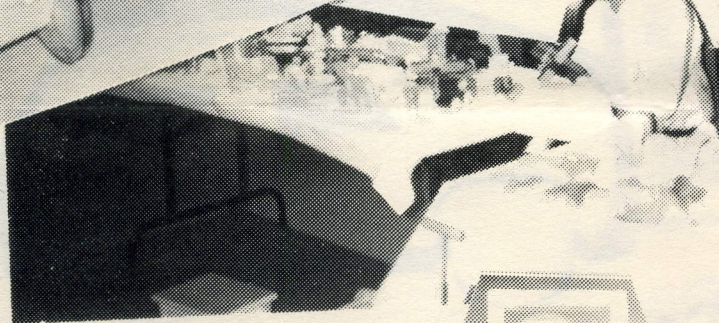
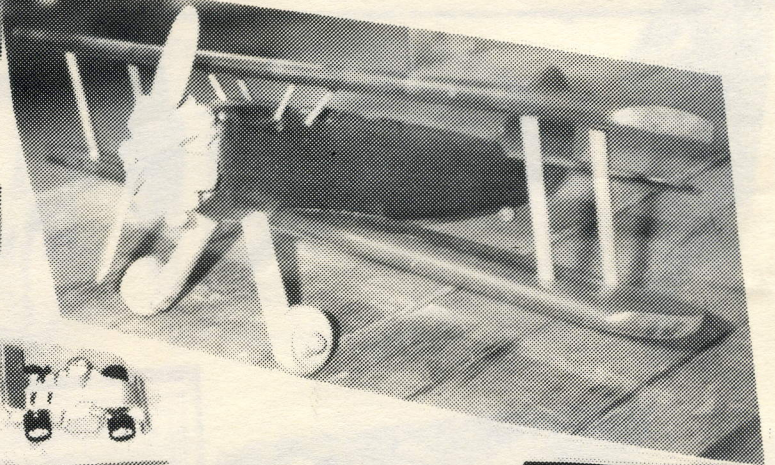
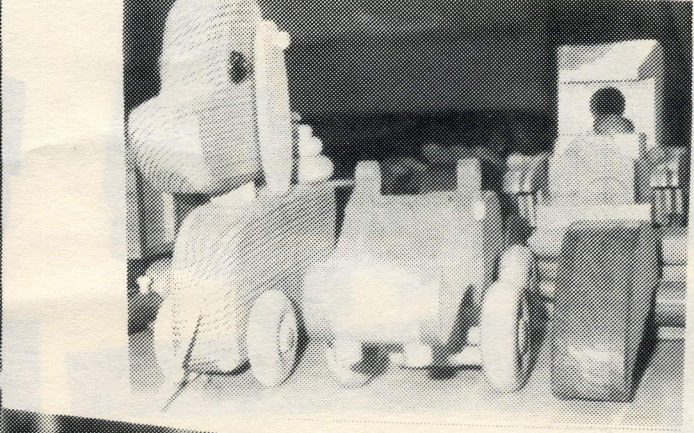
Will the honors never cease? We certainly hope not. Dale has done it again and we are appropriately proud of him. The Alabama State Council of the Arts has awarded a \$5,000 individual fellowship to him in recognition of the quality of his work and his commitment to the State. Some of you may not

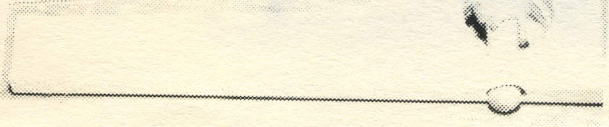
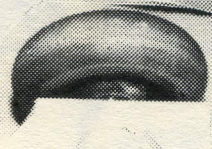
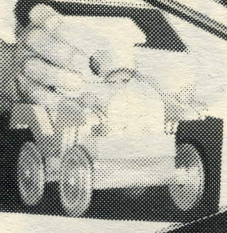
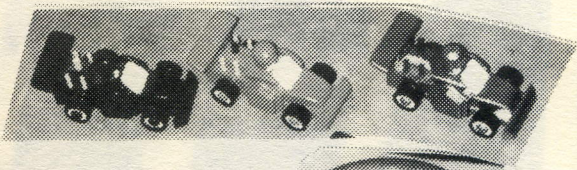
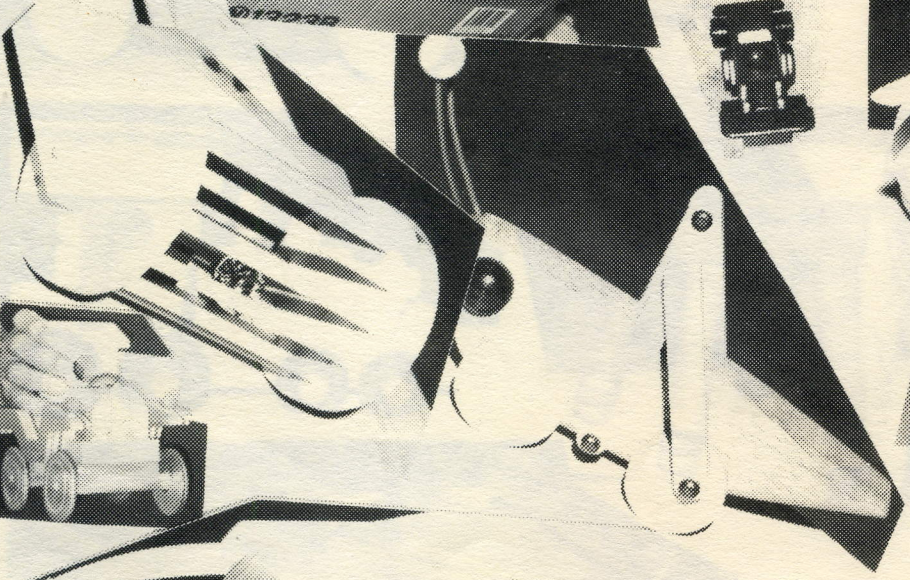
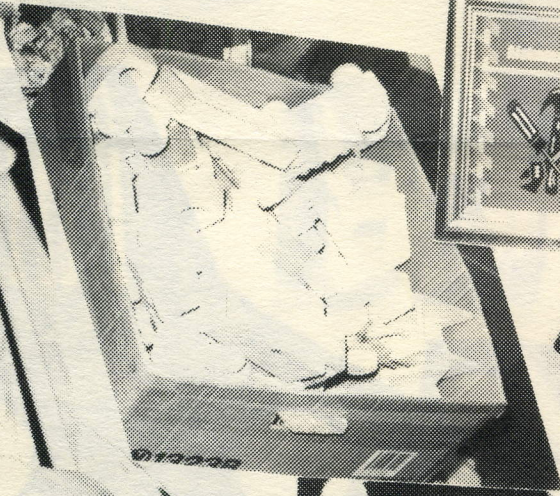
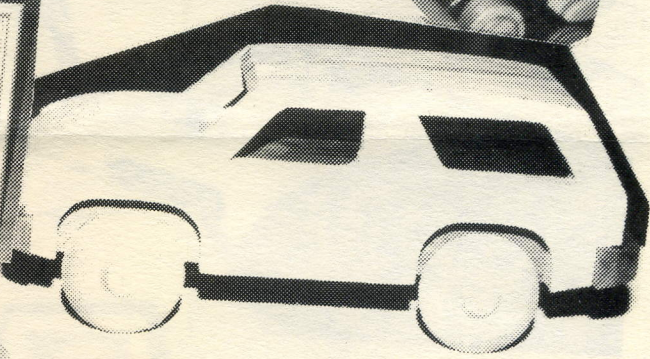
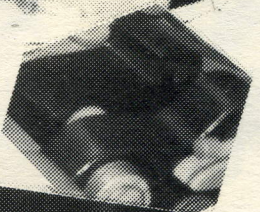
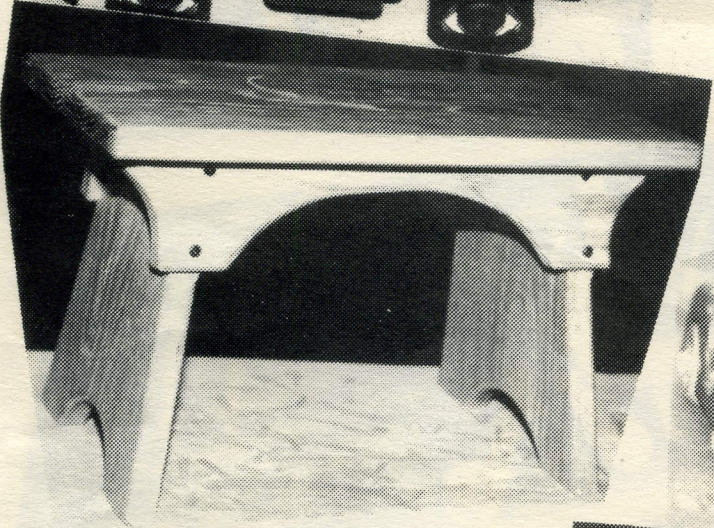
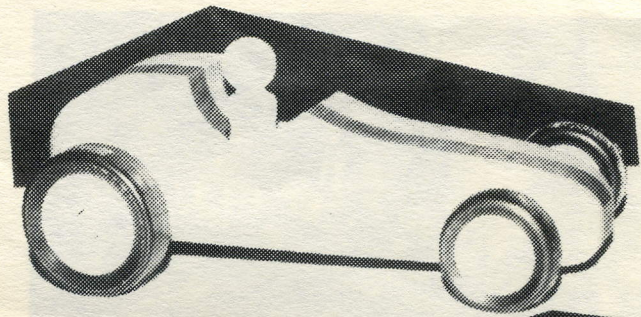
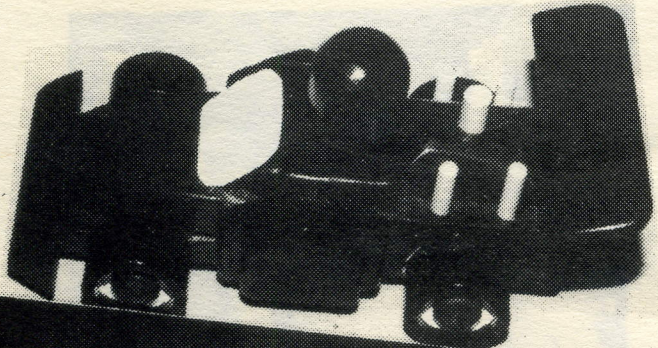
know Dale is a full-time woodworker whose designs have been praised for their unusual combination of whimsy, superb craftsmanship and functional purpose. He has said that the natural forms, both plant and animal, are frequently the basis for his inspiration. Dale took "Best of Show" at the Kentuck Festival last year, at a festival in Manteo, N.C., at a Fair in Mobile and at a Festival in Pensacola. He also was one of 34 finalists, from 600 applicants, where chairs were juried at THE CHAIR SHOW II in Asheville, NC. So, my fellow Guild members we have an outstanding member in our midst and if you have a chance, tell him how much we appreciate him.

Ed Sheriff

While we are on the subject of members who are extraordinary, you should know that Ed had a published article in AMERICAN WOODWORKER in the December 1997 issue. Ed designed and built a dust collector utilizing three furnace filters. It is so well designed, just as is everything this gentleman designs, the article gave a

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narrative description of it, a picture of it, and a graphic drawing of it giving dimensions, etc. This is the third time he has been so honored. The first, we think, was his marble maze; the second was his winning the AMERICAN WOODWORKER of the year in 1996 together with a \$1,000 prize, and the third was his dust collector. Congratulations, Ed.

The Library

Don't forget we have a really fine collection of woodworking books and magazines. You need only to ask Frank Jones to assist you in finding material on whatever is on your mind. This fellow is imminently qualified to find you the publication you want or he probably can and will advise you personally from his own experience. It is not often Frank is not at our meetings, so if you aren't sure who he is just ask around and he will be pointed out to you. We are certainly blessed to have as many quality woodworking magazines sent to us free of charge each month so

take advantage of them. Check one or two books or magazines out and go home and have some quality time reading them.

1997 Officers and Directors

We don't think we should go too far into the new year without pausing to thank these people for nourishing and engendering our Guild last year. These officers, Dan Browning, Dale Lewis and Charles Yerby did an outstanding job of seeing to it that we have and will continue to have a Guild of exceptional proportions. The directors also contributed to our success and to all these fellows—THANK YOU.

where we can hold our woodworking classes, a place to purchase tools and supplies, and coffee and cookies at each meeting. We don't know what we would do without them, and we want them to know we appreciate it and hope we can bring some measure of success and reputation to their business. We also want them to know we stand ready to be of any service to them that we are capable of. Before we leave this subject, we need to say a word about Charles Wood, the accommodating young man behind the counter at Acton's. We have never heard anything but praise from our members about the manner in which they were served and treated by him. We wish him success and contentment in his new venture.

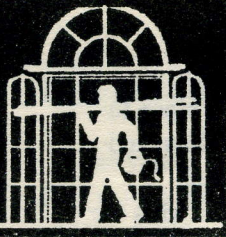
The Actons

We have mentioned these lovely people earlier in the newsletter but feel we should say a thing or two more about them. Sue and Ronnie have been with us since the beginning, in 1983. They have provided us with a rent-free meeting place, a place

Q

Happy New Year!





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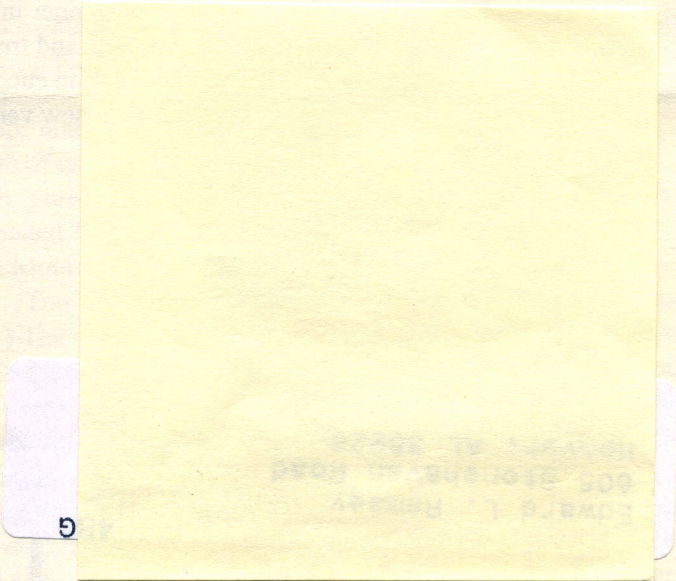
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