

GuildNews

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JULY 1998

President's Letter

Wow, what a heat spell! This kind of weather makes you want to sit back and relax in the comforts of our air conditioned home. It also makes it easy to put off starting that project for our annual show. This is especially true since most of our shops are not air conditioned. In spite of all this, I have finally started my show project. If I can avoid "Murphy's Law" it should be ready by August 15. I hope each of you are building something special for the show and will help make this our

biggest and best show ever. Details about entry forms, location, etc. are located elsewhere in the newsletter. This information will also be available in detail at our July meeting.

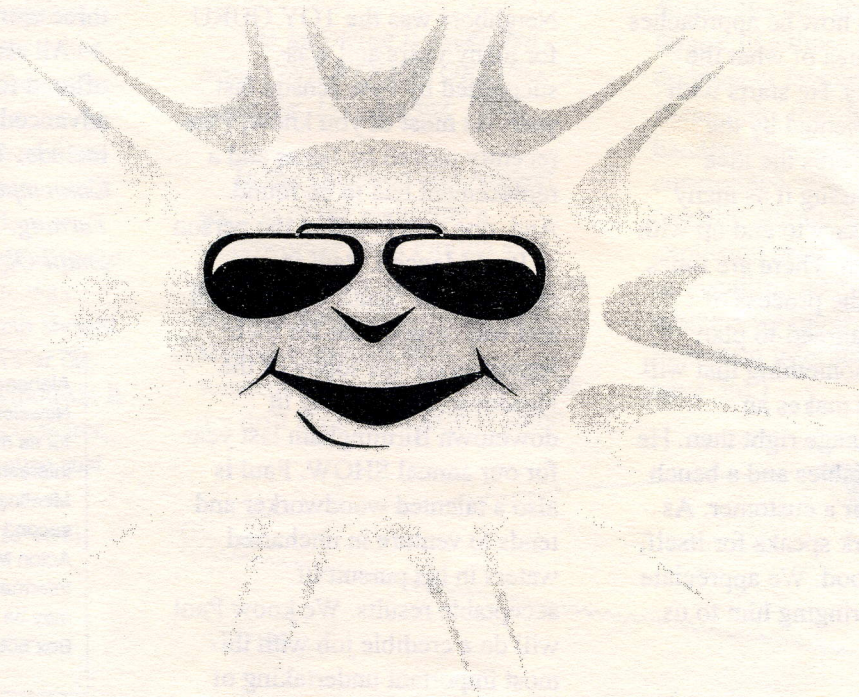
If you missed our last meeting, you missed a good one. We're also expecting a very entertaining and informative show at our July Meeting. Certainly it's hot, but a lot of effort and cost goes into scheduling speakers and demonstrations for our meeting. Your attendance and support is very important, so let's break away from

that air conditioning for a couple of hours and meet with a great group of woodworkers.

Remember to bring that "burning question" to our next meeting. I'm sure someone will have an answer during our "Question and Answer" session.

Folks at Sloss Furnace have asked us to again do woodworking demonstrations at their festival to be held on August 29. More on this at our July meeting.

See you July 9!



Next Program

July 9, 1998 • 7:00 PM

We have a little different kind of program this month. We will have Tim Tingle, a sculptor. His work is unique in that he does most of his work on logs and trees. If you are familiar with Orr Park in Montevallo you may have seen, or you may go and see some of his work in several of the living trees. He has the distinction of having carved the second longest chain from one board, 62' long (the longest is 82'). We believe and expect this to be a fascinating program. Come see.

Last Program—June, 1998

The Guild was glad to welcome again Bobby Michaelson, owner and operator of RAMWOOD, a furniture designer and manufacturer. Bobby was inspiring, as usual. He shared with us how he approaches a customer's idea of what the customer wants. He starts with the idea as presented by the customer and helps the idea evolve by changing it as many times as necessary to end up with a workable plan. There are times when he is in the process of executing the agreed-to plan when he sees something that will improve it and makes an appropriate change right then. He brought three tables and a bench he has made for a customer. As always his work speaks for itself, exceedingly good. We appreciate Charley Ard bringing him to us.

Future Programs

Charley Ard has proposed how he thinks we could form our program agenda for next year. He suggests we should showcase some of our most talented members who can and will demonstrate to the rest of us how they do their work. He suggests, too, it might be a good idea to make video tapes of the programs so we, the members, could check them out of the library and use them as a guide to making a project of our own. The idea of using our own people met with agreement.

Toys for Children

For the benefit of recent members, our GUILD has been participating in TOYS FOR TOTS or TOYS FOR CHILDREN since the second year of our existence. Ben Neighbors was the TOY GURU for many years and was succeeded by Pete Jenson last year. As most of you know, Pete recently moved to Texas and a replacement had to be found. And, one was found in the person of Paul Mancell. Paul is employed by South Central Bell and was responsible for their letting us use the lobby of the Headquarters Building in downtown Birmingham last year for our annual SHOW. Paul is also a talented woodworker and tends to venture in uncharted waters in his pursuit of acceptable results. We know Paul will do a credible job with this most important undertaking of

our GUILD. You will be hearing from him from time to time and, as always, we know you will respond.

Show Update

In an effort to encourage greater across-the-board member participation in the annual show, the Board of Directors has added a beginners division for those who don't feel their skill level is on par with intermediate or advanced. There will be no categories, as such. Ribbons will be awarded for first, second and third places to the top three entries in the beginners division.

The category *Shop Tools/Jigs* has been re-established after an absence of a couple of years. This category will be offered in skill levels of intermediate and advanced.

The category *Toys* is an open division, with awards for the top three entries.

All remaining categories are offered for intermediate and advanced skill levels. They include: *Traditional Furniture; Contemporary Furniture; Wood Turning; Wood Carving; and Small Objects.*

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.

Marvin Heinz

Why do we do a caption like that? Well, number one, Marvin won the door prize at the June meeting. And, number two, Marvin has volunteered to share with us his display of a variety of woods he has collected. There are quite a few kinds and each is labeled for your convenience.

Shop Tips

From a recent publication we read came some tips we can all benefit from. With respect to band saws - **ROUND THE BACK OF THE BLADE.** In curved cutting, the back edges of the band saw blade tend to catch in tight curves resulting in a jerky motion. Any kerf cutting will be much smoother if you carefully round the back corners of the blade while it is running. Just hold a medium silicon carbide or aluminum oxide stone against one back corner, then the other. Pull the blade guard down as low as possible to avoid this procedure becoming hazardous. Then, on another subject, we all have found using a little wax or soap will help screws go in more easily. This tip suggests wax YES, and soap NO. Soap should never be used on screws or on sticking drawers and windows. It is hydroscopic; it attracts water, or moisture, and will cause rust on screws and will cause windows and drawers to swell and bind even tighter.

Show and Tell

Ben Neighbors was kind enough to take notes of the last meeting and deliver them to me. On this topic, S & T, after naming Dale Lewis as one of the showers, he stated "Table - made with (call and ask him what kind)"; then he stated "name" after which he parenthetically stated "ask him that also." Well, we called Dale and we can now proceed with this report:

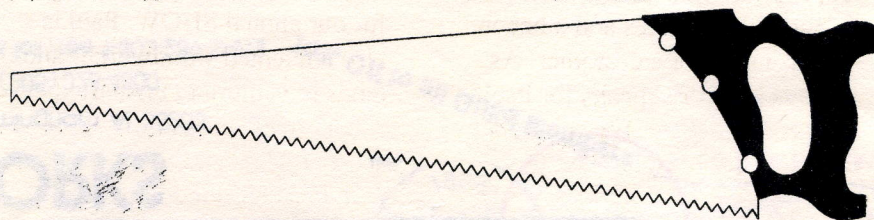
Dale Lewis Foyer Table, 14" x 50", made of Curley Burch with legs called Critters from Outer Space, and with a most common name of "Celestial Transfusion."

Lincoln Gabonik Pens - made from deer horns, Osage Orange and Coran. (pens, a very popular project lately)

The following is excerpted from FINE WOODWORKING, Issue No. 131, August, 1998:

In the Question and Answer section of the magazine a woodworker from Florida asks "As I approach the time to turn on my new dust-collection system, several questions arise. I sometimes bore holes into iron at my drill press. Is it safe to admit

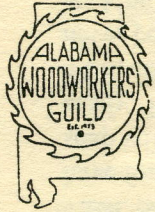
these metal filings and chips into a vacuum drop? Also, can the system be used to remove low-level solvent fumes from the shop?" Curt Corum, who is the technical sales manager of Air Handling Systems in Woodbridge, Conn. replies to this question. When setting up an air-handling system, you have to be careful to make sure that whatever it will be handling is compatible. In general, I don't recommend the mixing of unlike material in an exhaust system because it might start a fire or cause an explosion. Mixing wood with metal chips or filings, especially ones that are very hot from drilling, has the potential to create a spark, and more. When a spark comes in contact with finely divided dust particles or solvent fumes, the spark can cause the two materials to ignite. Because solvent fumes can contain flammable vapors and often have an explosive nature, they shouldn't be mixed in the average dust-collection system. Volatile fumes, like those from solvents, thinners or lacquers are highly flammable, they have to be handled by a blower that is constructed of non-ferrous metals (usually aluminum) and is explosion proof. (With so many of us installing dust-collecting systems we thought this could be important information for you to have. Ed.)



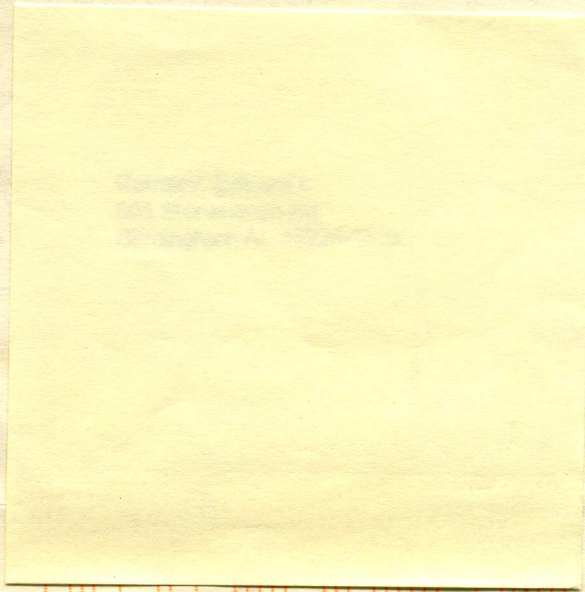
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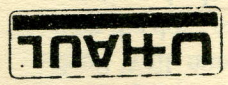


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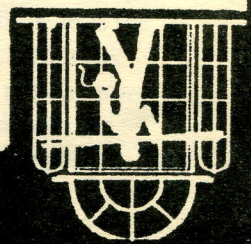
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