

GuildNews

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OCTOBER 1998

President's Letter

It's hard to believe but it's time for a new slate of officers to be presented for our November election. Mike Key is the chairman of the nominating committee and will present the nominations at the October meeting. If you're interested in one of the elected positions let Mike know. Of course, there are several other committees you can volunteer for (i.e., show, demonstrations, toys, etc.) These are not elected but are critical to the continued success of the Guild—let one of the officers or board members know if you can help.

The first three quarters of the year have been quite successful and lots of fun. It's time now however to turn our attention to the last three months of the year (election, toys program, Christmas party, etc.). This is the most exciting time of the year for me and I certainly hope it is exciting and fun for you.

Our first priority is the toys program. For you new members, and a reminder for you older members (based on years in the Guild, of course) our goal each year is for each member to build and donate at least ten toys for the Children's Hospital. These certainly do not have to be fancy and elaborate. I've seen little eyes "light up" at the sight of a toy as simple as a car cut from a block of 2 x 4 with wheels added. At any rate,

Paul Mancill will have more to say about this next week.

Just a reminder that our Christmas Party is December 10th. Make sure you mark your calendar for this important date.

See you October 8.

Dan Browning

*Next Program—
Thursday, October 8, 1998*

Since we have quite a few carvers in our GUILD, Charlie Ard thought it would be of interest to them, and the rest of us too, to have a professional carver do our show. He is Gerald Story, originally from Mobile, but now from Pell City, AL. Duck decoys have been around since Colonial days, at least, and can be found in antique shops as well as new ones in sporting goods stores. Gerald has been carving duck decoys professionally for about fifteen years, and a demonstration of his procedures should be of great interest.

*Last Program—
September 1998*

So you thought you knew all there was to know about making knives? You should have been at our last meeting. Wayne Bridges

introduced this craft to us in great detail. First off you must have a good piece of steel to make the blade from. Then it must be ground to the size and shape you want, taking care not to overheat it and thus lose the temper. When it gets hot it should be dipped in water or oil to preserve the temper. He makes delicate pocket knives and outlandish swords, so you can see the field is unlimited as to what you make. Good program.

A Generous Thanks

Even though it is a commercial arrangement we have with RIVERCHASE PRINT & COPY to print, fold, place postage on and deliver to the post office, they do such a fine job of attending to details we want to thank them for the way they take care of our GUILD NEWS. The September issue containing all those pictures was well done and we thank you, Carla.

The Show

Yes, we are still talking about our 1998 SHOW. We had 92 items entered, and of those 75 were submitted to judging. There were 37 visitors who were so moved by the 92 items, they voted on which

of the items they considered BEST OF SHOW. It is a pleasure to report that CLIFF SAXON won the voting, hands down. His curio cabinet with curved glass got most of the votes, and we are proud of him for producing such a fine piece. Congratulations, Cliff.

Nominating Committee

Yep, it's that time of year again, the time we must follow the By-Laws and seek nominations for our leadership for the next year. Mike Key has accepted the honor of Chairman of this committee, and if he calls you please accept whatever it is he asks you to do. He will be reporting his accomplishments at the October meeting, and we will vote on them at the November meeting.

Show and Tell

We had two this month. George Schoppert displayed a super streamlined car. Now this wasn't just a car it was a Presidential Limousine, and since it is Presidential it has a bed in the back end. Nice job, George. Then came our favorite Librarian, Frank Jones. Since our program was on knives he brought one he made while stationed on Guadalcanal in WW-II. The blade was made from a Japanese truck spring, the aluminum hilt and handle from a Japanese airplane and the small amount of plastic was taken from a Japanese gas mask. How's that for utilizing the materials at hand?

Door Prize

Talk about shenanigans, the drawing was completely questionable. We were surprised Harold Phillips would let himself be caught up in it. After what seemed to be an interminable period of time the lucky (?) winner was our esteemed President, Dan Browning. Need we say more?

Toys for Children

We are entering the period during which we always do a truly great job of supplying toys. Having said that its time to say time is running out for finishing our project. You may recall Dan and Leonard appeared on Pam Huff's early morning program and advertised our participation in what was known originally as Toys for Tots and which has become known as Toys for Children. Paul Mancil is our leader, and he just isn't going to let us fail. The program calls for us to have our toys ready for delivery at the November meeting when representatives will be in attendance to pack up and haul off the enormous pile of toys we always have at that meeting. If you should get sick or have some other emergency, we will accept your offerings at our Christmas party. In the September Guild News we published a list of toys and other items the hospitals would prefer to have us supply. Please refer to that Newsletter and finish your contribution promptly.

Christmas Party

What? You say? Christmas? Yes, my friends it will be here before you know it. But your officers can't wait until the day before the party to start planning. It will be held on the second Thursday night in December, the usual day of our regular meeting. Time and place will be announced later. In the meantime, if you have a connection with a hardware store, building supply business, Sears, Wal-Mart or any other place of business that sells tools or supplies that we use in our shops, please ask them to donate a sanding machine, drill, jig saw, sandpaper, screws, nails, glue, hammer, screwdriver, chisel or any of a multitude of tools and supplies we all use every day. If you remember, we have always passed out the prizes by lottery and we all look forward to it. It will enable us to continue the practice and have a great time doing it. See what you can do.

A Little Trivia

We thought you might enjoy knowing the TEN THINGS A WOODWORKER SHOULD

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.

NEVER TELL HIS WIFE OR HER SPOUSE: 1) I quit my regular job. I'm going to be a professional woodworker. 2) I'm taking my VISA card to the American Woodworker Show. 3) What do you mean, when will I

finish it? It IS finished. 4) This plunge router is for your birthday, but I'll keep it out in the shop where we can both use it. 5) Think of sawdust as a food supplement. 6) I'm done buying tools. I've got everything I need.

7) Of course you may lend my good chisels to your brother. 8) Happy anniversary, hon, this grinder will last a lot longer than flowers. 9) I'm going to the hardware store. I'll be back in just a few minutes. 10) \$1,200 for THAT? I could build it in a weekend. (Excerpted from October 1998 AMERICAN WOODWORKER)

Mr. Baker

His time he gives up freely so that other folks may learn
and it's the sound of Brubeck that he craves
he saves up oomba-goomba roots he'll probably never turn
though he has to have at least four lathes

The box joint and the dovetail in his sleep he makes
the rail and style and panel are sublime
he's perfectly familiar with how the shaker shakes
but his chair legs often wobble the first time

His benches and his boxes are of a high repute
and ribbons at the show they always win
but with a power nail gun and cartridges to shoot
he covers up a screw-up now, and then

He holds his court at Thuston's, high up in the loft
with power tools and jigs to demonstrate
but mostly they eat lunches, like piglets at the trough
and cannot understand why they gain weight

It's barbeque and hot dog, fish and enchilada
red beans and rice and corn bread
their cholesterol's so high that I think they maybe oughta
eat a pasta salad instead

His shop is stacked with power tools, higher than the bench
so what he drops he cannot even stoop for it
for gifts they cannot buy him a sander or a wrench
for every tool he owns in quadruplicate

When a volunteer is needed and no one can be found
a job without a helper or a taker
We know we won't go wanting with this gentleman around
we can always count on mister Fred Baker

One Last Thing

The following was submitted to us in hopes of getting it published. The author is unknown but the subject is well know. Read and enjoy. (See left, "Mr. Baker")

Another Last Thing

At our September meeting when our knife maker brought the program, he brought along some kits for knife making which were distributed to the membership by lottery. Again, there was a shenanigan involved since the President was again a winner. These gentlemen (?) were the lottery winners: Jack Perry, Dan Browning, Lawrence Thomas, Bob Andrews, John Farmer, Kenneth Moore, Leon Anderson and Larry Boots. You winners are expected to bring to a meeting soon the results of your knife craftsmanship.

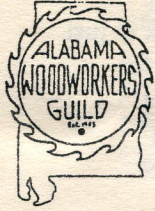
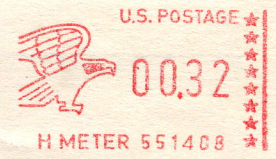
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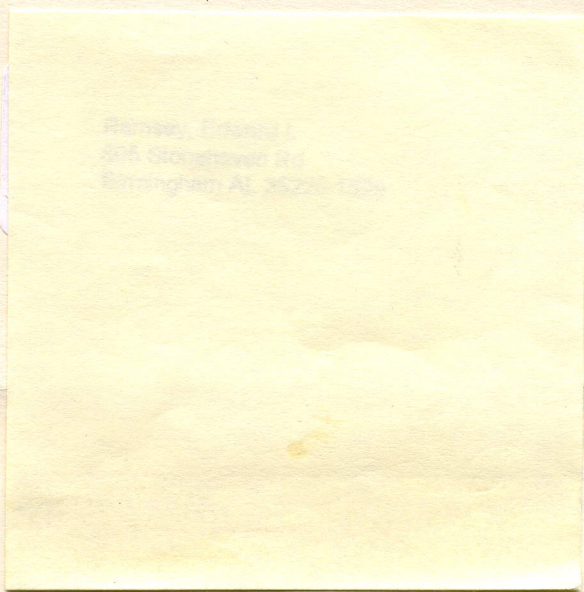
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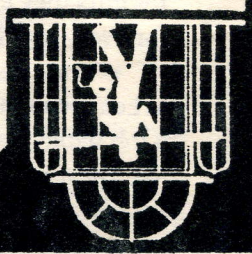
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