

Guild News

VOLUME XVIII

NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 1999

*President's Message
(Same vigorous young
President—with an inspiring
message)*

What a great day and great turnout for our first shop open house. We couldn't have asked for better weather. A total of 48 members (and visitors) showed up, drank coffee and had cake, ate lots of cookies and donuts and told a number of stories (perhaps a bit of truth to some of them). Seriously, the fellowship was great and a lot of ideas were exchanged. This was a great start to what I believe will be a great series of shop open houses. David Harvey, representative from DeWalt Tool Company was quite impressed. He never expected such a large turnout and such a show of enthusiasm for woodworking. The drawing for some shirts and a Dewalt Cooler was a fun ending to the morning.

It was wonderful to see so many visitors at our last meeting. Several were friends or neighbors of members and attended the meeting as a direct result of your invitations. These are the type actions that make our organization grow, not only in numbers but in knowledge, experience, and skills. I encourage you to continue this type effort to build and strengthen our Guild.

I'm really looking forward to our next meeting. They say "variety is the spice of life." Well, we're finally

branching out for our February 11th meeting. Lowes in Hoover (Riverchase) is hosting the meeting and DeWalt representatives from their headquarters in Baltimore will be the program. It should be a lot of fun, very interesting and educational. Plus, I understand they're bringing along some nice "goodies" as door prizes. So, make your plans to be there and bring a friend.

If you missed our last meeting you missed the "Dynamic Trio." They put on quite a show. Thanks to Fred Baker, Charlie Ard, and Mike Key. You guys may need to take that show on the road. Great job! See you February 11.

Dan

*Next Meeting -
February 11, 1999 • 7:00*

Something a little different this month. Charley Ard and President Dan have accepted an invitation from the DeWalt representative in this area to hold our meeting at the new Lowe's located on Valleydale Road right at I-65. Valleydale Road is the same as Hwy-261, so you should not have any trouble finding it. We will begin at 7:00 after some coffee and cookies like we always have at Acton's. There will be demonstrations of the DeWalt line of tools, but we have been assured this

will not be a strong-arm sales pitch. Most of us are seldom treated to free demonstrations of tools and also seldom, if ever, are afforded the opportunity to be exposed to new tools, or even old tools we might not even know exist. This should be a thoroughly interesting experience, and we know you won't want to miss it.

Last Meeting—January 1999

What a wonderful sight to look out at the turnout for the meeting. There had to be at least 75 in attendance and that should be the minimum each month when you consider the type and quality programs we have. After the usual important announcements, we got into the program. Fred Baker, a member almost from the beginning of the guild in 1983, did one of the things he does best—make dovetails on his Porter-Cable dovetail jig. The first batch dealt with a box of four sides that needed dovetailing if it were going to be a strong and attractive box. He made half-blind dovetails for this box, and as is always the case with Fred, they fit perfectly. The members gathered around the operation for a better look at what he was doing and for a better hearing of what he was saying. Being a former teacher he has the

knack of clearly and plainly explaining whatever he is doing. After a lot of oohs and aahs over how beautifully the joints fitted, the program was turned over to Mike Key. Mike is no slouch either when it comes to woodworking. Mike and Fred acted as instructors at our last woodworking classes and from all reports they had a successful class. Mike has a Leigh dovetail jig which is capable of making either half-blind or through dovetails. Since Fred had done the half-blind, Mike proceeded to demonstrate the wonders of the Leigh jig. His through 'tails were perfect and drew admiring glances from the membership. Charley Ard had brought his Porter-Cable Omnijig but time had run out for any more demonstrations. However, Fred had his Keller jig with him and quickly showed how he makes through 'tails on it. As an added attraction, Fred displayed his shop made 'tail jig he made from plans in Shop Notes and it was very well made. We appreciate Fred, Mike and Charley making preparations to do the program and going to the trouble to bring their equipment to the meeting. We are so fortunate to have quality members who not only can, but do such a great job of sharing with the rest of us mere mortals.

Member's Shop Visits

The first of our shop visits was held at President Dan's home, and there were 48 of you who made the visit. It was a great surprise to see how clean he had made the shop—made one wonder if he

does any work in it. Just kidding, of course. Dan has a liberal amount of space in his basement, having taken over the parking space of one car and the rest of the basement. He has it arranged so as to be able to flow from one machine to the next one needed with the least amount of delay, a factor all of us could do well to accomplish. The variety of tools Dan has include: router table, drill press, grinding station, radial arm saw, sliding compound miter saw, lathe, band saw, dust collecting system, drum/belt sander, planer, stationery belt sanders (2 sizes), table saw, jointer, air compressor with air tools, scroll saw, bushels of gluing clamps, numerous hand tools (powered and manual), a refrigerator (contents censored), and a television set. Now, ladies and gentlemen that is a shop. It is no wonder he is able to turn out fine entertainment centers and other cabinet works in a shop like that. There is much to learn from seeing how others do it. We can all learn from visiting these shops and we hope all of you will avail yourself of this opportunity. Oh yes, coffee, donuts and cookies were there, something we can appreciate whether or not we like the shop.

Our shop visit for February will be held at Charley Ard's home on Saturday, the 13th, and the hour and directions will be announced at our meeting on February 11th.

Hot Dog Supper in May 1999

The success of last year's hot dog supper has brought on the

desire to have a repeat performance. There will be more details about this next month but if we repeat last year's agenda there will be clowns and some form of entertainment to go with the food. Keep looking and listening.

John Jordan

Most everyone with any knowledge of woodturners knows who John is. He comes from Tennessee and is nationally recognized for his bowmaking. He has put on seminars for us at least twice in the past and to a full house each time. It is thanks to Harold Phillips and Nelson Brooks we are able to attract him to our city and state. John has books, video tapes, tools and hundreds of seminars in his background. Because of his being a turner we have invited the Alabama Woodturners, of which Nelson Brooks is President, to join us for the seminar. It is almost like magic how John can take a bowl blank and turn it into a sensible and beautiful bowl. He doesn't turn dry wood—just green (wet) wood. Sometimes the shavings will be almost up to his knees on the floor around him,

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.

LOWE'S

Knows



The *Alabama* Woodworking Guild *and*



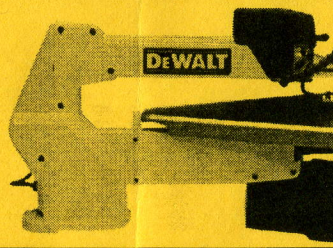
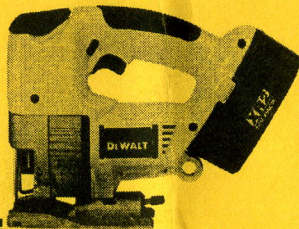
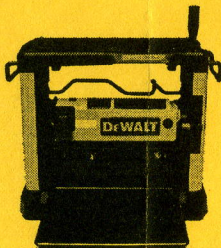
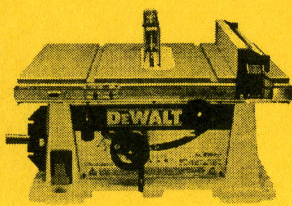
DON'T MISS THIS MONTH'S GUILD MEETING

**The Lowe's of Hoover
2100 Valleydale Road
Hoover, AL 35236
Feb. 11, 7-9:00**

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and it is fascinating how sometimes a curl will be six feet long before it breaks off. John has another plus—he gives a running narrative about what and why he is doing whatever he is doing at a given time. We expect to have a video camera set up and played on a TV screen thereby permitting everyone to follow every cut he makes. It will be a fine show and one you will not want to miss. Because professional woodworkers have to charge a fee for their appearances, we will have to extract \$40 from each of you who attends. The seminar will be held on a Saturday and will run from approximately 9:00 to 3:00 with time out for a quick lunch. More about this next month.

The Show

What, you say? Yep, and you will hear a lot more about it as the weeks roll by. We have secured the week of August 14 to 21 at the Hoover Library. Now folks, this is outstanding news. The library is the best place we have ever had for our show. Literally hundreds of people have commented to the Library as well as some of our members how much they enjoyed it. It behooves us to put our best foot forward and make the very best entries we can so our reputation will be maintained and enhanced. It is a bit trite to say it is time to get started on your projects, but it must be emphasized that those who wait until the last minute to get started will probably not get started at all. We all do our best work if we aren't being pushed to finish

something. It has been the experience of some of our members that when they saw they couldn't finish their project in time they just quit and didn't finish it at all—so the SHOW was the big loser. Select your project, secure your materials, outline your plan of attack and come up with a truly worthy project. This is the most serious side of our Guild existence. Of course the toys have a high priority too, but THE SHOW is the icing on the cake. Our projects are proof we are inspired by our regular programs and learn enough to make fine productions. Please give this serious thought and start planning your project.

Door Prize

Our monthly drawing for the door prize (\$15 gift certificate to Acton's) was won by Don Blackburn—nice going Don.

Charles Brown

We reported last month the passing of our long-time friend and member Charley Brown. You may remember we kidded him about coming right out of PEANUTS comic strip. We think the eulogy given by Jack Perry was touching, timely and praiseworthy. Jack took us back to when he joined the Guild and how Charley had welcomed him and saw to it Jack was afforded all the needed benefits available. Thanks, Jack.

For Sale

We haven't had much in this department lately so we are glad to

have this for you. RADIAL ARM SAW, 10 inch CRAFTSMAN in good condition for \$100 (the motor is worth that much). Call Roland Nelson at: 942-4661 or Home 942-1308.

Show and Tell

A long-time feature of our meetings and always one of the best. The entries were:

- Mel Brown Upholstered platformed rocking chair with wooden parts turned of red oak
- Ivan Kronberg Pedestal bowl of maple burl
- Leonard Sanders A ten-inch bowl made of sycamore; One of a set of saw horses made of 1 x 4 material and hinged so as to fold and store easily

Recognition

It was difficult, but after circling this fellow a few times and verifying that he was who we thought he was, lo and behold there was Ed Ramsey right there in our midst. Nice to see you Ed, and we hope this means you're back in the fold again.

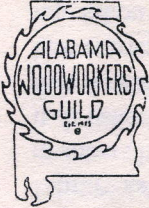
Treasurer's Report

Charles Yerby reports we finished the year with a little money in the treasury. The Board of Governors knows how we managed this finish by how hard it is to get a few bucks out of Charley.

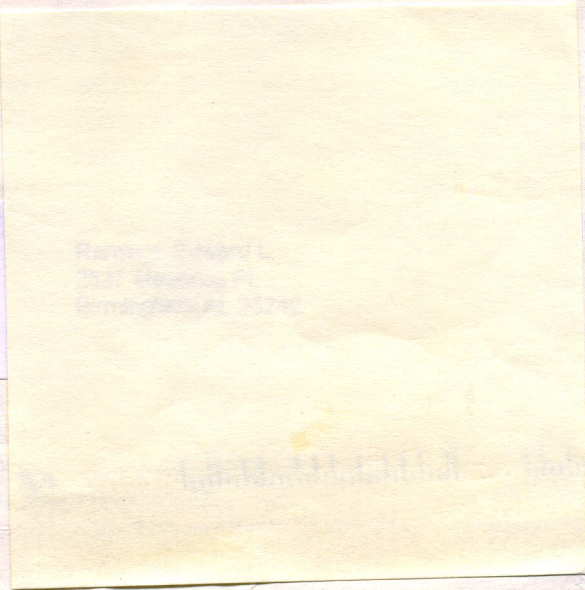
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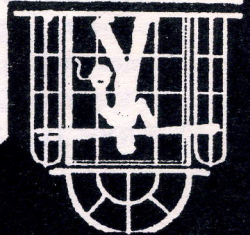
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