

GuildNews

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President's Letter

Didn't we have a fine meeting in February at Lowe's? We had a record turnout, we had nice refreshments, the DeWalt people gave away many prizes and two very nice tools, we attracted several new members, and everyone had a fun time. The Guild officers are always looking for ways to make the meetings more interesting and this one worked out well.

Those of you who went to Charlie Ard's shop tour last month got a treat. He has a fine shop and there was a large crowd in attendance. Thanks to Diane for the coffee and donuts and for the wonderful taco salad.

The upcoming John Jordan seminar will be one of the high points of the year. We have had a chance to see and learn from a nationally known craftsman and he is always a good speaker so plan to be there.

See you in March,

Dan

Next Meeting *March 11, 1999 – 7:00 PM*

A continuation of our splendid programs arranged for us by Charlie Ard, our Vice-President (the officer in charge of vice). Charlie announced at the first of the year we would utilize

the enormous pool of talent within our Guild as much as possible. Continuing this theme, we have our illustrious librarian and charter member, Frank Jones, who has brought us programs down through the years all the way from dovetails to sharpening. You name it and he can do it. This month he is going to share with us how he builds Bombay Chests. He has built one or two before and has started another. We don't mean to insult your intelligence by offering a description of what a Bombay Chest is, but it is one of those chests an elephant sat on and bulged it out near the bottom. Creating the bulge is the crux of the operation, and Frank has his own way of doing this. We believe you will have missed a thoroughly informative and entertaining program if you miss this one.

Last Meeting – *February 1999*

First of all it is appropriate to inform you we had a tremendous turnout at LOWE'S for the DeWalt party. We had 101 members and guests in attendance, probably not a record, but one of the largest we have ever had. Hope you will continue to support our officers in their endeavor to bring you the kind of Guild you will be proud to be a part of. The DeWalt people accepted

our invitation to present a program to acquaint us with their products, but more importantly to acquaint us with tools we are not aware of, certainly not theirs. Representing DeWalt was the local representative David Harvey, assisted by Glenn Wade, John Hanson and Phil Lennemann. Representing Lowe's were Mike Griffin, Ass't Manager, and Chad Williams, their tool expert. Lowe's explained they have experts in charge of their Tool Dept., Electrical Dept. and Paint Dept. – the managers of which have spent many years in their respective fields to be qualified for their jobs. DeWalt began its existence in 1932 (before most of us were born) but didn't get serious about expanding their line of tools until 1992. They went about the expansion methodically by concentrating on feedback from users as to their criticisms. For instance, they made a survey and determined users of scroll saws wanted a machine with less vibration and bigger capacity so they practically eliminated all vibration and expanded the throat to 20". Headquarters is near Baltimore, and they have manufacturing plants in several states—and, they are proud to announce more than 80% of their tools are made in the USA. Their new Jig Saw was created in the same way—it is battery operated,

keyless blade change, 18 Volts and 2,000 strokes a minute, quite an improvement in jig saws. They have a Service Center on Green Springs Highway where along with the repairs you get a safety check before delivery, a one year warranty (2 yrs. on battery), the use of a loaner tool during repairs, and one year free maintenance on a new tool. The 12 1/2" thickness planer was demonstrated and a representative explained the features of their 10" table saw and their battery operated drills were available for use. Other tools were spread out on several tables with a rep to discuss them. Then at 8:45 came the piece-de-resistance—the drawing for the thickness planer and the table saw. All Guild member's names together with six new members who joined that night were in a pot, and when the names were drawn George Schoppert took the Planer home; then came our brand new member Lynn Andrews who (with a little lifting help) took the table saw home. Congratulations to each of you. We appreciate Lowe's donating two \$50 gift certificates as well. Additionally, DeWalt and Lowe's offered a \$25 discount on anything worth more than \$200 and a \$10 discount on the under \$200 items. This was quite a night for our Guild, and we appreciate President Dan, DeWalt and Lowe's making it possible.

Kudos to Charlie Yerby

We all know who Charlie is (it depends on what the definition of "is" is), but few of us know what

a great service he renders the Guild. He not only takes care (we really mean CARE) of our funds but when new members join he sees to it that ID cards are made for them and reports them to our printer, Riverchase Print & Copy, so they will immediately begin receiving the GUILD NEWS, and once a year takes care of getting our Membership roster. We think it is time he be offered our thanks, so at the next meeting why don't you stop by his table and thank him. By the way, Charlie won a drink cooler (DeWalt) at the open shop of President Dan's. When he took the top off, it was full of ice and down in there appeared to be cans of something, but when he fished the cans out they were empty.

Thank You Notes

We received a thank you note from the U.A.B. Bone Marrow Unit for the toys we shared with them last year. Then, in lieu of a thank-you note, Children's Hospital has asked if they may favor us with a table of snacks at a future meeting instead of a thank-you note, to which President Dan readily agreed. Along this line of conversation, President Dan was invited to a party at U.A.B. given for children who have received heart transplants. They had saved some of the toys we gave them last Christmas for this occasion and unexpectedly, to Dan, asked him to distribute the toys to the children. He says the children ranged in age from about 3 to

about 7 years, and there were about a dozen children who had received heart transplants. We hope you will remember this when you start on your toy quota this year. We just never know how much good comes from our efforts. By the way, Channel 13 had a clip they made at the heart transplant party, and it was shown on their 10:00 PM broadcast on February 11th.

John Jordan

That name may bring memories of his previous visits to our Guild. If not, if you attend the seminar on March 27th, at 9:00 AM, at Thuston's Saw Works, you will receive a memory you won't forget. John is nationally known for his turning, seminars, video tapes and his great sense of humor. When he turns, he turns. Now that is a profound statement, isn't it? What we mean is (there's that word again) when you see him take out a chunk (like a stump) of wet wood, mount it on the lathe, and in just a little while turn off the lathe and hold up a beautiful bowl for us to examine, you aren't likely to forget it. We are combining our efforts having

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.

John with the Alabama Woodturners Association, which was formed last year by our good friend and Past President Nelson Brooks, so there will be a huge turnout for the seminar. Because of the expense of bringing John down from Tennessee, it will be necessary to charge \$40, (a bargain when you consider you would pay \$200 at a national woodworking show). You will also get a light lunch, so as not to take up too much time from the seminar by having to go out to lunch. Thuston's has a POWERMATIC lathe John likes, and there will be video transmission to TV screens so everyone can see just what and how he is making the turning. Don't let this opportunity slip by. Oh yes, there will be donuts and coffee before the program.

Hot Dogs In May

Repeating our May 1998 hot dog supper, which was a huge success, we will have it in 1999 instead of our regular meeting on May 13th. What a spread we had thanks to several members (too numerous to mention) who saw to it that everything a child or adult could want for supper was there, that is if you like hot dogs, potato chips, relish, mustard, ketchup, kraut, all kinds of cold drinks and even something sweet to taper off on. No kidding, this is a party nearly as scrumptious as our Christmas party, not quite but nearly, and you simply don't want to miss it. The weather would be good for an outdoor wiener roast

in May, and we have a couple of guys who know a thing or two about how to roast a wiener.

Future Programs

Just a little preview of programs to come, or, as they say in the movies, a preview of coming attractions. After Frank Jones in March, there will be Ivan Kronberg doing his inimitable carving of a boot, Ed Sheriff in June with his jewelry boxes and in July President Dan with his lacquer finishing techniques. So, you see, you should mark your calendars for these outstanding programs that are upcoming.

PC Owners and Operators

For the benefit of you Personal Computer owners, this might soothe your feelings when you don't do it right:

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 Eye have run this poem threw it
 I am shore your pleased two no
 Its letter perfect awl the weigh
 My chequer tolled me sew.

In Memorium

We regret to report the passing of James M. (Jim) Scogin who will be greatly missed.

Charlie Ard's Shop

The second in our visits to our members' shops was Charlie Ard, Vice President. After walking down the driveway and just past the house, you are confronted with a red barn. Your first reaction is to look to see if a raging bull will attack you, but then you see a sign on the door "Come On In" and then your fears subside. Inside you have a truly fine shop. It is generally arranged with all the metal working machinery in one end and most of the woodworking machinery in the other. Charlie is very talented with the welding equipment and as a result he has made several of his machines. Included are: METALWORKING – a large capacity drill press, metalworking lathe, milling machine, metal cutting band saw, and welding equipment for electric, acetylene and TIG; WOODWORKING – jointer, table saw, planer, radial arm saw, two grinders, Porter Cable Omnijig for dovetails, 24" band saw, homemade lathe and a continuous sanding belt. There's more, he has a refrigerator (contents unknown), a dozen delicious calendars, and on the day of our visit he had a lovely spread of donuts, cookies and coffee. Thanks Charlie, we enjoyed our visit.



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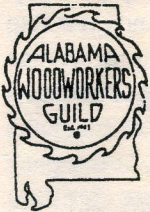
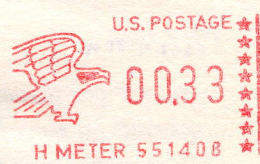
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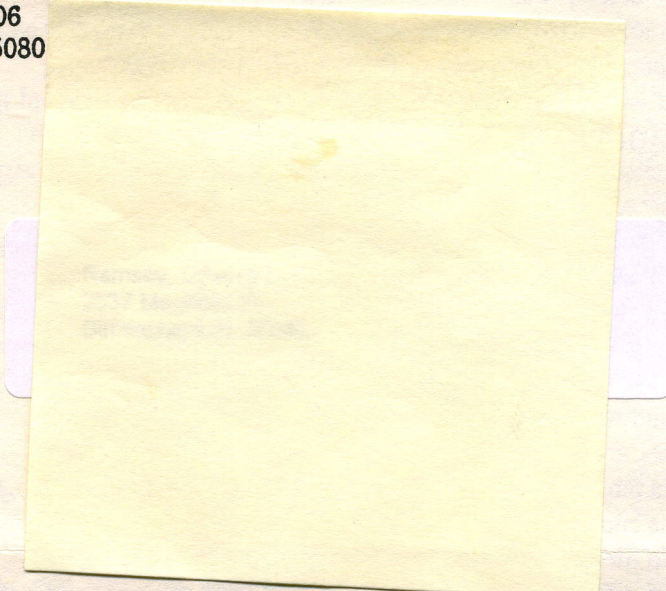
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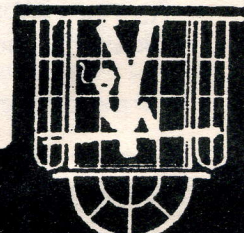
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