

GuildNews

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APRIL 1999

President's Message

It's really hard to believe we're getting ready for our fourth regular monthly meeting of the year. I guess it's true, "time flies when you're having fun." Between basketball, golf, fishing and working in my shop, I have been having fun! Based on all feedback I believe you all have also been having fun at our meetings and shops open houses. (Thanks to Charlie Ard and Harold Phillips). By the way, if you missed Frank Jones' open house last week, you missed a "treat." Not only did we see a great shop but we were entertained by touring Frank's house and hearing his many stories about his and his family's adventures. Thanks Frank.

I'm really looking forward to our next meeting. Ivan is going to tell us how he carves those old looking shoes . . . should be fun.

If you left our last meeting without enough to eat, it was your fault. The ladies at Children's Hospital really put on a spread for us. Now, I guess we'll have to build more toys to work off that weight we gained. Speaking of Children's Hospital, Cliff Saxon and I had a lot of fun participating in their "Red Wagon" Parade on Monday, March 15. This was the kickoff event for National Children's Wellness Week.

We need lots of help on April 17th when we set up our tools and do demonstrations in front of Lowe's on

Valleydale Road. This is always a lot of fun and generates a lot of interest in the Guild. (more details elsewhere in the Newsletter). If you don't feel comfortable doing demonstrations come on out and give the demonstrators moral support. We'll also need help in the months to come. Some of the more significant events are: Hotdog Supper, Annual Show, toys drive and Christmas Party. I'm sure I've missed some things but my point is we need help. If you are interested in helping see me or one of the board members.

See you April 8.

Dan

**Next Meeting-
April 9, 1999 - 7:00 PM**

You would have to be a real brand new member to not know our speaker/demonstrator at our April meeting—IVAN KRONBERG. Ivan has so many talented procedures at his fingertips, it is hard to pin him down to just one. He is a turner extraordinaire, sculptor, furniture (windsor chairs) maker AND carver. It is his carving we will be privileged to see at the meeting. He has become well known for his sculptured child's shoe complete with shoe laces, and it is this he is going to demonstrate. It will make you want to go right out and buy a set of carving tools. He makes it look easy only because he

has the knack for carving and the ability to put the knack to work. This will be a fascinating program you won't want to miss.

Last Meeting—March, 1999

It is hard to decide whether we enjoyed Frank Jones, himself, with his inimitable style of presentation or his Bombe/Bombay Chest (however it is spelled) in all its magnificence. It was obvious to all of us one shouldn't enter into making such a chest inadvisably because the compound angles, the curved drawer fronts and the sides of the chest would blow an ordinary mind. Frank said it doesn't blow his mind since he doesn't have one to start with (someone will pay for that remark). His chest has beads bordering the drawers (four of them ball and claw feet, hand carved himself), and he intends to put a highboy on top of it complete with finials and bonnet. He says each side (end) piece weighs forty pounds and that the two ends cost \$585. "By the time you have finished it, you have learned how to do it" is his humbling way of describing making one of these things. By the way, this is his second Bombay chest. We truly appreciate the trouble he went to bring his partly completed based chest for us to enjoy.

Last Meeting—Part II

What a joy it was to welcome three lovely ladies from Children's Hospital. Brenda Fisher, Susann Reeves and Katherine Gowan not only came and prettied up the place they brought goodies galore, enough to feed the masses. There were cakes, cookies, puddings, cheese cake with cherry sauce, and many other finger-licking good food. Not only did they bring enough to feed us once, there was enough to place in plastic bowls for us to take home. What a lovely gesture on their part and one we surely appreciate. We want them to know, however, we do not expect anything more than thanks for our toys, for they are a labor of love. But to you three ladies, we say thank you, and come again.

Coming Attraction

You must know there will always be something going on with and in our Guild. Of course, that is the way it is supposed to be, and we have some leaders that are going to see to it this is always so. Remember our meeting in February at LOWE'S? Well now, it seems they and DeWalt were so impressed with our group they want to do it again—not a night meeting, but a demonstration out front of their store from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, probably on Saturday, April 17th. Present planning calls for a different skill or machine to be demonstrated every 30 to 45 minutes and continuing until 3:00. (This is in

addition to what we have done in the past, i.e. everyone set up and demonstrate whatever tool or skill you like.) There could be scroll sawing, carving, turning, dovetailing, just to mention a few. Now this cannot be done without your help. You must volunteer whatever skill or machine you have to make this a success. We don't want to agree to do this and have a major flop on our hands, so at the April meeting please tell Charlie Ard or President Dan of your willingness to participate. This is a great opportunity to attract more members to enjoy our Guild.

Annual Show

Believe it or not it is coming up in August, just four and a half months away. How long does it take you to make something for the Show? Well, whatever it takes it is time to get started and in fact you should be approaching a finished project so you can sit and admire it for a little while, until August. Okay, enough of that. Maybe you remember some of the categories available to you, if not here they are: Traditional Furniture, Contemporary Furniture, Wood Turning, Wood Carving, Small Objects, Toys, Shoptools and Jigs. There is enough variety there for anyone. Each category is divided into three levels of skill: Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner and that should cover all of us. Then there are first, second and third places in each category. You see this is no fly-by-night SHOW.

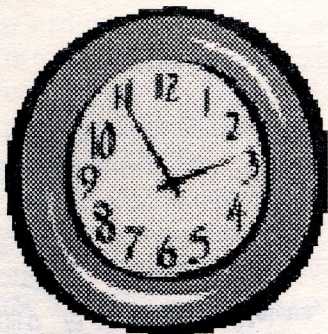
Everything is designed to encourage you to participate and enjoy the satisfaction of having competed with your friends. We mention competition because our SHOW is a Juried show. We employ a professional to come in and, without knowing who you are, judge your project on all aspects of it, like whether it is an original or reproduction, what kind of finish you put on it, or whether there is anything to criticize about the project. Now that doesn't sound too bad does it? It is great fun to drag your "stuff" down to the Hoover Library on the designated day and mingle with your fellow members and discuss your and their projects and be astounded at the work our members turn out. Then what a joy to return the day or evening of the judging to see what level ribbon you have won. Yes, there will be ribbons for each category and for each place in the category. This is an annual event you just don't want to pass up. It is so much fun we probably should make it mandatory for every member to put something in the SHOW. You will be bombarded with encouragement through the GUILD NEWS and by our President and Vice-President at the meetings. If you

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.

don't want to be left out, get started or go on and complete your project for the August show.

Hot Dogs

We know there are a bunch of HOT DOGS in our Guild, but this time we are referring to the kind you eat. Our Hot dog supper last year was such a success we are going to repeat it this year. Our MAY meeting will be devoted to a social occasion where hot dogs and all the conceivable trimmings will be available. This is for the family. You know we have our Christmas party for our spouses and now we have the hot dogs for ALL the family. Mark your calendar, or if you choose to rely on the Guild News, do that, but whatever you do plan to be there in MAY.



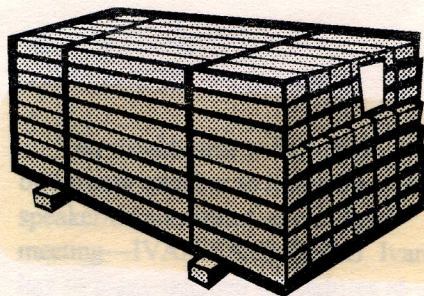
Spare Time?

At our March meeting we had a guest by the name of Mark Robbins who was representing his wife Laura Robbins. Laura is involved in doll houses, you know those lovely little houses complete with doors, windows, stairs, wall

paper, carpeting, electric lights and furniture. What Laura needs is some craftsmen (do any of us meet that description) to assemble these houses. They come cut and ready to assemble and she pays a small compensation for each house. It sounds like fun if you are looking for an interim project, and the charity she represents will benefit. You may reach Laura Robbins at 871-2484.

Door Prize

Since we did not hold the drawing at the LOWE'S meeting, we had two prizes to award. The two winners were Walter Barnett (it is always nice to have someone who needs the money to win it) and William (Bill) Kelly (who says he needs the money as much as Walter). Congratulations, men.



Need Lumber?

Here is an opportunity to acquire some lumber, scarce lumber, at a reasonable price. There is a lady in Calera by the name of Mrs. Gordon Williams who has between 75 and 100 pieces of Heart Pine. The boards are 1" x 12" and 10' to 15' long. This is probably about 1500 board

feet of this fine lumber. The price is negotiable and she may be reached at 205-668-2183.

Thank You

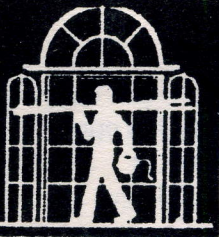
There was an unsolicited batch of kudos thrown at your GUILD NEWS editor at the March meeting. While very much appreciated, it is not necessary to "kudo me." I do this because I enjoy it and will continue to do so as long as you want me to. However, if any of you really want the job, just let me know.

Alabama Organ Center

At our March meeting there were several copies of RECOVERY, a publication of the Alabama Organ Center available for us to pick up. If you have ever wondered what becomes of the toys we make each year the people at the A.O.C. told the whole State of Alabama that we, Alabama Woodworkers Guild, have been in existence for 15 years and we donated some 100 of our 1998 toys to them. They referred to our toys as those "fabulous" toys which they distributed to transplant recipients during follow-up clinic visits and that the remaining toys will be distributed to transplant patients as they occur during the year. We want our Guild members to understand and realize that the toys we make do make a difference and we should not take the program lightly.



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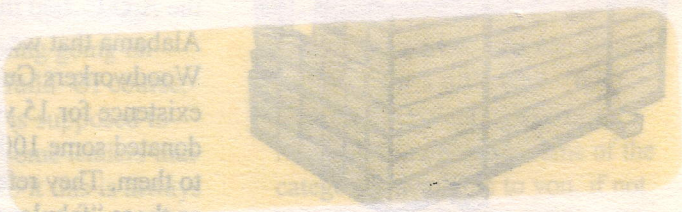


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