

GuildNews

VOLUME XVIII

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OCTOBER 1999

President's Message

Well, here we go into the fall of the year . . . leaves starting to cover our yards, no more mowing of the grass and football is in full swing. With all this in place, it seems only natural that we turn our attention to my favorite Guild activity . . . that is, our toy program. The benefactors of our thousands of toys say there is no way anyone could put a price tag on this activity. If you have not visited the Children's Hospital or participated in our toys program . . . you've truly missed a treat! And, if you've wanted to participate but just couldn't get started or didn't know how to get started you no longer have an excuse. **A few of us "old timers" (i.e., Jack Perry, Charlie Ard and myself) have scheduled a "Toys Workshop" on Saturday, October 16 in my shop. We plan to get started with coffee and donuts at about 8:30 AM (call me for directions).** Our objective is to simply share with you ideas on building toys and help you get started. Some wood will be provided but if you have some laying around collecting dust bring it along. More about this at our October 14th Meeting.

What a show at our September meeting! It's hard to emphasize safety enough and if those slides and stories of accidents didn't get your attention you were asleep. Speaking of accidents, Don Blackburn had a bad accident a few weeks back. I was

glad to see him at the Javaris Open House. We may get Don to explain how his accident happened at our next meeting.

A lot of you missed seeing a really neat shop last month. C.W. Javaris has done a great job building a shop in his backyard. The shop is well planned, organized and well lighted. It was a fun morning . . . those wild donuts were great also.

I understand Bo is planning to feed us before our next meeting . . . should be fun.

See you October 14th.

Dan

Hot Dog!

Next meeting we will have just that, H O T D O G S. Bo Thuston our host extraordinaire, insists we have hot dogs at the October meeting and who are we to argue with that? So, be there at 6:00 with wife and family (if any) and if not your wife, somebody else's wife (and as Charlie Ard says "so long as she is pretty"). After dinner we will have the usual bunch of remarks and status reports, then the program. Harold Hall and Dan Browning will lecture and demonstrate on the art of spraying lacquer. Most of us do not have compressed air in our shops. This program may be the kick in the pants that will cause you

(and me) to secure a spraying outfit. There is no doubt that a finish that is sprayed on is smoother and more professional than brushed finishes. Try and make this meeting because the program is one you shouldn't miss.

Last Program

Your officers decided it was time for the GUILD to have a program on Safety, and that we did. We have had several accidents among our members this year, and if an accident can be avoided we want to do so. Dr. Hal Skalka, University of Alabama at Birmingham, presented some slides of trauma and chemical eye injuries from the Eye Foundation and it wasn't pretty. Everyone left the meeting with a better appreciation for the importance of wearing proper eye protection. Later, Hal explained how not to rip a 4' x 8' sheet of plywood on a table saw. Wallace Williams explained the importance of having proper support on the outfeed side of a band saw. Mike Key graphically explained the importance of keeping a guard on the jointer. Dan Browning explained the importance of using a push stick or push block when using a router table. We really do appreciate these members bringing us the program and hope we all benefit from it.

Now Hear This

If you have ever been in the Navy, you know where that expression came from. George Edwards' grandson has a supply of veneer occupying space in his warehouse and has generously donated it to our GUILD. This is a chance of a lifetime because the veneer is in 4' x 8' sheets and comes in several flavors (mahogany, oak, etc.). We feel it is appropriate to put a small price on each sheet, and we have done that—the price will be \$2.00 per sheet. The proceeds will go into the GUILD reserves to be used for things like our Christmas Party. Please come prepared to take as many sheets of it home with you that you can safely carry in your car. It may be rolled into a 1' roll and masking taped together until you get it home. Bring tape.

Christmas Party

The party was mentioned in the paragraph above, but we are mentioning it here to alert you to put it on your calendar for the second Thursday in December (our regular meeting night). We have reserved the same space at the Helena United Methodist Church where we have held our party for a good many years. That is the second Thursday night, December 9, 1999 at 6:00. Bring food.

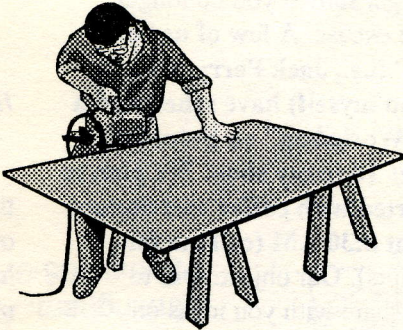
Shop Tours

This exercise has proved to be a popular undertaking by our Guild this year. We have been to about six home shops, and the hospitality has been superb. It is always of great interest to see how others do their work, and where they do their work. We have another coming up in December. Lawrence Williamson has offered his shop for inspection in December. There will be information at the regular meeting as for the date and directions to his home. If nothing is said about this, then ask the presiding officer about it at the meeting.

The Show

Many of you may not be aware just how much "stir" our SHOW caused at the Hoover Library. Not only were there several meeting notices in the newspaper, several mentions on TV, but the Library put it on the Internet. I personally told my nephew in Oklahoma and my daughter in Virginia about the Internet and both of them brought it up on the screen immediately. They also printed it. The ribbon winners were featured on the 'Net, and we surely appreciate the Library taking such an interest in us. Now it is time to reveal the name and project of the member who won the PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD (Best of Show). If you remember, a registration book was located at the main entrance to the gallery.

There was a box into which visitors could vote for the entry they thought was the best. When the counting was over, one of our long-time members, past president and staunch supporter had won the whole thing. You won't have any trouble recognizing his name—ED SHERIFF. It was his rosewood standing silverware chest that captured the eyes of everyone. It is nothing new for him to be a winner, but he takes great pride in winning this one. Congratulations to ED, and we look forward to many more of your exquisite pieces in future years. As a footnote, to this year's SHOW, we take pleasure in thanking Jack Perry and Walter Barnett for the splendid job they did in organizing and managing the SHOW in 1999.



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.

Show and Tell

We had two such items offered for our consideration. Buddy Finch showed a Poplar and Walnut casserole stand, and George Shoppert showed a toy puzzle.

Toys For The children

Surely everyone has made his or her toys by now. We will be bringing them to the November meeting, and that is just over a month from now. Paul Mancill brought some examples of toys and passed out patterns for cutouts. Sure enough now, get cracking and let's beat our record 2,000 plus toys last year. They don't have to be elaborate and don't even have to be painted. The little folk enjoy painting the toys themselves and from the examples brought to our meeting last year, we suspect they get as much paint on themselves as the toys. Please take this reminder seriously—we need and want your toys.

One Last Thing

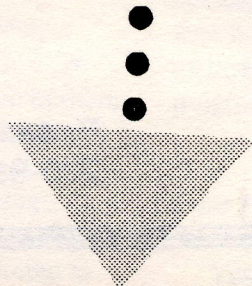
Someone at one of our meetings since we began at Thuston's asked me if I could find the GUILD NEWS issue that dealt with a folding stool that Charley Brown demonstrated at one of our meetings some years ago. I have (and will have with me) the issue of *Popular Woodworking* that contains the plans for this stool. If you will

ask me for it at the October meeting, I will be glad to lend it to you.

Politics At Its Best

Don't miss the October meeting because the Nominating Committee under the guidance of Bill West will be making its

report. Our bylaws require us to have the Committee's recommendations read to the meeting in October and the election to be held in November. The time to exercise your wishes is at these two meetings. After all, we want the best leadership we have amongst us to keep us going, so we know you will want to be in attendance at both meetings.



Revisiting The '99 Show

This year's SHOW is history and former Prez Ed Sheriff walked, er, uh, ran away with "Best of Show" honors with his exquisite Chinese silver chest. Congrats, Mr. Ed.

With that said, a disturbing trend was set in August when only sixty-seven items (12 for display) were entered, while the 1998 SHOW had ninety-three (17 for display).

Seventeen members who entered last year were missing in August and that is very disturbing. Of that number, four won six awards in '98.

The Guild's showcase is its annual juried show and we need input from every member to find ways to increase participation. Please share your ideas on how we may improve our SHOW.

While the majority of our members may never win "Best of Show," we should

remain undaunted in our resolve to do the "Best We Can Do" and then enjoy the fellowship of being a part of our showcase. With three different skill levels and eight project categories, everyone should be able to find their own niche. This year saw a total of nine ribbons not awarded . . . Why? There were no entries!

While President Dan gave kudos to the ladies of the Hoover Library in last month's newsletter, we need not overlook our own ladies who put in some hard work to ensure a successful event. They are Diane Ard, Marsha Mancill and Victoria Perry. Diane assisted in displaying our entries in their most advantageous settings, while Marsha did a splendid job of printing the tent cards. Victoria utilized her computer to set up our entry forms, exhibitors list/ telephone numbers and our ribbon winners. Thanks, ladies!!!!

Walt Barnett and Jack Perry,
Co-Chairmen

JOS. THUSTON AND SONS SAW WORKS

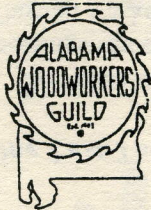
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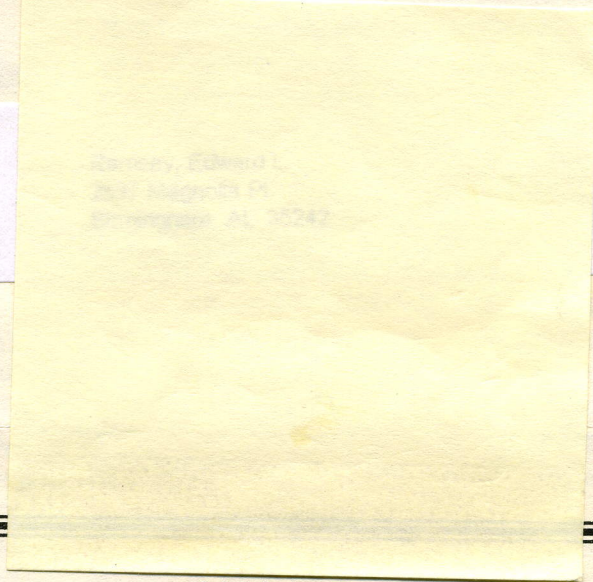
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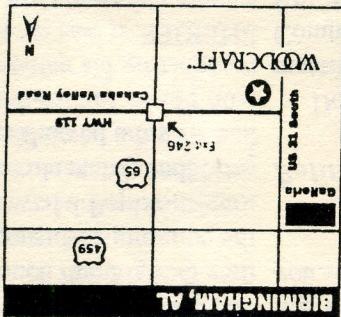
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Directions
Take I-65 to Exit 246. Take Highway 119 West (Cahaba Valley Road) 3/4 of a mile. We are located on the left, in the Cahaba Valley Station.

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