

Guild News

VOLUME XIX

NUMBER 2

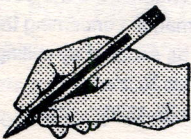
FEBRUARY 2000

President's Message

Since I missed our last regular meeting I'm having some real difficulty getting adjusted to the year 2000. I've certainly missed the fellowship I enjoy with the board members as well as all members of the "Guild." I understand the last meeting was a good one with a great turn out. The "Old Pro's" did their usual outstanding job on how to sharpen your knives, chisels, etc. I'm looking forward to many other interesting programs this year—and knowing Charlie Ard we won't be disappointed. That leads me to another point. Charlie and the Board of Directors work hard to make our programs educational and interesting. We think they are, what do you think? Do we need to do something different—i.e., present new subjects, revisit old topics, etc. You folks let us know what you want and if possible, some ideas of who we can get to present various subjects. If you have any ideas call Charlie Ard or "corner" any board member at our next meeting. Everyone's input and involvement is critical to a good and growing organization.

See you on February 10th.

Dan



Correction

Before announcing the next program, it is necessary to correct the starting time for our meetings. All kind of flack met your editor upon arriving at the January meeting by the Vice President. It seems the correct starting time is 6:30 PM instead of the 6:00 PM time as stated in the January GUILD NEWS. Please be informed it is 6:30 PM, and it will be appreciated if you will be on time and eager for a good evening.

*Next Program—
February 10, 2000 · 6:30 PM
(That's SIX-THIRTY PM)
At Thuston's*

Paul Madinger, another of our talented and experienced woodworkers, will present our program this month. Paul, though he doesn't look it, has been woodworking for 50 years and should know how it's done by now (he does). His specialty right now is lazy Susans and/or carousels for the dining table. If you want a good seat, be there at 6:30 and enjoy Paul's presentation.

Last Program—January 2000

It was a lot of fun and certainly educational to have several of our

members demonstrate how to sharpen tools. We had Fred Baker, Mike Key, Herbert Slamer, Frank Jones, Charles Ard, and Bill West standing at their consoles turning their respective rocks and explaining how and what they were doing. There were turning tools, bench chisels, knives, plane blades and a few others. There were soft rocks, hard rocks, sanding belts and a variety of whetstones. There were stations located throughout the meeting room so everyone could get a look at the sharpening process. Everyone seemed to enjoy the repartee between the spectators and the exhibitors. Thank you, gentlemen, for doing such a good job for our program.

Toys Program

Just so you will know our toy effort is appreciated we received, and read to the January meeting, a letter from Margaret Tressler who is associated with the Alabama Organ Center. She thanked us for the toys we gave them and announced there would be a heart transplant party on February 3rd at the U.A.B. Heart Center. For the children involved, there will be distributed some of the toys we made and donated to them. If you would like to attend, you need only call Ms. Tressler at the Heart

Center and ask for the hour and room number.

Dues—Dues—Dues

It is that time of year again when we must pay our \$25 dues so as to keep the GUILD running. Most of our dues money goes to pay the printing of our GUILD NEWS which is the vital link between the membership and the officers. Charles Yerby, our distinguished Secretary-Treasurer, was ill for the January meeting so some of you may have missed making your payment. Well, don't despair, you may take care of it at the February meeting. If you have a question, or need to discuss the matter with Charles, you may call him at 426-4320. If you know now you won't be at the February meeting, please mail your check to him at 433 W Hills Ct., Bessemer, AL 35022-4603. Please don't ignore this plea because we know you want your name in the new roster that will be printed shortly.

Show and Tell

We had a couple of presenters at the January meeting, the first of which was Buddy Finch who shared a cutting board made to look like a domino with the spots and center line, etc. Nice job, Buddy. The other one was Leonard Sanders who showed and passed around a bowl, not just an ordinary bowl, but one that looks like a Saturn Planet. It has the "rings" surrounding the bowl and it was made of sycamore. Thanks,

gentlemen. Now why don't more of you do us the favor of sharing some of your work with us.

Toys for the Children

There is no need to shut down your toy making just because Christmas has passed. There is a need for toys all year, and Paul Mancil will verify this. We have had several sources of wood from wood products plants, lumber yards and most recently a large stack of 2" x 6" x 4' pine boards which went like hot cakes after the last meeting. There are many toys that can be made from wood like this. You are encouraged to walk into your shop, and if you don't have a project in mind at that moment, start a toy. It will fill your time and go to a good cause.

Woodworking Class

Throughout the history of our GUILD, we have held classes for beginners as well as experienced woodworkers who would like to increase their knowledge. We have two outstanding instructors in Fred Baker and Mike Key. They have selected a country table as the project for the class this year. It will have maple top, poplar skirt and turned legs. Interesting project inasmuch as everyone has to have a table, and it might as well be a country kitchen table. The classes will begin January 15th and will continue for 8 weeks on Saturday mornings from 8:00 AM to 12:01 PM. You may need to check with

either of the teachers to see if the class is full and if you may join late. By the way, the classes will be held at Thuston's.

Snacks—Snacks

There seems to be a little fairy lurking around the Thuston premises. We are treated to snacks and drinks at each meeting, and no one will own up to having provided them. A little bird told us it is Bo Thuston, though he denies it. Thanks Bo—we know it is you.

Irondale Whistlestop Festival

We have been invited to participate in the Festival. They would like to have demonstrators as an added attraction this year. We are told that if any of us want to set up a booth and sell our products, there will be a charge by the Festival for that privilege. We understand it is a huge festival and well attended. If we are not mistaken, there will be fried green tomatoes at the café. If you are interested in participating, ask President Dan about it.

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 Jos. Thuston & Sons Saw Works. Information concerning the Guild may be secured by calling Charles R. Yerby at 205-426-4320.

The Library

We mention from time to time the fact we have a library. The one and only Librarian we have ever had is Frank Jones, and he even built the cabinet that houses our treasures. For many years we had the pleasure of receiving subscriptions to FINE WOODWORKING and AMERICAN WOODWORKER and those subscription issues are on file. We hasten to report, however, these two publishers have ceased including us in their gratis mailings. Now back to the subscription magazines and the numerous textbooks on file—suppose you would like to know how in the world they make those bandsawn boxes, or how to repair a broken chair leg, or how to square a joint, or how to square the edge of two boards for gluing, or how to turn something or anything, or how to drill holes accurately, or how to make flutes on a table leg with a router, or any number of the hundreds of things we do in our shops without the benefit of expert advice. Turn to your library and look up whatever it is you need to know and be on your way. It might put a little fun into your work. See Frank Jones and get some help.

Jet Buys Powermatic

Since many of us have either or both of these tools we thought you might like to know what has happened to POWERMATIC since the holding company that owned them fell on hard times. Quoting from FINE

WOODWORKING, January/February 2000 issue: “The long-awaited sale of POWERMATIC was finally completed in October 1999 when Jet Equipment and Tools sealed the deal. Jet picked up POWERMATIC from DeVlieg-Bullard, the parent company, which went bankrupt. Delta, Sunhill and others had also expressed an interest.

“The immediate effect on consumers is that more Powermatic tools should be available now that Jet is pumping money into the company. Based in McMinnville, Tennessee,



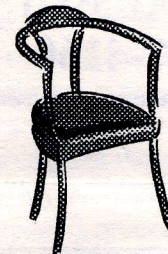
Powermatic shut down its plant for a period of time last summer.

“Bob Skummer, President of Jet, said Powermatic will be run as an affiliate, much the same relationship as with Performax, which Jet purchased last year. Powermatic was a good business. We don’t want to screw it up, Skummer said. Money was being provided to upgrade Powermatic’s foundry and increase production of its core products, including the Model 66 cabinet saw. Skummer said there were no plans to move the company.

“Asked about any major product changes, Skummer said it was too early to say, but he did not rule out a possible color change for Powermatic products. Last year Jet changed the color of its woodworking tools from blue to white.”

Seminar On Chairs

Most every year since inception, our GUILD has provided a seminar on some subject for the pleasure and skill improvement of our members. We have mentioned this before but please keep in mind there is in the planning stage a seminar on making chairs. This is a complicated and mind boggling undertaking to make a chair that is comfortable, pretty and substantial enough to withstand the test of time.



Alabama Clay Conference 15 & Alabama Craft/2000

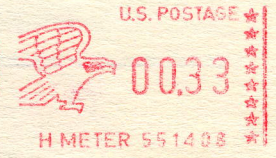
You may recall Dale Lewis announced at our January meeting this tremendous exhibition at the Art Department of the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, March 1 - 5, 2000. Then you should recall also receiving a flyer from the conference detailing the various programs that will be available to you. If it is a craft, it is being featured at this conference. We know many of you have a strong interest in craft conferences and will want to attend. If you read the cover of the flyer, you saw that our GUILD is one of the groups listed as a sponsor, so get on down there and have fun.



JOS. THUSTON AND SONS SAW WORKS

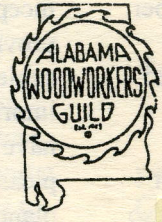
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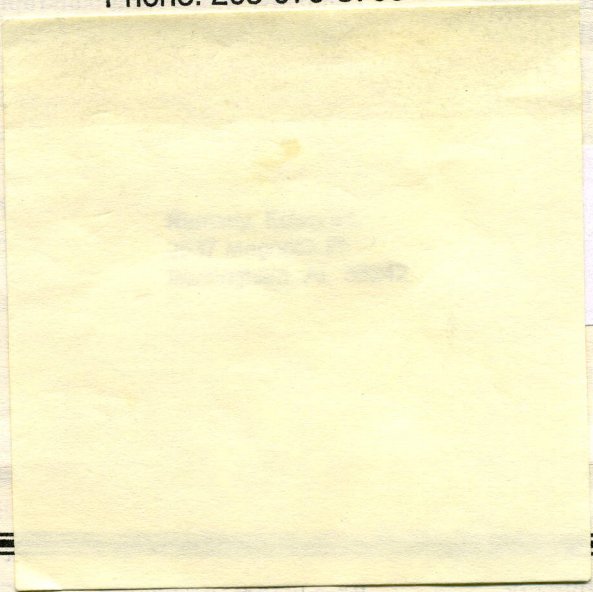


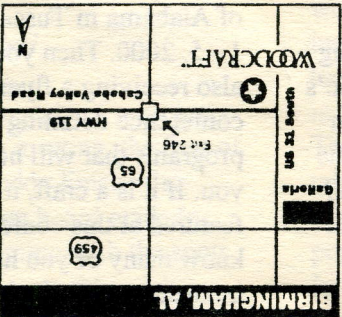

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 Phone: 205-979-3799





BIRMINGHAM, AL


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.

Address
 Cahaba Valley Station
 220 Cahaba Valley Road • Pelham, AL 35124

Store Hours
 M - T - W - F: 9AM - 7PM
 Th: 9AM - 9PM
 Sat: 9AM - 6PM
 Sun: NOON - 5PM

PHONE
 205-988-3600

Website:
www.woodcraft.com
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