

GuildNews

VOLUME XIX

NUMBER 7

JULY 2000

President's Message

The David Wright Seminar on Saturday, June 24th was quite an experience. David is truly a quality chair maker and certainly enthusiastic about his profession. Even though the emphasis was on Windsor chair making, there was lots to be learned about wood and woodworking in general. All in all, I believe it was a great weekend.

Enclosed with the newsletter is a questionnaire. I hope each of you will take a moment to complete and mail to me. We believe that all organizations have room to improve and with your input we can make improvements in the Guild.

I hope each of you have a great holiday and I'll see you on July 13th.

Dan

Next Program—

July 13, 2000 • 6:30 PM

Not finalized as of printing—will be announced later.

Last Program—June 2000

We had a terrific time at the June meeting. The announcements (while absolutely necessary) were held to a minimum and there was a fine crowd. Once we got to the program (finally), it turned out to be well received and enjoyable because there aren't as many scroll saws owned by our members as table

saws, band saws or other shop needs. The scroll saw has been around for a long time, and in the beginning was powered by a treadle (like the old sewing machine). There just isn't another way to make complicated designs in flat/thin wood. Since most of us do not make a habit of needing to make the kind of work made on scroll saws, we just don't have one. After seeing some of the finished work laid out on the table, and seeing some of the experts cutting fancy curves etc., we suspect some of you will be wanting one. They come in all prices and it isn't bank breaking to get one. Cliff Daniels was our program chief, and we thank him.

The Show

We don't think there is any need to elaborate on what that term means, but just in case there are a few of you not acquainted with our annual effort, here goes. From the first year our Guild was in business, 1983, we have had a show. Now the first one wasn't what we have today. There were mostly simple toys, as we remember, all of which were donated (we don't remember to whom). It was held in the 20th Street entrance to Liberty National Insurance Building on the Southside, and for such a new and unfamiliar undertaking it was well attended. Spruce McRee was President at that time and we recall him seated at a table logging in the offerings by the members as they arrived. We think the second year's SHOW was held at the hotel at the

Civic Center and some of the entries were placed around the Christmas tree in the hotel lobby. There was a High Society banquet going on in the ball room and after their meal, our "stuff" was auctioned off and the proceeds given to charity. That is a little indication of the leadership that started us off as a Guild. We are so glad to be able to announce the we not only have the lovely new North Shelby Library as the place for the 2000 SHOW, we have a date too. We are asked to bring our entries to the Library on Saturday, October 7th, preferably after 9:00 AM. The "handlers" of the SHOW are Jack Perry and Walter Barnett who will be on hand to log you in and place your entry in a proper place. The judging will be done by a professional woodworking artist who has judged our show a couple of time before (it isn't fair to reveal who he is), and we look forward to having him again. With all that preamble aside, what are YOU going to make for the SHOW? The categories are not hard to understand: Traditional Furniture, Contemporary Furniture, Turnings, Carvings, Intarsia, Small Objects, Shop Tools and Jigs, and Toys. If you have something in mind not described above, call Jack Perry or Walter Barnett and discuss with him what it is you would like to enter. This is great fun and you are the loser if you don't enter something. With the extended time (until October 7th), you

have plenty of time to make your project. It doesn't have to be of museum quality, just quality. In case you need to call our SHOW gurus: Jack Perry — 205-556-2311 or Walter Barnett — 426-9083 — will be glad to advise and encourage you. Let's start making sawdust and have a really great SHOW this year.

Special Guests

Betty Bell, representing the Early Intervention Program, which works with needy babies (from birth to three years old) called on us to help them by making 20 chairs for the children. They are in three sizes and oh so small. Several of our group volunteered to make the chairs and have them ready to go by late August. If you would like to help, call Dan.

Door Prize

This month's door prize went to a needy person, Herb Slayman.

Questions and Answers

This part of our meetings had fallen into nonexistence and with the encouragement of all of you and the consent of Pres. Dan, it has been reinstated. It went like this:

QUESTION: Where can we get M.D.O. Plywood?
ANSWER: Atlanta Plywood Co.

QUESTION: Need information about the Stanley #45 Rabbit Plane.

QUESTION: Where can we get

wheels for toys?
ANSWER: Benny's in Bellbuckle, TN.

QUESTION: Where can we get Catalized Lacquer?
ANSWER: Valley Paint Co.

QUESTION: What is the shelf life of analine dye once mixed?
ANSWER: At least a year or two.

QUESTION: Would the "author" of our famous wheel barrow, please make plans available to the membership?

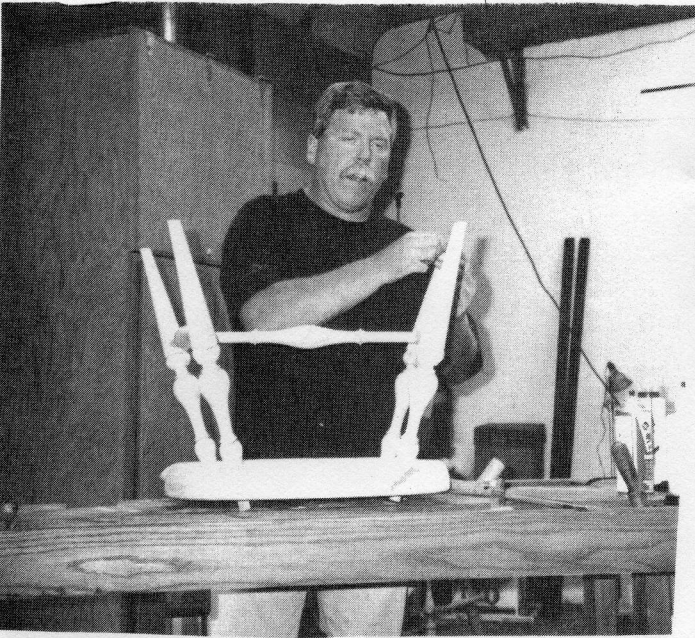
Windsor Chair Seminar

This turned out to be a most interesting Saturday. Mr. David Wright, Berea, KY, lived up to his reputation and delivered a stunning program. Since he has been making Windsor chairs for a living some twelve years, he is eminently qualified to demonstrate on the subject. Of great interest to most of us, he makes his chairs out of green wood. He goes into the woods where crews are clearing land and buys the logs from them. He then splits them into smaller and more manageable pieces and hauls them home. The seat of the chair is the only part not made from green timber. If the chair is to be painted, the seat is made of poplar. If it is to be stained, it is made of dry oak or whatever the customer wants. His steaming apparatus consists of a propane camp stove, a coffee can of water and some five feet of 4" PVC pipe with a cap on the one end. It works, and after some 30-40 minutes small pieces are ready to bend. He carries a kiln with him to dry the tennons on legs and

spindles. An interesting kiln is made of solid/firm insulation, with holes to push the tennons through, and is heated by a 75W light bulb. It works. He has developed a pattern for placing the holes in the seat for arms and spindles to go in. He uses a brace and bit to drill the seat holes, but uses a drill press for the holes in the arms and legs/stretchers. He uses a shaving bench to prepare the spindles with a drawing knife and spokeshave. To shape the seat he uses a scorp of soft wood and a side grinder on hardwood. The legs and arms are pushed through the seat and are wedged for ultimate strength. He uses white glue for the joints that take the longest to set in place and yellow TITEBOND for the other joints. Mr. Wright certainly fulfilled his mission for the some twenty of us who thoroughly enjoyed his "show."

Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild Meetings are held monthly on the second Thursday at 6:30 PM at Jos. Thuston & Sons Saw Works. Take I-65 to Malfunction Junction and get on I-59/20. Go past the Civic Center until you can take exit 126B where you turn right on 31st Street for one block; turn right on 10th Ave., North, and go 3 blocks. Bo Thuston's is on your left.

Information concerning the Guild may be secured by calling Charles R. Yerby at 205-426-4320.



David Wright



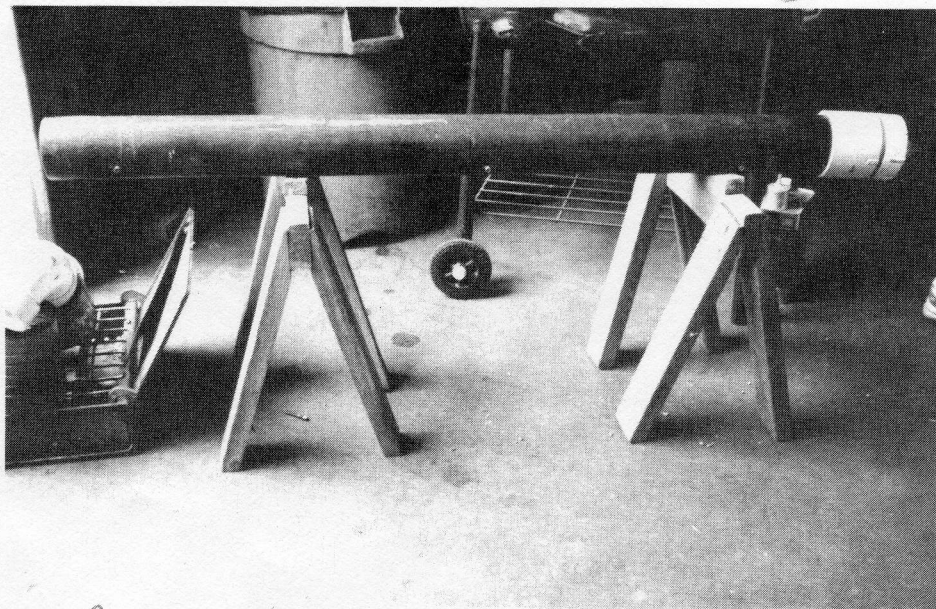
some of the Guild



Regular Chair



High Chair



Propane heated steaming tube

Alabama Woodworkers Guild Questionnaire

In order to help determine the direction of future programs and activities for the Guild, please take a few minutes to answer the following questions.

Circle the answer that best describes the way you feel about the following activities and then add any comments that you may have.

1. The length of our monthly meetings are: too long, too short, about right.

Comments: _____

2. The emphasis and time the Guild spends on the "Toys Program" is: Too much, not enough, about right.

Comments: _____

3. This year I plan to enter a project in the annual show: Yes, No

If your answer above is no, please give a brief explanation: _____

4. The professional seminars that the Guild sponsors are important to me as a woodworker: Yes No
The cost for these seminars is: Too expensive About right

Comments: _____

5. Please take a minute to list what changes that you would like to see implemented in order to make the Guild a better organization.

6. Please list any suggestions for future programs or seminars that you may have.

7. The Guild Newsletter is a good source of information regarding the Guild activities for me: Yes, No

Comments: _____

Additional comments: _____

Your name (optional): _____

Please fold, stamp, staple and mail – the return address is on the reverse. Thanks for your input!

**Employment?? Want a Job?
Need a Job?**

Why all these questions?
Remember we (the Guild) participated in the Whistle Stop Craft Show in Irondale in May? During the course of our show our group was approached by SOUTHERN VAN CONVERSIONS, a company in Trussville that modifies Vans for dealers or the buyer of a van to their designs or specifications. They add or replace trim in the van with walnut, and this requires some amount of skill and experience in working with wood. They are looking for craftsmen who have worked with furniture and have, as a result, acquired know-how in shaping, cutting and finishing skills, arm rests, decorations and dash boards. If you have any interest in exploring this opportunity call Mr. Adrian Wyatt, telephone number 205-655-0919, at SOUTHERN VAN CONVERSIONS. He is looking for full time or part time help.

Show and Tell

This most entertaining part of our program each month was just that again in June. The offerings were as follows:

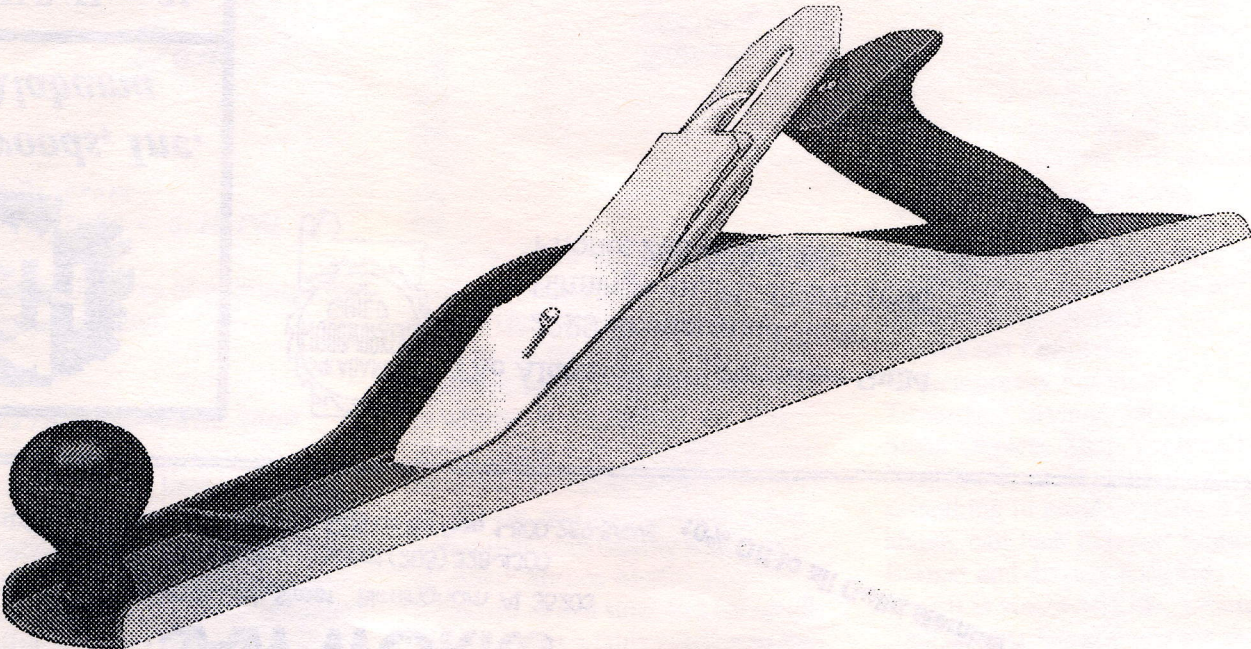
- Frank Jones Walking sticks made from small saplings which had experienced the restraint exerted by honeysuckle vines thus creating spirals.
- George Schoppert A Cajun Yo Yo — ask him about this
- Mike Key Two lovely turned bowls — one hollow turned with small top opening
- Buddy Finch A scroll sawn golfer (or that's what he said it was)

For Sale — Second Notice

An old friend of our Guild, Bobby Michaelson, owner of Ramwood Furniture, has a Rockwell (now Delta), 14" Bandsaw, enclosed Stand, 1/2 HP, and some extra blades for \$425. Call Bobby at 323-5070.



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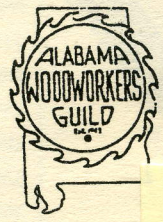
Call us Toll Free 1-800-289-SAWS

10% Off to all Guild Members.

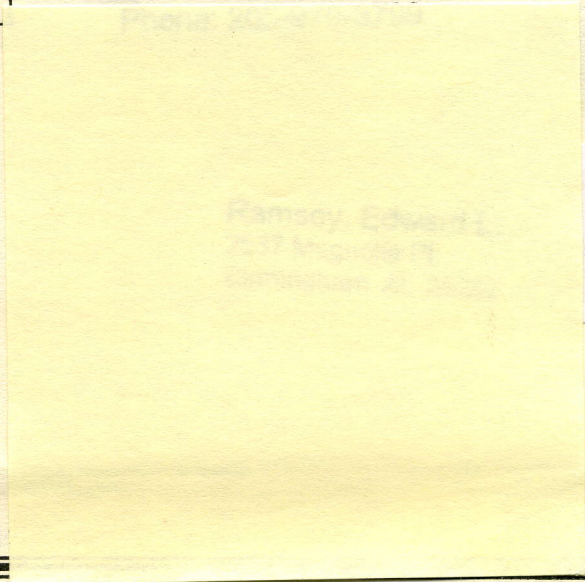



**Hardwoods, Inc.
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The Alabama Woodworkers Guild
2229 Shelterwood Road
Birmingham, AL 35226-1096



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
e-mail: WC511@aol.com

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

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