

# Guild News

VOLUME XIX

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OCTOBER 2000

## *President's Message*

It's show time! This is a real exciting time of the year for the Guild. It gives us an opportunity to show off our work and critique each other's skills and creativity. To me, one of the best things about the show is it encourages me to "put my best foot forward"—that is, spend a little extra time on my project in an effort to be competitive with all you great craftsmen. If you're bashful about having your work judged, you can enter it for display only. Either way, let's make this the biggest and best show ever.

Don't forget the reception on Sunday (October 8, from 2:30-4:00 PM). We hope to have a lot of special guests so try to be there and show your support for the Guild.

Have you started making those toys yet? If not, you need to get started—they're due at the November meeting (November 9th). Of course we will also be collecting them at our Christmas Party (December 14th).

Remember, a new slate of officers will be nominated at our next meeting. Again, show your support by being at the meeting and voting for your pick.

See you at the show (October 7 - October 14) and at our next meeting on October 12.

*Dan*

## *Next Program—*

*October 12, 2000 • 6:30 PM*

**NOW HEAR THIS!** You old Navy men will recognize that command. What we want you to hear is that Charley Ard, who has been Program chairman for three years, and has never given a program, is our program for October. Charley is a prolific woodworker and has just completed a 29' Sport Fisherman boat, which he started in January. It is made of plywood, and has twin inboard engines at 140 HP each. It is mostly completed and as of this writing he is still working on the cabin house. This is not the first boat he has built because on at least one other occasion he brought one to our meeting while we were still at Acton's. He is bringing this monster to our meeting and you will be the loser if you miss seeing and hearing about it.

## *Last Program—September 2000*

In the absence of the regularly scheduled program, Charley Ard did what he does best, get it done. Since his program had bombed out, he begged, pleaded and cajoled three of our members into doing "something" for us.

The first was Harold Phillips. Harold has made hundreds of yo-yo's over the years, and he has to have a dowel to hold the two

halves together. The cost of walnut or mahogany dowels is prohibitive and he began searching for a way to make his own dowels. This he did. He constructed a small table into which he inserted a router upside down; then he made two blocks next to a fence with holes 1/4" in diameter, the size he needs for his yo-yo's. He then rips small strips 5/16" square, then rounds one end and chucks the other end in an electric drill. The router is located so as to round over the strip as it is fed through the blocks and when it comes out the other side it is round. Presto, he has a dowel. Thanks, Harold.

The next victim, or exhibitor, was Mike Key. Mike does almost everything that can be done with wood or power tools. This night he demonstrated how to make pens and pencils on the lathe. The wood blanks are bought from craft places together with the mechanism required for a pen or pencil. The blank mysteriously became a quite pretty pen after he had done what you have to do to make them. Thanks, Mike.

The last demonstrator was Paul Mancill. Paul is multi-talented as well as the other two. Among Paul's ventures is carving. He showed us a wood bound sign-in book that will be used in his son's wedding. The

cover was eloquently done and of the quality anyone would want at his wedding. He also showed us a stool he had in last year's SHOW. The ends had elaborate carvings, and the stretcher was well carved. Thanks, Paul.

**Questions and Answers**

Always an interesting part of our meetings, this time was no exception.

First Question: What kind of glue do you use on Plexiglas?

Answer: Consult with AAA Plastics on First Avenue North.

Second Ques: How do you rip a 2" x 6" beam diagonally?

Answer: Set the table of your band saw at 45° and rip it. When ripped, turn what was the top and bottom of the board together and bind them together. Then run them through your thickness planer and remove the band saw blade marks

Third Ques: How do you clean your saw table top, jointer top and other tools?

Answer: Steel wool with WD40, or 400 grit sandpaper, clean off and wash. You may use Easy-Off Oven cleaner on saw blades.

**Jim and Linda Caldwell**

We are distressed to learn that Linda has a debilitating illness and is confined to home. You may remember Linda was our pianist at our Christmas parties for many years up until we began having the party on Thursday night and her piano students interfered with her attending on that night. We

surely offer our prayers and best wishes to Linda and Jim and hope they will be back with us soon.

**Ivan Kronberg**

Our long-time faithful and supportive member, Ivan, is still in the hospital. Ivan has the distinction of having presented the first program at the first meeting of the GUILD back in 1983. He has given many programs since then, and we continue to hope and pray he will be back with us again soon.

**Woodworking Class**

If it weren't for Fred Baker and Mike Key, we probably wouldn't have any woodworking classes. They have started a new class and it began 9/16/00. They are going to make a workbench like the last two or three they have made and just like the one that is up front on meeting night. The GUILD is appreciative of their efforts for the rest of us, and we wish them well this time.

**Jesse Whitfield Tools and Materials**

You may remember we mentioned in last month's GUILD NEWS that the lumber Jesse had when he died is at Fred Baker's, and the tools are at THUSTON's. If you have any interest in either of these, please call Fred or Bo and be aware that the proceeds are being given to Jesse's

daughters. The lumber has already produced some \$1,350 to them.

**Toy Workshop**

There is planned a toy workshop to be held at Pres. Dan's home on a time/date to be announced. Dan has a well equipped shop and there will be material available, or you can bring your own. Plan for a few hours of toy work with Dan, Jack, Charley, Walter, Paul and all the others who do so much for the GUILD. Dan serves good goodies too.

**Door Prize**

This ritualistic part of our past and present occurred as usual. The THUSTON gift certificate was awarded by lottery to Jack Tyler.

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.

**Please note! There will be a reception from 2—4:30, Sunday, October 8 at the North Shelby County Library for members and their friends and neighbors to view our SHOW and enjoy our fellowship and refreshments.**

*The Show*

By the time you get this GUILD NEWS, it will be too late for you to enter anything in THE SHOW this year. That doesn't mean you can put it entirely out of your mind. Your next obligation to the GUILD is to gather up your family, friends and neighbors and take or direct them to the North Shelby Library on Hwy 119 to see the Year 2000 SHOW. We have enormous visitation by the public over the years, and we can recall one year over 700 people signed the book that they were there. The Library is faced with field stone and is kind of cater-cornered to the highway with plenty of glass showing in the windows. You are asked to register your attendance as well as vote for the Best of Show (sometimes called the People's Choice.) There is a special ribbon for this entry, and we will need you to place your vote in the box provided for that purpose. If you are coming from the Hwy 280 direction the library is on your left, but if you are coming from the Hwy 31 direction it will be on your right. The entries will be delivered to the library on Saturday, October 7, 2000. Judging will be done on Sunday morning, October 8th and is expected to be completed by

Noon. You may begin arriving at the library in the afternoon and for the rest of the week through Sunday during library hours. This promises to be a good show. Come and see.

*Workbench Building Class*

The workbench building class is underway. Already we have had three sessions. The workbench that we are building can be found in "Tage Frid Teaches Woodworking — Book 3: Furnituremaking", if you would like to follow along.

The class is meeting at Thuston and Sons each Saturday morning from 8 until 12 and is co-instructed by Mike Key and Fred Baker. The woodshop is located upstairs in the store and is very well equipped.

The class consists of Guild members Jack Tyler, Jim Anchors, Bill Bailey, Nelda Kelly, Buzz Kelly and Bill Shivers. Prospective Guild members taking the class are Max Bryant and Archie Faulkner.



*Wood for Humidors*

Q. Why is Spanish Cedar used to line humidors? Can other woods be substituted?—Patrick Helms, Bismarck, N.D.

Aging of premium cigars, like the aging of fine wines, requires a controlled environment. Humidors are designed to keep cigars at 70 degrees F with a relative humidity of 70 percent—perfect for cigars, not so good for most woods. Actually a member of the mahogany family, Spanish cedar's name comes from its spicy, cedar-like odor. Surprisingly, this pungent scent does not impart any unpleasant taste to the cigars. Spanish cedar's ability to absorb and moderate moisture without excessive dimensional change makes it the wood of choice for lining humidors.

Honduran mahogany is an acceptable substitute for Spanish cedar with one notable exception: the tobacco beetle, which uses tobacco as a host for its larvae, can't stand Spanish cedar but doesn't mind Honduran mahogany. Sometimes there's more to tradition than just tradition.

Tip: If you use Spanish cedar, look for *Cedrela mexicana* which doesn't have the pitch problems of the less expensive *Cedrela odorata*.

Spanish cedar and other humidor supplies are available from the Beall Tool Company (800) 331-4718 and from Custom Humidor (800) 486-4367.



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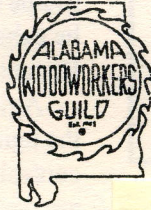
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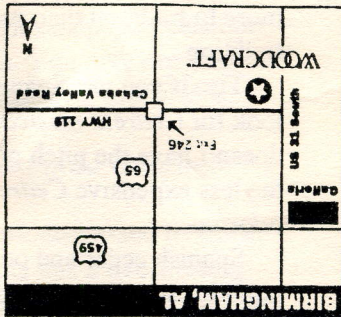


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**Store Hours**  
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**Directions**  
Take I-65 to Exit 246. Take Highway 119 West (Cahaba Valley Road) 3/4 of a mile. We are located on the left, in the Cahaba Valley Station.  
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