

# GuildNews

VOLUME XX

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MARCH 2001

|                     |                       |                    |              |                    |              |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| President           | Charles (Charlie) Ard | Board of Governors | Jack Tyler   | Board of Governors | Paul Mancill |
| Vice President      | Cliff Saxon           |                    | Bob Browning |                    | Frank Jones  |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Harold Phillips       |                    | Buzz Kelly   |                    | Jack Perry   |
| Guild News          | Leonard Sanders       |                    |              |                    |              |

## President's Message

It is my unpleasant duty to tell you that my good friend Jack Perry died last night. After watching his progress for around two years, uphill and down, I knew the call would come soon and I dreaded seeing the "D. Browning" on my caller I.D.

Jack walked with his head up and played the hand he was dealt with bravery and dignity and without complaint. Though he got harsh treatment from the University of Alabama Athletic department, he never said and unkind word about U.A.T. and was never seen without his "315" ring, even when it was falling off his finger. Throughout his long trial of chemo and bone marrow transplant he was always cheerful and hopeful for the future, not dwelling on his problems but telling jokes or talking sports. He was a true gentleman and a good example for all of us to follow when our time comes.

The last time I saw Jack he was giving a day of his time (and he knew well how few he had left to give) to teach a troop of scouts some woodworking. Jack had designed a little truck that carried a box of crayons and each boy built one and donated it to the hospital. That is typical of the many unselfish things he did.

So, farewell monsieur Jaques Perreé, may your many kind works be repaid ten times over, may your example serve to make us better men, and may you have as many good friends in heaven as you did on earth.

We loved ya,

*C. Ard*

## Next Program - March 8, 2001 - 6:30

We will be pleased to welcome Mr. Mike Davis to our meeting. Mike is a native of Birmingham; moved to Huntsville where he learned to do woodworking from his father and grandfather; then moved to Mobile and continued this pursuit; and since 1989 has lived in Alabaster. Mike is employed by Rust Engineering, and his wife, Arlene, is also a woodworker. He prefers to work with mahogany and walnut, and his presentation at our meeting will be demonstrated on the band saw and scroll saw.

## Last Program

Since Charlie was in Paris, France at the time of our meeting, it fell to Cliff Saxon, Vice-President, to preside and maintain order. He did a fine job and we appreciate him, and all the other officers, for doing such a good job.

It was a special occasion when we welcomed our old friend Dean Black to our meeting. Dean has been in and out of our meetings for many years and probably could be considered a member (if he would only pay his dues). It was equally nice to have Dean's wife, Sharon, as our guest. Since Frank Jones has known and has been associated with Dean for many years, Cliff asked Frank to introduce him. Dean had heard some of us talking about the lumber dealer in Prattville who is a specialist in cypress lumber, and shared with us he is building a new home completely out of cypress. Maybe he will have a "tea" or something and let us all tour and admire his new home when completed. Dean got started in woodworking making gun stocks, and to prove he can make them he had two rifles with him for us to admire. He has come a long way since making gun stocks, however, and lays claim to many sophisticated projects he has put his name to around Birmingham. He showed us some crosses he has made a few of (ladies wear them on a chain around their neck) and because of the unusual way they are cut, it makes them one of a kind. A little different sort of pursuit for a woodworker is the way he takes three or four welding rods, affixes them to a stationary base and

enlists the assistance of someone to hold a welding torch on the rods until they can be bent. While in that position he plats (braids) them into a pigtail which he then hammers flat on each side. From this structure, he makes belt buckles and other decorations. He has been commissioned to redo the Korean exhibition in the Birmingham Museum of Art, which he will start in September. One last thing, his turning lathes are so large he can accommodate huge burls safely. He now has one burl some 8' in diameter, and it took a front end loader and a dump truck to get it to his shop. He is quite a fellow, and we appreciate his coming from Springville into town at night to be with us.

**Jack Perry**

It is with sadness we report on the death of JACK PERRY, the member everyone will remember as the quiet, but efficient, co-manager of our annual SHOW. Jack has had a terrible time the last few years, having battled cancer, had a bone marrow transplant, and most recently a heart attack. Jack was retired from the position of Sports Information Director for the University of Alabama. Through all his problems he maintained a love of and activity in woodworking and was always available to assist in a seminar, a home shop open house or, as he did just a few weeks ago, participate in a workshop for a scout troop. God Bless, Jack.

**A New Class**

There is being organized a new class of woodworkers who are interested in furthering their woodworking skills. To that end, a class will be held at Thuston's beginning March 17th. Please contact either President Ard or Bo Thuston if you would like to participate. They are going to construct a Garden Bench from cypress. Phone numbers are in the GUILD NEWS if you want more information.

**Auction - Auction**

This was the first such undertaking we have engaged in and it turned out very well. Two of our members each brought a piece of cypress as a donation to the Guild. With Dan Browning as auctioneer, one piece sold for \$15 and the other for \$25. While this isn't much money, maybe, just maybe, a seed has been planted, and it will become a fun thing at our meetings. The proceeds from the auction go into the treasury of the Guild, and there is always something we need to spend money on. If you have some material or tools you really don't have much or any need for, bring them to the meeting. We are going to continue this auction as part of our program until or unless you show no interest in it. It is kind of fun, so PARTICIPATE!

**Saturday Workshop**

The accompanying picture is of six of eight young scouts from Highland School troop who participated in a workshop recently. Jack Perry, Charlie Ard and Dan Browning held open house to these young men at Dan's home shop. Material, patterns and advice were furnished to them as each one made a semi-trailer which was carrying a load of crayons. If you look closely at the picture you can make out the truck. Everyone had a great time, and it is hoped this will be the first of many such workshops held by our Guild. If you would like to sponsor one or participate in one, talk to Charlie or Dan about how to go 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 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 Harold Phillips at 205-424-0819.



**Show and Tell**

A truly fun part of our program each month is when our members bring something they have made for us to critique and enjoy. Included in the February group:

- |                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| George Strother  | Child's flat-bed wagon   |
| George Schoppert | Turned Bowl\Ford Car     |
| Harold Phillips  | Turned Bowl              |
| Mel Brown        | Shelves& glass wall cab. |

Many thanks to each of these members, and we hope many more of you will do the same thing.

**Board of Governors**

If you think your officers and governors don't do anything but attend meetings along with you, you're wrong. Each month, one week before our regular meeting, they sit down at dinner and discuss the business of the Guild. The Treasurer gives his report, and finances are discussed. It was from such a discussion that the idea of auctioning off items sprung. All

aspects of operating the Guild are discussed with the intent of providing a better guild for our members. At the February meeting, one of our new Board members presented some ideas relating to computerizing some of our business. One thing was to establish a Web Site; then we could display our annual SHOW, and other activities to attract new members. It might be possible to receive your GUILD NEWS Electronically instead of by mail. Of course, we don't ever intend to completely do away with the printed and mailed GUILD NEWS. The matter of our annual hot dog supper was discussed at the February meeting, and it will be held in May. Anyway, this is just to let you know there is work going on every day for the benefit of our Guild and may it always be so.

**Heart Transplants**

You may recall one of the recipients of our annual toy production is the U.A. B. transplant hospital. The other day the Fourth

Annual UAB Neonatal/Pediatric Heart and Lung Transplant Celebration was held at the hospital "To Celebrate Life". Board members Jackie Tyler and Dan Browning represented the Guild at the celebration where there were twelve transplant recipients ranging in age from two to eight. Dr. James Kirkland, for whom the Kirkland Clinic is named, was the speaker. Dan and Jackie assembled enough toys so that each child received one. All the TV stations were present and 33/40 had a mention of the occasion on their 6:00 pm newscast.

**Last Call for Dues**

As mentioned in the February GUILD NEWS it is that time of year again. It is time for your annual dues payment of \$25. Where else can you get as much fun, inspiration and information for \$2 a month? Just as it always is, it is time to reprint our Membership Directory, and there has to be a deadline if you want to be included. In addition to your dues, we need each member to fill out a questionnaire giving the information that will be included in the Directory. It is absolutely essential that the form be completed by the March meeting and that your dues be paid by then. It will be necessary to eliminate those members who have not paid their dues by the March meeting. If you have not been furnished a form for your personal information, call Harold Phillips at 424-0819 and he will get you one.



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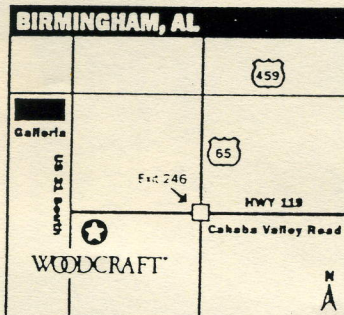
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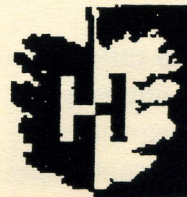
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