



Guild News

Volume XXI Number 3

March 2002

President: Dan Browning
(205)979-3799

Vice President: Paul Mancill
(205)823-2195

Treasurer: Harold Phillips
(205)424-0819

Guild News: Nelda Kelly
(205)733-1258

Board of Governors:
Bob Browning
Buzz Kelly
Jim Lee
Bill Shivers
Bill Thomas

*Next meeting is
Saturday,
March 16, 2002*

- Coffee and donuts from 8:00 AM until 9:00 AM
- Meeting starting promptly at 9:00 AM
- Program Speaker
- Lunch at 11:30 AM
- Shop Tour 1:00 PM

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President's Message

Boy, I feel like a caged animal! I had my planned back surgery on the 20th and can't drive a car for three weeks from that date. If you don't go mad from that....enough about me.

I really enjoyed our last meeting. **Bobby Michaelson** did a great job. You folks are really coming forth with some great show n tell stuff – even a visitor (I hope new member by now, **Harry Kimmel**) had a great truck he built. The emphasis is for even more show n tell each month. Let's keep the pressure on to make this an even bigger part of our program. This can become and certainly has become a great learning experience for all of us.

Speaking of learning experiences, how about the upcoming router workshop! (For more information see page 4). **Marc Adams** is an outstanding instructor with tremendous knowledge of the router and all the jigs that go with

it. When we inquired about interest from you folks, we had about 40 to sign up to attend – our plans are based on that number. I know its early but we certainly do not have that many signed up and paid. A lot of planning goes into this kind of project, so we need you to “step up” and give the Guild the kind of support it deserves.

Speaking of support, the next time you're at Bo's say “thank you” to him for all he does for us. Also, thanks to the kind person who provided lunch for the Guild at our last meeting.

Remember to check in your show-n-tell items with **Jim Lee** prior to the meeting each month. Jim is keeping up with the official list of items for the quarterly prize. The first prize is to be awarded in April.

March Program

The March program will be a first for the Guild and one that you will not want to miss. **Neal Webster** of R & D Enterprises will discuss the proper way to saw up a log into lumber (not firewood).

After the discussion, we will go outside and he will demonstrate for us, using a portable bandsaw mill. We hope to have him saw up 2 or 3 logs and demonstrate how quarter sawn lumber is produced.

Don't forget that after the meeting we will be journeying down to Hoover to visit the shop of **Cliff Daniels** (see page 5 for details).

See you there!

February Meeting Highlights

President Dan Browning called the meeting to order and thanked **Jim Lee** for picking up doughnuts. **Jim Lee** was voted permanent doughnut man as he did such an excellent job. Doughnuts were provided by the Guild. **Bo Thuston** provided the coffee.

Visitors **Tom Bowman**, **James Casner**, **Harry Kimmel** and **Charles Farrell** (please forgive any misspellings) were recognized as was new member **John Lawson**.

Maps to **Frank Jones'** house were passed around for the afternoon shop visit. Names were drawn for the **Frank Jones** class (see article page 3). The bookcase class taught by **Paul Mancill** was scheduled to begin February 23rd. There were still 4 slots available on meeting day.

The Marc Adams Router Seminar date was announced as April 13th. (See article page 4.)

Vestavia playground volunteers forms were once again available at the meeting. There will be a garage sale to benefit the playground effort on March 9th. Donations will

be accepted on March 8th at the Vestavia Civic Center.

Show-n-tell included a beautiful blanket chest made by **Paul Mancill** of his own kiln dried cherry with a cedar drawer and bottom. **Buddy Finch** brought a turned bowl made of multiple woods and a welcome sign made with a scroll saw (though according to Buddy, he is no **Cliff Daniels**). **Harry Kimmel** brought a toy truck made of oak with a maple hood. And, last but not least, **Cliff Daniels** showed us (though he is no **Buddy Finch**) his intarsia quail out of walnut and maple. All are contenders for the quarterly show-n-tell prize to be presented in April.

After being briefed on the definition of an expert: a drip under pressure; someone 50 miles or more from home with a briefcase; or someone who can look at a mused bed and tell if it was for love or money; we were introduced to an expert woodworker.

Bobby Michaelson, told us that he does mostly out of town shows so he can claim to be an expert. From the looks of the examples of his work he brought to show

us, I think he might have been pulling our legs.

In addition to the pieces he brought, he showed slides of many more. Bobby has 24 years of experience in woodworking and has been working as a professional woodworker for 18 years. Bobby creates his own unique designs, (reminiscent of those of his friend **Dale Lewis** without feminine legs) often with input from his customers. He says "there are no mistakes just design changes." Bobby shared many of his techniques with us including one of his favorite finish formulas (see page 5). Bobby also spent some time telling us how to apply the finish for the best result. He ended by inviting us all over to his place, Ramwood, at 2127 First Avenue South to visit.

Paul Mancill announced that next month's program will be a portable sawmill. We were then adjourned to eat polish dogs provided at no cost by an anonymous donor before heading on over to visit **Frank Jones'** shop.

What a day!

February Shop Visit Review

We arrived at **Frank Jones'** to find a whole field full of cars had already arrived. As we approached the house, admiring the woodsy retreat so close to civilization, we noted how quiet it was.

Knowing that the shop was on the lower level of the house, we entered the doors closest to the shop to be met with eerie silence. There on a pool table were several examples of Frank's caving displayed but no people. We went on back to the shop. There were several of those claw and ball feet in various stages of completion but still no people. Then we heard voices upstairs. We followed the voices to find Frank holding court, telling stories to a fascinated audience as he showed everyone around his veritable museum of a

home. Everyone was clustered around Frank's wall sized map of the world which had been cut out of wood and affixed to his living room wall.

Scattered around his home Frank had many interesting objects of art including his own beautifully crafted furniture. Each object has some fascinating story. (Frank is a pretty good story teller as well as an excellent woodworker.)

It was a great visit and everyone got back down to the shop eventually.

Thanks, Frank, for having us over.

Ball & Claw Carving Class

The first Ball and Claw carving class taught by **Frank Jones** was scheduled to begin on March 1st with **James Armstrong, Tom Robinson, Hal Skalka** and **Cliff Daniels** being the first group of students. At the February meeting, we had 25 people signed up for a class. At four students per session, a drawing was held to determine which members would get to go first.

Each class will take two sessions to be held at **Frank Jones's** shop on Saturday mornings. Class number 2 will be held March 23rd and 30th. Class members will be **Bob Browning, Jeff Bishop, Walter Barnett, and Rick McNew.**

Class 3, April 27th and May 4th is **Bill Thomas, Bill Shivers, Harold Phillips, and Ed Bullock.**

Class 4, May 11th and 25th consists of **Mike Key, Fred Baker, Buzz Kelly** and **Nelda Kelly.**

Class 5, will meet June 1st and 8th with attendees **Jim Anchors, Steve LeSueur, Paul LeSueur, and Larry Young**

Class 6, will be held June 22nd and 29th with **Herb Slamen, Bob Moore, Paul Mancill, and Mike Guschke** in attendance.

Jack Hamel's name is on the list and should anyone be unable

to attend their assigned class, Jack will be offered their slot and that person will move to the bottom of the list.

Class attendees will need to bring a 3" x 3" or 2 3/4" x 2 3/4" piece of mahogany, walnut, or cherry the length of the leg that the student desires to make.

Tools required are:

3/8" chisel,
#2 gouge 12 to 16 mm
#5 gouge 12 to 16 mm
#7 gouge 10 to 16 mm
riffler files and rasp

Auction in May



At our May meeting, we will be holding an auction. Start thinking about any thing that you have that you might like to auction off. Bring your crafts, woodworking projects, spare tools, wood, furniture, books, or videos. Rumor has it that **Jim Lee** will be auctioning off his folding table.

Contribute your merchandise to the Guild for the auction or can sell your wares and donate a small portion of the proceeds to the Guild. More details will be available at a later date. We would like to get an idea of just how many objects we might have, so if you know you are planning to bring something, please let **Paul Mancill** or **Buzz Kelly** know.

Invite your family and friends to come in and join the fun. **Jimmy Woods** will be bringing 2 of his horseless carriages for us to see at the May meeting as well. This will be a good time to bring a guest or two.

Book Case Class

Saturday mornings you can find **Paul Mancill** in the attic workshop at Thuston's Saw Works busily instructing his students on the fine art of furniture creation.

The class members, **Marty Cogen, Todd Herndon, John Merchant, James Armstrong, Buzz Kelly, Nelda Kelly, George Schoppert, Charles Osborne, and John Lawson** have begun the process of turning rough cherry lumber into a craftsman style bookcase.



Marc Adams Router Workshop

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild is fortunate to have acquired the services of **Marc Adams** in teaching a router workshop.

MARC ADAMS has been woodworking professionally for over 19 years. In 1991, he became a technical consultant to the W.W.P.A., S.F.P.A., A.H.E.C., and the American Government, representing the U.S. on International Quality of Furniture Making.

His work has appeared in DESIGN BOOK SIX AND SEVEN, as well as many other national publications. He has worked with the E.P.A. in Washington on current woodworking issues, and has been a panel commentator at the prestigious International Woodworking Fair.

He specializes in veneering, carving and joinery.

Marc has won the Indiana Artist/Craftsman of the year award three times and periodically does TV and radio talk shows on woodworking topics.

He co-authored a book on WORKING WITH PLASTIC LAMINATES, and currently consults for both the laminate and adhesive

industries.

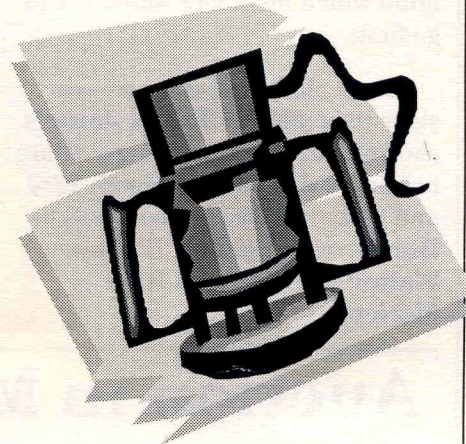
He lectures nationally for universities, guilds and the WOODWORKING SHOWS out of Los Angeles. In 1998 he was chosen as one of Indiana's top 40 under 40 in the local business community.

The router is the most often used and, without a doubt, the most versatile tool in the shop today. In this informative workshop, Marc will distinguish the differences between the trim, general, plunge, and "D" handle routers as well as safety and maintenance.

Students will learn about the large selection of router bits available today and which ones work best for the job at hand. Speed, torque, feed direction and rate will be discussed as well as carbide versus high-speed steel, bit diameter, shaft size, collet types and sharpening.

The majority of the class will be spent showing set-ups for a router table and how to make several fixtures including circle, elliptical, mortise & tenon, cope and stile, mock dovetail, spline, inlay, star bursts, fluted jambs, and many others.

The workshop will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2002 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Shades Crest Baptist Church in Bluff Park. Lunch will be served.



The prepaid price is \$50.00.
The price will be \$65.00 at the door.

Please send your check to:

Fred Baker
Publicity Chairman
2100 Grayson Valley Drive
Birmingham, AL 35235
Home: (205) 854-4647

About Us

Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild meetings are held monthly on the third Saturday at 9:00 a.m. 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 Avenue 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.

See our website at: www.alabamawoodworkersguild.org

Contact our **Guild News Editor, Nelda Kelly** at nelbuz@msn.com.

Cliff Daniels, Shop Host

Cliff Daniels will host our shop visit for March. Cliff, a long time member and previous board member of the Guild, is probably best know for his outstanding scroll saw work.

A master at both fret work and intarsia, perhaps Cliff will share some of his woodworking secrets when we visit his shop.

Located near the Galleria in Hoover, you can get to Cliff's house by taking the Hwy 31 exit from I-459. Go north on Hwy 31 and take a left at the traffic light in front of Crest Cadillac onto Patton Chapel

Road. Go approximately 1.5 miles and turn left in front of Hoover Fire Station No. 2 onto Chapel Lane. Travel Chapel Lane until you get to the stop sign at Al Seier Road. Go to the sixth street on the right which will be the second Kildare Drive. (Kildare Drive makes a loop) Take a right and Cliff's house is the 3rd house on the right.

The address is 3430 Kildare Drive. You can call Cliff at 822-7326.

As **Bill Thomas** says, these visits are a great opportunity to share ideas.

Thank you from WAWA

Jim Bert, President of the West Alabama Woodworkers Association would like to thank the Alabama Woodworkers Guild for allowing them to add a link to their web site from ours.

Welcome New Member

Harry Kimmel
of Tuscaloosa

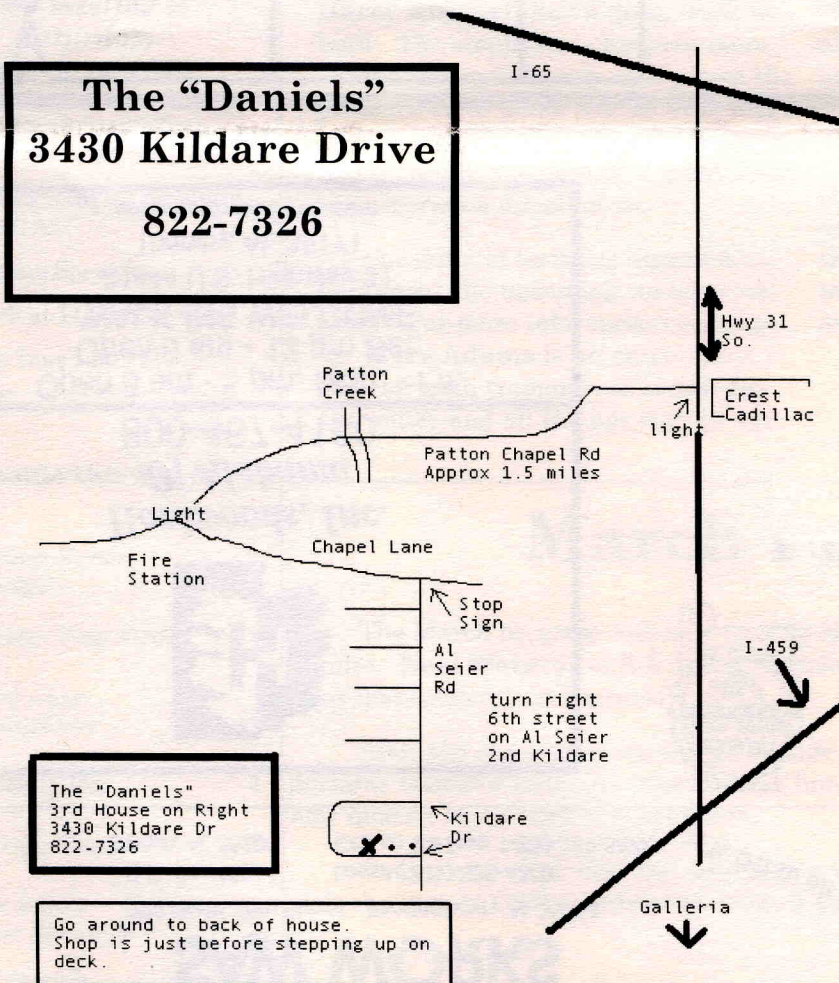
Shop Visit Schedule

Feb.	Frank Jones
March	Cliff Daniels
April	Bob Browning
May	Mike Key
June	Bill Thomas
July	Walter Barnett
Sept.	Paul Mancill
Oct.	Fred Baker

(from page 2)

Bobby Michaelson's favorite 3,2,1 finish formula consists of:

- 3 parts thinner,
- 2 parts polyurethane
- 1 part linseed oil.





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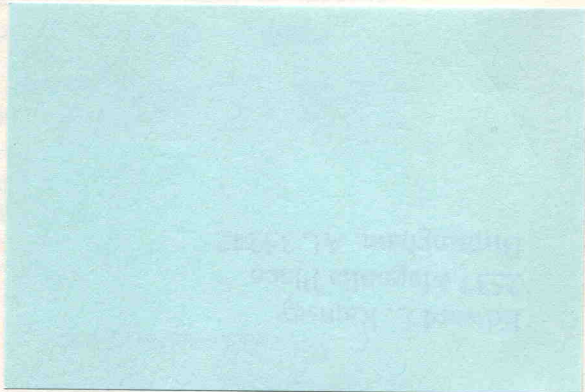
Store Hours

M T W F: 9AM 7PM

Th: 9AM 9PM

Sat: 9AM 6PM

Sun: Noon 5 PM




*The Alabama Woodworkers Guild
928 28th Street North
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Phone: 205-328-4300*



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