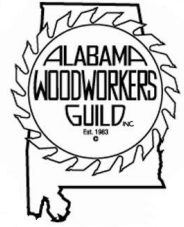




Woodworking Education Center  
10544 Hwy 17, Maylene, AL 35114

# Alabama Woodworkers Guild Guild News



[www.alabamawoodworkersguild.org](http://www.alabamawoodworkersguild.org)

Volume XXXV Number 8

August, 2016

## Next Meeting

The next  
scheduled  
meeting is  
August 20

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## President's Message

Dear Guild Members,

I recently bought a quart of Zinsser Shellac SealCoat for a project and was wondering about the shelf life. I searched the Zinsser web site and couldn't find any information about the dates. The following article from Popular Woodworking Magazine explains why.

It used to be that Zinsser, which is now the only U.S. company supplying already-dissolved shellac, stamped the date of manufacture on the can, usually on the bottom. The company also told you on the label that the shelf life was three years. As I mentioned, the three-year claim is disputed, but at least the company put some time limit on the product.

In 2004 Zinsser was still telling customers about the 3-year shelf life. It no longer does.



Now, the company no longer provides any of this information. It doesn't provide the date of manufacture and there's no mention of shelf life, or "freshness," as

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*We are very fortunate to have the following patrons who support the Guild. They are excellent suppliers of products or services in the local area that provide monetary support or allow us to use their various facilities for Guild functions:*

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## President's Message

described on my can from 2004.

But there is a lot number stamped on the can, and I called the company to learn how to read this.

Here is how to read the stamp.

The first letter "S" identifies the plant that packaged the product. In the case of the two cans shown, it was Somerset, NJ.

The first number is the last digit in the year the shellac was packaged.

The second number is the month. For October, November and December the first letter is used instead of a number: "O," "N," or "D."

The third and fourth numbers provide the date within that month.

The fifth number or letter indicates the "run" on that date.

Breaking the code. Both cans were packaged in Somerset, NJ. The can on the left was the fourth run on Feb. 3, 2016. The can on the right, the second run on March 10, 2016.

So on the can pictured on the left, the date of manufacture was Feb. 3, 2016, and it was the fourth run of the day. On the can on the right, the date of manufacture was March 10, 2016 and it was the second run of the day.

The can that I just bought was made on S65202 = May 20th 2016 and my old can was made on S3425B = April 25th 2013. Helpful information.

Ray

## New Members

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members!

**Michael Tucker, Charlie Burke, Jonathan Lanham, Micah Roberts**

**WELCOME!**

WEC AUGUST -SEPTEMBER 2016 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Steve Stutts Supervisor 835-2010	Aug 1	2 9 ■ Over the Hill Gang - Toys   Shop C 9 ■ Shop Closed: Over the Hill Gang, 8:30p ■ AVG Board Meeting	3 6:30p ■ AVG Board Meeting	4 4:30p ■ Hand Tool Workshop	5 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ 9-10am Robert Moore... Supervisor 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ 1-5pm Robert Moore... Supervisor 5p ■ No Supervisor 5p ■ Eddie Heerlen Supervisor	6 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ Ray Ziegler - Supervisor (205) 45 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Steve Stutts Supv 835-2010
7 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Randall Robertson	8	9 9 ■ Over the Hill Gang - Toys   Shop C 9 ■ Shop Closed: Over the Hill Gang,	10	11 4:30p ■ Hand Tool Workshop	12 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ Lynn Smith - Supervisor Emergen 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Lynn Smith - Supervisor Emerge 5p ■ No Supervisor 5p ■ Eddie Heerlen	13 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ Supervisor: Paul Shank 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Steve Stutts Supervisor 835-2010
14 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Brian Slauss 205-335-7241	15	16 9 ■ Over the Hill Gang - Toys   Shop C 9 ■ Shop Closed: Over the Hill Gang,	17	18 4:30p ■ Hand Tool Workshop	19 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ Patrick Murphy, Shop Supervisor 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Patrick Murphy, Shop Supervisor 5p ■ No Supervisor 5p ■ Mike Key Scheduled	20 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ Pre-meeting program 9 ■ Pre-Meeting 10 Guild Membership Meeting 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Walter Barnett Scheduled
21 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Brian Slauss Supervisor	22	23 9 ■ Over the Hill Gang - Toys   Shop C 9 ■ Shop Closed: Over the Hill Gang,	24	25 4:30p ■ Hand Tool Workshop	26 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ R Hatrick Supervisor 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ R Hatrick Supervisor 5p ■ No Supervisor 5p ■ Mike Key Scheduled	27 9 Shop Closed: H4H Cabinet/Build C 9 ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ No Supervisor
28 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Steve Stutts Supervisor 835-2010	29	30 9 ■ Over the Hill Gang - Toys   Shop C 9 ■ Shop Closed: Over the Hill Gang,	31	Sep 1 4:30p ■ Hand Tool Workshop	2 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ Ron Powell, Supervisor 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Ron Powell, Supervisor 5p ■ No Supervisor 5p ■ Eddie Heerlen Supervisor	3 9 ■ No Supervisor 9 ■ Steve Stutts Supervisor 835-2010 1p ■ No Supervisor 1p ■ Bob Free, Supervisor

The most current WEC calendar is always available on-line at: <http://wp.aawwg.info/calendar/>

ance needs.  
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**THE AWARDS & ENGRAVING PLACE** is a full service engraving shop, offering both laser and flatbed rotary engraving. We engrave directly on wood, glass, plastic, and a variety of coated metals. We offer plaques, glass and acrylic awards, trophies, interior signs and name badges. We have been in business in Hoover since 1987. Contact Ken Murer, The Awards & Engraving Place, 1919 Hoover Court, Birmingham, Al 35226, (205)-823-7676 fax(205)-822-1111

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## August Pre Meeting Mentoring Topic: Line and Berry

“The compass “line and berry” motif is unique to Chester County (Pennsylvania) and reflects the influence of neighboring cultures such as the Pennsylvania Germans, known for their brightly painted geometric decoration on dower chests and related items,” according to Steve Latta. Buzz and Nelda Kelly were fortunate to be able to take a class from Steve Latta at the Marc Adams Woodworking School several years ago and will be sharing information on making those lines and berries in our upcoming pre-meeting mentoring session.

Lines of string inlay are created from contrasting woods (commonly holly) and fitted into a slot created in the furniture surface. Berries are also created from contrasting woods and fitted into holes drilled into the furniture surface. We have seen numerous presentations on the string inlay process by Buzz and Nelda over the years. This time they will lightly touch on that subject again and then move on to discussing making those berries.

Below are a couple of examples found on the internet showing sample uses of this decoration.



## Mentoring

NOTE: You must be a member of the Guild to be eligible to participate in mentoring classes.

Are you an intermediate or beginner woodworker with an itch to raise your woodworking skills a notch or two? Do you have a special project in mind, but are just a bit uneasy about getting underway? Looking for tips to save time and effort, plus get better results?

Here's what you need to do: join a Guild mentored group now. It's the way to go for all of the above with others at your skill level, and best of all, at no cost except for materials.

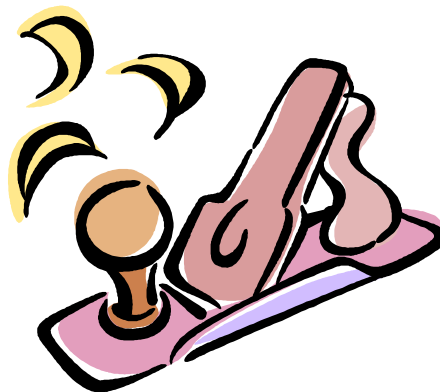
**Refer to Shop Schedule for schedule of mentoring sessions**

### Some examples of topics offered:

Bench Making  
Table Saw instruction  
Lathe Fundamentals  
Pen Turning  
Hand Tools - sharpening and techniques  
Furniture Building - Chairs, Table tops, Tables  
Instruction in - Router table use  
Instruction in - Jointer, Planer use  
Dovetail jig making  
Hand-cut Dovetails  
Pocket Hole Jig Instruction

**If you have questions on woodworking technique, tool usage, or buying equipment or tools, feel free to contact a Guild mentor.**

Jim Woodward	Guitars
Ed Bullock	Bows
John Lawson	Furniture repair, band saw, track saw
Mike Key	Dovetail jig
Bob Moore	Hand tool sharpening, table saw, joiner, planer
Dwight Hostetter	Lathe, segmented turning, baskets
Brian Stauss	Cabinet construction
Cliff Daniels	Scroll saw, jointer, band saw
Buzz Kelly	Finishing and stringing
Lynn Smith	Toys
Pat Bush	Jointer, planer
A.R. Bray	Draw knife, planes, hand tools, antique hand tools
Preston Lawley	Cutting Boards
Jeff Hood	Scroll Saw
Michael Malinconico	Cabinetry, CAD and Joinery
David Holcomb	Project Photography



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Contact the above by email or phone as listed in the Membership Directory.

## August Meeting Program: Henry Hughes

Our August program will feature Henry Hughes, director of education at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens aka "the tree guy".

He will discuss with us their efforts maintaining the urban forest that is Birmingham. He will also be happy to answer any questions you may have about trees.

- Art

## July Mentoring Recap

### July Mentoring Series: Project Finishing

Early arrivals to the July Meeting were treated to Cliff Daniels demonstrating Finishing Techniques as this month's Mentoring Series presentation. Cliff is well known for his turning prowess and in this month's series he demonstrated just how he achieves the smooth clear luster which is a signature of his work. He also shared examples of his exquisite scroll saw work.



For his larger items such as furniture pieces and chests, Cliff uses a HVLP (High Volume Low Pressure) spraying system to apply his favorite satin or semi-gloss lacquer. To finish, he rubs the project with "Mirlon" and "3M Scotch-Bright" pads; then applies a coat of wax and buff.

When his projects are pens, Cliff will sand to 400 grit then again use the Mirlon and 3M pads before moving to the finishing coats. On his wooden pens, he has his own custom "friction polish" he likes. While there is a brand called "Mylands", Cliff prefers his formula of 2 parts shellac, 1 part denatured alcohol and 1 part boiled linseed oil.



For small items like his Christmas ornaments or other scroll saw projects, Cliff uses aerosol cans of satin or semi-gloss lacquer.

When the project calls for plastic, corian or acrylic, the finish of

## July Mentoring Recap

choice is “Hut” ultra gloss plastic polish. It was also pointed out that CA (Cyanoacrylate) Glue can be and is used as a finish on any of these materials.

When the project is turned Pepper Mills or Bowls, Cliff will apply 2 or 3 coats of wipe on polyurethane. Allow each coat to dry overnight and rub with a 3M pad before adding the next coat. To finish the project, the Beall buffing system is used. The Beall system is comprised of 3 separate buffing wheels and 3 progressive buffing compounds which combine to a sparkling finish to any project.

Many Thanks to Cliff for sharing his knowledge, skills and abilities!

Resources:

1. Mirlon pads may be found at Woodcraft.
2. 3M Scotch-Brite pads may be found online or at any auto body shop supply store.
3. Aerosol Lacquer may be found at Home Depot or Woodcraft
4. Mylands High Build Friction Polish may be found at Woodcraft
5. Beall Buffing System may be found at Amazon or Woodcraft



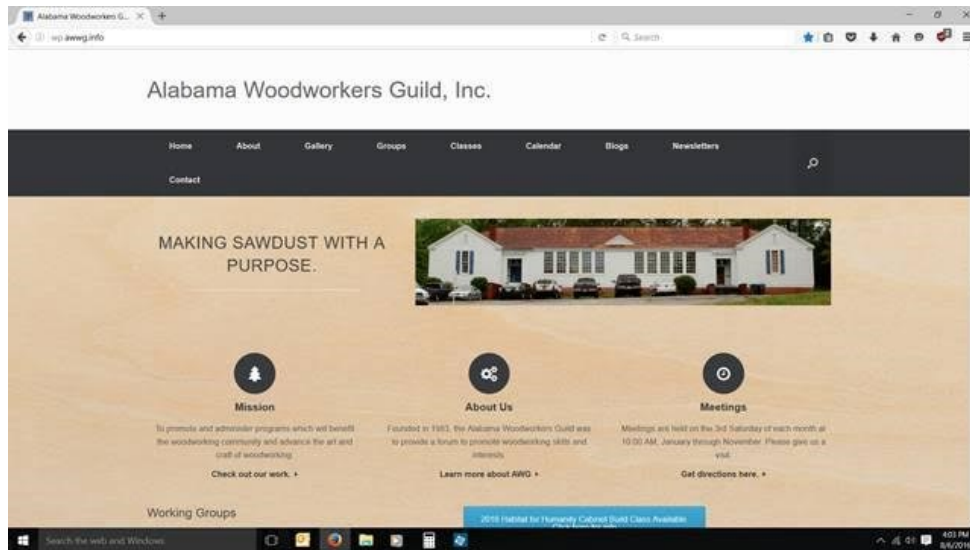
*Patrick Murphy*

# Media Committee

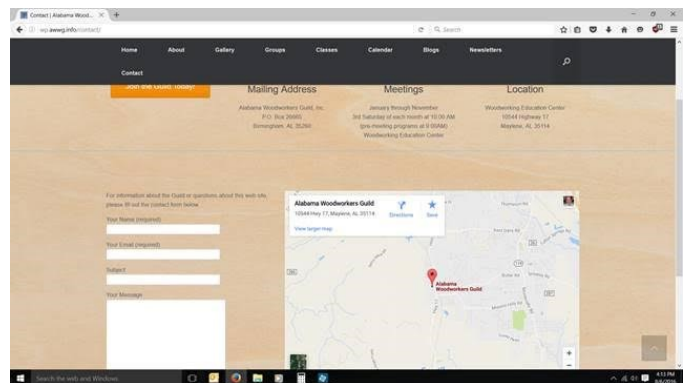
Guild Members:

Did you know we have a Media Committee who is responsible for our Digital Presence?

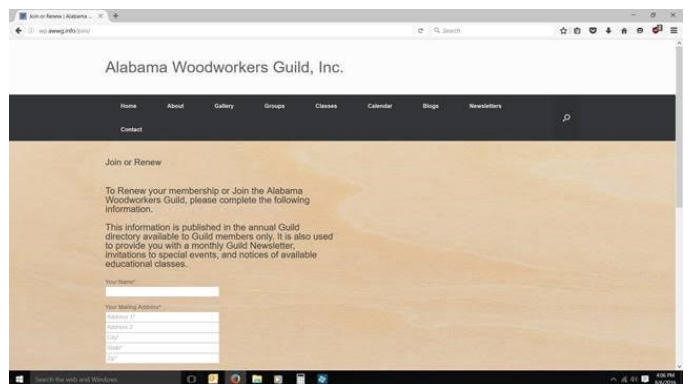
Did you know we have a new [Website](#)? (don't worry, if you have the old address you will still get here!)



What do you think of it? Check out the [“Contact”](#) page and let us know what you think or what you'd like to see changed or added.



Did you know you can now pay your [Annual Dues Online](#) or even join the Guild online through PayPal?





You can even register and pay for [Classes Online](#):



And coming soon, you'll be able to pay: Renewal Dues; Classes; and Wood Purchases with your credit card through a Shop Supervisor at the Woodworkers Education Center. Fast and convenient!

**Also, don't forget about our**



[Public Facebook Page](#) or our [Facebook Closed Group](#) for members only (ask to join).

## July Meeting Recap

Over 50 Guild members gathered again at the Woodworkers Education Center (WEC) in July to share stories and learn what was coming next at the Guild. As part of the meeting lead in, President Ray Ziegler shared there would be some upcoming classes, a couple still in the formative stage. Our Annual Habitat for Humanity Cabinet Build class would be starting Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> and would be scheduled for six sessions through early November and culminate with an installation in early December.

This year, along with the cabinets, the Guild is planning on building a kitchen table and chairs to also be donated to the Habitat Holiday House Homeowners. This class will be starting up in September so watch your inbox, the website and Facebook for additional details.



The Show and Tell feature of the meeting featured Bob Reiche who had crafted a “Band Saw Angle Jig”. The jig featured a protractor mounted on a sled base which could be aligned with your band saw blade to provide a more accurate table tilt for precision angle cuts.



Next up, Wally Duncan shared about his trip to Pennsylvania and some Flea Market finds including hand forged nails. There was also an interesting piece of nostalgia with a tin can lid what had been tacked over a knothole in an old barn.

## July Meeting Recap

Dwight Hostetter rounded out the S&T session by sharing his accomplishment in restoring an old wagon wheel which had been destroyed. The wheel is one of two belonging to a circa 1890 Fire Extinguisher Cart similar to the one pictured below. The cart would be pulled by a Fireman to the fire. The cart is being lovingly restored and will be on display at the Thorsby Fire Station. The effort allowed Dwight to learn and apply new techniques which allowed him to completely restore the wheel.



Dwight also shared a beautiful three-legged stool which again tested his skills and resulted in a wonderful piece of work. Turned legs and stretchers were intricate and the angles for the mortise and tenon joints had to be just right.



## July Meeting Recap

The main program featured our own David Holcomb, an accomplished woodworker and award winning photographer. David shared with the group some of his tips and techniques for showcasing your projects through photography. From making simple backgrounds from artists' foam board to making your project stand out by draping contrasting satin fabric behind and under the project, his tips are sure to help. Another tip was to use standard portable work lights, maybe already in your shop, to the sides and above your project to remove shadows.



The meeting wrapped up following the fan favorite: Drawing for the Door Prize! This month's winner of a Woodcraft Gift Card was Roy Moore. Congratulations! Just remember, if you don't show up it's a sure bet you won't win the Door Prize!

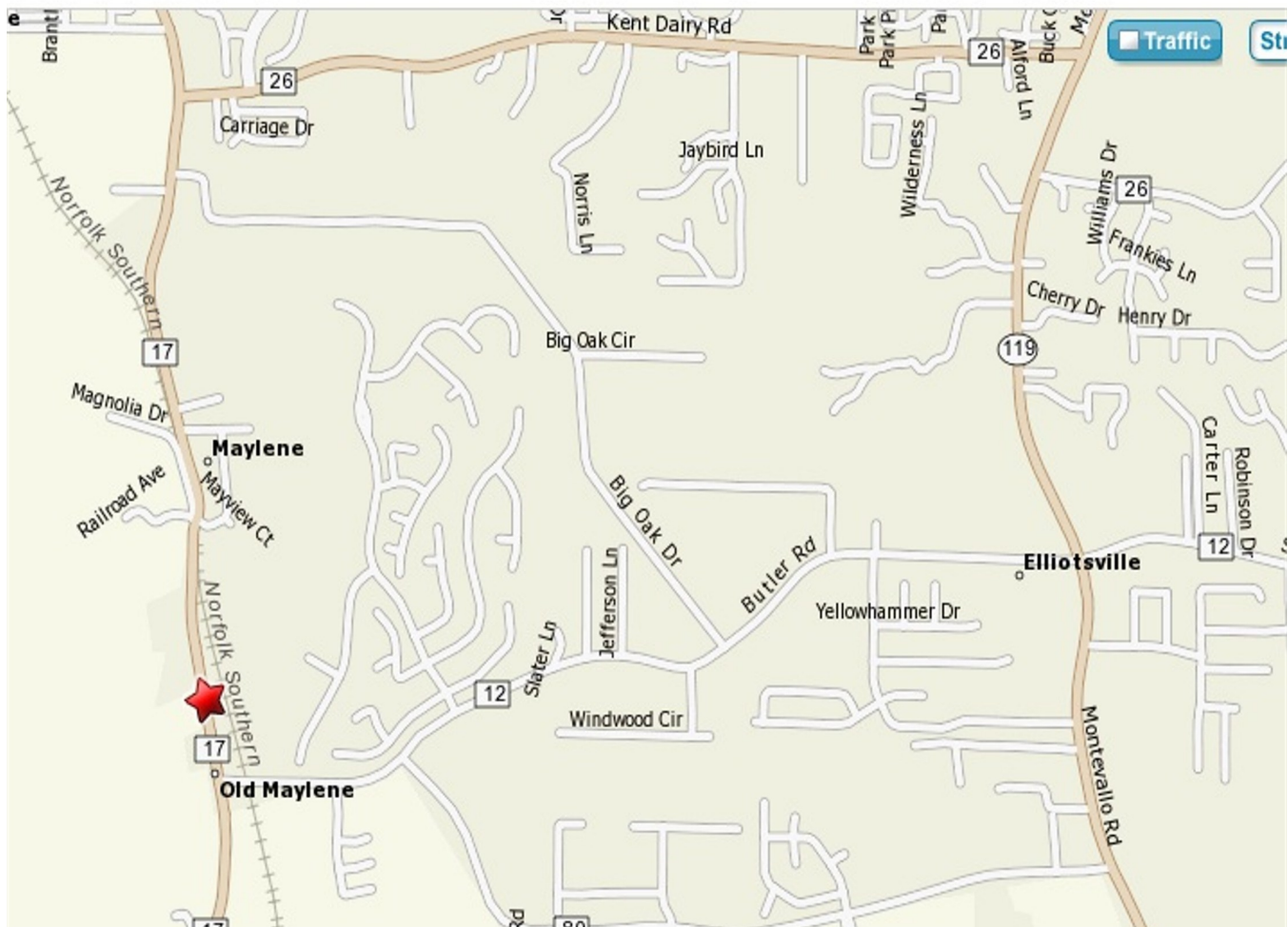


Following the close of the meeting everyone filed out to the shop floor and a massive Shop Clean-up day started. Vacuum and broom handlers worked their magic to remove sawdust from places reportedly starting to look like lab experiments. Clutter, old non-working pieces of equipment, and the Library's former collections of magazines were all on the chopping block to go into a vehicle or into the dumpster. The shop looked better than before the last Shop Held Christmas Party in 2014! Many thanks to all the members and guests who stayed after to help get the shop into such good shape!! Let's all do our part to help keep the shop looking good. An old adage says to "leave it better than you found it"; another might take a tip from repairing golfers' ball marks on the greens: "clean your area and one other".

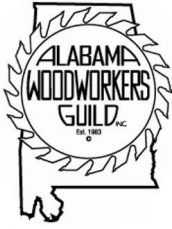
Everyone have a great month and we'll see everyone again on August 20<sup>th</sup>! Watch Facebook, the Web and your inbox for details of next month's meeting. Now go make something!

*Patrick Murphy*

## Directions to the Woodworkers Education Center (WEC)



**From I-65**, take Exit 238 (Highway 31). Turn north on U.S. Highway 31, go 0.6 miles and turn left on State Highway 119 South. Go 3.0 miles south on Highway 119 and turn right on County Highway 12. Go 2.1 miles on Highway 12 until it ends at County Highway 17. Turn right on Highway 17 and the WEC is 0.3 miles on your left. There is a large WEC sign at the entrance.



www.  
alabamawoodworkersguild  
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## 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 the Woodworking Education Center, 10544 Hwy 17, Maylene, AL 35114

Information concerning the Guild may be secured by calling **Walter Barnett, Treasurer** at (205) 933-9207.



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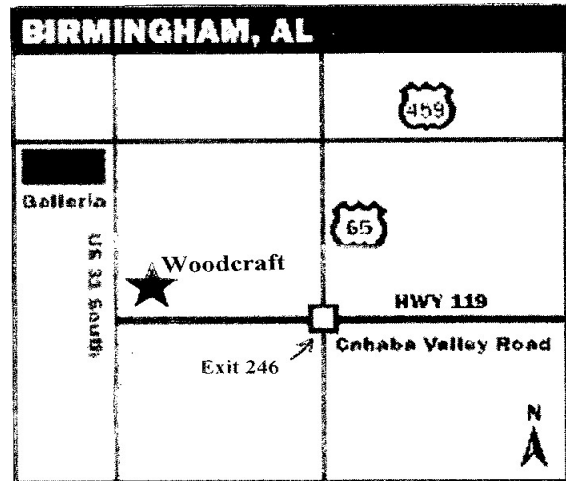
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Birmingham, AL 35260

