



# GUILD NEWS

## Alabama Woodworkers Guild

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### Officers

**President:** Ray Ziegler

**Vice President:** Van Phillips

**Treasurer:** David Erikson

**Secretary:** Jeff Branch

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*Sandra McMillan*

*Bob Watkins*

*David Robinson*

*Terrance James*

*Randy Hjetland*

*Jay Carrigee*

*Patrick Murphy*

*Geoff Wymer*

*Albert McCurdy*

#### Shop Managers

*David Robinson*

*Kenneth Graham*

*Frank Higgins*

*Randy Hjetland*

*Newsletter Editor: Linda Simcik*

### President's Message

Presidents Message

As this year draws to a close it is a good time to reflect on our accomplishments of the year:

We added 67 new members which includes 4 active spouses.

The Toys group created and distributed 13076 toys to 7 children's hospitals as well as several Shriners hospitals throughout the southeast. Toys were sent with Don Blackburn's daughter on a mission trip to Poland. The toys ultimately ended up in Africa.

The Luthier group built 6 ukuleles and gave them to be used in music therapy with children.

We held 11 classes conducted by our members with 76 members attending

We held a "Master" class led by Mike Pekovich with 25 members attending

The "Cabinets for Habitat for Humanity" class logged 500 hours with 13 students and 13 instructors. A full set of kitchen cabinets were built and installed

We participated in the Tinglewood festival and the Habitat for Humanity barbeque to share the story of the Guild with the public

There were 88 entries in the annual show, submitted by 33 members, with 37 ribbons awarded

3 new bandsaws were donated by an anonymous donor along with 2 new drill presses

Insulation was installed in the attic to help with our utility bills and provide more comfort for members.

A new alarm system was installed

Piped compressed air was installed throughout the WEC from a compressor in classroom

We did the Habitat Restore project, building cabinets/counters and bookcases

Installed new insulated overhead door

Upgraded locks on all exterior doors and built a new front door

Added retractable extension cord reels throughout WEC.

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"A man who works with his hands is a laborer; a man who works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman; but a man who works with his hands and his brain and his heart is an artist."~Louis Nizer (1902-1994)





President's Message continued

Improved our handicap accessibility with railings in the shop restroom and kitchen threshold modifications

We received a grant from the Alabama Council of the Arts allowing us to install video equipment in the classroom

We won a grant from the Caring foundation to improve shop safety.

A new "Woodworking Art" interest group, made up of women Guild members, was formed and is flourishing.

We were awarded a grant from the Alabama Council of the Arts to provide Master classes in 2020 and add an 18" bandsaw for resawing

On a sad note, we had some members pass away this year. Buddy Finch (toy group founding member) and David Holcombe. We will miss them.



### Toy Group



The Toy Group will be starting up again on January 7, 2020. 2019 was a great year for the group due to the hard work and dedication of the members producing over 13,000 toys. Toys were distributed to several hospitals throughout the southeast. Toys were also donated to Greater Birmingham Ministries, Shelby Safe House, Manna Ministries and The Sawyerville Project. Our wish is that these toys brought joy to the children that received them.

And it seems our wish came true. The Sawyerville Project held it's Christmas Party on Saturday, December 14th. As you can see by the pictures below, our toys were a big hit.



If you want to be a part of the feeling of joy and accomplishment serving needy and sick children, please join us. We meet every Tuesday from 9am to 2pm. If you can't make it by nine or can't stay the whole session, that's OK. We welcome any time you can give.

Oh, and by the way bring your lunch. We gather in the kitchen at 11:30 to eat lunch and socialize.



### Wood Art Group

The Wood Art Group has taken a break for the holidays (because it's us gals that are the driving force behind celebrations!). The group will start up again on Friday, January 10th 10am to 2pm.

January's "make and take" will be a simple scroll saw project. More details will be given at the January 10th meeting. Any ladies in the guild are welcome. It's a great way to get introduced to woodworking and find out why your husbands spend so much time at the WEC.



*Ladies can be woodworkers too!*

### January Guild Meeting Saturday January 18 , 2020

#### 8:00am—9:00:am

The first quarterly class of 2020. This class will cover the extreme basics of Sketch-Up Free. Those attending should bring a laptop and a mouse.

#### 9:00am—10:00am: Mentoring Session

- \* Networking,
- \* Show & tell

#### \* 10am—12noon General Meeting:

January's program will be presented by the Toy Group

### November Meeting Recap

Our November program speaker was Slade McCory. Slade is a young man from Gadsden that turns beautiful bowls. At just 14 years old he is a master at turning. He is also a 4-H winner.

Slade credits his success on the support he gets from his family, and the use of his grandfather's shop.

Here is a sampling of some of his work.



## Project Christmas Tree

### Wanted: All Woodworkers

Every year organizations and businesses decorate a Christmas tree at Children’s Hospital in Birmingham as a fundraiser for the hospital. Alabama Woodworkers Guild wants to decorate a tree for Children’s Hospital in 2020 but we need a lot of help. We need people with a variety of woodworking skills to work on Project Christmas Tree. If you can make wood ornaments, finish ornaments and even donate wood to the cause then you are needed. Our first meeting will be Saturday, **January 25, 2020** at 10 a.m. around the kitchen table at the guild. If you are interested come and find out the details of Project Christmas Tree and how you can use your unique skills in a worthwhile community service project that benefits many families in our area.

### Announcing

#### Woodworking Fundamentals Class with Ray Ziegler

**January 11-12, 2020**  
**January 25-26, 2020**

This is a demonstration class that will provide an introduction to woodworking. This class will certainly help beginners, but will also be of value to all woodworkers that want more information to improve the results of their projects.

This demonstration class is based on a Fine Woodworking article and video by Michael Pekovich, “Making a Table from One Board”. We will follow his concept and expand upon it to suite our needs.

The class will include:

- Design concepts
- Wood selection for the parts the project
- Stock preparation, Re-sawing  
Getting the stock square 4 sides  
Sticking
- Final sizing
- Joinery - I will be demonstrating several joinery techniques to attach the aprons to the legs including, Pocket screws, Dowels, Domino, and Mortise and tenon.
- Shaping Techniques, Tapering Legs using the table saw, band saw, and joiner  
Beading the apron  
Cutting a curve on the bottom of the apron
- Table top glue-up
- Assembling the table

The projected schedule:

- Class 1 - Saturday, January 11, 2020
- Class 2 - Sunday, January 12, 2020
- Class 3 - Saturday, January 25, 2020
- Class 4 - Sunday, January 26, 2020

(Note: you must be an AWG member to sign-up. Check out our website for more information: <https://wp.awwg.info/education/>)

## Upcoming Seminar With Mike Pecovich

**April 4th & 5th**

### CLASS: Tool Chest with Mike Pekovich

While a wall-mounted cabinet is a great way to store tools, it's not always the most practical solution. If you haven't set up shop yet, or need to frequently move your tools, then a tool chest might be a better way to go. A while back I had made a travel chest to take along when I teach, and it has become a home-away-from-home for me. While protecting your tools is a big concern, a tool chest should also act as a work station allowing fast, easy access to the tools you need when you need them.

Over the weekend, I'll demonstrate:

- Sizing a tool chest for the tools you have (and the tools you want).
- Tips for dovetailing larger case parts.
- Accurate no-math layout for through mortise-and-tenons.
- Sawing and chopping through mortise-and-tenon joinery.
- Strategies for square, gap-free case glue-ups.
- Making a frame-and-panel lid at the tablesaw.
- A fast method for hinging the lid.
- Making a simple lid stay.
- Sizing and making a dovetailed drawer.
- A no-headache method for installing locksets.
- Organizing tools with partitions
- Simple shellac and wax finish

#### Bio

Mike Pekovich, author of the best-selling *The Why and How of Woodworking*, spent his college years studying furniture making, fine art, and graphic design, and he's been putting those skills to use designing and building furniture ever since. He also stays busy as a teacher and author, as well as the art director at Fine Woodworking Magazine.

There is a consistent theme in Mike's furniture making, teaching and writing: While there are fundamental woodworking skills and techniques that you have to know in order to do good work, there's more to building furniture than just that. How you put those skills together into a logical step-by-step approach to building will determine the success you have in the shop as well as how enjoyable the time you spend in it. Mike's focus is on helping you to determine the roadmap that will get you to the end results you're striving for as easily and as stress-free as possible.

#### Regular Shop Hours:

**Friday 9am-9pm**

**Saturday 9am-5pm**

**Sunday 1pm-5pm**



**Note:** These hours are subject to change. Please visit the guild calendar on the website to confirm. **If calendar has no supervisor scheduled then the shop is closed.**



## Upcoming Classes

January 11-12 & 25-26: Woodworking Fundamentals with Ray Ziegler

April 4-5: Tool Chest construction with Mike Pekovich

Register for these classes @ <https://wp.awwg.info/education/>



## About Us

Since 1983

We are an organization of woodcrafters with skills ranging from beginner to master craftsmen.

**We meet at our Woodworking Education Center on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:00AM.** Our members share woodworking tips, bring projects to show and tell, hear guest speakers, and see live woodworking demonstrations at every meeting. Our free library contains books on techniques, videos, and project plans .

## Woodworking Education Center (WEC)

The Guild's Woodworking Education Center is located at the site of the old Maylene School building on Hwy 17 in Maylene, AL.

## Community Involvement



In Addition to monthly meetings the Guild also has a group of dedicated woodworkers who meet at the WEC to make toys and various wooden therapeutic devices for Children's Hospital and other deserving organizations.



The guild also constructs kitchen and bathroom cabinets each year for Habitat for Humanity



Promoting the Art and Craft of Fine Woodworking

# The Annual Show

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild Annual Show is a judged show, generally held in October of each year at the Hoover Public Library. Members enter projects they have worked on all year and make



## Alabama Woodworkers Guild

10544 Highway 17

Maylene, AL 35114

**Easy to find and plenty of free parking.**

**From I-65**, take Exit 238 (Highway 31). Turn north on 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.



## ALABAMA WOODWORKERS GUILD

“Making sawdust with a purpose”

### Membership

Come check us out and become a Guild Member,

**Only \$100 a year!**

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild offers:

- Monthly meetings
- A fully equipped woodworking shop
- Mentoring for new techniques
- Teaching new and old techniques and use of tools
- Great deals on used tools
- Classes and seminars in woodworking techniques and furniture making

### Join

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

(Work) \_\_\_\_\_

(Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form and a check for \$100 to:

Alabama Woodworkers Guild

Attn: Treasurer

P.O. Box 36804

Birmingham, AL. 35236

or go to <http://wp.awwg.info/join/>