

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild

Guild News

August 2021

ATTENTION

The AUGUST meeting has moved from the third Saturday to the SECOND Saturday August 14, 2021

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President's Message

Mark your calendars! Our general meeting this month is the 2nd Saturday in August rather than the 3rd. So, August 14th plan to be at the WEC for the meeting.

After the meeting we plan to have a deep cleaning of the WEC and could use your help. We'll have a list of chores that need to be done and hope we can spread the load out so no one has too much work to do. It's nice to walk into a bathroom that's clean and doesn't look like a cheap gas station bathroom.

We'll grill some hotdogs and have chips and drinks for those who can stay.

My hope is that you are enjoying the benefits of Guild membership and the use of the WEC. Everyone who sees it comments on what great asset we have. We all need to treat it and all the equipment in it as though it was our own private shop and we had to foot the bill for maintenance and repairs. I think that would make us all be a little more careful with tool use and clean up more as we go.

Hope to see you soon at the WEC!

Stay safe,

Van Phillips

Guild Officers and Directors

President: Van Phillips

Vice President: Terrance James

Treasurer: Bob Watkins

Secretary: Laura Hession

Board of Directors

David Erikson	Sandra McMillan
Matt Sullivan	Bob Baumgartner
Randy Hjetland	Linda Simcik
Jay Bagwell	Rick Wilson

"A man that works with his hands is a laborer. A man that works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman, but a man that works with his hands, his brain and his heart is an artist." - Louis Nizer

Newsletter Editor: Linda Simcik

The August Membership Meeting is on

Saturday, August 14 at the WEC

Networking and Silent Auction begins at 9am. Meeting starts at 10am.

This month there will be a silent Auction during the Networking/Mentoring hour. You will find some great deals on major shop equipment.

The meeting program will be a presentation on fractal burning by Steve Simcik. Come see the beautiful art created by this technique.

AWG Annual Art Show

The Annual Art Show at the Hoover Library is back!! Last year due to the pandemic restrictions, the library was closed. So we did a virtual show. Now we are happy to announce that the live show will go on.

When: October 10-16th

Where: Hoover Library Theater Lobby

We have the venue scheduled and times set all we now is your *ART WORK*. No matter your skill level or specialty, we want to see your creations. There is a new category this year for toys and Christmas Ornaments.

There will be more information as we get closer to the show, so stay tuned.

Sketch-Up Class

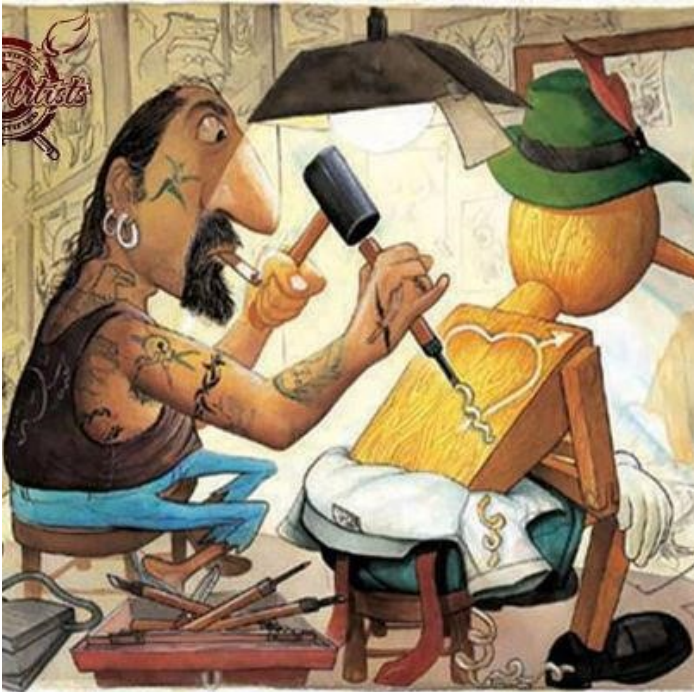
"The SketchUp Group will meet at 8:00 am on 8/14/21 prior to the monthly meeting of the Guild. We will continue to go over basic understanding of how SketchUp works and how you can benefit from it as a woodworker. Bring your laptop and a mouse. Any questions, contact Jeff Brnch at jeff1137@gmail.com."

Project Christmas Tree

We now have enough ornaments to fill one tree this year and have a good start on next year's tree. Thank you to all who contributed ornaments. The tree will be on display in the Children's Hospital Lobby in November.

Shop Usage Report

Job	Hrs(h:m)
00 - Guild Membership Meeting	102:49
01 - Supervisor	95:22
03 - Class	184:53
04 - Toy Group	263:46
05 - Hand Tool Group	141:11
06 - Luthier Group	165:42
07 - Wood Art Group	70:14
08 - Personal Project	162:28
12 - Maintenance - Equipment	13:56
13 - Maintenance - Landscape	09:45
14 - Maintenance - Administration	10:24
Total	1220:30



Shout out to the Hand Tool Group!

Show & Tell

Have you completed a project you're especially proud of? Have you learned a new skill? If so, bring it to a monthly meeting for show & tell. We would love to see your creations and get some inspiration from fellow woodworkers. You don't have to do anything special, just bring your creation to the meeting.

Luthier Group

How a Ukulele “Changed My Life”

By Laura Hession



At the 2020 annual AWG Special Interest presentations - the Luthier Group encouraged members to come and check out the group and start their own ukulele build, NO Musical experience necessary. I took them up on their offer! What an adventure it has been...

I was very intimidated with being a novice at woodworking and having little to no musical experience. From the beginning and throughout the build , the group was welcoming, encouraging and so much fun! The amount of information and knowledge I gained in a variety of areas: woodworking techniques & skills; music vocabulary & instrument parts & construction; an introduction to playing the Ukulele and so much more.

What I have gained through this experience goes well beyond Luthier Skills and woodworking, I gained more confidence in my woodworking skills and new musical knowledge/skills as well as camaraderie and new friendships.

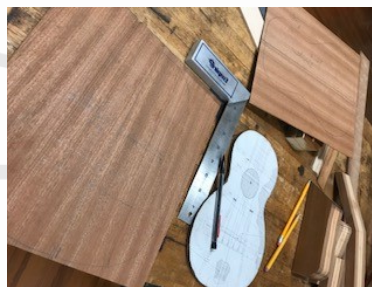


My mentor for this project was Geoff Wymer, who like so many others in our Guild is extremely talented, but quite modest about his skills. He has a plethora of skills outside of Luthier, including an amazing carving talent which he demonstrated at the Wood Art Group in July - check out his work <https://6stringart.blogspot.com> and look for his inter-

view on Highlands Woodworking TV Show coming up in September. I am in awe of his talents and enthusiasm for teaching woodworking. During my build, there were times when Geoff was not available or busy with another mentee, but there was never a lack of Luthier Group members who were willing to step up and help - I had a lot of instruction, advice and encouragement from so many people in the group - there was always someone to get me through the next step and assist me when I needed it. I enjoy the monthly play along sessions, and have just begun joining in - and have been challenged to play my first song - not sure when I will be ready for that and guarantee I will never sing! The process was extended due to COVID restrictions and some family obligations, so I am looking forward to starting my next Ukulele and completing it in a shorter time period and a better knowledge base....as well as planning future cigar box guitars and Banjo's!



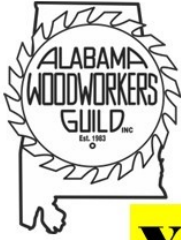
Jam Session



From this...



To this



ALABAMA WOODWORKERS GUILD

"Making saw dust with a purpose"

You've seen him on ZOOM...
Now SEE him LIVE and in PERSON!

We are honored to follow up Doug Stowe's ZOOM presentation with a very special master class.

Doug will conduct a two day face to face demonstration Master Class on decorative box making on **August 21 and 22, 2021**



Doug's promise: "Two problems typically challenge woodworkers attempting to make a box. The first is at the beginning and involves cutting perfect miters or other joints. The second comes toward the end when hinges are ready to be installed and you face the risk of screwing up your near perfect box. My well tested procedures eliminate risk at both ends, allowing the woodworker to focus on personal creativity at all points between. I'll be demonstrating new techniques simplified and advanced over what I've shown in books, articles and videos in the past."

Bill Newman, the AWG "box guru", has long studied and followed Doug's work and teachings. He has this to say: "My own work has been heavily influenced by Stowe's books. I look forward learning from one of the best when Doug presents a two-day class in August"

August 21st & 22nd, 2021

9:00am-5:00pm

AWG Woodworking Education Center

Cost \$175.00, Non-Members \$225.00

You can learn more about Doug Stowe and class registration by visiting our website education page at:
wp.awwg.info.

Click on the education tab and select classes. There you can register and pay for the class via paypal.

Sponsored in part by:



Tinglewood Festival

The Tinglewood Festival in Montevallo is an all woodworking show. Held in Orr Park on Saturday, September 12, 2021.

We have our space reserved and are now looking for volunteers to staff the booth. We are asking for people to take 2 hour shifts. There are available slots for 11am-1pm, 1pm-3pm, 3pm-5pm. It is not hard work, you will just talk to visitors about the Guild and your experiences. Also, bring some of your projects to show. There will be a lathe, scroll saw and wood burning equipment for demonstrations.

Not only will you help promote the guild, but you will get acquainted with other guild members & browse the many booths with fantastic wood creations. There is also an antique car show, chain saw carving, whittling contest, food vendors and live music.

Please consider being a part of this fun event. Contact Linda Simcik at 205.401.3429 or linda.simcik@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

2021 Class Schedule

8/21 – 8/22 **Decorative Box Making Master Class with Doug Stowe**

This master class will be a fun experience in box making. During the two days Doug will teach you how to make beautiful decorative boxes. He'll show you techniques that will increase speed, accuracy and craftsmanship. These skills will transfer to all woodworking projects.

8/28 – 12/? **Habitat for Humanity**

Our Habitat build will start at the end of August. During the classes you will learn how to make cabinets for your home. Sessions will concentrate on building the carcass, doors, drawers and finishing. This is a great series of classes. You'll learn new skills (or brush up on old skills) while you make cabinets for a Habitat house.

Class 1 - August 28, 2021 - Orientation and Face Frame Build

Class 2 - September 4, 2021 - Carcass Construction

Class 3 - September 11, 2021 - Drawer Boxes

Class 4 - October 2, 2021 and possibly October 4, 2020 - Doors and Drawer Fronts

Class 5 - October 23, 2021 - Spray Finish

Class 6 - November 6, 2021 - Attach Doors, Drawers, and Pulls

Class 7 - Early December - Installation of Cabinets at Holiday House

Class 8 - TBD - Holiday House Dedication

A Star Is Born

Recently, Highland Woodworking contacted AWG member **Geoff Wymer**. They wanted him to film a Master Woodworker segment produced by Charles Brock and Highland Woodworking. He agreed and traveled to Nashville to shoot the segment. The subject is carving – how he got into carving, what he likes to carve, showed some of his carvings and he gave some tips of the trade. The release date is September 11. It is a must see. The episodes are free to the public and are on the Highland Woodworking website. Watch it and support one of our AWG members.

Clean Up Day

It's a fact that woodworking shops get dusty and dirty. Just look at your personal shop. Now imagine 40 people working in your shop! The dust is really flying!

The WEC belongs to all of the AWG members in good standing. We are lucky to have access to such a well equipped place to work and learn, and we should be proud. But folks, the shop needs a good deep clean. Especially with all of the guests we have coming through.

After this month's meeting we are asking volunteers to stay behind and help get the shop spic 'n span. With enough hands we can get the job done quickly. A lunch of grilled hotdogs, chips & drinks will be provided.

As Van said in his message, we should treat this shop as if it's ours, which it is.

Thank you in advance for your participation.



Your help is needed to make the AWG grow and thrive. There are many opportunities for you to get involved.

- * **Tinglewood Festival**
- * **Annual Art Show**
- * **Clean up Day**
- * **Monthly Meetings**
- * **Attend or teach a class**
- * **Become a mentor**

Toy Group

Tom Gillespy our beloved bird house maker has decided to retire from the group. Tom is a long time member of the Guild and the Toy Group. We will miss him, but he has trained his replacement well. To show our appreciation for his dedication and work we had a luncheon in his honor. We also presented him with a "Golden Bird House" (couldn't afford a gold watch-lol). Even though Tom has retired he will still pop around once in a while to bring some parts he works at home.



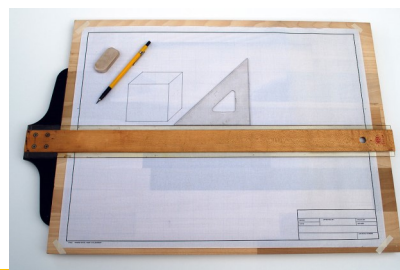
Eight Woodworking Tips to Boost Your Efficiency

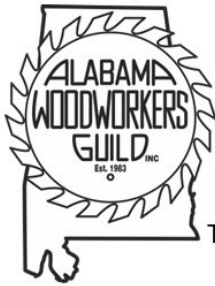
taken from an online blog by Ron Smith

Tip # 5 Measure with a drafting square

Making accurate measuring and marking layouts on boards faster and easier with a drafting square—available at any art supply store.

When you need an accurate square in the 2 to 3 foot range, drafting squares eat the cumbersome drywall squares for accuracy and eliminate the hassle of hooking up a carpenter square.





The Alabama Woodworkers Guild will have an informational booth at the
2021 TINGLEWOOD FESTIVAL in Montevallo **September 11, 2021.**

What is the TINGLEWOOD FESTIVAL you ask?

An ALL WOODWORKING festival honoring local carver, Tim Tingle. His work can be seen in the trunks of dead trees throughout Orr Park in Montevallo.



Wood Carving



Whittling Contest

Antique Car Show



And of course, lots of vendor and food booths.

- * We are looking for guild members to man the booth for two hour shifts.
- * The booth hours are from 10am—5pm.
- * We need folks for the 11a-1p shift; 1-3pm shift and 3-5pm shift.
- * Bring your favorite pieces to showcase (no selling)

In addition to talking about our awesome organization, you can connect with other woodworkers and gain inspiration from other artisans.

Contact Linda Simcik : 205-401-3429 or linda.simcik@alabamawoodworkersguild.org



Find us on:
facebook®



& **You Tube**

About Us

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

Our monthly meetings will be conducted at the WEC for those who can attend and also virtually via Zoom on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00AM. Be sure to check out the mentoring sessions that start 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.

The Guild's Woodworking Education Center is located at the site of the old Maylene School building on Hwy 17 in Maylene, AL. The WEC is open Friday-Sunday for the membership and for visitors to drop by to see what we are all about. Please, before dropping by, check the WEC Calendar on our website (<https://wp.awwg.info/calendar/>) and make sure a Supervisor is scheduled to be on-duty

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