

# The Alabama Woodworkers Guild

## *Guild News*

April 2022

**April Membership meeting: Saturday April 16, 2022**

**Note: Silent Tool Auction at this meeting**

### Guild Officers and Directors

**President:** Terrance James

**Vice President:** Jay Bagwell

**Treasurer:** Bob Watkins

**Secretary:** Laura Hession

### Board of Directors

**Bob Baumgartner**      **Rick Wilson**

**Mike Kelly**              **Rick Ford**

**Matt Sullivan**         **Bob Free**

**Linda Simcik**         **Alden snow**

**Mike Casey**

## President's Message

### First Contact

No, we have not been invaded by aliens, but we are making some changes to how we run the Guild and trying to create new opportunities to get involved.

First off, we are establishing four committees; Finance, Education, Outreach, and Technology. These committees will be focusing on managing their respective areas and formulating plans that the Board can then approve or disapprove. This keeps the Board from having to weigh in on every decision and makes the Board approval process much faster since the legwork will have been done before we even meet.

The committees are headed up by Board members, but any member wanting to get involved can contact the Committee Chairperson. The Finance Committee will be headed by our Treasurer, Bob Watkins. Other members of that committee are David Erikson and Rick Wilson. The Education Committee will be headed by our Vice President, Jay Bagwell. Also on that committee will be Terry James and Mike Kelly. If you have any ideas about classes we should offer, please reach out to Jay or any of the committee members. Our Outreach Committee will be headed by our Secretary, Laura Hession. We are looking for volunteers to help her out. Outreach will coordinate any activities outside of normal Guild activities such as participation in local Festivals, involvement with other groups (like Boy Scouts), Children's Hospital Interactions, Media Contacts, and any traditional Guild functions like our Annual Show and Christmas Party. Please reach out to Laura if you have ideas or if you want to help out.

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**"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

## President's Message Continued from page 1

And finally, Mike Casey will head our Technology Committee. We can't escape how important technology is becoming to all groups. Mike will be managing our Audio/Visual activities as well as making sure our website stays up to date, our security systems are working, and any other systems involving computer/internet interface. If you have a background in this area, Mike will welcome your help.

Secondly, we have adopted a new WEC Management structure. David Robinson is currently going a great job coordinating our Shop Supervisors. Randy Hjetland is doing great keeping our equipment maintained and operational. We are looking for someone to be our Supply Manager to keep up with supply inventories from sandpaper and glue to coffee and band aids. This person will be your contact if you notice a supply shortage.

We have started doing a long-term plan for maintaining our Physical Facility too. Last year we had an Engineer develop a plan for the overall maintenance of our building. You have noticed that the WEC was painted late last year, and we just completed installing new gutters to keep rain from running down our new paint job. I am happy to announce that Antonio Carballo has offered to be our Facility Manager and he will continue with the long-term planning. and budgeting for keeping the building in shape.

The last thing I want to do is add layers of bureaucracy to our operations. My intent is the opposite. If you see issues or have ideas, please reach out to the appropriate manager or committee chairperson and get the idea submitted. Then they can pull the right folks in to have a plan in place before the next Board meeting. If the idea is a good one, the Board can approve the plan knowing that the logistics and budget issues have already been addressed.

As always, this Guild is no better than the members who get involved. If you care to make AWG better, we can find a place for you to pitch in. Just speak up.

**-Terry James**

# Got ?s

There are a lot of changes happening in the Guild. If you have General questions, comments or suggestions about the Guild and your membership send and email to:

**[info@alabamawoodworkersguild.org](mailto:info@alabamawoodworkersguild.org)**

## Welcome New Members

Mike Osborn      Becky Shoemake  
 Pam Osborn      Mica Rogers  
 Tony Stephens    Tyrone Aaron

If you see any new members at the WEC,  
 please stop and make them feel  
 welcome.

### April Membership Meeting

Saturday, April 16, 2022

Networking/Auction :9:00am

Meeting: 10:00am

Program: **Silent Tool Auction**

### 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.

### Annual Membership Fee

Annual \$100 fee payments for 2022 are now due. These fees are the main source of revenue for the AWG. This is a real bargain! For \$100/year you have access to:

- Well equipped shop
- Woodworking Library
- Classes & presentations from nationally known master wood-workers
- Connecting with fellow woodworkers

Deadline for payment is February 28, 2022. This is the last month your 2021 Dues Paid Decal will be valid and only a 2022 Dues Paid Decal will allow you to have continued access to the WEC:

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, if you don't have a 2022 decal on your badge your shop privileges will be terminated and your badge removed from the wall. An On-Duty Shop Supervisor can accept cash or a check for your dues or more preferably, you may renew online at our website: [Alabama Woodworkers Guild - Join or Renew](#).



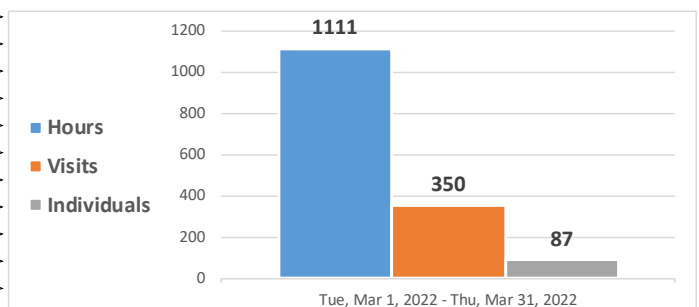
Remember also that we need to have your Badge at the WEC in order for it to be updated with your 2022 Decal.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in the Guild's activities!

### Shop Usage Report

Usage by Program      Tue, Mar 1, 2022 - Thu, Mar 31, 2022  
 Hours

Personal Projects	258
Luthier Group	216
Hand Tool Group	97
Wood Art Group	33
Toy Group	187
Class	144





## 2022 Class Schedule

**March 12-13 - Mike Pekovich **Canceled****

**April Basic Bandsaw Class. There are a total of 4 sessions:**

April 23rd 9:30am—11:30am

1:00pm—3:00pm

April 30th 9:30am—11:30am

1:00pm—3:00pm

**All Band Saw Classes  
are full**

Classes are free to members. Register on WEC website

**August 27—Nov 12 Habitat for Humanity Cabinet Class**

See website for details

## **Mentorship Program**

**Our mentorship program is new and improved! Do you have a desire to connect with someone that is proficient at a skill that you would like to learn? Check out our mentorship program on the website.**

**On the home page click on the “Mentoring” tab. There you will find an extensive list of subjects for you to choose from. Click on the skill you want to develop and fill out the needed information. You will be paired with the person that can help you. You will be contacted by the selected mentor to get started. Some folks may meet you at the WEC while others may prefer to work in their personal shop.**

**Don't hesitate! This a great way to learn a new skill and develop friendships with fellow woodworkers.**

## Luthiers Letting Loose

Besides our usual orchestra of different musical instruments being made, this spring we have done several group builds of specialty jigs and tools.

We made cam clamps, and most recently, finger planes. While they are perfect for many luthier applications, they are also great supplements to any woodworker's shop.

Our group has grown, averaging around 20 every week, with ages ranging from 19 and all the way up from there.



## Toy Group

Thank you to all who brought in boxes for our toys. We now have a good supply to last us a month or two. Please keep them coming, because these toy makers make toys so fast that we will fill them in no time.

If you bring a box just set it on the counter in the shop restroom.



Thank you for your support.

# Coming In April!

## AWG Annual Silent Auction

**Saturday, April 16, 2022**

Spring is here and if you are planning to do some spring cleaning in your shop you will find some treasures that you haven't used in years. Or maybe some things you don't need any more.

We can save you a trip to the Goodwill or the landfill. Bring those unwanted items to the auction at the WEC. You can donate all or part of your proceeds to the Guild. Remember, these auctions help us fund our many programs and WEC operations. AND you may also find some good deals as well!

If you need help transporting large items (table saw, lathe, band saw, drill press, etc) contact the Guild through the website (contact us tab) and we will try to find you some help.

Bidding begins at 9:00am, before the general meeting.



## Bill Newman: Instructor-Mentor-Friend

By Laura Hession

On March 12, long time member **Bill Newman** assisted by **Gary Crosson** held a class on Parquetry and Marquetry. Bill is well known for his amazing talent of box building with Marquetry and Parquetry along with his dedication to continued mentorship and sharing his knowledge both in the Guild and in his home workshop.

### As Bill describes in the class:



“Parquetry and Marquetry are decorative techniques often used on furniture and other wooden items. The usual materials are veneers, though other materials are sometimes used. This introductory course will focus on using wood veneers for making geometric and artistic patterns for the decoration of furniture and other items. Marquetry and parquetry are often seen in Federal style furniture and in many items of modern furniture.” Of course, like with so many other techniques - this can be used in many more ways - some of the students in the class mentioned plans of using it on ornaments and instruments.



Bill built his first 6 drawer chest when he was 14 years old. It was a simple chest and he used cigar boxes for drawers. The simple chest that he made long ago is still in service holding fly-tying material for another of his hobbies.

He began building “fine” boxes in 1992, He made a French fitted case for his nephew who was in the navy and engaged in the first Gulf war. The case was for a cap and ball revolver. The case was made of mahogany with hand cut dovetails and was lined with leather to cushion the gun.



He has made more than 200 boxes of various types since then. He has also made furniture and some special purpose chests and cases.

Bill and Gary introduced the basics of: construction of geometric patterns in veneer including creating a basic star, a nautical star, and the Louis Cube. Inlay banding and stringing along with a technique of scorching was discussed and demonstrated.

Like most of Bill’s boxes and items that have been given away, Bill also gives much of his time in mentoring others. Through this time he not only shares the knowledge but influences others and develops friendships. Gary is a relatively new member of the Guild and began mentoring with Bill soon after joining - the bond they have was apparent during the class and both have expressed the appreciation for the friendship they have found through the craft they now share.



Find us on:  
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**& YouTube**



## 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**