



Guild News

Volume XXII Number 7

Celebrating 20 years in 2003

July 2003

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Saturday,

July 19, 2003

- *Social Hour 8:00 AM until 9:00 AM*
- *Meeting begins promptly at 9:00 AM*
- *Program on Jigs*

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President's Message

What a wonderful meeting we had last month! It was really nice to see such a big turnout and great to see several charter members and some members (although not charter members) that attended some of those early meetings in Pelham. A real pleasure to me was finally meeting the "founder", **Spruce McRee!** We owe **Spruce** a great debt for recognizing a need and going about putting together an organization to meet that need. The result, of course, was the Alabama Woodworkers Guild. The Guild provided an opportunity, twenty years ago, for woodworkers to meet and exchange ideas just as it does today.

All past presidents except one (**Jim Caldwell** was out of town and unable to be there) attended the meeting and had comments about what the Guild has meant to them. This was quite informative and interesting to those of us who were not members twenty years ago.

The Guild provided the barbecue for lunch and everyone had their fill, even Milo. Bo Thuston continues to be a great host for our meetings. We certainly appreciate that. He also had some real good deals on tools from an estate sale. I saw some bargains but was too slow to take advantage of them.

The visit to Childrens Hospital was informative and heart warming. Thanks to Suzanne Reeves for all the work she is involved in for those children. Her dedication certainly should inspire us to do more for the Hospital.

Everyone looks great in the Guild shirts. We're all walking advertisements for the Guild . If you haven't gotten your shirt you can still order one. (see **Walter Barnett**)

The July meeting should be real interesting! Jigs! If you have one that you think is special, bring it. We're all interested in new ideas and easier ways to do things.

Jigs, Jigs, Jigs!

At the July meeting, **Jim Lee**, will demonstrate the very easy to use and versatile Kreg pocket hole jig. (If you don't have one already, you will probably want to buy one after **Jim's** demo.) Additionally, he will show us some other handy shop made jigs.

A few months ago **Paul Mancill** did a one day seminar at

Woodcraft on using routers and discovered a very each to build mortising jig (not the one in American Woodworker). He will share this jig and have copies of the plans available for anyone who wants to build one.

Come out and bring your favorite shop made jig for Show and Tell!

Annual Show

When: Set up Saturday
November 1, 2003

Take down Sunday
November 9, 2003

Where: Hoover Library

It now officially less than 4 months until the start of the 20th Annual Alabama Woodworkers Guild Show. Last year's show is going to be a tough act to follow, but it can be done if everyone will participate.

Remember that the Beginners Group has been expanded to include all categories and that a new Masters Group has been added to further expand the judging categories. These additions will increase the number of areas in which the work of participants can be recognized.

We are looking forward to a great show, but this will happen only if everyone participates. We saw a lot of new participants last year, with many receiving ribbons in recognition of the work displayed, but whether or not you receive a ribbon is secondary to participation. The show is not intended to be a competition among the Guild members, but is intended to make each participant compete against his or her ability to do the best job on each project, to learn from the project and carry the knowledge forward to their next project.

Start now.... let's have a show to remember!

THANK YOU DIXIE PACIFIC

We want to send a big "Thank You" to Dixie-Pacific for the recent load of wood for our toys program. **Glenn Phillips**, one of our Guild members, and an employee of Dixie-Pacific facilitated the gift of wood that was passed out at our June meeting for our toys program. This is the third load of wood from Dixie-Pacific for the program.

With this wood from Dixie-Pacific, the toy plans and the goal of 2003 toys provided by **Buddy Finch**, we are sure to have an outstanding year. The work is underway!!

Glen, thanks for remembering us with the wood. Like last year, we look forward to providing wooden toys for Dixie-Pacific's Christmas program for disadvantaged children.

Items For Sale

Assortment of "C" Clamps	Rockwell 1" Belt Sander
4 QTR Walnut	8 QTR Hard Maple
	Call Robert Bamberg (205) 979-8158

Toys

No excuses... **Buddy Finch** has toy plans and will help you get started. He will also store any toys you make early. So let's get to it!



Group photo from the **Children's Hospital visit**. Toy Chairman (front left) **Buddy Finch**, Cliff Daniels (right front), (2nd row left to right) **Bill Thomas**, Nelda Kelly, Ed Ramsey, Buzz Kelly, Larry Taylor, Paul LeSeuer, Roy Bates, (3rd row left to right) **James Parham**, Bill Snipes, and **Bill Host**. Our hostess for the visit, Suzanne Reeves, says "*the work that you do touches so many lives.*"

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, 3021 4th Avenue South.

Information concerning the Guild may be secured by calling **Harold Phillips** at **205-424-0819**.

See our website at: www.alabamewoodworkersguild.org

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

20th Anniversary

Charter members **Spruce McRee**, **Ben Landrum**, **David Traylor**, **Frank Jones**, and **Ed Ramsey** were present June 21st 2003 to commemorate the 20th anniversary the Alabama Woodworkers Guild. There were about 60 people who met at Cross Creek Baptist Church the first time in 1983 before the meetings moved to Pelham High School.



Spruce McRee, the first president, talked to us about the need for idea exchange sparking

the organization.

Leonard Sanders, second president and Guild News Editor for 14 years, told us that Show and Tell began under his watch. **David Traylor**, shared the thought that "We are craftsmen, not just hobbists" and encouraged us to participate in Guild shows.



Nelson Brooks, our third president, led under a time of much education with **Dale Lewis** teaching turning, **Fred Baker** teaching woodworking, and **Ivan Kromberg** teaching carving.



We learned that our current Toys Program grew from a participation in Toys for Tots and that in those days really nice toys were made and sold to raise funds for

Toys for Tots. **Ben Landrum** told us about Judy Thompson buying a rocking horse for \$2000.

Fred Baker shared his views on how critically important it was to have a good program chairman during his presidency.



Former president, **Ed Sheriff**, told us that as in 1983 the organization of 2003 still "has the right focus".

Mike Key

joined the club in 1985 and became president in 1995. He told us that it was "a privilege to be part of the organization" and he "hopes it's around for another 20."



Charlie Ard (2001) talked to us about the program chairperson being pivotal to the organization. He also mentioned the importance of teaching yet managing to



keep the fun.

Our current president, **Dan Browning**, told us that he joined in the late 80's where



the classes he took in the Guild were the true beginning of his woodworking.

We also heard from **Frank Jones** who is "constantly amazed at the quality of the presidents " of the Guild.

Dale Lewis reminisced about his time in the Guild as a "nice experience". He particularly enjoyed the socialization and camaraderie. Then **Bobby Michaelson**, who still remembers driving around lost looking for Pelham High School, encouraged us to "Keep it up!"

SHOW AND TELL

Bill Shivers brought samples of his hand cut dovetails for Show and Tell. He said that **Frank Jones'** advice to him was to get the basics of the technique and then go home and make about 200 more. **Bill Host** brought a "salvaged oak table" for which he bought only handles. He said he was "learning to improvise". **Mel Brown** brought some turnings that he had produced and told us the story of how he had started out using more sand paper than wood.

PROJECTS

Bill Thomas, has been helping to complete some pickets for the Vestavia playground project and enlisted **Tom Robinson** and **Jack Grove** to help with the installation.

Jim McKittrick installed a speaker for our sound system at Bo's. He asked someone to take on the project of making a box for the amp.

LUNCH

Thanks to **Charlie Ard** for making arrangements for the delicious barbecue lunch provided by the Guild. A special thanks to Debbie Browning for lending a helping hand.



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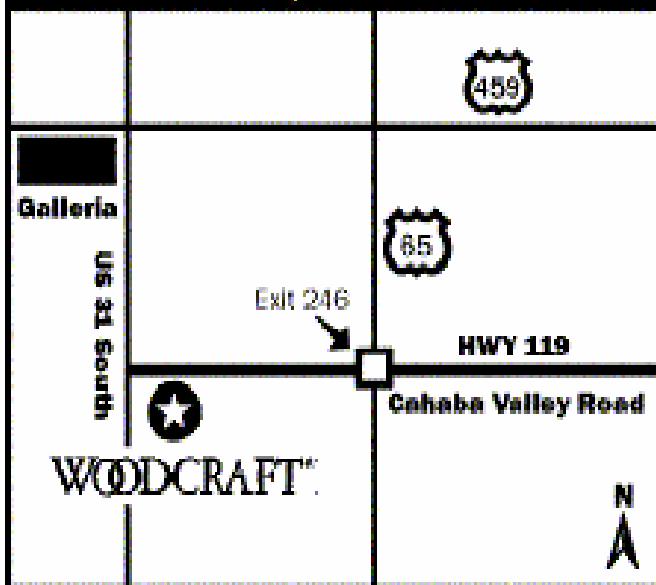
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