

Guild News

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 3

MARCH 2005

President: Paul Mancill
(205)823-2195

Vice President: Bill Shivers
(205)525-4601

Treasurer: James Armstrong
(205)681-8165

Webmaster: Bob Browning
(205)408-1508

Guild News: Nelda Kelly
(205)733-1258

Board of Directors:
Jeff Bishop
Shane Carter
Cliff Daniels
Bill Host
Mike Key
Bill Thomas
Chuck Solomon

Toy Chairman: Buddy Finch

*Next Meeting
Thursday,
March 17, 2005
gather at 6:00 PM
meeting starts promptly
at 6:30 PM*

*Don't forget your
Show and Tell*

*Wheels for Toys
Available at Meeting*

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President's Message

Here we are in March and the Guild is off to a great start this year. I was sick for our February meeting but reports are that **Dan Browning** did a very good program on making and explaining how to make boxes. Thanks to **Dan** for the program and thanks to **Bill Shivers** for all the work he is doing as the Program Chairman. Also, the workbench class is progressing nicely thanks to **Fred Baker** and **Mike Key**. The "over the hill'ers" continue to meet on Fridays at Woodcraft and have done a tremendous amount of work for the Children's Hospital.

As I write this we are preparing for the first of three seminars with professional woodworkers this year. To my knowledge we have never had three in one year and I hope that this sets a precedent for years to come.

These seminars are a win, win, win for the Guild. First we raise some much-needed funds, which help us with other activities. Second, it gives us an opportunity to learn from a pro which as individuals we could not have done without spending a lot of money to travel to a professional school. And, finally it gives us an opportunity to increase our membership.

For those of you who could not attend the jigs seminar, please make a commitment to attend our next seminar which will be in June. This seminar, taught by Kenton Hall of Ball State University will inspire you to make a simple chair but the techniques you learn will help you with other applications as well. For our last seminar this year Mark Adams will return in November to do a program on furniture making. It goes without saying that this will be a very good seminar since Mark is a true pro and builds beautiful furniture.

Paul



March '05 Meeting Program

This is the program to hone your skills and to get prepared to make all the wonderful Christmas gifts that will be expected of you!

Mr. Harold Hall, one of our own members and an outstanding woodworker will lead our March program on pen turning.

After a discussion on the tools and techniques of pen turning, other skilled pen turners will assist **Harold**, each on a lathe. You will be able to move from one lathe to the next and watch and ask questions as long as you like.

After **Harold's** program all you will need to do is go to Woodcraft and get your pen making kits so you can be the hero at Christmas!

Guild Member in Need of Assistance

One of our Guild members, **Jerry DeFoor**, has recently donated and moved his own workshop to The Foundry (formerly The City of Hope) in Bessemer. The Foundry is a Christ-centered, alcohol and drug rehabilitation center. The residents work in various Foundry-run businesses in exchange for free room and board, and rehabilitation for approximately 12 months.

The workshop has a 3 hp table saw, radial arm saw, 6" jointer, 14" band saw, etc. Residents will be making items to sell in the Foundry's thrift store and elsewhere, as well as couch-frame parts to supply another of the Foundry's businesses. Their purpose is to utilize the residents' existing skills, and to teach new skills, in order that residents might find fulfilling employment after rehabilitation.

Jerry is asking for our help. He needs assistance in supervising activities as he is unable to be there to supervise all the time: 9 to 5, 6 days a week. He is looking for other Christian MEN members of the Guild who could spend part of a day during the week or Saturdays out at the Foundry to support this worthwhile cause. If you have an interest please contact him at either **Jerry DeFoor**, 1504 Hamilton Lane, Birmingham, AL 35243, H: (205)822-7977, C: (205)527-9733, jwdefoor@aol.com or The Foundry, 1816 6th Avenue North, Bessemer, AL 35020, O: (205)428-8449, Web Site: www.thefoundryonline.org

Successful Jigs Seminar

If you missed our first seminar for 2005, you missed a real treat and a heck of a bargain! Zane Powell has spent the last 12 years working with the best woodworkers from all over the country at the Marc Adams Woodworking School. He has seen their presentations over and over, reinforcing his already excellent experience. Zane Powell shared a great deal of information with us. The theme of the day came from a quote by Roger Cliff, "If you want to be a better woodworker do more woodworking."

Despite a very good handout, everyone was gathered around tracing push sticks, taking pictures of jigs, and making more notes at breaks and during lunch. (My own favorite jig was the 'skinny stripper.' ..ed.) Then there was sage advice and wit. Zane encouraged us to take the jigs and improve upon them, 'Make them your own so they work for you, as woodworkers have always done.... Take the idea and improve upon it, I challenge you to do that.' 'Never be afraid to enhance your project with a mistake.'

Thanks to United Plywood for contributing pads, pencils, and door prizes. **Charlie Ard, Walter Barnett, and Bob Browning** walked away with some terrific maple boards, door prizes compliments of United Plywood.

Our thanks also go out to **Shane Carter and Jim Lee** for allowing us to use their facility for the event. This venue works out particularly well since, as **Shane** says, "we kind of expect sawdust on the floor around here."

2005 Woodworkers Show

The 2005 annual show will be held from October 15, 2005 through October 23, 2005 at the Hoover Public Library.

This is an early warning notice that with a little over 7 months to go, it is not too early to begin planning or construction of your project. If you are fortunate enough to finish it early, it will always make a good addition to the Show and Tell items at a future meeting.

*At the March Board meeting there was not time to discuss any possibility of changes to the format of the Show. As soon as this has been determined, the details of categories and skill levels will be furnished in the next newsletter. In the meanwhile, let's get started, we have a big challenge in front of us to equal last year's show. With all of our new members and participants from last year's show, there is no reason to expect anything but **BIGGER AND BETTER**.*

Thanks again for the great show last year, now let's do it again.

DUES ARE PAST DUE

IT SEEMS THAT A NUMBER OF YOU HAVE NOT GOTTEN AROUND TO PAYING YOUR DUES. WE HAVE BEEN DELAYING PUTTING TOGETHER OUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY SO WE COULD INCLUDE EVERYONE. **IF YOU WANT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DIRECTORY YOU NEED TO PAY YOUR \$35 BY THE MARCH 17TH MEETING.** OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS P.O. BOX 26665, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35260

In Other Guild News...

Suzanne Reeves of Children's Hospital paid us a visit at the February meeting asking for our help to create games for their upcoming "Child Life Week". Our Fridays at Woodcraft guys took the plans and immediately began planning to help. Suzanne also brought *a list of craft ideas to help us with our Christmas list for the Toys Program*. The list included picture frames (3x5, 4x6, and 5x10) in all shapes, letters of the alphabet cutouts (multiples of each), any shape of plaques (3x5, 4x10, 5x10), pencil boxes, animal cutouts, shape cutouts (sun, moon, hand, foot, face, etc.), small cars, trucks, puzzles, containers. The small items are best because they are the easiest to transport and store. Flowers on a stand are good because some children aren't allowed real flowers and the wooden ones can be painted to brighten up their hospital rooms.

Show and Tell from February included a cypress folding Adirondack chair by **Buzz Kelly**, a mahogany lamp table with display base by **Jim Lee** and **Shane Carter**, several turned bowls (red oak and spalted sycamore) by **Leonard Sanders**, a steady rest by **Mel Brown**, and a new cool tool brought by **Brian Stauss**.

We have awarded three additional scholarships. The first is to **Eddie Heerten** for a woodturning class. The other two went to **Buzz and Nelda Kelly** for their trip to the Dogwood Institute in Atlanta. Scholarship winners are requested to write an article for the Guild News and to talk about their experience at a Guild meeting.

Upcoming at our May meeting is our annual hot dog supper and silent auction. If you've traded up to a better tool and still have that old one lying around your shop, bring it in and see what you can get for it. We are not confined to just tools either! Bring projects you made and want to sell, wood, or other woodworking supplies.

If you're just getting started check out the auction for your next tool purchase. That's how a lot of us got started. Talking about using old, second-hand, or hand-me-down tools, Zane Powell told us that all the best woodworkers started out that way. *"Using used equipment builds woodworking skills because you have to be inventive. If you have always had good equipment at home, give you some junk and I bet you can't do*

nothing!"

I'll bet there will be 'junk' at the auction that can help you build your skills or maybe you have some 'junk' that someone else can use to hone theirs. Start looking around your shop and planning now!

Coming up very soon, **those who make a minimum donation to the Guild will have the opportunity to win a new Delta tool.** More details will be available at the upcoming March meeting.

The workbench class being taught by **Fred Baker** and **Mike Key** continues on Saturday mornings at the shop of **Shane Carter** and **Jim Lee**. Your editor got a sneak preview of the progress during the Zane Powell Jigs Seminar. With the base completed, below is how it looked.



Meeting Directions:

Homewood Senior Center 816 Oak Grove Road **Homewood, AL**

From I65 South, take the West Oxmoor exit, merge into center lane. Go through 2 lights.

When in doubt, merge left. At the 3rd light (Florida Grill and Weygand Surveyors) take a left. Go to the black mail box and turn right into Senior Center property. The center has a green roof. (205) 943-0018

From I65 North, take the Oxmoor Road exit. Turn left. Go under interstate (3 lights).

When in doubt, merge left. At the 3rd light (Florida Grill and Weygand Surveyors) take a left. Go to the black mail box and turn right into Senior Center property. The center has a green roof. (205) 943-0018



WOODCRAFT³

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Directions

Take I-65 to Exit 246.
Take Highway 119 West (Cahaba Valley Road)
3/4 of a mile. We are located on the left,
in the Cahaba Valley Station.

Phone

205-988-3600

Fax

205-988-3612

Website:

www.woodcraft.com

e-mail: WC511@aol.com

Store Hours

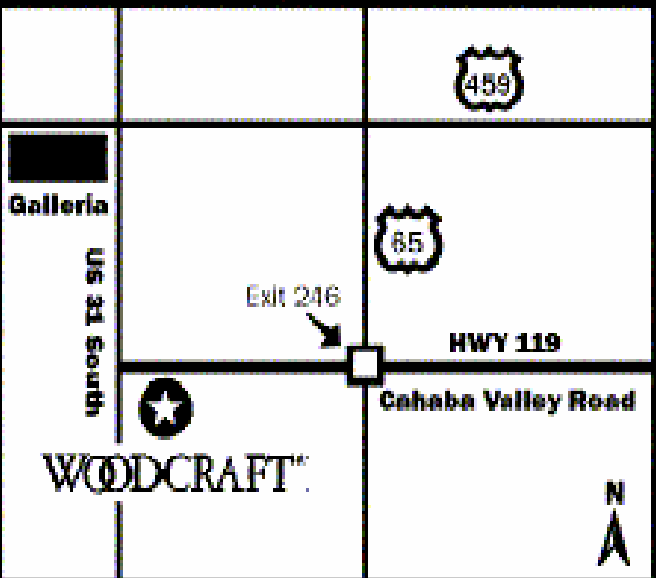
M - T - W - F: 9AM - 7PM

Th: 9AM-9PM

Sat: 9AM-6PM

Sun: Noon-5 PM

BIRMINGHAM, AL



Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild meetings are held monthly on the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Homewood Senior Center, 816 Oak Grove Road, Homewood, AL.
Information concerning the Guild may be secured by calling James Armstrong, Treasurer at (205) 681-8165.
Our Webmaster is Bob Browning. See our website at: www.alabamawoodworkersguild.org
Contact our Guild News Editor at nelbuz@msn.com.

About Us

Open 8 am - 5 pm, Mon. - Fri.
Open 8 am - 12 pm Sat.
WALK-INS WELCOME
21444 U.S. Highway 31
Thorsby, AL 35171
www.hardwoodweb.com

Hardwoods, Inc.
Of Alabama
800-467-4160



The Alabama Woodworkers Guild
P.O. Box 26665
Birmingham, AL 35260
Phone: 205-424-0819