



Guild News

VOLUME XXVI NUMBER 6

JUNE 2007

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John Lawson
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Toy Chair: Buddy Finch
Show Chair: Paul Mancill

President's Message

Thanks to those who helped at the auction!! The family night meeting in May is one of my favorites. It's a good time to sit with those we don't see often and break bread and visit.



I want to thank **Cliff Daniels** for organizing the auction but also those who cooked – **Charlie Ard, Mike Key and Paul Mancill** (pictured above) as well as those who worked on the inside. **Monta King**, who does our meeting setups, also photographed the event. So many stepped forward and helped on the serving line so I'm fearful of naming individuals for the risk of missing someone but --- **Nelda Kelly, Marcia Mancill, Kathy Shivers, Tina Hood** and others – thank you so much!!! I hope you found something in the auction you could not live without – I got a beautiful mallet made by **Walter Barnett**. I really like it!

Next Meeting June 21st

*Pre-Meeting at 5:30
Meeting 6:30 PM*

*Don't forget your
Show and Tell*



Fred Sandlin has volunteered to be the official sharpener of the Guild-owned tools. This is a valuable donation he is making to the Guild. Remember **Fred** (see page 2) when you need sharpening services.

(Continued on Page 2)

Inside this issue:

Shop Visit Directions	2
For Sale	2
Alert!	2
Shop Visit with Jeff Hood	3
Lawson Class Continues	4
Guild Patrons	5
Guild Patrons	5

Jigs and Fixtures

Seems like there isn't a project in woodworking you can make without first making a jig or two. Jigs help us in many ways. They make our projects simpler and safer. Back by popular demand, some of our members will be sharing information about their favorite jigs. We've done this before but no two programs have ever been quite the same. There are so many different jigs and fixtures out there that this is always one of our most popular program topics.

Join us at 5:30 PM for our pre-meeting presentation with Toy Maker Extraordinaire and Poet Laureate **Buddy Finch**.

Shop Visit with Michael Tomlin on June 30th!!

Let's all go to Cullman and see what's going on up there. **Mike** has invited us to join him and see his shop. Rumor has it you may want to take your truck. **Mike** has some Honduran mahogany for sale (see page 2 for his ad). It's sure to be a terrific visit, and those guys from Cullman will have the short trip this time! He'll have his shop open for us between 9 AM and 1 PM. (See page 2 for directions.)

Your Directors are working hard to finalize a deal for our shop. Things are moving slower than we'd wished but hang in there.

Our annual demonstration at Woodcraft will be Saturday, July 21st. It's always fun and again, Woodcraft will cook hot dogs for lunch plus Tom is offering a 10% discount to Guild members on their purchases. As an added bonus this year, Freud will have their display trailer on site for all to see plus they will conduct clinics on saw blades – maybe others. Please make your plans to be there to demonstrate or to support those who do.

We have also been invited to participate in a demonstration at Liberty Park on August 25th from 6 to 8 PM. This is Vestavia's annual "I Love America" celebration and will include bands, food and other entertainment. Make your plans to be there with your Guild.

John Lawson's class on building a spice box is going very well. (see article page 4) This is the most difficult woodworking I have ever attempted. Our instruction is fantastic and I challenge you to find better instruction at any woodworking school in the country. We have a treasure in **John!**

Glenn Phillips and I had a fun day at Ron Peyton's open house. (see article page 3) I saw **Patricia and Eddie Heerten** (along with sons Nathan and Chris), **Buzz and Nelda Kelly**, as well as **Ron Griffin** all there for the day. I enjoyed Nick Cook's turning demonstration. The tool swap almost got me but I resisted.

I am working on my entries for the show – are you? If you have not entered the show before you are missing so much of what your Guild has to offer. (see **Paul's** article on page 3) Do it this year!

Recently, eighteen people joined our Guild in ninety days. I want to thank you for telling your friends about us. Keep up the good work! Remember, bring a friend interested in woodworking to our meetings and get her/him to join the Guild.

Take time to work safely, **Bill**



Paul Mancill and Mike Key cook while Bill Shivers, Charlie Ard, and Dan Browning supervise !

Directions to Michael Tomlin's Shop 307 3rd Avenue SE , Cullman, AL 35055

Mike's shop is about an hour north of Birmingham up I-65 North.

From I-65 take exit 308 (US Hwy 278) toward Cullman/Double Springs.

- Turn right onto US 278E and travel about 1.5 miles.
- ← Turn left onto Main Avenue SW then (<0.1 mi) turn
- Right onto 3rd Street SW. Go about 0.4 miles and turn
- ← Left onto 2nd Ave SE. 0.5 miles
- Turn right onto Oak Drive NE (<0.1 mi) take another
- Right onto 3rd Avenue SE. The address 307 3rd Ave SE

For Sale



6/4 and 8/4 Honduran Mahogany \$5.00 per board foot. Michael Tomlin (205) 613-5563

South Bend Metal lathe w/accessories. 9" swing 32" between centers. \$1500. Good shape. Frank Jones just needs the room (205) 663-9057

Craftsman 12" Wood lathe with cabinet.

Plus: Turning tools, 4 1/2" faceplate, 4 jaw chuck, instruction book. Never been used, Please call **Bruce Wood**, (205) 836-6850

Keep Your Tools Sharp!

Fred Sandlin, an AWG member who owns and operates a professional sharpening service, will pick-up your saw blades and other tools at each meeting, sharpen them, and return them to you the following month. **Fred's** charge for this service is at his standard rates less a 5% discount for Guild members.

Call **Fred** at (205) 663-7524 to coordinate the pick-up and delivery.

Looking for Someone to Build

...a door for a 1950 Plymouth Woody Wagon. Have all the parts and wood. Interested parties should call Eddy Cisco - Home (205)280-7050 or cell (205)937-0947. Or call locally, **Jim Caldwell** (205)901-1021.

Alabama Woodturners Classes

We and the Alabama Woodturners are sharing classes in 2007. See the schedule of turning classes posted at <http://alabamawoodturners.com>

or contact **Will Pate** (205) 907-0638.

Alert!

There are 4 short months until our annual show at the Hoover Library. That's plenty of time for you to get busy and build that special project but don't put it off too long.

Every year our show is very good and it would be even better if we had more participation. One of the things I enjoy is seeing the projects that new members bring and I want to encourage all our new members to participate.

There will be categories from beginner to advanced in traditional and contemporary furniture plus a number of other categories such as turning, carving, small objects, etc.

The show setup will be Oct. 20 and pickup will be Sunday the 28th. There will be a reception Tuesday evening, Oct. 23. Let's ALL plan to participate this year!!

Thanks, *Paul*

Welcome New Members:

Robert Andrepont, Pelham
Jeremy Standlee, Alabaster
Clyde E Wills, Vestavia
Howard, King Cullman
Michael Jones, Jasper

Shop Visit with Jeff Hood

Jeff's shop featured some tools you just don't see every day. Those of you that missed this one missed a real treat. Besides having one of the largest band saws ever seen in a home shop (some 36 inches), **Jeff** also has an Excalibur scroll saw with a foot pedal and one of those Legacy routing/turning machines used to create some unusual detailing such as barley twists. **Jeff** had some candlestick holders started that promise to be beautiful when finished.

Speaking of projects in the works, the entertainment center with crown molding and raised panel construction looks to be outstanding...then there was an incredible headboard, not to mention several scroll saw projects. Tina told us that the headboard was last year's show project that didn't make it in time for the show. Well it looks to us like he has a great start on his entry for this year!

Turning Day at Dogwood Saturday, June 9th

When **Buzz** and I arrived at 8:30 AM, it was so quiet on the street that we thought we might be too early. When we approached the gate we were waived inside to a surprisingly large number of folks already there. **Ron Peyton** went out of his way to introduce us around and make us feel welcome.

You should see his newly finished turning studio located in Alpharetta on a horse farm. They have another 4,000 square foot barn is being renovated for the woodworking school. Having taken two of the Dogwood's fundamentals classes we recommend them and look forward to going back ourselves.

We saw featured turners Don Russell (segmented turnings), Nick Cook (our all time favorite, turning a variety of small items), and Wes Jones (green wood turning). We ate barbeque and later had ice cream compliments of Woodcraft in Atlanta. The Redmond folks did a Saw Stop demo. There was a swap and sale as well as several antique cars for viewing. It was a terrific day out and it was good to see so many folks from Birmingham there.

For those of you who may not know, **Ron Peyton** (The Dogwood Institute) was the first of our patrons and supports our guild. We should return the favor. For **Buzz** and myself, this was a terrific opportunity for a date. We went over on Friday after work, ate dinner out stayed at a hotel, spent Saturday at Dogwood and were home early on Saturday evening. It is really nice to have a woodworking school and friends only a couple of hours away!

Comfort Bucket

Remember when we used to meet at Bo Thuston's shop or even back when we met at Acton's? The summer time was sweltering when we were meeting in open shops with no air conditioning, sitting in folding chairs and fighting the mosquitoes. We've come a long way since those days haven't we?

No longer dependent upon the kindness of others, we pay our way and rent space for our monthly meetings. The Homewood Senior Center is much more comfortable and we sure enjoy the air conditioning and kitchen facilities. We put out a few refreshments each meeting (except for our Hot Dog Supper where we go all out). Thanks to your kind donations from auction proceeds, in May we were able to cover the costs for food and space.

When you check in next meeting make note of the Comfort Bucket sitting on the check in table. If everyone puts in a dollar or two each meeting we could almost cover our monthly meeting expenses. Your annual dues of \$35 covers the Guild News and a couple of other small things but doesn't come close to covering our meeting costs.

Smile when you drop in your donation and enjoy the air!!

JOHN LAWSON'S SPICE CABINET CLASS CONTINUES

I heard recently that woodworking apprentices in the 17th and 18th centuries were taught one skill at a time and then asked to perform that same task over and over for reinforcement until they had perfected that skill...sometimes years before moving forward.

Why then do we expect to make a new and different project every time and for that new project to always turn out perfect? Norm Abrams even always makes a prototype so that the one you see him make in half an hour is not his first.

I was thinking about this as I spent my third full day whacking out dovetails. We selected an advanced project this year that allows for the repetition of some very important woodworking skills. By the time we finish this project we should have gotten ample opportunity to practice hand cutting dovetails.



John Lawson & Brian Stauss

skill, we HAVE had the opportunity to use some power tools. We used a router to thin down some to those tails (trust me it's in the plans) and to make grooves for the dividers for



Buzz Kelly

Our boxes start out with dovetails. Some are 3/4 of an inch long and 3/4 of an inch thick. Others are 3/8 of an inch long and 3/8 thick. Then there are those combination pins and tails.

Next we have 9 drawers, and guess what, they are all dovetailed together as well. But this time we get to do half blinds as well as through dovetails. As I swing that mallet again, I am sure that that underarm flab is bound to be a thing of the past!

Though it seems like we have spent most of our time learning a single

our drawers. We also got to route out the recess for the back panels and for the door jamb.

With all those dovetails to make and being the thoughtful folks we all are, we have been extending out our classes. **John Phelps** with wife, Rebecca, commutes 10 hours one way from Orange, TX to participate in this class, so we elected to only meet every second or third Saturday instead of every Saturday and expect to finish up around mid July.

This gives us time to do our homework and there's plenty of it. I've got to say that meeting and discussing, working some together, and doing a lot of the work at home helps to reinforce the lessons. I learn best by my mistakes and I have learned a lot on this project...but I won't tell you where they are though. You'll have to find them for yourself!



Buzz Kelly, Brian Stauss & John Lawson

John Lawson demonstrated and we watched. We laid out and cut and John watched.



Bill Shivers



John Phelps & Bill Shivers



John Phelps

Guild Patrons

We are very fortunate to have the following patrons who support the Guild. They are excellent suppliers of products or services in the local area that provide monetary support or allow us to use their various facilities for Guild functions:

The Dogwood Institute School of Fine Woodworking Offers woodworking classes for beginner to advanced woodworkers on various topics with concentration on teaching the "Process" of making furniture. Our signature courses on *Foundations for Fine Woodworking*, has been extremely popular and guides the student through a series of Foundations Courses to prepare them for building quality furniture. Other courses include veneering, turning, finishing and project classes. Next year the school is expanding facilities/courses and will offer several week-long courses. All courses are taught by master craftsmen with a vast amount of experience in different areas of expertise. Courses are conducted in our spacious horse farm in Alpharetta, GA featuring two large fully equipped barns including a turning studio & steam bending equipment. The environment lends to learning woodworking skills in a pleasant surrounding. Our mission: "To provide quality instructional courses to individuals who are interested in furthering their knowledge of woodworking at all levels of interest and skill." 1640 Mid-Broadwell Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004 (770)-751-9571 www.dogwoodwoodworking.com

Dusty Saw Woodworks For custom made furniture and custom cabinets **Jim Lee** Cell (205) 478-3698 dusty-saw@bellsouth.net

J.R. Prewitt & Associates, Inc. Independent Insurance Agent—Founded in 1974, J. R. Prewitt & Associates, Inc. is a family owned agency that has grown to one of the largest firms in the Birmingham area. Representing over a dozen insurance carriers, the agency provides a full spectrum of insurance services to over 3500 clients. From individuals to multi-state corporations, the agency prides itself on it's loyal, long term client base as a result of unparalleled customer service. Contact us for your personal, business, or professional insurance needs. 2100 17th Ave. South, Birmingham, AL 35205 Telephone (205)-930-9207 FAX (205)-930-0450

Paul Mancill, Realtor I work as a full time Realtor with both buyers and sellers. If I can help you please call. I will donate a minimum of \$200 in your name to the AWG Building fund for each successful transaction either with a AGW member or referred by an AWG member. Thanks, Paul.. I can be reached at (205)-706-6252

Max Tool, Inc. is a distributor of cutting tools, abrasives, MRO and machine shop supplies. Founded in 1985, we are located in Birmingham, Alabama. Max Tool represents the product lines of many of industry's foremost manufacturers from around the world.. 119 B Citation Court, Birmingham, AL 35209 (205) 942-2466 www.maxtoolinc.com

The Awards & Engraving Place is a full service engraving shop, offering both laser and flatbed rotary engraving. We engrave directly on wood, glass, plastic, and a variety of coated metals. We offer plaques, glass and acrylic wards, trophies, interior signs and name badges. We have been in business in Hoover since 1987. Contact Ken Murer, The Awards & Engraving Place, 1883 Hoover Court, Hoover, AL 35226, (205)-823-7676 fax (205)-822-1111

Woodcraft The Woodcraft franchise in Pelham, AL is independently owned by Tom and Kathy Nequette. It is a local business and Tom's full time occupation. It depends upon its well being by fostering and maintaining as high a level of relationships as possible with all of our customers. Beyond that it is imperative for the store to enhance and promote woodworking in all of its forms. The Alabama Woodworker's Guild is an integral part of these goals. Not only do we value the members as customers but we value what the Guild represents and brings to our community. We believe in supporting the Guild, its growth and its members. We thank you for your patronage and your friendship. (see our ad page 6)

Commercial Heating and Air, Charlie Ard

ABC 33/40 - Alabama's TV News Leader

Our thanks to local television station **ABC 33/40** and videographer, **Bill Castle**, for their support of the community activities of the Alabama Woodworkers Guild.

Watson Computers, Inc - RadioShack Dealer: "Supporting The Alabama Sheriff's Boys Ranch along with The Alabama Woodworkers Guild". We provide complete computer sales and service plus a full service Radio Shack Store. Located adjacent to Wal-Mart in Pell City. Phone (205) 338-2329

Join the Over the Hill Gang Fridays, 11:30 at Woodcraft on Hwy 119 in Pelham. We'll eat lunch and tell some lies. Then we will make some sawdust!! It's a good time and place to get to know your fellow Guild members.

Currently we are building several different toys for the Elsie Baker Memorial Toy Program as well as some game boards for the Institute for the Deaf and Blind. Come and join in on all the fun!!!

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.



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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



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 Walter Barnett, Treasurer at (205) 933-9207.
 Our Webmaster is Brian Stauss. See our website at: www.alabamawoodworkersguild.org
 Contact our Guild News Editor at nelbuz@msn.com.

About Us

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