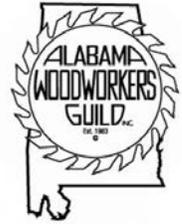




Woodworking Education Center  
10544 Hwy 17, Maylene, AL 35114

# Alabama Woodworkers Guild Guild News



[www.alabamawoodworkersguild.org](http://www.alabamawoodworkersguild.org)

Volume XXXIV Number 2

February, 2015

## Next Meeting

The next  
scheduled  
meeting is  
February 21st

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## President's Message

Dear Guild Members.

Let me tell you about my February. On 2/6/15 I went to a Hand Cut Dovetail Class taught by Rob Cosman at Woodcraft. Rob is an internationally known woodworking craftsman and teacher. He has made several woodworking DVDs and has a line of hand tools. He was involved in the redesign of WoodRiver planes and is Woodcraft's representative for them. He also has two online woodworking schools, one for hand tool woodworkers and one for power tool users. He is considered by many to be the guru of hand cut dovetails. I have been following him for many years and was excited to participate in his dovetail cutting class. I applied for a scholarship from the guild that paid for half of the \$295 cost of the class making it possible for me to attend.

The class covered the complete process of cutting dovetails by hand, but the main technique he taught was marking the pins by offsetting the tail board by the width of the saw blade in one direction. Then putting the saw in the tail saw kerf and marking one side of the pin then offsetting the tail board in the other direction, then repeating the process. I will be demonstrating this technique at a future guild meeting. Although I have cut several dovetails by hand in the past with varying degrees of success, I cut some very acceptable joints during the class and have more confidence that I can repeat the process.

On 2/13 & 2/14 Christopher Schwarz will be at the WEC to present a two day class on building the Dutch Tool Chest made famous in the October 2013 issue of Popular Woodworking Magazine. He will be demonstrating how to build this chest and the techniques he uses. At the end of the class, the chest built in the class will be raffled off to one of the participants. Some time in March we will be doing a group build for anyone participating in the class to build their own Dutch Tool Chest for a materials only cost.

For those of you who are not familiar with Chris Schwarz, he was the long time editor of Popular Woodworking Magazine. He is the founder and co-owner of Lost Art Press, a publishing company dedicated to publishing woodworking books using American made materials and suppliers. After our class, Chris is going to

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## President's Message

Australia, Germany, and England to teach classes abroad. Chris was here last year and taught a Six Board Chest class. All that attended learned a lot from Chris and enjoyed his teaching style.

Now that I primarily use hand tools in my woodworking, these two gentlemen are my major source of inspiration. I am very excited to spend time with them in person.

Ray

## New Members

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members!

Marion Kirk, Jim Pickens, Grant Wolfe, Isaia Lambert, Jim Sharpe

**WELCOME!**

**WEC FEBRUARY – MARCH 2015 CALENDAR**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8[6] 1:00pm-5:00pm.... Eddie Heerten	9	10 10:00am - 3:00pm OTH Gang - Toys Shop is CLOSED except for Toy work.	11	12	13 9:00am - 1:00pm Supervisor: Patrick Murphy Emer: 205-585-5677 1:00pm - 5:00pm no supervisor 5:00pm - 9:00pm.... Mike Key	14 Shop closed for Chris Schwarz Seminar
15[7] Shop closed for Chris Schwarz Seminar	16	17 10:00am - 3:00pm OTH Gang - Toys Shop is CLOSED except for Toy work.	18	19	20 9:00am - 1:00pm.... no supervisor 1:00pm - 5:00pm.... no supervisor 5:00pm - 9:00pm.... Eddie Heerten	21 9:00am - 1:00pm Cliff Daniels supervisor 10:00am - 11:30am Monthly Guild Meeting (Woodworking Education Center) 1:00pm - 5:00pm Cliff Daniels supervisor
22[8] 1:00pm-5:00pm.... Brian Stauss	23	24 10:00am - 3:00pm OTH Gang - Toys Shop is CLOSED except for Toy work.	25	26	27 9:00am - 5:00pm R Harawick supervisor 1:00pm - 5:00pm.... no supervisor	28 9:00am - 1:00pm.... no supervisor 1:00pm - 5:00pm.... no supervisor
1[9] 1:00pm-5:00pm.... no supervisor	2 Mar	3 10:00am - 3:00pm OTH Gang - Toys Shop is CLOSED except for Toy work.	4 6:30pm - 7:30pm AWG Board Meeting (JR Prewitt & Associates, 2146 Highland Avenue South)	5	6	7 9:00am - 1:00pm Ron Powell supervisor 1:00pm - 5:00pm Ron Powell supervisor 5:00pm - 9:00pm.... no supervisor

*The most current WEC calendar is always available on-line at: <http://freecal.brownbears.com/awg>*

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Phone/Fax: 205-669-1959

## February Pre-Meeting Mentoring Topic: Mentoring the Newman Way

February's Mentoring Series Pre-Meeting will feature Bill Newman. Bill will present several examples of projects he has helped Guild Members with over the years. Bill's knowledge and experience has been empowering woodworkers by teaching such topics as sharpening and tuning techniques for those pesky hand planes and chisels, all the way to box building and the parquetry to adorn them.



Bill has been a driving force with the Guild's Mentoring Program with countless hours and projects under his belt. This session will provide insight into one of the best kept secrets and yet widely available programs within the Guild.

See you at the Pre-Meeting, Saturday, February 21st at 9am!

## The Toy Group

The Tuesday Toy Group (a.k.a. Over the Hill Gang) is off and running for 2015. The team meets at the Woodworkers Education Center in Maylene on Tuesdays at 10am. Last year the group constructed over 15,000 toys for Children's of Alabama and so far in January we've completed over 750 toys! All Guild members are invited to come out and join in the creations and contribute to the great cause!



## For Sale – Guild Auction

You won't want to miss the February Guild Meeting where the following items will be auctioned off. This will be the time to start off your shop or add to your current equipment cache!

Need a Bandsaw?



For the space restricted, how about a start-up Contractor's Saw?



And how about this shaper?



How about the ultimate "Dust Blower (a.k.a. Leaf Blower)" for your shop floor?



This Benchtop Drill Press even has its own light...



## Hoover Library Project

The Hoover Library has graciously hosted the Guild's Annual Juried Show for several years providing a venue to expand the Guild's public awareness and showcase the creative talents of its members. Last year the Guild was approached and was excited to be able to apply their woodworking skills and give back to the Library. In several of the Library's various areas, smaller books and video media had the tendency to be hidden from view on the standard, deep, library shelves. The staff had been able to have a few shelf "backers" constructed to place on the shelves behind the smaller items to make them more accessible but higher priority commitments overtook construction. The Guild was asked if it might have any members who would be willing to help and complete the project. Absolutely!

After the year-end holiday rush was over, several members gathered at the Woodworkers Education Center and construction of the shelf backers began. The Library had numerous areas where the backers would be needed and each had its own customized sizing needs which posed no problems for the Guild Project Team. Every project affords members the opportunity to learn new skills, techniques, and share their experience with others; this one was no different.



With construction complete, all that was needed was a little cooperation from Mother Nature to provide a good environment to add the "finishing touches".



Thanks to Mother Nature, there were a couple of days of great weather in early February for members to come back together to complete the project. The final phase was to seal and apply finish to the backers. Having the right tool for the right job is always a big help, HVLP spray guns were perfect for this job. Members were able to learn the technique of applying spray finish which will protect the backers for many years to come.

## Hoover Library Project



Completely “finished”, delivery day arrived and the backers were transported to the library where a grateful and cheerful staff eagerly looked forward to installation.



Many Thanks to the Guild Members participating in this Project: Walter Barnett; Ed Bullock; Pat Bush; Henry Hager; Michael Malinconico; Robert McClure; Randall Robertson; Brian Stauss; Bob Watkins; John Wilkes; Ray Ziegler.

Once again the Guild was able to fulfill its purpose: “...to promote and administer programs which will benefit the woodworking community and advance the art and craft of woodworking.” It was truly a joy to be able to give back to the Hoover Library, a strong supporter of the Guild over the years!

*Photos: Ray Zeigler, Patrick Murphy, Lance Shores*

## Beginning Boards 2015

This column is focused on the issues of the beginning woodworker. We all had to start somewhere in our learning about woodworking and this writer is still a novice in so many ways. We welcome the new members to the woodworking guild no matter the city or location. We approach the work with full realization that there is much to be learned and many opinions on how to approach the challenges of learning to work in wood. All help and advice is welcomed. We learn so that we can teach the love of woodworking and a guild is the very best place to practice the art of learning and teaching woodworking.



125 bf of rough walnut

My particular problem this month is related to a special gift that I received in October, 2014. I have this friend who “gave” me an uncommon stack of Black Walnut that has been sitting in a shed on Smith Lake, Al. since it was milled by his father some 55 years ago. It is 125 bd ft of very brittle, dry and light, checkered, dusty wood that has knots with star-burst cracks in every single board. The boards are mostly 1” rough cut, about 10” wide and 5-6 feet long. He wants for me to gift him with a “Hope Chest” from his father's wood.



Star-burst cracks in the knots

As I began planing the beautiful walnut to 3/4,” my first board to hit the planer was a disaster. Half of the knots fell out of the board leaving 'knot hole’ voids. You can't put a knot back into a hole once it falls out!!!! It calls for special treatment. Thus I began researching how to treat the boards prior to planing.

I hit on advice-o-plenty on the internet, at a guild meeting and at the shop. I decided to freeze around the knots with CA (cyanoacrylate) glue and fill the cracks with epoxy prior to planing and sanding. The results have been pretty good. By gradually filling the deep cracks and sanding, the cracks become smooth. The epoxy was colored with ground coffee. I plan to sand all boards to 220 grit prior to assembly and finishing. Much of the highly figured wood was spared and saved with these techniques. The Hope Chest is well on it's way to becoming a pretty piece of furniture for my friend and his family.

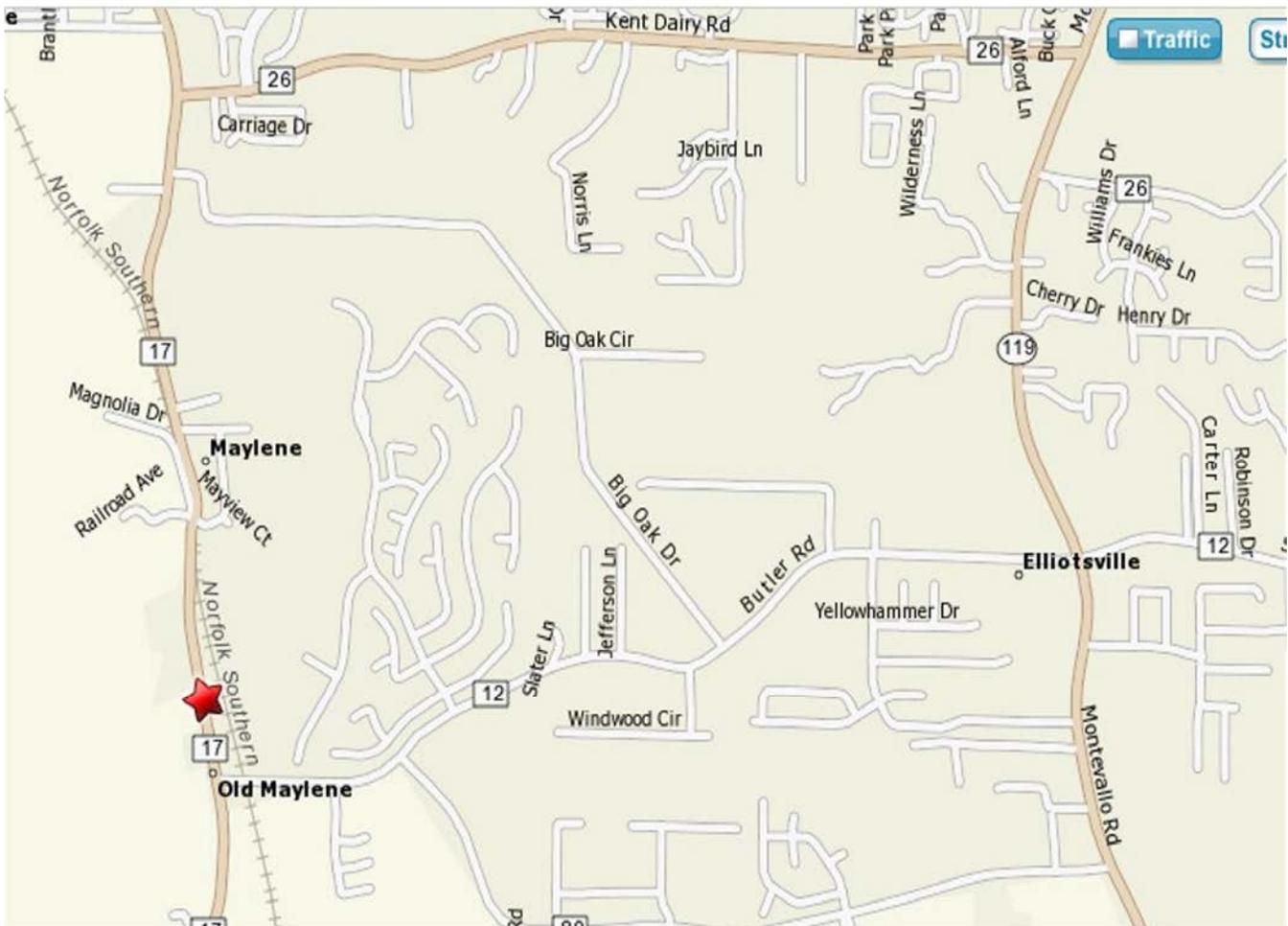


Epoxy Magic

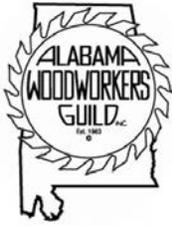


Fall-out and first coat of epoxy

## Directions to the Woodworkers Education Center (WEC)



**From I-65**, take Exit 238 (Highway 31). Turn north on U.S. Highway 31, go 0.6 miles and turn left on State Highway 119 South. Go 3.0 miles south on Highway 119 and turn right on County Highway 12. Go 2.1 miles on Highway 12 until it ends at County Highway 17. Turn right on Highway 17 and the WEC is 0.3 miles on your left. There is a large WEC sign at the entrance.



www.  
alabamawoodworkersguild  
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## 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 the Woodworking Education Center, 10544 Hwy 17, Maylene, AL 35114

Information concerning the Guild may be secured by calling **Walter Barnett, Treasurer** at (205) 933-9207.



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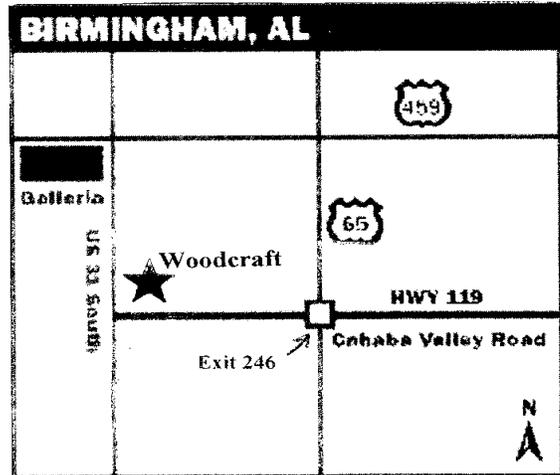
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