# **Guild News**

Making Sawdust with a purpose

NOVEMBER 2018



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#### General **Announcements**

**Next Meeting:** Saturday Nov 17th

Christmas Party Thursday Dec 13th

# President's Message

We had a fantastic Annual Show with over 104 exhibits and a member reception where over 100 members and guests participated and already 3 new members who joined by coming to the Show. This was more than twice the number of art and members than we had in 2016 and a 15% increase from 2017. These exhibits were some of the best woodworking pieces of art that you will ever see. A big shout

You will want to come to our "Mentoring Meeting" on Saturday November 17 at 9:00 a.m. It will be before our November General Meeting, which will start at 10:00 a.m. as some of our ribbon winners will show us their winning art and tell us how they made it. You will not want to miss seeing this artwork and I bet there will be a few guitars in the group!

The "PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD", which is a plaque given to the woodworker that created the most popular piece of art voted on by the public at the Annual Show will be announced at our Annual Christmas Party.

I hope to see you at both events!

Don

out to the Luthiers Group as they exhibited 26 various guitars and stringed instruments that were so good that "The Fender Company" would be jealous! The public loved the exhibits and I want to thank all the woodworkers who exhibited in the show and all the volunteers who worked the show during the week! It was so successful because of your participation. The public loved it!

Welcome New Members!

Harold Higgins Steve Baxter

John Sharbutt Chris Wright

Justin Davis



A man who works with his hands is a laborer; a man who works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman; but a man who works with his hands and his brain and his heart is an artist.~Louis Nizer (1902-1994)

# SketchUp Class

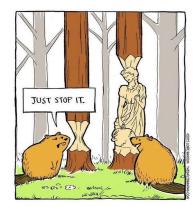
## Make This Cherry Side Table in SketchUp

Join the Alabama Woodworkers Guild SketchUp Group on November 17th at 8:00 am at the WEC. We will discuss techniques for making this side table.

This design is taken from Mark Edmundson's book Pocket Hole Joinery. The model in many ways is a good learning project for beginner SketchUp users.



# **Wood Carving Group**



# **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING** WOOD CARVING?

Stay tuned for more details. If interested, please let Steve Stutts or Ray Ziegler know or contact us on our website: <a href="http://wp.awwg.info/">http://wp.awwg.info/</a>

# **Wood Turning Group**

# **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PARTICI-PATING IN A WOOD TURNING GROUP?**



The Guild had over 40 members take various wood turning classes in 2018. If you are interested in starting a weekly or biweekly group that meets for a few hours and learns techniques and works together on various projects, learning together. Please let us know by contacting us on our website: http://wp.awwg.info/

# Toy Group Receives Recognition, Donation

#### Bear Woods is giving \$50 to the Alabama Woodworker's Guild as part of our November campaign. Alabama Woodworkers Guild Toy Group

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild was established in 1983 in Shelby County Alabama. The Guild has been engaged in Toy Making since its inception starting with individual members creating custom, highend Toys which were donated each December to the annual Birmingham, Alabama Toys for Tots drive. The Toys were of such high quality, they were transitioned to an annual auction where the funds collected were again donated to the Toys for Tots drive.

The next several years AWG Members continued to craft toys for an annual donation effort within the Birmingham area. In the early 2000's members began gathering at different member's home shops throughout the year and began crafting smaller and less complicated toy designs at a faster pace and would begin delivering to the Children's of Alabama Hospital during the Holiday Season each year.





In 2008, the AWG opened its Woodworking Education Center which is a former School House and former Habitat for Humanity warehouse located in Maylene, Alabama. The Toy Makers finally had a facility where they could meet, work on and store toys year round.



The Toy Makers have been coming together on Tuesday's where they craft various designs and create new designs each year. The numbers of donated toys have grown from a modest 300-600 toys during the Holiday Season to an average in the past 5 years of 10,000-16,000 per year. They have expanded from a single partner, Children's of Alabama, located in Birmingham, Alabama to multiple partners in Birmingham such as Greater Birmingham Ministries, The YWCA of Central Alabama, Safe House, American Village Citizenship Trust and Kids Connection. Toys from the AWG Toy Group are also delivered monthly to pediatric hospitals in Memphis and Nashville, Tennessee; Atlanta, Georgia; Louisville, Kentucky; and multiple Shriner's Hospitals for Children throughout the south and mid-west.

This article was taken in part from an article on the Bear Wood. Visit their website: https://www.bearwood.com/



# **Shop Notes**



Well, it looks like the JET 22-44 bed sander is up and running. JET sent a tech out and he worked on it, checked drum balance, cleaned, tightened and adjusted. I put a new bed belt on it just before he tuned up the machine itself. Let's give it a fair shot (I know I am jaded against this head-dropping beast, did I say that loud?) - initial thoughts so far are "great" as long as you don't use it for a planer (light, steady passes - not heavy handed).

We have a couple of new pieces of equipment headed to the shop, both Ridgid. A 6" joiner and standalone floor-pedestal drill press. The press will replace the smaller, stand mounted Harbor Freight drill press. I just replaced the switch on it and it will be in the next shop tool sale. Good opportunity to upgrade for the shop AND for whoever buys the HF stand mount. The new, smaller joiner will be for quick, shorter board clean up...leaving the larger joiner for heavy item throughput. Now if I just had a place to put it. The current layout is pretty rock solid...I will have to plan carefully.

The HVAC is up and fully tuned up for the next several seasons. One problem solved...time for another. We have a roof leak...and it may be a humdinger. Puttins some water in the kitchen, toy closet and the shop bathroom. Stay tuned for more on that later. Frank is working with folks now to assess the situation. And we have a new North (front) Door in the making...the Hand Tool Group (who seem to use the dust collector a lot, hmmmm... curious) is putting the finishing touches on the door now. With all that power running, maybe Thursday Night Group is more appropriate (just kiddin' so don't overheat your wick in that whale oil lamp you guys use for lighting).

As most of you have heard I will be rotating out of the Shop Manager role at the end of 2018. David Robinson has agreed to take up the Shop Manager mantel with Randy Hjetland at his side. Ken and Frank will remain in place for 2019 because they are irreplaceable. I had several goals in taking on the shop manager role and I accomplished them all with the cooperation of ever-present support of the board. Combined with the "hands on" attitude of so many members (an honest SHOUT OUT to the Thursday Hand Tool Group) + the specialist (electrical, landscape, wifi/internet, tool group adoption like Cliff D on the bandsaws) and the donations of every member - we exceeded every goal I and many others shared. Great lighting, updated technology (David, Patrick and many others here), upgraded equipment, new chop saw and downdraft workstations, toy group storage (talk about SHOUT OUTS - the toy group cleans that shop spic and span - every week), improved dust collection (well, it is less dusty INSIDE the shop). All these major and so many minor updates to the kitchen, classroom and facilities overall (the electrical work alone - a bunch). The addition of the workbenches, the new chairs, the new LED's....the class room has really gotten busy. The entire Shop's current thru-put is off the chart. Classes, Toys, Shop Days, Groups, And the Shop is chugging right along. And it will continue to do so because of the "all hands on deck" attitude of its' members, and the outstanding group of supervisors that staff it year-round, rain or shine, early and late. It's the people that steam this organization along. Thanks for letting me ride in the engine for a bit...and letting me toot the whistle.

Stay tuned next month...where we answer the question burning in everyone's heart ->->- "with all these shop vacs...why can't I find two pieces of hose that actually match the fitting?" and "Why are all the tape measures in the drawer similar to the one I gave to my brother-in-law?" - think about, you'll get it.



### **About Us**



Promoting the Art and Craft of Fine Woodworking

Since 1983

We are an organization of woodcrafters with skills ranging from beginner to master craftsmen.

#### We meet at our Woodworking

**Education Center on the 3rd Saturday** 

<u>of each month at 9:00AM.</u> 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.

### **Woodworking Education Center (WEC)**

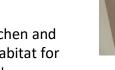
The Guild's Woodworking Education Center is located at the site of the old Maylene School building on Hwy 17 in Maylene, AL.



### **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 for the Habitat for Humanity Holiday House each year.

## **The Annual Show**

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild Annual Show is a judged show, generally held in October of each year at the Hoover Public Library. Members enter projects they have worked on all year and make them available for viewing by the general public.





# Membership

Come check us out and become a Guild Member,
Only \$100 a year!

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild offers:

Monthly meetings
A fully equipped woodworking shop
Mentoring for new techniques
Teaching new and old
techniques and use of tools
Great deals on used tools
Classes and seminars in
woodworking techniques and
furniture making
Community projects
Extensive woodworking library
Monthly newsletter
Informative website
Annual show demonstrating

Best in Show 2017

member built

projects



# Join

Name:
Address:
Phone: (Home)
(Work)
(Cell)
Email:
Spouse:

Please mail this form and a check for \$100 to:

Alabama Woodworkers Guild Attn: Treasurer P.O. Box 36804 Birmingham, AL. 35236

or go to http://wp.awwg.info/join/ and pay using PayPal or your credit/debit card.



Alabama Woodworkers Guild 10544 Highway 17 Maylene, AL 35114

### Easy to find and plenty of free parking.

*From I-65*, take Exit 238 (Highway 31). Turn north on 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.



Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild meetings are held monthly on the third Saturday at 9:00am at the Woodworking Education Center, 10544 Hwy 17, Maylene, AL 35114

### **Our Leaders**

President: Don Wilson

Vice President: Patrick Murphy

Secretary: John Wilkes

Treasurer: David Erikson

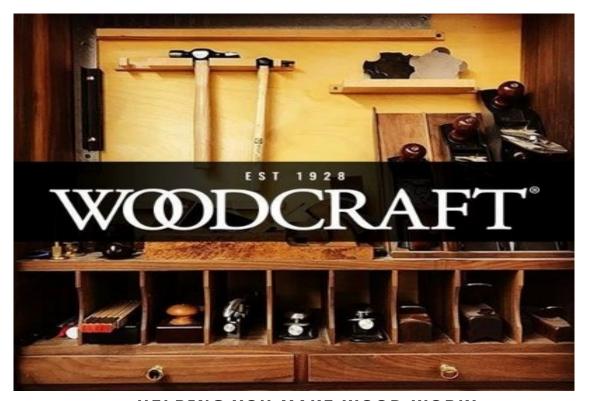
**Board Of Directors** 

Don Blackburn Bob Moore

Frank Higgins Sandra McMillan

David Robinson Bob Watkins

For detailed information on shop hours, available classes and meeting schedules, visit our website: <a href="http://wp.awwg.info/">http://wp.awwg.info/</a>



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#### **Business Hours**

Sunday	12:00pm—5:00pm
Monday	9:00am—7:00pm
Tuesday	9:00am—7:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am—7:00pm
Thursday	9:00am—7:00pm
Friday	9:00am—9:00pm
Saturday	9:00am—6:00pm

## November Guild Meeting: Saturday, November 17th 8am-Noon

#### 8:00am August SketchUp Workshop Topic: Blanket Bench



#### 9:00 am Annual Show Ribbon Winners Show and Tell

This month we will be celebrating the Ribbon Winners from the 2018 Annual Show. If you missed the Show at the Hoover Library, this would be a good time to see some of the Award Winning Projects from the show. This will be a good time also to ask questions and learn some of the tips and techniques from fellow Guild Members.

There will not be a dedicated portion of the General Meeting for Show and Tell for the next couple of months to see how the revised format works and get your feedback.

#### 10:00am November Program: 2018 Toy Group Finale

This year's Toy Chairmen: Sandra McMillan and Bob Watkins; will share the status of the Toy Group, our most continuous Community Service effort within the Guild. We have had some new folks to join the group, some new toy designs and new partners both inside and outside of Alabama who have benefitted

Learn how you too can become one of Santa's helpers and bring Miles of Smiles in this great group!

As always, this meeting is open to the General Public and members are encouraged to bring family and friends to learn all about the outstanding opportunities available with the Alabama Woodworkers Guild!



Alabama Woodworkers Guild P.O. Box 36804 Birmingham, AL 35236