

GUILD NEWS

Alabama Woodworkers Guild

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David Robinson

Kenneth Graham

Frank Higgins

Randy Hjetland

Newsletter Editor: Linda Simcik

President's Message

Happy New Year Guild members.

I am proud to be part of an organization that has the people to plan and achieve such success. Some of you don't know me. I have been a guild member since 2012. I moved here from Michigan 16 years ago with my job. I retired and decided to stay in Alabama. I have been woodworking on and off for over 40 years and am finally able to spend more time at it. I currently am using hand tools to build my projects. I enjoy the exercise and learning to become proficient with them.

I want to introduce you to the Board Members which are listed to the left.

Thank you to all the new board members and to all the returning board members. I am very proud to be serving as President of the guild for 2019 and look forward to working with you.

Ray



Now that you've taken down the Christmas Trees and stored all of the decorations until next year, it's time to think about your 2019 Woodworking Projects. There's no better place to work on those projects than the Woodworkers Education Center (WEC). Okay, maybe it would be better to work on your projects at home but where better than the WEC to take classes to learn new skills?

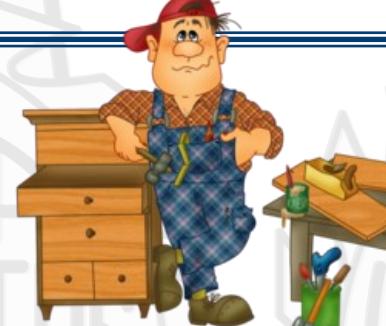
Now is the time to renew
Alabama Woodworkers
annual \$100 member-

and not let any of the
ing classes get away
you. You may join or renew by going to the website
(<http://wp.awwg.info/about/>) and clicking the "[Click here
to join or renew online now](#)" link to pay via PayPal.
You may also bring a check or cash to the WEC and give your dues to the On Duty Supervisor.



your
Guild
ship
upcom-
from

"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)



January Guild Meeting: Saturday, January 19th 8am-Noon

8:00am January SketchUp Workshop Topic: Box Project

All are welcome to attend the upcoming Guild SketchUp Workshop on 1/19/19 at 8:00 am. We will model Matt Kenny's box 10 from his book "52 Boxes in 52 Weeks". This model looks easy but the 45 degree corners have rabbets top and bottom which adds a little complexity to the model. Those new to SketchUp are welcome and everyone please bring your laptops if you can.



9:00am January Mentoring Series: Silent Auction

The Guild has received a generous donation of woodworking tools and accessories. There will be a Silent Auction conducted starting at 9am through the start of the General Meeting. Bring your check, cash or credit card and plan on picking up some really good deals; all proceeds will benefit the Guild's General Fund. Check our Public or Closed Group Facebook pages for a list of the equipment available.

10:00am January Program: 2018 Annual Show Blue Ribbon Winners

We have asked our 2018 Annual Show Blue Ribbon Winners to share their projects, the thoughts behind them, the building and finishing techniques and any other tips, tricks, ideas they want to share. You don't want to miss hearing from these talented Woodworkers and start getting ideas for your own 2019 Annual Show Projects!

We will also recognize our the People's Choice Show Winner!!

Due to the number of projects we will be sharing from the Annual Show, there will not be a *Show and Tell* portion of the meeting this month. The Guild Meetings are open to the Public and Guests are always welcomed to come out and see what the Alabama Woodworkers Guild is all about!

2019 Annual Dues are due. Now is the time to renew your Alabama Woodworkers Guild annual \$100 membership and not let any of the upcoming classes get away from you. You may join or renew by going to the website (<http://wp.awwg.info/about/>) and clicking the "[Click here to join or renew online now](#)" link

AWWG Christmas Party—2018

A great time was had by all. Thanks to Bob Watkins for organizing a wonderful event. The room was beautifully decorated and the food was DELICIOUS.



Don Wilson presented the Annual Art Show Peoples' Choice Award to Carl Jones. The winning piece was a maple wall cabinet. Congratulations Carl! Also on hand were a crew of Santa's Humorous Helpers to distribute door prizes to good little wood workers.





Alabama
Woodworkers Guild
Annual Show
2018

2018

Wood Working Show

Hoover Library



AWWG Receives Grant

The Alabama Wood Workers Guild has received a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Arts. These grants are awarded to nonprofit art organizations, schools, universities and many other community groups.

Our grant will be used to install digital enhancements to improve the quality of our education programs. This includes two large screen displays and a wireless video system. One video screen will be placed in the classroom. It will be used for classes and meetings, allowing those in the back to get a better view of demonstrations, etc. The other video screen will be placed in the shop. Once again this will allow better visualization of demonstrations.

The equipment has been purchased and plans are underway for installation.

Thank you to Sandra McMillan and David Erikson who have worked hard to make this happen. This is a great way to enhance our wood working education programs

Shop Notes

It's a new year and new shop managers!. David Robinson, Kenneth Graham, Frank Higgins & Randy Hjetland have some things to share.

- ⇒ The Hand Tools Group has almost completed the front door for the WEC
- ⇒ A small jointer has bee purchased and will soon be installed when we determine a suitable location
- ⇒ The roll up garage door leaks during heavy rains. This problem will be addressed by adding an extension to the existing threshold and adding new panels and gasket on the door.
- ⇒ We ask the people that use supplies such as pencils, blue tape, glue brushes please donate some replacement items as these supplies are used for classes. Also a donation of some plastic containers that could be used for finishing work, is greatly appreciated.
- ⇒ When using the various sanders, please check the sandpaper before and after using sanders for dirty, worn or torn sandpaper. Also please clean the sandpaper after using sanders.
- ⇒ As always, please leave notes for the shop management about any equipment malfunction, other maintenance issues and any supplies needed. These notes should be written on the clip board near the sign in log.

Thanks for your continued support.



Upcoming Events & Classes

Jan 19—General Meeting

Feb 2 & 3-Basic Wood Carving

With Steve Stutts

Feb 9th-Making Cam Clamps

With Van Phillips

Mar 9&10-Display Cabinet on Stand class

With Mike Pekovich

Be sure to check the website:

wp.awwg.info/education/ for more detailed information on classes

Regular Shop Hours:

Friday 9am-9pm

Saturday 9am-5pm

Sunday 1pm-5pm

Note: These hours are subject to change. Please visit the guild calendar on the website noted above to confirm. **If calendar has no supervisor scheduled**

Habitat for Humanity Home for the Holidays

2018 Cabinet Build

In the sweltering heat of August, fourteen members of the 2018 Cabinet Build Class met up at the Woodworkers Education Center to begin their journey of discovery and building skills in cabinet making. Led by instructors Bob Moore and Cliff Daniels. The ultimate goal was to create the upper and lower Kitchen Cabinets and two Bathroom Vanities to be installed in the Habitat for Humanity - ABC 33/40 Holiday Home in December.



Our Thanks to our build partner HGH Hardware for their generous contribution of the finishing materials we used on this project.

This year's Holiday House would become the new home for the Gray Family in Irondale. The team gathered together one last time in mid-December and braved the cold, wet Saturday morning to travel out to Irondale for the finishing touches to this year's class.



The Holiday House was dedicated in a ceremony held by Habitat for Humanity and ABC 33/40 and the keys were turned over to Ms Gray and her sons on December 13th. It was so heartwarming to meet the family and to see and hear all of the good things said about the home and about the fine work done by the Guild Class who produced such a warm and cozy kitchen. It should also be noted that Lynn Smith not only helped lead the installation efforts but also fashioned a set of bookshelves for the family, all part of the Welcome Home package Habitat and Sponsors provided.



Toy Group



Toy Group is back in session for 2019 under new leadership. New co-chairs Buddy Heerten & with Simcik are learning the ropes with the guidance of previous co-chairs Sandra McMillan and Bob Watkins, that is very much appreciated.

Toy Group ended 2018 strong by exceeding our goal of 12,000 toys

2019 started strong by completing over 300 toys in one day! This cannot be done without our faithful volunteers. You do an amazing job, thank you all. I know all the children that received these are thankful as well.

If you are free on Tuesdays between 9am & 2pm, come check us out. All members are welcome. There is no long term commitment, come whenever you can. Also, for beginning wood workers it's a great way to get familiar with the machines.





Hand Tool Group

The Hand Tool group is off to a good start this New Year with our first gathering on the 3rd of January. Our “official” meeting time is every Thursday evening with all power tools turned off at 5:00 (although a lot of folks arrive around 3:00 to get things ready for the evening). We leave about 7:30 and find a place to eat. We have been called the “sand and supper group”.

We've planned an exciting year of projects both as group projects and individual projects.

If you are new to woodworking you'll find this group is a great way to learn fundamental skills. Ray Ziegler is heading our focus on New Member Orientation with a curriculum of projects to help you develop skills and create tools you can use. Some examples are: a box to hold chisels, winding sticks, shooting board, bench hooks, tool tote, and dovetail marking gauge. The curriculum will also include how to sharpen all your hand tools (planes, chisels, saws, etc.)

If you have the basic skills but would like to hone them with more hand tool work, you will enjoy projects we plan to build just for that purpose. Henry Raymond is heading a project to build a Shaker Step Stool. Bob Baumgartner takes on building a wooden straight edge in the Paul Sellers style. Ray Ziegler heads building a Framing Square and Try Square from wood.

We have several group build projects for items needed in the WEC. Check out the solid oak front door that we are building and will replace the right front door at the WEC. Mike Key is leading a project to build a dedicated Sharpening Bench for our diamond stones and our Veritas guides. Kenneth Graham is leading a project to build a Saw Till to hold and display our many hand saws. Steve Stutts will be leading a Refinish of our kitchen table.

Van Phillips is heading one of our service projects this year building several of the “Little Free Libraries”, and we're investigating other service projects similar to what

Luthier Group

The  Luthier Group is off to a great start for another year of stringed instrument making.

This would be a great time to join in the fun of making your own instrument.



We meet on Monday evenings from 5:00 to 9:00. The format for the group is simple. Three projects are underway now with folks working at their own pace with help as needed. As of now, we've worked on projects include ukuleles, mandolins, cigar box guitars, acoustic guitars and dulcimers, as well as a violin restoration.

This past year we started accumulating needed luthier tools and are in a pretty good position to tackle most any project. We have a good source for mahogany and Sapele thanks to a dumpster diver (although he won't divulge his source). We also have some really nice hardwood flooring (American Cherry, Brazilian Cherry/Jatoba, Brazilian Koa/Goncalo Alves that we have been able to use. If you are new to instrument making this is a great way to learn the basics in a low-cost manner.

Come check us out!!

Here are some work examples:



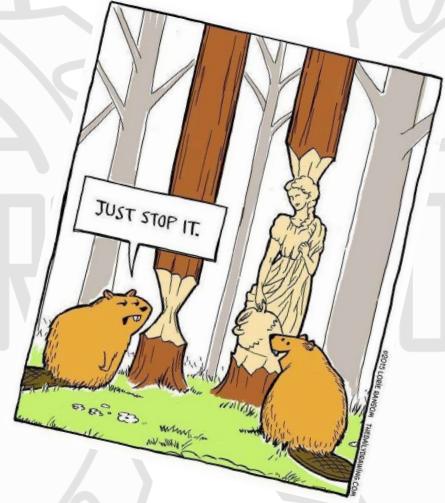
Introduction to Carving Class Feb 2nd and 3rd

By Steve Stutts

We all have access to free and cheap wood. Off-cuts, pallet wood, scrap wood, share box and the off-cuts box at the shop are just a few sources. This class is about learning new skills to utilize scrap wood (or you could use premium wood, at a cost). There is a learning curve to simple and complex wood carving and the starter tools are \$\$. Premium "Swiss" carving chisels start at \$40 per chisel/gouge at Woodcraft. Anything less than Swiss is just a poor inferior replacement. Swiss chisels/gouges come already sharpened and ready to use. No sharpening required right out of the package.



On the first day, Saturday 9 am to 1 pm, we will take a simple, cheap or free piece of wood and teach how to make a useful spoon or spatula. The instructor will furnish expensive chisels/ gouges and wood to carve a simple spoon or spatula. This way the student can get the feel for quality tools and decide if investing in your own tool roll is worth it. We will learn a safe method for using super sharp tools to carve the bowl of a spoon. With shapers, scrapers and sanding we will get a quality spoon dish. Then shaping and finishing will be done with simple tools. We will have 4 hours for everyone to complete a spoon or a spatula. If you already have carving chisels/gouges, bring them. We will discuss sharpening and maintaining a razor-sharp edge.



On the second day, Sunday 1-5 pm, we will learn how to produce a simple diamond pattern molding that has a variety of uses. This method of carving uses a ruler, pencil, tri-square and a common wood chisel to make the molding. In the class, we will require that everyone have a 5/8" or 16 mm wood chisel (the instructor has only ONE 5/8" wood chisel in his tool roll!!!). We can discuss doing a group buy at \$8 each. First, we will learn how to sharpen a chisel to a razor-sharp edge, in 20min (1 -2 hrs). Then, wood will be provided and we will learn to lay out and cut the molding with our sharp chisel (1-2 hrs). We will discuss sanding and finishing.

This class will be \$50 and Steve will be in touch with everyone when they sign up on the guild website. This class will serve as an "introduction to carving" and the skills learned will fit into a beginners class in relief carving (if there is interest) where each student will need to have their own set of tools (borrowed is OK). This beginner's class will follow the **Mary May** method of relief carving with free videos on YouTube. (Steve Stutts leukens@yahoo.com)





The Bulletin Board

Happy New Year Wood Workers! With the new year comes new ideas. We thought it would bring some new features to the Guild News. This section, "Bulletin Board" is a place where you the membership of AWWG can communicate to the entire membership.

Do you have some tools to buy, sell, trade? Now you can get the word out here.

Do you have a good woodworking tip? Have you found a good source for information? This is the place to share it.

You can submit your items by emailing them to news@alabamewoodworkersguild.org

1. There are rules to follow and must be approved by the "editorial board"
2. Details of any transactions will take place between members.
3. Be sure to include some contact information so interested parties can get in touch with you. Guild leadership, supervisors & newsletter will NOT be a conduit of information
4. We will NOT ENDORSE any particular product or brand.
5. The board reserves the right to refuse a submission if they feel is inappropriate

We hope that you will take advantage of this feature.



About Us



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

Since 1983

We meet at our Woodworking

Education Center on the 3rd Saturday

of each month at 9:00AM. 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 each year for Habitat for Humanity



**Promoting the Art
and Craft of Fine
Woodworking**

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



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

“Making sawdust with a purpose”



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

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/>