



# The Alabama Woodworkers Guild

## *Guild News*

October 2022

**October Membership meeting: Saturday October 15, 2022**

### Guild Officers and Directors

**President:** Terrance James

**Vice President:** Jay Bagwell

**Treasurer:** Bob Watkins

**Secretary:** Laura Hession

### Board of Directors

**Bob Baumgartner**      **Rick Wilson**

**Mike Kelly**              **Rick Ford**

**Matt Sullivan**        **Bob Free**

**Linda Simcik**        **Alden snow**

**Mike Casey**

## President's Message

### Pay It Forward

I have seen several stories recently of folks who do "random acts of kindness" for others. In each case, they only asked that the recipient of their caring just find a way to pass on the kindness to another person who might be in need.

In a way, the Guild's mission of passing along the love of woodworking to the next generation of woodworkers is similar. But the aspect that hit me was that our current efforts to reach out to youth in our area is very much the same kind of thing. I know there have been differences of opinion as to the proper and safest way to do youth outreach, but I have not talked to a single member who is opposed to the idea that there are youth in our communities (and families) that would benefit from the satisfaction of building something of value from a few pieces of lumber.

Rather than making changes to our By-Laws and Policies and by opening membership to younger folks, we have, instead, started to seek out partnerships in our community. We are talking with local shop teachers as well as youth organizations (like Scouting) to work with them. Van Phillips has already done a program supporting the Woodworking Merit Badge for Scouts. He also discussed the Luthier Group working with a Shop Teacher to build Ukuleles. These are only two of the possibilities.

**"A man that works with his hands is a laborer. A man that works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman, but a man that works with his hands, his brain and his heart is an artist." - Louis Nizer**

Newsletter Editor: Linda Simcik

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## Shop Usage Report

### Usage Comparison by Program

Thu, Sep 1, 2022 - Fri, Sep 30, 2022

	Hours	Visits	Individuals
Personal Projects	141	74	60
Luthier Group	213	57	37
Hand Tool Group	132	42	37
Wood Art Group	86	24	19
Toy Group	300	75	43
Class	322	88	55

## Special Announcements

### Mentorship Program

Do you have a desire to connect with someone that is proficient at a skill that you would like to learn? Check out our mentorship program on the website.

On the home page click on the "Mentoring" tab. There you will find an extensive list of subjects for you to choose from. Click on the skill you want to develop and fill out the needed information. You will be paired with the person that can help you. You will be contacted by the selected mentor to get started. Some folks may meet you at the WEC while others may prefer to work in their personal shop.

Don't hesitate! This a great way to learn a

### Annual Art Show

Annual Show Hoover Library October 9th-15th

Pick up items on Saturday October 15

### Christmas Party

Friday, December 2nd 6:30 - 9:00 (Shop will be closed)

Elks Lodge in Pelham  
1738 Morgan Park Rd, Pelham, AL 35124

Pot luck- Guild will supply meat, rolls and beverage

We will have gift exchange. If you bring a gift, you can select a gift.

### Woodworking

Is one third planning, one third execution and one third figuring out how to change your plan to cover up that mistake you just made during execution



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But our real hope is that we can bring small groups of younger folks (13-17 year-olds) into our classroom and put hand tools into their hand and work on a simple project. The point is not to turn them into master woodworkers, though. The hope is that we might spark a fire in a few of them they someday might turn into a life-long passion for creating beautiful projects in wood.

Our plan is to find a select few young folks and try a pilot program in the near future. We announced this at a recent Monthly Meeting, but I wanted to put this out to the general membership as well. So, if you have a child or grandchild that has expressed an interest in woodworking, we'd like to help you inspire them. The program is not limited to family members if you know of a child that you'd like to be a mentor to, though. The catch is that each child must be paired with their mentor/member, one-on-one, and that the two of you will participate as a team. There will be multiple instructors from the Guild involved in every class as well.

Obviously, the details are still being worked out, but I'm hoping we can learn from each session and grow the program. Perhaps we can open membership to a select group of junior members in the future. But for now, lets try to get this started and see what the interest level really is. I cannot think of a better way that the Guild can "pay it forward" than to light a spark in a young person's eye and start them on their wood-working journey early.

If you have any interest in participating or helping teach, please contact Mike Kelly or Van Phillips and let them know. And reach out to me if you need contact information:

[terrence.james@alabamawoodworkersguild.org](mailto:terrence.james@alabamawoodworkersguild.org)

Terry James

## **T-Shirts Are Back!**

Yes, tee-shirts are now available for purchase. We also have insulated coffee mugs and tumblers and hats.

Easy to purchase, no waiting for an order. You can buy anytime, just ask a supervisor for access to the store. Just follow the instructions posted.

Coming soon.... Long sleeved and pocket tees . The "Company Store" is located in the glass display case in the kitchen.



## New Members

This month we welcome four new members:

John Clark

Prestley Clark

Kenneth Fountain

Alex Stockton



## September Membership Meeting

Saturday, October 15, 2022

Networking: 9:00am Meeting: 10:00am

**Program:** Jay Bagwell will tell us how to care of wood. He will cover storage, drying and how to build a kiln



## 2022 Class Schedule

**Tuesday Night Fundamentals Class Every Tuesday 5pm—9pm**

No cost to members

See website for details

**August 27th—early December Habitat for Humanity Cabinet Class**

## Do You Shop on Amazon?

The next time you purchase that hard to find drill bit or supply please check out Amazon Smile. If you select the Alabama Woodworkers Guild as your charity Amazon donates 1/2 percent of your total purchase. Doesn't sound like much but every little bit helps. A link to Amazon Smile can be found on our website's home page.



# Tinglewood Festival

The Tinglewood Festival was held on Saturday, September 11th. Despite the possibility of wet weather, the festival was well attended. According to the Montevallo Arts Council there was record attendance.

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild was well represented. We had a lot of visitors and created a lot of interest in our organization.



Thank you to those that volunteered their time to help support our organization:

Henry Raymond, Kris Martinson and Christina and Mike Betke. Special thanks to Christina and Mike for pulling double shifts.



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

& **You Tube**



## About Us

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

Our monthly meetings will be conducted at the WEC the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00AM. Be sure to check out the mentoring sessions that start 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.

The Guild's Woodworking Education Center is located at the site of the old Maylene School building on Hwy 17 in Maylene, AL. The WEC is open Friday-Sunday for the membership and for visitors to drop by to see what we are all about. Please, before dropping by, check the WEC Calendar on our website (<https://wp.awwg.info/calendar/>) and make sure a Supervisor is scheduled to be on-duty

## 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**