

A MESSAGE FROM RICK FORD, PRESIDENT 2025

Just a reminder that membership renewal is due by the end of this month. If you intend to continue as a guild member, please make sure you complete your renewal before the end of the month to avoid a lapse in access to the WEC.

Another reminder to start thinking about your projects for the guild show this year. October is closer than we think and we would like to see another record number of entries this year. Teri Hjetland will provide further details about the show at our monthly membership meeting.

Some exciting news, we have acquired a new drum sander to replace the old Jet drum sander that has been out of commission for several weeks. The new sander is a Baileigh SD 255, which provides up to a 25 inch cut. This new sander will be available for general shop use shortly. We will require training on the new sander to ensure proper use as it is a little different than the old equipment.

Annual Membership Fee

2024 is now in the rearview mirror and a fresh new year is on its way at the Guild! Our Annual \$150 fee payments for 2025 are due NOW. These fees are the main source of revenue for the AWG. This is a real bargain! For \$150/year you have access to:

- Well-equipped shop
- Woodworking Library
- Classes and presentations from nationally known master wood-workers
- Connecting with fellow woodworkers

Final deadline for payment is February 28th but why wait? The 2025 Fees Paid Decal will allow you to have uninterrupted access to the WEC:



Any On-Duty Shop Supervisor can accept cash or a check for your annual fee or more preferably, you may renew online at our website: [Alabama Woodworkers Guild - Join or Renew](#)

Remember also that we need to have your Badge at the WEC in order for it to be updated with your 2025 Decal.
Thank you for your continued support and participation in the Guild's activities!

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Next monthly meeting**February 15th, 2025****10:00am**

CNC/LASER UPDATE

Exciting things are happening in the CNC/Laser group. This group meets monthly prior to the general meeting from 8:30-9:30. We address CNC/laser related issues and also do a in-depth show and tell on projects. Feel free to join us every month. We also do beginner training as well as advanced training on Vcarve software on Thursday mornings once a month. Feel free to contact Henry Raymond via text at 205-602-7661 if you would like to be notified of this training.

On the CNC side the group will again look at making a bulk order of CNCs and provide help in assemble and set up for those wanting to venture off into the CNC world. Look for more information on this in January. If you have any questions before that feel free to reach out to one of the 15 that got a CNC last year.

Gary Click has also agreed to do an info training class to 3D software design that he uses. It's a free software.

On the laser side.... the board approved the purchase of a 60w CO2 laser. This is similar to the laser that has been used making several of the signs and drawer tags at the guild and also engraving the panels on the new doors being built by the hand tool group. Special thanks to Linda Simcik and Henry Raymond for the door panel work. The laser will be a great asset to guild members to use to enhance their woodworking projects as well as making your own personal name tags to attach to your items you make. Several "Intro to laser engraving" classes are being planned for January and advanced laser operation classes will begin in early February.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT EVENTS!

HAND TOOL WOODWORKING CLASS

Ken Blackwood is teaching hand tool classes and they will meet from 6-9 pm on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Classes are open to anyone interested in learning how to build things with hand tools.

The first project will be a small box (6 1/2" x 4" x 3"). Wood will be provided or you can bring your own. Bring your own tools if you have them or the Guild has a large selection of tools that we can use during class. If you are interested, email ken.blackwood@alabamawoodworkersguild.org to get on the list for any updates.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: NATHAN ROONEY, ANDREA ROONEY, WILLOW ELEGANS,
DEBRA LALLEY, RICHARD LALLEY, ANDREW STEPHENS, JOELLE SMITH, MACK GOSS &
LUCAS SAUNDERS

HAND TOOL GROUP

The hand tool group is open to any and all members of the guild that are interested in Woodworking utilizing mostly hand tools. This group is devoted to sharing their knowledge in hand tool use as well as maintenance and upkeep of hand tools. The hand tool group also has made some hand planes and hand saws. The guild has a tooth cutter and setting machine if you would like to make your own saws. Help in doing mortise/tenions as well as hand cut dovetails is also available.

Over the past few years the hand tool group has taken the lead on several projects including building work benches for the guild, as well as Purple Heart recipients. They also made all the tool cabinets in the class room.

This group makes several "road trips" each year. Highland hardware in Atlanta, Atlanta exotic wood store, the Jet informational center in Nashville, Tn and a sawmill operation in North Alabama are several of the visits that we made last year.

Feel free to join the group on a regular bases or at anytime you need some assistance with a hand tool related project. They meet on Thursdays from around 1:00 till 5:00.



NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS: HENRY RAYMOND, KEN BLACKWOOD, WALLY DUNCAN,
TERRI HJETLAND & RICK FORD

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: AWG SHOW

WHO: For all guild members

All skill levels (Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced)

WHAT: A woodworking project that hasn't been entered in the show regardless of the date of completion. It can be a newly completed project or something you finished a few years ago. Any woodworking project completed in a class either at the guild or outside the guild.**WHERE:** Hoover Public Library**WHEN:** October 2025. We will get a specific date this summer.**WHY:** 1. To show the public that woodworking is alive and well.

2. To inspire current members to continue woodworking and learn new skills.

3. Get helpful critiques from the judges to improve your skills.

HOW: 1. Make something to enter in the show.

2. In October, print and complete the application that will be on the website.

3. Bring entry and application to the Hoover Library.

Children's Choice Challenge

A Guild Wide Challenge

Last year the Luthier group had a challenge making a child's instrument. During the show children were encouraged to pick up the various instruments and play them. Then they voted for their favorite instrument. That Luthier, Sandy Smith, received the Children's Choice Award.

The kids were excited to take part in the show and took their job, voting for their favorite instrument, seriously. Since it was a great success the show committee decided to make this an annual event.

This year the challenge will be a toy challenge. It is open to all guild members regardless of experience. The Children's Choice Award will be given to the woodworker who receives the most votes. This should be a fun challenge for the kids as well as members.

Here are the rules...

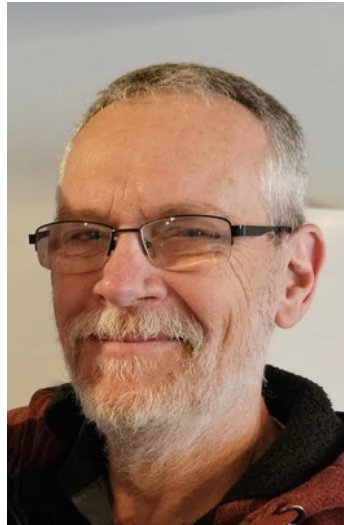
1. Choose a toy design. It can be your own or from a book or magazine. The toy needs to fit on a table and not be too large. For example, tic tac toe, dominoes, a rolling toy, etc.
2. Create the toy using wood of your choice.
3. Sand the toy. Please make sure the parts are well sanded since children of all ages will be playing with them.
4. Apply a finish of your choice. This should be child friendly.

SHOW AND TELL GALLERY

We had a wonderful Show and Tell at January's meeting. Congrats to all Blue Ribbon Winners!



GETTING TO KNOW MEMBERS OF THE GUILD

**Getting to Know-
Rick Ford, President****Monthly Series****How long have you been a member of AWG?**

I joined the guild in 2018. I was introduced to the guild by Micheal Watts, who I met when I bought my house in Alabaster as his wife, Brenda was my realtor. I told him I was interested in building guitars and he explained that the guild had a group that could help me get started.

Favorite tool/machine?

I'm not sure I have a favorite. I enjoy having the opportunity to use most of the equipment in the shop. I use the SawStop table saw frequently, so that would probably be at the top of the list for me.

What have you built that you are most proud of?

I'd have to say the river table that my wife, Kim, and I built is probably the one project that stands out the most in my mind. I'm also happy with the guitars I've built.

What is something you want to learn more about?

The new laser has truly piqued my interest. I'm excited to see what can be created with the use of that equipment!

FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

Officers & Board of Directors

President - rick.ford@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

Vice President - tuck.kornegay@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

Secretary - hal.songer@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

Treasurer - alden.snow@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

Asst. Treasurer - grant.bail@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

Board of Directors

tyronne.aron@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

mitch.buchanan@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

gary.click@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

If you would like to see a specific topic highlighted in the Newsletter, please email Melissa at melissa.bail@alabamawoodworkersguild.org.

AWG Live Calendar

9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1p-5p Van Phillips Supervisor 205 529-7412	3pm-9pm: Shop Closed, Luthier Group Only - Rick Ford supervisor	9am-2pm: Shop Closed, Toy Group Only - Doug Gillespie Group Lead		2pm-6pm: Shop Closed: Hand Tool Group Only- Henry Raymond Group Lead	9a-1p Henry Raymond Supervisor 10a-2p Wood Art Group-Terri Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p David Robinson 205-478-4435 5p-9p George Van Kirk Supervisor 256.690.1537	9a-10a Mentor/ShowNTell 10a-12p General Membership Meeting, Guests Welcome 12p-5p Mike Key Supervisor
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1p-5p George Van Kirk Supervisor 256.690.1537	3pm-9pm: Shop Closed, Luthier Group Only - Rick Ford supervisor	9am-2pm: Shop Closed, Toy Group Only - Doug Gillespie Group Lead		2pm-6pm: Shop Closed: Hand Tool Group Only- Henry Raymond Group Lead	9a-1p Bob Baumgartner 10a-2p Wood Art Group-Terri Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Bob Baumgartner 5p-9p Mitch Buchanan Supervisor	9a-1p Bob Moore Supervisor Ukulele build with King's home kids 1p-5p Mike Betke Supervisor
23	24	25	26	27	28	
1p-5p Van Phillips Supervisor 205 529-7412	3pm-9pm: Shop Closed, Luthier Group Only - Rick Ford supervisor	9am-2pm: Shop Closed, Toy Group Only - Doug Gillespie Group Lead		2pm-6pm: Shop Closed: Hand Tool Group Only- Henry Raymond Group Lead	9a-1p Alden Snow - 205-401-8070 10a-2p Wood Art Group-Terri Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Alden Snow - 205-401-8070 5p-9p Mitch Buchanan Supervisor Hand Tool Class with Ken Blackwood	