

Hey everyone, don't forget our annual silent auction will be held at the monthly membership meeting on April 19th. If you have tools/supplies that you would like to sell, please bring them to the guild by April 17th. Remember, unless items are donated for auction, the guild receives 20% of the final sale. We're hoping for another successful auction this year! As always thank you for your continued support of the guild.

Upcoming Class

Advanced Intarsia Class (Teddy Bear)

Instructor: Linda Simcik

Date: May 24, 2025 and May 25, 2025

Time: Saturday 9:00AM-4:00PM Sunday 1:00PM-4:00PM

Cost: \$65

Class is limited to 3 participants.



Description:

This class takes you one step further in Intarsia beyond the Beginning Intarsia class. We will create this teddy bear from three different types of wood and utilize shaping and shims as well as other tools to create texture and depth.

This is a two day class.

Participants must be certified and have a working knowledge of the scroll saw, drill press, and sanding machines in the WEC. If possible, the participants should take the Introduction to Scrolling class and Beginning Intarsia class or equivalent amount of practice using the scroll saw to cut out patterned pieces.

Limited to 3 participants

Class cost: \$65 (\$50 to the guild and \$15 in materials)

You must be a member in good standing to attend.

You may pay using the PayPal button on the website to reserve your place in the class. Please respond via email at education@alabamawoodworkersguild.org with your name if you plan to take the class.

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Monthly Meeting

April 19th, 2025

10:00am

April Meeting Auction

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. 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.



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: ARAM PEREZ, SANDRA PEREZ, ROB COUGHLIN, DEVON STONE, DYLAN GREENE

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, TERRI HJETLAND & RICK FORD

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: AWG SHOW OCT 2025

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.

SHOW OCT 2025

AWG Show Rules

All entries must be mostly made of wood.

Exceptions: General hardware such as hinges and handles

Pen hardware

Instrument hardware

Tool hardware

Inlay – metal, stone, glass, acrylic, etc.

No motors or lights.

All entries must be 100% your work.

Categories and skill levels may be changed at the show committee's discretion.

The show committee will decide placement of each entry in the show.

Show Entry Categories

Skill Categories - Novice, Intermediate, Advanced

Boxes with Joinery

Furniture

Musical Instruments

Scroll Saw

Woodturning

Open Categories

Boxes – No Joinery

CNC

Pyrography

Tools and Jigs

Toys

Carving

Miscellaneous

All Challenges

SHOW OCT 2025

Award Medallions

The show is judged each year. The judges award 1 – 10 points based on four categories – workmanship, design, finish, and difficulty – for a maximum total of 40 points. The judges give valuable critiques, both pro and cons, to help each woodworker improve their skills. First, second, and third place medallions are awarded in each skill and open category.

In addition to the medallions three other awards are given. The Judges' Choice Award is given to the member whose entry is deemed best of show by the judges. It is bestowed at the end of the judging day. The winning entry is moved to a special table where it is placed next to the award.

The second award is the People's Choice Award. During the show visitors pick up a ballot as they tour the show. They then vote for their favorite entry. Votes are counted after the show and the award is given at our next meeting.

The third award is our newest award. It is the Children's Choice Award. Children get to look and handle entries in a special challenge geared towards them. (This year it's the toy challenge) Each child gets a ballot and votes for their favorite entry in that challenge. The entry with the most votes is awarded the Children's Choice Award at our next meeting.

Show Weekly Schedule

Saturday Entries accepted 10 – 3
Show hours 3 – 6

Sunday Show hours 1 – 5
Monday Show hours 9 – 9
Tuesday Show hours 9 – 9
Wednesday Show hours 9 – 9
Thursday Show hours 9 – 9

Dinner 6 – 8 You may take your entries home with you after the dinner

Friday Hours 9 – 12 All entries MUST be removed by noon.

GETTING TO KNOW MEMBERS OF THE GUILD

**Getting to Know-
Hal Songer, Secretary****Monthly Series****How long have you been a member of AWG?**

I joined the guild in 2019.

Favorite tool/machine?

My favorite tool is a Stanley Bailey No. 4 hand plane. It was my grandfather's and is one of the few tools I inherited from his workshop. I took it on myself to clean and restore it and frequently I use it on many of my projects. It reminds me of him each time I take it off the shelf.

What have you built that you are most proud of?

The piece I am most proud of is a triangular table I built for a corner of our house. We needed a table for a certain purpose and I couldn't find one for sale or any plans for me to build from that would work for us. This was the first piece of furniture I designed from scratch, and it came out wonderfully. My wife was very pleased with it as I used some red oak reclaimed from her late mother's Japanese tea ceremony room to build it.

What is something you want to learn more about?

I would like to learn more about inlaying veneers and doing other decorative accents on my work.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS AND DATES

OfficersPresident - rick.ford@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgVice President - tuck.kornegay@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgSecretary - hal.songer@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgTreasurer - alden.snow@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgAsst. Treasurer - grant.bail@alabamawoodworkersguild.org**Board of Directors**tyrone.aaron@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgmitch.buchanan@alabamawoodworkersguild.orggary.click@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgmike.key@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgjulie.irwin@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgken.blackwood@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgalbert.chieves@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgtom.hession@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

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

Mark your calendars:

Alabaster City Fest - June

AWG Show - October

AWG Live Calendar

6 1p-5p Hal Songer Supervisor	7 3pm-5pm: Shop Closed, Luther Group Only - Rick Ford supervisor	8 9am-2pm: Shop Closed, Toy Group Only - Doug Gillespie Group Lead	9	10 2pm-4pm: Shop Closed: Hand Tool Group Only - Henry Raymond Group Lead	11 9a-1p Lynn Smith Supervisor: 205.413.2747 10a-2p Wood Art Group/Terrill Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Lynn Smith Supervisor: 205.413.2747 5p-8p Mitch Buchanan Supervisor Event	12 9a-1p Doug Mansfield Supervisor 1p-5p Mike Berke Supervisor
13 1p-5p Hal Songer Supervisor	14 3pm-5pm: Shop Closed, Luther Group Only - Rick Ford supervisor	15 9am-2pm: Shop Closed, Toy Group Only - Doug Gillespie Group Lead	16 Dr. Sanderson	17 2pm-4pm: Shop Closed: Hand Tool Group Only - Henry Raymond Group Lead	18 9a-1p Bob Baumgartner 10a-2p Wood Art Group/Terrill Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Bob Baumgartner 5p-8p Henry Raymond Supervisor	19 9a-10a Mentor/Show/Tell 10a-12p General Membership Meeting, Guests Welcome 12p-5p George Van Kirk Supervisor 256.690.1537
20 Shop Closed For Easter	21 3pm-5pm: Shop Closed, Luther Group Only - Rick Ford supervisor	22 9am-2pm: Shop Closed, Toy Group Only - Doug Gillespie Group Lead	23	24 2pm-4pm: Shop Closed: Hand Tool Group Only - Henry Raymond Group Lead	25 9a-1p Alden Snow - 205-401-8070 10a-2p Wood Art Group/Terrill Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Mitch Buchanan Supervisor 5p-8p David Robinson 205-478-4435 Hand Tool Class with Ken Blackwood	26 9a-1p Van Phillips Supervisor: 205-529-7412 9a-5p Beginning Intarsia Class with David Robinson. Class has use of Scroll Saws 1p-5p Van Phillips Supervisor: 205-529-7412
27 1p-5p Doug Mansfield Supervisor	28 3pm-5pm: Shop Closed, Luther Group Only - Rick Ford supervisor	29 9am-2pm: Shop Closed, Toy Group Only - Doug Gillespie Group Lead	30			