

A MESSAGE FROM RICK FORD, PRESIDENT 2025

Please join me in wishing a Happy Mother's Day to all of the guild moms. I hope you all have a blessed day and know that you are appreciated!

The handicap parking pad has been poured and will need a couple of weeks to cure before we begin use. Please avoid driving on the northwest side of the building until the pad has had time to cure. We will have signs posted as a reminder.

Alabaster Cityfest is upcoming on June 7th, and we plan to have a booth for this event. We will be recruiting folks to man the booth from 9 am to 5 pm, so please let me know if you can help. There will be a sign up sheet in the kitchen by the time clock computer.

Upcoming Class for June 28, 2025

Viking Gnome Woodturning Class

Instructor: Dwight Hostetter

Date: June 28, 2025

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

Cost: \$45

Class is limited to 6 participants.

Description:

Students will carve out the basic body shape of the gnome on the lathe and will also use the lathe to make the nose, hand, and shield from provided milled wood.

Students should have basic lathe experience using lathe tools such as a skew and gouge.

All materials for the gnomes will be provided. Students are welcome to bring their own lathe tools or use the shop's tools.

Limited to 6 participants

Class cost: \$45 (\$25 to the guild and \$20 in materials)

You must be a member in good standing to attend.

You may pay using the PayPal button below 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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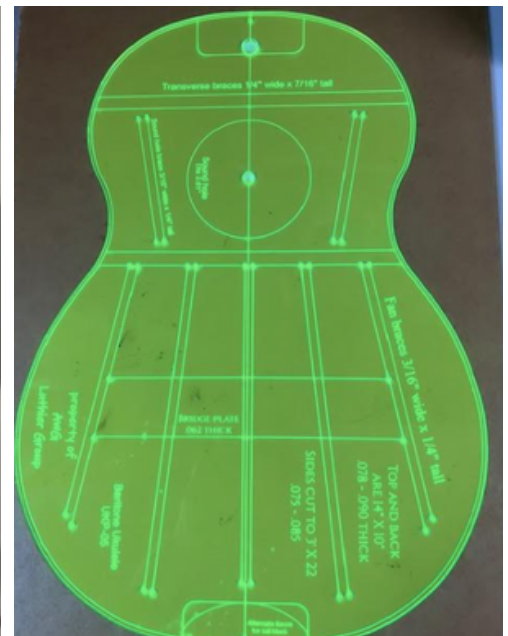
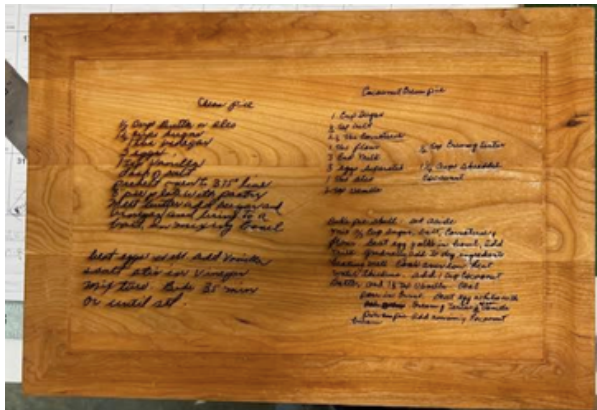
Monthly Meeting

May 17th, 2025

10:00am

**Doug Gillespie will
provide the program**

ALL THINGS LASER



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT EVENTS!

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 an 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.

60w CO2 laser**Beginning Laser Software Class****Instructor:** Henry Raymond**Date: Saturday, June 14, 2025****Time:** 9:00am-1:00pm**Description:**

This class will concentrate on the software necessary to design a project, and assign burn patterns to the project to get the desired results.

AWG members get a 75% discount (your cost is \$50) on the software when taking a laser class.

Those who sign up for class will be given a link for the software and you can purchase and download software before the class. Lightburn also has a free trial that you can use for 30 days. It's a fully functional free trial however **you must have Lightburn up and running at the time of class.** If when loading or installing you have any issues reach out to henry raymond prior to day of class.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT EVENTS!

CNC/LASER UPDATE CONTINUED

WE WILL NOT HELP YOU DOWNLOAD DAY OF CLASS

After you have paid for the class please contact Henry Raymond (205) 602-7661 and he will walk you through the set up of Lightburn on your computer. You will also be asked to watch several starter videos on the software, and practice using software to draw a project prior to the class.

Requirements:

You must have a laptop that meets the following requirements:

Operating system: 64-bit Windows 7.0 or later, macOS 10.13 or later, or 64-bit Ubuntu Linux 20.04 or later. A SSD is recommended but not required.

You must watch several YOUTUBE videos prior to class. A link will be sent to those signed up.

You must have lightburn installed and operating on your laptop prior to attending class. you can use either the free trial or a purchased copy

This is not a subscription, and can be used indefinitely.

Estimated class time will be 3-4 hrs.

Cost of this class will be \$50 and this is in addition to the purchase of the software.

Class will be limited to 10 persons.

You must be a member in good standing to attend.

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



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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: TIM BROWN, ANNE KERR, CHRIS COMBS

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- Mike Key, Board of Directors Member



Monthly Series

How long have you been a member of AWG?

I've been a member for 40 years.

Favorite tool/machine?

The Lathe.

What have you built that you are most proud of?

The live edge river table I built for our house.

What is something you want to learn more about?

The thing I want to learn more about is hand-tool woodworking.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS AND DATES

Officers

- 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

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

Board of Directors

- tyrone.aaron@alabamawoodworkersguild.org
- mitch.buchanan@alabamawoodworkersguild.org
- gary.click@alabamawoodworkersguild.org
- mike.key@alabamawoodworkersguild.org
- julie.erwin@alabamawoodworkersguild.org
- ken.blackwood@alabamawoodworkersguild.org
- albert.chieves@alabamawoodworkersguild.org
- tom.hession@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

AWG Live Calendar

4435					
4	5	6	7	8	9
1p-5p Randy Hjetland Supervisor	3pm-6pm: Shop Closed, Luther Group Only - Rick Ford supervisor	9am-2pm: Shop Closed, Toy Group Only - Doug Gillespie Group Lead	AWG Board Meeting	2pm-6pm: Shop Closed: Hand Tool Group Only- Henry Raymond Group Lead	9a-1p Lynn Smith Supervisor: 205.413.2747 10a-2p Wood Art Group-Terri Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Lynn Smith Supervisor: 205.413.2747 5p-9p David Robinson 205-478-4435
					9a-1p Doug Mansfield Supervisor 1p-5p Doug Mansfield Supervisor
11	12	13	14	15	16
Shop Closed for Mother's Day	3pm-6pm: Shop Closed, Luther 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 George Van Kirk Supervisor 256.690.1537
					9a-10a Mentor/Show/Tell 10a-12p General Membership Meeting, Guests Welcome 12p-5p Mike Key Supervisor
18	19	20	21	22	23
1p-5p Hal Songer Supervisor	3pm-6pm: Shop Closed, Luther 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 Mike Betke Supervisor 5p-9p Rick Ford Supervisor Hand Tool Class with Ken Blackwood
					9a-1p Henry Raymond Supervisor Scroll Saw Class has priority on scroll saws, sanders, drill press 1p-5p Bob Moore Supervisor Scroll Saw Class has priority on scroll saws, sanders, drill press
25	26	27	28	29	30
1p-5p Hal Songer Supervisor Scroll Saw Class has priority on scroll saws, sanders, drill press	3pm-6pm: Shop Closed, Luther 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 Mitch Buchanan Supervisor 10a-2p Wood Art Group-Terri Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Mike Betke Supervisor 5p-9p Mitch Buchanan Supervisor
					9a-1p Mike Key Supervisor 1p-5p Alden Snow - 205-401-8070