

A MESSAGE FROM RICK FORD, PRESIDENT 2025

The guild will have a workday beginning at 9 am on July 24th. If you are physically able and can push a broom or twist a screwdriver, please come assist us with some guild maintenance. Randy Hjetland will have a list of tasks that need to be completed, or as much as we can.

Our annual Habitat for Humanity cabinet build class begins next month. If you've ever wanted to know how to build a cabinet, this class will teach you all you need to know to build your own cabinets.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please be aware of an email scam using my name as president of the guild to request money in the form of gift cards. One of our members recently made me aware of the scam which specifically asks for funds for veteran hospice care. Neither myself, any other officer, or board member will ever request funds for another organization through email.

Upcoming Class for August 23rd, 2025

Habitat for Humanity Cabinet Build Class

August 23rd, 2025

9:00am-4:00pm

Cost \$100.00

Each year the Guild builds kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities for a Habitat for Humanity Holiday House. This class will take you through the complete steps of building cabinets, from face frames, carcass construction, doors, dovetailed drawers, finishing, and installation in the home. You work in teams of 4-5 people and everyone gets to do every step of the project. Starting the end of August and finishing with installation mid December, the class will meet once or twice a month to complete the cabinets.

Class 1 - August 23, 2025 - Orientation and Face Frame Build

Class 2 - September 13, 2025 - Drawer Boxes

Class 3 - September 27, 2025 - Doors and Drawer Fronts

Class 4 - October 11, 2025 - Carcass Construction

Class 5 - October 25, 2025 - Spray Finish

Class 6 - November 8, 2025 - Attach Doors, Drawers, and Pulls

Class 7 - Early December - Installation of Cabinets at Holiday House

Class 8 - TBD - Holiday House Dedication

The fee for the class is \$100. 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

July 19th, 2025

10:00am

**Program: Doug
Gillespie**

CNC/LASER UPDATE & SCHEDULED CLASSES

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.



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: BEN BAUGH, SCOTT BEERY, SCOTT PAGE, BRET PAGE, CASSANDRA PAGE, AUDREY CRIPPEN, JUSTIN VEST, BOB BRAMBERG, LARRY DAVIS, KASI DAVIS, SAMMI ALSALEH, HAILEY POWELL, RICHARD CRUSE, MARY CRUSE, MIKE JONES

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: TBD

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 location TBD

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- Grant Bail, Asst. Treasurer



Monthly Series

How long have you been a member of AWG?

I started in 2024 when I wanted to enhance my woodowrking skills.

Favorite tool/machine?

Our new belt sander is awesome.

What have you built that you are most proud of?

Cutting board for my wife (thanks Doug and Tyrone).

What is something you want to learn more about?

Hand Tool woodworking

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

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

Mark your calendars:

AWG Show - October

Board of Directorstyrone.aaron@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgmitch.buchanan@alabamawoodworkersguild.orggary.click@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgmike.key@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgjulie.erwin@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgken.blackwood@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgalbert.chieves@alabamawoodworkersguild.orgtom.hession@alabamawoodworkersguild.org

AWG Live Calendar

6pm Hand Tool Class with Ken Blackwood						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1p-5p Mike Key Supervisor	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 David Robinson 205-478-4435	9a-10a Mentor/ShowNTell 10a-12p General Membership Meeting, Guests Welcome 12p-5p Tom Hession Supervisor
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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 Alden Snow - 205-401-8070 10a-2p Wood Art Group-Terri Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Henry Raymond Supervisor 5p-9p Hal Songer Supervisor Hand Tool Class with Ken Blackwood	9a-1p Henry Raymond Supervisor 1p-5p Doug Mansfield Supervisor
27	28	29	30	31		
1p-5p Mike Key Supervisor	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		