

A MESSAGE FROM RICK FORD, PRESIDENT 2025

ANNUAL SHOW

The annual guild show is slated for October 10th thru 13th. Please begin finalizing your projects to enter into the show!

The WEC will be closed to project work from October 6th thru 13th to prepare for and host the annual show. Please note that all equipment will be unavailable for use during this time,

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

We are still in need of one more person to serve on the nominating committee and also a temporary replacement for Melissa Bail to manage the newsletter.

**Habitat Cabinet Class
is underway**

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 25, 2025 - Carcass Construction

Class 5 - November 8, 2025 - Spray Finish

Class 6 - November 22, 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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Emails**Monthly Meeting****Sep. 20th, 2025****10:00am****Program: Ken
Blackwood is going to
give sharpening tips.**

ANNAUL GUILD SHOW

Basic Information

- **Dates: 10/11 – 10/13 Columbus Day Weekend**

- **Time: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. (?)**

- **Timeline**

Monday 10/6 – Blow all dust; gives 24 hours to settle

Tuesday 10/7 – Thorough cleaning of WEC including mop floors

Wednesday 10/8 – Committee sets up table and arranges WEC for show

Thursday 10/9 – accept entries 12 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Friday 10/10 – judging; putting out all award medallions

Saturday 10/11 – show

Sunday 10/12 – show

Monday 10/13 – show and take entries home after member dinner

Tuesday 10/14 – pick up entries 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- **Awards: same as last year**

Judges' Award, People's Choice Award, Children's Choice Award

Medallions: same as last year

1st, 2nd, 3rd place in each category

Categories; same as last year

WEC closed 10/6/25 – 10/14/25 for cleanup, show setup, and show/open house

Breakers to all equipment will be off so no one can turn on any equipment.

Exception will be for equipment needed during a demo. Breaker will be turned on after demo is over.

- **Food**

Member dinner Monday evening 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Food will be set up on kitchen table

Drinks will be served – iced tea and small bottles of water.

ANNUAL GUILD SHOW CONTINUED

Publicity

1. Talk of Alabama tv show – Jay and Rick
2. Local radio talk show – Jay and Rick
3. Flyers put out around local towns
4. Add event on all city calendars
5. AWG Facebook and website
6. Large banner to be used every year – put out roadside a week or 2 before show.
7. Member word-of-mouth

Show Activities

1. Power Point presentation – Jay – Presentation will display general guild information, SIG information, classes offered, community services, etc.
2. Volunteers
2 – 3 to walk around answering questions, directing people around

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.

ANNUAL GUILD SHOW CONTINUED

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: KAYLEIGH BELL, JOHN GRAVES, BOB BROWNING, TODD BECK,
HERB CAILLOUET, JOHSUA WATKINS, ANN MARIE WATKINS, JAMES STUDDARD, DAVID HALL,
NATHAN MARTIN

ANNUAL GUILD SHOW CONTINUED

COMMENTS

In an effort to help determine what category a project should be entered into, the following comments have been listed below:

- 1)** All projects in which the lathe was the primary equipment used should be entered into the "Wood Turning" category.

example: Bowls, turned vessels with lids, and candle sticks.

- 2)** A project which contains work done by a CNC Router or CNC Laser should not always be placed in the category "CNC - Router, Laser".

A project should be entered in the "CNC - Router, Laser" category if the main attribute of the project was done using a CNC.

example: Lithophanes from photographs

The project should not be entered in the "CNC - Router, Laser" category if the CNC was just one of the tools used to make the project.

example: The use of a CNC to make a part in a piece of furniture.

- 3)** The "Toy" category is intended for those projects which are made with the intent they will be played with.

example:

A delicate model of a tall ship which was made to sit on a shelf and admired is not considered a toy and should be entered in the "Miscellaneous" category.

- 4)** The "Miscellaneous" category is for those projects which do not belong in any of the other categories

Example: Cutting boards

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ANNUAL GUILD SHOW CONTINUED

**MAKE YOUR PROJECT MORE INTERESTING AND
HELP THE JUDGES EVALUATE YOUR PROJECT**

Since you are entering your project into this Annual Show, I am sure you are proud of the project you have created. If those looking at your project are like me, they will like to know more information about it. The following is some of the things you could tell about your project. I am sure there are more.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- 1.) Start with a simple description of the project to ensure the forms are with the correct project.
 - 2.) What is unique about this project?
 - 3.) Did you use any special techniques? 4.) How many pieces are there? 5.) What finish did you use? Judges will want to know about this.
- This is especially applicable for intarsia pieces
Judges will want to know about this.

WOOD USED:

- 1.) List the species of wood used. (i.e. Walnut, Maple, etc.)
- 2.) Is there a back story from where this wood came from?
- 3.) Was this wood repurposed?

ENTRANT'S COMMENT:

- 1.) Did you make this project for any special reason?
- 2.) Is there something about this project that you are particularly pleased with?
- 3.) Was there something that was particularly challenging in making or finishing this project?

ANNUAL SHOW FORMS

Annual Show Forms Available on the Website

Annual Show Entry Form Instructions:

1. On the home page click on the Annual Show Forms link
You will have two choices:
Show Entry Forms
Special Interest Group Entry Forms (aka SIG Challenge)
 - 2.) Select the form you want. It will automatically download to your computer in excel format.
 - 3.) Open the download in Excel. At the top of the screen, click on "enable editing". That will enable to fill in the form and print it. You have to manually fill in all the appropriate cells on BOTH pages.
 - 4.) There two pages to each entry form. The entry form and the judges' form. Both pages MUST be completed.
 - 5.) Print BOTH pages SEPARATELY. And bring them with your entry to the WEC on Thursday, October 9, 2025 from noon till 7pm.
- **If you do not have Excel there are hard copy of the forms available at the WEC on the glass display cabinet in the WEC kitchen. There will also be blank forms available at show check-in.

REINDEER CRAFTING CLASS

Reindeer Crafting Class Brings Holiday Cheer and Guild Camaraderie

By Wally Duncan

August 15, 2025 – Guild Workshop

On August 9, guild member Wally Duncan led a hands-on woodworking class focused on crafting decorative reindeer, combining skill-building with holiday spirit and a touch of nostalgia.

Originally inspired by a 2023 project made for his daughter in Nashville, Duncan revived the reindeer-making this year after a brief hiatus due to health reasons. The idea evolved into a workshop to share the joy — and the craft — with fellow guild members.

Participants Karen C. and Geoff W. attended the class, which began with a warm welcome and discussion on the uses of the reindeer — as thoughtful gifts or festive home decor. Emphasis was placed on safety, proper use of shared guild supplies, and the spirit of collaboration.

Duncan had pre-milled wood stock ready, and each student selected their piece before moving through various woodworking stations: dado saw, drill presses, bandsaw, and finally, extensive sanding. By day's end, each participant completed a reindeer and a reusable template for future projects.

The class not only provided a fun and educational experience but also raised \$50 for the guild. A “show and tell” of the completed projects is scheduled for the September membership meeting.

“I’m proud to have shared this project,” said Duncan. “We had a lot of fun, and it’s always great to spread skills, refine old ones, and raise a little revenue for the guild — all while enjoying each other’s company.”

Additionally, during the August 2025 membership meeting, Duncan provided a briefing on the Comfort Bird class held on July 5. Certificates of appreciation were created for all four students. With only Karen C. present at the meeting, Guild President Rick Ford personally presented her certificate.

Comfort bird class photos



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.



Randy Hjetland has a few items for sale.

Slow speed 8" grinder, Benchtop drill press, 12"?, CNC spindle and a few other items.

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: LINDA SIMCIK, KEN BLACKWOOD, TERRI HJETLAND & RICK FORD

GETTING TO KNOW MEMBERS OF THE GUILD

Getting to Know- Mitch Buchanan, B.O.D. Member



Monthly Series

How long have you been a member of AWG?

5 years

Favorite tool/machine?

Table saw and drum sander

What have you built that you are most proud of?

I think my latest guitar would be what I'm most please with

What is something you want to learn more about?

I would like to learn more about lutherie

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:

AWG Show - October

Christmas Party - Dec. 5th

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

			6pm Hand Tool Class with Ken Blackwood			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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 Alden Snow Supervisor 10a-2p Wood Art Group-Terri Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Alden Snow Supervisor 5p-9p Henry Raymond Supervisor	9a-10a Mentor/ShowNTell 10a-12p General Membership Meeting, Guests Welcome 12p-5p Mitch Buchanan Supervisor
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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 Bob Baumgartner Supervisor 10a-2p Wood Art Group-Terri Hjetland Group Lead 1p-5p Bob Baumgartner Supervisor 5p-9p Mitch Buchanan Supervisor Hand Tool Class with Ken Blackwood	Shop Closed for H4H Cabinet Class
28	29	30				
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				