



NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you didn't make it to the IWF '90 show in Atlanta you missed quite a show. There were actually a few dealers selling to the small shop and hobby trade. Some nice discounts were being given by some of them. All of the large tool makers had extensive displays with experts available for answering questions. Your next chance at such a show will be August 1992.

At the risk of jeopardizing my source, if any of you are interested in firewood at a good price Joseph Lumber Co. has a scrap pile they sell for \$.90/hundred pounds. Sometimes they sell it by the load for \$20 to \$25 depending on how you negotiate with them. The mill makes pallets. They buy mill cut green hardwood (oak, poplar, hickory, ash, sycamore and gum in rough order of quantity) in 4x6 and 6x6 sizes and resaw it for their needs. Cut-offs and scrap are piled outside for sale. You have to sort through and load it yourself. Lengths are usually short but there is no bark, perfect for burning in wood heater fireplace inserts. If you get there before cold weather they usually have a good supply. Some of the material is good enough for resawing and air drying for making toys and other small items. Don't expect FAS quality though! Some times there is a pile of thin stuff 1/4 to 1/2 inch x 3 ft or so. Most is poor quality but you can often pick out a few good pieces for toys and other projects. Joseph's is located approximately 7 miles from Chelsea on Shelby County 47. They are not open on the weekend.

Speaking of toys, I hope all of you are well on the way to making your share of the 1000 toys we plan to give to Toys-For-Tots this year. Plan on getting your toys in by the November meeting!

See you at the meeting September 13.

NEXT PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 13, 1990

Gene Benitez, our excellent program chairman, has a most interesting program lined up for us. Dr. Jim Kassner, (a PhD from Tuscaloosa) has had an interest in building clocks for some years. Now you notice we said building clocks — but what we didn't say is they are built entirely of wood — yep, the works too. Dr. Kassner says there were some of these clocks made as far back as the Revolutionary War. We are told these clocks last, after up and running, up to 100 years. Humidity, as you may well imagine, is the biggest problem since the parts of the works, of which there are 180, react to humidity as all wood does. Dr. Jim says the clocks may be disassembled, cleaned and restored to service in a few hours, and oh yes, lubricated. Wonder what grade oil he uses? The clock is known as the Phoenix Clock, and yes, he has kits for sale. Most of us have seen similar clocks in catalogs, but now you have the opportunity to see one in person and ask questions about it.

LAST PROGRAM AUGUST 1990

We were treated to a program filled with nostalgia, emotion and inspiration by Ben Neighbors who is chairman of our annual Toys for Tots program. This will be the third year Ben has taken care of this important phase of our Guild activities. It was decided early in our existence that with the number of talented woodworkers we have in the Guild, we have an obligation to engage in active participation in community affairs, and Toys for Tots was selected to be that activity. Two of our members were invited by Ben to "show and tell" what they are going to make this year. Ethel Owen, who made 43 aerobats last year is making a ping pong game and a clown on strings (like a yo yo). Charlie Brown, who is known for his airplanes and cars in prior years, is going to make stilts (you know, kids put their feet on blocks attached to poles and walk on them), and he is going to make some small boxes (cigar size) which he says children love — they put their most precious possessions in boxes so no one will borrow them or become attached to them. Ben displayed a small bench and some jewelry boxes of which he has already made ten. A list was circulated at each of the last two meetings where members were asked to commit to some number of toys or other objects so we might get some indication of the response. The response is FANTASTIC. You people are quite a bunch. All we have to do is ask and you respond. If you weren't at the last two meetings doesn't

