

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME IX NUMBER 10

OCTOBER 1991

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JACK HARICH SEMINAR SATURDAY OCTOBER 12, 1991

Don't forget the seminar coming up on the Saturday following the meeting this month. Jack will discuss and demonstrate how he works by showing some of the steps in constructing his latest chair, the piece so greatly admired in the April 91 Smithsonian Art Furniture seminar he attended. By focusing on what's necessary to build one piece (rather than a broad hodge podge of tricks) the day should hold more relevance.

Designed earlier this year, the chair is very comfortable and has a tapered laminations in the seat, "ringed" and flared front feet, short arms which are not attached to the back, and an



unbelievable sculptured rear back with flat and tapered lamination. Topics demonstrated will include preparing tapered bandsaw excavation, cutting fully shouldered tenons with a router, the dadoed and doweled leg to seat joint, "ringed" feet, hand shaping with hard and soft lines like Sam Maloof and Wendall Castle, sanding and finishing. They day will be capped off by a 200 slide presentation documenting the actual chair construction. Bring a dust mask and eye and ear protection. The fee for the seminar will be \$25. The Guild will have soft drinks available. Bring your own lunch or plan to eat some where in the area.

PROGRAM FOR THURSDAY OCTOBER 10, 1991

Jack Harich, a professional furniture builder from Atlanta will give a slide demonstration on his approach to solid wood furniture construction and design. First, using 140 slides, he will walk



us through the construction of his Demilune Table. French for "half moon", the Demilune Table incorporates a fan laminated top, reverse tapered laminated legs, a lovely rounded dovetail leg joint with "peeking lams", turned feet, and bent laminations. Don't miss this prelude to the Saturday seminar.

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 10, 1991 • 7:00 P.M.

We have been looking forward to the visit of Mr. Jack Harich who will lead our fall seminar this year. Quoting from President Caldwell's message last month, Jack is a designer and builder of fine hardwood furniture. Most of his work is done on commission, and his style is characterized by hand shaped hard and soft lines. He often uses rounded dovetails that contain decorative laminations. He uses solid unstained domestic hardwoods for most of his furniture. Of great interest to most of us Mr. Harich will be demonstrating what can be done with hand tools instead of power tools. This should be

an introduction to what he will be doing at the seminar on Saturday. Finishing will be included in the Saturday program. So, come to the regular meeting and see if you want to come back on Saturday for the seminar.

LAST MEETING SEPTEMBER 1991

James Carmichael, from Selma, Alabama, brought home the truth about going into woodworking for a living. He told us of the struggles of the first few years and the effort that went into getting known well enough to interest buyers in his porch and yard furniture. He has been in the business some nine years, now, and has reached the profit level required to stay in business. He was a home builder and home remodeler when he began his business, and at times was a earth-moving equipment operator. He says the smell of saw dust sure beats the fumes from diesel fueled equipment, and also that saw dust is much cleaner and smells better than dirt. James came to the conclusion that in a small shop more money can be made from one-of-a-kind products than from mass produced products. The profit is higher on the one-of-a-kind. One of his best sellers is what he calls his double-adult park swing. This is the swing we used to have that is two swings facing each other, with a platform on which you place your feet, then gently swing back and forth. He gets \$950 for this swing, and for a little more he will put a canopy on it. He uses white oak almost exclusively and completely free of

knots. He uses zinc coated nuts and bolts and ball bearing moving parts; applies a wood preservative before finishing with marine spar varnish. James also makes a child's version of the adult park swing which will hold one child in each swing. The familiar beach chair with canvass swung between the top and bottom rails is a good seller, too. Porch gliders also come in as popular items selling for \$195. (\$245 in the North). The stand of the glider is made of 5/4 white oak and the slats are made from 4/4 white oak. A most interesting program, and we surely appreciate Mr. Carmichael bringing it to us, complete with slides to illustrate.

FOR SALE - TRADE -WANTED TO BUY

All of remember our friend HARRY MEEKS who was a staunch supporter and regular attender at our meetings for several years — in fact he put on our program one time demonstrating how to cane the bottom of a chair. Well, Harry has been in poor health and can no longer attend our meetings, nor do any work in his shop. He wants to sell his tools and equipment and you may see them at 1014 - 9th Street North, Bessemer (behind Burger King), or call him at 426-2439. Then we have a gentleman who is in the cabinet-making business who bought some material to make his wife some new cabinets several years ago. In the mean time she has changed her mind and wants European style cabinets and his material is not suited to that. So, he has 650 board feet of Wormy Chestnut, 4/4 thick, rough (unplaned), kiln dried, has been stored 8 years, narrowest 5", widest 23", and he wants \$10/bf, or \$6,500 for the lot (and he doesn't want to sell it piecemeal). If you are interested in buying, making an offer or whatever, his name is Jim Link, and he may be contacted at 595-1729, 836-7636, or 854-1216.

Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild meetings are held monthly on the second Thursday at 7:00 P.M. at Acton Moulding & Supply Co. Information concerning the Guild may be secured by writing P.O. Box 506, Helena, Al 35080 or calling the Editor, Leonard Sanders, at 822–6876.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Secretary-Treasurer, Roy Bates, submits the following:

 July 31, 1991 Beginning Balance
 \$3,561

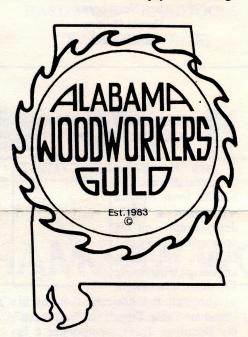
 Receipts, August, 1991
 \$154

 Disbursements
 229

 Balance August 31, 1991
 \$3,486

DOOR PRIZE

We had 85 in attendance, at least that number signed in. When the name was called, it was Ben Angwin. If all of us would sign in, we would be in a position to have our name drawn for the door prize. Go by the table provided for that purpose, get your name tag, eat some cookies with a cup of ACTON coffee and enjoy the meeting.



TOYS FOR TOTS

If you thought you were going to escape from the old (not ole) tail twister, Ben Neighbors, you were wrong. He has become synonymous with TOYS FOR TOTS in our Guild. This will be about his fourth year to bang our heads about this important work we do. This is our only community project and over the years has made a sizable contribution to the program. Last year Ben set a goal of 1,000 toys and exceeded that number. He has set "at least 1,000" this year. He says that if each of us will make only ten toys we will more than exceed the goal. He has put his reputation on the line and announced he is making 50 toys this year. Now that doesn't let four of us (at 10 each) off the hook at all. It just means we will have at least 40 more than the goal. We have several members who make even more than that — 150 by one member — and what it boils down to is those prolific toymakers are getting more satisfaction from their contribution to such a touching and worthy cause. Get you some poplar or bass wood and have at it. There are a dozen or so toy books with plans and dimensions on the shelf at Acton's. Acton also has wheels in several sizes, axles to fit the wheels, smoke stacks for train engines. and a number of other parts and supplies. The editor bought some \$25 worth of wheels and axles the other day and has gone to work. Ben wants the toys brought to the November regular meeting at which the F.O.P. will have a truck to haul them away. One of each style or type of toy will be held back and will be put on display at our annual Christmas dinner and party. There will be a special prize to the member who makes the largest number of toys. Okay, you guys, get cracking.



name); and an oak dump truck (from Wood

Magazine) by Leonard Sanders.

Mr. David Traylor will be our This is a most enjoyable feature of our instructor again this semester. David is a meetings. It is absolutely uncanny and professional woodworker and eminently unbelievable that some of our qualified to teach us mere mortals. The knuckleheaded members can produce such class will begin (has begun when you read lovely and wonderful work. They do, too. this) September 24 and run ten weeks to Leading the pack at the last meeting was November 26. The class will be held at Ben Neighbors with several ball-point pens David's shop at the intersection of made of various woods; Ed Sheriff with Highway 31 and Valleydale Road (behind one of his super jewelry boxes; Ben 84 Lumber) and will be in session from six Angwin with a chewing gum (balls) to nine o'clock. The cost of this semester's dispensing machine; Harold Phillips with work is \$65 (try and beat such a price). two of his bowls (and he is getting quite Contact David at his shop or Jim Caldwell good at bowls); Dale Lewis with two bowls to see if there are any more openings. one of Buckeye and the other of sassafras; a bowl-turning tool (and we didn't get his

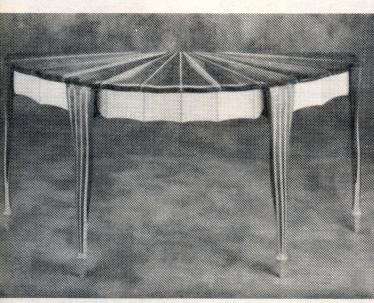
President Caldwell announced Wallace Williams is chairman of the nominating committee. They will be asking some of the members to serve in various capacities and Wallace will appreciate any suggestions you may have. They will be reporting to us for the election shortly.

NEW MEMBERS

We are glad to welcome four new members as of September 1991. They are Billy Duke, Jim Scogin, Ray Walker and Buddy Webb. Welcome, gentlemen and we hope you will enjoy your membership as much as us old timers do.

FALL SEMINAR

When you receive this NEWSLETTER it will almost be time to attend the Fall Seminar. It begins on Friday, October 11th for the ten members who are participating in the dovetail class, and this class will continue on Sunday. Should there be ten more members who would like to attend a dovetail session another will be held the following Sunday, October 20th. On Saturday, October 12th we will hold an all day (9:00 - 4:00) general woodworking and finishing session which will require a fee of \$25 to aid expenses. You should "Brown Bag" a lunch or be prepared to go out and purchase your lunch. The Guild will furnish drinks to go with your lunch.





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