

GuildNews

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President's Letter

If you haven't visited Children's Hospital you have truly missed a wonderful experience. Debbie, (my wife), and I went on the tour last week and were quite impressed with the facilities and the dedication and enthusiasm of all employees that we met. It was great to see their eyes "light up" when I was introduced as a member of the Woodworkers Guild. It was also great to see the children playing with the toys provided by the Guild members. We owe Pete Jensen a big "Thank you" for all the time he has spent coordinating our activities with Children's Hospital.

Speaking of enthusiasm, how about the Hotdog supper and meeting last month! The turn out was great. The success of the supper was due in large part to the many people who volunteered to help and, of course, to Sue and Ronnie for providing the space and setting everything up. The success of our meeting was due to a large turn out of members and guests and the interesting and informative presentation of Cotton Brown.

Our Fall show is just around the corner—it is certainly not too late, however, to get started on that special project for the show. I'm looking forward to this year's show being our biggest and best ever! I hope to have information at our next

meeting concerning dates, time, place, etc. Last year's show was very successful even though there were only 20 members participating (that's about 13% of our membership). I'm sure we can do better than that—so you Guys and Girls get in the shop and make that prize winner!

The Beginning Wood Worker's Class is moving along on schedule. It's hard to believe we've already completed six weeks of the class. I understand that Fred Baker and Mike Key are doing their usual outstanding job in the class.

Reminder: Wood Turner's Seminar on August 2, 1997 at Actons. This should be a great seminar featuring George Hatfield from Sydney, Australia. George is a Veteran Turner and teacher. John Jordan is coordinating George's visit to the United States and to Actons. (You will recall that John has done a couple of Seminars for us).

Thanks to Woodworkers Hardware, Sauk Rapids, Minn. for providing copies of their 1997 catalog for all members of the Guild. The catalog normally sells for \$3.00 each. They also tell me they will keep us on their mailing list for next year's catalog.

See you June 12!

Dan

Next Program-June 12, 1997

So you have always wondered what it would take, or what is involved in making a Windsor chair? Now you are going to get a chance. Ivan Kronberg, yes the same fellow that makes those magnificent bowls and carves those exquisite shoes and makes those lovely intarcia hangings, also, among other things, makes Windsor chairs. He is going to bring a couple of finished chairs and point out what he had to do to make them. You must know the seat has to be sculpted; the spindles have to be cut and turned; the back rail has to be bent; and the holes in the seat and legs have to be drilled at precisely the right angles. He will be showing and talking about white oak and promoting the MARK VI finishing oil that he and his son developed and are marketing. Ivan is a native of Wakefield, Michigan and graduated from the Michigan Tech University. He spent 32 years with U. S. Steel and locally was the Manager of Timber Property. He has, since retiring from U. S. S., worked some 12 years for Seaman Timber Company as Assistant to the President. He also spent the required amount of time in the U. S. Navy during W. W. II. He and Elsie live in Riverchase and have two sons.

Last Program—May 1997

What a wonderful surprise to have Mr. Cotton Brown, from near Mobile, educate and entertain us in his great homespun style. He told us straight away that what you see is what you get, and he was right. He got started in woodworking much like most of us by starting small and gradually finding our slot. Due to an accident as a sheet metal worker, he turned to wood and has been building and marketing outdoor patio furniture for a good many years. He was able to describe and point to joints and other interesting methods he employs in making his furniture. It is all made from mahogany. It is held together by mortise and tenon and, where needed, with stainless screws. Such glue as is used is TITEBOND II for its waterproof qualities. He sands the pieces, rockers, straight chairs, a chair glider and tables, large and small, to 400 grit. To finish them he uses polyurethane 2/3 - 1/3 with thinner as a wash coat; the final finish is a mixture of tung oil and bees wax. As an added attraction he had a table, about 3' x 5', the top of which is made from cut-outs from straight chair back legs. Picture this: to cut the proper slant to the back legs there are curved pieces, sort of in a swerve, that would ordinarily end up in the fireplace or trash heap. Cotton takes them, chamfers the edges, and glues them together into a fantastic table top. We appreciate Dale arranging this program for us.

Door Prize

We can blame Sue McRee who was sitting near Harold Phillips (Harold is the keeper of the names in the box from which the drawing is made) and whose name came out? Frank Jones—and get this he, Frank, was seated next to Richard McRee who was seated next to Sue McRee and out came Frank's name. Is there something we should know about?

The Bo Show

What does that title mean? For some of you newcomers, BO is Bo Thuston of Thuston and Sons Saw Works who has been a friend of our Guild for many years. Well, he had a show for our Guild, followed by a buffet bar-b-que dinner, and we had some 25 of our members to enter pieces for judging. First prize in each category was \$100, second \$50 and third \$25 in the form of credit in his store. Here are the results:

Best of Show			
A Turning			Lawrence Thomas
Carvings	1st		Ivan Kronberg
	2nd		Ed Ramsey
	3rd		Ben Neighbors
Boxes	1st		Dan Browning
	2nd		Paul Mancill
	3rd		Frank Ryerson
Turned	1st		Ivan Kronberg
	2nd		Cliff Saxon
	3rd		Leonard Sanders
Honorable Mention			Harold Phillips

The Hot Dog Show

What a great time we had at 5:30 before the last meeting. There was much preparation that was necessary to pull the hot dog supper off and it was done perfectly. People like Dan Browning, Dr. Harold Skalka, Charley Yerby, Fred Baker, Harold Phillips, Leonard Sanders, and the chief cook and hot dog burner, Walter Barnett. Hope we didn't overlook anyone. All the ingredients for good eating were there, and the wives and children appeared to thoroughly enjoy it. Then we had the pleasure of having many of the wives stay for our meeting, prettying up the place and improving the manners of the usual bunch. This was so successful we hope to do it again soon.

Footnote: We hope Charley Shoppert was able to dispose of his box of 22 grit, 5" sanding disks.

Buy—Sell—Trade

This month we only have one member with something to sell. If you need, or want, a 12" Radial Arm Saw, Craftsman, for \$350 call Walter Barnett at 987-9305.

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 PM at Acton Moulding & Supply Co. Information concerning the Guild may be secured by writing P.O. Box 506, Helena AL 35080.

Toys for Children

We want to keep you reminded we have this civic program of making toys, picture frames, boxes and anything else (like puzzles) for the sick children at Children's Hospital. Pete Jenson is our guru for this project, and he is so enthusiastic about the job he is spending lots of time on it. He took thirteen of our members to the hospital for a tour the other day and he stands ready to take any and all of us who would like to see firsthand what goes on there and why our contributions can make a difference. Call Pete at 663-7624, and if you are lucky, Pete won't be there and you can be charmed by Alice who will put your name in the hat for the next tour. After such a tour, you should come away with determination to make more and better toys and stuff for them this year. Remember, they need our pieces all year, in addition to Christmas time, because the children are having birthdays and such all year long. Think about it, guys and gals.

Annual Show

We can't relax a minute—in addition to toys we should be in the process of making entries into our annual juried show. It is thrilling to win a ribbon in our shows. There are several categories of entries such as contemporary furniture, reproduction furniture, turnings of all descriptions, boxes (have you ever tried to make a box?),

intarcia hangings, tools, toys, and other related woodworking projects. It is great fun to make something worth showing to other people and it doesn't have to be magnificent, just nice. We are all in the same guild, are friends, and all have the same objective in our woodworking, to make something nice. The SHOW will be later this summer, and you should have already begun your project (we have, and have finished it) so it will be ready at the right time.

Show and Tell

We had only one "shower" at the May meeting, and we almost didn't have him. After the Program was over and President Dan asked if there was anything else to come before the meeting, here comes Steve Onisick (last year's Guild News editor) wanting to know when or if there was going to be a call for Show and Tell. All the time he was asking the question he was proceeding to the rostrum with a show piece. The piece turned out to be a "kneeler." What is that? He has made this little "table" some three inches high which will ultimately be upholstered and place in front of an altar in the home of a friend of his. Thereby, we had a show and tell.

Seminar—August 2, 1997

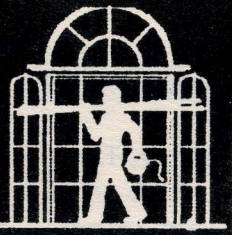
Over the years the Guild has provided professional seminars to its members with the goal of placing before us techniques we

probably would never know existed except for having a Professional so demonstrate. The first turner we had was Rude Osolnik several years ago, and we had a fantastic turnout for the program. Then we had John Jordan on two occasions just a few years apart, and again the attendance was exceptional. Then last year John Jordan brought and introduced to us Chris Stott, an Englishman and the Guild responded in large numbers. This is something we have to charge a small fee for so we may pay the professional his fee and expenses. Comes now John Jordan again and this time he is bringing George Hatfield from Australia. Do you suppose there are any McCoys over there for him to do battle with? George is from Sydney and is Associate Editor of Australian Woodworker Magazine. He will be in the U.S.A. as a demonstrator at the American Association of Woodturners in San Antonio in July. There will be "sign-up" information at the July Meeting, and if we respond to this program like we have in the past it will be a great success. It will be an all-day affair on a Saturday, August 2nd.

In Memorium

We mourn the death of E. K. Wilson, an active and valued member of the Guild for several years.





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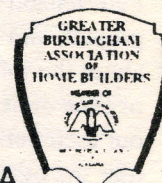
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