



Guild News

Volume XXII Number 2

Celebrating 20 years in 2003

February 2003

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Bob Browning
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Saturday,

February 15, 2003

- *Social Hour 8:00 AM until 9:00 AM*
- *Meeting begins 9:00 AM*
- *Program 9:15 AM*
- *Break 10:15 AM*
- *Business Meeting 10:30 AM*
- *Lunch 11:00 AM*

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President's Message

Wow! This year is only one month old and already there's a lot of things to talk about and report on! The year began with uncertainty about where we would be meeting. Well, that got resolved last week when Bo Thuston moved to a new location (see map page 3). I think we'll enjoy his new location very well—especially the heat! We owe Bo a great big "thank you" for all he does for us. Just to mention a few—meeting space is made available each month. This is no small thing. Bo is leasing this space, yet never asks us for reimbursement! A discount on tools is available to all Guild members. Space to teach classes has routinely been provided at no cost to the Guild. Bo provides storage for our library and other equipment. Occasionally during the year, Bo even treats the entire Guild to free hotdogs, chips, etc. (Any of you want to do that at home?) These are just a few of the things that Bo does for us, besides always providing a place to have a free cup of coffee and compare notes on some troublesome project. With all this said, the next time you see Bo, say "THANK YOU".

Last month's trip to the Birmingham Museum of Art was great! **Paul Mancill** did a real good job of pulling this visit together. Speaking of **Paul**, he got the blanket chest class off to a good start (see article page 2).

Hopefully by our next meeting we'll have a date for Marc Adams to return to Birmingham for another seminar. It looks as if November will be the earliest date (this guy is really in demand). We'll keep you posted on this one.

Things are coming together for our 20th anniversary recognition (the Guild was formed 20 years ago this year) We've certainly come a long way, but you ain't seen nothing yet! See you on the 15th.

February Meeting

The February meeting will be our first meeting at the new location for Thuston Saw Works. This meeting will feature one of the finest and most experienced craftsmen in the Guild—**Frank Jones**.

Frank will teach us the steps and then demonstrate cutting dovetail joints by hand. This is a skill that **Frank** has been perfecting for 50 years or so. Don't let this become a lost art. Come out

and learn and then go home and give it a try. Hand cut dovetails are versatile, strong and attractive joints. Even among non-woodworkers it is considered a sure mark of quality construction.

Thuston's new location is heated and will be a good place for us to meet. Let's show our thanks to Bo for his support and support him by buying that new tool, saw blade or router bit.

January Meeting

If you missed our January meeting, you missed a real treat. Dean Black gave a presentation on his casework and massive turnings in the Korean and Asian rooms at the Birmingham Museum of Art. After a short lecture, Dean took us on a docent tour of these exhibits.

Dean is a good speaker and a great woodworker! Thanks to Dean and thanks to the Birmingham Museum of Art for letting us use their beautiful facility for our meeting.

Paul Makes Sawdust



Some of us have already begun to make some sawdust this year. Led by **Paul Mancill**, the blanket chest class is off and running.

On February 1st the members met at **Buzz and Nelda Kelly's** house. Rough wood was planed down and glued up into panels which will form the chest. Class members are **James Armstrong, Jeff Bishop, Mike Briscoe, Marty Cogen, Brian Stauss, Buzz Kelly** and **Nelda Kelly**. Reportedly all the class members are making their own blanket chests outside of class.

Do you have project going yet?

One More Chance

If you haven't paid your dues yet, you can pay at the February meeting.

We have committed to publishing the membership directory early this year. Only paid members will be listed so make sure you are included by turning in your check.

Our Secretary-Treasurer, **Mr. Harold Phillips**, will be only too happy to accept your payment at the February meeting or you can mail him a check to:

3460 Mountainwood Drive S.E.,
Birmingham, AL 35244

Welcome New Members

Larry Durham of Vestavia

Jim Burt of Tuscaloosa

Chuck Solomon of Hoover

20th Anniversary Celebration

2003 marks the 20th anniversary of the Alabama Woodworkers Guild. There has been some discussion about several ways to commemorate the occasion but nothing concrete is planned at this time. If you have any suggestions for programs or events please let us know.

One item that we would like to have as soon as possible is a 20th anniversary logo to be used in the newsletter, on Guild letterhead and on T-shirts or some other style shirt if preferable. The only suggestion that has been presented so far for the logo is to use the saw blade logo we currently use with a "2" formed from some combination of hand tools. If you have a suggestion or the artistic ability to create a logo that you would like to recommend, please bring a copy to the Guild meeting.

About Us

Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild meetings are held monthly on the third Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at Jos. Thuston & Sons Saw Works, 3021 4th Avenue South.

Information concerning the Guild may be secured by calling **Harold Phillips** at 205-424-0819.

See our website at: www.alabamawoodworkersguild.org

Contact our **Guild News Editor, Nelda Kelly** at nelbuz@msn.com.

Thuston's New Location

Bo's new address is 3021 4th Avenue South. Located close to the historic Lakeview area of Birmingham, 4th Avenue South is a one way street going away from Birmingham toward the east. Coming from the east take 3rd Avenue South to 30th Street before turning left to get to 4th Avenue South.



Looking Back to 1983

Below is a reprint from the Alabama Woodworkers Guild newsletter from April 1983 written by then temporary president Spruce McRee:

Gentlemen,

Your response to the idea of a woodworking guild is totally unbelievable. It has been a full time job just answering inquiries and sending information to those who are interested.

We are on the brink of something fantastic. The fellowship, idea sharing, and learning experience should really be great for all of us. If we all pull together and get involved, we will all benefit greatly, not only as better and more skilled woodworkers, but as better human beings. I hope each and every member will take an active part so as to make our guild something to be really proud of. If

you have any ideas or suggestions please let us know.

I hope we all will put a lot of thought and effort into our first show (scheduled for July). It should prove to be a tremendous learning experience for each of us, as well as a good opportunity to show others what the fine art of woodworking is all about. Remember this will be a public display and we plan to have a lot of good publicity so take the extra steps to make something can be really proud of. We also plan to have some really nice prizes to award. We want everyone to participate, even you beginners and those with limited equipment. If you need help let some of us know and we'll be glad to help.

Until April, make a lot of sawdust, have a lot of fun, but above all put safety first.



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