



# Guild News

VOLUME XXIII NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2004

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James Armstrong  
Cliff Daniels  
Jim Lee  
Bill Shivers  
Chuck Solomon  
Bill Thomas

*Next Meeting*  
*Thursday,*  
*February 20, 2004*  
*gather at 6:00 PM*  
*meeting starts promptly*  
*at 6:30 PM*

*Don't forget your Show and*  
*Tell items*

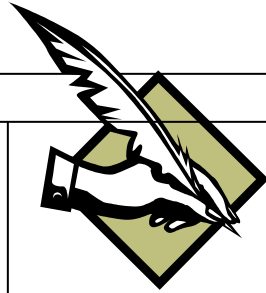
*Turning with*  
*Nelson Brooks*

*Dues are Due*

*Toy Wheels for Sale*

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## ODE TO TOY MAKING

I AM AS HAPPY AS CAN BE  
WITH HOW WE DID IN 2003,  
BUT SO MUCH MORE IS IN STORE  
FOR US AS WE GO INTO 2004  
TO SET THIS YEAR'S GOAL  
WE WILL BE MILDLY BOLD.

I BELIEVE THAT A TOTAL OF ONE  
& ONE HUNDRED MORE  
WILL BE A SUITABLE GOAL FOR  
2004

FOR WE HAVE MANY THAT ARE  
SKILLED  
IN OUR WOODWORKERS GUILD,  
SO LETS GET ABOUT MAKING  
THOSE TOYS  
TO GLADDEN THE HEARTS OF  
GIRLS AND BOYS!



By **Buddy Finch**

## Turning Techniques with Nelson Brooks

*Our February program will feature one of our past presidents and the first president and founder of the Alabama Woodturners, Nelson Brooks.*

*Nelson will show us what's new in the turning world and will demonstrate turning techniques. As many of you know, Nelson is both an accomplished craftsman and an artist. In a word, his work is beautiful!*

*AND, as an added bonus, Tom Nequette of Woodcraft will give us a demonstration of the world's smallest table saw. Well it may not be the world's smallest but it's by far the smallest I've ever seen.*

By **Paul Mancill**



## Scrolling

I was asked to write a few words about Scroll Saw work and I don't mind telling you I racked my brain for some time trying to decide what to write about. I could discuss several items such as points to consider when buying a scroll saw, blade selection for different projects, various types of projects that are available and etc. However I finally decided to go through the general procedure for what you would call "Fret Work" (which usually requires several inside intricate cuts) and point out some things I do that has helped to make things easier and reduced or eliminated some problems.

The simple procedure for any scroll work is to determine the pattern and stock, cut the stock to size and glue on the pattern, drill pilot holes for all the inside cuts, clean up, assemble and apply finish.

After determining the project and selecting the pattern and stock, *the first thing I do is to sand the stock to the finished smoothness*, for me this is usually 220 grit. The reason for this early sanding is because you want to keep sanding to a minimum after the cuts have been made because of the delicate nature of the material.

Next I will *spray the reverse side of the pattern with temporary adhesive* (you should not spray the adhesive directly to the wood because it will be absorbed into the

fibers and become hard to remove). I'm sure there are a lot of good adhesives out there but I use "Easy Tack Repositionable Adhesive" made by Krylon and I buy it at Micheals hobby store. I use this adhesive because the pattern can be easily peeled off after the cuts have been made.

*When spraying the pattern make sure you get a liberal amount around the edges because they are the areas that are handled the most and the pattern will turn loose very easy if not securely bonded.* Once the pattern has been glued to the stock let it dry for 15 or 20 minutes to insure that the pattern adheres good to the wood, if the bond is not good then the drilling of pilot holes will cause the chips brought up by the drill bit to lodge under the pattern around the hole which can cause some problems.

Next drill your pilot holes for blade entry for the inside cuts. The size of the holes will be determined by the amount of waste material to be cut out and the size of blade to be used. While there are many exceptions, *the general rule for determining blade size is to use the largest blade you can and still make the radius cuts without binding or burning.* After all the cuts have been made peel off the remaining pattern. Glue residue will be left on the stock but can be easily removed by light sanding and in some cases by rubbing with the finger. I use a

sanding block and lightly sand by hand. *If you choose to power sand be extremely careful as a power sander can easily catch the delicate parts and break them off.*

No matter which blade you use or how careful you are there will always be some chips and burrs left hanging. In my opinion, *it is extremely important to clean these out because once you put finish on, these chips and burrs will stand out like a sore thumb.* I use small pieces of sandpaper and miniature files to do this clean up.

At this point the only thing left is assembly and finishing. Staining is difficult for this type project, but can be done, I usually leave mine natural. *Brushing a finish such as varnish is virtually impossible on scroll saw work because it will run down and collect in the various designs.* Therefore, I always spray mine with a lacquer or varnish. Depending on the design I may very carefully rub the lacquer or varnish with steel wool and apply a coat of wax and lightly hand buff. *I would not recommend power buffing because it's too easy to break the delicate details.*

Well, I hope I haven't confused or bored anyone too much. If you have any questions give me a call or see me at the next meeting.

Happy Scrolling!  
Cliff Daniels

### January Meeting

If you missed the January meeting, you missed a terrific demonstration on veneering presented by **Chuck Solomon!** We are lucky to have gotten another such knowledgeable and articulate member.

Show and tell items included a music stand out of hickory and walnut and a router table by **Ed Bul-**

**lock**, a curly maple box with a carved initial and a turned walnut goblet by **Cliff Daniels**, an oak table with a sink cut out insert by **Eddie Heerten**, blanket chest and magazine rack by **Brian Stauss**, a cherry table by **Jim Lee**, and a jig for making mortises by **Paul Mancill**.

**Dan** asked for a volunteer to make a protective top for our bench and

**James Armstrong** accepted the challenge.

Anyone interested in hosting a shop visit should see **Bill Thomas**.

Interested members were to meet in Atlanta at the Woodworking Show and go to dinner with representatives of the Georgia Woodworking Guild on February 1st.

## REMINDER, REMINDER, REMINDER

Don't forget to bring in those plans and patterns to go in the book we are putting together.

For those of you that missed our last meeting, we are going to put together a book of patterns to be used for our toys program. We are requesting every member to bring at least one reproducible pattern (we are requesting one but would prefer six or more) to be put into a book that will be accessible to all members. Bring those patterns beginning next meeting and give them to **Cliff Daniels**.

## Lessons Learned

11. Dovetails are hard to do well.
10. Glue squeeze doesn't take stain very well.
9. Stain will seep under masking tape.
8. Stain will seep thru any crevice & end up in unintended places.
7. Same species wood from different suppliers will take stain differently.
6. Dark stain covers up a lot of boo-boos.
5. Dropping a blanket chest 3 feet to a concrete floor will bust the side out.
4. A blanket chest dropped 3 feet to a concrete floor is no longer square.
3. Plugs will fix a messed up mortise
2. Don't plunge a fixed base router.
1. A hell of a lot of time is spent fixing boo-boos.

**Brian Stauss**

## President's Message

For my message this month, I thought I would share a note that we received from Suzanne Reeves of Children's Hospital.

*Dear Friends,*

*On behalf of the patients and their families at Children's Hospital, I would like to thank you once again for a wonderful toy making year. I can't believe 2023!! Wow! You all are the best. I can't begin to tell you the number of children you have touched with your skills and talents...love!!*

*Again, thank you.*

*Sincerely,  
Suzanne*

It sure was nice to get this kind note from Suzanne. Let's all keep up the good work and remember to say thank you to OUR sponsors as well!

See you on the 20th!



## Membership Dues

Thanks to everyone that paid their dues in January. Dues are still \$25 a year. If you didn't pay, it is not too late. **Harold Phillips** will still be happy to take your money at the February meeting or you can mail a check payable to the Alabama Woodworkers Guild to

**The Alabama Woodworkers Guild**  
P.O. Box 26665,  
Birmingham, AL 35260

Please let us know if your information in the membership directory needs to be revised. The new directory of paid members is coming soon.

## Meeting Directions:

**Homewood Senior Center** 816 Oak Grove Road  
**Homewood, AL**

**To Homewood Senior Center:**

**From I65 South**, take the West Oxmoor exit, merge into center lane. Go through 2 lights. (see "From Both")

**From I65 North**, take the Oxmoor Road exit. Turn left. Go under interstate (3 lights).

**From both:** When in doubt, merge left. At the 3rd light (Florida Grill and Weygand Surveyors) take a left. Go to the black mail box and turn right into Senior Center property. The center has a green roof. (205) 943-0018

## About Us

Alabama Woodworkers Guild Newsletter is published monthly for its members and other interested parties. Guild meetings are held monthly on the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Homewood Senior Center, 816 Oak Grove Road, Homewood, AL.

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** at  
**nelbuz@msn.com**.



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**Directions**

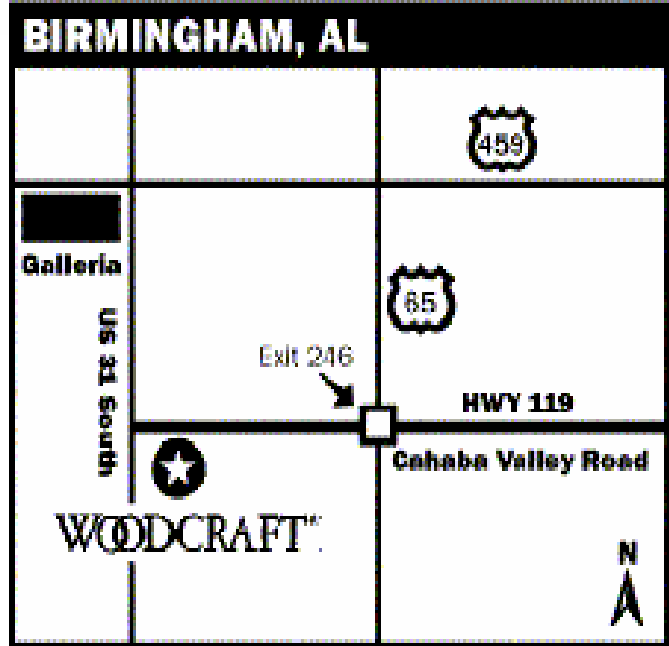
Take I-65 to Exit 246.  
Take Highway 119 West (Cahaba Valley Road)  
3/4 of a mile. We are located on the left,  
in the Cahaba Valley Station.

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## SAW WORKS

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