



GUILD NEWS

Alabama Woodworkers Guild

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Newsletter Editor: Linda Simcik



President's Message

It's been an interesting and unforgettable year to say the least. As we head into the holidays I hope you and your families are well. It's beginning to look like we're going to have a vaccine and hopefully get our lives back to normal, whatever that looks like.

In spite of the challenges we've had this year we've managed to keep the Guild open most of the time, and we've made updates to the WEC :

- ◆ Added additional lighting to the kitchen
- ◆ Reroofed the toy closet and given it a new coat of paint
- ◆ Had some classes, notably, the Habitat for Humanity Cabinet build
- ◆ Built an additional set of cabinets for a second H4H Home for the Holidays house
- ◆ Learned to use Zoom for virtual meetings and recorded projects for a virtual annual show
- ◆ Recorded show and tell projects and mentoring sessions
- ◆ Upgraded the "check in" process to use a bar code to facilitate recording keeping
- ◆ Applied for and received a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the Caring Foundation

This coming year we have a full line up of classes starting with one this month on the 12th that is free and virtual. Check out the Education tab on the web site for details.

Start planning your projects for next year, get your wood, sharpen your saw chisel and plane, and come on down to the WEC.

--Van



Happy Holidays

"A man who works with his hands is a laborer; A man who works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman; but a man who works with his hands and his brain and his heart is an artist."~Louis Nizer (1902–1994)

In lieu of the Christmas Party or membership meeting, The AWG is offering a free ZOOM demonstration by Cindy Drozia. This is scheduled for December 12th at noon. The presentation will last approximately 2 hours. Check your email for your invitation!



Alabama Woodworkers Guild Receives a Grant

Again this year, we have received a grant from the **Alabama State Council on the Arts**. This year's grant is for \$7800!

"The Mission of the Alabama State Council on the Arts is to enhance the quality of life and economic vitality for all Alabamians by providing support for the state's diverse and rich artistic resources."

A key to getting funding from ASCA is showing the artistic quality of an organizations work. We should be proud that ASCA sees the AWG as an artistic organization.

This money will be used to support specific projects such as new equipment and help fund master classes. This is the third year we have received an ASCA grant. The AV equipment used during meetings and classes and the Laguna bandsaw specifically used for resawing is just a couple of examples how this money is used. These grants help the guild continue to provide a great shop and learning experiences.

This grant money would not be possible with out the hours of work of the grant writers. And it is A LOT of work!

Thank you Sandra McMillan, Bob Watkins and Terrance James. You did a great job!





Don't Forget!

“Christmas Gift” from your AWG ...

We usually don't have master classes in December, but this year “bonus” master class that is FREE to all members. This online ZOOM class will be taught by Cindy Drozda.

Cindy is an internationally known wood turner. The topic is “Fabulous Finials”. Cindy will show us how she turns her very slim finials without breaking. It is free to all guild members. The zoom presentation is **December 12** at noon. **(note the date change)** Save the date. You won't want to miss this.



No need to register on the AWG website.

A ZOOM meeting invitation will be sent to all members via email (just like the meetings).

Est. 1983

This class is made possible in part by:



2021 Class Schedule

Below is the schedule of offered classes for 2021. If you are interested in any of these classes, check the website under the "Classes" heading. There you will find a description of the classes, and you can also register and pay here.

- **January 16, 17, 24:** Cutting Board Workshop w/ Eddie Heerten
- **February 6 :** Wood Flower Workshop w/ Angie Burbank
- **February 13 & 14:** Beginning Woodturning w/ Cliff Daniels
- **February 27 & 28:** Intermediate Woodturning w/ Cliff Daniels
- **March 6 & 7:** Tool Chest Master Class w/ Mike Pekovich
- **March 27 & 28:** Carbide Tool Woodturning w/ Angie Burbank
- **April 10,11,24,25:** Woodworking Fundamentals w/ Ray Ziegler
- **May 1 & 2:** Finishing Master Class w/ Alan Noel
- **May 8 & 9:** How to Wire Your Shop w/ Terry James & Bill Newman
- **May 29 & 30:** Bandsaw Box Workshop w/ Bill Newman
- **July 17 & 18:** Inlay Master Class w/ Janita Baker



BRRRR-

Baby it's Cold Outside!



Education Committee



We are gearing up for **2021 Master Classes** and workshops.

Tool Chest Master Class with Mike Pekovich. March 6 & 7, 2021. Those that signed up and paid for the March 2020 cancelled class will have their payment credited to the 2021 class.



Alan Noel Wood Finishing Master Class. May 18 & 2, 2020



Janita Baker Inlay Wire, Alabaster & Mother of Pearl Master Class. July 17 & 18, 2021





Toy Group

Just a reminder, Toy Group will start up again on **January 5th 2021**.

The year 2020 has been messed up year (*can you say dumpster fire?*). The Toy Group met weekly until the WEC was closed in March due to COVID-19. We did start up again, on a limited schedule in June, when the WEC reopened. Everyone that was comfortable coming was welcome. I was pleased to see between 12-15 people show up. And I am thankful for their dedication.

Even though our time in the shop was limited, we managed to turn out over 5,000 toys! Of course a good number of them were made in the first three months of 2020. But the skeleton crew also was very productive.

And I am pleased to announce that all of the toys have been distributed to those that requested.

And so, we will start anew on January 5, 2021, ready to make some toys (and saw dust too!). With a vaccine on the horizon I hope to be back to a full crew soon. I miss my peeps.

I wish everyone a safe, happy and healthy Holiday Season. See you next year!

—Linda Simcik



TOY GROUP BOXES

Do these boxes look familiar? Does your office, school, or business use printers or copiers? If so, there is a good likelihood that the paper you use gets delivered to you in boxes very similar to these.



Over the years, the Toy Group has used many different packaging boxes to deliver toys to the various hospitals and family charity partners. In that time the group has found that the boxes printer and copier paper come in provide a consistent and repeatable method for WEC storage and vehicle transport to our partners.

The Toy Group will start back crafting Toys in January and will be in need of boxes like these to store and transport the toys out to our partners. If you have access to this type of box, please drop them off at the WEC on your next visit. The Toy Group Thanks You in advance and will be very appreciative!

—Patrick Murphy



Announcements

Annual Membership Fee

Annual \$100 fee payments for 2021 are now being accepted. These fees are the main source of revenue for the AWG. This is a real bargain! For \$100/year you have access to:

- Well equipped shop
- Woodworking Library
- Classes & presentations from nationally known master wood-workers
- Connecting with fellow woodworkers

Deadline for payment is February 28, 2021. Your Membership Badge should have one of these Dues Paid Decals for you to have access to the WEC:



If you don't have a 2021 decal on your badge by the end of February, your shop privileges will be terminated. Thank you for your continued support and participation in the Guild's activities!

Show & Tell

We know everyone has missed the show & tell portion of our general membership meetings. Well in this time of social distancing we have decided to bring back Show & Tell. *Yes really!* We are **Virtually** bringing back Show & Tell!

If you have an item you would like to highlight, contact Henry Raymond. He will meet you at the WEC and video your presentation. He asks that when your item is shown, you be present at the meeting (on zoom of course) to answer any questions.



Christmas Party

Because of the social distancing and health department guidelines, we are sad to say that we will not have a Christmas Party this year.

The leadership is hoping to host a celebration for all members after the restrictions have been lifted



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About Us

Since 1983

We are an organization of woodcrafters with skills ranging from beginner to master craftsmen.

Due to COVID restrictions, we are currently conducting our monthly meetings virtually via Zoom on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00AM.

Our members share woodworking tips, bring projects to show and tell, hear guest speakers, and see live woodworking demonstrations at every meeting. Our free library contains books on techniques, videos, and project plans.

The Guild's Woodworking Education Center is located at the site of the old Maylene School building on Hwy 17 in Maylene, AL. The WEC is open Friday -Sunday for the membership and for visitors to drop by to see what we are all about. Please, before dropping by, check the WEC Calendar on our website (<https://wp.awwg.info/calendar/>) and make sure a Supervisor is scheduled to be on-duty



Community Involvement

In Addition to monthly meetings the Guild also has a group of dedicated woodworkers who meet at the WEC to make toys and various wooden therapeutic devices for Children's Hospital and other deserving organizations.

The guild also constructs kitchen and bathroom cabinets each year for Habitat for Humanity

Promoting the Art
and Craft of Fine
Woodworking

The Annual Show

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild Annual Show is a judged show, generally held in October of each year at the Hoover Public Library. Members enter projects they have worked on all year and make



Alabama Woodworkers Guild

10544 Highway 17

Maylene, AL 35114

Easy to find and plenty of free parking.

From I-65, take Exit 238 (Highway 31). Turn north on Highway 31, go 0.6 miles and turn left on State Highway 119 South. Go 3.0 miles south on Highway 119 and turn right on County Highway 12. Go 2.1 miles on Highway 12 until it ends at County Highway 17. Turn right on Highway 17 and the WEC is 0.3 miles on your left. There is a large WEC sign at the entrance.

ALABAMA WOODWORKERS GUILD

“Making sawdust with a purpose”



Membership

Come check us out and become a Guild Member,
Only \$100 a year!

The Alabama Woodworkers Guild offers:

- Monthly meetings
- A fully equipped woodworking shop
- Mentoring for new techniques
- Teaching new and old techniques and use of tools
- Great deals on used tools
- Classes and seminars in woodworking techniques and furniture making

Join

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Home) _____

(Work) _____

(Cell) _____

Email: _____

Spouse: _____

Please mail this form and a check for \$100 to:

Alabama Woodworkers Guild

Attn: Treasurer

P.O. Box 36804

Birmingham, AL. 35236

or go to <http://wp.awwg.info/join/>