

# The Alabama Woodworkers Guild

## *Guild News*

June 2021

***June Meeting Program You DON'T WANT TO MISS!***

***See below for meeting details and page 4 for speaker bio.***

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- Shop Usage Report
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### **Guild Officers and Directors**

**President:** Van Phillips

**Vice President:** Terrance James

**Treasurer:** Bob Watkins

**Secretary:** Laura Hession

#### **Board of Directors**

David Erikson	Sandra McMillan
Matt Sullivan	Bob Baumgartner
Randy Hjetland	Linda Simcik
Jay Bagwell	Rick Wilson

### **Presidents Message**

It was great to see many of you in person at our May general meeting. I hope you got some bargains on tools from the auction while you were getting your shop cleaned out.

We have some excellent classes coming up this month. Be sure to take advantage of learning from some of the best.

I noticed that attendance in our Special Interest Groups (SIG) is beginning a return to pre-pandemic levels. If you are not already involved in one of them I'd encourage you to try them out. Besides providing an opportunity to learn from our peers, the SIGs build camaraderie and it's there you will find friends who look out for each other. Here's an example.

In the recent heavy rains that flooded a number of locations one of our Hand Tool Group member's daughter and son-in-law's (also a member) house was flooded. Since they were not in a flood plain they could not get insurance. The Hand Tool Group stepped up and is building kitchen cabinets to replace the ones that were ruined. This is something we might not have even known about except for the association of the SIG.

Tell your friends and neighbors about the Guild and the good things going on at the WEC. Let's grow our membership this year to an all time high.

Stay safe,

Van Phillips



**"A man that works with his hands is a laborer. A man that works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman, but a man that works with his hands, his brain and his heart is an artist." - Louis Nizer**

**The June Membership Meeting is on Saturday, June, 19th:**

We have a very special program this month. Doug Stowe, "box making guru" will speak on the design process and skills needed to make beautiful boxes. He will be at the WEC in August for a workshop. Meeting starts @ 9am. This will be an in-person meeting at the WEC and will also stream on zoom.

## The WEC is fully open for “Business”

In response to The Governor’s Safer Apart order your, Board of Directors has implemented the following reopening plan for the Woodworkers Education Center (WEC):

Effective 4/9/2021 and based on the Governor’s “Safer Apart” order, the wearing of mask are no longer required at the WEC but as Governor Ivey stated, “people are still strongly urged to continue their use while in public or in close contact with others”. Exercise personal responsibility to ensure your safety and the safety of those around you.

Effective 4/9/2021 all areas of the WEC are open for use by members including the kitchen.

Safety has always been our highest priority. The challenges we are facing due to the pandemic have just added some additional layers to that. We greatly appreciate the cooperation all Guild members have shown in support of this safety focus.

Approved by the Board of Directors

REAL LIFE ADVENTURES By Wise & Aldrich



The term “woodworker” covers a lot of ground.

### Show & Tell

Have you completed a project you’re especially proud of? Have you learned a new skill? If so, bring it to a monthly meeting for show & tell. We would love to see your creations and get some inspiration from fellow woodworkers. You don’t have to do anything special, just bring your creation to the meeting.

### Project Christmas Tree

Don’t forget, we are still collecting Christmas ornaments for the Childrens Hospital Gala fundraiser. We will continue to collect through the end of September. Contact Terri Hjetland for details

### Shop Usage Report

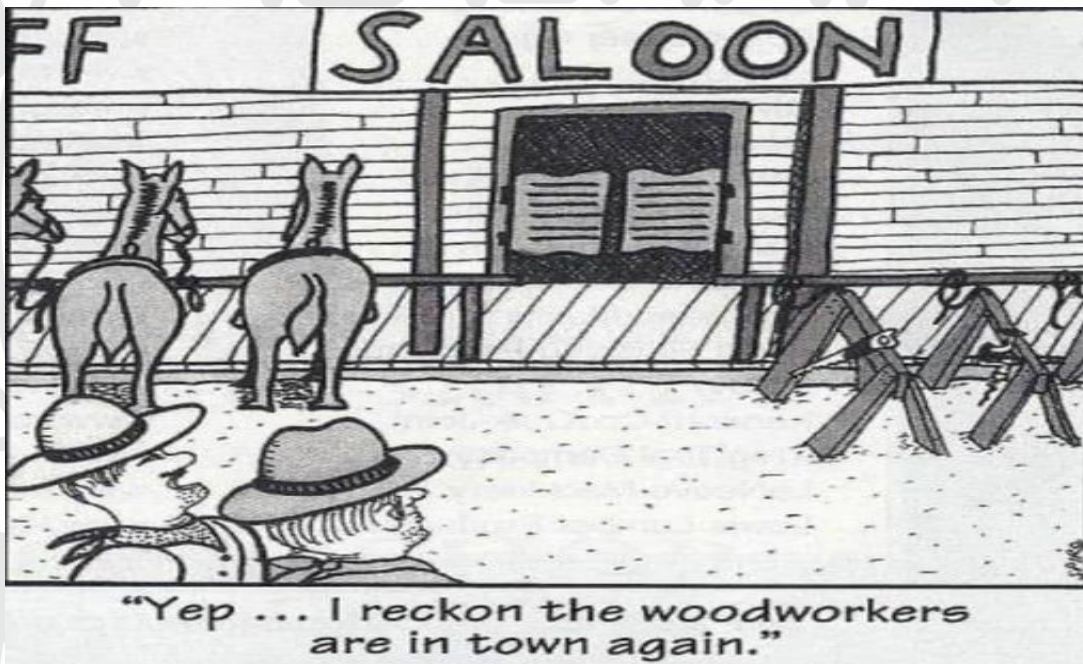
Job	Hrs(h:m)
0 - Guild Membership Meeting	91:19
6 - Luthier Group	172:41
3 - Class	297:26
8 - Personal Project	167:32
5 - Hand Tool Group	142:13
7 - Wood Art Group	42:44
1 - Supervisor	90:39
4 - Toy Group	279:09
14 - Maintenance - Administration	02:17
12 - Maintenance - Equipment	05:42
13 - Maintenance - Landscape	08:58
9 - Special Events	02:44
11 - Maintenance - Building	01:04
Total	1304:28

## Mentorship Program

Our mentorship program is new and improved! Do you have a desire to connect with someone that is proficient at a skill that you would like to learn about? Check out our mentorship program on the web-site.

On the home page click on the "Mentoring" heading. There you will find an extensive list of subjects for you to choose from. Click on the skill you want to develop and fill out the needed information. You will be paired with the person that can help you. You will be contacted by the selected mentor to get started. Some folks may meet you at the WEC while others may prefer to work in their personal shop.

Don't hesitate! This a great way to learn a new skill and develop friendships with fellow woodworkers.



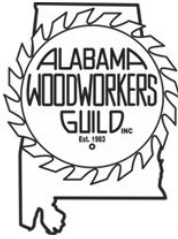
## Toy Group

The Toy Group has been chugging along however we will be taking a two week break . Toy Group will not meet on June 17 and June 24. We will resume on June 29.

In spite of a slow start we have already made over 3,000 toys! We are working until 2pm, so if you join us, bring your lunch. Also, we are overflowing with toys. Contact Linda Simcik If anyone knows of a NON-PROFIT that can use our toys such as church daycares or ministries.

And... since we have been so productive we are in need of wood donations. We use untreated pine. It's OK if it is rough or dirty we can mill it to fit our needs. Any donations are greatly appreciated not only by the Toy Group, but also by the children who receive these toys.





## ALABAMA WOODWORKERS GUILD

*"Making saw dust with a purpose"*

### Free Live Streaming Workshop

June 19, 2021 9:00am—10:30am

Prior to the June general meeting

# It's Not Just a Box With Doug Stowe



Doug Stowe has been a self-employed furniture and box maker since 1976. He is the author of five woodworking books including [\*Taunton's Complete Illustrated Guide to Box Making\*](#) and Taunton's book and DVD, "Basic Box Making" (2007). Doug teaches box making to adults at various woodworking schools and also directs a pre-K through 12th-grade woodworking program called "Wisdom of the Hands," recognizing the importance of hands-on learning for all children. He is a member of the New England Association of Woodworking Teachers.

During the Live Streaming session Doug will share his thought process as a master woodworking artisan as design considerations are made. He will also stress the skills that will increase speed, accuracy and craftsmanship in all your fine woodworking efforts. Doug will return to the Guild in August for a two day face to face demonstration Master Class on decorative box making. If you have taken a box class with Bill Newman's box classes, you will recognize some of the steps and techniques that Doug will share.

You can learn more about Doug Stowe by visiting our website education page at: [wp.awwg.info](http://wp.awwg.info)



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## Free to Members: Live Streaming Events!

### It's Not Just a Box!

**Live Streaming 9:00 to 10:00 AM on June 19, 2021 Mentoring Session with Douglas Stowe**, one of the best known decorative box makers in America.

If you have ever been in one of Bill Newman's box classes, you have heard of Doug Stowe and his many publications. Doug teaches at the Marc Adams and Connecticut Valley Schools of Woodworking and shares his experience with Woodworking Guilds throughout the USA. Doug has received the Vaughn Golden Hammer award for writing in woodworking several times. His latest passion is teaching woodworking to kids. That exemplified by his latest publication.

During the Live Streaming session Doug will share his thought process as a master woodworking artisan as design considerations are made. Doug will return to the Guild in August for a two day face to face demonstration Master Class on decorative box making. The participant will learn skills that will increase speed, accuracy and craftsmanship in fine woodworking. The skills essential to making beautiful boxes.

### 2021 Class Schedule

6/19

#### **Mentoring Session with Doug Stowe**

This is a zoom presentation prior to our monthly meeting. Doug will discuss the design and thought process a woodworker goes through before and during the construction phase. This class is free to all members.

7/24 – 7/25

#### **Inlay Master Class with Jack Smoot**

During the two day workshop Jack will teach the process of inlaying Mother of Pearl, Abalone, and metal. These materials can be inlaid on musical instruments, boxes, and furniture. Jack will have a simple picture everyone can inlay in wood. After the first project you will inlay designs on something you have made – a box, musical instrument, drawer, etc. Bring a project, some designs and plenty of enthusiasm. Check the AWG classes for a new short list of supplies for Jack's class.

8/21 – 8/22

#### **Decorative Box Making Master Class with Doug Stowe**

This master class will be a fun experience in box making. During the two days Doug will teach you how to make beautiful decorative boxes. He'll show you techniques that will increase speed, accuracy and craftsmanship. These skills will transfer to all woodworking projects.

8/28 – 12/?

#### **Habitat for Humanity**

Our Habitat build will start at the end of August. During the classes you will learn how to make cabinets for your home. Sessions will concentrate on building the carcass, doors, drawers and finishing. This is a great series of classes. You'll learn new skills (or brush up on old skills) while you make cabinets for a Habitat house.

**Class 1 - August 28, 2021 - Orientation and Face Frame Build**

**Class 2 - September 4, 2021 - Carcass Construction**

**Class 3 - September 11, 2021 - Drawer Boxes**

**Class 4 - October 2, 2021 and possibly October 4, 2020 - Doors and Drawer Fronts**

**Class 5 - October 23, 2021 - Spray Finish**

**Class 6 - November 6, 2021 - Attach Doors, Drawers, and Pulls**

**Class 7 - Early December - Installation of Cabinets at Holiday House**

**Class 8 - TBD - Holiday House Dedication**



### New Merchandise!!

Are you a Coffee, Tea, Water, Soda drinker? Show off your AWG pride with our *NEW INSULATED 300Z Mug!*

These are quality drinking vessels that will keep your drink hot or cold for hours. Colors available are navy, black or red. These mugs are engraved with the Alabama Woodworkers Guild logo. Cost? \$30. If you are interested in ordering, contact Henry Raymond (he's in the directory).

Speaking of buying merchandise...



I am sure all of you have gotten into the habit of shopping on line during the pandemic. It is so easy to click on your mouse and what you buy is delivered to your door! If you use Amazon (who doesn't?) please go to amazon smile. When you shop with amazonsmile a percentage of your purchase to a charity of your choice. Please make the Guild your choice! To make it easy, there is a link to amazonsmile on our website homepage.

## Eight Woodworking Tips to Boost Your Efficiency

taken from an online blog by Ron Smith

### Tip # 3 Know your wood's moisture content

When building with wood, you must know the correct content of each piece of wood. Too dry, and the finished product may swell or crack. Too moist, and the end product may shrink or warp. It's no wonder experts say incorrect moisture causes 80% of all woodworking problems. For instance, if your planning an inlay job using two different species of wood, you'll need to know moisture content of each type so that your inlay glue joints stay intact. Therefore, it's critical to know the moisture content of each piece of wood *before* it is used.

A failsafe way to avoid a ruined project is to use a moisture meter.

Next month: Tip #4-Prevent excess glue stains.



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### About Us

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

Our monthly meetings will be conducted at the WEC for those who can attend and also virtually via Zoom on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00AM. Be sure to check out the mentoring sessions that start at 9:00AM

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 each year for Habitat for



kitchen and bath-  
Humanity

room cabinets



**Promoting the Art and Craft of Fine Woodworking**