

# ShopTalk

Greenville Woodworkers Guild



September 2016



Brian Fireman is a Designer/Craftsman, trained as an architect, specializes in sculptural wood furniture which allows the inherent beauty and natural characteristics of the wood to influence each design. A passion for building coupled with an interest in tectonics (highlighting the intangible relationships between forces, structure, and form) invests each piece with a compelling connection to the natural world. Works on a commission basis, as well as offering an existing collection that is customizable and available in a broad range of woods, sizes, and dimensions.

## Brian Fireman

### Personal Statement

I have chosen to follow the path of designing and building hand-crafted contemporary furniture for the main reason that it brings me great joy. Beyond words, I am attracted to the beauty of the material in which I work. In the studio, there are lessons every day. My designs are inspired from many sources, from walks in the woods to overseas travels, but mostly from the wood itself. I equally enjoy working with live-edge slabs, as well as more sculptural forms. My intent with both is to allow the inherent beauty of the material to acquire a second life as a piece of furniture. Wood is quite a sensual material, and it is my hope that my work reflects my passion, awe, and respect for these great trees.





## 2016-2017 Officers

**David Aman**  
President

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Executive Vice President

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Vice President, Fund Raising

**Bill Gay**  
Guild Accountant

**Karl Kelly**  
Education Center Superintendent

**Dick Best**  
At Large

**Al Socha**  
At Large

**Greenville**  
**Woodworkers Guild**  
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[www.greenvillewoodworkers.com](http://www.greenvillewoodworkers.com)

**David Aman**  
President



## THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

“Happy New Year” may not be in order for four more months, but we are beginning a new fiscal year at the Guild on September 1. One significant change will be the make up of your Board of Directors. Leaving the Board will be John Roberts, Darryl Roberson, Wayne Comstock, Bruce Rankin and Van Matthews. All of these gentlemen have served the Guild with distinction for many years. Some go back to the very early days of the Guild, establishment of our first shop, and the building of our new facilities. We cannot adequately thank them for the time, talent and money they have contributed, but I want to offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to each of them. The Guild is a much better organization because of their efforts. As they step off the Board, some exciting new blood will replace them. Allison Yanover will become our Vice President of Communications; Russell Stall will become VP of Fund Raising; John Broach and Dick Best will serve as Members at Large. All of these people are quite active in the Guild, and you have probably seen some of them in a class, a charitable project, or supervising the shop. Get to know them, and share your concerns or ideas with them. The Board members that are continuing also deserve our thanks for their many years of service. Rob Barhorst, Chuck Graham, Bill Fuller, Bill Keener, Al Socha, and Karl Kelly will continue in their roles.

Our Strategic Planning Committee has developed a long range financial plan that hopefully will sustain the

Guild for many years. They determined the long range costs necessary to maintain our facilities, including roof replacement, air conditioning, lighting, plumbing, seating, grounds, shop tools and equipment. Some of these items will be very costly, and some will need attention soon. They determined that we need to set aside \$40,000 each year, above the normal cost of operations, to achieve this goal. Please remember, when we acquired these facilities a little over six years ago, we pledged to never go into debt, nor to use the facilities as collateral. Therefore, we must pay as we go, whether it is for operations or the sudden need for new air conditioning units. Membership, lumber sales, and other income is meeting our operating budget, but there is little left for future facility needs. One big challenge for the new Board will be “how do we meet this need”? There will be other challenges as we go along, but none any bigger than the good stewardship required to sustain what all the members before us have built. This Guild has always risen to challenges, and I am confident we will rise to this one.

As we begin this new year I am reminded of the old Irish blessing: “May the road rise with you and the wind be ever at your back”. Happy New Year!

## Charitable project completed.

Completed projects for the Fine Arts Center built by GWG.

L to R:

Roy Fluher -

Director of The Fine Arts Center  
of Greenville County

Catherine Smith -

Instructor of Art of Architecture,

Dick Best -

GWG Member,

April -

Instructor of Fiber Arts.



Above:  
Printmaking Table for use  
in the Fiber Arts Center

Right:  
Critique Tables

Below:  
Work Tables



## Charitable project completed.

GWG member Bob Harvey built two DVD Boxes for the Greenville Children's Hospital. He donated the Walnut wood and hardware. They were delivered in late July.



Bruce and our friends of the  
woodworkers Guild,  
Thank you so much for making  
the awesome DVD bins for  
Children's hospital! It will mean  
so much for our patient's and  
families to have movies to watch  
in their rooms and be able to  
easily return them to the nice  
wooden return boxes!  
Thank you!  
Child Life Dept  
Children's Hospital

## The Jigs Up!

Last month's Jig "Show and Tell" introduced us to a variety of time saving jigs for table saws. We will continue to feature jigs or fixtures that members use frequently, to make certain processes go more quickly or smoothly. For September we will feature jigs for hand held routers. Of course, if you have any other jigs that you wish to show and explain, please bring them also. The October meeting will feature jigs for band saws.

## Coming next month another Professional Series Seminar.

**More information and registration will be available soon.**



After a half-hearted attempt at a law degree, Alf Sharp discovered his true vocation in fine furnituremaking. Thirty-five years later he's still at it with as much enthusiasm as at the beginning. Almost all work is done on a custom commission basis, in close collaboration with clients and their designers.

Specializing in 18th and 19th Century American and European design, Sharp also enjoys Beidermeier, Art Deco, Chinese, and contemporary design. His own original work has, most often, at least a toe-hold in tradition.

Sharp has pieces in historical homes and museums throughout the US, as well as in fine private homes nationally. He is the recipient of the 2008 Cartouche award from The Society of American Period Furniture Makers. He is past President of the Furniture Society. When not absorbed in the woodshop or playing with his grandchildren, he enjoys restoring and driving classic British sportscars.

Examples of his work can be seen on his web-site, [alfredsharp.com](http://alfredsharp.com)., and the new [snazzywoodties.com](http://snazzywoodties.com).

## Calendar of Events

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### September 12

September Membership Meeting  
(Please note the change from 1st Monday!)

### September 13

Next GWG Board of Directors Meeting

### September 13

Next GWG Operations Meetings

### September 23

Furman's Osher Lifelong learning Institute Tour

### October 3

October Membership Meeting

### October 29

Next Tool Sale/Auction (proposed)

### November 7

November Membership Meeting

### November 19

Shop & Grounds Clean-Up/  
Fix-up Day

### December 5

December Meeting &  
Christmas Dinner

## CHARITABLE PROJECTS / July 5 to August 1

	Hours
Beads of Courage (Bead Boxes) .....	56
Greenville Cancer Park (Benches) .....	4.5
Child's Haven (Toy Chest) .....	22
Fine Arts Center ( Desk) .....	133
Habitat For Humanity (Furniture Repair) .....	.5
Jones Gap State Park (Display Case) .....	6
Santa's Workshop (Toys) .....	215
Our Lady of the Rosary (Shelves and Pedestals) <i>(Time donated by volunteers - non-Guild approved)</i> .....	15
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>411</b>

## MENTORING CLASSES / July 5 to August 1

	Hours
Combined total hours for adult classes .....	292
Youth Classes .....	187
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>479</b>

We had good numbers in all categories considering it a summer month!

Adirondack chairs and of course the Youth program had really nice numbers in Mentoring,  
as did Santa's Workshop and the Fine Arts Center desks for Charity!

– Jack McKay



Show and Tell



Christmas Gift Items  
by John Broach



Winged Vase by Kevin Felderhoff



End Table and bandsaw boxes  
by John Arnold



Tray and Jewelry Box  
by Barry Jones



Flower Box  
by Vince DiCarlo

Pyrography  
by Halley DiCarlo



Lidded Box, Goblet on a Stem & Hollow Form  
by Tom Berg



Platter  
by Scott Kilgore



Lidded Box and Vase  
by Dave Paul

**NEXT GUILD MEETING - MONDAY, September 12, 2016 - 6:30 p.m.**

**New member orientation begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room. / Social time begins at 6:15 p.m.**

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