

ShopTalk

Greenville Woodworkers Guild



April 2023



Join us at our next Monthly Meeting on Monday, April 3, at 6:30 pm.

Meet Lyle Wheeler from Millers Creek, NC, who specializes in handmade ladderback chairs in native hardwoods. Lyle comes from a long line of blacksmiths, woodworkers, wagon makers, and furniture makers. He has found a way to preserve craftsmanship that is more than a century old, using hand tools handed down from his great-grandfather.

Lyle Wheeler Bio

Lyle Wheeler is a chair maker and blacksmith from Millers Creek, NC, who has been making chairs by hand since 1983. He specializes in handmade ladderback chairs in native Appalachian hardwoods, featuring traditional tools and styles from the late 1800s. He likes to mix up the species of wood to get contrast in the chairs he builds.

Lyle comes from a long line of blacksmiths, woodworkers, wagon makers, and furniture makers. He has found a way to preserve craftsmanship that is more than a century old. His hand tools are from the 1860's to 1890's. He believes the tools from that period were the best quality ever made, right before the Industrial Revolution in the South. Lyle still uses some of his great-grandfather's tools. His grandson is now using them, making it six generations of his family who have used the same tools!

One of Lyle's ladderback rocking chairs won First Place in the *2019 Made in NC Awards*, chosen Best Overall. He notes that there is a lot of engineering in a rocking chair that differentiates one from another. The curvature (radius) of his runners has been developed so that when you sit down, it pulls you into the chair. You don't feel like the chair wants to pitch you out of it.

Lyle sells Wheeler's Chairs at high end craft shows throughout the Southeast, builds chairs on commission, and teaches woodworking and blacksmithing at the John C. Campbell Folk School. He is a longtime member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild.

Lyle keeps a very busy schedule. Besides being our guest presenter on April 3, Lyle will be peddling his wares or teaching in North Carolina, Maryland, and Pennsylvania this year.





Joe Boyd
President



T H E P R E S I D E N T ' S C O R N E R

Two years ago, there were three things you had to do before entering the Guild's shop. First, put on a face mask; second, wash your hands at an outside sink; and lastly, have your temperature checked at the Supervisor's Desk. How odd that all seems now! Thankfully, we are far removed from the Covid-imposed protocols of everyday life. Also, two years ago, we reopened the auditorium for members to join us in person for our monthly meetings. As we had all become accustomed to meeting by way of Zoom, the idea of gathering together in the auditorium seemed risky. The first month, we might've had 15 members in attendance.

The monthly membership meetings had been a significant lifeline in past years between the members who primarily do not utilize the shop facilities and the members who do. The luxury of our Guild to have an auditorium with such amenities is surely unparalleled to any other guild. Thankfully, more and more members have supported our organization by attending the monthly

meetings. The attendance has grown and the quality of presenters has been amazing. We are grateful to Don Clarke and Bobby Hartness for their commitment to continue to bring in talented woodworkers to present at our meetings. When you see Don and Bobby, please convey your sentiments of gratitude for their efforts.

I encourage you to please make every effort to join us for our membership meetings. The May meeting, scheduled for May 1, will be especially important as we will once again need a quorum of members to effectuate our annual election of officers. With the increase in membership, we will need to have approximately 188 members in attendance. With your help, we can do this!

Finally, deep down in your soul, don't you want to be the person to Stump the Chump? Come on. Give it a try, as I will bring yet another unusual item for you to attempt to identify.

I look forward to welcoming you to our next meeting on April 3rd. Until then, enjoy your Guild.

Carving with Mary May

By Cissy Boyd



Family and friends would have never expected that I would be interested in learning the traditional style of woodcarving. But when Mary May, one of the world's most notable and accomplished woodcarvers, comes to Greenville to teach a class, I had to give it a try. What a wonderful four days we had! I, along with 14 other members of the Guild, were absolutely amazed at how quickly we caught on to the techniques of woodcarving.

Prior to this woodcarving class, I had no experience with woodworking tools and equipment. Just the thought of operating large equipment was daunting. My passion of oil painting and participating in the lives of our children and grandchildren seem to fill my days. Like woodworking I suppose, once I get in the mode of painting, the hours of the day simply fly by. The idea of picking up a new hobby was difficult to imagine... but there I was, chipping away at carving flowers and seashells!

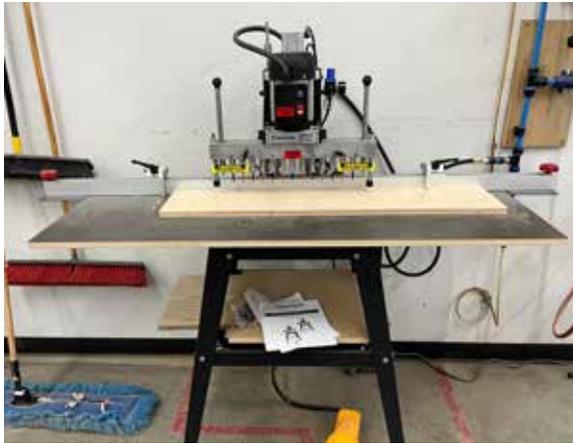
Was I intimidated to be in the room with so many accomplished woodworkers? Absolutely. Was I nervous about my lack of woodworking experience hindering my ability to carve? Of course. But as I soon learned, I was in a

classroom with an extraordinary teacher and 14 of the kindest and most helpful fellow Guild members. My four days turned out to be extremely rewarding and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from the best and with the best.

So now, I have had to "carve out" a section of my husband's (Joe's) workbench to claim for myself. I'm not sure who is more surprised!



What's New at the Shop?



Slab Flattening Jig

A Woodpecker Slab Flattening Jig has been built, tested out, and is ready for use in the lower building. This is not your normal jig! It is a large table, approximately 5' wide by 10' long. The unit consists of a table with rails that a sled sits on, holding a router. The router is fed back and forth over the whole board to flatten it.

Jig Specifications

Optimum Slab Length: 10'-8"

Max Width: 3'-8"

Max Depth: 3.25"

Longer and slightly wider slabs may be processed on the jig. However, this requires moving the slab, which almost assures that the same plane (level of the flat surface) will not be maintained.

Certification Required Prior to Use

There is a certification prerequisite: [watch Woodpecker video on YouTube – link](#)

Members must provide their own slab for the certification process. If the slab is large, requiring two or more people to handle it, the member must provide that extra person. Supervisors are not always available or able to move heavy and/or awkward slabs.

One or more members can schedule certification with one or more of the following instructors: Buddy Turner, Bob Armbruster, and Jim Kilton. Certification will be scheduled one-on-one or one-on-two.

An on-line scheduling tool is currently being set up. Depending on the size/length of the slab, members should allow a minimum of three hours for a short slab (4 feet) and four to six hours for a slab of 7 feet or more, depending on the overall condition of the slab.

A lesson plan for certification has been written and will be available on the Guild website under Members Only/Training and Certification/ECT054. The plan is available for review in advance of certification and as a later reference.

Line-Boring Machine

A Maksiwa LBP.13 Line-Boring Machine has been installed and is ready for use. The line boring machine allows for rapid drilling of multiple shelf pin holes when building cabinets. Stops allow for accurate repeatability of holes for the front, back and each side of a cabinet, as well as from cabinet to cabinet.

Specifications

Bores 13 holes at the same time over 15-1/8" distance. Drilling additional holes is possible. Allows setup for offsets and stops for left and right setup.

Machine Features

Foot pedal operates air-activated hold down and drill engagement.

Built-in extension arms, on either side, can support long work pieces.

Certification Required Prior to Use

There is a certification prerequisite video; the link can be found on the Guild website under Members Only/Training and Certification/Line Boring Equipment.

A link to the class lesson plan is available, which shows key safety items, steps to operate the equipment, and items to pay attention to. A link to the equipment manual can also be found there.

Certification for this machine can be done by asking a Supervisor to go through the certification steps or by attending one of the classes that are periodically offered.

Charitable Projects – February 2023

	Members	Hours
SC Army National Guard Aviation Heritage Cabinets.....	7	109
Children’s Theatre Cabinets	6	108
Beads of Courage	4	56
Member Sponsored Projects	1	4
Toy Program	2	3
Washington Center School Stools	1	1
		281

Notification of Election of Officers

In accordance with Policy 9 - Election of Directors and Officers, please be advised that the annual election of Directors and Officers of the Greenville Woodworkers Guild will be held during the Annual Membership Meeting that will take place on May 1, 2023, 6:30 PM, in the GWG Auditorium.

Charles A. Graham, Jr.

Secretary to the Greenville Woodworkers Guild

South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) Cabinets

The Guild has undertaken a project to build 19 base cabinets for the new SCARNG Heritage Room, located at the McIntyre Joint National Guard Base near Columbia, SC. The Heritage Room is backed by the Central Carolina Community Foundation (CCCF), a 501c organization. Per the CCCF website, “The room will serve as a gathering place for active, retired, potential members of the SCARNG aviation program. The space will also serve as a venue to host social events, VIPs, and public officials”.

This GWG Board-approved project is being led by Jon Rauschenbach, with team members John Miles, Lisa Kistler, Bob Gasperik, Dick Best, Joe Herbert, Craig McKee, Cody Penland, and Marion DeWitt. Unlike most cabinet projects the Guild has recently undertaken, the finishing and installation of the cabinets will be done by SCARNG volunteers, rather than Guild members. This is due to the distance between Greenville and the McIntyre Joint National Guard Base.



Tool Sale

The Guild's next Tool Sale will be held the morning of May 6. Doors will open at 8:30 am and the sale will conclude by noon. Plan to arrive early!

We have collected a large volume of high-quality tools and equipment from the contents of three shops, plus contributions from at least another dozen people. The storage container is so full that there is little room to move. All this means we will have a great sale, offering buyers great deals on redeployed tools and equipment.

As in the past, you can find Laguna, SawStop, Powermatic, Bosch, Buck Bros, Stanley Bailey, Swiss Made and more at these sales. Items priced over \$100 are considered "bid items", and you may need to stay until the conclusion of the sale to learn whether you have won one of the larger pieces.

Please join us! 100% of the proceeds from these sales are used to further the Guild's charitable efforts. Proceeds are used to purchase materials and supplies for the charitable work we undertake on behalf of the Greenville community.

Thank you.

Scott Stofan
Tool Sales Manager

Here are a few items that you will find for sale.



2023 Toy Program Begins

The 2023 Toy Program will begin with an organizational meeting on Tuesday, April 11th at 9:00 am till. This annual project will meet every Tuesday from 9:00am till noon through October. Everyone is invited to participate. This project will give you the opportunity to learn new skills, work with some great folks and build lots of toys for deserving children.

John Arnold and Rob Barhorst will again be Project Leaders for this annual program.

See you on April 11th.

Thanks,
John Arnold & Rob Barhorst



Welcome New Members

Matthew Adamson Greer, SC
Mike Cannon Spartanburg, SC
Barbara Caruso Clemson, SC
Donna Cruice..... Greenville, SC
Rick Cruice Greenville, SC
Maverick Hampton Taylors, SC
Vicencio Juarez Greenville, SC
Witt Langstaff Greenville, SC
Woody Moore Liberty, SC
Kevin Nichols..... Seneca, SC
Connie Pearce Anderson, SC
Don Reiff..... Greer, SC
Ideen Solhtalab Greenville, SC
Jonathan Suttles Greenville, SC
Serena Taylor Simpsonville, SC
Alex Walker..... Taylors, SC
Pete Whiteis Greenville, SC

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From Your Lumber Team

Lumber Price Update

Good news! Lumber prices, with a few exceptions, are beginning to moderate! With most new deliveries, we will be able to lower our prices from the highs we have experienced in the past two years. Unfortunately, plywood prices remain high, with no expectations of prices coming down. We have kept our plywood prices steady or slightly decreased by buying full bundles when possible.

We have had a very sizeable donation of lumber to the Guild. Since we will be unable to store this for very long, due to large shipments scheduled in the near future, we will be offering this lumber at fantastic prices in a flash sale. There are a lot of walnut slabs and quality lumber. Be sure to watch for the announcement of the big sale; items will be priced to move and it is expected that the best will go quickly.

New Arrivals

- Black Limba 4/4 and 8/4 (Very unique tan to brown wood with darker striations)
- Tigerwood 4/4
- Genuine Mahogany 4/4
- Premium Cherry 4/4, Pennsylvania 90% Red

Mark Your Calendars

April 3

Monthly Membership Meeting
Birdhouse Contest Judging

May 1

Monthly Membership Meeting
Annual Election of Guild Officers

May 6

Tool Sale, held the morning of
Saturday, May 6.

Build A Birdhouse Contest

Judging for this year's Birdhouse Contest will be held at the April 3 Monthly Meeting. Prizes will include gift cards from Woodcraft. Prizes will be awarded in three different categories:

Functional - Can best be described as a working birdhouse. It will be judged on the following criteria, in the order listed: craftsmanship, functionality for birds, ability to be mounted, easy access for cleaning, type of material used, and aesthetics.

Decorative/Whimsical - Can be used indoors or outside, and not necessarily functional. It will be judged on the following criteria, in the order listed: aesthetics, imaginative theme, texture, color, composition, and craftsmanship.

"Green" - Think repurposed, environmentally friendly, and recycled. Green birdhouses can be functional and/or decorative.

Rules

- Birdhouses must be made within the last year by the person entering the contest.
- No birdhouses made from kits are permitted.
- Birdhouses must be at least 75% made of wood.
- You can submit a maximum of three birdhouses, but only one birdhouse can be submitted for each of the three categories.
- All entries must be in good taste.



Judging

Winners of each category will be determined by the number of votes they acquire. Entry forms will be available at the April Monthly Meeting. Be sure to get your birdhouses submitted early that night to get those votes! Winners will be announced at the end of the meeting.

Bird Lovers Choice Award – Use Your Spare Change!

Those attending the April Monthly Meeting are invited to vote for their favorite birdhouses before the meeting using their spare change. Each dollar you donate is worth one vote. Your donation will be used to purchase GWG shop supplies, such as sandpaper.

Contact Rosie Gaddy at rosiegaddy@yahoo.com if you have any questions about the contest.

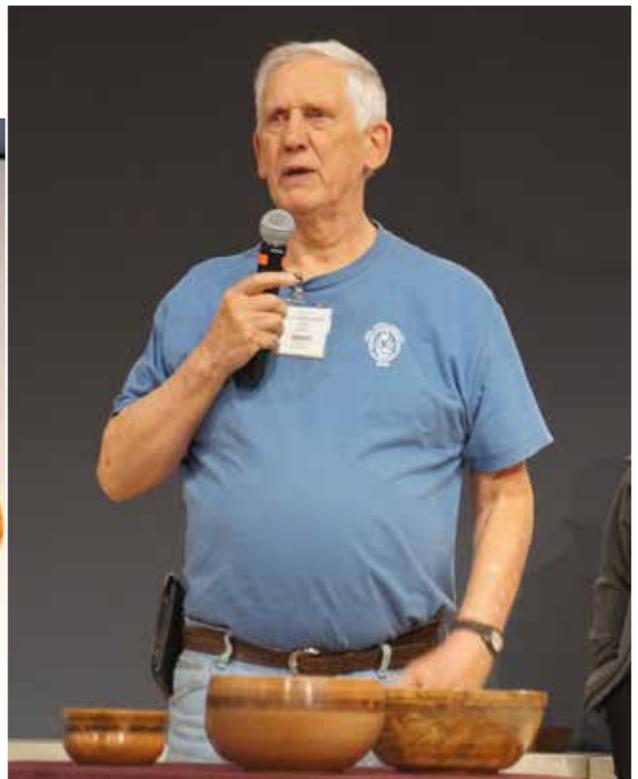
Member's Projects



Grain Matched Turned Walnut Bowl
by Bill Lancaster



Turned Bowls by Jim Kilton



Sam Maloof Style Rocking Chair
built by Harold Dodson.
Given to Van Matthews for an
Alzheimer's Fund Raiser.



Ornament and Vessels
by Darryl Jones





Scroll Saw Bowls by Patrick Dreiding



Charcuterie Board - Log Slices in Epoxy
by Frank Gramling



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