

# ShopTalk

Greenville Woodworkers Guild



September 2019



## The September program will be by Robb Helmkamp.

Robb's Topic will be about CURVES. It is a feature that he has in most of his work in varying degrees of complexity. He will talk about a few ways that he approaches putting curves in his work. From as simple as using a drawing bow, pencil, eye, bandsaw and edge sander to a more complex lamination and bending over a form in a bag or with clamps.

## BIOGRAPHY

Robb Helmkamp makes contemporary furniture, sculpture and accessories, made of various types of wood, some pieces with metal accents. Soft contours, gentle curves and subtle angles provide gentle flow and movement, creating a classic contemporary look. Helmkamp primarily uses woods native to the Carolinas including walnut, cherry, maple, oak and ash. By juxtaposing wood and metal, light and dark tones, smooth and rough textures he uses furniture as a canvas for expression.

As a military brat, Helmkamp was raised all over the country by a career U.S. Navy father and an artist mother, and grew up with constant exposure to both the arts and the military. Helmkamp's mother has been a ceramic artist most of my life and I helped out in her pottery studio and at art shows during my childhood. Conversely, he would go to military air shows and weekend naval ship tours with my father. Helmkamp's work is continually inspired and informed by both the arts and crafts and military history and design. Throughout his childhood Helmkamp was continuously making... designing and building tree forts, skate ramps and hammering together a wide range of projects.

After earning a degree in Public Relations at WVU in Morgantown, West Virginia Helmkamp began to have doubts about a career working behind a desk and began trying to figure out how to build a career out of making things with his hands. Shortly after moving to North Carolina in 2001 Helmkamp started taking woodworking classes and was soon enrolled at Haywood Community College, in Clyde, NC, as a student in their Professional Crafts: Woodworking program. While in school, at Haywood, Helmkamp started his own woodworking business, Kampstudio.

Helmkamp's goal with Kampstudio has always been to make furniture of the highest quality and to create pieces which have never seen or experienced

before. Always striving for his work to be thoroughly influenced and informed by the past, Helmkamp creates original and unique woodworking. Taking the time to finely craft each piece of furniture in his studio Helmkamp uses a mix of modern machinery and traditional hand tools. Currently Helmkamp works in a studio next to his house, in a quiet neighborhood, in North Charleston, South Carolina.

At Kampstudio Helmkamp makes furniture and accessories, including tables (of all sizes), benches, boxes, cutting boards, built-ins, one-of-a-kind pieces and many more items.

Helmkamp creates pieces for exhibitions and regularly accepts commissions and custom work requests. Most of Helmkamp's woodworking is finished with a hand rubbed oil and varnish mixture. All of Kampstudio's food accessories, including cutting boards, are finished with a food-safe beeswax based conditioner.













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## **Rob Barhorst** *President*



## **T H E P R E S I D E N T S C O R N E R**

September marks the beginning of another fiscal year for the Guild. Your Board Members are basically the same this coming year except that Allison Yanover has taken over for David Aman. I would like to thank David for over a decade of service on the Board and sharing his insight and wisdom. We look forward to the fall schedule of classes being posted and the new Charitable Projects that will be announced. Shop activity will increase as our members begin to work on their Christmas gift projects. The Toy Workshop elves will continue to work on toys that they have been working on since April. Other projects like Beads of Courage Boxes / Bowls as well as the Urns for Veterans will continue. This year will bring other wonderful opportunities to work in the shop, enjoy woodworking together, work on charitable projects and have fellowship with our members as we embrace these prospects together.

This is the beginning of my 2nd year as President, I look forward to the coming year. At this point I'm not sure what lies ahead but we will tackle it together. As I committed last year, as a Board and the Guild, we will continue to support our community with Charitable Projects. We have a great group

of members who are willing to share their woodworking knowledge and life experiences with all of you. If you have a question or a problem that needs to be solved, just ask another member!

### **Remember our Mission:**

- To help our members become better woodworkers
- To elevate public knowledge of wood working as an art
- To help charitable causes through our woodworking skills

### **Around The Shop**

The shop is looking pretty good. I want to thank everyone who takes the time to clean up their work area before you leave. We are a 100% volunteer organization. There is no one who comes in after you to clean up. Also, please remember to clean the sanders in the sanding area after you use them. Take them over to the cleanout area by the router and blow them out so they are ready for the next member to use. It only takes a minute but it really makes a difference to the next person using them. Don't forget to put some money in the Yellow Boxes for all the screws, sandpaper, drill bits, glue and whatever items you use. Your contribution allows us to continue to provide these for your use. Be safe and enjoy the shop

# G W G A C T I V I T Y R E P O R T

## CHARITABLE PROJECTS / July 1 to July 31 , 2019

	Hours
Beads of Courage.....	5
Flag Cases.....	3.5
Toy Workshop.....	335
Cancer Survivor Park Alliance .....	6
Northwest CDC.....	18
Other Charitable Projects.....	32.5
Total.....	400

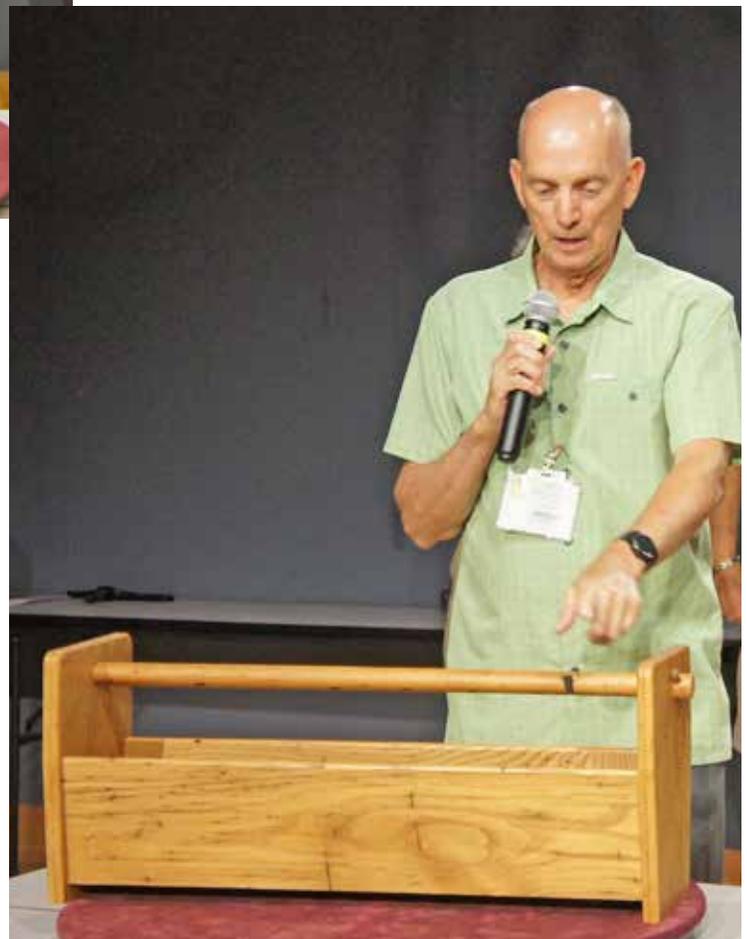
## MENTORING CLASSES /July 1 to July 31 , 2019

	Hours
Combined total hours for adult classes.....	134
Youth Classes .....	146
Total.....	280



Boat Tray by  
Bruce Bell

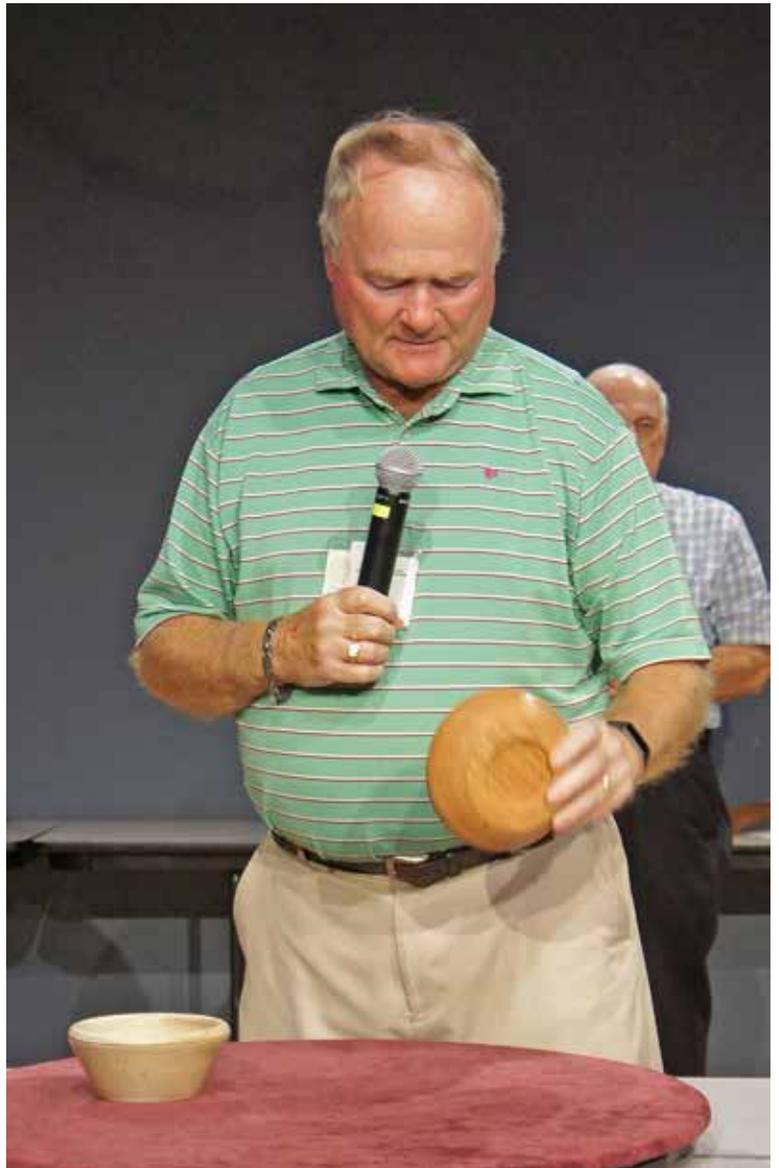
Carpenter Tool Box by  
Chuck Pressley





Butterfly Box by  
John Arnold

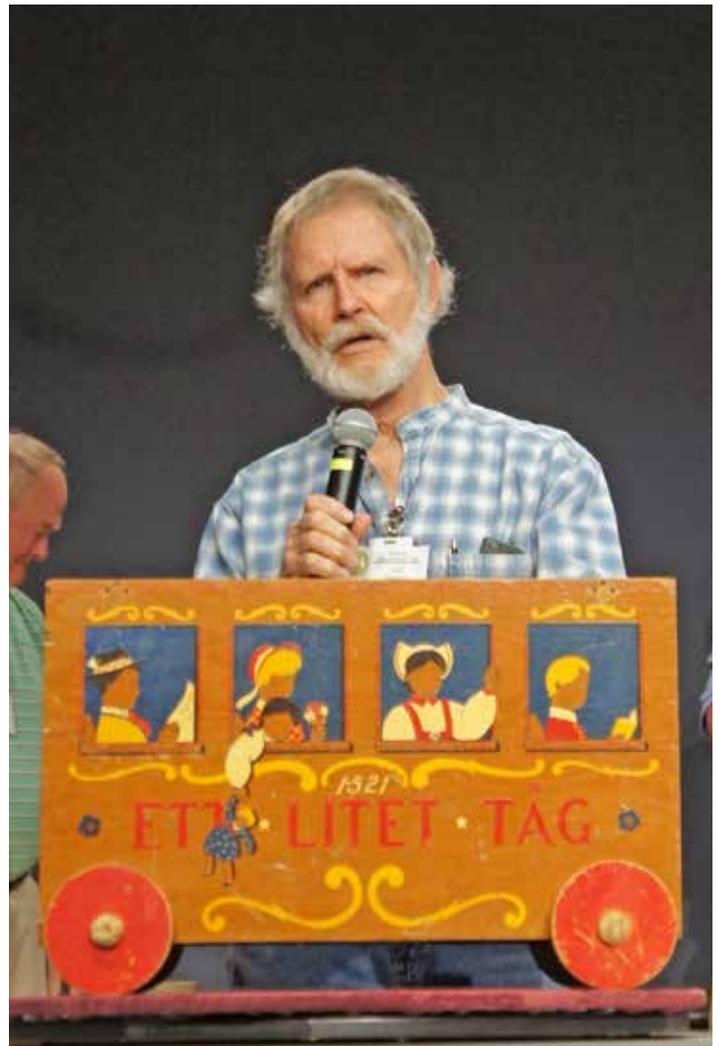
Turned Bowls by  
Roger Friday





Ukelele by  
Al Socha

Toy Chest  
Jim Gilreathr



**Next guild meeting Monday, September 9, 2019**

Greenville Woodworkers Guild

Education Center

209 Holly Ridge Drive

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For more information

[www.greenvillewoodworkers.com](http://www.greenvillewoodworkers.com)



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