

East Tennessee
Woodworkers Guild

ETWG Newsletter

November-December 2025



Our January meeting will be this Monday, January 11 at 6:30 at Woodcraft.

The presenter will be Ralph Gonzalez—"Construction of Two Curly Cherry Bookcases"

The meeting will also be broadcast on Zoom:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

(Link in email or on webpage)

President's Message

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It's a new year. For a woodworker a new year means new projects and new challenges as one adds new skills to one's repertoire.

Looking back, one highlight of 2025 was the Southern Woodworkers Showcase in November. The show, held in the Emporium on Gay street was well attended on all three days. Guild members and woodworkers from around the area exhibited many fine pieces highlighting our craft.

Looking forward, Rick Popp will offer a class in tool making in February. Attendees will build a Krenov plane and a marking knife.

We'll have a sign-up sheet at the meeting in January.

I've had a request to add a Q&A session to the meeting agenda. I wish I'd thought of it. Our members have incredible knowledge that needs to be shared. This session will allow members to exchange this knowledge. Please bring your questions.

For the January meeting, our speaker will be Ralph Gonzalez.

See you at the meeting

Mike

mecasey4235@gmail.com



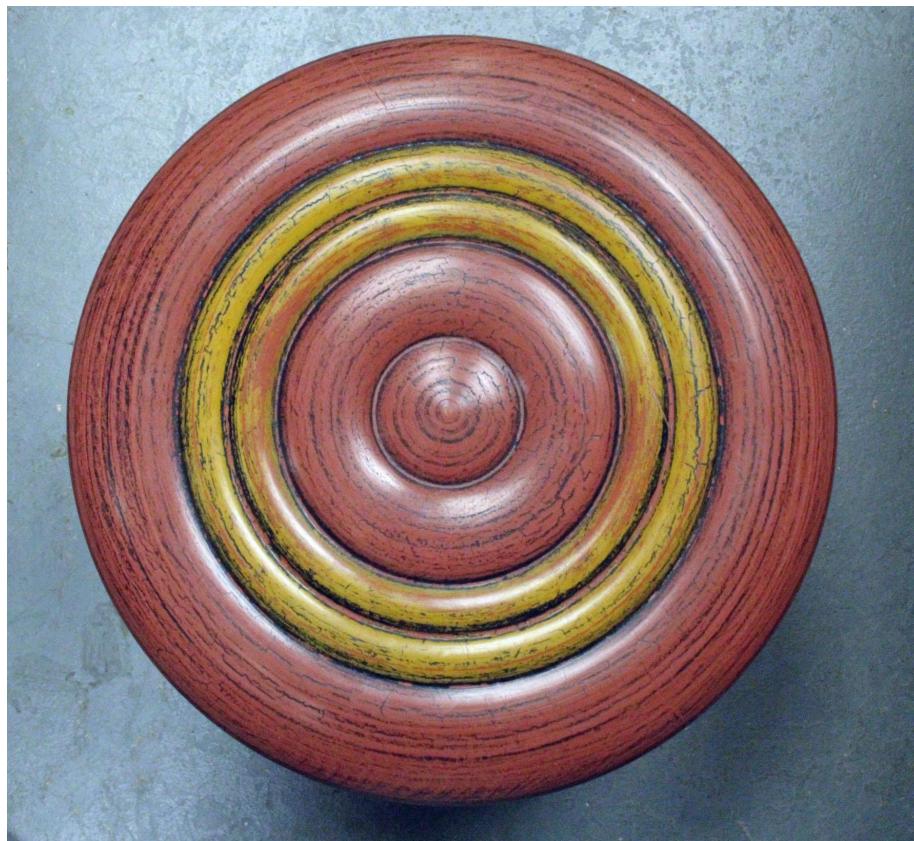
November Presentation-Milk Paint

Our speaker for the November meeting was Kimberly Winkle, Director of the Appalachian School of Art, Craft and Design.

[Kimberly Winkle](#). Kimberly did a demonstration of milk paint as a method for creating surface variations and textures utilizing milk paint as a way of introducing color in furniture.



Presentation (continued)



Stool with milk paint surface treatment.

Presentation (continued)



Examples of textures and color combinations, also demonstrating the effects of sequence of colored layers.

Presentation (continued)



Many sample pieces illustrating many possibilities and color combinations. Kimberly stressed the importance of doing test pieces and documenting the exact sequence of colored layers.

Show and Tell



Jim Rodgers with an original lamp, continuing a theme from the last meeting.



Ralph Gonzalez with a couple of suitcase stands, very precise and very ornate, just beautiful. Ralph presented detailed slides of his process.

Show and Tell (continued)



New first time visitor/member? presented his process including trials and opportunities in creating a table from some wood he had cut into boards. The editor apologizes for not catching the name.



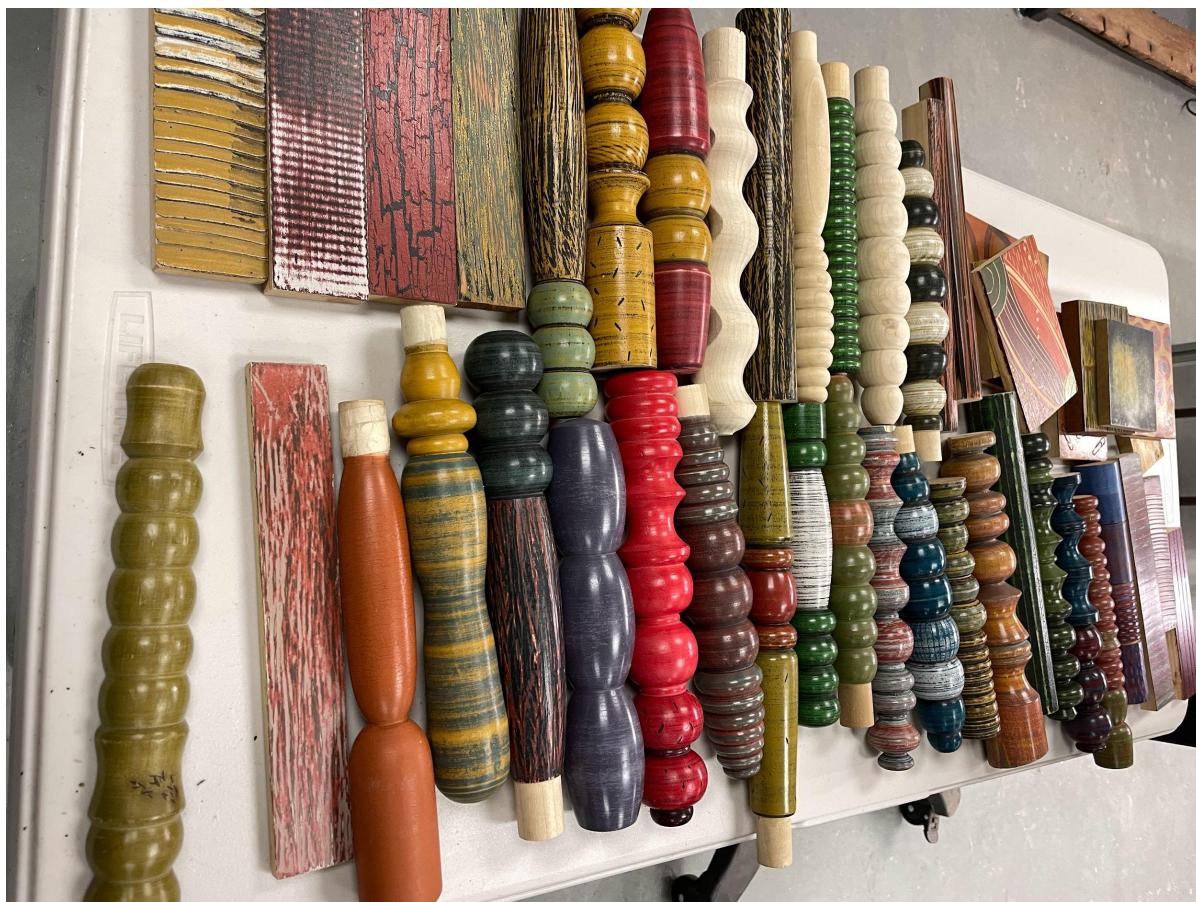
Juried Membership

In perusing the membership contact list, you will notice that about one in five is designated as having juried status. The term denotes the highest level of achievement in woodworking, as rated by a jury of the most accomplished woodworkers within the Guild. Juried members serve as a resource, who can be consulted on a wide range of questions ranging from design, to specific techniques, tools and methods.

To seek juried status a member may request that their work be evaluated. To help decide whether work is ready to be considered by a jury, it is recommended that you start with self-evaluations. First, do your pieces meet your own highest standards? Be honest and critical. Second, as objectively as you can, compare your pieces to recognized works of merit.

Examples may be those displayed at the ETWG Master Woodworkers Shows, at national shows generally acknowledged to highlight the finest furniture and woodwork, and within highly distilled magazines like *Finewoodworking*. If your work does not do well by comparison, in your judgement, then delay your request to be juried. Make some improved pieces based on what you have learned.

If you are ready to take the leap, contact Lou Mansur our ETWG standards committee chairman mansurlk@comcast.net.



Membership

Please contact Mike Casey or any member of the board if you need a nametag.
mecasey4235@gmail.com

A new Membership Directory is available to members. Be sure to pick one up at the meeting.

Membership Dues for 2026 are \$50 and are due now, and will be collected at the meeting, See Tom Mueller

Your Guild

How can you be more involved?

Help Board members rotate out at the end of their term. Contact any Member of the Board if you have an interest in being more involved.

Help with setup and take down before and/or after the meetings.

Guild Staff

Board of Directors and Special Advisors

President	Mike Casey	Education Committee	Rick Popp
Director Treasurer	Tom Mueller	Red Oak Fund	Stephen Shankles
Director Secretary	Tom Ehrnschwender	Standards Committee	Lou Mansur
Director	Jim Vogelsang	Membership Committee	Mike Casey
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		Assistant Photographers	Brent Quarles & Pat Bryan

