

*“Dedicated to  
advancing the art and  
understanding of fine  
woodworking. . . .”*

Newsletter November 2003

P.O. Box 8006, Atlanta, Georgia

## 2004 Woodworking Show Is Earlier

By CHARLES MAYS

The Woodworking Show is a full month earlier this year., Jan. 30-31 and Feb. 1 Its location has been moved to the Georgia International Convention Center in College Park. This means there is less than three months of shop time left to get your pieces completed for entering in the Guild’s Woodworking Show contest.

An entry form, competition rules and list of categories are included in this month’s newsletter. You must have your entry form submitted no later than Jan. 20, 2004. Because of space constraints, please submit your entry form as soon as possible if you plan on entering a large piece.

We will need Guild members to staff the booth. Please volunteer if you can. A sign up sheet will be available at the November meeting. Any questions call or e-mail Charles Mays at 770-512-7981 or charles-mays4972@comcast.net.



### Computer-Aided Design At Work

David Buchsbaum designed this computer desk using a computer program. CAD was the topic of the October meeting of the Guild. Details about his talk are on page 3.

## November Meeting Topic

# High School Students Learn Woodworking

By RON PEYTON

November’s meeting of the Woodworkers’ Guild of Georgia features Gary Howard, a dedicated industrial technology teacher in the Houston County school system, which is near Warner Robbins. The meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Southern Polytechnic University in Marietta. See the

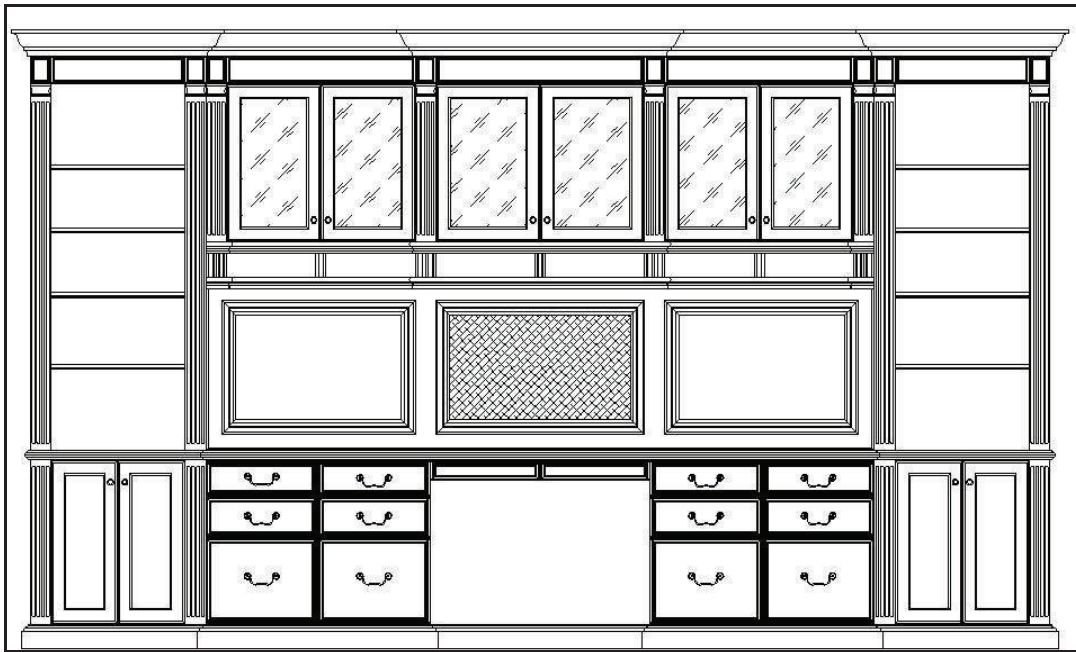
back of this newsletter for directions.

Gary imparts high end-woodworking skills to high school students. He designed this unique program several years ago, taking students from their freshman year and guiding them for the next four years through a concentrated curriculum, resulting in outstanding skills for building fine furniture. Senior

projects consist of highboys, desks, beds, gun cases, and high-end furniture that is absolutely unbelievable. One student recently won fourth place in the country for his project.

While other high schools are eliminating shop from their curriculums, Gary’s program is steaming forward with tremendous success.

*(Continued on page 4)*



*The program David Buchsbaum uses produces drawings similar to the one at left of a home office or entertainment center. The program allows David to reconfigure plans quickly on paper.*

## Computer Speeds Up Designing Process

By **JIM FONTENOT**

David Buchsbaum is a Guild member who has a business making custom kitchen cabinets and free standing units such as entertainment centers and home offices. Because this is custom work each job is individually designed and sized to fit a specific area.

He shared his knowledge at the October meeting of the Woodworkers' Guild of Georgia meeting.

Individual design means that he can seldom take a plan from one job and use it for another one. Even if the finished products will look the same, just a couple of inches will mean all new drawings.

To make use of the time that he has already put into design he uses a tool that will let him take elements from one job and put them right into another job. That tool is his CAD program Design-CAD Express v.12.

David uses this program to either design a project from scratch or to take an existing project of his and redesign it to a new set of measurements. Either way, he

finds that by using this tool he can save a lot of time preparing for a job and work more efficiently and accurately.

When starting a new project, he can quickly make the boxes that represent the basic outlines of the structure. With these in place he will either draw in the design using the tools of the program, get elements from the program library, or capture the element from another drawing and size it to fit the new drawing.

By using an existing item he can save time and even make changes to it quite fast. He can pull a crown molding profile from the library and put it at one top corner, flip it and put it on the other corner and connect the lines to complete this portion of the drawing in seconds.

Then he can take a raised panel door from another drawing and stretch it to fit the cabinet opening and have all the dimensional information correct to any level of accuracy he needs.

Once he has designed a specific item, such as a door pull, he can save it in the library for future use. When needed again it is only a mouse click away.

When drawing elevations, one

element can be duplicated, reversed, resized, and moved as necessary to fill out the elevation. As the details are filled in and the plan takes shape any mistake can be undone with one quick keystroke.

At any point the drawing can be saved, enabling David to try changes to the project without losing the work he has already done. The program allows "undo" and "redo" so changes can be tried until just the right look is achieved.

With the design portion finished and the computer furnishing all of the dimensions, a cut list can be made for all the parts of the project.

Once at this stage David will cut all of the parts necessary to complete the job at one time. This saves on set-up time. With all of the parts accurately designed and cut the assembly can proceed at a very fast pace.

What may have taken most of two weeks to design and cut can be assembled in two days and be ready for finishing. This short span of time that the large elements are on the shop floor means less chance of damage and a neater looking product.

If anyone is interested in more information on this program, David's e-mail is [beacon14@comcast.net](mailto:beacon14@comcast.net)