

Newsletter

http://www.midwestwoodworkers.org January 2024

President's Letter

(Happy New Year!!)

"Baby, it's cold outside!!"



Winter has arrived in a big way, bringing with it ice, snow, and frigid temperatures. Like many of you, I've found myself pausing shop projects due to the cold. My trusty small heater, though valiant, is no match for the recent temps.

However, all is not lost. This break has provided an opportunity to focus on smaller projects and tackle those "honeydos" my wife has kindly lined up for me. It's also given me time to stay updated on the Chiefs' journey back to the SuperBowl.

As temperatures are expected to warm

slightly, my attention will soon shift to a few tables on my project list. Two of these are straightforward live edge tables designed to showcase Legos, while the third is a replacement for our current dining room table – one of my very first projects. Contemplating the finishing touches for these tables has led me to consider various options, sometimes causing a bit of "analysis paralysis." To overcome this, I've decided to gather information on different finishing techniques and share my insights with you in the coming months. In the first month, we'll explore finishes like poly and shellac. The following month, we'll

delve into substances that penetrate wood, such as hard waxes and oils. I'll also provide tips and tricks to help you make the most of these finishing options. Wishing you warmth and inspiration in your winter woodworking endeavors.

Sincerely,

John Loyd

John Toys

President, Missouri Woodworkers Association

PS: No tools were harmed in the making of that photo!

JANUARY NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The January meeting will be at Sawdust Studios on the 22nd starting at 6:30. I will present part one of our two-part series on finishes.
 - Note, Sawdust is now at 3150 Paris Rd Columbia, MO 65202. The new shop is spacious and will be an awesome place for us to meet.
 - o Bring all the stuff you are working on.
 - We will raffle off a *mystery box* of tools valued at around **\$80**. There will also be a door prize.
- The club officers will begin meeting 30 minutes prior to the general meeting to discuss club business. If you are interested in that, you are welcome to join us.

MWA Christmas Toy Project

The MWA Christmas Toy Project had a successful season in 2023. We provided hundreds of toy cars to kids at the Pumpkin Festival in exchange for donations and had plenty of cars to distribute to various children's service agencies in time for Christmas. On those days when it's too cold to glue a project together, it is a good time to cut out some car bodies either from the club's car stock or out of scrap 2x material using your own design. We won't get together to paint the cars until next summer so you can cut them out now and wait for spring to take them outside for sanding and routing the edges.



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