

# Woodsong Studio News

an occasional newsletter February 2025 makers, contractors, and loved-ones edition



Projects awaiting finish

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## *Woodsong Studio? What?*

by Bob Walker

Well, that is the first bit of news: I've set up a new business and am working on a website to launch in the spring. I love creating things, especially when I get to collaborate! I'm working with Kaitlyn Dagen at [La Loba Studios](#) on the branding, design and website and with John Walker (a brother by another mother) at [JWalker Marketing](#) on google adwords and marketing. Both talented people and fun to work with! The studio will offer some made-to-stock products, but the focus will be on bespoke items for discerning clients, creating things I get inspired to create, and figuring out what the wood wants to say.

If you are interested, join me on the journey via this newsletter. Eventually you will be able to unsubscribe by hitting a button, but for now, you will just have to reply to this message, crushing what little self-confidence I have, and tell me you don't want to be bothered with my self-indulgent prattle!



# Projects and Progress

Bobo

My goal is to limit myself to four simultaneous projects. Having more than one project ongoing at a time works for me. It allows me to shift focus when I get fatigued or when waiting is required, like after a glue-up or coat of finish. I often find that I just need to let a problem or idea steep in my brain for a while before I am ready to proceed. I spend a lot of time staring at the wood, deciding where to make that first cut (the deepest one).

This winter Loki is helping a friend build a slab table.. It's a beautiful piece of Walnut from a Pennsylvania tree that passed. Almost 9' long and nearly 40" wide with beautiful grain, this will be a work of art! This isn't my project, so it doesn't count in my total of four.

I built a side table with drawers for the kitchen out of walnut and oak from our property. It was my first time creating the half-blind dovetails you see on the sides of the drawers and was a lot of fun. But it may be back in the shop for 'enhancement' to make it feel 'finer'

The second project is a Christmas present that is a bit late. That's still a secret, so no pics yet.



Next up, floating shelves and a table for a client's kitchen renovation here in Lancaster. The shelves are nearly finished, just waiting on a ceramic top coat. We picked out the slab for the table at Groff and Groff--Wood's equivalent of the Metropolitan Museum of Art--but we're waiting to see the counters in place before we make that first cut. That's right: the deepest one. Finally, and I've saved the best for last, I'm working on a Thomas Jefferson Lap Desk. (I never even knew he used a laptop!) This is a very challenging project where everything shows and requires lots of practice, careful planning and patience. No worries, among the studio's most important tools: a full box of tissues and a crying stool in the corner.



# Infrastructure Update

Bobo

The studio added a new mobile workbench with storage underneath. That really helped with decluttering, even though there is a lot of clutter on top of it at the moment.

We are about to put a new, full-featured Router Table with a Dewalt variable speed motor into service. The table greatly expands the efficiency, safety and possibilities when working with wood

Sometimes it's the little things:

We added painter's points to the inventory. These pointy-do-dads allow finishing all sides of a project and drying at once. I continued my endless battle with cleanliness and organization by putting one label on one drawer...it's a start

Finally, I am really beginning to appreciate the utility of the 19-38 wide belt sander. Flattening, adjusting thickness, prepping for final sanding-- It's a great tool!



That's the news from the Studio on this cold and windy winter day! Look for an update from me in the spring!