



Newsletter

June 2012

The CMWA is a group of men and women from around the St. Cloud, Minnesota area who share a common interest in the art and business of woodworking. We meet monthly and share information, techniques and topics of interest in the area of woodworking.

www.thecmwa.com

Greetings from the CMWA President's Chair. By John Wilson

I spent yesterday's late afternoon mowing the lawn and then assaulting those pesky Dandelions all around my yard, and fighting off an endless hoard of hungry mosquitoes. It was then that I realized that most of the spring season is nearly gone, and summer is now knocking on the door with its warm, if not hot, weather. I don't know about the rest of you but it's this time of year that I enjoy spending time away from my shop, tidying up the yard, cleaning out the rain gutters, and making my semi-monthly trip to the compost site with yet another trailer load of Red Oak leaves, this time from my wife's massive flower gardens. But it's such a good feeling to sit out on the deck when the task is complete and reward myself with a nice cold beverage.

Summer is also the time of year that we should all be thinking about protecting all of those bare metal surfaces in our shop from the summer's high humidity. A good protective coating, such as Top-Coat, will insure that you won't one day soon walk back into your shop and notice that pesky old rust has once again reared its ugly head. I try to do every one of my large power tool surfaces, such as the table saw, band saw, jointer, and drill press, but also I do those hand tools which have rusted a bit in the past. Hand saws are famous for rusting if you don't use them enough.

As the committee chairman for our Paramount Meeting Space Renovation Project, I'd like to report that our committee, made up of several members of the CMWA, as well as the MMAW, the Paramount Arts District, and the HRA, has met four times to date, usually every Monday afternoon. We've established that the overall project is too cost prohibitive to turn over to a contractor to handle in its entirety. We got a bid of \$55,000.00 from a reputable contractor. We are now waiting for the Paramount to get a breakdown of the various tasks associated with this renovation and begin looking for ways to pare down the cost to an affordable amount. We're looking for opportunities in which our two clubs can share in the hands-on and/or "getting dirty" work eliminating some of the cost altogether. We're exploring various funding models, and hope to soon arrive at a mutually agreeable solution to everything soon. I'll keep you posted as things progress.

Your CMWA President,

John Wilson



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