

PORT TOWNSEND SCHOOL *of* WOODWORKING

February 2016 Newsletter

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Call For Woodworking Resources & Places of Interest
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Class Profile: Introduction to Cabinetmaking (April 11 - 22)

Beautifully designed, well-made cabinets can make a room pop! Our 2-week Introduction to Cabinetmaking class will give you the knowledge and skills to confidently build your own cabinets.

Taught by School founder John Marckworth, this course offers an in-depth look at cabinetmaking, including design

theory, planning and layout, scribing and installation techniques.

You'll build a small sample cabinet with carcass, face frame and door, then collaborate with the class on a larger cabinetry project.

This class is designed for the beginning cabinetmaker - no experience required.

"I feel confident that I can make my own cabinets. I didn't expect to cover as many tools as we did, which was great." - Class Alum

Join us...bring your cabinet ideas, plans, questions, and dreams!

[Check course details & register now](#)

Open House March 12th: Tiny Homes & Gypsy Wagons

Please Join Us!



Join us for an [Open House on March 12th](#) (note the new date). We'll be talking Tiny Homes & Gypsy Wagons, with presentations from Jim Tolpin and Steven Habersetter, and no doubt some great conversations!

A Woodworkers' Guide to the Pacific Northwest: Tell us about the places you love

The Pacific Northwest has a deep and rich history with wood. From the First Nations tradition of using Cedar as "the Wood of Life" to the dramatic logging and lumber heritage of the last two centuries, there is an abundance of historical sites, sources of inspiration, and resources for the woodworker.

We're building an on-line map of historical sites, galleries, museums, makers, great sources of wood, clubs and other resources that will make it easier to find what you need to indulge your passion for woodworking.

Do you have a favorite woodworking location or resource in the Pacific Northwest that you'd like to share with the PWSW community? How about a building that showcases traditional woodworking? A favorite source for wood? A little known miller?

[Let us know your favorite "woody" place in the Pacific Northwest](#)

A Growing Community, Preserving Tradition: 2015 Annual Report

2015 was a record year for the School! A big thank you to 314 students who joined us at Fort Worden. Learn more about what makes the School tick. We hope it will inspire you to join us at the exciting classes, and events coming in 2016!

[Check out the highlights, facts and figures, in our Annual Report.](#)



A Conversation with the Founders: Looking Back and Looking Ahead

Poet and writer Erin Fristad interviewed us, the School's founders, Jim Tolpin, John Marckworth, and Tim Lawson, in the Uptown Pub a couple of weeks ago. At Erin's prompting we reflected on the growth of the School, some of our most rewarding moments, and ultimately how the School has changed us as individuals.

[Read what we had to say...](#)

Profiles in Woodworking: Matthew Straughn-Morse

We're lucky to have some amazing instructors at the School. Matthew Straughn-Morse, our most recent recruit, joined us a couple of years ago and now teaches many of our [hand tool and furniture making classes](#).

We'll be profiling both local and visiting instructors over the rest of the year. Here are a few highlights from the interview with Matthew (he's Matthew not Matt!):

On the PTSW ethos: *"I believe that woodworkers can really be craftspeople, artists, and thinkers. The skills we teach at the school are not necessarily commonplace, but are achievable by most students given the desire to learn. The nature of those skills are fundamental to many crafts, but are often overlooked in the conventional or contemporary approach to woodworking."*

On being a woodworker: *"I love to make things, particularly from wood. I love that the wood suggests the process, dictates the construction, and informs the appearance. Makes it kinda easy, I just have to show up."*

On preserving tradition: *"I absolutely need time to grow, and thrive in my own as a woodworker, but I also feel a need to convey what I know to new woodworkers, in the*

hope that we, as a culture, don't lose our woodworking heritage."

[Read the full interview with Matthew](#)



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