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Safety First! Working wood can be dangerous. Always make shop safety your first priority by reading and following the recommendations of your machine owner's manuals, using appropriate guards and safety devices, and maintaining all your tools properly. Use adequate sight and hearing protection. Please note that for purposes of illustrative clarity, guards and other safety devices may be removed from tools shown in photographs and illustrations in this publication.

In defense of abandoned projects

If you're anything like me and most of the woodworkers I know, you can glance around your shop and find more than a few abandoned projects. In one form or another, you have probably paused your progress on a project, small or large, and started something else. You may have had to set aside a personal project to make room for a job, a gift, or some other burst of creativity. Perhaps you needed a particular bit or a piece of hardware, and you just haven't made it to your local Woodcraft. Or maybe you simply got tired of working on your current project. Sometimes the well runs dry.

Whatever the reason, this phenomenon doesn't mean that we woodworkers enjoy shuffling parts from one corner of the shop to another or that we're quitters. You're not quitting your commitment to the craft. Don't let the cobweb-covered leg assemblies and empty carcasses bring you down. It's not inspiring to have guilt over ditched projects. I think these half-finished undertakings should be viewed as encouraging. Consider those dovetailed drawers in need of fronts as a testament to your quality work, lessons learned, or even future inspiration that keeps you creating. Whether it's finally making a panel for that empty frame or starting something new, it's about the journey.

I love having a variety of creative projects to work on. It's luxurious. Depending on my interest level or frame of mind, I might want to be working on something different. A project for every mood. In this issue, we offer an assortment of projects for folks of all sorts. CNC enthusiasts and pet lovers alike can find a fun feeder for your dog on page 28. Turners will enjoy the cart on page 48, designed to hold all your turning accessories and roll out of the way when not in use. The traditional louvered shutters (p. 22) will appeal to the home improvement crowd. Fans of Stickley furniture will find a classic music cabinet (p. 31) to construct. And for when you're in between near-finished projects, flip to page 43 to build your pore-filling skills.

We hope you finish one or more of these projects, but if not, we understand. Besides, abandoned projects are good for our creativity. We have to keep fabricating believable excuses as to why the project isn't done. ■



Chad McClung, Chief Editor
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Share your ideas.

We love hearing from readers! And there are all kinds of reasons to get in touch with the crew at *Woodcraft Magazine*. Check out the details below.

General information:

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Submit an article idea:

Do you have a story idea? We'd love to hear about it. To find out how to submit a project or technique article, email us at editor@woodcraftmagazine.com and put "Submission" in the subject line.

Share a slick tip to win cash or a prize.

Here's your chance to help someone become a better woodworker and get rewarded for the effort. Published submissions become the property of *Woodcraft Magazine*.

Email us at tips@woodcraftmagazine.com and put "Tips & Tricks" in the subject line or visit woodcraftmagazine.com and click on Contact.

Important: Please include your phone number, as an editor may need to call you if your trick is considered for publication.

Have a tough woodworking question?

We'll do our best to find the expert and provide the answer. Email us at editor@woodcraftmagazine.com and put "Expert Answers" in the subject line.

News & Views:

This catch-all column is where we do our best to correct mistakes, publish feedback from readers, and share other noteworthy news items. It's easy to participate in this discussion. Just email us at editor@woodcraftmagazine.com and put "N&V" in the subject line.

Share photos of your projects:

We'd like to see what you're building. To show off your work send your photos to editor@woodcraftmagazine.com, or find us on social media.

