



Sharp & to the Point

The Hock Tools Newsletter

Shout-Out: Let's Get Woodworking

from #1/2016



Above: The Modern Woodworkers Association logo. Their website is full of wonderful things for everyday woodworkers. The administrators live all over the country, are woodworking bloggers who blog about their passions, get together online to talk shop and share woodworking, interview well-known woodworkers for their lively podcasts, and get together whenever they can at different woodworking events.

For the past few years the bloggers at MWA have organized an online event called *Get Woodworking Week*. It's a lot of work to put on this event and the administrators at MWA are each swamped right now. So, let's help keep *Get Woodworking* going — I've got a plan! — Linda at Hock Tools

I miss **Get Woodworking Week**, that grand idea brought to us by the remarkable blogging woodworkers at **Modern Woodworking Association** in 2012, 2013, 2014, & 2015. I'm talking about **Dyami Plotke**, **Chris Adkins**, **Sean Wisniewski**, and Tom Iovino – the visionaries who bring us those bi-weekly **MWA Podcasts** with lively interviews of notable personalities in the wood-

working world, book and tool reviews, shop-talk, and woodworking news (85 or more of these podcasts since 2010); the Hand Tool Olympics, **WoodTalk Online**, the list goes on. **MWA** is one of the best grass-roots things to happen to woodworking, since, well, since woodworking!

You probably know what it's like to work all day, be part of fam-



Above: from Tom Iovino's (Tom's Workbench blog is on hiatus) *Get Woodworking* salute in 2013.

exception; they've have been late to dinner plenty of times. But, you can't do it all. Certainly not all of the time. Some things just have to give; one of life's simple realities. And so, this year *Get Woodworking Week* is on the shelf. Understandable.

ily and community life, as well as to try to get in some shop time, and then write up a blogpost about it — it's a lot! You find yourself saying to your spouse, your kids, parents, friends, "I'll be there in a minute...just let me finish one more thing here...start dinner without me."

I know you have the picture and maybe you've been there. The woodworkers who run **MWA** are no

And yet, I miss it and am asking you to help the **Modern Woodworkers Association** take ***Get Woodworking*** off the shelf and put it *back* on the Internet! How about if we use the Internet to spread the good word about what woodworking means to us all — just like the **Modern Woodworkers Association** has?

We will not schedule a certain week — for now at least — we'll just see what we each come up with, and I'll keep you posted. All any one of use has to do is to use our own Internet platforms — our blogs, newsletters, forums, school bulletins, club newsletters — to help spread the good word about the benefits of woodworking and share it with **me** and/or **Modern Woodworkers Association**.



GET WOODWORKING 2016!

One important note: we each must title our entries to include the words *Get Woodworking 2016!*

We can:

- **help get someone complete a languished project,**
- **show one youngster or senior how to make something,**
- **write what inspires us most about woodworking,**
- **or what got us started in the first place.**
- **videos or slide shows are great!**



Above: Kids Love Woodworking from Mike Morton's 2012 *Get Woodworking Week* on YouTube.



Above: Todd Clippinger from The American Craftsman Woodshop created an encouraging video on YouTube for *Get Woodworking Week 2015*.

The blueprint is right there in the archives of **Tom's Workbench**. Even though *Tom's Workbench* is on hiatus, all that good stuff is still there for us to be inspired by. Let's say we each embrace the ideals of helping someone get into woodworking. Just as noted above.

If you write a blog, use your blog to share your uplifting woodworking stories or demonstrate how you helped a novice, or show a useful technique that's been helpful to you as a woodworker.

Then, send me the link to your blogpost

and I will link to it from **Sharp & to the Point** (the Hock Tools newsletter) and/or from **Ron's Sharpening Blog**. Either way, I will make sure it is shared.

If you do not write a blog, write up your woodworking story anyway. Keep it short. Send it to **me**. I'll read it and if necessary provide gentle editing. And, yes, I will make sure it is

shared. All you have to do is to dig deep into what inspires you about woodworking and speak or write to that.

Please make sure I know your name and e-mail address so that I can respond to you and keep you up to date. Or, remember, you can send anything you post straight on to the **Modern Woodworkers Association**.

Please remember to include the words
Get Woodworking 2016 in your title!

Together we can *Get Woodworking 2016!*



12 Links to past Get Woodworking Weeks.
Let them be inspirations for
GET WOODWORKING 2016!

1. **360 WOODWORKING** – Chuck Bender embraces GWW.
2. **Logan Cabinet Shoppe**–Rob Robziaeski, Quick Tip #12: Choosing Saws.
3. **Upper Cut Woodworks** – Matt & Hayden Ruth Gradwohl build a bug barn.
4. **The American Craftsman Workshop**–Todd Clippinger shares projects that developed his skill and expertise, warts & all.
5. **Mike Morton** – Helping Young Kids Get Woodworking.
6. **Mike Morton** – Another awesome video with kids woodworking.
7. **Mader Made It** – Mike Mader Makes a Knick Knack Shelf.
8. **Brownell Furniture** – Andy Brownell muses on projects.
9. **The Lighthearted Woodworker**–Chris Landy can't get home from a business trip, so he check out the woodworking all around him.
10. **Midnight Woodworking** –Lawrence muses on the magic of helping others get woodworking.
11. **Tom's Workbench**–Tom Iovino *GET*s Woodworking! & much, much more.
12. **The Upside Down Table Saw** – Richard talks about overcoming our excuses and how to **Get Woodworking!**

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