

# Jeffrey Cooper

*Art Furnishings For Artful Living*

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## Art Furnishings for Artful Living Newsletter

### Double Bear Bench and Gems from the Woodpile, a coffee table

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Dear Me,

Lately I have been working on a Double Bear Bench for Wende and Mike. I've made several of these, and you can see one at the League of NH Craftsmen's new headquarters in Concord. I have finished up the chair for the Furniture Masters exhibitions this year. I'll show you the finished chair and the set for Barry and Alice finished in their home next newsletter. Those will be the professional shots so they will look good. And in this newsletter I have also included a couple photos of the coffee table collaboration with Teresa Taylor, made from some interesting pieces of wood salvaged from a firewood pile.

By the way, have you seen the Furniture Masters new website? It's terrific, thanks to Jacqueline Stahle of Think Design, Inc. The address is [www.furnituremasters.org](http://www.furnituremasters.org)

### Three photos of the Bear Bench in progress

One shows cutting joinery of the leg to the body using table saw with a dado set with spacers between the blades

Another shows the Bench before carving. This is the moment when I see how blocky it is and wonder "Can I do it?" We'll see!

The third shows the legs being glued to the body with the feet already carved. I'm using a section of a large, old style veneer press. I carve the feet before assembly because I can access all sides, whereas once they are glued I can't.



### Coffee table collaboration

You may remember a previous newsletter in which I showed an interesting idea I had. It

starts with a chunk of cherry I found in a firewood pile that had grown with an eyehole in it. I am working on a coffee table from it as a collaboration with Teresa Taylor of Salty Dog Pottery in Barnstead. She is going to make a top for it from ceramic. Here's a bit of progress. We'll show it at the Craftsman's Fair at Mt. Sunapee next August. I'm (tentatively) calling it Gems from the Woodpile, if that's OK with Teresa. Teresa, by the way, is a feature artist at Exeter Fine Crafts this month.



### **Upholstery for seat in progress**

This is the chair for the Furniture Masters, and it will also be shown at the Sunapee Craftsman's Fair in August. I thought you'd be interested in seeing the interior of the seat so I asked my upholsterer, Richard Croston of North Hampton, to take a photo. fit a piece of birch core plywood to the chair and cut out the center, which Richard fills with webbing. The chair is of cherry tinted with dichromate. The title is Flowers and Birds on a Mission.



I do have some exciting prospects on the horizon. I'm about to start two more tall arm chairs, I'm designing a coffee table, and I'm working with Sue Booth of Vintage Kitchens in Concord on a proposal for carved decorations in the kitchen of the Bridges House, where the Governor entertains state guests.

And on the home front, Abby and I are off to a tour of Iceland, Westfjords and Reykjavik areas. We are trip leaders for a Seacoast Ski Club trip. I'll let you know about it when we get back

Best

*Jeffrey*

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