

# Bonkers at Zongkers

Newsletter October 2005

## [www.zongkers.com](http://www.zongkers.com)

Since each and every project is uniquely designed specifically for the customer, we do not have a showroom. We welcome tours of our facility, which enables the customer to see first hand how everything is taken from the first stages of design, through to the finished product.

We are proud of each and every piece and many are displayed on our website for your review at [www.zongkers.com](http://www.zongkers.com)

## Specialty Carvings

**Dennis Zongker is currently carving a replica of a real Purple Heart Medal for a customer out of Purple Heart wood. It is scaled 7 times the original size and with an eye for detail and precise accuracy; it is becoming a perfect match of the real Medal of Honor**



## The Zongker Brothers

It all started in 1989 over pizza during their lunch hour. Working for a local commercial cabinet shop, Dan and Dennis were having lunch and discussing side jobs they both had. In mid swing of their conversation, they both realized their talents complimented each other on a level new to the industry. Thus Zongkers Custom Furniture was born.

Location is important, and discovering their current location in the old Metz brewery building presented the ambiance they both dreamed of. The company is structured to give thriving furniture artists a place to do what they do best.....make furniture. The brewery presents the shop and craftsmen in the old world traditions, which stands strong to both brothers.

Dennis's craftsmanship ability has blossomed over the 16 years of business. His eye for detail and his patience has been intertwined into the business and the shop. Developing his skills above and beyond, with years of research and development, has taken the company above the initial dreams both brothers shared. His carvings and marquetry talents has placed the finished products above cabinet shop status. His development of fine finishes and engineering details has proven to be the quality standards of the flourishing company.

Dan's history revolves within the art world since a child. Studying art history, architecture and furniture design has enabled him to work with customers, designing each piece in detail. Creating a true piece of art for each customer. Dan also is dedicated to designing company graphics, marketing campaigns, and website development, which has given Zongkers a leading edge. Community involvement is also very important, as he is involved in many different associations and local community projects.

The bottom line to the Batman and Robin duo is quality and service. The understanding of their customers desire to purchase something not only unique, but an heirloom to be passed down for generations to come.

Dear Dan, Dennis, Curt & Mike,

We returned to our house Friday (after 8 weeks) to find a beautifully installed unit awaiting.... the cabinet is wonderful and we are very pleased with its aesthetics and the nice functioning drawers, doors etc. Curt & Mike are true craftsmen and it was pretty painless working with you all... just go away and "poof", it's done!

Sincerely, Tina & Dale



With the same detailing and quality our customers have learned to entrust over the years in our furniture, we are now proudly announcing the addition of kitchens to our product line. Each kitchen has the craftsmanship and quality that has made Zongkers a trademark name.

## WHAT IS: DOVE-TAIL JOINT



### Craftsman Spotlight Dennis Nygard

Dennis has been with Zongkers since 1999. Retired from the military and an active member with the Omaha Woodworkers Guild and a founder of the Loess Hills Turners Group. His turning ability on the lathe and expert craftsmanship has proven to be a strong asset to our team.



The strongest and most permanent joint made in carpentry and cabinet making, where pieces of wood are fastened together at right angles, is the dovetail. When made in some of its most approved and perfected forms, it is equal, in neatness and artistic finish to the mitre joint;

The 'DOVETAIL JOINT' is very strong because of the way the 'tails' and 'pins' are shaped. This makes it difficult to pull the joint apart and virtually impossible when glue is added. This type of joint is used in box constructions such as draws, jewelry boxes, cabinets and other pieces of furniture where strength is required. It is a difficult joint, which requires practice. There are different types of dovetail joint and when cut accurately they are very impressive and attractive. Every drawer made here at Zongkers has dovetail joints. It tells you that they don't take short cuts when it comes to receiving the best quality in a custom piece of furniture.

## FUN STUFF



Every once in a while, we are honored with designing, engineering and fabricating a fun project. Something that is unique and different. Above is a 27-foot long children's play set fashioned as a train, complete with coal and cargo cars. Inside is a slide, ball-drop game and electronic train sounds.

Definitely makes one want to be a kid again.

### Cold and Flu Season

Here are some ways to lower your risk of catching colds, coughs or flu this winter - but if the worst happens, there's also some good advice on how to get better soon.

#### **Keep your Lifestyle as Healthy as Possible.**

Eating a diet, which includes plenty of fresh vegetables and fruit each day, going for regular walks and avoiding too much alcohol all make it easier for your body to resist any kind of infection, including colds and flu. A good old fashion bowl of chicken noodle soup is also a great way to fight off the flu.

#### **Washing your hands more often:**

It's very easy to pick up cold and flu germs from things other people have touched - telephones, door handles or money, for instance - or from shaking hands with someone who is infected. Reduce your risk of catching a cold or flu by washing hands frequently - using warm water and soap removes germs better than a quick rinse under the cold tap. It's also important to avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with your hands - these are all ways that germs can get into your system.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Scratches and dents in quality wood furniture are known as *distressing* and add character to an item.

Many companies will apply an artificial distressing process to a high-end piece of furniture in order to make it look like an authentic antique. This can be done in many ways, including placing the item in a hard-weather situation, marking the piece with special tools, or striking the furniture with a cloth bag filled with stones.

Some charge extra for this service, though anyone with kids could tell you that a four-year-old could handle the job for free—and probably in less time.

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