

Perpetual Novice Article
Don Michael, December, 2017

Focus

I have decided that my Shop of Unfinished Projects has got to take a fundamental change of direction. I have at least 8 or 9 shop- and furniture-related projects that are incomplete. Some are recent projects still “in process” while others are piles of parts several years old. Every time I think, “That would be an interesting project” I seem to add to this body count.

My plan to regain my focus is simple: No new projects! (I say this laughingly, knowing that I’m about to start on some decorative boxes in the fall in addition to the Guild’s Christmas toys project.) I’m going to pick one lingering project a month and, no matter what else needs to be done, finish it!

This month’s one project is:

1. Assemble and put a finish on the small Arts & Crafts table that was to be a plant stand gift to my wife “several” years ago.
2. Put a finish on the Connecticut lowboy and get it out of the shop.
3. Repair, refinish and reassemble my childhood rocking chair as a gift to my toddler grandsons.
4.

Hmmm, can you see how long that single-project focus lasted? That’s the problem!