



THE ROCK



VOLUME 35, NUMBER 2

SEPTEMBER 17, 2007

www.rockinghamcc.edu

Capitol Project Adheres to "Highest Standards" in Restoration Process

Tucked away in the Fine and Creative Woodworking shop at Rockingham Community College, recent graduates of the program - Dustin Pitts, 27, of Greensboro, Adam Joyce, 26, of Julian, and Ed Godbey, 53, of Mocksville - measure, clamp, saw and fit together pieces of wood. Their work is overseen by Art Pentz, an instructor in the program.

In their sawdust-strewn corner where work benches hang like gargoyles, nothing matters to the group except the architectural drawings of a 9x2 ½ x3-foot NC Senate rostrum and a cluster of photographs scotch taped to a nearby wall of the original work whose look they are reproducing.

The work they are doing has its roots in the 1840s. At that time a master craftsman(men) built a lustrous mahogany conference table for the North Carolina State Capitol in Raleigh. Raymond Beck, current site manager for the NC State Capitol, speculates that as state government expanded and new furniture was purchased, the table migrated to the North Carolina Supreme Court as a hand-me-down.

A decade or so ago, the State Capitol Foundation, Inc. decided it wanted the table back in the Capitol. The Supreme Court said sure, fine, but only if we get an exact duplicate to replace it. Agreeing, the foundation began the search for someone to do reproduction work and someone to do restoration work on the original table.

At the suggestion of foundation member Kay Cashion of Greensboro, Raymond Beck put in a call to David Kenealy, associate professor in RCC's Fine and Creative Woodworking program. After discussing Beck's needs, the RCC administration agreed to let Kenealy's students do the work. The project would be a live project that would teach his students restoration, reproduction, and product development, all standard components of Kenealy's coursework.

When the finished products were delivered to the Capitol and Supreme Court in the fall of 2001, Beck was stunned.

"They adhered to the highest standards in the reproduction and restoration process," he said, "and the workmanship was exacting."

That's why Kenealy's office telephone rang earlier this year and once again, Beck was on the line. The reception area of the Capitol was going to be remodeled, Beck explained. Would RCC's Fine and Creative Woodworking students be willing to build three desks in the manner of an existing Senate rostrum?

"We want visitors to the Capitol to have a good first impression," Beck told Kenealy.

He was looking for that "wow" factor; that look which just takes your breath away for a second. He knew RCC could deliver that look.

"I knew the quality of work the wood-



Dustin Pitts, 27, of Greensboro, Adam Joyce, 26, of Julian, and Ed Godbey, 53, of Mocksville work to duplicate hisotric rostrum for the NC Capitol.

working students at RCC are capable of," said Beck. "The craftsmanship there is second to none."

Kenealy recognized a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put the strong product development component of his woodworking program, a component that makes his program somewhat unique in the state, into a real-life situation. It was a chance to develop a product, work within a budget and satisfy a customer.

While infinite care is taken to measure, groove, support, and fit, the clock is ticking and the bottom line must be watched. It's all part of Kenealy's course material - problem solving, critical thinking, time management, budget analysis.

"Our graduates must understand the market, be flexible, and be able to develop products for a niche market," said Kenealy. "They must understand the dynamics of the entire operation regardless of their role in it."

The project adheres well with the college's mission and the current president, Dr. Robert Keys', initiative to provide opportunities for student success. It fits in with the community college system's passion to provide a highly-skilled, highly-trained workforce.

For the graduates, the prestige of building furniture for the Capitol was a chance to put their newfound knowledge into practice and their mark on history. First, though, they needed to understand the project so they went to Raleigh, crawled around inside the original table, viewed its construction from the inside out, and walked away confounded.

"I don't know how they did some of the things they did," said Pitts. "We had to have a \$700 machine bit specially made for the amount

of molding needed for these tables, but someone in the nineteenth century did it all with hand tools."

Pentz said the molding profile actually dictated the entire design of the desks. It's a profile design mimicked throughout the Capitol in the stonework.

Like the original piece, the reproductions are made of solid mahogany wrapped in mahogany veneers. Internal strips of supporting wood must be grooved to fortify the bent wood and the paper thin, warped strips of veneer have to be straightened between sheets of damp cloth, a one-to-two week process. After being straightened, the strips must be handled with extreme care to prevent tearing. The devil is in all of these details.

In addition, the sheer size of wood needed is no longer available and Pentz thought a substitute would have to be used. Before the project started, though, Dr. Robert Pedersen of Dalton, Ga., called Kenealy. He had researched RCC's fine and creative woodworking program and if Kenealy was interested, he wanted to donate his extensive collection of rare and hard-to-find woods to the program. When the collection arrived, it contained massive pieces of mahogany and sheets of mahogany veneers. It was exactly what was needed for the Capitol project.

"This is one of the most challenging projects I've ever worked on from the standpoint of design and construction," said woodworking instructor, Pentz. "All of the guys working on it bring their own special skill to it. None of us could have done it alone. We make a good team."

The teamwork will be complemented and

Continued on page 4.

Humanae Vitae

Pope Paul's Concerns about Birth Control Are Still Valid Today

by Gabriel A. Cruz

July 26, 2007 marked the thirty-ninth anniversary of the letter written by Pope Paul VI entitled *Humanae Vitae* meaning "On Human Life" which addressed the consequences of the wide use of birth control. Almost forty years later the predictions made by Pope Paul VI have come true and there are statistics to prove the points.

The first concern that Pope Paul VI addresses is an increase in the infidelity of married spouses. Obviously it becomes easier for a man or woman to commit adultery against their spouse when the possibility of pregnancy or the transmission of sexual diseases is reduced. It is estimated that between fifty and sixty percent of men commit adultery and the statistics are similar for women. Naturally both men and women are susceptible to sexual temptations, so when there the possibility of not being caught because of physical repercussions is taken into account, many men and women give in and commit adultery. Such problems were not as frequent when contraceptives were not easily obtained. Of course adultery in marriages leads to increasing divorce rates which not only effect the husband and wife, but also the children. They are left with lasting emotional scars or perhaps warped views of what a marriage is supposed to be. This in turn restarts the cycle and brings about another generation of maladjusted children who have a distorted perspective on what it means to love or to be married.

The second consequence of the wide use of contraceptives is that women become objectified as possessions due to the lack of sanctity of the sex act. Women become commodities or trophies and the term "casual sex" becomes widely used. After all, what is the harm in having sex if there are no consequences to be held accountable for? As a result women are no longer valued as life long spouses or respected members of a community. For evidence simply turn on the T.V. and search for almost any music video, be it contemporary rock, pop, or hip hop; the vast majority of the videos contain women being exploited or even degrading themselves for the benefit of a man and

his own desires. Women are thereby fueling their own enslavement and the objectification that feminist organizations so vehemently oppose.

The third problem encountered with the widespread use of contraceptives is one that threatens the security of the United States. It is no secret that the terrorist organizations in the Middle East view the United States as a country of heathens and sinful infidels. One reason for their hatred is that we as a country do not honor life in the same manner that they do. It is true that the extreme organizations believe in self-sacrifice. But it is also true that they see the uses of contraceptives and abortions as ways for us to embrace the promiscuous lifestyle that is so openly advertised in the popular media. That is why organizations like Planned Parenthood are being attacked in foreign countries, such as the 1979 attack in Tehran. Now obviously violence is not the solution to differences in beliefs, but in the case of terrorist organizations it is the nature of the beast. Also, one should note that the reason why birth control is distributed in foreign countries like Iran is that the U.S. government is trying to reduce the birth rate of the poor so that they do not outnumber the wealthy and revolt. Perhaps this is why the 1979 attack in Tehran occurred.

The fourth and most dangerous problem caused by birth control that Pope Paul VI confronts is the effect that it has on the human ego. As a culture we are technologically advanced enough to prolong human life artificially so as to keep death at bay for periods of time that otherwise would not be possible. And now we have developed medical technology that can prevent unwanted birth, not just for life or death medical reasons, but because it would be for the most part inconvenient. This causes us to treat fertility as a disease, a medical condition that would be inconvenient and should be prevented whenever possible. However, the media would not market pills or condoms in such a fashion. Instead they are advertised as necessities for having an active social life and a free pass to have premarital relations with no repercussions. After all, a product that is marketed as a way to have an affair without consequences or as a way to degrade women wouldn't sell very well. Nor would an item that is promoted as a target for terrorist activity and way to unnaturally control the human body find a ready market.

"At RCC, I Will Have an Opportunity to Grow"

Mea Alderman-Overby, of Eden, began work Aug. 14 as assistant to the dean of the community and workforce education division at Rockingham Community College.

Alderman-Overby is no stranger to RCC. Since 1995 she has been employed part-time as an instructor. Over the years she has taught, CPR/first aid, shag, line dancing, and beginning computer for those seeking a pharmacy technician certificate. With the exception of beginning computer, she continues to teach all of those classes plus a monthly safe driving class. In addition, Alderman-Overby is an RCC graduate.

Her rich background in the clerical field made her a prime candidate for the position as assistant to a division dean.

"I had gone as far as I could in my field," said Alderman-Overby. "At RCC, though, I feel like I will have an opportunity to grow."

Keys to College Success

When: Wednesdays, 1-1:50

Where: SCI 102A

Why: To Get Better Grades!!!!

Conquer Your Fear of Math

September 19th, Deanna Saffold

If you have math phobia, you are not alone! Learn strategies to gain confidence in math.

Critical Thinking

September 26th, Barbara Marshall

Come learn how to get your brain in shape!

Managing Family & School

October 3rd, LaVonne James

Concerned about managing your family life AND college? Come and get some helpful advice about balancing the two.

Writing

October 17th, Joyce Russell

Learn how to put together that essay or speech so it sparkles!

Say Goodbye to Test Anxiety

October 24th, Bobbie Capobia

Learn to anticipate and conquer the anxiety brought on by tests. Develop strategies for stress relief and proper planning so you can stop the fear of test taking.



Learn the One-Stroke Painting Method

Popular decorative artist Donna Dewberry has seized the heart of every artist who had the passion to paint, but not the time to spend adding shadows and highlights into a piece of artwork.

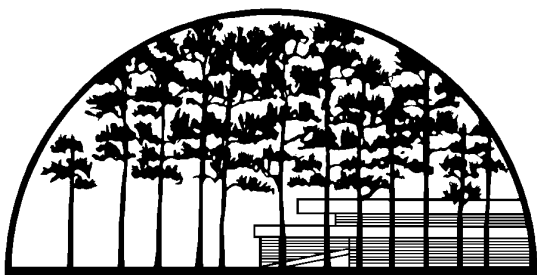
Dewberry's innovative One Stroke painting style double loads a special Plaid Company paintbrush with paint and then turns the brush to create shadows and highlights with one stroke.

Beginning Oct. 4, Elizabeth Bowles of Reidsville, will teach Dewberry's method of decorative painting at Rockingham Community College. Bowles attended a training session on the one stroke method in June in Orlando, Fla. and took one-on-one classes with Dewberry. She is now qualified to teach the self-taught artist's popular painting style.

"This is a beginner course," said Bowles, "so even those who have never picked up a paintbrush can be successful and learn this method of painting."

Participants will paint on paper and once on canvas. Classes will meet on Thursdays, Oct. 4-Dec. 13, from 6-9 p.m. in room 101 of the Humanities Building. The fee is \$55. A supply list will be distributed during the first class. Supplies will cost approximately \$25.

For more information or to preregister for the course, call 342-4261, Ext. 2140.



**Rockingham
Community College**

THE ROCK is published four to five times per semester during the fall and spring semesters by the students, faculty and staff of Rockingham Community College. *THE ROCK* cherishes contributions from its readers but reserves the right to edit all submissions in accordance with accepted style and space limitations. Articles and editorials which appear in *THE ROCK* do not necessarily represent the views of the students, administration, faculty or staff of this institution.

Rockingham Community College does not discriminate in administering or access to, or treatment or employment or admission in its program and activities. No person shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, or handicap. Inquiries may be directed to the Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Officer at the college.

Musician Finds Jazz, Java and Jive on Tate Street

by Bill James

While most RCC students, staff and faculty have other musical interests, the select few among us – or perhaps the strange eccentrics — who have a liking for jazz may find a home in Greensboro at the Tate Street Coffee House. Located on the west side of the UNCG campus, the Coffee House provides professional-grade entertainment for the mere price of a latte (or whatever your preference in java). Nearby restaurants make the House a fine place to pause after dinner and listen before it is time to head north.

Starting at 7 PM on Wednesdays, students and teachers from the surrounding colleges and general enthusiasts among the public congregate regularly at the Tate Street establishment to jam and snap their fingers. The atmosphere is informal, just about that of a 1950's "beat" club, save for the absence of thick smoke. The music is first rate – and the coffee is good, too. The program is open and flexible. A steady stream of players takes the stage to put their improvisational skills on display.

And if you do not want to travel so far to fulfill your thirst for jazz, THE ROCK has a suggestion: contact professor James in the Humanities Division (ext. 2214/jamesw@rockinghamcc.edu). A jazz drummer who seeks to come out of retirement, James is looking for others on campus who would like to form a group to play old standards, Dixieland, or be-bop.

Assignments Leads Student to Become a Published Researcher

Donald Haycraft, 40, of Spencer, Va., had never heard of the Pickwickian Syndrome, so named after an overweight character who continuously fell asleep in Charles Dickens' "Pickwick Papers." He certainly never expected to be a published author on the subject.

As a student in Rockingham Community College's respiratory therapy program, Haycraft researched the syndrome for a class writing assignment.

"The research was interesting," said Haycraft, who has worked in some capacity in the medical arena since his days as an Army medic. "I discovered Pickwickian Syndrome is a name for other terms people are more familiar with; obesity hyperventilation and sleep apnea."

David Hughes, clinical director of the respiratory therapy program, said students are asked to write articles on assigned topics or topics chosen by the students. Haycraft's topic was assigned.

"I have them research topics in such areas as pharmacology, pathophysiology, drug therapy, and legal and medical ethics," said Hughes. "It expands their knowledge base and helps them with critical thinking." The latter is extremely important, Hughes said. "Students are going to encounter situations not covered in textbooks so they have to have critical thinking skills."

While Hughes doesn't require students to submit their papers for publications in trade journals, he encourages it.

Haycraft, who received an "A" for his Pickwickian Syndrome paper, submitted his work to "Focus Journal for Respiratory Care and Sleep Medicine," a trade journal which prints one student paper in each semimonthly edition. His work was published in the journal's May/June issue which can be viewed under the heading "Student Paper" at www.foocus.com/mayjune07journal.php. And, yes, the journal's title is misspelled on its website address.



Davis Will Teach Spanish and Developmental Reading

Stacey Davis, a native of Mississippi, has joined the faculty at Rockingham Community College. Davis teaches Spanish and assists in RCC's Developmental Reading lab.

In addition to a Master of Arts in Teaching Languages, Davis has completed post-graduate work in conversational Spanish and grammar at Centro Lingüístico Conversa in Santa Ana, Costa Rica. She has taught in the Forsyth County School System, at Wilkes Community College, and at Forsyth Technical Community College.

To help students grasp the language, she uses web quests, a fun internet program which emulates a scavenger hunt, role plays, audiovisual aids, and TPR (total physical response), which helps students learn commands and vocabulary.

Early in her educational career, Davis decided the best way she could learn the language

Haycraft's paper is the first one published by an RCC student.

"It's great," said the new author. "Everybody should try to get published. I had no idea mine would be accepted but I thought 'Why not try?'"

For his efforts, Haycraft received a \$100 scholarship. The RCC Respiratory Therapy club, of which Haycraft is president, also received \$100. The money will be used to help fund activities such as the annual respiratory therapy pinning ceremony, respiratory care awareness week, an angel tree at Christmas, or sending a child to an asthma camp.

Teaching Called to Chemist

Melissa Allen of Greensboro, Rockingham Community College's new chemistry instructor, attributes her degrees in chemistry to her love of science and math. It is a discipline, she says, requiring both.

An upper New York native, Allen is a graduate of Ithaca College where she earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry. She's also a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a master's degree in chemistry.

Although Allen intended to teach, her first job out of college was in the research and development department of National Starch and Chemical Company.

Teaching called, however, and Allen secured a position in the science department at Davidson Community College. For a brief time, she worked at Syngenta, a world-leading agribusiness which uses innovative research and technology to develop sustainable agriculture.

"But I missed teaching," she says, "so I'm delighted to be at RCC."

Not only is Allen a chemist, she is a volleyball player who is excited about attending games in support of RCC's women's volleyball team.

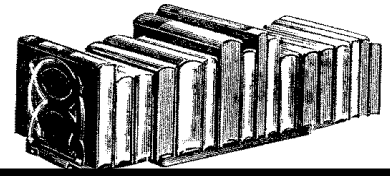
James Library Hours Are Changing!

Monday -Thursday

7:45 AM - 7 PM.

Friday

7:45 AM - 5PM.



was to participate in a total immersion program. She did this by living with a family in Costa Rica. "It's a matter of survival, then," she said.

She would like to bring a small piece of that experience to her students via travel. "I would love to be able to get a trip together to take my students abroad," she said.

Davis says she is thrilled to be at RCC. She is hoping to inspire her students the way she was inspired by her Spanish teachers in high school and college.

College Continues Security Improvements

An additional campus security officer, more emergency telephones in buildings and parking lots, and increased presence of county sheriff's deputies are among recent improvements to safety and security at RCC.

In the past several years, the college has taken significant steps in making the campus safer. These steps have included extending the hours of its contracted security force and also hiring its own security officer. Safety and security were among the issues included in the President's Initiatives for 2007, and the tragedy last spring at Virginia Tech put safety concerns in everyone's minds.

Actions completed this summer include the following:

- Installed additional emergency telephones in campus parking lots and in buildings.
- Employed an additional campus security officer.
- Increased the use of Rockingham County Sheriff's deputies for special events on campus.
- Arranged daily patrols of the campus by the sheriff's department.

The college continues to work on offering seminars and workshops for faculty and staff on responding to emergency situations, scheduling drills, and installing additional lighting.

Childrey Will Serve as Security Officer

Rockingham native, Dwight Childrey, retired in 2000 as an investigator in the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department. Today he is once again wearing a badge; this time as a security officer at Rockingham Community College.

He says the best law enforcement officer is one who has integrity, is honest, fair, and always listens to both sides of a story.

Throughout his career, Childrey has been involved with RCC. He earned an adult high school diploma through the college and then continued taking law enforcement related courses at RCC.

"With over 30 years of experience with RCC, I've always known everyone to be professional and helpful," said Childrey. "I wanted to be part of that."

Childrey began his duties Aug. 22.

Host of "Throwing Clay" Offers Workshop at RCC

Acclaimed production potter, Bill van Gilder, known by potters around the world, is presenting a weekend of pottery lectures and demonstrations at Rockingham Community College Sept. 21-23. Creator and host of the popular "Throwing Clay" series on DIY Network and the five-part workshop "DIY Pottery," van Gilder will provide over 50 techniques, short cuts, tips and tools uses gleaned from experience as a master potter.

The weekend will begin Friday from 7-9 p.m. with a lecture and slide show. Saturday and Sunday will include information loaded workshops and demonstrations from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The workshops and lectures will be in the Advanced Technologies Building Auditorium.

Van Gilder began working with clay as a teenager. His pursuit in the field led to serve a five year apprenticeship in New Jersey, Ireland and the United Kingdom. In 1973 he graduated from the Harrow School of Arts, Studio Pottery, in London.

Today van Gilder is master potter, television host, author, "Teaching Techniques" columnist in Clay Times magazine, exhibitor, workshop presenter and teacher. He is founder of the Frederick Pottery School in Frederick, Md., on the faculty of the Art League School in Alexandria, Va., and owner of the van Gilder Pottery and Craft Gallery in Gapland, Md.

This is a rare opportunity for those who share an affinity for this art form. Beginners can enjoy a master guiding them through the stages of pottery making, while those with more experience can add subtle layers to their knowledge of the craft through van Gilder's newest ideas and techniques.

Pokrzywa Joins CWED Staff

As Occupational Extension Program Coordinator with Rockingham Community College, Helen Pokrzywa (pronounced puck-shi-va) will be planning classes for the Community and Workforce Education Division. It will be her job to assess the educational needs of employers and individuals and then meet those needs by planning the necessary courses and securing instructors for them.

As a Rockingham County native and former coordinator of the JobLink Career Center in Madison, Pokrzywa is no stranger to the area or its citizens. She is a natural fit for a position requiring an understanding of what courses people need to get them to the educational/career place they want to be.

"At JobLink we offered short-term training to help people acquire and/or improve their work skills," said Pokrzywa. "We also provided enrichment courses to enhance interests. In essence, we took a holistic approach by providing resources and referrals needed to help a person achieve his/her desired goal."

Pokrzywa is well acquainted with RCC. In 1986 she graduated from the college with an associate in arts degree. She transferred to Averett University in Danville, Va. and graduated with a double major in business management and psychology. As coordinator of Job Link, she has worked with RCC personnel in the planning and execution of the Job Fair and as a member of the rapid response team sent to companies experiencing personnel layoffs.

"I've always worked closely with RCC and its employees," said Pokrzywa. "Now, to be one of them is exciting. I feel like I've come home."



Bill van Gilder demonstrates his throwing techniques.

Participants must register in advance. The fee for the entire weekend presentation is \$35. Participants can bring their lunches or pay \$3.50 for a Subway sandwich and chips. Beverages will be available for purchase. The registration form can be downloaded from the RCC website at www.rockinghamcc.edu/docs/potteryworkshop.pdf. Registration will end when all seats in the auditorium have been reserved. For more details or registration information, email Kim Pryor at pryor@rockinghamcc.edu or call 342-4261, Ext. 2170.



EKG Technicians Learn Skills for Clinical, Hospital Work

An electrocardiography (EKG) technician program is taught through Rockingham Community College's Continuing Workforce and Education Division.

Graduates of the 70-hour program take a credentialing examination through the American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians to become nationally certified as EKG technicians.

The last class took the credentialing exam on July 14 and 100 percent passed on the first try.

The next course will begin Oct. 1 and end Nov. 13. Classes meet every Monday and Tuesday from 6-10 p.m. Classes will also be held Oct. 27 and Nov. 10 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Participants must have a high school diploma, but no other prerequisites are required. The course fee is \$60 and the textbook is approximately \$42.

Those who successfully complete the course will be eligible to take the credentialing exam on Nov. 26. Credentialed EKG technicians are able to apply for work in hospitals, doctor's offices and freestanding clinics. The average starting salary is \$29,000.

Sometimes the Worst Turns Out to Be the Best

Sometimes the worst that can happen turns out to be the best.

When Terri Childress, 46, realized she was to become another casualty of plant closings in Rockingham County, she began looking at other options. For 23 years Childress had worked as an employee of Burlington Industries. Like others, she planned to retire with the company. Instead, in February 2006, she was permanently laid off.

Because she had done her homework prior to the layoff, Childress had a plan of action.

By all accounts the medical field desperately needed more employees so Childress knew security lay in that area.

"The right job was important, though," she said. "I did not want to be responsible for the type of patient care required by nursing and many other medical fields, so I decided to become a pharmacy technician."

Childress enrolled in the pharmacy technician training program at RCC in April 2006. Like most programs offered through RCC's Continuing Workforce and Education Division, it included a course in Human Resources Development.

It had been 23 years since Childress had been on a job interview. Her skills were rusty and she had to upgrade her computer skills. Through the Human Resources Development classes, she learned how to write an eye-catching resume, respond to interview questions, dress for an interview, research companies, and more.

In March 2007, Childress went on the second interview of her life; this one at Layne's Family Pharmacy in Eden. At the time, she still had two months before graduating from the Pharmacy Technician program at RCC. Even so, the company hired her part-time. Ten days after her May graduation, Layne's offered her a full-time position. Management confidently made the full-time offer the day before Childress was scheduled to take the National Pharmacy Technician Certification exam and become a certified technician. She passed.

Today Childress helps prepare and package a month's worth of medications for patients in facilities such as nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

After three months into her new career, Childress is happy. She was happy at Burlington Industries, but she's even happier at Layne's Family Pharmacy. For that, she's grateful.

Capitol Project Adheres to "Highest Standards" in Restoration Process

Continued from page 1.

completed by another former Fine & Creative Woodworking student, Jim Turner, who learned furniture finishing techniques from Dakota County Technical College in Rosemont, Minn. and now operates a wood finishing business in Reidsville. After the desks are fully constructed, Turner will put them through a process that will render them with an aged look, exacting the look of the original Senate rostrum. This will include matching the color of the original piece, then sealing, glazing, and finally adding a lacquer based finish.

Everyone wins with this project; the Capitol, the college and the students. It highlights the creativity used by community college instructors to teach real-life, marketable skills. And it shows how community colleges are some of the most exciting places to get an education.