

Mrs. Muser
CUSTOMER IN RESIDENCE



November 9-14, 2009



company history 38 years and still going strong

Formerly a Bates College professor, Tom Moser left teaching in 1971 to start making one-of-a-kind furniture in an old Grange Hall in New Gloucester, Maine. By the spring of 1972, orders started coming in and Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers was born. Tom may have been the sole designer and builder, but he was hardly alone. His wife Mary managed sales and finances, while their four sons trained as young apprentices. There was no business plan, no product, no sense of marketing and, to their banker's horror, no cash or cash flow.

The first advertisement, which ran in *Down East* magazine, read, "Antiques are prized for their qualities of age, design and purity of craftsmanship. Our furniture is inspired by traditional design, constructed with pride and executed by hand, restoring a relationship between man and his practical art." Since then, little has changed in the company's intent or product.

During the years, the company has grown from a one-man operation to more than sixty-two cabinetmakers. Tom Moser continues to conceive and design new products in collaboration with his youngest son, David. Andy Moser is an accomplished craftsman and works in the shop. Aaron Moser directs the company's growing sales to the design trade; while Matthew Moser has moved on to build architectural interior forms under his own name.

In 1987, the company built a new workshop facility in Auburn, Maine, not far from its original location. Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers now operates six showrooms located in Freeport, Maine, Boston, New York, Washington DC, Chicago, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. Today, the Thos. Moser collection includes dining and lounge seating, dining tables, stools, benches, beds, dining and bedroom cases, desks and other office pieces, occasional tables and accessories.

a rare opportunity to share our craft



Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers is guided by our mission to build furniture that celebrates the natural beauty of wood, is of simple, unadorned, graceful lines and is crafted for a long, useful life.

In fall of 2007, we launched our first “Customer in Residence” program, a weeklong immersion into the Thos. Moser workshop environment. This program was inspired by one of our friends

who asked if he could come into the workshop for a week or two to learn how to build something with his own two hands. Under the watchful eye of one

of our craftspeople, he was able to take a simple design from start to finish all by himself. It was such a great experience, he encouraged us to offer it to others.

We have selected a group of people to join us this October for a weeklong intensive internship. Each person will stay at the historic Harraseeket

Inn in downtown Freeport. From there, each intern will travel to our workshop daily to work side by side with a master cabinetmaker. This mentor will assist in the selection of raw materials and the crafting of a hallmark Moser piece. Among many things, the intern will be trained in the intricacies of joinery, the shaping and molding of solid cherry, and even how to

bring out the natural luster of wood with the right amount of wax and elbow grease.

All customers-in-residence will share their workshop experiences on a daily basis, as

well as take part in a trip to the Grange Hall (where we had our first shop), as well as two special group dinners.

This is a rare experience for the novice or expert woodworker and may well be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“If you are a Moser fan, like I am, you just can’t imagine how inspiring it is to be at the workshop in person, working with an expert from start to finish. I have a whole new appreciation for the craft and for Thos. Moser.”

—PJ Kimball

customer in residence

itinerary



Welcome! We are excited to have you join our team for the week. If you have any questions about your week's itinerary, please don't hesitate to call Steve Wyman at 800-708-9041.

SUNDAY, 11/8

Check-in at the Harraseeket Inn
after 3pm

No planned activities

MONDAY, 11/9

7-7:45am—Breakfast at the
Harraseeket Inn with Steve Wyman

7:45-8:15am—Transportation
to the Auburn workshop

8:15-9:45am—Introduction to your
furniture maker and shop tour

9:45-10am—Safety training

10-12pm—Shop build time

12-1pm—Lunch with partnered
furniture maker

1-4pm—Shop build time

4-4:30pm—Transportation

back to the Harraseeket Inn

4:30-6:30pm—Free time

6:30-9pm — Group dinner at the
Harraseeket Inn

TUESDAY, 11/10

7-7:30am—Breakfast
at the Harraseeket Inn

7:30-8am—Transportation
to the Auburn workshop

8-12pm—Shop build time

12-12:30pm—Lunch

12:30-4pm—Shop build time

4-4:30pm—Transportation
back to the Harraseeket Inn

Evening—Free night with
recommendations

WEDNESDAY, 11/11

7-7:30am—Breakfast at
the Harraseeket Inn

7:30-8am—Transportation
to the Auburn shop



8-12pm—Shop build time

12:00-12:30pm—Lunch

12:30-4pm—Shop build time

4-4:30pm—Transportation
back to the Harraseeket Inn

Evening—Free night with
recommendations

THURSDAY, 11/12

7-7:30am—Breakfast at
the Harraseeket Inn

7:30-8am—Transportation
to the Auburn shop

8-12pm—Shop build time

12-12:30pm—Lunch

12:30-4pm—Shop build time

4-4:30pm—Transportation
back to the Harraseeket Inn

4:30-5pm—Off time

5-6pm—Cocktails at
Freeport showroom

6-7pm—Transportation to dinner

7-9pm—Group dinner

9-9:30pm—Transportation back
to Harraseeket Inn

FRIDAY, 11/13

7-7:30am—Breakfast at the
Harraseeket Inn with spouses

7:30-8am—Transportation to the
New Gloucester Grange Hall

8-9am—Tour of Grange Hall

9-9:30am—Transportation
to the Auburn shop

9:30-11:30am—Shop build time

11:30-12pm—Furniture
signing ceremony

12-1pm—Lunch with spouses and
slide presentation

1-2pm—Tour and/or demo

2-3pm—Additional shop time

3-3:30pm—Transportation
back to the Harraseeket Inn

Evening—Free night with
recommendations

SATURDAY, 11/14

11am—Check out of
the Harraseeket Inn

what to wear to work in the shop

To help ensure your safety, we require the following dress while working in the shop. Please wear a short sleeve shirt and footwear that fully covers your toes and heel. Long hair should be tied back and please refrain from loose clothing, strings or jewelry as these items could get caught in the rotating machinery.

dressing for maine weather

We have a saying here that goes something like this... If you don't like the Maine weather wait a minute it will change. Maine weather can be unpredictable; dressing in layers will be most practical. Bring along various weights of clothing, including a good winter coat. Comfortable walking shoes are a must for getting around.

The average temperatures in November range from 26° - 43° with an average of 35°.

driving directions to Freeport

From the South: Take I-95 to the Maine Turnpike, Exit 52. Follow signs to I-295 North and take Exit 17, 20 or 22 for Freeport. All of these Exits lead directly to US Route One, which is our Main Street.

From the North: Take I-95S to Exit 103 to I-295S. Take I-295 Exit 22, 20 or 17. All of these exits lead directly to U.S. Route One, which is our Main Street.

Suggested Taxi services are:

Freeport Taxi (865-9494)

Brunswick Taxi (729-3688)

Car rental companies are located in Brunswick, Portland and at the Portland Jetport.





shopping in Freeport

The historic village of Freeport offers over 170 retail shops and businesses including some of the biggest names in retail and outlet stores as well as charming and eclectic small shops and specialty boutiques.

things to do in and around Freeport

MUSEUMS AND HISTORIC HOMES

Portland Museum of Art www.portlandmuseum.org

Walker Art Museum at Bowdoin College <http://academic.bowdoin.edu/artmuseum>

Farnsworth Art Museum www.farnsworthmuseum.org

Sabbathday Lake Shaker Museum www.shaker.lib.me.us/museum.html

Freeport Historical Society (Harrington House) www.freeporthistoricalsociety.org

Longfellow House (Maine Historical Society) www.mainehistory.org

Victoria Mansion www.victoriamansion.org

NATURE WALK AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

Wolfe Neck Woods State Park

Pettingill Farm Gardens www.freeporthistoricalsociety.org

Mast Landing Bird Sanctuary www.maineaudubon.org

POINTS OF INTEREST

Old Port District www.portlandmaine.com/op.html

Portland Head Light www.portlandheadlight.com

Shaker Museum www.shaker.lib.me.us/museum.html

Admiral Perry Arctic Museum <http://academic.bowdoin.edu/arcticmuseum>

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Harraseeket Inn www.harraseeketinn.com

Freeport www.freeportusa.com

Greater Portland and Casco Bay www.visitportland.com

Maine Office of Tourism www.visitmaine.com



The first graduating class (along with Tom Moser and the partnered cabinetmakers) of Thos. Moser's Customer in Residence program, September 2007.

THOS. MOSER

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