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Get Good With Wood at The Sawdust Shop
New Do-It-Yourself Woodworking & Retail Center Offers Classes, Supplies

Sunnyvale, CA – August 30, 2005 – Craig Colvin bought a new house and wanted to build the cabinets. This was years ago, and now the former high-tech engineer turned entrepreneur is the owner of Silicon Valley’s only full-service, do-it-yourself woodworking center, The Sawdust Shop.

Opened in June, Colvin’s new shop introduces a unique concept for the woodworking enthusiast in everyone. The Sawdust Shop is part retail, with a comprehensive line of fine woodworking tools, supplies and lumber, plus a 4,000 square-foot woodshop in the back featuring the latest machinery needed to complete projects from building a beginner wall cabinet to larger furniture pieces, and more.

“I found that people wanted a place to work on projects, especially since most of us do not have space for a full woodshop in our garage. So I filled the need with The Sawdust Shop,” said Colvin, 44, who grew up in the Bay Area and now lives in Almaden Valley with his wife and two children. “The most common woodworking project our members are interested in making are cabinets and entertainment units. Our skilled staff can help get this process started.”

With two full-time employees and several part-timers, including a local high school woodshop teacher, Colvin and his team intend to live up to the company tagline, and assist customers “Get Good With Wood!” Located at 452 Oakmead Parkway in a quiet industrial neighborhood in Sunnyvale, The Sawdust Shop offers woodworking classes for all levels of craftspeople, membership to the do-it-yourself woodworking shop, and a retail store with all the materials needed to build.

“I always wanted to learn how to build with wood and to work with my hands. The Sawdust Shop was great,” said Owen Bates, a San Jose patent attorney who recently completed the beginner wall cabinet class. “They taught me everything I needed to know to finish my first project and how to use all the tools in the shop. I’m ready to build again.”



The first class of adult students in the beginner class recently graduated, and most plan to continue on to the intermediate-level class. The Sawdust Shop also offers membership for do-it-yourself shop time for experienced woodworkers, plus courses in carving, wood-turning and cabinet-making. Tool and shop safety issues are also addressed in each class.

At The Sawdust Shop, safety is stressed at every level. Each class has a safety discussion and every new member to the woodshop goes through an orientation instructing them in the safe operation of each machine in the woodshop. Thanks to advancements in woodworking technology, the table saws used in the shop can detect any human contact with the spinning blade and will stop it immediately to prevent injuries. "We are proud of our state-of-the-art safety measures," said Colvin.

Instruction is held at The Sawdust Shop most evenings and during full days on the weekend. Advance registration is required. For more information and a course listing, visit www.sawdustshop.com or call 408.992.1004.

The Sawdust Shop

Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, California, The Sawdust Shop is an independently-owned and operated full-service woodworking center. Opened in June 2005 to serve the surrounding community, The Sawdust Shop is a unique concept combining woodworking education and retail supplies. Offering woodworking classes, a do-it-yourself woodshop, and a comprehensive woodworking store, The Sawdust Shop plans to become a franchise operation in the near future. For information, call 408.992.1004 or visit www.sawdustshop.com.

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