

# Jeffrey Cooper

*Art Furnishings For Artful Living*

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## Art Furnishings for Artful Living Newsletter

**Showing some carving techniques**

**March 24, 2011**

Dear Friends

Here's some news. The Furniture Masters has a new video, and the dining room set and the screen that you've seen in previous newsletters are in it! Here's the link. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5NVRvcRIuww> or you can see it from our website [www.furnituremasters.org](http://www.furnituremasters.org)

The cabinet for Pam's CD collection is done now, and I am to deliver it tomorrow, Friday. I'll take a photo for the next newsletter. Below are some photos of carving the doors. Since Pam is a descendant of Alexander the Great the carvings show grape leaves, a hoopoe bird and a Macedonian shield.



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The result off the router is quite a mess, so I clean up the edges of the carving with 'stop cuts' matching the curve of the tool to the curve of the drawing.

### Article Headline

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Here I am starting to shape the leaf surfaces. Again, I match the curve of the tool to the texture I want on the leaf surface. You can't see it in the photo, but if it were a video you would see a slight rolling motion as I push the tool through the work. I describe it like slicing tomatoes.

**Article Headline**

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Here is the work a little further along. The branches between the leaves have been designed to be ribbon like rather than lifelike. I figure out the twists and turns using a belt. I'm carving some of the interior layers on the leaf, which also has been redesigned as a pattern of surfaces. If you look at the leaf at the top of the panel you see how the edge is curled up. Stuff like that makes it come alive.

**Article Headline**

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I'm already working on my next project, which is a ladies vanity desk with a mirror, Art Deco with hummingbird carvings on the drawer fronts and side panels. Next newsletter will focus on that. This will be my piece for the Furniture Masters exhibition season and auction in the fall. We have a full schedule this year - including events at NH Historical Society, The Fels in Newport, on lake Sunapee, a show in Bar Harbor, ME, Canterbury Shaker Village, and the auction at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester. I'll have exact dates next newsletter, or watch for them to be posted on the Furniture Masters web site - [www.furnituremasters.org](http://www.furnituremasters.org)

Also, rather exciting, is that after the desk I'll be working on a public art piece for the new League of NH Craftsmen's HQ accross from the Capital Center in Concord. It is the reception desk and is a coordinated project of 5 craftsmen. My part will be a series of ten panels mounted to a hanging structure over the desk, and the panels will be carved with close up views of hands working in various media. Then I have a lamp to make with heron, kingfisher and woodpecker, and a design to work on for a set of two chairs with a coffee table, carved with heron for him and bluebirds for her. So we have a lot to look forward to.

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