

# The Bench Note

What shipped, what is coming, and who is on the floor. Written on the first Tuesday of the month and pinned by the time clock.

SEP 2

## The Alberta Street millwork left three days early.

Bay 2 closed out the Northwind counter, back bar and banquette on August 28 and it was on the truck by Friday morning — **nine and a half weeks against an eleven-week quote**, with five days lost waiting on stone that we made back on finishing. That is the tightest turn this shop has run on a job over \$30,000.

Install is September 9 to 11 in Portland; Riley and Theo are driving Monday. The second visit for the pass-through waits on the counters going in, so hold the stainless order until Maya confirms the template date.

AUG 6

## The wide-belt sander is back, and it has a new hood.

Six weeks at the rebuilders in Buffalo: new platen, new drive belt, and a dust hood we drew ourselves and had folded locally. It pulls 640 CFM now against 380 before, and it is quieter than it has been since 2021. Eighty-grit stock now lives in the cabinet by bay 3, not on the mezzanine.

AUG 14

## Two new benches: Theo Ramírez and Grace Okafor.

Theo comes from four years of stage carpentry at the Brooklyn Academy and starts on the Northwind install. Grace has run a finishing room before and takes over spray-booth scheduling from Riley on the 15th. Both are on bay 1 for the first fortnight. Say hello.

AUG 21

## Install crews move to a four-day week in October.

Tuesday to Friday, ten-hour days, with Mondays kept for shop time, drawings and site surveys. The trial runs through December and we will look at the numbers in January. **The shop floor keeps its five-day week** — this is install only.

AUG 28

## Bay 3 racking is white oak only from now on.

Walnut, ash and everything else moves to the mezzanine racks this week. This is not about tidiness: we lost most of a day in July finding a quartersawn lot that had three other species stacked on it. Every lot gets a job number on the end grain before it goes on a rack.

SHIPPED IN  
AUGUST

|                                                                       |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Northwind Coffee Roasters</b> — bar, back bar, banquette, Portland | <b>Aug 28</b> |
| <b>Meridian Consulting</b> — fourteen desks and a partners table      | <b>Aug 22</b> |
| <b>Fieldnotes</b> — reception desk and the library wall               | <b>Aug 19</b> |
| <b>Brightline</b> — retail fixtures for three doors                   | <b>Aug 12</b> |
| <b>Private, Cobble Hill</b> — kitchen, pantry and a window seat       | <b>Aug 7</b>  |

THE MONTH ON  
PAPER

### BY THE NUMBERS

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Jobs shipped           | 9      |
| Board feet milled      | 4,180  |
| Hours on the floor     | 1,412  |
| On-time deliveries     | 8 of 9 |
| Recordable incidents   | 0      |
| Days since last rework | 46     |

### SEPTEMBER DIARY

|               |                                           |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sep 4</b>  | Safety refresher, 7:30, bay 1 — everyone  |
| <b>Sep 9</b>  | Northwind install, Portland (Riley, Theo) |
| <b>Sep 15</b> | Booth down for filter change, all day     |
| <b>Sep 22</b> | Open bench night, 6pm, bring your own     |
| <b>Sep 30</b> | Quarter close — timesheets in by noon     |

WHO TO ASK

|                               |                       |                            |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Shop drawings and CAD         | <b>Riley Thompson</b> | Lumber orders and lot tags | <b>Riley Thompson</b>       |
| Finishing and the spray booth | <b>Grace Okafor</b>   | Machine faults             | <b>Board by bay 1</b>       |
| Install scheduling            | <b>Theo Ramírez</b>   | Timesheets and pay         | <b>payroll@stapleandoak</b> |

NEXT ISSUE

**No. 42 goes up October 7.** Anything you want in it — a job you are proud of, a jig worth stealing, a machine that needs looking at — leave it on the clipboard by the time clock or send it to [bench@stapleandoak.com](mailto:bench@stapleandoak.com) by the 25th.