

# "The Marquette University Table"



## Marquette Black Walnut Table

This table was commissioned by Marquette University for the John P. Raynor Library in 2003. The table is made of solid black walnut and is 5 ft W x 14ft L x 1,3/4in thick. The plank on plank construction was hand planed and each plank selected for it's color and grain uniformity.

Wrapping around the bottom edge of the table top is the apron, this is not only a decorative element, but a major part of the table's structural design. Reminiscent of my boat building days, we used cross members to rest on a shelf for support, as it does in this table.

The air dried center trestle was smaller and turned sideways to add support and give this table a lighter elongated appearance, letting the top seem to float over it's base.

With the care and craftsmanship that went into this table, it is my hope that future generations will reach through time and share in this experience. I have tried to honor the tree with the best use of it's wood in this table. My workshop is a place where the soul of a tree, meets the spirit of the craftsman and where an understanding takes place. If one listens to the wood it will tell it's story.



"Craftsman Michael Doerr has fashioned not only a beautiful and functional conference table, but also a work of art in wood -- elegant in design and perfect in execution. It is truly a wonder in wood."

Dr. Nicholas Burckel  
Dean of Libraries  
Marquette University

