

June 2008

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**Workshop**  
for *Women*

"Become Your Own Handywoman"

## July Classes Are Scheduled!

### Something New and Interesting!

Visit our new social networking website at:

[workshopfor-women.ning.com](http://workshopfor-women.ning.com)

I'm just getting it up and going but I hope to see you all there to share ideas, pictures of your projects, ask advice and more. Watch future emails for more information!

### You're Invited!

Tomboy Tools Mystery Host Sale  
to benefit

#### Women Build

Day: Saturday, May 31st  
Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Place: University Hills Library  
4310 E. Amherst Ave.  
Denver, CO 80222  
Community Room [Map](#)

- 20% of retail sales donated to Women Build.
- Door prizes and gift bags
- Refreshments
- A **Mystery Host** winner will receive the hostess benefits including half price tools Tomboy Tools gift certificates.

# Workshop News

"Becoming Your Own Handywoman"

## Just for Fun!

### DID YOU KNOW...

...The Skil Corporation invented the **portable circular saws** just after World War II and, in fact, "Skilsaw" became synonymous with the tools. The new saws allowed carpenters to cut through a framing 2-by-4 much faster than with a handsaw and thus helped fuel the booming home-construction business of the time.

...John Balsley (1823 - 1895) became a wealthy Dayton carpentry businessman after inventing a practical **wooden stepladder**; the first U.S. patent issued for a safety stepladder.

...**2x4s are not actually 2 inches by 4 inches**. When the board is first rough sawn from the log, it is a true 2x4, but the drying process and planing of the board reduce it to the finished 1 1/2" x 3 1/2" size

...It is believed that the origin of the term "penny" in relation to nail size is based on the old custom in England of selling nails by the hundred. A hundred nails that sold for sixpence were "**six penny**" nails. The larger the nail, the more a

hundred nails would cost. The *penny size* is written with a number and the abbreviation **d** for penny (e.g. - 10d). **D** is an abbreviation for *denarius*, a Roman coin similar to a penny; this was the abbreviation for a penny in the UK before changing to the decimal system.

...Most Hand Tools date back to Ancient Egypt. "**Snapping a line**," a technique familiar in ancient Egypt, is employed in modern building construction. After 5,000 years the only change in this technique is that we use chalk where the Egyptians used wet red paint.

...The **Leaning Tower of Pisa** leans because the tower is built on unsuitable ground for such a heavy and tall building. It is only about 6 feet above sea level and built on a riverbed. The underlying ground is made up of layers of sand and clay. The layers are not even and the weight of the building has compressed them. Because the layers are not even, as the ground has compressed, it has sunk more in some places than others.

...**Thomas Edison** was actively involved in promoting the use of cement and formed the Edi-

son Portland Cement Co. in 1899. He tried to promote widespread use of **cement for the construction of low-cost homes** and envisioned alternative uses for concrete in the manufacture of phonographs, furniture, refrigerators, and pianos. Unfortunately, Edison was ahead of his time with these ideas, as widespread use of concrete proved economically unfeasible at that time.

...Contrary to popular belief, [Thomas Crapper](#) (1836-1910) **did not invent the flush toilet**. He did exist, however, and is credited with improving the functionality of the early flush toilet (or "water closet," as it was then called). Credit for the original invention goes to 16th-century author Sir John Harrington, who not only came up with the idea but installed an early working prototype in the palace of Queen Elizabeth I, his godmother.

...In the first 12 months after purchasing a **newly built home**, owners spend an average of \$8,905 to furnish, decorate and improve them.

## New Classes Coming Soon!

**Workshop for Women** is proud to announce a new partnership with Cathy Schuberth of **Green With Envy Interior Decorating**. Cathy will be offering classes on interior design here at Workshop for Women. A sample

of the classes she will be offering are: "No-Sew Window Treatments" - a way to spruce up your windows with simple, cost effective treatments. "Making Your Sick Home Healthy Again" - a comprehensive class in decorating using products and materi-

als that will make your home healthy again for you and your family. Other Classes include, Designing on a Budget, Space Planning, Lighting and More. First classes to be offered in late July. Stay tuned!