



Leslie Klipsch  
Cynthia Weeks pictured in her  
home, which was built in the  
1930s. Her studio is located on  
the premises.

# Cynfully Fun Furniture

## Cynfully Fun Furniture breathes gorgeous new life into old furniture

BY LESLIE KLIPSCH

**I**t all started with an unassuming bench. Cynthia Weeks of Davenport liked the look of a sturdy wooden bench she found at a local thrift store and couldn't help but to envision the potential for more. Trusting that she could transform the merely fine piece of furniture into something fabulous, she purchased it, cleaned it up, and sewed a deep blue custom cushion to affix to the top. A few throw pillows later, the once unremarkable piece of furniture now adds color and comfort to her home.

Since then, Ms. Weeks has primed, painted, repaired and reupholstered cast-off pieces of good quality furniture for dozens of customers, expertly reclaiming style, function and beauty with each stroke of her brush and turn of her screwdriver. Cynfully Fun Furniture, the one-woman enterprise Ms. Weeks operates out of her home, opened for business in 2012 and has steadily grown in clientele seeking custom furniture repurposed and revived with care.



Cynthia Weeks  
Ms. Weeks is drawn to clean lines but loves the detail and character that many pieces of vintage furniture offer.



These days, Ms. Weeks spends time reviving dressers, tables, sideboards and anything else with good bones and a hint of potential. A tired buffet is updated with custom colors for an adoring client's home. A set of weathered side tables and a headboard become a classic, masterfully restored bedroom set. A detailed frame and a bit of chicken wire become a fun and functional jewelry display.

Besides adding great style to homes and businesses across the QCA, another welcome consequence of Ms. Weeks' creativity is that her vision and labor keeps large pieces of

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# GOLDBOOK

## Q-C FACES

These Q-C Faces were seen March 1 at the Junior Board's **Mardi Gras Ball** at

the Quad-Cities Waterfront Convention Center in Bettendorf.



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furniture out of the landfill.

"Furniture is no different than paper, plastic or glass," Ms. Weeks told me. "I find it frustrating to see good, solid furniture discarded as garbage, so even before I started redoing furniture, I would often stop and haul furniture from the side of the road into my SUV and take it to the (Habitat for Humanity) ReStore or Goodwill."

Since starting her venture, she has rescued and revived several such discarded pieces, including a French provincial dresser, an engraved chair, and a sofa table. She rounds out her inventory with pieces she finds at various thrift stores, estate sales and yard sales.

Drawing creative inspiration from what she sees online and in various home décor and

high-end decorating magazines, Ms. Weeks uses the basic carpentry and upholstery skills she's picked up over the last several years to make her vision a stylish reality for clients.

Her eye is sharp and creativity copious. Another influence Ms. Weeks claims is her mother's love of decorating.

"I remember many a Saturday morning moving furniture all around the house as she reworked a room or two," she said of her late mother. "She had almost an entire library of decorating books. She took ideas from her books and magazines and figured out a way to have the same look but for a fraction of the cost."

Ms. Weeks recalls that her mother was able to see potential where so many saw something that was simply old and battered. This unique quality is perhaps what makes

*"I LOVE SEEING FURNITURE TRANSFORMED AND I'M TICKLED WHEN MY CUSTOMERS OR CLIENTS ARE DELIGHTED WITH A PIECE."*



Cynfully Fun Furniture so lovely: Beauty is everywhere. Sometimes it takes a bit foresight and finesse to unfold it.

### **What I love about Cynfully Fun Furniture**

The tagline for Cynfully Fun Furniture is "Revive, Renew, Refresh" and I couldn't be more thrilled by these words. We will likely be reminded of the importance of another trio

Leslie Klipsch

Ms. Weeks aptly calls the accessories inherent to furniture its "jewelry." Over the last few years she has built a tremendous collection of handsome vintage drawer pulls from various estate sales she has visited.



of R's this month as we celebrate Earth Day (reduce, reuse, recycle), and Ms. Weeks has a way of making this sometimes-cumbersome commitment rather wonderful. By choosing to enhance décor with an updated piece of furniture from Cynfully Fun Furniture rather than purchasing something brand new, customers not only keep big-ticket waste from the trash, but also eliminate demand for the creation of something new. And beyond the earth-friendly

appeal, I simply love Ms. Weeks' style.

### **Ms. Weeks' favorite part of her work**

"I love seeing furniture transformed and I'm tickled when my customers or clients are delighted with a piece," says Ms. Weeks. "I like that the projects have a beginning, a middle, and an end — it's gratifying."

Of the dozens of pieces she has refreshed and renewed, she is especially



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fond of a dresser she found at a yard sale, stripped and painted turquoise for a client, and an elegant French provincial dining room table that she sanded, painted, distressed and sold in her online Etsy shop. "When painting furniture, I stick to what I would like and what I think will make the piece 'pop,'" she explains. "I love turquoise and lime green, but soothing grays and blues are lovely, too. My style is all mixed up — cottage, French country, Swedish, traditional, beachy."

## The details

Ms. Weeks' furniture is available for sale at The Plaid Rabbit (1018 Mound St.,

Davenport) or you can reach her at 563-343-2945 to discuss a custom project. Her website [www.cynfullyfunfurniture.com](http://www.cynfullyfunfurniture.com) and Facebook page host more information, including frequently updated blog entries that showcase the fantastic transformation of the furniture she so elegantly refurbishes.

Each month in The Gold Standard, Leslie Klipsch, a freelance writer and editor based in Davenport, shines a spotlight on the gems of the Quad-Cities area — for Gold Book readers. She enjoys reading, cooking, spending time with her husband and three young children and exploring all that the Quad-Cities has to offer. Read more of Leslie at [leslieklipsch.com](http://leslieklipsch.com).



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