



Atlantic Woodworkers'  
Association

## ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

# AWA Newsletter

January 2008 18 Princeton Ave., Halifax, NS B3R 1Z9

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### JANUARY'S MEETING

The next AWA meeting will be our first meeting for 2008 and will be held in our meeting room at The Home depot. The meeting will be (as usual) the second Tuesday of each month and that means Tuesday, the 8th of January at **7:00 PM sharp**.

For those of you that haven't renewed your **AWA** Membership It's that time again. If you have not already done so, please bring your \$20.00 to the January meeting.

Did you get some new tools for Christmas? Bring them to the meeting, we'll give you bragging rights.



### DECEMBER'S MEETING

For those that missed our December meeting we had a great selection of toys made and donated by our members (photos on page 4). These have been given to the Salvation Army for distribution to needy children in and around Metro Halifax. We also had a gourmand's selection of gourmet finger foods with tea and coffee offered by Lee Valley and our attending membership.

Kevin showed us some new Veritas tools that were so smooth to operate. Cecil was making the perfect dado with some smooth shavings.



## ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

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### A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Happy new year to all. Well another year has come and gone and another meeting snuck up on us. I guess with all the hassle and bustle time flies.

We enter another year and I hope it brings all good health and prosperity. I also hope we can find time to practice our hobby. If this year is any thing like the last one, tools and technology will be interesting to watch. We have also seen an increase in a wide variety of exotic woods and their availability to us. We also have a wealth of resources and the means to access them.

I hope we can have a great year and if there are any items that you would like featured let us know and we will see what we can do to get them put in the schedule. I hope to see you at the meeting at the Halifax HOME DEPOT.

Cecil

(Note for new members: Our meeting room is behind the garden center in back of the building and has its own entrance door.)

### January's Meeting

We are a little sparse on information for this month's Newsletter but help us out here. If you got some goodies from Santa that you would like to share with us bring them to the meeting. I know that Cecil did and I have some as well.

See You Tuesday Nite

Graham

### SHOP TIP

Make your own downdraft table, cut a piece of pegboard 12" x 24", make a shadow box frame for it with 1x6's and nail the pegboard to the frame. Cut a 4" diameter opening in one end and install a plastic dust collection fitting into it. Cover the bottom with masonite or 1/4" plywood Hook up your dust collection hose and start sanding.

The following story appeared in a Fine Woodworking 1984 issue and was sent to us by member Ted Monk. Thanks Ted, a really interesting article.

TAUNTON'S **Fine  
Woodworking**

### Maritime woodworkers show their stuff

The fledgling Atlantic Woodworkers Association in Halifax, Nova Scotia, recently hit on a way to sidestep the squabbling that usually accompanies the jurying of a members' show—they gave everyone in the group a vote. Members presented their work to their peers, and if less than two-thirds of those present approved a piece, it was excluded.

As it turned out, only one piece was rejected, so the show last June displayed a healthy cross section of members' work. None of it was super-sophisticated and some was downright folksy. Pieces that caught my eye were a fine Windsor chair by Jeff Amos; a large oak trestle table and chairs by Robert Stevenson; elegant little teak and rosewood jewelry boxes by Allan Matthews; and Laura Moss' Buddhist prayer altar with a finely carved door, shown at right. Moss' cabinet is Honduras mahogany, and the bird is basswood with a gold-leafed beak.

Formed three years ago, the A.W.A. is open to residents of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, but the group draws the bulk of its 75 members from Nova Scotia and most of its activities center in Halifax. In addition to holding shows, the A.W.A. publishes a monthly newsletter, organizes monthly meetings and sponsors various workshops. Members also band together to purchase materials, which helps keep freight and handling charges down and eases the effects of the Canadian dollar's recent



ROBERT STEVENSON

*Laura Moss' 20-in. high Buddhist altar from the Atlantic Woodworkers show.*

slump. In fact, a group of A.W.A. members saved \$2 per board foot on a recent \$2500 order of lumber and veneered plywood from the United States.

Such cooperation is one of the advantages of area craftspeople banding together. Members can also educate and help each other, as well as achieve a public visibility that few individuals could manage alone. If you'd like to know more about the A.W.A., write to the group at PO Box 3501, Halifax South, N.S., Canada B3J 3J2.

—Simon Watts

## Photo Gallery

The following are some of the unforgettable moments and toys from the AWA December Meeting.

