



Atlantic Woodworkers'
Association

ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

AWA Newsletter

May 2010 18 Princeton Ave., Halifax, NS B3R 1Z9 Volume 28 No.4

THE MAY MEETING

WOW!!! As I am writing this it is 82° F and barely a cloud in the sky. Kind of makes you want to stay outside, not in the shop (or the office).

We have another "away" meeting planned for May. **May 11th at 7:00 pm** to be exact. We are meeting down near Pier 21. In fact, here is the posting from Gene Nurse -

May 11th

On Tuesday May 11th the meeting/demo will be at John MacNab's Studio.

This is located at 1099 Marginal Road (Studio 125), Halifax.

This is adjacent to Pier 21 for those who are unfamiliar with the area.

Parking is available on Marginal Road or in the parking lots across the street or at the end of the complex.

Unfortunately the main entrance off marginal Road is closed after 6 PM--however I will be there early to let you in.

**If you arrive late call Gene at 471-7989 and I'll let you in.
John is an exciting and talented artisan--not to be missed.**

THE APRIL MEETING

Bill Luther (the Busy Bee Bill) hosted our April meeting at Busy Bee and the subject was all you ever wanted to know about shop dust collectors. Needless to say the focus was on the Busy Bee brand name, Craftex, and the various models that they produce. They have everything from the small 1hp models to those huge suckers that could suck the air out of the Metro Centre. There were awes apparent as Bill demonstrated the combination dust collector/vacuum. A very impressive tool! You may remember Gene's warning about the carcinogenic properties of some wood species. Heed his words; keep sawdust down to a bare minimum in your shop.

Wilf, 'Woody' Woods VP, Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters, presented the very prestigious Gordon Knickle Trophy to the AWA. Tom Patterson has more on this on page 2 with photos by Ted Monk on page 5.

This Newsletter is YOUR Newsletter. Every one of you can submit your comments, suggestions; woodworking tips and questions to us at graham@atlanticwoodworkers.ns.ca for inclusion it. We welcome your submissions. Please send them at least one week before the end of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

2009/10 AWA Board of Directors

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A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



From The Chair

As an Association, we were honoured to receive the Gordon Knickle Memorial Trophy from the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters (NSFAH) at our April meeting. The trophy is in recognition of support to the NSFAH and its affiliated clubs by the AWA for constructing wood duck boxes for assembly by Scouts and other children. The presentation was made by Wilfred (Woody) Woods.

The April meeting was held at Busy Bee Tools. The Manager, Bill Luther, gave us an enlightened presentation on the need to have a good dust collection system and demonstrated the products they sell to accomplish this task. Bill offered our members additional discounts on selected dust collection products for purchases made at the meeting. Many thanks to Bill for hosting the meeting, for educating us on the best methods of dealing with dust collection, and for offering the discounts.

We are on the road again for the May meeting. We will be visiting the studio of artisan, John MacNab. I understand from Gene Nurse that his creations are unique and indescribable. He even makes his own unique tools used to make his creations.

See you at the meeting.

Cheers, Tom

FROM THE DESK OF OUR LIBRARIAN



They say that April showers brings May flowers and this is so true this year. Looking out my shop window I see that the leaves on the trees are already unfurling. I figure we're almost three weeks ahead this year. To some this may be a good thing but for me it means that I have to leave my shop and start the yard work that much earlier!
☺

New entries into the library this month includes a DVD and book combo called 'Wood Carving Basics' by David Sabol. It covers whittling, relief carving, lettering and signmaking, chip carving, making decoys, power carving and woodburning, bark carving, and painting and finishing. There are hundreds of color photographs. This was a great deal from Lee Valley that regularly cost \$43.00 and was on sale for only \$19.50! These can be borrowed together or separately.

Graham gave us a book called 'Tree Craft' that offers 35 rustic wood projects that bring the outdoors in. The projects are organized by home decorating, dining, living, playing and working and include candlestick holders, napkin rings, lamps and more.

Graham also gave us 'Finishing, Methods Of Work' by Fine Woodworking. This is an electronic book and comes on disk in .pdf format. It is part of Fine Woodworking's 25 years of tips series.

Remember to please bring back any items that you have borrowed to the meeting so that others may enjoy them!
See you soon,
Ted

GENE'S BURLS

Ducks



My doorbell rang at 5:30 AM and I found, on my doorstep, a delegation of ducks. There were five of them led by a mallard who seemed to be spokesman. The mallard presented me with a petition under the heading "Ducks Under Developmental Stress", henceforth referred to as DUDS. Thinking I was dreaming I pinched myself hard in a rather private place leaving quite a bruise. The presence of instant pain confirmed reality; I was indeed talking to ducks at 5:30 AM. In my semi-conscious state I invited them in and they filed past me making their way to the dining room where they demanded green tea and a salad for breakfast. Indicating I had neither they grumbled a bit but sat at the table. The gist of the petition was that the recently completed duck nesting boxes were missing several basic amenities such as washrooms with toilet, sink and shower, kitchens, decks and finally basic cable and internet connection. I asked why they had not taken these grievances to either Graham or Woody and they replied that neither were on their flight path. So I ask, how about our President Tom. They have indeed stopped at Tom's place and finding him away had left numerous "calling cards" on his front lawn. Fearing I would be the next victim of "calling cards" I gave them the names, addresses and flight paths of our entire executive. Watch out where you walk guys and keep small children and pets' out of your back yards. DUDS will be coming to see you.

(Editor's Note: I fear that some Duck Box sawdust has gone to Gene's head).

2010 AWA MEEING SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

#	DATE	VENUE	EVENT	HOST
1				
2	February 6	Wooden Windows	Tour	Owner - Troy
3	February 9	Home Depot	Turning Demo	David Wilkins
4	March 9	Home Depot	Annual General Mtg	AWA Chairman
5	April 13	Busy Bee Tools	Dust Collection	Bill Luther
6	May 11	1099 Marginal Rd. Studio 25	John MacNab Dem	John MacNab
7	June 8	Home Depot	DVD-Past Glories	Ted Monk
8	Summer	Field Trip	Blacksmith (TBA)	

John MacNab will be hosting our May meeting at Studio 25. The following is his CV.

John Macnab:

Born in Toronto, Ontario , John MacNab has lived in Halifax, Nova Scotia since 1970. John attended Nova Scotia College of Geographic Sciences in Lawrencetown, Nova Scotia in 1981 to study cartography. Designed and built furniture and did furniture and interior woodwork restoration for several years beginning in 1983. Set up a workshop at Pier 21 on the Halifax waterfront in 1986 and continues to present day to create extraordinary wood sculptures. In December of 2004, featured on the cover of *Woodwork: A Magazine for All Woodworkers*, which is a west coast popular American publication.

John has exhibited his sculpture in numerous exhibitions in Canada and the United States. He has received grants from the Canada Council for the Arts, Nova Scotia Arts Council and is the 2009 recipient of the \$25,000 Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia Masterworks Award. The winning piece, called CSDC 3-8 (Compound Spiral Double Cone No. 3, 8 Sided) is a 25-foot long spiral sculpture turned from red spruce. Suspended horizontally, it presents a floating form of lyrical grace and simplicity that belies the complexity of its production and its remarkable cross-disciplinary origins. John Macnab combined his wood-turning background and engineering skills to invent a 20-foot vertical lathe capable of turning large-scale sculptures to complicated formulae. With this unique tool, Macnab has been able to re-think the craft tradition and, drawing on his fascination with mathematics, science and the spiral growth of natural forms (from seashells to galaxies), to produce a powerful and elegant work that bridges the gap between industrial precision and creative expression.



THE *AWA* PHOTO GALLERY

The following are photos from our April meeting and were photographed by Ted Monk at Busy Bee.





THE FINAL CUT

I would like to remind members of the AWA that our membership is open to all. If you know of other woodworkers that you think would be a benefit to our membership bring them to one of our meetings. Guests are always welcome.

Blowing My Own Horn



I'm going to try to twist these arthritic bones of mine into contortional-like shapes in an attempt to pat myself on the back. The reason is that I just received an advance copy of my latest book. The book is titled **601 Woodshop Tips & Tricks** and will be on the bookstore shelves in early June.

The book is published by Popular Woodworking Books and will be for sale world-wide. This will be my 5th published book. Not bad for a Nova Scotian eh? However, (and there is always a "however"), what with my wife retiring from the Dalhousie Law School in June I have made her a promise that this will be the absolutely final book. We plan to do a fair amount of travelling so there won't be time for writing.

That's it for now; see you at Tuesday's meeting, 7:00 PM sharp!

