



# Atlantic WoodWorkers Association

## AWA NEWSLETTER

October 2010

7129 Morningside Dr. Halifax, NS B3L 2E5

Volume 28 Issue 7

### October Meeting

**Home Depot for our October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.** If you feel that your hinges are becoming undone you should come to this meeting. Our presenter for this event will be Kevin Hurst of Lee Valley and he will tell you all you t, "All about Hinges"

### From the Chair



Our September meeting was a very interesting one with Mike Bielby's presentation on Google's "Sketchup" program. It is a new and accurate way to develop plans for any project. Mike's hour long presentation gave us valuable insight into the program. Mike agreed to give us another presentation at a future meeting when members have a chance to try out the program for themselves.

We had a short silent auction for some of the bench top tools that had been used at the Kids Workshops at the Wood Working shows when they were held in Halifax. We still have three Ryobi variable speed scroll saws available for purchase, one single speed Craftsman scroll saw, and one Ryobi combination belt and disc sander. The specs for each of these tools as well as the minimum bids were outlined in the last Newsletter. If you have an interest in any of these tools, please send me an email so that I can bring the appropriate number to the October meeting.

At the last meeting, I mentioned that I was approached by the recreation staff at Camp Hill Hospital to see if any members were interested in volunteering in their woodworking shop. The residents of Camp Hill are veterans of World War II and the Korean War. They have varying degrees of disabilities. Their previous volunteer woodworker passed away. Their workshop sits empty and the residents have no exposure to woodworking as a hobby. I agreed to look into the matter further and report back to you.

I visited the workshop and met with a recreational therapist to determine their wants and needs. They are wide open on options. Projects could be produced on site with the veterans watching or could be produced in our own workshops. The major activity of the veterans would be simple assembly and finishing of the projects. The veterans are not allowed to use the power tools because of their advanced age and medical conditions. A member of the nursing and/ or recreation staff is always present when the veterans are in the workshop.

In their workshop, they have a table saw, a band saw, a chop saw, and a drill press. These tools are not top of the line tools by any stretch of the imagination. Therefore, production of projects may work better outside of the facility. However, the staff indicated that it may be possible to acquire funds to purchase new machines. They also have a large assembly table that is wheelchair accessible. They have a large quantity of tole paints, brushes and sand paper. Camp Hill would provide or pay for materials used for the projects. The Hospital would also provide free parking for volunteers.

Any projects produced by the veterans would be for their personal use, for use in the hospital, to be sold as a fund raiser, or to become gifts for their grandchildren. The major thrust of these activities is to give the veterans something meaningful to do and to break up the monotony of their long days. The recreation staff told me that this activity in the past was the highlight of the week for many of the veterans.



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I become involved in this worthwhile activity requires each volunteer to go through a few hurdles. The first would be a meeting (interview) with the volunteer services staff. This could be an individual or group meeting. Then each volunteer would have to undergo a Criminal Records Check (CRC) including a Vulnerable Sector Search. To do this each volunteer would have to visit a police station, show appropriate photo identification, apply for the CRC and pay a fee of \$15. The fee will be reimbursed by the Volunteer Services department at Camp Hill. These are standard requirements for volunteers in the public sector these days.

As you can see, there are many opportunities as well as obstacles to overcome if the AWA were to undertake this project. We could have members produce projects individually or as a group in their own workshops or at the Camp Hill work shop and have all, or some, members register as volunteers to guide the veterans and staff in the assembly and finishing of the projects. We will discuss this matter further at the meeting.

Cheers, Tom

Sorry guys, no article this month ,  
Tom can use my space but  
I do have an event



I have also arranged another weekend tour scheduled for October 30th at 10 AM and it will be a tour of Lake City Woodworkers. As many as possible of our members should see this interesting place--it is staffed by mentally challenged people who produce a remarkable product.

Cheers Gene

### Kids Can Do It;

I was recently on a trip to Toronto and while there I visited a market. There I discovered a chap doing wood work with kids and it was very interesting. While the parents do their shopping the kids can create a toy. He was busy so I didn't have a chance to talk with him other then he is the only one doing such a project. All his projects are in kit form so hardly any tools are required. I was quite impressed with what I saw and when I got home I looked up his website [www.u-can-do-it.ca](http://www.u-can-do-it.ca) . It was very interesting to see what all he was doing and I wonder if AWA could do a version of it or at least get a few ideas from this.



Stan Salsman

\*\*\*\* It was so hot in Arizona this past summer a dog was spotted chasing a cat, they were both walking.



**Financial report;**

**Revenue**

September 30 2010 \$4577.49

**Receipts:**

Dues 2010	\$350.00
2009	\$20.00
Auction of tools	\$434.76
Book Sales	\$115.00

**Total \$919.76**

**Expenses:**

Demos (presenters)	\$300.00
Books and others	\$263.93

**Total \$563.93**

Ken Miller

**Here's a few wood working jokes:**

An old timer is looking at some tools at the local building supply store, and picks up a hammer. "Don't make these like they used to," he tells the salesman. "I've had the same one for over fifty years. Just had to replace the handle six times and the head twice."

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Alex and Benny had been woodworking buddies for almost eighty years, and one day Alex speculated on the possibility of there being woodworking in heaven. Both agreed that whoever died first would come back and tell the other if there is. As it turned out, Benny died the next day. Exactly one month later, Alex woke up to the sound of his name being called.

"Alex! Wake Up! I have good news and I have bad news!" cried the ghost of Benny to his friend. "The good news is that woodworking is everywhere in Heaven! No matter where you go, there's an open shop. They always have the latest tools, everything always cuts perfectly, joints practically join themselves! It's paradise up there!" "That IS good news," Alex said. "But what's the bad news?" "You're scheduled to give a demonstration on dovetails tomorrow at 2:30."

**Here's a few tips and tricks of the trade**

1. Stretch a rubber band to the clamps of an F-style bar clamp for one hand use. Pull the clamp open and hold the sliding jaw with your thumb. Then when you are ready to clamp lift your thumb a bit and the jaws will close. Then it's just a matter of screwing the clamp tight.

2. To hold those small blocks of wood that you use on your pipe clamps so don't mark your workpiece drill a shallow hole in the wood and glue in a magnet. This will hold the wood to the metal pipe clamp.

3. To determine the length of a bandsaw blade when you don't have a blade to go by, or you've added riser blocks, use the formula:

Blade length = (2xA) + (3.14xB)

A= distance in inches between bandsaw wheel centers when the upper wheel is midway in its adjustment range

B= bandsaw wheel diameter

Or you can always just wrap a string around the wheels, draw it tight, mark it and then measure it.

4 Use adhesive backed foam sheeting to cover the large blade height slot on the front of your table saw to increase dust collection suction. Add this from the inside of your saw and then cut a slot for the height guide shaft.

Ted Monk

**Editor:**

It is a pleasure to be your editor of the newsletter. Thanks to Graham for the great job he has done. I know the number of hours involved in putting a newsletter together.



I ask your patience as I establish my style of the newsletter. I will be looking to you all for articles and if you have any I would like to receive them by the first of each month. Maybe you would like to write a few words on a project you may be involved with..

I am unable to be with you for every meeting as I have an other meeting I must attend and it conflicts with AWA for this season only. I plan to alternate between the two so if anyone gets some pictures at the meetings I could use them.

Stan



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Atlantic Woodworkers Association

## AWA Board of Directors 1009 -2010

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Lew Hatt Director	462-0187	<a href="mailto:lew@ns.sympatico.ca">lew@ns.sympatico.ca</a>
Graham McCulloch	479-0221	<a href="mailto:graham@atlanticwoodworkers.ca">graham@atlanticwoodworkers.ca</a>

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### The Library

First, let me welcome Stan Salsman as our new newsletter editor - welcome Stan! :)



Second, I'd like to thank Graham for his many years of service to the AWA. I certainly hope that you enjoy your retirement, Graham!

And thirdly (if that's a word), we have a few of new additions for the library this month that include:

Shaker Furniture from Fox Chapel Books that is in their 'built to last' series and offers instruction on building 12 traditional Shaker projects that include chairs, tables and more.

Workshop Dust Control from American Woodworker that gives practical information for taking care of dust problems in your shop.

Woodcarver's Guide to Sharpening, Tools and Setting Up Shop from Woodcarving Illustrated which is a compilation of the best articles from the magazines related to the title.

These will make exciting additions to our library, bringing our total number of books and videos to a whopping 348!

As always, please remember to bring back any items to the next meeting.

Take care, see you at the meeting.

Ted

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The Moncton Woodshow will be held November 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> <http://www.woodshows.com/index.php?categoryid=11>

**Advance Reminder;** It is a bit early I know but people have many projects on the go and they get busier as time passes. It is time to think about our Christmas toy project and not to soon to be planing for that.