



Atlantic Woodworkers'  
Association

## ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

# AWA Newsletter

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## HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Directors of the *Atlantic Woodworker's Association* would like to extend a very happy, safe and prosperous 2009 to all of our members.

### AWA January Meeting

The AWA January meeting will be held at our usual meeting place, the training room at The Home Depot in Halifax.

Graham McCulloch will have some new and interesting woodworking tools to show us and you, our members are welcome to bring your new tool acquisitions and/or woodworking projects for all to see. This is your time to shine.

Don't know how fit that square peg into a round hole? Bring that and other woodworking questions to the meeting. We may have just the right answer for you.



### OUR DECEMBER MEETING

Wow, what a meeting we had at Lee Valley Tools last month. Don and Kevin were perfect hosts for this now annual meeting venue. In addition to what else was going on they showed us and let us play with some new Veritas Planes. Our members brought lots of delicious goodies to munch on and Cecil made us aware of our impending Annual General Meeting in March.

A matter of real importance will be the nomination of new directors. We are looking for a new Vice (sic) President and a new Secretary to serve a two-year term. Please step forward with your name, let Cecil know.

As many of you know, the Christmas (December) meeting is primarily for the collection of member-made toys to donate to underprivileged children through the auspices of the Salvation Army. This year we had some really great ones (see page 4) that the kids will really love to play with and, knowing the skills of our AWA members, they will last a long time for sure.

Again, our sincere thanks to Lee Valley.

**ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Board of Directors**

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**A WORD FROM  
THE CHAIRMAN**

Well another Christmas has come and gone the presents have been given and a lot of the stress is gone. We are approaching a new year which we all have visions of projects we would like to start or finish. We all should remember in the New Year what a large resource we have as an association with the knowledge base of our members. We should tap into it whenever we can. The January meeting is one I look forward to as it is a time when we get to show what Santa left. So don't forget to bring in some of your loot to show. We have another treat as Graham McCulloch will have a look into this year's tools we can look forward to. Also bring any projects for show and tell. Don't forget Tom's Question and Answer time; bring your questions / inquiries. If any member would like to serve on the board in a capacity see Doug MacIntosh. The library will be open for business and all material will be over due please bring all items back to Ted Monk to allow someone else a chance to take it home. I hope everybody had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you on January 13<sup>th</sup> at The Home Depot..

**Cecil**



**FROM THE DESK OF  
THE LIBRARIAN**

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a peaceful holiday season. I also hope that Santa delivered that new tool that you asked for. My wife sure was ecstatic over the new thickness planer that Santa brought her! ;) I must have been good because he brought me a couple of new woodworking books that I was hoping for:

**Understanding Wood by Bruce Hoadley**

This is an invaluable reference book for all workers of wood. Hoadley explains everything from how trees grow to how best to cut, season, machine, join, bend, and finish wood. Although it is technical in its premise it is written in such a way (there's so much practical information given!) that it makes for a great read. The chapters on moisture and wood movement are particularly interesting.

**The Chairmaker's Workshop by Drew Langsner**

See Books, page 3



*(Editor's Note: Gene and his family are basking in the warm sunshine of their winter haven in Florida. Gene's Burls are sent to us by HOT Mail. Unfortunately not hot enough to melt our snow. Stay warm Gene.)*

## GENE'S BURLS

Well here I am sitting beside my pool with The Captain and feeling sorry for my friends in the frozen north. It's 82 today but the locals tell me we're in for a "cold snap" going all the way down to 70. It's almost impossible to bear up under the stress.



I went to see a one day demo on inlay by David Marks at Woodcraft (the equivalent to Lee Valley down here). There are no words that accurately describe him. He was the consummate professional with such an eye to detail that you are filled with respect for this professional's work. His topic ranged from the very practical easy stuff to the very hard and difficult. He explained in great detail as he went and stopped frequently to ask and answer questions always concerned that his audience understood what he was doing and how he did it. There were about 15 woodworkers present and I believe we all benefited from the rank amateur (me) to the professional. I left the seminar wishing for more and I believe that's the sign of a job well done. I am waiting to win the lottery so that I can take a week long course at his school in California.

Not much wood working on the go as we are babysitting our grandchildren—well my wife is babysitting and I'm spoiling them. I believe that God put grandparents here for the express purpose of spoiling grandchildren and I intend to accomplish that objective.

That's all for now....., the Captain beckons from the poolside.

### Books.....from page 2

This has to be one of the most comprehensive books for building Windsor and post-and-rung chairs that I've come across. There are step-by-step tutorials for making 3 Windsor chair types and scaled plans and notes for making 8 other post-and-rung chairs and Windsors. There are also plans for a shaving horse, a spring-pole lathe, and two simple wood kilns. Anyone who knows me knows that I have a strong desire to build a chair and that this year will be the year that I tackle one or two. This book will definitely come in handy!

I believe that understanding the medium with which we work goes a long way in creating better results and reference books are the place to start. Copies of both of these books, and lots of others on finishing, furniture making, design and cabinet making, are available from the AWA library. For a full list of what is available log in to our website and click the 'Library Titles' link on the left-hand menu.

We still have several books that have been out on loan for several months. Please, please bring them in so that they can be shared with the other members. Thanks.

Happy reading!



## AWA PHOTO GALLERY



**SEE YOU ALL AT THE HOME DEPOT IN HALIFAX ON JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>,  
7:00 P.M. SHARP**

