



Atlantic Woodworkers'
Association

ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

AWA Newsletter

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OUR MARCH MEETING

DAVID SMITH HAS ARRANGED A VERY SPECIAL MEETING FOR US THIS MONTH. ALTHOUGH IT IS SLIGHTLY OFF TOPIC I KNOW THAT EVERY ONE OF US WILL APPRECIATE THE CONTENT.

WE ARE MEETING AT *SECOND SOURCE POWER* IN BURNSIDE AND SECOND SOURCE POWER WILL HAVE SOME VERY INTERESTING MONEY SAVING DEMONSTRATIONS FOR US. AND WE ARE ALL INTERESTED IN SAVING MONEY. SECOND SOURCE SPECIALIZES IN WIND POWER, SOLAR POWER, BACK-UP POWER AND OTHER GREEN ENERGY SOURCES. THIS SHOULD BE A REALLY INTERESTING EVENING AND IT ALL STARTS AT OUR USUAL TIME, 7:00 P.M. SHARP. SECOND SOURCE POWER IS LOCATED AT 202 BROWNLOW, UNIT C.C.E. BROWNLOW IS PARALLEL TO BURNSIDE DRIVE AND INTERSECTS WITH COMMODORE DRIVE. PHONE 406-4400.



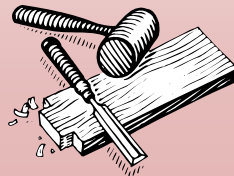
FEBRUARY'S MEETING

We had quite a turnout for last month's meeting and as we can all attest to, it was highly educational. Kevin Hurst walked us through just about every wood finishing product that Lee Valley has in their catalogue. There was tremendous interaction from the members and that just adds to the learning.

Dave Smith filled us in on the details of our Ridgid Shop Radio Raffle and gave us some details on our up-coming meetings and venues.

Graham McCulloch showed us a book vise made from a variety of scrap exotic woods and he brought in the new DeWalt Track Saw for us to drool over.

Doug MacIntosh showed us what happens to simple oak when you put it in a bag with some ammonia. The result was a beautiful fumed oak picture frame. Thanks for that Doug.



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**A WORD FROM
THE CHAIRMAN**

As we try and move from Winter into Spring we can be giving thanks for our dry, warm shops. I must admit the grip that this winter has, coupled with the latest weather, does make one appreciate our indoor hobby.

The February meeting was very interesting and I would like to thank Kevin Hurst, from Lee Valley for a truly informative demonstration and a great question and answer session.

As for our March meeting we would like to take the members a step away from woodworking. We are planning a little road trip to Second Source Power, to see some alternate sources of power. Hopefully for those who can attend we shall gain insight into back up power and some Nova Scotian alternatives. I have gathered that several of our members have a keen interest in this topic; it should be energizing.

Please take note that we will not be at Home Depot until our April meeting.

Anyone having an interest in joining the executive please see or contact Doug MacIntosh as soon as possible as the April Annual General Meeting (AGM) is fast approaching. I hope to see you all in Burnside at Second Source Tuesday March 10th at 7:00 pm.

Cecil

**FROM THE DESK OF
THE LIBRARIAN**



My wife and I, along with our daughter and her boyfriend, just got back from visiting our son and his better half in the West Kootenay mountains of British Columbia. It was a wonderful week with the whole 'fam damily' being together for the first time in a couple of years. What made the trip extra special for me was the chance to work with my son in his new shop. Although he runs his own home construction company working on smaller projects is relatively new to him so happily, 'dear ol' Dad' was there to give a 'leg up'. Before we started we took the time to make a few table saw jigs. We made a couple of cross-cut sleds, a spline jig and a picture frame jig. Once completed, it surprised me just how much these helped him get started. I always thought of them only as time savers but they also added so much to the simplicity of making his projects, and therefore, confidence, that he was quickly on his way to making small boxes and picture frames on his own.



See Books, Page 4



(Editor's Note: Gene and his family are basking (but not for much longer) 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



My Love Affair With The Router.....

My friends know that I have seven routers. When asked why? I have two flippant answers—the first is that Norm Abrams has eleven and I'm trying to catch him and the second is that I never have to change bits. The answer begins in the distant past (all of 50 years).

I was staying with a friend for a holiday weekend at his father's cottage. He was having a set of kitchen drawers build by a neighbor and delivered them while I was there. He proceeded to round over the fronts of the drawers with a mysterious and previously unknown tool called a router. It was sheer magic. I was captivated and a devotee from that moment on. Here was instant gratification. The power to round over had prior to this been done by me with a plane and sandpaper. Now it was accomplished in seconds while my way took a day or longer. Moreover the round over was pure and even throughout without apparent defects. I purchased my first about 5 years later. It was a Craftsman from Sears Roebuck. A simple device with one speed and only a ¼ "collet but she was beautiful and gave me great joy at 100 decibels. I rounded over miles of boards whether they need it or not. Over the years I moved on, although I still have the original and it continues in use to this day.



I now have two 3 ½ HP big boys (a Freud and a Hitachi) that live their lives upside down in router tables, one plunge base (DeWalt), two fixed bases (Porter-Cable and DeWalt) and a laminate trimmer (Craftsman). I have one additional fixed base that has been borrowed by one of my sons and I suspect that one can use the word "borrowed" rather loosely. This doesn't answer the question as to why I need seven routers. The answer of course is I don't actually "need" that many but I do "want" them and each has a place in my shop. Could I live without them?? Possibly, but I don't want to. Will I be expanding the harem?? Likely, unless my wife reads this and then I will get "the look" and future expansion will be in jeopardy.

PAGE 4 NEWS

For those wood turners in our membership (dual citizenship?) you know that there are only two places in Metro in which to purchase the tools of your hobby/trade. They are Lee Valley and Busy Bee tools. Well, no doubt you were among the close to 70 attendees at the Busy Bee/Robert Sorby Turning Presentation on Monday, March 2nd past.

Bill Luther arranged and hosted this really informative event and the guest turner was Chris Pouncy from Robert Sorby in England. Although poor weather was forecasted, both Luther and Pouncy were very impressed with the enthusiastic turnout. Hollowed bowl turning was featured and Pouncy mounted the square Ash blank in the new Sorby Patriot Chuck. A first in Canada! Pouncy later employed the use of the new Sorby Wobble Chuck and demonstrated the new Micro-System of miniature turning tools. Busy Bee will be the exclusive Canadian dealers for these. Hats off to Bill Luther for putting together this great demonstration!



Books, from page 2

The four jigs only took us a couple of hours to make but I'm sure they will save him hundreds, even thousands of hours over the course of his new found hobby. The confidence they'll give him in creating safer, accurate and repetitive cuts is priceless.

We have a couple of books in the library on making workshop jigs that look quite interesting. One is 'Easy To Make Jigs' by Nick Engler and the other is 'The Best Jigs & Fixtures For Your Workshop' from Popular Woodworking. The latter is a compilation of 50 of the best jigs submitted by craftsmen from all over the world so I'm sure that there is one or two there that we could all find helpful!

On the flight out and back I also had the chance to re-read 'A Cabinetmaker's Notebook' by James Krenov. This is a fantastic book (and timeless too!) for someone who wants more insight into the art and craft of cabinetmaking and the philosophy of working with wood from one of the world's greatest cabinetmakers.

All for now, and looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting!

Remember, please return your books on time so that they can be shared with all the members!

Back to the books...

Ted

Note: There will be no access to the library at the March Meeting.





From The Editor.....

AWA members should note that unpaid memberships will result in the cancellation of the Newsletter subscription.

With the upcoming Annual General Meeting in April we are calling on our membership to help us out. Jennifer Canam is not able to continue her position as Association Secretary and we desperately require someone (male or female) to fill her position. Please help us out by volunteering. Thanks

We are honoring three members with lifetime AWA memberships: Kevin Hurst, John Todd and Robert Johnson. The latter two are members of the Canadian Military and deserve our recognition. Kevin is with Lee Valley Tools and has been instrumental in going out of his way to help the AWA in every possible way. Thank you guys!

Graham

THE *AWA* PHOTO GALLERY

