



Atlantic Woodworkers'  
Association

## ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

# AWA Newsletter

May 2009 18 Princeton Ave., Halifax, NS B3R 1Z9 Volume 27 No.5

### OUR MAY MEETING

Our May meeting promises to be really interesting, we are meeting at Mill Supply and for those of you that have not been there before, it's located at 32 Troop Ave., Burnside. Troop Avenue runs parallel to Burnside Drive and Mill Supply is just north of Busy Bee.

The meeting is going to focus on the recent acquisition of bandsaw blade making from Hakansson. Mill is now making custom blades for almost all bandsaw types both for us woodworkers and for the pros as well. In addition, Paul is going to tell us a little about their wood stain product line.

But, that's not all folks! Ted Monk will bring us up to date with new books, Dick Jamer will welcome our newest members and news about how we hope to attract new ones.

There will be talk about making our members aware of the woodworking suppliers discounts for AWA members.

Tom Patterson will bring us all up to speed on what took place at our recent Director's meeting.

So folks, it will be a busy time at Mill Supply and as usual, the meeting gets underway at exactly 7:00 P.M. See you there.

### THE APRIL MEETING

The April meeting of the AWA was our Annual General Meeting and we had an excellent turnout. Our new Chairman was officially installed in the person of Tom Patterson; Lew Hatt stepped down as Past Chairman to make room for our new Past Chairman, Cecil Canam. Our new Vice-Chairman is Don Shubaly

Due to business commitments, Dave Smith had to step down as Events Coordinator. And, he did such a great job for us in the past that it's going to take two of our more astute members to fill his shoes. These are Gene Nurse and Cecil Canam. We also say a sad farewell to Jennifer Canam as Secretary but not as an active member. Our new Secretary will be Mike Chisolm, welcome aboard Mike.

For a full listing of our 2009/10 Board of Director's see page 2

The April meeting saw a presentation by the principals of the new Bayside Camp wherein they have solicited the help of the AWA members to design and build 60 bunk beds. The new camp, a 3.5 million dollar project is being built near Sambro and is quite an undertaking. Gene Nurse and Stan Salsman have now formed a committee and with the sanction of our Director's, the project is a go. In fact, the prototype was built on site on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> (see Gene's E-mail on page 5). "Built by" plaques will be made and placed on each of the bunk beds. We need your help members and we will have more details at our May meeting at Mill Supply.

We also saw some pretty incredible Pen Turning By Cecil Canam, Cec brought in a great selection of turnings that were previously done and he showed us how easy it is to get started turning them.

## ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION Board of Directors

Tom Patterson	Chairman	466-7110	<a href="mailto:thepatternsons@ns.sympatico.ca">thepatternsons@ns.sympatico.ca</a>
Don Shubaly	Vice Chairman	445-4625	
Cecil Canam	Past Chairman	462-7137	<a href="mailto:bugle@hfx.eastlink.ca">bugle@hfx.eastlink.ca</a>
Mike Chisolm	Secretary	826-7568	<a href="mailto:CHISHOMG@gov.ns.ca">CHISHOMG@gov.ns.ca</a>
Ken Miller	Treasurer	445-3055	<a href="mailto:kenmiller@ns.sympatico.ca">kenmiller@ns.sympatico.ca</a>
Graham McCulloch	Communications	479-0221	<a href="mailto:graham@atlanticwoodworkers.ca">graham@atlanticwoodworkers.ca</a>
Gene Nurse	Events Coordinator	434-7989	<a href="mailto:enurse@ns.sympatico.ca">enurse@ns.sympatico.ca</a>
Cecil Canam	Events Coordinator	462-7137	<a href="mailto:bugle@hfx.eastlink.ca">bugle@hfx.eastlink.ca</a>
Ted Monk	Librarian	435-3686	<a href="mailto:tedmonk@gmail.com">tedmonk@gmail.com</a>
Dick Jamer	Registrar	576-2421	<a href="mailto:rjamer@eastlink.ca">rjamer@eastlink.ca</a>
Doug MacIntosh	Director	429-1623	<a href="mailto:macintosh.doug@ns.sympatico.ca">macintosh.doug@ns.sympatico.ca</a>
Phil Carter	Director	477-4467	<a href="mailto:plcarter@eastlink.ca">plcarter@eastlink.ca</a>
Dave Smith	Director	462-3863	
Lew Hatt	Director	462-0187	

### A WORD FROM OUR NEW CHAIRMAN

I want to acknowledge some of the major accomplishments made by the Association under the skilful leadership of our Past Chair, Cecil Canam, during his term in office in the past two years.

- 1/. The attractive and informative web site is up and running. Much of the credit has to go to Graham McCulloch for his time, contacts, and creative writing skills.
- 2/. The library is now organized and accessible to all members. Much of the credit has to go to the Jen Canam, our Past Secretary, who spent many hours sorting through books, magazines, and videos to catalogue the material in a systematic fashion. The library is now located at our regular meeting place where it is easily accessible to members. The old VHS videos were converted to DVD's thanks to Cecil and Bill Luther. Ted Monk has volunteered to become our Librarian and has promoted the library through his newsletter articles.
- 3/. During the past two years, we had many interesting, informative and entertaining presenters at our meetings and also attended interesting and informative tours. Much of the credit has to go to our past Events Coordinator, David Smith.
- 4/. As a community project, the Association members built a storage shed for the SPCA in Dartmouth. Again, much of the credit has to go to David Smith for spear heading that project.
- 5/. The power tools that were owned by the Association but were seldom borrowed by members were auctioned off at meetings of the Association. Again, much credit has to go to Graham McCulloch for extracting every penny's worth of value out of the tools for the benefit of the Association.
- 6/. Another feature that was added to the agenda of most meetings is a timefor the "Ask the members" section. This is a time when members can raise any question, concern, or problem they may have related to woodworking, tools or techniques. In between meetings, members can receive similar assistance by emailing Graham who will fan out the questions to members.

Whenever one acknowledges the contributions of specific people, they are bound to miss significant contributions of some others. In an effort to avoid this, I would like to acknowledge the time and effort of all members who attended and participated at meetings and who assisted in projects of the Association.

Tom



### FROM THE DESK OF THE LIBRARIAN



May is now upon us and I sure hope that you got your outside projects started. If not, you'll be working hard to catch up before the REAL good weather gets here. It won't be too long before we'll begin to fall prey to the woodworker's number one lament, "Gee, dear, it's too hot to work today, let's go to the beach". So, git out there and git 'er done cause if you're like me, you're gonna need it! Here's how my springtime 'outdoor project' is going... It's been several years since my wife and I had a vegetable garden so over the winter we decided to put one in again. We decided to do a raised bed garden. Since I didn't want to buy wood for the raised bed I thought that it would be a great idea to use some of the trees that have fallen down over the winter, plus this would give it a cool 'rustic' look. Well, I quickly found out that I didn't have enough deadfall and that I would have to do some 'selective siculture' to get what I need. While doing so I realized what a mess was still left over from Juan and that I should start cutting down, and cutting up, some of the debris. I made the mistake of telling my wife how much of this there was and then she had the bright idea that if we rented a chipper we could chip it up and wouldn't have to buy mulch. So, here I am, about 3 weeks into cleaning up a bunch of old dead trees, I got the chipper coming sometime next week, I still have to haul all the old wood out, the chipping will take at least another 3 days to do and I have still haven't got the garden beds built yet! Oh Well, maybe we'll get the spinach in by August... :) Anyway, we have 5 new books that have been added to the library recently that will come in handy once all your work is done. They are:

Carving Wooden Finger And Cane Puppets by Ross Oar  
Woodworker's Guide To Bending Wood by Jonathan Benson,  
Carving Gargoyles by Shawn Cipa, 101 Artistic Relief Patterns by Lora S. Irish, Zodiac Puzzles for Scrollsaw Woodworking by Judy and Dave Peterson.

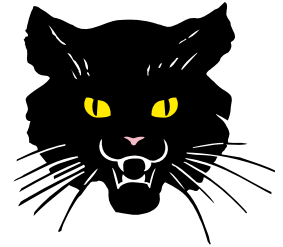
Once again, thanks to Graham for donating these fine books to our library!  
I'll have these and more with me at the next meeting. If you have books out please bring them with you to the meeting so that others may share them too!  
Ted



## Gene's BURLS

### MR. JYNX

My daughter-in-law came to visit one evening. It was immediately apparent she had a fulminating cold and she had come to see if I could cure it. Her request was punctuated by sneezing on the front of my shirt and coughing in my face. With bleary eyes and a gagging snuffle she wanted "The Cure". I told her the only one I knew was to go home and shoot herself a suggestion that she did not find humorous, which was appropriate since I had not meant it to be humorous. I informed her that not only could I not cure the cold but now she had succeeded in infecting her father-in-law, another fact that she failed to get the point of. She left none the wiser and me with the absolute certainty that in 5-7 days I would be sick as a dog with the cold. I have over the years developed a subtle means of avenging myself. They have several cats with the oldest being an alpha male called Mr. Jynx. I have found that Mr. Jynx has developed a taste for dark rum and coke. The side effect is that gets projectile diarrhea about 24 hours later. A few days later I go to visit on the pretext that I have come to see how the cold is going. I accept an offer for dark rum and coke—no ice (Mr. Jynx prefers his rum warm). I casually set my glass on the floor by my foot secure in the knowledge that Mr. Jynx will visit. So over the next hour we share our beverage and he staggers off to sleep and I return home with a smile on my face. A day or two later I call to see how everybody is and get told of the harrowing tale of a cat with diarrhea. Not unhappy mind you but diarrhea nevertheless. I express amazement and hang up. Give me a cold will you!!!



What does this have to do with wood you may ask? Well Mr. Jynx and I also share a fondness for mahogany—I like to work with it and he likes to urinate on it. Perhaps mahogany smells like female cat urine to an alpha male cat. Not being an expert on cat urine I will not pursue this line of thought further.

#### Editor's Note:

Gene has some more comments un-related to cats, rum and diarrhea. We, some of the AWA volunteers, went out to the Bayside Camp on Saturday to help build a bunk bed prototype. The following are Gene's observations. The photos show the work in progress.



The New Bayside Camp

To All:

Let me just say how pleased I was with today. We assembled one bunk bed from scratch (that included cutting the wood) in about 1 1/2 hours. I believe if we started with precut wood we could assemble a bunk in an hour. This exercise also highlighted some errors I made in design. It is apparent that we need double safety rails on the sides (upper bunks) and I'll correct that in the new plan. I've beefed up the ladder to use full inch thick wood and the straps that cross under the plywood should also be full 1 inch thick or increase the numbers from 5 to 8 at 3/4 inch--I'll give the two options some thought. Thank all of you for your very helpful suggestions.

It is my plan now to arrange for all of the wood for all 60 beds to be brought in and have a full day of cutting to length including the plywood so that when we are finished we will have piles of each category. I will speak to Ben to see if we can have some of his volunteer teen teenagers move supplies of wood to each bunk house so that we can go down and start assembly without having to move wood first. A number of issues surfaced including one bunk house that is designed so that entry to the bunks are from the side rather than the end--once again this is not a serious problem we will simply put the ladder on the side instead of the end. The other issue that came to light is the floors will not be going in for 2-3 weeks. I proposed that we make all parts of the bunk and leave the final assembly until the floors are in.

We will also address the issue of having a secure place to store tools so that we do not have to transport them back and forth.

Cheers to all--great day guys.

Gene

### 2009 AWA Membership Dues

The 2009 AWA membership fee of \$20.00 is now past due. If you have not already done so, please pay for your 2009 membership at our meeting on May 12. The easiest means of paying dues is to give our treasurer, Ken Miller, the \$20 and he will give you a receipt. Take the receipt to our membership Registrar, Dick Jamer, he will give you your 2009 membership card. Ken and Dick normally arrive at least 15 minutes before meeting time and are willing to stay late to collect dues. According to a resolution passed at the 2006 Annual General Meeting, you are considered to no longer be a member if dues are unpaid by April 30<sup>th</sup>. This means that you will no longer receive the newsletter and cannot borrow books or videos. AWA has been quite lenient in the past but the club does require the money for website maintenance and a variety of other expenses. Membership in AWA is the best deal in town. We get a very good newsletter, the opportunity to trade advice with some real experts, borrow books and videos and we frequently walk away from meetings with goodies that were free or a fraction of their real cost.

If you cannot attend the meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2009, please mail a \$ 20.00 cheque (payable to the Atlantic Woodworkers Association) for your membership dues to Ken Miller at:

200 Melrose Avenue,  
Halifax, NS, B3N 2E3

Your membership card will be available at the next meeting.

Dick



# **THE *AWA* PHOTO GALLERY**

The following are from our Annual General Meeting in March of 2009..



**SEE YOU ALL AT MILL SUPPLY**