



Atlantic Woodworkers'
Association

ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

AWA Newsletter

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The October Meeting

By Ted Monk

This month's meeting of the Atlantic Woodworkers Association was held at Home Depot, our home away from home. The feature of the evening was a presentation by member Jay Perry, who demonstrated the Veritas Mk.II Power Sharpening System. Jay, as many of you may remember from the [Seminar On Sharpening Plane Blades](#) that I attended last year, has taught at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design for over 20 years, works for Lee Valley and has a strong passion for planes and for keeping them very sharp. He demonstrated the sharpening capabilities of the Veritas Mk.II Power Sharpening System beginning with an old plough plane blade that was in a pretty rough state. However, after only a few seconds with the 80 grit sanding disk the rust and pits were removed. Moving on to a plane blade Jay started by lapping the back of the blade and then on to sharpening the edge. He began with the 150 grit disk, then to the 350 grit disk and finished off with the 1200 grit disk. Again, in a relatively short time the blade was ready for use: Jay sharpened a series of chisels that were sharp enough to shave with. This was verified by the several members who went home with hairless arms!

Our meeting concluded with a quick auction of a couple of table saw blades and a draw for several cans of wood filler. There was also a free quart of stain for all 22 attending members.

Our November Meeting

Our November meeting will be held at our regular venue, The Home Depot on **Tuesday November 7 at 7:00 PM.**

Cecil Canam, past chair of the AWA will be treating us with an exhibition of his talents one more time. Many will remember Cecil's beautiful pen turning and how he showed us some of his turning tricks.

This time however Cecil will be turning some Christmas ornaments and other holiday decorations, a very appropriate subject for this time of the year.

Bring your favorite or most recent woodworking project with you for our Show & Tell segment of our meeting.

Another event of importance is the Moncton Woodshow at the Moncton Coliseum and that starts at noon on Friday the 13th through to Sunday the 15th. In a recent conversation with Bill Marshal, show organizer, I can tell you that contrary to some sour grape spreaders here in Metro, this promises to be a really good show. I'll be there and I sure hope to see lots of AWA members there as well. Drive carefully!

2009/10 AWA Board of Directors

Tom Patterson	Chairman	466-7110
Don Shubaly	Vice Chairman	445-4625
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A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



At our October meeting, Jay Perry gave us a very informative presentation on sharpening chisels and knives. He not only demonstrated the tools and techniques of sharpening, but he stressed an often overlooked factor, that of the need to keep the tool as cool as possible to maintain their temper. It was great to learn from one of our own. Many thanks to Jay.

At the November meeting, we will again be treated by a demonstration from one of our own members. Cecil Canam, our immediate past Chair, will demonstrate the techniques of turning small item that can be used as Christmas ornaments and gifts. Those who attended the meeting last Spring were indeed impressed with Cecil's knowledge and skill in turning pens.

Bring your projects to the November meeting for a "show and tell " and also any questions on woodworking for the " ask the members" segment of the meeting.

Cheers, Tom



FROM THE DESK OF OUR LIBRARIAN



Hello everyone! Now that the yard work is all done (it is, right?) and Fall is upon us it's time to start thinking about those Christmas projects, especially our annual toy drive.

Now, I usually talk about books in this space but not today. Although we do have a few wooden toy books in the library, this month I'd like to focus a bit on some plans and ideas for toys that are easily accessible and freely available on the Internet (It's still reading!

Here are a few websites that I frequent for FREE plans:

Craftsman Space (<http://www.craftsmanspace.com/>) has lots of great plans and patterns that offer extensive instruction, cutlists, excellent visuals and downloadable plans.

If you're into scrollwork then Free Wood Puzzles may be right up your alley. They offer printable instructions and patterns to make over fifty puzzles! <http://www.freewoodpuzzles.com/>

And finally, Jim Barry's Free Woodworking Plans (<http://www.freewoodworkingplan.com/>). I believe this one to be the mother of all free plans websites (I spent a weekend here one day!). You'll find thousands of free plans here and hundreds of plans for toys. Jim is from right here in Nova Scotia and has been collecting plans since 1998.

This is just a few of the multitude of free plan websites that are out there. Enjoy!

Don't forget to bring any items that you have on loan from the library the meeting so that we can share them with all the members!

Back to the books...

Gene's BURLS



It's that time of year again---the annual closing of the cottage. Each year it gets just a little bit harder on the knees, hips, back, etc. Crawling underneath to the kingdom of the spiders was never easy--- now even the animals who once yelled at me to get out line up to express sympathy. The squirrel and her family, now fully grown after a summer of living in my bird feeders, look at me with pity. I believe in squirrel language they refer to me as "the old fart" or at least that's what it sounds like. The raccoon and her two children hardly bother to move as I slide along in the dirt, they have no fear of one so seemingly incompetent. Mice run over body parts as I lie on the ground with arms raised to drain pipes. They indicate they will soon be moving in for the winter and inquire as to availability of food that I unintentionally leave for them on an annual basis. They are so adept at getting the peanut butter from the trap without setting it off that I believe they think I'm setting out winter food for them in a convenient container.



Nevertheless I carry on with the job and eventually all pipes are drained along with the hot water tank. I muse softly to myself as to which one I've forgotten and which elbow I'll find blown off in the spring. Such is the joy of cottage ownership. I always feel badly locking up in the fall. It's kind of like saying goodbye to an old and dear friend. At least once every three years I cogitate on the possibly of putting a basement under it and getting a furnace so that we can use it in the winter. These thoughts are fleeting as "the one who knows all" rolls the eyes and I get "the look" that says 'don't you even dare say it out loud'. I surrender quickly; sleeping on the chesterfield is no longer easy on the old bones. So goodbye until spring.





Notes From Our Registrar

There is not much new from the membership side this month. I am still looking for members to send me a short narrative about themselves that we can post on the AWA website. You can tell us how you got started in woodworking, your specific areas of interest or anything else that inspires you. Basically, we see these articles as a way for us to get to know each other better. To date I only have three articles. I have forwarded them to our webmaster along with the updates to the membership list. Hopefully these updates will be posted in the near future. Please send your article to me at rjamer@eastlink.ca

I will not be at the November AWA meeting as I will be in Northern NB taking in Remembrance Day activities with my father. However, I'm sure Ken Miller would be happy to take your membership money. We will be encouraging everyone to pay their 2010 dues at the December meeting.

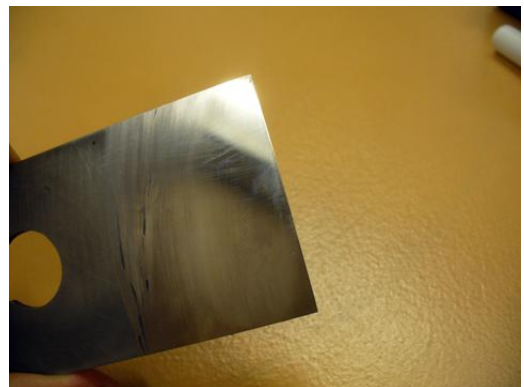
Have a great meeting!

Dick

Editor's Note: The Members Page on the AWA website has now been up-dated.

The AWA Photo Gallery

The following are photos of our October meeting and were photographed by Ted Monk.





THE AWA SUPPORTS THE FOLLOWING MERCHANTS:

AWA Merchant List

The following woodworking tool and materials merchants offer a discount to ***paid up*** members of the Atlantic Woodworker's Association. AWA members ***must*** show their current membership card at the time of purchase. We encourage you to visit their websites before shopping.

Discounts vary from merchant to merchant.

We encourage our members to frequent these merchants for all of your woodworking requirements.

Brandnew Industries Inc. 375 Pine Ave., Santa Barbara, CA 93117 – 1-800-964-8251 - Scott Swanson, Sales Manager. Brandnew makes electric branding irons for woodworkers. This is a great way to identify your projects. Members are offered a 10% discount. (note: pay in \$US.)

East West Plastics & Electric Products, 55 Akerly Blvd. Burnside, Proveer has bought East West and are in the same location, 468-7401. The Manager is Derek MacKendrick. Proveer will allow us to purchase from their off-cut bin.

Fundy Grinding – 9 Farnham Road, Truro, NS, 800-863-0181 – Mr. David Drummond. (Discounts usually 5 – 10%)
(www.fundygrinding.com)

Halifax Specialty Hardwoods – 26A Topsail Court, Atlantic Acres Industrial Park, NS – 835-4700 – Mr. Darryl Vallis. (Discount 10%)
(www.halifaxspecialtyhardwoods.com)

Kent Building Supply* - All locations in Metro Halifax. (Members should go to the Contractor's Desk)

Mill Supply – 32 Troop Ave., Burnside – 468-3236 – Mr. Malcolm Matthews (Preferred Customer Discount)
(www.millsupply.com)

Nova Specialty Building Materials – 101 Ilsley Ave., Burnside – 468-1012 – (Preferred Customer Discount)
(<http://www.atyp.com/novaspecialty/>)

Rideout Tool & Machinery – 170 Akerly Blvd., Burnside – 468-2060 – Mr. Chris Rideout or Mr. Norman Penny. (Preferred Customer Discount)
(www.rideouttool.com)


Robert Bury Canada Ltd. – 30 Williams Ave., Burnside – 468-3555 (This company sells *wholesale only* but will sell to AWA members with a minimum order of \$100.)
(www.robertbury.com)

Workshop Supply Inc. – P.O. Box 160 – 100 Commissioners St. East, Embro, ON N0J 1J0. Mr. Steve Siddal, President. Workshop Supply has a really great selection of products for the woodworker. Ask them for a catalogue and get on their mailing list. (10% discount on products).
(www.workshopsupply.com)





THE FINAL CUT


By Graham McCulloch

 Now that our shed has been raised it's time to re-face it as the oriented strand board that is now on it does not take well to weather even if painted. The rain will quickly find and penetrate those minute areas where the paint never got to.

I decided to take a tip from the Bayside camp buildings and do a board and batten finish to it. The battens are all caulked and the next couple of mild days in a row will see me spray painting it. The back side of the shed is still being worked on. I plan to add a 4' x 16' extension to hold my lawn tractor and the snowblower in the off season but after our surprise snow storm a few days ago, it may have to wait till spring.

 And, speaking of spring, my publisher has just sent me the initial proofs for my latest book that should see daylight sometime next March. The 'working' title is 701 Woodshop Tips and Tricks. I'll keep you posted.

 I'm looking forward to seeing Cecil's turnings at our November meeting and also looking forward to seeing you in Moncton at the Woodshow. I'll have a small booth there on Saturday and Sunday.

 You may have noticed that we have a new vendor from whom we can purchase products from. Proveer has bought out East West Plastics and although they normally sell to the sign trade they will sell their products to us at trade prices. They have a monthly flyer and I will pass it on to you under separate cover. Thanks to Lew Hatt for making these arrangements.

Work Safe
Graham