



Atlantic Woodworkers'
Association

ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

AWA Newsletter

October 2008

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OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

Once again we were made welcome at Halifax Specialty Hardwoods and the meeting was very well attended. We welcomed new AWA member Diane Looker and we look forward to seeing her at all of our future meetings.

The good people at HSH auctioned off some of their prized hardwood and it went at a bargain price. Graham auctioned off some goodies with the proceeds going to the *AWA*.

You can bet that there will be more goodies at our October meeting so make sure you attend.



OUR OCTOBER MEETING

We have a very special guest to talk to us at our October meeting. You've heard him on CBC's Maritime Noon call-in show as an expert in finishing. Jim White has the answers so make sure you bring your questions. As we all know, it is the final finish that makes or breaks our woodworking projects. Jim is going to show it should be done to make you real proud of your work. We meet at 7:00 at the Halifax Home Depot next Tuesday. See you there!





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**A WORD FROM
THE CHAIRMAN**



Well we start another season of putting our outside labours to bed and have wide eyed visions of our shops and all the things we have thought of doing during the summer.

This year seems to be a good year to return to our passion of wood working as the cost of fuel has made traveling an extra not to be done with a great deal of thought.

We have an ace in our area to have a wealth of wood suppliers and tool suppliers in short distances. We also have a group of very knowledgeable people in our association who are willing to share with us; all we have to do is ask.

This month we have an interesting subject that can make or break most projects and that is finishing so bring your questions.

Look forward to seeing you all at the home depot.

Cecil



The AWA Fall Schedule

The following is a tentative list of events and/or meetings planned for the remainder of 2008. All meetings are at 7:00 P.M. sharp.

September - 9 – At Halifax Specialty Hardwoods.

October – 14 – At Home Depot – Jim White, Lake City Paints – will discuss finishing ideas.

November – 4 – At Home Depot – Bill Luther on Toymaking. (Note date due to holiday)

December - 9 – At Lee Valley Tools – our annual Toy Show and Tell for the kids at the IWK. In addition of course it is when we all bring some nibbles.



(Editor's Note: This is the second of a monthly feature by AWA member Eugene (Call me Gene) Nurse) a very talented writer and woodworker. We know you will enjoy these. Graham)

GENE'S BURLS

You know there are a few times in my life when I refuse to acknowledge the lessons of history. My wife and children would refer to these times as often.

Recently I took a look at my cottage property and decided that there was an overgrowth of aspen that needed thinning. The last such adventure occurred two years prior but I had forgotten the episode and so I moved to retrieve my chainsaw. My wife left home for the day having no stomach for blood, foul language or seeing her husband make a complete fool of himself. The first disquieting note was the chainsaw which had been stored two years before with gas and oil undrained and the gas now looked vaguely like a cola beverage with things floating in it. I decided to take it to the local garage and have the young buck who works there drain the tank and get it started. He looked skeptically at the gas in the tank and said "looks like some asshole left gas in the tank over winter"—I didn't bother to tell him it was two winters. In any event with much difficulty he got it started. I headed back to the field of action sincere in my knowledge that I was now 30 years old. When I arrived back at the cottage I noted that mother squirrel had her children on the deck rail to watch the action. Sort of like a day at the circus for the children.

I picked a tree about 6 inches at the base with a lean that had its top touching the ground. With no thought of the dynamics of wood fibers when the tree is leaning I made the first cut from below. The chain stopped abruptly as the cut closed on the bar. No amount of huffing and puffing could loosen the firmly fixed bar. The squirrels were rolling around in hysterical laughter as I invented new language to describe the situation. I gave it up and went down the road where real loggers were clearing land and persuaded a young man to assist me. He came and saw the chain saw buried in the tree and I got the same look as I get from my grandson when I screw up my computer. It is a look of total contempt that says "why haven't they put you in a nursing home?" In five minutes he extricated the saw and suggested I retire from further activity especially since the bar is now bent. With my pride in tatters I threaten the squirrels and retire to my cottage to talk to Captain Morgan.



The AWA Photo Page from the September Meeting



SEE YOU TUESDAY 7:00 SHARP