



Atlantic Woodworkers'
Association

ATLANTIC WOODWORKERS' ASSOCIATION

AWA Newsletter

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FROM SUMMER SOLSTICE TO AUTUMNAL EQUINOX

Welcome back *AWA* members. We, the executive hope that you all have had a happy and healthy summer. Although most (it seems) of our Nova Scotia summer has been a wet one, it might have been a blessing for some of us. The wet weather helps to keep us in our shop making sawdust. For those that work outside and the gardeners among us it was a bit of a drag however.



With September right around the corner perhaps we can start thinking about our annual toy drive for the IWK Hospital. For toy making ideas you can check with our library on our *AWA* website (www.atlanticwoodworkers.ca). As a reminder, your user name is **awouser** and your password is **awapass**. The Metro libraries are pretty well stocked with books of toy plans as well.



OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

WE START OFF THE FALL SEASON WITH OUR FRIENDS AT HALIFAX SPECIALTY HARDWOODS IN THE ATLANTIC ACRES INDUSTRIAL PARK.

TO GET THERE YOU CAN TAKE EITHER THE HAMMONDS PLAINS RD. OR THE KEARNEY LAKE RD. TO BLUEWATER ROAD. THEIR ADDRESS IS 26A TOPSAIL COURT AND THAT IS JUST OFF BLUEWATER ROAD.

THE MEETING AS USUAL WILL BE AT 7:00 P.M. SHARP AND THERE WILL BE SNACKS AVAILABLE.

AS *AWA* MEMBERS WE ARE AFFORDED A SPECIAL DISCOUNT SO THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO STOCK UP FOR THOSE XMAS TOYS YOU ARE GOING TO BUILD. SEE YOU THERE.



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A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Well another summer has come and gone and my read on my summer is that what you plan to do and what you actually do leaves lot's of room to fall short of your goal. Woodworking seemed to take a back seat to a longer list of things. I will quote one of our members who said he thought a lack of tools in his shop prevented him from producing but it really is a lack of time. I made a decision to try to make my shop more efficient in the hope to make my limited time in there more productive.

There seems to be a lot of companies revamping some of their tools and one I have read about is Delta's Unisaw with its larger surface and improved angle adjustment if you get a chance to go on line it is very impressive.

There will be no wood show in Halifax again this year so no Kids workshop. We have been trying to find a replacement community project to get involved in after we lost the workshop. We are open to any and all suggestions.

We are also looking for your input into our meeting presentations if you have any suggestions bring them to the September meeting which will be at Halifax Specialty Hardwoods.

Looking forward to seeing everybody there.

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 first of a monthly feature by AWA member Eugene (Call me Gene) Nurse) a very talented writer. We know you will enjoy these. Graham)



GENE'S BURLS

I used to write a regular column for the newsletter but over time I grew lazy and quit my journalistic endeavors for sitting on the sofa and drinking beer.

I'm now back by popular demand, well at least one person asked me, then again perhaps he was smoking something funny that day. In any event I'm here in a somewhat haphazard capacity at the pleasure of Graham and when the sofa no longer beckons or the beer is gone and my wife refuses to go to the liquor store.

Every year at springtime there is a "Rite of Passage" at my cottage. I must go underneath into a crawlspace with an uneven mud floor and barely 3 feet high. The purpose is to get my water up and running and that's where the tank is mounted. Why is it there and not inside where it is dry and accessible you may ask. Well I do have an answer. I put it there when I was 30 years old never anticipating that someday I would be 70. The job is now in the category of unbearable. On a 0 to 10 scale where 10 is inhumane it's an 11.

So, I throw open the hatch cover where light has not penetrated since it was closed last fall. I am greeted by hoards of spiders that look particularly venomous, a rabid herd of squirrels and a mother raccoon with her two babies. They eye me with suspicion as I have dared to enter into territory which they consider theirs. I apologize for the intrusion and explain I will leave as soon as I get the water started. I hear sniggering from the squirrel thugs who remember my trials of a year ago when it took most of the weekend to repair and replace parts and plumbing. Nevertheless, I set to the job and in short order I'm kneeling in six inches of muddy water before I can divert the flow from well to house. This activity is accompanied by colourful language which seems to amuse the raccoon. I push on with knees that are screaming and hips that threaten to give out at any time and soon the job is finished and civilization has come once again to the Nurse cottage.

I retreat with apologies to spiders, squirrels and raccoons. I swear that I will move this apparatus upstairs this year and I will ----- but first I need to spend some time with Captain Morgan while I plan.



Summer Director's Meeting

We had a director's meeting at Cecil & Jen's house on Wednesday Aug. 27. Upon entering we were greeted with the mouthwatering aroma of food cooking. Alas, it was not being cooked for the AWA Directors.

However, we did get a lot of work done. As you can see on page 2 we have a full fall meeting schedule in place. We discussed the disposition of our remaining tools (more on that later) as well as possible new locations for our monthly meetings. I am quick to add that there is not a problem with the Home Depot venue but it would be nice to have a back-up plan. Any ideas from our membership would be appreciated.

Dave Smith is our Program Director and Dave would sure like to have any suggestions from you regarding topics and/or guests for future meetings.

We also ask for help regarding any community projects the AWA might put together.

We also need your ideas regarding the Kiddies Workshop. We have these great tools and ideas for projects for the kids but we need a location in which to hold it.

And, one more thing! There will not be a Wood Show in Halifax again this year and again a disappointment. Several of us will be trekking our way to Moncton. We hope to see you there.



Available Tools For Lending

As many of you already know the power tools that the AWA owned have been disposed (sold) of but we still own others.

We need someone willing to take possession of these for the convenience of our membership. These are tools that members may borrow for a limited time to use for any specific projects. The tools are:

- 1 – Veneer Punch
- 1 – Set, 3/4" Pipe Threading Dies
- 2 – 16" 'C' Clamps
- 7 – 3/4" x 5' Pipe Clamps
- 3 – 3/4" Pipe Clamps (No Pipe)
- 1 – Moisture Meter
- 1 – Engraving Tool (to I.D. your tools)
- 1 – Magna Magnetic Knife Setting Tool
- 1 – Set Wood Threading Dies (1/2", 3/4", 1")
- 1 – Suede Flocking Tool and parts
- 1 – Bandsaw Blade Welding Jig

