

AWA CHAIRMAN'S

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2012 – MARCH 2013

The AWA Board of Directors met on two occasions to deal with the business of the Association once in June and again in January. Activities of the Board and members through the year are reported below.

1. Following the Annual General meeting in March 2012, the membership within the Board of Directors remained unchanged. In June the Executive established a nominating committee in anticipation of Board elections to take place in March 2013.
2. Meetings – The Association carried out most of its monthly meeting at the Kent Building Supplies (Mic Mac) in Dartmouth. The December and January monthly meetings were hosted at Lee Valley Tools, and Halifax Speciality Hardwoods respectively. The February meeting took place at the Salvation Army Church in Dartmouth which became our new permanent meeting location. Although the Kent location was in several ways ideal, the Church provides better physical access for the membership. In October, the Association purchased a projector (Epson EX5210), which provides an improvement in media presentation. Beyond its use for presentations, with the projector members can more readily participate in show- and- tell show without bringing their projects to the meetings.
3. Membership – Sheila Eddy assumed duties of Registrar part way through the year. Registration activity peaks in the Fall as current members renew by paying annual fees in the period from October until March. New members join at any time in the year normally while in attendance at a monthly meeting as a guest. Membership or renewal by end March is required to retain access to the members' section of the website and to be on the newsletter mailing list. Membership in the Association remained relatively steady with 40 members with 4 new recent members joining the Association.
4. Library – Our Library was moved from the Kent Building Supplies (Mic Mac) in Dartmouth, to the Salvation Army Church in Dartmouth, in February. Over the winter volunteer members constructed a new library cabinet which was moved into the church before moving the books from Kent. The library is supported by funding authorized by the Executive, and the librarian Dave Schlosberg, who became our librarian in March 2012, actively keeps the materials, including subscriptions, current.
5. Finances – Our Treasurer, Ken Miller, continued this year to administer our finances and accounts which included accepting dues payments and depositing funds collected from auctions, and raffles. He prepares an annual financial report for the year ending 31 December for presentation at the AGM. Appointed auditors, Phil Carter and Doug Macintosh, completed a review of the accounts for the year and indicate that accounts and records of the Association are in good order.

6. Presentations and Tours – Sheila Eddy organized and arranged presentations for our monthly meetings this past year. These presentations were key events at our meetings intended to increase our knowledge and understanding of our craft. Presenters included; John Woods on Wood Harvesting, Drying and storing, Jim Verboom on Forestry in NS, Clyde Durnford on Intarcia, Nick Poole on his participation in the Skills Canada-Nova Scotia provincial cabinetmaking competition (which he won two years in a row), and the Skills Canada National Cabinetmaking Competition in May, 2012 at which he won bronze, Don Feltman on Scale Model Ship Building, and Darlene Morrison on the Woodworking and Metal Course, (as well as her project) at NSCAD. On a Saturday in October, the AWA carried out a Tool Exchange for the membership at the Salvation Army Church. In March, AWA members visited Stephen Zwerling in his workshop for a tour and discussions and demonstrations on wood turning.
7. “Mini-Challenge”- Through most of the year from meeting-to-meeting, our Events Coordinator, Sheila Eddy, challenged the membership with individual projects to make *wooden handles, frames, whistles, jigs, boxes, scale models, tea light holders and coasters*. Members presented their works in subsequent meetings. The mini-challenge encourages woodworking activity and provides a great opportunity for members to express their talents and skills.
8. Wood Challenge –The Wood Challenge, a second annual event, culminated in the presentation of completed woodworking pieces at the May meeting. The Challenge began with provision of a 4-foot piece of 1x8 pine to each member with instructions to make items that would be presented in a show-and-tell at the May meeting. A draw for three prizes for those who participated in the challenge by producing a woodworking piece took place, and the woodworking pieces were donated for at the Kermesse, a fundraiser for the IWK.
9. Projects – This year’s major project was the building of a new library. Members, Tom Patterson, Doug Macintosh, Dave Shlosberg, Gary Dumas and Don Shubaly worked in Tom’s and Gary’s workshop over three weeks to design and construct the new cabinet. This turned out to be a rewarding, collective effort that complemented our Association move to the Salvation Army Church.
10. Christmas Toy Drive – Once again, this past year, members produced a variety of wooden toys intended for distribution to children by the Salvation Army. The toys were presented in a “show and tell” at the December meeting. The event, held annually and hosted by Lee Valley Tools, was coordinated by Stan Salsman who also collected an additional cash donation for the Salvation Army from members who were unable to make a toy. Additionally, Graham McCulloch provided a Dewalt power tool for raffle at the meeting to raise funds for the Salvation Army Church. This year, at the meeting, the toys were presented to Lieutenant Vance Gillard of the Salvation Army Church (our Church) who joined us at the event.
11. Newsletter – This year again the Newsletter proved to be a valuable communications tool for the Association. Stan Salsman, our editor writes and collects articles and notices, lays out the newsletters and sends them to the members through email or regular mail. The newsletter arrives regularly early each month in preview to the monthly meetings.
12. Website – Our website, built and maintained by Glenn McCarron remains an impressive Association asset. A visit to the site provides the membership with

up-to-date information and notices as well as some good links concerning woodworking, tools and materials.

In general, the Association has had another good year with a good measure and variety of productive activity. Attendance at meetings has been consistent and the members regularly participate in events and challenges. The Board of Directors has a large membership of experienced skilled members that continue to readily oversee Association Affairs.

Don Shubaly, Chair

On behalf of the Board of Directors