

## Algonquin Section's Great Tradition Continues by the Algonquin Section Council

For more than five decades Algonquin Section has hosted an annual International Night that typically includes a presentation on forests or forestry in some remote part of the world, an ethnic dinner that complements these presentations, and plenty of socializing. This year's International Night was held on January 20<sup>th</sup> at the McCoy's Tavern and Restaurant on Trout Lake, just outside of North Bay, and it did not disappoint. Over 45 attended the event, which looked at different aspects of forestry in both China and Brazil. Several students from both Canadore College and Nipissing University attended.



*Algonquin section members relax prior to dinner.*

Wayne Smith provided a fascinating account of his personal experiences in China, with plenty of focus on large scale afforestation and reforestation efforts currently underway. Don Willis did the same for Brazil, providing unique personal perspectives and an overview of bio-energy, tree nurseries and silviculture. Dinner included a mix of Chinese and Brazilian culinary delights that had many seeking out the secret gourmet recipes that were obviously in use.



*Wayne Smith discusses forestry in China (left) and Don Willis talks about forestry in Brazil (right).*

Algonquin Section also took this opportunity to reveal its 'Pennies for Seeds' challenge; a fundraising project for Forests without Borders. All sections should have received the challenge by now – collect as many pennies as you can by the AGM in Jasper in September 2010. The total amount collected will be donated to pay for tree seeds for the Zambia project. Algonquin Section got off to a great start, collecting 18 kg of pennies - enough to buy 6,100 seeds!



Following the presentations, the Section held its annual general meeting, with outgoing Director Andree Morneault providing a comprehensive overview of the Section's activities and accomplishments during 2009. A new Council was elected for 2010. Congratulations to our new director Nancy Young, our new chair Megan Smith, our tireless secretary Margaret Penner, and our long-standing treasurer Murray Woods, and our great group of new and returning councilors: Peter Nosko, Andree Morneault, Alison Luke, Frank Knaapen, Jeff Dech, Sarah Bros, Stephen Mitchell and Jeff Muzzi. We also have two student representatives: Samantha Richardson and Rachel Telfer, from Algonquin College in Pembroke. We'd also like to thank outgoing council members Al Stinson, Brian Naylor, Sue Pickering, and Don Willis for their years of hard work and dedication.

*Algonquin section member Dr. Peter Nosko from Nipissing University donates his pennies for the 'Pennies for Seeds' challenge.*