LOOSE SCREW news

ISSUE FIVE • SPRING 2021

Helping our Community

The Squamish Men's Shed was inspired by the movement started in Australia in 2007.

We formed the Squamish Men's Shed Society, a non-profit organization December 2016 and have been building on our reputation ever since.

We operate dependable equipment in a safe workshop environment that allows members to create an assortment of community-oriented projects.

Our group come from diverse backgrounds offering many unique skills. The collaboration within our workshop is a testament that men "work better together". Our common goal is helping our community while looking after our members.

Squamish Lion's Christmas Toy Drive

The Squamish Men's Shed helped the Squamish Lions during the holiday season by building 15 wooden toy trucks from scrap lumber.

COMEDY CORNER

If you want to be remembered by future generations always use a variety of repurposed screws on your projects

MEN AT WORK

Covid19Virus Pandemic

Making it work during a pandemic

What a year! Congratulation to our group for keeping safe. There were no issues with our members contracting the Covid19 virus and now there is some hope in the near future with vaccines arriving soon.

The Men's Shed reached out to the Red Cross Society for assistance. Our group went through their training and certification programs. With their help we have supplied our shed with AED Defibrillator, sanitizers, masks, gloves, eye protection, signage, first aid kit and more.

Covid19 safety measures are now in place to safe-guard our group with the creation of a sign-in tracking sheet, limiting the number of members in the workshop, supplying hand sanitizers located in key areas, etc.

We also now meet virtually through the Zoom application for Board of Director's meetings as well as our General Members meetings.

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LOOSE SCREW news

Youth Program 2020 Woodworking Skills Introduction

Youth Program 2020

The Squamish Men's Shed hosted it's first annual Youth Program consisting of six sessions over six weeks. Our group developed several workshop projects for the kid's to work on and complete, like a wooden tool box, key hanger, animal cut-outs and heli-spinners.

These projects were based on the use of different hand tools and was a great intoduction to woodworking.

The children also had a workshop tour with our members explaining uses of various equipment.

Cedar's Manor Woodworking Workshop

The Cedar's Manor residents were so impressed with our Youth Program they asked if we would host one for them.

Our group developed workshop projects using hand tools only. We provided a barbeque after workshop serving hamburgers and sausages.

Cedar Manor's Woodworking Session and Barbeque

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LOOSE SCREW news

Our future home at the West Wynds

The Men's Shed's Board of Directors had a tour of our new workshop at the West Wynds on 3rd Street.

Polygon allowed us to view our new space which helped get a better idea of the space and layout of our future workshop.

The moving date has been announced as spring 2022 which allows us some time to plan our move.

Thank you Ernie

Our friend and fellow member Ernie Ledgerwood passed away in 2020 from a non-Covid illness. Ernie wore many hats – a medical doctor, auto mechanic, race car driver and a very skilled woodworker. He was also the funniest member in our group. Our condolences to his wife Lynn and his family.

Ernie and Lynn Ledgerwood

Don Ross School Umbrella Stands

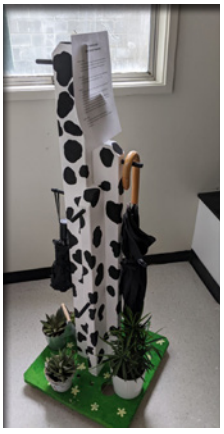
Our group was contacted by Don Ross School last fall to build umbrella stands for student's new umbrellas. The school had purchased umbrellas as students were not allowed to gather inside shool during breaks because of Covid19 and needed a storage solution.

The students initially supplied a variety of umbrella stand sketches which were presented to the Men's Shed. We studied these concepts and using some elements of these ideas developed a final design.

We then built 30 umbrella stands and provided these unfinished to the school so student's could paint them.

We were impressed at the creativity of the students.

This was a true multi-generational collaboration.



Don Ross School Student Umbrella Project

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LOOSE SCREW news

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

The Squamish Men's Shed is dedicated to helping our community. To date, we have accomplished the following:

- Expanding our workshop for a new dust collection system
- Hosted Squamish Kid's Movie Night booth providing bird and fish silhouettes ready to be painted
- Constructed a bat condo for the Squamish River Watershed Society which was installed in the estuary to provide a home for up to 3000 bats
- Created the 3 foot high "CRAVE" marquee sign for the Squamish Helping Hands fundraising dinner
- Designed / built 3-sided Community Hospice Before-I-Die (bucket list) blackboard
- Framed and installed Community Hospice fundraising sign
- Built a large toy box for the Cedars Manor to collect toys for the Fire Department Christmas Toy Drive for kids
- Produced prizes for our 2018 and 2019 Open House Raffles
- Created maple culinary cutting boards for Cutting Barriers Organization
- Work and visit with the residents of Hilltop House seniors assisted living facility
- Design / built and installed 3 garden gates for Garibaldi CAN Grow at Mamquam and HWY 99
- Designed / built Take & Leave Library box and the #ElderWisdom Bench for Sea to Sky Services building
- Designed / built Squamish Paddling Club's kayak fresh water rinse station / storage rack
- Designed / built Shannon Falls garden planter box
- Cut blank animal silhouettes, painted by local children
- Hosted an Emergency First Aid Course
- Hosted the Health by Stealth Speaker Series
- Hilltop House grand piano converted into a wall book shelf
- Hosted the bat house workshop – opened to the public
- Hosted various workshop demonstrations like; how to sharpen chisles, intro on lathe, first nation paddle carving, tips about wood joinery, wood gluing techniques, etc.
- Youth Program 2020 – over 90 children participated in woodworking workshops
- Cedar's Manor Residents Workshop and BBQ – hosted a woodworking workshop and a BBQ after session
- Don Ross School Umbrella Stands – built 30 umbrella stands for studentt to paint and hang their umbrellas
- Built 15 wooden toy trucks for the Squamish Lions' Christmas Drive
- Various members have also worked on their own projects

LOOSE SCREW news

Tips & Tricks

Perfect Bar Clamp Cover
Iron pipe clamps can easily mar softer woods or react with the glue to stain the wood. A solution is to cut a section of plastic PVC pipe to size and place it around the pipe. If you have several short lengths, you can space them strategically to accommodate different widths of stock wood.

Flexible Sanding Block from the Office
Sanding curves is tricky. Sometimes you need a sanding pad that's both firm and flexible. A small notepad works great. Just wrap sandpaper around the pad and bend the pad to whatever arc you need. Slip the one end of the sandpaper between the pages to help hold it in place on the pad. Give this a try the next time you're working on a project that has curves and tough to reach spots.

Make a Quick Mixing Surface
Instead of using a container to mix a small amount of epoxy, just make a mixing surface on your workbench using painters tape. Simply lay down strips, overlapping the edges so the epoxy doesn't get on your bench. When you're done, peel off the tape and throw it away. This mixing surface will work for more than just epoxy, you can use it for wood glue or any other material you need easy access to while working on a project.

Sponsorship

We are truly grateful for the fantastic support the Squamish Men's Shed has received from our generous sponsors.

To sponsor the Squamish Men's Shed please contact us at info@squamishmensshed.ca.

New sponsors are always welcome.

Join us

To become a member of the Squamish Men's Shed you must be male 55 years or older.

There is an annual membership fee entitling you to help our community and group. The workshop has flexible hours, 7 days-a-week.

To apply for membership, either pick up a Membership Application Form at the Squamish Men's Shed or go to www.SquamishMensShed.ca, click on the "Become A Member" button, download the Membership Application Form, complete and mail with membership fee to "Squamish Men's Shed Society".

All people are welcome to assist the Squamish Men's Shed with their great cause.

Squamish MEN'S SHED

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