

KALAMUNDA MEN'S SHED INC.

NEWSLETTER



Issue No. 10

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December 2009

Joint foundation sponsors: The Rotary Club of Kalamunda and the Forrestfield Community Bank

Proudly supported by the Shire of Kalamunda

Season's greetings to all our members, their partners, our sponsors, supporters and friends.

Greetings to all. This will be the last newsletter for 2009. Most of you will agree that for KMS it has been an outstanding and most productive year. We have progressed from just an idea to a functional Men's Shed with over 90 members. Currently the shed is mainly used for woodworking but plans are now well developed to allow us to expand the site on which we are located and construct a new shed for metal working activities.

Shed Boss appointed.

It is with much pleasure that we can now announce that James Chantry has been appointed as our first Shed Boss. Jim's selection was made from a field of excellent applicants and we welcome him to KMS. Jim's profile will be given in the next edition of the newsletter. He will commence duties on 4 January 2010.



Jim at the KMS 2009 Christmas lunch which was kindly hosted by Kalamunda CWA in their hall.

Dates to remember.

The December 09 general meeting was replaced by the excellent Christmas lunch prepared for us by the Kalamunda CWA ladies. (See report further on in this newsletter).

Friday, 22nd January: General meeting, 2.00 pm at the shed. The meeting will be followed by a guest speaker whose topic will be exercising for older people. A sundowner and sausage sizzle will follow.

Please note that the shed will be closed from Friday 18th December 2009 and will re-open on Tuesday 5th January 2010, for 20 hours per week with our Shed Boss in residence.

New logo.

We now have a logo. It has been designed by Justin Mountford and it is shown for the first time in this newsletter's banner, at the top of this page.

Justin is a graphic design student and we are most grateful for the work he has done in producing the logo which incorporates a stylised gum tree with a shed beneath it.

November General meeting.

This meeting was attended by about 30 members. Following the business session, guest speaker Gerry Brown gave an excellent presentation on how to write one's life story.



Gerry giving his talk with some examples of stories produced by some of his students.

Gerry told the engaged audience that most of us will have stories to tell and pass on to future generations. How often have we heard someone saying, "I wish that we kept Grandpa's photos, special tools or recorded his yarns about his interesting life". (It was a fellow with the name of George Santayana who said, 'those who do not remember their past are condemned to repeating it').

Some of the basic principles covered include that there are no strict rules as to how a story can be written. They can be chronological, as a memoir of a personal experience or the story may for example be just be about a certain period in one's life or a specific event.

Another important factor mentioned by Gerry was that a story benefits from being written around the context of the world that existed at that time.

A fine-turn up.

In the last issue of the KMS newsletter we reported on the wonderful wood turning demonstration presented by one of our members, Bob Nichols. Those present will recall that time constraints only permitted Bob to partially complete the demonstration piece.

Pictured above is the truly magnificent completed Cypress bowl on a stand.

Bob has very kindly donated this piece to be part of our Christmas raffle. Thank you Bob



Bob's completed bowl.

Committee of Management changes.

Recently Ian Allardyce agreed to fill the vacant position of Director, Property and Equipment which in turn left his position of Director Health and Safety vacant. We are very pleased that member Mike Milne has agreed to take on the H&S job. Thank you Mike.

Mid-year performance review.

This review which was referred to in the November issue of the newsletter is still in progress. We can however report that in general we are pretty well on track.

Our membership stands at around 92 which is close to the start-up target for the year of 100. The rapid growth in membership which has occurred mainly by word of mouth would indicate that firstly we must be getting it right and secondly there is a real need for a men's Shed in Kalamunda.

KMS continues to be well supported by the Shire, for which we are most grateful. We are also most appreciative of the continued support from the Rotary Club of Kalamunda and from the general community which continues to donate tools and materials.

Most of our initial objectives have, or are being met on target and good progress is being made with the preparation of plans for the new metal work shed.

Christmas lunch.

About fifty members and wives or partners attended a magnificent three course lunch plus all of the trimmings prepared for us by the ladies at the Kalamunda CWA. It was unfortunate that our number one member, Cr Don McKechnie was unable to attend due to a Council function being held at the same time. We were pleased that Bob and Anne Govan were able to join us, Bob was one of the first people to be instrumental in the KMS formation and he also secured for us a very significant sponsorship from the Forrestfield Community Bank. Our other major sponsor, the Rotary Club of Kalamunda was represented by Bevan Gardner.

KMS Chairman Richard Gates briefly reviewed the year's activities and the good progress that has been made in only a few months of operation. He thanked all of our supporters and members for their contribution towards making KMS successful.



Richard Gates addressing the lunch party.

Following the entree of prawn cocktail, Richard presented a number of awards to members who had made an outstanding contribution to the operation of the shed.

Certificates were awarded to the following members:

Murray Carrick, "The Handle Man". For quickly learning how to turn up a tool handle and then teaching others to do so as well as making a number of handles for the shed.

Bill Berry, "Gadget and Puzzle Man". Bill, who was not present at the lunch, is the shed caretaker, attends most sessions and brings

along an antique item or puzzle for members to figure out. Infuriatingly, he never reveals the answer.

Terry Lees (and Jean), "The Muffin Man". Terry always brings along to the Tuesday session a basket of freshly baked, warm muffins for morning tea. Not surprisingly, Tuesday has always been the most well attended session. Terry has also been very involved in the metal work shed planning.

Anthony Cannavo, "The Ideas Man". Anthony is always keen to show members better ways of doing things and has shown the way to, amongst other things, make bird feeders and heaps of letter opening knives.

Bob Nichol, "Master Turner". Bob features on page 2 of this issue of the newsletter.

Barry Spencer, "The Master". Barry is a keen wooden box maker and router enthusiast. He has attended each session every week being an excellent wood working coach to all.



Award recipients, Anthony, Murray, Terry and Jean Lees, Bob and Barry.

At the conclusion of a great lunch, the newsletter editor, Eddie van Rijnsoud thanked the CWA ladies for their efforts and presented each of them with some chocolates and one of Anthony's hand-made wooden letter openers as a small token of our appreciation.

The CWA ladies also kindly donated a glass plate to be won as a door prize.



The CWA ladies being presented with their small gifts.

The luncheon concluded with the drawing of the raffle prizes. All of the prizes had been donated by members.

Picture framing tuition.

Ray Armstrong is a keen picture framing expert and is very willing to share his skills with members. If members have any picture frames that could do with some repair, then here is an opportunity to catch up with another one of those jobs that need doing. Bring it or them along to the shed for some excellent advice and help.

Ray attends most mornings for a while just in case he is needed.

Call for donations.

We are still seeking the following items of equipment:

Pedestal drill

Picture framing band clamps

General purpose clamps and sash clamps

We would be most appreciative if anyone could assist with the provision of any of the above items.

Telephone now connected.

The shed now has a telephone (9293 1253) with cordless handsets located in the office and workshop. Members using the phone for private purposes are asked to leave the cost of the call in the honesty box near the office phone.

Internet connection is still being arranged but the computers located in the office are available for members to use.

Contact details:

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