

A.T.C.A. NEWS

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www.atlantictoolcollectorsassociation.ca



WoodMaster Tools building in Clifton, NS

Whenever I chat with other tradesmen the conversation inevitably turns to the tools of the trade. It's a great way to find out about new products and what works well for someone else. I usually get asked questions like: "What tools do you use?" "Where do you get your saw blades?" and "Where do you get your blades sharpened?" The answer to these last two is WoodMaster Tools of Canada.

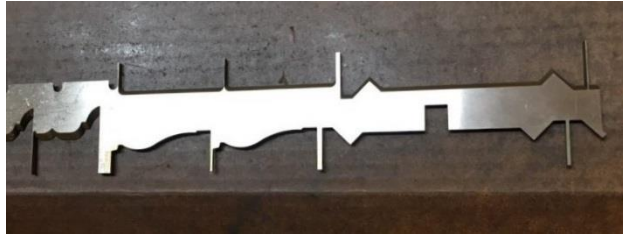
WoodMaster Tools is a small business in Clifton, Nova Scotia, just outside of Truro. They specialize in creating custom knives for woodworking machines for customers from around the world.

The business began as a saw mill 1974 and later added a building supply store. In 1988 they moved into the machinery business when they became the exclusive Canadian dealer of WoodMaster Tools. They are a separate company, but use the Woodmaster name as the Canadian distributor. Their business evolved again when they started making knives for their customers, which is now the business' primary focus.

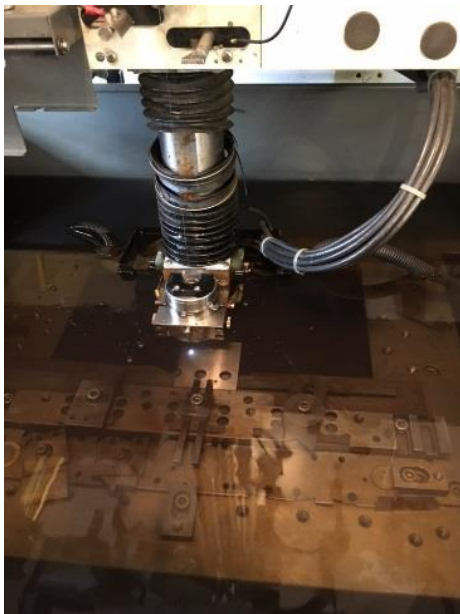
When I spoke with the manager, Craig Blois, he explained how they started making knives out of necessity because customers were waiting 4-5 weeks for replacement knives for the machines they were selling. Today they have 3 high tech machines and make knives for any brand of woodworking machine in custom sizes and different types of steel (see below).



These machines use a very thin wire and electrical current to cut extremely intricate profiles from bar stock. The picture below shows what remains of the bar stock once knives have been cut from it. I was amazed at how efficient and precise the machines can cut.



The machines are computer controlled and the bar stock is immersed in a solution to reduce the heat during the cutting process. (See below)



Most WoodMaster Tools customers are custom woodworkers who can't buy what they need off the shelf. Orders are usually placed online with the customer submitting a simple sketch of what they need. Craig's team then work to turn that sketch into a computerized shop drawing with specific details. That shop drawing is then sent to the customer for their approval.

Below is an example of the types of knives created at WoodMaster.



They make knives with M2, M3, and T1 high speed steel, as well as some carbide. 80% of their steel comes from Europe, with 10% coming from Asia and the other 10% from the United States. Around 60% of their products are exported to the USA, 35% remain in Canada and the other 5% going to the rest of the world; mostly the Caribbean and Australia. Their customers are mainly commercial shops, high schools, and trade schools, but Craig has lots of stories about unusual requests that he's received over the years. One that stood out to me was a request from a contractor in Germany that was converting the house of a famous classical musician into a café and needed to match the pre-existing mouldings. That's the kind of work you don't see every day! Craig also sells tool lines such as DMT, Tuff Tooth and Dimar, who, coincidentally, make the best saw blades I've ever used. I regularly use their sharpening services for my saw, planer and jointer blades, but the other week I even had them sharpen an intricate plane blade from an old wooden moulding plane my son, Fergus, got at the last ATCA sale!

~Submitted by Rob Porter~

ATLANTIC TOOL COLLECTORS **SPRING SHOW & SALE**

Saturday May 11th, 2019

Museum of Industry

147 North Foord St, Stellarton NS



Admission to the Tool Show is Free

Open to the public from 12 noon to 3:00pm

AGENDA

10am: ATCA Business Meeting (Members, guests, perspective new members)

12pm: Displays, Swap & Sell Tables, Tool Identification & Estate Auction

3pm: Close



Take Exit 24 off the Trans Canada Highway,
which will take you to Foord Street, Stellarton.
The entrance to the Museum will be on your left,
and is only about 500 feet from the highway.

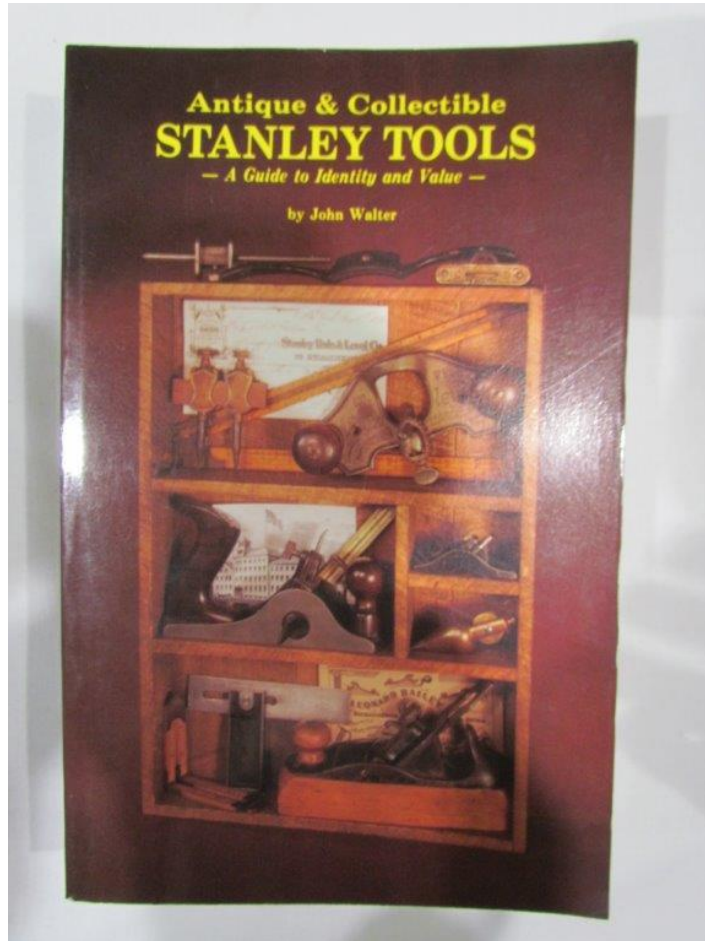
(Museum opens at 9am)

Tool Collection Sale

The ATCA Estate Committee will be facilitating the sale / auction of David Murray's entire tool collection at the Spring 2019 show. A long-time member of the ATCA from Irishtown, NB, David passed away in January 2017. Fonda, his wife of 33 years, would like the tools to go to people who will appreciate them as David did. The focus of David's tool collection was wooden planes from the 18th and 19th centuries with 115 examples from Canada, US, and the UK. Besides these planes, many other treasures found their way onto the shelves and so there will be a couple hundred other items of collecting interest available as well. Proceeds will go directly to Fonda with a percentage to the ATCA so please bring some extra spending money and support both Fonda and our Club.

(The following images are a sample of items going up for auction)





Members Lost...

Harold Crawley - age 73, died quietly at home on December 5, 2018, with Frances, his wife and best friend by his side, following a courageous battle with cancer.

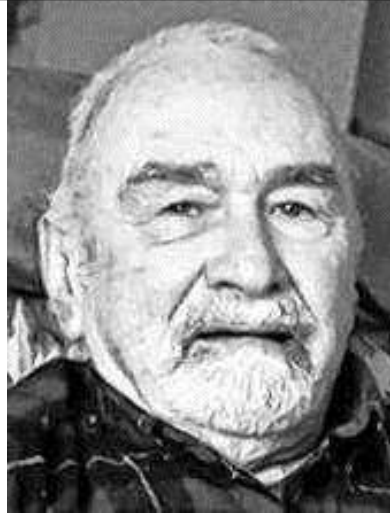
Born in Sydney, he was the son of Harold and Alice(McKenna)Crawley. Harold is survived by his wife, Frances and his children; Harold Paul Crawley, Michael Crawley (Suzanne), Michele Bowes, and Adelle Watt (Kirk): his grandchildren, Benjamin, Liam, Finnegan, Jack, and Luke Bowes and by Adrian Harold and Carly Watt. He is also survived by all of his siblings, including, Patricia Gillis (Gordon), Theresa Dubois (Hugh), Katherine Hanley (John) and William Crawley (Connie) and by many nieces and nephews. Harold was predeceased by his parents.

After graduating Sydney Academy '63 and St. FX University '68 BSc, BEd, he went on to teach Math and Physics in the Halifax school system.

Harold remembered fondly the friendships he made with his fellow teachers especially the year 1975, when many of them built homes in Lower Sackville for their families. Whenever heavy work on a home was required (like raising walls or placing roof rafters), the individual builder would find that a whole group of his colleagues would arrive to help.

Harold had many interests and hobbies including wood working, stained glass and fused glass working, gardening, bird watching and feeding, antique tool repair and collecting. His favourite was wood working and he made many pieces of furniture for family members and toys for grandchildren. His grandsons spent many happy times in Grandpa's workshop.

For full obituary and messages of condolence visit www.demotfamilyfuneralhome.ca



Vic Haydon

Victor "Vic" Haydon - age 91 of Belnan, passed away February 10th, 2019 at home. Victor was a devoted husband and father. He also loved his pets including his little dog Dolly who was his companion in his final years. Victor was a man of strong values. He was hard working, modest and well respected by his peers. Victor served in the Canadian Armed Forces for 21 years and then worked as a Refrigeration/Air Conditioning Mechanic and Manager of Maintenance/Plant Operations with the IWK Children's Hospital until his retirement in 1988. Victor liked to build things including a camper trailer for his family's many camping trips and a whole house for his retirement. In his retirement, Victor created a large collection of antique tool displays some of which are displayed in local museums. He was a long-time member of the Atlantic Tool Collectors Association. Victor is survived by his wife, Frances (Hirtle); daughters, Monica Haydon (Lionel Stevens) and Glenda Haydon (David O'Connor); sister, Margaret Busche. Cremation has taken place. Funeral service will be held 3pm Saturday, June 1 in Riverview United Church, Elmsdale. Condolences, words of comfort and memories of Victor may be shared with the family at: www.ettingerfuneralhome.com

ATCA EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

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A.T.C.A.

(ATLANTIC TOOL COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION)

A registered non-profit society, whose purpose is to promote fellowship and increase knowledge of antique tools and crafts. Visit our new website at:

www.atlantictoolcollectorsassociation.ca

A.T.C.A. News published quarterly, is the official newsletter of the organization. It is available on line at the web site above.

EDITORS

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Neil Kinsman is looking for **Millers Falls planes**. In particular, Type 1 #7, and a type 1 #24 (would consider other types too if available). He is also interested in comparing notes with anyone collecting Millers Falls and would be interested in selling and trading his items.

He recently sold a large collection of **Stanley** and other planes and can put interested buyers in touch with the new owner who will have some items to sell as well. Contact Neil for more information at: 902 566-2466 or kinsman1@pei.sympatico.ca

Laurie Richard is **selling off** his tool collection. He has an assortment of plum bobs, oil cans, hammers, knives, screw drivers, planes and many other types of hand tools for sale. If you are interested please contact Laurie at 902-434-5073 or 17 Delmac Court in Dartmouth.

Ian MacCalder is looking to purchase old **commercial fishing tools** like brass lobster size gages, brass harpoon darts, Trawl Splicers, net needles. Old wood fids, marline spikes, marline spike with wood handle, seam rubbers. Please contact him at 902-227-0402 or by email at maccalder01@gmail.com

Ted Monk is compiling a collection of men`s shaving gear and **grooming supplies**. He`s interested in razors, brushes, mugs, scuttles, blades, old ads, soaps, boxes, shaving kits, aftershave bottles, etc. As well as any items that a gentleman may have used; hats, canes, watches, spectacles, monocles, cuff links, tie clips, razors etc. If you have anything along these lines please contact him at tedmonk@gmail.com or by phone at 902-435-2512.