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Bruce's Studio News

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Winter Blues and Aching Shoulders

STUDIO 8 is warm and cozy... even though it takes some time to heat it up each morning. The trek from the house to the studio is beginning to feel like a rat's maze, with high walls of snow all around. I can't really complain, however, as many of my friends and relatives are undoubtedly dealing with even more snow than I am. The unusually high snowfall and cold temperatures do tend to mark 2015 as a special year, none the less.

Except for endlessly shoveling snow or snowblowing it into the wind (note my imitation of the abominable snowman above) I always have things to do in the studio. I did have a flood in the basement workshop after a heavy rain on Jan. 25th, but everything has turned out OK. Some reorganization was needed after the subsequent pumping out and mopping. Building some better shelving gave me an opportunity to make more room, and by adding new mobile bases to my shop machines (to get them off the wet floor) I now have much more flexibility to move them easily... as needed. It's funny how a perceived disaster can sometimes end up a benefit!

I've included some pictures of the new arrangement, shelving, and mobile bases now functioning, as well as the first stages of new work in process; hollow core doors being refabricated into smaller panels (36" X 40") for a series of reliefs I hope to begin shortly.



Above and Left: (My collection of Kitty Litter buckets line the new shelves with useful wood scraps and tools!) Almost everything heavy now has wheels, so now I can move my heavy power tools around the studio and/or push them out of the way if open space is needed. Below: Hollow core doors cut in half now become lightweight and rigid art panels using some glue, a filler strip of wood, and lots of clamps. See what I do with them next month!

