



President's Column

Dave Witso

Editorial Comment

Bob Rea

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays, To All

from the CADvisory editorial staff and contributors

It seems everyone is busy. I've been busy at work too. Last year, CADvisory didn't make it to the site, which was a shame. This year, I volunteered to resume the position of editor, after a short hiatus as president and past-president. I'll begin by resuming my incessant plea for contributions from all of you out there. We, as your executive are as busy as you are, so we can't do all the work of running VAUS and producing an informative CADvisory by ourselves. Please email your contributions, with CADVISORY CONTRIBUTION in the subject line (So I don't mistake it for spam, and fry it), to caddgeek@yahoo.ca. If you have any questions you can call me at work.

We have move our website to a new server with the predicted glitches. We're working on it, but for now, the ***@vaus.org emails are still not functional.

November Meeting

New and Announcements

December Meeting

Tables With Frank Zander

When he is not teaching evening classes at BCIT or Destination Desktop, Frank runs Contract CAD Group and Corbimite Web Hosting. He programs in LISP and VBA. A Past-President of VAUS, Frank has a long, distinguished career with us and has held many other offices including membership and treasurer. Frank always delivers informative and interesting demonstrations.

This is something ACAD can do "out-of-the-box with a little planning, understanding and work creating blocks and template files.

See more about tables on the Autodesk Website.

Bring your questions. Prepare yourself for a group interactive session (we will try to fit it in this month)!

Cool Code! - Hot Coffee! - Warm Juice! - Doughnuts barely less than a day old!
and more people like you!!

What more could you want? Be there!

Door Prizes

Paid-up members qualify for this month's door prizes. If your membership is due, remember to bring payment in full so you qualify! VAUS members in good standing are eligible to win great prizes from Autodesk and other sponsors. Bring a question about AutoCAD and enter it into the computer. Sometimes a winner is selected through a random draw and other times by having submitted the best question. Everybody wins when we all start answering the questions.

Tips and Tricks

PrimoPDF Generator

There exist various free PDF file generators on available on the internet. One that I have had success with is "PrimoPDF". For more information see: www.primopdf.com

Just for (defun) of it

by Caddgeek

Lisp

There are all kind of lisp routines available on the internet. Some Are just easier to write yourself and keep in a file for the times you need them.

Advertise in CADvisory

Rates

Size	Per Year (10 Issues)	Single Issue
10" high x 7.5"wide	\$600.00	\$120.00
5" high x 7.5"wide	\$400.00	\$80.00
5" high x 3.5"wide	\$200.00	\$40.00
2" high x 3.5"wide	\$100.00	\$20.00

Note: Business card ads (2"high x 3.5"wide) are free for VAUS members
To arrange advertising email: webmaster@vaus.org

Contributions and Submissions

Fodder for Mass Consumption

Contributions in the form of articles to this newsletter can be made by email to any member of the executive and will be greatly appreciated not only by the members who must toil to produce this e-rag, but also, especially, by those VAUS members who read it. It's your publication. Please help keep it alive and vibrant. At least one of you out there must be more interesting than we are

Away from the *bored* (outside of VAUS (Get a Life))

Caddgeek

Books

***Eats, Shoots & Leaves* by Lynne Truss.**

We managed to read a few interesting books while we were camping this fall. One of them was *Eats, Shoots & Leaves* by Lynne Truss. We wish we'd had books like this at school. We would probably not have learned to punctuate better than we did, however we indubitably would've had more fun. Ms. Truss is a self-admitted stickler for punctuation; She is, after all, a writer and editor.

Check it out at: <http://eatsshootsandleaves.com>

We encourage you to read the excerpts like the one below, on-line at: <http://eatsshootsandleaves.com/eslex.html>

Either this will ring bells for you, or it won't. A printed banner has appeared on the concourse of a petrol station near to where I live. "Come inside," it says, "for CD's, VIDEO's, DVD's, and BOOK's

If this satanic sprinkling of redundant apostrophes causes no little gasp of horror or quickening of the pulse, you should probably put down this book at once.

***Bryson's Dictionary of Troublesome Words* by Bill Bryson**

While we were on the theme of punctuation, we decided to read another great and humorous book on the subject of managing the English language: *Bryson's Dictionary of Troublesome Words*. Mr. Bryson is famous for his travel books, but has several works that are of a more academic nature. *Troublesome Words* is a completely entertaining and funny guide through the minefield that is the English language. Bill, who is an author, editor and professor, began it for his own reference, from which it evolved. Of Bryson's books that we've read, we've enjoyed them all. Visit the website: <http://www.randomhouse.com/features/billbryson>

As usual Bill Bryson says it best: "English is a dazzlingly idiosyncratic tongue, full of quirks and irregularities that often seem willfully at odds with logic and common sense. This is a language where 'cleave' can mean to cut in half or to hold two halves together; where the simple word 'set' has 126 different meanings as a verb, 58 as a noun, and 10 as a participial adjective; where if you can run fast you are moving swiftly, but if you are stuck fast you are not moving at all; [and] where 'colonel,' 'freight,' 'once,' and 'ache' are strikingly at odds with their spellings." As a copy editor for the London Times in the early 1980s, Bill Bryson felt keenly the lack of an easy-to-consult, authoritative guide to avoiding the traps and snares in English, and so he brashly suggested to a publisher that he should write one. Surprisingly, the proposition was accepted, and for "a sum of money carefully gauged not to cause embarrassment or feelings of overworth," he proceeded to write that book—his first, inaugurating his stellar career.

With all this, you'd think our writing would have improved, wouldn't you?