You can use a flat piece of bar stock to evaluate a saw and determine how much work it will take to tune and sharpen. I call this tool a 'flat edge.'

Run your flat edge along the tips of your teeth to see how much they vary in length and to see if the rakers are high or low. Also check to see if the arc of the saw is consistent along the whole length.

Run your flat edge along the sides of the teeth to evaluate the set. You will be able to see if the set is consistent. You will also find any teeth that are badly bent.

When you swage your rakers, verify the amount you have lowered them with your flat edge and a flat feeler gauge. Then adjust your pin gauge to that depth.

I want to help folks to enjoy sharp saws. Send an e-mail or give a call if you have questions. I can help you find tools, files and sharp saws. email: dbc96124@yahoo.com