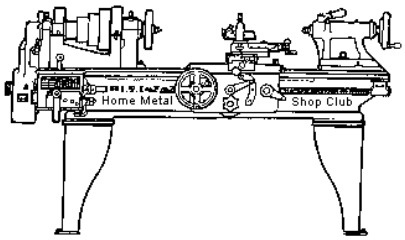
March 2022
Newsletter

Volume 27 - Number 03



ttp://www.homemhetalshopclub.org/

The Home Metal Shop Club has brought together metal workers from all over the Southeast Texas area since its founding by John Korman in 1996.

Our members' interests include Model Engineering, Casting, Blacksmithing, Gunsmithing, Sheet Metal Fabrication, Robotics, CNC, Welding, Metal Art, and others. Members enjoy getting together and talking about their craft and shops. Shops range from full machine shops to those limited to a bench vise and hacksaw.

If you like to make things, run metal working machines, or just talk about tools, this is your place. Meetings generally consist of ***general announcements***, an ***extended presentation*** with Q&A, a ***safety moment***, ***show and tell*** where attendees share their work and experiences, and ***problems and solutions*** where attendees can get answers to their questions or describe how they approached a problem. The meeting ends with ***free discussion*** and a ***novice group*** activity, where metal working techniques are demonstrated on a small lathe, grinders, and other metal shop equipment.

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Librarian
Vance Burns	*Ray Thompson*	*Joe Sybille*	*Gary Toll*	*Ray Thompson*
Webmaster/Editor	Photographer	CNC SIG	Casting SIG	Novice SIG
Dick Kostelnicek	*Jan Rowland*	*Martin Kennedy*	*Vacant*	*John Cooper*

This newsletter is available as an electronic subscription from the front page of our website. We currently have over 1027 subscribers located all over the world.

About the Upcoming 09 April 2022 Meeting

The next general meeting will be held on 09 April 2022 at 1:00 P. M. at TxRxLabs, 6501 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Texas 77011. There will be no simulcast Zoom online meeting in April.

General Announcements

Videos of recent meetings can be viewed on the HMSC website.

The HMSC has a large library of metal shop related books and videos available for members to check out at each meeting. These books can be quite costly and are not usually available at local public libraries. Access to the library is one of the many benefits of club membership. The club has funds to purchase new books for the library. If you have suggestions, contact the Librarian *Ray Thompson*.

We need more articles for the monthly newsletter! If you would like to write an article, or would like to discuss writing an article, please contact the Webmaster Dick Kostelnicek. Think about your last project. Was it a success, with perhaps a few 'uh ohs' along the way? If so, others would like to read about it. And, as a reward for providing an article, you'll receive a free year's membership the next renewal cycle!

Ideas for programs at our monthly meeting are always welcomed. If you have an idea for a meeting topic, or if you know someone who could make a presentation, please contact Vice-President Ray Thompson.

Members are requested to submit to the club secretary the name, address, telephone number, and website address, if any, of any metal or other material stock supplier with whom the member has had any favorable dealings. A listing of the suppliers will appear on the homepage of the club website. Suppliers will be added from time to time as appropriate.

Recap of the 12 March 2022 General Meeting

By *Joe Sybille*

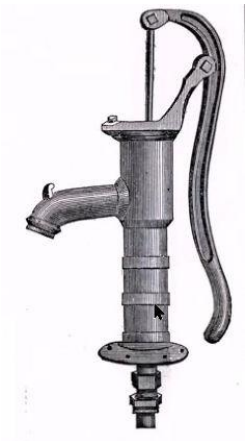
Twelve participants attended the virtual Zoom meeting. There were no visitors. President Vance Burns led the meeting (right photo).

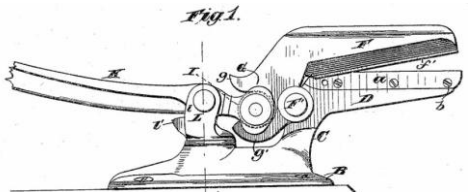
Presentation

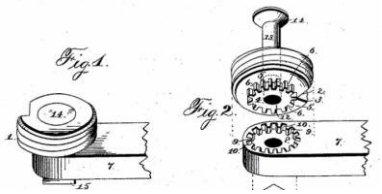
Club member Richard Douglas gave a presentation on W&B Douglas Company. W&B made pumps from the 1820's to 1925. John Douglas founded the company in New Haven, Connecticut in the early 1820's. Early products were hand pumps. As the company prospered, the line of pumps expanded to include revolving hand pumps, among other pumps for the era. Within a few years, production of pumps grew from 300 per year to 300 pumps per month. The "revolving kitchen pump" boosted company profits because it could rotate about the mounting foot, thereby simplifying the installation at the kitchen sink.

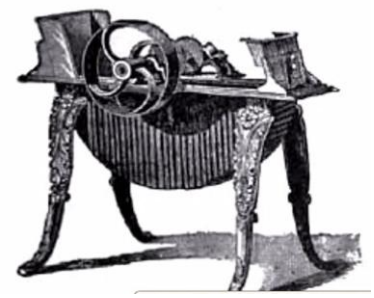
During the Civil War, the company built pumps to support the war effort. In the 1870's, company pumps were sold worldwide, as the company had become the largest pump manufacturer in the world. During WWI, the company built lathes to fabricate ammunition shells for long range guns. At one time, in addition to making pumps, the company made steam engines of 30 hp and 60 hp and grinding equipment. Owners of W&B held 36 patents for pumps and machine tools. In 1925, the company went into receivership.

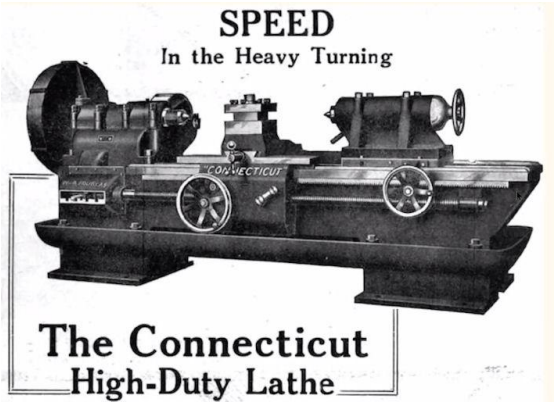
Pictures below depict some of the products manufactured by W&B.







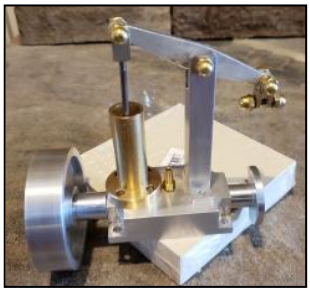




In case the reader is wondering, yes, Richard Douglas is a fifth generation removed descendant of the founders of W&B. See the 1903 catalog of W&B Douglas Co. at this web site.

Show and Tell

John Cooper showed a 3-jaw chuck purchased recently from SHARS. The chuck is 8 inches in diameter with reversible jaws and has a D1-4 mount. With a weight of about 80 pounds, Cooper has yet to figure out a way to mount it on his lathe. See photo at right.



Richard Douglas exhibited an unfinished model of a beam engine on which he is working. He is building the engine from plans found at this web. See photo at left.

Safety Moment

Three safety videos were shown today. The first depicted crewmen working on the aft deck of a towing vessel. As the towing hawser was payed out to a barge under tow, slack in the hawser became taut as it developed a whipping and lashing motion across the stern rail. Unfortunately, the errant hawser struck and injured a nearby deck hand. The safety lesson learned was to exercise extreme caution when working near a towing hawser under tension!

The next video depicted the unsafe practice of a worker sorting packages while standing on a moving conveyor belt. As the belt moved, the worker's feet became entangled in a junction of two moving belts. Eventually, the worker's entire body became entangled between the two moving belts. The safety lesson learned was to never work on a moving conveyor belt!

The last video depicted a worker falling into rotating machinery. The worker leaned on a safety barrier and it gave way causing the worker to fall and to suffer severe injuries. The safety lesson learned was to exercise caution when leaning on safety barriers! Also, the barrier was poorly designed, for it should never have given way.

Problems and Solutions

A participant described how he made a tool for removing old caulking from discarded aluminum window framing.

Articles

Here's an article from 1916 American Machinist about "Old-Time Tools and Mechanics in a New England Shop" - by Frank A. Stanley