April 2023
Newsletter

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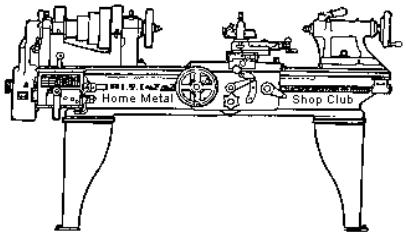


http://www.homemetalshopclub.org/

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	*Vacant*	*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 13 May 2023 Meeting

The next general meeting will be held 13 May 2023, 1:00 P.M. at TxRxLabs, 6501 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Texas 77011 **and** on-line at Zoom.us. Log-in credentials are as follows: Meeting ID = 854 3508 9338 Passcode = 781427 .

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 that 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.

The club is looking for a member to serve as webmaster. After over ten years of service, our current webmaster would like to pass the webmaster torch to a successor.

Recap of the 08 April 2023 General Meeting

By *Joe Sybille*

There were 12 participants attending the 1:00 P.M. meeting. President Vance Burns (below right photo) led the meeting.

Presentation

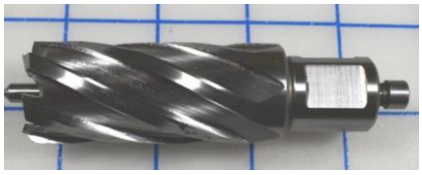
Today, participants viewed a video on installing upgrades to a bench drill press. Afterwards, they discussed the pros and cons of the upgrades and whether the upgrades were a likely addition to their respective workshops.

Show and Tell

Rich Pichler showed a vise he uses on his floor standing drill press. He purchased the vise at a garage sale. See photo at right.

Joe Sybille showed pictures of a plumbing job at his house. Rather than sweating copper fittings onto supply lines, the plumber crimped on the fittings with a special tool. See photos above.

John Cooper showed pictures of annular hole cutters and an adapter he made to mount the cutters in the spindle of his mill. See photos below.



Safety Moment

Several safety videos were shown today. The first one depicted a person at a carwash injured by debris resulting from an explosion of a car propelled by compressed natural gas. The person stood nowhere near the damaged car. Injuries occurred from debris flung over a broad area.

The next video depicted a person in a trench more than four feet deep and without shoring of the dirt walls. One side of the walls collapsed burying the person alive. Lesson: Shoring should have been installed. This accident was preventable.

The next video depicted an onlooker struck and injured by a backhoe working at a construction site. Lesson: In a potentially unsafe situation, the onlooker should have made his presence known to the operator of the backhoe.

The last video depicted a worker losing his shirt after it became entangled in rotating machinery. Fortunately, the worker suffered minor injuries. Lesson: Never wear loose clothing when working near rotating machinery.

Problems and Solutions

A participant has an electric pencil sharpener with a plastic gear of which several teeth are broken. Repair suggestions ranged from buying another sharpener to using a plastic cutting board for stock to make another gear.

Article

Wood working problem solved with machine shop stuff

by John Cooper

I needed to make a gate for my side yard to keep out the dogs. The opening was smaller than gates I could buy even as kits so I had to make my own. I had two issues to solve: one, how to make the gate square and two, how to keep the pickets lined up. I found a solution for both by using pieces of scrap angle iron. I laid down one piece parallel to the pickets and then using a square lined up the other piece along the bottom. The bottom and top braces then butted up to the long side. The first picket then butted up parallel to the long angle iron. I discovered that the width of the boards when butted up to each other left too much of an opening so I spaced them using my 1/8” machine vise parallels.