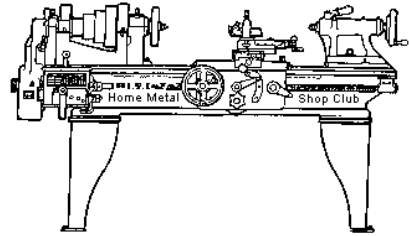




**December 2022**  
Newsletter

Volume 27 - Number 12



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

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 14 January 2023 Meeting

The next general meeting will be held on 14 January 2023 at 1:00 P. M. at TxRx Labs, 6501 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Texas 77011 AND on-line at Zoom.us. Log-in credentials are as follows: Meeting ID = 868 5812 5924 Passcode = 451131

## 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 12 November 2022 General Meeting

By Joe Sybille



Ten participants attended the 1:00 P.M. meeting. President Vance Burns led the meeting. See photo at right.



### Presentation

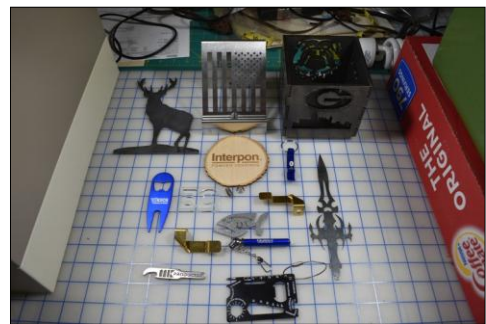
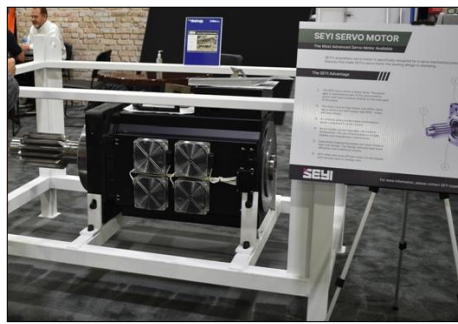


Club member John Cooper gave a presentation on his recent attendance at FabTech 2022 in Atlanta, Georgia. FabTech is an annual industrial convention featuring representatives of manufacturers and suppliers of equipment for metal forming, fabrication, welding, and finishing. These representatives explain the benefits of owning their equipment and, using the equipment on display, demonstrate its proper use. The downtown convention center served as the host location for FabTech 2022. In the United States, the convention location alternates between Atlanta, Georgia and Chicago, Illinois.

Admission to the three day convention is free for attendees registering about two months before the first day of the convention. Afterwards, there is a \$50.00 admission fee for the duration of the convention. Other details about the convention are available on-line. For those price conscience attendees, accommodations in one of Atlanta's many suburbs offer a less expensive alternative to the higher priced ones near the downtown convention center. Atlanta has an excellent light rail system, and a three day unlimited ride pass cost \$16.00.

There were over 1200 exhibitors including representatives of international manufacturers and suppliers. Educational seminars were offered, as well as technical sessions that addressed emerging trends, innovations, and challenges facing the manufacturing industry. Shown below are a few photos of machines and equipment Cooper saw at the convention. Also shown are samples of products, finished products, and artwork.





## Show and Tell

*John Cooper* showed a rod bender he made recently. The bender sits atop a stand Cooper made. Also atop the stand is a vise to hold the bender. The bender has a maximum capacity of 3/8" solid rod. See photos below.



## Safety Moment

John Cooper mentioned that he saw at FabTech 2022 a demonstration of a machine safety feature whereby sensors detecting hands or objects near moving parts would shut down the machine.

Several safety videos were shown. One depicted a person irresponsibly throwing rubbish from a balcony to the ground and inadvertently grabbing an energized electrical wire swinging near the balcony. The wire began to swing when the bag of rubbish struck it on its way to the ground. In an attempt to arrest the swinging wire, the person grabbed the wire and could not turn it loose. An associate on the balcony used a stick to knock the wire out of the person's hand to no avail

Another video depicted a worker struck and run over by the tire of a large forklift. Moments before, the worker had spoken to the forklift operator. When the forklift moved the worker was no longer in the view of the forklift operator. It appears neither the worker nor the forklift operator were concerned about keeping each other in their line of sight.

Another video depicted a curious observer interested in taking a close look at the engine compartment of an industrial earth mover on a job site. Without notifying the operator of the earth mover, the observer walked over and stood near the engine. Not knowing someone was nearby and in the path of potential danger, the operator repositioned the earth mover. In so doing, a wheel of the earth mover struck and knocked down the observer and then rolled over the person causing a fatal injury.

Another video depicted a worker shoving by hand sugar cane stalks into a shredder. When the stalks became stuck the worker pushed the recalcitrant stalks with a foot. The worker slipped and, unfortunately, suffered a fatal injury when the foot and leg followed the now freed stalks into the shredder.

Another video depicted a person closing a sliding gate that rolled along a track anchored to the cement driveway. Unfortunately, the person pushed the gate beyond the top retaining track. This allowed the gate to fall over and onto the person causing a serious injury.

A common thread among the videos shown was a lack of situational awareness, by the persons injured, of the potential hazards present.

## **Problems and Solutions**

A participant wanted to know the best way to have a cable made to connect a piece of equipment to a power supply. Several suggestions were offered.