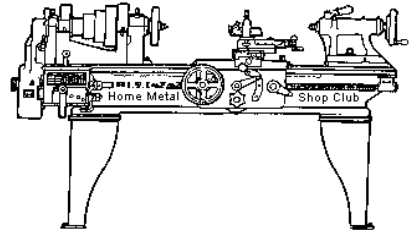




**August 2023**  
Newsletter

Volume 28 - Number 08



<http://www.homemetalsclub.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>Vacant</i>	Vice President <i>Ray Thompson</i>	Secretary <i>Joe Sybille</i>	Treasurer <i>Joe Sybille</i>	Librarian <i>Ray Thompson</i>
Webmaster/Editor <i>Dick Kostelnicek</i>	Photographer <i>Vacant</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 09 September 2023 Meeting

The next general meeting will be held 09 September 2023 at 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 = 896 2630 4042    Passcode = 149820.

Member Rich Pichler will give a presentation on how he made a vise holder for his floor mounted drill press.

## 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. Also, the club is looking for a volunteer to serve as president.

## Recap of the 12 August 2023 General Meeting

By Joe Sybille



There were 8 participants attending the 1:00 P.M. meeting. Vice-President Ray Thompson (right photo) led the meeting.



## Presentation

Today, participants viewed two videos, one on angle grinder safety and another on tools recommended for a fab shop in a small garage.

The first video on angle grinder safety emphasized four areas, namely, personal protective equipment (PPE), inspection of equipment, grinder methodology, and importance of awareness of grinder operation. PPE should consist of at least gloves, face and eye protection, and ear plugs. The angle grinder should be held with both hands. Doing so will keep the gloves from becoming entangled in the spinning wheel. A face shield is necessary to protect the face from flying particles. Additionally, eye safety glasses are necessary to provide protection for the eyes. Nevermind that the face shield is covering the eyes, too. The safety glasses add another layer of protection for the eyes.

Inspection of equipment requires checking to ensure the safety guard is in place, the disc is the correct one for the job at hand and has no chips or cracks. Discs are made for certain jobs. For example, do not use a cut off disc for a grinding job. There are disc specifically made for grinding. Another task to avoid is grinding aluminum. Disc embedded with aluminum particles create a fire hazard when used on steel.

Grinder methodology involves developing an even pressured motion as one moves the grinder along a workpiece.

Lastly, awareness of grinder operation pertains to recognizing where the generated sparks are landing. Grinding operations create hot sparks. If the hot sparks land on flammable items, there is an opportunity for a fire to develop. It is best to ensure the sparks do not land on flammable items.

The second video on a fab shop in a small garage offered suggestions for certain tools. The tools were a bench grinder, bench drill press, a portable band saw with a swag table, a bench vise, and a light duty welder. Discussions followed regarding the tool selections for the fab shop. One participant revealed the light duty welder was good only for light gage sheet metal. Another participant commented the portable band saw had a maximum cut width of five inches. Nevertheless, as most readers of this newsletter have limited space for metal working activities, the recommended tools will enable one to complete many tasks.

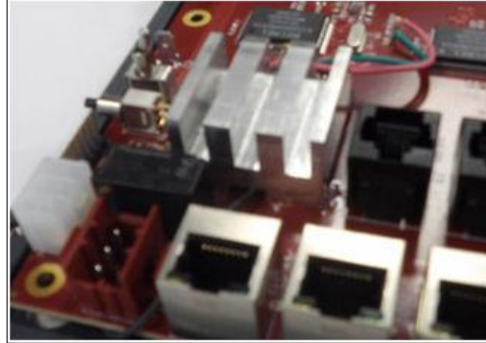
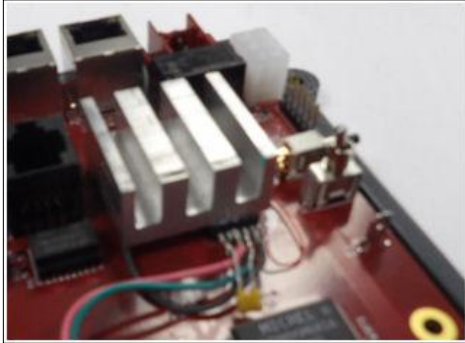
## Show and Tell

*John Cooper* showed pictures of a jacking system he built to straighten his eight foot tall fence. See photos below.



*Rich Pichler* discussed a vise holder for his floor mounted drill press.

*Dean Eicher* showed pictures of heat sinks he made for circuit boards. See photos below.



## **Safety Moment**

Several safety issues were discussed after viewing the first video presentation on use of an angle grinder.

## **Problems and Solutions**

There were no problems and solutions presented to the club today.