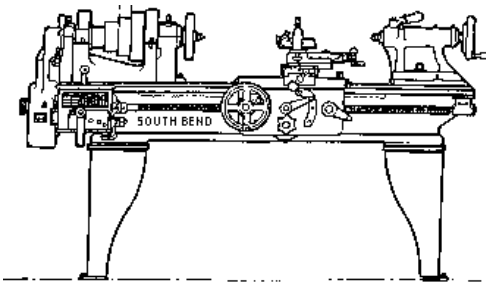


Home Metal Shop Club



Volume 12, Number 9 - September 2007

Journal of the Home Metal Shop Club of Houston, Texas. See back page for meeting information.
President – John Hoff, V. Pres.- Gene Rowan, Treasurer – Emmett Carstens, Secretary – Richard Daugird
Webmaster/Newsletter – George Carlson

Membership Information

Membership is open to all those interested in machining metal and tinkering with machines. The purpose of the club is to provide a forum for the exchanging of ideas and information. This includes, to a large degree, education in the art of machine

tools and practices. There is a severe shortage of written information that a beginning hobbyist can use. This makes an organization such as this even more important.

HMSC August 11, 2007 General Meeting, Collier Library, Houston, TX

Emmett Carstens, Secretary

31 members were in attendance, in addition to two visitors; Bruce Lunde and Blake Perry.

We had no guest speaker, so several members discussed past and present projects. Rich Pichler spoke about an old friend who was a Chief of Police and needed to qualify with a firearm to meet new regulations, although he hadn't fired a gun in over twenty years. Rich made up some wax bullets, which could be fired in the garage, and passed around some examples. Of course, when you get a bunch of mechanically-minded tinkerers in a room, many will be gun enthusiasts, and opinions vary, resulting in much debate.

Rich being held at gunpoint by a poster >

Joe Scott demonstrated his fixture for tapering a rifle barrel, using some equipment from Climax Portable Machine Tools*. He also had a VersaMill and was looking for parts.



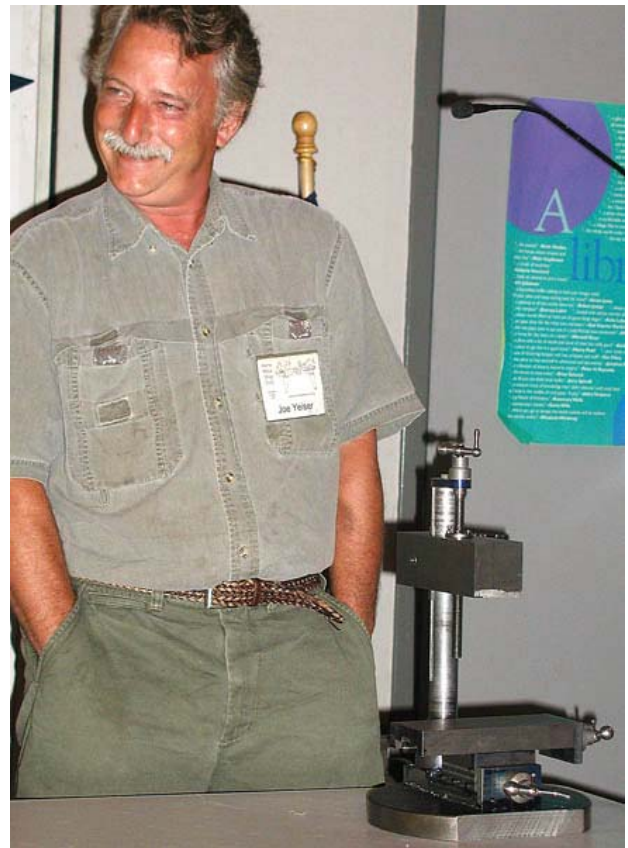
< Joe discussing the tapering of a barrel

Joe Yeiser brought along his work-in-progress miniature milling machine, which he is building as an exercise in learning to use his shaper.

John Hoff is rebuilding a cement mixer, and built a nice adjustable angle plate for mounting a spacer to facilitate cutting gear teeth.

*He claimed it was Climax Engineering, but a web search came up with Climax Portable Machine Tools as a more likely source, in my opinion.

Below, Tony Burnett and his antique wheel project.



Has anyone ever used a Versamill? >



Whatsa Fishmouth doing in the Shop?

Fishmouth is one of the terms used to describe the profile cut made to a piece of tubing so that it will snugly fit against another piece of tubing. Looking at the photo below, you'll see what I mean. In this case I have a piece on $\frac{3}{4}$ " OD tubing that I need to weld to the side of a piece of 1" OD tubing. For the welds to be strong, the fit must be perfect. Hotrod fabricators and people who build boat railings work with this problem all the time.



Here's the fit-up. All metal on metal contact. Stainless steel boat railing are usually welded without any filler. Just a fusion bead around the joint. So you know the joint has to be tight before welding.



A great way to deal with this is to use the simple jig detailed in the projects section of our website. This is a very simple jig that uses the precision of the Lathe compound to achieve high quality fits. You can build the jig in a few minutes with about \$3 in materials. Goto <http://www.homemetalsclub.org/projects/fishmouth/fishmouth.pdf> And check it out.

Next Meeting
September 8, 2007
1:00PM at the Library
Subject – Chrome Plating