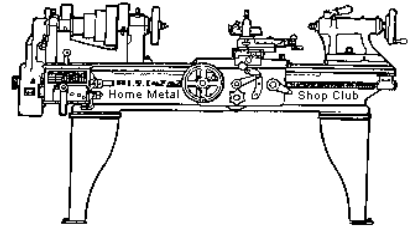




August 2025
Newsletter

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<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.

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Dean Eicher

Vice President
Vacant

Secretary
Joe Sybille

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Joe Sybille

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Casting SIG
Vacant

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John Cooper

This newsletter is available as an electronic subscription from the front page of our [website](#). There are over 1027 subscribers located around the world.

About the Upcoming 13 September 2025 Meeting

The next general meeting will be held 13 September 2025 at 12:00 P.M. (Noon - Central Standard Time) at TxRxLabs, 6501 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Texas 77011 **and** on-line at Zoom.us. Log-in credentials are as follows: Meeting ID = 823 2674 2751 Passcode = 984398. Direct meeting link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82326742751?pwd=OLKHKqhHZD4NcLuvLptqZfeyNfa2XC.1>

General Announcements

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 Dean Eicher](#).

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 [Secretary Joe Sybille](#).

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 twenty years of service, our current webmaster would like to pass the webmaster torch to a successor. Dean Eicher has agreed to serve as club president. Thanks Dean. Positions still vacant are vice-president and casting special interest group leader.

Recap of the 09 August 2025 General Meeting

By Joe Sybille

Eight participants attended the 12:00 P.M. (Central Daylight Time) virtual meeting on Zoom.us. Dean Eicher led the meeting (right photo).



Presentation

Mark Counterman gave an impromptu virtual tour of the shop floor of a local wire manufacturing company. Vintage machinery occupied most of the floor space and rightly so, since the machinery still works and serves as the workhorse of the wire manufacturing process. A few of the vintage machines have had the control system components updated to current standards, enabling the 'old iron' to keep producing wire and other wire related products.

Show and Tell



Dick Kostelnicek showed a neck collar containing a multispeed, rechargeable, battery operated fan. The collar could be worn in a warm shop to keep the machinery operator somewhat cooler while working. See photo at left.

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Joe Sybille showed a picture of using shrink wrap on pliers handles. He added the shrink wrap when the original protective covering became worn. See photo at right.



PinkCNC showed modifications made to a lathe to make it convenient to turn on and off the machine without reaching over rotating parts. Also shown were parts for a disassembled bench mill for which some parts were misplaced during a recent move from one city to another. Rather than wait until all packing boxes were emptied, 3D printed parts were made to replace the misplaced mill parts.

Safety Moment

A participant described how the wearing of loose long sleeved shirts could pose a safety hazard when operating rotating equipment. Participants were cautioned to avoid wearing sleeves that could become entangled in and around a rotating shaft.

Problems and Solutions

A participant requested suggestions on a railing system for a gantry crane CNC milling table. The milling table will be used to shape cabinet doors. Approximate table size will be 72 inches long by 30 inches wide.