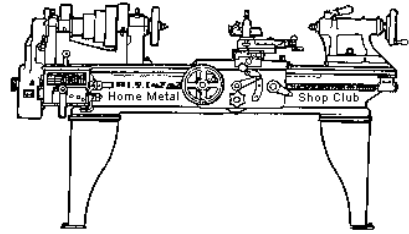




November 2023
Newsletter

Volume 26 - Number 11



<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 December 2023 Meeting

The next general meeting will be held 09 December 2023 at 1:00 P.M. on-line at Zoom.us. Log-in credentials are as follows: Meeting ID = 819 9404 4903 Passcode 865590.

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](#).

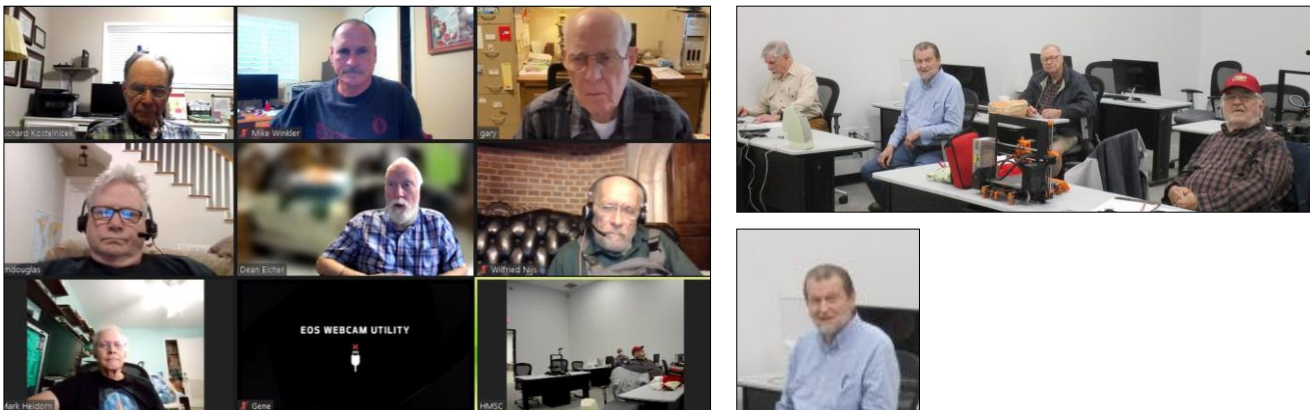
Members are requested to submit to the club secretary the name, address, telephone number, and website address, if any, of any metal or other material stock supplier with whom the member has had any favorable dealings. A listing of the suppliers will appear on the homepage of the club website. Suppliers 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 11 November 2023 General Meeting

By Joe Sybille

There were 13 participants attending the 1:00 P.M. meeting. Eight participants attended virtually; five attended in person. Vice-President Ray Thompson (below right photo) led the meeting.

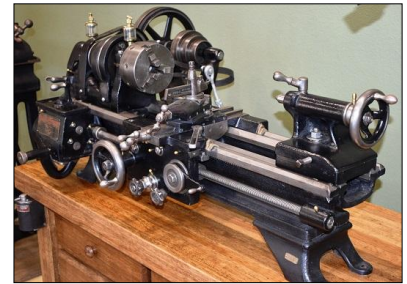


Presentation

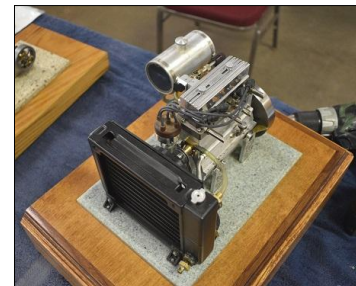
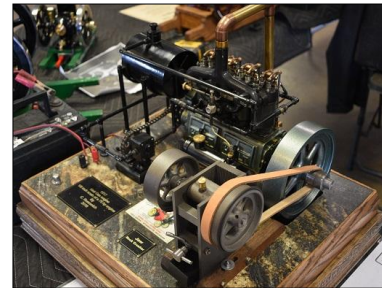
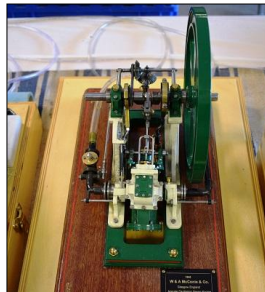


Member John Cooper gave an overview of his journey to the Black Hills Model Engineering Show in Rapid City, South Dakota during 23-24 September 2023. Enroute to the show, he visited several aircraft museums and a former working mine. Among the museums visited were Mid-America Flight Museum in Mount Pleasant, TX; Combat Air Museum and Kansas National Guard Museum, both in Topeka, KS; Larsen Tractor Museum, Lincoln, NE; and Strategic Air Command Museum, Omaha, NE.

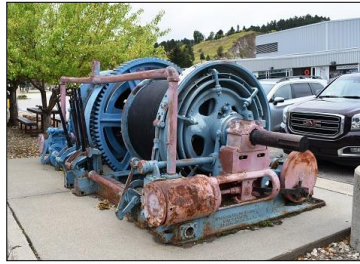
At the Mid-America Flight Museum, he was surprised to see an exhibit of antique metal working machines. Some were human powered machines. See photos below.



At the Black Hills Model Engineering Show, he saw examples of fine craftsmanship. See photos below.



Following the model engineering show, Cooper visited the Homestake Mine in Lead, South Dakota. Here he learned operators initially mined gold and the mine later served as a test site for nuclear physics experiments by Nobel Laureate Ray Davis. Several pieces of machinery used in the mine were on display on the grounds. See photos below.



Show and Tell

Richard Douglas showed pictures of a hollowing tool he made for his wood working lathe. See photos below.



Joe Sybille showed pictures of a vintage blacksmith shop taken during a recent visit to Heritage Farm in Huntington, WV. See photos below.





Safety Moment

A participant discussed the inherent dangers when welding. Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). At the very least, one should wear gloves, long sleeved shirts, eye protection, and a head covering. Another participant revealed the neck area is particularly vulnerable during welding operations.

Another participant mentioned the hazards of siphoning gasoline from a tank using a tube and one's mouth to create a vacuum to remove the gasoline.

Problems and Solutions

A participant discussed and showed pictures of a repair to a dishwasher door balance spring mechanism. After ten years of service, the string connector broke. Further discussion involved the merits of replacing the string with stainless steel cable and replacing the plastic pulleys with metal ones.

