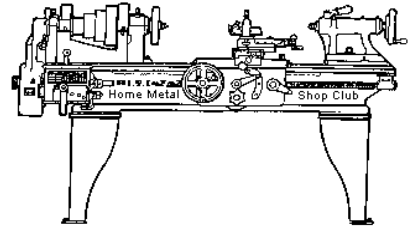




**February 2025**  
Newsletter

Volume 30 - Number 02



<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>Vacant</i>	Secretary <i>Joe Sybille</i>	Treasurer <i>Joe Sybille</i>	Librarian <i>Mark Counterman</i>
Webmaster/Editor <i>Dick Kostelnicek</i>	Audio/Visual <i>Mark Heidorn</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](#). There are over 1027 subscribers located around the world.

## About the Upcoming 08 March 2025 Meeting

The next general meeting will be held 08 March 2025 at 12:00 P.M. (Noon) at TxRxLabs, 6501 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Texas 77011 and on-line at Zoom.us. Log-in credentials are as follows: Meeting ID = 899 4326 4952 Passcode = 314379. Richard Douglas will continue with the build of his rose engine lathe.

## 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 Mark Counterman](#).

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](#).

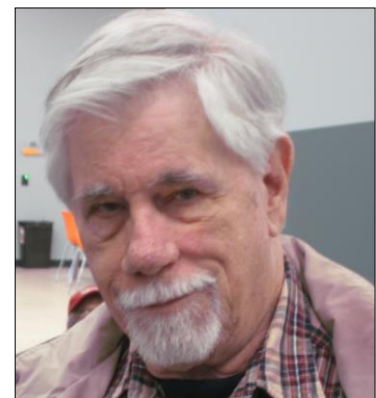
Members are requested to submit to the club secretary the name, address, telephone number, and website address, if any, of any metal or other material stock supplier with whom the member has had any favorable dealings. A listing of the suppliers will appear on the homepage of the club website. Suppliers 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. Also, the club is looking for a volunteer to serve as president, vice-president, and casting special interest group leader.

## Recap of the 08 February 2025 General Meeting

By *Joe Sybille*

Eleven participants attended the 12:00 P.M. meeting at TxRxLabs. Four participants were in person and seven participants attended virtually (left photo). John Cooper led the meeting (right photo).



The treasurer gave a report on the current finances of the club. Dues are still suspended until further notice.

## Presentation

Richard Douglas spoke on the challenges he is facing while building a rose engine lathe. He showed pictures of early models of the lathe and modern day equivalents. Douglas is building his version of the lathe from plans available on the web. Rose engine lathes are used to make complex shapes that are beyond the capabilities of the standard engine lathe. Unique about the rose engine lathe is that the head of the lathe is moveable as the cutter shapes the work piece to create intricate geometric patterns. Examples of patterns that were made with a rose engine lathe are shown below.

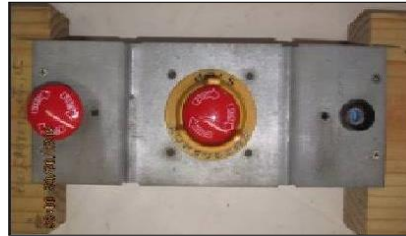


## Show and Tell

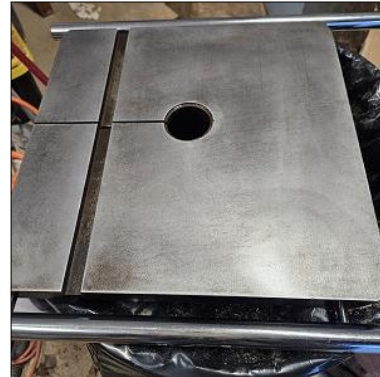
*John Cooper* described and showed a stand he made to mount a vise and a tube bender. After building the stand, he realized the welds at the base were not to his liking. Using an air-powered die grinder with a carbide burr to smooth the welds, he had difficulty holding the grinder with one hand. An electric grinder large enough for two-hand holding worked much better. Also, Cooper displayed a new welding helmet. See photos below.



*Joe Sybille* showed two different emergency stop buttons. These will serve as replacements for a broken stop button on his bench top mill. See photo below.



*Richard Douglas* showed a bandsaw he rescued from going to the scrap dealer. The bandsaw had been stored in the weather and problems with the bandsaw included a rusted work table, stripped tension screw, and broken trunnions. See photos below.



## Safety Moment

A participant described how fence installers at his house used their feet as work supports to cut wood to length. The practice appeared dangerous, but the installers were adept at using the procedure.

## Problems and Solutions

A participant sought recommendations for a source of neon indicator lights to serve as replacements. Several suggestions were offered.