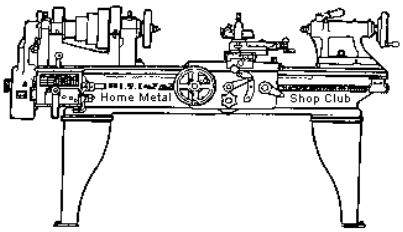
November 2026
Newsletter

Volume 31 - Number 11



http://www.homemetalshopclub.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	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Librarian
Dean Eicher	*Vacant*	*Joe Sybille*	*Joe Sybille*	*Dean Eicher*
Webmaster/Editor	**Audio/Visual**	**CNC SIG**	**Casting SIG**	**Novice SIG**
Dick Kostelnicek	*Mark Heidorn*	*Martin Kennedy*	*Vacant*	*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 12 December 2026 Meeting

The next general meeting will be held 12 December 2026 at 12:00 P.M. (Noon - Central Daylight Time) at TxRxLabs, 6501 Navigation Blvd., Houston, Texas 77011 **and** on-line at Zoom.us. Log-in credentials are as follows: Meeting ID = 879 0147 5361 Passcode = 314379. A link to the meeting.

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. Positions still vacant are vice-president and casting special interest group leader.

For those wishing to join the Tinkering user group please visit https://groups.io/g/tinkering and follow the prompts.

Recap of the 14 November 2026 General Meeting

By *Joe Sybille*

Eight participants attended the meeting. Five participants were in-person; three were on-line. Dean Eicher led the meeting (standing in left photo below). There were two visitors, Bill Peck and Larry Dussack. Welcome Bill and Larry. We look forward to seeing you again at the meetings.





Presentation

John Cooper gave a presentation on the use of an induction heater to remove a ferrous nut welded by rust to a ferrous bolt. In operation, a coil of wire through which alternating current flows is held around the nut. The current flowing through the coil generates a magnetic field, which causes induction or hysteresis loss resulting in heat generation. This heat causes the rusted nut to expand and to break the rusted bond between the nut and the bolt. After a short explanation of the induction concept, Cooper demonstrated the heating and removal of a rusted nut to a bolt. Shown below are the induction heater and assorted accessory coils.



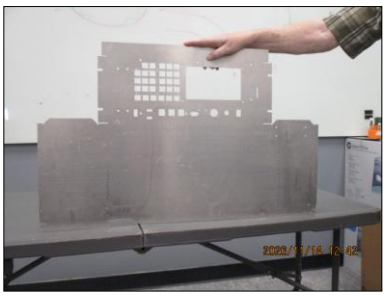


Show and Tell

Dean Eicher displayed two sets of drill bits. One set had hex head shafts. The other had, for several sizes, a shaft with three flats to fit better in a battery powered drill chuck. Also, Eicher showed a thin aluminum sheet prepunched and marked for bending into a rectangular enclosure for use in a rack mount. See photos below..











Joe Sybille described how he assisted fellow participant John Cooper with the removal of a crankshaft seal on a timing gear cover. See photos at left.



Mark Heidorn described the function of and exhibited a shop made enlarger to copy photographic slides. Heidorn will reduce the slides to a digital format. See photo at right.

John Cooper showed a support for the table of his hydraulic press. See photos below.





Safety Moment

Participants were shown pictures of workers on the roof of a two-story house and the precautions taken to prevent a fall to the ground.

Problems and Solutions

A participant described the difficulty encountered with making guide pins to facilitate installation of a timing gear cover. Several suggestions were offered.

Another participant described the success enjoyed upon receiving and installing the correct replacement cylinders for two desk chairs. Replacing the chair cylinders was much cheaper than purchasing two new chairs due to a malfunctioning hydraulic cylinder.