

Metro Detroit Metalworking Club

Newsletter

Volume 5, Number 2 (February, 2001)

NEXT MEETING

The March 2001 meeting of the Metro Detroit Metalworking Club will be held at the old Fire Hall Museum at the Southfield Burgh historical site in Southfield, Michigan on Wednesday, March 21 from 7:30 PM to whenever.

The Historic Burgh Center is at the intersection of Civic Center Drive (10 1/2 Mile Rd) and Berg Rd. (Berg Rd is about 1/4 mile east of Telegraph Road between Telegraph and Lahser Rds.) The Burgh Center is on the North East corner, park in the Human Resources Center parking lot and walk north a couple of buildings (on Berg Rd) to the Old Fire Hall. (The Historic Burgh Center and old Fire Hall are about one and three quarters of a mile west on Civic Center Drive from the Southfield Public Library, where we have been meeting.)

Coming from Telegraph Rd turn East on Civic Center Dr. go about 1/4 mile to the traffic light at Berg Rd and turn North into the Human Resources Parking lot.

For more information on the club, contact our President, Ron Biggs, _____

MEETING NOTES

These meeting notes were written by our founder and former president, Bob Lorenz.

Hello Metalworkers, The Metalworking Club's next meeting will be on Wednesday March 21, 2001 starting at 7:30pm at the Old Fire Hall in Southfield.

At the Feb. meeting Tom Stockton gave a talk on steam indicators, a tool first invented by James Watt to find out the actions of the steam inside the cylinder. The crude Watt steam indicator was later refined and used to calculate the horsepower of the steam engine and as a diagnostic tool for keeping the steam engine at proper performance, valves timed correctly etc.

To go along with Tom Stockton's talk and demonstration on steam indicators, Dr. David MacMillan gave a talk and demonstration of a Planimeter, this is a tool that will give you the area of an irregular diagram. This irregular diagram is what the steam indicator produces. By using the planimeter you can find the area of the irregular diagram and in turn these numbers are used to calculate the Mean Expansive Pressure and that in turn is used to calculate the Indicated Horsepower of the engine. The planimeter was loaned to Dr. MacMillan by Larry Chenault, Larry could not attend the meeting to give the demonstration so the good Dr. agreed to present the demonstration.

During the Question and Answer/ Show and Tell segment of the meeting Jerry Harmon displayed a tool he made for holding crocus paper taught to use like a lapping plate. Jerry would also like to learn more about lapping. Is anyone up to the challenge of presenting a talk and demonstration on how to properly lap an object. How do you keep from getting the slightly rounded edges on the flat surface you are lapping?

Jerry also mentioned that on March 17th at Willow Run at the Yankee Air Force Hanger there will be a "polish in" of the B-17 bomber. This starts at about 8am, lunch is provided and a chance for a 1 hour flight in the bomber. You are to bring soft rags and a product called Mothers Aluminum Polish. Rain date is the 24th of March. For more information contact Bob Lorenz 248-353-1676 or call the Yankee Air Force, at Willow run their number is probably in the phone book.

To continue with the Q and A, Brian Lawson brought in a unknown tool that somewhat looked like a lathe steady rest but no one knew for sure, a nice e-bay buy, should be able to be made into something! Larry Williams, a new club member, brought in a 5C horizontal/vertical indexable collet closer to show and ask questions about. Joe Pietsch handed out copies of an article on making a boiler, this went along with his talk on that subject a few meetings ago.

The NAMES exposition was discussed. If you would like to volunteer to help set up/tear down and or help the vendors find their tables and you have not yet signed the volunteer list call Bob Lorenz and indicate your willingness. If you would like to participate in the machining demonstration and you have not signed that list call Bob Lorenz to volunteer. Tom Malinowski has programed his CNC Sherline Mill to print the logo NAMES and he will bring the mill to the exposition and put the logo on the yo-yos. Dick Triemstra is working on having 250 yo yos machined on a CNC machine and then these will be given to the children after WE ASSEMBLE them prior to the exposition. At the exposition we will have a few blanks that we will face and drill and assemble as a demonstration for the children on Friday, on Sat and Sunday you may demonstrate what ever you wish on your machines. Earl Gage provided the yo yo idea and is working with ASAP metals, they will provide the aluminum for the yo yos. Ken Hunt has volunteered to provide the wood dowels for the axle of the yo yo.

NAMES and the Metro Detroit Metalworking Club... I have been approached by a couple of the NAMES board of director members asking my opinion of a closer working relationship of the NAMES and Metro Detroit Metalworking Club. I like the idea. NAMES was formed to put on the model engineering exposition, they have expanded over the last year or so to include a newsletter and a newsletter membership. Volunteers to help put on the NAMES exposition come from the NAMES Board of Directors, the newsletter members and from the Metro Detroit Metalworking club members which includes some of the NAMES Board of Directors. I see no reason why the Metalworking Club could not have a closer working relationship with NAMES. This could be a good way for the Metro Detroit Metalworking Club members to become familiar with the NAMES B.O.D and the functioning of the Society. This could provide a means for interested metalworking club members to move into a more involved position in the North American Model Engineering Society. I believe we should start talking about this subject at the March meeting.

We have no main topic of discussion for March, the topics depend on the willingness of the club members to share their knowledge! Lapping was a topic wanting to be discussed. Grinding lathe tools is another topic. Sharpening drills is another. A bench grinder can be arranged to be brought into the meeting area. The meetings will only be as interesting and informational as WE, make them. Give a talk, it keeps our club alive. Call Bob Lorenz or Ron Biggs to volunteer!

For Sale: Ron Biggs has a Smithy cb1239 Lathe Mill comb for sale, \$500.00 Lathe works perfectly, mill need some TLC, includes basic tooling and welded stand. Contact Ron. Ronbiggs2001@yahoo.com

Future field trip, Tom Stockton again volunteered to have a steam boat outing, another topic to be discussed as Tom could probably use some help getting the Arbor Queen ready for the summer and a mutually agreeable month and day should be planned for a work bee and sailing date.

See you at the March meeting, Bob Lorenz, Aid to the President

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Return to the [_____](#) Home Page.