do not want to use this space to constantly speak to membership growth and retention, however, I would like to hit this subject one more time before I turn this assignment over to somebody else to develop a program to give serious attention to membership development.

I think there are three really important things all of us should take to heart. The first one is ATTITUDE; the second is ATTITUDE and the third one is ATTITUDE. If we develop a positive attitude toward membership growth and retention, we will be successful in our quest. I would also suggest that all of us should read and reread Jay Ricketts article on "Hospitality" is all about. October is a wonderful time of the year in North Carolina. See you in Winston-Salem.

- Willie Royal

Recent Patent Numbers


Decatur Report... A review of the spring national meeting, with pages of display photographs. Begins on page 6.


Going... going... A report from the 20th International Antique Tool Auction. Page 18.

Books Reviews of a comprehensive text on Stanley No. 45s and a reprint that's all about slide rules. Page 24.

Auxiliary A report from the Decatur meeting, with the stories behind several winning displays. Page 30.

MARK THESE ON YOUR CALENDAR

COMING UP

Mid-West Tool Collectors Association National Meetings

Fall, 2002

Spring, 2003

Fall Meeting to Feature Election of Officers

Members will elect officers at the fall meeting in Winston-Salem.

The nominating committee has recommended that the by-laws be changed to create a vice president’s position to promote membership. The committee nominated Ed Hobbs to fill the proposed new office of vice president-membership.

Don Rosebrook was nominated to serve as vice president-scholarships to replace Ron Cushman, who resigned for health reasons.

Other nominees are incumbents: president, Willie Royal; vice president-meetings, Don Tubman; vice president-elections, George Wanamaker; treasurer, John Wells, and secretary, Tom Lamond.

Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting.

Still Time to Register for Winston-Salem

By now, everyone should have received a registration package for the 2002 fall national meeting that will be held in Winston-Salem, NC, on Oct 10-12. If you have not already sent in your registration form, there is still a little time left to do it.

This will be a great opportunity to tour historic Old Salem, buy and sell tools, hear informative programs, take a side trip to Replacements LTD, see wonderful tool displays, hear Roy Underhill from the “Woodwright’s Shop” and enter the first Most Creative Bib Overall Contest. The fall colors will be at their peak, so plan now to come and combine a vacation in North Carolina with this great meeting.

If you did not get a registration package or have any questions, please contact Ed Hobbs at (919) 828-2754 or hobbsed@msn.com. The members of Area Q are looking forward to seeing everyone in Winston-Salem.
MEETINGS, MEMBERSHIP NEWS & MISCELLANY

NATIONAL MEETING

Decatur Meeting Enjoyed By All

By Dave Heckel

At the spring semi-annual meeting June 13-15 in Illinois, a total of 565 registrants were hosted by Dave and Judi Heckel at the Decatur Holiday Inn Select Conference Center.

The hotel outdid itself in providing a great venue to hold the meeting. Recently redecorated rooms, good food and a repeat location ensured that those attending had a nice time.

The meeting got underway on Wednesday with some great room trading. It has become an opportunity for collectors and friends to meet in the comfort of an air conditioned room. Lots of stories, tall tales, and maybe some lies were exchanged between members who look at the get-together as a family reunion, with people that you really want spend time.

Rain threatened Thursday morning for the tailgating, but the sun broke through at 9 a.m. and everyone then was happy. The bus tour went to the Arcola-Arthur Amish Community and those that went saw some interesting sights and ate too much food (see the Auxiliary article in this issue for more). Rain returned and the Thursday night barbecue was moved indoors, but the camaraderie was very evident as no one wanted to leave the tables because they were too busy visiting. After dinner, the Gergenis and Kerns hosted an antique appraisal program that was very informative. Patricia Doyle provided expert opinions, sometimes aided by some of our very knowledgeable members.

The trade room was ready at 6 a.m. Friday and the displays were put up. An amazing number of displays were presented. There were 56 displays and 100 percent participation so the recent innovation of a deposit on a display table was very informative. The deposit was refunded at the show. The quality of the displays was outstanding.

Buying, selling and trading had everyone busy until the programs. Dave Heckel gave a slide presentation on "The Stanley Forty-five Combination Plane." He then released his new book and had a book signing. George Wanamaker gave one of his in-depth programs at the evening program. The subject was the Master Rule Manufacturing Co. We now have the history of the Interlox rule.

September saw the trade tables and displays being taken down and the tools packed up. In the afternoon Bob Green handled auctioneering duties. Doug and Paula Cox, with help from Jim and Eva Bramel and others, ran the auction. The banquet was well attended and Past President and M-WTCA founder Bill Holden gave his introduction of meeting first-time attendees and related some history of the early years of M-WTCA. He asked for all to "get involved," as our membership has been slightly declining in the past few years.

Joel and Sharon Hodapp handled the Hospitality Room admirably. There were many helpers who assisted them. Comments on the good choice of beer and snacks were appreciated. My wife Judi and I want to thank all that helped with so many of the functions. We planned programs and events we knew people would like. It must have worked, because everyone had a good time.

And the Winners Are...

By John Walkowiak

The display theme that meeting host Dave Heckel chose for the national meeting in June was "My Favorite Patented Tool."

He surmised that the theme would be broad enough to entice large numbers of members to participate in the displays in Decatur, Ill. Was he ever right!

There were 41 displays, which is nearly double the average, and may well be a record.

While patented tools seem to be the most popular kind to collect at this time, one half of the displays featured one-of-a-kind items which were a tribute, in most cases, to an unknown artist-craftsman of years gone by, and in some cases to the skills of our own members.

The scope and breadth of the displays showed the varied interests we have, and the wide array of tools we have to choose from to collect.

There were so many great displays, I believe they could have been photographed and put into a book on fine tools. I hope everyone attending took the time to look at them.

I want to give the judging committee a well-deserved thank you. The number and quality of the displays made their job difficult, but they spent the time to make sure each one was judged fairly.

The Best of Show In Theme award went to: "The Chapin-Rust Patent Plow Plane" by John Walkowiak. John displayed four models of the plow, and gave the history of them, from the first model, which had an 1868 Patent Applied For tag, to one of the planes Bob Baker made in 1985 with Solon Rust's tools.

The Best of Show Out of Theme award went to: "The Strode Planes" by Max Stebelton. Max had history on the Strode family and displayed three interesting planes, including a plow that was a showstopper.

The Best One Tool award went to:
"The Israel White Patented 3-Arm Plow" by Chris Berger. Chris showed a beautiful example of one of the rare handled versions of this early plow, and its patent information.

The Most Unusual Display award went to: "Faces In The Crowd" by Ron Pearson. Ron had a wonderful display of tools that had faces carved into them. Were they self-portraits? If only they could talk.

The Fred Curry Award for the best Stanley display went to: "Bailey Stanley Wood Bottom Planes" by Robert Green. Bob had an ambitious display showing many models, and had a complete history of the planes. He also had constructed shelves to display them.


On behalf of all the members who attended this meet, I want to congratulate the award winners, and thank those collectors who took the time to bring a display and share their knowledge. The exhibitors are a very important part of our meetings and are enjoyed by all. The display theme for the fall meeting is "Tools of the South." It's time to start planning for it, and please begin by reading the display rules in the back of the directory. See you in Winston-Salem.
MEETINGS, MEMBERSHIP NEWS & MISCELLANY

NATIONAL MEETING


Decatur display photographs by Mike Slasinski and John Wells.


Decatur display photographs by Mike Slasinski and John Wells.

Fred Curry Award for Best Stanley Display: "Bailey Stanley Wood Bottom Planes," by Robert Green.


Best of Show Out of Theme: "The Strode Planes," by Max Stebelton.

Area F's Brown County Spring Meeting

By Matt Borders

I've been sitting here for 20 minutes now, pen poised above paper, trying to figure out how to begin this article about Area F's spring meet in Brown County State Park.

Do I start out by telling you about the hundred or so people in attendance, the informative and entertaining demonstrations, the new friends I made or one of the other myriad alternative lead-off topics? You see, if nothing much had happened, then choosing a topic would be simple, but Joe Griewe and Co. have once again made sure that I'm not going to get off that easily.

Our little get-together has always proven educational for me both in terms of learning about tools and their monetary value as well as their historical significance, but also their use and function. This year, though, I had the chance to assume the role of teacher and my son, Lane, came away from Brown County with several important additions to his vocabulary. Lane, at a year and a half, now can identify at a glance such important artifacts as planes, wrenches, chisels and saws. At this rate I expect he will be invaluable at flea markets, in another year or so, spotting improper part substitutions and identifying type numbers.

Several members and their wives learned a very valuable lesson as well, namely that Lane is an extremely solid little boy and he is a lot heavier than he looks. Lane is a friendly little fellow and has a habit of holding out his arms upon the approach of anyone unknown to him, indicating that he wants them to pick him up. After his initial encounter with this tactic, Mo Arnold spent much of his time following Lane and I around, warning others “I wouldn’t do that if I were you” each time Lane held out his hands.

The aforementioned education opportunities were certainly not limited to discovering that Mathison planes have quadrupled in price or that I should have checked my liability coverage before allowing someone to hold my son. Art Redinger instructed us on the uses of the tools we collect and how we might use that knowledge to inspire others. Art has been a regular demonstrator at our meetings for several years and we all appreci-
ate the time and effort he puts into his presentations.

Friday evening’s program by Harold Hartman was a bit of a magic act. Somehow, Harold took a stick and some broom corn and, using period tools, turned out a corn broom indistinguishable from those I sell everyday in my hardware store. Now, Harold is a clear and concise speaker, but I am afraid that in spite of his instructions my best attempt at copying him would more closely resemble a bunch of weeds tied to a stick. I guess I’ll stick to selling brooms and leave their construction to the experts.

Saturday morning brought Keith Thomas and a well conceived discussion of the link between human history and tools. Keith’s position at Conner Prairie Living History Museum allows him a unique vantage point regarding social and technological change, and he used that vantage point to great effect in his discussion.

Saturday night’s speaker was Robert Drew, also from Conner Prairie. Robert spoke about green wood, its strengths and weaknesses and how those attributes have been exploited in woodworking. Robert is one of those people that will make you say, “wow, I never thought of that,” and as both a woodworker and tool collector I hope I get the chance to pick his brain again soon.

I hope this little glimpse at Area F’s spring meeting will inspire all who read it to pencil us in on their calendar next year. I’m sure you’ll all enjoy your time spent in Brown County with the members of Area F, and we look forward to seeing you.

One word of advice, You’ve all been warned about my son, so don’t expect to wind up with all my tools if you throw out your back picking him up.

Area R Joint Meeting

By John DeLay

What started our to be ATTIC’s spring meet turned into a great joint meeting when Walter Karsten, M-WTCA Area R director, Peter Hathaway, EALTA president, and Russ Ellis, NETCA president, asked to join in the event at CAMA (Connecticut Antique Machinery Association).

On a sunny day in northwest Connecticut, approximately 250 persons took part in the tool exchange, toured CAMA’s exhibit buildings and visited the (Eric) Sloane/Stanley Museum. Going on at the same time was a CAMA Steam Start Up Day. All the buildings were open, including a restored agricultural school, mining museum, steam engine sheds with engines running (one with a 12-foot flywheel). A very large building housed a comprehensive collection of farm tractors, both steam and combustion.

CAMA roasted a pig for lunch. Several tool groups signed up new members, and a silent auction netted some money for each of the organizations. The meeting was a very successful one for Area R after many years of little activity. A joint meeting of Areas R and H is already scheduled for Oct. 6 in Montgomery, NY. For more information, contact Karsten.

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Area A Annual ‘Cheap Meet’ Growing Strong

By Don Bosse

Area A set an attendance record April 27 when 104 members, guests and spouses turned out for its spring meeting in Hastings, MN.

Dubbed the “Minnesota Cheap Meet,” this annual meeting has been growing steadily every year. Becoming popular enough to where we used every available table plus some portable staging to hold all the tools. It’s a tough deal to beat, meeting admittance, trade table, doughnuts, coffee, lunch, spouses and kids were admitted for free, and all for just 10 bucks. Talk about cheap! And if that were not enough, guests who joined M-WTCA as new members at the meeting were admitted free as well. And why not, they came as guests, didn’t they?

The Hastings Armory is a great facility with room to grow so plan on coming next year and see what its all about. Mark your calendars for April 26, 2003, and we’ll see you. What’s that, can’t wait that long you say? Well, we have two more meetings coming up before then. There’s the joint Area A and B meeting in Rochester, MN, Sept. 14 and 15. And for you hearty souls there’s our annual winter Cabin Fever Meet Feb. 8, 2003. How’s that for tool temptations?

Area D Meet Features Iowa-Made Tools

By LeRoy Witzel

Sixty M-WTCA members and spouses gathered at the Humboldt, IA, fairgrounds for a swap meet on May 5. The theme for the meet was “Iowa-Made Tools”. Several tools made in Iowa were brought and discussed.

Paul Gorham gave an interesting program about his collection of navigational tools.

The Whats-It table items were puzzling to most of the attendees. Junior McBride, Fred Leu and Jim Escher led the discussion about possible uses of these tools. Some items of interest were: a spoke tightening tool for bicycles, a sharpened old phonograph wooden needles, unusual casters for chair legs, a plumb bob to measure river depth, and offset wheels for a seeder.


As usual, the early focus was on the trade tables.

A noon meal was prepared for all by the local 4-H group. Does any other swap meet have homemade pies?
OBITUARIES

Horace D. White

M-WTCA member Horace White, 85, of Columbia, TN, died March 2. His wife of 63 years, Hazel, died just 10 days later.

He was an avid collector of hammers, with more than 3,000 in his collection. Besides M-WTCA, he was or had been a Columbia volunteer fireman and a member of the Columbia Elks Club and Craft Memorial United Methodist Church. Before he retired, he was plant manager of Columbia Power and Water System.

He is survived by three daughters, Linda Riddle of Hendersonville, TN, Pat Taylor and Mary Webb, both of Columbia, eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren; and a sister. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Philip Whitney

Philip Whitney, 72, of Fitchburg, MA, died April 18 after a short illness.

He was perhaps best known for his demonstrations on cutting and harvesting ice. He was a member of M-WTCA, EAIA and other tool organizations as well as historical groups and museums. He was past president of the Lunenburg Historical Society and conducted trolley tours for the Fitchburg Historical Society.

Many of his articles were published in magazines. He was a former lieutenant in the Asburnham Fire Department, operated its first rescue truck and was involved in producing the first EMT manual in Massachusetts. He taught specialized, fire rescue, disaster and rigging workshops across the country.

Before retiring, he worked for the Rockport Shoe Co. He was a Navy veteran of the Korean War era.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Shirley, a daughter, three sons and six grandchildren. Burial was in Massachusetts Veterans Cemetery, Winchedon.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS & MISCELLANY

Membership Is Everyone’s Responsibility

By Ed Hobbs

You may be aware that M-WTCA has been losing members over the past few years. This must be a concern to everyone in M-WTCA. A growing membership, or at the very least, a stable membership, is critical to the survival of any organization. I would like to take this opportunity to share a few thoughts with you about membership and to suggest several things we can do to increase our membership.

I know that there are a number of individuals in M-WTCA that regularly recruit new members. To you we offer our sincere thanks and want to encourage you to continue your good work.

Membership is not just a responsibility of the officers and directors. Yes, as leaders in the organization, we have a duty to take a lead role but we can’t and should not do it alone. Membership is everyone’s responsibility.

To me, there are two aspects of membership: retaining the members we have and finding new members. Retaining members says we need to provide benefits that outweigh the costs and offer what our members want.

Finding new members means taking the initiative and reaching out. Yes, there will be some people who will seek us out and that is great but reaching out and making people aware of M-WTCA is really the key here. All of us have contact with potential new members from time to time. It may be with friends that share a common interest in antique tools or perhaps woodworking or it may be at an antique shop, auction, old tractor show or flea market where we run into someone who is showing an interest in tools. Another very effective and rewarding activity is demonstrating some of our antique tools at historic sites or festivals. It is fun to show others how the tools work and share our knowledge. Often, we will learn more by doing this, and it provides an opportunity to tell people about M-WTCA.

At the national meeting in Decatur in June, Bill Holden, one of the founding fathers and the first president of M-WTCA, expressed his concern at the banquet over our declining membership. His message to everyone was, “Get Involved.” Just think what we can achieve if everyone got just one new member over the next several years. There would not be any worry about ever reaching the point of “Will the last person left in M-WTCA, just turn the light out and close the door.”

Now, let me ask you to please help us in doing several things.

• Be mindful of reaching out to potential new members. Keep a couple of applications that are inside the rear cover of the GRISTMILL with you and tell people about M-WTCA and the benefits of belonging.

• Let me hear from you about membership - what you are doing, what you would suggest we do and any other thoughts you might have on this critical subject.

• Please take the time to complete and return the survey which is included in this issue of The GRISTMILL. Knowing what you, our fellow members want and don’t want, like and dislike, is very important. This is your opportunity to speak up and help shape the future direction of M-WTCA.

I am convinced that together we can turn this membership decline around. This will benefit everyone. Remember as Bill said, “Get involved.”

To comment, contact Ed Hobbs, 4417 Inwood Rd., Raleigh, NC 27603-3315, (919) 828-2754, or via e-mail at hobbsed@msn.com.

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Leonard Bailey in Boston, 1858 - 1863: The Years Before and During the Civil War

By Paul Van Pernis and John G. Wells ©2001

Part II
Bailey Moves His Shop to Boston

The years 1858-1863 were both exciting and trying times for Leonard Bailey and his family. The plane and spokeshave patents he’d been granted in 1858 along with his 1855 scraper patent opened up possibilities for an expanded line of high quality tools. With his self-confidence bolstered by the three tool patents he’d been granted in 1858, he acted on a decision that he’d probably already made. To achieve recognition as an inventor and manufacturer of high quality woodworking tools, he had to become his vocation. In order to realize his dream, Bailey needed a larger workshop, with more machines and additional skilled labor. Plying his trade in Winchester, he quit his job at the Church and Lane Piano Forte factory in Winchester, and established his tool business in Boston. This risky venture took place in the midst of a severe economic depression.

Bailey’s confidence in himself, his passion about his tools, and his determination to succeed swept him forward despite the uncertain economic times. As with many other inventive geniuses, creating new tools and improved versions of his previous designs became an obsession with Bailey, much to the detriment of his commercial success.

His July 13, 1858, spokeshave patent listed his address as Winchester, Massachusetts, but his Aug. 31, 1858, patent for the cam lock lever cap listed his address as Boston. Although patent application dates are not available for patents filed during this time period, it’s reasonable to estimate that the application for Bailey’s Aug. 31, 1858, patent was filed approximately six months prior to that date. Therefore, we can assume Bailey’s move to Boston took place sometime in March of 1858.

Fig.1: Haverhill Street, Boston, MA. Photo courtesy of the Bostonian Society Old State House.

Boston is only an 8-mile commute from Winchester, and was well served by regular train service on the Boston and Lowell Railroad at a cost of 20 cents. Bailey set up his shop at 73 Haverhill St., just a few short blocks from the train station (Fig.1). This area was populated by numerous small businesses, many of which were in allied trades. They often had no more than a few employees, and may have occupied walk-up loft space. His business neighbors included coopers, patternmakers, stair builders, carpenters, machinists and cabinetmakers. These neighbors could have supplied him with the skilled workmen necessary to produce his tools. In addition, these same businesses may have provided him with some of his earliest and best customers. Locating his shop in the midst of this “business incubator” brought him face to face with many of the best craftsmen and some of the most inventive minds at work anywhere in the United States at that time. This location also put him in contact with wholesale hardware dealers, jobbers and others who could more effectively help him market and sell his tools.

Most importantly, the area immersed him in the ferment of ideas and technological advances that were being made in the second half of the 19th century. Bailey would have been able to compare notes with skilled craftsmen in innumerable trades, and incorporate the lessons learned into his own tools and manufacturing processes.

The building that Bailey moved into had a ground floor area of 1200 square feet, and was five stories high. His shop was probably on an upper floor. Rather than spend the time and precious money it would have taken to commute back and forth from Winchester, Bailey may have slept at his shop.
Infill miter planes were being made in Scotland by Stewart Spiers at least 10 years before the Great Exhibition, held in London in 1851. Spiers was sending his planes to America before that time, and it is almost certain that Bailey heard of them and probably had the opportunity to use one belonging to a fellow worker at Church and Lane.

By mid-1858, Bailey had settled into his new shop in Boston and was having some success selling adjustable cast iron split-frame planes, scrapers and spokeshaves to the craftsmen who worked nearby. Eager to expand his line of tools, and realizing there was a potential market for a competitively priced miter plane among the many cabinetmakers and piano case makers working in and around Boston, he designed a metallic miter plane with an adjustable throat and cutter (Fig.4). By using cast iron for the plane body, Bailey could offer his miter planes at a lower price than the hand dovetailed, steel planes Spiers sent over from Scotland. The adjustable throat on Bailey's plane was controlled by two opposing screws, and the cutter adjustment was a direct drive similar to the adjustment patented by Levi Sanford in 1844. He fitted them with his newly patented cam lock lever caps stamped "Bailey's Patent August 31, 1858." Surprisingly, the lever caps did not have a spring, even though he had previously stated that a spring was needed to prevent the lever cap from being unlocked when the plane iron is adjusted. 7

Bailey's Belt Makers Plane

The expanded use of belt driven machinery created a demand for a tool to skive leather to make lapped joints in the ends of the belts. Bailey saw the opportunity and designed a cast iron belt makers plane. It had a direct drive cutter adjustment and a cam lock lever cap (Fig.5). The lever cap was not present on the only example found, so it is not known if it had a flat spring or was made without a spring.

Bailey was never fully satisfied with the tools he designed. If he could find a way to improve their utility or make them less expensive to produce, he wanted to do so, and since he made his tools in small batches, he often had the opportunity to make small changes in their design. Consequently, there are a number of versions of each of the planes he made.

Second Version of the Miter Plane

He made a number of improvements in the second version of his adjustable...
Continued from page 13

miter plane (Fig.6). He cast a pilaster integrally with the plane body to increase the thickness of metal for the threaded adjustment, added a spring attached to the back of the lever cap with two rivets, a single captive screw to move the sliding fore bed and added two gib screws to make it easier to fit the forebed to the plane body.

Bailey's Adjustable Wood Plane

Late in 1858, Bailey began manufacturing wood planes with the second cutter adjustment (Fig.7). The adjustment mechanism is much simpler than the one illustrated in the patent: A lever screwed to the top of the frog has an off center upstanding pin that fits into one of the holes in an iron strip riveted to the back of the cutter. Moving the lever from side to side slides the cutter up and down along the sloped surface of the frog and under the lever cap. The cam lock lever caps were on these planes are unique. They have a spring, a smooth japanned surface, and "Patent Aug. 31, 58" cast around the keyhole. He sold some of them to other plane makers and perhaps wanted it known they were protected by his patent.

Bailey made many of his adjustable wood planes for sale by agents or retailers. They are often imprinted with the seller's name, and most are also stamped "Bailey's Patent, Aug. 31, 1858, June 22, 1858." A few of his wood planes, including the ones he sold himself, are stamped "Bailey's Patent, Aug. 31, 1858"; some of these are also stamped with the "June 22, 1858" patent date.

Adjustable Wood Planes With a Self-setting Cap Iron

The cap iron and the mouth opening of a plane work together to control tearout when planing against the grain, which is unavoidable when working wavy or curly grained wood. For this type of work the leading edge of the cap iron is set close to the cutting edge to curl the shaving before the wedging action of the cutter tears out wood fibers ahead of the cut. For heavy cuts with the grain, the cap iron is set back from the cutting edge so thick shavings have room to curl up without choking the throat of the plane.

On an ordinary plane the cap iron is clamped to the cutting iron with a cap iron screw, and both of them must be removed from the plane to change the distance between the cutting edge and the cap iron. Bailey designed a self-setting cap iron, which automatically adjusted the distance between the cutting edge and the edge of the cap iron as the plane was adjusted for a fine or coarse cut (Fig.8). In his design, a steel plate with a beveled leading edge, riveted to the lower end of the lever cap, serves as a cap iron. An adjustable stop on the back of the lever cap bears on the top of the lever cap screw so the lever cap/cap iron combination remains in a set position with respect to the sole of the plane independent of the setting of the cutting iron. The cutting iron is adjusted by sliding it under the lever cap, consequently the distance between the cutting edge and the edge of the cap iron is automatically increased or decreased when the cutting iron is adjusted for a heavier or lighter cut.

The concept is similar to that of the earlier 1844 Levi Sanford patent and of later Gage and Standard Rule planes. Self-setting cap irons are often unsuccessful because they don't clamp the cap iron to the cutter with enough pressure to prevent shavings from sliding between them and choking the throat of the plane. Bailey's self-setting cap iron undoubtedly suffered the same fault because he made very few of them.

Second Version of the Belt Makers Plane

Bailey used a cam activated cutter adjustment, covered by his June 22, 1858, patent, on the second version of the belt makers plane (Fig.9). An adjustment knob on the side of the plane moves a cam with an upstanding pin that fits into one of a series of holes in an iron strip riveted to the back of the cutter. The spring on the underside of the lever cap is now attached with a single rivet and set in a recess to prevent it from turning sideways.

Fourth Version of the Scraper

Bailey's fourth version of the veneer scraper was redesigned to be a little smaller and take a 3-inch-wide cut. The smaller size made it easier to handle and more useful in the furniture and cabinet making trades. It has large bulbous handles and a large lever cap screw, similar to those used on early Series B planes. The veneer scraper, which would turn out to be one of Bailey's most successful tools, was now almost in its final form (Fig.10). Two examples are known; both are stamped on the handle "Bailey's Patent Aug. 7, 1855."
yearly labor cost of $800. His reported annual production was 309 planes valued at $1,650 ($5.34 each) and 7,200 spoke shaves valued at $1,950 (27 cents each).

Fig. 11: Series D Smooth Plane

Series D Split-Frame Planes

The final version of Bailey's split-frame plane, Series D, was made in Boston from 1858 until 1866 or 1867 (Fig. 11). The primary change from previous versions was the introduction of the cam lock lever cap instead of a slide in screw lock lever cap. On the smooth and jack plane sizes the front knob, used to compress the coil spring, is attached with a machine screw to avoid tearout problems experienced with wood screws used on Series B and C planes. The rod, running through the center of the coil spring, passes through a hole in the upper section of the plane body rather than through a slot or fork as on Series A and B planes. The hole was less expensive to make and distributed the compressive force to the spring a little more evenly. The cap irons Bailey used on planes with a cam lock lever cap differ from the standard cap irons used on earlier planes with slide-in lever caps: They are of uniform thickness, have a 9/16-inch round hole for the lever cap screw and are extra long to provide a flat bearing surface for the cam on the lever cap.

The 10,000 pounds of castings Bailey had on hand in 1860 would have made 7,000 to 8,000 spokeshaves and 400 to 500 planes. Based on the number of Series D split-frame planes that have turned up it's doubtful that he made more than 400 of them, and since he reported making 309 planes in 1859, most of which were undoubtedly Series D split-frame planes, approximately 300 of the castings on hand in 1860 must have been for vertical post planes.

Bailey's Vertical Post Planes

Bailey almost certainly began making vertical post planes in 1860, but his production of them during the Civil War years was very low, both because materials and labor were in short supply and because there was very little demand for them. He was undoubtedly so excited about the design of his new vertical post plane that he ignored the wisdom of clearing out his inventory of split-frame planes before introducing the new design. But, since he needed to recover his investment in castings and parts, he was forced to continue selling Series D split-frame planes long after he introduced the vertical post planes, and they were both offered in catalogues published by Bliven, Mead & Co. in 1864, the Russell and Erwin Manufacturing Co. in 1865, and A. J. Wilkinson & Co. in 1867.

Both the handle and front knob are attached in a very simple way: They are slipped over a threaded rod screwed to the bed and secured by a cylindrical brass nut in a shouldered hole in the rosewood knob or handle. (It's amazing that Bailey didn't patent this very useful idea.) The new design has all of the visual and construction characteristics of the modern carpenter's plane except for Bailey's third and most effective cutter adjustment, patented Aug. 6, 1867.

Most vertical post planes were made with a cam lock lever cap without a
Leonard Bailey in Boston, 1858 - 1863: The Years Before and During the Civil War

Continued from page 15

with a smaller spring, and were fitted with a tapered double iron, usually by Moulson. In 1867 or 1868, when Bailey began producing planes with his third cutter adjustment and patented thin parallel irons, (i.e. Boston Bailey Type-1 Planes) he made up the remaining castings for vertical post planes with a smaller mouth opening suitable for the thin parallel irons. When he ran out of lever caps without springs, he supplied a few vertical post planes with banjo spring lever caps, which he was currently making for Boston Bailey Type-1 Planes.

An example of a vertical post jack plane in unused condition with a banjo spring lever cap is shown in Figure 12. The adjustment nut is stamped “L. BAILEY, BOSTON,” with two patent dates, struck with three separate stamps. Bailey was very proud to be in business in Boston.

The Last Difficult Civil War Years

With the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, Leonard Bailey was again struck by financial hardship. Another financial “panic” began in 1861 shortly after the Confederates fired on Fort Sumter. Again, thousands of businesses failed. Costs of goods rose dramatically during the war years, and wages didn’t keep up with inflation. The demand for premium planes no doubt dropped precipitously as skilled cabinetmakers and carpenters went off to war. Small businesses that weren’t producing products for the military suffered from the economic downturn. Steel, brass and cast iron became scarce for non-military use.

The market for Bailey’s high quality adjustable metallic planes quickly evaporated, leaving Bailey in a difficult position. He had begun production of his vertical post planes in 1860 and likely had a large inventory of castings on hand for these planes when the financial panic hit.

Recently discovered correspondence between Leonard Bailey and the Providence Tool Co. in late 1860 and early 1861 illustrates Bailey’s financial difficulties. On Oct. 10, 1860, he wrote the Providence Tool Co. requesting 2 gross (288) of cap screws, which suggests he must have had at least 288 planes that needed them.

On Oct. 23, 1860, he wrote the Providence Tool Co. again, asking why he hadn’t heard from them, and stated that he wanted the screws sent immediately!

In a letter dated Feb. 24, 1861, (Fig.13) he asked for a discount on the cap screws saying, “We shall want to use a great many screws of this description.” He complains about the price of $7.20 per gross compared to $4.25 per gross (this reflects the inflation present during the Civil War). Bailey’s logo (Fig.14) stamped on the top of the letter of Feb. 24, 1861, confirms that he was making all wood planes with his second patented adjustment in 1861.

On March 7, 1861, Bailey wrote the Providence Tool Co. again, requesting another one or two gross of cap screws, and asked whether the company would be willing to make his special caps irons for him. Bailey’s interest in finding someone to make cap irons supports the presumption that he was planning to make a large number of vertical post planes, which have cam lock lever caps.

Just five days later, he wrote to the company, saying that he wouldn’t need the cap screws after all.

On May 21, 1861, just a few weeks after the beginning of the war, he wrote and told the Providence Tool Co. that he couldn’t pay his bill for the cap screws because “owing to the pressure of the times, I am initially out of funds.”

Bailey was broke! The years between 1861 and 1863 were a low point for Leonard Bailey. There was enormous inflation, costs skyrocketed, and at the same time there was very little market for items not essential to the war effort. Bailey was probably deep in debt from the costs he had incurred in expanding his tool line and establishing a larger commercial shop in Boston between the years 1858 through 1860. He had little immediate prospects of enough business to pay off those debts.

Late in 1863, out of economic necessity, Leonard Bailey gave up his house in Winchester, and moved his family to a rented apartment above street floor shops at 13 Merrimac St. This address was in the industrial section of Boston just a few blocks from his shop at 73 Haverhill St.

The final article in this series will be Part III, Boston 1863-1869: The years during and after the Civil War.

Footnotes:

1 In the midst of his business and inventive success, personal tragedy visited the Bailey household all too regularly. His 3-year-old daughter Lizzie died in June of 1854 of "fits." A short four months later, his 1-year-old daughter died of "purpura." In 1860, death again struck the Bailey family. On Feb. 4, 1860, Henry, his only son at the time, died at the age of 2 years and 9 months. A month later, March 9, Lucy, an infant daughter, died. Just 10 days later, another daughter, Alma, aged 5, died. All three of these children died of scarlet fever, which was epidemic in Winchester during 1860. While death from infectious disease was common in the mid-19th century, the emotional devastation and grief this must have wrought on Elizabeth and Leonard Bailey is hard to fathom. By mid-March of 1860, five of their six young children were dead. At about this time Bailey’s inventive genius seems to have been put on hold. Perhaps his mind was preoccupied with grief, or the demands of a growing business may have kept him from the

Fig.13: Letter to Providence Tool Co. Feb. 24, 1861. In the Patrick and Lisa Leach collection.

Fig.14: Bailey’s stamp. In the Patrick and Lisa Leach collection.
inventor’s workbench. We may never know, but he didn’t file another patent for six years.

2 A severe economic depression struck the United States in 1857, when the New York branch of the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Co. failed. Called the “Panic of 1857,” it caused the collapse of thousands of businesses. Economic conditions didn’t improve until late in 1859.

3 In the middle of the 19th century, patent applicants were given 12 months of patent protection from the date of application. Presumably, the patent office considered it would either grant or deny an application within 12 months. Therefore, it is reasonable to expect the application for a patent was made approximately six months prior to the patent date.

4 Washington Street, which was only a few blocks from Haverhill, was Boston’s “hardware row” in those days. It was lined with shops that sold hardware, tools and scientific instruments including A. J. Wilkinson & Co. founded in 1842. Wilkinson offered Bailey’s patented wood and metal planes in the 1867 issues of Scientific American, and prominently featured his vertical post planes in the company’s first illustrated catalogue published that same year.


6 The cutter is coupled to an adjusting screw parallel to and below the cutter.

7 He may have made a batch of miter planes before he discovered the unlocking problem and when his Aug. 31, 1858 patent was issued he stamped the patent date on the lever caps on the unsold miter planes.

8 The first model of the miter plane has a separate piece riveted to the inside of the plane body for that purpose.

9 Several of the hardware houses operating at that time arranged with their suppliers to furnish items labeled with the hardware house name, either in lieu of or in addition to the maker’s name.


11 Roger K. Smith: Patented Transitional and Metallic Planes in America, Volume II, 26, fig. 34. Much of the material in these three articles is based on information taken from P-TAMPA, Volumes I and II.

12 Vertical post planes were described as Bailey’s patented iron planes and split-frame planes as Bailey’s common iron planes.

13 A spring wasn’t needed because the cutter is not adjusted by sliding it under the lever cap.

14 Letters from Leonard Bailey to the Providence Tool Co. are from the Patrick and Lisa Leach Collection.

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**Advance Notice !!!**

2 BIG AUCTIONS

Both Auctions Held in Ray Co. Veterans Bldg., Richmond, MO

** SEPTEMBER 20th & 21st **

WINCHESTER (600+) & KEEN KUTTER (600+)

Outstanding Tools & Related Collectibles

Jim Winkelbauer, Owner

*** NOVEMBER 8th & 9th ***

Wide Variety of Collectible & Antique Tools

Farm & Primitive Items

(Collections of saws, graduated sizes of augers (w/ rare 4" size), other augers w/ handles, froes, adzes, hatchets, wooden rules, sm. bench vises & anvils, hand braces, bits, crozes, machinists, hammers, axes (incl. broad), stone cutting tools, miners tools, blacksmith tools, saw sets), New Rogers Velocipede, Stanley Tools & Planes (incl. 5 ¼, 3C, 45, 46, 55, 48, 122, 71, 71 ½, 605 bedrock, 113 compasses & 62), Ohio, St. Louis & other wood planes, Farm Collectibles (hand farm tools, hog oilers (7) & scrapers, milk cans, corn shuckers & knives, tire pumps, fence stretchers, scythes, pulleys, turpentine tool, scales, wagon jacks, car & truck c.i. jacks, ice saws, c.i implement seats, planter lids, grain scoops, c.i. pots & skillets, wood shell boxes, washboards, rare 1894 horse drawn disc blade sharpener) Mo. Lic. Plates, 200 Ford wrenches, + brass tire pump, car jack, oil can; Collection of old padlocks, Simmons Brush Display, Winchester 1 gal. oil cans, lot of KK, DE & Simmons tools, rare Evinrude 2 burner campstove. Just a small sampling of what will be sold as most everything is still boxed. Many unusual items, some quite rare and hard to find.

Ken Lord, Owner

Simmons & Company Auctioneers, Inc.

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Check our Website for Complete Listing Info, Starting Times, Previews, Directions, Lodging, etc.
The 20th International Antique Tool Auction, Brown Auction Services
Featuring the Collection of Dr. Michael Jenkins

By John G. Wells 2002

On April 6, 2002, I had the privilege of attending the distribution of a truly great collection that had been put together over a period of many years by Dr. Michael Jenkins. It was a collection of unusual breadth and depth, and included items from almost three centuries of America's leadership in the design and manufacturing of innovative tools for the trades.

Most collections focus on a particular tool category such as 18th century wooden planes, Stanley tools, patented metallic planes, rules or levels. But this collection focused on the most outstanding examples available from many categories and always in the best condition that could be found.

I asked Michael Jenkins, who was at the auction, why he chose to sell the collection he had put together with such great care. He said he always wanted to attend his own estate sale, and this was the only way he could think to do it.

The evening before the auction, I asked those at the dinner table which item they thought was the Star of the show. Naturally answers varied, depending on personal interests, but it was clear the auction contained many great items that would appeal to a wide range of tastes. As the auction unfolded on Saturday, this presumption was verified, there were Stars in every category of tools.

What's a Star? A Star is a tool so great that it stands tall above all the others around it and shines like a beautiful star. It may not be the most expensive tool but it is the most exciting, significant and splendid: It shouts out "take me home."

But, that's a matter of opinion, isn't it? The fun thing about an auction is you can name your own star; just hold up your hand until someone says sold.

At 9 a.m. the Auction Begins

Auctioneers

Scott Gutshall (son of longtime tool collector Art Gutshall of Palmyra, PA) and J. Ziegler for Brown Auction Services alternated in calling the lots at a brisk but easily understood pace of a little over 106 lots per hour. The prices quoted below include the 10 percent buyer’s premium.

The collection was very strong in outstanding levels and inclinometers. For my taste the Star of this category was the stunning 24-inch spindle level by L. L. Davis, lot 501 (Fig. 1). Quoting from American Levels and Their Makers: "... these are the Type 1 Davis carpenters' levels ... (and) they are rare." Finding one in superb condition is astonishing. Apparently the bidders agreed, because it realized $4,730, well above the high estimate.

The L. L. Davis 6-inch mantle clock level, lot 500, with almost 100 percent of the japanning and gold pin stripe decoration, and in the original tattered but labeled box, was not far behind. It sold for $3,410, comfortably above the high estimate.

A Thomas F. Deck, No. 5 pendulum inclinometer, lot 634, made by the Toledo Gravity Level Co., Toledo, OH, was Type 1, with a 4-inch dial, patented Dec. 5, 1896. This rare inclinometer, in "Good" condition, brought $2,970. A later version of the Deck gravity level, lot 499, with a Feb. 4, 1905 patent date, in "Good+" condition brought $2,200. I understand the Deck gravity level used an elaborate set of internal roller bearings to assure smooth and accurate operation of the pointer.

A Downey pendulum type level, lot 632, by the Orr & Locket Hardware Co., Chicago, patented Sept. 29, 1891, in Good+ condition sold for $2,090.

Lot 629, a spirit inclinometer, called the Level, Plumb & Inclin...
Wood Plow Planes

The Israel White No. 106 three-arm self-regulating plow plane, with a handled beech body and ebony side arms, lot 685, (Fig. 2) was clearly the Star of this category. There are only two known Israel White three-arm plows that are handled and this is the only one with factory installed steel rollers in the fence. Israel White (1804 - 1839) worked as a plane maker at Callowhill & Fourth Street in Philadelphia, PA, 1831-1839; the date of the restored patent is Jan. 9, 1834. A broadside advertising the plane, dated Nov. 12, 1833, can be seen in P-TAMPIA v. 1. This great plane had been professionally cleaned and was in Good+ or better condition. It brought the highest price of the day, selling for $21,450. Its age, rarity and technical innovation make it a very important Philadelphia plane. It’s not surprising that it seized the magical moment and the highest price of the auction.

An E. W. Carpenter, Lancaster, PA (1791 - 1856) boxwood plow plane nicely highlighted with rosewood nuts, washers, fence and wedge, and with improved arms patented Feb. 6, 1838, lot 442, brought a strong $3,300. Plow planes by E. W. Carpenter have a very special visual character, which in combination with their historical significance helps them achieve very strong prices.

Lot 625, a French style coach maker’s plow plane with a nicely sculptured brass adjustable fence, an adjustable depth stop, and an ebonized wood body inlaid with very attractively shaped brass reinforcing strips, in Good or better condition but with a little of the ebonized finish worn at the edges, brought $3,300, well above the high estimate.

Wood Plow Planes

A very nice Sandusky Tool Co. No. 141 center wheel self-regulating plow plane, lot 673, in beautiful mellow boxwood with six ivory tips was a little under appreciated at $9,350.

An absolutely beautiful, and quite rare, Sandusky No. 137 handled ebony plow plane with four ivory tips, lot 599, brought $4,180.

Patented Metallic Planes

The stunning Fales combination plane, lot 703, (Fig. 3) first patented March 7, 1882, and manufactured by Otis A. Smith, was one of the most enticing items in the auction and surely the Star of the patented metallic planes. It was in unused condition and included a full range of about 24 cutters and bottoms, all as shown on two facing pages in Otis A. Smith’s 1905 Trade Catalogue. It came packed in a wood box that had three compartmented drawers to accommodate all of the accessories and included an original letter of sale dated Jan. 20, 1909 signed by Otis A. Smith. This great piece of tool history was a bargain at only $3,850.

The plane on the cover of the auction catalogue, lot 698, is an E. H. Morris diamond soled metallic smooth plane patented Nov. 8, 1870, and made by the Sandusky Tool Co. Besides being a scarce model of the Morris smooth plane, it is one of a few that were decorated in the factory with a sheaf of wheat design on the body, wedge, handle and front knob. It is an unusual plane that appealed to a number of bidders; it sold for $5,830. A similar plane shown in “The Art of Fine Tools” has the sheaf of wheat design on the wedge and body but not on the handle.

The more often seen model of the Morris diamond soled metallic smooth plane has an attractive floral pattern cast on the upper surface of the bed and is similar to the two longer planes in the series: a Morris patented jointer, lot 667, and a jack plane, lot 670. The jointer, in excellent condition, brought $2,530 while the jack plane, with a bruised wedge and handle, sold for $2,090.

Lot 672, a Metallic Plane Co. No. 11 non-adjustable filletster and rabbet plane with screw attached skewed cutter, a narrow sliding fence with low relief floral decorations cast in its face, sold for a surprising $4,180, exceeding the high estimate by a good margin. The Metallic Plane Co. made several variations of the No. 11 filletster and rabbet plane, including some with a rack and pinion adjustment and bulbous lever cap, and some with a very attractive and delicate filigree fence.

The only known example of Rodier’s adjustable bull nose block plane, lot 694, (except for the one in Rodier’s personal traveling display case) had a mouse nibble out of the back edge of the lever cap. It sold below the low estimate for $3,520.

A Bailey No.3 size vertical post plane, lot 699, with a thin parallel Bailey iron stamped with the very rare Bailey, Woods & Co. logo, had the extra narrow mouth opening that Bailey used in later examples that were fitted with his thin parallel irons. It was in Good++ condition, except for an improper replacement lever cap, and sold for $5,500.

Stanley Tools-in-the-Box

The auction was exceptionally rich in Stanley-in-the-Box items, with more than 160 lots in that category. Items that are hard to find in the original labeled box:

Continued on page 20
The 20th International Brown Antique Tool Auction

A Stanley No. 444 dovetail plane, lot 723, in mint condition and complete with cutters, spur blocks and instructions, in a fine cardboard box brought $1,760. The No.444 is often found in the box, but seldom found with all of the nickel plating present.

A rare version of the Stanley No. 143 bull nose plow and match plane, lot 392, with the number cast in the side of the plane near the handle, in mint condition, and in a picture labeled box with some wear, sold for $1,705.

A rare version of the Stanley No.72 1/2 chamfer plane with beading attachment, in the original labeled picture box, lot 221. The 20th International Brown Antique Tool Auction Continued from page 19

that are in unused condition, and in boxes that are in fine condition commanded the strongest prices.

The big surprise was a Stanley No. 72 1/2 chamfer plane with beading attachment, lot 221, (Fig. 4) which turned out to be the Star of Stanley-in-the-Box. This is a scarce item to find in the box, and to find it in almost mint condition is unheard of. Both the tool and the picture labeled box were clean, shining and as close to perfect as can be expected. It took a bid of $3,850 to win this prize, well above the high estimate.

A Stanley No. 57 core box plane, lot 206, in near new condition and in a Fine picture labeled box brought $1,870.

One of the most popular of all Stanley tools, a No. 1 smooth plane, that had a little light use but still retained 97 percent of its japanning, in a worn and taped plane, tool mint but the box has tape on the corner of the label, sold for $907.50.

Lot 708, a Stanley No. 1 Odd Jobs, seldom found with the original rule, in new condition and in a Fine box sold for $605, while an earlier No. 1 Odd Jobs, complete with the scribe and in mint condition, in a worn green labeled box, only brought $275.

Other Rare Stanley Tools

A very hard to find Stanley No.44, Miller’s patent gunmetal plow plane, lot 438, with 10 cutters, in Good+ as found condition brought a strong $5,720.

A Stanley No. 196 curved rabbet plane, lot 717, in Mint probably unused condition (the box was left at the hardware store) brought $2,040. I’m told these planes work very well to clean up rabbets in compound curved work, but I’ll bet more of them were admired than were used.

A Stanley No.131 double end, adjustable block plane, lot 110, seldom found in the box, in near new condition and in a near Fine box brought $1,485.

A Stanley No.2-C corrugated bottom smooth plane, lot 571, with a little light use and storage stain in a dark but otherwise near Fine box, sold for $1,375.

A set of special cutters for the Stanley No.55 plane, lot 721, in four labeled cardboard boxes brought $1,265.

A Stanley No.62 low-angle jack plane, lot 124, rarely found in the box, in Fine condition and in an excellent box brought $1,072.50

There were three Stanley bedrock bench planes in original boxes with red labels. Lot 575, a No.603 smooth plane with a little use and in a slightly faded box brought $935. Lot 574, a No.604 smooth plane, near new, and in a Fine box, realized $1,045. Lot 573, a No.605 jack plane, tool mint but the box has tape on the corner of the label, sold for $907.50.

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Lot 436, a must have for every Stanley collector, the classic Stanley No. 42 gun metal Millers patent plane with filletster bed and 9 cutters, in Fine condition went for a very reasonable $2,970.

A Stanley No.41 Millers patent, Type 6A, in black japanned cast iron, with both the wrap around and straight fences, and the filletster bed, lot 435, in Good condition sold for $1,155.

There were two very rare Stanley Razor Edge spokeshaves, with almost all of the nickel plating present in the auction. Lot 154, a No.76, 2 1/2-inch shave, is probably the rarest of the Stanley Razor shaves, and very difficult to find with 98 percent plating like this example. It brought $660. A similar, and only slightly less rare, No. 75, 2-inch shave, lot 159, with 92 percent plating sold for $577.50. The cast iron versions of Stanley’s Razor Edge spokeshave, in both the black japanned and nickel plated models, are very rare and seldom seen in Fine condition.

Measuring and Layout Tools

A very special version of Fisher’s bevel square and layout tool patent, June 23, 1868, lot 621, (Fig. 5) made by the Disston & Morss Tool Works, Philadelphia, PA, 1867 - 1900, with a beautifully decorated cast brass handle was the Star of this category. The front surface is decorated with a lovely floral design in low relief flanking each side of the inscription.
M-WTCA Membership Survey

The purpose of this survey is to find out about our members, some of their tool collecting habits, how they feel about M-WTCA and what they may want in the future from M-WTCA. Information obtained from this survey will be used by the Long Range Planning Committee to develop recommendations related to the future direction of M-WTCA and by officers and directors in carrying out their duties. In most cases, each question can be answered by circling one of the possible replies. There is a section pertaining to the ladies auxiliary functions at the national meetings which we would like to have your spouse complete if applicable. It should take about 5 minutes to complete the entire survey. Please take a few minutes to think about your replies, be open and candid, and feel free to provide additional comments/suggestions. Your opinions are very important!! When you have completed the survey, remove it from the Gristmill, fold it so the address shows, tape it, affix a stamp and mail it. All replies are anonymous.

CONCERNING YOU:


2. I have been a member of M-WTCA for: 1-2 yrs, 3-5 yrs, 6-10 yrs, 11-15 yrs, 15 + yrs

3. I am a life member: Yes No

4. I work? Full time Part time No, I’m Retired

5. My age is: 20 or less, 21-30, 31-40, 41-50, 51-60, 61-70, 70+

6. I consider myself a: (circle all that apply) Collector User Dealer

7. In addition to M-WTCA, I belong to these other tool collecting and related organizations: EAIA CRAFTS PATINA PAST LI TCA SWTCA PNTC, RMTC, TATHS, OTC, RATS Others

CONCERNING AREA MEETINGS:

8. How many area meetings should your area hold each year? None, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

9. About how many area meetings did you attend in? In 2001 ______ In 2000 ______

10. If you did not attend any area meetings in 2001, please explain why not ________________________

11. Each area meeting should include what activities.

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Definitely have</th>
<th>Does not matter</th>
<th>Do not have</th>
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<td>Tailgating</td>
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<td>Coffee, etc.</td>
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<td>Others</td>
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12. How long should they last? ½ day, 1 day 1+ (set up afternoon before), 2 days, 3 days

13. On what day/days should the area meetings be held: Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday
14. Would the location or program of an area meeting (historic site, museum, hotel, person’s home) make you: More likely to attend. Have no impact. Make you less likely to attend. Please explain ________________________________

15. For an area meeting, what is the maximum, one-way travel time you would likely consider? 
   Less than 1 hour  1-2hrs  2-3hrs  3-4hrs  4-5hrs  5+hrs

16. For an area meeting with all the activities listed in #11 above, what do you consider to be a fair cost? 
   $5-$10  $11-$15  $16-$20  $21-$25

17. Thinking about the area meetings that you have attended, what did you like best?

18. What did you like least?

**CONCERNING NATIONAL MEETINGS:**

19. About how many national meetings did you attend: In 2001? In the previous 4 years (2001-1998)? Since you became a member?

20. If you did not attend any national meetings in the last two years, please explain why not?

21. Would the location or program of a national meeting (historic site, museum) make you: 
   More likely to attend. Have no impact. Make you less likely to attend 
   Please explain ________________________________

22. Does your spouse/significant other normally attend? Yes No If no, please skip to # 26

23. If yes, does she normally attend auxiliary functions: Most all, Some, None

24. Of the following auxiliary functions, please rate their importance to you:

   Make & Take  Definitely have  Does not matter  Do not have 
   Book Review  Definitely have  Does not matter  Do not have 
   Programs    Definitely have  Does not matter  Do not have 
   Ladies Luncheon  Definitely have  Does not matter  Do not have 

25. What suggestion(s) do you have regarding the Ladies Auxiliary __________________________________________________________________________

26. Currently, two national meetings are held each year. How many should be held each year?
   0  1  2  3  4 Comments __________________________________________________________________________
M-WTCA Membership Survey

27. Currently, each national meeting lasts three days, Thursday – Saturday. How long should each meeting last? 1 day 2 days 3 days 4 days 5 days

Comments ________________________________

28. On what days should a national meeting be held? Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat Sun

29. Each national meeting has a number of activities. Please rate each as to their importance to you.

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<td>Auction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday Night Banquet</td>
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30. For a national meeting, what is the maximum, one-way travel time that you would likely consider?

1-4hrs 5-8hrs 9-12hrs 13-16hrs 16hrs+

31. Currently national meetings typically have a registration fee of about $40 per person, require an additional cost for tours and the host hotel rate is around $95 per night. Is this cost?

Entirely too high Too high About right We get more than moneys worth

32. Thinking about the national meetings that you have attended, what did you like best?

33. What did you like least?

CONCERNING MWTCA:

34. There have been some discussion as to changing the name of M-WTCA. Should this happen?

Definitely not change Does not matter Definitely change

If changed, change to what ____________________________

35. Concerning the benefits of belonging to M-WTCA, please rate their importance to you.

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36. The Mt Vernon intern is a way that M-WTCA formally works with historic site, museums, etc. Should this type of activity be expanded to include other historic sites & museums? Yes No

Comments ____________________________________
37. Thinking of the yearly dues, do you feel they are: Too high    About right    Too low

38. Funding for scholarships, grants and the Mt Vernon Intern has typically been financed out of the membership dues. Renewals for 2002 provided an opportunity for contributions to be made to the Mt Vernon intern. How should these programs be financed? DUES    SEPARATE CONTRIBUTIONS?

Comments

39. What do you like best about M-WTCA?

40. What do you like least about M-WTCA?

41. What do you think is the greatest challenge facing M-WTCA today and how would you address it?

42. What suggestions to you have to the leadership related to the future direction of M-WTCA?

Fold along line, tape or staple, affix stamp & mail. Thanks you very much for taking time to complete this survey.

First Class Mail

To: Ed Hobbs
4417 Inwood Road
Raleigh, NC 27603-3315

Place
Stamp
Here
"Made by Disston & Morss Tool Works Phila." The reverse side is decorated with a similar floral design, with a central oval plaque suitable for engraving. This rare tool, one of only three known, commanded a high bid of $6,380.

Lot 354 is the more often seen version of Fisher's patented bevel square and layout tool, which has a rosewood handle, sold for $687.50.

There were three Stephens' combination rules and inclinometers, patent Jan. 12, 1858, in the auction.

Lot 609, a Stephens No.036 rule, made by the Chapin Stevens Co., after the merger of L. C. Stevens & Co. with H. Chapin's Sons Co. in 1901, in new condition and in a fully labeled but taped box, sold for $935.

Lot 610, a Stanley No.036 Stephens patent rule, made after Stanley purchased the rule line from the defunct Chapin Stevens Co. in 1929, in absolutely mint unused condition and in Fine labeled box with minor edge wear brought a strong bid of $2,420.

Lot 611, a beautiful ivory version of the Stevens rule with only the slightest yellowing, made by L. C. Stevens & Co., the earliest maker, sold for a very reasonable $3,300.

A Stanley No. 14 one foot, two fold full bound, left hand caliper rule, lot 313, made from 1909 to 1917, in nice clean condition sold for $687.50. This rule should not be confused with the much rarer No. 14 arch joint, two foot, two fold, half bound, carpenter's slide rule, which was only made from 1855 to 1860.

A nice Stanley No. 0 two fold, 6 inch ivory rule, lot 319, brought $962.50. I understand the No.0's were originally made as promotional pieces.

A rare No.76 four fold, two foot, bound rule by A. Stanley and therefore 1854-1858, lot 507, in 0+ condition brought $935. An even rarer No.27 two foot, two fold rule by A. Stanley with a Gunter's slide, a little dark but otherwise in Good+ condition brought $825.

A terrific 18-inch (the largest size made) Disston & Morss, 1867-1900, No. 4 try square, lot 620, with rest, level and scribe, in unbelievably Fine condition, sold for $770.15.

Lot 327, is a rare Otis A. Smith combination panel and marking gauge, consisting of two gauges: a panel gauge with an extension bar and a smaller supplemental marking gauge. The marking gauge can be attached to the end of the panel gauge making it possible to mark two different widths with one gauge. This unusual gauge, patented July 5, 1887, by Otis A. Smith, maker of the Fales patent plane, and illustrated on p.20 of his 1905 Trade Catalogue, brought $1,265.

Other Great Tools

A beautiful Whitney's No. 10 hand drill, patented May 4, 1876, lot 496, (Fig. 6) finished in black japanning highlighted with red and gold and illustrated in Tower & Lyon's 1904 Catalogue No. 12, p.19, in mint condition shouted out I'm the Star. It was in the original wood box and totally complete with 15 drill points and the wrench. This star was properly recognized at $1,650.

The auction included three bandsaws of great distinction. The first of the bandsaws, lot 635, has an eagle with glass eyes carved in both sides of an extension off the top of the handle. The handle was clad on both sides with thick copper plates and attached with four screws in a straight line with a fifth screw at right angles off the top screw. Although the saw was undoubtedly labeled at one time, it is no longer legible; but the shape of the wood handle and a discussion with a bandsaw collector and researcher suggests the saw may have been made by Woodrough and McParlin. This very rare saw sold to an absentee bidder on the opening bid for $2,640.

Lot 636 was a Panther saw by Woodrough and McParlin; the saw handle is covered by design patent No. 11603, Jan. 13, 1880. It has a very attractive panther's head carved into both sides of the handle and sold for $1,650.

Fig. 5: Fisher's bevel square and layout tool with a decorated cast brass handle, made by the Disston & Morss Tool Works, Philadelphia, PA, lot 621.

Lot 637 is the highly sought after Henry Disston No.43 combination saw, rule, level and scribe. It was in Good+ condition and brought $1,815.

A really superb, 15 1/2 inch high, double "Lady" calipers, lot 343, in 75 percent original red japanning, slipped by for a bargain basement price of $522.50. If Paul Feller were there, it would have gone to join similar graphic figural calipers at le Maison de L'Outil, in Troyes, France.

Epilogue

Antique tools are obviously maturing as a major category of collectible antiques. As in other fields of collectibles, stellar examples of important pieces are bringing higher and higher prices, while ordinary items in average condition are merely plodding along.

The average price realized for the 758 lots in the auction, nearly $450 per lot, was almost exactly in the middle of the range of estimated prices.

Brown Auction Services will hold the 21st International Antique Tool Auction Nov. 1-2, 2002 at the Sheraton Inn, Harrisburg, PA.

Footnotes:

1 Rosebrook: American Levels and Their Makers.
3 Ibid. April 2002.

Continued on page 22
Mixed Results for Early Wood Planes at the Brown Auction

By David Englund

Oddly enough, auction prices on early crown molders were strong.

Lot 650 was a really nice B. Sheneman double iron crown that had that look. Massive and 6-5/8 inches wide, it produced spirited bidding in the room, bringing $6,270, far over the $3,500 top estimate.

Lot 146, unknown maker J.Bear, 4 inches wide with attached fence, offset tote and round top iron brought top estimate $550.

Lot 480 a D.Lose crown molding starter estimated at $150,250, brought $660. It was 3-3/4 inches wide and appeared to be like a large radius rounding plane with depth stops on either side and an integral fence. Crown molding starters that have been seen used in demonstrations are more like a plow with a V-shaped sole. Maybe this was a wooden water pipe plane.

Two Isaac Field (1781-1860) planes brought good money. One, a 5-1/8 wide beech crown with a somewhat offset tote brought $1,430. The other, a 2-inch wide birch molder with a deep S-curve profile brought $687, well above its $250-450 estimate.

Lot 645 the I.Day 5-1/2 wide beech crown with offset tote (tip damaged) and applied fence brought $500, below its $800-1,200 estimate. I.Day remains a somewhat elusive maker.

While early crown molders did well, early wood molding planes brought lower prices.

Lot 658, F.Nicholson Living in Wrentham, (1683/4-1753) was estimated at $900-1200 and brought $1,045. There was damage in two places on the molding surface, and the wedge was improperly replaced. What made this plane notable was that the name had been stamped upside down. Too bad the same rules for stamp collectors don’t apply to antique tools.

Lot 659, a rare Jon Ballou, Providence (1723-1770) 1 inch-wide bead in yellow birch, with a somewhat weak mark brought $522, against the estimate $800-1,200.

Lot 653, an I.Walton in Reading (1750-1824) 3/4-inch-wide ogee in yellow birch brought $467 against its estimate of $750-1,000. About one-third of the sole was replaced.

Two lovely H.Wetherel in Norton (1729-1797) molders were bargain priced. One, a 1-1/4 inch-wide quarter round with a small chip on the front corner went for $330. The other, a 1-inch-wide corner rounding plane went for $357. Both planes were in nearly Fine condition and had proper blades and wedges.
Philip Whitby presents another antique tool sale featuring the collection of Carl Bilderback of LaPorte Indiana as well as consignments from New York, Ohio, Illinois and Missouri.

Again this year our fall sale will include a wrench auction, we have over 50 lots on hand and will accept more wrenches on consignment through early October. The 1st portion of the sale on Saturday morning will be all wrenches.

The Bilderback collection consists primarily of metal and manufactured tools of the 19th and 20th century. Stanley, Millers Falls and other makers of metal planes and tools are well represented; no less than 23 Bedrock planes in both early and later style and a rare 4⅞ before the 600 series numbers were applied, most in excellent condition, 11 different take down squares by various makers as well as a stone cutters square and numerous other framing squares, a small collection of Vaughn and Bushnell planes and tools, 8 Stanley Gage planes, Millers Falls planes, drills and tools, some new in original boxes, levels of all descriptions, hand saws of all types, several axes including a Marbles No.9, 4 Miller Patent planes all different one includes fillister and blades, Gurley surveyors chain and Heller & Brightly transit, Victor planes include the jack and compass.

Stanley planes to include: 1, 2, 2-C, 602, 3, 4, S-4, S, 6, 7, 8, 10-C, 10 ¼-C, 11 with early vertical adjustment, block planes of many numbers in lots of several at a time, wood bottom planes include 25, 34 and 37 as well as many others, 39- 5/8", 40, 40 ¼, 41, 43, 45 in several types, 46, 48, 49, 50, 55, 57, 61, 65, 71, 72 with bullnose, 74 floor plane with handle, 78 ½-W, 80 steel cased rabbet, 81, 87, 90-J England, 90 steel cased rabbet, 92, 93, 98, 99, 113, 140, 141, 180, 181, 182, 190, 192, 193, 238, 239, 248, 283, 1951 as well as many other Stanley, Victor, Defiance and Handyman planes.

Other Stanley items include; levels, rules, tool handles, bevels and squares, hammers, trammel points, tool boxes, hand and breast drills, catalogues, bit braces, vises, and a large selection of Stanley advertising and promotional material including; golf and basketballs, sports and racing caps all with Stanley logos, balloons, beer mugs, overnight and hand bags, flashlights and cameras, notebooks, sales manuals, pens and pencils, coffee cups, and many other Stanley sales related items.

In addition to the above mentioned there will be a well rounded selection of tools of all trades including; Boss timberframing boring machine, Hay Budden 160# anvil, Ultimatum braces in ebony and beech as well as plated and unplated carpenters wood braces, Spoke shaves, Coopers Tools, Miter Trimmers and Boxes, Axes and Edge Tools, Foot Power Equipment and Parts, Something for just about every Tool Collector and Craftsman. There will also be a good selection of Wooden Planes including; Hollows and Rounds, Complex molders, Rosewood Plow, Crown Molder, lots of Plow Irons and Parts, some scarce makers.

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A Comprehensive Book On the Stanley No. 45

Dave Heckel relates in his newly released book, “The Stanley Forty Five Combination Plane,” that he bought his first Stanley No. 45 in 1986, and shortly thereafter a fellow M-WTCA member said, “Who would be crazy enough to try and get every Stanley No. 45 plane type that was ever made?”

Well, fortunately for the tool collecting community, Dave turned out to be that “crazy” individual. Not only did Dave become an avid collector of Stanley No. 45s, along the way, he collected the data and did the research necessary to write this comprehensive book about these interesting multipurpose planes.

At 136 pages, this book is packed with useful information that’s helpful to those with only one “45” in their collection or to the advanced collector of combination planes. After a short introductory chapter on the history of the development of the combination plane, the author brings his reader to the Stanley No. 45 Type Study. Building on the first type studies of Stanley No. 45s done by Bob Kaune, the book expands on the No. 45 type study completed by Roger Smith.

The expanded type study in this book is a boon to collectors. It adds new information about the number of cutters, cutter boxes and labels, instruction sheets, screwdrivers, packing materials, outer box styles and labels, special bottoms, special cutters and other accessories that Stanley sold throughout the 78 years the plane was manufactured. There’s even a type study of the elusive aluminum Stanley No. 45. I particularly appreciated the thumbnail photos throughout the book that clarify the finer points of identifying each “type.” In addition, included with each book is an insert with a nicely developed algorithm for “typing” a Stanley No. 45. This insert also has useful value guides for Stanley No. 45 planes, other combination planes, and Stanley No. 45 plane parts.

Subsequent chapters discuss other interesting information about the No. 45. There are chapters on the No. 45 combination planes Stanley made for others such as E.C. Simmons, Montgomery Ward, Sears and Sargent. There are chapters discussing other competitor’s combination planes, hollows and rounds, special cutters, instruction sheets and advertising materials. The book is well-researched, well-organized and well worth the purchase price of $40. A limited number of copies are available with a hard cover for $70, so if you want one of those, contact Dave Heckel soon, as I’m sure they’ll be snapped up quickly. Collectors of metallic woodworking planes will want to have this book on their reference shelf.

— Paul Van Pernis

The Stanley “Forty Five” Combination Plane. By Dave Heckel.

Reprint Explains the Use, Mystique of Slide Rules

A reprint of a rare 1881 slide rule manual by Robert Riddell is available from Astragal Press.

Instructions on using a slide rule were primarily aimed at carpenters and joiners but will be of great interest to today’s tools collectors and woodworkers as well. The book focuses on the first standard slide rule made in the United States: a Mannheim-type slide rule made by Stephens Co., a well known major rule manufacturer.

After perusing this book, I can see that I must buy a slide rule just to try out all of the intriguing puzzles (answers given and explained). And to think that one small tool can provide so many answers.

Riddell’s preface to “The Slide Rule, Simplified, Explained and Illustrated for the Mechanical Trades,” is fun to read, not one to skip overs as readers often do. Riddell wrote “… the student who would be eminent, let him first master the SLIDE RULE. Its simple combinations actually contain more practical knowledge than can be found in huge volumes, which, in nine cases out often, are not a particle of use to the workman.”

He also gives advice on being successful: “Do not load the memory with too much. Learn a few things well and retain them. It is better that a man should know one science thoroughly, than he should be a smatterer in half a dozen.”

Enough philosophy. Buy the book.

— Mary Lou Stover

Slide Rule Simplified, Explained and Illustrated for the Mechanical Trades, By Robert Riddell, 1881 Softcover, 88 pages. Illustrated with line drawings and full-page plates. $14.95. Astragal Press, P.O. Box 239, Mendham, NJ 07945 (866) 543-3045 Email: astragalpress@attglobal.net
Phyllis Rhodes explains her bobbin lace techniques during an Auxiliary session at the Decatur national meeting. Judi Heckel photo.

The hospitality room provided snacks, drinks and friendship to close the evening during the Decatur national meeting.

**Mercer Museum Sets Tool Day**

An antique Tool Discovery Day will be held Nov. 16 at Mercer Museum, Doyle, PA.

New hands-on activities and crafts will engage children while adults will enjoy displays, demonstrations and conversation with area tool collectors. Visitors are encouraged to take mysterious old tools from their own collections for museum staff and volunteers to identify. For more information, call (215) 345-0210, ext. 28.

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Wooden Cagehead Braces an Unexpected Find in Sweden

By Eric M. Peterson © 2002

My wife, Neville, handed me this brace saying only, Wow!

I certainly agreed. We were in one of the large storage vaults of the big museum in Eskilstuna, Sweden. While I was talking with a curator, Neville was busy looking through the large collection of braces. We had come to Eskilstuna to see the metal braces made famous by the distinctive "Eskilstuna Pattern" of braces. This city has been the home of fine metalworking since medieval days. So I was not focused on wooden braces, however, there turned out to be quite a few wooden braces in their collection.

This brace was unique in my experience. A cagehead style brace with the head-neck carved and decorated and retained by a pin through the spindle. As you can see, the detailing is quite nice.

The chamfering on the body is not flat, but rather concave. This is a residual feature of an even earlier style of acanthus adornment, which will be discussed elsewhere. Again on the lower arm at the base of the grip we see decorative carving.

Two men from the museum, Stellan Wiberg (beard and cap) and Eskil Eriksson, kindly stopped their work, walked us in a downpour to the building where the tools were stored and helped us examine the braces. Amazing what a lady's smile can do!

I never expected to see another wooden cagehead brace, but, the next day in the storage vaults of the Vasa Museum in Stockholm was another cagehead, but of an entirely different design. It was found amongst the several braces recovered when the Royal Ship Vasa was raised from the seabed. The brace had spent hundreds of years underwater, and was very fragile. We are attempting to have a replica of this brace constructed by Andre Milette, the Canadian wood sculptor and toolmaker. If successful, it will be published later.

Carving this brace was obviously a labor of love. The thrust is through the bearing surface of the neck onto the bearing of the shoulder of the body.

This carving is well worn from use, but not abuse.

The chuck detail is easily seen in this photograph. While there is no pad we can determine its shape.

This 17th century brace is most likely made of straight-grained Swedish birch. Regrettably, we were unprepared for the discovery of this tool and did not make our normal measurements. It is of "average" size for a Swedish wooden brace. [Eskilstuna Museum # 33153]

Eric M. Peterson is a long-time member of M-WTCA and a student and collector of braces.
Rockaway – The New Jersey Ax

By Allan Klenman

Through the years I have kept up a good communication with a group of people who have a more than usual interest in the ax – more than 700 people. Judging by our correspondence, I would say that the least known ax pattern in America is the Rockaway.

The one factory that specialized in this pattern was the William McKinnon Axe Factory of Rockaway, Morris County, NJ. No doubt William McKinnon (1816-1873), who opened his blacksmith shop in 1845, copied the pattern, or parts of it, from other axes he had seen. It was not until many years after he had introduced the Rockaway that the other large makers were forced by the demand to also make this “strange” pattern, which was always labeled, the Rockaway, after the McKinnon Axe of Rockaway, NJ.

Born in Ireland, William McKinnon did all the usual blacksmith chores, of course. His shop was situated on New March Street at River’s Edge, Rockaway. William had five sons and as the demand for his ax grew, the sons all became axmakers, producing 500 axes per year from the earliest times. They were all hand made except for some polishing.

There were three main differences in this ax, which quickly built up the acceptance. It resembled a Hudson Bay pattern with one important difference – a curved “inside” blade edge. The blade curved from the inside blade end to the bottom of the eye.

The cutting blade, too, had a curve from the bottom to the inside edge. This was claimed to allow the chopper or woodman to take a wider cut when fell­ling.

The third change was a notably heavier and wider poll. As stated, it gave the chopper a larger cutting edge, and those who used it could produce more work, and they became true supporters of the Rockaway pattern.

During the 80 years the company prospered, there were changes in ownership. When William, the founder, died in 1873, his two youngest sons became the operators. They changed the name of the business to McKinnon Brothers Axe Factory. Over the next 10 years there was an ever-increasing business for the McKinnon Brothers’ special ax. But in 1883, Walter, the elder of the brothers, turned the company over to his brother William (“the second,” as he was known). William was a more aggressive businessman.

The business continued to enlarge. In addition to the Rockaway, which by now had made the company famous, it offered a wide range of axes. And by 1890 it is reported that the company produced six dozen tools.

Following an accident in the plant, William died in 1905, and his son, Samuel D. McKinnon, became the owner. He incorporated under the name, “The McKinnon Rockaway Axe Co., Inc.” in 1907. By this time, 20 full-time ax makers were employed. The 1890 New Jersey Historical Review reported:

“In the flourishing village of Rockaway are several important manufacturing establishments. One, the McKinnon Brothers, had gained a widespread celebrity for the excellence of their handmade axes. William McKinnon, who established the business in 1845 won a reputation for his work, placing him in the front rank among the leading mak-

Continued on page 28
NEW MEMBERS OF THE MID-WEST TOOL COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

HELLO THERE

California
Niemeier, Matthew
Ryan, Douglas M.

Colorado
Baker, Bill
Kutten, James

Dist. of Columbia
Graham, Steven

Florida
Langford, Paul J.
Lively, James T.
Ludlum, Bob

Illinois
Anthony, Holland
Anthony, John M.
Bailleu, Robert E.
Colligan, Thomas
Cushing, Kirke
Evans, M.C. Buck
Gergeni, Christopher
Learman, Fred
Radulovico, George
Rowan, Dennis
Stockman, Mark L.
Sutton, Dean
Thompson, David
Turnbaugh, Roger
Unkraut, Henry

Indiana
Fisher, Don J.
Fitz, Tom R.
Hamby Timothy
Lloyd, Chuck
McKinney, Craig
Iowa
Carson, Jack

Glesne, John O.
Lennon, Meyer, Joel
Funk, Francis J.
Furbeck, Paul L.
Oltmanns, Paul G.S.
Fontane, Michael P.
Hanna, Roger
Gerber, Arnold
Herrington, Laura
Metz, Charlie
Metz, Ron
Rasmussen, Matthew
Russell, Jay
Smith, Bruce
Sullivan, Elly

Kansas
Newton
Abilene
Topeka

Louisiana
Bunkie

Maine
Freepoint

Maryland
Ruxton

Michigan
Royal Oak
Sturgis
Sturgis
Saint Johns
Tecumseh
Battle Creek
Bloomfield Hills

Minnesota
Mahncoedi
Minneapolis
Invergrove Hgts
Maplewood
Eden Prairie

Mississippi
Meridian

Missouri
Saint James
Festus
Florissant

Wilson, Tim
Saint James

Nebraska
Fink, Keith L.

New York
Clarke, James A.
Gagnon, Steven

North Carolina
Beal, Brent
Kelley, Bob
Oehman Sr., Robert E.
Staffel, Judge

North Dakota
Rash, Aaron
Oho
Ebersole, Ray
Friedrick, Kenneth
Prior, Emery
Spitz, Matt

Pennsylvania
Parks, David
Sweeney, Lance

South Carolina
Hickey, Raymond M.

South Dakota
Morman, Earl

Spain
Yasur, Mehmet

Tennessee
Young, William R.

Texas
Chester, Greg

Virginia
Applequist, Edward R.

Wisconsin
Bramschreiber, Tom

 References
Interview with Dr. Robert Betts, Rockaway, N.J.


Morris County Directory, 1908.

Notes and interviews.

Rockaway - The New Jersey Ax

Continued from page 27

ers of the best axes in the country. The McKinnons are highly esteemed and regarded by all who know them."

Unfortunately, a major fire in the mid-1920s was the first step leading to the company's closure. A longtime employee, James H. Blanchard, took over what was left from the shareholders. But try as he did, the old magic was gone. It was rumored the new owners did not know the secrets of tempering a good ax! The company voluntarily closed prior to 1930.

This was the story of America's shortest-lived ax pattern. Although there was a certain demand for the Rockaway, forcing some companies to continue making this pattern, it was harder and more expensive to produce this ax and so did not long remain in their programs. Another page in the wonderful story of America's ax age. Collectors may still locate examples at flea markets. What a find to locate one of the McKinnon Rockaways—keep looking.

Fig. 4 A Rockaway from Warren Axe & Tool Co. 1912 catalog
Scholarship Winners Named

M-WTCA has awarded six one-year $1,000 college scholarships to students for the upcoming year.

The winners:

Rebecca Doty, New Salisbury, IN, daughter of Kim Doty. She will study wildlife sciences at Purdue University.

Meredith Fridy, Waxhaw, NC, daughter of David Fridy. She will be a freshman at North Carolina State University.

Jonathan Marino, Rockford, IL, grandson of Ivan Dye. Jonathan will study journalism or political science but has not selected a college.

Wendy Mironov, St. Paul, MN, daughter of Howard Mironov. She will attend Washington University in St. Louis where she will major in sociology, art and education.

Melinda Peulen, Bayport, MN, daughter of Daniel Peulen. She will study secondary English education at Hamline University.

Caroline J. Ruppert, Tiffin, IN, daughter of William Ruppert. She will enter Harvard or the University of Carolina to study biology (pre-med).

Applicants must belong to a Mid-West member’s family: member, spouse, child or grandchild. The winners were announced by Ron Cushman, committee chairman and vice president-scholarships, who recently resigned. A replacement will be named in October.

Where to Send What...

Please note where to send what so it will reach the right person.

Send changes in address, phone number or e-mail to: KLM Computer Services, c/o Kerry McCalla, 104 Engle Ct., Franklin, TN 37069, phone (615) 791-6198, e-mail kmccalla@bellsouth.net.


Pay membership dues for current year: Send your check made out to M-WTCA to John Wells, Treasurer, P.O. Box 5016, Berkeley, CA 94707. Please write RENEW and your name and address on your check. Do not use a new member application to renew an existing membership.

Submit materials to The GRISTMILL: Send to Mary Lou Stover, Gristmill Editor, S76 W19954 Prospect Dr., Muskego, WI 53150, phone (262) 679-1412.

Obtain GRISTMILL advertising or information: Contact Paul Gorham, 811 Robin Glen, Indianapolis, IA 50125, phone (515) 962-5207, e-mail pgorham9@mchsi.com.
What Will You Remember from the Decatur Meeting?

By Judi Heckel

It is hard to believe that all the planning and working that is necessary to host a national meeting is behind Dave and myself. We have spent over a year thinking and preparing for all the meeting needs. I look back and think of all the fun, the shopping for door prizes, the making of favors, the arranging with speakers, and wonder what will stay longest in my thoughts when I reflect about the Decatur meeting of 2002. Will it be one or more of these?

• Dreading the thunderstorm on Thursday morning, but rejoicing when the sun broke through.

• Roaming through the museum and learning about Amish culture.

• Listening to the guides as they acquaint us with the culture and lifestyle of Illinois' largest Amish settlement. Did you see the Belgian workhorses?

• Eating (and eating and eating) at the Schrock and Yoder Amish homes. Can you believe the size and beauty of those kitchens?

• Singing along with Ben and Betty Graber in the bus. Her garden gives support to the question: "What two things will you never find in an Amish garden?" Answer: a weed and a man.

• Studying the number of interpretations of "Table Talk" that appeared in the Auxiliary displays. President Ann wondered if I bribed the 19 members who shared their amazing possessions and information.

• Enjoying the Show and Tell sharing of talents and recent finds, like the sewing machine quilt, the personalized Christmas stockings, the sterling silver jewelry or the story of the milk lady.

• Watching the Honda Bar-B-Q for 350, and the fellowship nurtured through laughter and stories over the good food and drink.

• Noting the expertise of Patricia Doyle as she reviewed the antiques brought by our members. You don't really suspect the Victorian jackets for storing "hair" led to the family survivors being called "heirs," do you?

• Meeting Lucy, Rand and Maggie and developing a bond with the characters in "The Firebrand" through the book discussion led by Pat Mau. There were 55 of us sharing our thoughts and feelings. What fun!

• Wondering if we should read more books with "flame" and "ecstasy" in the title.

• Examining the intricacies and beauty of Phyllis Rhodes' bobbin lace. I sure hope she finds the tool that fell behind the couch into the cold air return.

• Laughing at the cookie plate after the lace presentation. Starting with 6 dozen cookies, there were 2 crumbs left after the presentation.

• Peeking into the nativity creches to marvel over the wonder of His Coming. How else does one explain the miracle during Judy Heckel's home fire?

• Seeking the member that was "married" during a nativity play.

• Saluting the patriotic theme of the women's luncheon. Congratulations to the door prize winners.

• Admiring the Colorado member who was willing to creatively use her camper to transport the abundance of Illinois water to her dry Colorado fire area. My how different each of our regional areas is.

• Marveling over the bustles of the 1850s women as Nancy Torunson gave us a first-hand look at the dressing procedure. Aren't we glad corsets went out of style?

• Envyiong the creativity of the little girl at the wedding who burned her hoop skirt stays on the woodpile. I bet that could have been Maggie, the character in our book review.

• Imagining if our generation of girls could ever sew by age 2 and make a quilt top by age 5 as their ancestors did.

• Toasting to good friends and good times in the Hospitality Room each evening.

• Appreciating the friendship, diversity, knowledge, kindness and love of the many members of Mid-West Tool Collectors Association and Auxiliary. You are all wonderful people.

P.S. Nancy Torunson would love to contact the member who knew of buttons that were dabbed with perfume during this time of history. Does anyone remember who shared this bit of wisdom?
Table Displays the Talk of Decatur

Nineteen Auxiliary displays were admired at the national meeting in Decatur in June.

Phyllis Moffet and her intriguing array of ways to kill or keep away those pesky flies won Best of Show and Most Fun awards.

The theme was “Table Talk.” Other award winners were:

Most Original, Linda Wade, “Table Talks—Tells All to Randy.”

Most Informative, Annette Torres, “The Thistle Speaks.”

Most Nostalgic, Caroline Carter, “If This Table Could Talk.”

Most Inspirational, Bertha Mullin, “Table Talk With a Grandchild.”

Most Heartwarming, Rita Zamzow, “Country.”


Table Talk With A Grandchild

By Bertha Mullin

My oldest grandson was born 14 years ago. I decided that I would always make time for some “one on one” time with him, and future grandchildren.

When he was 2 years old, I bought him some pocket size toy fish, because he loved going to the aquarium. I also had some books about fish for him—a new one each time he came.

In my travels I have aquired a collection of wood carved fish, also glass fish. As my grandson got older I let him play with the wooden fish. [The Murano glass stays in the curio cabinet!]

Each time I have one of my grandchildren for the day we have a special lunch, and then discuss whatever new subject we want to talk about [age appropriate]. It could be fish or birds or bugs and butterflies or farm animals or zoo animals or planets and the moon and the stars. They always get a new book and a small toy or toys. This special time is great for both of us. We also discuss table settings and etiquette as they get older. My display won the Most Inspirational award at Decatur.
The Fascinating History Of Flag Day

By Judy Gambrel

The idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the United States flag is believed to have first originated in 1885 by a schoolteacher (BJ Cigrand) who arranged for pupils in the Fredonia, WI., Public School District 6 to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as “Flag Birthday.”

On June 14, 1889, George Balch, a kindergarten teacher in New York City, planned ceremonies for children of his school. His idea of observing Flag Day was later adopted by the State Board of Education of New York.

On June 14, 1891, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia held a Flag Day celebration. On June 14, 1892, the New York Society of the Sons of the Revolution celebrated Flag Day.

On April 25, 1893, the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the flag on June 14. It further recommended that thereafter the day be known as Flag Day, and on that day, school children be assembled for appropriate exercises, with each child being given a small flag.

On May 8, 1893, the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution unanimously endorsed the action of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames. As a result of the resolution, the Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia directed that Flag Day exercises be held on June 14, 1893, in Independence Square. Schoolchildren assembled, each carrying a small flag. Patriotic songs were sung and addresses delivered.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the flag be displayed on all public buildings.

An Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized to promote holding of Flag Day exercises. On June 14, 1894, under the auspices of this association, the first general public schoolchildren's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in five parks, with more than 300,000 children participating.

Inspired by these state and local celebrations, Flag Day, the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777, was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until Aug. 3, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14th of each year as National Flag Day.

My “Flag Talk” display won a Judges Choice award at Decatur.

Book Club to Meet “Miss Julia”

By Pat Mau

The book chosen for the Auxiliary’s discussion group at Winston-Salem is “Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind” by Ann Ross.

It has been read by many book clubs and now has two sequels. Readers will enjoy speculating upon why this book has struck a chord with so many women of varied ages. It is interesting to wonder if the characters could exist in real life.

The Auxiliary is starting a new feature for the book discussion. Many have said that the books they like the most were recommended by others. To aid in this, Chairman Pat Mau asks that members send to her the titles and authors of books they think others would like to read. From the responses, she will compile a list and pass it out at the next meeting. Her address is in The Gristmill or email her at patmau@att.net.

Sixty-five women gathered at the Decatur meeting to discuss “The Firebrand” They talked about the aftermath of the great Chicago fire and about women’s place in society in the 1870s. As one person said, “The feminists of the 1800s did not invent these issues, and those of the 1960s did not solve them.”
Abingdon: From Pots to Pottery

By Mary Lou Stover

Roseville, McCoy, Haeger are names familiar to pottery collectors for a number of years. But Abingdon Pottery is a collectible whose time has come.

Born during the Depression in Abingdon, IL, a small town about 40 miles west of Peoria, the pottery lived from 1934 to 1950. It came into being when Abingdon Sanitary Manufacturing Co. hired Raymond Bidwell as president in 1933 to save it from possible bankruptcy. Bidwell, faced with two shut-down bathroom fixtures plants and many of the community’s employees laid off, came up with the idea of making pottery artware. It was a success, and the townspeople were soon back at work. Much of the credit goes to the Italian families who came to Abingdon when the company started in 1908. Their skills, dedication and conscientious nature made the difference between failure and success in the early years.

The company was known for its quality in both artware and bathroom fixtures. The plant made all the plumbing fixtures for the World’s Fair buildings in 1933. The artware division made 6 million pieces from 1934 to 1950, produced 149 colors or shades, developed at least 1,000 designs and had 110 employees, one-third of whom were women. Like the workmanship and materials, Abingdon Pottery was of unusually high quality. Hand painting began in 1942 and continued until 1950.

New colors were offered twice a year—some had one color on the interior and another on the exterior. To name a few of the designs: statues, vases, cookie jars, plates, book ends, cigarette accessories, chess pieces, refrigerator containers, candle holders, pitchers, flower pots, planters, lamp bases (which are not marked Abingdon Pottery).

The company planned to sell a million pieces of artware a year in 1950, but the demand for plumbing fixtures was also soaring. It was decided to end the pottery operation and use the space to expand the production of vitreous china toilets, urinals and sinks. The china art kiln was shut down Nov. 17, 1950.


Some important dates:
1908, Abingdon Sanitary Manufacturing Co. founded.
1933 Raymond Bidwell replaces James Simpson as president.
1934 Production of art pottery begins.
1945 Name changes from Abingdon Sanitary Manufacturing Company to Abingdon Potteries, Inc.
1947 Company sold to Briggs Manufacturing Co.
1948 John Lewis replaces Raymond Bidwell as president.
1950 Art pottery discontinued.
2000 Briggs closes pottery, moving operations to Venezuela.

Hooray for the Red, White and Blue!

By Joey Gilmore

We have always had a great amount of respect for the flag.

We have picked up flags on our travels and 48-star flags have just been a fun collection. We pick them up when we see them at a low price. We use the flags in our home in February, June and July.

This collection has grown through the years, and each flag is filled with memories of when we found it.

Check out the 27 flags that have represented the United States and note the unusual configuration of some of the flags. The display won a Judges Choice at Decatur.

Enjoy! God Bless America!
The Memories and Traditions of a Country Table

By Rita A. Zamzow

If my table could "talk," it would have a lot to tell.

When I was a child growing up on a farm, our kitchen table was a big old oak table, with long benches placed on both sides, a chair at each end, one for Dad and one for Mom, and baby's high chair nearby. A big sister sat next to a younger brother (I am the oldest of 10 children.) When we had company, we ate in shifts.

Our table was covered with an oilcloth, and set with dishes that didn't match. When we broke a lot of them, our mom would go to an auction and for a quarter or so buy a box of dishes. We saw many different patterns through the years.

Our flatware didn't match either. Some our Dad brought home from the Navy, some was store-purchased and other pieces were purchased by the handful at auctions.

No formal centerpieces or candlesticks were on our table; we had bouquets of flowers in fruit jars. A big candle was put in use when the power went out during thunderstorms.

During meals, a big bread plate held thickly sliced pieces of wonderful homemade bread. We kids would slather the bread with butter and wild blackberry jam. With a lot of children at the table, there was a lot of talking. We talked about school, farm chores, friends and neighbors. Sometimes Dad would yell, "Quiet, you sound like a bunch of damn chickadees all talking at once."

At Christmas there were no "stockings hung by the chimney with care." At our house, we placed plates on the table, a tradition from our mom's family. On Christmas Eve, we pre-set the table for breakfast with only our plates. On Christmas morning, we found St. Nick had left a large gingerbread cutout cookie, some candy and an orange on our plate.

Birthdays meant a homemade birthday cake. On our 18th birthday, we broke our plate, symbolizing it was time to be on our own. "One less place at the table."

Oh, What memories my table could tell. My display at Decatur won the Most Heartwarming award.

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Fly, Fly, Away

By Phyllis Moffet

This was a unique display at Decatur. It included antique items to keep flies away from food or to catch flies.

Many of us had never seen a fly fan quite like this one. There also were a fly driver, fly screen, glass fly trap, screen cover, screen fly trap and fly swatters. These were important items in the days before all of our sprays. It goes to show what neat items 45 plus years of collecting produces.

The display won Best of Show as well as Most Fun awards.

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"Country," a display by Rita Zamzow reminiscing about the kitchen table of her youth, was named the Most Heartwarming display at Decatur. Mike Slasinski photo.

"Fly, Fly, Away," by Phyllis Moffet was awarded Best of Show honors at the Decatur meeting. Mike Slasinski photo.
PUZZLED

By Hunter Pilkinton

As I write this, the Decatur, IL, meet is still fresh in my memory. We chose to travel on Thursday and planned to arrive in mid-afternoon so I could indulge in tailgating. NOT! Both my wife and I had positive and vivid memories of our previous meets at Decatur, but were having trouble making our memories line up with the instructions on how to find the place!

After a couple of scenic detours, the last of which took us right past the place without our seeing the motel sign. After asking directions out in the farmlands, we realized we were retracing our route exactly. As soon as we came in sight of the motel, we realized that our vivid memories were accurate, but of the meeting in Cincinnati a couple years ago. So we missed the tailgating.

Had a nice visit with Marsha and Roger Smith, who had revived an old custom and had open house in their room, with tools all over every flat spot in the room. Years ago, this was customary and you roamed the halls drooling over all the tools displayed in the rooms and sitting in on the inevitable bull sessions with the experts. I learned a lot in those sessions. The custom seems to be undergoing a revival. I hope so.

The tool room offerings were great. With my scooter I had no physical restrictions, so I stopped and shopped. Even a lunch in the tool room. It was the first time I failed to make a complete round of the tool room. I didn't miss by much, but I got all my wallet could stand. A very nice meeting.

Received replies to the June 2002 issue of The GRISTMILL from: Ashley Kennedy, Evanston, IL; Jack and Doris Sciara, Kathleen, GA; James Winburn, Mt. Morris, IL; Randy Pitts, Kenton, TN; Brian Derb, Presque Isle, WI; B.G. Thomas, Cheltenham, Ont., Canada and Kenneth Alberding, Wheaton, IN. Thanks to all who sent letters and spoke to me at the meeting about the "Puzzle" page. I appreciate them all.

Now for answers to the puzzles from the June 2002 issue of The GRISTMILL.

PUZZLE No. 1 - At school, Tom found he only got half the allowance that Mark did. Suzie got three times what Tom got. Together they got $144. How much did each student get? ANSWER: If you use Tom as 1 unit, then Tom gets 1 part, Mark gets 2 parts, and Suzie gets 3 parts for a total of 6 parts. Dividing $144 by 6 = $24 per part. Tom gets $24, Mark gets $48 and Suzie gets $72. The ages make no difference whatsoever and were there to confuse. I left the ages out of the statement for the answer. Not all got this one.

PUZZLE No. 2 - What is the smallest 5 digit number in which the digit in the "tens" place is twice the number in the "1000" place? Hint: the number will not change if the digits in the "100" place and the "1" place are exchanged. ANSWER: The absolute lowest answer is 10,000, but some mathematicians do not consider zero an integer, so the alternate preferred answer is 11,020. Consider both correct. Most got this one correct.

PUZZLE No. 3 - Geography Spelling Lesson. Name the states of the USA that have no repeat letters in their spelling. Allow 5 minutes. ANSWER: All the states are parts of capital letters. "B" could become a capital E, "C" could be a T, "D" could be an N, and "E" could be an A. All these completions use only one additional line. Most got this one.

PUZZLE No. 4 - (see sketch) Study the figures and see which one does not fit the pattern. Hint: if the figures were completed, you would easily recognize the odd figure. ANSWER: The odd figure is "A." All the rest are parts of capital letters. "B" could become a capital E, "C" could be a T, "D" could be an N, and "E" could be an A. All these completions use only one additional line. Most got this one.

Now for some new puzzles.

PUZZLE No. 1 - Two children are given a large cookie that must be divided by the children. How can the division be made so each gets a fair share? The cutting is to be done by the children.

PUZZLE No. 2 - A man was called to army duty, and left a pregnant wife. He made a will to divide his savings of $14,000 in case he didn't return. He did not. The terms of the will were that if the child was a boy, the mother was to give the newborn twice her share, and if the child was a girl, the newborn girl would receive one half of the mother's share. The mother had twins, a boy and a girl. How was the money divided?

PUZZLE No 3 - Can you spot the unique link between each of the words?

CALMNESS, DEFER, FIRST, HIJACK, NOPE, ROUGHTING, and STUPID?

SEMI- WHATSIT - See the sketch at the top of this column. This item is made of twisted wire, with the loose ends being springy. It measures about 9" diameter and 12" long. What is its use?

This issues puzzles are from: "So You Think you're Smart" by Pat Battaglia, and "The Great Book of Math Teasers" by Robert Muller.

Have fun. Please send replies to:

Hunter Pilkinton
2431 Highway 13, South Waverly, TN 37185
Phone 932-296-3218
Item 5K We also sent this item to the Whats-it session at the Decatur, IL, meeting in June. The consensus was that there is a detachable handle that also holds the pivoted keeper open until the target pig is hooked.

Item 5L The hammer-like tool submitted by Richard Spencer brought several responses. Hunter Pilkinton sent a catalogue picture from Fairmount Automotive Tools that showed it as a fender bumper hammer from Cleveland, OH. Tim Hess of Tulsa, OK, called, lamenting the fact he sold his to Doc Baird then wanted it back later and had to pay a $10 premium. Then another call from Minneapolis. His “bumper” had the emblem of Fisher Body Guild on it. That emblem used to be on the car door trim of General Motors, for whom Fisher did the body design work.

Item 5N I also sent this to Decatur. Members there also felt it was part of a hay rake or gathering prong from an agricultural harvesting tool.

Item 5O This picture came to me via the Farmland News of Archbold, OH. It reported the formation of a new farm museum at Grand Rapids, OH. The ax handle piece that looks as if it got stuck in an iron log was reported to have come from a shipyard in Toledo, OH. It looks too heavy to swing. Possibly, it was a back-up tool for riveting ship panels. Care to take a swing at this one?

Item 5P This solid brass plier-sized tool comes from Jack Devitt of Ottoville, OH. One jaw is about the size of a 1/2 teaspoon measure. The opposite jaw has a kidney-shaped steel blade with a rather blunt cutting edge, the arm of which appears that it would straddle about a half-inch stem. Both jaws are offset to one side, presumably to get closer to a side surface. The pivot is an extended boss that fits into a half-inch hole in the opposite arm, which would give it a more pressure-bearing area.

The blade in arm B does not go all the way into the spoonlike recess of arm A. Most brass tools are made to avoid making a spark if dropped on concrete when used in an explosive atmosphere. The auctioneer thought it was for cutting garlic, but that doesn’t add up either. So what’s your idea?

Item 5Q I ran across this little gem last winter at a farm show. It is about 18 inches long with 11 prongs about 6 inches long. The owner didn’t know what it is and neither do I.

If you have any further comments on any of these items, write. Or, if you have a possible whats-it lying around, let me know. We sometimes run a known item since there are those who don’t know about it. We’re all stupid... only about different things.

O.M. Ramsey
8114 Bridegview Cir., 1A
Fort Wayne, IN 46816-2315
(260) 447-2099
WANTED

Wanted: Tools of any sort made by the Sandusky Tool Co. I don't have them all yet! Also, catalogs, advertising and related material. John Walkowiak, 3452 Humboldt Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55408 (612) 824-0765.

Wanted: Winchester items, tools, sporting goods or advertising. No firearms. Collections or pieces OK. Please advise price and condition. David McDonald, 14211 Kellywood Lane, Houston, TX 77079. (281) 558-5236 underMc@gateway.net

Wanted: Vintage socket sets in wood cases by Rex, Baystate, Herbrand, Malden. Also Mosberg sets with 19-inch or longer cases. Dan Chiriboga, Box 116, East Granby, CT 06026. Email: plierench@hotmail.com

Wanted: Plumbing brand mechanics tools. Any pre-Proto tools or tool boxes. Bob Byron, 19 Chennai View Lane, Hoquiam, WA 98550. (360) 532-2764. Email: bobbyron@techline.com

Wanted: Seeking material for book. All items marked "The Winchester Store" and all pre-1923 advertising, sports items and paper. Also ARMAX, BARNEY & BERRY, CRUSADER and HENDRUX items. Tim Melcher, (918) 786-8500. tmelcher@greenapple.com and at www.thewinchesters tore.com

Wanted: Reed Utica #10 Hollow, Auburn Tool Co., Auburn, NY on Green Oak. 144 mm molding plane. marked "t1", Catalog #144 on heel. Planes marked R.D. Ship - John Hennings - W. Bell Lexington.

FOR SALE

For Sale: Stanley 10 1/2 Plane, $1,200 or best offer, many other rare planes. Let me know your needs. G. Crosley, P.O. Box 105, Hampton, FL 32044 (352) 469-1551.

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Wanted: For research. Tools marked W. Beatty-Springfield, PA; W. Beatty-Waterville, MA; R. Beatty; J. Beatty & Bros.; J. Beatty & Co.; T.F. Beatty-Pottstown, PA; T. Beatty-Pottstown, PA; Caldwell Edge Tool Co.; Franklin Edge Tool Co.; Penna Tool Co.; Beatty & Ogden; Beatty & Fifer; and Beatty Edge Tool Co. If you have any tools with these marks, please contact Charles Beatty, 566 North Shore Drive, South Haven, MI 49090. (616) 637-3265, cbeatty@btc-bci.com

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email: pgorham9@mchis.com

THE GRISTMILL • SEPTEMBER 2002 • 37
Friday's Tool Sale offers 100 plus tables of the finest antique and collectible tools available in one place at one time. Outstanding dealers from the US, Canada and Europe have been invited to assist you with your most sophisticated needs. Be prepared to take advantage of their vast store of knowledge and large inventories.

Saturday's Auction features carefully selected tools from 3 continents and is one the finest sale we have had the pleasure to offer. Including: A great selection of plow planes by numerous makers, a couple highlights include the finest known Israel White 3-arm, an A. Cumings and a Lamb & Brownell both with ivory nuts, A nearly complete set of Stanley planes including all the hard ones plus the unique 1876 Presentation Set of Wood Bottoms. A full set of Bed Rock planes plus a No. 604 salesman's sample. Stanley prototypes including several unknown Traut designs. Patented planes by Bailey, Sandusky, Morris, Baines, Lee, Traut, Sanford, Foster and many others. Large selection of levels including the Wilbar's Patented Cube and the aluminum corner level. Inclinometers by Deck, Melick, Davis and others. Surveying instruments by Gurley, Reed, and others. Braces of all types. A large selection of 18th century wooden planes including many early and rare marked plows. Numerous molding planes. Large selection of Pennsylvania goosewing axes. Logging tools including a mint Greenleaf caliper with wheel. Point of sale displays, rules, tool chests, treadle machines and much, much, more.

The quality of the tools in this auction is amazing, we have had great sales in the past but this is one of our best and will be the talk of the tool world for years to come. Don’t miss out, mark Brown 21 as a must do event.

LARGE ILLUSTRATED CATALOG #21 will mail in mid Sept. All tools fully described and graded with estimates. Prices realized mailed shortly after auction. Many items illustrated in full color. Absentee bidding available. Catalog $28.00, US and Canada. $32.00US Overseas Airmail. Or get the Auction Catalog and the next 4 issues of Fine Tool Journal at a 10% savings. Only $50.00 in the US, $56.00US in Canada or $70.00US for airmail anywhere in the world.

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A STUDY ON...

By Don Bosse

In this issue I would like to review some of the previously listed studies that have been completed and bring you up to date. In the June issue of the GRISTMILL, John Wells and Paul Pemis co-authored their study (the first of three articles) on "Leonard Bailey Edge Tools 1855-1869." It's a thorough and engaging study and I am eagerly awaiting the next two articles.

If we jump back to the March issue, we find Dave Heckel's type study covering the "Siegley No. 2 plow plane" series. In conjunction with this, Dave also brought his exhaustive study of the "Stanley No. 45 Combination Plane" to press and introduced it at the national meeting in Decatur. It's an excellent and complete treatise on what to most is the very first plow plane most of us owned. A book that any Stanley aficionado should own. Well done, Dave.

Also in Decatur, George Wanamaker gave a presentation on his study of the "Master Rule Manufacturing Co."

Don Rosebrook has indicated that his book on American wooden plow planes should be available this coming September. The projected date for his second book on levels is set for release the summer of 2003. Keep your eyes peeled for both these books, as I am sure they will be on every collector's "must have" list. Also of note is the release of Lars Larson and Clarence Blanchard's second and third volumes on "Patented American Planes for Wood, Leather, and the Allied Trades." I am sure this series has many of us taking a second look at the planes in our collections. Many new and unidentified planes have yet to be discovered.

Now that the past has been covered, let's move on the future. New to this issue is Charles Beatty's study on edge tool makers named "Beatty." Charles is seeking information on the various names and location stamps the Beattys used in the production of their line of tools. He is also seeking information regarding a documented copy of an illustrated catalogue and price list of the Beatty Tool Co. that was mentioned in the EAIA's "Directory of American Tool Makers." Your assistance in his research would be greatly appreciated. He may be contacted at:

Charles Beatty, 566 North Shore Dr., South Haven, MI, 49090. Phone (616) 637-9265. Email: cbeayt@btc-bci.com

Also of note, Tom Lamond has announced he is do a study: "American Axe Makers and Markings." If you own or are aware of any unique or unusual axe makers or markings, please take the time to contact him at: Tom Lamond, 30 Kelsey Place, Lynbrook, NY, 11563-1516. Phone (516) 596-1281. Email: tomlamond@aol.com. All other studies that have been listed previously are still works in progress. I am sure we will be seeing many of these come to completion in the upcoming year.

If you would like to be added to this list, please contact me at: Don Bosse, 8154 9th Street Place North Oakdale, MN 55128 651-735-3590 or email me at nwrtcabosse@worldnet.att.net

The Researchers:

Don Bosse, (651) 735-5590
March 2002
"Early Development of the Millers Patent Planes"

John Freeman, (415) 752-2857
September 2001
"Liberty Bell Plane Series Mfd. By Stanley"

Allan Klenman, (250) 383-2321
September 2001
"Axe Makers of North America"

Todd Friberg, (815) 398-0602
September 2001
"Pre 1920 Saws, Saw Steel and Saw Working Tools"

Mel Miller, (309) 274-4973
June 2001
"Davis Levels"

Lou Nachman, (704) 875-1833
December 2000
"Montgomery Wards Earlier Lakeside Handplanes"

Jay Ricketts, (404) 378-0266
September 2000
"Ne-Set Saws"

John Adams, (931) 732-4400
June 2000
"Small Trimming Planes, All Makers"

E. J. "Al" Renier, (612) 937-0393
March 2000
"Stanley Pocket Levels"

"Sargent's Shaw's Patent"

William Warner, (717) 843-8105
September 1999
"E. W Carpenter Patented Planes"

Bob St. Peters (618) 462-0229
September 1999
"Israel White, 3-Arm Plow Planes"

"Bench Planes (Wooden) With Crout Style Cutters Affixed to Their Soles"

Milt Bacheller (508) 699-2570
September 1999
"Patented & Manufactured Marking Gauges"

"Levels"

Emery L. Goad, (316) 838-3465
September 1999
"Bicycle Tools, Pre-1920"

Scott Lynk, (802) 877-3775
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"Stanley Special Rides and Stanley Rules Not Listed In Any Catalog"

Tom Lamond, (516) 596-1281
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