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### NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Hans Goldschmidt invented the Shopsmith in 1946 - a combination table saw, lathe, horizontal boring machine, disc sander and vertical drill press all in one. It was at once a significantly cheaper package than the equivalent machines would cost individually, and one that required far less space. The problem was that the company that built and marketed the Shopsmith, abandoned the product in 1965.

There were lots of folks who wanted either replacement parts or a new one. John Folkerth, a stock broker and occasional woodworker saw an opportunity, and bought the rights to the tooling in 1971. Despite going through hard times for a couple of years, Folkerth got past it and Shopsmith was reborn.

Our presenter this month was Tom Laepple, who demos the Shopsmith at trade shows, malls and places like Lowes all over the south central U.S. Tom said to our host Amy Endifield that he was a bit nervous demonstrating to our experienced group. After all, most of what he does is before the less experienced woodworker. With a few hundred years of collective experience between us, we could be pretty intimidating to the average tool demonstrator.

The real trick with using the Shopsmith is learning how to quickly change from one mode to another. Fortunately, Shopsmith offers both video tapes and hands-on training with their product (along with comprehensive manuals). If you purchase a Shopsmith, you qualify for an eight hour school for only \$40 through their "Traveling Academy". An

owner of an older Shopsmith also qualifies for the same package according to Tom.

The Academy covers the Mark V models 500 through 520. The classes include safety, setup, tool selection, sharpening, table saw, horizontal boring, joinery, drill press, bandsaw (an option), molding, sanding, lathe, alignment, etc.

Tom started by showing off the lathe functions of the Shopsmith. Because I'm interested in turning, this was an especially interesting segment. The bottom line is that the Shopsmith is a good basic lathe. Shopsmith offers a very large selection of accessories for the lathe function.



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The table saw function was next and we saw the versatility of the mitre and precision of the system. Table saw safety is of concern to all woodworkers and the Shopsmith system has both a built-in splitter and chip deflector. Moreover, you

can attach standard dust collection systems (which Shopsmith also sells) to every configuration.

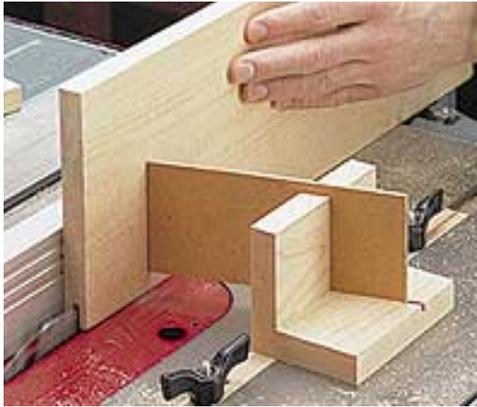
Tom demonstrated the circular sander, horizontal boring function and drill press function with a few quick changes to the unit. He also demonstrated some basic joinery using a combination of the table saw and drill press.

As stated, a large number of accessories are available to the Shopsmith owner and the Shopsmith web site has plans, accessories, training and more. Order one through Lowes or see them at [www.shopsmith.com](http://www.shopsmith.com).

Coming Up . . . The Shop of Mickey and Gail Hart will host our annual Christmas Show and Tell. 9:00 a.m. Saturday, December, 13.

## TALL FEATHERBOARD

Using your table saw when cutting a groove in the edge of a workpiece is easy if you use this neat idea. To keep tall pieces stable during the cut, make a featherboard that applies pressure over a wider area of the board.



As you can see in the photo, the design doesn't look like a standard featherboard. Use a piece of thin hardboard to act like a spring to apply pressure to the workpiece. The hardboard fits snugly into an angled saw kerf cut into an L-shaped block. The

hardboard can easily be adjusted to accommodate different thicknesses of stock.

The featherboard doesn't need clamps to hold it in place. The L-shaped block is attached to a slotted runner that fits in the miter gauge slot of the table saw. When a pair of wing nuts are tightened, the runner expands and is wedged tightly into the miter gauge slot.

Using this setup on your bandsaw will work to keep the workpiece stable when re-sawing as well. Edited from *Woodworkingtips.com*.

## STRONG RARE EARTH MAGNETS

Have an dead hard disk or two? In all modern hard disks is an extremely strong rare earth magnet that is used in combination with a field coil to move the read/write head quickly over the hard disk surface.

To remove the magnet, you'll likely need a Torx T10 or T8 screw driver. Just remove the top cover, then unscrew the plate that holds down the magnet and remove it.

By the way, these magnets are very difficult to get off a piece of metal that you might allow it to come into contact. The rare earth material is also very brittle, so leave it in its little carrier.

These can also be used to magnetize screw drivers or attach a tool to a surface. *Barry Humphus*

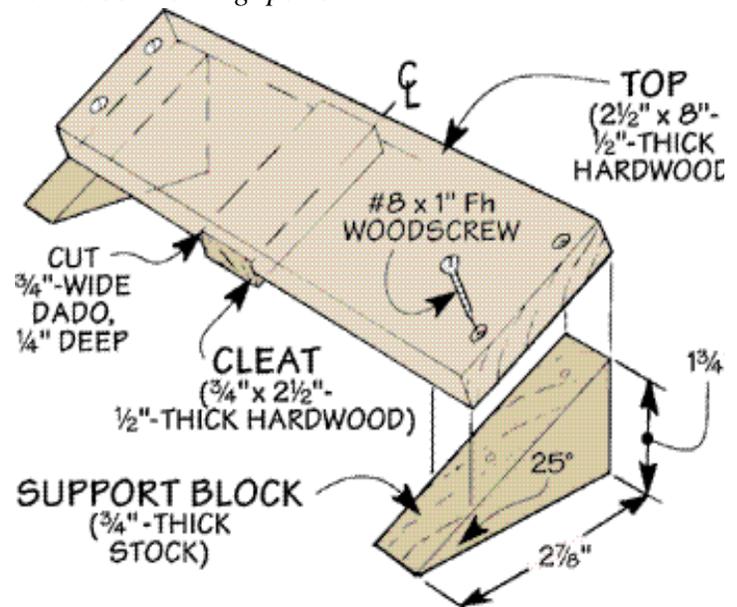
## SHARPENING GUIDE

Using sandpaper to sharpen chisels and plane irons is low cost and effective. By "sanding" the bevel of the blade flat and smooth, it produces a sharp edge in just a few minutes.

The problem is holding the chisel at a consistent angle as you sharpen. To do this, clamp the chisel to a simple sharpening guide. You can also do this with one of several commercial honing guides such as the one from Veritas.

As you can see in the drawing below, the guide starts off as a pair of wedge-shaped support blocks that hold the top at a 25° angle. To square up the chisel (and keep it from shifting), it sits against a wood cleat that's glued into a dado cut in the top.

To set up the guide, place the chisel against the cleat and slide it down until the bevel is resting on a flat surface (not on the sandpaper). Then clamp the chisel in place and "scrub" it back and forth across the sandpaper. Note: Start with 180-grit sandpaper and work up through 400 wet/dry grit. It won't hurt to go even further to 600 or even 1200 grit. Edited from *Woodworkingtips.com*.



## ANNUAL TOY PROGRAM

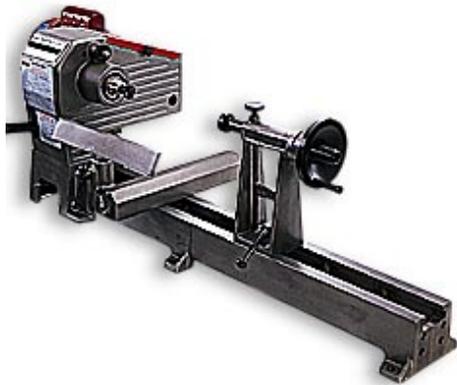
If you have any toys for contribution to the Lake Charles Womens shelter, please bring them to the next meeting. Barry Humphus will deliver them.

## DUES ARE NEXT

Keep the meetings and Newsletter coming by bringing a check or cash for \$20 to the next meeting. If a check, just make it payable for \$20 to LCWW, Inc. and give it to Dick Hopes.

## WOODWORKING TOOLS FOR SALE

John Marcon referred Barbara Stanley to us. Her husband Robert, is ill and can no longer use his shop. They want to sell his equipment.



Among what is available is a new Nova 3000 swivel head lathe. The swivel head features a detent lock for perfect alignment with the bed and can be locked in any position through 360° for added turn-

ing flexibility. The basic 3000 includes a combined cast iron headstock/bed unit and one bed extension for 24" between centers and up to 16" swing over the bed, 1-1/4" x 8 TPI spindle, 12" tool rest, #2 MT live tail center, #2 MT drive center, and 8 step motor pulley. Machined aluminum motor and spindle pulleys provide speeds of 215, 360, 684, 1020, 1440, 2160, 2880, 3600 RPM. Barbara said that it has an extra extension. Speed changes are easy with the "one hand" cam-action motor mount. Includes a 6" faceplate. He also will include a 5 piece set of HSS turning tools as well as some other gouges. The lathe is mounted on a shop-made stand. This unit retails from Nova for \$950.00.

In addition, he has a classic Sears Craftsman 12" Bandsaw (80 inch blade—one of the best bandsaws ever made in my opinion), 6 inch bench grinder with light, Craftsman bench sander and possibly a mitre saw.



Contact Barbara Stanley at 337-348-9833, 909 Birch Drive, DeRidder, LA 70634 for pricing or to take a look.

### MITER SAW TOOL STAND

Hate to say it, but I love cheap, especially free.

When you see an old, gas barbecue grill that your neighbor has thrown away, grab it and take (or roll) it home. The metal frame of the grill makes a perfect roll-around tool stand for a miter saw.

All you have to do is remove the tank and grill, paint the metal frame, and then build a couple of table supports.

The miter saw is mounted to a 3/4" plywood base that's bolted to the frame. Two open-ended boxes serve as the table supports. (Just be sure they're flush with the surface of the miter saw table.) You can even added a pull-out bin to hold short cut-off pieces. Edited from *Woodworkingtips.com*.

### LOOSE SCREWS? FIX-EM

Screws are a lot harder than wood and it doesn't take much vibration or stress for them to begin to work their way out of the wood.

Rather than replacing the screw with a larger one, try this. Insert a few tooth picks and a little glue into the hole. The tooth picks should help tighten up the hole and re-secure the screw.

In the picture to the right we have put some glue in the stripped-out hole and inserted a few toothpick pieces. When the glue dried the lag screw was a tight as when it was new.

In more severe cases you might need to re-drill the hole, tap in a glue-covered dowel, and then drill a new pilot hole in the dowel for the screw. Edited from *Woodzone.com*.



### LONG STRAIGHT EDGE

Do you need to make long straight cuts in plywood but don't have a table saw? A straight 2"x4" clamped to the plywood can serve as an edge guide. An even better choice is a length of aluminum angle.

Measure the distance from the edge of your base to the blade. Use this measurement to help setup the guide. Make sure the clamps don't block the saw's path. *Barry Humphus*.