



SCHSM

Southern California Home Shop Machinists

January 4, 2020

OFFICERS

President	Charlie Angelis
Vice President	Michael Vulpilat
Secretary	Ron Gerlach
Treasurer	Jim Endsley

COMING EVENTS

Feb Meeting (Election of new officers)
 Sat, Feb 1, 2020, 2:00 p.m.
 El Camino College

PREFACE -

The January meeting of the Southern California Home Shop Machinists was called to order a little past 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 4, 2020. We met at the picnic benches near the street adjacent to the Industry and Technology Building at El Camino College in Torrance, California. There were 24 members in attendance. The outside meeting was due to a no-show of Ed Hoffman who is the club sponsor and is generally present to open the building for the meeting. There was likely some reasonable explanation.

CLUB BUSINESS –

Charlie gave everyone an option of conducting the meeting outside or to just call it off and let everyone go home. The unanimous consent was to proceed with the outdoor meeting. He called the meeting to order and checked for new members. There were none except an old member and past president, Paul Chretien, who had not been in attendance in several years. He was welcomed back and urged to continue attending. The only business discussed was to remind members that club officer elections would be coming up in February. He reiterated that he wanted to delegate the task of selecting nominees for the various offices to myself, Ron Gerlach and to Willie Jordan.

Jim Endsley made a quick pitch about the Nerd Car Club at UC Riverside. They make electrical cars from the ground up and have a very impressive facility at the university. He was suggesting that it might be interesting to tour the facility.

PRESENTATIONS –

Norm Wells –Angle Grinder Accessories–

Norm did a presentation on the various accessories he has collected over the years for his angle grinder which vastly expanded the utility of this common tool. First up was a mini chop saw which looked like a 1/3 sized miter saw and had an angle grinder attached. The angle grinder had an abrasive cut-off wheel mounted. He changed the cheap vise to a small drill press vise which greatly improved the performance of



the saw. He noted that after physically comparing a variety of abrasive cut-off blades that the best over all choice happened to be the cheap blades from Harbor Freight.

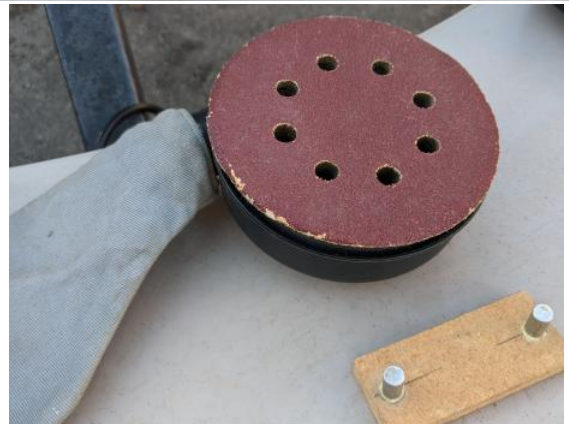
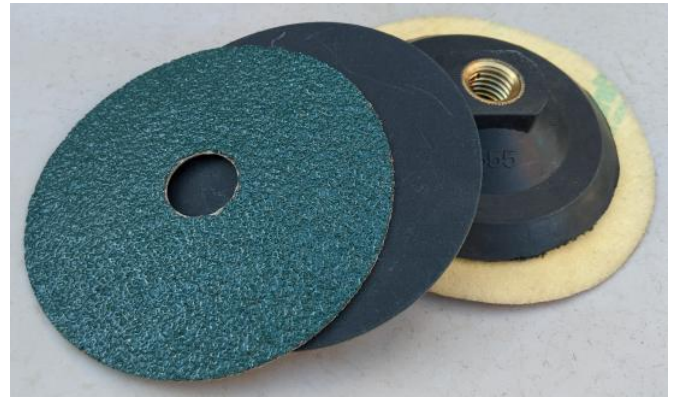
Next up was an attachment that created a 1/2" X 24" belt sander. This was handy for sanding in small and hard to reach areas. The belts for this sander are quite pricey so he bought the much more readily available cheap 3" X 24" belts and slit these into 1/2" wide sections. He had bought a



10 pack of these belts and thus had plenty of stock. He made a special sanding block to take these 3" X 24" belts. It had a spring loaded tensioning system so they stayed snug.



He has a small detail sander which he never did get to work well and thus never used it. He did have a much more useful screw on disc sander and some Velcro backed sanding discs to use with it. Though an aggressive tool it had to be used carefully on wood to keep from digging in too deeply. A better choice for wood was his Random Orbital Sander attachment. It incorporated a suction system to draw sawdust away from the work and into an attached collection bag. To get the holes in the discs lined up correctly with the sander face he made a small tool out of a wood chunk and two steel dowel pins.



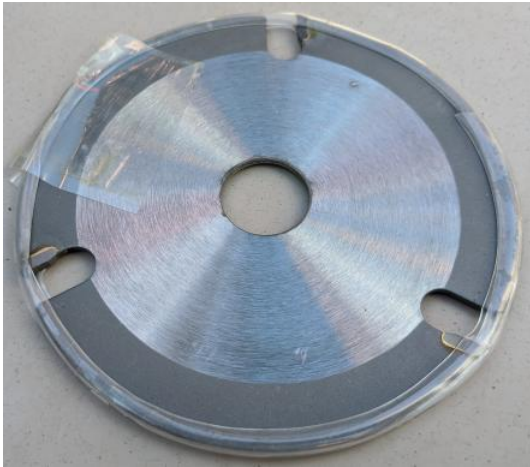
To round off this category, he brought out a screw on flap disc sander which is quite useful on wood or metal.



The next item was a unique little attachment that essentially turned his angle grinder into a pint sized circular saw. He then used wood cutting blades as well as diamond encrusted blades for cutting ceramic tiles.



He showed one unusual wood cutting blade that was supposed to be anti-kickback. It had just 3 carbide teeth.



An aggressive twisted wire wheel was shown next. These cut very quickly into rust and paint on metal surfaces. He does not like using the wheels with the thinner straight wires since the wires tend to fly off in use and imbed themselves in clothing and skin.



To round off his display he showed a shop made drill chuck adapter for the angle grinder which he used to mount small grinding stones.



The last angle grinder related item was a light duty adjustable spanner wrench used to remove the nuts from the 5/8-11 spindle on the grinder.



Though not an angle grinder, Norm also showed a tool that he does not use often but has been indispensable when needed. It was an Oscillating Saw that he bought at Harbor Freight. The blades can be pricey but the tool is unmatched in making plunge cuts in hard to access areas like the bottom of floor molding.



SHOW and TELL

Don Huseman discussed possible dates for a visit to a custom gear cutting facility in Long Beach. The proposed date is Saturday, the 25th of January. He suggested meeting at the facility at 10:00 am. Details would follow. He also showed a tool he made that was for straitening out bent cylinders such as damaged hydraulic cylinders. His was made for dents located close to and end but the same idea could be applied to dents located further from the end by making the tool longer.



Ron Gerlach brought in a sample of the 4X10X24" metal drawers that he found in a Craigslist add. Ron had already bought a bunch of these for

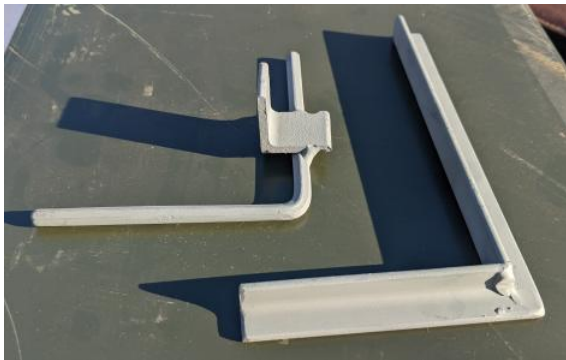
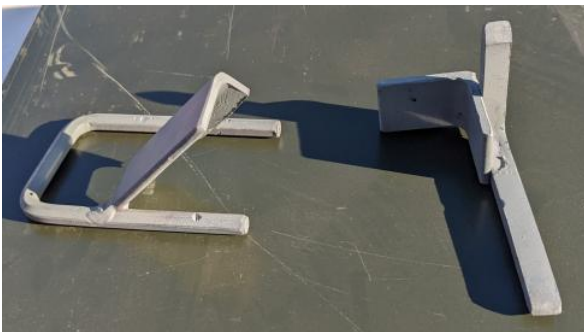


himself and picked up some for a couple of other club members. At \$6 each they were a very cost effective means of organizing a shop.

Lewis Sullivan was up to his usual clever self with a variety of welding fixtures. He made these fixtures some 20 years ago and uses them on a regular basis. They were basically clamp on guides for making straight and right angle welds. They provided a raised guide that can be aligned with a



desired weld path. They allowed the user to just lightly slide the rod along while welding. It allowed him to better focus on maintaining the desired weld puddle since he no longer had to focus on the path of the weld. He had some

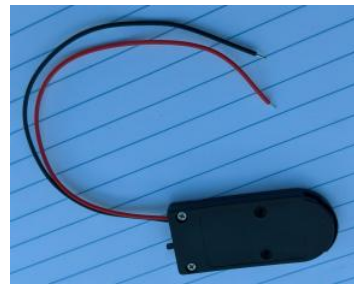


that were optimized for miters and some for straight joints. One was set up for long straight beads. They could be used for stick or MIG and could also be applied to cutting processes.



Ken Rector got up and spoke of a shop he recently visited to get his and his son-in-law's welding gas regulators repaired. The shop was HG Harris Repair. Located in Maywood. His phone number is 323 560-3353. The guy was very easy to work with and quickly repaired both regulator for only \$20 each. What fascinated Ken was the style and condition of the shop. The owners had been in operation since the early 1900s and looked as if it had never been cleaned up. It reminded him of the old shops he had seen as kid (many long years ago).

Frank Schettini brought in a cheap welding helmet he had brought from Harbor Freight for around \$30. He does not do much welding so it had sat on the shelf for a number of years. To his dismay, the internal batteries were dead and were not (easily) replaceable. It took so much work to rip into the plastic enclosure that he decided to add on an external battery holder so



that the next battery change would be much simpler.



Frank also showed a couple of mating connectors he found for facilitating the interchange of power supplies and LED lights. They are intended for low voltage use (12 to 24VDC) and consist of a male and female coaxial mating pair with Euro style screw clamp contacts for wire attachment.



SCHSM welcomes presentations by members or guest speakers on any subject related to metal working activities. If you have some knowledge or experience you feel may be of interest to our members, or if you know someone that may have something interesting to relate, please consider making a presentation at a meeting. Presentations may be a little longer and more detailed than a show and tell, and may be accompanied by slides, video, or physical displays. Probably every member has some experience they can share, and this is the purpose of SCHSM. Please contact President Charlie Angelis to make arrangements to give a presentation.

SCHSM meets in Classroom AJ115 on the first floor of the Industry and Technology building of El Camino College, 16007 Crenshaw Blvd. Torrance, California, at 2:00 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month. The building is near Parking Lot B. Enter the campus from Manhattan Beach Blvd.

If you would like to contribute an article to this newsletter, or make a comment, contact the editor, Fred Bertsche. He can be reached via the SCHSM Yahoo Group, or at fbschsm@yahoo.com.

Find us on the web at www.schsm.org.