

ATTIC DUSTSOUTH GLASTONBURY MEETING

At 8:00 a.m., Saturday, April 29, Dwight Burritt went to church in South Glastonbury. Not that he's a seventh day adventist; he went to start the coffee for those of us who started to arrive before 9:15. He and wife Carol kept the coffee coming all day, and the doughnuts too. In addition, he and Doug Hayes solved the problem of how to thread the movie film through the projector, with a little help from a woman bystander. When it came time to show the movie, the motor started, the film moved cooperatively, but the screen stayed dark. Your editor was quick to conclude that the bulb was burned out. No such thing; Dwight opened the door to the bulb, and there was empty space where the bulb should have been. Off went Dwight for a bulb. So we had What'sits with Joe Link instead of movies, until things were ready, after lunch. The film was fine, and to supplement it

we had a really great display of cooper's tools brought from members' collections. Each owner of these tools picked his choicest tools to hold up and talk about.

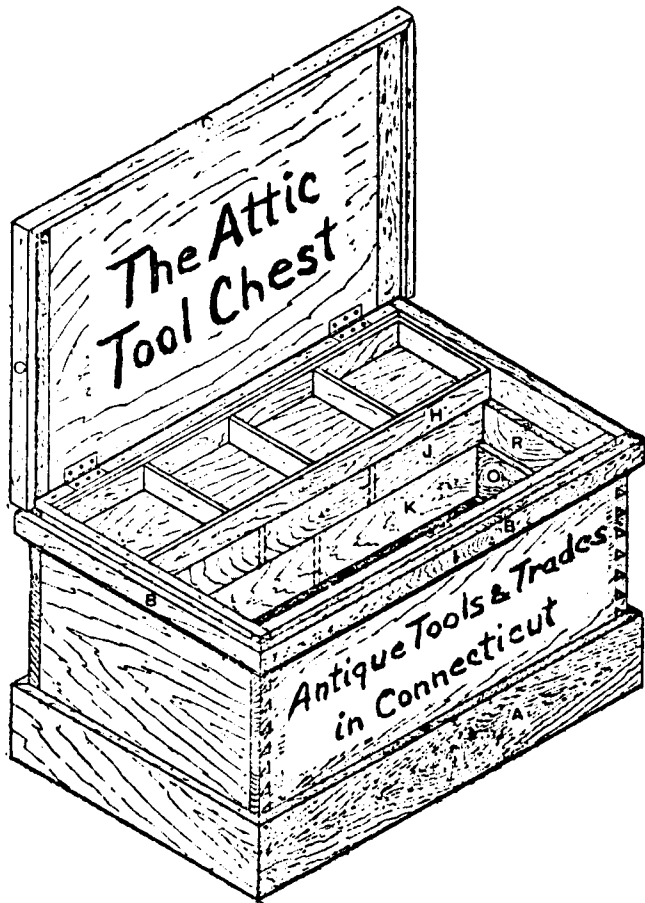
The highlight of the What'sit session was when Bill Lee said that the rubber syringe bulb that Joe was holding up might have been filled with putty and squeezed to put the putty where you wanted it. Who could believe that? But Bill produced an advertisement that backed him up. (see page 4)

Ken Roberts took us to Sandusky, Ohio, on the shore of Lake Erie, and showed us where the Sandusky Tool Co. made wooden planes for Sargent as well as for itself. A tornado almost brought an end to Sandusky Tool, but after a delay of several months, the elderly employees rebuilt the factory in two months time. A disappearing market really finished things for the company shortly after, in 1925. The man who was plant manager, inventor, and about everything else, became a lawyer instead, and he is still alive and practicing law. It was he who furnished much of the information to Ken.

We have to thank Roger Smith for Ken's presence at the Saturday meeting, since Ken would have arrived Sunday morning to give his talk if Roger hadn't straightened Ken out about when the meeting was to occur. (Most of our meetings have been on Sundays, but one advantage of Saturday is that you can go out and buy a projector bulb when you need one.) Ken concluded his interesting talk by showing slides of some of his fine tools.

It was such a splendid Spring day and such a lovely setting that we moved chairs outside to eat lunch. Bill Lee used this period to demonstrate making tool handles and shovel-size wooden scoops.

The tool cleaning session after lunch provided more information than we could properly assimilate, The panel consisted of Frank Bawden, Bill Cavallini, Frank Dorion, Bill Downes, Joe Link, and Bob Sutter. Each explained his cleaning process, and proceeded to clean a tool to show us what the results would be. Ken Roberts and Bud Steere added their procedures to the list, and Bill Downes explained Harve Jeacock's methods and showed a



sample job, in Harves absence. There were at least nine processes explained with some points in common, of course.

The meeting concluded with a visit to a handsome old colonial house just up the road from the Congregational Church where we met.

There were 63 members and guests at the meeting. Alfred and Laura Williams came the furthest, from Philadelphia.

FRANK BAWDEN

Recognition of Frank's six years service as Treasurer was another item of business at the meeting. We gave Frank a 1937 copy of the Warren Axe & Tool Co. catalog. Since it covered logging tools as well as axes, it was very suitable, considering Frank's skills with logs.

BY-LAWS CHANGE

Another item of business was a proposed amendment to the By-Laws, recommended by the Governing Board. The proposed addition as drafted by Harve Jeacock was approved. It is aimed at establishing an Advisory Council, to allow the Officers and Governing Board to benefit from advice from the past officers and directors.

Article XIX

....that former officers and/or directors of ATTIC shall upon appointment constitute an Advisory Council for the purpose of counseling the officers and directors on matters of development, programs and administration. Members of the Council to be appointed by the President for a term of two years with no limit on succession. Informal meetings of the Advisory Council will be conducted on the same day as regular ATTIC meetings, by a chairperson elected by the Council members. Suggestions and counsel will be directed to the President of ATTIC for consideration at the next regular meeting of officers and directors.

BOB CARLSON

As many of you know by now, Bob died in the early Spring. He was foremost in the creation of ATTIC, and was its President for four years. His irrepressible sense of humor was such that he would have made a joke over his own passing; but he was very serious in his concern that ATTIC be a good society. He was particularly concerned that we publish things of interest to tool collectors. He did his part by submitting articles to the Attic Tool Chest, a name, by the way, that he conceived with some help perhaps. Needless to say, Bob will be greatly missed.

It had been determined by Joe Link that Bob's wife, Cynie, would welcome suggestions on what to do with Bob's tool collection. This matter became the subject of a brief meeting of the newly created Advisory Council. It was suggested that Bob's unique collection of augers be kept intact wherever it went. It was also suggested that some or all of the tools remaining after Bob's two sons' desires had been satisfied be auctioned at a joint meeting of the New England tool societies.

Subsequently, Joe Link and Sherwood Chamberlain spent several days sorting the tools and listing and appraising them in lots, so as to meet the Probate Court needs. They identified 2400 lots.

NEXT MEETING

We had expected that our Fall meeting would be our biennial auction. It is now possible that it will be the joint meeting and auction mentioned above. It's also possible that a delay until Spring will be in order. In any case, you will be informed of decisions as soon as we settle various matters.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome four new members to ATTIC: James & Reggie Aber, 58 Hillman Ave., Glen Rock, N.J. 07452. John & Dorothy Allen, 40 Drake Road, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583. Wilmer & Sylvia Whitford, Box 115 RFD#2, Stonington, Ct. 06378. Michael Kaufman, 14 Lattin Drive, Yonkers, N.Y. 10705.

Mike Kaufman, an attorney, is embarked on a project that we could help him with. He is assembling all the material he can gather on levels. He is aware of such makers as: Stanley, Stratton, Davis, Chapin, and Starrett. If you have a level with a maker's name other than those above, he'd like to know about it, together with any address and patent information that might be on the level. Mike's address is given above.

DUES

Dwight Burritt is still waiting for 1978 dues from some of us. This is a last notice for this year. Send your \$5.00 to him at 229 Olde Stage Road, Glastonbury, Conn. 06033.

ENCLOSURES

The "Improved Putty Bulb" material is from Bill Lee. The sheet on axes is from the catalog we gave to Frank Bawden. The axe article is from a Connecticut Quarterly issue belonging to Jack Gorlin.

TOOL CLEANING

As space permits, some of the cleaning techniques demonstrated at our last meeting will be presented in the Attic Tool Chest. Frank Dorion's will be given first, simply because his material fits the space below.

WOOD

1. Heavy paint or other similar encrustation:
 - a. Apply reliable brand of paint remover per directions.
 - b. If necessary after paint removal, light sanding with extra-fine paper.
 - c. One or two coats of Minwax Antique Oil Finish to restore color and seal surface.
2. Normal condition for a 150 year old plane:
 - a. Remove loose dust and dirt.
 - b. Clean using 4/0 steel wool and a commercial wood cleaner such as Formby's Wood Cleaner, or Trewax Wood Cleaner. This will clean effectively without removing patina.
 - c. Apply one coat of Minwax Antique Oil Finish.

IRON

1. Heavy Rust and/or deep pitting:
 - a. Use vinegar and salt solution as described in the June 1977 issue of the Attic Tool Chest. (Note: This method is very effective, but will remove patina, so don't use on anything old and rare unless it is so heavily rusted that mechanical cleaning would damage the surface.)
2. Light rust and dirt:
 - a. Clean with Dupont No.7 Chrome Polish and 3/0 steel wool.
 - b. Two coats of hard-drying car wax to bring back color and protect the surface.

BRASS

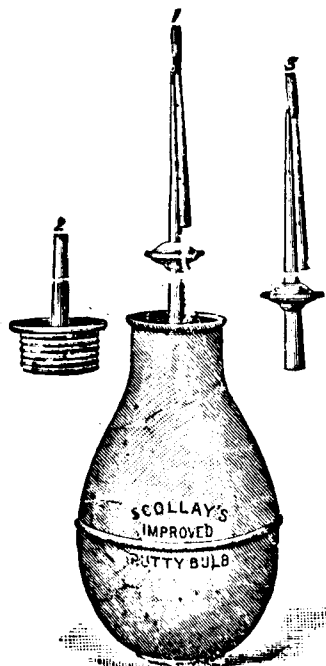
1. All conditions:
 - a. Clean on buffing wheel using medium gray aluminum oxide compound (Available from Woodcraft Supply). This method also good for steel that had a high finish.

Frank Dorion

SCOLLAY'S IMPROVED PUTTY BULB,

— FOR —

GLAZING GREENHOUSES, SASH, &c.



FOR SALE BY

DESCRIPTION.

This article is simply a rubber bulb, with a spout attached.

No. 1 is the complete machine ready for use.

No. 2 is a large screwed opening, with short spout attached, through which the bulb is filled by suction, and when unscrewed the inside of bulb can be easily cleaned.

No. 3 slips over No. 2 after the bulb is filled. It is then ready for use.

Attention is called to the additional improvement of the Scollay Putty Bulb. It will be seen that we have attached a small brush extending over the end of the outlet. This secures an even distribution of the fluid and leaves a perfect finish.

REMARKS.

In doing new work, paint the sash as usual before putting in the glass. Set the glass without putty and lap about an eighth of an inch. This can be done quickly because there is nothing to daub the glass and stick to the hands.

Run the liquid along the edge of the glass next to the sash bars, and the result is a durable, tight and neat joint. It can also be used in repairing and patching old sash.

HOW TO PREPARE THE PUTTY.

The mixture is composed of one-third White-Lead, one-third Putty and one-third Boiled Oil *by measure, not weight.*

First mix thoroughly the putty and oil, then add the white-lead. Strain before using to remove lumps and skins.

If the weather is cold and it runs thick add a small quantity of benzine or turpentine.

When glazing new sash it might be better to run a little of the liquid on the sash bars and bed the glass on it. Usually when the glass is not too tight a fit the liquid will run down and fill up under the glass as well as the sides.

Cleaning A Tool Of Rust

Frank Dorion

Waterbury, Ct.

Cleaning a tool of rust without damaging it can be a problem. Most abrasives leave highly visible scratches which are completely unacceptable. Commercial rust removers tend to be too harsh, leaving the surface clean but deeply etched. The commercial removers are also quite expensive.

A highly satisfactory rust remover can be made by adding table salt to common white vinegar. The two combine to form a weak solution of hydrochloric acid, which is safe to handle, and which will remove even heavy rust effectively without attacking the sound metal. This solution is also very economical (white vinegar is about \$1.00 per gallon, and salt is 16¢ per pound).

The method for using the above solution is simple. Place the tool to be cleaned in a plastic container (do not use a metal container). Pour vinegar into the container until the tool is submerged. Sprinkle salt into the container. A few tablespoonsful are sufficient for smaller containers, with perhaps a third of a measuring cup per gallon in larger amounts - the amount of salt isn't critical. Leave the tool in the solution for about 24 hours; it rarely takes longer. Rinse the tool in clear water, brushing off the loose scale with steel wool or a brass-bristle brush, and wipe dry. A dull brown haze will appear on the tool as it dries. This may be removed easily by light buffing with a fine wire brush or steel wool.

A few hints may be helpful here. First, you will be surprised to find how difficult it can be to locate a plastic container which will accomodate the tool you wish to clean without requiring a large additional amount of solution to fill the container. The plastic troughs sold in paint stores for use with pre-pasted wallpaper are ideal for planes, chisels, and other tools of similar size. For larger objects, a double thickness of plastic sheeting can be used to make just the size container needed. Lay the plastic on the floor (not in the living room), place the object to be cleaned on the plastic, and build the container around the object using brick, wood, or whatever is handy as supports for the sides of the container. Second, avoid immersing wooden handles in the solution - they will discolor. Finally do not use any type of oil on the tool until after the rust has been removed. the solution will not work on oily surfaces.

(Editor's note: You might ask Frank where he can still buy vinegar at \$1.00 a gallon. Also, ask him how to get the used vinegar off the floor into the sink.

P.S. On rereading the above article, two additional comments seem appropriate. First, the above procedure is most valuable in cases where the tool is badly rusted and the abrasive action of mechanical cleaning would destroy the tool's value as a collectible. Second, the solution is reusable several times, so don't dump it down the drain. It seems to work well until its color is nearly black. Have a funnel on hand to get it back into the narrow-necked vinegar bottles.