

Southwest Tool Collector's Association

**SWTCA Newsletter
June 2008**

visit our website @ www.swtca.org



The stop on Eleventh street was spontaneous and meant to be a quick check of a small but familiar antique shop that on occasion had produced the unusual piece. It was late on a hot Summer afternoon and as I entered I encountered the proprietor...a fellow of about my own age rather fatigued and lounging heavily in a ragged old over stuffed chair. He was sweating profusely in the un airconditioned space and appeared more than just a little lack luster. I had known him for perhaps a few years and occasionally sold or traded antiques with him. It was an easy way for me to generate quick cash and it allowed him to replenish his general inventory before the next buying trip. We always enjoyed conversing about things antique or otherwise but this day would be different. As my eyes became accustomed to the pale lighting, I noticed even beyond his severe fatigue several prominent marks and lesions on his face. Tell tale signs of a disease that by this point in time (the mid nineties) was showing up at an alarming frequency. I sat down in an adjacent chair and we spent a while talking about things we had enjoyed and the things that made life especially fun and interesting. I didn't prod with any personal questions nor was I the least bit curious. I felt it my privilege to sit with this casual friend both troubled and failing and to help pass some time together in good spirits.

By and by I arose from my chair to take a cursory 'turn' around the room. The shelves had only meager offerings this time around. I wasn't surprised of course but did my best to acknowledge with interest several of the items lining the shelves. The requisite glass dishes, small furniture and etc. could be found placed dutifully around, but the spark of excitement and discovery was apparently not to happen this day for me. I picked up the only tool I could find off of a shelf and explored its distressed configuration. Having started life as a later 19th century plow plane, this dusty and extremely dry plane body was adorned with replaced threaded arms surely hacked to form by a dull hatchet. Constructed of pine or some other unsuitably chosen variety of soft wood, the threads were horribly chipped and misshapen. The retaining nuts were strange multi sided forms of altogether indescribable geometric shape. "Looks like this one's had a rough life"all I could think to say as I placed it back on the shelf and gently brushed a wispy deposit of dust off my hands.

A sad feeling hung over me like a shadow on my way home even though we had shared a laugh or two. Perhaps it was that particular time in my life when I needed to really evaluate my own mortality.

Along with this heightened awareness though, an image somehow kept trying to form in my mind. Finding this annoying at this particular time I kept putting it aside but back would come this image. It was of the front of the plow plane of all things. *Something* about that ugly and overly abused specimen was hung up in my subconscious and like a bulldog kept resurfacing and would not be ignored. Half way home it struck me. The absurdly dry and dusty tool had no cracks or checks in and about the frontal end grain area around the name stamps. There should have been cracks, ...no....fissures gnarling through that part of the plane. In my mind I could clearly see none. This truly made no sense.....unless... I knew of only a few naturally very oily woods that would not react from the internal tensions created by those extreme conditions. I also knew that most of these were dense tropical hardwoods. I pulled in my driveway and quickly put together some old kitchen antiques (his favorite) and returned to 11th street truly wondering if I had abandoned all common sense.

Continued on next page.....

He was thankful to obtain some fresh merchandise and I generously traded him some collectibles for the extremely ‘unlikely’ and ugly old plane. The trip home this time offered up a different and cautiously optimistic feeling. In the shop, the abominable arms were removed and discarded. The iron and wedge were removed and the body of the plane was literally scrubbed under a faucet with soap and water several times. The moment of truth literally leaped out at my eyes as the most gorgeous Brazilian rosewood imaginable came vividly to life in my hands! Smooth and blemish free, I held it up to read the toe endA. Howland & Co. A plane constructed by prison labor in New York (1869-1874). The wedge was original and cleaned up beautifully as well. The skate restored very nicely too so I had my special find though it needed one more miracle to bring it back to extraordinary. This came in the form of two long and shapely threaded boxwood arms that I knew my Father had obtained in a barrel of merchandise he kept in one of his buildings. He had asked me if I had a use for them a couple of times before as he knew I restored pieces from time to time.. Though one was split on a diagonal in the middle, both were prized boxwood and in good shape even with the repairable split.. Aside from the gorgeous shape of the nuts and washers, these arms had long turned ivory tips on one end. The other end showed the small round tenons remaining after the matching ivory tips had been lost. These arms I knew were also produced at about the same time in New York and by prison labor. The last piece of the puzzle fell into place as the arms slid obligingly into the holes through the body and aligned squarely with the existing hardware and holes in the rosewood fence. They were spaced correctly for a perfect fit and their warm rich patina added a defining dimension to the dark smooth lines of the Rosewood. A prominent piece in my collection to this day, it is also a constant reminder of days, friends and family members gone by. An earlier time when an exciting discovery could quite literally be just around the corner.....perhaps on 11th St.

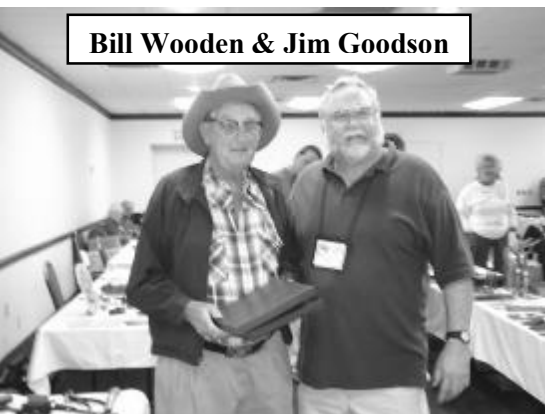
.....Editor

SWTCA 2008 Spring Meet Tulsa, OK

Some call it wonder-lust. Others call it the thrill of the hunt. And still others will call it crazy, or even a genetic flaw, but I think its basic human nature to be curious. It’s normal to want to know what awaits you around the next bend in the trail, or over the top of the next hill, or even, what treasure you might find at the next tool show.

On April 12th, the residents of Tulsa awoke to the smell of rust and Old Spice in the air, and they knew that it was time once again for the SWTCA Spring Meet. This year’s tool meet was one of the best in recent memory. The trading started at 7:00 with over 30 tables full of saws, planes, levels, etc.

At 10:00, a Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Bill Wooden in appreciation for all he has done in educating so many people about tools and tool collecting, and for all his hard work through the years promoting SWTCA. This same award was presented to Gene Harp as well (not present this year) for his many years of service and contributions to the advancement of the SWTCA and other groups as well. Congratulations gentlemen for your unfaltering influence and interest in an organization that is so very special to us all.



Bill Wooden & Jim Goodson

Jim Goodson won the first place award for his display of 18th century Coopers tools, and host Tim Hoss

won second place recognition for his display of Coffin Wrenches and related items. At 12:30, an auction was held with partial proceeds going to the club. Armloads of tools accompanied by empty billfolds and numerous smiles were seen leaving Tulsa as the show ended, but in the back of everyone’s mind was the thought of coming back again next year, and looking again, for that elusive treasure that got away.

**The Southwest Tool Collectors Association
Presents

Bill Wooden /Gene Harp

With This Lifetime Membership Award
For 25 Years of
Contributions and Fellowship

From Its Grateful Officers and Membership
SWTCA April 2008**

.....Tim Hoss

A very special thanks to Tim Hoss for once again hosting our Spring show in Tulsa and arranging all preparations with foresight, diligence and a smile on his face (well....most of the time!).



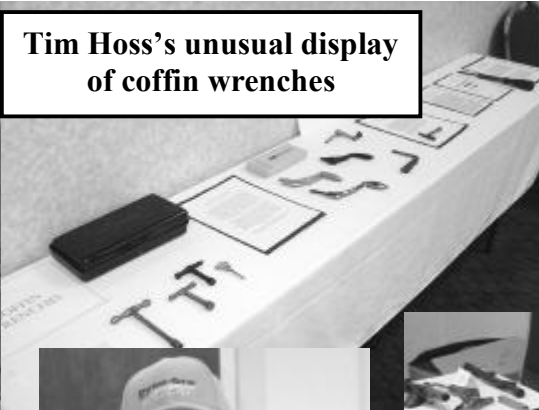
Emery Goad (SWTCA president) gets enthusiastic help from the 'Hosses' (Noah and Tim Hoss) to help with the auction presentation and details.



Anna Massaro suppresses the urge to demonstrate for brother Nathan, how a timber marking hammer is used.



Dean Loshbaugh of Tulsa negotiates a sale from his table



Tim Hoss's unusual display of coffin wrenches



Tom Mitchell takes a break from the auction frenzy



Jim Goodson's display of mostly 18th c. Coopers Tools



Photos by J. Goodson

Tim dispels the myth that the ratcheting coffin wrench was designed to only turn one way (to tighten). This myth rose from the presumed absence of a need to exit the confines of your 'new home' once you are placedum...permanently on 'the new sofa'

Special Awards given to the Founding Members of SWTCA

Dear Jim - What a wonderful tribute you and Jeff Gaston did for Jerry in the SWTCA Newsletter!!!!!!! I know he's looking down and saying "Thanks, Guys"! I remember that "last" trip to Canton in 1991. We were in our motor home and were able to stay a couple days even though he was going through chemo and radiation and his strength was minimal. He got the opportunity to visit with other tool collectors and friends we had met in the antiques business through the years and that was truly a joy! I certainly appreciate your sending this newsletter to me and can't wait to share it with our sons. Sincerely, Rosie Cyrier

SWTCA Lifetime Membership Award

With Deepest Appreciation

**The Southwest Tool Collectors Association
Officers and Membership
Gratefully Recognize**

Sam Scott

**As An Original Co-founder
Of The SWTCA**

SWTCA 1973 - 2008

Jerry Cyrier Jeff Gaston Sam Scott

Three additional awards were presented at the Tulsa Oklahoma meeting. These awards would be to honor the three founding members of the SWTCA whose story was previously chronicled (Feb. 2008 issue).

In the previous newsletter my editorial dealt with the origins of the SWTCA some 35 years ago. In it, founding member Jeff Gaston described for us those first years of organizational growth and direction. It is in recognition of their achievements that each of these founding members is presented with a Lifetime Membership Award from the SWTCA. Members Jeff Gaston, Sam Scott and Jerry Cyrier (deceased) represent the epitome of what just a few people with big dreams and rolled up sleeves can achieve. We can't thank you guys enough!JG

New SWTCA Secretary

The membership of the SWTCA welcomes Carl Blair as our new SWTCA Secretary. Please make note and access him for membership dues and all SWTCA bookkeeping affairs. He can be reached at 712 So. Linden Ln. Ct. Mustang Oklahoma, 73064-4140 ph.#(405) 376-4229 e-mail www.blademok@sbcglobal.net.

Our sincere thanks go to Greg Logan who for several years has graciously volunteered to fill this position. Volunteers such as Greg and Carl help make this club operate smoothly. Without the help of its volunteers the club could never function as it does. May the fun last forever! JG

Obituary

Gregor, I have not written lately because I regret to say that my husband Bob, died Jan 23rd peacefully at home with all his family at his side. He had a fun and wonderful life. Sylvia

Jim, info on the passing of swtca member Bob Gulley. I got the below obit out of the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. Gregor

Robert Barth "Bob" Gulley Robert Barth "Bob" Gulley, 78, passed away on January 23, 2008, peacefully at home after a long illness, with all his family by his side. Bob was a wonderful, strong and loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather.

Reclaim Your Rusty Tools!



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Errata ! (not erotica)

Please Correct Your
SWTCA Directory
for the Following:

Southwest Tool Collectors Association

The S.W.T.C.A. Newsletter is the official publication of the Southwest Tool Collector's Association. It is published quarterly and provided to each member of the association.

Purpose of the Association:

Section 1

To promote the collection and exchange of tools, implements and devices used by our forefathers.

Section 2

To study and share knowledge concerning these objects and the crafts in which they were used.

Section 3

To promote a spirit of fun and fellowship among persons having these interests

SOUTHWEST TOOL COLLECTOR'S 2008 OFFICERS

President: Emery Goad, Wichita Kansas
Vice President: Bud Blake, Ada Oklahoma
Secretary: Carl Blair, Mustang Oklahoma
Treasurer: Jim Shipman, Mustang Oklahoma

Editor: Jim Goodson
1102 East 7 ½ St.
Houston, Texas 77009
(713)-869-4435
springhill1@sbcglobal.net
(there is a #1 after springhill)

REGIONAL DIRECTORS:

Oklahoma:	Jim Shipman
Texas (south)	Jim Goodson
Texas (north)	Paul Coppinger
Kansas & Mo.	Tom Mitchell
Louisiana & Ark.	Bill Clark
New Mexico & Co.	Bill McDougall

NEW DIRECTORY CHANGES

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Irving Texas 75060 (214) 762-6721

Phil Whitby newbtr@comcast.net

David McDonald (new e-mail)
drdavidmcdonald@yahoo.com

Jim Shipman-jshipmanx2@sbcglobal.net

Carl Blair - blademok@sbcglobal.net

Harold Ganshirt
5506 Valerie Houston TX 77081

John Ballentine
850 N. Clear Springs Rd. Rm 229
Mustang OK 73064

PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE!!

Please let our Secretary know of changes to your contact information either address, phone no# or e-mail address. He will correct the directory and forward these to me for listing in the Newsletter and dispersal to members.

Contact: Carl Blair
712 So. Linden Ln. Ct.
Mustang Oklahoma 73064-4140
(405) 376-4229

SWTCA Tool Ads

**Please Send in a Story, an Article,
An Advertisement or a Topic of Interest For
Publication in This Newsletter**

**It's Easy, It's Fun and
It Adds Variety to Your Publication**

Tired of hauling around the same old tools?

There's a good worldwide market for your collectibles and users tools on Ebay and I'd be happy to sell them for you. I'll research, photograph, advertise, sell and ship your items for 10% of the net selling price.

Contact: Lee Monahan, (405) 521-0965 or
soonertrackingsolutions@yahoo.com

WANTED: Old metal block planes & parts, regardless of condition. Contact Lee Monahan, (405) 521-0965 or
soonertrackingsolutions@pyahoo.com

FOR SALE: A new reference book for patent research. A detailed manual on how to research patents on line on the USPTO website. Includes tables of issue dates and patent #'s up to 1900, together with tables of patent classes. All you need to know to locate and print out patents quickly! 73 pp., 8 1/2"x 11", spiral bound. \$20.00 + \$2.50 shipping. Contact Philip Stanley, 36 Stockton Street, Apt. #2, Worcester MA 01610 or at **philstan@rcn.com**.

TOOL SWAP MEET INFORMATION: **TOOLSWAP/USA** is the Voice of the Independent Tool Collector, Dealer and User. The Web Site (**www.toolswapusa.com**) links to Old Tool Dealers and Tool Events across the country. We also put on nine Old Tool Swap Meets in Southern CA (2 in San Diego, 4 in LA and 3 in Orange County). If you want to be on an E-mail Reminder List, send your name and email to **laura@toolswapusa.com**. Plan your next visit to CA around an Old Tool Swap Meet. Check the Web Site for swap meet schedules. Laura Pitney.

INFORMATION: Sign of the jointer, a quarterly journal on wooden planes, has started the 5th year of Publication. The journal contains articles covering wooden planes and planemakers as well as unpublished marks and new information. New information is solicited from all those interested in wooden planes by American, English and Canadian makers. Subscriptions are \$16 per year. Please contact Pat Lasswell 6211 Elmgrove Rd, Spring, Texas, 77389, 281-251-3121, or by email at **pmlasswell@sbcglobal.net**.

WANTED: Seeking material for book. All items marked "The Winchester Store" and all pre-1943 advertising, sports items and paper. Also ARMAX, BARNEY & BERRY, CRUSADER, and HENDRYX items. Tim Melcher, (918)-786-8500. **tim@wavelinx.net** and at **www.thewinchesterstore.com**

Wanted; Antique Coffin Wrenches or related items. Please contact Tim Hoss at (918) 261-1277

WANTED: Figuratively carved or decorated wooden European Hand Tools (preferably 18c.). Planes, Braces, Marking Gauges and other wooden tool relics with carved dates, religious symbols, flowers, plants, any sort of geometric pattern of chains, dots, ropes punch marks, scallops, scrolls, volutes, crosses or stylized horn profiles.

ALSO WANTED: Photos and Information about these tools for reference and a prolific comparative study and record underway. **FELLOW ENTHUSIASTS** to share and appreciate these early folk art pieces with. Please contact

James Goodson (SWTCA Editor) at **www.springhill1@sbcglobal.net** or (713) 869-4435

WANTED: Winchester items. Good + to Mint. David McDonald. 14211 Kellywood. Houston Texas

(281) 558-5236. e-mail:

drdavidmcdonald@yahoo.com.

WANT ADS ARE AN IMPORTANT RESOURCE: for club members so put this feature to work for you....It's an excellent membership privilege. Send your ads to www.springhill1@sbcglobal.net or mail to: James Goodson (SWTCA Editor) 1102 East 7 1/2 St. Houston Texas 77009-7131

The City of Vancouver Archives has recently put the first McLennan McFeely catalogue with 1400+ detailed illustrations of goods from 1908-1914 on the web. Fully keyword-searchable, the catalogue includes household, farm and garden goods, cutlery, sporting goods, ship chandlery, paint (with colour chips), supplies for steamfitters, loggers, and builders, and more. Merchandise was made in Canada and the U.S. Made possible by funding from the B.C History Digitization Program, with generous cooperation from the Burnaby Village Museum. Thank you for your consideration. Sue
<http://vancouver.ca/ctvclerk/archives/digitized/McMcHTML/index.htm>

Sue Bigelow
Conservator
City of Vancouver Archives
1150 Chestnut Street
Vancouver, BC V6J 3J9
Tel 604.736.8561
Fax 604.736.0626
sue.bigelow@vancouver.ca
<http://vancouver.ca/archives>



SWTCA FALL MEETING TO BE HELD IN OKLAHOMA CITY

The Fall SWTCA meeting will be held in Oklahoma City this year. The yet undecided date and specific details will be forthcoming to members under separate mailing notice. There will be an emphasis this year on display presentations in an effort to offer a broad spectrum of information to other members and walk ins. I will join with selected others to help qualify and judge the displays. For the sake of impartiality, judges will not be eligible for prizes though they may choose to display anyway. Once again, local advertising at antique malls and woodworking facilities will be aimed at inviting those who have an interest in our show to join us for at least the afternoon. The early morning hours however will still be set aside for the benefit of members only!

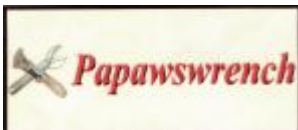


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no tool
like an
old tool**



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**U.S. Wrench Patents
1790 - 1911**

Listing of all U.S. Wrench Patents, Designs, and
 Reissue Patents Issued from 1790 to 1911



Chapters include:
 1 Numerical Listing
 2 List by Patent Holder
 3 List by State
 4 Useful References and Information
 5 A Sampling of Wrench Patents

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steve@wrenchbook.com
 U.S. \$29 plus \$3 shipping & handling
 Canada \$35 plus \$3 shipping & handling

U.S. WRENCH PATENTS 1790 – 1911

This book is 290 pages long and lists all the wrench patents that were issued from 1790-1911 (a total of 5203 patents). Chapter 1 is a numerical listing including re-issued patents and design patents. Chapter 2 is arranged by inventor's name, and Chapter 3 is alphabetical by State and County or Township. Chapter 4 contains several handy reference charts and lists that will help the collector identify or date wrenches (and other tools). Chapter 5 is a small selection of wrench patents.Steve Eckers wrenchbook@yahoo.com

*The Stanley Little
Big Book*

A Comprehensive Pocket Price Guide For Planes



Clarence Blanchard

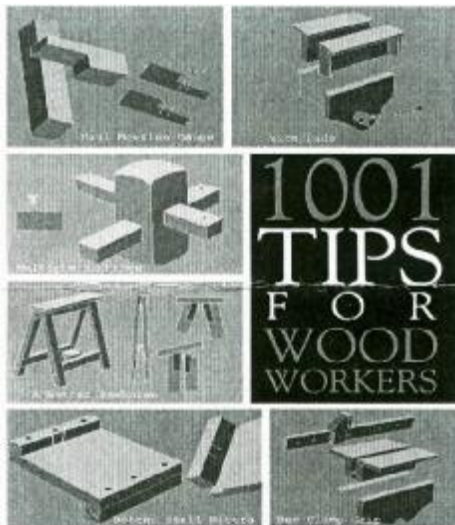


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PERCY BLANDFORD

1001 TIPS FOR WOODWORKERS

by Percy Blandford
 Linden Publishing, December 2007
 Distributed by Independent Publishing Group—800.888.4741
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 Trade paper
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 Category: woodworking
 376 pp. 6 ¼ x 9 ¼
 950 B&W line dwgs.



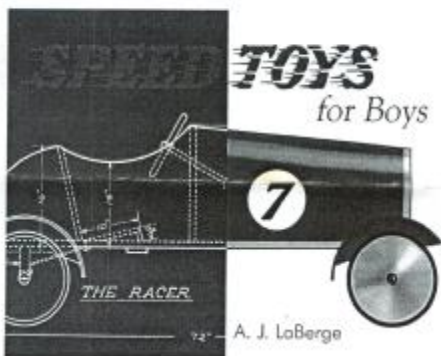
PUZZLE PROJECTS FOR WOODWORKERS

by Allan Boardman
 Linden Publishing, December 2007
 Distributed by Independent Publishing Group—800.888.4741
 \$19.95/ higher in Canada
 Trade paper
 ISBN: 978-1-933502-11-3
 Category: woodworking
 96 pp. 8 ½ x 11
 60 color photos, 105 color illustrations

by Armand J. LaBerge

A Woodworking Classics Revisited book. Clever projects of nostalgic delight.

Speed Toys for Boys contains timeless projects appropriate for both boys and girls. This reprint of a classic woodworking guide provides complete plans and instructions—many of which are simple enough for older children and teenagers to follow—for constructing pushmobiles, sleds, scooters, and much more. These nostalgic projects will appeal to grandparents looking to construct carts and wagons for their grandchildren, as well as hobbyist woodworkers.



Speed Toys for Boys

- Over 50 classic woodworking projects, each with a parts list and diagram.
- Old-fashioned four-wheeled projects include scooters, carts, hobby cars, coaster wagons, pushmobiles, junior wagons, and speed trucks.
- Also included are winter projects, such as toboggans, sleds, bobsleds, and scooter sleds.
- Additional information gives guidance on finishing and coloring.
- *Speed Toys for Boys* was originally published in 1928, a time when thousands of children participated annually in manual arts classes and pushmobile contests.

Contact Richard Sorsky
 800-345-4447
richard@lindenpub.com
www.lindenpub.com

The Pocket Size Carpenter's Helper

3rd Edition
 By R. F. Bailey

"It's a mini-bible for builders and handymen, sized to fit in pants or shirt pocket, and organized for quick reference...the "Carpenter's Helper" makes it all clear to the layman. Stick the "Carpenter's Helper" in your pocket when you go on a job, and if you pay attention to it, you can't lose."

The Boston Globe (referring to the 1st ed.)

Over 90,000 in print.

This compact book is just 3 ¼ x 6-inches, but its 126 pages are crammed full of an astonishing number of easy reading charts, tables, formulas, and quick calculation hints. Plus it's quick and easy to use.

It was written and illustrated by an experienced carpenter with these three goals in mind:

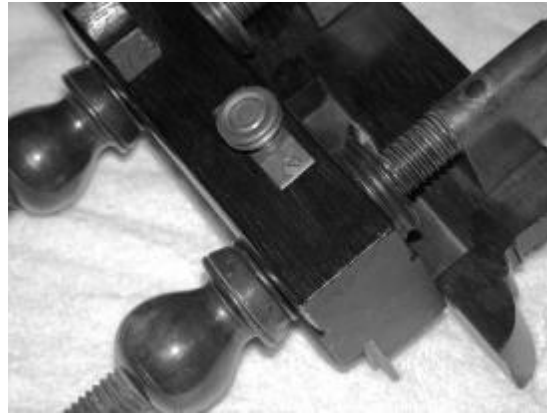
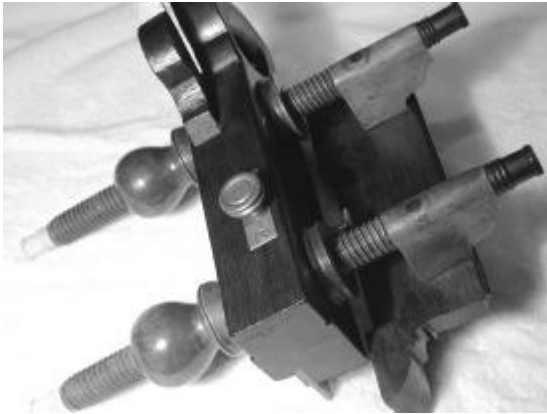
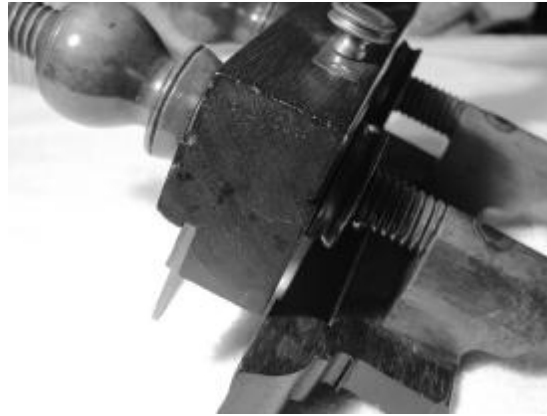
1. To provide **on-the-job** answers.
2. To compress the **maximum amount** of useful information into the minimum compact size.
3. To arrange the data in a simple format for **efficient speed and accuracy**.

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 Author: R. F. Bailey
 Carpentry: 126pp. 3 ¼ x 6-inches.
 Spiral bound. \$14.95
 ISBN: 978-1-93350219-9
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Ol' Dusty, The 11th St. Treasure



...whose defying physical presence attended my recognition by silently 'screaming' to my senses when my perception refused to see the beauty within the desperately ravaged and disfigured piece.

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