

Southwest Tool Collector's Association

SWTCA Newsletter - September 2009

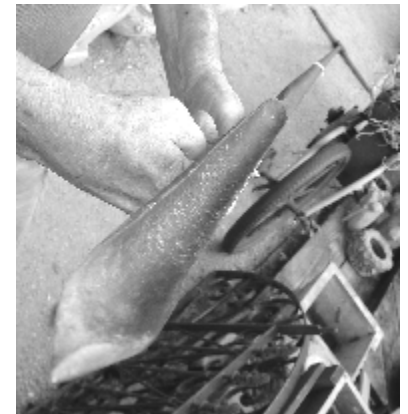
visit our (*newly revised*) website @ www.swtca.org



The Biggest Bore...

One of the mysteries of my childhood came back to challenge me once again last week. From the point of view of a youngster, everyday mysteries are common, there's always something intriguing to occupy the imagination. One of these great mysteries though never a 'Greatest Wonder of The World', was the knowledge of just how that tiny little hole 'established itself' through that long slender strand of macaroni.

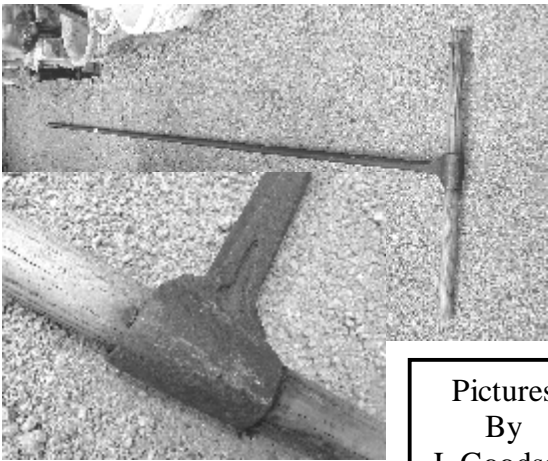
Half a century later (maybe even a little more!), a parallel question was posed to me by chance from a friend who owns an antique shop nearby. First, a big cheeky smile.... then his eyes light up ..."you like old tools", "I've got something I want you to see". It's something I ran across up East on my buying trip and though it is rather bulky and mundane, I considered it interesting, unusual and downright rare.He led me outside to the garden area where outdoor architectural antiques lay in every direction. His enthusiasm was beginning to rub off a little as he has a sixth sense concerning good antiques even if occasionally he is stumped over one. . There atop a small birdbath lay a long boring auger of the 'T auger' configuration. It also lay across the top of a couple more supports where it finally terminated just past the third one.....some 12 feet away! He already knew that it was for boring out wooden water pipe segments. He even had a wooden pipe segment with it (though of slightly different size) and a tool that was used to clean out the bore which looked very much like that of the wooden shoe maker's knife but with a much longer handle. The forging was very easily 18th c. The shaft was shaped entirely by hand forging (no round mill stock involved here) as well as the massive 21 inch 'business end'. An incredible example and still with its original wooden handle. There is no reason for the two iron stocks to exist today for they have no use as they are and could have been re forged into something much more useful at any time during the past couple of centuries. It also does not lend itself to home display in



light of its outstandingly great length. For whatever reason, it triumphantly remains today and is an example of the type of antique rarely found 'in the wild' these days.

The question posed to me was "how did they bore something such as this as straight and true as it surely needed to be?" The question of maintaining strict alignment of the bore would lead one to envision all sorts of fancy and gimmicky paraphernalia for adhering to accuracy. My reply was in the form of two engravings I had copies of which I





Pictures
By
J. Goodson

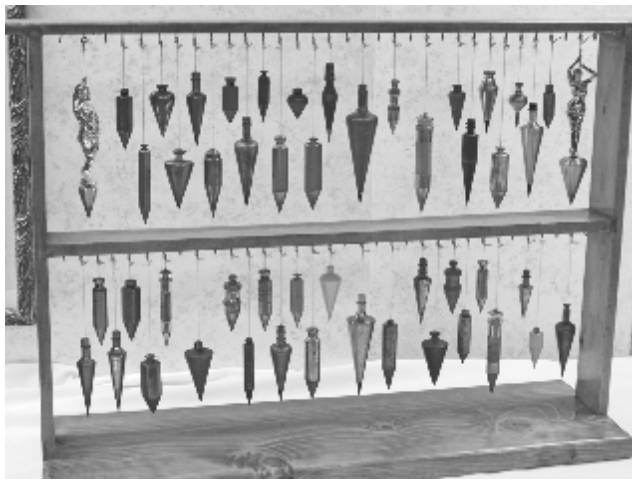
brought by a few days later once I located them. The engravings (see back cover) show two examples of how these tools were used. As noted by the illustrations, there were no special alignment mechanisms or specialized trade secrets involved. Just a bit of the miracle of sensitivity as expressed through a lifetime of acquired knowledge and extreme craftsmanship.

And the hole through the macaroni question?? Through rationally deductive reasoning, I now suspect that its answer surely originates somewhere deep within the annals of Irish history with the ‘wee little people’ and an over zealous miniature iron industry!
J. Goodson

Albuquerque New Mexico Bi-Annual Meeting SWTCA/RMTCA

The bi-annual Meet of Southwest Tool and Rocky Mountain Tool was held over Labor Day weekend in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The hosts were Dave and Connie Fessler of Albuquerque. There were 88 registrations, including approximately 58 members of the two clubs. There were 3 estates auctioned at the Meet, along with members' tools, and the Meet received almost \$1,600.00 from donations, and 10% commissions from the auction. The proceeds will be split between the clubs. Southwest member, Clint Litsey, of Sedgwick, Kansas, received 2nd place in displays for his grain measuring tools. First place in displays went to Tony Moon, for miner's candle holders, unusual patents. He also made a presentation at the Meet. The third place for displays for rules, went to Steve Gosselin, of Rocky Mountain Tool.

Numerous States were represented at the Meet, including Clarence Blanchard, of the Fine Tool Journal, who came from Maine. The auction was a success, because it started about 8:00 p.m., and lasted until midnight.



EMERY L. GOAD

Two of many Displays presented during the meeting in Albuquerque

Two Photos courtesy of Emery Goad

Gregor Mszar mentioned that he and Clarence Blanchard split a purchase of dried red chili peppers. Gregor has special recipes he prepares with these and a peculiar way of testing the ‘heat index’ of the particular lot he picks out. Says he...one can tell the approximate heat of a pepper by ‘rubbing the outer surface across your forehead’. The one he tested turned out to be pretty good because he said you could have fried an egg on his forehead from the heat that it created!
I’m afraid to ask how he tests hot oil for deep fat frying..... Editor

(I was sorry to miss the Albuquerque meeting this year as I had lens transplants in both of my eyes during August and early September.)Gotta hope the rest of me lasts a little longer!
Editor

On the Friday evening prior to Labor Day 2009, iron mongers and tool chisellers from the Southwest gathered at the Albuquerque MCM Elegante Hotels' watering hole to start a weekend of tool trading, jaw-boning and renewing old friendships at this biennial meet. 'Hostess with the Mostess' Connie Fessler pre-registered early arrivers as hubby Dave made last minute arrangements and changes. As usual, the trill of the hunt hung in the air as stale cigarette smoke. However, not only were "locals" arriving; Clarence Blanchard (Fine Tool Journal) came in from Pownal, Maine, as Tom Madden and his wife came in from Oceanside, California; so both coasts and everything in between was covered!

The next morning, dawn broke across the back parking lot with out-of-towners and locals peddling their wares along with large doses of grab-handing and hugging (mostly by the women). As it seems, my "early" arrival wasn't so early, as these Western folks still believe in searching for tools by flashlight light. Personally, the only folks I know who like sleep deprivation belong to the CIA. As I crossed the parking lot, eyes turned to me as hunter to hunted. As I unloaded, collectors circled my truck as a shark does to chum. BAMM. Out of nowhere, everyone's gone: tools are missing, but greenbacks stick out of every pocket. As quickly as the parking lot trading started, it ceased!



On to the trade room we went. Displays were being set up for judging, as sales tables were being loaded. A full room and good company was there for all. Late afternoon, RMTTC's Tony Moon gave a presentation on Candlesticks (no, not that kind; the kind that precious metal miners used in the late 19th/early 20th century). Along with a very descriptive presentation, Tony had on hand some of his best pieces for up close review. The day turned to evening, and after a wonderful dinner, RMTTC's Dave Miller presented the awards for best displays: Third Place : "Caliper Rules" by Steve Gosselin; 2nd Place : "Seed Separators" by Clint Litsey; and 1st Place : "Miners' Candlesticks" by Tony

Moon. Ending the evening was the traditional members' auction followed by an auction of 3 different collections. RMTTC's Steve Scruggs was the auctioneer and had SWTCA/RMTTC tool hands assisting.

Sunday morning continued with falling prices, invigorated bargaining and final-final-final offers on items prior to being relegated back to their storage boxes. Many members and spouses went on the tour to the Atomic Museum in Old Town Albuquerque. I had visited the museum when it was at Kirtland Air Force base, and this is a GREAT Museum : now even more convenient as you don't have to go through all the security for a civilian to get on an Air Force base. Ending the meeting was the business meetings of both clubs. With boxes packed and loaded back in their vehicles, goodbyes were said and promises of return in 2011 were made.

Thanks again to Connie and Dave Fessler and ALL club members and spouses who worked hard to make this a GREAT MEET!!



Tool room photographs courtesy of Gregor Mszar



Running on Flat...

by: J. Goodson

Running a small & busy fabrication and trucking service provided ample opportunity for constant travel along the Texas Gulf Coast from Houston to Corpus Christi. Under the constraints of budget and time allotments, it was easy to look to the shallows and estuaries along the shoreline near Rockport and visualize yourself at that time and place, doing what you would much rather be doing. This is an area known world wide for the many rare species of birds which flock here as well as for its fishing both in the Gulf and in the surrounding low shallow estuaries which are instrumental in luring so many species of birds here. Attentive to the whims of the moment, your preferred entertainment options can rather reach out and taunt you here.....especially when you can't take immediate advantage of them.

Flight of fancy turned to inquiry for C.F. Goodson when he stopped at a local boat shop in that area and inquired about one of the small flat bottom skiffs he'd seen in passing by there. These were rather simple boats designed to get in and among the shallows for fishing and birding enthusiasts. Their configuration was somewhat different than a typical small fishing craft and their design was inspired by just this type of local watershed. The price quoted was rather daunting at the time but in his mind, he knew with some inventive design work, he could make one less expensively for himself and became determined to do so. I suspect the 'scoff' from the proprietor of the boat shop likely helped cement his decision.

I had not run across Charles for many years other than during tragic events that typically bring scattered family members together. When he explained what he had been busy doing for the last number of years my ears perked up as his occupation had been constructing shallow draft fishing boats for marshy wetland areas. It didn't take a lot of coaxing to get invited over to his shop to watch how this all took place. I did have to wait until the weather warmed though as the cold was not kind for mixing glass resin. (I got the distinct impression it also interfered with his warm spot on the couch!)

A hot summer day recently was perfect for a visit to his humble workshop just North of Houston. I was excited to see several projects going on at that time. There were large molds for hull segments, a console riser nearly finished, a hull in the process of being ground and sanded flush, even a small dinghy which was styled to replicate those used with the large fancy yachts of the earlier 1900s.



His first issue was designed and built for himself. An inspiration that would enhance his sport fishing options in the greater Gulf Coast area. Previously familiar with fiberglass construction, he first paid attention to creating a mold which was formed out of pieces of plywood and linoleum that were on hand. Once this was done, the plywood and



linoleum were discarded and the mold was used for forming the hull through laying up of the fiberglass strips in a 'sandwich' fashion. Foam blocks were added for the proper buoyancy required by regulation. Fittings, steering linkage, consoles and storage area were then configured to the design and his personal 'marsh glider' was ready for some fun.



It was while taking this unusual little boat out fishing that people began to ask him about it. Where he got it, how well it works in shallow water marsh areas, how stable it is and what it cost. This led to an order or two and things sort of took off from there. Now he advertises on his website too but nothing sells like seeing one in person, or in action.



See the finished boats
On his website...

Flats Master Boats.com

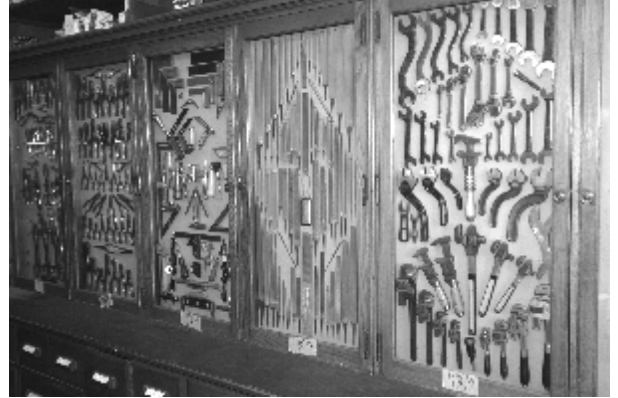
Some construction phases of the four
Boat designs he currently produces

ANTIQUe TOOL POSTERS FOR SALE:



For many years visitors have exclaimed that our vintage tool displays are not only unique but very attractive. They have been on view and unchanged since their assembly and arrangement in 1922 when all the oak cabinetry in the hardware store was installed by J.D. Warren Co. of Chicago. We have fifteen displays behind glass which have been undisturbed and are intact since their arrangement in 1922. Each glass-fronted door holds a specific array of hand tools of popular use through the early 20th Century. Each

display reflects the craft and hard work of our forefathers, well before the advent of power tools. We have been honored to serve the determined and skilled tradesmen of Hammond and the surrounding area



for more than twelve decades. P.H. Mueller Sons is pleased to announce that the first edition of our commemorative posters(C) is in production and we now have these available to purchase through our website <http://www.paulhenrysart.com/store.html>. The poster is available in three sizes. Please call (219-932-0165) to order or email to phmueller@sbcglobal.net You may also stop in to pick up a poster during regular business hours, 10AM-7PM, Tuesday through Saturday or Noon-5PM, Sunday. Thank you, Dave Mueller, P.H.Mueller Sons Hardware, Hammond, Indiana.



Bench Dog....



New SWTCA website up and running!

The SWTCA website has been completely re-worked and posted at www.swtca.org . Don 'Bus' Haury (our new web host), has gone to great lengths to make this site something to be proud of for our club. This change is a long time coming and should be of great help in attracting new members for us. Mike Urness is now our web site editor and will oversee the information that is posted on line. Please send any information you would like to see posted to Mike and he will help work out any wrinkles. We hope to be running some advertising there to help defray site costs so if you are looking for some increased exposure, we are looking for you! We are also looking for some great ideas and information to post on this site. You, our members are the very best source to make this happen so please give us some of your ideas to work with.

Bus Haury: donhaury@southwind.net and Mike Urness: plncrzy@aol.com

Hello Fellow Wrench Collectors, (Attention NOW !!!)

The **Wrenching News** is having an antique wrench auction of over 1600 wrenches at Davenport, Iowa, **Saturday, Sept 26, 2009** following the Fall meeting of the Missouri Valley Wrench Club. The auction is open to the public.

The complete catalog with photos is now on line at:
<http://www.wrenchingnews.com/day-auction-2009/catalog.html>.

This auction originated as a consignment auction but we now have all the wrenches we can sell in one afternoon and early evening.. We have received consignments from several people including Dough Busch who will be selling his collection over the next couple years, Dan Gaier, Don Ervin, Stan Schulz, and Robert Matz. The bulk of the auction consists of the collection of Wilbur Hall of Wagner, South Dakota, His collection consists of several hundred wrenches and hammers and is especially strong in combination type tools with hammers and wrenches with hammers.. The rest of the hammers will be sold by The Great Planes Trading Company at auction in October in St. Louis. That catalog is on the Great Planes Trading Company Website.

Absentee bids will be executed by MVWC editor Stan Schulz and can be submitted to either Stan or Bus.

The Meet starts Friday afternoon at the Clarion Hotel with an informal parking lot swap meet and continues later Friday with an auction preview, banquet and open house at host Herb Page's home. Herb has an outstanding collection of early and rare wrenches including the only known 60" Coes Key wrench and is the author of The Brothers Coes and Their Legacy of Wrenches.

Tool Show and Swap meet is early Saturday morning followed by the auction, all at the Clarion Hotel.

More information and complete schedule can be found at: The Wrenching News Website
<http://www.wrenchingnews.com>

DON 'Bus' HAURY 7913 SW 24TH HALSTEAD KS 67056 316-283-5876 (home) 316-284-7345 (cell)
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SWTCA Election of Officers

The SWTCA election nominations are in as of the Albuquerque show but the final vote has been postponed for a short time as it was determined that there was a potential conflict in timing between the reception of proposed nominations and the actual voting process. The vote will be held shortly via separate mailing. Valid nominations will be those received by the end of the Albuquerque meeting September 6th (as earlier established). All voters through this process will have total access to all potential candidates. We regret the delay.Editor

<u>Jim Shipman's Tool Show</u> at the 'OL Barn' Come one, come all. October 31st Mustang Oklahoma (405) 376-4301
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Reclaim Your Rusty Tools!



www.TheRustStore.com

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
Web site editor: Mike Urness (web host - Bus Haury)

Editor: **Jim Goodson**
1102 East 7 1/2 St.
Houston, Texas 77009
(713)-869-4435
springhill1@sbcglobal.net
(there is a #1 after springhill)

REGIONAL DIRECTORS:

Oklahoma: Jim Shipman (405) 376-4301
Texas (south) Jim Goodson (713) 869-4435
Texas (north) Gregor Mszar (817) 937-5475
Kansas & Mo. Tom Mitchell (620) 892-5888
Louisiana & Ark. Bill Clark (479) 253-9523
New Mexico/Co. Bill McDougall (505) 344-9272



Errata !
(not erotica)

Please Correct Your
SWTCA Directory
for the Following:

NEW DIRECTORY CHANGES

(none)

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



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.

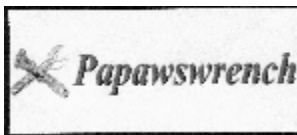
Contact: Lee Monahan, (405) 521-0965 or
soonertrackingsolutions@yahoo.com

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

SWTCA Tool Ads



Noel C. Hankamer
nhankamer@papawswrench.com



Tool Talk
Forum

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.

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.

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 in volume 5 continues to solicit wooden plane and planemaker information. The quarterly 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

EM@RT
THE ANTIQUE TOOL E-MAIL CLASSIFIEDS
PUBLISHED MONTHLY
For an updated Monthly list of Tool Ads
and the Tool Collecting Calendar
Send an e-mail to gregormszar@tx.rr.com
THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE SOURCE AVAILABLE !!!

I never considered the bench stops I'd gathered to be a legitimate collection for me though I probably had at least a dozen early and different types at one time. They garnered my attention because they were interesting and very necessary pieces for any busy woodworking shop. One that now remains is fitted to one of my workbenches, another 18th c. one is in my collection and the job of the third is just to sit there.

Sometimes appealing things 'speak' to me. I don't usually mention this to others exactly... (and I certainly don't try and explain this to my spouse...), Some things just communicate in a language only you can understand and that is the case with this particular bench stop.

R. (Russel) Frisbie's patent #29070 of July 10th 1860. A quite massive cast iron bench stop here mounted in a 2" x 3 1/4" x 6 1/2" block of pine for advertising purposes most likely. The block has incised stamping centered on both ends with this same patent information and date showing. The patent information is also stamped on the head of the stop as well. Did this belong to a hardware store as an advertising model from the manufacturer or to a traveling sales rep.? The mounting block shows reasonable though only surface wear and a very smooth patina from handling. It is in near perfect condition which after considerable hands on scrutiny over nearly 150 years, is testament to its sturdy design and construction.

*R. Frisbie,
Bench Dog.
Patented July 10, 1860.*

So its job now is just what it has always been... to simply sit there and quietly 'speak' to each passer by. Hey! Pick me up, check me out. Then....to listen for just that response from those fortunate enough to actually 'hear' those silent whispers.

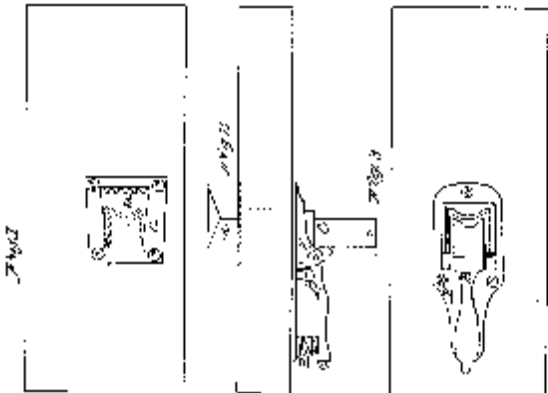
J. Goodson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUSSEL FRISBIE, OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT.

BENCH-DOG.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 29,070, dated July 10, 1860.



To all whom it may concern:
Be it known that I, **RUSSEL FRISBIE**, of Middletown, in the county of Middlesex, in the State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Bench-Dog; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

Figure 1 represents the dog as applied to the bench. Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing its several parts and operation, the dog being elevated, and held secure by the cam lever B which is operated by the spring d. Fig. 3 represents the under side view as stretched to the bench.

The nature of my invention consists in so arranging the several parts as to be adapted to all benches the use of which is secured to the bench by the flange as shown in Fig.

1 which makes the hook end is held in the desired place by the action of the cam lever B which presses the lower end against the curved edge of the nose c, by the force of the spring d. The cam lever B is urged to a case or stand E which is connected to the upper case and fastened to the under side of the bench as shown in Fig. 2. By pressing the thumb on the end of the cam lever of spring of the hook is free to be moved up or down. The cam lever may be used having a weight in place of the spring.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is

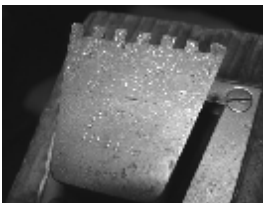
The cam lever in combination with the case and bench hook substantially as hereinafter described.

Dated at Middletown in the State of Connecticut, this 21st day of May A. D. 1860.

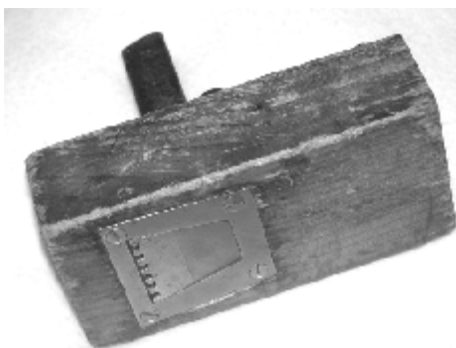
RUSSEL FRISBIE,

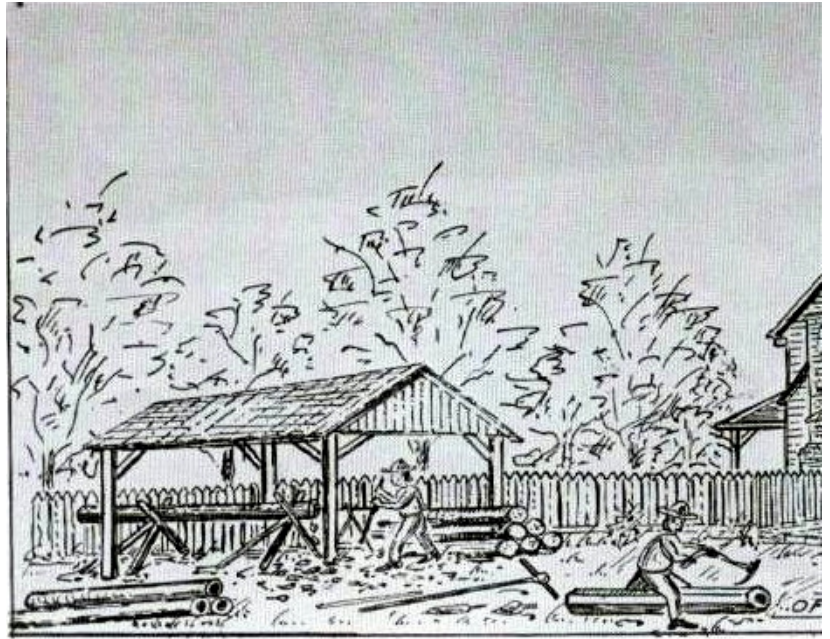
Witness:
THOMAS H. HALL,
JONATHAN BARNES.

*Witnesses:
Thomas H. Hall,
Jonathan Barnes*



*Inventor:
Rusael Frisbie*





Boring and shaping wooden water pipe

Please return to:
Carl Blair
712 So. Linden Ln. Ct.
Mustang Oklahoma 73064-4140
Address correction requested

Newsletter of the:
Southwest Tool Collectors