SHAVINGS, SAWDUST and SPLINTERS

January 2017

Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors
Celebrating 40 years of tool collecting

EVEN A BLIND SQUIRREL FINDS A NUT NOW
AND THEN
By Steve Gosselin

Patent # 148,316, is a cast iron bevel the inventor is George C. Miller. The tool was manufactured by the Detroit Bevel & Divider Co. in Detroit Michigan in the 1870’s. The Det. Bevel & Divider Co. also manufactured his patent #'s 149052 and 144468. Below is a picture of the tool, which I recently purchased at the RMTC annual meeting, in Castle Rock, Colorado. Above the bevel, is a crude representation of the stamp on the blade.

The 2\textsuperscript{nd} picture shows the wedge device used to lock the blade. The wing nut on the bottom of the bevel, when tightened, draws the wedge into the body, effectively locking the blade in place. This method differs from Sargent’s patent # 141081, the Eureka Bevel, produced by Stanley for many years after its invention in 1873. Sargent’s patent uses a pointed screw, which is pushed into the pivot point of the blade by turning the butterfly screw head. On Miller’s patent the wing nut pulls the wedge, which is captive on the bolt, into pivot point. This is the first one I’ve ever seen and I like the design, I wonder why they were as popular as the Stanley. Maybe they there were not more produced is such large numbers or were only sold in the Detroit area. I welcome any input or information you can give me.
Tool collecting web links

http://youtu.be/C2dqxmd0jXU

http://mathesontools.weebly.com/

Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors on Facebook

Send me your favorite links!
historicdonburd@hotmail.com

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS
Please let Fred Mares know if you have any changes to your email address
frmares@msn.com

From the President

Holy moly, another year comes to a close and as I look back I can’t help but be thankful for many things this year has brought. This year also brought some sadness, but all and all a good year. I was saddened when Dave Miller a good friend and fellow tool collector moved out of state. He was always a big part of the club as long as I’ve been a member. He was a valuable sounding board and a selfless promoter of the club. Thankfully he is still a member and just a phone call away. It was also a year that we lost some long-time members, Don, Stan, Larry, SSNAKE and I’m sure some others I’m forgetting. I am thankful that I got to meet and somewhat know them as much as I could, good guys and characters, every one of them. I am thankful to everyone who stepped up this last year to make the club The Best in the West.

I am especially thankful and proud of all the members who stepped up and made the annual meeting such a success. Buzz, who spent the night in the parking lot so the tail gate sale would be ready when everyone showed up, all the board members and volunteers who help with the planning, logistics and set up of the meeting, Chris and Dennis for their excellent demos, Steve and Susan Scruggs for putting together a supper auction, Chris Gomez for taking care of the money at the auction and all year long, the Maiers, Bill and Wendy, for their Sunday pizza run, my wife Carol for her taco bar on Saturday and for everyone who showed up, some driving or flying thousands of miles just to be part of it. If I forgot to thank anybody that helped, THANK YOU!!!

Though I think the meeting was a success, there is always room for improvement. The attendance wasn’t as large as we had hoped and there weren’t a lot of people from other tool collecting clubs in attendance. I would appreciate ANY ideas you have on how to make it a better experience or on how to increase the attendance, so please contact me personally with your ideas. Lastly I’m thankful for this club and it’s members, just to be able to hang out with you guys and gals who share my passion for antique tools and aren’t afraid of being called a hoarder or a nut (you don’t call me that, do you?)

- Steve
**Editor’s Ramblings**

WOWZA! What a year for RMTC. We braved 100* plus meeting @ Al Nelson’s place, to a freezing cold, snowy meeting @ Jim Mcguire’s (luckily he has wood stoves!). We had many, many fun meetings - thanks to all who helped host them, helped with all the things that need doing at them, to those who just attended and thanks to those who brought us new members.

Ever wonder how many tools are sold during these meetings during the year or how much money changes hands? points to ponder...and how about another great Annual Meeting!? 

Thanks to all who helped put it on and attended (more about this on another page). Looking forward to visiting New Mexico for the next one. On a sadder note we felt the loss of several long time members: Don, Larry, SSNAKE & Stan - thanks, guys, for all the good times, laughs & memories you shared with us. You will be forever missed and I know you will still be at every meeting in spirit...

Now, things that need doing: The Board needs you! Are you willing to help host a meeting, do a demonstration or give a talk? How about an article for SSS? While our membership held pretty steady, new members, especially younger folks, are always welcome - who do you know that you can bring? I challenge you to bring at least one new member in 2017. How about this be our motto for the new year - "One new member for each old members" - "just get em' to a meeting"!

SSS will be trying a few new features this year. A "whatsit" page, historic photos showing craftsmen with their tools, and articles on tools. I already have enough for several editions but will always welcome anything anyone wants to share (perhaps a book review?). I also want to remind you that you are welcome to place free want ads.

Let’s keep it going!

~Don

**Whatsit?**

Found in 1940’s barn on a ranch, this wooden whatsit is primarily made up of two 1x2s with an adjustable bottom and a metal hinge on the top, also with a series of nail holes running down approximately half the legs. The ranchers also had a stone quarry – possibly a quarry tool? Or maybe a ranching tool?

Overall length: 4’

This tool will be on display at the January meeting
**2016 Annual Meeting**

Whew! Another fine Annual Meeting has come and gone. All the regulars were there. Starting with "Chief Buzz" running the "crack of dawn" tail gate sale, to the many sales tables, election of officers, dinner, the many displays (I counted no less than 10) and the fine, fine auction which included many, many lots from Don Biays’ estate.

I think we were all just a little disappointed in the lower number of folks who attended. Thanks to those who did attend, the enthusiasm was kept up at its normal high level. We had folks from as far away as Pennsylvania, Missouri & Texas show up. Tool sales were brisk (at least I went way over my budget!) and the auction was its spectacular self with the ever entertaining Mr. Scruggs doing the auctioneering - as usual he was able to squeeze every last dollar out of us but there were deals to be had. The food was great, starting with Carol Gosselin feeding us all and Jim Bewley sending out for pizza - THANKS for looking out for us! Dinner was delicious and topped off with lively conversations at every table. I was most interested in Garland Richardson leading the conversation of the founding & early days of the club.

The displays were very interesting - 10 in all! They were as follows: Don Burd - "#5 Union Planes"; Steve Butti - "The Little Guys"; Wayne Filley - "In Memory of Don Biays"; Chris Gomez - "Rules, Gauges & Measures"; Chris Gomez - "Stephens' Combination Rule"; Steve Gosselin - "Childs Play"; Dennis McCaigue - "Chisels"; Gregor Mszar - "Hotel Desk Bells"; Don Roth - "User Made Tools"; Dennis Scheel - "Cooper Tools". This year’s winners were: Best of Show - Chris Gomez (Rules, Gauges & Measures), Second Place - Don Burd (#5 Union Planes) & Best Single Tool - Gregor Mszar (Hotel Desk Bells). Thanks to everyone for all their work in putting together a display (you’re all winners!).

And finally to the elections: Steve Gosselin was re-elected as President, Dennis McCaigue as re-elected as Vice President, Chris Gomez was re-elected as Treasurer, Dennis Scheel was elected as Secretary and Brian was elected to fill a seat on the Board of Directors. Congratulations to all & thanks for serving, guys!
**RMTC: New Mexico**  
**August 2016 Meeting**

In August, just before the big Annual Meeting in Castle Rock, us New Mexico folk got together for a local meeting, organized by Mr. Martin Berg. Held in the North Valley Senior Center, it was a fine afternoon of tool talk, banter, and snacks!

John brought a whole bunch of pointy tools to show... he didn’t want to sell any of them, but was willing to demonstrate their effectiveness if any of us got out of line.

With a host of different countries of origin and time periods, it is a pretty good display of bayonets!

I brought a small set of tools to offer up, no meeting is complete without a tool or two changing hands.

Thanks to Martin for pulling this meeting together, getting us sheltered, tooled up and fed! Next stop Castle Rock!

-Jason Fink
Tony and Ruth Moon hosted another meeting this year, and it is always a pleasure stepping into their wonderful home... A full blown Mining Museum, with a treasure trove of other collections integrated into the whole environment! Mimbres Pottery, Sewing devices and Kitchen tools. It’s quite a pleasure to examine it all! We had 14 collectors attend today’s meeting, and this is a great turnout for us down here! 3 folks had wares available up for sale and viewing (and pawing over).

We had tool trading, and lively discussions about travelling on the airlines with tools – what is acceptable and what gets you in trouble. I recounted a story from my childhood, when I was given a neutralized WWII hand grenade by an officer on Saipan, during a tour of the island (in 1967 it was still being cleared of munitions). All was well and good until the grenade rolled out of my Pan-Am bag into the isle on our subsequent flight to Hawaii. Airline officials were not amused and my father was taken into custody immediately upon landed. He always told that story with a hearty laugh, but it was not funny at the time!

When we turned our attention to club business, it was mostly to gather the 2017 dues and get folks up to date! We also established as many of the 2017 meeting dates as we could, and you can see these updated on the website and will be included with this newsletter! Thanks to Tony and Ruth for wonderful food and drink and another great meeting.

-Jason Fink
Call for Volunteers

Dear R.M.T.C. members,

I am with the Erie Historical Society here in Colorado. We are planning a Homesteading Field Trip in the Spring, April 20th for our 8th graders out at The Wise Homestead Museum. We plan to have learning stations around the property to show facets of pioneering life and are hoping that to include a station on tools from the 1800’s. Would you know of any members interested in doing a demonstration of tools from that time period?

Our plan for the event is to divide the 320 8th graders into smaller groups and move them through the 20 or so learning stations over a 41/2 hour period from 9:30am to 2:00pm. For you, that means giving the demo in a 12 to 20 minute time frame (still working out the numbers) to each group. Means you’d do the demo maybe 15 times. Hope that doesn’t sound too scary. Since this is our first time we need to iron out how its all done and will be doing that over the next few months. We do have some fun learning stations planned. A fellow who still farms with a plow and horses and of course, tours through the Homestead House and farm machinery display, coal mining demos, etc. It'll be fun and a bit crazy. Hoping to get someone like Chick-fil-A to supply lunches for students and volunteers like yourselves.

Thanks,
-Nancy Gruber

Anyone interested can contact Steve Gosselin for more info.

2017 Meeting Dates

New Mexico Chapter:

February 25th - Dave and Connie Fesslers’
April 22nd - Ken and Toni Burris
June - TBD
August - TBD
September 2nd-3rd - Labor Day Meeting in Albuquerque
October 17th - Jason Fink and Tracy Clark
December 9th - Tony and Ruth Moon

Colorado/Wyoming Chapter:

January 15th – Red Rocks Community College
March 9th – Grace Community Church (Loveland)
May – TBD
June 4th – Jim McGuire’s place
July 9th Rock Creek Farm (Broomfield)
September – Annual Meeting (Albuquerque NM)
November – The Ranch (Loveland)
FIFTH BIG D TOOL MEET!

Buy, Sell or Trade Antique & Collectible Tools
Saturday, February 11, 2017
Dallas, Texas

See one of Dallas’ largest antique tool collections – more than 6,000 items – some very rare!

Mega dealer Lynn Dowd with a truckload of tools from user pieces to higher end pieces!

Many Texas and Oklahoma collectors thinning out or liquidating collections with fine pieces to sell including desirable Stanley tools, fine levels and European decorated tools!

“This will be far more than just another Dallas tool meet, it will be a true mega tool meet.” – Jim Goodson

Location: Waterline Pools warehouse, 17725 Frank Jackson Drive, Dallas, TX 75252

Contact: Jon Harrison, 214/202-4833 or jon@waterlinepools.com

Schedule: 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. – Set-up
10:00 a.m. – Show Opens
12:00 noon – Lunch served
2:00 p.m. – Show ends

Admission: $6.00 entry fee
$14.00 entry fee and lunch

Sales tables: $10.00/table, no covers provided. (Table orders must be received by January 31st)

Friday Open House: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Waterline Pools. Please join us for a beverage! Set-up for the show, visit the on-site 6,000 item antique tool collection, or leave large items.

From Oklahoma/I 35 South: Exit 445B/President George Bush Turnpike/Texas 190 East. Go 6 miles. Exit Coit Road. Turn right on Coit Road. Turn right on McCallum Blvd (traffic signal). Turn right on Frank Jackson Drive. Waterline Pools is at end of Frank Jackson on the left.

From Houston/I 45 North: Merge onto US 75 North via left lane exit. Go 13 miles. Exit Campbell Road. Turn Left on Campbell Road. Go 5 miles. Turn right on Coit Road. Turn left on McCallum (2nd light). Turn right on Frank Jackson Drive. Waterline Pools is at end of Frank Jackson on the left.

From Sherman/US 75 South: Exit 28B/President George Bush Turnpike/Texas 190 West. Exit Coit Road. Turn left on Coit Road. Turn right on McCallum Blvd (traffic signal). Turn right on Frank Jackson Drive. Waterline Pools is at the end of Frank Jackson on the left.
FIFTH BIG D TOOL MEET REGISTRATION

Name(s): _____________________________________________________________

Street Address: _______________________________________________________

City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip: _________________________

Email: ___________________________ Phone: _____________________________

Registration: _________ x $6.00 = $_______________

Registration & Lunch: ______ X $14.00 = $_______________

Sales Tables: ____________ X $10.00 = $_______________

Total Enclosed: $_______________

Mail registration and payment (check payable to Jon Harrison) to:

Jon Harrison
7715 Indian Springs Road
Dallas, Texas 75248

Bring quality tools and plenty of money!
Display Request

Charlie Aumiller is requesting tools to place in his display case at Frasier Meadows Retirement Community in Boulder. He likes to change the display every two or three months. If you have anything you would like to "show off" contact him at charlesaumiller@comcast.net or by phone at:

(720) 562 8088

Thanks!

-Charlie
Photos from the 2016 Annual Meeting

“Chief” Buzz manning the tailgate sales

Carol and Connie at the Registration Desk

Tools, Tools, Tools for Sale!

Winning Displays 2016
First Place – “Rules” by Chris Gomez

Second Place – “Union #5 Planes” by Don Burd

Best Single Tool – “Hotel Desk Bells” by Gregor Mszar