

5160 CLUB February 2010 News

DO NOT FORGET the February meeting Thursday the 4thth 6:00 pm at the Woodcraft Store on Coburg Road in Eugene.

5160 Club - Meeting notes for 1/7/2010



There were already a number of folks gathered when I arrived at the Woodcraft store just before 6p.m. This time Bruce lost his longest-commute honors to Eric Ochs - who drove from Sherwood. There were about 20 people in attendance. We've been meeting for a year now and I have *never* gone home thinking "why did I bother with that?" This was another great meeting. At the last meeting I said I'd take on the job of making notes, photos, and a write up... so here's my first shot at

it. I'm going to skip lightly over some of the meeting or it'd take me all day to write down!

Wayne called us to order. "Now we'll have the reports from the committees - but since there aren't any committees, we don't have any reports!" Robert's rules of order thereby disposed of, we launched into the meeting. We seem to do better without all that formal stuff anyway.

Wayne mentioned that Jim Jordan is interested in hosting a hammer-in - and there was a lot of enthusiasm about that. The timing will be determined by the weather - so stay tuned. Several of us expressed our interest in attending and/or hosting more workshops. For my part, I'd be happy to do the etching workshop again out at my place once the weather warms up.

Wayne has been cleaning up his place and brought in a box of bamboo handle material - free for the taking.



Wayne started the meeting in earnest with a show-and-tell of his method of putting a copper ferrule on a guardless knife. Here's my summary of the process - we'll hope I've got it about right! He takes a section of copper pipe and shapes it on a tapered mandrel that is the proper size for the handle material. The idea is to wedge the ferrule onto the handle, the compression adds to the strength of the handle. Wayne's mandrel is something he made from an old miner's pick that he bought at a garage sale. The handle is prepared by drilling a hole for the tang, and cutting a slot in the material that is as deep as the ferrule will cover.



At the left is a photo of the jig that Wayne

uses to cut a nice, even shoulder into the handle for the ferrule to seat up against. The jig, made of oak has a hole that will fit the handle. It is slotted nearly to the back end, leaving enough to allow it to be springy. Make it oversized and then use leather, tablet backs or similar so that the vise jaws will tighten up on the handle material. The teeth are ground off of the flat side of the file that rides on the jig. The handle is removed from the jig - the blade is seated into the handle - the copper ferrule is tapped onto the handle for a snug fit. (this pinches down on the slot that the tang is inserted into and secures the blade to the handle). Sometimes he fills the hole with epoxy instead. He then domes the edge of the ferrule in a little, and usually fills the area between the blade and the ferrule with copper shavings (made with a coarse rasp) and super glue. It looks pretty good to me.

So then Wayne put out the challenge for others to do their show-and-tell and stepped aside.

Craig Morgan described the knife he brought.

Joel Purkerson brought a knife he finished last month with a beautiful look to it.



I brought in the Bowie that I finished last month.



Marty Brandt brought in a couple of books on Indonesian knives with lots of examples of their approach to ferrules, rattan wrap, and their totally different and beautiful take on how to design and build a knife.

Eric Ochs had a knife to share, but also showed us the test board he's made of handle material and various finishes. He's going bolt this to an arbor out in the weather and see what holds up and what doesn't. I'm looking forward to seeing his results.



Keith Johnson went through how he rebuilt the top part of an anvil he bought from Wayne. It had been broken at the waist - and Keith described how he trued it up and welded it to a machine mount. I'm lucky



if I can get any weld done properly so I'm impressed. Keith beveled the edge on both the base and the anvil top to make a groove weld for better strength - and the anvil rings true!



And then, well, we got into safety issues. I don't remember where it started, but there were plenty of tales of close calls and fatalities mainly due to

improper handling of acetylene - but some exciting propane stories too. There was plenty of advice from those that have used welding gas a lot about how to check for leaks (soapy water works). Oh yah - and replace the hoses every few years - they will deteriorate over time.

Wayne wrapped up the meeting with some notes about how different waxes perform - and different glues. Tip: test wax and handle finishes by applying a little to a piece of paper - smear it out, let it sit, and see how much evaporates and what it looks/feels like afterward. And do the same with a new brand of epoxy to see how flexible it is after it dries.

There was more - but that's my report... about as formal as we get around here.

See you at the next meeting!

Michael Kemp

<<<<>>>>

News from Wayne

I'm running a contest to see who can make the best bamboo handle with a copper ferrule. Judging will be at the April meeting... that gives you two full months to get something done. Any blade can be used, kit knife, whatever... the contest is on how the handle works on the knife. It should be a good looking blade that goes well visibly with the bamboo. I'll have more bamboo at the upcoming meeting. The prize will be a box of materials, about \$100.00 worth and a trophy.

Any questions call Wayne 541-689-8098 or e-mail at wgoddard44@comcast.net

