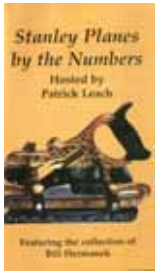


Four New Videos Added to RWS Library

By Tom Meiller

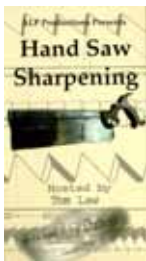
RWS recently purchased a set of 4 videos. I've watch all of them and following is a brief review of each.

Stanley Planes by the Numbers



This video features Patrick Leach, who is known for his Stanley "Blood and Gore". He gives a very good introduction to a large selection of Stanley hand planes. If you've read the Blood and Gore, you will understand his somewhat sarcastic/arrogant presentation style. With that in mind, it is still a very thorough and enjoyable video. If you went to the Lie-Nielsen workshop, you'll appreciate this video all the more. Leach's "Blood and Gore" can be found at <http://www.supertool.com/StanleyBG/stan0a.html>.

Hand Saw Sharpening



If you've ever had the desire to sharpen your own handsaw, this video by Tom Law is a must. I was glued to the TV. Honestly, I never thought that watching someone hand file a saw would be interesting. Either that means the video was outstanding, or I'm a pretty boring guy (well maybe a little of both). I only wish he had shown sharpening a fine dovetail saw. He started by sharpening a rip saw, and then went onto the much more difficult task of sharpening a cross cut saw. I also found the demos of automated saw sharpening equipment interesting (a mechanical wonder!).

Classic Plane Making: Hollows & Rounds



Tod Herrli does an excellent job demonstrating making hollow and round wooden molding planes. These are the basic planes used for making numerous molding details – especially important for period furniture reproductions. Both types of planes cut 60 degrees of a circle. The hollows are used to form rounded surfaces, and the rounds cut hollow surfaces (e.g. coves). I met Tod last summer while taking a class at Olde Mill Cabinet Shoppe. He had just delivered a box of sash planes for a future class, and after see these planes, I started to get interested in making wooden planes.

After reading a book and several magazine articles, a fellow RWS member told me about this video. All of the "book learning" I did left a lot of questions. Seeing Tod's video answered everything. I highly recommend this video if you have an interest in making wooden planes, or you want to understand them.

Make a Chair from a Tree



I tried to watch the whole video, but just couldn't get through it. It is the longest of the four (almost 2 hours), and although there were some interesting things, I just could not get excited about it (and this from a guy who was mesmerized watching a guy sharpening hand saws!). Maybe the chair he made isn't my style, or maybe I found the non-stop drawknife and spokeshave work monotonous. I'm sure some members will find this a excellent video. Even though the chair being made is post and rung, Windsor chair makers could pick up some good techniques. John Alexander's web site is:

<http://www.greenwoodworking.com>.