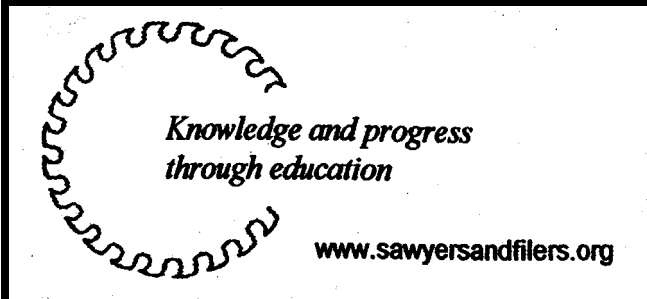


1 Lake Erie & Ontario Sawyers & Filers Association

SUMMER 2005

Newsletter #71



President's Message

By Rudy Zimmerman

The first thing I would like to cover is that after our annual training meeting we are planning to go to the Salt Museum and the French Fort for our family tour.

The Salt Museum tells the story of how brine was boiled to evaporate water and produce salt and how Syracuse became known as the Salt City.

The French Fort (Sainte Marie among the Iroquois) is a re-creation of the 1657 French Mission that once stood on the shores of Onondaga Lake.

We will be taking a bus to these two attractions. When we are done with the tour we will return to the hotel to get ready to go to dinner at the Glen Loch Mill Inn. They have a Buffet on Saturday Nights. Also, there is a theatre group called "Opening Night Productions" that may play a comedy routine for us at Glen Loch Mill Inn.

We hope you can join us so we can continue visiting with friends and making new ones. See you there in September.

The second item is that we need new members for the Board of Directors. We need people that would like to be involved in planning the Annual

Meeting and workshops. If you have an interest in being part of where we go in the future let me or any of the directors know so we can nominate you at the business meeting.

On the lighter side, we will be sharing what we went through to get home after the flood in Tunkhannock, PA we will take some time after dinner Friday night to let you tell your tale. By the way, the floodwaters were a foot deep on the first floor of the Shadowbrook. 🌳

Speakers

There are four speakers for the Saturday meeting that will present interesting and helpful topics.

First speaker, Shaun Smith from Burton Saw will be talking about "Digicam Motion Control System." This system allows programming virtually any tooth profile or multiple tooth profiles.

Second speaker, Dave Born from Simonds Saws is a trained Sawfiler. He will be speaking on "Strain Tire Line, Tension and their relationship."

Third speaker, Fred Carranti from The School of Forestry teaches Engineering at Syracuse University. He will be talking about "Energy Saving in the Sawmill."

Fourth Speakers, Eugene Lunger, Head Filer for Patterson Lumber has been an employee of Patterson Lumber Company for 22 years.

Bruce Moore, Head Filer for Wagner Lumber Co. for twelve years. By the way, both are past LEOSFA presidents. They will be speaking on "Feeds and Speeds."

Bring information on variables with you. The variables are: sheave 1 diameter in inches, sheave 2 diameter in inches, wheel diameter in inches, motor rpm, tooth pitch, saw length in feet, feed

2 Lake Erie & Ontario Sawyers & Filers Association

rate, depth of cut, kerf, saw plate thickness, & gullet depth. 📌

Q & A

By Frank Piccolella

Q: I was wondering what the general feeling is on how often bandmill wheels should be ground?

A: Band wheels should be ground after the first 2,000 hours of operation, then every 5,000 thereafter.

This is roughly once per year for a two-shift operation or every two years for a one shift operation.

Q: Do most mills run kerosene or some other kind of lubricant on their saws and how do they apply it?

A: Yes, there are three kinds of lubricating systems: wick, drip, and spray. Wick systems use a lube box with a felt wick mounted on the inside of the saw on the backside of the mill. The lube box holds the wick against the saw and capillary attraction applies the lubricant. These systems are usually used only to apply thin oil lubricants such as diesel.

Drip systems are simply a lube tank mounted above the saw with a valve to control flow and a line to direct lubricant onto the face of the bottom wheel. Drip systems can be used to apply both oil and water-based lubricants.

Spray systems use air to spray lubricant onto either the saw or band wheel. These have many advantages over wick or drip. Spray systems allow you to apply lubricant directly above the top guide or to the outside of the saw. You can also apply it to the teeth. Spray

systems are also very efficient at applying both oil and water-based lubricants.

Q: How often do most mills do alignment checks?

A: Mill alignment should be checked at least once a year.

Q: We saw a lot of cherry, which is easy to saw, but now we are sawing hard maple, which seems to dull the saws faster, etc. Is hard maple tough for everyone, and is anyone having better results with stellite or vari-pitch?

A: Hard maple is one of the more difficult species to saw. Stellite will stay sharper longer than a swagetooth saw. As far as vary pitch, some people say it helps in reducing washboard and harmonic vibrations.

If you have a question that needs an answer, email swagetooth@chilitech.net and it will be addressed in a future newsletter. 📌

Benefits of Paying the Price for Special Tools

By Rudy Zimmerman

In this day and age when it is so important to saw accurate lumber, special tools to check alignment in all areas of your mill make sense. It has been said many times but I want to say again if your lumber is too thin your customer will not be happy and if the lumber is too thick then you just gave away your wood from the next board and your profit.

The most recent special tool I bought was a sixteen-foot long straight edge from Seneca Saw Works. It is a piece of bandsaw steel machined straight to within .001 of an inch.

I decided to buy it after the alignment seminar we had at my mill. One of the

3 Lake Erie & Ontario Sawyers & Filers Association


instructors set up a long straight edge at my line bar resaw. After I saw how it could work to align the infeed fence and line bar it made sense to spend the money and buy one.

My old method was: First, I would make sure the Bandsaw and line bar were parallel. Second, I would set up a string parallel to the line bar.

Third, I would measure from the string to the fence and adjust the fence to be in line with the line bar. This process takes about 3 hours to do. Also, I never really trusted my string measurement because I would hit the string when measuring or the wind would blow the string around.

Now, using the sixteen-foot straight edge, I can do the same process in 15 minutes. All I do now is make sure the bandsaw and the line bar are parallel. Then I lay out the straight edge and adjust the infeed fence so the straight edge touches the line bar and infeed fence the full length of the straight edge.

After using the straight edge to line things up, I gained 10 feet per minute feed speed and produced more uniform lumber in Hard Maple.

I have also used the straight edge to align the head blocks on two different carriages so far. Once you buy a special tool, you can find more ways to use it and make it pay for itself. 


Mill Alignment Course

By Ken Kasprzyk

The repeat of our popular Band and Circle Sawmill Alignment course went well. On May 14th, fourteen of us got together at C & Z Farms & Sawmill in Palmyra and dismantled both the circle headrig and band resaw.


Bruce Moore of Wagner Hardwoods led the bandmill instruction and I headed up the circle portion. Rudy Zimmerman went with both groups and shared his insights as Mill Owner, Head Millwright and Chief Sawyer at C and Z.

We thought that with the relatively small group the day would go faster than usual but what we found instead was that we got a lot of one on one discussion and sharing of information. We eventually got most of the pieces back together and the mill was running normal on Monday morning.

We had people come from Ohio, Pennsylvania and Eastern New York. I think it's safe to say that we all learned something. Keep in mind that we are always looking for input as to what type of course you, our members, want. 

Thank You

By Sharon Zimmerman

I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped make the Mill Alignment Course a success. I would like to thank my daughter, Andrea Smith, for her help on that day. It was very much appreciated. 

4 Lake Erie & Ontario Sawyers & Filers Association

Annual Meeting Registration Form
September 16 – 17, 2005
Holiday Inn @ Carrier Circle
6555 Old Collamer Rd. South
East Syracuse, NY 13057

Names of people attending _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone () _____ Fax () _____ Email _____

Registration will be required for all attending including your spouse or significant other. Please make room reservations directly with Holiday Inn @ 1-315-437-2761. Mention the letters "LOS" to get included with the block of rooms set aside at the price of \$79.00 per person per night.

Friday Day only (includes registration, lunch, and tour)

_____ Member Registration @ \$ 30.00

_____ Spouse or significant other to join us for lunch & tour @ \$ 30.00

Friday Evening:

_____ Buffet Dinner (Chicken Parmesan, Hawaiian Ham, & Baked Lasagna)
@ \$ 30.00

Saturday Day only (includes registration, meeting, and lunch):

_____ Member registration (s) @ \$ 30.00

_____ Spouse Lunch @ \$ 15.00

_____ Saturday Tour & Bus @ \$ 15.00

Saturday Evening:

_____ Buffet Dinner @ Glenloch Inn @ \$ 20.00

_____ Dinner Theater @ Glenloch Inn @ \$ 25.00

Membership (Join or renew now. All memberships are due in September).

_____ Individual Annual Membership @ \$ 15.00

_____ Individual Lifetime Membership @ \$ 150.00

_____ Company Annual Membership @ \$ 50.00

(Send employees at membership registration fee)

Total Amount: \$ _____

To register, return this form or photocopy with a check made payable to LESOFA to:

LEOSFA
Tim Rauber
10903 Route 36
Dansville, NY 14437

Ph: (585) 335-5879

Email: dlandl@rpa.net

5 Lake Erie & Ontario Sawyers & Filers Association

Tim Rauber
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