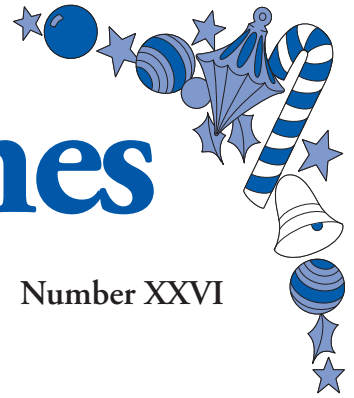




INTERNATIONAL SAW AND KNIFE ASSOCIATION

Cutting Times

Winter 2008 Volume XXXIV Number XXVI



Winter Meeting

Barcelo Maya Caribe Resort, Mexico

Arrive: Thursday February 26, 2009

Depart: Monday March 2, 2009

\$164.00 per person, per day

All Inclusive Resort

Board Meeting: Friday February 27th

Reservations: 011 52 984 875 1500 X 6780

Code: Saw & Knife 97934C

Rooms can be reserved 3 days prior and 3 days after at the same rate

Deadline for room reservation is January 26th

Up Coming Events

Spring 2009

Vollmer, Celebrating 100 years
Carnegie, PA

July 2009

AWFS & Annual Meeting
Las Vegas

October 2009

Hammering Seminar
Western Saw in Oxnard, CA



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Steve Bergerson

The newest Board member is Steve Bergerson.

He is the Wood Products Sales Manager for Western Saw. Steve brings 18 years experience in the cutting tool industry, before which he worked with small businesses in the banking industry 16 years.

He and wife Jeanne have four children with one grandchild.

Now he works in Scouting and other youth related activities in his spare time.

Steve will be handling the duties of Secretary.

WELCOME TO THE ISKA BOARD.

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Sheldon Warrick



Long time member and treasurer, Sheldon Warrick has decided to leave the ISKA Board to pursue other interests. Sheldon is the owner of Three B's Saw & Tool in Omaha, Nebraska. His wife Jenny and sons Brad and Kevin have joined him in this family endeavor. 3 B's joined ISKA in 1992 and he was elected treasurer in 1998 because of his background in accounting during his military service and his dedication to the organization.

He simultaneously also carried the duties of vice president, president (2004-2005), and past president. Sheldon has donated countless hours and kept flawless financial records during his tenure for which he deserves our appreciation and gratitude. As an organization we will welcome any and all input from Sheldon as well as all members. The most important lesson I learned from Sheldon was NEVER MIX FUNDS! The next time you see Sheldon at a meeting, thank him for a job well done and give him an oatmeal raisin cookie!

IWF 2008 CHALLENGER AWARD WINNERS

ISKA was well represented in this competition.

Members Super Thin Saws with their UltraCem coated saw blades and FS Tool/FS Cruing's Aerotech System were both winners.

Vortex Tool's Venturi System was a runner-up.

Contact these winners for further information.

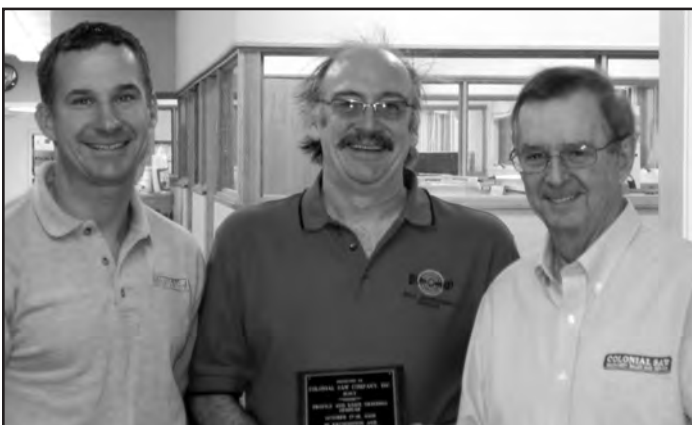
CONGRATULATIONS !



Colonial Saw Knife Grinding Seminar



Colonial Saw Knife Grinding Seminar



Colonial Saw Knife Grinding Seminar

Thank you, Paul Ravinski, for hosting ISKA's Knife Grinding Seminar. Colonial Saw did a superb job of combining knife grinding with a bit of a history lesson and a taste of local fare.

Colonial graciously invited all participants to a meet and greet on Thursday evening held at the Mayflower Brewing Company. Founded in 2007 by the tenth great grandson of John Alden, beer barrel cooper, on board the Mayflower, it is dedicated to celebrating the history and legacy of the Pilgrims by creating unique, high-quality ales for the New England market.

Friday morning started with a power point presentation by Dave Rakauskas. It was geared toward growth in a down economy. By adding knife grinding to the list of services a saw shop can offer you can expand your customer base with minimal investments. We went through terminology, prospective customers of knife grinding services and a detailed analysis of the investment costs and equipment required for adding straight, circular, and profile knife grinding to a company's portfolio. A break out session followed where we had the opportunity for hands-on grinding. The show room was set up with MVM straight knife grinders, UTMA profile grinders and circular knife grinders and sharpeners from Rekord and MVM. Colonial's expert staff was available for demos, instruction and questions. Lunch was provided by Colonial Saw, a delicious taste of Mama Mia's, the local Italian restaurant. After lunch Roger Caron, Molemab, gave a brief lesson in grinding wheels. Our last breakout session included an experiment with their Ultrasonic Cleaning Systems. For the first time at Colonial we added Tide laundry detergent to the system. Not only will your blades and bits smell clean and fresh, it appears to have done an excellent job cleaning.

Friday evening started with a historic Plymouth walking tour. Dressed in an authentic 17th Century Miller costume, Leo Martin, from the Jenney Grist Mill, guided us along the same path the Pilgrims took over 300 years ago. The sight of the first meeting house built in 1621, Plymouth Rock and walking up the "First" street to see the first Church built in Plymouth was all part of the experience. Our tour ended in the Grist Mill, built in 1636 where Leo Martin shared the story of John and Sarah Jenney, the original owners. Dinner at the Crabby Shack followed. We ate like kings thanks to our host, Colonial Saw. The New England clam chowder was the best I have ever tasted and it was thick enough to hold the spoon. Andrew Lancaster from Precision Knife and Tool enjoyed his first Lobster (picture on insert).

Saturday morning we had our last chance to test the grinding equipment before taking a tour of Kingston Knife where Charles Craig was kind enough to show us his 12ft MVM knife grinder in action. One quick stop at a cranberry bog and then we were back at Colonial for the final presentation of certificates. For those who did not have to catch a flight, Colonial set up a Lobster excursion. It was a hands-on approach to see how lobsters are harvested from their natural environment. You could roll up your sleeves and help haul in lobster traps.

To everyone at Colonial Saw thank you! The time and energy put into this seminar is greatly appreciated, you went out of your way to not only teach us about grinding straight, circular and profile knives you showed us the exciting history of Plymouth.

Company Profile.....

Colonial Saw, located in Kingstown, MA is a nationwide distributor of advanced woodworking and tool grinding machines. The company was founded by Manny Pacheco in Buffalo, NY as a saw service and sharpening shop and expanded to distribution and sale of saw grinding machines. Being a true entrepreneur he mortgaged his house to finance the business and convinced his daughter, Jean, to leave the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and help him run it.

In 1968 Paul Ravinski, Jeans husband, left his job as an electronics technician, to join the family business. Shortly thereafter, a facility was built in Kingston and the company was moved.

Manny passed away in 1975 and Paul became president of the Company. Since then, the Company has evolved from the saw and tool grinding equipment line, covering a quarter of the country, to ten product lines covering the entire United States and Canada.

Opened in 1984, the Ontario, California sales and service office increased service to the western part of the country.

In the 1990's Paul and Jeans daughter Kim brought her husband, Dave Rakauskas, into the business. Dave was a CPA and came at a time when there had been turnover in accounting personnel and systems needed to be improved to keep up with growth. Since then, Dave has become a large part of all the day to day operations in the business.

As they look to the future, Paul and Dave feel the Company has a well defined niche. They want to increase their penetration of the woodworking industry. They are constantly trying to find new markets for their machine and trying to find new machines for their existing markets.

Colonial Saw has succeeded because of a founder with a vision to develop niche markets, perseverance and a family making sacrifices when needed.

Attendee List: Colonial Saw Seminar

Name	Company
Justin Delafuente	Bull Sharpening
Larry D'Antonio	Bull Sharpening
James Couto	Burns Tools
Mike Cory	Burns Tools
Russel Bodington	Burns Tools
Timothy Hastie	Burns Tools
Ed Duschen	Diamond Saw Works
Robert Gust	Diamond Saw Works
Mike Lindsay	Eastside Saw & Sales
Jamie Garris	Farris Belt & Saw Company
Monica Garris	Farris Belt & Saw Company
Charles Craig	Kingston Knife
Daniel Dore	Molemab
Josh Desrosiers	Molemab
Roger Caron	Molemab
Andrew Lancaster	Precision Knife & Tool
Tim Lancaster	Precision Knife & Tool
Don King	Sartor-Quality Saw
Sergio Rios	Sartor-Quality Saw
Cheryl Rinicella	Saw Systems
Fred Oleson	York Saw & Knife

The Prez Sez...

As we approach this time of year, I wanted to wish everyone Happy Holidays and a Joyous New Year. We have a lot of great things planned this next year, I hope everyone that can will try to attend whenever they can. First off we have our Winter Meeting in Cancun on Friday Feb. 27th 2009. I encourage all who can to attend and give us your thoughts. In spring we have a grinding seminar at Vollmer to help celebrate their 100 years in Business. I am sure there will be a lot of info at that seminar.

In July we have the AWFS show in Vegas, where we will have a booth and also a reception sponsored by Skarpaz and Vollmer, we always have a good time at these events so try and stop by. Then in October we will be traveling out west to Western Saw for a Hammering Seminar. This will be our first hammering seminar on the west coast; I am looking forward to seeing some of our west coast members that can't always travel east.

As always if you have any ideas for seminars please feel free to contact any board member with your ideas.

Larry D'Antonio

