

# THE TOOL TABLE

The Newsletter of the Richmond Antique Tool Society

VOLUME 15, No. 3

SEPTEMBER 2009

**Next meeting  
Friday Sept. 18**

## **Agenda**

All times are approximate

**6:00–7:00 p.m. Tool talk & sales**

**7:00–7:15 p.m. General meeting**

**7:15–8:00 p.m. Auction**

**8:00 p.m. Break**

**8:10-9:00 p.m. Tool Stories &  
Summer Finds**

**9:00-10:00 p.m. Tool sales**



**THE TOOL TABLE is the official publication of the Richmond Antique Tool Society and is published bi-monthly, in approximately January, March, May, June, August and November of each year.**

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## **The President's Plane Talk**

Following our summer hiatus, “chomping at the bit” may best describe our anticipation of our next meeting. We will meet Sept. 18th at Pocahontas Middle School. Our traditional topic is “summer finds,” in show & tell format. Please bring in tools and stories from the summer fleas and yard sales. Also show us any tools you made in your shop this summer. Members can share any “Whatisit” for a hopeful identification.

You also may bring in tools to auction (limit 10 per member, please). So: Summer finds, shop made tools, Whatsit, and tools for auction. If this isn't going to be an action-packed meeting, I don't know what is! September 18th can't get here soon enough. I hope you attend and bring a new tool buddy to this meeting.

The summer pickings seem to be getting slimmer each year, but I'm out there trying hard. A sure-fire way to find tools is at national area meetings. So I attended Ed Hobbs' Mid-West July meeting and had a great time selling tools, eating BBQ and seeing several RATS members in Raleigh. In August, I attended an EAIA event in Staunton at the Frontier Cultural Museum. I did well selling tools before the rain and heard a couple of excellent presentations on period masonry and Virginia steel making history. Hopefully, you had a successful summer of tool hunting. We are looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

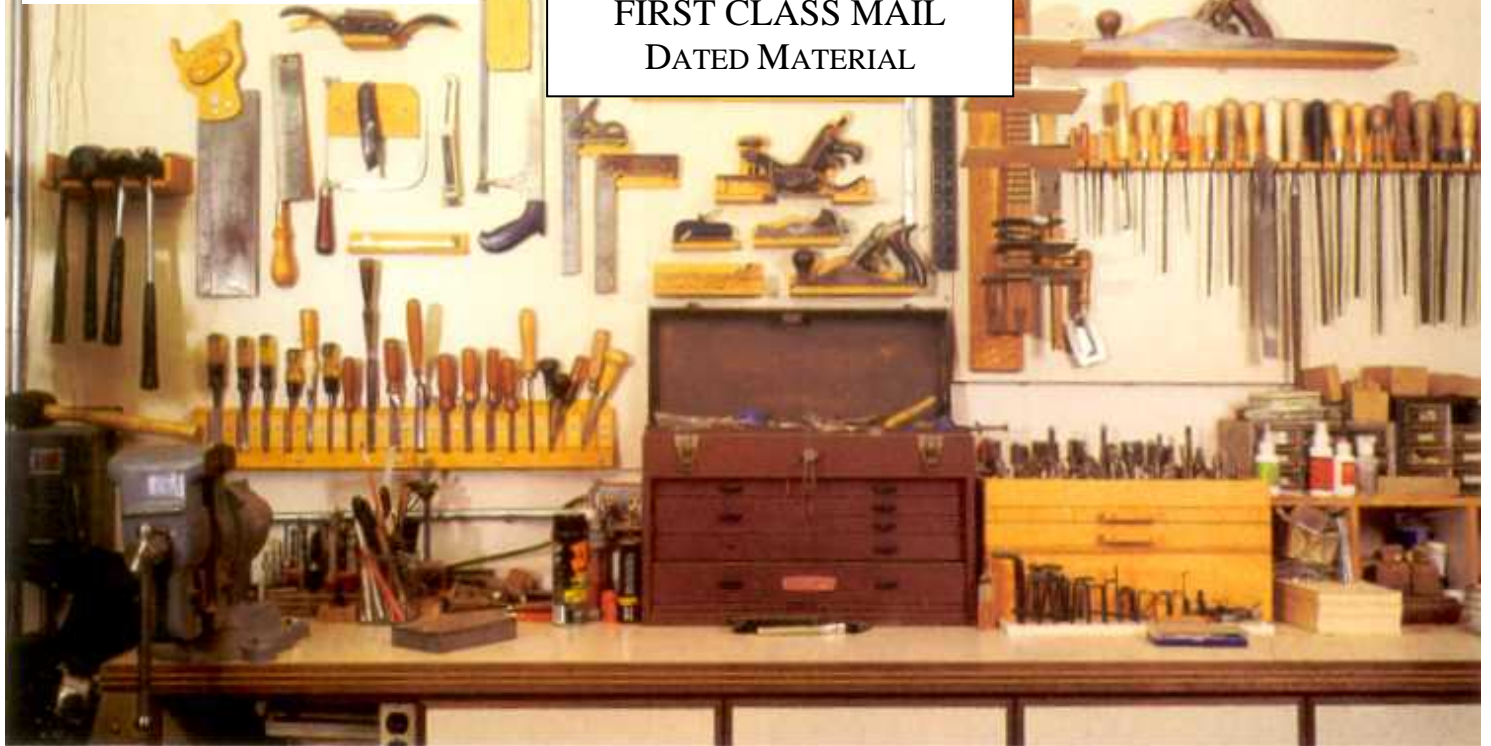
Let me add a side note about our club as we approach our 15th anniversary! I founded the club at age 34. Pretty young then, but now am turning gray and almost fifty. Our membership is growing older. We have experienced several deaths and loss of parents during the years. In fact, Chuck Modjeski lost both of his parents this summer. My thoughts and prayers go out to him and his family. At this time, I must mention that a founding member, Tommy Stone, is in very poor health. I have seen him over the summer. He and his wife, Mary, are residing at Heritage Green Assisted Living facility in Mechanicsville. He perks up talking about RATS and Mary chimes in about their days of attending tool events and meeting new friends.

So, it is these RATS friendships over the years that have made these hardships more bearable. Although old tools are our common bond, in the end, it is our friendships developed at these meetings that truly binds us. My RATS friends, I will see you September 18th at our next meeting...

Plane and Simple,  
Rick Long

Richmond Antique Tool Society  
c/o Mike Larkin  
9487 Williamsville Road  
Mechanicsville, VA 23116

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The Richmond Antique Tool Society (RATS) is a non-profit organization serving to promote knowledge of and interest in collecting, making and using antique tools. RATS provides a gathering place where members and guests can gain knowledge and understanding about tools and trades from the past and also buy, sell and trade old tools. Regular meetings are held in February, April, June, September, November and December. Memberships are available for \$10.00 annually by mailing to:

Richmond Antique Tool Society  
c/o Mike Larkin  
9487 Williamsville Road  
Mechanicsville, VA 23116



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Pocahontas Middle School**

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 11, 12, 13: Somerset Steam & Gas Show  
Pasture Party
- Sept. 17, 18, 19: Field Days of the Past
- November 6, 2009: Meeting and donation auction
- December 9, 2009: Gathering at American Legion  
Hall, Indale Rd., Glen Allen-

RATS Website:  
<http://www.richmondantiquetools.com/>