

2006 ShopBot Jamboree BEST EVER!

Hundreds of attendees from throughout North America, South America and Europe attended the 5th annual ShopBot Tools Jamboree held in Durham, N.C. April 27-29 to share information on CNC technology and learn tips on increasing their productivity with the increasingly popular ShopBot.

The 2006 Jamboree was the largest ever hosted by ShopBot, said company president Ted Hall. He noted that the Jamboree is designed to bring together not only experienced ShopBotters, but also beginners and people who just have an interest in the company's variety of CNC cutting tools. Hall also noted that 2006 represents the company's 10th anniversary.

"This has been a big year for us," said Hall. "With our anniversary in February and the Jamboree, it's been exciting. This is our big event for the year and we couldn't be happier with the turnout. Our customers are our greatest asset and it's nice to be able to meet and speak with so many people we interact with on a daily basis over the phone and internet."

The Jamboree is a direct result of ShopBot's online forum, www.talkshopbot.com. In 1999, ShopBotter Bill Young got the idea of getting some of these people on the forum together and organized the first Camp ShopBot at his shop in Virginia. Being joined later by Bill Palumbo of Toms River, N.J., the two helped to make ShopBot Camps and annual Jamboree a keystone to ShopBot's success.

"Our goal is to provide a lot of content for not a lot of money," Hall said. "In fact, our entire orientation is to make CNC technology available and usable in all kinds of small shops and small businesses."

The Jamboree featured 15 speakers over two days, topics included vacuum hold-down systems and gasketing by John Murphy of All Star Adhesives; drawing using Part Wizard by Brady Watson of www.ibild.com, the design process by Grant Bailey from ShopBot; introducing new features in ArtCAM Pro version 9 by Brad Devereaux from ArtCAM; 3D carving by James Booth of Carve3D, ArtCAM Insignia by Brad Devereaux; choosing the proper cutting tools by Scott Feimster of Onsrud Cutters; product pricing by Will Sampson of Cabinetmaker Magazine and much more.

Saturday's activities began with a women's woodworking class at ShopBot and two more education sessions at the Hilton capped off with a product showcase where ShopBotters displayed their craftsmanship with the items they make. After lunch at the company's offices, six more sessions were held including a popular one on pricing conducted by Cabinetmaker Magazine Editor Will Sampson.

"I was pleased with the enthusiastic response to my pricing talk," said Sampson. "The wide variety of work done by ShopBotters may seem to complicate pricing issues, but I think we got across the point that the basic principles of pricing still



ShopBotters enjoy a workshop and trade booths at the 2006 Jamboree

apply, no matter whether you're building cabinets, signs, boats, or anything else."

With such a large cross-section of professions represented at the Jamboree this year, it's certain that next year's event, and those that follow, will continue to grow in content, offerings, and value for ShopBotters. ShopBot's dedication to its customers and the technology ensure that success.

"I always knew ShopBot was a great company and had an outstanding support team. Now, after meeting this team, I realize great and outstanding should be multiplied by a thousand," said Ryan Patterson of Cabinet Parts Pro in Naples, Fla.

For more information on the 2006 ShopBot Jamboree, including live interviews with participants during the event and pictures, visit www.shopbottools.com.

The Adventures of ShopBotters are Online

This Spring, ShopBot launched its revamped website. The new site is specifically designed to better serve the ShopBot customer and online community. Part of this includes regular contributions from ShopBotters just like you. Below is a sneak preview of what you can find at www.shopbottools.com.

Notes from the Sandbox

By David Buchsbaum

Beacon Custom Woodwork, Atlanta GA

Since 1988 I've been self-employed building custom residential cabinetry, built-ins and furniture.



Beginning with a single helper and growing steadily to as many as 10 employees, and (sparing

you many agonizing details here) I now have come full circle to a shop attached to my house, with a single helper. While it's impossible to teach experience, I'm happy to share some of what I've found along the way in the hopes of helping those who are not as far along the path to avoid some of the pitfalls I've fallen into. Since I think I still have a ways to go myself, I also hope to bounce some ideas off of y'all and maybe pick up a new trick or two along the way.

For more, visit: http://www.shopbottools.com/notes_from_the_sandbox.htm.

Notes from Forney's Woodshop

by John Forney, Marion Ohio

Periodic thoughts about woodworking, furniture, cabinets and the use of CNC routers ... John Forney is a woodworker in Marion, Ohio who has been in the business for over 30 years. John shares tips,

tricks, jigs, fixtures, techniques and random thoughts about CNC and the woodworking business

The first ShopBot file will be for a screw/miscellaneous. container that will hold six one pound coffee



cans and have label holders and an overhead handle. Other columns will include

some ShopBot files and some non-CNC cabinets or furniture items with drawings, pictures, bills of materials and assembly steps. I will share with you the tools I own and use and discuss the tools I wish I could talk Renee' into letting me buy.

For more, visit: http://www.shopbottools.com/notes_from_forney's_shop.htm.

Lincoln Logs

By J. D. Iles

Lincoln Sign Company, Lincoln NH

Lincoln Sign Company is a family owned sign business that has successfully served the North Country at the same location of over 34 years.



We

recently did a ski sign for a family, and it was such an interesting and fun little project I wanted to write about it, even though we are thinking more about baseball than skiing at this time of year! This carved sign was a "thank you gift" from one family to another and I really wanted to create a sign that captured a "snowy" and "carefree" kind of feel.

For more, visit: http://www.shopbottools.com/notes_lincoln_logs.htm.

Getting Started in CNC

by Ed Lang

Mountain View Wood Works, Troy VA

My name is Ed Lang and I live just East of Charlottesville, VA in a little town called Troy. I work out of a building I built 20 years ago for a hobby wood working



shop. This building has been a base now for three business ventures, starting with wood working, moving into small engine repair and now back to wood working. I am

lucky that the commute to my shop from the house is only 300 feet or so. My interest in wood working in the past has always been making toys, with a little turning thrown in to make life interesting. With this web column, I'm hoping to describe some of my experiences ... the experiences of a woodworker just getting going with CNC.

For more visit: http://www.shopbottools.com/getting_started.htm.

Brady's Bits and Pieces

Brady Watson

iBILD LLC, Oaklyn NJ



In December of 2002 I took delivery of my first CNC, a ShopBot.

At that time, I was working for a company as a software engineer, searching for a Plan B somewhere out on the horizon for me. When I was younger, I built custom metal signage at a large sign company nearby. It was there that I saw my very first CNC router. I would stop to watch it in action every morning before my workday began. I told myself, "I'm

going to have one of those some day!" Well that day arrived, and shortly after, Plan B became Plan A. At that time I had only run a wood hand router a total of maybe 30 minutes in my life. I didn't know a vector from Victor and couldn't draw any better than an 8 year old. As I set out to learn everything that I could about CNC routing, many helpful Shoptotters stepped in as my mentor asking nothing in return. With this help, lots of coffee and a hunger for learning, I have made quantum leaps in my abilities as a designer and CNC machinist. I have learned many tricks, tips and shoestring budgeted solutions over these past few years. It is my pleasure to share them with you and give back to a great community of people just like me.

For more visit: http://www.shoptottools.com/Brady's_tricks.htm.

Bill's Corner

By Bill Young
Seaside Small Craft, Willis WarfVA

A couple of months after I started using EasyCAD, WoodenBoat magazine



had an ad for a boat design program that worked within EasyCAD! I called the phone number, placed my order, and in a few days my copy of BtDzn came in

the mail. The design software was neat (but somewhat quirky) – but included with the software was a letter about a computer-controlled router that BtDzn's creator Ted Hall was also working on. It sounded like a great idea to me, so I kept in touch with Ted, visited his shop in Durham to see an early prototype, and ended up getting one of the earliest production ShopBots.

For more visit: http://www.shoptottools.com/bill's_corner.htm.

Part Wizard Tip: Joining Vectors

By Sallye Coyle

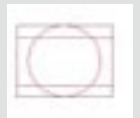
Tools found in the Group Merge Join Vectors section of the Assistant screen Join Vectors together in various combinations. Since it is not immediately clear how each of these tools works, this Part Wizard tip will give a brief demonstration of the different tools.

To display the icon text screen, click on the little icon to the right of the Project Information at the top of the Assistant Screen. Clicking on it again will hide the icon text.



Note: If you have the icon text closed, the label displayed when the cursor is hovering over the Difference icon says Trim Vectors.

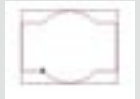
- Create a rectangle and a circle and center them in relation to each other. Any size will do.
- Make 4 copies so you can see the original and what each tool does.
- Select one rectangle circle combination at a time and apply the tool.



Note: Vectors must actually cross in order for the Join Vectors tools to work properly.

The Weld tool:

Wherever vectors cross, the Weld tool chooses the outside vectors, and deletes all of the inner vectors.



The Intersection tool:

Wherever vectors cross, the Intersection tool chooses the inner vectors, and deletes all of the outer vectors.



The Difference Tool:

When you first click on the Difference Tool, you may not see any changes on the screen. However, if you deselect and reselect, you will find that you have a number of individual parts that can be deleted or saved as necessary



The Women's Class during the 2006 ShopBot Jamboree used the Difference tool extensively to make slotted candle holders and the woman table. For a brief tutorial from the candle holder project, email Sallye@GoodHarborBay.com.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

In addition to the ShopBot camps (see Camp ShopBot article) check out these training events at ShopBot.

Sept 8 & 9

Training classes at ShopBot Tools in Durham, NC

Oct 6 & 7

Training classes at ShopBot Tools in Durham, NC

Nov 3 & 4

Training classes at ShopBot Tools in Durham, NC

To find out more information about the training, email Scott at ShopBot at: scott@shopbottools.com.

ABOUT THE EDGE

If you have suggestions or comments about The Edge, please email them to martha@shopbottools.com.

ShopBot Announces Six New Camps

The year 2006 has seen an explosion in the interest ShopBot camps with the number of locations almost doubling in the last year! Starting in January with Atlanta, GA. we then moved on to Winter Garden, FL., Austin, TX., Ada, OK., St. Helena, CA., Venice, CA., Vergennes, VT., Phoenix, AZ., Orem, UT., Boise, ID. Along the way stopped in Durham, NC for the Shopbot Jamboree! We even held one in Blackburn Lancashire, England.

Camps have proven to be a great way for both new and experienced "Botters" to meet one another and share their experiences and knowledge. We've seen some incredible samples of work done in each area, and we now even have a "Blog page" where everyone else can see these efforts as well: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/campshopbotsets/>

If you are a new owner or someone who would like to see what a ShopBot is capable of doing, try to fit one of the dates listed into your calendar.

For full details, addresses and

contact information regarding these Camps you can go to the ShopBot web page and look under the "Coming events" calendar. There are also

discussions, and feedback from people who have attended these Camps regularly on the ShopBot Forum: <http://www.talkshopbot.com/forum/discuss.cgi>.

If you live in an area where we do not currently have a Camp, but would like to sponsor one, please contact Bill Palumbo (campshopbot@shopbottools.com) and we'll be glad to discuss the process with you.

Sept. 9th	Vadnais Hts., MN
Sept. 23rd	Mystic, CT
Sept. 29-30th	Marion, OH
Oct. 6-7th	Derby, KS
Oct. 14th	Rockland, ME
Oct. 21st	Kitty Hawk, NC

ShopBot

3333-B Industrial Dr
Durham, NC 27704 USA
(888) 680-4466