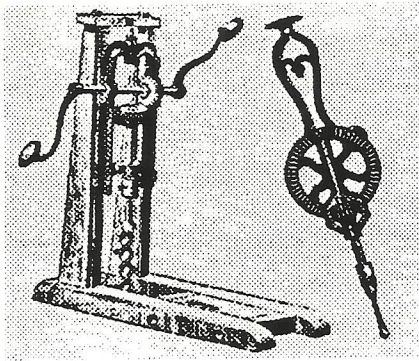


# THE TOOL TABLE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RICHMOND ANTIQUE TOOL SOCIETY

VOLUME I, NO.1

November 1995



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**FRIDAY DECEMBER 15th,**  
**1995**

**6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

Bring a "tool buddy" with  
You!

Short Pump Middle School  
4701 Pouncey Tract Rd.  
(see the map on back)  
In the Commons

## **AGENDA**

**6:00 TO 7:30 p. m.**

**TOOL SALES IN COMMONS**

**7:30 TO 8:15 p.m.**

**GENERAL MEETING**

**8:15 UNTIL 9:00 (or later)**

**REFRESHMENTS, TALK,  
TRADE, SELL, BUY & LIE!!**

## **In This Issue:**

New Castle Cabinetmaker  
Parking Lot Tool Sale  
R.A.T.S. in Tuckahoe Library  
Classified Section  
Membership Listing  
Future Meetings

## *The President's Plane Talk*

How did the Richmond Antique Tool Society get started? Here's the short version. In 1983, I refinished my first antique tool (rosewood marking gauge) that I found (stole for \$3.00) at a flea market (Bubba's in Sandston). I was hooked on old tools. Soon, I learned to buy cheaply and refinish broken parts. I made wooden planes that I couldn't afford to buy. Barlow's book came out containing prices, clubs, and other reference material. I joined Mid-Atlantic Tool Collectors Association (MATCA) which has become an area of Mid-West TCA. Later, I also joined PATINA, and the national club EAIA. I started to learn that the quality and condition of the tools matter more. I began selling my earlier "not so good tools", so I could buy better ones. I researched books, attended club meetings, sold during tailgating, met other collectors and learned more. Yard sales were once my favorite place to find a steal, but were very time consuming. By going to the Big Flea, The Showplace and quality tool dealers, I could find what I needed much faster and with better results.

In 1995, I taught a 30 hour adult education class called "Making, Restoring and Collecting Antique Tools". I enjoyed teaching nine enthusiastic guys. We had a great time talking about and making tools. After the class ended, Jim Hollins, Henry Scott and I wanted to keep things rolling. We started Richmond Antique Tool Society which in three months has quickly grown to 30+ members.

Today, as you read our first newsletter, it is my hope that we can:

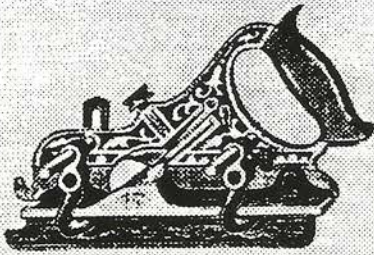
- ◆ consider this a "club" to develop new friendships (as opposed to getting lost in the crowd with larger tool collecting associations).
- ◆ generate interest in the preservation of tool history through displays in and around Richmond.
- ◆ have an active membership (sharing the load).
- ◆ share the enjoyment of collecting, making and using old tools.
- ◆ have our members give demonstrations.
- ◆ provide a meeting place to sell, trade and buy old tools.

See you at the meeting Dec. 15th

*Rick*

-Rick Long, President





## THE TOOL TABLE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RICHMOND  
ANTIQUe TOOL SOCIETY

VOLUME 1 NO.1 November 1995  
Editor .....Henry Scott  
Design and Layout.....Karen Webber  
Contributing Editor.....Jim Hollins

The Richmond Antique Tool Society is a non-profit organization. Memberships are available for \$10.00 annually and may be sent to:

Richmond Antique Tool Society  
c/o Jim Hollins  
2208 Lochwood Court  
Richmond, VA. 23233

THE TOOL TABLE is the official publication of the Richmond Antique Tool Society and is published bi-monthly, in the months of January, March, May, July, September and November.

This association is intended for the enjoyment of tool collecting, making and using in the greater Richmond area. The club provides a gathering place where members can gain knowledge and understanding about tool and trades from our past and also buy/sell/trade old tools.

Meetings are in the months of February, April, June, August, October and December. Dates, time and location will announced in this newsletter.

RICHMOND ANTIQUe TOOL SOCIETY  
OFFICERS:

President.....Rick Long  
9108 Fox Hill Race Ct  
Mechanicsville, VA 23111  
Phone (804) 550-1010  
VP, Treasurer.....Jim Hollins  
2208 Lochwood Court  
Richmond, VA. 23233  
Phone (804) 740-4549  
Editor.....Henry Scott  
7623 Hollins Rd.  
Richmond, VA. 23229

Secretary..... VACANT  
Membership..... VACANT  
Program Director..... VACANT  
Committee Chairman..... VACANT  
President Elect..... VACANT  
Historian..... VACANT

## PARKING LOT TOOL SALE

On the rainy Saturday morning of October 14th at the Mechanicsville Antique Mall, the Richmond Antique Tool Society held its first tool sale and informal meeting. The rain was off and on but that was no deterrent as seven dealers set up under the overhang of the mall. At first, the only ones buying tools were the dealers buying from each other to improve their collections. That soon changed. As the sun came out, so did the buyers. The sales were good and all the members who were selling seemed happy.

Harold Berry graced us with several tables of goodies for the quality tool collector. Harold was one of the founding members of PATINA and he brings years of tool collecting experience to our club. Jim Hollins and Tommy Stone from the tool making class I taught also set up tables. Ron Ulmer and Tim Blackburn, from the class, came by to visit and buy some tools. John Byerly had more planes at better prices than any dealer in the Richmond area. Glenn Mackey had some nice saws and planes. I also set up and I couldn't complain. I sold over \$200 of tools and came home with \$250 of better tools. My wife was the one complaining when I brought home more tools than what I left with.

While selling, trading and buying, Jim Hollins and I were able to meet and talk with many new members and they were excited about the club. Many new tool friendships were started. We increased our membership by 15 from this event. Our display case looked great and attracted lots of attention. We even had members from Charlottesville, Williamsburg and Fredricksburg attend. By 2:00 p.m. it was time to close and head home to clean up our newly acquired tools. A good time was had by all!

Mechanicsville Antique Mall was an excellent setting for our first tool sale which was open to the public. This may become our "spot" during our future tool sales during warm weather. As our club gets going, we will attract many more dealers and buyers.

-Rick Long

P.S. REMEMBER : Any member of Richmond Antique Tool Society can set up **free** at any of our tool sales or meetings. Part of your dues pays for advertisement of these sales.

### Membership Dues ... RED "96" or RED "?"

All members that have paid their dues until December 31, 1996 will have a red "96" on their mailing address. They are Charter Members. If you receive a newsletter or flyer with a red "?", then you have not paid your dues for 1996. We

will stop mailing to you in mid-March. The red "?" is a reminder that will help wonder if you should join or not. Send \$10.00 dues if you have a red "?" to:

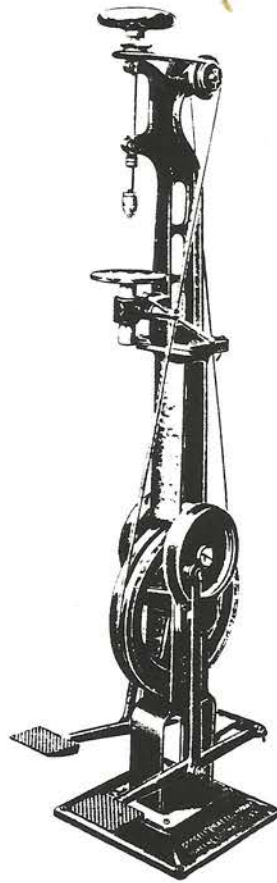
Richmond Antique Tool Society  
c/o Jim Hollins, Treasurer  
2208 Lochwood Court  
Richmond, VA. 23233



## Increasing Membership

One way to increase membership is through displays that will draw attention to our club. Harper's Hardware and Pleasants are two places that come to mind. If you would like to BUILD a small display case or plan one for view in a public area, please call Rick Long @ 550-1010.

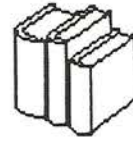
If you should have any suggestions about ways to increase our membership, please bring your ideas to the meeting or call Rick.



Goodell-Pratt No. 79  
High Speed Foot-Power  
Drill Press. 54 in. tall.

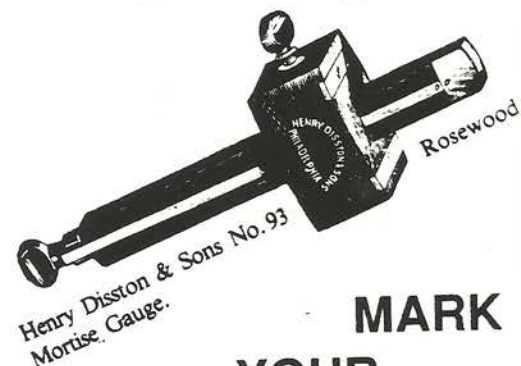
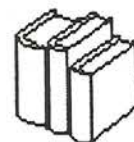
## WE NEED A MEETING PLACE?

Any suggestions? The Mechanicsville Antique Mall was great for outdoor tool sales ... Free! We will do this again in the warmer months. But, we need a place to meet and/or sell to the public that is convenient to the Metro Richmond Area. Short Pump Middle was selected because it was in a very safe neighborhood, convenient to major roadways, and free to our club. If you should have any suggestions that may serve us better, please let us know and offer your suggestion at our meeting Dec. 15th.



## R.A.T.S. IN TUCKAHOE LIBRARY!

During the month of September, the Richmond Antique Tool Society had a nice display of antique tools in the main showcase at Tuckahoe Library. This was an attempt to attract new members to our club and it did just that. Jim Hollins, Henry Scott and Rick Long contributed some of their finer tools for display. Blacksmith tools, planes from different countries, craftsman made tools and Stanley Tools highlighted the display. There were many compliments for one of the best displays the library has had. A job well done!



Henry Disston & Sons No. 93  
Mortise Gauge.

MARK

YOUR

CALENDAR

MEETING FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 15, 1995  
SHORT PUMP MIDDLE  
6:00 P.M. TO 9:00

STANLEY'S ADJUSTABLE BEADING PLANE

45 Hollows and Rounds for Plane No. 45.

No. 5	No. 8	No. 10	No. 12
\$1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40

NOSE TOOL FOR PLANE No. 45. \$1.00

READING TOOLS FOR PLANE No. 45. \$1.00



## WE NEED HELP!

If you look at the list of officers on the first column on page two, you will see plenty of **VA-CANT** positions that need to be filled. Should you be interested in filling these positions, please seek out Jim Hollins or Rick Long. We will discuss the "job title" for each position at our December meeting. I don't think we are ready for any "dirty political election campaigns"! We would love to hear a simple, "Sure, I'll be glad to help out". Thanks!

## OPAL ANTIQUE CENTER

8 miles south of Warrenton, Va. at the  
Intersection of Rts. 17 & 29  
at the traffic lights in Opal,  
near Clark Bros. Gun Shop

Betty Farner - Shop Manager  
Harold & Maude Berry - Owners  
David & Billie Mangum  
Phone: 703-439-4002

717-529-2693

## JOY'S ANTIQUES

Buying & Selling Antiques & Collectibles  
Rt. 272 in Little Britain, VA

ART & JOY KUSHLAN  
and associates

10000 County Drive  
13 miles east of Petersburg  
on Hwy. 480 East

Jimmy C. Clark  
Wood Carver  
Commissions Accepted

384 McCarty Rd.  
Falmouth, VA  
22405

Telephone  
703-373-3922

## ANTIQUÉ JUNCTION

Buy & sell antiques and collectibles  
Refinish old furniture

(804) 991-2463

10020 County Drive  
Disputanta, Virginia  
13 miles east of Petersburg  
on Hwy. 480 East

Hours:  
Sun. Mon. Tues. 10-6  
Thur. 10-6  
Fri. Sat. 10-7

## Are U a Newsletter Guru

I had a lot of help with our first newsletter - Karen Webber. She stood in as a pinch hitter and she hit a Homerun! She has decided to retire after I paid her a bonus (free lunch in our school cafeteria). Who is ready to step up to the plate and knock this newsletter out of the park? No rookies need apply. This is the big leagues! You need to know what a computer looks like and you have the job.



95. Brass Bound, Mahogany Plumb and Level Two Brass  
Copper Side Views with Ground Glasses 24 1/2" x 30" x 72 00

## CLASSIFIED SECTION

This section is FREE to all members. All you have to do is call Rick Long at (804) 550-1010 and leave a message with Your Name, What You Are SELLING, BUYING, TRADING, COLLECTING or WANTING, And Your Phone #. You may also send a BUSINESS CARD to reproduce.

Buying Sargent Planes and other related SARGENT items at a Fair Price.  
Phone Rick Long (804) 550-1010.

Wanted: OLD BLACKSMITH tools. Phone Jim Hollins (804) 740-4549.



BUY OLD TOOLS

### D & N Collectibles

COLLECTIBLES, GLASSWARE, OLD FURNITURE & JUNKIE  
REFINISH OLD FURNITURE  
BUY AND SELL MOST ANYTHING  
COMPLETE ESTATES OR ONE ITEM

DICK & NOVA HEISER  
(804) 458-0245

4202 ESPOSITO PLACE  
PRINCE GEORGE, VA 23875



## Important Meeting - December 15th Details...

Since I teach at Short Pump Middle, I will be at the school at 5:00 p.m. if you would like to set up earlier than 6:00 p.m. The commons is in the very front and center of the building. The commons already has tables just waiting for your tool goodies. I'll ask that you bring a table cloth or something to protect the table tops from being scratched.

I will meet you in front of the building to help you unload (I'm a nice guy who wants to see what you have to sell!). Yes, that is true, but you can't park in the fire lane. So, I'll watch your stuff and you can park in the lot. I'll even have a cart so you can roll your old tools into the school with true class. Please bring one or several containers full of tools you can live without. Try to have them marked with the price. I find it sells faster and some folks will not inquire if there's no price on it.

This isn't intended to be a Christmas gathering/social. Hopefully, we can plan that next year! The county's policy on "No Smoking or Alcoholic Beverages" will be in effect (but the rent is free!). If you would like to bring a snack, dessert or some finger food that would be great. We will provide drinks...I mean sodas. Please bring tools to sell, money to shop and a "buddy" to join the fun. If you are not a map person, please call me for directions to Downtown Short Pump.

-Rick Long 550-1010



## THE NEW CASTLE CABINETMAKER

By Jim Hollins

I spent several years researching New Castle Town which was on the Pamunkey River in Hanover County, Virginia. This town was in existence from the 1730's until about 1810. Records indicated that there was a cabinetmaker in the town, but I was never able to locate his name. Years later, while researching another subject, I discovered a court case concerning a New Castle cabinetmaker. This court case of Mann vs Syme appears in the Henrico County Ended Chancery Cases for June 1805. Cabinetmaker Henry Mann both made and repaired furniture for John Syme. Unfortunately, John Syme did not pay him for his work and consequently ended up in court. The court records include account information, letters, depositions, and general court papers. The information contained in these records allows us to get a view of an eighteenth century cabinetmaker and certain aspects of his work.

Henry Mann moved to New Castle sometime after the "enemy" had seized his possessions in 1781 in York and opened a cabinetmakers shop with the help of his sons William and Arthur. The court records mention only two of Mann's customers. They are Zechariah Burnley of Orange County and John Syme of Hanover County.

In 1785, Burnley ordered a mahogany couch which was to be covered in leather, stuffed with curled hair, and have a pine bottom. When Mann had nearly completed the job, Burnley changed his mind and decided that he wanted to change the dimensions of the couch and have it covered in brown sheeting linen. Mann made the changes at no additional cost and even gave him credit for the difference in cost between leather and linen. He also hired Solomon Abrams to take his wagon to Burnley's and bring back corn as a partial payment. Abrams came back empty. Mann later sent his cart to Burnley's and picked up six hogs.

In 1785, John Syme ordered two elegant mahogany bedsteads and a mahogany Chinese tea table. Several years later, he had a clock case, shaving box, two tea waiters, a card table, and two mahogany chairs repaired. Henry Mann dealt with John's wife Sarah concerning the two bedsteads. The bedsteads had fluted pillars and were richly carved. Mann sent her a letter along with a key to his shop. He was ill at the time and invited Sarah to visit his shop and inspect the nearly finished bedsteads. He said that they were nearly completed except for the screws, a tacking bottom and a duck bottom. He acknowledged that he had screws and a tacking bottom but needed to have a duck bottom made. He stated that someone had broken into his shop and cut a bottom out. Prior to writing the letter to Sarah, Mann was informed by her that the price was high. In his letter he offers to let her borrow the existing bedsteads until he can make two new ones more suitable to her. Mann's son Arthur delivered the beds and put them up.

Mann also confirmed in his letter to Sarah that he would leave Burnley's couch with her until he paid for it. This was done as a result of Mann's plans to leave New Castle. The information contained in the court records allows certain statements to be made about Henry Mann the cabinetmaker. These statements may or may not apply to other cabinetmakers. The following are the statements:

- A. Henry Mann made and repaired furniture.
- B. Henry Mann made furniture for customers outside of his general living area.
- C. Henry Mann was responsible for delivering and putting up the furniture that he made.
- D. Henry Mann was sometimes required to make changes in the furniture ordered even when the original order was nearly completed.
- E. Henry Mann was not able to do everything required to build or repair furniture. He had to have certain components made and he also had to seek assistance to perform certain functions.
- F. Henry Mann wrote letters to his customers.
- G. Henry Mann dealt with female customers.
- H. Henry Mann was a salesman as well as a craftsman. He used the three following approaches on Sarah Syme when she said that the price was high:

1. He suggested that she borrow the higher priced bedsteads and use them until he could build new ones that better met her requirements. Some may see this as a courtesy extended by Mann, however I think his intention was to get Sarah to change her mind and buy the higher priced bedsteads.
2. Mann also presents himself to Sarah as a victim. He lost his possessions to the "enemy" in 1781. His shop was broken into and he also had a hauling expense involving Burnley. Maybe she would take pity on him and buy his bedsteads.
3. He asked Sarah to visit his shop and take a look at the nearly finished bedsteads. She had already notified him that the price was high. Maybe if she saw them almost finished, she would decide to buy them.

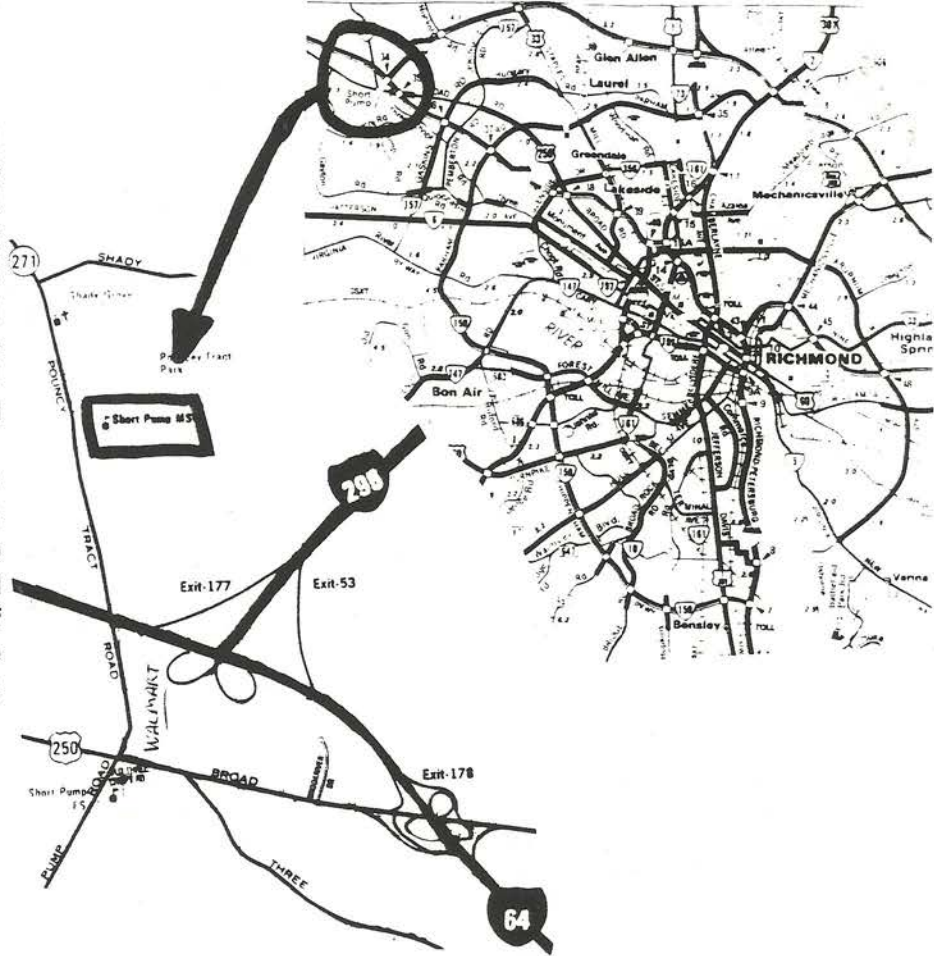
All three of these sales approaches are presented in a sales letter along with a shop key.

- I. Henry Mann would use the courts to collect debts owed by customers.
- J. Henry Mann would accept items other than money in payment for his work such as corn and hogs.
- K. Henry Mann would not lower his price after an order was placed.
- L. Henry Mann made furniture only after receiving an order. The furniture was sold before he made it. He did not sell from an inventory.



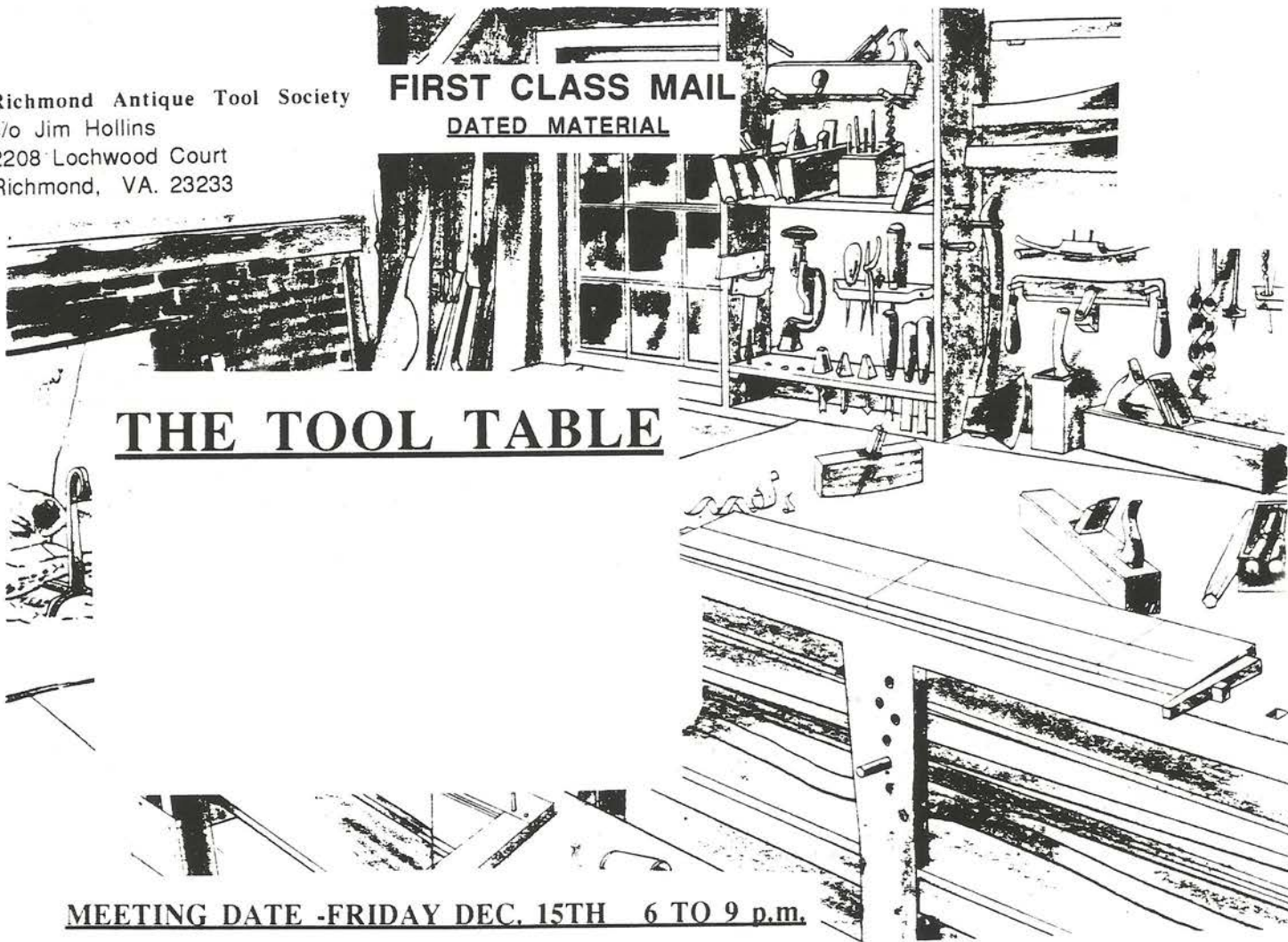
SHORT PUMP MIDDLE SCHOOL is located on 4701 Pouncey Tract Rd. in Henrico County's West End. The quickest way to come is I-64 to the SHORT PUMP W. Route 250 West Broad Street Exit. This is near the I-295 interchange. Head west on West Broad from I-64 for about one mile. You will come to the intersection (light) of W. Broad and Pouncey Tract. Walmart and Taco Bell will be on your right.

Turn RIGHT onto Pouncey Tract. Go about a mile and the Middle School is on the right. Turn right into the school. If you go past the school and turn right, you will head down the bus ramp and toward the back of the school. I'll meet you in the front. The commons is in the middle front of the building. Please don't park in the fire lanes.



Richmond Antique Tool Society  
 c/o Jim Hollins  
 2208 Lochwood Court  
 Richmond, VA. 23233

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**  
**DATED MATERIAL**



**THE TOOL TABLE**

**MEETING DATE -FRIDAY DEC. 15TH 6 TO 9 p.m.**