

Saturday Program Meeting

Legacy machine - Waid Gauthier

We had a good turnout (19 members) for Waid's Saturday meeting. He presented a program about his new Legacy machine. I



I guess a good description would be a hand-powered lathe with a plunge router attachment. Everything on this

machine is heavy-duty - it's built for accuracy and durability. There are three different bed lengths available (48", 60" and 72") and you can get it with or without a drive motor. Waid has the 60", hand-powered model. The Legacy is primarily used to make decorative moldings like flutes, ropes and barley twists.

The first step in making a piece of molding is to turn the square blank round.



Find the center of the blank and mount the precision center spur on the blank. Properly aligning the centers

will yield the largest diameter round blank. Then mount the blank in the Legacy by inserting the drive spur in the



driving wheel and the supporting the other end with a live center. Use a straight or bottom-cleaning bit for the

rounding cut. Set the depth of cut to yield the desired diameter turning and set the travel stops for the router carriage

so the bit will leave a shoulder on the blank and miss the mounting screws and other metal parts. Now, start the router and crank the handles to turn the blank and advance the router down the length of the blank. It's a bit awkward, but once you get the hang of it, it's pretty easy. But this is also where you wish you had spent the extra money for the motor!

Each type of molding uses a different shaped router bit. The bits for the rope



and barley twist molding also come in a range of sizes and are matched to the desired size of the molding. The gears

are selected based on the type of molding you're making. If you're doing fluted moldings, you use a special index wheel to position the stock for each pass of the router.

Now, set the proper depth of cut for the



molding you're making and crank away! Slow, smooth movements make the best molding.

It normally takes multiple passes to produce the desired molding shape. You will need to sand the molding by hand or with a flap sander when you've finished the routing process. While the machine is fairly complicated to operate, it comes an excellent instruction manual and video.

Waid, thanks for taking the time to show us your Legacy machine.