

WOLF'S PLUMB BOB NEWS 2013

Issue 11 November 1, 2013

THE TOOL FAIR IN APELDOORN, NL

Author: Wolf Ruecker

www.plumbbobcollectors.info

Dear Fellow Collector,

Dear reader of the PLUMB BOB NEWS,

Please, as always I am in search of new photos, catalog s, articles or personal stories about any aspect of PLUMB BOBS from you. Any help is appreciated.

If you have any information or pictures for these themes, please let me know.

Thank you, looking forward to hearing from you

Wolf

VISIT OF THE TOOL FAIR IN APELDOORN, NL

CONTENT

1. INTRODUCTION	125
1. PREPARATION.....	126
2. THE TOOLS.....	127
3. SELLERS AND COLLECTORS	131
4. PLUMB BOBS.....	134
5. SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT	135
6. REMARKS.....	135

1. INTRODUCTION

TICK TACK TICK TACK
„cried“ the calendar in my
smartphone: *"next week,
10.5.2013, TOOL FAIR in
Apeldoorn in the Netherlands."*

The Apeldoorn Tool Fair brought back fond memories of my now-deceased, fellow plumb bob collector, Jacob Rijnsburger †, an avid plumb bob enthusiast and father-in-law of Rene Weijers, who was living in Ugchelen, a district of Apeldoorn. We had extensive correspondence about plumb bobs, of which he had a big and extraordinary collection. A part of his plumb bobs you can see on the photos right.



Fig. right: Wolfgang + Jacob

1. PREPARATION

The tool market is organized every year on the first weekend in October by the company **DuCo TOOLS** with its two co-owners Marie José Coolen and René Weijers.

This year the tool fair was the 9th with increasing participation. There were 15 tool sellers from Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium.

The entrance fee for spectators is 2.50 € and for the tables the sellers pay 10 € per meter.

Advertising is made only on the website of **DuCo tools** <http://www.ducotools.eu> and in



flyers sent to the clients.

For traveling, I used my motorhome and I slept at the parking lot of the event location. The fair took place in UGCHELS BELANG (village community house), which is for over 100 years in this place and now it is home to a library and a restaurant.

Opposite the building where the fair was held,

was a statue of a PAPER MAKER. The monument which supported the statue contained a plaque, which indicated that beside the village community house was formerly the



plumbbobwolf@t-online.de

home to a high quality paper production "van Houten en Palm BV" involved in the manufacture of banknotes.

And it's all about money even with this tool fair. ☺

Prior to selling antique tools in a venue such as Apeldoorn, some intense preparation is necessary - everyone is involved including family, as well as friends! (more see chapter 3) Two halls were equipped with tables and shelves.

Below: Marie José Coolen, René Weijers, Hein Coolen at the "morning exercise"

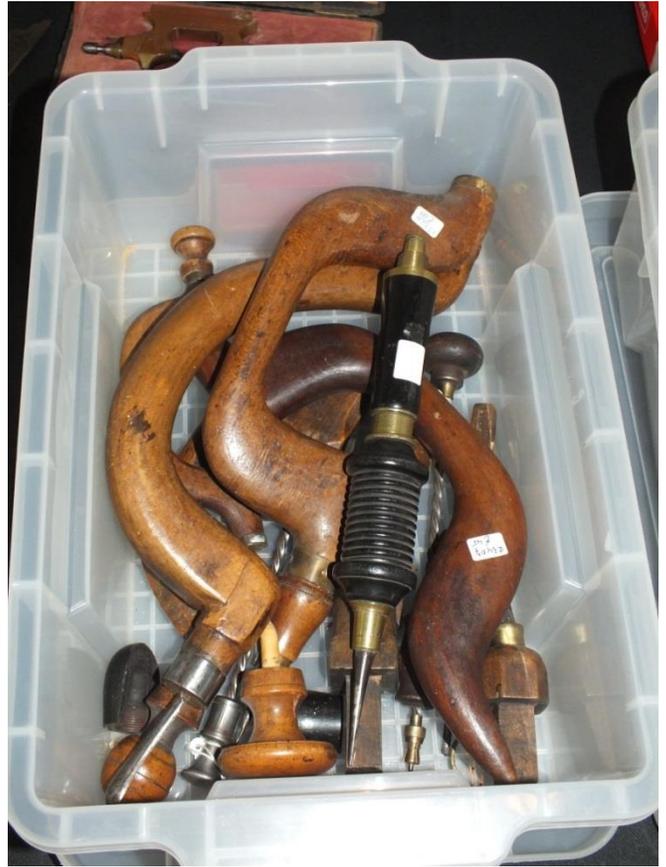


2. THE TOOLS

Below some pages with tools offered this Saturday.









3. SELLERS AND COLLECTORS

But the tools are not alone in the center of such a tool fair. These meetings are also good for information exchange and meeting friends and dealers.



Hein Coolen, Wolfgang Rücker, René Weijers
The last time we met at the international tool market in Bièvres, Paris on May 1, 2008.



The parents of René Weijers "managed the plumb bobs"



Marie José
Coolen, the
co-owner of
DuCo - Tools.



The ticket office was supervised by Nel Rijnsburger + Ester Weijers-Rijnsburger.

I also met a Fellow Collector from Germany, Simon Zantop after many years. Last time we had met in Wiesbaden, Germany early in the morning when I was looking with a flashlight in the boxes for plumb bobs.



There were sellers with a small table like Jörg Wichmann from Oldenburg, Germany.



Other sellers offered more tools like Léon Vogels from Maastricht, Netherlands with his wife.



plumbbobwolf@t-online.de



And Herman Schaefer from Hoorn, NL had his best and large pieces in his car. More about his instrument you will read below.

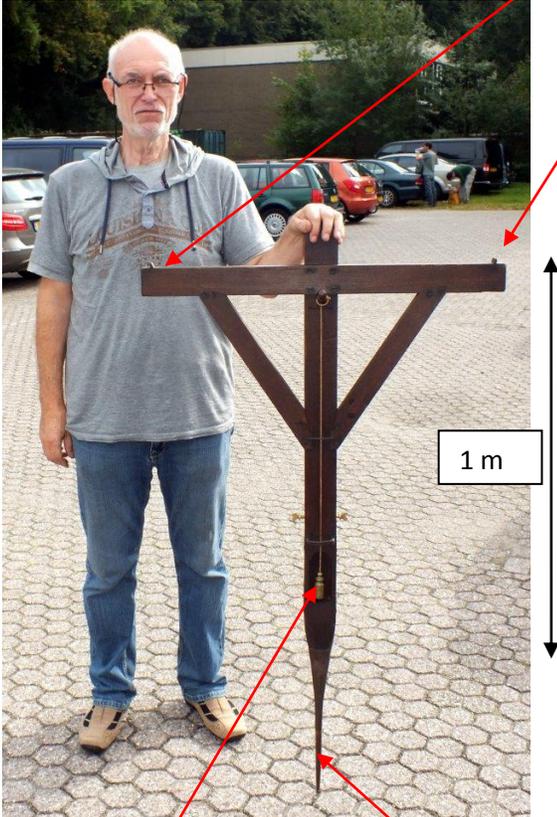
But not only collectors and sellers were here, also some professionals (wandering journeymen) I met on the tool fair. Namely "TIM, free, foreign, carpenter" and "ELMAR, free, foreign carpenter". (For the time of their years of wandering they don't use their surnames.) They had bought special tools for their work: Stanley adjustable planes etc.. Since their next destination was close to my route, we drove together in my motorhome back to Germany. In these two hours I got a lot of information about the life as a hiking journeyman. (This type of journeymen is a special European kind moving from one town to another to gain experience of different workshops).

More (and better) information you will find on Wikipedia:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Journeyman> and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Journeyman_years



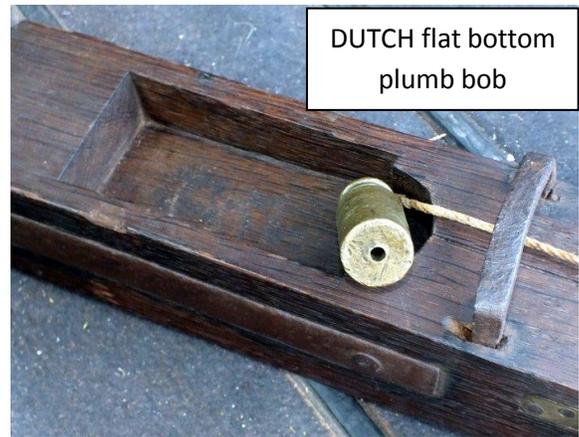
Now we come to the most interesting piece (for me) of the tool market, owned by Hermann Schaefer: An **old surveying instrument with a plumb bob**. Unfortunately it was not for sale, so I am on the photo not as the owner, but only for size comparison. ☺.



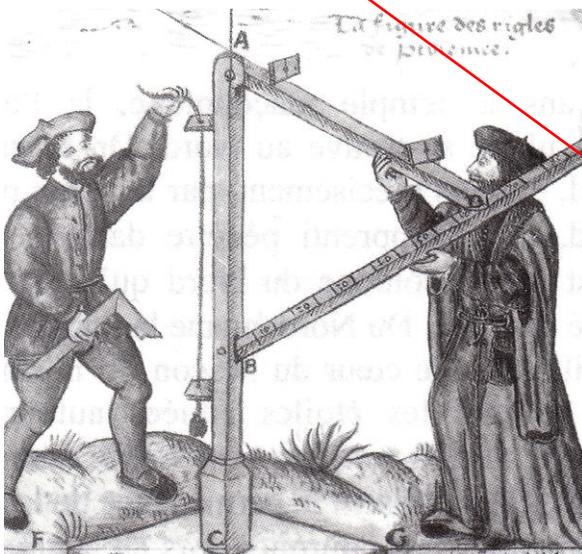
On the horizontal part we find two simple sighting devices. When the iron tip is pressed into the earth down to the beginning of the marking, the horizontal part is 1 meter above the bottom. Now you can use it as a surveying leveling instrument (best position for the surveyor is sitting). The drawing below left shows a similar instrument from the 16th century.

Below some close up photos of the plumb bob, the pin for fixing the line, one sighting device, the iron tip with the marking and the upper part of the rod with the marking.

This is really an interesting ancient original instrument that was used until the 1950s.



It is a very early measuring instrument for surveyors. It is an inverted A-level combined with a vertical rod. The rod has an iron tip. A plumb bob is fixed at the top to verify the vertical position when the rod is pressed into the earth. On the rod is a scale of 1 meter.



4. PLUMB BOBS

Of course there were a lot of plumb bobs offered (see photos on page 128).

That was the reason why I drove to the Netherlands ☺.

Below some close up photos of two French bell shaped brass plumb bobs and a homemade combination with a German iron plumb bob.

At the bottom: Ben



Jonker; NL presents a bronze Ottoman PB type 2 and a strange plumb bob.



I bought some plumb bobs. This patented (US787896 from 1905) "Perfection" is with 1550 g (52 oz) the largest size in the range

Weight	8 ounces..
"	14 "
"	1 1/2 lbs.
"	2 1/4 "
"	3 1/2 "

of 5 produced types. It is not in very good shape (like most of the old "perfection"), because they are made from very thin brass filled with lead. When such a heavy plumb bob hits another tool in the tool box it gets heavy dings ☹.

Nice brass pb with acorn top. 12 cm (4 1/2 in), 700 g (23 oz) (is laying on my 2012 newsletters)



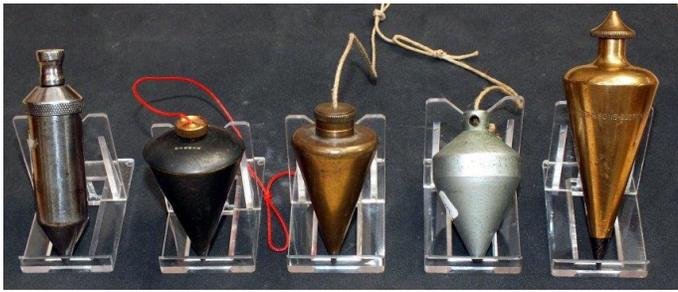
(Fig. right)

Two part brass plumb bob 20 cm (8 inch) 1780 g (59 oz)



(Fig. left) And a 90 degree mirror with inserted plumb bob for surveyors.





Some smaller and not expensive plumb bobs: the second from left is marked STANLEY LONDON and the one at the right (with the "China hat") is marked CL BERGER & SONS BOSTON.



5. SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

Last year I got an email:

"Wolfgang,

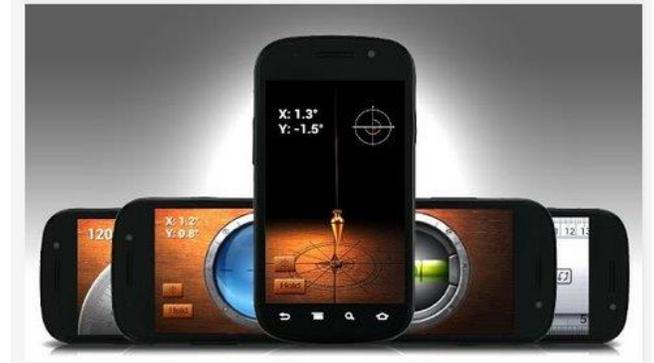
Thought you might be interested in this app named iHandy Carpenter which turns a smart phone into a plumb bob.

See <http://tinyurl.com/medz5g8>

On the other hand one can always just dangle the smart phone on a piece of string.

Regards

Graham"



I downloaded this app to my smart phone.

6. REMARKS

This is an article of the monthly published WOLF'S PLUMB BOB NEWS that is sent on demand as PDF-file attachment by email. FREE.

You can see all former publications on the website

www.plumbbobcollectors.info

On subpage "download publications" or on page "WHAT'S NEW?"

Remarks and contact by email: plumbbobwolf@t-online.de

Enjoy it

Wolf

Ps. For the members of our group **the whole world turns around the plumb bob** as shown in our logo right. ☺



Logo of the
International Plumb
Bob Collectors