Introduction
Posted by Rhautbois1 - 26 Jul 2012 16:12

Hello all,

This is a forum for double reed players to raise questions and share tips and experiences with others in the double reed community.

By way of introduction, I am an oboist and I retired last year from The U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own" after 33 years. Just last year I discovered Wicked Edge and after a lifetime to knife sharpening being the bane of my existence, I now enjoy razor sharp knives consistently. This system has made a huge difference in my reed making!

I studied with Earnie Harrison at LSU and then later with Don Hefner and Gene Montooth for graduate studies at The Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Since then I have studied with Cindy de Almeida and Jonathan Blumenfeld. More recently I have studied also with Shea Scruggs and Chris Philpotts.

For sharpening knives - I use 21 degrees on the left side and 23 degrees on the right side. I use the diamond stones 100-1000, ceramic stones (1200/1600 grit) and finish with the 5µ and 3.5µ strops. For touching up the knife I go back to the ceramic stones and then the strops. For creating an edge for scraping bark and starting a reed - I use an older knife and sharpen only to either 600 or 800 grit and the use the strops.

Please feel to introduce yourselves to our community and let us know what you have learned.

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Re: Introduction
Posted by jendeindustries - 27 Jul 2012 19:26

Hey Robert! It's good to see you here - and it was a great surprise to see you in Ohio under the Wicked Edge banner!

It would be nice to get more double reeders interested in the WEPS, and sharpening in general. With you here, it certainly gives us some credibility!

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Re: Introduction
Posted by Rhautbois1 - 31 Jul 2012 11:51

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Hallo Mark,

Vielen Dank für Deine Gruß auf Deutsch! Leider ich glaube wir sind auf ein Englisches Forum.

Robert

(translation: many thanks for your greeting in German! Unfortunately, I think we are an English forum.)

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Re: Introduction
Posted by Rhautbois1 - 31 Jul 2012 11:57

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Tom - thanks for your kind words. I can't tell you how much I appreciate your help and support over the years, not to mention your great knives!

Oboists face so many obstacles and it absolutely wonderful to have people like you and Clay in our corner.

Just demonstrated Wicked Edge for a member of the Boston Symphony this morning. He was very impressed.

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Re: Introduction
Posted by AnneMegan - 04 Jan 2013 14:44

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Hi musicians- I just joined the ranks of a Wicked Edge User. I'll check in now and then and look for tips. I'll share some when I have any. It's still pretty new to me. I'm an oboist and am hoping that this will

improve my reed making!

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Re: Introduction
Posted by leomitch - 04 Jan 2013 15:53

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Welcome Anne! I play the clarinet as does Tom Blodgett who also hangs around here. He is a pro and I am one who tinkers in a jazz like way with the clarinet. If ever you need help with shaving and shaping your reeds, Tom is the guy to talk to. He runs the Taiwan Symphony Orchestra and he lives there where he also is the main dealer for Naniwa Water Stones. A PM to him will get you expert help. As for sharpening generally, all of us are willing to help in any way.

Good to have you aboard.

Best regards

Leo

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