



Bamboo Rod Making Class

Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum

Continue the craft into the future

Team of instructors

Shared learning

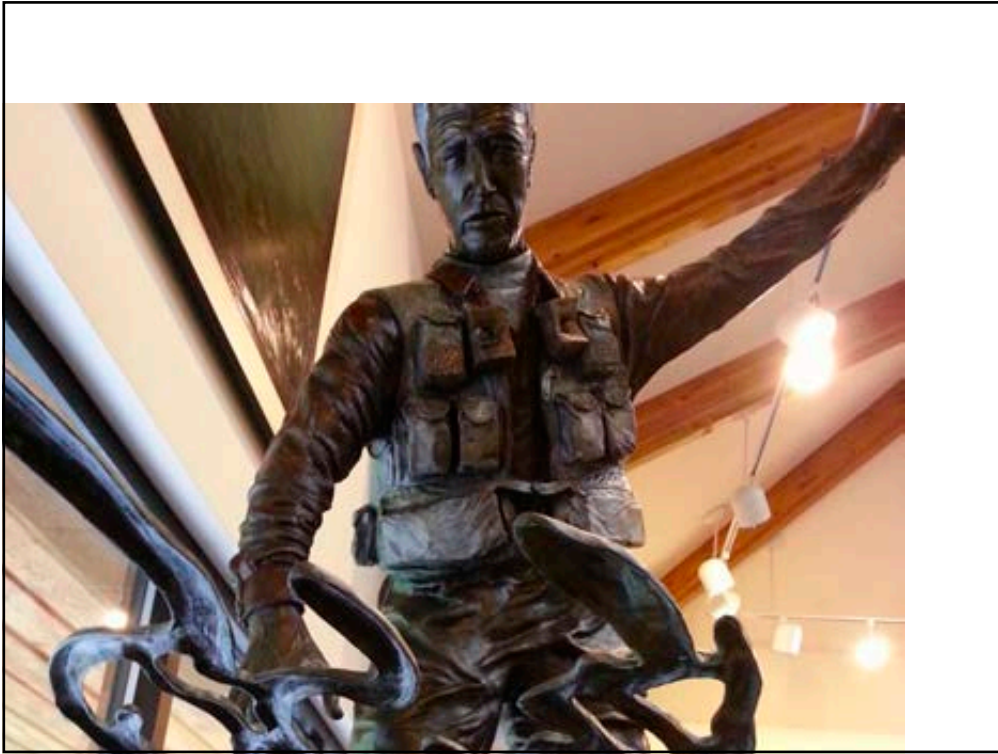
History: setting, visitors, and artifacts



The Setting...















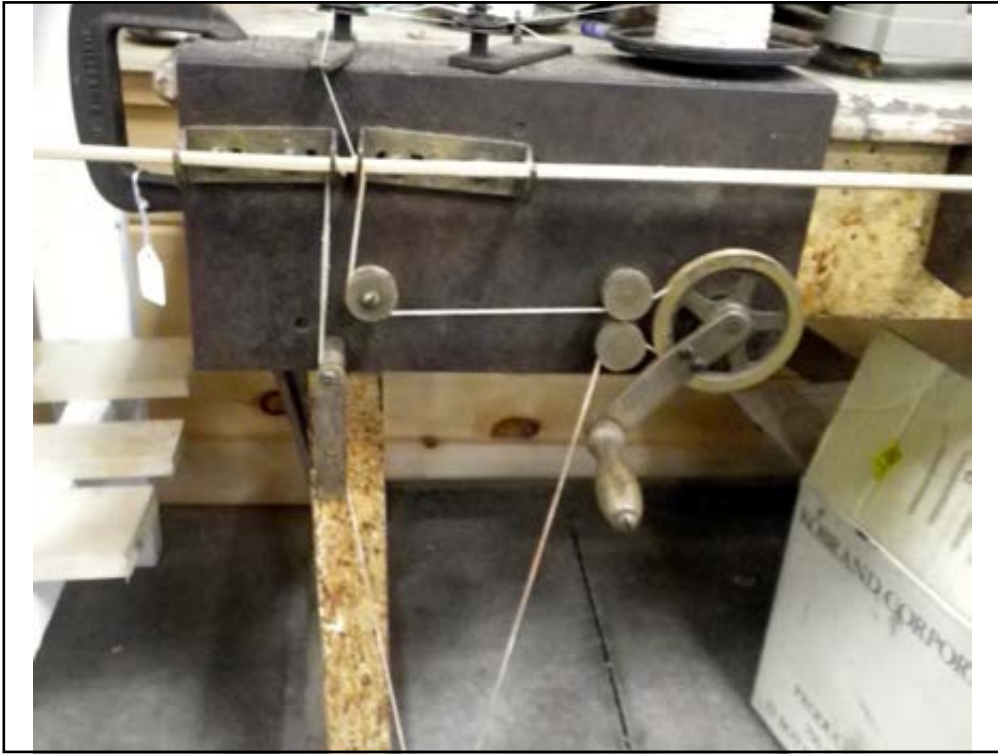












History... you can touch



So, what makes rodmaking student-friendly?



THE CATSKILL FLY FISHING CENTER & MUSEUM

Preserving America's Fly Fishing Heritage

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Cane Rod Makers School

In 2001, CFFCM trustee, Dr. Steven Cohen identified a need in the angling community for a museum-based school for cane rod making. The Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum took on that initiative in June 2003 in partnership with the East Coast Cane and Rod Makers, to form the Catskill Rod Makers. This group has revived the fine art of cane rod making and the CFFCM serves as the steward of this noble cause by hosting their annual gathering held the second weekend in September.

Now with the Catskill Heritage Rod Makers Workshop, the CFFCM is like no other facility in the world. In 2013, 150 rod makers from around the world gathered to officially open the doors to the Catskill Heritage Rod Makers Workshop.

History meet the future here, as classes, demonstrations and gatherings further the craft in the good company of artifacts from the classic shops of the past. Enrolling not only puts a bamboo rod in your hand, you become one of the grassroots supporters so instrumental in making this facility a reality.

The Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum will be conducting it's highly successful Cane Rod Makers School at our facilities located along the Willowemoc Creek in Livingston Manor, New York. This is a unique opportunity to learn from the best and create a cane rod to use and cherish for years to come! Seasoned instructors are Kathy Scott, Dave Van Burge, who have been with the class since it's inception.

Outline.... written, flexible



Catskills Cane Class 2017

Friday

Introductions: people, place,
outline of class
bamboo nomenclature
and tapers

Saturday

Butts:
Remove outside of nodes
Flame and brush
Initial splitting
Remove dams, plane flat
Final splitting
Square edges, reduce to
1/4" - 5/16"
Tips and butts:
straighten, depressing nodes
Bevel into triangular cross-
sections
Stagger and trim to length

Bind for oven
Heat treat
Sharpening lesson
Prepare planing form station
Set planing forms for butt
Initial scraping of enamel
Plane butts

Sunday

Continue from Saturday
Finish planing butts, flatten
enamel
Begin gluing butts
Plane tips on butt forms

Monday

Plane tips, check enamel
Re-set forms
Continue planing tips
Glue tips

Tuesday

Finish all tips, glue tips
Remove butt string
Remove excess butt glue
Cut butt to final length

Wednesday

Remove tip string and
excess glue
Trim with lathe for ferrule
Mount and glue on ferrule
Fit grips and reel seats

Demos: wrapping guides,
finishing



Preparation



Pack well, from a list...double check



Assure success as much as possible



Set up work areas, encourage pairs



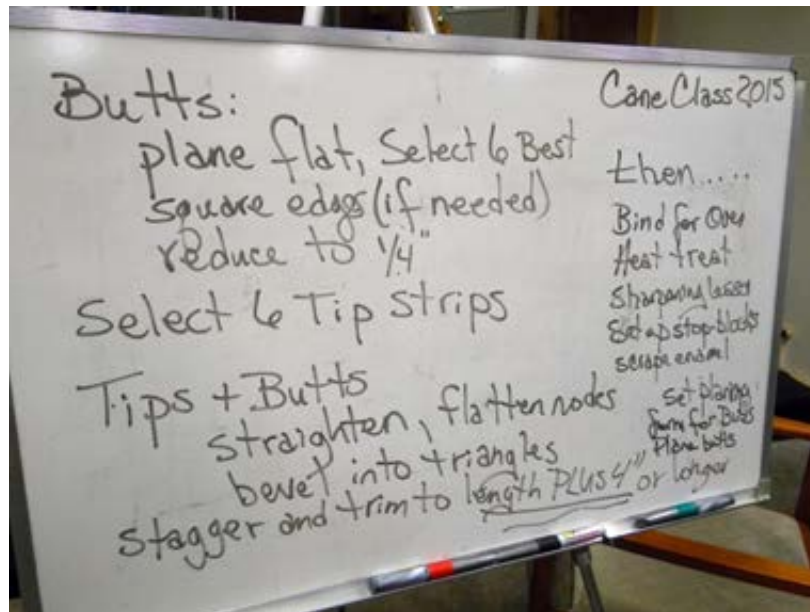
Establish a tool area, stock it with what is needed next



Group demonstrations, encourage questions



Focus on necessary steps each day



Allow for differences in knowledge levels



Get started, raise confidence

Friday

Introductions: people, place,
outline of class
bamboo nomenclature
and tapers

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A couple techniques..
demonstrate...







Encourage joy, avoid “boot camp” repetition



Exposure to more than one technique





Visiting
rodmakers
bring
another
view



Anticipate
frustrations



Guide expectations-
making one tip well,
making two...



Keep safety in mind



A chance to try tools before buying them







Minimalism works better for some students



Find a way to identify each student's strips





Some things are very important, like sharp planes





Limit the number of tapers to a few choices



Label the form and the table



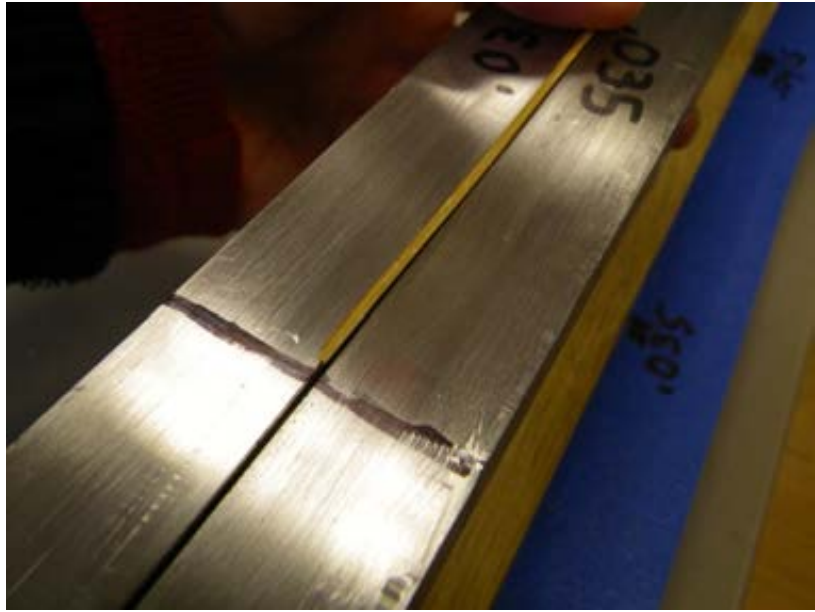
Set...



...and double check



Make
an end
line



Share methods of holding the strip



Re-label when necessary, and ...



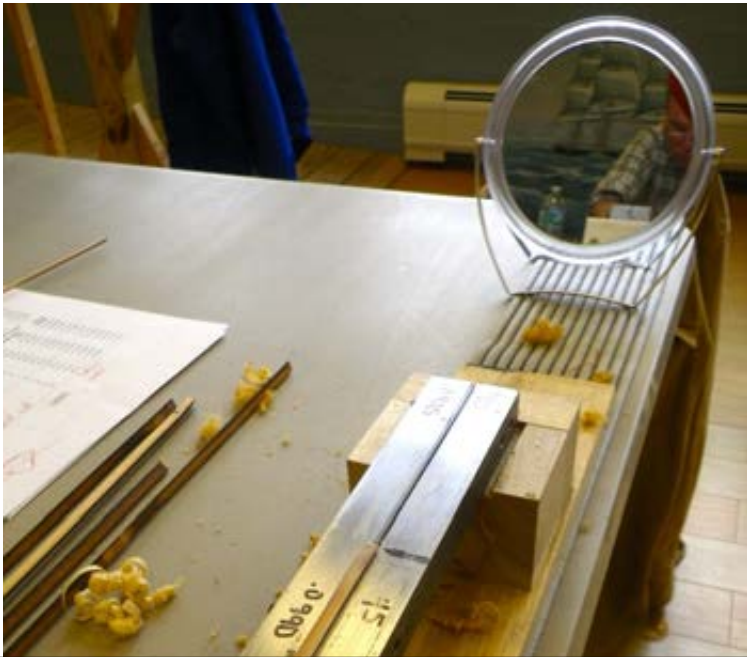
... measure strips to check the form

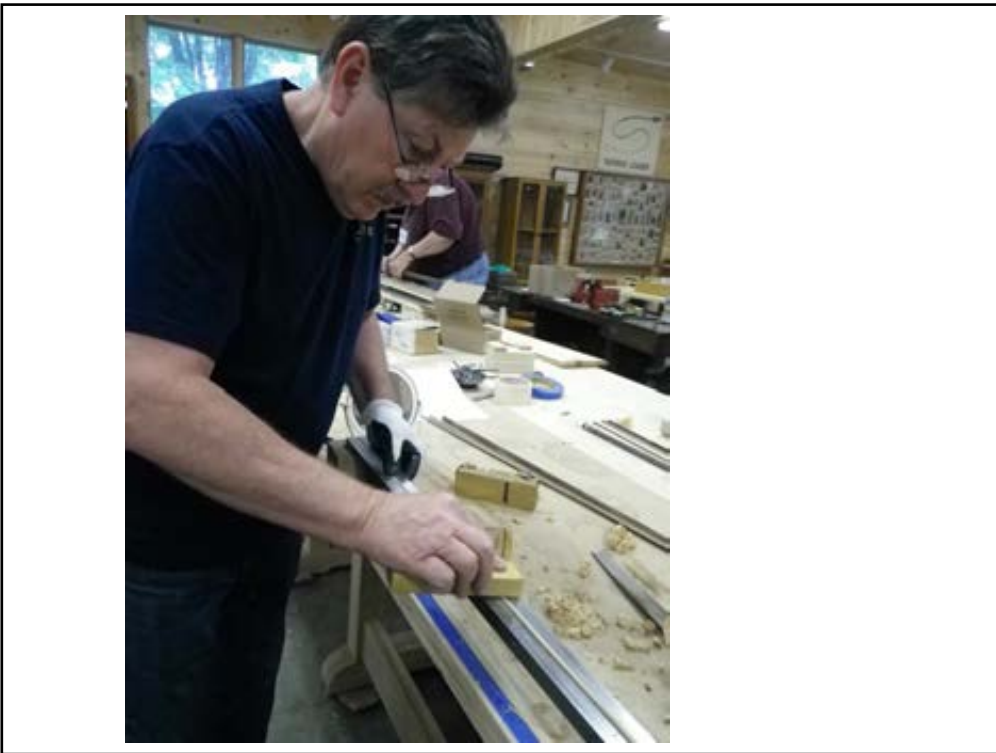


Label



Share techniques for planing





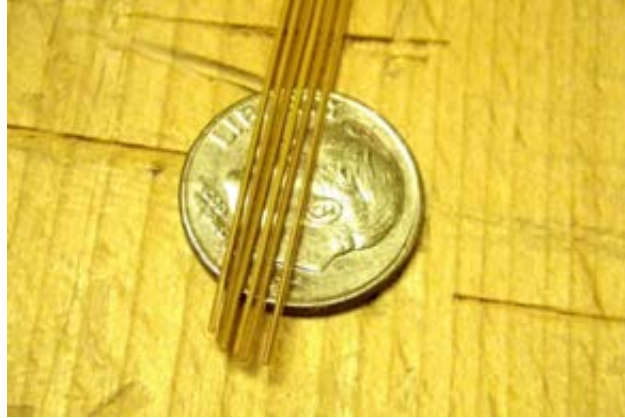
Elevate
the
planing
form



Double check when re-setting the
form for tips



Celebrate successes



Bring it back to the plan

Monday
Plane tips, check enamel
Re-set forms
Continue planing tips
Glue tips

Tuesday

Finish all tips, glue tips
Remove butt string
Remove excess butt glue
Cut butt to final length

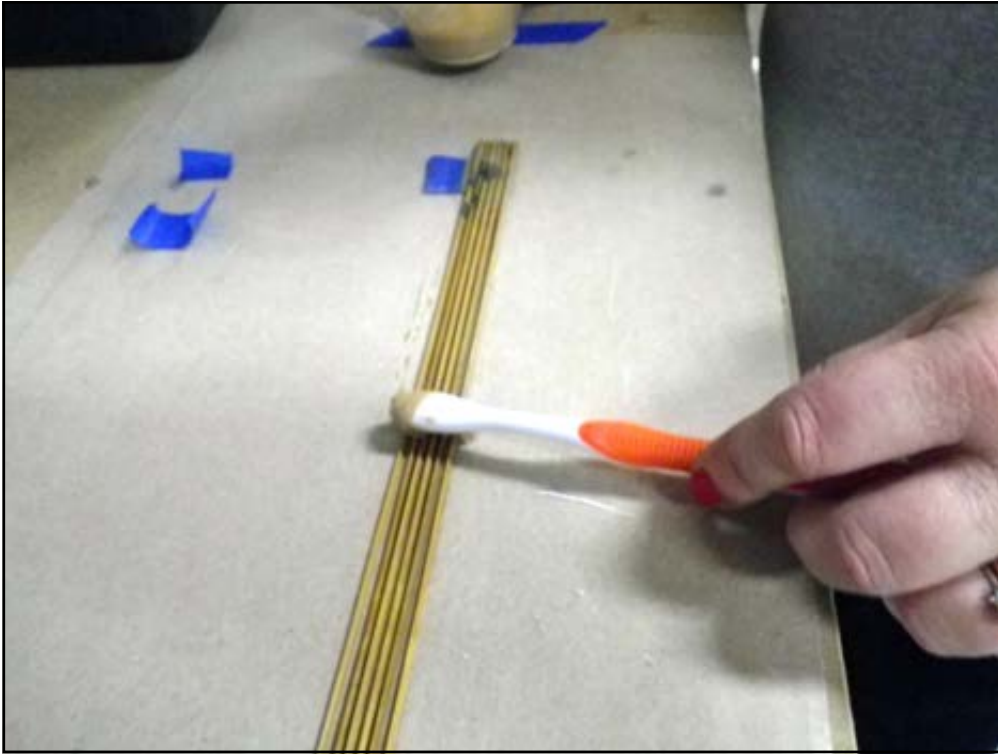
Wednesday

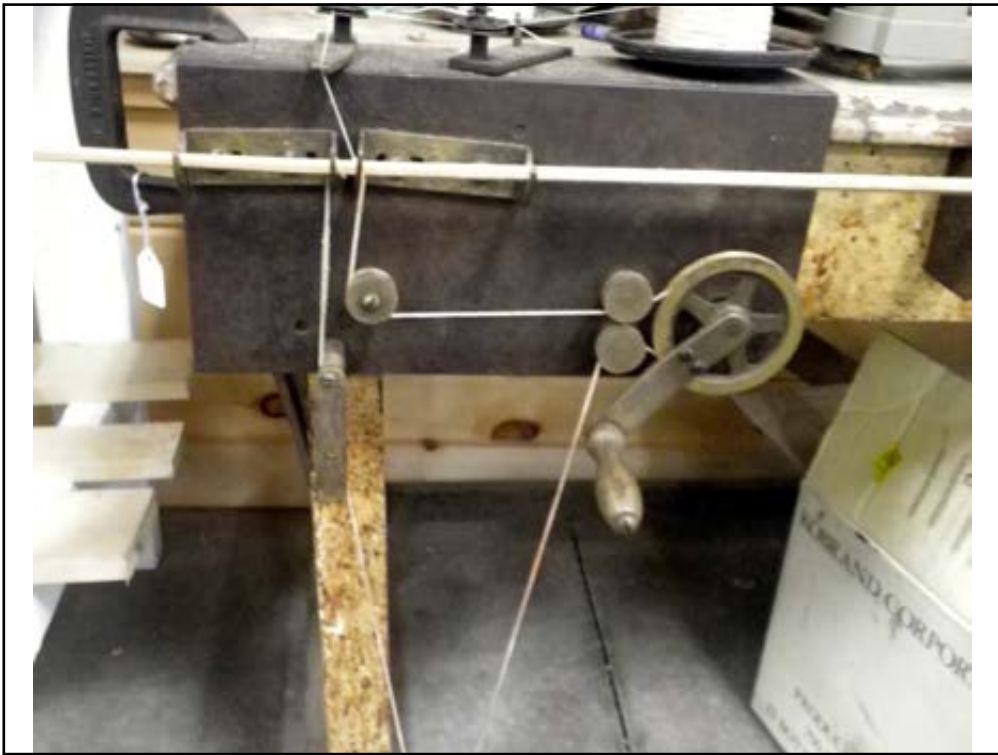
Remove tip string and
excess glue
Trim with lathe for ferrule
Mount and glue on ferrule
Fit grips and reel seats

Demos: wrapping guides,
finishing

Use a quick setting glue, but discuss others and their benefits







Keep track of the glued blanks











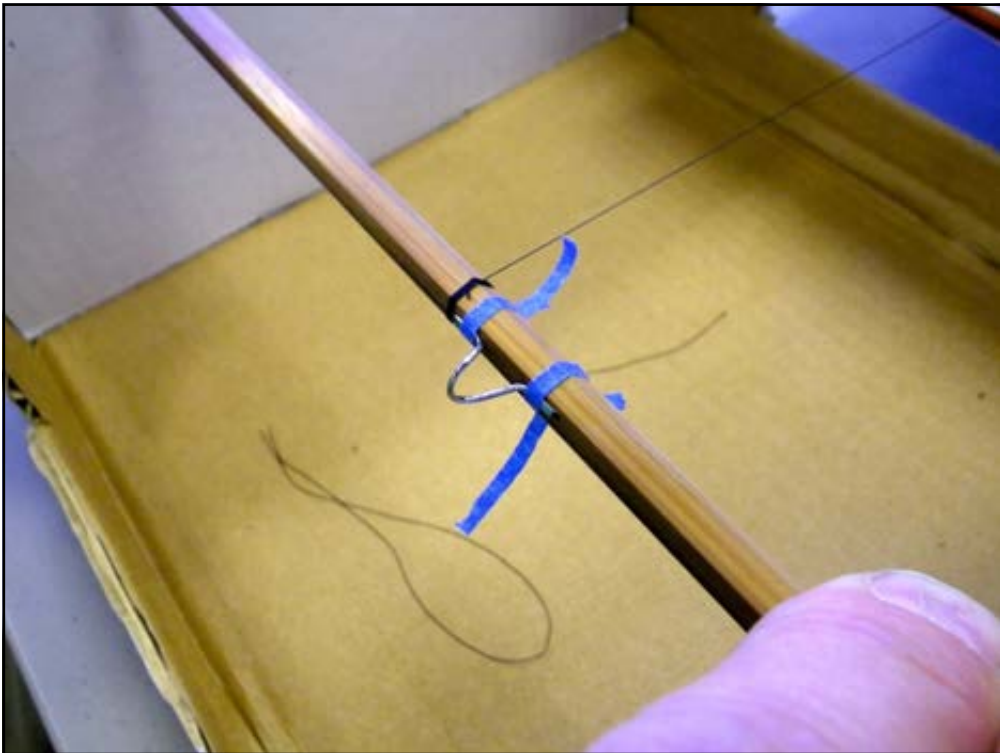




Share the literature, the look of various rods, color schemes for wrapping, etc



Organize and label components



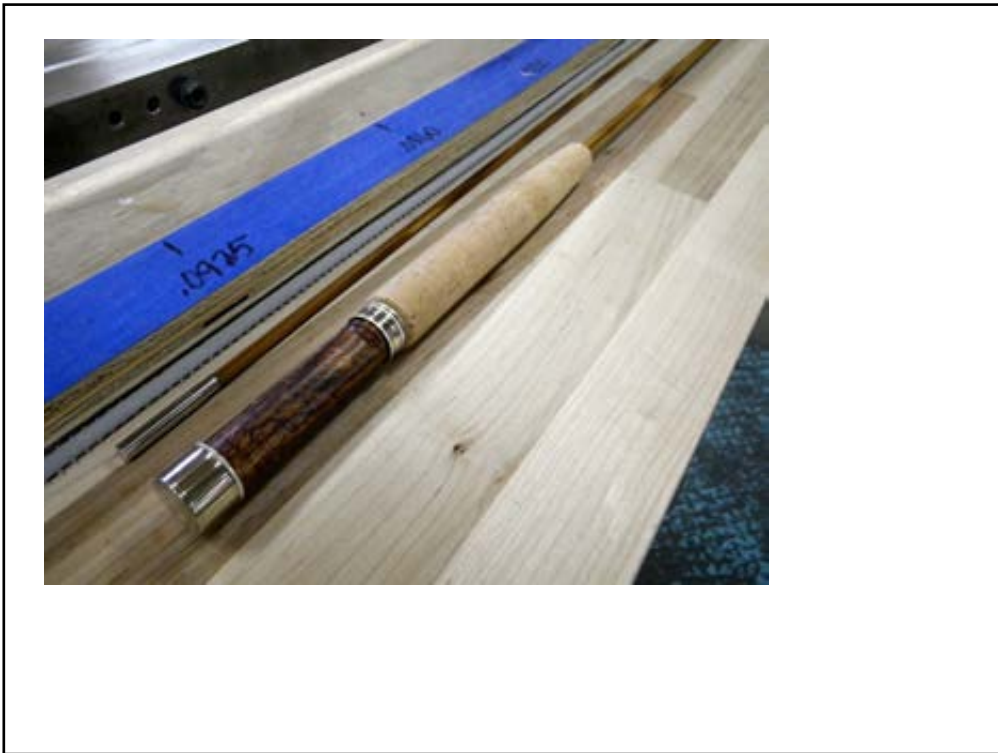


Draw lots for
reel seats



Pre-formed grips save time; we demonstrate
grips from rings







A certificate is nice





September “family reunion”, the
Catskill Rodmakers Gathering

