

FIVE FAN STOVES AT ETHOS STOVE CAMP 2008

Tom Miles, August 9, 2008

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Dean Still and the Aprovecho staff are still recovering from a creative and eventful Ethos Stove Camp 2008. He will report on the camp later but he has sent along pictures of Five Fan Stoves, probably the first time that these five stoves have been assembled in one place.



Aprovecho Side Feed, BP OORJA, Philips, Tom Reed's Woodgas, and Paul Anderson Stove

Five fan stoves are shown here together for the first time.

The Stoves from Left:

Aprovecho Side feed - One Door Rocket with fan powered secondary air jet.
BP Oorja - BPi India, wood pellet burning stove apparently modeled after Tom Reed Woodgas - Tom Reed's Top Lit Updraft fan powered stove that started it all in 1996.

Philips Wood Stove - Fan stove based on good combustion under development since 2006.

Tom Reed Woodgas - Tom Reed's Top Lit Updraft stove.

Paul Anderson - Paul's latest fan stove - one of many the creative Mr. Anderson has developed.



The "fans" seated around the stoves are:

Dale Andreatta, Damon Ogle, Penn Taylor, Peter Chabarek, Bill Martin, Paul van de Sluis and Paul Anderson.

There were about 31 attendees and staff at the camp this year. When I visited on Thursday there was quite a lot of excitement among the various groups as they tested their refugee stoves and heating devices. The test under the hood included bringing the water to a boil and cooking the posho, recording the fuel used. Refugee stoves were tested under the Portable Emission Monitoring System (PEMS) hoods. I heard active discussion of fabrication technique and design principles as I wandered among the groups.

Dale Andreatta and Alan Berick were testing devices for improving heat transfer to pots. Dale and Alan have reported and demonstrated their various experiments at Ethos.

Paul Anderson had a group building and testing the Peko Pe, and several TLUD and metal stoves they built at the camp. His group included Elizabeth Dougherty (Peru), Sebastian Africano (ENASA, Honduras), Marvin Cordova (Honduras), Nik Bertulis, and others. Paul also demonstrated an updraft gasifier to show the principles of gasification. Paul had various fans available that were used as electric bellows.

I heard that Paul van der Sluis from Philips Research (The Netherlands) created quite a stir when he visited on Wednesday. Campers were very excited to meet Paul and very impressed with how safe and adaptable his stove was to a variety of fuels.

John Page had a group building a metal refugee stove with a grate and a side door feed. His group included Allison Shaw (Trees Water, People), Allie Miles (ERM Foundation), Peter Chabarek and Susan Mankowski (I think).

A ceramics group built and tested what looked like a cast ceramic enclosure with a built in pot rest. I heard but did not meet another group testing a new ceramic stove mix that sounded promising.

Frank Shields used the camp as an opportunity to test a Gasifier Experimenter's Kit (GEK) that is being built in California by Jim Mason. Jim intends to build an affordable kit for use to generate power in developing countries. See: <http://gasifiers.bioenergylists.org/shieldsgek> Frank tested wood, manure and other fuels in the gasifier.

Nordica MacCarty proudly showed me the latest version of the Aprovecho IAP sampler and her new gas chromatograph.(www.stoversource.com) Nordica, Dean, Damon, Mike Hatfield, John, Larry, Dale, Alan, Penn (Iowa State University) and others were constantly helping various campers develop their projects.

Ken Goyer explained his six brick stove projects in Uganda and Darfur to visiting Rotarians who support a project in Kenya. Ken also explained the difficulty getting funded that his project and other NGOs in Uganda are having, and the big impact of inflation on the cost of supporting projects there. I think he said his purchased power is about 35% of what it was a year ago, that is it costs him more than 3 times as much to run the program just because of cost increases.

Larry patiently described the detailed construction of several stoves to me including the 16 brick stove from the recent video (made by stove camper Trevor Van), the eCocina design he developed for El Salvador and the many other stoves in use or on display.

Fred Colgan, owner of the site Aprovecho rents called Fred's island, and his family (Emily Creighton) were actively involved in the camp. He built facilities for the campers which made a nice camp setting. There were at least two generations of several families represented at the camp. Fred, Dean, Sandra and I all had relatives or family there this year.

There were campers whom I did not meet (Rok Oblak, Rob Wentland, Evan Shenkin, John Zielinski, Noelle Moen, Willow Rose) but I am sure they were as inspired by the experience as I was with my short visit.

Regards,

Tom Miles