Shimming the Flying Scot Centerboard

Sit the boat up high on props or horses so that it is stable and so that the board can be lowered full down. Hang a plumb line from the bow plate and adjust the boat so that the stem is plumb and the boat is sitting level. Remove the forward part of the gasket and let it hang down so that you have access to the forward two feet of the trunk. Use a coarse sand paper to rough up the sides of the centerboard trunk from the bottom to a few inches up into the trunk going aft from the forward end of the trunk about eighteen inches. Lower the board full down and hang a plumb from the leading edge and prop the board so that it is hanging plumb.

Tape wax paper to the sides of the board so that the board is covered on both sides a few inches above and below where the board exits the hull. Make a funnel shaped tube from a heavy plastic sheet similar in design to the tube used to decorate a cake with icing.

Mix a paste that is thick enough to be squeezed into the gap between the board and the walls of the trunk. At the factory, we use gel coat and resin mixed with glass milled fibers, but any polyester or epoxy paste should work. The bead of material need only be one half to a full inch in height and run far enough aft to reach the center of the board. If you go too far aft with it, the board will be locked down.

After the material has cured, test the board to be sure it will go up and down. If it will not move, you may need to lift the board vertically with a hoist and shave off the after part of the shim with a file. Keep testing until the board goes up and down smoothly.