Making Clean Cuts With a Bandsaw

Your friendly editor just picked up a great idea from the FM Clinic column of the February 2003 issue of Flying Models. In that column, S.C. Smith, Jr. says that if you want to make clean cuts, which follow the line you intended, with a band saw , simply cut a 1/8" deep cut with an Exacto or similar knife on the line you want to follow. The band saw will follow this line instead of wandering off somewhere else as it encounters differing densities. Smith also said that when cutting sticks with a razor blade you will have a more accurate cut if you'll just score the stick with a razor blade about 1/16" at the exact angle you want, then cut the stick a bit long and slowly sand back to the pre--cut. For the ham-fisted guy like me, these are great ideas.