

Newsletter ^{of the} Blacksmiths Association of Missouri



APRIL-MAY 1988

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VOL. 5 NO. 2

The Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri is a chapter of The Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America. This organization is devoted to preservation, advancement, and communication between blacksmiths of Missouri and surrounding areas. BAM's newsletter's goal is to support these ideas. Letters to the editor, tech tips, tools for sale, or any ideas which further these ends will be considered for publication.

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BAM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

New Member: _____ : Renewal: _____

Dues are \$15.00 per year, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly BAM newsletter. Please make checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri.

SEND CHECKS TO: Steve Austin
44 N.E. Munger Road
Claycomo, MO 64119

ABANA Pin



The ABANA Program Development Committee, Joe Harris, Doug Hendrickson, Joe Pehoski and Leonard Masters, Chairman, has developed the new official ABANA Pin. It may be ordered through the ABANA office.

Profits from the sale of the pin will be used to produce a professionally prepared informational brochure, to be used in ABANA'S fund raising efforts from corporations and foundations.

The contents of the brochure will touch on the history of ABANA, the work of the chapters and its individual members, and how blacksmiths are contributing to the practical and artistic quality of life in America.

ABANA

Artist-Blacksmith Association of North America



PIN ORDER FORM

\$5/PIN plus .50/PIN Postage
(5 or more PINS to the same
address mailed postage free.)

ORDERED BY

Mr.
 Mrs.
 Ms. Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State Zip

Day phone (area code _____) _____

SHIP _____ PINS TO: _____ COST _____

Name _____

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TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHECK ENCLOSED _____

(Please do not send cash. Make checks payable to ABANA.
Your cancelled check will be your receipt.)

MAIL TO:

Miss Janelle Gilbert, Executive Secretary
ABANA
PO BOX 1181
Nashville, IN 47448

Date Received _____ Amount Checked _____
Date Pins Mailed _____

ABANA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in ABANA includes a subscription to the Anvil's Ring

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

New Member: _____ : Renewal: _____

Practicing Smith: ___ : Artist: ___

Teacher: ___ : Student: ___ : Amateur: ___

Fulltime Student	-	\$25.00 per year
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Family Membership	-	\$40.00 per year
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Library Subscription	-	\$25.00 per year

Mail to: Artist-Blacksmith Association of
North America
P.O. Box 1181 Nashville, IN 47448

March '88 Meeting

by Steve Austin

The meeting at Austin's Ironworks started off with all attending getting coffee up, anticipating lighting the forges, and discussing involvement in present and future smithing projects. Jerry Hoffman demonstrated his methods of forging 1 1/2 X 1 1/2 channel and the variety of finials he has so far perfected. Jerry then forged welded the resulting fleur-de-leis finial to a 1/2 X 1.2 sq. bar to show one of the mystery balluster he uses in his shop. Very tricky guy.

Don Asbee then tried his hand, using the same fullering and compressing techniques shown by Jerry on a piece of extruded handrail cap moulding; the results were an interesting display of manipulating the original cross-section of material.

Steve Austin demonstrated forging a snub end scroll end involving an initial forge weld, using 1 1/2 X 1/2 bar stock. Steve prefers to develop the mass for the snub end with this fold-over weld, rather than upsetting the end. There is more control in the end development using the fold-over weld technique.

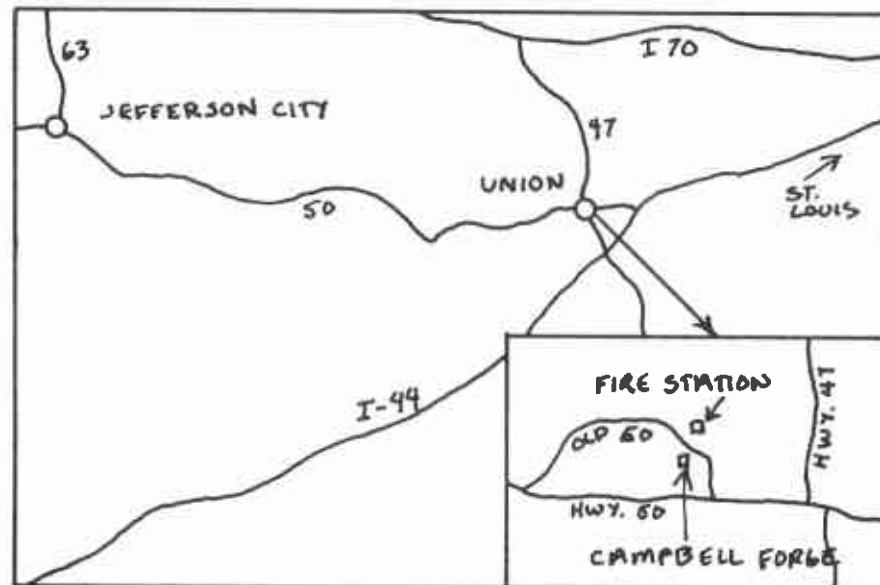
After lunch at the local cafe, the slide show was presented. The slides were from the ABANA Library series focusing on the work of Stephen Bondi and that of Samuel Yellin. Despite the undeniable clash of styles depicted, the caliber of work shown was a crowd pleaser. Yellin's work could be characterized as the zenith of the traditional approach; Bondi's work as one of the leading edges of contemporary design,

using authentic methods of joinery and forging. Much was learned; much discussed; all was appreciated.

The coal forge was fired up again after the slides; this time the object was to finish the upset process on two pieces of 1 1/2" sq. bar. The upset pieces were to be used on a table design Steve had been commissioned to do. Anyway, Mitch Gaffen and Walt Hull were swinging the sledges while Steve was holding the stock and gritting his teeth, hoping his health insurance rates weren't about to go up. The meeting was adjourned, and goodbyes were said. From the amount of beer left it was a safe bet everyone had a good time.

Next Meeting

The next BAM meeting will be at Colin Campbell's shop in Union, Mo. on May 28. The local Dillon torch representative will be on hand to demonstrate.



Dear ABANA Members,

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO THE CHAPTERS February 1988

Dear Fellow Blacksmiths.

Just an update to clarify my January letter before anyone comes to the wrong conclusions. As you all know, fees for non-ABANA Members attending the National Conference has always been higher than those of ABANA Members. That's part of your benefits when you join ABANA. We of the Board are obligated to protect the assets of ABANA and of the fifteen Board Members. To hold an event the size of our National Conference without insurance, would be gross neglect on our part. Accidents do happen, especially when we are not prepared. Insurance companies are not beating our doors down to insure the Sloss Furnaces Conference site. There are stipulations that we must meet and rules that we have to follow to gain the insurance at a cost the organization can afford. We can meet the insurance obligations and also give the non-ABANA Member a great benefit at the same time by giving the non-member a free family membership when they pay their fees.

To date, non-ABANA Members have paid the higher fee and received nothing in return. This year, you will receive a free ABANA Family Membership. The cost for non-ABANA Members to attend the Conference would remain the same with or without the membership, with or without the insurance benefit.

It certainly is not the intention of the ABANA Board of Directors to coerce anyone into joining our organization. We realize that this would be very unethical. Blacksmiths are notoriously independent and that's what we love about all of us and we don't want to tamper with that characteristic. Please see that we are attempting to do a good thing here. There are so many times that we of the board hear the phrase, "What is ABANA doing for me?" Please see that we have the best interest of the organization in mind and that we want to give the non-members a benefit for attending this fine conference.

This is going to be a great event. There are a lot of things to see and do at the Sloss Furnaces site, and the Conference Committee has worked very, very hard to have interesting things for the conference-goers and their families to do. Please give them your full support.

Something you can help me with is the age old concern - What do you as a member want to see ABANA doing that we are not? Also, as a Chapter of ABANA, what obligation would you like ABANA to assume in relationship to the ABANA Chapters? Also it would be a tremendous help to get suggestions from your Chapters as to what you feel the Chapters' obligation to ABANA should be. This current administration wants to close up the gap between the Chapters and ABANA, and I certainly would be very grateful if you would drop me a line with your suggestions.

It's terribly difficult to try to guess what to do when your personal suggestions would speed things up so much. ABANA does not want to compete with the Chapters. We want to do the things that you as Chapters cannot accomplish alone, and we want to help you serve your membership more efficiently.

See you at Sloss!


Dorothy Stiegler
ABANA President



The Colorado Rocky Mountain School
1493 County Road 106
Carbondale, Colorado 81623
Phone 303 963-2562

March 16, 1988

Dear Friends:

I am writing to ask for your assistance in helping me turn a lifelong dream into a reality: to establish a national school for the teaching of blacksmithing. This was also a dream of my first teacher, the great Samuel Yellin, who died before his goal was accomplished. There are a few blacksmithing schools in the country, but none in the Rocky Mountain area. Additionally, my proposal would be unique, combining a working shop with a school, making available to students not only the benefit of working with master smiths, but having all the tools, equipment and inventory that I have collected over 60 years.

Located approximately 25 miles from Aspen is the Colorado Rocky Mountain School (CRMS), in Carbondale. With boarding and dining facilities, as well as an auditorium and library, CRMS would be an ideal location for Master Classes for advanced students as well as for Regional Conferences. Other nationally known instructors may be invited to teach all phases of the craft. I am also interested in CRMS as a school because they are committed to giving students real life experiences along with a strong academic program. The school has been dedicated to the arts as well as other crafts since it opened in 1953. The Headmaster and Board of Trustees are interested in my plan plus the revival of the blacksmith program for students.

I have proposed to establish a national school for the teaching of blacksmithing at the same time allowing me a place to work on occasional fine commissions. I will donate all my tools, equipment, and inventory (valued at \$75,000), and \$20,000 toward a building for the blacksmith school which would be owned by CRMS; I would retain a lifetime interest use on the basis that it would not interfere with school use. The facility will be open to the students only under the supervision of a qualified instructor. I will teach classes in the summer.

We will have six fully equipped forges in the new school. There will also be opportunities for those special one on one classes, with original projects.

To accomplish this goal, I am working with CRMS to raise \$20,000 in matching funds to my contribution for the building. I hope you will consider helping me accomplish this most important contribution to the art of blacksmithing. Donations can be made directly to the Colorado Rocky Mountain School, 1493 County Road 106, Carbondale, Colorado 81623. Donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for helping in any way possible.

Sincerely,



Francis Whitaker

1988 BAM Memberships

It was decided at our last meeting at Steve Austin's in Kansas City, to change the way we handle our memberships.

In the past our membership year ran from January 1st to December 31st. This has resulted in some confusion for new members joining during the year, as to when their membership would expire and when dues were payable again.

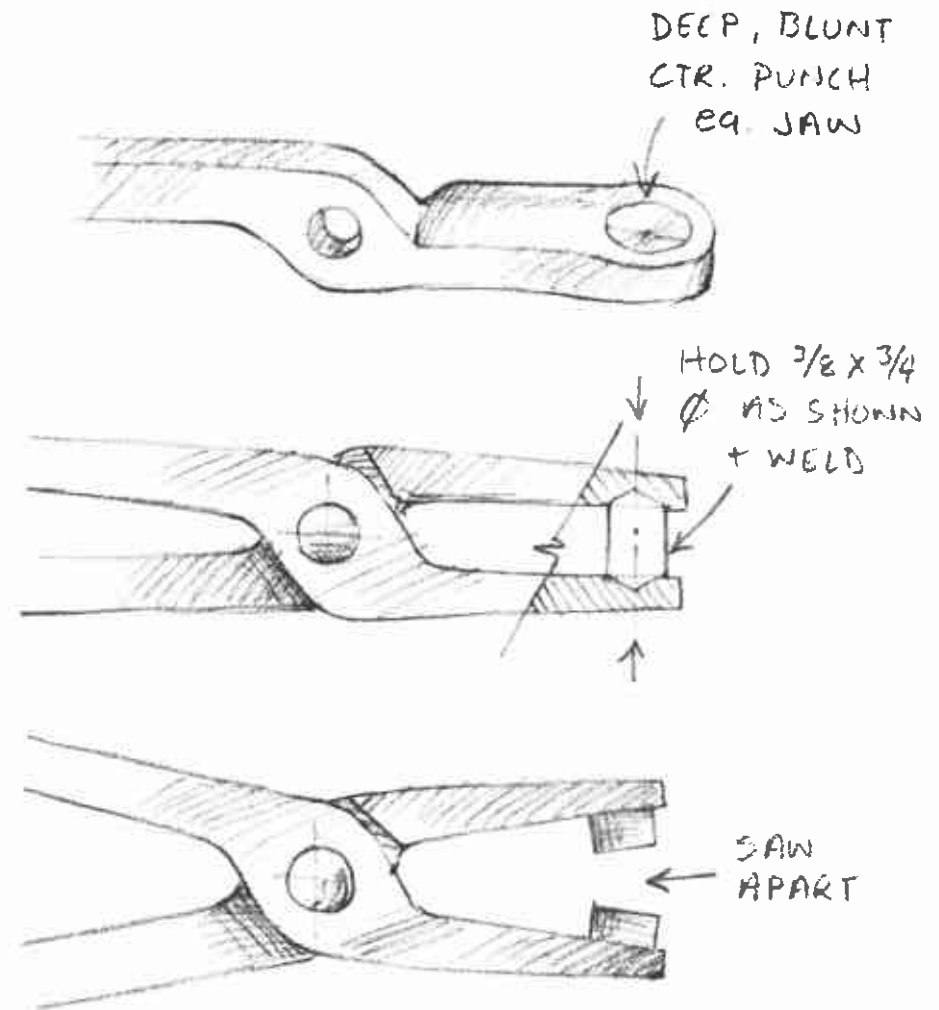
In the future, memberships will run from the date we get the membership on file. The membership expiration date will be printed on the address label on each newsletter. On the last newsletter before the membership is due to expire, there will be an additional label notifying the member that his or her membership is about to expire.

Each member should check the expiration date on the label on this issue. If you don't agree with the expiration date notify Bernie Tappel as soon as possible so our records can be corrected.

We will continue to run a membership list periodically so that everyone will have a current list. In the past we have published a listing of only those who have renewed as of the date of the current issue, which usually results in a rash of renewals and consequently the list is not complete.

Another advantage of changing the membership process is that it will spread the organization's revenue throughout the year. Instead of receiving a large amount of revenue at the beginning of the year and only new memberships for the rest of the year, renewals will be coming in throughout the year.

Tips & Techniques

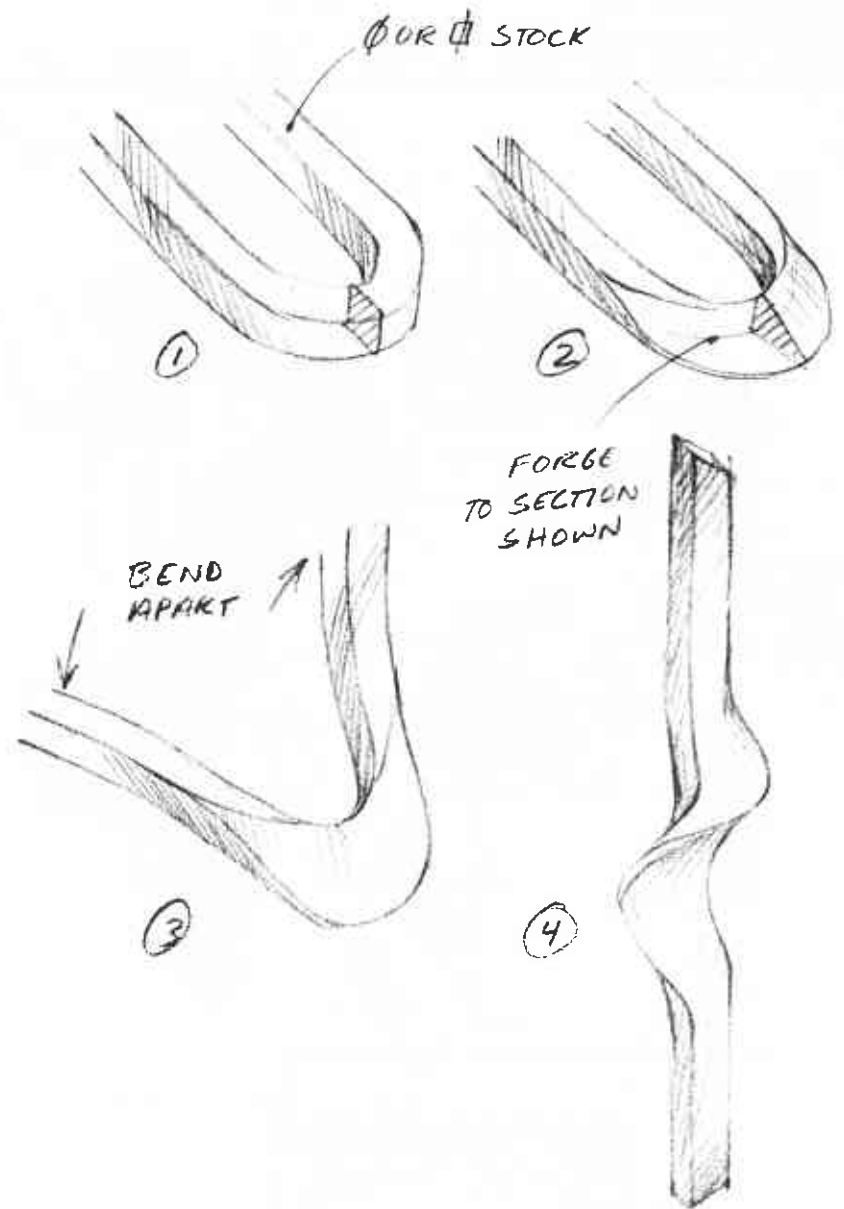
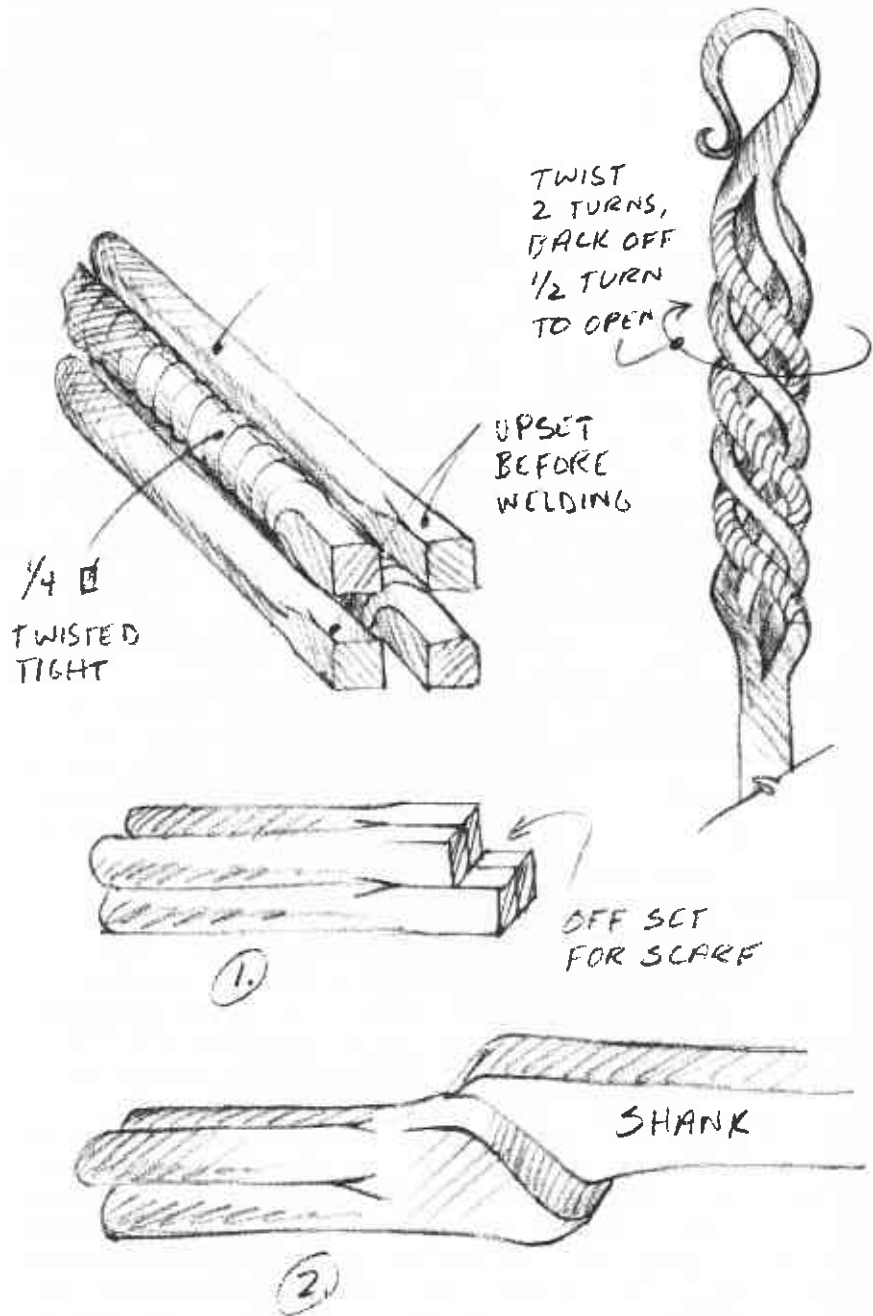


Eyed Tool Tongs

Grady Holley

Poker Handle

Stan Winkler

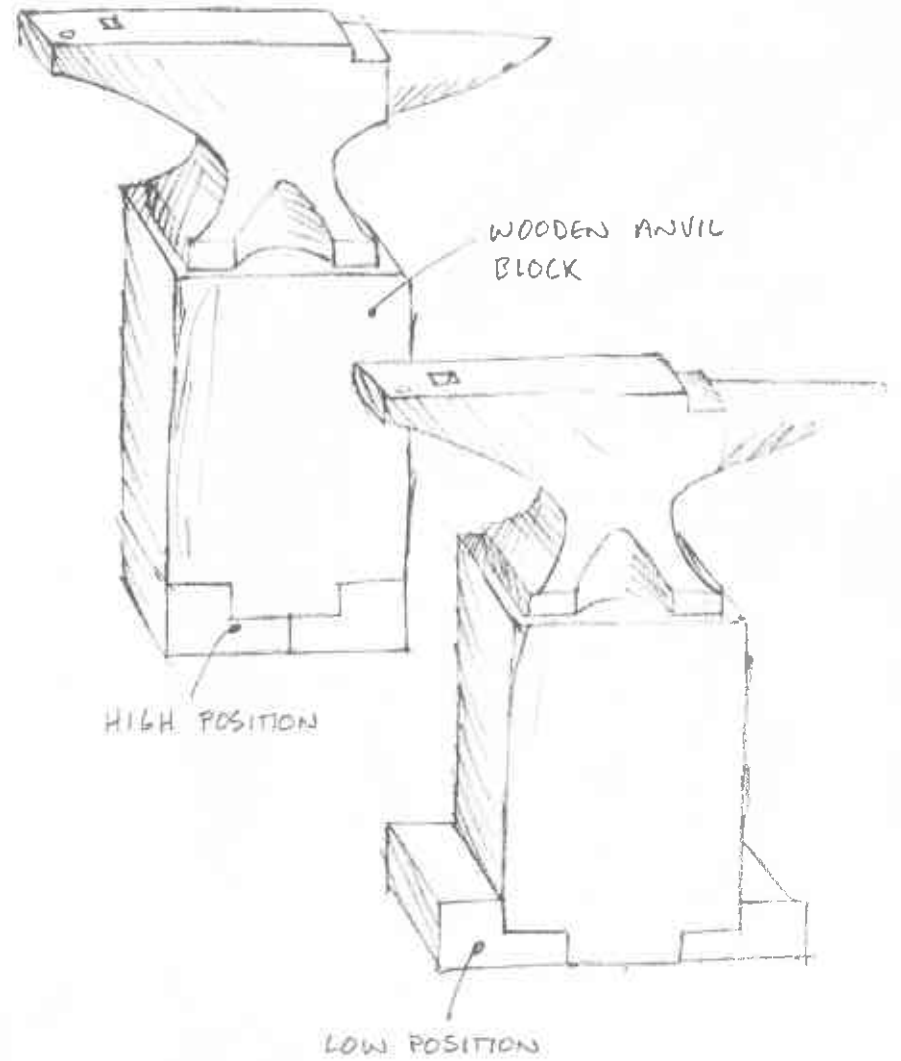
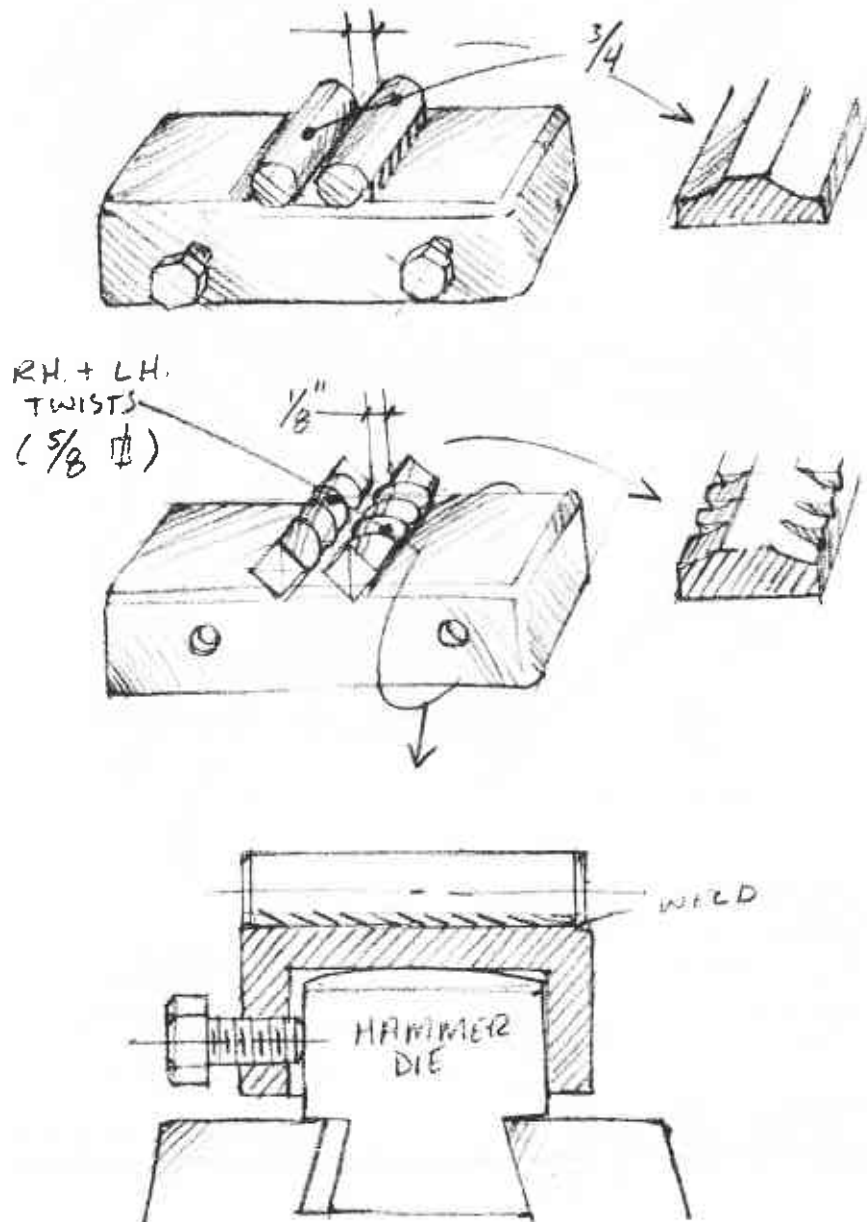


"The Wave"

Bert Elliot-Francis

E-Z Hammer Dies

Steve Austin

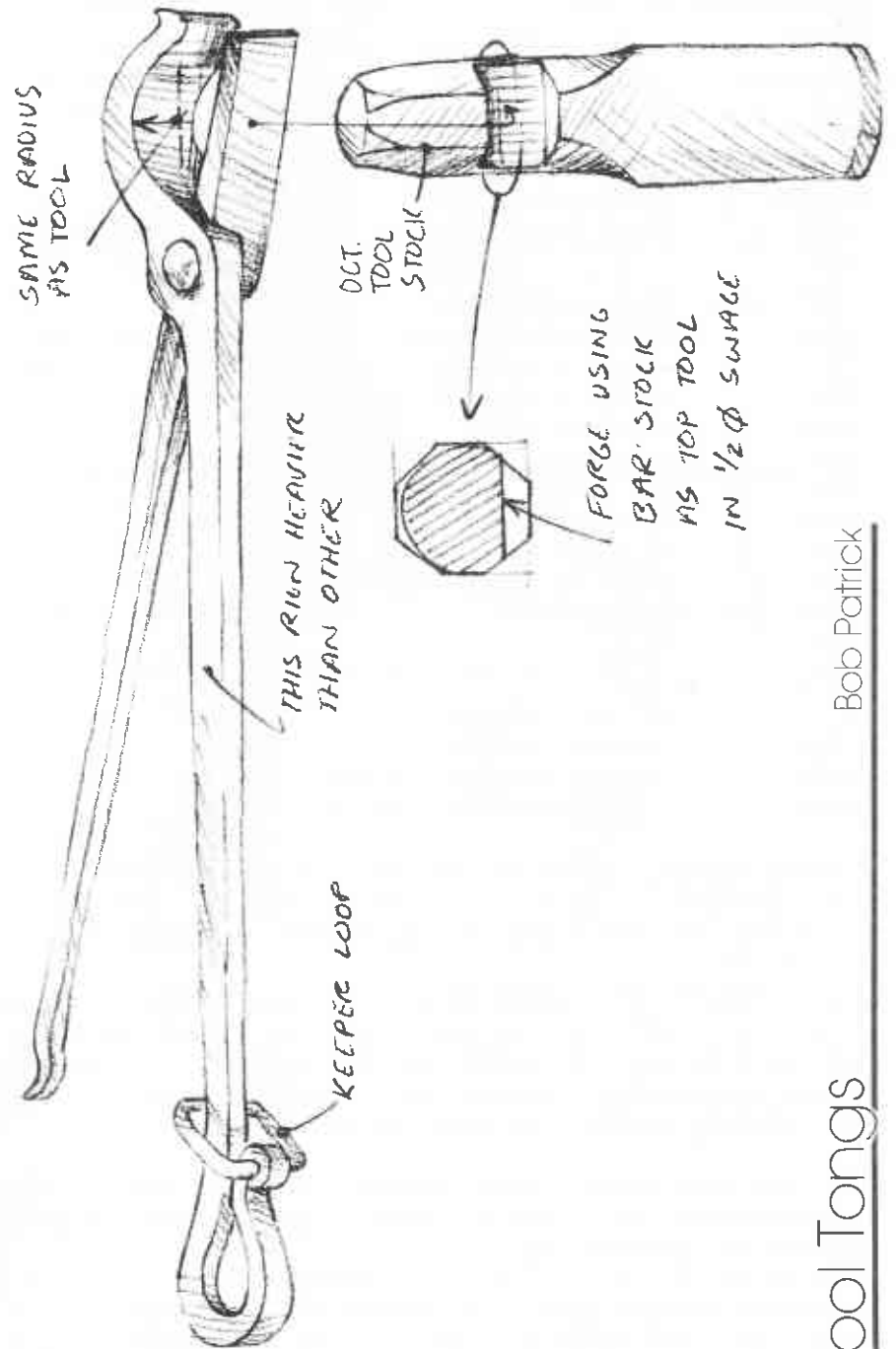
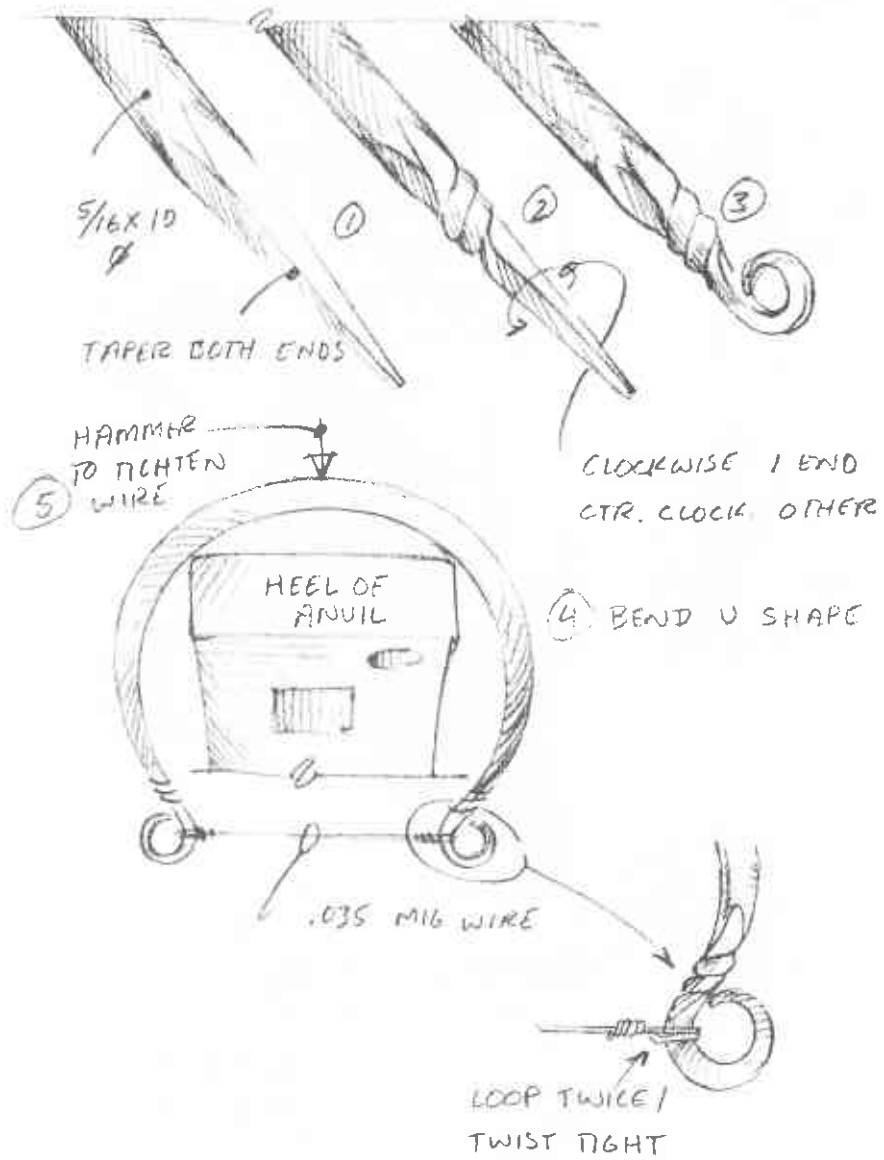


Anvil Blocks

Jim Waller

Cheese Cutter

Dr. Iron



Bob Patrick

Tool Tongs

HARDENING TEMPERATURE CHART

reprinted in part from Frank Turley handout

Deg. C.	Color Change	Deg. F.
565	Dull red	1049
600	Dark red	1112
700	Blood red	1292
730	Dull cherry red	1346
740	Low cherry red	1364
750	Med. cherry red	1382
760	Med. cherry red	1400
770	Cherry red	1418
780	Cherry red	1436
800	Cherry red	1472
825	Bright cherry red	1517
850	Full red	1562
900	Bright red	1652
920	Bright red	1688
955	Full bright red	1751
980	Orange	1796
1150	Yellow	2102
1250	White	2282
1300	Bright white	2372
1330	Bright white	2426
1350	Incandescent white	2462
1360	Incandescent white	2480

These colors must be viewed in shade and not in direct light, as this would cause a dulling effect indicating lower temperatures.

This chart of temperature colors ranges from visible red to scintillating incandescent white and may be used as a guide to heats when hardening carbon or tool steel. The following points should be observed:

1. Do not heat the steel too quickly as distortion will occur and the steel might burst on quenching.

2. The steel must be heated uniformly and through and through, otherwise it might crack

on quenching.

3. Do not over-heat the steel as this will cause burning and it will be ruined by oxidation.

4. Do not over-soak the steel as this will result in decarburization of the surface, causing hard and soft places when quenched.

5. Do not quench at temperatures higher than recommended by the makers; this will cause severe distortion.

TEMPERING COLOR CHART

reprinted in part from Frank Turley handout

(For carbon tool steel only)

Deg. C.	Color Change	Deg. F.	
330	Grey	626	Springs Wood Saws Circular saws for metal Screw drivers Cold chisels for wrought iron
310	Pale blue	590	Moulding and planing cutters (soft wood) Needles
300	Medium Blue	572	Cold chisels for cast iron and firmer chisels
295	Full Blue	563	Cold chisels and sets for steel Hot sets
290		554	Axes and adzes

285	Purple blue	545	Press tools Augers Flat drills for brass
280		536	Twist drills and cooper's tools Stone cutters
275	Purple	527	Wood borers Plane irons reamers
270		518	Hard wood planing and moulding cutters, punches, dies, cups, snaps, gouges
265	Red-brown	509	Chasers, shear blades for hard metals
260	Brown-yellow	500	Taps, mill chisels and picks Screw-cutting dies
255	Orange	491	Rock drills Boring cutters
250	Light orange	482	Leather punches and dies Milling cutters
245		473	Bone and ivory cutting tools
240	Deep straw	464	Wood engraving tools, planing and slotting tools for iron
235		455	Paper cutters Planing and slotting tools for steel
230	Straw	446	Hammer faces Mint dies Screwing dies

225		437	for brass Light turning tools Steel engraving tools
220	Light straw	428	Lathe tools, scrapers and brass turning tools

This chart may be used as a guide to tempering temperatures. In almost every case, hardening of tools demands tempering which relieves stresses and induces toughness to a degree suitable for the work on which the tool will be employed. In those tools where the maximum hardness is required, they are made much tougher and less liable to fracture, without appreciable loss in hardness, if they are tempered at 100 Deg. C. to 130 Deg. C.

The temperature is estimated by the surface colors of the steel, formed by oxidation, but these will only show if the steel is free from scale. It should therefore, be cleaned with emery cloth or on the grindstone, but must not be polished, glazed, or burnished as this results in different color changes.

May 1988 -- Study in Prague, Czech., in an intensive training workshop under Vaclav Jaros. Two 14 day classes will be offered with "hands on" training as well as historical lectures and field trips. Five students per class. Contact:

Luba Ruzicka
Luba Travel
103 W. 5th St.
Taylor, TX 76574
(512) 352-8595

Opportunities



BLACKSMITH WANTED

Cambridge Village Forge is looking for one of America's best blacksmiths to work in their 3-hearth forge located in a rural setting, 20 minutes east of Madison, WI. You'll use creative skills to produce historic early American products, such as those in the Colonial Williamsburg collection. Plus, you'll use your production skills to add to our forge's efficiency. We're looking for that special blacksmith who has knowledge of forge welding and metal working. If interested, contact:

CAMBRIDGE VILLAGE FORGE
404 ENGLAND STREET
CAMBRIDGE, WI 53523

TELEPHONE # (608)764-5435

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BAM

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