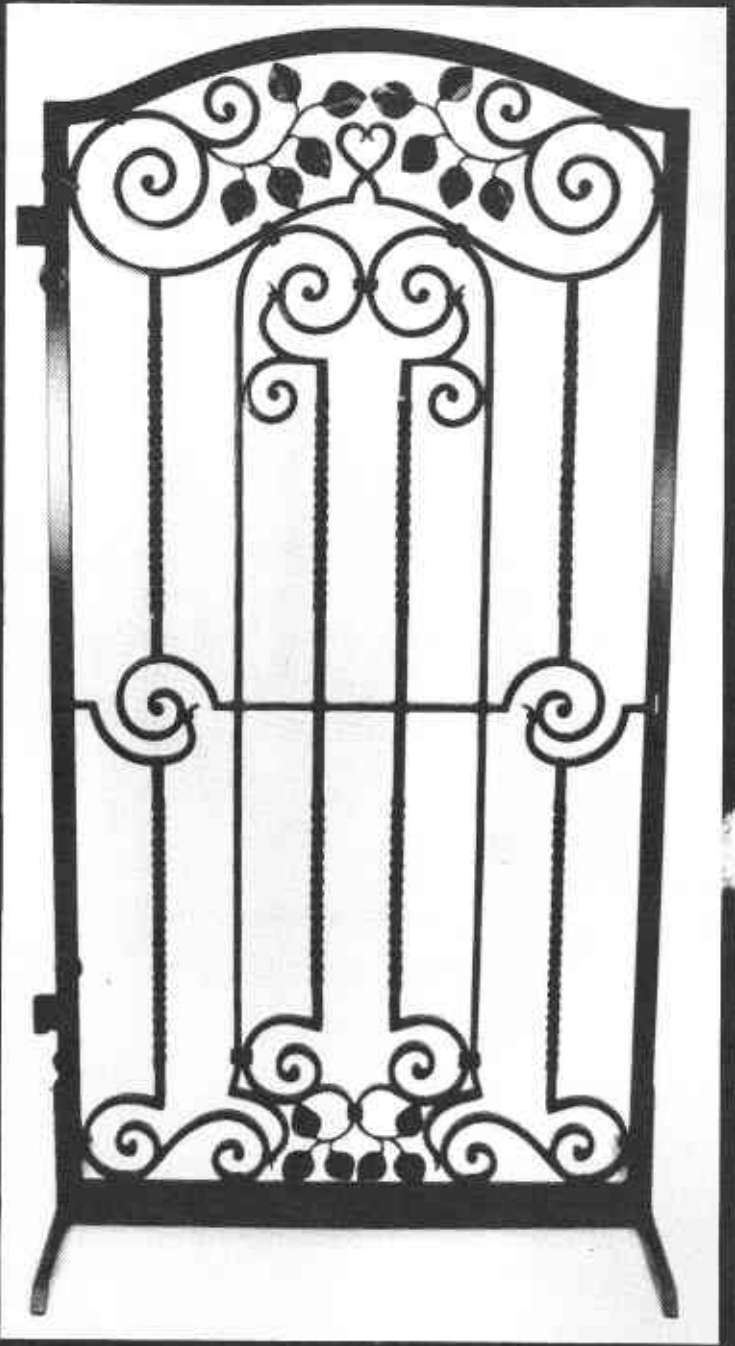


Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri



Dec. - Jan. 1990

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.

Occasionally some material included in this publication will be copyrighted and may not be reproduced without written consent of the author. BAM welcomes the use of any other material printed in this newsletter provided the author and this organization be given credit.

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BAM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____;
 Address: _____;
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 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



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Be sure to check the date on the label of your newsletter. This is your membership renewal date. We will include a renewal reminder in your copy of the newsletter when your membership is due to expire. If the date on your newsletter label is not correct, please notify Bernie Tappel as soon as possible.



November '89 Meeting

NOV 11th Meeting
at Stone County
Ironworks in
Mountainview, Arkansas

The Stone County experience is so overwhelming that I'm at a loss to describe it. These pictures will give you some idea of it's scope. Mountain View is 60 miles south of Missouri, check it out.

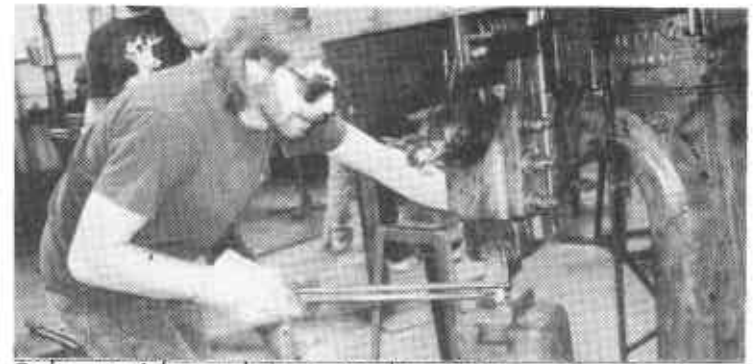
Thanks Stone County, for a memorable experience!



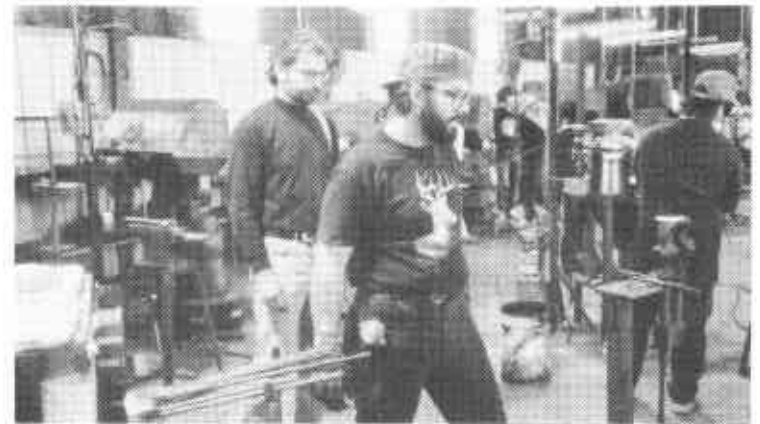
John, of Stone County Ironworks, discusses the pros and cons of the new air hammer.



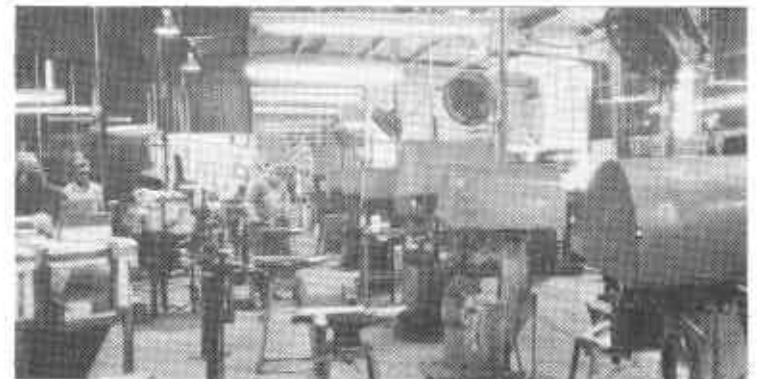
Jim Crowell treated Bammers to a fine blade making demo. Jim is one of the American Bladesmiths Society's recognized masters.



Cris working with a spring fuller developing a "Bullet." The bullet is the first step in forging the Stone County style leaf.



The look on Steve Austins' face seems to exemplify everyone's response to Stone County. It was just so overwhelming there and no words to describe the total thing.



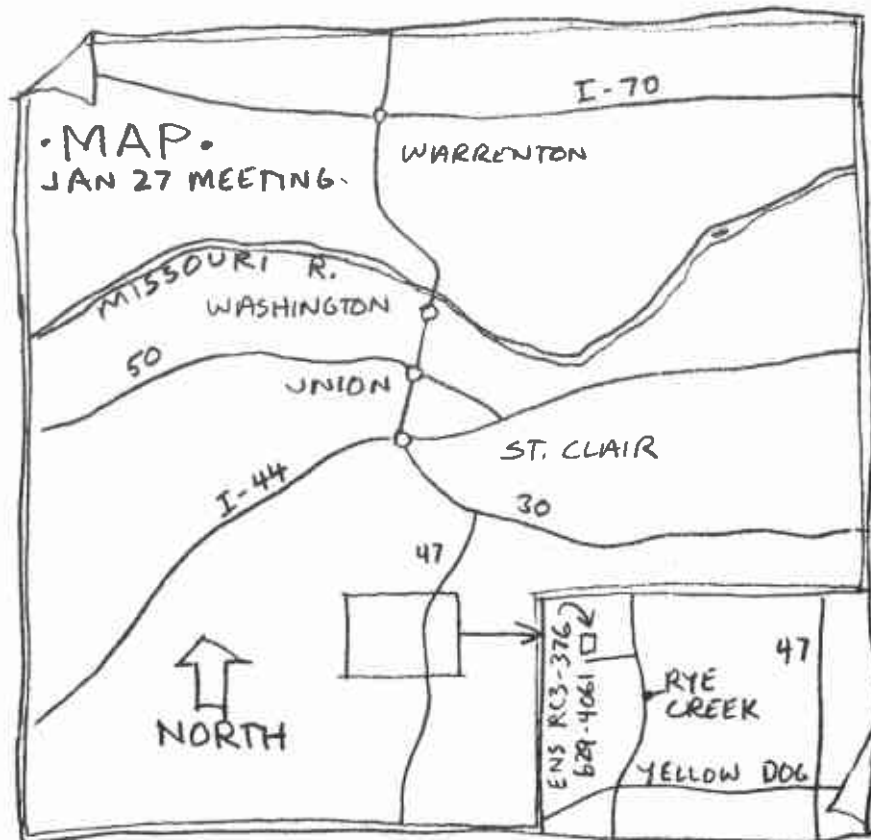
Little Giants with OSHA approved hoods stood like so many Darth Vaders facing the main forging area.

Next Meeting

Jan. 27th Meeting

Our January meeting will be held at Jerry Hoffmann's shop in Londell, Missouri. The trade item this time will be a killer for some of us. It's a tool that needs a wood handle, such as a hammer or a top tool or what ever your fertile imagination can come up with. Jerry says "If you have to, a drilled eye is OK." He goes on to say that "blacksmiths usually prefer a punched eye."

Bring your parts for the food preparation center and be prepared to receive your next assignment from Walt Hull, project director.



LEGAL INFORMATION

St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts have been contacted by Al Dippold to present their program at our Jan. 28th meeting.

Many of us are not aware of legal ramifications which may or may not apply to us and our products. This is a chance to have our legal questions answered. Come prepared with questions about copyright, product liability, etc.

At this writing the visit for SLVLAA has not yet been firmed up.

ABANA

Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America



P.O. Box 1181, Nashville, Indiana 47448
Executive Secretary, Janelle Gilbert

Office Hours: 7:30-11:30am & 1:30-4:30pm
Phone: (812) 988-6919

ABANA Chapter Liaison Committee
November 1989

The Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association played host to some members of the Arizona Knife Collectors Association at their last meeting. It's a great idea—these are members of other organizations interested in our craft. The American Society for Metals (ASM) and the Society for North American Goldsmiths (SNAG) come to mind.

Happy Birthday to the Florida Artist Blacksmith Association, just four years old this year. Congratulations, you have a great club!

I'm sure you have noticed by now the raffle that the Indiana Blacksmithing Association is running in the monthly chapter mailing. True, five bucks to win a shot at free registration, room and board at the next ABANA conference is a good idea—but it was the idea to use the monthly chapter mailing system that struck me as a great idea. Way to go, Indiana!

Looking for a way to get more involvement in your newsletter from the membership? The Michigan Artist Blacksmith Association has a nifty method—they have a "Volunteer" Contributor list. I haven't been able to determine just exactly how voluntary it really is, but it appears to be working!

Thanks to all the chapters that have sent their newsletters our way.

Clayton Carr
Chapter Liaison Committee
Rt. 2 Box 2911, Kennewick WA 99337

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE December 1989

Dear Friends,

I am happy to say that the three-day ABANA Board Meeting in Tipp City, Ohio was very productive. Charlie Orlando, from the On Site Conference Committee attended to give his report and discuss details with the board.

All the figures that are in for 1989 show that we will be very close to the targeted budget. There will be an overrun for the Anvil's Ring expenses due to the payment of bills for six issues (catch up from 1988 and an early start for the first issue in 1990), however, income should be substantial enough to cover the overrun.

The 1990 budget was swiftly balanced this year and will be published in the Anvil's Ring for your review. All expenses for 1990 will be met with income totally from membership and sales without the cushion of conference profits. A separate account has been established with the net proceeds from the 1987 conference and has yet been untouched except for the seed money for the 1990 conference. This fund will grow as the 1990 conference proceeds are added. ABANA no longer needs to borrow seed money from the Merrill Lynch account. The ability to do this reflects the financial stability ABANA has finally realized.

The ABANA Board has voted to award up to 10% of net conference profits (set aside in the conference account) to hosting ABANA Chapters. Due to the increasing amount of preparation for larger conferences, it had become evident that financial support for hosting groups needed to be provided.

The Anvil's Ring will have a new editor beginning with the Spring issue 1990 (volume 17,#4). I am pleased to report that the ABANA Board voted to accept Albert Anderson from Pennsylvania to fill this position. A profile on your new editor will appear in a future issue of the Anvil's Ring. Please keep in mind that our editor needs to hear from you regarding articles to be published, so look for the new address on the cover page of the Spring issue.

There is a new offer on the table regarding the 1988 conference souvenirs! PLEASE CONTACT THE ABANA OFFICE IF YOUR CHAPTER WOULD LIKE FREE ENGINEER CAPS, BASEBALL CAPS, BRASS BELT BUCKLES, AND OTHER GOODIES TO SELL FOR CHAPTER FUND-RAISING. Only chapter officers may order and all you have to pay is the shipping charge. Call the ABANA Office for details.

Thank you for publishing the President's Message in your newsletters. If you have notices to be mailed to other chapters, just mail in your ready-to-copy notice to the ABANA Office for inclusion.

Best wishes for the holidays!

Dorothy Stiegler
ABANA President

DES/jrg

THE OLD WAY

BY AL STEPHENS

Before the days of microwaves, electric ranges, natural gas stoves, before even kerosene burners and wood cookstoves (which probably more of us than like to admit it can remember), there was still the need to adjust the heat needed to cook. It was even then necessary to adjust the amount of light a person needed to do many things. Of course you could have made a lot of various sized S hooks, or you could have made a lot of the same sized S hooks and linked them together to suspend your pot between the fireplace crane and the fire. A more practical solution would be to purchase or produce an adjustable pot hanger or trammel.

We have examples of many different designs in trammels. Many examples of European trammels are elaborately scrolled, pierced, engraved, or decorated with fine stamping, while most of the American examples we have are simpler in design and decoration and more basically functional.

Trammels were made in sizes and strengths ranging from extremely long and heavy for holding large pots to tiny delicate ones for holding lighting devices such as Betty lamps or small candleholders. Trammels were produced to be hooked over a fireplace crane or a lug pole, or hung from a peg or nail.

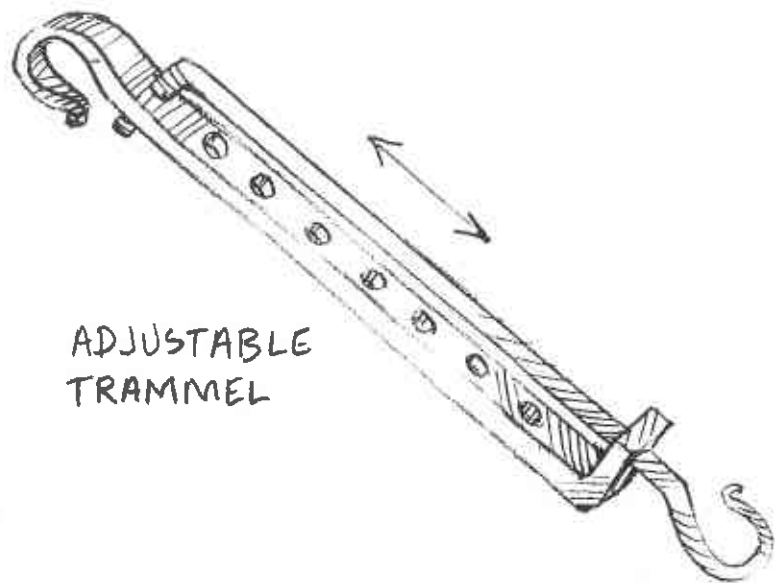
To make a fast easy trammel start with a piece of 1/4 x 3/4 flat stock 17" long. This will be your stationary piece. At 3/8" in from one end punch a 3/8" hole. Bend 1" of the piece 90 degree. From the bend punch six 3/8 holes 2" apart. Then form a hook with the remaining stock. Now take a 1/4 dia. x 15" rod. Bend 1" at a little more than 90

degrees. Insert through bottom hole of stationary piece. Form a hook on the other end. Decorate to suit yourself.

The resulting trammel will be about 14" long collapsed and about 26" long extended,. It's very functional, easy to store, and the different parts won't separate in moving from place to place.

For other examples of trammels I would suggest the book Antique Iron: A Survey of American and English Forms Fifteenth through Nineteenth Century by Herbert, Peter and Nancy Schiffer.

As these articles are my first attempt at writing, it would be a great help to me to receive ideas and suggestions from anyone. So if you have any old tools, or anything that many of us have never seen, share the wealth. Send me a picture or a sketch and any information you have about it. Our craft is an old one and in spite of modern technology, you might have something we all could learn from sitting around as a curiosity or conversation piece.



ADJUSTABLE
TRAMMEL



Prof. Safety

Dear Professor Safety

I have recently acquired an oxy-acetylene cutting outfit, but I'm not sure about the safest way to use it, so I'm turning to you before I turn it on. How should I proceed?

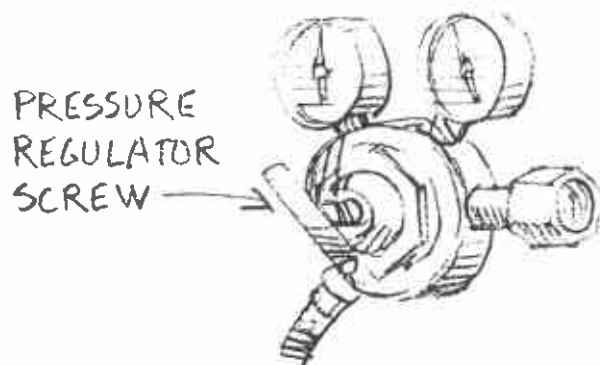
Dear

As Frank Turley says, "Read the book." First read the book that came with the outfit, if you bought it new. Then read Victor's "Heating, Welding, and Cutting Guide", available at welding supply stores, price is 50 cents, but they'll probably just give you one.

There is a lot more information here than you'll easily digest, so I'll hit some of the high spots.

The torch is the most versatile thing in your shop. The same tool that will take the kinks out of a beam weighing more than your truck

will also solder a post on an earring, melt babbitt for your Little Giant, or cut a piece of railroad iron in half. But, brothers and sisters, that puppy can bite you. It's basically well behaved and will serve you well, but it deserves your respect.



That big bottle (the official term is cylinder) of oxygen comes full under about 2,000 pounds per sq. inch pressure, or a little more. Anyone who has seen a tire blow out (at most 1/20 of that pressure) will be interested in letting it out very, very gently. The rules here are:

(1) Never hook the bottle up to defective equipment.

(2) The bottle should either be chained up or otherwise constrained from falling, or it should have a safety cap on it. When you take the regulator off, put the cap on.

(3) If the valve appears defective (leaks, etc.) take the bottle outside, away from folks, write "bad valve" on it, and don't mess with it. Call your supplier. DO NOT EVER EVER try to tighten the valve in the

cylinder. If it's leaking, it might be cracked at the threads. These things go through block walls, and stuff when the valve breaks off. There is no question of jumping out of the way.

(4) Never hook the oxygen bottle to a piece of equipment without a regulator.

(5) When you put the regulator on the bottle, first "crack" the valve, i.e., open it gently just the least bit to blow dirt, moisture, etc. out, so that when you attach the regulator you will not blow this garbage into it's delicate works at 2000 + psi. Tighten the regulator nut firmly but not hard: these are brass threads, and you don't want to damage them.

Back off the regulator adjusting screw.

Before you open the cylinder valve.

When you open the valve, stand like this:



Open the oxygen valve all the way. This is to seal the packing in the valve and prevent leaking around the valve stem.

(6) Oxygen, they tell us "vigorously accelerates combustion. Well, if it didn't we wouldn't buy it. But we should remember that things that burn, burn a lot better in pure oxygen, and that some things may behave surprisingly. Oil and grease may burn in oxygen without your having to bother to light them. Things that just smoulder in air may explode in pure oxygen. NEVER use oxygen for compressed air, to operate tools or blow that dirt off the bench or cool something hot. NEVER use oil or grease on regulators or hose fittings.

Not everyone I know does it like this, but, Damn it folks, it doesn't take any longer to do it right than to do it some other way. Let's at least be safe when it's easy.

Next time we'll talk about acetylene and other fuel gases.

Prof. S.

Confessions of a Welder By Jud Hirshfeld

Heck fella's I've been involved in the welding trade since I was fifteen. That's what I do to make money. One thing I've learned for sure is, as a welder, you have to be versatile. You've got to be able to do a wide variety of procedures and always sound like you've got a rough idea what going on.

When some guy calls, and he's got a piece of equipment down, it's probably costing him a fortune in lost production. He'll want someone who will get him back on line fast and right. Money is not going to be a factor, most of the time. So, it is critical for me to be able to go in there and get this guys equipment working so he'll call me again.

Now every situation is different. So I learn all the time. Everything that I can do to improve my work will get me more work later. All the education I can get will help me advance in my trade. It's important for me to read whatever I can get my hands on and talk shop with other tradesmen whenever I can.

I saw a notice on a bulletin board at a local iron works announcing a real live blacksmiths demonstration at that shop. The demonstrator was Don Asbee. Up to that time, I had only read some books on the subject of "Blacksmithing". I needed to see what they were talking about in print, while it really happened, before it would make any sense. Well, I missed the demo, but was able to get my hands on an old BAM newsletter, For fifteen bucks I signed on, hoping to learn some new things.

I've learned quite a lot. BAM has been a good educational tool for me. Many things I've read about, are much clearer now and some things I've successfully done myself. Going to meetings is the best part because I can get my eyes and hands on the tools and equipment and even though I'm strictly an amateur, the other people will show me tricks, give me some help, and answer my questions. Plus, I always get to see plenty of really nice pieces of work. I'm beginning to get a rough idea what's going on.

I don't think that I can be a full time real blacksmith. I've got too much time and money tied up in my welding business. Besides, I just can't seem to be able to put down that MIG stinger. But I can use the information I get from the BAM membership to help me advance in the welding trade. It's just one more little advantage I can use in my favor.

Thanks for all of your help.

Jud H.

-Ten Commandments of Welding-

1. Thou shalt not weld on an unpurged tank, for the noise will be very loud when the tank explodes and thy friends will console thy widow in ways generally unacceptable unto thee.
2. Thou shalt secure thy tanks, lest one fall on thy foot and transform thee into less than a graceful dancer when called upon by thy wife or other female friend.
3. Thou shalt clean thy work carefully, lest thee gaze upon thy work falling apart as it passeth out of thy sight.

4. Thou shalt place thy work in jigs, or other holding fixtures for thy eye is a poor instrument for the measurement of angles and great will be the wrath of thy leader as thou art doing thy task a second time.
5. Thou shalt not weld near batteries, compressed gasses or flammable materials, lest a spark from thy labors create a fire which would cause thee to continue thy chosed profession in an open field or other such drafty place.
6. Thou shalt take great care of thy tools and equipment, lest thy friend who is in charge of such things, smites thee about the head and shoulders for being a wastrel and a knave.
7. Thou shalt not perform thy art without proper ventilation, for the smell of toxic gasses produced by heating or primers and painted or plated surfaces is worse than a bad cigar and will remain with thee until the end of thy days.
8. Thou shalt not weld without goggles, nor shalt thou allow others to gaze upon thy labors lest thy employment or the employment of others be changed to sitting in cold and rainy streets while selling pencils.
9. Thou shalt wear sturdy gloves, for burns upon thy hands area source of great pain when thou art attempting to raise thy bowling average.
10. Thou shalt ground thy work, when thou weldeth with a machine of arcs. For thou art a poor conductor of electricity and the shock which thou shall receive will peel thy eyelids back and ruin thy plans for thy weekend.

Jud H.

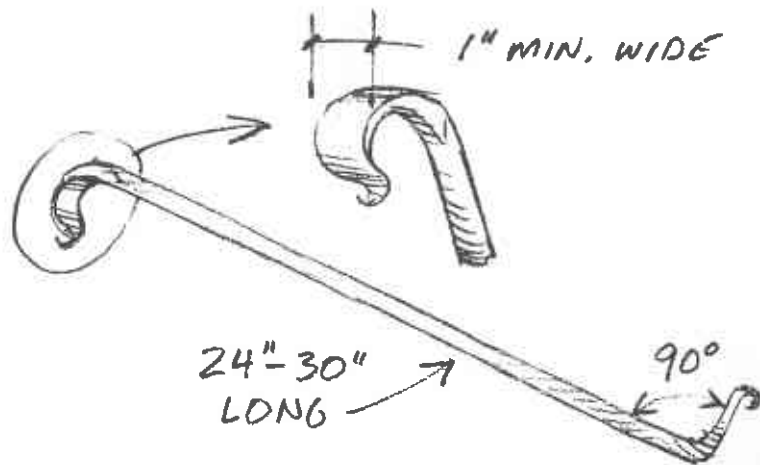
Tips & Techniques

Here's another quickie for rendezvous. I call it a pot lifter. It's for peeking under lids and taking pots off of cooking fires.

Put a 90 degree hook on one end to pick up lids. If it's not 90 degrees, it's difficult to get under the lid loops.

The other end is spread and flattened to be easier on the hand.

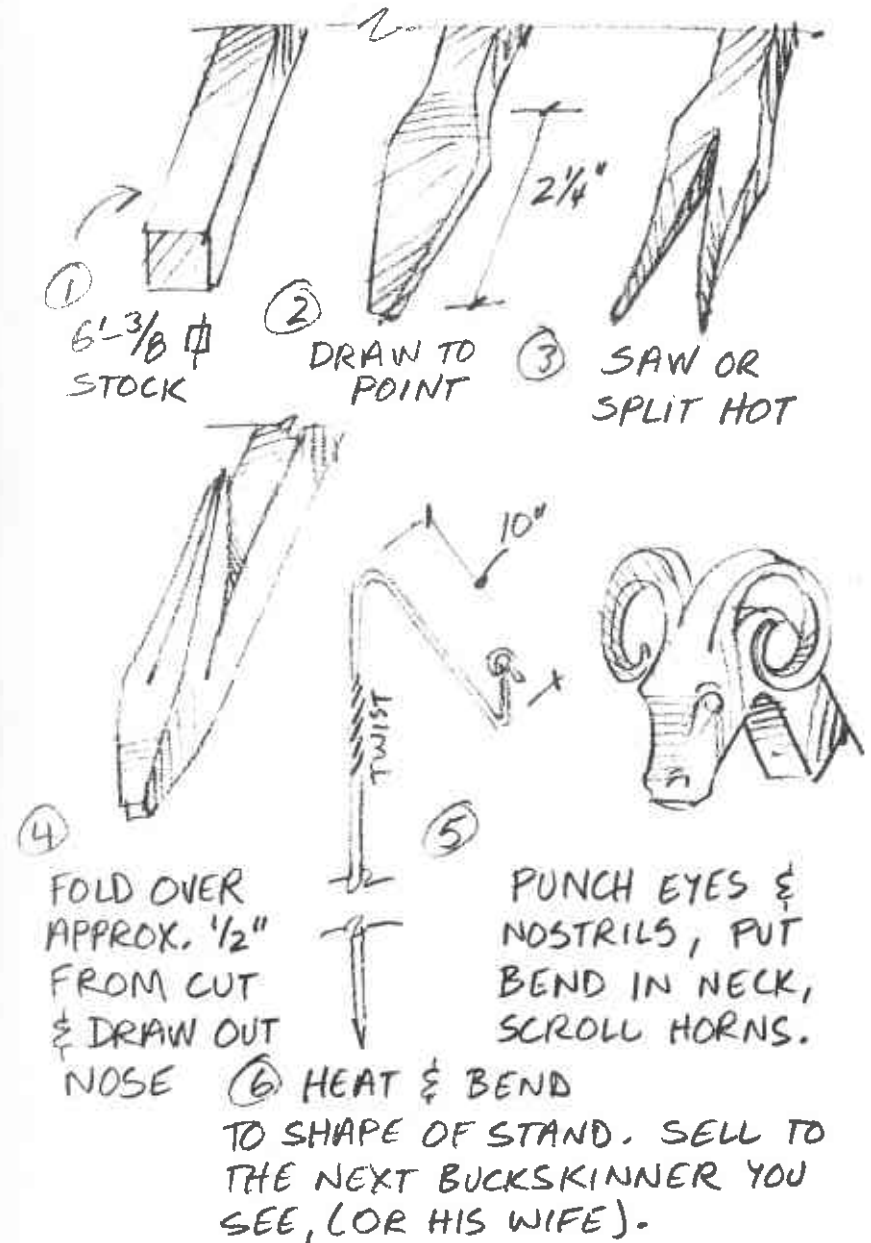
That's it, simple but deadly. It also makes a nice poker. Since they are so quick and easy, I often give them to my friends who cook on fires, or throw one in when I sell a fire set.



Pot Lifter

Ken Valdejo

(To a buckskinner it is a lantern stand, but to his wife it is something nice for her to hang her flower pot on.)



Ram's Head Stand Pastor McHaffie

Park Bench - Chair

Jud Hirschfeld

Material:

1" round Bar:	5/8" flat wash: 4
2 @ 46	CARRIAGE BOLTS:
2 @ 21"	32 @ 1/4" X 1 1/2")
2 @ 16 1/2"	(plain)
1 @ 38"	32 @ 1/4" nut
1 @ 15"	32 @ 1/4" flat
1/4" x 1 1/4" flat:	washer
2 @ 24"	
2 @ 10"	

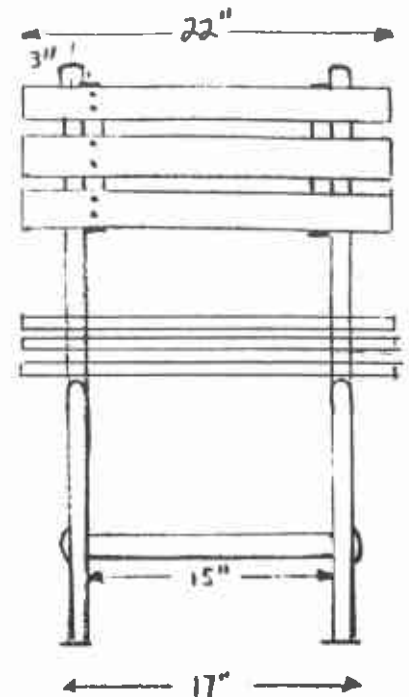
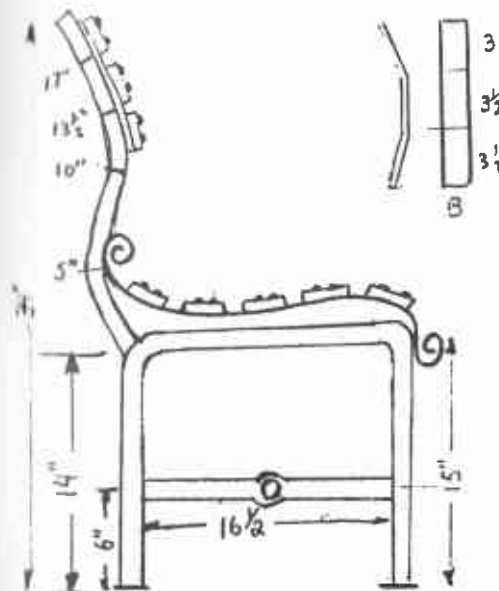
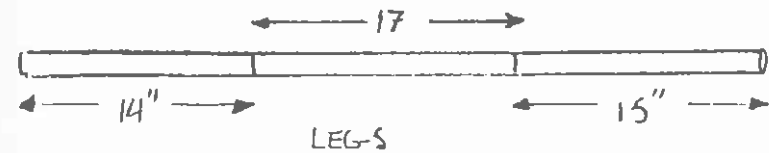
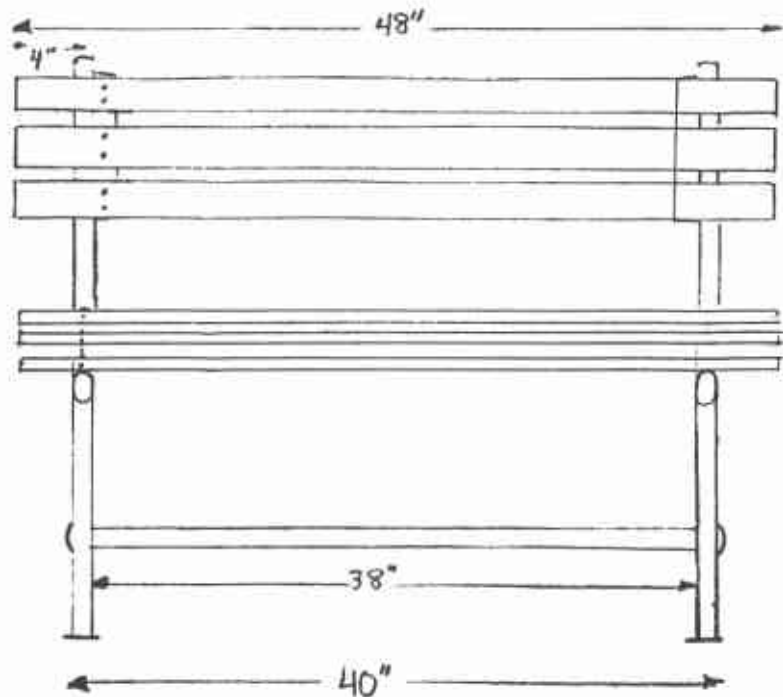
LUMBER:

8 @ 3/4" X 2 1/2" X 48" or
8 @ 3/4" X 2 1/2" X 22"

Cedar or, Paint Grade Wolmanized

FINISH:

Frame - Buck gloss
Cedar - Polyurethane - Satin
Paint Grade - As desired



Flag Pole Holder

Ken Valdejo

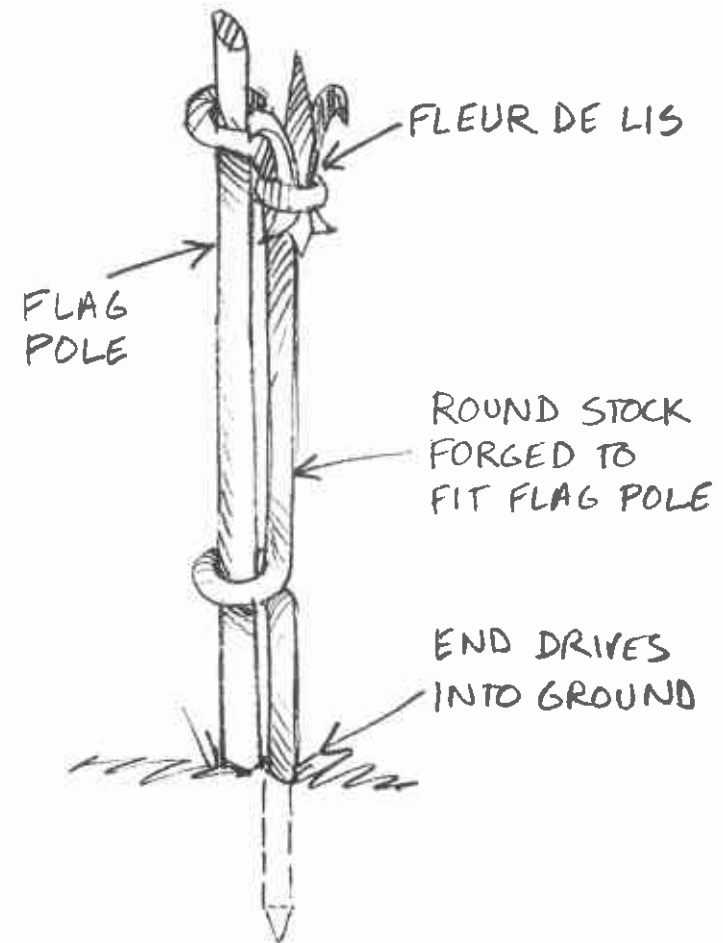
Jerry's fleur-de-lis made a nice finial for a flagstand that I made for an 18th century French Militia.

In the re-enactment biz there are a lot of Military units; English, Spanish, and French, knows someone who is French, wants to be French, or has ever been French-kissed. The Boy Scouts also claim it as their emblem. As you might have guessed, there is a market for it.

Start off with 4' of 1/2" stock, round or square as you like it. At one end make a 2" loop. Point the other end. Come up from the point about 12" and put another loop. Now you've got a basic flagstand. Put your foot on the bottom loop and push it in the ground.

Next is the fleur. Sorry to say, I haven't discovered a quick and dirty way to knock these out. You'll have to get Jerry's secret. Anyway, use a piece of 1/4" or 5/16" for the belt. It looks nice if you twist it. You can consider mixing round and square in threes for different effects. Weld the fleur to the spine of the flagstand, and you're in business.

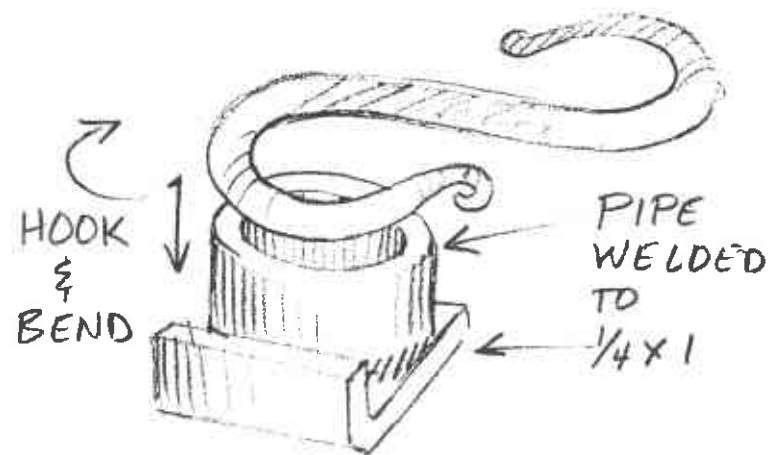
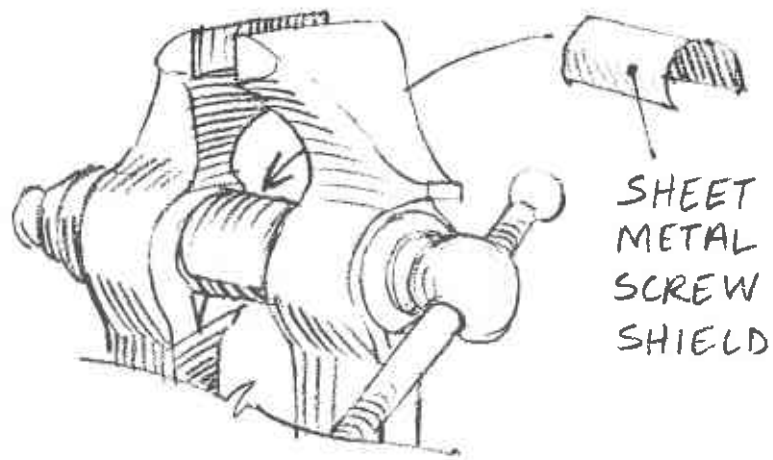
I think that these would be good accents to dress up signs or andirons.



Vice Screw Shield Grady Holley Jr.

I used a piece of sheet metal bent 1/2" round to cover my post vise screw - it keeps filings and such from sticking to my well greased and constantly used vise screws.

Pressure holds shield in moving jaw.



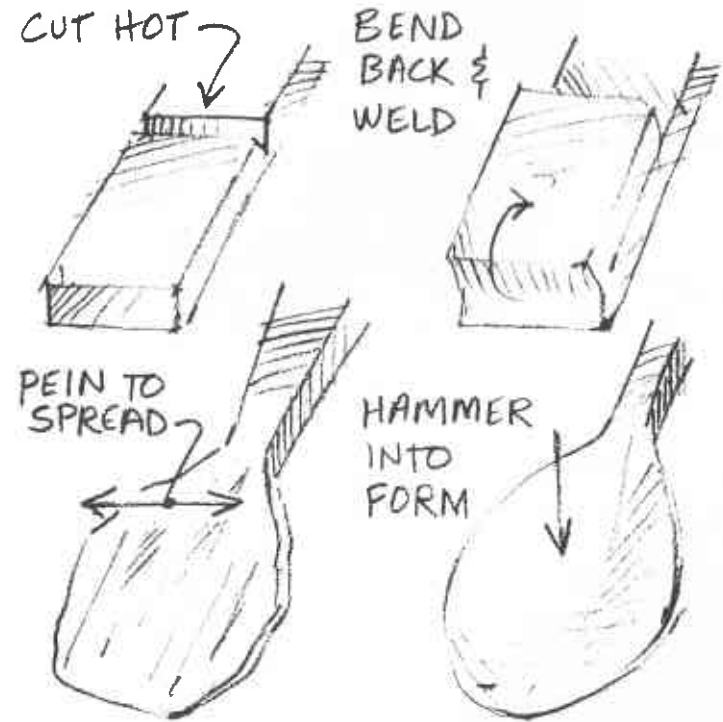
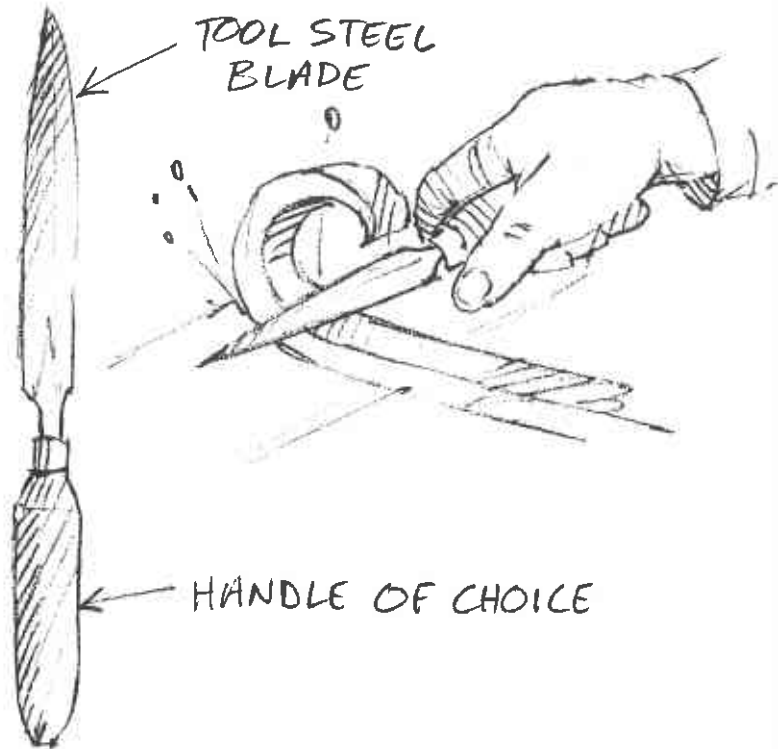
An easy way to make a handy tool for making S hooks is to weld a short piece of pipe onto a 1/4" x 1" flat piece of steel that has had one end bent up at 90 degrees. Any sized pipe may be used depending on the size hook desired. The flat piece of steel is clamped into a vice when in use.

S Hook Jig

Maurice Ellis

Scale Scraper

Jim Waller



Forged Spoon

Ken Valdejo

MYERS & COMPANY
ARCHITECTURAL METALS
0176 Emma Road
Box 1025
Basalt, CO 81621
(303) 925-4777
(303) 927-4761

November 29, 1989

Blacksmith Association of Missouri
RR #1, Box 16D
Lesterville, MO 63654

Dear Sirs:

Myers & Company Architectural Metals is a fourteen year old company based in the Aspen area of Colorado. We produce structural steel products, miscellaneous metals, and have a large and growing blacksmithing department comprised of about 15 employees. We maintain substantial backlog of ornamental projects. They range from pot racks, hardware, furniture, rails and gates, to complete stair systems. We also work in non-ferrous materials. Our blacksmithing area has one large gas forge, one small gas forge, two coal forges, an 800 lb. Nazel air hammer, a 75 lb. Reiter air hammer and a multitude of bending and twisting equipment. We also use the tooling in the structural department to produce components for ornamental projects. Our workload has been increasing steadily for the past couple of years. We are constantly searching for both Journeymen and experienced Apprentice blacksmiths to join our company. We would like to encourage any of your motivated members to contact us if they are looking for employment in this field.

Please send resumes and write to: Myers & Company
PO Box 1025
Basalt, CO 81621

Or call (303) 925-4761, (303) 925-4777 and ask for Stuart, Bob or Ken.

We greatly appreciate any help from you to send some talent in this direction.

Sincerely,

Ken Hambel
Ken Hambel



Edwin Roth jun.
Kunstschmied
Brucker Str. 49
8011 Gliching

West Germany

Gliching, den 10.10.89

Hallo,

I'm Edwin Roth, a young blacksmith and metal-designer of bavaria (West Germany).
I want get a job in the states in this proffession.
Now I'm working eight years in this magic part of the crafts.
I've done works in restauration, reconstruction also as modern iron-works.
In the last time I made experiences in smithing, welding and finishing stainless-steel and broncc.
Last year I passed the master-school of munich.
I'm a participator of congresses and exhibitions like Aachen, Hereford, Helfstyn (CSSR) or Friedrichshafen.
Yes and now I want go to USA. I search a job for three months or longer.
If you need someone or could arrange other contacts, please write and give me informations.

Much greetings

Edwin Roth

Bernard Tappel

This will be your last newsletter
unless we receive your renewal
Please remit as soon as possible
