

BAM

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NEWSLETTER of the BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

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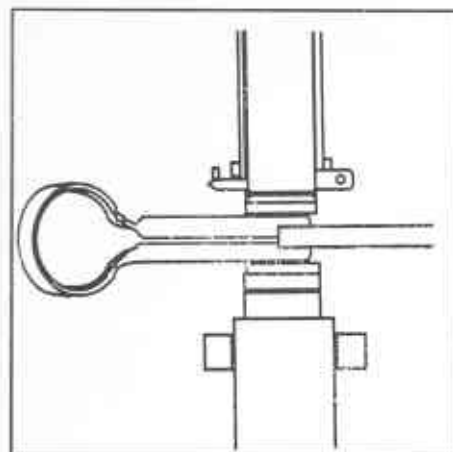
23 You'll see some big hammers if you head to John Murray's shop for the September meeting.



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Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri

Volume 10 No. 4

Our cover: John Murray work hardens his weld with a well-placed blow from his hammer during a warm-up anvil rebuilding workshop. John is the host of the September meeting.

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The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri is published six times a year and is mailed to members of BAM. The annual fee for regular membership is \$20/year; a portion of this amount is for a subscription to this newsletter for one year. Editorial inquiries should be addressed to: Jim McCarty, Rt. 1 Box 20, Loose Creek, MO 65054 (314-897-4111). BAM membership inquiries should be addressed to: Steve Austin, 44 N.E. Munger Rd., Claycomo, MO 64119 (816) 781-1512). Occasionally some material will be copyrighted and may not be reproduced without written consent by the author. BAM welcomes the use of any other material printed in this newsletter provided the author and this organization be given credit.

BAM Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: () _____ Zip: _____

New Member Renewal

How did you learn about BAM? _____

Memberships are for one year from receipt of dues. Dues are \$20, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly BAM newsletter. Please make checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri.

ABANA Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: () _____ Zip: _____

New Member Renewing Member

How did you learn about ABANA? _____

- Regular Member\$35 yr.
- Family Membership (One Vote).....\$40 yr.
- Senior Citizen (Age 65)\$25 yr.
- Overseas Membership.....\$45 yr.
- Contributory\$100 yr.
- Library\$25 yr.

See reverse

Editor's Anvil

I've noticed an alarming trend lately not just in this newsletter but in the dozen or more others that find their way to my mailbox from the other ABANA chapters. Increasingly we are recycling more and more of each other's articles and running less and less original material.

I say this is alarming because, despite the big box of back issues I inherited from Walt Hull (who inherited them from Doug, who ...), one of these days the good stuff is going to dry up and I will be forced to run pictures of my kids, my wife in swimsuit or worse yet, my own forgings.

Don't let this happen — get me some original articles. Don't lie now. I know you have some carefully gleaned idea that formed in that gray matter you carry around upstairs and eventually found its way to your hammer, no doubt lubricated along the way by a Pabst Blue Ribbon or something.

All you have to do is put it in some semblance of a story and add some crude stick-figure of an illustration and send it my way. I'll put the words into the King's English and Jerry Hoffmann can turn your sketch into a Rembrandt (or at the very least a Picasso).

That way we can increase our knowledge and send the other editors something in exchange for the material I have been stealing for our newsletter.

I just got back from Washington D.C. where I had the good fortune to meet Dan Houston, who is Tom Clark's counterpart at the Blacksmith's Guild of the Potomac. Dan lives just across the river from the nation's capital in Virginia.

He was kind enough to pick me up in front of the hotel and take me to his home for a wonderful meal, a glass of wine and a tour of his soon to expand basement shop.

Dan would be an inspiration to those of you who think you can't have a serious blacksmith shop in close quarters. He forges with a tiny propane forge that he built himself. It



My payback for the scholarship was a demo at the July meeting.

has doors on both ends so he isn't limited to small stock. It's a slick design and he offered to share the plans.

Packed into the little basement area was a new air hammer, a fly press, several pieces of woodworking equipment, a mig welder, a metal lathe, a drill press, cut-off saw and a milling machine. Anvils were stacked in odd areas.

The Guild has a fully furnished shop that members can use, provided they follow the rules. I know BAM is spread out more than the folks out east but that sure sounds like a neat idea.

It was nice getting to visit with another blacksmith from a different part of the country. I have no doubt that virtually any blacksmith would welcome you like Dan did me. If you are headed somewhere take the time

to find a name from the area you are going to visit. The ABANA office can probably help you in this regard.

That's just another way to get a good exchange of information going.

If memory serves me right this issue is where I came in a year ago. I hope you like what I have been doing with the newsletter. Please let me know what you want from the publication and I'll always do my best to make it work for you.

I've learned a lot in a short year and I appreciate the opportunity to do this job. I think my skills would have progressed much slower without the steady stream of newsletters I get to see. Thanks BAM for your friendship and support.

Dear BAM members,

Since our conference in April, interest has grown in our library. Many have used our library and many more have donated tapes, books and money. Here is a list of the new additions:

Books purchased with money donated

1. The Blacksmiths Cookbook, by Francis Whitaker, \$23. 2. Samuel Yellin, metalworker, by Jack Andrews, \$35. 3. Treasury of Ironwork and Designs, Arranged by Carol Grafton, \$9. 4. Blacksmithing Shop & Iron Forging, by Lindsay Publications, \$6.50.

Books Donated 1. Windmills and Motors, by F.E. Powell. 2. Correspondence School Manuals. A. Hammer Work, B. Iron Forging, C. Babbiting Manual 3. Illustrated Catalog of the Champion Blower and Forge Co. 4. Volume I & II of Precision Measurement in Metal Working Ind. 5. Business Mathematics. 6. Four volumes of Sweet's Catalog File. 7. Carpenter's Tool Steel Manual. 8. Steel Construction Manual. 9. Modern Metallurgy for Engineers. 10. Design Manual for High Strength Steels All above donated by Steve Austin.

Photocopies 11. Wrought Ironwork. 12. Decorative Ironwork. 13. The Blacksmith's Craft. 14. The Making of Tools, by Alexander Weygers. 15. The Modern Blacksmith, by Alexander Weygers, all donated by Roger Degner. 16. New Lessons in Arc Welding, by Lincoln Electric Co., donated by Ray Chaffin.

Video Tapes 1. Ozark Conference 1993, (Daryl Meier) donated by Kevin Fallis. 2. Ozark Conference 1993 (Events and Demonstrators) donated by Kevin Fallis. 3. Illinois Valley Conference 1993, (Clay Spencer) donated by Kevin Fallis. 4. Hubble Hammer-in 1988/89/90, (Plus demo by Jobslov Valec), donated by Roger Degner. 5. 1990 Metalsmiths Madness (Dorothy Steigler, Dan Butt, Monte Bygd, Kitty Lantane) donated by Roger Degner. 6. BAM's Greatest Hits (Roberta Elliot-Francis, Jerry Hoffmann, Stan Winkler, Doug Hendrickson) donated by David Hoopes. 7. Ozark Conference 1993 (Doug Wilson) donated by Ray Chaffin.

Library Rules: 1. The user pays postage both ways. 2. Video Tapes due back in 15 days. 3. Books due back in 30 days. This is from the time they are mailed until they are received back. The videos are sent first class plus insurance and the books are sent fourth class. — Ray Chaffin

Classified

For Sale: Little Giant 25-pound hammer with two sets of dies. Completely rebuilt — this one is ready to run. Contact Maurice Ellis, #4 Covey Court, Florissant, Mo. 63031 or call (314) 838-0080.

For Sale: Quenching oil from a tool and die shop. Also waylube — super-sticky oil designed for machinery ways. Great for trip hammers etc. Will have both at the next meeting at John Murray's. Pat McCarty, (314) 239-3814.

Wanted: If you're interested in marketing blacksmith crafts from an excellent tourist location contact Jim White, P.O. Box 227, Hunter, OK 74640 or call (405) 684-7768.

Editor's note: The four following ads came in response to my ad in Rural Missouri looking for blacksmith tools. If you call or write mention Jim McCarty sent you.

Forge for sale, ready to be fired up, with blower for \$100. Call or write South Noble, PO Box 4, Mountain Grove, Mo. 65711, (417) 926-4218 (call after 5 pm).

Need a big, big, post drill? If you have the space you probably want one. Joe Hausman from Frankenstein has one for sale but has no idea what he wants for it. He says it came from the state pen in Jeff City. Call him at 897-4569 if you're interested.

Forge for sale, ratchet type, and a few tools for \$150. Earl Bumgarner, Rt. 2 Box 150, Lebanon, Mo. 35536 or call (417) 532-9757.

As used by Don Asbee: Cast iron forge for sale for \$75. Small enough to be portable, Don has used it in demos, she says. Call Vicki Hardecastle at (314) 474-9687.

Increase your productivity and

profits with parts cut with the accuracy of a laser. Laser cut parts can be very price competitive, even if you need only one! Backplates for slide bolts, escutcheon plates for wall-mounted handrails, decorated mounting plates for light fixtures, the parts you need for the vast variety of things you make. With bandsaw and file, hacksaw and grinder, chisel and hammer you can't produce the accuracy you need in the time you have. We routinely need door handle backplates with the corners cut out and precisely positioned holes, rectangular holes, square holes. We have reduced the labor required to produce one of these to less than one third, and therefore the cost to the customer, or the profits for us. For a detailed brochure and a sample from the shop floor, send a dollar (refunded with first order) to: Bob Bigelow, Rt. 1, Box 380-H, Espanola, NM 87532.

If forging firesets is in your repertoire, I'm sure you have the most trouble forging the business end of the broom. Making the poker and shovel are usually pretty standard forge practice, but making the brush end can be pretty frustrating. My wife took a broommaking class at the Birmingham conference and can solve the problem for you. With the class and five years of practice, she's good! A smart, fully functional traditional broom, tied on your handle, is only \$15 plus freight. For complete ordering information, send a self-addressed, stamped, envelope to: Robee Bigelow, Rt. 1 Box 380-H, Espanola, NM 87532 or call evenings (Mountain Time) (505) 753-9383. Ask for the broom lady.

For sale: Buffalo forge, measures 3 foot square, has fire pot and electric blower \$100. Still have two sheers, one is a Winner, cuts flat stock, the other is a Cannedy-Otto (I think), cuts round and square and has interchangeable punches \$125 each. Jim McCarty (314) 897-4111

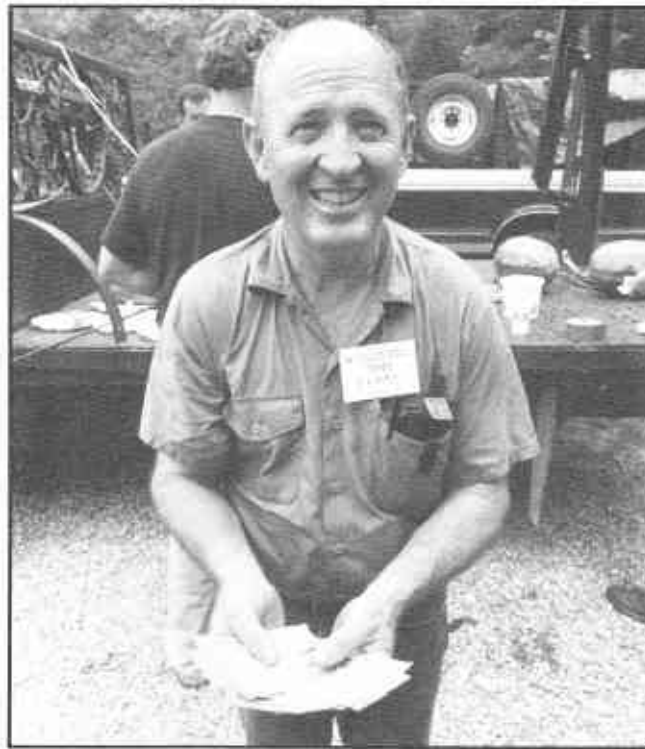
Tom's Turn

Our July meeting at Doug and Bonnie Hendricksons' was as expected, even better than the year before. Doug always plans a good one with several demonstrators going at the same time. There was never a dull moment. Interest was high to see Jim McCarty (just returned from the John C. Campbell Folk School) pay his dues and show what he had learned. I think we have created another monster. Jim showed his stuff and the crowd loved it. We will be seeing more of him at the forge in the future, that is if he can find a vacant one. It is encouraging to see so many new faces stepping up to the forge at our regular meetings.

Among the highlights of this meeting was the start of a scholarship program. Three \$500 scholarships will be awarded each year to help in the learning process of BAM members. Two will be awarded to Missouri residents and one to members outside of Missouri. BAM has many very active members in other states and we want to make sure everyone who wishes to has a fair chance to use this program. Todd Kinnikin is the committee chairman and to get him off on the right foot your board of directors has given him the first scholarship. Use it well Todd since we want to learn from your experience.

Editor Jim always asks me to report on my travels so here goes: I finally got a chance to visit Fred Caylor's shop in Zionsville, Indiana. Fred was hosting a workshop for the Rural Smiths of Mid-America, a small group (not an ABANA chapter) that concentrates on traditional smithing. They produce a good newsletter with lots of how to do its. You never know what to expect but when it comes it is great.

Clay Spencer was the demonstrator and I had the chance to tend his fire and finish his demo pieces. Clay was in rare form and completed more work in a day and a half than I've seen anyone do. Fred was the auctioneer and Clay's pieces brought a healthy \$840. Good job Clay. Fred



Tom rakes in the bucks at BAM's July meeting.

was beside himself as he pondered as to what they would do with all the money. Thanks Fred for a good weekend and I hope those in attendance enjoy their BAM newsletter. Seems as though most in attendance are now BAM members.

July 24 I drove to Gallatin, Tenn. to attend a meeting of the Appalachian Area Chapter of ABANA. This is an annual event sponsored by the Sumner County Historical Museum and held on the ground. This was chaired by Billy Green. Billy puts a lot into the event and hopes to some day draw more people from Missouri and Arkansas. There were a half dozen or more outside demonstrations going on all day. Tim Ryan and Clay Spencer were there. Thanks Billy for a good program and your hospitality.

Thelma and I spent the first week of August at the John C. Campbell Folk School. Thelma took a class in quilting and I spent the week with Doug Hendrickson and kitchen smithing. Doug's class was full, five women and seven men. What a week! We built the best ever spud gun and Doug put on a show with it at the school's Friday show and tell. Along with the spud gun all students completed a frying pan and other kitchen utensils. ABANA board member

Elizabeth Brim made a very difficult handle in the shape of a chicken bone. Lots of upsetting done with skill and good taste. Elizabeth is attending our Sept. 25 meeting at John Murray's. Hope she brings it along.

A reminder to everyone about the ring project, don't wait until the last minute. If you have one finished, or even if it's just started, bring it to the next meeting.

It is also time to start thinking about items for the Ozark Conference in April '94, and for the ABANA conference in June of '94. Everyone should try to make items for these fundraisers as it gives you a chance to show your work (no matter what your skill level is) and the proceeds go to promote educational activities in blacksmithing.

June, July and August were trying months for many people along the rivers of the Midwest. BAM member Stanley Winkler and family were victims of the flood. Iron in the hat and other donations were made to help them. See story in this issue.

Lou will hold a conference meeting at John's meeting. Committee people be prepared to attend. Others welcome to attend too.

—Tom Clark

BAM

JULY MEETING



Why can't all of you guys look like this?

We had a hot time in Lesterville — but then, that's what blacksmithing in July is supposed to be like. Doug and Bonnie Hendrickson were gracious hosts as usual, and we managed to learn a few things in spite of the welding-temperature heat.

The editor, for one, lost quite a few pounds showing off what he learned at the folk school. We had a three-ring circus going for most of the morning with Doug showing 'repose', Jerry Hoffmann doing his thing at the brick forge and the editor making a chisel on the other forge.

It was a new experience for me — not just standing up at the forge in front of a group but doing the same on a charcoal fire. Rainbo Clary, on loan from the Illinois side of the river, showed up with a truck load of charcoal he uses for fragrant demonstrations (and pork steaks I bet!) Rainbo, you might remember, is the blacksmith who gained fame for stepping out to relieve himself during the height of the storm that ravaged our Ozark Conference last April.

Charcoal works pretty good though it seemed to take longer to get things hot and had a bad habit of erupting when the center burned out, as both I and Walt Hull found out. Rainbo made a forge weld with it but I think his piece ended up on the scrap pile, proving you can burn iron with charcoal. You might want to give it a try — there's no clinkers. Talk to someone from the Indiana chapter, Don Neuenschwander perhaps. They just had a big charcoal burn at Conner's Prairie and know the process.

It was nice working with all those tools of Sam Yellin's. Sometime I would like to know how Doug got all his stuff.

I missed Doug and Jerry's demos, though I did see a nice pair of tongs Jerry made that ended up in the Iron-in-the-Hat. The money we raised and the result of a pass the hat went to the Save Stanley Winkler/Buy him a Plasma Cutter fund. Stanley missed the meeting because of the flood that was trying to remove Ste. Genevieve from the map.

There were a couple of tater-type shooters on hand, no doubt inspired

by Doug's write-up in the last issue. Don Neuenschwander had a green apple gun and Don Asbee had a beauty that wouldn't work.

We had a nice turnout for the trade item, which was a toilet paper holder. I picked Doug's wild design, which was so neat I plan to show it in a future issue. You could easily make the design a little wider for a paper towel holder.

We cut the business meeting as short as possible due to the heat and the urge to splash in Black River. But before we adjourned the whole slate of officers was re-elected with the exception of the Secretary post which Doug passed on to John Murray. Tom also announced that BAM would offer three full-ride scholarships to the John C. Campbell Folk School. Look for more information from scholarship chairman Todd Kinnikin.

I didn't get a count on the turnout but Tom thought it hit 90, which if correct was an all-time record for BAM. We now have 312 members.

There were several brand-new members present, and I saw some brisk trading on the tailgates. After most of the membership headed for home Doug brought us all inside for a tour of his hand-forged house and some more bratwurst.

It's hard to believe but Doug has a serious side and it is reflected in the sculpture pieces he has hanging around the house, heavily influenced by primitive Chinese tools.

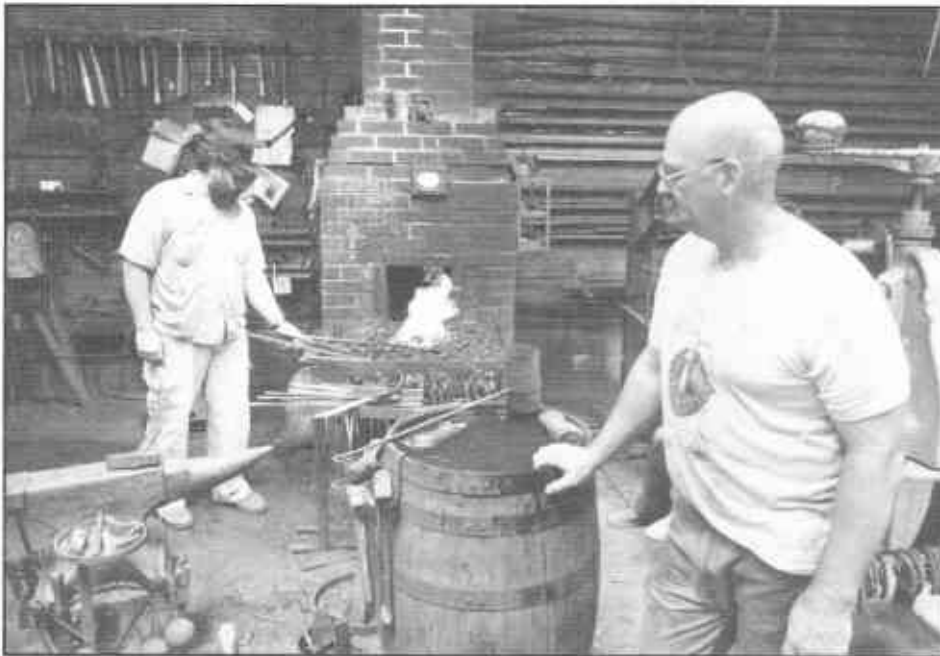
I headed for home with the setting sun but a bunch stayed on for the Black River float trip. Pat offered this report: I was worried that the flood of 1993 would cancel our bi-annual float trip on the Black River. If anything the extra water made it even better. The water was up just enough so we only drug on a few riffles. The water and weather was perfect. We floated slowly and stopped often to watch the youngsters swing off the ropes and swim. Some of the adults even tried out the rope swings and didn't even get hurt. We ate lunch below a small cave and finished the float in the early afternoon. It was a fine finish to a great "BAM" weekend. Thanks to Doug and Bonnie for ensuring we all had a good time.

Minutes:

July meeting, July 17, 1993



Left: Bob and Steve eat lunch and wait for prospects for a load of tools. Tailgating was brisk at the meeting. Below: Doug opened the forge to beginners in the afternoon and a few hardy (hot) souls gave it a whirl.



President Clark called the meeting to order and the minutes of the May meeting were accepted as printed in the newsletter. The treasurer reported \$5,400 in the bank.

Jim McCarty reported on his class at the John C. Campbell Folk School. Jim recommends it highly at all levels. The facilities are good and along with good teachers other smiths continually drop by. He feels other scholarships should be awarded.

Lou Mueller reported on the 1994 ABANA Conference progress and states that we will have a forge building workshop to make forges for the demo sites at Wash. U.

Tom Clark reported that we now have 312 BAM members.

The Alabama Forge Council has given BAM a scholarship to their Tannehill Conference Sept. 12-13. Bud Mitchell's name was drawn out of the hat to receive it.

Stan Winkler was appointed the chairman for the new Ozark Regional Blacksmith Conference which will be held in Potosi, Mo. on the last weekend in April. This conference will be free to all BAM members.

John Murray will be doing an anvil rebuild on July 31st. All interested parties are invited.

Tom Clark, with the approval of those present, initiated a scholarship program. Todd Kinnikin was appointed chairman of the scholarship committee and will be developing guidelines and procedures. BAM will award three \$500 scholarships to BAM members to study blacksmithing.

The election of officers went as follows:

President — Tom Clark
1st vice president — Pat McCarty
2nd vice-president — Maurice Ellis
Treasurer — Steve Austin
Secretary — John Murray

The next meeting will be Sept. 25th at John Murray's. The trade item will be a twist.

Raffle of ironwork to aid Stan Winkler in his battle with the Mississippi

<u>Item</u>	<u>Made by</u>	<u>Won by</u>
Carved walking stick with snake	Dick Obermark	Phil Cox
Tongs, demo piece	Jerry Hoffmann	Steve Sullens
Poker	Tom Clark	Ed Harper
4140 Steel Blocks	Rainbow	Todd Kinnikin
Brass brush	Burt Elliot	Phil Cox
Steady rest stand	Don Neuenschwander	Jim McCarty
Tongs	Phil Cox	Scott Stager
Wizard	Pat McCarty	Jim Waller

by Tom Clark

BAM lends a hand

100 Uses for a grubby little blacksmith

Did you ever feel good about something you had done and yet felt you hadn't done enough? Such was the case on Friday, July 30. I had just come out of the woods (for those of you who don't know I produce and sell firewood). Thelma and I were getting our bags packed, looking forward to an early departure Saturday morning for our overnight visit with Tim Ryan on our way to a week's class at the John C. Campbell Folk School when the phone rang and it was Stan Winkler with a sense of urgency in his voice. "Tom," he said. "They have raised the crest to new record heights and I need help with sandbagging to save our house."

After explaining my travel plans I said stand by and I will make a few calls. I called Jerry Hoffmann, Hank Knickmeyer, Todd Kinnikin and others. Todd took the ball and called everyone in travel distance to help Stan. I called my

son Tom jr. and one of my workers and they said they would be happy to help. Tom jr. not only worked Saturday but took off work and went back on Monday. Thanks Tom for taking my place.

Thelma and I decided to go by Stan's on our way out. When we arrived it looked like a regular BAM meeting. Members were everywhere. Stan told me later that about 60 showed and help was plentiful.

The sight there was awesome and by the time the work was done sand bags were within 2 feet of the roof. Even though the river crested near the top of the bags the wall held. This all sounds good but here is the rest of the story.

I first called Stan near the end of June to see if he needed help and he reported he had plenty of help from local friends and neighbors. As things



"sandbag"

got worse in early July it was full time thing for Stan and a decision was made to flood his basement with fresh water in case the wall failed. This would prevent the mess from the river water coming in. Inside the wall of sandbags with Stan were two other neighbor's homes and even though this wall held leakage required water pumps to run 24 hours a day.

Here it is Aug. 21 and the river water has finally receded to the bottom of the sandbags but the toll taken on Stan has been near overwhelming. Stan being a fulltime blacksmith with work in progress he had no choice except to let the work go. Thanks to Lou Mueller some projects were taken to Lou's shop where he and other members helped to keep the must-do work on schedule.

In August "Good Morning America" filmed a segment of their show

from Stan's house. Those of you who saw this can better understand what a mess things were. To add to the excitement of it all on the day of the highest crest a large pecan tree (about 20 inches in diameter) slowly fell across the wall and came to rest on the wall and one of the garages inside. Quick work cutting some limbs and shoring the tree saved the wall.

Now with the water receding the clean up starts. Imagine your basement full of water for over two months and the yard a total loss. I don't know what kept it from giving way to all the pressure. As it is the yard is like Jello and major replacement of dirt and sod is needed. It was impossible to prevent much of this muck outside from coming in so floors will need major work or replacing.

The day I was there I saw the need for major help. Not only was the home and yard a mess but Stan has been out of work for over two months. I

called Steve Austin and set up a flood relief fund for Stan and family. To start it I donated \$100. Clay Spencer, Jerry Hoffmann and Steve Austin added \$100 each.

Anyone wanting to help a "Friend in Need" send your check to Steve Austin, 44 N.E. Munger Road, Claycomo, Mo. 64119.

I hope we can raise enough money to make all repairs and send the Winklers on a nice vacation when it's over.

A few hundred dollars from everyone will make this nightmare a more pleasant memory. One hundred percent of the money raised will go to Stan. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

The blacksmith and the quilter

by Evelyn L. McCarty

In early times a Blacksmith was indispensable to every community. Wood was important. But without iron for nails a house could not be built . . . without iron hinges there would be no door to open and close.

The bit for a horse or mule; rings for the harness; axles and wheel rims on Conestoga wagons were made by the village blacksmith.

Utensils for the Colonial kitchen came from the local smithy. Even the gold miners and road builders used items from the blacksmith forge. He did more things for more people than any other craftsman.

Union, Missouri in the late 1920s and through the 1930s had several Blacksmith Shops. A Linn, Mo. blacksmith by the name of Martin Linnenbrink made the move to Union before his 1927 marriage.

He was in partnership with George Suttner on the corner of Linden and State streets. On any given day their front porch would have stacks of wagon wheels waiting for new rims. Broken tools needed fixing, gates for the local Catholic Cemetery were in progress. Everyday was a busy day.

Summer 1934 is remembered as being very hot. Martin's wife Teresa was pregnant with their first child. To escape the heat she decided to make a quilt in the cool basement. Teresa would need hundreds of 2 inch squares to complete her design — a blue and white Irish Chain quilt.

Martin came to his wife's aid with an iron patchwork cutting tool. He heated and flattened a piece of scrap iron. Then on the anvil he bent the iron into a box shape. The ends were welded and the bottom edge made very sharp.

Each evening our blacksmith spread several layers of his wife's cotton fabric over a smooth tree stump in their yard. The cutter was laid on fabric, hit a strong blow with his mallet and the fabric was cut.

Repeating the cutting several times provided Teresa Linnenbrink

with enough 2 inch patches for the next day's piecing. The tool would be returned to the blacksmith shop for resharpening and the cutting process repeated that evening.

Teresa's completed quilt was not used for 20 years. Her husband died within the year, probably from pneumonia.

The young widow was so traumatized that she packed her quilt away. When their only child, also named Teresa, married in 1955 her mother gave the quilt to the young couple.

It was in 1984 that the iron patchwork cutting tool was found in the garage. Teresa would have disposed of this tool in the moving process without the story her mother related of how her quilt's patches were cut in that hot 1934 summer.

Teresa and Jack Steele, Greenwood, Mo. now keep this special cutting tool on a living room shelf. The quilt is prominently displayed on a nearby stand.

Author's note: Teresa Steele has very few reminders of her father's blacksmithing. There were no photographs of him in his leather apron or of the shop.

In researching this article I contacted BAM member Colin Campbell and he directed me to a daughter of

one of the early blacksmiths. Adell Obermark had two photo postcards of the shop. She also knew of another blacksmith daughter, Bernadine Suttner Drace.

Bernadine has a black and white photograph of the shop and also an oil painting she commissioned from local artist, Dr. George Richardson of Union. With her permission I photographed these items.

Teresa Steele will now have a photograph of the Linnenbrink-Suttner blacksmith shop.



Above: Union blacksmith Martin Linnenbrink Below: Teresa Steele, of Greenwood, Mo. holds the iron cutting tool forged by her father. The tool was use to make pieces for the quilt she holds.



**ABANA president's message
July 1993**

Dear ABANA Chapters,

Are you enjoying the great summer weather? Many Chapters across the country are making plans to support the Ring project for the 1994 ABANA Conference in St. Louis, Missouri next June. This is a wonderful opportunity to get a large Chapter participation, involving Chapter members of all skill levels. Many different blacksmithing techniques will surely be represented in the various rings that the Chapters will be considering for submittal. Rings Committee Chairman Tom Clark is doing a great job coordinating the effort. Since the deadline to ship the rings to Blacksmiths Association of Missouri isn't until March 1, 1994, there is plenty of time to come up with some great designs. I can hardly wait to see the finished product!

The ABANA Newsletter is off to a good start, wouldn't you say? I know that ABANA Newsletter Editor Jim Ryan is planning to add a calendar of events, to pick up the slack period between the *Anvil's Ring* and the Newsletter. So if you have something you want the world to know, why not send it to both Robert Owings and Jim Ryan? Now THAT is coverage!

Preliminary work for the ABANA/NOMM Exhibition is now in full swing, and the exhibition is scheduled for later this year. This exhibit will pair the work of ABANA members with those individuals who have been their main influence. We are still far from our goal in funding this effort, so any financial help we get for this new project will be welcome! A special account has been opened to accept the generous donations we have received so far. These donations are being used to help defray the expenses, such as shipping, photography and insurance. Hopefully, we can establish ABANA member exclusive exhibits around the country as an ABANA tradition! For more information you can contact Board members Elizabeth Brim or Joe Harris through the ABANA Office.

Have you ever done something so many times, or for so many years, you hardly think about it while you're doing it? Being absent minded in the shop can have some rather unfortunate side effects! For example, where is your face located while drilling the 100th hole for that big project? Mechanical equipment is changing all the time, just as a coal fire changes all the time. Drill bits are getting a bit more worn with every hole. Suddenly, that iron bar is a swinging club! There are plenty of other examples — better keep your eyes peeled! (And covered with safety glasses)

Sincerely,



Clayton Carr
ABANA President

ABANA Liaison

BLACKSMITHS RECOGNIZED:

Bob Bergman, owner of the Postville Blacksmith, won the NOMMA Award for Gold Restoration (category) in the annual Top Job Program. Hugh Bartrug had a write-up in the latest issue of Blade Magazine. Clifton Ralph was the 1993 recipient of the Bealer Award (ABANA's highest award). Frank Turley, Tom Joyce, Francis Whitaker and others are featured in the May 1993 issue of Smithsonian magazine. The article "The Anvil Chorus is Ringing Loud and Clear Again" was written by Tom Alexander. ABANA congratulates these members on their accomplishments and dedication to blacksmithing!

THE NEW IRON AGE:

The Country Sampler's West magazine featured an article on the use of iron in the home for furniture and decorative touches. The southwest motif was emphasized.

BLACKSMITHS GO TO THE CIRCUS:

The July meeting of the Indiana Blacksmith Association (IBA) will be held in the Circus City Capitol of the World — Peru, Indiana — and members will attend the circus on Saturday night. There are several circus wagons on display that were restored by Indiana blacksmiths.

THE ANSWER MAN:

If you have an anvil you want identified or dated — Dick Postman, 10 Fisher Court, Berrien Springs, MI 49103 is the man to contact. Dick is known as the Anvil Man. Dick has done extensive researching preparation for writing a book on the history and manufacturers of anvils. Send photos, trademarks, dimensions and other identifying marks to Dick and he will help you. SASE is requested.

HUMBLE HAMMER:

A plaque honoring Joe Humble was auctioned off at the Southeastern Regional Conference in Madison, Georgia this year and the money received was placed in the Joe Humble Scholarship Fund. The plaque will stay in the possession of the high bidder until Christmas when it will be auctioned again. What a great way to perpetuate the Humble Scholarship Fund.

CHARCOAL ANYONE?:

The Conner Prairie Pioneer Settlement (Indiana) recently had a "Charcoal Burn." Several Indiana blacksmiths participated and reported it was a very interesting experience.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL THEORY 101:

The Southwest Artist Blacksmith Association (SWABA) reports that there are four kinds of BONES in an organization which can easily be identified. First, there are WISH-BONES who spend all their time wishing someone else would do all the work; Second, there are JAWBONES who do all the talking but little else; Third, there are the KNUCKLEBONES who knock everything that someone else tries to do, and; Fourth there are BACKBONES who get under the load and do all the work. Let's all become BACKBONES and support our Chapters and ABANA!

Chapter editors and presidents,

Another month has passed and most blacksmith chapters are hosting conferences and workshops during the summer months. Remember to keep safety a top priority at all chapter activities.

ABANA asks that each chapter include an ABANA membership application in their newsletter. Any chapter needing ABANA brochures can contact the ABANA office.

ABANA wants to recognize any members who receive awards, have articles written about outstanding community service relating to blacksmithing. Please send information to the Chapter liaison committee and we will include it in this monthly newsletter.

Elizabeth Brim reports that the ABANA/NOMM Invitational Exhibition is shaping up nicely. We are still looking for funds from chapters and individuals to make this effort successful. For more information contact Elizabeth Brim, 1347 Eberhard Ave., Columbus, GA 31906.

The ABANA newsletter is proving to be a success but we need your chapter's input on activities, tips, and techniques to include in each issue. To get your tid-bits published contact Jim Ryan, editor, 569 S. Grandview Ave., Dubuque, Iowa 52003, phone (319) 582-5558.

Don't forget the ring project for the '94 ABANA Conference. This is for all chapters and a great opportunity to get chapter members involved in a chapter project.

ABANA is constantly looking for suppliers to include in our Supply Directory. If you know of a source for tools, materials or services, please send them to the ABANA office.

ABANA has established a scholarship fund for members taking blacksmith courses. To get a packet of information to apply, contact the ABANA Office at (812) 988-6919. Forged in friendship,

Ron Porter, Chapter Liaison Committee Chairman

Treadle Hammer

Lubricate all moving joints weekly or daily under hard use.

Inspect welds for cracks and retighten all bolts and nuts after the first month and on a regular basis.

If you hear a rattling noise, first check the wedge. When it loosens up, you can hear it. If the wedge is tight and it still rattles, then check for loose bolts and nuts or broken welds or parts.

If your hammer behaves strangely, be careful where you put your hands or other body parts as you check to find the problem. The crooked first joint of my left ring finger continually reminds me not to ever place it on the anvil again.

Respect the power of this hammer.

Have a good hold on the crank before you loosen the slider clamps. The slider will move up (usually) when it gets loose.

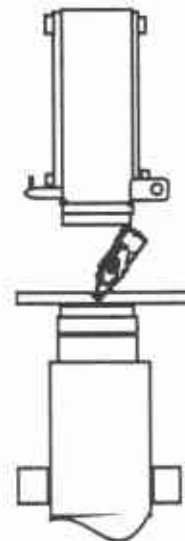
Always have a tool or a hard plate in both the hammer and anvil unless you are punching through a hole over the hardy hole. If you strike tools without a hard plate in the hammer and anvil, the edges of the holes will be rounded and upset. You will not be able to get tools in or out of the holes.

Whenever possible, work with your stock or tool on the center of the anvil. When you work on the side or edge of the anvil, it puts a twisting force on the hammer and linkage. You can't do everything in the middle but when you can, use the center part of the anvil. When you are using a struck tool near the edge, the hammer can miss the head of the tool completely or partially. If the hammer hits the edge of the tool head, it can cause the tool to kick out or twist.

Keep the tools vertical. If they are tilted much

they will be twisted to one side or fall over. This can break tools, fingers and damage your work.

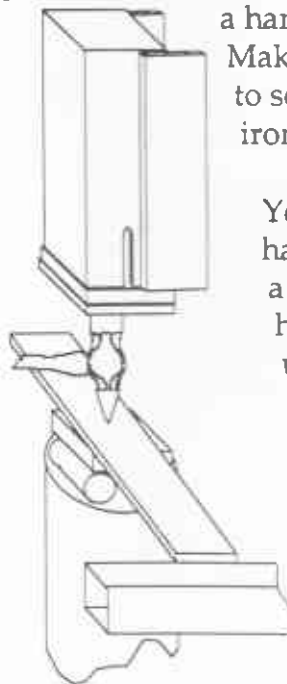
Never put your fingers through holes in wire handled tools. If the tool kicks out or twists, your fingers can be broken. Fingers can be pinched between tool and stock if the tool tilts. These precautions apply to use of handled tool under power hammers and the same precautions used with power hammers should be used with the treadle hammer.



Center Punching

One of the first things to be done when starting some projects is to mark points for fullering, punching holes, cutting or other operations. This is easily done on the TH with a handled center punch.

Make a mark deep enough to see under scale on hot iron.



You will notice that a hand is never used to hold a tool directly under the hammer. If you wish to use a tool that does not have a handle, then grip the tool with vise-grips, tongs or pliers. Then make a tool with a handle or weld a handle to the tool.

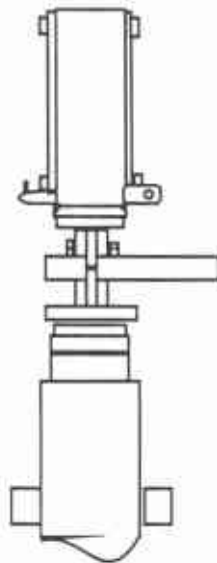
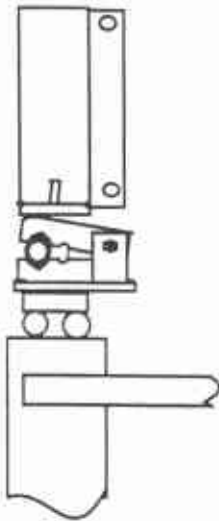
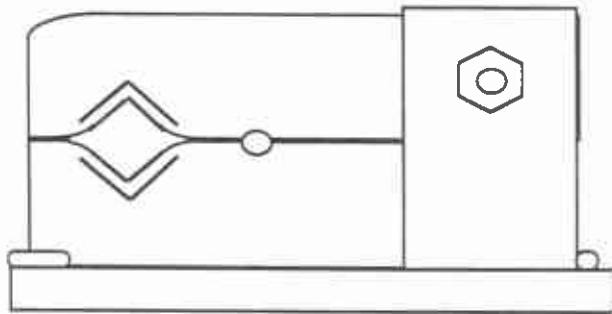
©Clay Spencer1993

Swaging

Swaging

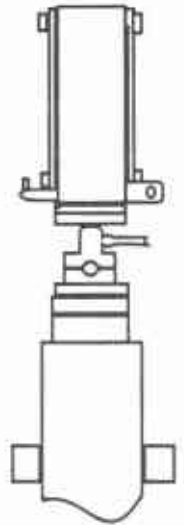
Spring swages are used for necking down pipe for candle cups or necking round stock. Same comments apply as above for the mounted fullers.

A hinged swage may be changed almost as quickly as a spring tool and is more precise. Swaging deep grooves can result in the swages being pinched by the work unless the swage sides are tapered.

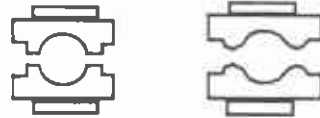


Individual top and bottom swages may be mounted in the hammer and anvil for other jobs.

The regular anvil bottom swage and handled top swage may be used with the treadle hammer. Draw the stock to just a little larger than finish size on a power hammer or TH with drawing or flat dies. You will usually be working with large areas on cold tools so keep your iron hot and rotate after each blow.

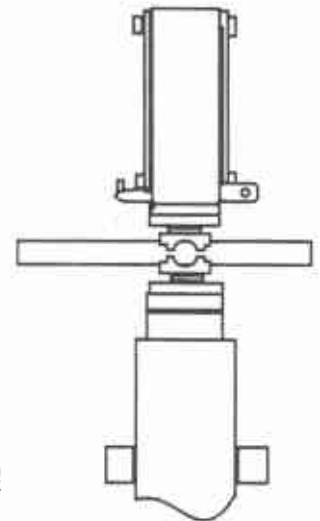


Swages for special shapes may be made from straightened sections of ball bearing races. Roger Lorraine told me about this idea. The ones with grease seals on each side make nice designs in the edges of flat stock or on round



or square stock.

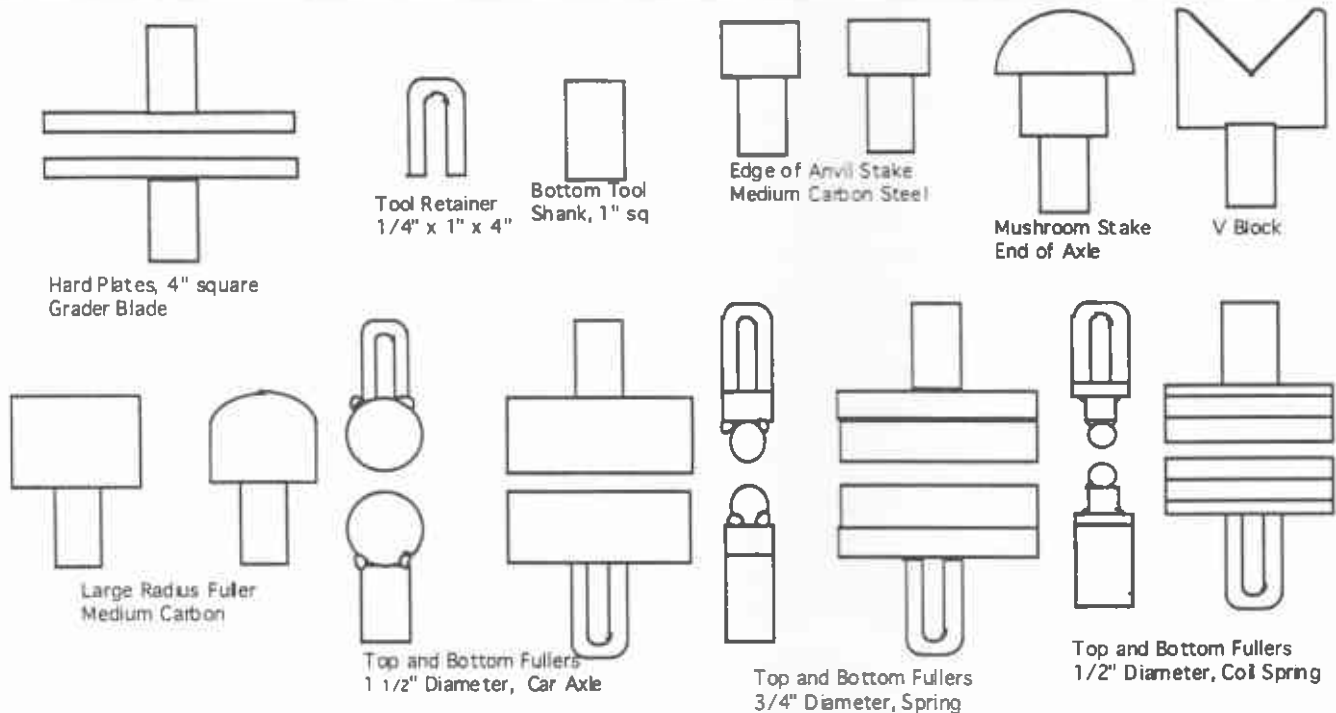
You will need a starter section because the stock is lengthened when swaged. Grind away both edges from the high point of the race to give clearance. This starter section should be at least one inch long. Have a couple of inches of the original race just behind



this. Forge nearly to finished depth on all desired surfaces in the starter section and then move to the finishing section.

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TH Tools



These are some of the tools I use most in the hammer and the anvil of the TH. The tool retainer must be welded on top of the top tools. Many types of tool steel do not weld readily. 7018 rods are best used when welding medium or high carbon or other tool steel. Many times you can make a successful weld by preheating (and post heating) the stock to at least 400° F before stick welding. Sometimes MIG welding is OK if you get enough penetration-requires a bigger MIG than the 110V jobs.

It is best to weld a U tool retainer on both top and bottom of matched sets of tools. Weld one at 90° to the tool and the other in line with the tool. That way the set may be used sideways or lengthwise to the hammer. Usually a four inch length is long enough for most hammers. These tools are heated to red and fitted in the hammer. Take one or two good blows to seat

the tool. Reheat and normalize.

The heads of the struck tools are normalized and the cutting/fullering ends are quenched and tempered to blue.

The ball peen tools and other handled tools may have wood or wire handles. Since you will not be hammering with these tools, handles do not have to be fitted as well as handles used for hammering. But you don't want the head to be loose and fall off the handle.

A folded length of 3/8" round stock stuck through the eye and welded on the off side makes a good handle that does not have to be removed for reforging or heat treating. Ball peen hammers, made from good steel, may be used to make cutters, punches, center punches, fullers, rivet sets, set hammers, eye punches and a whole bunch of other tools.

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A YELLESQUE QUATREFOIL By FRANCIS WHITAKER

T. Reinertsen © 1991

AS SHOWN BY FRANCIS ON SEP. 28, 1991
AT THE NEW ENGLAND BLACKSMITHS'
FALL MEET IN THE SOUTH COUNTY MUSEUM,
NARRAGANSETT, R.I.

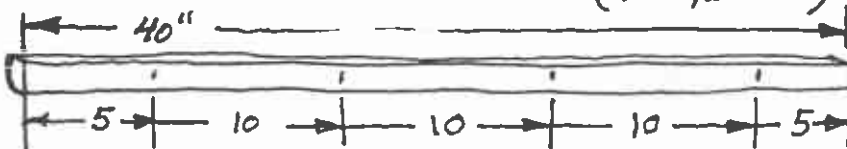
NOTES AND DRAWINGS BY TOM REINERTSEN

SAMUEL YELIN USED THIS METHOD
OF FORGE WELDING A QUATREFOIL
FROM ONE STRIP OF METAL - IT
IS FASTER THAN FORGE WELDING 4
SEPERATE PIECES INTO ONE.

① BEGIN BY DETERMINING THE
LENGTH REQUIRED BY MEASURING YOUR
DESIGN FROM ONE LOOP - TIP TO TIP
FOR OUR EXAMPLE = 10"
MULTIPLY BY 4 (4 LOOPS)
= 40 inches.



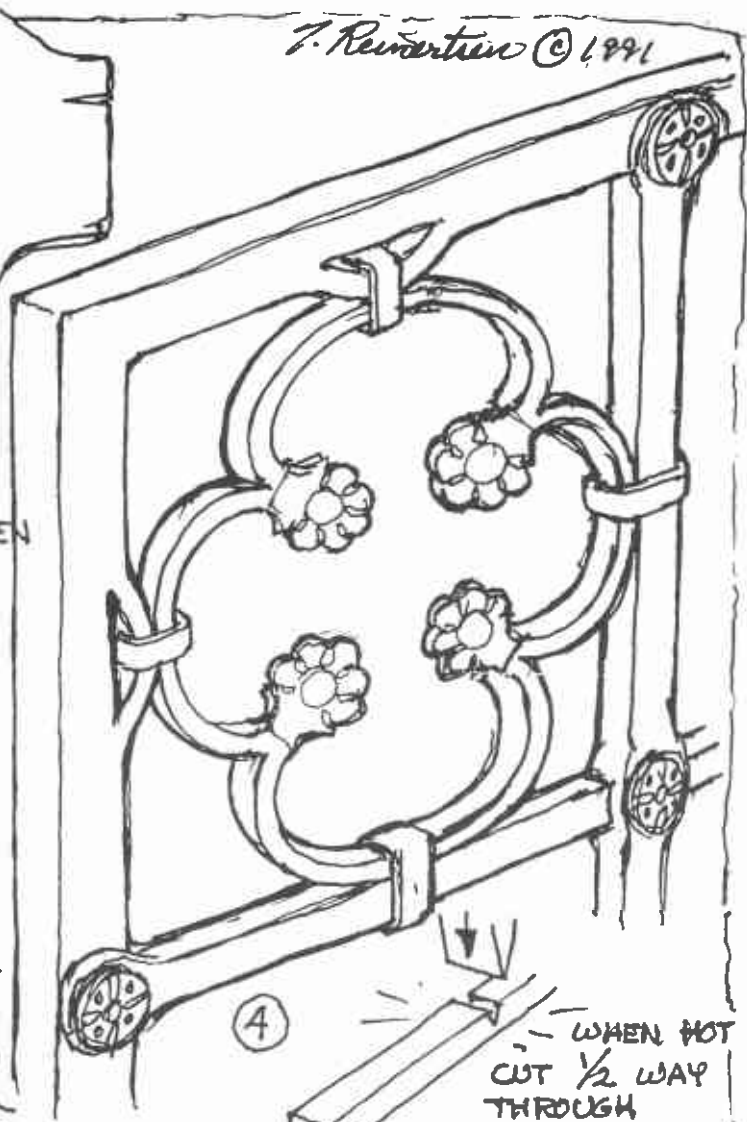
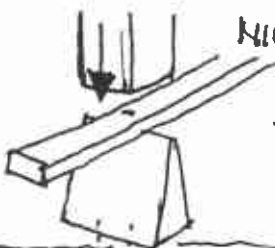
② CUT A STRIP OF METAL 40" LONG. (1/4 x 1/2 STOCK)



* MARK OFF 1/2 LOOP - or 5" THEN 3 LOOPS OF 10"
(AND FINISH UP WITH 1/2 LOOP OF 5")
ALWAYS MEASURE FROM ONE END OR PLACE - THUS

ALL MEASUREMENTS ARE TAKEN FROM THE SAME POINT
SO THEY WILL ALL BE ACCURATE.

③ NICK THE STRAP AT THE MARKS
WITH A HARDIE OR CHISEL
THEN HEAT AT THE FIRST
MARK.



④ WHEN HOT
CUT 1/2 WAY
THROUGH
THEN FOLD OVER

FLIP PIECE OVER
DOUBLE END OVER -
HAMMER SHUT WITH A
CHISEL SPACER
BETWEEN.

THIS
ALLOWS
ACCESS FOR
HEAT AND
FLUX FOR WELDING
- REMOVE CHISEL

⑤ PLACE IN A CLEAN FIRE -
ON EDGE SO FLUX CAN BE
ADDED
WHEN IT
GETS HOT ENOUGH.



Note. IF AS IN THIS CASE - YOU WANT TO WELD $1\frac{1}{4}$ INCH - THEN ADD AN EXTRA $\frac{1}{4}$ " TO THE WELD, BECAUSE WHEN THE ENDS ARE SPREAD LATER IT WILL TEAR OPEN THE FIRST $\frac{1}{4}$ INCH LEAVING $1\frac{1}{4}$ WELDED. THEREFORE PLAN ON WELDING $1\frac{1}{2}$ INCH.

⑥ MARK THE ANVIL IN THE AREA WHERE YOU WILL BE WELDING. * IF YOU USE A "SHARPIE" (PERMANENT MARKER) THE MARK WILL LAST MUCH LONGER THAN CHALK.

⑦ FORGE WELD SHUT WITH LIGHT RAPID BLOWS FROM A LIGHT HAMMER.

⑧ IF STILL HOT TURN THE STRIP ON EDGE AND NECK IT DOWN EVENLY. IF YOU HAVE A NECKING DOWN JIG SET IT FOR $1\frac{1}{4}$ WITH A $\frac{3}{16}$ SPACE AND ALL THE WELDED ENDS WILL MATCH. * IF EVERYTHING IS SET - YOU CAN DO THE NECKING DOWN WITH THE SAME HEAT FROM THE FORGE WELD - FLIP THE PIECE 180° OVER TO MAKE SURE NECKING IS CENTERED.

⑨ SPREAD OUT BUTTON ON ANVIL - WORK AT ALMOST WELDING HEAT - USE PEEN OF HAMMER TO SPREAD.

⑩ CORRECT TO A ROUND BUTTON SHAPE ON ANVIL EDGE OR USE A TOP SWAGE.

⑪ HAMMER SMOOTH OR USE A FLATTER WHICH SPREADS IT EVENLY - SPREAD TO SIZE OF A SILVER DOLLAR OR $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". WIRE BRUSH.

⑫ WHEN SHAPED AND CLEANED - GET HOT SET INTO A VISE AND SPREAD THE LEGS EVENLY.

⑬ PROGRESS ALONG IN STEPS TO THE NEXT IN LINE * DONT PROCEED TO THE OPPOSITE END OR ELSE YOU WONT BE ABLE TO WORK IT PROPERLY.

⑭ CHECK DIMENSIONS FOR CONSISTENCY

⑮ AFTER 4th WELD PREPARE TO SCARF BOTH ENDS BY FIRST UPSETTING. * Note. WHEN POSITIONING PIECE IN THE VISE - LET THE PIECE IN THE VISE JAWS COOL DOWN BEFORE CLAMPING SHUT SO AS TO PREVENT DISTORTION.

16

UPSET THE END



17

CHAMFER ON ANVIL



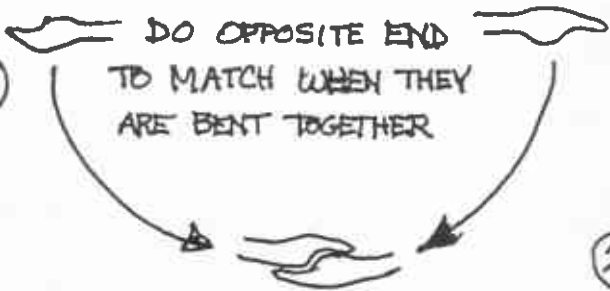
18

STEP DOWN FOR PROPER SCARF ON ANVIL EDGE



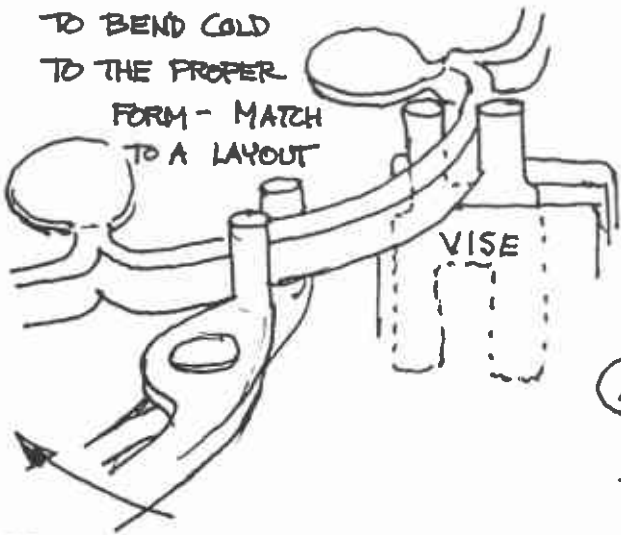
19

DO OPPOSITE END TO MATCH WHEN THEY ARE BENT TOGETHER



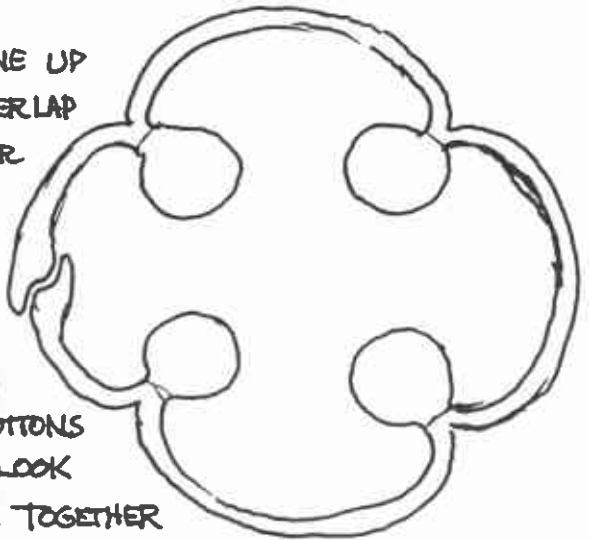
20

USE SCROLL FORK IN VISE AND RING TONGS TO BEND COLD TO THE PROPER FORM - MATCH TO A LAYOUT



21

LINE UP AND OVERLAP ENDS FOR FINAL WELD



* Note.

THE BUTTONS WILL LOOK CLOSER TOGETHER ON THE WELD SIDE - BUT AFTER THE WELD THEY WILL SPREAD APART AS THE METAL IN THAT AREA IS REDUCED TO ITS PROPER DIMENSION.

22

REMEMBER TO POSITION OVERLAP PROPERLY ON HORN FOR WELDING SO THE HAMMER BLOWS WILL DRAW THE METAL TOGETHER



23

PLACE IN CLEAN FIRE - HEAT UP - FLUX - GET TO WELDING TEMPERATURE AND QUICKLY BUT LIGHTLY WELD SHOT -



24

CORRECT THE WELDED AREA UNTIL IT IS RETURNED TO THE CORRECT DIMENSIONAL CROSS SECTION.

25

CHECK AND COMPARE TO DESIGN - CORRECT WHERE NECESSARY.

26

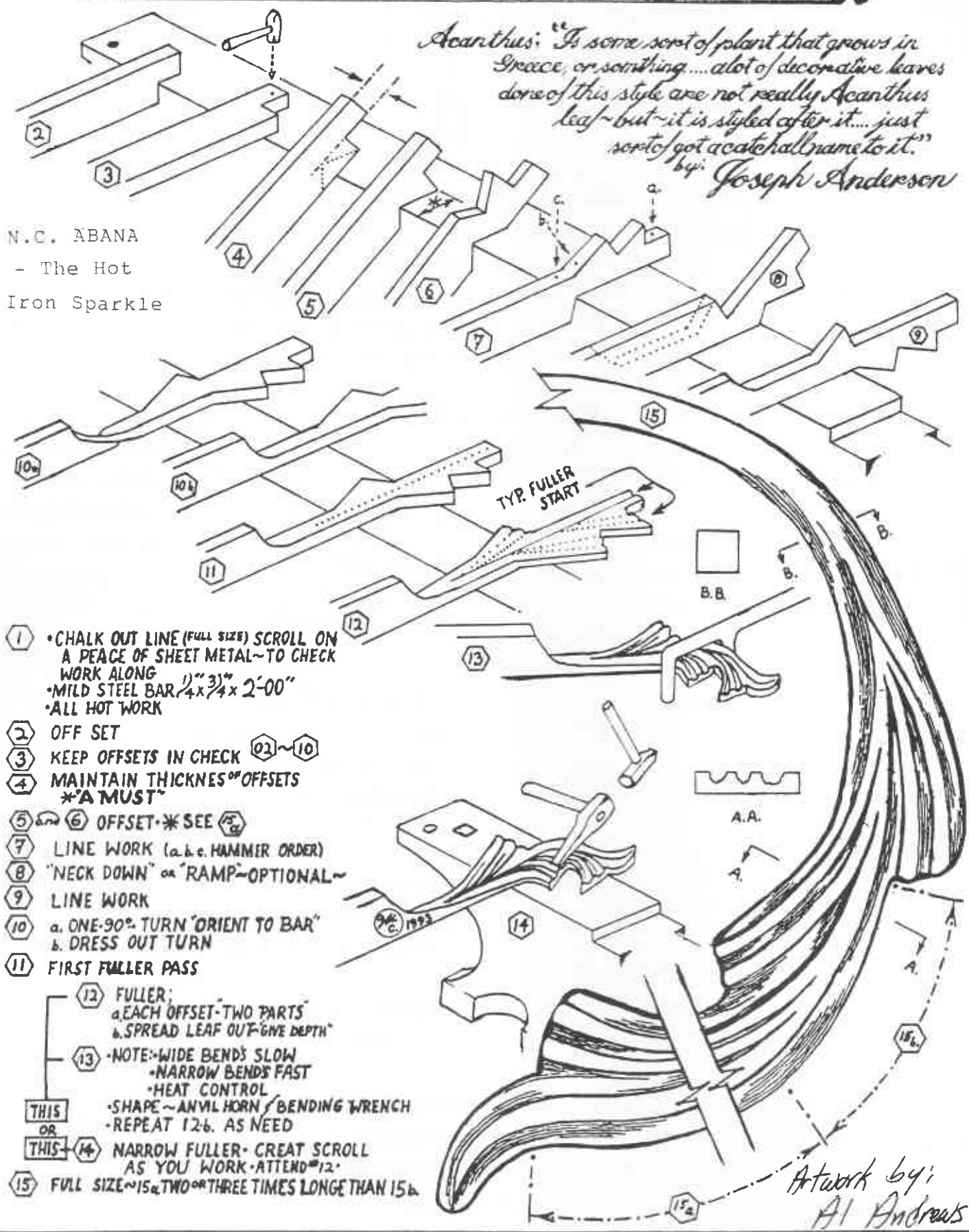
PROCEED TO BOTTOM DESIGN TREATMENT OF YOUR CHOICE



ACANTHUS LEAF SCROLL

Acanthus: "A some sort of plant that grows in Greece, or something.... alot of decorative leaves done of this style are not really Acanthus leaf~ but~ it is styled after it.... just sort of got a catchall name to it."
by Joseph Anderson

N.C. ABANA
 - The Hot
 Iron Sparkle



- ① • CHALK OUT LINE (FULL SIZE) SCROLL ON A PEACE OF SHEET METAL~ TO CHECK WORK ALONG
 • MILD STEEL BAR 1/4" x 3/4" x 2'-00"
 • ALL HOT WORK
- ② OFF SET
- ③ KEEP OFFSETS IN CHECK ②③~⑩
- ④ MAINTAIN THICKNES OF OFFSETS *A MUST*
- ⑤ and ⑥ OFFSET *SEE ⑤
- ⑦ LINE WORK (a.b.c. HAMMIR ORDER)
- ⑧ "NECK DOWN" OR "RAMP"~OPTIONAL~
- ⑨ LINE WORK
- ⑩ a. ONE-90° TURN "ORIENT TO BAR"
 b. DRESS OUT TURN
- ⑪ FIRST FULLER PASS
- ⑫ FULLER;
 a. EACH OFFSET~TWO PARTS
 b. SPREAD LEAF OUT~GIVE DEPTH
- ⑬ -NOTE:~WIDE BENDS SLOW
 -NARROW BENDS FAST
 -HEAT CONTROL
 -SHAPE~ANVIL HORN / BENDING WRENCH
 -REPEAT 12.6. AS NEED
- THIS OR THIS ⑭ NARROW FULLER~CREAT SCROLL AS YOU WORK~ATTEND ⑫
- ⑮ FULL SIZE~15a TWO OR THREE TIMES LONGER THAN 15b.

*Artwork by:
 Al Andrews*

One of the useful notions I have picked up from Aubrey Williams is the use of vinegar around the shop. Finished pieces left in a bucket of vinegar over night come out white and clean as a whistle, free of scale and ready for finishing. And if you forget and leave something in for a week the vinegar doesn't etch the iron. And if you picked up some wrought iron doodad at a farm sale and can't figure out how it was put together, vinegar will remove the surface rust and scale and reveal the grain and welds of the piece. Vinegar is cheaper to buy, safer to use, easier to dispose of and generally more user friendly than muriatic acid.

— Charlie Keller, Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association

Kenny Valdejo uses nature's own flux made from mud dauber nests. He says the stuff works great when pounded fine. Maybe you saw it put to use by BAM's team of hardware forgers at the Ozark Conference this spring. Give it a try — the price is right and it works!

In order to prevent a weld from forming in a given area when welding, such as in the center of two billets of iron being welded to make a hammer, place a piece of thin, damp cardboard about the thickness of a cereal box between the billets. Wire the pieces together tightly and forge weld. The iron on either side of the cardboard will weld as usual, but the center section where the cardboard was placed will not weld. To form the eye it will now only be necessary to drift open the unwelded portion rather than punch through a solid billet.

— Northwest Ohio Blacksmiths

Sources for rivets: Seven Falcon, Inc., P.O. Box 520, Antrim, NH 03440 or call (603) 588-6377. No minimum. Also — Industrial Rivet and Fastener, 707B Executive Blvd., Valley Cottage, NY 10989 or call 1-800-289-7483.

Sometimes a handle welded to a complicated forging can eliminate the need for tongs — one less thing to think about.

— New England Blacksmiths' Association newsletter

Preheat your vise with a scrap piece of iron from the forge prior to twisting in order to cut heat loss from stock to jaws.

— Roy Plumlee, The Tuyere, Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association

Bending tool used by Roger Lorange, Canton, Ill.: Old wrench with plate welded on to support different sizes of pipe, old pulleys, wheels, etc. for bending radius, rings, shepherds hooks, etc. Shank for hardy, adjustable wrench for size of stock.

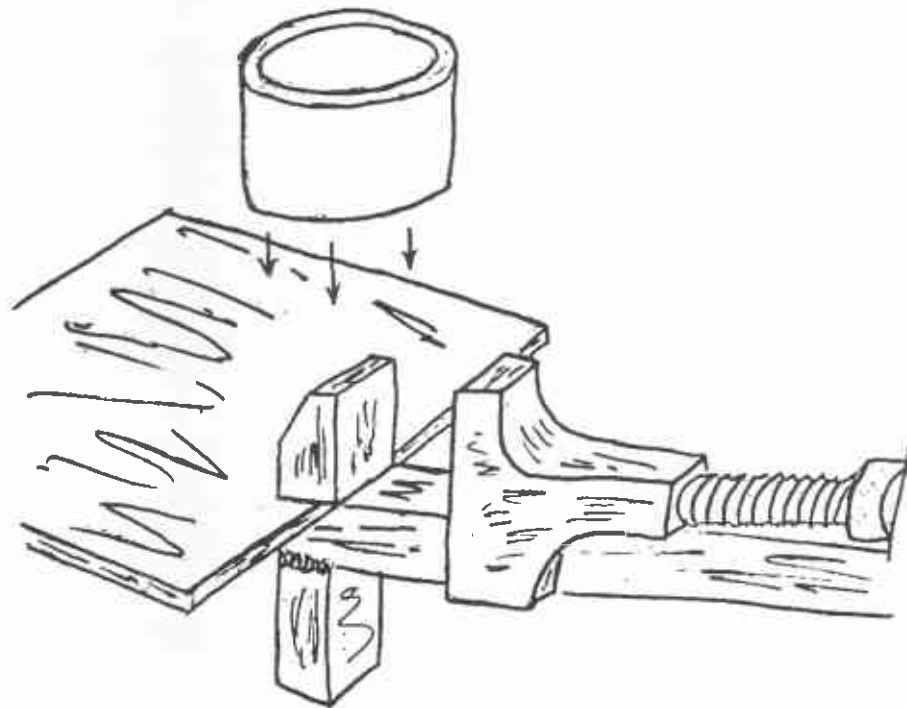
(See drawing below.)

— The Tuyere, Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association

BAM

Shop Notes

Got a tip to share? Jot it down and send it to the editor, Jim McCarty, Rt. 1 Box 20, Loose Creek, Mo. 65054



BAM NEWS

Dear BAM

Dear Jim,
Thanks (as always) for the newsletter — it's still getting better. I wanted to add one note to your report on the meeting at my shop — in the picture on p.7, one of the guys watching Tom make a leaf is Norm Davis. Norm hails from Topeka, and drives even further than I do to the meetings, and he was also responsible for the great brisket we ate. Please let me thank him publicly. As always,

— *Walt Hull, Lawrence, Kans.*

Dear Jim,
Great article about your class at the John C. Campbell Folk School. Tom told me you did a great job at your demo. Here is info about our Alabama Forge Council Annual Conference at Tannehill. Hope it is in time to use some of it. Don't forget that one person from your organization gets in free at Tannehill. Pete Brandenburg, former newsletter editor from Florida Artist Blacksmith's Association is running for the ABANA Board. I think he would be an asset to the Board. Ask your members to vote for him. Thanks and see you at Tannehill,

— *Clay Spencer, Alabama Forge Council*

Frank Turley featured

The North Texas Blacksmith Association fall workshop featuring Master Smith Frank Turley will be held Nov. 13-14. Fee is \$50 (must be received by Nov. 8.) For more infor-

mation contact Verl Underwood, 613 N. Bailey Ave., Fort Worth, Texas 76107.

Little Giant Seminar

The Allison's Wells School of Arts and Crafts and the Mississippi Forge Council are hosting a Little Giant Power Hammer Rebuilding Seminar at the school October 15-17. The workshop will feature Sid Suedmeier and Fred Caylor. The weekend session will include teardown, repair, reassembling and adjustments of a 25 pound Little Giant hammer, including the frightful job of reabbtting the bearings. Cost is \$70 and the seminar is limited to the first 25. Rooms are \$35 per person at the folk school. To register send name, address, phone number, and check to Gene Mulloy, c/o Laurel Machine & Foundry Co., P.O. Drawer 1049, Laurel, MS 39441. His number is (601) 428-0541.

Folk School Money

Francis Whitaker has donated scholarship money for students in the Advanced Blacksmithing Classes at the John C. Campbell Folk School. This money is for tuition only for advanced students. Up to two \$400 scholarships may be given for the fall class, 1993 and for the Spring class in 1994. Need of the applicant will be a consideration and you must be above the beginner level. Apply by sending the following items to: John C. Campbell Folk School, Blacksmith Scholarship, Route 1, Box 14A, Brasstown, NC 28902:

1. Name, address, phone number.
2. Resume of your blacksmithing experience. Include training, blacksmith classes taken, apprenticeships, blacksmith and related work experience — describe type of work, products, your part of the work, length of time, etc. Can you forge weld, turn a smooth scroll with hammer and anvil, and forge an upset square corner?
3. Pictures and description of your present work.
4. Reason you need scholarship money.
5. Goals of your blacksmithing career.

6. Project you propose to make in the class.

Application must be received by Sept. 1 for fall class and February 1 for spring class. Selection of up to two recipients will be made from those qualifying for each class. For more info contact Ruth Truett at the Folk School at (704) 837-2775.

Special winter classes

These classes are for experienced blacksmiths. January 16-22: Daryl Meier — Advanced Pattern Welded Steel. January 23-29: Peter Ross — 18th Century Hearth Equipment. (Peter Ross has been master of the blacksmith shop at Colonial Williamsburg for the past 14 years.) For more information contact Virginia Bledsoe at (704) 837-2775.

Great Plains Treadle Time

The Great Plains Blacksmith Association will host a Treadle Hammer Workshop featuring Clay Spencer on October 23 (Saturday) and October 24 (Sunday) from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$40 for non-members which includes membership and \$25 if you are already a member. Primitive camping is available and lunch will be pot luck for both days. Safety glasses are required. Tailgating will go on all day and a swap meet will take place at the end if anything is left. Location is in Maize, Kansas which is north of Wichita. For more information contact Butch Howey 5755 N. Maize Rd., Maize, Kansas 67101 (316) 722-4456 or Steve Hurlock, 2939 S. Osage, Wichita, Kansas 67217 (316) 522-8966.

Next Meeting — September 25, at John Murray's

John Murray is the host for BAM's September meeting. The date is Sept. 25, moved back a week from our original plans to make room for the Quad States Round-up in Ohio.

John lives near New Melle, Mo. Follow the map at right to get there.

Trade Item: Some Kind of Twist

If you're coming from the south check with the highway patrol to see if Highway 94 is open to traffic following the great flood.

You will be quite impressed with John's set-up if this is your

first trip. He uses big hammers and big hardly does them justice. When I was there he was about to get a Chambersburg steam hammer up and running. He plans to run it with air -- this should be a sight to see!

John has some interesting things planned for the meeting. He will be demonstrating anvil repair using the special rod he has come up with. We had a warm-up session on my anvil and John really knows his stuff.

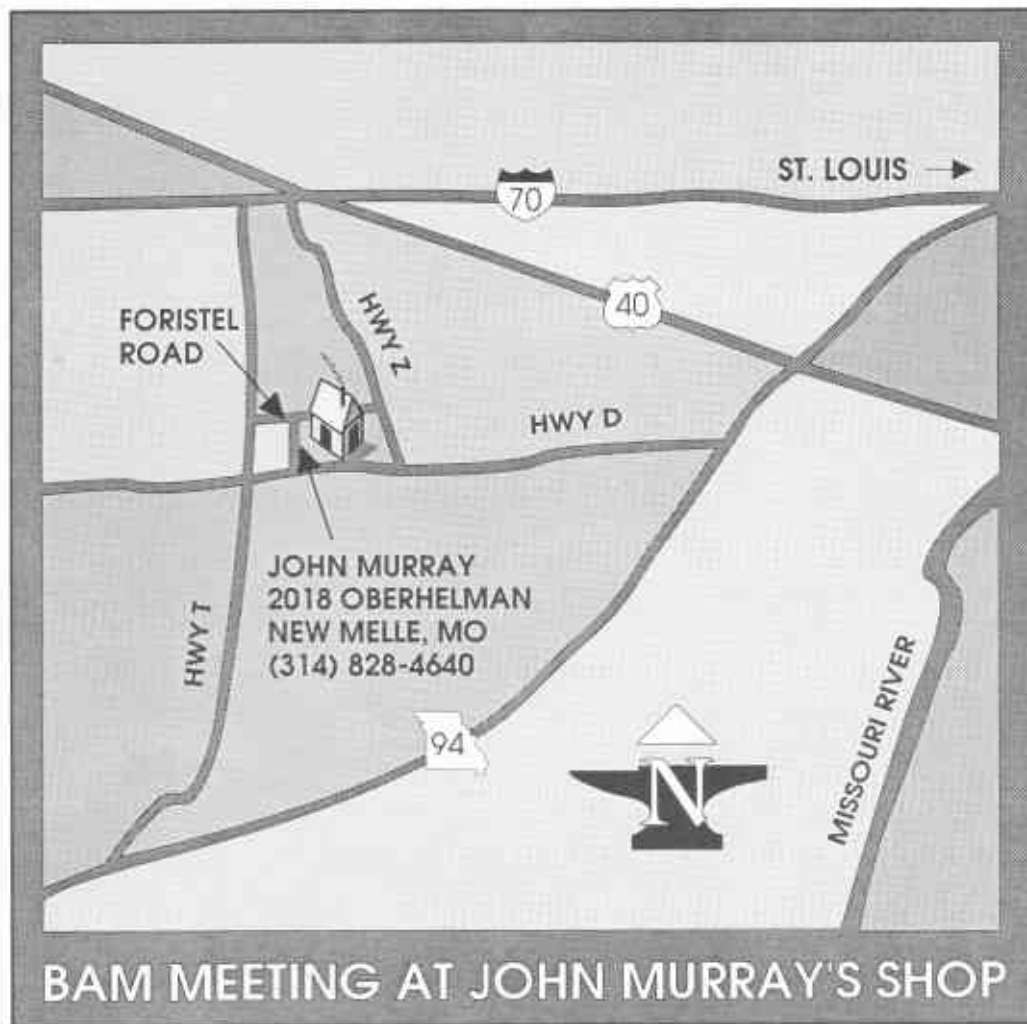
I hear he and Pat are planning to forge a watermelon from well casing, sort of along the chili pepper line. This will no doubt be a first.

As usual, bring something for the iron-in-the-hat and your rusty old tools to sell or swap. Bring some cash too — the editor may have a thing or two for sale.

Trade item is some kind of a twist. You can get as creative as you like. Just remember to leave enough stock so that the piece can be turned into a useful item later.

John said to mention that he has plenty of room for campers on Saturday night. Rumor also has it that Tom Clark, who has been known to play with fire on occasion, may build the world's third largest bonfire for the meeting.

If you get lost trying to find the meeting call (314) 828-4640 and a rescue team will be dispatched.



November Meeting

Todd Kinnikin will be the host of BAM's November meeting. The date is set for Nov. 6. Todd lives at 8356 McKeever Rd in House Springs, Mo, which is just south of St. Louis in Jefferson County. His phone number is (314) 938-6248. I'm not sure what Todd has planned for us but I hear he has a nice shop to show off. This is the last BAM meeting date we have planned, but we will get a new calendar in the next issue (Won't we, Tom!?!)

B.A.M.
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