

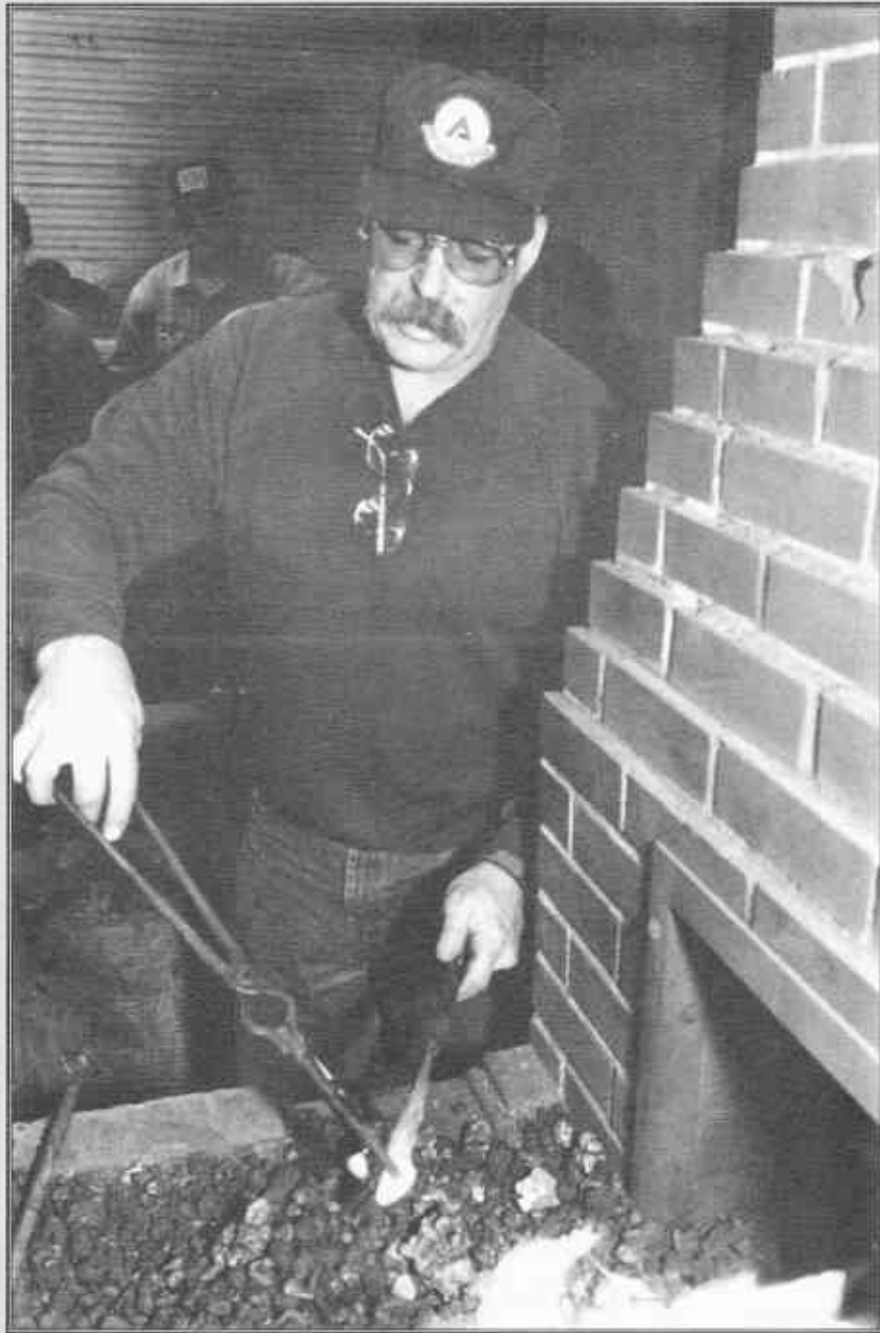
# RAM

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Jan — Feb. 1994

Ozark Conference

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NEWSLETTER of the BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

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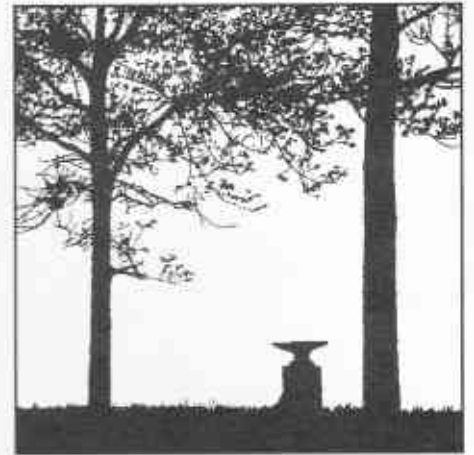
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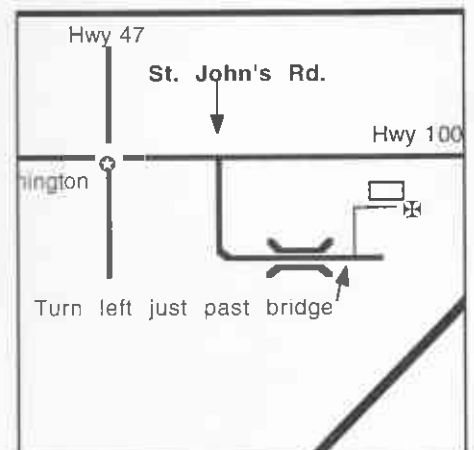
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# Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri

*Volume 11 No. 1*

**Our cover:** Doug Hendrickson puts the heat to a piece of iron that he is turning into a bottle opener at the January BAM meeting.

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Jim McCarty

### Contributing Editors

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Doug Hendrickson

### Artist

Jerry Hoffmann

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Maurice Ellis

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

Primary ABANA Chapter Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member     Renewing Member

How did you learn about ABANA? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Regular Member .....\$35 yr.
- Senior Citizen (Age 65) .....\$30 yr.
- Fulltime student .....\$25 yr.
- Overseas airmail .....\$70 yr.
- Overseas surface mai .....\$50 yr.
- Contributory .....\$100 yr.
- Public library.....\$25 yr.

*See reverse*



## Tom's Turn — November & December

*Editor's note: Last month technology let us down and this was left out of the year-end issue..*

As we close out 1993 and reflect on our activities we should feel good about our accomplishments.

All of our meetings were well attended. The Ozark Conference was a pleasing success. We saw our newsletter editor off to school and back with greater enthusiasm. Our membership had a healthy growth in state and out of state (100 new members). We've started a scholarship program. Helped a flooded member in need. Put 30 plus new forges in the hands of our members, and put untold hours of work and planning into the 1994 ABANA Conference. Our finances are in better shape than ever.

1994 promises to be even more aggressive. We will soon be building new forges for the Ozark and ABANA Conferences, and assembling all the tools and equipment it will take to put on what we plan to be the biggest and hopefully the best ever ABANA Conference.

I'm having all kinds of reports from other chapters about the ABANA ring project. I realize that our own planning for this project has not been properly coordinated. In order to have time to judge them and pick the one BAM ring we need to get them made by April 1.

If you have one ready bring it to Stan's meeting, otherwise make sure you bring it or ship it to me in time to meet the above mentioned deadline. If it is more convenient you can drop it off at Lou Mueller's shop.

As most of you know I have stated that I don't plan to run for president in next year's July election. It's not that I'm tired of the job, but I feel we should rotate the president's position and use others with different ideas and ways to enhance our learning. I have a lot of things I want to do that will keep me active in chapter growth and all chapter programs. So if anyone out there feels they would like to become our president let it be known, this is no time for modesty. If you know of someone you would like to be elected speak to them. July is just around the corner and we should use the remaining time to assure good results for the coming year.

There is no time or space for a report on Tom's travel except to say we had a very productive ABANA board meeting in November. I'll give a detailed report on that meeting and other travels in the next issue.

The November meeting at Todd Kinnikin's was great. Among the highlights was the uncorking of the first (possibly the last) bottle of "BAM Boozle" a special beer hand forged by Todd himself. There was plenty for all game enough to try it. Thanks Todd for a great effort.

You've surely heard the old saying don't get too many irons in the fire. I'm almost ashamed to tell this but it happened so I must. On a cold day in December we were loading trucks to go to market when I remembered I had a pair of andirons to deliver and they still needed painting. I ran into the shop and fired up the gas forge for quick heat. I reached for a can of paint and realized it was too cold to use. I face this problem often and I always put the paint in a container of warm water (never over 120 degrees) for a quick warm up. However I was in a hurry and the hot water was up at my old shop, so I thought I'll just set it on top of the forge for a minute after all I'll be right here watching. So, I picked a cool place on the forge and turned to answer a question. Answering him required a step outside and while talking to him the phone rang and my attention was needed there. While taking care of that we heard an explosion down in the shop.

Folks all I can say is I'm glad no one was in that shop. It blew all the windows open, sent a fire brick across the shop and it broke a very heavy wood door. No serious damage, just a thin coat of flat black paint on everything. Lesson learned? I hope so. If you can't use a standard safe way to do something don't do it. This time I was lucky.

— Tom Clark

# Welcome New Members

John Ford  
1118 Lynn St.  
Tipton, Iowa 52772  
(319) 886-6758

Pete Brandenburg  
299 Granada Rd.  
West Palm Beach, FL  
33401-8017  
(407) 833-2708 (Home)  
(407) 640-0445 (work)

Dale Hanchett  
1601 Sunset Dr.  
Peoria, Ill. 61611  
(309) 699-5962

Jeff Farmer  
PO Box 41  
Berea, KY 40403  
986-9341 ext. 5232

Don Myers  
805 Sanders St.  
Bethalto, Ill. 62010  
(618) 377-9438

## New Addresses

Ralph Wilkins  
118 Hwy V  
Ironton, MO. 63650  
(314) 546-2415

K.E. Valdejo  
7409 Hertel Rd.  
Millstadt, Ill. 62260

**Coal Money: \$679**

# Doug Does Delaware

by Doug Hendrickson

In early January I had the chance to attend Bill Gichner's 13th annual Blacksmith meeting in Delaware. Bill is a legendary blacksmith, tool trader and dealer and he attends most regional conferences.

Bill's extra long Dodge van is packed with tools, books, anvils and various rusty things that only a blacksmith would care about. Bill's place, Iron Age Antiques in Ocean View, Del., is just like his van.

Shelves, book cases, racks, file drawers and warehouses are packed with everyday to exotic blacksmith stuff. I spent hours rooting through his treasures and even managed to spend some of my hard-earned money on a very unusual hammer blank. Presently I am grinding it into a very workable tool. Mr. Gichner is famous for three things: his fantastic tool collection, his outrageous prices and his generosity.

Bill demands a high price for his wares and then turns around and gives you a little something he feels you need. It's just the way Bill works. Once he has won the game, sold you something, he softens up and rewards you for playing with him. In the end all is fair.

Another manifestation of Bill's generosity is his annual meeting. Folks fly in and he arranges shuttles, he feeds you all weekend from the Friday night pizza party at his house, the deli spread at the shop to the Sunday breakfast at his son's house.

Even if it were not for his hospitality and generosity, the meeting would still be notable. This year Daryl Nelson of Washington state was the main demonstrator. Daryl forges realistic animal heads like bears, deer, buffalo, eagles and mountain lions.

These heads are incorporated into fire pokers, coat racks and a variety of other projects. The Cascadian style of iron is something indigenous to Washington state and Daryl is comfortable working within its bounds.

The general feel of Cascadian style

is bold, large, direct forging with animal motifs being quite common. The forging is fairly straight ahead, nothing fussy. Even though the animal heads are time consuming and very detailed, they are still fresh and plastic.

Daryl's demos were only part of the weekend program. As smiths arrived Nol Putnam and Peter Hapny, who acted as MC's took them inside and scheduled them for a quick demo of a half to three quarters of an hour.

Bill did call a number of folks ahead of time so he knew who would be present and what they could do. Oddly enough, a large number of folks came ready to forge something. The list of smiths who did the short demos was quite impressive. Paul Hubler, Jack Brubaker, Bob Bergman, Walt Scadden, Brad Silberberg, Jerry Hoffmann, Pete Renzetti, Peter Hapny and even me.

The organized demos were augmented by spontaneous, impromptu exhibitions of forging. Most notably, our president Tom Clark forged a pyramid on the end of a 1-inch square bar in one heat to demonstrate hammer control and seat of the pants calculation.

If I'm invited back I'll go in a heart beat. I'll even brave the X-ray machines at the airport again. They didn't even question hammers, tongs, ring projects and bar stock — I was surprised.

Tom buzzed the walk through and they had to use the wand on him. It was probably the snaps and clasps on his Carhardts and the pins and plates from his racing days.

If you get a chance to attend next year do it. Gotta beat it.

## Tom's Turn

By now you've heard that our meeting at Pat McCarty's has been changed from March 12 to March 19. I hope this was not inconvenient to anyone.

It's a hard thing making schedules and it is seldom one can be made to please all but we try.

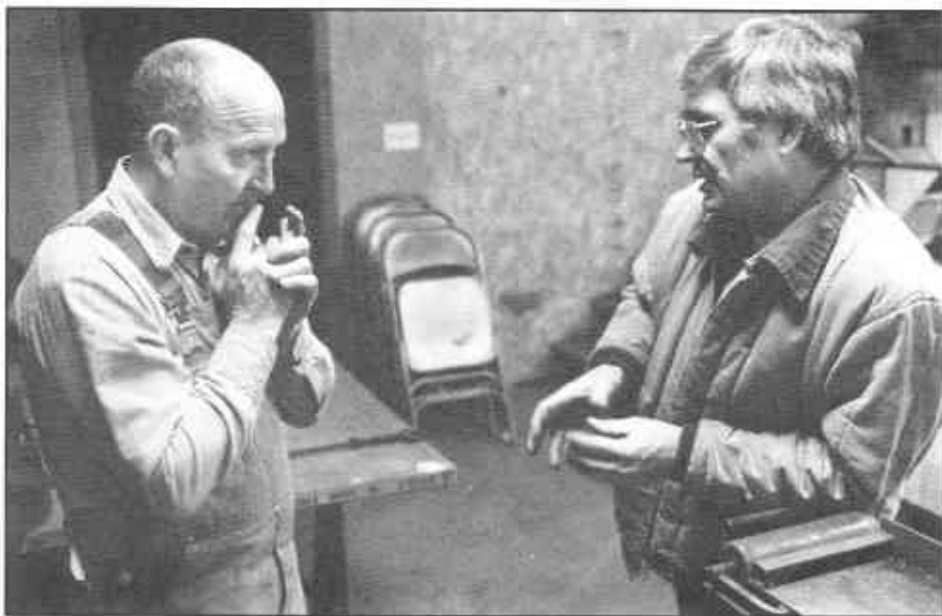
The January meeting at Stan Winkler's was well attended and we were glad that Fred Caylor and Clay Spencer were able to attend. Clay was here to help the ABANA Conference Committee and we want to thank him for that. Clay and Jackie came a day early and spent that time with Lou and Pat Mueller. Thanks Clay for the extra effort. The door knocker you gave Lou looks great.

Fred, fresh out of auctioneering school, turned our iron in the hat into one of his first auctions. Thanks Fred, you always add something special to our meetings when you attend.

The first forge building workshop at Lou's was a great experience. We now have 10 new small hooded forges completed. They look great. I think this design will be good for the teaching stations and may very well be what many will want for their shops. They are small and will work fine for taking to remote demos. The next forges will be built at Lou's shop on March 26 & 27. Everyone is welcome. Call Lou and ask if he needs you to bring anything. Wire welders are always welcome.

I've put a lot of thought into our chapter structure and feel some changes may be good for us (more like additions). There is good argument to support the separate forge councils with their own meeting schedule like the Alabama Forge Council has. However the BAM structure of having all members attend every two months works good. We have good attendance and for the most part good demos. One thing missing is that not enough people get forge time.

So I am proposing that we try to add to our schedule by having a number of forges open on off months of the regular BAM meetings. It will be important to have several forges so



*Tom and Maurice Ellis have a chat at the January BAM meeting. Who knows what they plotted?*

everyone will be able to attend without long travel. I've already talked to several people and they for the most part agree.

Walt Hull is interested, we already have the Alexander Major House in Kansas City, Vern Fisher and the members around the lake area have interest. I'll talk with Ken Markley in western Illinois or Andrew MacDonald at SIU-Carbondale. Pat McCarty and John Murray are also interested. We can use my shop or another in this area and anyone else who is interested. Put your thoughts to it and we will develop something and give it a try.

This winter has been (and still is) the busiest one of my life. With a busy wood season, planning for the Ozark and ABANA Conferences, making time for the ABANA board meeting, going to Bill Gichner's party in Delaware, attending the ABANA-NOMM Continuum and taking on another job of hewing beams and making truss plates and hardware I've only had time to make a couple of sales. A man should never get so busy as to miss a sale.

One of the sales netted a 50-pound Little Giant that went straight to Bob Alexander. Bob has been a regular at the first Sunday of the month meetings at my place and is always there when I need help. Thanks Bob. That hammer now has a good home.

Doug Hendrickson, Jerry Hoff-

mann and I attended Bill Gichner's annual party in Delaware. Saturday was the best organized day of demos you will ever see. There was Bob Bergman, Peter Hapny, Peter Rengetti, Jack Andrews, Al Touche, Daryl Nelson, Walt Scadden, Doug Hendrickson, Jerry Hoffmann, Jack Brubaker, Brad Silberberg and Paul Hubler. See story in this issue.

Remember to work on your auction piece for the Ozark Conference and the ABANA Conference. This year the Ozark Conference will have a gallery. Bring your favorite work to show. Also planned is a showing of all the Chapter rings built for the ABANA Conference.

These past few weeks I have felt like a kid in a candy shop. The UPS truck brings another ring every day or so. As I write this I have 15 rings and leave tomorrow to take them to Francis Whitaker in Colorado.

When the deadline of March 1 was set, we had not developed the total plan for grill assembly. Now that we have those plans set there is plenty of time to extend the date to receive rings for judging. The new date is June 1, 1994. Other rings will be received up to the date of the conference. Let's all try to get a ring in so we will have one from every chapter.

Send to: Tom Clark, HC 87, Box 5780, Hwy 8 West, Potosi, MO 63664. (314) 438-4725.



# BAM JAN. MEETING

Stan Winkler hosts a pretty good Smeeting. We found that out on Jan. 22 when BAM gathered for a winter meeting in Ste. Genevieve.

Everyone must have come out of hibernation for this one because we had a crowd that filled Stan's warehouse-size shop. We had two shows going at once — Lou Mueller on the Diacro Bender and Jerry Hoffmann at the forge and anvil.

Lou makes a variety of projects on the bender when he's not rebuilding fire trucks and he had a number of pointers that make the tool work for you. He also had some paperwork to hand out for those of us who forget everything that goes in the ears.

Jerry teamed up with Tom Clark to show us a different kind of leaf to forge. If you missed this demo look for it in a future *Blacksmiths Journal*.

Stan has a nice masonry forge and we seldom let it get cold. When Jerry finished up Pat McCarty and Doug Hendrickson teamed up on a bottle opener. That was the trade item. I expected to see a few bottles of BAM Boozle around to try them out on but I think everyone must have learned their lesson.

For lunch most of us adjourned to the Anvil Restaurant, then returned for more coal smoke. We had a good crowd over from the Illinois side, including our friends from Southern Illinois University. Michael Saari had a bunch of real fine iron on display.

Can't wait to see this guy demonstrate at the Ozark Conference. Doug also had his ABANA ring for us to admire.

We also got a chance to meet new member Scott Payne from Advance, Mo. Scott likes to forge knives and he had an original design with him.

Clay Spencer drove up from Alabama but we didn't get to put him to work on the treadle hammer. That job went to Bob Miller, who really had the building shaking. Didn't see this demo but I'm sure it had something to do with knives. Walt Hull also took his place at the forge.

About half of the group gathered in Stanley's office and talked over plans for the ABANA Conference. Although the conference is progressing smoothly, there are a million details that still need to be worked out and we got through a bunch of them. It was nice to have Clay Spencer on hand for some advice. He thought of some things I don't think the rest of us would have.

We had a good showing for Iron in the Hat, which brought in \$164.

Here's how that went:

Tom Clark paid \$6 for a John Murray candlestick.

Stan and Doug teamed up to take the other John Murray candlestick away from Tom for \$15.

Todd Kinikin paid \$10 for Jerry's leaf demo.

Fred Caylor got a Tom Clark poker for \$20.

Jorgen Peterson paid \$12 for a John Murray power hammer tool.

Tom bought Pat McCarty's bottle opener for \$25.

Norm Cleeland bought Pat and Doug's demo piece for \$6.

Dan Hart bought Jerry's #1 for \$6.

Dale Bronson paid \$6 for three

copies of Clay Spencer's newsletter.

Roberta Elliot bought a Bob Woodard blacksmith helper kit for \$26.

Doug bought a John Murray hammer for \$25.

Thanks to Fred Caylor for being our auctioneer for the Iron in the Hat.

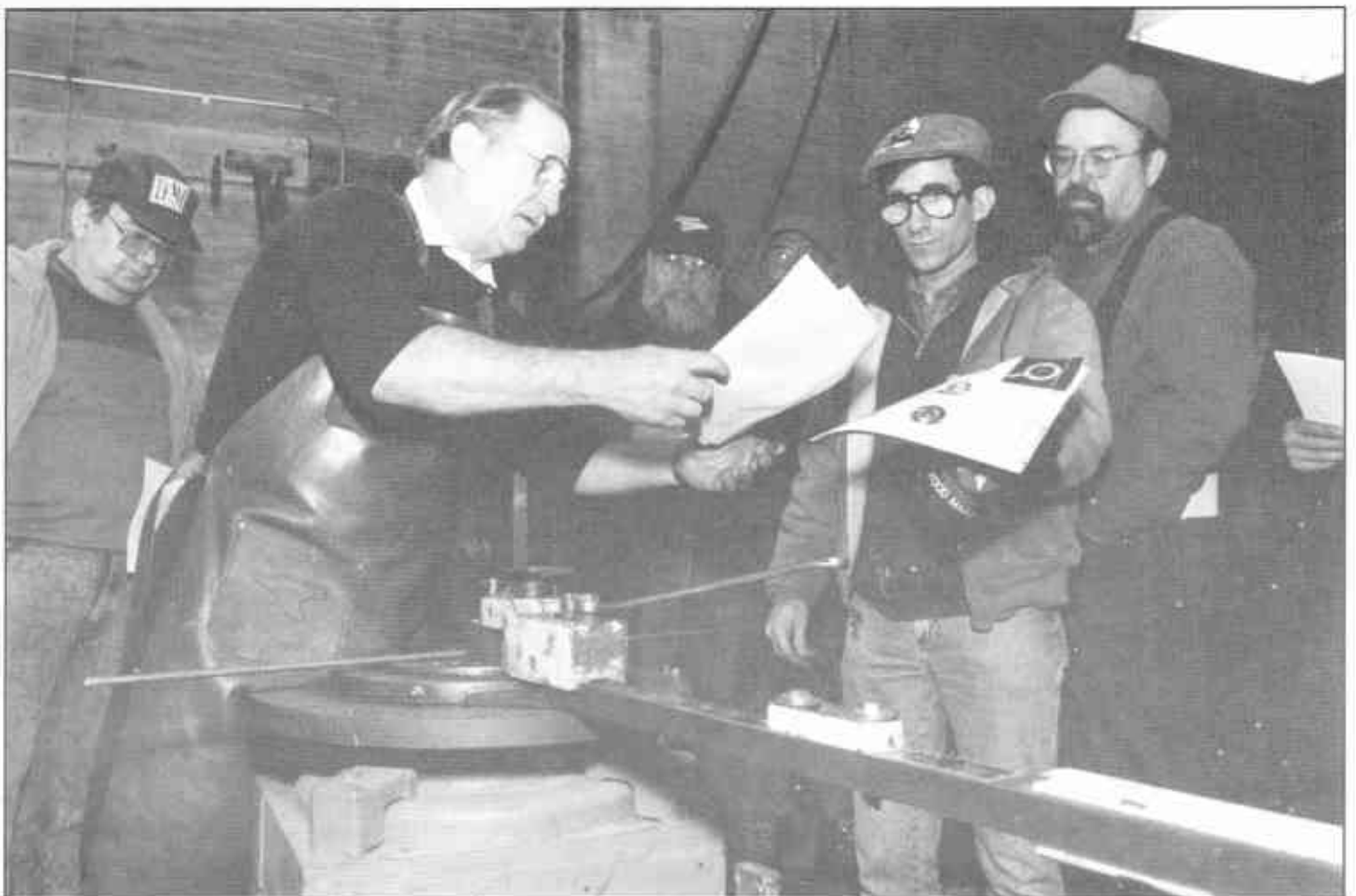
*Left: Our gracious host Stanley Winkler as all smiles at the BAM meeting held Jan. 22. Right: Lou Mueller does a variety of projects on the Diacro Bender. He showed us a few pointers to make this machine work for us.*



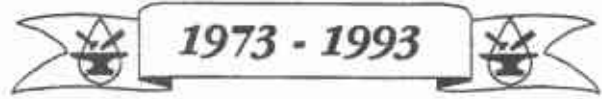




*Left: Bud Mitchell, left, gave Doug Hendrickson a few taps as Doug put the business end on a bottle opener. Said Doug, "When I nod my head hit it." Above: Jerry Hoffmann is always good for a demo and this time he showed a different sort of leaf.*



# ABANA



*The Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America now proudly celebrates its 20th year!*

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

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

## President's Message February 1994

Dear ABANA Chapters,

The latest issue of the *Anvil's Ring* features a long list of folks who have helped ABANA be the strong organization it is. Several of the ABANA Board's committees would be less effective without their help — it is very much appreciated. These people have gone out of their way to provide us with special help in their areas of expertise; however, they are not the only people helping ABANA and blacksmithing today. All of you who are working to make your chapter strong, and spreading the word about our craft in general are helping in ABANA's efforts as well! Together, we are bringing blacksmithing back into the mainstream.

Those of you who had the good fortune to go to the National Ornamental Metal Museum in Memphis, Tennessee last month saw the first ABANA member exhibition — The Blacksmithing Craft Continuum. The show, which went from Dec. 14 to Jan. 30, featured the work of selected smiths, and also the work of those smiths who inspired them. The show was quit a success, and it was due in large part to all the generous donations by chapters, smiths and businesses determined to make it happen. You will see an excellent spread on the exhibition in the next issue of the *Anvil's Ring*. True to our word, we are trying to support another exhibition for 1994!

The time remaining before the June, 1994 ABANA Conference is growing shorter! In Chapters all over the country, plans are under way to provide a ring for the conference Ring Project. The deadline to have the rings submitted for a promotion in the *Anvil's Ring* is March 1. I can hardly wait to see the finished product! Others among you are busy making items for the Conference Auction or Iron In The Hat. I have heard that this conference may shatter all ABANA Conference attendance records! In many ways, this 1994 ABANA Conference may just be the best one ever. The registration packets will be sent out in the spring, so make sure you get your registration in early in order to get the best deal!

At your next club meeting, why don't you make it a point to point out to the crowd where your fire extinguishers are, and how to use them? Through no fault of their own, there are many people who have no idea how to use a fire extinguisher. That is no crime. But it would be a shame if something happened and you had a shop full of people who had no idea what your fire protection plans were. Fires have a way of going "out of control" rather quickly! These kinds of situations leave little time for crash courses in proper fire extinguisher use. Make sure that everyone knows how to use your fire extinguishers before your meeting really starts; and just as important, that they should aim the stream at the BASE of the fire, not into the flames! Outside, make sure people park away from the building, or at least leave plenty of room for firetrucks or other emergency vehicles. Just a little bit of planning can turn potential disaster into a mere pause in the program!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clayton Carr".

Clayton Carr  
ABANA president

# ABANA Liaison

## ABANA Conference

Make your vacation plans now for St. Louis, MO, June 14th to 19th, 1994.

## Newsletters

I'm still not getting all of the Chapter's Newsletters. Check your roster and add me to your list. Some chapters are sending me two, so you could take one off.

## New public forges

In the year end newsletters a lot of the Chapter Presidents summarize the year's activities. I was surprised by the number of new forges being built on public lands by Chapters. Good idea! If you do not yet have your own Chapter forge, consider undertaking the building of one in a local park or historic museum. It's the ideal vehicle for public education.

Presently under construction:

Alabama Forge Council (2)  
Alabama's Constitution Village  
Huntsville, AL  
Burritt Museum on Monte Sano Mntn  
Huntsville, AL  
Bonnevill Forge Council  
Stansbury Park  
Erada, UT  
Florida Artist Blacksmith Assoc  
Sam Adkins Park  
Blounstown, FL  
Inland Northwest Blacksmiths Assoc  
Central Washington Agricultural Museum  
Union Gap, WA  
Vancouver Island Blacksmith's Assoc  
Luxton Fair Grounds  
British Columbia, Canada

## Subdivide?

Active attendance by your members is directly affected by distance. Florida, for example, has four active regions with their own officers and programs. In Alabama, members join an area "forge" where they attend regular weekend hammer-ins with their neighbors. They have 10 forges now. Maybe that's why Alabama Forge Council has over 460 members! You don't have to change your corporate charter, it's simply bookkeeping. If one of your members is willing to open his forge permanently, list his "forge members" as yours.

## Atta-boys

Mississippi Forge Council, awarded their first scholarship.

My smith of the year in 1993 is Hugh Bartrug of the Pittsburgh Area Blacksmith Association, awarded American Bladesmith Society Master Stamp in June and elected a voting member of the Knifemaker's Guild in July. Last year he won both the Orlando, Florida Blade Show Award and Best Damascus Design in 1993 in Atlanta.

To every smith across the country who opened his forge and his house to host hammer-ins last year.

## Good idea

Indiana Blacksmith Association kept track of who did what and thanked them all on a list with what they did (e.g. demonstrated, hosted, etc.) in the December newsletter issue. It not only thanks the volunteer, but provides a summary of what the Chapter did over the year for everybody to gloat over!

## Thank you

The ABANA Office is receiving applications from the chapters on the new form that was requested for use. Thanks!

Change of Officers? Many chapters assume that the ABANA Office reads every newsletter and can get change of addresses that way — but we archive the newsletters and do not have time to cross check each one every month. So, please just drop us a postcard with your change of officers.

John Pollins III  
Chapter Liaison Committee Chairman  
RD #5 Box 154, Greensburg, PA 15601

**Blacksmith's  
gazette**  
P. O. Box 1131  
Stanwood, WA 98292

**The Newspaper  
for Blacksmiths**

Blacksmith's Gazette is published Monthly as a tabloid size newspaper for blacksmiths. It doesn't deal with blacksmithing as an art, but with the craft of blacksmithing. It contains news, tips, and techniques related to the craft of blacksmithing. **Subscribe Today!**

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P. O. Box 1131  
Stanwood, WA 98292

# It's Ozark Conference Time

by Stanley Winkler

The third annual Ozark Blacksmith Conference is set for April 30 to May 1 and will feature Jim Wallace, Russell O'Dell and Hank Knickmeyer as the main demonstrators.

## Demonstrators

**Jim Wallace**, director of the Metals Museum in Memphis, Tenn., deals primarily with architectural commissions and although we do not know the details of Jim's demo we can be assured it will be entertaining and informative.

**Russell O'Dell**, also a Tennessean, is a production blacksmith and metaspinner. Using a lathe, he will demonstrate the techniques involved in spinning sheet metals. Russell will then combine the spun shapes with forged steel elements to show us the type of work his forge produces.

BAM's own **Hank Knickmeyer** will show us his unique approach to pattern welding steel. Hank creates some of the most unusual and interesting patterns of anyone in the knifemaking field today. His demo will be Sunday morning.

This year BAM members will be manning three forges in 1 hour shifts covering almost any imaginable aspect of forging. They include:

Don Asbee

Jim Waller

Doug Hendrickson

Tom Clark

Andrew MacDonald

John Medwedeff

John Murray

Walt Hull

Pat McCarty

Jerry Hoffmann

J.K. Reynolds

Jim McCarty

Bob Patrick

Maurice Ellis

Bob Bergman

Nana Showalter

Ken Valdejo

John Lovin

Phil Cox

Michael Saari

The other area will host the BAM knifemakers covering all the aspects of the knifemaking trade. They include:

Al Dipold

Roy Warden

V.J. McCrackin

Ken Markley

Bob Miller

Hank Knickmeyer

## Crafters

Tom Clark has again assembled some area crafters who will have ongoing demonstrations in woodcarving, weaving and spinning. There are also numerous antique and craft shops in the area for those who may be interested in browsing.



## Stuff for sale

Colin Campbell will handle the tailgate area. Dealers as well as individuals are welcome to sell. No fee, but BAM would like the participants to donate something to the auction.

1. The ABANA booth will be set up with Janelle Franklin.

2. The *Blacksmiths Journal* will have a display.

3. Centaur Forge will be present with their blacksmith supplies and books.

4. Stoneware mugs by Lee Ferber and conference T-Shirts will be on sale — proceeds to BAM.

## Food and camping

Our gracious hosts, the Potosi Lions Club, will be cooking again. Saturday lunch and Saturday evening meal as well as Sunday breakfast.

A meal ticket can be purchased with your preregistration.

Restaurants and fast food will be available in town. Free camping on the grounds but there are no hook-ups.

## Area motels

Sunnen Conference Center  
 (314) 438-2154  
 Best Western Farmington  
 (314) 756-8031  
 Days Inn Farmington  
 1-800-325-2525  
 Austin Inn Potosi(Janelle's Choice!)  
 (314) 438-9002

**Pre-registration**

This year's conference is free to all BAM members. Non-members you are welcome to join and attend. **But pre-registration is a must!!!** We need to know how many people will be attending in order to make arrangements for food and lodging. Please sign up early!!

**Tentative schedule**

The schedule will go something like this:

- Friday evening — open forges
- Saturday morning — Demonstrations begin
- Saturday noon — Floyd Daniel/Tim Ryan anvil shoot (This year Doug assures us the tater gun will be sighted in!)
- Saturday evening the banquet with scholarship announce-

ment, awards, etc.

After the banquet Tim Ryan will entertain use at the auction. Everyone is encouraged to participate by bringing ironwork and money and give Col. Tim the opportunity to work his magic.

The chapter rings for the ABANA Conference will be on display at this time.

After the auction Tom will light the bonfire signalling all to man the forges for our contest. This year the participants will be given 20 minutes to turn a railroad spike into a work of art. Start practicing now!!

Sunday morning the demos continue.

**Ozark shooting match**

Sunday afternoon is a traditional shooting match time in the Ozarks and if the tater gun turnout is adequate BAM will host a match. Let your imaginations run wild and create a unique tater gun for the sporting competition.

See you in Potosi on April 31-May 1.

**More Info**

Any questions contact Stanley Winkler at (314) 883-7670.



**Registration form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

No. attending \_\_\_\_\_

**Meal ticket can be purchased at the conference. To help us plan please mark the meals you will be eating.**

**Saturday**

Lunch

Supper

**Sunday**

Breakfast

**Do you need tailgate space?**

Yes

No

**Can we count on you for an auction item?**

Yes

No

**Please fill this out and return by April 15, to Stan Winkler, Ozark Conference, 175 s. 3rd St. Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670.**



Lou Mueller  
224 Benton  
Valey Park, MO 63088  
(314) 225-3252

1994 ABANA Conference Chairman

The theme "Fire and Fusion" sets the tone for the 1994 ABANA Conference. A quote by Jack Andrews, this year's master of ceremonies, defines the first half of our theme: "If the anvil is king, then the forge is the alchemist, for it contains the transforming fire." Knowledge of this transformation leads us to the second half of the theme: fusion of iron, a metaphor for a worldwide union of blacksmiths that wouldn't be possible without ABANA.

### Demonstrators and Lecturers

Magical transformations are sure to occur in the hands of the demonstrators. To start with, Damascus steel, the embodiment of fusion, will be thoroughly covered. A panel discussion, "Damascus isn't only for knives," led by Bill Fiorini, brings together the expertise of blacksmiths forging a new era in the art of pattern welding. Featured on the panel will be Tom Gipe, Daryl Meier, Steve Schwartzer, David Seacrest and Rick Smith. Jim Batson will lecture on the history of the Bowie knife; John Verhoeven, "guru of iron fusion and metallurgy," will lecture; and Hank Knickmeyer and Steve Schwarzer will demonstrate pattern development at the forge.

Several topics covering historically significant architectural ironwork complement this year's program. Leading the list is the work of Samuel Yellin. George Dixon will bring some of this history into the present by actually using Yellin's tooling in his demonstration. He will have examples of his work, and show how the tooling led to the finished product by replicating selected parts. Peter O'Niell will round out the pro-

## 1994 ABANA Conference Preview

gram by showing and discussing his video, "Samuel Yellin's Legacy." Also of historic significance is a lecture presented by Joan Carr on Art Nouveau and Art Deco ironwork produced in Paris by Edgar Brandt, cir. 1920. Present day architectural ironwork demonstrators and lecturers include John Medwedeff, Christoph Friedrich of Switzerland, Olav Punt of Norway and Paul Zimmerman of Germany.

Another present day topic scheduled for the conference is the use of IBM and Macintosh computer systems for everything from communications to drawing and design. Comparisons of the two systems and information on "where to start" should prove invaluable. Computers and publishing go hand in hand, and will surely come up in a newsletter panel discussion led by Jim McCarty, editor of Blacksmiths Association of Missouri newsletter. This will be a chance for both soon-to-be and veteran newsletter editors to learn some tricks of the trade. In addition, the St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts will be on hand to answer any questions about legal matters concerning your work or business.

If just "soaking in" all the information available at the conference

this year isn't enough, there will be space available at a teaching station adjacent to the forging stations where George Dixon, Elizabeth Brim, Roberta Elliot and Nana Showalter will teach hands-on forge techniques.

Other demonstrators and lecturers include: Elizabeth Brim, sculpture Jack Brubaker, jigs and fixtures David Court, hardware Glen Gilmore, iron for the hearth Rob Gunter, blacksmiths' tools made from junk yard steel Paul Moffitt, video taping demos Russell O'Dell metal spinning Bob Patrick, forge welding Chuck Patrick, traditional ironwork Al Pendray, knife making Walt Scadden, moving up to larger projects Clay Spencer, treadle hammer John Voosen, iron and architecture Manfred Bredohl completes the list of demonstrators as an honored guest. He is director of the International Teaching Center for Metal Design in Aachen, Germany. His area of focus will be the assemblage of a sculpture and a slide show.

### Iron Pour

Fire and fusion take on new dimensions with the night time iron pour this year. A team of contemporary cast iron artists, including Tom Gipe, Wayne Potratz, Jim Swartz and David Hartman, will cast commemorative anvils and malleable iron ingots for forging on site. They will pour iron amid the glow of flames shooting high in the air above a 300-pound capacity cupolette. Tom, Wayne and Jim have been pouring iron as a team since 1973, and are pioneers in the contemporary cast iron art field.



*This was the progress after the end of the first day. Ten forges were completed.*

## Forge building: Round 2

by Pat McCarty

Last year BAM geared up and turned out 25 forges in a workshop held at Lou Mueller's. Based on this colossal effort, making 10 new forges for the ABANA Conference was child's play.

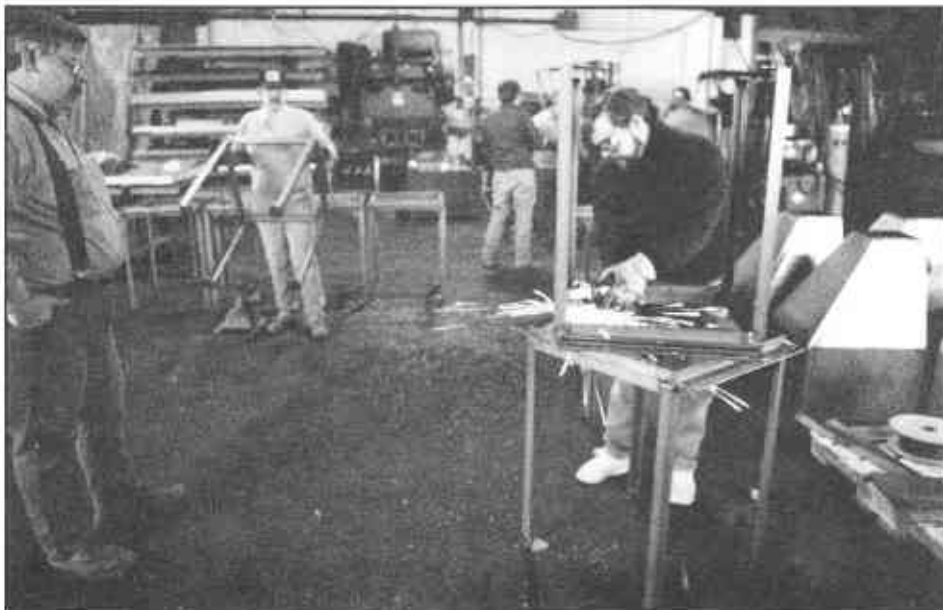
Once again a good crew gathered at Lou's Valley Park shop for a work day.

We had a slow start but by noon everyone was locked into a job and

we were cranking out the pieces. Jerry Hoffmann was doing some last-minute designing and we cut and welded as fast as we got the measurements.

By the end of the day we had 10 tops welded and eight bases done. We got started early Sunday and wrapped up by lunch.

Thanks to Lou for the use of his shop. All those machines made the job a lot easier. Thanks also to those who donated their time.

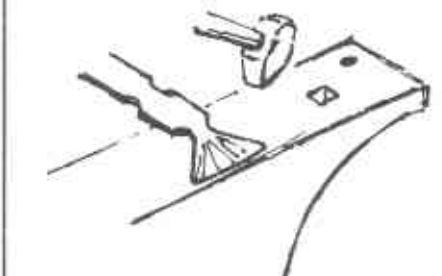
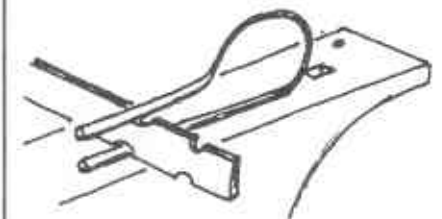
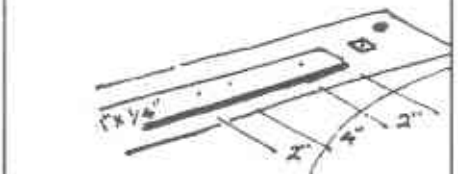
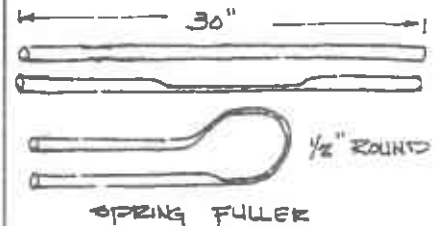


*John Sherwood puts the grinder to a weld on the forge base. These forges are for teaching stations at the 1994 ABANA Conference.*

JANUARY—FEBRUARY 1994

## From spring fuller to spatula

— Mark Adams, Mississippi Forge Council

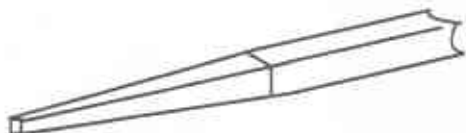




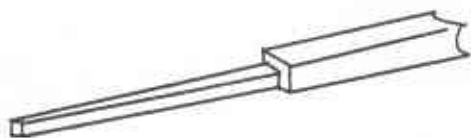
## Nail Making

These notes on how Peter Ross makes nails are by Hugh Eddy.

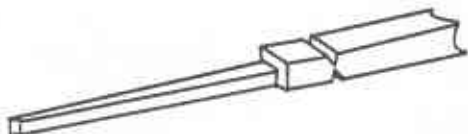
Stock -- 1/4" Round or Square



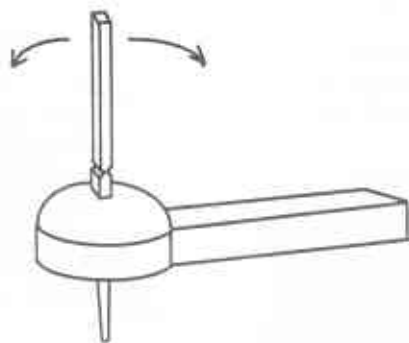
1. Begin square taper to point.



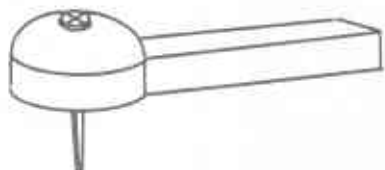
2. Shoulder two sides at edge of anvil. Roll 90° back and forth after each hammer blow. Shank must be small enough to fit in header hole.



3. Leave enough mass for head and nick two sides on hardy.



4. Stick in header and bend to break off.

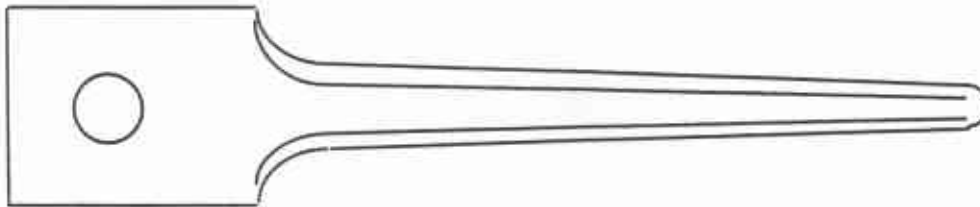


5. Flatten head with 3 or 4 facets. Cool in water and drop or knock nail out.

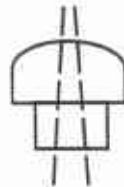
Ike Bay's notes on Nail Making: First taper is called short taper, and shouldering results in long even taper to point. Finished nail was still red when dropped out of tool.

## Nail Header

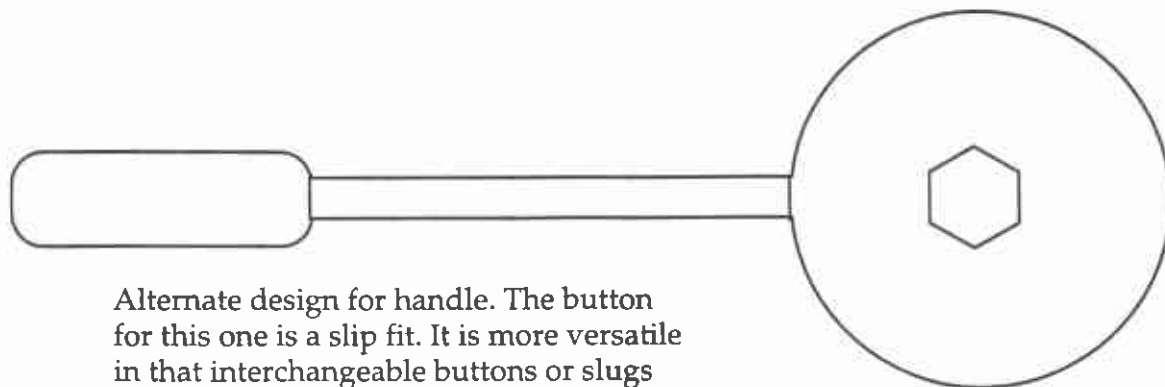
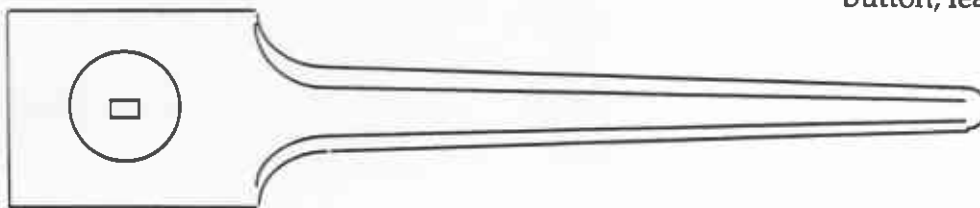
This nail header is drawn from sketches by Ike Bay. The handle is made from  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2" mild steel and the button is high carbon steel.



Forge handle to shape.  
Punch and drift or drill hole.



Forge button to drive fit in hole. Anneal and drill hole. Drive tapered drift (size of nail shank) from bottom. Dress hole with file. Heat treat only top  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of button, leave rest soft.



Alternate design for handle. The button for this one is a slip fit. It is more versatile in that interchangeable buttons or slugs could be used for different sizes of nails. Make slugs from collar area of jackhammer bit.

# 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*

### Cup for candles

Brother Pat showed me this one but he gave the credit for it to a demo Stanley Winkler gave at St. James. It's a neat trick for making a little different style of candle cup.

Start with a long piece of 3/4 inch copper pipe. Heat it and quench to soften (copper works backwards from iron). Rest one end of the pipe on the floor. Take a ball peen hammer that is a little larger than the pipe and lightly hammer it into the other end while rocking the ball peen around in a circle. In this manner flare the end of the pipe until it looks good to you. Cut off about 2 inches on the chop saw so you get a nice square cut.

Now cut a circle out of a piece of heavy sheet metal. Mark the center first with a center punch and then drill a hole for a 1/8 or 3/16 inch rivit. I cut mine from an old sign using a cold chisel. Just mark the cut — you don't have to go too deep. Now clamp it in your vise and bend back and forth along the cut line, resetting it in the vise as needed. The metal will sheer along the line you cut with the chisel.

When you have your rough circle cut put a rivit through the hole and clamp the rivit close to the disc with a vise grips. Show the circle to your

grinder and it will grind itself into a perfect circle. Don't let it run too fast or get away from you or ouch!

Heat the circle and cup it on a wood block carved to a dish shape or on the step of the anvil. When you have the shape you want, center the piece of copper pipe on the circle and drop a tiny piece of brazing rod (less than a half inch) and some flux into the center. Put the whole thing carefully into the fire and give it some heat. When the rod melts gently roll the candle cup around until it is brazed together. Don't quench!

Now you can attach it to whatever you want by welding, riviting, or with a small nut and bolt.

— Jim McCarty

### Fine finishes

Black Iron Wax

Melt together:

1 part turpentine

2 parts boiled linseed oil

1/4 part beeswax

—Nol Putnam

Traditional Indoor finish

Melt together:

1 pound can Johnson's Paste Wax

1 cup turpentine

1/4 cup boiled linseed oil

1 tablespoon Japan drier

—Francis Whitaker

### Demo Hint

For complex demo pieces, bring along a finished sample to show your audience what you are working towards. Remember that most visitors have an attention span of maybe 5 minutes. Those who are quite interested may stay for 15. You need to get your story across quickly.

—Fay LeCompte, *Blacksmiths Guild of the Potomac*

### Sized to be seen

Weather vanes come in all sizes and Ray Phelps recently had a sheet which sets forth guidelines on letter sizes vs. viewer distances. Here is that information:

Letter size	Viewer Distance
4 inch	150 feet
6 inch	200 feet
8 inch	350 feet
10 inch	450 feet

12 inch	525 feet
15 inch	630 feet
17 inch	710 feet
24 inch	1000 feet

If you want to add a ball to your weather vane and don't know where to find one try: W.F. Norman Corp., PO Drawer 323, 214 N. Cedar, Nevada, Mo. or call 1-800-641-4038. (Ed. note: they also make punched tin ceilings) Another source is J.G. Braun Company, 7540 McCormick Blvd., Skokie, Ill. 60076, 1-800-323-4072. This firm carries balls in steel, stainless, aluminum and brass.

— Indiana Forge Fire

### Gunter quench

Rob Gunter, the proprietor of the R Forgerly at Tijeras, New Mexico, has developed an experimental quenching solution to replace a 10 percent Sodium Hydroxide solution. It consists of:

5 gallons water

5 pounds table salt

32 ounces "Dawn" dishwashing liquid

8 ounces Shaklee Basic I

Quench at 1550 degrees F. Use care with any quenching material. Do it outside or with good ventilation to save your lungs.

—Indiana Forge Fire

### For safety's sake

If you are doing your forging in a place like a garage that serves another function, take a minute to make sure there isn't something laying around that doesn't mix with open fires. I was attempting a forge weld the other day and followed the path of the flying sparks when I saw them land on the lawn mower parked at one end of the shop. I also had a couple of gas tanks in the room. These are now kept at a safe distance but they could have gone boom. Another common problem in my shop is fallen leaves that blow in through the open doorway. It wouldn't take much to set these on fire, perhaps after you have closed up for the night and think the fire is out. If you keep paint in the shop put it inside a closed metal cabinet. Also make sure greasy rags go in an airtight container and never leave anything flammable hanging on a gas welding rig.

In reply to Matt's plea for help with articles for the newsletter, I will try to describe the manufacture of a ladle. I would consider this a beginning to intermediate level project.

In order to make this ladle I had to manufacture a "dishing block" to shape the bowl of the ladle. I started with an ash stump about 13 inches tall and 16 inches in diameter. This size is not all that critical. I made mine at a height that was comfortable for me to sit at and work.

The first step is to make a dish in the top. A lot of the old books I have read say to carve this in the top with wood gouges. Since I didn't have any gouges I improvised with my router. I routed a 5 inch diameter hole as deep as it would go. This made a flat bottomed hole in the top of the stump. To solve this problem I built a small fire in the hole in the top of the stump. I watched this so it would not stray outside my original hole. After allowing it to smolder for awhile I scooped out the ash and embers and using a ball pein hammer started rounding the bottom of the hole until

# Forge a Ladle

it had a pleasing shape. I repeated this procedure a number of times until I had a depth of 1 3/4 inches. Again, there is nothing special about this measurement, just that it looked good to me.

Now that the "special purpose" tool is done, we can get on with some blacksmith type work instead of carpenter work! I took a 5 1/2 inch circle of 16 gauge sheet metal. (I cut it with a gas torch.) Remember, the smaller the gauge number the thicker the sheet metal is. To dish this and give it a concave surface, place the sheet metal over the dish in the block. Use a ball pein hammer (the ball end) and start driving the metal into the depression in the top of the block.

I work from the center out and try to overlap the strikes as much as possible. You can do this either hot or cold. I prefer cold, it is a little harder to work but the advantage of being able to hold onto the bowl later makes it easier for me.

If you are going to work it hot, be sure to soak down the top of the stump or it tends to catch fire or blow smoke back in your

face. I continue working the bowl into the dishing block until I get a uniformly round bowl that is as deep as I require.

You will note at this point the bowl is rather rough textured from the ball pein hammer. Some people like this look but I prefer to finish it out a little more. I take the bowl over to my anvil and look for high spots on the inside of the bowl. With the outside of the bowl in contact with the anvil I start driving those high spots out flush with the outside of the bowl with a ball pein hammer.

Once I have smoothed out the ladle, I take it over to my drill press, chuck in a cone shaped wire brush and take off all the scale and polish it up. At this point you can put any style or length of handle on it that you wish.

—Dan Syrcle, *Great Plains Blacksmith Association, by way of the Blacksmiths Guild of the Potomac newsletter*

## BAM Bulletin Board

Complete blacksmith business for sale includes 25 lb Little Giant, 50 lb. Little Giant, Nazel No.1, 30 lb. Kerrihard (not working), 75 ton electric press, drill presses, 3 gas furnaces, 5 grinders, steel table with large vises, welding machine, cutoff saws, anvil, hammers and tongs, variety of power tools and hand tools. Shop is 16' by 50' with office and bathroom. Fenced lot with storage building. Takes in \$75,000 to \$100,000 yearly. Call Herbert Thibodeaux, Lake Charles, La. (318) 436-4511 or (318) 479-0227.

Looking for any wheelright equipment. Also large cone. Contact Larry Ruebush, Good Hope, Ill. (309) 446-3842.

Wanted: A Diacro bender or something similar. Pat McCarty, (314)

239-3814.

For sale: 15 inch Barnes drill press, really old but in really good shape. Originally ran off a line shaft and has lever, idler pulley arrangement. Has new Jacobs chuck so it uses regular bits. Needs motor. \$200. Large sheer, Winner brand. Similar to Edwards. Includes arm. \$100. Jim McCarty (314) 897-4111.

For sale: Quenching oil from a tool and die shop. Also way-lube — super sticky oil designed for machinery ways. Great for trip hammers, etc. because it won't fly off. Call Pat McCarty, (314) 239-3814 or see it at next BAM meeting.

Colin Campbell is looking for a big wood lathe in good working condition. Last time I talked to him he had a few anvils that are looking for a new home. Call (314) 583-3512.

For sale: 25 pound Little Giant hammer. Completely rebuilt, \$2,000. Jim Hunt, 230 NW 11, Warrensburg, Mo. 64093. (816) 747-7965. (*Editor's note: Jim runs a machine shop and has some other blacksmith tools he might part with.*)

Ads are free to all members and anyone who has something to sell to or buy from a BAM member. Editor reserves the right to buy everything listed here first but I promise I will talk you down on the price.

For sale: Complete gas-fired foundry for non-ferrous metal, includes sand table, sand, sifters, flasks, crucible tongs and all tools required, \$500. Also has blowers, two forges, old bellows, floor vise, upsetting vise and a tire shrinker. Allen Bockelman, 7811 E. 170th St., Belton, Mo. 64012; (816) 322-5723.

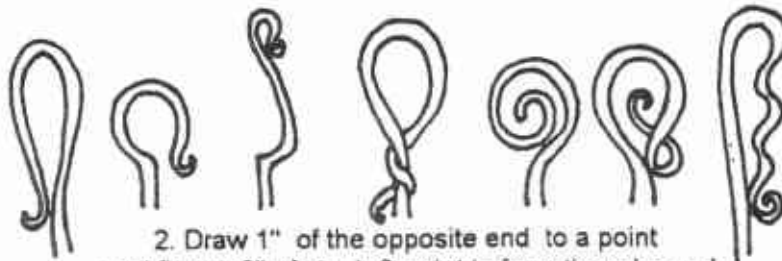
## Fire Rake

### Beginners Corner

#### Fire Rake

By: Buster Grubbs  
Shady Rest Forge

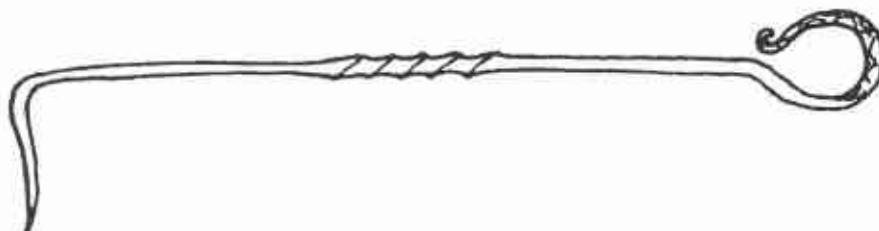
1. Cut 26" long peice of round stock.  
Draw out 1 1/2" of one end to a point and bend to make a hook. ( This can vary according to personal preferences and where you want it to hang.)  
This will be your handle end.



2. Draw 1" of the opposite end to a point and flatten 6" of stock & point to form the rake end.  
Heat flattened end 6" up and bend 90 degrees to handle.



3. Now you have your first fire rake. If you would like to fancy it up a bit, (a) Heat the middle to red and square up about 4". (b) Bring middle 4" to red again and place handle end in vise and twist with rake end. (c) If the rake is crooked at twist, lay twisted portion on stump and hit with wooden mallet to straighten.



Buster Grubbs is President of the Oakmulgee Blacksmiths Guild and this is reprinted from their newsletter.

# ! ATTENTION !

This Is To Announce That 3 Scholarships Of Up To \$500 Will Be Awarded To Bam Members Each Year Beginning In 1994. Scholarships Are Open To All Bam Members In Good Standing With Two Reserved For Missouri Residents. Scholarships Are To Be Used For The Study Of Blacksmithing Or A Related Subject Such As Metallurgy, Design, Etc.

Funds Will Be Paid Directly To The Recipient, And May Be Applied Toward Tuition. Transportation, Housing Or Materials. Upon Successful Completion Of Their Studies, All Recipients Will Be Required To:

1. Write An Article About Their Learning Experience For The Newsletter.
2. Demonstrate Something Learned At A Regular Bam Meeting Or At The Ozark Conference.

These Conditions Must Be Met Or All Monies Must Be Refunded.

Applications Received By March 28 Will Be Considered By The Scholarship Committee, Whose Nominations Are Subject To Confirmation By The Executive Board. It Will Require A Unanimous Vote By The Executive Board To Deny A Scholarship.

Describe The Course You Would Like To Take And The Projected Expense And Send It To The Address Below. Winners Will Be Announced At The April Conference. Good Luck!

**Bam Scholarship Committee**  
**Todd Kinnikin**  
**8356 John Mckeever Rd.**  
**House Springs, Mo 63051**

# BAM NEWS

## SIU Hammer-in

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale will hold its second annual Spring Hammer-in on Saturday, April 9, from 9 am to 5 pm. There will be formal demonstrations in the morning and a hands-on workshop with power hammers, gas and coal forges in the afternoon. Everyone is welcome to attend and try their hand at the equipment. Proper eye, ear and body protection is mandatory for everyone. Observers will need at least eye protection.

The event will be followed by a lecture by Albert Paley on Sunday, April 10 at 7 pm at the SIU Faner Museum Auditorium. Hammer-in attendees are urged to attend the lecture, but it will be impossible to provide everyone with accommodations so make hotel reservations early.

For more information contact: Jorgen Harle or Michael Saari, SIU School of Art and Design, Allyn Building, Carbondale, Ill. 62901; (618) 457-5699 or (618) 453-3778.

Registration forms will be sent out in February and need to be returned by April 1 to give them an idea of how many will attend. You can still come if you don't register, but please preregister if possible.

## Central Missouri BAM'ers

Those of you who are interested in getting together to set up a Central Missouri Hammer-in should contact Bud Mitchell or Vernon Fisher or Jim McCarty. We would like to get together for a hamburger or something and talk about the direction we

would like to take and who will host it.

We already have three monthly hammer-ins going on. Tom Clark hosts one the first Sunday of every month in Potosi. There's another one on the Kansas City side of the state at the Alexander Majors House. Contact David Hoopes for more info about this one. The third one is on the Illinois side of the Mississippi every 2nd Sunday. John Lovin hosts this get together near Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Anyone else in other parts of the state who would like to do something similar, please contact the editor and I will put a notice in the next newsletter.

## State Fair wants us

I have been in contact with the publicity director at the Missouri State Fair about having BAM do a demo this summer. She was real excited about the possibility. The fair runs nine days near the end of August. Many ABANA chapters have a permanent shop set up on their state fair grounds. It would be nice to build up to this as it could be used in the off season for workshops or for new members who don't have a shop.

For now though we can start small and put on a one, two or however many days we can fill demo. We just need to let them know what we have in mind and how much space it would take.

Their budget probably won't pay us anything this year anyway but I can swing free admission and parking for anyone who wants to take part. This would be a good chance to pick up new members, promote blacksmithing, sell our wares and maybe learn the location of some tools.

If you would like to take part contact Jim McCarty ASAP at Rt. 1 Box 20, Loose Creek, Mo. 65054 or call (314) 897-4111.

## Coming Conferences

The Blacksmiths Guild of the Potomac invites you to the 2nd annual Spring Fling April 23-24 in Warrenton, Va. Demonstrators

include Dan Boone, Ed Grove, Paul Hubler, Nol Putnam, Peter Ross. Auction on Saturday, Iron in the hat both days (donations appreciated). Breakfast and lunch both days, dinner on Saturday. Guest speaker after dinner. Registration is \$16. Call Fay LeCompte at (703) 281-3342, 9 am to 5 pm so he can send directions and plan for the meals.

The Indiana Blacksmithing Association will host its annual conference on June 4-5. Don't have any details yet but mark this date as this is always a good one and they send lots of folks to ours.

The Upper Midwest Blacksmith Association invites you to their Iowa meeting May 13, 14 & 15 featuring Clifton Ralph demonstrating tooling and more under the power hammer. Damascus knifemaker Howard Clark will host the event at his Morgan Valley forge near Runnells, Iowa. Much of the demo will be under his 3B Nazel hammer. Space limited to the first 30 registered. To do so send check made out to UMBA to Rich Cross, Box 93, Baxter, Iowa 50028.

The North Carolina Chapter of TABANA is having their 1994 Biennial Blacksmiths Conference on May 13-15 in Denton, North Carolina. There will be family programs, tailgaters, blacksmithing for beginners and demos from Jerry Darnell, George Dixon, Steve Kayne, Michael Saari and Clay Spencer. Cost is \$40 per family if you register by April 30. For more info contact Bill Pate at (910) 763-7326 or Max Gray at (910) 629-6708.

## Tools of the trade

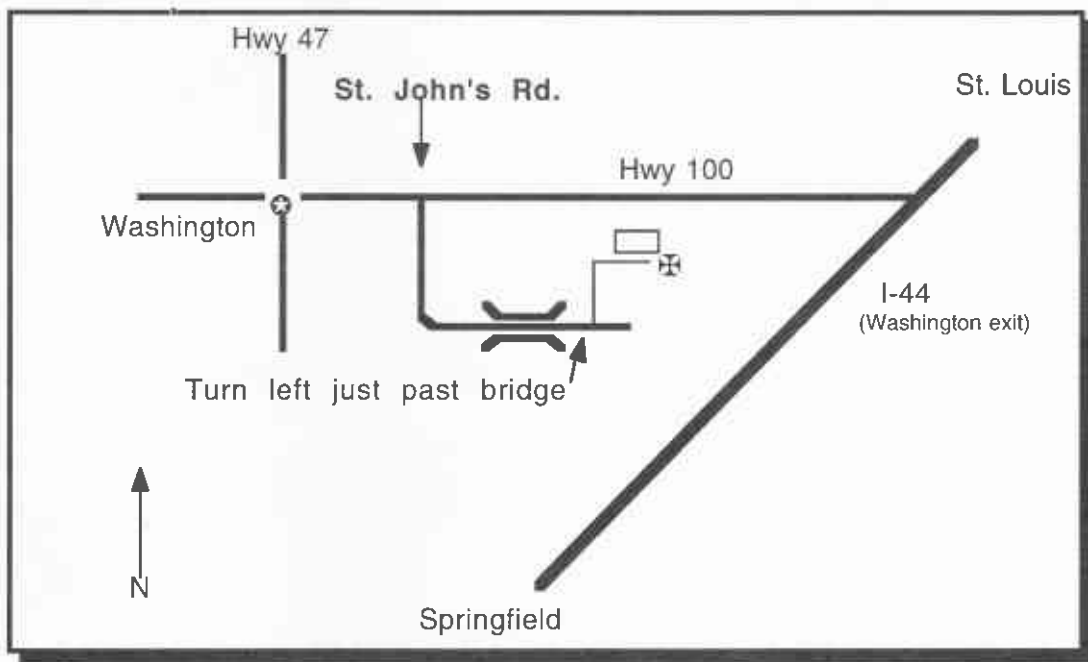
BAM member John Medwedeff is teaching a class on basic blacksmithing shop tooling, including tongs, chisels, punches and jigs at the Appalachian Center for the Crafts in Cookeville, Tenn. The class will be held on April 16 & 17 and costs \$80. For more information call (615) 597-6801 or 392-3051.



# Next Meeting March 19 at Pat McCarty's

Pat McCarty will be the host for BAM's next meeting, which will be held March 19 in Washington, Mo. Everyone had a good time the last time Pat hosted a meeting. He has a rather unique house and promises guided tours. Hopefully his latest quilt will be done in time for the meeting.

**Note new date — meeting was originally set for March 12**



Pat lives about a mile off Hwy. 100 east of Washington. Take St. John's Road for about a mile and look for the BAM sign. His drive is on the left-hand side of the road just past a creek bridge.

There should be lots of demos — Pat is planning on showing his wizard demo again. There will also be a spare anvil or two for beginners to give it a try while there is someone around to ask questions. The trade item is a trivet.

Here's how the trade works: if you bring one you get to take someone else's home. Don't bring one — you get the picture.

Also don't forget to bring something for the iron in the hat. This is a raffle and all the proceeds go to the treasury.

Pat strongly encourages the buying, selling and swapping of rusty iron, so lower your tail gate and fill it up with whatever you've got to offer.

If you get lost give Pat a call at (314) 239-3814 and a rescue team will talk you in.

See you in Washington.

## Next meeting:

The May meeting will be held on May 21 at Steve Austin's forge in Claycomo, Mo. His shop is located at 44 NE Munger Rd which is north of Kansas City. This is always a great one so don't miss it!

## 1994 BAM Schedule

### March Meeting

Pat McCarty, Washington, Mo.,  
March 19.

### September Meeting

Ken Markley, Sparta Ill., Oct. 1

### Ozark Conference

Potosi, Mo., April 30-May 1

### November Meeting

Hank Knickmeyer, Cedar Hill,  
Mo., Nov. 5.

### May Meeting

Steve Austin, Claycomo, Mo.,  
May 21.

### January 1995 Meeting

Jerry Hoffmann, Lonedell, Mo.,  
Jan. 21, 1995

### July Meeting

Vernon Fisher, Rocky Mount,  
Mo., July 23

(Note corrected date)

Please mark these dates on  
the calendar just in case the  
newsletter arrives a little late!

# There's still time to forge that ring!

Calling all ABANA chapters! The Ring Deadline has been extended to June 1. We have 15 rings but would like to see every chapter represented. Call your members together and forge one today. Then send it to Tom Clark, HC 87, Box 5780, Hwy 8 West, Potosi, Mo. 63664. Don't be left out.

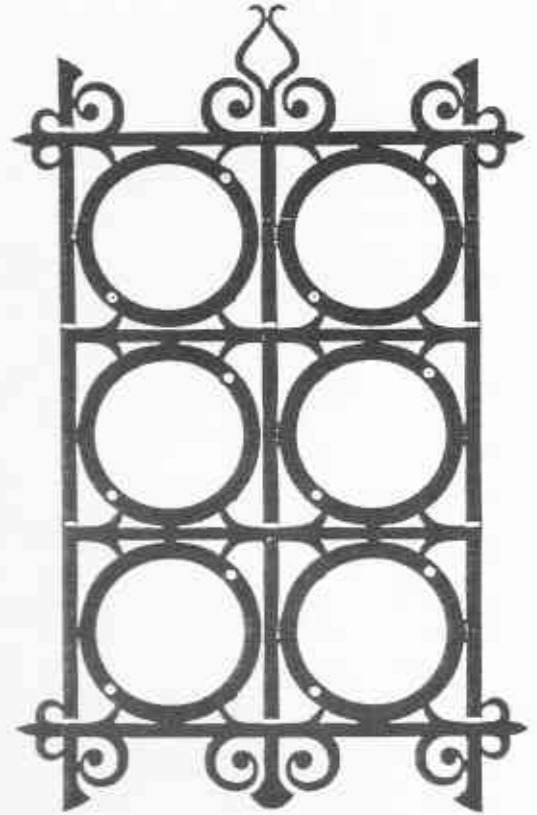
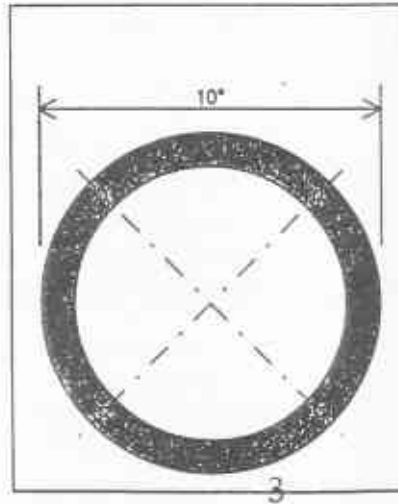
## ABANA CONFERENCE PROJECT

One of the goals of the 1994 ABANA conference is to strengthen the link between ABANA and its chapters. This link is reinforced both symbolically and by chapter participation by the '94 "rings project". Each chapter is asked to encourage their members to participate by designing and making a ring. From these rings, the chapters should select one to be submitted to the conference Rings Committee. Six of those submitted will be chosen for inclusion in grillwork made during the conference by a team led by Francis Whitaker. The finished grill and the remaining rings will be sold at the '94 ABANA Conference auction.

### Specifications:

The rings for this project serve as the outer border of a design created to occupy the negative space within the ring. The interior ironwork can be anchored to the ring in any fashion deemed suitable (rivets, collars, welds, etc). The only criteria is that the outer edge of the ring and the area around the mounting holes remain unobstructed (see framework illustration at right).

Edge bend 1/4" x 1" hot rolled flat, it should be perfectly round and exactly 10" in diameter. The mounting holes should not be drilled; they will be drilled just prior to assembly at the conference. See page 15, winter 1991 issue of the Anvil's ring for examples of work done for the 1990 ABANA Conference ring project.



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### Address Correction Requested

Please send changes to Maurice Ellis, #4 Covey Court, Florissant, MO 63031-1206