

RAM

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NEWSLETTER of the BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

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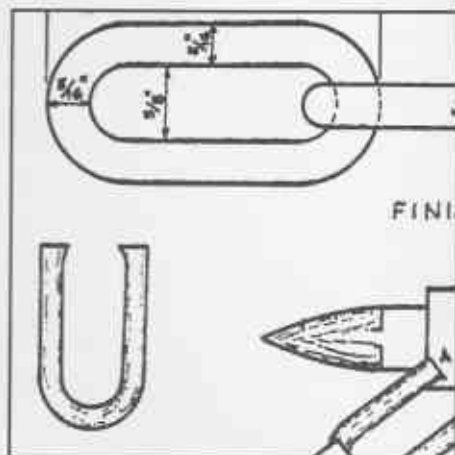
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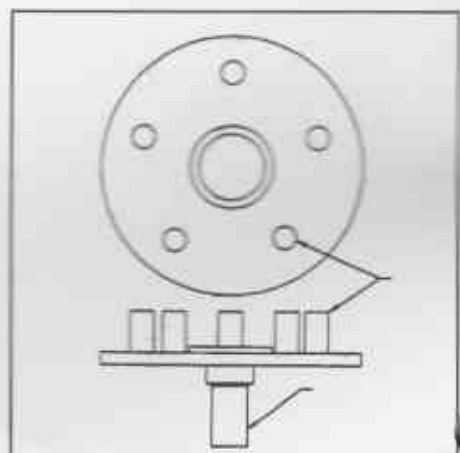
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**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

Volume 12 No. 2

Our cover: You may question who wears the pants in the Ellis family but it was clear after the March meeting whose anvil this is. Photo by Jim McCarty.

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Mailing Labels

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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

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 mail\$50 yr.
- Contributory\$100 yr.
- Public library.....\$25 yr.

See reverse

Editor's anvil

Don't know about you, but I can't wait for the Ozark Conference to come around again. I've been scrounging around in the rustiest parts of the state to build up my inventory so I can do some serious swapping when the tailgates let down in Potosi.

With warm weather here I have found a few days to do some forging. I sent the wife and kids out of town for the weekend and made a spoon for the last meeting trade item.

I also got my half-barrel slack tank fitted with a lid, forged some butterfly hinges to go with it and made a rams head to lift the lid with. It looks real nice and keeps the kids from playing in the water. Only one problem.

I've had it outside soaking in the rain and now that I have it where I can use it it leaks.

I picked up a real nice round Champion forge with a strong blower on it from an old man in Mt. Vernon, Mo. So far I've only used it to start the charcoal for the grill but it should make a good demonstration forge.

On my last trip to the St. Joe area a man told me about getting water from a blacksmith's slack tank to treat his poison ivy. He swears it works great.

I've heard a lot of miracle cures attributed to quench water but this was the first time I've met someone who has tried it.

It's amazing the difference in prices I am seeing on blacksmith tools in different parts of the state. I picked up a traveler in Joplin for \$10. In Sedalia I saw the same thing for \$37. South of St. Joe there were two travelers, one for \$95 and the other for \$125!!!

If you really want one of those two I will save you a trip to St. Joe and sell you mine for that price.

In southwest Missouri I saw the most expensive pair of tongs I have ever seen outside of Bill Gichner's van -- \$45, and they were junk. Near Weston Mo. I saw the world's record most expensive Buffalo drill -- \$250, you get it to turn.

By the way, there is a hand crank

drill in Sedalia for \$14, and this one turns!

By the time you read this the conference will be just about here and it will be time to hink about what BAM is going to do next. We've had a great winter with the First Fires workshop and the trip to the Metals Museum, not to mention a couple great meetings.

It would be a shame to lose momentum just because it's 100 degrees out!

Personally, I would like to see an intermediate workshop and a knife-making class like they had in Illinois in April. We've talked about doing a frying pan workshop, a tong making workshop, anvil and power hammer rebuilding workshops.

I would also like to get in on another treadle hammer building, though I think first we should do the tool workshop for those who already have hammers. If we make more treadle hammers we should do one to donate to the John C. Campbell Folk School. According to Bob Alexander, they need one.

Any requests? Let President Pat know.

My thanks to the folks who contributed to this issue, especially Tim Underwood, Doug Hendrickson, David Hoopes, Gena Briggs and Bob Alexander. I had enough material to just about fill this thing without trying and it was all good stuff.

Please keep it coming.

— Jim McCarty

Election!

Nominations are now open for all BAM offices -- president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary and treasurer. To nominate someone for the office send (or call) name and what office to Jim McCarty, Rt.1 Box 20, Loose Creek, MO 65054 (314) 897-4111 or you can do it in person at the May 20 meeting at Walt Hull's. Deadline for nominations is May 20. Elections will be held at the June 17 meeting at Doug Hendrickson's. All members in good standing will receive a post card with the candidates names. This post card will serve as the official ballot and will let all members have a say in the election. Bring this to the June 17 meeting or mail it to Jim at the above address. Please allow enough time for it to arrive before June 17.

A Weekend at Sid's

BAM members David Hoopes and Bill White took a trip to Nebraska for a Little Giant rebuilding seminar put on by Sid Suedemeier and Fred Caylor

by David Hoopes

On March 3-5, Bill White and I went to Little Giant Automotive in Nebraska City for a 3 day work shop on power hammer rebuilding. The work shop was run by Fred Caylor and Sid Suedemeier. The cost was \$85, and there were about 30 students in the class.

The trip was worth it just for the chance to poke through the back rooms at the shop. Sid has a lot of the patterns from the original manufacture of the Little Giant hammers. He also has every size and shape of power hammer that you could imagine.

We arrived a few minutes late on Friday morning. Fred was just starting to explain the procedures for rebuilding an old style Little Giant 25-pound hammer. The basic goal of rebuilding is to remove as much of the slack in the mechanism as possible, so that as soon as you put pressure down on the treadle the hammer head starts to move.

Friday afternoon we started tearing down the hammer that the class was going to rebuild. This was a hands on work shop, and everyone got to jump in and do some of the work. By the time we had finished the base casting was completely stripped. Before we stopped for dinner, we poured the babbitt bearing on the inside of the fly wheel. Sid has a nice jig to hold the fly wheel in place and provides the core up through the housing so that there is enough babbitt for machining to the correct size of the shaft.

After dinner we went back to the shop and fired up Sid's forge, and did some work on Sid's hammers. I got to use one of the 25 pound hammers that Sid had fitted with the air powered brake. The added control was a nice feature. We also got a chance to visit with our class mates. They had come from all over. Something like 15 different states were represented. Some had come from as far away as California and Wyoming.

Saturday morning, we poured the babbitt bearing for the shaft. After we worked the shaft in, we started the reassembly process. There were

plenty of helping hands and to work went very fast. By late afternoon the hammer had been completely rebuilt. It didn't shake, rattle and clack when it was run.

After dinner, Sid went over the differences in rebuilding one of the newer model hammers. They take a lot more machining work than the old style hammers, and the adjustments are a lot more difficult to get just right.

Sunday morning we got to help load a couple of hammers, and learned a lot about how to transport one. Then we made a few purchases from Sid (He has all kinds of parts for the little giant hammers), and then headed for home.

This was a great class. I learned a lot, and had a lot of fun in the process. I would highly recommend attending one of these work shops if you own or hope to own a power hammer. Even if your hammer is not a Little Giant hammer, you will learn a lot that you can apply to it.

Apologies to anyone who tried to come to the hammer-in on March 5. We were in Nebraska City.



Pat's place

Well, it finally happened, the cold weather is gone and spring is here to stay. The weatherman promises to have nice weather for our conference. At least we've got our fingers crossed. Tom promises another monster bonfire to warm us if the weather gets nasty.

I hope every one has their project done for the auction. This is a good way for us to raise funds for our treasury. We're all capable of doing some fine work and this is one way of showing it off. It's also time to think about our conference next year. We need some input as to what we want to do, who we want for demonstrators, etc. But mainly we need a volunteer to be chairperson. If you're interested in the job let me know, otherwise I'll have to pick someone. This is a good way to get involved and help continue our excellent conference tradition.

If you missed the meeting at Maurice's shop you missed a great one!!! Maurice's shop is laid out well with lots of floor space. I'll bet that will get filled up before long. We all got to try out the air hammer that he built. It is one of the smoothest hammers I've used. There was a lot of talk about having an air hammer workshop sometime in the future.

The trade item exchange was one of the best yet, from Doug Hendrickson's wild twisted handle to J.K. Reynold's crazy braided handle we had some great spoons represented. Thanks to all who participated. We appointed two committees at the meeting, one to rewrite the bylaws, and one to oversee the upcoming election of officers. The election committee will be accepting nominations up till the meeting at Walt Hull's on May 20. Everyone will then receive a ballot in the mail, listing the nominees. This can be mailed in or brought to the meeting at Doug Hendrickson's. The committee will count the ballots and announce the results. Everyone's participation is requested.

I'd like to thank the North Texas Blacksmith Association President Bill Epps for the good time I had at his

shop a while back. Bill picked me up when I was going to a school in Texas and I got to tour his shop. Bill makes a lot of fine items for renaissance festivals and shows in the Dallas area. He gave me a lot of good ideas about doing craft shows and let me check out his tools and jigs to make things easier.

On April 1 and 2 I was invited to the knifemaking workshop at the Jefferson County (Ill.) Historical Society's Pioneer Village. I learned a lot of new ideas on knife making and I hope I can find the time to put them to work.

First up was BAM member Ken Markley. He took us through the steps to forge a blade from RDS steel, (rusty Dodge spring). This was finished later and sold at the auction. Next to demo was Chuck Hawes from Weldon, Ill. He showed how he layers a Damascus billet. His favorite steels are 1095 and 203e with an 8-1 ratio. He folds it 6 or 7 times and ends up with 96 to 192 layers. He finished a knife blank with a ladder pattern. Charles West from Centralia Ill. talked to us about folding knives and showed some fine examples of his work.

Bob Haverstock caught my attention the best with his primitive knives. He makes traditional Mountain Man knives at his Sullivan Ill.

shop. The most interesting thing was he doesn't use a belt sander. He sands his blades with a block of wood and some emery paper of different grits and achieves a very fine finish but still shows some hammer marks. His "D" handle knives are my favorite, with his friction folders a close second. On Sunday Bob made a friction folder blade, Chuck heat treated his blade, and Billy Merritt showed us how to weld chain. He had a lot of fine techniques for getting a good billet from chainsaw chain, and some fine examples of finished blades. As usual the IVBA put on a good show and fed us very well. Thanks John Lovin and Ken Markley.

I hope everyone got a chance to read the article on eye care in the *Anvil's Ring*. It's important that we take eye care serious as our eyes are very important to our craft. Be sure to wear the proper eye wear whether you're welding or forging, or just watching.

— Pat McCarty

Jim—Please don't mention that I was featured in a quilting magazine or that another of my quilts will be featured in a future quilting magazine. I sure wouldn't want any BAM members to find out about that. They might bring thimbles for me to the next BAM meeting or something like that.

Welcome new members

Mark Smith
321 Bucky Ct.
Ironton, MO 63650
(314) 546-3070

Chuck Emery
4164 Eaton
Kansas City, KS
66103
(816) 262-7493

Kate Dineen
1582 N. 1500 Rd.
Lawrence, KS 66046
(913) 841-6271

Edgar Cowan
Rt.3 Box 124A

Mt. Grove, MO 65711
(417) 926-6638

Paul Bondhus
2105 Indiana Ave. N.
Golden Valley, MN
55422-4240

Robert Bupp
727 E. Leonard
Staunton, IL 62088
(618) 635-2691

Marvin Rosenkoetter
PO Box 124
Rosebud, MO 63091
(314) 764-2204

Walt Murphy
925 Southwest Blvd.
Kansas City, KS
66103

New addresses:
Roy Warden
275 Tanglewood Rd.
Union, MO 63084

Norman Davis
5125 NW 44th St.
Topeka, KS 66618-
3406

BAM

March MEETING



The business end of a door knocker forged by Andrew MacDonald using techniques he learned from a Tom Latane class.

by Jim McCarty

I must say Maurice Ellis has a nice Ishop, although the flowers on the anvils were a bit different. Rumor has it that Maurice has been forging outside using a brake drum forge and a piece of railroad track for an anvil ever since we had the First Fire Workshop.

We had a big group of BAM members on hand for the March meeting held at the Ellis' Lizard Ridge Forge near Belgrade, Mo.

Maurice had things well organized with demos ready to start at 8 am. Pat McCarty started things out with a snake head he learned while in Texas. When Pat got done the anvil had a few less flowers on it and Bob Alexander was ready to take over.

Bob attended a Clay Spencer flower forging class via a BAM scholarship and he was paying his debt to society. Bob did his work cold using the treadle hammer. He showed us some neat tricks to make things easier and some nifty tools he forged for the project. He also had some of his work on display so we could see the finished project.

Next it was Andrew MacDonald showing off what he learned at a Tom Latane class, also done on scholarship. Andrew did some neat chisel work and passed around a door knocker that was gorgeous. He also showed us how he slits 1-inch stock in one heat using an air hammer. Wow!

Before we broke for lunch Lou Mueller did some copper repousse work, hammering out an owl for a weather vane. Lou had some neat tooling, especially a vice made from a lathe chuck that held his stakes. Good idea.

I left after the business meeting but I think folks were taking turns at Maurice's (or is it Bess?) homebrewed air hammer, which most folks said was the smoothest one they had ever worked under.

It was a great day and a good chance to see a well-organized shop. Rumor has it that Hank Knickmeyer is now making circular knives. That's the only reason we could see that he would want to buy a cone from Bert. (It couldn't be that Hank knows a bar-

gain, could it?)

There were some nice tools for sale, a sure sign that spring is here. Thanks to Maurice and Bess for a super day.

Minutes March Meeting

Minutes of last meeting approved as printed in newsletter.

Pat tried an experimental PA system. A couple will be tried out before BAM buys one.

School system in St. Louis County (Rockwood District) would like someone to lecture on blacksmithing during craft lecture. See Pat McCarty if interested.

Faust Park craft festival on May 13 (Saturday). Pat will demo.

May 20-21 will be big annual Planting TimeFestival at Faust Park. Tim Underwood will demo. Other BAM members invited, can sell work, etc.

BAM gets numerous calls for volunteer demonstrations. See Pat if you would like to demo.

Doug Hendrickson and Tom Clark will head up bylaw committee. Gary Koberman volunteered to help on this.

Elections coming up. Jim McCarty will head up election committee. Maurice Ellis and Ken Markley volunteered to help.

Set up for the Ozark Conference will begin Wednesday May 3. Call Tom Clark to volunteer to help. Lots of strong backs needed.

Auction at the Ozark Conference a great way to show your skills!

Applications for BAM scholarships encouraged. Use form in BAM newsletter.

1996 ABANA Conference News: conference planners have an idea to construct a chess set from pieces forged by chapters. More info to come.

Finance report: \$7,300 in bank.

Discussion of providing money to fund books, etc. for BAM library.

SIU Hammer-in May 23, several demonstrators and open forges.

Knifemaker's workshop at historical society in Mt. Vernon, Ill. Check with Ken Markely for details.

Hammer in at Eureka Springs, Ark. with opportunity for sales. Check with Jim McCarty for details.

Meeting adjourned.

Iron in the hat went as follows:

John Stovesand hinges went to Doug Hendrickson

John Stovesand drafting set to Joseph Sisco

Phil Williamson tool steel to Torbin Pace

Tony Smith spoon to Steve Stunkel

Pat McCarty blood spattered meat cleaver to Bob Alexander

Tony Smith iron horse shoe to Bob Alexander

Bob Bupp chandelier to J.K. Reynolds

John Stovesand caliper set to Thomas Moroni

Jim McCarty cable knife kit to Jim Waller

John Stovesand angle drill to JK Reynolds

John Stovesand caliper set to Walt Eickelmann

John Stovesand caliper set to Bill Miller

John Stovesand machine tool set to Hank Knickmeier

Iron in the hat raised \$216

Trade items were made by Jeff Pitman, John Murray, Joe Wilkerson, Doug Hendrickson, Steve Stunkel, Phil Williamson, Pat McCarty, Jim Pitman, Maurice Ellis, JK Reynolds, Bess Ellis, Emil Bubash, Roberta Francis, Ed Harper, Tony Smith and Jim McCarty.

— John Murray, secretary



Above: Bob Alexander tells how he learned to forge flowers from Clay Spencer. Bob did most of his work cold on the treadle hammer. Below: Andrew MacDonald showed us some of what he learned from a Tom Latane class. Andrew had some nice samples of his work along. Both demonstrators were paying their debt for scholarships given by BAM.





President's Message April 1995

For those of us that live in parts of the country where winter brings cold weather and snow, signs of spring are indeed a welcome sight. Spring always brings about a noticeable increase of blacksmith related activities. April and May in particular are months that are favored for regional conferences and other area blacksmith get-togethers. Check all of your information sources and attend the ones you can.

The Election and Nominating Committee (Tal Harris - Chairman, Tim Ryan and Jay Burnham-Kidwell) will soon be sending information to the ABANA chapters concerning the 1995 ABANA Election of Directors. While attending any get-togethers, spread the word that we are looking for good candidates and encourage anyone that you would like to be a director to check out the information and submit the required data to Janelle at the ABANA Office.

It has taken awhile, but I think the present activity of the Electronic Forum Committee can properly be described as "full speed ahead". Look for some good news from Clayton Carr and his committee in the near future, perhaps even before you read this.

Hans Peot, Chairman of the By-Laws Revision Committee, and the other two Committee members, Pete Brandenburg and Andy Quittner, have been working on some changes to update our by-laws. This, as I expect you know, has been done several times down through the years and requires a vote from the ABANA membership. There will be board approval of the recommended changes before they are sent to you, but you should study them carefully before you cast your vote. A mailing date has not been set, but they will be along in due time.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the desperately needed update of the Directory of Suppliers. This free publication for ABANA members is made possible by the Membership Services Committee (George Dixon - Chairman, Jay Burnham-Kidwell, and John Pollins). This update has been a long time in coming but it was a time-consuming task that required many long distance phone calls and cross-checking of numerous sources. We hope you will appreciate this committee's efforts. If you have any new vendors or changes for this directory, please submit them to the ABANA Office at any time so we may begin preparing for future revisions.

I talked with Charlie Orlando a few days ago about the 1996 Conference. Charlie will be sending information to the chapters on a periodic basis. I urge you to make an effort to put all information that Charlie sends you in your newsletters.

And speaking of newsletters, Tim Ryan sent information regarding the 1995 Joe Humble Newsletter Editor of the Year Award to all our chapters. Last year only half of our chapter editors voted. We can do better than that. I think knowing that all the editors voted would make the award more meaningful to the recipient. Please send the names of the editors of your choice to the ABANA Office by April 1, 1995 on the nomination card sent in last month's mailing.

Bob Elliott, President of the Appalachian Blacksmith Association (ABA), recently sent this message to the ABA members: "A clean shop is a safe shop". If Bob saw my shop right now, I would be in for a tongue lashing! But I agree with Bob and I ask you to heed this and all safety tips.

Sincerely,

Joe Harris, ABANA President

Chapter Liaison

Welcome

New ABANA Chapter — Four States Iron Munchers! This chapter is based primarily in Northeastern Texas and the new Chapter brings with it 28 members. See enclosed contact list for President & Editor addresses for this new addition.

Atta-boys

Blacksmith Association of Missouri (BAM) for the first Chapter Newsletter on the Internet - <ftp://wuarchive.WUSTI.Edu/Edu/arts/met al/ABANA/Chapt/BAM/12-01-94-news>

George Dixon for the super new *Hammer's Blow*, editor's work.

Library Notice:

Each year, ABANA has many requests for video tapes to help beginning blacksmiths. We know that a number of ABANA members tape demonstrations and we know that these tapes would be a great value to beginners and others in remote areas. To encourage you to share these tapes with others, the ABANA Library Committee is beginning a contest to select some of the best to be shown at the 1996 Conference at Alfred, NY. We fully recognize that tapes will be essentially "as shot" and professional editing is not required. Tapes should be submitted in the VHS format. Tapes will be reviewed for educational content, technical quality, and help to the beginning smith. Prizes for the best tapes will be awarded.

Please help continue the ABANA spirit of helpfulness by contributing a copy of your tape(s) to:

ABANA Library Video Contest
ABANA
PO Box 1181
Nashville, Indiana 47448

Please be sure to include your name, address, and phone number and the name(s) and address(es) of the demonstrator(s).

Conferences

I am enclosing an updated list of conferences planned. Let me have corrections and additional specifics for next month's mailing.

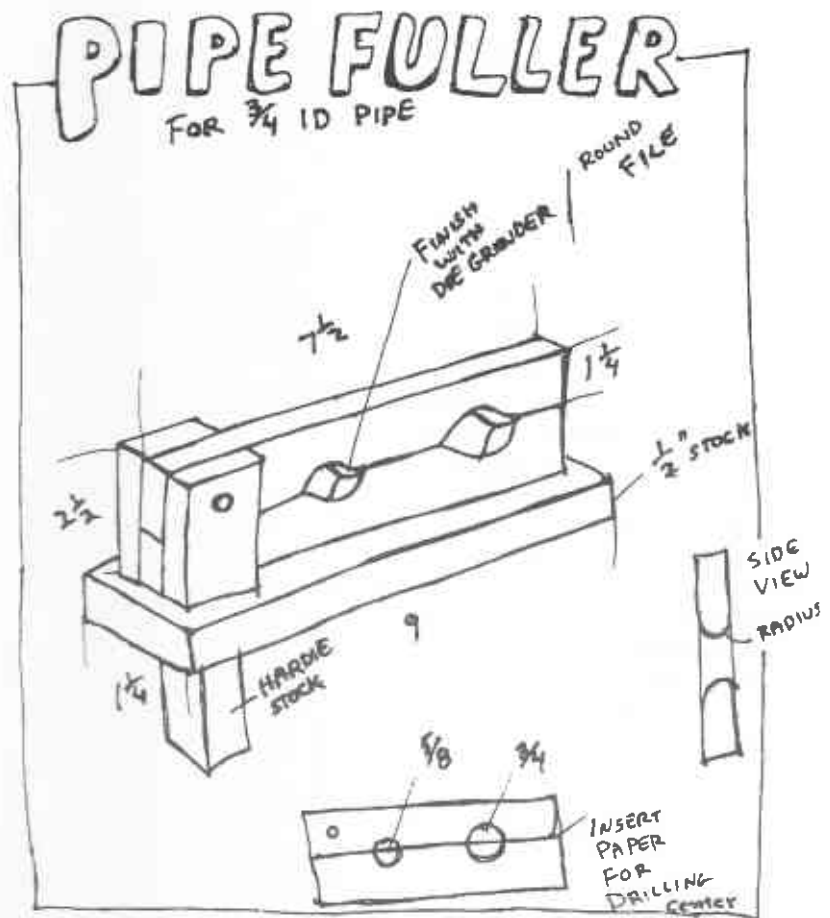
Please drop me a note of how many attended when they're over. I want to track conference attendance this year.

Consider submitting a local newspaper announcement before the event to catch the ignorant interested. Put ABANA applications, if you will, out with your own Chapter applications.

Spring Calls

An ABANA Member will call your President or Editor the week of April 1, 1995. We're building a list by location so that someone calling from Topeka can locate the nearest forge. Be prepared to identify the primary geographic area serviced by your Chapter and particularly by your divisions or forges. If a city won't do, an area like "south central Georgia," a zip code or area code might serve. We'll also want the result of your demographic survey of your membership, if you took it.

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



Reprinted from the Hot Iron News

Forging A Damascus Gun Barrel

Editor's Note: Most BAM members will remember Gena as the world's greatest Ozark Conference blower cranker. Don't think we ever got a chance to publicly thank you, Gena.

by Gena Briggs

Bill and I had the unique opportunity and pleasure helping Leroy (Guy) McConnell forge weld a Damascus blackpowder pistol barrel.

Guy intends to forge a totally handmade Kentucky style flintlock pistol. The handgun will not be classified as a reproduction because its hardware will be Damascus and because Guy is making it left-handed. The pistol will be smooth bored.

Guy has been making fine Damascus knives for 12 years now and participated as a master artist for the 1992-93 Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program sponsored by the University of Missouri-Columbia. Bill is apprenticing privately this winter and spring with Guy.

Guy started by welding a 640 layered billet of 5160 and 1018 that was 9 inches by 2 3/4 inches by 3/8 inch and invited us over Saturday, Feb. 4 to help him weld the billet into a barrel.

Bill worked the billet and Guy alternated between a 6-pound sledge and a hand hammer. They started by rolling the billet with a fuller, starting in the center and using a curved bottom swage on the anvil. Guy used a barrel mandrel that he and Bill made earlier to keep the cylinder from collapsing while Guy welded the seam.

He then used a top swage to draw out and true up the shape of the barrel. Each inch of barrel took 3 welding heats. After six hours of smithing Guy and Bill had a 9 inch welded barrel. Guy said that two people can accom-

plish the job but three would have been better. He said a striker would have helped immensely.

By Tuesday night, Bill's "class," Guy had the flats hammered and ground true. He now has the barrel drilled out to a .42 calibre and the breech plug built. Guy will proof it (test fire for weak welds) before he starts building the rest of the parts. Guy has welded another Damascus billet of 5160 and 1018 that he will make into his trigger guard, lock plate, side plate, hammer, ramrod thimbles and nose cap.

Guy will also forge and file the screws and lock. The Kentucky style pistol will have a tiger maple stock and Guy will finish building a custom display case out of burl oak that will house the hand gun, ball mold, flint-knapping tools and a handmade screwdriver.

Guy and Bill are beginning to discuss making a blackpowder rifle barrel, but Guy smiles and is quick to say it won't be Damascus. Guy McConnell's address is 22997 Fox Road, LaPlata, MO 63549.



Right: Guy McConnell, left, and Bill Briggs weld toward the end of the Damascus pistol barrel they are building.

by Jim McCarty

There once was a time when you could earn your living forging chain. It wasn't a good living, however, and it tended to be done by women and children for slave wages on a per piece basis.

To earn any money you had to be two things: good and fast.

Any good chain maker in the old days could turn out a link in two heats. Here's how they did it, or at least the way I learned it from Jerry Darnell at the J.C. Campbell Folk School last summer. We made chain from 1/4 inch round and twisted each link when it was put together.

The chain was used to hang the chandelier we forged as part of the class.

Back to the how to:

Before you try this you will need a pair of tongs designed to firmly grasp round stock of the size you will use by the middle. See Illustration at right for such a device.

If you were doing this for a living you would put all of your chain stock in the area of the fire with each piece a little bit closer to the heat. That way when you finish a link the next one is close to the proper heat when you are ready.

Heat #1:

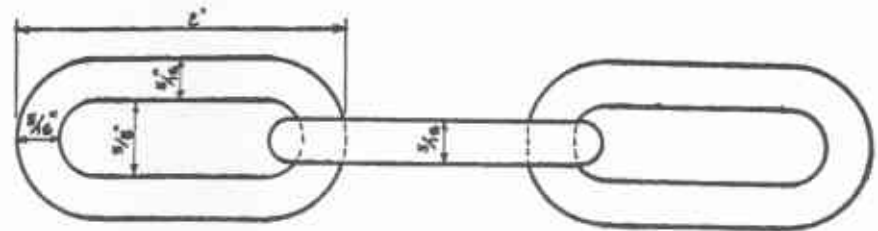
Lay the stock in the fire so that the entire length gets hot. Grab it dead center and head for the horn of the anvil. (Did I mention you need an anvil with a horn that comes to a nice round point?)

Brace the bottom of the stock against the side of the horn that is away from you and pull towards you while hitting the top of the stock away from you. This may seem awkward at first but you will catch on after a hundred or so. You are trying to create the shape shown in Fig. 1, so if you can find a better way to do this go for it.

Moving quickly, go to the face of the anvil to scarf the ends for the weld. Jerry did this with the pein end of his hammer. I find it easier to do it as in Fig. 2. The key here is to remember to flip the stock over so that you scarf opposite sides.

That done, go back to the horn and

Forge some chain



FINISHED PIECE



FIG. 1



FIG. 2



FIG. 3

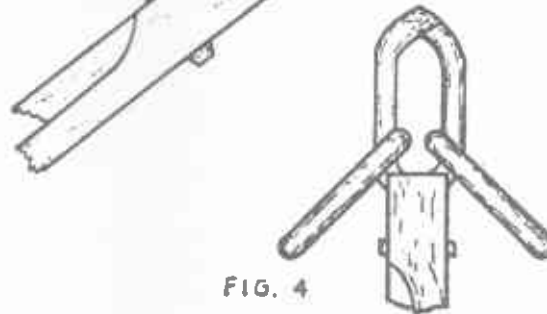


FIG. 4

(Courtesy Nebraska College of Agriculture)

This art is from an old book titled "500 more things to make for Farm and Ranch"

bend the ends over the horn, keeping the scarfs in alignment. Tap them nearly closed, dip it in flux and go back to the fire.

If you are really good you did this in one heat, have another piece of stock ready to go while that one comes up to welding heat.

Let's pretend you got all that done in one heat and move on to heat two.

Heat #2

The link comes out of the fire with flux dripping and the end to be welded a nice white color. Go to the anvil face, strike the weld lightly but accurately, flip it over, strike this side, give it a quick look to ensure the weld is good and then go to the horn to true it up (Fig. 5).

Your welded area will be square in shape, so you will need to work it round over the horn. When you have the look right, flip it around and

round up the other side.

Your link will be more round than oval so with the last of the heat lay it flat on the anvil and with a couple of hits shape it.

Then throw it on the floor and move to the next one. When you have two links formed it is time to join them into a group of three. To do this you go through the same procedure but remember to put the two links on as in Fig. 4 before closing the weld. Keep one on each side of the tongs. It helps a lot if you make a hook out of 1/4 inch round to hold back the two links you are joining. This will keep them out of the way when you weld.

Make two groups of three, join them to form seven, make a group of seven, etc. Each time you are dragging more links to the fire until you have a chain! Give it a try, it's easier than it looks and good practice too.

Flowers from the Forge

by Bob Alexander

Since my beginning with BAM a short while ago I've had many helpful stepping stones to lead me on my path of learning blacksmithing. One of these steps was a week at the John C. Campbell Folk School. With the help of a BAM Scholarship and saving my flea market sales money the trip became a reality.

The drive to Brasstown, N.C. was planned around a farm auction and many flea market stops along the way. Beginning on a Saturday morning I made it to the school in time for registration on Sunday. The season was spring and the country was beautiful. After registration and a trip to the campground to claim my spot, I went to the blacksmith shop to get familiar with my home for the next week.

Clay Spencer was our instructor for our class on making flowers in metal. There was a total of 10 eager students, who all helped Clay unload his truck-load of treadle hammer tools. I've never seen so many gad-



Bob at the Folk School

gets.

The work week began on Monday morning with Clay showing us the different techniques for making a tulip as this is what most of us chose to start with. Tom Brophy, a student from Key Largo, Florida, chose a more ambitious project — a 7-foot-tall sunflower.

With a little thinking Clay came up with some special tooling techniques to form the seeds on the sunflower head and Tom was off to a great start. The rest of the class went about their business of making tulips, irises, dogwoods and magnolias.

Two young smiths from Clay's chapter in Alabama, David Thompson and Allan Kress, camped and cooked with their families which gave them the opportunity to work from daylight to dark. I've never seen such devotion to learning. I did my best to keep up but did stop occasionally to take in some of the school's music sessions, bluegrass and folk music at its best.

Tuesday morning was a change of pace as this was the day the local flea markets were all open. They had to make me quit working and go (not) to the flea market where I found a nice hammer and a pair of tongs for \$20. Wednesday afternoon came with a special treat as it seems that Clay's wife Jackie had brought more strawberry shortcake and whipped cream than she could eat, so the entire class was invited to help her finish it off.

Each student had their own forge, vice and access to grinders, welders and any hand tools that one would need. The only bottle neck was the single treadle hammer which had to be shared. On Friday, as we were finishing our projects, Clay gave us a nice demo on hammering out an apple from a piece of 2 inch diameter black pipe (amazing results.)

Friday evening after supper the entire school displayed their projects for the week in the Keith House. The

blacksmith shop had quite a showing. What a great atmosphere for learning! I left North Carolina on Friday evening with the intention of getting a start on my journey home but ended up at the parking lot of the Pevely, Mo. flea market at 4:15 a.m. (first in line to get in).

What a nice trip!

Here's how to forge the tulip the way Bob learned at the Folk School:

Tulip flower

1. Draw pattern on sheet metal.
2. Drill 3/8 inch hole in corners.
3. Cut out the petals — use a jigsaw, Beverly sheers, cold chisel, etc.
4. Pein all edges to a thin taper.
5. Put veins in petals.
6. Form flower around ball pein head or steel form.
7. Drill 1/4 inch hole in bottom for the stem.

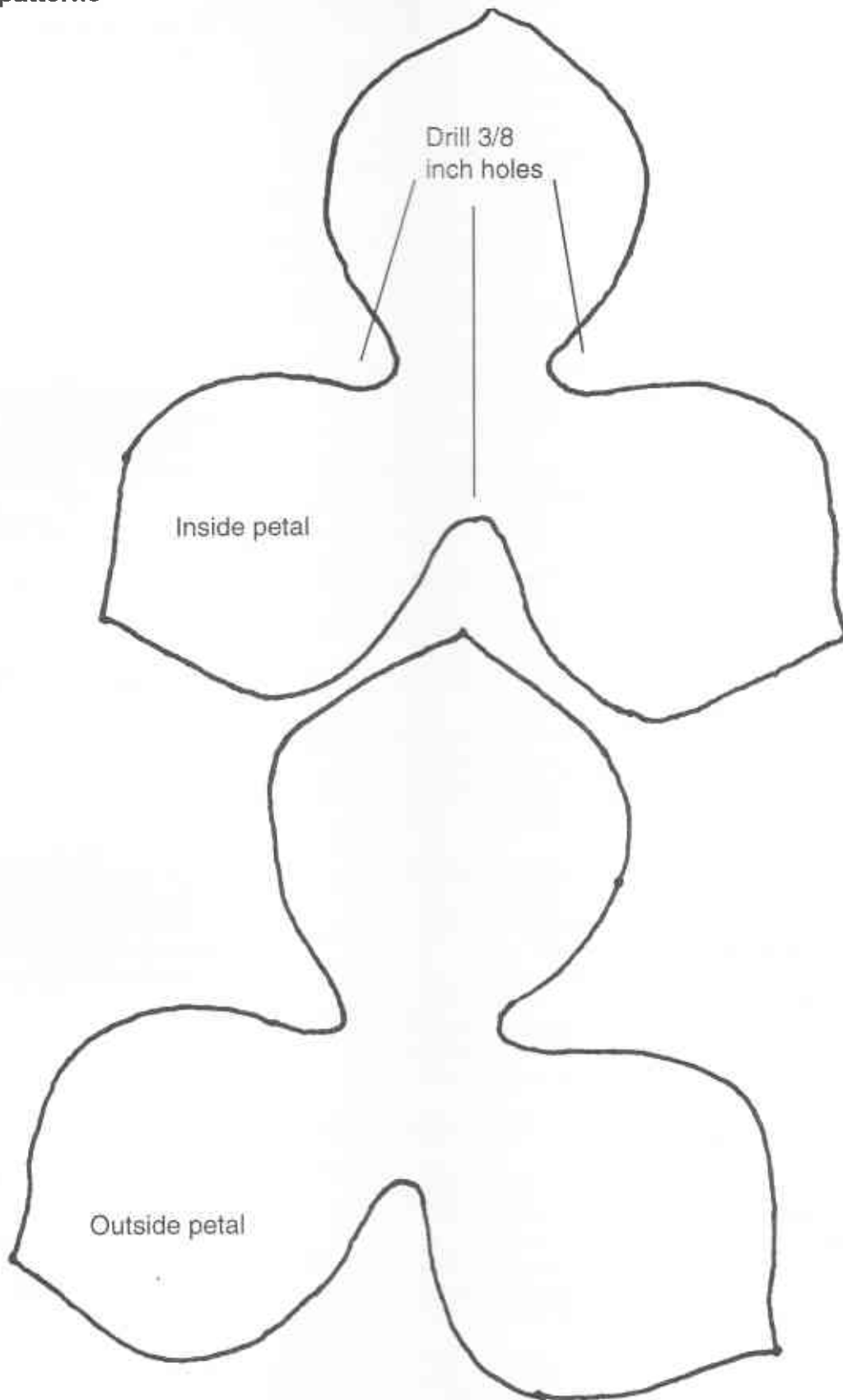
Tulip leaves

1. Cut 2 inches x 1/8 x 8 inch flat
A. To save some hammering take a 20 inch piece and cut in the middle on a 45 degree angle.
2. Next heat and draw pointed end to center the point on the leaf.
3. Heat and draw the base of the leaf to 3/4 inch wide.
4. Heat and draw the entire leaf to maximum width and thin the edges.
5. Heat and then using v-blocks crease the leaf in the center.
6. Last heat and bend the leaf to the desired shape.

Flower stem

1. Cut 1/4 inch round approximately 10 inches long.
2. Take three #6 box nails and grind two flat sides on the heads.
3. Using a torch weld the three nails to the end of the 1/4 inch rod.
4. For assembly of the flower insert the stem into the smaller end of the petals and weld on the underside — repeat with the other petal.

Full sized patterns



Sources

Editor's note: This list of sources was compiled by Mark Williams, of the Furnace Town chapter, who sent it to me via Internet. If you have other sources not mentioned here you might drop me a line and I will add them to the list.

Sources:

1. A & C Distributors
P.O.Box 70228
San Diego, CA 92167
619-222-9946
Distributes metal patinas for blacksmiths
2. Abco Industries (could be ABCD Industries)
1320 Light Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
410-717-4111
Rivets available in bulk. No other products sold
3. Anti-Borax Compound Co., Inc.
1506 Wall Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
219-422-5809
Anti-borax welding compounds
4. AP Tool Company
201 Porter Road
Conroe, TX 77301
409-756-5477
Manufactures anvils, anvil stamps, forges, tool boxes, and farrier tools
5. Air Draulics Engineering Company
4250 Piolte Drive
Memphis, TN 38118
901-794-4300
Manufactures metal fabricating equipment
6. Airco Welding Supplies
1411 East Michigan
Jackson, MI 49203
517-784-8177
Blacksmith supplies
7. Architectural Iron Designs, Inc.
167 Dey Street
Jersey City, NJ 07306-6203
201-222-7444
800-784-7444

A variety of forged components, such as hot forged balls, scrolled stock of various types, etc. Catalog available, no minimum order.

- American Punch Company
685 South Green Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44121
800-243-1492
216-381-1037 fax
Iron Worker punches, dies, shear blades, punch stems, coupling nuts, and other tooling.
8. Amsterdam Blacksmith Supply
185 Amsterdam Road
New Holland, PA 17557
717-354-3186
Blacksmith supplies
9. Armstrong Bros. Tool Company
5200 West Armstrong Avenue
Chicago, IL 60646
312-763-3333
Blacksmith supplies
10. Automotive Inc./Little Giant
420 4th Corso
Nebraska City, NE 68410
402-873-6603
Parts for 25, 50 & 100 pound Little Giant power hammers.
These people bought the Little Giant company.

AVantage Supply Inc.
#60 Allendale
Conroe, TX 77302
800-231-4586
409-231-3656
409-231-2566 fax
Ornamental supplies, tabs, locks, fasteners, castings, hinges, paint, and machinery.
11. Barry Pattern & Foundry Co., Inc.
3333 35th Avenue North
Birmingham, AL 35207
205-841-8725
Wrought steel forgings to fit into your designs. Catalog available for \$5.00.
12. Bayshore Metals, Inc.
P.O.Box 882003
San Francisco, CA 94188-2003
415-647-7981 or 800-533-2493
Metal of various cross-sections

including half round, half oval and Tee.

13. Bee Industries, Inc.
P.O.Box 347
Watertown, WI 53094
800-558-0142
Manufactures solid rivets and pins of all types.
14. Bloom Forge
P.O.Box 116
Drummond, WI 54832
715-739-6331
Makes and sells blacksmith supplies
15. Boggs Tool Processing and File Sharpening Co.
14100 Orange Avenue
Paramount, CA 90723
310-634-1081
File and rasp sharpening
16. Cashion Machine Shop
720 Bell Road
Antioch, TN 37013
615-731-3215
Machine tools, Old gas engines, Blacksmithing tools, rebuilds Little Giant power hammers
17. Centaur Forge Ltd.
117 N. Spring Street
P.O.Box 340
Burlington, WI 53105
414-763-9175
Anvils, forges, vises, blacksmith & farrier tools, books and supplies. Catalog available
18. Century Manufacturing Company
9231 Penn Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55431
612-884-3211
Manufactures welders
19. Cleveland Steel Tool Company
474 East 105th Street
Cleveland, OH 44108-1378
216-681-7400
Manufactures punches, shears and dies
20. Colonial Castings Inc.
15301 N.W. 34th Avenue
Miami, FL 33054
305-688-8901
Specializes in gravity die cast alu-

minum ornamental metal components. Catalog available

Crescent City Iron Supply Inc.
#33 W. 24th Street
Kenner, LA 70063
504-467-7444
Castings, spears, locks, and hardware.

21. Farrier Supplies
26729 Highway 99 W
Monroe, OR 97456
503-847-5874
Blacksmith and farrier tools and supplies, including coal.

22. Forge & Anvil Metal Studio
30 King Street
St. Jacobs, Ontario CANADA
N0B 2N0
519-664-3622
Blacksmith supplies

23. Glendale Forge
Monk Street
Thaxted
Essex, England
Telephone: Thaxted (0371) 830466
All-steel anvils 11 to 196 pounds and all other types of blacksmith tools.

24. Haycock Forge
639 Haycock Run Road
Kintersville, PA 18930
215-847-5896
Blacksmith supplies

G.V. Eads & Co., Inc.
160 Macedonia Road
Kent, CT 06757
203-927-3553
203-927-4527 (fax)
Used tools for the blacksmith.
Tongs, hardies, anvils, bar shears, spring dies, new die blocks, power hammers, etc.

25. Heck Industries, Inc.
1480 Old US Highway 23
Hartland, MI 48353
313-632-5400
Manufactures metal fabricating equipment

26. E.G. Heller's Son, Inc.
18330 Oxnard Street
Tarzana, CA 91356

800-233-0929
Manufactures iron workers and metal fabricating equipment.

27. Hobart Arc Welding Systems
600 West Main Street
Troy, OH 45373
513-332-4000
Manufactures welders and welding supplies.

28. Hossfeld Mfg. Co.
P.O. Box 557
Winona, MN 55987
507-452-2182
Manufactures the Hossfeld Universal Bender. This will bend most sizes and shapes of metal. Good for single bends and or production. Hundreds of dies available

29. Hub Wire Cloth Company
68 Vine Street
Everett, MA 02149
617-387-8750
Manufactures fireplace screens.

30. Iron Age Antiques
Bill Gichner
Ocean View, DE
302-539-5344
Anvils, forges, and all types of blacksmithing tools and equipment.
If you really need a tool or piece of equipment, Bill will either have it or get it for you.

31. The Iron Shop
400 Reed Road
Broomall, PA 19008
215-544-7100
Manufactures forges and hand tools.

32. Jansen Ornamental Supply Company
10926 Schmidt Road
El Monte, CA 91733
800-423-4494
Blacksmith supplies

33. Jere Kirkpatrick's Valley Forge and Welding
30-C E. San Francisco Street
Willits, CA 95490
Manufactures treadle hammer kits and other blacksmith tools & supplies. Catalog available.

34. J.G. Braun Company
7540 McCormick Blvd.
Skokie, IL 60076
800-323-4072 or 312-761-4600
Solid steel wood-grain rod, stamped steel ornaments, hollow balls and halves in steel, stainless, aluminum or brass.
Free catalog.

35. Johnson Gas Appliance Company
520 East Avenue NW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
319-365-5267
Manufactures forges.

36. Kennedy-Foster Company, Inc.
855 Bloomfield Avenue
Clifton, NJ 07012
201-471-2400
Blacksmith tools and supplies.

37. Kirk Habicht Co.
8950 Yellow Brick Road
Baltimore, MD 21237
410-686-9100
Manufactures custom-made springs.

38. Koval Knives, Inc.
460 Schrock Road #D
Columbus, OH 43229
614-888-6486
Manufactures knife-making supplies.

39. Lawler Machine & Foundry Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 320069
Birmingham, AL 35232
205-595-0596
Manufactures ornamental steel forgings with over 12,000 different items. Catalog available.

40. Lewis Brass & Copper Co. Inc.
69-61 78 Street
Box 67
Middle Village, NY 11379
718-894-1442 or 800-221-5579
All kinds of brass & copper tubing, sheets, round & square rods, bars, plates, channels, pipes, and other shapes.

41. Liberty Brass
38-01 Queens Blvd.
Long Island City, NY 11101
800-345-5939

Brass shapes and fittings.

42. Liberty Die Casting Company
6784 E. Davison Avenue
Detroit, MI 48212
313-365-8887 or 404-588-1695 or
713-880-9341

Ornamental iron - ball tops, caps, shoes, and spears.

43. The Lincoln Electric Company
22801 St. Clair Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44117-1119
216-481-8100
Manufactures welders.

44. MAC Metals
936 Harrison Avenue
Kearny, NJ 07032
800-631-9510

Brass and bronze shapes.
Handrails, bars, rods, tees,
channels, angles, half-rounds. Cat-
alog available.

45. Mankel Blacksmith Shop
7836 Cannonsburg Road
Cannonsburg, MI 49317
616-874-6955
Anvils, gas forges, tools, and other
blacksmithing supplies.
Catalog available.

46. Miller Electric Mfg. Co.
P.O.Box 1079
Appleton, WI 54912
414-735-4576
Manufactures welding equipment.

47. Milwaukee Tool & Equipment
Co.
P.O.Box 2039
Milwaukee, WI 53201
414-645-0200
Manufactures blacksmith tools.

48. Norman A. Larson
5426 Hwy. 246
Lompoc, CA 93436
Large selection of blacksmithing
and other metalworking books.
Send SASE for free catalog.

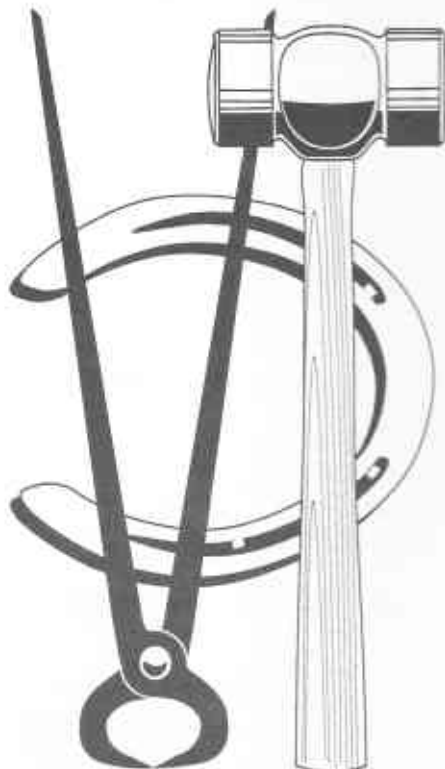
49. NC Tool Company
6568 Hunt Road
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313
800-446-6498
Anvils and gas forges. Custom
forges built by request.

Catalog available.

50. Robert Ownings Metal Design
615 Second Street
Petaluma, CA 94952
707-778-8261
Imported blacksmiths' hand tools
plus an inexpensive air
hammer line. Send SASE for free
catalog.

51. R & B Wagner, Inc.
P.O.Box 423
Butler, WI 53007-0423
414-461-2111 or 800-786-2111
Ornamental hollow balls and hemi-
spheres. Decorative balls
from 1.5 inches up to 12 inches
diameter.

52. Sur-Fin Chemical Corp.
1530 Spence Street
Los Angeles, CA 90023
800-282-3533 or 213-262-8108
Manufacturer of metal finishing or
patina chemicals for
iron, steel, brass, copper, etc.
Product list is free
upon request.



53. Tempil Division Big Three Indus-
tries, Inc.

Hamilton Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ
201-757-8300
Supplier of temperature sensing
crayons and other
temperature indicating supplies.

54. Timbercove Trading Company
121 H Street
Petaluma, CA 94920
707-778-8261
Peddinghaus blacksmithing equip-
ment.
Product list free upon request.

Triple-S Chemical Products Inc.
1413 Mirasol Street
Los Angeles, CA 90023
213-261-7301
213-261-5567 fax
Patinas, antique solutions, lac-
quers, lacquer strippers, etc.
for steel, brass, copper, aluminum,
etc.

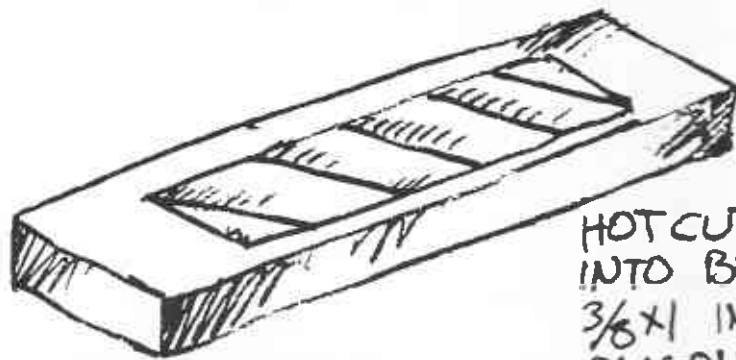
Triple-S Steel Supply
P.O.Box 21119
6000 Jensen Drive
Houston, TX 77226
713-697-7105
713-697-5945 fax
Ornamental supplier and steel ser-
vice center.

55. Valley Farrier Supply
21383 S. Yoeman Road
Beaver Creek, OR 97004
503-632-4366
Anvils, forges, hand tools, coal,
and other blacksmith supplies.

56. Williams & Company
901 Pennsylvania Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
412-237-2211 or 800-245-4475
Naval brass (464) rod which forges
well. Call Bill Firestone
for a catalog.

Wire & Iron Products
950 Anderson at Fab Road
Litchfield, MI 49252-0388
517-542-2353
517-542-2501 fax
Wire mesh partition.

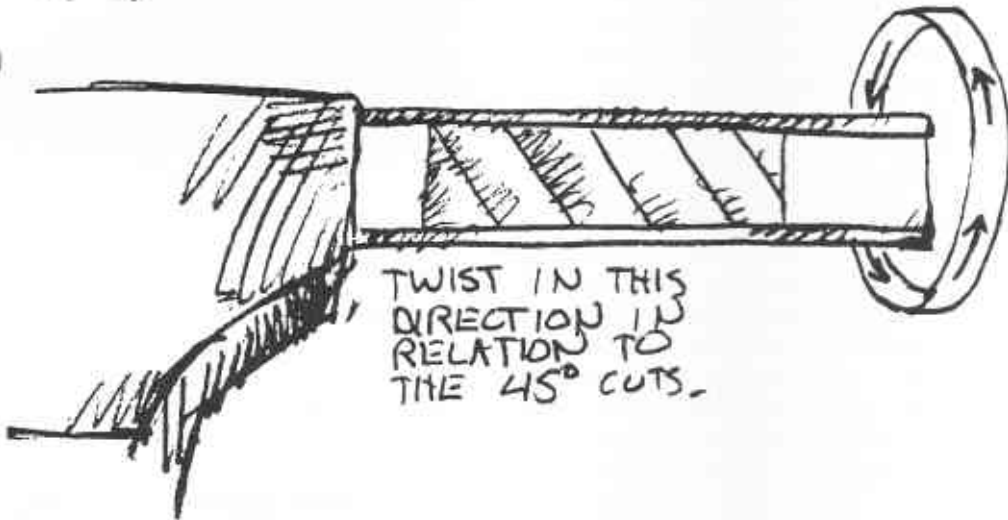
From the Twisted Mind of Dr. Iron . . .



HOT CUT THIS PATTERN INTO BOTH SIDES OF A 3/8 X 1 INCH BAR. THE DIAGONAL CUTS SHOULD RUN 45° TO THE EDGE WITH A 1/4 INCH SPACE AND IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS



HAMMER ON EDGE TO UPSET AND DEFINE 3 PLANES ON EACH EDGE.



TWIST IN THIS DIRECTION IN RELATION TO THE 45° CUTS.



Here's another twist from Doug Hendrickson. Doug had two examples of this at the last meeting. One he twisted in the wrong direction. This became his trade item — yeah, right, give us the junk Doug. The other he got right. Actually I thought it looked pretty good both ways, but then what do I know?. Doug says to pay attention to the direction of the twist for the right effect.

While it's a little effort to get this one set up correctly, the finished product is really unique and will turn into one of those "How'd you do that" conversation starters at cocktail parties and the like. (Don't you carry pieces of iron around with you to cocktail parties? Black iron is de rigour in most polite circles.)

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

Drilling through a shaft

Find a nut the size of your shaft and drill out the threads so the nut will slip on the shaft. Drill a hole the size you want through the center of a flat on the nut. Slip the nut over the shaft and use it to guide the drill through the shaft.

— *The Texas Forge Review*

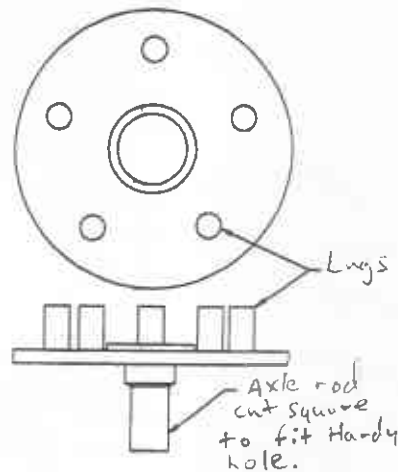
What a blacksmith does

There are only five functions that a blacksmith performs: drawing down, upsetting, cutting or splitting, welding, bending or twisting. Everything that a blacksmith makes uses one or more of these methods to his or her own level of skill and vision.

— *Skeeter Prather, Florida Artist Blacksmith Association*

Axle bending jig

I have found that I can make consistent bends with ease using a bending jig I made from an old axle. Using either a four, five, six or eight lug axle produces practically any combination of bends a blacksmith could need. The easiest method I have found to make such a jog involves cutting the axle with a cutting torch, roughing the fit for the hardy with a



torch and either grinding or hammering the final fit onto the end of the axle rod. You can make some adapters that can be held on with the lug nuts that will enable precise and consistent bends of other angles.

— *Kris Bancroft, Florida Artist Blacksmith Association*

New clamp in town

There is a new clamp on the market from the same people who make the vise-grip. The design is similar to their woodworking clamps but has metal jaws with copper clamping pads and is designed as a welding clamp.

With some fairly simple modifications it can be a great aid to the solo blacksmith as a swift holdfast for slitting, punching or other operations that require a tool in each hand.

By grinding off the rivet heads on the stationary clamp and then punching out the rivets the bar can be remounted on the anvil. Warning — the rivet holes in the clamping bar are slightly tapered and will punch out only in one direction. If you would rather not grind the rivets off, the roll pin on the other end can easily be driven out and the other clamp end removed. However (warning #2) there are two small springs that operate the clamp release that don't like being there at all. These springs will try to fly away to the darkest recess of your shop, so be prepared.

I made two stems for my Hay Budden anvil with a nominal 7/8 inch hardy hole. The first was a length of square tubing cut to length from the anvil face to the stump. With the stem

fitted to the hardy hole and the clamp inserted on the diagonal a hole was drilled in the stem to match a hole in the clamping bar close to the underside of the anvil.

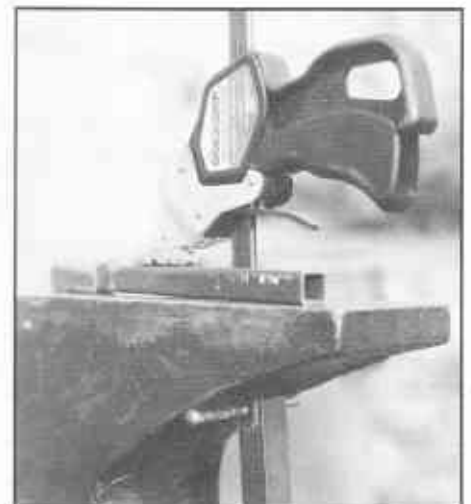
A 1/4 inch round bar inserted in this hole holds the clamping bar down and the hardy stem holds the clamp up and it becomes a one-handed, quick release clamp that is as solid as the anvil itself.

The other stem was made from 7/8 square bar with a slot machined in it (thanks Lou) to accept the clamping bar. This mounts the clamping pad farther down the face of the anvil and limits somewhat the length of stock that can be clamped.

One thing to remember when making hardy stems for this clamp or any other hardy tool is that there is a great variability of sizes and shapes of hardy holes. I usually start with the closest size tubing or bar stock and alter it to fit a specific anvil. Alterations range from two or three wraps of duct tape through welding and grinding all the way to milling from solid bar stock (thanks again Lou).

Once the hardy stem is fitted to the anvil and the clamp fitted to the hardy stem the clamp is simple to use. The material to be clamped is set on the anvil and the clamp pushed down to contact the workpiece. Then the large handle is squeezed and the piece is clamped tight. To release the small release bar is pulled and the clamp can then be pulled up to the top of the bar. It takes much longer to explain than to use.

— *Tim Underwood*



For sale: Craftsman (Atlas) metal lathe. Gear change. Excellent condition. 12 inch swing, 36 inch bd. 1 4-jaw and 1 3-jaw chuck. Drill chuck and some tooling. \$1,000 firm. 2 wheel trailer for a welder with two side boxes. Needs paint. \$175. Colin Campbell, (314) 583-3512.

For sale: Hossfeld Bender No. 2 with dies. For more info call Randy Langston at (404) 241-1212 or write 1936 Wee Kirk Rd., SE, Atlanta, Georgia 30316.

Tools: Country Trader flea market has lots of blacksmithing stuff, including forges, blowers, anvils, hardies, tongs, hammers and more. Also specializes in wagons and wagon parts, has rows of iron and wood wheels. For more information call Robin Wood at (417) 275-4400. Located at the junction of Hwy. 13 and 54, Collins, Mo. Robin is looking for very large anvils and likes to buy and trade for antiques, etc.

Flea Market Report: Your editor has the following report to make from a trip through Central/southwest Missouri — I stumbled on a number of blacksmith related items. In Sedalia is a shop located in between Highway 50 and the state fair grounds called Country Village Mall. They had a bellows and a real nice blower for sale, some tongs and other neat tools including a \$14 post drill.

In Nevada, Mo. was a beautiful Buffalo Forge with attached blower for \$70. Also had an unusual vise designed to attach to a wagon. Place is just off Highway 54 across from a diner and sale barn.

If he hasn't sold them Red's Flea Market in Eldon had two post vises, a Champion 400 blower, a 2-foot round Buffalo forge with blower and Cannedy-Otto bench size drill press. Most of this stuff was sky high but they might have come down to earth since I saw it.

Custom made leather blacksmith aprons can be bought from BAM member Randy Barringhaus. He does a real nice job and has several styles

he can make for you. For more info call Randy at (314) 484-3061 or write to Rt. 1 Box 53, Leslie, MO 63056.

For sale: Craftsman (Atlas) metal lathe. Gear change. Excellent condition. 12 inch swing, 36 inch bd. 1 4-jaw and 1 3-jaw chuck. Drill chuck and some tooling. \$1,000 firm. 2 wheel trailer for a welder with two side boxes. Needs paint. \$175. Colin Campbell, (314) 583-3512.

Wanted: Resident blacksmith. The John C. Campbell Folk School is looking for a resident blacksmith at the school's shop in Brasstown, N.C. While the pay is low, the opportunities are great for someone who wants a unique setting to work and learn. This is a part-time job paying \$175 per month. compensation may include using the school's historic forge building. For more information contact Ruth Truett at (704) 837-2775.

For sale: Large round forge with heavy cast iron sides. Has nice Champion blower attached to the side with a wedge arrangement for easy removal. Perfect shape, ready to use. \$120. Also Mousehole anvil, 120 pounds. Top is rough but fixable, useable as is. \$100. Call Jim McCarty, (314) 897-4111 after 7 p.m.

Anvil closeout! John Lovin has for sale the following anvils:
Peter Wright, 135 pounds, fair condition, \$200.
Hay Budden, 135 pounds, good condition, \$225.
Hay Budden, 167 pounds, good condition, \$250.
Charles Hadfield, 123 pounds, good condition, \$250.
Vulcan, 150 pounds, good condition, \$250.
Mouse Hole, 153 pounds, poor condition, \$175.
Armitage, 123 pounds, poor-fair condition, \$150.
No name, 130 pounds, good condition, \$150.
Trenton, 112 pounds, good condition, \$200.
Columbia, 150 pounds, poor to fair condition, \$200.
Armitage, 121 pounds, poor to fair

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Bulletin Board

condition, \$150.
Vulcan, 150 pounds, excellent condition, \$250.
No name, 185 pounds, good condition, \$250.
No name, 180 pounds, good condition, \$250.
No name, 80 pounds, good condition, \$125.
Anvils in fair or poor shape would require some welding on shoulders and dressing down. Good ones, I believe are ready to use. Call John for availability at (618) 756-2331. John lives in Belle Rive, Ill.

Subj: Employment
Date: Sun, Apr 16, 1995 From: ironwork@ibl.bm
X-From: ironwork@ibl.bm (Robin Gray)
To: ArtMetal-mail@artmetal.pdial.interpath.net (Multiple recipients of ArtMetal list)
Ornamental Iron Works Ltd is looking for an experienced Welder/Fabricator to work in an established and busy iron fabricating shop. Applicants must have five years experience in ornamental gate and railing fabrication. Mig, Tig, & plasma experience also an asset. Please send resume to 'ironwork@ibl.bm' or mail to

Ornamental Iron Works Ltd
P.O. Box DV 109
Devonshire DVBX
BERMUDA

BAM NEWS

Rural Smiths Conference

The Rural Smiths of Mid-America will be hosting Bob Becker of Oxford Michigan at their annual summer conference July 1-2 at the shop of Fred Caylor in Whitestown, Indiana.

Bob is an accomplished blacksmith who has taught his skills at the J.C. Campbell Folk School and at Touchstone. His expertise covers the entire spectrum from architectural to traditional to art. He will concentrate on lighting equipment and home items.

Cost is \$25 for both days. Attendance is limited so register early. Hours are 9-4, with a Saturday evening auction and pitch-in dinner (bring a covered dish.) On Sunday hours are 9-noon.

For more info write to Charles Gruell, 5615 W. 550 N., Sharpville, IN 46068.

Mountain Smiths Meet

The Rocky Mountain Smiths announce their blacksmithing conference, featuring Francis Whitaker, will be held Aug. 17-20 in Carbondale, Colorado. Also demonstrating will be Michael Saari, Nana Showalter, Corky Storer, Nol Putnam, and Nahum Hersom.

Cost is \$90 for members and \$125 for non-members. Lodging at the site is \$100, with camping and other accommodations available. Register early because the conference is limited to 85 people and traditionally sells out quick.

To register or for more info contact: Dan Nibbelink, 800 SE 4th St.,

Loveland, CO 80537 or call (303) 667-6749; or John Hoffmann, 12205 Perry #114, Broomfield, CO 80020, (303) 438-0963.

Video from NOMM

BAM has received a video tape of the ABANA exhibit titled "ABANA comes of Age" at the National Ornamental Metals Museum. The tape is a good one, with shots of each item on display overlaid with commentary from the artist who did the piece. If you want your own copy it is available for \$22 by calling Carla Hargis at the Metals Museum at (901) 774-6380. The video we got will go in the BAM library, so you can check it out by calling Ray Chaffin. Several BAM members had pieces in the exhibit.

Chapter project '96

The New York blacksmith chapter that is hosting next year's ABANA Conference is calling on all chapters to participate in the group project. They have a great idea, which is to have each chapter contribute a piece for a chess set. Right now they are calling chapters to see how much interest there is and I told them they could count on BAM. I guess we will be getting some standards to go by soon.

Bluestem Crafts Catalog

Not sure what this is all about but they are about to release a catalogue for summer 1995 of traditional stuff made by Missourians. Seems like there should be some blacksmiths represented. For more info write: Bluestem Missouri Crafts, 13 South Ninth St., Columbia, MO 65201

Missouri Folklore Society

An organization you might be interested in joining is the Missouri Folklore Society. The group is organized to "encourage the collection, preservation and study of Folklore in its wildest sense, including customs, institutions, beliefs, signs,

legends, language, literature, musical arts, and folk arts and crafts of all ethnic groups found throughout the State of Missouri. Individual membership costs \$10, family membership is \$12, students and retired people cost \$5. Or you can fork over \$150 for a life membership. Send check payable to the Missouri Folklore Society to PO Box 1757, Columbia, MO 65205. They do an interesting newsletter that tells about a lot of neat events, new books and talks relating to folklore. They also have an annual meeting where a blacksmith could demo and sell their wares.

Ag Hall of Fame

On your way to Walt Hull's in May you might want to swing by the National Agricultural Center Hall of Fame in Bonner Springs, Kansas. The place has a large assortment of old farm equipment, several restored buildings including a blacksmith shop and a huge collection of anvils. For more information write to National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame, 630 Hall of Fame Dr., Bonner Springs, Kansas 66012.

Source for Atha-Pneu

According to the Prairie Blacksmith, Sid Suedemeier has an ample supply of coal, temperature gauges and S-1 (Atha-Pneu) tool steel for sale.

The S-1 is unique in that it can be cut with a hack saw and work and air hardens with forging so that it isn't necessary to quench it. You just shape it and use it.

Not sure about prices, etc. but give him a call at (402) 873-6603.

Need I mention he also has parts for Little Giant Power Hammers. . .

Next Meeting May 20, Walt Hull's Place in Lawrence, KS

Once every two years we do Walt Hull a favor and move the BAM meeting to his forge, thus saving him a several hundred mile trek to the meeting.

Walt lives just south of Lawrence, Kansas and has a pretty neat shop. Its greatest attribute is the close proximity to a junk yard, which we raided much in the same way a similar group of Missouriians treated Lawrence back in the Civil War.

Hopefully Walt won't warn his neighbors this time around either and we can make off with whatever is left.

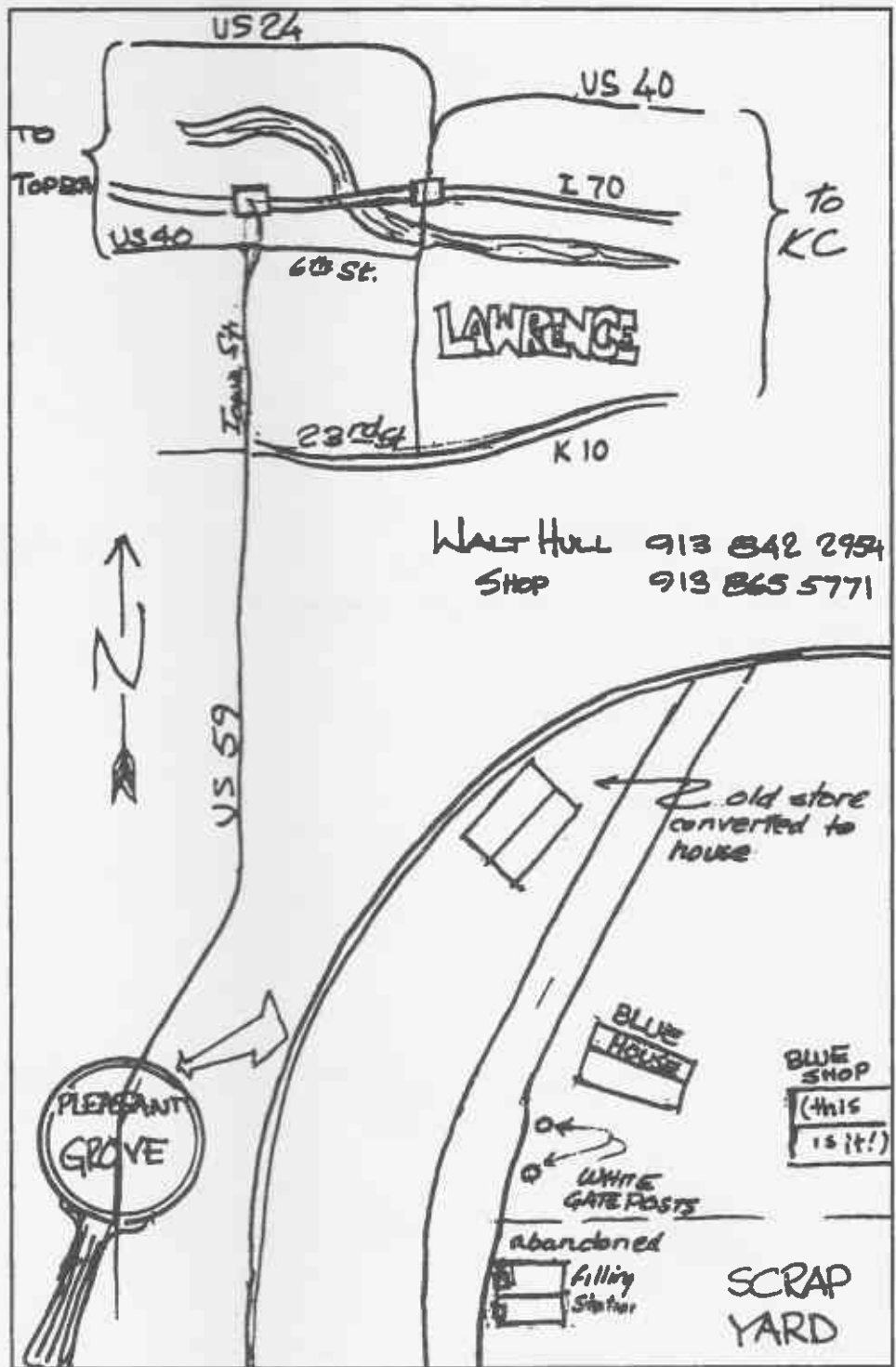
I'm not sure what Walt has lined up but no doubt he will enlighten us with a little demo of some sort and perhaps another keg of locally brewed beer.

The trade item is a container, which leaves you open to all sorts of possibilities, like a cup, box, squashed something or another...

As usual, don't forget to bring something for the trade item, or else we'll have to stick some of Walt's forged rebar in the drawing and make him buy it back.

Let's have a good turnout of St. Louis folks to show Walt we appreciate him making the drive to all those eastern Missouri meetings. Come on down, you'all.

See you in Kansas May 20.



BAM 1995 Schedule

May 20, 1995

John Stovesand, Cedar Hill, Mo.,
date to be announced

July 1995 Meeting

Doug Hendrickson, Lesterville,
Mo., June 17

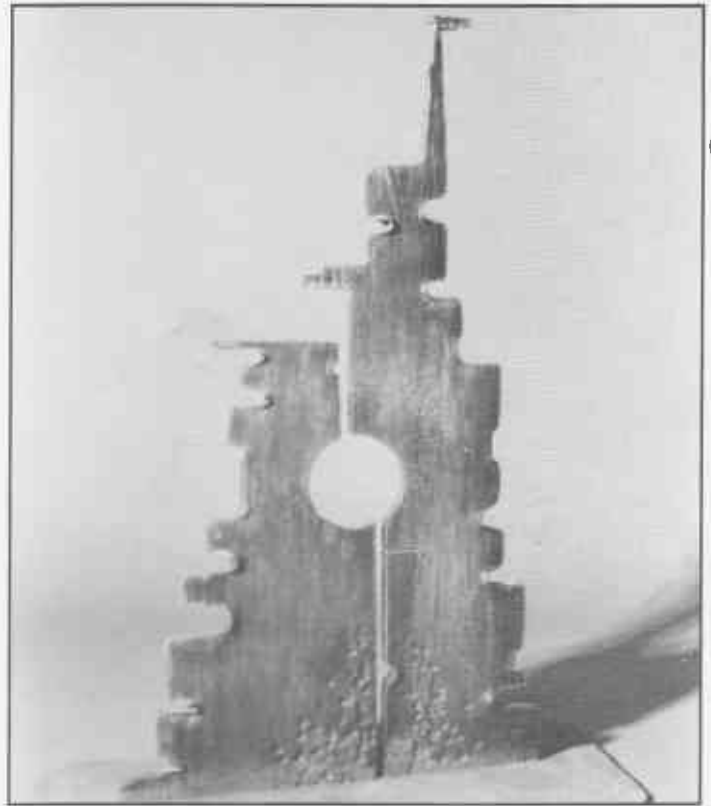
November 1995 Meeting

Joe Wilkinson, Hope, Mo., date
to be announced

May 1995 Meeting

Walt Hull, Lawrence, Kansas,

September 1995 Meeting



These two pieces were forged by Roy Plumlee and were part of the ABANA Comes of Age Exhibit at the Metals Museum. The one on the left is Roy's trademark iron basket. The other is a sculpture titled "Forces."

BAM
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