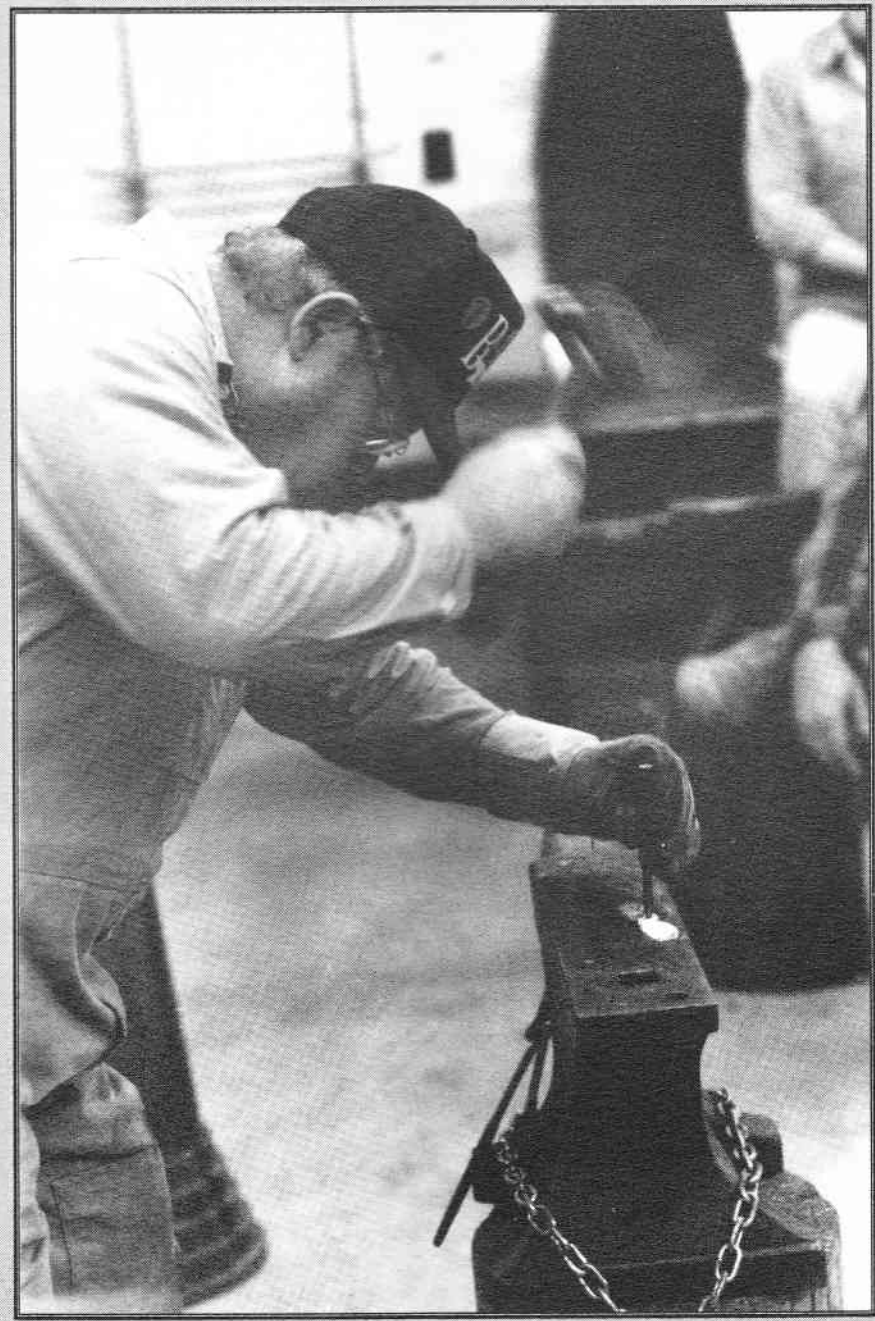


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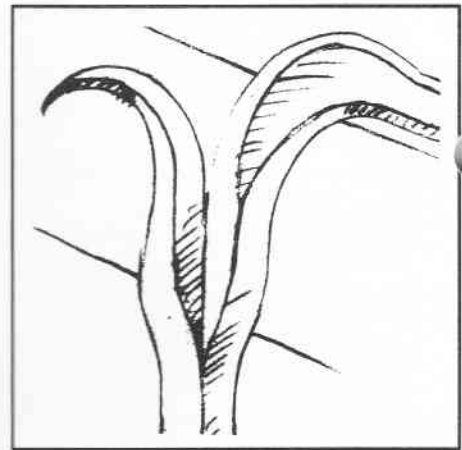
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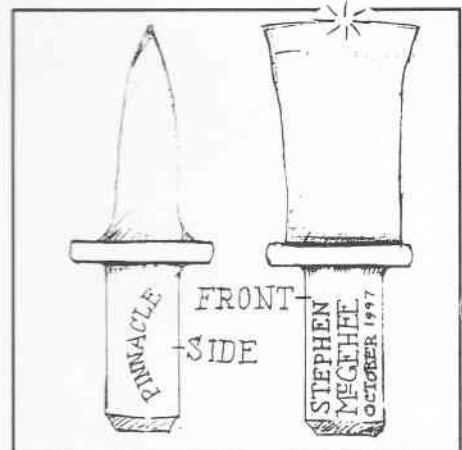
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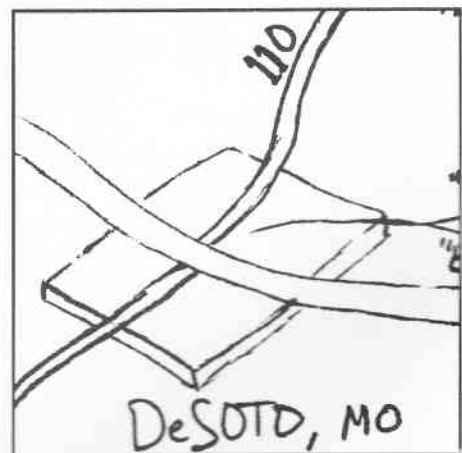
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**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

**November — December
1997**

Volume 14 No. 6

Our cover: Phil Cox punches a hole in one half of the tongs he made as part of his payback demo at the November BAM meeting.

Editor

Jim McCarty

Contributing Editors

Bob Alexander
Doug Hendrickson
Stephen McGehee
Doug Merkel

Mailing Labels

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, 5821 Helias Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101; (573) 395-3304. BAM membership inquiries should be addressed to: Maurice Ellis, Rt.1 Box 1442, Belgrade, MO 63622, (573) 766-5346. 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? _____

Do you need any tools? _____

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\$45 yr.
- Senior Citizen (Age 65)\$40 yr.
- Fulltime student\$35 yr.
- Overseas airmail\$80 yr.
- Overseas surface mai\$60 yr.
- Contributory\$100 yr.
- Public library.....\$35 yr.

See reverse

BAM

Send this form in an envelope with your payment to:

BAM,
c/o Maurice Ellis
Rt.1 Box 1442
Belgrade, MO 63622

I _____ hereby apply for membership in the Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America and enclose \$ _____ as my annual membership dues for one year.

MasterCard VISA Check/Money Order

Card Number

Exp. Date (Required)

Checks must be in U.S. currency

SEND RENEWAL TO:

ABANA

P.O. BOX 206, Washington, MO 63090 (314) 390-2133

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Phil Williamson

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The Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri is a chapter of the Artist Blacksmiths' Association of North America, and is devoted to the preservation and advancement of blacksmithing and to communication among blacksmiths in Missouri and surrounding areas. BAM's newsletter's goal is to support these aims. Letters to the editor, tech tips, tools for sale or anything else which furthers these ends will be considered for publication.

The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri and its members do not manufacture, distribute, sell, test, warrant, guarantee, or endorse any of the tools, materials, instructions or products contained in articles or features in the Newsletter of the Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri. The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri disclaims any responsibility or liability for damages or injuries as a result of any construction, design, use, manufacture or other activity undertaken as a result of the use or application of information contained in any articles or features in the Newsletter of the Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri. The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy, fitness, proper design, safety or safe use of any information contained in the Newsletter of the Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri.

With 1997 winding down I am struggling to get this issue out on time. Think I'll make it? My New Year's resolution is to keep this thing moving and you can help. Keep those tips, projects and letters coming. My mailbox has been pretty empty lately.

Hope everyone got something from Norm Larson's books or Centaur Forge for Christmas, or at the very least something rusting through the wrapping paper. I briefly owned a 650-pound Peter Wright before my wife kindly suggested we pay a few bills and the anvil quickly parted company. An anvil that big is obscene anyway.

If you need to ship heavy iron across the country I would highly recommend Beaufort Transfer. I used their services twice this fall, once to ship a 50-pound Little Giant to Chicago and once to ship the anvil. In both cases they were half the cost of other carriers.

I'm finding little forge time lately but when I do I make the most of it. Just a week before Christmas I went out one night to make a last minute gift. I thought my anvil was behaving rather strangely when I discovered it wasn't tied down.

Guess I hadn't used it since early October when I hauled it north for the Hartsburg Pumpkin Festival. That's a long gap.

We had a real good turnout for the November meeting at Tom Clark's. Everyone was real impressed with the new building Tom put up with the help of some friends for the Ozark Blacksmith School. There is one main forge in the center and two rows of forges along the walls. Each forging station has a complete set of tools. They are fed off a common blower mounted outside.

Considering what was done at the Lion's Club fairgrounds last year, I am looking for great things out of the school when Hofi returns next Spring. Tom will be having an advanced class to go with the introductory classes offered last year. To get in the advanced class you have to take the intro first.

Before the meeting Tom talked about the goals of the school. He says Hofi won't be the only instructor

teaching from the facility.

I really enjoyed Phil Cox's demo at the meeting. He showed an interesting pair of tongs he learned to make while taking the Hofi class through a BAM scholarship (the demo was his payback). Phil was kind enough to give me the finished product and darned if I didn't win the tong kit in the iron in the hat.

If time allows I will have those tongs featured in this issue. I can say they work quite well, just the thing for the 1/4-3/8 round I use a lot.

I have been playing around with some dogwood flower cutouts I bought from Ed Cowan down at Mountain Grove. Ed had these laser cut from 1/8-inch stock.

I came up with a neat candleholder that plays off a yin/yang kind of thing Jerry Hoffmann brought for a trade item one time. Will also try to show this one.

Has anyone else been royally impressed with the class-act drawings of Stephen McGehee? His Mike Boone stuff from the conference was so nice I sent him Bert Eliot's demo from the Alfred Conference and Randy Barringhouse's sketch of jack-hammer bit ideas to draw for this issue. Thanks a bunch for that stuff and for the material in this issue. Keep it coming!

I discovered Stephen's drawing abilities while watching him sketch Dorothy Stiegler's demo at the Conference a few years ago. It makes me wonder how many others attend demos and take notes that never see the light of day.

How about sending me those notes? If your sketches look like mine I'll get them redrawn. Share that stuff!

ABANA is doing some real neat things. I hope a bunch of you heeded the call last month and joined. Coming up soon is the "Hammerin on the Hooch" Conference in honor of ABANA's 25th anniversary. It will be held in Columbus, Georgia March 20-22. Look for details elsewhere in this issue.

This mini-conference should be a good warm-up for the main event, the '98 ABANA Conference in Asheville June 17-20.



Make plans now to attend this one. There's never been a conference like this one. Registration materials will be in the winter issue of *The Anvil's Ring*.

Besides over 50 demonstrators from all over the U.S., Great Britain, Japan, Germany and Israel, there will be dozens of special events and about 9 galleries of work including one on Yellin's tools (the one's Doug hasn't sold us) and another on African art being put together by Tom Joyce.

I can't wait.

See you all at Bob Alexander's new shop on January 24.

—Jim McCarty

Check out our Library

Dear BAM,

I have been traveling for the past month and returned to a ton of mail, but I did want to acknowledge the receipt of the painting. Thank you very much. Had a great time on the trip, visited three blacksmiths in the Great Lakes region and saw Niagara Falls. Cheers,
Francis Whitaker
Editors note: We presented Francis with a likeness of himself that was purchased at the Ozark Conference auction.

I will be stepping down as editor of the Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association with the Jan/Feb 98 newsletter. Just wanted to say thanks for letting me use several items from your newsletter. It has been a labor of love but I feel it's time someone else could bring more enthusiasm to the job. Extend my appreciation to all the BAM members who attended the Tom Latané workshop in Mt. Vernon this past October. Your support makes it possible to hold monthly open forge workshops, to encourage beginners and allows the experienced a means to pass on their years of knowledge.
Keep in touch,
John Lovin

Thanks to the following members for their Iron in the Hat donations:

John Murray
Lou Mueller
Cliff Gillam
Larry Suttles
Tom Ream
Pat McCarty
Charles Gruell
Phil Cox
Maurice Ellis
Bob Alexander
Don Neuenschwander
Bob Ehrenberger
Jim McCarty

A special thanks to John Murray who has had one of his highly sought after hammers in just about every raffle. We usually need two cups to hold all the tickets. No telling how much money he has raised for us. Way to go John!

BAM's library keeps growing under the direction of librarian Bruce Herzog. Here's a list of what is available. You can check books out at any meeting or you might persuade Bruce to drop it in the mail to you if you pick up the postage. All materials are due back by the next meeting. If you can't make it please ship it to Bruce or arrange to have someone else bring it back. Bruce can be reached at 2212 Aileswick, St. Louis, MO 63129 or call (314) 892-4690.

Of course donations of blacksmithing books and videos as well as suggestions for new material and even a little cash are always welcome.

Books

Babbiting Manual
Blacksmith Shop and Iron Forgings
Blacksmith's Cookbook by Francis Whitaker
Blacksmiths Sourcebook by James Fleming
Carpenter Matched Tool and Steel Manual
Cast Iron: Art and Industry
Champion Forge and Blower Co. catalog reprint
Complete Modern Blacksmith by Alex Weygers
Edge of the Anvil by Jack Andrews
Hammer Work (reprint)
Home Machinists Handbook
Iron Forgings (reprint)
Iron Work by Marin Campbell
Knives 1993
Lessons in Arc Welding
Metal Projects book 2
Modern Metallurgy for Engineers
Practical Projects for the Blacksmith by Ted Tucker

Samuel Yellin Metalworker by Jack Andrews
Treasury of Ironwork Designs
Windmills and Wind Motors

Videos

ABANA Comes of Age
BAM's Greatest Hits — 3/89
Bob Patrick Workshop
Eastham Forge — 1992
Forge and Anvil Vol. 1
Forge and Anvil Vol. 2
Hubler Hammer-ins 1988-1989-1990
IVBA 1993 Conference Treadle Hammer Workshop
Jerry Hoffmann's Blacksmiths Journal Workshop
Knifemaking by Bill Moran
Metalsmith Madness
Ozark Conference 1993 — Daryl Meier
Ozark Conference 1993 — Doug Wilson
Ozark Conference 1993 — Kevin Fallis
Ozark Conference 1996 — Hap penings and contest
Ozark Conference 1996 — Dorothy Stiegler (2 tapes)
Ozark Conference 1996 — Bob Haverstock and Tom Clark
Ozark Conference 1996 — Awards and auction
Ozark Conference 1996 — Jay Burnham-Kidwell
Ozark Conference 1997 — Todd Kinnikin
Ozark Conference 1997 — Mike Boone
Ozark Conference 1997 — Uri Hofi
Power Hammer Forging by Clifton Ralph (5 tapes)
Treadle Hammer Workshop
Workshop by Ivan Bailey

Bob's Business

Well, here we are with another year passed, and what a busy one for me. The year began with a day at Pat McCarty's shop, always a treat.

In mid-Spring we had a very successful treadle hammer workshop at Lou Mueller's shop. Then in April I was one of many others from around the country who were fortunate enough to attend the Tom Clark-Uri Hofi Blacksmith school in Potosi. This was quite a learning experience!

Then in May we had another fine BAM Conference in Potosi. I really enjoyed the demos.

Summer brought with it two new construction projects for me. A new shop for myself and Tom Clark's new Ozark Blacksmith School.

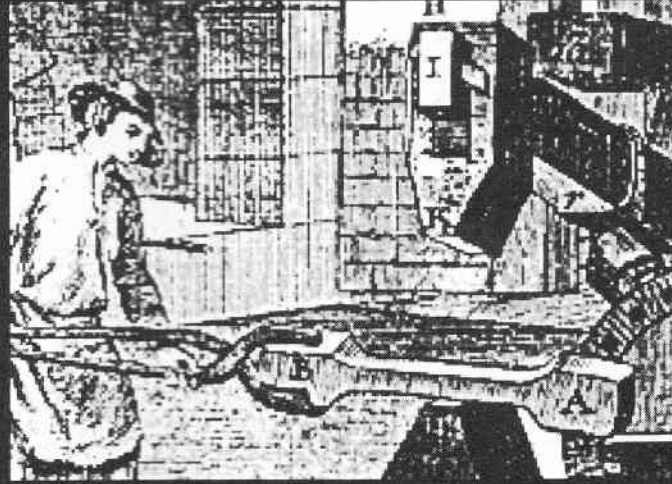
In July, thanks to BAM's scholarship, I went to the John C. Campbell Folk School for a class with Jerry Darnell. By Fall I quit my day job so that I could finish the shop

and move in before winter.

Well, I'm moved in now and got settled in but still have lots of minor things to finish. I'm looking forward to the coming year with all it has to offer, especially the ABANA conference.

Hope to see you there.

— Bob Alexander, BAM president



Artist's conception of BAM president Bob Alexander working at his new power hammer. He's making something for the Ozark Conference auction and you should too!

by Doug Merkel

As some of you know Doug Hendrickson has been playing hooky from his shop for about two months. He uses the excuse that they needed him to teach a course at Penland, North Carolina. I heard that he was going to be in our part of the mountains so decided to put him to work for at least one weekend.

The Appalachian Area Chapter of ABANA sponsors and pays for a program which allows local forges to bring in known blacksmiths for a weekend workshop. We decided that Doug Hendrickson's "Kitchin Smithin" would be a fun time and we might even learn something in the bargain.

Doug arrived Friday night and we finished setting up forges and cutting

Doug at Doug's

some steel blanks. Students began to arrive by 3 am and by 9 we were ready to roll. Doug started with his well-known frying pan with decorative handle. Along with the demo part he explained how he got from the idea stage to an actual forged piece. We discussed metal preparation and finishes and a little bit about design. Students began making their own frying pans and a few other items which fin-

ished up Saturday.

Sunday was veggie and herb choppers. Each student was able to complete at least one of each, many went away with all their Christmas gifts finished.

The highlight of Sunday was lunch. All 12 of us walked into the Broyhill Inn and enjoyed the great buffet they serve. Our dirty overalls, blackened faces and baseball caps sort of upset the folks in their tuxes, evening gowns and three-piece suits but their fancy duds did not seem to bother our appetites much. Don't know about theirs. . . I think I heard an audible sigh when we left. All in all, it was a great weekend, Doug made a few bucks, we got to see and make a few nice items and my new shop was finally broken in properly except that the plasma cutter is still in the repair shop.

BAM

November MEETING

by Jim McCarty

At BAM's November gathering we got a chance to take a look at Tom Clark's new Ozark Blacksmith School. The place was so new that if Tom believed in paint it would have been wet.

Somehow he managed to get all the doors in place and had a good fire going in the wood stove when we arrived. The school, which gets started this Spring, has 10 side draft forges for the students plus one more for the teacher. There's no power hammer yet but I am sure Tom will have one in place soon. Everything else was ready to go, including anvils, vises and tong/hammer racks.

Looking around, you could see a lot of thought went into the layout. The forges are served off two common blowers with air gates controlling the blast. Tom plans to burn coke in his classes.

This meeting was payback time for Tom and Phil Cox. Tom was somewhat crippled so he had to limit his demo to nailmaking. But first he showed off a pair of tongs he's been working on. They will hold a variety of stock and with a couple different sizes you would be hard pressed to need another style.

As is usual with one of Tom's demos, we got a lot of philosophy about fire building, hammer technique with just a little history of blacksmithing thrown in. Tom was the grand champion nail maker at the Tannehill conference this year and he showed us why he beat the other competitors.

Then it was Phil Cox's turn. Phil came well prepared to show us how he

learned to make tongs in the Uri Hofi class. Phil had his stock laid out and numbered so we could see the progression of the tongs. (The editor won the tong "kit" in the iron in the hat so he feels obligated to write this one up.)

If you follow Phil's step by step about anyone could make these tongs. Just to test Phil's skills, the editor tried his tongs out on some chain links and they actually work.

When the forge work lulled we pressed Jerry Hoffmann and Stan Winkler into service and they were up to the task.

We had a pretty decent turn out for the trade item, which was a nail header, and the iron in the hat which just keeps getting better.

Thanks to Tom and Thelma for a nice day and some excellent food. Looking forward to coming back.

Minutes

- Minutes approved as published.
- Pat McCarty has been awarded a scholarship and will take a Tom Latané class at John C. Campbell Folk School.
- Tom Clark spoke on other scholarship subjects and urged BAM members to apply.
- Tom is considering re-instituting his "first Sunday" open forge for BAM members. More to come.
- Bob Alexander and Jim McCarty spoke on publishing library info in the newsletter.
- Maurice Ellis spoke on the new BAM roster to be published in the next issue of the newsletter. Get address changes in now. He said to keep track of when your dues are up and renew.
- Phil Cox spoke on a living history village museum opportunity near Lathrop, Mo. A blacksmith shop is planned for this project. It's called the living history and small farm reunion and features a lot of old time technology and related activity. More info contact Phil.
- Bob Alexander spoke on future meet-

ings and programs.

- Bruce Herzog spoke on the 1998 Ozark Conference, May 1, 2 & 3. Several fine demos planned, more info to follow.

- Bruce also spoke on the gas forge building workshop. More info to follow.

- Maurice Ellis urged conference goers to make hotel and motel reservations early.

- Jim McCarty spoke on the BAM coal supply. Ray Chaffin (Warsaw, Mo.) has offered to store the next coal buy for us. He has space and a forklift. Tom Clark, Lou Mueller and several others chimed in about the coal situation and storage options. Tom made a motion to buy a load of coal. Motion made, seconded and passed.

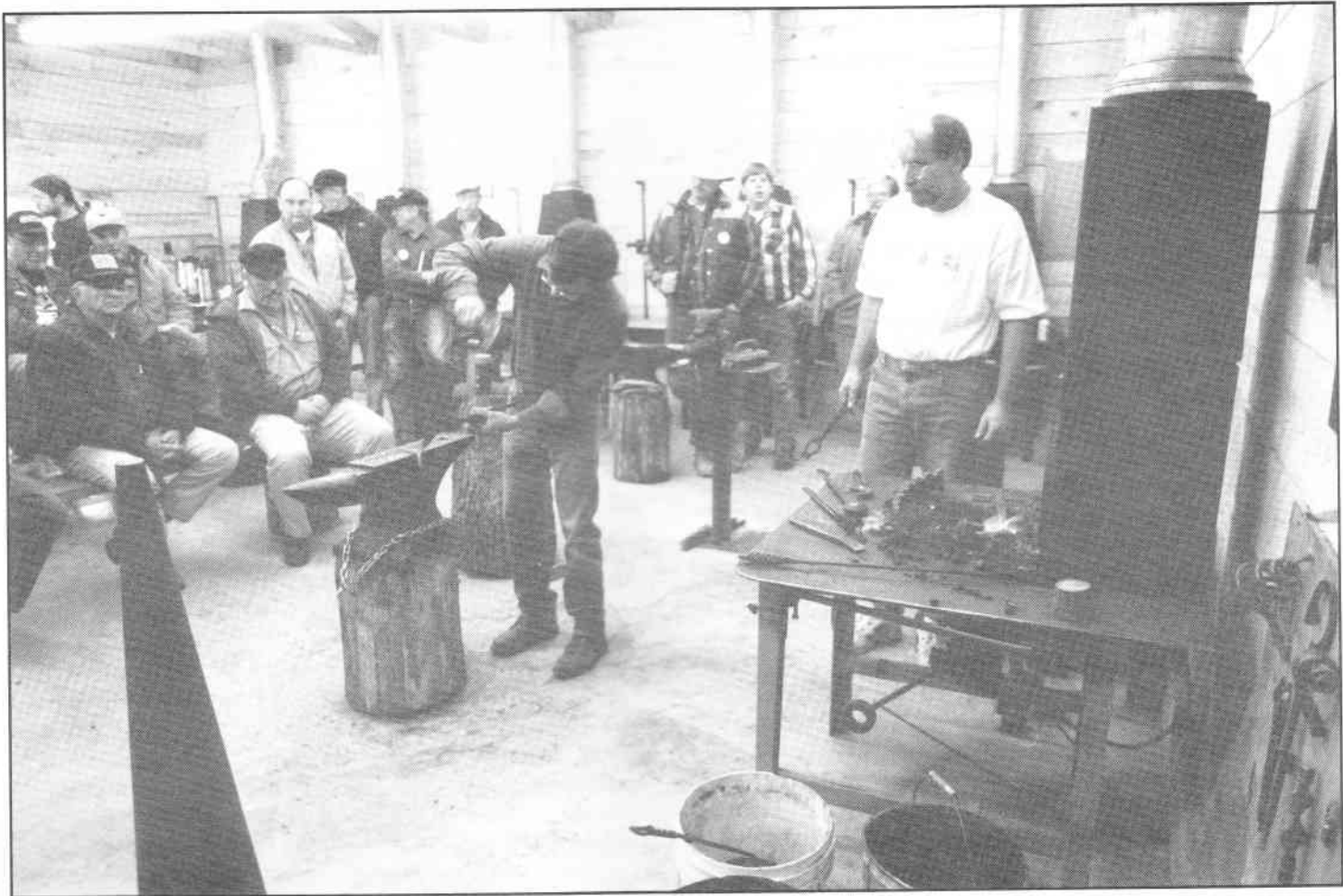
- Tom spoke on the '98 ABANA Conference. Registration packets and housing information will be available in the next *Anvil's Ring*. Tom spoke on the auction and efforts to publicize it to the greater public. This year BAM will field 2 BAM Boxes, one for the auction and one for iron in the hat. Both will need handmade tools from our members. Tom also brought up the knifemakers contribution to the auction and showed two fine examples.

- Tom spoke on the '98 Ring Project. This project is a great opportunity to showcase talent and imagination.

- Lou Mueller spoke of Faust Park in St. Louis County, home of a well known historic village. Lou has been in touch with the organization in charge, making plans for an arts and crafts festival in conjunction with the Germanfest in September. There will be demo and sales areas, a gallery, also a visiting exhibit from the Metals Museum. ABANA is involved, providing insurance and financial aid if needed. More info to come.

- Motion to adjourn passed.

*Respectfully submitted,
John Murray, secretary*



Above: Jerry Hoffmann, right, and Stan Winkler teamed up to forge an interesting balluster during the November meeting. Below: Joe Wilkinson and Ed Harper try to figure out what Phil Cox is doing wrong while Phil uses the poor man's grinder.





ABANA

Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America

PO Box 206 - Washington, Missouri 63090 USA
Janelle Gilbert, Executive Secretary

Office Hours 9:00am - 5:00pm CST
Voice/Fax (314) 390-2133

*President's Message to the Chapters
January 1998*

Dear ABANA Chapters,

Nineteen Hundred Ninety Eight. Can you believe it? Truly time does fly. As you know this is a conference year. Asheville 1998. And for the next one we go back to Arizona. Flagstaff 2000. Both have a nice ring to them and I am sure they will live up to their billing. Registration packets for the June 1998 conference at Asheville should arrive with your winter Anvil's Ring magazine, due out the first of February. Try to be there.

As you read your Anvil's Ring don't overlook the advertising. You will find many products and services listed to meet the needs of blacksmiths. Just a phone call or a letter will get you more detailed information. Many of the advertisers have 800 phone numbers for your convenience. Before you buy, check them out.

There are some other things that you should check out as you read your Anvil's Ring. There are resources that are free to members, videos and slides available for rental from the ABANA library, book reviews, calendar events, classes and courses available at the various schools around the country and the classifieds. The classifieds are helpful to sell equipment you may no longer need or helpful in finding items you want to buy. And don't forget, ABANA members can put in a free classified ad. To do so contact editor, Jim McCarty at (573) 395-3304.

In the next month or two we should have some good news concerning our insurance program to share with you. We hope to have a wider choice of coverage available and at better premiums. We will keep you posted as the changes are finalized and let you know who to contact for additional information or coverage.

Clay Spencer is the 16th recipient of the Alex Bealer Award. The Award was presented at the Bill Manly Christmas part held December 13th in Kingston Tennessee. Members of the Bealer Award Committee are Nol Putnam, Elizabeth Brim and Tom Clark. This year, the presentation was made by committee member Tom Clark and First Vice President David Cornett. Congratulations Clay.

During the holiday season we heard a lot about how to protect our homes from the dangers of fires. We as blacksmiths work with fire almost daily. We need to be constantly aware of how to protect our shops and studios from the dangers of fire. Properly managed fire is our friend not our foe. Be safe, be happy.

Joe Harris
ABANA President



CHAPTER LIAISON NEWSLETTER

January
1998

ABANA - PO Box 206 - Washington, MO 63090 phone/fax (314) 390-2133

REMINDER OF MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

ABANA dues effective January 1, 1998 will be \$45 for regular membership. (\$40 seniors, \$35 students, \$60 overseas surface mail, \$80 overseas airmail.) This is the first dues increase in over ten years. ABANA has managed the income very well during the past ten years. We have increased the number of pages in the *Anvil's Ring*, launched another publication the *Hammer's Blow*, and expanded the library. Also a scholarship program was started and increases each year. ABANA has provided a source of liability insurance for members who are hobbyists, professionals, as well as chapters. And a trust fund was started that will help protect the noble art of blacksmithing for generations to come.

CHAPTER INCORPORATION

One year ago, the chapters were advised of the need to become incorporated. This is not just a need, it is a *must* for anyone who wishes to protect themselves from personal liability brought on by chapter activity. In today's world of "let's sue everyone we can for everything that happens", everyone needs all the protection they can get. If ABANA was not incorporated and did not have a good liability policy, no one in their right mind would serve on the board of directors. The same real liabilities are present on the chapter level and when some sharp attorney sees that a chapter he is suing is affiliated with ABANA, he will also go after ABANA and anyone else, be it organization or individual. To remain a chapter of ABANA, you must be incorporated by the end of 1998.

Most every state has slightly different procedures for incorporating, so there is not a detailed guide that ABANA can help you with. Listed below are some general guidelines. However, if you need help, speak up and someone will try. In the meantime, any local CPA or attorney should be able to guide you.

- 1) Contact the Secretary of your state and ask them to send you an application for not-for-profit status.
- 2) Include a copy of your chapter's by-laws when returning the completed application to your state.
- 3) Once you receive certification of not-for-profit status in your state, then you can apply for a 501(c)3 which is not-for-profit status with the Internal Revenue Service.
- 4) Contact the IRS to obtain an application form entitled

"Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code". Instructions will come with these forms 1023 & 872c.

- 5) Follow the instructions on the application form and submit to the IRS along with state certification. This application takes approximately six (6) months to process and if you have not filled it out properly, it will be returned with a notification.

Here are a few commonly asked questions:

- Q: Can a group become incorporated without the non-profit status and still become an ABANA chapter?
- A: No. ABANA requires that a group become incorporated with non-profit status for the stability of the group and the credibility for receiving donations.
- Q: What is the difference between state non-profit incorporation and an IRS 501(c)3 status?
- A: If your group is relatively small and does not expect to have an annual surplus in funds and does not expect to receive very large donations, you will want to apply for the State Non-Profit status. Until a group begins to have a much larger income creating a surplus in available funds and has opportunity to gain big donations (such as land or buildings), there is no need to apply for the 501(c)3. You can always consider applying for a 501(c)3 after registering with state non-profit status.

ANVIL SHOOTING

ABANA's insurance carrier recently required ABANA to draft a resolution that there would be no anvil shooting at any event that had any association with ABANA. While anvil shooting has resulted in no known injuries, the potential is so great that our insurance company does not allow it. ABANA will have to take a stand on the subject with regard to affiliated chapters shooting anvils. Until that happens, I ask you to think about what you are doing. Does *your* insurance company know you are shooting anvils? Does your chapter have insurance? Your members could be in line for personal liability if you are not insured.

*The content of this newsletter was submitted by
Tom Clark, Member Services Division Chairman*

Fun with facets

by Doug Hendrickson

Walt Hull's branched scroll article in the October 1997 BAM Newsletter was "Oh So Fine."

In the article Walt pointed out that working square stock on the diamond offers a nice play between light and dark, reflection and shadow.

Let's take it to the next step and occasionally hammer the square down on the diamond trying carefully to use the resultant facet to enhance the design. When you hammer a square bar on the diamond a six-sided bar is the result.

Depending on how hard you hammer and where on the bar you hit the new facet can

be pointy, wide, flat or a combination of these (see Figure 3).

Let's return to Walt's branched scroll with one variation. Walt's scroll makes a smooth transition from stem to branches. My variation does not, in fact it thickens quite abruptly (see Figure 1).

Each approach to branched forms has its own application. My interest in using square branches on the diamond is to create more opportunities to play with light, dark, thick, thin and the change back and forth between a four-sided and a six-sided bar (see Figure 2).

I gotta beat it . . .

Doug branches off on Walt Hull's scroll lesson from the last newsletter

FIGURE 1

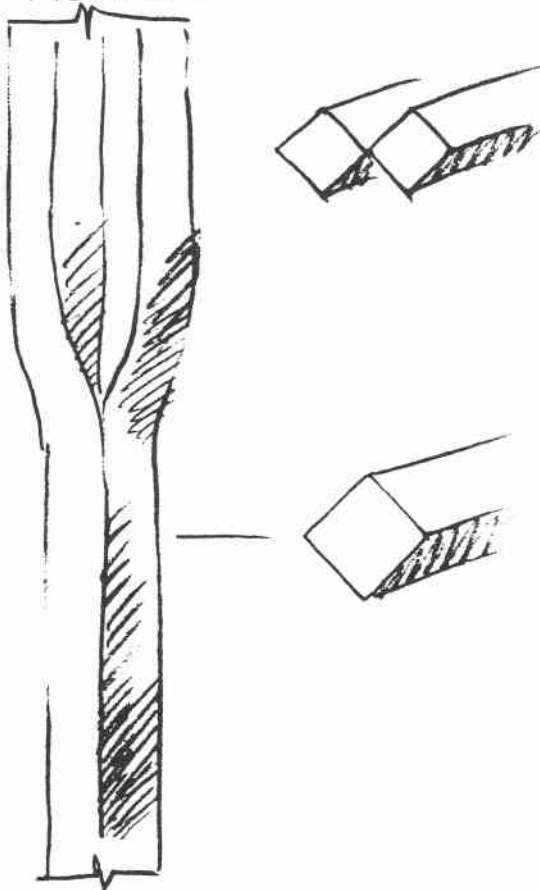
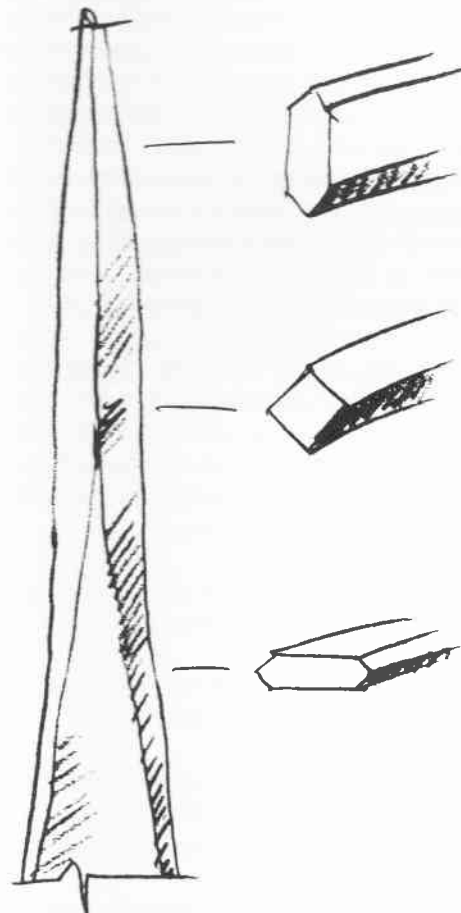


FIGURE 2



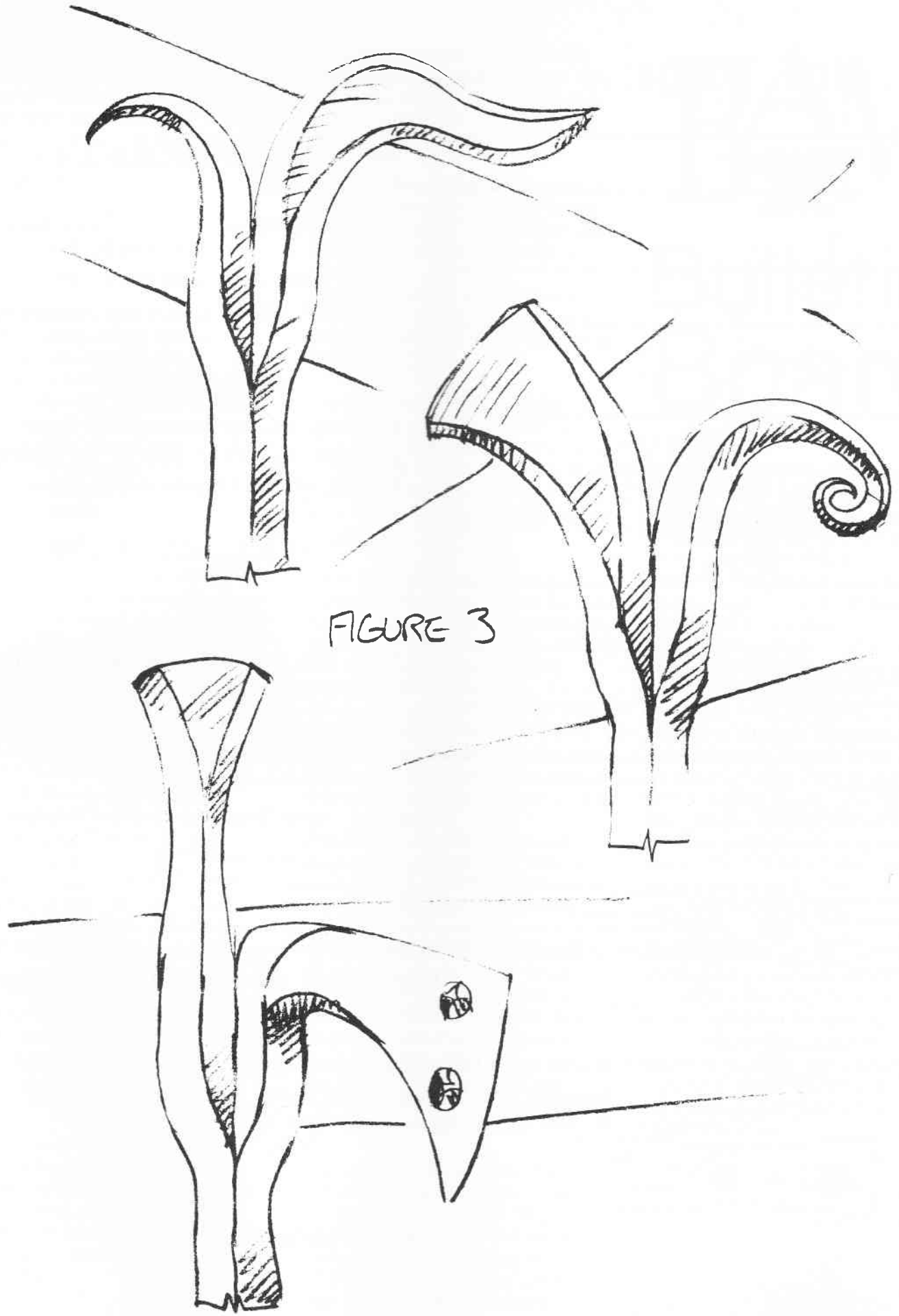
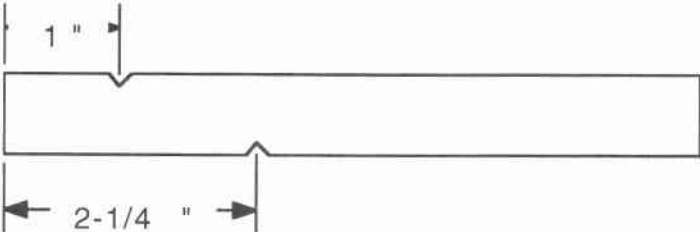


FIGURE 3

Hofi Tongs: *As demonstrated by Phil Cox*

1.  Start with 2 pieces of 5/16 x 3/4 7 inches long

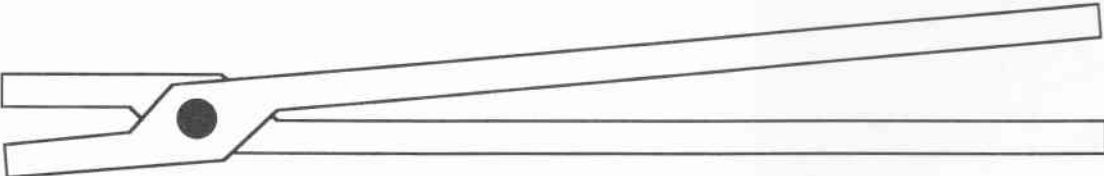
2.  Mark stock at 1" and 2-1/4" on opposite sides

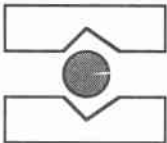
3.  Fuller by driving into edge of anvil at places marked in step 2. Go halfway through stock, keeping sides flat.

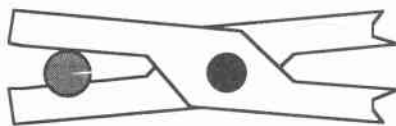
4.  Punch (don't drill) hole for rivet.

5.  Twist first inch of blank 90 degrees to form tong jaw.

6.  Draw out reins starting at 2-1/4" fuller.

7.  Make second side identical to first. Rivet halves together; don't get too tight.

8.  Finish jaws by putting a cold piece of 1/4 or 3/8 round between hot jaws and hammering them closed. Do this in two directions. Adjust reins and enjoy!



By Jim McCarty

For sale: Treadle hammer. Clay Spencer design made at BAM treadle hammer workshop, \$850. 50 pound Little Giant converted to air hammer. Huge dies, needs 5 hp compressor, \$2,500. Contact Maurice Ellis, (573) 766-5346.

Jim Kendzora has blacksmith coal, 50 pound bags \$7.50 each. (573) 374-4153.

BAM members, time is money. I have a CNC plasma cutting system in my shop in Columbia and will offer my services to BAM members at a 10 percent discount. I will cut anything you desire. Flowers, leaves, custom designs. CNC plasma cuts parts fast. From art to parts I do it all. Call (573) 474-8749 and ask for William Irvin for more details.

For sale: Port Huron Sawmill, with 48 inch inserted tooth blade. 40 feet of track, runs on a 6 cylinder Continental industrial engine. Excellent condition. \$3,000 or trade for 100 pound Little Giant. Pat McCarty, (314) 239-3814.

Hammers, tongs, fullers, flatters, cutters, chisels, punches, swages & blocks, cones, firepots, hand vises, pliers, coal and more. The finest 'smithing tools in the world. Tool list available upon request. We ship and accept Visa and Mastercard. Steve Kayne, 100 Daniel Ridge Road, Candler, NC 28715. (704) 667-8868 or 665-1988 or fax (704) 665-8303 or e-mail: kaynehdwe@ioa.com

The editor has a homemade forge with no blower, will take \$25. Also I have a small post vise, \$40, might have more junk by the time you read this. Call Jim McCarty, (573) 395-3304, evenings.

Want to swap for 50 pound Little Giant or bigger hammer: Blue porcelain enamelled Moore's parlor stove, coal or wood. 4-1/2 feet tall, 2 feet square, 300 pounds. Includes delivery and pick-up. Stephen McGehee (501) 643-3299.

Pass that rusty iron around! If you're

not using it let someone else. Send your Bulletin Board items to the newsletter or load up your truck and bring it to Bob Alexander's meeting January 24.

Need something or got something for sale? Contact the editor at (573) 395-3304 or fax it to (573) 395-3201 and I will get it in (or talk you out of it.)

Joe Wilkinson has a 100-pound Vulcan anvil for sale in excellent condition. He needs \$125 for it. Call him at (573) 943-6779.

The late Earl Hawkins left behind a pretty good stash of tools that his sons would like to sell. There's a 25-pound Little Giant, a BAM side draft forge and a lot more. Call neighbor Jack Poitras at (314) 942-2029 to take a look.

Jerry Hoffmann now has a nice line of blacksmith related T-shirts for sale. They come in a variety of colors and include the famous nude men striking, EZ Weld ad, Bradley Power Hammers, Hot Art and more. For a brochure drop him a line at the Blacksmiths Journal, PO Box 193, Washington, MO 63090 or call 1-800-944-6134 or check him out on the internet at <http://www.blacksmithsjournal.com>

Dirk Frisbee has a 20-inch round forge for sale in Rolla, Mo. This is a ratchet model. He wants \$50 for it. Give him a call at (573) 729-4866.

From our president Bob Alexander comes the following items: BAM style side draft forge, complete with blower and mounted post vise, \$350. New 1997 model treadle hammer, never used, \$650. Bob always has rebuilt anvils for sale and he can rebuild yours if you're patient. Bob's at (314) 586-6938.

Tool sale: 250-pound Little Giant, rear clutch, removeable sow block, 7-1/2 hp, 3-phase motor. \$4,000. 50-pound Little Giant, 1 phase motor, ready to use, lots of tooling included, \$2,000. 20 or more anvils, 150 pound Hay Budden, 150 pound Sweden, Peter Wrights, Mouseholes, 100 to

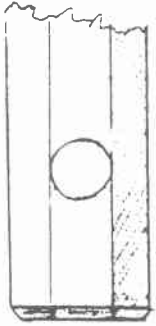
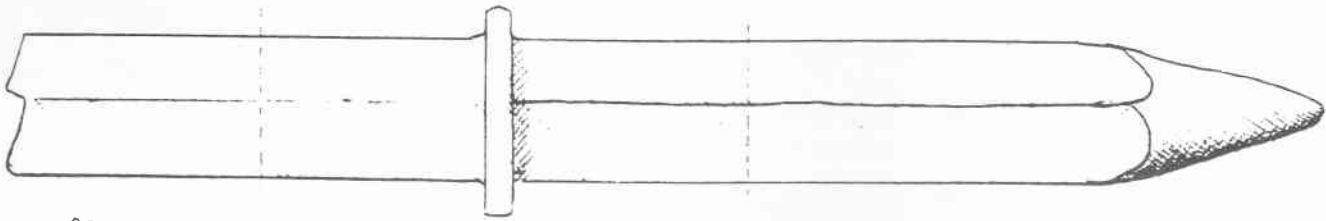
BAM

Bulletin Board

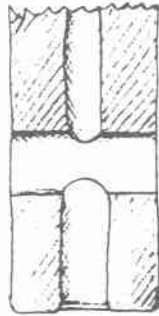
150 pound. No. 2 Hossfeld bender with two bushel baskets of dies, \$1,000. 3 Johnson type gas forges, swing away tops, \$150 choice or \$300 for all. 6 inch post vise, \$100. Cast iron forge with BAM style hood, electric and hand blower, \$300. Large bellows, needs new leather, \$150. Power hack saw, Marvel No. 2, \$250. 16x16 swage block, \$250, large cone mandrel \$400. 2 steel plates with numerous tapped holes, 60"x79"x2", \$200 each. Over 50 tongs, \$7 choice, \$5 each 20 or more. Several small bench cones \$25-45 each. Several blowers with or without stands. Over 50 hammers, flatters, handled top tools \$10 to \$20. 5 gallon bucket of hardies, \$10 to \$20. Call John Lovin from 6 pm to 9 pm. at (618) 756-2331. John lives in Belle Rive, Illinois.

Jere Kirkpatrick's Valley Forge and Welding has many items of interest to blacksmiths including fireplace shovel blanks, brooms for your fire sets, treadle hammer kits, tongs, belt sander plans, brash brushes, candle cups, rose cutouts and much more. For a catalog give him a call at 1-800-367-5373.

1/2" JACKHAMMER BITS



ELEVATION.

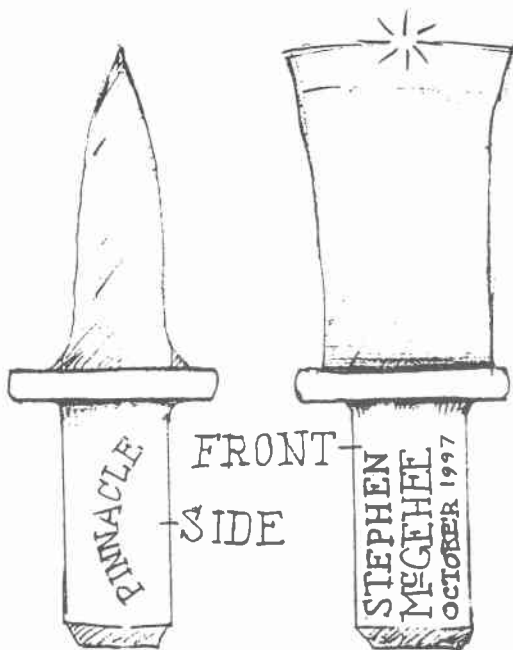


SECTION

MONKEY TOOLS

1. Cut bits into manageable sized pieces with a chop saw or torch. Anneal.
2. The collar will be of little benefit on smaller sized tools. I would save it to make a cut off hardy.
3. Cut the stock into 7 in. sections & grind the ends square. Bevel outside edges slightly.
4. Bore out one end to desired size. Drill from the side $1/32$ " larger. Think about how long your tenons will be before side hole is drilled. Smooth mouth of end hole.
5. An engineer at Brunner & Lay in Springdale says they use 1045 to forge their bits... Other folks claim that they are made of Shock Steel; so heat treating is probably not needed.

CUT OFF HARDY



1. Forge shank to the size of your hardy hole. Drive in to insure tight fit. Remove with a drift already found & handy to use.
2. Forge blade to shape
3. Clean up rough edges, harden & temper "possum-eyed Blue".

THANKS & A TIP OF THE HAT TO R. BARRINGHAUS & TO JOE WILKINSON

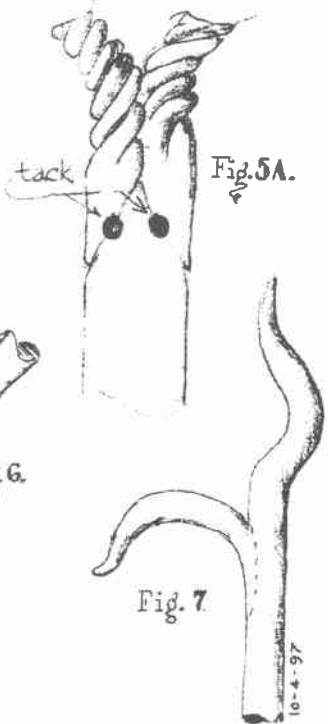
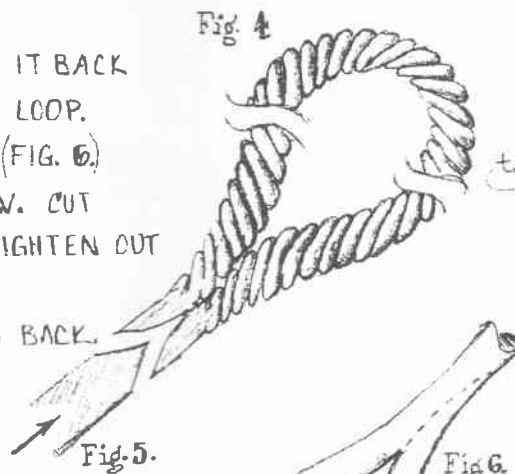
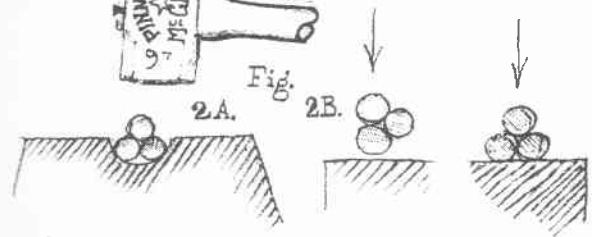
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ROBERTA ELLIOTT

ALFRED, NEW YORK JUNE 1996

HANDLE

- 1) START WITH 11" OF $\frac{3}{16}$ STOCK, 3PIECES, BUNDLED TOGETHER w/ TIE WIRE. (FIG 1)
- 2) FORGE WELD AND SCARF BOTH ENDS (FIG. 2)*
- 3) TWIST TIGHTLY. MAKING SURE SCARFS ARE LINED UP AS IN (FIG 3.)
- 4) BEND INTO TEAR-DROP SHAPE WITH SCARFS ALIGNED AS SHOWN IN (FIG. 4)
- 5) SCARF END OF $\frac{3}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ " (FIG. 5)
6. TACK WELD HANDLE PIECE ONTO SHAFT, MAKING SURE NOT TO GET ANY OF THE WELD ONTO THE TIPS OF SCARFS (or is the plural "scarves"?) (FIG 5A.)
7. FORGE WELD HANDLE ONTO SHAFT.



BUSINESS END

- 1) SCARF OPPOSITE END. LOOP IT BACK ONTO ITSELF, USING 8"-10" IN LOOP.
2. FORGE WELD FOR ABOUT 2" (FIG. 6.)
- 3) HEAT LOOP TO BRIGHT YELLOW. CUT SLIGHTLY OFF CENTER + STRAIGHTEN OUT ARMS.
4. TAPER SHORTER ARM + BEND BACK.
- 5) TAPER LONG ARM + LEAVE IT POINTING STRAIGHT AHEAD. (FIG. 7.)

* The weld is most easily done in a swage block or bottom swage to keep the 2 bottom pieces together while striking the top one (FIG. 2A). If a swage isn't available, Walt Hull tells me to weld one on top of another. Then turn it 90° to rest on the anvil as a pyramid to weld in the 3rd. piece (Fig. 2B.)

Tong Clips

Idea demonstrated by: Tom Clark
Procedure & Drawings by: Ray Robinson

Stock Used: 1/4" Round

Tools Used: Hammer, Tongs, Hardy cut



Using approximately 4" of stock, heat and bend over the edge of the anvil



Close into tight loop (no hole in the middle) using the edge of the anvil



Forge weld the loop and square up the remaining stock

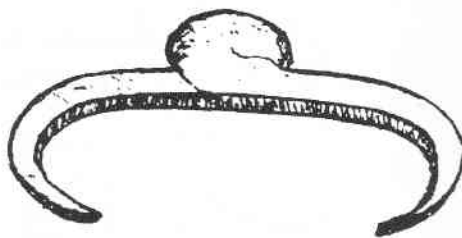


Cut each end to the desired length. With loop flat on the anvil, forge a taper and round over the end on the tip of the horn to fit the rein of the tongs.



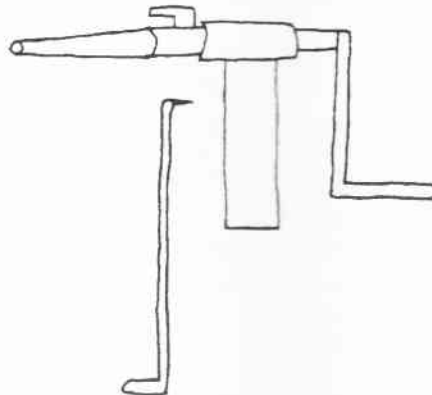
Try these clips — they are quick & great to use without discomfort to your tong hand.

Optional is achieved by the same process except place loop vertically when forging the tapers and rounding ends.



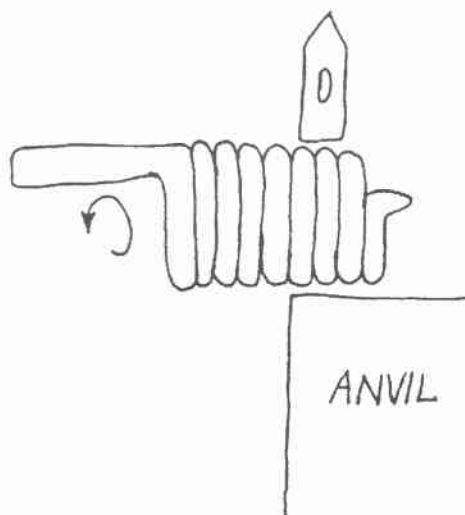
TAL'S TENDRIL TOOL:

During the class at the Folk School, my project required four tendrils to be made. After making a couple the hard way, I came up with this gadget.



The stock was 1/4" round x 16 1/2" long. Forge a short taper on one end. Bend the ends as shown. Take a long heat, stick the end with the short taper under the hold-down finger and crank the handle until you run out of hot stock. Two heats should get you to the end. If you crank the handle backwards the stock will release from the jig and slide off the tapered end.

After this step take a heat and close up the ends of the tendril using the step of the anvil. If you turn the piece as if you were "unscrewing" it off the anvil and keep hitting with the edge of the hammer in line with the edge of the anvil, the ends will make themselves. All of this is much easier done than I can describe it.



Reprinted from the Hot Iron Sparkle

BAM

Shop Notes

Got a tip to share? Jot it down and send it to the editor, Jim McCarty, 5821 Helias Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101 or FAX to (573) 395-3201

Cold weather warning

Q: I have a 50 pound Little Giant that I found and rebuilt, but I am wondering if there is any danger of breaking something if it is cold. My shop is unheated, and it does get nippy here at times. (I hate it when I forget to empty the quench bucket and it freezes solid) Is this a concern with the power hammer, or any other tools for that matter?

— Terry Birdwell, Seneca, NM

A: In the Clifton Ralph tapes he says the kerosene salamander is an important tool in the shop as it should be run on the machines in cold shops to loosen the lubricants and warm up the dies especially in sub-zero weather. He's from Indiana so I'd warm 'em up to be safe. This will be the first winter with my power hammer set up in the shop and I intend to do what he suggests for the amount I have into the set up and rebuilding . . . I'd hate to mess it up.

— Ralph Sproul

Source for mesh

Bill Frabotta was looking for a source for wire mesh for fire-

place screens. I finally tracked down a couple of suppliers so here goes: FP Smith Wire Cloth Co., 10110 Pacific Ave., Franklin Park, IL 60131, 1-800-323-6842. Cleveland Wire Cloth Manufacturing Inc., 3575 E. 75th St., Cleveland, OH 44105-1596, 1-800-321-3234.

Thanks to Chris Worsley for this info.

Test for temperature

A test for lower temperatures encountered when forging aluminum and brass is to rub a dry ash stick on the hot metal. The temperatures are indicated by the effects on the stick. This test is also useful when heating iron in the blue heat range.

- 660 F. Becomes sticky
- 680 F. More greasy
- 700 F. Starts to slide
- 720 F. Slips easily and starts to smoke
- 735 F. Slips very easily, smoke, sparks
- 750 F. More sparks
- 770 F. Lots of sparks
- 790 F. Starts to flame

— Bad Ivan

Starting flint fires

Lee Marek uses disassembled binder twine. Set a "rats nest" of it on top of char cloth. Char cloth was basically just to catch the spark without putting it out. Not much of the char cloth was actually consumed. Lee could start a fire in about 3 seconds. At the Luxenhous Farm weekend awhile back I talked to some buckskinner in the frontier section and he mentioned that he had found a mouse nest in the weeds/woods behind their campsite and that it was about the best tinder ever. Well dried mouse chewed cedar bark is apparently about as flammable as gasoline.

— Scott Stager

Good enough for horses

Francis Whitaker will tell you that farrier tongs are good for nothing but making horse shoes, and in his opinion, that's the same as just plain

'ol good for nothing. I have two or three of them in my shop and use them the same way you would use flat-jaw blacksmiths' tongs. I use them, first because I made them and prefer using my own tongs, and second because they work just as well as regular flat-jaw tongs. Farrier tongs are rounded so that the farrier can work quickly around the circumference of the shoe, spinning it in the jaws and re-grabbing it to punch, flatten etc. If you've never seen an experienced farrier work a shoe in this way, it's quite impressive. The cup shape of the jaw concentrates the gripping power of the jaws around the circumference of the jaw and has nothing to do with holding ball-shaped items.

— Jerry Hoffmann

Tempering springs

My old master smith taught me the best way to temper a spring. He made over a hundred pocket knives with the springs tempered in this manner and had only one of them returned. Harden the material by bringing it to a "sunrise red" as he called it (a red/orange color) and quench in oil. Wrap the piece in an old cotton sock and set it, sock and all, in a shallow container of used motor oil (with the oil just deep enough to cover the piece). Set the oil in the container afire with a torch (the sock will act as a wick to keep the oil burning). Just let it all sit there until the oil burns away and the spring is room temperature and it's done. (This is about equal to tempering in a heat treating oven to about 600 degrees.)

— Donnie Fulwood

Low-bucks tumbler

Ken, a blacksmith from New Zealand, used an old clothes dryer for a tumbler to remove scale from small forged items. He just unhooked the heating elements and is careful not to overload it. This would probably chip off all the porcelain inside but who cares? (Don't try this on the one in your laundry room).

Rivet header

I recently had a railing job for which I needed to support rivets inside of scrolls for heading. After a couple of tries I came up with a solution that worked great and looks to be quite versatile. It's made of 5 main parts.

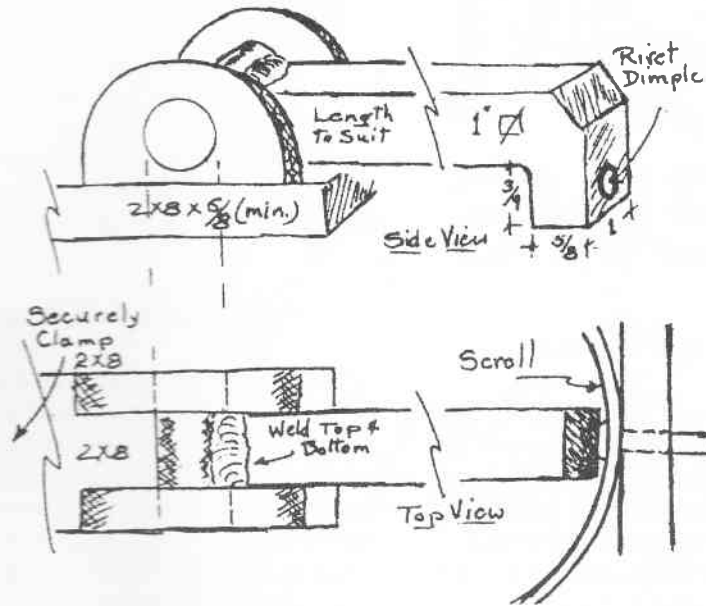
First is an 8" section of 1" square forged to a dog leg 3/4" long when measured to the inside corner, 5/8" thick and 1" wide. A dimple is ground or drilled near the tip on the outside of the dog leg to cradle the rivet head while heading it. This will be welded to along (5 feet or longer) piece of 1" square. The other end is later welded to a hinge.

The hinge is built of a piece of 5/8" or thicker steel 2" wide and 8" long. Two ears 1/2" thick are needed and must be drilled for a 1" pin. The ears are welded onto the 2" wide strip so the 1" square will fit between them easily. A 2-1/2" long 1" pin is inserted into the ear holes, the long 1" bar is slid between the ears up to the pin and welded together making sure the bar is level (off the table by the thickness of the plate the ears are welded to) and the dog leg is pointed down.

To use the contraption it must be clamped to the table, bench or trestle by the hinge end so the arm can be lifted up in order to position the work underneath. When the arm is lowered on top of the work it should be in position to cradle the rivet head as you head the other side. Good clamps are important but the weight of the tool is more important. Should you make this tool, don't skimp on the stock. Make it as long and as heavy as you can.

—David Court

Reprinted from the Newsletter of the New England Blacksmith Association



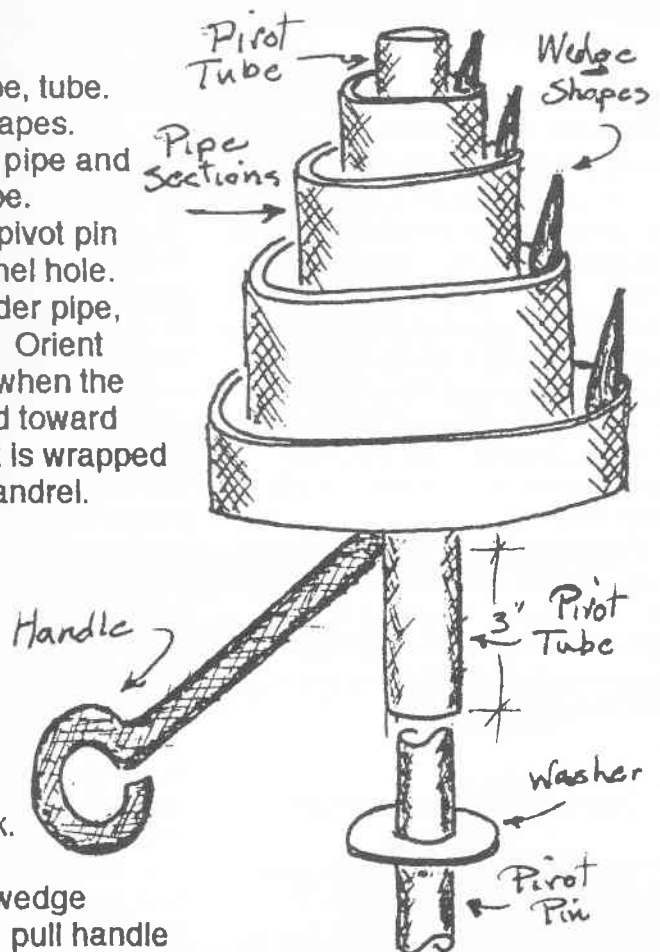
Rivet Header David Court

EZ'S Multi-Size Hook Jig

by Eric Ziner

To Construct:

- Cut pieces of pipe, tube.
- Forge wedge shapes.
- Weld wedges to pipe and pipe to pivot tube.
- Weld washer to pivot pin sized to fit pritchel hole.
- Weld handle under pipe, onto pivot tube. Orient handle so that when the handle is pulled toward self, hook stock is wrapped around pipe mandrel.



To Operate:

- Draw point.
- Form tip of hook.
- Quench tip.
- Seat between wedge and pipe, and pull handle

BAM NEWS

Fix that hammer

Sid Suedemeier says his latest Little Giant rebuilding class will be held at his Nebraska City, Neb. headquarters on March 20-22. In the workshop he will take a 25-pound Little Giant in rough condition and completely restore it. This is a hands-on class so all the participants get a chance to get their hands dirty. For more information give Sid a call at (402) 873-6603.

The coal is in!

BAM is back in the coal business. Another tractor trailer load made its way to Lou Mueller's in Valley Park but we need to get it out of Lou's way as fast as possible. Bring your pickups and haul home a pallet or two.

Lou is in the process of moving to his new shop and it would be nice if we could get most of the coal out of his way quickly. The coal is still \$7.50 per 50-pound bag. The bags make it convenient but they are still pretty messy.

If you don't know how to find Lou's give him a call at (314) 225-3252 and he will talk you in.

This coal is good stuff, the kind all the real blacksmiths like that guy's grandfather used to use.

Ozark Conference update

Chairman Bruce Herzog has plans underway for the 98 Ozark Conference to be held May 1, 2 & 3 at the Lion's Club fairgrounds in Potosi,

Mo. John Medwedeff and Uri Hofi will be the featured demonstrators along with some of BAM's finest and a special knifemaking workshop.

You can also expect to see wizards, heat treating and mountain man stuff. Mark your calendar now and make plans to be there. Tim Ryan will be on hand for our auction, and since this is our main fundraiser please bring something for Tim to sell.

Frisco Days Sculpture

Springfield, Mo. is hosting a sculpture contest for its 6th-annual Frisco Days History Festival April 18-19. The theme is "railroad ties" because the Commercial St. site of the outdoor sculpture gallery developed alongside the old Frisco Railroad. Up to 6 pieces will be selected for extended outdoor display and will receive \$200 honorariums. All other entries will be on display during the festival and the group will work to sell your piece. Deadline for entering is Feb. 23. For more information call (417) 863-6888.

Are your dues due?

Your BAM dues (\$20) are due one year from the date you last paid. Treasurer Maurice Ellis is kind enough to update your dues info and he includes the date on the mailing label on the back cover of your newsletter. Check it now to see if yours has expired and if so, renew! Maurice used to highlight the ones that had expired but we are no longer printing them so this won't be possible. We currently are sending the mailing list to the printers and they are printing the labels for us. For this reason it is important that you keep track of your date and renew on time. BAM depends on your dues as that is the only source of income for the newsletter, Ozark Conference expenses, coal purchases, library upgrades, scholarships and the like besides the conference auction and the iron in the hat. Send the dues checks to Maurice at PO Box 1442, Belgrade, MO 63622. Don't send them to the editor please!

Hammerin on the Hooch

ABANA is once again lending support to a miniconference. This one will be held March 20-22 in Columbus, Georgia. It will feature Doug Hendrickson, George Dixon, Jerry Darnell, Jim Wallace and Bob Patrick. A special sidetrip will take place on March 22 to historic Westville, birthplace of ABANA 25 years ago. There BAM's founder Bob Patrick will forge froes to be used for future Bealer Awards, ABANA's highest honor. Cost for the event is \$50 or \$35 for a one-day pass. Proceeds will go to preserving the Otto Schmirler collection at the Metals Museum. For more information or to register write to: Hooch, c/o David Cornett, PO Box 1173, Pine Mountain, GA 31822. You can call David at (706) 322-2522.

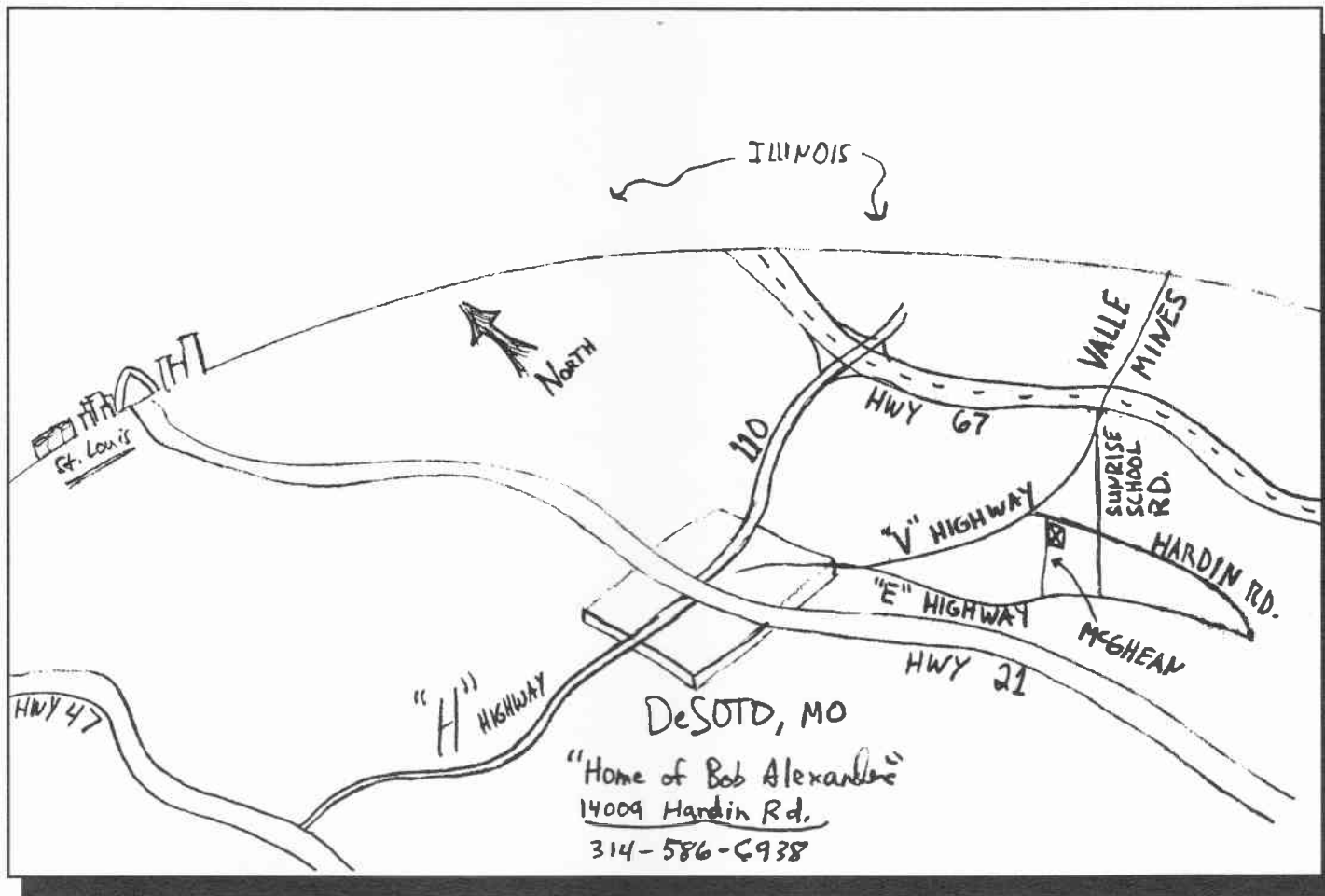
Congrats to Clay

Congratulations are in order to CBAM's friend Clay Spencer, who was presented ABANA's prestigious Alex Bealer Award at the Appalachian Area Chapter Christmas Party held at Bill Manly's in Tennessee. Tom Clark and David Cornett presented the award and it was a complete surprise to all as there were several deserving individuals in the room.

Clay is best known for his Bituminous Bits Newsletter which set the standards for all the other newsletters to follow. He is responsible for making the treadle hammer the useful tool it is and for conducting treadle hammer workshops across the country. Lately he's been the host for ABANA's internet site, giving that task up in December. Keep up the good work Clay.

The logo features the letters 'BAM' in a large, bold, serif font. A stylized hammer is positioned behind the letter 'A'. Below 'BAM', the word 'Missouri' is written in a smaller, serif font.

Donnie Fullwood thinks this is funny. . .



Next BAM Meeting January 24, 1998, De Soto, Mo.

BAM president Bob Alexander is the host for BAM's January meeting to be held at the presidential forge at 14009 Hardin in DeSoto, Missouri. Bob just built a brand spanking new shop drawing on skills he had in a previous life when he was a carpenter.

It's a first-rate structure, or at least it was when the editor paid him a visit last summer and it was missing a few

details. We know Bob usually has the neatest toys for sale and it should be worth the trip just to see the kind of stuff he decides to keep.

Bob will be paying us back for his scholarship and he says Doug Hendrickson has agreed to forge "something." (Doug, Bob says to remind you.)

DeSoto isn't hard to find but Bob

might be. When you get to town set your sights on Highway V or E and follow the map to Hardin Rd. We'll get some signs out, won't we Bob? Look for forge smoke.

As usual, don't forget to bring something for the iron in the hat. The trade item is a flower, use your imagination.

See you in DeSoto January 24.

BAM

1998 Schedule

January 1998 meeting

Bob Alexander
DeSoto, Mo.
Jan. 24
Trade item: Flower

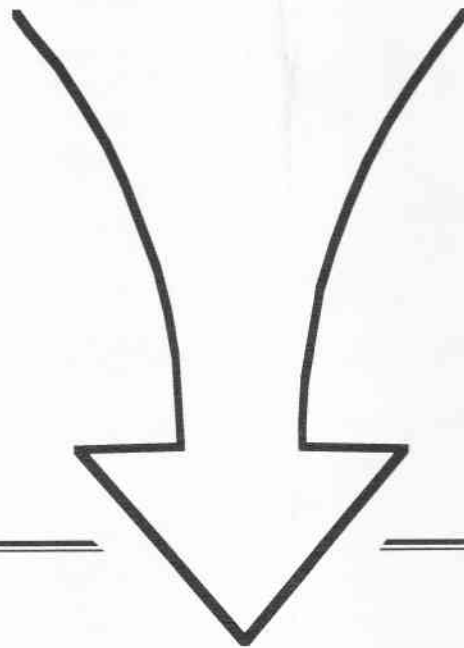
March 1998 meeting

Webster University
St. Louis
March 28
Trade item: Sculpture

Ozark Conference

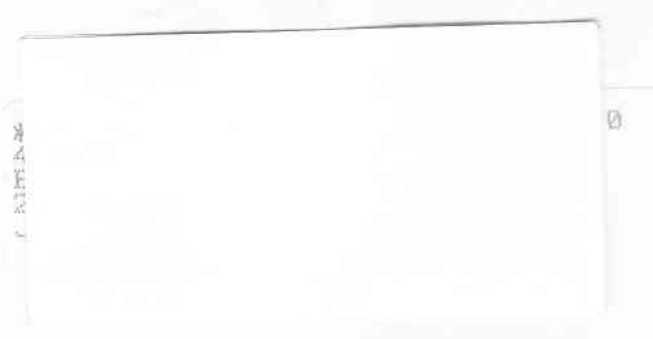
Potosi, Mo.
May 1-3
Featuring John Medwedeff
and Uri Hofi

BAM Members Please Note: Your membership dues expire on the date shown on your mailing label. Please check to see if you need to renew.



BAM
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Jefferson City, MO 65101

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