

# BAM

INSIDE

March — April 1999

Dear BAM.....6  
March meeting .....8  
ABANA news.....10  
Roster.....13  
Next meeting.....23



NEWSLETTER of the BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

# Contents

## Editor's anvil

**5** There's lots to talk about as spring arrives including the 2000 ABANA Conference.

## Dear BAM

**6** Thanks for the scholarship and getting another one hooked on blacksmithing.

## Bob's business

**8** Our president Bob Alexander talks about the successful Ozark Conference.

## March meeting

**9** Steve Stunkel was the host for a busy March BAM meeting in Illinois.

## ABANA news

**10** President Lou Mueller takes a look at how ABANA can help beginners.

## Bulletin board

**12** Whatever you need — books, anvils, power hammers — we've got it here.

## BAM roster

**13** Here's how to find those guys and gals you need to reach.

## Shop notes

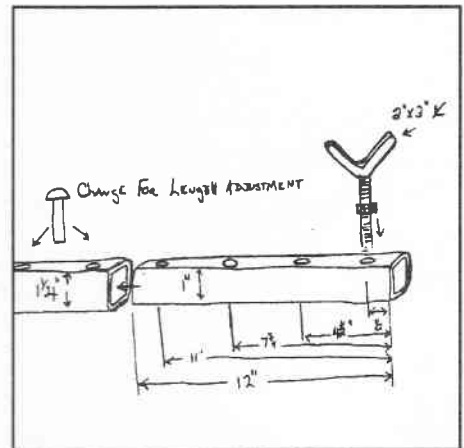
**20** Questions about Damascus answered, Internet sites and a handy helper for your forge.

## Next meeting

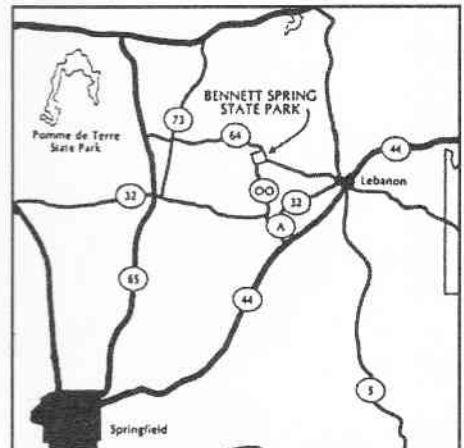
**23** It's time to play a little as BAM heads to Bennett Spring State Park.



Page 6



Page 20



Page 23

**Newsletter of the  
Blacksmiths  
Association  
of Missouri**

*March — April 1999  
Volume 16 No. 2*

*Our cover: Steve White, on loan to BAM from UMBA, does his thing during the forging contest at the 1999 Ozark Conference. We borrow Steve from UMBA so that we can beat the farriers in the contest.*

**Editor**  
Jim McCarty

**Contributing Editors**  
Pat McCarty  
Bob Alexander  
Maurice Ellis  
Ron Caraway

**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

*Includes a Subscription to the Anvil's Ring and The Hammers' Blow magazines*

- Regular Member .....\$45 yr.
- Senior Citizen (Age 65+) .....\$40 yr.
- Fulltime student .....\$35 yr.
- Overseas airmail .....\$80 yr.
- Overseas surface mail .....\$60 yr.
- Contributory .....\$100 yr.
- Full time student .....\$35 yr.
- Public library .....\$35 yr.

*See reverse*



## Editor's Anvil

The 1999 Ozark Conference is just over and I know everyone who attended is motivated to try some new techniques. The move to Washington, Mo. left the organizers a little uncertain but I think everyone would agree the conference site proved to be a good one. We had a real parking lot for the tailgaters, clean bathrooms that didn't smell and, best of all, no mud!

I don't know who was responsible for the weather but it was perfect for the event. I did see a lot of sunburn going on however.

Thanks to Maurice Ellis, Bruce Herzog and the rest of the committee that made the event happen. Thanks also to Centaur Forge, The Blacksmiths Journal and to Norm Larson who drove all the way from California to bring us books.

The Russian blacksmith was a nice touch too. He came courtesy of Kirk Sullens and was responsible for \$1,500 of the \$6,700 raised in the auction by Col. Tim Ryan.

The demonstrators worked their tails off for us. I got to see most of Michael Saari's demo and bits and pieces of the efforts by Jeff Mohr, Guy McConnell and Ken Markley. BAM was able to redeem itself at the contest, which was one of our more challenging efforts. Doug Hendrickson put the contest together and his early efforts were to find something the farriers, who kicked our butts last year, couldn't do.

In the early going it looked like they were going to clean our clocks again. Neal Poort had a nice effort and would have won if he hadn't nailed it to Doug's foot. Charlie Comstock showed an unorthodox style and was the crowd's favorite to win. But when all the measuring was done Pat McCarty, whose shop is littered with punctured pieces of 3/8 round, came out on top. Pat barely edged Tom Clark, who would have won if he could have straightened his piece before the time ran out.

Steve White, the ringer we brought in for last year's event, proved to be a flash in the pan. He says they use drill presses in Iowa which sounds like a

great idea. Demonstrator Jeff Mohr also made a steller effort but proved a little too aggressive with the hammer.

Three days later I am still tired from moving the equipment back to Pat's shop. Some day it would be nice to have a permanent shop so we don't have to move the heavy stuff.

I had an opportunity to demonstrate for a bunch of school kids during the Missouri Folk Arts Program's Tuesday at the Capitol event. I asked the kids what a blacksmith does and expected to hear "Shoe horses." Instead one of the kids said "Blacksmiths make sculpture." I think Don Asbee has gotten to these guys.

This is the off year for the ABANA conference but there is plenty of news regarding the 2000 event. First of all, the Salt Fork Chapter of ABANA, our neighbors in Oklahoma, have invited other smiths to forge a link to go in a chain for the event. The specs are 7 inches of 3/8 inch round — it can be your choice of material, Damascus anybody? They would like for us to join as many together as possible to save

them some time.

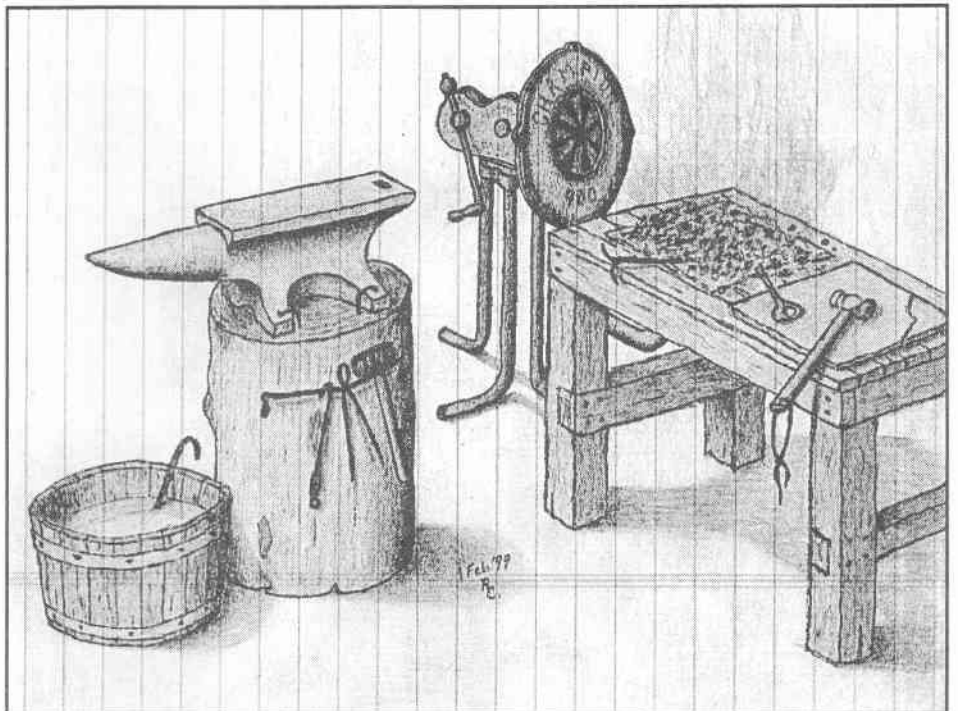
Maybe we can get this started at the next meeting. Bring your link or your hammer and make one there.

The other projects you can get involved in include a balluster. Check the next Anvil's Ring for the details on this one. All of the ballusters will be used, either in the bridge project or for a railing. The chapter event this year is an unusual one — they want each chapter to forge a buffalo skull. We'll have to give this one some thought.

I will be going to Caniron 2 in Calgary and I hope some of you join me there. The list of demonstrators is a long one and the area looks to be a great place to visit. If anyone wants to make an auction item give it to me at the next meeting and I will deliver — if it's small enough to fit in a suitcase.

Our next gathering is at Bennett Spring State Park. Bring your tent and plan to spend the night. See you there.

—Jim McCarty



This nice art work was done by BAM member Ron Caraway while waiting in the airport for a flight to Houston. Too bad he didn't have sketch pad in hand at the last meeting...

## Dear BAM

I want to thank you and the rest of BAM for allowing me to attend the class at the John C. Campbell Folk School taught by Jeff Mohr. Jeff is a very fine smith in the Doug Hendrickson tradition. He makes use of all the tools at his disposal. Each of the class members had the opportunity to produce a four piece fireplace set plus the stand. In addition, other topics were covered. I intend on writing an article for the newsletter concerning the class. This class has expanded both my skills and my knowledge. Even my wife was impressed with the fireplace set. Enjoy the day.

-- Mark E. Williams

Last night while I was working at my forge a friend, his wife, and their 17 year old son came by. I asked the boy if he wanted to help at the forge and he agreed. I had him hold the tongs while I punched some holes in the tang of a knife. He noticed that I had a bucket of RR spikes and commented that he had a friend with a RR spike knife, and asked if I knew how to make one.

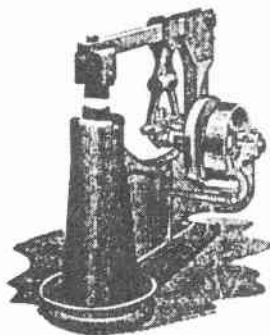
When we finished my knife and got it into the ashes to anneal I asked him if he wanted to make a RR spike knife. I have yet to find a boy that wasn't interested in making a knife. Well this boy has a birth defect that left one of his hands about 1/2 the size of the other. He held the tongs in his good hand and hammered with his withered hand. After a while when he wasn't making very much progress I offered to hold the tongs for him and things started to progress much faster.

By the time we had his knife finished he was talking about putting together a forge from scrap material at his dad's farm. I don't know if he'll follow through on the home built forge or not but he definitely has been bit by the bug.

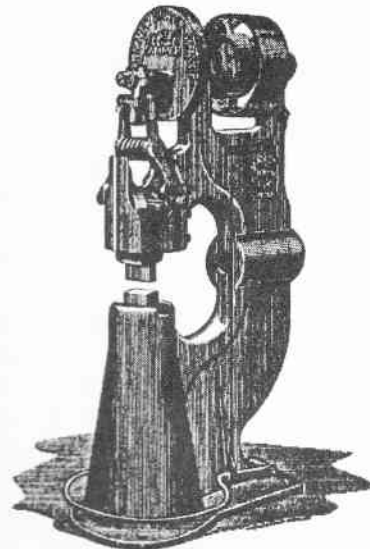
-- Bob Ehrenberger

*Happy  
Anniversary to  
Richard and  
Bev Cross*

*This is No. 50  
and counting!*



THE EASY  
Patent Applied For



THE NEW LITTLE GIANT

## Welcome LeeAnn Mitchell

The ABANA Board is pleased to announce that they have found a terrific person to replace Janelle Gilbert, who resigned in April to work for her husband, Jerry Hoffman, of The Blacksmith's Journal. After a lot of searching and hard work, the board chose LeeAnn Mitchell of Farmington, Georgia. LeeAnn worked for the National Ornamental Metals Museum for a long time and comes to us with a great recommendation from Curator Jim Wallace.

In addition to her clerical skills, LeeAnn is a sculptor by trade and is familiar to most of the aspects of the iron industry as well. She will come to us with a working knowledge of iron and will be able to answer your questions easily. You will like her friendly personality and quick and willing spirit.

The new ABANA office address is: P.O. Box 816 Farmington, Georgia 30638. The e-mail address is: [abana@negia.net](mailto:abana@negia.net). You will find this on the web site ([www.abana.org](http://www.abana.org)) now and you may start using it for ABANA business. We do not have the new phone number yet but the phones are being forwarded so just call the old number and it will direct you. LeeAnn will have her hands full for a few weeks but will be up to speed as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience during this transition. We all hated to see Janelle go after 12 long years with us. We wish her the very best with The Blacksmith's Journal and hope to see her at the many blacksmith events around the country.

Please give LeeAnn Mitchell your best welcome.

## Bob's Business

It's springtime in Missouri and not only are the dogwood in bloom but blacksmithing activities are happening everywhere.

In March we had a first time meeting at Steve Stunkel's LARGE and roomy shop. Steve had a couple of forges going and lots of neat stuff to look at. Thanks to Steve and everyone else who takes the challenge of hosting a meeting.

In April, neighbor Gary Koehler and I journeyed to New Salem, Ill. for the 17th annual hammer-in. Phil Baldwin was the demonstrator and there was a good crowd on hand.

I have been there for numerous workshops but never took the time to visit. We expected to see a couple of historic cabins but the village buildings were numerous. Unfortunately the blacksmith shop was closed because the smith (Jim Patton) was at the hammer-in. I'm looking forward to going back later.

The later part of April was time spent preparing for the BAM Conference. The conference site was changed to Washington, Mo. instead of the traditional Potosi site for sever-

al reasons, some of which were convenient hotels, restaurants in town, activities for spouses, closer to interstate highways and the site had hard surfaces in case of rain.

For this year's demonstrators we had Michael Saari, Jeff Mohr, Guy McConnell and Ken Markley who all had very successful demos. We also had a memorable demonstration from a Russian smith, Alexander Romanov, thanks to Kirk Sullens. Alexander was here participating in an international event happening at Branson, Mo.

On Friday evening activities began with a slide lecture from Michael Saari, followed by a lecture from Rueben Funk on basic metallurgy for blacksmiths. Then it was off to the forge for the Thread the Needle contest.

On Saturday the family program was back into full swing with a Blacksmith Bear project taught by Mary Laubinger and the stained glass class taught by Leigh Funk. Bruce Herzog was also on hand with the BAM library.

At the conference the tailgaters

were out in great number. Much rusted iron was swapped from place to place. The banquet hall hosted our trade show for companies such as the Blacksmith Journal, Centaur Forge and Norm Larson's books. The hall was also used by the Ellis's for registration and to display the auction items.

Thanks to Tim Ryan, the BAM auction staff and all who either donated or bought for making this another great auction.

In local news, the Ozark School of Blacksmithing is expanding with a new addition. Also the Spring classes have begun with a Bob Patrick forge welding class in April. Check with Tom Clark for the dates of upcoming classes.

In just a few weeks there is the May BAM meeting at Bennett Spring State Park. Trade item is to be anything fish related. This is a new location for a meeting so I know little to say about it.

Don't forget the iron in the hat and I'll see you there.

—Bob Alexander

## THE HAWKEYE POWER HAMMERS

They have a world wide reputation and every hammer is guaranteed to give satisfaction

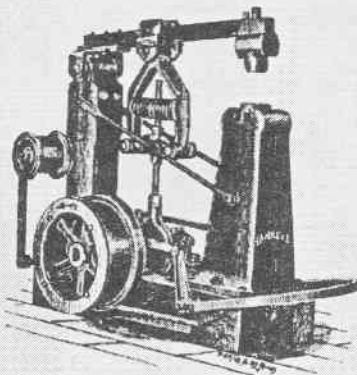
### Patent Applied for

The No. 2 hammer is designed for plow and general repair work, and will successfully forge iron 2 3/4 inches in diameter, and give the best of satisfaction on plow work.

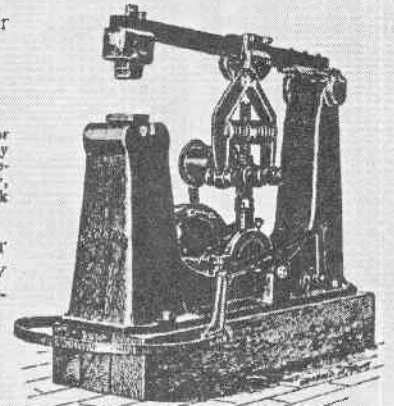
The No. 3 hammer is designed for heavy forging, and will successfully forge iron from 3 to 4 inches in diameter. It is a profitable hammer to buy, as it will do plow and light work equally as well as heavy.

These hammers are superior to many other makes for tire welding and long work, as the operator has plenty of room to handle the work. Our prices are very reasonable. For prices and full description address

**The Hawkeye Mfg. Co.**  
TAMA, IOWA



THE HAWKEYE POWER HAMMER No. 2



THE HAWKEYE POWER HAMMER No. 3

# BAM

## MARCH MEETING

by Pat McCarty

It was a bit cool in Troy Ill., but Steve Stunkel had a heater in the "Jonny on the Spot", so we all had a warm seat anyway! Steve had all his rusty iron displayed for us, he's got lots of neat stuff!

Steve had just built a new brick forge, so I broke it in. I made a railroad spike cross and a vase and flower. Then Bob Bupp showed us how he makes his brass courting candles.

Meanwhile Steve had his old forge going on the other side of the shop. We had visitors from England and an excellent lunch by Steve's wife.

There were lots of nice power hammer tools in the trade item drawing and a good selection of donations in the iron in the hat.

Bob Alexander held the business meeting while Peggy Williamson video taped the event for posterity. There was time after the meeting to meet old friends and make one more trip around Rainbo's trailer before hitting the road.

Thanks Steve for a great meeting.

*Jim: I shot the meeting with no film in my camera so Jeremy will drop off an artist's rendering on his way home. Don't print this note or everyone will know how stupid I am.*

Pat

### Minutes

• Thanks to Steve and Jeanette Stunkel for hosting us.

### Old business

• We have a scholarship for 1999 from the John C. Campbell Folk School. At the end of this meeting we will draw a name for it.

### New business

- Bob showed a partial copy of a new book on ironwork of Edgar Brandt. We can get a discount if we commit to buying 10 copies.
- BAM has an invitation to "Forging on the River" at the Metals Museum March 26-28.
- Bob spoke on a project proposed by the Salt Fork Craftsmen to forge a

chain for ABANA 2000 Conference. They propose that every member forge a link from 7 inches of 3/8 inch round (imagination and variety encouraged).

• The Metals Museum is soliciting donations to finance a book on blacksmith Thomas Googerty. Motion made and carried to donate \$500 to this cause.

• Lou Mueller spoke on a beginner's workshop program featuring structured, specific lessons. The idea is to give beginners a well-planned opportunity to work and learn at their own pace. A reviewer would advise and help as needed. ABANA would finance this program. Chapters would recruit a volunteer to review work, advise, etc. ABANA is seeking input and suggestions for this program at this point. Talk to Lou Mueller if you have any comments or suggestions.

• Bruce Herzog spoke on BAM's library. Bruce says check them out, read them, then get them back to the library.

• Bruce also spoke on the Ozark Conference. Pre-registration is important, especially for the meals and craft programs. Also don't forget the auction. It is an important fundraiser for BAM and a lot of fun besides.

• Tom Clark is a dealer for the NC Tool Company gas forges. Check them out.

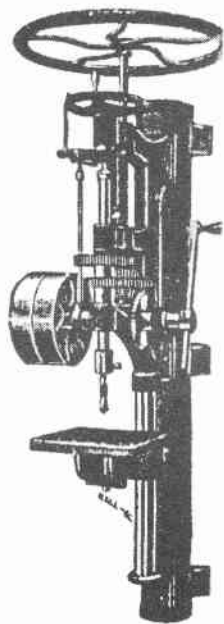
• Andy MacDonald spoke on a 1-day workshop at SIU-Carbondale with Phil Baldwin, tentatively set for April 7.

• The John C. Campbell scholarship was won by Jeff Bruce of Quincy, Ill.

• The invitation to the Metals Museum's "Forging on the River" also went to Jeff Bruce.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Murray  
Secretary





# BAM

## Bulletin Board

Wanted to buy: 8-inch leg vise. Contact Rick Scarlet at (660) 263-8982 or Rt.1 Box 220C, Moberly, MO 65270 or e-mail to rscarlet@missvalley.com

Cast iron forge with Champion 400 blower, measures 23 x 34, \$250. Lancaster blower, no stand, \$50. Harold Weber, (816) 697-3462.

Don Plummer's book on the Sorber collection is now in print. It's called "Colonial Wrought Iron, the Sorber Collection" and is 256 hardbound pages with 506 photos. Price is \$44 plus shipping and handling. You can order direct from BookMasters at 1-800-247-6553. This is a great book!

Video tapes of the 1998 ABANA Conference, and others, are now available. Full length videotapes from \$24 give you the opportunity to learn from the best artist/blacksmiths in America. Free catalog. Phone orders welcome. Rocky Comfort Forge & Video Production, Rt.3 Box 3678, Quincy, FL 32351; (850) 627-7949.

If you don't already subscribe to Jerry Hoffmann's Blacksmith's Journal consider doing so. The Journal is published monthly and a one-year subscription totals about 190 pages. There are over 1,200 pages already published and back issues are also available. If you haven't seen it, call or write for a free sample. Cost is \$32 per year. Call 1-800-944-6134 for

credit card orders or write to: Blacksmith's Journal, PO Box 193, Washington, MO 63090.

For sale: 70-pound air hammer, \$2,800. 40-pound air hammer, \$2,300. Also custom spinning in copper, brass, aluminum, steel and pewter. Maurice Ellis, (573) 766-5346.

50-pound Little Giant, \$2,500, 25-pound Little Giant, \$1,800, Pexto 36-inch pneumatic bench shear with extra set of blades, \$1,700, all parts for Clay Spencer-style treadle hammer, \$400, 5 fly presses from \$1,800 to \$2,500, 225-pound Hay-Budden anvil, \$400, heavy duty floor crane, \$400. Andrew MacDonald, 401 E Kenicott, Carbondale, IL 62901; (618) 549-1954.

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.

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

For sale: Large cannonball stove from the old Washington Forge. Actual blacksmiths stood around this stove warming themselves and occasionally spitting on it. \$200 or trade for ? Pat McCarty, (314) 239-3814.

Charles McRaven's classic "Country Blacksmithing" is back under a new title, "Tools and Processes of the County Blacksmith." McRaven ran a school near Branson for many years and much of the material reflects his

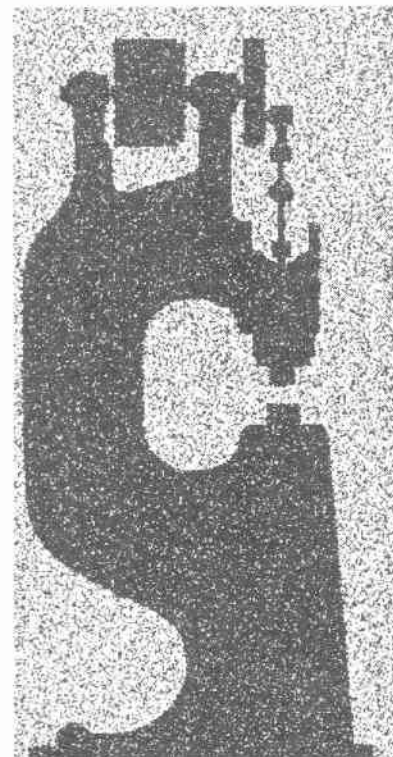
time in the Ozarks. The book has been out of print for some time. Price is \$35 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling, from Ravenoak Press, PO Box G, Free Union, VA 22940.

New Heller Brothers cast steel hot-cut hardies produced for the war department for WW II. 3/4-inch shank, 3-1/4 inches tall. \$20 plus \$4 for shipping. Andrew Morrison, 2197 N. Allen Ave., Altadena, CA 91001; (626) 798-6588.

Donnie Briggs has coal for sale in the Linn Creek (Lake of the Ozarks) area. Call (573) 346-6023 for details. Call after 4:30 pm or leave a message.

Power hammer history! *Pounding out the Profits — A Century of American Invention* by Douglas Freund (hardbound, 317 pages, profusely illustrated) is available for \$32.50 plus \$4.50 shipping and handling through Mings Mountain Machine Works, PO Box 532, Jerome, AZ 86331.

For blacksmithing books contact Norm Larson, 5426 E. Hwy. 246, Lompoc, CA 93436 or call (805) 735-2095. Ask for his catalog — he offers hundreds of books on blacksmithing and related topics and is a real nice guy too.



# BAM

## SHOP TIPS

Got a tip to share? Jot it down and send it to the editor at the following address: Jim McCarty, 5821 Helias Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101 or FAX to (573) 395-3201 or e-mail to jimmac@socket.net

**Q:** Last night I worked on welding up a piece of chain that a printer had given me — it came off his press and was a pretty good length and size for a billet. While I got it to weld pretty easy there is a problem I am having whenever I make Damascus that I thought someone could help with. I have no problem getting the ends to weld but I almost always find the center doesn't weld and the billet ends up breaking in half here. I am working in a coal forge, using a big pile of coal formed into a cavern. I arc welded the ends of the chain to hold it together and welded one end at a time holding the opposite end with tongs.

— Jim McCarty

**A:** I would suggest you start welding on one end and progress carefully straight to the other end. Don't weld the ends and then work toward the middle. As you weld the

metal is deforming and there are stresses created if the metal can't relax itself. By welding both ends the metal has no place to move differentially. I don't know that this is your problem, but I would certainly start with this and see what happens. I am assuming all other factors of welding are good, fluxing, cleanliness of steel, heat, etc.

— Ron Reil

**W**hen you heat up solid stock to weld, the heat transfer rate from the outside to the inside of the stock is pretty rapid and uniform. Both the color of the metal and the boiling flux are good indications that you are at welding temperature. When you try to weld multiple layers of stock and especially chain with lots of space between the links, the heat transfer rate is very slow and not uniform. It is possible to melt the outer layers before the inner layers are even close to welding heat. If you have welded the ends of the stock together and haven't wired the rest of the billet with baling wire, the expansion of the outer layers will cause even more differential heating problems.

The best solution to this problem that I have learned is to bring your billet up to temperature more slowly. Use several heats to allow the center stock to reach welding heat. Constantly rotate the billet in the fire, and use light hammer blows to compact the material between heats. Use plenty of flux to reduce scaling. As you remove the billet from the fire look for subtle dark shadows in the billet. They are a good indication of unwelded layers and/or void or slag inclusions; usually an indication that the middle of the billet didn't get up to welding temperature.

— Chuck Robinson

**T**he obvious is not always the answer. You can arc weld the center also, which helps in heat transfer in addition to keeping it from shifting. (Nickel rod would look nice.) Mig is easier and blends in with mild steel. Don't hit it so hard as to make

it shift and break the weld.

But, I suspect you are not controlling where the heat goes as well as you do with the end of the billet. If you slow down, you can get a soaking heat (all the way through the billet) which may heat up more of the middle eliminating any heat sink from the cold ends.

It is easier in the middle to trap dirty scale pockets than out on the end. Make a way for the flux (vehicle) to carry the scale out of the middle. I would just make sure I "slung it real good" coming out of the fire, ala D. Stiegler.

— Dan Tull

### Pointers on welding

**A** few pointers on the article about welding in the forge. I find it best to flux in the fire, this does not break the fire up. After the flux is stuck to the scarf, turn over and flux the back, and or the other three sides. Be sure to get flux and a welding heat back on the heel where the sharp edge of the scarf fits, otherwise there will be a cold shut. The final test in the fire is if the pieces stick when touched. If they will not stick in the fire, they will not stick on the anvil.

— Francis Whitaker

### Line shaft url

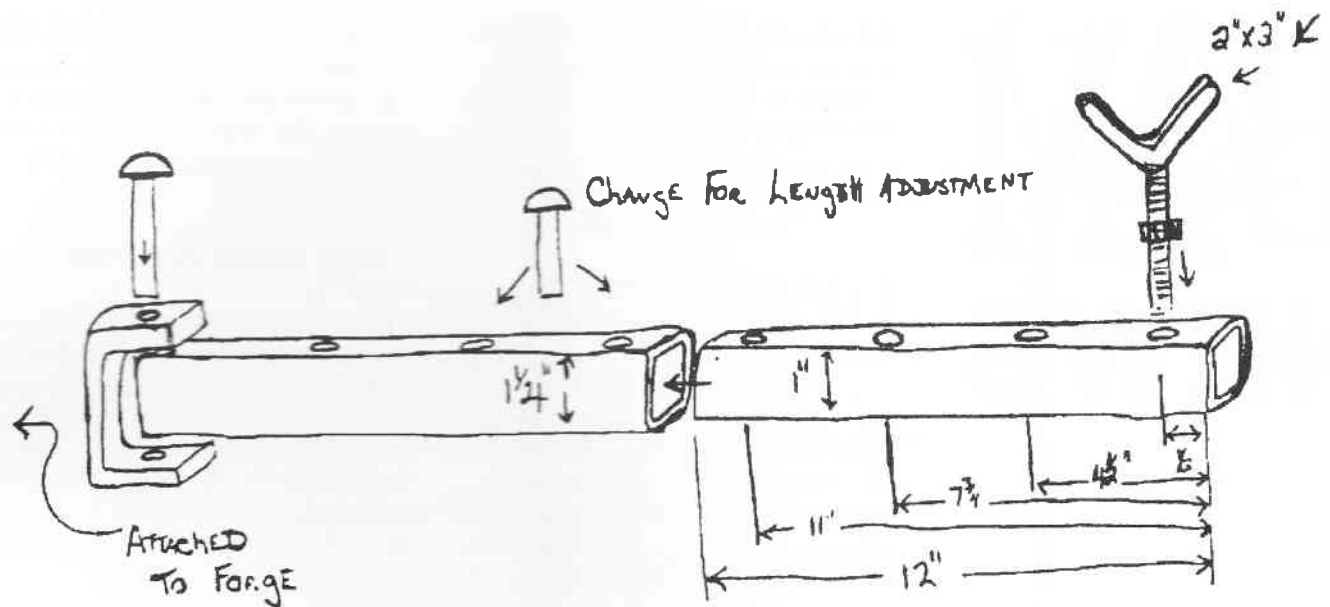
**T**his Internet site has info on line belts, figuring horsepower, etc.: <http://www.rustyiron.com/rig/belt-ing.html>

— John Elliott

### Free is better

**A**nother awesome free source for large round cylinders is old hot water heaters. Check the junk yard and try to find one that is not too heavy. I've got six of them in the yard; gonna weld them end-to-end and make a chimney for my coal forge.

— Philip Habib



### Lester Six's Blacksmith's Helper

Lester Six hosted our February Hammer-In last year and as can be expected he had developed a new tool for his shop. Many of you who have been to Lester's over the years have seen his treadle hammer and the air hammer he's built. Plus over the years Lester has developed other items, many of which have appeared in the newsletter. His latest is a post vise which he's welded on the front portion of an anvil. At the February meeting we saw the two arms Lester had made that are attached to the front of his forge. These two arms offer a place to support long material being forged. The arms can be adjusted into countless positions. Above is a sketch of one of the arms.

Cut material to size, then drill holes in both sizes of tubing to match up with each other. The one pin can be moved to adjust the length of the arm either farther away or closer to the forge. Make two arms and position them on front of the forge either by welding or bolting.

#### Material list for one arm:

- 1 piece 1-1/4" tubing
- 1 piece 1" tubing
- 1 piece 2" x 2" angle (just a small cut off)
- 1 3/8" all thread rod and nut
- 2 pins or bolts to use as pins
- 1 1/2" x 6" piece forged to shape for bracket

— Reprinted from the Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association newsletter "Tales of the Western

# BAM NEWS

hopes to put together a BAM group area for more impact. You would be welcome to sell your wares as well as demonstrate to the public.

## School Days

Dates for classes at Tom Clark's Ozark Blacksmith School are as follows: Uri Hofi basic classes: May 17-24, May 24-28, May 31-June 4, Oct. 4-8, Oct. 11-15, and Oct. 18-22. Little Giant tuning with Phil Cox: May 22-23. Bill Bastas, Aug. 2-6. Bob Patrick: Nov. 1-5. Contact Tom Clark for more info: HC 87, Box 5780, Potosi, MO 63664; (573) 438-4725.

## Upper Midwest Regional event

Plan to attend what promises to be one of the best conferences of the season, the Second Biennial Upper Midwest Regional Blacksmithing Conference June 11-13, 1999 at Thresherman's Park, Pontiac, Illinois.

The Demonstrators are some of today's finest blacksmiths, and they are prepared to share skills & techniques you will be able to take back to your shop and use immediately. Tailgating, Gallery, Vendors, Auctions, & Iron in the Hat! Registration opens 8 a.m. Friday, Conference begins 1 p.m., ends 3 p.m. Sunday

Demonstrators include Billy Merritt, Two Glass Blowers, Chuck Hawes and Doug Merkel. Also Blacksmith Meets the Machinist, demonstrating on the lathe, milling machine, & shaper with Jim Ribordy, Harley Larson and Bob Bergman, and Wayne Evert, loose sand casting

ABANA's Teaching Station will be on hand for a beginner's class. For more information, please contact: John K. Biewer, 11722 W. 13th Street, Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096; (847) 746-2470, FAX: (847) 746-7465; e-mail: leebiewer@sprintmail.com

## Indiana Blacksmiths Conference

June 5-6 is the date for the 1999 Indiana Blacksmithing Association conference to be held at the fair-

grounds in Tipton, Indiana. The event features Bob Valentine, Hans Peot and Jim Batson plus another Tim Ryan auction. For more information contact Mark Thomas at (219) 758-2332.

## Rural Smiths host Peter Ross

The Rural Smiths of Mid-America are hosting a demo featuring Peter Ross of Colonial Williamsburg July 10-11 at the Kelley Historic Agricultural Museum near Kokomo, Indiana. Cost is \$35 for the weekend. For more information contact H. Charles Gruell, 5615 W. 550 N, Sharpsville, IN 46068, or call (765) 963-5390.

## Rocky Mountain Smiths

August 11-15 is the date for the Rocky Mountain Blacksmithing Conference 1999, Carbondale, Colorado, featuring John Medwedeff, Roberta Elliott, Bill Fiorini, Tal Harris, and Francis Whitaker. For more information contact Rocky Mountain Smiths, c/o Dan Nibbelink (dan-nibb@csn.net, 970-532-4387) or Eric Harmon (ejhotiron@aol.com, 303-989-2694).

## SOFA Conference

The granddaddy of all regional blacksmith events is the Quad States Round-up hosted by the SOFA group in Troy, Ohio. This year's event is set for Sept. 24-26. It features Daryl Meier with Howard Clark, Scott Lankton, Tom Latena, Bob Patrick, David Pimeutel. For more information write to: SOFA Quad-State 99, PO Box 24308, Huber Heights, OH 45424-0308 or call (937) 237-2200.

## A gal named Kate

There once was a lass named Dinneen

The fairest you ever have seen. She was amorous and frisky when filled with good whiskey but otherwise stubborn and mean.

— Author unknown (he says)

## Ozark Conference 1999 Conference Financial Report

INCOME	
Registration	\$6766
Auction	\$6233
Tom Clark Fund	\$375
BAM Boutique	\$926
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$14,300</b>
EXPENSES	
Total expenses	\$6576
<b>PROFIT</b>	<b>\$7,724</b>

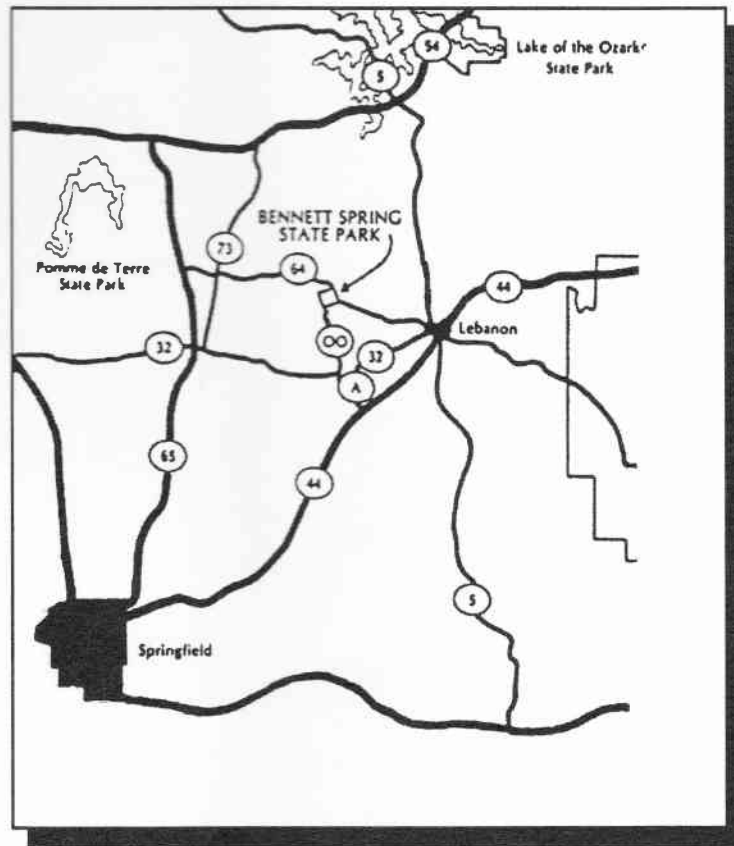
## Walt Hull demo

Walt Hull will be the featured demonstrator for the Upper Midwest Blacksmith Association (UMBA) meeting at Haverhill, Iowa, on May 15 and 16. Kate Dinneen will be assisting him. They will attempt to build a pedestrian gate at 1/2 scale, using traditional joinery methods and hand tools (no power hammer).

## Hamilton, Mo. wants U

Phil Cox says the city of Hamilton is looking for a few blacksmiths to take part in the town's J.C. Penney Days festival. If you are interested give Phil a call at (816) 583-4337, he

*Next Meeting May 22, Bennett Spring State Park, Lebanon, Mo.*



The May meeting will be hosted by Fred Weisenborn at Bennett Spring State Park on May 22. Shelter House "B" is reserved and has lots of close parking for tailgaters.

The shelter and rest rooms are wheelchair accessible so if you know anyone interested in blacksmithing but not getting around too well, bring

them along. Lunch will be at the park dining lodge (full menu) or there are plenty of picnic tables and grills around the shelter. The trade item will be a fish or something fishing related.

If anyone wants to sleep over and try the trout fishing there is camping and lodging in the park. The non-smithing members or the family may

enjoy the trout hatchery, museum, float trips or hiking trails.

For camping information call the park office at (417) 532-4338. For lodging or float trip information call the park store at (417) 532-4307.

There will be plenty of room if anyone wants to bring their portable forge set up. See you there.



## 1999 Schedule

### May 1999 Meeting

Bennett Spring State Park  
Lebanon, MO  
May 22  
Trade item: Fish related

### July Meeting

Bob Alexander  
DeSoto, MO  
July 10  
Trade item: Corkscrew

### September Meeting

Ray Chaffin  
Warsaw, MO  
Sept. 11  
Trade item: TBA



*Mike and Peggy Williamson accepted BAM's highest honor, the Bob Patrick Founder's Award, on behalf of Phil Williamson who died earlier this year. The award was presented by last year's winner John Murray during the 1999 Ozark Conference.*

**BAM**  
**5821 Helias Dr.**  
**Jefferson City, MO 65101**

First Class  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Washington, MO  
Permit No. 343

**Address Correction Requested**

Please send changes to Maurice Ellis, Rt. 1, Box 1442, Belgrade, MO 63622