

BAM

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NEWSLETTER of the BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

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Chainmaking

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January meeting

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2000 Conference

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Bulletin board

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ABANA report

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Next meeting

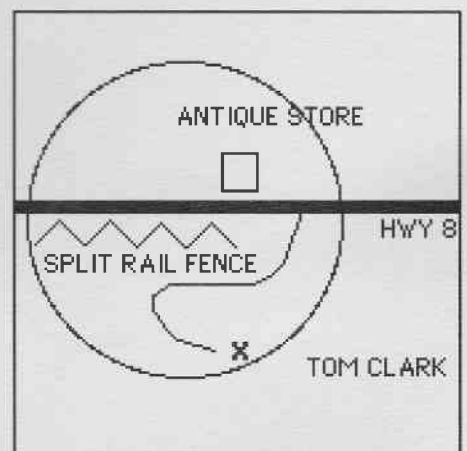
27 We head to Tom Clark's Ozark School of Blacksmithing for BAM's March event.



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**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

*January-February
2000*

Volume 17 No. 1

Our cover: Tom Latané, shown here working on the special project at the '98 ABANA Conference, is one of the featured demonstrators at BAM's 2000 Conference. Photo by Jim McCarty.

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Jim McCarty

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Maurice Ellis
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Maurice Ellis

The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri is published six times a year and is mailed to members of BAM. The annual fee for regular membership is \$20/year; a portion of this amount is for a subscription to this newsletter for one year. Editorial inquiries should be addressed to: Jim McCarty, 5821 Helias Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101; (573) 395-3304 or e-mail to jimmac@socket.net. BAM membership inquiries should be addressed to: Maurice Ellis, Rt.1 Box 1442, Belgrade, MO 63622, (573) 766-5346 or e-mail to mbellis@therural.net. 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: _____
E-mail: _____

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

*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

Recently I started cleaning up my office where I do this newsletter and I found most of my blacksmithing books which have been scattered around the room. It's hard to get any clean up done when all you want to do is look through the books. Here's a short list of my favorites:

The Art of Blacksmithing by Alex Bealer. This was the first blacksmithing book I ever saw. The Jeff City library had it. I am glad this one is back in print and it's a bargain at \$8 or \$10 I think. While there are better books on technique this is a must for beginners as it will introduce you to the history of the craft and give you a working knowledge of the tools and techniques so that you can ask educated questions.

Colonial Ironwork by Don Plummer. This is a recent book that shows in fine photography the Colonial iron collection of Jim Sorber. If you like early American you can make many of these items just by looking at the photos, plus the text will help you identify pieces you may already have.

Anvils in America by Dick Postman. At nearly 2 inches thick, this book is the definitive and probably only book on anvils around. It will help you ID those rare finds you have and maybe even date them.

Pounding Out the Profits by Doug Freund. Doug did for power hammers what Postman did for anvils. This book has all the history and lots of art on those rare old pounders.

The Complete Modern Blacksmith by Alexander Weygers. This is really three volumes in one combining earlier and out of print books by Weygers, a master blacksmith and sculptor.

This will teach you to make many tools using easily scrounged items.

Practical Projects for the Blacksmith by Ted Tucker. I first saw this book at the Folk School class I took with Don Witzler. Don brought this along to give us project ideas. It is recently back in print and is a great book for the beginner who wants to move beyond the simple hook.

Decorative and Sculptural Ironwork by Dona Meilach. This is the

second printing of this wonderful book and it has been updated with 16 pages of color photos showing recent work from around the world.

The COSIRA books. These are a three volume set of blacksmithing techniques originally prepared by the Council On Small Industries in Rural Areas (now called the Rural Development Commission), a British organization dedicated to putting rural people to work in skilled trades. You will be amazed at what you can do with one hammer after you follow the lesson plans in these books. The last one is called Catalogue of Drawings for Wrought Ironwork which is a great idea resource.

Under a Spreading Chestnut Tree by Charlie Sutton. Charlie is a well loved Canadian blacksmith who learned the craft the hard way and has been teaching others ever since. This is a beginner's text with several simple projects plus a lot of interesting reading on Charlie's "education."

Iron Spirits by The North Dakota Council on the Arts. This is an oral history and gallery of iron crosses made in the German/Russian tradition of North Dakota immigrants. The stories capture the essence of why this tradition continued and some of how they did it.

Custom Tools for Woodworkers by J. Petrovich and **Tool Making for Woodworkers** by Ray Larsen. I got into blacksmithing because I couldn't find a quality set of chisels anywhere and had visions of making my own. I still haven't made them but at least I know how thanks to these two similar books on the same topic.

The Blacksmiths Cookbook by Francis Whitaker. This volume subtitled "Recipes in Iron" is a great sourcebook for techniques practiced by Francis Whitaker. These are all traditional techniques like hot collaring and making tenons.

Beautiful Iron by Francis Whitaker. This book is pure inspiration, being a photographic gallery of the master's work. Many of the items shown have cut lists to simplify the act of making a copy of a piece.

The Artist-Blacksmith's Craft by Julius Schramm. Francis Whitaker apprenticed under Schramm, a Ger-

man master blacksmith. This book offers an insight into the old way of learning the trade and showcases some beautiful photos of his work.

Knifemaking by Bo Bergman. This Swedish book (in English) is a complete guide to making knives, handles and sheaths in Scandinavian style. It is rather light on the blade part as the author tends to buy his blades and puts the emphasis on the handles and sheaths.

Geschmiedetes Eisen by Fritz Kuhn. Kuhn was one of the German masters and he has done several books on the topic. This one is all in German but that doesn't matter — the photographs, in stunning black and white are all you need.

Alfred Habermann: Schmied und Gestalter by Peter Elgass. This is the first in what will hopefully be a long series of works on European blacksmiths by the editor of Hephaistos, the German blacksmithing magazine. Peter was kind enough to do this one in German and English. Great stuff!

Metall Design International 2000 by Peter Elgass. Another from my friend Peter who has collected photos from the major blacksmiths from around the world into this hard-backed book. Represented are German, Russian, Italian, American (Tom Joyce) and Austrian smiths including our good friends Mahnfred Bredohl and Paul Zimmerman.

The Early Ironwork of Charleston by Alston Deas. This is a reprint of a book originally published in the '40s that helped preserve the vanishing ironwork of Charleston, S.C. There is some amazing ironwork still there and this book helped to bring it to the attention of enough people that much of it has been preserved. If you can't make it there in person this is the next best thing, with great drawings of railings, balconies, fences and the like.

I think all of these books and a bunch more I would like to have are available from Norm Larson Books. Call him at (805) 735-2095 and ask for a catalog.

Dear BAM

This e-mail came in from our good friend Norm Larson. there's more to come I hope...

If anyone knows of any information from any source where I can find information about the history of chainmaking and the chainmaking industry (especially in America) I'd sure like to know the sources.

I just received a booklet (44 pages) written by a guy in England who has been researching chainmaking in England for 30 years. I find the whole process extremely interesting so I'll relate some of the information from his book.

The title of this book is "Chainmaking In The Black Country". When I read the title I thought, "how about all the other chain making areas in England?" Turns out that there weren't any. The 1911 information from the English government shows 939 chain workshops of which 918 were in the "Black Country." It turns out that the "Black Country" covers an area measuring 2.4 x 2.8 miles. Talk about cottage industries!!

The book shows a picture of Lucy Woodhall who is called the last lady chainmaker in the Black Country. She retired in 1972 at the age of 73 after making chain for over 60 years.

The book says the chain made for the Titanic was made in 1911 from chain 3-1/4" in diameter and 22 lengths of 15 fathoms were made. For some reason chains were sorta called out in the number of 15 fathom lengths that were made. A fathom being 6 feet.

Actually, I was going to quote from the book on their proof testing methods, etc. but have decided to do that in another post. So if you've read this far, you can read the next post on chain making or delete it as soon as you see the subject. Sorry this is so long.

— Norm Larson

I'm
going
to War-
reneton in
May for
BAM

Dr. Iron Demo

by Pat McCarty

About 65 BAM members meet at Lou Mueller's for another of his workshops. This time we were treated to a witty demo by Doug Hendrickson. Doug took us through some small projects, demonstrating techniques he uses in his work. He brought along a sample candle stand he made for a church. It is about 3' tall and features Bert's "wave" for a detail on the legs. Doug's demos we're interposed with a lot of humor about simple things that happen during the course of his work. He had a lot of fun with Lou's water trough, it was mounted at the end of the forge and Doug managed to get water every where. After lunch Doug made a piece of sculpture. I got to strike for him, and got to use Lou's Bradley hammer. The piece was finished with help from the audience, it featured a rock from the Great lakes, pierced by an iron frame. Doug said he will put a finish on it for the conference auction. If you have never made it to one of Lou's workshops you don't know what you're missing. They are a lot of fun, and a good place to learn something. Thanks Lou for opening your shop to us and giving us the chance to get close to the Masters of this craft.

Wizard by Jim McCarty "just like Doug showed me."

Bob's Business

Now that most of us have survived all of the Y2K problems that never happened, we can again turn our thoughts back to our everyday routines.

Lou Mueller opened the doors of his shop again in January to all interested in learning some of what Steve Yusko is about. Steve spent the day sharing with us some of his knowledge and techniques pertaining to textures and finishes on metal.

Steve uses both man-made textures, as well as many found materials such as checkered plate, extremely rusted metal plate, and wire mesh of many different sizes to create many kinds of textures for numerous applications, some of which were vases, covered boxes and art pieces. Many thanks to all who were responsible for making this workshop happen. I understand that Lou is now in the planning stage of a beginners' workshop for the women blacksmiths. More on this as the information trickles down.

For the people who are looking for classes or equipment rumor has it that the Ozark School of Blacksmithing may be offering discounts on classes this year. Be sure and check out the

classes scheduled this year. If there are other classes or instructors you are interested in that are not being offered, let Tom Clark know about it. For those of you who may be interested in colonial ironwork, there will be a class this year with Jerry Darnell as the instructor. I have traveled halfway across the country for years to study with this man, and now here he is going to be teaching in Potosi, Missouri.

There is a BAM gas forge workshop in the making, for those interested please contact Bruce Herzog, or Gary Kobermann. They are in the testing phase of a bigger model than we built in the first workshop and if it works anything like its predecessor it will be great.

Gary Koehler and myself have recently completed two of the new style Clay Spencer treadle hammers. These are the ones using roller skate wheels for guides and travel in a straight vertical path up and down. These are very smooth operating and offer the advantage of keeping the top and bottom dies aligned.

We are working out an estimate for cost and if there is any interest we may offer to head a small treadle hammer

workshop in the near future.

Conference time is quickly approaching so let's not forget the need for items for the BAM Boutique and please bring something for the auction or some money to buy someone else's. All proceeds go right back in BAM's treasury.

Be prepared at the next meeting in March to make chain links for the ABANA Conference. See you at the next meeting at Potosi.

*Keep On Hammering,
— Bob Alexander*

Bob Patrick Workshop

Bob Patrick will be teaching a two day forge welding workshop on Saturday and Sunday, April 29 and 30 from 8 to 5. The workshop is hosted by the Great Plains Blacksmith Association. They have room for 20 people, two people per coal forge. Lunch will be provided both days, bring your own equipment and tools if you like, otherwise there will be basic forging tools available for use. The cost will be \$75 for both days. The workshop is about half filled so far. The Workshop will be held near Clearwater, KS about 15 miles SW of Wichita. Those who would like registration and lodging info can contact either of the following persons:

Matthew Wills
P.O. Box 246
Conway Springs, KS 67031
316-456-2067
mwills@haviglandtelco.com

Steve Hurlock
2939 S. Osage
Wichita, KS 67217
316-522-8966
shurlock@feist.com

Whatzit tongs from Andrew MacDonald's Shop



Andy Mac had some real interesting things to see when he hosted BAM's November meeting and these tongs got a lot of attention.

BAM

JANUARY MEETING

Minutes

- Thanks to John Lovin and friends for hosting us.
- Minutes of last meeting approved as published.
- Bob Alexander has iron in the hat tickets for the big items at ABANA 2000.
- Maurice Ellis and Pat McCarty spoke on a motion to buy a new microphone. Motion approved.
- Bob spoke on the buffalo skull project for ABANA 2000. Suggestion made to set up a workshop to make the buffalo skull. More to come.
- Maurice spoke on the T-shirt and membership trade with the Michigan Blacksmiths Association.
- Bob spoke on our coal supply.
- Bob showed a letter from Gray Star Products concerning forge coke they sell. Bob has a spec sheet etc.
- Bruce Herzog spoke on a gas forge workshop he and Gary Kobermann will hold later this

year. Check with Bruce if interested. (More info elsewhere in this issue).

- Lou Mueller will hold a workshop at his shop in Fenton on 22 Jan. (free).
- Joe Wilkinson spoke on BAM officer elections coming up in July 2000.
- Maurice Ellis spoke on BAM's 2000 Conference at Warren County Fair Grounds 5-6-7 May 2000.
- Motion to adjourn approved (Let's eat!).

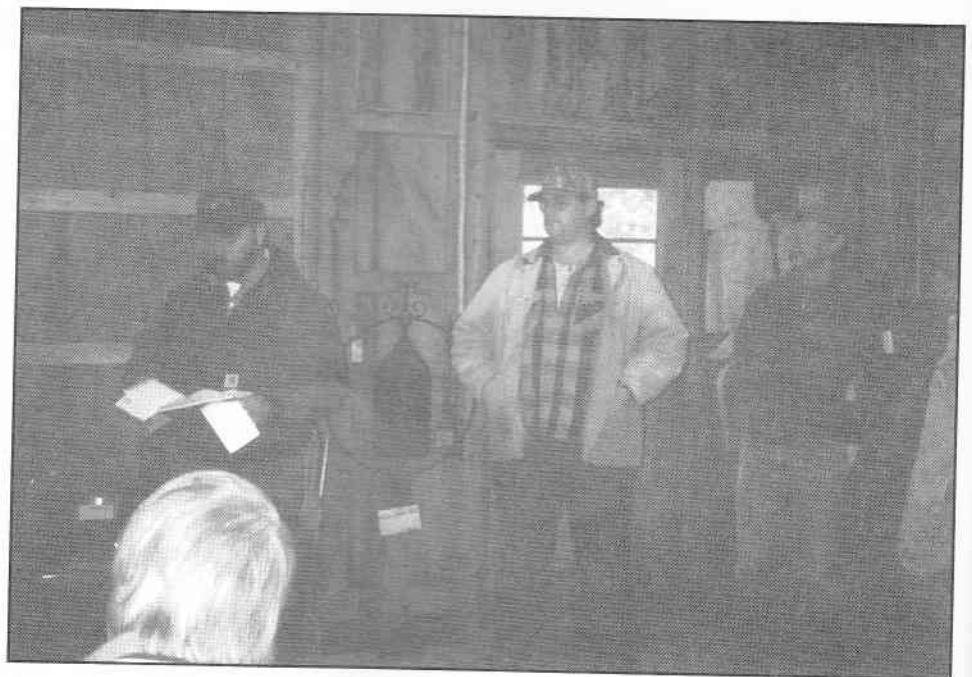
Respectfully submitted,
John Murray, secretary

Iron in the hat donations

Bob Bupp's burning shield went to Bob Stormer
John Lovin's ??? went to Bob Stormer
Leaf by Roy Plumlee went to Mike Williamson
Welding tech handbook from John Lovin went to Steve Stunkel

Hacksaw blades from Maurice Ellis went to Mike Williamson
Steve Stunkel's flux went to Eric Maes
Ryerson Co. book from Steve Stunkel went to Bob Alexander
Cable from John Lovin went to Daryl Allen
John Lovin tongs went to D. Shepherd (?)
Pat McCarty cow bell went to Bob Alexander
Calender from Joe Wilkinson went to John O'Conner
Spun steel pan from Maurice Ellis went to Steve Modert
RR Spikes from Dean Coonrod went to Tony Smith
D-2 steel from Daryll Allen went to Peggy Williamson
Coveted John Murray hammer went to Fred Weisenborn
Model blacksmith shop from John Lovin went to Dean Coonrod

Trade items were made by Joe Wilkinson, Dean Coonrod, Darryl Allen, Ray Carpenter, Fred Pill, and Pat McCarty

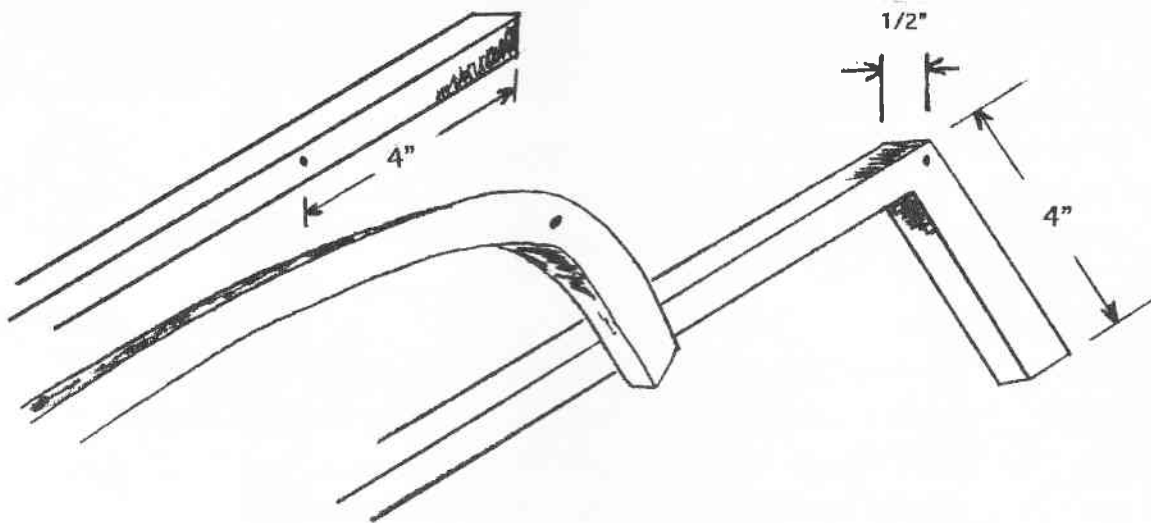


Bob Alexander leads the BAM business meeting at the January event held in Mt. Vernon, Ill.

BAM Conference Forging Contest 2000 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 5

For the year 2000, we are trying something new---a Double Contest.

Contest One- The Regular Contest---Upset Corner in 1/2" Square Bar.



Material: 1/2" Square Bar x 1'8", Center Punched 4" from end (Furnished by BAM).

Tools -Contestant's Hammer or Hammers.

Fire
Anvil
Water

→ Supplied by BAM

Time- 3 Heats, 6 Minutes, Time Starts with First Blow.

Judging -Entries will be Judged on Squareness of Bend and Accuracy of Dimension (Length & Thickness)

Contest Two- The Mystery Contest

Contestants will be presented with a forged object and tools and material adequate to make it. Time limits and judging criteria will be announced immediately before the contest. Contestants may use their own hammer(s).

YOU MAY ENTER ONLY ONE CONTEST

Prizes--1st: A John Murray Hammer or Tom Clark/Hofi Hammer

2nd: \$35 3rd: \$25 4th: \$15 5th: \$10 6th: \$5



New Location!

Conference 2000

**Warren County Fairgrounds,
Warrenton, Missouri
May 5-7, 2000**

**Demonstrations Sat. & Sun.
featuring Kirsten Skiles, Bill
Fiorini & Tom Latané**

Friday Evening, May 5, 2000

6:30 - 7:30 **Jeff Bruce:** Photographing your work
7:30-8:30 **Leigh Funk:** Lampwork demonstration
7:30-? **Walt Hull:** Forging contest

Saturday, May 6, 2000

8:30-12 noon **Kirsten Skiles:** High relief chasing and repoussé
8:30-12 noon **Leigh Funk:** Family program, stained glass night light
10 am-4 pm **BAM's best:** Unique approaches to forging
10 am-4 pm Several open forges for your forging pleasure
Noon-12:45 pm Lunch break
12:45 pm-4:15 pm **Bill Fiorini:** Damascus steel
12:45 pm-4:15 pm **Leigh Funk:** Family program, glass beads
5 pm-6:30 pm Dinner banquet on the fairgrounds
6:30 pm-? Award presentations, auction with esteemed **Col. David Cornett**

Sunday, May 7, 2000

8:30 am-Noon **Tom Latané:** Modeling, chasing, swaging and filing
Noon-? **BAM Members:** Tear down and clean up conference site

BAM's Boutique is in need of small forged items. For the auction, your forgings, tools, books, and other blacksmith-related items are needed. Remember, the conference is BAM's major fundraiser.

Additional Conference Activities:

- Large tailgating site free to registered participants
- Jeff Bruce will be photographing your work for \$10/shot on Saturday
- Free camping on site w/lots of modern toilets (sorry, no showers)
- Book and tool sales

Questions???? Call Doug Hendrickson at (573) 637-2576

You must Pre-Register by April 20, 2000, for Saturday Dinner and Family Program.
 Pre-Registration will Guarantee Quick Check-in and Preprinted Name Tags.
 Conference Registration will also be Available on Site.

Send your Registration to: Maurice Ellis-Rt. 1, Box 1442, Belgrade, MO 63622-9709
 Phone: 573-766-5346; e-mail: mbellis@therural.net

	Cost	Qty.	Total
Registration	\$35.00		
Spouse and Children Registration	\$0		
Saturday Evening Dinner Banquet with Dessert	\$7.50		
Family Program: Stain Glass-Night Light	\$10.00		
Family Program: Hot Glass Beads	\$5.00		

Total _____

Make Check Payable to **Blacksmith Association of Missouri or BAM**

Name _____

Attending Family Member's Names _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ e-mail address: _____

-----Cut or Copy and Mail in Registration-----

BAM Conference, Warrenton, MO, Fairgrounds---May 5, 6, & 7, 2000

LODGING

AmeriHost Inn, Warrenton 636-456-6000

Super 8, Warrenton 636-456-5157 or 1-800-800-8000

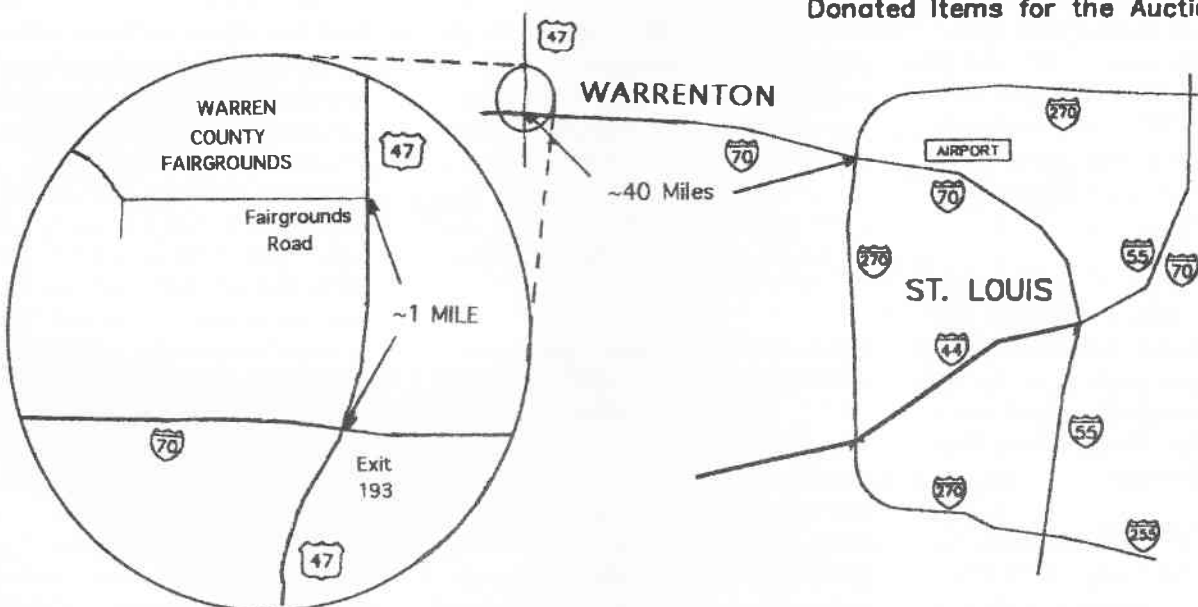
Super 7 Inn (7 mi E of Warrenton-Wright City) 636-745-8016

Collier Hospitality Inn (4 mi w of Warrenton) 636-456-7272

Motel 6, Warrenton 636-456-2522

Days Inn, Warrenton 636-456-4301

CAMPING AVAILABLE FREE ON SITE
 (Flush Toilets--No Showers)



**Don't Forget Your
 Donated Items for the Auction**

BAM

Bulletin Board

Wanted: looking for a good used or new propane forge, two or three burner. Contact Kevin Gearhiser at (816) 850-4824 or email at tatank99@swbell.net.

Heavy duty frying pan blanks: Steel, approximately 9 inch in diameter with 2 inch sides. 12 gauge thickness. Available with or without two 3/16 inch holes for handles. Now tumbled clean. 1-4 \$9 each; 5-9 \$8 each; 10 or more \$7 each. Shipping \$2.50 plus \$.50 for each pan. Contact: Bob Tuftee, 3855 Aspen Hills Dr., Bettendorf, IA 52722.

New 3-phase rotary converter, 5 h.p. Has panel box with three breakers, \$550. 10 h.p. \$650. Also new style 25-pound Little Giant, \$1,800 and 50-pound high speed hammer good for sheet metal, \$2,500. Also woodworking tools including large jointers and a bandsaw. Contact Bob Bergman, (608) 527-2494.

Surplus copper sheet for sale — new stock, leftovers from a sculptural job. 110 alloy, dead soft, .125 thick, forges easily hot or cold, welds good. \$1 a pound. Pieces range from hand size to 100 pounds or so. Contact John Murray at (636) 398-4640.

The editor has a 7-1/2" post vise, \$250. Call Jim McCarty, (573) 395-3304 or e-mail to jimmac@socket.net for details. Might have other stuff, let me know what you need.

For sale: 3/8" diamond tread plate about 33" x 89". will trade for a vise, pony or what ever. Pat McCarty, (636) 239-3814 or e-mail to bud-den@usmo.com

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, 40-pound air hammer, call for prices. Also custom spinning in copper, brass, aluminum, steel and pewter. Maurice Ellis, (573) 766-5346.

250# Beaudry Champion Hammer for sale. This hammer is being offered complete in very good condition, ready for work and set up on your foundation. Asking price is \$5,500, loaded, FOB Kempton, PA. Inquires welcome on other hammers, tools and equipment we have for sale. Call Wallace Metalwork at (610) 756-3377 or e-mail at Walmartwork@aol.com.

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.

Kayne and Son Custom Hardware, 100 Daniel Ridge Road, Candler, NC 28715. (828) 667-8868 fax (828) 665-8303, email: kaynehdwe@ioa.com, website: www.kayneandson.com. Offering Big Blue 100 ram air hammers, Peddinghaus 2 horn anvils, Offcenter tongs and swages, etc, hammers, tongs and more. 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. Check out the web site at www.kayneandson.com.

Tom Clark has expanded his line of hand forged Hofi style hammers to include a nice rounding hammer and punches, drifts, tongs etc. He's also importing a new line of air hammer, the Sayha from Turkey. For more info on the tools and his Ozark School of Blacksmithing contact him at (573) 438-4725. His 2000 schedule includes classes taught by Uri Hofi, Bill Bastos, Bob Patrick and Jerry Darnell.

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 Mingo 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.

George Dixon is offering a new line of tools called "The Old Philadelphia Tool Co." These tools are patterned off of old European designs and will include directions for using them effectively. He offers a brochure if you send him a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: The Old Philadelphia Tool Co., 1229 Bee Tree Lake Road, Swannanoa, NC 28778. He is also starting a new blacksmithing publication called "The Traditional Metalsmith" which has just been mailed. For \$28 you will get four issues of how-to information. George is the past editor of *The Hammer's Blow*.

Need something or got something for sale? Send it to the editor and he will get it in the newsletter. BAM classifieds are free to members and anyone with something to sell to a member.



ABANA

CHAPTER LIAISON NEWSLETTER

January—February 2000

The ABANA Conference 2000 registration packets went out with the last copy of Hammer's Blow. Please register early. Bill Callaway and his able crew from the Arizona Blacksmith Association have put together a great conference, one that is not to be missed. With a super meeting site (seating for over 1000), special events each night, numerous historical exhibits including an antique power hammer show courtesy of Doug Freund, a junkyard hammer show, teaching stations, super galleries of members' work, and that of Yellen, Whittaker, Colnik, Googerty, Spanish colonial ironwork, historical ironwork from the National Ornamental Metal Museum and the Sorber collection, the ABANA Y2K gate project led by Jerry Hoffman, Kinyon air hammer construction, iron-in-the-hat, auction and a dynamite international lineup of demonstrators, all situated in the mountains of Arizona, this will be a great meeting to start off blacksmithing in the 21st century. If you need registration information, please contact Pat Mueller at the conference registration office at (636) 225-5492. Early registration closes on 01 May 2000.

I have received a couple calls regarding availability of golf carts and handicapped access equipment for getting around the conference site. Bill Callaway supplied the below contacts for rental places in Flagstaff that would be able to supply such equipment. Please contact them directly. Wheel Chair Rental, Northland Home Care. Phone # 520-779-0595, Aggassiz Health Care # 520-522-0507.

Last call for interest in a president's meeting during the Flagstaff Conference. Please let me know your thoughts by phone, e-mail, snail mail or fax, and proposed topics for discussion. If there is sufficient interest to generate a viable agenda, I will organize a meeting.

Last call too for the editor's workshop. Jim has been getting some e-mails from those who are

interested, but would like to have more (jim-mac@socket.net). Jim will again coordinate coverage of the demonstrators with the idea that if all the attending editors cover at least one demonstrator, write an article and send it to him along with sketches and photos he will put them all together and send to every chapter editor. This way all the chapter newsletters will have material for a year or two, and those who could not attend will benefit too. Everybody and anybody can participate in the coverage, you don't have to attend the workshop to participate and anyone, editors and non-editors alike, can take part.

Brian Gilbert is planning a great inaugural edition of the Hammer's Blow, soon to be out. Keep an eye on your mailbox for it. In it will be great shop tips and Brian's comments on how Francis Whitaker touched his life, something that Francis did for many of us.

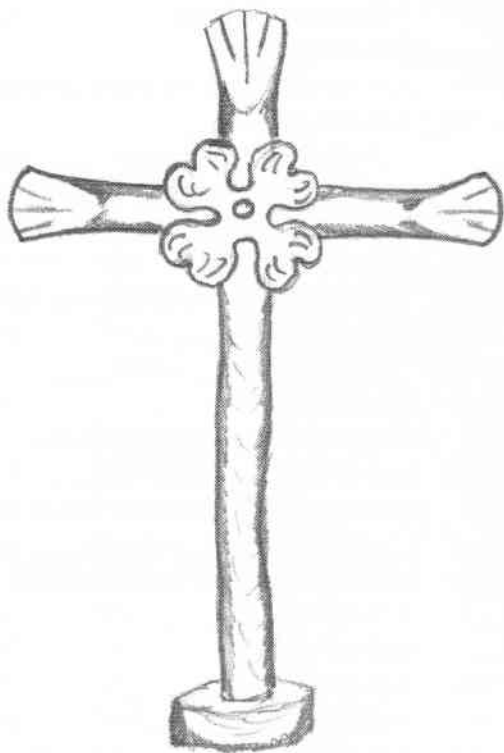
The North Texas Blacksmith's Association has undertaken the task to preserve the drawings and document the surviving work of Henry Cromwell Potter (1892-1971), a smith who worked in the Dallas area. There were many smiths who worked in the glory years of ornamental blacksmithing along with the likes of Yellen, Googerty and Colnik, and today only lack a champion like the NTBA to bring their work the public recognition it so richly deserves. Thanks to NTBA for doing their part in working to preserve Mr. Henry's legacy. ABANA will be offering the NTBA support in their efforts, so look for more information here and in the Anvil's Ring in the coming months and years.

Doug Learn
ABANA Chapter Liaison
121 Pebble Woods Drive
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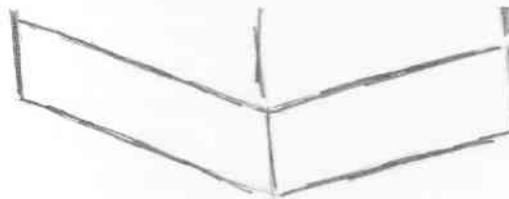
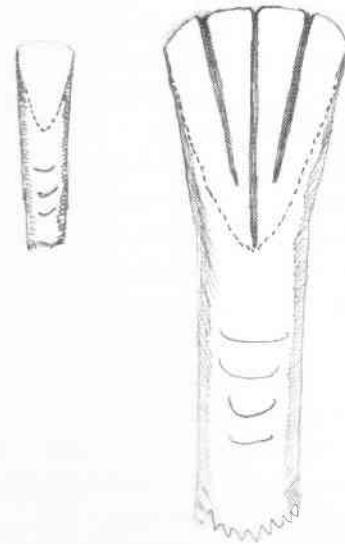
Ye Olde Rugged Cross

by Jim McCarty

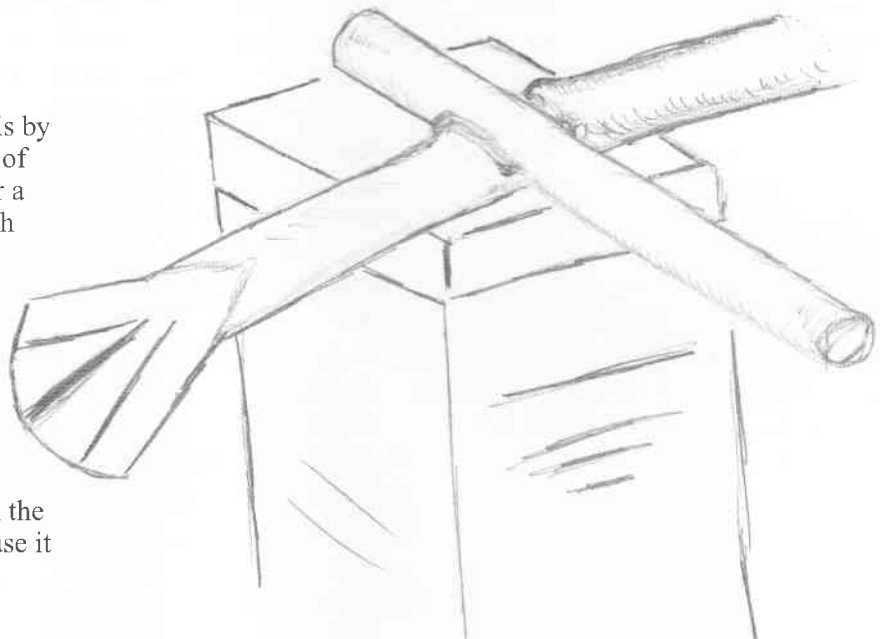
I made this cross for my son James when he made his First Communion. I got a late start on it and only had two days to complete it so I wanted something simple. I think this fit the bill. It was made from two pieces of wrought iron 1" in diameter. The base is a piece of 3" round cutoff that Bob Alexander gave me. The arms are held together with a bronze rivet made from a lag bolt. Here's how I made it:



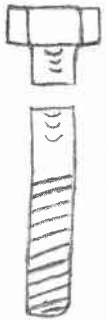
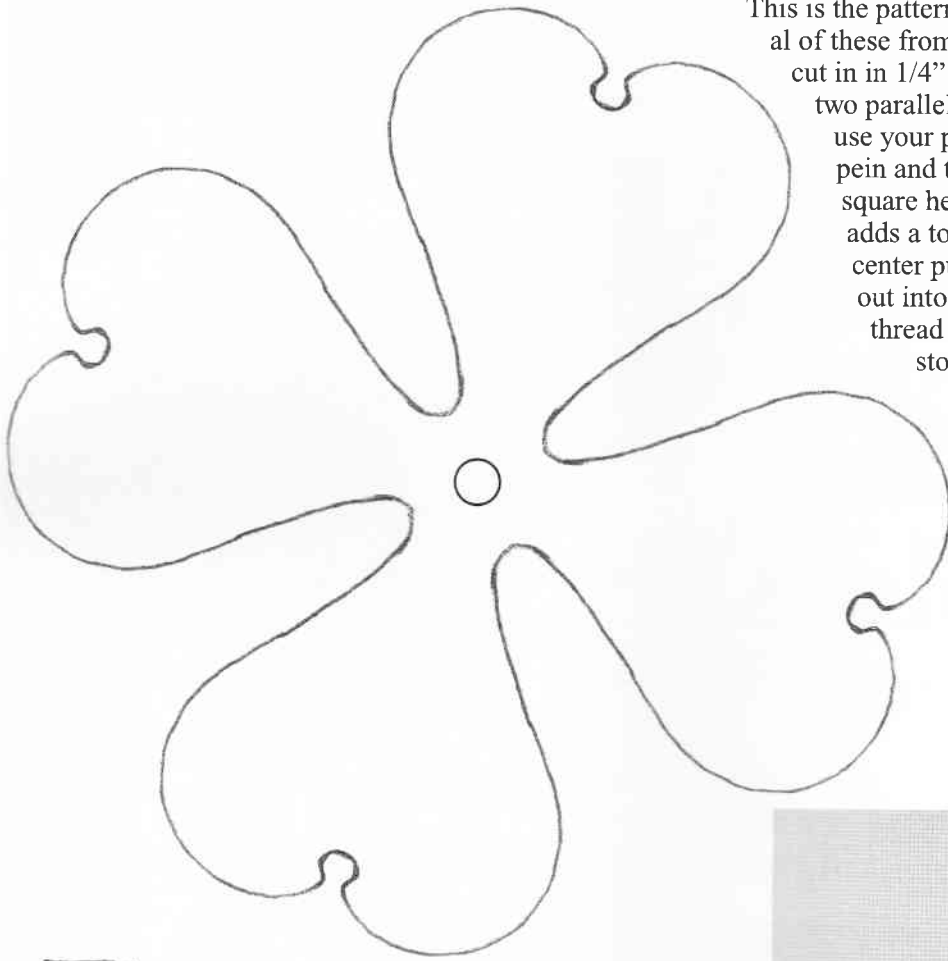
Start by cutting the stock to length and then flattening and flaring both ends on the cross piece and one end on the upright. When you have the ends flared use a dull chisel or small fuller to mark the ends as shown. This will spread them even wider.



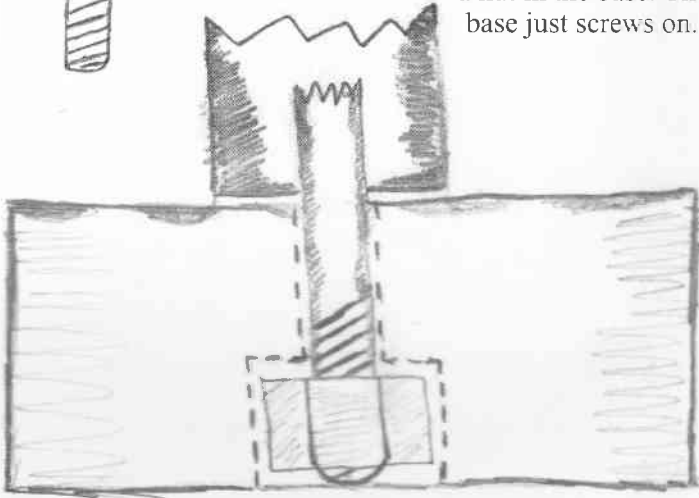
Now make the half-lap joint. I did this by heating the stock and putting a piece of cold scrap of the same size on top for a fuller, then driving it half way through using the treadle hammer. Be sure to keep the pieces at right angles. You will have to hammer the stock flat after each heat. I worked them one at a time until they were just about right, then put them together with both pieces hot and hammered until they fit perfect. Then you need to drill or punch the hole for the rivet in the center of the joint. Do one and then use it as a guide for the other piece.



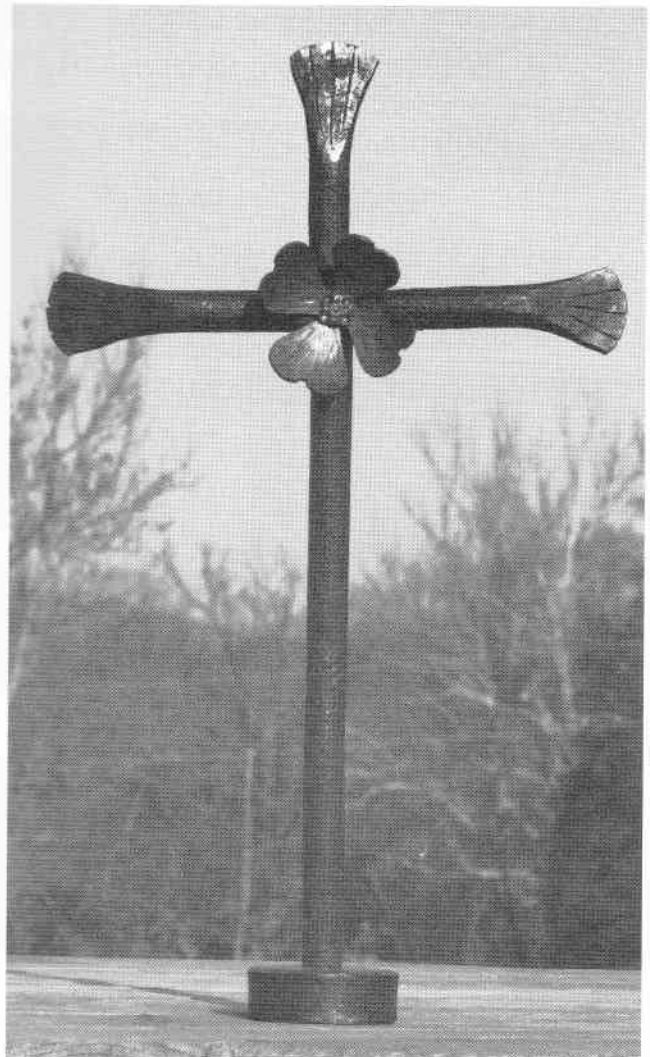
This is the pattern for the dogwood flower. I bought several of these from the late Ed Cowan, who had them laser cut in in 1/4" plate. You can use a curved chisel to put two parallel lines on each side of each petal or just use your peen to texture. Cup the petals with a ball peen and the step of your anvil. For the rivet use a square headed lag bolt (mine was bronze which adds a touch of color). Mark each corner with a center punch, then use a ball punch to spread it out into a flower shape. Cut off the lag bolt thread end to a size that will give you plenty of stock to peen over for a rivet. do the peining over a wood block so that you don't damage the rivet face.

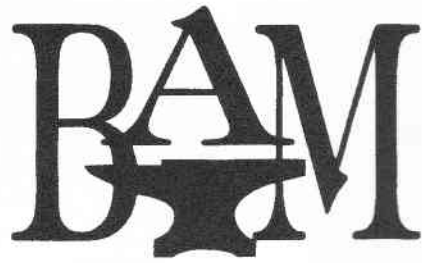


My base measured 3" diameter by 1" thick. I found the center and punched a 1/2" hole halfway through. Then I drilled a 3/8" hole in the center all the way through. I cut the head off a 3/8" bolt and forge welded this into the bottom of the cross upright. Then I hammered a nut in the base. The base just screws on.



Finished cross looks like this. I finished it with bees wax put on while the cross was still hot.





Scholarship time!

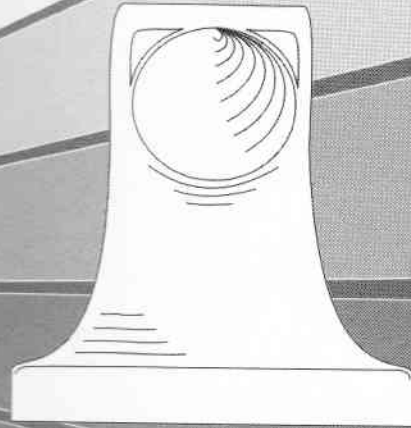
As long as we are talking about the Ozark Conference, don't forget to send in your application for one of the BAM Scholarships presented at the conference. Todd Kinnikin is again the chairman of the scholarship committee. To apply send name, address, course you want to take, cost of the course and why you want to take this course to:

Todd Kinnikin,
8356 John McKeever Rd.,
House Springs, MO 63051.

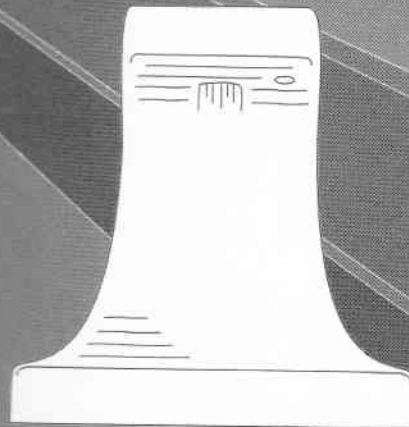
All scholarship winners must write an article on something they learned for the newsletter and demonstrate at a BAM meeting or the Conference in return for their scholarship.

Make plans now for ABANA's big Year 2000 Event

ABANA CONFERENCE 2000



**A DIFFERENT
PERSPECTIVE**



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NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
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BAM NEWS

Outdoor art contest

Call For Entries for the 4th Annual Juried Outdoor Sculpture Competition for public display in an Open Air Sculpture Gallery in Springfield, Missouri.

Entry Deadline: June 15, 2000 work on display Aug 30, 2000-Aug 1, 2001. Awards: A minimum of \$1,500 in cash prizes. Up to six works will be selected for a year-long outdoor display. Specs: Any durable media. Extended outdoor display requires sound design, freestanding, people friendly work! Theme: exploration of Architectural, Structural elements as: columns, arches, gateways, porticos, doorways, towers, windows, etc. "Functional" sculpture (lighting, benches, gates) is especially encouraged. For entry form, brochure: Send SASE to Sculpture c/o C. Schilling, 1027 S. New, Springfield, MO. 65807. For additional info: e-mail Christine: ekim136@aol.com or call Christine: (417) 862-2272. Sponsored by the Commercial Club of Springfield.

Got coal?

If you would like to buy coal from BAM at the BAM Conference in Warrenton, May 5-7, please contact Bob Alexander so he can bring what you want with him. Bob may be contacted by writing to him at 14009 Hardin Road, DeSoto, MO 63020-5586, or by phoning him at his shop at (636) 586-5350. Coal is \$7 per 50# bag to BAM members. Bob says there is plenty left.

State Fair Dates

This year's Missouri State Fair will be held August 10-20. For the past several years BAM has had a presence at the fair organized. The fair provides us with a large tent to work under. We usually start on the first Monday of the fair which would be August 14 and can work every day until the fair's end. We need to have at least two people to work each day but more would be nice. You can sell whatever you want. While sales aren't always great we usually sign up several new members and get to hear about lots of tools for sale. If you can work the fair this year please drop Jim McCarty a line at 5821 Helias Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65101 or e-mail to jimmac@socket.net.

Bladesmithing Seminar

April 7-9, 2000 are the dates for the 12th Annual Batson Bladesmithing Symposium & Knife Show Featuring:
Old Timey Knife Making, William White
Mosaic Damascus Steel, Rick Dunkerley
Sabers, Dirks & Fittings, Vince Evans
Forging Assistant, Don Fogg
Fancy Folders, Steve Dunn
Friction Folders, Chuck Patrick
Handles & Guards, Joseph Keeslar
Interframe Folders, Melvin Pardue
Damascus For Beginners, Keith Kilby
Knife Grinding, Finishing & Sheath Fittings, Alex Daniels
Hands-on Bladesmithing, Billy Watson
James Bowie's Life, Bell R. Hughes
Learn To Scrimshaw, Mary Bailey
Bader Grinders, Dan Johnson
Leathersheaths, Kenny Rowe
Treadle Hammer Forged Blades, Gavin Harris
Build Your Own Air Hammer, Mark Linn
Simple Engraving & Selling Your Knives, Billy Bates
Auction, Colonels David Cornett & Anthony Goodrum
Tail Gate & Knife Supply Sales
At Tannehill Ironworks west of Bessemer, Alabama. The Symposium fee is \$125 per person. Please pre-register. Send registration and fee to Robby Armstrong, 189 Broad Armstrong Dr., Brownsboro, AL 35741 (256-5393975). The entrance fee to

Tannehill, a Historical State Park, is included.

Chasing workshop

In case you don't get enough of Kirsten Skiles at the BAM Conference you can get more education from her at a high relief chasing workshop she is teaching. During this five-day hands-on May 20 workshop, you will complete all of the steps involved in creating your own unique chasing on steel or bronze. You will practice basic but important skills, such as extreme elevation shifts, depth, foldovers, undercuts, and sensitively textured surfaces. You will also have the opportunity to make ten chasing tools and prepare your own pitch pot. The skills learned in this workshop will be suitable for both jewelers and blacksmiths. Class size is limited to a maximum of 12 participants.

For more information contact her at Kirsten Skiles, PO Box 237, Dakota, MN 55925-0237 or call (507) 643-7946 or send e-mail to kokairon@clear.lakes.com

Gas forge workshop

Gary Kobermann and Bruce Herzog are putting together another gas forge workshop this time with bigger forges. Cost is expected to be in the \$150-200 range, just like last time. If anyone missed out on the first round, here is your chance to have a fine gas forge.

Contact Gary at (314) 892-2527 or e-mail to GMKobermann@aol.com or Bruce at (314) 892-4690 and they will add you to the list. Hurry, space may be limited.

Web site moved!

Our host for the BAM website recently moved the site to a new url. If you are browsing for BAM go to www.bamsite.advertisnet.com/home.htm. The site has been updated recently and maps to the meetings are posted. I will try to keep this info as current as possible. Please add the new site to your bookmarks and if you live in the Lake of the Ozarks area support our host Advertisnet.com.

Next meeting March 25, Tom Clark's Ozark School of Blacksmithing

Tom Clark is the host for BAM's March meeting. Tom recently added on to his Ozark School of Blacksmithing in Potosi, Mo., so unless you haven't been there lately you haven't seen what he's done.

The school is nicely furnished and is an excellent spot for our meeting. Tom is selling a new line of Turkish air hammer and I am sure we will get a demo. He's also got his own line of hammers and is marketing gas forges. Expect lots of new stuff on display.

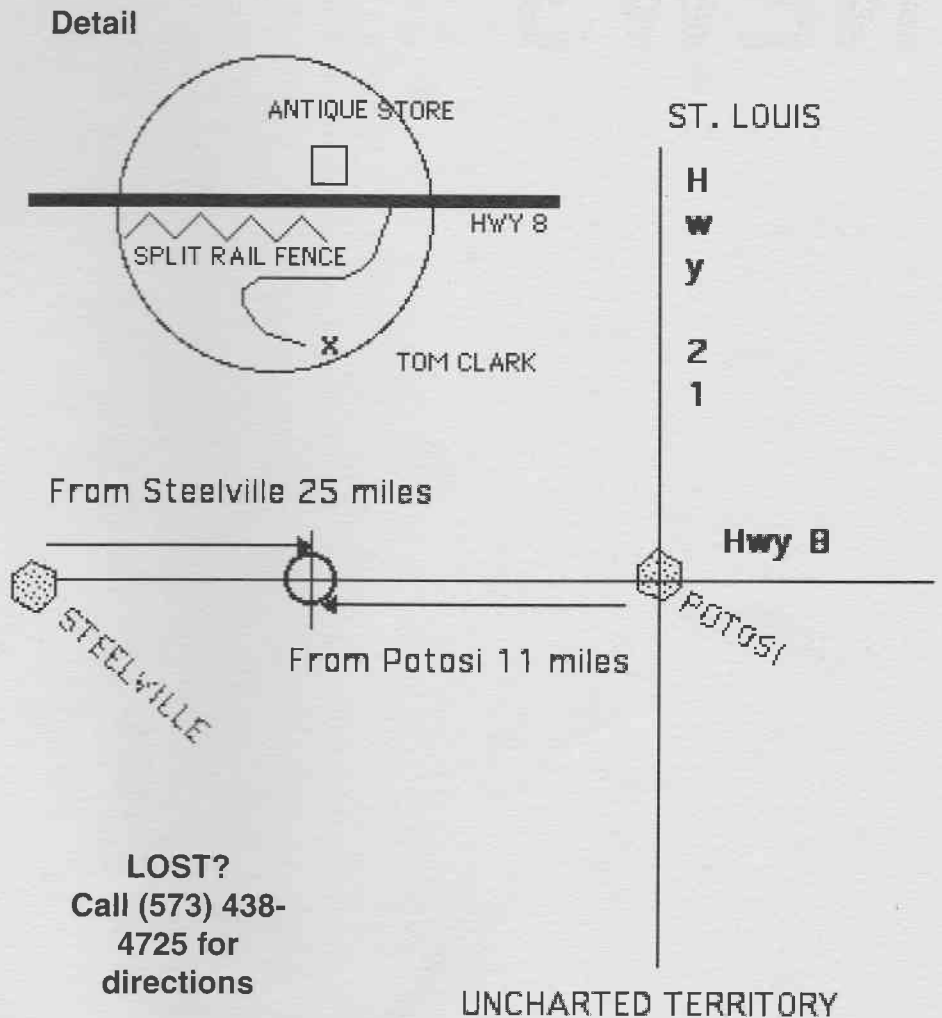
Plans are to work on BAM's entry in the chainlink project sponsored by the Salt Fork Craftsmen. We hope to get some links made and also joined to help them in this project for the 2000 ABANA Conference.

Tom's school is located just off Highway 8 11 miles west of Potosi or 25 miles east of Steelville. Watch for an antique store on the north side of the highway and a split rail fence on the south side.

The trade item is a fire tool, use your imagination. This should be an easy one for all to take part in.

As usual, please bring something for the iron in the hat, our fund raiser, and plan on buying lots of tickets.

See you in Potosi on March 25.



2000 Schedule

March Meeting

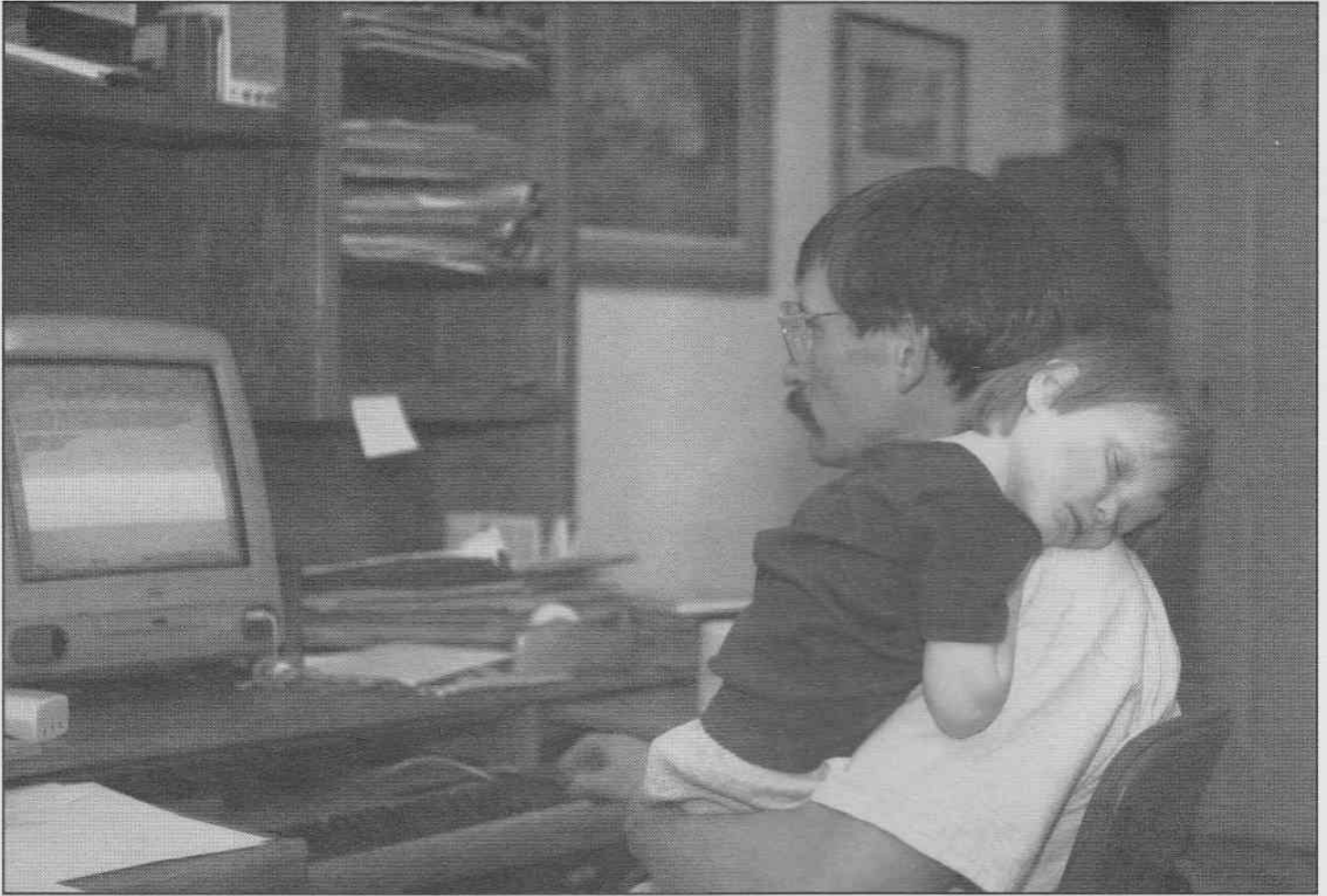
Tom Clark
Potosi, MO
March 25, 2000
Trade item: Firetool

May Meeting

Joe Wilkinson
Hope, MO
May 20, 2000
Trade item: Bell

July Meeting

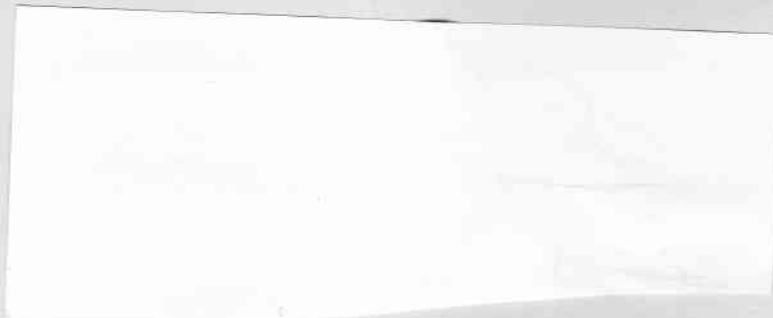
BASS Pro Shop
Nixa, MO
July 29
Trade item: TBA



Editing the BAM Newsletter is a little difficult using just one hand but it can be done.

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