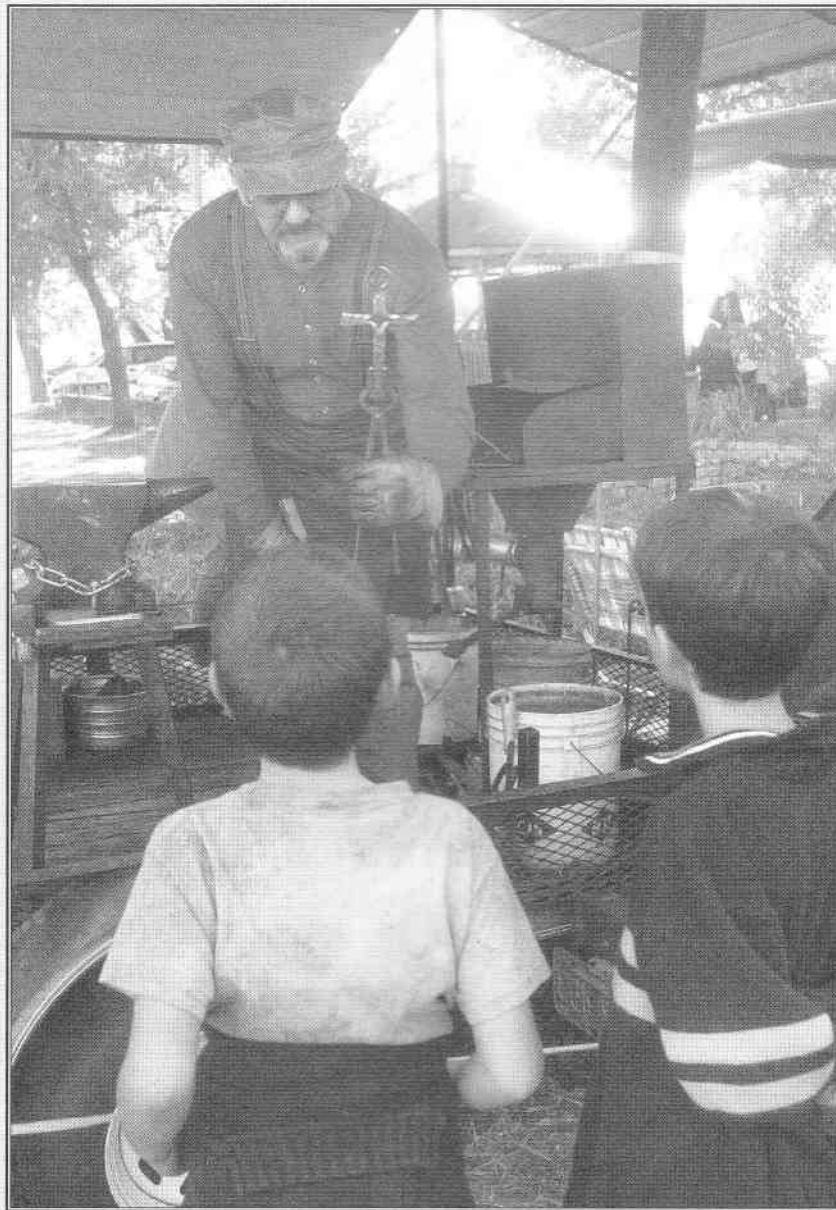


BAM

INSIDE

Nov.—Dec. 2002

<i>November meeting.....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Twist and BAM.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Terry Clark butcher.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Repair days</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Next meeting.....</i>	<i>15</i>



www.bamsite.org

Contents

Editor's anvil

5 Keep your slack tank from freezing and blacksmithing images from your nation's library.

Coal stash

6 BAM's coal supply has been spread out across the state; here's where to get some.

Joe's jive

7 Our president talks about the last meeting, new members and committee changes.

November Meeting

8 We tried a new location for the November meeting, held at Jeff Willard's in Willard.

Twist and BAM

10 Conference demonstrator George Dixon gives us a preview with this twist.

Bulletin board

11 All the reading material, old rusty iron and other good stuff for sale.

Terry's butcher

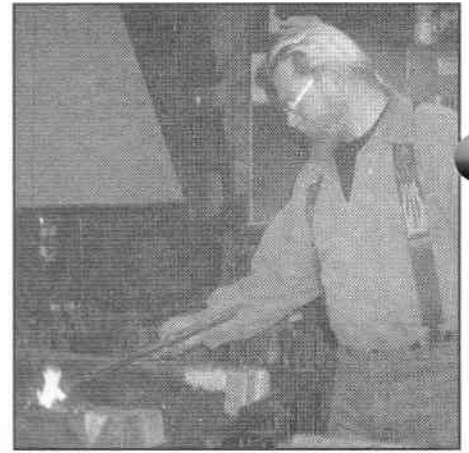
12 Walt Hull has been meaning to draw this butcher from last year's conference.

Repair days

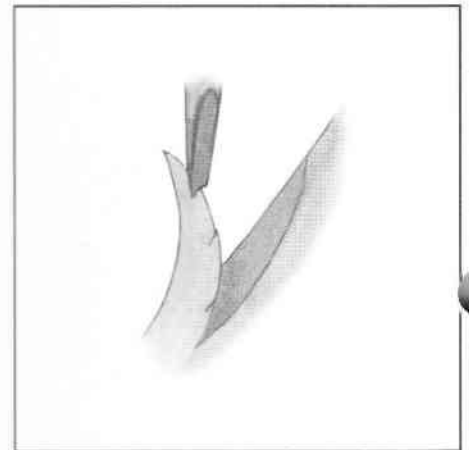
14 Ruth Hull tells us about Repair Days held at the Metals Museum.

Next meeting

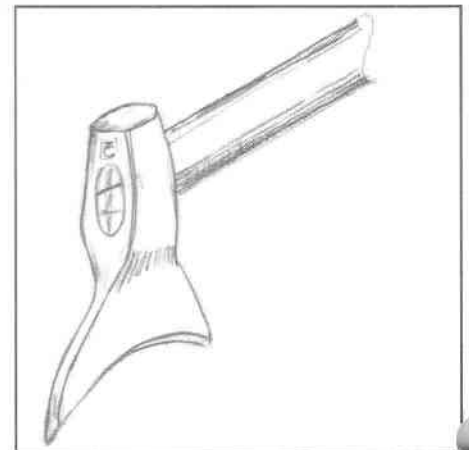
15 We travel to a Illinois again for a meeting hosted by John Lovin in Mt. Vernon.



Page 8



Page 10



Page 12

Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri

Volume 19 No. 6

November — December

2002

Our cover: Don Nichols put his portable shop to good use demonstrating at the Hartsburg Pumpkin Festival in October. Photo by Jim McCarty.

Editor

Jim McCarty

Contributing Editors

George Dixon
Bruce Herzog
Walt Hull
Ruth Hull
Pat McCarty
Kirk Sullens
Joe Wilkinson

Mailing Labels

Bruce Herzog

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 65110; (573) 395-3304 or you can send e-mail to jimmac@socket.net. BAM membership inquiries should be addressed to: Bruce Herzog, 2212 Aileswick Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129; (314) 892-4690 or send e-mail to bjherzog@msn.com. 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 ABANA member?

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.
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- Overseas airmail\$80 yr.
- Overseas surface mail\$60 yr.
- Contributory\$100 yr.
- Full time student\$35 yr.
- Public library.....\$35 yr.

See reverse

BAM.

Send this form in an envelope with your payment to:

BAM,
c/o Bruce Herzog
2212 Aileswick Dr.,
St. Louis, MO 63129

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1st Vice President
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www.bamsite.org

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.

I _____ hereby apply for membership in the Artist-Blacksmith's 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 816 Farmington, Georgia 30638

Dues Distribution:

1 year subscription Anvil's Ring: 68.5 % \$24

Adm. offices & other ABANA projects (Conferences, etc.): 31.5% \$11



ABANA

Editor's anvil

Remember when you were complaining about how hot it was in your shop? Bet you quit doing that and are now checking the old newsletters for info on how to thaw out your slack tank. I've heard everything from keeping an old basketball in it (keeps the ice from pushing out the sides) to mixing some antifreeze in the water. If it's not real cold a light bulb suspended from a lid might help. You can also buy stock tank heaters or try some kind of pump to keep the water moving.

If all else fails do what I do: pour it out every time you quit for the night. Another variant on this theme is to use two buckets. One comes in with you for the next time. Of course that doesn't work very well if you have 55 gallons of stuff. I have heard some people have heat in their shops but have never confirmed this. I do know some BAMers who have lots of heat in the summer...

Our conference committee is really keeping things going for next spring's event. There is an update in this issue and something else. Committee members have been hounding our demonstrators, George Dixon and Don Fogg, for newsletter material so we know what to expect from them.

In this issue George Dixon presents a nice twist we will call the "Twist and BAM" for lack of a better name. George presents this sort of thing in the publication he puts out called "The Traditional Metalsmith".

Next issue I will have some stuff from Don Fogg who is a top-notch bladesmith. Thanks to both of these guys for the material and for agreeing to come to our conference.

I also really appreciate Ruth and Walt Hull sending material for this newsletter. Walt's forge welds have been sticking a lot better thanks to his contributions.

Recently I got on the Library of Congress Web site and discovered a real treasure trove of blacksmithing material. Back in the '30s the government funded a group of photographers

through the Farm Security Administration and sent them out to document rural life. There were some big names in this group including Margaret Bourke-White and Dorothea Lange.

Some of these guys spent a lot of time in blacksmith shops, particularly the railroad shops in several states. They also hung out in a shop located in DePew, Okla. and in one on a farm cooperative in southeast Missouri.

Many of these images have been scanned and can be viewed on line at the library's Web site. You can search the collections. I typed in blacksmith and found several hundreds images.

Some neat stuff turned up. One set of images was of the old blacksmith shop in Marthasville which they catalogued as the John Deere shop. Must have been Schweisguth Brothers shop. They had an auction here not too long ago and some BAMers no doubt got some of the equipment. There was a photo of the shop outside, the shop's weather vane and two images of smiths working inside.

I also found some real interesting drawings. One was of a big air hammer built for a railroad shop and three drawings of the process for making some parts for steam locomotives. In this case and others you can download a high resolution tiff file that prints out real nice on a good laserprinter.

Other photos can be ordered from the archives. The Web site includes links that help you order prints. I saved quite a few images and will use them in future newsletters.

Our President Joe Wilkinson is working hard to fill in the months between meetings. He has the first of what he hopes will be many workshops scheduled for February 22 at Don Asbee's shop in Hartsburg. Don will talk about an important topic, saving your body.

Let Joe know other topics you would like to see covered for future events. I for one would like to see Bill Epps, who does a pretty neat virtual forge-in on Anvilfire.com. We need some folks to volunteer their shops for

these events. To make it easy on all involved they will be "bring your own lunch and lawnchair."

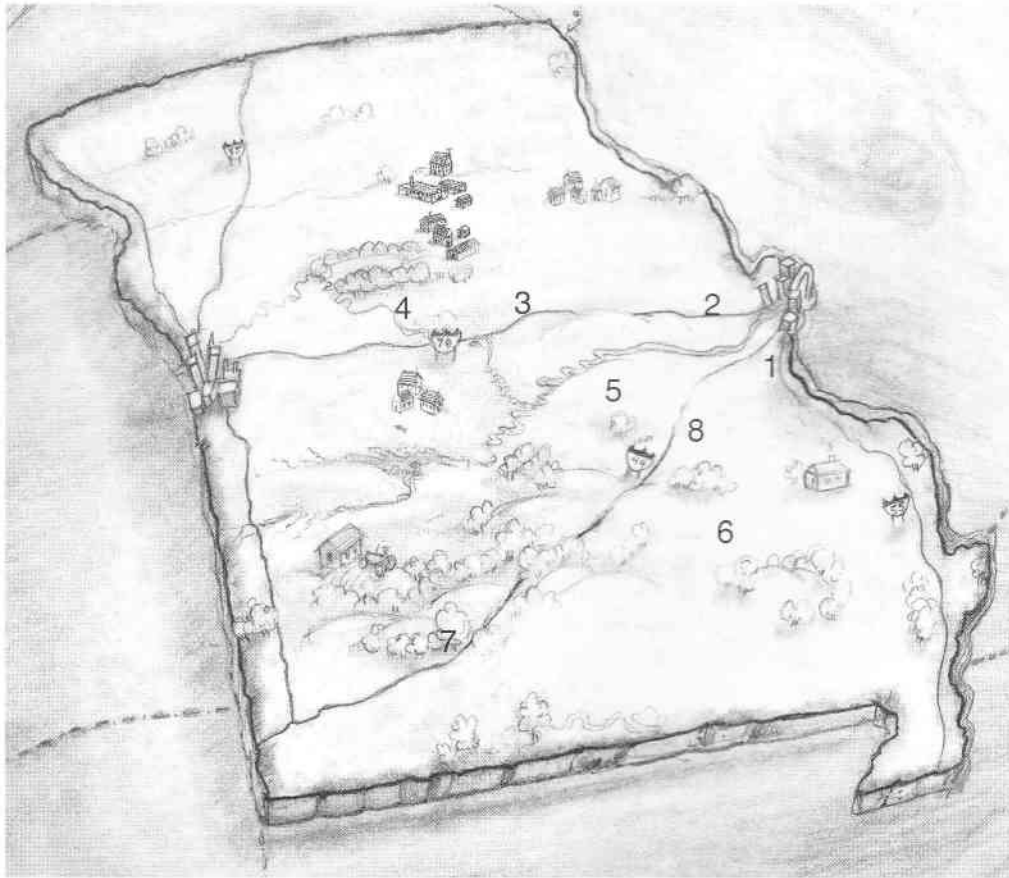
We also will be traing some new smiths with a beginner's workshop held at Lou Mueller's shop in Valley Park. Soon we will be able to take this show on the road when our traveling trailer is complete. Look for more info on both of these events elsewhere in the newsletter.

Here's hoping you all get a big bag of coal for Christmas. We'll see you Jan. 11 at the next BAM meeting.

— Jim McCarty

Coal Stash

Coal Captain: Bob Maes



1. Bob Alexander, DeSoto, MO
(636) 586-6938 Lotsa bags

2. Ken Jansen, Moscow Mill (636) 366-4353

3. Ruben Funk, Columbia (573) 445-8340

4. Doug Clemons, Malta Bend (660) 595-2257

5. Jerry Rehagen, Rich Fountain
(573) 744-5454

6. Doug Hendrickson, Lesterville
(573) 637-2576

7. Jeff Willard, Willard (417) 742-4569

8. Keith Barrick, Cuba (573) 885-3799
(Note corrected phone numbe!)

Price \$7.50 per bag

Coal keepers earn 50 cents a bag

Bob's bunker has just been restocked so we
have plenty of coal.

Joe's jive

Thanks Jeff and Rhonda Willard in Willard, MO for doing a good job of hosting our last meeting. Some business we discussed is as follows:

Metals Museum in Memphis is raising funds for a new metalworking library, total cost to be \$1.5 million. They have a benefactor that will match all donations. I feel this is an excellent program for us to support. We agreed to send them \$500 from BAM. Individual contributions will also be welcome. Contact the museum at (901) 774-6380 or metal@wspice.com .

Todd Kinikin and Hank Knickmeyer are retiring from the scholarship committee. Both men have served well and for many years. They deserve our thanks for their service. Walt Hull is

now chairman. He will be assisted by members Kirk Sullens and Don Bird-sall who have kindly volunteered to serve on the committee.

I have been contacted by Jim Kaiser of Mansfield, Mo. (about 40 mi. east of Springfield, Mo.). He is chairman of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Festival to be held September 17 thru 20, 2003 in Mansfield. He is looking for any kind of primitive crafter: basket weaving, rope makers, blacksmiths, etc.. Mike Kellerstrass from Springfield has volunteered to be one of the blacksmiths but there is room for more. Anyone interested contact Jim Kaiser brnagnbb@fidnet.com.

Meetings in new places always enhances our exposure to new members, therefore I'm sure you will join

me in welcoming the following new members who joined our organization at the Willard meeting:

Thomas Taylor - Springfield, MO
Douglas Pani - Fulton, MO
Jess Abnet - Willard, MO
Tracy McCarty - Edgerton, KS (she is not related to Jim and Pat)
J. B. Dickenson - Rogersville, AR

Welcome aboard!

I would also like to recognize Steve Robinson and Mike Kellerstrass for two nice demos at the Willard meeting.

*Happy Hammering,
Joe Wilkinson*

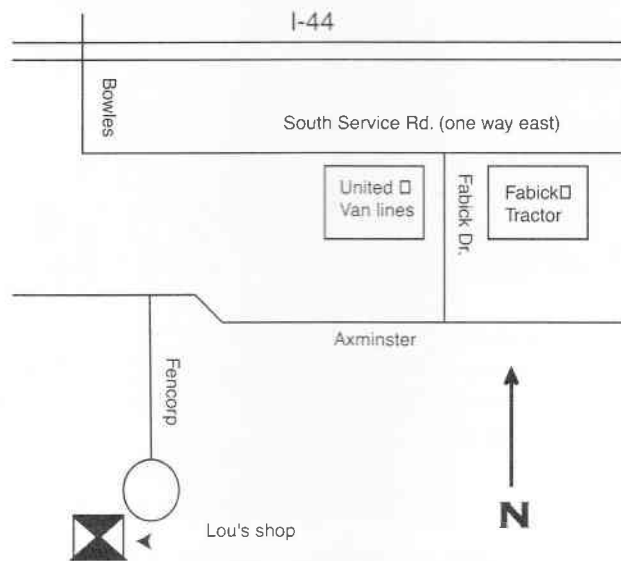
Beginners: This one's for you

BAM is set to begin our first Beginner's Blacksmith Class using our new Teaching Station. The Teaching Station is the equipment and program designed to go to different locations within the BAM area. We still need a trailer and some smaller miscellaneous pieces of equipment, but we have enough to have our first class.

The class will take place Saturday, January 25, 2003 at Lou Mueller's shop in Fenton, Mo., a suburb of St. Louis. The class is for members of BAM, male or female, but must be 18 years or older.

Cost of the class will be \$20 to cover the cost of supplies and materials. Note the following requirements:

- You must have safety glasses.
- Cotton or Kevlar work gloves.
- Hearing protection recommended.
- No open toed shoes.



Map to Lou's shop

- Pen or pencil for notes.
- Tools are not required, but bring your own hammer if you want.

Class runs from 8 am to 5 pm. We suggest you bring your lunch to minimize the time for lunch. There are fast food restaurants in the area.

The class is limited to a maximum of 20 people. You must call Lou Mueller's shop to register. Call (636) 343-4223 Monday to Friday during working hours.

Wanted:

Trainers, assistant trainers and locations

In addition to people taking the Beginner's Blacksmith Class, we also need to teach the trainers. Trainers and their assistants will be people who will be capable of running the program at different locations. Come if you are interested. There will be no charge and the success of BAM's new program is dependent on having both trainers and locations to have our classes. In the future we hope to add additional types of classes.

BAM

November Meeting

Kirk Sullens demonstrated repoussé on an unlikely medium, an Altoid tin.

by Pat McCarty

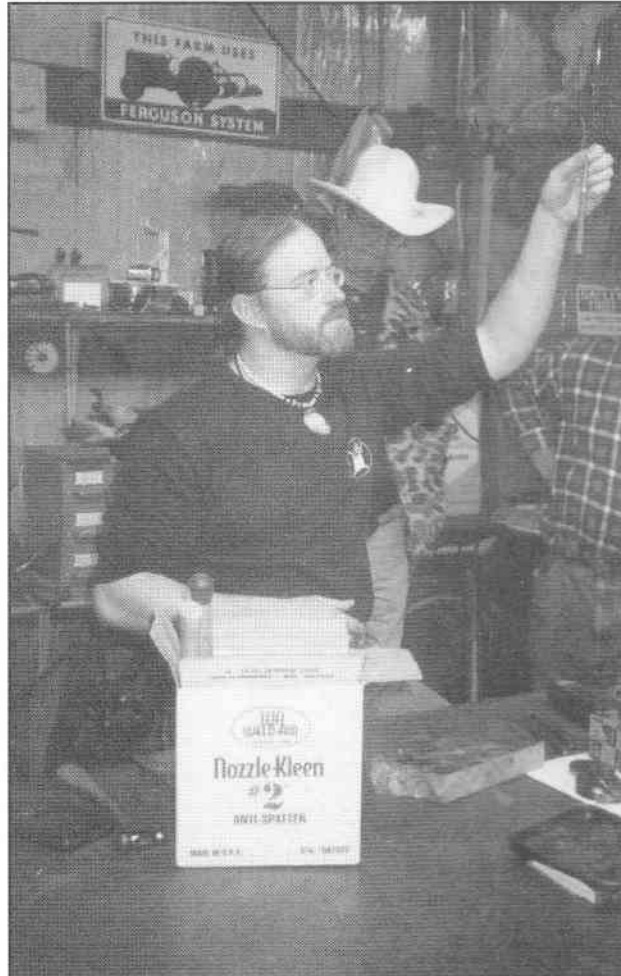
Our November meeting was held in Willard, Missouri at the shop of Jeff Willard. Jeff has a real nice shop located in the southwest corner of the state where we don't get near enough. Its large and was nice and warm on a rainy day.

I rode down with John Murray and Steve "Tiny" Robinson was making a nut cracker when we arrived. He's quite a character with lots of good stories.

Then Mike Kellerstrass took over and punched a hole in some tool steel for a hammer. He drew the end out into an oval shape to be used for a handle punch.

Kirk Sullens then set up and demo'd the embossing of an Altoid tin, very interesting. This is something some of the other chapters are doing for their contests.

We had some great food for lunch, and then the business meeting. Jeff had some nice beds he makes set up. They look like logs and limbs, very realistic. He uses rusty pipe for



them which adds to the effect. Thanks Jeff for hosting us. Let's hope we get a chance to go back here again soon.

Minutes

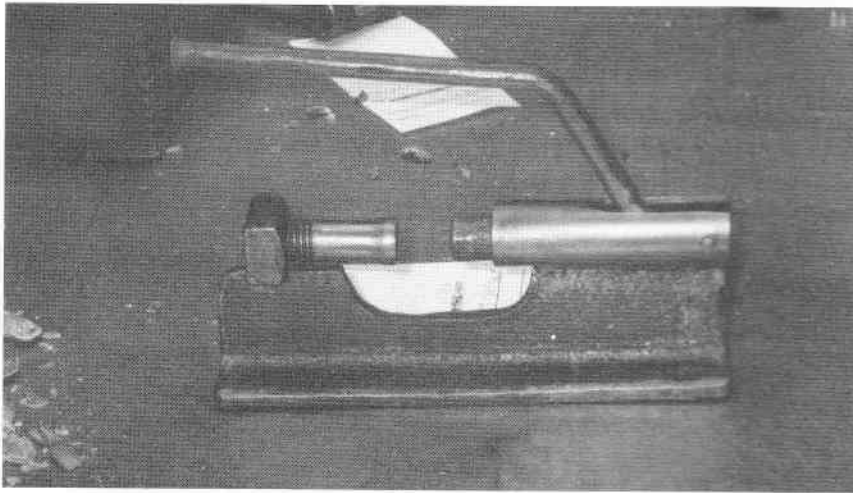
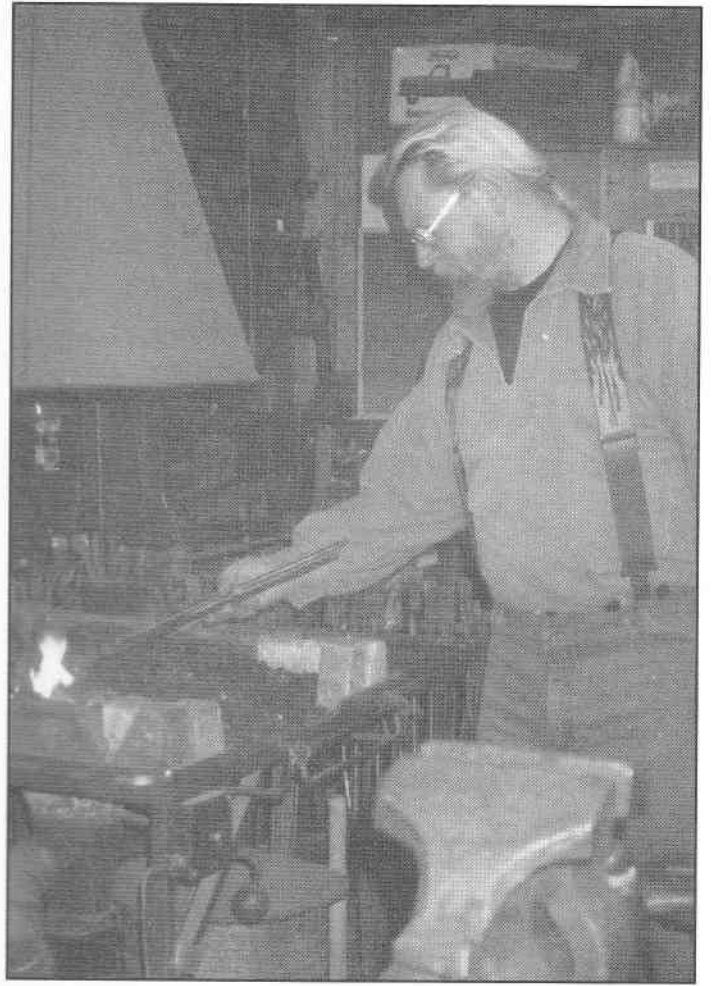
- Thanks to Jeff Willard and Co. for hosting us.
- Thanks also for the gallon of hot pickles.
- Trade item a nutcracker, all examples tested throughout the meeting.
- Nice show on iron in the hat.
- Bruce gave his treasurer's report, we had some money, spent some, got some more, etc.
- 547 members currently.

- Joe Wilkinson read a communication from the National Ornamental Metals Museum, they are going to build a first-class library to house their massive collection of books. They are interested in donations to further their cause.
- Joe moved we donate \$500 to the library cause. This motion approved.
- Neal Poort spoke on a horse-shoeing contest in Columbia Nov. 22-23.
- Dave spoke on plans for BAM's 2003 Conference. Looks great, don't forget those auction donations!
- Joe welcomed some new members.
- Bruce spoke on BAM's mobile teaching station. Anvils are bought, work is underway, money even saved on anvil purchase.
- Joe spoke on BAM's mailing list, as far as its availability to other businesses and endeavors. Bruce also spoke on this. A complicated and difficult discussion ensued.
- Bruce spoke on having dedicated demos for BAM, especially outside of the St. Louis area.
- Meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,
John Murray, secretary*

Iron in the hat was donated by: Don Nichols, Kirk Sullens, John Murray, Don Birdsall, Bill Bench, Bruce Herzog, Kent Harbit, Mike Kellerstrass, Steve Robinson & Jeff Willard, Scott Beshears and Pat McCarty.

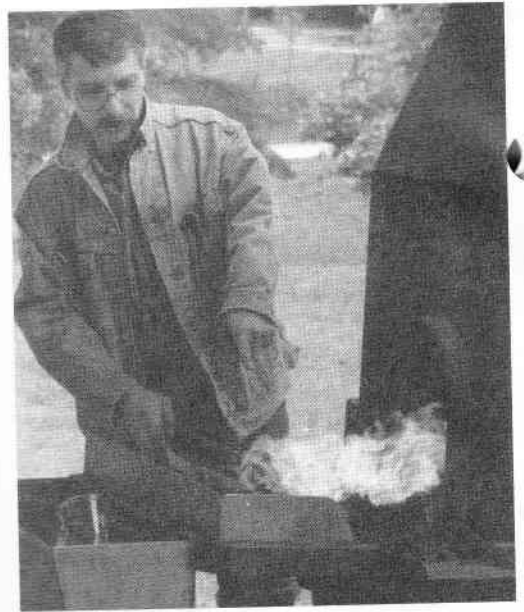
Trade items were made by: Don Birdsall, Bill Bench, Pat McCarty, Steve Robinson, Doug Clemons, Birl Pruitt, Jeff Willard and Dave Shepherd.



Above left: Mike Kellerstrass provided an entertaining demonstration by forging an oval punch. Above right: Steve "Tiny" Robinson demonstrated the trade item, a nut cracker. Left: This is Pat McCarty's version of the trade item. All the trade items were tested during the meeting.

Photos by Pat McCarty

Conference 2003 Preview — George Dixon

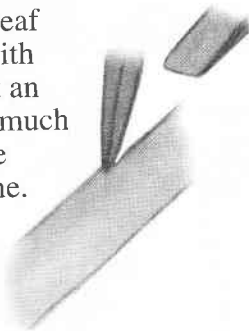


We asked our 2003 demonstrators to send us some stuff to show what you can expect to see from them at the conference. George is no stranger to BAM, having done his thing at the Oktoberfaust event a few years back. His specialty is Gothic ironwork learned while working at the Yellin shop. He is a master at the treadle hammer and has many tricks to share. The twist below is just one of them.

Try the Twist and BAM

The noteworthy aspect of this twist is the chisel-cut leaf lifted off of the edge of the bar prior to twisting.

A chisel-cut leaf or spur starts with the chisel set at an angle which is much steeper than the intended cut line.



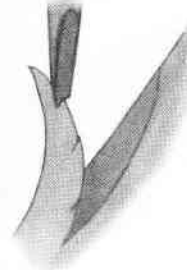
The steep angle allows the blade of a thin chisel to grab, instead of skating, as it is struck.



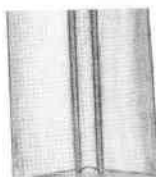
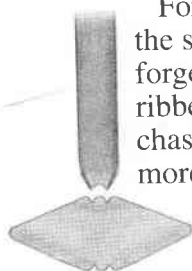
As the cut progresses, the angle of the chisel is raised, keeping the cut from getting too deep.



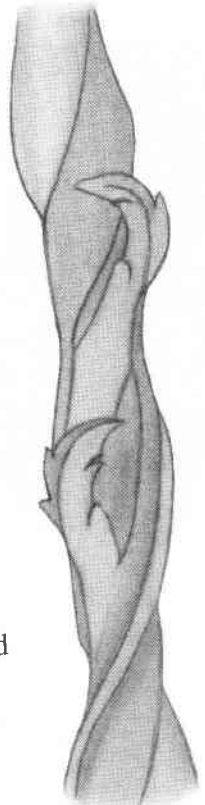
Once the leaf is cut away from the bar it is decorated with small, evenly applied chisel nicks.



For added depth to the effect, the section of the bar can be forged onto a 'diamond and/or a ribbed vein can be chased along one or more edges.



The bar is twisted and the chisel-cut leaves are adjusted with pliers.



BAM

Bulletin Board

Looking for an anvil. Call Tim at (573) 546-6321.

For sale: A-366 deep drawn ultra low carbon steel sheet for repoussé work. Only .005% carbon. 14 gauge cold rolled. Call John Murray, (636) 398-4640.

Coke for sale, \$10 per hundred pounds loose or \$9 per bag sacked. Bags hold 60-70 pounds. Call Japheth Howard for more info, (660) 777-3508.

For sale: 3-1/2" bench vise, small anvil on rear, 40 lbs., \$50. Champion No.3 blower, hand crank, on stand \$200; Canedy-Otto post drill, hand crank, automatic, has original chuck and Craftsman 1/2" chuck, mounted on steel post with feet, 5'5", \$130. Emil Bubash, 3151 Lin-Tel Rd., St. Louis, MO 63125; (314) 892-4086.

Wanted: B-2 or B-3 Beverly throatless shear. Please call with price and condition. Bob Woodard (618) 692-6508.

Ray Chaffin has a new computer operated plasma cutting system that can cut anything out of metal. Mail, call or e-mail your design for a price quote. Also hardwood blocks 2-2 1/2" x 12-14" are \$5 each in curly maple, straight maple, English walnut, birch laminated in brown and white and blue and white. Ray Chaffin, (660) 438-6720 or Ray's Welding, RR 3, Box 279, Warsaw, MO 65355.

Heavy duty frying pan blanks: Steel, approximately 9 inch in diameter with 2 inch sides. 12 gauge (2.5 lb.) or 14 gauge

(1.75 lb.) 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 \$4 plus \$.50 for each pan. Contact: Bob Tuftee, 3855 Aspen Hills Dr., Bettendorf, IA 52722; bobforge@hotmail.com; (563) 332-4800.

Custom-built air hammers. 6-pound table top model \$1,300; 20-pound table top model \$1,900; 20-pound floor model \$2,200; 40-pound floor model \$2,600. Some modifications to the basic hammers can be made to your specifications. Also custom metal spinning in copper, brass, pewter, and steel. Contact Maurice L. Ellis, Route 1, Box 1442, Belgrade, MO 63622-9709. Phone: (573) 766-5346. E-mail: mbellis@misn.com.

BAM members. 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. From art to parts I do it all. Now offering: 12" x 18" BAM logo signs plasma cut from 1/8" A36 steel plate, \$25 BAM members, \$35 non-members. Call (573) 474-8749 and ask for William Irvin.

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, the Blu Crusher rolling mill and Forgemaster gas forges. We ship and accept Visa and Mastercard.

Subscribe to Jerry Hoffmann's Blacksmith's Journal, a monthly publication for blacksmiths. Call 1-800-944-6134 for more information.

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 and just got a shipment of punches, shears, belt grinders and gas forges. For more info on the tools contact him at (573) 438-4725.

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 Mingus 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.

George Dixon edits a blacksmithing publication called "The Traditional Metal-smith". For \$28 you will get four issues of how-to information. Contact him at 1229 Bee Tree Lake Road, Swannanoa, NC 28778.

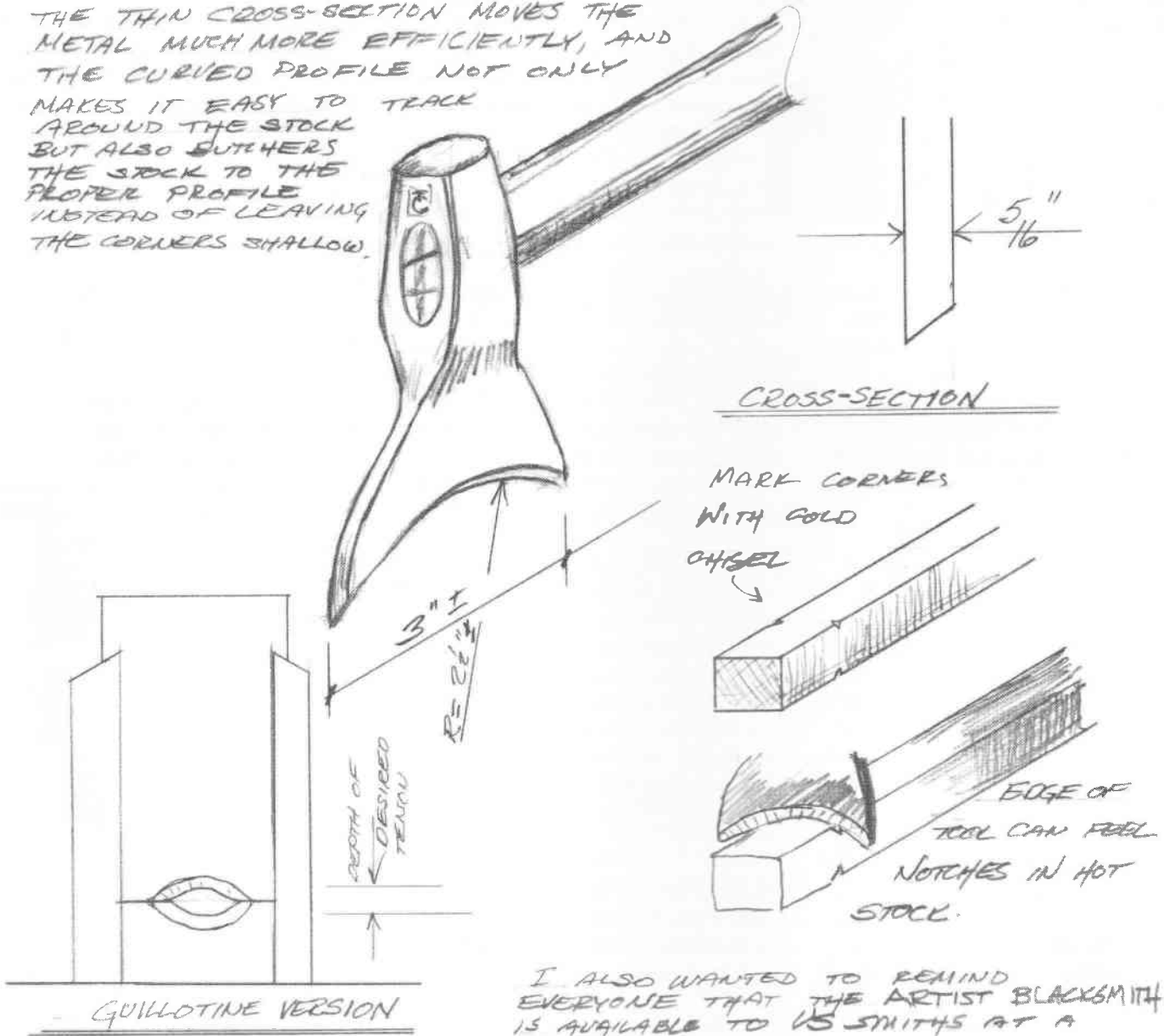
Irony is a new publication by BAM member Stephen McGehee. It's full of metalworking projects as well as his own brand of wit. Subscriptions are \$35 a year or \$65 for 2 years. Send checks to P.O. Box 925, Corydon, IN 47112.

L Brand Forge coke now packaged in 50 pound bags, 1,000 pound bulk sacks on pallets and 2,000 pound bulk sacks on pallets. Send your zip code for a quote on price including delivery. 1-800-441-0616 or LBrandForgeCoke@aol.com.

TERRY CLARK'S BUTCHER

JIM -

I'VE BEEN MEANING TO WRITE THIS UP FOR YOU FOR A LONG TIME, JUST BEEN TOO BUSY. THIS IS AN ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT DESIGN, AND EVERYONE NEEDS ONE. THE THIN CROSS-SECTION MOVES THE METAL MUCH MORE EFFICIENTLY, AND THE CURVED PROFILE NOT ONLY MAKES IT EASY TO TRACK AROUND THE STOCK BUT ALSO BUTTERS THE STOCK TO THE PROPER PROFILE INSTEAD OF LEAVING THE CORNERS SHALLOW.



I ALSO WANTED TO REMIND EVERYONE THAT THE ARTIST BLACKSMITH IS AVAILABLE TO US SMITHS AT A SUBSCRIPTION ONLY PRICE!

ARTIST BLACKSMITH
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 GUILDFORD, SURREY GU3 3BP
 terrence@artsmith.co.uk

later w/

by Ruth Hull

A couple of months ago, Walt contacted Jim Wallace at the National Ornamental Metal Museum in Memphis about participating in Repair Days this year. Then he called on me as the Walt Hull Iron Work travel agency to set us up for the trip. I arranged lodging at the motel "just around the corner" from the museum and found us some cheap airline tickets. Somehow, a non-stop hour or so flight seemed much more appealing than a 13-15 hour drive.

This was our first time there and we were really in for a treat. We had a great time "in Memphis!" I say "in Memphis," because most of the time we were there we were either at the Museum or the motel where we stayed, which was about three blocks away. Sunday afternoon we went downtown for a couple of hours and took the trolley ride around the old historic area before we went back to join the folks who hadn't left for home yet for a pizza dinner and good-byes. We flew home Monday morning.

Repair Days, the Museum's major fundraiser, is always the third weekend in October. The public brings in everything from expensive jewelry to silver teapots to bent spudding forks to lawn furniture to (I kid you not) burner grates for gas cookstoves that have broken in half. A contingent of 75 or so volunteer metalsmiths of all stripes — from jewelers, to sculptors, to bladesmiths to blacksmiths — showed up for the weekend this year and repaired away. I was really impressed by how many of the volunteers who showed up were people who make their living working metal. There were also a number students from the Memphis college of arts (not sure of the exact name) and several students from Kansas State University, along with a fair-sized contingent from Penland. Other BAMers present (at least the ones we recognized) included Doug Hendrickson, Andrew MacDonald and



Lee Cole entertains while he repairs.

Repair Days

John Medwedeff.

The proceeds from the repairs go entirely to support the museum. Walt almost got to repair the gates at Graceland, but ended up working on an apartment complex gate that had been banged up by a car. The gate was really pretty low-dollar ironwork, but to make up for that, he got to work on it with Doug, which they both very much enjoyed.

Bonnie and I kept pretty busy volunteering. We only went shopping once and that was to a small welding supply store nearby, whose owner was heavily involved in the volunteer efforts, to buy a face shield for Doug. All meals from Thursday evening onward were provided for the group with nearly everything cooked on the premises, so there was a lot of kitchen work, along with fetching and carrying for blacksmiths. Bonnie worked part of one morning at the T-shirt table as well as helping out in the kitchen and elsewhere. One of the duties I took on was taking all the kitchen

knives to the fellow who was sharpening knives and such (scissors, pruning shears, hedge clippers, etc.) to get them to the point where we could actually cut up the vegetables we had to prepare.

The highlight of my efforts was translating the German inscriptions on a beer stein whose pewter top was brought in for repair. The folks who brought the piece in had the latest copy of the Museum newsletter with them and gave it to me to write on. I did them a translation which they then

had me sign along with the two guys involved in fixing the stein. They said they were going to keep these notes inside the stein — so someday, on Antiques Roadshow . . .

The Graceland gates thing was quite interesting. The story we got was the following. When all the networks showed up at Graceland for the activities in connection with the 25th anniversary of Elvis' death in August, the CNN truck ran into the gates and damaged them. This was not a deep, dark secret. Apparently there had been a story about it in the newspaper. Anyway, Jim Wallace, the director at the Metals Museum, contacted Graceland about fixing the gates as part of the Repair Days weekend and they agreed. Then, when Jim mentioned in the various interviews he did to get publicity for the event that they would be working on the Graceland gates, the Presley estate contacted him and backed out of the agreement. Seems the Museum has no right to benefit from any such use of the Presley/Graceland name. How this would have HURT the Presley estate is not exactly clear. But then, they also threaten to sue the Memphis arts college any time a student wants to use the Elvis image in any artwork. Somehow, none of this seems to be something that Elvis himself would have gone along with, but then he's not in charge anymore.

Would we recommend repair days to our friends and families? You bet your sweet Missouri mule!

BAM NEWS

BAM workshops

You asked for it and your president said Yes! Joe Wilkinson has put together the first of what he hopes will be many more off-meeting-month workshops presented by BAM. This one will be held at the shop of Don Asbee who lives near Hartsburg. Don is one of BAM's founders and his demonstration will be on a topic critical to all who want to keep doing this thing: Protecting your body while working. His demo might include a look at a new 200-pound ram air hammer he is building. Date for the event is Feb. 22. Because we want to keep these things simple we ask that you bring your own lunch and a folding lawn chair to sit in. Don lives just off Highway 63, 17 miles south of Columbia or 11 miles north of Jefferson City. Turn east onto Zumwalt Road and go 1.6 miles to the shop, which can't be seen from the road. Watch for the signs.

Future meetings

Our meeting coordinator Kirk (Raoul) Sullens has been hard at work setting up a meeting schedule. He's got 2002 in place and is even looking ahead to next year. Here's what he's got so far:

January 11, 2003:

John Lovin, Mt. Vernon, IL. Trade item: Set of 4 napkin rings

March 29, 2003:

Maurice Ellis, Belgrade, Mo. Trade item: weathervane

May 31, 2003:

Don Asbee, Hartsburg Trade item: Door knocker

July 19, 2003:

Agriculture Hall of Fame, Bonner Springs, KS.

September 2003:

Bob Ehrenberger, Shelbyville, Mo.

November 2003:

John Murray, New Melle, Mo.

If you are scheduled to host a meeting and need to change the date or anything else please make sure our meeting coordinator knows. If anyone sees a conflict with any of the scheduled dates please share that as well. He can be reached at work (417) 725-6665, or at home (417) 863-8628. He has a new e-mail, kirk@kirksullens.com.

Knifemaking workshop

The Jefferson County Historical Society is sponsoring a bladesmithing workshop featuring Ken Markely and Chuck Hawes on March 8-9 at the eHistoric Village in Mt. Vernon, Ill. Chuck will assemble a folder and lead a discussion of folding knives. Ken will be forging knife blanks, with an emphasis on installing guards and handles. Cost is \$20 for both days or \$10 for one day. Lunch available for an extra fee. Register by Feb. 1 although walk-ins are accepted. Make checks payable to Jefferson County Historical Society and mail to Wilbur Haley, 19 Rushton Dr., Mt. Vernon, IL 62864. Questions call John Lovin at (618) 756-2331 or Wilbur at (618) 242-1365. Don't forget something for the auction!

Faust Park a success

This year's Octoberfaust event was again a big success with a large crowd being exposed to blacksmithing perhaps for the first time. This year's event featured Frank Turley, who is known throughout the country as a fine tool maker. Before the event ended he had a lot of youngsters at the anvil hammering their first piece of hot iron. Those who demonstrated and had stuff for sale reported

brisk sales. No doubt a lot of nice iron is gracing the walls of those St. Louis subdivisions today.

Conference '03 update

The 2003 BAM Conference Committee has been hard at work lining up demonstrators and other details of the next big event. Here's some of what they have planned so far:

- Main demonstrators will be George Dixon and Don Fogg. George specializes in traditional blacksmithing and he is a master at the treadle hammer. Don is a world-class bladesmith. We'll also have a basic blade forging workshop.

- All-around blacksmith contest.

- Sid Seudmeir will offer a Little Giant tune-up seminar and his power hammer collection.

- There will be a power hammer tent featuring Tom Clark, Phil Cox, Sid and others. The BAM teaching station trailer will be complete and set up so that beginners can learn some skills in an all-day Friday workshop.

- There will also be a fly press demonstration.

- The auction needs your items! It's a little-known fact that the auction brings in most of our spending money for the rest of the year. Also make something for the BAM Boutique.

- BAM gallery will be set up so bring your good work.

- The committee needs ideas for the family program.

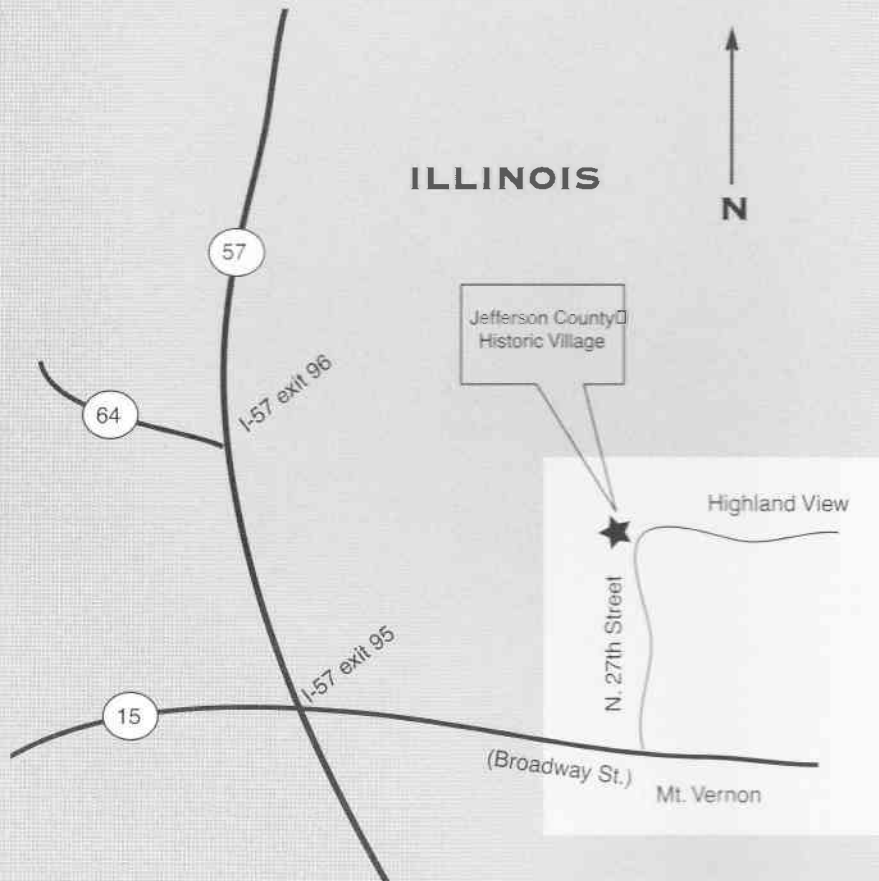
- We'll get you more information in coming issues.

- Dates are May 2,3,4.

Fix that Lil' Giant

Sid Suedmeir is hosting another Little Giant rebuilding seminar at his shop in Nebraska City, Neb. This year there will be two dates offered, March 21-23 and March 28-30. Each class begins at 9 am on Friday and concludes at noon on Sunday. Cost is \$95. This year Sid will have to go it without Fred Caylor, who is no longer with us. For more details call (402) 873-6603 or send e-mail to lgiant@alltel.net.

Next meeting: January 11, Belle Rive, IL



When: January 11

Where: Jefferson County Historical Society Shop, Mt. Vernon, IL

What: English Wheel demo by Bob Haverstock

Contact: John Lovin at (618) 756-2331 or e-mail anvilman@hamilton-com.net

Trade item: Set of 4 napkin rings

John Lovin is the host for the January meeting. For this one we'll head across the river to Mt. Vernon, Ill. and the shop of the Jefferson County Historical Society Village.

John has Bob Haverstock

lined up to do an English Wheel demonstration. If you haven't seen this done before don't miss this demo, it's a great tool.

Trade item is a set of four napkin holders, with or without the napkins. Use your imagina-

tion and let's have some great items!

As usual, don't forget to bring along something for the iron in the hat.

See you January 11 for the first meeting of the new year.



2002 Meeting schedule

January 2003 Meeting

John Lovin
Mt. Vernon, IL
January 11

Trade item: 4 napkin rings

March 2003 Meeting

Maurice Ellis
Belgrade, MO
March 29

Trade item: Weathervane

May Meeting

Don Asbee
Hartsburg, MO
May 31

Trade item: Door knocker



Don Nichols had the crowd fascinated during his Pumpkin Fest demo in October. Well, at least the kids were fascinated.

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