



13th Annual Ozark Conference

April 30-May 2, 2004

WARREN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

WARRENTON, MO

(40 miles west of St. Louis on I-70 at Exit 193)

The featured demonstrators are **Dan Nauman** doing traditional forging, **Toby Hickman** demonstrating tooling under a 100 pound air hammer, and Damascus Master **Devin Thomas** showing how to create a variety of figures in pattern welded steel.

Lectures and a forging contest will take place Friday evening with the demonstrators working Saturday 8 – 4 and Sunday 8 – Noon. A beginners' blacksmithing and a beginners' bladesmithing class will be offered on Friday. Saturday evening there will be a banquet at extra cost and a fund raising auction with Tim Ryan. Two Saturday family classes are available: a basket making class taught by Mary Jo McCarty and a landscape water features lecture by Tim Ryan. A Gallery of forged items will be on display throughout the weekend. Tailgaters abound.

Additional Conference Activities:

- **Large tailgate site free to Registered Participants
- **Free camping site with lots of modern toilets
- **Sales of various items of interest to blacksmiths
- **Food will be available on site Fri. p.m. & Saturday a.m. & noon

Pre-registration due by April 17th is \$30 (Individual days \$5-Friday, \$20-Saturday, and \$10-Sunday). Registration is \$35 after April 17 and at the door. Spouses, dates, & children under age 18 of registered attendees are free.

For more information visit www.bamsite.org OR

Contact the Conference Chairman: Fred Weisenborn, 417-589-2497, jweisenb@llion.org

For a Conference Booklet/Registration Form contact:

Bess J. Ellis, RR 1, Box 1442, Belgrade, MO 63622-9709

e-mail: mbellis@misn.com, phone: 573-766-5346

Participants Needed for the Conference Forging Contest 7 PM - Friday - April 30th

Our forging contests have usually focused on technical skills. This year it will be a beauty contest and the most aesthetically pleasing pieces, be they mild or wild, will win the big bucks. You can compete in one of 3 classes – Beginning (1 year or less experience) intermediate) 1to 4 years experience) or advanced. Winners will be chosen by conference attendees who may vote for their favorite piece in each of the 3 classes. Each class will have 3 awards \$50 for 1st, \$20, for 2nd and \$10 for 3rd,

The goal of this years contest is to forge a leaf, any leaf using ½ “ sq stock and 8 min or less.

Ed: should read in 8 minutes or less

BAM will supply the forge, coal, anvil, water, stock and a wire brush. Tom Clark will supply several top tools – hot cut, 5/16 round punch, ¼” radius fuller, and a butcher. John Murray will have a selection of hammers to use in case you forgot yours. You may use a striker to drive top tools only, no forging.

Do enter, watch, enjoy and learn. As Fred Weisenborn, this years conference chairperson, said “This event will be like having 20 additional demonstrators”.

This year’s forging contest was developed by Doug Hendrickson with lots of help from Walt Hull.

The Conference Gallery *by Walt Hull*

At last years conference, for the first time, we had a gallery, and it turned out to be very good. Now it’s time to take it one more step and see if we can’t do even better. BAM is one of the strongest associations in the country and many of you out there are doing really good work. Let’s let the rest of us have a look at it! Here’s how it works:

This is not a juried show. If you are a member of BAM you may exhibit your work in the gallery. If you think it’s representative of your best work, it’s good enough.

It doesn’t have to be Art with a capital “A.” It can be any kind of blacksmith work, practical or ornamental.

It doesn’t have to be “pure” blacksmithing without any modern techniques, but it should be something that not just any welder can do.

Your work can be for sale, or not. Work in the gallery may also be in the auction, or not. It’s up to you. Exhibitors are asked to bring a label for their work with the name or description of the piece, the name of the maker, the price of the piece if it is for sale, and any other pertinent or interesting information.

We are going to try to display the work a little better than last year. Fred has said we can have the back end of the big banquet building, and we will try to come up with some lighting. We will also try to have some wall space or the equivalent thereof for work that will look best hanging. We would also ask that if at all possible people displaying work bring a pedestal or other support to set it on. If you have any questions, please contact Walt Hull at 785 865 5771 or hull@idir.net

Conference Tidbits of Information

Bladesmith Workshop



Knives by BAM Member Ken Markley
(on display at Southern Illinois Arts
and Crafts Center)

Ken will be teaching a bladesmith class
at the BAM Conference

Note:
The Bladesmith Class
is full !

Mobile Training Station (MTS) (Basic Blacksmithing)

As of this printing, the MTS was filling up fast. See the MTS schedule on Page 21 for locations the MTS will move to and the person to contact to take the class. The class at the conference will be for one day only, however the classes which move around the state will be for two days. The MTS instruction is progressive and the second day will be based on skills learned on the first day. The curriculum has been revised so that class members will take home an item they have made on each day of the class. You may take the class at the conference and also participate in the MTS classes as it moves about the state

Other Workshops

Mary Jo McCarty will conduct a basket making class, with a different design from last year. Tim Ryan, the auctioneer, will hold a class on landscaping with falling water features. He is the resident gardner at John C. Campbell Folk School, also teaching similar classes there.

Meals at the Conference

Fred Weisenborn, conference chair has arranged for the following:

Friday Evening at 5 P.M. - BBQ Steak Dinner

Saturday Morning - 7 - 8 A.M. - Casserole Breakfast

Saturday Noon - 12 - 1 P.M. - Sandwiches, Chips, Soda, Candy, & Dessert Available

Saturday Evening - 5 - 6:30 P.M. BAM Banquet - Tickets must be purchased during pre-registration.

BAM Boutique

The BAM Botique will be in operation for the entire conference. It is operated by spouses and depends on donations of items to sell. The proceeds are given to the BAM General Fund for furthering the craft of blacksmithing by education and activities. Please support this effort by donating items, of less than \$20 in value for resale at the boutique.

Continued on Next Page

More Conference Information

The Auction

On Saturday, after the banquet, an auction of donated items will be conducted. You may display items in the gallery and then donate the item(s) for the auction. This auction is a major source of income for BAM and needs wide support. With auctioneer Tim Ryan, the auction is always an event of entertainment. One person described Tim Ryan's auctioneer performance as "a hoot", others describe it as "an old time medicine man show".

Tools, Equipment, and Treasures of the Craft

In addition to our regular vendors that attend, there will be lots of tailgate sales for bargains from other members and participants. Several vendors have suggested that you order in advance and they will bring it to the conference, so to save the shipping charges. The following, and others, are expected to be present:

Tom Clark (Ozark School of Blacksmithing & Supplies) **John Murray (Hammers, etc)**

Centaur Forge (Blacksmithing Supplies Confirmed) **Kayne and Son (Supplies - Not Confirmed)**

Sid Suedmeier (Little Giant Power Hammers) **Old World Anvils (Not Confirmed)**

Bobby Blankenship (Truck load of anvils) **Eddie Ray Linn (Miscellaneous Stuff)**

BAM ELECTION

An election of officers will be conducted at the annual conference. The members listed below are recommended by the nomination committee and all have agreed to serve if elected.

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the annual conference meeting.

CANDIDATES: President.....Don Nichols
1st Vice President.....Doug Clemons
2nd Vice President.....Ed Harper
Secretary.....John Murray
Treasurer.....Bruce Herzog

If you want coal brought to the conference, call Bob Maes

Coal for your forge --- Coal Captain: Bob Maes (573) 759-7936

Coal Locations

Bob Alexander, Desoto, MO (636) 586-6938
Ken Jansen, Moscow Mills, MO (636) 366-4353
Doug Clemons, Malta Bend, MO (660) 595-2257
Doug Hendrickson, Lesterville, MO (573) 637-2576

Jerry Rehagen, Rich Fountain, MO (573) 744-5454
Keith Barrick, Cuba, MO (573) 885-3799
Jeff Willard, Willard, MO (417) 742-4569

A Visit with Walt Hull *by Esther Digh*

From an English major to a shop foreman in a steel company to a creator of architectural steel items to sculpturing in metal—that is the path that Walt Hull has taken during his life. It was necessity that sent him to seek a position with a steel company that specialized in structural fabrication and ornamental ironwork. He was with the company for 20 years and retired as shop foreman. In 1982 Walt made the move to start his own business with the purchase of his business license, but it was not until 1994 that he dedicated his full attention and time to Walt Hull Iron Works.

The position with the steel company had exposed Walt to metal fabrication. One day while at the public library, he found Alexander Weygers book on tool making and became fascinated with the information in that book. His first forge was created by using a hair dryer. He developed his skill by making simple items such as poker and candlestick holders and taking classes and workshops under Steve Austin of Claycomo, a founding member of BAM, Bob Patrick and Frances Whittiker.

Walt has also relied on reading and attending conferences to further his knowledge of metal smithing. His business concentration has focused on high end architectural items such as gates, railings, and some furniture. Now, Walt wants to focus more on the creation of metal sculptures. He was pleased to be asked to participate in a juried show of the Lawrence, Kansas, Annual Art Exhibition in 2003. His piece, "Woman with Sword" was featured in the November-December 2003 BAM Newsletter.

Walt says he likes getting dirty when working with metal. "It is a challenge to make metal move. It is hard to do good work because metal is stubborn and does what it wants to do. It is satisfying when you gain control over it". As he gets older, Walt says he wants to work on smaller items, and do more demonstrating and teaching. He is scheduled to teach at John C. Campbell and at the University of Kansas, his alma mater, in the art department.

Walt has been a member of BAM since 1985. He has served as newsletter editor and is currently on the scholarship committee. He has also participated in Repair Days at the Ornamental Museum in Memphis. He and his wife Ruth have been married for 42 years. Walt says she is the office manager, bookkeeper and comptroller for his business. They have one son, David and two grandchildren, Chloe and Camden.



Joe's Jive, by President Joe Wilkinson of Hope, Missouri

I'm just back from our meeting at Neal Poorts' shop in Sedalia. Neal's demos are always fascinating – thanks Neal and Vicki for hosting.

We gained three new members there: Kevin Gearhiser, Tom Schalute and Joe Walls. Welcome aboard guys, be sure to explore the many benefits that membership entitles you to.

While on the subject of meetings, I was told by reputable source there were some \$1.00 lunches sold. If there is any doubt, the standard lunch donation is \$5.00 unless otherwise posted. I suppose it's possible some members have not had protocol explained to them, as we seldom talk about it. If, on the other hand it was intentional, then you have just ruined my whole week. The honor among our members that I have always been so proud of would now have been blemished. The coffee can on the tailgate labeled "put money in can" would be less secure. We cannot survive if we cannot trust. It would be sad if we were forced to go to ticket sales just for lunch. It takes a lot of planning and effort to host a meeting and skimping on the \$5.00 donation is not the way to say "thanks".

Happy Hammering, Joe

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FROM SEDALIA MEETING - MARCH 13, 2004

1. Old Business: The president announced the following had been purchased:
 - a) Trailer for the MTS. It will be at the conference for members to see.
 - b) Public address sound system, which was in use at Sedalia
2. New Business: The president announced the following:
 - a) See him for any information reference Boy Scouts activities with Lewis & Clark programs.
 - b) BAM elections will be conducted at the conference. The nomination committee recommendations are in the newsletter and nominations may be made from the floor.
 - c) He received a thank note from the Metals Museum for the BAM donation.
3. Other Business:

A request for \$4,000 by the Ky Museum of Arts and Design for BAM to co-sponsor the Contemporary Forged Iron display and week long festival, died for lack of a support motion.

Notes from the Editor

1. Send your favorite blacksmith stories and shop tips, some will be published in each issue.
2. We now have the means to send you a copy of the newsletter by email. You will still receive the hard copy, but the email version could reach you as much as a week before the hard copy arrives by US Mail. The email message will be in pdf format, which is a free download for your computer. In addition, Ed Harper will install a pdf copy on bamsite.org, so you can download or view at your convenience. If you want me to send a pdf copy to you, send an email message to bameditor@ktis.net with the subject line "Send pdf copy". No text message is required, the BAM computer will automatically add your email address to the pdf file.
3. Bruce Herzog asked me to remind members to donate to the boutique and auction, even if you cannot be present for the conference. These activities are major means of support for BAM.
4. From Fred Weisenborn: if you participate in activities at the conference, you will need safety glasses. Items to be raffled or auctioned: treadle hammer, gas forge, 242 lb Czeck double horn anvil, so this is your opportunity to win some expensive and quality blacksmith equipment.

BAM Focus on Youth



Upper Left: Joey Walls with his Dad Joe. Joe is a new BAM member. Thanks Joey for bringing your Dad.

Upper Right: Matthew Burnett of Braided Cross Forge. Matthew is serious about blacksmithing and his parents attend the meetings with him.



Photo Above: Cale Comstock who made lots of money with his tailgate sale at Sedalia!

Photo at Right: Shane Hartsuff, Grandson of Ray Chaffin

At the meeting in Sedalia, there were several more young men seen in passing, as they played around the area. It was rumored that Eric Weisenborn, Anthony Wolken, and Orry Harbit were present, but only came in the building to eat lunch



Photos from the Hoffmann Seminar (Ham's Prairie - February 28, 2004)



Jerry Hoffmann

Serious Discussion



Stan Stevens & Jerry Hoffmann



Guy McConnell & Bob Ehrenberger



Free Stuff



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The March 13th Meeting at Sedalia hosted by Neil and Vicki Poort

There was a large crowd for the Sedalia meeting, the host Neil Poort was the demonstrator and the spectators were mesmerized by his skills in moving metal and forge welding. Neil could certainly be described as a farrier/blacksmith extraordinaire. Vicki Poort rendered supervision to the whole operation and arranged for an excellent lunch meal to be served. After lunch, the traditional business meeting, iron in the hat, & swapping trade items, Neil was back in the demo corner answering questions and continuing with demos. Our thanks to Neil and Vicki for making it a super occasion.

Neil Poort at the Anvil



Trade Items

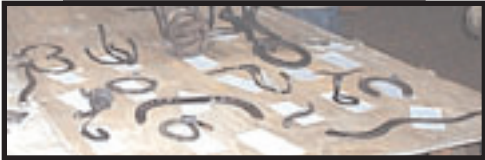


Kirk Sullen's Moose on Display

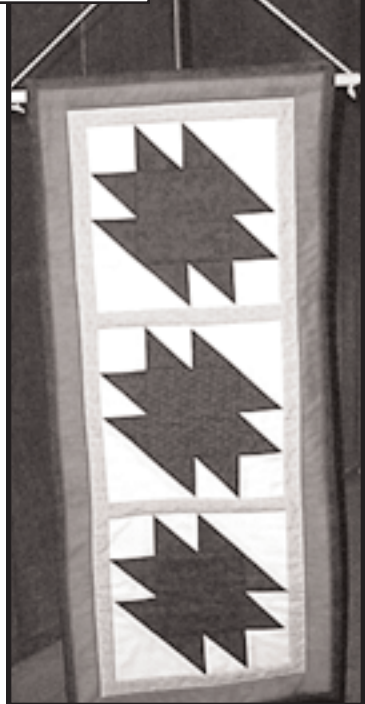


Mrs. Vicki Poort

Iron in the Hat



Iron in the Hat Item



**Wall Hanging - Old Anvil Quilt Pattern
by Esther Digh**

An Oklahoma Power Hammer in Mississippi *by Vance Moore*

In January of 2003 I finally located a Little Giant Power Hammer that met all my requirements. It was within my budget (in other words, what my wife said I could spend on it) and within a reasonable driving distance of Meridian. The hammer was in London, Arkansas, and in the possession of Ron Newton. After speaking with Ron on the phone several times we came to an agreement and I drove up to London to pick up and transport my new toy back to Meridian. I don't remember exactly how long the trip took, but it was dark when I left and dark when I got back.

After getting the Hammer unloaded with the front end-loader on my father-in-laws tractor, I had enough room to get it into the shop, and just inside the door. Which worked out, because that is where I wanted it anyway.

I emailed Sid Seudmeier in Nebraska and gave him the serial number; Sid got back with me and told me a little history of the hammer. My hammer, #1110, (the number is located on the spine) was an "old style" and came off the assembly line on January 9, 1907. The hammer was originally sold to a blacksmith named M.E. Marshall, in Ivanhoe, Oklahoma. That is about all Sid could tell me, so I decided to do some research on my own.

I found a website, www.searchtexas.com/history/follett/ this website tells the chronicle of Ivanhoe, Oklahoma, starting in about 1880. In 1906 there is a listing for a Jack Marshall who owned the blacksmith shop in Ivanhoe. I don't know if Jack and M.E. Marshall are one in the same, or maybe Jack was a son or brother to M.E. Marshall. In 1909 the town of Ivanhoe actually "moved" two miles south and one mile west. This move was to take advantage of the new railroad tracks that had been laid. Since my power hammer was purchased new in January of 1907, there is not much doubt that it traveled with the town.

Ivanhoe, Oklahoma, actually stayed in one place for about eight years. Then in 1917 the town moved once more (again attributable to the railroad lines). This time the town moved six miles south, but, into the state of Texas and the name was changed to Follett. Once again, there is no reason to believe that Little Giant # 1110 did not make the move.

There is a photo on the web site taken about 1917 of two South Ivanhoe blacksmiths', John Reid and Harry Kamp. In the far right of this photo there appears to be a Little Giant Power Hammer. I have wondered if it could it be my hammer. After this, I have no clue as to where the hammer spent the next eighty-six years. But it had found a new home in Meridian. Like most hobby smiths I wish I could spend more time banging on metal and less at my real job, anyway reality happened and it was about a year before I got around to setting up the hammer.

At some point in its life, someone had drilled two holes in the top left side of the frame and mounted a 2 hp motor directly to the frame of the hammer. This was actually not a bad arrangement, but the belt running from the motor to the friction pulley (clutch collar) had been left as a 3 ? inch line shaft belt. I had seen other power hammers in operation, and I did not think my hammer was hitting with enough force, so I called Benny Crevitt and Harold Mazingo, two well-known Mississippi blacksmiths and had them come take a look.

The motor did not have a standard pulley on the working end but a 3 ? inch metal shaft that was covered with compressed leather washers running the entire length, in order to grip the line shaft belt. Benny and Harold thought that this was where we were losing power to the hammer. So we replaced the shaft with a standard two groove V-belt pulley.

Where the line shaft belt had a pin, and could be removed without unbolting the crankshaft, the new V-belts had to go around the friction pulley (clutch collar). This presented the most cumbersome part of the operation. But, Benny and Harold, having done this before, used a piece of rope attached to the rafters to assist in lifting the clutch collar and crankshaft.

Continued on next page

An Oklahoma Power Hammer in Mississippi *Continued*

While we had the crankshaft unbolted, Harold and Benny inspected the babbitt bearings. Surprisingly they were in good shape and drenched with oil. The only bit of bad news was that the front bearing had a small corner piece cracked off the right side. Harold and Benny agreed that it was not enough to worry about.

After getting the crankshaft and clutch collar bolted back in place. Harold and Benny checked the wooden clutches and decided that they needed to be adjusted. So I got a lesson in that particular operation. They also pointed out to me that several of the parts were not original factory parts. The biggest of these being the clutch pivot. But for now "...if it aint broke, don't fix it..." is my motto.



After that (except for a few minor electrical problems with my electrical wiring) we threw the switch and the Little Giant has been hammering along, hard and fast since then. Harold and Benny showed me all the places that needed to be oiled, and I have come to the conclusion that if oil is not dripping off the surface, then it does not have enough. I hope to keep it well oiled and hammerin' for another ninety-seven years.

Submitted by BAM member Vance Moore, Meridan, Mississippi email southpilo2@aol.com

Ed: Vance Moore is the only BAM member from the state of Mississippi, maybe he will host a meeting! Thanks for the story Vance.

Photo at left:
Harold Mazingo, Benny Crevitt, and Vance Moore

Shop Tip: Use of White-Out Pens for Marking Stock - *Submitted by Dave Edwards*



Mostly I use correction or white-out pens to delete an ink line on a sketch, but I have come to rely on them for another shop task. I use them when I want to mark a workpiece only temporarily to designate some type of transition point. A punch mark would leave a permanent mark and a soapstone or silver pencil mark is sometimes hard to see or easily rubs off on the hot work. The white material deposited from the correction pen seems something like a fast drying paint. It doesn't come off easily even with a wire brush. The property I like best is that it is very easy to see on the hot iron. One point of caution, if the material is allowed to remain on the workpiece through several heats it protects the underlying metal from oxidation, so the protected area could be visible on the finished piece as a local difference in reflectivity of the surface. All brands appear to work well. I'm not promoting any particular brand; all I have tried work. I get mine at WalMart in the school supply section or at an office supply store. They cost around two dollars each which makes them expensive for general use marking.

A Blu Weekend by Karen Rudolph *by Karen Rudolph*

Imagine the sound of four Big Blu Air Hammers all-hammering in one room at the same time. The sound is alluring if you are into that sort of thing. A few weeks ago I got to experience that exact thing at the Big Blu Air HammerSchool. Being January the weather outside was a little nippy but four gas forges heated the air inside.

Seven others and myself worked all weekend on our power hammer proficiency. Our instructor Zeevik Gottlieb an artist blacksmith from Israel showed us a variety of basic forging skills plus many elements used in more complex artistic endeavors. This school is not about producing a finished project (although I did walk away with the start of a few interesting sculptural pieces) it is about learning how to be efficient on a power hammer. By practicing the same skills over and over again. You really hone what you already know plus acquire a new batch of skills. Basically you are taking perfectly good stock and making a whole lot of scrap iron.

For every two people there was one power hammer and one gas forge. While you were hammering your partner's metal was heating up. There was never time to be waiting around for a free hammer, there was always one ready when you were and Zeevik was never far away if you had a question or wanted to see another demonstration.

The rhythms of the hammers are still beating in my ears and the skills I learned will be with me for a long time. The way metal moves became more apparent to me over the weekend and I started to see how power hammers are just an extension of the blacksmith behind them. The principles of hand hammering are very similar to working with a power hammer just once removed from the actual body doing the hammering. Having this foundation I will be able to complete projects with greater ease. However the best part of the weekend wasn't the camaraderie of fellow blacksmiths or learning new skills it was the cooking. All the meals were included in the weekend and they were amazing. Our chef Ted Thompson always had an enticing smell lingering in the air making us all hungry for the next meal. I guess you could say I went away with a brain full of information and a tummy full of food.



Karen (Rudy) Rudolph is the Resident Blacksmith at John C. Campbell Folk School

The manufacturing facility and inventor of Big Blu was featured in the Winter Edition of The Anvil's Ring, by ABANA

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Blacksmith Classes at John C. Campbell Folk School

Note: Several Classes are taught by BAM Members
To learn more about John C. Campbell Folk School,
visit the website: www.folkschool.org

- Apr 4-10 Traditional Joinery Projects • Clay Spencer
Apr 11-16 Traditional Joinery Projects (Sun-Fri) • Clay Spencer
Apr 25-30 Flowers in Metal (Sun-Fri) • Bob Alexander
Apr 30-May 2 Copper Roses and More (Weekend) • Rick Jay
May 2-8 Blacksmithing Fundamentals • Charley Orlando
May 9-15 Beginning Blacksmithing • Pete Brandenburg
May 16-22 Blacksmithing: Beginning and Intermediate • Susan Hutchinson
May 16-22 Jewelry Making with a Blacksmith's Touch • Don Witzler
May 23-29 Basic to Intermediate Blacksmithing • Don Witzler
May 30-June 5 Bang on Iron • Doug Hendrickson
June 6-11 Light Up Your Life—Iron Lamps (Sun-Fri) • Rick Jay
June 11-13 Toolmaking (Weekend) • Gavin Harris
June 13-19 Hot & Cold Forging with Ferrous & Non-Ferrous Metals • William Rogers
June 27-July 3 Tomahawks & Axes • Chuck Patrick & Jim Batson
July 4-9 Colonial Hearth Equipment (Sun-Fri) • Jerry Darnell
July 9-11 Colonial Hearth Equipment: Cooking Utensils (Weekend) • Jerry Darnell
July 11-17 Explorations in Stone and Steel • Lonnie Farmer
July 18-24 Beginning Blacksmithing (Intergenerational) • Judy Berger
July 25-31 Treadle & Power Hammer Tools • Allen Kress & Clay Spencer
Aug 1-6 Smashing Iron (Sun-Fri) • R.J. Hadle
Aug 6-8 Beginning Blacksmithing (Weekend) • Kenneth Thomas
Aug 8-14 Blacksmithing for Fun and Profit • Bill Epps
Aug 15-21 Viking-style Iron Work • Elmer Roush
Aug 22-27 Was Your Grandfather a Blacksmith? (Sun-Fri) • Matt Jenkins
Aug 27-29 Blacksmithing: Fundamental Techniques & Beyond (Weekend) • Elmer Roush
Aug 29-Sept 4 Novice Smith to Blacksmith • Tom McElfresh
Sept 5-11 Scottish Dirk • Jim Batson
Sept 12-17 The Art of the Japanese Short Sword (Sun-Fri) • Tony Palermo
Sept 17-19 Blacksmithing: Starting with Steel (Weekend) • Susan Madacsi
Sept 19-25 Blacksmithing 102: The Next Step • Dan Tull
Sept 26-Oct 1 Forge Welding (Sun-Fri) • Charley Orlando
Oct 3-9 Quartrefoils and Branching Scrolls - Tal Harris
Oct 10-16 Steel Repoussé Chasing and Wonderful Colors • Mindy & Mark Gardner
Oct 17-23 A Handful of Skills • Chris Winterstein
Oct 24-29 Beginning Blacksmithing and Then Some! (Sun-Fri) • Lynda Metcalfe
Oct 29-31 Fold-forming Sampler for Blacksmiths (Weekend) • John Rausch
Oct 31-Nov 6 Traditional Joinery Projects • Clay Spencer
Nov 7-13 Traditional Joinery Projects • Clay Spencer
Nov 14-19 Blacksmithing: Making Woodworking Tools & Hardware (Sun-Fri) • David Smucker
Nov 19-21 Domestic Forgery: Beginning and a Little Beyond (Weekend) • Ron Howard
Nov 28-Dec 4 Critters • Joe Miller
Dec 5-11 Holiday Iron Trinkets • Allen Kress

Tom Clark will be at the
BAM Conference with his trailer of
tools, supplies and power hammers

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Ozark School of Blacksmithing Special Class

Alfred Haberman Workshop June 28 - July 2

The Ozark School of Blacksmithing is looking for twelve top blacksmiths to produce an Alfred Haberman designed project with Haberman himself the week of June 28 - July 2. The students will then be asked to join the Ozark School team at the ABANA Conference to reproduce the project for the conference auction.

Class cost will be \$1000.00, which will include hotel for the week of June 28 - July 2, noon and evening meals, and ABANA Conference registration. Cost will not include lodging or meals the week of the Conference.

Alfred's daughter Kristana will also be holding a repousse' class the week of June 28 - July 2 at the Ozark School of Blacksmithing as well. The cost of this class will be \$670. Cost will include hotel, noon and evening meals, and all the tools and materials needed while here.

If interested in participating in either of these events please contact us at the number below.

Contact Info: Ozark School of Blacksmithing
573-438-4725 phone
573-438-8483 fax
ozarksch@therural.net

Blacksmith Classes at Ozark School of Blacksmithing

Tom Clark: Owner and Director of Instruction See address, phone, and website above

April 19-23: Power Hammer Class w/ Bob Patrick

June 14-18: Basic Blacksmithing w/ Tsur Sadan

June 21-25: Basic Blacksmithing w/ Tsur Sadan

**June 28- July 2: Special Project Workshop w/ Alfred Haberman
for the ABANA Conference**

July 7-11: The ABANA Conference

August 9-13: Scrolls and Jointery w/Bill Bastas

August 16-20: Power Hammer w/Bob Patrick

September 13-17: Forge Welding w/Bob Patrick

October 18-22: Basic Blacksmithing with Tsur Sadan

October 25-29: Basic Blacksmithing with Tsur Sadan

November 1-5: Power Hammer with Bob Patrick

Scholarship Report *by Don Nichols*

John C. Campbell Folk School

On Sunday, October the 26th, I arrived at John C. Campbell Folk School. This is the only date I would remember once the two weeks class began. Everything was so interesting and the atmosphere at the school was wonderful. First, you register and pay for your class and students are given a packet of information about what will be going on for the first week. At 5:30 the orientation class begins and students learn some of the important rules of the school. You learn what they expect at meals and about waiting outside for the ringing of the bell. When you go inside to the dining hall everyone stands behind their chair and waits until the host sings or recites a blessing. Then everyone sits down to a family-style meal. There are eight people at a table and they encourage everyone to sit at different tables at each meal. That way you get to meet interesting people from all over the U.S. and also foreign countries. Everyone was friendly and the meals were great. It was interesting to hear other students excited about their projects. It makes you want to go back and maybe try another class some other time.

Next, we went to the Francis Whitaker Blacksmith shop to meet our instructor Clay Spencer and his assistant Tal Harris. Clay welcomed us and we got right into discussing our projects and laying out our prints on the metal tables. We had a full class with twelve students. Juan was originally from Chili and Bradley was from England. Bradley has lived in the U.S. for eight years, but he bloody well still has an English accent.

Monday, we looked at our projects again and made little adjustments in how we would do the traditional blacksmithing with collars, tenons and forge welding. Right from the start Clay and Tal were there to give us tips and instructions on different ways and the best way to work on our projects.

My first project was two half circle end tables that mount on the wall at each side of our bed. First, I laid out my print full scale on the metal table. Then I measured and measured again to be sure that it would be correct when I cut my material. Next, I started bending my outer half circles cold. The inner ring I measured and slit and drifted in the center and then I formed it. The drift was for the third piece to go through. The third piece was 1/2 inch square and then it was forged weld to 1/4 x 1/2 folded and I put scrolls on it after it went through the inner ring. Then I made my tenon and proceeded to put the tables together. They will have glass tops.

I made the two tables which contained twelve collars, two slits and drifts, six tenon, twenty-four scrolls, and four forge welds. I surprised myself and finished the two end tables on Monday of the second week.

Next, I started a new project of a three candle candelabra. Again, I laid it out on a metal table full size so I could measure for material. It went together with large rivets and collars. It started with 36 inches of 5/8 square and I drew it out

Continued on next page

Don Nichols Scholarship Report Continued

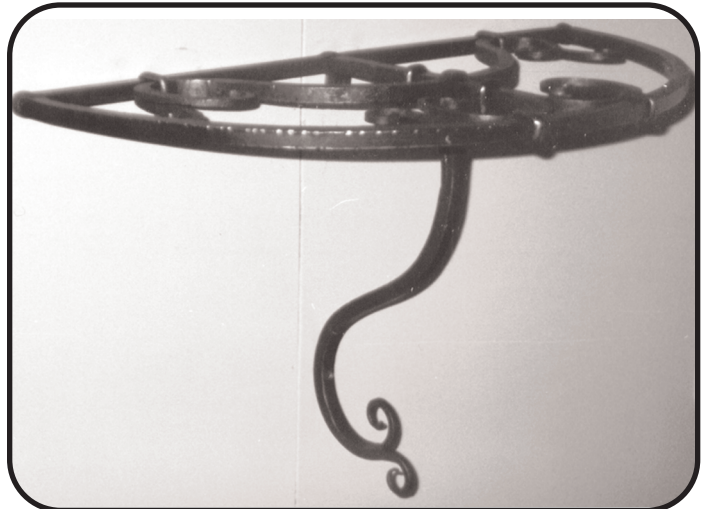
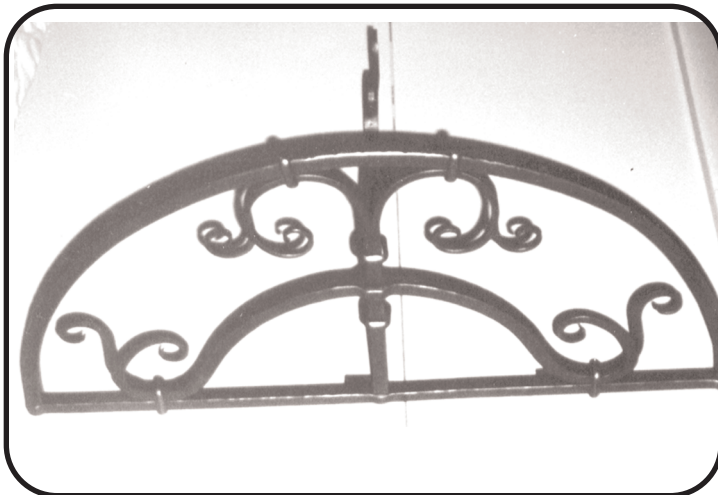
tapered from the center both ways. It was looped and passed by each other and then had scrolls on the ends. The top piece was 1/2 inch square and made a loop and passed by itself then mounted on top of 5/8 inch square with collars.

My third and last project was a fireplace set. It was three 1/2 inch round bars wrapped with 1/4 inch round about six times for collars. I made the poker and forged weld the spike on the end. Then I cut the shovel blank on the Beverly shear and formed it and riveted on the handle. I made, for the first time, a fern leaf and forged weld it onto the stand. This was finished on Friday at noon and then I began to clean up the smithy so that the next class could start out with a clean smithy and have a wonderful time learning the trade. I want to thank all those who had a part in my receiving a scholarship so that I could have the opportunity of taking this class at John C. Campbell Folk School. I recommend this class and want to thank Clay Spencer and Tal Harris for an informative time of learning the traditional methods of blacksmithing. I am looking forward to demonstrating some of these techniques at one of our meetings of The Blacksmiths Association of Missouri.

Ed: Don Nichols was awarded a BAM Scholarship to attend the class at John C. Campbell Folk School.
See page 13 for blacksmith classes offered at JCC for the year of 2004

Sincerely,

Don Nichols



BAM Recommended Books

- #1 *The Art of Blacksmithing* by Alex W. Bealer 18th Century blacksmithing, as well as setting up a shop and a myriad of tools and shop techniques.
- #2 *American Blacksmithing* by Holstrom and Holford A comprehensive book of blacksmith history, tool making, steelwork, and farrier information.

EstherSpeak

Are you as glad to see Spring arriving as I am? Spring is truly the beginning of the year for me. I always look forward to the blooming of spring flowers, leafing of the trees and greening of the grass, which signal the end of winter. My tulips sprouted during that warm spell in early March and looked to be doing quite well. Then, of course, came a cold snap but they seem to have survived. Hopefully, we won't have an April snow storm which really does damage spring flowers and those beginning to come through the ground.

I am really anxious to see how many of the day lily bulbs I planted last summer survived the winter. I had not planned on starting a day lily bed but last June I left St. Louis with fifteen day lily bulbs. I had gone down with Ned for the Clay Spencer workshop, and Pat Mueller invited me to join Bonnie Hendrickson, Jackie Spencer and herself for a visit to the Botanical Gardens. This is a wonderful place to visit, and we stumbled onto the Day Lily Society bulb sale. It was just starting to wind down and prices had been slashed. I couldn't resist the three bulbs for \$1.00 special. Not only am I anxious to see how many bulbs survived but also what color of day lilies I have since I didn't keep them labeled during planting. I hope I am pleasantly surprised.

Speaking of new beginnings, we have a new grandson. Cameron Jack Lowe was born on February 13th to our daughter Dara and her husband Chris. He only weighed 6 lbs and 2 oz but has big feet and hands he needs to grow into. I flew to Colorado Springs when he was two weeks old and had lots of quality Grandma time. We will be heading west in April so Grandpa can get acquainted with CJ.

The BAM Cookbook should be ready for purchase by conference time. Mona gave some of us a sneak preview at the meeting in Sedalia. She has spent a lot of time working on it and is doing a beautiful job with the layout and editing. It is going to be a publication we will be proud of and will represent BAM well. Make certain to give Mona a big thank you for all of her hard work and purchase a cookbook.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the conference in Warrenton. Don't forget your contributions to the BAM Boutique. *Esther Digh*

Shoe Monkey, with maybe a bit of spike, by Dave Edwards. Flip to the front for a bowling monkey!



Road Renches by Ray Scott or he said they could be called Road Kill. After finding them on the road, he forged modifications, now he wonders if a neighbor will ask if he found two wrenches he lost on the road!



Reflections of the Meeting at the Bass Pro Fab Shop on January 17th

by Host Kirk (Raoul) Sullens

The January meeting at the Bass Pro metal fab shop was well attended, with 125+ people. The morning started a little slow, with only one demonstrator. The other 3 demonstrators that were lined up were unable to attend for various reasons. Still, Raoul got to show off his new treadle hammer by raising a coneflower blossom in brass for his trade item.

The BAM gas forge was demonstrated at the front of the shop, and someone (Neal Poort?) did a forge-weld in it. Several new people from the Springfield area were present, and I expect to see some of them again. Hope they've been bit.

Mike Robinson from the shop cooked the burgers and dogs for us again (out in the cold again), going above and beyond the call of sanity (well, he never had much hope for that). He had tremendous logistical support from Julie Pappenfort from the BPS Fabrications office. We can always count on the two of them to give up all their fun to give us great service. Thanks, guys.

After lunch Raoul was back at the forge, doing a recap of the one piece rose that was demonstrated at the Ozark Conference by the Russian blacksmith's several years ago.

The big show was in the west end of the building, where John Murray started forging a 2 inch square bar down into a ladle on the 5I Nazel. I got lucky, because he left that piece behind, and I get to keep it! Brushed up and waxed, it looks pretty cool.

The ladies got a space of their own, sort of, but I think I'll get them more chairs next time. And we may get a porta-john as well, to ease the long waits for the bathroom. I got a lot of good feedback, though, even though the morning was slow (some things just can't be avoided), and I hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

If anyone would like to host a meeting in 2005, please let me know. That's already filling up, with the Jan, March and Sept meetings booked. Thanks, Raoul

P.S. Send more receipes to email address below for the BAM Fine Cookbook.

kirk@kirksullens.com w:(417)725-6665 h:(417)863-8628 2300 N. East Ave. Springfield, Mo. 65803

All grownups were children first. (But few of them remember it.) *Katherine Wood.....*

BAM Membership Application

Mail to: Bruce Herzog, 2212 Aileswick Dr. St. Louis, MO 63129

Name: _____

Check **New Member** _____

Address: _____

One: **Renewal** _____

Phone: _____

City: _____

Phone: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Volume 21 No. 2 MAR - APR 2004

The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri is published six times a year and mailed to members. The annual fee for 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: Ned Digh, PO Box 765, Fulton, MO 65251: 573-642-8332 (email: bameditor@ktis.net). Membership inquiries should be addressed to: Bruce Herzog, 2212 Aileswick Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129; 314-892-4690 (e-mail: bjherzog@msn.com.) Occasionally some material may 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.

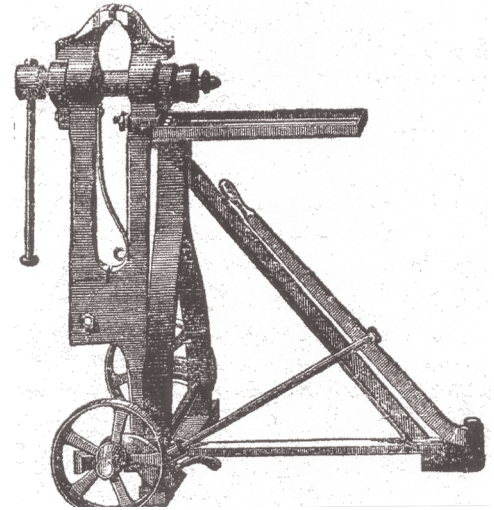
Excerpt:

The wheelable leg vice shown below was much more flexible. I discovered it in a French textbook of about 1910. The leg vice is of the usual type. It is bolted to an A-shaped frame. At the bottom ends of the frame legs, we see two short curved arms. Their righthand ends are rigidly coupled by a horizontal axle, which runs in bearings in the A-frame. A freerunning axle, carrying two sheet iron wheels, passes through the lefthand ends of the arms. In the situation which is shown here, the A-frame rests firmly on the ground with both legs while the wheels float a small distance above the ground.

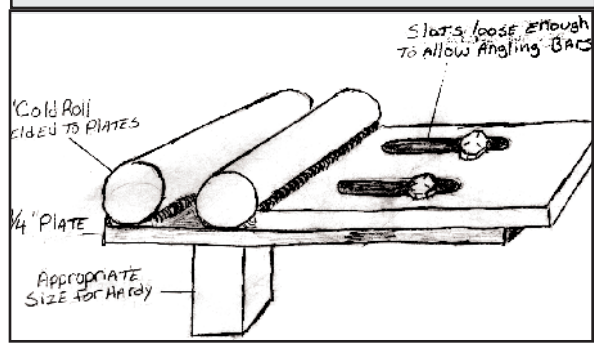
To move the vice, you first rotate the upper lever, the one carrying a handle, in a clockwise direction. When it points about 45° to the top right, it hits a cam on the frame. Next, you rotate the two arms counter-clockwise around their pivots by means of the long lever with knob, which points to the top right in the illustration. This lever is rigidly fixed to the front arm. In this way, the frame will be lifted and the wheels will touch the ground. The arms are rotated slightly past the bottom dead centre, so the frame will again sink just a little bit. Due to the curved shape of the arms, the axle with the wheels will now be positioned just right of the centre of gravity of the unit. In this way, the axle with the wheels stays firmly in place so we can wheel the lot around without danger of dropping. As the centre of gravity of the whole unit lies just left of the axle with the wheels, the vice tilts lightly to the left and the righthand foot of the frame lifts free from the ground. In this manner, wheeling the unit around costs hardly any effort.

Wheelable Leg Vice

Submitted by Fred Weisenborn, from old French blacksmith literature. No copyright data known to exist.



Shop Tip: Todd Schroeder's multi-purpose tool for leaves & scrolling



ABANA Membership Application Mail to: ABANA, PO Box 816, Farmington, GA 30638

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
City: _____ State _____
Zip: _____ Phone: _____

New Member: _____ **Renewal:** _____
Annual Cost: Regular \$45; Senior \$40; Student \$35
Contributory \$100; Library \$35 Includes subscriptions to
Anvil's Ring and The Hammer's Blow magazines
ABANA Phone: 706-310-1030 (For Credit Card Charge)

Blacksmith Association of Missouri

President: Joe Wilkinson 573-943-6779 jpwilkin@osagecon.missouri.org
1st Vice President: Don Nichols 660-862-9252
2nd Vice President: Ed Harper 660-946-4460 aramed@grm.net
Librarian: Mike Williamson 870-445-2779
Assistant Editor: Lou Degginger 573-657-4555

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, 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.

BAM WORKSHOPS

Year 2003 was a great year for BAM workshops. Some did not get completed in 2003 and are continuing in 2004. It is time for members to start initiating some workshop activity for the remainder of the year. With prior approval, BAM will financially support workshops. We need some regional workshops, so members in various locations can attend and participate.

Treadle Hammer

There are two dates remaining for completion of the treadle hammers. Bruce Herzog has announced that one half of the hammers will be completed on the weekend of March 27th and the remainder on the weekend of April 3rd. All participants have been notified by a letter, as to which weekend they are scheduled to work and take their hammer home. This workshop has been done with the organization, guidance, and supervision of Lou Mueller, Bruce Herzog, and Andrew Herzog. Loy Mueller has graciously hosted the workshop at his shop in Fenton. During this workshop, Lou moved his operation from one location in Fenton to another location several miles away. Even with the move, the treadle hammer workshop continued, with the appearance of a seamless operation. One treadle hammer will be auctioned at the conference and perhaps one awarded by raffle.

Gas Forge Workshop

According to Larry Hulst, nine members who have participated in this workshop will soon go home with a completed gas forge. Larry is coordinating directly with the participants to arrange final workshop details and schedules. Larry has been the prime mover in this effort and has spent a considerable amount of time in research and developing the design for the forge and burners. Thanks, Larry, perhaps you can make this an annual event!

Mobile Training Station (MTS)

By the time you receive this publication, the maiden workshops will be completed at Lou Mueller's Shop and at Bob Ehenberger's location. A number of basic shops have been held at Lou Mueller's shop in the past and at the conference, but this is the first effort to make the training station mobile and move it to various locations around the state. Member participation will be needed to make this program succeed, not only as trainers and coaches, but also for recruiting students. The fee of \$20.00 per day (2 days of training required) will include a one year membership in BAM for the students. The long term goal for the MTS is that in the future, it can be used for advanced blacksmith lessons and for a member resource center, for temporary loan of equipment to members, while the MTS is in their area. See the MTS schedule on page 21.

Missouri State Fair

Peggy Williamson needs volunteers for the State Fair BAM Demo tent. You can spend a day, a week, or even a half day at the demo tent. It is a popular attraction at the fair and provides BAM members an opportunity to demonstrate their skills to the public. This event is also a good recruiting tool and we gain members every year from the spectator crowd.

NOTE: Leaves Needed for BAM Screen

A year or so ago, a screen was started by some BAM members with the intention of displaying it at the conference. More leaves are needed to complete this effort for the conference this year. Make leaves with a stem of 4 to 5 inches (for attaching to the screen) and send to Pat McCarty.

Note: Conference Work(shop) - Set Up & Tear Down

Fred Weisenborn, our conference chairman says that assistance will be needed at the conference to set up and tear down. Be prepared to come early to help and stay on Sunday for the tear down, so our committee members are not left with all the preparation and recovery work.

Mobile Training Station (MTS) Schedule

March and April 2004

March 20th and April 3rd
Bob Ehrenberger's Shop
6192 Hwy 168
Shelbyville, MO 63469
573-633-2010
eforge@marktwain.net

Note: The class at Bob Ehrenberger's was the first "on the road" effort. Our thanks to the Ehrenberger family: Bob, Jan, and Daniel for hosting.

April 30th
The MTS will hold a one day class at the BAM conference.

May and June 2004

May 8th and May 22nd
Davis Hart Voc-Tec School
(Mexico Public Schools)
905 N Wade, Mexico, MO

Ned Digh is the host for the classes at Mexico and Fulton. Contact Ned Digh, POB 765, Fulton, MO 65251 or **573-642-8332** or **bameditor@ktis.net**

May 15th and June 5th
Fulton, MO - Contact: Ned Digh
Shop: 6792 Cnty Rd 424
(in Ham's Prairie area)

July and August 2004

Host: Ed Harper
202 East Fir
Browning, MO 64630
660-946-4460
aramed@grm.net
Dates: TBA

September and October 2004

Host: Ray Chaffin
RR 3, Box 279
Warsaw, MO 65355
660-438-5720
rayzwelding@aol.com
Dates: TBA

November and December 2004

Hostess: Tracy McCarty
36028 West 239th Street
Edgerton, KS 66021
785-883-4174
blacksmithbabe@hotmail.com
Tracy's shop burned recently and she is in process of building a new shop.
Dates: TBA

Partial Schedule for 2005

January & February 2005

Host: Jeff Willard
PO Box 416, Willard, MO
417-742-4569
jessjump@hotmail.com
Date: TBA

Tentative: May and June 2005

Host: Ray Scott
Date and Place: TBA
Ray is moving to Steelville and hopes to hold class there.
He presently lives in Eminence
573-226-5541
prforge@socket.net

Prospective students and members who will assist should contact the hosts for details, directions, etc. Safety glasses and gloves are required. No nylon, polyester, or highly flammable clothing, and no open toe shoes.

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www.bamsite.org

has a buy, sell, trade

section or send

email to:

[Around_the_Anvil@](mailto:Around_the_Anvil@yahoo.com)

yahoogroups.com

If you have questions, call Ed Harper at 660-946-4460 or email him at: aramed@grm.net

From Ray Chaffin:

Exp 02/04

I have a computer operated plasma cutting system that can cut anything out of metal. Mail, call, or email your design for a price quote. I also have hardwood blocks (2-2.5" X 12-14"), for \$5 each. Blocks are available in curly maple, straight maple, english walnut, birch laminated in brown/white and blue/white. Call Ray at 660-438-6720 or email: Rayzwelding@aol.com
Ray Chaffin, RR 3, Box 279, Warsaw, MO 65355

From Kent Harbit: For Sale

Exp 04/04

Wood planer, capacity of 24" width and 8" thick. 3 Phase motor. Call Kent at 660-647-2349

Sold by advertising in the BAM Newsletter !

From Peggy Williamson: For Sale

Exp 04/04

Jet Mill/Drill, Model # JMO 18, Stock # 350018, on stand, 36" tall, like new, very little use. Asking \$4500. Call Peggy at 870-445-2564 Buy and Peggy will deliver to the conference for you. Call Ray Chaffin for any technical information on this machine.

From Clay Spencer:

Exp 04/04

Inline (rollerblade) treadle hammer for sale. \$1200, loaded at my shop in Murphy. Treadle hammer plans for sale — Inline plans \$9.00, includes postage. Beverly shear blades sharpened, \$35 plus shipping, bring the shear to the Folk School or ship the blades to me. Clay Spencer, 934 Partridge Ln, Murphy, NC 28906 828-937-0708 email clays@brmemc.net

06/04

For Sale: Custom-built air hammers. 6# table-top model #1400; 25# table-top model (redesigned 20# air hammer) \$2000; 20# floor model \$2300; 40# floor model \$2800. Some modifications to the basic hammers can be made to your specifications. Also custom metal spinning in copper, brass, pewter, and steel.

Note: New Address

Contact: Maurice L. Ellis
12486 Sutton Road
Belgrade, MO 63622-9197
Phone: 573-766-5346

www.kayneandson.com

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(828) 667-8868 or 665-1988
fax (828) 665-8303



Anvils: Hay-Budden, Peter Wright, others. 6/04

Truck load of anvils - Bobby Blankenship
See me at the BAM Conference



PAW Print Forge

Peggy A. Williamson

Blacksmith

124 Blue Cedar Dr.

1-870-445-2564

Bull Shoals, AR 72619-4501

1-870-404-5709

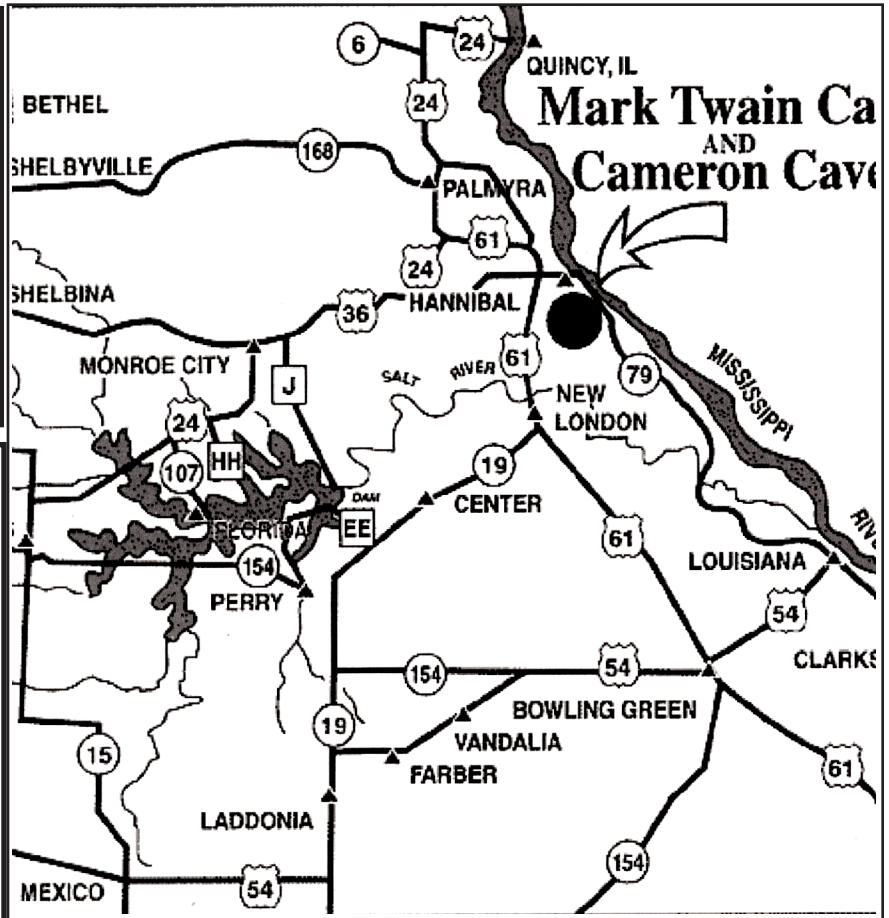
Dates to Remember - BAM Activities

May 29th Meeting
at
Mark Twain State Park
Hannibal, MO
Host: Kirk Sullens
Brown Bag Lunch
Trade Item: Book Holder

April 30th, May 1st & 2nd
BAM Annual Conference at
Warrenton, MO. See Pages 2,3,&4

Arrive early and assist with set up.
Stay Sunday and assist
with recovery.

Donate items for auction & boutique.
Enter a favorite creation in the gallery.
Spend money at the auction, which
provides support for BAM activities.



ABANA Conference
July 7-11 at Richmond, KY

Directions:
US 61 to US 36 to MO 79 to County Rd 453

Check www.bamsite.org weekly for changes and updates

April 30th, May 1&2
BAM Annual
Conference
Warren County
Fairground
Warrenton, MO

May 29th Meeting at
Mark Twain State Park
Hannibal, MO
See Map and other
information above

July 7-11
ABANA
at
Richmond, KY

July 31st Meeting
Host: Jeff Willard
Willard, MO
Trade Item: Traveler
Lunch Provided

Sept 25th Meeting
Hosts: Ned & Esther Digh
Fulton, MO (Ham's Prairie)
Lunch Provided, Trade Item:
deck rail holder for plant,
bird feeder or other.

See MTS
Schedule on Page
21
Member help needed

Wanted - For The Conference - Members to:

1. Donate items for BAM auction and boutique.
2. Enter an item of your work in the BAM gallery.
3. Register early for the BAM conference.
4. Register early for the ABANA conference.
5. Bring a guest and prospects to the annual BAM conference
6. Buy lots of items at the BAM auction and BAM Boutique.
7. Come early and stay late to assist with the start up and tear down.

**FEATURE YOUR
FAVORITE CREATION
IN THE GALLERY AND
THEN DONATE IT TO
BAM
FOR THE AUCTION**

Tailgate sites: free to registered participants!

BAM

2212 Aileswick Drive
St. Louis, MO 63129