

BAM

January-February 2006



Bronze Ankh corner post

Austin Iron Works

www.bamsite.org

Contents

Editorial

5 From the Editor

Austin Iron Works

6 Minutes from 1/14/06 meeting

What's His Name

7 President Don Nichols

Pat's Hammer-in

8 Pat's New Year's day Hammer-in by Bob Stormer

Conference Info

10 Conference information and Forging Contest

Bronze Ankh

12 Bronze Ankh Demo

Getting Started

14 Seven ways to lite your forge

New Year's Day

17 Pictures of the Pat McCarty Hammer-in

Tire Hammer

18 Power Hammer Workshop by Ned Digh

What is it?

21 Interesting old tool

Pricing Your Wares

22 How to Price Your Wares by Don A. Meador

Classified Ads

24 Ads - Personal / Business

Scheduling

27 Upcoming Events

Membership

27 New Members



Bronze Ankh pg 12



ABANA Letters Pg 20



COAL Map pg 26



Meeting Map pg 28

**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

Volume 23 No. 1
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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 \$25/year; a portion of this amount is for a subscription to this newsletter for one year. Editorial inquiries should be addressed to: **Bob Ehrenberger 6192 Hwy 168 Shelbyville, Mo 63469; (573)-633-2010 or send e-mail to bameditor@centurytel.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.

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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 \$25, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly BAM newsletter. Please make checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri.

ABANA Membership Application

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Name: _____

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- Contributory\$100 yr.
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- Public library\$35 yr.

See reverse

Send this form in an envelope with your payment to:

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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

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Checks must be in U.S. currency

SEND RENEWAL TO:

ABANA

P.O. Box 816 Farmington, Georgia 30638

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The Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri is an affiliate 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.

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From the Editor

By Bob Ehrenberger

I hope you all had a good Christmas and new year. I know that I certainly did. Having grand children has brought back a lot of the excitement that was missing once our own children became adults.

The meeting at Steve Austin's shop went well. I had a chance to meet in person several people that I had only known from on line. It's always nice to be able to put a face with someone that you correspond with.

Since my shop is unheated, I have been grateful that the weather has been pretty moderate this winter. Other than two weeks in November, it has been almost pleasant. One of the things I do in the winter is crank up the old salamander space heater and point it at my legs. I've found that if my feet are warm I can handle quite a bit of cold. Another solution that I've seen was in Japheth Howard and Alice James' shop, they use a radiant heater in about the same way. They point it at their work area and don't have to heat the whole shop.

We had a bit of a crisis early in December when one of the toggle arms on my trip hammer broke. It happened while Daniel was using it, but he blamed it on all the cold texturing that I do. I think it was just that it is about 90 years old. Well my hammer is a Mayer and Sid Suedemeier doesn't list that part, though a foot note said that some of the Little Giant parts are interchangeable with the Mayer. (By the way, Sid is going to be holding a trip hammer rebuilding work shop this spring.) I figured that it wouldn't hurt to try and repair it before contacting Sid.

My first step was to put the question out on "Theforge" the ABANA news list. My main concern was with the pre and post heat process. I got several good suggestions from the guys there. There seemed to be

advocates for several different solutions that had all been tried with success. The ones that advocated brazing, also stressed that you should clean up the joint with a file and not a grinder, since the grinder will contaminate the joint. There were those that advocated arc welding with a high nickle cast iron rod. And those that suggested welding with oxyacetylene and using a cast iron filler rod. I had never heard of torch welding cast, but several of

the guys said that they had done it. Of course, both of the welding methods required a good grinding job to get to the center of the weld and a lot of pre-heating. Since I already had the cast iron arc welding rod from a project many years ago and haven't done any brazing since I took welding in school, I decided to go with arc welding.

The recommendations on pre-heat varied from 450 to 1100 deg, I decided to go with the lower figure because that is what the oven in the shop will do (Daniel uses it for tempering knives). I ground the joint so that I could get all the way in with the rod, being careful to leave a strip of the original material in place for alignment. I set up stops and braces on my welding table so I could get them in place for welding while hot.

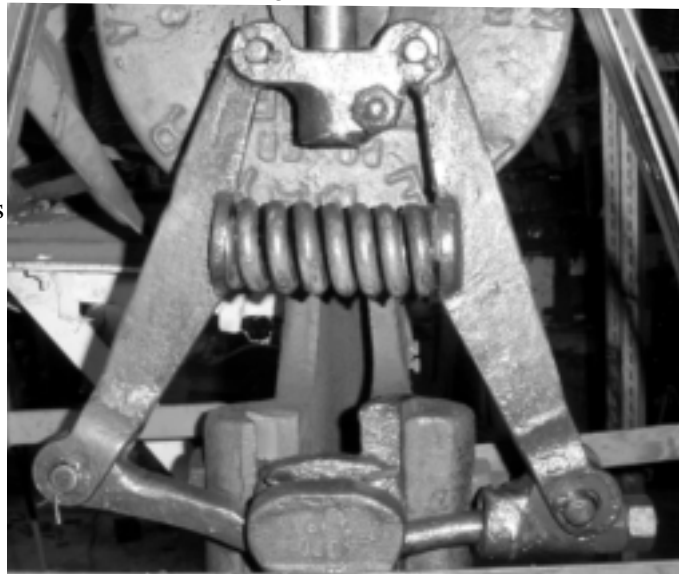
With the parts in the oven, I stacked fire wood for an hour to avoid the watched pot syndrome.

Once they had soaked a good long while I was ready. With every thing clamped in place I tack welded both ends of the break to maintain alignment. I welded both sides, chipped the slag to make sure I didn't have any voids, then put the whole thing back into the oven. After lunch, I turned off the oven and let it cool down on it's own.

The next morning I took the arm out of the oven, inspected it, and then put my hammer back together.

I've been using it for about a month now and it seems to be working fine. I didn't think of writing an article about it until after the repair was done (I just wanted to get it back up and running), so I don't have any in progress pictures. Here is a picture of the repaired arm back on the hammer.

The submission deadline for the next newsletter is March 18, 2006



Minutes BAM meeting

1/14/06 By Bob Ehrenberger

Thanks to host Steve Austin for inviting us into his shop.

Tom Clark announced that he will be putting on a beginner's class all day Friday to kick off the Ozark conference. All materials will be provided. The class is limited to 12 students. The class will operate using coal forges. This is in addition to the MTS class on Friday that will use gas forges. There will be a nominal charge going to BAM.

Introduction of new members.

Bruce Herzog gave a financial report. Don't forget that the dues went up to \$25 on the first of the year.

Bruce gave a membership report, we currently have 590 members.

State Fair report. If you want to work the fair contact Peggy Williamson to sign up. She will get you entrance and parking passes.

Don Nichols gave an MTS report. 1) Still looking at suggestions for safely loading equipment after workshops. Contact Don Birdsall with ideas. 2) Our current forges don't get hot enough and are too heavy. We are still looking into new forges. Jerry Hoffmann said he would provide materials for his style forges if BAM would assemble them. Also looking into buying NC forges

Reports from the Power hammer workshop were very positive. Everyone that made one was impressed with the power and operation of the hammers.

I brought up that nothing had been done on the life membership issue since it was brought up at the July meeting. I said that I had checked around and it is typical for organizations to charge 20 times the annual dues for a life membership, so that would make ours \$500. If you think this is a good idea, contact Bruce Herzog or one of the other officers and let them know.

Mona Sullens gave a conference report. We have all three demonstrators lined up. We still need helpers for the demonstration work stations for Gordon Williams and John Fitch. There will be a basket making class for family members. Please make something for the BAM boutique and the auction. Bring something nice to show off in the gallery. There will be a beginner's blacksmithing class and a beginner's bladesmithing class at conference. Gordon Williams is going to have an advanced class, there will be a lottery from the applicants to see who gets in.

We still need to get a replacement treasurer. We think we have someone lined up for the President's job, but if you are interested contact Don Nichols to get on the ballot.

Kirk Sullens announced that he is going to organize a group buy for gas saver valves. If he can get 10 or more ordered he can get a discount. Contact Kirk if you are interested. (This is a shut-off valve with a pilot light that lets you set your torch once and then quickly relight for each use.)

Next meeting is at Lou Mueller's shop at Sunset Hills, Mo. (near St. Louis)

Meeting adjourned.

Trade items were made by: Dave McCord, Dave Edwards, Kate Dinneen, Steve Austin, Justin Bell, Bob Ehrenberger, Bjorn Sparrman, George Rousis, Doug Clemons, and Don Nichols,

Iron in the Hat items were donated by: Don Nichols, George Rousis, Dave Edward, Bruce Herzog, Harry Weber, Tim Rice, and Ian Wille.



A Word From Old What's His Name

by Don Nichols

Well, how do you like this weather for January? You can't beat it for 2006. Hopefully, those that don't have heat in there shops can still light a fire and do some blacksmithing.

Our January meeting had good weather and a good turn out. It was great to see so many from the east side of the state come over to the west side. We want to Thank Steve Austin for opening up his shop for the BAM meeting, "Thanks Steve!"

First, Steve started with showing some of his beautiful work and gave a lot of pointers on how to do work so it would be done correctly and not cause problems later. Then, he and his helpers showed us how to work bronze which is not easy because it does break easily and it's expensive too. But get a piece and try it sometime.

Are you thinking and working on your pieces for the auction and Boutique for our Conference? We need everyone to help in some way to help make it a great event. Let Larry Hulls know if you can help with the setting up, tear down, with the demonstrators, or the auction. Every helping hand will be appreciated.

Also, if you know of someone for Mr. President please let Doug demons or Ed Harper know. Also, Bruce needs someone to take over his job. So please step forward if you could take on these responsibilities.

Our next meeting is at Lou Mueller's shop at Sunset Hills. A meat fork is the trade item. Let's have a good showing for this trade item. Show us what you have learned as a BAM member. Then it will be on to the conference at Warrenton. Seems like there are going to be some great opportunities for learning. Tom has a class for beginners. So get your name in for the drawing. Read the BAM letter for information.

By the way, do any of you read the Mr. President letter in the newsletter? Remember!

In olden times people studied to improve themselves..

Today, they only study to impress others-

See ya later,

Old What's His Name

Letter to the Editor

In my recent interview by BAM, I failed to mention one important thing. I had such a difficult time learning blacksmithing I decided to share my experience with other people who were starting blacksmithing, by opening my shop on the first Sunday of every month. People could come and I would show them some of the basics of building and maintaining a fire and forging. The project was really very simple, we made fire tools for the coal fire, a poker and a rake. This involved several basic forging exercises, such as drawing out, twisting, and bending to a given form. For this service I supplied my shop, the tools and material, and charged nothing. I have fond memories of those days, and can say that, two past BAM presidents hit their very first piece of hot iron on one of those Sundays.

In talking with the 2006 conference chair, Larry Hultz, I offered to take a class of 12 people and instruct them for a day on the Friday before the conference. I am pleased to say that he accepted and I am also pleased that Bob Alexander, Pat McCarty, and Phil Cox will assist me. We will set up 4 coal, coke forges and anvils and after I do the basic instruction, myself and the three other instructors, will assist three students each. In addition to the above mentioned fire tools, we will practice forging skills, learning to control the hammer and move the material in the desired direction. While my offer was to do this free of charge, BAM has decided to supply the material and the coke and charge a small fee for the class. Look for details from the chairman.

Tom Clark

Ozark School of Blacksmithing

www.ozarkschool.com

Trade items from the meeting at Austin Iron Works

Photos by Jounior Strasil



Pat McCarty's Hammer-In New Year's Day 2006 by Bob Stormer

Another new year and another wonderful hammer-in at Pat McCarty's shop in Washington, MO. Lots of hammerin', smoke, noise, discussions, and checkin' out what's new in Pat's shop. That's the right way to start the New Year.

This is my second trip to Pat's annual New Year's Day Hammer-In. I'm just going to guess he doesn't party very late the night before since his shop is all set up, there's fire in both forges, the box heater is putting out lots of warm air, the coffee is ready, Mary Jo's home-made cinnamon rolls are ready - all by 8:00AM when I got there. I thought I would get there in time to help set up. I was so upset for not getting to help with the set up, I punished myself by just getting some coffee and rolls. I also checked out the new spare tire power hammer that was a product of the recent Clay Spencer workshop. It ran so quiet when idling that we had to be very careful that nobody stepped on the pedal unintentionally. It got a lot of use and based on the comments I heard, had good hitting power and control.

This year's project was flowers. We started with spider gears Pat had accumulated and mashed them to about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick. We then drew out a carriage bolt for the flower center and the stem. Leaves were made from various pieces of "scrap" Pat had laying around, although I don't think anything in Pat's shop is really scrap. Bases were made from anything one might pick up. As last year, I was one of the last to get finished and missed the opportunity to take pictures of a lot of the flowers. I did get a picture of Kevin Brinker's before he left. It turned out really nice. If he was married, that could have been a good "let me out of the dog house" offering. There were about 25 to 30 people there and I would guess about a dozen or so made flowers.



Once again, many thanks go to Pat, Mary Jo, and their family for being so hospitable. Pat always picks a neat project that is usually easy enough for some of us who normally don't take time to do much forging. As much as I like taking part in the project, I think the chance to exchange New Year's greetings and update each other on life's rewards and challenges is no less important. Thanks again Pat – hope to see you next year!

Ed Note: There are more pictures on page 17.



Close up of Pat's new hammer

Examples of Austin's fine work

Photos by Bob Ehrenberger, Jr Strasil



Bronze leaf from George Rousis demo

**15th Annual
BAM Ozark Conference
May 5, 6, & 7, 2006**

Friday Forging Contest:
see next page

ABANA Ring Contest:

BAM would like to participate in the ABANA Ring project by taking a ring to the ABANA conference in Seattle. We are encouraging BAM members to make rings and bring them to the Ozark Conference. They will be judged and the best ring will be picked to represent BAM. Ring rules were published in the BAM July/August newsletter.

Auction Items:

Start making items to donate for the auction. Items need not be metal works, but anything relating to or representing the art of blacksmithing will be appreciated. Please be sure to fill out the tag to go with your item when you deliver it to the Auction area.

Gallery:

Bring something that you made to display in the gallery. Items need not be finished and may be works in progress. If you have questions, please contact Walt Hull (785-865-5771). Again, please be sure to fill out the tag to go with your item when you deliver it to the Gallery area.

BAM Boutique:

Bring or make something to sell at the boutique. Items need not be blacksmith related. Family Program: There will be a basket making class with Mary Jo McCarty. More information to follow.

Volunteers Needed:

3 Site Captains (1 bladesmith & 2 blacksmiths) Site Captains will be in charge of their chosen 'smith'. They will be able to choose 2 helpers to aid with setup, cleanup, and run errands. It will be for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The volunteers/ draftees receive free weekend registration and Saturday evening meal.

Here is the demonstrator lineup. We need volunteers for site captains and site helpers.

Gordon Williams

Site captain -
helper 1. David Edwards
helper 2.

Jerry Darnell

Site captain - Bob Alexander
helper 1.
helper 2.

John Fitch

Site captain -
helper 1. Daniel Ehrenberger
helper 2.

Classes available:

Beginning blacksmith
Beginning bladesmith
Basket making
Broom tying

Special blacksmithing.

A FREE class (8 ONLY) will be taught by Gordon Williams on Friday. A drawing on April 1st, 2006 will choose attendees. If you have taken a blacksmithing class before and would like to be in the drawing, please mail or e-mail your name to Larry Hults.

The pre-registration booklets will be sent out in February.

We need someone(s) to volunteer to make a new BAM banner standard. This will be seen at BAM conferences as well at ABANA conferences.

Conference Committee:

Larry Hults - Chairman
1515 Sycamore Lane
Saint Clair, MO 63077-22117
whiskers@yhti.net
636-629-7411

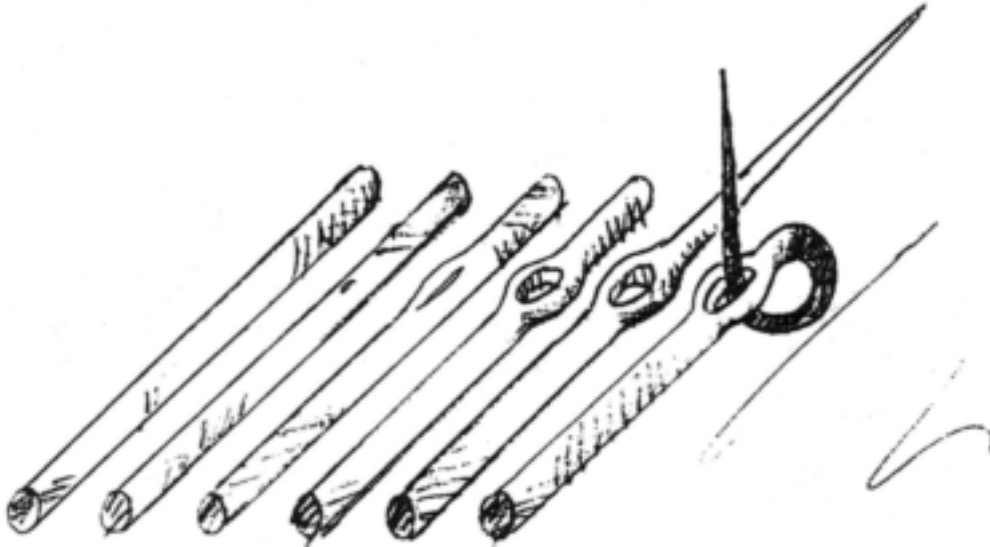
Ken Jansen
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bygeorgeforge@yahoo.com
573-364-8616

Mona Pieron & Kirk Sullens
kirk@kirksullens.com
417-863-8628

**2006 OZARK BLACKSMITH CONFERENCE
FORGING CONTEST----THREAD THE NEEDLE**

Suggested by Walt Hull



1. 20" X 3/8" round stock
2. center punched 5" from end
3. slit on center punch
4. drift open to 3/8 round
5. draw taper
6. thread the needle

The task must be completed within 6 minutes and use no more than 4 heats. Your time will begin with your first hammer blow and end 6 minutes later.

The winner is whomever draws the most of his/her taper through the eye. You may not forge the taper after it has been inserted into the eye.

BAM will supply the following.....

Hammer, anvil, tongs, slitting chisel, drift and center punched 20" length of 3/8" round, you may bring your own tools.

Prizes: 1st -\$50.00, 2nd - \$40.00, 3rd - \$30.00, 4th - \$20.00 Everyone entering will receive a prize.

SIGN UP AT REGISTRATION DESK

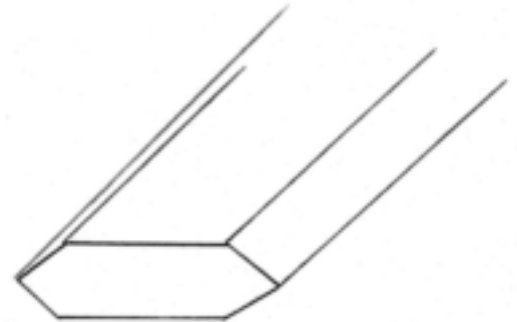
Bronze Ankh Demo

By Bob Ehrenberger

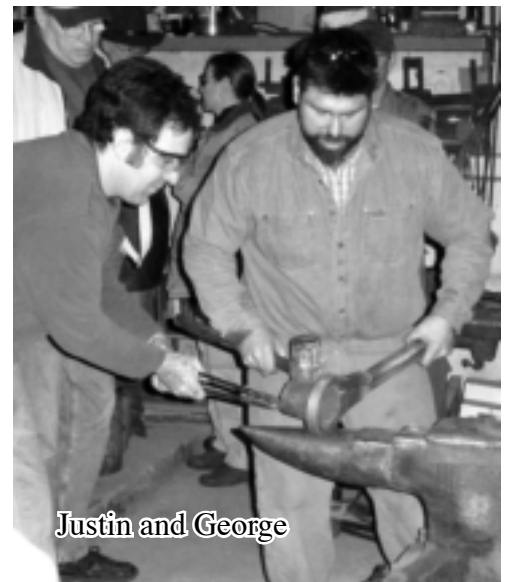
This was a group effort by the Austin Iron Works staff. Most of the work was done by George Rausis. The Ankh element demonstrated is just a small part of the larger piece pictured on the cover. This was originally done for an estate in the Kansas City area as a corner post. The project required 10 units and took George nearly 6 months to complete.

The material used was a 1" square bar of silicon bronze.

The first step was to forge the first 18"-20" of both ends of the bar on the diamond from square to the shape pictured here. When forging bronze, George said that it was important to not over heat. If you get it too hot it will crumble like a piece of chalk. When the bar was ready to forge, it was a dull red, barely any color at all. Steve Austin (the owner of Austin Iron Works) said you can tell when it's hot enough when the bar doesn't slide on the bricks of the forge, but feels kind of tacky. He also said that you will probably ruin a few pieces before you develop the knack for the right temp.



Once both ends were flattened and measured to make sure they were right and the same length, George marked a 2" section where it transitioned from the forged part to the original stock. He put it in the vice and with fellow employee, Justin Bell, heating it with a torch. George twisted it 1/8 th turn to get the flat side of the forged area lined up with the flat of the parent stock.

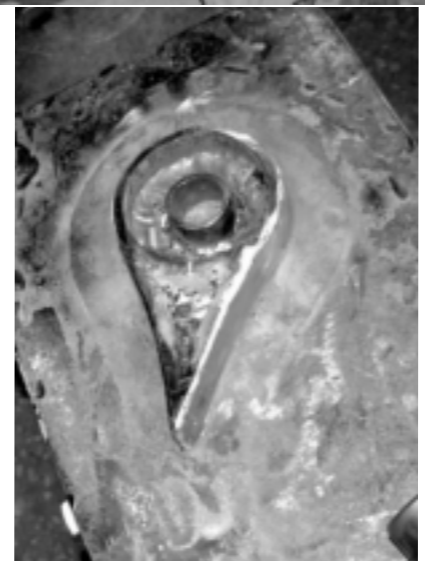


Justin and George

George and Justin then used a section of steel pipe as a mandrel to bend the center section of the bar into the start of a circle with the flats of the forged sections coming together.. A lot of care was taken to make sure that the two ends came together, indicating that the circle was centered on the piece.

From here almost all the work was done on a form made for this job. Steve said that the first form was made on 1/4" plate and it didn't hold up. The current form is on 1/2" plate. The form sits on top of an anvil and has bolts on the side to clamp it firmly in place.

The circle was placed over the form and a large fork was used to make the transition bend from the circle to the flat and tighten the circle up around the form. It is important that you work both sides so the ends stay lined up. As you can see, the form has a pipe welded in the center to accommodate the end of the fork.



Unfortunately at this point, one of the sides broke off. George said that it was probably due to the quenching that he had been doing. Normally he would let the bar normalize between steps but to save time today he had been quenching it. Steve said that they have MIG wire from the same alloy and can weld the piece back together and grind so no one could tell. For now they proceeded by holding the

pieces together with a large set of vice grips.

Steve held the Ankh over the form while Justin and George hammered the edge down into a triangular shape cross-section. It took several heats to complete this process.

Once the heavy hitting was done, Steve finished the piece by planishing with a hand hammer.

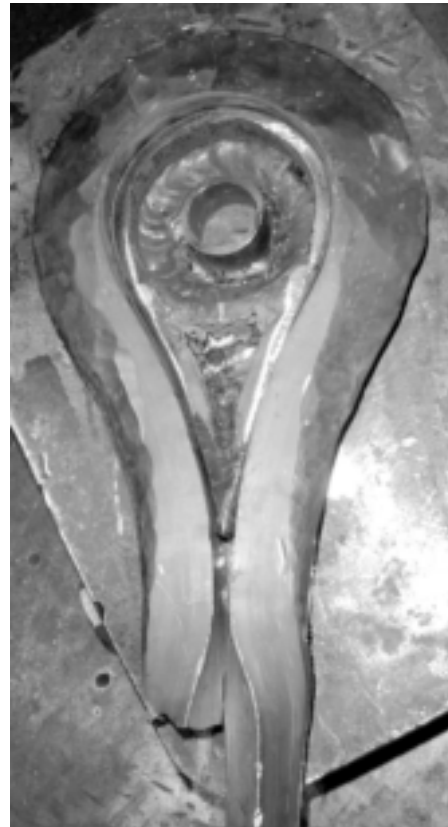
On the original project the customer wanted all the hammer marks removed. So they were sanded and sand blasted to get a perfectly smooth finish. On the finished sample they had (cover) the resulting finish looked like it had been painted with gold paint. Not at all what you would expect from bronze, which usually has a patina.



Justin and George striking as Steve holds



Steve planishing the Ankh



Finished Ankh over form

Getting your Fire started By Bob Ehrenberger

I recently read an article where the author talked about how just about everyone has their own way of starting their forge. If you asked 10 smiths you would get 12 different methods. But he didn't tell you how to start a fire. Well I've been around a while and have used or seen several of the more common methods and I thought I would give them to you here. Surely one of them will work for you. I've changed methods a couple times and use different techniques depending on the situation and what's available.

In all methods, make sure your ash dump is closed, or you won't get a good blast when you need one.

PAPER

When we first joined BAM and took the beginner's class they taught us a method that is pretty common around BAM, maybe because that is what they are taught.

The KNOT -- BAM taught that you take a couple sheets of newspaper and roll it into a long tube starting diagonally at one corner.



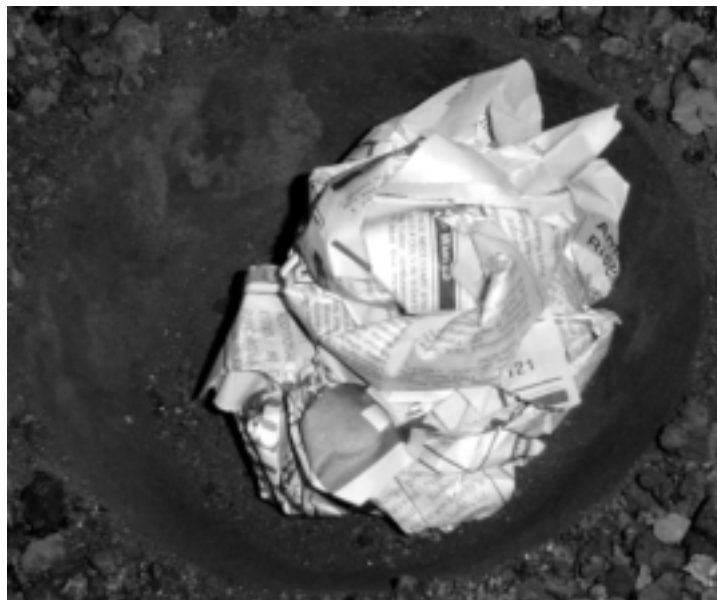
Start of a rolled up newspaper

The tube is then tied into a knot. Pull it tight and then tie the loose ends into another knot. It usually takes about three knots to use up all the paper tube.



Paper Knot

Another piece of paper is crumpled up and put in the bottom of the fire pot. The knotted paper is put on top of the crumpled paper.



Knot on top of crumpled paper in the fire pot

The crumpled paper is lit and a little blast is added. Once the paper is burning real good put a little coke or coal on top of it. As to coal starts to burn add more, make a pretty good pile. Poke a vent hole down the center and give it a lot of blast. There will be a lot of smoke at first, but once the heat builds up the smoke will ignite. When the paper is consumed, use your fire tools to knock the coal and coke into the void and keep up the blast. You don't want a hollow fire. After about 10 minutes as the coal is converted to coke, the flames will change from yellow to blue, you are ready to use it.

Starting a fire continued...

The Mushroom -- When George Dixon demonstrated for us a few years ago he showed us his method, which is what I use most of the time now. He takes a single piece of newspaper and crumples it up kind of loose. He then takes another piece of paper and wraps it around the crumpled paper. He holds the wad of paper in the balls of his hands and uses his fingers to pull the loose paper into the ball, compressing the ball and the loose paper at the same time. This process is repeated with one or two more pieces of paper until you get the size of ball you want. The resulting ball looks to me kind of like a mushroom, if you

live near the ocean it may look like a jelly fish to you.



Mushroom in the fire pot

The loose ends are lit and the mushroom is placed in the fire pot with the loose ends down. Give a light blast, then add coal and coke like with the knot. I sometimes have to hold it in place with my poker to keep the round side up until I get some coal around it.



The Mushroom. Side view

WOOD

When I took a class at Tom Clark's school he had his own way of starting a fire. This was mainly because he used commercially made coke at the school and coke is hard to start with paper. Tom kept a bucket of little pieces of wood for the students to use to start their fires. We would make a lattice of the wood, soak it with kerosene, and then wait. If you lit it right away it would just burn the kerosene off and not start the wood. After a few minutes light the wood and wait some more. You want it to get burning real good without any blast. Once the wood has all gotten going and started to look like charcoal, add a little blast and start putting the coke/coal on.



Wood in fire pot ready to light

I always cut up my scrap lumber into 4" pieces and keep by the forge. Split them down to 1" diameter or less.

If I have a project that requires a lot of prep work, this is a good method. Stack it, soak it, and then go measure and cut steel. After a bit light it and do more prep work. By the time my steel is ready, so is the fire. Just add coal to the charcoal and I'm in business.

Some of the buckskinners use a variation on this method, where they use shavings and kindling to start a fire in the forge. Then use the fire to start their coal. This is how you would do it if you had to start your forge with flint and steel.

Starting a fire continued...

HOT COALS

When I was forging in my garage, and we were heating with wood it was real easy to take a shovel of hot coals out of the stove to the shop. This is a variation off the wood start method. It only takes a few coals to get the forge going. I also have times when I'm demonstrating at a reenactment and the guy next to me has a camp fire going, I've never had anyone say no, if I asked to have a few hot coals out of their camp fire.

This is also a good method when you need to get several forges going. Once the first one is lit, use hot coals from it to light the rest.

TORCH

I have been at events where they have used an oxyacetylene or a propane torch to light the forge. One time they just buried the end of the torch in the coal with it pointed slightly up. Another time they made a trough in the coal and used the torch kind of like a side draft forge to light it. Once you get a few coals going add the blast and remove the torch.

RAGS

I have a friend that I see at 3 or 4 events each year. He is a weaver, but his Dad was a blacksmith. He told me that his Dad always just used an oil soaked rag to start his forge. It sounds kind of messy but it does work. If I'm doing something that generates a really oily rag, I put it on the forge for the next time I need to start a fire. I don't want to put an oily rag in the trash can, and the burning barrel is a fair walk from the shop so it works out fine. The one catch is to be careful to not let the rag block the tuyere, if you screw up the air flow it won't be pretty once you pile the coal on.

FIREPLACE LOGS

One of the guys at BAM (I can't remember who) told me that he gets the pretty fireplace logs that you buy at the convenience store. The type that you just put in the fireplace and light, for people that don't want to mess with fire wood, but want an occasional fire to watch. These logs are basically compressed sawdust and wax. As the story goes, he would cut the logs into 1"-2" pieces. One piece in the bottom of the fire pot was enough to get the rest of the fire going. The stores usually discount the logs a lot when they are changing over from winter to spring, so you could get a year's supply of fire starters for just a few bucks, and a little time to cut them up.

CONCLUSION

Even with all this experience I still have a flopped fire 3 or 4 times a year. If you can't find a method here that works for you, maybe you need to get a gas forge, or find a smith in your area and hang around with him.

I'm sure I'll think of more as soon as this goes to press. If you have a method not mentioned here, write a letter to the editor and share it with us.

New Year's Day Hammer-In at Pat McCarty's

Photos by Stan Stevens, John Wilding



Power Hammer Workshop by Ned Digh

Photos by Ned Digh, Bruce Herzog

The BAM Power Hammer Workshop, conducted at Lou Mueller's shop on the three days following Thanksgiving completed nineteen power hammers. This was a Clay Spencer workshop, with Bob Alexander serving as the BAM coordinator.

Two (2) pre-workshops were conducted at Bob Alexander's shop in DeSoto. Each of the pre-workshops had about 10 members making parts for the final assembly session at Lou Mueller's shop. All participants and several additional BAM volunteers were present for the three day workshop to contribute their labor and talent.

The power hammer has been referred to several times in the BAM newsletter as the "Spare Tire Power Hammer". A spare tire and wheel (commonly called a donut wheel) from a Chrysler product mini van, complete with front axle and hub is a major part of the drive train. Ray Clontz of N.C. invented the power hammer and BAM Life Member Clay Spencer has developed specifications and prototypes specifically for workshops.

The BAM undertaking of building 19 hammers in a three-day workshop was no small task and could not have been accomplished without the efforts of Bob Alexander, the workshop coordinator. Bob's neighbors and friends: Greg Largent and his wife, and Jeff Sainz all worked extra hours in Bob's shop to assist. Bryanna Alexander prepared lunch and supper for the participants at both pre-workshops. The food was appreciated and reduced the down time which would result from folks leaving the shop to eat.

One of the power hammers made at the workshop will be auctioned at the BAM Conference in May. Clay Spencer has sold two (2) hammers for \$2,000 each and one of the TN workshop hammers has sold for \$2,500. This is a 50 lb hammer and the operator control appears to be superior to Little Giant hammers.

Clay Spencer has agreed to come to Missouri in late Spring or early Summer to do a demo with the Spare Tire Hammer. The tentative location for the demo is at Ned Digh's Shop in Fulton (Ham's Prairie). Watch the newsletter and bamsite.org for details.



Power Hammer Workshops





Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc.
PO Box 816
Farmington, GA 30638 USA
706-310-1030 tel , 706-769-7147 fax
abana@abana.org * www.abana.org

ABANA Affiliate Liaison Letter
December, 2005

This month, a message from ABANA Relief Fund Committee:

The ABANA Disaster Relief Fund committee is working steadily to learn the extent of losses suffered by blacksmiths in the Gulf Coast area. Even affiliate presidents and members are having very great difficulties making contact with a majority of their members. How do you locate smiths who lost so much or moved away? The U.S mail and electronic communication are not of much help to date.

During the Christmas LAMA meeting members talked about their losses due to the hurricanes. One person, Joe Strain, so simply and eloquently reminded everyone what is really important. He described to the group how lucky he was that in spite of losing some friends, his home, his possessions, his shop and most of his tools...he lost no family! Joe and his wife are also expecting their first child in four months.

As we all look forward to the holiday season, we can also help the fund. Here is an idea. Address an envelope to the ABANA Relief Fund, P. O. Box 816, Farmington, GA 30638-0816. Put that envelope where you see it every day. Then put at least a dollar in it every week. As March arrives put that cash in your pocket, write a check for the amount of cash and mail the check to ABANA. The ABANA Relief Fund to date has about \$15,000. The ABANA Relief Fund Committee would like to distribute at least \$30,000. This is very possible goal if everyone does just a little. Your donation is tax deductible and 100% gets to those who need it. Thanks in advance for those who need the help!

The ABANA Relief Fund Committee

Dave Mudge
985.735.0049 / davemudge@abana.org

President's Letter
January, 2006

A big "THANK YOU" is in order for all who have contributed to the ABANA Relief fund!!

Reaching out to help fellow metalworkers / smiths devastated by Katrina type disasters

demonstrates the openness and sharing that nurtured the renaissance of artistic blacksmithing as we know it. There is limited time to participate, as the fund wraps up its work this spring. No better way to feel good about helping a fellow artist than writing a check to a fund contributing 100% of donations to those most affected!

ABANA has gradually accumulated funds through the years for the ABANA Educational Endowment Trust. The "Trust" became a reality in the fall of 2005. Your board voted to transfer \$150,000.00 seed money from the ABANA general budget to the trust. The trust is administered by three trustees, its charter is; " --- PURPOSE of this trust is to provide a consistent , stable and permanent source of funding for grants, scholarships or fellowships to individuals and groups for the purpose of nurturing , preserving and furthering blacksmithing through education and cultivating public interest"-[Blacksmithing being defined as the craft of artistic metalsmithing]. The trust will grow as your contributions are received, but the annual income is restricted to funding the grants, scholarships, etc. as contained in its "purpose".

A major part of the Fall ABANA board meeting was devoted to reviewing goals and ways to accomplish the best service to our members. A review of committees meant dropping those that could be replaced to give you more bang for your buck! Teaching programs and Professional / Academic Outreach are typical of the committee assignments receiving monies to match the enthusiasm of the commitment of its members! For details, see the 14 pages of board meeting minutes on the website. Visit <http://abana.org/business/index.shtml>

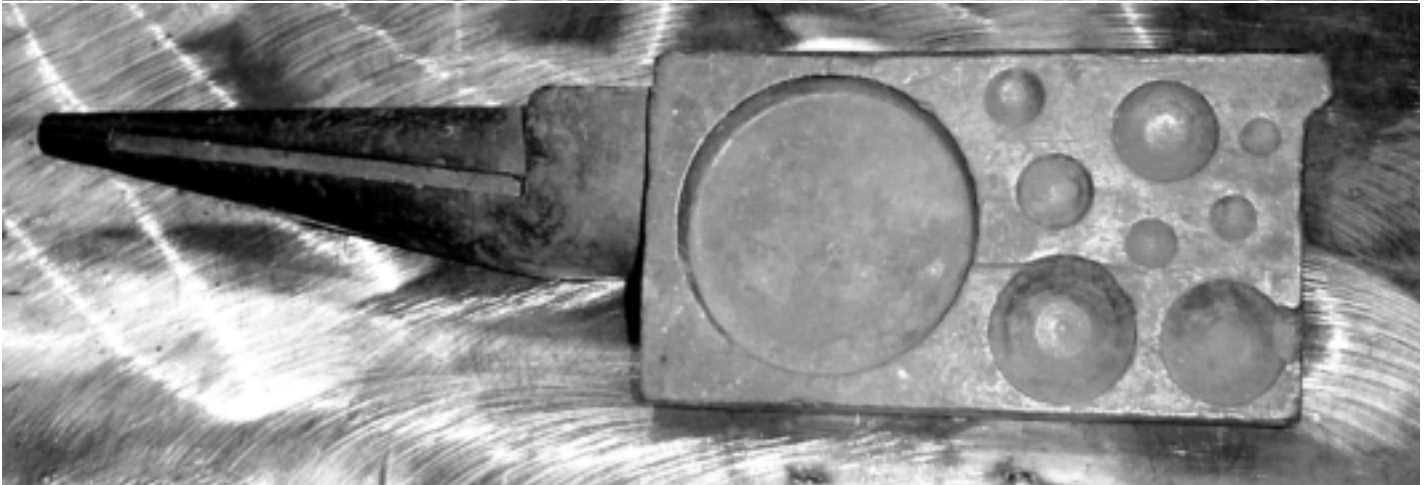
I am sure every ABANA member has noticed the continuing improvements in your publications. I enjoy viewing blacksmithing publications from around the world, and can proudly say the publications The Anvils Ring and Hammer's Blow take a back seat to none!! But there is a piper to pay. The board struggled, but after holding the line the last few years, a revised dues schedule could not be ignored. Beginning January 1, 2006, the Student / Library rate is \$45.00; the Senior rate is \$50.00 and Regular Membership is \$55.00. Two thirds of this pays for the quality of these world class publications to keep you informed, enthused and inspired!

The 2006 ABANA Conference in Seattle, Washington is just around the corner, and again is "an opportunity NOT to be missed"! Demonstrators from around the Pacific Rim and the world will bring new ideas and techniques. There will be old and new friends to meet, galleries to spark ideas and vendors to help enable ideas to be achieved----- SEE YOU THERE!

Don Kemper
20100 NW 61st Avenue
Ridgefield, WA 98642
(360) 887-3903 / dkemper@abana.org

What is it?

BAM member Danny Floyd brought this neat little anvil to the meeting at Steve Austin's. It is obviously designed to be held in a vice while being used. Danny had no idea what special job it was made for or anything about the company that made it. If you know anything about it, write in and we'll share it with the rest of the group. If you have an interesting or odd tool send in a picture or bring it to a meeting, we'd all like to see it.



The overall length is 15 1/2". The anvil face is 3 1/4" x 7 1/2" with a 1/2" hardy hole. The horn is 6 3/4" long with a 2 1/2" x 1 1/2" step. There is a groove along the side of the horn. The swage side is 3 3/8" x 7". The large circle is 3" x 5/16" and cast in. The small circles were machined in.



The letters "N.M.T. PLANO ILL." are cast into the back.

How to Price Your Wares

by Don A. Meador

Blacksmith Association of Missouri

I have been blacksmithing as a hobby for several years, but never tried to sell anything. Recently I was laid off from work and had the opportunity to do more blacksmithing which inadvertently built up an inventory that I needed to sell. Since my wife and I were doing the local farmer's market on Saturdays, we decided to take some blacksmith items.

The first question from this momentous decision was, "What's a fair price for an S-hook?" Without hesitation, my answer was, "I have no idea." Looking over old news letters and blacksmith's sites on the Internet, I frequently found that same question being asked. When the question was asked, an honest answer was given for the item being discussed, but very little or more commonly no direction was given on how the price was determined. To further confuse the situation, I found that some people sell S-hooks for as little as a couple of dollars and some sell them for as much as seven dollars. The more I looked, the more it appeared that no one had a handle on how to objectively set prices on an inventory for a hobbyist blacksmith. It seemed that most people just picked a price based on what others were charging. I wanted a better way that would be fair to the buyer and me.

The problem of determining a price can be broken into two parts - cost of materials and the cost of your time to make an item. Let's look at the cost of materials first. The cost of the metal is easy, but the cost of the fuel required for each item may not be as easy to determine. The cost of fuel for a day could be measured, but then how do you split up the cost for each item? You don't want to stop every time you make something to note how much fuel was used. My solution is to base the cost of fuel on the cost and amount of metal used. The philosophy is that the longer and larger the metal, the greater the fuel required no matter what you are making. This may not be absolutely true, but it is a reasonable approximation. I also believe that just the process of blacksmithing adds value to the metal.

To make the calculation for materials, begin by determining the cost per inch of the metal. This value should include shipping and the cost of any cutting that is required for the metal to fit in your car or truck. Once this price is determined, multiply by a factor to take into account the cost of metal and the cost of fuel to forge the metal. I get my metal from a commercial steel yard so it is below the cost that would be found at a hardware store, and I use coal. Based on this and a final calculation that I will explain later in this article, I use a factor of 3. Depending on where you get your metal, what your fuel cost, and the competition in your area, you most likely have to adjust this factor.

Determining the cost of your time to blacksmith a completed item is next. This calculation is based on the time and difficulty of making one basic part of an item such as a curl, a twist, or a leaf. This part is assigned a value

of 1 unit, and then all other basic parts are assigned a unit value based on how they compare to the time and difficulty of the item you assigned to the 1 unit value. Then a dollar amount is assigned to what the 1 unit is worth.

There is one other complication in this calculation. Some items should be calculated just on their existence in the finished item such as a leaf on the handle of a fork. Some items should be calculated based on their relative size, such as a large curl, medium curl, and small curl on an S-hook. Some items should be calculated based on their length such as the number of inches in a split. This is not as difficult to do as it sounds and is best seen by example.

Since everyone has a different list of items that they can make, in this example I will only use a few items that I use. This should give you an idea of how to calculate your own list of items. For my base item I will use a leaf to which I assign a value of 1.0. Everything else is based on the time I perceive that it takes to make when compared to the time it takes me to make a leaf. Table 1 shows a short list of items. The first three items in the list are based on just their existence in the design. The Curls are based on their relative size, and the last two items are based on the number of inches in the design. For the items that have lengths involved, I determine how many inches it would take to equal the time and effort to make a leaf. For example, in this table I am saying that it takes me about 1 1/2 the time to make a 1 inch split at the end of a piece of metal as it does to make a leaf. This list is dynamic and will change over time as my skill with each item changes.

Leaf	1.0 per item
Small tapered end	0.3 per item
Tip Curl	0.1 per item
Small Curl	0.2 per item
Medium Curl	0.3 per item
Large Curl	0.4 per item
Twist Section	0.5 per inch
Flattened and Split Section	1.5 per inch

Table 1

Once this table is constructed, a base price for the leaf, the 1.0 unit value, must be determined. The question is, "How much do you want to charge to make a leaf?" I came up with \$1.50. This may sound too low, but remember this price does not include the cost of materials. The determination of this value will not be understood until after a couple of examples are worked. For now, assume that the \$1.50 is correct and later in this article it will be explained how to determine this value.

Let's do a few calculations. First we will do an S-hook out of 10 inches of 1/4 inch square stock, tapered at both ends with decorative tip curls, both ends with medium curls, and a 3 inch twisted section in the middle. Let's assume that 1/4 inch stock cost \$0.06 per inch. Therefore, if we use a factor of 3, the metal will be calculated based on \$0.18 per foot. Table 2 shows the calculations.

Item to calculate	Rate	Calculations	Totals
10 inches of 1/4" sq. stock	\$0.06 per inch	10 in x 3 x \$0.06	\$1.80
Leaf	1.0 per item		
Small tapered end	0.3 per item	2 x 0.3 x \$1.50	\$0.90
Tip Curl	0.1 per item	2 x 0.1 x \$1.50	\$0.30
Small Curl	0.2 per item		
Medium Curl	0.3 per item	2 x 0.3 x \$1.50	\$0.90
Large Curl	0.4 per item		
Twist Section	0.5 per inch	3 in x 0.2 x \$1.50	\$0.90
Flattened and Split Section	1.5 per inch		
Price to Charge =>			\$4.80

Table 2

The table shows that an S-hook should go for \$4.80. However, I have a bottom price of \$5.00. If any calculation is below this price, I round it up to \$5.00. The rationale is that for all the time in learning the skills, the equipment, the set up, and the dangers, you should be able to get at least 5 bucks for a well made item. Another reason for this is that if you have a \$1.00 item setting next to a \$10.00 item, it makes the \$10.00 item look over priced. This is similar to contrast in art. If you put a very dark color next to a light color, then it makes the difference between them look greater. So, if you have a \$5.00 item instead of a \$1.00 item next to a \$10.00 item, then the \$10.00 item doesn't seem to be as expensive and you are more likely to sell the \$10.00 item due to the low contrast.

Let's calculate a roasting fork. Use 3/8 inch round that is 28 inches long. Assume that the 3/8 inch round stock cost \$0.064 per inch. The fork end will be 4 inches flattened and split. The other end will be tapered with a tip curl and a small curl. Table 3 shows the calculation.

Item to calculate	Rate	Calculations	Totals
28 inches of 3/8" rd. stock	\$0.064 per inch	28 in x 3 x \$0.064	\$5.38
Leaf	1.0 per item		
Small tapered end	0.3 per item	1 x 0.3 x \$1.50	0.45
Tip Curl	0.1 per item	1 x 0.1 x \$1.50	0.15
Small Curl	0.2 per item	1 x 0.2 x \$1.50	0.30
Medium Curl	0.3 per item		
Large Curl	0.4 per item		
Twist Section	0.5 per inch		
Flattened and Split Section	1.5 per inch	4 in x 1.5 x \$1.50	\$9.00
Price to Charge =>			\$15.27

Table 3

The table shows the price of this roasting fork should be \$15.27, but I would round down to \$15.00 unless I added some extra special decoration.

I can now explain how I came up with the factor of 3 for the metal cost and the \$1.50 for the 1.0 unit price for the leaf. It is based mainly on an S-hook. Since I want to have a bottom price of \$5.00, I want my S-hook to calculate out to be about \$5.00. I tried different combinations for the multiplying factor and the leaf price until I got to the \$5.00. Then I looked at different items that I have had some idea what they should cost to verify this value. I moved these numbers around until items that I had an idea of what they should cost came out in the right ballpark.

Once you have decided on the factors to use, all your other prices will be relative to each other and reason-

ably priced with respect to each other. I don't think the price of an item is as important as the price related to the other items in your inventory, and this method allows you to do exactly that. In addition, as you develop new items for your inventory, you can confidently come up with a reasonable price. You can also easily adjust your prices for all items in your inventory as the price of coal and metal change.

This method can be as accurate as you desire. You could work in a factor for the size of the metal in Table 1, make some time studies on how long it takes you to make an item, determine more objectively how difficult a task is, and so on. You could modify this method so that the fuel cost is tied to the item being made instead of the cost of the metal, or even make it a separate calculation. Be careful, because you can get so involved in making your calculations more accurate that you won't have any time for blacksmithing. Don't forget to periodically look at what you have and adjust your prices on the supply and demand. I also adjust the value depending on how much I want to keep something. If some item is especially decorative and I have done an extra good job, I will make the price higher than what I calculate.

After you have set your price, be very reluctant to change it and especially reluctant to reduce the price. You don't want to have the unpleasant experience of explaining to a customer that bought in the morning why the item cost \$5.00 less in the afternoon after this guy has been lugging your wares around advertising for you all day. You also don't want to have a 10% off after 5:00pm. When you get a reputation for reducing your price towards the end of the day, you may find no one will buy from you because they are waiting for 5:00pm and they may very well be too tired to return to your location at the end of the day to get the 10% off price.

This article shows how to determine a price by hand, but I must admit that I have made a spread sheet in my computer to do these calculations. Using a spread sheet allows you to easily make adjustments on the factor of 3 and the \$1.50 for a leaf, but doing it by hand is not all that difficult.

I hope that this article has given you the answer to the question of how to determine a price for your wares.

Don Meador has been a member of ABANA and BAM for several years. He has done volunteer work as a Blacksmith at Missouri Town 1855 in Jackson County, Missouri for many years. He does demonstrations at art & craft shows with his portable firepot. Among the eight hobby booklets he has written are "How to Build a Blacksmith's Firepot", "How to Build a Full Sized Coal Forge from Commonly Available Metal", and "How to Build the Wet/Dry Vac Precision Air Controller for Forge and Foundry." In addition to these, he has written the textbook "Analogy Signal Processing with Laplace Transforms and Active Filters", second edition. He has been a Professor at a private university for 26 years teaching electronics. Don has been married 33 years. He and his wife raised twin daughters and developed many hobbies from their ten years in 4-H.

Reprinted from the Fall 2005 Hammer's Blow

Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads

25# Little Giant new style sn 8144, 5Hp 110v Motor,
Bill Knoder 573-733-4660

Commercial / Resource ads

Services:

Custom spinning in copper, brass, pewter, and steel. Contact Ken & Kathy Markley, 7651 Cabin Creek Lane, Sparta, Ill. 62286. Phone: (618) 443-5284 Fax: (618) 443-5284

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.

Little Giant-- We can do repairs on any or all components of your Little Giant front assembly. Contact H."Sid" Suedmeier 420 4th Corso, Nebraska City, NE. 68410 (402) 873-6603

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.

Tire Hammer Workshops, Beverly Shear Sharpening

I have donated my treadle hammer plans to ABANA and will not be selling plans in the future.

Beverly shear blades sharpened \$35 plus postage.

I will be leading workshops to build 50 lb. Tire Hammers, contact me for details.

Clay Spencer, 934 Partridge Lane, Murphy NC 28906-6149, 828-837-0708 or e-mail to clayms@brmemc.net

Information / Education

New email/web site for Tom Clark and the Blacksmith School

Tom: tclark@ozarkschool.com
School: www.ozarkschool.com

Tong Making Class-Weekend Course

4 people per class - \$125 per person

Contact: Charles Comstock Rt.1 Box 20, Deerfield, MO. 64741 (417) 927-3499

Classes offered, The Ornamental Iron Shop

Contact the instructor to register and customize your class.

John D. Thompson – Metalsmith

3923 Hwy 25; Hodges, SC 29653

864-374-3933

Classes at Pieh Tool Company, Inc. - Camp Verde, AZ

The Bill Pieh Resource for Metalwork.

Call now for more information and to enroll:

(928) 554-0700 or (888) 743-4866. www.piehtoolco.com.

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

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

The Upper Midwest Blacksmiths Assoc (UMBA) now has its video library back up and running An index list can be viewed at **www.umbaonline.org** They are VHS or DVD-R Cost is \$5 each with \$2 per order shipping There is no return date you keep the video for this price. All videos are made at group demos no commercial titles.

Blacksmithing E-books on CD

TWO NEW/OLD E-BOOKS-Weiner Kunstschmiedearbeiten (1928) and La Fidelle Ouverture de l'Art du Serrurier, originally published in 1627. Now eight titles are available on CD, \$4/each, or all eight books, \$24 postpaid. More books are in production and will be available soon- order on-line at www.blacksmithingebooks.com, or check/MO to Brian Gilbert, 3404 Hartford Dr., Chattanooga, TN 37415.

Products

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.

Tom Clark carries a complete line of hand forged Hofi style hammers, punches, drifts, tongs, shears, belt grinders and gas forges. He's also importing the Sayha air hammer from Turkey. For more info on the tools contact him at Phone (573) 438-4725. Fax (573) 438-8483.

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.

Buy, Sell, Trade, Continued

Bells Novelty Casting is a foundry in Anniston, Alabama manufacturing blacksmiths' tools. We are currently looking for dealers to market our products. We have anvils of all sizes, swage blocks, hardies and drift pins. Call 1-877-FARMBEL. Web site www.bellsandmoe.com.

Kayne and Son Custom Hardware, 100 Daniel Ridge Road, Candler, NC 28715. (828) 667-8868 fax (828) 665-8303, e-mail: kaynehdwe@charter.net, web site: www.blacksmithsdepot.com. Offering Peddinghaus 2 horn anvils, Offcenter tongs and swages, etc, hammers, tongs, the Fly Presses, Treadle Hammers, and Forgemaster gas forges. We ship and accept Visa and Mastercard.

Persimmon Forge **PEDAL HAMMER** for sale for the more delicate work of chase and repousee, chisel and chase, leather stamping, some stone and wood carving applications, etc., in a comfortable seated position with minimal effort, maximum safety, and fast striking.

The basic 25-pound hammer is \$1,300.00 , many optional upgrades are available.

Contact Dave or Betty Edwards by e-mail at djedwards@cableone.net, or write or call the manufacturer, Four Mile Carriage and Machine, at 3220 West 6th Ave., Emporia, Ks. 66801, (620) 342-4440.

SOFA fire pots are once again available. For information contact Bob Cruishank, 1495 W. Possum Rd., Springfield, OH. 45506 Phone: (937) 323-1300 or www.creativeironforge.com or www.sofablacksmiths.com

Wanted:

A few years ago Don Nichols was selling **rolls of thin strap material**. If you bought a roll and never found a use for it I would like to take it off your hands, as mine is running out. Bob Ehrenberger (573) 633-2010

Articles for the BAM Newsletter. E-mail, or snail mail to Bob Ehrenberger.

Demonstrator List Forming

Fred Weisenborn has started a list of members available for demonstrations,

fairs, historic events, and festivals, etc.

Contact Fred to get on the list:

417-589-2497 e-mail: jweisenb@llion.org

Around the Anvil BAM has it's very own E-Mail news group. If you would like to participate send an E-Mail to Ed Harper at aramed@grm.net and he can get you signed up.

Hammer-In 2006

2006 John Deere Historic Site Grand Detour, Illinois
August 5-6,2006

"Here Ye Hear Ye" Calling all Blacksmiths
We need your help" For a really good Hammer-In at John Deere Historic Site, Grand Detour Illinois, Aug 5 and 6, 2006, we need to get the word out to the public and to all the smiths everywhere.

Sign up early and bring your tailgate items to sell with your handmade work. Bring a donated item for the largest auction ever. Plan to hammer both days, as the public will be shopping.

Please send RSVP as soon as possible. There is no entry fee for demonstrating smiths. Regular site fee for the public. For questions, call Mark and Mindy Gardner at Flood Plain Forge (309)928-9168 or Email floodpftaverizon.net or Terry Husted (217)935-2483 evenings or Email plane4@davesworld.net.

LEARN HOW TO MAKE YOUR LITTLE GIANT POWER HAMMER WORK HARDER THAN EVER!

You are invited to join us for our 14th annual Little Giant Rebuilding Seminar. It will be held Friday March 17 through Sunday March 19, 2006.

First taught by our good friend Fred Caylor of Zionsville, Indiana, we carry on his tradition of teaching how to make Little Giants run well and hit hard.

This 2 ½ day class is a hands-on format. You will help transform a 25 LB Little Giant from running but sloppy condition into a well tuned, quiet, hard working machine. Sid Suedmeier, owner of Little Giant, will share all his knowledge and experience gained from Fred and 15 years of repairing and rebuilding Little Giants.

An old style 25 LB Little Giant will be rebuilt during the class, but we will also have a new style on hand to demonstrate proper assembly and adjustment of both styles.

The class is held in our shop in historical Nebraska City, Nebraska. Our city has a nice selection of cafes, outlets (including Pendleton Woolen Mills), antique and gift shops, orchards, wineries and museums.

IF YOU HAVE A LITTLE GIANT, THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

No experience is required to attend this class. Our past classes have been attended by folks from every walk of life, from students to retirees ...anyone who wants to learn can benefit from this class. We approach the rebuilding process using tools that can be found in the average home workshop.

If you are in the market to buy a power hammer, this class will make you an educated shopper. If you already own a Little Giant, or any other brand of power hammer, this class will teach you how to get the most performance possible.

The class costs \$95, refundable up to 7 days prior to the class; advance registration is required. We limit the class to 25 participants. The class starts at 9 AM sharp on Friday, and typically ends by Saturday evening. The schedule runs Sunday until noon in case we encounter any exceptional problems in rebuilding, and to answer remaining questions.

When we receive your registration, we will send you a city map, along with travel and hotel information. You can reach us at 402/873-6603 or sid@littlegianthammer.com.

Need Coal ?

Check on Availability

Coal Captain: Bob Alexander



1. Bob Alexander (636) 586-6938
14009 Hardin Rd,
DeSoto, MO. 63020

2. Ken Jansen, (636) 366-4353
2257 Charter Rd.,
Moscow Mill, MO. 63362

3. Doug Clemons, (660) 595-2257
RR1 Box 124,
Malta Bend, MO. 65339

4. Jerry Rehagen, (573) 744-5454
390 Bozina Vally Trail,
Freeburg, MO. 65035

5. James Rumbo, (816) 625-8675
7223 Hardsaw,
Oak Grove, MO. 64075

6. Jeff Willard, (417) 742-4569
P.O. Box 416,
Willard, MO. 65781

Price \$10.00 per bag BAM members, \$11.00 per bag Non-members, \$9.00 per bag at Bob Alexander's
Coal keepers earn \$2.00 a bag

Upcoming Events

March 11, BAM Meeting, Location-Lou Mueller's in Sunset Hills. (Map on back)
Trade Item - A Meat Fork

March 17 through March 19, 2006. 14th Annual Little Giant Rebuilding Seminar

March 18, Submission deadline for May/June Newsletter

April 1, Submission deadline for scholarships awarded at conference.

May 5-7, BAM Ozark Conference. Warrenton MO. Larry Hults - Chairman.

June 17th, BAM Meeting Ned Digh, Ham's Prairie, Mo.
Demonstrator: Clay Spencer, using the spare tire power hammer
Trade Item: Cattle Brand (any type handle) with: BAM 06 on the brand.

July 5-8 ABANA conference. Seattle WA.

July, BAM Meeting Don Nichols, Sedalia

August 5-6, 2006 **Hammer-In 2006** John Deere Historic, Site Grand Detour, Illinois

September 2006 BAM Meeting Dale Gilman, Boonville, MO.

November BAM meeting TBD

New Members

If you have a new member near you, welcome him to the group and show him the ropes.

Bechdoldt, Robert
17253 HH Hwy
Neosho, MO 64850
417-312-0806

Claussen, Trent
18125 Baxter Road
Lawson, MO 64062
hitman7019@aol.com
816-580-7019

McNelly, Mark
2606 Imbs Station Road
Millstadt, IL 62260
618-538-7056

Roderocle, Darrell L.
5512 N.E. 62nd Street
Kansas City, MO 64119
fonman_4859@yahoo.com
816-520-2499

Brooks, Tony
898 Freedom Ridge Road
Montreal, MO 65591
ironsinthefire@sisna.com
573-346-6352

Claxon, Ed
P.O. Box 621
Smithville, MO 64089
fireball833@yahoo.com
816-678-4223

Norman, Don
9664 Gillespie Road
Napoleon, MO 64074
denorman@i4f.net
816-690-8165

Schwarze, Nathan
948 Myra Lane
Ballwin, MO 63021

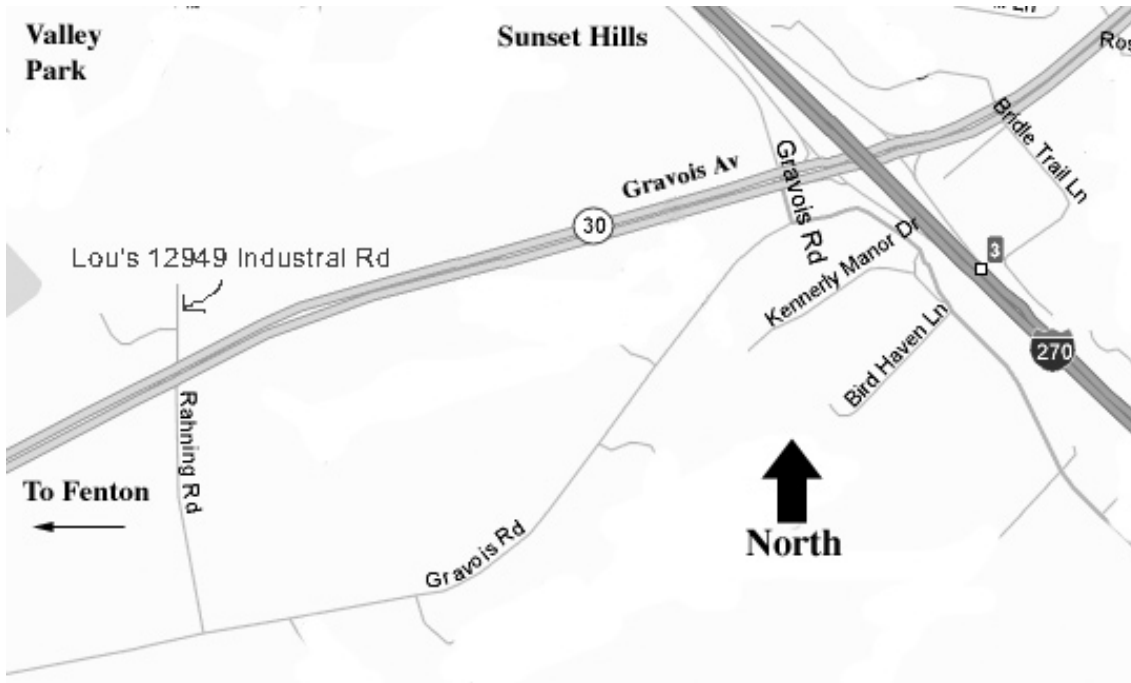
Caron, Lois
RR 3 Box 3272
Marble Hill, MO 63764
573-238-0059

Knight, Doug
P.O. Box 65
Owensville, MO 65066
reno1@fidnet.com
573-437-4424

Plummer, Mark
200 N. Washington St
Oregon, MO 64473
jrp@ofmlive.net
660-446-2447

Weinhold, Randy
5358 NE Munger Ave
Kansas City, MO 64119
rw486@isotechnetworks.net
816-455-1703

Next Meeting: March 11 Sunset Hills, MO.



Host:
Lou Mueller
(314)-842-0796

Trade item:
a Meat Fork

No food will be
provided, but
there are plenty
of local places
to eat.

Sunset Hills is on the South West side of St. Louis. Hwy 30 (Gravois Ave.) is exit #3 on I-270, just one exit South of the I-44 / US-50 interchange. Go West on Hwy 30 to Maurer Industrial Rd. (this is one of those screwy St. Louis roads that change names at an intersection, it is Rahning Rd. on the South side), go North to Lou's Shop. (12949 Maurer Industrial Rd.)

BAM

2212 Aileswick Dr.,
St. Louis, MO 63129

Please send changes to Bruce Herzog, 2212 Aileswick Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129 or e-mail to bjherzog@msn.com