

RAM

March - April 2006



Lou Mueller starts the teaching

www.bamsite.org

Contents

Editorial

5 From the Editor

Sunset Hills

6 Minutes from 3/11/06 meeting

What's His Name

7 President Don Nichols and MTS survey

Shop Safety

8 Summer Time Health Warning by Albin Drzwianowski

Meat Fork

10 Walt Hull Demo

Iron Apple

12 Pat McCarty Demo

Shop Tip

14 Making a work stand by April Wirzke

Tin Can Artist?

15 Bobby Hansson interview by Ned and Esther Digh

Metal Museum

16 New Gate at Museum by Doug Hendrickson

Slotting Demo

19 Lou Meuller shows how to cut slots

Demonstrations

21 An in depth look at blacksmith demonstrations

Classified Ads

24 Ads - Personal / Business

Scheduling

27 Upcoming Events

Membership

27 New Members



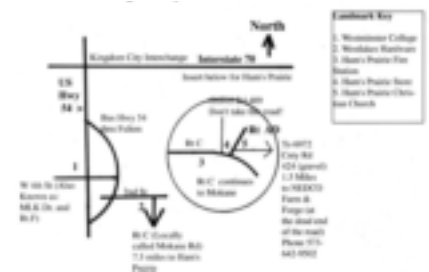
Pat McCarty pg 12



ABANA Letters Pgs 18, 20



COAL Map pg 26



Meeting Map pg 28

**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

Volume 23 No. 2
MARCH - APRIL
2006

Editor

Bob Ehrenberger

Contributing Writers

Doug Hendrickson

Ned Digh

Esther Digh

Albin Drizawnowski

April wirzke

Photo Contributions

Bob Ehrenberger

Doug Hendrickson

Ned Digh

President's Message

Don Nichols

Mailing Labels

Bruce Herzog

The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri is published six times a year and is mailed to members of BAM. The annual fee for regular membership is \$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.

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: () _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

New Member Renewal ABANA member?

How did you learn about BAM? _____

Memberships are for one year from receipt of dues. Dues are \$25, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly BAM newsletter. Please make checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri.

ABANA Membership Application

Primary ABANA Chapter Affiliation: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: () _____ Zip: _____

New Member Renewing Member

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

- Regular Member\$55 yr.
- Senior Citizen (Age 65+).....\$50 yr.
- Full time student\$45 yr.
- Overseas airmail\$80 yr.
- Overseas surface mail\$65 yr.
- Contributory.....\$100 yr.
- Public library.....\$45 yr.

See reverse

From the Editor

By Bob Ehrenberger

A word about scheduling. My charter is to get the newsletter to you two weeks before the next meeting. The publisher says that I need to allow 2 weeks from submission to printing and 2 weeks for delivery. Some will get their newsletters a couple days after printing and some will need the whole two weeks. For some reason it takes a long time to get from Jeff City to Shelbyville, so I'm one that gets my news letter a little later. Any way when it is all added up, I need to get the newsletter to the publisher 6 weeks before the next meeting.

When meetings are two months apart (eight weeks), I have 2 weeks to put together the newsletter. I give you one week to after the meeting to get your pictures and articles to me and that gives me one week to finalize the issue. When I know that something is coming I hold space for it as long as possible. If I don't know you are sending something, I assume that what I have at the deadline is all I'm getting, and run with it.

On the other hand when the spacing is not even, I still have to get the newsletter to the publisher 6 weeks before the next meeting. This spring we have 3 months (actually 14 weeks) between the March meeting and the June Meeting. We only have one month between the June and July meetings. I will therefore use the July meeting as my target date and will have to publish the May/June newsletter before the June meeting in order to get it to you before the July meeting. Pictures and accounts of the June meeting will be included in the July/August newsletter.

In conclusion, it would be nice if we could schedule meetings at even intervals. That just isn't possible given our system of meeting. We need to work with those who host meetings and their schedules. I hope this clarifies the situation to you, I appreciate your patience and understanding.

The submission deadline for the next newsletter is May 20, 2006

Letters to the Editor

Hi Bob,

Nice job on the Jan - Feb issue. It's always nice to see lots of pictures and captions. Glad you could use the photos that Stan & I took at Pat's New Year's Day party. Boy, those are



some ugly bulldog pictures at the top of page 17, aren't they? I want to try making one of those. I have been making ram's heads and (Missouri) mule head pokers this Fall.

I would like to pass on my fire starting method too. I have a big Sweet Gum tree and it produces about a truckload of Sweet Gum balls each year. After raking the balls up and burning them for several years, I realized what a wonderful source of heat (fuel) they are! A pile of glowing sweet gum balls about 3 feet high, at sunset, makes quite a sight!

So, I take a couple sheets of newspaper to the tree, put a mound of Sweet Gum balls on the paper, then fold the corners under, creating a ball. I crumple a couple sheets of paper and place over the air grate, then place the ball of balls on top, light it and start cranking the blower. Then pile on some coal and cover it over. I always get a good, fast fire this way. Next time I attend a BAM meeting I'll be

bringing some Sweet Gum balls for the 'iron in the hat'.

Final word: the trade items on page 7 were awesome!

Keep up the good work.
John Wilding

Hi Bob,

Thanks for reprinting my article.

The photos from the meeting at Steve Austin's place look great. I really appreciate your work and attendance at the meetings so I can keep informed on what is going on. I would really like to encourage you to continue your How-to articles. They are very good and informative.

On the fire starting. I dig down a little, then put Kingsford charcoal lighter fluid right on the coal. Sometimes I will put on one or two pieces of charcoal in if its handy. I light the fluid, push a small amount of coal on top and then turn on a small amount of air. I never seemed to have much luck with paper. I always got distracted trying to read what is burning and didn't pay attention to getting the coal started.

Thanks again,
Don Meador



Garden table made by your editor

Minutes BAM meeting

3/11/06 By Bob Ehrenberger

Thanks to host Lou Mueller for inviting us into his shop.

Introduction of new members.

Bruce Herzog gave a financial report. Bruce gave a membership report, we currently have 598 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 Birdsall gave an MTS report. 1) Our current forges don't get hot enough and are too heavy. We are still looking into new forges. One option is buying NC forges, it was proposed that if we get NC forges that we get them from BAM member Tom Clark. 2) The major discussion was on the general direction of the whole program. Some members have expressed a need to use and teach on coal forges instead of gas forges. It was decided to have a survey of the BAM membership to get a consensus. The survey will be later in the newsletter. (pages 7-8)

Don Birdsall also said that he needs someone to tow the MTS trailer from his place near Rolla to the conference the Thursday before the conference. If you have a heavy duty pickup and can help contact Don 573-364-7223

Ned Digh reported that Clay Spencer is willing to put on another Power hammer workshop if we can work out the scheduling details.

Clay Spencer also asked that we help with his expenses when he comes to demonstrate at Ned's meeting in June. It was voted to approve the request, with the final amount left up to BAM officers once it is submitted.

Bob Alexander said that the next shipment of coal will be coming in about a week. Make sure you call before you make the trip to pick up coal.

It was voted to increase Bob's fee for filling bags by 25 cents.

ABANA had sent out another request for hurricane

relief donations. It was decided to put out a donation jar at the registration table at conference.

Conference report. We have all demonstrator helpers lined up. There is still room in most of the classes. Please make something for the BAM boutique (<\$25) and the auction(>\$25). Bring something nice to show off in the gallery. One of the hotels has changed hands and is not honoring the BAM discount, so check around.

We still need to get a replacement treasurer.

Next meeting is at Ned Digh's shop at Ham's Prairie, Mo. (near Fulton)

Meeting adjourned.

Trade items were made by:

Fred Arnhold, Kenny Valdejo, Joe Wilkinson, John Murray, Ian Wille, Leland Sielen, Fabian Schilly, Ed Harper, Kate Dinneen, Pat McCarty, John Huff, Wayne Rice, Bob Ehrenberger, Ken Jansen, Scott Stager, Bob Stormer, Jeremiah Steward, Dan Wedemeyer, James Rumbo, Walt Hull, George Lewis, Bernie Tapper, Cory Brinkmeyer, and Don Nichols,

Iron in the Hat items were donated by:

Don Nichols, Bob Ehrenberger, Bruce Herzog, Bernie Tapper, Dave Shepars, Bess Ellis, Maurice Ellis, John Murray, Ned Digh, Esther Digh, Ken Janson, Andy Herzog, Fabian Schilly, Cory Brinkmeyer, Don Anders, Pat McCarty, Tom Wisheck, and Todd Schroeder

Ed Note: This is the best response for trade items I've ever seen, great work guys. If I got your name wrong, and you care, you need to write more clearly.



Some of the trade items at the meeting. There were so many that they didn't all fit in one picture.

A Word From Old What's His Name

by Don Nichols

Hello.

Our March meeting went well and we had a very good turn out at Lou Mueller's. We want to thank him for all he has done in the past for BAM workshops and for this meeting. Thanks Lou! His ideas for slitting without deforming metal were good. Walt showed how to form Hex stock and Pat showed how to make your own "One a day keeps the doctor away fruit." Thanks guys!

What can I say? You all really did a super showing of trade items. There were over 30 forks. Great Job! There's no reason we can't do that every time. How many different branding irons can we show at Ned's? Come to think of it, that might be something nice for our auction at Conference. Hmmmm.

This will be my last letter as president. I want to thank all those who have helped in any way during my term in this position. You all have made my job easier and made me look good. If you want to nominate someone for president there is still time. Let Doug Clemons or Ed Harper know before the Conference. Out of almost 600 members there ought to be a lot of presidential stock. Really, it takes all of us to make BAM function like it should. Also, remember Bruce would like to have a rest. I know there is someone out there who could help Bruce.

Also, Larry Hults can still use some help at some of the Demo Stations at the Conference. Let him know if you can fill a spot. A big thanks to Larry, Kurt, Mona and all others for all their hard work. Let them know how much you appreciate all they are doing to make it a great conference.

Again, bring something for our Gallery, the Auction, and the Boutique. We also need your info on the M.T.S. Please turn in the sheet that is in the newsletter. Give it to me or put it in a box at the registration table.

Remember my Mama always said:
"I can't" or "I won't" Never did do anything,

Old What's His Name

P.S. I was president for 2 years and I still don't know some of your names. But I'll keep working on it.

MARCH-APRIL 2006

MOBILE TRAINING SCHOOL SURVEY

YES NO

- ___ ___ 1. Do you think we need a training school?
- ___ ___ 2. Are you a beginning smith?
- ___ ___ 3. Are you an intermediate smith?
- ___ ___ 4. Have you taken a class in our school?
- ___ ___ 5. Would you like to take a class?
- ___ ___ 6. If we would have intermediate classes, would you take a class?
- ___ ___ 7. Should classes be Friday night and all day Saturday?
- ___ ___ 8. Would you prefer Saturday and the following Saturday?
- ___ ___ 9. Would Saturday all day and a 1/2 day Sunday class work best?
- ___ ___ 10. Do you prefer gas forges?
- ___ ___ 11. Do you prefer coal forges?
- ___ ___ 12. Do you think we need a mix of the two?
- ___ ___ 13. If you are an accomplished smith, would you be willing to teach one weekend per year? Name _____
- ___ ___ 14. How many students per teacher do you think would be good? _____
- ___ ___ 15. Should we have 4-6 classes per year? Hold one in each direction of the state, N,S, E,W and central MO and then the conference?
- ___ ___ 16. **Or** do you want volunteers to just offer to hold a class when it is convenient for them in there area?
- ---- 17. **Or** have people sign up that want to take classes, and then try and find a location where most of the students are.
- ___ ___ 18. If we use coal, would there be a problem with ventilation in some shops?

Over.....

MTS SURVEY Cont.

Thanks to The Blacksmith Guild of Central Maryland, Inc. and Albin Drzewianowski for this great article. This is from their newsletter, The Hammer & Tong, May/June 2004 issue.

Let's all work and play safely this summertime!

SUMMER-TIME HEALTH WARNING:

By: Albin Drzewianowski

(I am not a doctor, and I don't play one on TV. The following information has been pulled from a number of health related web sites and for the most part is common sense, afd)

Soon it will be summer and summertime in Maryland means HEAT and HUMIDITY, Blacksmithing is a vigorous activity and if you are not careful, you can find yourself experiencing the unpleasant side effects of overheating and dehydration.

Technically, dehydration means that the amount of water in your body has dropped below the proper level. When it is hot and you are working hard your body can produce a half-gallon of sweat every hour. Unless you are drinking water at the same rate, you will dehydrate and then stop sweating, at which point your body starts to overheat Remember, sweating is the body's natural mechanism for cooling off.

The initial signs of dehydration are:

- thirst
- less-frequent urination
- dry skin
- fatigue
- light-headedness
- dizziness
- confusion
- dry mouth and mucous membranes
- increased heart rate and breathing

As the dehydration continues you will start to experience the progressively more dangerous conditions of: heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and finally heat stroke.

WARNING: Heat stroke can be fatal!!

Heat cramps are muscle pains or spasms - usually in the abdomen, arms, or legs - that may occur in association with strenuous activity. People who sweat a lot during strenuous activity are prone to heat cramps. This sweating depletes the body's salt and moisture. The low salt level in the muscles causes painful cramps. Heat cramps may also be a symptom of heat exhaustion. If you have heart problems or are on a low-sodium diet, seek medical attention for heat cramps.

(cont.)

YES NO

___ ___ 19. Sometimes we have a problem in moving the trailer to the sites. Would you be available to help transport it to the class area?

Name _____

___ ___ 20. **Or** should the teacher / host be responsible for getting it to their shop?

___ ___ 21. We have had problems in advertising the classes. Do you have any suggestions?

___ ___ 22. Would you be willing to help with the M.T.S.? In what way? _____

___ ___ 23. Would you like to be a coordinator of the M.T.S.? Name _____

This would allow Don B. to have a rest.

Comments.

Please send to Don Nichols or bring this to the conference and place it in a box at the registration table. THANKS!

SUMMER-TIME HEALTH WARNING: (cont.)

If you experience heat cramps take the following steps:

- Stop all activity and sit quietly in a cool place.
- Drink clear juice or a sports beverage.
- Do not return to strenuous activity for a few hours after the cramps subside because further exertion may lead to heat exhaustion or heat stroke.
- Seek medical attention for heat cramps if they do not subside in 1 hour-.

Heat exhaustion is a milder form of heat-related illness that can develop after exposure to high temperatures and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids.

The warning signs of heat exhaustion include the following:

- Heavy sweating
- Paleness
- Muscle cramps
- Tiredness
- Weakness
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Nausea or vomiting
- Fainting

The skin may be cool and moist. The pulse rate will be fast and weak, and breathing will be fast and shallow. If heat exhaustion is untreated, it may progress to heat stroke. Seek medical attention if symptoms worsen or last longer than one hour.

If you experience the symptoms described above, take the following steps to cool the body during heat exhaustion:

- Drink cool, nonalcoholic beverages.
- Rest.
- Take a cool shower, bath, or sponge bath.
- Seek an air-conditioned environment.

Heat stroke is the most serious heat-related illness. It occurs when the body becomes unable to control its temperature: the body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails, and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106°F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. **Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not provided.**

Warning signs of heat stroke vary but may include the following:

- An extremely high body temperature (above 103°F)
- Red, hot, and dry skin (no sweating)
- Rapid, strong pulse
- Throbbing headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Confusion
- Unconsciousness

If you start to experience these symptoms or see any of these signs in someone else, you may be dealing with a life-threatening emergency. Have someone call for immediate medical assistance while you begin cooling the victim. Do the following:

- Get the victim to a shady area.
- Cool the victim rapidly, using whatever methods you can. For example, immerse the victim in a tub of cool water; place the person in a cool shower; spray the victim with cool water from a garden hose; sponge the person with cool water; or if the humidity is too, wrap the victim in a cool, wet sheet and fan him or her vigorously.
- Monitor body temperature and continue cooling efforts until the body temperature drops to 101-102°F.
- If emergency medical personnel are delayed, call the hospital emergency room for further instructions.
- Do not give the victim alcohol to drink.
- Get medical assistance as soon as possible.
- **If not treated, heat stroke can be fatal in less than an hour.**

The smart thing is to avoid getting into any of the situations described above in the first place. Start drinking liquids before you begin blacksmithing, continue while working and drink some more after you stop. Many authorities maintain that water is the single best way to combat heat related illnesses. Many sports drinks on the market effectively restore body fluids, electrolytes, and salt balance. Don't drink liquids that contain caffeine, alcohol, or large amounts of sugar. These actually cause you to lose more body fluid. Also, avoid very cold drinks, because they can cause stomach cramps. Do not take salt tablets unless directed by your doctor.

Pace yourself. If you are not accustomed to working or exercising in a hot environment, start slowly and pick up the pace gradually. If exertion in the heat makes your heart pound and leaves you gasping for breath, STOP all activity. Get into a cool area or at least in the shade, and rest, especially if you become light-headed, confused, weak, or faint.

Be especially careful since one of the early side effects is confusion and light-headedness. As the condition gets worse you will be less likely to think rationally. The symptoms described here can really sneak up on you and catch you unaware. Since many of us do our blacksmithing alone, there may not be someone to notice that we are going into a state of heat exhaustion or worse, heat stroke. Work smart!!

Ed Note: I was going to run this in the next issue. Since that won't come out until mid July, I thought it would be good to get this information to you a little early.

Walt Hull - Meat Fork Demo

by Bob Ehrenberger

When Lou Mueller introduced Walt, he tried to pass him off as a beginner. It was apparent to all watching that Walt not only is no beginner, he is a talented and accomplished blacksmith.

Safety tip: Walt said that he just got hearing aids. He said that he was lax in his use of hearing protection and started wearing ear plugs about ten years too late. The damage is done, but to prevent further damage Walt said that the only time he doesn't wear the ear plugs now is when he is eating lunch. Think about it.

Walt's demo was to reproduce the meat fork that he made for his trade item. He started with a piece of 1/2" sq. much longer than he needed so that he wouldn't have to use tongs.

The first step was to forge a point on the end of the bar.



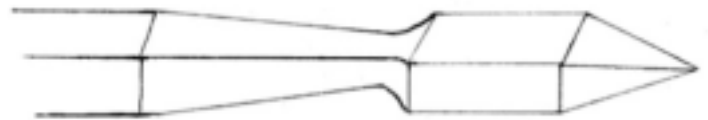
Walt working on Lou's big Bradley Hammer



Then he used a spring fuller to section off the amount of material he needed for the fork itself.

Point with section fullered off

Next Walt forged a long taper starting at the fuller and going about 8-10 inches up the stock. This was drawn out in a square cross section.



Long taper behind fuller

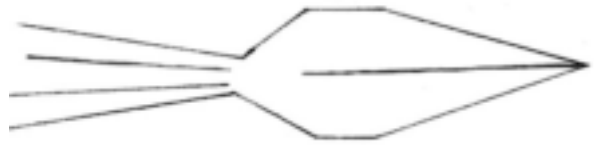


He wanted the handle to have a Hex cross section, but you can't easily convert square to Hex. It has to be converted to round first. Then two sides are flattened. The piece is turned about 60° and two more sides are flattened. Finally it is turned again and the final 2 sides are flattened. With a little practice you can develop an

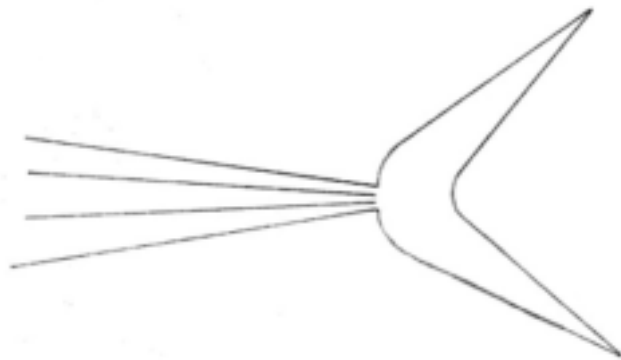
eye for how much to flatten each section to get it to come out right. The Hex form can be adjusted by carefully flattening sections that are a little smaller than the others, until they are all even. Once you have a cross section you like, it is fairly easy to continue it up the rest of the taper.

Walt Demo (cont.)

Once Walt had the taper shaped the way he wanted, it was time to make the fork itself. First the section at the end was flattened. Then it was split most of the way back. Walt said to stop well before the shoulder to make sure you have enough material for the back of the fork.



End Flattened and Split



Split opened and tines drawn out

The split section is opened up, using the edge of the anvil as a fuller to smooth out the termination of the cut.

The two tines are then drawn out to the length needed and rounded up.



Tines are shaped over horn

The tines are then brought together and shaped over the end of the horn. It is easy to get them off center at this stage so don't try to bend them too much at a time. Flip the fork over working both tines to keep them centered.

A gradual curve, re-curve can be put into the tines on top of the horn.

The handle is cut to length.

The square section of the handle is converted to Hex the same way the tapered section was. Go to round and then extend the facets of the Hex all the way to the end.

As a finishing touch, Walt formed a ball on the very end of the handle using a special die in the smith'n magician. He was careful to not drive it home, he wanted to leave the general hex shape on the ball, kind of like a ball-end Allen wrench.

Sorry, I didn't get a picture of the finished fork. Maybe someone else did and I can publish it later.

Pat McCarty - Apple Demo by Bob Ehrenberger

Pat spends a lot of time demonstrating at Silver Dollar City and says that his apple demo is always well received. When he starts out with a piece of pipe and tells them he is going to make an apple, most ask what's that, not being able to make the connection to the fruit in the current context. By the time he's done, he gets a lot of ahhhh an apple.

Pat starts with a piece of 2" pipe. Make sure you block the end so the heat doesn't come through the pipe and burn your hand. He uses a welded seam pipe and sometimes the seam opens up. If that happens, it's best to pick a new spot and start over, it's almost impossible to fix a cracked pipe and have it look right. You could avoid this problem by using seamless pipe (dom), but that is outrageously expensive. Working real hot helps to lessen the problem.

He starts by fullering the pipe about 1 1/2" from the end. He has a special tool to do this which is adjustable and can go all the way from 2" down to 0", a pretty handy device.

Once it is fullered all the way down, i.e. the hole is closed up. He cuts the end off with a hack saw. The little nub that is left is marked with a chisel. In nature, this piece has 7 sections so Pat makes 7 cuts with the chisel.

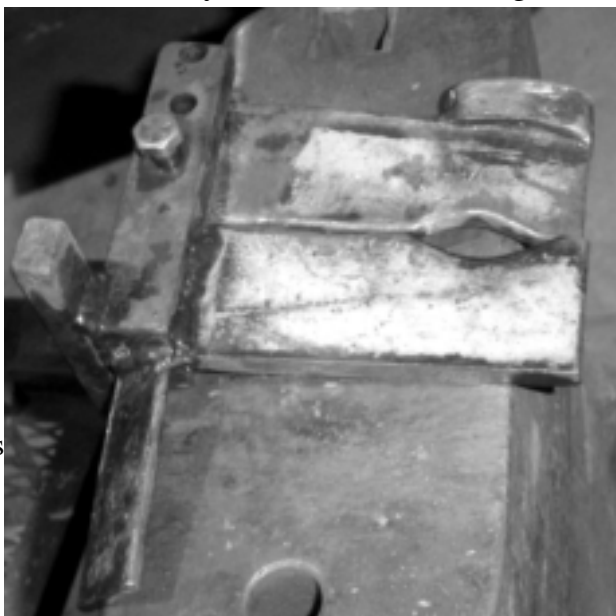
The bottom of the apple needs to be tapered, Pat goes for a delicious apple look which has 5 bumps on the bottom. To get the 5 sided look you can't hit straight down, you have to come at it from an angle. If you turn it frequently, always hitting at an angle you can coax into the pentagon shape.

Once you have a nice pentagon-ish shape, hold the pipe in the vice and use a hollow punch to drive the little nub a ways up into the base of the apple.

Use a fuller on each of the 5 flats to further define the 5 bumps on the base of the apple.



Fullering the apple off



Pat's fullering tool



Apple bottom showing Nub, Flats, and fullering.

Go about 3" up from the bottom and section the apple off of the main pipe.

Apple Demo (cont.)

Like with the base, the fullering is taken all the way down to where the hole is closed up.

Again the piece is hack sawed off of the main pipe. This time the cut is made as far up on the main piece as possible. It is important to leave as much material as possible to make a stem out of.

When the apple is cut loose from the pipe, Pat has a special set of tongs that he made just for holding apples.

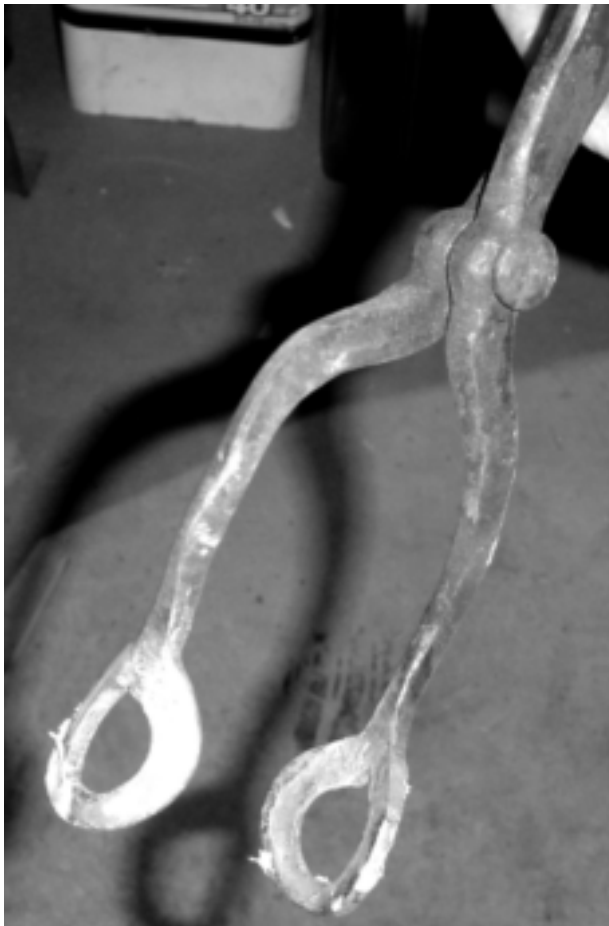
The nub is drawn out as far as possible. It may crack at the end, but this is OK because it will make it look like it was ripped off the tree.

Once the nub is drawn out into a stem, it is driven down into the top of the apple with a hollow punch. The stem is then bent slightly to the side to make it look more natural.

Pat garnishes the apple with a leaf that he makes and holds in place by drilling a small hole in next to the apple stem and sticking the leaf stem into it.



Finished Apple



Special apple tongs

Letter to the editor and shop tip.

Hi Bob.

As one without heat in my shop I thought I'd send along my solutions for staying warm. I use "Toasty Toes", marketed to hunters. And on days I'm not working in the forge. I have trouble keeping my hands warm. So, in the one heated room in my shop, I keep a back up pair of gloves on the oil radiant heater. If I have to change them more often than every 5-10 minutes, it's too cold, and go work in the house.

I've been enjoying the newsletters. You're doing a great job.

Wishing you well, bert

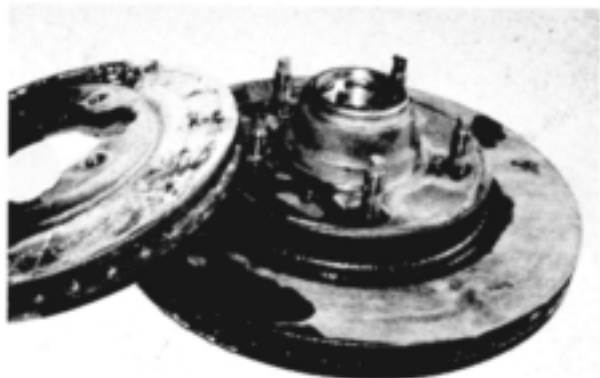
Roberta Elliott
The Velvet Hammer, Ltd.
1210 Union Springs Rd.
Cobden, IL 62920
www.VelvetHammerLtd.com
(618) 893-2216

Coyotes, Crows and Blacksmiths

By April Witzke

The difference between a salvager and a scavenger is that the salvager collects things that have been discarded and sells them, whereas the scavenger collects the discarded item and puts it to use. My husband is one of those guys that when he goes to the dump, he comes home with more than he took, which is why we pay to have our refuse collected. Being the diligent scavenger that he is, that does not stop him. One of his favorite new places to scavenge is the tire store. No, we are not building a rammed earth and tire house. He is collecting discarded brake rotors to use as bases for various stands in the shop.

To construct an adjustable tool stand he welds a piece of flat plate over the center hole of the rotor then vertically welds about 24 inches of 1/2 inch ID pipe to that. The pipe has a 3/8 inch hole drilled in it towards the top with a nut welded over it. He then welds an 8 inch long piece of 1/2 inch stock to a 3/8 x 1" bolt to use as a handle. Next, he takes a piece of 1/2 inch square stock and bends (hot or cold) the ends up a bit to form a cradle. This he welds to the top of a 24 inch piece of 1/2" round stock. The round stock slides into the pipe then tightens the bolt to hold it in place. Ta da.' a functional (and almost free) adjustable tool stand. I guess his scavenging isn't all bad.



Ed Note:

My homemade stands are made on the same principle.

Reprinted from: The May 2005 "The Anvil's Horn"
of the Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association



Bobby Hansson, Master Tin Can Artist and Blacksmith
By Ned and Esther Digh

We first met Bobby Hansson at ABANA 2004, while waiting for the shuttle bus. The sun heat was bearing down, we were perspiring and there stood Bobby, in a multi-colored suit with a wide tie and red tennis shoes with white shoelaces. After introductions, conversation flowed freely and we learned that Bobby was a well-known artist of photography, tin can art, and blacksmithing. He has done the photography for more than thirty books and museum catalogs and is highly regarded in the field. We learned that Bobby teaches tin can art at John C. Campbell and other craft schools.

The bus came and we went our separate ways at our destination. Meeting Bobby is not someone you forget easily, so when back home an Internet search was made and a lot was learned about Bobby and his varied career. He is an accomplished musician, an Internet article tells of Bobby recruiting a ragtag band of artists and woodworkers to play taps on improvised instruments. This article explains that Bobby always wears a recycled tie, purchased at a thrift store, and he vows to never wear two plaids together, always three or more at a time.

One article describes Bobby as having a unique skill to develop sculpture, furniture, musical instruments, and metal art objects from found materials. He has a particular talent for transforming the ordinary into something extra ordinary. He believes that you can create art from anything, even tin cans. His tin can art has been featured in a number of museums, including the Smithsonian.



Our next meeting with Bobby was at John C. Campbell almost a year after we met him at the ABANA conference in Kentucky. Bobby had come to JCCFS to assist Charley Orlando with a class in tin can art. Charley was originally a student in a class taught by Bobby, but now Bobby prefers to assist Charley with the tin can art, a sort of unique twist, but it works very well. A meeting was planned with Roberta Elliott and Charley Orlando and Bobby came with Charley, giving us an opportunity to also interview him. Bobby was immediately recognizable with his multi-colored attire and wide tie, like one from the 50's.

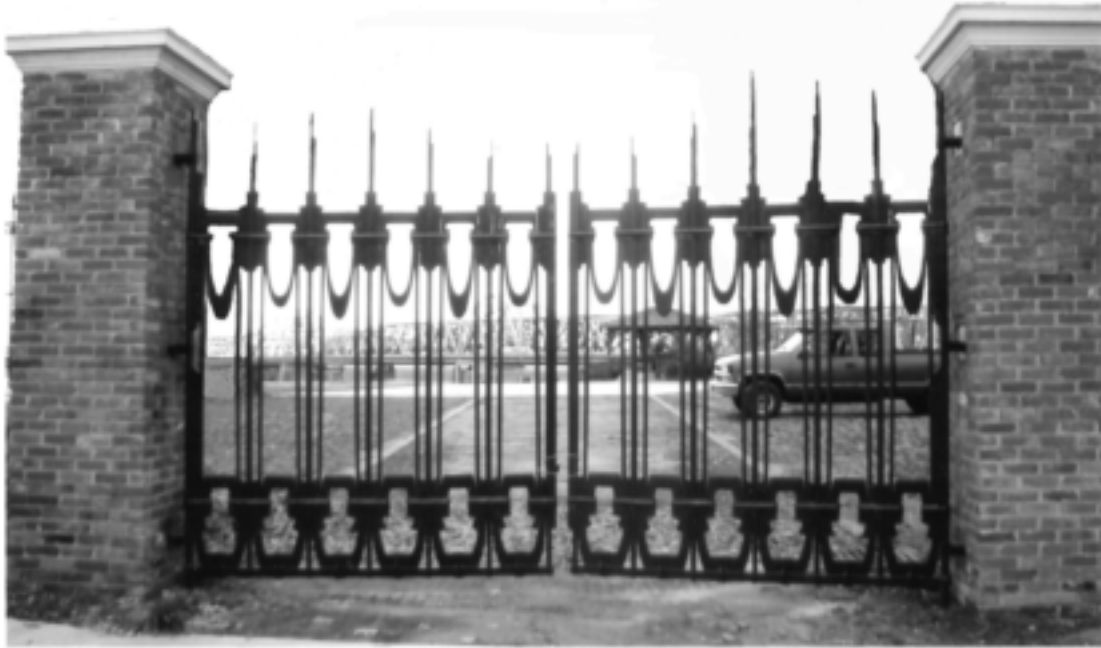
The interview session gave us an opportunity to learn of Bobby's talent as a blacksmith. He related that his largest commissioned blacksmith project was a fence, which he preferred to label a barrier sculpture for a New York City subway station, seven (7) feet high by thirty-six (36) feet long. When asked if he made a drawing of this or a sample to submit for approval, he said, "No, I work from materials, not drawings". With further discussion of this, Bobby says that his background in photography probably provides him the perspective to skip the drawing tasks.

Bobby is a friend of Peter Ross who even offered to take a vacation and come to New York and be Bobby's striker for the subway project. Bobby declined Peter's offer, but considers Peter to be a close and honored friend. Like Peter, Bobby prefers the "craftsmanship of risk" rather than "craftsmanship of certainty". Work is shaped with the hammer and measured with the eye, not a ruler. When asked what his favorite hammers were, he said first a short handled rounding hammer, second was a Peter Ross cross peen, but rounded, and third, a 3.5 pound Viking hammer for striking.

Bobby says that like Yellin, he may use notes for a blacksmith project, but has never found it necessary to make a drawing. When discussing Bobby's unique ability to perceive what materials can become, he simply says, "see what you are looking at". Many terms could be used to describe Bobby Hansson: artist, blacksmith, tin can artist, musician, author and photographer. A piece of Bobby's film was shown in the Louvre Museum in Paris, France. The work of very few professional photographers is selected for that honor. His last name is spelled with two (2) s's and Bobby has a credit card with an incorrect spelling of three (3) s's, which he displays with a twinkle in his eyes.

National Ornamental Metal Museum Story and photos by Doug Hendrickson

There is a new gate at the National Ornamental Metal Museum in Memphis. The gate was designed by Rick Smith and forged by his students at Carbondale and the museum's metalsmiths. Rick is one of America's premier blacksmiths and this new gate is right up there with the best of them.



Several things caught my eye,

1. He did not treat the gate as a rectangular frame that he then filled with iron elements. The top rail dips down into the interior space and the 12 vertical elements begin in the lower space and extend beyond.
2. By bundling elements together he gains a measure of mass which would be impossible with a single piece of iron.
3. The positive/negative interplay is great, the iron and the spaces amplify each other.
4. The gate expresses security while still being transparent enough to allow viewers to see beyond and experience some of the grounds.

It's a great piece and I urge all to look it over the next time you visit the museum. Doug



Details of upper sections



Details of lower sections

Auction of Spare Tire Power Hammer

A Spare Tire Power Hammer will be included in the auction at the BAM conference.

This hammer was made in the November 2005 workshop, conducted by Clay Spencer and Bob Alexander. It will be used by one of the demonstrators prior to the auction, so everyone will be able to see the performance and control.

Clay Spencer has been selling these power hammers for \$2,000 and one has sold in TN for \$2,500. Bring your checkbook, don't miss this opportunity to buy a super performance power hammer.

General Information: Rated as a 50 pound power hammer. Total weight is approx 700 pounds.

Next BAM Spare Tire Power Hammer Workshop

Plans are shaping up for the second BAM Spare Tire Power Hammer Workshop on Labor Day weekend, 2006. Bob Alexander has agreed to be the coordinator and Clay Spencer is available for that weekend.

The following is a capsule of what was learned from the first workshop. Bob Alexander will hold two or more pre-workshops at his shop in Desoto. The 3 day workshop on Labor Day weekend will be at Lou Mueller's shop in St. Louis.

The workshop will be for BAM members only and all participants will be required to attend at least one pre-workshop plus the Thanksgiving weekend workshop. If a person signs up and cannot be present, they must get a volunteer to stand in for them. Any BAM members who want to assist will be welcome to come to the pre-workshops and the Thanksgiving weekend workshop. A number of participants from the '05 workshop have already volunteered to come and assist.

The cost of the last workshop was \$1175 per person. Final cost will be determined by cost of materials and expenses. It takes 15 paying participants to keep the cost down in the range of \$1200-\$1400. When plans are finalized, participants will be required to send \$1,000 up front to be included in the workshop.

Each participant will need to bring to Bob's Shop thirty five (35) pounds of lead during one of the pre-workshops. This will be melted and used for the hammer weight and counter weight. Tire weights and miscellaneous lead items are OK.





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

President's Letter
March, 2006

To start, a quick update on the ABANA Relief Fund, which closes March 15, 2006. The Central Office will accept checks after this date so it is not too late to help out! Contributions exceeded \$20,000.00 at the end of January, 2006. The Gulf Coast Blacksmith Association and the Louisiana Blacksmith Association have been unable to locate almost 60 percent of their members yet. Some who have been contacted have either had their entire shops destroyed – or all their power tooling contaminated by water. The need is there and the dedicated Fund Committee members would like to exceed \$30,000.00 to distribute where most needed. Your help can make that happen!

Another opportunity that will directly affect your smithing future is coming soon. For years scientists have predicted that someday Mount Rainier, the volcano here in Washington State, would erupt. Well, the old mountain is starting to shake and quiver...not from volcanic forces, but from the excitement and activity that is building for the ABANA Seattle 2006 Conference! Pre-registration has shown outstanding enthusiasm for the ABANA Conference. At the end of January, ABANA's Conference Office registration team had registered almost 200 attendees and had received over \$100,000 in advance registration payments. Most amazing is the truly national representation of the registrants. The Seattle Conference will have among its numbers, attendees from all of the ABANA states. Dan Nauman has been soliciting conference auction items with great success. I am hoping you can make it to the conference; however, if you can't, sending an auction item is the best way to show your support for ABANA!

It appears to me that the uniqueness of this conference is causing the great interest in attending. The theme of the conference is ABANA's presence on the Pacific Rim: "Fusion and Transformation in the Ring of Fire" – and that is exactly what is happening. The Opening Ceremony, featuring outstanding blacksmiths Brent Kington and Tom Joyce, will be held in the midst of a genuine Hawaiian luau, complete with one of the best Polynesian dance groups outside of the Islands. The Opening Ceremony on July 5th alone would be worth the trip!

But the fun and learning will just be getting started. There will be tours of the most advanced metal labs in the United States, right here at the University of Washington; some thirty world-class demonstrators from around the Pacific Rim: Korea, Mexico, Chile and Japan will be here. There will be comprehensive and informative classes; coupled with a beautiful site on the water, making this a truly memorable conference and one not to miss! The social aspects of the conference are also unprecedented. Scott Lankton will be heading up entertainment and activities in the Beer Garden – probably with a lot of help from the Aussie Demo Team! Remember, this will feature "Blacksmith Karaoke," (bring 10 slides of your work), and a chance to tell about the work while the slides are shown in a social setting.

The University of Washington chefs have come up with a great menu for the meals, which will be catered right to the site. From the time that you get to the site in the morning, there will be no reason to leave until the forging and the social activities wind down late at night...unless you decide you want to take a Duck Tour of Seattle or a tour to the exquisite Yellin Gates at the Seattle Art Museum with Clare Yellin as your tour guide! Or, like Don Shedlock, ABANA member from North Jupiter, Florida, have dinner with Conference Chair Jerry Kagele on top of the Space Needle! Jerry attended the SERB Conference last year and donated to their auction a dinner for two on top of the Space Needle– which has an absolutely breathless view of Puget Sound from its revolving restaurant.

If you haven't yet done so, go to the conference web site at: www.abanaseattle2006.com. The site has all the information that you will need, including shipping information about sending your auction items and gallery pieces. We even have John Hutchinson on hand to insure that shipments are received and stored safely!

Jerry says he guarantees that anyone attending this conference will be truly Sleepless in Seattle by the time it is over! I hope to see all of you there.

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

Lou Mueller Slot Cutting Demo by Bob Ehrenberger

When Lou comes to the forge he doesn't leave his tool and die background far behind. Lou's method of cutting slots is a perfect example. He tools up like he is setting up a punch press, but adapts his methods for hot work and hand tools.

The design on the punch is the key. First it has a tip that indexes the tool to the work. Second the cutting surface is slanted so you get a shearing action and don't have to punch out the whole slug at once.

The slotting punch is used on a piece of stock that has a hole drilled in it to index the start of the slot. The tip of the punch is inserted in the hole, the cutting edge is lined up where you want the slot, and the punch is driven through the stock.

It is important that the stock is backed up to keep it from deforming. This can be done by adjusting the jaws to your vice to leave a space for the punch to travel into. If your vice has nice sharp edges this can work pretty well.

Since most vices don't have nice edges, another option is to make a slot cutting die block. Lou's block was milled out of a piece of tool steel which was hardened before use. The holes were drilled and recessed so the bolts didn't interfere with the vice. A spacer is put in on each end to give the proper clearance on the slotting punch. Lou says that it 1/64" is about the right clearance, you can go up to 1/32" but after that it gets to be kind of sloppy and will leave a pretty bad rag edge. This should be more of a shearing action than a punching one. The dog ears on the block sit on the vice jaws for support, not relying on friction to hold it.



Slotting Punch



Slotting Die Block

Next Meeting details:

Ned Digh
PO Box 765
Fulton, MO 65251
June 17th BAM Meeting

Location: 6792 County Road 424, Fulton, MO (Ham's Prairie area), hosted by Ned & Esther Digh.

Trade Item: A cattle brand with letters/numbers: BAM 06

Lunch will be provided at no charge, but everyone is requested to bring two (2) cans of food per person. The food will be donated to the local food pantry.

The demonstrator will be Clay Spencer. Clay will bring his power hammer tools and use the Spare Tire Power Hammer for the demonstration. Bring your sketch pads and cameras to capture the details of the power hammer tools made by Clay.

Directions: County Road 424 is directly across the road from Ham's Prairie Store and is between a pole barn farm shed and the church yard. County Road 424 is a gravel road and is only 1.5 miles long. At the dead end, enter through the blue gates on the right side of the road. The shop is located behind the pasture.

Music Jam in the afternoon: Bring your instruments, any kind of instruments, anything goes.

Camping: There is plenty of room for RV's, with electricity and water available.

Spouses Activity: There will be a spouses activity – kind and type – TBA

Ham's Prairie Store has a grill and serves breakfast.

If you need additional information: Phones: Home 573-642-8332 Shop 573-642-9502



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
February, 2006

Hello, it has come to my attention that no one has claimed the winning number from the VIP program. This is a very nice set of Hofi style tongs, hammer and fullering set donated by the nice folks at BigBlu Hammer www.bigbluhammer.com. It will soon be time to go to the 3rd runner-up. The current winning number posted on the website is: 1846. The third number will be posted March 15, 2006 on the front page of the ABANA website.

ABANA is anxiously awaiting entries for the 2006 Conference Poster Contest. Details and rules are posted here; <http://tinyurl.com/7kmjj>. The winner receives two free registrations to the 2006 ABANA Conference and a lot of PR in The Anvil's Ring and Hammer's Blow! Get those entries in as submissions must be received before April 15, 2006.

You can buy a customized 265 lb, double bick, anvil with "your name" cast into one side and "ABANA SEATTLE 2006" cast into the other side. Contact Tom Clark, (573) 438-4725 or tclark@ozarkschool.com for all the details. All profits from these anvils go to ABANA.

You can get "Iron-In-The-Hat" tickets for the 2006 ABANA Conference from your affiliate presidents. There will be some great items this year including a "BAM Box" full of hand-made blacksmithing tools and a Kinyon style air hammer. You may purchase tickets early even if you can't be with us in Seattle. If you win you are responsible for the shipping of your winning item.

There are two "RING" projects. The "Affiliate Grill Project" and the "Membership Grill Project". A 10" ring made of 1' x 1/4" flat bar and the space in the center of the ring is used to express your ideas in forging. For details visit: <http://www.abanaseattle2006.com/page13.htm>

There is also the "Affiliate Banner Project" basically a fancy stand to display your chapter's colors and logo. Contact Al Butlak, butlak1@mindspring.com or visit <http://www.abanaseattle2006.com/Page14.htm> for details.

This is going to be one great conference. There are too many details to list here but you can visit <http://abana.org/membership/conference/index.shtml> or www.abanaseattle2006.com for more information and details on the upcoming event.

Dave Mudge
Affiliate Liaison
Member Services Division
Chairman Internet Committee
985.735.0049
davemudge@abana.org

Blacksmith Demonstrations

By Bob Ehrenberger

This subject is dear to me not only because I make most of my living selling my products at reenactments and craft shows, but because I was introduced to blacksmithing when I saw a demonstration at a local steam show. I would bet that a large number of ABANA and BAM members would say the same thing. Besides being introduced to blacksmithing through a demonstration, most of what I have learned about blacksmithing has come through demonstrations at BAM (Blacksmith Association of Missouri) meetings and conferences.

Since the local blacksmith shop has gone by the wayside, most people don't have contact with blacksmithing in their daily lives. It is up to us to get the craft out there where it can be seen and appreciated.

There are several different types of demonstrations: education days for school kids, reenactments and historical encampments, art and craft shows, historic villages, and blacksmith meetings and conferences. I'm sure there are more but you get the idea. Depending on the type of demonstration you are doing you will have different expectations, some are purely educational and others are a means to a sale. If your audience is a bunch of 2nd graders you aren't going to sell anything, likewise other blacksmiths are there to learn how to do it themselves, not buy what you have done. On the other hand, reenactments and encampments are good because both the participants and the audience need and want what you have to sell.

If you aren't lucky enough to get invited to a site that is already equipped you will have to provide your own equipment. Assume that you will have to bring all the equipment. What do you need? Try to keep your set up as simple as possible and still get the job done. You have to have a forge, blower, anvil, and hand tools. Without these you can't do anything. I add to this a vice for convenience. I used to bring a small hand crank drill, but didn't use it enough to justify the weight so cut it off the list. Let's go through the list and take a closer look. The key is portability,

my forge is manageable because the fire pot lifts out, each piece is easy to handle. You can use a small rivet forge but it really limits what you can do because you have such a shallow fire. My forge has tong and hammer racks built in which makes getting my tools organized easy. For connecting the blower to the fire pot, I have an aluminum flex hose painted black. I put a section of stove pipe in each end of the hose to make the connections quick and easy. For an anvil I have a 135# Mouse Hole. It's a little big for a travel



anvil, something closer to 100# would be better. I made hauling it a little easier by cutting a recess in the stump so that the anvil just lifts out. Being able to move the anvil and base separately is a must. I made brackets for my vice that lets it mount to the end of the anvil so I have a vice when I need one, with no extra gear to support it. All my hand tools fit into a wooden ammo box which I leave packed throughout the season. I made duplicates of my chisels, punches, hardys, fullers, and forge tools so I don't

have to keep packing the ones I use every day in my shop. When it's time to pack I just grab three hammers and five pair of tongs and I'm ready to go. It is my plan to make duplicate tongs before this season starts, so all I need to remember are the hammers.

You'll need fuel for your forge. I try to pull some coke out of my shop forge to take along with green coal to burn. If they have me set up next to someone with sensitive merchandise (fancy clothing or food) I try to burn mostly coke. If I'm by myself or have favorable winds, I burn coal. The smoke along with the ringing of the anvil alert people that they have a blacksmith on site. Even if you have to burn coke most of the time you need to have some green coal to pack your fire with when you take a break, or it will be out when you come back. Don't forget something to start your fire, it's really embarrassing to have to beg paper at the event. I also bring a small bottle of kerosene because the paper is sometimes damp and needs a little help.

Other supporting equipment includes my white canvas wall tent and 12x12 fly. This set up works well

for Civil war era and late 1880's events. If you want to do earlier periods you will need a different style tent. Sometimes they will bend the rules and let you in if your equipment is too modern, it kind of depends on how badly they want to have a blacksmith. The fly is a must because it provides shade when it's hot and cover if it's raining. You need a bucket of water, it is best if you can come up with a wooden one. Some events require period clothing, the items sold as civilian clothes at the civil war sutlers is usually acceptable.

You will also need a safety barricade to keep the audience back from where you are working. Without a barricade some kids will stand right next to your anvil and you will have to constantly ask them to back up.

<p>Craft Show and Demonstration Check List.</p> <p>Sales Stuff Honey boxes of iron Hanging stuff, pot racks/basket racks Loose stuff, lid lifters Boot scrapers Dinner triangles Shepherds hooks Tri pods Folded up grills Lantern stands Fireplace sets Knives</p> <p>Soap Bible bags Granola Baked goods Jam</p> <p>Folding tables Clothes racks Table covers Picture book Awning Money Box/Credit Card Bag Clip board Masking Tape Price tags Cell Phone</p>	<p>Demonstration Stuff Forge/Fire Pot Anvil Vice Blower/Blower hose Paper to start fire Tool Box with: Hammers Tongs Scroll tongs Twisting wrench Punches Chisels Brush Matches</p> <p>Apron Coal/Coke Ash bucket Wooden water bucket Barrier posts Barrier rope Drill Press Period chairs Wooden benches Period clothing Steel stock</p> <p>Camping Stuff Tent/Tarp Poles Stakes Cots Lantern/Flash light Stove Cooler Food Basket Sleeping bags Extra blankets Red Crates Rug</p>
--	---

For stock I used to bring way too much, including several 10' lengths of the 4 or 5 most common sizes. Now I usually bring 20' of each size cut into 40" or 60" lengths, plus a couple pieces each of some odd sized stuff. I also bring some blanks that have been roughed in on the power hammer and just need to be finished on site.

Demonstration projects can sometimes be a challenge. If you are doing an education day, you will usually only have 10-15 minutes to give a talk about blacksmithing, your tools, and make something. A simple "J" hook is good for this because it uses a lot of the blacksmith techniques: drawing out, bending, cutting on a hardy, and punching a hole. The problem is, if you spend a couple days making "J" hooks it will take you a couple years to sell them all. "S" hooks are OK but are so mind numbing simple, I have a hard time getting fired up about them. Another quick and easy demonstration is to make a leaf, they really like to see a bar of steel completely transformed in shape into something that doesn't resemble the original stock. Leaves are pretty good sellers when incorporated into other products. If it's not an education day demonstration. you won't be restricted by the narrow time frame and can do more elaborate items. I usually either work on filling gaps in my inventory or make products that are special requests for the audience. The most frequent requests seem to be how to make a leaf and doing a twist. We all take it for granted that a twist is easy but most don't understand it until they see it. People also request to see forge welding, I avoid doing forge welds unless the audience is primarily other blacksmiths. When doing a weld in public, remember that if the temp is right you don't have to hit it hard to get it to weld, and if the temp isn't right, hitting it hard won't help.

I feel that hooks and bends should be done freehand and not over a form. It's OK to use forms for consistency in the shop but it takes away from a demonstration to use production techniques. The exception would be if you are demonstrating something that requires several pieces to be a perfect match, such as a Clayton knot.

When interacting with the crowd you really need to have patience. If kids won't stay behind the barrier you need to stop and wait until their parents get them

back a safe distance. A large number of people will want to talk about their grandfathers who were blacksmiths. Some will want to tell you that you are doing it wrong, I don't wear gloves and that seems to bother some people. And expect to hear the "Hot Horseshoe" joke every weekend at least once. Most people are nice and enjoy the experience. The more pleasant you are, the smoother things will go.

Selling at demonstrations depends on the type of event. If there are campers: tri-pods, grills, pokers, and cooking utensils are good sellers. If it is more of an artsy event: pot racks, candle holders, towel bars/rings, and fire place tool sets do well. Other blacksmiths tend to buy special tools and components that go into projects that they are working on (I don't sell much of this stuff, but have observed this). I keep thinking that I'll discontinue selling shepherd's hooks, but there is a steady demand for such items and I need the money. In general, if I get a special request for something, I try to evaluate whether or not that item would have broader appeal and should be added to my product line. We do about 26 events each year, and I demonstrate at about 18 of them. (Note: This was true two years ago, we are now only doing 14 events and demonstrate at virtually all of them.) We have found that if I have the forge going we will sell three or four times as much stuff as when we just bring the products to sell. Our product line is supplemented by knives made by my son (Daniel) who is a knife maker and a journeyman in the American Bladesmith Society and soap made by my wife (Jan) who milks goats and makes a goat-milk soap. My wife also makes and sells jam, which at some events is a big seller. Our prices range from \$3 for simple hooks and key rings to \$150 for a fire place tool set to \$500 for a set of candelabras. Most sales range in the \$10 to \$20 area. I try to always have either my wife or son with me as a salesman, since it is hard to concentrate on blacksmithing and selling, and sometimes people hesitate to interrupt me when I'm working.

Here in Missouri if you only do a few events you don't have to get a sales tax number. They allow you to fill out a special event tax form. Reporting taxes is easier if you do have a number, it also allows you to buy your supplies tax free since the final product will be taxed.

It is important to continue to promote your local blacksmith organization. I keep BAM applications in our money box and try to have a few newsletters to pass out to anyone that shows a real interest in learning more. A lot of people ask about finding coal, this is a perfect opportunity to introduce them to your group.

I hope this helps some of you make the leap if you have been trying to get up the courage to do a demonstration. For those who are already involved I hope there is something here that will make your task easier.

Bob

Camping Tri-pod by Bob Ehrenberger

Tri-pods are good sellers and easy to make.

Materials: 1 piece 1/2" round 12" long
3 pieces 1/2" round 60" long

Scarf the ends of the short piece, bend into a ring and forge weld.



Draw a long taper on one end of each of the three long pieces.

Heat the other end and make a right angle bend 4" from the end.



Turn the 4" section into an eye over the horn.



Slip the ring into the eye before closing it up.



Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads

Kirk Sullens is organizing a group buy for gas saver valves. If he can get 10 or more ordered he can get a discount. \$120 plus tax. (This is a shutoff valve with a pilot light that lets you set your torch once and then quickly relight for each use.)

If interested contact Kirk Sullens. 417-863-8628

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. 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

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.

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.

Buy, Sell, Trade, Continued

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:

Articles for the BAM Newsletter.
E-mail, bameditor@centurytel.net,
or snail mail to Bob Ehrenberger, 6192 Hwy168,
Shelbyville MO. 63469.

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.

AUCTION

April 29-30, Lots of tools and Blacksmith equipment

Eddie Linn, 620 Hancock St. Edwardsvill, Ill.
618-656-4970

Shop Tips

From Lou Mueller

Handling acid

If you keep muratic acid in your shop for removing rust and scale, make sure you keep the lid on tight. We left the lid cracked just a little bit and the next morning everything in the area was covered with rust.

Modeling clay

You can use modeling clay from an art supply store to work out your designs. The clay moves very much like hot steel but is a lot easier to work.

For example, if you need a die block you can push the original part into the clay. The image that it leaves will represent a cross section of the die.

Example 2: If you want to see if something can be made from 1/2" sq. stock. Form the clay into a 1/2" sq. bar and then work it just like steel. Except you don't have to get it hot, and it works real easy.

Steve Austin

Anvil Hold Fast

When you step on the peddle, it raises the jaw.

This hold fast has a strong spring to secure your work.

It is adjustable for different thicknesses of stock.

It swings out of the way when not in use.



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

15th Annual BAM Ozark Conference May 5,6, & 7, Warrenton, MO

Demonstrations by: Gordon Williams, Jerry Darnell, and John Fitch

Classes offered: Beginning Blacksmithing, Beginning Bladesmithing, Intermediate Blacksmithing, Basket Making, Broom Making.

Forging Contest

BAM Boutique, BAM Auction, BAM Gallery (please bring items to donate and show off)

Upcoming Events

April 29-30, Eddie Linn Auction, 620 Hancock St. Edwardsville, IL. 618-656-4970

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

May 20 Submission deadline for May-June Newsletter.

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.
Food provided: Bring two cans each to donate to the local food bank.
Spouse Activity provided, TBD.

July 5-8 ABANA conference. Seattle, WA.

July 22, BAM Meeting Don Nichols,

MO River Valley Steam Engine Association Exit 111 off I-70
Trade Item: Boot Scraper with traditional joinery
No food provided, no food close. Bring your own.

July 29, Submission deadline for July-August Newsletter.

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

There is no entry fee for demonstrating smiths. 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.

August 10-20, State Fair Sedalia, Mo.

Sign up to demonstrate with Peggy Williamson, 870-445-2564

September 16 BAM Meeting Dale Gilman, Boonville, MO.

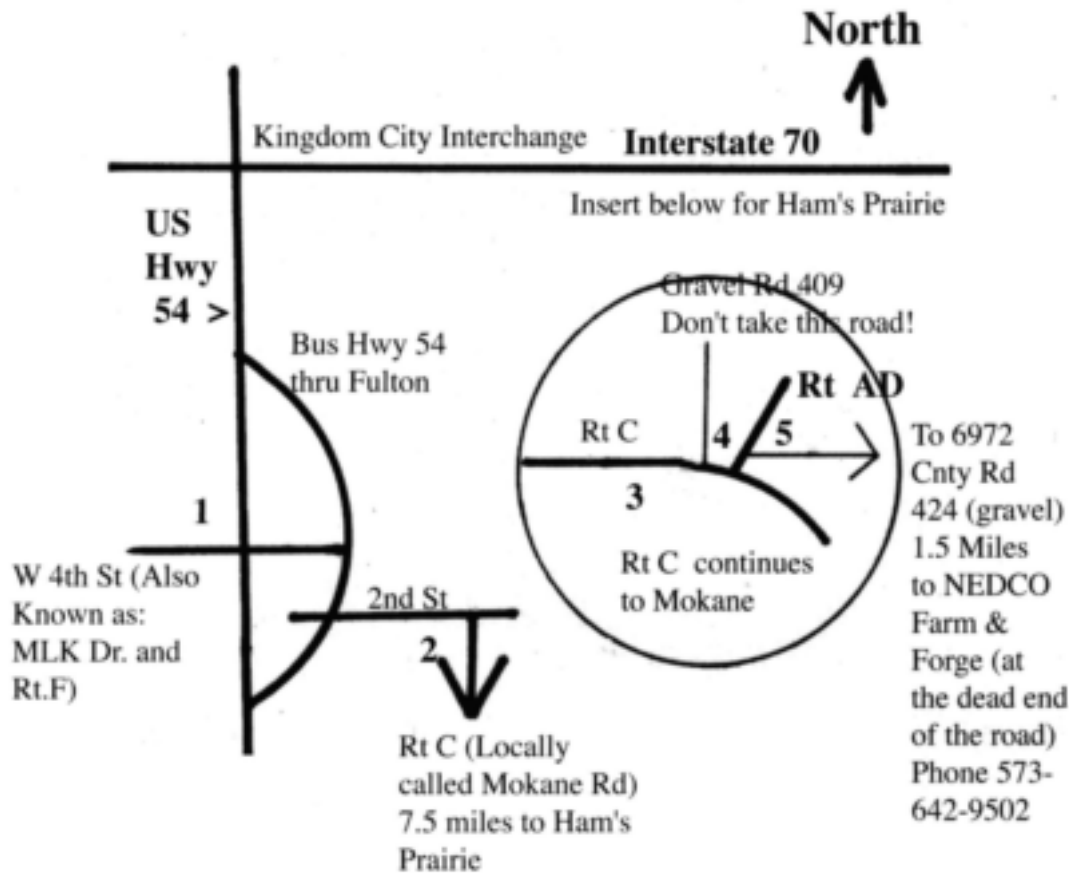
November BAM meeting TBD

New Members

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

Williams, Steven 17101 CR 5270 Rolla, MO 65401 573-458-2344	Steward, Jeremiah 26 Sinatra Ct, Apt. B Reeds Spring, MO 65737 417-230-2055	Montgomery, Ricky R# 2 Box 2257 Winona, MO 65588 417-274-0919	Lewis, Matt 10570 CR 2120 Rolla, MO 65401 squirrelrus@yahoo.com 573-341-9934	Guffey, Myles HCR 67, Box 63 Mountain View, MO 65548 417-934-6039
Vessels, Edward P.O. Box 432 Eminence, MO 65466 573-226-3503	Shanks, Tony 3601 Hwy 19 Owensville, MO 65066 573-437-4746	Miller, Christopher Rt 3, Box 387K Doniphan, MO 63935 cjmiller11@alltel.net 573-996-3814	Kruse, David 3790 CR 3600 Willow Springs, MO 65793 417-469-4399	Fowler, Grant HCR 4, Box 112 Birch Tree, MO 65438 573-226-3670
Vessels, Patti P.O. Box 432 Eminence, MO 65466 573-226-3503	Scott, Preston 1448 Rainbow Valley TRL Mammoth Spring, AR 72554	Miller, David HCR 2 Box 2394 Van Buren, MO 63965 573-323-8290	Kelly, Joseph Rt. 2 Box 2455 Birch Tree, MO 65438 573-292-8217	Bullard, Klifton 4800 E. Bullard Road Ashland, MO 65010 kpd@gocolumbiamo.com 573-657-4359
Thorson Bros Welding RR 1 Corell, IL 61319 fatsam_90@hotmail.com 815-358-2317	Roderocle, Darrell L. 5512 N.E. 62nd Street Kansas City, MO 64119 fonman_4859@yahoo.com 816-520-2499	McFann, Jerry Rt. 9, Box 480 Gatewood, MO 63942	Kamp, Richard 1289 Robertridg Dr St. Charles, MO 63304 rdkamp@swbell.net 636-926-0600	Angerer, Craig 4200 Windy Hill Dr Jefferson City, MO 65101 cwanger@us.ibm 573-619-2738
Swan, Roger Rt 4, Box 820 Salem, MO 65560 573-729-2173	Price, Marshall P.O. Box 87 Van Buren, MO 63965	Lyons, Wayne 776 American Inn Villa Ridge, MO 63089 636-451-5595	Holler, Matthew 3685 St. Rt. W Mountain View, MO 65548 417-934-6026	

Next Meeting: June 17 Ham's Prairie, MO.



- Landmark Key**
1. Westminster College
 2. Westlakes Hardware
 3. Ham's Prairie Fire Station
 4. Ham's Prairie Store
 5. Ham's Prairie Christian Church

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