

BAM

May - June 2006



Doug Hendrickson Art Piece

www.bamsite.org

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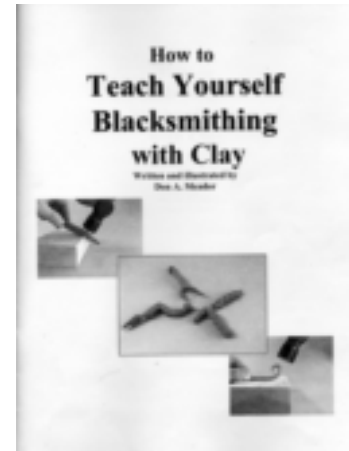
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**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

Volume 23 No. 3
MAY - JUNE
2006

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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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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: _____

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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

This is turning out to be a very busy spring. It seems like I just finish one newsletter and it is time to start on the next one.

I haven't gotten any numbers on the conference, but it seemed to be well attended. Thursday was a bigger set up day than usual because of the construction on the fair grounds. They had stored a lot of stuff under the pavilion where the coal forges were to be set up. It all had to be moved out of the way before we could bring in our equipment.

Friday was a day for teaching. Tom Clark ran a class for beginners using coal forges, Don Birdsall and I taught a class for beginners using gas forges, and Gordon Williams taught an intermediate class using gas forges. In the evening Ken Markley taught a beginning bladesmithing class. All the classes were well attended and I heard a lot of positive comments from the participants.

Later on Friday night we had the BAM forging contest. And as usual it was a lot of fun for participants and audience alike. Outgoing president Don Nichols took the top prize followed by Ken Jansen in 2nd place, Mike Lanham in 3rd and Micah Sayland taking 4th.

Saturday we had a full day of demonstrations. I watched Jerry Darnell make some traditional Colonial items (more on that later). Gordon Williams amazed his audience with his energy and the ability to remain in perpetual motion, always having at least two projects going at the same time so there was never a delay in the action. John Fitch showed why he is a master bladesmith, completing several blades plus damascus.

I wanted to thank Kirk and Walt for the new BAM sign stand. Because parts of the old stand have gone missing it was necessary to come up with a new stand to support BAM's sign. Walt came up with the design which

Kirk implemented. I think that it will turn a few heads at the ABANA conference in July.

I figured that you all are tired of seeing my face on this page so I thought I would put up a picture of my mail box. I had been meaning to make a nice mail box stand for some time but never quite had the time. Well someone else moved up the time table



when they wiped out my old one. I don't know if it was a kid's prank or just a wide load, but going to town to pick up our mail got old real fast. On the outside chance it was malicious, I decided to use an "I" beam for the upright of the new stand. If they hit this one they will know it. It has scroll work holding both the sign and the box, with vines climbing up and intertwined. If you have an interesting sign or mail box, send me a picture and I'll print it in the newsletter.

I talked to Stephen McGehee of "Irony" at conference and he apologized for having dropped the ball on his publication. He has had a rough year but has nearly sorted it all out. He expects to resume publication soon.

The submission deadline for the next newsletter is July 29, 2006

Letters to the Editor

Bob,

I just want to make sure that we get a note in the next newsletter to thank the folks (Ken Jansen and Larry Hults) who built the Boutique banner stand. It's great! Especially the red toenails. On behalf of both Mara Harper and me and all the Babes who hang out at the Boutique, thanks for the hard work!

Best regards,
Ruth Hull



New BAM Sign stand. Designed by Walt Hull and built by new president Kirk (Raoul) Sullens.



Old BAM Sign stand. If you know where it is, contact me or Kirk.

Minutes BAM meeting

5/6/06

By Peggy Williamson

Held in Warrenton, Mo.

A big thanks to Larry Hults for chairing this year's conference along with Kirk & Mona Sullens, Ken Jansen, and George Lewis.

The raffle drawings were held and the winners are as follows:

Small Swage - Carolyn Adams

Medium Swage - Don Medorf

Cone mandrel - Kent Harbit

Fire Pot - Fathom Claxon

Anvil - Dennis Yates

Thanks to the caterers, vendors, and demonstrators.

Congratulations to Ron Duncan on passing his master bladesmith performance test. This was a treat for BAM members to see what goes into the American Bladesmith Society certification. Good luck on getting your knives ready to be juried.

Thanks to Bruce Herzog for the job he does as treasurer. Bruce gave notice that he is done at the end of this year. If you are interested in the job, contact Bruce or one of our officers.

Thanks to the Boutique Ladies.

Thanks to Walt Hull and John Sherwood for putting together the gallery. The gallery was dedicated to Dr. Iron (Doug Hendrickson) and there was a special section of Doug's work that members have collected over the years.

Thanks to Ken Jansen for the boutique banner stand.

Thanks to everyone that pitched in to help clear the grounds because of the construction.

The Bob Patrick award went to Kirk Sullens.

Thanks to Tom Clark for furnishing tools for the classes and demonstrators.

The next meeting is at Ned and Esther Digh's in Hams Prairie.

Tom Clark brought up that BAM still doesn't have a

ring for the ABANA national conference in Seattle. There are two categories for ring projects, affiliate rings which must be made with traditional joinery and individual rings which can incorporate any technique to get the job done.

Life Membership was awarded to Maurice and Bess Ellis for their many years of service and participation.

Election of officers:

New President - Kirk Sullens

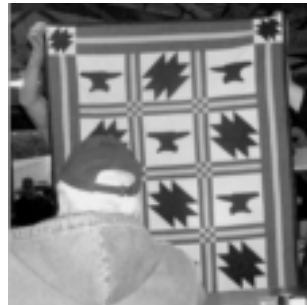
1st Vice-President - Doug Clemons

2nd Vice-President - Ed Harper

Don Nichols gave a good-bye thank-you.

Meeting adjourned.

The business meeting was followed by the annual conference auction. Tim Ryan did his usual entertaining job. Though I think that our group may be getting wise to some of his tricks, there weren't nearly so many bids by entrapment as usual. The high light of the auction was when over \$450 was raised on Esther's anvil quilt so that it could be given to John Murray's new baby, which was due at any time. The subject of John's baby gave Tim lots of comic material and encouragement for those wishing to start a family late in life.



Tim Ryan



Basket Class



A tired John Murray



Broom Class

A Word From El Presidente

by Raoul (Kirk Sullens)

Well, here I am, in a position I hardly expected to be in. I'll find out over the next two years whether I'm happy about this or not, but in the meantime I'll do the best job I can for you. Thursday before the conference started, someone threatened to nominate me, and that was the first real thought to being president that I ever had. I didn't expect it to happen this soon.

The thank you note from the conference committee is in this issue, but I want to take an extra moment to thank those people who pitched in to move things, or get things ready, or cleanup at the end, without being asked and without being otherwise rewarded. The people who pitch in are what make BAM a working proposition.

I've already had fruitful conversations with several BAMmers, but look forward to hearing from MANY more of you, to learn what your needs as smith's are, and how BAM can better meet them. BAM has changed a bit from when I started, and we have many more members near the beginning end of the blacksmith's scale. Therefore, I think helping educate those new people, and give them tools of knowledge to further their progress, is more important than it's ever been for BAM. Please express your ideas to me whenever there's opportunity.

The Bob Patrick Founder's Award caught me totally flat-footed! I had just walked in the door to hear someone calling my name. It's an honor to be numbered among the recipients, but I've watched many others contribute as much and more to BAM, and I get to pass the award on to one of them.

I want to encourage all of you to consider contributing to the ABANA Ring Project. BAM has a long history with ring projects, and it would be gratifying to see a healthy BAM participation in this one. Ken Jansen and I from the conference committee plan to have a go. I've asked Ed to post the criteria on the Bamsite, but if you want, I'll e-mail them to you. Contact me at <kirk@kirksullens.com>, and type "ring project" in the subject line. Or, call me and arrange to have them mailed to you. Remember, time is short!

I'll appreciate any help I can get from you, the members of BAM, and we'll see what kind of fun we can have.

El Presidente Raoul
aka Kirk Sullens

www.kirksullens.com
(417)863-8628



The Conference Committee would like to thank everyone that pitched-in and made this year's conference possible. We would also like to make a special thank you to Lou Wehrmeyer with his "bulldozer", and to those who volunteered in advance, as it makes it easier to plan when you know what help to expect. I don't have the space to list everyone that helped..... so, see the roster. ☺
The demonstrators and out-of-towners even commented on how well everyone pitched-in to help.

We would also like to send a big thank you to the demonstrators. You were fantastic and we all learned a lot.

Gordon Williams—Instructor
Bill Pieh Resource for Metalwork
1855 N Moudale Ln.
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

Jerry Darnell
4512 Busbee Road
Seagrove, NC 27341
forge_on@rtmc.net

John Fitch
45 Halbrook Road
Clinton, AK 72031
501-893-2520 shop

To the ladies that hosted the family programs—Katy Camden & Mary Jo McCarty.

To the 'smith class instructors—Don Birdsall, Lou Mueller, Tom Clark, Bob Alexander, Pat McCarty, Phil Cox, Gordon Williams, Ken Markley, Preston Williams, Bob Ehrenberger, Chris Owins, and Dan Dirksen.

We can't say thank you enough to the vendors who came and supplied items for the auction and raffle, as well as a special thank you to Tom Clark for the use of the power hammers. These vendors make their living selling us the items we use for our pleasure.

Auction Image
Tim Ryan
P.O. Box 39
Brasstown, NC 28902
828-837-3807

Chili Forge
David & Stacy Starr
520-360-2141
chileforge@earthlink.net

Roger Lorange – Metalsmith
6091 North 3850 East Rd.
Bellflower, IL 61724

Blacksmith's Journal
Jerry Hoffmann
P. O. Box 1699
Washington, MO 63090

Haslag Steel
6560 Highway YY
Washington, MO 63090
636-239-6813

Ozark School of Blacksmithing
Tom Clark
20183 West State Hwy 8
Potosi, MO 63664
www.ozarkschool.com

Blacksmith's Supply Euroanvils
John Elliott
P.O. Box 3766
Chester, VA 23831
804-530-0290
www.blacksmithsupply.com

JV Welding
2012 Sycamore Lane
St. Clair, MO 63077
636-629-2751

Old World Anvils
Terry Suthers
N8126 Postville Rd.
Blanchardville WI 53516
608-527-2494
www.oldworldanvils.com

Centaur Forge
Tom Riddle
117 N. Spring Street
Burlington, Wisconsin 53105
800-666-9175, 262-763-9175
www.centaurforge.com

Kayne & Son Custom Hardware Inc
David & Steve Kayne
100 Daniel Ridge Road
Candler, NC 28715
828-667-8868, 828-665-1988
Fax: 828-665-8303
http://www.blacksmithsdepot.com/

Pieh Tool Company, Inc
Bill Pieh Resource for Metalwork
Amy Pieh
437 General Crook Trail
Suite D
Camp Verde, AZ 86322
www.piehtoolco.com

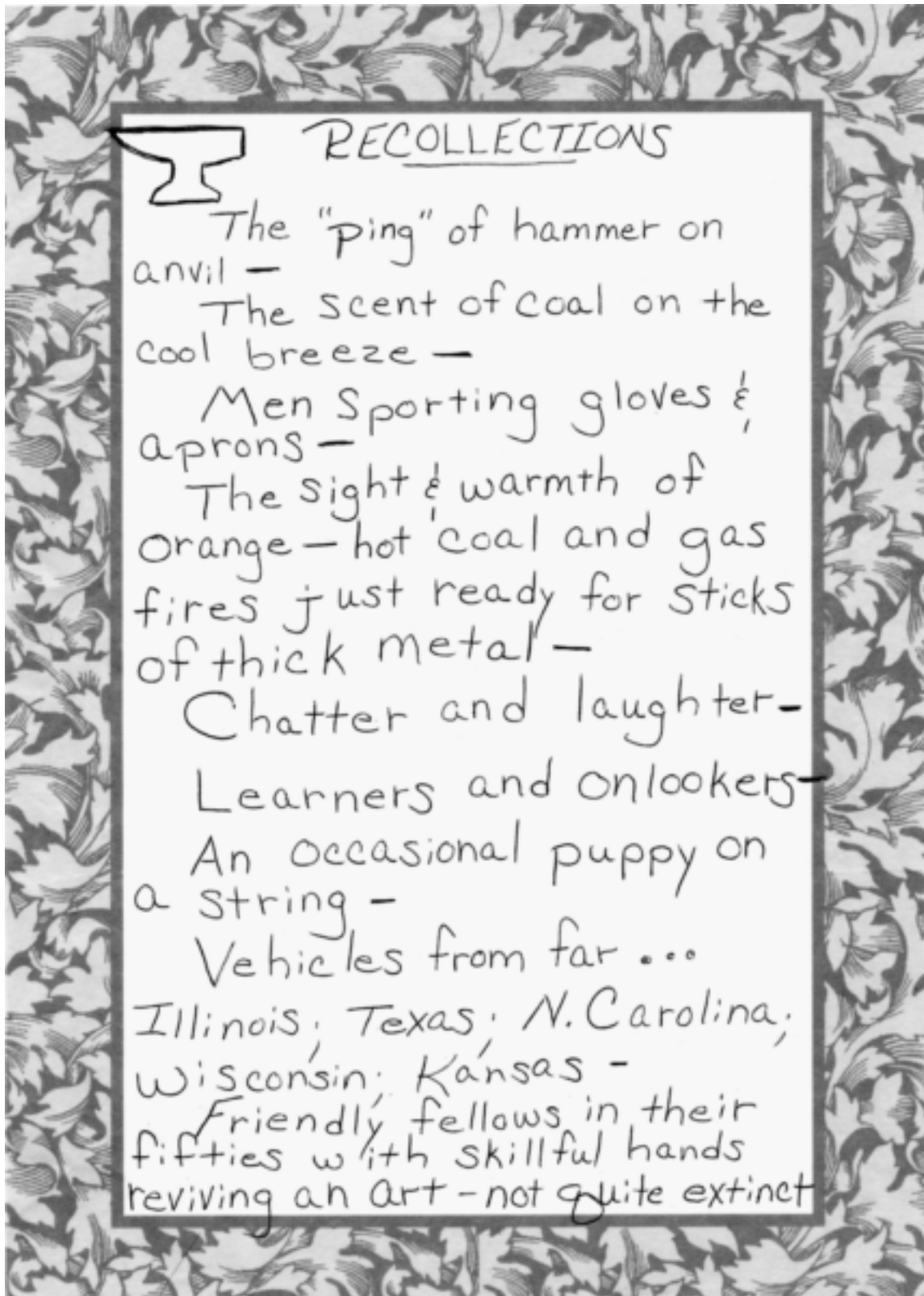
We would also like to thank Phil Cox & Tom Clark for the after hours power hammer demonstrations, even though we kept Lou Wehrmeyer up past his bedtime.

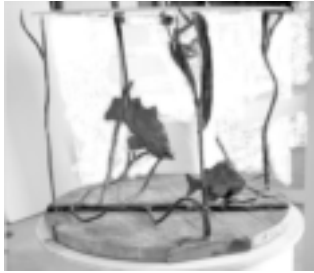
THANK YOU !!!

Ken Jansen, Kirk Sullens, Mona Pieron, George & Donna Lewis, and Larry Hults - chairman

BAM member Tim Schaeffer put his impression of the conference into words and sent them to us.

Thanks Tim.

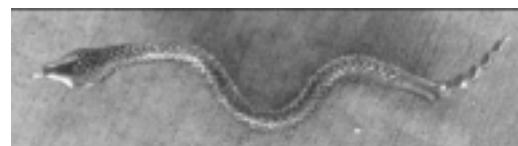




Gordon Williams' demo



By all accounts Gordon Williams was one of the hardest working smiths we have ever had at conference. He started early every day and always had at least two projects going at a time. While he was working on one, the other one was heating. Those watching said that even with all the activity he made everything clear and easy to understand. He had detailed handouts for the audience and pre made sample bars showing all the steps in making a piece. (Like the ones pictured below). Those that took his Friday class said that he challenged them to push themselves and they really learned a lot. Thanks for coming and enriching our lives.



John Fitch demo



Damascus billet in forge



Stick the weld by hand and then draw it out on the power hammer.



Checking straightness before grinding



Grinding, Grinding and more Grinding



Harden the blade by quenching in oil



Draw the temper on the back

Ron Duncan's Master test by Bob Ehrenberger Photos by Bob Stormer

Ron Duncan met with Hank Nickmyer to take his master's performance test. This gave BAM members an inside look at how the ABS (American Bladesmith Society) certifies its journeymen and master bladesmiths. All tests must be witnessed by a sitting Master.

The journeyman test is similar to the master test except the journeymen use carbon steel blades and the masters use damascus. The test is to determine if the applicant has the technical skill for the position he is testing for. It determines whether he can make a knife that is sharp, tough and durable.



This is Ron's knife to be tested. There are specific length, width, and layer count requirements. Ron's knife is more finished than most, some just have tape wrapped handles.



The first test is to cut a 1" hemp rope.



Next he has to chop through a 2x4 - twice.

After the cutting and chopping tests, the knife must still shave hair on Ron's arm.



Hank sets the knife up for the final test, bending the blade 90 deg without breaking.

Ron bends until Hank says far enough.



Hank inspects the blade. It can crack, but not break.

Ron must now make 5 knives to be judged by a panel of masters at the Blade Show in Atlanta Georgia. This is the hard part.



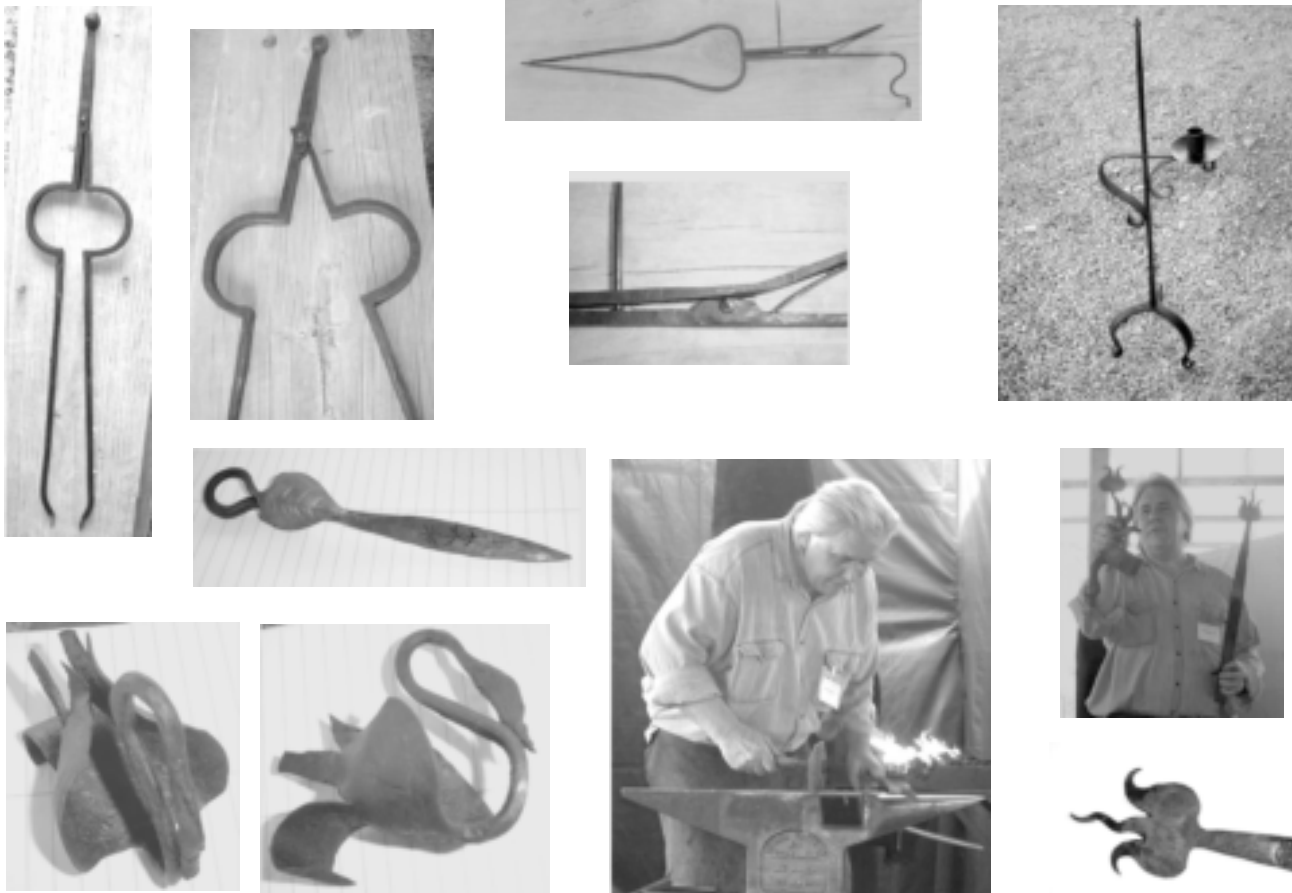
Ron proudly displays his test knife, cut rope and 2x4s.

Jerry Darnell Demo by Bob Ehrenberger

Jerry Darnell is traditional all the way, he makes traditional colonial pieces using traditional methods. He has inspected original 18th century items and strives to reproduce them true to the blacksmiths of the colonies. He has been doing this for over 30 years. Jerry has a one man shop and sells directly to the public out of his show room. He says that he prices his work according to the difficulty and complexity of the piece. A lot of people think that it's priced high, but when someone comes in that knows about period pieces, they buy them without hesitation. He is also a frequent instructor at the J.C. Campbell Folk School. The items he makes and teaches include a variety of lighting fixtures, door hardware, kitchen and household items, and gates and railings. Jerry said that if you have taken a particular class from him, don't be afraid to take the same class again because even though the subject is the same, he will have different projects.

For our conference, Jerry demonstrated three main pieces and a couple of quickies. The main pieces were a set of fire tongs with a half blind joint, a set of American pipe tongs, and a one light table lamp. The quickies were, a swan, a letter opener, and a tulip strap hinge. You could tell that Jerry is an experienced instructor by his organized method. For each demonstration he would start out with the name of the item and a detailed drawing of the finished piece with it's components labeled. He then would make each component, first listing the stock needed and a sequence of step by step drawings of the component. He would then make the component showing that the real piece looked like the drawing at every step of the process. Finally he assembled the components into a finished product.

I hope that my coverage of his demonstration will be as organized. To do his work justice, it would take the whole newsletter, so I'm going to show the pictures of his finished pieces here, and then use the next few pages to detail the making of one of them. Maybe in future issues I can cover more of them.



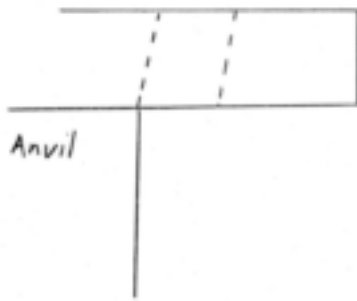
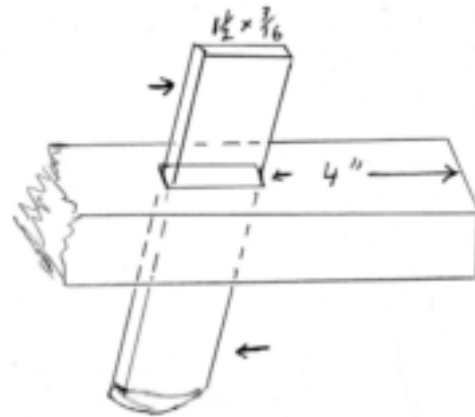
Jerry Darnell Demo

Fire Tongs With 1/2 Blind Box Joint

The first side of handle uses 16"-18" of 5/8" sq.

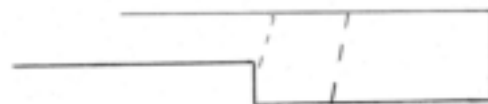
Slot punch a hole 4" from the end.

Drift with 1 1/2"x 3/16" drift and hit drift sideways to slant slot.



Use half-on half-off hit on far edge of anvil right next to slot.

Forge down to half it's original thickness (5/8"x5/16") for about 9".

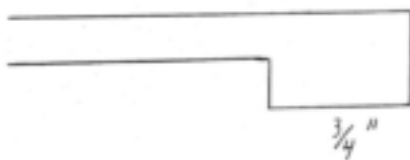
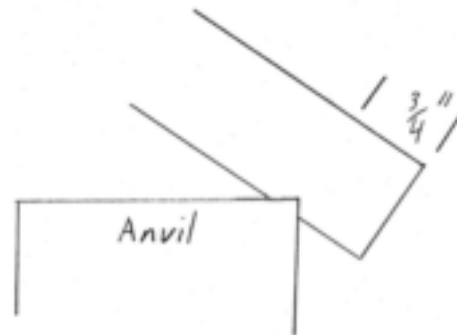


Fuller end 5/8" back and form a ball.

Taper from ball to slot.

The second side of the handle also uses 16"-18" of 5/8" Sq.

Half strike 3/4" from the end.

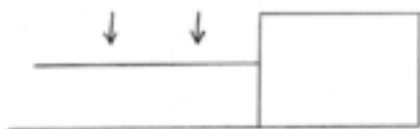
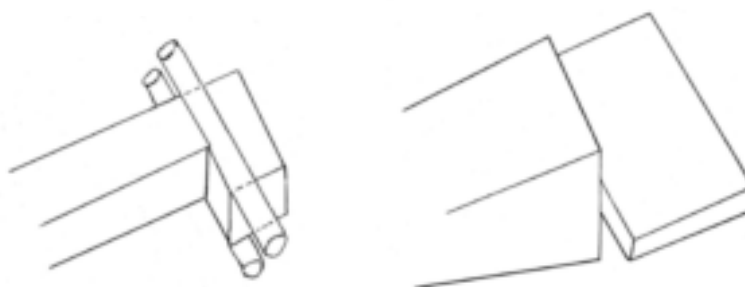


Forge down to half it's original thickness (5/8"x5/16") for about 5".

Jerry Darnell demo cont....

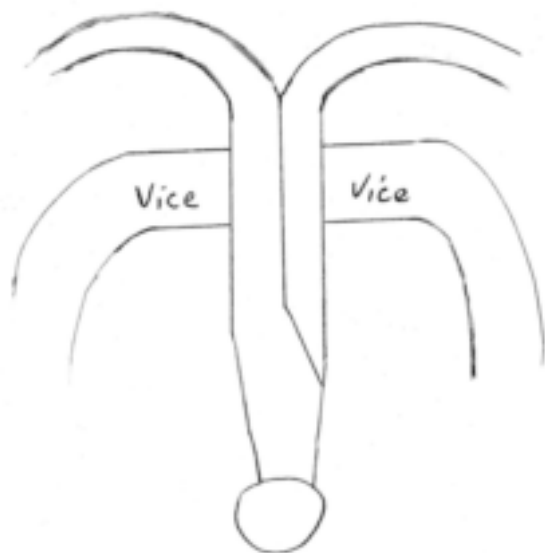
Fuller end at the transition.

Flatten out to 3/16"



Make sure that the back is straight.

Drive into the vice to force the shoulder to slant.



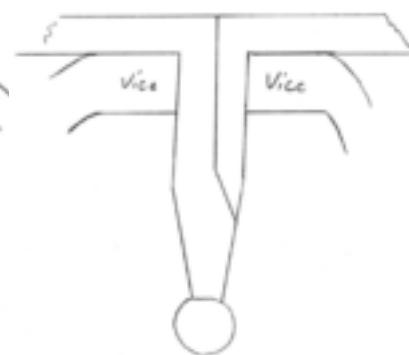
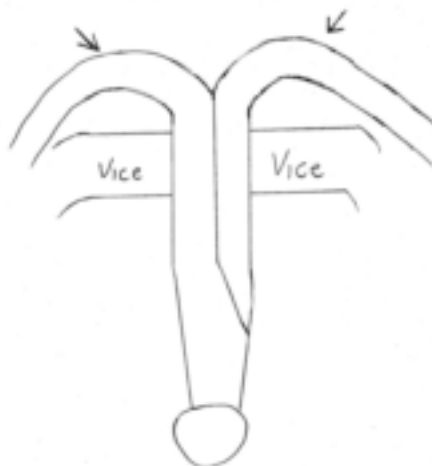
Make sure that both sides have 9" of 5/8"x5/16".

File the parts to get them to go together.

Assemble the joint and heat together.

Put in vice upside down with the joint 1 1/2" below the jaws.

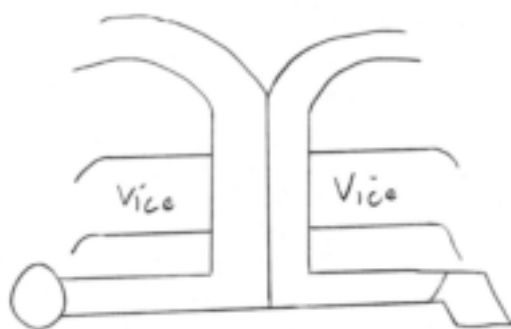
Bend out & square up by hitting behind the bend.



Take apart and square up insides of corners individually.

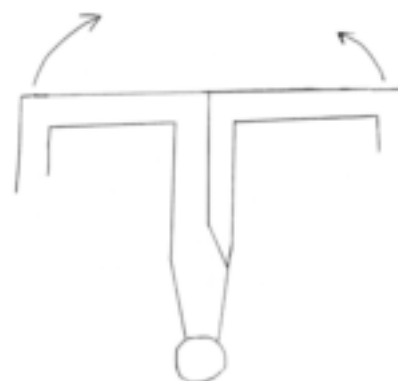
Re-clamp back to back, leave 5"-6".

Make second set of square corners the same way you made the first ones.



Reassemble and bend up ends to form the ring.

Leave a 1" gap where they come together.



Jerry Darnell demo cont....

The finished handle should look like this.

The reins are made of 16" of 3/8" rd. each.

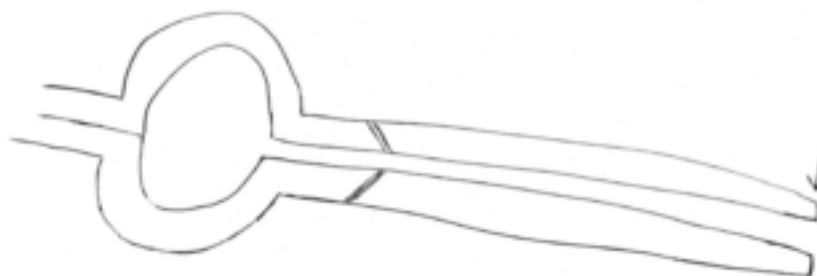
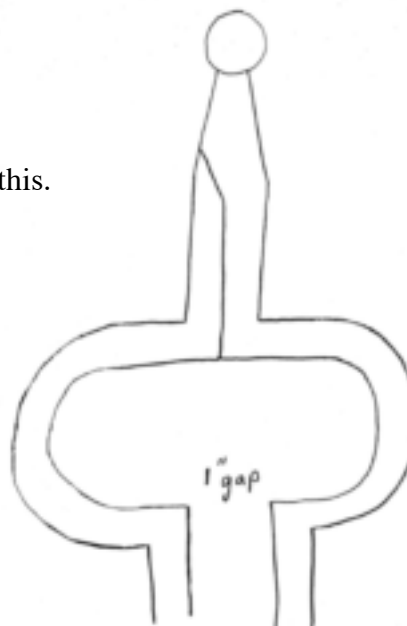
Upset and scarf the end.



Round up and scarf the end of the handle.

Forge weld the rein to the end of the handle.

Repeat on the other half of the handle.



Reassemble and trim the ends so they are the same length.

Round up ends after cutting.

Half strike 1/2" from the end to form a penny foot.

Make a slight bend just in front of the foot.

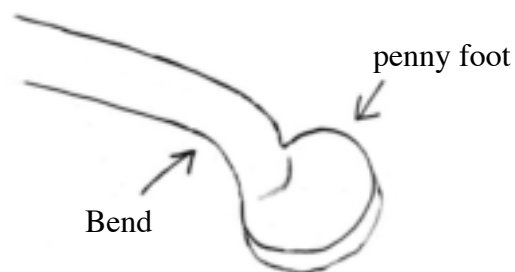
Flatten foot again after making the bend.

Line up foot with rest of tong.

File to clean up the joint.

Drill and rivet with a 3/16" rivet.

It's good to countersink the rivet so that it is flush.



Get the whole thing hot and blacken with a mixture of Bee's wax, linseed oil and, turpentine.

Sell for a lot of money and become a rich and famous blacksmith, like Jerry.

Knife Maker's Hammer-in

by Bob Ehrenberger

Corbin Newcomb and Ron Duncan again hosted a spring fling hammer-in at Corbin's shop on Ron's farm near Moberly. I had a conflict on Saturday, so for the first time I attended on Sunday. I thought I was getting an early start, but when I got there at 8:00 there were already 3 damascus billets and a railroad spike in Corbin's monster forge.

I had a project in mind and was eager to get at it, so they lit a forge outside for me to use. My project was to make a cut off hardie out of a large bearing. (Corbin has some bearings that weigh 2 pounds each.) Well, because it was a little windy, the forge outside just wouldn't get the 52100 hot enough to forge effectively. After fighting it for an hour or so, I set it aside until I could get into the big forge inside. After lunch, I got my chance and it probably only took half an hour to square up the bearing, draw out the post, and form the cutting edge. Because I hadn't brought my anvil with me I just had to make the post a generic 3/4" using stops on the press. If I had had my anvil there, I would have been able to get a perfect fit on the post before forging the cutter. As it is, I had a little grinding to make it fit once I got home.

There were probably about 15 guys there on Sunday, Corbin said that they had 35 on Saturday. Saturday is also the day that they do an Iron-In-The-Hat which provides the funds to support this event. Also on Saturday there is a fair amount of tailgating and a lot of showing off of knives that the participants have made.

One thing that impressed me was a belt grinder that Ron had made for finishing knives. It is similar to the KMG grinders that Koval Knives sells, but, with some variations that make it a lot easier for someone to build in a home shop. This may make for a good article some day.

There was a nice mix of participants at this event. They range from professional knife makers to total novices that don't even have forges of their own. There are also a few collectors that show up who just like to be around knives and socialize with the guys that make them.

Corbin took the time to show a Ethan Lee of Sturgeon MO. how to make damascus. After walking him through the process once, Corbin turned him loose and he did most of the work on his own, with just an occasional help from the teacher. By the end of the day, he had made the damascus and drawn it out into blade sized stock ready to be made into a knife.

Ron took his hand at teaching too, giving personal instruction to Elizabeth Weese from Kansas who was just getting into knife making. By the end of the day, she had forged two RR spike knives and one from carbon steel. She had also learned that the forging is just the starting point and that each blade needed to be ground out. I don't think she had made it through all the grits, but she had managed to remove the scale and grind out all the hammer marks.



Ethan learning to make damascus on the press as Corbin instructs.



Grinding out the blade



Elizabeth with finished blade



Left side of grinder



Back of grinder

MTS workshop scheduled

Dale Gilman is holding a MTS Workshop at his farm on Saturday October 14th and Saturday October 21st 2006 from 8am till 5pm. Please bring a lunch and drinks for the day. It is about 20 plus miles to the nearest place to eat.

Please bring safety glasses and any protective clothing that you prefer to wear, apron, gloves, hearing protection, etc.

The workshops are going to be held at Foxfire, MO. which is 10 miles NNW of Boonsville, MO. on Highway 87. It is one mile north of Highway J and 1/4 mile south of Highway 187, ten miles South of Glasgow, MO.

To contact Dale: he spends Tuesday till Saturday mornings at the farm at Foxfire. Telephone number: 1-660-848-2396.

Saturday afternoon till Tuesday morning at his home in St Peters, MO., home telephone number: 1-636-447-6450.

Dale has no mail service at the farm, to reach Dale by mail send it to:

Dale Gilman
4002 West Drive
St. Peters, MO. 63376

You must be a BAM Member to take the workshops. The cost of a one year membership to BAM is \$25.00 dollars. The cost for each day of the workshops is \$20.00 dollars. You can send both to Dale Gilman. Please enclose a telephone number and an address where you can be contacted.

For information about the Program that is taught at the workshops contact:

Don Birdsall
11570 CR 5480
Rolla, MO. 65401
1-573-364-7223
e-mail: birdsall@fidnet.com

Power Hammer workshop

Revised Payment Schedule for Spare Tire Power Hammer Workshop

With approval of Bob Alexander and Bruce Herzog, send only \$500 to reserve a space in the next Spare Tire Power Hammer Workshop. Be prepared to give Bruce Herzog an additional \$500 when you arrive at the Labor Day Weekend Workshop to be held at Lou Mueller's shop in Sunset Hills, MO (suburb of St. Louis).

The total cost of the power hammers for the last class was \$1175. Bruce will notify participants at the workshop of any balance due to BAM.

This is a change to the information in the latest newsletter, which required \$1,000 up front. Now, only \$500 is required upfront.

Participants will be required to attend one pre-workshop at Bob Alexander's shop and the Labor Day Weekend Workshop at Lou Mueller's.

Questions?

On Dates for Pre-Workshop - - Call Bob Alexander
636-586-5350 (Best time to call 0700 - 0730)

On payments Call Bruce Herzog
314-892-4690 (bjherzog@msn.com)

General Information Call Ned Digh
573-642-8332 (npdigh@ktis.net)



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
April, 2006

Hello,

I would like to thank all of those caring people who generously donated to the ABANA Relief Fund. I am speaking for all of the recipients of the much needed help including myself. In many cases it makes all the difference in being able to rebuild our shops, our businesses and our lives. I will post an ongoing progress report of the rebuilding of my shop on the ABANA web site.

Make your reservations now for the exciting classes and tours available at the 2006 ABANA Conference! Sharpen your skills with a panel of four of ABANA's accomplished professionals in the Professional Development Workshop. Topics include financial planning, contract law, proposal estimates, successful studio habits, and winning commissions. The price for this wealth of information is \$20.

If you have never been to Seattle you may want to take an amphibious tour of Seattle in a historic World War II landing craft lovingly call a "Duck." The The Duck Tour is conducted by a Coast Guard-certified maritime Captain who will take you on a sweeping tour from the conference site to several of Seattle's hot spots and back again by land and water for only \$30.

You definitely do not want to miss your chance to see Samuel Yellin's gates at the Seattle Asian Art Museum in a guided tour led by ABANA's own Clare Yellin. During the Yellin Gate Tour Clare will offer in-depth discussion of her grandfather's work in Seattle and the history behind its creation. Besides the fabulous Yellin gates you will get to view one of the finest Asian Art collections in the world for only \$25. To make reservations for any of these programs, call Marcus Vickery in the ABANA Conference Office at 706.310.0323.

Also don't forget to vote for the best 2006 ABANA Conference poster. To vote visit:
www.metalsmithinghowto.com then click on "ABANA posters".

Remember that ABANA counts on the Auction to help fund programming. Please consider sending an auction item even if you can't attend the conference. Complete shipping details, as well as complete information about the conference, are at abanaseattle2006.com

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

Thank You

We wish to thank the BAM membership for making us life members of BAM at the 2006 Ozark Conference. We certainly did not expect such an honor. We know that many BAM members have worked very hard to help the membership grow and to allow many new and old members to enjoy blacksmithing. Certainly, we have not been the only members who have helped to make BAM the successful organization that it is. We know many other BAM members are deserving of this honor and thus we are humbled by accepting it. Thanks to all of you.

Bess & Maurice Ellis



And BAM thanks you for all that you have done.

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

THE FORGERY SCHOOL OF BLACKSMITHING

We are excited to announce the opening of our new facility located off of Historic Route 66 in Moriarty, New Mexico.

The new shop can accommodate up to twelve students with at least two instructors at all times to insure individual attention. Each student will have a complete forge, anvil, vice and tooling setup with all materials supplied.

The Forgery School of Blacksmithing was founded in 1986 by Robb Gunter. He taught for twelve years before taking a few years off to complete a large out of state commission. In 2003 his sons, Chad and Brad, started construction on a new facility which is now home to the new Forgery School of Blacksmithing.

The Gunter family is two generations of professional blacksmiths, each specializing in their own areas of expertise; all combined to give the student the best possible learning experience.

There is a convenient variety of lodging and restaurant options within three miles of the shop.

For more information or class schedules please contact:

Chad Gunter: (505) 270-1007

Or

Brad Gunter: (505) 205-9815

An Interview with Pat McCarty by Bob Ehrenberger

It's been a year since BAM voted to make Pat a lifetime member. This interview is long overdue. I caught Pat at the end of a long day of getting the fair grounds ready for another conference. Like usual, Pat had been busy all day working behind the scenes making sure that every detail had been taken care of. In addition to providing labor where needed, Pat is always the go-to man for electrical wiring.

Pat told me that he got into years ago while building his house. post and beam construction and hardware would be just the thing to hard could it be? He soon found some help. Help was close at hand Colin Campbell invited Pat to a one. Pat was hooked. He immedi- tools he needed to set up his own he found an anvil at a flea market. this, he found a forge while horse was just laying there in the weeds it. He rigged up an old vacuum was in business.



blacksmithing about 20 He was going with a rustic thought some hand made make it right. Besides, how out, and went looking for when fellow Bell employee BAM meeting. It only took ately started looking for the shop. Within two weeks Then, and you won't believe back riding. That's right, it where someone had dumped cleaner for a blower and he

Pat became a regular at BAM meetings, always in the front row, always asking questions. Back then BAM's meetings were more like hammer-ins, with the demonstrator showing a technique, and then several of the members going to the forge and trying their hand at it. Pat took every opportunity to get in the fire, especially when there was an experienced smith on hand to give him pointers. He didn't take an actual blacksmithing class for nearly ten years, when Uri Hofi started teaching in Potosi, but for an eager beginner, every meeting was like a class.

Pat said that the two people that most influenced him were Doug Hendrickson and Jerry Hoffman. Doug already had his novelty business going by then and would subcontract work out to Pat. He would give him a part that needed one or two simple operations done on them, show him how to do it and then leave him with a bucket of parts to finish on his own. There is nothing like having to make 50 or 100 parts just alike to improve your technique and reinforce the basics. When the parts were done, Pat would exchange the completed items for the next batch to work on, usually at a BAM meeting.

Jerry Hoffman was running a successful architectural iron shop, which just happened to be in Pat's service area (as a Bell lineman and service technician). Whenever Pat found himself near Jerry's shop he would stop in. Jerry was always willing to take time to show Pat what he was working on and to help Pat with one of his projects, which just happened to be in the truck. This would get him past a snag and allow him to continue making progress back in his own shop.

When Tom Clark was ready to step down as president of BAM, he encouraged Pat to take the job. Pat didn't think that he was ready and it took some persuading. It turned out to be another learning experience for Pat. I joined BAM during Pat's presidency and can attest that there was rarely a meeting that Pat didn't share some-

Continued...

Pat McCarty cont. . . .

thing with the group. I remember demonstrations of tong making, split crosses, ear rings from horse shoe nails, and wizard heads. Lots of wizards, they were somewhat of a specialty for Pat. He liked that you had to make special tools before you could make them. Pat got into the habit of always bringing something to share to the meetings, like the recent meeting at Lou Mueller's. Pat hadn't planned on demonstrating, but when he got there Lou asked him if he had something to share, and he did. I know I enjoyed seeing how to make an apple from a piece of pipe.

Another thing that Pat has been known for is the wooden box with hand forged hardware that has become what we call the BAM Box. The first time that BAM was going to have an auction, Pat didn't think that he was a good enough smith to contribute. But he did have a lot of experience as a wood worker, and had seen pictures of boxes with hand forged hardware. He knew that he could build a box and planned on very simple hardware to add a blacksmithing touch. From the start the boxes have been a big hit. As Pat's skill as a smith improved, so has his hardware. They got the name BAM Box when he made one for the ABANA conference and BAM members filled it with hand made tools. This year's box is number 35 and nearly all of them have been donated to raise funds to support the craft of blacksmithing. Also, almost all of them have been made from scrap lumber, mostly pallets. The only exceptions were when Tom Clark donated some walnut and cherry wood, I wonder who the high bidder was on those boxes? Pat's boxes have also been featured in a fine arts coffee



table book on hand crafted boxes and chests.

Another of Pat's traditions is his annual New Year's Day hammer-in. For as long as I can remember, Pat has put on this get together, which I hope to be free to attend some day.



Since Pat retired from Bell 5 years

ago he has been a full time blacksmith, out in the shop about every day. He does a variety of work, he works with a log cabin builder, he makes parts for wagons and buck boards, fire andirons, railings and gates. He makes a lot of handles for his wife's baskets and the basket community at large. He says there is enough demand for hand made baskets that he could make handles full time if he wanted to, but that would be just too boring.

Pat does a lot of demonstrations. In addition to the blacksmith meetings, there are schools in his area that call on him frequently. He has demonstrated for Deutsche Country Days in Marthasville for 11 years. For the last 4 years, he has spent the month of September at Silver Dollar City.



BAM is lucky to have Pat as a member. Thanks again for all that you have done.

While searching the BAM computer for pictures of Pat, I came up with this rendition labeled "Pat McCarty at work".

Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads

FOR SALE: Two anvils for sale at \$2 per pound. One is a 350# Fisher anvil, good condition (\$700). The other one is a 250# Fisher anvil in very good condition (\$500). Also for sale #2 Hosfeld Bender (air operated, very good condition) with lots of dies, \$800. Contact Maurice Ellis, 573-766-5346 or mbellis@misn.com (12486 Sutton Road, Belgrade, MO 63622)

Kirk Sullens has organized a group buy for gas saver valves. Because of his prior purchases the co. is extending the group price of \$136.25 (tax included) for the forseen future. If you can't meet with Kirk there may be additional shipping costs. (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.

Buy, Sell, Trade, Continued

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.

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.

SHOP TRICK

Editor's Note: I got this trick off of "theforge" ABANA's e-mail news group.

Anyone need instruction on using the forge to cut the bottle

If so this is what Bill Roan showed at a recent conference

Take a piece of 1/2" round stock bend it in a circle just larger than the bottle leaving a handle on the circle.

Decide where on the bottle you want to cut it and using brick or something nonflammable, build up two places on the anvil to rest the steel circle.

Heat the circle red hot

Place circle over the bottle

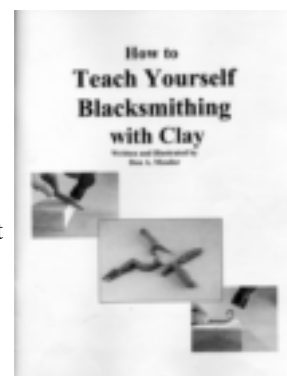
Turn the bottle so the hot steel touches glass all the way around a time or two.

Dunk the bottle in cold water and you should hear it break leaving you with two pieces.

Roger R Degner

BOOK REVIEW

After seeing Lou Mueller's shop tip on using clay to prototype a difficult project, BAM member Don Meador wrote me that he had written a book on the subject, and provided a copy to review.



"How to Teach Yourself Blacksmithing with Clay"

The basic idea is to get a feel for the craft without the expense of outfitting a shop. By working in clay you can see how clay moves under the hammer and learn how to perform the basic blacksmithing techniques.

The book is well written and has a lot of illustrations. I found the instructions on making a clay cutter a little confusing, but if you follow the directions it all makes sense in the end. By the time you finish the exercises and projects in the book you will have a good understanding of how metal moves. You will also start to understand just what kinds of things can be done in iron.

If you make the jump into blacksmithing, you will still need to get used to being around hot iron, and iron doesn't move as easy as clay, so you will still need to learn how to hit hard with control.

Soft cover, 8 1/2x11, 36 pages, the retail price on the text is \$10.95 and it can be bought through.

Lindays Publications, Centaur Forge, Peih Tools

Need Coal ?

Check on Availability

Coal Captain: Bob Alexander



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

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

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

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

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

Note: James Rumbo is no longer storing coal for BAM

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

NOTICE

Bob Alexander called to say there was a mix-up with the last coal order and some of the coal was in larger than expected chunks. He is putting a few chunks in each bag to use it up. Please be understanding when you get a surprise in your bag.

Upcoming Events

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 flood-pftaverizon.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



Jerry Darnell Fullering Tool

New Members

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

Chitwood, William
415 Monroe Street
Desloge, MO 63601
753-431-5499

Humphrey, Greg
RR 3, Box 119
Princeton, MO 64673
gjhump@grm.net
660-382-4064

Fitzgerald, Scott
4013 Snowy Owl
Columbia, MO 65202
573-864-1198

Bottiger, Jeff
13851 County Road 6040
Edgar Springs, MO 65442-8513
573-435-0021

Starr, David
7320 N La Cholla Blvd 154-246
Tucson, AZ 85741
chileforge@earthnet.net
520-360-2141

Suthers, Terry
n8126 Postville Road
Blanchardville, WI 53566
postvilleblacksmith@tds.net
608-527-2404

Beahan, Joe
11006 ACR 945
Thompson, MO 56285
jtbeahan@yahoo.com
573-581-3962

Lynch, Charles
32851 Sleepy Hollow Lane
Sedalia, MO 65301
pyr0k1d@hotmail.com
660-827-4604

Ferguson, Noel
P.O. Box 457
Lawson, MO 64062
fergios@juno.com
816-580-7587

Combs, Robert
163 Pine Knot Raod
Middletown, MO 63359
573-656-3480

Adams, Carolyn
606 Burroughs Ave
Collinsville, IL 62234
carolyn.s.adams@phzer.com
618-210-7070

Hill, Mike
1892 Louisiana Road
Princeton, KS 66078
mike.ironworks@gmail.com
785-242-5400

Nickel, Charles
31215 Adams Street
Elmwood, NE 68349
402-994-4705

Miller, Cole
3265 Green Trails Court
Wentzville, MO 63385
636-398-5678

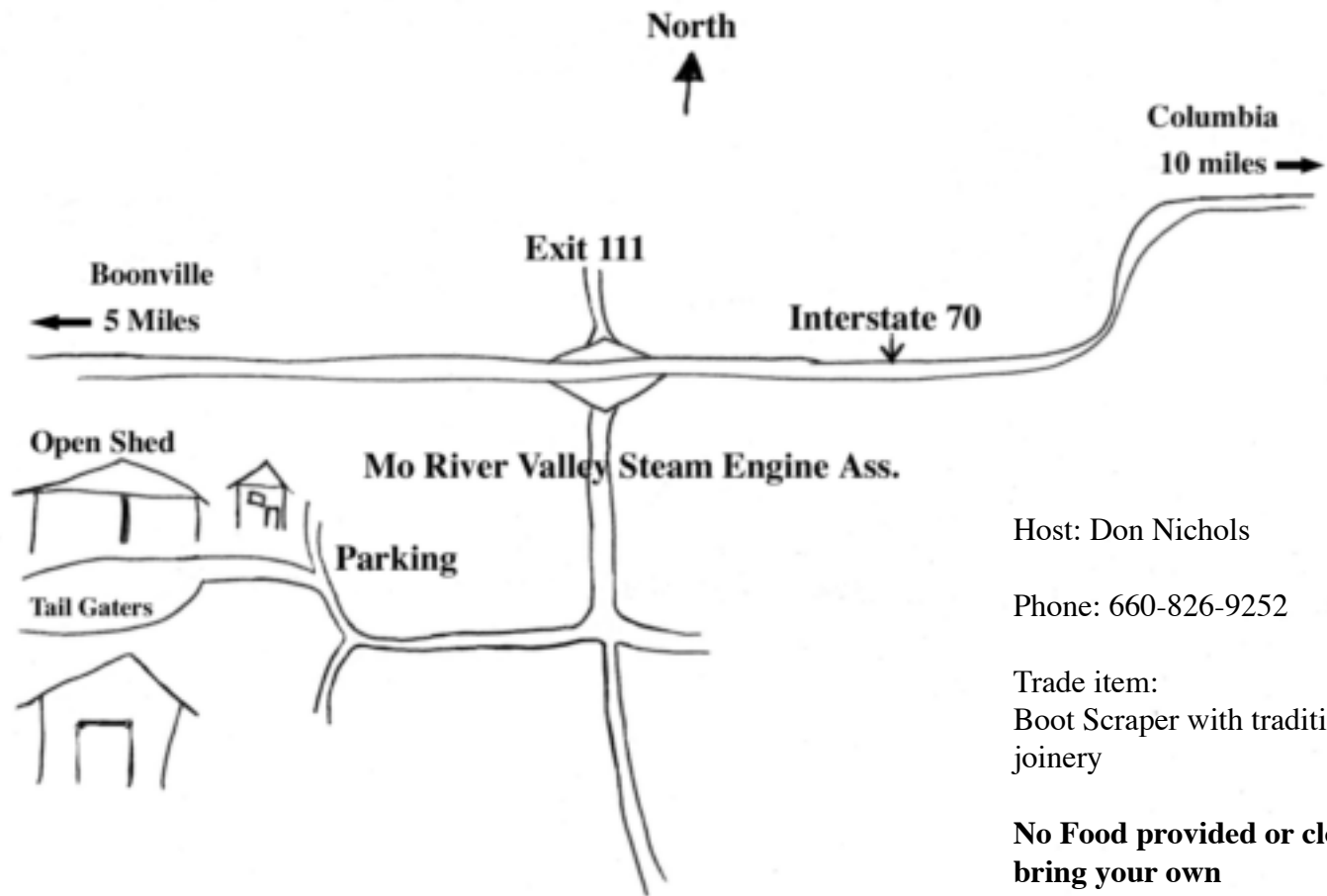
Lawson, Lee
1140 Wyndbrook Court
St. Paul, MO 63366
llawson63366@peoplepl.com
636-281-3988

Knudten, Kyle
10901 Coral Ridge Drive
St. Louis, MO 63123
mizzoutiger96@yahoo.com
314-729-1623

Runnows, Tim
1845 S. State Hwy MM
Springfield, MO 65802
tim@carnahanwhite.com
417-883-9794

Waters, Allen
1845 S. State Hwy MM
Springfield, MO 65802
allen@carnahanwhite.com
417-883-9794

Next Meeting: July 22, Exit 111 on I-70.



Host: Don Nichols

Phone: 660-826-9252

Trade item:
Boot Scraper with traditional
joinery

**No Food provided or close,
bring your own**

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