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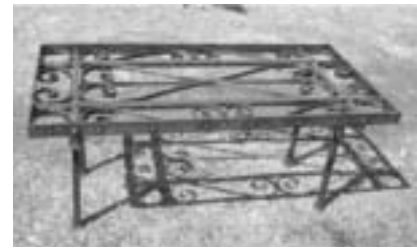
MARCH-APRIL 2010



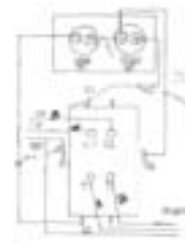
Coffee Table by Thomas Ratliff and Bob Ehrenberger

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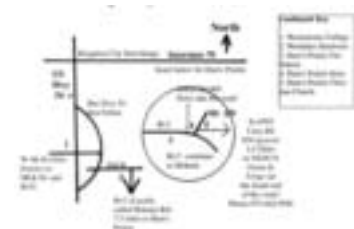
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**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

Volume 27 No. 2
MARCH-APRIL 2010

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President's Message

Ken Jansen

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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.

MARCH-APRIL 2010

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

We have had quite a winter, I, for one, am glad to see the warmer weather. We had about a month this winter where we were snowed in. I could have gotten out if I had to, but there is no way I would have gotten back up the hill through the snow drifts. After I got the January/February newsletter out, I started to teach Thomas, my apprentice. He had to park at the bottom of the hill and walk in a great deal of the time. His project went well, everyone was happy with the results. There is more on that later in the newsletter.

We had a wonderful day for the March meeting at Ken's shop near Moscow Mills. Ken's shop is very well organized, and he just keeps on adding equipment. He is better equipped than some full-time smiths. We had great participation in the trade item again this time. I just now realized that I didn't take any pictures of the trade items, sorry about that, you guys did yourself proud. The demonstrations were all first rate. I'll admit that I missed most of Ken's leaf demo, I wasn't late, he started early. Judging by the results, it was a good one. Maybe I can get him to repeat it sometime, I really would like to learn how to make a leaf under the power hammer. John Murray did two demos, he made a ladle from a piece of 1"x2" bar stock, and then forged a hammer. The very first BAM meeting I went to in 1995, John made a hammer, so trust me he is one of the best. The final demo was Pat McCarty making a bell from an oxygen cylinder.

In case you are wondering who the baby is pictured to the right is, it's our newest grandson Jesse Howard Rupp. Tiffany gave birth to him the day before the March meeting. She caught us off guard because Jesse arrived 3 days before

the due date. The closest Tiffany has ever come before was 5 days late. He also surprised us because after 5 girls we were not expecting a boy, we all just assumed that it would be another girl. Jesse gave us all a scare when he stopped breathing when he was 3 days old. It was touch and go for a couple days, but he pulled through. They never figured out the cause, we're just glad he responded to the antibiotics. Continuing on a personal note just a little longer, Daniel is doing fine. They are sure they got all the cancer, he is back to work and getting stronger.

The plans for conference are going well. Everything is in



*Jesse Howard Rupp
Grandchild #7*

place. If you haven't signed up you need to. You also need to bring items for the auction and boutique.

I've gotten several flyers from the Indiana Blacksmiths concerning their conference this June 25th -27th. It is their 30th anniversary and they are really planning a big conference to celebrate. If you can make it, I'm sure you will have a great time. It was sure fun when we did the big conference in 2008 and we had smiths from all over the country come to our conference.

Ned has pushed our regular May meeting into June due to when he could get Bob Alexander

to demonstrate. He is again taking donations for the food bank as payment for the lunch. Bring some canned food for the food bank and plan on having a good time. See page 17 for more information.

We have another change on the coal map. Denis Yates will no longer be a coal station for BAM coal.

The price of coal is coming down, so we have adjusted the prices. It will be \$11 at Bob Alexander's, \$13 at the other coal stations.

I tried one of Frank Turley's suggestions. He said that he fluxes with straight borax and then when it is melted, he fluxes with EZ weld. I tried it, and it worked great, the EZ weld stuck to the bar and did not fall off, as it sometimes does.

ABANA has put out a request for a new Hammer's Blow editor. There are more details on page 25, or you can go to the ABANA web site. Plans for the ABANA conference are in their final phases, this is going to be a big one.

I got a call to tell me that Paul Moffet died the first week in March. I was told that Paul had a lot of friends in BAM. Sorry, I don't have any more information.

The next **Newsletter submission deadline is May 15th.** That's 2 weeks after conference so there is plenty of time for you to burn your conference pictures on a CD and send to me.

BAM Meeting March 2010 at Ken Jansen's

It was another great meeting, with John Murray, Ken Jansen and Pat McCarty demonstrating. We had a tremendous turnout at this meeting, with 50 plus attending.

Business Meeting:

Kent Harbit has this year's Missouri State Fair BAM demo information, contact him if you plan to attend. It is a chance to hang out with fellow Bummer's and have fun.

Conference committee report given by chairman Joe Hurley, still looking for a few volunteers, boutique and auction items needed and possible farrier demo at conference.

We still need another member for the scholarship committee. Scholarships are good for 1 year, unless an extension is requested.

The garden arbor at Ken Jansen's will probably not be ready for this year's auction. Decorations are still needed for the arbor, anything with a garden theme.

BAM insurance, we are covered for 3 major events, meetings, and a reasonable number of BAM hammer-ins and activities. These need to be advertised in the newsletter and on the BAM website.

MTS: We still need to build up a list of people that can help to move the trailer. Please contact Denis Yates or Ken Jansen. BAM should form an MTS committee to help oversee the program, we need volunteers. It was mentioned that they can still use more helping hands at the Boy Scout camp this summer. If you can't come for the whole week, they need the most help on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. It was also brought up that if you have one or two people in your area that want to learn blacksmithing, but don't think you can fill an MTS class (6 or more students), you can teach the MTS curriculum one on one under the MTS umbrella. Call Denis and get the requirements.

The Treasurer's report was given by Ken Jansen for Bruce Herzog. BAM's current membership is 551.

A fresh shipment of coal is needed, coal prices are down, and should the price of BAM coal be lowered? The response from members was yes, research is being done.

The Indiana affiliate is having an expanded conference this year with Clifton Ralph to demo.

Doniphan Days, coming up please check out and contact Chris Miller for information.

TRADE ITEM ANYTHING THAT RINGS

MADE BY	TRADED TO
Joe Brinkmann	Ken Jansen
John Huff	Joe Hurley
Chris Miller	Steve McCarthy
Steve McCarthy	Kent Harbit
Joe Hurley	Esther Digh
Kent Harbit	Ned Digh
Esther Digh	Mike McLaughlin
Bernie Tappel	Mike Maddox
Lou Potts	Pat McCarty
John Massey	Joe Brinkmann
Don Nichols	Dennis Quinn
Pat McCarty	Lou Potts
Ken Jansen	Bob Ehrenberger
Mike McLaughlin	Ed Harper
Mike Maddox	John Huff
Ned Digh	Chris Miller
Don Anders	John Massey
Ed Harper	Don Nichols
Bob Ehrenberger	Harry Weber
Harry Weber	Don Anders
Dennis Quinn	Bernie Tappel

IRON IN THE HAT

DONATED BY	ITEM	WON BY
Pat McCarty	bell	Dan Wedemeyer
Ned Digh	vise grips	Don Anders
Chris Miller	leather straps	Harry Weber
Harry Weber	wooden corners	John Huff
Esther Digh	Drill gage & 3in1	Don Anders
Joe Hurley	stainless	Don Nichols
Harry Weber	wooden corners	Don Nichols
Chris Miller	metal disks	John Huff
Ken Jansen	files	Steve McCarthy
Dave Enders	horse shoes	Steve McCarthy
Dave Enders	iron round	Chris Miller
Roy Gallagher	coil spring	Karen Bouckaert
Chris Miller	cross blanks	Richard Camp
Larry Hults	jack hammer pieces	Chris Miller
BAM library	old news letters	John Massey
John Murray	demo dipper	John Bouchillon
Ed Harper	hay tines	Harry Weber
BAM library	old news letters	John Massey
Don Nichols	pins & disk	Karen Bouckaert
Karen Bouckaert	hammer & clamp	Mike McLaughlin
John Murray	demo hammer	Joe Hurley
Don Anders	hammer & clamp	Dan Wedemeyer
Dan Wedemeyer	titanium rod	Don Nichols
John Huff	horse shoes	Joe Hurley
Joe Brinkmann	RR spikes HC	Roy Gallagher
Dan Wedemeyer	titanium rod	Chris Miller

Letter from the president,

Well, another meeting has come and gone, I think it went pretty well even though the parking situation was not the greatest. If I do this again I will aim for a warmer month where the ground is drier so there is more parking. I don't have a tally for people there but I would guess around 40.

We had several demos that took up till about 12:30 or so, but I think the slightly delayed lunch was worth it.

I demonstrated how I was making high volume stylized leaves and welded them into a group of three. The forging was done under the power hammer and the fly press was used to do the center vein with some hand work to finish.

John Murray came up next and demonstrated a ladle out of a piece of 1 by 2 inch solid stock. I need to try and find my tall mushroom stake or make another one for doing ladles like that. John used the power hammer to draw the stock down to about 3/8 by 1/2 inch and the bowl of the ladle was around 4 1/2 inches across. He then forged a hand hammer under the power hammer. He did not have time to grind and finish it but it had the look of a John Murray hammer. I did not win it though, when it went into the iron in the hat along with the ladle.

Then Pat McCarty made a bell out of an oxygen cylinder complete with the clapper and hook on top. I am gonna have to get some more cylinders. I want to try and make 3 or 4 with different lengths to see what different tones I can get out of them.

Thanks to Karen Bouckcart for the lunch, it was very much appreciated and went down very good.

We had a good turn out of trade items. There was a neat variety of items from several versions of the classic dinner bell, to hand bells of several versions, cow bells, oversized cat bells, and even a gong or two. It was interesting to see the ways people interpreted the theme and the variations on the interpretations.

We had a pretty good business meeting and discussed a couple of things that have relevance with all the members.

BAM carries insurance for our association and it is to cover us at events and meetings. The question had been asked in the past if that would cover hammer-ins and it will as long as they are sanctioned BAM events which means they need

to be advertised in the newsletter and the website and be open to all members. We can't have too many or it will be beyond what we are covered for. For now if you want to have a hammer-in run it by me and I will put it to the board so we can decide if we are covered if you want it to fall under our insurance. If you aren't too worried about the insurance, by all means have the hammer-in anyway, I have been having a couple a year for I think 4 years now and haven't had an issue. I am probably going to start having only one a year just because of the time involved in getting it together. I don't want to discourage having hammer-ins because getting together is what groups like ours are all about.

We are still looking for volunteers for the Boy scout camp that Denis Yates will be running in June. Please contact Denis if you think you can help out. dfyeagle@eaglesforge.net

We are also looking for people who can move the MTS trailer when needed. I would suggest that at least 3/4 ton or larger with a brake controller. If you can potentially do this, please let me know or Denis Yates and we are going to try to get a list together so we have people to call on if needed.

There is a civil war reenactment and hammer-in, in Doniphan, MO, check the website for details, it may be in the newsletter also. Period clothing is not required as the hammer-in is not part of the reenactment, just next to it.

Kent Harbit is taking care of the tickets for the State Fair, so see him if you are thinking about coming.

The conference is coming along well. I think pretty much all the items are lined out. It is possible, but we don't know for sure, that we might have some farriers come and hang out with us for part of the conference. I think that will be fun. I would like to see them setup one of their contests because what little of that I have seen was a blast to watch.

I have to confess my disappointment because I had a lot of neat items for sale and very little of it disappeared. It was all good stuff in prime condition for its age and nobody wanted it. I may bring some of it to the conference in case someone missed an opportunity.

That is all I have for now.
Happy forging.
Ken Jansen



Ken's demo leaves

John Murray One Piece Ladle Demo

By Bob Ehrenberger

John likes big hammers and heavy iron, so it should be no surprise that when asked to make a ladle he pulled out a chunk of 1" x 2" steel.

The piece was longer than needed to make it easier to hold. He started by pulling out 1.5" to 2" to draw into a handle. By the time he drew it down to a 3/8" x 1/2" cross section it was nearly 2 foot long.



John wanted a piece that was about 2" square to make the ladle, so he used a hack under the power hammer to cut it off.



He started to spread the material for the ladle directly under the hammer dies, but as it got thinner he switched to using a floating fuller. The fuller had a gentle radius, about like a rounding hammer. He could direct the stretching and flattening of the material with it. He also used the fuller to create a diamond shaped transition area between the handle and the bowl.



Finally the bowl was sunk into a swage that Ken had made from the bottom of an oxygen cylinder. The swage wasn't quite deep enough so John tried to raise it over a small mushroom stake, it wasn't really big enough for the job. Ken said that he had a large ball stake some place but we couldn't locate it when we needed it. I'm sure it was the first thing that he tripped over on Monday morning.

John Murray Hammer Demo

By Bob Ehrenberger

John has been making and selling blacksmith hammers for at least 20 years, so he really knows his stuff.

For this hammer he started with a 2" square piece of 1050. He figured it was about 3 pounds of steel, so the finished hammer would be a little less.

The most important and hardest part of a hammer head is making the eye. You need to do a good job of measuring and lay-out.

John slits the eye using a tool that is basically a short chisel welded to a flat bar at a rt. angle. It is important that the slit is shorter than the block of steel is thick, so that it doesn't go through and hit the bottom die. Once he starts the slit, he uses coal dust as a lubricant and release agent to get the tool out of the block of steel.

When the hole is slit from both sides and joins up, he drives a handle drift through it and hammers the swell out of the sides of the hammer with the drift in place. This is when you need to fix any misalignment that you had in slitting the hole.

Once the hole is drifted, John heated one end of the head, cooled the other end up through the eye and then while holding it on end used the power hammer to upset what will become the face of the hammer. (Sorry, I didn't get a picture of this step.) The scariest part of this is when you quench the eye to keep it from deforming. John said that he has only had a hand full of hammers crack over the years, but it is possible.

After upsetting the face, you need to heat the other end and forge the pein.

The final forging step is the shape the eye into an hour glass, to hold the handle. For this John uses what he calls the magic bullet. It is also called the thorn in some areas.



Once the eye is shaped the hammer is annealed, ground, hardened and tempered.

Pat McCarty Bell demo

By Bob Ehrenberger

Since the trade item for the March meeting was something that rings or chimes, it seemed appropriate that Pat showed us how he makes a bell from an oxygen cylinder. You need to remove the valve before cutting the cylinder in half. There are no flammable substances in the cylinders but you need to make sure there is no pressure. They are made from a mild steel so you shouldn't have a problem cutting it with a hack saw, band saw, or chop saw.

The open lip is flared, first by hitting the outside while on the horn, then using a rounding hammer over a round edge on the anvil face. It doesn't take much flare, just enough so it looks a little like a bell. Pat said that he makes bells from both the top and bottom halves of the cylinder, but the top half looks better and he can sell them for a little more.

The top of the bell is heated and worked down to reduce it's size to fit the rod that is going to be used to hang it. Pat likes to use 7/16" but today they used 1/2" because that's what Ken had on hand.

Once there is a good fit between the opening and the rod, you need to make an eye on the end of the rod to hang the clapper from. Adjust the position of the eye until it is in the center of the bell.

The rod is then shoved through the bell from the bottom side and mig welded into place. The weld is heated and hammered so that it doesn't look like an electric weld.

The rod is trimmed to about 6", drawn to a taper and made into a hook to hang the bell from.

For a clapper Pat uses a piece of flat stock 1" x 1/4" x 3". He punches a hole in each end and puts his touch mark on it. Pat likes this type of clapper because it will work in any size bell.

The clapper is hung from the loop with a heavy cord. A piece of leather lace is tied to the bottom of it to hold while ringing.

Sorry, I didn't get pictures of the finished bell or the clapper.



Ken helps Pat start the flare.



Paul Zimmermann's Harmony Element

story & photos by Andrew Kyte, Pliezhausen, Germany (formerly of Berkeley)

Paul Zimmermann developed this form approximately thirty years ago as an answer to the traditional scroll work his clients were requesting, as taking blacksmithing into more modern forms has always been the goal of his work. He realized early on that, often times, when a client would request scroll work, it wasn't so much the scroll itself they found appealing, but rather the movement of line and form. In the eighties Paul received the *Staatspreis* for a screen using this form. In Germany this is the highest prize awarded for applied arts.

Located in Pliezhausen, Germany, Atelier (*Studio*) Zimmermann has been a forerunner for bringing the traditions of blacksmithing into a contemporary design context. Paul and Heiner Zimmermann's works are characterized by a high definition and clarity of design that is most apparent in the grave markers they've created.

Through years of international lectures and demonstrations, the Zimmermanns have become ambassadors of the craft through an open exchange of skills and design philosophy. I hope that if more people are exposed to their work through this step-by-step photo story and their website, they will be inspired to design in the present. I hope you will visit Atelier Zimmermann at www.atelierzimmermann.com, a very artistic and creative website.



Paul at the power hammer. Note he is using slightly curved drawing dies.

The form can be forged out of square, round or flat bar using the same methods that follow. In this case I use 35mm x 6mm to achieve a larger form because, as the steps progress, you are left with more material to work with. The measurements I give are only as reference points.



Draw out both ends of your bar creating a quick transition into a cross section of approximately 10mm x 10mm. Then offset each leg creating a flat side and a humped side on the piece.



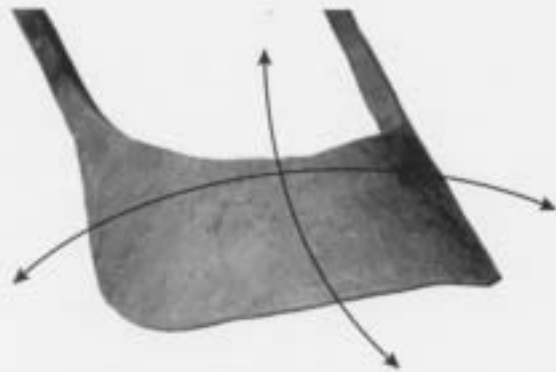
Bend the original sized material into a "U" shape. This is one of the most important steps in the process. The curve should be graceful inside as well as outside.

The article on the next three pages was copied from the Jan/Feb 2010 issue of the California Blacksmith

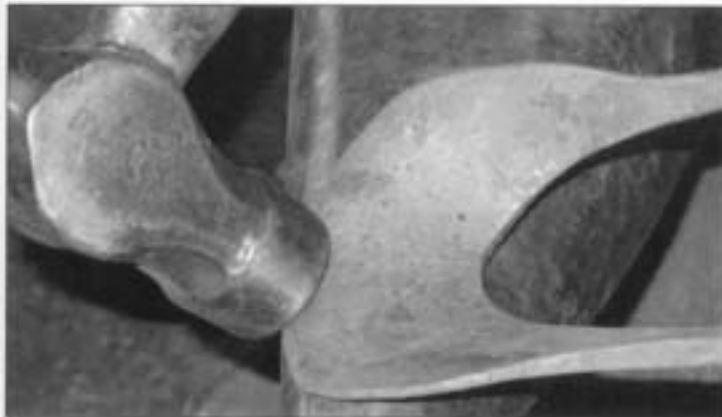
Harmony



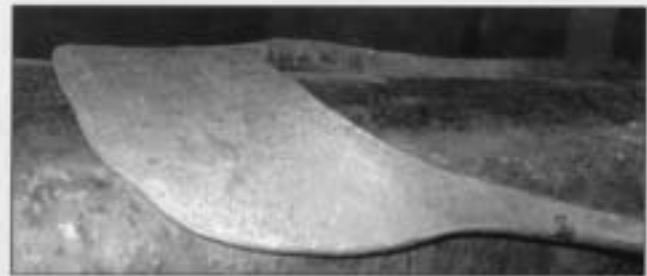
Take a good heat on the curved section and begin to spread the material as uniformly as possible. Rotate it under the hammer in a circular motion to distribute even blows, thinning the outside while keeping the inside a little thicker.



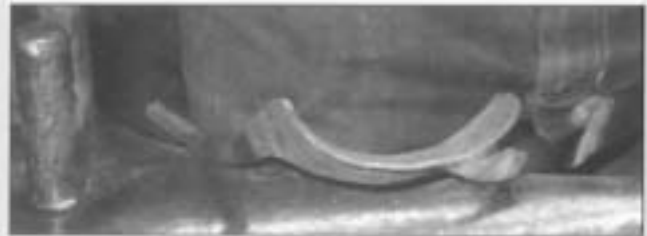
Now you will curve the piece in two directions.



It is best to really analyze the piece now because once you begin the next step, there is no opportunity to tweak. Using a dome-faced hammer, even up the curves and smooth out any kinks that may have developed.



Forge the piece over the horn while also lifting up slightly.



Moving closer to the tip of the horn begin to forge the piece into a graceful curve behind itself.



Bending forks and a torch are also useful tools to get good results. At this point as you work the piece, periodically turn it and look from all sides. Even up any remaining kinks or flat spots.

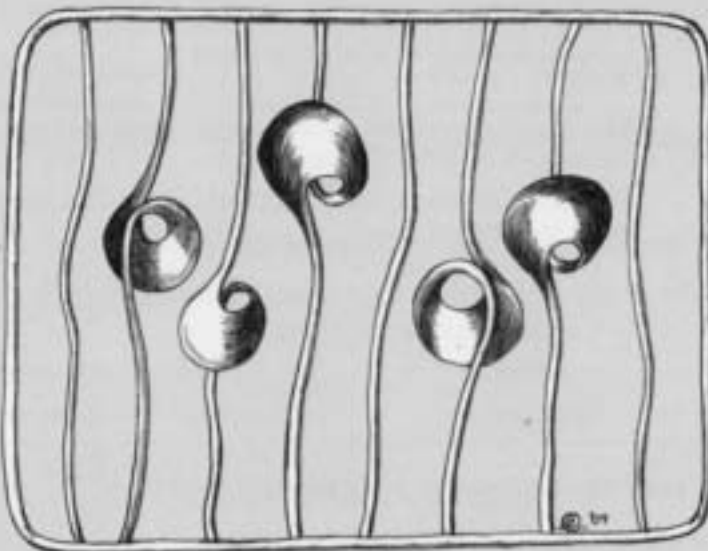
Harmony



The piece should be fluid and moving in all dimensions, with unlimited possible forms it can take.

Paul would always remind me that working this form is an exercise and should always be experimented with to find something new. So get out to the shop and experiment! ♣

"Paul Zimmerman's Harmony Element," Andrew Kyte's companion article to his 2009 CBA Spring Conference demonstration, fulfills his commitment regarding the scholarship he received from CBA that helped him journey to Germany. ~Ed.



(left) Andrew demonstrating at the 2009 CBA Spring Conference. Centering five harmony elements in a cluster offers pedestrians joyful expectation as they pass through this garden gate. This sketch is based on the photo of the garden gate Andrew displayed during his demonstration. (above)

*Photos by Bob Jensen
Sketch by Eden Sanders*

Another Google Books find...

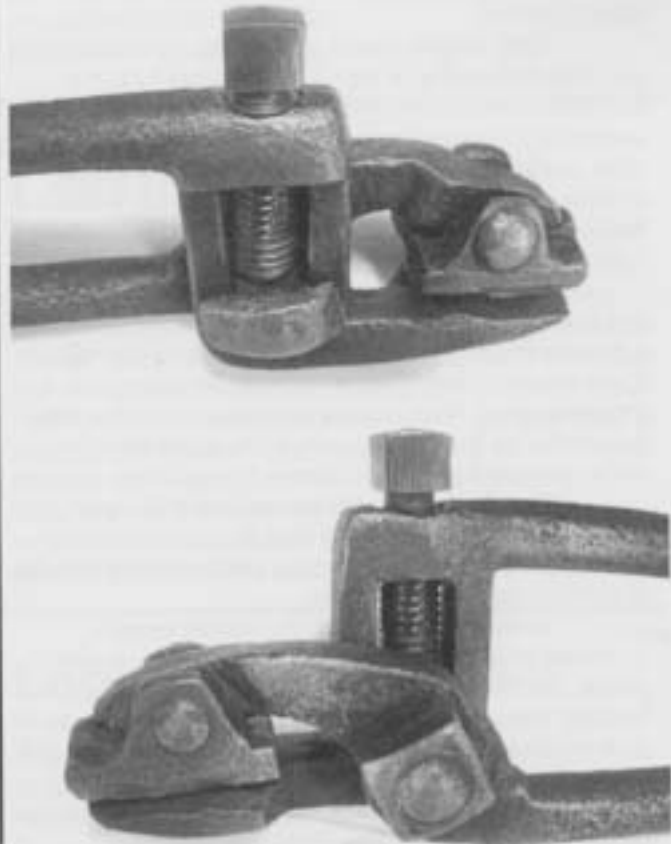
By Steven Spoerre

As the cold weather will continue to be around for a while yet, I wanted to bring to your attention a magazine that I have found quite interesting. The American Blacksmith magazine touches on all aspects of blacksmithing – from corrective horseshoeing to automobile repair – during the first part of the 20th century. The magazine was first published in 1901 and seventeen of the first twenty-two years are available for viewing or download through Google Books. After you've searched by Title and an issue comes up, select the "More editions" under the description and ALL the available issues become accessible. Pick the "full view" issues you want to read and/or download.

Not only does this magazine contain blacksmithing practices, tips, tools and techniques of the period, it also shows old European ironwork, has pictures of blacksmith shops and shop layouts from around the country, showcases individual "artist-blacksmith's" work, has business articles relating to a blacksmithing shop and has great ads. Would you like to know what 1902 had in the way of power hammers? The New Little Giant (500 sold), The Easy (50 sold), The "Little John", The Hawkeye 2 & 3, The Beaudry Champion, Bicknell's Power Hammer, the Krehblel Manufacturing Company's hammer, and Fairbanks all had pictures of their hammers in their ads. And ads for the "Little Sampson", the Perfect Trip Hammer, the J.D. Hammer, the Modern Power Hammer, the Williams, White & Co. Power hammer, the Star Power Hammer, the 1904 Triple Beam Hammer and others can be seen in later years. Ads for Trenton, Columbus, Hay Budden, Peter Wright and Columbian anvils, forge equipment, hand tools, gas engines and other shop related equipment are also covered.

ACME Adjustable Tongs

This pair of tongs was seen in the "what is it" section of the gallery at S.O.F.A. in 2008. I had already made a pair of tongs with self-adjusting jaw and thought having a thickness adjustment might be useful as well. So I took these pictures and filed them away in a "future project" folder. I've recently come across the two ads below and now know the tongs manufacturer, a date (1902), the original price and they're number 3 in a set of 4.



Ads found in the 1902 edition of The American Blacksmith

THERE ARE OTHERS I know, but there's none like this . . .

ACME ADJUSTABLE BLACKSMITH TONGS

All steel, guaranteed. Buy them, try them, and you'll never be without them.

ACME TONGS CO., 110 N. KEDZIE AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.

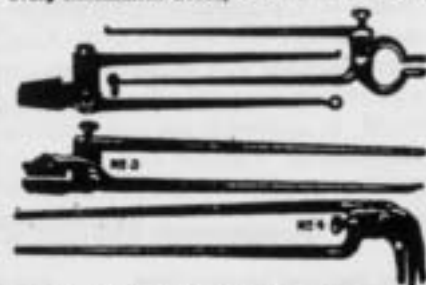
ONLY \$1.00 PER PAIR.

Send for Circular Anyway.

This article is copied from the Mar/Apr 2010 copy of The Upsetter, the newsletter of the Michigan Artist Blacksmith Association.

BEGIN THE NEW YEAR WITH THE BEST TOOLS

— HERE IS A SET OF —
Adjustable Steel Tongs \$1.00 Per Pair.
every Blacksmith needs.



SPECIAL OFFER \$3.50 Per Set.
FOR JANUARY ONLY, ORDER AT ONCE.
ACME TONGS COMPANY,

Shop Tip, How Things Work; A Relay Motor Controller

By Bob Ehrenberger

Have you ever wondered what's going on when you push a button to start a motor and then push another one to stop it? Well, I have. When I got my power hammer, I got this diagram from Tom Clark's shop helper John. John said that he had gotten it from Phil Cox, to guide him in wiring up Tom's power hammers.

At first the diagram didn't make sense. Then I realized that the "NO" under the START button stood for "Naturally Open" and the "NC" under the STOP button stood for "Naturally Closed". Once this was understood, it made perfect sense. Let's take a closer look while I talk you through it.

There are two components, the start stop box, and the relay box. Power comes into the system via 2 110 wires and a ground. The 110 wires are connected to "L1" and L2". The ground is hooked to "A1". The relay box is usually located close to the motor to keep the high amp wires short.

The switch box is usually located some place that is convenient to the operator. The switch box is connected to the relay box with 14 ga stranded wire which is easier to work with than solid wire.

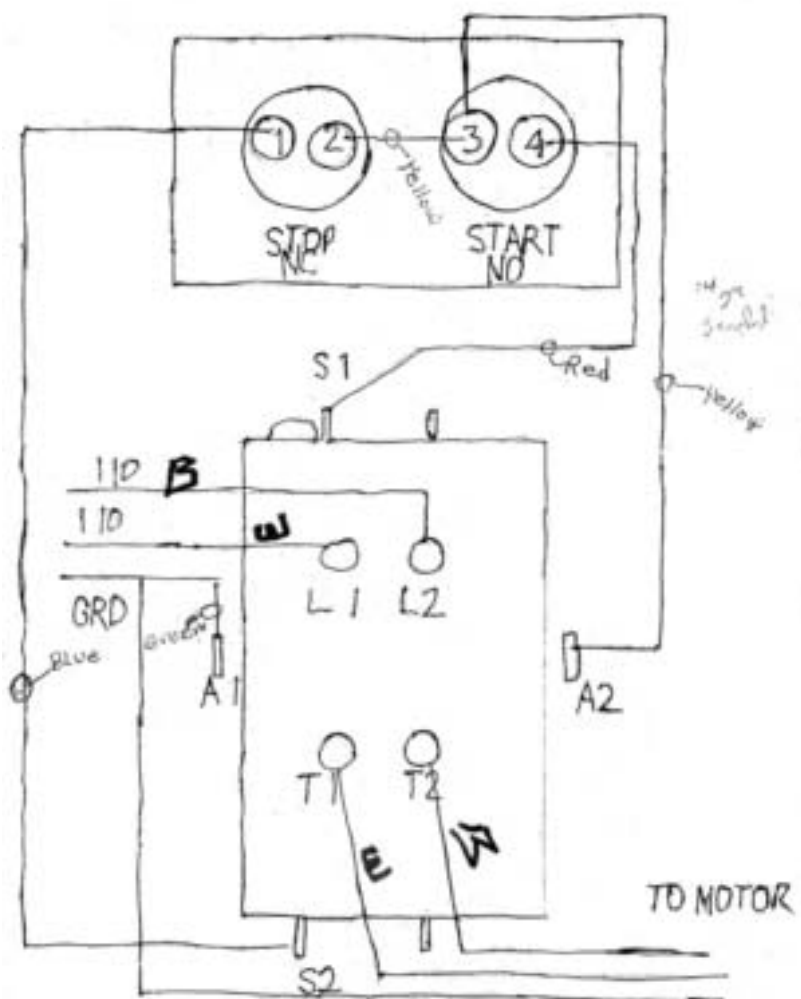
Terminal "A2" in the relay is bridged internally to one of the hot leads, it doesn't mater which one. A2 is connected to terminals 2 and 3 in the switch, this provides 110v current to the switch.

When the START button is pushed, it closes the naturally open (NO) switch and provides power to terminal 4 in the switch, which provides power to terminal S1 in the relay.

When S1 is powered, it energizes an electro magnet which closes the connections between L1-T1 and L2-T2. This provides power to the motor.

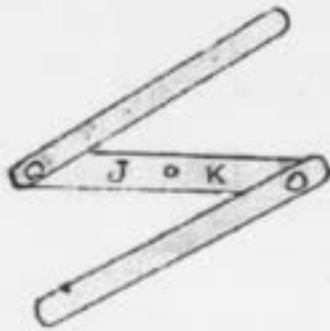
If that was all there was to it, the connection would be broken when you released the START button. Because terminal S2 is powered all the time by a connection through terminal 1 in the switch, it holds the relay closed once the electro magnet has been energized.

The relay will stay closed providing power to the motor until the STOP button is pushed. When you push the STOP button, it opens up the naturally closed (NC) switch, thus removing the power from S2 and releasing the relay. This breaks the connections between L1-T1 and L2-T2.

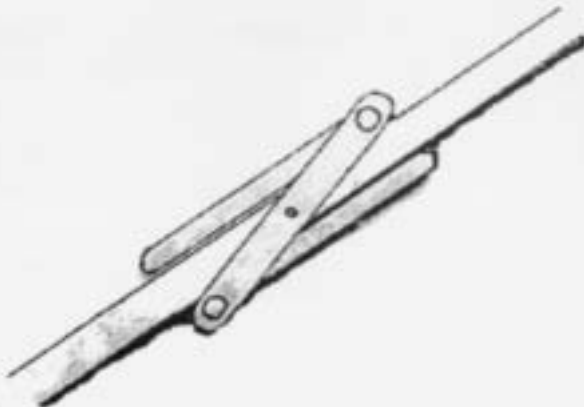


* For your toolbox

Here is an interesting and useful tool I found in Gray Smith's shop.



What is it? It is a tool for quickly finding the center of bar stock. To use, you place the "legs" of the Z on each side of the bar and scribe, or center punch through the hole in the center section. Here it is on a length of 1/2 x 1/2 bar stock.



How do you make one? The two "legs" are 1/4 x 1/4 cold rolled stock and the "center" bar is 1/8 x 3/8 stock. Other sizes would work too. The parts are all about 3 inch long, but this isn't critical. Careful layout of your holes is required and I would recommend drilling on a drill press. Where do you put the holes? Well the three holes in the center section need to be on the centerline and equal distance from the center hole. The hole in each of the legs also needs to be dead center on the bar. Each of the holes is counter sunk on one side for a flat head rivet. I think the rivets are 1/8 dia.

The rivets need to be almost tight. How do you do that? Here a trick I learned from Vance Baker. Put a piece of thin paper (cigarette paper, but any thin paper will work) between each of the pieces being riveted (cold) and complete your riveting. Then take a torch, or use the forge (over kill) and burn out the paper. This will give you just enough clearance for the parts to pivot but not be loose.

Now clean up your new tool with a file and some emery cloth. Put a light coat of paste wax on and it is ready for your toolbox. Or better yet put it to work.

Got a useful tool like this? Why not send me some information on it for a little article like this? Dave

Reprinted from The Prairie Blacksmith's Association Newsletter September 2002

June 12th BAM meeting at Ham's Prairie

hosted by Ned and Esther Digh

The first meeting after the annual conference is always a special event and lots of fun. It is an opportunity to rehash our conference experiences and to see those who may have missed the conference. Our neighbors have come to expect the increased activity on our dead end road with cars, trucks, RV's, and hammering noise at the NEDCO Farm & Forge.

The featured demonstrator will be BAM life member Bob Alexander. He will demo some of the items he teaches at John C. Campbell Folk School, in the course "Trash to Treasures". Esther will have an activity for the ladies who care to attend during the blacksmith demo. Following the business meeting, Mike Gentsch and I will do a casting demo, followed by Esther doing

an enameling demo.

Lunch will be served, please bring a canned meat item (or two) as payment for lunch. A cash basket will be on hand for those forgetting to bring cans. The food and cash will be given to the local food bank, which is struggling to keep up in the current economy.

Ham's Prairie Store starts serving breakfast at 6 AM. Campers and RV folks are welcome to arrive on Friday and stay until Sunday. We have water and electric hookups for five RV's and grass for tent campers.

Watch for the BAM sign, visible from the Ham's Prairie Store parking lot. Address: 6792 County Road 424, Fulton, MO (Ham's Prairie area).
Phone 573-642-9502

P.S. The trade item is a veggie chopper or ulu,

Shop Tip

Below, pictures of Don Nichols bar shear. Don said that he used 4140 for the cutters, you could use any medium to high carbon steel. Make sure it is fully annealed before drilling and welding. Don drilled this one to cut rods from 3/16" to 3/8" by 16ths, I'm not sure how big you could go, I would like one that does 1/2". The pivot bolt is grade 8 to take the pressure, and be wear resistant. This shear is designed to mount in a vice, you could make it to drop in your hardie hole or even bolt onto the frame of your treadle hammer so that it is always available.



Missouri's Apprenticeship Program

By Thomas Ratliff

All I can say is, I had something go good for a me for a change. I got an apprenticeship through the Missouri Arts Council, Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program (TAAP).

I took instruction from my master Bob Ehrenberger who is quite patient for as many mistakes as I made, well that's a whole topic in itself. As for what Bob and I made, it was a coffee table and if you plan to make one yourself, don't drop it on your toe, its quite painful. Jokes aside, it was a very rewarding time, except for the wet and the cold. I learned how to make mortise and tenon joints, do some forge welding, techniques in scroll making, chamfering, and collaring.

First we made the main interior frame and legs. We took 1 inch stock and upset the feet on the four legs to sort of look like a bell. We did the feet two ways. Two of the feet we did hand hammering and the other two we did with a holder and a striker with a sledge hammer.

We had to make two tools for the tenons, a 1/2" tenon swage tool and a monkey tool. Then on to the real work, making the tenons. I was the striker and Bob held the tools, explaining what my hits were doing with each of the different tools (butcher, fuller, hot cut, side set, and swage tool). It took 45 minutes to an hour to make each tenon from start to finish. Making the lap joints wasn't as hard, hot cut, fuller, and side set. I had lots of filing to make them a perfect fit, it was a good thing we only had to do four of them. We made the leg braces different than in my drawing because there wasn't any traditional way to attach them, only with a modern arc weld, and that was out, so we made some changes, and for the good too. Mine would have been too busy anyway, Bob had the idea of making fish tail braces and when we put them on, it reminded me of a cathedral, all I needed was the miniature gargoyle statues for the lower part of the braces.

I had to make up my mind for the scrolls. I wanted to drill the mounting holes in the frame before it was put together. They would be almost impossible to get to once the frame was assembled.

I then cold textured all the 3/4 inch by 1/4 inch flat strap for the scrolls and the center bar. The center bar needed a 1/4 in tenon on each end to attach it in the center of the frame where the heart scrolls were going to be. It had to go in before we set the lap joints and the tenons on the legs.



*Bob holds a butcher as Thomas strikes.
Starting a tennon.*



Finished frame and leg pieces



*Above, Finished frame
Left, close up of leg braces*

Apprenticeship continued...

Below, progression of drawings, initial concept, first full scale, cleaned up full scale



It was like a jig saw puzzle, the order of assembly was critical. We textured all the outside bordering frame (a 2 inch by ¼ inch flat strap) by upsetting the edges to give it some character. We drilled the edge pieces so we'd have a lip on the edge to hold the glass top. All this sounds easy, but I made plenty of mistakes. They had to be tweaked and redone.

On to the heartache of the whole thing, forge welding. The flat strap rings in the four corners had to be made. Bob demonstrated the process of making a scarf on a ring and fluxing it as well as welding it. I did a so-so job on the first three, but got them done. The last one wanted to be a pest, Bob helped me and it was all over. What I mean is, it was tense, always on the edge of the feeling, "oh boy I hope I don't screw this up". That's what I think of with forge welding.

We put the scrolls in and figured out that we needed a special tool to do interior counter sinking of the scrolls. We came up with an inside chamfering bit for a hand drill. After that was done and the interior of the rings too, I could see light at the end of the tunnel.

To install the scrolls, we made a bucking bar for backing up the rivets. We clamped a post vice on it to give it more weight for back pressure. After all of it was riveted, and the tenons all headed, and all the collars on, came the clean up, sanding on it hour after hour to bring out the texture in the bars and putting the finish on. When it was done, all I could say was "awesome".

All in all, a good experience of an all traditional way of making something. This was my first all traditional construction, a lot of work, but well worth it. I would like to say thanks to Bob and Jan for putting up with me for seven weeks, and to the apprenticeship program for accepting me as one of their picks this year. Thank You.

Thomas Ratliff



Fitting the scrolls into the frame as we made them.

Note: You can never have too many pairs of vice grips.



Using a bucking bar to back up the rivets.



Touch marks on end of table.



Finished table.

Apprenticeship program, A Master's point of view.

By Bob Ehrenberger

Before you get in a huff about the term, Master Blacksmith, I would like to clear up a few things. I know that I'm not a master by the old world definition of one. I have been a full time professional blacksmith for 10 years, so I have some skills and abilities. According to the Missouri Arts Council, a master craftsman is someone that has mastered a traditional craft well enough to be able to pass that craft on. As I have told many of you, I learned more about blacksmithing in 3 months working full time, than I had in 5 years as a hobbyist. I have figured out how to make things fast enough and nice enough to earn a steady income from it.

Debbie Bailey of the Arts Council has been after me for several years to take on an apprentice. Until now, I have not had a suitable candidate. I met Thomas two years ago when he came to the BAM meeting that I hosted. He hung around after the meeting and asked a lot of questions. I showed him how to make a leaf and then talked him through making one. I did the same thing with a simple welded ring. I recognized in him a love for the craft and a desire to learn all he could. Last year he called and asked if he could ride with me to Conference. I had a chance to spend some more time with Thomas. On the ride home, he asked if there was any kind of apprenticeship program that he could enroll in. Shortly after that, I received the application for the TAAP program and thought that I might give it a try. I told Thomas about it and he wanted to do it.

The application process takes a bit of time. Both the master and the apprentice have to fill out a fairly lengthy application form. You both have to send in pictures of your work. If Deb thinks your application has merit, you then need to send in actual examples of your work. The master and the apprentice are evaluated. They want to make sure the master is accomplished enough to teach the craft, and the apprentice has to have enough skill to make it worth the time and money that will be spent on him. This is not the place for a rank beginner. The final section of the application form is for your project plan. You need a concept drawing, a detailed drawing, a list of materials, a work schedule, and

time estimate. The Arts Council brings in a committee of experts to evaluate the applications, they make their picks late in October. They only chose 7 applicants this year (I think we were the only blacksmiths), so a lot of people were turned down. What do you get for participation? The master gets a \$2,000 honorarium, the apprentice gets his materials paid for and the finished project. Most importantly, he gets to work one-on-one with someone that has a lot more experience than he does.

Besacue my business is mainly in the summer and fall, it worked out best for me to have an apprentice in the winter. I had a week at the end of January where I had finished the newsletter and didn't have an order from my wholesale buyer. In that week, Thomas and I forged all the parts for the frame of his table. The following week while I was busy on my own work, Thomas was doing the filing and fitting to get the frame together. If he had a problem or a question I was there to help him through it. If I was making something interesting that was new to Thomas, I

would show him what I was doing and then guide him through the process. That way he learned several things that were outside the scope of his project. When Thomas would go on to the next phase of his project, I would take a day or two to get him going, then turn him loose and watch from a distance. The final assembly was pretty involved and took the both of us the better part of a week to complete.

There were a couple of places where Thomas made mistakes that I could

have avoided if I had hovered over him the whole time. It was probably good for him to try to solve the problem on his own, and then see how I approached the same problem.

Thomas was a good apprentice. He helped me do chores every morning, he helped me split and stack fire wood, and a good part of the time he had to walk in from the road because my lane was drifted shut. I would call that motivated. His greatest strength was also his greatest fault, that of wanting everything to come out perfect and using light taps when he should be doing heavy forging. I kept telling him, "Stand up straight, get the hammer above your head, and hit it." When I talked to Deb about that at the end of the project she said that without exception, all the master blacksmiths had made the same comment, "Their apprentice was just too slow." If you take on an apprentice, don't get frustrated by the speed he works. I think the TAAP program was a worth while experience. I expect to see more of Thomas in the months to come.



Thomas Ratliff fitting the corners on the table

Winter Shop Musings from Ham's Prairie

By Ned Digh

With winter and cold shops, many of us wait for warmer weather to forge. While recovering from the flu (yes, I had a flu shot), I found myself driving the short distance to the shop and sitting close to the propane heater, just pondering, mostly nothing productive. I did think briefly about cleaning up the shop but didn't think that to be either inspiring or therapeutic. Eventually I decided I needed to do something productive and rearranging the assets in the shop was less appealing than trying to forge.

During a recent visit to Daughter # 3's house, Esther

told me the little guy grandsons needed a rack to hang coats and hats. Since Esther knows something about blacksmithing, I received a rather specific design and specs. The project took several afternoons and by the time I completed it, I was pretty well

recovered from the flu. First, I decided that I needed a hook jig, now like others, many of us have several hook jigs, maybe some we never used or can't remember what we made them for. I have two or three jigs that Mike Gentsch brought to my attention hanging on the wall and gathering dust, waiting for a project.



The jig was made first, from a couple pieces of angle iron and 2 pieces of 2 inch pipe, with an offset pin by one pipe, nothing special, just followed a common method for adjustable length. Two pieces of 1/2 inch X 15 inch stock were in the cut off pile and a third piece cut to match. In retrospect, these were a tad tight for the jig, so a bit more length would have been better but using cutoffs and scrap is important for us hobbyists. Open scroll ends would require longer stock, these were closed supposedly to keep little fingers out.

The hooks and racks were distressed with my rebar texturing tool on the power hammer. The photos will show the project and it is not intended to teach but to encourage our members to fire up the forge and move metal. By the time this is published, spring will be

here and the annual conference will be soon. Don't hesitate to fire up the forge and get your forging routines back in order.

Note on the flu: Esther did not have a shot but I did and my recovery was twice as long as hers. Hope my H1N1 and

Shingles shots are more effective. We caught the flu bug from #7 grandson, age 2, and his recovery was about half that of Grandma's, age obviously makes a difference in recovery time.



February 1, 2010

To: All ABANA Affiliate Presidents

Subject: **Future Direction of the Association**

Fellow Presidents, the Artist Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc. has some 83 Affiliate groups in North America and several foreign countries as an international presence.

As most of you are aware, the Association has struggled forward over the last several years.

Beginning with the Anvil Shooting controversy, then the Seattle Conference that did not go as expected, then the canceled 2008 New York Conference, the Association has struggled to maintain membership numbers to support the mission.

Over the last couple of years there has been a complete turnover of the Board of Directors and those who stepped forward are part of the current makeup of the Association leadership that have endeavored to turn the tide towards a more favorable future for ABANA.

Here are just a few items I'd like to point out that exemplify the efforts of your ABANA Board of Directors since 2007:

- Sent boxes of past editions of the Anvil's Ring to Affiliates, saving hundreds \$ in storage costs.
- Created the "Members Only Discount Program, giving members discounts from Vendors.
- Introduced an affordable Health Insurance Program for members to choose coverage needed.
- Reduced the membership dues for two year membership, saving money out of your pocket.
- Consolidate the mailing of the Anvil's Ring with the Hammer's Blow to reduce costs
- Continued to make improvements to the publication content and added new articles.
- Planned & will Host with Affiliate support the 2010 ABANA Conference in Memphis June 2-5.
- Introduced bulk purchasing of memberships for the Affiliates to buy at a reduced fee & resell.
- Created a new class of membership for Educational Institutions, with several student benefits.
- Created the "ABANA Blacksmith Heritage Award" to recognize those who strive to increase the "Public Knowledge and Awareness of the Craft".
- Introduced 8 new Affiliate organizations to the ABANA family network of groups.
- Revised the ABANA Bylaws, adding term limits, clarified articles and general improvements.
- Created, analyzed, and compiled results of the first ever ABANA Membership Survey.
- Began to revitalize the Journeyman Program with the goal of creating a complete and comprehensive educational program for Blacksmiths of all interest levels.
- Contracted with a "Professional Management" firm to oversee operations of Central Office.
- Instituted a new "Official" membership mass communication tool called Constant Contact.

This is just the short list of accomplishments your ABANA Board of Directors have completed for the benefit of the membership. There have been several additional areas where regular time and effort have been spent, such as "regular" Affiliate messages from your Board of Directors. The Association website has been maintained on a more regular basis, calendar items get posted, announcements for the benefit of the membership get posted, emails to the Board of Directors get answered and the level of service from your Central Office staff has been improved.

So, where do we go from here? This is my personal request to you for input for the future direction of the Association. Here are just a few questions I'm asking of the Affiliate Presidents:

- What can the Association do to better serve the needs of the Affiliate group?
- What is the role that the Affiliate group would like to see ABANA fill?
- What "Educational Programming" does the Affiliate group want ABANA to develop?
- How can we accomplish our "common goals" working together to benefit all Blacksmiths?

These are my four "Big" questions, but I'm sure that you too will have some ideas of your own and I'd like to hear any suggestions, solutions to problems, advice, comments, general criticisms, rants, raves, pet peeves.....etc.

In closing, please be on the lookout for an Affiliate Survey, soon to be completed by Peyton Anderson the 2010 Affiliate Relations Committee Chair. Your input for this survey will help your Association leadership identify important baseline information about your Affiliate group. If you or a representative of your Affiliate group will be attending the 2010 Conference in Memphis, we will be hosting a round table discussion with the ABANA Board & the Affiliates Leadership. Please consider attending this event

Feel free to call me at any time, email or write to me.

Sincerely,

Rome H. Hutchings, President
Artist Blacksmith's Association of North America
Chairman, ABANA Member Services Division
The Prairie Forge
13633 Ferman Ave NW
Clearwater, MN 55320
(763) 878-1694 Home
(763) 482-1181 Cell
(763) 878-1720 Fax
rome@abana.org

ABANA Central Office
15754 Widewater Drive,
Dumfries, VA 22025-1212
Phone: 703-680-1632
Fax: 703-680-6222
abana@abana.org

BAM Conference Update

My contact information is wrong in the conference flyer (my fault, I should have corrected it some time ago). It should be waltandruthhull@sunflower.com . To make things worse, John Sherwood's info is also outdated. It should be jbsems@sbcglobal.net . Could you note this in the newsletter for the benefit of anyone trying to contact either of us about the gallery? You might also mention that we'll be looking for gallery sitters again this year. Thanks!

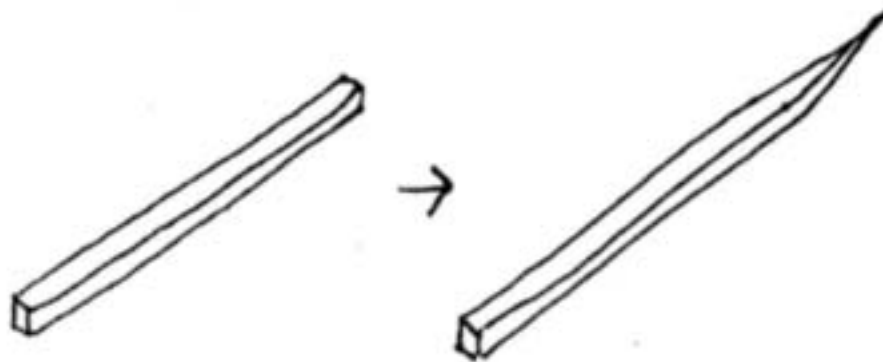
Walt

Tools Needed for Conference Raffle Tool Box

Help is needed to fill a blacksmith tool box, for raffle at the BAM Conference. We have 6 pair tongs, a John Murray hammer, a Ken Jansen hardy, a Ned Digh cast blacksmith sign and we need much more. Bring tools to fill the box and there will be an overflow box for duplicate or extra items. The overflow will be used also for raffle or Iron in the Hat. Bring new or used tools (in good condition) and other shop items as appropriate. Some items needed: twisting wrench, scrolling tool and scrolling pliers, aluminum cutting plate, guillotine or smithing magician, quenching dipper, tongs for ¼ & ½ inch stock, punch, gloves, safety glasses, compass, magnets, chisel, nail header, hammer for overflow box, and other miscellaneous tools.

NOTE: All hardy tool shanks should be for 1" hardy hole. The tool box will be at the registration desk until the raffle items are set up.

2010 bam conference forging contest



Objective: forge a taper, the longest taper wins

Each contestant will get 24" of 1/2" square, mild steel, time will begin with first hammer blow and ends 2 minutes later, you can have as many heats as you want in that 2 minutes.

You may use your own hand hammer or use one provided by BAM

Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be hand forged hammers by : John Murray, Doug Merkel, and Nathan Robertson

Any questions? Contact Pat McCarty, contest chairman-636 239 3814,
pmccarty@washingtonforge.net

Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads

Air Hammer for sale. The one Don Nichols demoed at the January meeting. \$900. I will also have the plans for sale at conference \$15 each. Don Nichols 660-826-9252

Commercial / Resource ads

Services:

Beverly Shear Blades Sharpened. Remove blades from shear and ship to Clay Spencer, 73 Penniston Pvt. Drive, Somerville, AL 35670 \$35 plus postage, additional cost for deep notches or blades previously sharpened at angle.

Custom spinning in copper, brass, pewter, and steel. Contact Ken Markley, 7651 Cabin Creek Lane, Sparta, Ill. 62286. Phone: (618) 317-1958 Fax: (618) 443-5284

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

Roller Blade Treadle Hammers (Clay Spencer design) for Sale or Workshops led to build hammers. Bob Alexander, e-mail to scruboak4@netzero.com, or call 636-586-5350.

Information / Education

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

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

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.

The Upper Midwest Blacksmiths Assoc (**UMBA**) **video library.** An index list can be viewed at www.umbasonline.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

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.

Ray Clontz Tire Hammer Plans by Clay Spencer

Price is \$30US including postage to US and Canada, \$32US to other countries. Send check or money order 73 Penniston Private Drive, Somerville, AL 35670. Also, lead workshops for chapters or groups to build 15 to 20 hammers. phone 256 498-1498, cell is 256 558 3658, email is clay@tirehammer.com

New England School of Metalwork

www.newenglandschoolofmetalwork.com
1-888-753-7502

Blacksmithing classes, Arrowhead Forge, Buffalo, Wyoming. David W. Osmundsen 47 N. Lobban, Buffalo, WY. 82834 www.arrowhead-forge.com

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. Contact: Bob Tuftee, 3855 Aspen Hills Dr., Bettendorf, IA 52722; bobforge@hotmail.com; (563) 332-4800.

The **Ozark School of Blacksmithing** We still have the Sayha air hammers from Turkey, and Tom Clark Memorial anvils. For more info on the tools contact Bob Alexander at 636-586-5350 or order through the school web site: www.ozarkschool.com

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. 1-678-360-3521 or LBrandForgeCoke@aol.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 a full line of blacksmithing equipment. We ship and accept Visa and Mastercard.

D.L. Schwartz Co. **Blacksmith and Farrier supplies.** 2188 S. US 27, Berne, In. 46711, 1-800-955-3064

Persimmon Forge **PEDAL HAMMER** sit down treadle hammers for sale. Contact Dave or Betty Edwards by e-mail at djedwards@cableone.net, or write us at 3008 Hacienda Ct., Emporia, Ks., 66801, or call us at (620) 343-1947. For more information, go to www.persimmonforge.com and click on both "Pedal Hammer" and "Video Demo of Pedal Hammer."

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

Buy, Sell, Trade, Continued

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Over 100 sizes and styles available. Guaranteed face @ HRC59
Dick Nietfeld www.blksmith.com Phone (308) 384 1088

Wanted:

My name is Keith Heffelfinger past president of Southwest Artist Blacksmith Assoc. (SWABA), I recently moved to Arkansas and am looking for some help. I have gotten myself involved with a group building a Medieval fortress (castle) in the hills down here. Ozark Medieval fortress <http://www.ozarkmedievalfortress.com/> they need to purchase a good sized **post vise**. I am hoping someone in BAM my have one they are willing to sell. I would love to hear from you. Keith Heffelfinger heffelfinger8833@msn.com

Demonstrator List

Fred Weisenborn has started a list of members available for demonstrations, fairs, historic events, and festivals, etc.
417-589-2497 e-mail: jweisenb@lilion.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 will get you signed up.

Check out back issues of BAM newsletter on bamsite.org.

Some useful shop information

I needed power hack saw blades, I started by pricing them where I bought the last ones and was stunned to see how much they had gone up. I now had to buy them by the dozen at \$8.95 each plus shipping. So I searched the internet and found Victor Machinery Exchange, web site www.victornet.com they handle every thing for the machine shop and their prices seem to be very reasonable. Shipping and handling charges are reasonable also. Minimum order size is \$25.00. Their price for 1 inch wide x 17 inch long 14 teeth per inch is \$3.00 each. Other teeth number blades are as low as \$2.00 each. High Speed Steel blades. I have been using one now for some time and they hold up as good as the other blades that I bought. I recommend if any one needing machine shop supplies to check them out.

I also needed 4 inch by 24 inch sanding belts for my hand held sander. Lowes cheap prices 2 belts for \$7.95. I found Klingspor's Woodworking Shop website www.woodworkingshop.com they have a special by 6 packages of five belts each for a total of 30 belts for \$29.00. Handling and shipping is \$7.95 for all orders regardless of size. I did not price any other size belts, but they will make any size you need. 10 inch circle saw blades I needed were several dollars cheaper than Lowes also. Don Birdsall

ABANA - Hammer's Blow Editor Wanted Greetings from ABANA!

We are seeking a new editor to take over from Brian Gilbert. This is an important position for ABANA because the Hammer's Blow editor is charged with fulfilling a major part of our educational mission toward beginning and intermediate blacksmiths in our most interactive and educationally based publication.

The editor will be responsible for the complete production of The Hammer's Blow, from corresponding with contributors to providing "camera-ready" computer files to the printer and everything in between. If you have a passion for Blacksmithing, some writing and computer skills and want to inspire and educate others in the craft of Blacksmithing this message might be for you.

Scope of Services to be considered in Proposals for Hammer's Blow Editor Position

The scope of services in the proposals shall include editing of four (4) quarterly issues of The Hammer's Blow, published according to the schedule to be provided by ABANA. In your proposal tell us how, in the capacity as editor of The Hammer's Blow you would provide ABANA members and those interested in blacksmithing with an enlightening and informative experience. In the proposal the prospective Editor should provide the following:

- * Resume, include past experience, educational background and 4 references
- * Portfolio of past work, include articles, Newsletter samples and photographs
- * Experience in Blacksmithing, including as an instructor and as an author
- * Provide the submitted proposal materials on a CD or Memory Stick
- * Provide a self addressed & stamped if you wish to have your materials returned

Skills: Organized, ability to recruit and motivate authors through positive correspondence, excellent communication and writing skills, strong background in the craft of blacksmithing and the blacksmith's art. (While not a requirement for the job, good knowledge in the field would be a huge plus!) Developed sense of graphics design; technical illustration, photography and photo post-processing skills. Computer literate, internet/email literate, comfortable using MS Word and Adobe's print related tool-chain. It would be helpful if the candidate has previous experience in editing and understands the importance of timelines.

All interested persons shall submit their proposals to the Publications Committee:

Committee Chair: Peyton Anderson, 6720 Military Rd., Amelia VA 23002 Phone: 434-390-6203; e-mail: peyton@abana.org

The prospective Editor would perform these services in compliance with the goals and objectives of the ABANA board of directors, as directed through the Publications Committee and the guidelines published in ABANA's Procedures Manual.

The prospective Editor would be responsible for: Corresponding with authors and the ABANA Publications Chair, soliciting, tracking and managing submissions, critical thinking, evaluating manuscripts and assisting authors in providing satisfactory text and illustrations, scanning photographs and/or illustrations when needed, copy editing, layout and organizing the final publication, and providing electronic files to the printer.

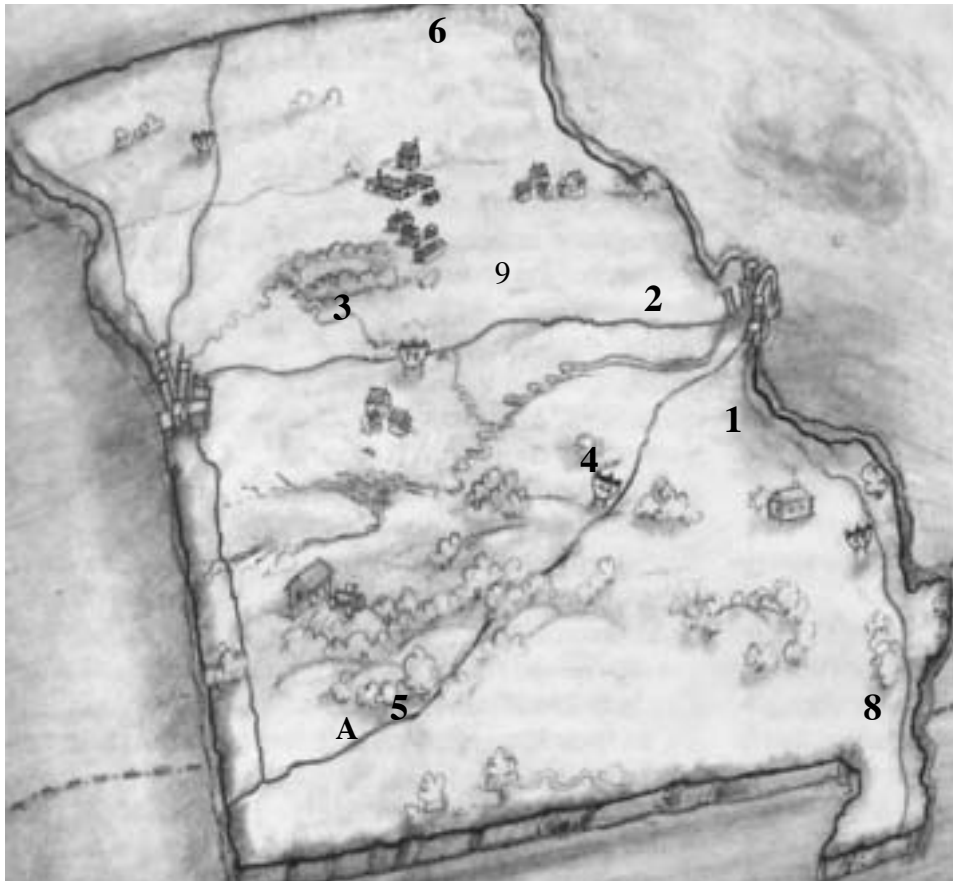
Oversight of the printing and mailing of the newsletter shall be provided by the publisher of the Hammer's Blow and the Anvil's Ring. Production of The Hammer's Blow will be performed in accordance with set deadlines coordinated such that The Anvil's Ring and The Hammer's Blow will be published as nearly as practical at periods specified by the ABANA Board of Directors.

The Hammer's Blow consists of twenty (20) typeset pages, 8 1/2 by 11 inches. The file shall be developed per print house specifications. The Hammer's Blow is printed front and back center folded and three-hole punched by the printing house. The expenses incurred for printing shall be the responsibility of ABANA

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 Valley Trail,
Freeburg, MO. 65035

5. Jeff Willard, (417) 742-2572
P.O. Box 416,
Willard, MO. 65781

6. Joe Hurley (660) 379-2365 or 660-626-7824
Rt1 Box 50
Downing, MO. 63536

9 Paul Lankford, 573-473-7082
25849 Audrain Co. Road 820,
Mexico, MO 65265

8. Bob Maes, 573-866-3811
Rt. 1 Box 106 K
Millersville, MO. 63766

Price \$13.00 per bag BAM members, \$14.00 per bag Non-members, \$11.00 per bag at Bob Alexander's
Coal keepers earn \$3.00 a bag. NOTE: PRICE CHANGE

A. Non BAM coal \$.40/lb check \$.35/lb cash bring your own containers. Tim Johnson Springfield, MO 417-886-8032

Upcoming Events

April 1 - Application deadline for May Scholarship awards

April 17,18 New Salem Hammer-in, Salem, Ill.

APRIL 23 & APRIL 24, 2010 HAMMER IN DURING CIVIL WAR DAYS DONIPHAN, MISSOURI

For more information contact Chris Miller at 573 996-4931(Evening) or 573 996-2138 (Day Time).

April 28 - May - 2 **BAM Ozark conference**, Sedalia, MO contact Joe Hurley at acornridge3@yahoo.com

May 15 - Newsletter Submission Deadline

May 15-16 UMBA Spring Conference, Haverhill, IA. Contact Steve White 614-798-5401

June 2-5 **ABANA** Conference Memphis, Tenn.

June 11-13 IVBA Summer Conference, Pontiac, Ill., Bud Harvey, hotironblacksmith@comcast.net

June 13 - July10 2010 - Boy Scout Camp, Metal working merit badge classes

June 12, 2010 - BAM meeting, Ham's Prairie, MO Ned Digh (573)-642-9502 Trade item veggie chopper or ulu

June 25-27, 2010 - Indiana Blacksmith Association Conference. Tipton, IN, James Johnston 765-452-8165

July 1 - Application deadline for August Scholarship awards.

July 10, 2010- BAM Meeting, Bob Ehrenberger, Shelbyville, MO. (573)-633-2010 Trade Item Forged Chain-

August - Missouri State Fair Sedalia, MO contact Kent Harbit (660)-647-2349 to volunteer

September 18 -BAM meeting, Wayne Holder, Leon, Iowa. 641-446-6225

October 1 - Application deadline for November Scholarship awards.

November 6 - BAM meeting, Bob Evans Liberty, MO 816-781-5717

January 1 - Application deadline for February Scholarship awards.

January 22, 2011 BAM meeting, John Murray, New Melle, MO 636-389-4640

March 2011 BAM meeting, Fred Warner, Wheeling, MO 660-659-2406

May 2011 BAM meeting, Chris Miller, Doniphan, MO 573-996-4931

New Members

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

Brooks, Donna

P.O. Box 462

Senath, MO 63876

sean-donna@sbcglobal.net

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Gibbs, Jeff

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Ferguson, MO 63135

gibbscfw@aol.com

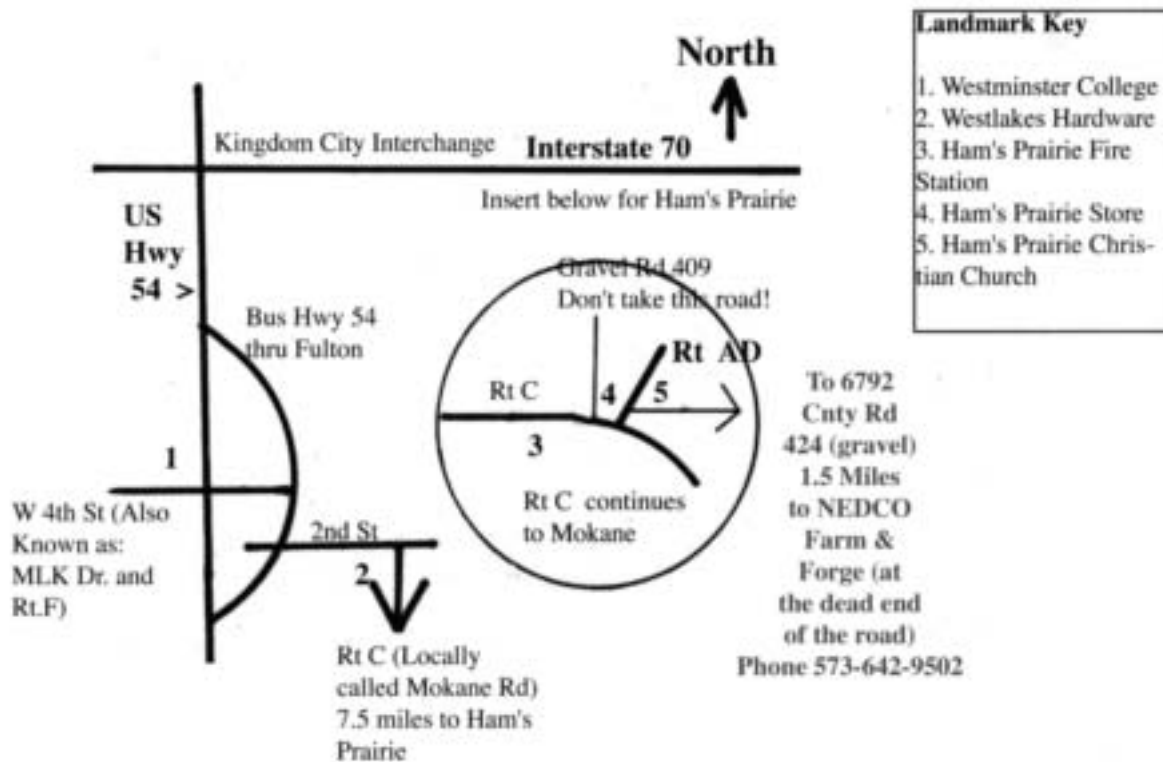
314-566-0950

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

Next Meeting: June 12th, Ham's Prairie, MO.



Camping:
RV hook-ups
available, feel free
to come early.

More information
on page 17.

Location:
Nedco farm and forge
Ham's Prairie

Host: Ned & Esther Digh

Phone: 636-642-9502

Food: Provided, bring canned meat
for payment.

Trade item:
Veggie Chopper or Ulu