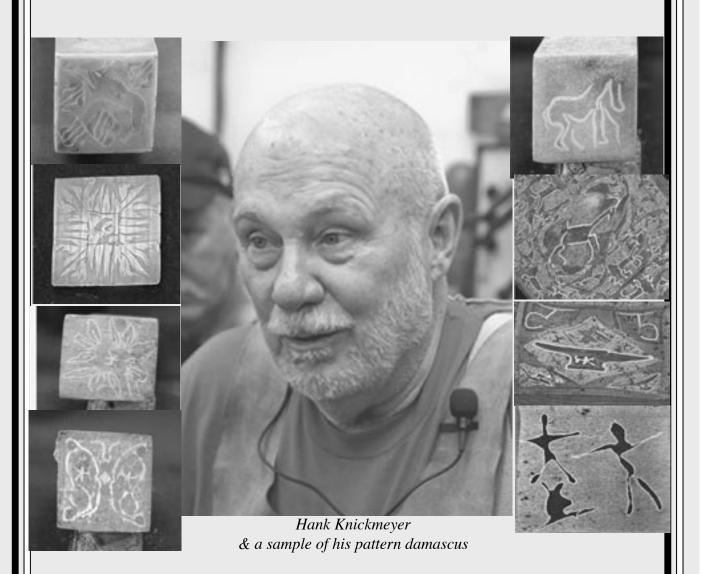


MARCH/APRIL 2012



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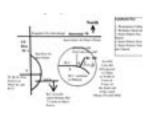
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Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri

Volume 29 No. 2

March April 2012

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Doug Clemons

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The Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri is an affiliate of the Artist Blacksmiths' Association of North America, and is devoted to the preservation and advancement of blacksmithing and to communication among blacksmiths in Missouri and surrounding areas. BAM's newsletter's goal is to support these aims. Letters to the editor, tech tips, tools for sale or anything else which furthers these ends will be considered for publication.

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From the Editor

The meeting at Hank Knickmeyer's went real well. Hank's shop is as well equipped and set up as any I have seen. In addition to the usual forging equipment he had two rolling mills, a big one for sizing knife stock and a smaller one that he uses to taper knife blades. He specializes in making damascus and pattern welded steel. We didn't have as many trade items as last time, but they were all real nice.

John Murray started things out by making a hammer head using Hank's Nazel 2b power hammer. Hank then demonstrated making a bar of steel with a butterfly image in it using powdered metal and nickel sheet.

A fter lunch and the business meeting, Hank demonstrated making damascus from a stack of bars. He also showed us how the rolling mills worked.

I have had a real busy winter in the shop. In February I finally had time to build an English Wheel. I had hinted at it a few issues ago, this is actually pretty quick for me to go from conception to completion in less than 6 months. The full story can be found on pages 14, 15. As you will see, I got help from several BAM members along the way. In addition to making the English Wheel, I stayed ahead of the weather cutting fire wood, and for the second year in a row we did not have any frozen pipes.

Mike said that plans for the Ozark conference, May 3rd-6th, are coming along and everything is on schedule. Please make something nice for the auction and the BAM boutique. We also need iron in the hat stuff and Ned is making tool boxes for the raffle that need to be filled with tools. We would love to see some of your best work in the Gallery, you can show off and the rest of us will be inspired. Also, consider volunteer-

By Bob Ehrenberger

ing, we always need help.

Information needed: Ken lost the name of the person that won the rounding hammer at the January meeting. He has it cleaned up and heat treated, so if you contact him he will send it to you.



Igot this from Ned, BAM meeting: June 2nd. Trade item: shoe horn with handle length 5 - 18 inches. Demonstrator: Bernie Tappel. Lunch provided: This is our annual drive to support the local food pantry. Please bring two (2) cans of a meat item for each person eating lunch. Esther will have an activity for the spouses and any others interested.

I've gotten a flier from a new blacksmith school in Rochester, NY. Their contact information is on page 24.

My demonstration at the Scott Co. Historical village went really well. It turns out, I do know enough to fill a whole weekend

all by myself. There were about 50 smiths in attendance. Roger Degner said that UMBA DVD's should be available by our conference.

It was pointed out by one of our newer

members that we are not doing a very good job of wearing our name badges. So if you have a name badge, please wear it. If you don't have a badge, look Pat McCarty up and get one, and then wear it.

Correction: Walt Hull wrote to say that the e-mail address they published for him in the conference flier is wrong. It should be: waltandruthhull@sunflower.com

Correction: My phone number on the cover of the roster is wrong. It got caught by a global replace. It should be 573-633-2010.

The next Newsletter submission deadline is May 26.



BAM MEETING for March 2012

Hosted by Hank Knickmeyer Minutes by Don Anders

Thanks to Hank Knickmeyer and family for a great meeting. John Murray made one of his signature hammers and Hank did a powdered damascus demonstration.

BUSINESS MEETING

Conducted by President Doug Clemons

OLD BUSINESS

The BAM swedge block, and cone mandrel buy, from the SALT FORK affiliate was a success. If enough people are interested in them there may be a second buy, please contact Bob Alexander. If you are interested in making spare-tire hammer or treadle hammer contact Bob Alexander or Ken Jansen, Bob for the treadle hammer or Ken for the spare-tire hammer.

There was talk, of a forced air gas forge workshop, if interested contact Bob Alexander.

New BUSINESS

Mike McLaughlin gave a 2012 conference summary, conference is on track and should be a good time. As always, there is always room for more help. Please think about items for the boutique, iron in the hat, and the auction.

Phil Cox is heading up the forging contest at the conference and wants all to practice, it is to draw the metal out and pass thru a hole that you have slit in the same piece, double points for passing thru a second hole.

Ned Digh is again making 3 tool boxes for Iron in the Hat at the conference and the call is out for items to fill them. Please try to donate to the auction and boutique.

If you have something that you are proud of, please consider bringing it for the gallery.

John C Campbell school has donated a scholarship to the confer-

The cut off date to order lunch or banquet tickets is April 6th. BAM scholarships are available, the details are available online or contact a member of the scholarship committee also online at bamsite.org.

The BAM meeting schedule is full for 2012, if you want to host a meeting there is always room in the future, lets keep the schedule booked up. The July meeting has been moved a week so not to conflict with the ABANA conference.

Our president, Doug Clemons, has ABANA Iron in the Hat tickets if you are not going to the ABANA conference, buy some it is a good way to get in on the fun.

BAM made a coal purchase again, so we have coal again.

Treasurer's report given by Bruce Herzog, doing ok, gained a few members.

Don Nichols is having a Civil War days activity and welcomes BAM members to help demo. There are other activities coming up so watch the BAM website bamsite.org for information.

If you would like to have an up coming activity in the meeting minutes, please give me a printout so that I have the correct information at hand.

IRON IN THE HAT

DONATED BY	ITEM	WON BY
Don Nichols	plates & pins	Dennis Quinn
John Huff	bucket horse sho	es Colin Ward
Dan Wedemeyer	steel grab pack	Jacob Dillon
Bruce Woodbury	metal pieces	Pat McCarty
Don Nichols	plates & pins	Mike McLaughlin
Fred Arnold	Misc. Screws	Larry Hults
Karen Bouckaert	Best of the Bits	Dave Endres
Don Anders	Magnet	Dennis Quinn
Don Birdsall	bearing race	Richard Kamp
Dave Endres	shelf supports	Bob Alexander
Ken Jansen	nippers	John Huff
Phil Cox	acorn swage	Richard Kamp
Mark Clifford	Bending fork	Don Anders
Thelma Clark	? Fancy clamp	Gary Parkin
Larry Hults	aluminum drift	John Huff
Chris Miller	blacksmith photo	Don Nichols
Pat McCarty	mini tree stump	Steve McCarthy
Fred Arnold	D2 steel blocks	Chris Miller
Dave Endres	shelf supports	Don Nichols
Mark Clifford	twisting wrench	Bob Triphahn
John Murray	demo hammer	Mike McLaughlin

TRADE ITEM a Multi-tool

MADE BY	TRADED TO
Bernie Tappel	Matthew Burnett
Dan Wedemeyer	Don Nichols
Bob Ehrenberger	Steve McCarthy
Chris Miller	Bruce Woodbury
Colin Ward	George Rousis
Don Birdsall	Pat McCarty
Don Nichols	Bob Triphahn
Bob Triphahn	Don Birdsall
Steve Elkerman	Dan Wedemeyer
George Rousis	Bernie Tappel
Pat McCarty	Colin Ward
Bruce Woodbury	Bob Stormer
Bob Stormer	Bob Ehrenberger
Steve McCarthy	?? no name
Matthew Burnett	?? no name
	?? = Chris Miller or Steve I

President's Message

Greetings,

Here we go again. Spring is here along with the rain and mud, but that's a good thing with such a dry fall and winter in most of the area. Hopefully, this year we will have more normal weather (Whatever that is in Missouri).

We had a really large turn-out at our meeting March 17. Our host was Hank Knickmeyer near Cedar Hills, MO. Cedar Hills is located in the eastern part of the state, a little southwest of St. Louis.

Thanks to Hank and his family for the hospitality. It takes a lot of work to host a meeting. Especially with so many people in attendance. Hank has a really interesting place. A person would have to see it to appreciate it.

There was some discussion a few years ago about setting up a permanent shop and hosting our meetings in one place. There were some good points made about having a place that was set up specifically for meetings and demonstrations. Personally I like to travel to different locations and see other shops and some of our members that we don't see as often because of the distances involved.

By the time you read this, our conference will be just around the corner. It sounds like things are coming together well, thanks to the efforts of our conference committee and all those who volunteer to help.

This is the beginning of one of my busiest times of the year. I'm a farmer in real life so I'm getting ready for spring work and planting season and all that's involved with that. In a few days my shop will be completely full of corn and soybean seed. Our district seed dealer has taken another job so they will be delivering all of my seed at one time. That means moving most of my work benches, tool boxes and all non essential equipment out of the shop or back against the wall until I can get it all planted. So, my small shop will be mostly useless until probably June (or later).

I thought I had retired from welding structure pipes for people, but one was delivered to my shop in five twenty foot sections the other day. This is the first time I've ever put one together that was not on location. It's a lot easier to work on here where I have a loader and forklift and everything that I need for the job. The problem is going to be figuring out how to deliver a 24' pipe after it's 100' long.

When I come up with a solution I'll take a picture and maybe include it in the next newsletter.

Until then, Be Careful

I hope to see you at the conference.

Doug Clemons

Powdered Metal Damascus

Hank Knickmeyer demonstration

By Bob Ehrenberger

Hank is one of the pioneers of the powdered metal damascus. He has been doing it longer than most of us had

even heard about it. Now that Hank has perfected the process it looks pretty straight forward. The basic idea is to create a vessel to hold the powder by welding a cap on one end of a square tube. The one that Hank demonstrated was a 3" tube with 1/4" walls.

Then you make your pattern either out of nickle foil or a steel foil different from the powdered metal, you want contrast. Since Hank uses 1084 powder something like 15N20 would work. The pattern is placed in the

center of the tube, and the tube is then filled with the powdered metal. It is settled by tapping on the side of the tube.



Once the tube is filled to the top, Hank gives the powder several shots of WD40. When heated the WD40 burns and displaces all the oxygen that is left in the container.

Another cap is welded on to seal the container. This cap has a 5/8th stub welded to it so it can be picked up

with tongs. It is important that the container is not air tight (can you say pipe bomb). As the billet heats any excess gasses created need to be able to vent. It is important to make your initial weld while the billet is still increasing in temp to make sure there is a positive pressure inside the vessel. If you let it cool off there is a chance of it sucking air in through the vent and causing oxidation and a bad weld.



Using flat dies on his power hammer Hank keeps the billet square so that the pattern is not distorted. He forges it out to about 1" sq. which gives him a bar that can then be cut and stacked with other patterns to make more elaborate compositions.



Finished pattern welded bar.

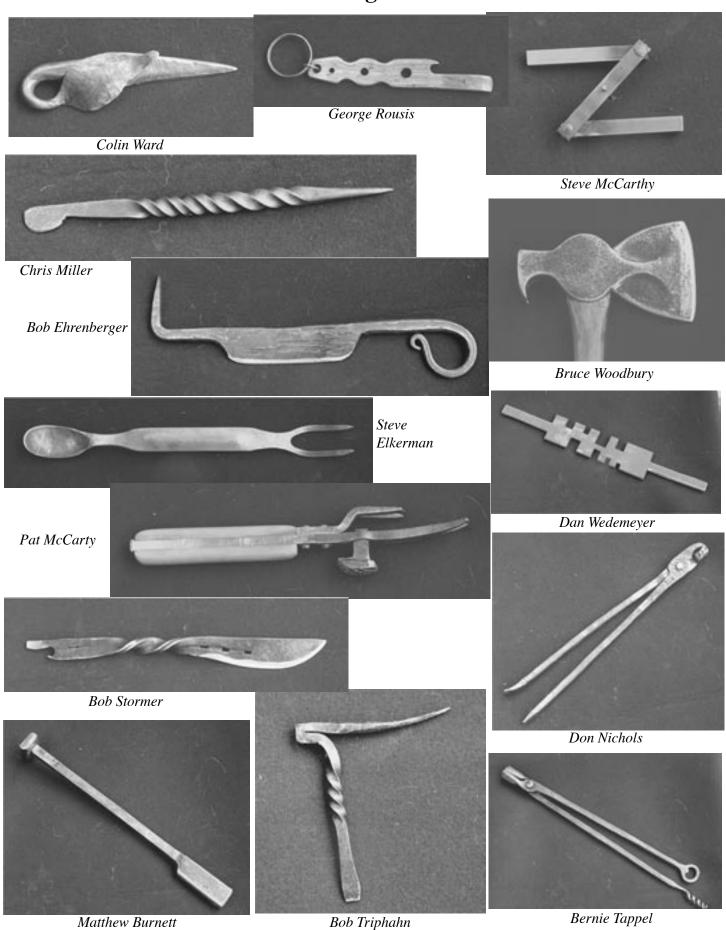
Neat Stuff in Hank's Shop

One of the things that Hank is known for is making blades that are a sandwich of pattern damascus, pure nickel, with a high carbon steel core. In order for the blade to be useful all the layers have to be compressed the same amount so that the high carbon is exactly in the middle. This provids a great cutting edge on a beautiful pattern welded blade.

When making these blades free hand, using the power hammer or the hydraulic press, he only had about a one on 4 success rate. It was far too much work to not get a usable blade at end. The solution, a rolling mill. Hank has two rolling mills a small homemade one and a large professional made one. Using the rolling mills his success rate is nearly 100%.



March Meeting Trade Items



The Heart of Missouri Blacksmiths hammer-in at Osage Bluff Blacksmith Shop

by Don Anders pictures by Sean McGrath

The Heart of Missouri Smiths held a hammer-in at Bernie and Patty Tappel's Osage Bluff Blacksmith shop on Saturday March 3rd. About eighteen hardy souls showed up, through out the morning. Bernie has a well thought out shop with jigs and tooling for just about what ever he wants to do. When I arrived Bernie was just starting to make a tomahawk. I had made a few tomahawks in the past but they were never quite what I wanted. After watching Bernie, I think that my next tomahawks will turn out better, Bernie has a few techniques and tools that seemed to really make a difference. Next Bernie made a pair of tongs and a rail road spike wizard. Bob Stormer took up the challenge to make a pair of tongs. It is always an experience in someone else's shop where you don't know where everything is, but you learn what tools they use for each step, that way. I had made a few attempts at wizards but they were a lot like my tomahawks, okay but not really what I wanted. I guess that Bernie had figured that out and would not be satisfied until I made one under his direction. While it was not quite as good as the one that Bernie had made, it did turn out pretty good. While Bob made his tongs and I made a wizard, some of the other smiths had set up two forges outside the shop door. They were hard at it all afternoon. I tired to keep an eye that direction but I am not sure what they made, but with all the attention that it got, it had to be something special. Patty made a really good lunch that had everyone's attention. After the shop shut down for the day, several of us invaded Patty's kitchen and stood around the island talking and eating whatever every snack she could come up with. Bernie brought out several different drinks for us to try. Once we had about cleaned out all the snacks and tasted all the drinks, we all headed for home.















The Artist's Blacksmith Association of North America



"The Bridge Anvil" is the Affiliate Newsletter from ABANA to better enhance and "Bridge" the continuing relationship between ABANA and its Affiliates. The goal is to better forge a future for the blacksmithing community through constant communication, discussion, and sharing of ideas.

Spring 2012

Nothing but the truth...

ABANA Has NOT done enough to assist the Affiliates over the years. I know this first hand because I was the President of one for several years. There have been some great ideas and changes that never quite got off the ground in the past. Challenges within the limited budget, board involvement, and hard feelings from the past have all affected the relationship on both ends. That being said, this ABANA Board spent a long time at the last board meeting having a very honest discussion about this very thing. At the end of the discussion there was a unanimous and very resounding proclamation to begin a rebirth of this extremely important relationship. Things have been coming together to make some opportunities open up to better serve you. Let me point out a few things:

We have a new editor of the Anvil's Ring; a former Affiliate editor who recognizes the importance of the Affiliates and their representation in our publications. I encourage your event planning to entail someone to take some high resolution photos and write a report on it. It is time you get the credit you deserve for your awesome regional events in one of our publications.

With the savings in our budget, due to the editor change, there is some much needed review and research happening with our grants FOR Affiliates and individuals to help you do what you do best. As soon as this is ready we will put the call out!

With the renovations going on with the ABANA website there is research going into the possible creation of a secure area for editors to share newsletters and get the newsletter exchange back up and running online to combat the rising prices from the Post Office and the existence of so many worldwide Affiliates.

This leads me directly into exciting news on both the Bealer and Humble Awards. The committees are putting forth new procedures to open up the doors to suggestions from the Affiliates to better search out the MOST deserving members in our collective ranks. There will also be another press release concerning the details of this in the coming weeks. It is on the board's table and currently being reviewed for approval.

The ABANA Board has been taking a "best guess" approach with Affiliate Relations. It has been a broken system. I am encouraging each Affiliate to designate a "Liaison" to join an off-board Affiliate Advisory Committee to review and suggest ways ABANA can serve you better. There is no better way to hear what is being done wrong and right than from the source. Whomever your Affiliate chooses, elects, or appoints would be a welcome a well heard voice to glean direction from for future enhancements to ABANA. Please contact Peyton Anderson with your "Liaison" or questions: peytonanderson@abana.org, 434-390-6203.

This is YOUR ABANA! Please consider getting involved to help in the pursuit of preservation and education of this wonderful craft! This "bridge" is a two way street! With better traffic we can all serve our collective members better.

Yours in Service, Peyton Anderson ABANA President Pro Tempore Public Relations Chairperson

Tools, Tool Boxes, and the BAM Conference

Tools are needed for the tool boxes at the Iron in the Hat drawing during the upcoming BAM Conference. Make a tool, buy a tool, or even two or three and donate to fill the tool boxes. There will be three tool boxes with a cast "Blacksmith Shop" sign attached.

The Iron in the Hat ticket sales is a major source of income for BAM. Heaping full tool boxes increases sales of the drawing tickets. In past years, members have generously supported this effort with both made and purchased tools. Your donations are needed and appreciated by the BAM membership.

Shop Tips by Phil Cox

At the March meeting Phil Cox took me aside and said that he had lots of little tricks to make shop work easier and would be glad to pass them on for use in the newsletter. He told me a couple right there, one that I have already used.

If you want to drill a hole centered on the side of a round bar, put a small ruler between the tip of the drill and the bar. If the drill holds it in place and the ruler is horizontal you are lined up with the center.

On a similar note, when you are setting up the cutting point on a lathe, put the ruler between the point and the work. If the ruler is vertical the point is in the center of the bar.

Thanks Phil, We look forward to more of your useful ideas.

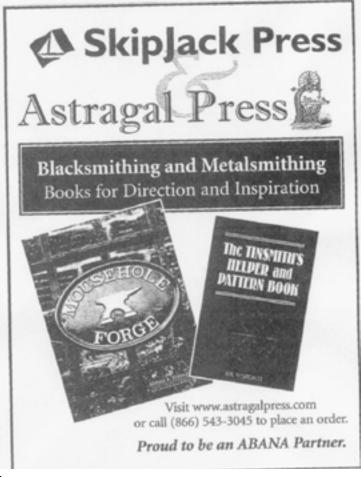
Dear fellow BAM members,

I am a new member and am very interested in blacksmithing. I am also interested in knife and swordsmithing. I would like to find somebody who would like to take on a junior apprentice such as myself. I know there are workshops available throughout the year, but I would like to meet with someone once a month or so.

I am finishing up eighth grade and am turning fourteen in March. I am an excellent student, hard worker, and fast learner. I'm creative and love to work with my hands, as I have been taking many art classes at school.

If you are able to or if you know someone who is able to teach me the art of blacksmithing, please let me know. Thank you for your time,

Sincerely, Cavanaugh Richards 438 Picket Fence Dr. Wentzville, MO 63385 Hm: (636)-332-4399



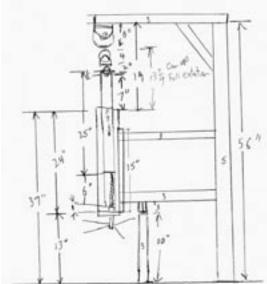
Making My English Wheel By Bob Ehrenberger

I got my first exposure to the English Wheel at Ned Digh's meeting in July 2005. His friend, Tom Lee, demonstrated making a fender for a Model T Ford. Tom had plans to make English Wheels that he passes out, but I didn't take a set thinking I would never need one. Last summer, I made tooling for my hydraulic press that let me make bowls a lot faster than hammering them out by hand. The problem was, it left a lot more tool marks on the bowl, which took a fare amount of hand hammering to smooth out. It occurred to me that an English Wheel was just the thing to take the bowls from roughed-in, to finished.

I put a request out on the Around-the-anvil news group to see if any of our members still had a copy of the plans they would share with me. No one had the plans but Mike Gentzsch had some steel wheels that he gave me to use on the top, and Rich Kamp noticed that Harbor Freight had the lower anvils on clearance. I had a real busy Winter in the shop and didn't really have time to work in my wheel until February. I did spend the time collecting information and trying to figure out what I was going to do. I found out that Ned Digh had a wheel and was kind enough to send me pictures and measurements. I also discovered that both Grizzly and Harbor Freight had manuals on line which detailed the assembly and use of their products.

After studying all the available information, I started to put together a plan. A key part of my plan was what do I have in my resource center to build the frame. In the pile behind the shop there were "I" beams, angle iron, channel iron, and several different sized of steel pipe. Most of my "I" beams are 3" but there was one that was 5". It was 56" long, just enough for the main

upright.



Using my materials on hand as a guide, I put together this rough plan. Ned said that his wheel had a 7/8" main screw, but his friend Bob Bailey said that a 3/4" bolt

would be more than strong enough to do the job. I just happened to have a 3/4" bolt that was 10" long with 8" of threads. I bought 2-3/4" nuts and welded them together so I would have an extra long area of contact.

The wheels that Mike gave me were 1" wide and 5" in diameter. The plan is to weld 2 of them together to get a 2" wide wheel, but for the initial test a 1" would do. The brackets to hold it were made from 3" angle iron with a hole drilled near the edge. The angle was mounted

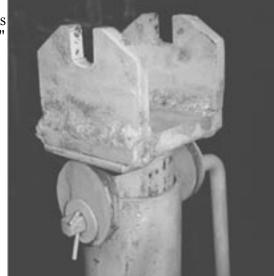
on a piece of 1/4" plate.

The lower anvil holder was made from 2 pieces of 3/8" plate welded to a piece of

1/2" plate.

Everything that I had read about English Wheels stressed the importance of having a quick release system, so that was a priority. My release is similar to the one that Grizzly uses, except instead of using an axle with flats and cams with set screws, I welded one cam to the shaft and then forged the end of the shaft square and drifted a square hole in the second cam. This way, I can still take it apart if needed, but it is a much simpler design. I forgot to make allowances for the thickness of the welds so I had to add a piece of 3/16"x1/2" to each side to restore the full travel of the cams.

The pipe that the anvil holder was attached to was a lot smaller than



the traveling extension pipe. So I split it down one side and opened it up until it was a good fit. I needed slots cut in this pipe any way so now I only had to make a slot on the opposite side.

The extension pipe was a pretty good fit to the stationary pipe, but was a little looser than it should be (a little over 1/8" clearance). I thought about shimming it to fit but that's a lot of shim. Then I thought that I could shim the bottom of the extension pipe and the top of the stationary pipe. This would work, but there would be no way to take it apart once the bottom cap was welded on. I played around with running weld beads up the side of the extension pipe, this worked, but was really ugly. I finally came up with the idea to shim the bottom of the extension pipe and put set screws on the top of the stationary pipe. The set screws can be adjusted to have a snug but smooth fit, and it can still be taken apart if needed.

The lower anvil keeps it's registration with the top wheel by a slot cut in the extension pipe that lines up with a bolt screwed through the stationary pipe.

The stationary pipe is held in place by having a piece of channel iron welded to the frame and then 2 straps made from 1/4"x1" flat to pull it up tight. There is lots of contact area so I don't think that it will slip under load.

After the lower part of the frame was assembled, it had too much flex. Two sucker rod braces were added from the legs to the back. This made the lower unit rock solid.

The top wheel was then mounted to the top arm and put in place to line up with the lower anvil. It took me several tries to get it tacked in place without moving. The act of welding would pull it out of alignment. When I finally got it welded in place, angle braces were added and the vertical frame was boxed in with 1/4" plate to make the whole thing rigid.

Once the whole thing was assembled, I made a bracket to hold the anvil dies out of 14ga. sheet metal. The anvil holder was mounted between the two arms of the lower frame.

The star wheel at the bottom of the screw is made from 6 pieces of 9"x 1/2"rd. They are welded to one of those big knock outs that Don Nichols sells which was drilled with a 3/4" hole, slid on the bolt and welded in place.







March-April 2012 bamsite.org 15

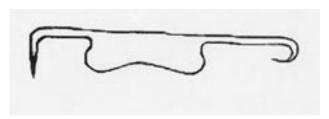
Grafting Froe by Bart Johnson

I recently became interested in grafting fruit trees. While researching, I found references to a "grafting froe", "grafting iron" or simply "grafting tool". Statements such as the one below really piqued my interest:

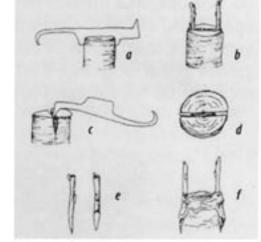
"The grafting iron is indispensable in cleft grafting. These can be purchased at small cost, or a black-smith can make an excellent one from an old flat file. Three or four inches of the file should be flattened and sharpened for a blade. In the remainder, drill two holes and attach two pieces of wood to form a handle. A small sized carpenter's mallet answers nicely for a grafting mallet; a very good one can be made from a piece of tough wood or a piece of an old wagon spoke. A leather thong should be attached to the handle, through which the wrist can be slipped to carry it when top working." Excerpt from "Pecan Culture in Florida" The Florida Review, June, 1911 pgs 491-496. (1)

Then, in one of the grafting references, I saw this simple line drawing along with the statement that "Such a grafting iron may be made by almost any blacksmith." The Project Gutenberg E-Book of The Pecan

and its Culture, by H. Harold Hume. (2)



I also found drawings showing how the grafting froe is used, one of which is reproduced here. (3)



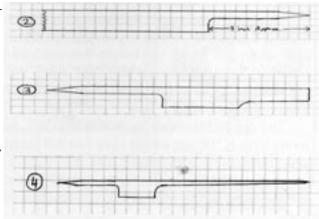
So, I decided to forge one for myself. (Actually, I will have to forge another one for myself, since the original was auctioned at the ABA Spring Conference!) All measurements are approximate; drawings are not to scale.

(1) Starting with a piece of 3/4 x 1/4 inch flat stock, set down one end about an inch from the end using a well-rounded edge of your anvil. Some of the references mentioned using carbon steel, an old file for example. I made mine out of



hot-rolled mild steel. Since the tool is basically a wedge and not an edge tool, mild steel should hold up okay. Use an old file if you want, or an HC railroad spike, or whatever suits your fancy...hey, you're the blacksmith!

- (2) Continue drawing out the end of stock until it is approximately 3 inches long and 1/4 inch square. Forge a wedge on the end, approximately 1 inch long.
- (3) Cut the stock off approximately 9 inches long. Draw out the second end of the froe beginning about 3 inches from the end.
- (4) Continue drawing this end out until you are satisfied with its length. How long you draw it out depends on how you plan to fashion the handle. If you plan to use a wooden handle (or, hey, a crown antler handle would look cool!), you might want to draw it out less than if you plan to forge a scrolled self-handle like I did on mine. You could even twist and scroll the handle, or forge a ball on the end or a leaf, or... well, you get the picture.



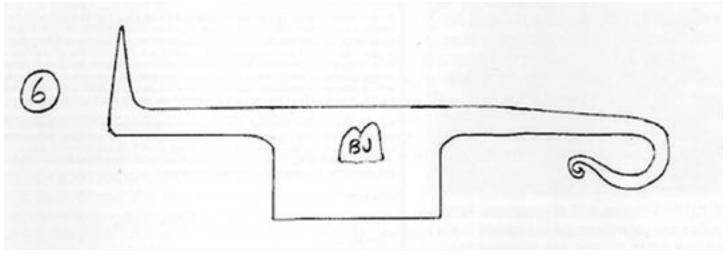
Reprinted from the Appalachian Blacksmith Association Newsletter: June 2010

Grafting Froe

(5) Draw out the froe portion to a thin wedge. Keep the spine at or near full thickness since this will be struck with a mallet in use.



Finish up by bending the wedge on the first end you forged at a right angle to the body of the froe. It should be on the opposite side from the froe blade. Do any file work needed to true up the wedge end and the froe blade. Finish forging the self-handle or prepare the tang for a wood or antler handle. If you like the results, strike the froe with your touchmark. If you used high carbon steel, heat treat as desired. Now you will be ready to graft your grand-dads favorite Pippin into that crab apple out back...but that's another story.



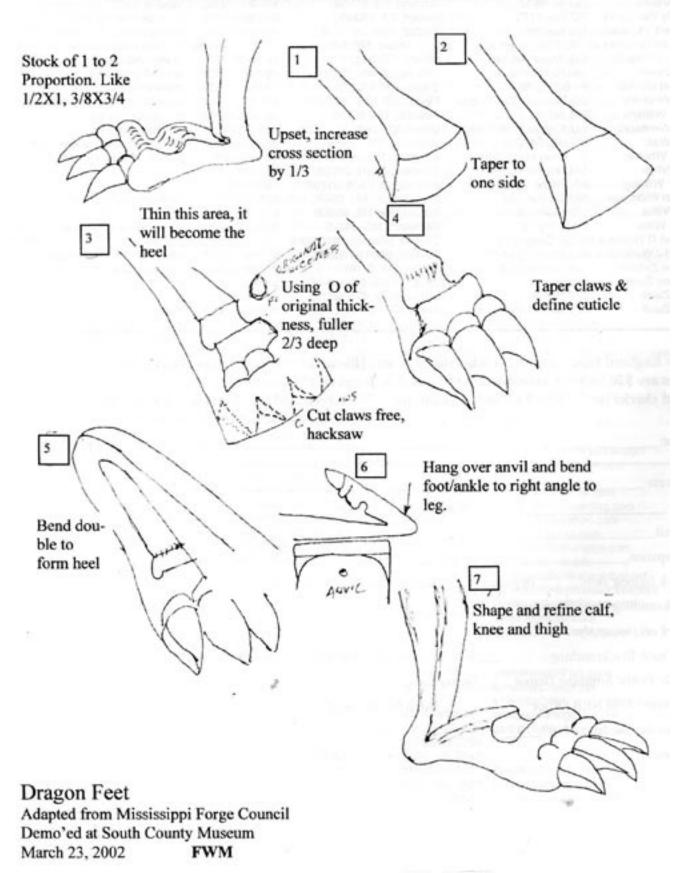
- 1. http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/docs/p/pecan2.htm
- 2. http://www.gutenberg.org/files/28065/28065-h/images/p69a.jpg
- 3. http://www.absbonsai.org/articles/groundup/b4aa.jpg



Reprinted from the Appalachian Blacksmith Association Newsletter: June 2010

The feet of the Dragon

You've seen lots of dragon head "how to's" but what about the feet?



Fall 2009

January Meeting Demo Hammers



Conference Demonstrator Biographies

Smyth Boone

Smyth Boone is an eighteenth generation blacksmith, a family legacy that goes back to the time of the Vikings and includes noted explorer Daniel Boone. Smyth has been forging for over twenty years creating large architectural commissions and has recently launched a successful international hand-forged product line, Boone's Hooks.

Unique designs and talented forgings have led to many notable publications of Smyth's work that can be seen in books, magazines, and on the internet. Smyth's work has also been featured in international invitational art museum shows that highlight contemporary blacksmithing. Smyth has presented public and trade lectures on the art and craft of contemporary and historical blacksmithing. Smyth shares his skills with blacksmith communities throughout the United States and Canada by teaching at blacksmith conferences, art and craft schools, and by publishing articles on design and technique.

Smyth's lively discussion and demonstration will be a forging that combines numerous techniques, skills, and tooling on a piece that will be auctioned off for BAM. The demo will include a lot of tips and techniques for the modern blacksmith from design to finished product and marketing.

Artist Statement

"The artist blacksmith has a unique variety of forging techniques that are specific to the craft of blacksmithing. Forged textures, joinery, forge welding, and the ability to transform metal are some examples. In my work, I highlight these many techniques through composition and execution of a project. The resulting effect expresses harmony of design and function with regard to the integrity of the medium." ~Smyth

George Rousis

I love to move metal. Using tradition as a steppingoff point, organic aesthetic enlivens the fluidity of my functional and sculptural creation. With fire, metal becomes fluid, influenced by the strike of the hammer, snap of the wrist, or twist of the bodyóallowing the material to grow, move, and be free.

My first project began with found materials. Hammering large metal wire into an old concrete parking block for texture and then bending it into shape cold. After graduation I took a job at Ironique where I was introduced to fire, pretty hammers, and big anvils. It is all I've known since. For the last thirteen years I've worked as a blacksmith creating primarily architectural pieces while also pursuing my own commissions and making sculpture. Currently I operate independently as Organic Iron Concepts.

I use recycled materials when I can. I often see forms in objects and must release them. Growth is a theme that haunts my work. Giving life and respect to something as banal as an old section of rail or small chunk of steel found on the road makes me feel alive.

In addition to my functional and sculptural pieces, I work on a smaller scale creating adornments, both for the body and home. Much of it utilizes steel and wrought iron, some of it beginning as salvaged material. I also utilize mokume gane and damascus. Mokume gane is a traditional Japanese technique using multiple layers of non-ferrous material to create a finished product with a 'wood grained' surface and damascus is a similar looking product also known as pattern welded steel. I build, fire and forge my billets from scratch enabling me to create unique, one of a kind pieces.

I reside in Kansas City, Mo. with my wife Annie, my daughters Eleni (4 yrs.) and Elexi (2 yrs.), a dog and two cats.

Conference Demonstrator Biographies

Walt Hull

I began working with steel in 1974 in structural and miscellaneous fabrication. By 1982 I had become interested in going out on my own making architectural iron. At about that time I met Steve Austin, who already was doing exceptional work in that area, and who took me to my first BAM meeting, at Bob Patrick's old shop in Bethel, MO. There I met people who were to have a profound influence on my development as a blacksmith, notably Steve, Bob, Doug Hendrickson, Jerry Hoffmann and Don Asbee. I have been a member ever since and have served as newsletter editor, managed the conference gallery and participated in many workshops and other activities. I am a recipient of the Bob Patrick Founder's Award. Membership in BAM continues to provide a source of challenge and inspiration, and I am also a member of ABANA, BABA, Central States Metal Artisans, and the Metal Museum.

In 1994 I was able to take my business full time and have since produced many railings, gates, firescreens, tables, and other decorative and useful architectural pieces, in addition to a number of sculptures. In my architectural work I produce pieces in a variety of styles, and pride myself on my ability to design and produce work suitable to each customer's taste, desires and circumstances. My work has appeared in the Anvil's Ring, the Artist Blacksmith, and Dona Meilach's books Architectural Iron Work and Dynamic Details.

I have taught at John C. Campbell Folk School and currently teach an introductory course in Blacksmithing in the School of Architecture, Design and Urban Planning at the University of Kansas. Photographs of some of my work can be seen on my website, walthullironwork.com

Craig Camerer

My interest in knives began when I was a young boy. I recieved a knife carved from a piece of driftwood by my father and the love of knives began. When I was a kid I had an extensive collection of factory knives that my mother allowed me to own. Believe it or not, I was even allowed to carry them in my pockets to school and basically everywhere. I was seldom without a knife and that trend carries today. As I got older, I got into custom knives. Since I enjoy working with my hands, I tried to make some knives and while crude they did spark a passion in me. At first I used stock removal for the knives but quickly realized I loved to forge. This all took place in 2000; by 2001 I had joined the ABS as an apprentice smith. In 2004 I tested for my journeyman smith status and recieved it. I also became a member of the Professional Knifemakers Associaton. I served as secretary/treasurer of that organization for 6 years.

I have been blessed with a lovely wife who puts up with my addiction to knifemaking and a wonderful son, who feels a duty to check out each piece I make for his approval. I attended Robert Morris College and recieved a Bachelors Degree in Business and eventually I went back to school at University of Illinois Springfield campus and recieved my Master's degree.

My favorite types of knives are Bowie knives, both large and small. However, I do build almost every other type of knife. I have a great love of pattern welded steel.

www.camererknives.com

Ozark Conference Schedule

Ozark Conterence Senedule
Thursday, May 3, 2012
8:00 amSetup Begins
1:00 pm—4:00 pmOpen Forging
5:00 pm—6:00 pmOfficial Opening
Friday, May 4, 2012
8:00 am—12:00 pmSmyth Boone / George Rousis
8:00 am—12:00 pmMTS Beginning
Blacksmithing
8:00 am—12:00 pmFamily Programs
12:00 pm—1:00 pmLunch Break
Catered Lunch available – reservations only
1:00 pm—5:00 pmWalt Hull / Craig Camerer
1:00 pm—5:00 pmMTS Beginning
Blacksmithing
1:00 pm—5:00 pmFamily Programs
7:00 pmBusiness Meeting
The Traditional Forging Contest]
Saturday, May 5, 2012
8:00 am—12:00 pmWalt Hull / Craig Camerer
8:00 am—12:00 pmFamily Programs
12:00 pm—1:00 pmLunch Break
Catered Lunch available – reservations only
1:00 pm—5:00 pmSmyth Boone / George Rousis
1:00 pm—5:00 pmFamily Programs
6:00 pm— 7:00 pmBanquet Dinner Served
7:00 pmAwards, Drawings, Auction
Sunday, May 6, 2012
8:00 am—12:00 pmWalt Hull Class
11:00 amClean Up (all hands appreciated)

Workshops

Workshops			
BAM Beginning Blacksmithing*			
Friday (10 max)\$30 / all day			
Broom Tying			
Friday (10 max) Hearth Broom\$30 / AM			
(10 max) Cobweb Broom\$30 / PM			
or BOTH classes \$50			
Saturday (10 max)			
Turkey Wing Whiskbroom\$30 / AM			
Basket Weaving			
Saturday (22 max)\$35			
Bring to class, heavy scissors, tape measure, spoke			
weight,			
basket tools, or flat screwdriver, and a small towel.			
*Due to insurance liabilities BAM membership is			
required for the forging classes.			

IVBA's 31St Annual Summer Conference June 8th, 9th, & 10th @ Thresherman's Park, Pontiac, Illinois

This 2012 31st Annual IVBA Summer Conference will feature Randy McDaniel, beginning training classes, tailgate sales, vendor booths, forging contest, open forges, and a public auction.

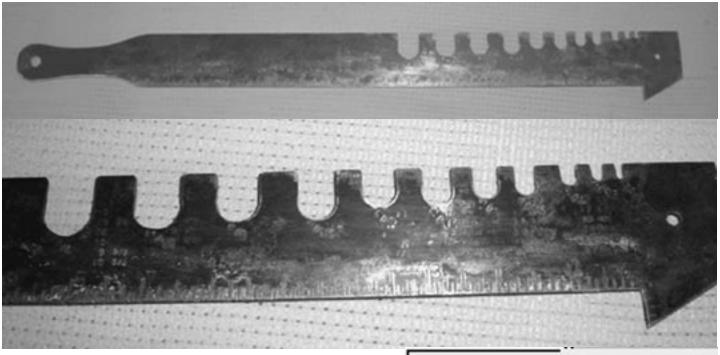
- Friday June 8th Beginner Training Class from 8:30 to 4:30
- Friday evening, a forging contest will be held in the training area, followed by a slide show.
- Saturday open forging in the training area.
- Saturday and Sunday demonstrations featuring Randy McDaniel http://drgnfly4g.com/index.html
 - Randy has taught basic and advanced workshops for more than twenty-five years. These include workshops at the University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA, Penland School of Crafts, J.C. Campbell Craft School, Appalachian Center for Crafts, New England School of Metalwork, Peters Valley Craft School and for many regional blacksmithing groups from coast to coast. Randy was also a lecturer and demonstrator for the Artist-Blacksmith Association of North America's International Conference at Alfred, New York in 1990 and at LaCrosse, Wisconsin in 2002. Randy will be focusing on hollow forge work.

Pre-registration is encouraged and appreciated to help the planning for food and supplies.

Please send:			
	\$30		
(Includes wives and kids at a			
	Sat. \$25.00		
M 1 *	Sun. \$10.00	¢4.00	
Meais*	Sat. Breakfast	\$4.00	_
	Sat. Lunch		
	Sat. Dinner		
	Sun. Breakfast	T	
	Sun. Lunch	\$6.00	
NameAddress_			
City			
StateZip			
Phone ()			
Date//_ Amount \$	Ck #		
Camper electrical hook-up	\$10.00		
Training class (free for IVB)	A members)		

Shop Tips by Bob Ehrenberger

This hot work "hook ruler" is made by cutting off the short leg of an old framing square leaving just enough to hook onto your work and measure it. I got the basic ruler from Joe Wilkinson as a meeting trade item. I then drilled a series of holes in it from 1/8" to 3/4" by 16ths and cut out the webs so I could use it as a thickness gauge. Each gap in the gauge is marked with a stamp of it's size. This one is a bit hard to read because it is so dark, try to find a square with easy to read markings.

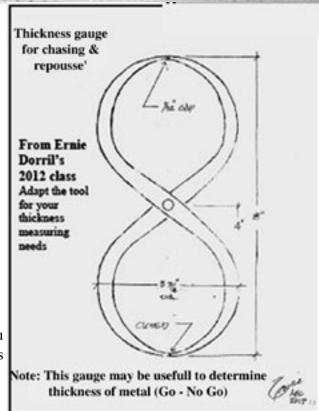


Shop Tip by Ed Harper

I have another shop tip for the newsletter. Use a sewing measuring tape to measure around circles, curves and other odd shaped objects.

Shop Tip by Don Birdsall

When you need to mark out something with equal spacing, like a railing. Instead of figuring out what fractional measurement to use between the holes. You can get a piece of elastic like they use for a waste band. Mark it with a sharpies pen at intervals less than you want for your final piece like every two inches. Then you can just stretch it along piece you want to mark. The elastic will expand at an even rate along it's length and marks will be evenly spaced.



Reprinted from the Sep/Oct 2011 Bituminous Bits

Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads

For sale: 2'x3' forge with fire pot & blower \$150, LP forge 2 burner 9"x6"x16" \$475, 2'x68" welding table \$200, 2'x4' work bench \$100, 3'x7' work bench \$50, 4.5" "Reed" machinest vice \$100. Dan Hodgeman, Versalles, MO PH: 815-520-0077

For sale: Spare Tire Power Hammer - \$2500.00 50 lb self-contained air hammer - \$4000.00 Both in good working order Call Jeffrey Sainz 636-586-5350 for information jeffsainz@sbcglobal.net

For Sale: Power Hammer instruction DVDs. \$125 per set. Clifton Ralph, 4041 W 47st, Gary, Indiana, 46408 (219)980-4437

Commercial / Resource ads

Services:

Beverly Shear Blades Sharpened. Remove blades from shear and ship to Clay Spencer, 73 Penniston Pvt. Drive, Somerville, AL 35670 \$41 includes return postage, additional cost for deep notches or blades previously sharpened at angle.

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, or (417)-321-2286 cell

Back issues of Jerry Hoffmann's **Blacksmith's Journal**, 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

Mathias Penn is offering inttoductory & beginning blacksmith classes. 417-683-9000 Tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com

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.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

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

Send check/money order for \$30 to Clay Spencer, 73 Penniston Pvt. Drive, Somerville, AL 35670-7013. Includes postage to US and Canadian addresses. Other countries e-mail <u>clay@tirehammer.com</u> for price. 256-558-3658. Tire Hammers for sale contact me for current price.

New England School of Metalwork

 $www.newenglandschool of metal work.com \\ 1-888-753-7502$

Power Hammer page

I've taken some time to collect and post old info, catalogs and brochures on power hammers. The link of our NEB web page to this information is: http://www.newenglandblacksmiths.org/power_hammer_info.htm Ralph Sproul

Rochester Arc & Flame Center! Featuring Blacksmithing, Welding & Glass Blowing Over 30 classes available for all levels of interest, rocafc.com 585.349.7110

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.

Scrub Oak Forge: We still have the SayMak air hammers from Turkey, the Ozark Pattern anvils, and hand hammers. For more info on the tools contact Bob Alexander at 636-586-5350 or scruboak4@netzero.net

L Brand Forge Coke now packaged in 50 pound bags 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.

Buy, Sell, Trade, Continued

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

Chile Forge- Next generation **gas forges** www.chileforge.com David Starr 520/360-2141

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

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."

USA Dealer for **REFFLINGHAUS ANVILS**, 77 to 1250 lb. European 2 horn with or without upsetting block & side shelf. Over 100 sizes and styles available. Guaranteed face @ HRC59 Dick Nietfeld www.blksmth.com Phone (308) 384 1088

Wanted:

Please make items for the conference auction and boutique.

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@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 will get you signed up.

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



Blacksmith Association of Missouri

21st Ozark Conference

The demonstrators are: Smyth Boone Craig Camerer George Rousis Walt Hull

May 3rd - MAY 6th 2012

Hammer Making Class-May 5th, 2012

Location-BAM Conference, State Fairgrounds in Sedalia, Missouri Instructor-Nathan Robertson, Jackpine Forge Class Size-Limited to 10 students

Class Duration- 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM (if required) with a break for lunch.

Cost- \$70.00 (register and pay at conference) First come, first served.

Class Description

We'll be forging hand hammers in what I consider my "standard style" with an upset flat forging face and a variety of pein options. Students will be able to choose to make cross, straight, diagonal or rounding hammers with double pein hammers and cutler's hammers as other options. Choice of weights will be 1.5, 1.75, 2, 2.25, and 2.5 pounds.

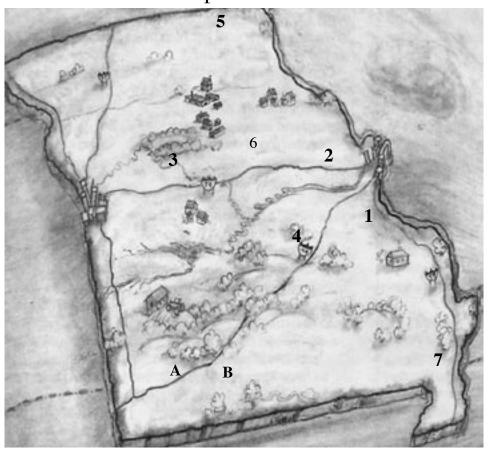
We'll be working in pairs and using striking techniques with sledges and top tools. Grinding and heat treating as pertaining to hammer making will be covered and each student will go home with a completely finished hand hammer ready to use. The class will start with a step by step demo of a cross pein hammer which will be donated to the conference auction.

All materials including steel, handles, and abrasives will be provided. All tools such as sledges, punches, drifts and tongs will be provided. Students should bring their personal safety equipment and wear appropriate clothing. Bringing your favorite forging hammer is recommended for any hand forging or fine tuning required. If You have a touch stamp, bring that as well.

Need Coal?

Check on Availability

Coal Captain: Bob Alexander



- Bob Alexander (636) 586-6938
 14009 Hardin Rd,
 DeSoto, MO. 63020
- Ken Jansen, (636) 366-4353
 Charter Rd.,
 Moscow Mill, MO. 63362
- 3. Doug Clemons, (660) 595-2257 RR1 Box 124, Malta Bend, MO. 65339
- Jerry Rehagen, (573) 744-5454
 Bozina Valley Trail, Freeburg, MO. 65035

- 5. Joe Hurley (660) 379-2365 or 660-626-7824 Rt1 Box 50 Downing, MO. 63536
- 6 Paul Lankford, 573-473-708225849 Audrain Co. Road 820, Mexico, MO 65265
- 7. Bob Maes, 573-866-3811 Rt. 1 Box 106 K Millersville, MO. 63766

Note: Jeff Willard is no longer carying coal.

Price \$14.00 per bag BAM members, \$15.00 per bag Non-members, \$12.00 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 B. Matthias Penn Oklahoma coal Price, 25cents/pound for any amount. Located in Ava, MO. 417-683-9000 E-mail: tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events:

April 1 - Application deadline for May Scholarship awards

April 20-21 Civil war days in Doniphan, MO for information call 573-996-5298

April 27 - 28 California Blacksmith Association Spring Conference Sonoma-Marin Fairgrounds - Petaluma, CA http://calsmith.org/events/spring-conference/2012/

May 3rd-6th -BAM Ozark Conference, Sedalia, MO contact Mike McLaughlin cowpie42@hotmail.com

May 26 Newsletter submission deadline

May 18,19 AACB Conference Murfreesboro, Tenn. for more information: www.appalachianblacksmiths.org

June 2-BAM meeting Ned Digh, Ham's Prairie 573-642-9502 Trade item: Shoe horn with handle length 5 - 18 inches

June 8,9,10 IVBA conference, Pontiac, Ill. See details on page 22

June 17-23 Boy Scout week 1 June 24-30 Boy Scout week 2 Contact: Denis Yates 573-480-7737

July 1-7 Boy Scout week 3, July 8-14 Boy Scout week 4 Contact: Denis Yates 573-480-7737

July 1 - Application deadline for August Scholarship awards.

July 18-21 ABANA conference, Rapid City, South Dakota.

July28 - **BAM** meeting Lesterville, MO. Bonnie Hendrickson 573-637-2576

August -2012 Missouri State Fair Sedalia, MO contact Kent Harbit (660)-647-2349 to volunteer

August 31-Sept 3, North Texas BS Association Hammerfest Dallas TX. Patrick Thaden http://www.thadenarmory.com

September 8 - **BAM** meeting Fred Arnhold, Bates City, MO.

October 6, 13 MTS beginner workshop At Bob Ehrenberger's in Shelbyville, MO. 573-633-2010

November 3 - BAM meeting Ed Harper, Browning, MO

January 1 - Application deadline for February Scholarship awards.

October 1 - Application deadline for November Scholarship awards.

January 12th, - BAM Meeting A & K Cooperage, Higbee, MO 660-456-7561 trade: corkscrew Food will be available

New Members

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

573-429-4573

Bradley III, Norman 4213 County Road 7480 West Plains, MO 65775 ntb@wpcs.net 417-256-5675	Dudenhoeffer, Sam 1600 Kleindienst Drive Jefferson City, MO 65109 sambouyer@embarqmail.com 573-584-0130	Sampsel, Thomas P.O. Box 28822 Gladstone, MO 64188 tmsampsel@hotmail.com 816-217-5236	Wood, Jay 5 State Hwy E Fair Grove, MO 65648 jay-wood@sbcglobal.net 417-576-4552
Cochran, Dawn	Myers, Jeremy	Straw, Jim	Wright, Nick
801 Plum Street	8751 Stase Highway T	15084 Highway MM	P.O. Box 27
Donphan, MO 63935	Oldfield, MO 65720	Neosho, MO 64850	Milo, MO 64767
j-drossAmsn.com	jeremy@myerstownfarm.com	417-389-3811	nick@quietplaceforge.us
573-996-0100	417-278-3151	T 11 T'	417-448-4063
	D	Talbott, Tim	
Crum, Andrew	Peterson, Lowel	1200 Kansas City Road	
616 North Jefferson	184 Morningstar Lane	Olathe, KS 66061	
Marshall, MO 65340	Jackson, MO 63755	ttalbott@olatheks.org	
rcrum329@att.net	laorielowell@yahoo.com	913-971-5111	
660-886-9255	573-245-6029		
		Wilson, Wayne	
Dougherty III, William	Ray, Benjamin Clark	103 N 61st Street	
Rt 1 Box 15481	RR 3 Box 4538	Kansas City, KS 66102	
Mill Spring, MO 63952	Doniphan, MO 63935	sunbears2@msn.com	

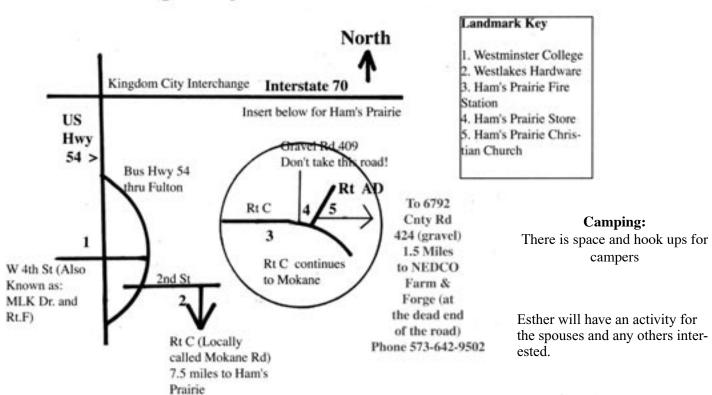
913-549-4377

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@att.net

Next Meeting: June 2nd, Ham's Prairie, MO.



Location:

NEDCO farm & forge Ham's Prairie, MO **Host:** Ned & Esther Digh

Phone: 573-642-9502

Food: Yes, bring 2 cans of meat product food as payment.

Trade item: Shoe horn with handle (handle length 5 - 18 inches).