

RAM

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014



Group Photo of Black Friday Hammer-In



*One of the young smiths
tries on Thomas Ratliff's
helmet*

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No room for ABANA news



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**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

Volume 31 No. 1

January-February 2014

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Membership Application

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Phone: () _____ Zip: _____
E-mail: _____

New Member Renewal ABANA member?

Are you interested in taking a class?

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

The winter is always a busy time for BAM. With the Black Friday hammer-in at Ken's and the Hang Over hammer-in at Pat's and the January meeting, there is plenty to do.

Given that our last meeting marked our 30th anniversary, I wrote and asked Bob Patrick (Founder Bob) to write something about how BAM got started. He didn't have time to get to it then but did write later with an article about BAM's beginnings.

We had a good turn out and a great time at Ken's. The stated project was to make tongs and a lot of tongs got made. For a lot of the guys it was their first pair. I brought some tooling to make the offset in bolt tongs and to forge flat jaw tongs under the power hammer. In addition to making tongs there were several hammers forged and some other projects that got worked on. Ken brought out the home made anvil featured in the last newsletter and several guys worked on it. And then something happened that has never happened before. By the time I made the two hour drive home, Ken had written an article about the event and had e-mailed it to me. I mean wow, what a group.

Usually I rely on Bob (the Knife) Stormer to cover the New Years day hammer-in at Pat McCarty's. But Bob had grandfather duties to attend to and put a request out on Around-The-Anvil for a substitute reporter. Bernie Tappel stepped up and provided a report on the event.

I have said this before, but it really deserves repeating. I am so grateful for all the support that I get from BAM members. From what I read in a lot of the other newsletters, many of the editors are left to do their newsletters all by themselves. In this issue, I have articles

from Ken Jansen, Bernie Tappel, Ned Digh, Bob Stormer and Bob Patrick and pictures from Bruce Herzog and Bob Stormer. That is a lot of support.

I have some bad news to report. On the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's, Tony Brooks had his shop burn down. To add insult to injury, his insurance company is trying to deny the claim because he was running a business out of the shop. It seems that they will cover all kinds of farm and personal tools and equipment but not the blacksmith equipment.

Wondering if I was covered I called my insurance agent and discovered that I had the same



My new 2001 Chevy S10

situation as Tony. I am taking steps to rectify that and get coverage. They seem to make a distinction between whether it is a hobby or a business. I would suggest that you all call your insurance agents and find out if you are covered and under what situations you might not be. Don't ask, don't tell, is not a good policy, because they may deny a claim whether they knew about your shop or not. Bernie Tappel and Pat McCarty sent me information on the insurance companies they have small business coverage with (page 25). I'm sure there are others, or your current agent may be able to write a rider to your existing policy to cover you.

The January meeting at the coo- perage in Higbee was a great success. There was a huge crowd and a lot of trade items. Because the trade item was a general idea, there was a real variety of nice projects. Thanks to Phil Cox, we had a really hot forge this year. I started the demonstrations by making a cork screw, the directions are in the November 2011 newsletter. I then made a small anvil based on an article from the Hammer's Blow which I reprinted on page 14. Ken Jansen finished up with a hand made hack saw.

This issue is when I usually publish the information on BAM scholarships (page 8), I also got information from Clay Spencer about the Francis Whiticker scholarship (page 20). So this is a good time to increase your skills by taking a class.

Don't forget to start work on something nice to bring to conference. There was some talk a while back that everyone that got Jerry Darnell's book should make one of his projects for the auction.

After all the trouble I have had the last couple years with getting snowed in, I decided to get a 4WD truck. So we sold our old '91 van for scrap and bought a 2001 Chevy S10. On a similar note, we had not had any frozen pipes for about three years. But our house got caught up in the Polar Vortex and I spent a couple days defrosting pipes. I also had a chance to put the inversion table (pictured in the last issue) to use in December when I had my back go out.

I'm still looking for pictures and stories about homemade anvils. If you have one please send me the info on it.

The next Newsletter submission deadline is March 22.

BAM MEETING, January 2014

Hosted by Dale Kirby
Minutes by Don Anders

Treasure's report given by Bruce Herzog.
Demonstration by Bob Ehrenberger and Ken Jansen.

Conference report by Mike McLaughlin, the knife maker needs a gas forge, grinder, ect for the conference demo. Contact Mike if you can help.

Remember to bring/make things for the gallery, auction and boutique.

There will be no camping allowed in the swine pavilion please use the camp grounds, thanks.

There is a tool sign up on the BAM website for tools for the BAM tool boxes. Please add your name to the list if you plan to help fill the boxes.

The raffle item will be a chile forge, and one years use of the BAM treadle hammer.

The scholar ship committee needs another member please contact a BAM officer if you want to be one.

The MTS committee needs another member and needs help moving the trailer, please contact a BAM officer if you want to be on the committee or can add your name to the list to move the trailer. The more people on the list the easier it is for everyone.

BAM president Doug Clemons has ABANA raffle tickets for sale.

Remember the next BAM meeting at Doniphan, MO contact Chris Miller for info.

Esther Digh discussed ways to get more people to sign up for BAM scholarships, discussion to be continued.

Meeting adjourned.

TRADE ITEM

Don Birdsall	Denny Quinn	twisting tool
Phil Cox	Don Birdsall	Cut off hardie
Kenny Jamison	Steve McCarthy	chisel w/ handle
Don Nichols	Bob Stormer	metal knife
Bernie Tappel	Chris Miller	handled hot cut
Donald Davies	Don Nichols	stock gauge
Colton Kiso	Donald Davies	Cut off hardie
Pat MCCarty	Colton Kiso	tongs
Dan Wedemeyer	Ken Jansen	lid lifter
Steve McCarthy	Pat McCarty	Screw driver

Ned Digh	Phil Cox	twisting wrench
Terry Smith	John Murray	ind. dust pan
Bill George	Jerry Mathews	Pry Bar
Jerry Mathews	Bernie Tappel	Homemade anvil
Mark Samsel	Terry Smith	Pry Bar
Ken Jansen	Dave Endres	socketed chisel
Steve Elkerman	Bill George	punch & chisel set
Chris Miller	Dale Kirby	fireplace shovel
Dave Endres	Bob Ehrenberger	set of 4 hammer
Dale Kirby	Kenny Jamison	wooden 1/2 barrel
Bob Ehrenberger	Ned Digh	cork screw
Denny Quinn	Steve Elkerman	texture hammer
Bob Stormer	Mark Sampsel	nail header
John Murray	Dan Wedemeyer	scroll wrench

IRON IN THE HAT

Mike McLaughlin	copper ladle	Don Anders
Dale Kirby	wooden bucket	Mike Poppas
Don Birdsall	saw blades	Terry Smith
Colton Kiso	axles	Eric Weis
Chris Miller	truck spring	Mike McLaughlin
Dale Kirby	whisky barrel	Chris Miller
Andy Herzog	1045 steel rod	Jon Household
Earl Million	aluminum bars	James Holland
Bob Ehrenberger	demo anvil	Andy Herzog
Dale Kirby	Assort, files	Donald Davies
Tom Patterson	sharpening stone	Colton Kiso
Seth Lancaster	flywheel gear	Earl Million
Earl Million	rake teeth	Colton Kiso
Dale Kirby	mower blades	Karen Bouckaert
Dan Wedemeyer	spring & blade	Mel Robinette
Ken Jansen	anvil fuller	Bob Collins
Ned Digh	magnet	Mark Sampson
Tom Patterson	honey	Wyatt Brooks
Bob Ehrenberger	demo cork screw	Jon Householder
Denny Quinn	wall chart	Dan Wedemeyer
Don Nichols	misc metal	Don Anders
Phil Cox	forge burner	Connel Cruse
Phil Cox	scrap leather	Dale Kirby
Pat McCarty	Calendar	Chris Miller
John Murray	hand hammer	Daniel Wedemeyer
Mike Gentsch	catalogs	Pat McCarty
Ben Collins	brake drum	Joe Alley
Ken Jansen	demo hacksaw	Dale Kirby
Donald Davies	apron	Rich McLay
Ben Collins	Plastic pails	Wyatt Brooks
Dale Kirby	mower blades	Earl Million
Esther Digh	magnet	Denny Quinn
Mike Gentsch	latches	Ned Digh
Donald Davies	band saw blades	Wyatt Brooks

President's Message

Greetings,

Our January meeting was held again this year at A&K Cooprage in Higbee, Missouri. Our host was Dale Kirby and family. Bob Ehrenberger and Ken Jansen were the demonstrators. We had a large turn out with a lot of items in the Iron-In-The-Hat and about two dozen Trade Items. We also appointed two new committee members. Don Birdsall is back on the MTS committee as coordinator after Denis Yates asked to step down this year. Also Larry Hults asked to be off the scholarship committee this year. Denny Quinn volunteered to serve on that committee along with Scott Stager and Esther Digh would agreed to serve as chairperson. Thanks to all those who volunteered to serve this year and to Denis and Larry for their service in the past.

The MTS committee is looking for people who have a truck capable of pulling the MTS trailer. The trailer weighs around ten thousand pounds and has electric brakes. What we are trying to do is create a list of people who would be willing to help when they can so that our coordinator will know who to call and maybe no one person will be expected to move it all the time. If you would be willing to help please contact me. I am trying to compile the list for the committee.

Once again I missed the New Years Day hammer-in at Pat McCarty's. This year I had made arrangements with all the family so that I could be gone that day only to get a nasty upper respiratory infection that left me too sick to be around anyone else. Maybe next year.

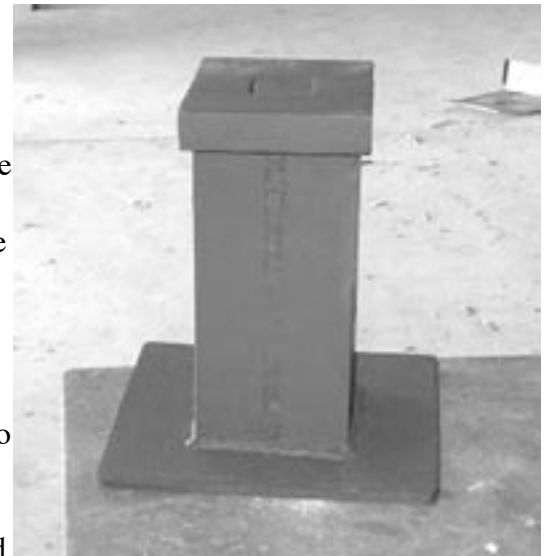
I was finally able this year to make it to Ken Jansen's Black Friday hammer-in. The theme this year was tong making. That was a skill that I really needed improvement in and after watching all morning, with Bernie Tappel's help, I was able to make a decent pair of tongs that I use almost every day now.

ABANA has begun selling tickets for the big ticket Iron-In-Hat drawings for the ABANA conference in Harrington, Delaware this August. I have a limited number of tickets for sale. Something new this year is that BAM gets to keep half of the money from the

ticket sales. So buying the tickets ahead of time will help BAM. Contact me if you are interested. The big ticket items this year are a Clay Spencer Tire Hammer donated by Clay Spencer, A BAM Box built and donated by Pat McCarty and a Nimba Titan Anvil donated by Nimba Anvils.

I started making some handled tools for myself and I found out that my anvil really sets too high to be comfortable to use with a long drift. Also my hardy hole was too small for some of my larger drifts so I built a small anvil with a large hardy hole. I had been using a piece of two inch square tubing with 1/4" walls but it was not very stable and did not support the part that I was drifting very well. I welded an eight inch long piece of the two inch tubing to a eight inch square plate and then welded six pieces of one inch by two inch flat bar that I had left over from a job to the sides of the tubing. Then I made a five inch square

top out of the one inch flat bar. The hardie is 1 1/2 inch. The whole thing is about nine inches tall and weighs about forty five pounds. I still have to mount it to a stump or build a stand for it.



Our next meeting is March 15 and will be hosted by Chris Miller at Doniphan, MO. I hope to see you there. I know it is a long drive for some of us but the members down there manage to come up here to meetings. I missed the last one in Doniphan because it was the weekend of my son's wedding and the women all thought I should be here. I hope to make it this time. They probably went to a lot of trouble to host the meeting on my birthday so I should try to be there.

Editor's Note: Doug's anvil is to high for anyone but Ken to do anything.

Scholarship Guidelines

I Scholarships will be awarded by the scholarship committee based on the quality of applications and the availability of funds. Decisions of the committee will be final.

II. The committee is to consist of 3 members who serve rotating 2 year terms appointed by the BAM president. The president will appoint one of these members chairman of the committee.

III. The committee will be responsible for publicizing the scholarship program and for suggesting changes to these guidelines as may seem appropriate. Changes are to be approved by the board of directors of BAM.

IV. The number and amounts of scholarships will be fixed by the board of directors and revised by them from time to time as may be appropriate. The scholarship committee will advise the board on these matters.

V. Eligibility: Only Members in good standing of BAM may receive scholarships. Serving scholarship committee members will not be eligible for scholarships. No member may apply for a scholarship within one year after receiving a previous scholarship. Applicants who have not received a scholarship within the three years prior to their application will be given priority.

VI. The board of directors will determine how often and on what dates scholarships are to be awarded.

VII. Applications must be received 30 days before the date of awards. The committee must confer 2 weeks before the date of awards.

VIII. Obligations of recipients: Scholarship money must be spent for the activity or program for which it is granted unless changes are specifically approved by the board of directors. Every recipient, within three months following the event for which the scholarship is granted must submit a written description of the event with notes, drawings, photos, etc. where appropriate, to the BAM Newsletter. Within one year, the recipient must demonstrate what was learned as a consequence of the scholarship either at a BAM meeting or on video tape to be placed in the BAM Library.

IX. The scholarship committee will prepare an application form and make it available to any member who requests it. In addition, the form will be published in the BAM newsletter. All the terms and conditions will be included with the application (i.e., items V, VII, and VIII, above, plus the number of scholarships and the maximum amount available).

A couple of comments are due here. First, with respect to number III., the committee would be delighted to receive suggestions at anytime as to how we can make this program work better. Please share your ideas, questions, gripes, etc. with Esther Digh (chairman) , Scott Stager, or Dennis Quinn. We also stand ready to help with the application or anything else we can do to help individuals or the organization as a whole to get some good out of this program.

With respect to number VI., the scholarship committee will be working to formalize the guidelines for scholarship applications.

Send Form to:

Esther Digh, 6792 CR 424, Fulton, MO. 65251

Note: The application is also available on the BAM web site (bamsite.org)

Scholarship Application

Name:

Address:

Phone:

What Class or Event do you Wiish to Attend:

Where:

What are the cost:

Tuition

Travel

Lodging

Other

Briefly, how do you hope to advance in blacksmithing? Where do you want to go and how will this class or event help you get there? (additional pages if necessary - typing is OK)

I understand that as a requirement of receiving this scholarship, I must: 1) submit a written description with notes, drawings, etc, of the event to the BAM Newsletter, no later than 3 months after the end of the event, and 2) within 1 year of the event, I must demonstrate my new knowledge at a BAM meeting or a video tape to be placed in the BAM library.

Signed _____ Date_____

Black Friday Hammer-in

By Ken Jansen

Wow, what a great day! As I sit here eating turkey leftovers I reflect on what a fun day it was. Lots of old faces and a few new ones. By some estimates we may have had upwards of 50 people. Due to the dry weather we had no parking issues. We estimate at least 25 pairs of tongs were made.

A special thank you to all those who helped me pull this off either by being there or donating the use of equipment or helping before to setup/cleanup. Bernie Tappel, Bob Ehrenberger, Don Nichols, and Matthew Burnett each sort of took a forging area over and helped those in that area to produce some wonderful tongs. I saw some of the nicest hand forged tongs I have seen in a while today. Myself and a few others kind of floated around and tried to help out where we could.

The Forklift anvil got a pretty good workout at the station directed by Bernie.

Just so it is out there, there is one of our members who seems to have an strong aversion to tongs with a "dog nut" on them, more to follow at a later date.

I got two pairs of tongs donated to me one is for 3/16" which I will put to use I do a fair amount of pieces where I need to hold a point and they will work wonderfully for that. The other pair are for 1/16" and they are going onto the wall of fame. I will be putting up some new shelved in the bathroom in the shop so spread out the display as the shelves and wall are covered up now.

We had some tailgate items up for sale and I got rid of some stuff although I have some left over I had hoped to move along.

A huge thank you to Bob Stormer and Bruce Herzog for taking pictures, at least we will have some good pics for the website and the newsletter. There was even a group photo

after lunch that caught a good percentage of the people who came.

I hope all of you who made tongs use them in good health. There was a very large pair made by one guy and I hope to see them in the future sometime.

There was even a hammer made even though that was not the focus of this event. I got to help on the finish part of that one and can't wait to see the work put out by that hammer. There was also a hot cut forged out of a big ball peen hammer.



The food catered by Matthew Burnett was a big hit. It seems it may have been better than the chili served at the event in the past (I am not offended).

There were two basic styles that I showed and some variations on that theme and Bob Ehrenberger used some

power hammer tooling to make tongs at one end of the shop. Now there should be no shortage of tongs for the



BAM toolboxes at the conference. I will be passing some of the ones I made just for this event along as I now have a surplus of 5/8", 3/8" by 1" and 7/8".

Wonder of wonders, I did not end up with any left over clothes or coffee cups this year. I have to say that even though it is a day after Thanksgiving I am thankful for such a group

of friends who came and spent time with me in the shop. Thank you.



More Black Friday Fun



2014 Headache Hammer-In at Washington Forge

By Bernie Tappel

Since “Bob the Knife” Stormer was occupied with grandkids and consequently unable to attend the New Year’s Day event and perform his usual duties of New Year’s Day reporter at large, “Editor Bob” Ehrenberger was begging for someone to provide a write up of the hammer in. So, feeling a little guilty about not providing anything for the newsletter lately, I volunteered to write a few lines that hopefully will do the event justice.

Pat and Mary Jo have been hosting this event for a bunch of years. We were trying to decide just how many and it seems that most of us can’t remember back that far. We can remember forging a cross for J.K. Reynolds grave at one of the early ones, but Pat says J.K. was always the first one to arrive and the last one to leave at the first events and that he attended several, so we know it started well before J.K. died.

At any rate, Pat and Mary Jo’s hammer in has been the way to start the New Year for a long time. Pat always has some project for the day. It may be a large community project like the cross for J.K.’s grave that I mentioned, or a small project that any of the attendees can complete and take home with them. In some of the past years the project might be something with a heart theme due to the proximity of the upcoming Valentine’s Day. I know several blacksmiths that have gone home from this event in the past with their sweetheart’s Valentine’s Day gift in hand.

This year was no exception. The project for this event was a ladle. Pat started by demoing one of his favorite utensil handles. It was made from a length of 3/8 sq. stock and had a grip formed with an incised twist and a tapered loop on the end to hang on a hook or rack. The end that attached to the bowl was formed by isolating a blob of metal with a set of fullers and then flattening that to attach to the bowl. For the bowl of the ladle Pat had some black iron domes that are used as weld on caps for iron posts. He has a source for these and had them available for anyone that wanted to make a ladle. He heats these in the forge and planishes them over a ball stake to give them a forged look and then rivets them to the handles with a couple flat headed tinner’s rivets.

I had brought one of my swage blocks along that has several bowl and spool depressions in it, so Pat asked me to demo making a ladle bowl from some 16 gauge sheet metal. I made a ladle bowl, a colander bowl, and a large cooking spoon bowl from the 16 gauge sheet metal. I also made a handle for the ladle bowl using a technique that was one of Doug Hendrickson’s ideas. This handle is formed by offsetting about 3/4 inch of the end of the sq. bar on two sides where it attaches to the bowl. This offset is flattened on the diamond to form the area to rivet on the bowl. The handle is then tapered in a long gradual taper to the other end of the handle and then flattened on the diamond with a pigtail finial on the end to hang on a hook.

After our demos, Pat invited anyone that wanted to try one of these items



New Year's Day cont...

to step up to one of the two coal forges and give it a go. I saw several nice ladles finished before the day was over. The most notable was probably young Wade Johnson, who completed two ladles, using both techniques for the bowls of his ladles. He made the first one using one of the preformed domes that Pat had available and then did another one forging the bowl from the 16 gauge sheet using my swage block. Wade and his parents have been regulars at this event for several years. It is good to see a youngster this interested in the craft.



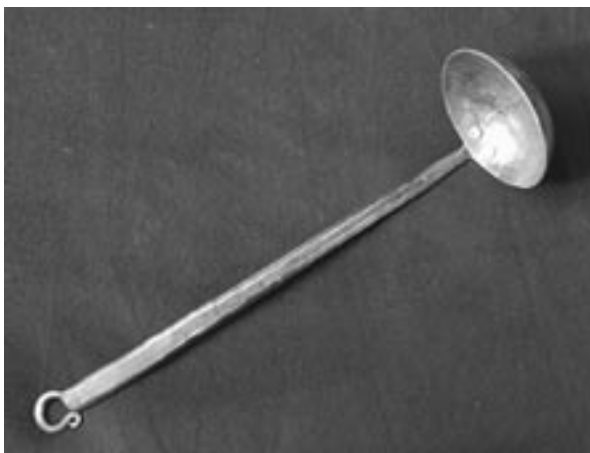
Several other smiths worked on other projects. Wayne Rice made several of his horseshoe knives. Ian Wille demoed a mini gas forge that he had just made and the Wedemeyers worked on a horseshoe rasp snake. Patti and I had to leave a little early, so I didn't get to see if Pat forged the traditional New Year's Day Crowbar for his brother, but my bet is that he did.

There were a few more ladies in attendance this year and I think there was quite a bit of visiting going on in that department. Mary Jo did her usual outstanding job on the food. The bottomless pots of posole and potato soup filled every belly there and then some. Pat's woodworking room was filled with containers of snacks, cookies, and other treats too.

The only down side this year was that regular attendee Colin Campbell has passed and will no longer be a source of wry commentary and slightly used tools at this event. Rest in peace Colin and rest assured that you were remembered on this day.



All in all, the perfect way to start a new year. . . a feast, a chance to learn something new, and an opportunity to get together with a great bunch of friends. Thanks Pat and Mary Jo for hosting this each year.



The Forged Anvil

By: Darryl Nelson, Washington

I have used this forged anvil as a demo piece and as an instructional project when teaching at my school.

Typically, I use a 3/4-inch square bar for this project, but you can go bigger if you want to.

By forging a three sided taper to the end of the bar, I am setting the forging up for the bick and the heel. The taper on the top side will become the bick and the non-tapered bottom side will become the heel.

Draw the end of the bar down to 3/8-inch tall by 5/16-inch wide. Try to keep the taper length to no longer than the parent bar is wide, in this case 3/4-inch. Fig. 1

Using a 3/8-inch diameter spring tool, fuller in the sides of the bar to a depth of about 1/8-inch. Place the fullers about 1 1/2-inches from the end of the bar. Fig. 2

Once you have fullered the bar, flatten the material in front of the fullers to approximately a half-inch in thickness. Do not correct for any growth in width. Fig. 3

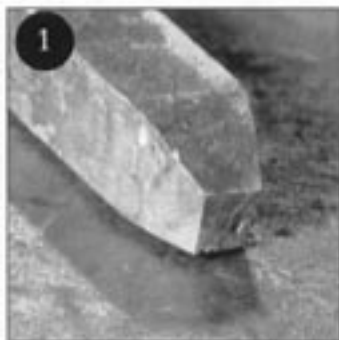
Using a suitable hot-cut, split along the centerline of the forging to leave a cut roughly 3/4-inch long. Make sure that the cut is equal at the base of the cut to prevent problems with the next move. Fig. 4

Using a soft edged set tool, open the split out to 180°. Clamp the work in your post vise to keep the frustration down to a minimum. Fig. 5

Once you have opened out the cut, return to the anvil and drive what will be the face of the forged anvil down onto your anvil face to fully dress the top surface of the forged anvil. Figs. 6 & 7

To create the waist of the forged anvil, use two mismatched fullers. I used a 1/2-inch fuller under the horn and a 3/4-inch fuller under the heel. Fig. 8

This article was Reprinted from the Summer 2013 Hammer's Blow



Using 3/4" sq. draw a short three-sided taper. Bring end to approx. 3/8" high by 5/16" wide.



Fuller to a depth of 1/8"



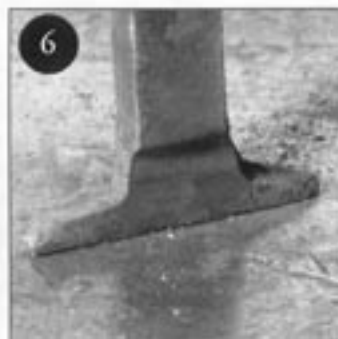
Flatten material in front of fullered groove to approximately 1/2" thick



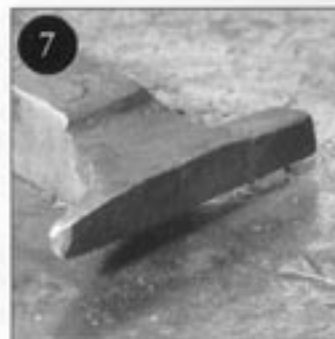
Hot cut on centerline 3/4" long



Open to 180° using a radius-edged set tool



Upset against anvil to finish face



Shows face finished



Using 1/2" fuller under the horn and 3/4" fuller under heel, fuller waist to width

The Forged Anvil continued...

Due to the difference in surface area, I expect the 1/2-inch fuller to penetrate just a little more than the 3/4-inch fuller.

My handheld side set is roughly 1/4-inch square at the end. The end is filed to an angle of approximately 10-15 degrees from front to back.

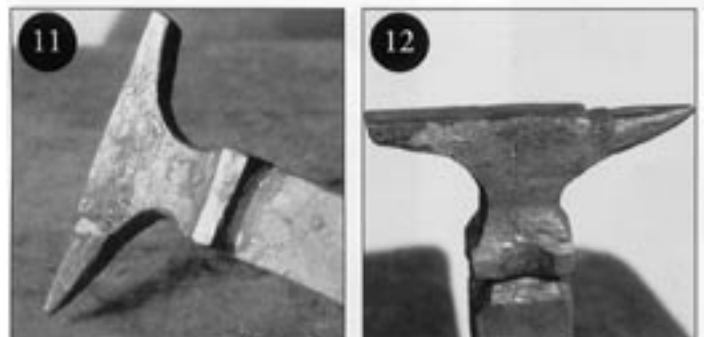
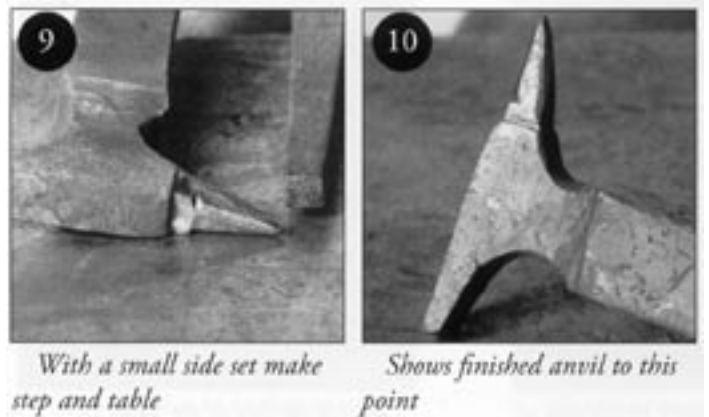
With the forged anvil supported in the vise or on the anvil, drive the side set in to create the step and table behind the horn. Fig. 9

Draw down what you can and hot-rasp off anything extra to finish the horn area. Fig. 10

Define the bottom of the base by butchering into the bar from all sides. Don't go too deep, do just enough to make the bottom of the anvil obvious. Fig. 11

The feet of the anvil are created using a set of paired 3/8-inch fullers driven into the anvil's base from each side of the anvil. Fig. 12

Darryl I Nelson is perhaps better known for his sculptural animal heads from bar stock: He has produced four DVDs showing his techniques with the animal heads. Darryl owns and operates his own blacksmithing school in the North West of the country.



Darryl is the treasurer for the NWBA and was conference chair for the Western States conference at Mount Hood, Oregon, in August 2013.

www.darrylnelsonblacksmith.com

January Demonstration By Bob Ehrenberger

I demonstrated making one of Darryl's anvils at the January meeting.

The first picture shows the forging process. The second, I'm doing some refinement on the heel. The bottom right is the rough forging. Top right is after a little file work on the horn and base.

I got the waist a little too tall, so the proportions don't look right.



January Trade Items



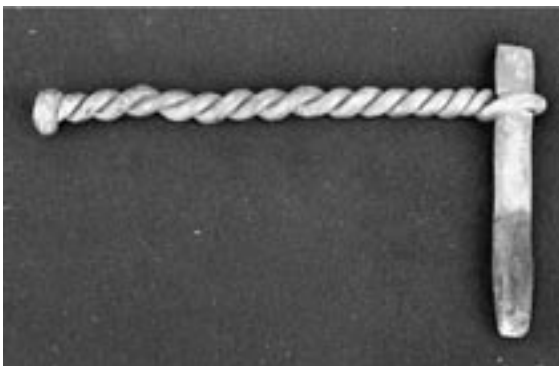
Don Davies



Coltin Kiso



Bob Ehrenberger



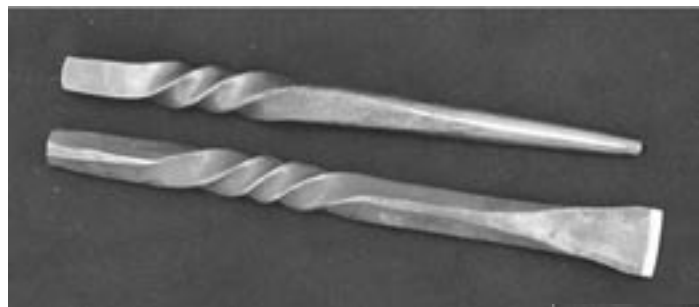
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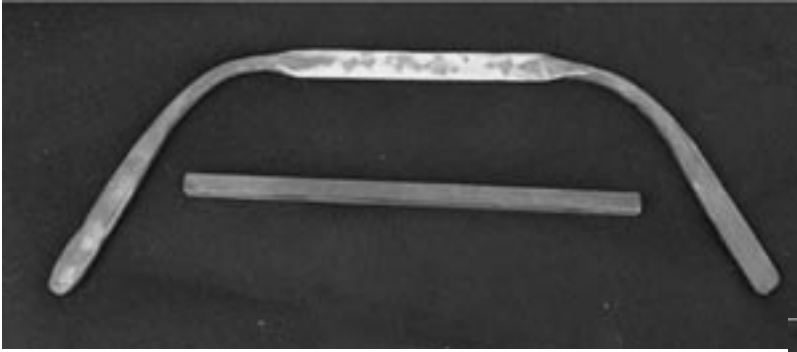


Bernie Tappel



Terry Smith

January Trade Items



Don Nichols



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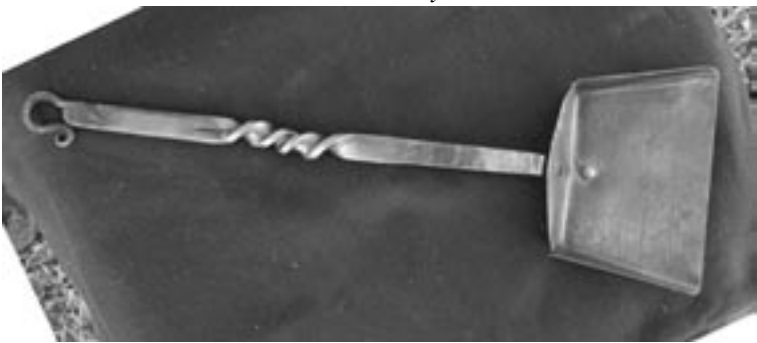
Bill George



Dan Wedemeyer



Ned Digh



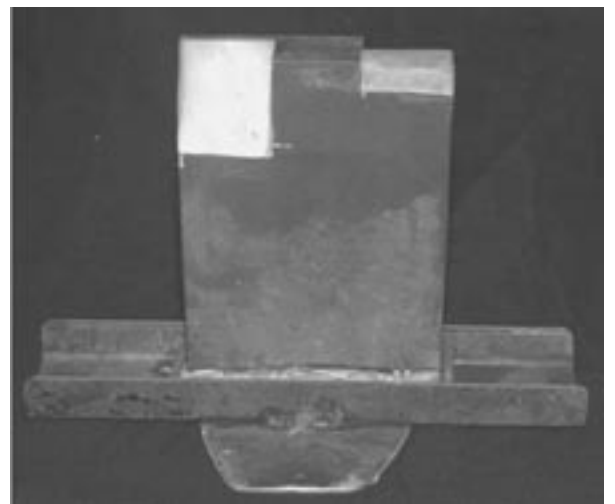
Chris Miller



Mark Sampsel



Dave Endres



Jerry Mathews

Ken Jansen Hack Saw Demonstration

By Bob Ehrenberger

Ken answered my appeal for a demonstrator at the January meeting. I didn't figure that what I had planned would fill the whole morning. Originally, Ken was going to make a cooper's tool which was used to tighten up the bands on a barrel, but it turned out to need a lot of heavy hitting and was best suited for a shop with a power hammer.

Ken started out by laying out the holes for the main frame on a piece of 1/2" sq. There are 3 holes for the handle and one for the adjustment bolt. There is also a flat spot on the



handle side for the blade pin.

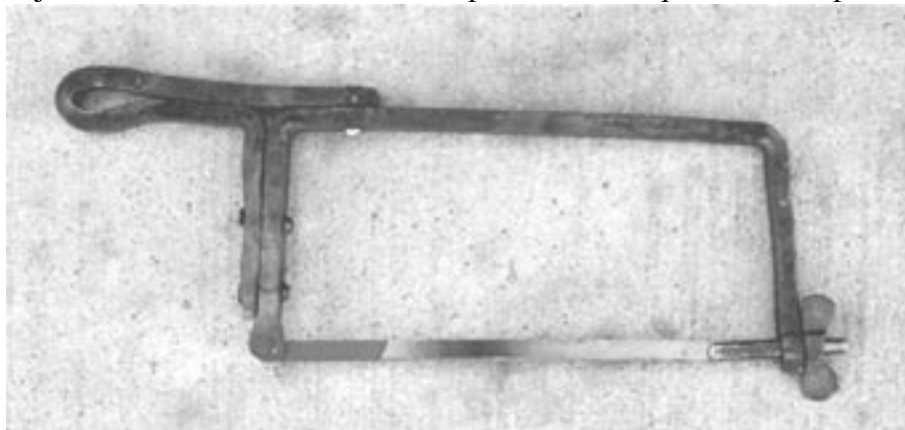
The hole for the adjustment bolt is squared up to keep the bolt from turning when the blade is tightened.



Once all the holes are punched the frame is bent to shape by hammering it over in the vice. The important thing is to get the ends lined up and the distance between them right. The length of the original bar will determine how much is left over for the offset on the ends. Ken brought a test piece he made at home that was quite a bit deeper. This one was just a little deeper than a conventional hack saw.

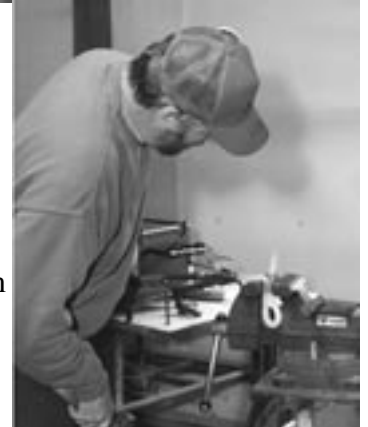
The first two holes on the 1/2" sq. handle were punched to match the first two holes on the frame. Then the handle was bent to shape. The third hole was marked to line up with the hole on top of the frame and punched. The handle was then riveted to the frame.

The wing nut was made by punching the hole, then flattening the wings and then running a tap through the hole to cut the threads. I didn't see him make the adjustment bolt, but it looked like a piece of 3/8" sq. with a flat spot for the blade pin and the other



end forged round so that threads could be die cut on it.

Ken said that he use 1/8" welding rod for the blade pins and actually drilled the holes they went in. He fine tuned the frame by opening up the bend at the end.



My musings on BAM

By Bob Patrick

Hi Bob, Hope things are going well for you.

It's turned cold with an inch of ice and 10 inches of snow here. Fortunately, we didn't lose power as they thought we would. I live 15 miles from town. My shop's only 50 ft. from the house, fortunately.

When I think of the beginnings of BAM, I remember that most of the smiths were my age then, And a lot still are! I have so many good smithing memories from that time. I actually lived on a sort of communal farm and drove over 15 miles into town to run my shop in Historic Bethel, MO. It is hard to figure just how BAM got started, but I met, I think, Steve Austin, when I was demonstrating blacksmithing under the Arch in St. Louis at one of the Frontier Folklife festivals and got invited to a meeting at his shop in Claycomo, MO. Not much more than the little corner of a building at that time. And through him I met Don Asbee. I met Dough Hendrickson when he came through my shop with his friend Lee somewhere about the same time, around 1980 or so, and Steve Baker at a festival in Bethel. And at Steve's I met Stanley Winkler, Jerry Hoffman, and others. We had very informal get togethers, and no organization.

In 1982 I went to the ABANA Conference in Ripley, West Virginia, and Doug and Stanley at least were there also. I was sleeping in the back of a Datsun F-10 car for the first night, not very comfortable, and I talked to lots of people at Ripley. 2 were Bill Callaway and Bob Ramage from Arizona. They invited me to sleep on the floor of their dormitory room for the rest of the conference. Bill had just started an ABANA Chapter, SWABA, and I talked to him about our get togethers. He encouraged me to start a chapter and got me in touch with Joe Humble, who gave me the information I needed for Missouri to become an ABANA Chapter. There were no little packets or good information on how to do it at that time.

I got everything basically started with encouragement from some of my blacksmith friends. They were great at meetings but no one wanted to handle the technicalities of being a chapter or actually organize anything. We had an organizational meeting in 1983 at Culver Stockton College in Canton, MO. hosted by Al Beck an art instructor, who helped me get a gallery of work set up, and Grant Kenner, a wonderful metal artist and instructor. So, we had a meeting and agreed to start BAM. We had no name, and I proposed some name which was not too inspiring. Don Asbee and Bonnie Hendrickson were talking and making up names and came up with BAM, which not only was Blacksmith Association of Missouri, but sounded great!. I am not sure who actually came up with it, Don or Bonnie, but everyone there thought it was a great name.

Then came the problem. For BAM to be part of ABANA we needed a President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and an Editor for a newsletter. I got elected President on a show of hands, but no one wanted ANY of the other positions. So, I agreed to do all the work if other people would just put their names in for the positions, and we got people to do that. For the first several years I did everything, including keeping the checkbook/treasury, which wasn't much. I had an old typewriter, and did the first I believe 2 newsletters on an old mimeograph machine I was sent by Dave Gingery, an author who wrote books on making your own metal lathe, milling machine, and lots of other things. The quality was HORRIBLE, as I am no good at typing without mistakes, but it was something. Then, using the same crumbly typewriter I typed them up and xeroxed them. I wrote all the articles for some time. We needed to become a non profit organization and I could not handle doing it. I had an apprentice, Grady Holley, Jr., who was living part time in Bethel to work with me, but lived at Sandhill Farm, an intentional community in Rutledge, MO. His friend, and mine, Laird Shaub, who lived there, volunteered, out of the goodness of his heart, to do all the paperwork for us to become non profit, and did it. We had meetings wherever we could arrange them and BAM struggled along with a small number of members. After 3 years I got burned out and dropped out of sight, didn't do anything for BAM. A lot of it also had to do with my personal situation.

I've been amazed at what BAM has become and am proud to had a part in it's beginning. Blacksmithing has changed so much. The Internet brought communications to a new height, and the amount of instruction at schools, workshops and on line is immense. We are in a golden age of smithing. I fear that using coal will become a lost art in the new future due to EPA regulations. Despite videos and all of the instruction people have been given, with one generation not being able to used traditional coal technique, and a great deal of skills will be lost. That already happened in the past when coal took over from charcoal. Few smiths can use charcoal well, and there are a lot of misconceptions of it's use. Gas and oil forges can replace coal for a lot of work, but are not as versatile in some aspects of smithing. And gas forges for hobby use may be restricted as well. We live in a time of diminishing resources and government that wants to rule every aspect of our lives. But I suspect smiths, as they always have, will rise to the occasion and smithing will go on.

Bob Patrick, first BAM President, 2013

Francis Whitaker Blacksmith Scholarship

One or two scholarships will be available for the Traditional Joinery Projects class at the John C. Campbell Folk School, April 13-19, 2014 taught by Clay Spencer. It will be an Instructor Resource which covers tuition and part of the room and board. You will be responsible for other expenses such as materials and fuel fees.

This scholarship is for Intermediate and advanced students who have a solid foundation in basics, can manage a coal fire and must be able to forge weld. The class is to make a table but you may make any other traditional joinery project of your design.

Interested blacksmiths should complete the following application and send it by e-mail or mail it to Clay at 73 Penniston Private Drive, Somerville, AL 35670. Contact Clay at 256-558-3658 or clay@tirehammer.com on any questions. Include your name, address, e-mail and phone number.

1. Describe your blacksmithing experience, how many years, classes taken, jobs, kind of work you do, how many hours you blacksmith in an average month.

2. Goals for your blacksmithing career, what you wish to do as a blacksmith, Describe your participation in the blacksmithing community: teaching, demonstrating, craft shows, writing articles, belonging to and attending local groups, attending conferences.

3. Make a scale drawing of a proposed project (your original drawing, not copied from another source), Should show 2 or 3 views with stock sizes and specify proposed joinery. Include a cut list for the stock. In this class you may make a table by my or your design.

4. Describe your participation in the blacksmithing community: teaching, demonstrating, craft shows, writing articles, belonging to and attending local groups, attending conferences.

5. Explain why you need a scholarship to attend a class.

6. Do you sell blacksmithing items you make? What type items? How do you sell?

7. Include at least 3, no more than 5, photos of some of your work.

The completed application should be received no later than March 12, 2014. Do not send before February 1, 2014. Successful applicants will be notified by March 26, 2014.

When you register you must inform the Folk School that you are using an Instructor resource. You will be responsible for all other costs such as fuel fee, materials, transportation, any additional cost for lodging and food, etc.

After the class you are requested to write a 2 page article explaining some of the blacksmithing techniques used in making your project, (include some photos or sketches) and send it to your state organization.

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Elmer Roush: Lock Making, Viking Ax

— MINI DEMOS —

Dave Smucker: Metallurgy / Heat Treatment

Lonnie Farmer: Frying Pan Forging

Broadus Weatherall: Cowboy Hat, Cross, Door Pull

Mike Rose: Layout & Design

John Williams: Joe Humble Door Knocker, Stories

Gary Bowman/Jason Bivens: Knife Handle Making

Meet the Conference Demonstrators

Peter Ross

Peter's interest in early ironwork developed accidentally as the result of part time employment at a local living history museum. He spent weekends and summers working in the blacksmith shop, watching the pieces he had just made be put to use in correct historic context. After attending the Rhode Island School of Design and a year studying with blacksmith/whitesmith Dick Everett in East Haddam, CT, he opened his own shop.

In 1979 Peter was hired as a journeyman blacksmith by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Two years later he took over the shop as Master; a position he held for 23 years. In addition to reproducing hundreds of different pieces of 18th century hardware, utensils, tools, etc, Peter and staff helped re-discover pre-industrial methods long out of use.

For the last 30 years, he has been a frequent demonstrator at ABANA national blacksmith conferences, given hundreds of classes and workshops on historic tools and methods at prominent Craft schools, regional blacksmith conferences, and museum sites.

Peter now operates his own business in Siler City, North Carolina making museum quality reproductions of 18th and 19th century hardware. Recent projects include hardware for the distillery at Mount Vernon, door locks for Monticello and Montpelier, and other private restorations.

James Crowell
676 Newnata Cutoff
Mountain View, Ark. 72560
870-746-4215

James Crowell began making knives in Mt. View, AR in 1980 and is a past Ozark Folk Center, State Park, Resident Blacksmith and Knife maker. He earned the distinction of Master Bladesmith from the American Bladesmith Society in 1986 and was certified as the first, non founding father, Instructor for the American Bladesmith Society (ABS) that same year.

Jim is a long time faculty member of The Bill Moran School of Bladesmithing at Texarkana College and teaches all over the country at seminars and "Hammer-Ins". His flawless work regarded by many as among the best hand forged knives produced has appeared in every trade publication and is in collections throughout the world. He has won many awards including the first American Bladesmith Society Bill Moran Knife of the Year, the Blade Magazine Best Forged Knife and was the winner of numerous American Bladesmith Society Cutting Competitions. Jim won the first World Championship ABS cutting competition in 2003 at the Blade Super Show in Atlanta Georgia.

Jim May's Homemade Anvil

By Bob Stormer

I met Jim May at a knife show in Mt. Vernon, IL in November about 17 years ago. I was a knifemaker in training and Jim had some really nice looking Damascus knives on his table. He spent a lot of time with me, knowing I was more interested in making knives than buying them. Before I left, he invited me to visit his shop in Auxvasse, MO over the Christmas holidays to make some Damascus. Unfortunately, I had more family commitments come up than usual and I didn't get to visit his shop. He died in February the following year. A few months later, his wife Judy had an auction of Jim's equipment that was well attended by BAM members. I was still very new to BAM and didn't know many members, but V.J. McCrackin showed me around and introduced me to some of them. That auction is where I bought Jim's anvil. It was estimated to weigh about 400 lbs. I think that was without the wooden base.

Corbin Newcomb told me Jim worked in a machine shop, and that's where he made and heat treated the 4140 or 4150 used for the top of the anvil. Corbin thinks it was made in the late eighties. The anvil is made of three main pieces, a base that measures 14 1/2" x 8 1/2" x 2 1/2", a center piece that measures 14" x 5" x 10 1/2", and the top that measures 24" x 6" x 2". There is no round horn on the front and the back section of the top is slightly beveled on both sides of the 1 1/4" hardie hole. See Figures 1, 2, and 3. Jim's primary interest was making knives so he didn't need a round horn for most of his work. He did however, make a half round chunk of steel that weighs about 30 lbs and fits in the hardie hole to serve as a horn for most purposes. See Figure 4. He also made a heavy duty fullering tool that fits in the hardie hole, Figure 5.

Based on the volume of each of the three main pieces multiplied by the nominal weight of steel (about .2833 lbs/cubic inch) the anvil weighs about 377 lbs. Even with my errant hammering, the top surface is still in good shape.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Ready for a Murphy Event?

By Ned Digh

A Murphy event, always at the most unexpected time, and with unexpected results is a plague to all shop owners. We usually take winterization in our stride, getting equipment ready for cold weather as winter approaches, maybe outside equipment first and deal with in shop items later before extreme temperatures occur. With a large shop, a written checklist might be in order but in practice, most members do it automatically as cold weather approaches.

Jump from winterization to a major disaster like fire or severe weather destroying your shop or equipment. An important question is: do you have an inventory and is it current? Shop equipment and assets tend to grow as buying opportunities occur and newly acquired items may not get added to your written inventory. In case of an insurable loss (es) what and how can you prove to the insurance adjuster that you should be reimbursed for losses. A detailed and itemized inventory is difficult to produce from memory after a catastrophic loss occurs.

In addition to the above, several questions that would be appropriate to consider: 1. If you had an unexpected absence, who would winterize and secure your equipment? 2. Would that person know what to do, for example: are water valves, circuit breakers, and heat sources marked

with numbered or labeled tags for identification? 3. Would that person know how to provide physical security for your shop and equipment?

This subject probably brings up more questions than answers but it is of importance to all with significant investments in a shop and equipment. Off the cuff explanations like "just insure your equipment to the hilt and don't worry about it or let the insurance company take over. Casual comments like that do little good when disaster strikes, if your shop is damaged or lost and you are trying to make an inventory from memory. A couple of examples, maybe exaggerated but expand to your own situation: good forging hammers are not cheap, how many do you have? Consideration should be given to minor but expensive items, ie: how many drill bits or sockets do you have?

The major difficulty with a shop inventory is keeping it current, it takes time to itemize equipment or to add to a written list when an item is purchased. Some people may keep hand written notes and inventories but keep them in the shop, with potential to be destroyed when disaster occurs.

With cameras and photographs now cheap, a three ring binder of photographs could save a lot of frustration if a Murphy visit results in disaster. A simple and routine system could be to photograph some items each week or each month, perhaps make a duplicate notebook to provide to an insurance adjuster if the need arose. This may seem mundane but how much

trouble would it be to lay out all tongs one week and all sockets w/accessories another week. A good procedure would be to insure that your camera records a date on the photograph.

Depreciation of value can be an unpleasant subject when an insurance adjuster is establishing value at the time of the loss and might ask questions like: when did you buy it or how long have you used it, how much did you pay for it. An additional unpleasant situation is sometimes a misunderstanding of what the insurance agent said or you thought was said and the fine print of the insurance policy. A case in point, my insurance agent told me if my welder was lost, the adjuster would tell me to "just go but a new welder", my question now is how much will be paid on a new welder because my old AC welder is 40 years old and I paid just over \$100 for it, new at that time. These questions can go on and on but our best protection and preparation is to have a current and complete inventory. Some shop owners might prefer to store inventories by use on a computer, if so a back up copy on a flash drive would be a good procedure. An advantage to hard copy photos in a three ring binder is that notes can be made on the photograph with a sharpie, ie: date purchased or rebuilt, cost, etc.

BAM membership is composed of resourceful and thought provoking people. Perhaps future articles will discuss inventory systems which would be beneficial to all.

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

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

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

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I've taken some time to collect and post old info, catalogs and
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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 there is a sign up link on the bamsite.org or send an E-Mail to Bernie Tappel at bamweb@embarqmail.com and he will get you signed up.

Check out back issues of BAM newsletter on www.bamsite.org. It now has a search feature to help you find old articles.

Ad Policy: Blacksmith related ads are free to BAM members. Personal ads will run for two issues. Resource ads are ongoing at my discretion. Send to bameditor@centurytel.net, or call 573-633-2010

Bernie's insurance info:

Christopher A. Alexander
Senior Direct Sales Agent, Specialty Markets
RLI Insurance Company
Phone: 309 692 1000 ext: 5481
Toll Free: 866 741 6560
Fax: 309 689 2223
chris.alexander@rlicorp.com

www.rlicorp.com

Pat's Insurance info:

I carry a \$1,000,000.00 policy for liability, it also covers \$5,000.00 for business tools, and building loss. It cost about \$250.00 per year, from Sheila Cage, Carpenter-Cage & Assoc., Inc. in Blue Springs, Mo. 816-228-5806,

Tire Hammer Workshop

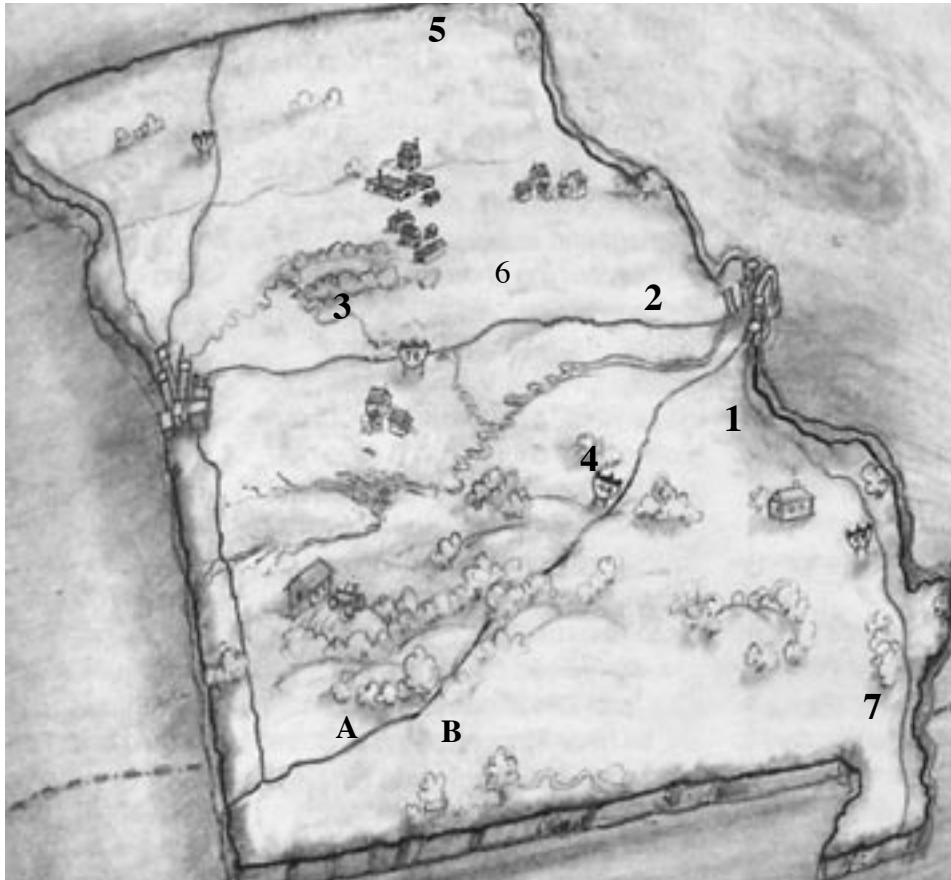
The Oklahoma group (SCABA) is planning a tire hammer build workshop, to be led by Clay Spencer.

They have invited any BAM members that are interested in building a hammer to join in their workshop. If you want to participate, contact Jim Stubbs at blacksmithingone@gmail.com Please put "power hammer workshop" in the subject line. Or you can contact Diana Davis at 580-549-6824 and she will forward the information. There is a fee for this project. It will be determined by the number of participants and the cost of metal and expendables.

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 Carter Rd.,
Moscow Mill, MO. 63362

3. Doug Clemons, (660) 595-2257
29377 Durango Avenue
Malta Bend, MO. 65339

4. Jerry Rehagen, (573) 744-5454
390 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, 573-473-7082
25849 Audrain Co. Road 820,
Mexico, MO 65265

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

Price \$14.00 per bag BAM members, \$19.00 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. Good blacksmithing coal for sale \$13 a 50# bag with bulk delivery available. .
Matthias Penn Rt. 1 box 479-S Ava, MO. 417-683-9000 E-mail: tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events:

March 15th 2014 - BAM meeting Chris Miller, Doniphan, MO 573-996-4931 Trade Item: Door Handle

March 22nd Newsletter submission deadline

April 1 - Application deadline for May Scholarship awards

May 1-4 - **BAM Ozark Conference**, Sedalia, MO contact Mike McLaughlin cowpie42@hotmail.com

May/June 2014 BAM meeting Ned Digh, Ham's Prairie 573-642-9502

June 7th MTS Beginner's class part 1 Sunset Hills, Don Birdsall 573-364-7223

June 14th MTS Beginner's class part 2 Sunset Hills, Don Birdsall 573-364-7223

July 2014 - BAM meeting Denis Yates, 573-480-7737

August 7-17 - Missouri State Fair Sedalia, MO contact Kent Harbit (660)-647-2349 to volunteer

August Hamilton Steam show,

September 13th 2014 - BAM meeting Bob Ehrenberger, Shelbyville, MO 573-633-2010 Trade Item: flint striker

October 1 - Application deadline for November Scholarship awards.

November 2014 - BAM meeting Don Nichols

January 1 - Application deadline for February Scholarship awards.

January 2015, - BAM Meeting A & K Coopersage, Higbee, MO 660-456-7561 Food will be available

MTS Workshops (Mobil Training Station)

Number 1 beginner workshop Saturday June 7th 2014.

Number 2-beginner workshop Saturday June 14th 2014.

Location: Lou Mueller, 12951 Maurer Industrial Court, Sunset Hills, MO. 63127

Start time 8:00 am. Sharp. Students should be there and ready to go at 8:00 am. Both days.

Students must wear safety glasses while instruction and workshops are being run.

Students need to bring a lunch both days. Water will be available.

Students should wear cotton or wool clothing, no synthetic type of clothes. Gloves and aprons are not provided.

Must be a BAM Member (Insurance requirement) \$25.00 dollars for a one year membership.

Cost of each workshop is: \$30.00 dollars per student per day.

Instructor: Don Birdsall 573-364-7223

If not a member sends membership dues (\$25.00 dollars) to: Bruce Herzog, 212 Aileswick Drive, St. Louis, MO.

Send payment for workshops to: Don Birdsall, 11570 CR 5480, Rolla, MO. 65401

Any questions call: Don Birdsall, 573-364-7223

New Members

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

Baker, Tyler
2020 NW 50th Street
Northmoor, MO 64151
world2bchanged@
yahoo.com
816-616-7797

Collins, Ben
2908 NW Milford Place
Blue Springs, MO 64015
rovingcollins@yahoo.com
816-304-3057

Baldwin, Ward
8239 Spring Valley
Raytown, MO 64138
grow1wolf7@yahoo.com
816-313-1669

Craig, James
1172 State Hwy 32
Long Lane, MO 65590
irishmoman@msn.com
417-733-6197

Bullock, Shane
6499 County Road 305
Fulton, MO 65251
goingheeled@yahoo.com
573-592-7937

Elmore, Robert
982 SE 51 Private Road
Deepwater, MO 64740
bobfishelmore@
gmail.com
816-630-5167

Chapman, Steve
17402 Kentucky Road
Neosho, MO 64850
417-438-5507

Kirk, Bill
2123 Palatine Court
Fenton, MO 63026
bk41559@gmail.com
314-398-3630

Kurth, John
17260 Carver Drive
New London, MO 63459
kurth@rallstech.com
660-998-0657

Lancaster, Michiah
14231 Highway D
Versailles, MO 65084
michiah1996@gmail.com
573-375-0005

Lodholz, Karl
5762 De Giverville Ave
St. Louis, MO 63112
amlodhole@sluh.org
314-323-2243

Neill, Brent
625 Poplar Drive
Windsor, MO 65360
neillwilliam-mo@
hotmail.com
660-221-5451

Ogrady, Steve
502 South East Street
Bloomfield, IA 52537
641-664-3683

Ray, Bobby
65 Martin Road
Steelville, MO 65565
bobbyray@msn.com
573-775-3769

Smock, Kyle
105 Jefferson Place
Festus, MO 63028
bassfshr@aol.com
314-650-5603

Sturgeon, Aaron
401 Witzke Road
Cuba, MO 65453
573-259-7268

Tattitch, Justin
6050 Brown Station Road
Columbia, MO 56201
whiskeyBlacksmith@
gmail.com
314-606-1422

Tull, Bill
P.O. Box 507
Macon, MO 63552
modfsinv@gmail.com
660-415-6914

Viessman, John
1114 Highway 63 North
Vienna, MO 65582
viessman@hotmail.com
573-422-3505

Weis, Eric
5216 Weber Road
Affton, MO 63123
eric.m.weis@gmail.com
314-479-1969

Wulfmeyer, Bart
1806 Colina Tierra Lane
Fenton, MO 63026
bartwulfmeyer@
sbcglobal.net
636-349-1885

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@charter.net

Next Meeting: March 15th, Doniphan, MO



Location:

Tom Kennon Blacksmith Shop,
Pioneer Heritage Homestead,
Doniphan, MO

Host: Chris Miller

Phone: 573-996-4931

Food: Yes

Trade item: Decorative Door
Handle