

RAM



2015 Conference

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Weather was perfect for the 2015 conference



Something for everyone at the conference auction!



Bob Ehrenberger Strikes for Drew Johnson
During the Demo at Ned's

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From the Editor

by Jon McCarty

Well We had another great conference this year. As most time, I had planned on watching the knife maker demos most of the conference. Elsa did a great job, and Don Asbee did a really good demo from what I saw of it. I did however keep finding myself drawn back to Nathans Demo. Nathan presented one of the best demonstrations I have watched. The amount of information he passed along was amazing. I enjoyed that he not only showed us the tools he used and how to use them but also how to make those tools.

Last issue I added "Shop Tips" with a quick article by Bernie Tappel. He sent me the article as some filler "if I needed it." I really like this idea and would like to continue adding it every month. I ask that everyone please take the time to send me anything you have come up with to make life easier in your shop. I believe this will be a great help to everyone, beginner to master smith. There is always something we can learn to make our lives easier or our work more efficient.

This was the first time I had attended a meeting at Ned's. His place is very interesting with something neat to see at every turn. Many members were already on site and the demonstration was going strong when I arrived. As always I enjoyed the many conversations I got to have with various members at the meetings. I believe this is the most important resource we have. Our many varied members from all over our state coming together and sharing our ideas, or problems , our opinions , and our solutions.

It was brought up again to have a Freon forge workshop. I would be interested in participating, and would even organize the workshop. I don't however have a location with enough room for us to work from. If someone wants to volunteer a site to hold the workshop I will try to organize the rest. Feel free to contact me at bameditor2015@gmail.com or call my cell phone at 636-359-1246.



From the President

By Phil Cox

A lot has happened since my last letter. I will kind of start backwards. As always Ned and Esther provided a wonderful meeting.

Ned warned of mud and rain but neither was a problem in fact it was very nice weather. I liked the new demo site, plenty of seating good view and you could hear without the sound system. The Dr. gave us a nice demo always nice to see a new guy demo. Hope to see him again. Esther and her crew did a great job with the meal as always. I was very pleased with the trade items you are all stepping up and keeping the quality high which keeps us all giving our best efforts. You all are very generous with you donations to iron in the hat. I don't know how much we raised but it is helpful whatever it was. We had a healthy discussion on the scholarship program. Our biggest problem is getting members to apply. We have the money, there are schools and training out there. Let's start using this great opportunity.

Speaking of money. We had a very good BAM 2015 Conference in every way I can think of. Bruce's treasures report on the Conference showed a large increase in the ending balance. Mike and his helpers went above and beyond with the demonstrators. It will be hard to top that list next year, but they are already working on it. The weather was some of the best I can remember for a BAM Conference, no snow, no rain, temps. were perfect. Karen set a new personal best for ticket sales, over 2000 sold. As always Karen does so much that few of us know about. She seeks no personal glory, but I would like to encourage each of us to thank her for her work. Thank you Karen.

Patti Tappel is so dedicated to the boutique and puts in hours planning and preparing for it. Making craft items. Getting mugs and cups, begging for cookies, making sure you can get your daily dose of caffeine, setting it up taking it down. She gives up almost her whole time at the Conference to see that we have a chance to get what we want and need. Thanks Patti and all the ladies that help you.

Steve, I don't know where you came up with your list of demonstrators. I have had many compliments on the line up. As I walked around the place I thought we don't have many people here. Then I looked at all the demo sites and realized everyone was watching the demos. You set 50 to 70 people for 3 hours or more at a demonstrator you know someone has done a great job. Thanks Steve and crew.

Don Forlow raised the bar pretty high with his very unselfish donation of a whole blacksmith starter shop. He also raised a bunch of money for BAM. It may be hard to come close to the "big prize" next year. Don is the perfect example of someone who knows how to give back. I remember the smile on his face a few years ago when he won a new Ozark pattern anvil. Thanks Don!

Mike Gentzsch, nice job again on the tool boxes they get better every year. All of you that gave tools to fill them reach back and give yourself a pat on the back. You made Mike's boxes even better. Thanks Mike and members.

Kent and Deanna Harbit had the sign in smooth as silk. An easy sign in paves the way for a good experience. We don't see all the work you do but we enjoy how easy it is to register. Thanks to a solid pair of team players.

Walt, John, Eileen and your helpers, You present our members work in such a pleasing manner. Always very well thought out and professional. You make us look good. Again dedicated folks giving their time and talents for others. Thanks to the best Gallery crew ever.

Don Birdsall, there are never any empty spot at the teaching station. Many blacksmiths get a start down the right path because of you dedication. A big thank you to you and your crew.

To all of our loyal vendors thank you for putting yourselves at risk coming to our conference. We hope it is as good for you to be at BAM as it is for us to have you here. We had some first timers this year hope to have you back, Thank you vendors.

Our Potlucks have grown into a must attend event. Ken and I can't tell you how much we enjoy seeing a simple idea turn into such an enjoyable part of our Conference. It is not Ken and my deal any longer. You have made it yours and I know I can speak for Ken and myself When we say thanks for bring some comradery back to our family. Thanks to all who donated food. thanks to our Grill Master Bernie Tappel. Steve "the turkey cooker" McCarthy. We started with around 17, 4 years ago We had over 70 the first night and 50 on Friday. Good job BAM members.

Tony Brooks, Thank you for helping our auction be so fun and fruitful. Tony could have cried his voice away and his eyes out but without you bidders and members who gave some choice items all would have been for naught. Over \$7,500 Thanks Tony and some empty pockets.

Mary Jo your classes are a very important part of our Conference. A lot of guys get to come to BAM because you provide an enjoyable and educational place for the better halves to spend some quality time. Thank you Mary Jo.

My biggest fear when I write this letter is forgetting someone. I am sure I have left somebody out. Not because your work was not noticed but many of you do work behind the scenes so well that I am never sure who did this or that. So thanks to you who know who you are.

Next year is our 25th conference. It will be a TALL order to make it better than 2015. Never fear Karen, Mike, and Steve and their helpers are already laying awake nights thinking about BAM 25.

Phil



2015 BAM CONFERENCE BANQUET/AUCTION NOTES

By Bob Stormer

President Phil Cox started by thanking the most important people who make the conference a success: the attendees. He went on to thank the demonstrators and Steve McCarthy for getting the demonstrators, and Karen Bouckaert for being an integral part of the conference again. He then turned the microphone over to Kent Harbit, recipient of last year's Founder Award who presented Patti and Bernie Tappel with this year's Founders Award. Phil then presented Eileen and John Sherwood with the Life Member Award.

Phil read a note from ABANA, thanking BAM and especially Ken Jansen for towing the MTS trailer to ABANA and regretting the damage to his truck on the return trip. To show their thanks, ABANA provided Ken with a new truck. Pat McCarthy also welcomed Ken as the new "permanent" member of the ABANA conference setup crew. Phil then recognized Bob Ehrenberger for his service as the past editor of the BAM Newsletter, and presented him with a rocking chair to make his retirement more comfortable.

Karen Bouchaert thanked all the vendors for participating, specifically, Judy Berger of Blue Moon Press, Al of Astragal Press, ABANA as a Site Sponsor, Iron Works Tee Shirts, and John & Mickey Elliot of Blacksmith Supply. She presented Al from Astragal Press with the vendor award. Karen recognized Mike McLaughlin for his ongoing effort to coordinate the BAM Conference and mentioned that next year's conference will be BAM's 25th. She also reminded everyone that the next meeting will be at Esther & Ned Dighs on June 13th where Drew Johnson will be the demonstrator.

Phil introduced Steve Roth, visiting from SOFA (Southern Ohio Forge & Anvil), as the forging contest judge. The contest was to use 1/2" square stock and make a SQUARE corner at 3" from one end. A forge, hammer, anvil, and quench bucket were the only tools that could be used. He listed the judging criteria as: the corner must be square and flat in both directions, the crispness of the corner, and lastly the length of the bent leg, which should have been 3 1/4" on the outside. The winners were: Matthew Burnett 1st, Bill Moffet 2nd, and Don Nichols 3rd.

One of the tools boxes was raffled off before the auction started, and was won by Charlie Groom. The Sunday raffle winners were: Tool Box #2 – George Lewis, Tool Box #3 – Bob Erhenberger, Blacksmith's Kit (Anvil, Forge, Post Vise, and Tong Rack) – Heather Johnson, 1 year use of the BAM treadle hammer – William Bagley.



Conference Notes

Hi All.

It was a great conference. The weather was the best. The demonstrators were fantastic. If you didn't come you missed a good one. I would like to thank all of the demonstrators. Nathan Robertson, Don Asbee, Elsa Fantino and Fred Perrin. Your demos were awesome and you have given the membership a lot of good information and skills to digest. Thanks to Steve McCarthy for choosing and locking in the demonstrators. A special thanks to Hank Knickmeyer and Ken Jansen for getting Elsa and Fred from France to here and back. Thanks to Phil Cox for bringing the Bradley to life and supplying the #25 Little Giant for Don.

The conference wouldn't go at all without Karen Bouckaert taking care of vendors, Iron in the Hat, the raffle, t-shirts, a bunch of other things and giving me good advice. Registration went really smooth with Kent and Deanna Harbit. Thank You! Thanks to Patti, Nancy, and I forget but I will remember your names some day, for keeping the Boutique running. Walt, Scott, John and Eileen. The gallery was perfect as usual. Don Birdsall and Mike Camden had a full class on Friday. Ian Willie had a bunch on Saturday. Thanks for passing on your knowledge to the new members.

Thanks to everyone that helped setup and tear down. It went very well. I think we have almost got it figured out. Like I have said before there is probably a bunch of people I haven't thanked yet or forgot to mention. Just know that we couldn't have the conference without your help.

Thank you all!!!
Mike McLaughlin

It was certainly a surprise that Eileen and I were selected for the BAM lifetime membership recognition. So we would like to thank Phil and the Board for selecting us. I have been a member since about 1986 and have enjoyed being part of the activities of BAM in the past and I'm sure I'll continue participating in the future.

The first meeting I attended was at Doug (Dr. Iron) and Bonnie's shop in Lesterville with a demonstration project of rings. I introduced Eileen to BAM at a BAM Conference in 1993 at Potosi where there was a Tom Clark 20 foot Bonfire and a Tim Ryan anvil shoot. There might also have been a tent and a tornado involved that year.

We really enjoy meeting so many talented smiths and their families through the meetings and Conferences BAM sponsors. It's a great organization and one we are proud to represent!

Thank you for this honor.
John and Eileen Sherwood

Don Asbee Conference Demonstration

by Bernie Tappel

It had been a long time since I had seen Don make one of his signature skillets, so it was great to see him demo this at the conference again.

Don started his demonstration with an explanation of his method of using a cutting torch. He rests his right hand that is gripping the torch, on the thumb of his open left hand. By rotating both hands as necessary, he is able to do some amazing freehand cutting. He demonstrated both straight line and pattern cutting using this method with no guides of any kind.

Don cut the pieces for the skillet and lid out of 1/8" mild steel sheet. The piece for the skillet was fastened to a jig, similar to a giant C clamp with an upside down skillet form at the bottom. With an assistant wielding two torches for heat and Don wielding two rounding hammers, the edges of the skillet blank were hammered down around the form. The first step was to lock the blank in position on the form by heating and hammering three spots equidistant around the form. Then the space between each of these spots was hammered down to match the form. He started at the top edge of the form (the bottom of the skillet) to define the edge and then worked down to the bottom of the form. The piece resembles a bottle cap as the edge is started. Then the wrinkles of the "bottle cap" are worked out to finish the skillet. Don emphasized that is important not to let the wrinkles form a fold as they are worked out. If they do start to fold, they are heated and pried out with a screw driver and redone.

The lid for the skillet was domed on an interesting jig. This jig was about 1/2 inch thick by about 4 inches wide and about 24 inches long, bent in an arc with a hardy stem welded on in the center. The jig resembled a long, narrow anvil swage. The arc in the jig matched the desired dome of the skillet. Don heated the lid blank and hammered it into the jig, rotating the blank as he hammered it down into the form. After the dome was formed, Don used a special set of dies in the 25 lb. Little Giant hammer to form a drip groove in the lid that would position it just inside the sides of the skillet. He did this freehand under the power hammer, rotating the lid as the groove was formed.

When the lid was finished, he forged a handle for the skillet and one for the lid. The end of the skillet handle was split and spread to conform to the sides of the skillet and then riveted on. The handle for the lid was a forged loop that was also riveted on.





The last step was to forge the pour spouts on each side of the skillet. Again, a special jig was used to form this spout. The skillet and lid were lightly sanded to clean the scale from forging, and the skillet was ready for the auction.

Don makes use of custom jigs for a lot of his work. He also has developed a lot of custom dies for his power hammers that make quick work of various parts of his projects. The dies that he used for the drip groove on the skillet lid were a good example of this. These dies are of welded construction with a single projection on the top die and a V shaped depression on the bottom die. The projection on the top die matched the depression in the bottom die. The groove on the lid was done cold with about ½ inch of the groove formed with each hammer strike. The dies made quick work of finishing the lid.

Don's demo was one to make you think about ways to improve the production process in your shop by making your own custom tooling. I was particularly impressed with the form for the lid as I have struggled with trying to do something similar by using a small depression in a swage block or on the end of a block of wood. This form was so simple but so effective. All in all, a great demo by a great demonstrator.



Elsa Fantino Conference Demonstration

by Bob Stormer

I missed Elsa's first day of demonstration, but I think from what she said it was essentially the same information she provided on Saturday. She prefers to use round stock as opposed to flat stock, but one of her demonstrations was using a bar of flat stock, about 3/16x1-1/2". The round stock she was using was from a coil spring when I was watching. See Figure 1e. The bar stock looked to be new steel. Elsa also uses a larger hammer than most bladesmiths I watched over the years, and uses the cross peen and anvil horn more than most for pushing the steel in both directions. Her hammer also had some interesting engraving on it. See Figure 2e.

A lot of her knives use the integral concept, i.e., the handle is a continuation of the ricasso and blade. See Figures 3e, 4e and 5e for examples. Some of the knives on her table use the more conventional slab handles on a full tang. Elsa stressed that she works all aspects of the knife before finishing any of them. That is, she roughs out the blade first, hammers out the ricasso, goes on to work the handle to shape, and then returns to finish forging the blade and ricasso.

For heat treating, Elsa used the edge hardening method while I was watching. Fred, her assistant, was heating the edge of the knives with an oxy-acetylene torch, checking it with a magnet to determine what color it was when it reached the non-magnetic quench temperature, and then dipping the entire blade in a metal ammo box of vegetable oil that had been pre-heated. I didn't hear what temperature the oil was. The temper was achieved by pulling the knife out the oil before all the heat was gone. Since the blade was thinner, it cooled off quicker in the oil giving it a proper hardness, and the residual heat from the more massive ricasso and handle allowed heat to flow to the edge of the blade, giving the edge the proper temper. Prior to hardening the blade, Fred sanded it to a shiny finish so he could see the colors during the tempering process. To show the temper line on the blade, Fred was dipping the blade in apple vinegar that was heated to just below the boiling point. I think the blade was submerged in the heated vinegar about 10 minutes, but it could take longer. The acidic nature of the vinegar etches the softer steel more than the harder edge steel and you can see a line that separates the hard steel from the not so hard.



Figure 1e



Figure 2e

Elsa used copper and bronze to finish the handle on one of her demo knives, but I didn't get a picture of that one. Figure 6e shows a finished knife with the same treatment. Another handle treatment she uses is shown in Figure 7e. In this picture, Fred is wrapping the handle with paracord.

Elsa's demonstration was very energetic and informative. I believe she had six knives in the BAM auction Saturday evening. She did say she uses a power hammer at home for the heavier work to make it go quicker. The story on her hammer engraving is that she used to lose hammers when attending hammer-ins where there were a lot of smiths working together and someone would mistakenly take her hammer with them. So, she used acid etching to engrave her hammer and now everyone in France knows it's Elsa's hammer and they don't touch it. I urge you to Google her name on the internet and take a look at all different knife treatments she has – very creative.



Figure 3e



Figure 4e



Figure 5e



Figure 7e

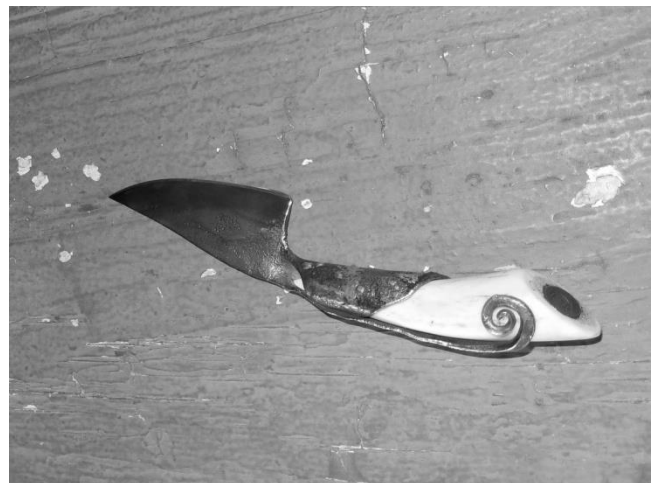


Figure 6e

Nathan Robertson Conference Demonstration

by Bob Ehrenberger

Nathan Robertson really put on a good demo for the BAM conference. His stated goal was to show us several different ways to put an eye hole in a piece of steel, so that is what I will concentrate on.

He started out making a hammer head by hand, not even using a striker. He also showed how to forge the punch and drift that he was using on this hammer. Nathan likes to pre-drill his hammer heads, this makes the hole easier to punch and almost guarantees that you get it located in the right place on the blank. He drilled two - 1/4" holes 3/4" apart, on center. If the hammer is going to have a peen, you need to shift the center 1/8" towards the peen to maintain balance once the peen is drawn out. This leaves a 1/4" x 1/2" web that needs to be punched out. The punch he uses is 1/4" x 7/8" at the end. With this method he drives the punch a little over 1/2 way from the first side before turning it over and clearing the slug from the opposite side. He also uses a salt based lubricant that is not available to the general public (thanks a lot).

Nathan talked a little about the drift he uses. It has a 7 deg taper the fat way and a 5 deg taper the thin way. I have the jig he uses pictured in an earlier BAM newsletter.

To keep the eye from getting too big, dress the sides of the hammer with the drift in before you get to full depth. He stops short and doesn't take it to full depth until after he finishes the face and peen.

When upsetting the face on a hammer, he bevels all four sides first. Then he divides the flat section in the middle into four imaginary sections and tries to hit the center of each quadrant. This makes for more efficient moving of metal because you only have to move a fourth of the metal with each hit.

Nathan pre-shapes the peen using a jig that holds the blank at an 45 deg angle and lets him put a deep bevel on it. This helps prevent "fish lips" when he draws out the peen. The peen is then formed in a curved swage block. Even though Nathan sells grinders he does everything he can to avoid using them by forging as close as possible to the finished shape. The second method he showed us was called the Wagner method after the writer of an old book on blacksmithing. For this method you drill a single 5/16" hole in your hammer blank. The hole is then enlarged using three tapered cone punches. The first with an taper that was about 45 deg, the last with a taper about 10 deg. Each punch is driven in from both sides of the blank. The result is a round hole with an extreme hour glass shape and a blank with bulging sides. When the sides are flattened back to the original size, you are left with an oval shaped hole ready to be drifted.

Method three is like method one, where you pre-drill with 2 holes. Instead of using a hand held punch and drift he has a set of tools mounted on flat bars that he can use under the power hammer. Like method one he goes most of the way through from the first side and then flips it over and punches through from the back side. The big difference is that when he is ready to go through he puts a bolster under the blank to give the slug and the tip of the punch some place to go. He does the same thing with the drift, being careful to not go too far while he works the sides of the blank. If you don't use a bolster and you bottom out the punch or drift on the bottom die there is a good chance that you will upset the

end of the tool and it will become a permanent part of the hammer blank.

For method four he uses a punch similar to what John Murray uses. He does not pre-drill but just carefully lines up the punch with marks on both sides of the blank. When you don't pre-drill you need to go pretty far on the first side before clearing the slug from the second side. And you need to use a bolster when going all the way through.

When making a hatchet under the power hammer, Nathan drills several holes for the handle eye. His punch which is longer but still 1/4" wide then just has to remove the web left between the holes. After starting the drift he pulls the cheeks down over the thick side of the drift. Once the cheeks are started you have to do your drifting on a curved bolster to preserve them. This is the same as when making a Hoffie style hammer, which Nathan demonstrated but I didn't get any notes on.

In general once he has the eye punched and drifted, Nathan tries to preserve it with controlled cooling when forging the ends of the hammer or tool. By cooling the eye and the end he isn't working on, he is much less likely to undo the work that he has already put in to the piece.

Besides making eye holes, Nathan also showed us how to make most of the tooling that he used. This included the dishing swage for making rounding hammers, and the tool to make the swage. He showed how to make "V" blocks, curved swage blocks, and the tapered version of each. He showed how to make tool handles and spring tool handles. He showed how to make a flatter/fuller. He made a handled butcher with the working edge on the center of the tool to make it more efficient.

When making hammers Nathan starts with round bars of 1045, which he then has to square up before starting the hammer making process. It would be easier to start with square bars but they are hard to get and cost more when you do find them. When squaring up a round bar, if they get out of square, he requires them using a "V" block and a "V" top tool. If you try to adjust them by just hitting them on one corner, you now have a bevel to forge out and your blank may end up too small.



Other useful tips:

If a bar is more than 3 times as tall as it is wide you can't work it on edge and keep it from cupping. A bar can only be worked this way with extreme caution and frequent straightening.

Use a white charcoal to mark hot steel and you can still see the mark.

You will lose about 1% of your steel every time you heat it. So add 3oz to a hammer under 1.5 lbs, add 4oz to a hammer from 1.5 to 2.5 lbs, add 6oz to a hammer that is over 3 lbs.

If you are forging from square to round, use a "V" block for the final step from octagon to round and it will prevent internal damage (piping) to the bar.

When forging a taper on a bar under the power hammer, use a tapered block and a flatter for the final clean up.

You can use 2-half round bars and a flatter to straighten something under the power hammer.

A power hammer butcher or hack needs to have an 85deg angle on top to concentrate the power over the working edge.

You can use "kiss blocks" under the power hammer to prevent accidentally forging something too far.

For additional information Nathan suggested the Bituminous Bits "Big Book of Power Hammers" and "A Blacksmiths Manual Illustrated" by Lillico. The second book can be downloaded if you can't find a hard copy.



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Mark Stanley
230 Blvd Road
Keokuk, IA 52632
mstanley@arc-mech.com

Caley Steker
1570 S.W. 600 Road
Holden, MO 64040

Eric Vanfleet
2607 Trails Drive
Ballwin, MO 63011
evanfleet1@gmail.com

Timothy Voyda
6896 Dove Lane
Waterloo, IL 62298
mattvoyda@gmail.com

Richard Warren
11160 Shach Creek Road
Excelsior, MO 64024
rubred1611@hotmail.com

Donald Whitney
4373 South 218th Road
Halfway, MO 65663
dwelder1121@yahoo.com

Take a moment to welcome our newest members.

Welcome New Members

BAM Meeting Minutes June 13th 2015

Submitted by Bob Stormer

Phil Cox started the meeting by thanking Ned and Esther Digh for hosting another very well attended meeting. Bruce gave the treasurer's report and mentioned that we have 599 members and had 191 registered at the conference. The conference financials were the best since 2008 when we had the joint conference with ABANA.

Mike McLaughlin thanked everyone who helped with the conference. State Fair College also helps a lot with our use of the fairgrounds. The idea of encouraging more of the public to come visit came up, but the liability issues prevent us from opening the conference to the public. A short discussion about opening the conference auction to the public was addressed, but no specific conclusions were reached about how to make it happen. The Thursday evening potluck dinner was a big success with over 70 people attending. There were over 50 people at the Friday evening potluck dinner. Mike Gentsch mentioned that Audra Draper may be available as the knifemaker demonstrator next year. She was the first female Mastersmith in the American Bladesmith Society. Next year's conference will be the 25th, so everybody should step it up a notch in participation. The dates are still being discussed because May 1st is on a Sunday. Mike also asked for a volunteer to lead the forging contest next year.

Chris Miller talked about the nominating committee not being able to come up with any new candidates for BAM officers, and suggested the current officers be re-elected. A motion was made to that effect, seconded and then voted on to confirm the existing officers will retain their current positions.

Phil announced the date for his meeting will be November 7th.

Esther needs scholarship/grant applicants for the rest of this year. She has \$2500 to cover the rest of the year and cannot carry any of the unused funds over to the following year. There was a discussion of the amounts that typically are approved isn't enough to cover the expenses at John C. Campbell classes. Esther, and a few others, stated the intent of the scholarships are to "help" with expenses, not necessarily to cover the entire cost. More applicants can be helped by approving the smaller amounts. The grants can be used to help offset the costs of holding a workshop or seminar at the applicants shop. Details regarding the scholarship/grant program were published in the March/April 2015 issue of the BAM newsletter. Esther volunteered to help individuals fill out the application if they are unsure about how to answer the questions.

Jon McCarty mentioned there has been some suggestions to go back to the heavier covers for the newsletter. The cost to do that would add about \$1800/year. After some discussion a motion was made, seconded and voted on to stay with the current covers.

Karen Bouckaert has a canvas bag containing three books that were left at the conference. If you think it is yours call Karen at 636-673-1996 to make arrangements to get it back. You must be able to identify the books.

The question of a Gensheimer Burner/Freon Tank gas forge workshop came up again and Phil said the cost per forge would be about \$300. He also stated that Steve Gensheimer is currently out of burners. To-date nobody has volunteered to conduct the workshop either.

Bernie Tappel has scheduled a regional hammer-in at his shop for Thursday, July 30th. He doesn't have parking space for a full fledged meeting, but can host those most likely to make the Thursday date. Directions will be available on the BAM web page soon. Bring your project or whatever you want to work on.

Phil said he continues to get calls from parents asking how their sons and daughters can get started in blacksmithing. The usual response is to attend some of the BAM meetings to see if their interest is going to last before buying equipment. Phil also said if any BAM members have any excess equipment they are willing to part with, he will keep a list so he can advise parents who they might talk to about buying equipment.

Kent Harbit has started the volunteer work list for BAM's tent at the Missouri State Fair this year. The dates are August 13th through the 23rd. You can be there for one or more of the days. You'll get free admission to the fair, and you don't have to be a top notch blacksmith; just be willing to talk with the public about BAM, and do some forging or just display some of your work if you want. Call Kent at 660-647-2349.

Phil said the Hamilton Steam Engine show is August 15th and he might be encouraged to make some ice cream again.

The meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming Events

July 18, 2015 - BAM meeting Matthew Burnett, Cameron MO ph: 816-575-2798 Trade item: Anything made from one or more rail road spikes.

July 30 2015 - Old Retired Guy (and anyone wanting to take a day off work) hammer in at Bernie Tapples

August 2015 - Missouri State Fair, Sedalia, MO contact Kent Harbit (660)-647-2349 to volunteer

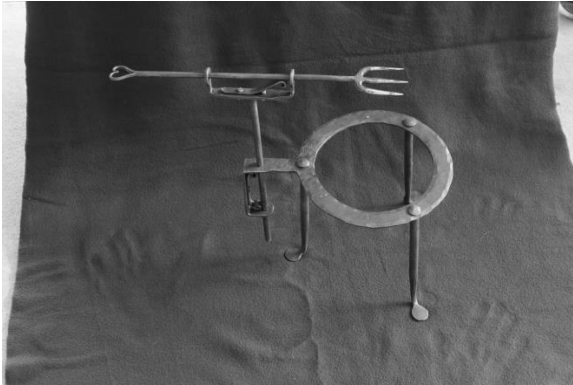
August 2015 - Hamilton Steam show,

September 12th, 2015 - BAM meeting Rolla, MO Don Birdsall The trade item: Blacksmith art (everyday items laying around our shops, unfinished items, mistakes, etc turned into an art object

November 7th 2015 - BAM meeting, Phil Cox, Hamilton, MO 816-583-4337

January 2016, - BAM Meeting, A & K Cooperage, Higbee, MO 660-456-7227

Trade Items



Made By: Bernie Tappel
Traded To: Ken Jansen



Made By: Mike Gentzsch
Traded To: T. Mark Sampsel

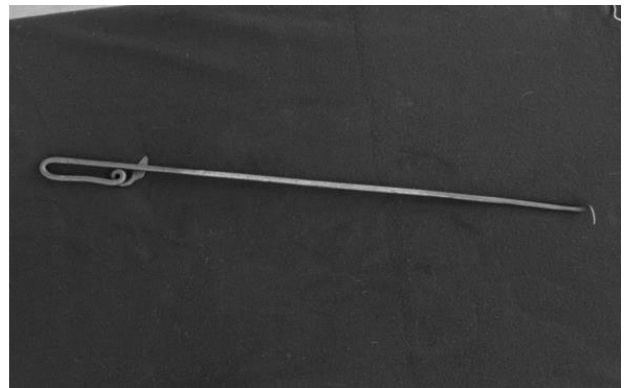
Not pictured		
Made By:	Traded To:	
Chris Miller	Steve McCarthy	Camp Fire Fork
Ken Jansen	Drew Johnson	Crane



Made By: Bob Stormer
Traded To: Randy Carrier



Made By: Alex Tappel
Traded To: Tom Patterson



Made By: Nick Berardi
Traded To: Bob Ehrenberger



Made By:
Jon McCarty

Traded To:
Pat McCarty



Made By:
Tom Patterson

Traded To:
Nick Berardi



Made By:
Josh Rhoads

Traded To:
Jon McCarty



Made By:
Don Nichols

Traded To:
Mike Gentsch



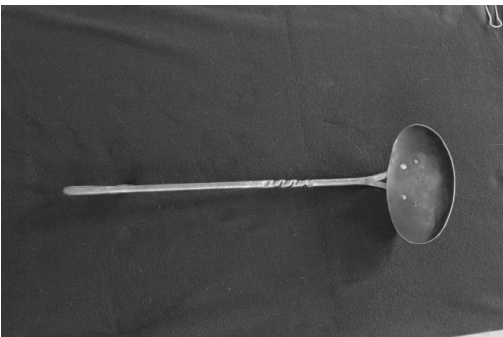
Made By:
Pat McCarty

Traded To:
Bernie Tappel



Made By:
Randy Carrier

Traded To:
Bob Stormer



Made By:
Terry Smith

Traded To:
Don Nichols



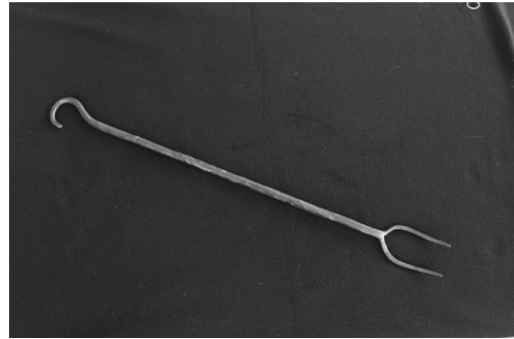
Made By:
Phil Cox

Traded To:
Terry Smith





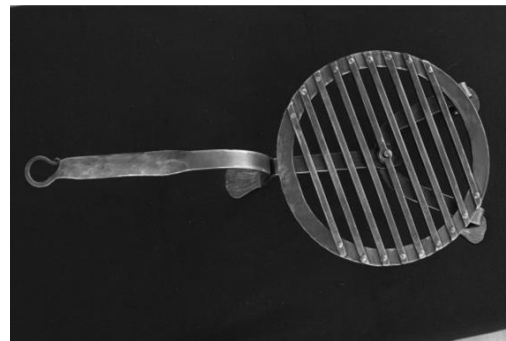
Made By: Drew Johnson
Traded To: Chris Miller



Made By: T. Mark Sampsel
Traded To: Alex Tappel



Made By: Bob Ehrenberger
Traded To: Phil Cox



Made By: Steve McCarthy
Traded To: Josh Rhoads

Iron-In-The-Hat June 2015 Mtg.

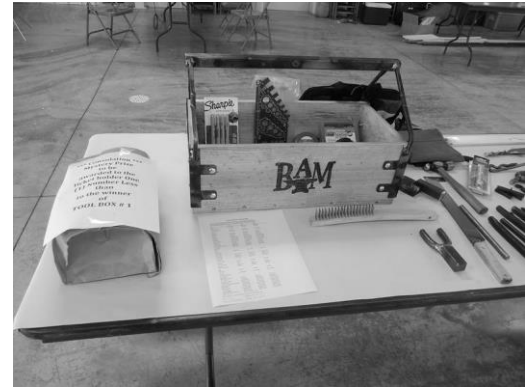
Donated By:
Chris Miller
Pat McCarty
Bob Stormer
Bob Stormer
Ned Digh
Don Nichols
Mike Gentsch
John Huff
Dale Cannon
Tom Patterson
Michael Gorzel
Mike Gentsch
Tom Patterson
Tom Washeck
Drew Johnson
Chris Owen
Tom Patterson
Michael Gorzel
Tom Washeck
Drew Johnson
Drew Johnson
Tom Washeck
Tom Washeck

Won By:
Steve McCarthy
Joe Hurley
Don Nichols
John Coats
Don Nichols
Fred Warner
Bernie
Rickie Gorzel
John Huff
Noah Elletson
T. Mark Sampsel
T. Mark Sampsel
Ned Digh
Bob Leazer
John Dilsaver
Bob Stormer
Don Anders
Don Nichols
T. Mark Sampsel
Noah Elletson
Noah Elletson
John Dilsaver
Fred Warner

Item:
High Alloy Steel
Necklace Spiral
Freon Cylinder
Freon Cylinder
4 1/2" Angle Grinder
Misc Discs & Pin
Rivets
Bucket of Horse Shoes
Wire Construct Horse Head
11b Wild Flower Honey
Freon Tank
Star Drill
Box 3/8" Concrete Anchor Bolts
Hand Crank Blower
Pineapple Twist Demo Item
Nickel Silver Guard Mat'l
Paper Crown
Freon Tank
Post Drill
Bottle Opener Horse Head Demo Item
Bottle Opener RR Spike Demo Item
Old Grinding Wheel
Old Stone Pedal Grinder

Conference Tool Box Donors

Item:	Donated By:
Tool Boxes	Mike Gentsch
Small Cross Peen Hammer	Jim Bequette
Ball Peen Hammer	Mike Gentsch
Hot Chisel	Steve McCarthy
Hot Punch Handle Sq Hole	Don Birdsall
Eye Punch	Bob Stormer
Center Punch	Steve McCarthy
Steel Ruler	Tim & Dawn Shields
Tape Measure	Tim & Dawn Shields
Straight Edge	Tim & Dawn Shields
Soapstone & Holder	Tim & Dawn Shields
Tape Measure	Tom Patterson
Twisting Wrench	Terry Smith
Twisting Wrench	Mike Gentsch
Bending Fork (hardy mounted)	Mike Gentsch
12" Steel Square	Mike Gentsch
Bolt Tongs	Bernie Tappel
3/8" Tongs	Bob Ehrenberger
1/2" Tongs	Ken Jansen
5/8" Tongs	Mike McLaughlin
3/4" Tongs	Bernie Tappel
4.5" Angle Grinder	Ned Digh
Flux Spoon	Michael Gorzel
Forge Welding Flux (Borax)	Ben Collins
Center Finder	Don Anders
Wire Brush	Steve McCarthy
Railroad Spike Twisting Tool	Bob Stormer
Water Dipper	John Sherwood
Stanley 12" tool bag	Anonymous Donor
6" digital callpers	Anonymous Donor
T-handle drill and drive bit set	Anonymous Donor
Nut and bolt gauge	Anonymous Donor
Drill bit gauge	Anonymous Donor
Folding utility knife	Anonymous Donor
3" C-clamp	Anonymous Donor
Tire pressure gauge	Anonymous Donor
Nut and bolt assortment	Anonymous Donor
Apron	Don Davres
Metallic Marker	Scott Stager
3 PR Gloves	Tom Patterson
Center Finder	Tom Shields



This may not be a complete list. Thank you to all who donated to the tool boxes at the conference. This was a huge success as always!.

BAM Scholarship/Grant Program

- I. Scholarships and Grants will be awarded by the Scholarship/Grant Committee to BAM members in good standing and have been an active member of BAM for two years. Decisions of the Committee will be final.
 - II. Scholarships up to the amount of \$1000 will be granted by the Scholarship/Grant Committee to an individual (1) to attend a recognized educational program or (2) to train under a recognized blacksmith craftsman (see notation on page 2) for the purpose of learning new and/or advanced blacksmithing skills. The submission of an appropriate application is required.
 - III. Grants of \$250 or \$500 can be made by the Scholarship/Grant Committee to (1) fund a workshop in a member's own shop (2) train and/or share skills with fellow blacksmiths or (3) to complete a one on one mentorship with a skilled blacksmith craftsman for skill enhancement. The submission of an appropriate application is required.
 - IV. 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.
 - V. The Committee will be responsible for publicizing the Scholarship/Grant Program and for suggesting changes to these guidelines as may seem appropriate. Changes are to be approved by the Board of Directors of BAM.
 - VI. The Committee will determine the number and amounts of scholarships/grants based on the amount of funding approved by the Board of Directors.
 - VII. The Committee Chairman will have the responsibility of requesting funds from the Board of Directors for the calendar year.
 - VIII. Eligibility: Only members in good standing in BAM may receive scholarships and grants and the scholarship committee members are not eligible to receive a scholarship/grant while serving on the committee. No member may apply for a scholarship within one year after receiving a previous scholarship. Applicants who have not received a scholarship within three years prior to their application will be given priority.
 - IX. Applications must be received 30 days before the date of the award unless waived by the Committee Chairman and/or President of BAM
 - X. **Scholarship Recipient:** Every Scholarship recipient, within three months after completing the event for which the scholarship is granted must submit a written description of the event to the BAM Newsletter (appropriate pictures and diagrams may be included). Within one year, the recipient must also demonstrate what was learned as a consequence of the scholarship either at a BAM meeting or on a video tape to be placed in the BAM Library.
 - XI. **Grant Recipient:** One of the following four options can be selected: (1) chose to write an article for the BAM Newsletter describing the workshop they conducted or the skills taught to fellow members; (2) write an article describing the mentorship experience; (3) provide diagrams and directions of the items made during a sponsored workshop; (4) present a demonstration at a BAM meeting.
 - XII. The Scholarship/Grant Committee will prepare an appropriate application forms for both the Scholarship and Grant Program. In addition, the forms will be published in the BAM Newsletter
 - XIII. Scholarship and Grant applications must be submitted to the Scholarship Chairman, Esther Digh, 6792 CR 424, Fulton, MO. They will be shared with the other committee members and a decision will be made. The recipient will be notified in writing of his/her selection.
 - XIV. Questions about Scholarships or Grants can be addressed to the Scholarship/Grant Chairman.
- Please note:** Members of the Scholarship Committee may contact applicant for additional information on the individual(s) teaching the selected event.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

E-Mail Address:

The education program/workshop do you wish to attend:

The location of the event:

Individual responsible for the event and/or teacher for the event:

Identify the costs to attend the event:

Tuition

Travel

Lodging/meals

Other

Briefly, describe how attending the particular class/event will advance your blacksmithing skills and be helpful in promoting the craft of blacksmithing. Identify the specific skills you expect to learning during this learning experience.

I understand that as a requirement of receiving this scholarship, I will be required to submit an article about the education experience attended with appropriate notes and diagrams to the BAM Newsletter no later than 3 months after attending the event AND within 1 years of the event, I will present a demonstration of the newly learned skills at a BAM meeting or complete a video tape to be place in the BAM Library.

Signed _____ Date _____

Mail to Esther Digh, 6792 CR 424, Fulton, MO 65251



GRANT APPLICATION

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-Mail Address:

Identify one of the two options for Grants you wish to complete:

Identify the objective(s) of the workshop to be conducted or the objective of the mentorship:

Identify the instructor of the workshop or the mentor selected for the educational experience:

Identify the expected outcomes or skills to be learned from this experience:

Identify the costs of this educational experience (materials, fuel, travel, handouts, propane, etc):

Select one of the following to complete after the educational experience:

- ____(1) Write an article for the BAM Newsletter about the workshop conducted and the skills taught;
- ____(2) Write an article describing the mentorship experience;
- ____(3) Submit diagrams and directions for making the items made during the workshop;
- ____(4) Present a demonstration at a BAM meeting.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mail to Esther Digh, 6792 CR 424, Fulton, MO 65251

Historic Forge

By: Heather McCarty

I could not figure out which article to recreate in this issue. There are so many great ones over the years. The article I found, when I read it, I instantly thought, "Wow, this is perfect!" This persons words framed the sounds of a blacksmiths meeting and conference to a "T" if I do say so myself. I hope you all enjoy it as much as I did.

December 1988/ January 1989

Volume 5 - Number 6

By Patricia Corrigan

Blacksmiths make music; I knew that. I've listened while Doug Hendrickson composed a ginko leaf just for me and I've heard Jerry Hoffman beat out the rhythm of a snub end scroll.

What I didn't know what that blacksmiths make music together, and in perfect harmony. Then I attended my first BAM meeting, held November 19 at Jerry Hoffman's. Mostly, I hovered around the edge of the crowd, certain that I wanted only to be a member of the audience.

The day started slowly, with a sort of low hum, as the men greeted old friends and welcomed new members, sipping coffee and munching doughnuts. Then Jerry Hoffmann tuned up for his solo, gathering the men around a work table to discuss the design of one of BAM's future hits -- the Food Preparation Center / Pot Rack / Butcher Block.

"If somebody doesn't like this, let's change it," Jerry began. Slowly, other voices joined in. The high notes, the low notes, the suggested alterations all were combined into a new melody.

The real music-making began. Some of the men moved to pick up instruments, the tools of the blacksmith's trade. They stoked up the fire and set free the pure, clear ring of the anvil. Some of the men stood nearby, adding notes of encouragement and support. And a few of the men continually moved from place to place, filling in where needed, always supplementing the song.

Before mid-day, a veritable symphony was in progress; a triumphant concert born of mutual interest, commitment, skill, cooperation and fellowship -- all underscored by the ringing of the anvil, as true as any bell's, the sound of an ancient art living on.

Sweet music, indeed, to this listener ear.



Shop Tips

By Jim Carothers

Storage For Your Punches & Chisels

This year I was able to attend the Central States Metal Artisans (CSMA) annual spring blacksmithing conference at the Haysville, KS shop. Pat McCarty (Washington, MO) was the demonstrator and did a great job. As stated in the CSMA May Newsletter, "The stuff I learned in the first 30 minutes was worth the price of the whole weekend." I noticed right off that Pat was very well organized for demo work. That included having metal precut for his projects, tooling organized for each project, and transportation of his material and tooling. One item that caught my attention almost immediately was his simple box of punches and chisels. For years I have used a Bucket Box brand roll-up tool pouch to hold my punches and chisels. It works and the pouch has held up pretty well to sharp edges and a few embers. But, it takes up a lot of space, and it seems I am spending extra time looking for the tool I want. I knew I had to make a Pat type tool box for my own use. In the photo of Pat's tool box, notice the tooling sockets in the bottom of the box; those are short lengths of 1" square tubing tack welded together. Pat had access to fall off material from a local fab shop. I did not have scraps of 1" tube around the shop, but did have several sizes of scrap EMT (electrical conduit). EMT is also about the least expensive tubing that you can buy if you don't have scraps or a friend with scrap tubing. I used 1/2", 3/4" (mostly) & some 1" EMT for my tooling sockets; these were cut to 2-3/4" long except for the pencil tube that is 3-1/2" long. EMT is a plated product and produces nasty fumes when welded. I clamped the tubes down to my welding table in patterns to fit my box and tack welded them together with a fan blowing on my back. Small tack welds are plenty to hold the tubes together. The welded assemblies are loose in my box, though they could have been epoxy glued in place. Don't make your tool box too big. The one shown here is basically 6 x 9" inside with 3-1/2" tall sides. When filled with tools as shown this box weighs 26 pounds. I used finger joints just for practice (I also make reenactor's boxes). You can simply screw and glue up a box out of 1-by lumber from the store. To gain a little finger room around the handle, I put a 1/2" thick divider board down the center. That also allowed me to make the small rectangular pockets for my folding ruler, hot cuts, and some other tools. My handle is recycled from a broken ax. Again, thanks goes to Pat for a great demo and taking his time to share the craft.



BAM Tailgate

Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads

For Sale: Anvil's Ring Magazine collection Sept '73 thru Present. \$350 Bob Woodard Edwardsville, IL 618-692-6508

Real slate chalkboards for your shop various sizes and prices call Matthew Burnett for details (816) 575-2798

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 Roger Rice, Midwest Machine, 6414 King Road, Nebraska City, Nebraska 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

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.

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

oldschoolcrafts Blacksmith School, Joe Davis 12625 Lawrence 1175, Mt Vernon, MO 65712 phone 417-461-0387 on the web www.oldschoolcrafts.org E-Mail oldschoolcrafts@hotmail.com

David Norrie blacksmithing school in Colorado
David Norrie 303-859-0770
<http://www.forgewithintention.com>
or <http://www.davidnorrie.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 clay@tirehammer.com for price. 256-558-3658. Tire Hammers for sale contact me for current price

New England School of Metalwork

www.newenglandschoolofmetalwork.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

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

Products:

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

Heavy-Duty Fry Pan Blanks 9" diameter, tapered sides 12 or 13 gauge steel (approx. 2 pounds) no predrilled holes for the handle \$12.00 each..1-4, \$10.00 each..5-9, \$9.00 each...10+. shipping:\$5.00 plus \$1.00 each frypan Bob Tuftee 563-332-4800 6 Hollows Court LeClaire, IA 52753

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.

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

Kayne and Son Custom Hardware, 100 Daniel Ridge Road, Candler, NC 28715. (828) 667-8868 fax (828) 665-8303, e-mail: kaynehdwe@charter.net, web site: www.blacksmithsdepot.com. Offering a full line of blacksmithing equipment. We ship and accept Visa and Mastercard.

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

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

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.blksmith.com Phone (308) 384 1088

Wanted:

Blacksmith business cards. I would like to put together a collage of Blacksmith business cards. Bring them to a meeting or mail them to me with your dues.

Bruce Herzog
2212 Aileswick
St. Louis, MO 63129

Demonstrator List

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

Hammer In

Old Retired Guys And Anyone That Wants To Take A Vacation Day Hammer In.

Thursday, July 30, 2015 at Bernie & Patti Tappel's Osage Bluff Blacksmith Shop, 204 Hidden Valley Road, Jefferson City, MO.

Bring your favorite hammer and any project you might have that want to work on or anything you might want to demonstrate. We will have several forges set up for use (weather permitting some will be outside). There will be some demonstrations and open forge time. Start time 8:30 A.M. and run to whenever.

Lunch will be available. If possible drop me an email at btappel@embarqmail.com to let us know how many to expect for lunch. (I need to know how much road kill to collect beforehand).

Take Route B south from Jefferson City to Hidden Valley Road. We are about 10 miles from the Jefferson City city limits. Note that Route B makes a sharp right as you go through Wardsville. We have a long private drive and the shop and house is not visible from Hidden Valley Road (see bamsite.org for detail map).

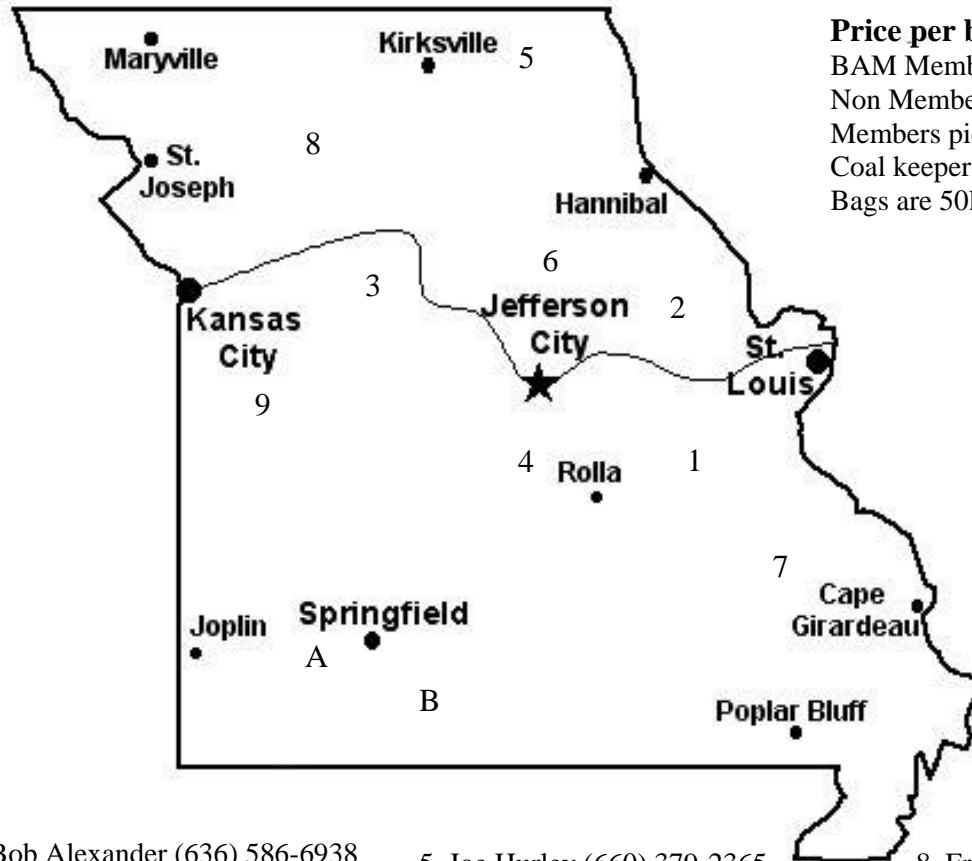
Around the Anvil BAM has it's very own E-Mail news group. If you would like to participate there is a sign up link on the bamsite.org or send an E-Mail to Bernie Tappel at bamweb@embarqmail.com and he will get you signed up.

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 BAMeditor2015@gmail.com, or call 636-359-1246

BAM Coal Stations

Coal Captain: Bob Alexander



Price per bag:

BAM Members \$14.00

Non Members \$19.00

Members pickup at Bob Alexander's - \$12.00

Coal keepers earn \$3.00 per bag

Bags are 50lbs. each

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Bob Alexander (636) 586-6938
14009 Hardin Rd.
DeSoto, MO 63020 | 5. Joe Hurley (660) 379-2365
or (660) 626-7824
Route 1 Box 50
Downing, MO 63536 | 8. Fred Warner (660) 659-2406
cell phone (660) 247-1477
303 N 2nd Street
Wheeling, MO 64688 |
| 2. Ken Jansen (636) 295-5844
2257 Carter Rd.
Moscow Mills, MO 63362 | 6. Paul Lankford (573) 473-7082
25849 Audrain County Road 820
Mexico, MO 65265 | 9. Bryan Lillibrige (660) 638-4536
1545 NW 300
Urich, MO 64788 |
| 3. Doug Clemons (660) 595-2257
29377 Durango Ave.
Malta Bend, MO 65339 | 7. Mob Maes (573) 866-3811
Route 1 Box 106 K
Millersville, MO 63766 | |
| 4. Jerry Rehagen (573) 744-5454
390 Bozina Valley Trail
Freeburg, MO 65035 | | |

Non BAM Coal

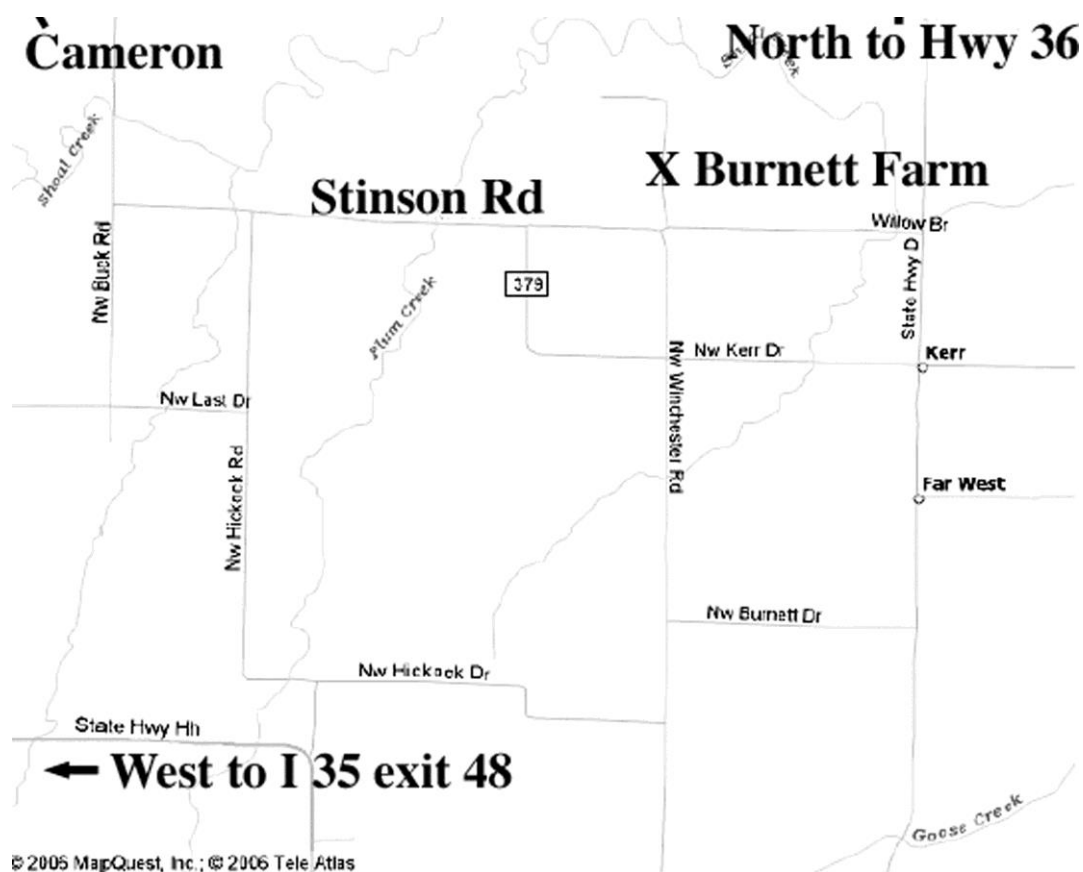
- A. Tim Johnson, Springfield, MO 417-886-8032 - \$.40/lb. check, \$.35/lb. cash. Bring your own containers.
- B. Good blacksmithing coal for sale \$13 per 50# bag with bulk delivery available.
Matthias Penn Rt. 1 box 479-S Ava, Mo. 65608. (417)-683-9000.
Or e-mail tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com.

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: July 18, 2015

Matthew Burnett, Cameron MO ph: 816-575-2798



Trade item: Anything made from one or more rail road spikes.
Lunch will be provided.