

RAM

May / June 2019



May / June 2019
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Blacksmith Association of Missouri

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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?

ABANA Membership Application

Primary ABANA Charter Affiliation: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: () _____ Zip: _____

New Member Renewing Member

Includes a Subscriptions 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

President Report

By: Steve McCarthy

The 2019 conference has come and gone. It was another great conference with great demonstrations. Unless you have been behind the scenes some, you have no idea the amount of work it takes to put this on. Thank you to everyone that helped make this happen. I always forget someone when I try to call out all the names so I'm not even going to try this time. But on behalf of BAM, a huge thank you to everyone that helped out. One cool thing that happened was KMOS filming and conducting interviews for a documentary. They said it should air in October or November of this year. They promised to let us know when the exact date was decided and they would provide a link to put on our website.

The May/June meeting at my shop sure was a fun one. This time we had a "shur nuff" professional to do the demonstration, so I got to mill around and chew the fat. Charlie Carpenter was kind enough to share with us some of his knife making knowledge. Charlie said he had been making knives for about five years and just the week before, earned his Journeyman Smith classification from the American Bladesmith Society. To me the best part of the demo was seeing all the different tools he uses to finish a knife. I have often looked at a high-quality knife and wondered how the grinding and fit up are done so perfectly. Charlie explained a lot of that. Now I'm not saying that all you need is some new jig to make a nice knife. I could have all the tools in the world and still not make a knife better than one you find on a Wal-Mart shelf. Hats off to Charlie and those like him that produce edged works of art.

Although the temperatures have been mild so far, Summer is on the way and high temps and humidity are sure to come with it. Please be safe and keep yourselves hydrated when working at your forges.

Until we meet again, Happy Hammering.



2018 Conference Report

By: Bob Stormer

The 2019 BAM Conference was opened with the National Anthem played on the BAM PA system and a few people singing the words. President Steve McCarthy then introduced the Demonstrators for this year, James A. (Jymm) Hoffman, and Raymond Rybar. In the tradition started by Phil Cox Steve started the first fire using flint & steel. Bernie Tappel and Ken Jansen then teamed up for a demonstration of making a snapper/hack for use with Steve McCarthy's McCormick Deering throttle governed engine, that was made in 1921, and used to drive a 25 lb. Little Giant that was made in 1925. Ken made the snapper/hack that Bernie would use with the power hammer to make leaf on a stem. The snapper/hack was first demonstrated, as far as we know by Clifton Ralph, power hammer tooling expert, and was used to cut a bar of steel by cutting 90% through with the hack end, then rotating the bar 180° and using the snapper to break the bar at the cut. If you get a chance try to watch Clifton Ralph's DVDs on power hammer tooling. You should also download the Clay Spencer Tire Hammer Tools from the BAM reference library.

2018 Conference Raffle Winners

By: Bob Stormer

Toolbox #1 Tony Brooks

Toolbox #2 Jamie Holland

Toolbox #3 Clay Reeves

Swage Block #1 John Young

Swage Block #2 Chelsie Brimer

*Burr King Belt Grinder Tom Patterson

* The Burr King grinder was added Friday afternoon to replace the anvil that developed a few cracks in the horn area.

2018 Conference Business Meeting

By: Bob Stormer

The Fairgrounds Security Council asked Steve McCarthy to let everybody know that riding bicycles in the building is not allowed.

The only other business issue was to elect officers to replace the 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents. Chris Miller, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, named Kent Harbit as the 1st Vice-President candidate, and Mark Lawson as the 2nd Vice-President candidate. President Steve McCarthy called for any other nominations and there were none. A motion was made to close the nominations and confirm the nominees as elected to their respective offices. The motion was passed with a show of hands.

The meeting was adjourned.

The forging contest was then started with 18 contestants. The was to start with a 18" long piece of ½" square stock and slit it, and drift the biggest, roundest hole on one end using the provided anvil, chisel and drift, and contestants own hammer within 10 minutes. The winners will be announced at the banquet held on Saturday night.

2018 Conference Banquet

By: Bob Stormer

Don Nichols said the blessing to start the banquet. Following the meal President Steve McCarthy opening meeting and auction by thanking the caterers, the demonstrators, Michael Gorzel and the entire conference staff & volunteers, the boutique workers, and the MTS class instructors & helpers.

Karen Bouckaert thanked all the vendors, especially Al Krysan of Astragal Press who couldn't be there. Al has sold the business and sent BAM a nice thank you note for including him in our conference in past years.

Below is a list of conference vendors who would appreciate your business:

Vendors Present

Burr King-Keith Daleen

Blue Moon Press-Judy and Tinka Berger

Jackpine Forge-Nathan Roberston

Little Giant-Sid Suedmeier, Keri and Sam Hincker

Ken's Custom Iron-Ken and MaryLou Zitur

Scrub Oak Forge/Blacksmith Supply-Bob Alexander

T-Star Leather-Brett Smith

Conference Sponsor

Shady Grove Blacksmith Shop/Reffinghaus Anvils-

Dick Nietfeld

Vendors that Donate

Centaur Forge

NC Tool

Postville Blacksmith Shop

Steve McCarthy announced the forging contest winners:

1st Kevin Brinker

2nd Matthias Penn

3rd Bill Moffet

Walt Hull talked about the gallery and specifically asked for more entries next year. He then announced the People Choice winner; Eric Bartch.

Mark Lawson winner of last years Founders Award named Don Nichols as this year's recipient.

Steve McCarthy announced Bob Ehrenberger as this years recipient of the Life Membership Award. Bob wasn't able to attend so Steve and Karen got him on the phone to give him the news.

Brock Vaughn, winner of the New Blacksmith Award from last year selected Michael Lumnetta as this year's recipient.

Michael Gorzel gave a brief update on the 2020 BAM conference. Bob Earhart of Carthage, MO will be the knifemaker demonstrator and dates for the conference are April 30 – May 3, 2020. He also announced Ashley Farnsworth as his co-chairman for the conference. Steve then gave Tony Brooks the go-ahead to start the auction.



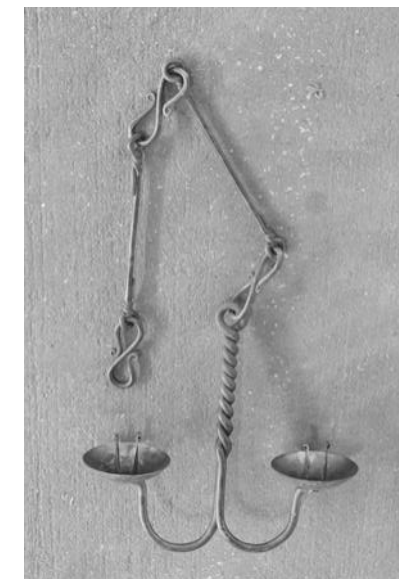
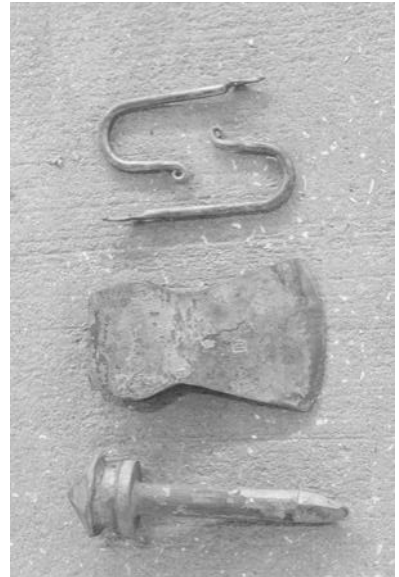
Opening Ceremony Demo Photos ~ BAM Conference 2019



Phil Cox Memorial Potluck Photos ~ BAM Conference 2019



James A. (Jymm) Hoffman Demo Photos ~ BAM Conference 2019



Raymond Rybar Demo Photos ~ BAM Conference 2019



A Blown Gas Forge

By: Jymm Hoffman



Starting with the manifold, it is made from 1 1/2 inch black pipe parts. The burner tips are 10 inch nipples cut in 1/2. I heat them up and flatten to a 16 gauge sheet to act as a gauge.



By only using T's, there is less need to adjust the burner tips (open one that is not burning as well as the other by using a long chisel while it is running.) The T's do not necessarily have to be welded together as I do, you can use short nipples to connect everything. I recommend one of this size burner tips for every 6 inches in length of shell. I used weld a 1/4" nipple to the vertical pipe, then drill an 1/8" hole connecting 1/4" nipple to a ball valve. Now I use an 1 1/2" to 1/2 inch T with a reducer to 1/4" for the nipple to connect the ball valve. The 1/4" reducer can be plugged with 1/2" threaded rod, cut flush. Then drill a 5/32" hole in the center of the plug and counter sink (so the counter sink bevel is the outlet of the gas into the 1 1/2" pipe.) I have found the 5/32" hole works better for either method of connecting the gas line.

Below shows both types of gas connections, either welding the 1/4" nipple or using a 1 1/2" to 1/2" T to connect the ball valve, using a 1/2" to 1/4" reducer, plugged and drilled to 5/32".



VERY IMPORTANT: This system works on household gas pressure, here in the United States, that is 11 inches of water column, about 1/2 pound of pressure. A common regulator that is already set for this pressure is used on outdoor gas barbecue grills. Do not try this system on high pressure gas with this large of an orifice. I normally run 3/8 to 1/2 inch rubber propane hose from the regulator to the ball valve.

NEXT IMPORTANT PART: The blower must be a high speed blower that can produce not only enough CFM, but also enough pressure. I do not know what the minimums are, I use blowers readily available from Kayne & Son/Blacksmiths Depot: http://www.blacksmithsdepot.com/Templates/cart_templates/cart_browse.php?theLocation=/Resources/Products/Forges_and_Parts/blowers. The medium blower they sell works great, it is listed at 112 CFM at 36 ounces of pressure. I run my smaller 2 burner and large 3 burner systems with the same blower (not at the same time of course.)

I also use 2 inches of ceramic fiber blanket to line the entire forge. I do occasionally replace the upper exposed layer from time to time, normally as a result of me damaging the lining. I use a ram refractory called Thermogen 60 STF From Dixie Refractories to cover the bottom half of the system to protect the blanket from flux while forge welding. This also acts as a little bit of a heat sink that then in turn reflects the heat up and actually helps to make the system work better. I used to coat the entire interior with thinned down 3,000 mortar instead of ITC or a rigidizer. It is less expensive and serves the same purpose of containing the fibers from the blanket.

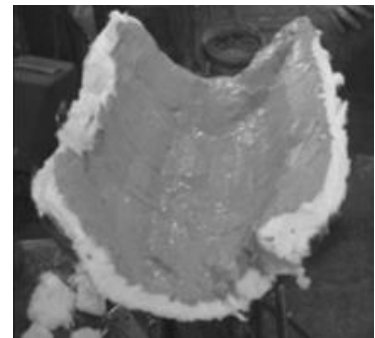
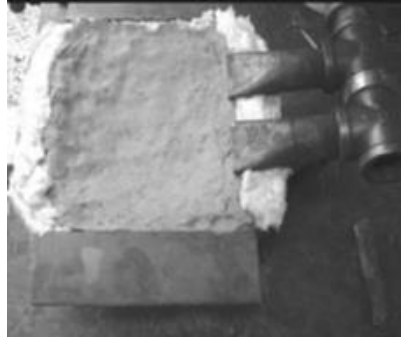
Some notes on more recent changes:

Some other notes on actual side by side comparison of forges, 4 forges 2 slightly different body styles, 1 set of old manifolds, one set of new: Both were constructed the same in the bottom, at least 2 inches of blanket with 1 to 2 inches of plastic in center and about 3/4 of inch thick coming up the side to completely cover blanket.

One version received 2 one inch layers of blanket in the top that were initially coated with a thinned down slurry of 3,000 degree mortar mix. The other version had one inch layer of blanket (in the top) with about an inch of Thermogen 60 STF. Initial construction is faster with 2 inch blanket in the top shell version.

The Thermogen version needs to set up over night and some sort of internal wire support. I followed the refractory salesman's recommendations in the following methods: First I welded a few stainless steel wires into the shell, then put a thin layer of 3,000 degree mortar on the shell, then put the blanket in, next step was to bend the wire to make hooks to help bite into plastic. The last version I did only a couple of these hooks and used some stainless steel wire mesh to hook into. Then the one inch of plastic is molded into place. It is still damp and very pliable after 12 plus hours of overnight air drying but more rigid. So I made certain everything in the forge was ready for final assembly and ready to fire up. First attempt at immediate assembly with out over night drying failed as the plastic dropped from the "ceiling." Once it is assembled I fire it up to cure and set the plastic. With the newer manifold method,

both burner tips fired up right away. It took about an hour for the steam to stop coming out of the system and works fine.



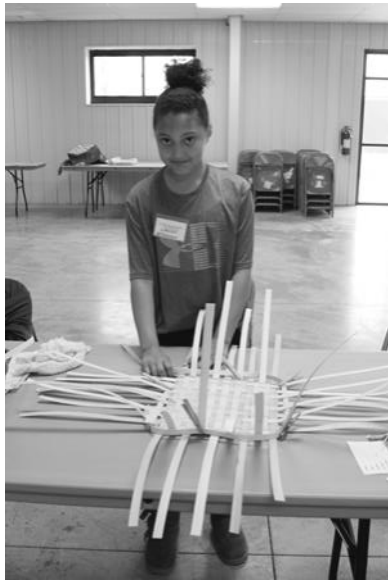
Now the run time comparison: As I have been using a piece of 16 gauge sheet metal to form the burner tips, except on one forge I opened the burner tips up to about an 1/8th inch. The side by side version using the same opening of the burner tips takes longer for the hard liner to come up to temperature, but once it is there it is as good as the one without the hard liner. The one with the larger opened burner tips is just as fast as the "soft" shell, but I needed to add a gate valve to the air supply. Once this thing gets up to temperature, it needs both air and fuel to be cut down, unless you want to work at welding/burning temperatures. The latest hard-shell with the tighter burner tips also gave me some sound problems I encountered with a 3 burner. By opening the burner tips a little with a long chisel, the sound started to diminish. I recommend an 1/8th. opening on the hard-shell burner tips. Fuel consumption is only a guessing game for me and have not had anyone run the new version on small tanks, which is how I have previously determined consumption of about 1/2 gallon per hour on 2 burner systems and about 3/4 gallon per hour on 3 burners. The hard-shell versions are proving to last longer, protecting the blanket from me damaging it which is more of a problem than burnout.

A response to a question about building a one burner, the shells and putting these on carts, all of mine are on carts: I use 2 and 3 burners, have not built a one burner yet. The 2 burners are efficient enough for me to not worry about making a smaller one. I think the previous notes mention 1 burner for about 6 inches in length of the shell. I have been cutting down old propane tanks for the shells. The 20 and 30 pounders are actually a little narrower than I want to use for future forges, being about 12" diameter. Although the shells I had rolled out of 16 gauge mild are 12" diameter by 12" long are working fine, these were built in 03. There is about as much work for me to tear apart an old tank as to weld up the ends of a rolled shell. If you have fabrication skills and /or someone to roll a shell for you, I would recommend 14" diameter, and the rule of one burner per 6" in length. The clam shell method is easiest construction plus the circular flow. The 3 burners I cut out a section along the side for odd shapes. I have not tried this in the 2 burner. The ones with a cut out are a little trickier as you have to be a little more careful about burner angle. You don't want the flame to blow out the opening. The last one I built I put a lip into the refractory to cause a little bit of kick back on the flame for when the side is open.

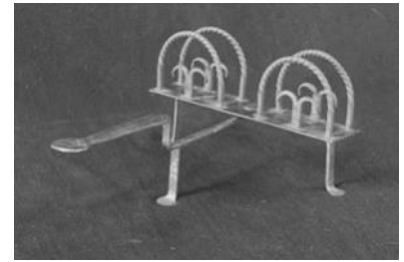
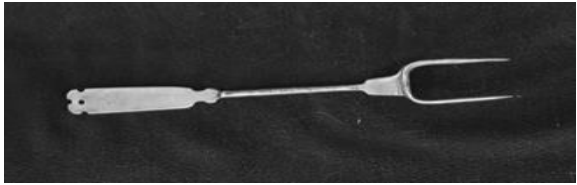
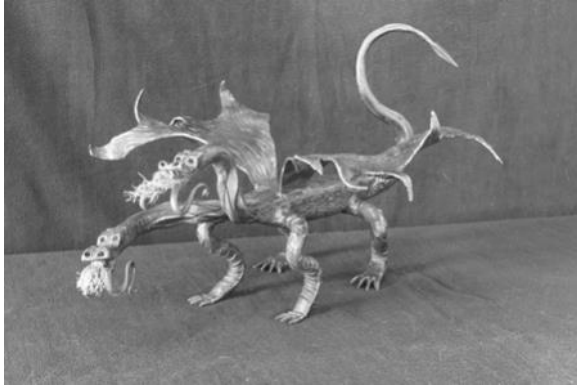
I like to put each forge on its own stand, but built the student set up to have 2 per cart. The student set up was for a special project that I could take out the carts and each had one vise. In the main shop, the small carts are what I prefer with vises permanently mounted. I plumbed my shop so I can plug into the main line at various key points. My propane dealer recommended this, the pressure is at 10 pounds in the 3/4" pipe with discarded propane tank valves attached to T's, then I hook the barbecue regulator attached to a 6 foot hose to plug into the valves. With the carts that have 2 forges, I run a larger hose to a manifold on the cart and use a regulator per forge attached to a shorter hose.

If you have any questions and wish to talk on the phone, don't hesitate to give me a call on my cell/work phone: 724-251-9320. Jymm

Family Programs Photos ~ BAM Conference 2019



Dr. Iron's Slackwater Gallery





Dr. Iron's Slackwater Gallery Cont.



Trade Items ~ June Meeting



Made By: Bob Eckert
Traded To: John Murray



Made By: Bernie Tappel
Traded To: Steve McCarthy



Made By: Mark Sampsel
Traded To: Bernie Tappel



Made By: Jon McCarty
Traded To: Jim Davis



Made By: John Sherwood
Traded To: Charles Carpenter



Made By: Bob Stormer
Traded To: Pat McCarty



Made By: Alex Tappel
Traded To: Jon McCarty



Made By: Jim Davis
Traded To: Don Anders



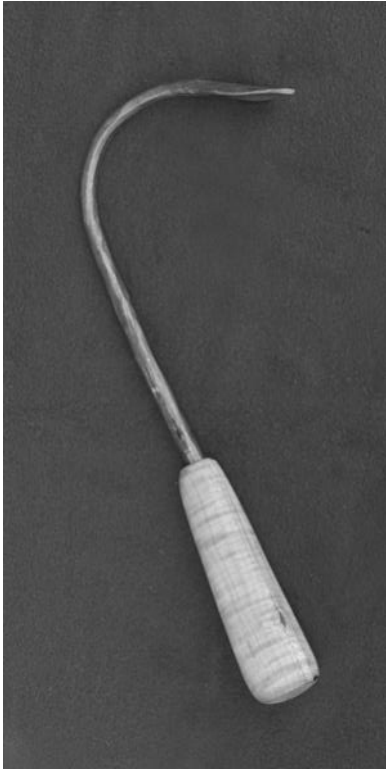
Made By: Pat McCarty
Traded To: Bob Eckert



Made By: Dave Endres
Traded To: Santo Giuffrida



Made By: Don Anders
Traded To: Dave Endres



Made By: Santo Giuffrida
Traded To: Mark Sampsel



Made By: Steve McCarthy
Traded To: Alex Tappel



Made By: Charlie Carpenter
Traded To: Ken Jansen



Made By: Ken Jansen
Traded To: Scott Payne

Not Pictured:
Item Made By: John Murray
Traded To: John Sherwood

Meeting Minutes ~ June Meeting

By: Bob Stormer

President Steve McCarthy opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending the meeting, and also thanked Charlie Carpenter for demonstrating. Not mentioned at the meeting, but a thank you to Steve and his family for hosting the meeting are also in order.

Bruce gave the financial and membership reports. BAM membership is now at 603. In the details of the financial report on the conference Bruce noted that the reduction in price for early registration didn't seem to have any effect on the number of registrations. There will likely be more discussion this fall about whether to continue the offer next year.

Steve reminded the attendees that Bernie's "Old Retired Guys and Anyone Who Wants to Take a Vacation Day" hammer-in is scheduled for Thursday July 25th. A motion was made by Ken Jansen and seconded by Bob Stormer to sanction his hammer-in as a scheduled BAM function. The motion passed with a show of hands by the attendees.

Steve also let everyone know he did not send out the scam email from his account asking for people to donate to a veteran's charity by buying gift cards and sending the card information to somebody. He mentioned this on Around the Anvil, but since everybody is not on that feature, he used the meeting to repeat it.

Jon McCarty, BAM editor along with his wife Heather, has been in contact with ABANA officials about the idea of BAM conducting the 2022 ABANA conference. The general guidelines are that we could be as involved in running it as we want to be, from only selling tickets to running the whole thing, with help from ABANA. There would be no financial investment by BAM, only volunteers. ABANA normally does not provide any compensation to the hosting group, but might if asked. The lady who ran the registration for the last ABANA conference earned about \$8000 for her efforts. Registration is a big deal and might require us to be able to handle credit card payments, which brought out some concern by our financial staff due to potential additional government involvement in our financial situation. One BAM member would need to be on the ABANA Conference Board of Directors, and BAM volunteers may need to be ABANA members. The most likely BAM members to organize our efforts would probably be Pat and

Jon McCarty, but I'm not sure if they accepted the honor at the meeting. Bernie will put something on the BAM webpage so more people could see what's involved.

Bernie mentioned the dies for the new 100LB Murray hammer have been heat treated by The Postville Blacksmith Shop in Wisconsin, and the hammer will be ready for use at his hammer-in Thursday July 25th. The hammer has officially been named "Vern" in honor of Vern Mesler, the guy who donated it to BAM. Vern is still involved in structural riveting and may be at the 2020 BAM Conference and do an impromptu demonstration at the Thursday night opening ceremonies.

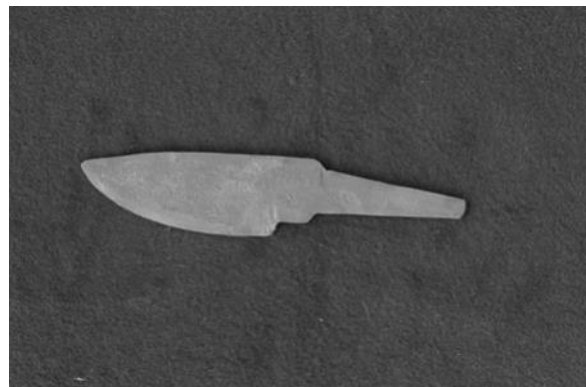
Steve McCarthy said they are looking at having another workshop, that would also use the new Murray hammer, with Steve Parker to demonstrate more power hammer skills. No date was mentioned.

Karen Bouckaert mentioned Judy, from Blue Moon Press, has inoperable cancer and will not be able to attend our conference again. She has been a regular at the conferences for a long time. Blue Moon Press may be there next year with Tinka Berger operating it.

Bob Stormer mentioned that he had been asked a number of times while demonstrating at events if he had a business card for BAM. He suggested that BAM business cards be printed and distributed to BAM members who get involved with the public at blacksmithing events, particularly at the State Fair. While he was dutifully writing minutes, he was tasked to pursue that effort.

The meeting was adjourned.

Photo Gallery ~ June Meeting



Iron In the Hat - June Meeting

Donated by	Won By	Item
John Murray	Hollis Harbit	Hammer made from 4140
Pat McCarty	Karen Bouckaert	Copper Leaf
Mike McLaughlin	John Sherwood	Multi Tool Knife
BAM	Mark Sampsel	BAM Doo Rag
Karen Bouckaert	Mark Sampsel	IV Pole
Charlie Carpenter	Jon McCarty	Demo Knife
Ray Scott	Steve McCarty	Wagon Wheel Rim
Jim Davis	David Grant	Horseshoe Rasps
Pat McCarty	Ken Jansen	BAM T-Shirt XXXL
John Sherwood	VJ McCrackin	Wire Wheel
????	Daniel Meinsen	Drill Kit
Pat McCarty	Daniel Meinsen	Dr. Iron Shirt XXL
Karen Bouckaert	Aaron McCarty	BAM Mug
Steve McCarthy	Don Birdsall	Stabilized Walnut
Steve McCarthy	Don Birdsall	Stabilized Walnut
BAM Library	David Grant	New Edge of Anvil Book
Karen Bouckaert	Don Birdsall	Cat Buckets
Aaron McCarthy	Mark Sampsel	Ball Bearings & Ruler
Ken Jansen	Mark Sampsel	Hot Cut
BAM Library	John Sherwood	Books – Pipe Bending & Die Kunstschlosserer

2019 Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program: Ray Joe Hastings and Keith Whiteside

By: Lisa Higgins

It is with great pleasure that we roll out profiles of the 2019 Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program teams of master artists and apprentices.

This week, we are excited to introduce readers to master Ozarks Riverways gigmaker Ray Joe Hastings and his most recent apprentice Keith Whiteside.



Most of our readers know Ray Joe Hastings of Doniphan; he has participated in the Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program since 1996, when he himself apprenticed to the late Paul Martin of Bunker. Just last April, MFAP featured Mr. Hastings in a Then and Now: Apprentice Journeys program, when Folk Arts Specialist Deborah A. Bailey interviewed him about his experiences previously as TAAP apprentice and later as a TAAP master artist in 2003, 2007, and 2011. Missouri's TAAP teams typically begin their lessons each November, after volunteer panelists review and score applications in October. Due to Missouri's unpredictable winter weather, MFAP staff and evaluators usually must wait until late winter or early spring to visit TAAP teams to document their progress. Of course, Bailey and the teams are in communication often throughout the winter; they update her on their progress, and she works with many teams to schedule public events in the spring or early summer (stay tuned here for news about 2019 events). This year, we ask TAAP teams if they could share

quick winter progress reports with “selfies.” Apprentice Keith Whiteside really came through for our request, sending along photos that illustrate his progress in learning to forge gigs at Ray Joe Hastings’s side.



Working on a two-prong gig at the forge



Whiteside in the shop with his gigmaking mentor



Whiteside works on a three-prong gig.

For those unfamiliar with the tradition, blacksmiths make gigs at their forges, crafting these seemingly simple yet artistic tools that are used to hunt fish, par-

ticularly “suckers.” Mr. Hastings points out that there are many variations in styles: “river gigs, creek gigs, root gigs, shoal gigs, and bow gigs. You can have a single arrow type, two prong, three prong, four and more.” Mr. Hastings literally wrote the book on gigs, self-published in 2008: *Bow & River Gigs: Used in the Clear Streams of the Ozarks*.

Before his own apprenticeship, Hastings avidly collected gigs from the region. “A pretty gig is not that easy to make. A beautiful gig is balanced and pleasing to the touch and has symmetry, particularly between the socket, prongs, and beards.” Hastings has studied the tradition so deeply that he can tell you who the best gigmakers in the region were, and which of their gigs the collectors prize.

Keith Whiteside explains to us that his interest in forging gigs came originally from his experience as a third-generation auctioneer, where he saw hand-forged knives, tools, and occasional gigs in estates over the years. Once his interest was sparked, he read books, taught himself to make knives, set up his own forge, and visited with Doniphan area blacksmiths like Chris Miller, who teaches at the historic Tom Kennon Blacksmith Shop. After initially watching Hastings make gigs, Whiteside read the 2008 book cover to cover. As their relationship grew, and the master artist observed Whiteside’s skills, he invited Keith to apprentice.

Hastings also paints a picture of the practice of gigging in the region that makes us swoon a little, with both appreciation and hunger: “I am 80 years old now and I remember the schools would close on the first day of gigging. It was like a holiday. It also was an important source of food for my family and many others. A lot of us grew up pretty poor. During the gigging season, families come down to the river and watch the gigging go on at night. We bring the oil, fish fryer, cornmeal, bread, and beans with us and afterwards we fry the fish right on the river.” Whiteside adds, “Gigging is a longstanding traditional way to fish in our region, and gigging season is always eagerly anticipated among the locals still today, including myself. It is also a time when family members who live away from the Ozarks tend to come back to visit and gig with their relatives.”

Gigmaking is clearly a place-based tradition that is integral to community life, from the annual gigging season to the foodways traditions of preparing, then sharing, the fried fish and favorite side dishes along the river. In the region that Hastings and Whiteside

call home, some still fish from hand-made johnboats, which also have a long history on riverways.

To learn more about the gigging tradition in the Ozark Riverways region, readers can check out the following links:

a recent video from Ozark Vitality;
an online article with photos and video from University of Missouri Extension;
a video from Ozarks Watch Video Magazine with Gordon McCann that features stories from the James River near Springfield;
and a 2008 Rural Missouri article that features not only Ray Joe Hastings but previous TAAP master artist Don Foerster.

Missouri Folk Arts Program invites readers to hear Ray Joe Hastings' upcoming talk "The Art of Ozark Gigmaking as seen in Howard Baer's Watercolor on Paper" at the Museum of Art and Archaeology in Columbia, Missouri on Friday, June 14, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. at 115 Business Loop 70 W in the galleries on the second floor. Keep an eye on MFAP's Facebook page for more details.



Howard Baer (American, 1906-1986)
Gigging, The Current River, 1947
Watercolor on paper
Gift of Scruggs-Vandervoort-Barney, Inc.
Transferred from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Operations, MU (2014.10)
The heart of Missouri Folk Arts Program is its Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program. Master artists work one-on-one with apprentices to keep folk arts knowledge and practices alive. In Missouri, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Missouri Arts Council, and the University of Missouri, the first master-apprentice lesson took place on December 10, 1984. Since then, Missouri has supported over 400 apprenticeships in which 200+ master

artists have mentored more than 500 apprentices in every region and many communities in the state. Many apprentices have in their turn grown in their artistry and later recognized as master artists in TAAP. They forge anew living links in the chain of Missouri's folk arts. Some TAAP artists practice traditional regional crafts that date back to Missouri's Native American peoples and early European settlers. Some newer immigrants, such as Latinxs, Sudanese, and Bosnians, have sustained their artistic traditions in their new homes in Missouri. Still more traditions have migrated to Missouri from other regions of the U.S. All are re-imagined and honed into dynamic Show Me State traditions. Among the arts that have been fostered in TAAP over the decades are blacksmithing, cowboy poetry, old-time short-bow fiddling, African-American storytelling, Ozark Riverways paddle carving, Vietnamese dragon dancing, Western saddle making, old-time clawhammer banjo, wood joinery, square dance calling, German bobbin lace, turkey calls, Mexican paper flowers, and Slovenian button-box accordion.

[Posted February 25, 2019 by Lisa L. Higgins]



A Provincial Gun Tool

By: Jymm Hoffman

While working at Old Fort Niagara as the Interpretive Programs Manager, I had frequently worked with the archeologists to help identify objects. While walking through the conservation lab one day, I asked the conservator where they found the musket tool that was being prepared for final waxing. She asked what musket tool? I pointed it out to her. It was previously labeled as the handle of a fireplace tool. When I showed her that the tapers were too even to be rotted off the end of a bar, then opened up "Collector's Encyclopedia of the American Revolution," by Neumann and Kravic, she quickly changed the label to musket tool. I asked her where it was found. She responded, in the 1759 siege line out by the entrance of the state park. She then commented that it made more sense finding a gun tool in the trenches than a fireplace tool. We then traced it, took measurements and I made some reproductions. I gave them one of the earliest samples that was very close to an exact duplicate of the original that has my mark for their comparison. While the original gun tools I have examined are not marked, I encourage anyone doing these type of reproductions to mark them. You never know when someone will try to pass off the reproduction as an original. I have had one of my tools discovered by archeologists at another Revolutionary War site. Fortunately, some friends of mine that have purchased some of these tools were there to identify the tool. The archeologist was amazed that this friend said he knew who made the tool, then the archeologist was greatly disappointed and in disbelief that the maker was still alive and the tool was a modern reproduction and not an original to the 18th. Century.

Material used 3/16" X 1/2"



First step, start to forge a shoulder about an inch from the end and draw out about 3 inches. Leave more material on the end to scarf for welding later. Round out the drawn down section, then scarf and bend the end.

Next, bend at the shoulder, in the vice to about 45 degrees or so.

Form the eye loop and forge weld the scarf end to the main part of the flat bar.

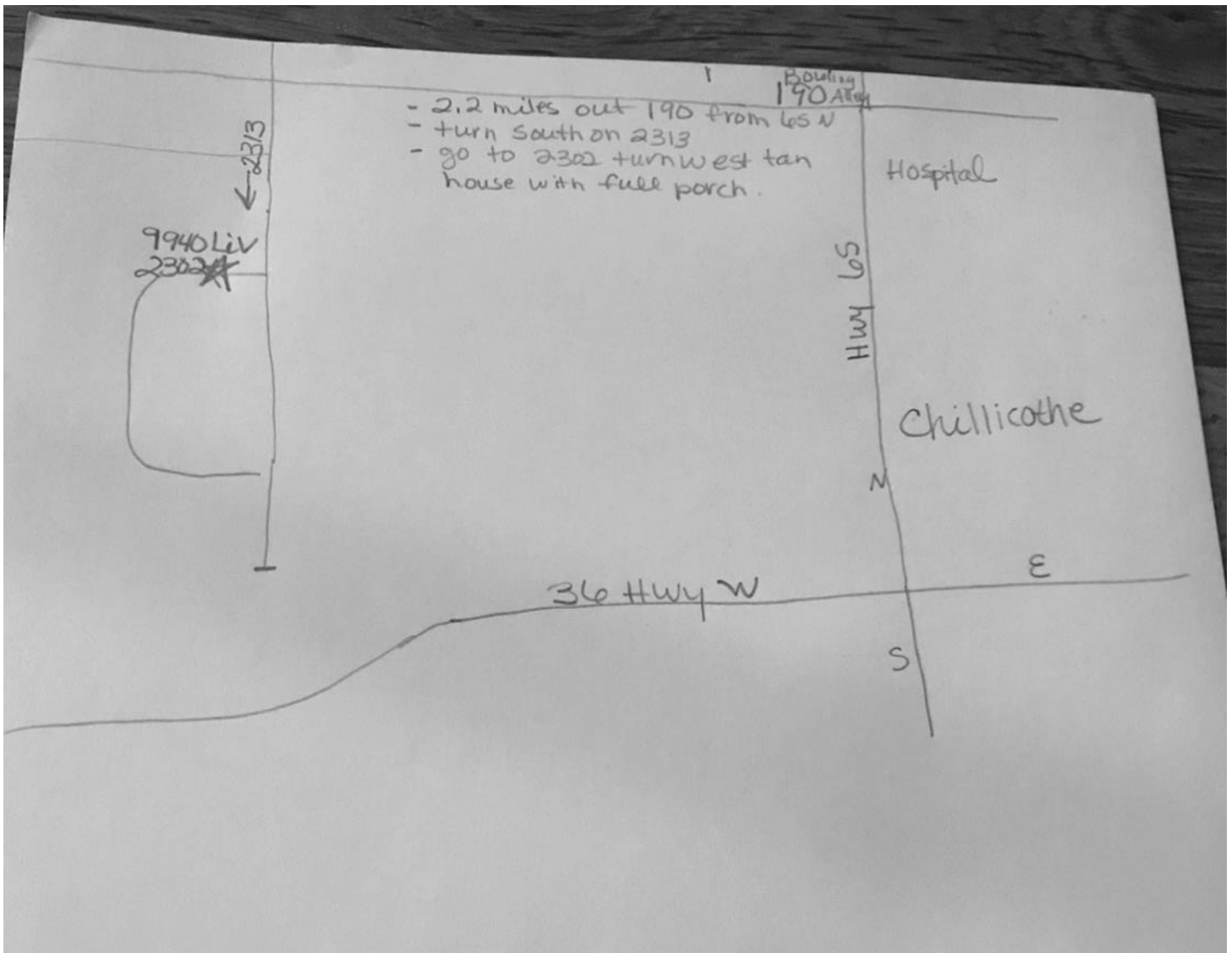
Cut off about 2" from the base of the loop and taper the screw driver blade. C

lean up the blade with a file. Since these are made with mild steel, I heat the screw driver blade to orange and "quench" in water. There seems to be just enough carbon to toughen the blade. I also warn customers that this is not hardened steel and can be bent if too much torque is applied. It also helps to not make the blade too thin. Most muskets have relatively large screw slots. I also proceed to explain that the originals were made from wrought iron, which is softer. When discussing this with a gunsmith friend, his theory is that it was a lot easier to replace the tool than the screw. Since I have not seen nor heard of anyone doing an analysis of gun tools to find out if they were case hardened, I stick with the first theory.

Other variations of these can also be found in the "Collector's Encyclopedia".

Next Meeting: August 3, 2019

Hosted By: Willy Bagley Shop



Food will be available

Trade item: Anything with a Railroad Spike

Demonstrators: James Brow and Andrew Johnson.



UPcoming EVENTS

August 3, 2019 Meeting, Willy Bagley

August 2019 State Fair, Sedalia, MO

September 14, 2019 Meeting, Ned Digh

November 23, 2019 St. Clement's Day (Blacksmith Holiday)

November 29, 2019 Black Friday Hammer In, Ken Janson, Moscow Mills, MO

January 1, 2020 Hammer In Pat McCarty, Washington, MO

If there is an event that is not listed or a meeting that you are interested in hosting please contact us at BAMeditor2015@gmail.com.

Coal Stations

Price per bag:

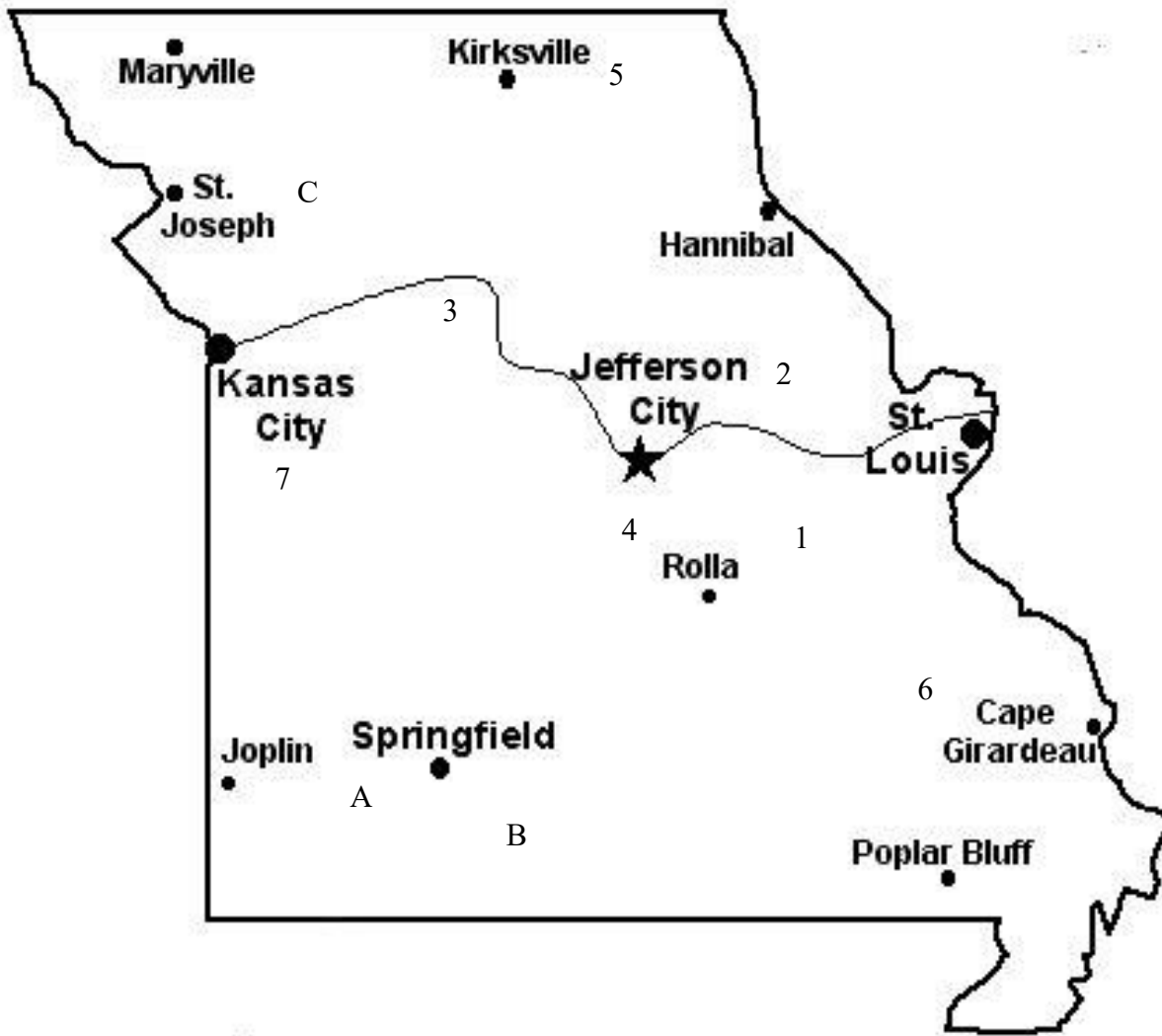
BAM Members \$15.00

Non Members \$20.00

Member's pickup at Bob Alexander's - \$13.00

Coal keepers earn \$3.00 per bag

Bags are approximately 50lbs. each



BAM Coal

1. Bob Alexander (636) 586-5350
14009 Hardin Rd.
DeSoto, MO 63020
2. Ken Jansen (636) 295-5844
2257 Carter Rd.
Moscow Mills, MO 63362
3. Doug Clemons (660) 631-1257
29377 Durango Ave.
Malta Bend, MO 65339
4. Jerry Rehagen (573) 744-5454
390 Bozina Valley Trail
Freeburg, MO 65035
5. Joe Hurley (660) 988-8872
or (660) 626-7824
26306 State Hwy D
Downing, MO 63536
6. Bob Maes (573) 866-3811
Route 1 Box 106 K
Millersville, MO 63766
7. Bryan Lillibridge (660) 638-4536
1545 NW 300
Urich, MO 64788

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 \$12 per approximate 50 lb bag with bulk delivery available.
Matthias Penn Rt. 1 box 479-S Ava, Mo. 65608. (417)-543-2148.
Or e-mail tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com.
- C. Coal for sale \$14 per approximate 50 lb. bag. Missouri School of Blacksmithing
Matthew Burnett 816-575-2798, 3100 NW Winchester Rd Cameron, MO 64649

Coal Specifics

A few notes on our coal:

- 1) Not all coal is created equal. The coal we buy is from the West Virginia to Pennsylvania vein and is a high metallurgy grade unlike coal from other areas.
- 2) Raw coal from the bagging company is stored outside which allows it to get rained on, (rain is water which weighs 8.4 pounds to the gallon). If the coal is bagged wet and then dries out the weight will change.
- 3) The coal fines which when mixed with water to form a paste burns along with the chunks of coal but during shipping and handling may sift out of the bags causing a weight loss.

So, the bottom line to all of this is we are selling coal in approximately 50 pounds bags.

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

Commercial / Resource ads:

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:

Missouri School of Blacksmithing

Cameron, MO

Instruction by Matthew Burnett

Group and Individual classes offered.

816-575-2798

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. 417-543-2148

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.

Tire Hammer Plans by Clay Spencer

Send Paypal for \$30US to clay@tirehammer.com. Or check/money to 73 Penniston Pvt. Dr., Somerville, AL 35670. I can mail a copy or email PDFS.

Beverly shear blades sharpened. Remove blades, mail in small Flat Rate box, include check/money order for \$50, includes return postage. clay@otelco.net, 256-558-3658.

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
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Products:

Forge-Aprons offers seven different styles of leather blacksmith aprons; the Original bib, the Short bib, the Full-Cut bib which offers greater chest coverage, the Lap apron, two sizes of Kid's aprons, a Budget apron and our brand new, limited edition Flame apron which features flame imprinted buckles and an anvil engulfed in flames on the logo pocket.
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Heavy-Duty Fry Pan Blanks 9" diameter, tapered sides 12

Or 13 gauge steel (approx.2 pounds) no predrilled holes for the handle \$14.00 each..1-4, \$12.00 each.5-9, \$10.00 each...10+. Shipping: \$5.00 plus\$1.00 each frypan Bob Tuftee 563-349-3669 21718 277th Ave LeClaire, IA 52753

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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:
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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

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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@llion.org

Around the Anvil BAM has its 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 Terry Humphries at thumphr@south40.org 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 636-432-4468

Scholarship Application

Name:

Address:

Phone & Email:

What class or event do you wish to attend?

Where:

What is the cost?

Tuition:

Travel:

Lodging:

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 learn during this learning experience. (Additional pages if necessary)

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 year of the event, I will present a demonstration of the newly learned skills at a BAM meeting or complete a video to be placed on the BAM library. One third of the total scholarship amount will be awarded before the event, one third on submission of the article to the newsletter editor, and one third after presenting the demonstration at a BAM event.

Signed _____ Date _____

Send Scholarship applications to:

Mike McLaughlin, 122 Milwaukee, Lawson, MO 64062
cowpie42@hotmail.com 816-296-3935

This page may be printed

James Brown Scholarship write-up at the Missouri School of Blacksmithing

By: James Brown

Good food, good friends, and good fun, this is what you will get when taking a class at the Missouri School of Blacksmithing with Mr. Matthew Burnett. Hello all, my name is James Brown and I was chosen for the BAM scholarship. On Sept 27-29, 2018 I attended Matthews toolmaking class. I've spent a lot of time wracking my brain trying to decide what was expected of this required part of my scholarship. Do I give you folks a "play by play" as it were as to what actually happened during the class, or just hit some high points? I wanted to make sure I fulfilled my part of the scholarship and not fall short. After quite a bit of deliberation I chose to hit the high points whether its right or wrong. First off, my background, I have been a member of BAM for three years now and got interested in the hobby after attending the state fair and visiting the BAM tent. I put my name on the list for Matthews class schedule mailer and there it began. I enrolled in a one day beginners class and ended up being the only attendee, from there I was hooked. From there I had the opportunity to attend a class at Ken's Custom Iron in Avon, MN. And now here I am writing this column. I had a very enjoyable time at Matthew and his father Dwayne's home improving my abilities, meeting new people and sharing the trials and tribulations that come with learning a new skill set. We were taught about steel selection, heat treating processes, and how to create the tools you will use as a blacksmith. During the course of our three day class, we had the opportunity to make several tools including: a cold chisel, a hot chisel, center punch, hot punches, and we made our own hot cut hardies. Once we completed our tooling they were put to use by making projects that utilized each of our newly made tools so we could "give them a proper testing". Included are a few pictures of the class and one of the crew of would be smiths. I hope I have fulfilled my end of

the bargain and have done this group proud. Enjoy and remember, it can always be reheated and turned into something new and useful. :)



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

Additional photos from James Brown at the Missouri School of Blacksmithing

For Next Meeting map, see page 28 of this Newsletter.

