

# RAM

January/ February 2021



January/February 2021  
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# Blacksmith Association of Missouri

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The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri is published six times a year and is mailed to members of BAM.

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The annual fee for regular membership is \$30/year; a portion of this amount is for a subscription to this newsletter for one year. BAM membership inquiries should be addressed to: Dennis Marshall 13410 A Highway, Liberty, MO 64068 busyman512@outlook.com 816-645-7237

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**Membership Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member  Renewal  ABANA member  
\$30 per year

Are you interested in taking a class?   
How did you learn about BAM?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are for one year from receipt of dues. Dues are \$30, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly BAM newsletter. Please makes checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri

**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*

www.abana.org To join online. More options available there.

- Regular Member -----\$55 yr.
- Senior Citizen (Age 65+) -----\$50 yr.
- Full time student -----\$45 yr.
- Overseas airmail -----\$80 yr.
- Overseas surface mail -----\$65 yr.
- Contributory-----\$100 yr
- Public Library-----\$45

yr.



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# President Report

By: Santo Giuffrida

Hello BAM Members, I hope this Newsletter finds you happy healthy and warm as we are in a cold spell while I write this letter.

We enjoyed a good turnout at the Higbee MO meeting on February 6, 2021. Despite COVID and the forecasted snow, we had at least 65 folks turn out. Thanks to everyone that help make it a success. Make sure and check out the articles and pictures. I'd like to especially thank Dale Kirby for hosting and Mike McLaughlin and Bob Ehrenberger for demonstrating.

On January 1, I was able to attend Pat McCarty's "Headache Hammer In". Attendance was down primarily due to early morning snow/ice storm across much of the State. That meant those in attendance had to eat more of the good food prepared by Jon and Heather McCarty as well as others. Like always, Pat had a project for us to try. It was something I never tried before. After you read the "how to" on that, you will understand why I tip my hat to him. I also want to thank him for having the "Headache Hammer In".

If you want to host a BAM meeting please feel free to contact me. My phone number and/or email can be found on the BAM Contact link on our BAM website. At the moment, we are looking for a host for the Nov/December timeframe, as we need a location that can facilitate an indoor meeting due to potential weather conditions. Even, if you would like to host a non-winter event we would love to hear from.

In the meeting minutes we talked about contacting Mark Lawson, if you are interested in having your name on the BAM website demonstrator list. I wanted to add that you can also contact Mark or myself if you prefer to just demonstrate at the BAM Meeting. We will keep you on an off web list as we need demonstrators for the meetings as well.

Hope to see as many as can make it to the next meeting in Doniphan Mo on April 10. Don't forget to keep the rust off the anvil by using it.

Santo

Join BAM's "Around the Anvil" Email Newsgroup. Go to [bamsite.org](http://bamsite.org) scroll down to Join BAM's Around the Anvil newsgroup enter your email and hit subscribe. Ask questions, make announcements, share pictures of your work, and get some of the latest news.

## BAM Meeting Minutes February 6th, 2021

Submitted by Bob Stormer

After the demos, but before lunch, President Santo Giuffrida brought up the topic of whether to have BAM meetings on even or odd months. This was left over from the Oct 2020 meeting when he felt there were not enough members present to accurately represent the membership wishes. The goal is to have six BAM meetings a year in addition to the annual BAM Conference. Regardless of the outcome of the discussion all the currently scheduled meetings for 2021 will be held as scheduled. For all other meetings Santo proposed letting the meeting host decide whether they would have the meeting on the even month or the odd month. There were no questions and the members who were present voted to accept Santo's proposal to allow the meeting host to pick the month for the meeting.

After lunch BAM President Santo Giuffrida opened the meeting by thanking Dale Kirby and his wife for hosting the meeting. Dale, in turn, thanked all the attendees for braving the weather and participating in the meeting.

Santo then introduced the five current BAM officers since four are new since Santo took over as president in June 2020. Mark Lawson is the new 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Orry Harbit, who couldn't attend the meeting, is the new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Chris Miller is the new Treasurer, and Bob Stormer was retained as Secretary. He also introduced Mike McLaughlin as the new newsletter editor, Dennis Marshall, who thanked Bruce Herzog for his help and his past service, as the new membership chairman, Orry Harbit as the new BAM Scholarship chairman. When Bruce Herzog had the job of treasurer it also included the membership duties as well. The two jobs were separated to enhance the possibility of getting volunteers when Bruce mentioned wanted to retire. Santo also identified the immediate past-president, Steve McCarthy, as the nominating committee chairman. If you have any thoughts of serving BAM as an officer, or on any of the committees, contact Steve at the next BAM meeting in Doniphan or sooner. Election of new officers and committees occur in May of each year at the annual conference.

Chris Miller gave the Treasurer's report. Chris thanked Bruce Herzog for making the transition of the accounts to the bank in Doniphan very smooth. He also mentioned the new BAM accounts were in place on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Chris reminded everyone how essential the annual BAM Conference is to the financial health of BAM by noting some losses, none of which were big losses, for 2020. A major near-term expense will be buying a new load of coal.

Santo mentioned that our request for tax exempt status has not yet been approved, but since there have been no request for additional information from us, he and the lawyer consider that a positive status.

Dennis Marshall presented the current membership status at 537 up from 528 at the previous meeting. Six new members were signed up at this meeting. He was also asking for help getting updated addresses for Life Members Jerry Hoffman and Floyd Daniel. Dennis also mentioned that someone has registered a BAM membership for the Boiler Makers Union #23 of St. Louis. This is our first known "group" membership.

Mark Lawson talked about a demonstrator list that BAM maintains for reference when someone calls and asks if BAM has a demonstrator available for a certain event. Please let Mark know if you like to be on the list of potential demonstrators.

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Michael Gorzel gave a briefing on the status of the 2021 BAM Conference which will be April 29 – May 2nd. One of the three demonstrators from the cancelled 2020 conference backed out of the 2021 conference, leaving two demonstrators, Roy Adams the artist blacksmith, and Allen Newberry the knifemaker. Michael is going to try using a camera and large screen TV to help with viewing detail work by the demonstrators. Michael asked for ideas on potential demonstrators, probably not for this year, but for future conferences. He reserved a block of rooms at the new Hampton Motel in Sedalia since he couldn't get rooms at the Comfort Inn due to lots of activity in Sedalia that weekend. The catering company will not "serve" the food this year, but will deliver "bag" lunches. The usual potluck dinner will be available Thursday and Friday evening for anyone who wants to participate. This will be listed as the 29<sup>th</sup> conference, which was the one that would have happened last year. The flyers for the conference are finished and should be on the BAM website and mailed out soon. Apparently, Nathan Robertson will not be able to make it this year, so Bernie will not need to bring "Vern" the 100lb power hammer.

Santo asked Steve McCarthy to talk about the TELLY award that the Sedalia PBS station, KMOS, received for their coverage of the BAM Conference in 2019. The title of the program was "Making" and aired every Saturday afternoon. For the episode that covered our conference they interviewed five or six members and had lots of video that was shot around the conference. There is a link labeled "[BAM segment on PBS show Making](#)" to the video on the BAM website. The award will be in the BAM Gallery at the 2021 conference.

Karen Bouckaert explained the BAM Library procedure for the benefit of new members. If you find a book you would like to check out, take the card from the inside cover and write your name on it and put it in the box that's on the library table. If you find a book you want from the library list on the BAM website you can contact Karen to make sure it's available and she could bring to the next meeting.

Santo thanked Dale again and the meeting was adjourned.

### Editor Notes

by Mike McLaughlin

Well I didn't leave myself much space. I really don't have a lot to say at this point, but I do have a lot to learn. I do hope you like my first issue. I will get better.

I want to thank Jon and Heather McCarty for their help in getting me going. They have done a fine job over the years and they deserve our thanks.

I would like to thank Bob Stormer for continuing to be Secretary. His writings and pictures really help make this publication.

I also want to thank Bruce Herzog. His pictures really bring this thing to life.

John Sherwood is no slouch either. Thanks for the pictures.

Bob Ehrenberger thanks for the advice.

I was thinking of adding a section that listed Steam, Threshing, and other Shows that our members attend and participate in. It could be listed as a "bring your hammer" and join in. Or "I'll be here come by and say Hi".

If you have cool tool that you figured out or an interesting way of doing something and want to share, write it down and we can include it.

"Yay" Mike McLaughlin

## The Headache Hammer In

Written by Santo Giuffrida Photos by John Sherwood

As always, Pat McCarty generously hosted his Headache Hammer In on January 1, 2021. Initially attendance was very low due to the bad weather and probably some concerns of COVID. As the temperature warmed up to prevent the precipitation from freezing, more members continued to show up. If you want a count, check the group picture we took after lunch. Lunch was its usual warm tasty meal on a cold winter day. I always enjoy the fellowship at this event and always learn a few things. This day was no exception.





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The project for this Hammer In was to make small decorative cowboy hat. I will try to describe the steps.



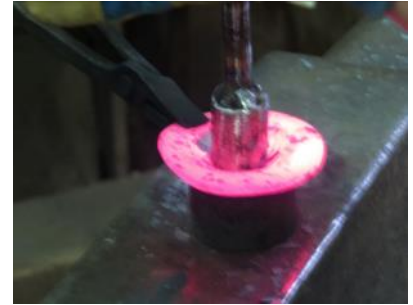
First, the stock you will use is a round disc. They can vary in size. I made one about 3 inches in diameter by eighth of inch thick and another hat using a disc of about 2 inches in diameter by sixteenth inch thick. The determining factor is the diameter of a pipe you will use as tool to shape the portion of the hat that would fit over your head. You want the disc to have enough material extended over the pipe opening all the way around to form the hat brim.

Tools that will be needed for the first step are:

- a.) A piece of pipe to allow you drive the middle of disc into the pipe void. The pipe does not need to be very long, about 1 ½ half or 2 inches. One side of the pipe's inside diameter should have small radius sloping to the inside of the pipe. You will place the radius side facing up on your anvil.
- b.) You will also need a blunt rounded punch that will fit inside the pipe void, but still leave enough gap around the inside pipe circumference, so that there is room to drive the center of the disc into the pipe hole to make the hat portion that covers one's head.



Heat the disc in the forge, and then lay it on top of the pipe with radius opening. Try to center it; if your disc is not too thick you will see a shadow of the pipe circumference on the disc facing you as it is cooling there first. Once your disc is approximately centered, use the blunt punch to drive the middle of the disc into the pipe void about a half inch. May take several heats.



Next heat the disc and flatten the brim area that has likely become wavy from punching the disc in the pipe.



Next heat the portion of the disc on what will be the top of the hat. Set on anvil like anvil is wearing it and take a blunt chisel or other shape and crease the top center of the hat and sides of that hat (where a person would grab cowboy hat to place on their head). Alternatively, you may desire to keep it round, depending on style of hat you are going for.

With the brim of the hat still flat, now is a good time to put your touch mark in. Recommend brim section on front or back of hat. Sides of cowboy hat will be curved up in next step.



Next heat the disc with hat up as though your fire was wearing it, so you can get side brim hottest. Take the side brim to either a V block or you can even use an edge of the anvil. Take the hat out of forge holding upside down and place on edge of V block or anvil in between the brim and the round depression and strike the side brim to curl it to your desired shape. Repeat on the other side of hat.

If you desire the front or back of the hat to slope down over face of the cowboy or back of his head, you can heat it in the forge then adjust as you prefer by placing on anvil or jig that slopes at your desired angle.

Clean and apply desired finish. Yee ha!!

February 2021 BAM Meeting Iron-In-The-Hat

Donated by	Won By	Item
Dale Kirby	Robert Riesmeyer	Small Keg with Whiskey
Atlas Knife and Tool	Jon McCarty	New Gas Forge
Adam Ratley	Chris Miller	Large Bucket of RR Spikes
Willie Bagley	Julie Plaster	Square Stock
Jon McCarty	YAY-ME	Rose Flower Pattern Tree Ornament
Adam Ratley	Dale Kirby	Table Vise
??	Mark Sampsel	Leaf Spring
Adam Ratley	Jason Wolfe	2 RR Plates
Adam Ratley	Jason Wolfe	2 RR Plates
Adam Ratley	Mark Sampsel	2 RR Plates
Bruce Miller	Willie Bagley	Round Stock
Jeremy Howell	Jim Holland	Coil Spring
Bob Stormer	Cat Selby	Table Mount Hand Crank Grinder
Bernie Tappel	Steve McCarthy	Spring
Chris Miller	Denny Quinn	Steel - Needs Bright Yellow to Forge
Bruce Miller	Ashley Farnsworth	Threaded Rods
Bernie Tappel	Jake Jacobs	Spring
John Sherwood	Dirk Ensor	Deer Antlers
Joe Sainz	Jim Holland	Iron Bars
Santo Giuffrida	Jon McCarty	Jack Hammer Bit
Dennis Marshall	Santo Giuffrida	Horseshoe Rasp
??	Santo Giuffrida	Cable
Bob Stormer	John Sherwood	RR Track
Jake Jacobs	Rob Ahrens	Anvil Mate
Mike McLaughlin	John Schonfeldt	Demo Tongs
Mike McLaughlin	Bob Eckert	Demo Tongs
Bill George	John Sherwood	Sulkie Rake Tooth
Don Anders	Mark Lawson	Apron, Clipboard, Gloves
Bob Eckert	Jamie Holland	Oak and Hackberry Handle Mat'l
Jake Jacobs	Karen Bouckaert	Penny Cowboy Hat Pendant
Adam Ensor	John Edwards	Wire Rope
Eileen Sherwood	Bill George	Borax
Lou & Jeff Mueller	YAY-ME	Books
Jake Jacobs	Karen Bouckaert	Quarter Cowboy Hat Pendant
Mike Mclaughlin	Santo Giuffrida	Horseshoes
Dale Kirby	Jon McCarty	4x6 Basswood Plank
Bob Ehrenberger	Bob Stormer	Demo Spoon
John Murray	Bruce Miller	4140 Hammer
Dennis Marshall	Denny Quinn	Blacksmith Calendar
BAM	John Edwards	BAM T-Shirt
Pat McCarty	YAY-ME	Iron Skull
Lou & Jeff Mueller	Don Anders	Books
Bill George	Steve McCarthy	Bees Wax and Honey

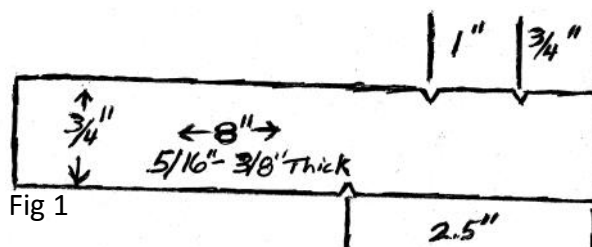
## Tongs Demonstration

Written by Mike McLaughlin

Photos: Bruce Herzog, Bob Stormer, John Sherwood, And Mike M.

These are the steps I used to create 2 different sets of tongs. The first set is a design borrowed from a Youtube video by Toby Hickman. The second pair I was just winging it. I usually make these on a little giant. I did draw out the reigns on the little giant before the demo. I have a supply of 3/4" sucker rod that I use. I forge it to a rectangle about 5/16" x 3/4" and cut it off at 8" long. This size of material has worked ok for tongs that hold up to 3/4" material. The material I used for the demo was 3/8" x 3/4" mild steel 8" long.

Mark bar with cold chisel. (fig 1) 3/4" mark is the jaw area. 1" is between the jaw and boss. 2.5" is other side of boss where reigns will begin. This will net reigns 12" long. Make indent deep enough to index to your butcher or anvil devil. Make sure it is perpendicular to bar length. Use a file to straighten out crooked marks.



Butcher a little shy of halfway in. (fig 2 and 3) Use a radiused tool for final blows to make sure you don't have too sharp a corner. Make sure the angle of your butcher is going the correct direction.



Fig 2



Fig 3

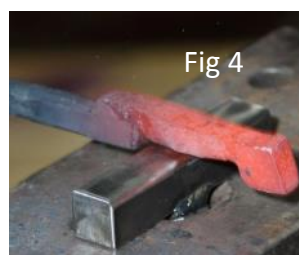


Fig 4



Fig 5

I draw out the reigns first, so I don't have to use tongs for the rest of it.

Forge out area that will be the curved part of the jaws. (fig 4 and 5) Using either the nearside and far side edges of the anvil with half faced blows. Or use a little tool like the 3/4" hardy tool I made. I also have a 2" x 2" block that fits in the hardy to help form this area. (fig 9) You are looking for half the thickness of the original bar. It should be about 2" between the boss and jaw area. Make both halves the same length.

Heat boss area clamp in post vise and bend and hammer back almost 90 degrees. (fig 6) Heat jaw area and bend back at least 45 degrees. (fig 7) Use an area of the vise that has radiuses or use radiused jaw liners. Do them the same.

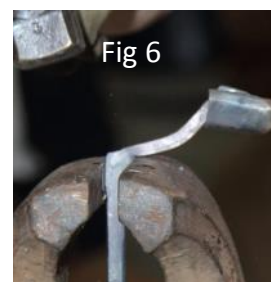


Fig 6



Fig 7

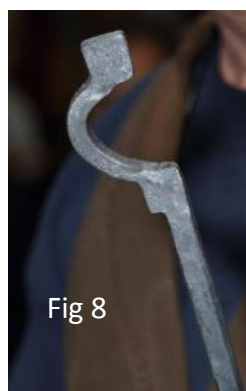


Fig 8

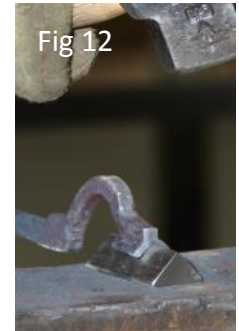
Heat and bend area between the boss and jaw over the horn or use bending fork. The flat part of the jaw should line up with an imaginary center line drawn by the reigns and the center of where the rivet will be.

(fig 8)



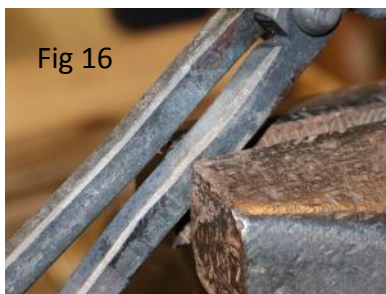
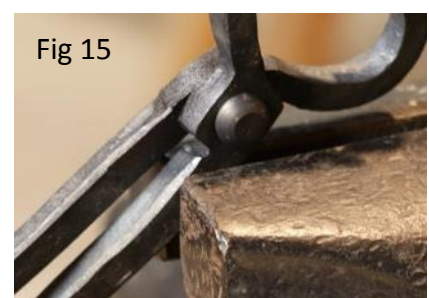
Fig 9

Clamp in jaw cutting fixture in post vise. (fig 10) Mark a center line on jaws with hot cut chisel. (fig 11) Heat and cut from one side keeping on center line. Load tongs the other direction to meet in the middle. You will probably have to do this in multiple heats. I had been chiseling from the same side and I would run off center. Plus my chisel isn't ground exactly the same on both sides so I rotate it every few hits. For holding material up to 1/2" you only need to go about 1/4" deep. Use anvil devil or edge of anvil to form jaws to a 90 degree angle. (fig 12)



Hot punch or drill hole for rivet. I use 5/16" X 1". If you punch do it with the tongs facing the same direction. The sides that are on the anvil will be the sides that will touch when assembled. Keep area flat and file if necessary. I set the rivet cold. You will have to tighten it up after you adjust the jaws and reigns.

Heat up the entire jaw and boss area. Clamp flat area of jaw in vise with chiseled area up. (fig 13) Using a hammer and a little bending knock boss area over to line up center of jaws to the center of the boss. Do the same for both sides. Heat up jaws again then take a piece of the material you wish to hold and place in jaws of tongs. Squeeze in vise to make the jaws conform to the shape. (fig 14) If you have enough heat you can spread and adjust reigns to the spread you want to hold them comfortably. You may have to do this multiple times to get everything lined up. I then heat up the boss area on the reign side. Grip the reigns as close to the boss as possible in the corner of the vise jaws and bend past center, (fig 15) then move it up about 3/4" to 1" and bend back to center the reigns.(fig16) Do both sides the same. This may take a few heats. I do all of these adjustments by eye. Building some tooling for the offsets would probably make it easier. But after you make a couple pair it gets easier.



The second set of tongs I use to hold chisels, punches, and my touchmark. I did not have very many pictures of the steps, but hopefully you can get it by my description. It uses the same  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x  $\frac{3}{8}$ " X 8" long piece of mild steel. I mark it with a chisel at the 1.5" mark on one side and 2-1/4" on the other. (fig 1) This gives you the  $\frac{3}{4}$ " for the boss area.

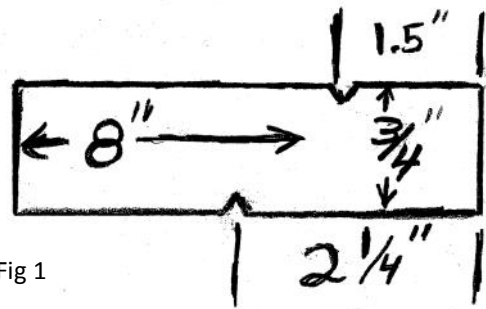


Fig 1

Butcher a little shy of halfway in. Use a radiused tool for final blows to make sure you don't have too sharp a corner. Make sure the angle of your butcher is going the correct direction.

I draw out the reigns first, so I don't have to use tongs for the rest of it.

Heat jaw end. Clamp in vise close to the 1.5" butcher. Twist it 90 degrees not too fast but not too slow. Twist the other one the same direction. Forge out the jaw out about  $\frac{3}{8}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " longer keeping the  $\frac{3}{4}$ " width the same. Make both sides match in length.

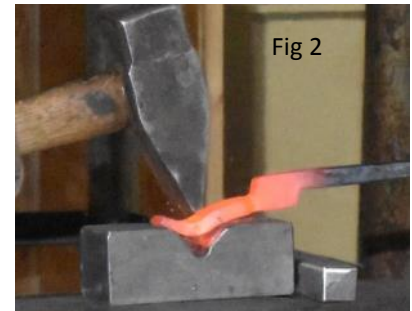


Fig 2

I used a small v-block and a hammer with a thin peen to curve the jaws. (fig 2) If you have a treadle hammer or a striker, you could lay a piece of round over it and drive it in also. You could use a piece of square and drive it on the diamond to get square jaws. Do both and get as close to the same shape as possible.



Fig 3

Punch or drill holes for the rivet. Put halves together and rivet.

Heat the boss area clamp on material then clamp in vise to adjust the reigns. (Fig 3) I put more offset in these than I do in the others.

Then heat up the end of one reign. Pick an edge of the anvil that has about a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " radius. Hold reign at a 45-degree angle to the face and put in dents in the outside edge of reign spaced about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart. 7 or 8 notches will be enough (about 3"). Bend over the horn to a nice curve. Heat the other reign and make a loop. The center of it should be approximately at the center of the radius on the other reign.

Use 6 to 8" of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " round to make a loop like a chain link. The material I used for this one was an inch short. Put through loop on reign. Clamp material in jaws and squeeze together and see if the link will lock in. You will have to make the link a little bigger or smaller to get it to lock firmly. But that is part of the fun of it.

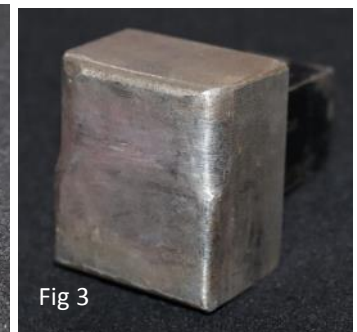
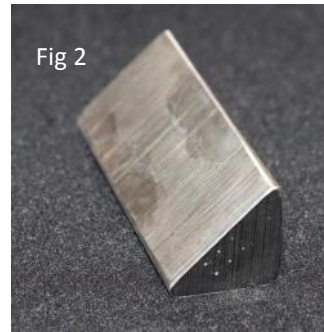


## Tooling Notes

Jaw cutting fixture (fig 1). 2 pieces of 2" angle iron 1.5" long. I tacked welded 5/16" square 1/4" from the angle to both sides clamped together. Then I cut through the 5/16" to separate them. I welded across the bottom all the way. I used a belt sander to grind the thickness down to hold the tongs. I added another piece of 5/16" to the edge opposite the angle so it would pinch them. You may have to grind that a bit to fit also.



The Anvil Devil (fig 2) is a piece of 1" square tool steel sawn on the diamond. This steel was shank tooling to hold carbide inserts for lathe tooling. It is probably 41xx or 43xx. It is tough but not hard. I ground a 3/32" radius on one side and 1/8" on the other. It is also ground to about an 86 degree angle. It keeps it from flopping over on the anvil when using it.



The block (fig 3) is just a 2" x 2" block of mild steel welded to a shank to fit my anvil. I ground a couple different radiuses on it.



The other block (fig 4) is 3/4" square lathe tool shank welded to a hardy shank. It has 3/16" radiuses on it.



The V-block (fig 5) is 1.5" square with a hole drilled in it and cut at a 90 degree angle. I have a couple different sizes of these.

There is many different ways of making tongs. Some are easier and some are more difficult. I kind of like these at the moment.

## Random Pictures



## Bob Ehrenberger's Demonstration at the February 6<sup>th</sup> 2021 BAM Meeting

By Bob Stormer

Bob was the second demonstrator at the BAM meeting held at Dale Kirby's shop in Higbee, MO on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. He chose to make a large spoon with a fancy handle, and started with a piece of 12"x1/4"x1" flat stock. Prior to coming to the meeting Bob narrowed the handle area using his power hammer, and left both ends at their normal width about two inches long. Figure 1. He did this to lessen the tedious portion of drawing out the mid-handle area.



During Bob's demo he would use a pair of tongs to dip the "non-hot" end of the stock in the water to cool it so he could hold it with his hand instead of using tongs. Figure 2. I saw Mike McLaughlin doing the same thing during his demo, and decided I will try to get in the habit doing that also. Bob started by hammering the corners for the spoon end down at a 45° angle to start rounding it. Figure 3.

After getting the end shaped like an oval, he proceeded to use a cross peen to thin and widen the spoon area. He started peening from the middle to move more material to the edges, and accomplished the peening from both sides to get an even distribution of the material. Figure 4. As Bob stated, you will likely pull material toward you better when peening than when you try to push it away from you.



After getting the basic spoon shape Bob worked on getting the transition area between the spoon and handle dressed up. He also added his touchmark since it would be harder to do later after dishing the spoon. Figure 5.



To get the dish shape in the spoon Bob used a homemade "donut" with about a 2" outside diameter. He used a ball peen hammer for dishing the spoon. Figure 6. Next, he used a homemade swag block that had a spoon shape forged in it. Figure 8.



As he was shaping the spoon, Bob also kept adding a little angle to handle, kind of like a ladle, but not as radical. Figure 7.



Before Bob started working the fancy part of the handle, he continued to clean up the marks from the power hammer along the length of the handle. I don't



recall Bob labeling the type of handle he was making but later found it referred to as a "rat tail finial". Bob started by using half faced blows off the edge of the anvil to narrow about 1" back from the end. Figure 9. He continued to draw this out to a rat tail shape. He then put a little pig tail curl on the end of the point, and ended up by curling the tapered end around the horn of the anvil. Figure 10.

Bob finishes his kitchen hardware by coating it with beeswax while the metal is still very warm.





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The second part of Bob's demo was showing us how to make a different handle for the same kind of spoon. Due to time constraints, he did not duplicate the spoon part, but made a horse head that he learned from Ken Jensen for the handle. Instead of starting with about 2" of the end of ¼"x1" stock, it looked like he started with about a 3" long section. He started by sharpening the corner by hanging a little over the anvil edge and drawing it to a point that would become the ear and then gently curving other side of the stock, that would become the horse's mane. Figure 11. He then tapered the mane area to a thinner edge and textured it with very narrow peen hammer to resemble horse hair. The next step is to use a chisel to separate the nose area from neck. Figure 12. Bob also used a chisel to trim a little off the brisket area to



shape the neck better. The eye was punched next with an eye punch and Bob put his touch-mark on it. He also punched a hole on the lower part of the neck to facilitate hanging it on a hook. Figure 13.



## ABANA NEWS

Jerry Boyd, ABANA Affiliates Committee Chair

### JoAnn Bentley is Retiring

One thing I have learned over the years is, the person in the office that keeps everything in order and keeps us going is the one that usually knows everything and keeps an organization afloat. For almost eleven years JoAnn Bentley has been that person for ABANA. If you have ever contacted ABANA through the Central Office, you probably talked to JoAnn. JoAnn has decided to retire to travel and spend time with her husband. Personally, there is no way I can thank her enough for the job she has done for ABANA. Thank you JoAnn, we will miss you!

### Controlled Hand Forging

Very often on the social media sites new blacksmiths will ask basic questions about where to learn a particular skill. There are more ways than ever to expand one's ability but a very quick and easy place to get started is the Controlled Hand Forging lessons which can be found on the ABANA website <https://abana.org/education/controlled-hand-forging/>. This voluntary program is a progressive set of lessons which emphasize ten forging fundamentals and is valuable to blacksmiths of all skill levels.

I highly recommend the controlled hand forging lessons. There is a lot of information from a lot of Master Smiths. Take a look at the rest of the website while you are there. Mike McLaughlin

## February 2021 BAM Meeting Trade Item

Trade Item - Anything made from 6" x 3/4" square stock



Made by Don Anders Traded to Dennis Marshall



Made by Bill George Traded to Denny Quinn



Made by Mark Sampsel Traded to Rob Ahrens



Made by Mike Smith Traded to Santo Giuffrida



Made by Bernie Tappel Traded to Mike Smith



Made by Matthew Burnett Traded to John Sherwood



Made by Mark Lawson Traded to Bob Eckert



Made by John Sherwood Traded to Mark Lawson



Made by Jeremie Howell Traded to Bob Ehrenberger



Made by Bob Ehrenberger Traded to Mark Sampel



Made by Jon McCarty  
Traded to Jeremie Howell



Made by Dennis Marshall  
Traded to Yoo Jung Lee



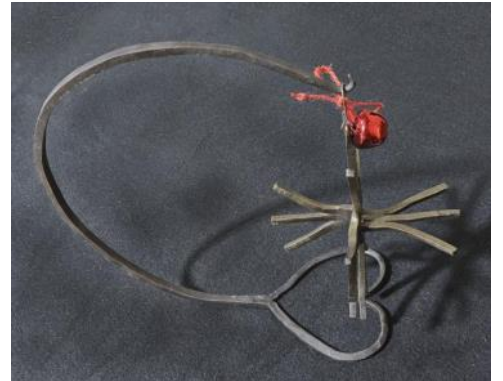
Made by Rob Ahrens Traded to Don Anders



Made by Willie Bagley Traded to Matthew Burnett



Made by Bob Eckert Traded to Willie Bagley



Made by Denny Quinn Traded to Bill George



Made by Santo Giuffrida Traded to Bernie Tappel



Made by Chris Miller Traded to Jon McCarty



Made by Yoo Jung Lee Traded to Chris Miller

# Metal Museum News

Kim Ward, Marketing Manager  
374 Metal Museum Drive, Memphis, Tennessee 38106

[www.metalmuseum.org](http://www.metalmuseum.org)

Title: Measured Making: The 150mm Challenge  
Dates: March 27 - July 3, 2021

Measured Making, is a show curated and produced by Delyth Done. Based on a project "warm up" by Ambrose Burne, the exhibition displays a curated selection of 150 metal objects, chosen from over 400 pieces created by amateur and professional blacksmiths from around the world as part of the viral #150mm Challenge. The Metal Museum is one of five stops that the exhibition will make on its U.S. tour, made possible by ABA-NA.



Title: Tributaries: Andrew Meers

Dates: April 10 - July 17, 2021

The next exhibition to open is another installment of the Tributaries series, which recognizes emerging and mid-career artists in the metals field. Master Smith Andrew Meers departs from the restraints of conventional knifemaking through his expressive use of design elements such as patterned steel blades, handmade hardware, and forged elements. His current body of work is inspired by techniques and narratives from traditional Japanese metalwork. This exhibition will include a selection of knives and forged work.

Art Work by Aaron Micheal O'Brien ( Ireland )  
Photo credit Oliver Cameron Swann.





**BLACKSMITH'S ASSOCIATION**  
**OF MISSOURI**  
**APRIL MEETING**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2021**  
**8:00 A.M - 3:00 P.M.**

**AT THE  
TOM KENNON BLACKSMITH SHOP  
AT THE PIONEERHERITAGE  
HOMESTEAD  
IN DONIPHAN, MISSOURI**



(One Block South of Courthouse Square)

**Trade Item: "Animal Headed Something or Other"**

**Demonstrations TBD**

Coffee and Donuts in the A.M.

Lunch Will Be Served.

REMEMBER "IRON IN THE HAT"

Business Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Check Out Our Shop Web Page At:

<https://www.doniphan.org/blacksmith-shop>

**CHECK OUT LODGING INFORMATION AT:**

<https://www.doniphan.org/new-page-2>

Our General Webpage is at: [www.doniphan.org](http://www.doniphan.org)

Doniphan is a 2.75 Hr. Drive From I-270 at I-55 in St. Louis – South on I55 to US67, then South to US160, then West on US160 24 miles to Doniphan. (All 4 Lane Divided Highway to US160)

Doniphan is 3.0 Hrs. Drive from US65 at US60 in Springfield– East on US60 to MO21, then South on MO21 30 miles to Doniphan (All 4 Lane Divided Highway to MO21)



## Missouri School of Blacksmithing Class Calendar Spring 2021

March 25-27

**Tongs on the Power Hammer**

April 1-3

**Blacksmithing 100 - An Introduction**

April 15-17

**Blacksmithing 103  
Railroad Spikes and Other Pointy Objects**

May 6-8

**Blacksmithing 102 – Cooking Utensils**

May 20-22

**Blacksmithing 100 - An Introduction**

June 3-5

**Blacksmithing 200 –  
Introduction to Heat Treatment and Toolmaking**

June 17-19

**Special Father and Son Class**

July 1-3

**Blacksmithing 100 – An Introduction**

September 3-4

**Missouri School of Blacksmithing Conference**

Class prices, descriptions, prerequisites,  
and skill Levels are in the catalog.

**Give us a call for more information, or to receive a catalog!**

**Matthew Burnett**  
**Missouri School of Blacksmithing**  
**3100 NW Winchester Road Cameron, MO 64429 816-575-2798**

## Welcome New Members\*

Jeremy Ellis  
Curtis Barker  
Boilermakers Local #27 St. Louis, MO  
Eric Hoog  
Jonah Markovetz  
David Owen  
Robert Riesmeyer  
Levi Rodgers  
Spencer Buck  
Erick Roberts

John Jett  
Olivia Bosworth  
Jim O'Brien  
Jerry & Laura Thompson  
Charles Jarred Dingley  
Jeremie Howell  
Scott Peters  
Rod Barnes  
Dan Grubbs  
Adam Ratley

Howard Clark  
Merle Fleming, Jr.  
Bart Doherty  
Brad Peutlu  
Charles Steffes-Clayton  
Paul Talaski  
Daniel Dahler  
Phil Harber

\*The newsletter is on the internet through our website and that would make it searchable. Going digital has a few drawbacks. To limit the possibility of a hacker, scammer, or phisher using our newsletter for their gain we have decided not to post addresses and phone numbers of new members.

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# Upcoming

## EVENTS

April 10, 2021 - Meeting - Chris Miller - Doniphan, MO  
Trade item: Animal Headed Something or Other

April 17 & 24 - MTS Beginning Blacksmith Workshop, Eminence, MO

April 29 - May 2 - 2021 29th BAM Conference Sedalia, MO

May 15 & 22 - MTS Beginning Blacksmith Workshop, Moscow Mills, MO

July 10, 2021 - Meeting - Hank Knickmeyer - Cedar Hill, MO  
Trade item: Bottle Opener

August 12th. - 22nd. Missouri State Fair Sedalia, MO

August 28, 2021 - Meeting - Willie Bagley - Chillicothe, MO

September 25th, 2021 - Meeting - The Blacksmith Shop at the Brady  
Steam Engine Showgrounds Boonville, MO

# Coal Stations

Coal Captain:

Bob Alexander

**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





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# 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. Bernie Tappel 573-496-3793  
204 Hidden Valley Road  
Jefferson City, MO 65101
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
8. Bill George (660) 247-0426  
19133 LIV 355  
Chillicothe, MO 64601

## Non BAM Coal

- A. Tim Johnson @ Advanced Welding, Springfield, MO 417-886-8032 - Pocahontas Coal \$.40/lb. cash, \$.50/lb. check/debit. 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:** 1 Steel layout table: 27 in. x 39 in. No stand. Asking price \$75.00  
ESAB, PCM-750i L-Tec plasma cutter. 50 amp output. 220v single phase 50 amp input. Thermacut PT-23 torch with 12ft. Leads. Asking price \$750.00  
Don Birdsall 636-293-6939

BAM Books from Jan/Feb 1994 - Present & binders for sale. Contact James Conway 563-366-4244

### Commercial / Resource ads:

**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.

**Tire Hammer Plans** by Clay Spencer  
Send Paypal for \$30 to clay@tirehammer.com Or check/money order 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

### Information / Education:

#### Missouri School of Blacksmithing

Cameron, MO  
Instruction by Matthew Burnett  
Group and Individual classes offered.  
816-575-2798

**Beginner & Intermediate classes** are being held at Mueller Industries (via Craft Central), 12951 Maurer Industrial Drive, St. Louis, MO 63127  
To see class listings or to register for classes, visit our website, craftstl.com  
For more information call 314-842-0796 or email; Brendan@muellerstl.com

**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.

**Matthias 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](http://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.

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### **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](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](http://rocafc.com) 585-349-7110

### **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. [www.Forge-Aprons.com](http://www.Forge-Aprons.com)

**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 563-349-3369 21718 277th Ave LeClaire, IA 52753

### **L Brand is the Official Coke of the WCB and Kentucky Horseshoe School.**

Website: [www.BlackSmithCoke.com](http://www.BlackSmithCoke.com)  
Mobile: 678-360-3521  
email: [lbrandforgecoke@gmail.com](mailto:lbrandforgecoke@gmail.com)

**Kayne and Son** Custom Hardware, 100 Daniel Ridge Road,Candler, NC 28715. (828) 667-8868 fax (828) 665-8303, e-mail:

[kaynehdwe@charter.net](mailto:kaynehdwe@charter.net), web site: [www.blacksmithsdepot.com](http://www.blacksmithsdepot.com).

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**Chile Forge-** Next generation gas forges  
[www.chileforge.com](http://www.chileforge.com) David Starr 520/360-2141

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

**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](http://www.blksmith.com) Phone (308) 384 1088

### **Custom T-shirts**

Contact Heather & Jon McCarty if you are wanting custom t-shirts with your logo. We are able to produce custom vinyl, screen-print, or sublimated products. Contact us at [hmcrafty@gmail.com](mailto:hmcrafty@gmail.com) or 636-359-1232. visit us on FaceBook at **Craf-Tee Creations**

### **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](mailto: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](http://bamsite.org) or send an E-Mail to Terry Humphries at [thumphr@south40.org](mailto:thumphr@south40.org) and he will get you signed up.

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](mailto:BAMeditor2015@gmail.com), or call 816-296-3935

**BAM**  
P.O. BOX 127  
DONIPHAN, MO. 63935

Please send changes to Chris Miller, P.O. BOX 127 Doniphan, MO 63935

## Next Meeting: April 10, 2021

**Hosted By:** Chris Miller 200 Franklin Street Doniphan, Mo. 63935 (one block south of the court house)  
More information on page 21 .

