

# RAM

March/April 2023



March/April 2023  
Volume 40 No 2

# Blacksmith Association of Missouri

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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.

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

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City: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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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 make checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri

**ABANA Membership Application**

Primary ABANA Charter Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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New Member  Renewing Member

*Includes a Subscriptions to the Anvil's Ring and The Hammers' Blow magazines*

**Membership: Renewal**  **New Membership**  *For Annual Membership-Renewal Date in One Year*

Digital \$55 / yr.  Available world-wide, including North America. Publications will be sent digitally to the member's e-mail address on file. No print copies will be mailed.

Print \$65/ yr.  Available in North America only (USA-Canada-Mexico). Publications will be mailed.

**Membership includes FREE placement in a searchable 'Find a Blacksmith' database to connect to opportunities.**

Check here to be included in the searchable on-line 'Find a Blacksmith Directory'





## Presidents Letter

A lot has happened in March and April. First, I would like to thank Chris & Becky Miller for hosting the March meeting this year in Doni-phan. We had a good turnout and meeting at the Historical Tom Keenan Blacksmith shop. Be sure to check out the demonstration articles, photos and meeting minutes contained in the newsletter.

At the very end of April, we had our Annual Conference. We had an impressive 247 registrations. We were also fortunate to have the ABANA president attend the whole conference. We elected Hollis Harbit to BAM Second Vice President. Orry decided not to run again for personal reasons. We appreciate the years he was able to be Vice President. We had a special opening program by Vern Messler on Thursday night. Special live National Anthem performances at start of Friday and Saturday morning. Three demonstrators, many vendors, MTS program, forging contests, auction and awards ceremony. With all the many things going on the editor told me he would be covering them in two issues (this one and the next May/June issue). Whether you were able to attend or not please check out the articles and photos to see what went on or relive a fun memory.

The Annual Conference went smoothly because Ashley Farnsworth, committee chair, did a great job. However, he did not do it alone. I would like to thank all the volunteers and vendors who donated their time, talent and treasure to make it such a success. These efforts and items span from the beginning with setting up, demonstrator site captains, iron in the hat, boutique, registration desk, potluck food preparers, gallery workers, auction workers, MTS instructors, and ending with those that helped us pack-up. We could not do it without you. This is what makes BAM special and when you look at it from my perspective it is humbling.

Remember to keep the rust off the anvil by using it.

Santo



### Editor Notes:

I would like to thank Bob Stormer and Chris Bopp for writing the articles for the Conference. Please check out the pictures that Bob Stormer has uploaded to the BAM photos Page. He puts in a lot of time doing this and has some descriptions too. When you see him gives him thanks for doing this. I can't possibly get all the pics I would like to in each issue, so the BAM photos page picks up a lot of slack. I had a great time again this year and the demonstrators were very informative. Thanks to Ashley for selecting a talented bunch. I am changing my phone # the new one is 816-769-5788. The old one will be still be active for a few months Mike M.

## March 25th. 2023 - BAM Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at the Tom Kennon Blacksmith Shop in Doniphan, MO. Santo thanked Chris Miller and his wife for hosting us, John Kirby and his wife Chrissy for setting up, Don Anders and John Kirby for their demonstrations and Lemonade House Grill for providing coffee and donuts for the meeting.

Santo gave the membership report for Bart White who was unable to attend. We had 568 members as of the February 4th, BAM meeting. As of March 23, 2023 we have 577 members, an increase of nine. We had a few people sign up at the Doniphan meeting as well.

Chris Miller gave the treasurers report. Year-to-date income so far is mostly from membership dues, conference registrations and coal sales and we're in the black for the year so far. All BAM tax filings for 2022 are complete.

Santo explained that our upcoming June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting which was originally to be held at Meramec State Park has MOVED to Onondaga Cave State Park near Leasburg instead. This park was recently updated and has much more appropriate facilities for our use. The bamsite.org calendar has been updated with the new information.

Ashley Farnsworth gave the conference report. We've had 135 pre-registrants, 77 with family so far, with more coming in. Our site sponsor will be [Blacksmith Supply](#) and our conference sponsors will be [Bad Dog Tools](#), and the new [Little Giant](#) Company. We have two new vendors: [Holland Anvil](#) and Ron Richerson. Returning vendors include T Star Leather, Blue Moon Press, Jerry Hoffman of Blacksmith Journal, Jack Pine Forge and Burr King. ABANA will have a table at the conference, and President Leigh Morrell will attend.

Don Anders mentioned that when you buy online from vendors, to mention BAM in the comments as it really helps to get BAM recognized by those vendors.

Santo introduced Jeff Collins who has agreed to be our new webmaster. Jeff will work with Bernie Tappel who created our existing website to update the layout and incorporate some e-commerce features so we can do membership registrations online.

Don Anders gave the MTS (Mobile Training Station) report. Ray Scott who was present was recognized in the meeting for his on-going support and will again host our MTS classes for two weekends in the spring at his place in Eminence, MO, April 15 & 22. The first day we make a couple of small projects, and the second day we make a fancy fire poker.

On Thursday of the Conference, we will also have a one-day "NC class" which is based on ABANA's National Curriculum Level 1. Bud Harvey is NC level 3 certified and he will demonstrate the proficiency items. We will work through those items in the NC class and as you complete each item you can check that off towards your Level 1 certification. You don't have to be an ABANA member to take the class or demonstrate the skills, but if you want to get the actual certificate, you must be an ABANA member.

Our insurance requires that all students be at least 14 years of age and be a BAM member to take these BAM sponsored blacksmithing classes. You must register ahead of time to insure that space is available.

We have approved a new coal station in Ava, in southwest Missouri. You can find contact information for Matthias "Ty" Penn in the Coal section of the BAM newsletter. Ty has been listed there previously as selling non-BAM coal, but he will now be selling BAM coal (the good stuff). By the way, Ty will be the instructor for Friday's MTS class at conference.

There has been discussion recently about having a grinder workshop. Matthew Burnett had even agreed to allow us to use his facilities, for such a workshop, but currently no one has come forward to lead such a workshop. Until a leader is found, that issue is on hold. See Santo if you are interested or know someone who might be.

BAM officer elections will be held at annual conference. Please consider becoming an officer of this great organization. We always need people to help run the organization. If you are interested in running for any office or know someone who might be, please contact Steve McCarthy our nominations officer. Santo has served three terms as president, and said he is willing to take that one more time, so we need to think about that. He is willing to have anyone interested shadow him time to learn about the role and ease the transition.

Meeting adjourned!

---

## BAM 2023 Conference - Business Meeting

Lee Morrell, president of ABANA, attended our conference this year, and also addressed the group at our business meeting. Lee introduced and explained ABANA to the audience for those who were not familiar, noting some of the benefits like their flagship magazines, “The Anvil’s Ring” and “The Hammer’s Blow”. ABANA is marking its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, but they will actually have the celebration in 2024 in Johnstown, Pennsylvania on June 6<sup>th</sup> thru the 9<sup>th</sup>. They are asking their affiliates such as BAM to sponsor one or more four-member teams that would attend their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference to compete in a forging contest which will be held in a “public” venue. Teams are also expected to create an iron ring which will be incorporated into that year’s ring project. Lee mentioned that ABANA was considering having the ABANA conference in Missouri for that celebration.

Bart White gave the membership report. The organization’s membership is healthy, having 587 active members in April and having added 14 new members since that count. Bart recognized the recent new members by having them stand up and asked the membership to promote BAM to potential new members. He urged that we pay attention to member retention and noted that a lot of our turnover is among new members after their first year, and that the way to keep those new BAM members is to work to get them involved in the organization. That is good advice that we all can act on.

Santo reminded the group that our June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting has changed venue. It is now at Onondaga State Park which was recently remodeled and has a great facility that will be much more appropriate for our use than the prior arranged one at Merrimac State Park.

Don Anders reported on the MTS program. BAM had our first NC class on Thursday of the conference. This is a three level class sponsored by ABANA, and we held a level one class. There were nine participants, and the class went well based on input from both the participants and instructors. BAM held two MTS beginner classes at Ray Scott’s in Eminence in April and we will likely have some more classes with the Boy Scouts later this year.

Santo explained that we are working to update the BAM website. Jeff Collins is our new webmaster and he is coming up to speed on the effort. The goal is to have online membership registration working on the website by end of year.

Santo gave the Treasury report as Chris Miller was unavailable. BAM is in good financial shape. Revenue has been strong so far this year between coal sales and conference registrations. We had almost 200 pre-registrations and many more have been coming in this week.

We have a new coal station up and running in the town of Ava in Southwest Missouri. So if you want BAM coal in Southwest Missouri, call Matthias Penn. His contact info is listed on the Coal map on bamsite.org

BAM’s annual election of officers is held at conference since that is the largest gathering of members that we have. Steve McCarthy, our nomination chair explained that this year, Orry Harbit will end his tenure as Second Vice President and thanked Orry for his service. All other BAM officers have agreed to accept another term if elected. Steve went on to say that Hollis Harbit has offered to fill the open 2<sup>nd</sup> VP position and asked if there were any other members who would like to run for any office. There were no other interested candidates, and Steve made a motion to elect Hollis to 2<sup>nd</sup> VP and retain all other officers. Santo seconded the motion. All members present were in favor. Santo pointed out that he would like to step down next year and asked members to consider running for President at the next conference. Anyone who is interested would be welcome to participate alongside Santo during the next year to learn about the role. Feel free to contact Steve McCarty or Santo to learn more.

Santo went over 2023 coming events (listed in the Newsletter) including BAM’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary is this year on November 4<sup>th</sup>. We will celebrate that occasion at the meeting at Appleton City, MO on November 11<sup>th</sup>. We will have a cake to mark the occasion.

Meeting adjourned!

## Don Anders Demo National Curriculum Level 1 Gate latch

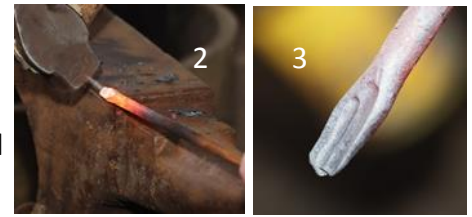
Written by: Mike M. Pics: Mike M., Bob Stormer, John Sherwood

3/8" round bar was used for the latch and staples.

The Hook. Start drawing a short chisel tip. Start a really short taper then rotate 90 degrees to finish it. This helps with making it short. It should look like a screwdriver tip.(1) Using a



round edge of the anvil to give it a radiused shape. This will allow it to fit the bar better after you bend it back on itself.(2,3) Chisel it about halfway through on the radius side where the center of the bend will be.(4,5) It will allow it to fold easier and sit flat against the parent bar. Fold it over.



(6) Chisel it again, opposite the side of your first bend where the last bend will be.(7) Bend it back on itself.(8) Heat, flux, and forge weld this bundle together.(9) Holding it over the far edge of the anvil with the barb down,

drive it back into the anvil to create a flat area on the back of the barb.(10) Heat again and forge a nice taper on the end.



Using math wizardry, he had figured out that the length of the rest of the bar to finish the latch would be 10.5". Then marked the bar for the bends.(11) Cut off the bar. (There will be an article in a later issue explaining the math wizardry)



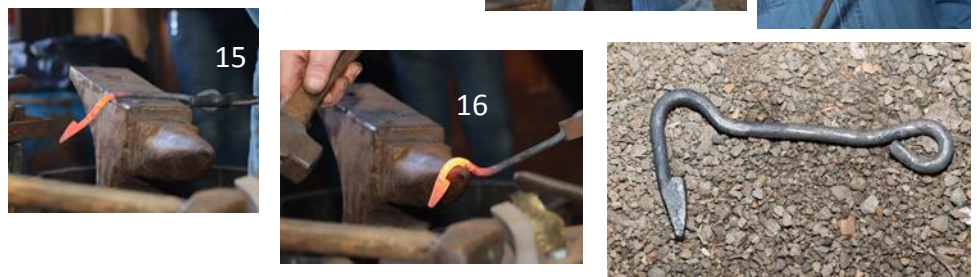
Using your mark at 3-3/4" for the eye start the bend over the edge of the anvil.(12) Keep it in line with the barb on the other end. Bend this into an eye using the horn.(13,14)



Heat the area for the bend on the barbed end. Using your mark with the barb up bend it down.(15)

Then heat and bend the barb into a half loop with the horn.(16)

Make sure it lays flat on the anvil and is inline. Adjust if necessary.



The staple. Using about 7" of 3/8" bar. Mark the center. Draw out one end to a nice square taper. Do this on the other end.(17) Using the horn of the anvil bend it into a loop.(18,19) If you made both tapered ends the same your mark in the center will be in the center of your loop. The opening in the staple must be large enough to accept the barbed end of the hook. Done.

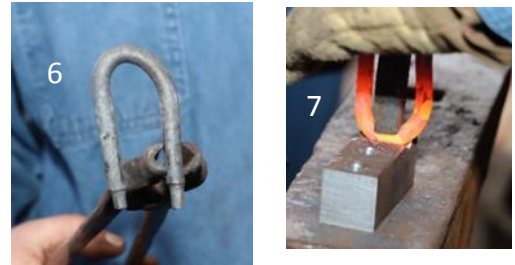




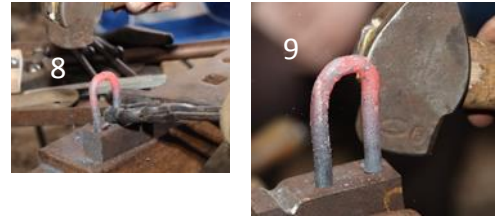
The staple for the plate. Use a butcher type tool in a guillotine tool to cut a groove in the bar all the way around. Don't go as deep as the diameter of your tenon. Using flat dies with a radius on them start your tenon.(1) This tenon needs to be 5/16" round to fit in the plate. Go square until you get to the size you want then, octagon, round.(2,3) Heat end, clamp in a vise and use a monkey tool to true up the shoulder and upset it a little.(4) The tenon should have a radius at the intersection and the plate should also have a radius. The radius will prevent creating a stress point. Cut the tenon to length. Do the other end the same.



Bend into a "U".(5,6) Don had made a tool with the same spacing as the holes in the plate. It also has a radiused groove to help square up the loop of the "U".(11) He had a square bar with a radius ground into it to drive it into the tool.(7) Then put the tenons in the holes to true it up. (8,9)



The plate was drilled and had large countersinks on the back side. The front side needs to have the edges relieved. Clamp the "U" in a vise with the tenons up. Don't forget to put the hook on. Use a torch to heat the tenon and upset it into the countersink.(10) If you figured it correctly it should be flush with the back.



For more information see the Spring issue of the Hammers Blow, Mark Aspery videos, or the ABANA website.



If you missed the Doniphan meeting, you missed quite a collection of gigs. Ray Joe Hastings collection is quite large. See more photos in the BAM Gallery on the website.



## John Kirby Demo Bull Dog Hook

Written by: Mike M. Pics: Mike M. Bob Stormer

John was taught this by Matt Burchett. He then took what he learned and gave it his own personal spin. John also has a lot of great stories. John Used a piece of 3/16" x 3/4" flat bar.

He knocked the corners in and then hung about 1/2" over the edge of the anvil bent it back on itself. Knock the corners in just a little bit.(1) Then heated it and hung about 1" over the edge of the anvil and bent it back on itself.(2) He heated it up again and then used a post vise to close it tight.(3) I keeps you from marking up the surfaces with your hammer.

Next you heat it and with it face down go to a sharp edge of the anvil and pull out an ear. Keep it at a 45-degree angle. Pull out the other one.(4) Bend them down towards the face.(5)

The face required a lot of different chisels. He bought some of them and made some.

He used a small ball punch to make the nose.

Use an eye punch for the eyes. Use a sharp center punch for the pupils.(6)

He made a curved chisel for the eyebrows. Eyebrows can give the dog a nicer look.(6)

He made a curved chisel for the jaw curtains. Start at the center with the curve going out. (7)Try to make them even.

Use a sharp center punch to make whiskers.

He made a punch like a half moon to make the tongue.(8)

The collar is just 2 chiseled lines with a ball punch for the studs and a larger eye punch for the tag. A square or diamond shaped punch would look good here too.(9)

He drew this out into a hook, but you could use this as a handle for something or a bottle opener if you use larger stock. Use your imagination.





## Vendors

Thank you for helping make it a great conference and thanks for your generosity.





March 25th. 2023 Trade Items.  
Anything with a Scroll.



Randy Carrier to James Gleason



Anthony Martin to Jason Bilbrey



Mark Clifford to Santo Giuffrida



James Gleason to Orion Moran



Orion Moran to Don Anders



Westley Moran to John Sherwood



Jason Bilbrey to Westley Moran



Don Anders to Mark Clifford



John Dilsaver to Chris Miller





John Sherwood to Randy Carrier



Chris Bopp to Mike Morton



Chris Miller to Chris Bopp



Brandon Crawford to Bob Fleming



Bob Fleming to Anthony Martin



Mike Morton to John Dilsaver

Santo Giuffrida to Brandon Crawford



## 2023 BAM Conference Report

By Bob Stormer

Thursday evening 4/27/23

BAM President Santo Giuffrida opened the conference by thanking all the folks who helped with setting up the conference, especially Ashley Farnsworth II, conference chairman. He then asked Mark Lawson to say the blessing prior to the wonderful meal known as the “Phil Cox Memorial Potluck”. The food was brought in by all the members so I can’t tell you how many people prepared food ahead of time, but there were 2 members cooking on-site: Steve McCarthy and Ken Jansen. Everybody brought foldup chairs and gathered in groups for socializing and eating just as it should be before every BAM conference. We may have seen a new tradition being born. I’m sure you’re all aware of Pat McCarty’s contribution of a “BAM Box” for the conference auction every year. This year he also made two apple pies for the potluck that had lattice top crusts with the BAM logo embedded. The pie was good enough that he may develop a following.



Santo then introduced a very colorful demonstrator and lecturer, Vern Mesler, to demonstrate the nearly lost art of restoring old iron bridges using a very old riveting technique. Coincidentally, Vern is also the guy who donated the 100 lb. Murray trip hammer to BAM a few years ago. Vern gave a very thorough explanation of the whole restoration process on his website <http://www.historicbridgerestoration.com/index.htm>. I can’t begin to express his enthusiasm for his chosen field of expertise. You truly had to be there for this one. His lecture part explained a lot of specifics about the importance of rivets versus bolts, how many hundred thousand rivets certain historic bridges have that he worked on, and different types of riveting. Some rivets are done in the “shop” to put sub-assemblies together and some are done in the “field” for the final stages of construction. His presentation suggested that he enjoyed the “field” riveting more because that’s where he spent most of his time. He was very emphatic that riveting techniques are no longer taught in engineering programs which means people like him have to be called in for the proper repairs to historically significant structures. For the demonstration part of his program, he worked with three of the BAM members, Ken Jansen, Steve McCarthy, and Bernie Tappel, to build a fixture that allows for the insertion and removal of rivets, which gives BAM members a chance to try their hand at riveting. The absolute best way to enjoy Vern’s demonstration and lecture is in person. The written word just doesn’t convey feeling he has for his passion of bridge restoration. There are a number of videos listed in tab labeled “Restoration Media” in the link listed above.



Friday evening 4/28/23

Santo conducted the BAM business meeting which is documented separately in the meeting minutes. He also announced two birthday celebrations, Willy Bagley and Fiona Penn. He then began the “ringing of the anvil” ceremony to honor the three BAM members who have passed away since the last ceremony. They are: Fabian Francis (Sonny) Schilly, George Wayne Wiley and Deanna Harbit. The next order of business was the forging contest. This year there was a level one group, which was for relatively new smiths, and a level 2 group for the more experienced smiths. The winners of each group were to be announced at the Saturday evening award ceremonies.

Saturday evening 4/29/23

At the award ceremony Santo reported that we had 241 attendees and announced the forging contest winners. The winners were:



Level 1 - 3<sup>rd</sup> place Wesley Moran \$25, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Shana Smith \$50 and 1st place Will Cado \$100  
Level 2 - 3<sup>rd</sup> place Bill Moffit \$25, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Matthew Wells \$50 and 1<sup>st</sup> place Colton Kiso.



The Founder's Award presented by last year's recipient Bob Stormer was presented to Willy Bagley. The Lifetime Award was presented by Santo Giuffrida to Steve McCarthy.



Karen Bouckaert presented the two Conference Sponsor Awards to Bad Boy Tools, and Little Giant. She also presented the Site Sponsor Award to Blacksmith Supply. Karen also presented a one-time award, a modified 2023 conference T-shirt to Nathan Robertson. She

also got a big applause for all the work she has done for this and every conference.



Paul Talaski and John Sherwood presented the Dr. Iron Slack Water Gallery People's Choice Award to Bob Brown for his copper table Lamp.

Sunday 4/30 23

The final part of Conference Report is the raffle drawing on Sunday morning. The results of the drawing are: Lisa Thompson won the cone anvil, Roger Green won the small anvil, David Roark won the well populated BAM Toolbox, and James Gleason won the Burr-King grinder.

### Vernon Messler

Vern opened the conference on Thursday night with information on restoring antique bridges using rivets. Please see Bob Stormers report on the previous page.



## Nick Rossi 2023 BAM Conference Demonstration

By Bob Stormer

Nick Rossi is an American Bladesmith Society (ABS) Mastersmith from Maine, where he runs his knife making business. His primary focus is on kitchen cutlery, such as chef's knives. The central theme of his knives is forging the steel, and his finished products purposefully show some evidence of forging. That's not to say they are rough finished. On the contrary, the fit and finish are what you would expect from any ABS Mastersmith. His primary goal is to make the finished product recognizable as "forged" even to the untrained eye. His favorite steel is 1084, but since that is hard to find, he uses 52100, 1095, 1080, 5160, and of the popular knife steels. The following descriptions are very cursory due to newsletter space right now, but hopefully will be presented in more detail in later issues. Nick had a lot of information crammed into 2 days of demos. I can't stress enough that you need to watch a Nick Rossi demonstration in person.

Over the 16 hours of his demonstration, he showed construction techniques on 4 different style knives. The first was a friction folder with a 52100 blade and mild steel handle. He used 1/8" x 1" for the blade. Since there is a lot of forging required on the edges, 1" is about the widest blade you can use without constant buckling. Figure 1 shows the forged blade and Figure 2 shows the "taco" that be the handle, made of 1/8" thick 3"x4" mild steel. Figure 3 shows a finished friction folder.

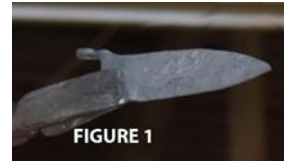


FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3

The second knife he demonstrated is a hidden tang style with a forged-on guard made from C2 Titanium. Figure 4. The blade steel was 3/16"x1-1/4" 1095. The blade was forged with the normal techniques considering its chef knife profile. The single sided guard was forged from 1/2" sq x about 3" long C2 titanium. This titanium forges very similar to steel regarding temperatures and colors. Nick used a carbide file guide to get accurate shoulders for the guard to rest on. After shaping the guard, he punched a rectangular hole a little smaller than the tang size in it. After successive fittings, he was able to use a tool, similar to a monkey tool, to press the guard over the tang. See Figure 4. That was as far as he did the finishing.



FIGURE 4

The third knife he demonstrated was an integral guard chef's knife, Figure 5. He used 3/4" round about 8" long 4140 for this knife demo. Normally he would use a higher carbon steel. He flattened one end to about 3/16" thick and 3" from one end of the stock. This will be the blade, and required quite a bit of forging to get it to look like a chef's knife blade. He cut the remaining round stock 2" behind the blade, 1" for the bolster and 1" for tang. Both sides of the bolster are flattened to be parallel with the blade. By flattening the bolster, he was able to use carbide file guide to grind in the shoulders for the guard. After working on the tang, he forged the blade edge down to about 1/16" thick.



FIGURE 5

The last blade he demonstrated was a Japanese version of a chef's knife, Figure 6. The tip for the Japanese blade is flattened at an angle, similar to a tanto. On this knife his forged edge was only .010 thick. For a blade this thin he doesn't do any bevel grinding, and profiles the edge with 50 grit then 120 grit belts. He does do a flash tempering shortly after quenching and before finish grinding to reduce the chance of developing cracks. Flash tempering is heating to a black heat just hot enough that sprinkled water will bubble.



FIGURE 6

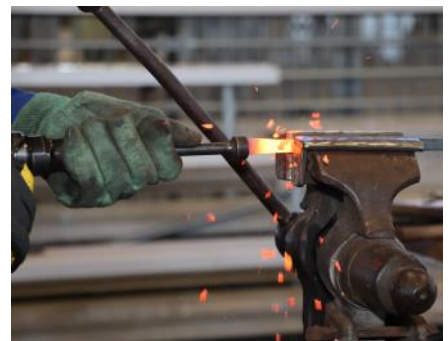


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## Glenn Horr

Written By Chris Bopp Pics: Mike M.

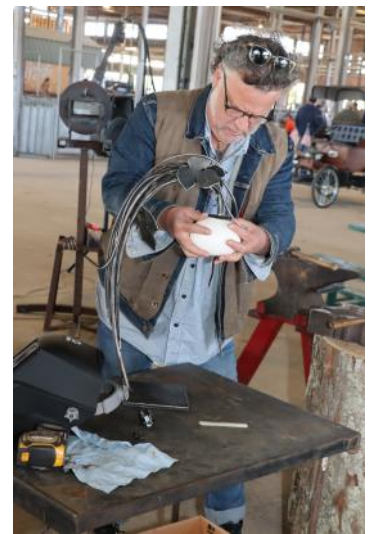
Glenn Horr is a blacksmith and sculptor who makes traditional hand forged items. Glenn demonstrated his techniques for using a hand air hammer to forge animal heads and rosettes. He used 1" square bar and ¼" by 1" flat bar to make the animal heads. Using a special fixture in the vice to hold the stock at a good working angle as he forges, he uses the more rounded-end air hammer tools to forge in features like eye sockets, eye-balls and nose, and uses sharp chisels to cut in the mouth, or separate out metal for longer parts like ears and horns. He also uses hammer and anvil for adjusting and shaping. Looking at his collection of punches and chisels (bits for the air hammer) it strikes you that some of them are rather long. He makes many of his bits that way so that it gives him room to hold the shaft of the bit with one hand to push the bit sideways into the metal as the air hammer beats it along the metal at an angle. This technique allows him to make longer more oval shaped features such as noses and eye sockets by plowing up material over the length of the "cut" and moving it to one end along the surface of the bar creating a groove or depression where the eye will go. The animal heads can be used as a finial or incorporated into handles or hooks or any number of other items. You can read more about Glenn's work and his shop "Highland Forge" at his website: [glennsforge.com](http://glennsforge.com).



## Lisa Elias

Written by Chris Bopp Pics: Mike M.

Lisa Elias is an Artist/Blacksmith who hails from Minneapolis, MN. While she also creates large art for public installations, her demonstrations at the BAM conference focused on making some interior residential lamps. As an artist, she likes to draw designs on paper as line art. The lamps she made used many pieces of 3/16" round bar to express her vision, and the thin "wire" she used reflected the way she draws – like the lines on paper. The pieces she made were scrolls, but very open on especially the scroll ends – almost an arc with slightly scrolled ends. After making several of the component pieces, she arranges a group of those scroll pieces together to make clumps she compares to a bird's nest or maybe a mane or lock of hair that looks somewhat organic and has a pleasing aesthetic. Then this group of parts is assembled onto the base item, in this case the lamp, and welded into place. Sometimes she adds flower blossoms and sometimes not. Her style is loose and flowing. Her pieces have somewhat feminine nature – a sort of soft way of expressing the shapes. You can read more about Lisa's life and work at her website: [lisaeliasmetalstudio.com](http://lisaeliasmetalstudio.com).





## Family Classes

Instructors: Mary Jo McCarty -Baskets. Tami Bagley -Stained Glass.





# Black Jack Gate Project March 4th. 2023

By Mike M. Pics. Mike M., Samrat Wheeler, John Sherwood, Walt Hull

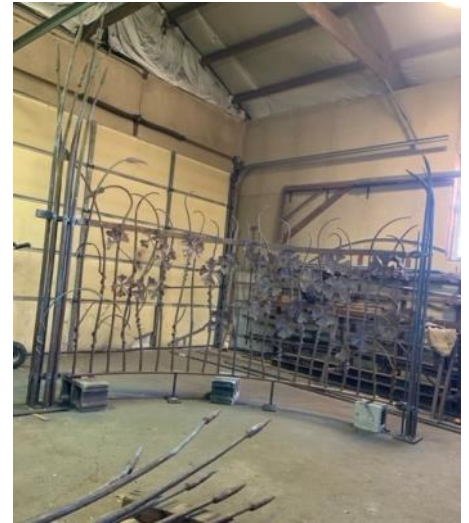
It was another productive day finishing this project. The panels were set up on a scale drawing on the floor. The end posts and supports were fitted and welded on the right side panel. The left panel still needed the leaves finished, then the posts attached. Matthew Burnett and I had started mounting the leaves on the left panel back at Bob Evan's shop. I was glad I was there to be able to be there to help finish that side. The posts and supports were then added. We ran out of gas for the Mig welder, but we were able to get everything tacked together. It just needs some final adjusting and welding and it will be ready to be painted. Many thanks to Walt Hull and Kate Dineen for setting this up. The rest of the cast was: Don Anders, John Sherwood, Samrat Wheeler, John Schonfeldt, Dennis Marshall, Dennis "Jake" Jacobs, Chelsea Brimer (Chelsea was featured in the March issue of Around the Forge, a monthly ABANA e-mail newsletter) and me. Update: It was finished, sent to the powder coaters, picked up and is scheduled to be installed on May 10th. Dedication will be the first of June.



Left Panel



Looking from left panel to right panel.



Right Panel





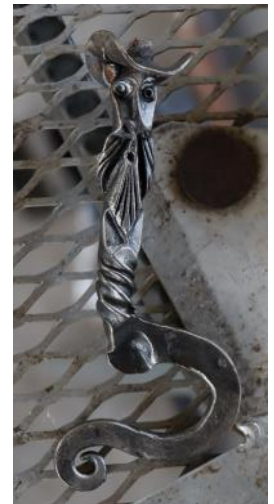
## LAMA Conference March 11th-12th, 2023

Went to the Louisiana Metalsmiths Association Conference ([lama-blacksmith.org](http://lama-blacksmith.org)) with Steve McCarthy and Ken Jansen. I haven't been to Louisiana before and it was a real treat. Gordon Williams was the demonstrator and he is known as the Energizer Bunny. He kept at least two projects going at a time and made it look easy. He had a lot of tips on tooling and ergonomics. He has a school in southern Utah now. [www.zionblacksmithschool.com](http://www.zionblacksmithschool.com).

Would like to thank Blake Mullens and the members for having a great conference. The people and the food there are amazing. I'm going again next year. Why? Because it was fun and the FOOD. I also learned a few things. Just be careful you don't know who you will run into down there.



Propane forge welding tips for Ken.





National Curriculum Level 1 class.  
The class was led by Bud Harvey a certified NC instructor. Assistants were Don Anders and Matthew Burnett both are Level 2 Instructors and John Dilsaver Level 1. Out of the 9 students 2 were able to complete their Level 1 projects, the others are almost there. This is usually a 2 day class. Good job everyone. Thanks to Bud Harvey, Don Anders and ABANA for making this happen.



Friday's beginning class with Matthias Penn. Denny Quinn for additional support (not shown).

Saturday's class with Don Anders, John Dilsaver, and a special appearance by Don Birdsall.



## Missouri Based Schools

**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](http://craftstl.com)

For more information call 314-842-0796 or email; [Brendan@muellerstl.com](mailto:Brendan@muellerstl.com)

**Matthias Penn** is offering introductory & beginning blacksmith classes. 417-543-2148  
[Tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com](mailto:Tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com) Ava Mo.

**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

**Oldschoolcrafts** Blacksmith School, Joe Davis 12625 Lawrence 1175, Mt Vernon, MO 65712 phone 417-461-0387 on the web [www.oldschoolcrafts.org](http://www.oldschoolcrafts.org) E-Mail [oldschoolcrafts@hotmail.com](mailto:oldschoolcrafts@hotmail.com)

**Classes Offered, The Farrier's Wife Blacksmith Shop.** 17332 EE Hwy. Ste. Genevieve, Mo. 63670  
Lisa Thompson 573-984-9013 See on Facebook.  
Email: [thefarrierswifeblacksmithshop@gmail.com](mailto:thefarrierswifeblacksmithshop@gmail.com)

**Missouri School of Blacksmithing.** 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 3100 NW Winchester Road Cameron, Mo. 64429 816-575-2798 [mo-schools.com](http://mo-schools.com)



One of 2 beginning classes at Ray Scott's in Eminence mo.





# Upcoming EVENTS

June 24th, 2023-Meeting- Onandaga Cave State Park 7556 Missouri Hwy H, Leasburg, Mo. 65535. First right turn after the Visitor center. Large shelter next to Mill Pond on the right. Bring Lunch and Chairs. Trade Item: Without using an Arc Welder or Torch to weld make a small metal container with a lid.

July 27th. Old Retired Guys and Anyone Who Wants to Take a Vacation Day Hammer In. Bernie and Patti Tappel hosts. 204 Hidden Valley Rd. Jefferson City, Mo. 65101 8:00am. To 4:30pm. Bring a chair. You can bring a project to work on, or something to demonstrate if you can.

August 10th. - 20th. Missouri State Fair-Sign up to volunteer at the State Fair. Free tickets and parking. Anvils and coal forges provided. Bring a project or two. Contact Hollis Harbit to sign up.

August 26th, 2023 - Meeting- Tami and Willey Bagley 9940 Rd. 2302, Chillicothe, Mo. 64601 Lunch Available. Trade Item: Something with a rivet or joinery.

October 14th, 2023 - Meeting- John Murray 2018 Oberhelman Rd, Foristell, Mo. 63348 Bring Chairs. Lunch and Trade item TBD.

November 11th. 2023-Meeting- Green Welding and Sales 1464 SE County Rd. 15305, Appleton City, Mo. 64724 Lunch TBD Trade Item: TBD

June 6-9th. 2024 ABANA 50-Year Anniversary Johnstown, Pa.

Meetings start at about 8:30am. and go to about 2pm.





# Coal Stations

## Coal Captain: Mike Lanham

### Price per bag:

BAM Members \$18.00

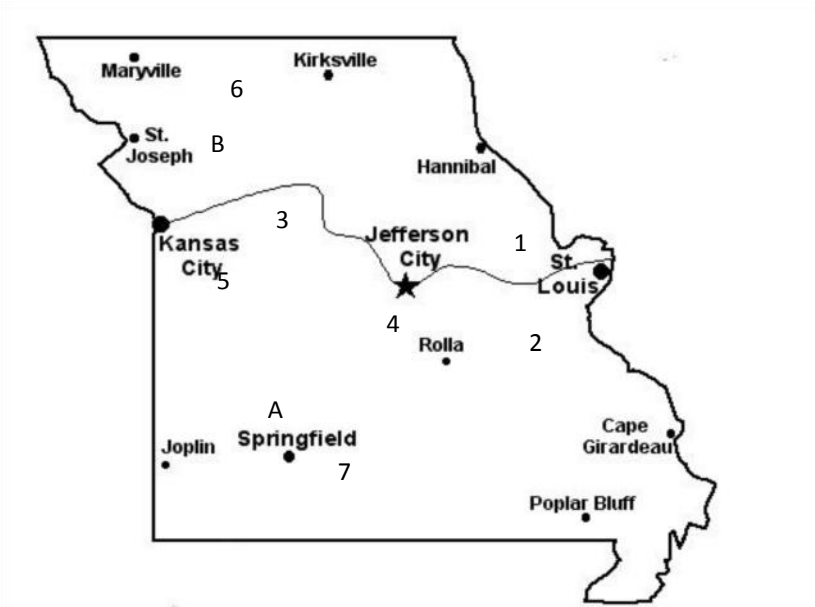
Non Members \$23.00

Member's pickup at Mike Lanham's- \$16.00

Non-Members pickup at Mike Lanham's \$21.00

Coal keepers earn \$5.00 per bag

Bags are approximately 50lbs. each



## BAM COAL

1. Mike Lanham (636) 614-5095  
2230 St. Paul Rd.  
St. Paul MO 63366  
After 5:00 pm M-F call for week-ends and before you come. You can text also.
2. Bob Alexander (314) 708-0469  
14009 Hardin Rd.  
DeSoto, MO 63020
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. Bryan Lillibrige (660) 638-4536  
1545 NW 300  
Urich, MO 64788
6. Bill George (660) 247-0426  
19133 LIV 355  
Chillicothe, MO 64601
7. Matthias Penn, (417-543-2148)  
Rt 1 Box 479, Ava, Mo. 65608  
tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com

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 pound bags.

## 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. Coal for sale \$18 per approximate 50 lb. bag. Missouri School of Blacksmithing  
Matthew Burnett 816-575-2798, 3100 NW Winchester Rd., Cameron, MO. 64649

# BAM Tailgate

## Buy, Sell, Trade

### Individual Classified ads:

**For Sale:** 200# Hay-Budden, 1-1/8" Hardy, Substantial tripod stand. Some hardy tools. Pics on website under tailgate. \$900.00 Rob Ahrens 573-221-7556 New London Mo.

### Commercial / Resource ads:

**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 314-708-0469.

**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 and mail to Scott Kretschmer  
196 Mule Deer Drive, Loveland, CO 80537. Include check for \$50 + \$10 shipping.  
Deep scratches and wrong sharpening may cost extra.  
scott@kretschmershops.com, 970-567-2609

### Information / Education:

**Blacksmith's Journal**, Instructional back issues by Jerry Hoffman are available online at  
www.blacksmithsjournal.com

**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 Call for more information and to enroll:  
(928) 554-0700 or (888) 743-4866.  
www.piehtoolco.com.

**David Norrie blacksmithing school** in Colorado  
David Norrie 970-215-4666 www.davidnorrie.com  
www.forgewithintention.com

### 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>

**Rochester Arc & Flame Center!** Featuring Blacksmithing, Welding & Glass Blowing, over 30 classes available for all levels of interest, [www.rocafc.com](http://www.rocafc.com)  
585-349-7110

### Products:

#### Blacksmith Supply

Wide variety of Blacksmithing tools, equipment and supplies. Tom Tongs, Smithin Magician, Anvils, Forges, Fly Presses, Hammers, Punches, and more.  
Website: [www.blacksmithsupply.com](http://www.blacksmithsupply.com)  
Phone: 1-804-530-0290  
PO. Box3766 Chester, VA 23831

#### Little Giant

##### Genuine Little Giant parts for your Little Giant Power Hammer.

Owners: Doug Klaus And David Sloan  
Website: [littlegianthammer.com](http://littlegianthammer.com)  
Phone: 402-873-6603  
Email: [contact@littlegianthammer.com](mailto:contact@littlegianthammer.com)  
US mail: 48182 SW 32nd Rd. Odell, NE 68415

**Forge-Aprons** offers many different styles of leather blacksmith aprons; the Original bib, the Short bib, the Full-Cut bib which offers greater chest coverage, the Lap apron, three sizes of Kid's aprons, a Budget apron, a Women's cut, and Aussie Forge aprons.  
[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



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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 web site: [www.blacksmithsdepot.com](http://www.blacksmithsdepot.com).

Offering a full line of blacksmithing equipment. We ship and accept Visa and Mastercard.

**Chile Forge-** Next generation gas forges  
[www.chileforge.com](http://www.chileforge.com) David Starr 520-312-0000

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

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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**

### Holland Anvil

Anvils, Swage Blocks, and more.  
[www.hollandanvil.com](http://www.hollandanvil.com)

### Atlas Knife & Tool

Anvils, Forges, Supplies. <http://www.atlasknife.com>

### 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. 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: Saturday June 24th, 2023**

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Bring Lunch and Chairs. Trade Item: Without using an Arc Welder or Torch to weld make a small metal container with a lid.

