

# Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

February 2013



Gerald Franklin held a Basic Blacksmithing Workshop at his shop near Duncan, OK on December 29, 2012. The “Class Picture” is above.

Standing (L to R): Brent Hemphill, Rhonda Stanley, David Stanley, Joe Smith, Kelly Parker, Alvin Jeter Kneeling: Ian Parker and Gabriel Parker

Article pages 16-17..

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Artist-Blacksmith Association  
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*(Gerald Franklins has stepped down as workshop coordinator. We need a volunteer to take this assignment. Contact board members if interested)*

The Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association, a non-profit organization of amateur and professional artist and craftsmen, publishes this newsletter monthly. Our purposes are the sharing of knowledge, education and to promote a more general appreciation of the fine craftsmanship everywhere. We are a chapter of the Artist-Blacksmith Association of North America.

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**Visit our Saltfork Craftsmen Website:**  
[www.saltforkcraftsmen.org](http://www.saltforkcraftsmen.org)

## Editors ramblings....

This is already our second newsletter for the 2013 year. Thirty days are already gone. Before you know it , it will be March and time for dues and elections to fill board of directors seats. Don't let the time get away from you. Get your dues in the mail now and get to thinking about who you think would be good to have on the board. It might even be you..

I would like the thank Gary Seigrist for helping to get the NW Regional meeting calendar almost filled. I hope some of the other regions can get their calendars filled up soon.

There will be a board of directors meeting on February 9th at 1:00 p.m. after lunch Hopefully this will be a quick meeting but if you want to bring anything before the board you will need to contact Dan Cowart and get your item on the agenda under new business.

As far as I know we still need someone to take over the assignment of Workshop Coordinator. You do not have to be able to teach all the workshops only help find someone that can and will and get the dates and times organized. Piece of cake.....

Charles McDevitt has volunteered to make our tool box for the conference again this year. He will try to get it ready by the picnic so everyone can see it and those that knows what kind of tool they are going to donate can get it in the box ASAP so we can possibly sell more tickets. People like to see what they are trying to win. I know I do.. It will be a box along the same lines as last years.

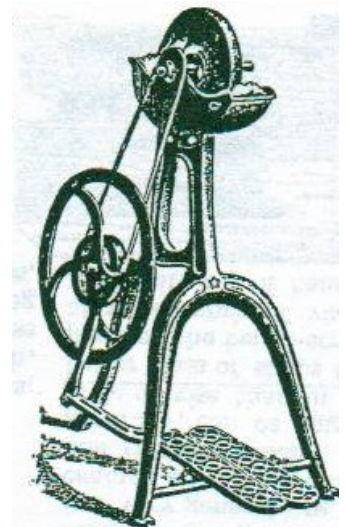
More next month....Editor

From the Prez....



### Ringin in the New Year

Seven hearty souls showed up at the shop of David Knight on January 1<sup>st</sup> to “ring in the New Year”. It was a cold day and snowflakes were falling, but the huge pot of hot coffee steaming over the campfire and the warm and friendly conversations helped to ward off the cold. David’s shop is an open-air shop with a roof and two sides open. David and James Mayberry did some forging while the rest of us supervised. The smell of chili and black-eyed peas floating over the cold air produced huge appetites and we filled our bowls to the brim. Some of us had a second helping of the “lucky peas” just to be sure 2013 will be a good year. David said he would like to make this an annual event, so now you have someplace to go next January 1<sup>st</sup>.





The January, Northeast Regional Meeting was held at the shop of Gary Gloden, in the hills south of Sapulpa, Oklahoma. Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. Started out nice with a temperature around 48 degrees. By mid-afternoon it had dropped to about 33 and a rain sleet mix falling. At my last count, I had 32 head and we filled Gary's house wall to wall for lunch. We feasted on too many goodies to mention here, and believe it or not, there was plenty to go around for this record crowd thanks to Gary and his wife. And thanks to those who brought food items. There were four gas forges going all morning and I fear we may have emptied Gary's large propane tank. The trade item was something from a horse shoe and several were made on site or brought. Most, but not all, were thrilled to see Charlie Groom finally show up.

I accepted application from three more to join Saltfork Craftsmen ABA. "Welcome aboard" to the new members.



February meeting for the NE Region will be hosted by Bill Kendall at his shop on Peoria Ave in Tulsa. Lunch will be provided (beans and cornbread) bring a side dish to help out. No trade item specified. We will be making something with a heart. Board meeting will be at 1:00 or after lunch.

Bills' shop is about one hundred yards south of highway I44, on the East side of Peoria Ave. Look for HHH Transmissions on the west side and we are directly on the opposite side of the street. Go between the buildings to the back of the lot. We are in the old Butler building.

Call my cell phone if you get lost. 918-691-2173

# January S/C Meeting Notes

Gerald Franklin

We held the South Central meeting for January on the 19<sup>th</sup> at Gerald and Frankie Franklin's place east of Duncan. The weather was close to perfect with temps in the 60's and light winds. Really great weather for any time of the year but almost unheard of for January. We had coal and gas forges going in the shop and four coal forges going in the tractor shed.

As usual, Frankie fed us well with stew, chili, and cornbread. And, as usual, the attendees went all out in bringing side dishes and desserts. We really ate well and if someone didn't get enough, it was their own fault. Frankie asked me to be sure and thank all of you who brought food because she didn't get to talk with everybody to thank you herself.

We had a total of six trade items. This month's item was a candleholder. There were some really neat ideas expressed and it was great to see such good participation in the Trade Item Program.

There were several new members and some folks at the meeting that we don't see regularly and it was good to visit with them. We had a few of our Texas brethren and the other regions within the state of Oklahoma were well represented, too. All in all, it was a great turn out. I counted 44 head before we ate lunch but some had to leave before lunch.

As I said earlier, we had four forges going in the tractor shed. They were kept going most of the day by a group of ten Boy Scouts from Troop 212 from Altus. David Seigrist and some of the other troop sponsors brought the youngsters over. They managed to get a huge amount of work (and learning) done and provided some good labor when it was time to get equipment cleaned up and put away at the end of the day. They are a well-led and hard working bunch of young people and we were glad to have them here.



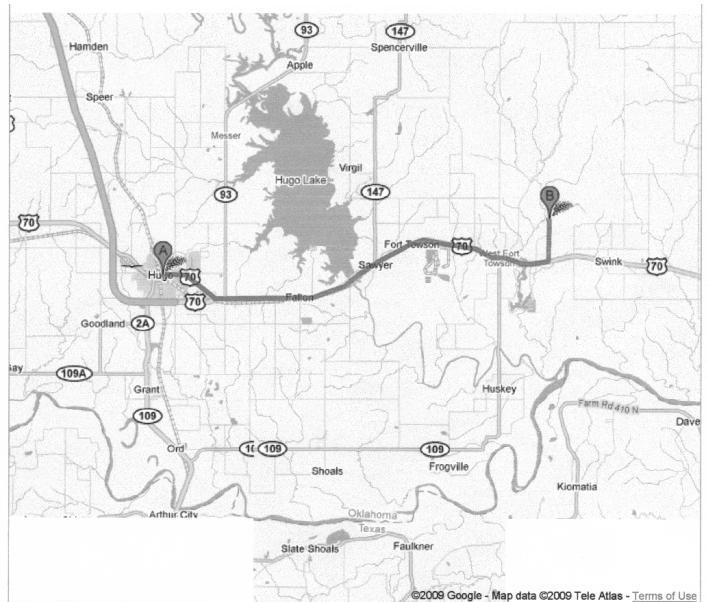
February meeting will be hosted by Byron Donor at his home in Norman. 6520 Alameda, Norman Ok. Lunch provided, bring a side dish to help out. Trade item something with a heart on it.

Take exit 108A onto OK-9E toward Tecumseh. Turn left on 60th ave. North to Alameda. Turn right onto Alameda. A little over one block on right. 6520 Alameda. Look for sale boat in front yard. Park out next to it.

See you there.

SE regional meeting will be hosted by Eddie Horton at the Fort Towson Hist. site. The trade item is a cooking utensil. Lunch is provided by Mr. Wallace He will be Dutch oven cooking for us.

Directions: approximately 14 miles East of Hugo on Hwy 70, Go through the town of Fort Towson (east), cross the bridge, to the Top of the hill and turn Left (North) on the blacktop road, then go approximately 3/4 mile and look for the split rail fence on the Left. go through gate and to top of the hill to the shop. Hope to see you there!

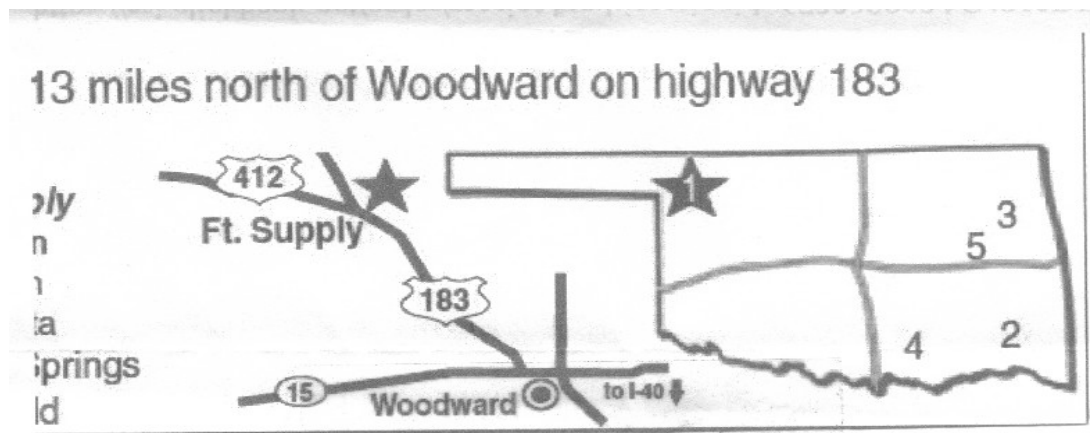


NW regional meeting will be hosted by Bob Kennemar at the Route 66 Blacksmith Shop at 2717 W. 3rd. Elk city. Lunch will be provided. Please bring a side dish to help out. The trade item is a Bending Fork.

Elk City Museum Complex west side of Elk city on 3rd Street.

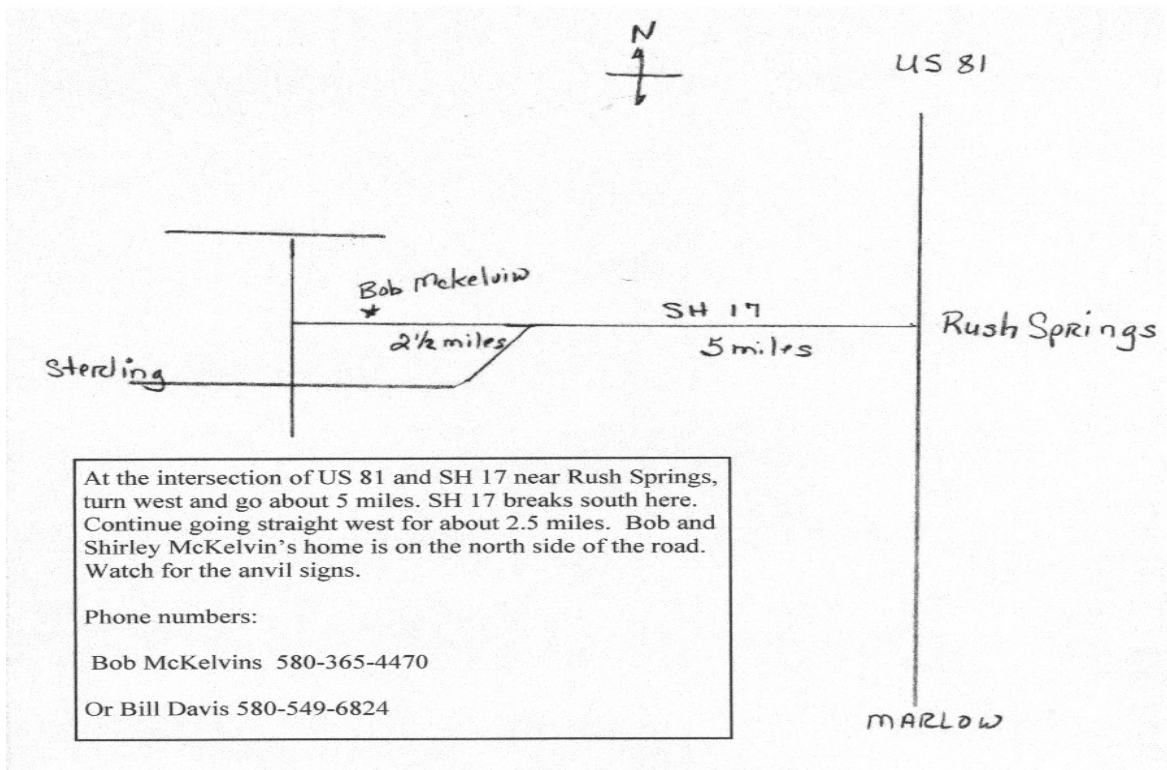
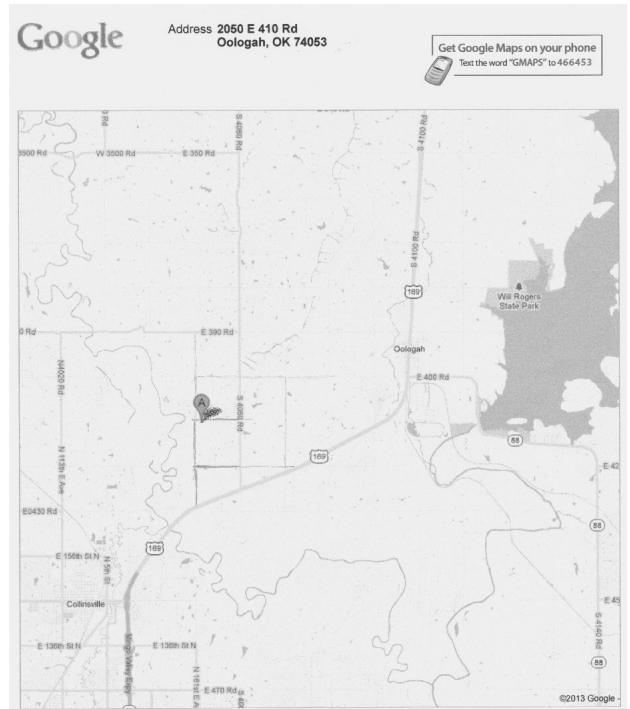
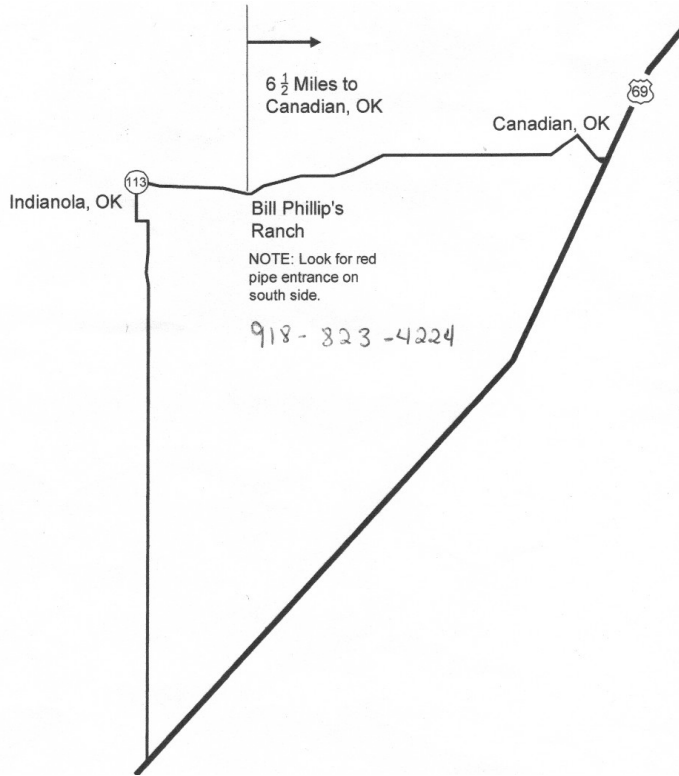
### *March meetings:*

- ⇒ SE regional meeting (March 2nd) will be hosted by Bill Phillips t 14360 St Hwy 113. contact number is 1-918-200-4263. His trade items is a punch. (someone might consider making an extra one for the toolbox (editor)). Lunch is provided please bring a side dish to help out.
- ⇒ NE regional meeting (March 9th) will be hosted by Doug Redden at 2050 E 410 Rd Oologah, Ok. Contact number is 1-918-230-2960 or doug.redden2@att.net Trade item is a leaf. Lunch is provided (bring a side dish to help out).
- ⇒ SC regional meeting ( March 16th) will be hosted by Bob McKelvin at 24460 NE Meers Porterhill Rd, Fletcher, Okla. Contact number is 1-580-365-4470. Trade items is COW bell. Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out.
- ⇒ NW regional meeting (March 23rd) will be hosted by Bob Rea at Fort Supply Hist. site . Contact information is: ft.supply@okhistory.org. trade items is a “Do-hickey” Lunch on your own Or unknown at this time.





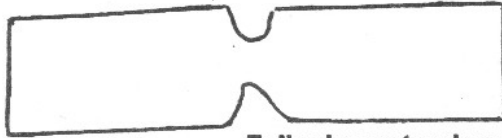
Maps to march meeting continued...



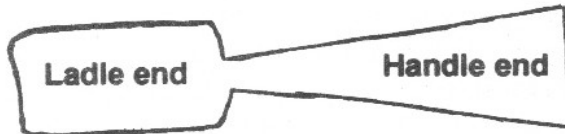
## 18th Century "Tasting Spoon"

By Marshall Beinstock

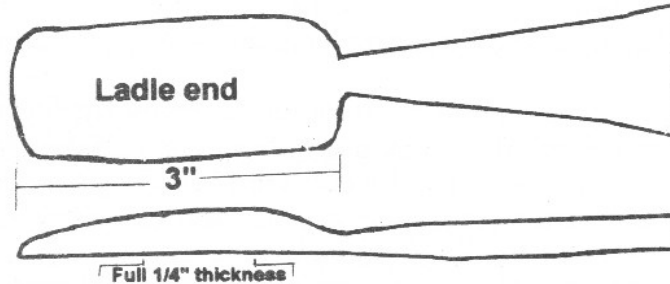
Start with 1" x 1/4" flat by 4"



Fuller in center down to about 1/2 original width maintaining 1/4" thickness



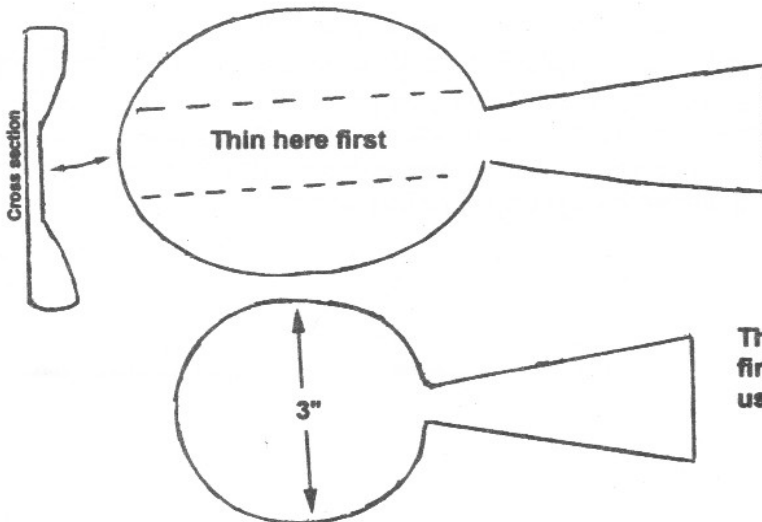
Draw out handle end as shown



With a cross pie hammer, taper and stretch ladle end as shown, maintaining the 1" width

thinner here

Slightly thicker here than tip

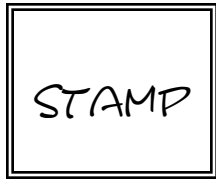


With the cross pie, start in center, fuller to not quite the finished thickness

Then, keeping thick edges down in fire, draw out two edges as shown, use face of hammer to smooth out fuller marks

Larry Brown, Editor Tim Suter, Assistant Editor  
Volume . Number





SCABA Editor  
Diana Davis  
23966 NE Wolf Rd  
Fletcher, Oklahoma 73541

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**2013 is fast approaching. We need to fill out meeting calendar.**

SE Region (1st Sat )

Jan..**open**  
Feb..Eddie Horton  
March..Bill Phillips  
April.. **Open**  
May..Eddie Horton

June..**open**  
July..**open**  
Aug..Eddie Horton  
Sept. **Open**  
Oct. **Open**  
Nov. Bill Phillips  
Dec. **Open**

NE Region (2nd Sat )

Jan..Gary gloden  
Feb..Bill Kendall  
March..Doug Redden  
April..Ed McCormack  
May..Omar Reed/Gerald  
Brostek

June..Mike Krudoski  
July..**open**  
Aug. **open**  
Sept. James Mayberry  
Oct. **Open**  
Nov. **open**  
Dec. **open**

SC Region (3rd Sat)

Jan. Gerald Franklin  
Feb..Bryon Doner  
March..Bob McKelvin  
April..State picnic  
May..Heather Morefield

June..Larry Mills  
July..**open**  
Aug..**open**  
Sept. **Open**  
Oct. SCABA Conference  
Nov. **open**  
Dec. **open**

NW Region (4th Sat)

Jan..**open**  
Feb..Bob Kennemar  
March..Bob Rea  
April.. Don Garner  
May..Mandell Greteman

June..Gary Seigrist  
July..Roy Bell  
Aug. Cheryl Overstreet  
Sept. Dorvan Ivey  
Oct. Don Garner  
Nov. **open**  
Dec. **open**

**Saltfork Craftsman Regional Meeting Hosting Form**

Region \_\_\_\_\_ SE \_\_\_\_\_ NE \_\_\_\_\_ S/C \_\_\_\_\_ NW

Date: Month \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ [correct Saturday for region selected above]

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/email \_\_\_\_\_

Trade item \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch provided \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Directions or provide a map to the meeting location along with this form.

**\*\*All meeting are scheduled on a first come basis. Completely filled out form MUST be received by editor no later than the 23rd of the month TWO months PRIOR to the meeting month.**

Completed forms can be mailed or emailed.

You will receive a conformation by email or postcard.

A form must be filled out for each meeting.

# SCABA membership application

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

January 2013—March 31— 2014\_

Please accept my application

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Married?  Yes  No Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ ABANA Member?  Yes  No

I have enclosed \$20.00 (per year ) for dues to March 30, 201\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Saltfork Craftsmen Membership, Diana Davis 23966 NE Wolf Rd. Fletcher, Okla. 73541

**FORGING ON THE RIVER**  
featuring BRENT BAILEY

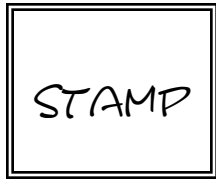


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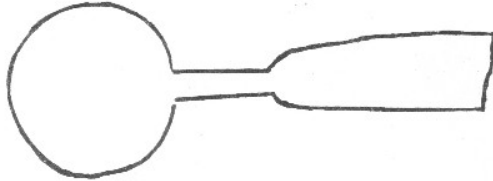


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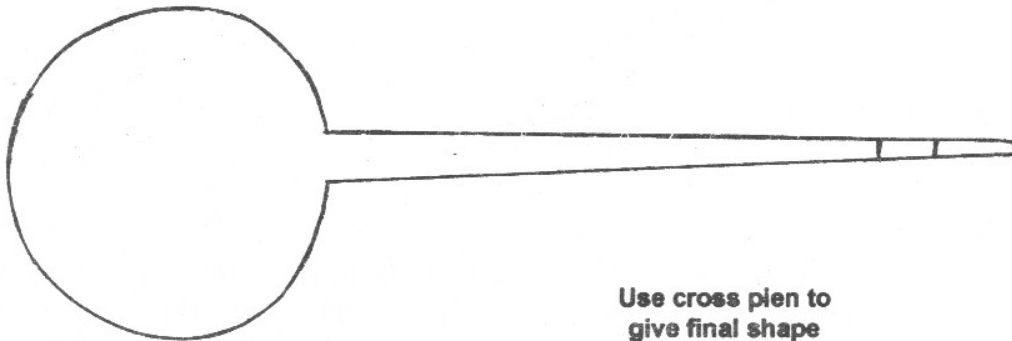
## 18th Century "Tasting Spoon" Continued



Next, start drawing out handle as shown, to a long straight taper in both planes.

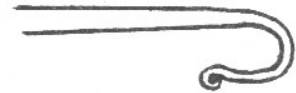


Leave enough mass on end for this detail

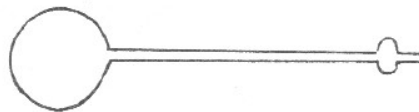


Use cross pisen to give final shape

File edges to 3" round



Sink ladle at a red heat into a half round spoon form or a wooden block.

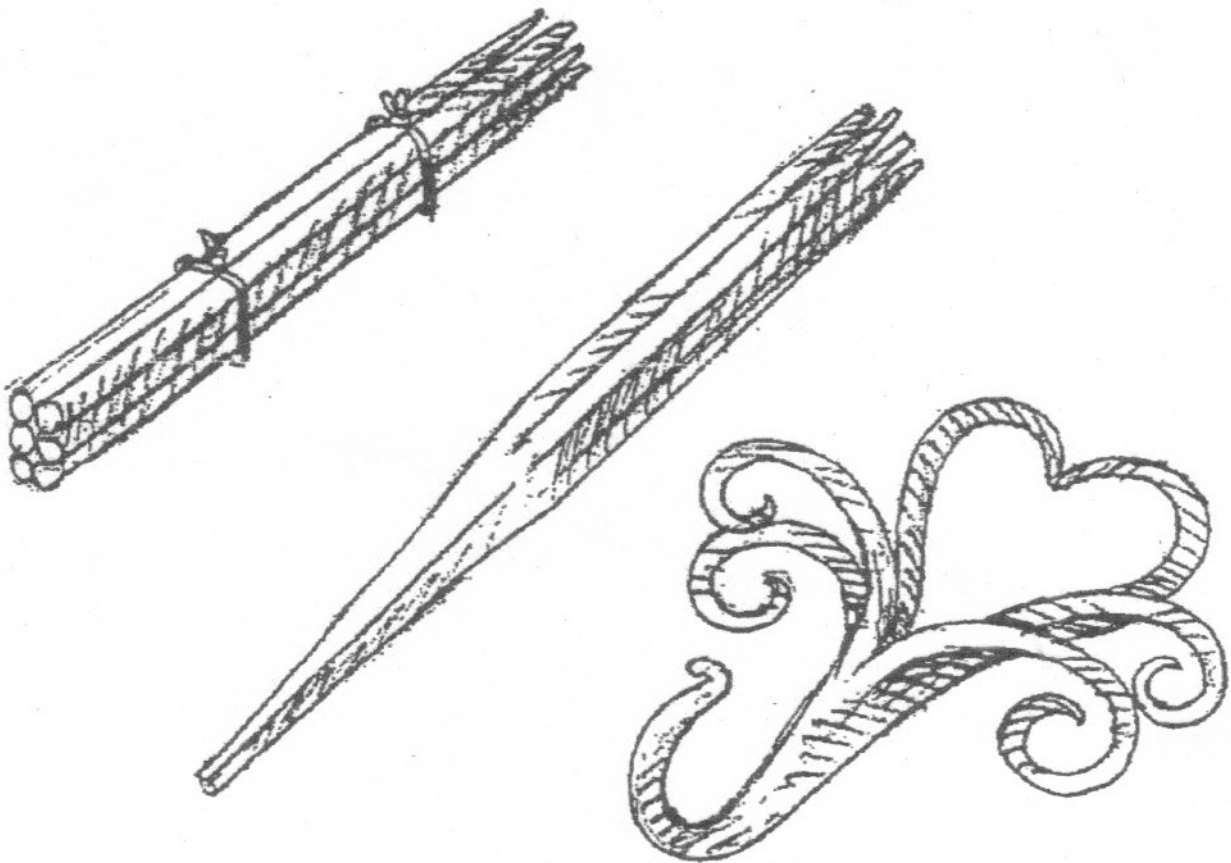


by Pat McCarty

This simple hook will make a nice Valentine's Day gift when that time comes around and is a good piece to practice your forge-welding technique on.

1. To start, cut six pieces of 3/16 round to 10 inch lengths.
2. Draw the one end on each rod to a point.
3. Bundle the rods and wire them tightly together.
4. Forge weld the square ends for about 3 inches.
5. Form the welded end to a point and bend into a hook.
6. Shape the two center rods into a heart shape using scrolling tongs.
7. Form the remaining four rods into scrolls.

# Heart & Scroll Hook



By Pat Mc Cartv. President of Blacksmith Association of Missouri,



**HEART HOOK**

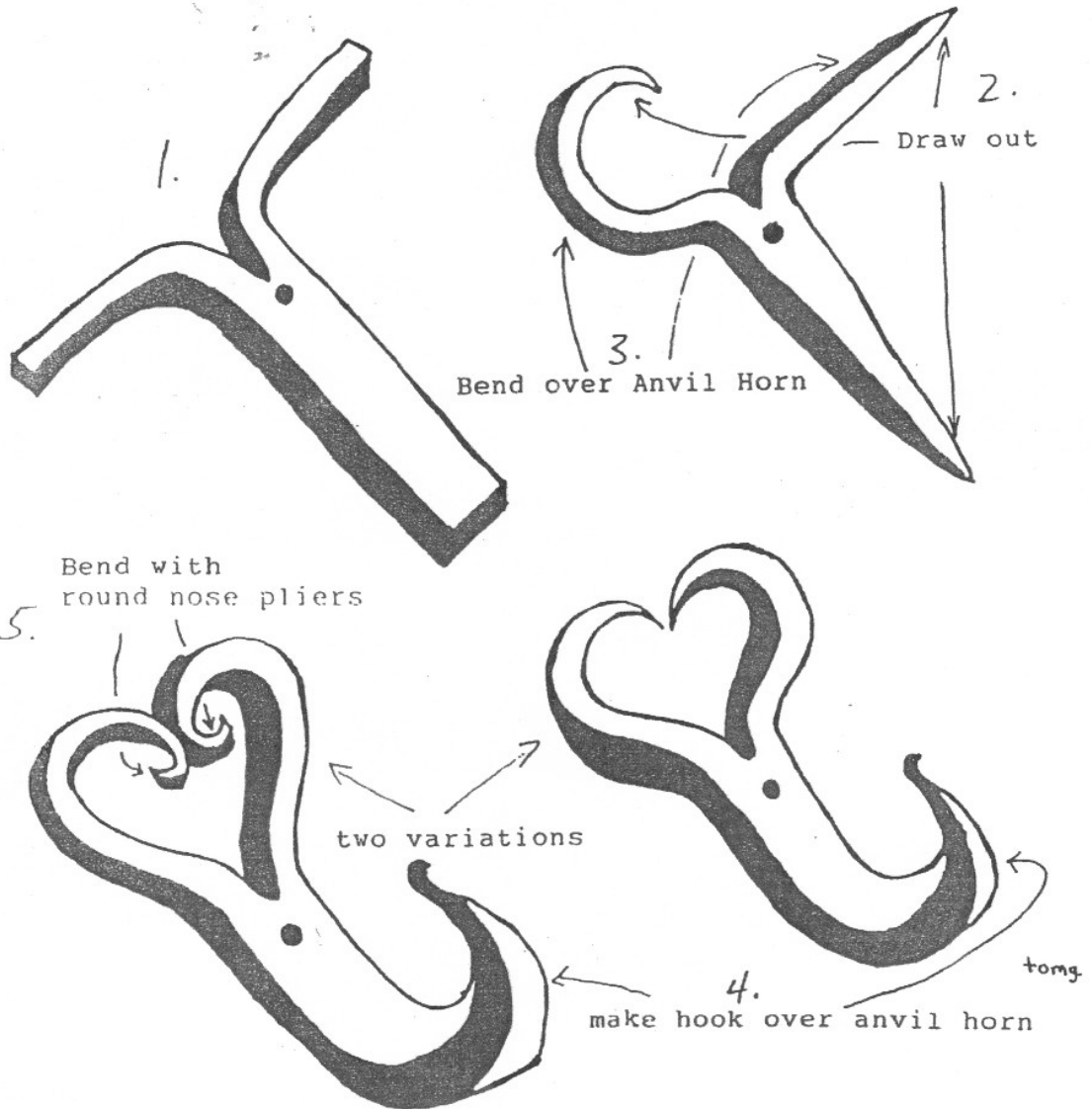
by Jerry Grimes, reprinted from the Apr/May, 1991, issue of *The Tuyere*, newsletter of the Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association.

And...The heart hook was shown to me by STEVE "RAINBO" CLARY. So, the thanks goes to him. And everyone has permission to use the design.

The drawings are by TOM GRIMES (That's my boy)!!

Use 1/2" X 1/4" X 6 1/4" stock

Hot cut or saw down center 2 1/4", punch or drill nail hole 1/2" below cut.



Dr. Hearthook strikes again!!!

# Tool Making for the Anvil, Power Hammer and the Treadle Hammer - Hammer, and the Hand

## - Part Two

(A scholarship fulfillment article by Gerald Franklin)

This article deals with handled tools and continues the discussion of tool making that started in an earlier Saltfork newsletter. In that article I explained that I had attended a tool-making workshop taught by Clay Spencer at the Appalachian Center for Craft in Smithville, Tennessee.

Handled tools are important for a variety of reasons. First, they can be safer to use than (un-handled) hand-held tools regardless of whether they are being used at the anvil or under the treadle hammer. Of course, a hand-held tool should never be used under a power hammer. Second, handled tools usually allow for a more accurate placement of the tool since the user's hand is out of the way of the tool and the work-piece. Third, they can make for more efficient work since they can usually be struck harder and more rapidly than hand-held tools. And, obviously, it takes less tool steel to make a handled tool than one that is hand-held. This can be an important factor when you are using higher priced tool steels.

Clay teaches three basic methods of attaching handles to these tools: forging, Roding, and flat strap welded on. Obviously, the forging method means that the excess material left over from making the working end of the tool is simply drawn out to form a handle. This method works well for things like fullers and other tools that are made from round or square bar.

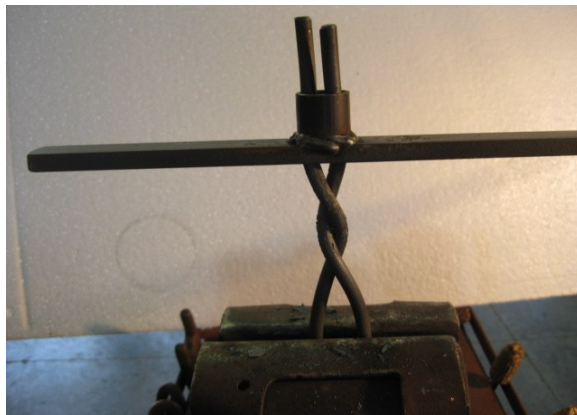


A separate handle can also be welded on the tool. The photo above illustrates this technique for a fuller made from a piece of round stock. Handles such as this can be made up in bulk for future use. A bending jig helps with this task. Note the photo on the next page that shows several tools hanging from a rack. The handle design makes it possible to extract a particular tool from the interior of the rack without unloading all the tools in front of it.



Making a handle from twisting round stock (Roding) is a long-used method of putting handles on tools. Clay welds his handles since other methods of Roding often come loose after using them for a while. "So", he says, "Weld them from the start and be done with it". I was glad to hear this since I have had the same loosening experience with wrapped rodded handles. Roding can provide a com-

comfortable, shock resistant handle that is easy to install. Clay uses a specially fabricated twisting wrench (see photo below) to provide a uniform twist of the Roding material.



The flat strap type of handle can be more stable than the rodded handle but it can also transmit more shock. In those cases where shock resistance is not a factor, the welded flat strap handle will work nicely. Simply clamp the forged tool to the strap and arc weld the two pieces together.

It is best to pre-heat the tool steel before welding any of the handle styles to provide a better bond. You should delay final heat treatment of the tool until after the weld has cooled. Don't quench the welded area during heat treatment if you can avoid it.

Clay promotes re-forging old ball peen hammers into handled punches, chisels and other tools. Simply forge the peen into the shape of the desired tool. If the peen doesn't have enough steel to do what you want to do, use the hammer face end. After forging is complete, heat treat the tool end and be sure to anneal/normalize the struck end. Clay usually hafts these tools with a rodded handle instead of replacing the wooden handle. (See photo below)



Tools that are made for use under the treadle hammer or the power hammer should be designed to be as short as possible. Tools that are taller than they need to be tend to kick out if they are hit even slightly off-center – not a safe thing to have to deal with. Also, tall tools limit the downward stroke of the top die resulting in less efficiency.

Pay particular attention to the forging temperature of the tool steel. Most varieties have a smaller forging window than mild steel and trying to work the steel outside this window (either too hot or too cool) can damage its structure. When you have finished forging the tool, bring it back up to a low orange heat and allow it to normalize in still air before you heat treat it. This relieves stress in the piece and promotes smaller grain structure.

Handled tools are well worth the effort to produce whether you are using them at the anvil, under the power hammer, or at the treadle hammer. Properly constructed ones can be used effectively in all three applications.



## Basic Blacksmithing Workshop

Gerald Franklin

Saltfork sponsored a Basic Blacksmithing Workshop for some of its members on December 29, 2012. Aside from the cold, it was very successful. The class was filled to the planned capacity of eight smiths. We had more folks who were interested in the class but we just didn't have the space or equipment for more students.

I hosted the workshop at my shop near Loco, OK. Things got kicked off at 9AM with a class picture. The weather was pretty cold in the morning (down into the "teens") but as we got fires going and began to work, folks started shedding coats. Most of the students traveled a good distance. We had folks from Tahlequah, Tulsa, Broken Arrow, OKC, and Weatherford, TX.

We started out talking about safety and then we went over some basic tools and terms. Once the initial talking was over with, we got to work on S-hooks. Some of the students were a little more experienced and the "old hands" helped the newer smiths get several hooks forged. A lot of time was spent on fire maintenance and getting familiar with different hammer blows.

Then came leaves. We forged a basic leaf on the end of a piece of 1/4" round stock, veined it, and then forged out the stem into a key fob. Some of the students made several fobs, some only got through one. As with any class, there was a variety of experience and skill levels and, since it's not a race for production, everyone was allowed to move at their own pace.

After the key fobs were complete, it was time to go up to the house for lunch and a warm-up. Frankie put together a nice lunch of Miner's Stew, Chili, and a couple of different flavors of cornbread. She also had a nice cake for dessert.

After lunch, we jumped into tool making. We talked about some of the different kinds of tool steels that smiths are likely to use. We also talked about the basics (and why's and why-nots) of heat treatment. Then it was back to the forges to try our hands at forging a center punch. I forged a demo piece and then turned the students loose to forge their own punch. This "stiffness" and overall forging difficulty of the tool steel was an eye-opener to all of the students who had spent all morning forging mild steel. After everyone had a chance to get at least one punch forged we went into the shop to heat-treat and test the tools. Everybody got their punch hardened and tempered to a dark straw. By then, it was time for a little break and another question and answer session as we wound down for the day. It gets dark pretty early at this time of year so we shut down in time for folks to get on the road before dark. There were some die-hards who stayed until after dark but for the most part folks were gone by 5:30.

## SCABA Shop and Swap

### For Sale:

6" round nosed pliers (great for putting scrolls on small items) \$5.00 each. Brooms tied, \$25.00 on your handle **(extra charge if I have to modify handle length)**

Contact Diana Davis at [Diana.copperrose@gmail.com](mailto:Diana.copperrose@gmail.com)

### For Sale:

24"(wide) x 1"(thick) Ceramic fiber blanket (similar to Kao-wool) \$1.00 per inch of length. Twisted solid cable 1/2" diameter \$2.00 per ft.

Contact Larry Roderick at 940-237-2814

### Wanted:

Advertising Coal Hammers, Contact Mike George at 1-580-327-5235 or o Mike-Marideth@sbcglobal.net

## Club Coal

Saltfork Craftsmen has coal for sale. Coal is in 1-2" size pieces The coal is \$140.00/ton or .07 /pound to members **No sales to non-members.**

**NW Region coal pile is located in Douglas, OK.** If you make arrangements well in advance, Tom Nelson can load your truck or trailer with his skid steer loader for a fee of \$10 to be paid directly to Tom. Tom has moved his skid steer and must now haul the loader to the coal pile to load you out, hence the \$10 charge. You may opt to load your own coal without using Tom's loader. The coal can be weighed out at the Douglas Coop Elevator scales. Contact Tom Nelson (580-862-7691) to make arrangements to pick up a load. Do not call Tom after 9 PM!! Bring your own containers and shovels. Payment for the coal (\$.07 per pound) should be made directly to the Saltfork Treasurer.

**NE Region coal location: Charlie McGee** has coal to sell. He lives in the Skiatook, Oklahoma area. His contact information is:

[littleironworks@gmail.com](mailto:littleironworks@gmail.com) or (home) 918-245-7279 or (cell) 918-639-8779



**Show your pride in SCABA.**

**License plates for \$5.00 each.**

**We have coffee cups for \$9.00 with two images on them and We have a new shipment of caps for \$10.00. Dan Cowart has the cups and caps available in the NE region and will be available at the picnic in April.**



SCABA swage blocks

\$100.00 plus shipping to members. (1st block)

\$120.00 plus shipping to non-members

Contact Bill Kendall for more information



SCABA Floor Cones are now available from Bill Kendall, Byron Donor and Gerald Franklin. The price is \$200 plus shipping and handling.

Sell and Repair Power Hammers (Little Giant) in Tioga Texas. 1-940-580-0032 Ask for Pierre

For sale: 2- 25# Little Giant

1- 50# Little Giant

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