Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association March 2013



Cabinet pulls for Carol Doner

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association Officers and Directors

Officers and Directors			
President: Gerald Brostek 205 N. Anthony Muskogee, Ok. 74402 Gerald.brostek@sbcglobal.net	918-687-1927		
Vice-President/events: David Seigrist P.O. Box 163 Hollis, Ok 73550 dseigrist2004@yahoo.com	580-688-3555		
Sec-Treas. Dan Cowart 10380 N. 4010 Road Wann, Ok 74083 ddcowart@gmail.com	918-440-0653		
Director/Editor: Diana Davis 23966 NE Wolf Rd. Fletcher, Ok 73541 Diana.copperrose@gmail.com	580-549-6824		
Director/cones: Byron Donor 6520 Alameda, Norman Okla. byrondoner@earthlink.net	405-650-7520		
Director/swage blocks: Bill Kendall 1756 E. 59 th St Tulsa Ok. 74105 wwkendall@aol.com	918-742-7836		
Director: Mark Carter 34509 Hazel Dell Rd. McLoud Ok.74851 mcarteriron@gmail.com Assignments:	405-964-5754		
Webmaster: Dodie O'Bryan Pawnee, Ok scout@skally.net			
Workshop Coordinator: Tracy Cowart 9911 N. 117th E. Ave. Owasso. Ok draftsman@cox.net	918-376-2382		

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

Editors ramblings....

For those that can't remember, memberships expire on the last day of March, so it is time to get yours in the mail. (Preferably to the Editor) Yes the treasurer keeps track of the club money but if you want the newsletter to come I need to know about any changes you may have made. Some people have complained about needed to fill out an application but it is while they are answering the questions that they remember, "O, I got a new email address or hey I get my mail at a P.O. Box now" Each returned newsletter cost the club not only the printing cost (because they throw the newsletter away) but the post office charges the club for providing us with your new address, if they have it. SO, that is why I have asked for everyone to fill out an application each time they renew.

We have a new Workshop Coordinator. Tracy volunteered to fill that position. If you have an idea for a workshop in your area, an instructor and a location, send Tracy the information and he will do his best to get a workshop set up. The more legwork you can do before hand will help Tracy in finalizing the preparations and advertisement in the newsletter.

We have a change in location for the Annual Picnic. Byron Doner has volunteered to organize the picnic this year and had originally set it up to be at the Fair Grounds in Norman. He is finally in his new home additions, (there is still work to be done) and has decided to have the picnic at his home on Alameda in Norman. He has a lot more area outside for us to spread out and enjoy the day.

We are having the nail making contest again this year so get out your headers and practice up. I have a nice prize in mind for first place. More next month.

Editor.....



From the Prez.....

ABANA-Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America Some facts and History

Note. This may be old hat to some folks, but might be of interest to those who don't know.

Alex Bealer (author of The Art of Blacksmithing) and the Westville restoration village in Lumpkin, Georgia hosted a "Blacksmiths' Convention" on March 16 & 17, 1973 at the Westville village. Approximately 47 participants from all over the country attended the event.

Late that first night, a small group sat around remarking how wonderful it was to share the knowledge of blacksmithing. One of those people, Dimitri Gerakaris, returned to his room and had a bizarre notion of a loose-knit organization for those interested in blacksmithing to encourage an exchange of information via publication and occasional get-togethers. The next morning, Alex called everyone together and Dimitri presented the proposal.

"We understand that a blacksmith is one who shapes and forges iron with hammer and anvil. The artist-blacksmith does this so as to unite the functional with the aesthetic, realizing that the two are inseparable. We the members of the Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America do join in our resolve to perpetuate the noble art of blacksmithing. With hammer and anvil, we will forge for mankind a richer life. We will preserve a meaningful bond with the past. We will serve the needs of the present, and we will forge a bridge to the future. Function and creativity is our purpose. Our task is great and so is our joy."

Today ABANA has about 4000 members. ABANA Affiliates are all over the US and in a number of foreign countries, with over 80 groups currently affiliated with ABANA

Saltfork Craftsmen ABA, became an ABANA Affiliate in 1997



NE regional meeting report

February meeting for the NE Region was hosted by Bill Kendall at his shop on Peoria Ave in Tulsa. He

had a really good turn out for the meeting even though it started raining about mid morning. Bill had a forge set up and was doing a little teaching.

Chuck Waite had his forge set up before it started raining. He has a neat idea as far as having it concrete lined but still able to make it portable.

Don't know if you can tell but his concrete liner is in two parts with bent rods inserted to provide handles for lifting them out.





Bill's forge looked to be very simple setup. His burner is mounted into the top set of brick that appear to be held together with a steal band. It looks like the rest of the brick are loose set into the metal table and around to form a box to help hold heat. Worked really nice also. Looks like to save space the forge brick can be disassembled and stacked out of the way.

I took advantage of the fact that Chuck Waite was the winner of the first ever Tool box to be raffled off by Saltfork and he carries it to every event he attends, to take some pictures of it.









The board met after lunch to discuss upcoming events and swage and cone orders. Minutes of meeting will be in the newsletter as soon as they have been approved.

⇒ 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 report.

Byron and Carol Doner hosted the meeting for February at their home and shop in Norman. It was a nice if not cool day for February and they had a good turnout. Byron and Carol have been working at adding on some room to their existing home. They are finally on the down hill side and Carol asked about having anyone that wanted to, to make her some cabinet pulls. As soon as Bill Davis got there and saw that no one was using Byrons induction heater or press he set out to see what he could create. Before long he had a jig made and was experimenting with design.



Before long there were several members taking turns to see what they could create. Carol wound up with about a dozen different cabinet pulls for Byron to drill and tap. She did draw the line on the one with the mouse on it. She hates Mice...

At lunch we all got to go inside and take a tour of the rooms and eat some very good chicken and dumplings along with some ham and home made bread. They have added a lot of nice and much needed space to their home. You will need to make plans to attend the Picnic and take a tour for yourself. She has asked for anyone that wants to make some drawer pulls next. Bill is trying to think up how a jig would work.

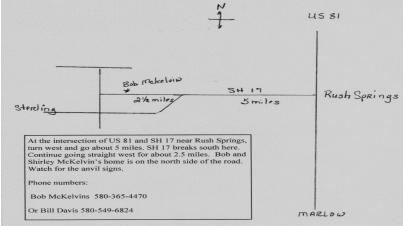
Being February the trade item was anything with a heart and we had some nice examples. From a fork that can double as a steak brander to coat hooks and letter openers, they were all nice.



Richard Simpson working on his fork/ steak brander. That not steak he's burning though.

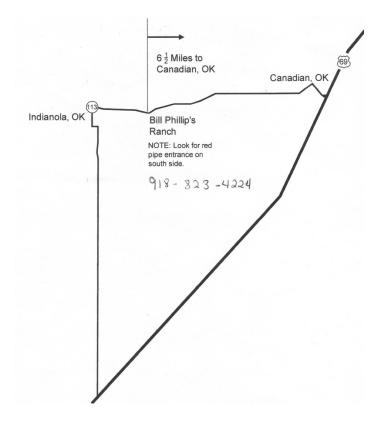


⇒ SC regional meeting (March 16th) will be hosted by Bob McKelvin at 24460 NE Meers Porterhill Rd, Fletcher, Okla. Contact number is 1-580-365-4470. Trade items is COW bell. Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out.

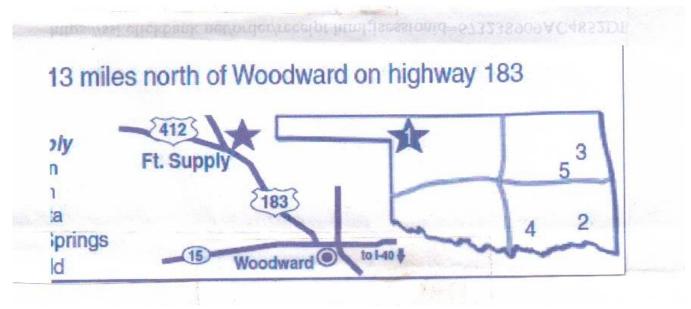


March meetings:

⇒ 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.



⇒ 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 <u>Or</u> unknown at this time.



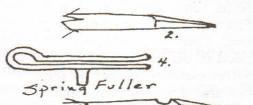
April's meetings...

- NE Regional meeting will be hosted by Ed McCormack on April 13th. at 15100 N. 270 Rd. Okmulgee Okla. Contact info. 1-918-733-9844. trade item is anything made from a RR spike. Lunch provided bring a side dish to help out.
- SC Regional will be hosting the picnic at the home of Byron Doner on April 20th. Lunch is provided by the club but side dishes and deserts are encouraged. Come and bring your lawn chair, horse shoes game etc and enjoy the day. There will be a nail making contest for anyone that wants to give it a try.
- NW Regional meeting will be hosted by Don Garner at Thomas Ok. Contact info. 1-580-302-1845 (cell) or home 1-580-661-2607. trade item is a forge tool. Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out.

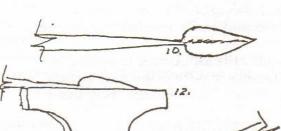
Directions: highway 33 west side of Thomas 2 north 3/4 west on county road 860. white house on north side of road.

FORGING LEAF ON ROD (OR BAR)

This process may be done on varied sizes of rod or bar (1/4"; 3/16"; 3/8"; etc.) ILLUSTRATION USES 3/8" ROD FOR DESCRIPTION. SMALLER OR LARGER ROD WOULD FOLLOW SAME STEPS.













1. HEAT END OF ROD TO GOOD HEAT

2. At far side of anvil face, hammer alternately on two sides, DRAW OUT an off center square taper ca. 3/4" to 2 1/2" long depending upon length of leaf desired. Point will be square and have a blunt point ca. 1/16 + .

3. HEAT AREA OF ROD AT BASE OF SQUARE POINT.

4. With a fuller tool, FULLER all around the rod at the base of the square point down to ca. 3/16" dia.

- 5. HEAT AREA BEHIND FULLER CA. 4 INCHES.
- 6. DRAW OUT to a square taper beyond fuller for ca. 3" 4".
- 7. (HEAT LONG TAPER IF NEEDED)

8. ROUND UP LONG TAPER by first breaking the corners with the hammer, followed by working the ridges down to a rounded surface on the taper.

11.

9. HEAT SQUARED POINT.

10. Use face of hammer to start FLATTENING - the square point on the diamond toward the sides into an arrow point until slightly thicker than 1/8". Leave the center axis thicker and taper slightly to edges.

11. If smooth leaf edges desired go to step 14. Cut edges to step 12.

 If cut edges are desired on the leaf, clamp flattened point horizontally in vise. (MAY BE HEATED BEFORE DOING THIS STEP).

13. With a fairly sharp chisel CUT - several notches along edge at an angle toward the tip. Do this to both edges of the leaf.

14. HEAT FLATTEN POINT (Arrow, Head Shape).

15. CROSS PEEN point lengthwise from center to edge to spread leaf. Thinning the edges more than the center (Leave a ridge down the center from stem base to point of leaf unit.)

16. DON'T HAMMER BLACK IRON, HEAT AS NECESSARY.

- 17. Use care to draw out the base lobes uniformly on the leaf.
- 18. SMOOTH SURFACE of leaf with the face of the hammer

Clarence Mertins, 2000

BLACKSMITH GUILD OF CENTRAL MARYLAND, INC.

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SCABA workshops

We have two workshops in March.

March 30th.

Basic Blacksmith Class

This is a <u>beginning</u> class to be held at Persimmon Hollow Village in Tulsa.

Address: 6927 S. 115th E. Ave, Broken Arrow Ok. 74012 one blk east, 1 blk norh of 71st & Garnett behind Salvation Army Store.

Registration opens at <u>NOON</u> on March 10, 2013. to register for this class, email Tracy Cowart at draftsman@cox.net or call 918-630-7025. Your Saltfork membership must be current to enroll.

Projects include: S-hook, leaves, a forge welded flux spoon, a hot cut and or center punch, steak turner and more.

Cost is \$20, which covers all materials and lunch.

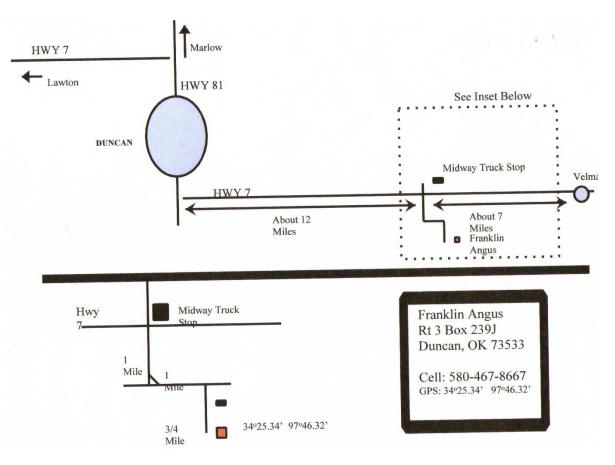
March 30th

Mortis and Tenon Joinery Workshop

This is an <u>intermediate class</u> so you should be able to draw material to dimension, layout, punch and drift accurately and taper to dimension. We will cover different ways of making the mortise and tenon joint. We will also learn to make a pass through joint. These techniques will be learned through to construction of a small (8x8) grille element.

Address: Blackbull Forge, Gerald Franklins shop near Duncan Ok.

Registrations opens at <u>NOON</u> on Feb 25th. Call Gerald Franklin at 1-580-467-8667 or email him at blackbullforge@yahoo.com Class size is limited to 8students. Cost for the workshop is \$20 payable at the class. The cost includes all materials and lunch. <u>Saltfork Membership must be current to enroll</u>.



STAMP

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.

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<u>SE Region (1t Sat)</u> Jan open FebEddie Horton MarchBill Phillips April Open MayEddie Horton	<u>NE Region (2nd Sat)</u> JanGary gloden FebBill Kendall MarchDoug Redden AprilEd McCormack MayOmar Reed/Gerald Brostek	<u>SC Region (3rd Sat)</u> Jan. Gerald Franklin FebBryon Doner MarchBob McKelvin AprilState picnic MayHeather Morefield	<u>NW Region (4th Sat)</u> Jan open FebBob Kennemar MarchBob Rea April Don Garner MayMandell Greteman		
Juneopen Julyopen AugEddie Horton Sept. Open Oct. Open Nov. Bill Phillips Dec. Open	JuneMike Krudoski July open Aug. open Sept. James Mayberry Oct. Open Nov. open Dec. open	JuneLarry Mills July open Aug open Sept. Jim Dyer Oct. SCABA Conference Nov. open Dec. open	JuneGary Seigrist JulyRoy Bell Aug. Cheryl Overstreet Sept. Dorvan Ivey Oct. Don Garner Nov. open Dec. open		
Saltfork Craftsman Regional Meeting Hosting Form					
RegionSE	NES/C	NW			
Date: Monthday[correct Saturday for region selected above]					
Name					
Address					
Trade item					
Lunch provided	yesno				
Directions or provide a map to the meeting location along with this form.					
ceived by editor no month. Completed forms c You will receive a	scheduled on a first come b b later than the 23rd of the r can be mailed or emailed. conformation by email or p led out for each meeting.	month <u>TWO</u> months <u>PRIC</u>			

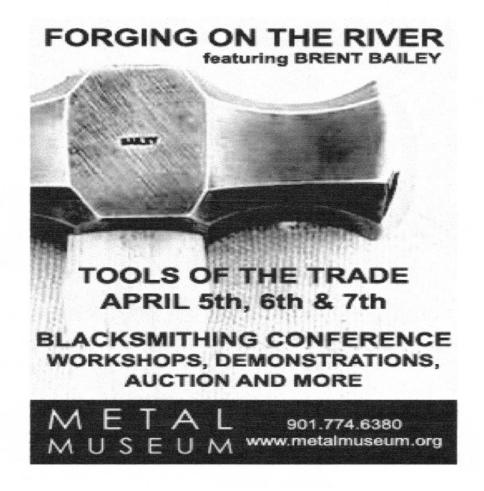
SCABA membership application

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?	YesNo
I have enclosed \$20.00 (per year) for dues to March 30, 201	l
Signed		

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



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Tool Making for the Anvil, Power Hammer and the Treadle Hammer - Hammer, and the Ha

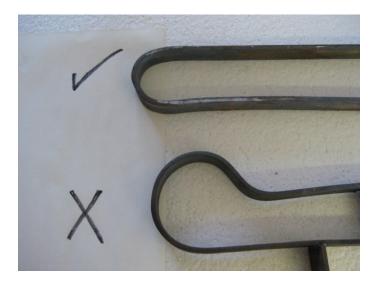
- Part Three

(A scholarship fulfillment article by Gerald Franklin)

This article deals with spring tools and concludes the discussion of tool making that appeared in earlier Saltfork newsletters. The material in this, and previous articles in the series, is based on a tool making workshop taught by Clay Spencer at the Appalachian Center for Craft in Smithville, TN.

Spring tools are great aids to today's blacksmith. Most of us don't have human helpers in our shops to hold top tools for us so the spring tools act as our "third hand". They can be used at the anvil, treadle hammer or power hammer. They help us cut our material, forge our transitions, draw our tenons, and texture our stock. The designs and uses are limited only by our collective imaginations.

The basis of most spring tools is a length of flat strap (mild steel) that is bent to form the spring and two pieces of steel (tool or mild) that are attached to the spring. These pieces become the actual "tool". Though some spring tools can be hand-held, many are fitted with some sort of tool spud or hardy stem that allows them to be attached firmly near the working surface of the anvil or the hammer dies. They may be struck with a hand hammer, sledge hammer, treadle or power hammer – the versatility is apparent.



Clay likes to use ¹/₄" X 1" X 30" mild steel flat strap for the spring. This size provides enough stiffness to keep the tooling lined up. He also recommends making a simple bend on the spring instead of the circular "loop" at the bend that some folks use. (See photo above) He believes that the loop provides another degree of freedom for the tooling on the end to get out of alignment and it really does nothing for the overall effectiveness of the tool. Besides, forming the loop takes more time and material. When you are making the springs, it's more efficient to set up a bender and bend several spring blanks at one time. That way you'll have springs available for new tools when the need arises.

The actual tooling can be made from either tool steel or mild steel. If you will be using the tool frequently for relatively heavy forging – large tenons, say – then something like 4140 would be in order. If it's something that will be used sparingly for lighter work, then mild steel will work fine. You can case harden the mild steel tooling if needed for longer wear. If you are making a tool with cutting edges, a scissors cut-off tool for instance, then you should use a tough, edgeholding steel like 5160, S7, or H 13.



The above photograph shows a variety of spring tools. From left to right they are spring fuller, acorn swage, and rope swage. Some of the tool parts are made from tool steel and some are made from mild steel. All of the springs are mild steel flat strap.

I made the spring fuller tool in the photo by simply clamping two pieces of 5160 round stock inside a spring blank and welding them in. They aren't heat-treated but if I planned to use the tool for some extra heavy work, say fullering tool steel, then I would heat treat the rods (oil quench would be appropriate for these 5160 rods). It's a good idea to make up a set of several of these spring fullers in different sizes from 3/8" to 1". The 1" set (and larger) can be used as a set of drawing dies on your power hammer equipped with flat dies.

The acorn dies are made from mild steel. The blanks were welded to the spring and heated to a bright orange. A master is then placed between the two die blanks, which are hammered to close them and imbed the master. The edges of the acorn impression must be relieved with a die grinder or similar tool. This process can be used to make die sets to form a variety of shapes such as round balls, grapes, finials, etc. The master for these types of swage dies can be forged and filed to shape or you can make a master from another die set.

As you use these dies you will find that the details in later forgings are not as crisp and well defined as the details in earlier ones. This means that your die set is wearing. If you have forged your master, keep it in your tool collection so that you can use it to make other dies when the first set wears out. If you have transferred the design from another die set, make a master from your set while the dies are still new and set it aside for making future die sets.

The rope swage in the photo is sized for use with $\frac{1}{2}$ " square stock. The work piece is heated and passed through the dies, rotated 90 degrees and passed through again. This puts a groove on all four sides of your square stock. Also, the dies round the corners of the square stock. Once the sides are grooved, the area is heated to a uniform orange heat and twisted to form the rope pattern.

You may want to make several sizes of these if your style of work involves use of the rope motif. The die set is prepared much as the acorn die set. Two blanks (the ones in the photo are made of 4140) are welded to the spring. The master is made by folding $\frac{1}{4}$ " round rod (for a $\frac{1}{2}$ " die set) back on itself to form two rod sections that lie next to each other. These "doubled" rods are folded again to form a stack of four rods that is two-high in each direction ($\frac{1}{2}$ " X $\frac{1}{2}$ " square). Tack weld the ends of the stack then tack two opposite sides. These tack welds will stabilize the stack for the next operation. Heat the die blanks and place the master between them (un-welded sides up/down). Hammer the hot dies together until they meet. This forms two parallel grooves on both the top and bottom die. Allow the dies to cool and then relieve the sides of the grooves to prevent flashing from forming on the work piece.

A similar process can be used to build tenon die sets. Instead of fabricating the "stacked rod" master used with the rope swage, simply use a piece of round stock of the desired tenon size to sink into the die blocks. Again, the edges of the tenon grooves will have to be relieved by filing or grinding or else some of the material that would have gone into forming the tenon will be pinched off into flashing.



The above photo shows a scissors type cut-off tool. The tool spud that you see on the lower leg of the spring fits the tooling bolt on my KA-75 Striking Hammer. Some power hammers may require a fabricated tool yoke that fits around the bottom die to clamp the tool spud directly to the die. Some treadle hammers can use the tool spud/yoke concept or you may be able to incorporate a hardy hole type socket that matches your anvil's hardy hole. This makes the tool capable of doing double-duty at both the treadle hammer and the anvil. I have used the tool in the photograph to cut stock as large as 1 ½" in diameter. If you are going to use yours for stock this big, I recommend the use of a power hammer.

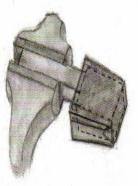
The blades of the scissors tool were forged from 1" truck spring (5160) and were not heat treated after forging. Assembly of the basic tool pretty well follows the steps involved in making a spring fuller - clamp the blades into place and weld them onto the spring. The alignment of the blades is critical when this initial welding job is done but it doesn't stop there. As the tool is used, the blades can move out of alignment unless they are constrained. The photograph shows a yoke (5/16" X 1" flat strap) that is designed to hold the blades steady as they cut through the material. The pieces of strap are welded to the lower arm of the spring. I also welded a piece of 1" square stock inside the yoke to help keep the arms of the spring in alignment. The square stock is welded to the spring's upper arm so that it is free to slide inside the two branches of the yoke. Its length is calibrated so that it "bottoms out" at the point where the blades meet. This saves wear and tear on the blade edges. A piece of heavy wall 1" tubing would have work just as well, I just happened to have the short length of square stock that wasn't being used for any-thing else.

We have discussed only a few of the most basic spring tools. These tools can greatly add to the versatility of your anvil, treadle hammer, and power hammer. They can act as an effective "third hand" when they are used in any of the above applications.

Cow bell

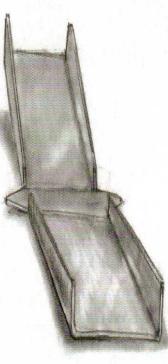


Start by cutting the pattern on the page at right out of light gauge steel, say 16 to 18 gauge. Different gauges will give you different sound.



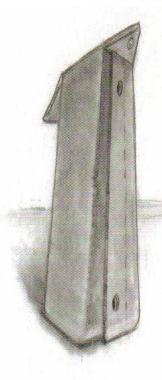
This tool is made from welding three pieces of 1" square together. It will help you shape the sides and bring them together.

In my part of the Ozarks cow bells were a common item blacksmiths made. Their purpose was to help the farmer locate his cattle in the days when free-ranging stock was the rule. With a well-made cow bell, a farmer could tell where his stock was by the sound of the bell and could distinguish his stock from his neighbors from its distinctive ring. Pat McCarty demonstrated making this at BAM's November meeting.



Bend the sides up as shown by the dotted lines on the pattern. Then heat in the center and bend sides together.

> Illustrations by David Wilson



After you bring the sides together (they should overlap), drill holes large enough to accept a 16 penney nail. This will be your rivet. Note that the pointed tabs on the top get bent down and riveted along with the sides.

Heat the tabs and bend down. Cut a quarter inch or so of nail and install with the head inside the bell. Place over the anvil hom and carefully pein the rivet over. Rivet top and bottom on both sides.



Lay the bell on its side in the coal forge and heat to a dull red. Throw a pinch or two of Borax into the seam. Lay a piece of brazing rod on the seam and heat gently until the rod melts and disappears. Let it cool some and repeat for the other side. Don't skip this step or your bell will sound whimpy! Braze all joints.



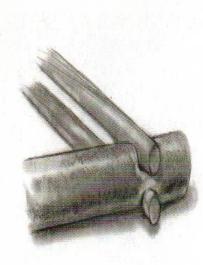
Drill three 1/4" holes for handle and clapper holder.



Forge the handle from 1/4" round. use a chisel to split the ends.

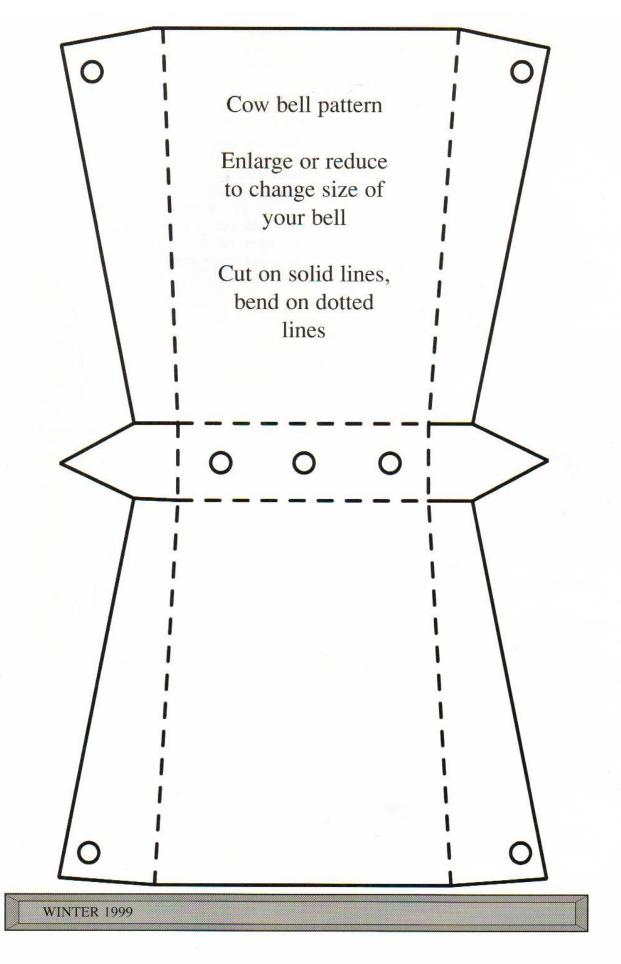
Insert handle into bell and spread the ends just enough to keep them in place. Braze the handle in place. The clapper comes next. Forge this from a piece of 1/2 inch round. Make a ball by spring fullering 1/2 inch from the end. Round the end while supporting the fullered section on the anvil horn. Work into a ball shape, never hitting the same spot twice.

Attach to the bell and, using a needle nose pliers, bend the loops closed. Heat bell carefully (don't melt the brass!). Quench in water. Make some noise!



Draw out the clapper end from the fullered area. Bend the drawn out end into a loop.

Forge the clapper holder into a loop, insert in hole in bell and use a chisel to split end just enough to keep it in the bell. Braze to the top of the bell.



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

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 -327-5235or 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

vou 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 or (home) 918-245-7279 or (cell) 918-639-8779

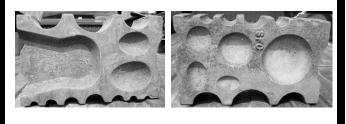
Show your pride in SCABA. License plates for \$5.00 each.

We have coffee cups for \$9.00 with two images on them and We have a new shipment of caps for \$10.00. There will be caps at the SC meetings and-Dan Cowart has cups and caps for the picnic.





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 All new parts, Call for prices...1-940-580-0032 ask for Pierre

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist Blacksmith Assoc.Inc. 10380 N. 4010 Road Wann, Okla.74083 U S Postage Paid Non Profit Organization Permit #8 Sterling Ok. 73567

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