

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

February 2014



Happy Valentines Day

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Artist-Blacksmith Association
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Editors notes...

Another month in and making the list and checking it twice. Oh, that is for another holiday. It still seems like we can't live without our list. Grocery, to do, etc. I hope you will add some of the following things to yours.

- ◆ Send in you ballot for the board of directors election. All the candidates are members in good standings and are worthy of your consideration. Please vote for three. Please mail back as soon as possible. Your vote counts..
- ◆ Pay dues. They are due by March 31st. You get a 30 day grace period but if they are not paid by the first of May you are dropped from the membership list and will not receive anymore newsletters until you pay your dues and will have to pay the postage on any back issues you want.
- ◆ Book a meeting. We still have several dates available for meetings. Please consider hosting a meeting.
- ◆ Host a workshop, We have a lot of new members that need help getting started. If you don't feel confident in teaching the workshop, if you can provide a location the board can find an instructor.
- ◆ Volunteer to be on one of the committees that will be set up in the next few months. These committees will be dealing with aspects of the picnic and conference. Everyone that had a suggestion on the conference form should be willing to be a part of one of these committees. Food, tool box, auction, gallery, iron-n-hat etc. Step up...

We are sorry to lose Dan Cowart from the board of directors but understand his need to step down. He will still be attending and hosting meetings in the NE region.

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Diana Davis
Editor

The Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association, a non-profit organization 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

February presidents notes

I would like to apologies to you all, and especially to Diana for not having any notes for the January newsletter.

On the 5th of January, David Seigris and I made the trip to Camp Verdi Arizona. I was quite surprised to find near blizzard conditions when I went out to the truck at 4:00 AM! I picked up David at the loves truck stop in Eric Oklahoma. Once we got passed Amarillo, the weather was fine the rest of the way. When we got up at 5 AM Monday morning Gordon already had breakfast cooked and a nice warm fire in the wood stove. I don't think Gordon actually sleeps! He kept us

busy from 7AM until around 11PM most nights. Most of the time for lunch and supper, he would run in and make us grilled sandwiches. The guy never tires! He works at a fast pace, with at least two, and usually three projects in the forge at once. It was hard for me to even comprehend what was being forged, much less participate. We learned about everything from texturing, to making spring swages. I made a tree branch from a piece of one inch pipe complete with knotholes, and leaves. Horse head hooks, lizard on a branch, a steer headed fireplace broom. A rope swage, a lamp with arrows. A wine rack with grapes, vines, and leaves. We even done some joinery. I think Gordon stuffed two weeks into a six day class! Thank you Gordon.

The gathering at my place on Friday nights has gotten a little less hectic for me, as other folks than myself are learning where to find things. Now if we could all learn a bit more about maintaining coal fires. The guys are coming along on learning to forge.

As of now, there are approximately thirty boy scouts expected to be at the Sulfur tractor show grounds on the fifteenth of February (south/central meeting date) to learn a bit about forging. J J McGill has five forging setups, and I am taking the teaching trailer along with some of my equipment so all the boys can forge something for their Zombie Apocalypse. J J and I would greatly appreciate all the help we can get as that is going to be one busy Saturday! Please come and bring forged weapons/ survival tools for show and tell. If you have any questions, please call or text me at; [405-650-7520](tel:405-650-7520) or JJ at; [580-369-1042](tel:580-369-1042) Ok all you knife freaks here's your chance to show off your stuff!

I've been asked by at least three members if I would see what I can do to possibly get Levi to make tongs while being filmed. They put it to me that it would be a great video to have in our library. I certainly can't argue with them because he does make a great set of tongs. The problem I see with this (and all videos including conference videos) is that we need someone that is good at, and has the time to do the editing, and get them on a DVD so they can be watched. I've got a "Go Pro" and another digital camera. I can film but I can't figure out how to edit and get them on a DVD! It's very frustrating to say the least! I must not be the only one with this problem as conference DVDs are now three years behind. Anybody out there got any good ideas on how we could fix this? I would probably be making videos of our Friday nights if I could get them where they could be viewed somewhere besides on the tiny screen on the cameras. In the past we've talked about having the folks that use a scholarship to go learn, maybe make a video as one of the ways to fulfill their requirements for receiving the scholarship. This would be great, but it has the same problem. Any help on this would be greatly appreciated.

Babbling Byron

Thanks;
Byron Doner (Korny)



REGIONAL MEETINGS:

February Regional meetings...

- ◆ SE Regional meeting (Feb 01) Open
- ◆ NE Regional meeting (Feb 08) will be hosted by Gary Gloden at his shop at 16606 S. 97th W. Ave in Sapulpa, Ok. His trade item is "Horseshoe art". Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out.
- ◆ SC Regional meeting (Feb 15) will be hosted by JJ McGill at the Murry Co. Antique Tractor Grounds at 906 Tractor Rd. Sulphur, Ok. JJ McGill is working with the Boy Scouts this weekend and would like all the help he can get. The boys are on a quest to kill zombies and need to learn to make anything that they can use to defeat them. This is your opportunity to bring out your inner child and use your imagination to FORGE ahead and help the Boy Scouts defeat the Zombies. You can contact JJ at jjmcgill88@yahoo.com for more information. The trade item is a knife, fork, spoon, hatchet or defiance item. Lunch is provided. Please RSVP so JJ can make sure he has enough for everyone. 580-369-1042 voice/text
- ◆ NW Regional meeting (Feb 22) will be hosted by Gary Seigrist at the Route 66 Museum in Elk City, Ok. The trade item is a "Grill tool". Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out.

March Regional meetings...

- SE Regional meeting (March 1st) open
- NE Regional meeting (March 8th) will be hosted by Doug Redden at 2050 E. 410 Rd. Oologah. Lunch is provided. He did not designate a trade item.
- SC Regional meeting (March 15th) will be hosted by Larry Mills, he has chosen a decorative punch as the trade item. Lunch will be provided. Please bring a side dish to go with stew. Suggestion of cornbread, cheese & crackers and soft drinks. *Directions: 2 miles east of I-35, take Tecumseh Rd, to Charleston Rd.*
- NW Regional meeting (March 22nd) will be hosted by Mandell Greteman at his home in Foss, Okla. Lunch is provided and his trade items is a soup spoon.

Directions: exit 53 off I-40 go north on Hyw 44 across the rail road tracks one block turn left go 2 blocks end of the road big ray and while building or follow the signs.

April meeting schedule:

- ⇒ SE Regional meeting (April 5th) open
- ⇒ NE Regional meeting (April 12th) will be hosted by Ed McCormach. Lunch will be provided. Trade item is a animal head.
- ⇒ SC Regional meeting (April 19th) annual picnic
- ⇒ NW Regional meeting (April 26th) will be hosted by Bob Kennemer at the Rt 66 Museum in Elk City. Lunch is provided. Trade item is anything from a RR Spike.

2014 meeting dates....

SE Region (1st Sat)

Jan
Feb
March
April
May Ronnie Smith
June
July
Aug
Sept
Oct
Nov Bill Phillips
Dec

NE Region (2nd Sat)

Jan: Bill Kendall
Feb Gary Gloden
March: Doug Redden
April: Ed McCormack
May
June
July
Aug
Sept: James Mayberry
Oct
Nov
Dec

SC Region (3rd Sat)

Jan; Gerald Franklin
Feb: JJ McGill
March Larry Mills
April Picnic
May Ricky Vardell
June Larry Mills
July
Aug
Sept: J.J. McGill
Oct (SCABA)
Nov
Dec

NW Region (4th Sat)

Jan: Dorvan Ivey
Feb: Gary Seigrist
March: Mandell Greteman
April: Bob Kennemer
May: Roy Bell
June: Don Garner
July Monty Smith
Aug Terry Kauk
Sept: Ron Lehenbauer
Oct: Cheryl Overstreet
Nov: Mandell Greteman
Dec: Ted Culver

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.

January S/C Meeting Notes

Gerald Franklin

Great weather, great people, and a burn ban. Well, two out of three ain't bad. We held the South Central meeting for January on the 18th at Gerald and Frankie Franklin's place east of Duncan. The weather was close to perfect with temps in the high 60's and light winds. Really great weather for any time of the year but almost unheard of for January. We had a good crowd of folks, too. Stephens County is under a burn ban so that made outside forges a no-go but we had coal and gas forges going in the shop pretty much all day.

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 eleven 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. I know of at least two other members who had trade items made but were unable to attend.

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 35 head before we ate lunch and some had to leave before lunch.

It was a great meeting and there was some serious forging going on to make for a very good day.



David Knight Broom & Handle

01-2014

Jim Carothers

New Year's Day 2014 saw several Saltfork Craftsmen ABA members gathered up at David Knight's place near Inola, OK for a day of forging, sharing ideas, and good campfire cooked food. One of the ideas David shared with us was his method of making a broom. Or maybe I should say attaching a blacksmith made handle to a purchased broom. The broom you see in these photos is a small whisk broom purchased at Lowes (Item No. 424) for just under \$5.

David started by removing the factory cap and bale. Next he measured the diameter of the top of the broom and found a short piece of pipe in his "resources" metal pile. The inside diameter of the pipe is close to the diameter of the small end of the broom top. A distance back from the end of the pipe was chosen and a fullering tool used to neck the pipe down. Fullering and forging down continued with the 3/8" square handle inserted into the pipe. The tight fitting handle was tapped out with a punch and the fullered piece of pipe was then cut off. Next the large end of the pipe was heated and flared on the horn of David's anvil. The part was cooled and the flaring was checked several times for a snug fit on the broom top.

CAUTION: Quenching a hot piece of pipe or tubing can get you badly burned by super-hot steam escaping out an open end. Always plug the upper open end before cooling; stand aside even when the material is plugged.

For a good joint, the 3/8" square handle can be riveted, brazed, or welded to the fullered pipe. Upsetting (heading) the end of the handle and welding or brazing it inside the fullered pipe would be good.

The assembly was completed by thoroughly cleaning the inside of the flared pipe down to bright metal and epoxy gluing it to the top of the broom.



Equal Length Leg Bending Fixture

01-2014

Jim

Carothers

Blacksmith's often have the need to make equal length legs for an assembly; the 3-leg leaf trivet shown is a good example. Other items that might have equal length legs are towel racks, door handles, floor or table lamp bases, Colonial lighting pieces, etc. At the 2004 Saltfork Craftsmen ABA annual conference, demonstrator Bob Patrick showed us a simple bending fixture that produces equal length (common height) legs.

Photo One shows the fixture; it is a basic 'Z' bent bar with a tab welded on that allows clamping the fixture in a vise. In this photo you will also see a second bar tack welded to the lower horizontal leg of the 'Z'. That bar is a spacer; this particular fixture has been modified with this bar to produce a shorter bend height than it was first made for. I have several of these bending fixtures with different offsets and different top bends; some have the top corner forged nearly square to produce a bend with a tight inside radius (Photo Four). For bending heavier bars, it is a good idea to make the vise tab such that it will hook under one of the vise jaws as well as gripped by the both jaws. Be sure to make the lower leg of the 'Z' and the tab long enough to use all of the vise jaw width plus extra room for clamping the part to be bent; the two fixtures shown here were not made that way and they often slip in the vise.

Photo Two shows the fixture in the vise and a (hot) to-be-bent leg clamped in place on the horizontal leg of the 'Z'. In Photo Three you see a bending / scrolling fork being used to bend the leg over against the fixture. A bit of truing up and alignment of the bend at the anvil may be necessary. Referring again to Photo One, you see three legs all bent to the same height above the feet. If you would like to see this fixture in use, check out the 2004 Saltfork Annual



Conference video from the association library; Bob's demonstration includes this fixture and many other useful tips.

Northwest Regional meeting report..



On January 25th, 2014, Dorvan Ivey hosted the meeting for the northwest region. We had a beautiful day to have a meeting. The meeting was held at the Elk City Blacksmith Shop (Route 66 Museum). Lots of members showed up. We had about 20 sign in for the meeting and there are always a lot of tourist passing through. This was normal for the great weather. The trade item was something with a leaf on it. I believe there were 7 trade items. All were really good. For lunch we had smoked chickens and Gary Seigrist made brown beans and cornbread. There were a lot of side dishes and desserts. Gerald Franklin also came and shared a lot of information. Most of it was in the form of a notebook. I will send back soon as I read through all of his notes. Thanks for sharing Gerald. I would also like to give a big thank you to Bob Kennemer and Gary Seigrist for the hard work and endless effort they do at the at the museum.

Debra and Dorvan Ivey



Saltfork Craftsmen

Artists - Blacksmiths Association, Inc.

Board of Trustees Election March 2014

There are three Trustee terms expiring this year. The three trustees who's terms are expiring are:
David Seigrist, Diana Davis and Danny Cowart. Danny Cowart is not running again.

You may choose from the candidate list or you may write in any other persons who are members in good standing. Please vote for only **three** candidates by putting a check mark on the line next to their names.

David Seigrist	Hollis, OK	_____
Diana Davis	Fletcher, OK	_____
Teresa Gabrish	Oklahoma City, Ok	_____
Tracy Cowart	Owasso, OK	_____
Terry Jenkins	Blanchard, OK	_____

Other : _____

These candidates are all good people. Any of them will be an asset to the Club and to the Board of Trustees. Please vote only once per membership. The election dead line is April 10, 2014. Please **fill in** your ballot as soon as possible and mail to:

Saltfork Craftsmen 2014 Ballot Dan Cowart
10380 N. 4010 Rd.
Wann, OK 74083-2014

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Dan Cowart
10380 N. 4010 Rd.
Wann, Ok 74083

Stamp

Saltfork Craftsmen 2013 Ballot

Dan Cowart
10380 N. 4010 Rd.
Wann, OK 74083-2014

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