

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

November 2014



BOW Class of 2014

Becoming an outdoors Woman

Pictured are some of the 38 students who learned Basic Blacksmithing skills from Saltfork Craftsmen members Chuck Waite and Gerald Brostek at the 2014 BOW Conference held at Camp Waluhili, located on Fort Gibson Lake in eastern Oklahoma. Each student worked with anvil, hammer and forge to complete a "drive hook" of their own design with their newly learned skills.

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Editors notes....

Once again I need to ask that everyone MAIL in your memberships yourself. DONOT hand it to another member and expect it to get to the Secretary or Editor. Applications get lost, wet, etc when placed in pockets or wallets in the confusion of an event etc. If you mail in your membership there is no question that it is getting to the right person in a timely fashion and the correct amount is credited to you. You may have indicated that you paid for several years but if I don't see a check or money to prove that and the person you gave it to can't remember, guess what, you will be credited for ONE year only. I have checked with other clubs concerning how they handle memberships and very few allow anyone but the Secretary or Treasurer to accept membership applications and payments.

If someone want to have you handle their membership, PLEASE point out the address at the bottom of the application and ask them to mail it in. IF you just have to be a GOOD OLE BOY and take their info, then the application AND the money should be mail at the earliest opportunity to the Treasurer or Secretary/Editor.

That's my 2cents on that issue.

I am looking for someone to take over the Editorship of the Saltfork Craftsmen newsletter. I would like to try doing something else to benefit the club. I would like to step down no later than March 1st. I will be willing to help train,(there is not really anything to it), anyone interested in the job. We can even work together for a few months until you feel comfortable with the whole process. We will get you on the mailing list of other editors so you get their newsletters to draw information from and the ABANA Editor's yahoo group. There is a lot of info out there to help you create a interesting and useful newsletter. Please consider giving it a try.

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

REGIONAL MEETINGS:

November meetings

- ◆ November 1-2 is the SCABA Conference in Norman Oklahoma.
- ◆ NE Regional meeting (Nov. 8th) Open
- ◆ SC Regional meeting (Nov 15th) Will be hosted by Terry Jenkins at his shop in Blanchard. Lunch will be provided. Bring a side dish to help out. The trade item is a reindeer shoe. Contact info. 405-476-6091. see map for directions.
- ◆ NW Regional meeting (Nov. 22nd) will be hosted by Mandell Greteman at his home in Foss Okla. (directions) exit 53 off I-40 go north on Hwy 44 across the RR tracks one block turn left go 2 blocks end of the road to big gray building or follow signs. Trade item is a horse shoe coat hanger. Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out. For more info. 580-515-1292 or mandell01@windstream.net

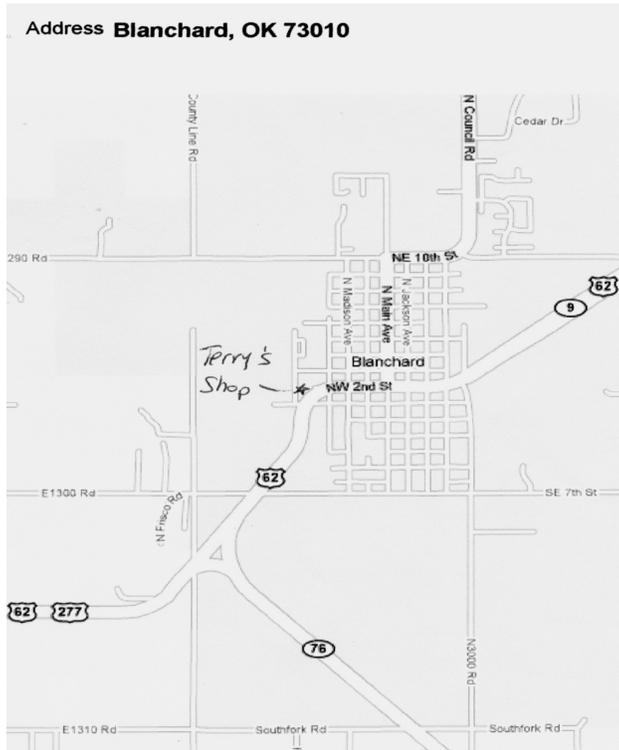
December meetings

- ⇒ SE Regional meeting (Dec. 6st) will be hosted by Bill Phillips at his home at 14360 St. Hwy 113. 918-200-4263. Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out. Trade item is a S-hook. See map for directions.
- ⇒ NE Regional meeting (Dec. 13th) Open
- ⇒ SC Regional meeting (Dec. 20th) Open
- ⇒ NW Regional meeting (Dec. 27th) will be hosted by Ted Culver at the Route 66 Museum in Elk City, Okla. Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out. Trade item is anything made from a RR Spike.

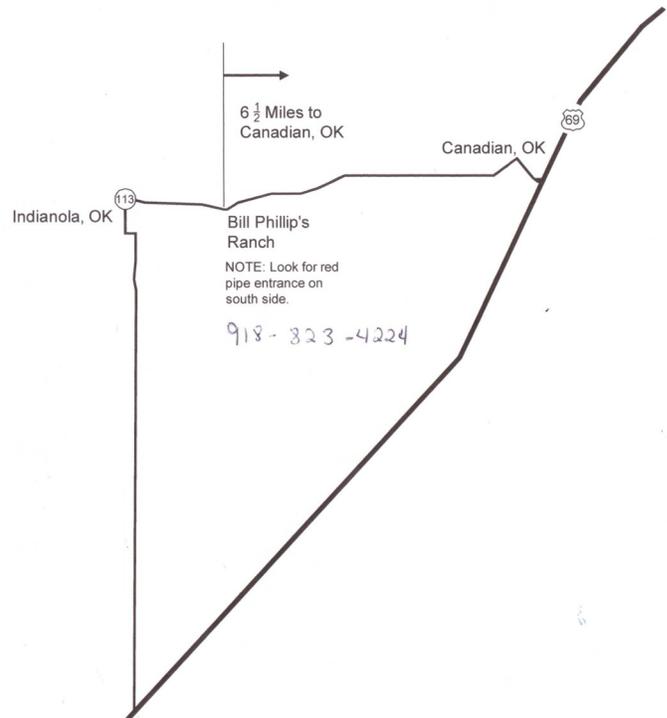
2014 meeting dates....

<u>SE Region (1t Sat)</u>	<u>NE Region (2nd Sat)</u>	<u>SC Region (3rd Sat)</u>	<u>NW Region (4th Sat)</u>
Nov conference	Nov	Nov: Terry Jenkins	Nov: Mandell Greteman
Dec Bill Phillips	Dec	Dec	Dec: Ted Culver

Meeting hosting form can be found on page 19 along with membership application form.



Map to Bill Phillips for the Dec. meeting.



November Presidents Notes

I lucked out and was able to attend the Mark Aspery classes in Glen Rose Texas on the 12th, 13th, and 14th of October. It was put on by Ron and Kathy Stafford, at their beautiful home in Nemo Texas, which is close to Glen Rose, Texas. I was also lucky enough to be able to attend the demo that Mark Aspery put on at Brookhaven College in Dallas Texas on Saturday. Kelly Kring teaches blacksmithing there at Brookhaven College. With his help we sold 13 blocks, and three cones, while I was on the trip! Thanks Kelly! We also picked up seven new members!

While attending Mark's class, I Learned a really cool way to wind a corkscrew. He also taught us how to do reproses over a steak, along with tool making, and heat treating tools. If you've ever watched Mark while he's hammering you would agree with me that he certainly can move some metal and he looks like he's not working at all! Hopefully I can lose my bad habits, and learn how to relax and get the full potential out of that hammer! He is also a very good teacher for learning the math involved in blacksmithing. I believe that Ron and Kathy are going to do this again in 2015. I hope to be there.

I wish you all a very happy Thanksgiving, and I hope you get to hammer all that you want to!

Babbling Byron

Thanks;
Byron Doner (Korny)



Notice...

We have a new shipment of swage blocks.

Due to an increase in casing cost we have had to increase our cost of the swage blocks by \$10.00. The new price is noted in the swage block ad in the back of this newsletter.

Around the state...

Northwest Saltfork Craftsmen Regional Meeting was held at Blacksmith Shop at Fairview, Ok on September 26-27, 2014.

There were 4 members on hand, to show the trade of blacksmithing there was two coal forges going most of the day. We had a steady crowd of people, even some which wanted to get their hand dirty.

The Oklahoma Tourism of Oklahoma stopped by and did some filming and took some photos of our blacksmithing in action. One even used a hammer himself. So keep an eye out for the article.

With sharing and teaching in mind, we had two young men who wanted to try their hands at hitting some hot iron. They were so cute, all decked out in overhaul and all. Hopefully they will have great memories to take away a big thanks to Mandell for taking the time.

There was great food and a lot of tractors to see and even some Dutch oven cooking, food was great.

Thanks to all who attended this event, especially to those who drove so many miles to get there?

It was nice to see everyone.

A Big Thank you to Don Garner, Mandell Greteman, Roy Bell and Monty Smith for covering the Fairview Tractor Show and Blacksmithing.



Oklahoma State Fair at Tulsa

As soon as Saltfork finished up at the Oklahoma State Fair at OKC it was time to take the trailer and set up at the State Fair at Tulsa. This is the first year Saltfork has been represented at the State Fair at Tulsa. Pictured are Gerald Brostek, Doug Hemme and Dan Cowart. Others that worked at the Fair were Byron Donor and Ron Lehenbauer.



SE Regional report..

The SE regional meeting was held in conjunction with the Sulphur tractor show. Nikki Vardell reporting. Ricky & I got there Thursday afternoon to help Jim Dyer & JJ McGilll get the forges set up for Friday morning for the school kids. There were two sometimes three forges going most of the day. Jim said around 1200 school kids come thru and watched the blacksmithing. There were different types of forges set up, a treadle coal forge, propane forge, and heat induction.

Saturday was the regular meeting day. There was a big turn out of 20 + members, wives & kids. Five forges were going most of the day. Different items were made through out the day. Small nail bars, wizard bottle openers, 3/8 chain links and hay hooks. The trade item was a hay hook and we ended up with six in the hat. We ended the day around 5:00 pm with a BBQ dinner. Jim & JJ wanted to say "Thanks" to everyone that came to the 21st Annual Tractor and Implement show. They plan to host the September meeting in 2015.

Ricky and I would like to thank Jim and JJ for their hospitality and putting up with us for 3 days. We can't wait until next year.
Ricky and Nikki Vardell



*Byron received this email from a gentleman that he helped.
We look forward to this kind of messages in our inbox.*

Forge built out of brake drum, 2" iron fittings and lawnmower shell. Blue hand crank blower working super. RR rail anvil on dozen up-ended 4 x 4's. Have made rake and poker, having a blast.. yuk yuk.

Can't thank you enough for making all this possible. Gary.



NE Regional meeting for October.

The October Northeast Region meeting was held at Ed McCormack's shop near Morris Oklahoma. Ed had a good turnout in spite of the cold and rainy day. I believe the count was about 25 head or so. The trade item was something from a horseshoe and everything from a back scratcher to a ball was made from horseshoes. We ate beans and cornbread along with an assortment of home baked things. Ed had a fire going in the old wood stove and many who were not working at the forges were crowded around the old stove telling tales. Some were mighty hard to believe! Others braved the weather and went out to look and see if Ed added anything to his ongoing fence project. Everyone had a great time working at the forges and visiting with folks they hadn't seen in a while. It was nice to see the more experienced smiths helping some of the younger ones complete their project.

By Gerald Brostek

Field Report:

Ponca City October Fest at The Pioneer Woman Museum

As part of Ponca City's annual October Fest, Pioneer Woman Museum Director Robbin Davis and the museum staff hosted various pioneer craft demonstrators on Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 4 & 5. Saltfork was represented by Tom Nelson and Jim Carothers.

We had a light but steady group watching the smithing demonstrations both days; were well fed by Robbin and her staff; and had a really nice shady place to set up. In addition to our blacksmithing demonstration, there was a candle maker (bee's wax), rope maker, a laundress, and fiber art in spinning and weaving. This was the first time I had seen the old hand washing of clothes; a pioneer laundress had a hard job.

We also had an apt student in longtime friend Charlie Mertz who got his first smithing lessons from Jim and Tom. He made a right fine beam hook as a first project.

Jim Carothers



SC Regional meeting...

The South Central meeting was hosted by Bill and Diana Davis at their home west of Rush Springs. The turnout was very good with around 25 members and friends showing up to visit or try their hand at forging something.

Bill did a demo on how to make the hawk from a horse shoe rasp and several members tried their hand at the forge and they left with some pretty impressive hawks. We had a young man that came, and I'm sorry I have misplaced my camera so have no pictures to show, but they started a forge for him and Bill instructed him in his first forging. By noon he had a nice tool to take home and probably a wish list for what Santa is to put under his tree.

Our lunch was a Pot luck affair and I think it turned out rather well. We had a nice variety of food show up and I think everyone manage to find something to their liking. After lunch there was more visiting and forging of hawks. Everyone started to load up and make their ways home about 3:00 and Bill and I were ready for some time in a Lazy Boy...

We'll do it again. But not until next year.

Diana

What is wrong with this picture?

This is what the inside of the teaching trailer looked like when it was returned to Norman. This is not the condition that the trailer was in when it was delivered to the members that borrowed it. When the trailer was set up by Bill and Diana Davis all the equipment had a specific location with tie downs to make sure the equipment would not shift during transport. There was a system for loading everything so that next time it was used the equipment could be unloaded as needed. Looking at this mess it is obvious that nothing was put back in its place or secured for transport. It doesn't take any longer to load the trailer properly than to just throw everything in it and lock the doors and hope nothing shift and causes an accident. You have several hundred pounds of anvils, swage blocks and forges that are able to move around when unsecured. This is not the first time that the president has pulled the trailer back from an event and opened it to find this kind of mess or worse.

This equipment was purchased with club money so yes the equipment belongs to the members but that doesn't mean that we should stand back and let members that don't care enough to make sure that tools are not misplaced or lost, equipment thrown back in to the trailer with broken parts or not loaded and secured properly. If you look at the picture closely you will see tools missing or not in their place and metal ready to fall from the rack. I would be ashamed to admit that I had any part of returning club equipment in this condition.

I realize that sometimes a different person is put in charge of loading the trailer than the one that unloaded it. But if you look (when you are inside the trailer) you can see where location have been marked for the anvils and swage/vice stands to be placed and secured. The president along with some other members help will be reloading the trailer before the conference and will be drawing up a map (to be taped to the inside wall) of where tool, anvils, etc are to be located in the trailer so there should be no reason for the trailer to come back in this condition again. The trailer coming back in this condition, or with missing or broken equipment could cause the board to refuse to let the trailer be used by that individual or group. The choice is yours, Take care of the equipment or loose the use of it.

Diana Davis (SCABA Board member)



Saltfork T's

We have come up with a Saltfork T-shirt that will be available for sale through the newsletter editor. The shirts cost \$15.00 each and if you order two or more they can be shipped for no extra cost.

The image is an iron-on so one word of caution. DO NOT dry them in a HOT dryer, the decal will start to come loose.

(I found this out first hand). Air or med. Heat only. This is a short sleeved shirt. Grey in color. If you want a shirt you can contact the editor at her mailing address listed in the directors column on page 2.

Send payment (made out to SCABA) along with sizes and mailing address.

Happy forging

