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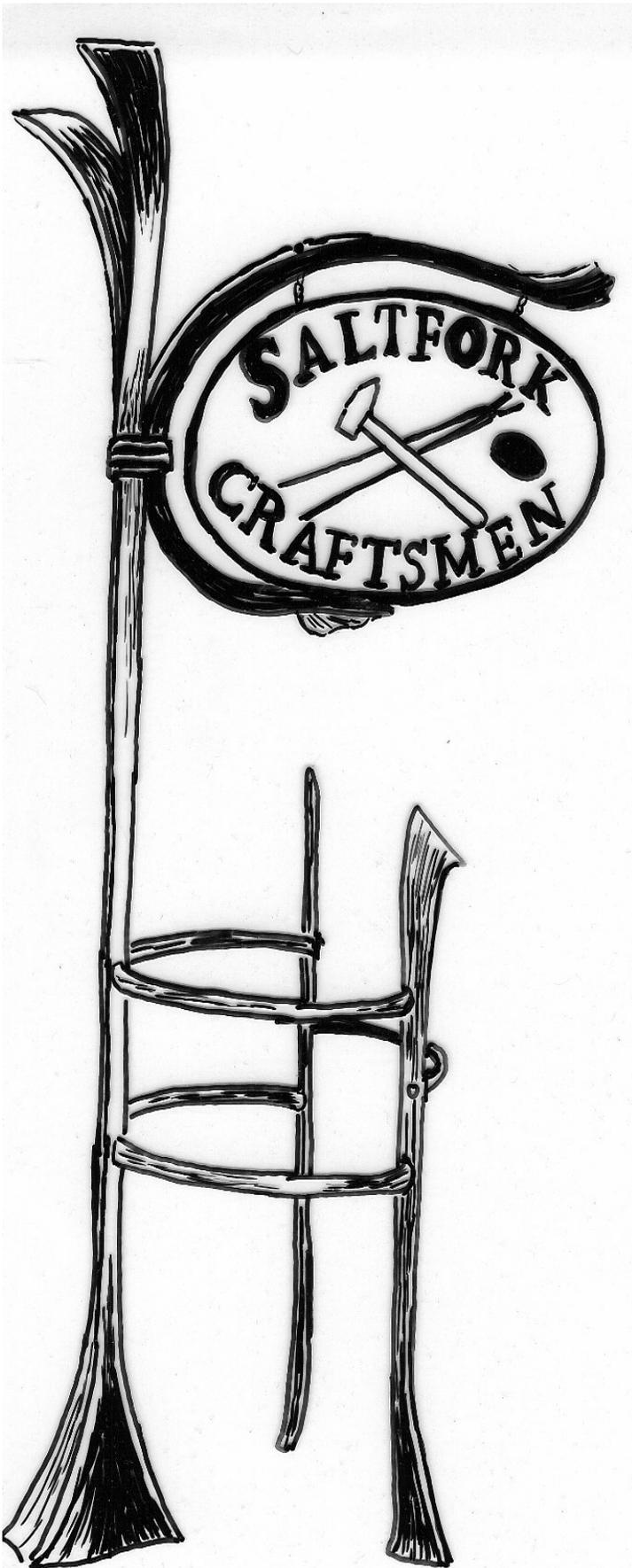
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The Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association, a non-profit organization of amateur and professional artist and craftsmen, publishes this newsletter monthly. Our purposes are the sharing of knowledge, education and to promote a more general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



MAY 2006

LIBRARY LIST

- A Traditional Suite: Sword Making, set hammers
- A Water powered Smithy
- ABANA comes of AGE: 1994 NOMN Exhibit
- Basic Blacksmithing with Hershel House
- Basic Blacksmithing with Hershel House part 2
- Basic Blacksmithing with Hershel House part 3
- Bill Bastus: Guthrie 2002 SFC tapes 1-6
- Bob Patrick-Forge Welding
- Broom making for the Blacksmith
- Doug Merkel: Misc. projects
- Doug Merkel: Nail Header
- Doug Merkel: Saw tooth Trammel
- Doug Merkel: Tomahawk and Misc.
- Elmer Roush: Colonial American Hardware and Fixtures
- European masters Fire and Fantasy
- Forge Welding with Bob Patrick
- Frank Turley-Tool making tapes 3,4,5
- Hammer man in Williamsburg: An 18th Century Blacksmith
- Hershel House: Blacksmithing part 2 and part 3
- Jerry Darnell: 18th Century HDW-Hinge pintles tape 4
- Jerry Darnell: 18th Century HDW-strap Hinges tape 3
- Jerry Darnell: 18th Century HDW- Suffolk Door Latch tape 2 Jerry Darnell: 18th Century Lighting- Tapes 1,2 and 3 Jim & Kathleen Poor: Tool making-Guthrie 2001 tapes 3,4 and 5
- Jim Hrisoulas: Forging Damascus Part 1
- Jim Hrisoulas: Forging Damascus Part 2
- Omey's 2002: Kendall and Dyer- Table
- Omey's 1997: Ted Sawyer 4 tapes
- Rob Gunter: Hammers Tape 2
- Rob Gunter: Hollow Forging
- Rob Gunter: Hollow Forging tape 4 & 5
- Rob Gunter: Scrolls Tape 7
- Samuel Yellin's Legacy; The story of a Metal working shop
- The Loveless Legend
- Tom Smith at Hartdner
- Yellin Foundation: Manfred Bredohl
- RD-1 1990 Metal Madness
- RD-2 Ivan Bailey and Paul Hubler
- RD-9 1992 BAM Ozark Conference
- Knife making with William White.
- RD-69 2002 UMBA Conference with Roger Lorance
- RD-79 2003 UMBA Conference with Bob Tuftee
- RD-82 Wooden Wagon Wheel workshop, Perry Ok.
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- RD-79 2003 UMBA Conference with Bob Tuftee
- RD-82 Wooden Wagon Wheel workshop, Perry Ok.
- 2005 SCABA Conference tapes

If you are interested in borrowing any of these tapes, contact Gerald Franklin at a meeting or call him at 580-252-6002.

TRADING POST

For Sale:

$\frac{3}{4}$ " round bar of 5160 (\$3.30 per foot plus shipping)
 $\frac{3}{4}$ " and 1" round bar of 52100 (\$6.00 and \$9.45 per foot plus shipping) Contact Ray Kirk,
ray@rakerknives.com or 1-918-456-1519

Army surplus round nosed pliers that make good scroll pliers for small items. They are 6" long \$5.00 each plus shipping. I also tie broomcorn brooms on your handle or mine. \$15.00 plus shipping. Contact Diana Davis, lazyassforge@tds.net or 1-580-549-6824

TREADLE HAMMER with air assist attachment and two extra dies. Bought new last year in mint condition gave 2000.00 dollars, asking 1750.00 or consider trade for 25lb Little Giant or like mechanical hammer. Call Mark Carter at 405-964-5754 before 10:00P.M. Please.

Club Coal

Saltfork Craftsmen have Arkansas coal for sale. The coal is \$95/ton to members and \$145/ton to non-members.

Bring your own containers. Contact Tom Nelson at 1-580-862-7691 to make arrangements to pick up a load. **DO NOT CALL AFTER 9 P.M.** If you make

arrangement well in advance, Tom can load your truck or trailer with his skid steer loader. Otherwise you will need to bring a shovel. The coal can be weighed out at the Douglas Coop Elevator scales. The coal is in large chunks; bring something to break up the coal into manageable size pieces.

Rebuilt Little Giant Trip Hammers! Better than New! 25#-\$3495; 50#-\$4595; Misc. leg vices and hand cranked and electric blowers. Contact Mike George at 1-580-327-5235 or Mike-marideth@sbcglobal.net

Sold out....“New supply arriving soon.”
Saltfork Craftsmen Swage Blocks \$85.00 each plus shipping. SCABA members can purchase **one** block for a special members price of \$60.00
Contact Mike George at 1-580-327-5235 or mike-marideth@sbcglobal.net or Jim Carothers at 1-580-336-9213 or colonel@fullnet.net



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

Send your ads to Diana Davis, 23966 NE Wolf Rd. Fletcher, Okla. 73541 or email them to lazyassforge@tds.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

NE Regional meeting (May 13, 2006) hosted by Mike Boos at his stained glass shop in Broken Arrow, Ok. Since it is Mothers Day weekend the trade item should be a Rose. There is also a Rooster Day event going on in town that weekend. The shop is located in the old down town part on Main and Broadway (Northwest corner). There will be a parade at 10am and because of that, parking will be extremely challenging until the parade is over. Parade could last maybe 45 minutes. But people

May 2006

arrive early to get a good place, and of course that means they try to take our parking lot. So the group should try to get here early, especially if someone brings their equipment. This could be a big demonstration event for the club as there will be a great deal of people meandering around even after the parade, and especially if the weather is good. Now, that brings up another thing. If the weather is bad, or even just rainy, we have no location or space to get in out of the rain, and be able to demonstrate anything. As for lunch, the group could bring there own, or we'll see about ordering some pizza's after we know how many will be here. We always have a lot of bottled water around. There is a map in the back of newsletter. For more information or directions contact Mike at (918) 357-1043
South/Central meeting (May 20, 2006) hosted by Terry Jenkins in conjunction with the Silver City tractor club at the fair grounds in Tuttle, Ok. The trade item will be a cross. Lunch will be on your own. There will be several food vendors on the grounds or you can try your luck in town. The fair grounds are located on the west side of Tuttle as you leave town.

NW Regional meeting (May 27 2006) hosted by John Burns at his home near Capron, Ok. John has chosen anything forged as the trade item. A lunch of cold cut sandwiches will be provided. If you want to, bring something to go along with that. There is a map in the back of this newsletter.

June

NE Regional meeting (June 10, 2006) hosted by Curtis Allen

South/Central meeting (June 17, 2006) hosted by Larry Morefield.

NW Regional meeting (June 24, 2006) hosted by Jim Omey

July

NE Regional meeting (July 8, 2006) hosted by Mark Coatney

South/Central meeting (July 15, 2006) hosted by Max Scudder.

NW Regional meeting (July 22, 2006) open

August

NE Regional meeting (August 12, 2006) open

South/Central Regional (August 19, 2006) hosted by Gregory George.

NW Regional meeting (August 26, 2006) hosted by Mike George

September

NE Regional meeting (Sept. 9, 2006) hosted by Pat Cowart.

South/Central meeting (Sept. 16, 2006) hosted by Terry Jenkins at the Sulphur tractor show.

NW Regional meeting (Sept. 23, 2006) open

October

October 14 and 15, 2006 SCABA Conference

South/Central meeting (Oct. 21, 2006) open

NW Regional meeting (Oct. 28, 2006) open

November

NE Regional meeting (Nov. 11, 2006) open

South/Central meeting (Nov. 18 2006) hosted by Bill Davis

NW Regional meeting (Nov 25, 2006) open

December

NE Regional meeting (Dec. 9, 2006) open

South/Central meeting (Dec.16, 2006) hosted by Larry Morefield

NW Regional meeting (Dec.23, 2006) open

Please Do Not asks to hold a meeting on another regions date. If you need a different date, choose a weekend not set aside for another region. This does not apply for classes or workshops

Editor

2006 PUBLIC DEMO REQUEST

May 13th, Marshall, Ok. Prairie City Days. 8:00 to 4:30p.m. Contact Jim Carothers for more info.

May 13th, Pawnee Bill Ranch Saltfork will again host the beginning blacksmithing class. The class project is a simple drive hook The Museum has the printed class handouts for the students; I'll have the project steel cut to length and ready to use. We generally finish the drive hook by noon; the afternoons have been filed with projects suggested by the instructors or students. In the past we have had about 4 students per forge; everyone went home with a piece of ironwork that they had made in the class. I need two more instructors to help me with

this class. Volunteers will need to provide a portable coal forge and basic hand tools, a vice and an anvil and stand. Keep in mind that the students are beginners; you may not want to bring your best anvil or favorite forging hammers. Bring some extra steel of your choice for the afternoons "open forge" session.

Plan to meet at the Pawnee Bill Ranch Site Museum at 8 AM to get set up and be ready for the class at 9. We should be finished by 4-5 PM. The Pawnee Bill Ranch is just off Highway 64 on the West side of town. The Museum Staff will provide lunch for the instructors; students are to bring a sack lunch. If you are used to a smack or two during the day, better bring that along and maybe your favorite drink Contact Jim Carothers for more information or to let him know if you can help.

June 3rd, 2nd annual Comanche Old West Fest. You will need to complete an entry blank to participate. Activities include a chuck wagon cook off as well as gun fighting and country western music. For more info. Contact Brant C. Ball at 580-439-8832 or email him at brantcball@hotmail.com

June 10,17,24 Pawnee Bill Ranch Wild West Show (Contact Erin Brown for info)

June 16 & 17 The Oklahoma Tractor Association has invited Saltfork members to demo at their annual "Okie Heritage Days" celebration. The event location is 26101 East 104th Street South—1/4 mile east of the Intersection of 104th and OK Highway 51 between Broken Arrow and Coweta. They have a nice shady site and lots of hospitality to offer the blacksmith. For more information contact: Guy Cabbines (918) 492-2272 or John Hoover (918) 482-3453.

June 16-20 The City of Sedan, Kansas was chosen as the site for the 2006 Chautaugua. It is a re-enactment of a cultural event that used to occur around the country prior to the advent of media. It is state sponsored, and includes a number of professional actors playing the roles of historical figures. Mark Palmer is asking any blacksmiths that are interested to join him at the event. If interested contact mark at (620) 725-4199 or email at wmforge@ksok.biz

ormpalmer@cessna.textron.com (work)

August 31. Fletcher Tractor Show. The school lets the kids out to come and look around. There is also a livestock show going on at the same time. The group has asked if we would be able to hang around after 6 pm so people at the livestock show could

come by and see the blacksmithing demonstration. Contact Diana Davis for more info.

September 29-30 Don Colwell Heritage Days It is located at the Cache School Grounds. Friday is school day. Friday evening the Cache FFA will host a Free Brisket Dinner to all exhibitors and others starting around 5:30 pm. Also the Cache School will provide lunch for all exhibitors on Friday. For more information contact Diana Davis at 580-549-6824 or Tommy Hawthorne at 580-429-8200.

SALTFORK ELECTION RESULTS

2006 Trustee Election

JC Banks	26
Richard Dyer	30
Gerald Franklin	30
Larry Mills	2
Tom Nelson	2

SOUTH-CENTRAL MEETING

Terry Jenkins graciously agreed to host an extra meeting this Spring at his shop in Blanchard. He had a very good turnout with about 25-30 smiths and visitors coming and going throughout the day.

Bill and I decided to try the drive up to Blanchard for a short outing for Bill (after getting out of the hospital on Thursday following prostate surgery).



Larry Mills was keeping this group entertained with his abilities on the power hammer located just inside the door. Also pictured are Max and Alex Scrudder and Gregory George near the door.

We had several prospective members come and try their hand at forging.



Maurice Dunsworth. Security Officer at Norman Regional Hosp. Trying his hand at forging.



You can see from this setup that you don't have to have a fancy anvil to do blacksmithing. This is a piece of I-beam held secure in a shop mate. And his hammer is not a fancy hammer either. Just a shop hammer of an adequate weight.



Here we have David Seigrist and his

wife/helper Chulepron using the forge inside Terry's shop.

Corry Charlton making lots of smoke as he tries to get his fire going



Several of the members are watching Max Scrudder as he gets started forging.



Larry Mills working on a tool using the power hammer with a swedging tool set over the lower die of the hammer?



You can see he paid me extra to catch his good side.

We decided that Bill had had enough excitement and setting in that uncomfortable chair by 11:00 am so didn't get to stay for the trade item swap but there were some very nice examples of letter openers on the table. I should get to see whose I got at the next meeting.

NORTH EAST REGIONAL MEETING

Ralph Speece hosted the Northeast regional meeting on April 8th. They reported that there were 25 members and friends that showed up. 5 were new members and 8 were from the Full Gospel Church in Cushing Oklahoma. No one brought their forges that day, but Ralph fired up his 5 forges for those that wished to do any forging. Ralph and his wife fixed a fantastic lunch that everyone went nuts over. Ralph cooked his famous BBQ Brisket and his wife made her potato salad, coleslaw and chocolate sheet cake for desert. It was a marvelous and very good day.

Angela Brumley (Ralph's daughter)

ABANA CONFERENCE

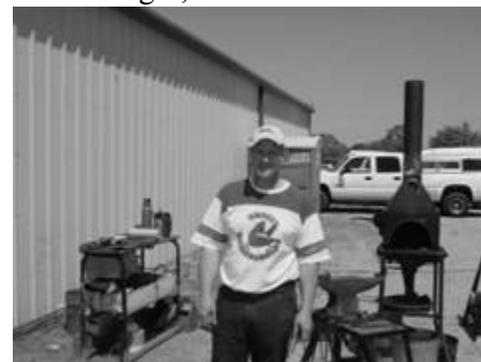
The ABANA Conference is coming up quickly—July 5-8 in Seattle, Washington. If you would like Iron-N-The-Hat tickets to help support ABANA, you can get them from me.

For full Conference information see the ABANA web site:
<http://www.abana.org/membership/fonference/index.shtml>

Jim Carothers

DEMO EVENTS:

Mike Sweany and Jim Carothers wee the demo smiths at the April 22nd Arts and Crafts Fair in Drumright, Ok.



This event is hosted annually by the Drumright Historical Society. There was a light attentive

crowd all day. John Hoover, the VP of the Oklahoma Antique Tractor Association wanted to try his hand at the forge. He went home with a nice

drive hook—his first blacksmithing project. I think we will see John at more Saltfork meetings. For our demo work, the Drumright Historical Society donated \$50 to Saltfork.



Some of the demo items made during the event.

NOTES FROM JIM C.

As I write these notes for the May Saltfork Newsletter, there is still a near state wide fire ban in place. If you are going to be a demo smith using a coal forge, you must have plenty of water on hand. Having a “fire watch” person and a fire extinguisher in your demo area would be a good idea. Working a demo in pairs should cover the fire watch.

If you have any questions about the fire ban/rules see;
<http://www.or.gov/~okag/redflag/forred.html> click on Burn Ban Guide Lines (center left side) to get to <http://www.ok.gov/~okag/redflag/banguidelines.pdf> Study it all.

Most people consider our portable coal forges as falling under the Campfire/outdoor cooking rules. However, you are responsible for your fire just as the burn ban states in the opening lines of text.

Jim Carothers

May 2006

More notes from Jim.

Saltfork members:

As you are reading this, we are already at the end of the first quarter of 2006. The past few months seem to have gone by quickly even if the state wide burn ban prevented me from lighting a coal forge. Looking ahead and at the Saltfork calendar on the web site (<http://www.saltforkcraftsmen.org>) I see a lot of opportunity for living history demonstrations coming up. I urge each of you to join other Saltfork members at our events that are public or teaching demos.

I've managed to attend a few of the first quarter Saltfork regional meetings and enjoyed each of them. Thanks very much to those who have hosted our meetings. We have several regional meeting dates that are not taken yet. Consider hosting a meeting. A large well-equipped shop is *not* a requirement. You can host a Saltfork meeting at a local park, museum, or in conjunction with another local event. We are perfectly capable of feeding ourselves; a café or brown bag lunch is OK.

There are several opportunities open to serve the Saltfork organization

Two of the most important service opportunities at this time are the Saltfork Annual Conference Chairman and Co-Chair positions. In the coming weeks I will get the Conference Work List posted on our website. We know what it takes to put on a good Conference that includes an agenda that is interesting to family members and blacksmiths alike.

The 2006 Conference is the middle weekend of October (14th & 15th); Friday, October 13th is our set-up day; the location is again the Noble County Fairgrounds area in Perry, OK. We have both the Arena Building and the Women's Building reserved as we did last year. Our demonstrators are Tal Harris and Ed Brazeal (possibly Ed's brother Brian will be on hand as well). All 3 of these men are talented artist-blacksmiths.

So, the foundation for the 2006 Conference is set; the rest has to be done. We need two people to volunteer to organize and run the 2006 Conference. With a written work list based on several years of experience as a guide, this is not a monumental job. The Conference Chairman and Co-Chair are not expected to do all the work personally; these people will find the Saltfork membership willing to pitch in to complete all the

little jobs that make our Conferences so good. Conference Chairman and Co-Chair positions need to be filled and work started on the Conference publicity, etc. by the end of May at the latest.

Another area of service to the Saltfork and other blacksmiths is that of managing the swage block sales and shipments. I have done that duty for several years and would like to pass this work off to another member. We are out of or nearly out of swage blocks at this time, but have an order for 50 placed with the foundry. The new blocks should be ready by mid June or maybe a little sooner. If you have a desire to serve Saltfork and your fellow blacksmiths in any of the above jobs, let me or another Board member know. Our contact information is on the front of this newsletter.

Jim Carothers
President (2006) Saltfork Craftsmen ABA

TEACHING OPPORTUNITY

Ray Knight the Precision Metal Fabrication teacher at Meridian Technology in Stillwater contacted Jim Carothers. Ray would like to have a blacksmithing demo for two of his metal working classes. The date can be May 8th, May 10th, or May 12th. The first class starts at 8 AM and last about 2 hours. The second class that same day starts about 12:45 and lasts until 3PM.

This is a good opportunity for Saltfork to show a group of young people interested in metal working how the craft was done with a coal forge and hand tools a long time ago. I am sure that they will want to see something forge welded. A link of chain would be a pretty good project to cover the welding. Other traditional joinery such as tennons and collars would be good to show also.

The demo smith or smiths will need to be at the Technology Center around 7 AM to have time to unload and get set up. Ray will help to unload and load up the tools and will also provide lunch.

If you can be a demo smith, please contact Ray directly at: 405-612-4557. His email address is rayk@meridian-technology.com

I would also appreciate knowing who will be on hand for this living history demo.

Jim Carothers

NORMAN MEDIEVAL FAIR

The sound of hammers on anvils, the aromas of many different foods and exotic perfumes and the sight of knights, nobles, and lovely ladies in their best finery welcomed all to the 30th annual Norman Medieval Faire. The 10 blacksmiths present made it possible to keep 4 forges busy at a time for most of the three days and at one time there were 5 forges going at once. Brok, Jake, Bain, and Rhett backed up Aubrey, Dawanavan, Patrick, Corey, and Steven. A visiting blacksmith from New Mexico, and friend of Dawanavan and Patrick named Chris filled out the crew. As with most public demos, a lot of small quick projects were hammered out. Lots of roses, crosses, cloak clasps and hair pins but also a couple of large knives and other more difficult items as well.

A few of our other members came by to lend their support and make fun of the guys in strange clothes. One of our members, K.C. from the Tandy Leather Shop in Oklahoma City left his booth to join us for a while. Unfortunately, he has been unable to make it to very many meetings because of the leather craft classes that he teaches at the Tandy leather shop. Because we maintained a safe area, had lots of water on hand and a couple fire extinguishers and we made sure that there was always at least one person present for each forge at all times that there were fires in them, the management of the fair, and the Norman Fire Department allowed us to use our coal forges. The recent wildfires across the state re-enforced how when ever we light any kind of fire, safety has to be the number one concern. Fortunately the only injury of note occurred during the last jousting show of the last day of the fair and it did not occur in the blacksmithing area or have anything to do with blacksmithing. Aubrey's son broke his hand while jousting (again). We thank the City of Norman, the University of Oklahoma, Linda Linn and the Norman Medieval Fair for allowing us to join them in celebrating their 30th annual Medieval Faire and we look forward to many more in the future.

Steven Knisely

Help needed from the man upstairs:

Tom Nelson had emergency back surgery.
Boo Hall is having problems with his only kidney.
Aubrey's son broke his hand while jousting at Medieval faire.

Remembers them in your prayers this month.

COURTIN' CANDLE

Gerald Franklin

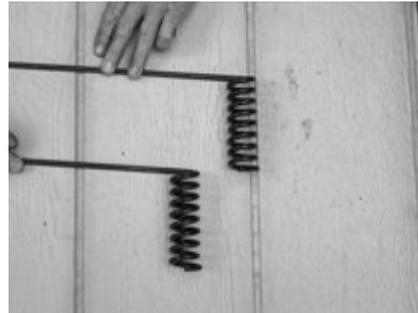
This is a classic project that is always a good seller and makes a nice gift. They are not hard to make, but the tweaking can be a little time consuming without some aids to help keep things lined up during the forge work. Start with a piece of $\frac{1}{4}$ " rod 4 feet long. This pic shows a piece of $\frac{7}{8}$ " sucker rod that is used for a mandrel. Notice that I am coiling two pieces of $\frac{1}{4}$ " round at a time. This helps in keeping the coils uniform as they are wound. If you want to have a rat tail curl at the top of your finished candle coil, it is best to taper the ends of the $\frac{1}{4}$ " round stock before you start to coil it.



8 or Make 9 turns around the sucker rod mandrel and then let the two coils cool before you unscrew them from each other. A little WD-40 or some other light lube helps in getting them apart. If you are careful, and you made uniform coils on the mandrel, they should separate with little distortion.



It's hard to freehand an even base around the anvil horn since the coil prevents the piece from going very far over the horn. I built little jig from scrap 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " pipe and $\frac{3}{4}$ " sucker rod. Notice the little notch at the near edge of the jig.



Heat the straight part of the $\frac{1}{4}$ " rod, drop the coil over the sucker rod and engage the heated portion in the notch to begin forming the base. Bend the $\frac{1}{4}$ " stock all the way around the pipe and you will have a nicely formed base. You should have enough rod left to form the handle of your choice.



This shows the finished holder with a simple loop handle. You could add a drip pan for an extra touch. The candle in this pic isn't trimmed yet. I buy the 8" "Federal" type candles and trim about 2" off the bottom. The "Federal" candles aren't tapered and fit the 7/8" coil of the holder nicely. You can also use the 3/4" "Emergency" candles if you can find them.



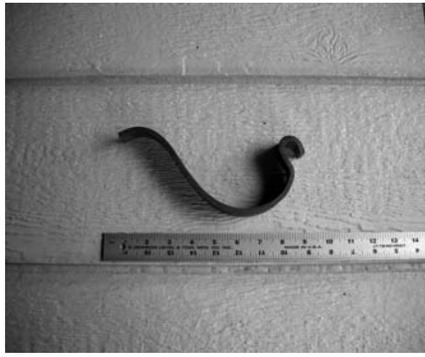
This is a close up of the wooden traveler that holds the candle in and moves it up and down. It is made from pieces of 7/8" and 3/16" dowel, each about 1" long. Coat the assembly with floor wax and thread it into the holder and you're ready to go. I sell mine with a little card that has the legend of the courtin' candle printed on it. The story card adds a little sales appeal.



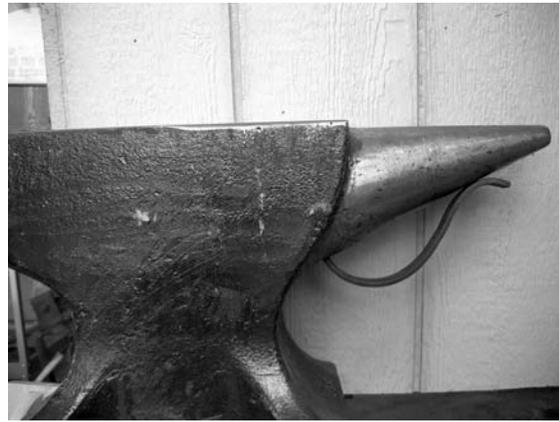
I sell mine with a little card that has the legend of the courtin' candle printed on it. The story card adds a little sales appeal.

The Courtin' Candle was used by a young girl's father when a suitor came to court her. When the candle burned to the metal the young man's time was over. If he liked the suitor the father would set the candle on the higher rings. If the young man was not a favorite, he would set it lower.

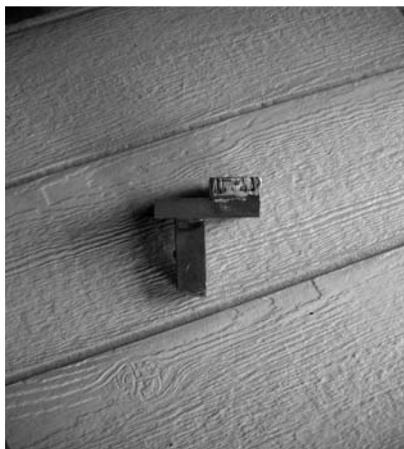
Anvil Accessories
Gerald Franklin



This little item is designed to deaden the ring on European style anvils. I suppose that it would work on London pattern anvils also, although I've never tried it. Credit for this device goes to Jerry Hoffmann who publishes "The Blacksmith's Journal". Take a piece of 3/16" X 1" flat strap and forge a kind of J-scroll with a tight tail that will fit into the hardy hole.



It will resemble a hold down tool and I suppose that it could be used as one, but in this case, it will be driven into the hardy hole from the bottom. The tongue of the strap will rest against the horn to deaden the ring. It REALLY works. Most of my hardy tools can still be used with the deadener in place, but if I need the entire hardy hole, it only takes a couple of seconds to knock it out. This brings us to the next accessory – notice that this style of anvil has no step like a London pattern anvil would have.



I really like my Czech anvil, but I miss having a step so I took some 3/4" mild steel from the "parts pile" and built one. It's basically a sandwich with the top slice about 1 1/2" to 2" shorter than the bottom slice, welded up with 7018 rod and a hardy stem attached.



It looks like this from the side. By the way, I suppose that you could heat the thing and harden it in "Super Quench" but since nothing but hot iron will touch it, I think that's over-kill. I'm not crazy about Super Quenching welds, even those made with 7018.



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abana@abana.org www.abana.org

ABANA Affiliate Liaison Letter

April, 2006

Hello,

I would like to thank all of those caring people who generously donated to the ABANA Relief Fund. I am speaking for all of the recipients of the much needed help including myself. In many cases it makes all the difference in being able to rebuild our shops, our businesses and our lives. I will post an ongoing progress report of the rebuilding of my shop on the ABANA web site.

Make your reservations now for the exciting classes and tours available at the 2006 ABANA Conference! Sharpen your skills with a panel of four of ABANA's accomplished professionals in the **Professional Development Workshop**. Topics include financial planning, contract law, proposal estimates, successful studio habits, and winning commissions. The price for this wealth of information is \$20.

If you have never been to Seattle you may want to take an amphibious tour of Seattle in a historic World War II landing craft lovingly call a "Duck." The **The Duck Tour** is conducted by a Coast Guard-certified maritime Captain who will take you on a sweeping tour from the conference site to several of Seattle's hot spots and back again by land and water for only \$30.

You definitely do not want to miss your chance to see Samuel Yellin's gates at the Seattle Asian Art Museum in a guided tour led by ABANA's own Clare Yellin. During the **Yellin Gate Tour** Clare will offer in-depth discussion of her grandfather's work in Seattle and the history behind its creation. Besides the fabulous Yellin gates you will get to view one of the finest Asian Art collections in the world for only \$25. To make reservations for any of these programs, call Marcus Vickery in the ABANA Conference Office at **706.310.0323**.

Also don't forget to vote for the best 2006 ABANA Conference poster. To vote visit: www.metalsmithinghowto.com then click on "ABANA posters".

Remember that ABANA counts on the Auction to help fund programming. Please consider sending an auction item even if you can't attend the conference. Complete shipping details, as well as complete information about the conference, are at abanaseattle2006.com

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The ABANA Relief Fund organizing committee has determined that May 1, 2006 will be the final day for raising funds for this important cause. We are extremely pleased with your generous response. This also means that the completion of distributing relief funds for hurricane victims is in sight! ABANA will distribute all remaining contributions shortly thereafter.

After **May 1, 2006**, if you wish to contribute to relief efforts please contact:

Craft Emergency Relief Fund (CERF)
P.O. Box 838
Montpelier, VT 05601

You may contact them at 1-802-229-2306 or via the Internet: www.craftemergency.org or their email: info@craftemergency.org CERF is a twenty-year old 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization providing ongoing emergency assistance to craft professionals.

The ABANA Relief Fund organizing committee appreciates the many contributions which have been received along with the cooperation and help of so many who made this fund possible. We received contributions from around the world and every dollar went to blacksmiths in need. Look for an article about the ABANA Relief Fund in an upcoming issue of *The Anvil's Ring*.

On behalf of the committee and the recipients - **Thank You !**

NW REGIONAL MEETING

Report by Mike George



We had a great time at Charlie & Dixie Todd's. Charlie and Dixie have a wonderful place for meetings. It is a great big graveled yard with well over 100 ft of building on the west side and a high privacy fence on the other three sides. The yard is covered with very neat rows of goodies to drool over. Among the Todd's goodies are a Rolls-Royce Roadster and a high wheel buggy converted to a horseless carriage. Charlie and Dixie have operated an antique business in the recent past. Naturally, they kept many of their best pieces when they retired and closed the business. Charlie is a craftsman in every sense of the word. Everything he restores is absolutely

beautiful. When younger, Charlie was a body and paint man in several of Oklahoma's premier antique car restoration shops.

I was a little disappointed in the member turn out. However, those that came were not disappointed. There were several people there who just came to see what it was all about. I hope we will get several new members from that bunch. We had one new member sign up at the meeting, twelve year old Trey Patocka. They is working on a scouting merit badge for blacksmithing. He took to blacksmithing pretty quickly. With just a little teaching and some properly sized tools, Trey may be pretty darn good.



Besides good food and good fellowship, Charlie was giving away plastic & metal barrels and salvage angle iron frames to any member who wanted them and could haul them off. Several people benefited from Charlie's generosity. Many thanks to Charlie and Dixie Todd for their generosity and hospitality. I hope we will be invited back again.



NORTHWEST MEETING AT CHARLIE TODD'S

Gerald Franklin

The April Northwest Regional meeting was held on April 22d at Charlie Todd's shop in Enid, OK. The weather was a little windy but didn't stop the forging in Charlie's outdoor forging area. There was plenty of room inside Charlie's shop for folks to get out of the wind also. The trade item was any forged item and there was some really nice stuff on the trade table. There were tools (nail headers and hot cuts), decorative items (bells and candle holders), and miscellaneous items such as an ice pick and a copper bit.

We were treated to an in-depth tour of Charlie's shop where he showed off his collection of antique automobiles. He has a reproduction of a "horseless carriage" in which the kids got to ride. Charlie also treated us to a viewing of early Lincolns and an absolutely perfectly restored 1930's era Rolls-Royce-perfectly restored, that is, except for the engine. Charlie has replaced the original in-line 6 engine with a 390 Ford V-8. Very tight fit.

Lunch was provided and if anybody left hungry, it was his or her own fault. It was good to see such a large SCABA crowd enjoying a day of smithing. Thanks Charlie for hosting another successful meeting.

SCABA TOOL BOX

It is getting about time to try to get all the tools for the SCABA tool box finished up and in the box so we can take pictures and get the word out so we can start selling our chances. If you volunteered to forge a tool, please try to get it finished and to one of the members of the board. If for some reason you will not be able to make the tool, let us know and we will try to find someone else that is willing to try. We have a lot of very talented blacksmiths in this club, we might just have to do some arm twisting.

Here are some views of the box that Adam has made to hold the tools.



Tool list:

- Box
- Hacksaw
- Hammer
- Side Grip Tongs
- Set of punches and holder
- Slitting Chisel and punches
- Cross Peen Hammer
- Straight peen hammer
- Tongs
- 1/4, 3/8, 1/2, and 3/4 V-bit
- 1/4, 3/8, 1/2, and 3/4 flat
- Scrolling tongs
- Cold chisel

- Adam Hall
- Bill Davis
- Bill Davis
- Jim Carothers
- Diana Davis
- Gerald Franklin
- Wade Coffey



- Twisting wrench
- Bending forks
- Flat wire brush with handle
- Fire rake
- Half round file with handle
- Tongs for flat stock
- Hot cut hardie

- Tod Estes
- JC Banks
- Tommy Dean
- Tommy Dean
- ?
- Larry Mills
- ?