

Saltfork Craftsmen

Artist-Blacksmith
Association

February 2007

HappyValentines Day



Heart hooks made by Bill and Diana Davis

Meeting schedule

February

NE Regional meeting (Feb 10, 2007) Gary and Dianne Gloden are hosting this meeting at their home south of Sapulpa. There is a map in this month's newsletter. Lunch will be provided but bring a side dish. The trade item is a decorative hook.

South/Central meeting (Feb 17, 2007) hosted by Terry Jenkins, Blanchard, Ok. Terry has chosen a boot scraper as the trade item for this meeting. Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out.

NW Regional meeting (Feb 24, 2007) Lynn Clowdus will be hosting this meeting. The trade item is anything with a heart. Lynn Clowdus lives in Meno, Oklahoma. It is a small town so you shouldn't have too much trouble finding Lynn's home once you find Meno. Call Lynn for directions at 580-776-2225

March

NE Regional meeting (March 10, 2007) meeting will be hosted by Dan Cowart. As for the trade item, I would rather make something at the meeting for the toolbox. Bring forges or share with those that do bring them. I have 2 and one can be worked from either side. Food and drinks will be provided; donuts in the morning and Pat will cook up something for lunch. Everyone is welcome so bring a friend.

South/Central meeting (March 17, 2007) hosted by Gerald Franklin. Gerald's trade item is a wall hook. Lunch will be provided but bring a side dish to help out. Will be a map in the March newsletter

NW regional meeting (March 24, 2007) meeting will be hosted by Ron Lehenbauer at his shop is Waukomis. Ron has chosen a candleholder at the trade item. Lunch will be provided but help out with a side dish of some kind. At this meeting they will also be working to finish up some storage issues with the teaching trailer. If you want to help do any welding please bring your own helmet. The only one that Ron has is equipped with special magnifying lenses that may make is hard to see if not needed by the user.

⇒Don't forget to pay your dues⇐

2007 Demo request

➤ Pawnee Bill Ranch Museum events:

The Wild West Show dates are June 16, 23, and 30th. We have set the date for Heritage Skills on October 13. We also have a blacksmithing workshop tentatively planned for May 12. I think that Brandon can teach this class on May 12, but we would love to have an additional person as well depending on the class size. The Centennial Wild West Show is anticipated to be a pretty big event –your group's involvement with our demonstrations on the hill is so important to us! We couldn't do it without you guys.

➤ Norman Medieval Faire

Mark you calendars now for the Medieval Faire. Steven Knisely has been demonstrating at this event for several years and is again the one to contact if you would like to help. Last year Donovan's Keep came and helped out and they kept forges going throughout the day for the many visitors to observe the type of blacksmithing that would have taken place during that time period. If you have never been, it is an experience. There is something going on all around you as well as an open market area to browse through.

The dates for the Medieval Faire are March 30-April 1 2007.

➤ Tuttle tractor show

This is a centennial event so this will be a good opportunity for members to show others what blacksmithing is about a to possibly sell some of your work. Terry Jenkins is also hosting the May meeting for the S/C region at this event. When it gets closer to time, get with Terry for any information you need.

The date for this event is May 19, 2007.

➤ Sulphur tractor show

Sept. 15, 2007. Terry Jenkins is hosting a S/C regional meeting at this event. Here again is another opportunity to show the public what blacksmithing is and to sell some of your work.

“Watch for more events to come.”

If you know of any events in your community let me know ASAP so they can be published in the newsletter and put on the website

South/Central Regional Meeting

JC Banks hosted the South/Central regional meeting. This year the weather is really playing some tricks on us here in Oklahoma. We have gotten so used to not seeing much ice or snow that when we do we don't quite know how to act. After a full week of slick roads and down power lines around the state, when the weatherman started talking about the possibility of up to a foot of snow many members opted to stay close to home. Some of us are either braver than most or maybe not as smart. Either way, Bill and I decided to start out early to see if we could make it the 60 plus miles to Altus for JC's meeting. We called ahead to make sure JC was still interested in having company. He assured us that if we showed up the shop would be warm.

The roads were only wet until we got a few miles east of Altus and with a little care not too hard to maneuver around on. We did stop and check on a car that had slid off a steep overpass, but they were all “OK” and had already called for assistance so we continued on. When we had called earlier, JC had said that they had already received around 2 inches of snow and it did make for a pretty scene when we finally made it to his driveway.



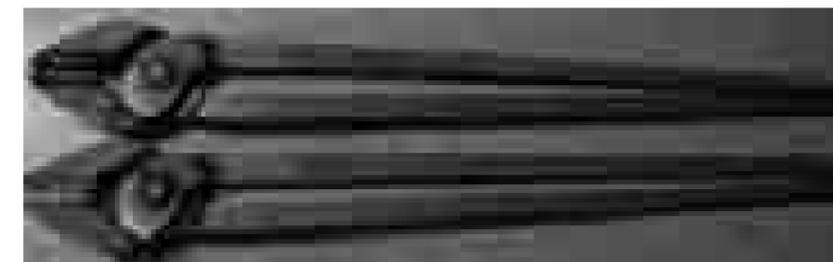
Not long after we had arrived, David Seigrist and his wife Chuleeporn drove in from Hollis. That was the extent of those willing to brave the elements to attend the meeting.

JC had planned to hold a Poz Tong workshop. We each made a pair of tongs but JC decided that he would host another meeting in April and have the Poz Tongs workshop again at that meeting. We did help him work out a few “Bugs” in the tooling and even brought home some pieces to make our own set of tools for making the tongs. JC had cut out some tong blanks that made

making these tongs very easy to make and they can be customized to fit most applications.



As you can see Bill is working with his injured hand. It hasn't slowed him down much. A few minutes after I took this picture he removed the splint and left if off the rest of the day.



Because there were only the 6 of us there, JC's wife, Renee, invited us all inside for a very good lunch of Miners stew, cornbread and desert. Of course on the way in a snowball fight broke out so we were all ready for something warm to eat by the time we got in there.

I would like to thank JC and Renee Banks for a wonderful day. Diana Davis

⇒Don't forget←
WORKSHOP – ACCENT PIECES WITH BILL EPPS

** Bill will instruct forging of six or so of his favorite accent pieces (bugs, birds, leaves, & flowers). This session will include about half of the instruction that Bill presents at one of his John C. Campbell workshops at about 1/10th the cost.

** This will be an intensive, 2 day, intermediate level workshop that will give you the skills to forge accent pieces that add so much to your larger projects.

** Estimated cost will be about \$100, which will include all materials, lunch and supper on Saturday and lunch on Sunday. Coffee and donuts will be available.

** Workshop will be held on **March 3rd and 4th, 2007** at Bill and Diana Davis' shop near Fletcher, OK.

Because space is limited in the shop, there will be.....

No Spectators

Things to note:

Attendees must bring their own forging equipment.

Enrollment is limited.

You may sign up now - contact the coordinator.

Enrollment fee must be paid by Feb 10th to confirm your seat in the workshop.

There will be a standby list so if you're not sure that you can attend, contact the coordinator.

**** Coordinator is:**

Gerald Franklin
580-467-8667
franklin@gci-wireless.net

Contact Gerald for more information

Still some spaces available – Decide Today

Conference 2007

JC Banks and Gerald Franklin have been working on demonstrators for the 2007 conference. They have lined up two really good demonstrators that should increase conference attendance and give everyone a good educational experience. They have a commitment from Jim Keith from Tucumcari, New Mexico and Maurice Hamburger from Arizona.

Maurice Hamburger –

Artist's Statement:

"No more than what is essential, enough to make it elegant, simple, functional, worthy, enduring, and cherished."

Maurice was influenced at an early age by the activities taking place at the blacksmith shop. Both traditional blacksmithing and modern techniques for working metal are used in the construction of his work. He likes clean, simple design, using the joinery as the decorative element in the piece; mechanical fasteners, screws, bolts, rivets, tenons and staples are used whenever possible. The Shakers, the Art & Crafts movement, Art Deco and other contemporary styles influence his work.

He has work in the following galleries: Art One, Scottsdale, Arizona, Contemporary Crafts Gallery, Portland, Oregon, and the Museum of Craft & Folk Art, San Francisco, California

Hamburger lives and works in Phoenix, Arizona

Jim Keith -

Jim has almost five decades of blacksmithing experience and a varied background in ornamental metalworking and tool making. In 2004 Keith brought back the title of Creative Forging Champion at the Calgary Stampede, a title which he again received in 2006, and has the distinction of having made the Calgary Top 10 during three different decades: the 80's, the 90's and 00's. The Calgary competition has always included many non-farriery related forging classes such as tong making, punches, chain making, two man forging, and various creative and artistic pieces in which Jim has either won or placed very well over the years.

His artistic works include museum gates, wall hangings, and sculptures depicting various life forms both real and imaginary. He has made sets of industrial sized tongs for Los Alamos Labs and Purina Mills pet food division, and currently sells his products all over North America, South America, Japan and Europe.

Jim Keith, two-time recipient of the AFA's Educator of the year award, resides in Tucumcari, New Mexico where in addition to manufacturing various blacksmithing tools, he teaches advanced classes for blacksmiths.

Reminder of date and locations of 2007 SCABA Conference from BOD meeting minutes of 12/10/06

Date: October 13-14 2007

Location: Noble County Fairgrounds, Perry Oklahoma

Conference Chairs: Gerald Franklin and JC Banks

Registrar: Teresa Dyer

Saltfork Craftsmen Artists-Blacksmiths Association History

Twelfth Anniversary for Saltfork Craftsmen:

March 2007 marks the 12th anniversary of our Saltfork Craftsmen Artists-Blacksmiths Association, Inc. There has been a lot of activity in these few short years. The club started with thirteen charter members meeting at Jim Omey's ranch on March 20, 1995. Most of these folk's common interest was blacksmithing. After some discussion it was felt that there might not be enough people interested in only blacksmithing to have a viable club. We decided our club would be open to any craftsman regardless of their specific interest. The Salt Fork River runs through northwest Oklahoma; and we were expecting the club only to be a local affair, hence the Saltfork Craftsmen name was adopted. By-laws were adopted, and five directors were elected. We agreed on \$10.00 / year dues and to meet monthly on the Saturday closest to the middle of the month. We were off and running. Little did we know how this was going to grow. By December of 1995, the club was growing and all of us needed coal. Jon Tyree was hauling wheat to the Port of Catoosa that winter and volunteered to back haul some coal for us. We bought about 20 ton from Phoenix Coal Co. at Vinita. It wasn't very good blacksmithing coal but it was better than nothing. We continued searching for a source of good quality coal. In the summer of 1998 we found Henry Comer of Greenwood, Arkansas. Henry has at least one pit with high quality blacksmithing coal and our membership has a reliable source of economical, quality coal. June of 1996 was our first of what has turned out to be a popular annual event. We invited the Great Plains Blacksmith Association, Wichita, KS to have a joint meeting at Jim Omey's ranch. It was great fun and "June at Omey's" has grown bigger every year. In June of 2001 almost 200 people registered for the one-day event.

We organized our first Annual Blacksmithing Conference for October 1997. Frank Turley from Santa Fe, NM came to Guthrie. He worked very hard showing us a wide range of blacksmithing techniques and related information. Frank was just what the doctor ordered for our fledgling club. Since that first conference we have had an October Conference every year. Our whole membership has been very generous, through various fundraisers, to help us bring some of the very best, nationally recognized, blacksmithing and craft teachers to Oklahoma. Increased conference attendance and the generous support of the Oklahoma Arts Council promises the continuation of high quality educational opportunities for our members and our region. As time has gone on and our club has grown, we have made the appropriate changes to our structure. With increased membership over an expanding geographical area, and in anticipation of becoming an ABANA Affiliate, in 1997 we incorporated our club.

For those not familiar with ABANA, it is an international association for blacksmiths with affiliates clubs in all 50 states, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. From the beginning Saltfork Craftsmen has focused on being a family oriented organization. We consider our memberships as extending to all of our families. Spouses and children are encouraged to attend and participate at all of our meetings and functions. Activities are structured to interest the entire family, especially at our major events. Our club membership continues to grow, as do the services and opportunities available to our members and the public. Our membership stands at 236 dues paying members. If we count spouses and significant others, our members number well over 400 folks. Our members do blacksmithing demonstrations at more than thirty outside events and celebrations every year. Most of that is provided free to the sponsoring organizations. If it is available, we ask the sponsor to help out with a little gas money for the demonstrators or to make a donation to the Saltfork Scholarship Fund. Saltfork Also has been able to provide scholarship funds to help members further their skill by attending workshop and classes on a variety of crafts that are then demonstrated to the other members at meetings or through articles in our newsletter. A newsletter is printed and mailed out to each member once a month to help keep member current on club activities.

Beside the many blacksmithing activities in which our club is involved, our members are very generous with their time and energy in support of a whole spectrum of worthwhile causes. The people we've met and the friendships we have made have been most gratifying for us all.

<http://www.saltforkcraftsmen.org>

Smithing 101 class for Boy Scout Troop 850

Jim Carothers is going to be working with the Boy Scout Troop 850 of Guthrie, Ok on a metal working badge. Jim needs 2 smithing instructors with portable forges and tools to help with the expected 12 students. The date is Feb 24th (Saturday), the location is at the Buffalo Ranch, which is located 6 miles west of Guthrie on Hwy. 33 and then 3 miles South on Pennsylvania. The Saltfork instructors should plan to be on site at 8:30 AM

The project for the class is a drive in hook. Jim will have instructional handouts and the steel for the class. If you can help with this class for the Boy Scouts please let Jim Carothers know. If you would like to help and want to practice making the hook before the class, let Jim know and he can tell you where to find the instructions for the hook. It is a simple beginners project.

Map and directions to Gary and Dianne Gloden's shop



NE Regional meeting on Feb. 10 2007 will be hosted by Gary Gloden at his shop. Here is a map and directions.

Their address is 16606 South 97th West Ave. Take S. Main St (aka Hwy 75) south and east out of town towards Kiefer. About half way to Kiefer the road crosses a creek, right after the creek is a road going south. That road is S. 97th West Ave. it is also known as Snakefarm road and or Bennet Dairy Road. Go south on this road about three miles to the Gloden's. You will cross Ohio Street coming from Kiefer and then E0750 Road. The Gloden's live ½ mile south of E0750 on the west side of the road. There is a rock entrance with jockey figures on to and an iron gate into the

Gloden's place. If you get lost call Gary at 918-321-5015

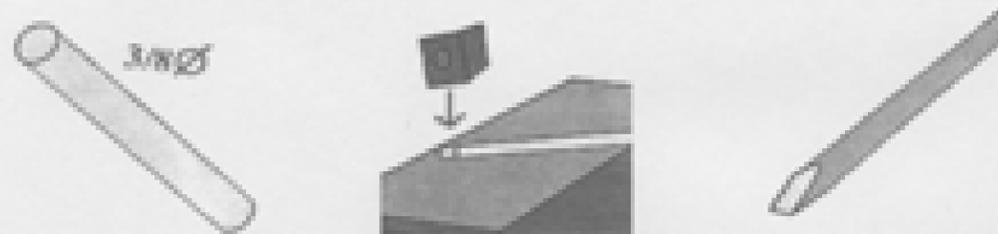
Heart Hook

DEMONSTRATION

By Bill Epps

Earlier in this issue I mentioned several web sites with directions for various projects to be made. In honor of the upcoming Valentines Day holiday, I am going to include the directions from the iForge section of the Anvilfire web page. I hope this sample will encourage you to explore this wonderful site - ed. www.anvilfire.com

What we are going to do tonight is one way of making a Heart. Hearts always sell good at shows, the Ladies love them.



For this piece I am using 3/8" Round. The same technique can be used on whatever size heart you want to make. This is going to be a simple hook, I also use them for a wall sconce out of larger stock, Candle Holders, a key chain fob out of smaller stock. We scarf the end of the bar and prepare it for welding.



Fold the piece over the side of the anvil 90 deg. and back over itself and weld it. This fold is about 5" because that is the width of my anvil face.



I forge weld these, but you can tack it with a mig, flux it, bring it up to a welding heat, and hammer the weld out any few know the difference. When welding this you don't want to thin the weld down too much. Center it back up like shown here.



Then we come to the other end and draw it down to as short a point as possible. This needs to be good and hot when you draw that point down. Keep it even by working it one side then the other equally so you don't end up with a thin side on it.



Take a good heat, then use a pointed punch (I use an old cold chisel) to spread the center open (depending on the size of the heart), but on this one here, I open it up to about 1". You want to spread the top more than the back side.



I round the top of the opening on the horn of the anvil



This is just to smooth things out and keep everything centered.



Right at the end of the tip, fold it down over the side of the anvil at 90 degrees. Turn it over and fold it back over itself until it is flat. Now you have your heart shape.



Now I start beveling the top of the curves to spread the heart and give it some character and definition. Also, takes out the twist marks. I do this by holding my hammer at an angle and hitting straight down. Start from the center of the bar and working outward at the edge of the anvil face.

The heart should be thick on the inside and beveled out to a thin edge. Go back to the horn of the anvil to keep the heart symmetrical, and we are going to cut off just below the weld for this hook.



Now we are going to draw out the piece which serves as the point that forms the hook. When you are working a weld, keep it at or near a welding heat to keep from beating your weld apart. With the the tapered side of the heart up, curl the very tip of the hood point down.



With the tip curl up, press it down over the horn to make the heart.



Using hammers, pull you want something like this and apply heat.



It should end up looking something like this.

This project is also a very good one to practice high-welding on. No temp required.

There are also be used mounted above a window for holding various tools!

When you finished the piece down to form the point of the hook, leave the ball on the horn. Use the hammer to use when beveling the top edges of the heart.

I use this same technique out of 1/2" bar for a couple hooks (at well as 1/4" and 3/8" bar). When finished make a nice little Key Chain Tag out of 2/15 and 1/4".

This can be used making a weld joint a perfect weld. If you try to do it in a cold, will come apart. In many of the books you'll see it referred to as a 'right welding joint'.

With practice one of these can be made in about 15 min.

Round to Round and Square to Square (Table 1)

FINISH (tenon)

		1/4	5/16	3/8	1/2	5/8	3/4	7/8	1
	1	18.0	16.3	7.1	4.0	2.8	1.8	1.3	1.0
	7/8	12.3	7.8	5.4	3.1	2.0	1.4	1.0	0.8
	3/4	9.0	5.8	4.0	2.3	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.6
	5/8	8.3	4.0	2.8	1.6	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4
START	1/2	4.0	2.8	1.8	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3
	3/8	2.3	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1
	5/16	1.6	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
	1/4	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1

Square to Round (Table 2)

FINISH (tenon)

		1/4	5/16	3/8	1/2	5/8	3/4	7/8	1
	1	20.4	13.0	9.1	5.1	3.3	2.3	1.7	1.3
	7/8	15.8	10.0	6.9	3.9	2.5	1.7	1.3	1.0
	3/4	11.2	7.3	5.1	2.9	1.8	1.3	0.9	0.7
	5/8	8.0	5.1	3.5	2.0	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.5
START	1/2	5.1	3.3	2.3	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.3
	3/8	2.9	1.8	1.3	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2
	5/16	2.0	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
	1/4	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1

Round to Square (Table 3)

FINISH (tenon)

		1/4	5/16	3/8	1/2	5/8	3/4	7/8	1
	1	12.6	8.0	5.8	3.1	2.0	1.4	1.0	0.8
	7/8	9.6	6.2	4.3	2.4	1.5	1.1	0.8	0.6
	3/4	7.1	4.5	3.1	1.8	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.4
	5/8	4.9	3.1	2.2	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.3
START	1/2	3.1	2.0	1.4	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2
	3/8	1.8	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
	5/16	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
	1/4	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0

Use the tables to determine the amount of increase per unit length of a tenon.

Example: If you have a 5/8" square bar and want a 1/2" round tenon on it, Table 2 tells you that the finished tenon will be 2.0 times longer than the shouldered piece. So, if you want a tenon that is 1 1/2" long, shoulder the piece 3/4" from the end. This should give you enough material for a tenon of the desired length (3/4 X 2.0 = 1 1/2).

Use the tables to determine the amount of material to shoulder off for a handle of desired length.

The red numbers are less than 1 indicating a negative length gain for upsetting.

The Third Hand You Frequently Need

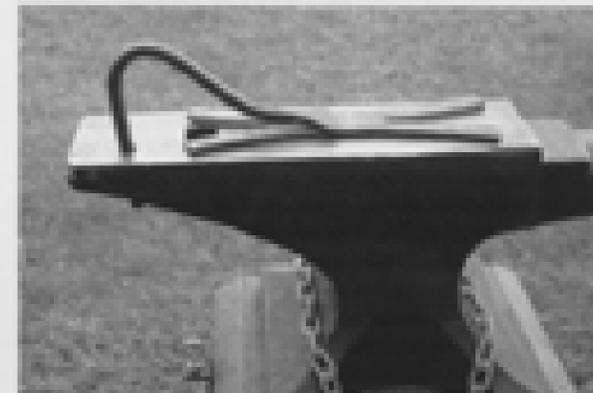
Anvil Hold-Downs

By David Hufford

Richmond, Kentucky

Most amateur artisan/blacksmiths work alone. Often it's desirable to have some device to hold a work piece on the anvil which allows freedom of both hands to manipulate hammer and tool. A number of hold-downs have been devised to serve as the blacksmith's helper. The following are three common types I have used and found convenient and effective:

1. WEDGE type - friction provides the holding force. The head is placed on the work piece and the tail tapped into the Prichel hole to secure.

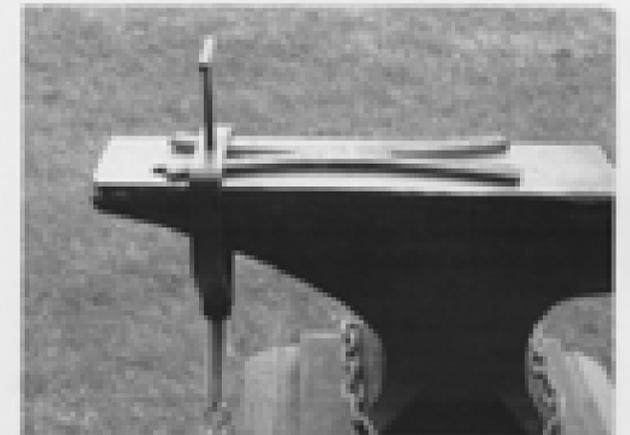


1. A wedge type hold-down. When woodworkers use them, they are often called bench dogs or holdfasts.

One-half inch round stock is generally ideal to make these hold-downs. A section of automotive coil spring (usually 1160 steel) is good material, although mild steel works well. Different lengths can be made to reach different areas of the anvil face. This type may work loose during heavy hammering, and is sometimes awkward to release quickly as the tail end must be struck from underneath the anvil head. The conventional style works best with flat work pieces, although variously shaped heads could be designed to accommodate irregular shapes of stock.

2. SPRING type - coil spring tension provides the holding force. This type requires an anchor, such as an eye bolt or hook, on the anvil stand below the tail for attachment of the hold-down. With a heavy spring these grip well, especially flat or square work pieces. Different shaped heads can be designed to hold round or irregularly-shaped pieces. Three-sixteenths or 1/4-inch thick by 1-inch wide flat stock works well for making these, and some sort of handle is necessary. A hot work piece can be quickly inserted and removed from under this type by raising the device by its handle.

3. CHAIN & WEIGHT type - suspended weight provides the



2. A spring type hold-down.

holding force. This type is excellent for routine use, as the chain will accommodate a variety of work piece shapes and sizes, and insertion and removal of the work piece is fast. Like the spring type, this one requires an anchor on one side of the anvil stand for attachment of the chain hook; the weight hangs free on the other side. Old analyzed weights of 8-10 lb size, available at salvage shops and flea markets, serve well for this purpose. Also, a chain with small links seems to grip the work piece better than large-link chains. This type is my personal favorite and I use it most often.

There are a variety of other types of hold-downs or third hands, but these three are easy to make, convenient to use, and quickly removed from the anvil when not needed.



3. A chain and weight hold-down.

Balcones Forge Winter Bluebonnet Workshop featuring DOROTHY STIEGLER

March 31-April 1, 2007 Marble Falls, Texas

Balcones Forge is delighted to present a dynamic and entertaining two-day team demonstration by world famous blacksmith Dorothy Stiegler and her very accomplished apprentice, Jake Hill. This very special exhibition will include a wide array of Dorothy's own practical and productive forging secrets and tricks of the trade, as well as exciting displays of team forging. Learn to add value and artistic interest to your forged work with Dorothy's special demonstrations of bronze forging. As Dorothy says, "It looks old, it looks old."

Dorothy Stiegler is renowned for her artistic work in both iron and bronze. She has received the Alex Rankin Award, the highest honor that ARANA can bestow. She has served for many years on the ARANA Board of Directors and has worked with many of the finest blacksmiths of the past, present and future! Her demonstrations are packed with learning and laughter and she makes new friends wherever she goes! Come join us for a wonderful weekend in the Texas Hill Country and meet our friend, Dorothy Stiegler!

The Balcones Forge Workshop will present a wonderful dinner on Saturday night, catered by our friends at The Jambie' House, the finest restaurant in Marble Falls. Dinner will be followed by our famous annual Balcones Auction! Buy yourself a new (or old) blacksmithing hammer, maybe a knife or awl, some smithing books, or maybe Dorothy's latest creation, or just enjoy our roasting, old-time auction! We will finish Saturday night with Dorothy's entertaining slide show, featuring the intricate and fascinating bronze work she and Jake have forged over the last three years.

The Balcones Workshop will be held March 31 and April 1, here in the Texas Hill Country, folks, that is Bluebonnet Time! Plan to ride some of our scenic country back roads and enjoy the finest display of wildflowers in America! We are located right in the middle of Texas' best Bluebonnet area! Whether you ride the back roads on your trusty motorcycle or by automobile, it is a sight you will not want to miss!

Times: Saturday 9:00-1:00 - Morning Dinner
 1:00-5:00 - Lunch (Dinner provided, bring a cash check or there are numerous places to eat nearby)
 5:00 - 8:00 - Afternoon Dinner
 8:00 - 9:00 - Early evening dinner, only \$15
 9:00 - 11:00 - If you do not attend the dinner, please join us at this time for the Old Time Auction and Dorothy's slide show
 Sunday: 9:00-1:00 - Dinner

Our host is Larry Crockett at his Hammered Forge, 2603 Commerce St., Driestown, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. State Route 290 will be the second traffic light once you reach Marble Falls. You will turn left (west) onto State Street from the intersection of Hwy 290, then crossing traffic lights onto you onto the Colorado River (left turn). State Street will be the right traffic light and you will turn right (east) onto State Street from Colorado Street (left turn). You will turn right (east) onto Hwy 290. State Street will be the third traffic light once you are on Hwy 290. You will turn right (east) onto State Street. Highway 290 runs north to the end of State Street. Turn left and go south on Hwy 290. Turn right onto Larry's driveway. Look for John Crockett for directions at 800-798-3716. Web page: <http://www.hammeredforge.com/20070607/>

For more info contact:

Stacy Wittings, 812-661-7379 or Stacy@BalconesForge.com
 John Crockett, 800-798-3716 or John@TexasWroughtIron.com
 Jerry Ashbaugh, 202-661-3298 or ashbaugh@earthlink.net

Hotel Accommodations:

Hampton Inn on the Lake, 704 First St., 800-798-1899
 Ramada Limited, 1200 Hwy 291, 800-493-0730
 Best Western, 1800 Hwy 291, 800-493-1433, 800-626-1234
 Hill Country Inn, 1300 Hwy 291, 800-493-3637

See the latest newsletter or website (www.BalconesForge.org) for Registration form.

REGISTER EARLY!

Balcones Forge Bluebonnet Workshop featuring Dorothy Stiegler - March 31-April 1

Please print clearly

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Yes, I prefer the electronic version of the newsletter. (You will be notified by email when the latest newsletter has been posted.)

Current Member \$45 _____
 2007 Membership \$15 _____
 Non-member \$60 _____
 Yes, I wish to become a BF member
 Saturday Evening Meal ... \$15 _____
Total _____

Make check payable to Balcones Forge.
 Send to Sue Murray, Secretary,
 5112 Cloverdale Lane, Austin, TX 78723

PLEASE READ AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING RELEASE FORM: FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED BY EACH MEMBER, GUEST AND PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF ANY MINOR IN ATTENDANCE.

In consideration of the Balcones Forge Blacksmith Association providing demonstrations and making these demonstrations available and granting permission to enter the area of said demonstration, I, individually and as parent or guardian of the minor child attending such demonstration, hereby waive all claims for damage and/or loss to my person or property, or the person or property of such minor child, which may be caused by an act, or failure to act of the Balcones Forge Blacksmith Association, its officers, directors, agents or employees and the hosts and demonstrators. I understand that there are inherent dangers in blacksmithing and I assume all risk of all dangerous conditions in and about such demonstration and waive any and all specific notice of the existence of such conditions. By signing this waiver, I acknowledge that I have read and understand this waiver.

Signature _____ Date _____



Oklahoma Historical Society Founded May 27, 1893

Chisholm Trail Museum Governor Seay Mansion

608 Zellers Avenue
 Kingfisher, Oklahoma 73750
 Telephone 405-375-5176
www.chisholmtrail.com
www.okhistory.com

January 9, 2007

Dear Friends,

We are planning for the "CENTENNIAL LIVING HISTORY ON THE CHISHOLM TRAIL" reenactment to be held:

Friday April 13, 2007 (Student Day) from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
 Saturday April 14, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

at the Chisholm Trail Museum. All programs are to be presented continuously throughout the two days.

We invite you to participate on both days, if possible.

Also enclosed is an invitation to the Governor Seay Centennial Ball that will be held at 7:00 p.m. on the evening of April 14! Participants can spend the day on the prairie and enjoy an evening of refinement. We hope you will participate in the Living History and attend the ball.

Please fill out the enclosed form and return before FEBRUARY 15, for press coverage. It is VERY IMPORTANT that you describe your program in as much detail as possible. If we already have information on you, you may just want to update it. It is vital for our press releases that will go out to have information on what you will be doing, where you are from, how long and why you are involved with reenacting. Please include your e-mail address if you have one.

A stamped self-addressed envelope is included for your convenience or you may reply to the e-mail address above.

Please call 405-375-5176 if you have any questions.

We look forward to seeing you on April 13 and/or April 14, 2007!

Sincerely,

Renee Mitchell

Renee Mitchell
 Historic Properties Manager

*You are cordially invited to
the*

GOVERNOR SEAY CENTENNIAL BALL

April 14, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Period Dancing and Refreshments

*10.00 per person
Children Under 12 Free

Kingfisher Fairgrounds
Exhibit Building
300 South 13th Street
Kingfisher

Period Dress or Sunday Best

sponsored by
The Governor Seay Mansion Society

Please call the
Chisholm Trail Museum
for more information
(405) 375-5176

*My encampment will be participating on: (Please check one)

___ Friday April 13, AND Saturday April 14, 2007

___ Friday April 13, ONLY

___ Saturday April 14, ONLY

*Living History on the Chisholm Trail – LIABILITY RELEASE

Chisholm Trail Museum, Inc. and the Oklahoma Historical Society and their employees assume no liability in case of accident or theft.

By my signature, I accept full responsibility and release Chisholm Trail Museum, Inc. and the Oklahoma Historical Society of any liability for damages to persons or property.

*SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PRESS RELEASE INFORMATION:

*PROGRAM TITLE: _____

*NAME(S) OF PARTICIPANT(S): _____

*NAME/MAILING ADDRESS/TELEPHONE/E-MAIL for CONTACT: _____

*SPACE REQUIREMENTS – Please designate – INSIDE or OUTSIDE
___ INSIDE - 1 or 2 tables will be provided—if you need more, please bring –
No. Needed - _____
___ OUTSIDE – Please advise dimensions of campsite, e. g., 14' x 20'
Dimensions - _____

*DESCRIPTION OF ENCAMPMENT (Describe what visitors can expect to see. Please include some information on yourself, as well—how you started, when, where you are from, etc.

memberships expire on March 31, 2007

Check your mailing label .

membership is dropped on April 24th. Because of the cost of mailing newsletters out at the first class rate, missed newsletters will not be mailed out until the next printing/ mailing date. Back newsletter will be available for only the last 2 months.

Don't miss any issues. Pay your dues today.

Editor

Northwest Regional meeting

Well they always say that if you don't like the weather in Oklahoma just wait a few minutes. Bill and I decided to take Gerald Franklin up on his offer to ride with him up to the Northwest Regional meeting that was to be held at Jake Browns shop in Ingersol, Oklahoma. We met Gerald at the flashing lights at Rush Springs a little after 6:00 AM for the 3-hour drive up to Ingersol. When we left it was raining just a little bit. Enough that you needed to use your wipers. Before we arrived at Jakes Shop the rain had changed over to sleet and then snow. It was really coming down at times. We arrived at Jakes shop around 9:30 and was sure glad to see that large wood burning stove going strong and putting out a lot of warmth.

There were several that had arrived not long before us. Ron Lehenbauer was unloading his forges and equipment and soon had a fire going that was also adding warmth to the shop. Richard Winn was also forging at another one of the forges that had been lit. Seem that he was trying to



show Ron that he could forge the head on a RR Spike or something like that.

There were a lot of us that were just watching and going back and forth from watching the forging to keeping the wood stove warm. Or maybe the wood stove was keeping us warm either way it felt good. Leroy Haight, John Burns, Wayne Smith and myself (Diana D) were among those taking turns backing up to the heater.

Ron spent the morning creating a new, one of a kind creature. I have only read about another one of its kind in a Dr. Seuss book. It doesn't know who's the leader and who's the follower.



Longhorn half



Mule Half

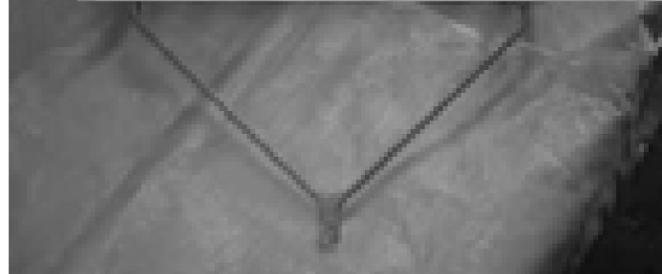
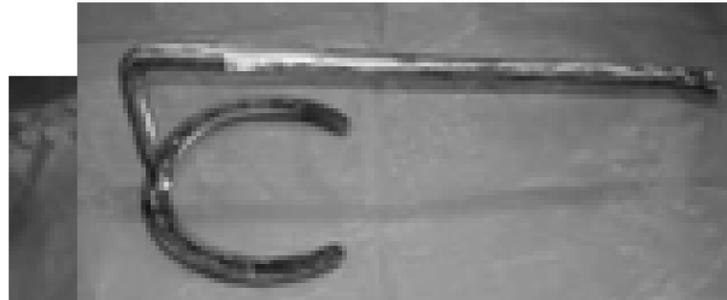
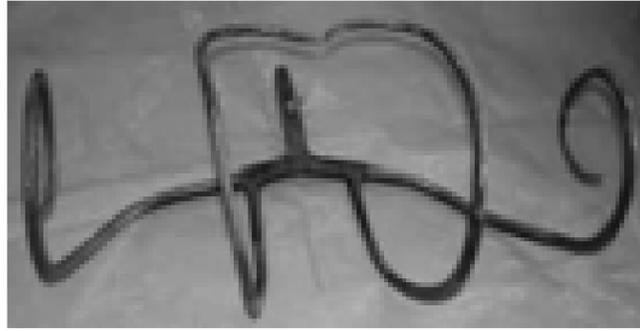
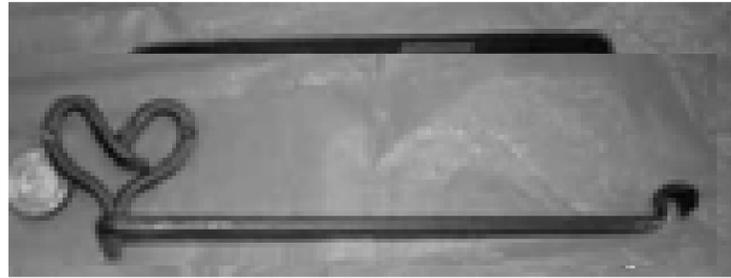


By lunchtime we were all ready for the stew that had been staying warm over on the table. Jake's daughter brought in some hot cornbread and after a prayer of thanks we all dug in.

Lunch was soon over and it was time to check out the trade items.



Jake had chosen a paper towel holder for a trade item and there were 7 brought in. They were all nice items.



As you can see we had a wide variety of designs for our paper towel holders. I think everyone was pleased with the item they took home. Bill, Gerald and myself decided we needed to head home about 3:00 P.M. because we still had a 3-hour drive ahead of us. By the time we left the sun was shining and all the snow and ice around Jake's shop was starting to melt. I hope Gerald doesn't get in trouble with Frankie (his wife) for bring back her car all muddy. We had a really nice visit with everyone there. We don't get to come to some of the meetings in the other regions as often as we would like and getting to visit with members that we hadn't seen in some time was a real pleasure. The next meeting for the NW Region is at Lynn Clowdus's home in Meno, Oklahoma.