

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

July 2014



Member Don Shunk's latest project. The back is the tail gate from a 1937 Ford Pickup. The Seat is wood and metal created to look identical to the bed in a very old pickup. And can be moved anywhere the shade is. Nice work.

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Editors notes...

Tony Cable and I finally got the printing and mailing changes made. OU printing services will still be printing our newsletters but we will be using Presort First Class to handle the address, sorting and mailing of the newsletters. This will save both time and money for the club in the long run. I will not have to drive the 120 miles round trip to get the newsletters for processing and mailing. I feel better already. Now if I could just get it to upload to Dodie that easy. Well that is just another issue to work on for next month. See you in the funny papers.

Editor..Diana Davis

Secretary's report..

As of the mailing of this newsletter the membership has approved the changes in the by-laws that were presented to them. A copy of the amended By-Laws can be obtained by written request submitted to the Secretary through email or post office.

Teresa Gabrish is the new treasurer for the club. Her first order of business was to acquired a P.O. Box for the club. The address is P.O. Box 18389 OKla. City, Oklahoma zip 73154. Note: Club membership should still be sent care of the Editor to expedite processing and mailing of newsletters.

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

July presidents notes

I think maybe our spring rains were possibly delayed by the good Lord so as to keep us from starting fires when we celebrate independence day. Hope everyone (that wants to) gets to pop a bunch of firecrackers!

As far as I know, there are no longer any burn bans in the state. That means we can hammer to our hearts content. It also means you can't use that for an excuse not to forge. So get out there and bang something out!

The Friday nights at my house have gotten a little smaller the last few weeks. It seems that someone told folks that the Friday nights at my place were cancelled while the Medieval Faire in Muskogee was being held for the month of May! Once again someone has made a decision for me, and as usual, they didn't even tell me. I apologize to the people that were misled! I'm sure the folks that did come will tell you that you missed some fun!

This years conference will be held in Norman at the Cleveland county fairgrounds, on the first and second of November. Each year the same FEW people do all the work to make sure folks have a good time. And each year the same people (who won't help) gripe about the way things are, or are not done! There are four months until the conference. I know it seems like a long time, but it will most likely sneak up on us before we know it. I am looking for volunteers to help us do a good job that we can ALL enjoy, and be proud of.

I've often been told that I REALLY need to learn how to delegate. Unfortunately usually when I'm being told this, I'm also being told what I need to be getting done. In short, I get told a lot. Generally I find that it's easier to just go do it, rather than trying to "sell" the idea to someone else. Perhaps this explains why I need to learn to delegate.

Enough whining! I hope to see you all at the meeting at my place this month! And come n play on any old Friday night!

Babbling Byron.



REGIONAL MEETINGS:

. July meeting schedule:

- ⇒ SE Regional meeting (July 5th)
- ⇒ NE Regional meeting (July 12th) Will be hosted by Doug Redden. It will be held at the Will Rogers birthplace park on Oolagah Lake, Directions are from intersection of highways 169 and 88 go 2 miles north on 169 to 380 road, turn east 2 miles to park entrance. Lunch will be served but bring a side or desert. Trade item is a garden tool. My phone # is 918-230-2960.
- ⇒ SC Regional meeting (July 19th) Will be hosted by Byron Doner at his home at 6520 Alameda, in Norman Okla. Lunch will be served but bring a side dish. Trade items will be anything with some form of joinery. A weld, a rivet, a wrap or collar etc.
- ⇒ NW Regional meeting (July 26th) hosted by Monty Smith at his shop 7 miles north of Hammon to E-W road 88, 3 west, 1/2 south. East into. Lunch is provided. Bring a side dish. Trade item is something out of a horseshoe.

August meeting schedule:

- ◆ SE Regional meeting (Aug. 2nd) Open
- ◆ NE Regional meeting (Aug. 9th) Open
- ◆ SC Regional meeting (Aug. 16) Will be hosted by Tony Cable at his home and shop at 7533 N. MacArthur in Blanchard, Ok. Lunch will be served but bring a side dish to help out. Tony has chosen a fire striker/fire steel as the trade item.

Directions: From South OKC take I-44 south to the Newcastle Casino, continue south on 62/277 through Newcastle to SW 24th. Turn and go west one mile to MacArthur and turn left and go south about 3/4 mile to address 7533 on west side of road. From Norman, take highway 9 west to Newcastle exit. Take 62/277 north approximately 2.5 miles to SW 24th street. Turn west and go one mile to MacArthur, turn left and go south about 3/4 mile, house on west side of road. 35°12'32.5"N 97°37'07.4"W

- ◆ NW Regional meeting (Aug 23rd) will be hosted by Terry Kauk. Lunch is provided but bring a side dish to help out. Trade items is something from a Rail Road Spike. Directions;
Highway 34347 junction S. of Leedy. 2E- 2S- 2E- 1 1/4 S.
580-821-0139 in case you get lost.

2014 meeting dates....

SE Region (1st Sat)

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

NE Region (2nd Sat)

Jan: Bill Kendall
Feb Gary Gloden
March: Doug Redden
April: Ed McCormack
May James Erb
June: Brendan Crotty
July: Doug Redden
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: Byron Doner
Aug: Tony Cable
Sept: J.J. McGill
Oct
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

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

Chuck Wagon Cook off, at the National Cowboy Heritage Museum.

Eric and Ron Lehenbauer were already making little dogs from half by three sixteenths material when I got past the keepers of the gate. It was a hot Saturday morning, and the wind was making plenty of "cottonwood snow"!

Wonderful scents we're coming from all the Chuck Wagons. You could ride a stage coach, or a large wagon. But some times there was a pretty long line.

Eric and Ron had set up by the pony rides. I was told that they had a weight limit and I couldn't ride! Kids could make their own rope, and there were other things for them to do also. Tandy leather had a set up so the kids could do some leather work. I seen lots of samples throughout both Saturday and Sunday.

Ron had made some brands. He had large and small brands of both anvils, and Buffalo heads. I got to help brand some of the pieces he was giving to the kids! His neighbor had trimmed some limbs, and Ron had cut them into pieces about a half inch thick. The kids loved them, as well as the adults! Ron said we gave out around a thousand of them on Saturday! It wasn't as crowded on Sunday, probably because it looked like it was going to rain most of the day. It was a bit cooler, which was ok with us.

Eric done most all the hammering both days, which made it easy for Ron and me. Thanks Eric!

By the way folks, Eric has just opened a floral shop in Bethany and would appreciate any business we can send his way! So if you need a florist in the Okc area, please give them a try. They have done me fine a few times already! Their number is; [405-603-5280](tel:405-603-5280)

I got some bread pudding that one of the chuck wagon folks made it was very good! I'm not sure I've ever had any bad cooking that came from a Dutch oven! I remember when J. C. Banks used to make his Jack Daniels peach cobbler for us on set up night before our conferences. YUM! We miss you J. C.

Thanks;
Byron Doner (Korny)



2014 Chisholm Trail Festival, Yukon Oklahoma

The weatherman threatened us with possible continued showers but we manage to have a mostly dry day Saturday June 7th at the 2014 Chisholm Trail Festival on the Kirkpatrick Family Farm near the intersection of Vandament and Garth Brooks Boulevard in Yukon. The Saltfork Craftsmen participated in the living history event performed in a historic replica of a western town. There were blacksmiths, gunfighters, civil war re-enactors, cannon fire, musicians, a Wild West show, and lots of primitive camps and other primitive crafts to enjoy. We set up under the shade trees and had a good crowd of onlookers passing by all day. We had a few new people spend some time trying their hand at the craft and had a successful and enjoyable day.



Decorations for the conference tables.

Charles McDevitt has made a suggestion that we have members make center pieces for the tables that would hold after dinner mints and then be placed in the auction on Saturday night. He has sent some pictures of suggestions. Pictured is a shovel and a water can. Each will hold about a hand full of the mints and will be useful to any blacksmith.



Saltfork Members.

Hi, my name is **Kathy Rhodes** and I am on the Beaver Co. fair board. I am currently working on trying to build our fair up a little. I was wondering if you might have someone that would be interested in setting up a blacksmith demonstration for our fair. We would have no problem with them selling items also. **It will be Sept. 5th - 7th**, although if someone would be interested in just setting up for Sat. the 6th only, that would be fine. That will probably be when most of the people are there.

Please let me know if you have anyone you think might be interested and how I could contact them.

Thank you so much!

Kathy Rhodes
kr_mmv@hotmail.com
[620-482-4437](tel:620-482-4437)

SC regional meeting report..

Meeting was hosted by Larry Mills at his shop in Norman.

About 40 people were in attendance at Larry & Linda Mills 3rd Annual June Hammer -In, located at 3510 Charleston Rd. in Norman. Since last year, a wall has been removed & the floor swept. New equipment has been added and the Power Hammer bolted down. Bruce Wallenberg was one of the first to arrive with donuts in hand. Thanks Bruce, your welcome anytime. Nolan walker with nature farms brought some of his fine forging coke. A call was placed to the vacationing Terry Jenkins who said that J.J. McGill had a quick tong method if we could get him to demonstrate. Well it took some doing to get JJ out of his shell but within 30 seconds we were cutting material and listening to his explanation of quick "Git-R-Done" Tongs. 7 or 8 people made his tongs and then used them through the day.

Next, Mills demonstrated how to forge pipe using Hammer & Anvil only, use of mandrels and the Horn to improve the process and create bells as well as tapers, and the tools for the power hammer. Forging Pipe can be very frustrating as the Neophytes discovered. You'll chase your tail if you don't hold your mouth right. By lunch vases were starting to take shape.

During the catered lunch, Mills showed the trade items (and was educated on the difference between trade item and iron in the hat). Bruce Wallenberg made a spray of Russian Roses and leaves mounted on a block of polished mulberry. Gerald Franklin Brought a small vase of 'spring jasmine' which he made from punching's off of a press. Mills had a vase from oilfield tubing and textured base with copper leaves and roses made from a kit. After lunch, Jim Carothers assisted Mills in building a fast RR track anvil on a stand filled with sand. It's so those that are too tall will have something to use when visiting next time. By 2:00 festivities had wound down. The place was cleaned and shut down by 4:00. One new member joined, several received some good practice on technique and many stories were told. Ron Lehenbauer was there. ☺

Including picture of Bruce Wallenberg's Roses, to show off how far he has come in his education as a Blacksmith.



Report submitted by Larry Mills

The Northwest Regional meeting of Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association was held May 24 in the Route 66 Blacksmith at the Elk City Museum Complex. More than a dozen members attended and three forges were going most of the day. Gary Seigrist, Monte Smith and Terry Kauk worked on hammer heads. Mandell Greteman worked on several projects including a stake to hold a hummingbird feeder crafted from sucker rod. Roy Bell crafted several copper roses and other items during the day.

A new member, Cody Dracers and wife Amanda from Chickasha joined the fun. Several overseas visitors toured the blacksmith shop museum during the day.

Roy Bell hosted the meeting and supplied the fried chicken for the meal. Everyone enjoyed the meal, the fellowship and the rain that fell most of the day.

Article and pictures submitted by
Cheryl Overstreet



Basic Blacksmithing Class..taught by Diana Davis at her shop east of Sterling Ok. Had 8 students show up at 8:00 AM to learn basic skill needed to forge metal.



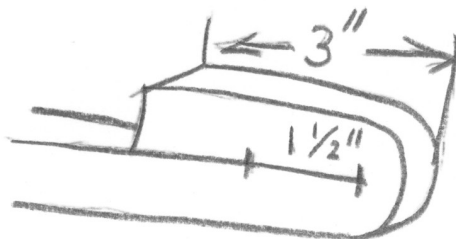
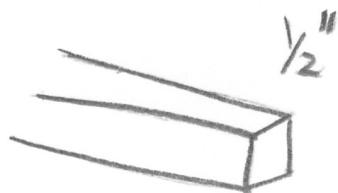
Each student went home with 2 drive in wall hooks and a set of Fire tools, (shovel, poker, rake and water can) A young man From Tulsa even tried his hand at making a scrolling jig. Bill Welded it to a piece of angle iron so he could use it in a vice. Even though it was hot, we had a good time and I feel like they Acquired some good basic knowledge of what it takes to move Metal. Now they just need to practice what they learned.

MOOSE HOOK

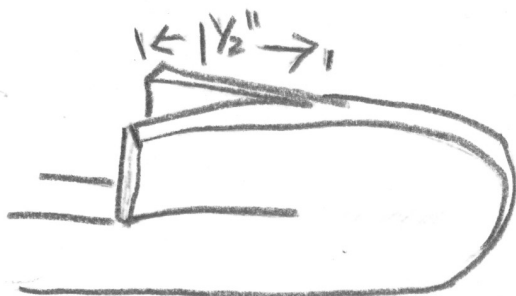
I was asked by a friend to make up some moose and a polar bear hooks just prior to Christmas and I said no problem. These projects are nice and relatively quick to make.

First I started with the moose as I have made many of these and they are familiar to make for me. I start by bending over 3" of $\frac{1}{2}$ " square bar stock and forge weld the first $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from the bend back. This gives me the mass for the head. I then split the other $1\frac{1}{2}$ " down to the parent stock to make the antlers.

NOTE This is a quick step by step and you can use your imagination and artistry to modify the results. It is by no means a full step by step as I plan on making a book in the future and this will be one of the projects I plan on putting in with pictures and all the punches I used to make it.



FORGE WELD
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ " AREA



SPLIT TOP
AREA $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

After the split is made I put the piece in my post vice to spread out the antlers and I peen the end of the antlers in order to get the palm effect that moose antlers have prior to cutting in the fingers (tines). Doing this also gives me a gentle curve to the antlers which comes in handy later when adjusting the antlers to final position.



THE TOP SPLIT PARTS ARE
BENT DOWN OVER EACH SIDE OF
THE POST VICE TO START THE
ANTLERS.