

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

November 2016



Bill Kendall was the People's Choice First Place award winner at the 2016 Annual SCABA Conference with his Clay Spencer style casket box. Congratulations Bill!

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Editors notes...

This year's conference was a resounding success. It takes a lot of work behind the scenes (before, during and after) to make an event like this go smoothly. In the heat of the moment, not everyone gets thanked properly. So, Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this conference come together and work smoothly. From moving tables to setting up and operating the audio visual monitors, everything counts.

Thanks to our demonstrators for doing such a great job of delivering more than expected during both the conference demonstrations and the workshops afterward. I can honestly say my workshop experience after the conference with Peter Ross was one of the most rewarding and educating times that I have ever spent with another blacksmith. Both Peter and Jymm have approaches to smithing that are little different than the "norm" but it makes sense and gets results. And both Peter and Jymm never hesitate to answer questions or show how to do some forging procedure.

I have a lot of detailed notes and information to sort through - too much to include in this newsletter due to time constraints. I will try to get a lot of that information into the next few newsletters.

I plan to include some more detailed "how-to" articles from what we learned at this conference and the workshops in future newsletters. The deadline for this issue was too close the conference to allow enough time for anything detailed enough.

I need to apologize for some of the photography. I had some file issues and the quality overall is not the best. Thanks to LaQuitta and Travis to taking some pics when I couldn't. Without them, there would have been several pics missing.

- Russell Bartling - 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



President's Notes:

Hey folks!

I need to start with a big BIG Thank You to everybody that made this year's conference happen! LaQuitta, Nikki, Angela, Debra, and Terry all went above and beyond feeding and taking care of us all during the workshops, after doing the same during the conference. These folks fed us like kings! The bread pudding was my favorite!

Teresa certainly had more than one person should be asked to handle with registration! I know that Sharlene was a big help to her. Thanks to both of you! I know for sure there were others that helped out with the conference, and workshops, especially those who came early, and stayed afterwards, to help with set up, and tear down. I want to thank them as well.

We all owe a big Thanks to the McGill family, along with the tractor association for all the help, and letting us use their facility. I hope everyone understands how much hard work Doug put in, to coordinate everything to make this conference happen. I realize that when I chose to name folks individually, that I surely left out some folks that worked just as hard as the ones I did mention, and I apologize for that, and I want to Thank everyone that I failed to recognize.

Peter Ross and Jymm Hoffman certainly put on a great demonstration, and I can say for sure that the workshop I was in with Peter, was one of, if not the most, challenging that I have attended! It's like magic, the way those guys can move iron! Ricky, and Bill were the only guys that I know of that got their compasses finished. My hat is off to those guys because I didn't even come close!

Finally I want to apologize to everyone that covered for me, and took care of the many things that I whined about, and weaseled out of. I am very blessed to have such good friends. Thank You!

Happy Hammering, Byron



Vice President's Notes:

Well another conference com and gone. All I heard was good responses about the conference and the workshops. I think it's safe to say all were stretched in the workshops. Now is the time to start looking forward to next year's. In the coming weeks I will be contacting members to get started on items for the auction and iron in the hat as well as assignments for the conference. I will be talking to Bob Patrick and Lyle Wynn about what they will teach in the workshops to better let everyone know ahead of time what to expect.

I will start getting the northeast region meeting calendar filled out so it can be put in the newsletter so contact me with the dates you prefer. Also remember that the northeast and southeast are swapping weekends affective January 2017.

Hope everyone enjoys their Thanksgiving. - Doug

Division of (Volunteer) Labor

It's been suggested that we need to clarify who does what in terms of the Saltfork Board members and other positions of responsibility. This list is an attempt to expand on the definitions of these roles to help in getting the right person when needed. Please keep in mind that everyone on this list gives their time on a volunteer basis and this list may change, expand and evolve over time:

Name	Position	Address	Phone	Duties
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Bill Kendall	Director/ Swage Blocks	1756 E. 59 th St Tulsa OK 74105 wwkendall@aol.com	918-691-2173	Swage Block Shipping Quotes Swage Block Shipping
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Dodie O'Bryan	Webmaster	Pawnee, OK scout@skally.net	—	Website Updates Web Calendar Updates

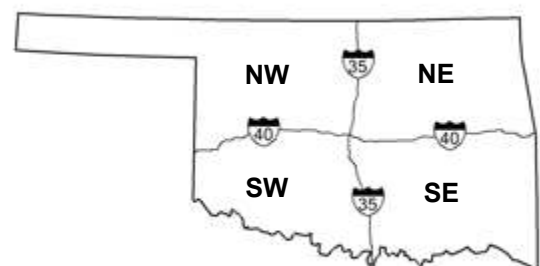
What's My Region?

The four main regions are currently defined within the state by being separated by I35 and I40. (For example, the NW region is anything north of I40 and west of I35.)

All meetings are encouraged. These boundary definitions and regional meeting dates are a suggested framework to facilitate orderly meeting scheduling, planning and promotion with a minimum of overlaps and a maximum exposure to the greatest number of members. Not all meetings fit precisely within a rigid boundary definition and members in an area may want to hold meetings on a date that doesn't match their physical region or at a location other than their own region. This may be especially true in the center of state for areas that are close to the I35 and I40 boundary crossing. Special events such as shows, fairs, etc. may also dictate adjustments to the meeting dates within a region.

The regions are meant to be a simplification and clarification to the regional boundaries rather than a rigid restriction to any meeting scenario. Saltfork members all belong to one club. Regional boundaries are not intended to imply division within the club, but are intended to help spread distribution and promote monthly meetings.

SCABA Regions



Christmas Tongs Exchange 2016 -- Notes & Rules

8-15-2016

I'll try to explain what this all about.

This exchange of hand made tongs would be like school kids (at least when I was in grade school in the 1950's) drawing names to exchange gifts at Christmas time. This idea is not new or original to me; the folks on AnvilFire's Slack Tub Pub have done this a time or two in the past. In the two years that I remember this happening through AnvilFire, there were about 12 to 15 people involved each time. I have four unique pair of tongs from participation in the past exchanges. One of these was made by James Joyce out on the west coast and one by Jim Gerlinski from Canada. I have two nice tongs made by SF member Mark Carter. I've always found this fun to participate in. Making tongs is good forging practice.

Don't worry that you are not an expert tongs maker. At first, I was concerned that my hand made tongs would not be good enough for an AnvilFire international exchange. There are a couple of mistakes in the learning pile under my work table, but all worked out OK. The experienced smiths that got the tongs I made were quite pleased with them.

I have chosen 3 Kings Day as the latest mailing day for the tongs; that would be January 6th, 2016. By choosing the 3 Kings date (the 12th day of Christmas), you would hopefully have some time over the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holidays to get your tongs made. And if you needed help, there would be time for that as well. There is a good how to make tongs article on the Shady Grove Blacksmith Shop web site. http://www.blksmith.com/tong_article.htm . Most of the beginning smith's books have tongs lessons too. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

And yes it's OK to mail out your tongs as soon as you get the recipient's address.

As noted above, I am offering to keep the list of those wanting to participate; do the random drawing of names (computer program) ; and to notify each participating member whom to send his or her tongs to. And yes, I plan to make a pair also.

Here are the rules:

- 1) You must register with me your intent to participate in the Christmas Tongs Exchange on or before Monday, December 19th. 10 PM that Monday evening will be the cutoff time. Your registration can be done by e-mail, phone call, text, or US Mail. E-mail is really best for me, but any of the others are OK too. I will need your mailing address along with your registration to participate.
- 2) Tongs can be any style you choose as long as they are blacksmith made. Use of electric welding and other modern techniques is OK. Tongs can be made from round bar, flat stock, etc. They can be steel or other suitable (strong) material such as Titanium, Nomakesit, Unobtainium, or Flexstiffinite.
- 3) Be sure to steel stamp or engrave your tongs with your touch mark, name, or initials and the date they were made.
- 4) I will notify you by Tuesday, December 27 as to whom to send your tongs to.
- 5) All tongs are to be sent out no later than 3 Kings Day – January 6th. US Mail or your favorite service such as UPS, etc. can be used. Personal delivery is OK too. You are responsible for the cost of shipping your tongs.

That's about it. Let's have some fun with this again.

Jim Carothers
9501 Frontier
Perry, Ok 73077-9225

frontiershop@wildblue.net best contact
580-336-9213 home land line – evenings are best for this number
580-307-5152 cell (text OK) – usually on

2016 REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE

SE Region (1 st Sat)	NE Region (2 nd Sat)	SC Region (3 rd Sat)	NW Region (4 th Sat)
Jan 2 nd (Open)	Jan 9 th (Open)	Jan 16 th (Open)	Jan 23 rd (Monte Smith)
Feb 6 th (Open)	Feb 13 th (Bill Kendall)	Feb 20 th (Open)	Feb 27 th (Bob Kennemer)
Mar 5 th (Ronnie Smith & Bill Phillips)	Mar 12 th (Doug Redden)	Mar 19 th (Bruce Willenberg)	Mar 26 th (Mandell Greteman)
Apr 2 nd (Open)	Apr 9 th (Brendan Crotty)	Apr 16 th (US Cavalry Association/Chuck Ogden) SCABA Annual Picnic!	Apr 23 rd (Dorvan Ivey)
May 7 th (Open)	May 14 th (Ed McCormack)	May 21 st (JJ McGill)	May 28 th (Terry Kauk) (Cancelled)
Jun 4 th (Open)	Jun 11 th (Marshall Hager)	Jun 18 th (Ricky Vardell)	Jun 25 th (Don Garner)
Jul 2 nd (Open)	Jul 9th (Terry Taylor)	Jul 16 th (Open)	Jul 23 rd (Kelly Kilhoffer)
Aug 6 th (Open)	Aug 13 th (Gerald Brostek)	Aug 20 th (Byron Doner)	Aug 27 th (Don Garner)
Sep 3 rd (Open)	Sep 10 th (Jim Carothers & Tom Nelson)	Sep 17 th (Jim Dyer)	Sep 24 th (Roy Bell)
Oct 1 st (Open)	Oct 8 th (Open)	Oct 15 th (Conference Weekend!)	Oct 22 nd (Cheryl Overstreet)
Nov 5th (Bill Phillips)	Nov 12th (Dan Cowart)	Nov 19th (Anthony Griggs)	Nov 26th (Cory Spieker)
Dec 3 rd (Open)	Dec 10 th (Open)	Dec 17 th (Open)	Dec 24 th (Merry Christmas)

~~Fifth Saturday Fun Day — Dec: 31st (Mandell Greteman —**Cancelled for health reasons**)~~

All Regional Meetings are Free to Attend and are Always Open to Any Member or Guest...

New to Saltfork or just want to check out Blacksmithing but don't know where to start? These meetings are a great place for new members or guests who just want to see what it is all about to come network with like minded people. If you want some pointers on how to get started, there is always someone happy to help get you started hammering. And guests are always welcomed.

Want to host a meeting? The meeting hosting form can be found on the last page along with membership application form. If you want to host a meeting in any area please fill out one of the host forms on the website under the calendar section or in the newsletter and e-mail the information or mail the hard copy form in as soon as possible. If you mail a form, please call or e-mail to verify that it is received. E-mail is the most convenient for me but you can also phone in the information if you prefer. The sooner the meeting is scheduled, the more time there is to get the word out to potential attendees. -Russell Bartling 918-633-0234 or rbartling@ionet.net

November

SE Regional Meeting November 5th : Will be hosted by Bill Phillips at his shop located at 14360 State Hwy 113 about 1.3 miles east of Indianola.

The trade item is a Steak Turner. Lunch will be provided but bring a side dish or desert to help out. Contact: Bill Phillips at 918-200-4263 or bullissac@yahoo.com.

NE Regional Meeting November 12th: Will be hosted by Dan Cowart at 10380 N 4010 Road, Wann, OK 74083.
(See map.)

The trade item is a crazy critter (like an animal made from a horseshoe) of some kind. Lunch will be provided but bring a side dish or desert to help out. Contact: Dan Cowart at 918-440-0653 or ddcowart@gmail.com.

SC Regional Meeting November 19th: Will be hosted by Anthony Griggs at his shop located at 345387 East Hwy 18B, Sparks, OK 74869. Rock house on the south side of the road on the hill.
(See map).

The trade item will be a knife made from an old file.

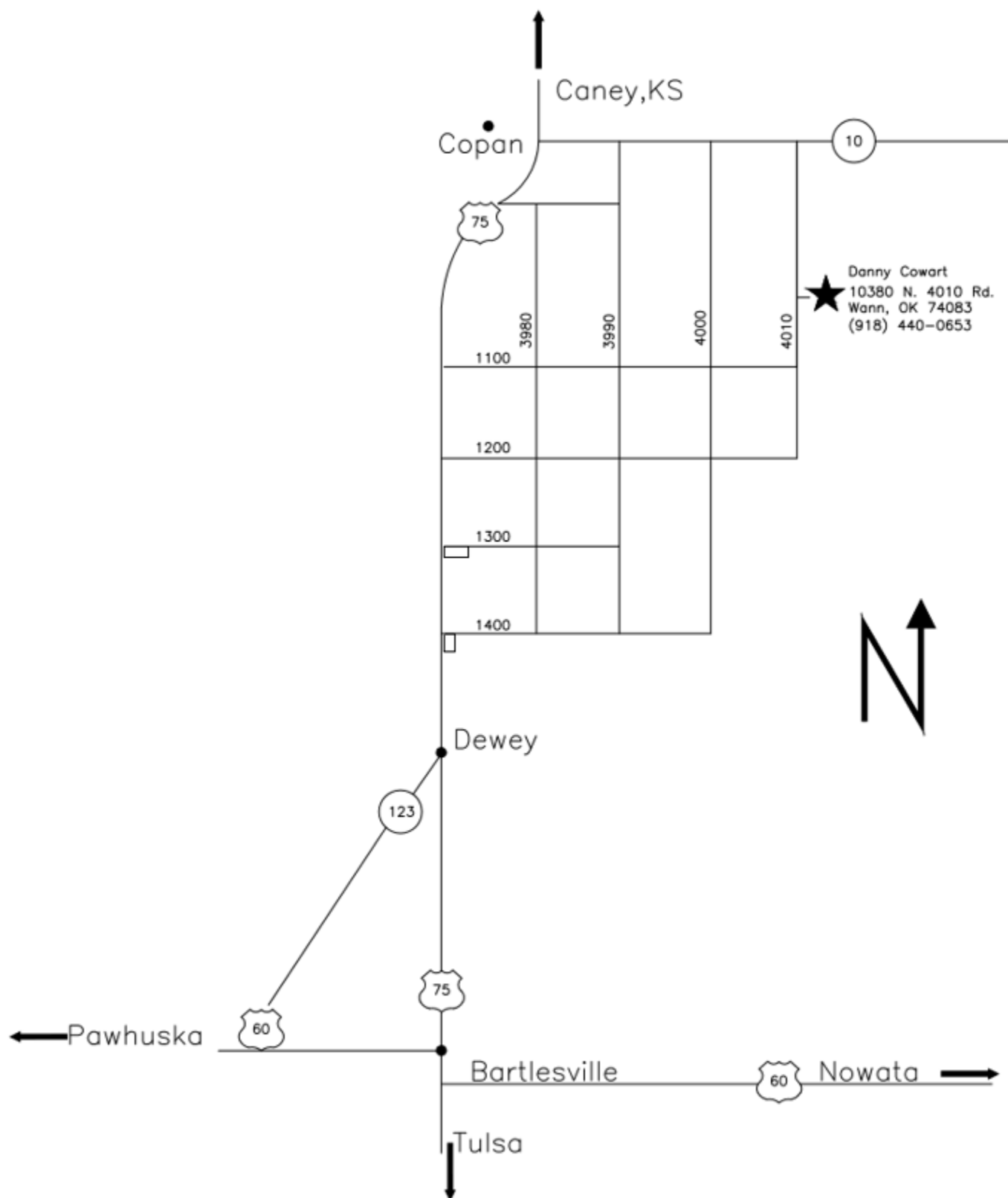
Lunch will be provided with cherry cobbler for dessert. You don't need to bring anything unless you want a different dessert.

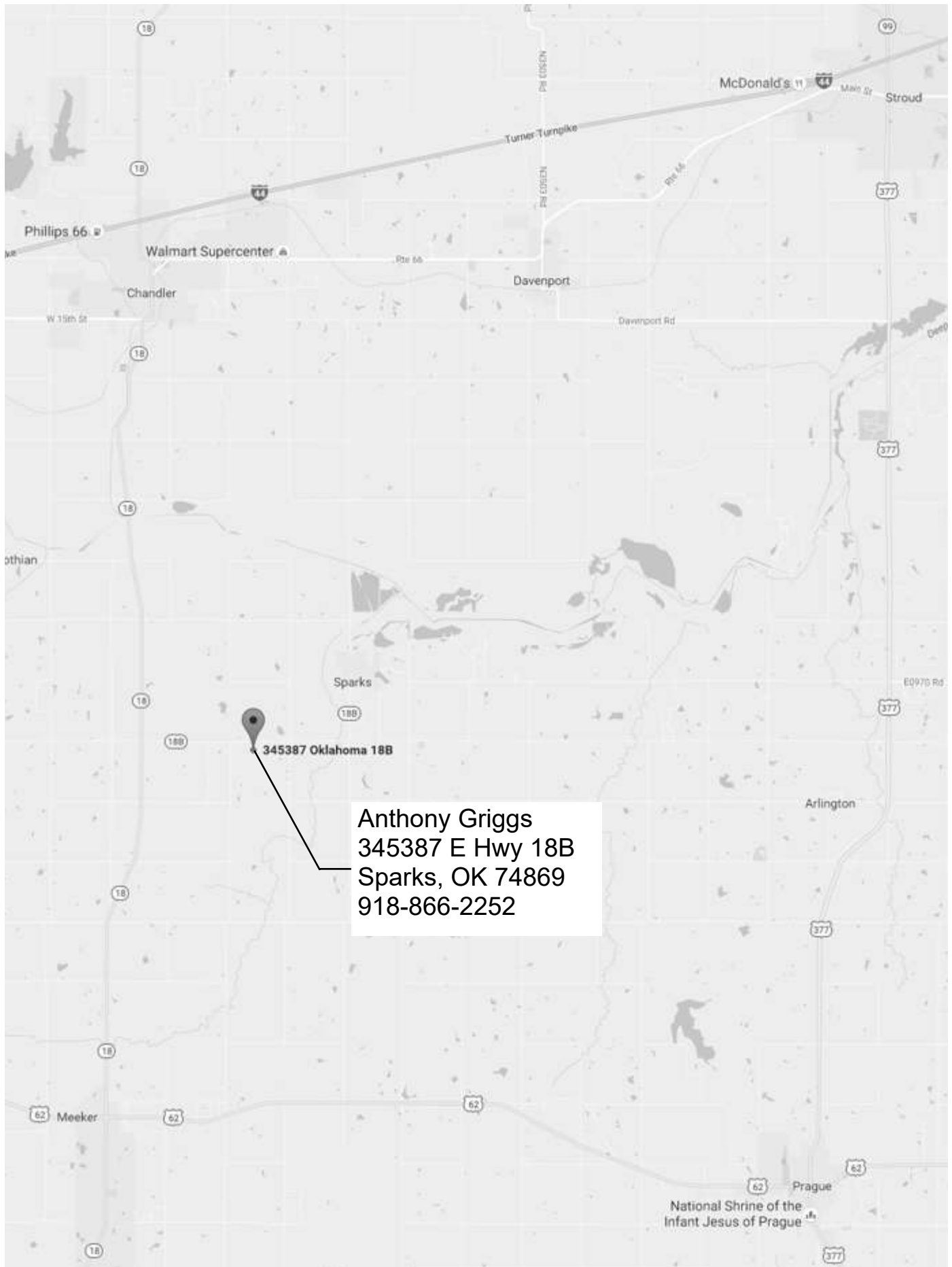
Anthony is supplying everything but chairs. Please bring extra chairs if you want to sit and visit outside.

Contact: Anthony Griggs at 918-866-2252.

NW Regional Meeting November 26th : Will be hosted by Cory Spieker at the Route 66 blacksmith museum shop in Elk City.

The trade item is a BBQ Tool of any kind. Lunch will be provided but bring a side dish or desert to help out. Contact: Cory Spieker at 580-799-1736.





2017 REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE

NE Region (1 st Sat)	SE Region (2 nd Sat)	SW Region (3 rd Sat)	NW Region (4 th Sat)
Jan 7 th (Open)	Jan 14 th (Open)	Jan 21 st (Open)	Jan 28 th (Open)
Feb 4 th (Open)	Feb 11 th (Open)	Feb 18 th (Open)	Feb 25 th (Open)
Mar 4 th (Open)	Mar 11 th (Open)	Mar 18 th (Open)	Mar 25 th (Open)
Apr 1 st (Doug Redden)	Apr 8 th (Open)	Apr 15 th (Open)	Apr 22 nd (Open)
May 6 th (Open)	May 13 th (Open)	May 20 th (JJ McGill)	May 27 th (Open)
Jun 3 rd (Open)	Jun 10 th (Open)	Jun 17 th (Open)	Jun 24 th (Open)
Jul 1 st (Open)	Jul 8 th (Open)	Jul 15 th (Open)	Jul 22 nd (Open)
Aug 5 th (Open)	Aug 12 th (Open)	Aug 19 th (Open)	Aug 26 th (Open)
Sep 2 nd (Open)	Sep 9 th (Open)	Sep 16 th (Open)	Sep 23 rd (Open)
Oct 7 th (Open)	Oct 14 th (Open)	Oct 21 st (Conference Weekend!)	Oct 28 th (Open)
Nov 4 th (Open)	Nov 11 th (Open)	Nov 18 th (Open)	Nov 25 th (Open)
Dec 2 nd (Open)	Dec 9 th (Open)	Dec 16 th (Open)	Dec 23 rd (Open)

Fifth Saturdays:

April 29th (Open)

July 29th (Open)

September 30th (Open)

December 30th (Open)

2017 SCABA Conference:

The dates for the 2017 SCABA Conference have been set for October 21st and 22nd. The conference will again be held at the Murray County Antique Tractor Show grounds in Sulphur, OK. Mark your calendars!

****Please Note****

Beginning with the 2017 calendar, the NE region meetings will now be held on the first Saturday and the SE region meetings will be held on the second Saturday of each month. This is swapped from previous years.

Workshop Schedule

Joinery Workshop (Subject to Member Response):

Details of the workshop are not yet defined but this would be a workshop to learn how to make simple tenon joints and corresponding fitting techniques to make a small grille or similar item. This workshop would focus on good layout and fitting techniques as well as controlled punching and drifting. The date and location are to be determined and will depend on the availability of the instructor and facility. If you are interested in attending such a workshop, please let the workshop coordinator know. If there is enough interest, this workshop will be set up. **UPDATE: So far, only one person has expressed interest in this workshop. If you are interested in a joinery workshop, please let Mandell know as soon as possible or this one will be dropped...**

Clay Spencer Tire Hammer Build Workshop (Subject to Member Response):

An effort is being made to put together a weekend tire hammer building workshop for sometime this winter. The exact location is to be determined. The ideal workshop size is 15 to 20 students and each student will leave with a working tire hammer. The expected cost if there are twenty students is about \$1,100 per hammer. This cost is extremely variable based on the number of students and the actual costs of materials which are purchased, scrounged, donated, etc. Clay Spencer will bring his experience along with jigs and fixtures to facilitate building a good hammer in the workshop setting. Each student will participate in building the hammers. Saltfork member Mike Hillsman will be the facilitator of this workshop. If you are interested, please let Mike know as soon as possible. If there are not enough students interested in this workshop, it may not be feasible. So please don't delay if you want this workshop to become a reality. **Contact Mike at 918-625-4891.**

Welding for Blacksmiths Workshop (Subject to Member Response):

If you have never welded before or if you have been "farm" welding most of your life but would like to take your skills to the next level, then this hands on workshop may be for you. If you want to have greater confidence in the strength and beauty of your welds, then this workshop may be for you. The exact details including date and location are to be determined but it will probably be held sometime this winter. Location will depend on interest level and location of the potential students so respond early if you would like to attend this workshop. The intent is for the workshop to be led by a blacksmith trained in pressure vessel welding but the course will cover basic stick welding and oxy-acetylene welding/cutting that would be used in day to day blacksmithing and fabrication work. The expectation is that students will leave the class with a better understanding of correct electrode selection, welder polarity, techniques, etc. for mild and high carbon steel stick welding as well as proper use and settings for the oxy-acetylene rig. While this is a basic one-day crash course, there are a number of experience based tips and techniques that will help you get the most out of your welding and cutting equipment. Stop wondering if your welds will hold and stop grinding them down to hide a less than pretty bead deposit. **Let Mandell know if you would like to attend this workshop as soon as possible!**

Have an idea for a workshop or class? If you have an idea for a workshop that you would like to attend (or teach), please let the workshop coordinator know so that details for time and place can be worked out.

Workshops After the SCABA Annual Conference: There will be hands on workshops by the demonstrators following the 2016 SCABA Annual Conference. Refer to the conference information elsewhere for details...

Mandell Greteman is the SCABA Workshop Coordinator.

Contact Mandell at 580-515-1292.

mandell01@windstream.net

Around the State...

NW Region September Meeting: The NW region September meeting was held by Roy Bell at the Fairview Tractor Show.



The trade item was a candle holder. Several smiths came to demo at the show and to attend Roy's meeting. Thanks to everyone who attended and



helped out to make this a good meeting and demo.

- Editor

(Photos by LaQuitta Greteman)



SE Region October Meeting:

No meeting was held in October.

NE Region October Meeting:

No meeting was held in October.

SC Region October Meeting:

No meeting (2016 Annual Conference Weekend.)

Wewoka Sorghum Festival

On Saturday the 22nd of October, the town of Wewoka put on their annual Sorghum Festival. (It is always the fourth Saturday in October.)

I was asked to come and demonstrate. I believe that Mark Carter has done the festival for several years, but now he has moved to Stillwater. Bruce, and Sharlene brought their demo set up, and when we got there Anthony was there, and helped us get all set up.

We had a good spot right by the folks processing the cane with a really cool press that was powered by two mules walking around in a circle. It was a bit chili out, and as we got our fires started, folks gathered around to try and get a little warmth. Before long we were forging in front of a large audience.

It was nice to be able to take turns at the forges. Marcus Carson also took a few turns hammering. I was really taken with the crowds of people that just kept coming! Items on our table were selling good too. I think I could have sold more if I would have had more out on the table. I made enough to buy my lunch and pay for fuel for sure.

This was one demo that I was not wanting to do because it was right after our conference, and workshops. But it turned out to be a lot of fun. Bruce was already talking about next year!

I am just astounded by the number of people of all ages that came to the festival! I must apologize for not getting any pictures.

- Byron

Oklahoma State Fair 2016 update:

Just wanted to give recognition where recognition is due and a special Thank You to Terry Jenkins, Marcus Carson and Lloyd Turner. These men demonstrated at the fair all day on Sunday, September 25 and then helped clean up and reload the trailer, closing out the event. Our event report was submitted before the fair ended. Once again Thank You to EVERYONE that helped with the OKC State Fair event. Hope to see you all next year.

Richard and Michele Blasius

Mark Aspery Clinic in Nemo, Texas, Nov. 11,12,13, 2017:

Mark your calendars if you are interested in attending the 2017 Mark Aspery clinic in Nemo, Tx (Just a few miles east of Glen Rose.)

If you are not familiar with this clinic, Ron and Kathy Stafford host Mark Aspery at their home and shop in Nemo and invite around 10 to 12 students for hands on instruction from Mark. This is a great opportunity to gain one-on-one access to a master blacksmith and a great teacher. And the atmosphere and hospitality of the event is inviting to students of all experience levels. (Refer to the November 2015 newsletter for information from the 2015 clinic.)

Look for more details and registration information in upcoming newsletters. Space is very limited. If you would like to attend, you will want to secure your place in the clinic as soon as possible once registration is opened. More details to follow when available... - Editor

Brendan Crotty Science Fair Project Follow Up

(From May 2016 Newsletter, Page 23)

Saltfork member Brendan Crotty is the first EVER finalist from Oklahoma in the Broadcom Masters (national science and engineering competition.) Below is the write up from the website - Societyforscience.org:

Brendan Crotty, 8th Grade

Homeschool, Muskogee, Oklahoma

Comparative Study of Insulating Materials for a Gas Forge

Project Background: Brendan's passion for the centuries-old craft of blacksmithing inspired his modern materials engineering project. When blacksmiths heat metal to very high temperatures in forges, the metal becomes malleable, or softer. This allows the blacksmith to hammer, press or bend metal into different shapes.

Commercially available forges are expensive, Brendan notes. Forges must be insulated because they become extremely hot. Brendan tested different possibilities for insulating a homemade forge with a "mix that would be safe, economical and effective."

Tactics and Results: Starting with 16-ounce cans, Brendan made seven test forges. He fitted each with a tube for a propane torch. He then lined each can with a different insulating material to a thickness of 3/4-inch (about 2 cm). After that, Brendan tested each forge.

To start, he heated each forge for 12 minutes. At each minute mark, he measured the external temperature of the can with an infrared thermometer. "The lowest temperature rise indicated the material with the best insulating properties," Brendan explains. Three of the lining materials failed because the material bubbled during heating. For the remaining four forges, Brendan inserted a small piece of steel at the 12 minute mark. He timed how quickly each piece became "yellow hot," indicating a temperature of 1800 degrees. The sooner that happened, the better the lining's heat retention and reflectivity, Brendan reasoned.

Brendan also reviewed Material Safety Data Sheets to gauge the relative safety of different linings. Results showed that a commercially available ceramic fiber had the best heating qualities. However, Brendan preferred a particular mix of perlite, sodium silicate, aluminum oxide, plaster and talc. He found that that material was a better insulator. It was also less expensive and safer, he notes.

Other Interests: Brendan hopes to run his own metal fabrication business someday. "This career would allow me the ability to create anything that I can imagine," he says. "It is also important to me to preserve the lost art of metal working in any way possible." Brendan is an accomplished Irish dancer who has participated in a variety of competitions. He also plays piano and guitar.

Submitted by Jennifer Crotty





PAWHUSKA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Gateway
to the Tallgrass Prairie

Dear Salt Fork Association -
You all are the Best! Thank you so
Very Much for coming to Pawhuska!
And a huge thank you for blessing us with
the start of our tool collection! That blew
us away! Thank you so much! As I write
this card, we have construction workers on site
installing windows to the new shop here!
Come back soon + see us! You all have an
open invitation! Many Blessings.
Sue, Reba
+ Board of Directors.

PAWHUSKA, OK 74056
918.287.1208 • 918.287.3159 (FAX)

WWW.PAWHUSKACHAMBER.COM
PAWHUSKACHAMBER@SBCGLOBAL.NET

2016 SCABA Annual Conference Review

October 15th and 16th , Sulphur, OK

The 2016 Annual SCABA Conference was held October 15th and 16th at the Murray County Antique Tractor Association grounds just north of Sulphur, OK. This year's demonstrators were Peter Ross and Jymm Hoffman.

Jymm Hoffman started off Saturday morning with a brief discussion on hammer control to both move hot metal more efficiently and to avoid arm injuries. He followed with a warm up showing a quick way to make decorative wall hooks and then a quick reproduction wire fork that would be common in period soldier gear - a re-enactor favorite.



Other re-enactor items Jymm produced included a simple turnscrew (screwdriver) and a more complicated "military turnscrew" or three tined "multitool" for muskets. The musket tool included a large turnscrew, small turnscrew, and a threaded worm holder all in one compact tool.

Mid Morning through early afternoon, Peter Ross demonstrated his famous square head compass and went on to show the forging stages for the larger and more complex winged "coopers compass." The coopers

compass requires a couple of special tools which are not hard to make but certain details in their construction are important. Peter discussed how to make them correctly to get the best results.



Peter spent some time answering a lot of questions and demonstrating the finer details of making these compass parts and some variations. This part of the demo included forging the angled shape of the legs, special



treatment of the hinge area, punching the legs for the wing, constructing the curved wing, constructing the thumbscrew, peening the tenon on the wing, and adjusting for final fit.



Jymm Closed out the last part of Saturday with a colonial flesh fork demonstration. He then proceeded with a demo of his two candle chandelier. This project involves a variety of tapers, bends, twists, texturing and riveting - all fairly simple actions taken by themselves - to produce a nice project once all the pieces are assembled at the end.



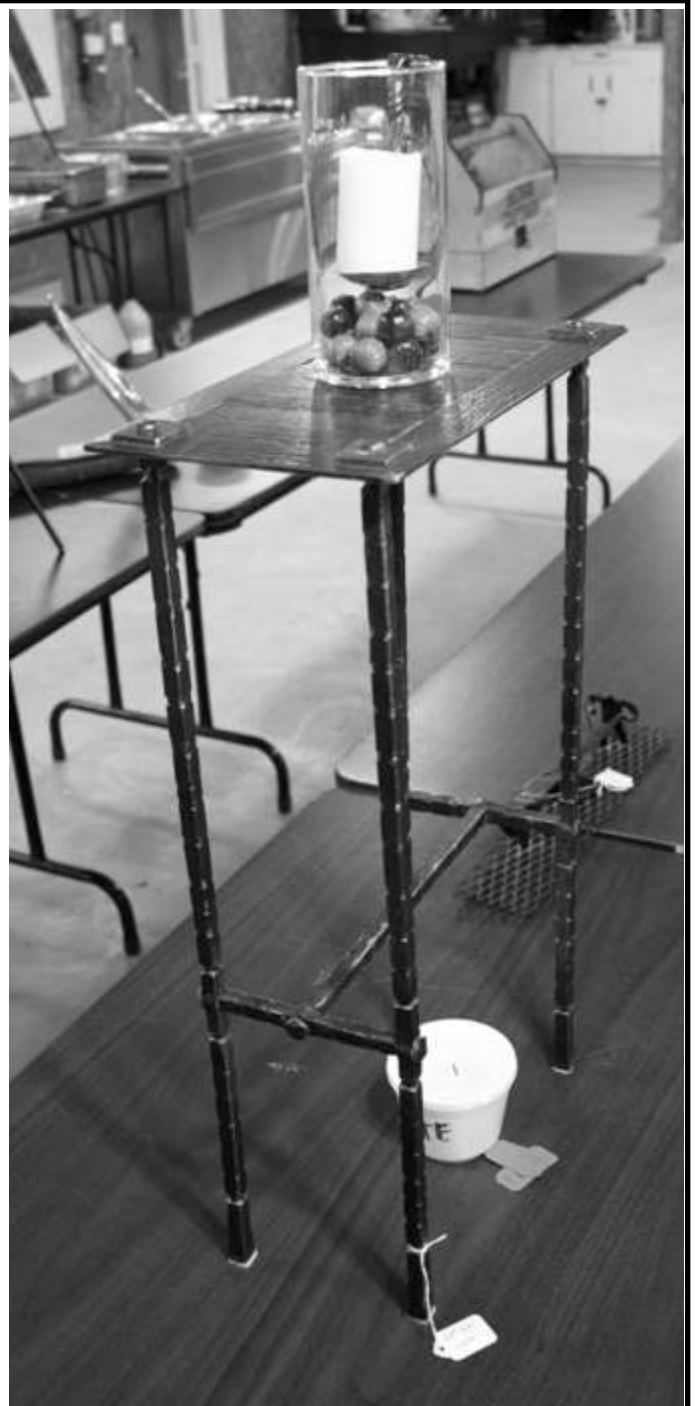
After the Saturday evening meal, the People's Choice Gallery winners were announced. Bill Kendall won first place with his Clay Spencer style casket and Gerald Franklin won second place with his grille display.



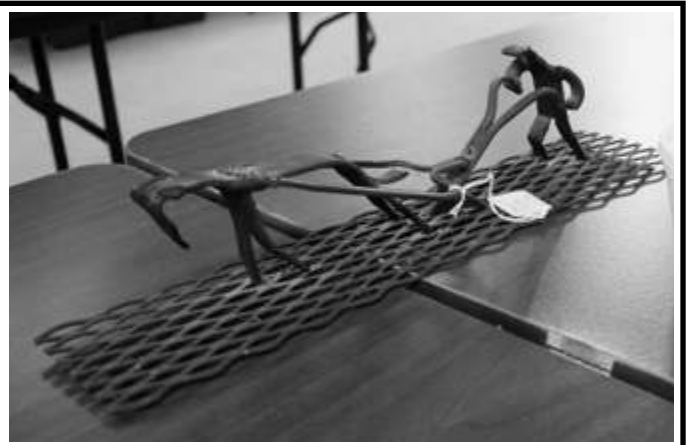
Three Grilles by Gerald Franklin

- The grilles demonstrate three different corner treatments:
 - + Mortise & Tenon on the Spear & Scroll Grille
 - + Joggle & Rivet on the Small Grille
 - + Dovetail Corners on the Pass-Thru Grille
- All forms of so called "traditional" joinery are represented:
 - + Collars (with NO tack welds behind them)
 - + Rivets
 - + Forge Welds
 - + Mortise & Tenon









David Lowry from Kemp, TX (String Bean's Blacksmith Shop) was the lucky winner of the SCABA Conference Toolbox. Thanks to all of the generous donations of tools to go into the box and for the box itself!



The evening auction was held and a number of very nice items were auctioned off from members, suppliers and demonstrators. Thank you to all who provided an item for the auction! Your amazing generosity is highly appreciated by all!





There were family classes going on inside including scrapbooking, jewelry making and drop spindle spinning and I apologize for not getting more photos of them. Our demonstrators were so good I tried to be in my seat whenever they were demonstrating and only left if there was a break or a real need for something to be done related to the conference.

There were some nice tailgate items as well as vendor booths this year seeing a lot of traffic, especially during the breaks. Vendors included Judy Berger from Blue





Moon Press with too many books and DVD's to count. Brett Smith from T Star Leather was also there with a variety of aprons and other leather work. Nathan



Robertson and Matt Marti were there selling hammers. Thank you to all of the vendors and tailgaters that attended this year!

On Sunday, it was back to work and Peter Ross began with an extensive demonstration on spreading material to thin dimensions for making spatulas and spoons, etc. This demonstration was worth its weight in gold for some of us who have struggled with getting the material to spread evenly. Peter roughed out a classic "thistle blade" spatula and a spoon including some pointers on details that are period correct versus some that are not.





Peter's last demo was a scrolled shelf bracket showing how to correctly measure the required material and punched hole locations to get a correct fit when working



to specific dimensions. Peter's method resulted in the punched holes lining up almost perfectly with little adjustment needed. Of course, Peter's approach

Jymm Hoffman showed his version of a fireplace shovel



sinking the shovel blade freehand and riveting to a nicely shaped handle.

Jymm then demonstrated his famous frying pans, starting with the handle forging then sinking and riveting the pan. The pan starts round and is sunk into the round indentation on the bottom of a cut off oxygen cylinder. Once rounded, it is then flattened for the classic frying pan shape. Jymm said this method is much easier than trying to maintain a flat bottom from the outset.



After the conference, we had nine students in each of the classes with Peter and Jymm. It was a perfect opportunity to try hands on what we saw demonstrated during the conference with instant feedback from the instructors. And I believe it was a really good experience for every student and instructor alike.

Special thanks to our *incredible* volunteer cooks Terry, LaQuitta, Nikki, Angela and Debra! We ate three home cooked meals every day with amazing desserts and we never had to clean up after ourselves! I might have even gained weight, which I don't need to do. And the tractor association supplied some of the best homemade ice cream we ever tasted! Terry received the frying pan made by Jymm and the ladies will receive a token of appreciation as well. We can't thank them enough! (Sorry I never did get a group pic of these wonderful people together.)

After the evening workshop meals, Jymm treated us to slide shows of various historic reproduction work that has been doing and, tired as we were, the crowd was riveted.

Based on my personal experience and all of the comments I heard, our demonstrators went above and beyond expectations to make this both a good conference and good workshops afterward. I think every one of us were glad we had the chance to spend time with these amazing smiths and left better off for it. We can definitely recommend anyone spending forge time with these great teachers whenever possible.

Look for more detailed "how-to" articles from this conference in future newsletters... - *Editor*



Jymm Hoffman and 2016 Workshop Students



Peter Ross and 2016 Workshop Students

Ever Seen a Forged Iron Bow?

Saltfork member Doug Bliss from Shawnee discovered and picked up a forged iron bow in an antique shop while out of state at a primitive skills workshop. The bow appears to be forged of iron or steel and has a steel cable for the string.

There is not much to go on to determine the history, age or origin of the bow. In his research, Doug discovered a limited amount of information indicating that iron bows may have been among the various trade items traded to Native Americans historically.

Doug does not know how old this bow really is and hopes the pictures may be enough for someone to help in getting more information. If you know anything about steel bows in general or recognize this bow in particular, please let us know. Send any comments or information you would like to the editor and we will publish in an upcoming newsletter as well as forwarding the info to Doug.

Thanks! - Editor





People's Choice Gallery First Place Winner

Clay Spencer Style Casket by Bill Kendall



Magical Tools Make A Wicked Wizard

by
Albin Drzewianowski dski1045@qis.net, Allen Dyer aldyer@lawlab.com, Ted McNett tedneck@aol.com.
Illustrations & Photos by Tamara Dyer & Ted McNett

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The HAMMER & TONG: Newsletter of the Blacksmith Guild of Central Maryland.

Introduction

The creation of animal or wizard heads in steel requires punching and chiseling facial features or cutting out of horns, manes, etc. Often, this calls for working a piece of hot stock from the end rather than perpendicular to the length. For example: punching nostrils. If the detail being created is along the length then you will likely to need to hold the hot work piece in the vise rather than simply laying it on the anvil. Working in the vise also gives you a more comfortable work level for detail work—you don't have to bend over the anvil to see what you are doing. This article describes how to create and use a "wizard wedge" vise tool that greatly facilitates carving and chiseling details on hot work pieces clamped in the floor vise. Other names for the wizard wedge include "detailing wedge" and "inclined vise wedge."

How to Make a Wizard Wedge Vise Tool

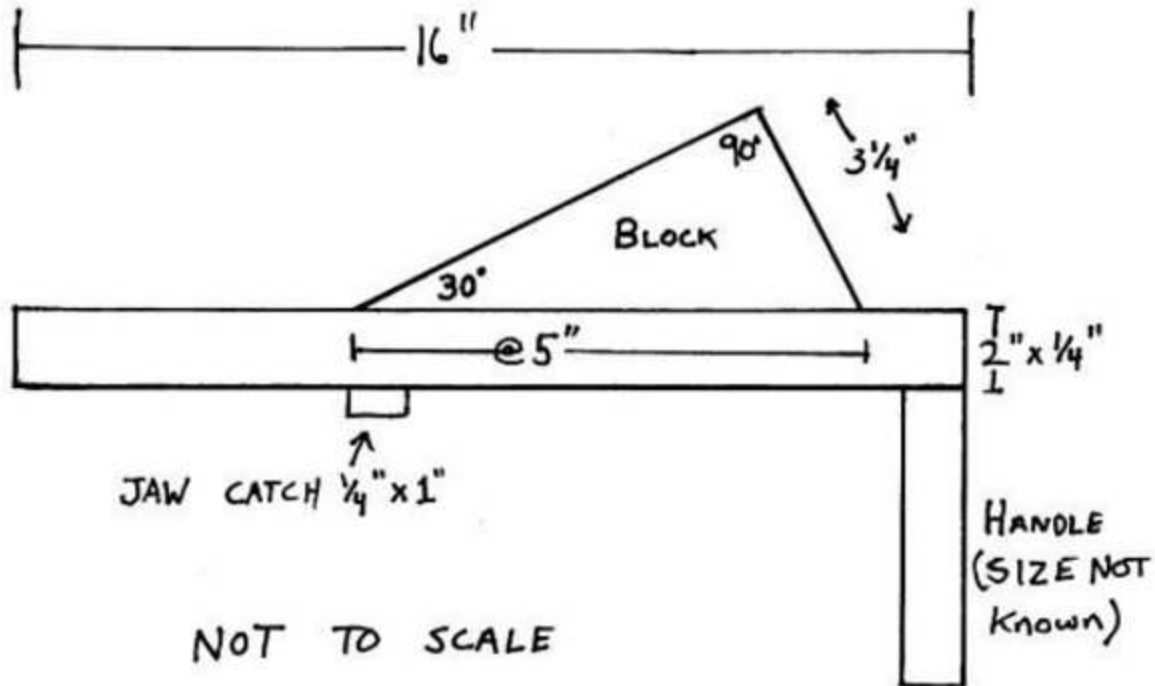
1. Locate a 4"x4"x2" or similar size chunk of steel, (the thicker the steel the better the support).
2. Cut in half on the diamond to form two triangular shaped pieces (set one aside to take to your guild's next iron-in-the hat along with a copy of this article).
3. Weld the other of the resulting triangles to a piece of 2" angle iron about 12" long.
 - a. Set triangle off-center—the center of the triangle should line up with the corner edge of the angle iron to permit a strong weld and distribution of hammer impacts to the leg vise. Note: some prefer the edge of the angle iron closer to the side of the triangle to provide an even wider work surface.
 - b. The weld bead on the bottom surface should be no wider than the narrowest stock you would use for your dragon heads, etc.
 - c. To prevent crease marks, relieve the top edge of the wedge by grinding/filing a small radius.
4. Optional--incorporate some manner of stop or catch to keep the wedge from falling off the vise when loosened. Likely to be specific to your particular size vise.



Albin Drzewianowski with his Wizard Wedge

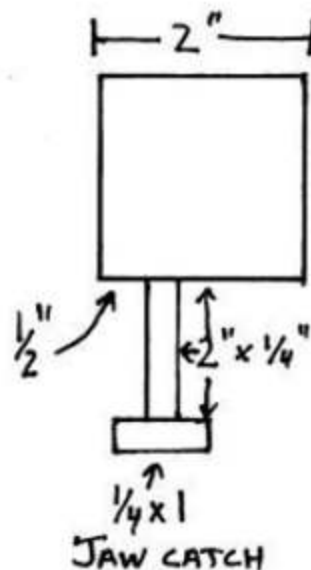
Don Witzler's Wizard Head Block

Don Witzler demonstrated, at the 2003 Blacksmith Guild of Central Maryland *Blacksmiths' Days*, on sculpting wizard/cowboy and creature heads. Ted McNett made the following workshop drawing of Don's wizard block. Note that Don Witzler has several features different from the basic wizard wedge described above. Instead of two 45 degree slopes, Don has a 60 degree and a 30 degree slope. Don also has a "jaw catch" to keep the wedge from falling off the vise in between heats and a handle to aid in moving the wedge after it gets hot. Don also placed the angle iron more to the side of the wedge in order to increase the width of the work area.



DON WITZLER'S
WIZARD HEAD
BLOCK

DRAWING BY
TED MCNETT



BLOCK is
off-center

How to Use a Vise Wizard Wedge

Set the angle iron on the inner (stationary) jaw and clamp your work between the angle and the outer movable jaw while resting your work piece on the wedge. Clamp both the work piece (a railroad spike in the illustration at right) **and** the angle iron between the vise jaws.

Remember--the wedge will get hot!! Treat it accordingly (when it's dry it's hot, when it's wet it's not).

It is best to use 18"-26" lengths of stock between 3/8" and 1" square for your animal and wizard heads. If the stock is too small—the details are too small. If the stock is too large—it is too awkward to work. Keeping the length at least 18" permits holding the work by hand rather than with tongs.

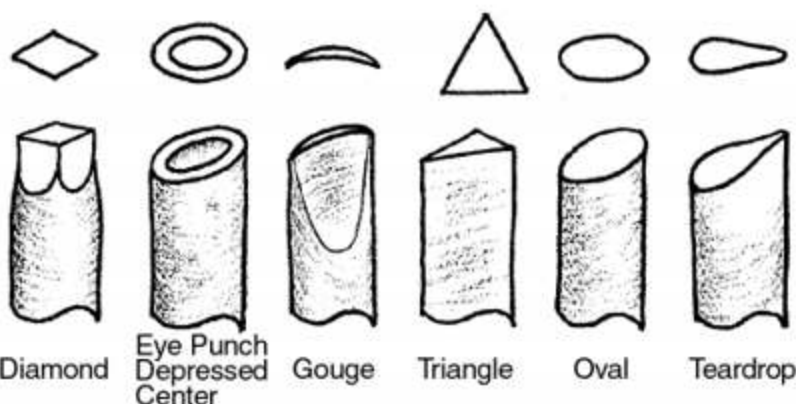
Detailing Punches & Chisels for You to Make

Make your detailing chisels and punches described with working ends in a number of sizes from very small to fairly large. It will be handy to have a number of different sized center punches, some with a fairly obtuse angle and some with a long slender point. Likewise for "bullnose" punches (punches with a hemisphere on the end instead of a point). Think of an eye punch as a bull nose punch with a hole punched in the end with a center punch. Alternative: use ball bearings of different sizes to punch the holes. Different sizes will be handy. Variation: after making the eye punch, gently hammer it into an oval shape for yet another style of eye.

For chisels, sharp slender chisels are useful for cutting the mouth without distorting the face. A series of curved chisels with varying degrees of curvature will be useful, especially for carving out ears, horns, and mustaches. Have a number of different sized punch and chisel blanks handy and as you work you will be able to quickly make addition punches and chisels as the need for them becomes apparent. Resist the temptation to modify an existing punch or chisel. Think of a variety of punches and chisels as part of your artistic palette. The wider the variety, the more effects the Yellin in you will be able to achieve.

Each shape has a specific advantage. The diamond and triangle can reach into tight corners on faces. The oval or round can be used to make the depression for the eye punch as well as nostrils. The teardrop is rounded like a fuller. This allows for creating depressions between the eyes and nostrils. Start the depression with the narrow side of the teardrop and progress

towards the larger side. The gouge is sharpened and used for slitting mouths, horns, teeth, etc. For your slitting chisel—a curved edge (from a side view) rather than straight across allows the chisel to walk up a line and produce a clean slit. Give your slitting chisel a long taper and keep it sharp. Of course, a straight chisel has its uses as well.



Chisel & punch materials: coil spring, H-13, jack hammer bits, & old yard sale chisels.



Example of Wizard Wedge Use — Don Witzler's Wizard¹

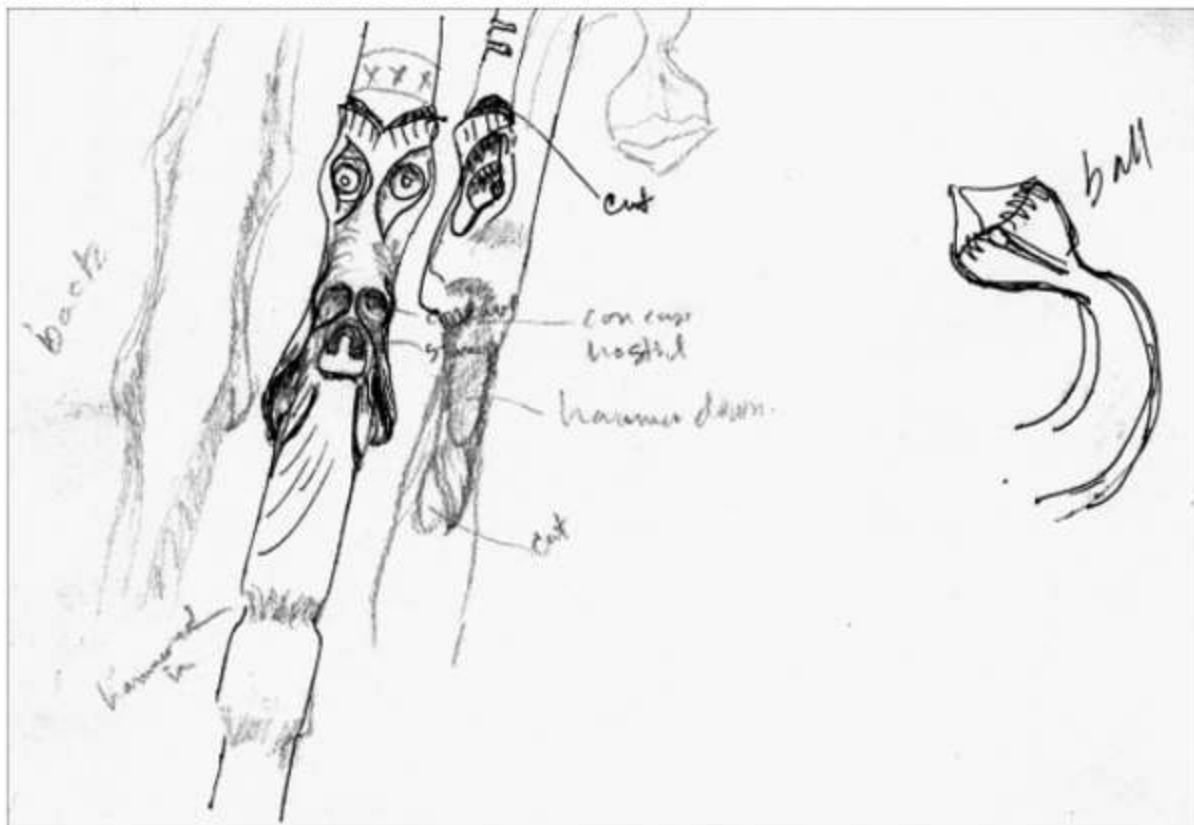


Forged by
Don Witzler
at BGCM's
Blacksmith Days
2003
Carroll County
Farm Museum,
Westminster,
Maryland.

Front & Side View of Wizard Head

Design: A wizard head forged on the end of a length of mild steel becomes a handle for a fireplace poker, a broom, a backscratcher, a fork, etc.

Material: at least 18 inches of 3/8" round mild steel.



¹ Based on Ted McNett's notes taken during Don Witzler's demonstration at the Blacksmith Guild of Central Maryland Blacksmith Days, May 2003.

Process:



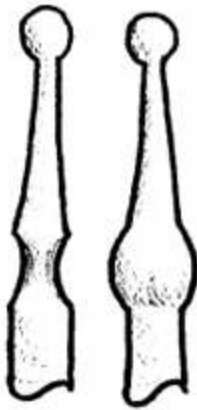
1. Wizard hat.

Make a ball on the end of the work piece & taper down.

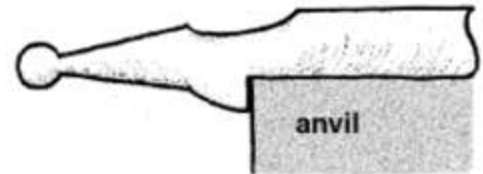
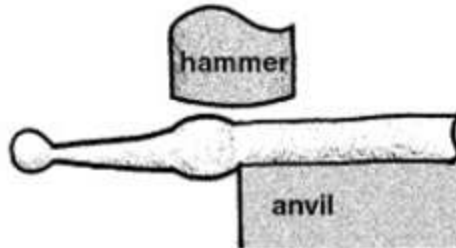
2. Nose.

Use pein to pinch "nose" on horn:

Front Side



Use a half face blow on back of anvil to protrude nose area



3. Eyes.

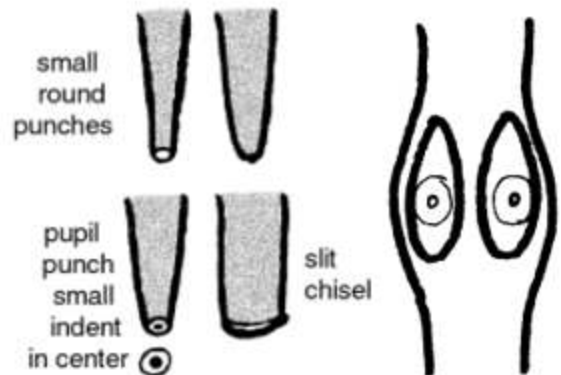
Place work on wizard wedge and clamp in vise.

Use larger rounded end punch to create eye sockets and nose bridge.

Use small round eye punch to "sink" eyes into eye sockets.

Use pin punch hitting lightly for pupils.

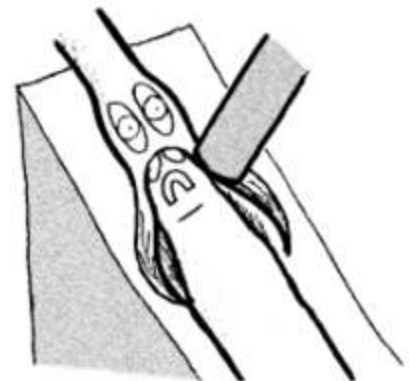
Use slitting chisel for eyebrows.



4. Nostrils.

Place work on wizard wedge and clamp in vise.

Use pin punch hitting heavily to form nostrils.



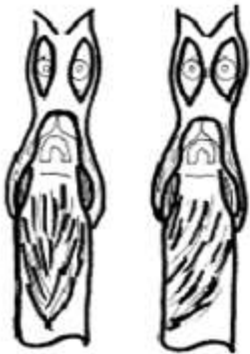
5. Mustache.

Place work on wizard wedge and clamp in vise.

Use slitting chisel to outline mustache.

Pull mustache out with the slitting chisel.

Round over the sharp edges for the face area.



6. Mouth.

Place work on wizard wedge and clamp in vise.
Use the round punch or curved punch for mouth – right under nose.
Flatten & round for lips and chin.

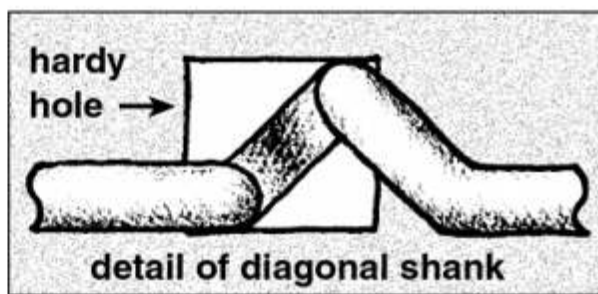
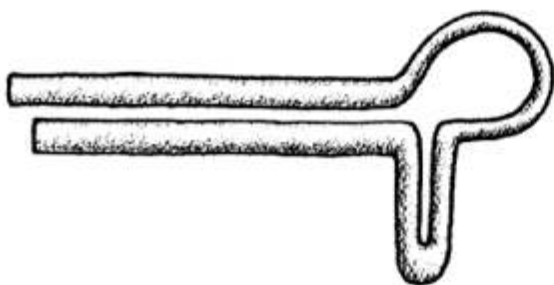
**** Round-in any sharp protrusions!!! ****

7. Beard.

Place work on wizard wedge and clamp in vise.
Use slitting chisel to make "beard" marks.
Beard can drop straight down or "blow" to one side.

8. [Optional] Make a spring fuller for your hardy hole.

Use enough round stock (at least 24") to allow for a 2" diameter circular spring, 6" of straight fullering length, and a diagonal "shank" that extends into the hardy hole. Make the floating fuller bar slightly longer than the lower bar in order to facilitate insertion of your work piece. Possible material: a discarded combination jack handle/tire tool.



9. Neck.

Use spring fuller to make 1/4" round below beard for neck. Use spring fuller to make a second 1/4" round about 1/4" - 3/8" below first. The two rounds break up the transition from wizard head handle to shaft.



10. Transition.

Reduce and square at least 3" below the ball created by the fullering.
Make a decorative twist in the first 3" of squared bar.

11. Finish end as desired.

Square up remainder of round bar and bevel corners slightly.
Cut to desired length.
Turn work piece into something functional and/or an *objet d'art*.
Hint: the wizard hat can be bent into an ersatz hook.
Don Witzler used his wizard head as the handle for a fire tool.



12. Add your touchmark and apply a protective finish to preserve your art.

This article is re-printed courtesy of the Blacksmith Guild of Central Maryland, Hammer & Tong, January/February 2005 - Editor

SCABA Shop and Swap

For Sale:

Tire Hammer Plans by Clay Spencer

Send a check or money order for \$30 US to Clay Spencer, 73 Penniston Pvt. Drive, Somerville, AL 35670-7013. Or send \$32 US to Paypal.Me/ClaySpencer. E-mail me at clay@otelco.net. PDFs will be e-mailed outside US. Phone 256-558-3658

Beverly shear blades sharpened

Remove your blades and send in USPS small flat rate box with check for \$41 US to 73 Penniston Pvt. Drive, Somerville, AL 35670-7103.

For Sale:

50 Lb Little Giant Power Hammer

Also comes with a flat belt pedistal grinder. (May take less). Earnest Smith 405-919-1062.

For Sale: I have numerous old tools and collectible items of various kinds including blacksmith related tools and equipment. Too many tools to list them all.

Contact:

Craig Guy (SCABA Member)
Piedmont, OK
Cell Phone: 405-630-7769 (Call or Text)



Peter Wright Anvil 80 Lbs: \$400



4" Post Vice (Very Good): \$125

Continued...

For Sale (Continued from Previous Page):



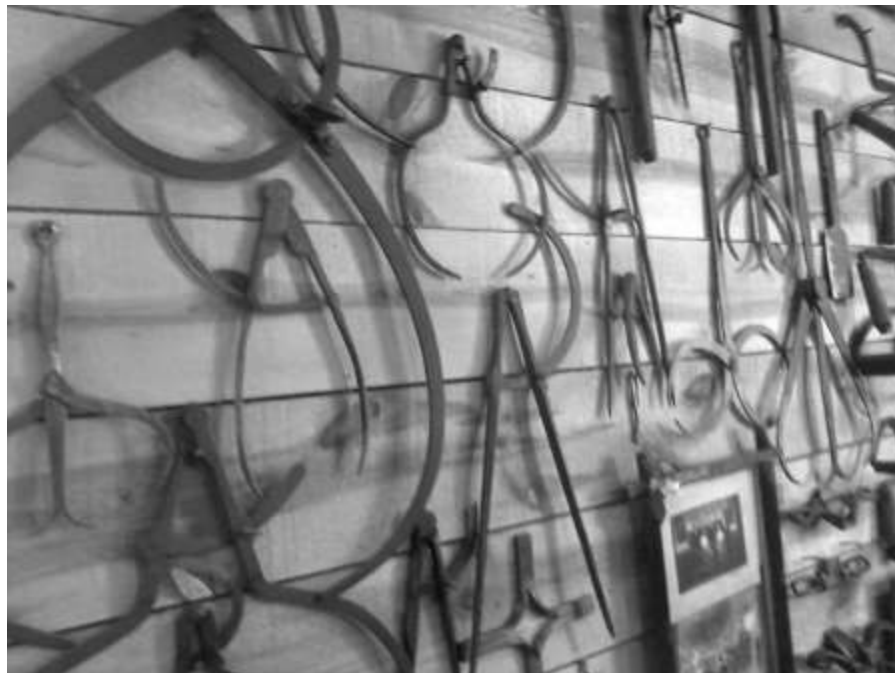
Stanley Planes, many sizes all in working condition. Starting at \$25



Pre-Civil War Wood Working Tools. Starting at \$20

Contact:

Craig Guy (SCABA Member)
Piedmont, OK
Cell Phone: 405-630-7769
Call or Text



Antique Blacksmith Made Tools. Starting at \$25

SCABA Shop and Swap (Continued...)

SCABA Embroidery Available

Saltfork member Larry Roderick has setup a source for SCABA logo embroidery on shirts or embroidery compatible items. Larry presented an embroidered tan Wrangler western shirt at the recent Board of Directors meeting and the quality of the embroidery is excellent. The design is based on the new SCABA T-shirt design on the back with the classic SCABA logo above the front left pocket. Your name can also be put on the right side opposite from the logo if you would like.



If you would like an embroidered shirt or other item, find an item that fits you properly and mail it to Larry.

Compatible items must be flat. Pleats cannot be embroidered. The cost for the embroidery applied to your item is \$80 each including return shipping and handling. Heavy coats might add a few dollars more for shipping.

Mail to: Larry Roderick
500 S. FM 369
Burkburnett, TX 76354



If you have questions, contact Larry at 940-237-2814 or roderickwaterwells@gmail.com

(Photos by LaQuitta Greteman)

For Sale:

I have for sale several metal working tools and machining tooling.

Antique bellows \$425

Sheet metal roller \$175

Sheet metal shear \$175

Little Giant tap and die set \$50

56 assorted chisels and punches. Price may vary depending on piece.

Assorted machining tooling. Price may vary depending on piece.

For pictures or questions contact Brendan Crotty by phone call, text, or email.

Phone number: 918-910-0384

E-mail: brendancrotty246@gmail.com

If calling please leave a message and I will call back.



SCABA Shop and Swap (Continued...)

SCABA Library DVD's Available:

This is a partial list of the DVD titles available to members from the SCABA Library. Contact the Librarian (Doug Redden) if you would like to obtain a copy of any listed title or if you have questions on any other titles that may be available. Additional titles are listed on the website. DVD's are available for a very minimal cost to offset the blank disc and cases or sleeves. Shipping cost applies if you need these delivered by mail.

- Robb Gunter Basic Blacksmithing parts 1,2,3 and the controlled hand forging series
- Clay Spencer SCABA conf.2013 pts. 1,2 and 3
- Jerry Darnell 18th century lighting, door latches and hinges
- Brent Baily SCABA conf. 2011
- Mark Aspery SCABA conf. 2011
- Robb Gunter SCABA conf. 1998
- Robb, Brad and Chad Gunter 2009 joinery, forging, repousse, scrollwork, etc.
- Bill Bastas SCABA 2002 pts. 1 - 6
- Jim Keith SCABA conf.2007
- Power hammer forging with Clifton Ralph pts. 1 - 5
- Doug Merkel SCABA 2001
- Bob Alexander SCABA 2008
- A. Finn SCABA 2008
- Bob Patrick SCABA 2004
- Gordon Williams SCABA 2010
- Daryl Nelson SCABA 2010
- Jim and Kathleen Poor SCABA 2001
- Ed and Brian Brazeal SCABA 2006
- Ray Kirk Knives SCABA 2002
- Frank Turley SCABA 1997
- Frank Turley SCABA 2003
- Bill Epps SCABA 2003
- M. Hamburger SCABA 2007

For Sale:

6" round nosed pliers (great for putting scrolls on small items) \$5.00 each.

Contact Diana Davis at
Diana.copperrose@gmail.com

SCABA Swage Blocks

\$150.00 plus shipping.
(Same price to members and non-members.)
Contact Bill Kendall for more information.



SCABA Floor Cones

\$200.00 plus shipping.

(Same price to members and non-members.)

Contact Bill Kendall,
Byron Doner or Gerald
Franklin for more
information.



SCABA Shop and Swap (Continued...)

Club Coal:

Saltfork Craftsmen has coal for sale. Coal is in 1-2" size pieces. The coal is \$140.00/ton or .07 /pound to members.

No sales to non-members.

NW Region coal pile located in Douglas, OK.

If you make arrangements well in advance, Tom Nelson can load your truck or trailer with his skid steer loader for a fee of \$10 to be paid directly to Tom. Tom has moved his skid steer and must now haul the loader to the coal pile to load you out, hence the \$10 charge. You may opt to load your own coal without using Tom's loader. The coal can be weighed out at the Douglas Coop Elevator scales. Contact Tom Nelson (580-862-7691) to make arrangements to pick up a load. Do not call Tom after 9 PM!! Bring your own containers and shovels. Payment for the coal (\$.07 per pound) should be made directly to the Saltfork Treasurer.

NW Region Coal Pile in Thomas:

Don Garner now has a new pile of club coal available for sales to SCABA members. The shop is at 23713 E 860 Rd in Thomas, OK. (One mile west, then one mile north of Thomas.) Contact Don at 580-302-1845 (Cell Phone) to arrange details for purchases.

NE Region coal location: Charlie McGee has coal to sell. He lives in the Skiatook, Oklahoma area. His contact information is: (Home) 918-245-7279 or (Cell) 918-639-8779

Please text his cell phone number if you would like to make arrangements to get coal.

S/C region coal location: Club coal is now available at Norman at Byron Donor's place. Call Byron to make arrangements to come by and get coal.

For Sale:

24"(wide) x 1"(thick) Ceramic fiber blanket (similar to Kao-wool) \$1.00 per inch of length. Twisted solid cable 1/2" diameter \$2.00 per ft. Contact Larry Roderick at 940-237-2814

Show Your Pride in SCABA!

License plates - \$5.00 each.

Ball Caps - \$10.00 each.

We also have coffee cups.



We still have some of the old SCABA t-shirts available while the supplies last. They are a gray pocket "T" with the SCABA logo on the pocket. Contact Diana Davis for information.



Wanted:

Advertising Coal Hammers, Contact Mike George at 1-580-327-5235 or

Have an Item for Sale? Item Wanted?

If you have any items that are appropriate for Blacksmiths that you would like to list in the Swap and Swap section (or items you are looking for), please send me your description, contact info, and any photos that you have

The SCABA Shirts

are now available with a bold new look...

The latest SCABA T-shirts are now available with a new custom design by a professional artist. We also have new long sleeve denim shirts now available with the same new design. Each shirt has the main design on the back with the SCABA logo on the front pocket. T-shirts are available in black and gray. Denim shirts are \$25 and T-shirts are \$15 (plus shipping if applicable.) If you would like to purchase shirts, contact Doug Redden (918) 230-2960:



SCABA Membership Application

January 1, 20 16 to March 31, 20 17

New Member _____

Membership Renewal _____

Please accept my application

Date: _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Married? ☐ Yes ☐ No Spouses Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____ ABANA Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I have enclosed \$20.00 for dues for the period ending March 31, 20 17

Signed: _____

Return to: Saltfork Craftsmen, P.O. Box 18389, Oklahoma City, Ok. 73154



Saltfork Craftsman Regional Meeting Hosting Form

Region _____ SE _____ NE _____ SC _____ NW

Date: Month _____ day _____ [correct Saturday for region selected above]

Name _____

Address _____

Phone/email _____

Trade item _____

Lunch provided ☐ yes ☐ no

Please provide directions or a map to the meeting location along with this form.

****All meeting are scheduled on a first come basis. Completely filled out form MUST be received by Regional Meeting Coordinator no later than the 15th of the month TWO months PRIOR to the meeting month.**

Completed forms can be mailed or emailed.

You will receive a conformation by e-mail or postcard.

A form must be filled out for each meeting.

If you don't receive something from the Regional Meeting Coordinator within 10 days of your sending in your request, call to verify that it was received.

An online form is also available on the website in the top banner of the Calendar Tab:

www.saltforkcraftsmen.org/Calendar.shtm

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Oklahoma City, Ok. 73154

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