

# Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

June 2019



***Dinner Bell Triangle  
by Rory Kirk  
(Trade Item for the  
NW Region April  
Meeting)***

**Inside: ABANA 2020 Conference Competitions #3 Split Chain Link, Open Category  
- Third (and Last) in a Series of Three Articles by Mark Aspery (Page 34)**

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**Editor's Notes:**

Thanks once again to Mark Aspery for his final article in the three part series on chain making competitions for the upcoming 2020 ABANA Conference! See the April and May issues for the two previous articles in the series.

Don't forget about Mark's "Skills of a Blacksmith" series of books if you liked the style of these three articles. There are three volumes with the same high quality and detail on an extensive list of skills and projects. You can get them from Mark's website directly or from most book sellers (like Blue Moon Press.) I think they are a great asset if you want to build your skill set on a solid foundation. (And no, Mark did not ask me to say that.)

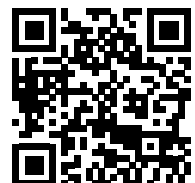
If you live in Oklahoma, you know we are neck deep in rain water right now. But most adversity usually comes with a silver lining somewhere. I am not sure it helps but I will point out that Today's Fire Danger is "Low."

*- 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](http://www.saltforkcraftsmen.org)



## President's Notes:

Well we are one more month closer to our annual conference. It will be here before you know it. I hope you are working on your gallery item (or items.) I went down to my shop the other day to smith and I had to go get my fishing waders. Ha Ha. I hope no one got flooded to bad.

We have some enthusiastic new members that have a lot of interest in blacksmithing. I tell them that we have a lot of really good smiths in our club that are glad to help them if they just ask. You never know with a new member, or even one that has been around a long time, what their interest is if you don't communicate.



I have been looking at other blacksmith clubs' newsletters and I feel like ours is among the better ones that I have seen. But if we had more people sending pictures of their projects it would be even better. Russell has been doing a wonderful job and putting in a lot of work on ours. I think it would help him if we were to send in our photos from our club members (and I'm not one to talk. I don't do a very good job myself.)

It is about to get too hot so when you are working, stay safe and drink a lot of water. I look forward to seeing everyone .

Keep your anvil shiny.

- Mandell Greteman

## 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.

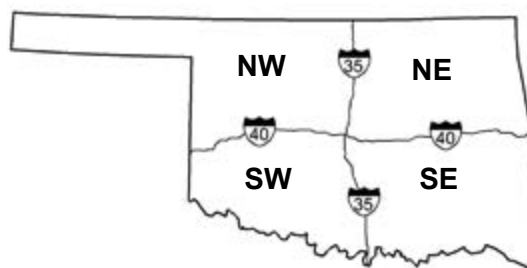
Want to host a meeting? The meeting hosting form can be found on the last page along with membership application form. If you want to host a meeting in any area please fill out one of the host forms on the website under the calendar section or in the newsletter and e-mail the information or mail the 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](mailto:rbartling@ionet.net)

## 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.

SCABA Regions



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.

## Safety

Blacksmithing can be an inherently dangerous exercise. There is no substitute for personal responsibility and common sense and no list of safety rules can adequately cover every situation. Every person who attends a meeting, demonstration or event sponsored by the Saltfork Craftsmen Artist Blacksmith Association (SCABA) or its members does so at their own risk and assumes all responsibility for their own safety needs. The SCABA organization, its officers, members, demonstrators, volunteers and guests disclaim any responsibility for any damages, injuries, or destruction of property resulting from the use of any information or methods published or distributed by SCABA or demonstrated at workshops, meetings, conferences or other events. SCABA recommends proper attire and safety gear and standard shop safety procedures appropriate for blacksmithing and shop work during any event where blacksmithing and other related methods are involved. Safety attire includes, but is not limited to, appropriate clothing, eyewear, hearing protection, gloves, and face shields when appropriate. It is every individual's responsibility to provide for their own safety, to determine what safety gear is appropriate for each situation and to provide, maintain and use that gear as appropriate for each individual situation.

## 2019 Workshop Schedule

### June 29th: Knife Basics Class

This class will be held at Byron Doner's shop at 6520 Alameda, Norman OK, 73026. Please bring a chair and a notebook.

Saltfork Member and American Bladesmith Society (ABS) Journeyman Anthony Griggs will be teaching the class. (Refer to the August 2018 Newsletter for a brief write up on Anthony and his ABS Journeyman experience.)

This will be an intensive educational event rather than a hands on workshop. Topics covered will include steel selection, forging, normalizing, thermal cycling, heat treating and other knife related subjects. If you know Anthony and his work, you will NOT want to miss this event!

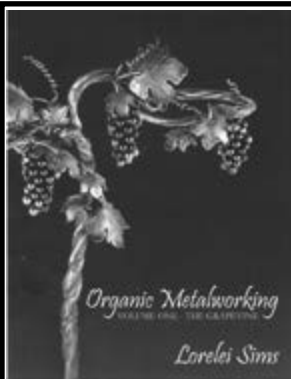
Cost is only \$20.00 per person and must be paid to Byron or Carol Doner by June 15, 2019. Seating is limited to 25 students. This class will fill up fast. If you want to attend, you will want to register early!

***UPDATE: This class is FULL.***

***You may sign up for the waiting list in case someone cancels.***

**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.

**Mandell Greteman is the SCABA Workshop Coordinator.  
Contact Mandell at 580-515-1292.**



### Organic Metalworking Vol. 1

by Lorelei Sims

**Limited Copies Available**

Lorelei Sims has a great new book illustrating her methods for organic metalworking. (See details in the October 2016 newsletter, Page 35.) Volume 1 is first in a series of planned books on different aspects of organic forging. This is a very good how-to book heavily illustrated and has something for beginning and advanced smiths alike.

Lorelei's methods are easy to understand and execute but the finished work is beautiful (at least hers is beautiful!) You will probably want a copy of this book in your library. I highly recommend it.

Due to continued demand, we have a second shipment of this book and many have already sold. The price of the book through SCABA is the same as the price directly from Lorelei and proceeds from sales benefit SCABA. **Contact Josh Perkins (918) 269-3523** if you would like to purchase a copy. - Editor

# 2019 REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE

NE Region (1st Sat)	SE Region (2nd Sat)	SW Region (3rd Sat)	NW Region (4th Sat)
Jan 5th (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Interested)	Jan 12th (Byron Doner)	Jan 19th (Open)	Jan 26th (Rory kirk)
Feb 2nd (James Schaefer)	Feb 9th (Open)	Feb 16th (Open)	Feb 23rd (Monte Smith)
Mar 2nd (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Interested)	Mar 9th (Open)	Mar 16th (Bruce Willenberg)	Mar 23rd (Mandell Greteman)
Apr 6th (Diana Simon- Cherokee Strip Hist. So- ciety)	Apr 13th SCABA Picnic	Apr 20th (Open)	Apr 27th (Rory Kirk)
May 4th (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Inter- ested)	May 11th (Open)	May 18th (Open)	May 25th (NW-Terry Kauk)
			May 25th (SW-JJ McGill, Boy Scouts)
<b>Jun 1st (Josh Perkins)</b> (Unless Other Host Interested)	Jun 8th (Open)	<b>Jun 15th (Ricky Vardell)</b>	<b>Jun 22nd</b> <b>(Mandell Greteman)</b>
<b>Jul 6th (Josh Perkins)</b> (Unless Other Host Interested)	Jul 13th (Open)	Jul 20th (Open)	Jul 27th (Open)
<b>Aug 3rd (Josh Perkins)</b> (Unless Other Host Interested)	Aug 10th (Open)	Aug 17th (Open)	Aug 24th (Open)
<b>Sep 7th (Josh Perkins)</b> (Unless Other Host Interested)	Sep 14th (Open)	<b>Sep 21st (Ricky Vardell</b> <b>- JJ McGill - Sulphur</b> <b>Tractor Show)</b>	<b>Sep 28th (Ron Lehen-</b> <b>Bauer as Host - Don Gar-</b> <b>ner as Contact Person)</b>
<b>Oct 5th (Josh Perkins)</b> (Unless Other Host Interested)	<b>Oct 12th (Conference</b> <b>Setup Work Day)</b>	<b>Oct 19th</b> <b>(Conference Weekend!)</b>	<b>Oct 26th</b> <b>(Bob Kennemer)</b>
<b>Nov 2nd (Josh Perkins)</b> (Unless Other Host Interested)	<b>Nov 9th (Bill Phillips)</b>	<b>Nov 16th</b> <b>(Anthony Griggs)</b>	Nov 23rd (Open)
<b>Dec 7th (Josh Perkins)</b> (Unless Other Host Interested)	Dec 14th (Open)	Dec 21st (Open)	Dec 28th (Open)

## 2019 Fifth Saturdays:

March 30th (Beginner Blacksmith Classes Planned for NE and NW Regions. Touchmark Class at Byron Doner's Shop. See Workshop Schedule.)

**June 29th (Knife Basics Class with ABS Journeyman Anthony Griggs! - See Page 5 for Details)**

August 31st (Open)

November 30th (Open)

**June 2019**

**NE Regional Meeting June 1st:** Will be hosted by Josh Perkins at 9620 N 427, Chelsea, OK 74016.

No trade item and bring your own lunch. In an effort to increase meetings, Josh is offering up a meeting place in the NE region just to get together and open forge unless someone wants to host a meeting on this date.

Josh doesn't have a lot of extra tongs or hammers so you might want to bring your own.

Contact Josh Perkins at 918-269-3523 or [hithforge@gmail.com](mailto:hithforge@gmail.com)

Josh doesn't have a lot of extra tongs or hammers so you might want to bring your own.  
Contact Josh Perkins at 918-269-3523 or [hithforge@gmail.com](mailto:hithforge@gmail.com)

SE Regional Meeting June 8th: Open.

**SW Regional Meeting June 15th:** Will be hosted by Ricky Vardell at his shop in Temple, OK. The shop is located in the block southwest of the intersection of Hwy 65 and Hwy 5 (N Commercial Ave) in Temple. (See Map.)

The trade item is a trivet made by traditional methods (no electric welding please.) Lunch will be provided but bring a side dish or desert to help out. Contact: Ricky Vardell 580-512-8006.

[Rickyv.vardell@gmail.com](mailto:Rickyv.vardell@gmail.com)

The trade item is a trivet made by traditional methods (no electric welding please.) Lunch will be provided but bring a side dish or desert to help out. Contact: Ricky Vardell 580-512-8006.  
[Rickyv.vardell@gmail.com](mailto:Rickyv.vardell@gmail.com)

Rickyv.vardell@gmail.com

**NW Regional Meeting June 22nd:** Will be hosted by Mandell Greteman at his shop in Foss, OK.

The trade item is a set of three drifts, at least one square. Lunch will be provided but please bring a side dish or dessert to help out. Contact Mandell at 580-515-1292 if you have questions.

The trade item is a set of three drifts, at least one square. Lunch will be provided but please bring a side dish or dessert to help out. Contact Mandell at 580-515-1292 if you have questions.



# July 2019

**NE Regional Meeting July 6th :** Will be hosted by Josh Perkins at 9620 N 427, Chelsea, OK 74016.

No trade item and bring your own lunch. In an effort to increase meetings, Josh is offering up a meeting place in the NE region just to get together and open forge unless someone wants to host a meeting on this date.

Josh doesn't have a lot of extra tongs or hammers so you might want to bring your own.  
Contact Josh Perkins at 918-269-3523 or [hithforge@gmail.com](mailto:hithforge@gmail.com)

SE Regional Meeting July 13th : Open.

SW Regional Meeting July 20th : Open

NW Regional Meeting July 27th : Open

In an effort to increase meetings in the NE region, Josh Perkins is offering up a regular meeting place at his shop just to get together and open forge unless someone wants to host a normal meeting on that date. Where noted, the meetings are just informal get togethers and those dates are still open to anyone who wants to schedule a meeting in the NE.

Please note that there is no trade item for these meetings and lunch is not provided (bring your own lunch.) And since Josh doesn't have a lot of extra tongs or hammers, it would be best to bring your own.

## 2019 Cleveland County OHCE Quilt Show

Thank you to all of my quilter friends (and their quilter friends) that let me hang their quilts and quilted items in our quilt show. You helped make our a quilt show a success! The money we raised assists in three of the four \$1500 Cleveland County high school scholarships that are presented each year. Sincerely, Carol Doner

## Check Your Membership Status!:

Membership to Saltfork Craftsmen is now automated and instant if you sign up or renew through the website. (You can still mail in a form if you prefer.) Refer back to the September 2018 newsletter for more detail on the current website enhancements and more explanation.

But since March has been the fixed renewal date in past years, many memberships will have expired. ***Please verify your current status if you have not recently renewed or signed up.*** You may need to renew your expiring membership to continue having access to the most current newsletter.

Archived newsletters will still be available to non-members but the most current newsletters will not be available until the following month without a membership.



## **Family Classes at the SCABA Annual Conference October 19th and 20th, 2019**

**I am looking for teachers for the family Classes and time is running out!**

**Please contact me if you are interested in teaching a class. In the past, we have had a conference or two without any family classes, and there was some disappointment. If you have an idea for a class, but need me to find a teacher for it, let me know that as well.**

**Thanks! Carol Doner (*contact info on page 2*)**

## **We Have a Proof Reader!**

Carol Doner has graciously volunteered to act as the much needed Proof Reader for the Saltfork newsletter. And I can already tell you she is good at it! Especially since there is very little time when the newsletter approaches completion to the time it needs to go to the printer. **THANK YOU CAROL!!!**  
- *Editor*

## **Saltfork Craftsmen 2019 Annual Conference Its *YOUR* Conference!**

The demonstrators for the 2019 Annual Conference are Peter Ross and Ken Zitur. They will also be conducting 3 day workshops after the conference for a limited number of students.

If you have any specific interests that you would like to see at this year's conference, then ***let J.J. McGill (or any of the directors) know*** what those topics are as soon as possible. Contact info is on the inside cover of the newsletter for every director.

Help make this year's conference one of the best ever! - Editor

**Eastern Oklahoma Woodcarvers Association Presents**  
**WOODCARVING**  
**& FOLK ARTS FESTIVAL**

**SHOW and SALE • June 21-22, 2019, 10AM-5PM**

**A Celebration of the Handmade Folk Arts**

**Central Park Community Center, 1500 South Main Street,  
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.**

**Invited arts include:  
Woodcarving, Wood  
Turning, Stained  
Glass, Ceramics,  
Mosaics, Weaving,  
Quilting, Jewelry,  
Basketmaking,  
Blacksmithing,  
Gourds, Beading,  
Leather Working,  
Tole Painting,  
Letterpress  
Printing and  
more!**



**For more  
information  
go to website: [www.eowa.us/newsevents](http://www.eowa.us/newsevents)  
or contact: Bill Payne at 918-251-8734, [wudcrrv@cox.net](mailto:wudcrrv@cox.net)  
or Bob Block at 918-693-2418, [rblock@aap.net](mailto:rblock@aap.net)**

*Bill Payne has invited Blacksmiths from Saltfork to attend this event as he thought it would be a good fit with the theme. Caveats are that there is no place to set up a working forge to demo. Attendance would be to show/sell finished pieces only. And items must be made by the exhibitor. Contact Bill for more details. - Editor.*

# Around the State...

## NW Region April Meeting:

The north west meeting was held by Rory Kirk at the Route 66 museum in Elk City.

We had a good turnout of about 30 people. Our trade item was a dinner bell with a ringer. We had 15 dinner bells made. It was a lot of fun ringing them and looking at the different ideas we had.

We had a lot of doughnuts show up for breakfast then we had lunch and a lot more desserts. It was a sweet day at the blacksmith shop, you might say, and thanks to everybody who helped make it a successful meeting.

- Rory Kirk

*(Photos by the LaQuitta Greteman)*



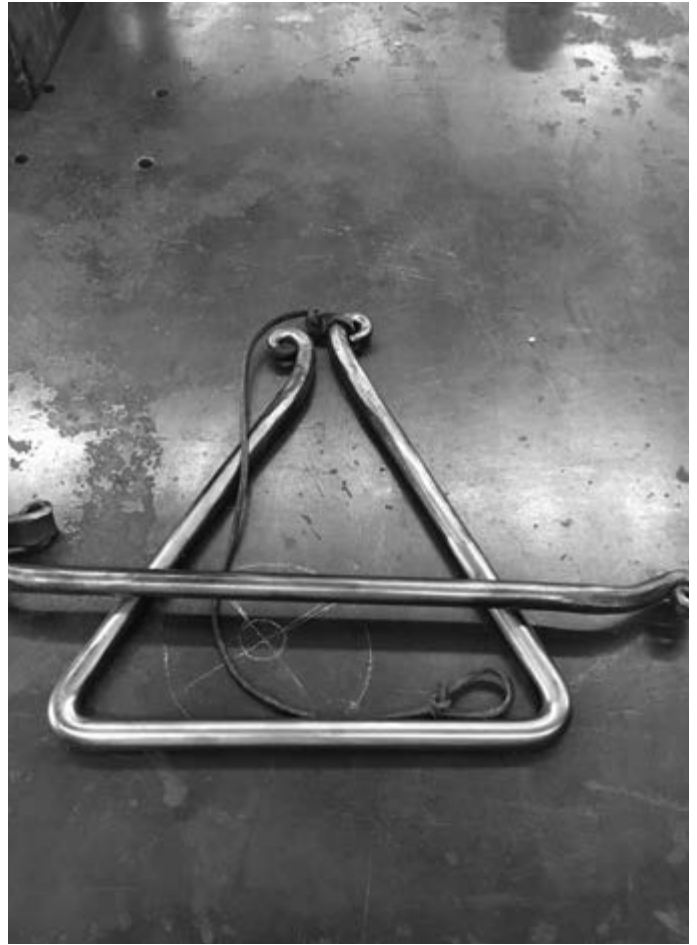
















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**NE Region May Meeting:** No meeting was held in May.

**SE Region May Meeting:** No meeting was held in May.

**SW Region May Meeting:** No meeting was held in May.

## Al Stephens Scrolling Tongs Demonstration

By Steve Alford, Athens, Alabama

Al Stephens demonstrated making scrolling tongs at the January 2018 meeting of Athens Forge. Calvin Garland tended the fire so Al could talk without burning up the demo piece.



**Al Stephens Forging Tong Jaw**



**Calvin Garland Tending the Fire**

Al put a lot of emphasis on working without the shop full of equipment that most of us take years or decades to acquire. In particular he brought a simple cast block anvil by Phil Travis of Virginia, and did all the forging on this small anvil. He also demonstrated punching the rivet hole instead of using a drill press, and even made the rivet from  $\frac{1}{4}$  round stock instead of using a factory-made rivet.

The stock for each side of the scroll tongs was a piece of  $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch round bar 5- $\frac{1}{2}$  inches long. Al emphasized that when making tongs, one makes two identical sides and then they fit together correctly. There's tendency to think of making a "right side" and a "left side", but then the pieces don't fit together right. If one new tong-maker can be saved by this advice... it doesn't matter whether you make a side righty or lefty, just make two pieces the same and they'll fit together to make a working set of tongs!



**Block Anvil by Phil Travis of Virginia**

There are three steps to forging each side of a set of tongs:

1. Forge the jaw. For the scrolling tongs Al forged the tip to about 3/16 diameter with a straight taper about 2-1/4 inches long.
2. Forge the boss area, the area where the rivet goes. Half-on-half-off blows with the jaw resting on the anvil isolate the jaw from the boss area, and then more half-on-half-off blows isolate the boss area from what will become the reins. Al had about 1 inch of stock for the boss hanging off the far side of the anvil for this step. The boss area was spread to about an inch wide.
3. Draw out the reins. The reins on the scrolling tongs came out about 7 inches long and fairly thick, maybe 1/2 inch at the boss end tapering to 3/8. One could start with more stock and get a longer handle if the tongs are to be used on larger projects, or the reins might be forged thinner and longer for a light pair of tongs with jaws for holding stock while forging.

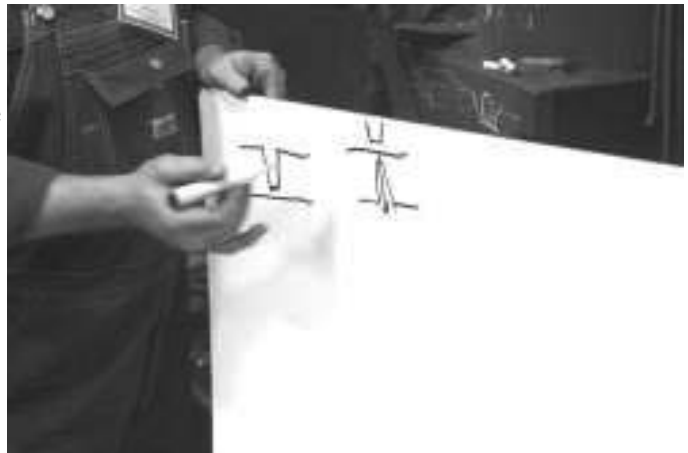
That's three steps, but each step will probably take several heats. Al pointed out that he likes to use the end of each heat to straighten things up. This way of working is easier than letting everything get out line and trying to straighten up when done.

The key to making multiple pieces the same – like the two sides of a set of tongs – is to start with the same size stock and then do the same operations on each piece. Al forged the jaws on each side, and then the bosses on each side, and then drew the reins. This is easier to make things match than forging one side all the way and then trying to make the second side match.



**Steps to Forging Scrolling Tongs**

Al punched rivet holes in each side. There was no measuring to locate the hole, just estimating the center of the boss and punching the hole. He drove the punch nearly through from one side, then knocked out the waste from the other. When punching like this most of the mass of steel flows into the surrounding boss. If the hole had been drilled all of the steel in the hole would have become shavings on the floor.



**Punching Holes for Rivet**

Finally Al made the rivet by cutting a length of  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch round stock about a half inch longer than the combined thickness of the two bosses. Fitting the sides together, he placed the rivet in the hole and hammered the ends of the rivet enough that it couldn't slide out. Then the tongs were heated and the rivet heads were upset to fasten the sides together. The tongs had to be worked open and closed a few times to loosen them up after riveting, and then there was final fitting to make the points of the jaws come together and the handles line up.

There is always more to be seen at a forge meeting. There's always inspiration in the tools and pieces around the host shop. At this meeting Todd Butler brought the American long rifle he's been building – not yet finished, but an impressive project with examples of forging, brazing, woodworking, and lots of careful fitting.



**Todd Butler's American Long Rifle**

## Al Stephens Classic 3-Step Tongs

Al Stephens demonstrated two ways of making tongs at the January 2019 meeting of Athens Forge. The first was what I think of as the classic or 3-step method.

First, because we may have – hope we have – readers who are new to all this, I need to explain the names for the parts of a pair of tongs. Then we can talk about the jaws, boss, and reins, and everyone will understand. The jaws are the part that hold whatever the tongs are holding. Usually the jaws have a shape or at least grooves so that they fit a particular size of stock and hold it securely. Working back toward the blacksmith, the boss is the part that the rivet goes through, where the jaws open and close. And the reins are the handles.

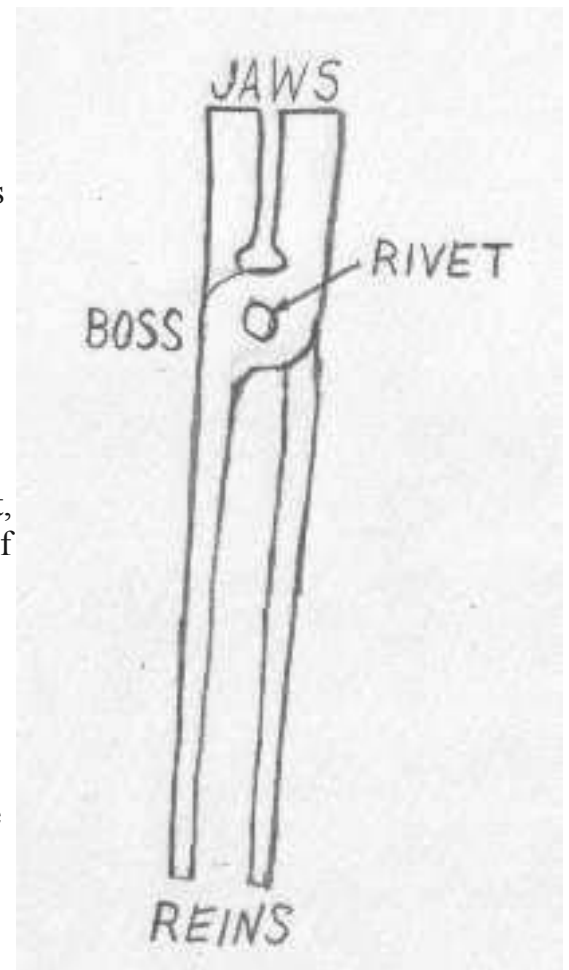
Al said the material for one pair of tongs was two pieces of 5/8-inch round bar, each 7 inches long. And that square bar would work, too, but he typically uses round because he has that on hand. For the demonstration he brought pieces with the reins already started, because “watching someone draw out reins by hand just isn’t that exciting.” Having the reins started also made the stock long enough to hold without using another pair of tongs.

While Dustin Patterson was heating the stock, Al talked about making tongs. He explained that these are lightweight, and he likes light tongs because you really feel the weight of heavy ones when you’re using them for hours. And he uses regular mild steel for his tongs because it works, and he has it on hand.

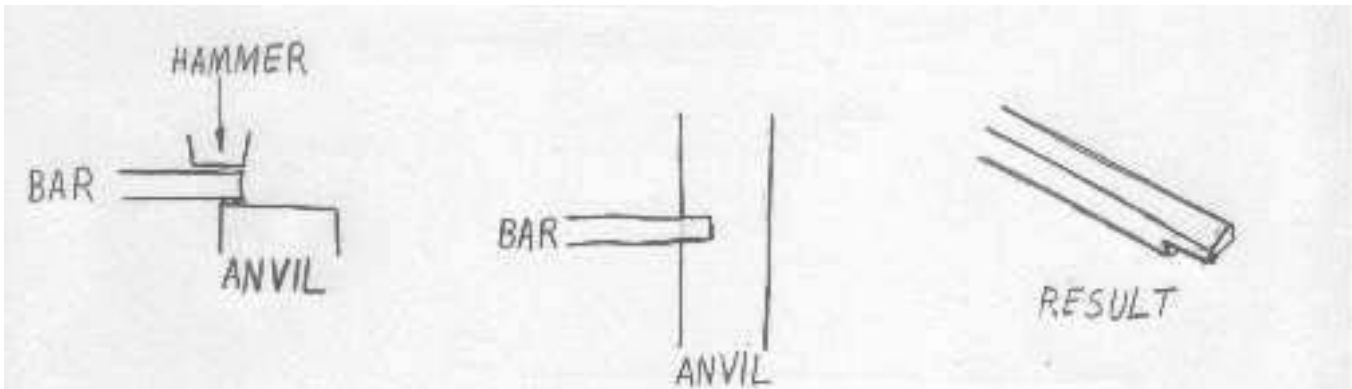
Making tongs may not seem necessary. There are lots of sources today where a smith can just buy tongs. But bought tongs typically cost upwards of \$30 a pair. And most people need several sizes. The materials for Al’s tongs typically cost about one dollar. Furthermore, making tongs is good practice. And one can always make a pair for one particular job.

Sometimes new tong makers think of making a left side and a right side. And then the two sides don’t fit together! So word of warning: make two identical sides. Two “left” sides, or two “right” sides, it doesn’t matter, but make both sides the same. Then when you flip one side over and fit the bosses together, the reins and jaws will come out in the right place.

Getting good step-by-step pictures isn’t usually a problem when I’m working on something by myself in my own shop, but sometimes getting just the right shot at a meeting would mean disrupting the whole demo. So this time I thought to try making sketches of the steps!



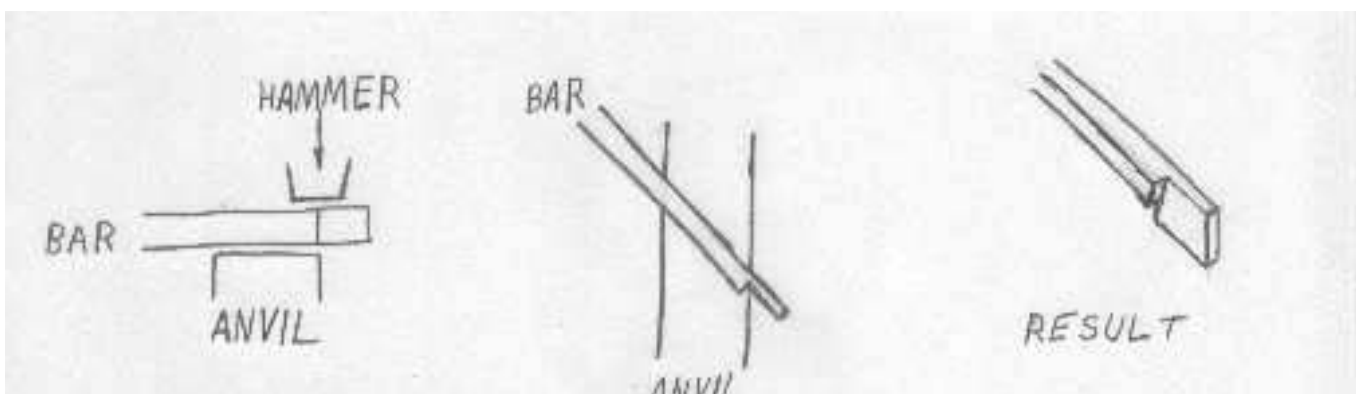
Step 1 of the 3 steps is to make the jaw. Put about an inch of material on the near side of the anvil, and use half-on-half-off blows to create a step in the material. A half-on-half-off blow means hitting with about half the hammer head over the face of the anvil. Be sure to hold the material firmly. If it does jump around, stop and move it back into place with the step against the edge of the anvil. Forge the jaw down to about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick and about the width of the original bar. This will call for hammering alternately on the flat and on the edges of the jaw, and may take multiple heats.



Step 2 of the 3 steps starts to form the boss at the back of the jaw. Starting from the step 1 position with the step down and the flat of the jaw on the face of the anvil, rotate the bar 90 degrees away from you, turn the bar 45 degrees away from you across the face of the anvil, and extend the jaw out over the far edge of the anvil so that the step is right on the edge. Again use half-on-half-off blows to make a step at the back of the jaw and flatten out the area that will be the boss. The boss should be about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick. Thicker is better and stronger, but you need enough metal to put the rivet through!



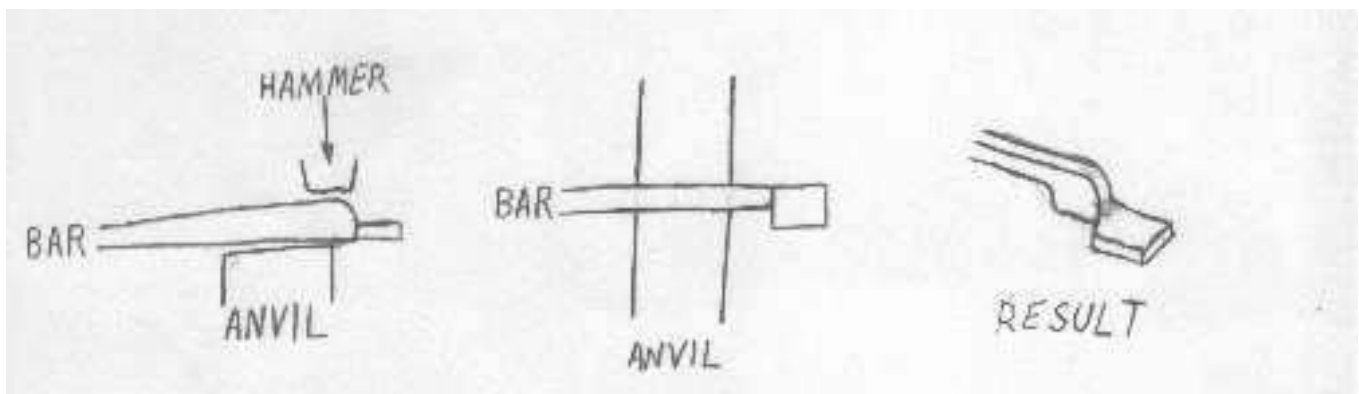
Step 2 photo; sketch below



Step 3 defines the rein at the back of the boss. Starting from the step 2 position with the boss flat on the anvil, again rotate the bar 90 degrees away from you so that the boss is vertical and the jaw is facing up. The bar should be at 90 degrees to the edge of the anvil. Slide the bar out so that the step between the boss and the jaw is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch over the far edge of the anvil. Once again use half-on-half-off blows to drive the boss down over the edge of the anvil and start drawing the rein out from the boss.



Step 3 photo; sketch below



Those three steps leave a bar with the business end of the tongs neatly defined. The next step in the process would be drawing out the reins. Al had the reins well started on his demo pieces, so this step was just blending the material right behind the boss into the existing reins. If you started from  $\frac{5}{8}$  round bar and did not forge the reins first, this would be the time to draw out the reins. Good dimensions for the reins might be  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch at the boss, with a slight taper to just over  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch at the ends.

The last step in forging one half of a pair of tongs is to punch or drill a hole for the rivet. Before and after making the hole you'll want to look at the piece from every angle, making sure everything is straight and true. Al pointed out that it's easiest to just keep the piece straight throughout, using the end of every heat to straighten things up.



Punching rivet hole



Al demonstrated using a short length of  $\frac{1}{4}$  round bar for the rivet the length of the “rivet” was about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch longer than the thickness of the boss area when the two sides of the tongs were put together. He dropped the rivet through the hole, against the face of the anvil, and then peened one end so it wouldn't drop through the hole. Then he flipped the assembly over and peened the other end, and alternated sides until the rivet held the two sides together tightly. It is important to hold the bosses on the two sides tightly together while riveting! Al set the rivet cold. Someone asked why he didn't heat it, and the answer was that it wasn't necessary, that a rivet this size could be set cold.

The tongs will probably be too tight to open and close when the rivet is set. Reheat the boss area and work the reins open and closed until the tongs are working well. Final fitting involves holding a piece in the tongs and hammering or squeezing the jaws in a vise to form them around the piece. The position of the reins can be adjusted in the same step.



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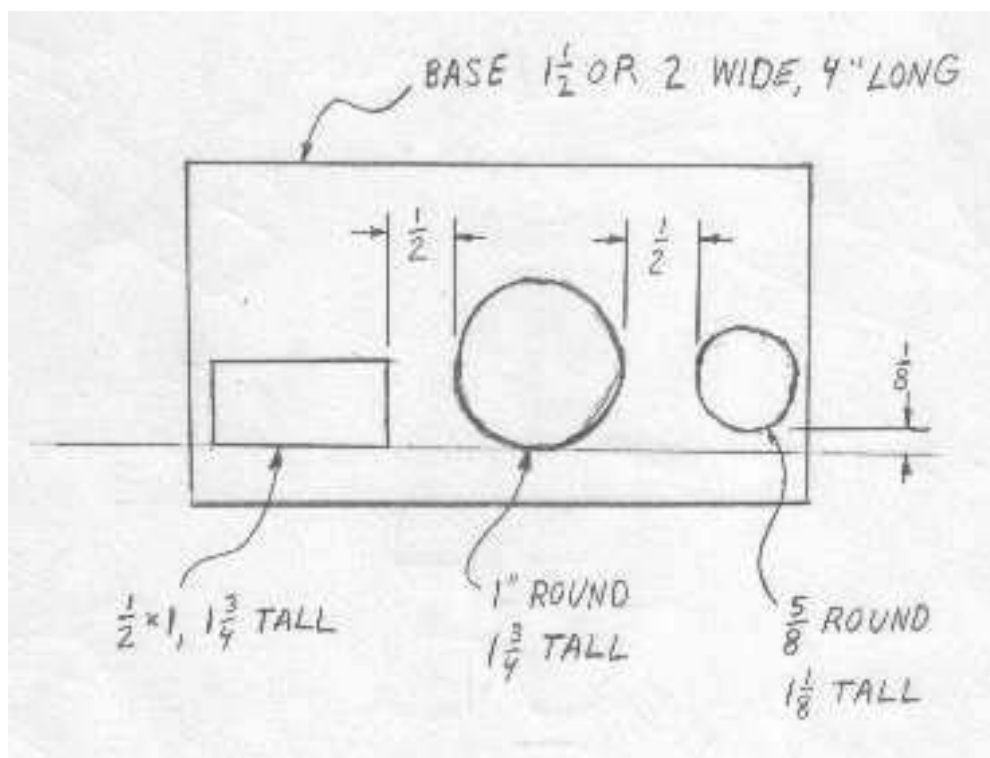
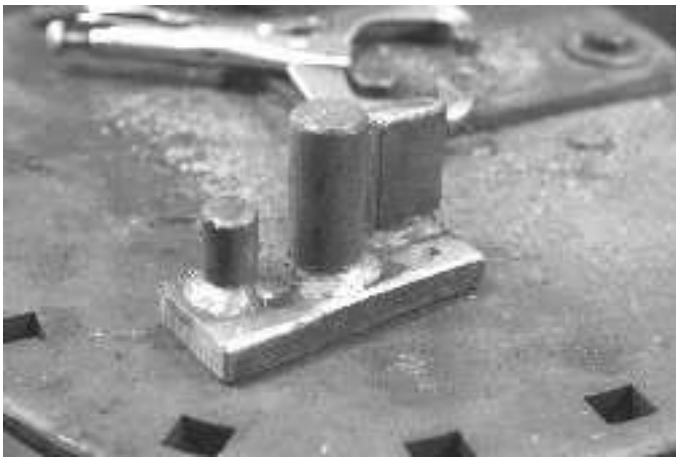


## Lester Beckman Tongs

The second type of tongs Al demonstrated were a pair of light bolt tongs. Al attributed this method to Lester Beckman, and I thought, so now I know. I've made a few tongs with this method and come to think of them as "Al tongs". But now I know they're "Lester Tongs".

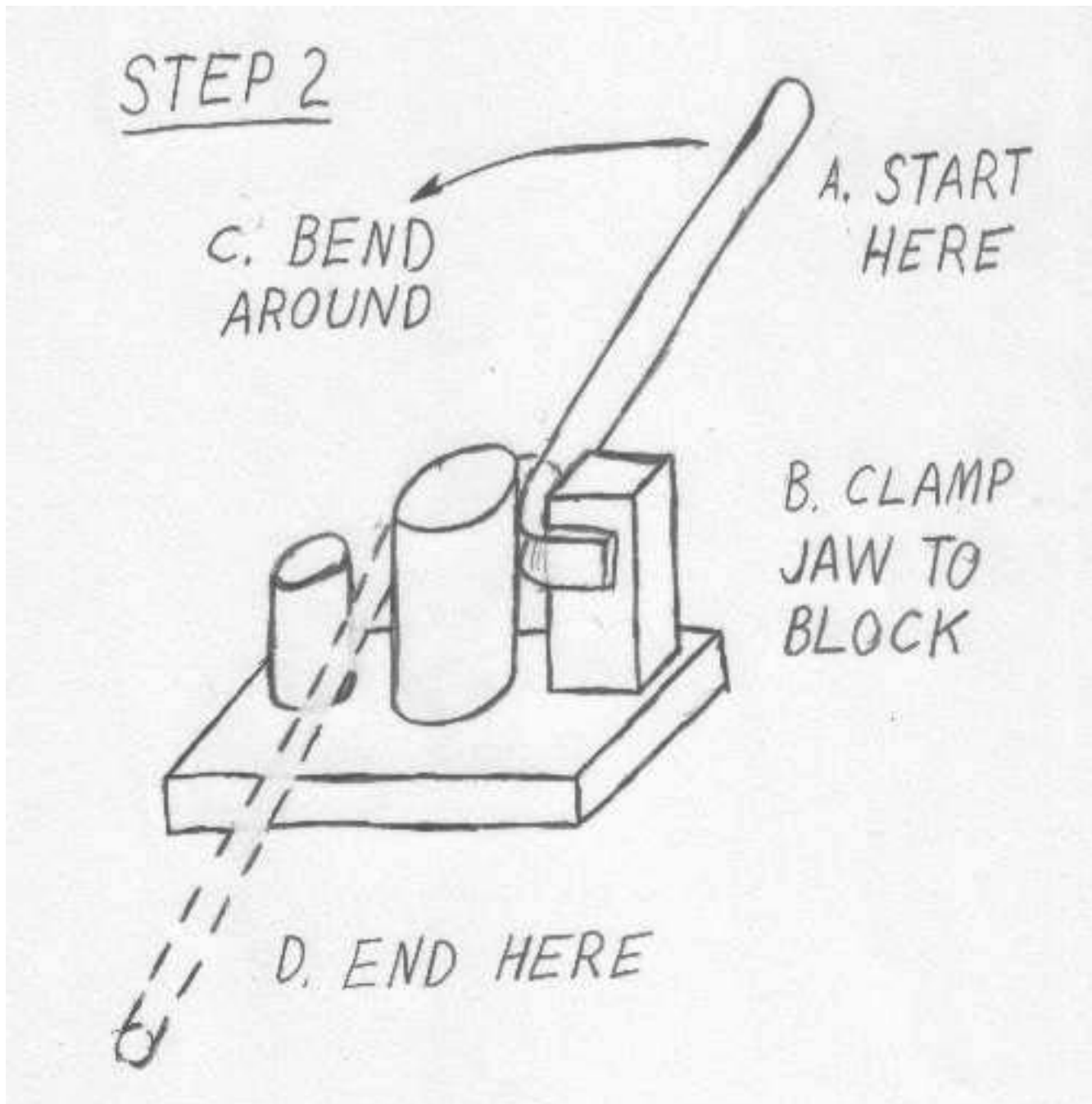
This approach is great for beginners in that it starts with 3/8 inch round bar, which is the right size for the reins. That means no need to draw out reins from thicker bar. The drawing out is not impossible, or even particularly difficult, and it is good practice. But it's not the easiest thing for a beginner who just needs a few tongs! On the other hand, this method does call for a special jig to make the bends.

I took pictures of Al's jig but then measured the one I made.



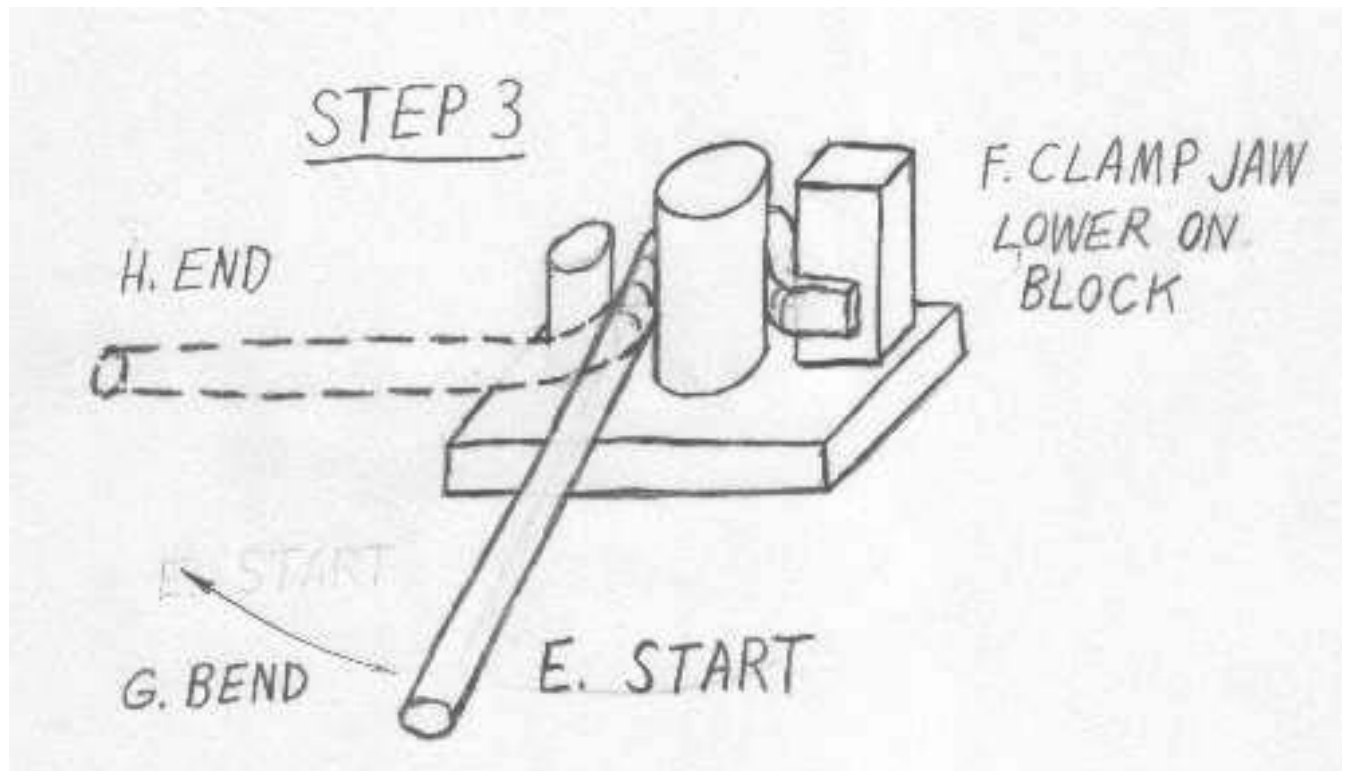
When I make these tongs I start with two pieces of 3/8 round bar, each 16" long. I usually make several pair at a time. In the instructions below I tell where I stop to reheat. Others may get more done in a heat. I have to confess that I was outside talking for about the first 3 and a half steps of this demo, so I'm describing how I do it, maybe not how Al did it.

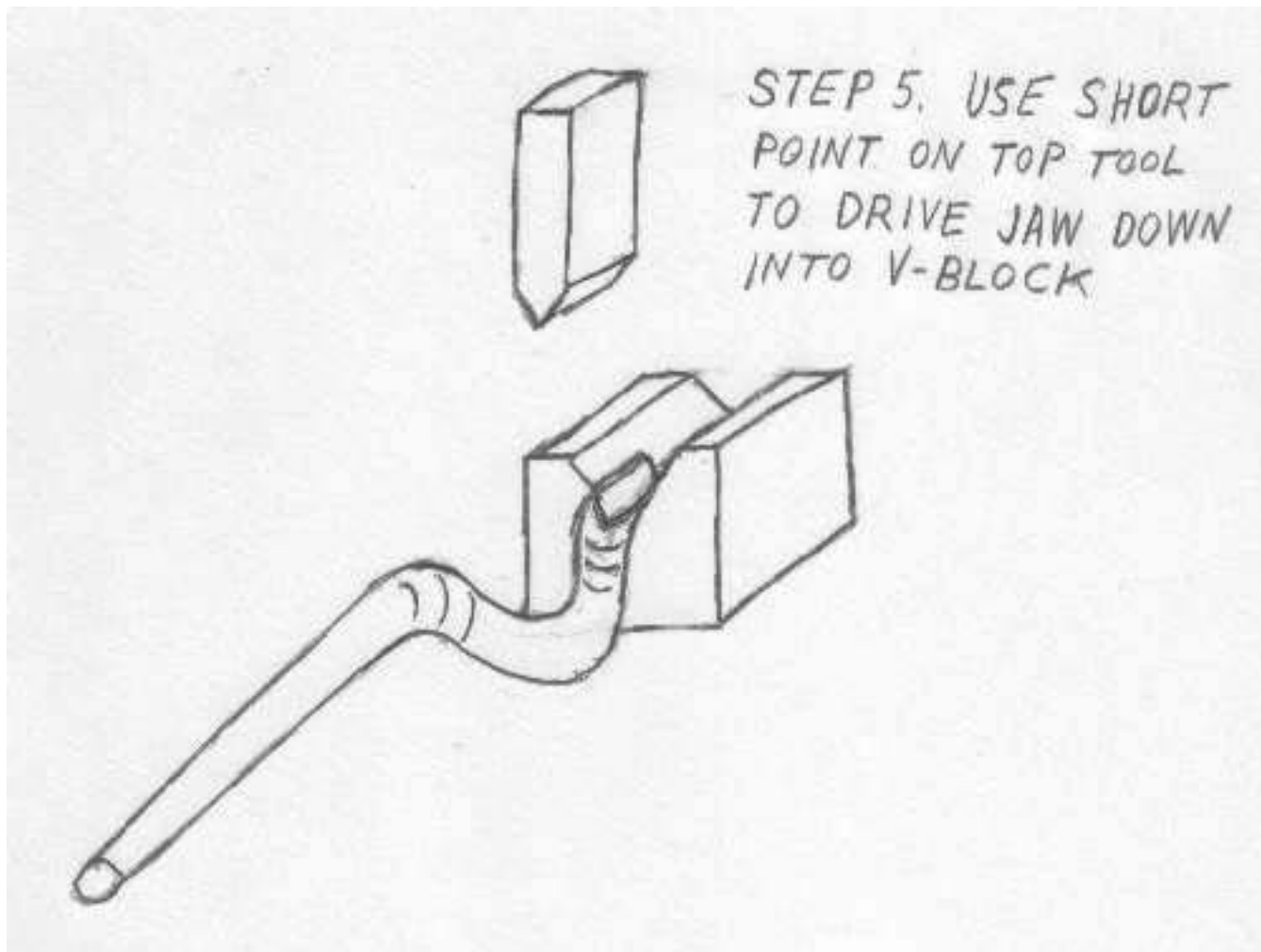
1. Flatten about an inch on the end of each bar. Bend the flat part over 90 degrees. This will be the jaw. And that is usually one heat.
2. Take another heat that extends a few inches up from the flat. Clamp the flat to the 1/2 x 1 block on the jig, and bend the bar around the middle round post as shown.



3. Take another heat and put the bar back in the jig. Lower the bar in the jig so it will bend around the small round post. Bend it. I never get it to wrap really tightly around the small post. I just bend it so that the handle is straight and in line with the jaw.
4. Hammer the boss area to spread it out a little, but don't get it too thin. These are not heavy duty tongs, but you don't want the boss so thin that they get bent out of shape all the time. On the other hand, you need the boss to spread enough to put the rivet through!
5. Heat the jaw and use a swage block or V block and a top tool to bend the jaw into the V shape. Lacking a swage block or V-block, you could make this bend by setting vise jaws close together and using the top tool to drive the tong jaw down between the vise jaws. The "top tool" can be just a length of mild steel with a short point ground on the end.
6. Drill or punch a hole for the rivet. I prefer to punch when making these tongs as that leaves more metal in the boss than drilling. The hole location is not super critical. I just hold the two sides together and eyeball where the hole should be, then punch it.
7. Install the rivet. This step goes just like riveting the classic tongs in my earlier article.
8. Final fitting. Grab a piece of stock and make the jaws line up and straighten the handles.

I have made these tongs to hold up to ½ inch square bar. They are light, particularly in the boss, and work better with smaller sizes like ¼ or 3/8.





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## Right- or Left-Handed Tongs

By Steve Alford, Athens, Alabama

During Al Stephens' demonstration of the classic 3-step tong making method, there was a discussion between Al, Dr. Jim Batson, and Clay Spencer about whether tongs really are left handed or right handed, and which way to turn the bar to make them left or right handed. I thought about that for a while, and despite feeling a bit like the fool rushing in where anyone with good sense might fear to tread, I'm going to write this about that.

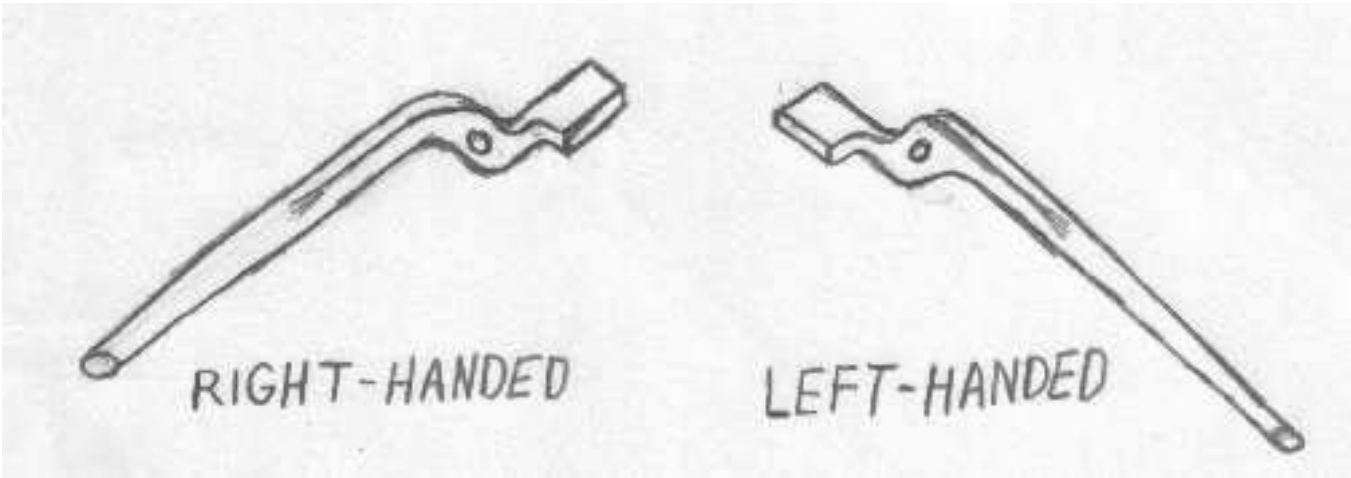
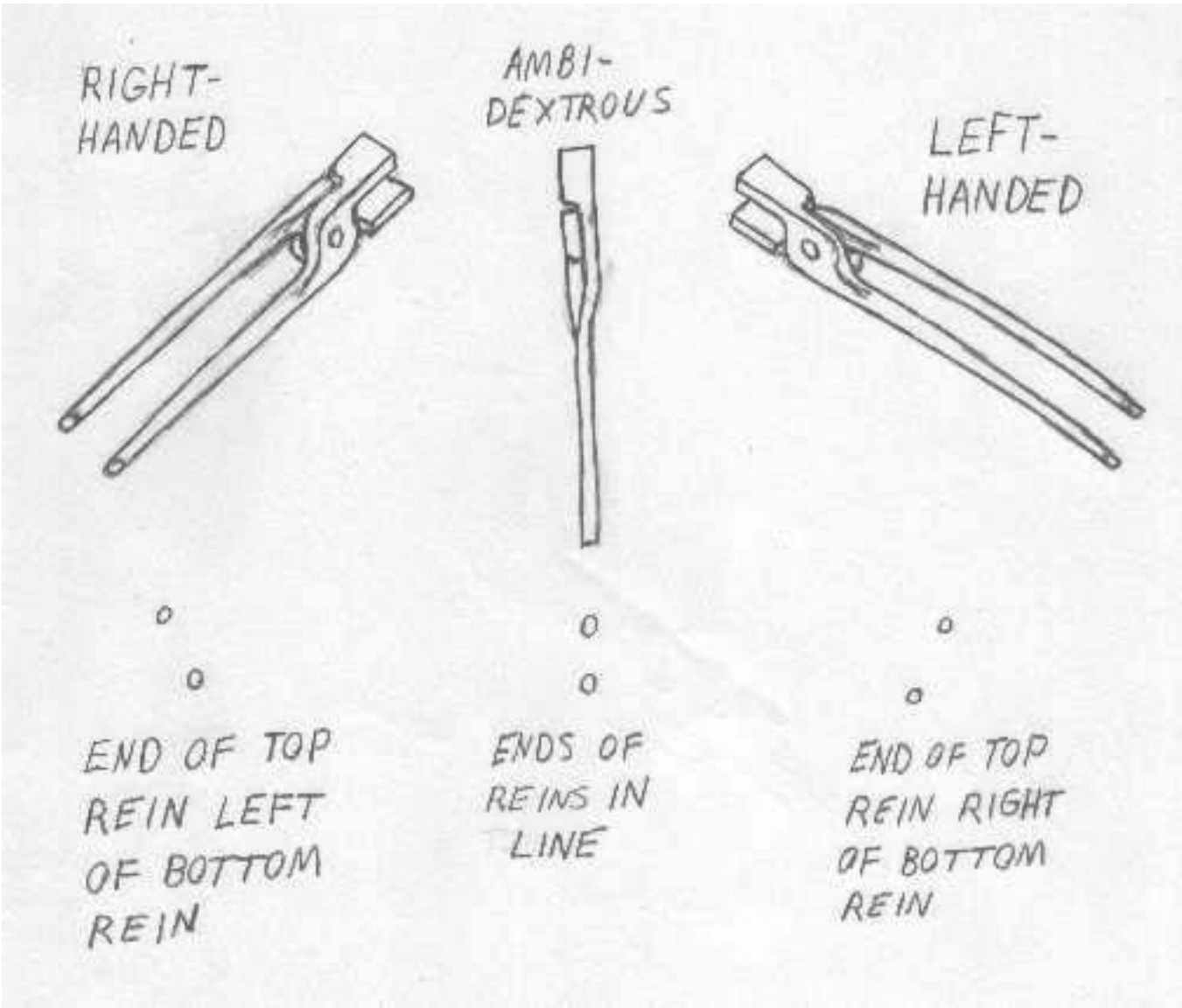
I'll start with a disclaimer: I'm left-handed, and my most-used pair of tongs is right handed. Left, right, or ambi may not matter to a lot of smiths, but sometimes which way to turn the bar while forging tongs becomes a matter of debate, and this article might help understanding.

When I say "right-handed" tongs, I really mean tongs that are most comfortable for a right-handed smith, that is, tongs that are most comfortable when held in the left hand. And left-handed tongs would be those that are most comfortable in the right hand, like for a left-handed smith. I figured out that there must be such a difference when I noticed that some of my home-made tongs were easier to use than others. At the time I wasn't paying much attention to which way I turned the bar when I made tongs, I just turned both sides the same way, so they'd fit together. Dr. Jim described the problem by saying "they won't drop correctly".

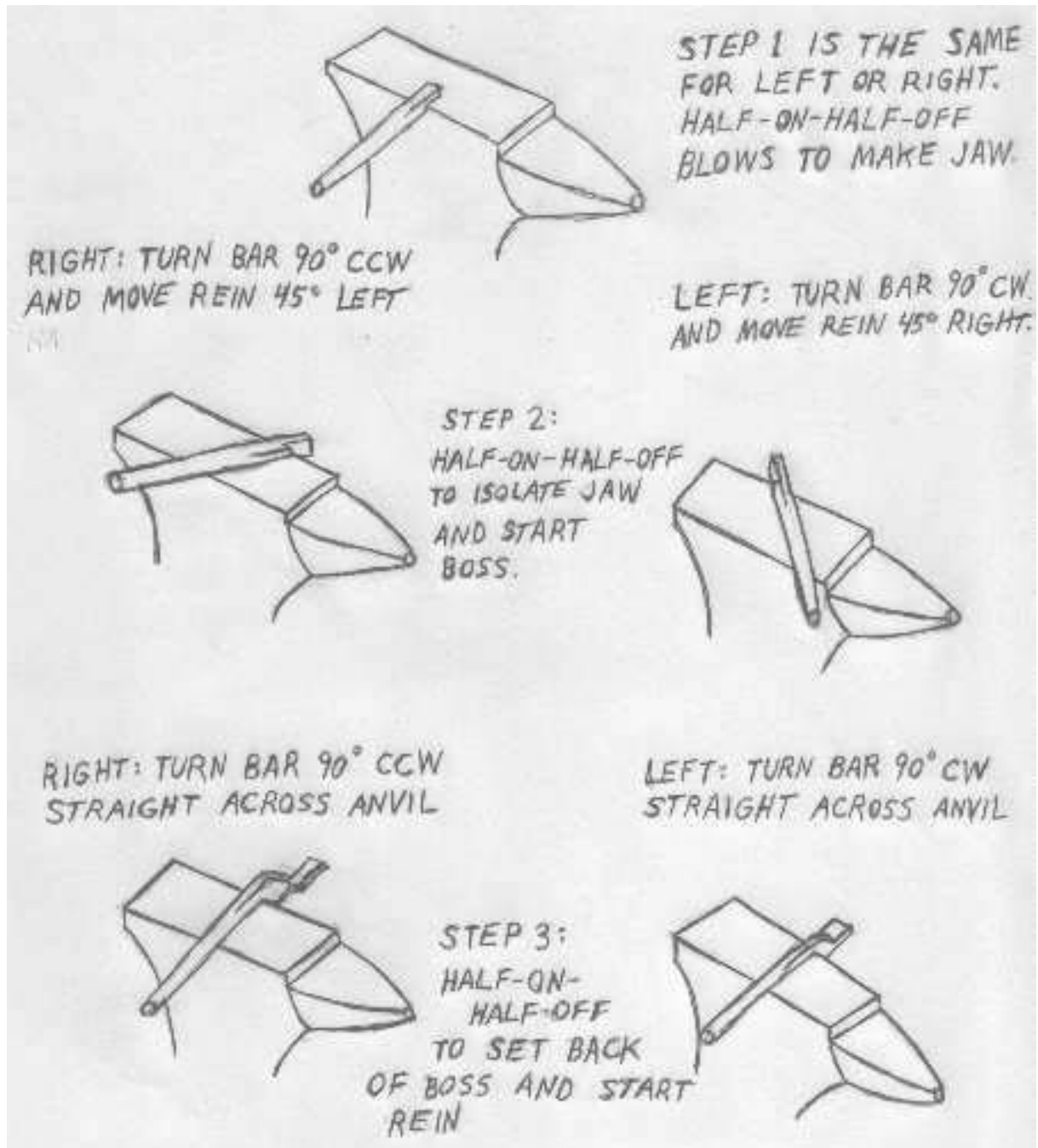
The top sketch on the next page shows what I call right- and left-handed tongs. Right-handed tongs have the boss that goes with the top rein on the left, and left handed tongs have the boss that goes with the top rein on the right. When I hold a pair of tongs in my left hand, and try to let go of something by dropping the bottom rein, if I'm using right-handed tongs it's easy to grip the top rein with my thumb against my palm and let the bottom rein fall away. But if I'm using left-handed tongs, gripping the top rein against my palm also tends to push the bottom rein into my palm, and it just doesn't drop as easily. It's not impossible to use, maybe not even very difficult, but I do notice. In the middle of the picture I try to show "ambidextrous" tongs, where the reins are bent so the ends line up. These work better than right-handed tongs for me – I'm left handed – but not as comfortably as the left handed tongs I've made.

Maybe a lot of smiths never notice any difference because it really isn't a serious problem. I have a lot of right handed tongs that I use all the time. My most-used pair, in fact, is a pair of small wolf jaws from Blacksmith Supply. And that may be another reason why many smiths never notice: All of the bought tongs I've ever looked at are either right handed or ambi, and most smiths are right handed. I have a couple of Al's tongs, which have the reins bent to the ambi configuration, and several bought tongs with ambi reins that also work well.

The bottom sketch on the facing page shows one side of a set of right-handed tongs next to one side of a set of left-handed ones. Mirror images. This is why every tong-making demonstration emphasizes making both sides the same, not a right and a left. If you flip the left over and try to fit it to the right, when you put the bosses together the jaws won't line up!



The sketch below shows the three steps to forging one side of a pair of tongs, as described in the article on page 12. The steps for right-handed tongs are shown on the left – because a right-handed smith holds the tongs in his left hand – and the steps for left handed tongs are on the right. Notice that for right-handed tongs the bar always turns counterclockwise and the rein moves to the left in the second step. For left-handed tongs, the bar turns clockwise and the rein swings to the right. Another way to think about is that a right-handed smith making right-handed tongs, or a left-handed smith making left-handed tongs, always turns the bar away.



## Furniture Making Notes

In the January-February 1988 issue of the Bits – 31 years ago – Clay Spencer provided some notes on furniture making from a demo by John Beckwith at Sloss Furnace. The notes in the original issue were handwritten in cursive! I'll type some of the points from the original and freshen up the line drawings here.

The first point was about drawing what you want to make. Ideas that look cluttered in a scale drawing open up when drawn full size. Fit a piece of wire to irregular shaped curved parts on a full size drawing to estimate the length of material needed.

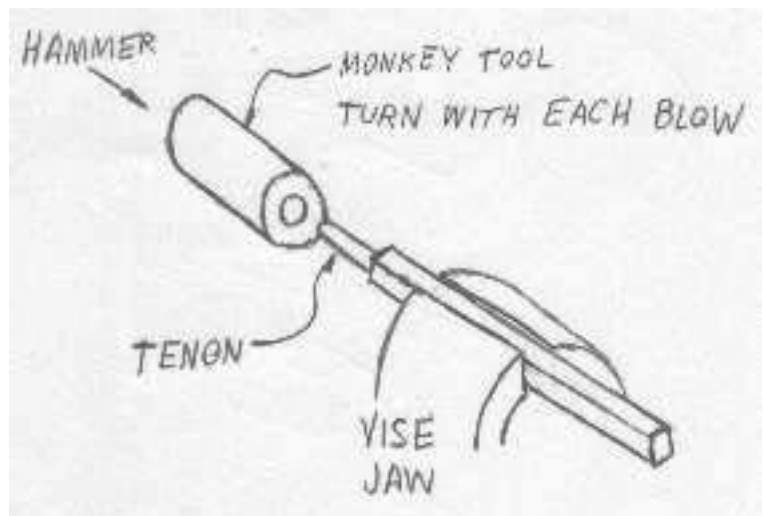
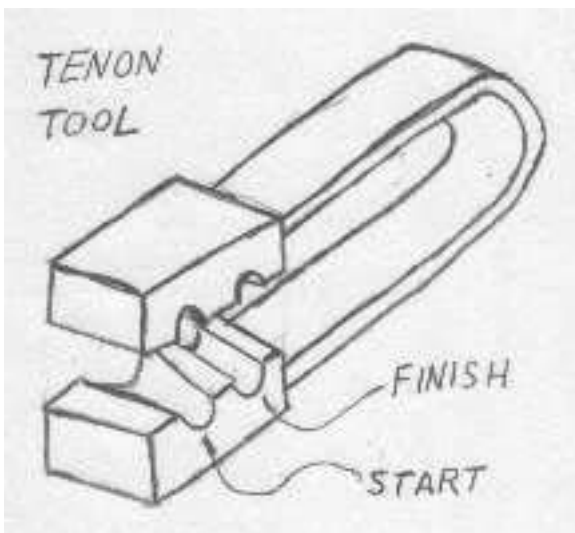
Knock the sharp corners off of stock if the material is not going to be drawn out.

Keep work straight as you go along. I think this point comes out with every demonstrator I see, that it's easier to keep things straight and true as you go along than to let it get all wonky and try to fix it at the end!

If you have several parts that are supposed to be the same, mark and cut them all at once to start, and check them against each other as you forge. Draw shorter parts longer to match the longest.

Tenon joinery is a big part of furniture making. A lot of the notes dealt with making and assembling tenons. First up was a spring tool for making a tenon on the end of a bar. The starting side of the tool is tapered to neck down the material to the size of the tenon. The finished side is the size of the desired tenon. Start hammering on the corners when putting a round tenon on square stock, and rotate the stock between blows. We made a different version of this tool in Clay's power hammer tools class.

Use a monkey tool to square up the shoulders of tenons. Rotate the monkey tool with each blow.





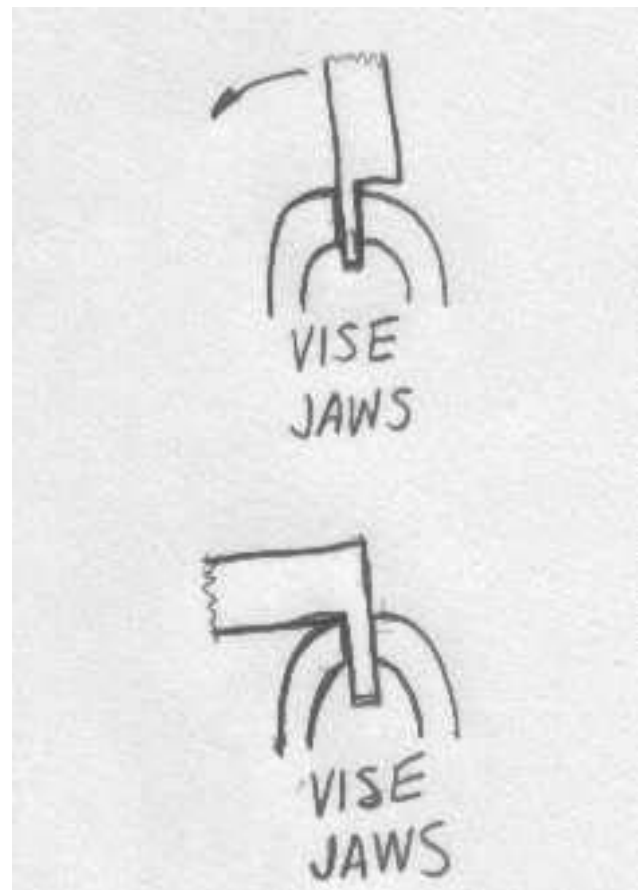
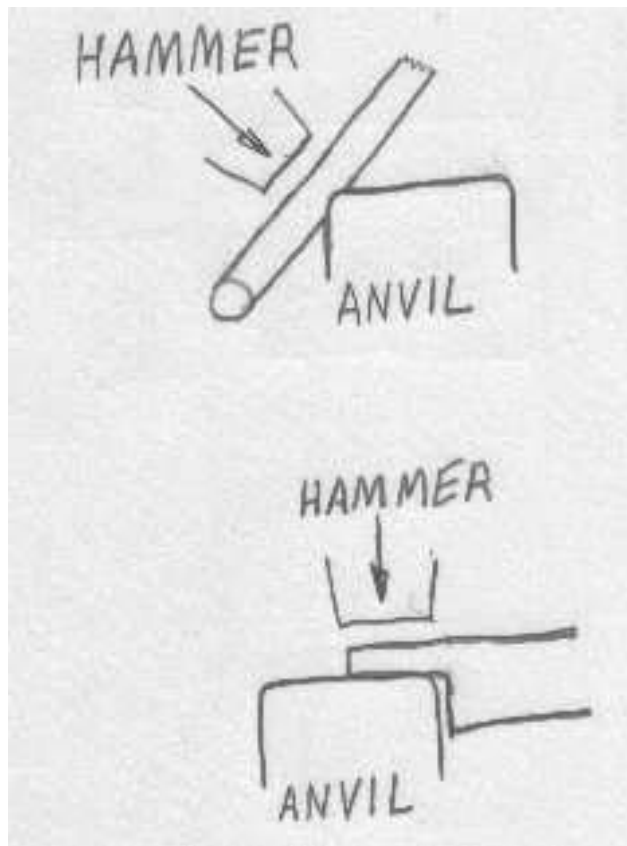
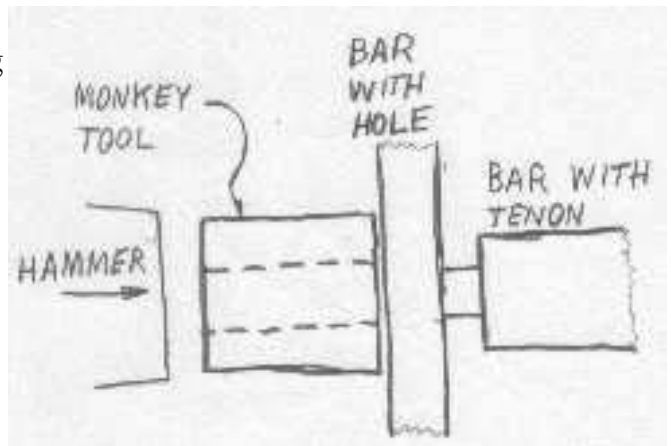
Use the monkey tool again to drive the bar with the hole over the tenon. Check to make sure everything is aligned correctly, square, and not twisted, and then rivet the end of the tenon.

The tenon should be long enough to have 1.5 times the diameter protruding out of the hole so it can be peened over for a nice rivet head.

To make the holes for the tenons to fit through, the notes recommend slitting and drifting instead of punching. Slit most of the way through, then “use a reverse tapered drift from the opposite side to go through”, with a bolster over the hardie hole to back up the drift. Watch the bulge while slitting to make sure the hole comes out centered.

To make a pad foot, mark 1 inch from the end of a bar, then start the foot over the edge of the anvil. Then flatten out the pad. Bend the foot 90 degrees to the bar in the vise to keep the feet and the leg length consistent. May have to grind or file to get a nice round pad.

The final note recommended not furnishing glass table tops, rather let customers get their own tops.



*The previous five articles are reprinted with permission courtesy of the Alabama Forge Council "Bituminous Bits" newsletter January/February 2019. - Editor*

# The ABANA 2020 Conference. Chain Making Competition: Open Category



**Split link and chain**



ABANA 2020 June 3-6

# The ABANA 2020 conference chain making competition

ABANA 2020 Conference competitions #3  
Chain Making - Open Category

Mark Aspery, California.

You are tasked to make two individual links of chain and a split link to join them together. To forge the split link, you are going to have to make a bottom tool from a supplied 4½-inch length of 1¼-inch square mild steel bar, upset it in a heading block.

You will be given four pieces of ⅜-inch diameter round bar, 6-inches long as the remainder of your material needs.

Two pieces of the ⅜-inch round bar will be needed to make the individual chain links, one piece for the repair link, and the fourth will be used to make a positive form to drive into the bottom tool, creating the depression needed to form the split link.

Bob Menard, of Ball and Chain Forge, will make available a number of his heading blocks (shown below).



*Supplied for the competition will be heading blocks from Bob Menard of Ball and Chain forge.*



*The heading block is secured to the anvil face by means of chains and bolts.*

These blocks are bolted down to your anvil, and I'm sure that wrenches will be provided to tighten the chains around the anvil, but they may be in short supply. I'd bring a spare wrench or socket to speed up the process, and buy a little time.

Fire management is going to be very important to you as you complete this project. Don't lose sight of the fact that you will need to forge weld two chain links during the competition.

As with all categories, you are allowed to start the competition with your bar hot, so I'd start with the 1¼-inch square bar and make the bottom tool blank first.

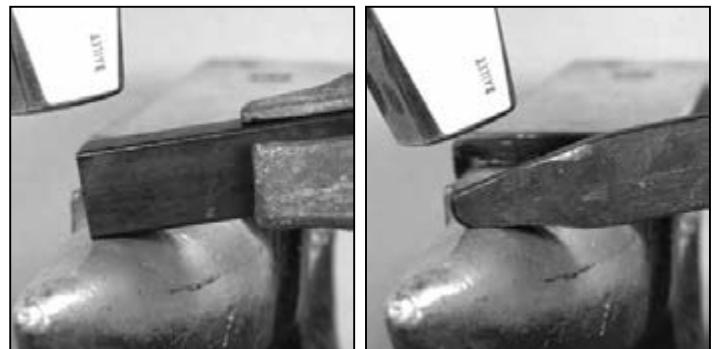
Mark the end of the taper with a centerpunch mark at the 1½" point. This mark stops you getting carried away with the taper during the event.

Draw down one third of the 1¼-inch square bar into a blunt taper.

I like to work over the bick, but I know that some will prefer the offside edge of the anvil. Turn the bar through 90° after each hit to keep the taper square.

The heading blocks are parallel sided so any taper will fit. That said, too blunt of a taper and you won't get enough length of peg to make the bottom tool seat properly. Too sharp of a taper means that you have worked too hard.

I aim for a ⅝-inch square end on my tapers when working in this manner. This actually translates to ⅜-inch plus when drawing down over the bick or offside edge, to result in ⅝-inch square when dressed.



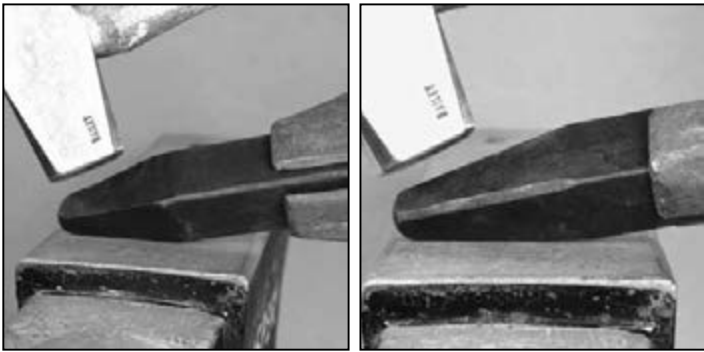
*Draw down the first ⅓ of the bar into a blunt taper*

## Mark Aspery

Take the time to center the taper along the parent bar. This will make the upset go a little smoother by keeping the stock perpendicular to the heading block as you work to create the top half of the tool.

Chamfer the corners of the taper, stopping a short way into the parent bar before starting the upsetting process.

You'll be taking some high heats to get to a point where you can upset this large bar efficiently, the chamfered corners will help prevent burning the taper as you take the heats required in the upsetting process.



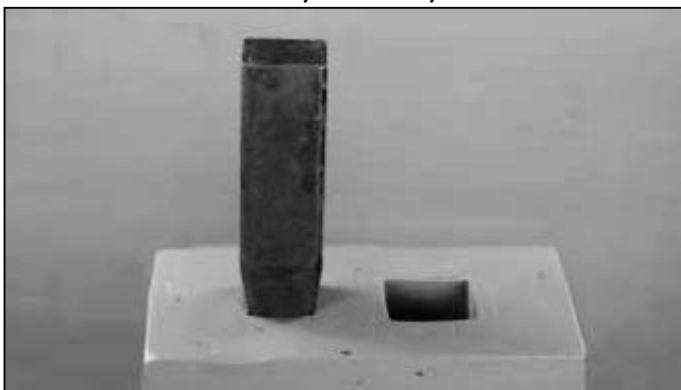
*Dress the taper and chamfer the corners in preparation for upsetting the bar*

A corner has the most surface area with the least amount of mass and will heat up quickly.

With a solid fuel forge, I feel that I can draw down and dress the taper in one or two heats. I aim for one.

Upsetting the bar.

More heat translates into less effort required. You will also spend less time working with a properly heated bar. Time, in this case, is your enemy.



*Stand the hot bar vertically in the heading block*

The stock will not upset evenly due to the fact that the bottom of the heated material is being both chilled and captured by the heading block.

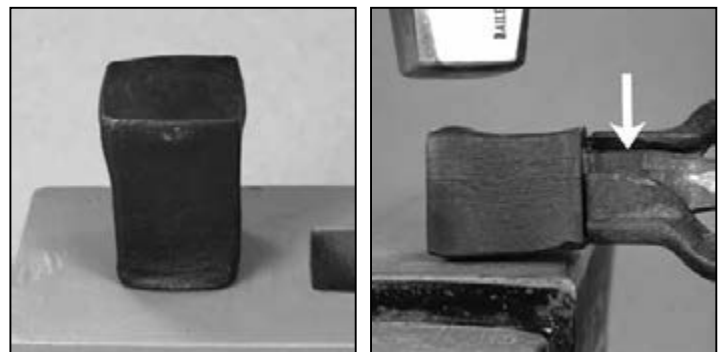
This capturing and chilling of the material prevent the lower section of the material from upsetting easily.

If you do not take steps to address this issue, the bar will upset more at its top and less at the bottom. This is not an outcome that you want, the bottomswage should have parallel sides post upsetting.

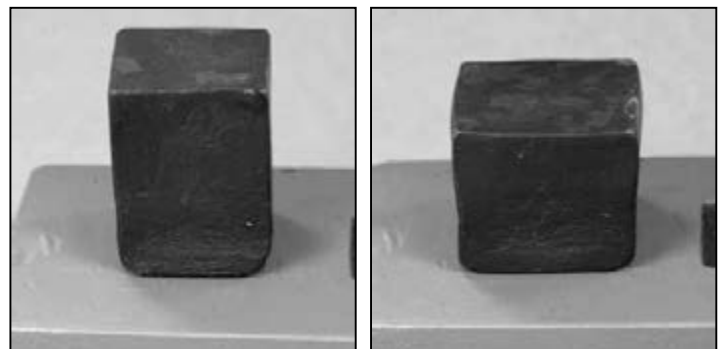
As the sledge will have its greatest effect at the point of impact and less lower down (as the bar is chilled and constrained), I'm going to heat the bar, so that it is cooler at the top and hotter at the bottom. To that end, I put the piece in the fire taper first.

Place the heated stock into the heading block so that the stock is perpendicular to the block, and rain heavy blows from your sledge upon the stock.

The peg will be driven down the square hole of the swage block a little. This action creates a parallel-sided square shank to the swage, which can be a good thing.



*Stop upsetting and dress the flare on a regular basis*



*Keep the sides straight and parallel as you work*

## The ABANA 2020 conference chain making competition

My sledge travels in an arc and not straight up and down, and I tend to pull the upset material towards me. To counter this, after half-a-dozen blows or so, I walk around to the opposite side of the block to work.

Working from both sides will help even up the effect that the arc of the sledge has on the work.

Use the bottom of the upset material as a gauge when looking for the time to go back to the forge. If the bottom looks overly chilled by the heading block or the top is starting to flare out, it's time to re-heat the bar.

Take the time (heat in the bar dependent) to square the sides of the bar before putting it back into the forge – but only if the top of the bar is quite hot.

Dressing a cool bar can result in fish-lips being formed on the top surface of the stock.

Keep the peg held horizontally as you dress the block.

Once the sides have been dressed so that they are square with the world, continue to upset the material until you reach your desired dimensions.

Stop upsetting when the block is 1¼" tall and about 1¾" to 2" square. I don't mind if it is taller than that—but it can be no shorter without becoming a pain to use.

Once you've got your bottom swage roughed out, place it peg up, block down, at the top of the fire and slowly heat the block. Turn your air-blast down.

Strip the heading block from your anvil. Note to self: if the hardy hole is smaller than the opening used in the heading block, you're going to have to use either the heading block or the vise to hold your bottom swage when you make the split link.

Put the end of one of your 6-inch long pieces of ¾-inch round bar into the fire.

Quickly hem the edge at the side of the anvil and turn the end to form a U-shape equal in size to the chain that you're making over the bick or horn.



*Quickly hem one end of a 6-inch bar and go to the bick*



*Turn the end over a 1-inch diameter section of the bick*



*A final dressing of the sides and then let this cook on top of the fire*



*Hold the part horizontally in the vise as you hot-rasp the end to a half sphere shape. Quench the end on completion.*

## Mark Aspery

My chain has about a 1-inch ID at either end.

Clamp the bar horizontally in the vise and rasp the end to a half-round. Quench!

If you clamp the bottom of the U-shape in the vise, you may not be able to rasp all parts at the end of the bar.

Hopefully, the bottom swage has heated fully as you made this 'tool'.

I'm going to proceed as if the hardy hole size and the size of the heading block opening are a match. Place the hot swage into the hardy hole.

Bring your U-shape over and drive it into the swage. You want a little depression at the half round end of the U-shape, and a much deeper depression where the U-shape meets the parent bar.

The  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch diameter rod will be flattened on one side as you drive it into the swage block. I like this as it means that the indent will be slightly oversize of  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch.



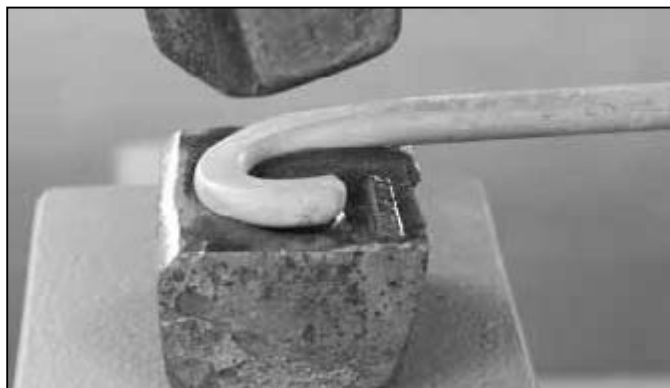
*Knock off any sharp edges from the swage*



*Here is my effort, ready to be used*



*Take a good heat on the block and drive in the positive form*



*The depression should be the deepest on the straightaway and shallow on the end*

Drop your tong hand and chamfer the edge of the depression so that you do not gall the split link as you are forming it in the swage.

Give the swage a good brushing and quench. Normally I would caseharden the swage, but in this case, the clock is ticking...

Changing gears, you can choose to now make the split link or the chain links.

As I've covered the chain links earlier, I'm going to focus on the split link.



*A commercially available split link*

## The ABANA 2020 conference chain making competition

Shown is a Box Store variety of a commercially available split link.

Draw a 1¾-inch long square taper to one end of the 6-inch long, ⅜-inch diameter, mild steel bar.

Dress the taper and forge to an octagon crosssection.

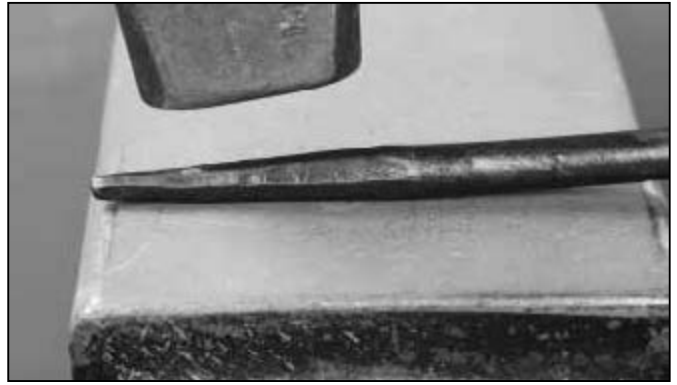
I record both the square and octagon lengths on the step of the anvil for reference when working the other end of the bar.

I don't bother making the taper round, as it will be further forged in the bottom swage.

Turn the tapered end around the horn leaving it slightly open of a perfect U-shape, but do make sure that it is about 1-inch ID.



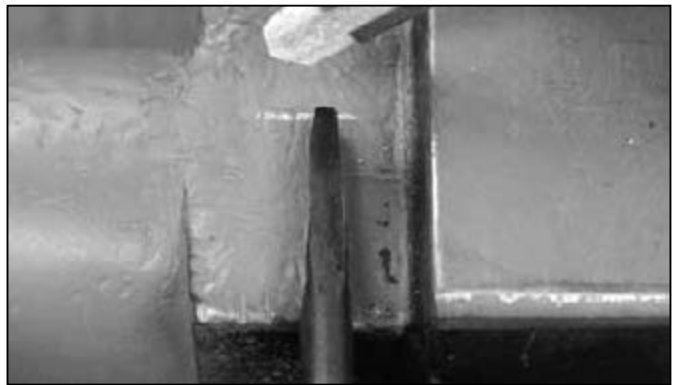
*Draw a 1¾-inch long square taper to the end of the bar*



*Your taper should be around 2-inches long at this stage*



*Have a chalk mark on the step set at 1¾-inch to speed up measuring the length of taper*



*Record the actual length of taper on the step to aid in making the 2<sup>nd</sup> end equal*



*Take the square taper to octagon*



*Turn the taper around the bick*

## Mark Aspery

I've shown this below as the second end of the bar, to demonstrate that the ends go to the same side of the bar, and do not form an S-shape.

The taper should fall along the centerline of the depression in the bottom swage and not fit to one edge.???

Flatten the taper into the bottom swage depression.

Flatten slightly more material than you think that you need (shown by the arrow in the photograph below).



*Leave the end slightly open of 180°*



*The taper should fit into the depression running along the centerline - and fit not quite to the end*



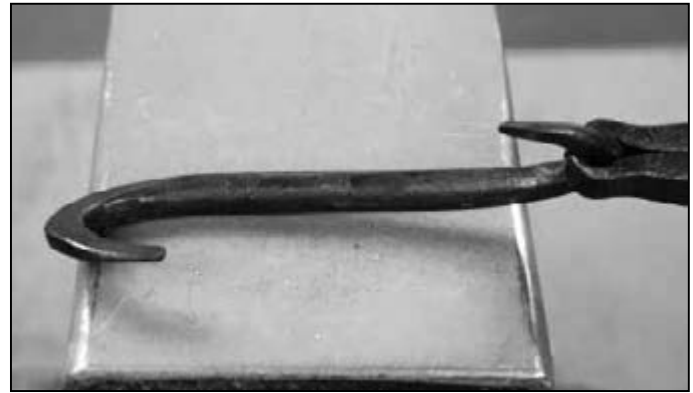
*Flatten the link. I like to bring the forging up the bar a little, shown by the arrow*

I prefer to have the end of the taper tucked in and not proud of the remainder of the bar.

You will also note that when dealing with the second end, it is staggered or offset from the first end.

The offset ends help me when I turn the final link ready for application.

Control the two ends as you turn the link.



*The ends are offset from each other. This is an advantage when turning the link*



*Turn the link over a 1-inch part of the bick*



*Keep your eye on the two ends to ensure that they align. It's easier to correct this as you work now, rather than later*

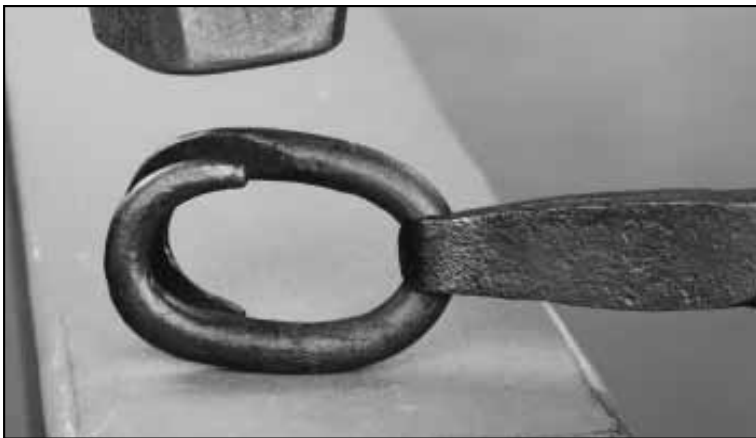


# The ABANA 2020 conference chain making competition

It is much easier to correct any problems now, as you are turning the link, rather than later, after the link is formed.

Tidy the ends and sides up at the bick and on the face of the anvil and either put it to the side of the forge, or if you have the chain links made, apply the links and set the gap.

Give the links a good brushing - use a little water on your brush to pop the stubborn scale off the welds.



*Tap the sides in if they need a little adjustment*



*The judge may want to see the split link open or closed. I would close mine just a little to secure the two welded links*

Follow the ABANA 2020 conference on Facebook®

***ABANA 2020 Conference***

And on the web at:

***www.ABANA.org***

***www.ABANA2020.com***



# ABANA 2020 Conference



## ABANA 2020 Conference

Washington County Fairgrounds  
392 Old Schuylerville Rd.  
Greenwich, NY

### Information Available at

[www.abana2020.com](http://www.abana2020.com)  
abana2020 on facebook  
[abana.org](http://abana.org)  
ABANA Central Office  
423-913-1022

We will be featuring 8 disciplines of Smithing with at least three talented Smiths in each.

**ART:** with Daniel Miller, Zeevick Gotleib, & Ellen Durkan

**Historic:** with Peter Ross, Dick Sargent, & Bob Valentine

**TOOLS:** with Patrick Quinn, Jeffery Funk, & Eric Schatzel

**KNIVES:** with Matt Parkinson, Lin Rhea, & Jeff Helm

**POWER:** with Bruce Jarrell, Steve Parker, & Randy McDaniel

**FARRIERS:** with Dave Farley, Roy Bloom, Tom Willoughby

**TEACHING:** with Mark Aspery, Gerald Boggs, & Randy Augsburg

**FARM:** with Joel Tripp, Judson Yaggy, Derick Glaser, & Lucian Avery

**The Patient Order of Meticulous Metalsmiths** with Tom Latane, Peter Renzetti, Carl Close & other exceptional craftsmen.

The lecture series will be featuring such notables such as Albert Paley, Howard Schechter, Doug Wilson, Bill Hochella, Leigh Morrell & members of the demonstrator staff.

There will be a youth teaching venue and family programs for the non blacksmiths.

The raffle will include a BAM box donated by Pat McCarty and a Big Blue power hammer.

The Iron in the Hat is pleased to announce the return of Len Ledet with his special blend of entertainment and wackiness.

The Saturday evening banquet is back with a New England style BBQ.

We will have a beer tent serving a local micro brew and a local distiller will be pouring our own signature Slack Tub bourbon. Collectable laser inscribed 2 liter wood casks can be purchased filled with our special label. See the website for information on the cask which can only be pre ordered and can only be picked up at the conference.

**Early registration is now open at :**

**[abana2020.com](http://abana2020.com)**



**Follow us on facebook:**  
**[ABANA 2020 Conference](https://www.facebook.com/ABANA2020Conference)**





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ABANA Central Office  
423-913-1022



## Scheduled Activities

Demonstrations all day every day at our 8 demo sites. There will be a riveting lecture series featuring such notables such as Albert Paley, Howard Schechter, Douglas Wilson, Bill Hochella, Leigh Morrell, and others

Join the party at the Blacksmith Arms Pub serving local micro brews. We are proud to announce our own private label Slacktub Bourbon. Available by the glass, bottle or collectable 2 liter wooden cask. See the website for information on pre ordering the laser inscribed cask. These must be pre-ordered.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner will be available onsite from a variety of food vendors and food trucks.

There will be extensive tailgating, most under roofs. The northeast is the epicenter of the largest accumulation of blacksmithing equipment in the country. If you can dream of it, it will likely be at this conference

We are inviting all the vendors we have come to expect at an ABANA conference.

There will be nightly competitions organized by Mark Aspery to be held at the Teaching site

Of course there will be Iron in the Hat hosted by Len Ledet. We also will be having a large item raffle featuring a Big Blu power hammer and Pat McCarty is donating a BAM box once again for this event. An added bonus will be it is going to be filled with handmade tools from some of the finest blacksmiths in the country.

We are hoping for a strong outpouring of support for the curated gallery exhibition and hope to have items donated to the live auction of art & craft scheduled for Saturday night.

For this conference the banquet will be revived with a Saturday night BBQ northeast style, included with registration. Come and enjoy the warmth and fellowship of blacksmiths from around the world. This will be a party the likes of which has not been enjoyed at an ABANA conference in some time.

Don't miss what is sure to be an event that will be talked about for years.

# SCABA Shop and Swap

## 50# Little Giant Power Hammer \$3495.00

Serial # indicates it is a 1929 model. Equipped with sow block, brake, 2HP 220- single phase, running at 1720 RPM (the speed it was designed to operate at) it also has a tool/spring swage holder. I have it tuned to deliver a single blow or multi-blows slow or fast. This machine is ready to work. No repairs, re-building or adjustments necessary. Comes with flat dies, drawing dies, 1 spring swage, extra new clutch blocks, etc. Come try it before you buy it. Located at my shop in Muskogee, OK.

[gerald.brostek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gerald.brostek@sbcglobal.net)

phone # 918-687-1927



# SCABA Shop and Swap



# SCABA Shop and Swap



## For Sale: 25 Lb Little Giant Power Hammer:

\*\*\*\* PRICE REDUCED! \*\*\*\*

1948 new style 25lb Little Giant, new dies, new motor, working condition, asking \$2,500. Terlton area.

Contact: Curt Mullin -  
918-640-9396.

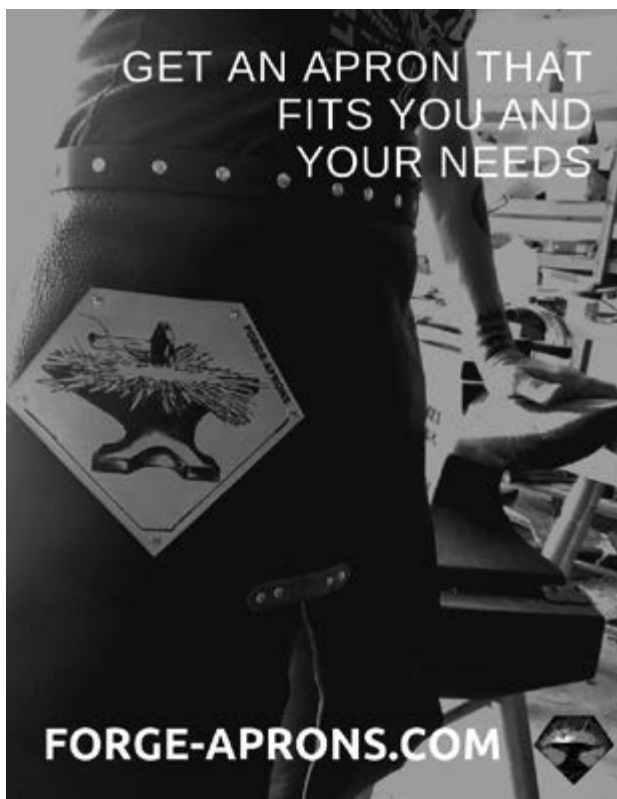
## For Sale: 15 Lb Tire Hammers:

\$1,200 for everything from the base plate up. Two rounding dies included as standard. Has 1/2 HP 115V Motor. Contact: David Barfield - 580-595-1476



# SCABA Shop and Swap

GET AN APRON THAT  
FITS YOU AND  
YOUR NEEDS



**FORGE-APRONS.COM**

## KAYNE & Son -- Blacksmiths Depot

Custom Hardware, Inc.

100 Daniel Ridge Rd.  
828-667-8868

Candler, N.C. 28715  
fax 828-665-8303

Steve Kayne

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- Spring Swages & Texture tools
- Anvils, Vices, Slakes and Hardy tools
- Books & Videos
- Specialty Fasteners
- Blacksmithing
- Custom Hinges and Handles
- Thumb latch sets & Lock sets
- Exterior/Interior Hardware
- Builders/Architectural Hardware

BlacksmithsDepot.com - CustomForgedHardware.com



**Ken's Custom Iron, LLC**

37634 County Road 9  
Avon, MN 56310  
(320) 746-8161  
mail@kensiron.com

## Blacksmith Supply

Modern Tool For the Modern Blacksmith  
www.blacksmithsupply.com

**John Elliott**

jelliott@blacksmithsupply.com  
804-530-0290

P.O. Box  
Chester, VA 23831



**Blacksmithsupply**  
.com

## Raker Knives & Steel

**Ray Kirk ABS-MS**



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gadugiblade@yahoo.com

**918-207-8076**  
Tahlequah, Ok

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"T Star Smith"  
SASS #72768





# SCABA Shop and Swap



Call to Order Toll Free 24/7 - 866-627-6922

Thank you to our Conference Vendors who graciously donated items for the Conference Auctions!

Their contributions helped to support SCABA. Please consider patronizing these vendors to return the favor!



## Reeder Products Inc.

3201 Skylane Drive, Suite 114  
Carrollton, Texas 75006 United States  
(469) 257-1000

## Bill Davis Forge Welded Tomahawk DVD

This DVD is now available to members for a minimal cost (cost of DVD's is minimal to cover reproduction and shipping if applicable.) Contact the SCABA Librarian, Don Garner, if you would like to get a copy of this DVD.

Don Garner: 580-302-1845

(Call or Text. If you get voice mail, Please leave a message.)



## 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:** I have numerous old tools and collectible items of various kinds including blacksmith related tools and equipment. Too many tools to list them all. Inventory is always changing. Contact: Craig Guy (SCABA Member), Piedmont, OK  
Cell Phone: 405-630-7769 (Call or Text )



# SCABA Shop and Swap

## SCABA Library DVD's Available:

This is a partial list of the DVD titles available to members from the SCABA Library. Contact the Librarian (Don Garner) 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

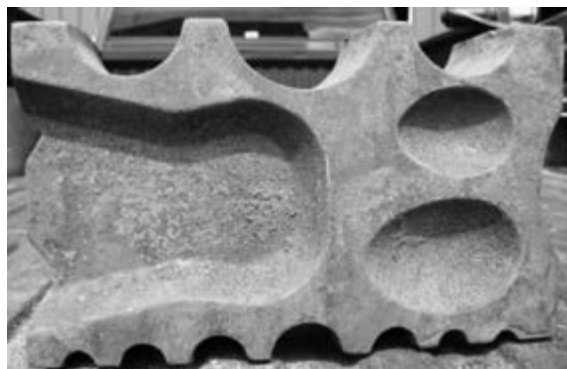
Librarian: Don Garner 580-302-1845 (Cell)  
Call or Text. If you get voice mail, please leave a message.

## **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 Shop and Swap section (or items you are looking for), please send me your description, contact info, and any photos that you have.

## **SCABA Swage Blocks**

\$200.00 plus shipping.  
(Same price to members and non-members.)



## **SCABA Floor Cones**

\$200.00 plus shipping.

(Same price to members and non-members.)

To order swage blocks or cones, contact our distributor:

**Nolan Walker at  
Nature Farms Farrier  
Supply in Norman,  
OK.**

**405-307-8031**



# SCABA Shop and Swap

## 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 Doner's place. Call Byron to make arrangements to come by and get coal.

## SCABA T-Shirts!

2018 Saltfork Collector T-shirts are available with the 2018 Conference Logo. \$20.00 (plus shipping if applicable.) Contact Josh Perkins to check sizes and quantities that are still available.



Legacy SCABA T-shirts and long sleeve denim shirts are also available on clearance while supplies last. T-Shirts are \$5.00 and Denim Shirts are \$10.00. (Plus shipping if applicable.) Contact Josh Perkins to check sizes and quantities that are still available.

If you would like to purchase shirts, contact Josh Perkins (918) 269-3523.



## 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 Shop and Swap section (or items you are looking for), please send me your description, contact info, and any photos that you have.



# SCABA Membership Application

For Annual Membership

(Please Print Clearly!)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Married? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Best Number to Contact) (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

ABANA Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed \$30.00 for dues for one year membership from the date of acceptance.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Note: Registration online by Paypal OR credit card is available from the website.

[www.saltforkcraftsmen.org](http://www.saltforkcraftsmen.org)

You do NOT need a Paypal account to use your credit card and registration/renewal is immediate.



## Saltfork Regional Meeting Hosting Form

Region: \_\_\_\_\_ NE \_\_\_\_\_ SE \_\_\_\_\_ SW \_\_\_\_\_ NW

Date: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Host Phone (Best Number to Contact) (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Host e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Trade Item: \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch Provided: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide detailed directions and/or a map to meeting location if possible. Meetings are scheduled on a first come basis.

**Return to: Saltfork Craftsmen Regional Meeting Coordinator, Russell Bartling**

70 N 160th W Ave

Sand Springs, OK 74063

You can also send the information in an e-mail or text or fill out the online form available on the website in the top banner of the Calendar Tab: [www.saltforkcraftsmen.org/Calendar.shtm](http://www.saltforkcraftsmen.org/Calendar.shtm)

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist Blacksmith Assoc. Inc.  
P.O. Box 18389  
Oklahoma City, Ok. 73154

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