

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

May 2019



***Congratulations Josh Perkins - Winner of the 90 Degree Corner
Competition at the 2019 SCABA Annual Picnic
(The Tongs Were a Prize Made by Mandell Greteman)***

Inside: ABANA 2020 Conference Competitions #2 Chain and Repair Link, Intermediate Category - Second in a Series of Three Articles by Mark Aspery (Page 38)

**Saltfork Craftsmen
Artist-Blacksmith Association
Officers and Directors**

President/Workshop Coordinator:

Mandell Greteman 580-515-1292
409 East Broadway
Foss, Okla. 73647 mandell01@windstream.net

Vice-President/Conference Chair:

JJ McGill 580-369-1042
5399 Pete Nelson Rd.
Davis, OK 73030 jjmcgill88@yahoo.com

Director:

Byron Doner 405-650-7520
6520 Alameda
Norman OK 73026 byrondoner@esok.us

Director:

Ricky Vardell 580-512-8006
P.O. Box 461
Temple, OK 73568 Rickyv.vardell@gmail.com

Director:

Don Garner 580-302-1845
23713 E 860 Rd
Thomas, OK 73669 Call or Text

Director:

Eric Jergensen 405-414-8848
625 NW 18th
Oklahoma City, OK 73103 gericjergensen@gmail.com

Director:

Russell Bartling 918-633-0234
70 N 160th W. Ave
Sand Springs, Ok 74063 rbartling@ionet.net

Assignments:

Secretary:

Carol Doner 405-760-8388
6520 Alameda
Norman OK 73026 caroldoner7@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Teresa Gabrish 405-824-9681
P.O. Box 18389
Oklahoma City, Ok. 73154 tgabrish@gmail.com

Editor/Regional Meeting Coordinator:

Russell Bartling 918-633-0234
70 N 160th W. Ave
Sand Springs, Ok 74063 rbartling@ionet.net

Webmaster:

Dodie O'Bryan
Pawnee, Ok scout@skally.net

Librarian:

Don Garner 580-302-1845
23713 E 860 Rd
Thomas, OK 73669
Call or Text. If you get voice mail, please leave a message.

Editor's Notes:

Thanks again to Mark Aspery for number 2 in the three part series on chain making competitions in the upcoming 2020 ABANA Conference. Look for number three in the next newsletter.

If you like the detailed high quality style of Mark's articles, and if you don't already have them, be sure to check out Mark's "Skills of a Blacksmith" series of books. 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. This is just my unsolicited plug for the books because I think they are a great asset if you want to build your skill set on a solid foundation.

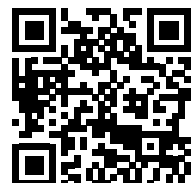
On another note, spring brings up a rapid increase in the number of activities all over and around the state. And I probably don't know about some of them. If you know of some demo opportunity or other event coming up that is of interest to blacksmiths, please let me know and I can include a notice in the newsletter. And, if you attend a demo or event and get any photos, please send them in so we can let others know what they missed!

- 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:

Well mother nature tested our devotion to our blacksmith picnic with wind blown sideways rain and a cold front. All in all I think it went well though. There was a good turn out from all over the state and a lot of hamming going on.

Byron started his big hammer and I was asked to run it cracking walnuts and flattening coins. It is very impressive to me and I think to anyone who likes older tools. I would like to thank everyone that helped at the picnic and especially Bryon and Carol for hosting the picnic. Most people don't know how much work it can be to do this if they haven't done it before. I am sure Byron and Carol were dragging by about 8 pm.

We had a good turnout for both of the beginner classes this month (one in the Tulsa area and one at Elk City.) I would like to Thank everyone who helped with these classes. It helps grow our club.

For all of our members we need to think more about safety. We don't need someone hurt. We have a good track record I feel but we have a lot of members who don't wear safety glasses when forging and we need to set a good example for the newer members. Please be safe, especially in group settings, and promote safe practices to others.

Our conference is around the corner less than 6 months away. Let's work on having a good Peoples' Choice gallery and auction this year. I am really looking forward to see what all the different talent everyone has brings to the table.

Don't make your spouse strike too much.

Mandell



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.

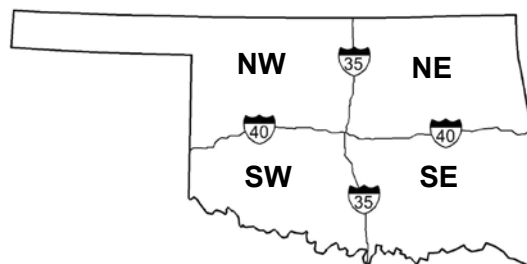
Want to host a meeting? The meeting hosting form can be found on the last page along with membership application form. If you want to host a meeting in any area please fill out one of the host forms on the website under the calendar section or in the newsletter and e-mail the information or mail the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

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.)

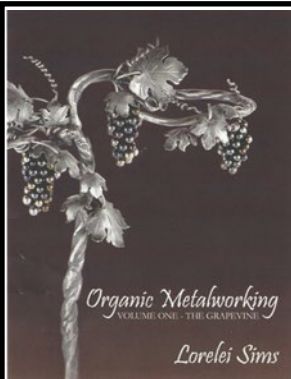
This will be an intensive educational event rather than a hands on workshop. Topics covered will include steel selection, forging, normalizing, thermal cycling, heat treating and other knife related subjects. If you know Anthony and his work, you will NOT want to miss this event!

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 almost full. Register now if you want to attend!

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 Interested)	May 11th (Open)	May 18th (Open)	May 25th (NW-Terry Kauk)
			May 25th (SW-JJ McGill, Boy Scouts)
Jun 1st (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Interested)	June 8th (Open)	Jun 15th (Ricky Vardell)	Jun 22nd (Open)
Jul 6th (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Interested)	Jul 13th (Open)	Jul 20th (Open)	Jul 27th (Open)
Aug 3rd (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Interested)	Aug 10th (Open)	Aug 17th (Open)	Aug 24th (Open)
Sep 7th (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Interested)	Sep 14th (Open)	Feb 16th (Open) Sep 21st (Ricky Vardell - JJ McGill - Sulphur Tractor Show)	Sep 28th (Ron Lehen- Bauer as Host - Don Gar- ner as Contact Person)
Oct 5th (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Interested)	Oct 12th (Conference Setup Work Day)	Oct 19th (Conference Weekend!)	Oct 26th (Bob Kennemer)
Nov 2nd (Josh Perkins) (Unless Other Host Interested)	Nov 9th (Bill Phillips)	Nov 16th (Anthony Griggs)	Nov 23rd (Open)
Dec 7th (Josh Perkins) (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)

May 2019

NE Regional Meeting May 4th : 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

SE Regional Meeting May 11th : Open.

SW Regional Meeting March 18th : Open

NW Regional Meeting May 25th : Will be hosted by Terry Kauk at his home/shop in Leedey, OK at 8411 N 2080 Rd. About 2 miles south of Leedey, go east at the intersection of Hwy 34 and Hwy 47. Go 2 miles east from the intersection, then 2 miles south, then 2 miles east, then approximately 1 1/8 miles south. Look for a two story brick house with tan shop north of the house.

Trade item is a Paper Towel Holder.

Lunch is provided but please bring a side dish or dessert to help out. Contact Terry Kauk at 580-821-0139 if you have questions.

SW Regional Meeting (Alternate Date) May 25th : Will be hosted by JJ McGill at the Murray County antique tractor show grounds location. This meeting will host Boy Scouts from Tulsa plus Leaders and Parents. Any smiths that would like to help out educating and working with the young Scouts are greatly appreciated.

The trade item and Scout Challenge is a Large Spoon made on a Slatfork Swage Block.

Lunch will be provided but please bring a side dish or dessert to help out.

Directions: 7 miles north of Sulphur on Hwy 177 then east ¾ mile on Tractor Road. Contact JJ McGill at 580-369-1042 if you have questions.

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.

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

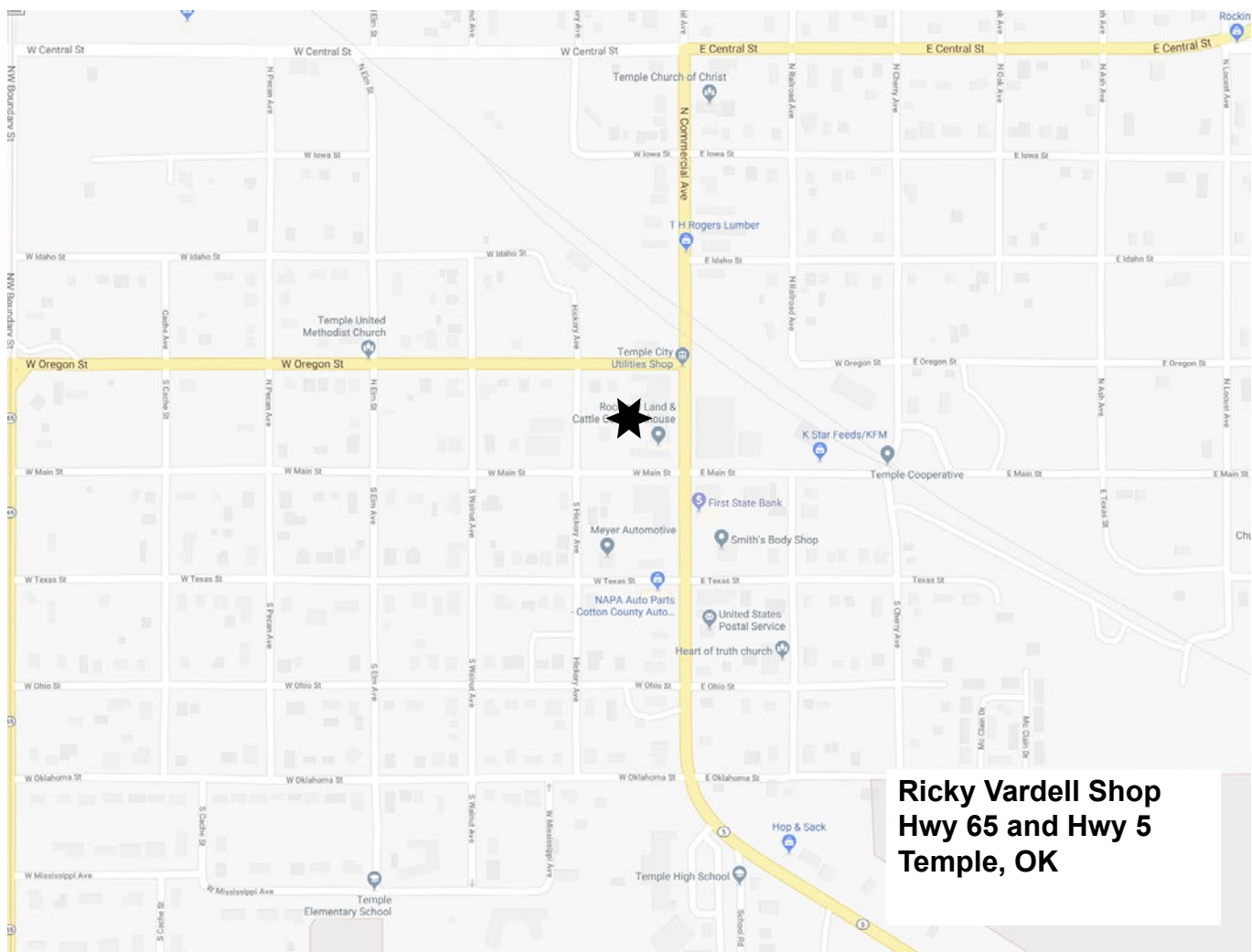
SE Regional Meeting June 8th: Open.

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

NW Regional Meeting June 22nd: Open.



2019 Saltfork Directors Voting Results:

The 2019 Board of Director positions were voted on at the picnic. Each year, voting takes place for approximately half of the Board which avoids a complete turnover during any single election cycle. The incumbant directors, Mandell Greteman, Byron Doner, and Don Garner, were unanimously voted to continue for another term with the exception of one write in for Dale Dixon (Dale laughed and gave his very short concession speech at the picnic but it can't be repeated here...) There were 39 ballots total including a couple of mail in ballots. Most voting occurred in person at the picnic.

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

I am looking for teachers for the family Classes. Please contact me if you are interested in teaching a class. If you have an idea for a class, but need me to find a teacher for it, let me know that as well. I need to set the classes up soon so they can go out in future newsletters for families to sign up. Thanks! - Carol Doner

Cleveland County Quilt Show

The Cleveland County OHCE is having our semi annual quilt show to raise money for High School Scholarships On May 9 and 10th, 2019. Contact Carol Doner if you would like to enter a quilt or Quilted item. As long as you haven't entered the item in our quilt show before, it is eligible. You don't need to belong to OHCE or live in Cleveland County. It is not necessary that you just made it this year.

There are a lot of categories including "under 18" and "beginning quilters" and "miscellaneous quilted items". Would love to hang your quilts!

Sincerely, Carol Doner
ohceeditor@gmail.com
(405)760-8388

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.



Oklahoma Magazine Does Story on Saltfork Craftsmen

Look for the April 2019 Edition of Oklahoma Magazine which is generally distributed at various professional service offices, restaurant vestibules, etc. around the state. The April edition has a brief article on Saltfork Craftsmen.

You can also read the print version online in a simulated magazine format:

<http://www.okmag.com/>

Or you can read the online stand alone article which has some additional photos:

<http://www.okmag.com/blog/2019/03/21/forging-ahead-from-antiquity/>



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.

Peter Ross has asked if there are any specific demo and workshop topics that we would like to see. Ken has a line up for the demo in mind but would like to ask a similar question on what workshop projects we would like. This is a chance to customize the presentations to be what we really want to see this year and we should not pass up this opportunity.

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.

We need to let the demonstrators know to prepare and also work out material and tooling requirements well before the conference ever gets here.

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

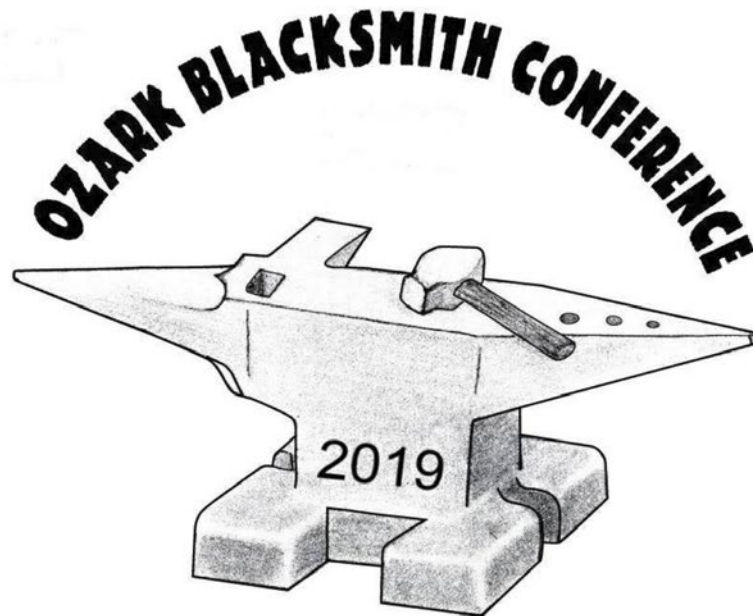


28th Annual Ozark Conference

May 2nd - May 5th , 2019

Missouri State Fairgrounds
Sedalia, MO

pre-registration must be postmarked by April 1st



2019 BAM Ozark Conference May 2 - 5 at Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia, Mo.

Demonstrators are

[Iymm Hoffman](#) and

[Raymond Rybar](#).

Click on the links to see additional info on each demonstrator.

The conference flyer and registration info are also available here:

[Conference Flyer](#)

[Fillable Registration Form](#)

[Conference site map](#)

[Sedalia map](#)

Oklahoma Steam Threshing & Gas Engine Association

STEAM & GAS ENGINE SHOW

Friday-Sunday, May 3-5, 2019

Gates Open @ 8:00 am @ Steam Park Grounds in Historic Pawnee, OK

Antique Power Exhibits • Fun Family Events



\$10/Day-\$15/Multi-Day Pass 12 & Under Free

FRIDAY IS SCHOOL DAY
 (Free Admission to school groups accompanied by teacher)

SAW MILL - MACHINE SHOP
WHEAT THRESHING
CORN GRINDING - SHINGLE MILL

OklahomaThreshers.org • 918.762.2108

Oklahoma Steam Threshing & Gas Engine Association
STEAM & GAS ENGINE SHOW

Friday-Sunday, May 3-5, 2019

Gates Open @ 8:00 am @ Steam Park Grounds in Historic Pawnee, OK

Bring on the "Good Ol' Days!"

**FUN ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
ANTIQUE POWER EXHIBITS - PARADE OF POWER
GAS & CORLISS STEAM ENGINES - SHINGLE & SAW MILLS
WHEAT THRESHING - CORN GRINDING - ROCK CRUSHING
FLEA MARKET - ARTS & CRAFTS - DOMESTIC LIVING DISPLAY
KIDDIE TRACTOR PULL - STEAM GAMES - TOY SHOW
LINE & MACHINE SHOPS - BLACK SMITH - FOOD TRUCKS**

\$10/Day-\$15/Multi-Day Pass 12 & Under Free

FRIDAY IS SCHOOL DAY

(Free Admission to school groups accompanied by teacher)

OklahomaThreshers.org • 918.762.2108

Follow us on Facebook!

Forging a New Leaf for Life

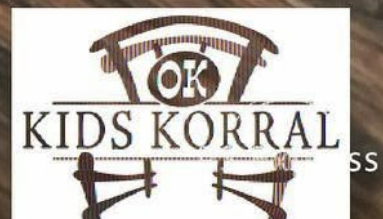
Come forge your leaf & help
support the Toby Keith
Foundation & OK Kids Korral

Hosted by: The Forge
1609 N. Blackwelder Ave.



Friday, May 10th, noon to 10pm

Suggested donation of \$25. All
proceeds benefit the OK Kids Korral



Rural Heritage Festival

Saturday May 11th, 2019 • 10:00 to 3:00



Chuck Wagon!

*Join us for a fun
family friendly day
back in time!*

Free Admission!!!

Cherokee Strip Museum
2617 W. Fir St.
Perry, OK 73077



Rope Making!

Lots to See!
Soap Making
Basket Weaving
Rope Making
Settler Camps
Cowboys
Blacksmith Demos
Quilting Demos



Learning How to Make Soap!

Lots to Do!
Sack Races
Cake Walks
Craft Booths
Food Trucks

Schedule of Events

GUTHRIE GUNFIGHTERS WILL PERFORM SHOOTOUTS EVERY HOUR, ON THE HOUR!

BLACKSMITHING DEMONSTRATIONS DURING THE DAY!

11:30 ROSE HILL SCHOOL SESSION...DON'T BE TARDY!

**12:00 DUTCH OVEN COOKS WILL BE SERVING OR VISIT ONE OF THE
FOOD TRUCK FOR A TASTY LUNCH**

**ENJOY LIVE MUSIC, PROVIDED BY
THE GREAT PLAINS DULCIMER ALLIANCE.!**

SOUTHWESTERN IRONWORKS

TAILGATE SWAP MEET

MAY 18, 2019

8:00 AM to _____?

**302 W. College
Guthrie, OK**

**All Hobby Machinists, Blacksmiths & Woodworkers,
Bring your unwanted tools and equipment to
Buy-Sell-Trade**

Contact Information:

David King (405) 426-0476

Bob Paddack (405) 642-5243

Note: Due to the unfortunate passing of Steve Knisely, we are in need of a blacksmith to demonstrate at this event. Every Year, Steve was a big hit and great demonstrator at the indoor forge. Although Steve cannot be replaced, we would like to continue the tradition of having a blacksmith demonstrator. If you would like to demonstrate at our forge, please contact David King.

Central States Metal Artisans Spring Demonstrator:

Peter Ross will be doing a one-day demonstration followed by a 2-day workshop on Memorial Day weekend, **May 25th, 26th. and 27th. 2019.** His website is <https://www.peterrossblacksmith.com/>

Peter Ross took his first blacksmith lesson at Stonybrook Museums, in 1970. After attending the Rhode Island School of Design, he worked his way through various shops working as a blacksmith until he moved to be the Master Blacksmith at Colonial Williamsburg. Peter worked to promote the study of blacksmithing through historically accurate processes. He remained at the museum from 1979 to 2004. He has now begun pursuing his own ventures of producing historic hardware reproductions in his own studio. Peter has demonstrated nationally at several ABANA conferences as well as most of the countries craft schools.

May 25th (Saturday) Peter will do a day long demonstration at the Haysville Shop.

May 26th-27th (Sunday-Monday) Peter will teach a hands-on workshop at Butch Howey's place north of Maize, KS.

Cost to members will be \$25 a day or \$65 for all three days. Membership to CSMA is \$20 a year.

At this time, the plan is for Peter to demonstrate box-lock pliers on Saturday. The Workshop on Sunday & Monday he will be teaching hardware (hinges, latches, etc).

Saturday demo will be at the Haysville shop (220 S Main St, Haysville, Kansas 67060) and the Workshop will be at Butch Howey's place (5753 N Maize Rd, Maize, Kansas 67101). Non-members will have to join the CSMA (\$20) to attend, so that they're covered by our liability insurance.

For the Workshop we are encouraging attendees to bring their own tools and/or equipment. Hammers, tongs, files, anvil/forge if you got them. We will bring from the Haysville Shop some stuff for those without stuff. Those who bring their own are willing to share with them, too. Our club coal is stored at Butch's, so we will have plenty of coal for all the coal forges. Propane forge owners will have to make sure they bring enough propane.

-Rob Fertner, CSMA editor - Wichita, KS

<http://centralstatesmetalartisans.com/>



Central States Metal Artisans 2019 Spring Demo/Workshop with Peter Ross

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ home _____ - _____ - _____ work

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

E-Mail _____

Registration for single days Per Person

May 25th (Saturday) Demo only - \$25 X _____

May 26th (Sunday) Workshop 1st Day- \$25 X _____

May 27th (Monday) Workshop 2nd Day-\$25 X _____

OR

Registration for all three days- \$65 X _____

For Non-Members-Add CSMA membership \$20 X _____

Saturday Demo will be at the Haysville Club Shop:

220 S Main St, Haysville, Kansas 67060

Sunday & Monday Workshop will be at Butch Howey's Place:

5753 N Maize Rd, Maize, Kansas 67101

Mail Registration and money to:

C.S.M.A.

PO Box 2692

Wichita, KS 67201

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
or contact: Bill Payne at 918-251-8734, wudcrrv@cox.net
or Bob Block at 918-693-2418, 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.



Photo By LeLaisserPasserA38 - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=78064310>



The Devil's Blacksmith Project:

With the recent fire at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, France, it seems like a good time to bring up the Devil's Blacksmith Project.

If you haven't heard of it, this is a project to document modern blacksmiths' research and methods for reproducing some of the extraordinary 13th century ironwork on the Notre Dame Cathedral - specifically some of the door hinges.

The project name stems from the idea that some of the iron work on cathedrals of the time was so amazing that non-blacksmiths were convinced it had to be somehow done with the assistance of the devil. And there is a legend that the blacksmith who produced these Notre Dame hinges made a deal with the devil so he could produce fine work worthy of the cathedral (but he was later released from his deal and was able to dodge payment with his immortal soul.)

There is a documentary DVD and a "How-To" DVD available on this project (as well as direct download options.) Browser search for "The Devil's Blacksmith" to find several links for more info or to buy both videos on DVD, go to:

http://blacksmithvideos.com/product/double-dvd-docu_and_how-to-be-the-devils-blacksmith/



- Editor

Around the State...

NW Region March Meeting:

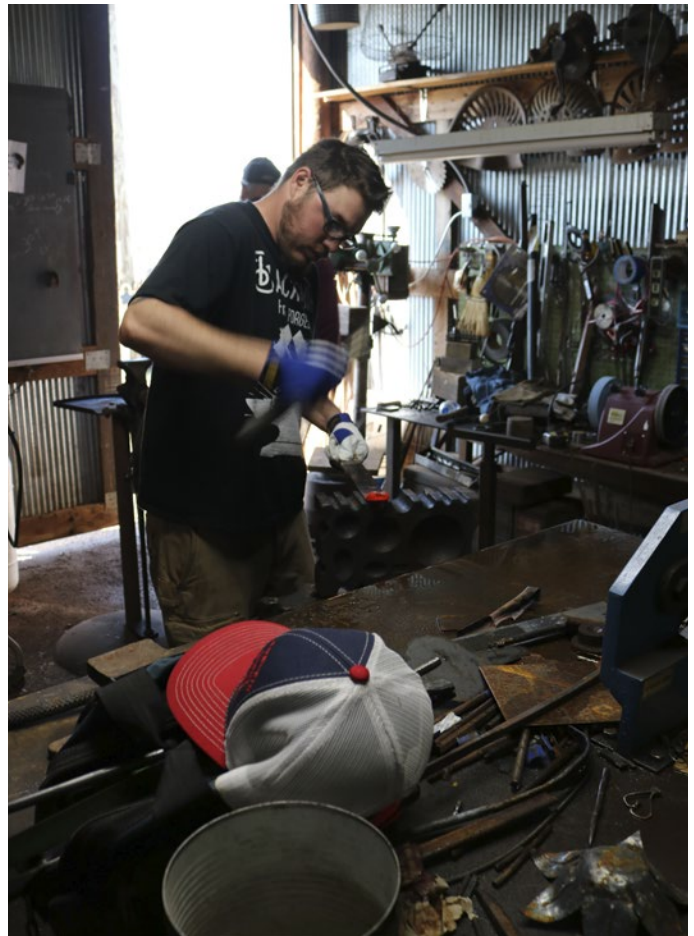
The northwest regional meeting was hosted by Mandell and LaQuitta Greteman in Foss, OK.

We had a nice meeting. Weather started off wet and cold but turned out to be a great day and the sun decided to shine. We had 10 trade items. Several trade items were made on site. Everyone that wanted to was able to hammer.

We thank everyone for coming. We would also like to thank everyone who brought a side dish and the ones who helped set up and clean up. It takes us all to make these meetings work.

- Mandell and LaQuitta

(Photos by the LaQuitta Greteman)





NE Region April Meeting:

Saltfork members, Diana Simon, Tom Nelson, & Jim Carothers as well as the local Cherokee Strip Historical Society hosted the NE Regional gathering at the new blacksmith shop across from the Cherokee Strip Museum on the west side of Perry, OK.

We had a good turnout of Saltfork members, local people, and several people that traveled quite a distance to learn more about Saltfork, for their first smithing lessons, and to join the association. There were 51 blacksmiths, guests and onlookers that signed in.

The portable forges as well as the main forge in the new shop were going all day with anyone wanting to try their hand at the craft taking something home that they made. I noticed right away many young people and their parents trying their hand at smithing had exchanged their cell phones for hammers and tongs. That was a good sight. Simply stated, the educational opportunity and sharing of the craft was everywhere at this meeting.

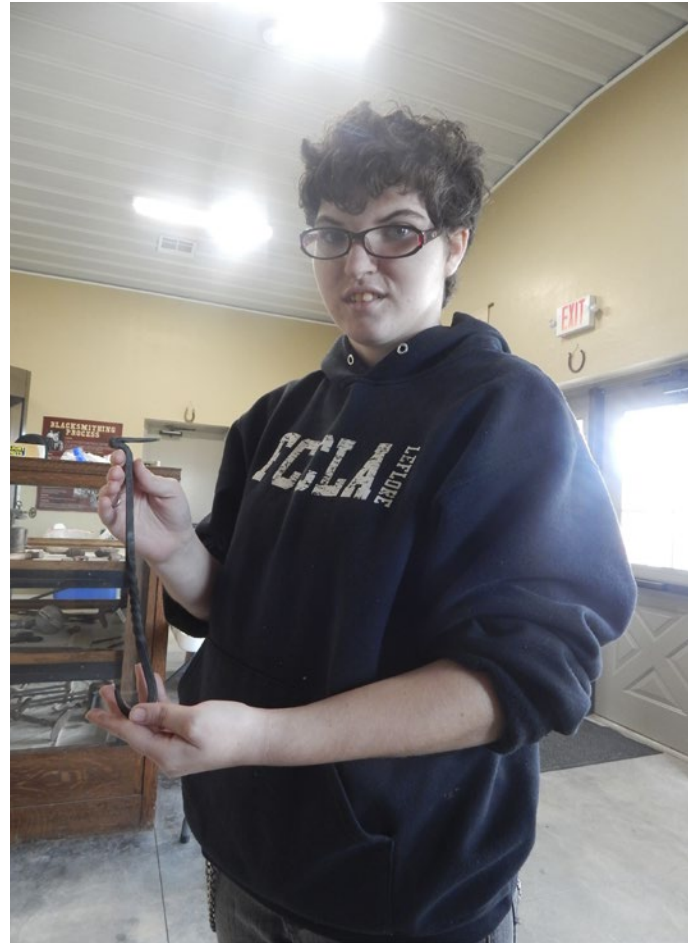
Tom & I were among the last to leave breaking down our fires around 5 PM. A big thank you goes to those who were able to stay and that helped to load up the tools, and a special thanks to Diana for the great pulled pork lunch and her work in getting the meeting set up. I am looking forward to more activities at this new museum shop.

- Jim Carothers

(Photos by Diana Simon)







SE Region April Meeting: The SE Regional Meeting was reserved for the SCABA Annual Picnic. See following page for Picnic Report.

SW Region April Meeting: No formal meeting was held in April.

2019 SCABA Annual Picnic

Hosted by Byron and Carol Doner - April 13th, 2019

What a day! Both Friday and Sunday were fair weather days. But not Saturday! It was blowing, cold, and raining on our picnic day! Actually when I was on my way to get doughnuts, it hadn't started yet so I thought we might have been missed by the rainy old cold storm. Turned out I was wrong as usual. Luckily Bruce had come over Thursday and after some prodding from him, a few of us moved my cooker to my old shop where they could be out of the weather while cooking about 100 burgers, and about as many hotdogs, brawts, and hot links. All the Ladies are in order for a big Thank You for all they did to make it where we all could fit somewhere warm, and dry to eat, along with all the rest of the work they carried out to make it all a success! And I better not forget our cooks, Bruce Willenberg, and Tim Jones, our head Chefs, and all their helpers.

While I'm thanking helpers, I am ashamed to admit that not only did I not ram-rod the contests, I actually never even got the time to see even just one person hammering on their contest pieces! I owe my personal thanks to the guys that made that happen! It seems that every meeting at my place, I'm always bouncing around like a pinball from one person's wants or another's! Boy, what I'd give to have just a fraction of Gerald Franklin's organizational skills!

Congratulations go to Josh Perkins who won the right angle contest. Only one weld was made on the 3/4" weld, and it was a co- effort with Chris Zornes, and Rory Kirk. On Thursday, the 18th of April, it was brought to my attention that the "goo" in the bottom of my 3 burner forge was leaving copper, or brass on pieces of steel that were heated in it. I have to wonder if this was the reason for all the trouble folks were having trying to make a forge weld.

Thank You to all who braved the weather, and hopefully next year, Mother Nature will cooperate with our picnic. - Byron











March Workshops

There were three workshops at the end of March on the fifth Saturday - A Beginning Blacksmith class in the NE region, a Beginning Blacksmith class at Elk City, and a Touch-mark class at Norman.

Due to some very real challenges getting equipment setup and an overbooked class, the NE region class has no write up or photos. But, thanks to the instructors for pulling it off!

This is the write up for the class at Elk City:

Yep we had another good class at the Route 66 Elk City Museum. We had a full class from old to young. I was worried about one that was only eight years old but he did a really good job and he made everything we asked him to. He was one of the ones that worked the longest. We didn't get a group photo because some of them slipped off early, I guess they got tired after lunch. I would like to Thank the Elk City Farm and Ranch Museum for letting us have classes there. I also would like to thank all the blacksmiths for the help Don Garner, Chris Zornes, Rory Kirk, Terry Kauk, Bob Kennemer, and Gary Seigrist. A thank you to Lynn Kennemer for helping with the food. Let the Bellows Blow - Mandell







March Touch-Mark Workshop

When we first got started, I demonstrated how to use reverse letter stamps along with a jig to line them up across the center of the 5/8" bar. This way of making a touch-mark is in Diana Davis's sketchbook, and I had plenty of copies, so everyone could have one. There was plenty of confusion, as I only had one "station" to work at, and 17 guys wanting to make their touch-mark.

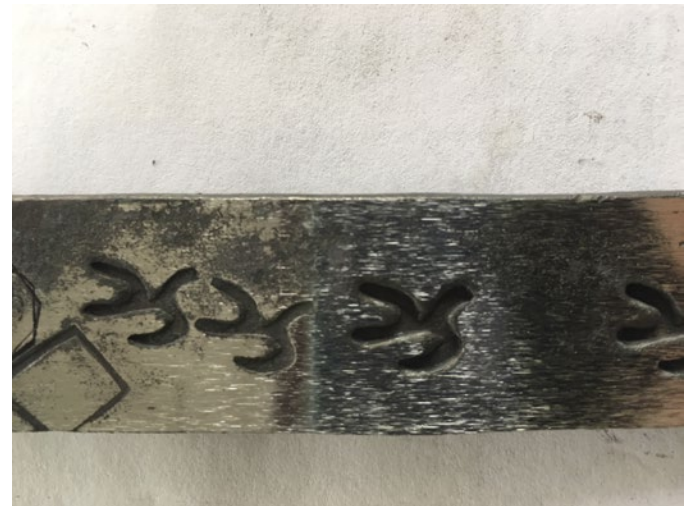
I think we had 3 guys who wanted to make their own design, and not do the letters at all. After finding them tools to work with, I went back and demonstrated how to use regular stamps, and transfer what they had made already to another bar. This would make their stamp where it would have the letters raised just like the original stamps, just not as deep. The contraption we were using was a bit cantankerous, and again, I only had one, so we had another bottle neck area. A big thank you is owed to Bruce Willenberg as he stayed at the contraption and helped everyone to get through it.

Everything was kind of starting to go ok when someone got mixed up and started telling everyone to use the reverse stamps. After we hid the reverse stamps and ground a few bars back clean, and square on the end again we were back in business.

A few guys had left with their touch-marks before lunch. Thanks to my grandchildren's mother, we had enchiladas, and I for one gorged myself on them and the deserts that others had brought. Thanks to all the women that helped out in the kitchen! After lunch it was back to work for there were still some patient folks that were getting their touch-marks made.

I believe that everyone that wanted one got their touch-marks done. - Byron





Member Gallery



Leaf Keychains and Wizard Head
Steak Turner
by Rory Kirk, Cheyenne, OK



Horseshoe Scrolling Pliers
by Bill Davis, Fletcher, OK



Cooper's Compass
by Russell Bartling, Cleveland, OK

Member Gallery



Trivet and Matching Candle Holder
by Eric Jergensen, Oklahoma City, OK



Bench and Table Projects
by Don Shunk, Choctaw, OK

The ABANA 2020 Conference. The Chain Making Competition: Intermediate Category



Chain and Repair link

360 Degrees of Blacksmithing



ABANA 2020 June 3~6
Saratoga New York

The ABANA 2020 conference chain making competition

ABANA 2020 Conference competitions #2 Chain-making - Intermediate Category

Mark Aspery, California.

You are to forge two links of chain from 6-inch long pieces of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch round bar, and a repair link from a piece of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch square stock, the length of which is unknown at this time.

The repair link will have an included mortise, either formed by punching and drifting, or by welding an eye.

For punching the eye, you'll need either a $\frac{3}{8}$ - $\frac{7}{16}$ -inch wide slot-punch or a slitting chisel and a round drift. I use a tapered round drift as I find it suits my needs better than a parallel sided drift. You will also need a hot cut chisel and maybe your own pair of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch tongs, as these will be at a premium during the event.

If you intend to weld the eye, you may need a mandrel as well as a drift.

Either method is appropriate, with welding perhaps more suited to wrought iron and its grain.

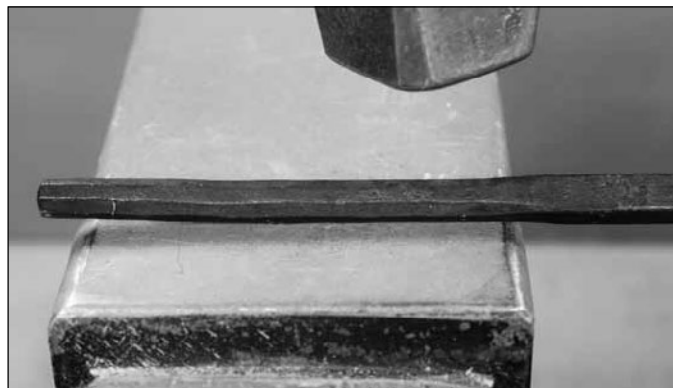


Here is the repair link applied

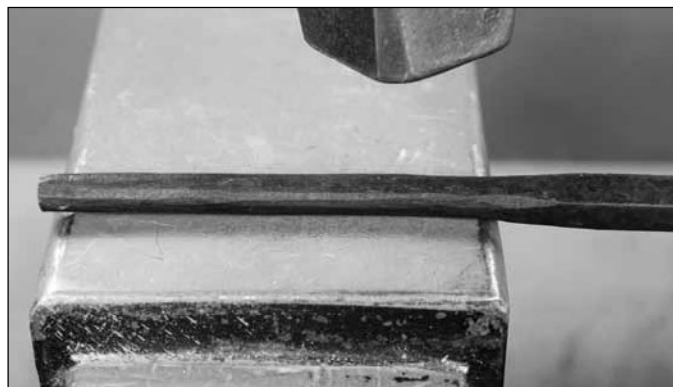
Start by drawing down a section of the square stock and forging it into a $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch round cross-section. I estimate a need of around 4-inches (finished) of drawn square stock, that will be further forged to a length of $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5-inches of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch round stock, the remainder of the bar being left $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch square.



Draw down a length of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch square bar on the bick



Draw down a 4-inch length to a $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch square cross section



Dress the forging and take to octagon and then on to round



Aim for a $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5-inch length of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch round bar when finished

Mark Aspery

Once you have drawn down the end of the bar to a round cross section, you have a choice of working methods; your decision may be made for you depending on the room in the forge pan, length of original stock etc.:

1. Sever the material that you think that you need from the parent bar and punch or weld the mortise.
2. Punch and drift the mortise before cutting the repair link from the bar.

I prefer not to cut the project away from the parent bar until after I have finished the link. Keeping the project on the bar makes it much easier to punch and drift as well as turn the link to thread the eye.

Cutting the link away from the bar also creates a problem with the corners of the cut bar creating 'rabbit's ears' during drifting, but it maybe a needs-must situation, depending on forge room etc.

I show both methods in the photograph progression below to cover to all eventualities.

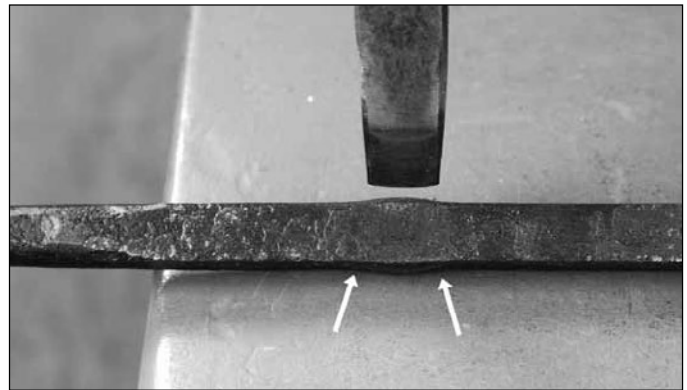
If you cut the project from the parent bar, you have a couple of options. You can cut the bar straight across and be left with a flat end, or you can use a curved chisel (or hardy cut-off) and leaving a curved end. Both methods have their shortcomings.

You need 1¾-inch to 2-inches of un-forged square stock on the end of the forged round stock, to complete the repair link. I find that a length of 6½-inches from the end of the bar to the start of the mortise is about the right length of material for the link.

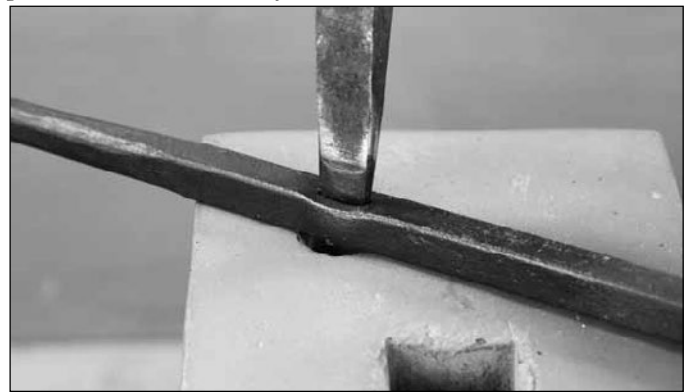
I like to punch from both sides of the bar pushing the resultant swelling to the middle of the bar, rather than to one side, and leaving a uniform look.

Use the swelling created by punching from the first side to landmark the punch on the second. Clear the slug over the pritchel hole.

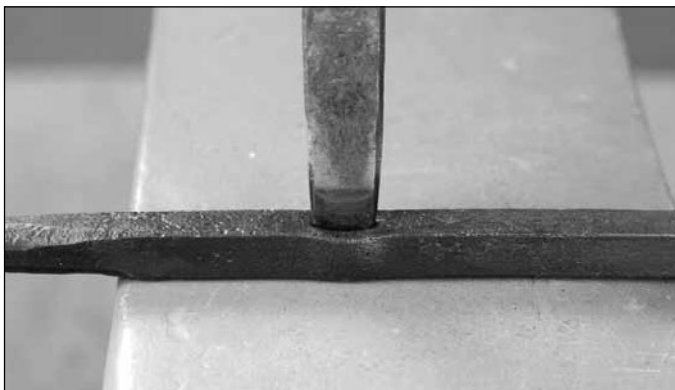
My preference is to use a tapered round drift to finish the mortise, working from both sides of the bar and teasing the hole into its final shape.



Use the swelling created by the initial punching to locate the punch on the second side of the bar



Clear the slug over the pritchel hole of the anvil

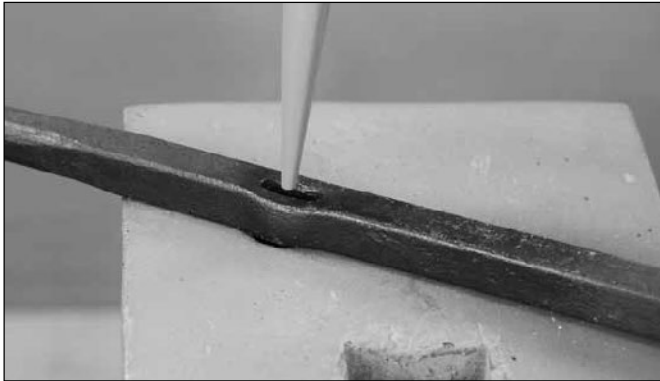


Punch to slightly past halfway from one side of the bar

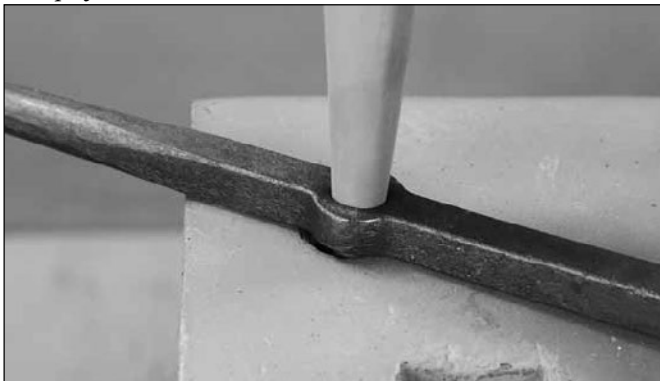


My slot punch is slightly over 3/8-inch wide

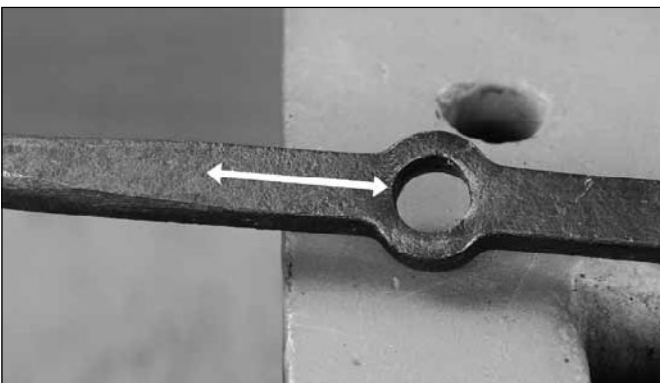
The ABANA 2020 conference chain making competition



I use a tapered drift when drifting the mortise, but that's personal preference



Work from both sides of the bar as you drift



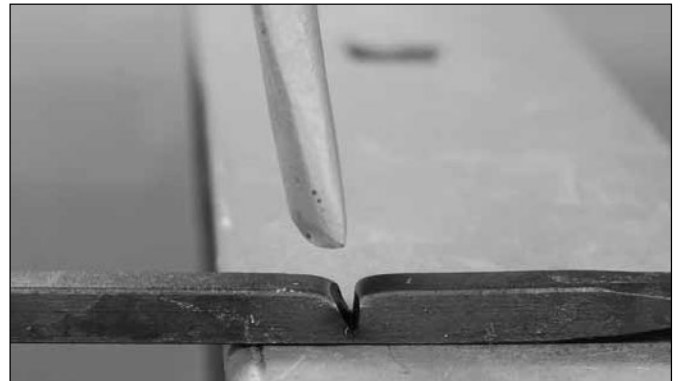
I like about 6½-inches of length from the start of the mortise to the end of the round bar

If you have a flat cut you can either hot rasp the end now or later, although delaying it until after you have drifted the mortise might be more appropriate.

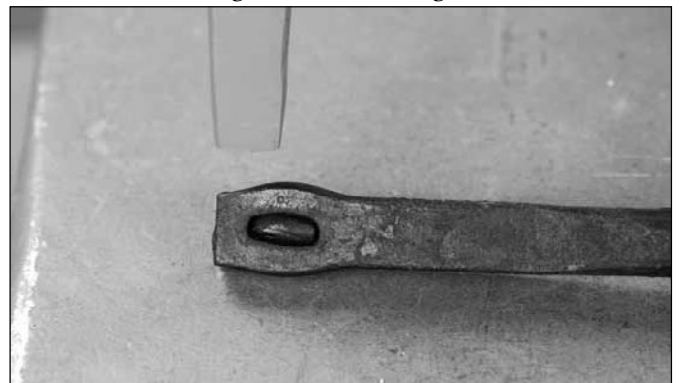
My slot punch is about 1/16-inch thick and a little over 3/8-inch wide. When placed along the centerline of the bar it will leave 5/32-inch on either side of the punch.

If you cut the project from the parent bar, theory suggests that you leave that same amount from the edge of the punch to the end of the bar. Theory and practice don't always align, and this is one time when they don't.

The end of the bar, having minimal support, is stretched and thinned by the drifting action of forming the eye. To accommodate for this, pad the measurement from the edge of the punch to the end of the bar to allow for this - not by much, a 1/32-inch or so, a little more if you are going to hot-rasp the end.



Sever the piece from the bar 1¾-inch past the transition area. Note that I am holding the chisel at an angle to the bar



Leave an allowance at the end of the bar for cleanup and drift movement when you punch.



Hot rasp the cut end after drifting to round

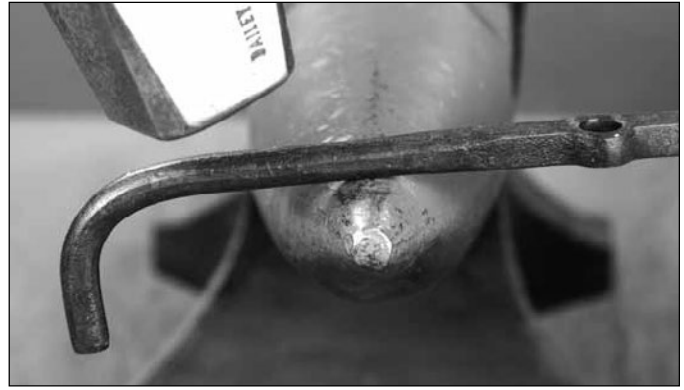
Mark Aspery

The size of your slot punch and drift must reflect the size and shape of the round end of the repair link.

Once the mortise is formed, you will need to bend the end of the round bar to slightly past 90-degrees.

Lay off about 1⅜-inches past the centerline of the bick to locate the bend.

Make the bend at an area of the bick or horn that reflects the inside dimension of the chain - around 1-inch in diameter.



With an allowance of material needed to make the bend, turn the link



Lay off about 1⅜-inch from the center of the bick



Take the bend past 90° if you can, making it easier to catch the bick when you turn the link over



Bending the bar to slightly past 90° makes it easier to thread into the mortise

Bend the bar so that the tenon is headed towards the mortise. Make the bend around the area of the bick that best represents the inside diameter of the chain to be repaired.

There should be no square stock within the bend.

Close the link and give the whole thing a brushing. Cut the repair link from the bar using either a curved or a straight chisel. There is no set way the end should look, curved or flat, so long as the end doesn't interfere with the joined chain when applied.



Finish the bend over an appropriate part of the bick, leaving an ID that matches the chain link



This is as far as I go on the bick before moving to the face of the anvil

The ABANA 2020 conference chain making competition



Close the link on the face of the anvil and give it a good brushing before returning to the fire



Sever the repair link from the parent bar and hot rasp the cut end to either flat or curved, taking your cue from the judge



This is the end after hot rasping, showing the fit that I am looking for in the mortise



Open the repair link ready to apply the two chain links

Re-open the link sufficiently to accept the chain links with either a pair of tongs or at the bick.

Hopefully, at this time, you've already moved the material for the two chain links nearer to the fire to pre-heat them ready for forging.

A variation on this theme is to create a hammer-finished tenon on the end of the round bar section. Forego the drawing down of the bar at the bick, moving straight away into octagon and round. This move leaves the round bar oversized, and able to accommodate a tenon of the requisite size for the mortise.



The judge may or may not want the repair link closed on the day. Practice both and get a feel for the time needed



A variation on the theme is to create an appropriately sized hammer-forged tenon on the end of an oversized round section

The judge on the day *may or may not* want the repair link to be closed on the links, practice closing the repair link to get an estimate on the time needed should the need arise. Good luck!

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ABANA 2020 Conference



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

ART: with Daniel Miller, Zeevick Gottleib, & Ellen Durkan

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

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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 :

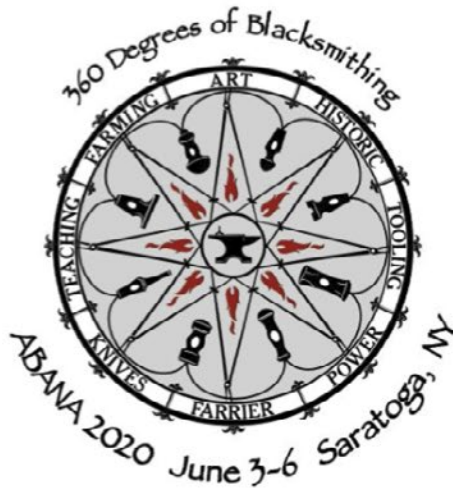
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Scheduled Activities

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



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.

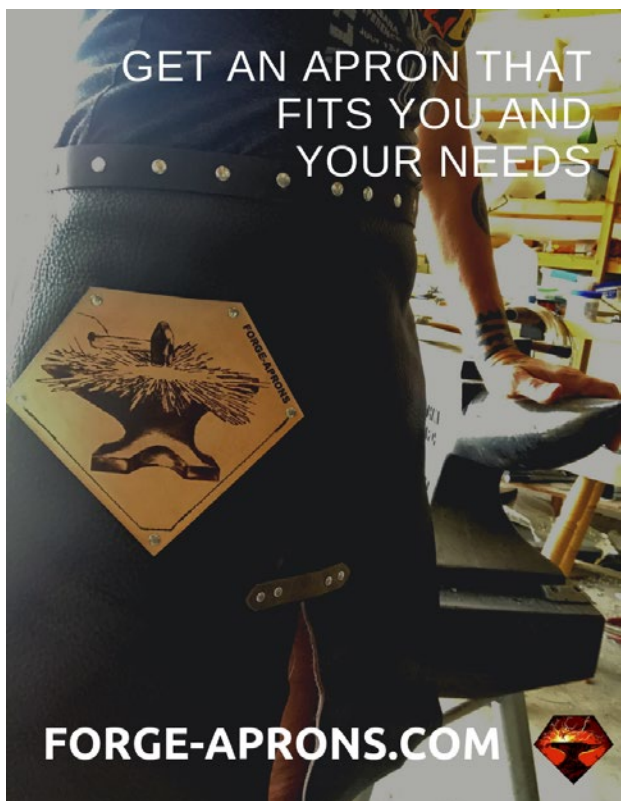
For Sale: 15 Lb Tire Hammers:

\$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



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SCABA Shop and Swap



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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!



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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



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To order swage blocks or cones, contact our distributor:

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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.

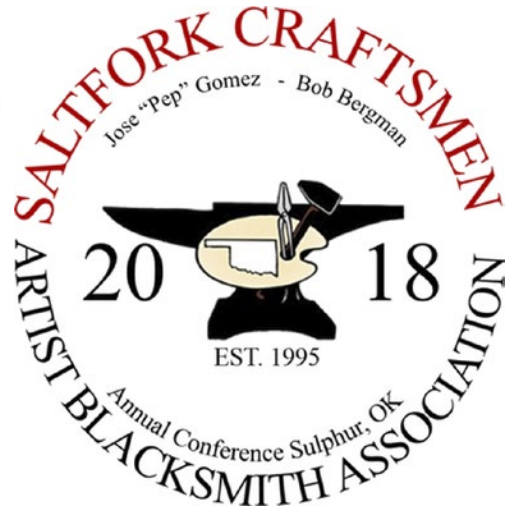
NE Region coal location: Charlie McGee has coal to sell. He lives in the Skiatook, Oklahoma area. His contact information is: (Home) 918-245-7279 or (Cell) 918-639-8779

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

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

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

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