

# Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

August 2022



**The Oklahoma State Fair is Coming Up!**  
**September 15th-25th**  
**(Page 11)**

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

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409 East Broadway  
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Don Garner 580-302-1845  
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Call or Text. If you get voice mail, please leave a message.

## Editor's Notes:

*Hi all. I have made a couple more leaves, they are for a project I have assigned myself. If I get it done on time, I may put it in the member gallery (the leaves are down there as I promised/threatened last time).*

*I would love to start including member created articles in the newsletter. If you have a project you are working on or an idea for a demo, I am happy to travel to meet you (I do work, but I am off on the weekends) so I can take photos and notes! I can write the article, I just would need you to look it over and make sure I didn't mess anything up.*

*I am trying to tighten up my processes, though time got away from me this month. To that end, I am going to start including a deadline for future newsletters. So, anything sent to me before that date will make it into the upcoming newsletter, and everything after will be the following one. A week ahead of month's end is what I am aiming for to send the newsletter off to the printer.*

*So, for September's newsletter, I will need anything you want added by August 24th. (Now to see if I stick to my own deadline...)*

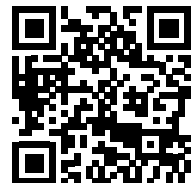
*As always, if there is anything you are interested in seeing or you have any comments or suggestions, please let me know!*

*-Katie Mitchell, 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:

Hello everyone. I hope you are staying as cool as possible and staying safe with the heat. Some of us went and demonstrated at Sayre, OK at what they call Dust Bowl Days. It went well, but at about 3:00pm it got smoking hot and we had enough, so we packed up and went home.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the conference and cooler weather (and maybe some rain).

Due to the lack of interest we have called off the tire hammer build class.

Hermon thinks he might put on a private class if he gets some interest from around the country. I will let the club know if he makes it happen.

Bob Kennemer passed away a few weeks ago. We will really miss him in the club. He did a lot for the Blacksmith Museum in Elk City.

Carol is under the weather, I hope she gets to feeling better.

Don't forget the iron in the hat and the people's choice for the conference. Everyone stay cool.

Keep your tools out of the sun when you are forging,

- 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.

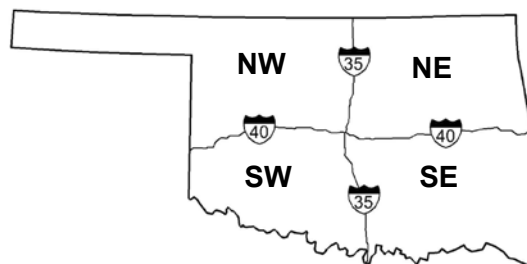
Want to host a meeting? The meeting hosting form can be found on the last page along with membership application form. If you want to host a meeting in any area, please fill out one of the host forms on the website under the calendar section or in the newsletter and e-mail the information or mail the 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. -Katie Mitchell, 405-816-0445 hope91.16@gmail.com

## 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.



# 2022 Workshop Schedule

The Board of Directors and the Workshop Coordinator are always looking for feedback from members on what workshops you would like to see from fundamentals to advanced. Please let them know! If there is group interest in a specific workshop topic, they will work hard to try to make it happen.

## **BLACKSMITH BEGINNERS' WORKSHOP**

**WHEN:** Sunday, November 20th at 8am  
**WHERE:** Muldrow City Park, Muldrow OK

Saltfork Craftsmen will be hosting a beginners Blacksmithing workshop on Sunday, November 20th, beginning at 8 A.M. and running until complete. (About 3 P.M.) All tools and materials will be provided. Projects will include, an S-hook, a forged leaf keychain, and a hot cut chisel. We will be covering the basic blacksmithing skills of tapering, drawing, scroll work, and heat treating. A hot lunch will be provided. Slots are limited so please reserve yours early. Cost for the course is \$40 per person. Minors under 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

To make reservations, or for questions, please contact **Bradley Nance @ 918-774-4291**, or email at [Bradley.nance@cnent.com](mailto:Bradley.nance@cnent.com)

*(Please note that due to insurance requirements, all participants must be members of Saltfork Craftsmen. Membership is \$30 per year, and covers all family members. Membership fees are payable at the time of the course or by contacting Carol Doner at [Treasurer@saltforkcraftsmen.org](mailto:Treasurer@saltforkcraftsmen.org))*

**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.

## **We have two workshop coordinators:**

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

**Eastern Areas:** Brad Nance is the SCABA Workshop Coordinator.  
Contact Brad at 918-774-4291.

## The Saltfork Gate Project Still Needs More Rings!



This is a community project that is open to all Saltfork members regardless of skill level or experience. There is still room for more rings. You can see more details about the project in any of the past newsletters from August 2019 through January 2021.

Contact Mandell if you have any additional questions or to find out where to obtain one of the project rings: **Mandell Greteman 580-515-1292.**

### Tire Hammer Build Workshop

Agra, OK

September 16, 17 and 18, 2022

Saltfork Craftsman is arranging a "Clay Spencer" style Tire Hammer Build Workshop to be held at Curtis Herman's shop in Agra, OK. The workshop will span three days and all participants will leave with a finished, working tire hammer. These hammers will include the recent improvements designed by Curtis Herman and approved by Clay Spencer. These are fantastic working hammers and many smiths believe that they represent one of the best performing power hammer options currently available for the money.

The approximate cost will be \$3,000 per hammer. Final price may vary slightly depending on the number of attendees and the current price of materials.

The workshop is open to Saltfork members first but will probably be open to non-members as well depending on attendance. The minimum attendance will be 15 and will be capped at a maximum of around 30. This workshop will fill up fast so if you are interested, secure your seat as soon as possible.

If you are interested in participating, contact Mandell Greteman to reserve your spot!

Contact: Mandell Greteman - **580-515-1292**

# 2022 REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE

NE Region (1st Sat)	SE Region (2nd Sat)	SW Region (3rd Sat)	NW Region (4th Sat)
Jan 1st (Open)	Jan 8th (Open)	Jan 15th (Open)	Jan 22nd (Doug Hyde)
Feb 5th (Open)	Feb 12th (Open)	Feb 19th (Open)	Feb 26th (Rory Kirk)
<b>Mar 5th</b> (Regional Meeting OPEN) (Beginning Blacksmith Workshop-Elk City)	Mar 12th (Open)	Mar 19th (Open)	Mar 26th (Dorvan Ivey)
Apr 2nd (Open)	Apr 9th (Open)	Apr 16th (Open)	Apr 23rd (Everett Timmons)
<b>May 7th</b> (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	May 14th (Open)	<b>May 21st</b> (Ray Kimbrell)	<b>May 28th</b> (NW-Mandell Greteman) May 28th (SW-JJ McGill, Boy Scouts)
Jun 4th (Open)	<b>Jun 11th</b> (Regional Meeting Open) (Beginner's Work- shop-Elk City)	<b>Jun 18th</b> (Regional Meeting Open) (Beginner's Work- shop-Muldrow City Park)	Jun 25th (Don Garner)
Jul 2nd (Open)	Jul 9th (Open)	Jul 16th (Open)	Jul 23rd (Terry Kauk)
<b>Aug 6th</b> (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	<b>Aug 13th</b> (Open)	Aug 20th (Open)	<b>Aug 27th</b> (Skylar Parker)
Sep 3rd (Open)	Sep 10th (Open)	Sep 17th (Open)	<b>Sep 24th</b> (Ron LehenBauer as Host - Don Garner as Contact Person)
Oct 1st (Open)	<b>Oct 8th</b> (Conference Setup)	<b>Oct 15th</b> (Conference Weekend)	<b>Oct 22nd</b> (Monte Smith)
<b>Nov 5th</b> (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	Nov 12th (Open)	Nov 19th (Open)	Nov 26th (Open)
Dec 3rd (Open)	Dec 10th (Open)	Dec 17th (Open)	Dec 24th (Open)

## 2022 Fifth Saturdays:

January 29th (Open)

**April 30th (SCABA Annual Picnic!)**

July 30th (Open)

October 29th (Open)

December 31st (Open)



# August 2022

**NE Regional Meeting August 6th:** Will be hosted by Diana Simon and the Cherokee Strip Historical Society at the new Blacksmith Museum and Shop.  
2617 W. Fir Ave, Perry, OK 73077. The shop is located approximately 1/4 mile east of Exit 186 from I-35 on north side of the road (Hwy 64 or Fir St.)

The trade item is whatever you want to bring or make.

The meeting is planned to start at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be provided.

Contact Diana Simon at 580-572-8290 or [dsimon@okhistory.org](mailto:dsimon@okhistory.org) if you have questions.

SE Regional Meeting August 13th: (Open.)

SW Regional Meeting August 20th: (Open.)

**NW Regional Meeting August 27th:** Will be hosted by Skylar Parker at the Route 66 Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.

Then trade item is a hatchet.

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

Contact: Skylar Parker at 580-393-1215 if you have questions.

# September 2022

NE Regional Meeting September 3rd: (Open.)

SE Regional Meeting September 10th: (Open.)

SW Regional Meeting September 17th: (Open.)

**NW Regional Meeting September 24th:** Will be hosted by Ron Lehenbaur (Don Garner as contact) at the Fairview Tractor Show. Directions: 1 ½ miles east of Fairview on Hwy 58. Watch for signs on the north side of the road. Friday will be a demo day, the meeting is Saturday.

The trade item will be whatever you wish to make.

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

Contact: Don Garner 580-302-1845 if you have questions.

## October 2022

NE Regional Meeting October 1st: (Open.)

**SE Regional Meeting October 8th:** Conference Setup.

**SW Regional Meeting October 15th:** Conference Weekend.

**NW Regional Meeting October 22nd:** Will be held by Monte Smith at the his shop.  
Address: 8848 N 2010, Hammon, OK 73650.

The trade item will be a nail header.

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

Contact: Monte Smith 580-497-6015 if you have questions.

5th Saturday Meeting October 29th: (Open.)

## November 2022

**NE Regional Meeting November 5th:** Will be hosted by Diana Simon and the Cherokee Strip Historical Society at the new Blacksmith Museum and Shop.  
2617 W. Fir Ave, Perry, OK 73077. The shop is located approximately 1/4 mile east of Exit 186 from I-35 on north side of the road (Hwy 64 or Fir St.)

The trade item is whatever you want to bring or make.

The meeting is planned to start at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be provided.

Contact Diana Simon at 580-572-8290 or [dsimon@okhistory.org](mailto:dsimon@okhistory.org) if you have questions.

SE Regional Meeting November 12th: (Open.)

SW Regional Meeting November 19th: (Open.)

NW Regional Meeting November 26th: (Open.)



Bobby Gerald Kennemer

March 28, 1941 - July 10, 2022

Bobby Gerald Kennemer, 81, of Elk City, Oklahoma was born on March 28, 1941, in Sentinel, Oklahoma. He is the son of W.A. "Aud" and Oretta (Stowers) Kennemer. He grew up in the nearby Retrop community. After an extended illness Bob went to walk the golden streets of Heaven on Sunday, July 10, 2022, at his home in Elk City, Oklahoma.

Bob graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Oklahoma State University, a Master of Education Degree from Southwestern Oklahoma State University, and earned his Oklahoma school

administration's certification from Oklahoma State University. He began his career in education as a science teacher before becoming an elementary school principal. He retired after being principal of Northeast Elementary School in Elk City, Oklahoma, for twenty-one years. Bob was a charter member and the first state president of Oklahoma Association of Elementary School Principals. He remained a lifetime member of the association.

Bob married his best friend and the love of his life, Marjorie Lynn Schooley, on August 19, 1961. Bob was a faithful member of First Baptist Church, Elk City, Oklahoma, where he served as a deacon for thirty years and interim church administrator for two years. He was on the church building committee from 1981 to 2013, serving as chairman many of those years.

He served on the Elk City Museum Commission; he also was a member of the board of directors of Western Oklahoma Historical Society and was president of the organization for a two-year term. Bob was inducted into the Western Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2011. With the financial support of WOHS, Bob established the Route 66 Blacksmith Shop at the Old Town Museum complex in 2006. In addition to his blacksmith hobby, Bob had fun looking for treasures and bargains at auctions, and he enjoyed spending time in the mountains around Cuchara, Colorado. He worked as a volunteer at the Old Town Museum complex and doing maintenance of the Retrop Cemetery.

Bob's passion was farming and ranching. He was a third-generation farmer in western Oklahoma, and he passed his love of that life to the next generation. He was a good steward of the land and his livestock (1Cor. 4:2). He excelled as a problem solver --wise in knowing how to accomplish a goal, how to make things work, and when to walk away.

Cherishing his memory is wife, Marjorie Lynn Kennemer of nearly sixty-one years, of their home in Elk City, Oklahoma; also surviving are two sons, Vaughn Kennemer and his wife, Karla, and Dale Kennemer and his wife, Lori, all of the Retrop, Oklahoma, area; one daughter, Carrie Brunk and her husband, Jason, of Yukon, Oklahoma; eight grandchildren, Kole Kennemer, Kori Langhoff, Ashley McGuire, Bailey Kennemer, Derek Parker, Levi Parker, Trace Brunk, and Kendal Brunk; two great grandchildren, Theo Kennemer and Miles Langhoff. He is also survived by two sisters, Sharon Thompson and Judy Eden, both of Elk City, Oklahoma.

He is preceded in death by his parents, W.A. "Aud" and Oretta (Stowers) Kennemer.



# Oklahoma State Fair

September 15th - September 25th

Hello Saltfork Club members. It is time for some of us to dust off our equipment and get back in the swing of things. The Oklahoma State Fair is scheduled to take place this year Thursday, September 15 through Sunday, September 25, 2022. As always this is a great opportunity to promote our club and the OK State Fair Board does pay the club for us showing up and demonstrating. Let me know sooner rather than later if you are interested in volunteering for this event. You will receive free admission and premier parking for the days you demonstrate. This is a great opportunity to draw members into our club while brushing up on our skills. If you have a stockpile of things you've made, bring them and sell your items to fairgoers. We are seeking those who would like to help promote and talk about the club by demonstrating to fairgoers. In years past we have also had a complimentary hotel for those traveling a greater distance from out of town. Consideration is given on a first requested and distance traveled consideration. If you would like more information about this fun event, please contact Richard Blasius 405-881-0804 or his wife Michele 405-550-9850.

## SALTFOK CRAFTSMEN 2022 STATE FAIR CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	12	13	14	15 State Fair Starts!!!!	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>LAST DAY 25</b>  State Fair Ends!!						

Scheduling: Richard Blasius 405-881-0804  
Michele Blasius 405-550-9850



## 2022 Saltfork Conference

October 15th-16th

Sulphur, OK



(Murray County Antique Tractor Association Show Grounds, 7 miles north of Sulphur on Hwy 177, 3/4 mile east on Tractor Road)

Pep Gomez has agreed to be one of our demonstrators, and once I receive details on who our other demonstrator will be I will update this section.

The signup for the workshop classes will be similar to last year. Please watch this area for updates, as I get more information I will adjust the information provided.

Please note that conference t-shirts will be handled a little differently this year. If you want one, it will need to be ordered in advance. More information on the design and price to come.

### Conference Set Up Work Day!

There is a Pre-Conference set up work day scheduled for October 8th at the Conference site in Sulphur (This is the Saturday one week before the Conference.)

If you are interested in helping set up for the Conference, please attend that day.

Set up will include placing the bleachers, installing the audio-visual equipment infrastructure, moving various items around, etc. None of it is hard work if enough people come to help.

*-Editor*

### Conference Workshops October 17, 18, and 19th:

Workshops with the demonstrators - Pep Gomez and TBA - are planned after the conference. The format will be similar to previous years. Each demonstrator will conduct a 10 student workshop over three days following the conference (Monday through Wednesday). The workshops will run concurrently so you will only be able to register with one instructor. This is an amazing opportunity to receive hands on instruction with instructors of this caliber.

Participants must provide their own (or arrange to borrow) safety gear and forging stations including anvil, forge, vice, and basic forging tools such as hammers, tongs, chisels, and punches etc. Specific tooling requirements for any tools that will not be provided will be made available before the workshops.

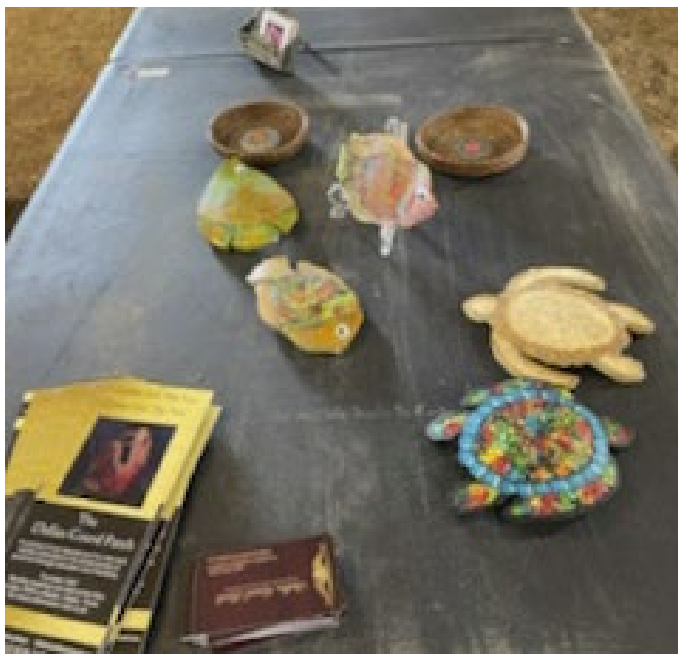
Exact details and cost for the workshops are being finalized with the demonstrators and will be announced. There may also be an additional material cost depending on final workshop arrangements.

**Registration information and additional details will be announced.**

**Watch for member e-mail updates and stay tuned to the Saltfork Craftsmen Website and Facebook pages.**

## Family Classes

Family Classes for the Conference are to be determined. There are some ladies that were potentially interested in coming out that Laquita met at the Crossroads Forging Conference. They made some very beautiful pieces, and Laquita provided some pictures. Stay tuned for more details.



## 2022 SCABA Conference T-Shirt Design

If anyone has a design idea or concept for the conference t-shirt, please contact Carol Doner at 405-760-8388 or [caroldoner@hotmail.com](mailto:caroldoner@hotmail.com) as soon as possible. If your design is not used this year, we may use it in the future!



# 2022 SCABA Annual Conference

## Peoples' Choice Awards and General Gallery

### Two Categories:

We will once again have **two categories**, one will be for work done using “**Traditional**” methods and the other will be “**Open**,” meaning open to use any and all methods of the artist’s choosing.

The intent here is to separate work that is done with methods generally considered traditional to blacksmithing, such as forge welding, joinery, punching, upsetting, drawing out, etc. from more modern methods such as arc/mig/gas welding, stock removal grinding, etc. These “modern” methods have become, in many cases, much faster and easier to use than the traditional methods due to modern machines and equipment. This separation is an attempt to allow a potential gallery submission to be judged against other work on a more equal footing than is practical with a single overall category.

If there are any issues that come up, the Board of Directors will make a judgment on how to place the piece in the Gallery. Mostly, any benefit of the doubt will go to the entrant.

### General Gallery:

We would also like to see a general gallery of work from all levels on display. It does not have to be all new work or work submitted for the People’s Choice voting. It can be for sale or just for display. But we would like to have anything you are proud of making or that you find inspirational to be on display. Even work by beginners is often an inspiration so please don’t hold back thinking your work is “not good enough.” Keep in mind, there will be visitors that have never even forged an S-Hook or a leaf key chain. Any work probably has something to teach and inspire others. Please consider bringing your items to display! - *Editor*

## 2022 SCABA Conference RV Reservations:

It is not too early to make reservations if you plan on camping on site and need an RV hookup. Primitive camping is also available with access to clean toilets and showers if you prefer primitive camping. RV hookups are available for \$20 per RV per night (to the Tractor Club) for electric only service. Spots are already being reserved so contact J. J. McGill as soon as possible if you would like to make a reservation.

Contact J. J. McGill at 580-369-1042 or  
[jjmcgill88@yahoo.com](mailto:jjmcgill88@yahoo.com)

## 2022 SCABA Conference Tool Box

Brad Nance is constructing this year’s toolbox.  
**But we need tool donations to fill it!**  
Any donated tool is greatly appreciated, as proceeds from this drawing benefit the Saltfork club as a whole, but hand made tools are the most appreciated by those interested in winning the box. Either way, the winner of the tool box drawing will have a nice collection of usable tools that they will be proud to own.

Tickets for a chance to win the Conference Toolbox will be available up until the drawing at the auction on Saturday night. If you will not be able to attend the conference and want a chance to win the tool box while supporting the club, tickets may be purchased from the Secretary. Tickets are \$2.00 each. (see page 2 for Secretary Contact)

# Iron in the Hat

Gerald Franklin

Many of our newer members were confused at last year's conference as to what this "Iron in the Hat" (IITH) thing was all about. Since I have been appointed as the IITH coordinator for the conference, I guess it's one of my duties to explain the tradition and how we observe it at our conferences.

The Iron in the Hat activity is an old blacksmithing tradition (exactly how old is anybody's guess) that makes a little money for the sponsoring organization and provides an outlet for some of the things that an individual smith may not need anymore but another smith may "covet". Basically it's a raffle of sorts where items are donated, tickets are sold and drawn and the items then change owners.

Here's how it works at the Saltfork Conference. Members, merchants, and just good people donate items. We put the items out for display with a paper sack beside each item. Tickets are sold and buyers put one or more tickets into a sack corresponding to an item they are interested in. If you would really like to have a particular item, put several tickets into the sack. At a particular time a winning ticket is drawn from a sack and then taped to the item. Buyers then come by and check the tickets to see if they are a lucky winner. This is pretty simple, and there will be more information posted at the conference as to price, frequency of drawings, etc.

So, what makes it work? The short answer is "item donors and ticket buyers". You can help in both ways. Bring stuff to the conference to donate to the IITH table. This may be a piece of tool steel that you don't need, an extra pair of tongs (I know, NOBODY has an extra pair of tongs), supplies such as flux, rivets, old files, new files, etc. When you go to the hardware store and you see a set of screwdrivers, for example, on sale at a ridiculously low price, buy it and bring it to the conference for IITH. I have already had folks drop donations off with me so it's not too early to think about what you want to donate. Each year I manage to bring a few things and I used to wonder what would be appropriate. It finally hit me that if I would be interested in a certain item, chances are somebody else would be interested in it, too. So now when I'm standing at the bargain bin at Harbor Freight, I buy things that I'd like to have. Simple stuff like epoxy, sandpaper, soapstone, steel tapes, etc are always welcome.

So, we've talked about donors. The other part of the deal that makes it work is buyers. Even if you show up at the conference without anything to donate to IITH, you can buy tickets. They will be on sale by several sellers. You can't win if you don't play.

Not everybody who comes to the conference brings donations. Not everybody who comes buys tickets. Not everybody who buys tickets wins something but every little bit helps raise a buck for the association. It's not cheap to put on a conference and we've managed to keep registration fees low for many years. Think about this: if 100 conference attendees buy \$10 worth of IITH tickets, that's \$1000 that can go a long way toward paying for demonstrators, travel, materials, etc.

*(This article is being repeated by request from the August 2018 Newsletter - Editor)*

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# Auction

The Blacksmith Shop of Charlie Groom

15618 E. 99<sup>th</sup> Street North, Owasso, OK 74055

Please do not disturb/contact Gerry Groom before the auction

Contact Gerald Brostek with questions (918-687-1927 or [Gerald.brostek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Gerald.brostek@sbcglobal.net))

August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (Saturday)

Inspection of items begins at 9:00 AM, Auction starts at 11:00 AM

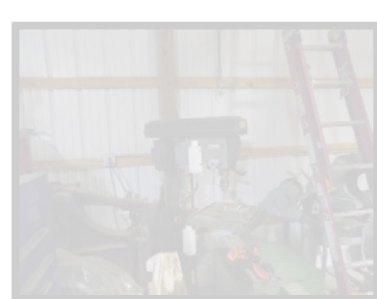
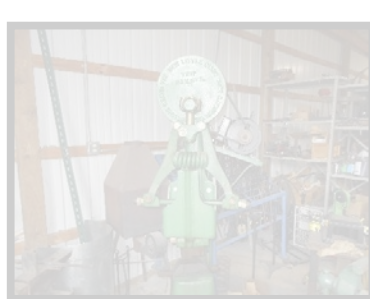
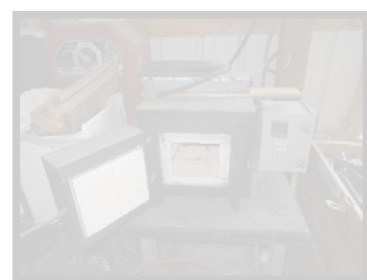
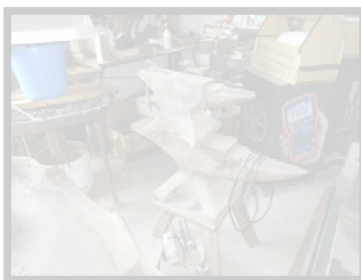
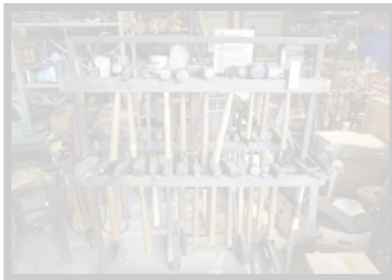
Cash or checks (with proper ID) only

This auction will include all of the blacksmithing forges, anvils, power equipment, tools, and miscellaneous items associated with the craft of blacksmithing and metal working.

If you are new to the craft, this is your opportunity to get needed items for the craft.

The following is a partial list of the many items available:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 10 Anvils of various sizes                    | Bagged coal & large coal bin with coal |
| Several coal and gas forges (large and small) | Stick welder                           |
| #50 power hammer                              | Assorted hammers                       |
| Several hand crank and electric blowers       | Assorted Swages                        |
| 1 large iron worker                           | Assorted tongs                         |
| Treadle hammer                                | Assorted tools and jigs                |
| 2 electric forge/kilns                        | Assorted vices                         |
| Approx. 10 leg vices of various sizes         | Bar stock and disc metal               |
| 3 metal band saws                             | And lots more                          |
| 1 Lodge and Shipley 20in lathe                |  |





# Member's Gallery



More leaves, as promised. I think these are 5 and 6. That is what I am going to call them, at any rate. (Only 94 more to go!) -Katie M., Editor

Bruce made these for Joe and Jared at EWS in Norman.

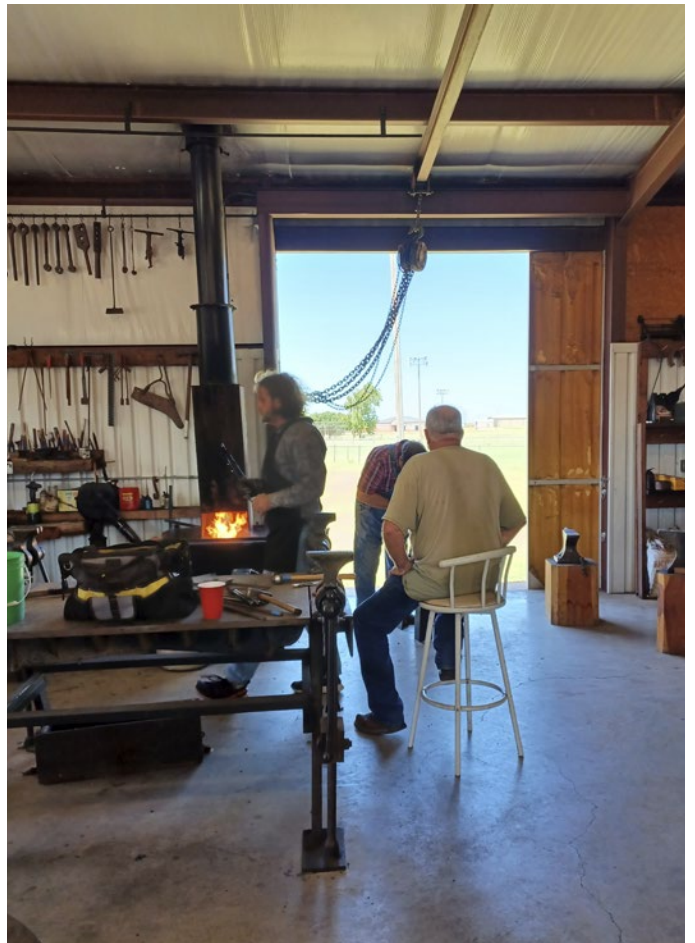




# Around the State...

## NW Region June Meeting:

The June meeting was hosted by Don Garner at the Route 66 Museum Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.











**NE Region July Meeting:** No Meeting was held.  
**SE Region July Meeting:** No Meeting was held.  
**SW Region July Meeting:** No Meeting was held.

# ABANA 2020 Conference Competitions #1

## Chain Making. Novice Category

Mark Aspery, Springville

There will be three evenings of competition during the ABANA 2020 blacksmith conference in Saratoga Springs, New York. Each evening's competition will be divided into three categories: Novice or beginning smith, Intermediate and Open. This article covers the first evening's contest.

The novice category will have 20 minutes to make three links of chain. The links will be examined for quality. The smith having the best three welded links will be declared the winner.

There will be a 30-minute demonstration before each contest. This demonstration will address the Novice project.

You will be issued three or four pieces of 6" long,  $\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter rod, more if you need it. There will be  $\frac{3}{8}$ " bolt-jaw tongs supplied by Kayne and Son, some flux with flux spoons and an array of hammers available.

You can start the competition with at least one bar hot, as hot as you like.

You can only use the anvil, tongs and hammer. The vise will be deemed out-of-play in the novice category.

**If I were thinking about entering this competition, this is what I would do to practice and prepare:**



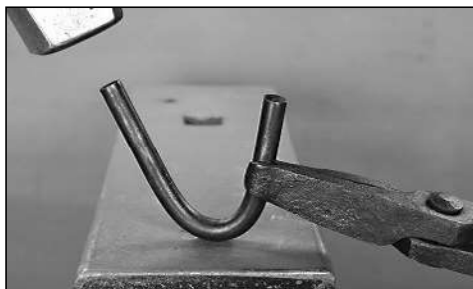
*Bend the bar either at the bick or in the pritchel hole.*



*Get as far as you can, working from the top, and then turn the link over.*



*Keep an eye on the length of the arms. Try to keep them of equal length. Stop if they get out-of-whack.*



*Keep the link open if the arms are unequal lengths.*

With the middle of the bar hot, bend the bar into a U shape. Strive to get both ends equal with each other and sides parallel.

If you have practiced and you know your measurements, you can make the bend in the pritchel hole of the anvil if you prefer.

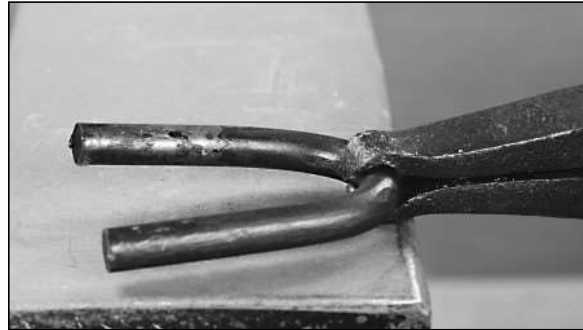
If the ends don't align, leave the U shape open and, with the bend resting on the anvil, tap the longer leg. This action should shorten the long leg and close the U.



## Chain Making ~ Novice



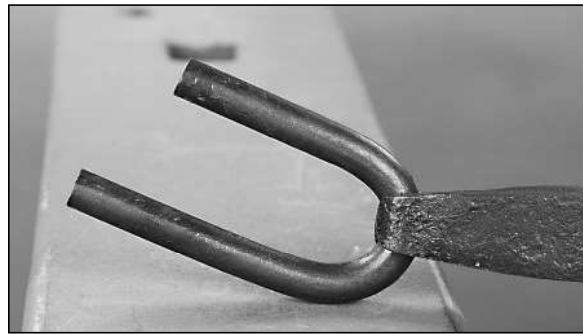
*Hammer on the long arm to shorten and close the link.*



*Nothing good ever comes from continuing with a project that has a twist in the stock.*



*If the judge won't let you use the vise, use the pritchel hole to take out the twist.*



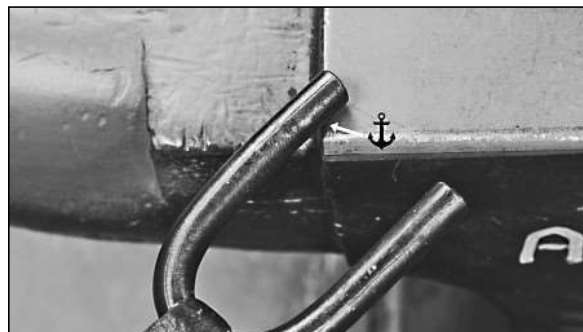
*This isn't good either. Change the shape from a U to an open V and tap the high side down.*

Move another bar close to but not into the fire as you place your U-shaped bar, ends first, into the fire.

Heat both ends and pull the bar from the fire, holding the bar at the bottom of the U bend. If one end is cooler than the other, start forging on the cooler end. Hopefully, the hotter end will still be at workable temperature when you have finished with the cooler end.

Place one end on the step of the anvil at a 45° angle horizontally, close to the nearside edge. The other leg should be nearly touching the flat face of the anvil.

The edge of the step should bisect the line from the outside corner to a point about  $\frac{3}{8}$ " from the end of the bar.



*Hold the top corner in line with the step.*

## Chain Making ~ Novice

You are now going to make a *Chain-Step-Scarf*. Draw down the end of the bar in such a way that it develops a taper that looks like a flag on the bar.

Strike the end with a moderate blow and create a shallow shoulder. I like to hold my hammer at a slight angle, to match the angle of the proposed scarf taper.



*Pivot around the bottom contact point.*



*Hold your hammer at a slight angle to the anvil face.*



*Keep hammering and pivoting to create the slope of the scarf.*



*The scarf looks like a flag on the end of the bar.*



*A chain-step-scarf on one end of the bar.*

Move the outside corner out  $\frac{1}{16}$ " to  $\frac{1}{8}$ " as you pivot around the inside corner of the shoulder and give the end another blow. Move the outside corner again the same distance and repeat the blow. At no point do you move the inside corner of the shoulder.

Repeat this process until the end of the taper is quite thin and will blend easily into the weld that you are going to undertake soon.

## Chain Making ~ Novice

Turn the link over so that the steps of your scarf are facing up, and scarf the second end of the link.



*Turn the bar over, and scarf the other end.*



*Note that the original scarf is step side up.*



*Bend the ends so that they overlap each other.*



*Bend the second arm around the back.*



*Tap the ends together.*



*Keep everything flat in readiness for forge welding.*

At this stage you are ready to close the link in preparation for forge welding.

As you practice, the aim here is to have enough heat left at the end of forming the two scarves that you can close the link in the same heat.

If that is not the case, then take another heat and close the ends, overlapping them together so that the shoulders of the scarves match up. Heat to near welding, brush, flux and return to the fire to bring back to welding heat.



*You might need to level the ends so that the points are aligned.*

## Chain Making ~ Novice

It would be nice to finish this weld in one heat, two at max, so take the proposed weld to the upper welding temperatures in order to buy a little extra time at the anvil as you weld.

First weld the two ends together on the flat face of the anvil – working from both sides – and then move to the bick to dress the inside and outside seams of the weld.



*Weld on the flat face of the anvil first.*



*Here is my effort.  
I'm heading to the bick to continue welding.*



*Have the apex tilting towards  
the heel of the anvil as you work.*



*Weld the upper and lower  
seams at the same time.*



*Move to the other side  
of the apex and repeat.*

Working on one side of the apex to the weld, turn the apex of the link slightly towards the heel of the anvil and continue to weld two seams; the one that you can see and the other resting on the bick.

Turn the link to the other side of the apex and repeat the move, welding both the top and bottom seams of the weld at the same time.

Don't force the weld. If you need another heat to finish the weld, then take it. The judge will be looking for your quality of finish, not just the fact that you got the two ends to stick!

Typically, you will end up with a pointed outside corner at the weld site. I like the look of this result as it speaks to its handmade history. But don't leave the corner and have a bad weld. If the weld needs dressing, use the material stored in the corner to fill the gaps.

The official judge might not like the corner look, so ask and comply.

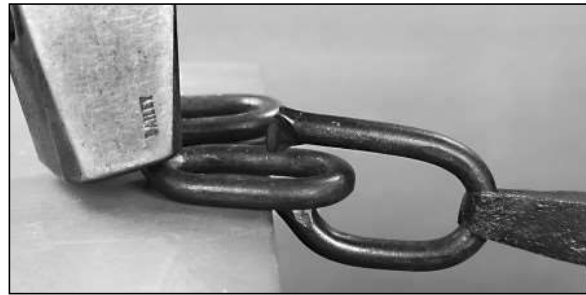
You will make two single-link pieces and then join those two links together with a third link.

## Chain Making ~ Novice

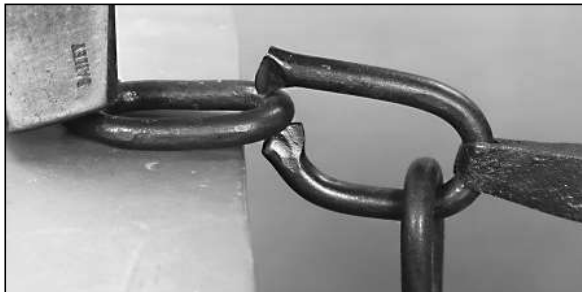
With the third link, have the two single links resting on the face of the anvil somewhere near the heel, away from the area that you have been working on.

Bend and scarf the third link. Turn one end in and then move to the other two links resting on the heel of the anvil. With the turned end lowermost, slip the two links onto the open link.

Close the final arm on the third link. Try to keep the fully welded links on the bottom as you close the end of the third link at the bick.



*After turning one end in, pick up the other two links with the turned end down.*



*Keeping the links on the turned side will be an advantage in the next step.*



*Turn the second end in and close the gap. Note that the welded links are beneath the tong jaws.*



*The trick now is to weld without letting the other two links get the better of you in the process.*



*I try to keep one link either side of the tong jaws as I continue to weld on the bick.*

Having one finished link resting above the tongs will lead to the link bouncing and getting in your way as you attempt to close the open end.

Do your best to protect the first two links from the ravages of the fire. Bring the third link up to a welding temperature and weld. You may have to flick the first two links out of the way as you weld the third.

Brush the links while you still have the heat. Dipping your brush in the slack tub as you brush can sometimes help pop off stubborn scale pieces, giving you a better-looking finished product.

The judge may or may not allow a wax finish on the chain. Follow their directions or incur their wrath! ♣



## Making a Colonial-Style Toaster

*with Amy Barr and Bruce Manson*

### Start with the parts to hold the bread.

Take a 10" long piece of 3/16" X 1" flat bar. Drill 2 rivet holes about 1/2" from center on either side of center. Saw or cut a 3" kerf from either end of the bar, centered.



Bend 1 of the arms out of the way, then draw the other to a point. Then scroll this arm over the horn of the anvil. Repeat until all 4 arms on this bar are drawn out and scrolled.



Once you've set up one of these "toast holders," repeat everything on a new 10" bar of 3/16" by 1". You'll need 2 toast holders for this project.

When both holders are forged, measure about 1" from the end of the split towards the center. Bend to a 90 degree angle—you're basically making a flat bottomed U.



### Make the base for the toast holders.

The base is a 16 1/2" length of 1/8" by 2" flat bar. Dead center on this bar, drill or punch a rivet hole. Slightly round the ends of the bar, then hammer chamfer the edges. Rivet the toast holders to the base where indicated in the photo.



### Make the legs

The legs are made from a 26" length of 3/16" by 1" flat bar, and a 13" piece of 3/16" by 1". Weld the 2 sections to form a T (traditionally this would have been a forge weld, but do what you're comfortable with.) Forge a small scroll on the ends of the T, then bend each end at 90 degrees, about 3" from each end.

Drill or punch a rivet hole where the legs of the T meet.

## Assembly

Place the toast holder assembly atop the legs. Slide your rivet through the holes. A flat washer placed between the toast holder and the leg assembly will provide clearance and allow smoother rotation of the toast holder. Pein the rivet in place. You want to make the rivet tight enough to hold the 2 assemblies together without any slop, but not so tight that it can't pivot easily.

Wipe everything down to remove any grease or oils,

**Amy Barr is a CVBG member; Bruce Manson is the current president of CVBG.**

then go find some bread!

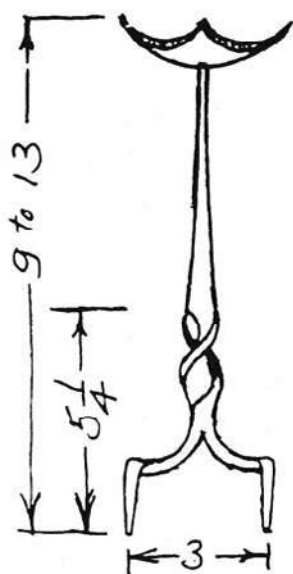


*"...it's far better and more profitable to find customers who appreciate my work than to lower my price for those who don't."*

*—Pam Sheirer Wilkinson*

*This article is reprinted with permission from the Virginia Blacksmith Guild newsletter Jul-Aug 2022*



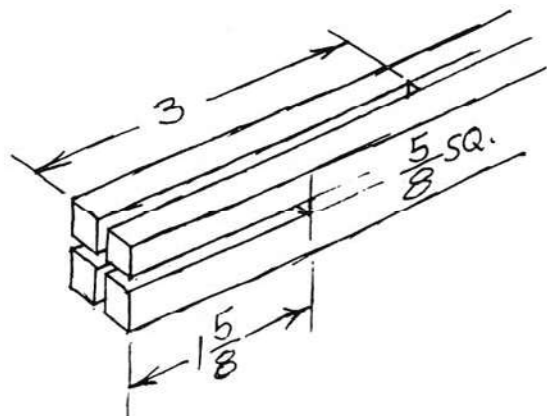


## Bob Bauer's Candle Holders

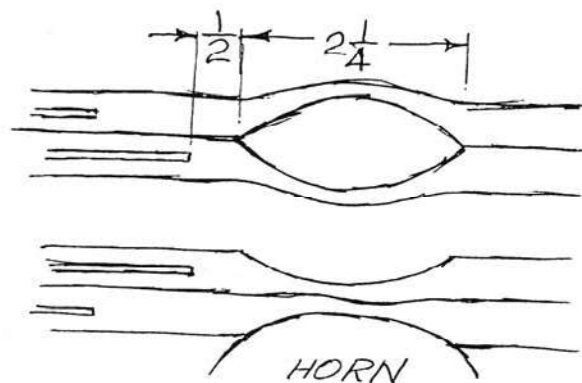
*-reformatted for space*

To make two, 4 X 2, candleholders. I do this so I don't have to use tongs, at least until I draw out the long taper above the twist.

Cut a piece of  $\frac{5}{8}$  square 18 inches long. Using a combination square set so it's about  $\frac{1}{32}$  off from center, scribe two lines on each side, they should be about  $\frac{1}{16}$  apart. Measure back 3 inches on one side and the same on the opposite side, mark the other two sides back  $1\frac{5}{8}$ . File a notch on the end to help start your saw. If you draw a single line and then saw down that line you loose your reference. With two lines you can see when you are crooked and make corrections.

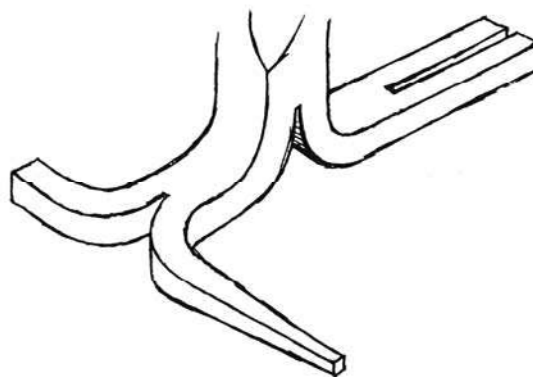


Forge the flat for the twist on the horn of the anvil. Be sure you are on the correct corner. Since we are making two, cool it and do the same on the other end. Straighten the iron before you make the twist.

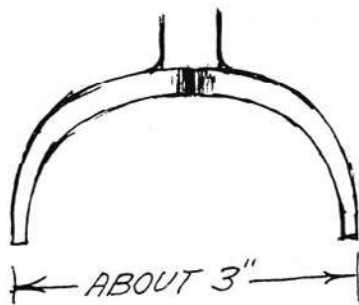


Heat the flat, put it in the vise with the flat just a hair above the jaws. I use an adjustable end wrench just above the flat and turn a half turn or 180 degrees. I go counter clockwise and as soon as it's done I put the short end, below the twist, into the vise and straighten it, all four sides. I saw a wrench that Dick Wright made, he welded a bar onto a monkey wrench and has a two handed adjustable wrench.

Next spread the two parts under the twist. I use my hot cutter to get it started and then the rounded edge of the anvil. Try to get both sides bent the same. Then open the two legs and very carefully taper them. I have a coal fired forge and I can turn this little leg into a 4th of July sparkler in less than 25 seconds. I use the heel of my anvil to get the bottom side.



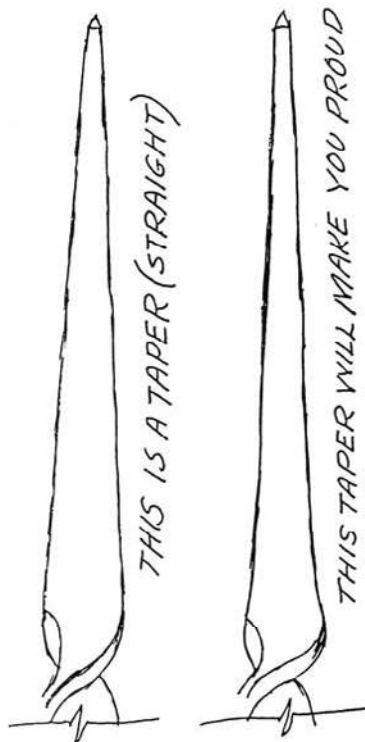
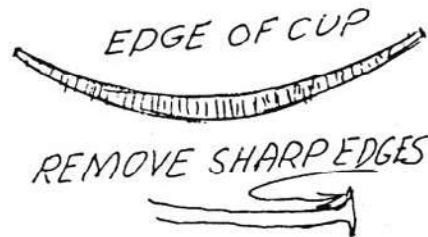
If it's too thin I go to round and then back to square. Use light hits and work them down to just a little under an eighth inch at the end. Do the other two legs. When they look alike, about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 5 inches tip to tip, use the horn and bend them down.



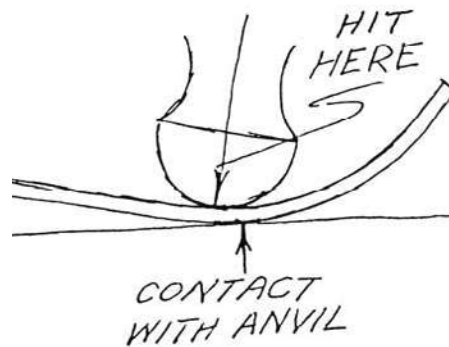
Try to make the ends go straight down.

I cut it out with a saber saw. I make the blades from old Vermont American hack saw blades. The end of a used blade is still sharp. You eliminate vibration by putting a 2 X 4 in the vise and C clamp the metal to the wood, it is really easy to cut.

You should have around 6 inches between the tops of the twists, that will give you about 3 inches above the twist, more than enough. Cut the two apart.



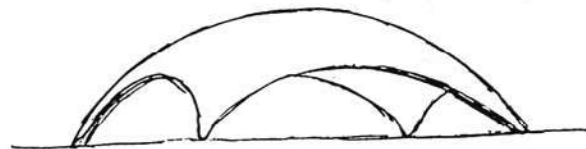
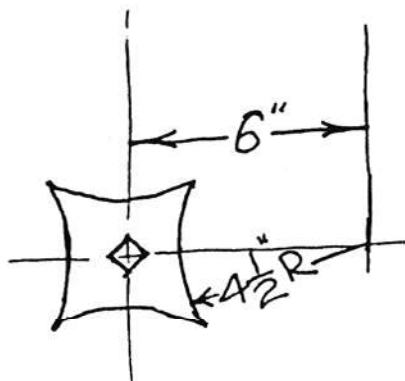
Now you have to use tongs and taper the top. Be careful not to mess up the edge of the twist. Draw it down until the end is about  $\frac{3}{16}$  square. I file the top like a little pyramid.



I have a cast aluminum form that I use to shape the cup or you can raise one on the anvil.

You need a chair, a leather glove to hold the metal, and a light ball pein hammer. The chair is so your head will be close enough to hear the tap of the hammer, so you know you are in the right place. Also it's more comfortable, so you won't give up. Keep going all the way around until you get a nice curve and when turned over all 4 points touch.

I use 16 gauge sheet metal to make the cups, that is the only size I have.



Drill a hole using the center punch mark, that you put on the bottom. Drill it upside down, then if it gets away from you the points won't get you. The drill should be smaller than the size of the top of the taper at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inches down.

Use a jeweler's file and work the opening into a square. Be sure it's orientated like the drawing. File the top shiny where the cup goes, also put a little bevel on the top and bottom edge of the square hole. Fold up an old towel and hold the cup, use a cross pein hammer and work the edges, harder in the middle, lighter at the ends.

I solder the cup on. Put flux on the top and around the hole in cup, put the cup in last. Cut four small pieces of solder and put around the top, one on each side. The flux will hold them in place. I use a butane torch and heat from the bottom. The solder will flow on to the top and the cup. I file all the corners. I like the bright edges, it looks better and feels good.

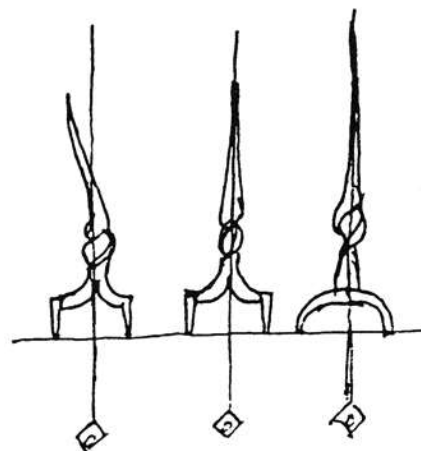
I'm sure there are parts that I've left out. One that I just thought about is how to straighten it after the forging and wire brush. I hang a white thread, it has a nut on the end, from the light over my work bench, I put the candle holder on the bench, in

back of the thread. The legs are centered.

Then I twist, bend and hit until the thread runs down the center on the front and side. I was thinking about making that square hole in the cup.

Perhaps it would be easier to file

the top round, either way. I put a light bevel on the tips of all four sides of the legs, then slide it around on a piece of wet or dry. I don't want it to snag a tablecloth or scratch a table top, I'm not telling you how to do it, I'm only saying this is how I do it with the tools I have.



In sawing the ends, you can see where the blade goes in, but not where it comes out. I cut up about half way in then stop, turn my iron a quarter and saw up that side a half way in turn, saw, and turn again, you get a much better job. Also the end of the cuts, they must be straight across.

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## For Sale:

### 50 Lb Little Giant Power Hammer - Asking \$4,800

In good shape. Owned by me since 1961 or 1962. Has been on loan for several years with limited use and kept well oiled. Currently has a 3 phase motor installed. Located in Wagoner, OK. **Contact William Burling at 918-485-1508.**



## For Sale:

### Water Jet Services - Saltfork Discount

Taswallson Manufacturing is offering waterjet services at discounted rates for Saltfork members. I am currently operating nights and weekends.

Contact: **Ragnar at [rtaswallson@yahoo.com](mailto:rtaswallson@yahoo.com) or 918-855-8250.**

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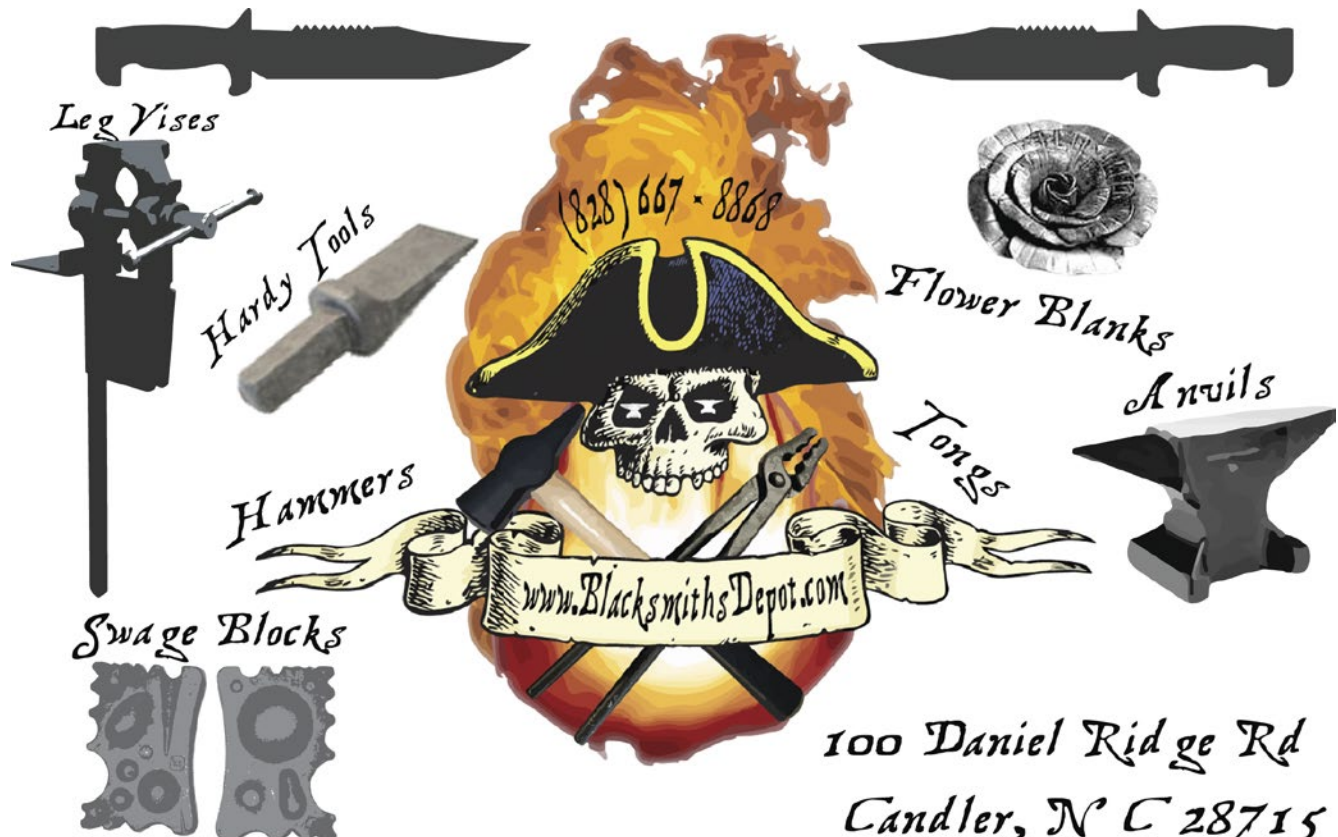
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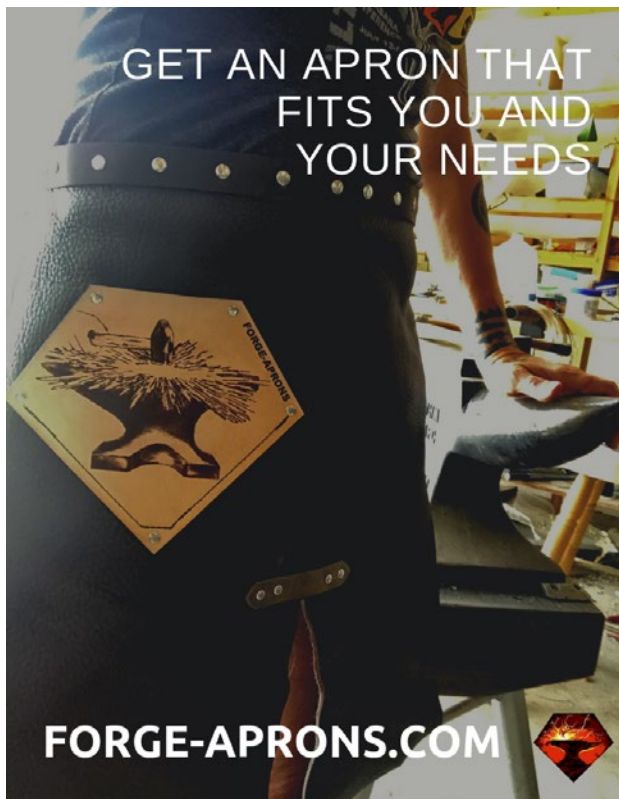
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Don Garner: 580-302-1845

(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**

**\*\* (NOTICE: Price Change) \*\***

\$250.00 plus shipping.  
(Same price to members and non-members.)



## **SCABA Floor Cones**

**\*\* (NOTICE: Price Change) \*\***

\$375.00 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:

**\*\* (NOTICE: Price Change) \*\***

Saltfork Craftsmen has coal for sale. Coal is in 1-2" size pieces. The coal is \$300.00/ton or .15 /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 (\$.15 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:**

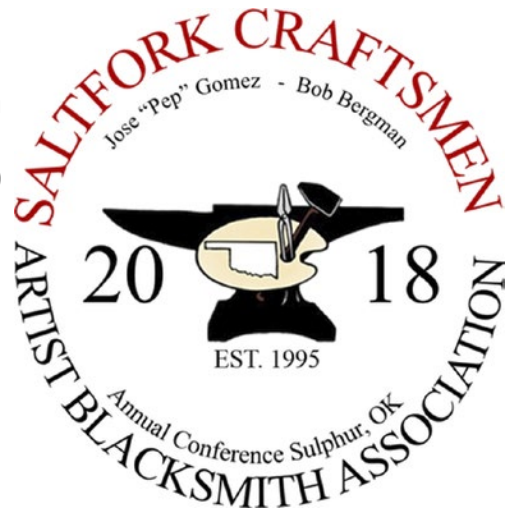
**\*\*\*\*NOTICE:\*\*\*\***

*Charlie McGee is no longer hosting the coal pile in the NE region. If you would be interested in hosting a location in NE, let one of the SCABA Board members know.*

**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. \$5.00 (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 the editor 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter Preference:

☐ No Print Copy

☐ E-mail Alerts for New Newsletters

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

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

**Return to: Saltfork Craftsmen, 6520 Alameda, Norman, OK 73026**

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.  
6520 Alameda  
Norman, OK. 73026

Non Profit Organization  
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Oklahoma City, Ok  
Permit #2177

Address Service Requested

