

Saltfork Craftsmen

Artist-Blacksmith Association

July 2022



**June 19th Beginner Blacksmith Workshop Class
(Page 23)**

**Saltfork Craftsmen
Artist-Blacksmith Association
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Call or Text. If you get voice mail, please leave a message.

Editor's Notes:

I was outside the other night with the horses, looking at the stars. I love to pick out constellations (official or not) and see what other patterns I can find. It made me wonder if anyone has made any constellation/planet/solar system themed pieces. If you have, I would love to see them. You can text (405-816-0445) or email (hope91.16@gmail.com) pictures of them to me. I will put them in the Member Gallery too.

Speaking of the Member Gallery, send me photos of your work! I haven't been getting anything recently, and I would love to highlight what everyone is working on. (I default into making leaves, so if it is up to me to fill up the gallery, that will be all we get. Or you can send me pictures of your leaves to keep mine company.)

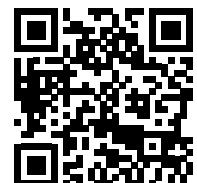
If anyone is wanting to see a certain type of article, let me know and I will see what I can find.

-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



President's Notes:

Well, here we go. Another month has flown by. I hope everyone is doing well. As you probably know we have a new editor, Katie, who is doing a very good job. I would like to thank Russell for doing a good job for our club for a good while as editor-and he is still helping in other ways.

We are trying to get a class together to have a tire hammer build class at Herman's place in September (if we get enough interest). You can call me for more information if you are interested. The price will be around \$3,000.

To contact me call 580-515-1292. If you text, leave your name please.

We had a beginner class and it was a small one, but everything went well and we had a good time.

Don't forget to make plans for the conference. I look forward to seeing everyone and I hope to make more monthly meetings.

Stay cool,

- 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

(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)

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.

**** SCABA Board of Directors Meeting ****

There is a Board of Directors meeting scheduled for **2:00 PM Sunday, July 17th, 2022** at Byron Doner's shop in Norman.

Board meetings are open to any member to attend. This is the best place to offer any comments, ideas or criticisms you have on how your club operates. Feel free to attend. If you plan to attend and have an issue that needs addressed, please send your topic(s) to the Secretary, Carol Doner, to get on the agenda prior to the meeting date. - Editor

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 Craftsmen 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)
Mar 5th (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)
May 7th (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	May 14th (Open)	May 21st (Ray Kimbrell)	May 28th (NW-Mandell Greteman) May 28th (SW-JJ McGill, Boy Scouts)
Jun 4th (Open)	Jun 11th (Regional Meeting Open) (Beginner's Work- shop-Elk City)	Jun 18th (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)
Aug 6th (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	Aug 13th (Open) (Auction)	Aug 20th (Open)	Aug 27th (Skylar Parker)
Sep 3rd (Open)	Sep 10th (Open)	Sep 17th (Open)	Sep 24th (Ron LehenBauer as Host - Don Garner as Contact Person)
Oct 1st (Open)	Oct 8th (Conference Setup)	Oct 15th (Conference Weekend)	Oct 22nd (Monte Smith)
Nov 5th (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)

July 2022

NE Regional Meeting July 2nd: (Open.)

SE Regional Meeting July 9th: (Open.)

SW Regional Meeting July 16th: (Open.)

NW Regional Meeting July 23rd: Will be held by Terry Kauk at the Route 66 Museum Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.

The trade item will be a ladle.

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

Contact: Terry Kauk at 580-821-0139 if you have questions.

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 if you have questions.

SE Regional Meeting August 13th: (Open.)

Charlie Groom's Blacksmithing Equipment Auction (see pages 10-11 for details)

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.)

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.

SALTFORK 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
LAST DAY 25 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.

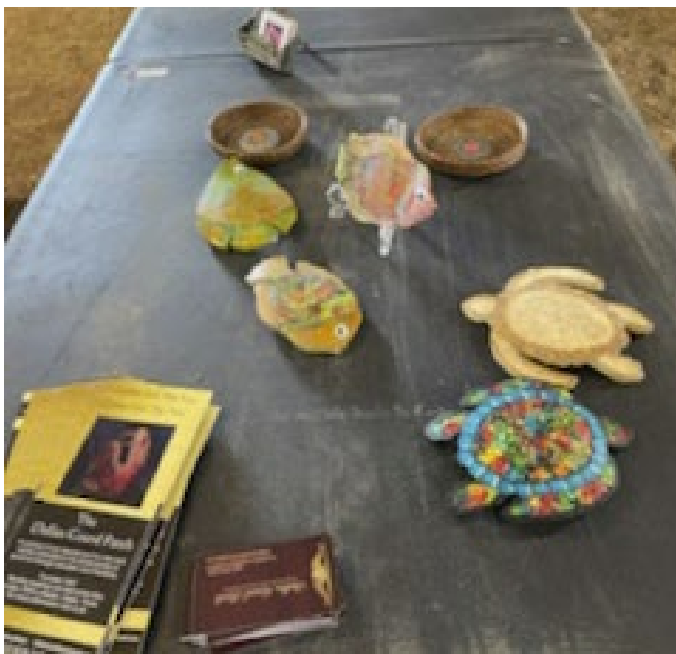
Exact details and cost for the workshops are being finalized with the demonstrators and will be announced. There may also be an additional material cost depending on final workshop arrangements.

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 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

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)

Help Needed!

Gerald Brostek is helping Gerry Groom (Charlie Groom's wife) sell Charlie's blacksmithing equipment. They has picked an auction date (flyer on the next page). If anyone is available to volunteer to help out with the auction, please contact Gerald (918-687-1927 or gerald.brostek@sbcglobal.net) and let him know.

Also, if you (or someone you know) are looking for more tools/equipment, please come out for the auction. I have included some pictures, but it is not comprehensive.

-Editor



Auction

The Blacksmith Shop of Charlie Groom

15618 E. 99th 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)

August 13th, 2022 (Saturday)

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

Cash or checks (with proper ID) only

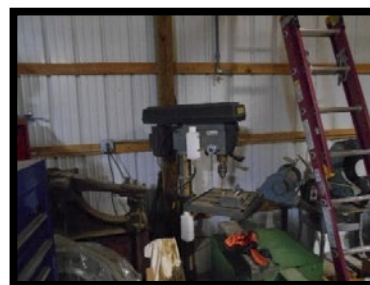
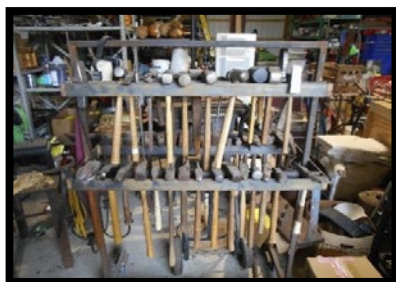
This auction will sell off all of the blacksmithing forges, anvils, power equipment, tools, and miscellaneous items associated with the craft of blacksmithing and metal working.

If you are new to the craft of metal smithing here 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
Several coal and gas forges (large and small)
#50 power hammer
Several hand crank and electric blowers
1 large iron worker
Treadle hammer
2 electric forge/kilns
Approx. 10 leg vices of various sizes
3 metal band saws
1 Lodge and Shipley 20in lathe

Bagged coal & large coal bin with coal
Stick welder
Assorted hammers
Assorted Swages
Assorted tongs
Assorted other tools and jigs
Large fly press
Grinders
Bar stock and misc. metal
And lots more!



Member's Gallery



My most recent leaf. -Katie M., Editor



Monte Smith's nails and tacks.

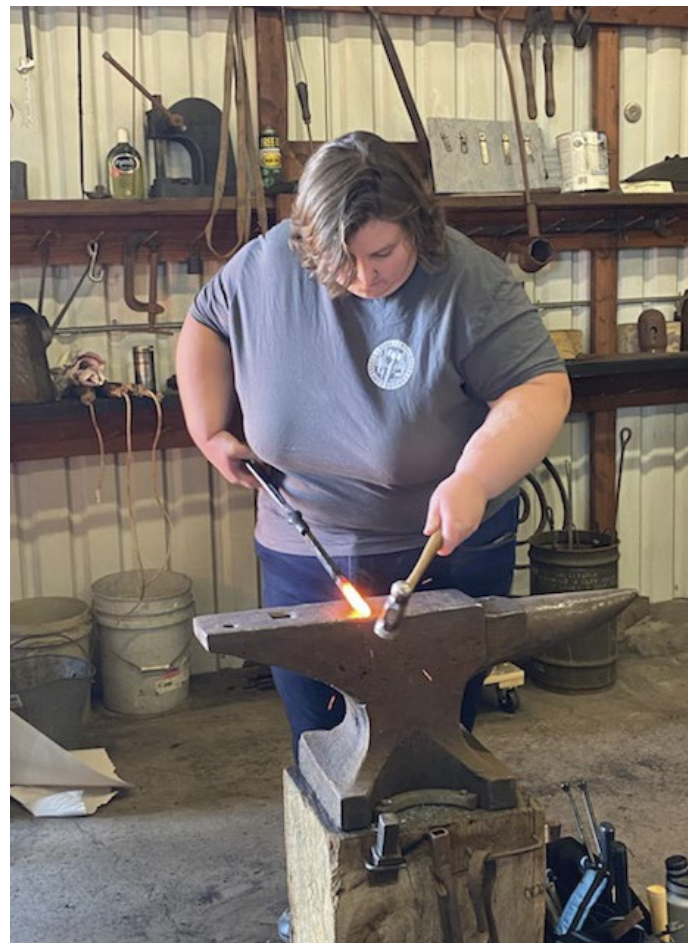


Around the State...

NW Region May Meeting:

The May meeting was hosted by Mandell Greteman at the Route 66 Museum Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.





Around the State...

NW Region May Meeting (Alternate Location):

The 9th Annual Jim Dryer Blacksmithing with Boy Scouts camp out weekend was a great success. There were 9 Scouts and 5 adults that came to the camp from the metro Tulsa area this year. They came in on Friday evening about 9pm and stayed until about noon on Sunday.

We started off Saturday morning with about a 10 minute safety meeting followed by a demonstration from Rickey Vardel and Mountain John Cook. They demonstrated 2 different styles of squirrel cookers. That was the challenge of the day that the scouts had to make before they could do an independent project.

We had a great variety of cookers and other things.

JJ McGill cooked lunch for everyone:

Smoked pork butt sandwich

Loaded potato salad

Macaroni salad

Cole slaw

Country cooked red beans

Sweet tea, lemonade, water for drinks

With Miss Candy's home made chocolate chip cookies for dessert!

The scouts cooked hamburgers for evening meal with cheese taters in the Dutch oven as a thank you for the Blacksmiths that helped them learn to Smith.

The Saltfork members in attendance were Terry Jenkins, Rickey Vardel, Mt. John Cook, Justin Crandford, Eric Jergensen, and JJ McGill.

I would like to send out a special thanks to all the Smiths for coming out to help!! Also, like in the past 8 years, they asked if we would reserve the Memorial weekend for 2023 for the 10th Annual camp out. It is on the calendar at the show grounds for next year. Hope lots more of you guys will come spend a day of fun with us in 2023. And like always, all food and drinks will be provided.

-JJ McGill



Around the State...

Beginner Blacksmith Workshop (June 11th):

We had a beginner class at the Route 66 Museum in Elk City, Oklahoma.

“We had a beginner class and it was a small one, but everything went well and we had a good time.”

-Mandell Greteman



Around the State...

Beginner Blacksmith Workshop (June 19th):

"Sunday kicked off bright and sunny, though thankfully cooler, due to a brief shower Saturday night. After a short but important safety briefing I demonstrated the first project of an S hook, while Tracy Cowart provided narration. All students had a fun and productive time as we worked our way through scrolls and bends. We had a few burned off scrolls and some bends facing the wrong way but also learned that, with a few taps, a cut off tool, and an artfully placed twist, no mistake is permanent. Leaf keychains were the second job of the day and they turned out lovely! Lunch was a hot, fresh, Tamale Pie, and was quite tasty though I do say it myself. Afternoon found us digging out huge clinkers and chasing the shade, but such is the life of a Blacksmith. The last project of the day was a hot cut chisel. Students discovered the difference of moving carbon steel vs mild steel. We also covered heat treating, heat colors, and tempering. Everyone produced a successful chisel, proven so by scoring a cold piece of mild steel while leaving no damage to their hardened and tempered edges. Course participants were; Megan and Randel Foland, Mike Zimmerele, Ryan Seabright, Deacon Mosley, and Charles Kiethline. Instructors were Brad Nance, and Tracy Cowart."

-Brad Nance







NE Region March Meeting: No Meeting was held.

SE Region March Meeting: No Meeting was held.

SW Region March Meeting: No Meeting was held.

Spring Conference Demo Beasties aka Pry Babies

©Peter Fels, Irony Works, March 31, 1995

(Or are you sure B.S. stands for blacksmith?)

Questionnaire

1. Stubborn?
2. Benign and pyromaniacally inclined?
3. A little too creative?
4. Prone to anachronism?
5. Like to beat on things?
6. A little deluded?
7. Not likely to be overwhelmed by the innate perversity of inanimate objects?

If you answered yes or huh?... THEN STICK AROUND.

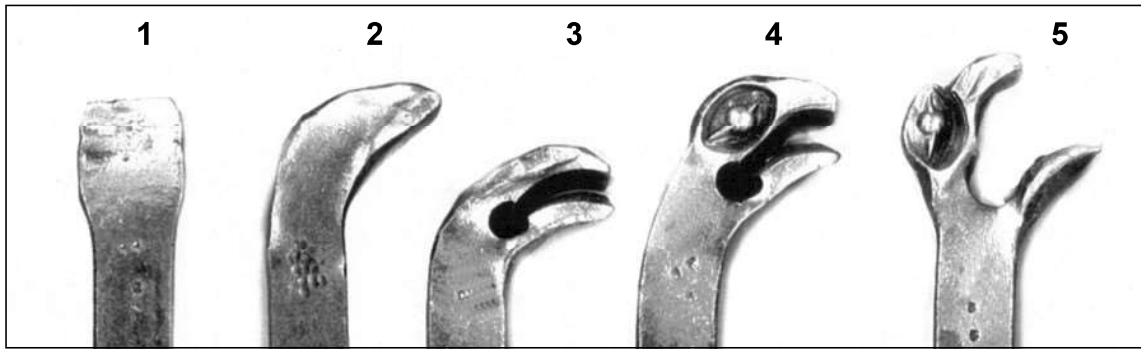
About the xerox sheets of the examples: Phoebe took the whole rattling pile into a copy place in SLO town and clanked them face down on the copy machine glass in order (*John Fick's suggestion*). It worked pretty well till the machine overheated. (*Too many irons in the fire?*) When she finally left, much later, four of the machines were either smoking or out of paper. Uniformity is once again outside our ken.

Directions

- A. Do not follow these directions.
- B. I already made these mistakes at least once, why make them again? Make your own mistakes.
- C. The numbering and order of the steps to follow is capricious and arbitrary, mostly, and I for one, probably will never follow them again.
- D. These are repeatable instructions for making a one of a kind item and hence are oxymoronic. mmmmrph.
- E. The iron examples of each step are toothy and sharp Be careful or they'll bite. (*You may notice that they pertain to the text and the xeroxed examples in a less than fastidious manner.*) Please pass them around more or less in order and return them to the table in front.
- F. RE the pop-up torch....Don't try this at home! In fact, you never saw it. OK? I only built it 'cause George Dixon said I couldn't.
- G. WHAT? (*a one syllable blacksmith joke*)
- H. Pay reverent heed to the thermally modifiable Hierarchy of Hardness.
- I. In design, try to push yourself hard enough to have a significant failure rate; you'll grow faster and what you don't toss will have more stuff to it. Iron and fuel are cheap, and we'll never get out of this alive.
- J. Please pardon the turgid verbiage. Being self-taught, this stuff is mostly non-verbal for me. Also please pardon the bad attitude...been this way since childhood and it's way too late to change.
- K. Where are your safety glasses? eh?
- L. Yknow, those other demos look real appealing, and I've always learned a lot running from one to the next in all the past conferences...let's just sneak off and....

Editor's Note. Many of us have been amazed, interested and enlightened by various wild pieces created by Peter Fels. Last year, Peter found this manuscript from a demonstration that he did in 1995. Coming from his files, never published, I received a fanfold printout from a dot-matrix printer. (Remember those?) Online OCR converted this so that we can at last share it with CBA readers.

Pry Babies



Steps

1. Upset.

No, don't be upset. Because we're using dinky stock, we need to upset the end that will become the head and body. Heat well back from the end, straighten often. 3 to 5 heats should do it. (*This small stuff cools fast.*)

2. Taper snout and curve.

Thicken brow over horn and soften edges switching sides of the horn.

3. Punch hinge of jaw.

Punch through or not, different effect. Small diameter punch heats up fast, be quick or the punch'll rivet itself to your work (*something I'll probably demonstrate for you*).

4. Hot cut jaw.

Use a soft sacrifice plate and a curved hot cut. Bend the beak to fit curve of cut if necessary. OK to leave a rag here (*teeth later*).

5. Punch eye (*oh*).

Now that it has an eye it gains some presence, which is what it wanted. Look, there are little beasties inside of most of us and they want out. Pretty quick, this one will have an opinion of its own. Leave the fine detail till later or it'll mush in the rush.

6. Drift jaw open. Shape nose and jaw on horn, punch or fuller gums and cut teeth. Drift the jaw wide open, you'll need some room to work. Keep an eye on the thinnest point bending. I keep a brass hammer on my anvil stump to drive out stuck tools from the pointy end. Drift over pritchel hole.

Shape the nose and jaw over the horn, taper to bottle opening end and trim true. Develop gums if you wanna. Hot cut teeth in vise or file cold or use Oliver to cut from side and trim flashing with file (*a trashy half round works fine*). Heat and put face down in wood to push teeth forward.

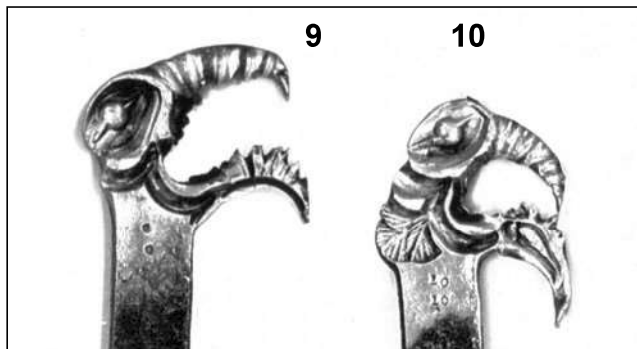
7. Snout development, foremost concern.

Heat and work from small end (cools fastest). Use a stamp that's concave on 2 radiuses to ring them snouts. Having more than one size helps. Don't forget the sacrifice plate for this tool. Realign as you go. Generally speaking, I try to make a different mistake each time, presuming that at least a few will work out.

8. Delineate lower jaw and shape (*pout development*). Spare teeth, them's dainty little steel nippers. Use arched chasing tools or curved hot cuts of differing radius to emphasize line of jaw. Use a bigger stamp if there's room. Fine toothed files are fine for dressing punches, stamps and hot cuts. It's a nuisance, but worth keeping up with. File cards are handy for cleaning file teeth. I've never cleaned a file card.



Pry Babies



9. Groove defining mouth from eye to jaw. Pucker work, lower lip and dewlaplap. Given close tolerances, it's often worth lightly laying down the pattern cold. That way you can feel the tool key in even when it's too bright too see.

Feel free to cheat. As you can see, I looked over my shoulder to make sure Francis Whittaker wasn't looking, and then welded my screw-up back together with a torch. ummmmmmm....

10. Sink fin-feather stamp.

Following George Dixon's advice, I've used mostly S1 steel for my chasing tools. This one was made cold with chisels and files on an annealed blank. A jeweler's saw will cut even finer detail. Stamps like this often either mush out or split at the grooves. Sinking broad surface area stamps near the edges yields large lateral displacement (*nifty bulges*).

11. Form gills (*gulp*).

The thin tail of this tool cuts deep easily and heats quickly so it needs to be favored. By keeping chasing tools short you can cheat the angle of attack surprisingly far before they kick out under the hammer...saves on expensive alloy, too.

12. Echo gill lines with grooves and shallow cuts. Repeating lines infer internal structure, strengthen visual impact and, what the hell, if it was wrong the first time it'll be authoritatively wrong this time.

13. Reverse or repeat gill stamp.

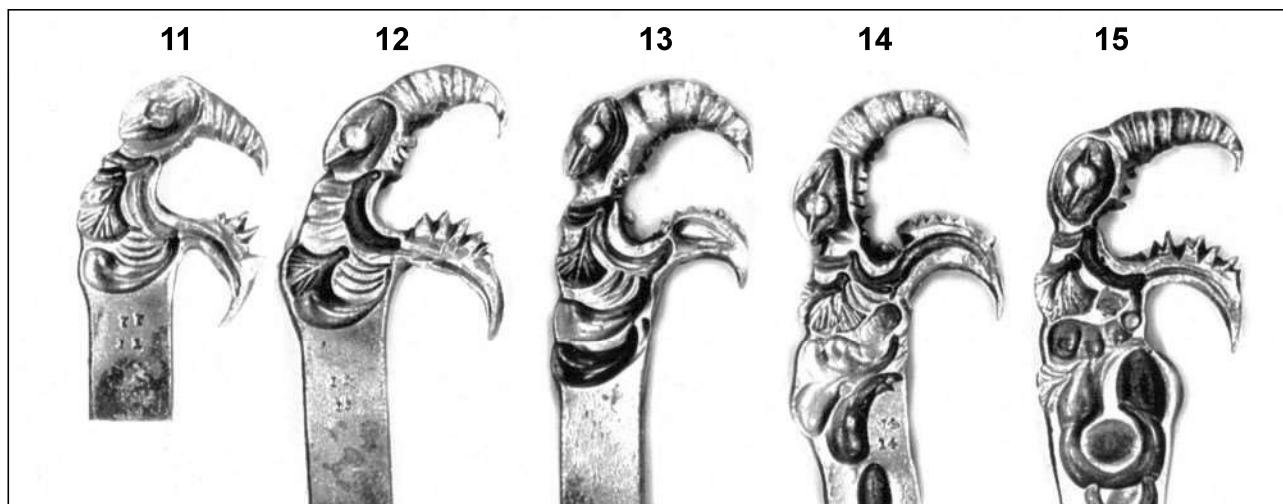
Preferably in a different size. Decorate the ridge between them. I didn't do either in the example given....Yeah, well, Do as I say...not as I did, or not, as you will.

14. Spine time, axis line.

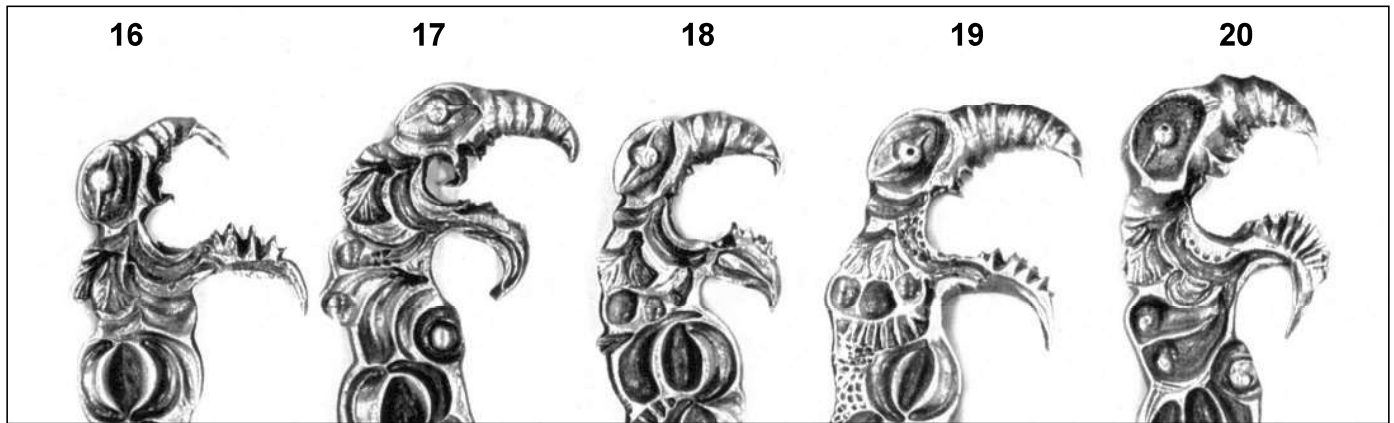
Determine a spinal or lateral line. Using large displacement stamps, begin to spread body on down the line. Proceed towards tail. Use broadest stamps in center, tapering in size towards each end. The strength of the Oliver's blow is a function of the tool's business end surface area and the heat and thickness of the stock.

15. Echo spine lines.

Again, using curved cuts and punches, continue to spread the body and dramatize the linear elements (*toot toot*) as well as the core impressions (*honk*). Notice also the growing field-ground reversal (*root*).



Pry Babies



16. Dapping.

I faked up some passable dapping tools by brazing assorted ball bearing balls on the end of some stumpy rebar cut offs. They are cheap, funny and untrustworthy. Regard that layering effects (*staggered multiple stamping and stamp within a stamp*) can add depth and complexity; dapping punches do both well.

17. Eyeball elaboration.

The running joke in my shop for years was if it won't sell, stick eyeballs on it. There's some truth there. People eyedentify more with a piece of work if it looks back at them. (*Dentrification is sort of similar, see step 6.*) Small changes in the eye and the area around it have a large influence on perceived character. When sinking impressions into a high spot like the eyeball or atop a ridge, position the tool and press down while giving a tap with the hammer to set the stamp before thumping it home.

18. Edge treatments.

Bulges, puckers, striations, ridging, smears and blowouts, later, spring fullering. Watch for sharp spots... often they can be softened while still hot using the back end of the stamp in hand.

Because this double bottle opener format also uses the lower jaw to pry with and the breast to rock against the bottle cap (*awkward, but funny once*), the breast needs and must bulge enough to do the job. Some of these examples are weak that way. Eeek, weak-busted beasties!

19-20. More dinking around.

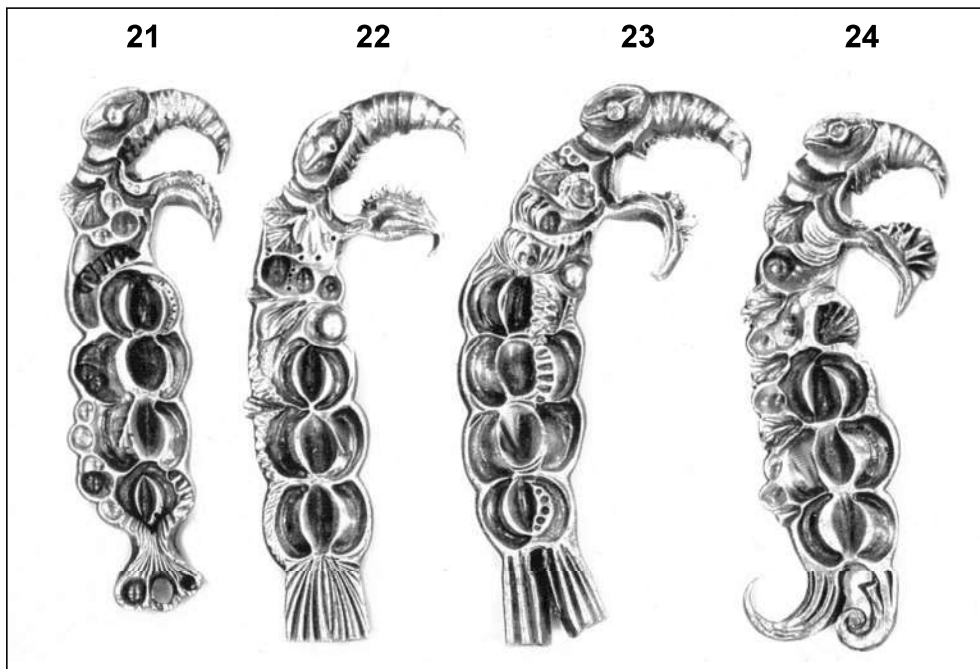
First, let me emphasize the great importance of open space in design, because I've totally ignored it in these examples. It's one of my chronic errors, but I'm justifying it here for educational purposes. (*I can stuff in more stuff to show you.*)

Fine chasing can lend definition, visual complexity and structured texture. Use nail sets, prick punches (*sharp, blunt or contoured*), chisels, hot cuts (*cold cuts are for lunch*), butchers and, generally, any small surface area punches. If you lay in linear cuts and grooves then lay a larger impression nearby, the lateral displacement tends to move the adjacent detail in entertaining ways. Similarly, if you cut and groove prior to making a major bend thereabouts, the detail opens out or pinches and puckers leading to unanticipated visual bloody fun, eh?

Crenelated, grooved or otherwise segmented stamps lay down a lot of that surface information stuff at a whack and provide relief without losing the line. However, this type of tool is prone to split lengthwise at the groove under heavy impact.

Those of you able to learn from others' mistakes will know next time to stop adding superfluous decoration long before this point. I myself, never seem to learn.

Pry Babies



21. Tail tales...The rat tail (*file this one away*).

Like any other part of this beastie business, the design of the tail is arbitrary and should definitely not be done the same way twice. By this point, I'd lost all heart for repetition, hence tail variations. Use a spring fuller and a steel block so as to reduce the tail section without pinching the ass aft. Forge square taper on anvil, run linear grooves with blunt hot cut and soften corners. Note that hot cuts and stamps in general that have convex cutting edges last much longer but displace more metal than concave or hollow ground tools.

Grab that tail, get it hot and twist it! The thicker the cross section here (*nearer the body*), the hotter or only the skinny part will twist...spot heating in segments allows greater control. Now, scroll bro, with a wooden mallet. Cheat with round nose pliers or tongs (*applied in the grooves when possible*.) Iron, bless it, is a forgiving medium, and you can come back and reheat work over, and over and over (*I do*) till you have a real mess.

It's a lot like trimming a moustache, first this side, then that, to balance and back. On the other hand, the way to get that flawlessly graceful line we all wish for is to get a good even heat and make the move with a minimum number of well-placed blows. Try not to hit the same place twice (*I never can anyway*).

22. Cut and fuller tail trail.

Spread the stub with a cross peen some (*I should have, but didn't in the example*). Starting in the center, cut radiating grooves a bit more than half way through. Pinch tail with spring fuller and punch end if it's too dull looking.

23. Cut, split and taper tail.

Look mommie, a striated, bifurcated tin cadual fin.

Cut or groove as in 22, but split in center from punched round split terminator thingie spot (*technical term...it'll be on the pop quiz*). Spread the tail and gently taper the ends preserving the grooves as much as possible. Always work a tail hot! Here I scrolled the right side round and the left side back to be another bottle opening appendage. Yup.

PRY BABIES

24. Double fullered teardrop tail.

Some intermediate embossing leads up to the tail here. The tail itself is three impressions of a tear drop punch (*center first*). These high displacement stamps flare the tail. You can see the curved lines where the cut off would happen next. Two sizes of spring fullers were used to form the edge above the tail. When fullering the edges of a deeply embossed surface, the chased face tends to go concave and fold which is only nifty sometimes. To avoid it or even force the decorated face convex, lay the piece face down on wood (*hot and smoky, maybe I should switch to hickory or sandal wood*) and ball peen its backside. Leave the Pry Baby attached to the bar by its little tail as long as possible...got handy handle value.

25. Grand Earwig tail.

See? We spent all those hours of our youth watching earwigs for a preordained reason. ummm hummm.

It's similar to 24 except that both the decorative linear cuts and the cut off are made with a wide, gently curving blade. As a result, less violation of the embossed surface occurs in transforming it into a bifurcated bottle opening tail...over the horn of course. Thus 25 is a quadriplex cap cranker. Also note that this one is bent the hard way (*wood blocks and mallet*). Now you may ask, why is it only decorated on one side? The reason is that Pry Babies have evolved from flatfish like the halibut that lie flat on the bottom most of the time and have no need of features on the blind side. My guess is that having two decorated sides would at least triple the price for me. I did them that way at first and it was really frustrating on small stock.

26. Pushing planar limits (*making it wiggle a little*).

We have added all of what Mr. Kidwell calls surface information that we can stand, but we'd hate to lose it, having come this far. So, it's time to out with the wooden anvil. Oops, misplaced it, well, this wood block will have to do. Heat locally from behind and hammer with your choice of peens to bulge and arc body...face down along the burnt wooden groove (*we're a hard lot*). Adjust with the mallet.



Extremely important...it is time to make this innocent Baby open beer bottles. I confess to having a recapper in my shop.

The bottom lip comes first because the top lip adjusts to it. When curling your lip, go far enough around that the cap doesn't slip free at the end of the stroke. Also, not enough curl will rip the whole glass top from some twist-top bottles...be sure to go far enough. But if you go too far lip twisting, it won't grab the cap at all. Spend endless hours fiddling and testing.

The august President of the CBA had pointed out that openers work more easily if the part that bears on the top of the cap does so a little further than half way across the cap. This adjustment is generally done by heating near the jaw hinge and bending daintily.

Now adjust the beak for final, dynamic bottle opening action. If you want to make any changes, now's the time. Trim the ends of the beak off square. File to final shape.

Pry Babies

Next, use a reducing flame to heat the thinner portions of the lips to orange and quench abruptly. (*This assumes steel with a modest carbon content.*) If the piece is mild steel, forge heavier lips.

Given my druthers, I'd just toss this Baby in the outbox at this point for my agent to pick up and sell, politely depositing the proceeds in my account, neat and clean. However, the box filled up and, for some reason, the agent never showed...awwwww.

Pssst, wanna cop a fire-blackened Pry Baby?

No? OK. Out with the wire wheel (*or the sand blaster or the acid bath*). How 'bout if we quench it in drain oil and call it patinaed? Authentic black crusty with eau de 90 weight?

OK, OK, but watch out for that power wire brush.... It can snatch a piece out of your hands and embed it in your forehead before you can blink. The trick is to drag the work downhill and never let the leading edge touch and grab unless you are braced for it.

Use a sealer (*varnish, urethane, bees wax, etc.*) now and say, *You know, don't you*, when customers ask if it's silver. Act insulted if they ask if it's pewter. Tisk, casting, sneer slightly and say, *We don't do lead poisoning*.

If you can't leave well enough alone, discolor the poor dear with heat or chemicals (*take that organic sticker back off of there*). I used temper colors on this batch and then ruined the colors with varnish so it wouldn't rust here in the salt air. Anybody know how to save them? They sure were pretty before I finished the job.

"PRY BABY" BOTTLE OPENERS IN PROCESS



PETER FELS' IRONY WORKS

27. There is no #27.

No, that's not true, #27 is nearly infinite, and you can do any silly damn thing you want. I had one left in the batch for it and, at my age, I get tired of tails sooner than I used to, so I followed Darwin and had a try at evolving little legs.

28. Testing!

Redundant testing is critical to craftsmanship and quality control. Be thorough and patient in this step. (*This batch has not yet been tested, or at least I don't remember doing it. Better to be sure.*)

29. Save the junkyards! County planners and real estate agents are pressuring these vital sources of supply out of business one after the other (*at least in my area*), and it's tragic.

30. Support the CBA. Where else can the pyromaniacally inclined hope to find social acceptance? ♣

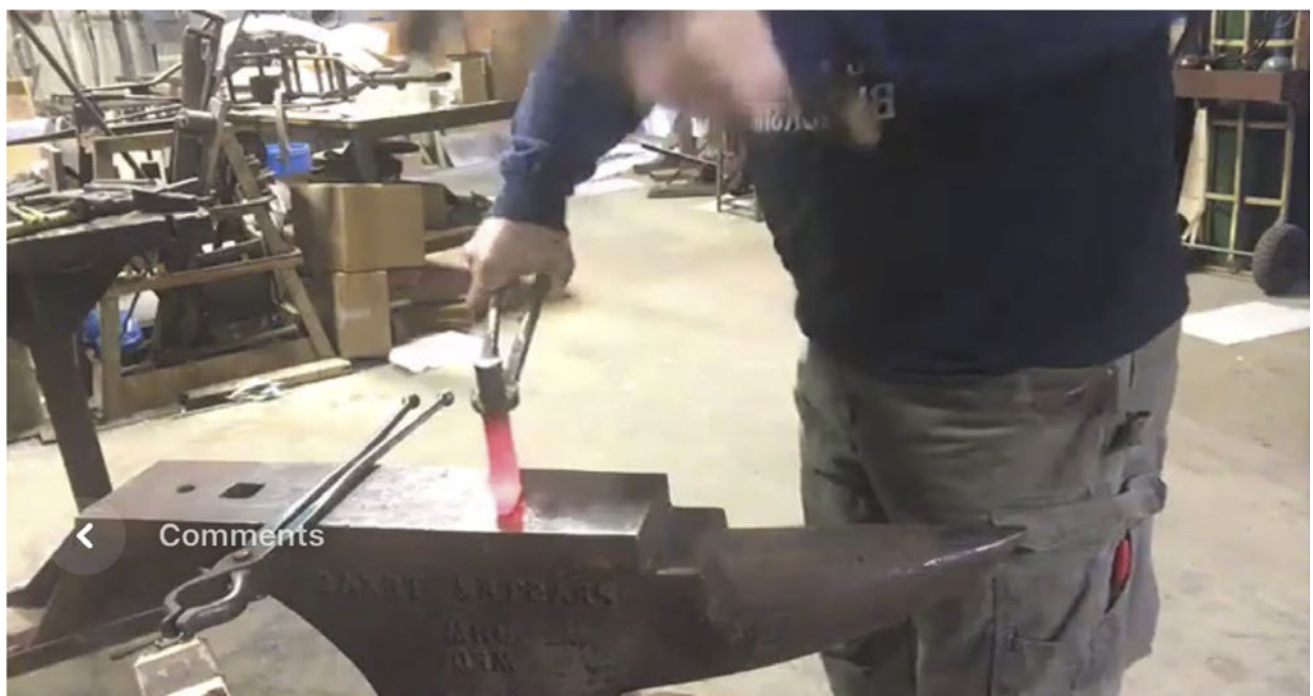
Forging a Wade Blade Chisel

(Any errors in picture placement throughout this article are mine. I have included more pictures at the end. - Editor)

Starting with a 3/4" round by six inches long, heat one end in the forge to a bright orange heat. Slightly flatten the end as you would start any chisel.

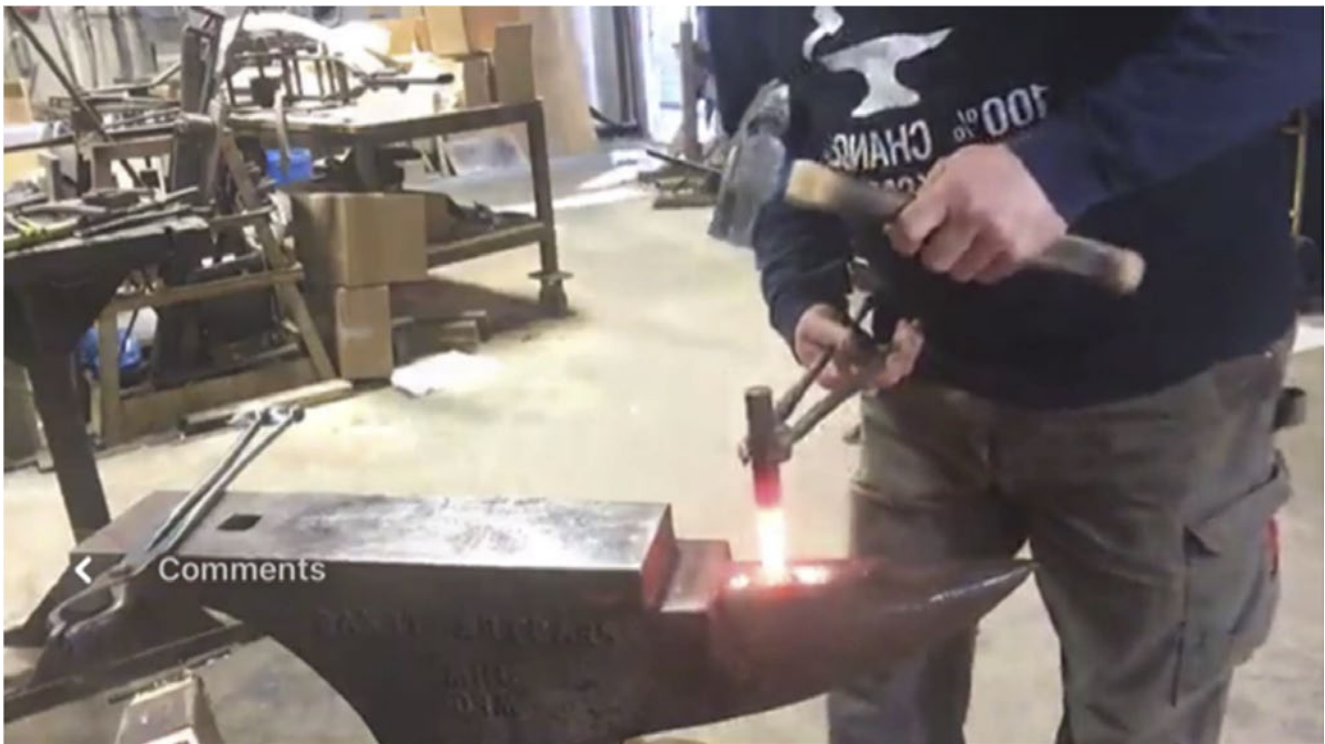


Now, take the bar, holding it upright in your tongs and upset the heated end on the anvil face to maintain a flat surface.



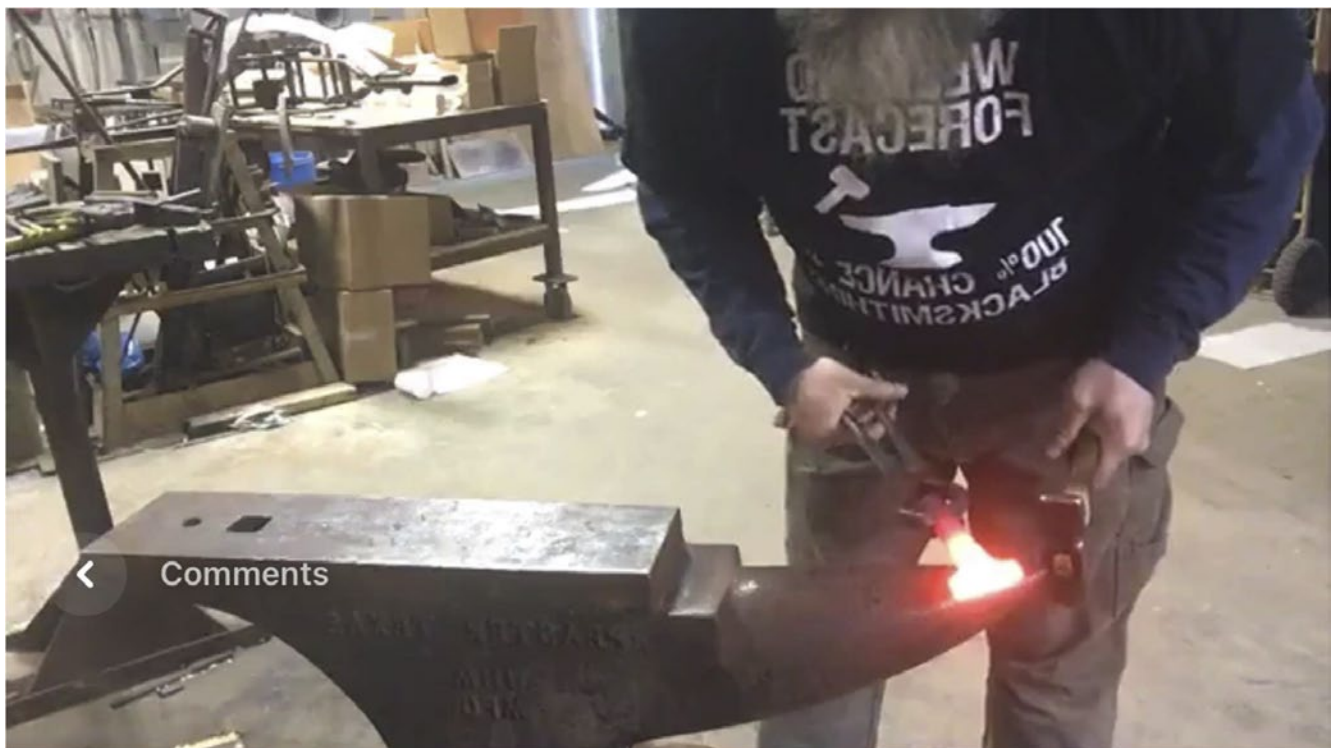


Next heat, go directly to the horn keeping the two flat sides facing the anvil face and tip of the horn, work an upsetting blow over the horn starting in the center of the bar, then moving back and forth from one far side to the other as the chisel begins to widen. Each heat, maintain the two main flats, but also keep the sides flat and ninety degrees to the soon to be chisel edge.



Between the horn and anvil face, widen the chisel end but keep the end rectangular until you reach a two inch width.

This article provided courtesy of the North Texas Blacksmithing Association & Brookhaven College (Dallas)



Once that's achieved, now start working the length of the chisel blade into the traditional wedge shape on the face of the anvil or across the top of the horn. Remember to maintain the sides of the chisel!



Once the edge is down to $\frac{3}{16}$ " thick and two inches wide, normalize the chisel. This is a good time to flip it around and forge the struck end to a hex for easy "chisel" identification. There is no need to index this chisel. Some folks prefer to hex the full length of the chisel at this point in the forging.

Allow the chisel to cool and sand in the beginning of the beveling for the cutting edge, but do not sharpen the edge yet. Lace a $\frac{1}{16}$ " or $\frac{1}{32}$ " flat on the edge. Once that's done, normalize the entire chisel before heat treating.



This article provided courtesy of the North Texas Blacksmithing Association & Brookhaven College (Dallas)

Heat the cutting end (with the flat edge) to a working orange heat. Quench the flat bevel blade in water for a count of ten (moving it a stirring motion) while the shank remains orange hot. Remove from the water and using a file, disk sander, or disk grinder from an angle grinder, and brighten up the entire blade of the chisel, removing as much scale as possible. Watch the heat cooler run from the unquenched shank towards the edge. Requench the blade up to the royal blue color band when the straw yellow is 1/32" behind the edge. Keep that coloration dipping frequently until the back end has turned dark for at least three minutes. Then with quick full immersion dips, quench the entire chisel in water three times. On the fourth dip, keep quenched under water until the entire chisel is cold. Now, wire brush the tool to remove as much scale as possible. Sharpen the edge along the direction of the belt sander, or using an angle grinder and vise, grind in a bevel with a short, thick edge for cold cutting steel.



Good luck and let us know how it goes!!!

The following link is to a video made by the author during the beginning period of the 2020 covid shutdown for his class at Brookhaven College. Be forewarned that this is no YouTube quality video!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/211138179026298/permalink/1762644870542280/>

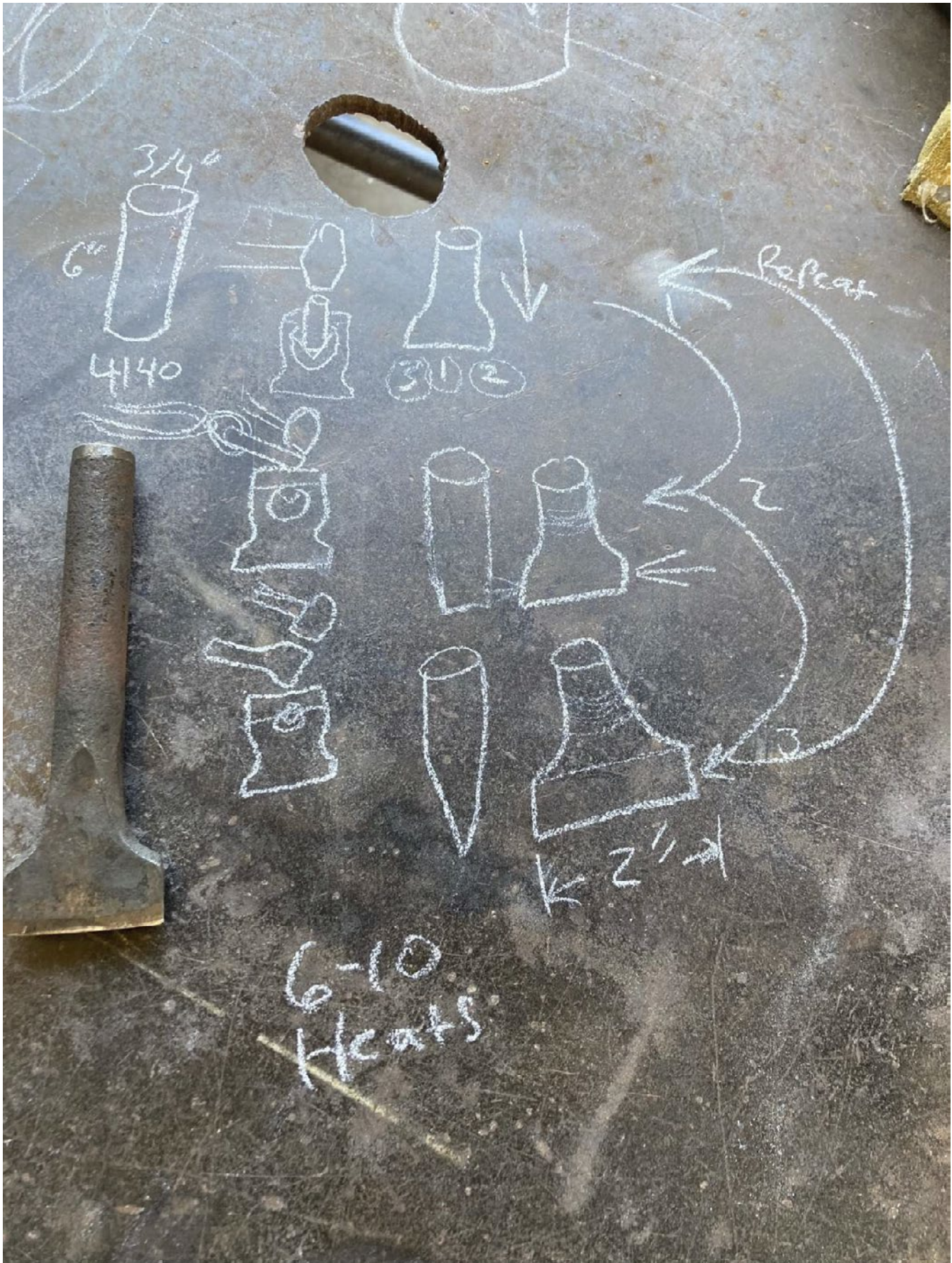
Below are a set of pictures showing the different stages of forging the Wade blade chisel.

-Kelly Kring

This article provided courtesy of the North Texas Blacksmithing Association & Brookhaven College (Dallas)









June 2022

Welcome to The Quench Tank: The Official Newsletter for ABANA Affiliates - our revamped newsletter for affiliate organizations! We've been working on some housekeeping to ensure info is up to date, so if you haven't heard from us yet, you might soon.

The Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America (ABANA) is here to **support and promote your organization and your events** via our website, social media, and this newsletter. If you have comments, concerns, or suggestions, we're happy to listen.



Email affiliates@abana.org to get in touch with the Affiliates Committee.



Free Advertising

Posting to Facebook, Instagram, or YouTube is a great way to **connect with your members and the general public**. Plus it's free! Here are a few basic tips:

- **Pick ONE platform** to start with. It doesn't help to have 5 social media accounts with little to no activity happening. Start small and evaluate later if a second platform is right for your group.
- **Post consistently**. You do not need to post daily - commit to once or twice a week - just be consistent. When your account is quiet for a period of time (even a short one), the platform stops showing your posts to as many people.



- Think you have nothing to post? **Share a post from one of ABANA's social media accounts**, post event announcements, local appearances, forged work by your members, blacksmithing tips, etc.

Pro Tip: We love to interact with you on social media! Tag ABANA in your Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter posts by adding "**@abanaorg**" to the end of your post. This will notify us so we can like, comment, or even share your post.

BLACKSMITH-CONNECT



The group, Blacksmiths Without Borders, is inviting blacksmithing groups to participate in the online event **"Blacksmith-Connect" on August 20, 2022**. Groups are asked to present a project or event for 45 minutes via Zoom followed by 15 minutes of Q&A from the participating audience. The idea is to draw worldwide attention to various blacksmith initiatives and

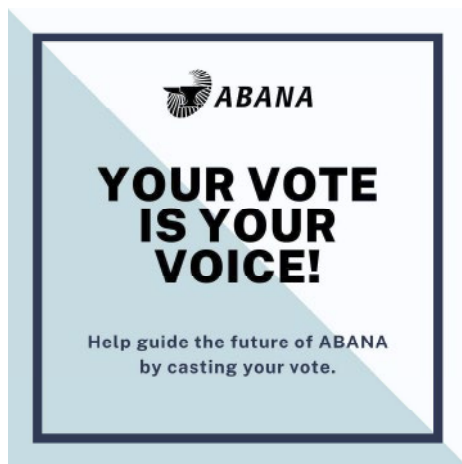
projects. There are 10 timeslots to choose from, so don't miss this amazing opportunity to showcase what your organization can do!

Learn More

Don't miss out on the latest opportunities and information for your group!

We strive to keep a minimum of 3 active contacts on file per affiliate group to keep the communication flowing.





Each year 5 seats are available on ABANA's Board of Directors. Candidate statements have been published in the Anvil's Ring and on social media for your consideration. ABANA members received an email earlier this month with a [link to cast their vote](#). Alternatively, paper ballots will be mailed to those without an email on file and must be postmarked no later than July 15, 2022.



Show off your WEARABLES

#ABANAFeaturedForgings

Have your members participated in ABANA's monthly challenge yet? We're giving smiths a chance to show off their work through monthly themed challenges on social media. **June's challenge is wearable items** such as jewelry, hair pins, armor, etc. (July's topic will be bottle openers.) Post your projects to social media and include the hashtag **#ABANAFeaturedForgings**.

TAKE YOUR SKILLS TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH OUR

LEVEL II TUTORIALS + COACHING

Learn from a top-notch team of ABANA National Curriculum Instructors:

Mark Aspery National Curriculum Instructor	Victoria Ritter National Curriculum Instructor	John Williams National Curriculum Instructor
Becky Schimpff National Curriculum Intermediate Instructor	Frank Annighofer National Curriculum Instructor	Russ Evertz National Curriculum Intermediate Instructor

National Curriculum Level II Zoom Sessions

RECAP: The online Level II National Curriculum Class started June 2nd with a full roster! We are thrilled to have the following instructors conducting classes: Frank Annighofer, Mark Aspery, Russ Evertz, Victoria Ritter, Becky Schimpff, and John Williams.

The ABANA Education Committee hopes to hold similar classes in the future. For questions about ABANA's National Curriculum (NC), becoming a certified NC Instructor, or future classes, email nc@abana.org.

North American Spotlight: MBA

Maritime Blacksmiths Association, Nova Scotia



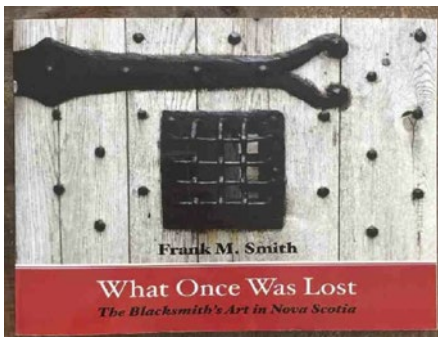
Celebrating a Restart

by Hugh Fraser, President, MBA

The Maritime Blacksmiths Association met at our birthplace, Ross Farm Museum in New Ross NS, for the first time since March 2020. Thirty-five smiths and guests attended our General Association Meeting to view a display of work, receive updates, hear two presentations, reconnect with fellow smiths, confirm the Board of Directors and participate in an open forge event.

We welcomed the newly formed Bladesmiths Guild who brought their skills, expertise and energy to the meet. Their inclusion and enthusiasm will open an opportunity to develop a very exciting skill set within our group.

Mr. Peter Cullen, Executive Director of **Ross Farm Museum**, shared his vision for creating a four station teaching pavilion at the site to augment their historical Blacksmithing Shop. His pavilion would become a development hub focused on teaching and growing the craft, with community support. We are very enthusiastic to support their plans.



Mr. Frank Smith, author of *What Once Was Lost* thanked the MBA and the smiths that made his book a reality. Frank's writing "exposes the rich history of blacksmithing in Nova Scotia, explores the subsequent emerging art form and provides a resource of practicing artisans' profiles."

The day concluded at the Museum Forge, with Iron in the Hat, much discussion, open forges and a wagon ride back to the Centre.



International Spotlight: ABAVic

Australian Blacksmith Association (Victoria)

Blacksmiths Festival 2022

by Guy Metcalfe, Secretary, ABAVic

After more than 3 years of COVID-enforced delay, the preeminent festival for blacksmiths in Victoria has once again been a marvelous event.



Organized by the hard working committee of the **Blacksmiths Festival** and hosted by **Waterside Metal Art Studio**, it was held on the 28-29 May and ABAVic had a stall right next to the main sculptural forging event area. We were lucky enough to not only have a ringside view of the forging event but to also benefit greatly from the crowds that came to view it.



ABAVic was amply represented on both of the main open days of the festival as well as having two of our members being part of the sculptural forging team, Kieran Gleeson and Dara Carey Quilty.

The stall was staffed on both days by ABAVic stalwarts; Vice President Stephen Nicoll and Treasurer Shane Kenny, along with myself on the Saturday as well as our training coordinator Rick Stadler on the Sunday, committee member Chris Irving and members Sarah Edwards and Katrina Johnston.



Stephen getting it hot and hitting it hard.



Chris Irving, Rick Stadler, Sarah Edwards and Stephen Nicoll.

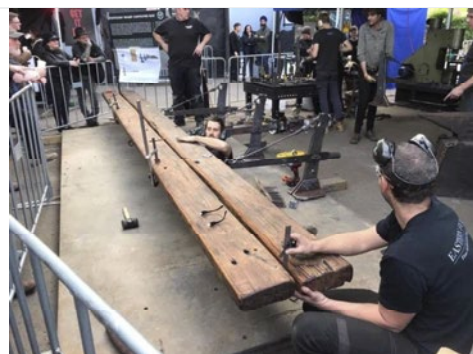
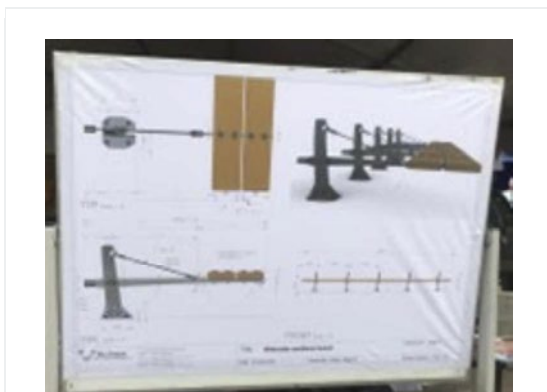


Shane and Guy.



We also had a visit from one of the leading blacksmiths in Australia, **Pete Mattila**, a great bloke and an inspiration to many of us. (Though the photo seems to exaggerate my beer gut.) Pictured left: Shane, Pete Mattila, Sarah, and Guy.

The main sculptural forging event was a fantastic cantilevered bench designed by Will Maguire, incorporating recycled timber from the demolition of the old wharf on the Maribyrnong river that was made available by the Maribyrnong City council.



I know from Dara how exhausted she was by the end and I'm sure the others on the team were the same, but they should be proud of such a great achievement. It certainly was fascinating to watch and we managed to have a quick chat with **Matt Mewburn**, Blacksmith and teacher at Everleigh Works in Sydney and one of the event's team leaders who was happy to give us some background on the progress of the sculptural project.

Another highlight of the festival was the entries into the **#150mmChallengeAus**, an event that is growing in importance and inspiring a lot of us to think outside the square, designing objects that combine 150mm x 12mm bar of copper with 150mm x 20mm square of steel. Though not managing to enter this year, it was great fun the last time I entered with a collaboration between myself and Andy Jagger one of our main instructors.



This year's entries included three from our members including a memorable and timely piece by Shane Kenny a Ukrainian Sunflower with bullet hole "Hope Pierced by Pain" which he sold to a Ukrainian woman at the festival, with half of the proceeds going to a Ukrainian charity.

Overall it was a great festival and very well run by the organizing committee, the food was great, the stalls were great and the beer was great, what more do you need?

If your group would like to be featured in The Quench Tank, send a brief write up (200 words or less) and 1-2 pictures **via email**. We encourage sharing major events, awards, trips, tips for affiliates, and so on.

Does your organization award educational grants?

Let your members know

*ABANA will **match** Affiliate grants made to members!*

Grant Info

(Matching grants up to \$200. Must be an ABANA member a minimum of 6 months to be eligible.)



ABANA Affiliates Committee

Chris Rowan, Chair • Scott Kretschmer • John Williams • Jerry Boyd



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PO Box 462, Johnstown, PA 15907

Phone: (814) 254-4817
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For Sale:

Little Giant 25 lb Power Hammer

(2) Swage blocks

(1) Floor cone

Dvorak Iron Worker (old)

Arc Welder 230 amp (Sears) old

(125) used RR spikes

(18) Fire bricks

(1) lot Ornamental castings

Coal (trash can full)

old Hammers Blow & Anvils Ring magazines

Contact:

Gene Hall 918-232-9146 in Owasso, OK

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SCABA Shop and Swap

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 or 918-855-8250.

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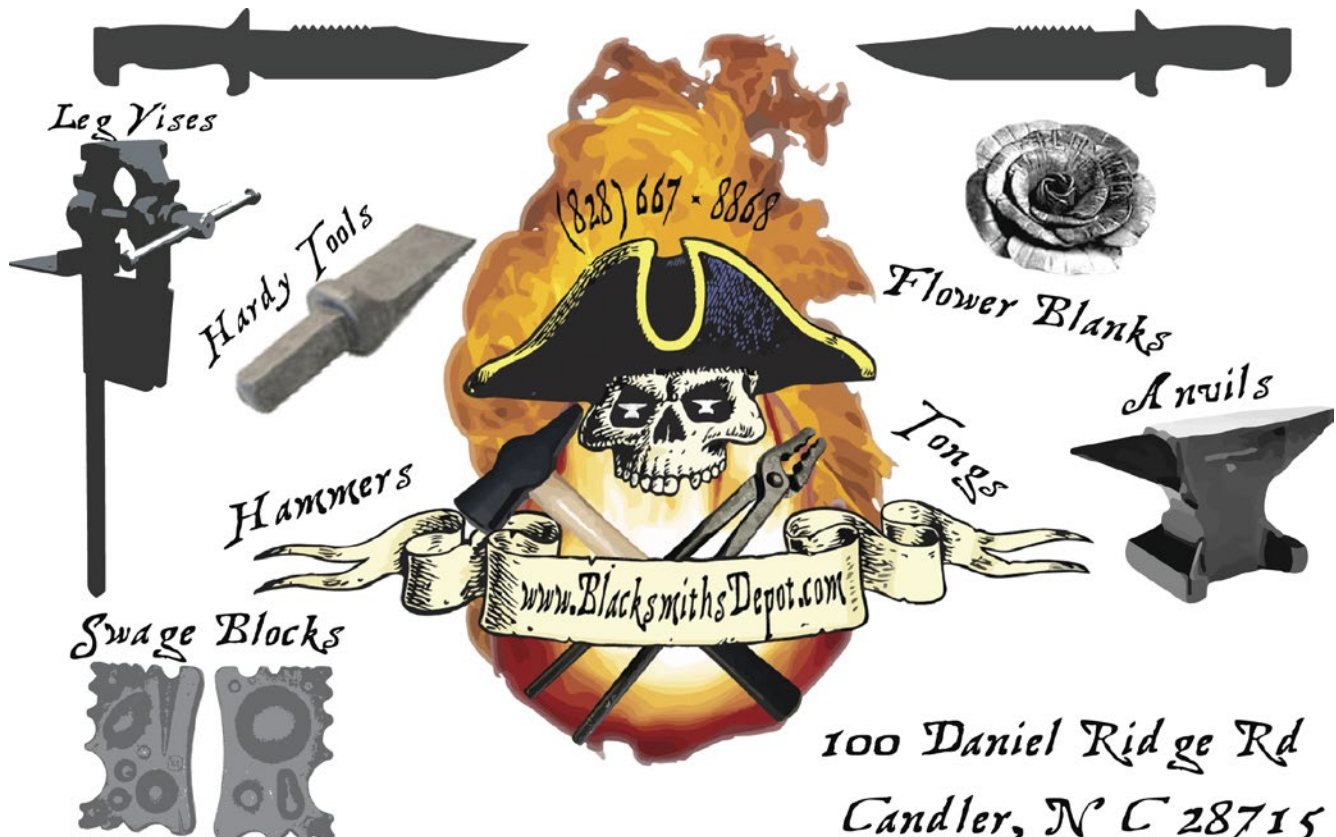
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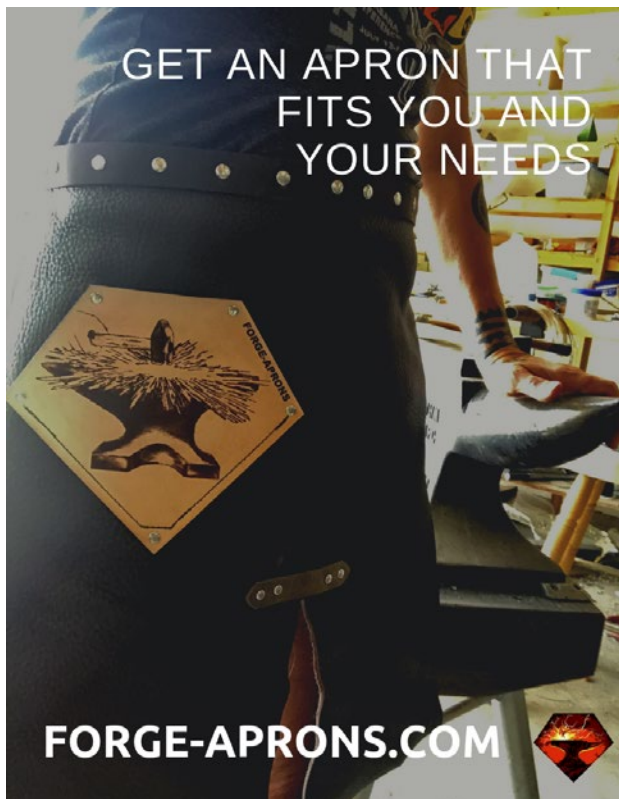
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SCABA Shop and Swap



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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

**** (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 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 _____

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Phone (Best Number to Contact) (_____) _____

e-mail _____

ABANA Member? _____ Yes _____ No _____

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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

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

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