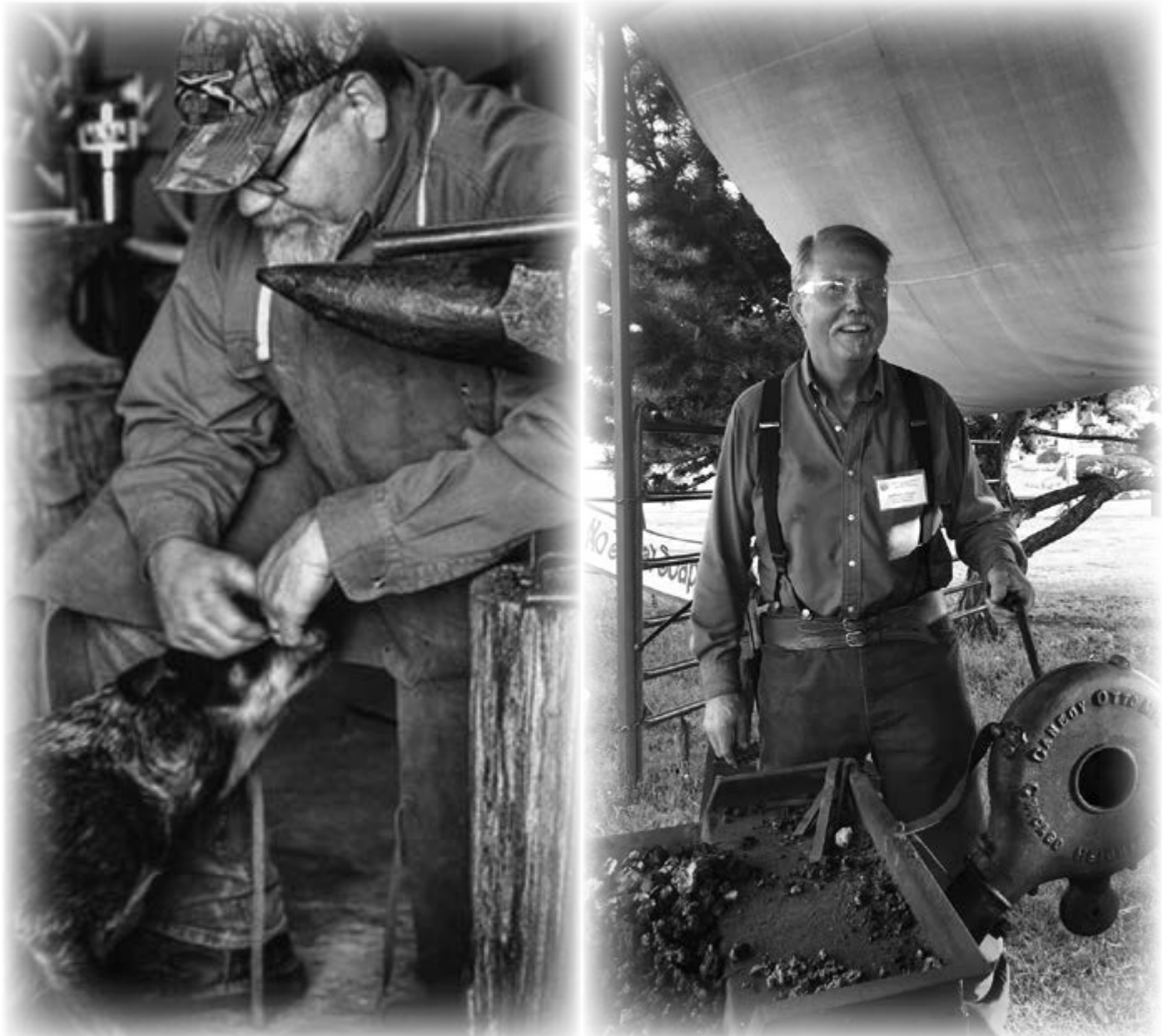


Saltfork Craftsmen

Artist-Blacksmith Association

September 2022



Phil Evans and Anthony Griggs
Demonstrators for the 2022 Conference
(Conference information starting on page 12)

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

President/West Workshop Coordinator:

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Director:

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Pawnee, Ok scout@skally.net

Librarian:

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

Editor's Notes:

I apologize for the massive delay in getting the newsletter out this month. My mom was in a bad wreck beginning of August, so the newsletter has unfortunately been the farthest thing from my mind. Hopefully one of these days I will eventually get myself on track (and stuff will quit popping up!).

More information is available for the conference. If you have any questions or I missed some information, please reach out and I will be happy to help/remedy the situation.

-Katie Mitchell, Editor

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

There is a Board of Directors meeting scheduled for **2:00 PM Sunday, September 25th, 2022.**

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 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:

Hello,

I hope everyone is doing well. We have gotten a little break from the heat and the drought. It makes it a little easier to forge.

Well, the conference will be here before you know it. Don't forget about Iron in the Hat and tools for the toolbox. Brad has made the toolbox, so let's fill it up. A full toolbox makes it better for whoever wins it. Also, remember to bring your projects for people's choice! It is nice to see what people have made.

The State Fair will be here before you know it, so if you want to work it, let us know. I look forward to seeing everyone.

Keep your chisels and punches dressed.

- 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.

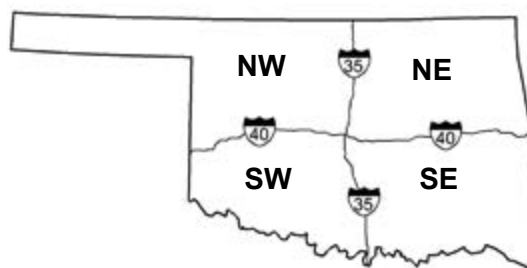
Want to host a meeting? The meeting hosting form can be found on the last page along with membership application form. If you want to host a meeting in any area, please fill out one of the host forms on the website under the calendar section or in the newsletter and e-mail the information or mail the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

Member's Gallery



More leaves. (7 and 8) One ended up smaller than the others, so I will be redoing it.
-Katie M., Editor

Roy Bell made this railroad spike knife



Terry Kauk made this pine cone



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)	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 (NW - Skylar Parker) (SW - 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)

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 if you have questions.

SE Regional Meeting November 12th: (Open.)

SW Regional Meeting November 19th: (Open.)

NW Regional Meeting November 19th: Will be hosted by Skylar Parker at the Route 66 Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.

The trade item is a silverware set (spoon, knife, fork).

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.

NW Regional Meeting November 26th: (Open.)

December 2022

NE Regional Meeting December 3rd: (Open)

SE Regional Meeting December 10th: (Open)

SW Regional Meeting December 17th: (Open)

NW Regional Meeting December 24th: (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 unfortunately can no longer make it, but Phil Evans and Anthony Griggs have agreed to be our demonstrators.

You can signup for the workshop classes by contacting Eric Jergensen by phone (text or call) or email at 405-414-8848 or gericjergensen@gmail.com before October 1st.

There are 10 spots per demonstrator. If more people have contacted Eric by October 1st for a class than there is room, they will be entered in a lottery to decide who gets a spot. Otherwise, signups will remain open until the spots are filled.

Class prices have gone up, they will be \$350 plus supplies (should be \$50.00).

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. As there have been delays, t-shirts may be available at the conference for purchase.

The Conference will be \$65.00 for both days.

Conference Meals

Lily Stubs will be cooking the meals for the conference and the classes.

Tentative meal schedule:

Sat breakfast: coffee, sausage, biscuits, eggs

Sat lunch: tea, Chicken Noodle casserole

Sat dinner: tea, BBQ. Coleslaw. Potato salad, beans

Sun breakfast: coffee, sausage, biscuits, eggs

Sun lunch: posse stew

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 - Phil Evans and Anthony Griggs - 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.

Phil will be holding a class on Damascus, while Anthony will be holding a class on the ABC's of Knifemaking.

You can signup for the workshop classes by contacting Eric Jergensen by phone (text or call) or email at 405-414-8848 or gericjergensen@gmail.com before October 1st.

There are 10 spots per demonstrator. If more people have contacted Eric by October 1st for a class than there is room, they will be entered in a lottery to decide who gets a spot. Otherwise, signups will remain open until the spots are filled.

Class prices have gone up, they will be \$350 plus supplies (should be \$50.00).

What to bring to class:

Hammer- two to three pound rounding hammer or ball peen hammer or regular blacksmithing hammer-Whatever you are comfortable with or have and use.

Tongs: At least 2 good flat bit tongs that will hold ¼ inch and ⅝ inch thick material.

A portable forge, gas or coal (a gas forge would be the easiest and fastest).

An anvil and anvil stand.

Vise.

If the students have a portable 2 X 72 grinder, bring it.

If a student has a piece of ¼ inch thick 1¼ to 1½ inch wide mild steel that they would like to bring and practice with before using the 5160, it would be fine. (Anthony's class)

Bring a magnet.

Personal Safety Equipment Required:

Gloves

Safety glasses

Apron (optional)

Dust mask (optional)

High top shoes or boots. No flip flops or open toed shoes.

Old long sleeve shirt to forge in.

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)

Phil Evans

Columbus Kansas

Phil@Glenviewforge.com

Phil Evans made his first knife in 1995. He has been teaching knife making and Damascus classes for almost 10 years.

Phil took a week long Damascus class at the American Bladesmith Society School of Bladesmithing in old Washington, Arkansas from instructor Steve Dunn--the current president of the American Bladesmith Society.

He is on the board of directors for the Kansas Custom Knifemakers Association, was a season 1 Forged in Fire Contestant, and is the host of the Central States Hammer-in and Knife Show in Kansas.



Made by Phil Evans, ABS Apprentice

Image Edit by Jocelyn Frasier



Made by Phil Evans, ABS

Image Edit by Jocelyn Frasier



KNIFEMAKER - ANTHONY GRIGGS - ABS JS TEST SET IMAGE - SHARPBYCOOP

My name is Anthony Griggs. I have been a member of SCABA since about 2014. I love all aspects of blacksmithing but my area of focus has been geared towards knives. In 2015, I became a member of the ABS (American Bladesmith Society). In 2016, I enrolled in the 2 weeks class, Introduction to Bladesmithing, at the ABS Bill Moran School of Bladesmithing run by the Texarkana College and completed the 80 hour course.

In 2018, I tested and passed the Journeyman Smith requirements and now hold a Journeyman Certification in the ABS. I am currently working toward my Master's Certification. In 2021, I attended a one week class in Colorado Springs regarding how to forge and complete a European Quillion Dagger taught by Kevin Cashen. This is a knife that is required for the Master's Certification in the ABS. This is just a short biography on my passion for knives. Come and join us at the conference. Take the class with us if you are interested in making knives, swords, axes, woodworking tools, the list goes on and on.

Remember these conferences are for you to learn and expand your knowledge. Come and join us and the class to learn to forge, grind, and heat treat a basic knife that will be hopefully ready for you to install a handle and enjoy. See you there.



Around the State...

NW Region July Meeting:

The July meeting was hosted by Terry Kauk at the Route 66 Museum Blacksmith Shop in Elk City. There was a good turn-out, and the meeting went well.









Around the State...

NE Region August Meeting:

The August meeting was hosted by Diana Simon at the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry.

“On August 6th, the northeast region of the Saltfork Craftsmen had there monthly meeting at the Cherokee Strip Museum, we also had our annual “Family Fun Day”. We had over 350 visitors from all over Oklahoma. Tom Nelson had another Wheel-Set in the morning and then him and fellow Blacksmith’s entertained and taught the visitors the rest of the day!”





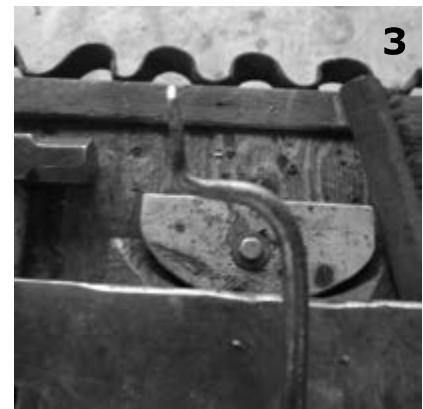
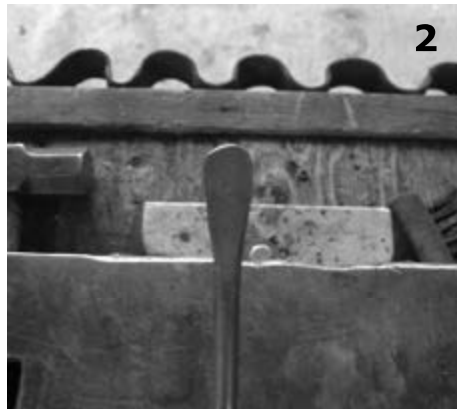
SE Region August Meeting: No Meeting was held.
SW Region August Meeting: No Meeting was held.

Simple Coal Tong Project by Thomas L. Rohosky

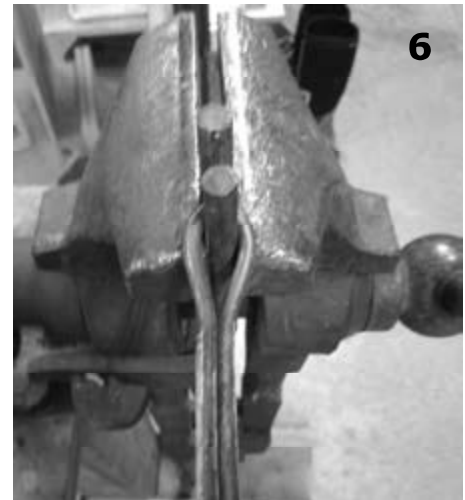
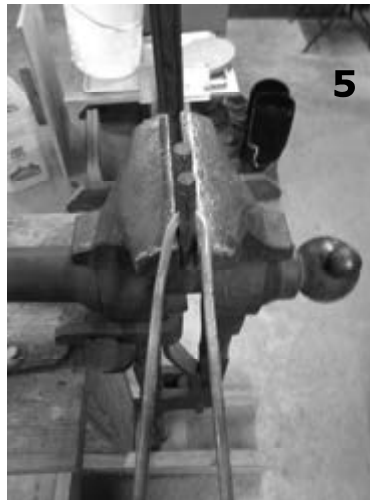
If you're looking for a quick and easy project, try this pair of coal tongs. These were a type of fireplace tool used years ago (before matches or lighters) to grab a hot coal from your fireplace to, light your pipe or to start a new fire. These are made from 1/4 inch round stock. Here's the process:



1. Cut your stock to be a little more than twice as long as you want your finished tongs to be. These began with a 32-inch piece, and the finished tongs were about 15 inches.
2. Heat up about an inch on each end, then upset it a bit. Probably the best way to do this is in a vice. (Figure 1) The upset isn't really required, but it will give you a slightly larger end pad to more easily grab a coal.
3. Flatten about an inch or so to make the end pads. (Figure 2)
4. Bend the flattened end down to about 90 degrees and the arm behind it in the opposite direction with a bend radius of about 1 inch. The order of these two bends isn't critical; do what works for you. (Figure 3)



Note: You'll be making several bends, and the easiest way to get them to match is to use something like a piece of pipe as a mandrel. If you don't have that and want to do it over the anvil horn, here's a tip: Find the location on the horn with the radius you want and mark it with some soapstone; that way, you can easily come back to the same spot.



5. Now, measure and mark the center of the tong blank for the next step, which will be to bend it in half. A simple mandrel will make the next step easier, and one can be made from a piece of 3/8 or 1/2 inch round stock bent in a U-shape and held in your vice. (Figure 4).

6. It helps to start the center bend slightly with the steel cold; this will make it easier to find the right spot when it comes out of the fire.

Since it's only 1/4 inch stock, this won't be hard to do.

7. Heat the center area (about 3 inches should do) and bend it around your mandrel. (Figure 5) If your tong arms are twisted or not the same length, fix this now.

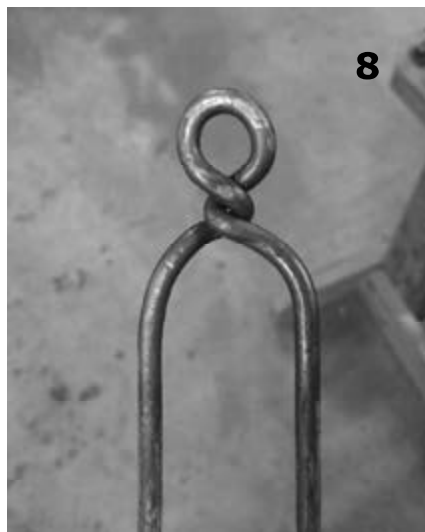
NOTE: The way I make this bend is by grabbing the each end and pulling the center around the mandrel. This will let you easily adjust the arm length or angles by pushing, pulling, or twisting each side as needed. If you do it this way, use heavy gloves and try not to heat up a larger area than you need.

8. Lightly hammer the arms to bring them together. (Figure 6)

9. Reheat a few inches, then clamp it in the vice. Take a piece of steel stock the same diameter as your mandrel, stick it through the center loop and give it a twist. (Figure 7)

10. Heat up a few inches past your twist, then bend the two arms out to align the ends. (Figure 8)

Make any minor adjustments or cleanup, and you're done! Now, go find a fire somewhere and try them out!



Above: Completed coal tongs. This project includes many basic blacksmith skills such as: upsetting, twisting, centering, bending, measuring and adjusting. Perfect for demonstrations and beginning projects.

He Always Seems to be in a Twist!

by Austin Prosser



Twists can add interest and personality to a basic project with practice and be a personal challenge. Austin is a welder who also has a diesel and auto mechanic background.

When he attended Shanksville-Stoneycreek High School, he was able to take advantage of "Teen Week" at Touchstone Center for

Crafts. This is how he was introduced to blacksmithing and has since built his own garage/shop to keep his skills in check. He finds making a variety of twists rewarding for a number of reasons: it is easy to show an example to a prospective client, the ring of twists is portable, you can show what a blacksmith actually does, and it's just plain cool! His next twist challenge is a dragon twist and an alligator twist...tricky, but he's up for the challenge...no doubt!



Left to Right: Reverse Twist, Variable Twist, Rubik's Cube, Cube Twist, Chisel Twist, Pineapple, and Even Twist

Colapsible Tong Tool Box

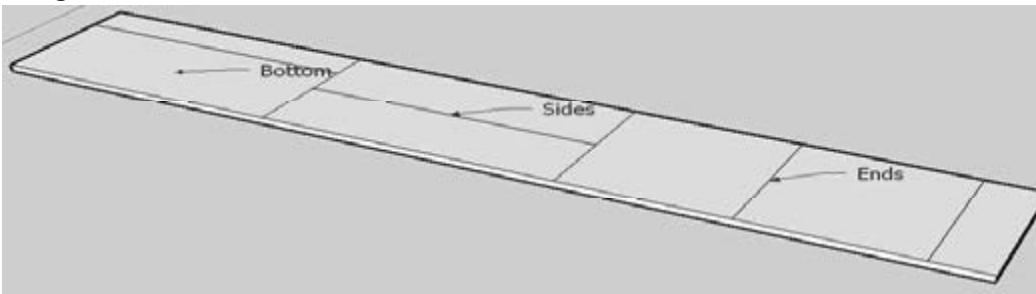


One of the handiest blacksmithing tools I've made for myself is a toolbox to carry some of the other tools to demonstrations, hammer-ins or when I'm visiting another shop. This is my Colapsible Tong Toolbox version 3.1 (Not for collapsible tongs, the tool box collapses.) I've made the handle removeable so that it can be extended by a couple of uprights to hold my tongs while I forge.



I use a laminated pine shelf board from the local Big Box. It's inexpensive, stable and a full 12" wide by 6' long. The size of this tool box uses almost the whole shelf board. And some $\frac{3}{4}$ "X2 1/2X24" pieces (step 9) for the uprights on either ends. I usually just cut these out of scrap 2X4s I have around the shop and also use the same scrap to cut the thin pieces that are the dividers in the bottom of the tool box (step 11). It takes 24" of dowel (I use poplar) for the handle and a 5: piece the short plugs used for step 10. (If I forgot some of the parts list I'm sorry. I use a lot of pieces of scrap in my shop. For instance the last uprights I cut were from my wifes porch swing that was falling apart.)

Note: On version 2 of this toolbox I used two full handles all the way across the tool box. Using these short plugs cuts down on the needed dowel and also removes that lower handle out of the way when using the tool box.



1. start out my cutting the bottom piece. So that I can use a 2' long 1' dowel for the handle, I cut the bottom 22" long. You can also cut another 22" long piece for the sides.



2. I then set my table saw at 7 degrees, trim one side of the bottom then cut the other side of the bottom so that the widest part, or top, is 9" wide.

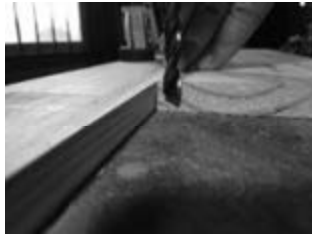
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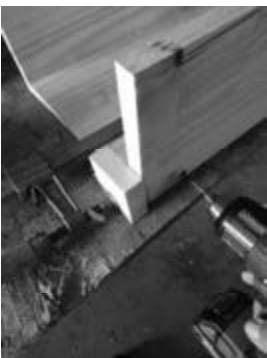
3. Leaving the saw set at the same angle, I thin cut the two side pieces also 22" long so that they have the 7 degree angle that will end up attached to the bottom. This cut is made right in the middle of the 12" X 22" piece for the sides.



4. I then drill 4 evenly spaced 3/8" holes on the bottom of each side about half way though.



This is to recess screw heads that later will be plugged with 3/8" dowel rod.



5. I then drill pilot holes through the sides into the bottom and attach the sides using wood glue and 1 5/8" #8 wood screws.

I have built these not using metal fasteners and only using dowels however using screws speeds up the assembly by a day or so.

6. I then set the side on the remaining part of the shelf board to mark the ends aligning the edges and tracing around the side boards. I then connect those lines with a 3" half circle that tops out

at 12". I cut out one and use it as a template to mark the other end board.



7. I then drill a 28mm hole (about 1 1/8") in the end boards that will later receive the handle. And then drill 6 evenly spaced 3/8" holes, and 6 pilot holes just like for the sides into the ends to attach them to the bottom and sides also using glue.

8. I then cut small pieces of 3/8" dowel and glue them in the screw holes trimming them flush after the glue sets up.



9. I then cut the uprights. They are 3/4" thick, 2 1/2" wide, and 24" long. I cut a half circle on the top and then drill a 28mm hole at the top. I then stand these uprights up in the ends of the tool box to transfer where the 22mm hole is to be drilled at the handle holes.



10. Next I cut two pieces of 1" dowel 2 1/2" long, drilled a 1/4" hole in the ends and glued in a short piece of dowel rod. These are inserted in the handle holes to hold the uprights upright. 😊





11. Then using some thin boards I make a tray divider to fit in the bottom. These were about $\frac{3}{8}$ " wide by $2\frac{1}{2}$ " tall. This divider is then glued to the inside bottom of the tool box. This divider has two purposes, one is to hold the bottom of the upright in position and the other is so when the tool box is loaded with "stuff" there is a spot for the upright to fit into without emptying the box first.



12. The last three steps are optional. On one of the uprights I add a pencil/small tool holder and on the other I add a holster to hold a farriers rasp. At the bottom of the rasp holster I drove in two small nails so as to stop it from sliding all of the way though.



Apply some kind of finish, I just sprayed mine with about 3 good coats of spray enamel.

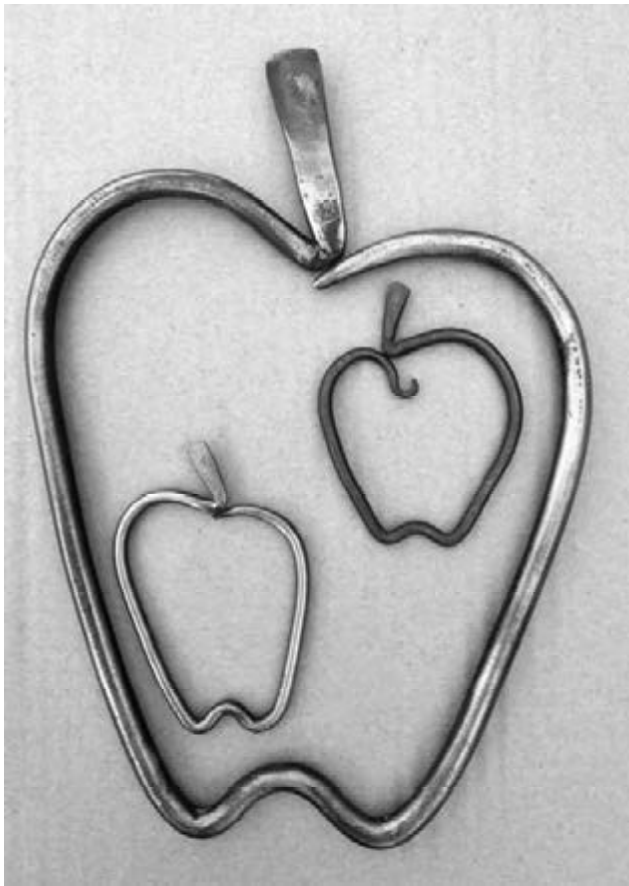
You can also dress your tool box up a bit with designs. For instructions on this easy method go to Youtube and search for the video "Garden toolbox and fun inkjet photo-transfer technique" by "Woodworking for Mere Mortals" and look at about the 6:15 mark. This whole toolbox is actually based on the small garden toolbox he made in this video and it's a good watch.

I strongly advise you NOT to make this box any larger than this one. The size of this box is almost too big as the "Rule of Horizontal Space" comes into effect. Same as it goes for a garage, barn, refrigerator and so on... however big it is it will be full. If you make one of these any larger, you'll need to beef up the handle. I am not sure how the 1" poplar dowel I used holds the weight.

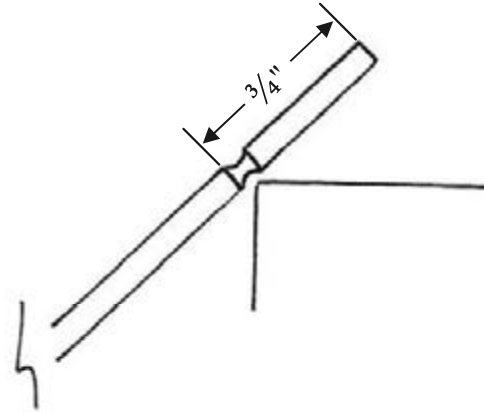
Feel free to contact me if you have any questions other than the standard "Will you make me one? I'll pay you for it." I'm not in the building tool box business and this is a real simple build. I've been using my current toolbox for about 5 years now and I have not been gentle with it. It has lots of scars, it's slid the entire length of my truck bed when someone has pulled out in front of me about 3 times and it's still just fine.

Bill Corey
Danville Indiana
Have fun forging!!!!

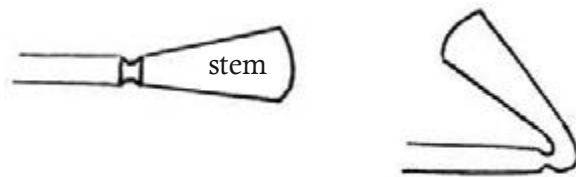




At 3/4" from the other end, forge a circular groove on the edge of the anvil.



Hammer flat to form the stem. Bend stem back.

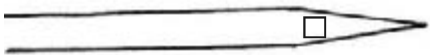


Decorative Apple Profile

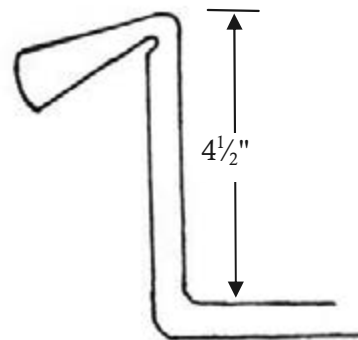
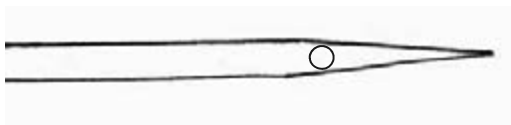
By Steve Anderson, a MABA member

Stock: 3/16" round rod x 9-5/8"

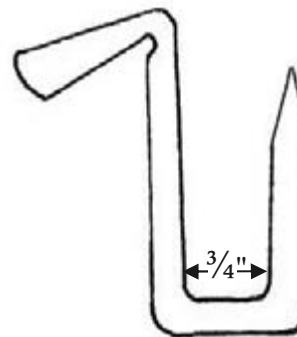
Start 1" from the end, forge down to a square tapered point,



then round.



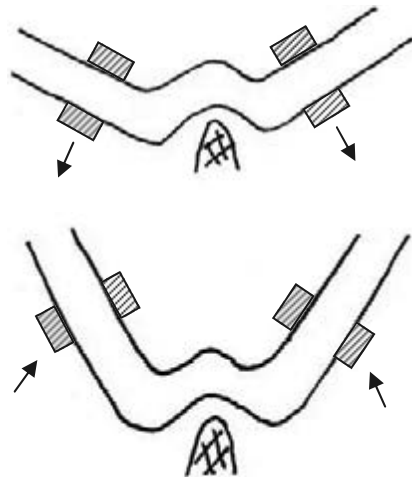
Make a 90° bend 4-1/2" from the base of the stem. This can be done cold in a vise.



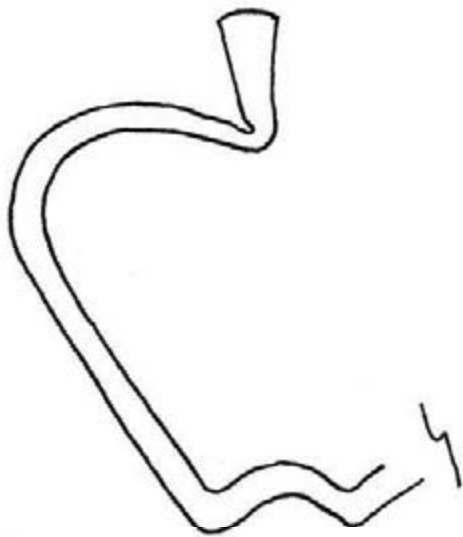
Make a second bend 3/4" away either cold or hot using a 3/4" spacer.

Using two pairs of tongs, bend the 3/4" leg down over a 1/4" fuller, then bring the sides back up while pushing down.

The edge of a piece of 1/4" flat bar, rounded off and held in a vise works well for the fuller.



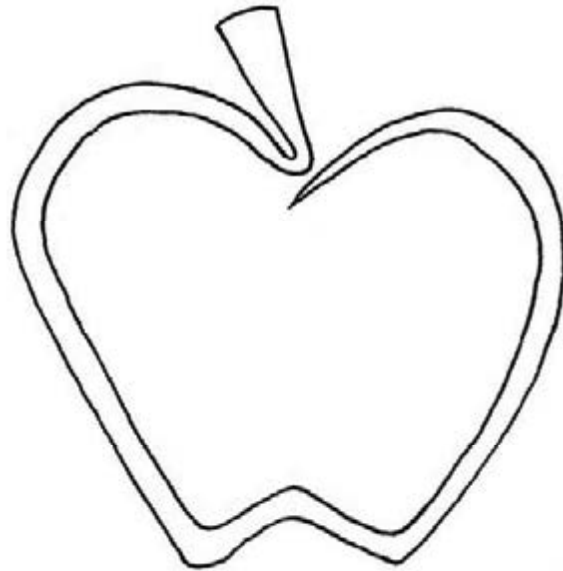
Using round nose pliers, bend the stem side first. Hold near the stem and bend down while pushing out.



Question?
What is this ?
Answer-

3.14159 (apple pi)

Then bend the other side to just clear the bottom of the stem.



Opening or closing the two bottoms of the "w" can be useful in making the shape symmetrical.

Adjust the stem if necessary.

Wire wheel, apply a thin coat of Penetrol, then 3 coats of wax when dry. Or use a finish of your choice.

Additional Sizes-

For 1/4" round rod- overall length 19".
Stem 1-1/2", base of stem to first bend 8",
to second bend 2-1/4"

For 5/16 or 3/8" round rod, overall length 28-1/2"
2-1/2" for the stem, 12"
from the base of the
stem to the first bend,
and 3-1/2" to the
second bend.

Then shape the bottom
of the apple. For
different stock sizes, use
an appropriate size
fuller or anvil horn.



Adam's Apple

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Gene Hall 918-232-9146
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Cell (405) 623-9009
Email: joe@ews-ok.com
www.ews-ok.com
3451 N Flood Ave
Norman OK 73069

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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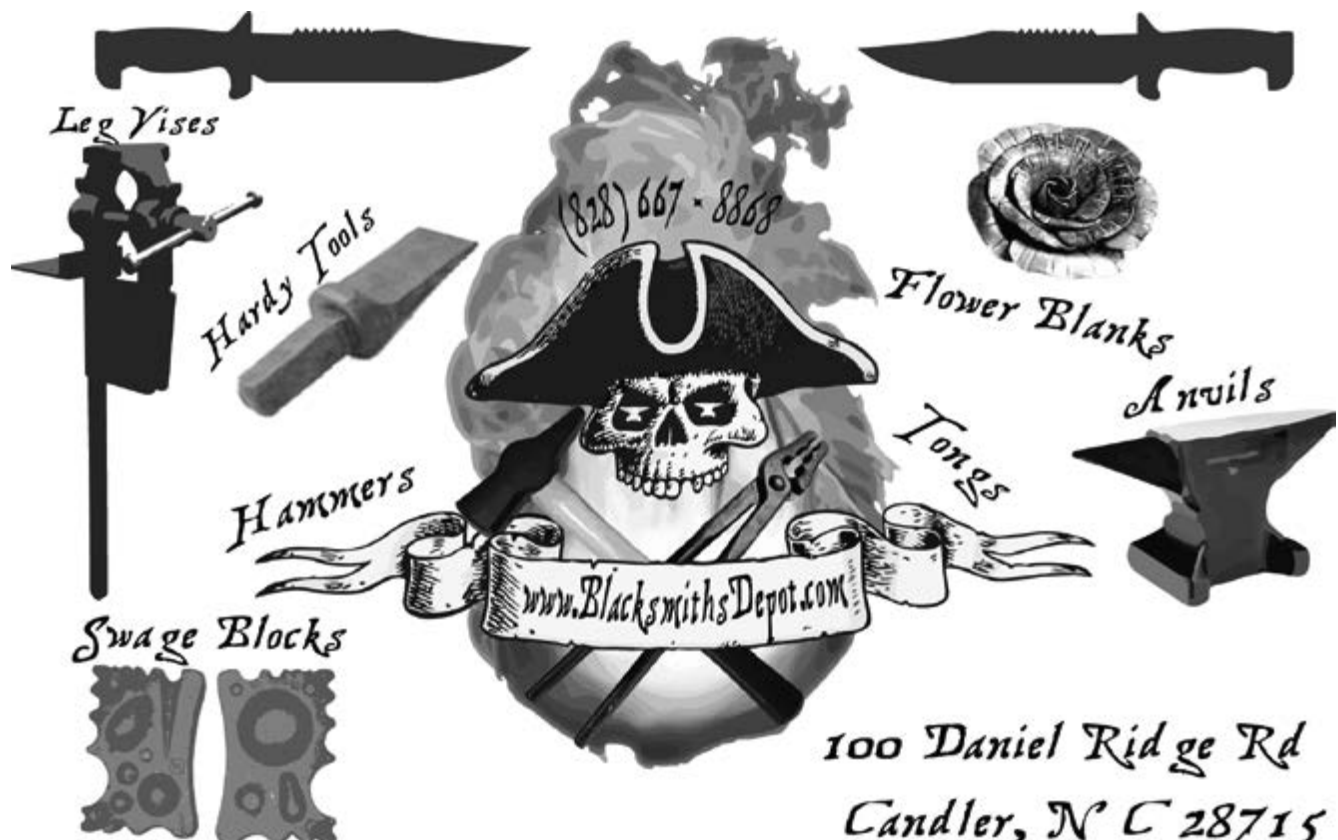
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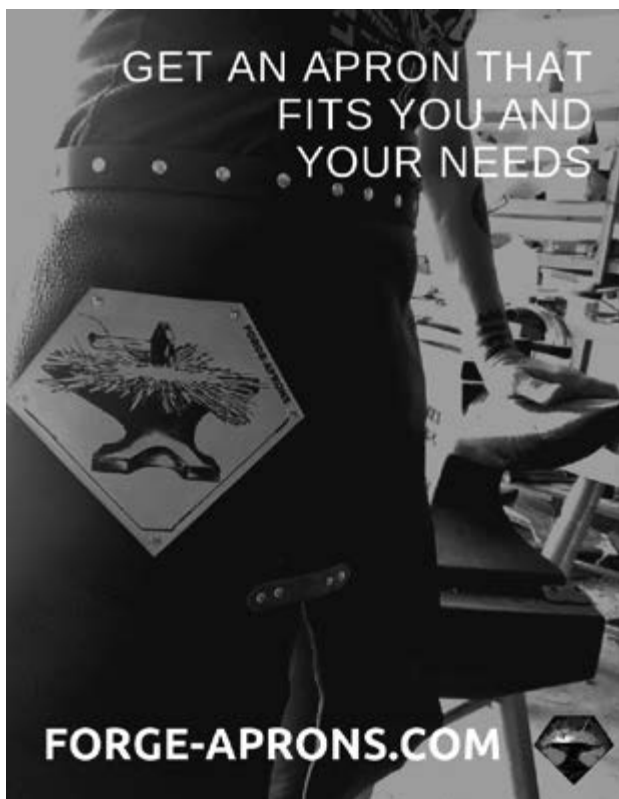
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Bill Davis Forge Welded Tomahawk DVD

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
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- Frank Turley SCABA 1997
- Frank Turley SCABA 2003
- Bill Epps SCABA 2003
- M. Hamburger SCABA 2007

Librarian: Don Garner 580-302-1845 (Cell)
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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.

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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 _____

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Renewal _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Married? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Spouse's Name _____

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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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