

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association

March-April 2023



**Ballot for the Board of Directors Election is on page 5
Please Vote!**

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

President/West Workshop Coordinator:

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

Vice-President/Conference Chair:

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

Director:

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

Director:

Rory Kirk 580-497-6426
501 S 3rd Street
Cheyenne, OK 73628 ershkirk@gmail.com

Director/East Workshop Coordinator:

Brad Nance 918-774-4291
106570 S. 4690 Rd
Sallisaw, OK 74955 bradley.nance@cnet.com

Director:

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

Director:

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

Assignments:

Secretary and Treasurer:

Carol Doner 405-760-8388
6520 Alameda
Norman, OK 73026 caroldoner@hotmail.com

Editor/Regional Meeting Coordinator:

Katie Mitchell 405-816-0445
14141 S. Hiwassee Road
OKC, OK 73165 hope91.16@gmail.com

Webmaster:

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

Librarian:

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

Editor's Notes:

This newsletter is a bit of a mess, I apologize. My untimeliness has things a bit jumbled, as I am getting it out very late.

A few things to note:

Annual dues have increased to \$40.00.

Please note that print copies of the newsletter are now a box you have to check on the renewal form instead of an automatic thing. Those that currently receive them will continue to do so for the dues they have paid. Just make sure to check the box if you want to keep receiving print copies when renewal time rolls around!

-Katie Mitchell, Editor

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

There is a Board of Directors meeting scheduled for **2:00 PM Saturday, April 15th, 2023** at the SCABA Annual Picnic.

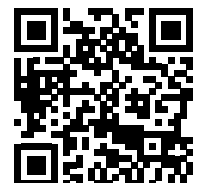
Board meetings are open to any member to attend. This is the best place to offer any comments, ideas or criticisms you have on how your club operates. Feel free to attend. If you plan to attend and have an issue that needs addressed, please send your topic(s) to the Secretary, Carol Doner, to get on 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 had the picnic at Bill and Angela Phillips house and shop. We had a very good time. The weather was beautiful. Bill had a lot of tools for sale, some from an old blacksmith shop he had bought out. We had a very good forging contest. We also had a very good meal with more than enough to eat. The sweets were something to tell your mother about! We will have a board meeting in June, and at that point I will no longer be on the board. I hope to see everyone at our upcoming conference and at other meetings.

Keep your anvil shiny,

- 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.

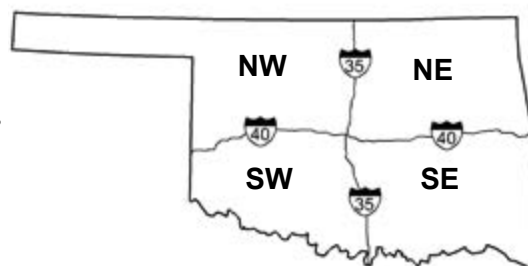
Want to host a meeting? The meeting hosting form can be found on the last page along with membership application form. If you want to host a meeting in any area, please fill out one of the host forms on the website under the calendar section or in the newsletter and e-mail the information or mail the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

Saltfork Craftsmen Artist Blacksmith Association

Board of Directors Election 2023

There are **two** director terms expiring this year and **one** resignation. Byron Doner and Mandell Greteman are expiring and Russell Bartling is resigning from his position. Mandell Greteman is not running for re-election.

The following list includes the nominations for election to the three positions. You may choose from three candidates on the list. Please vote for a total of **three** nominees. **Only one ballot per household.**

VOTE FOR THREE:

- ☐ Byron Doner
- ☐ Jeff Cohen
- ☐ Jason O'Dell
- ☐ Chuck Ogden
- ☐ Tracy Cowart

Signed Name _____

Printed Name _____

(Signature, printed name, and current membership are required for the ballot to be valid)

Please mail your ballot in. You may fold and tape this form closed (postage stamp is required) or place in an envelope and mail the completed ballot to the secretary:

Saltfork Craftsmen 2023 Ballot
C/O Carol Doner
6520 Alameda
Norman, OK 73026

You may also print and fill out the form, then scan it in and email it to Carol Doner at caroldoner@hotmail.com

All ballots must be postmarked by **Thursday, June 1st.**

All ballots will be counted June 10th and the results presented at the June 11th board meeting. Any ballots submitted before the picnic will need resubmitted.

PLEASE VOTE!!!



Saltfork Craftsmen 2023 Ballot
C/O Carol Doner
6520 Alameda
Norman, OK 73026

2023 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: Saturday, April 29th

WHERE: Route 66 Museum Blacksmith Shop, Elk City, OK

Saltfork Craftsmen will be conducting a beginners Blacksmithing workshop on Saturday, April 29th, beginning at 8 A.M. and running until complete. All tools and materials will be provided.

Slots are limited so please reserve yours early.

To make reservations, or for questions, please contact:

Rory Kirk @ 580-497-6426

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.

2023 REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE

NE Region (1st Sat)	SE Region (2nd Sat)	SW Region (3rd Sat)	NW Region (4th Sat)
Jan 7th (Open)	Jan 14th (Open)	Jan 21st (Open)	Jan 28th (Rory Kirk)
Feb 4th (Open)	Feb 11th (Open)	Feb 18th (Open)	Feb 25th (Skylar Parker)
Mar 4th (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	Mar 11th (Open)	Mar 18th (Open)	Mar 25th (Mandell Greteman)
Apr 1st (Open)	Apr 8th (Open)	Apr 15th (Open)	Apr 22nd (Terry Kauk)
May 6th (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	May 13th (Open)	May 20th (Open)	May 27th (Monte Smith)
Jun 3rd (Open)	Jun 10th (Open)	Jun 17th (Open)	Jun 24th (Doug Hyde)
Jul 1st (Open)	Jul 8th (Open)	Jul 15th (Open)	Jul 22nd (Don Garner)
Aug 5th (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	Aug 12th (Open)	Aug 19th (Open)	Aug 26th (Charles & Clay at Siel- ing Flourmill)
Sep 2nd (Open)	Sep 9th (Open)	Sep 16th (Open)	Sep 23rd (Everett Timmons & Don Garner)
Oct 7th (Open)	Oct 14th (Open)	Oct 21st (Open)	Oct 28th (Open)
Nov 4th (Diana Simon Cherokee Strip Museum)	Nov 11th (Open)	Nov 18th (SW - Open)	Nov 25th (Open)
Dec 2nd (Open)	Dec 9th (Open)	Dec 16th (Open)	Dec 23rd (Open)

2022 Fifth Saturdays:

April 29th (Beginner's Blacksmith Class in Elk City)

July 29th (Open)

September 30th (Open)

December 30th (Open)

March 2023

NE Regional Meeting March 4th: 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, but please bring a side dish or dessert to help out.

Contact Diana Simon at 580-572-8290 or dsimon@okhistory.org if you have questions.

SE Regional Meeting March 11th: (Open.)

SW Regional Meeting March 18th: (Open.)

NW Regional Meeting March 25th: Will be hosted by Mandell Greteman at the Route 66 Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.

The trade item is anything with a forge weld in it.

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

Contact: Mandell Greteman at 580-515-1292 if you have questions.

April 2023

NE Regional Meeting April 1st: (Open)

SE Regional Meeting April 8th: (Open)

SW Regional Meeting April 15th: (Open)

SCABA Annual Picnic April 15th, details on page 9

NW Regional Meeting April 22nd: Will be hosted by Terry Kauk at the Route 66 Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.

The trade item is a nut cracker.

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.

May 2023

NE Regional Meeting May 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, but please bring a side dish or dessert to help out.

Contact Diana Simon at 580-572-8290 or dsimon@okhistory.org if you have questions.

SE Regional Meeting May 13th: (Open.)

SW Regional Meeting May 20th: (Open.)

NW Regional Meeting May 27th: Will be hosted by Monte Smith at his shop. The address is 8848 N 2010, Hammon, OK 73650.

The trade item is a steak turner.

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

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

June 2023

NE Regional Meeting June 3rd: (Open.)

SE Regional Meeting June 10th: (Open.)

SW Regional Meeting June 17th: (Open.)

NW Regional Meeting June 24th: Will be hosted by Doug Hyde at his home, 19300 High Lonesome Pt, Canyon, Texas. Nearest lodging (if needed) will be in Canyon Texas.

Robb Gunter will demonstrate "Hollow Forms."

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

Contact: Doug Hyde at 806-679-7297 if you have questions.

SCABA 2023 Picnic!

The SCABA Annual Picnic is scheduled for April 15th at Bill Phillip's place, 14360 State Hwy 113, Indianola OK.

This is a family friendly event, so please attend and bring someone with you!

If you have any ideas for the conference t-shirt this year, please submit them by the day of the picnic! We are trying to get a head start on things this year.

Please bring chairs if you are attending.

Also, if you plan on competing in the contest, don't forget your hammer and punches.

Food will be provided, if you want a drink that is not water or tea you will need to bring it with you.

The terms for three SCABA directors are up this year. Byron Doner and Brad Nance are up for re-election. Mandell Greteman will not be running again and his term is up. Russell Bartling is resigning from his position, so that will also need filled.

If you would like to run or nominate someone else to be on the Board of Directors, please do so as soon as possible. We will hold elections for these positions at the Annual Picnic in April.

Please contact the Secretary, any current Board member or the newsletter editor as soon as possible if you would like to run for a director position or if you would like to nominate someone (with their approval, of course.)

For the contest this year, each contestant will be given a piece of 1/2 inch square stock. You will punch a hole in it and drift it out to a ring 1 1/2 inches wide.

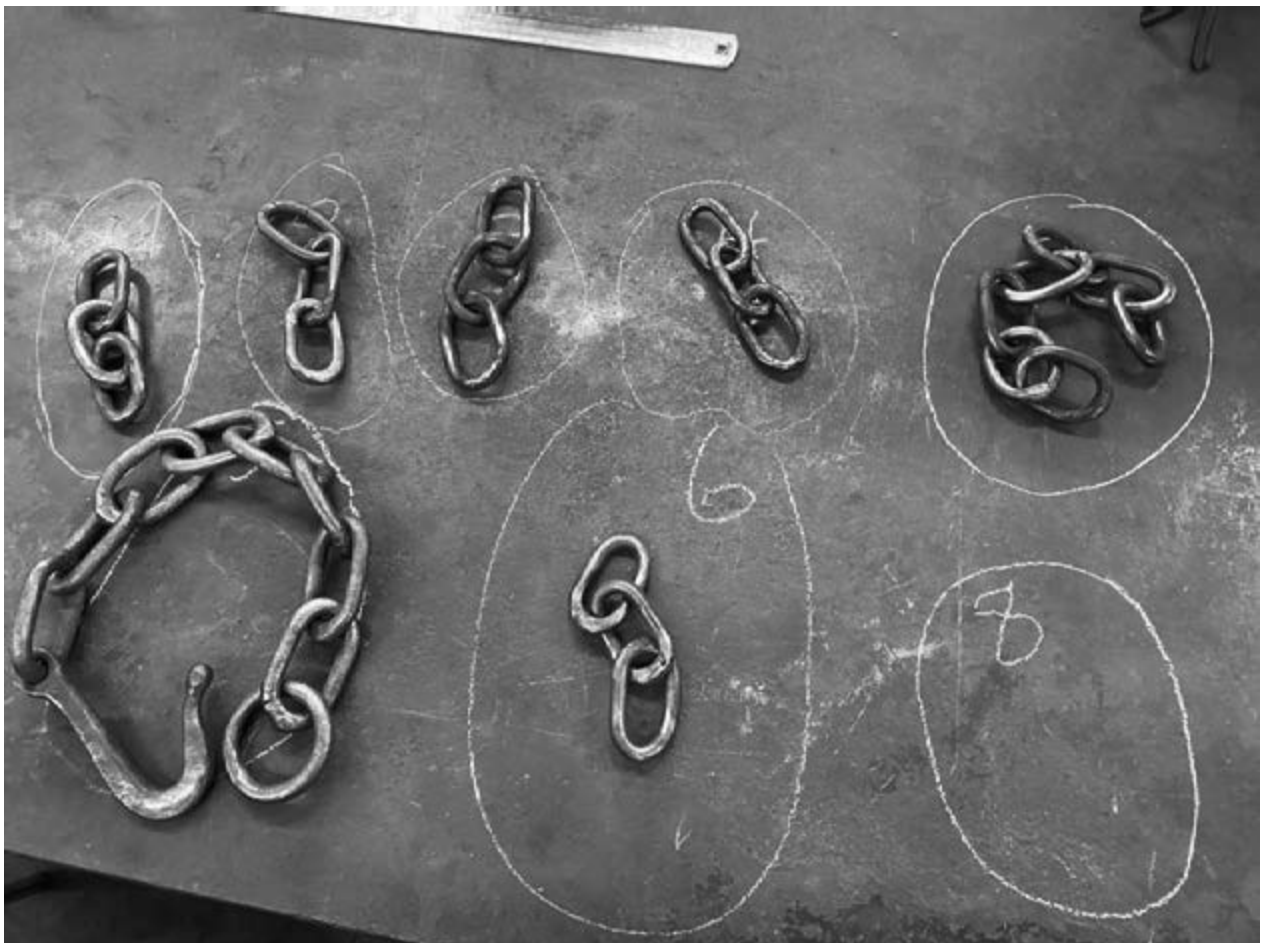
Around the State...

The NW Region January Meeting was hosted by Rory Kirk at the Route 66 Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.









Around the State...

The NW Region February Meeting was hosted by Skylar Parker at the Route 66 Blacksmith Shop in Elk City.



NE Region January Meeting: No Meeting was held.

SE Region January Meeting: No Meeting was held.

SW Region January Meeting: No Meeting was held.

NE Region February Meeting: No Meeting was held.

SE Region February Meeting: No Meeting was held.

SW Region February Meeting: No Meeting was held.





Crane's Head

By Otto Bacon, A MABA member

A couple decades ago I visited a historic site in England. The blacksmith was making fire pokers with this crane's head as the handle. He said it was an ancient English pattern and I was welcome to copy it. Over the years, I have used it in several variations on a number of projects.

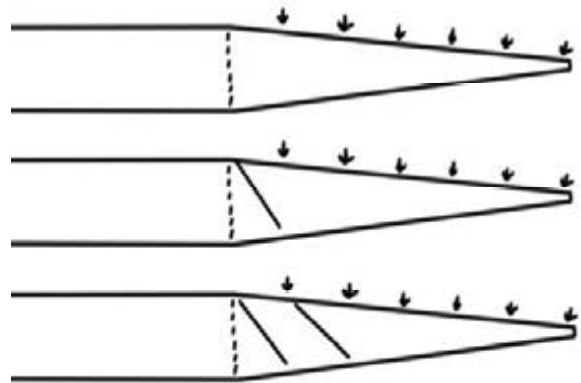
Start out with 1/2" square rod. Make a chisel mark three inches from the end, and one 5 inches from the end.

Starting at the three inch mark, draw a taper almost to a point. Slightly chamfer the corners of the tapered section with light hammer taps. The length of this taper determines the length of the cranes feathered plume.



Taper with chamfered corners-

Now you need to twist the tapered plume. If you simply heat it up and try to twist by the small end, you will end up with a twist on the first little bit only. You have to do it in stages. Heat the taper to bright red and clamp the bar in your vise right at the base of the taper. Using tongs, grasp the taper about 3/4" to 1" from the vise and twist to your satisfaction. Now do another heat and twist the next 3/4" to 1". As the taper gets smaller, you must twist a shorter section. Make sure the twist on each section matches the previous. There is no "do over" on this.



Twist the taper in several sections as shown by arrows.



At the 5" mark, completely fold the bar back on itself. Use a wooden mallet to avoid damaging the corners of your twist. (I realize there is a regular hammer in the picture, but I really did use the wooden mallet).



Using a wooden mallet, form the crane's head over the horn of your anvil. (now you can see my well used and abused wooden mallet).



Add the eyes with an eye punch. Be careful to get them lined up from one side to the other. You think it won't show, but it will.



Draw the folded part out to form the beak.



Now add the nostrils with a pointed punch.



Shape the neck to suit and polish with a wire brush.

GEORGE DIXON ON FORGING NEGATIVE SPACE

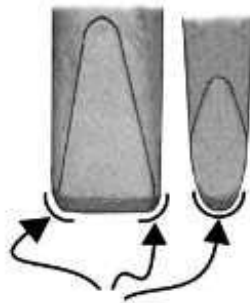
When a forged taper has a fullered (or chiseled) effect that tapers as the bar does it can be the result of using progressively smaller tools. While that approach works, it requires a set of sized tools. It's also a tedious process to blend the taper between tool sizes.

The method shown here uses a single fuller to sink a negative space into the bar. Once that is done, the bar and the fullered line are tapered at the same time.

With a layout line established, use the same fuller you'll be using to sink the effect into the hot bar to mark the layout line cold. It only needs to be deep enough to register the fuller after a heat is taken on the bar. Using any other tool to establish the layout line—and then matching a fuller to that line when the bar is bright yellow to near white heat—can be difficult.

Using the same fuller to do the cold layout and the hot fullering matches the tool to the layout, even if the bar is too bright to see the layout line. You'll feel the tool tip register into the layout line.

A fuller used to forge a line in a bar should have the ends of its long edge rounded to the same degree as its working end thickness. A fuller dressed in this manner makes the development of a fullered line much smoother.



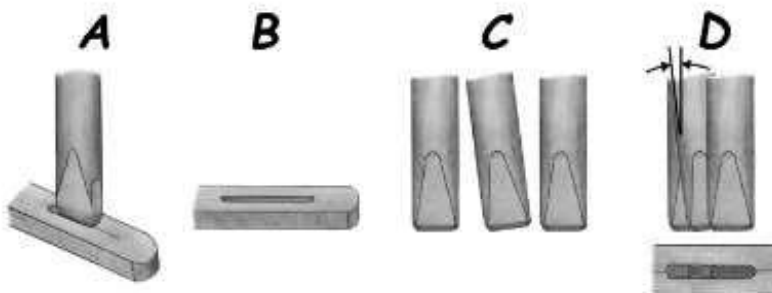
Dressed fuller, corners rounded as explained in the text.

Successful development of the fullered line is a result of how the fuller is dressed, set, struck and then moved forward to be struck again. The tool is struck and then it is tipped back slightly (very slightly), and moved forward one half of the tool width before it is set back to vertical and struck again. This approach keeps half of the fuller in the "trench" that follows it. And it places the other half of the fuller onto the surface of the developing effect. It also causes the sidewall of the fuller to blend the last strike into the next one.

How deeply should the fullering sink into the bar? That is a matter of how you want the effect to look. The first times you try this process, keep the fullering about a quarter of the bar thickness. As to how far the effect can be pushed, the photo at the beginning of this article is of a 1/2-inch square bar, which has the same fullering on the opposite side.

Drawing Out a Negative Space

The steps of drawing out a negative space into a taper begin by first drawing out the metal that's past the fullering.



Left to right: (A) Cold layout and hot work using the same tool. (B) A cold marked bar, ready to hot sink the fuller. (C) Three fullers showing the process of "set, rock, drag and set" as used in both the layout and hot work. (D) Each move is only half the tool's cutting width, keeping the forged depression smooth and aligned.



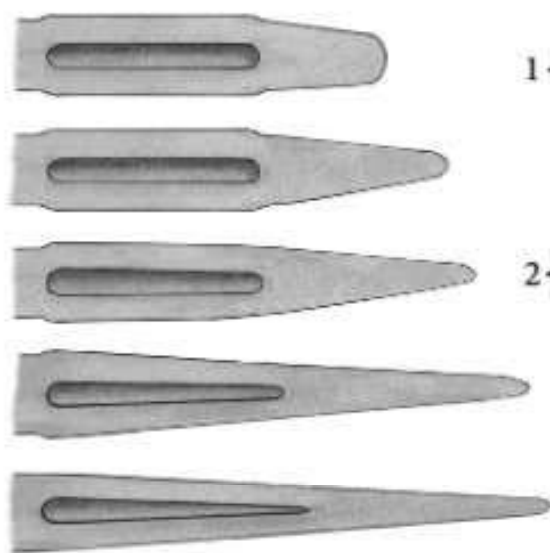
Keep the hammer centered over the back of the fullered bar, as shown above and in the next two illustrations.

Reprinted from the Hammer's Blow, publication of ABANA for those of you who are still not members...

This article is reprinted with permission from the Phillip Simmons Artist Blacksmith Guild's newsletter, Jan-Feb 2023



The top two illustrations show how the forging is kept away from the fullering while the initial taper is established. For control I tend to flip the bar every three strikes, otherwise one side of the fullering thins.



Steps in drawing out a bar containing a negative space

The middle illustration shows how the taper begins to include the fullered line. Next, the taper is developed to the back of the fullered line, which draws out the bar and the fullered line together.

The bottom illustration shows the fully tapered bar end, as well as the tapering of the fullered line.

During the forging process, keep the hammer centered over the back of the bar. Maintain the same hammer position when curving the bar, too.

Avoiding a Hot Shut

When a steel bar is being forged—drawn out—it rests on an anvil and is struck with a hammer. The outside of the bar can move faster than the core of the bar as that bar is drawn out. The result can be a “hot shut” at the end of the bar that’s being tapered.

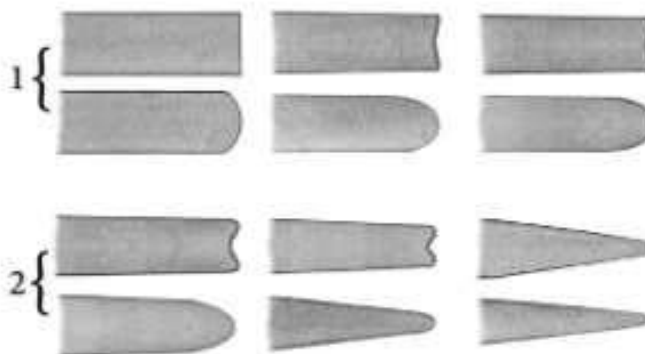
As the forging continues, the core of the bar can lag behind the outside of the bar, which creates a pocket at the tip.

That slight pocket can close, leaving a split at the tip of the taper.

With enough force, the core of the bar will move as fast as the outside does, which prevents a shut.

However, a lot of force behind the hammer and maintaining control of the forging (thickness and length) can be challenging to a new blacksmith.

One solution, which prevents a shut, is to round the end of the bar before forging it. That causes the core of the bar to stay ahead of the outside of the bar. How the rounded end lends itself to the process of drawing out a bar is illustrated below.



The top rows of both “1” and “2” above show the development of a shut. The two bottom rows show how rounding the end of the bar prevents a shut.

George Dixon will answer questions sent via e-mail to: GD-Blacksmith@charter.net.



Treadle Hammer in a Small Space

by Rick Coleman of Huntsville Forge

Last March I had the privilege of taking the Spencer Table Making class at John C. Campbell Folk School. It was taught by Clay Spencer himself and Mike LaMarre. In this class I had my first opportunity to use a treadle hammer and decided I really needed one in my shop at home. Unfortunately my shop is “microscopic” and I do not have room for a full size treadle hammer. I began brainstorming about how I could create a version that would fit. I came up with an idea and a preliminary design. At this point I decided to do a Google search on “homemade treadle hammer” to see if anyone else had a similar problem and need. Turns out there were about a dozen variations on the idea I was working on. All of these used a treadle to work a sledge hammer mounted on a pivot. None of these designs however would work for me as each also had its own anvil mounted on a column. I don’t have enough room in my shop for a separate unit like this. My design would use my own anvil and could be easily stored away from my shop in a separate part of the garage. The hammer you see in **Figure 1** shows what I came up with. It is like having your own striker assistant but in a very limited space.

All of the materials used to construct the hammer were things I had in stock except for a few items from Home Depot. These include: one 1/4” x 4” turn buckle (about 150 lbs.), three 3/16” x 2” quick-links (660 lbs.), one 1” x 12” spring, one screw hook, and one 3/8” threaded rod with nuts.



Figure 1

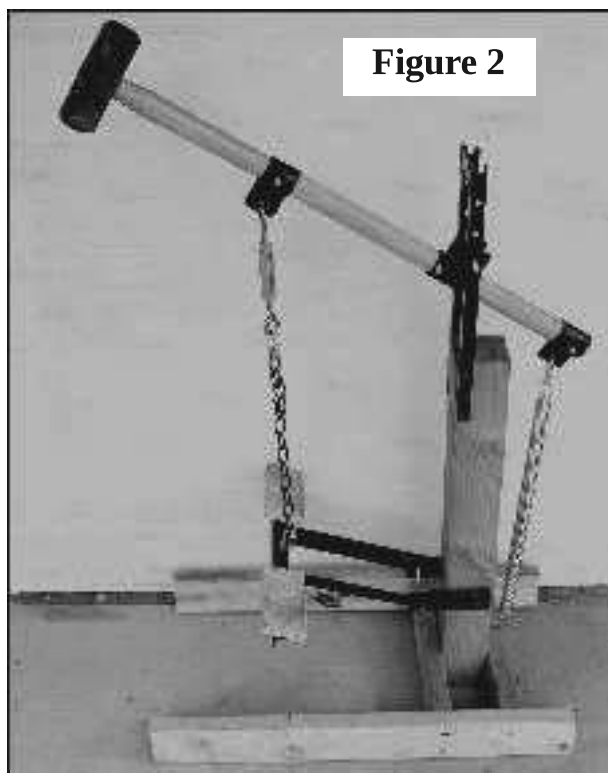


Figure 2

This article is reprinted with permission from Bituminous Bits, Alabama Forge Council's newsletter, Jan-Feb 2023

Other materials needed were some 1/8" x 1" x 1" angle irons, 1/4" x 2" flat stock, 1/8" x 1" flat stock, and 1 3/4" O.D. black pipe.

There are basically four sections to this treadle hammer (**Figure 2**): (1) The sledge with three metal links for the treadle, spring and pivot, (2) The mount and pivot for the sledge, (3) The treadle and link to the chain, and (4) The wooden base.

Sledge with treadle and spring links: The sledge is an old one I had but the handle was broken. The new handle, which came from Home Depot, turned out to have the advantage of being straight – not tapered - from just below the head to the end. This made it possible to construct metal pieces to slip over the handle to provide an attachment for the chain linked to the treadle, the pivot point, and the spring attachment. I found that sections cut from a piece of 1 3/4" O.D. black pipe, which I had in

stock, could be heated and flattened slightly and slipped on the sledge handle which measured 1 3/16 by 1 7/16 inches. It did require just a little bit of sanding on the handle to make the pieces fit. **Figure 3** shows the construction and locations of the treadle and spring link attachments with pieces of 1/4" x 2" flat stock welded on. Each has two 3/16" holes drilled and tapped in the sides of the pipe for set screws to hold the pieces in place. The spring attachment is at the end of the sledge handle and the treadle attachment is centered at 24" from the end of the sledge handle. The spring connects using a quick-link and the hook on the

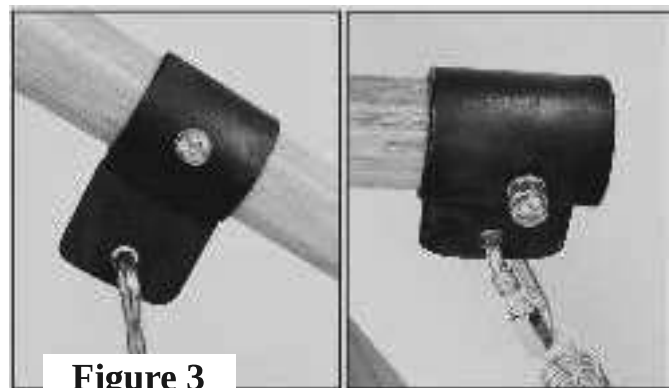
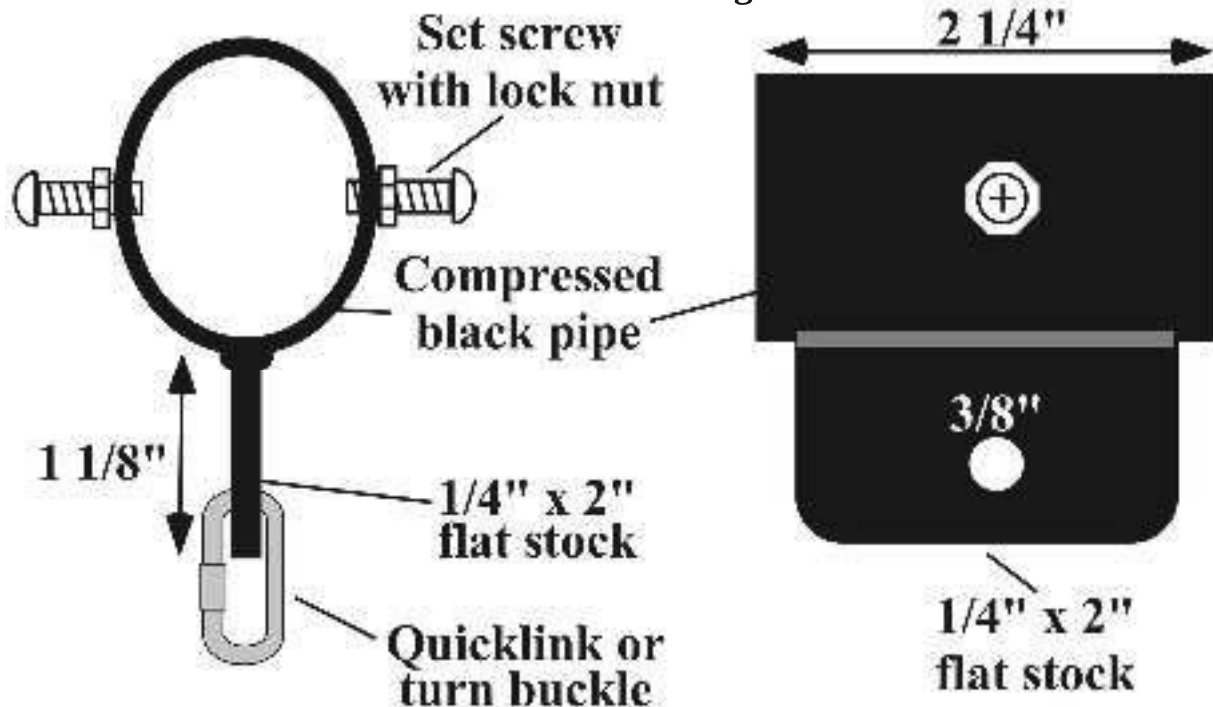


Figure 3



turn buckle connects to the treadle attachment.

Sledge Pivot: The sledge pivot (**Figure 4**) is similar to the spring and treadle attachments but has two pieces of 1/4" x 2" flat stock welded on in parallel. A 6" piece of 3/8" threaded rod passes through the 3/8" holes drilled into the flat stock and through the angle irons that are part of the upright support. Spacers are needed to hold the pivot in place. I just happen to have some nylon spacers in stock but you could use a small piece of pipe or a bunch of washers to do the same thing. The sledge pivot is centered 12" from the end of the sledge handle.

Treadle: The treadle (**Figure 5**) is a simple double T shape welded together using more of the 1/8" x 1" x 1" angle iron with a couple of pieces of plywood screwed on to provide pedals. A piece of 3/8" threaded rod attaches the treadle to the two pieces of 1/4" x 2" flat stock that are screwed to the upright 4x4 post. A quick-link connects the cross piece of the

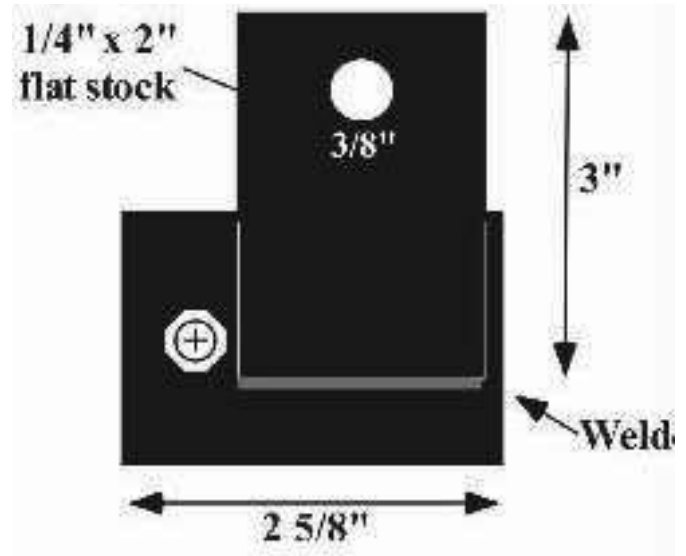
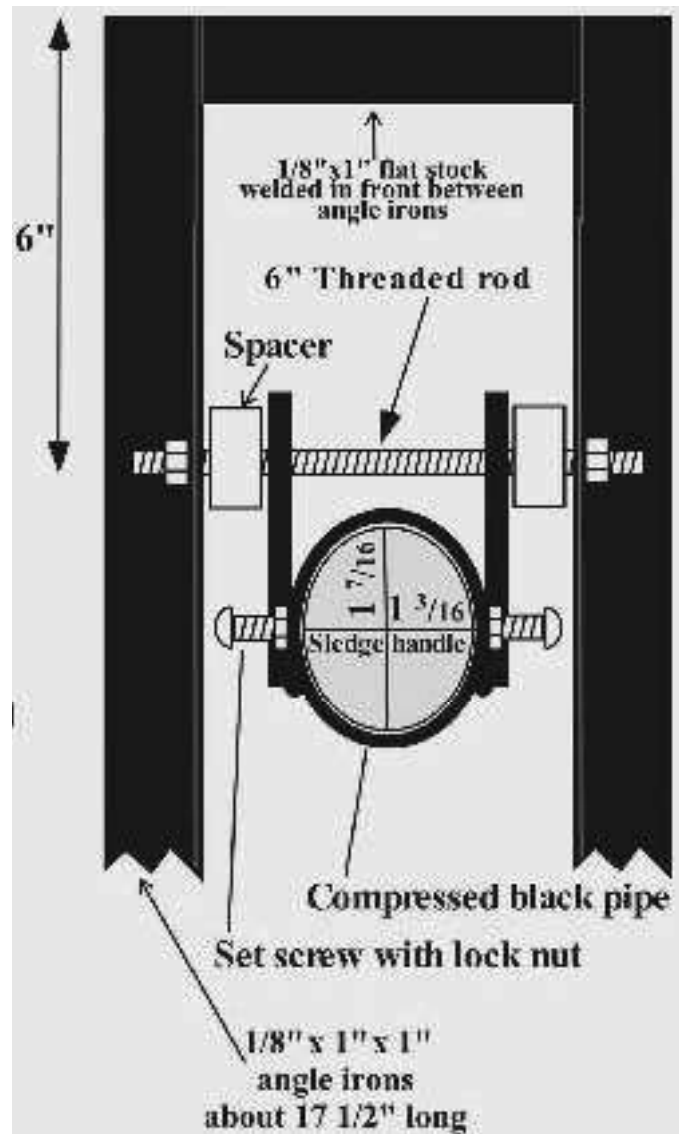


Figure 4 (all on this page)



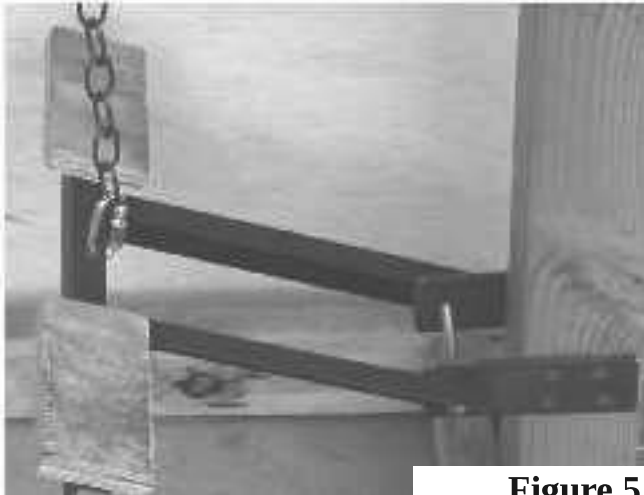
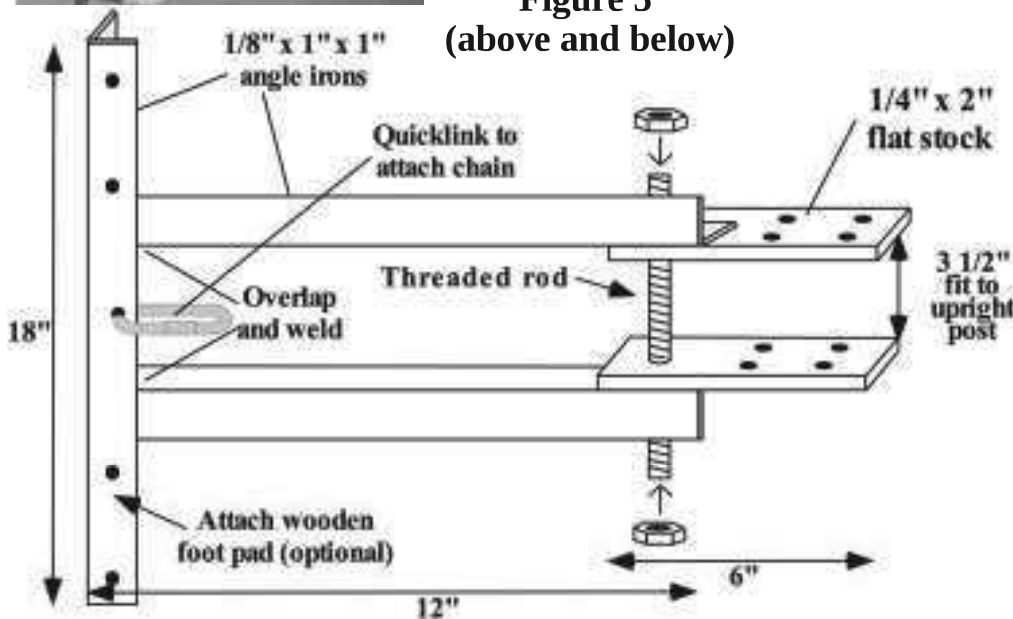


Figure 5
(above and below)



treadle to the chain, the other end of which is connected using another quick-link to the loop in the end of the turn buckle.

Wood base: The base is designed to just fit around the mount for my anvil and was built from scraps of 2x4s and a 4x4 that I had laying around. Two pieces of 1/8" x 1" x 1" angle iron formed the upright support for the sledge. Two pieces of 1/4" x 2" flat stock provides the

attachment for the treadle and a screw-in hook provides the lower attachment for the spring. **Figure 6** shows the basic construction and measurements I used. You will need to adapt these to your anvil stand. For this version of the treadle hammer I attached the end of the spring to the hook that was 6" from

the floor.

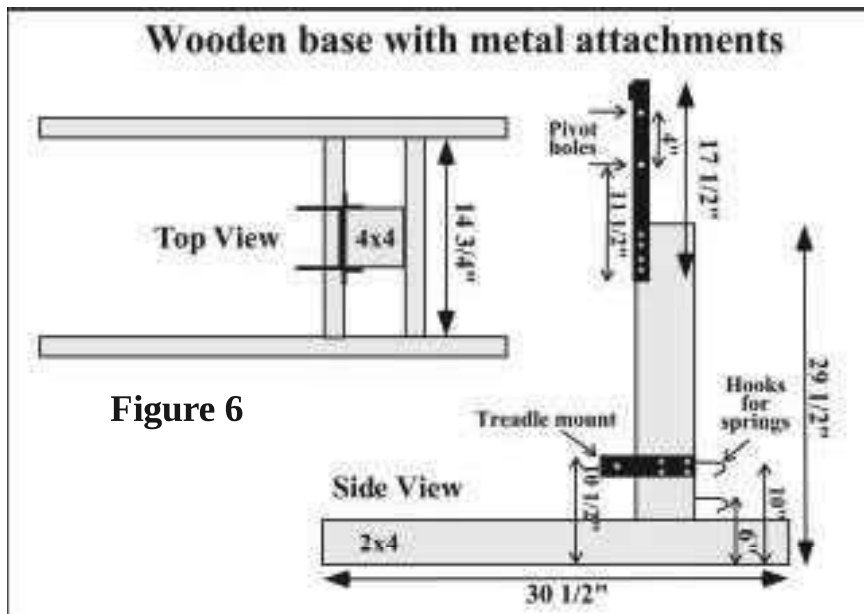


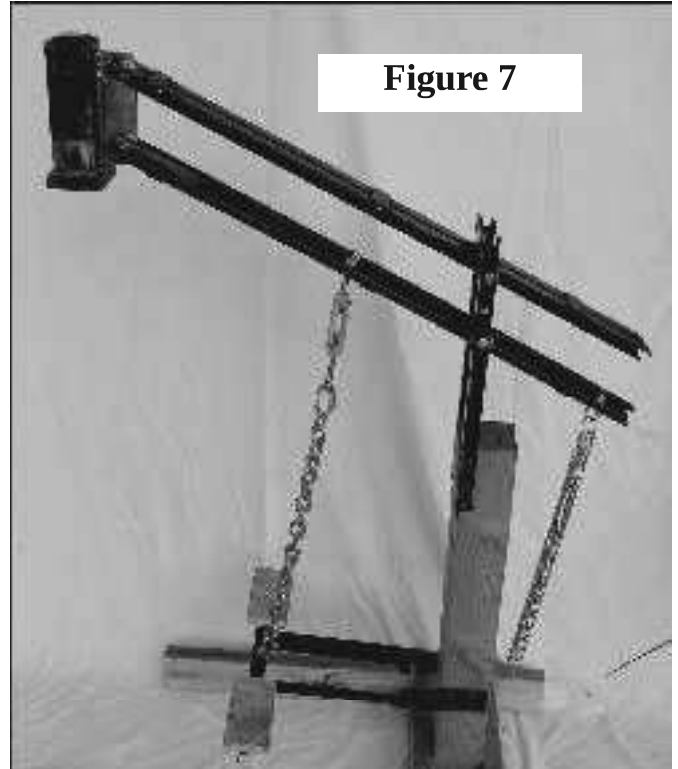
Figure 6

Because of the way the base is constructed I can position the treadle hammer over my anvil so that the sledge strikes over the hardy hole if I need to use a hardy or move it forward to strike anywhere on the face. I can also work from either side of the anvil. When not in use the whole unit can easily be tucked away in a corner or even hung on a hook mounted on the wall in an out-of-the-way place.

Treadle Hammer Version 2.0: To quote Clay Spencer, quoting Francis Whitaker, “There is always a better way.” I got to looking at my new treadle hammer and did notice one minor problem. As the sledge pivots the face is exactly parallel to the face of the anvil at only one point. That is where the sledge strikes the anvil. Any other time when the sledge strikes a piece on the anvil it is at a slight angle to the anvil. There are a number of treadle hammer designs that solve this problem by mounting the hammer unit of the treadle hammer on parallel rods. This keeps the face of the hammer always parallel to the face of the anvil.

Figure 7 shows my variation on this treadle hammer to create one with the hammer unit mounted on parallel rods. The parallel rods are each made from two pieces of 1/8” x 1” x 1” angle iron welded together using three pieces of 1/8” x 1” flat stock. **Figure 8** shows the lengths and sizes of each piece. Two 3/8” x 3” bolts are used to pivot the hammer unit on the rods. Two 3/8” x 5” bolts provide the pivot for the rods to the base. A 3/8” x 1 1/2” bolt provides a place to hook the turn buckle and chain and another at the end of the rods provides a place to connect a quick link to attach the spring. In this version the spring was connected to a screw hood 10” from the floor. There is approximately 1/2” spacing between each pair of angle irons. Washers were used as spacers at the hammer end to produce a tight link so the hammer did not wobble.

The hammer unit (**Figure 9**) was assembled from a 3/4” x 3” x 3” plate I had in stock. I



can't be sure what type of steel it is but from the spark test I think it is 4140. The important thing is that it be a higher carbon steel than mild steel so it will hold up to the work. This was welded to a 2 1/2” square tubing piece cut from an old trailer hitch. You could also use a piece of square or round pipe of a similar size as long as it produces a good heavy hammer. If it is not heavy enough use Clay's idea in his in-line treadle hammer and fill the pipe with lead fishing weights. A piece of 1/4” x 2” flat stock provides a pivot plate. This was welded to the upright piece and holes drilled at precisely 4” spacing. It is important that the distance between the pivot holes in the hammer head and those in the angle irons attached to the base be exactly the same to keep the two rods parallel.

Figure 10 shows the pivot and spring attachment. Bolts 3/8” x 5” are used for the

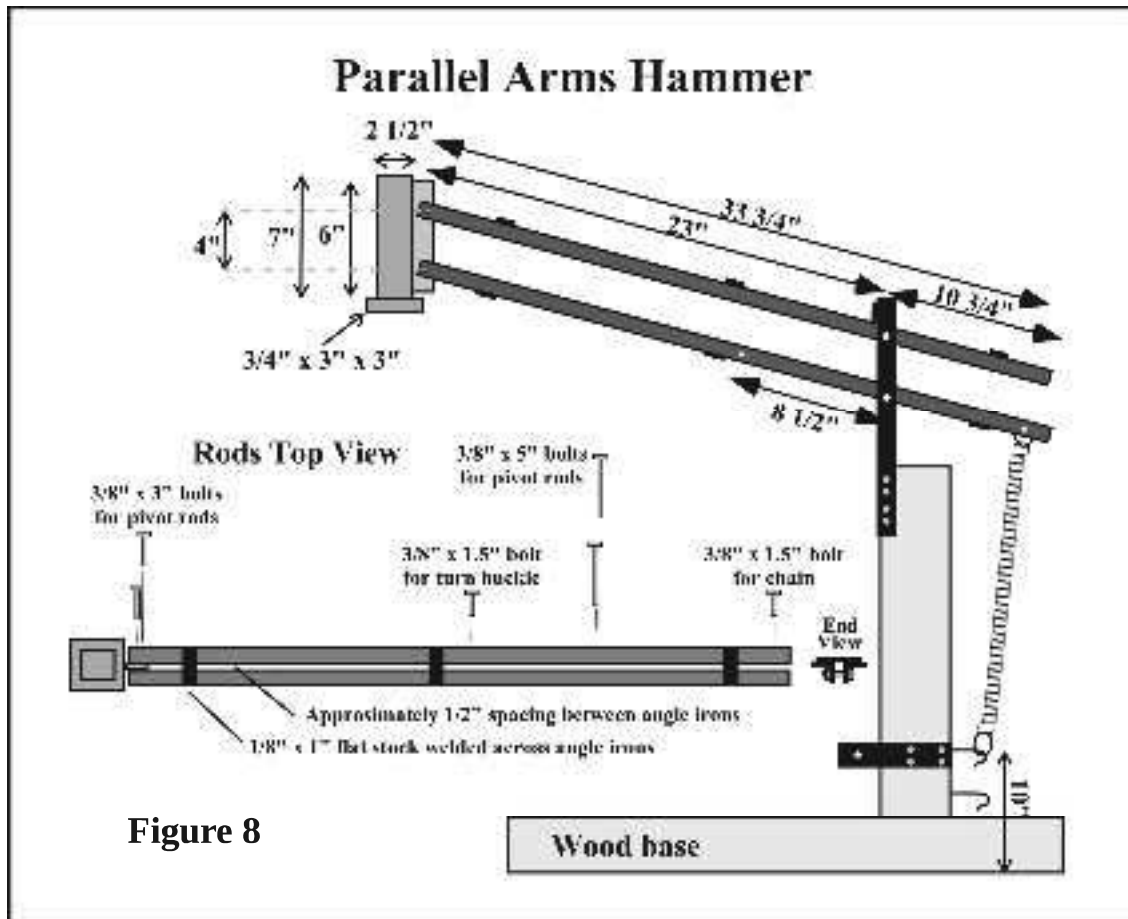


Figure 8

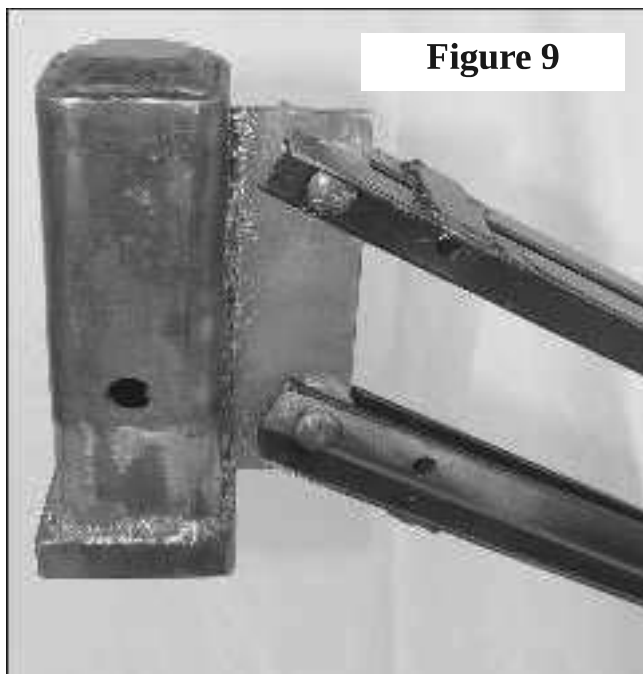


Figure 9

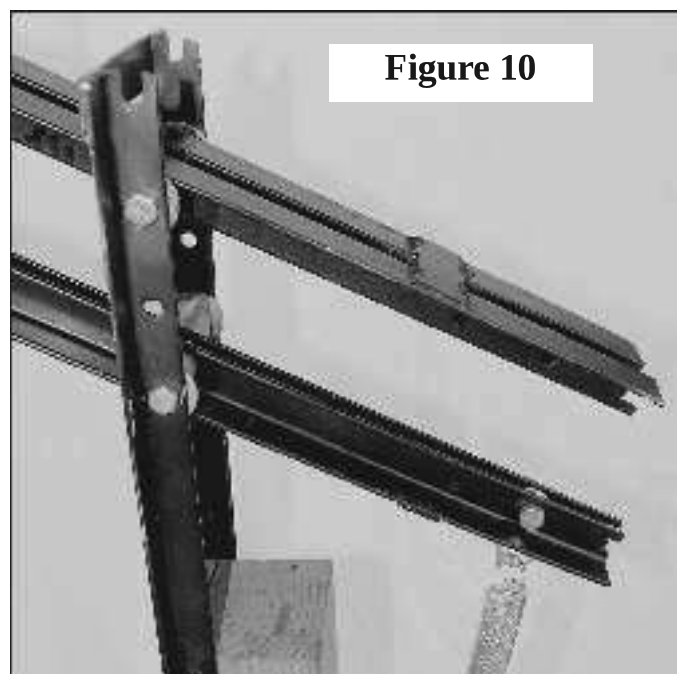
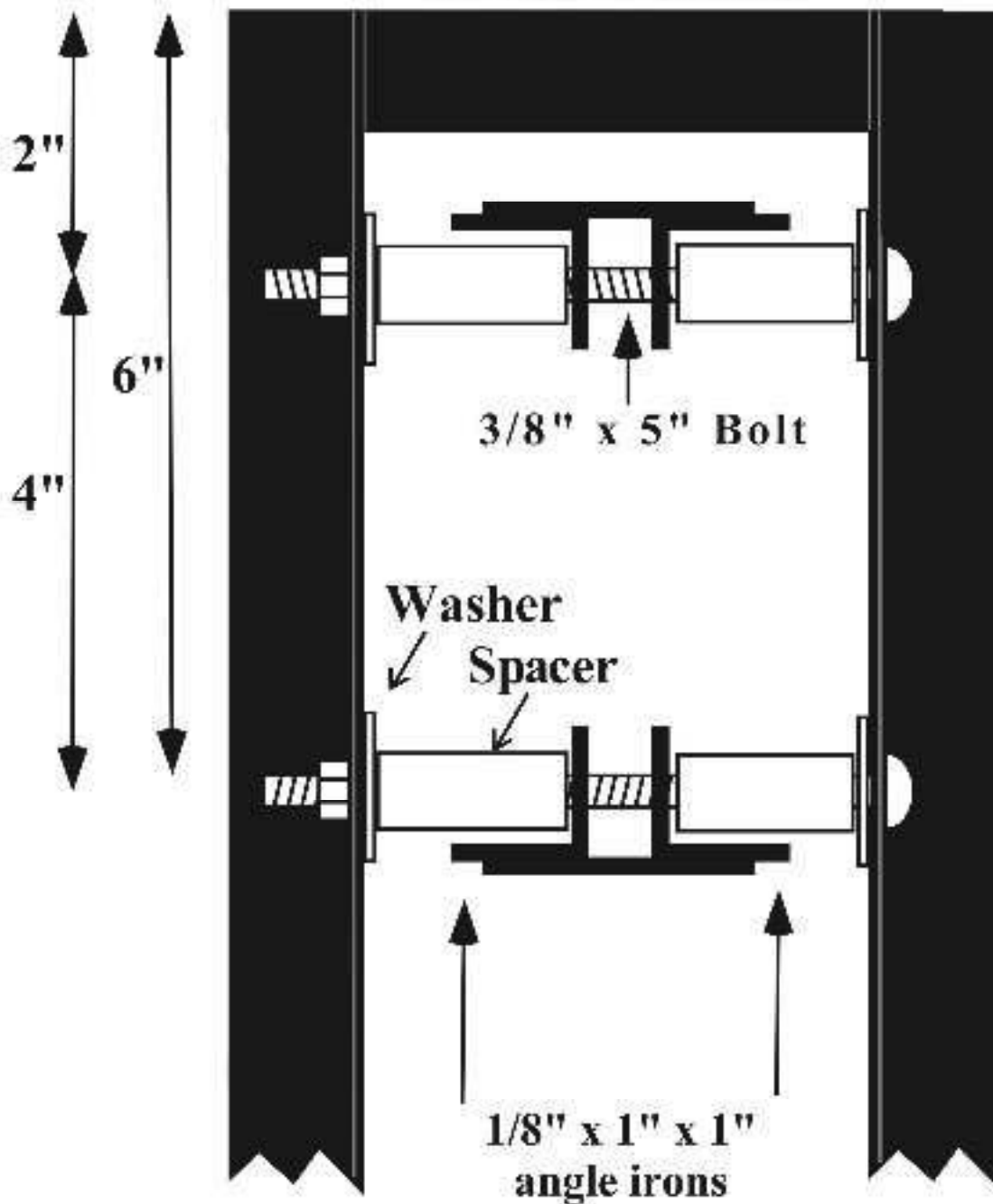


Figure 10

Figure 11

Pivot Details



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pivot rods with washers and short lengths of a narrow steel pipe for spacers. A quick link around the 3/8" x 1 1/2" bolt at the end provides a link to the spring. Details of this assembly are shown in **Figure 11**.

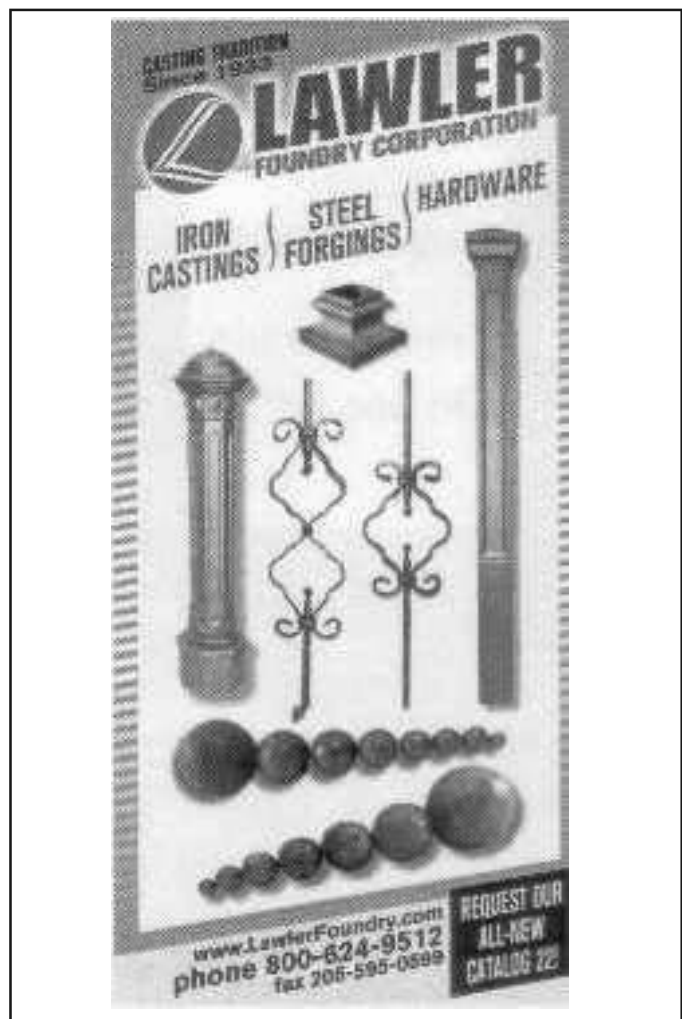
For more information on treadle hammers of this type Google "homemade treadle hammer" and look at the images. Also check the following YouTube videos showing different variations on the same idea as the designs I created for this article:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6h9PvvxF-E>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nmru3hXj47U>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HpNKMhdLWRo>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_iVEbwXJ8VY
(Note: this last one is in German but subtitled in English)

All this having been said, if you do have room in your shop for a full size treadle hammer then I highly recommend you look into the hammer plans that Clay Spencer has created. One design uses the parallel rods to carry the hammer head and the other is an in-line version. Plans can be ordered on the ABANA website at <https://abana.org/marketplace>.

There is a very good YouTube video demonstration of Clay's in-line treadle hammer which I recommend you watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMSlgkYkFIg>



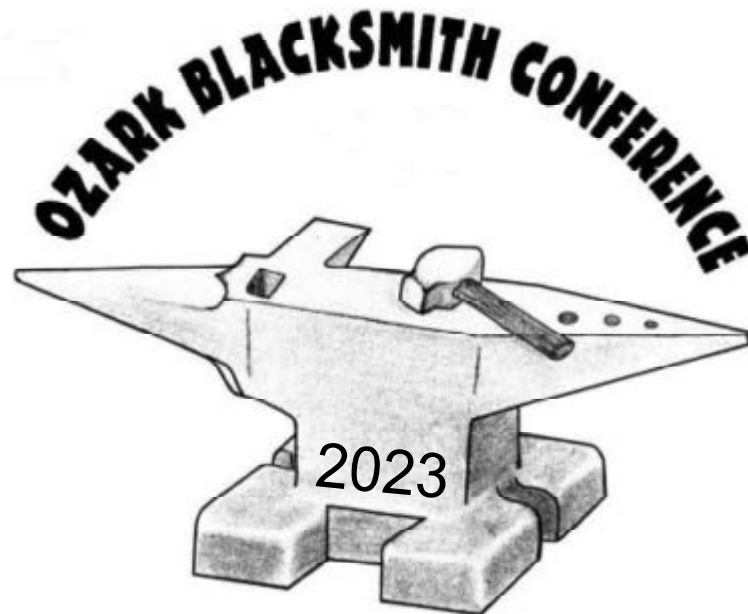


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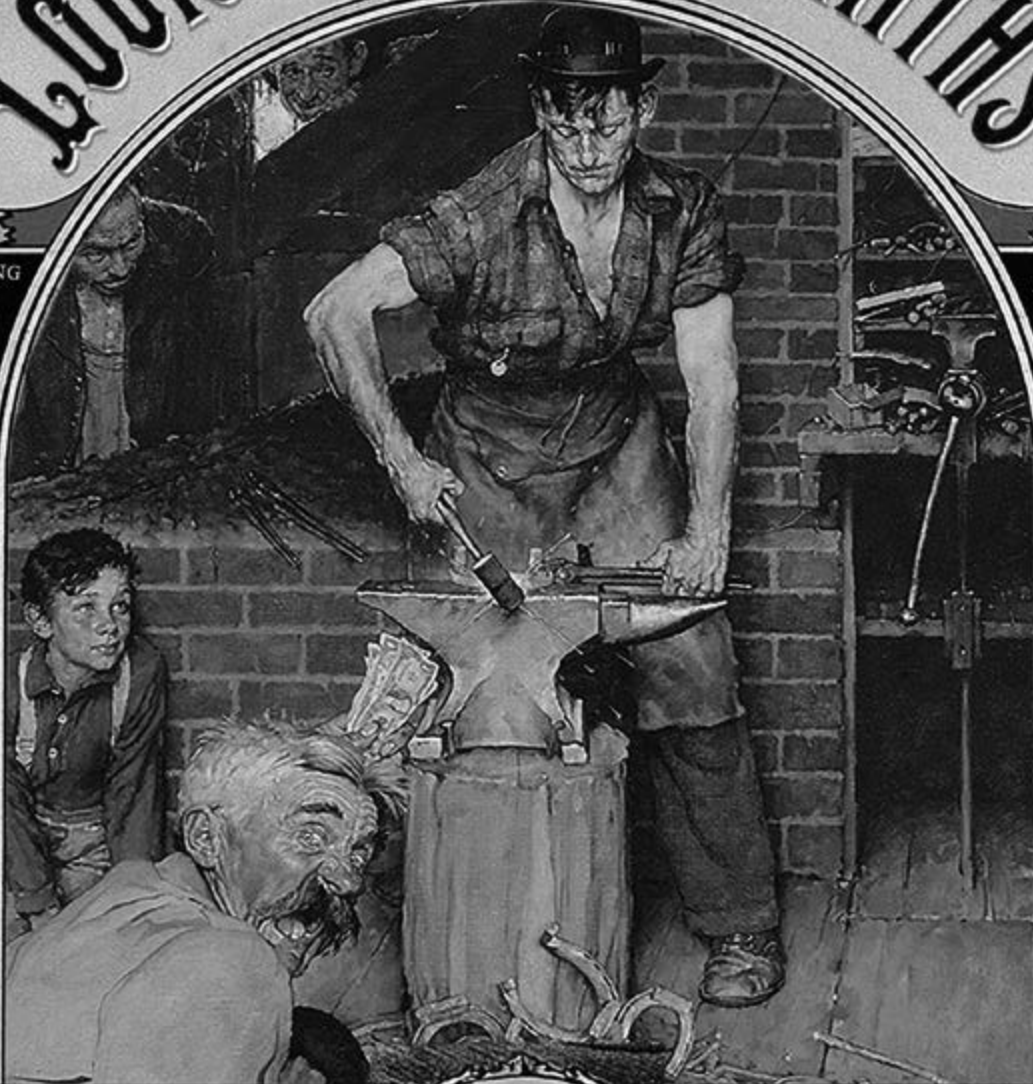
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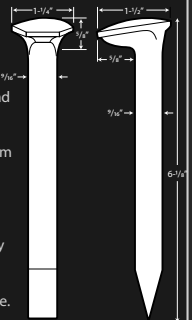
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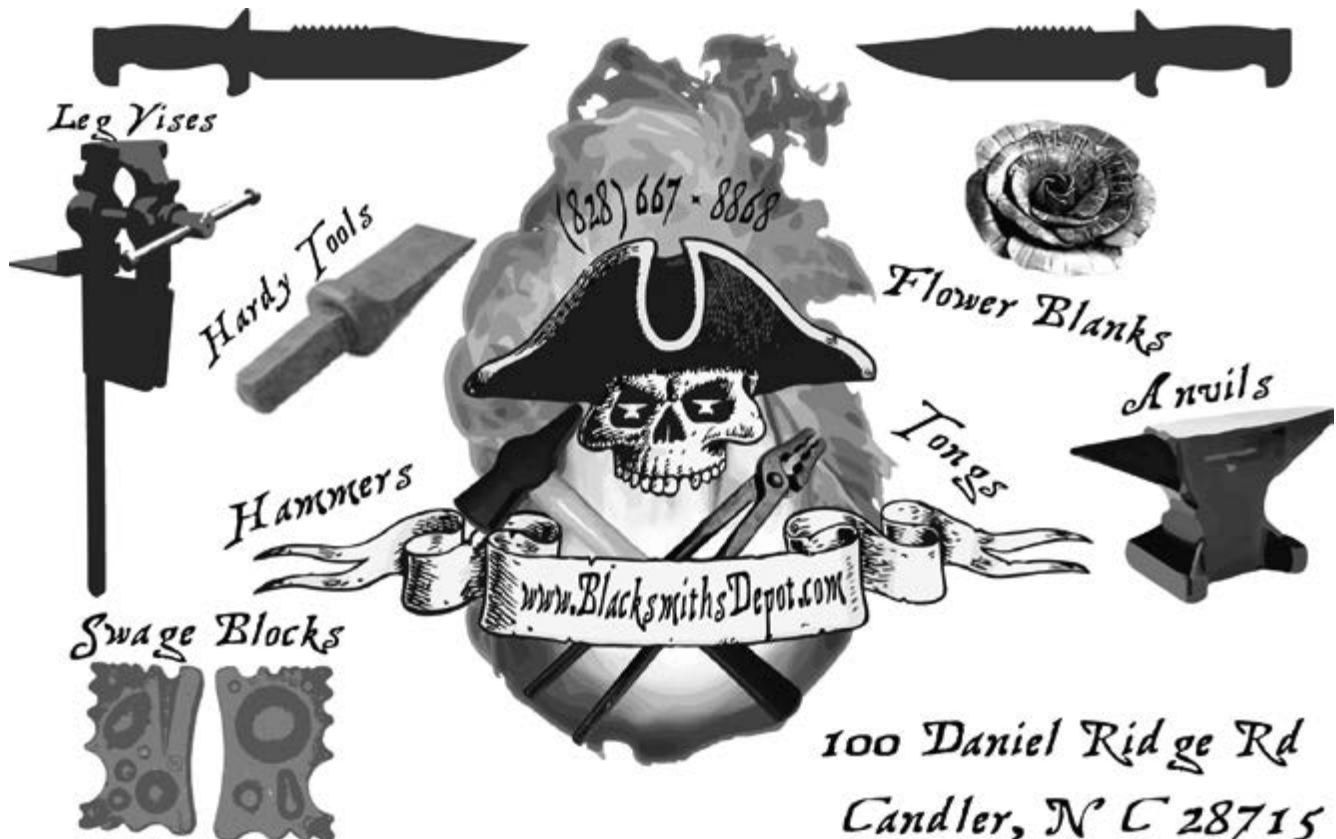
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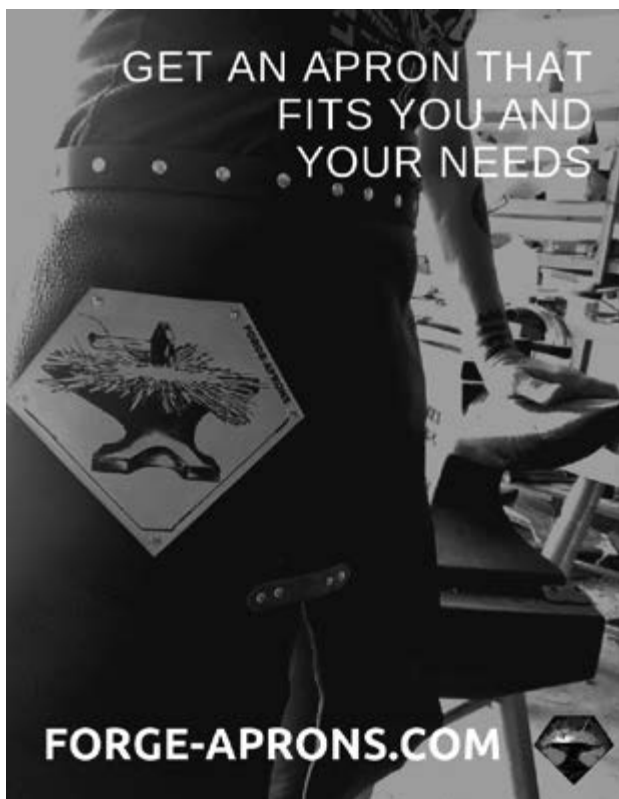
Taswallson Manufacturing is offering waterjet services at discounted rates for Saltfork members. I am currently operating nights and weekends.

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For Sale:

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SCABA Shop and Swap

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- 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.
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- Jim Keith SCABA conf.2007
- Power hammer forging with Clifton Ralph pts. 1 - 5
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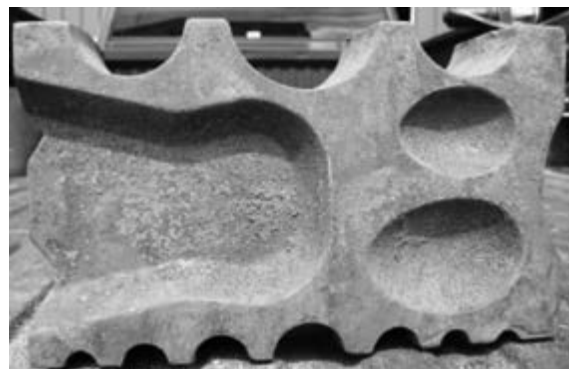
Librarian: Don Garner 580-302-1845 (Cell)
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For Sale: I have numerous old tools and collectible items of various kinds including blacksmith related tools and equipment. Too many tools to list them all. Inventory is always changing.
Contact: Craig Guy (SCABA Member), Piedmont, OK
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SCABA Shop and Swap

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No sales to non-members.

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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.

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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, Kathrine Mitchell

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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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