

RAM

MARCH-APRIL 2009



Ken Jansen makes a leaf under the power hammer.

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Cover Photo, Ken Jansen shows how to make a leaf using the power hammer.



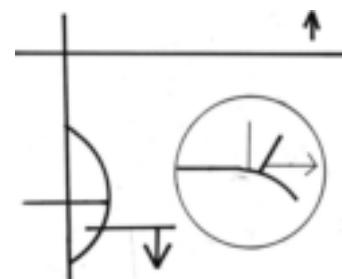
Making Gum Tree Nut



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**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

Volume 26 No. 2
MARCH-APRIL 2009

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MARCH-APRIL 2009

Membership Application

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Phone: () _____ Zip: _____
E-mail: _____

New Member Renewal ABANA member?

How did you learn about BAM? _____

Memberships are for one year from receipt of dues. Dues are \$25, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly BAM newsletter. Please make checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri.

ABANA Membership Application

Primary ABANA Chapter Affiliation: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: () _____ Zip: _____

New Member Renewing Member

Includes a Subscription to the Anvil's Ring and The Hammers' Blow magazines

- Regular Member\$55 yr.
- Senior Citizen (Age 65+)\$50 yr.
- Full time student\$45 yr.
- Overseas airmail\$80 yr.
- Overseas surface mail\$65 yr.
- Contributory\$100 yr.
- Public library\$45 yr.

See reverse

From the Editor

By Bob Ehrenberger

We had a beautiful day for our meeting at Doug Clemon's shop. With weather like this you guys have no excuse to not fire up the old forge. Ken Jansen demonstrated making a leaf for a gum tree. He also demonstrated making a gum tree nut and a technique for making a leaf almost entirely under the power hammer. Ken does a good job of explaining what he is doing at every step. I picked up a couple tricks that will help me down the road.

The only draw back I had on Saturday, was that I discovered when I got there that I had a tire going flat on my Blazer. Doug had brought in a load of fresh gravel and I really had a time of it getting my car jacked up. Finally, Doug's son loaned me his hydraulic jack and I got the job done. Because of this, I missed part of Ken's demonstration. Thanks to Bruce Herzog's pictures, I can fill in some of the gaps.

Jan didn't make this meeting because she has 3 nanny goats that are over due delivering their kids. Like expectant mothers every where, the waiting is the hard part. Jan has kept busy since the last meeting on the quilt she was making for Daniel and Jennifer, it was finished in record time, thanks in part to the ladies that helped at the March meeting.

I've kept the doors open on Ehrenberger Forge this winter doing wholesale work, for which I am very grateful. It also gives me a chance to work some sheet metal, which is a change for me. I still don't have my power hammer running, it needs some machine work that is beyond my ability. I do need to get it going before my summer season starts. Given the state of the economy, we all need to be as productive as possible when working, to try and make ends meet.

BAM has lots going on this spring. Walt Hull and Kate Dinneen are organizing a memorial gate project to give to Thelma Clark in memory and appreciation of Tom. They ask that we all make leaves for it. The final assembly will be at conference. There is a message from Kate later in the newsletter. In support of the gate project, Ken is planning a hammer-in to make leaves (April 4th). From what we have heard, they are getting leaves from all over the country. As Ken has said, for such a small guy, Tom sure did leave a big foot print.



The plans for conference are about done. I think you will all enjoy it as much as ever. As a special treat, Pat McCarty and Bob Alexander will be making a BAM box on site. Remember to bring something for the auction, boutique, and the iron in the hat drawings. These special fund raisers are where BAM makes it's profit for the year. The registration fees just cover the cost of putting on the conference, and most of your dues go to cover the cost of publishing the newsletter.

The week after the last newsletter went to publication, I got word that they were closing down the Ozark School of blacksmithing and selling off the equipment. I apologize that more of you didn't get notified about it. They have been selling off tools for two months now, with a big sale planned for next weekend (March 28). According to Tom's granddaughter, Angie, they are going to continue mail order and internet sales after the big sale. But no classes are being planned and they may not restock, once their current inventory has been liquidated. They do plan on making and selling the Ozark Pattern Anvils as Tom Clark Memorial Anvils. Hopefully by conference time we will have a better idea what their long range plans are.

I have started to pass the ABANA affiliate newsletters on to Karen. She has put the first batch into a binder, to be checked out from our library. As I receive more newsletters, I will pass them on. Karen is also planning on putting all the old BAM newsletters in the library so you can look back at what BAM has done over the years.

I still haven't taken time to shop for a new computer, so your editor is still working on the same old system I inherited from Ned. I really do need to get on this because every month more and more of the software falls into the obsolete/not supported category, and this system does not handle the new software.

The next **Newsletter submission deadline is May 30th**. This is the same day as Ned's meeting, but I have to get the newsletter to the publisher 6 weeks before the next meeting, in order the insure it gets to the membership in time. I'm looking forward to Ned's meeting, it has been at least 4 years since it hasn't conflicted with one of my events.

BAM March Meeting 2009

By Don Anders

Hosted by Doug Clemons

TRADE ITEM BBQ UTENSIL

<u>MADE BY</u>	<u>TRADED TO</u>
Dave Edwards	Matthew Burnett
Don Nichols	Sith Lancasater
Matthew Burnett	John Murray
John Huff	Bob Ehrenberger
Dan Files	Harry Weber
John Murray	Bernie Tappel
Ed Harper	Ken Jansen
Bob Ehrenberger	Mike McLaughlin
Ken Jansen	John Huff
Chris Miller	Dan Files
Harry Weber	Chris Miller
Osage Bluff	Dave Edwards
Anchor Ironworks	Ed Harper

IRON IN THE HAT

<u>DONATED BY</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>WON BY</u>
Mike McLaughlin	316 stainless	Don Nichols
Karen Bouckaert	clamps	Orry Harbit
Andy Herzog	wrench	Harry Weber
Andy Herzog	wrench	Karen Bouckaert
Harry Weber	steel pin	Don Anders
Harry Weber	steel pin	Don Anders
Don Nichols	cut-off	Fred Warner
Don Forlow	soap-stone	Karen Bouckaert
Ken Jansen	demo gum nut leaf	John Huff
Don Nichols	bearing steel	John Huff
Andy Herzog	steel shaft	Chris Miller
Karen Bouckaert	hammers	Doug Clemons
Karen Bouckaert	hammers	Bernie Tappel
Jim Thomas	books	Ken Jansen
Karen Bouckaert	clamps	Larry Hults
Jim Thomas	steel	Larry Hults
Jim Thomas	steel	Phil Cox
Jim Thomas	steel	Don Anders
Matthew Burnett	mirror	Larry Hults
Ken Jansen	Purple Heart Wood	Larry Hults
Jim Thomas	steel	Mike McLaughlin
Jim Thomas	steel	Richard Kamp
Chris Miller	catalog	Harry Weber
Richard Kamp	BAM logo	Karen Bouckaert
Anchor Ironworks	steel	James Dodd
Ken Jansen	demo leaf	Harry Weber

Meeting Minutes

Ken is having a hammer-in on April 4th to make leaves for the Tom Clark Memorial Garden Gate. Directions and details are on the BAM website.

Tom Clark Memorial Gate, please help by making a leaf or three if you can't make it to the hammer-in. The Gate will be assembled at the BAM Conference. Details are on BAM website.

Australian blacksmiths are making a memorial sculpture to commemorate the recent forest fires. They are requesting gum-nuts and gum tree leaves, maybe in

copper or stainless. There are details on the ABANA website.

Demo by Ken Jansen

A. Gum-nut

1. Gum-nut from black iron pipe 3/8 or 1/2 form similar to a ball or apple.
2. Almost close the end of the pipe.
3. Move back 5/8 or 3/4 of an inch and fuller.
4. Draw down from the fuller point 1 1/2 inch or so

B. Gum leaf

1. Use 3/8 or 1/2 square. Draw a long taper 5 or 6 inches long on 2 sides only.

2. Then flatten out to form the leaf with the stem flush with the back of the leaf.

3. Then draw out a stem, and vein the leaf.

Ken is going to ship gum-nuts and leaves to Australia in the middle of May. Please bring to conference or mail to Ken.

C. Making a leaf on the little giant

25lb power hammer can be seen on U-tube.
Using 5/8 sq bar draw out a taper and start stem. Turn on the diamond and flatten leaf. Seems to work better if after starting to flatten main portion of leaf you work point of leaf first, then work main portion of the leaf.

D. Simple leaf

A simple leaf, hand made, using hammer and anvil and small jig to vein. Jig is two round bars mounted parallel on a plate to vein in the gap.

Business Meeting

- Thanks to Doug for hosting the meeting and providing lunch.
- Treasurer report given by Ken Jansen and Bruce Herzog. The current membership is 590.
- Conference update.
- 1. We lost our site captain for Lucian Avery. We need someone

to step up and fill the opening. Otherwise conference is coming together well. Please Contact Ken Jansen or Larry Hults if you would like to be site captain.

- 2. Auction ideas maybe auction off BAM talent to teach 2-4 person groups.
- 3. Auction and Boutique items are needed, please donate even if you can't attend.
- Memorial gate for Tom Clark to be at conference, please make a leaf.
- Ozark Blacksmith School having a sale, March 28, 2009 please attend, details are on BAM website and school website.
- Phil Cox antique steam & gas engine community, needing blacksmith support, please contact Phil. They are building and then going to run a Blacksmith Shop at the Steam & Gas Engine Show in August in Hamilton MO.
- State Fair, Kent Harbit is again working with Peggy to coordinate BAM activities. The State Fair is August 13 thru the 22 this year. Come and have fun with other BAM members.
- BAM Trailers. Do we need a larger one for forge storage and transport? We will look into this.
- BAM scholarships, ideas on different options and formats. Maybe enlist a BAM person to teach in a small group environment.
- Doug Hendrickson scholarship, Walt Hull to coordinate locations maybe 2 demos one on each side of state or somewhere in the middle of the state.
- Library going well, almost all books checked out, adding Videos soon. Need ideas for new books or what you think the library can use.
- PLEASE TURN IN ANY BOOKS YOU HAVE YOU WILL NOT BE FINED AT THIS TIME.

Ken is having a hammer-in on April 4th to make leaves. Direction and details are on the BAM website.

Letter from the president;

Well the conference is almost here, I hope all are ready to have a great time. There is so much going on it is hard to remember it all. We have a great conference lined up, thanks to all for getting it together again. I won't restate it all here, it is in the flier or the website, so look it up there for details. We are going to have Bob and Pat making a BAM box with the hardware and putting it together there. We have Lucian Avery doing some colonial style work I believe, we have Mark Aspery doing grill work and talking about the tooling for it, We have Corrina Menshoff, who is going to do some art forms and a bird, and last, but certainly not least, we have knife maker Art Niernberger who will be doing some work with Damascus, I think.

Of course, iron in the hat, auction and raffle as usual. If you haven't made something to donate to those, you best get busy.

I want to make a special plea for items for the BAM boutique, these should be low priced items that would be suitable for gifts. They don't have to be blacksmith items necessarily, but if they are fragile, plan on taking them home if they are not sold by the end of the conference.

The Tom Clark memorial gate will be assembled at the conference, see the website for details of the leaf forging criteria. This is open to all blacksmiths everywhere, and I have talked to smiths all over who are going to be bringing or sending leaves.

I just attended the BOB XV conference (Banging on the Bayou) all I can say is WOW! I will be typing up a separate article on this that I hope ends up somewhere in this newsletter so see that article for details. All I gotta say is good vittles.

If some of you haven't heard, there is another call for leaves from the Aussie smithing community. They are putting a memorial together for the wildfire situation they have had. They are making a tree, and if you are coming to my hammer-in on the 4th of April, we will make some there as well and I have the drawings etc there. I hope we can get a box full done to send.

My blacksmithing work has been pretty busy, and I have several projects in the works. It is going to be a hectic spring with the family requirements as well as the blacksmith work. If I could just keep the excess power hammers from sprouting in my shop it would be a little calmer anyway. Some friends have purchased hammers recently and they are at my shop as sort of a halfway point to their final destinations. I think one of them has given me a real case of hammer envy. It is an 89KG (195.6lb by my math) BEAST that makes my big hammer feel inadequate, or maybe it is just me feeling inadequate. I can't wait to see it run, it should be awesome. I am sure that John Murray, Mr. 400 lb Chambersburg hammer, is not so impressed, boy, talk about hammer envy that will do it for you.

Well that is all I have for now.

Happy forging.

Ken Jansen

kjjansen@msn.com

A Note from Doug Clemons: The March meeting turned out really well. We counted over 60 people in the shop at one time and I'm sure there were others admiring my junk or something when that count was taken. The weather was better than we expected. Thanks to everyone that helped. Thanks especially to Ken Jansen for demonstrating and to Dan Files for helping with the lunch at the last minute.

BOB XV Banging on the Bayou

Well, I attended the BOB conference for the first time, and I can tell you it won't be the last, if I have any say in the matter.

We took a Friday to drive down and it rained the best part of the trip although the temperature did increase a bit. We tried a short cut and took part of the Natchez trace for about 50 miles from Jackson, MS to near Natchez itself. That had to be some of the prettiest country I have ever driven through. The Redbuds and Dogwoods were blooming and even in the rain it was beautiful. I found out by talking to some smiths from Mississippi, that it runs all the way from Natchez to Nashville, over 400 miles.

Anyway, we finally made it around 10:30 at night and piled in bed to get ready for the next day.

I showed up at the site, (a local smith's shop as they had reservation problems with the park they usually hold it in) Richard Delahoussaye's. Richard has a neat shop, it is about 30 by 40 ft. in the main shop portion I would guess, and it is cinder block and had a ceiling in excess of 15 feet. He is still getting the finishing touches on it but the shutters on the side windows are 2 inch plus rough sawn Cypress and they are beautiful.



There were two demonstrators, Jim Wallace, who was at the metal

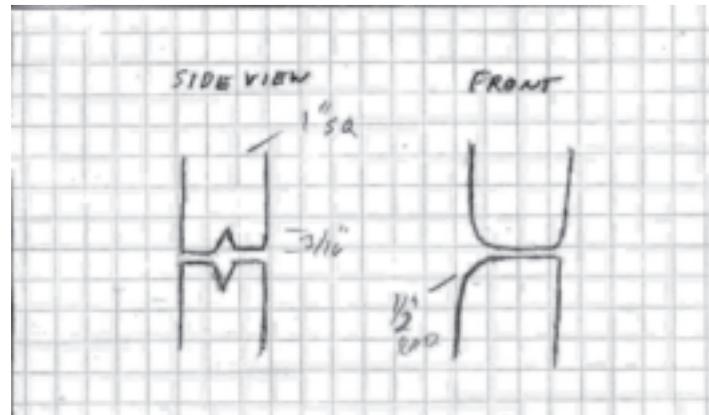
museum in Memphis for almost forever and Chris Marks, a master knife maker and pattern Damascus maker.

Chris went first and talked about making pattern Damascus blanks. He goes about it by getting a piece of structural tubing and stacking the different metals and steels in them so they are in the desired orientation. He welds them down to a solid mass, then draws it out to size and shape and cuts the blanks from them. I know you have seen his work as he sells it to knife

making companies that use his blanks for knives. By varying the metals and the pattern they are placed in the tube as well as the thickness of the individual pieces he creates the patterns. He also forged out a simple knife where he had pre-cut the angle on the point and then forged it back to form the taper of the point this can really speed up the process of getting the curve on the point done.

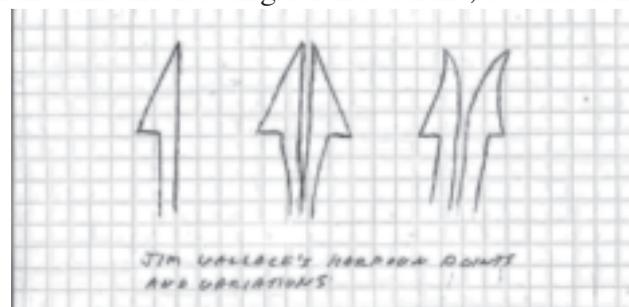
Then came the Gumbo, they brought it in a big plastic tub, probably about 30 gallon size. Man was it good! It is almost worth driving down here just for the food, and there was a good conference going on as well.

Jim got up and gave his demo and a real neat history including a slide show of his history in the trade. Jim is quite well educated in the arts and really gave an interesting presentation. First he made a bracelet with a real neat twist using a fuller to put a neat pattern on the piece of stock. Here is a pic of the tool. I did not get any pics of the bracelet. But basically, you are taking a piece of 3/8 inch round and tapering it on both ends, it is about 8 inches long and drawing it through the tool while driving it down, then you turn it and do it again. I will be making one to try out to tweak my understanding in the future. I missed that portion of the demo and only heard an explanation and saw the tool.



Then he made a harpoon point of the American style and discussed how that led him into some of his design forms. Here are some sketches of that.

Then came the drawing for the tool kit, it was a raffle



and I think it was rigged because Jerry Baker (the current president of LAMA, I believe) won it. I couldn't list what all was in it, it was a real nice tool kit with hammers, tongs, punches, and chisels, etc with a real neat carry handle that would make it perfect for carrying to a demo site. Think of an open topped tray about 4 or 5 inches deep about 2 feet long with a fancy handle attached to the end boards that were about 15 to 18 inches tall. It even had a tong rack built onto it.

Then came the iron in the hat which must have had 40 items of which it seems, 20 were won by Richard Delahousseye (which seems to be pronounced de hel you say) more loudly the more he won.

Then came the auction. The auctioneer was one of their members named Mark, but I couldn't read his last name on his name tag.....

either day, it was in some form or southern Louisiana dialect that apparently couldn't be read by

Northerners. He was an awesome auctioneer because he got several people to outbid themselves thereby raising more money. I think there are a few of us who need a grinetomy after that auction, it was a blast. Then came the crawfish boil. I could not possibly do justice to this feast. Suffice it to say that there were extra servings (I think each serving was 5lb) and I ate two. I could have eaten another, but I would have exploded and I didn't think it would be right to leave my corpse in the shop, since there was another day of Demos to go to.

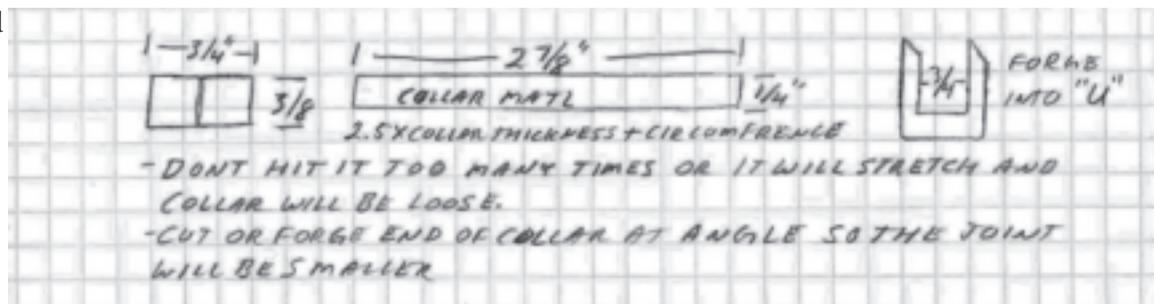
The next morning it didn't start off so good, the coffee was late and I left my cup in the truck which the wife drove off with. It got better pretty quick because someone brought in a bag of fresh cracklings and if pork fat won't cure what ails you, there is just no hope for what ails you.

Jim started off this morning by making two of his harpoon points and joining them together to create a three element design, yes I said two and then three. You have to take into account the negative space between the points and that is definitely part of the element. Stupid me didn't take a picture of it while it was in my hand, so I will have to try and duplicate it in the future so I can explain what I mean. Jim joined them with a simple collar and therein I got one of the best pieces of info that I will be able to use in the future. I am sure

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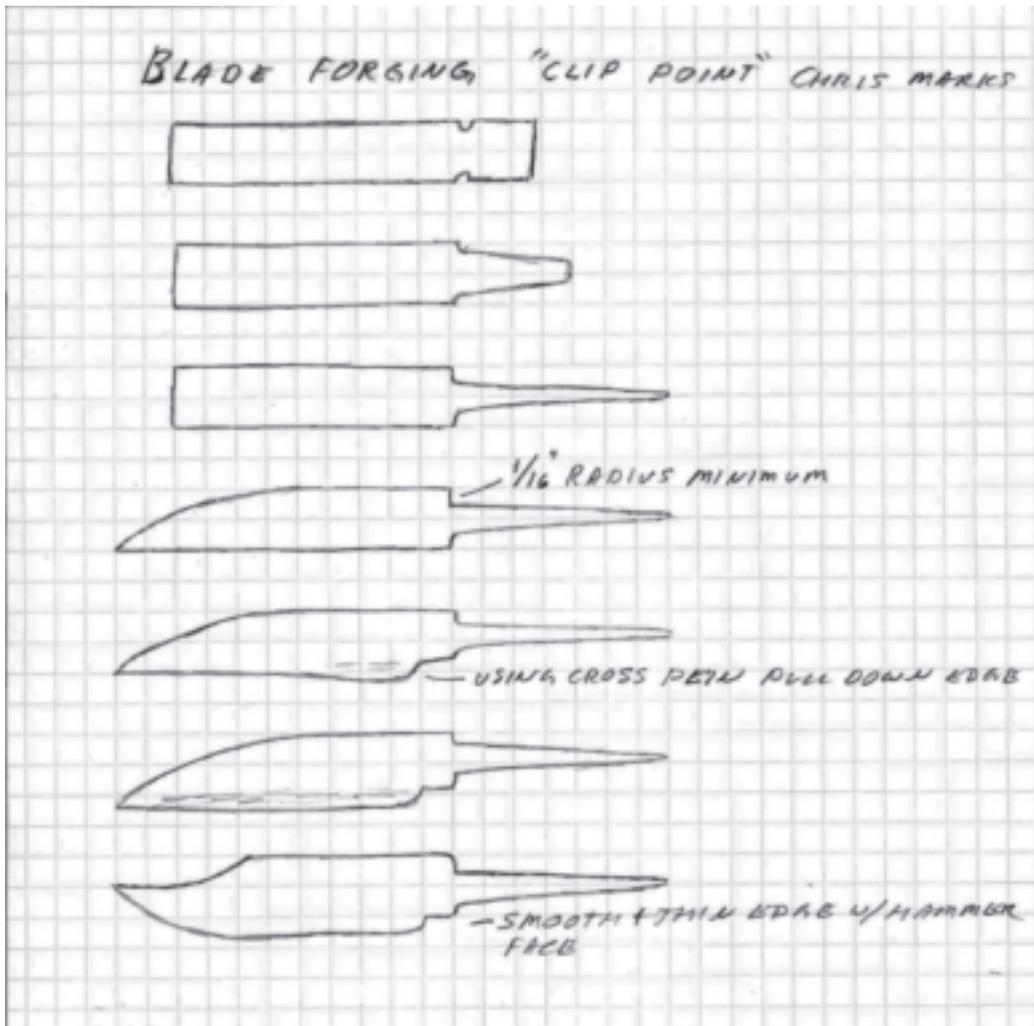
that some of you have struggled in the past, as I have, with trying to judge the right amount of collar material to finish a piece. Well, here is the formula;

2.5 times the maximum collar thickness plus the circumference of the pieces. For example collaring 2, 3/8 in square bars with 1/4 in thick collar material. Circumference is 3/8 times 2, times 2 again plus 3/8 twice which is 2-1/4 I believe, and then 1/4 times 2.5 which is 5/8, so the total 2-7/8. Another real good piece of information that came from Jim, was to use a square center punch to mark the bends on a collar because they will show up when the metal is hot. You can bet I am going to try this out myself.



Then came lunch (I am probably going to get this wrong) Boudin with a slightly spiced chilli to put on top. I am not sure I mentioned this but there is something to be said for the food down here. I am sure the guys down here would like to be remembered for having a good conference and that it was at least about blacksmithing, which is true, but the food is hard to get over.

Chris Marks did his second demo where he forged out a knife blade from 5160. This is not new to a lot of you, but I made some nice sketches of the progression he uses. It was neat to watch him work with his striker (whose name I forgot to write down so my idiot is showing again). Chris talked about forging down the point or cutting it like he did yesterday and why a lot of times with Damascus you will forge it to retain the pattern. Here is a pic of the sequence. (on page 10) Chris also showed how he forged down a tapered piece to put the sort of stylized claw foot for a table leg, it was simple and quick. After that, Chris forged down a leaf using a pre-cut blank, it can be done almost completely under a power hammer. You use a "v" block with a "v" shaped top fuller. First you groove the center vein with a chisel and then you put it over the "v" block and with the top swage drive it down to form the initial bend. Then you hammer it flat from the side so you have a leaf folded lengthwise.



out of order but the leaf blank was probably 12 gauge and it had a rectangular section for the stem that was around 5/8 wide. Before you start on the leaf, you want to forge that down and draw out the stem. Here are some sketches of that.

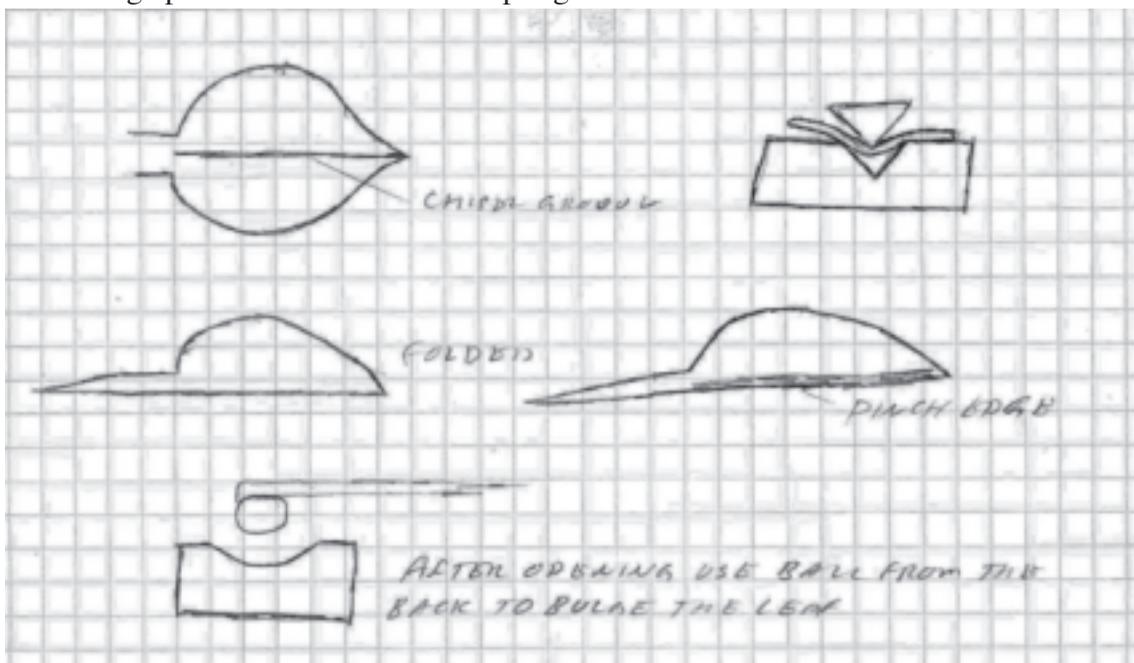
I heard that there were 11 states represented here, from north Carolina to Texas and from Louisiana up to Minnesota, and many in between. It is a small conference, but great, none the less. I highly recommend it and is on my list for next year already. I also want to mention that there were tailgaters there, if not as many as some other conferences. "Rusty anvil" from Oklahoma was there as well as a couple of the local guys with items.

In conclusion, I just can't say enough about how much fun I had and how welcome I felt

Next you take the peen of the hammer and over a radius on the anvil pinch the center or vein. After that, you open it back up and put it over a dish form, using a ball swage push the back of the leaf up. I got this

being there, everybody was just great.

Ken Jansen



Report on MTS event on February 21 and 28, 2009

The workshop was hosted by Ray Scott at his Prairie Forge East of Eminence. There were eight members in the class; from as far as Arkansas and the bootheel area.

Don Birdsall is an excellent teacher; it is like he is sharing with a friend. Ray has the same attitude and is always ready to help. Everything went great until just before noon Feb. 28 ----SNOW---. About 4 pm someone looked out and said we better leave in daylight, we have about 10 inches of snow. We all had interesting rides home, most roads were not plowed and listed by MoDOT as closed.

I would like to thank BAM officers, volunteers, and hosts of events for all their work, the MTS training station, and the BAM publication. I enjoy the tips, news, and the new projects.

Don Cocker, Sr.
North of Birch Tree





PRIZE, GIFT, OR LEGACY?

It was an oddity, my being inside on a Sunday afternoon, but I was working at my computer as the telephone rang through. Caller ID showed a name with an unfamiliar area code but, since the information wasn't UNKNOWN CALLER, I answered. When this caller, a lady, asked if I were John McNair, I admitted that I was (I am, after all).

She then announced, "B'b bbzz bzbzb, calling from Bam. BzB'zz zbz z bzzbz!" Obviously, since this was exactly what I understood her to say, my answer to her was total silence. Whereupon, she repeated what she actually had said to me.

"I'm Kate Dinneen, calling from BAM. You've won a prize!" Into the continued silence she added, "You won. You won the hammer."

My next thoughts were...*Sure I did. I won a contest I never entered, and now if I'll just give my credit card information to cover the necessary costs incurred, this marvelous prize will be rushed to me....* Then I remembered our last chapter meeting, and the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets from the Blacksmith Association of Missouri with our chapter keeping half the amount we raised. Three separate prizes, and one was an anvil that I hoped to win, so I bought tickets.

And of all the outstanding tickets, one of mine had won, but not the anvil. *The hammer.*

My memory of the details of the raffle was pretty fuzzy, and I probably hadn't paid adequate attention as the letter was being read aloud. Besides, buying the tickets was really a donation -- nobody actually wins a raffle, do they? About all I remembered was a little something about the prizes: anvil, a handmade toolbox with tools, a handmade hammer, and the drawing to be held at the Missouri group's annual conference.

Now I knew a little more...people sometimes do win raffles, and my ticket had been pulled out of the hat way over in Missouri. Ms. Dinneen was still talking and she got to the point of telling me a bit of information regarding *the hammer*. Well, any information would be something I didn't know at that moment.

One of her statements was like a little flash of lightning...she said *the hammer* had been made by Tom Clark (wow!) and Hank Knickmeyer (the master knifemaker?). I didn't know Mr. Clark but he had been to our chapter and some of his work is represented on the gate into the blacksmith shop. Mr. Knickmeyer's contribution was a mystery, especially with his being a knifemaker -- and this was a hammer. Regardless of my ignorance

of what I had won, I knew already that it was special and I was grateful. Very grateful, yessiree. Ms. Dinneen later wrote in the Missouri chapter's newsletter that I was "beside myself." Accurate description or not, I was at a very uncharacteristic loss for adequate words.

There was a problem with the logistics of delivering *the hammer* to me, and a requirement was my being responsible for getting the prize to myself. With each of us doing a bit of thinking aloud, Ms. Dinneen magnanimously volunteered to package *the hammer* and send it by UPS. I agreed to reimburse her costs, and it was delivered in about a week.

The box wasn't particularly large and, when I lifted it, I was surprised that the box was pretty light even for its size – a hammer? Oh well, it was more a gift than a prize, anyway.

I opened the box. Oh, my, gosh! Once again, I had too few words to accurately describe what I was seeing. Without vocalizing, even to myself, I was totally aware that what I was holding was an especial artifact, an object somehow beyond art. Handmade hammer, indeed! I do not wish even to imply anything ethereal, but I felt a profound sense of stewardship and responsibility even before I lifted *the hammer* from its packaging. It is absolutely magnificent, the workmanship obviously exquisite, incredible care had been taken in bringing it into being. I needed to learn more. Needed to learn more....

I needed to learn more about the proverbial how and why and wherefore that had brought this hammer into being and brought it into my hands. Admittedly, I was awestruck. I still am. Gathering information is rarely easy or simple, so I was prepared for difficulty that lay in store for me but I had not even a hint as to what it would be.

My first contact and source of information was this very nice Kate Dinneen who lives and works in historic Lawrence, Kansas, doing "everything but horseshoeing." In the shipping box from UPS, she included a note which again gave (and spelled correctly) the names of Tom Clark and Hank Knickmeyer. She included a statement that

the hammer is decorative and is not intended to be used—this was entirely logical since I had told her I am a new convert to smithing, after having been a horseshoer years ago. We talked further by telephone and e-mail, and she continued to be helpful. A former chef in Europe, she is an interesting lady. I also was able to talk with Tom Clark and Hank Knickmeyer.

Tom Clark is a well known name in many venues, blacksmithing being only one of those. His history was far more than I was able to probe and plumb, and he told me, quite humbly, that he had been blessed in having a full life. From all that I have gathered, I respectfully agree with him. With his having formerly been a motorcyclist and a highly successful two-wheeled racer, as well as being a pilot, I felt a great deal of kinship with him. I never thought to ask him whether he had done any cowboying or jumping out of perfectly good airplanes but, then, I had never had a famous episode on TV's "That's Incredible" with a wood-splitter I had invented (he did, and he beat two men who were using a mechanized wood-splitter). Unremarkably for him, he won over 300 motorcycle races and was also an aerobatic pilot. The founder of the Ozark School of Blacksmithing (OSB), an obvious point of pride for him was his being the 2008 recipient of blacksmithing's affirmation, the Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America's (ABANA's) "Bealer Award."

Hank Knickmeyer is a Professor of Fine Arts and the Director of Graduate Programs in Fine Arts at Fontbonne University in St. Louis. He also raises cattle and horses, and, from photographs I have seen of him, he has a bit of cowboy flair with which I can also identify. In certain circles, particularly in my geographical area, he is rather well-known (notorious) for a partial sculpture of his wife. As further evidence of his versatility, he is a proponent and participant in the art of Schützen, a smallbore rifle offhand marksmanship discipline wherein great skill is usually evident. A master bladesmith, he made the mosaic Damascus panels that Tom Clark forged into these special hammers, normally four panels for each of four identical hammers to be made. I asked, and he told me that he should not be considered a pioneer in the

mosaic Damascus, but I have found that he did become involved with the process pretty early on (and he's really good).

Everyone with whom I have talked holds each of these gentlemen in high regard. I have met these men only by long distance, but I am also a part of this group of admirers. The men definitely have earned and hold respect within and outside the function of blacksmithing. Are they among the giants of the earth? Well, yeah, absolutely, because each of us is... in our unique way.

I have shown this hammer, but always as *the hammer* I was fortunate to win. It's quite an eye-ful, and its simplicity is ornate: two pounds of mosaic Damascus steel, a curly hickory handle, and the touchmarks of Tom Clark and Hank Knickmeyer. Plus, it obviously has a story to be told; and that's why we're writing and reading just now. Telling the story properly and appropriately is a part of the work I inherited with *the hammer*, even though many have already heard or read portions of this tale.

Some of this is sad, some of this is heartbreaking, a bit of this is a mystery. All of this is enlightening and uplifting. Tom Clark knew about grace.

Knowledge of Tom Clark's cancer is widespread, as well as knowledge of the surgeries and other treatments he underwent. He and I talked on several occasions, and he was very open and specific about what he was enduring and undergoing. For anyone who doesn't yet know, three words tell everything about this ordeal of his: terrible beyond imagination. Enough said; now, the rest of the story.

Mr. Tom Clark and I had some telephone and additional written correspondence, and he was really proud of this hammer that I call *the hammer*. Imagine that. A letter he prepared for me has already been printed in the BAM newsletter, but I'll hope to add background. I first telephoned him on a Sunday evening and his wife told me he was already resting in bed, but that he would want to talk with me and she would get him. As I was attempting to ask her not to disturb him, he introduced himself, already making himself avail-

able on his end of the line. We talked for what I knew was too long, but he evidently had things that he wanted to say, things that he obviously intended to say, and he did.

He told me the story of forging *the hammer* and the urgency he had felt. He had surgery the day before and it confirmed his cancer diagnosis, but he didn't yet know... He did know, and told Hank Knickmeyer, that something was wrong and they needed to build the hammer, "NOW." Mr. Knickmeyer told him that the material for three of the four hammers hadn't turned out, but the two of them decided to finish the one (*the hammer*) and Mr. Knickmeyer delivered the blanks to Mr. Clark at Potosi. Apparently the forge was ready and waiting, and Mr. Clark went to work – sort of....

Earlier I stated my reluctance even to imply anything ethereal regarding *the hammer*, but Tom Clark had no inhibitions about it at all. Had we been standing together Mr. Clark would have looked me in the eye and unabashedly spoken the same words, "God made that hammer. I couldn't believe how weak and shaky I was at the forge. I was light-headed, dizzy, and sweating. There was no way I could have made that hammer, and I didn't: God did." He gave me no more details, but he obviously felt no more details were necessary, for anyone.

As I look back, I see that I should have been amazed that he always would talk about everything in such a positive manner, but I didn't yet know him. He talked about the world hammer-building contest/conference at Helfstyn Castle in the Czech Republic which he had missed for 2008 but really wanted to enter for the 2009 event. His projected design by Mr. Knickmeyer was to be a mosaic of the castle itself. I'm sure it would have been stunning. Also, he wanted photographs of *the hammer* I had won because those already taken hadn't turned out as wished, and he wanted some pictures suitable for use in advertising the OSB. In an e-mail to Ms. Dinneen I told her that although I hadn't yet met this gentleman, I already loved him.

I feel certain that he did the same for certain oth-

ers, but I now can see that, without using the words, he somehow was actually telling me that he knew what was in store for him and that he intended to show the world how to face it with calm courage and faith. We talked about motorcycles and airplanes, we talked about God, and we talked about Clark being a name in my own family's genealogy. As we continued to communicate I could see that he was intent upon continuing to live, even as his body was dying. Late in the disease it was apparent that he was forgetting some things, and that he was becoming unexpectedly fretful and testy, but I don't think he was able to recognize it or he would have been mortified. He loved everyone and everything involved with blacksmithing.

He was a good man.

So here we have *the hammer*: beautiful, curly maple found and saved by Tom Clark to make the handle, fantastic mosaic Damascus billets fashioned by Hank Knickmeyer, said to have been made by God, one of a kind, and the last of these hammers attributed to Tom Clark.

Our title actually asks a question: prize, gift, or legacy? How about all three? The hammer was a prize from BAM, a gift to me, and I see it as a part of the legacy of these two men – their gift to each of us. Mr. Clark said the hammers were done in an effort to move the hammers to the plane of prominence enjoyed by the mosaic Damascus knives. Hank Knickmeyer also says the hammers were done in the spirit of ABANA – passing along the art of blacksmithing in all its nuances, to those of us yet learning within the craft. Tom Clark has now left his legacy with us, while Hank Knickmeyer continues with building his.

Yes, these are giants. May some of us use our uniqueness to cast shadows such as these. All the giants have unselfishly left us their footprints.

I have a prayer that a special person in all of this not be neglected. She was always there, often unseen, but after 56 years of marriage the two had melded to one. Watching as his legendary strength began to fail and comforting her cho-

MARCH-APRIL 2009

sen mate as best she could, she shared his pain when nothing could any longer give him relief. She quietly did all she could as she watched and felt the half of her that was him as it distanced itself from her reality. Her world suddenly became different, even though that world hadn't changed. As a caregiver, her days and nights were spent for his welfare at the expense of her own, but it was an heroic act of love and she gave without regret. She is accepting now the aloneness, but she doesn't like it and neither will we. They talked about this, and she's at peace for him, but it still hurts – pain does that. Is she persevering and will she go on? Of course she will, but prayers help everything. Please don't forget.

Mrs. Clark told me that the granddaughter that they helped to raise once asked Mr. Tom when he was going to retire. He said something like, "Baby, I'll never retire. I'll die with my hammer in my hand." At the end, when time was visibly growing short, the granddaughter slipped out of the room. She soon returned and looked Mrs. Clark in the eye with an unspoken question passing between them. The answer came, "You do what you think is best."

She did what she thought best. His prophetic wish had come true because his dear granddaughter saw to it. I don't think Tom Clark died, I think he just stopped living... definitely with his hammer in his hand.

Tom Clark has left a lot of himself with us, but he has gone on to the golden forge in the sky. I think it would be fitting if, next year in the Czech Republic at Helfstyn Castle, the powers that be would choose to leave a forging station unused for one of the periods. I don't think it will happen, and he won't be there anyway. He's going to be awfully busy at another forge and anvil, making some spectacular sunrises and sunsets, and welding some repairs for broken dreams and broken hearts. He's not gone, he's just somewhere else.

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John McNair

How to Sharpen Drills

by Steve Hildred

In order to discuss the sharpening of drills, it is necessary to define terms and description of drills:

Cutting Lips: The parts of the drill that cut.

Point Angle: The inclined angle between the cutting lips. The point angle is varied to correspond with material hardness.

Chisel Angle: The line between the cutting lips, which is the length of web thickness.

Clearance Angle: The amount the cutting lips are relieved. Controls the rate of feed or how fast the drill travels through the material.

Rake Angle or Helix: The angle of the twist of the grooves to the axis of the drill.

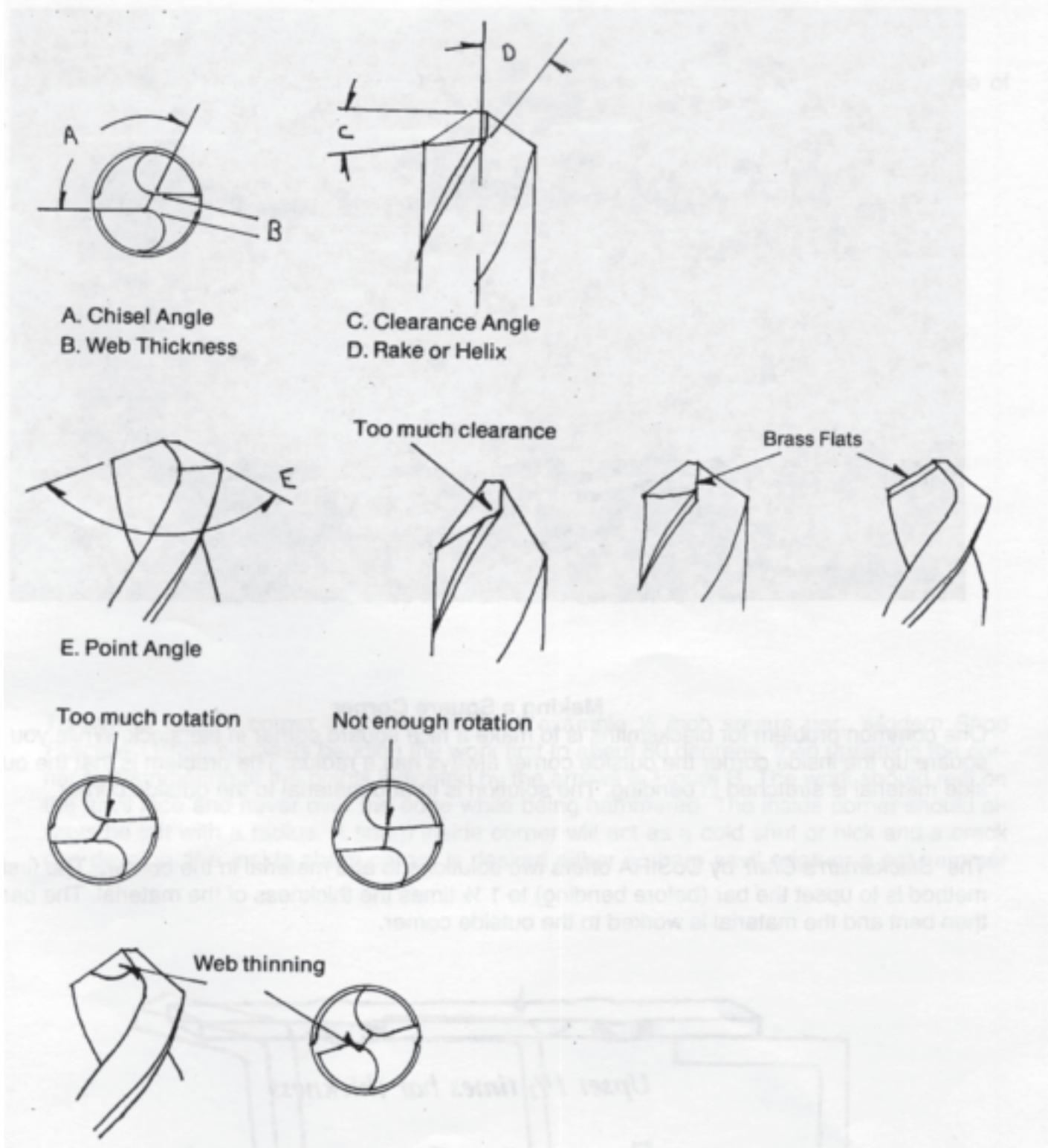
To sharpen drills correctly, a drill gauge is highly recommended. It allows the drill point angle to be correctly measured and to center the cutting lips. The point must be in the center of the drill and the point angle must be symmetrical to the axis of the drill.

Use a general purpose, 60 grit grinding wheel, 3/4" wide. True the wheel so that the wheel runs smoothly. To test if it is true, very gently brush the wheel with your finger. Be sure that your finger points in the direction of the rotation of the wheel. If you don't, your finger WILL be grabbed by the wheel and get CHEWED UP! If you feel any bumps, it is not smooth enough for a fine edge. Hold the drill shank in your left hand, the point in your right. Steady your right hand against the wheel guard. Using a light pressure to hold the drill to the wheel, begin the grind at the very edge of the lip with the cutting lip facing up. Move the left hand downward to form an arc of 8 to 12 degrees depending on the clearance desired. At the same time, rotate the drill along its axis clockwise 5 to 10 degrees. Both the downward arc and the rotation must be timed together. Rotate the drill 180 degrees and grind the other lip. Continue grinding, rotating the drill from one lip to the other. Keep the web thickness about 1/8 to 1/10 the drill diameter. Try to grind equal amounts from each lip. When grinding don't burn the drill (turn it blue). The drill should never get too hot to touch on the end. If you quench it when hot, it will develop little cracks and chip away.

That is really all there is to it except lots of practice. The real challenge is to know how you goofed and how to fix it. Refer to the drawings for trouble shooting. When drilling tough material or when you want the least possible burr, grind the point angle wide, 128 to 135 degrees. For a soft material like plastic, change the point to 90 degrees. For general drilling use 118 degrees. When you are drilling brass or opening up a hole, put Brass Flats on the cutting lips. This makes the drill cut slower so it doesn't pull through the material. When cutting really tough material or one that has the tendency to work-harden, use a carbon steel drill and apply pressure to the work before the drill is started, and use slow speed.

Good luck. All you need is ten thousand drills to practice on and a bunch of ornery machinists to gripe at your lousy drills. Before you know it you'll be able to sharpen anything!

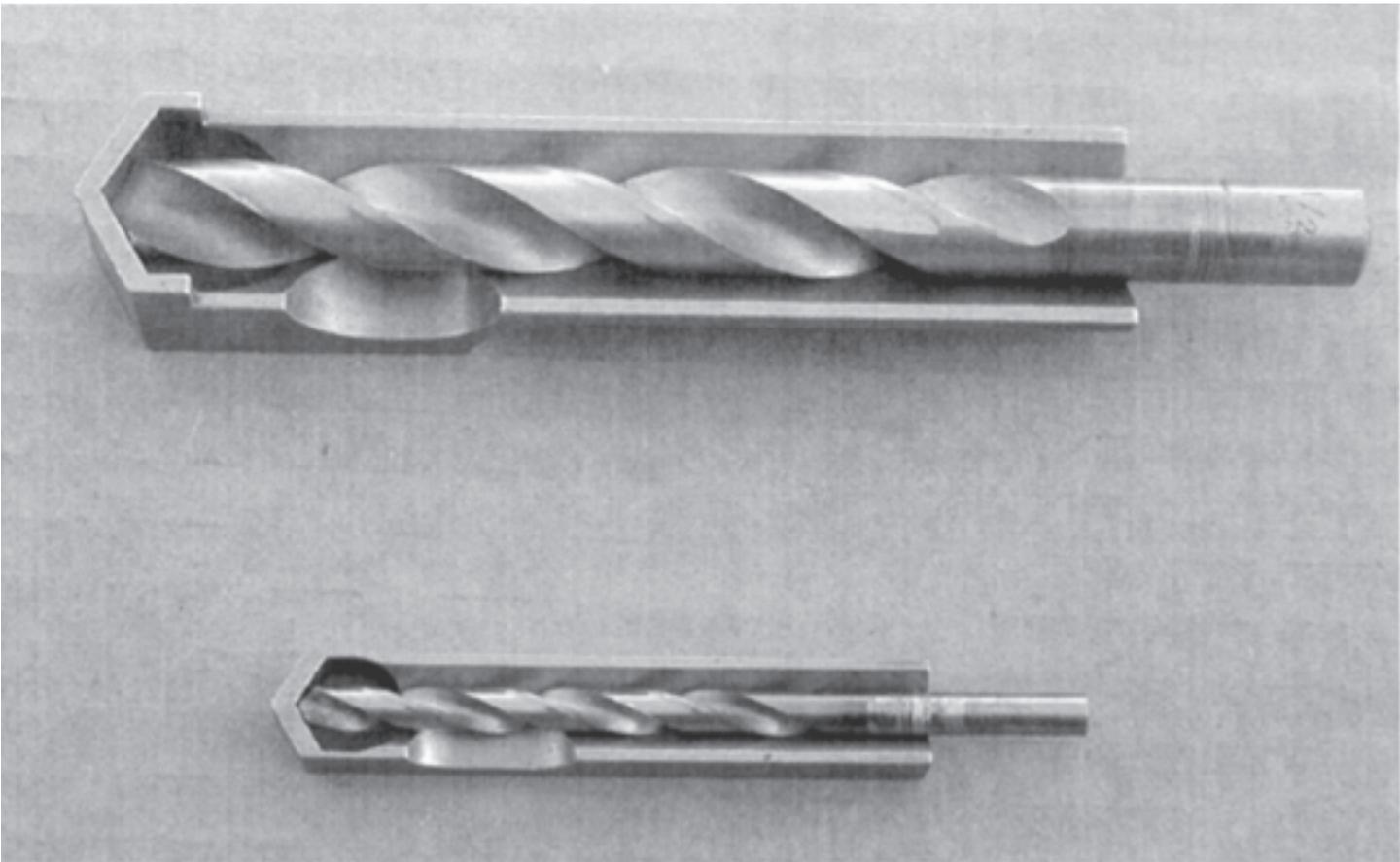
Reprinted from Forge Facts - by the Rocky Mountain Smiths - Winter 2009



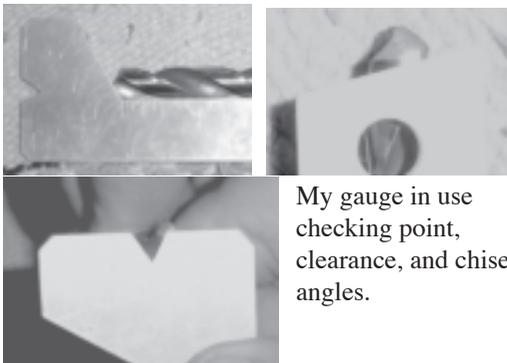
Ed. Note: My father was a tool & die maker and taught me how to sharpen drill bits as described by Steve above. Steve mentioned a 'drill gauge.' I inherited my father's tools. On the next page are examples of drill sharpening gauges in two sizes. The point angle and centering is checked in the 'roof end' of the gauge.
Wayne Frame - Forge Facts

Continued on page 18

Drill Bit Sharpening Gauges



Above, Wayne's gauge.

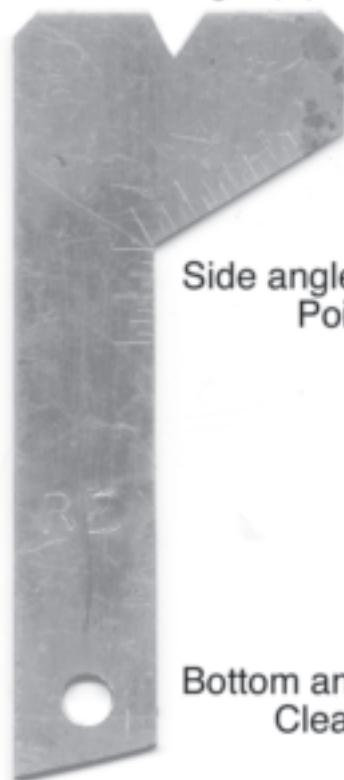


My gauge in use checking point, clearance, and chisel angles.

Ed. Note:

I made this gauge (right) in shop class, more years ago than I'd like to remember. It's cut out of a piece of 16ga aluminum. With some practice and frequent checks to the gauge I can do a fair job of sharpening a drill. I have found that if I don't use a gauge, I tend to make the drills too pointy. If you let them get too far out of shape it can be hard to get them back to the proper configuration. Bob Ehrenberger - BAM

Notch on top used to check the Chisel Angle (A)



Side angle used to check the Point Angle (E)

Bottom angle used to check the Clearance Angle (C)

Ken Jansen's Gum Leaf Demo

Description by Bob Ehrenberger Photos by Bruce Herzog



Draw a long taper, section off between leaf and stem.



Flatten the leaf. (left)
Use simple tool and small hand held fuller to make vein down the center.

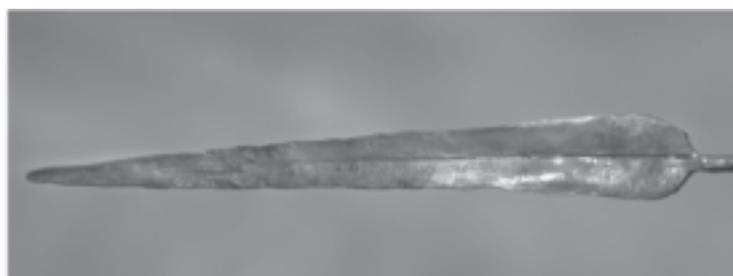


Cut loose from main bar,
forge stem to shape.



Roll the sides of the leaf
out by gently tapping the
spine, while the edges are
in contact with the anvil.

Finished Gum Leaf.



MTS Workshop

On June 13th and June 14th, 2009 in Downtown New Haven, Mo in conjunction with the Second Annual Festival of Fire, come and learn about basic Blacksmithing. We will be teaching how to make a large cooking fork and a steak turner. Cost for each day of the workshops is \$30.00.

Blacksmith's Of Missouri (BAM) membership required (insurance requirement).

BAM family membership \$25.00 dollars for one year.

Application on BAM website bamsite.org or contact:

Bruce Herzog
2212 Aileswick Drive
St. Louis, MO. 63129-3604
314.892.4690

For more information on the workshops contact:

Don Birdsall
11570 County Road
Rolla, Mo. 36401
573.364.7223
Email: donbirdsall@embarqmail.com

To register and pay for the workshops contact:

David Smith
106 Locust St.
New Haven, Mo.
573.659.5601
dissmith@fidnet.com

Workshops are limited to the first ten members preregistered.

Workshops start at 7:30am both days and we try to finish by 4pm.

Students must wear Safety glasses while in forging area.

Gloves and aprons optional and must be provided by students.

BAM furnishes all the tools and material for the workshops.

The Tom Clark Memorial Gate Project

The Tom Clark Memorial Gate is moving along with various parts being forged and fabricated by several BAM members. Walt Hull came up with a wonderful design which includes the gate, graced by a tree, 2 posts and 2 wings on either side of the gate which will have more branch like pieces to which more leaves can be attached at the BAM Conference. So, please, make a leaf or two and don't make up any excuses to not make a leaf! We want this tree to be in full leaf. The leaf should fit into a 3 1/2 inch square or a 2X6 inch rectangle with a stem no smaller than 5/16 and about 3 inches long from where it attaches to the leaf to the end we'll attach to the tree.

If you can not make the conference, send your leaf along with someone who can or send it to Kate Dinneen 1582 N 1500 Rd Lawrence KS 66046 by April 25.

Editor's Note: Kate Dinneen is no longer on the ABANA board. They didn't appreciate the talent that she brought to the organization.



Trade items at March meeting.

Australian Blacksmith Association Gum Tree Project

G'day ABANA Affiliates,

As you may be aware, the recent (and on-going) Victorian fires were devastating and right on our door step. While we are all deeply affected by these events, at least one of our members is among those who lost family, friends and property. The Association has since decided to embark on an ambitious memorial project.

We would be grateful for a non-monetary contribution from you in the form of a forged gum leaf, gumnut or bunch of either (or both). We have created a website (www.treeproject.abavic.org.au) to update and inform all those concerned about the project. Please visit this site for further information, including tips on forging gum leaves and gum nuts and images for reference.

This message is going out to blacksmiths around the country and around the world, so please pass it on to any and all that you know.

I apologize if you have received this information more than once, as we are trying to contact as many blacksmiths and metal smiths as possible.

Thank you, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Paul Mills
Editor, The Drift

Email: TheDrift@abavic.org.au
Web: www.abavic.org.au
Web: www.treeproject.abavic.org.au

Knife hammer-in Knife show

It will be held June 27-28, 2009 in Branson at The Shepherd of the Hills Farm. There will be continuous demonstrations from 9AM to 3PM both days as well as a knife show in the adjacent building. The forging area will have three forges (two gas & one coal). The demonstrations will include all aspects of knife making as well as a collaboration knife to be made and given away at the end of the hammer-in. Admission for both the hammer-in & knife show will be free so the public can wander between them at their leisure.

The list of participants continues to grow. So far it includes:

Jerry Fisk, John Fitch, Jerry Rados, Mark Neving, Craig Camerer, Ray Kirk, Al Lawrence, Brion Tomberlin, Brian Thie, Jody Muller, Bill Miller, Lin Rhea, Rusty Polk, Gary Crowder, Jim Krause, Tom McGinnis, Harvey King, Jerry Lairson, Shawn Shropshire, Kyle Royer, Steve Pierce, Mike Miller, Landon Robbins, John Jones, & Craig Brashler.

For more information contact:
Gary Mulkey gary@mulkeyknives.com

Historic Blacksmith Shop in Belleville, Illinois

A blacksmith shop that was established in Millstadt, IL in 1856 by Peter Oldendorph has come to the Belleville Labor and Industry Museum. It was operated for 69 years and was shut down in 1926. It was given to the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry in 1933 and was moved brick by brick and set up as a working blacksmith shop in the museum. In later years it became a static display and in later years when they were doing renovations, the shop was put in storage. The Belleville Labor and Industry Museum located at 123 North Church Street in Belleville, acquired the blacksmith shop and it was hauled back to Belleville and put in a building built for the shop. The forge has a huge bellows to fire the forge. It has been completely reassembled and is now a working blacksmith shop. The Labor and Industry Museum will have a dedication and open house on May 23rd and 24th from noon until 4 p.m. All blacksmiths and their families are invited to the open house.

Easy Copper Handle

By
Chris Miller

If you get tired of the traditional basket weave or scrolled handles on your fire place pokers or barbecue tools and want to add a touch of copper color to your work, consider the use of a common copper plumbing fixture: the air expansion chamber. See Fig. 1 for some examples of these copper fittings, which are made to be soldered into water supply lines to provide for expansion to avoid water “hammer” when a water faucet or valve is shut off abruptly. They come with inside diameter sizes of 3/8” and 1/2” for normal household use, and I have

seen even larger expansion chambers for commercial installations. The residential fittings run about \$4.00 to \$8.00

each. With care, they can be soldered onto a round steel rod with the same diameter as the inside of the fitting.

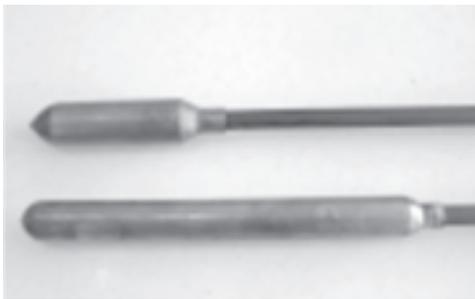


Figure 1

After forging your poker on the business end of a round steel rod, fit the copper expansion chamber over the straight end of the handle and push all the way in until your stock abuts the inside end of the copper fitting.



Figure 2

Mark where the fitting comes to on the steel rod. See Fig. 2.

If you want to put a twist in your stock, you will have to square up the round rod. Just make sure that you don't square up or mar the surface of the rod at or beyond the point where it is to be soldered. Remove the fitting for the next step. Sand or grind the steel stock with a mild abrasive for about an inch on each side of the mark you made on your steel stock. Do this until you get a clean and bright surface to allow solder to stick, but don't alter the diameter of your

stock or the solder will not be able to flow by capillary action into the fitting to make a good joint. Use a battery cleaner or other wire brush to scour the inside of the copper fitting until the inside is bright as well so you will be able to make a good solder joint. Flux the inside of the fitting and the steel stock all around your mark. Before inserting the fitting back on the steel stock to solder the joint, you might want to put some quick set epoxy putty on the end of the steel stock so that when the fitting is slipped over the steel stock to its maximum depth, it will bed into the epoxy, which will act as both a cushion and as an adhesive to keep the end of the steel stock from moving along the curved end of the copper fitting.

When the steel stock has been inserted into the copper fitting to its full depth, clamp or block it so it will not move on you while soldering the joint unless your epoxy has already set up. Use a good silver solder and be sure to heat the joint thoroughly, especially the steel



Figure 3

which is hard to bring up to temperature, before applying the solder to the joint. When the solder flows into and between the steel and the copper fitting freely, remove the heat from the torch and wipe the joint with a damp rag to prevent a drip from forming on the lower side. See Fig. 3.

When cool, you can buff up the copper handle and spray it with a clear lacquer for a bright handle or leave it to develop its own patina.

The silver soldered joints I have made seem to be fairly robust but you would, no doubt, have a more secure joint if you braised rather than soldered it. An example of a completed barbecue fork is shown in



Fig. 4.

Figure 4



ABANA

Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc.
ABANA Central Office
15754 Widewater Drive, Dumfries, VA 22025-1212
Phone: 703-680-1632 Fax: 703-680-6222
abana@abana.org · www.abana.org

ABANA Affiliate Liaison Letter: **What is ABANA and what can it do for us?**

1/28/2009

ABANA is the Artist Blacksmith Association of North America. It is an organization that helps unite artist-blacksmiths from over 75 affiliated groups in the United States and other countries.

ABANA is an important resource for a wealth of artist-blacksmithing information from around the world. This information is passed on to its members via its two quarterly publications The Anvil's Ring which presents feature articles on many blacksmithing topics, affiliate news and many other subjects and the Hammer's Blow which features technical tips and techniques for the amateur and professional smiths.

ABANA has a very extensive and usually current web site. In addition to being an information resource, the web site allows affiliates and ABANA members to post a link to their own web sites and to post announcements of their conferences, exhibits and other events. ABANA's web site is also open to the public and has been very effective in reaching and educating the general public about what the artist-blacksmith can do.

ABANA is planning to resume its biennial national conference in June 2010 with a grand effort. It will be a gathering of international artist-blacksmiths from around the world with a sharing of their ideas and techniques. Coinciding with the conference is a National Ornamental Metal Museum international contemporary blacksmithing exhibit which will tour the US for two years after the conference.

ABANA's Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to its members for educational workshops or for extended study such as journeyman programs.

ABANA's Affiliate Grant Program provides financial support to ABANA Affiliates sponsoring a visiting artist for educational conferences or workshops.

ABANA members receive a 5 to 10% discount when shopping with blacksmith merchants supporting ABANA.

ABANA members can obtain affordable health insurance through Transamerica and Ameritis; including limited medical and hospital, disability, dental and vision coverage.

These are but a few of the benefits ABANA offers blacksmiths. ABANA is continually seeking ways to benefit its membership, such as in obtaining affordable health insurance for the self-employed smith or for the recently laid off hobbyist who could not afford a COBRA or private insurance plan. ABANA is also working to soon have catastrophic medical and property and causality insurance available to members.

The economy right now is terrifying and it is predicted to get worse before it recovers. And it will recover, however for now, millions of good workers have lost their jobs and many companies have shut their plants down permanently. Not since the great depression in the 1930's has the economy's outlook been so bleak. In the middle of all this mess are professional smiths who are trying hard to make a decent living from an honest day's work. There are amateur smiths, now unemployed because of plant closings, who are doing all they can to survive and turn their hobby into a fledging business and get through these rough times. And they can do it. For, unlike during the depression, today's artist-blacksmithing community has the resources and networking available to help them successfully compete in today's turbulent business world. And ABANA with its affiliates is at the center.

Some of our affiliates have been around a long time. Some of them were formed as local chapters of ABANA soon after ABANA was formed. Well, they have grown up. They are big boys now and no longer need the guidance and the direction and the assistance of their parent. And they really have done a great job of it. They have extensive workshops, great grant and scholarship programs, sponsor and promote artist-blacksmith exhibits, coordinate extensive demonstrations and conferences and the list goes on. ABANA is a very proud parent, and I am sure our founding fathers would heartily agree. As in any family, we have had our disagreements and conflicts, but we are all part of the family of blacksmiths and that's the way it is.

ABANA was begun many years ago with a gathering of blacksmiths to share ideas and methods. Demonstrate one and learn a dozen more. This marvelous method of sharing of knowledge was carried to Europe by British and German smiths and has since spread over the world. At the founding of ABANA, Dimitri Gerakaris said "Our task is great and so is our joy". And the joy of a proud parent is a wonderful thing indeed.

If you are a member of ABANA, we thank you.

If you are going to become a member of ABANA, we welcome you.

If blacksmithing is important to you but what ABANA can do for you is not enough, will you become an ABANA member for what ABANA can do for blacksmithing?

Bruce Woodward

ABANA Affiliate Relations Committee Chair

woodwardiron1@roadrunner.com

ABANA News:

Wayne Coe has retired from the ABANA Board of Directors, but not from blacksmithing. His white hat, mischievous grin and country lawyer wit will be found at smithing events for a long time to come.

We welcome Len Ledet and Lance Davis as new members of ABANA's Board of Directors. Len, from Scottsdale, Arizona, will fill the seat vacated by Kim Saliba. Lance, from Jonesborough, Tennessee, will fill the seat vacated by Wayne Coe.

Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads

For Sale: Small Coal forge, with electric blower. \$100.00 obo. Mathias Pen, Ava, MO. 417-683-9000

For Sale: 25lb Little Giant, new style dies, runs good, new 1.5hp motor. \$2500 Nixa Mo area, Alex Harrison 417-838-3573

For Sale: One new style 50 lb. Little Giant power hammer with a broken flywheel. One transitional style 100 lb Little Giant hammer in good condition. One Johnson gas forge. The fifty pound hammer is \$1500.00 you pick up. The hundred pound hammer is \$2500.00 you pick up. The Johnson gas forge is \$200.00 you pick up. Timbo, AR Call Jim Crowell 870- 213-8558

New tire and wheel for sale. Best offer, 5 hole wheel, Tire size ST 205-75R15 Trail America ST Radial Tubeless Wrong size wheel and tire. Was installed in the MTS trailer for spare. Will bring to BAM Conference. Contact Don Birdsall 573-364-7223 email donbirdsall@embarqmail.com

Commercial / Resource ads

Services:

Beverly Shear Blades Sharpened. Remove blades from shear and ship to Clay Spencer, 73 Penniston Pvt. Drive, Somerville, AL 35670 \$35 plus postage, additional cost for deep notches or blades previously sharpened at angle.

Custom spinning in copper, brass, pewter, and steel. Contact Ken & Kathy Markley, 7651 Cabin Creek Lane, Sparta, Ill. 62286. Phone: (618) 443-5284 Fax: (618) 443-5284

Little Giant-- We can do repairs on any or all components of your Little Giant front assembly. Contact H. "Sid" Suedmeier 420 4th Corso, Nebraska City, NE. 68410 (402) 873-6603

Roller Blade Treadle Hammers (Clay Spencer design) for Sale or Workshops led to build hammers. Bob Alexander, e-mail to scruboak4@netzero.com, or call 636-586-5350.

Information / Education

Tong Making Class--Weekend Course 4 people per class - \$125 per person Contact: Charles Comstock Rt.1 Box 20, Deerfield, MO. 64741 (417) 927-3499

Subscribe to Jerry Hoffmann's **Blacksmith's Journal**, a monthly publication for blacksmiths. Call 1-800-944-6134 for more information.

Classes offered, The Ornamental Iron Shop
Contact the instructor to register and customize your class.
John D. Thompson – Metalsmith
3923 Hwy 25; Hodges, SC 29653 864-374-3933

Classes at Pieh Tool Company, Inc. - Camp Verde, AZ
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George Dixon edits a blacksmithing publication called "**The Artist-Blacksmith Quarterly**". For \$28 you will get four issues of how-to information. Contact him at 1229 Bee Tree Lake Road, Swannanoa, NC 28778.

The Upper Midwest Blacksmiths Assoc (**UMBA**) **video library.** An index list can be viewed at www.umbaonline.org
They are VHS or DVD-R Cost is \$5 each with \$2 per order shipping There is no return date, you keep the video for this price. All videos are made at group demos, no commercial titles.

Blacksmithing E-books on CD

Now eight titles are available on CD, \$4/each, or all eight books, \$24 postpaid. More books are in production and will be available soon- order on-line at www.blacksmithingebooks.com, or check/MO to Brian Gilbert, 3404 Hartford Dr., Chattanooga, TN 37415.

Ray Clontz Tire Hammer Plans by Clay Spencer

Price is \$30US including postage to US and Canada, \$32US to other countries. Send check or money order 73 Penniston Private Drive, Somerville, AL 35670, Also, lead workshops for chapters or groups to build 15 to 20 hammers. phone 256 498-1498, cell is 256 558 3658, email is clay@tirehammer.com

New England School of Metalwork

www.newenglandschoolofmetalwork.com
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Blacksmithing classes, Arrowhead Forge, Buffalo, Wyoming.
David W. Osmundsen 47 N. Lobban, Buffalo, WY. 82834
www.arrowhead-forge.com

Products

Heavy duty **Frying Pan Blanks:** Steel, approximately 9 inch in diameter with 2 inch sides. 12 gauge (2.5 lb.) or 14 gauge (1.75 lb.) thickness. Contact: Bob Tuftee, 3855 Aspen Hills Dr., Bettendorf, IA 52722; bobforge@hotmail.com; (563) 332-4800.

The **Ozark School of Blacksmithing** carries a complete line of punches, drifts, tongs, shears, belt grinders and gas forges. We are also importing the Sayha air hammer from Turkey. For more info on the tools contact us at Phone (573) 438-4725. Fax (573) 438-8483.

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SOFA fire pots are once again available. For information contact Bob Cruishank, 1495 W. Possum Rd., Springfield, OH. 45506 Phone: (937) 323-1300 or www.creativeironforge.com or www.sofablacksmiths.com

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Wanted:

The Boy scouts of Sedalia are looking for a demonstration on Saturday the 28th of March. They are looking for Demo's mostly in the morning as I understand it, but to be sure if you are interested, please talk to Dale Hogan directly 660-826-5113.

The Missouri Dept of Conservation is having an outdoor expo July 25 at Busch Wildlife area. They are looking for participants and allow demonstrations. It might be a neat place to setup a demo on behalf of BAM. I am open during that time period but if anyone is interested, they can contact me. I have the registration form. There will be no sales allowed but as a benefit to BAM it might be a good deal, as well as maybe making some contacts or taking some orders while you are there. If you are interested, please contact me and we can get something setup.
Ken Jansen

The **MTS Program** needs one more **four inch post vice**. Donations welcomed. We have decided to mount the vices on stands designed for pipe vices. If you have a pipe vice stand you can

spare, the MTS program can use it. Please contact: Don Birdsall 573-364-7223 email donbirdsall@embarqmail.com

Demonstrator List

Fred Weisenborn has started a list of members available for demonstrations, fairs, historic events, and festivals, etc.
417-589-2497 e-mail: jweisenb@llion.org

Around the Anvil BAM has it's very own E-Mail news group. If you would like to participate send an E-Mail to Ed Harper at aramed@grm.net and he will get you signed up.

Boy Scout Camp 2009

The dates for the Camp Hahn Boy Scout Merit Badge training is: June 14th though July 11th, 2009. This is a four week period of time.

We need volunteers to help teach the blacksmith option for the Metal working Merit Badge to the Boy Scouts attending summer camp.

The camp and our training runs for the full four weeks, we need volunteers that can stay with us for one week at a time, you do not have to spend the whole four weeks unless you want to.

The training is from Monday morning though Friday morning. If you arrive before 6 pm on Sunday, you can have supper in the lodge or before 8 am Monday morning you can eat breakfast in the lodge. Three meals a day are furnished in the air conditioned lodge.

Hot showers and clean restrooms are located next to our training area.

There will be room for two trailers or campers at the lodge every week. If you want to stay in a tent or the bed of a pickup truck etc., you can stay on the training site.

For more information please contact me:
Don Birdsall
573-364-7223
donbirdsall@embarqmail.com

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1. Bob Alexander (636) 586-6938
14009 Hardin Rd,
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5. Jeff Willard, (417) 742-2572
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2. Ken Jansen, (636) 366-4353
2257 Charter Rd.,
Moscow Mill, MO. 63362

6. Denis Yates, (573) 286-5316
343 Lamp Dr.
Sunrise Beach, MO. 65079

3. Doug Clemons, (660) 595-2257
RR1 Box 124,
Malta Bend, MO. 65339

7. Joe Hurley (660) 379-2365
Rt1 Box 50
Downing, MO. 63536

4. Jerry Rehagen, (573) 744-5454
390 Bozina Valley Trail,
Freeburg, MO. 65035

8 Paul Lankford, 573-473-7082
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A. Non BAM coal. \$15.00 per 50#s. The coal is located in Camden Point, Mo. I can be reached at 816-992-3352
Thanks, Vernon Adkins, adkinsfarms@gmail.com

B. Non BAM coal \$.40/lb check \$.35/lb cash bring your own containers. Tim Johnson Springfield, MO 417-886-8032

Upcoming Events

April 1 - Application deadline for May Scholarship awards
April 18,19 - New Salem hammer-in, Springfield, Ill
April 22 - Submission deadline for "Iron: Twenty Ten" International Juried Exhibition
April 23-26, 2009 CBA Spring Conference April 23-26, 2009 Contact Lowell Chaput at lowell@sonic.net
April 30 - May - 3 **BAM Ozark conference**, Sedalia, MO
May 30 - Newsletter Submission Deadline
May 30 - BAM meeting Ham's Prairie, MO Ned Digh (573)-642-9502 Trade item: Yard ornament
June 13, 14 - MTS workshop, Festival Of Fire, New Haven, MO David Smith 573-659-5601 (see page 20)
June 14 - July11 - Boy Scout Camp, Metal working merit badge classes (see page 25)
June 27-28 Knife Hammer-in/ Knife show Branson, MO Gary Mulkey, gary@mulkeyknives.com (see pg 21)
July 1 - Application deadline for August Scholarship awards.
July 11- BAM Meeting Bob Ehrenberger, Shelbyville, MO. (573)-633-2010 Trade Item - Pair of tongs
July 17-19 - Upper Midwest Regional Blacksmith Conference (see page 20)
September 12 - BAM meeting, Matthew Burnett, Cameron, MO (816-575-2798) Trade Item TBD
October 1 - Application deadline for November Scholarship awards.
November 7 - BAM meeting Bob Evans Liberty, MO 816.781.5717 Trade Item - bank line fishing pole holder
January 1 - Application deadline for February Scholarship awards.
January, 2010 - BAM meeting, TBD
March 27, 2010- BAM meeting, Boy Scout Camp

Note: For all MTS (Mobile Training Station) classes, contact Don Birdsall for information (573)-364-7223

New Members

If you have a new member near you, welcome him to the group and show him the ropes.

Berry, Robbie Hc 89 Box 548 Winona, MO 65588	Fleming, John 218 S.E. 2 Hwy Leeton, MO 64761 davidianafleming@embarqmail.com 660-653-4697	Lemmon, Bob 21617 Chestnut Ridge Road Farmington, MO 63640 bnelemmon@peoplepc.com 573-756-3226	Reichardt, Kenny 10687 Daugherty Lane Richwoods, MO 63071 impeglegpete@hotmail.com 573-678-2285	Takac, Adam 14446 Hwy B Richmond, MO 64085 homeschoolkid1@yahoo.com 816-776-5945
Carter, Jonathan RR 2 Box 56 Drexel, MO 64742 brightbld@hotmail.com 660-232-1926	Ford, Brad 3815 Evergreen Lane Columbia, MO 65201-6508 bradjford75@gmail.com 573-528-3091	Lynch, Steven 18942 Business 13 - Suite F Box 313 Branson West, MO 65737 stevenlynch45@yahoo.com 417-321-3830	Roots, Rod 4644 Pogue Drive House Springs, MO 63051 636-677-8643	Vail, Gary P.O. Box 30 Winona, MO 65588
Cocker, Don Rt. 2, Box 2404 Birch Tree, MO 65438	Gilreath, Tom 712 LeManns Drive Manchester, MO 63021 tgilreath34@yahoo.com 636-227-1110	Marshall, Willis & George 8809 County Road No. 431 New Bloomfield, MO 65063 pozner@ktis.net 573-295-6279	Schwien, Ben 2329 State Road 17 Mountain View, MO 65548 417-934-0285	Verdery, Scott 3672 Leawood Way Fayetteville, AR 72703-4827 sverdery@hotmail.com 479-582-3844
Conaway, Michael P.O. Box 1934 Rolla, MO 65402 573-205-8037	Grimmit, Greg 40270 Jingo Road LaCyne, KS 66040 ggrimm01@gmail.com 913-568-8213	Reed, Dennis 3694 Hwy B Berger, MO 63014 darbarfarm@hotmail.com 573-834-2110	Shacklett, Tammy HC 1 Box 176 Eminence, MO 65466-9714	Weese, David 5404 SE Harris Road Cameron, MO 64429 daweeese@centurytel.net 816-632-2204
Eikerman, Steven RR 8, Box 4918 Doniphan, MO 63935 eikerman@wingstream.net 573-996-4699	Jumper, James 602 NE Carolina Street Walnut Ridge, AR 72476 jumpers@suddenlink.net 870-886-2309	Streit, Marshall 1170 SW State Road 2 Holden, MO 64040 816-732-6090	Yates, Mike P.O. Box 365 Salem, AR 72576 870-895-5140	

BAM

2212 Aileswick Dr.,
St. Louis, MO 63129

Please send changes to Bruce Herzog, 2212 Aileswick Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129 or e-mail to bjherzog@msn.com

Next Meeting: May 30 Ned Digh - Ham's Prairie, MO.

