

RAM

MAY-JUNE 2010



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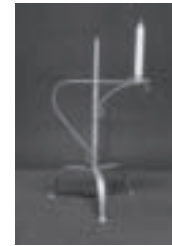
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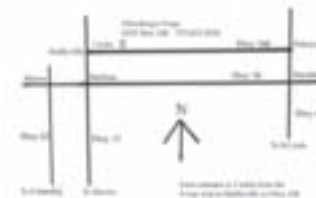
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**Newsletter of the
Blacksmiths
Association
of Missouri**

Volume 27 No. 3
MAY-JUNE 2010

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MAY-JUNE 2010

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

BAM's Ozark Conference was a great time and a great opportunity to pick up some new skills. Our attendance was down a little. Those of you that didn't come really missed out. For the first time, I came as a volunteer. My assigned job was to be the site captain for Doug Merkel. Doug was extremely easy to work with. I contacted him early on to get his requirements, and checked in with him at the conference. Doug drove his RV so there was no transportation or lodging, and he brought his friend, Vanna, to assist him with his demonstration so I didn't even have to tend his fire or strike. Doug also brought a handout that included 3 of the 5 demonstrations that he did. I will include them if I have room, if not look for them in the next newsletter. When Joe said that they were going to start the setup at 8:00 Thursday morning he really meant it. I got there around 11:00 and they were almost done, just moving the heavy stuff around with the fork lift.

I managed to take 2nd place in the forging contest. Initially, I chose the Nathan Robertson hammer as my prize, but after thinking about it, decided I would like a John Murray hammer, because I barely know Nathan. Mike Lanham, the third place winner, was kind enough to trade with me.

Scott Woods wanted me to give a special thanks to Wheeler Metals (1-800-256-5865 www.wheelermetals.com) who gave him a nice discount on the steel for our demonstrations. I would like to thank Scott for hauling it and footing the bill to boot. Scott also brought a nice supply of reject sucker rod to sell to BAM members.

Iwould like to thank all of you that indulged me showing off pictures of my grandchildren, and those that inquired about Daniel's health. Baby Jesse is doing fine, after a rough start. Daniel is also fine, he has recovered from his surgeries and there is no sign of the cancer.

On a sadder note, it was reported that, BAM member, Tim Underwood died the week before conference. Before he started having health issues Tim had been very active in BAM. He always helped



*Forging contest winners
I'm the old guy in the middle*

with the auction, and I knew that if I put something in the auction that was made of damascus, Tim would run the price up. I would love to see his collection of items that he bought over the years. I had a special connection to Tim, since he was the one that introduced Daniel and I to blacksmithing and BAM. We watched him demonstrate for three days at the Lincoln County Thresher's Reunion at Elsberry, MO. He told me later that that weekend was really hard on him physically. I think that it was one of the last public demonstrations that he did.

This newsletter may not make it to you before Ned's meeting June 12th, that's why we put directions to his shop in the last news-

letter. If you do get this in time, let this be a reminder to attend and bring a trade item (Ulu or veggie chopper) and some canned food for the food bank.

I'm busy making plans for my meeting, July 10th. I don't have a demonstrator lined up yet, but I have a couple ideas. We have plenty of room for campers, no hook-ups. If it is wet and you are bringing a large RV call first to make sure that my fields aren't a muddy mess. I picked a chain for the trade item because we haven't had it for a really long time, I think it was a Walt's meeting back in the late 90's. As I recall, there was quite a variety of chain types, not all of them forge welded. I would ask that you try to make at least a foot of chain, that would only be 3 or 4 links. Making chain is a good way to practice, or learn, forge welding. When I watched that first demonstration by Tim Underwood, he said that he was building

a log chain for his dad and made three links for it every time he demonstrated. I'll bet that chain is pretty special to his family now.

There was a request for a coal captain in the North West section of the state. If you are interested, please contact Bob Alexander.

David Smith gave me a flier for the Festival of Fire in New Haven, MO. They have moved it from June to November 6th, so they may have traded a hot weekend for a cold one. This conflicts with the BAM meeting in Liberty, but may be an alternative for some that live on the East side of the state.

The next Newsletter submission deadline is July 17th.

BAM BUSINESS MEETING – 2010 CONFERENCE

Secretary minutes by Don Anders

ABANA Iron in the Hat tickets on sale at BAM conference.

Forging contest prizes are 3 hand made hammers made by John Murray, Doug Merkel, and Nathaniel Robinson.

BAM Missouri State Fair – Kent Harbit has tickets and info.

Boy Scout Camp Hon needs volunteers, contact Dennis Yates or Peggy Williamson.

Thanks to all that made the 2010 conference possible, demonstrators, vendors, and all BAM volunteers. Special thanks to Joe Hurley for chairing the conference committee. Joe will co-chair the next conference but needs a partner; he cannot do it alone next year.

Thanks to Bob Ehrenberger and Bruce Herzog for their efforts all year. Thanks also to Ed Harper for keeping the BAM web site up to date.

Thanks to all that donated to the auction, the raffle and iron in the hat programs.

Treasurer's report will be given at the June meeting, BAM membership holding at 550.

MTS committee needed, needed 3 people to oversee the MTS program. Several people have volunteered to move the trailer, but please add your name to the list if you have a heavy pickup and have time to assist.

Coal prices have been lowered to \$13 per bag at coal captain site. Coal prices will vary per the coal price at the time that a load is purchased by BAM. We could use additional coal captains at some areas around the state, please contact Bob Alexander if you are interested. Coal captains need a place to store the coal and a way to pick up the coal.

If you are interested in a treadle hammer or spare-tire hammer workshop, please email Ken Jansen.

There are many blacksmith activities coming up around the state, please visit the BAM website to keep up.

On a somber note long time BAM member Tim Underwood passed away last week.

Meeting adjourned.

PS I am sorry I don't have a list of the winners of the various activities during the conference. 10 people won the attendance prize of a 4 hour Sunday morning class with Clay Spencer. 3 people won hammers at the hand forging contest. Phil Cox and Sid Suedmeier hosted a power-hammer contest on the Little Giant power hammer with prizes awarded. There were winners on the Dailey Iron in the hat drawing. The raffle had an Ozark pattern anvil, a Grizzly belt grinder, 3 tool boxes made by Ned Digh filled with donated tools of all types.

Yours truly did come home with a pickup full of tail-gate items that Karen and I could not pass up, and a new Ozark pattern anvil. I am still in shock as I look at the anvil sitting in the middle of my shop.

Power hammer contest results,

1st Kevin Brinker, 2nd Allen Lee, 3rd Ken Jansen, 4th Bill Moffett, 5th Chis Owen, 6th Andy Dohner

Hand forging contest results,

1st place, Bill Moffett - Doug Merkel hammer, 2nd place, Bob Ehrenberger - John Murray hammer, 3rd place, Mike Lanham. - Nathaniel Robinson hammer.

Raffle winners,

Tool box #1 - Scott Stager
Tool Box #2,
Tool Box #3 - Scott Woods
Grinder,
Anvil - Don Anders

Letter from the president;

Well another conference come and gone. Despite attendance being down, I think it went pretty well. We had a lot of empty space in the building as some of our normal tailgaters and a vendor or two did not show up this year. I think attendance was down due to the economy most of all, I think we had a good group of demonstrators and some neat stuff was demonstrated.

Our auction went pretty well even with the low turnout of people. I want to personally thank all of those that spent their hard earned money at the auction and on the raffle items in support of BAM and the conference.

I need to say a huge thank you to all the vendors and members who donated items to the raffle and to the auction.

I don't have the final numbers so they will have to wait until we hear the returns to see what we need to change for next year.

We are already looking to start the conference committee for next year and we need a committee chairman to take over for Joe who did it this year. His work situation will not allow him to do it again but he said he would co-chair to help the new chairman out. I want to thank Joe for a job well done. The conference went off without a hitch as far as I know, the normal small issues that aren't worth talking about and the rest went well.

We are considering some changes to the conference for next year to try and reduce the cost of the event, how deeply we change will depend on how the money situation turns out from this year.

It is important to understand something that Bruce I think brought up at the business meeting Friday evening, and that is that we don't collect enough from our dues to more than cover the cost of the newsletter. The conference is how we make the money to do the things we do throughout the year. The conference auction in particular, along with the raffle is how we make the spending money to put on the conference and to run the MTS and cover the cost of trailer licenses, insurance and the many other items we need to spend money on throughout the year. We are an all volunteer association so to keep on enjoying the things we do we need to volunteer our time and money (by overpaying for items at the auction, and buying all those losing raffle tickets) that help keep us going.

A big thanks to all the conference volunteers and those who just gave us a hand when needed this year. I would like to

ask for feed back on the conference again this year. What do we need to change what didn't work etc? You can either send it to me directly (kjjansen@msn.com) or there will be a link on the website to send it to. We are always looking to improve it in ways the membership would like.

Apparently there were no volunteers to take over any of the board positions this year. So you are stuck with me for another year, and all of the existing positions stay the same.

The ABANA conference is coming up and BAM is providing heavy setup support in the flavor of Pat McCarty who has helped with numerous ABANA conferences in the past. We are also lending the use of the MTS trailer for the event, John Huff will be hauling it down there. I think this will be a good conference for Blacksmithing in general, and a positive change from past conferences.

The spring Renaissance Faire is coming up this month and I am about half ready as usual. I need more inventory as usual. I do have everything gathered I believe to take to the site and setup. I want to suggest that all of you who have an opportunity get out there and visit these events, see them demonstrate at them and get out in the public eye. The more people see of these events and what we do the more in demand we will become. Besides, it is a heck of a lot of fun.

We have an MTS committee now to help run the program. The members are Don Nichols, Dennis Yates, Chris Miller, and Bob Alexander. These guys will be responsible for directing the MTS program and making the decisions as to what it will do and how it will do it. They may or may not do the instruction themselves but will work to coordinate it happening. We still need to have people who will volunteer to move the trailer as necessary I think we are covered for the near future events. If you are interested in helping, let the committee know and what you can do either move it or instruct or even help at a teaching event.

Well I have blathered as much as I can right now I am sure there is more I should be saying but I don't know what it is. I am sure there are people I need to thank for things and such and please know I appreciate all of the things that all of you do but forgot to thank you for. We have a GREAT organization and it continually amazes me at the things people do to help out.

That is all I have for now.
Happy forging.

Ken Jansen

Doug Merkel

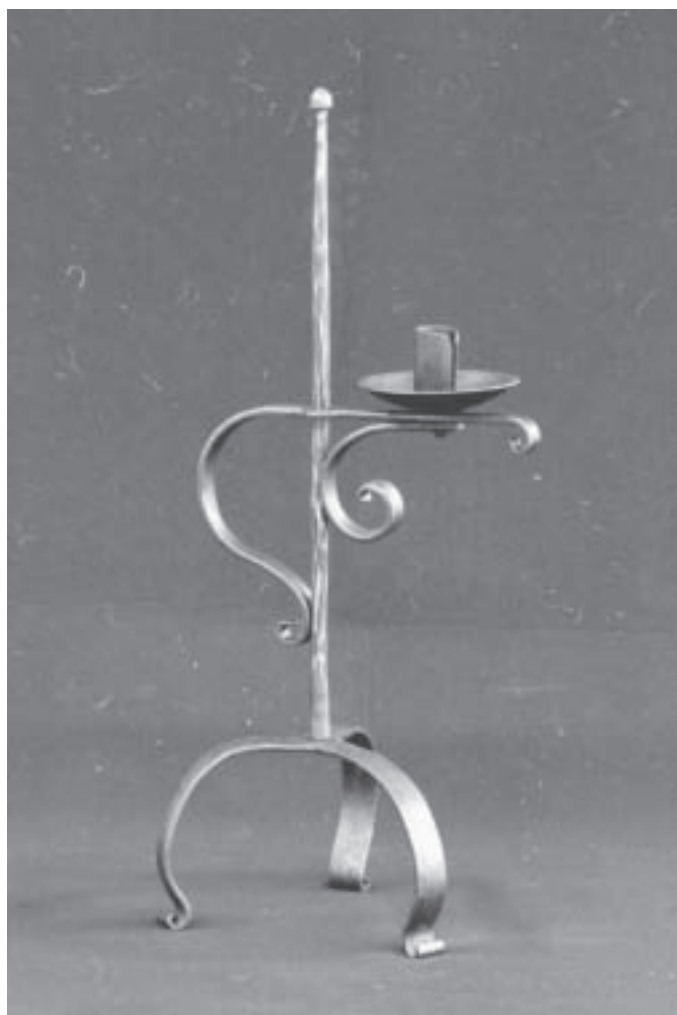
Doug came ready to work, he not only had examples of his finished products, he had duplicates of most of the components. This allowed him to move quickly between projects, some of the time using the components that he just made and sometimes using the ones that he brought. He also brought his own assistant along to help. Doug made a split cross, a colonial style candle holder, a splinter holder, a rush holder, and a saw tooth tram-mel.



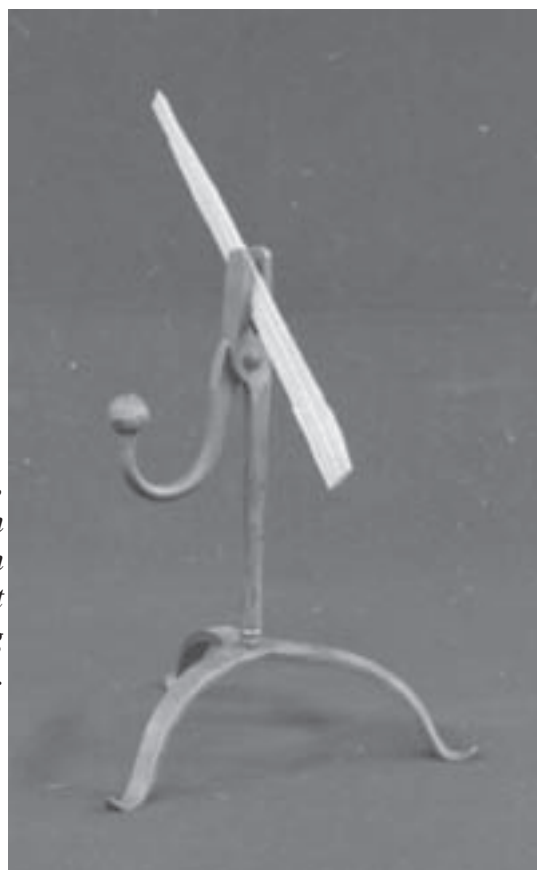
*Doug with assis-
tant, Vanna*



Shaping handle for candle holder.



*Left, Colonial
style candle
holder.*



*Right,
Rush
holder with
ball weight
and 3 leg
base.*

Doug Merkel



Above, Rush holder with candle holder weight and wooden base.

Below, setting rush holder in base.



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Below, Doug's riveting tools. He talked about getting the tool right. If it is too shallow you get a flash around the finished head. If the tool is too deep it won't pull the rivet up tight. It is best to error on the shallow side.



Right, splinter holder.



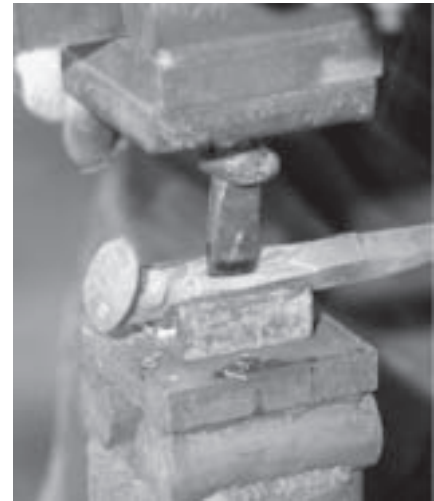
Above, Parts to Saw Tooth Trammel.

Clay Spencer

I didn't get to watch Clay because I was assigned to assist Doug, even though he didn't need much help.

From the pictures that Bruce took, it looked like he was pretty busy, using both the treadle hammer and the tire hammer.

Clay does most of the work on his wizard heads using the treadle hammer. The top half of this page shows how he does part of it. This wizard became the TP holder that went into the auction.



Left, Forging cut off hardie using his tire hammer.



Right, Finished Cut off Hardie.

Clay Spencer

Makes a power hammer flatter.



First you need to make a swage tool. This is done by sinking a round bar into a large block of hot steel.



Right, Finished swage tool.

Once the swage is made and cooled, you use it to make the flatter. The steel that will become the flatter is sunk into the swage. He started with it on the diamond to get it deep into the swage.



The steel starts to take shape.



The flatter is pretty much done.



Andrew Dohner

By Bob Ehrenberger

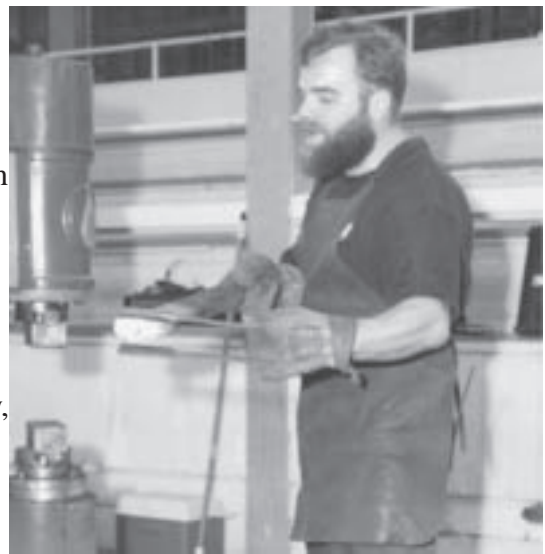
Andrew is fairly new to blacksmithing, as things go. He was working as a production welder when about 6 years ago he got exposed to blacksmithing. Fascinated by moving hot steel he went on kind of a modern day journeyman's quest, spending up to 6 months at a time sleeping on couches and working for next to nothing in various blacksmith shops, just to get the experience. He makes his home in Pennsylvania where he is trying to create kind of a homestead, a combination of living off the land and working as an artist blacksmith.

For his first demonstration he did a mortise and tenon joint on 1" x 3" bars, the hard way. He started the tenon using a hand held spring side set. It is important that your side set have less than a 90 deg angle, you have to work with the tool to fine tune it, if the angle is to large it will tend to work it's way into the main bar, if it is too tight it will tend to work out, requiring a lot of clean up.

Once the material for the tenon is isolated, it is drawn out square on the flat dies of the hammer. Andrew said that it is best to push the material into the hammer dies to keep the surfaces parallel. If you pull the material while forging you will tend to taper it. When it is the right size you can round it up by knocking the corners down, again under the power hammer.

When it is about the right size and sort of round, you finish it up with a spring swage.

After the tenon is done, he puts it into the vice to clean up the shoulder. He heats the shoulder area with a torch to keep from over heating the tenon. With a monkey tool and a sledge hammer he squares up the shoulder. It took two heats in his demonstration, this will vary, depending on how good of a job you did forging the tenon.



Andrew Dohner cont...

Slitting the bar for the mortise takes a lot of patience. Make sure that there is a good clean mark on both sides. On the first heat you are just trying to make sure the slit is straight and centered, a little extra care at this point will save you a lot of grief later. Andrew's slitting tool has a handle welded to it at a 45 deg angle so he can see to line it up and his holding hand is not on top of the hot bar.

BAM's George Rousis struck for Andrew, typically there were three hits on each side for each heat. The first was real light to get the tool seated, the second a little harder, and the third with some real force. The tool is removed, cooled, and then three more hits on the other side of the bar. This is repeated a couple times on each heat, while the good color lasts. Each time he put the slitting tool into the bar he checked to make sure it was going in straight, angled blows can be used to straighten it out early on.

Once the hole matches up from the two sides, you need to run a drift through to clean up the hole and make it uniform. It is important to get the drift far enough through the first time, so it can be knocked out from the other side. The hole is drifted from both sides until you can get it all the way through. If your drift is the exact size of the tenon, you need to keep driving it through as the bar cools to make sure the hole is big enough. If your drift is slightly oversized, once you get it through, you can call it quits, and the hole will be the right size when the bar cools.

When setting the tenon, Andrew again heated it with the torch. The bar is set over the tenon and tightened up with the monkey tool. The general rule is that the tenon should stick through 1 1/2 times it's diameter, so if you have a 1/2" tenon leave it 3/4" long. If your fit is a little loose, you can leave it a little longer because the tenon will upset in the hole as it tightens up. Andrew made his rivet setting tool by driving the tool onto the head of a factory rivet of the size he



wanted, it was hard to get it perfectly straight, so after the depression was made, he ground around the end to center it up.



Note: Andrew's stuff didn't make it into the auction, so it will go in the Iron in the Hat at my meeting in July.

MTS Class



BAM Box



*Lou Mueller and
Clay Spencer*

Al Dippold

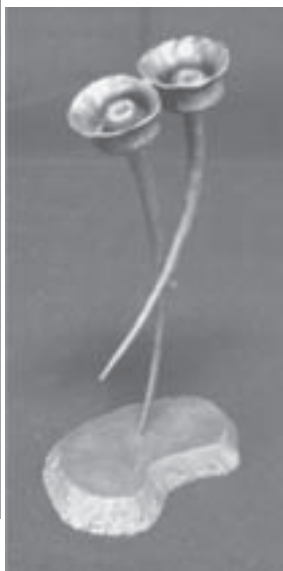
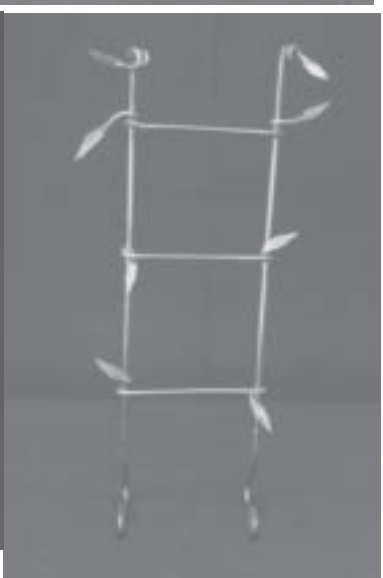
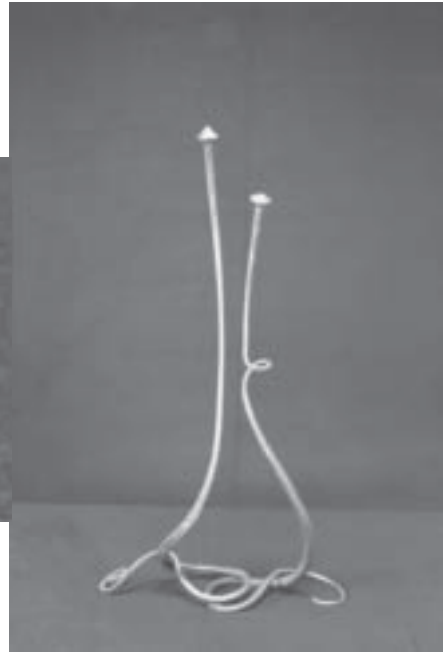
Al was our knife maker this year. Sorry to say I didn't get over to see any of his demonstration. I did talk to him between sessions and he showed me his home built engraver's vice. It tilts in two directions and rotates, it really makes detail work a lot easier.



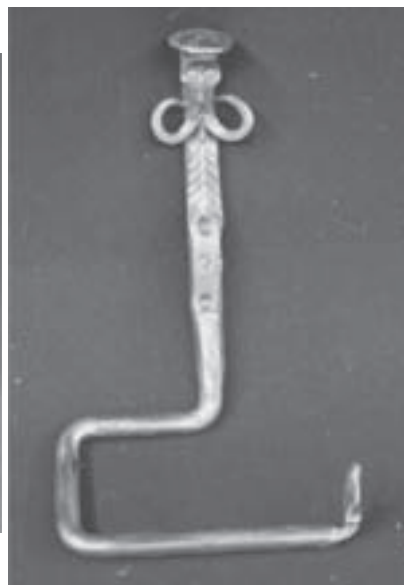
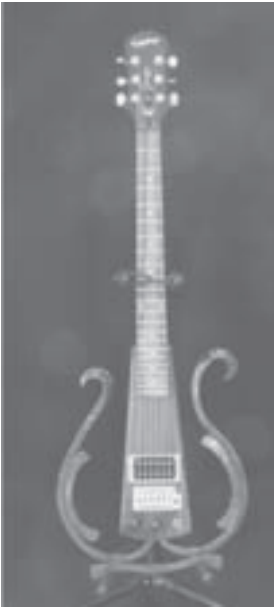
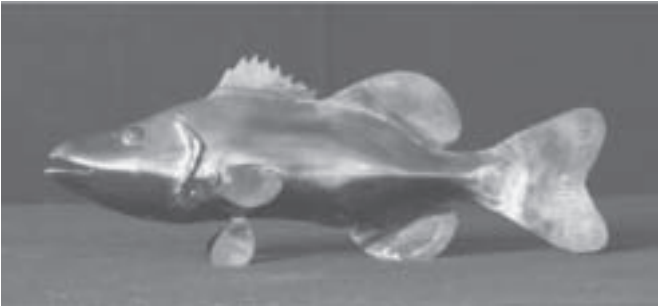
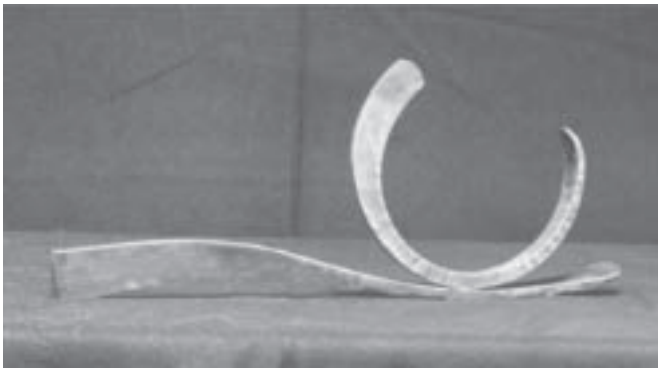
Conference Craft Activity



BAM Gallery



BAM Gallery



Life Member, Bruce Herzog

By Bob Ehrenberger

Bruce got into blacksmithing by way of his love of old tools. He started with Eric Sloane's book on tools and then the Winger books on making and fixing tools.

In 1976 he heard about the ABANA conference in Carbondale and had to go. That was the first time he saw a power hammer in action. He was impressed when Slim Sperling made a pair of tongs in one heat. There aren't many that could do that now.

He found BAM in the late 80's when we had a meeting in Edwardsville.

Bruce got an old rivet forge and a broken anvil and started working on stuff at home. He never had a desire to get into the commercial side of blacksmithing, but when he has a chance, he likes to make things for his home, garden, and to give as gifts. Bruce likes to make trade items when he has time.

Bruce said that Tom Clark's enthusiasm got him involved in BAM. He has been a BAM officer for quite a while, and has served in several different positions. He was the Librarian for several years. He ran the '98 and '99 Ozark conferences. He has been Treasurer since about 2000. Bruce has also organized 2 gas forge workshops and a treadle hammer workshop. Bruce was also a key player in the Czech anvil buy and was involved in setting up the MTS program. As Treasurer, he watches BAM's money very close and maintains the BAM membership roll.

His regular job as an industrial engineer for Sunnen Products keeps him pretty busy, but he finds time to make it to most BAM meetings, he lends a helping hand at most workshops even the ones that he didn't organize.

Bruce's service to blacksmithing is not limited to BAM as he has been a volunteer at several ABANA conferences. He worked the '94 conference in St. Louis, also New York, Ashley, Flagstaff, and LaCrosse.

Bruce's other great passion is photography, which he has been doing for over 40 years. If you have seen his display at conference, you know that he is a real artist in the way he captures iron work, and blacksmiths at work. I count heavily on pictures from Bruce to cover our conference every year. He not only has pictures that are superior to anything that I could do, knowing that Bruce is taking pictures frees me up to watch the demonstrations and take better notes. Thanks again for all that you do, BAM would not be the organization that it is without you.



Life Member, Bob Alexander

By Bob Ehrenberger

When Bob was nominated for life membership last year and the Founder's Award this year, it was no surprise to those of us that know him. He has been an active member of BAM for almost 20 years.

Bob started out as a carpenter, this led to a love of tools and an interest in collecting antique tools. Since Bob used the old tools he collected, he had a desire to fix the ones that needed repair. This led him to get into blacksmithing, seeing it as the best way to fix some of the tools. He met Tom Clark at an auction where they were both bidding on blacksmith equipment. Tom invited him to his shop for his monthly hammer-in, where Bob became a regular. Bob said that many times he would be the only one there besides Tom.

Shortly after joining BAM, he got a BAM scholarship to attend a Clay Spencer class at J.C. Campbell. He has gone back every year since. Now Bob goes to Campbell an average of 7 times a year, either as an instructor or as an assistant. Bob says that the person that has influenced his style the most is Jerry Darnell, whom he took several classes from and now assists.

Doug Hendrickson also had a big influence on Bob, he was honored to be asked by Doug to help him finish up several of his last projects after he got sick. They worked together in Doug's shop where Doug came up with the ideas and Bob became his hands to bring them to life. Bob served and still serves a similar role at the Ozark School of Blacksmithing where he helped Tom get power hammers and blacksmith tools ready to sell. He then helped Thelma put together the auction of the schools assets, and continues to help with what's left of the business, mainly the power hammers, hand hammers and Ozark pattern anvils.

Bob served as BAM's president in the late 90's and early 2000's. Bob built the coal bunker next to his shop and has been the primary coal depot for BAM coal for 10 years. The coal is delivered to Bob in bulk and then Bob bags it up to be distributed around the state.

Bob has either led or assisted in several treadle hammer and spare tire hammer workshops. He bought the jigs and spare parts from Clay Spencer a few years ago and is now the primary person running treadle hammer workshops around the country.

Bob only does one festival each year, Meramec Springs. He also does ten school demonstrations each year. He says that he has never had to advertise his blacksmith business, enough commission work comes to his shop that he is always one to two months behind.



*John Murray presents
Bob with the 2010
Founder's Award*

Scholarship Report

By Mark Clifford

BAM awarded me a scholarship to attend the John C Campbell Folk School in Brasstown N.C. A very special thank you to those involved for helping make this possible.

The class was traditional chest & hardware, weekend and week long. Friday night, Saturday & Sunday I was in the woodworking shop building a chest, better known as the BAM BOX. A beautiful rounded top wooden box, with dove tail cut corners & with the hand forged hardware it is truly something that I am very proud of. The chest will be a wedding gift for my daughter this July, provided I can get it away from my wife.

The instructors in this class were Pat McCarty & Bob Alexander. I can't say enough good about these two.

They are both truly skilled craftsmen in woodworking & in blacksmithing, very helpful & knowledgeable with all my questions. They definitely have my vote for teachers of the year, absolutely awesome.

Check in time was at 3:00 P.M. Friday. After supper we went to the woodworking shop.

Class began & worked late into the night. Each day we started early & worked late. By Sunday afternoon everybody had a box made.

Monday morning we were in the blacksmith shop. The new shop is amazing, not completed yet, but still a site to see. We started with making hinges. Deciding what design to put on our hinges was another chore. There are so many designs & shapes. I decided on making one design on the front and another on the back. We started with 1 1/2" x 1/8" flat stock, rounding one end then drawing it out to a spear shape. Just behind the spear is fullered down to 1/2" then tapered back to

the other end to the original size 1 1/2". On this end we made the barrel part of the hinge. Starting off by tapering the edge before the roll. This allows material to roll up tight. The barrel roll is off the side & face of the anvil. Soft blows are needed to make the roll even. After the roll is complete, 1/4" rd. about 6" long is used for a drift pin to better round up the material. The rolled end is divided into 3 equal pieces. With a hack saw cut out center piece & remove on one side of the hinge, on the other side cut out the 2 outside pieces. File and sand to clean up the rough edges. Both pieces will now go together. A 1/4" rivet is made from 1/4"



rd. using a rivet swage, it is heated with a torch and hammered together.



Next were the handles on the sides. The backing plate that I made is in a heart shape approx. 5" x 5" cut from 1/8" plate. For the handles we started with 3/4" rd. x 6" long. The center part was made by using a spring dye, making a baluster shape, then using a 3/8" rd. spring dye draw down the ends to 3/8". All this was done on the air hammer.

The pieces were then bent and shaped for a handle. All hardware was attached with square headed lag bolts. The finish on the hardware was heated in the forge to a red color, let cool & lightly sanded with sand paper, then spray painted with clear satin lacquer.

Thanks again to all who made this possible. It was very enjoyable & rewarding. Special thanks to Pat & Bob. My advice to anyone thinking about taking a class, this is the one to take.

Mark D. Clifford.

Knife maker Hammer-in

By Bob Ehrenberger

I've been going to the Jim May Memorial Hammer-in for about 8 years and this was by far the nicest day we have ever had. The event is put on by Corbin Newcomb and Ron Duncan and held on Ron's farm. While not all the participants are BAM members, we are well represented in the knife community. Since Daniel has backed off of his knife making activities, this is the only time a see a lot of these guys.

If I had been prepared I could have actually gotten into the fire when I first got there. Unfortunately, I wasn't prepared and the forge quickly filled up with stacks of steel that were going to get turned into damascus.

As usual, there were some that were making their first billet of damascus, this is a great opportunity to learn from the best. There were also old hands that use this hammer-in to make the damascus that they will work with the rest of the year.

There were guys selling knife making supplies off of their tail gates, and others showing off their latest creations. Some of the beginners took this as a chance to get pointers from the masters on how to improve their knife making skills.

Since I didn't bring a project to work on, I spent my time drinking coffee and talking to old friends. That was fine with me, it was much too nice of a day to spend it slaving over a billet of damascus. I got an idea for a BAM auction project as I drove home. I need to write it down for next time.



Hello Affiliates!

We are so close to the conference that I can just about smell the coal smoke, hear the ringing of the anvils, and taste that Memphis style BBQ! Below are some things to keep in mind as far as the relationship between the affiliates and the conference: The Affiliate Area: This area is located in the main dome of the AgriCenter next to the vendor area. This is where you can have the space to set up and promote yourselves and sell promotional items like T-shirts, videos, etc. If you are planning on selling anything you MUST have the proper forms filled out for state sales tax purposes. Just contact the Central Office for more details! This 10ft. x10ft. space is provided to you free of charge because the affiliates are so important to our organization, all you need is a paying attendee of the conference and your affiliate to be in charge of the table! If you need tables, chairs, and/or electricity they can all be rented from the AgriCenter. This is also perfect to hang your banners and flags!!! Contact the Central Office to get your space today!!!

Affiliate Sessions at the Conference:

1. Representatives from the Affiliates will have the opportunity to meet with the full Board to express their concerns, ideas, etc. This will be a great chance to have your concerns voiced, and ask questions that you may want answered.
2. There will be an affiliate Representative Roundtable session to go over the data collected in our affiliate survey. We are hoping that finding possible solutions together will be the first step in better serving all the affiliates within ABANA. Come with your ideas and opinions!!! If you have not taken the survey then click here: <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e2rn3s78g6awiq5d/start>
3. We will also have a session set aside specifically for the editors! This will be a great time to share story ideas, techniques, and possibly begin to ponder how to better bring the use of the internet and the newsletter exchange tradition together! If you have any specific ideas, comments, or suggestions for these sessions please feel free to contact me and we can get a head start on them, and make sure they are covered when the time comes!

Other Conference Reminders:

1. The Ring Project: You still have time to get a ring made and sent in! And the rings that do not get used will be auctioned off with 50% of the money going BACK to the affiliate! Details click here: http://www.abana.org/membership/conference/Ring_Page.shtml
2. BAM Box Tools: We are still looking for tools to fill the box. If you have something for the box let us know ASAP!

Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc.
15754 Widewater Dr
Dumfries, VA 22025-1212 USA
Tel: 703.680.1632 Fax: 703.680.6222
abana@abana.org
www.abana.org

3. The Gallery: The gallery space at this year's conference is big enough to hold a lot of well made pieces...well made pieces by your affiliate! How about bringing or shipping something in? Contact Steve for more info: sslw2@aol.com

4. The Auction: We are also on the lookout for donations to the auction! This is a great opportunity to not only gain some revenue for ABANA, but to also share your work with others who can truly appreciate it! Other things to keep in mind:

1. **Bulk ABANA Memberships:** You can buy several memberships for discounted rates to give out as awards, auction items, Iron in the Hat, etc!!! Package Prices:
5 pack \$160
10 Pack \$300

2. **Upcoming Elections!** This is the time when we need you the most! Put the word out within your group to find our next ABANA Board member! Here is the time line:
June 15, 2010: Nominations deadline for candidate's statements to be published in the election issue of the Anvil's Ring.
July 1, 2010: Nominations deadline date, submitted to the ABANA Central Office, 15754 Widewater Drive, Dumfries, VA 22025-1212
September, 2010: Ballot mailing
October, 2010: Postmark deadline for completed ballots
October, 2010: Notification to elected Board members
Notifications will be made as soon as possible.
November, 2010: Board Meeting starts at the Metal Museum in Memphis. New Board members assume their duties.

See you at the conference!
Forge On!

Peyton Anderson
ABANA Affiliate Representative
peyton@abana.org
434-390-6203
6720 Military Rd.
Amelia VA 23002

BAM Toolbox Raffle 2010 Conference

I was the lucky winner of the raffle for the tool boxes at the Conference. I chose box #1 because I knew of a couple items in it that I particularly wanted.

Contents:

- Pipe handled tool box made by Ned Digh with one of his cast aluminum Blacksmith Shop signs.
- Tom Tong's – Purchased and donated by Ned and Esther Digh
 - 1 3/8 Sq/Rnd tong
 - Pickup tong
 - Long Handled Scroll tong with round tendon on one rein
 - 5/16 Farrier tong
 - 1/2" sq/rnd tong
 - 3/8" sq/rnd tong
 - large size scrolling pliers/tong
- 6" Caliper – Bob Ehrenberger hand made. I recognized the mark.
- Handled slitter – Nathan Robertson hand made. I know Nathan's mark and hammers as I have more than a couple. Now I have something else of his that is maybe not as well known as his hammers.
- Adjustable bending fork – Mike Gentsch creation.
- Bending Fork w/vice double pin for stock – Don Nichols. Can't miss the Rusty Hammer Forge mark.
- Small size scrolling pliers – manufactured with some age in nice condition. Unknown benefactor.
- 3/4" handled round top fuller. Horseshoe ATHA mark. Real hefty item.
- Hand made tall cutoff for hardy hole – Ken Jansen hand made (well probably his power hammer).
- Monkey Wrench with welded handle twisting tool. Unknown benefactor.
- Rounding hammer with stained handle – sideways M, H mark. I think by the same maker as two hammers that were in the auction. I've been told that this was by Mark Hemmer. Ok, now the cutesy comments during the auction make sense - Hemmer Hammer.
- Hand made punches – eye and center – maker unknown. Now I am going to have to make railroad spike wizard heads since I bought the Clay Spencer bathroom tissue holder in the auction. Can't get a better example than that.
- Refurbished and re-handled medium ball peen, unknown benefactor. Grapevine says that Mike Gentsch donated a couple.
- Hand forged (from drill rod?) wide chisel or narrow slot maker – edge is flat, not sharp. Maybe intended to be user sharpened to whatever desired. Unknown benefactor. I'm really curious about the intended use for this.
- Hand made long handled bending tool of some sort. Round stock flattened for a bit on the functional end and bended into a "J" shape, unknown maker. Someone enlighten me on what this is designed to do.
- Hand made coal forge rake. Nice grooves on the flats before twisting handle, and an amazing amount of usable rake space on the working end. Made by Ken Jansen and Kevin Brinker, just having fun one of the evenings at conference.
- Two Starrett reference cards.
- Non-contact Laser Thermometer – This may go into service in my kitchen. Donated by Ned and Esther Digh.

Thanks to the makers and benefactors I have identified, and to the all the makers or benefactors whose items went into the three boxes. Some may not know in which box their donations was inserted, so thanks to all who donated regardless of the box in which their donation landed (don't want to split the infinitive). If anyone would like to fess up to me on the unknown items, I would be delighted to issue a personal thank you. Special thanks to Ned and Esther Digh for putting together that particular part of the conference fund raising efforts.

--Scott Stager

Ed Note: Special thanks to Mike and Peggy Williamson who donated several hammers to this project.

Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads

Air Hammer for sale. The one Don Nichols demoed at the January meeting. \$900. I have the plans for sale at \$15 each. Don Nichols 660-826-9252

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 Markley, 7651 Cabin Creek Lane, Sparta, Ill. 62286. Phone: (618) 317-1958 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 The Bill Pieh Resource for Metalwork. Call now for more information and to enroll: (928) 554-0700 or (888) 743-4866. www.piehtoolco.com.

The Upper Midwest Blacksmiths Assoc (**UMBA**) **video library.** An index list can be viewed at www.umbasonline.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
1-888-753-7502

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** We still have the Sayha air hammers from Turkey, and Tom Clark Memorial anvils. For more info on the tools contact Bob Alexander at 636-586-5350 or order through the school web site: www.ozarkschool.com

L Brand Forge Coke now packaged in 50 pound bags, 1,000 pound bulk sacks on pallets and 2,000 pound bulk sacks on pallets. Send your zip code for a quote on price including delivery. 1-678-360-3521 or LBrandForgeCoke@aol.com.

Kayne and Son Custom Hardware, 100 Daniel Ridge Road, Candler, NC 28715. (828) 667-8868 fax (828) 665-8303, e-mail: kaynehdwe@charter.net, web site: www.blacksmithsdepot.com. Offering a full line of blacksmithing equipment. We ship and accept Visa and Mastercard.

D.L. Schwartz Co. **Blacksmith and Farrier supplies.** 2188 S. US 27, Berne, In. 46711, 1-800-955-3064

Persimmon Forge **PEDAL HAMMER** sit down treadle hammers for sale. Contact Dave or Betty Edwards by e-mail at djedwards@cableone.net, or write us at 3008 Hacienda Ct., Emporia, Ks., 66801, or call us at (620) 343-1947. For more information, go to www.persimmonforge.com and click on both "Pedal Hammer" and "Video Demo of Pedal Hammer."

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:

My name is Keith Heffelfinger past president of Southwest Artist Blacksmiths Assoc. (SWABA), I recently moved to Arkansas and am looking for some help. I have gotten myself involved with a group building a Medieval fortress (castle) in the hills down here. Ozark Medieval fortress <http://www.ozarkmedievalfortress.com/> they need to purchase a good sized **post vise**. I am hoping someone in BAM my have one they are willing to sell. I would love to hear from you. Keith Heffelfinger heffelfinger8833@msn.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.

Check out back issues of BAM newsletter on bamsite.org.



*Tim Ryan
Runs a fun auction*



*Ken Jansen presents John Murray with a
Life Membership Award*



Winners of special Clay Spencer class



Winners of the power hammer forging contest

Need Coal ?

Check on Availability

Coal Captain: Bob Alexander



1. Bob Alexander (636) 586-6938
14009 Hardin Rd,
DeSoto, MO. 63020

2. Ken Jansen, (636) 366-4353
2257 Charter Rd.,
Moscow Mill, MO. 63362

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

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

5. Jeff Willard, (417) 742-2572
P.O. Box 416,
Willard, MO. 65781

6. Joe Hurley (660) 379-2365 or 660-626-7824
Rt1 Box 50
Downing, MO. 63536

9 Paul Lankford, 573-473-7082
25849 Audrain Co. Road 820,
Mexico, MO 65265

8. Bob Maes, 573-866-3811
Rt. 1 Box 106 K
Millersville, MO. 63766

Price \$13.00 per bag BAM members, \$14.00 per bag Non-members, \$11.00 per bag at Bob Alexander's
Coal keepers earn \$3.00 a bag. NOTE: PRICE CHANGE

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

Upcoming Events

June 2-5 **ABANA** Conference Memphis, Tenn.
June 11-13 IVBA Summer Conference, Pontiac, Ill., Bud Harvey, hotironblacksmith@comcast.net
June 13 - July 10 2010 - Boy Scout Camp, Metal working merit badge classes
June 12, 2010 - BAM meeting, Ham's Prairie, MO Ned Digh (573)-642-9502 Trade item veggie chopper or ulu
June 25-27, 2010 - Indiana Blacksmith Association Conference. Tipton, IN, James Johnston 765-452-8165
July 1 - Application deadline for August Scholarship awards.
July 10, 2010- BAM Meeting, Bob Ehrenberger, Shelbyville, MO. (573)-633-2010 Trade Item Forged Chain-
July 17 - Newsletter Submission Deadline
August - Missouri State Fair Sedalia, MO contact Kent Harbit (660)-647-2349 to volunteer
August 14-15 UMBA Summer Conference, Edgerton, WI contact Joe Brannum 815-282-6799
September 18 -BAM meeting, Wayne Holder, Leon, Iowa. 641-446-6225
October 1 - Application deadline for November Scholarship awards.
November 6 - BAM meeting, Bob Evans Liberty, MO 816-781-5717
November 6 - Fire Fest 010 New Haven, MO contact David Smith 573-659-5601, email: dlssmith@fidnet.com
January 1 - Application deadline for February Scholarship awards.
January 22, 2011 BAM meeting, John Murray, New Melle, MO 636-389-4640
March 2011 BAM meeting, Fred Warner, Wheeling, MO 660-659-2406
April 1 - Application deadline for May Scholarship awards
April 29 - May 1 **BAM Ozark conference**, Sedalia, MO contact Joe Hurley at acornridge3@yahoo.com
May 2011 BAM meeting, Chris Miller, Doniphan, MO 573-996-4931
January 2012 BAM Meeting A & K Cooperage, Higbee, MO

New Members

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

Hays, Chris
814 Park Street
Monroe City, MO 63456
topher0079@sbcglobal.net
573-735-4355

Johnson, George M
16 Chapel Hill Est
St. Louis, MO 63131
eadsbridge@sbcglobal.net
314-878-2605

Kesselring, Rick
1832 SW Clay
Topeka, KS 66604
rick.kesselring@att.net
785-234-8807

Midgley, James
1518 Jones Road
Ridgedale, MO 65739

Mueller, Jeff
12951 Maurer Industrial Court
Sunset Hills, MO 63127
lou@muellerindustries.net
314-842-0796

O'Neil, Mike
705 N Walker Lane
Olathe, KS 66061
oneilm66@gmail.com
913-927-3473

Potts, Richard
8568 Ardelia Ave
St. Louis, MO 63114
314-426-4651

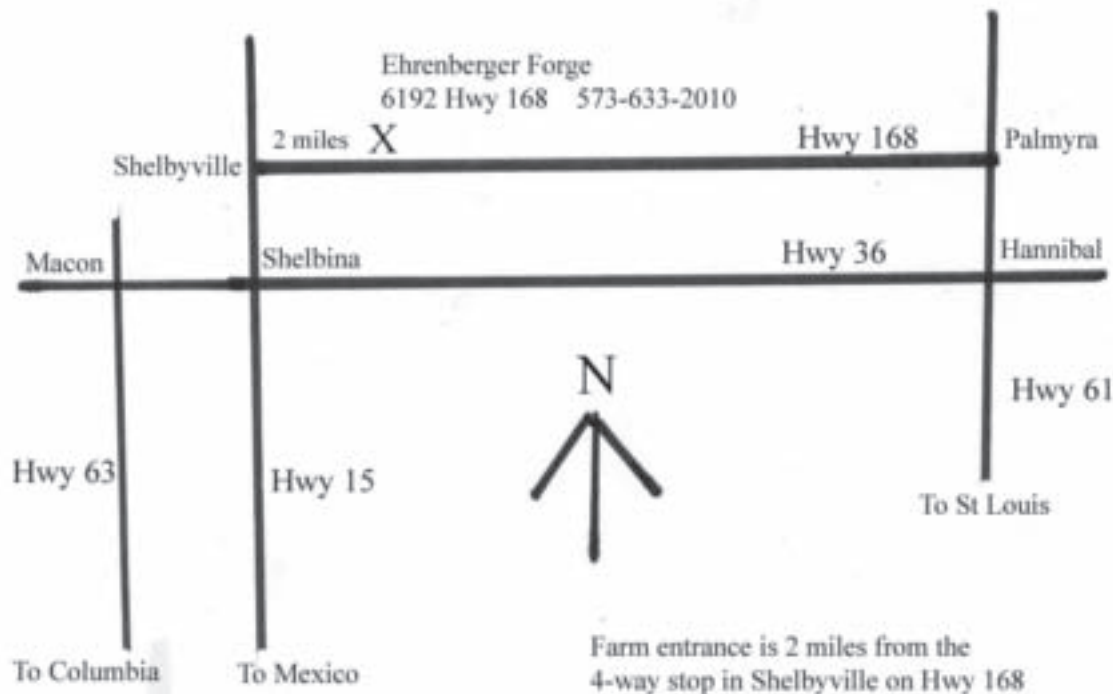
Taylor, Charles
P.O. Box 71
Harrells, NC 28444
910-532-6201

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: July 10th, Shelbyville, MO.



Camping:
Lots of space, no
hook-ups, feel free
to come early.

Location:
Ehrenberger Forge
Shelbyville, MO

Host: Bob Ehrenberger

Food: Provided.

Phone: 573-633-2010

Trade item:
Hand made chain.