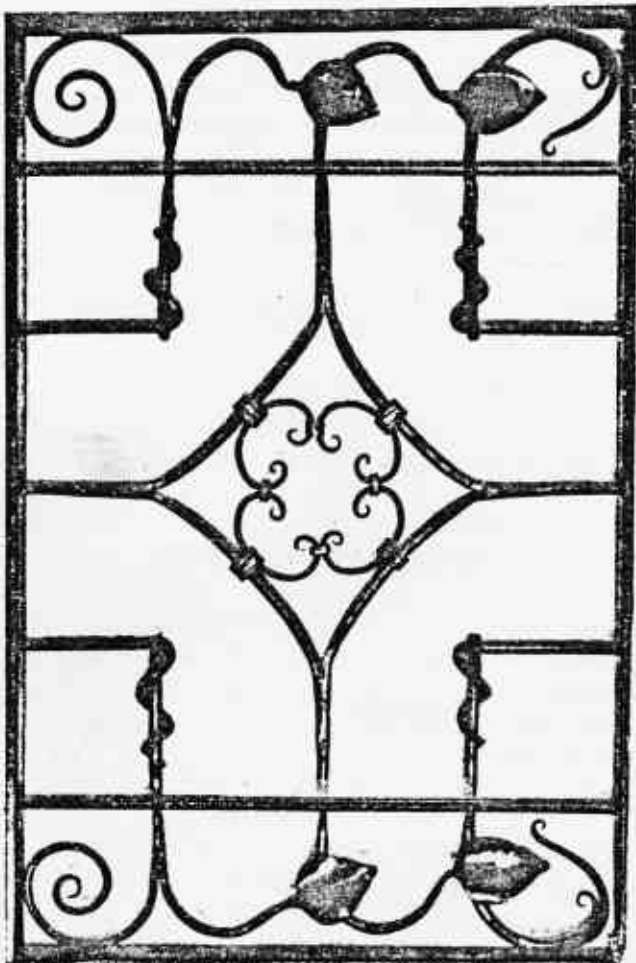


AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 1988

Newsletter ^{of the} Blacksmiths Association of Missouri



WALT HULL

The Blacksmiths' Association of Missouri is a chapter of The Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America. This organization is devoted to preservation, advancement, and communication between blacksmiths of Missouri and surrounding areas. BAM's newsletter's goal is to support these ideas. Letters to the editor, tech tips, tools for sale, or any ideas which further these ends will be considered for publication.

Occasionally some material included in this publication will be copyrighted and may not be reproduced without written consent of the author. BAM welcomes the use of any other material printed in this newsletter provided the author and this organization be given credit.

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Message from the Editor

This newsletter is yours. If you have anything to communicate to our membership this epistle is at your service. If you have tools to sell or need tools we'll print it for you. If you know of exhibitions, art fairs, sources of tools, rivets etc. let our members know through this newsletter. If you have developed a technique, form or what ever and feel it's note worthy scratch it down and send it in. Jerry will take care of illustrating your ideas, Bernie will check your spelling, and I'll do what ever it is that newsletter editors do.

Sincerely,

Doug Hendrickson
Editor

BAM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____:

Address: _____:

City: _____:

State: _____ Zip: _____:

Telephone: _____:

New Member: _____: Renewal: _____:

Dues are \$15.00 per year, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly BAM newsletter. Please make checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri.

SEND CHECKS TO: Steve Austin
44 N.E. Munger Road
Claycomo, MO 64119

ABANA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in ABANA includes a subscription to the Anvil's Ring.

Name: _____:

Address: _____:

City: _____:

State: _____ Zip: _____:

Telephone: _____:

New Member: _____: Renewal: _____:

Practicing Smith: ___: Artist: ___:

Teacher: ___: Student: ___: Amateur: ___:

- Fulltime Student - \$25.00 per year
- Regular member - \$35.00 per year
- Family Membership - \$40.00 per year
- Senior Citizen - \$25.00 per year
- Overseas Member - \$45.00 per year
- Contributory - \$100.00 per year
- Library Subscription - \$25.00 per year

Mail to: Artist-Blacksmith Association of
North America
P.O. Box 1181
Nashville, IN 47448

ABANA Museum Fund Project

At the July meeting we decided to do another screen/room divider/wall hanging with the same format as the one Stan Winkler recently sold for us. Each member who wants to participate should form a 10" circle - o.d. the hard way and divide up that circle anyway

you see fit. Kind of a crazy quilt of Missouri Blacksmiths work, each guys design within his circle. Our last one looked real good the overall design held the diverse elements of the individual circles together.

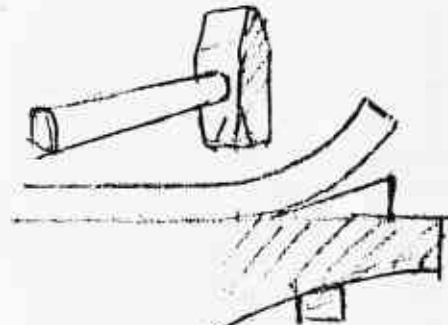
Use 1" x 1/4" bar stock for the circle. We'll start collecting them at our September meeting, when we get enough we can assemble it.

10" CIRCLE
START WITH 28 5/16" 1/4 x 1



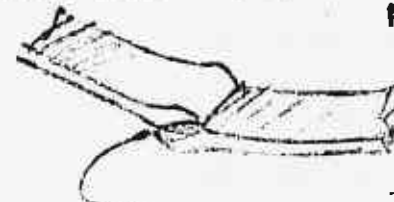
① UPSET ENDS

② SCARF ENDS
(OPPOSITE SURFACES)



③ EDGE BEND

HAMMER - OR - BUNDING
FORK



-OR-
HOSSFELD

ALIGNMENT OF SCARFS

July Meeting

The July meeting at Peola Valley Forge in Lesterville was small but good. I guess the 3 day notice was too short! Sorry guys, your crack newsletter staff will get on the stick in the future. One way to eliminate the short notice syndrome will be to announce several meeting in advance starting with this newsletter.

Our basics hands on workshop allowed several new members to get in the fire for the first time. Judd and young Ben seemed truly excited to try their hands at the anvil. I expect we'll see more of these two guys in the future. Ben couldn't stay away from the fire and was happy to receive a horseshoe from Tom Clark with his name stamped in it.

We had 3 forges going, the two in Doug Hendrickson's shop and Tom Clark's well equipped smithy on wheels. The abundance of forging stations made a chance at the anvil available to anyone who chose to do so. Walt Hull, Jerry Hoffman, Bernie Tappel and Doug Hendrickson were our official demonstrators, but several impromptu demos also materialized. Among the nicest was James McHaffie's Ram's head from 3/8" square stock. Beautiful clean lines, an understanding of the animal, and the experience of having done it several times before, all added up to a fine demonstration.

Bernie Tappel demonstrated several techniques including forge brazing with copper, punch making and forge welding. Several members had never seen forge brazing and you could see the light bulbs go on for them.

Walt Hull presided over one forge station and walked Judd and Bonnie through several basic

forging techniques. Bonnie hammered out a little hook complete with a twist and delicately tapered business end. This was Bonnie Hendrickson's second time at the anvil, the first was at the ABANA conference women's workshop in Flagstaff several years ago.

Doug Hendrickson sang the praises of hot rasping and noted that it can be a nice transtion between forged areas and the untouched mill stock. He also showed how easy it is to tin copped dippers. (See details and address elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Bonnie Hendrickson, Patti Tappel, et. al prepared a fine feed which was followed by the July Business meeting. More demos followed, then it was down to the Black River for a cool dip and back to reality.

Business Meeting and Elections

President Bernie Tappel called the July business meeting to order and noted that is was time we developed a policy on electing officers. Bernie recommended the following and the membership approved.

1. Elections will take place at our July meeting.
2. Officer's terms should be two years and staggered so that two offices will come up for election each year.

The ensuing election results:

President - Bernie Tappel - 1 year term.
Vice President - Dan Whitmore - 2 year term.
Treasurer - Steve Austin - 1 year term.

Newsletter Editor - Doug Hendrickson -
2 year term

These staggered terms will get us on the proper schedule. Bernie strongly recommended that more members should share in the responsibilities of running BAM. In that spirit Dan Whitmore accepted the job of running a raffle to sell several items that we made at our last Lost Valley Lake meeting. If you would like to take a chance on winning the pitching shoes that Bill Miller and Jerry Hoffmann made, send Dan \$1.00 for each try. When he sells 100 chances, the drawing will take place.

The same goes for the large skillet that Don Asbee and some unknown smith beat out, with 75 chances at a buck each.

For a chance on the shoes and/or skillet, send your money to:

Dan Whitmore
9741 Lanier
St. Louis, MO 63136

Francis Whitaker's school still needs more money to get off the ground. We voted to send him \$100 from BAM. Should you personally like to make a donation, Francis' address is

Francis Whitaker
1265 W. Bunny Ct.
Aspen, CO 81611

The next group project we have planned is the maple topped food preparation stand. Colin Campbell picked up a beautiful 2'x4'x3" maple butcher block for \$86, so we are on our way. Several ideas were kicked around about the design, but nothing is finalized yet. More about this project at our next meeting - September 24th at Bernie Tappel's.

ABANA has a museum fund committee, whose job is to raise money to help the Metal Museum in Memphis and the Yellin Foundation keep the the doors open. A series of auctions will be set up at regional blacksmith's conferences. The iron work sold at these auctions will come from ABANA chapters, such as ours. We decided to do another screen (same format as the one Stan sold for us) to donate. The details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

Jerry Hoffmann, workshop committee member, reported on the BAM'S GREATEST HITS idea for our next two day workshop. March was recommended so we have plenty of time for a media blitz to promote it. The concept of this workshop is to select demonstrators from our own ranks, "BAM'S GREATEST HITS", get it? We talked of asking Tom Gipe if we can use his studio at SIUE again. The workshop will take place on a weekend, with each demonstrator working a half day.

The demonstrators will be:

Jerry Hoffmann - Architectural Ironwork
Drawing/Design/Forging

Stan Winkler - Pattern Welded Steel

Bert Elliot Francis
& Doug Hendrickson - Production Ironwork
CraftFairs/Wholesaling

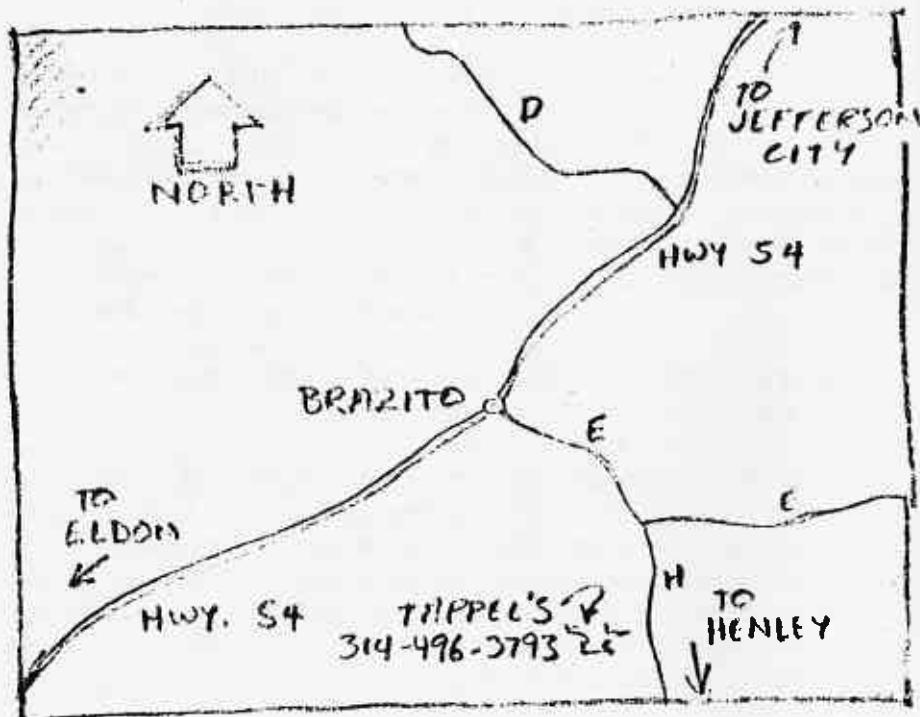
Fees for this workshop will be \$40.00 for both days and \$25.00 for one.

At our May meeting there was some discussion about going to quarterly meetings and quarterly newsletters. Most people who voiced their opinion at the July meeting on this subject, felt the bi-monthly meetings and newsletter should continue. So it was decided not to change.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at Bernie Tappel's place near Henley, Mo. on September 24. This meeting will be a workshop on utensils for our food preparation center. Weather permitting, we will set up several forges so everyone can get in on the act. We decided at our July meeting, since it went over so well, to try to establish a game plan for future meetings. We also decided to publish the meeting dates and details two issues in advance. This will give members a little more advance warning.

So in keeping with this new policy, the November meeting will be at Jerry Hoffmann's shop in Lonedell, Mo. on November 19. The focus of Jerry's meeting will be "Beginning the Butcher Block".



Dear ABANA Members,

Dear Fellow Blacksmiths,

Once again we had a successful ABANA Conference. The Alabama Forge Council worked hard and it shows. If you missed it this year, start saving for the next one. You don't want to miss two in a row!

The nominations have gone out for new ABANA board members. According to Article VII, Section II of the 1985 revised edition of the bi-laws, there is to be one third of the ABANA Board elected each year, therefore there are five slots each serving for a period of three years.

We need hard workers on the ABANA Board. We need people with financial, legal, Audio Visual capabilities, CPA background -- leaders all around. Please pick people who will commit for a full three year term and will not be likely to drop off early. The board is very intent and each director donates approximately six hours per week of their own time and ten dollars per month in phone and stamps to ABANA. We need people who can and will commit to this heavy workload, not someone to just sit back and keep an eye on the rest of the board. We are dealing with the affairs of 2,700 members and working in six digit figures. It is a very great responsibility to be on the board and we ask you to choose your candidates carefully.

The ABANA Board is currently going over the bi-laws and we are finding discrepancies in them as they are presently written. We are going to be reviewing these bi-laws and making suggestions for their revision in several places to clarify their content. We will be working with "The Men of Lumpkin", original founders of ABANA, to find the original intent of the wording in each case.

As stipulated in Article XI, 1985 revised edition, each ABANA member will receive a ballot to vote for or against these bi-law revisions. In the meantime, as stipulated in Article VII, Section III.5 of the 1985 revised edition bi-laws, the board of directors will make decisions and execute measures as seems proper to promote the objectives of the association and provide for the long term stability of ABANA in the best interest and welfare of all 2,700 members.

At the board meeting held at the Sloss Conference, the budget for the first half of 1988 was reviewed. It was found that we had actually come in several thousand dollars under the budgeted amount. We adjusted the budget for the last half of 1988 to reflect the figures from the first six months.


We of the board feel that ABANA is making progress and is looking pretty good. We will all agree that we were in a very deep hole a couple of years back and we want to say that although we are not out of the woods, we are doing much better financially at this time.

This board is dedicating itself to the task of updating our policies and our way of dealing with the tremendous role ABANA has experienced in the past few years. Over the next several months we are going to make up job description manuals for each of the ABANA offices and main focus points. We want to help retain continuity in the organization as time goes on. We now have a completed manual for the Executive Secretary's Office but we need one for the Treasurer's Office, Secretary's Office, the Anvil's Ring office, the Biannual Conference Committee and the ABANA Chapters. The present board recognizes that ABANA is a business and that it needs to be run as a business to succeed.

I want to personally thank all of you for your many notes and phone calls of encouragement. I want to especially thank you newsletter

editors for printing this ABANA update in your magazines and for keeping all ABANA members linked to this Board of Directors.

Most sincerely,


Dorothy Stiegler
ABANA President

Dear Fellow Blacksmiths,

It certainly seems as though the months are whizzing by. I for one hope we can all keep up.

I want to thank all of you who sent in names for candidates for the ABANA Board of Directors and for the careful selection of those people. It is never intended that anyone will vacate a board position, so we are of course shooting for people who will serve three years - full steam ahead. Your ballots should be out to you shortly for individual voting.


We are in the process of changing the approach to the elections so that everyone who is an ABANA member is more personally alerted to the nominations and the elections themselves. However, it takes a little time to change gears in as large an organization as ABANA, so this year we are still working from the old format. We are relying heavily on your newsletter editors to print the information concerning the general membership submission of names for nominations. In the future elections, we hope to be able to canvass each person individually as is done for the election itself since many ABANA members are not members of a local chapter.

There are many times throughout the year that the ABANA Board forwards information to be published that cannot be circulated any other way than through the chapter newspaper network. We of the board are very sensitive to the realization that many ABANA memos stop at the editor's or president's desks and never get printed for a variety of reasons. While we do not expect to change things overnight, we hope to find a way to increase the printing of ABANA memos to you, our members, through the chapter network. We certainly cannot be of much assistance to anyone if you only hear news of us four times a year through the Anvil's Ring. We know that ABANA has certain responsibilities to the chapters and we want to increase those in more and various ways. We also feel that chapters who call themselves ABANA Chapters, have a reciprocal responsibility to ABANA. It's vitally important that each chapter newsletter run a print of the latest President's Message, other important ABANA memos, and the subscription application. This is a crucial link that your newspaper adds to the world-blacksmithing network.

I personally want to thank all editors who are currently running the ABANA's President Message and subscription application. I urge all of the rest of you to include this in your priorities. To be a team, we need this continuity. All of us need to know what's going on all of the time. Otherwise it seems that we of the board are just fifteen people who are running your money around.

Please take time to vote on the ABANA Board Members. We need everyone to return their ballot in a timely manner so we can really know who it is that you want to be serving on the board. This is your organization and we need your input.

Thanking you in advance for your voting time.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Stiegler
ABANA President

July, 1988

Dear Chapter Member,

Just as your chapter needs new chapter members for its health and vitality, so too does ABANA. I am writing to urge each of you to go out and recruit at least one new member for ABANA. Someone from your chapter who is not a member, or someone outside your Guild who has expressed interest in our kind of endeavor.

To whet your interests further if you get two new ABANA members, we will send you a T-shirt from the Sloss Conference. If you get ten new members, we will send you a dress belt buckle also from Sloss. The only requirement is that you send in all two or all ten names at one time, complete with names, addresses, and the money. Otherwise the record-keeping at the the central office will become horrendous! Just think, now you can get belt buckles for your whole family....

Finally, the person who gets the most new members between now and our conference in 1990 will win a brass anvil from Bill Gichner. And this anvil isn't one of the pocket varieties, either. So get new members, good luck to you, and thanks from all of us in ABANA.

Sincerely,

Nol Putnam

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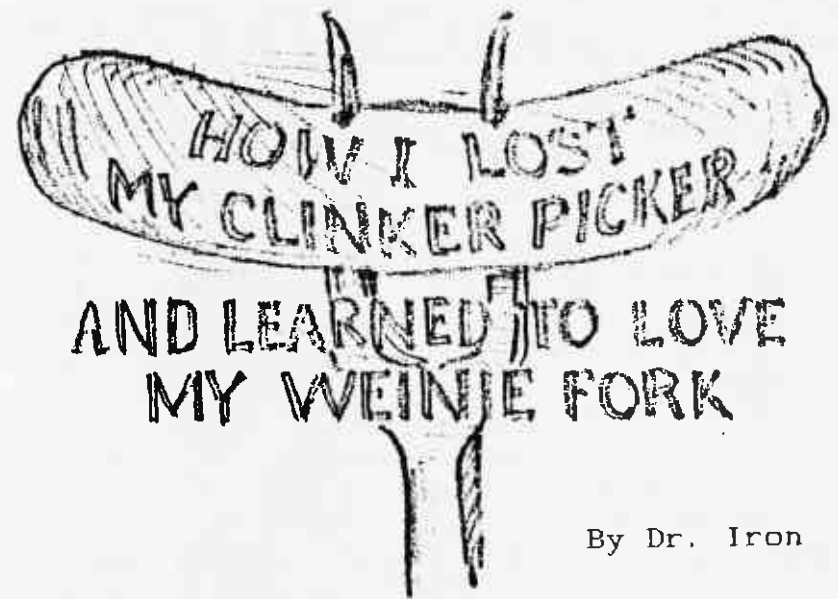
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By Dr. Iron

It was one of those days! I lost my clinker picker. The fire was dirty, and I was in a hurry. A large order of weinie forks were due and I was way behind. No time to make another one and even less time to look around my well ordered shop for the one I made at Turley's back in 1981. Being the resourceful creative smith I am, I grabbed one of the finely forged forks and drove it deep into the fire and slowly drew it up through the coke in a scooping manner. To my wonder and delight the fork rose sensuously through the hot fire, clinker clinging to it's little tines as coke rolled off back into the fire.

I couldn't believe my eyes, once more my weinie fork entered the heart of the fire and again the clinker clung. The fork acted like a clinker strainer.

After finishing my order of weinie forks I began a scholarly investigation of the clinker cleaning phenomenon. I moved the tines around some, changed the proportions, length, and spacing. The following drawing

is what works for me, my fire, and coal.
Experiment for yourself.

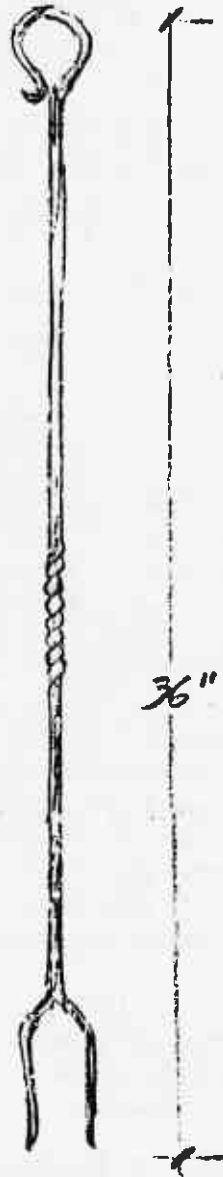
This length prevents me from burning
the remaining hairs from my knuckles.

Shepherds crook
handle shows all
who enter your
shop that you are
in touch with history.

Twist the 1/4" square stock.
This proves to customers
that you are a consummate
craftsman.

Square tines.
The clinker
clings to the
edges.
Turn the tines
up slightly, about
like a flesh fork.

If this clinker fork doesn't work for you at
least you'll have a nice weinie fork.



Tips & Techniques

Tinning Copper Dippers, Cookware, and
anything else you can think of.

By Doug Hendrickson

Bill Callaway of Phoenix stopped by my shop
on his way back from the Birmingham
conference for a few days of R & R.
Naturally I couldn't just let him rest, float
the Black River and take it easy. I knew he
used a lot of copper and asked if he would
show me the tinning process. It's really
simple and it dressed up your copper
projects. Since I do a lot of copper dippers
and some copper cookware, his lesson has been
valuable. Here's how it goes:

Equipment

1. Heat source - Bill uses a propane
hot plate - I use my rosebud.
2. A wad of fiber glass insulation.
3. Steel wool.
4. Tinning compound.
5. A bar of pure tin.

Procedure

1. Clean copper with steel wool.
2. Heat copper enough (not too much)
to cause the tinning compound to
melt and run.
3. Immediately wipe the compound
around the surface to be tinned.
Just a sprinkle of compound is
enough.
4. For heavier tin coat melt a
little of your pure tin bar and
wipe it around quickly.
5. Steel wool it out after it cools
for a bright finish.

Bill gave me a pound of tinning compound and
said it's available at any good welding

supply shop. If there is not a good welding supply shop in your area, write:

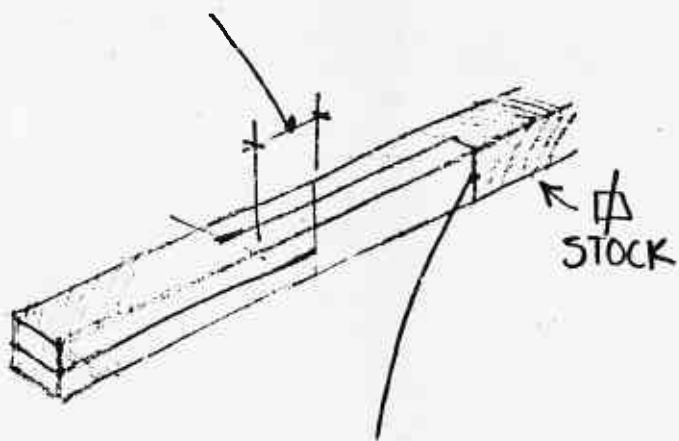
York Engineering Company
211 Spangler Avenue
Elmhurst, Il. 60126

The complete instructions along with health hazards are on the container.

Swiss Blacksmith Cris Friedrich demonstrated this cross at Birmingham. Cris sells these crosses for grave markers.

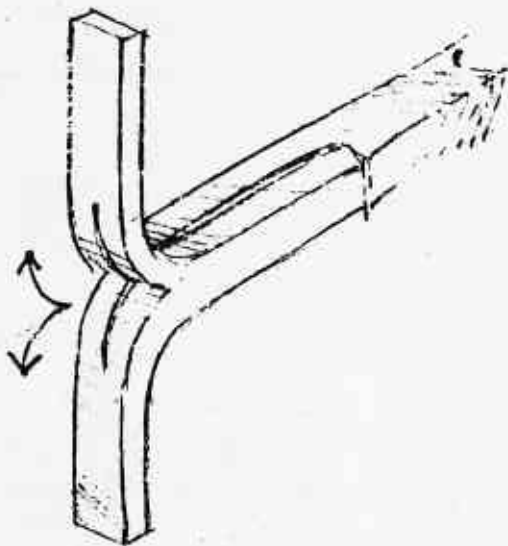
1. Center punch and hot cut square stock as marked. Be sure to cut from both sides and try to meet iron the center.

Cuts overlap at this point to allow negative space at point where the arms of the cross meet.

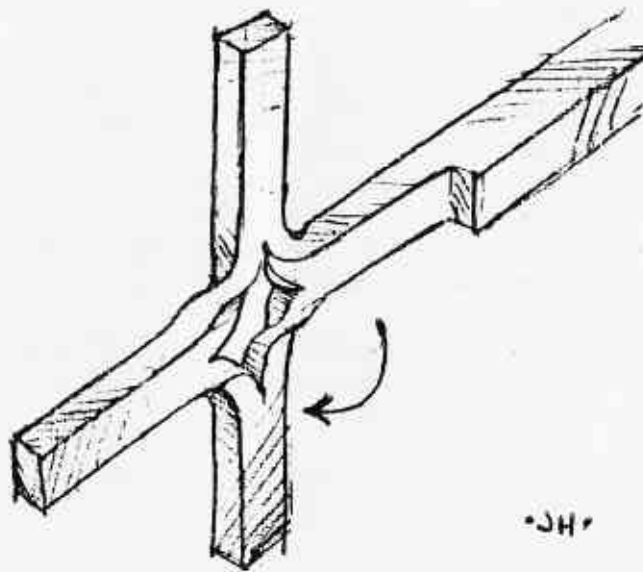


This cut only goes through to meet the other longitudinal cut.

2. Open to 90 degree.



3. Fold out thusly and open up the cross.



4. The neat thing with this form is how it

happens, naturally using the inherent qualitys of both the metal and geometry. Each face of the stock takes a quarter turn at the hub and runs down other side.

The Sounds of a Blacksmith

By Dave Nelson

The Sounds of the blacksmith, a deep, clear ring of hammer on steel, rang out at the Peola Valley Forge in Lesterville this past weekend.

The loud, distinct sounds were from the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri's summer gathering. The Blacksmiths Association of Missouri is a chapter of The Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America. Devoted to the preservation and advancement of the art that is the blacksmith's trade, this talented group of smiths hailed from throughout Missouri.

The goal of the meeting was to provide a hands on workshop with its emphasis on basics. Three forges were fired up to give everyone in attendance a chance for some one on one work--especially to give the beginning smith a chance to work out some of the more troubling aspects of his trade.

The traditional blacksmithing techniques were used, as well as the hammer, anvil, and other established tools of the trade.

Tom Clark, of Potosi, brought his portable shop, a smithy on wheels which included a hand operated bellows, to help keep everyone occupied.

Here are a few interesting, yet little known

facts about blacksmithing that were brought out:

If the steel is overheated to quickly, it may become distored;
The steel must be heated uniformly, otherwise it might crack;

What is the temperature difference between a dull red piece of steel and one that is bright white? 1,377 degrees Fahrenheit.

To wind up the afternoon, this reporter attempted to fashion a square knot from two iron rods. After a lot of trouble and hard work, the finished project emerged--of which I was quite proud! What comments did the experienced smiths have on an amateur's work? Stick to writing!

The foregoing was reprinted from the "Mountain Echo" Newspaper, Ironton, Missouri.
Writer/Photographer Dave Nelson

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