

RAM

January/February 2026



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Volume 43 No 1

Blacksmith Association of Missouri

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Go to ABANA.org for more information

ABANA CONFERENCE

Nov. 11-14, 2026 • Bentonville, Arkansas

- Blacksmithing & Bladesmithing Demos
- Beginner's Area
- National Curriculum Demos & Evaluations
- Fun Competitions
- Vendors & Suppliers
- Knife Makers
- Auction & Iron-in-the-Hat
- Gallery of Ironwork
- Craft Classes

Site Amenities:

- Tons of space for tailgating.
- Over 8 acres of dedicated event parking on site.
- 21,000 sq. ft. building for vendor & gallery space.
- Dedicate vendor parking lot.
- Fully fenced, dedicated space for tent camping.
- 35 RV sites with water and electric hookups.
- 3,500 sq. ft. outdoor picnic pavilion surrounded by food trucks.

Editor

Mike McLaughlin

Contributing Writers

Paul Talaski
Willy Bagley

Contributing Photos

Bruce Herzog
Mike McLaughlin
Bob Stormer
John Sherwood

The Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri is published six times a year and is mailed to members of BAM. Editorial inquiries should be addressed to: Mike McLaughlin, 122 Milwaukee Ave., Lawson, Mo. 64062 816-769-5788 bameditor2015@gmail.com

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New QR code



Scanning QR code will link you to the BAM online dues payment page.

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

New Member Renewal ABANA member

Dues are \$30 per year.

Are you interested in taking a class?

How did you learn about BAM?

Memberships are for one year from receipt of dues. Dues are \$30, which includes a subscription to the bimonthly BAM newsletter. Please make checks payable to Blacksmith Association of Missouri. Or scan the QR code below to renew or join online.

ABANA Membership Application

Primary ABANA Charter Affiliation: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Phone: () _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

New Member Renewing Member

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

	1-Year	2-Year	3-Year
USA Print Membership	\$85	\$170	\$235
Digital Membership	\$75	\$150	\$205
Youth Digital Membership 25 & under	\$35	\$70	\$85
Canada/Mexico Print	\$100	\$200	\$280
International Print	\$110	\$220	\$310

Membership includes FREE placement in a searchable 'Find a Blacksmith' database to connect to opportunities. Check here to be included in the database

Presidents Letter

Hello everyone we had a great turnout at the Highbee meeting hosted by Dale Kirby. Thank you Dale it's always nice to be in your shop. I'd also like to thank Colton Kiso and his helper Tyler Sydebotham for there great demonstration on making axe heads. It was very informative. Thank you so much.

We had lots of great trade items. It's always so much fun to see all the items our members make.

Our next meeting will be March 28, 2026 at Doniphan at Tom Kennon Blacksmith Shop. Hosted by Chris Miller. The trade item is a Trammel hook. Lunch will be provided with a donation jar. Please bring a chair.

Hope to see you all there.

Keep your anvil warm !!
Willy Bagley President



Newsletter Announcement

Anvil Repair Demonstration – June 6, 9:30 am, John Murray's, 2018 Oberhelman Rd, Forrestell, MO.

John Murraray will demonstrate how he repairs an anvil. He will discuss the materials and steps to weld, shape and grind the edges of a worn anvil. This will be a demonstration on one anvil and is free to BAM members. Any participant with adequate eye and hand protection may perform some of the repair steps. Participants with a welding helmet may observe the welding. **Any participant performing the repair step(s) must be a BAM member and at least 14 years old.**

Bring safety glasses, gloves, welding helmet, chair and water or something to drink. The demonstration should last about 2 ½ hours. You are welcome to stay longer. No lunch provided.

For questions, contact Paul Talaski, (314) 605-8583, ptalaski@stlcc.edu.

Blacksmiths Association of Missouri

February 7, 2026 BAM Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 pm by BAM President Willy Bagley at Skullsplitter Spirits, Higbee. Willy thanked Dale Kirby for hosting the event and Colton Kiso for his demonstration of forging a hatchet head.

Membership – Jeremie Howell reported since the last meeting 14 members left and 11 new members were added bringing our membership total to 524 members. Those new members present were recognized.

Financial – Ashley Hart reported that since November 30, we had \$8,504.98 in expenses, \$3,873.51 in credits and \$272.11 for interest. We currently have a balance of \$72,059.45. All tax filing information is current and complete. She is doing the 990's. There was discussion on the general budget. Our expenditure and credit numbers vary each month, but our bottom-line total (approximately \$60,000) is about where we expect. That money covers reoccurring expenses (ex. printing, mailing, conference, coal, meeting costs, etc.) and maintaining BAM assets (ex. MTS trailer, Conference trailer, Library trailer, forges, etc.).

Conference – Karen Bouckaert said we can use volunteers to help set up on Thursday. The classes are filling up fast so sign up as soon as possible. She also said many of the vendors are set. She is still trying to get confirmation from Jantz Knife. Traditional Leathercraft may be a possible vendor. She asked how many would buy leather at the conference and about half a dozen said they would. Karen asked when purchasing from any of our conference vendors during the year to mention that you are a BAM member. Those interested in tailgating need to let her know so that she can coordinate the tailgating details. She needs volunteers to sign up to help at the demo sites and to announce the Iron-In-The-Hat and Raffle at the site when the demonstrator takes a break.

Tyler Sydebotham, one of the conference demonstrators, was recognized. He was Colton's striker today.

MTS – Don Anders announced the corrected dates for the Beginning Blacksmith Class at Ray Scott's are April 11 and April 18. The newsletters and the website will be updated. John Sherwood, Santo Giuffrida, David Rosemann and Denny Quinn are assisting.

The S BAR S Boy Scouts are looking for blacksmiths for their scouts wanting a blacksmith merit badge. Their program is in Farmington and starts on June 25. Instructors are needed Monday through Thursday for four weeks. There is a signup sheet.

Anvil Repair Demonstration/Class – John Murray will be providing a demonstration on how to repair the edges of an anvil. The demonstration will be on Saturday, June 6, at 9:30 am at John's place. It is expected to last 2 ½ , although John says people are welcome to stay longer. The demonstration is on one anvil (already chosen), which involves welding and grinding. Please bring safety glasses, gloves, and a welding helmet (if you want to see the welding done). Also, bring water or drink, chair and lunch (if you plan to stay a while). The demonstration is free. Members must be at least 14 years old to actively participate.

Elections – Willy announced the election for officers and committees will be held at the Conference. Anyone interested should contact Willy or David Rosemann (who is taking over Steve McCarthy spot on the nominating committee). Mike McLaughlin indicated he would like someone else to take over the newsletter editor position someday. Don Anders would like to turn over the MTS to someone else as well.

September/October Meeting – The Booneville meeting will be September 26, to avoid a Mizzou football weekend. The presenter will be Scott Birdno, and the trade item will be a cabinet latch.

March Meeting – The March 28th meeting will be in Doniphan. Chris Miller is organizing. The trade item is a trammel hook. Those arriving Friday night are invited to go out for a group dinner around 6-6:30pm.

Hydraulic Press – Willy reported BAM is in the process of buying a 24-ton hydraulic press. Charlie Carpenter is coordinating the purchase. The quote was \$6,050 from Riverside Machine (Uncle Al's). Steve McCarthy said that model is well built and comes with 3 or 4 sets of dies. He said it should be ready in March, and we will pick it up. Steve will store it (with Vern). The press will allow us to have conference demonstrators and classes we have not had before. Steve said borrowing a press like this was difficult.

BAM Library – Karen encouraged members to use our library more. There are general blacksmithing books, picture books and reference material. Choose a book or books and put your name and telephone number on the card in the back and put the card in the box. When returning a book, always give directly to Karen. Do not leave it in the trailer.

Memorial Fund – Karen reminded the members we have memorial funds and to make donations. She is donating \$100 to Don Nichols' honor. Don Anders is donating \$50.

BAM Gallery/Don Nichols Exhibit – Ken Jensen announced there will be a spot at the Conference Gallery for Don Nichols. Colton Kiso will gather the items. John Sherwood asked anyone with something made by Don to bring it and/or to write down stories about Don for the display. John also needs volunteers to help set up the gallery on Thursday and to cover gallery hours on Friday and Saturday.

Special Recognition – Willy announced it was Mike and Nancy Gentsch's 50th anniversary. They received a round of applause.

Adjournment – Ken Jansen moved to adjourn. It was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Talaski, Secretary

Editor Notes.

Well it's 2026 now. I still really like being retired.

The meeting at Higbee is always well attended it is like the official start for the new year.

Well over 60 members attended and we had a large turnout for the trade items.

It is starting to warm up and it is time to get out to the shop. My goal is to make a bunch of stuff that I like and go to some fairs and farmers markets and see if it will sell. Plus I can interact with the public and maybe meet some new people. If it becomes too much of a job I will have to cut back on that. I hope to find a balance that works.

If anyone has any ideas that sell well how about writing an article or just send some photos.

If you are not having fun, you are doing it wrong.

Mike M.



February 7th. Meeting Demo.

Written by Mike M. Photos: John Sherwood, Bob Stormer, Mike M.

Axe/Small Hatchet

Colton kiso with Tyler Sydebotham striking.

Material is an approximately 1" x 2" x 3" rectangle block made from railroad track. Railroad track is about 1080 steel. The punch he is using was made by Lyle Wynn with Colton striking at our conference a few years ago. It is a hammer eye punch. It works for this because the drift will give the proper shape. He is using Fuchs punch lube to lube the punch and keep it from sticking.

Mark the piece for punching in the center 1-1/4" from one end and centerpunch.

Heat the piece. First just get the punch started with light blows. Make sure it is aligned straight and centered. Punch the hole. Tyler hit light to begin with then will increase the blows as they go. Rotate the block and keep checking for alignment. Colton watches the bulge in the sides and the center of the hole to make sure it stays straight. This first round went nice and slow to keep it centered. Go 2/3rds. to 3/4 of the way through on the first side. Use punch lube as needed. He would pull the punch out immediately after the strike to keep the punch from overheating.



He marked and center punched the second side while it was hot. Then use the hot punch to get a good mark on it. Check for alignment. You don't want to punch this side at a high heat. Too much heat will make the slug slide in the piece instead of shear like you want it. Finish punching it go nice and easy. Rotate it and keep checking alignment. Punch until the slug comes out.



Drifting the eye. He starts the drift slowly checking for alignment. Make sure you are driving it in straight. Drive it in until it is started good. Then flip it over and do the other side. Heat and drive the drift back in. Then use a fuller to start drawing out the cheeks. This will help shape the eye around the drift. Fuller from the center towards the fat part of the drift. Do both sides and from the top and bottom. Decide which side will be the top. The eye wants to be hourglass shaped with more taper on the bottom of the axe. He likes the top of the axe to be flat.



The "ears" in the eye will be gone once the fullering and drifting are complete.



On the side that will be the bottom use a fuller to start the transition to the blade. This will also help to flatten the top.

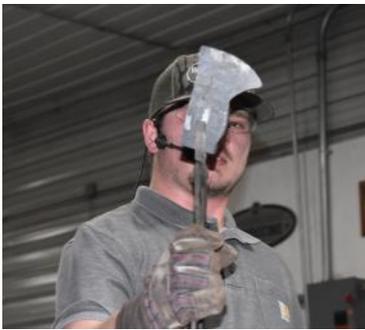
Lengthening the blade. Use a fuller and start close to the eye but be careful not to deform the eye. Work your way to the end of the blade. Work both sides evenly. Use the fuller to spread out the blade. Work both sides to keep it even.



Use a set hammer or flatter to shape the bottom of the axe. He used a block in the hardy hole to back it up.

Blacksmiths Association of Missouri

Using a hand hammer he worked out the fuller marks and finished shaping the blade. Use the drift to check for alignment adjusting as needed. Drift it from the bottom a final time. To finish drifting the top he inserts the drift and bangs the top of the drift on the anvil. He wants it to be an hourglass shape with more taper from the bottom. He heat treats it like you would a knife but tempers it to a higher temperature.



Aaron Gross striking on the second axe.





February 7, 2026 BAM Meeting Iron-In-The-Hat

Donated By	Won By	Item
Daniel Meinsen	Ken Jansen	Hammer Heads
Chris Owen	Mark Sampsel	Handgun Grip
Karen Bouckhaert	Sharon Knickmeyer	Cups/Mugs
Hollis Harbit	Anna Ansel	Chisels
Bill George	Steven Allen	Clover Honey
Dave Endres	John Sherwood	Oak Whiskey Cup
Steven Allen	Mark Lawson	Dock Plate Spring
Bill George	Dan Wedemeyer	Vernier Caliper
Willy Bagley	Anna Ansel	Wrenches (2)
Karen Bouckaert	Hollis Harbit	Hitch Lock
Bob Eckert	Jeremie Howell	Hammers
Willy Bagley	Anna Ansel	Horseshoe Rasp & Cable Vise
BAM	Bob Eckert	BAM T-shirts
Karen Bouckaert	Bob Stormer	Cat Litter Buckets
Iron DungeonForge	Troy Albrecht	Fire Bricks (5)
Willy Bagley	Bill George	Piece of Railroad Track
Willy Bagley	Dan Wedemeyer	Misc. Metals
Jeremie Howell	Leland Hawk	Square Stock
Willy Bagley	Jeremie Howell	Folding Utility Knife
John Huff	Ken Jansen	Bucket of Horseshoes
Mike McLaughlin	Jeremie Howell	Water Jug
Mike McLaughlin	John Coats	Water Jug
David Rosemann	Dan Files	Bat House
(Unknown)	Scott Birdno	Farrier Rasps (5)
John Sherwood	Mike Lanham	Blades & Cracker Barrel Gift Card
Dale Kirby	Mike Gentsch	Whiskey Barrel Full of Spirits

Trade Items

Photos: Bruce Herzog

Anything with an edge.

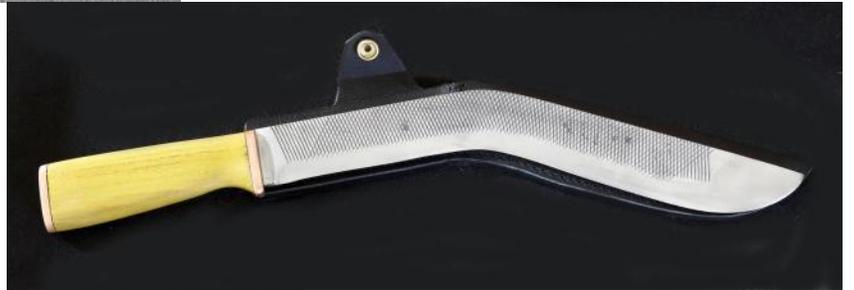
This one had a good turn out. Thanks for participating



Kurt Knickmeyer to Shaina Smith



John Sherwood to Jake



Ken Jansen to Westley Moran



Jeremie Howell to "Doc" Roberts



Kim Stahl to Willy Bagley



Dan Files to Dave Endres



Orion Moran to Kurt Knickmeyer



Top: John Murray to Santo Giuffrida

Bottom: Jason Vass to Chris Miller



Jake to Dan Files

Don Anders to Orion Maran



"Doc" Roberts to Mark Lawson



Steven Allen to Bill George



Mark Lawson to Aaron Gross



Aaron Gross to Kim Stahl



Dave Endres to Jason Vass



Troy Albrecht to John Murray

Westley Moran to Steven Allen



Bill George to Don Anders



Shaina Smith to Dennis Marshall



Chris Miller to Troy Albrecht



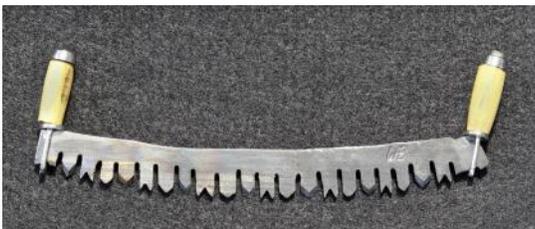
Dennis Marshall to Leland Hawk



Santo Giuffrida to John Sherwood



Leland Hawk to Jeremie Howell



Willy Bagley to Scott Birdno



Scott Birdno to Ken Jansen

From the archives May/June 2011 BAM Newsletter

Phil Cox Power Hammer Demonstration

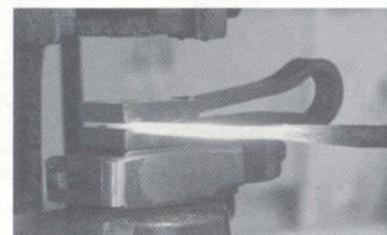
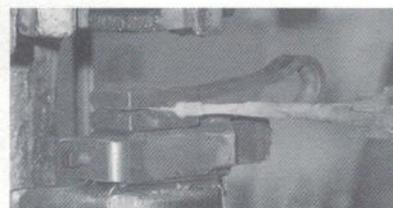
By Bob Ehrenberger

Phil started out with three things to keep in mind; keep your hammer in good condition and well lubricated, adjust your die height to fit your work, and put a brake on it to give you more control. After showing us some general hammering techniques, he showed us how to draw a taper on flat dies and then how much easier it is on drawing dies. He also showed how to make and use an acorn spring swage.

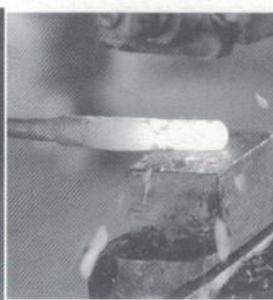
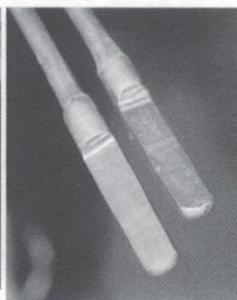
Then the real work began, Phil made a pair of tongs using only the power hammer, I don't think



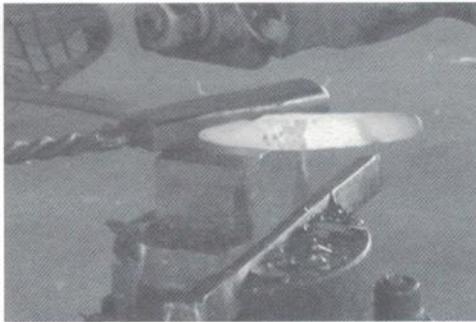
he used a hand hammer even once. He started with 6 1/2" of 5/8 sucker rod, you could also use 4" of 3/4" rd. The first step is to draw out the reins so that you could hold it by the reins for the rest of the forging. He uses about half of the material for the reins. This was a three step process; draw them out on the flat dies, use a flatter to take out the hammer marks, use a spring swage to make them perfectly round and the desired diameter and length. Phil likes light flexible tongs when doing power hammer work so he makes the reins pretty thin.



At this point the tongs are turned around and the jaw is formed. Phil starts out with a special tong tool that controls the thickness of the jaw. You could do this by eye but one errant hit and it would be too thin. He leaves enough of the original material to make the joint, about the same length as it's diameter so the boss is more round. Because they are going to be pick up tongs, once they are the right thickness, they are forged into a taper. The taper is then rounded up with a special tool that keeps face flat and makes the back cone shaped. This tool is longer than the jaw so the jaw can be moved around on it to match it up to the section with the right curve.

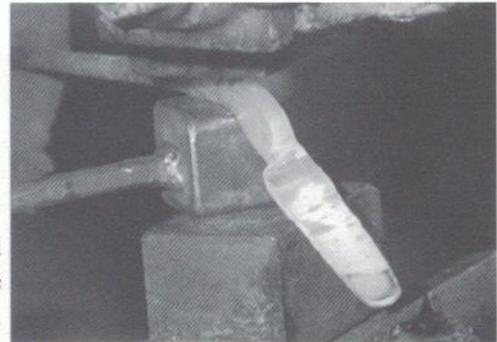


Phil Cox cont...

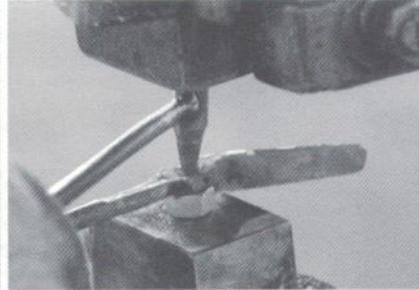
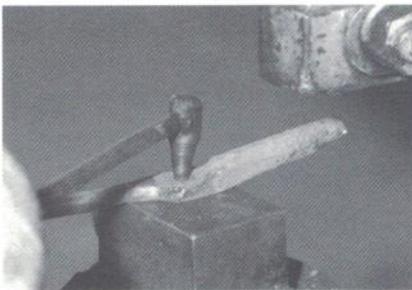


The special tong tool is used again to make the joint (boss). It is held at an angle to the jaw so that the jaws will fit together.

A solid block is then used to set the angle between the boss and the rein.

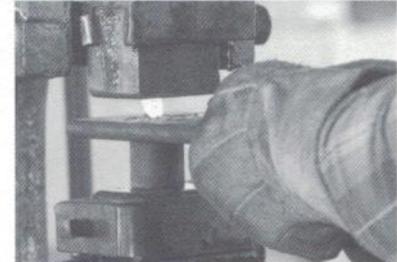
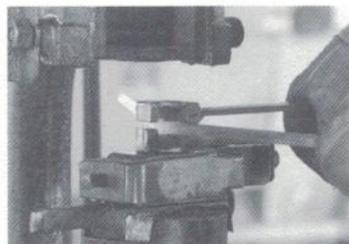
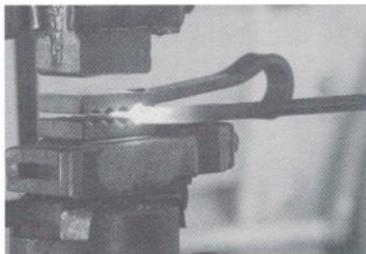


The holes were punched in the first side using a short punch under the power hammer. Once the slug is compressed it is cleared using a nut for a bolster. The hole on the second side is located by putting the two sides together and punching through the first hole. The second hole is finished the same way as the first.



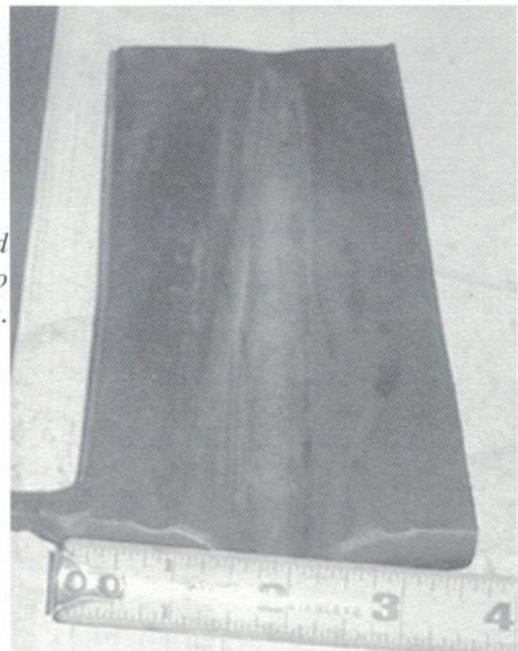
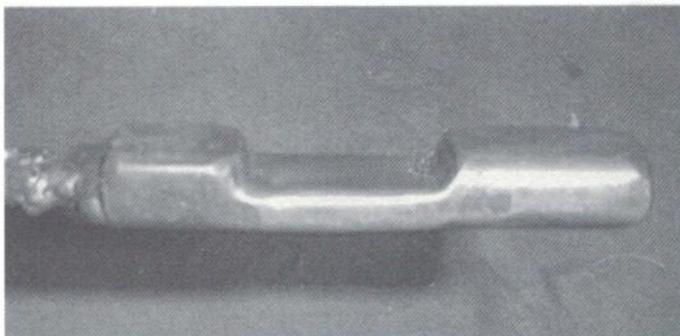
Below left, Phil made his own rivet by first making a tenon on the end of a bar. *Below right*, He cut the tenon off leaving enough material to make the first head using a spring cutter. *Right*, He then upset the first head using a bolster plate and a piece of pipe for a spacer.

Not shown, Phil did the final assembly and set the second side of the rivet under the power hammer too.



Right, Cone shaped swage used to round up jaws.

Below, Special tong making tool.



2026 BAM Conference Demonstrators

Tyler Sydebotham

Tyler will be forging black powder gun barrels

Simeon England and Broadus Thompson

Simeon and Broadus will be forging together making period tomahawks and knives

Joshua Rachita

Joshua will be forging household items.

Thursday evening demonstration ASL Pewter <https://www.aslpewter.com> We've been working with pewter for over 25 years now. It's our passion, our creative outlet, our homage to our history.

Family Classes Friday and Saturday Copper Chased leaf with Jeff Mueller **Basket Classes** with Cathryn Sylvester **Stained Glass** with Tami Bagley **Mini Classes** with Rhonda Schrum and Nancy Jackson **Mirror Etching** with Rhonda **Floral Watercolor** with Nancy **Paper Collage 2.0** with Nancy **Quilling** with Rhonda

2026 BAM Conference Gallery Submissions

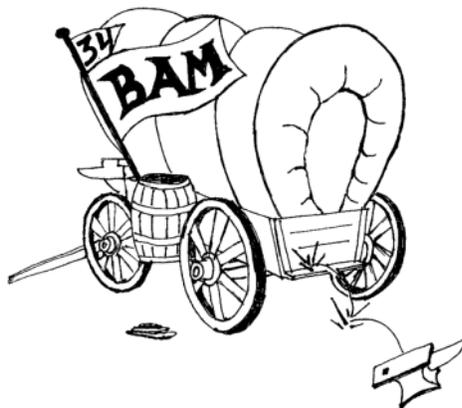
Just a quick reminder that the BAM Conference will be here before you know it and that we look forward to your creations for the Gallery. It is never too early to start your submission. If you have any questions or special display needs, email me at jbsems@sbcglobal.net.

This year we will be featuring a Tribute to Don Nichols to display some of the many items forged by Don. If anyone has a piece forged by him that can be added to his tribute, it would be welcomed. Thinking about Don, I'm sure there are lots of "Don Stories" that are memorable. Write your favorite down and bring it along. (Hand written or typed) or if you are unable to attend email it so we can add to the display.

As usual we will be looking for volunteers for setup Thursday morning, and Friday or Saturday volunteering for a four-hour shift attending to the Gallery during conference hours. This really helps out.

April 29th - 30th, 2026 National Curriculum Class. Focused on Level 1 and 2. Swine Pavillion at Missouri State Fair. Contact Don Anders

April 30th, - May 3rd, 2026 34th Annual Ozark Conference. "Forging the American Frontier" Thursday - Setup - Potluck Dinner - Opening Ceremonies



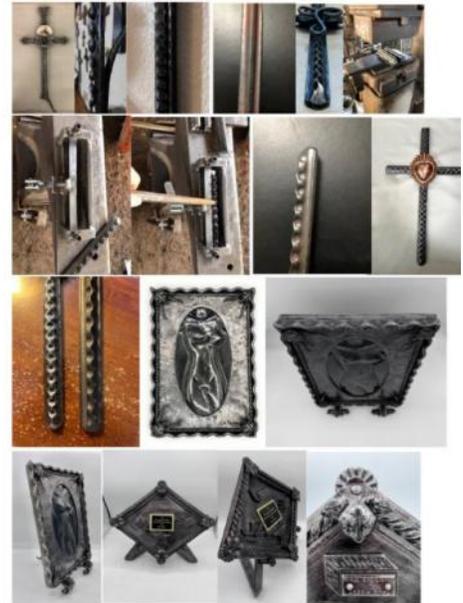
32ND ANNUAL

BANGIN' ON THE BAYOU

SATURDAY & SUNDAY - MARCH 14TH & 15TH, 2026 • GATES OPEN AT 7 AM, DEMOS AT 9 AM
WITH DEMONSTRATIONS BY
JAIME ESCOBEDO




TICKETS ARE \$70 FOR ONE DAY AND \$60 FOR TWO DAYS (INCLUDES LUNCH)
 TOOLBOX RAFFLE & AUCTION, GRAPHER & SHRIMP DINNER (MARKET PRICE), FORGING CONTEST - SATURDAY
 DELCAMPRE SHRIMP FESTIVAL BUILDING - 409 EAST MAIN ST., DELCAMPRE, LA 70218



The 2026 AACB Blacksmith Conference

Cannonsburgh Village, Murfreesboro, TN
May 14-16

The Appalachian Area Chapter of Blacksmiths is putting on its eighth Blacksmith Conference this year, and we hope you will attend! Full details may be found on the website: <https://aacblacksmiths.org/>

The lineup is exciting, and includes the always popular **Tailgate Sales, Vendors, Friday Evening Meal, Forging Contest, Iron-In-The-Hat,** and **AUCTION** - Start working on your contributions *NOW!*

The Featured Demonstrators are:
Ben Abbott: Knife/Blade Making
Terry Sheridan: Forged Tools

AACB Member Demonstrators are:
Alan Eldred/Chuck Henderson: Traditional Joinery
Herb Gravitt: Yellin-Style Rosette
Chuck Cook: Knife Processes

Teaching Workshops conducted by:
Jason Bevins/Jay Replogle: Knife Class
Craig Hines: Hacksaw Making Class

WACKY Institutes School of Blacksmithing
Brian & Ed Brazeal: Wacky Onsite Forging

Family Programs:
Mary Kearney: Landscape Weaving Class
Paula Butler: Cheese Marking Class
Brooke Busbee: Drawing Class

Looking forward to seeing you there!
 Clint "Buzz" Busbee
 2025 Conference Chairman

A.A.C.B. BLACKSMITH CONFERENCE 2026

May 14th - 16th - Murfreesboro, TN

www.aacblacksmiths.org

- MAIN DEMONSTRATORS -

Ben Abbott: Knife/Blade Making
(9x Forged in Fire Champion & Judge)

Terry Sheridan: Forged Tools

- A.A.C.B. MEMBER DEMONSTRATORS -

Alan Eldred / Chuck Henderson **Herb Gravitt:** Yellin-Style Rosette
Traditional Joinery **Chuck Cook:** (Forged in Fire) - Knife Processes

CLASSES: (Knife Class led by Forged in Fire Champions) **Craig Hines**
Jason Bivens / Jay Replogle (Handmade Hacksaw)



Tuition Assistance Program Guidelines

Effective Date: 1, 2022

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish a guideline for the Tuition Assistance Program (T.A.P.) of the Blacksmith Association of Missouri (B.A.M.).

Scope

This procedure is to be followed by all members and T.A.P. committee for the process of applying and reviewing applications for this program.

- 1:** The T.A.P is for non-B.A.M. classes.
- 2:** The applicant must be a B.A.M. member in good standing for two years prior to applying.
- 3:** The Program is to be capped at a maximum of \$1,000 dollars per application.
- 4:** The program is to provide assistance for tuition and travel expense (e.g. gas, lodging, and materials).
- 5:** Once assistance is granted, there is a waiting period of two years before the applicant can be eligible for another T.A.P.
- 6:** Maximum of two T.A.P. applications per year provided funds are available from the B.A.M. treasury.
- 7:** It is the treasurer's responsibility to determine if B.A.M. is in a financial position to provide T.A.P.
- 8:** If T.A.P. funds are not awarded in the calendar year they are "lost", there is no accumulation of T.A.P. available from year-to-year.
- 9:** If the treasurer determines that B.A.M.'s finances would be detrimentally affected by issuing T.A.P. then no funds would be available for that year.
- 10:** T.A.P. is to provide assistance to attend hands-on classes at an established teaching facility, or one-on-one instruction at another smith's shop.
- 11:** T.A.P. approval is up to the discretion of the T.A.P. committee.
- 12:** The T.A.P. committee has the power to revise this guideline at any time and submit to B.A.M. officers for approval.
- 13:** The T.A.P. guideline shall be reviewed every five years and reapproved by the B.A.M. officers.
- 14:** B.A.M. members using T.A.P. funding are required to submit an article about the education experience attended with appropriate notes and diagrams of the items made or techniques learned in the class to the Tuition Assistance Committee to be reviewed and published in the B.A.M. newsletter no later than 3 months after attending the class.
- 15:** B.A.M. members using T.A.P. funding will present a demonstration of the newly learned skills at a B.A.M. meeting or complete a video to be placed in the B.A.M. library within 1 year of the class.
- 16:** One third of the total assistance amount will be awarded before the class, one third on submission of the article to the Tuition Assistance Committee, and one third after presenting the demonstration or video at a B.A.M. event.

Newsletter Article and Demo Guidelines for repayment

The purpose of this document is to give general guidelines for repayment of assistance.

Newsletter Articles:

Articles need to be a minimum of 2 pages as printed.

Must have name of Class, School, and Instructors name.

Include material types, sizes, and lengths. Heat treating instructions if applicable.

Use pictures or drawings to help with explanations.

It does not have to include everything covered. If there are a few items of particular interest that will fill the article you can concentrate on them. It could be a process, design, handy tool or jig that really changed the way you look at blacksmithing.

Send article to the Scholarship Chairman for approval. Payback for the article will be when received by the committee and approved. You won't have to wait until it comes out in the Newsletter.

Live Demonstration:

Contact the host at a meeting you can attend. Ask if you can have a 15 min slot for your demo.

Would like it to last at least 2 hours.

Include class name, School and Instructors name.

Include material types, sizes, and lengths.

Demonstrate techniques and processes learned. Be prepared to answer questions. This is to help others learn from your experiences.

Don't worry about being perfect. The best way to learn is to make mistakes.

Tuition Assistance Application

Name:

Address:

Phone & Email:

What class or workshop do you wish to attend?

Where:

What is the Cost?

Tuition:

Travel:

Lodging:

Materials / supplies:

Briefly, describe how attending the particular class / workshop will advance your Blacksmithing skills and be helpful in promoting the craft of Blacksmithing. Identify the specific skills you expect to learn during this learning experience. (Additional pages if necessary).

I understand that as a requirement of receiving this assistance, I will be required to submit an article about the education experience attended with appropriate notes and diagrams of the items made or techniques learned in the class to the Tuition Assistance Committee to be reviewed and published in the BAM newsletter no later than 3 months after attending the class.

I will present a demonstration of the newly learned skills at a BAM meeting or complete a video to be placed in the BAM library within 1 year of the class.

One third of the total assistance amount will be awarded before the class, one third on submission of the article to the Tuition Assistance Committee, and one third after presenting the demonstration or video at a BAM event.

I understand that I am responsible for payment to the school or workshop.

The assistance is a reimbursement of the approved costs listed above of up to 1000 dollars.

Send tuition assistance applications to: Orry Harbit 217 Phelps Street Windsor, Mo. 65360. 660-287-5917

Signature:

Date:

Missouri Based Schools

Bladesmithing

Now training all levels. Learn Bladesmithing from start to finish or build your existing skills to bring your work to the next level of fit finish etc. Take a one on one class with Master Bladesmith Charles Carpenter. Call directly at (314)604-9910 or go to www.bigriverforge.com

Craft Alliance of St. Louis. Instructor: Kim Stahl of Kim Stahl Designs

I offer two 6-week courses (one that meets on Mondays and one that meets on Wednesdays) Introduction to Blacksmithing as well as offer Tuesday night Workshop courses that alternate between the always offered and popular Making a Cheese Knife workshop and a seasonal workshop, which is currently Make a fire poker but soon will change over to Make a Garden Tool workshop. Class info and sign-up website. <https://www.craftalliance.org/blacksmithing/>

Beginner & Intermediate classes are being held at Mueller Industries (via Craft Central), 12951 Maurer Industrial Drive, St. Louis, MO 63127

To see class listings or to register for classes, visit our website, craftstl.com
For more information call 314-842-0796 or email; Brendan@muellerstl.com

Matthias Penn is offering introductory & beginning blacksmith classes. 417-543-2148
Tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com Ava Mo.

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, or (417)-321-2286 cell

Oldschoolcrafts Blacksmith School, Joe Davis 12625 Lawrence 1175, Mt Vernon, MO 65712 phone 417-461-0387 on the web www.oldschoolcrafts.org E-Mail oldschoolcrafts@hotmail.com

Classes Offered, The Farrier's Wife Blacksmith Shop. 17332 EE Hwy. Ste. Genevieve, Mo. 63670
Lisa Thompson 573-984-9013 See on Facebook.
Email: thefarrierswifeblacksmithshop@gmail.com

Missouri School of Blacksmithing. Class prices, descriptions, prerequisites, and skill levels are in the catalog. Give us a call for more information, or to receive a catalog.
Matthew Burnett 3100 NW Winchester Road Cameron, Mo. 64429 816-575-2798 mo-schools.com

Attention all Missouri Schools

If you would like to change your ads please let me know.

If you have something special or different coming up send me some info.

Articles about your school would be welcome and featured.

Bladesmithing

Now training all levels. Learn
Bladesmithing from start to finish or
build your existing skills to bring your
work to the next level of fit and finish
etc. Take a one on one class with Master
Bladesmith
Charles Carpenter.
Call directly at (314)604-9910 or go to
www.bigriverforge.com

Upcoming EVENTS

March 28th, 2026 -Meeting - Tom Kennon Blacksmith Shop 200-298 Franklin St. Doniphan, Mo. 63935. Bring Chairs, Lunch Available. Trade Item. Trammel Hook for campfire.

April 11th. 2026 MTS (mobile training station) Beginning Blacksmith Class. Day 1 of 2 days. Ray Scott 20588 State route V Eminence, Mo. 65466. More info: Don Anders at don-ald.anders636@gmail.com or Ray Scott at 417-255-5266

April 18th. 2026 Day 2 of 2 MTS Beginning Blacksmith Class at Ray Scotts.

April 29th - 30th, 2026 National Curriculum Class. Focused on Level 1 and 2. Swine Pavillion at Missouri State Fair. Contact Don Anders

April 30th, - May 3rd, 2026 34th Annual Ozark Conference. "Forging the American Frontier" Thursday - Setup - Potluck Dinner - Opening Ceremonies - ASL Pewter Demonstration. Friday - Saturday Demonstrators: Tyler Sydebotham, Simeon England, Joshua Rachita, Broadus Thompson. More info to come.

June 6th, 2026 - Anvil Repair Demonstration. John Murray 2018 Oberhelman Rd. Foristell, Mo. See page 6 for more info.

June 27th, 2026 - Meeting - Table Rock State Park 5275 Historic Hwy 165, Branson Mo. 65672. Bring Chairs and Lunch. Trade Item: Heart or Heart shaped object.

July 30th, 2026 Old Retired Guys Hammer-In Hosted by Bernie and Patti Tappel.

August 29th, 2026 - Meeting - Willy Bagley 9940 Rd.2302, Chillicothe, Mo.64601 Lunch available. Bring Chairs. Trade Item: TBD.

September 26th, 2026 - Meeting - Scott Birdno Host. Brady Steam Engine Show Grounds 24289 MO-179, Boonville, Mo. 65233 Bring chairs and Lunch. Trade Item: Cabinet Latch

November 7th, 2026 - Meeting - Greens Welding and Sales. Host Chris Green 1464 SE County Rd. 15305 Appleton City, Mo. 64724 Bring Chairs. Food truck available. Trade Item Sculpture.

Meetings start at about 8:30am. and go to about 2pm. Demo until noon. Lunch, then business meeting. Iron in the hat and Trade Item exchange.

Hammer-In events require participants to be 14 years of age and minors need to have a legal guardian present during the event.

Photos taken at the BAM events could be used in our Newsletter and/or website. Posing in a group photo will constitute as permission. If you do not wish any individual pictures of yourself to be included, please contact the Newsletter Editor and/or Webmaster.

Coal Stations

Coal Captain: Mike Lanham

Price per bag:

BAM Members \$20.00

Non Members \$25.00

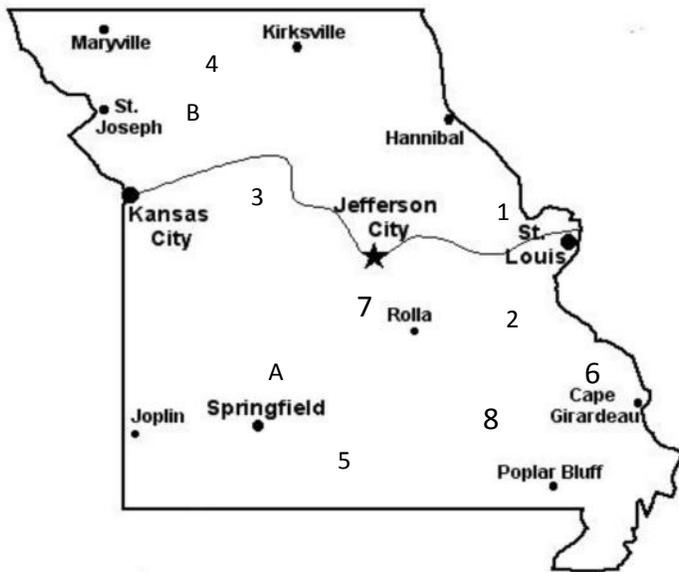
Member's pickup at Mike Lanham's \$18.00

Non-Members pickup at Mike Lanham's \$23.00

Coal keepers earn \$5.00 per bag

Bags are approximately 50lbs. each

Please call for current pricing.



A few notes on our coal:

1) Not all coal is created equal. The coal we buy is from the West Virginia to Pennsylvania vein and is a high metallurgy grade unlike coal from other areas.

2) Raw coal from the bagging company is stored outside which allows it to get rained on, (rain is water which weighs 8.4 pounds to the gallon). If the coal is bagged wet and then dries out the weight will change.

3) The coal fines which when mixed with water to form a paste burns along with the chunks of coal but during shipping and handling may sift out of the bags causing a weight loss.

So, the bottom line to all of this is we are selling coal in approximately 50 pound bags.

Non BAM Coal

A. Tim Johnson @ Advanced Welding, Springfield, MO. 417-886-8032 - Pocahontas Coal \$.40/lb. cash, \$.50/lb. check/debit. Bring your own containers

B. Coal for sale \$20 per approximate 50 lb. bag. Missouri School of Blacksmithing
Matthew Burnett 816-575-2798, 3100 NW Winchester Rd., Cameron, MO. 64649

BAM COAL

1. Mike Lanham (636) 614-5095
2230 St. Paul Rd.
St. Paul MO 63366
After 5:00 pm M-F call for week-ends and before you come. You can text also.

2. Bob Alexander (314) 708-0469
14009 Hardin Rd.
DeSoto, MO 63020

3. Doug Clemons (660) 631-1257
29377 Durango Ave.
Malta Bend, MO 65339

4. Bill George (660) 247-0426
19133 LIV 355
Chillicothe, MO 64601

5. Matthias Penn, (417) 543-2148
Rt 1 Box 479, Ava, Mo. 65608
tytheblacksmith@yahoo.com

6. Travis Dailey
28933 BCR 352
Marble Hill, Mo. 63764
573-225-1614
travisgd@gmail.com

7. Troy Albrecht
2025 Hwy 52 Tuscumbia, Mo. 65082
573-480-5682 troy.dtv@gmail.com

8. Anthony Martin
9648 CR 451 Winona, Mo. 65588
gigmaker86@hotmail.com
417-247-0940

BAM Tailgate

Buy, Sell, Trade

Individual Classified ads:

Commercial / Resource ads:

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 314-708-0469.

Tire Hammer Plans by Clay Spencer
Send Paypal for \$30 to clay@tirehammer.com Or check/money order to 73 Penniston Pvt. Dr. Somerville AL 35670. I can mail a copy or email PDFs.

Beverly Shear Blades Sharpened. Remove blades and mail to Scott Kretschmer 196 Mule Deer Drive, Loveland, CO 80537. Include check for \$50 + \$10 shipping. Deep scratches and wrong sharpening may cost extra. scott@kretschmershops.com, 970-567-2609

Information / Education:

Blacksmith's Journal, New Improved and Revised!
All issues are organized by projects. Available in Digital Form or Hard Copies. Blacksmith Shop-Equipment-Tools-Techniques-Exterior Ironwork-Hand Tools-Hardware for the Fireplace-Hardware Vol. 1&2-Interior Ironwork-Lighting-Ornament-Railings
www.blacksmithsjournal.com

Classes at Pieh Tool Company, Inc. - Camp Verde, AZ Call for more information and to enroll: (928) 554-0700 or (888) 743-4866.
www.piehtoolco.com.

John C. Campbell Folk School, The Folk School offers a wide variety of weeklong and weekend classes for those looking to strengthen their skills or try their hand at something new. Some online classes available. Info at www.folkschool.org

Products:

Blacksmith Supply

Wide variety of Blacksmithing tools, equipment and supplies. Tom Tongs, Smithin Magician, Anvils, Forges, Fly Presses, Hammers, Punches, and more.
Website: www.blacksmithsupply.com
Phone: 1-804-530-0290
PO. Box3766 Chester, VA 23831

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Genuine Little Giant parts for your Little Giant Power Hammer.

Owners: Doug Klaus And David Sloan
Website: littlegianthammer.com
Phone: 402-873-6603
Email: contact@littlegianthammer.com
US mail: 48182 SW 32nd Rd. Odell, NE 68415

Iron Dungeon Forge

Knife making supplies, Abrasives, Grinders. Forges, Heat Treat Ovens, Forge supplies, Huge selection of wood handle material. www.irondungeonforge.com

Flat Die Power Hammer Tools Book

90 pages 300 Tools used on power hammers with flat dies by Clay Spencer.
Order from Alabama Forge Council,
Judd Clem, 111 Yorkshire Drive,
Athens, AL 35613, clem.judd@att.net Master Card, Visa or check, \$30, mailed, \$40 overseas.

Forge-Aprons offers many different styles of leather blacksmith aprons; the Original bib, the Short bib, the Full-Cut bib which offers greater chest coverage, the Lap apron, three sizes of Kid's aprons, a Budget apron, a Women's cut, and Aussie Forge aprons.

www.Forge-Aprons.com

Heavy-Duty Fry Pan Blanks 9" diameter, tapered sides 12 or 13 gauge steel (approx.2 pounds) no predrilled holes for the handle \$14.00 each..1-4, \$12.00 each.5-9, \$10.00 each...10+. Shipping: \$5.00 plus\$1.00 each frypan Bob Tuftee 563-349-3369
21718 277th Ave LeClaire, IA 52753

Blacksmiths Depot, 100 Daniel Ridge Road, Candler, NC 28715. (828) 667-8868 web site: www.blacksmithsdepot.com. Offering a full line of blacksmithing equipment. We ship and accept Visa and Mastercard.

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Mobile: 678-360-3521
email: lbrandforgecoke@gmail.com

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USA Dealer for REFFLINGHAUS ANVILS, 77 to 1250 lb. European 2 horn with or without upsetting block & side shelf. Over 100 sizes and styles available. Guaranteed face @ HRC59
Dick Nietfeld www.blksmith.com Phone (308) 384 1088

Atlas Knife & Tool
Anvils, Forges, Supplies. <http://www.atlasknife.com>

Wanted:
Blacksmith business cards. I would like to put together a collage of Blacksmith business cards. Bring them to a meeting or mail them to me. Bruce Herzog 2212 Aileswick St. Louis, MO 63129

Around the Anvil BAM has its very own E-Mail news group. If you would like to participate there is a sign up link on the bamsite.org website. Click and join.

Ad Policy: Blacksmith related ads are free to BAM members. Personal ads will run for two issues. Resource ads are ongoing at my discretion. Send to BAMeditor2015@gmail.com, or call 816-769-5788

ABANA News

New Online Exhibition: Call For Entries



Submit your work for our next online exhibition, **Makin Waves**. (Photos only, no work will be shipped.) ABANA membership is not required. abana.org for more info.



Member Discounts: Schiffer Craft
20% discount on all books and kits through September 30th, 2026
Abana.org/discounts

BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI
1774 ROTH HILL DR.
MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MO. 63043-2940

Please send changes to Jeremie Howell 11 West 10th. Street Carrollton, Mo. 64633

Next Meeting: March 28th. 2026 Tom Kennon Blacksmith Shop
200-298 Franklin St. Doniphan, Mo. 63935
. Bring Chairs. Lunch Available. Trade Item: Trammel for Campfire.

