

Hot Iron News

THE VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION

Fourth Quarter 2014





Northwest Blacksmith Association

"To promote and preserve the Art and Craft of Blacksmithing while building friendship and good will."

Board of Directors



President
Lynn Gledhill
24760 High Pass Road
Junction City, OR 97448
541-998-2370 gledhill@bauercom.net



Vice President
Lee Cordochorea
PO Box 3940
Hillsboro, OR 97123
503-887-1697 thingmaker3@gmail.com



Secretary
Brent Christiansen
30338 SE Bluff Rd
Gresham, OR 97080
503-663-3919 metalartsman@comcast.net



Treasurer
Scott Rash
4233 SE 31st Ave
Portland, OR 97202
503-502-8409 scott_rash@hotmail.com



Director
Bill Apple
PO Box 244
Burley, WA 98322
360-876-8405 sourapple1@msn.com



Director
Anne Bujold
4546 NE Alberta St.
Portland, OR 97218
503-753-8715 annebujold@gmail.com



Director
Jay McGowan
607 Ronald Ave.
Cle Elum, WA 98922
509-674-8665 jmcg607@gmail.com



Director
Dean Mook
234 Monroe
Port Townsend, WA 98368
360-774-0553 info@deanmook.com



Director
Richard Tinder
709 North M Street
Aberdeen, WA 98520
360-612-3712

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Mentoring Center: Chair: Dean Mook, Andrea Lisch

Safety: Chair: Lee Cordochorea, Bill Apple

Quick Reference for NWBA Members

Submit articles, photos, how-to's to HIN:
nwbainfo@gmail.com

NWBA Website: www.blacksmith.org

For NWBA correspondence or membership, or to change your address (must be in writing) send to:

Northwest Blacksmith Association
4742 42nd Ave SW #185
Seattle WA 98116

Annual dues beginning Jan. 1, 2014: \$60 (foreign, \$70)
Dues include quarterly subscription to Hot Iron News.
Dues may also be paid online at www.blacksmith.org

Want to be sure to keep up to date?
Sign-up to receive email announcements monthly so you don't have to miss another event!
Sign-up online:
<http://blacksmith.org/sign-up-email-announcements/>

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Above: Jeff Holtby demonstrating at the Mentoring Center, September 2014. The cover photo is the simple padlock that he forged for us. Instructions for the project are on page 9.

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**SAVE THE DATE:
Mentoring Center Monthly Events**

January 24th: Gerald Boggs, forging an adze
February and March schedule to be arranged, as workshop plans develop you will be informed via email announcements, or for most current info see our online events page:
<http://blacksmith.org/events/>

and plan ahead...
May 15-17 2015
NWBA Blacksmithing Conference

NWBA Elections

Ballots have been mailed to all current NWBA members. If you have not yet received your ballot, please contact Jim Garrett, jim@nimbaanvils.com

Return your ballots by December 31, 2014.
Ballot counting is at Nimba Anvils, Port Townsend
January 10, 2015, 2 PM

The newly elected and ongoing NWBA board of directors will be looking to the members for direction and support. Speak out and show up ready to help out!

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From the Presidential Scrap Heap

Greetings All Blacksmiths:

Well, another year is nearly behind us. As we've just celebrated the Thanksgiving Holiday, I am reflecting on the many good times and the good things that have happened with the NWBA.

The mentoring center has been a great success! We've had very well received demo's by some of our own, including Dave Lisch, Jeff Holtby, Darryl Nelson, and Dean Mook. Mark Aspery's workshop filled up so fast that we had him do a second one nearly back to back. Members Doug McGuire and Ronnie Selby have donated equipment and Simpson has given a grant for equipment. All in all, things are going great!

With the passing of another year, we are losing 4 board members;

Bill Apple; Dean Mook; Brent Christiansen; and Jay McGowan. Thanks so much for your service to the NWBA!

We are also gaining 4 new board members. Ballots will be in the mail soon. You have the opportunity to choose who will be representing you on the board for the next two years.

As the New Year approaches, I am looking forward to more great times and great things with the NWBA. Remember, your board



members are responsible for where this organization is going, and how we're going to get there, but it is you, the members, who make this association great.

Good forging,

Lynn



Treasurer's Report *NWBA Treasurer Scott Rash*

The NWBA sends a very special thanks to Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company for their generous donation to provide new equipment for the NWBA Mentoring Center.

NWBA 3rd Quarter 2014

Income:

Dues Income	\$2,221.90
HIN Advertisements	\$412.00
Merchandise Sales	\$24.00
Total:	\$2,657.90

Expenses:

Hot Iron News / Website	\$3,000.00
Administration:	\$439.44
Total:	\$3,439.44

Mentoring Center 3rd Quarter 2014

Income:

Donation for Mentoring Center	\$2,500.00
Event Fees	\$390.00
Total:	\$2,890.00

Expenses:

Supplies for Camp Hahobas	\$1,031.73
NWBA Mentoring Center & Outreach	\$686.00
Demonstrators	\$500.00
Handouts For Demonstrations	\$51.88
Administration	\$73.70
Total:	\$2,343.31

A Note from the Editor *Amy Mook*



Hello NWBA Members,

I have enjoyed the events that I attended at the Mentoring Center this fall very much. The demonstrators gave a lot of thought and preparation time to present their interesting, functional, challenging, and instructional projects. Made me want to go play in the fire and make stuff. Thank you to the demonstrators of the past quarter; Dave Lisch (sorry I missed personally attending your demo), Jeff Holtby and Mark Aspery.

The Mentoring Center has Gerald Boggs demonstrating on January 24, 2015, forging an adze. I plan on being there, maybe even with a better camera!! Hope you get to make it to some Mentoring Center events in 2015, both for the learning opportunity and the friendships built around the fire.

The end of the year is approaching, and it is election time once again. Hopefully you have received your NWBA Board of Director Elections ballots in the mail. They must be postmarked by December 31, 2014 to be counted. If you have

not received your ballot, contact our the Election Chairman Jim Garrett: info@nimbaanvils.com

The new board takes over at the first board meeting of 2015. The new direction of the NWBA depends on them, and on *you* communicating to them what you want... and also lending some time and energy to helping those things happen.

Likewise, I extend the ongoing invitation to share your thoughts, criticisms and support for the work that I am doing as website and newsletter editor for the NWBA. I strive to be responsive to the needs of the NWBA, which I consider to be a very fine organization.

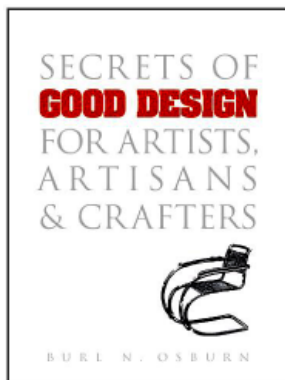
Thank you to all who have contributed to making this issue possible, and,

Thank you for the honor of serving as your editor,

Amy Mook

Editor's In Box

This issue the In Box brings to you 2 new books that are new to our library in 2014. The NWBA library is now reopened after a few months closure, check it out online at www.blacksmith.org/library.

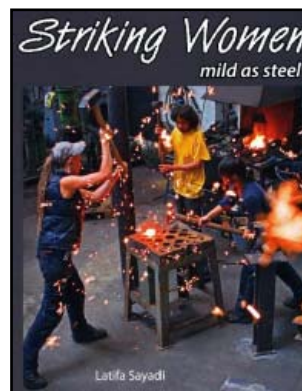


Secrets of Good Design for Artists and Crafters by *Burl Osburn*

Practical and aesthetically pleasing, this visual meditation on the constituents of good design considers all manner of construction, form, and ornamentation. It answers many questions about design choices, from basic to specific, with clear, concise, and practical directions. The book's

appeal lies chiefly in the integrity of its own design, consisting of hand-lettered text and pleasingly styled and proportioned illustrations.

Author Burl N. Osburn addresses basic questions — What are the qualities of good design, and how does balance affect design? What is good proportion, and how is ornament used? — and explores design choices in a variety of expressions. Featured arts and crafts include the use of wrought iron, methods of cutting wood, the decoration of clay and leather, the basic textile structures, the nature of the tapestry weave and design of block-printed textile, the development of repeat pattern and the geometry of repeating ornament, and attaining typographic unity. Students learn to analyze a project's requirements, draw up specifications, and design the final product. A valuable guide for teachers and students, this volume also constitutes a practical resource for professional and amateur artists and crafters.



Striking Women by *Latifa Sayadi*

Outstanding Artist Blacksmithing is not Limited to One Gender!

Striking Women was put together by the Berlin artist, Latifa Sayadi, with contributions from women all over the world. It gives special reasons for every viewer to admire it as a living salute to smithing women surpassing all countries, continents, styles, methods, and concepts.

Latifa Sayadi is a Tunisian/German artist blacksmith and sculptor based in Berlin, Germany. There she runs a workshop where she creates her

sculptures and commissioned pieces. She is also interested in exposing the works of female blacksmith's. In 2008 she finished and published her documentary film about women blacksmiths, *Queens of Iron*.

This book is a 'striking' testimonial to women's great contribution to artist blacksmithing!

Featured Smiths:

Henriette Abitz, Wendy Alford, Elspeth Bennie, Christin Boyd, Bex Clark, Colleen du Pon, Lisa Elias, Roberta Elliott, Bianca Fattler, Rebekah Frank, Nana Furuya, Sandra Gerschkat, Najet Gherissi, Breon Gilleran, Bethan Griffiths, Mary Hackett, Katharina Hahn, Christine Holt, Annie Jansen-Thielen, Paula J. Jenson, Miranda Jones, Eveline Kesseli, Katja Kleutges, Kristina Kozak, Nancy Linkin, Annabel Liquori, Catharine Lloyd, Shawn Lovell, Ulla Lutz, Corrina Sephora Mensoff, Lynda Metcalfe, Kathrin Meyer, Marsha Nelson, Lauren Osmolski, Laura Parker, Edda Sandstede, Latifa Sayadi, Bex Simon, Kelly Smyth, Kiki Sting, Shelley Thomas, Cara Wassenberg, Orit Winberg, Tessa Wittman, Maja Zbinden-Jermann, Marja Zilcher.

The NWBA Mentoring Center Monthly Hammer-In September 27, 2014 Dave Lisch: *Good Knives on the Cheap*

Notes by Hardy Swage, Photos by Hardy Swage (as indicated) and Dean Mook

Stock/Equipment tips: Hook & Loop 5" soft pad and abrasive discs on a 1750 RPM motor. Slower motor helps prevent the mistakes in grinding you might get with a more aggressive, faster speed motor. These motors are easily available at garage sales, etc. They are commonly found on washing machines. Pad and discs available at Harbor Freight. This can be a replacement for belt sanders on basic knives. Arbor adapter from hardware stores or knife supply houses.

- Single cut file, Nicholson Super Shear curved tooth file. 12" standard. Use a knife bar or board under the blade.
- Supplies: Kelly Cupples 509-949-523, Steel, quench oil, flux, and more. Dave gets this steel cut to length, keeps transport costs down. He told us: use a steel that is friendly in shaping and heat treatment, suggesting 1065, 1080, 5160 (vehicle spring stock). Dave uses Triple A quench oil for simple carbon steels.
- Bottom Oxy tank, cut off for a sinking die.
- Abrasives: 2X72beltgrinder.com web site.

Forging steps:

1. 1080 simple carbon steel, 8 X 1" less than 1/4" thick
2. Forge tip
3. Notch to indicate step between blade and handle
4. Taper and profile handle, back end is wider and thinner.
5. Increase back line radius by sinking in a die
6. As you pull the bevel, the blade works out of back line curve. Never want 100% straight back line. Keep a slight radius on the back line. Dave does not like straight knives.
7. Work bevel and taper the point just on the end.
8. Do not get cutting edge or tip too fine, "forge thick – grind small"
9. Blade cutting edge is slightly less than one half of the back width.
10. Normalize three times. IMPORTANT FOR GOOD GRAIN STRUCTURE. Bring to critical temp whole blade and air cool, Keep magnet handy to find critical (loss of magnetic)
11. Back your forge down to lesser temp to help from over heating.
12. Use 40 or 60 grit Hook & Loop pad and disc to dress profile and bevel.
13. Hammer in finger guard: Heat with a torch and use a rounded chisel/w hammer.
14. Bring bevel past critical and quench in Triple A oil. Transmission oil too fast, veg oils too slow.
15. Temper at 395 degrees, one hour in a pre heated oven, pull out, let cool and put back in. Do three times. If tempering by color also repeat. The time in the temp oven is important, surface color is not accurate indicator. Getting purple in a tool grind does not mean total failure. Just continue as if never happened.
16. Find a friendly steel and make a lot of knives and test each one by bending 90% to test grain structure.
17. Good grain is 90 degrees and back. Poor grain breaks.
18. In heat treating, blades can bend, make a three point system to straighten, Sections of RD bar welded to angle iron, one on one side, two on the other, makes an effective tool.
19. Clean up after heat treating on Hook & Loop system or flap wheel on grinder if belt sander not avail. Hook and Loop does not give waves on surface like flap wheel. Hand filing to dress final finish. Dave does not polish blades, Does not like the look.
20. Utility knives have a slightly convex or "apple seed" grind, rather than a straight taper to the cutting edge. Gives meat there it is needed.
21. Small holes drilled in handle and copper wire passed thru, riveted and wrapped around handle. Tighten wire each wrap with hammers.
22. Safety First...IMPORTANT: ALWAYS support blade with a knife board or bar.
23. Never put it in a vice pointing out without that support and safety measure. You hit the end of the board/bar not the knife.

Dave Lisch: Good Knives on the Cheap, continued

Right: Sketch sheet for project.

Sketch and photos of grinding equipment by Hardy Swage

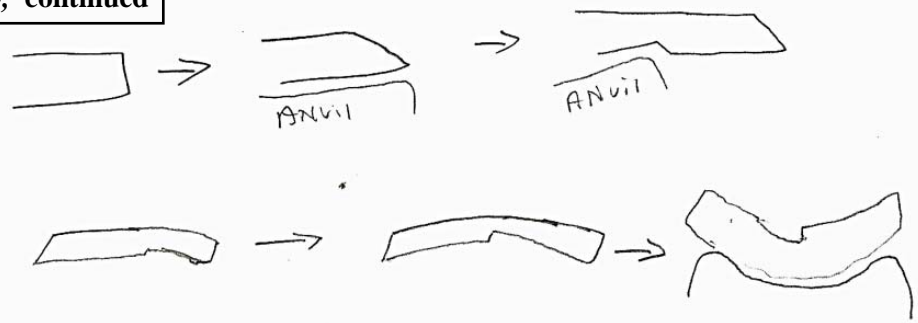


Hook & Loop 5" soft pad and abrasive discs on a 1750 RPM motor.



Photos above: Beginning rough forging steps.

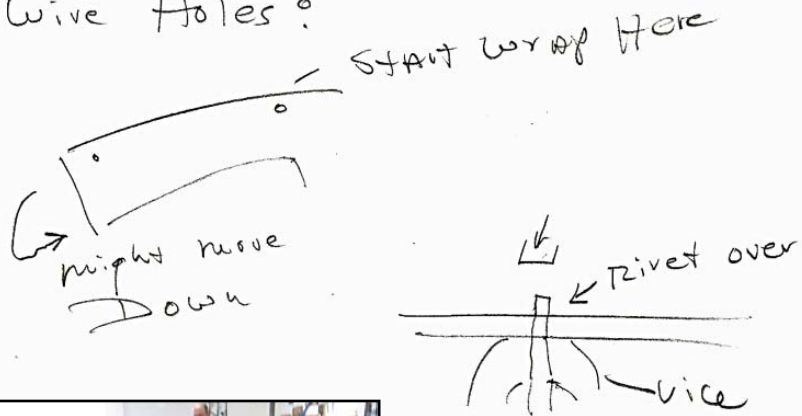
Photo right by Hardy Swage: the roughed in blade



Finger Guard tool



Wipe Holes:



Dave Lisch: *Good Knives on the Cheap*, continued



Beveling and tapering the blade.



Photo by Hardy Swage



Dressing profile and bevel with grinding tools.



Heat treating.



Above: Nice colors of the tempered blade.

Thank you Dave for a great demo!!

Right: Wrapping the copper around the handle. To finish the knife. Blade firmly held in vise for wrapping process. Copper wire is riveted into hole in handle, then wrapped, tightening each wrap with hammer blows.



Below: The finished knife. Photo by Hardy Swage



The NWBA Mentoring Center Monthly Hammer-In

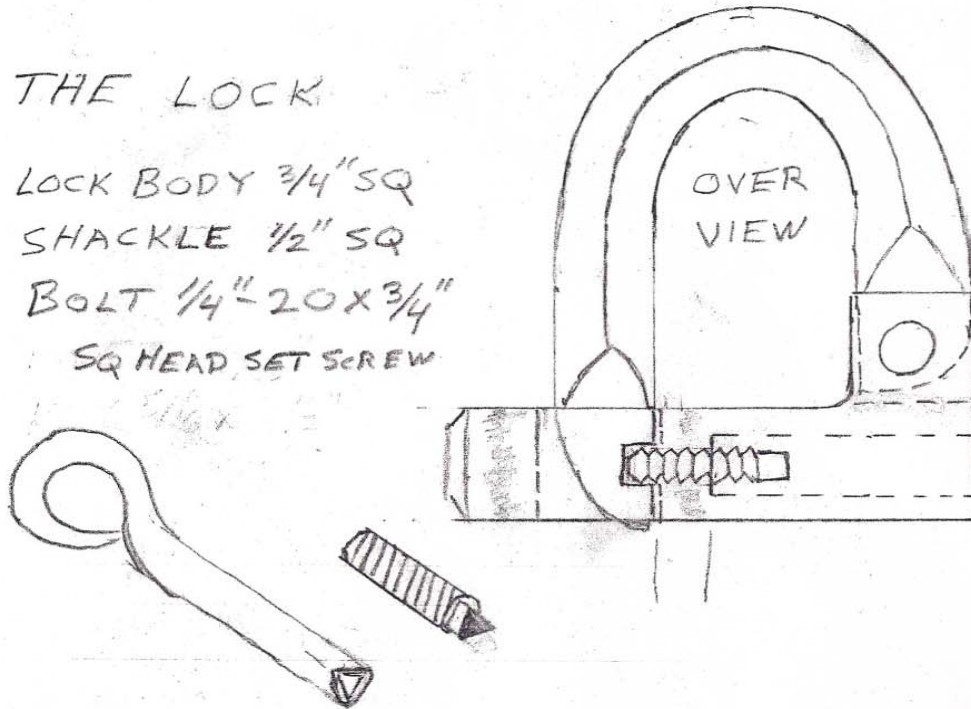
October 25, 2014 Jeff Holtby: A Simple Padlock

Jeff Holtby's demonstration, forging a simple padlock, was filled with lots of subtle blacksmithing tricks, learned from many years at the forge and augmented by great engineering skills. Jeff generously supplied a step by step procedural illustration for this project. His instructions are below, and the photos that follow are from his demonstration on Saturday October 25, 2014 at the NWBA's Mentoring Center. Thank you Jeff for a great demo, and some fresh ideas.

THE LOCK

LOCK BODY $\frac{3}{4}$ " SQ
 SHACKLE $\frac{1}{2}$ " SQ
 BOLT $\frac{1}{4}$ "-20 X $\frac{3}{4}$ "
 SQ HEAD SET SCREW

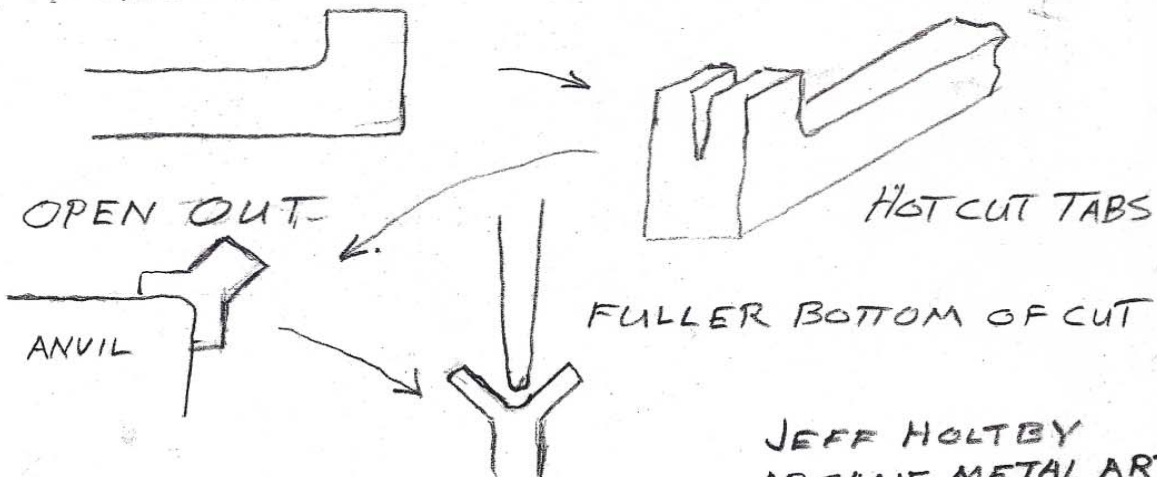
1 OF 5



BASIC STEPS

$\frac{3}{4}$ " SQ ENOUGH TO HAND HOLD
 UPSET 1st 3" TO $\frac{7}{8}$ " CROSS SECTION
 MARK OFF $1\frac{3}{8}$ " - BEND OVER ANVIL EDGE
 WORK UP A SQ CORNER (I DID SAY BASIC)

RESULT

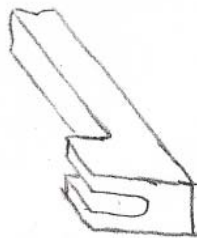


JEFF HOLTBY
 ARCANINE METAL ARTS

20F5

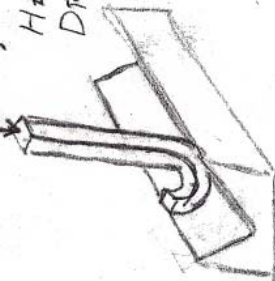
THE LOCK

CLOSE UP TABS
USE 1/4" SPACER

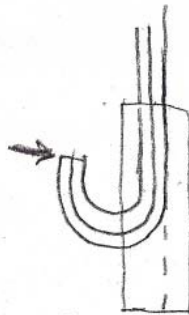


RESULT
SET ASIDE PC

SHACKLE 1/2" SQ X HAND HOLD LENGTH
START DIAGONAL BEND OVER HORN
1ST BEND ON ONE FLAT THEN TURN 90°
AND BEND AGAIN BACK & FORTH
KEEPING THE OUTSIDE CORNER CENTER,
AT ABOUT 90°, BY ISOLATING YOUR



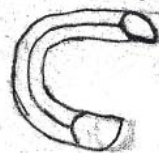
HEATS (CARE, ATTENTION)
DRIVE STRAIGHT INTO A
VEE BLOCK



CUT SHACKLE
LEAVE ONE LEG 3/4"
LONG

VEE BLOCK

FLATTEN ABOUT 1" ON EACH END TO 1/4"
TRIM OUT SIDE CORNERS
OF TABS



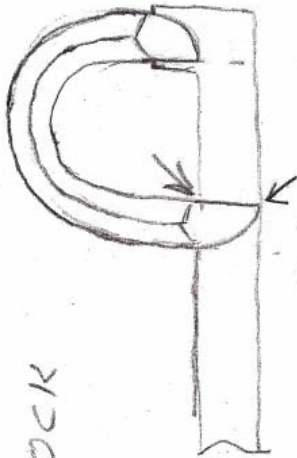
RESULT

1/4" X 1"

JEFF HOLBY
ARCANE METAL ARTS

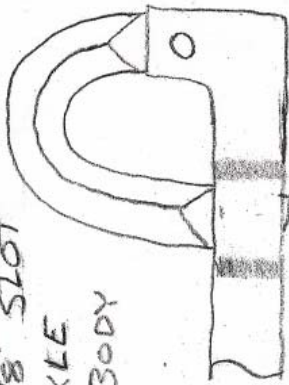
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THE LOCK

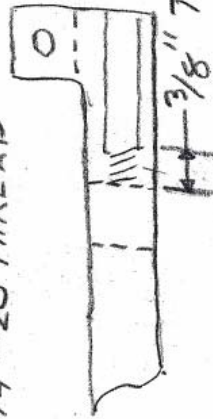


LAY THE SHACKLE ON THE LOCK BODY
& CENTER PUNCH AT ARROWS

USING THE PUNCH MARKS, SLOT & DRIFT
A 1/4" X 7/8" SLOT
FIT SHACKLE
TO LOCK BODY



LAY OUT & DRILL 5/16" HOLE FOR RIVET
ALSO 13/64" HOLE FROM BACK OF BODY
TO SLOT. REDRILL HOLE TO 1/32" LEAVING
3/8" FOR 1/4"-20 THREAD



1/4" - 3/8" TAP 1/4"-20

JEFF HOLBY
ARCANE METAL ARTS

50F5

THE LOCK

THE KEY 5/16" X 3 1/2"

CENTER DRILL ONE END 13/64" - 1/4" DEEP



LAY IN VEE BLOCK & LIGHTLY SWAGE TO START TRIANGLE



DOUBLE NUT YOUR BOLT IN THE VICE GENTLY DRIVE KEY ON TO BOLT ROTATE 3 TIMES

FILE SWELL FIT 1/32" HOLE IN LOCK BODY



SHORT TAPER ON OTHER END THEN CURL INTO A LOOP & FLATTEN

TAKE THE KEY, SCREW THE BOLT INTO THE LOCK, MARK & NOTCH THE SHACKLE WHERE THE BOLT HITS

CUT LOCK BODY FROM THE PARENT BAR

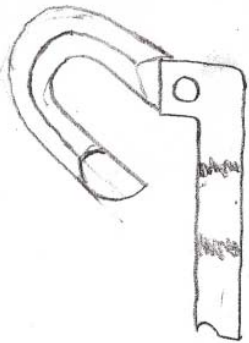
YOU'RE DONE

JEFF HOLTBY
ARCANE METAL ARTS

40F5

THE LOCK

RIVET SHACKLE IN PLACE



THE BOLT 1/4"-20 MACH. SET SCREW LIGHTLY CLAMP IN VICE USE FLAT WASHER TO SET DEPTH & PROTECT VICE FILE SQ HEAD TO TRIANGLE HEAD



THE KEY?

OH YEAH,
NEXT PAGE

JEFF HOLTBY
ARCANE METAL ARTS

Jeff Holtby: *Simple Padlock*, continued



Above and Below: Creating the square corner for the lock body, cutting the tabs and fullering the bottom of the cut.



Tri Ficker assisting Jeff.



Above: Key
Below: Shackle
Left: Completed lock and key.



The triangular key is genius because, though simple, it is a shape that is not common to tools generally available.

If you leave more length when you cut the lock body off the parent stock, you can punch a hole and attach a chain to the padlock, resulting in a very useful lock and chain.

*Thank You Jeff Holtby for the great demonstration!
The take home instructions you prepared for us are EXCELLENT!*

The NWBA Mentoring Center Monthly Hammer-In

November 8, 2014 Mark Aspery



Mark Aspery is well known as an excellent blacksmithing teacher for all levels of smiths and styles of learning, and his demonstration had a little something for everyone. He began with an overview of his own blacksmithing style, "don't adhere to the letter, adapt."

Mark explained a couple of cornerstones of his blacksmithing style:

1. The Cowpoo Theory: If one has a pile of cow poop, and jumps into the middle of it, the poop goes flying out in all directions, 360°, like hot metal. Mark's theory is a remarkably descriptive and a plain folk logical way to consider which tool to use, and at what angle to hit hot metal to make it move where you want it to go.
2. Premise of how to work with the steel, that is, what to consider when working steel with intention:

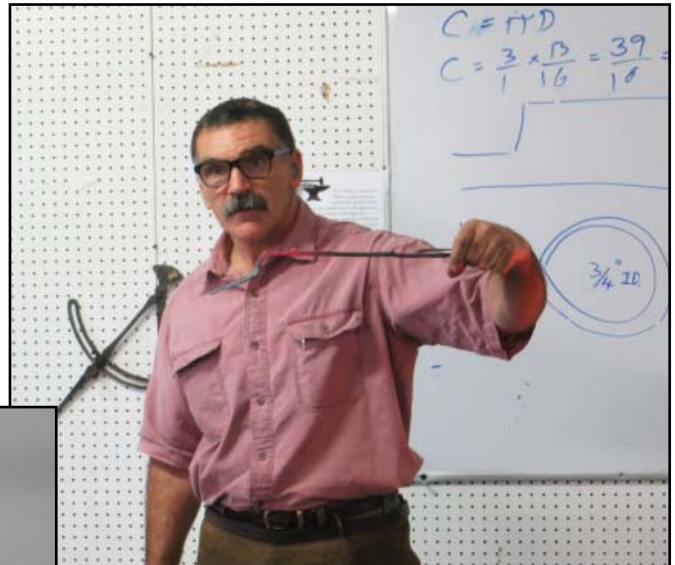
How hard one is hitting,
 how hot is the material,
 the nature of the material,
 and location of the hammer blow.

Mark easily went from cowpoo to kinetic energy formulas, sharing a very concise description of the factors at play when turning the kinetic energy (ke) of your hammer blow into the work of moving steel. He gave examples of using less of the surface of the hammer, using a heavier hammer, and increasing the velocity of the swing. Using half off blows doubles the amount of work accomplished with the same hammer and swing speed, doubling the hammer weight doubles the accomplished work with the same speed of hammering - though more work lifting that hammer. Increasing the velocity of

the blow increases the ke even more, though the momentum may kick back, and the extra energy is hard to control. He likes to work fairly hot, as more heat makes for less effort (often) it seems a good idea. Mark has an efficient hammering style, loose and relaxed, and he likes to have tools that fit naturally to his grip.

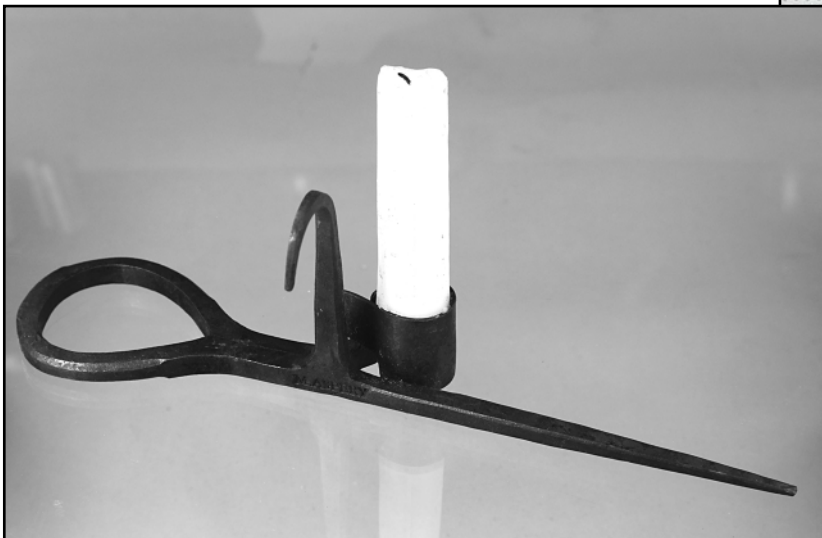
Mark made a number of items during his demonstration. First he made a chisel. He would take 3 heats to make it during our demo, but in his own shop he would only have used one heat.

Mark demonstrated making a self-handled corkscrew, including a screw driver he used in the making of the corkscrew. He made his Wizard Bottle Opener, and the interesting Miner's Candlestick which you can see at below. The Miner's lamp project was the most



advanced, with lots of tricky design details, "some fussy forging", fitting with formulas, and fairly precise angles.

Mark energetically demonstrated throughout the long day, filling every minute with rich advice and avid encouragement, even after spending 2 days teaching a workshop just the day before. Thank you Mark, we so appreciate your time and expertise, and your contribution to ours and the wider blacksmith community.



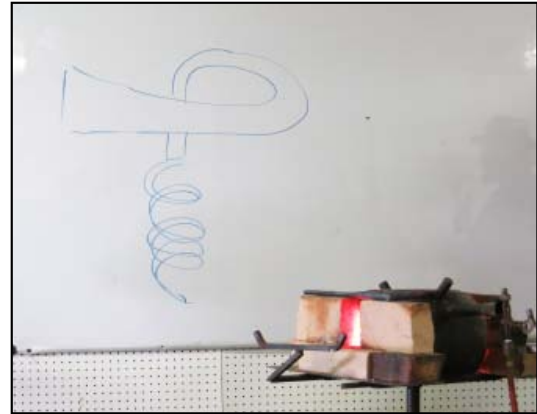
Mark Aspery: November 8, 2014

Demonstration: *Forging a helical actuator for removing semi-permanent check valves in an enclosed fluidine system.*

Forging a Corkscrew

This piece entails quite a number of forging techniques, and is a useful tool, making it a great practical project for teaching blacksmithing. These are extremely abbreviated instructions, hopefully just enough info is here to help you complete the project.

Use a chromium alloy, mild steel does not usually hold up, stainless is ok.



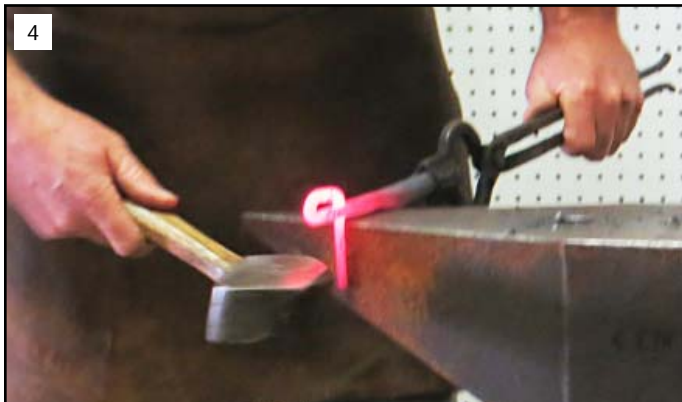
1. Lay off 5" of bar, work it down lightly, giving it a little flavor. Round it up after going octagonal (8 equal sides). Aim for 6 1/4" in length forged stock (6 1/2" is ok).



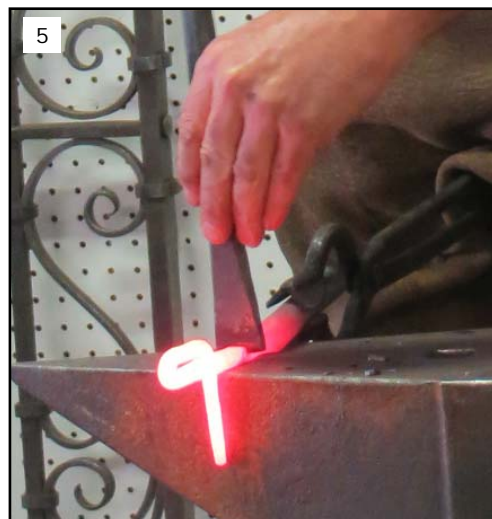
2. Punch a hole in fatter end of the taper, and drift to ~3/8"



3. First of 2 bends, gently begin the second bend approximately halfway between the first bend and the punched and drifted hole, working the tip of the taper into the hole.



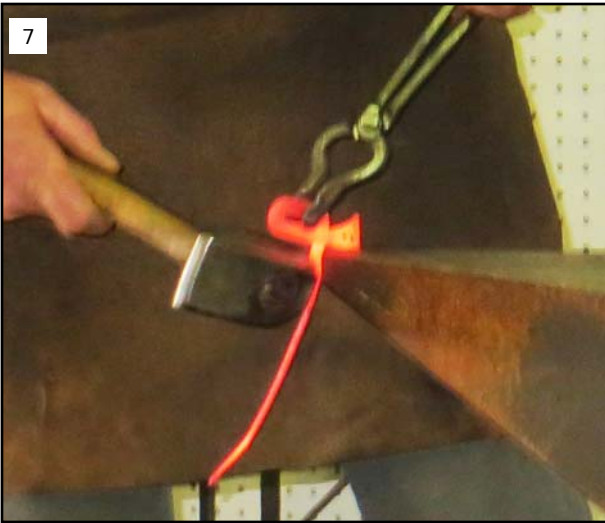
4. Complete the bend, squaring and straightening the piece to a 'T'.



5. Cut off handle end, and forge a fish tail: hammer the flair, taper it, shape it.



6. Rasp it smooth. This happened so quickly and deftly that there were no photos of the steps between cutting and rasping.



7

7. Taper out the corkscrew end, aim for ~ 4 1/2". No heavier than 1/16".

7/16" - 1/2" pitch for the coil, need ~ 1 1/2" for each coil.

8. If there is excess length, cut the coil material off to no longer than 5".



8



9

9. Begin the coil, bending at the base to a gentle 90°.



10



10. Using the tip of the horn coil the corkscrew, 1/2" o.d. (this anvil did not have a step to work the coil, as seen in adjacent photo from ABANA Affiliate, Northern Rockies Blacksmith Association, NRBA Spring Conference 2014, May 2014, Roscoe, MT). At this point the coil is tight. Keep the coil circular and centered around the vertical axis at every step of the coiling process. Use a pliers to twist the very tip.



11

11. The coiling completed. It is in perfect alignment to the handle, and centered along the vertical axis. Make sure there are no flat spots in the coil before prying the coil open.



12

12. A handy screw driver that Mark forged on the spot, to use for prying apart the coils of the corkscrew.



13

13. Pry the coils open until it looks like the corkscrew at the right. Sharpen the point, wire brush to clean up, and it is done.



**Now, Go
Test It
Out!**

Save the Date!

Friday May 15 through Sunday May 17, 2015.

The Northwest Blacksmith Association Spring Conference

Demonstrators at the conference will be Dennis Dusek and Frederic Crist. Fred will be our demonstrator from outside the NWBA, and since Dennis is a member of the NWBA he will be our local demonstrator. Dennis is also a members of the California Blacksmith Association.

In addition to our demonstrators, there will be

*Many Hands-On classes,
a gallery to display your works,
an auction fund raiser,
a banquet,
and more... stay tuned.*

Dates: Friday May 15 through Sunday May 17, 2015

Location: Cowlitz Expo Center and NWBA Mentoring Center.

About the Demonstrators:



Dennis Dusek, Artistic Blacksmith

(from Dennis' website <http://artisticblacksmith.biz/>):

Dennis Dusek was raised in and still lives in the beautiful foothills around Placerville, CA. He is currently the vice president of the California Blacksmith Association. He is perfecting his style of artistic blacksmithing and enjoys making sculptures, tools, tables, garden gates, and more. He often demonstrates and teaches blacksmithing in the vineyard blacksmith shop at Boeger winery. Dennis has an excellent striker and partner at the forge, Zane Greyson Dusek. At 7-years-old, Zane is already contributing to the art. Dennis' most recent projects and conferences are on Facebook.



Frederic Crist, Metalsmith:

(from member profile at www.blurb.com)

I am a full time artist working in multiple disciplines; sculpture, photography and blacksmithing. Each discipline enriches the other and allows me unending ideas and directions of the work. I graduated from Philadelphia College in 1977 and have been producing and exhibiting objects ever since. My work can be found in private and corporate collections throughout the US & Canada.

more at: <http://www.facristmetalsmith.com/>

CALL FOR GALLERY AND AUCTION ITEMS!

Remember to bring your latest and greatest iron work to the Conference Gallery, show your generosity and donate something wonderful to the NWBA Auction.

To all NWBA members: Please get involved in the festivities by bringing your favorite work to be displayed at the gallery. Stay involved by bringing an item for the auction and the raffle. Our conference auction is the yearly fundraiser which supports our outreach programs, like the Al Bart Grants, our Mentoring Center, Camp Hahobas Blacksmith program and more. Donate your hand crafted item, tools or other blacksmith delights to the auction in support of the NWBA. If your auction item sells for over \$250 you will receive a free year of membership in the NWBA.

Everyone wants to see what you have been working on . So, don't forget! Whether a piece of work for the live auction, the silent auction, or the gallery, your work will be appreciated by all.

SAVE THE DATE!! April 23-26, 2015
the California Blacksmith Association (CBA) will host the
Western States Blacksmith Conference

~ in conjunction with the CBA Spring Conference.
at the San Benito County Fairgrounds, Hollister, CA

Featured Demonstrators:

Alfred Bullerman – Germany

Assisted by Scott Lankton – Michigan

Leonard Urso – Large Copper Sculpture -Rochester Inst.
of Technology – Rochester, NY

Dean Mook – North West Design – Seattle, Washington

Kirk McNeill – Sculpture – Freedom Forge – Santa Cruz,
California

Megan Crowley – Pipe Forming – Dolores, CO

Daryl Meier – Meiersteel, Knife Making – Illinois

Phil Baldwin – Knife Making – Washington State

Power Hammer Workshops
(beginners & advanced smiths):

Mark Krause – California

Frank Trousil – California

Hands-On Workshops by:

Mark Aspery – Everywhere

Darryl Nelson – Washington State

John Mclellan – California

More information: <http://www.calsmith.org/news/2014/10/28/western-states-blacksmith-conference/>



Artichoke Railing by Darryl Nelson and Dean Mook 2013

Common Mistakes to Avoid

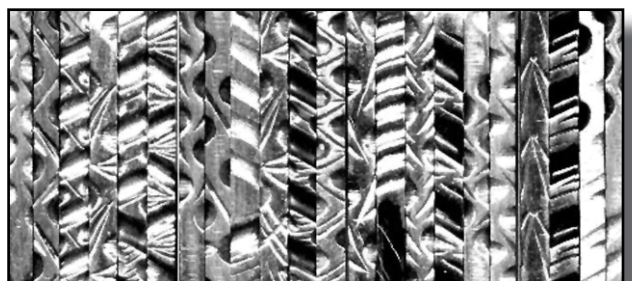
- ▶ Cutting through your work on the anvil without using a plate. Doing so will mar the face of your anvil.
- ▶ Not wearing glasses. Burns to your skin will heal, burns to your eyes are permanent.
- ▶ Gripping your hammer too tightly. Your hammer should be held loosely, so that the power comes from your body, through your shoulder, arm, wrist and hand. Grip the hammer too tightly, and you'll put too much stress on your wrist and elbow.
- ▶ Hammering on steel that is too cold. Not only are you wasting a lot of effort, you risk putting undue stress on the work.
- ▶ Not cleaning the scale off your anvil between heats. If you don't, the next time you work your piece, you'll be driving that scale into your work.
- ▶ Not straightening your work as you go. If you don't straighten your work after every heat, you'll end up with a lot of unnecessary work at the end. A few seconds at the end of every heat will save you valuable minutes later on.
- ▶ Hammering all the way through your piece on your cutoff hardy. You will cause yourself unnecessary work having to redress the edge of your hardy and you'll put yourself and others at risk when the piece flies off.
- ▶ Using an improper set of tongs. If you don't have firm control of your work, you'll waste energy and even risk losing control of it completely.
- ▶ Positioning your head directly over top of your work when hammering on it. This is a simple recipe for a forehead bruise.
- ▶ Working when fatigued. Being overly tired makes you sloppy, grumpy and causes you to make poor decisions.
- ▶ Working when distracted. Unless you are very experienced, if you are about to engage in a conversation, pull your work out of the center of the fire and leave it there until you are ready to work again.
- ▶ Trying to forge weld with an oxygen-rich fire. Oxygen is the enemy.

Reprinted from The Iron Trillium, from the Ontario Artist Blacksmith Association, ABANA Affiliate.

This is a sample stack seen Wayne Goddard's shop showing a wide variety of file work patterns he uses on the backs of knife blades and full tangs. Once your eyes get uncrossed you can see the different options.

Most are variations of round and triangle files used in combinations. Let your imaginations run wild, make practice pieces and keep the ones you like.

by Hardy Swage



JUNKYARD STEELS

The following list describes some potential types of steel used for common junkyard items. This information was compiled from several sources, Machinery's Handbook, Country

Blacksmith, Blacksmith's Journal and Carpenter Technology Corp. Machinery's Handbook is an excellent source for heat treatment of these steels.

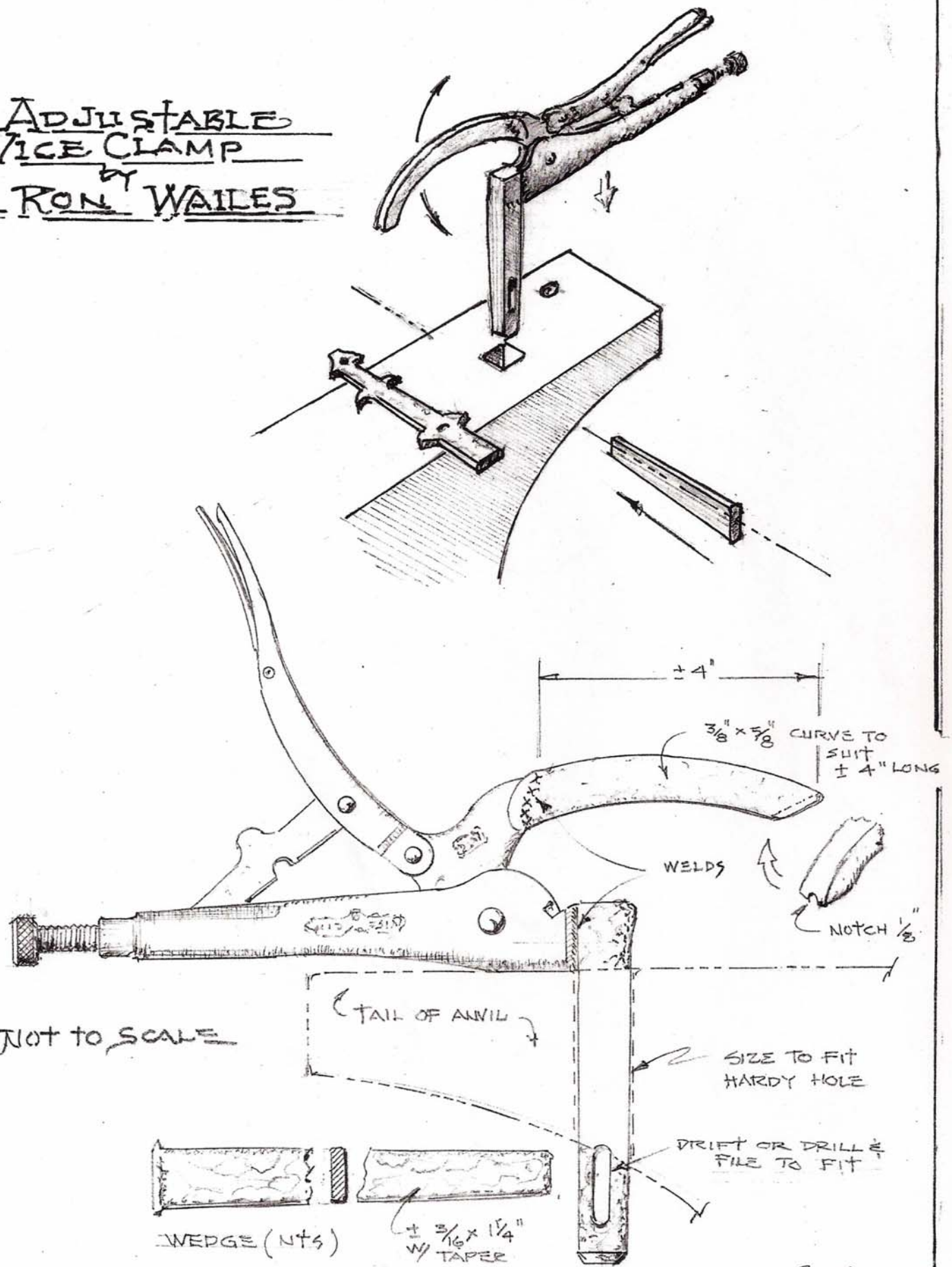
APPLICATION	Number	Letter
Agricultural steel	1080	
Axels	1040	
Ball Bearing Balls	52100	
Ball Bearing Races	52100	
Band Saw Blades		L-6
Bits, Router		M2
Bolts, anchor	1040	
Bolts, heat treated	2330	
Bolts, heavy duty	4815	
Brake Lever	1030	
Cams		A6, S7
Chisels		O2, O6, L6
Clutch disk	1070	
Clutch Springs	1060	
Coil Springs, auto	4063	
Coil Springs, truck	5160	
Cold-rolled steel	1070	
Connecting Rods	1040	
Crankshafts	1045	
Cutters, Bolt		S2, S7
Drifts		L6, S2, S7
Drills		M2
End Mills		M2
Fan Blades	1020	
Files		W-2
Gear shift levers	1030	
Gears, transmission	3115	
Hammers		L6
Harrow Disk	1080	

APPLICATION	Number	Letter
Hay Rake Teeth	1095	
Jackhammer Bits		S-5
Knives, machine		M2
Knives, woodworking		O2
Leaf Springs	1085, 5160	
Lock Washer	1060	
Mauls		L6, S2
Mower knives	1085	
Music Wire	1085	
Nail Sets		L6
Plow Beams	1070	
Plow Disk	1080	
Plow Shares	1080	
Pneumatic Tools		L6, A6, S7
Punches-Cold		A2, O2
Reamers		M2, O2, A2
Roller Bearings	4815	
Screw Drivers		L6, S2
Snap Rings	1060	
Spring Clips	1060	
Spring Steel, clock	1095	
Steering Arm Bolts	3130	
Steering Arms	4042	
Taps		M2, O2
Transmission Shafts	4140	
Tubing	1040	
Universal Joints	1145	
Valve Springs	1060	
Wrenches		L6, S2

This information was compiled by the North Texas Blacksmiths Association. ABANA chapters may freely use it in their publication. Please Credit NTBA, <https://www.facebook.com/ntxba>

THANK YOU NORTH TEXAS BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION FOR THIS VERY USEFUL CHART!!

ADJUSTABLE
VICE CLAMP
BY
RON WAILES



PAUL WEST 9-17

Ultimate Adjustable Anvil Hold Down

by Ron Wailes, drawing by Paul West

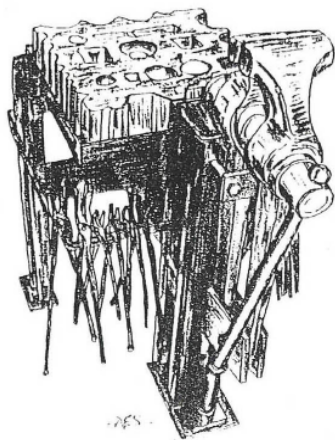
In the following I will try to explain the process that was used in the construction of this Anvil Hold Down.

1. Start by cutting off the stationary jaw of the vice-grip pliers. To achieve the right angle, place the pliers on the anvil and with a square mark a vertical line on the jaw to be cut off.
2. Take your square bar which fits the hardy hole of your anvil, and with 2" to 3 1/2" showing below the bottom curve. Mark that curved slope at the bottom on the square bar. Now mark the point at the top of the stationary jaw, and cut the square bar off at that top point.
3. Before welding the square bar to the lower fixed jaw of the pliers you will now drill 4 to 7 each 3/8" diameter holes starting at a point 1/8" above the curved line on the square bar. This will insure that the wedge will tighten the pliers to the anvil. Used, was the side flutes of the drill to hog out the material between the drill holes, as I have no milling machine. Round and flat files were used to clean up the 3/8" hole. Ending up with about a 7/16" x 2" hole.
4. The wedge should be a tapered piece of 3/8" by about 7 to 8 inches long. The mid-point of the wedges taper should be the same length of the hole in your square bar. At this point you should check by driving the wedge to see that it will snug the pliers to the anvil.
5. Take the curved section of 3/8" x 5/8" x 4" section of bar and hold it next the upper jaw and mark a line on the upper jaw to be cut off. Weld the curved section to the upper jaw. Check when the jaw is closed the curve will apply down pressure to the top of the anvil. To improve this hold down you can slightly round the center at the end to increase the ability to hold either rounds or flats.
6. The main advantage of this hold down is that it will allow you to pre-adjust the tension to the thickness of the material, before putting it into the forge. You can now take the hot item out of the forge and with a simple push of the upper handle begin to work. I have one for each of my two anvils, and they save me a lot of time.

Ron Wailes
High Valley Forge
341 Pioneer Trail Road
Cle Elum, WA 98922

Note: Drawing by Paul West, Ironique of Portland, OR.
ironique@comcast.net

For your tool box



Post Vise and Swage Block Stand

by Dave Smucker

This is one that you might just have a little trouble getting into you "tool box". It is a post vise and swage block stand I fabricated for my shop.

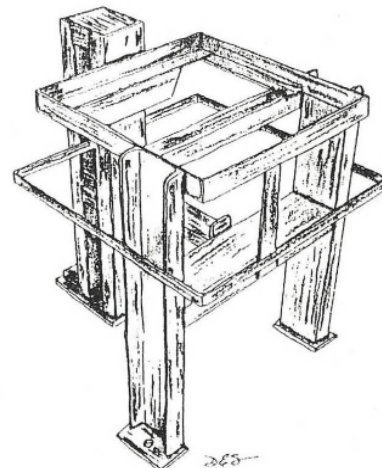
I present it here not as detailed plans on how to build "this stand" but rather as something that might generate ideas on how you could make something along these lines for your shop.

I happened to obtain this large swage block at a local blacksmithing meeting a number of years ago. One of the members had purchased it along with a number of other items in a "whole" collection of blacksmithing tools. It was a bigger item than he wanted so I bought it from him. I don't know where it spent its former life but it is typical of swage blocks found in large industrial shops and railroad shops. This one has seen its fair share of hard work and you can see where lots of cutting was done on the large "square" faces. It weighs about 400 pounds so I needed a setup so that I could use an overhead hoist to allow me to turn and have either the large square faces up or in the vertical position to use the edge shapes.

Reprinted from The Hot Iron Sparkle, Vol 22, No. 3
a newsletter of the North Carolina ABANA Affiliate

I happened to have a supply of 5 inch channel that I had found at the local scrap yard so that worked out well since the swage block was 4 and 1/2 inches thick. The primary other shape I used was 2 inch by 2 inch by 1/4 angle.

I had also purchased a 6-inch vise one year at Tannehill and wanted to make that my primary vise close to my forge.



Candidates' Statements NWBA Board of Directors Elections 2014

This year there are four outgoing board members: Bill Apple, Brent Christiansen, Jay McGowan, and Dean Mook. Many thanks to them for their years of service and dedication to the NWBA. There are four candidates up for election to the board, and room for a write in on the ballots. You should have received your ballots already, if you have not received one, contact Secretary Brent Christiansen: metalartsman@comcast.net. The following statements were submitted by the four candidates to the board:



Don Eckler

I am a retired Master Chief, US Coast Guard with a BS degree in Industrial Arts from Black Hills State University. I taught shop at the University of the South Pacific as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Fiji Islands.

I am 76 and married to Elsie. We live in Portland at the Rose Villa Retirement Community. I have a Metal Art Shop on campus, which includes the basic Blacksmithing equipment.

I consider myself a student of blacksmithing with my training from Clackamas Community College and the many demos from ABANA and NWBA. I have benefitted from hints dropped in various conversations with fellow blacksmiths.

I am new to NWBA and the Pacific Northwest, which both hinders me and helps me offer some new perspectives as a board member. It is also an ideal opportunity for me to continue my education in close association with the NWBA membership that I admire greatly.

I should point out that with me as a board member you also get the enthusiasm and experience of Elsie. As a Kindergarten teacher she probably knows more about Blacksmithing and organizing than I ever will.



Rashelle Hams

I am honored by the invitation to run for a position on the board for the NWBA. It is with much excitement and anticipation that I accept the honor to run for the position. I have been blacksmithing for about the last four years spending almost every weekend at Fort Vancouver volunteering in the

blacksmith shop and going through the apprentice program there. When not at my regular job, most of my free time is spent learning as much as I can about what has become my passion. Which I feel gives me a fairly unique perspective. The NWBA has enriched my life in providing me with opportunities to learn and grow. Now it is my turn to try to give back and help this organization prosper and enrich others lives.

I feel that if I had the opportunity to help continue the organization's growth and education, I will have enriched myself in the process. Personally I feel it is the membership of any organization that should direct it's flow, and that now is the time I should step up and help it do so.

Thank you for the honor of consideration.



Peggy Gudgell

My name is Peggy Gudgell and I have been a member of the NWBA and a hobby blacksmith for about five years. I live in Seattle with my husband and daughter. My background is in high altitude climbing. The climbing community has become filled with ego and competition. So you can imagine my surprise when I first joined the blacksmith community and I couldn't believe the generosity and acceptance I found within the members. Not only as a beginner could I ask questions of a master smith, but they would be answered with patience and encouragement. These are qualities I find fast disappearing today. I believe an organization is only as good as the time and commitment members put forth and I am happy to say it's my time. I have a lot of respect for the NWBA for what it stands for and is trying to accomplish. I enjoy this organization so much and would like to offer my enthusiasm and dedication.



Steve McGrew

In the eleven years since I started blacksmithing, NWBA has been important to me, both for building friendships and for learning new techniques.

Aside from hammering and learning, my primary interests have been teaching and outreach. I've taught about 175 students in the Spokane area, more than half of whom are still actively hammering. With the able and enthusiastic support of friends, I've organized hammer-ins and built a local blacksmithing club, Columbia Fire & Iron, which currently has 75 members. I do demos for homeschoolers, Boy Scouts, and the public.

I think the Board's responsibility is to make NWBA as useful as possible to its members. Exactly what that means and how should be done will depend on the makeup of the Board and the wants & needs of NWBA members; but if I'm elected to the Board I'll be there to contribute ideas and help implement whatever plans the Board develops.

Many thanks to these NWBA members who have stepped up to offer their time and leadership.

The NWBA extends a warm welcome to the new members of 2014.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our events, and hope you enjoy the benefits of being an NWBA member.

If we have missed you in this list, we apologize in advance for our omission.

Sean Aguilar
Jeremy Alioth
Rick Baker
Nathan Baumgardner
Craig Bergman
John Bickley
Harry Black
Alfred Blea
Frank Bobbio
Gerald Boggs
Arne Bonilla
Dan Bowyer
DeWitt Brazelton
Jay Bromwell
James Bumpeous
Chase Callaway
Jacob Cassidy
Will Castle
Elmer Church
David Claman
Greg Cleveland
Carlo Columbo
Andrew Crossman

Alan Daws
Wayne Dillon
Dale Duvall
James Ellis
Martin Ericksen
Dean Farmer
David Fleming
Skyler Frickey
Sebastian Garner
Frank Golding
Rick Haizinga
John Harris
Josh Harrison
Seth Harrison
Dave Hicks
Conrad Hodson
Les Horst
Wayne Howell
Kevin & Cassandra
Hutchison
Max Hysmith
Jackie Imel
Jim Joblin
Levin Kagy

Gary Klaus
Ted Krysinski
Mike Kuhns
James Leino
Mark Liewergen
Al Lindholm
Ben Lindsey
Evan Loper
Jesse Lyles
Brent Moon
Samuel Morris
Whitney Mount
Tom Myers
Derek Noble
James Nugent
Wade Pickett
Luke Pitzman
Robert Radcliffe
Brittney Reese-Rogers
Nathan Remy
Dave Rimbey
Daniel Russell
Diane Sandall

Robert Sandblom
Todd Sellman
Jason Sherwood
Curt Smecher
Mark Smith
Jonathan Spool
Eric Sprado
Brian Stahly
Ken Szymkowiak
Tabasco Mills
Donald Thompson
Wesley Thompson
Amanda Thon
Tyler Thornton
Pascal Tower
Mark Tullis
Gregg Watson
John Wawrysh
Lee Weickum
Eric Wiech
Dennis Wilson
Joel Windle
Pete Zwinkel



ATTENTION NEW AND OLD MEMBERS

NWBA's Mentoring Center is a great place to learn blacksmithing from fellow smiths. Beginners and experts alike are welcome. Look for announcements of upcoming events...

not yet receiving our informative monthly email announcements? Sign up online:

<http://blacksmith.org/sign-up-email-announcements/>

Tell your friends to join today, so they can start enjoying the benefits that are available right now to you as an NWBA member.

New at the NWBA Mentoring Center:

Thank you Doug McGuire for your donation of the blue drill press seen at left.

We also recently received a donation from Ronnie Selby of a stand for our band saw, so that it can be used vertically or horizontally, though I have not gotten a picture of that yet. Thank you Ronnie.



Northwest Blacksmith Association

"To promote and preserve the Art and Craft of Blacksmithing while building friendship and good will."

2014 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

The NorthWest Blacksmith Association is a Washington corporation and a 501 (c) 3 non-profit charitable organization founded in 1979. Now over 500 strong and growing. We have something to offer to anyone with an interest in blacksmithing, from the beginner to the serious professional.

Members of the N.W.B.A. receive our award-winning newsletter The Hot Iron News, the opportunity to attend N.W.B.A. semi-annual conferences, frequent hands on workshops and events, and the camaraderie and support of hundreds of blacksmith enthusiasts.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I hereby acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to become a member of the NorthWest Blacksmith Association, NWBA.

I understand that blacksmithing is an inherently dangerous activity that involves certain risks and dangers. I acknowledge and understand that those risks include the potential for bodily injury.

Nevertheless, in full knowledge and understanding of the above risks, hazards, or dangers, I freely, voluntarily and knowingly agree to assume those risks. By my signature below, I hereby agree to assume all responsibility for myself and my property and hereby release and discharge Northwest Blacksmith Association, NWBA; it's members, employees, representatives, associates, independent contractors, and board from any and all claims, demands, damages, expenses, and any other liability for injuries or damages of any description which may occur as a result of my participation in this organization as a member. This Release shall be legally binding on heirs, my assigns, successors, estate, legal guardians, executors and me.

If I am signing this agreement on behalf of another person, I certify that all representations are true with respect to the participant and that I am the participant's legal guardian or custodial parent with full authority to bind the participant and myself to the terms of the Release.

I have carefully read this Release and fully understand its contents. I am aware that in signing this Release I am releasing and waiving certain rights that I may have and enter into this contract on behalf of myself and/or my family of my own free will.

THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY DO NOT SIGN THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND RELEASE IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT OR DO NOT AGREE WITH ITS TERMS.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

*E-mail: _____

*(if you are already registered as a user at www.blacksmith.org your website user account will be updated to allow member privileges only if you use the same email address as the one used to register on the website)

Mail to: Northwest Blacksmith Association
4742 42nd Ave. S.W. #185
Seattle, WA 98116

To apply online and pay by credit/debit card go to: www.blacksmith.org

Dues are:

\$60 in U.S.A.

\$70 outside U.S.A.

New Member

Renewing Member

NWBA membership is valid for one year from the date of signup. Renewals are sent out on a quarterly basis, look for your renewal letter sometime in the 3 month period around the anniversary of your registering for membership.

Blacksmithing Schools Around the Northwest

Backwoods Blacksmith

Between Sutherlin and Elkton Oregon on Hwy 138.
Instructor and owner is Gene Bland
Beginning blacksmithing, tool making, organic and garden art.
541 459 2879
bland2879@yahoo.com

Clackamas Community College

19600 Molalla Avenue
Oregon City, Oregon 97045
Phone: 503-594-6000
Website: <http://www.clackamas.edu/>
Offering blacksmithing classes under the Welding Technology program.

Clatsop Community College

1651 Lexington Avenue
Astoria, OR 97103
Phone: 503-325-0910
Toll Free 1-855-252-8767;
website: <http://www.clatsopcc.edu/>
Blacksmithing classes are taught through the Historic Preservation Program

Incandescent Ironworks Ltd.

Spokane, WA
509-456-8321
At Incandescent Ironworks I teach introductory and intermediate blacksmithing, introductory and intermediate knife making, and tailored instruction on selected smithing topics.
Contact: Steve McGrew:
stevem@incandescent-iron.com
www.incandescent-iron.com/blcl.html

Meridian Forge LLC

37010 Meridian East
Eatonville, WA 98328
360-832-6280
Contact: Darryl Nelson: meridianforge@hotmail.com

Old West Forge

PO BOX 2105
White Salmon, WA 98672
(509) 493-4418
For additional details contact Tim Middaugh:
tim@oldwestforge.com.
Current classes are listed at www.oldwestforge.com

Pratt Fine Arts Center

1902 South Main Street
Seattle, WA 98144
<http://www.pratt.org/>
Phone: 206.328.2200
Fax: 206.328.1260
Email: info@pratt.org

Studio 4 Forging Facility LLC

A state of the art Knife Making and Blacksmith school in Seattle.
3600 E Marginal Way S. #4
Seattle WA 98134
Email David Lisch: studio4@davidlisch.com
Current class schedule is at DavidLisch.com - Learn More at Studio 4

Thorne Metals Studio

13751 Daybreak Ln
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 293 8257
Current classes are listed at:
<http://learnblacksmithing.com>

If you would like to list your blacksmith school here, please send your information to nwbainfo@gmail.com.

Editor's note: As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization there are limitations to how we are allowed promote our members' businesses. The listings will now include contact information and one descriptive sentence for your school, a policy subject to change.

To publicize your class you may send your event listing to the editor for inclusion in our online calendar. A short paragraph about the class and time, location, and fee information only please.

Please send information about your events, school and class listings to nwbainfo@gmail.com

CURRENT EVENTS: As listed online (<http://blacksmith.org/events/>)

January 10, 2015 NWBA Election Ballot Counting at Nimba Anvils, Port Townsend, WA 2 PM
January 24, 2015 NWBA Mentoring Center, Longview WA. Gerald Boggs: forging an adze
February and March 2015 Look for announcements regarding workshops and Mentoring Center events in Feb and March, plans are in the making. Updates will be posted to our website and sent via email announcements.

Long Range Events:

April 23-26 2015 Forging on the Faultline, Western States Blacksmith Conf., San Benito County Fairgrounds, Tres Pinos, CA
May 14-17 2015 NWBA Annual Blacksmith Conference, Longview, WA
July 2-5 2015 CanIronX, Cape Breton Island, Baddick Nova Scotia, Canada

This list does not include many workshops offered by other organizations, you can see the class listings included in the events list online at <http://blacksmith.org/events/>.

Take advantage of your membership benefits and SEND IN YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEBSITE CALENDAR AND THE HOT IRON NEWS to nwbainfo@gmail.com or submit it online: <http://blacksmith.org/submit-event/>

Announcements

CanIRON X

Thursday July 2nd - Sunday July 5th, 2015

CanIRON is Canada's national blacksmith conference. It is held every two years, travelling from west to east across Canada. In 2015, CanIRON will make its final eastern stop on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, before heading back to the western provinces. The event will be hosted by the Cape Breton Blacksmiths Association (CBBA).

As 2015 is Canada's Craft Year as well as the tenth anniversary of the CanIRON conference, the CBBA is setting out to make CanIRON X an extraordinary event that will inspire blacksmiths across the country and the world with what can be achieved in the blacksmith craft, while raising public awareness of the vibrancy of blacksmithing in Canada.

Demonstrator line up so far:

- Zeevik Gottlieb
- Uri Hofi
- Mark Aspery
- Ian Hope-Simpson
- Alex Paley

<http://canironx.ca/>



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Announcements that are of general interest to blacksmiths and not specifically in the business interest of an individual will be printed free of charge in the Hot Iron News, at the discrepancy of the editor and within the guidelines of the NWBA Board of Directors. Submit your announcements for publication in the NWBA Hot Iron News and our website.

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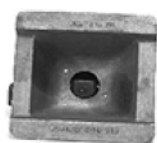


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If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact editor

Amy Mook at nwbainfo@gmail.com



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Al Bart Grant Information

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Just a few of the pieces made by Mark Aspery at his NWBA Mentoring Center demonstration November 2014.