

CHAPTER OF ABANA

# Hot Iron News

VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION

Summer 1995

\$4.00 US



**Hot Iron News** is the official quarterly publication of the Northwest Blacksmith's Association. Submission of materials for the magazine is eagerly encouraged and may be sent to the editor, Gene Chapman. Dead-line for submissions are February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 1. Other ABANA Chapters, blacksmith associations, and non-profit educational metals oriented groups have permission to reprint non-copyrighted materials found within the covers of **Hot Iron News** as long as credit is given to the authors, the magazine and NWBA. The Northwest Blacksmith's Association, and the Hot Iron News disclaim any responsibility or liability for damages or injuries as a result of any construction, design, use, manufacture or other activity undertaken as a result of the use or application of information contained in any article in the **Hot Iron News**. The **Hot Iron News** makes every effort to insure the accuracy of the information contained the articles published herein, but the use of any material or information is solely at the user's own risk. The **Hot Iron News** assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy, fitness, proper design, safety or safe use of any information, technique, materials, tool design, use, etc., contained herein.

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## NOTE: New address

**N.W.B.A.  
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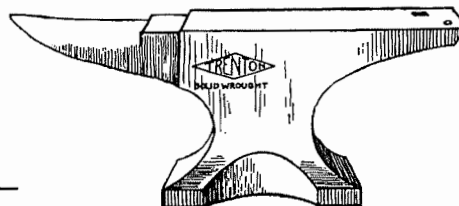
### FRONT COVER

Presidential chair for Church of Immaculate Conception, New Orleans, LA. by Japh Howard, forged steel, antique cast iron pieces from church pews, walnut seat. This photo was printed in a past edition of the Anvils Ring.



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Prez says . . .



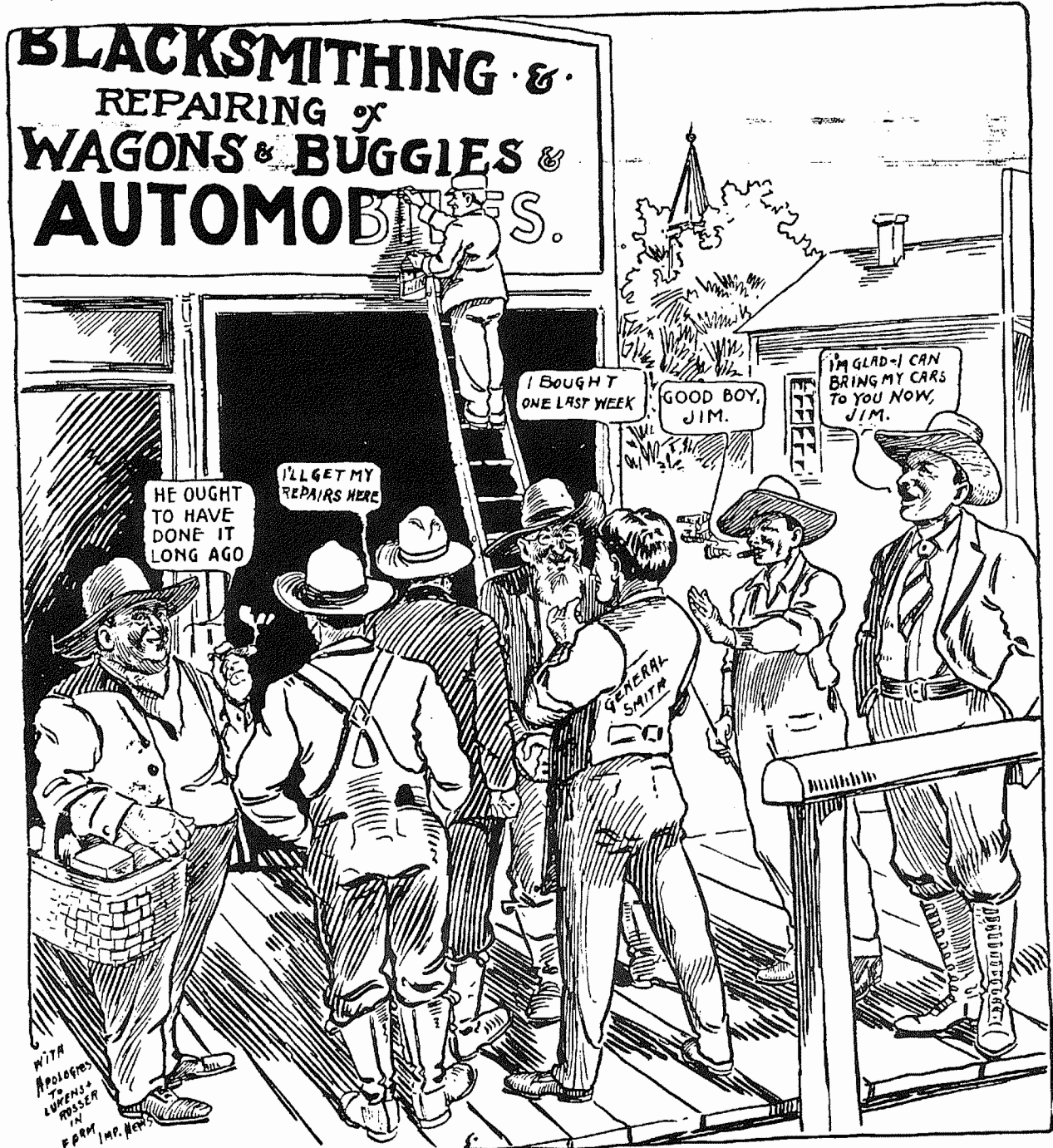
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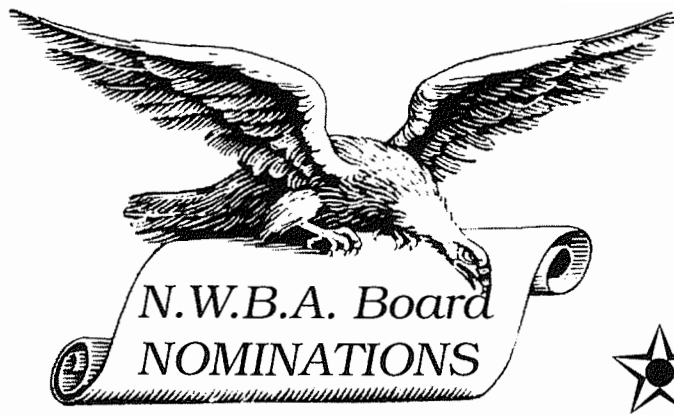


THE AMERICAN BLACKSMITH



DECEMBER, 1915





## MATTHEW TILTON

Seattle, WA

Occupation: Full time smith

Speciality: Furnishings,  
custom hardware

Blacksmith for 4 years

N.W.B.A. member since 1991

Working on mail order business

## TOM RICHARDS

Oregon City, OR

Occupation: Millwright, machinist

Speciality: Toolmaking,  
copper work

Blacksmith for 10 years

N.W.B.A. member since 1985

## TIM PILCHER

Pineville, OR

Occupation: Hobby Blacksmith

Speciality: Future knifemaker

Blacksmith for 3 years

N.W.B.A. member since 1993

Wants to get his power hammer  
working

## KENT RUDISILL

Corvallis, OR

Currently is Treasurer of N.W.B.A.

Occupation: C.A.D. operator

Blacksmith for 18 years

N.W.B.A. member since 1980

Wants to collect more "stuff"

## TERRY WILLIS

Aldergrove, British Columbia

Occupation: Lineman for B.C. Hydro

Speciality: "I love everything"

Blacksmith for 6 years

N.W.B.A. member since 1989

## BERKLEY TACK

Rainier, OR

Occupation: Full time blacksmith

Speciality: Architectural ironwork

Blacksmith for 15 years

N.W.B.A. member since 1980

Wants to break out of a few ruts that  
limit creativity

## RALPH HINDS

Albany, OR

Occupation: Retired Industrial  
Contractor

Restored a Grinnell Power Hammer

N.W.B.A. member since 1990

Started blacksmithing at age 2 by  
holding iron for brother Paul.

Ballots will be  
included in  
the Fall issue of the  
Hot Iron News



## Letters to the editors



Dear Gene:

Dave attended and I tagged along to the Little Giant Power Hammer workshop, at Sid Suedmeiers shop, Nebraska City, NE., with Fred E. Caylor and Sid Suedmeier as instructors. The three day course was well done, informative and hands-on instructions. If you didn't learn something it was all your fault. They answered each and everyones' questions till you yourself was satisfied.

Dear Gene,

I would like to thank you for your efforts in putting out such a professional newsletter. I sat down and read it from cover to cover. It was interesting, informative, and funny. And Jerry did a great job on his letter to Bill. The pictures of activities add a lot to the Hot Iron News.

The Novice Workshop in January at Old Cedar Forge was superb. Special thanks to Jerry, Gene and Berkley for their time and patience. The "just, plain blacksmith's food" was terrific! We're still bragging to friends about all the great stuff we learned and the neat people we met. We'll be attending more NWBA events to learn and to meet some more interesting, helpful folks.

Sincerely,

The Urbans  
John, Vivian, Lisa & Brian

During the course you (the student) tore down to bare frame a 25# Little Giant Power Hammer and then went over every part to see if they could be salvaged or new ones put in. Babbit bearings were poured by you (the student). Holes bored for oversized new pins, under supervision of the instructors. On Saturday after all parts were satisfactory, sand blasted, and painted, the students started to put the hammer together. The joy everyone got when they, in their turn, got to use the newly repaired hammer. They all had a big smile of satisfaction on their faces. Fitting the hammerhead and dies are time consuming but very necessary for a fine running hammer.

Later Saturday evening Sid showed how to fit and adjust the head on the ways of a newer style Little Giant Power Hammer. Needless to say Dave and I enjoyed the school. Dave learned a lot and now he can maybe repair his 40# hammer.

Many thanks to Fred, Sid, Mary Suedmeier, and the rest of the students. They all made it a very enjoyable weekend.

Fond Regards

Ma & Pa Blacksmithing  
Dave & Babe Brandon

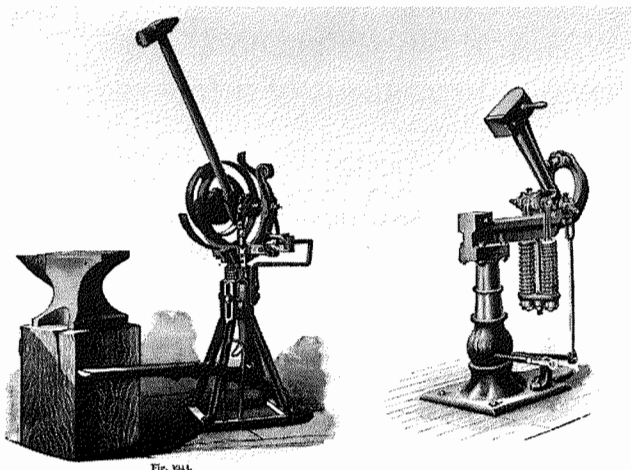


Fig. 1041

Photo courtesy of Dick Naven  
from the book Modern Machine  
Shop Practice

Many, many thanks to Vernell Henderson, Japh Howard, Rebecca Thompson, Jay Burnam-Kidwell, Dick Naven, John McKenzie, Smedley Soapstone, Wade Wade, Dave Brandon and all ABANA chapter newsletters for providing photos, graphics, and drawings of blacksmith related work. You make our work a pleasure and much easier.

. . . Gene and Peg

## PROPOSED BY-LAW REVISION

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members, plus two additional directors for each 100 NWBA members over 300 (example: 300 or less members = 7 directors, 400 members = 9 directors, etc.) Board terms will be split nearly equal, with an even number of seats open for election one year and odd number of seats open the following year. The members of the board shall, upon election, proceed with performance of their duties and continue in office for a period of two years. Successors shall assume their duties within thirty days after an election.

The above By-Law revision will be listed on a ballot, along with Board nominees, in the next issue of the Hot Iron News.

## N.W.B.A. INVENTORY

Archives	2 speaker stands
2 coffee pots	Amp. & cords
Calculator	VCR camera
BBQ Split & motor	Clifton Ralph tapes
Registration "stuff"	Shirts, hats & books
Bleacher	Cooking utensils
7 benches	6 signs
2 speakers	Hand strapping tape dispenser
1 microphone	8 boxes of past <u>Hot Iron News</u> editions

We are attempting to keep track of equipment belonging to the N.W.B.A. If anyone has any of the above items or other items belonging to the association, please let Dennis Prince know so he can add it to the list.

**LOANER:** Blacksmith videos. Don Kemper has the Clifton Ralph tapes. Get on the mailing list and send \$4.00 to Don for postage. These are multiple tapes with many hours of entertainment. Don Kemper, 20100 N.W. 61st Ave., Ridgefield, WA 98103.

## *New N.W.B.A. Members*

Merv Wingerd, Veneta, OR  
Brian E. Crapo, Juneau, AL  
Scott Montez, Eugene, OR  
Gordon Long, Vancouver, WA  
Dannie Phillips, Draper, UT  
Alfred Higgins, Wenatchee, WA  
Douglas O'Connor, Beaverton, OR  
Lyle Jenkins, North Pole, AL  
Robert di Grappa, Fairbanks, AL  
Ken Davis, North Vernon, IN  
Jim LeMieux, Sedro Wooley, WA  
Roland Richards, Castle Rock, WA  
Phill Jackson, Friday Harbor, WA

John Hicks, Bellevue, WA  
Mike Kelly, Snohomish, WA  
Stephen Barker, Cherryvale, KS  
John Barker, Cherryvale, KS  
Ken Fisher, Omak, WA  
Jana Simmons, Tacoma, WA  
Virgil Campbell, Seward, AL  
Jay Robinson, Milwaukie, OR  
Dick Cross, Euguen, OR  
Ronald Ames, Vancouver, WA  
Bob Baxter, Brush Prairie, WA  
Andrew Blakney, Seattle, WA  
John Langford, Lebanon, OR

## *Welcome*



## Blacksmith's Ladies at Spring Conference

By Vernell Henderson

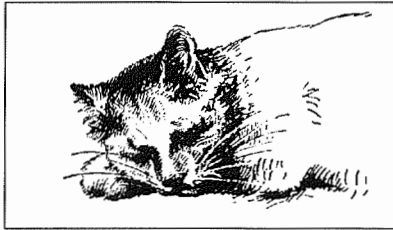
Thursday afternoon laughter peeled through Kent's new shop as the women found each other and discussed the past six months. Then it was a field trip to Kent's Mom and Dad's place to see his Rock Museum. We did not go tripping through the cow pasture as they live just across the field. We drove and what a delight, what a sight and what wonderful parents you have, Kent. Would you believe they have "better rocks in their driveway than they have at the beach!" At least that was what I heard said. Of course Kent said that most little kids were allowed to pick a rock to take home and along with several other "little Kids" this one had a hard time choosing her rock. Then "Dad (Rudy) Rudisill" took us around back to his stock pile and said; "Take as many as you want, I will never use them in my lifetime." Sunday was another rock hunt with Babe, Dianne and Phyllis. Would you believe how many rocks you can get into the back of a Trooper? Our many thanks to Kent's Mom and Dad not only for their hospitality but for their son as well.

Friday dawned and so did registration and more ladies. Our group is growing as our things to do. Someone is always volunteering to do something and none is left to do it alone. Consequently we do tend to have a good time and much fun.

Yo-yo material was brought. One of our ladies was even brave enough to ask her mother-in-law for fabric and it was provided!! Those who had not sewn a stitch, those who had sewn many and those who were just curious ended up cutting circles and sewing a few yo's. We only need 2,793 to make a quilt. Ina, you said, "two years" ??????. I believe we had more than 500 circles by the end of the conference and maybe 100 yo-yo's.

Some ladies took circles home either to cut or sew so by Fall Conference we should be half way there.

Several recipes were brought to the conference. For those of you who forgot, send them to: Vernell Henderson, 36050 Pittsburg Rd. #2, St. Helens, OR 97051 or Ina Culberson, Old Cedar Forge, 220 East Cronquist, Allyn, WA. 98524.



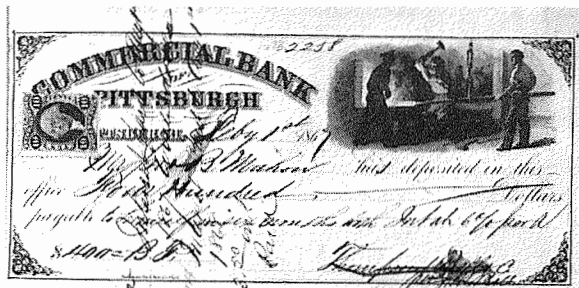
The homemade bread that was brought to the banquet Saturday night would be a lovely addition to our book. Helpful hints with stores about your "favorite blacksmith" would be

fun, too.

Speaking of the banquet, or feast for the . . . . . thanks to Gene, Kent and many ladies it was the easiest we have done in a long time.

Registrars, Quilters, Food Servers, Gallery Watchers, Archivists, THANKS!! Babe Brandon, Ina Culberson, Phyllis Tice, Dianne Kemper, Mary Krenowicz, Carol Stull, Pat Cane, Janet Nielsen, Irene Marson, Kent Rudisell, Vernell Henderson, Beth Heia, Hwa Sun, Liz Hinds, Marcia Ferrell and Kathryn Dawson (who volunteered time and energy for the next conference) and if I missed you, let me know next time.

## Happy Quilting!!



Old time check with blacksmith graphic. Dick Naven of Portland, Or. loaned the News some photographs of these, watch for more in upcoming issues.



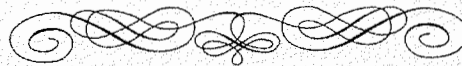


# Armchair

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## The Astragal Press

BOOKS ON EARLY TOOLS, TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY  
 SPRING 1995 CATALOG



**NEW**

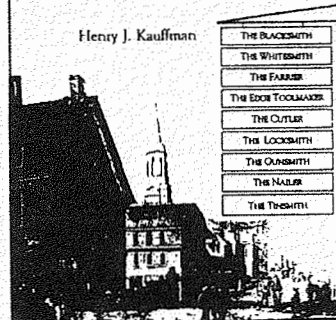
### METALWORKING TRADES IN EARLY AMERICA

Henry J. Kauffman

A fascinating and informative survey of the metalworking trades in early America. Each is covered with its own separate chapter: the blacksmith, whitesmith, edgetool maker, cutler, locksmith, wheelwright, gunsmith, nailer, and tinsmith. Introductory chapters describe and explain the blast furnace, forge, and iron foundry, processes that provided the raw material for the early metal trades. Quoting extensively from contemporary sources, Mr. Kauffman describes not only what was made, but also how it was made. Enhancing the text are more than 200 illustrations, many never before available. Here is the complete story told in straightforward words by an authority who has spent a lifetime working in, teaching, and writing about the early American metalworking trades. A valuable resource for the collector, practitioner, student, or anyone interested in Americana. 168 pages. 8 1/2" x 11". 210 illustrations. Soft cover. \$22.95.

#### Metalworking Trades in Early America

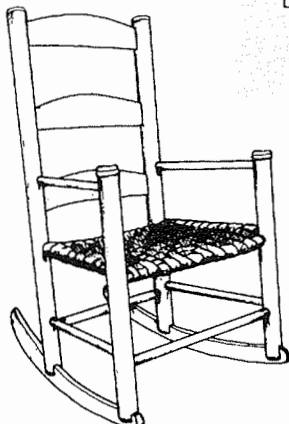
Henry J. Kauffman



Also see Page 3 for

*The American Pewterer—His Techniques & His Products*

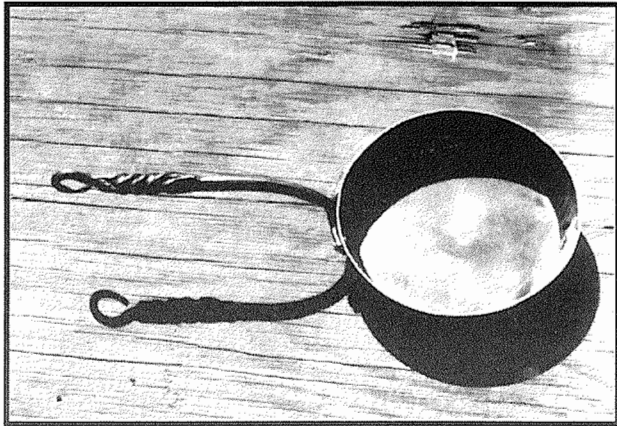
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A quick phone call will get you this catalog, well worth the trouble.

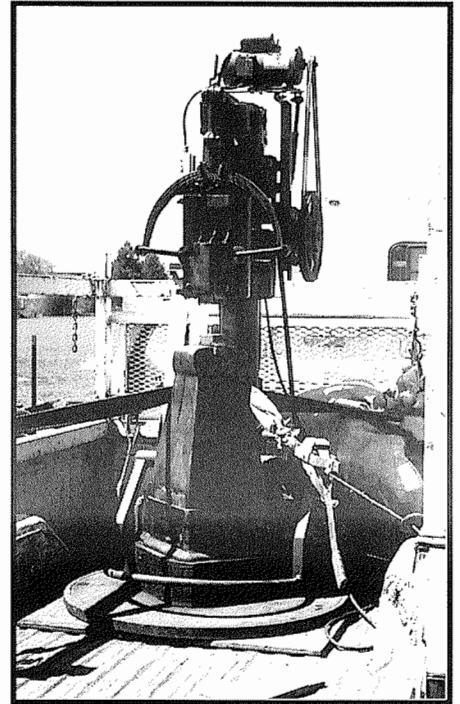


## CONFERENCE PHOTOS

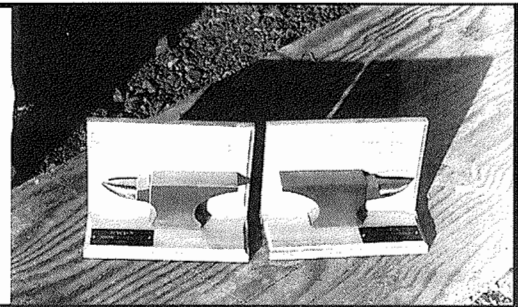


Dave Brandon's skillet

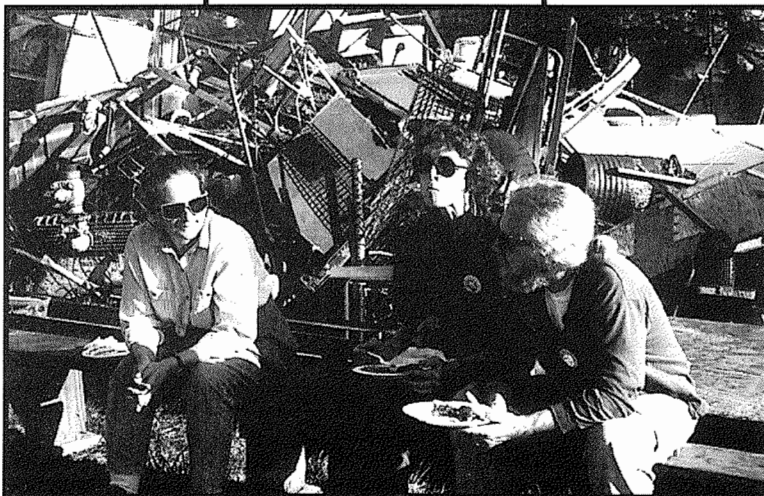
Ralph Hinds from Albany, Oregon owns a 50# hammer made by Grinnell Manufacturing Company, Grinnell, IA, pat. Feb. 1904 with modern power. If anyone has any information about this hammer, please contact Ralph (503) 926-2299.



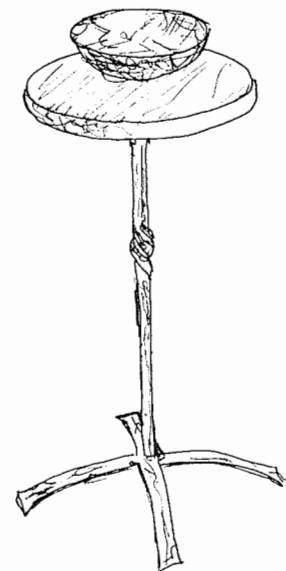
D.J. Stull sitting and thinking



Anvil Bookends sold at the auction.

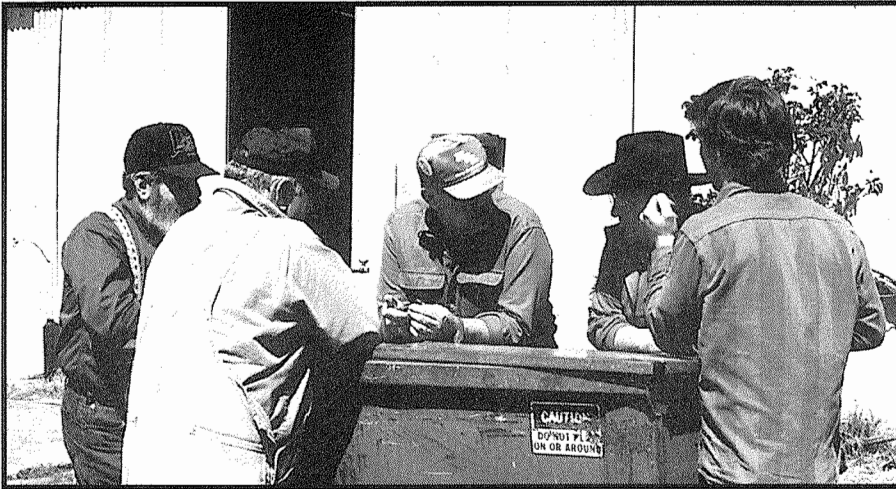


Small talk and iron talk in front of Kent Rudisill's iron collection.

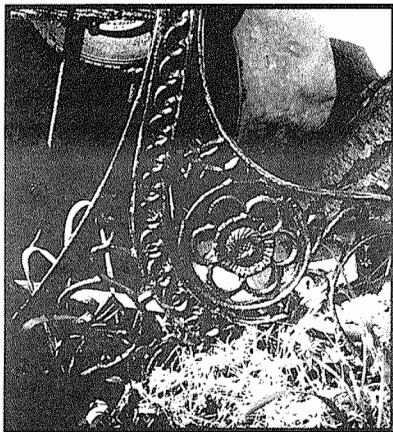


Jay Burnam-Kidwell's demo table

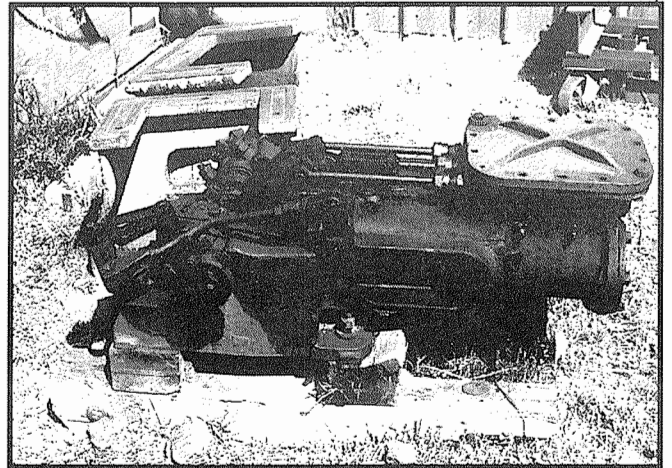
# SPRING CONFERENCE



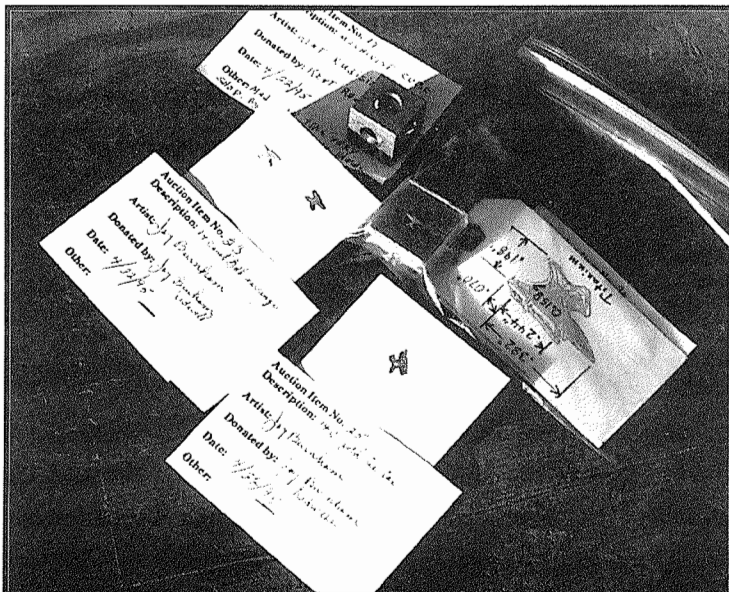
Blacksmith talk over a dumpster, where else???



School house cast-iron desk end. Ah, those were the days... inkwells, carved tops and no computers.



Kent Rudisill's iron treasures!

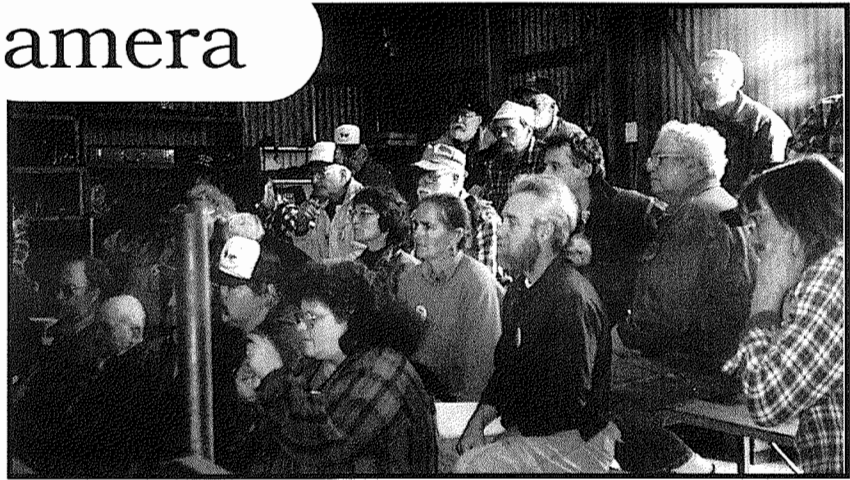


## AUCTION STUFF

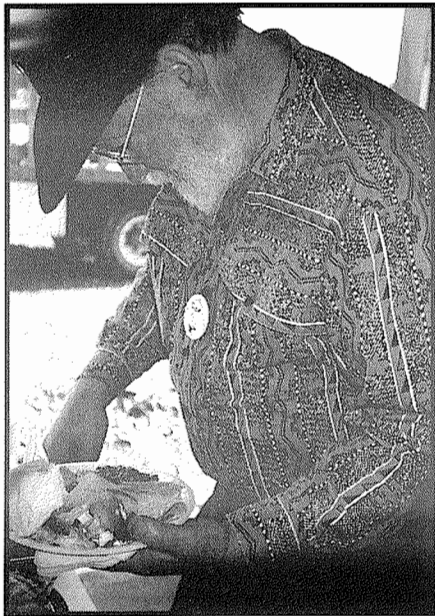
Not limited to big work, minature anvils ala Jay Burnam-Kidwell and Tom Richards. Plus a machined toy by Kent Rudisill



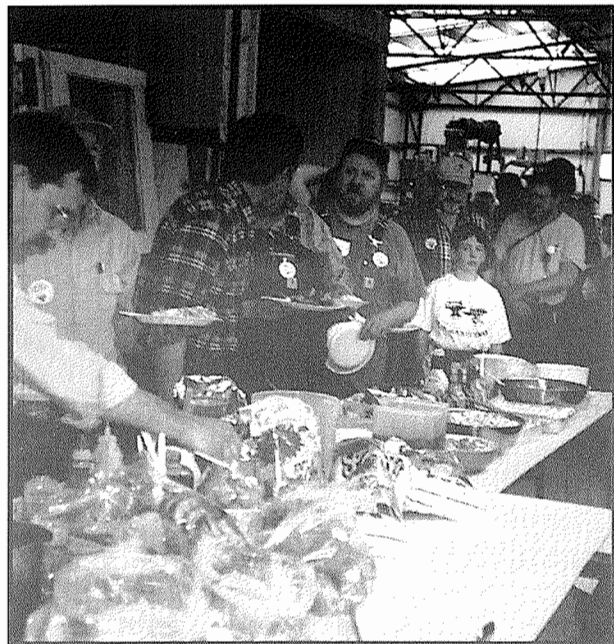
## Candid Camera at Spring Conference



Hot iron demos, friends, good food . . . don't get no better than that!



Dick Underwood from Fairbanks, Alaska going for more taters.



Jockeying for position in grub line.



Thanks to all who make the scrumptious pot luck possible

Photos by  
Vernell Henderson

## Jerry Culberson:

Blacksmith, Auctioneer, Gourmet Chef and longtime N.W.B.A. member was honored with a lifetime N.W.B.A. membership and a plaque before the Saturday night auction. Jerry has hosted Novice, Novice II, Gate, Bedstead, Repousse and other workshops since Old Cedar Forge was built. His restored '57 Kenworth is one of his most recent projects. He is a past N.W.B.A. Board President, had hauled, loaned, donated blacksmith equipment for the cause, cooked scrumptious barbecue beast, auctioneered plenty of \$\$\$ from our wallets and is always willing to help new and old in this hot iron craft.

Thank you, Jerry for all you have given us.

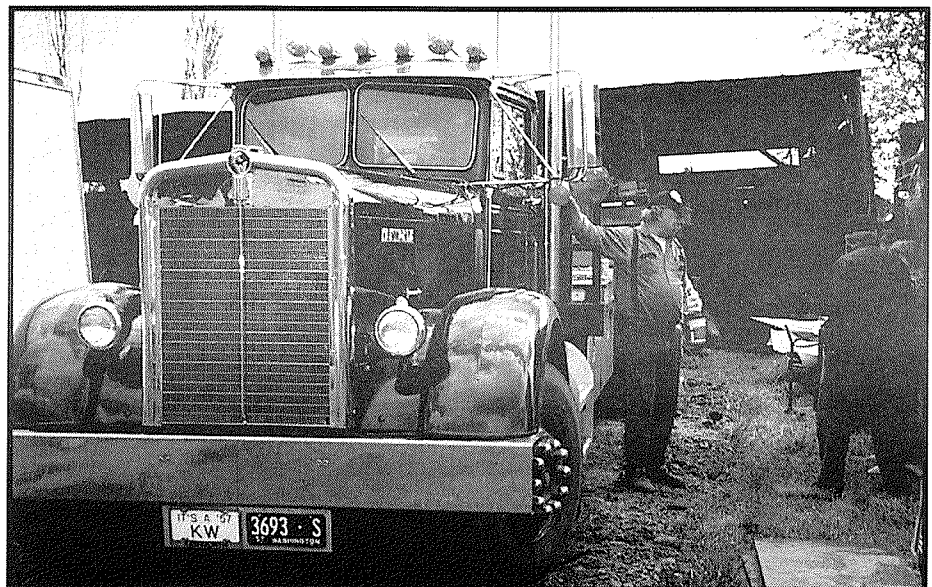


Blacksmith, Jerry showing off his truck.



Grant "Prez" Sarver presents recognition plaque and life membership to Jerry.

Shooting the breeze by the '57 KW. Man, that's some truck!





## BLADESMITH CORNER

### DAMASCUS DEMONSTRATION AT CBA SPRING CONFERENCE

Sent in by Bill Curry of Placerville, CA

If you, like me, don't see yourselves as dedicated knifemakers, the possibilities of finding other uses in the art smithing field for this technique are without end. It is quite an advantage to be able to create such beautiful material while expending such a minimal amount of effort.

What amazed me about Don's approach was how simple his technique makes the whole Damascus process. I will briefly try and describe the rudiments of his procedure from my sometimes unreliable memory.

The materials he used in the demo were L6 steel and 3/4 inch steel strapping. (Apparently there is more than one kind of steel used to make this strapping so it will pay you to make sure your material hardens and becomes brittle, like 1085 or 1095 steel does after heating and quenching, before putting it into a billet.) I didn't hear him say how thick his component materials were, however, it looked like they must have been from .025 to .06 inches thick.

He assembled a 2~2 inch high stack of 44 strips made up by alternately placing the L6 and strapping material on top of each other with a couple of extra strapping strips on the top and bottom of the stack. I believe that the extra strips on the top and bottom served to make up for oxidation losses on the outside of the billet while in the forge.

After these strips were so stacked, they were tightly clamped together and tack welded with a MIG welder in enough places to keep them from slipping apart while being forge welded into a solid bar.

The fluxing of this stack was unique to me. I had never before seen liquid flux used. The stack was put into the liquid flux cold without any extensive cleaning or scale removal effort. Don suggests letting the stack soak in the flux at least 2 hours to ensure complete saturation.

When his forge was hot he pulled the stack from the flux tank, let it drip for a couple of minutes, and inserted it into the forge. Don contends that there is so little excess flux to overflow in the forge that

flux damage to the forge floor is almost non-existent. With only the one fluxing operation before being heated, the stack was pulled from the hot forge, at welding heat, and struck three or four times using flat dies on one of Jere Kirkpatrick's treadle hammers. That is all it took to weld the stack into a solid billet. Truly amazing!

From that point on he drew out the billet to about 20 inches in length by about 1/4 inches thick, using the drawing dies in one of Sid Suedmeir's 25 lb. Little Giant power hammers. He then cut this into four equal lengths and started the process over. So, in a short period of time he had welded up a Damascus billet containing 160 plus layers of material.

After returning home from the conference this last weekend, I was still so enthused by what I had witnessed that I got busy and cut some lumber mill band saw blade L6 material into 3/4 by 5 inch strips, using an abrasive cut-off wheel, and sheared off an equal number of 3/4 inch steel banding strips. Stacking about 10 of each together, gave me a starting thickness of about 1~ inches, (my L6 pieces were much thicker than the strapping material). I had purchased a small container of the liquid flux chemicals from Don, which I mixed with water and used to treat the as yet unwelded billet. Before the day was over I had forged my first Damascus billet. Even though it contained only 60 laminations, subsequent grinding and etching with chloride revealed a beautiful classic Damascus pattern.

Don can be reached through Wyvern Industries, at 229 Flounce Rock Dr., Prospect, Oregon, 97536. He has produced several videos on his technique and also prepared a catalog of the various supplies and tools needed for conventional knifemaking and Damascus work. (The price of the catalog is \$1.00, refundable with the first order.)

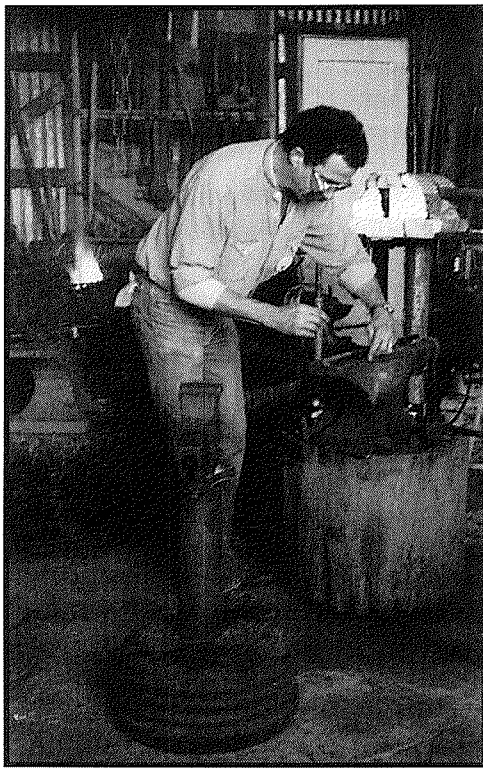


## Velcro II "95"

Jay Burnam-Kidwell and Joe Elliot try their odds in the velcro dual -- it was a sticky adventure to be sure!



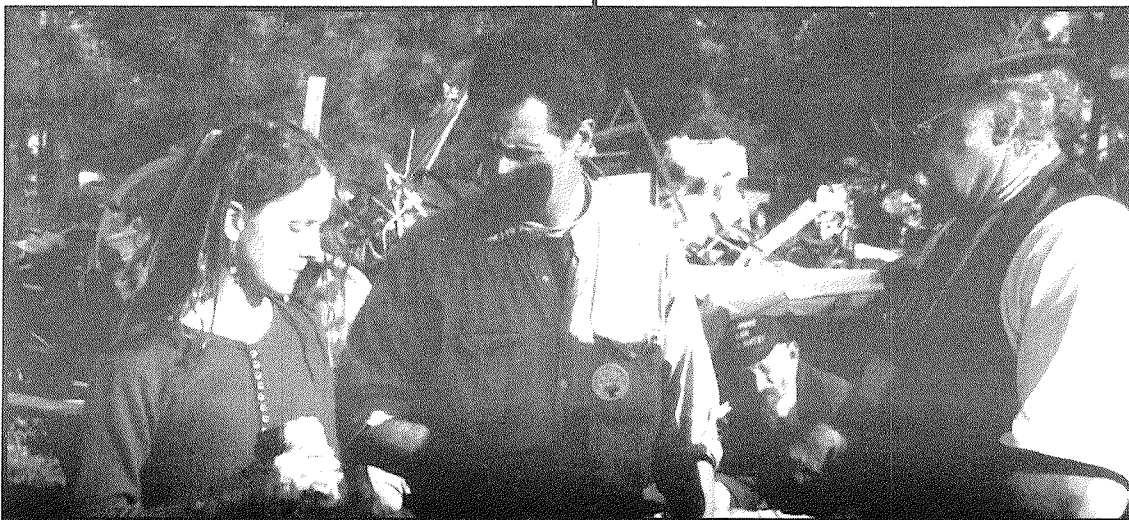
# JAY




## BURNAM-KIDWELL

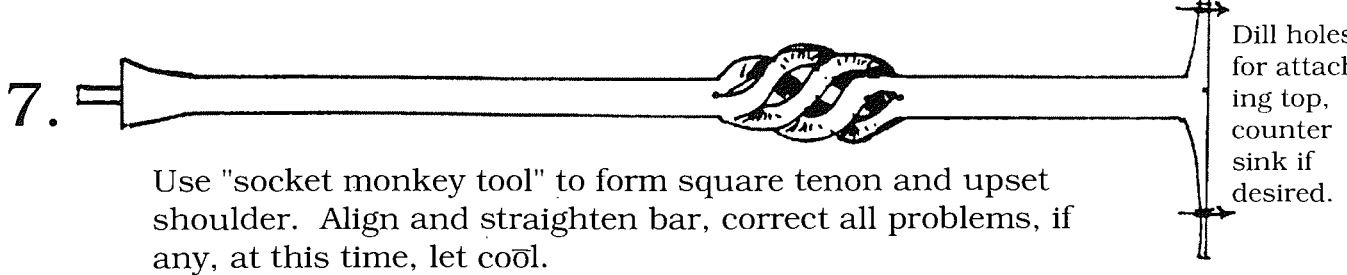
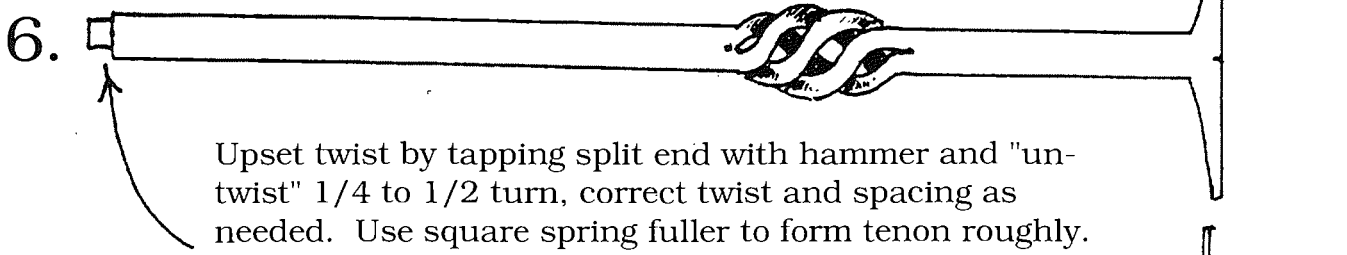
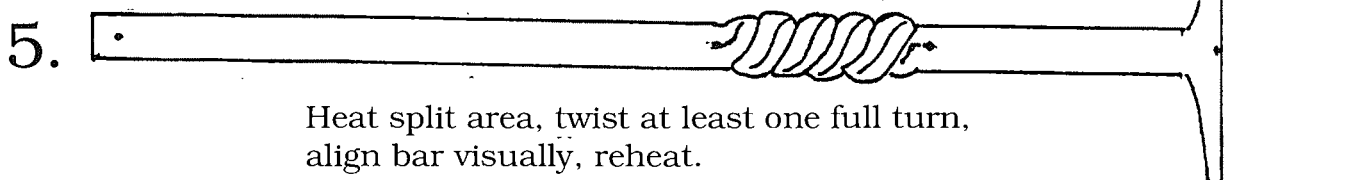
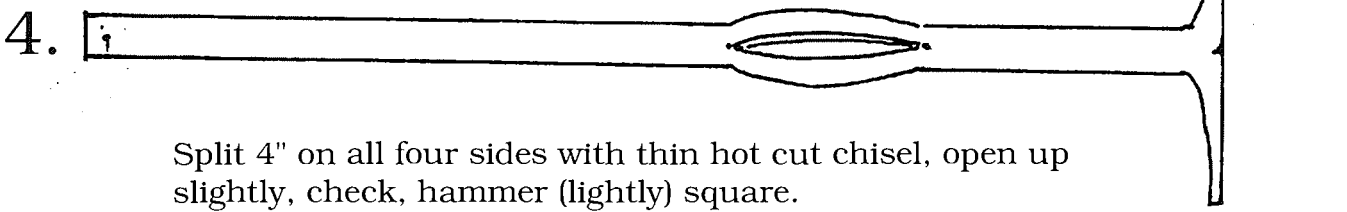
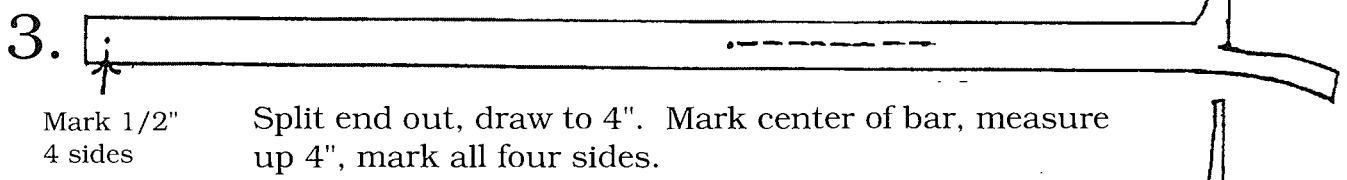
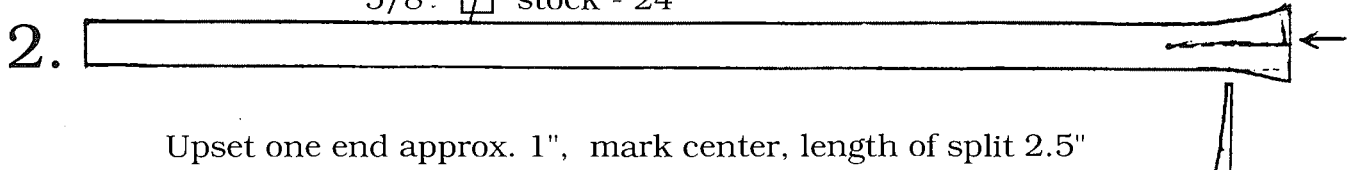
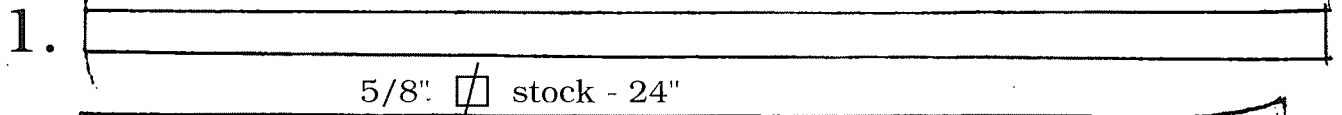
Jay B.K. at work. Demos are a natural to him. That fire behind his posterior is a coal forge . . . a rare sight in the Pacific Northwest!

Jay, daughter and auctioneer, Jerry Culberson, plan their strategy for the fundraiser

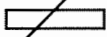


## Table - Center Post Sequence -- NOT TO SCALE

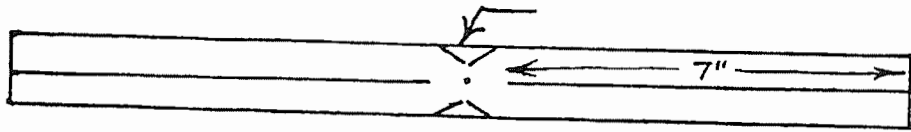
24" x 5/8" x 5/8" mild steel  Mark with center punch and cold chisel. Hammer facets (edges) and flats hot.




## Table - Leg Sequence -- NOT TO SCALE (obviously)

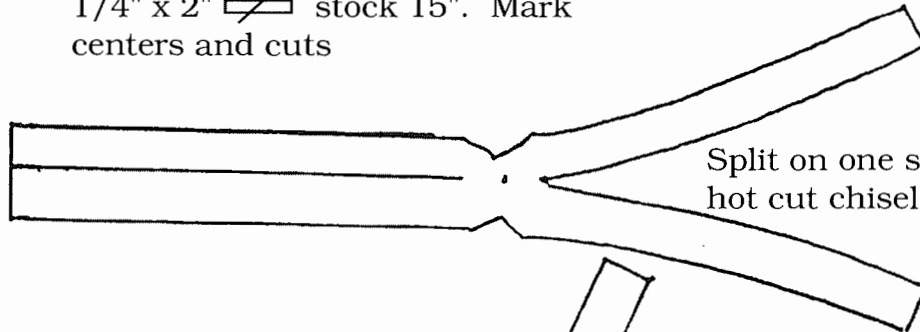
1/4" x 2" x 15" mild steel , mark with center punch and cold chisel.  
Measure twice, cut once.

1.



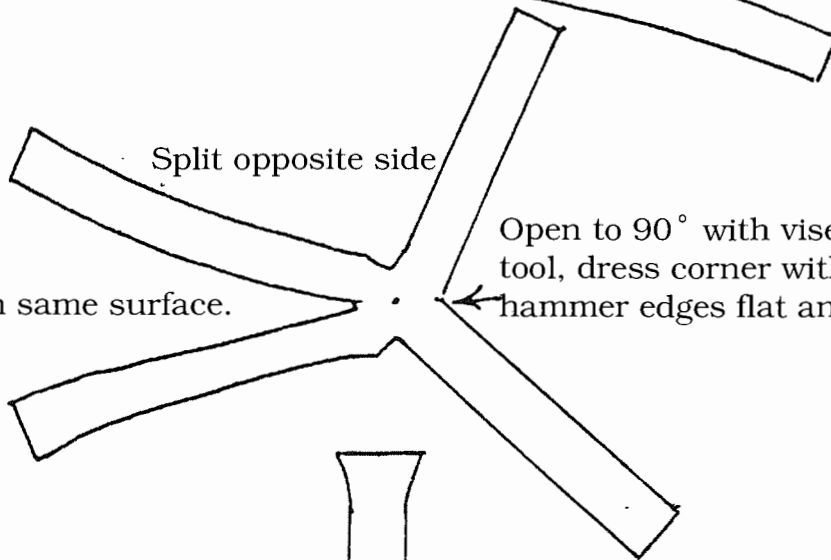
1/4" x 2"  stock 15". Mark centers and cuts

2.



Split on one side with thin hot cut chisel, open out.

3.



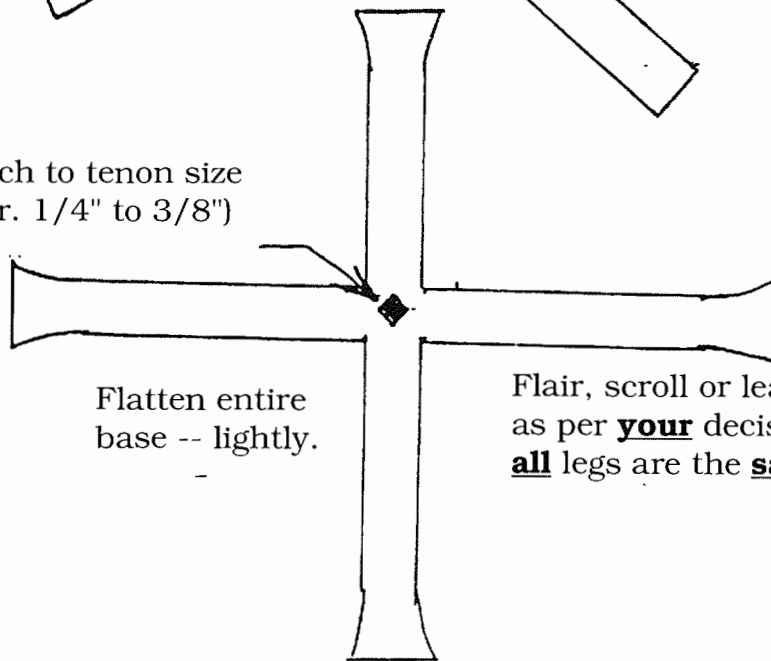
Split opposite side

Open to 90° with vise, anvil, hardie tool, dress corner with rasp or file, hammer edges flat and even.

All splits on same surface.

4.

Square punch to tenon size of post (appr. 1/4" to 3/8")

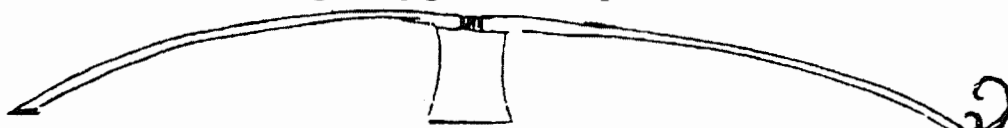


Flatten entire base -- lightly.

Flair, scroll or leave ends alone as per **your** decision. Make sure **all** legs are the **same** length.

5.

Bend legs on jig -- even up to sit level.



## Dave Thompson

### Demonstrator

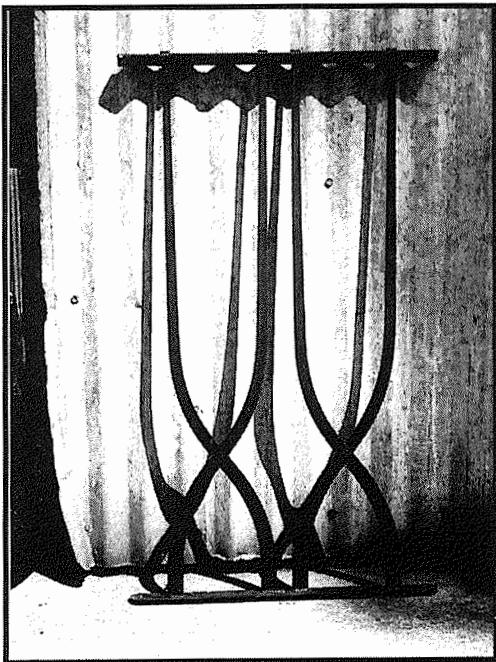
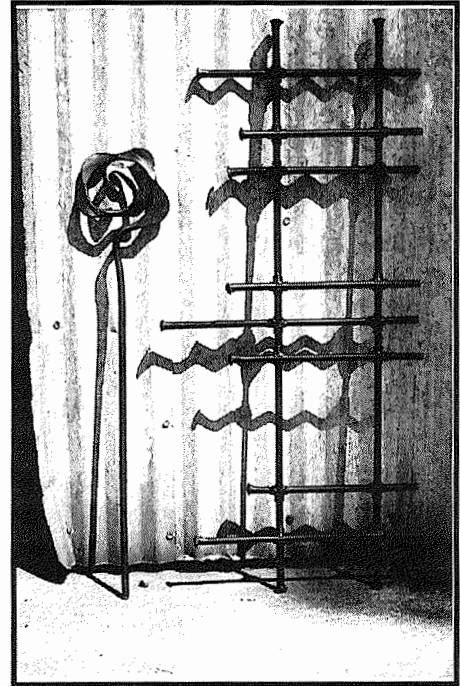
#### THOMPSON'S TIPS 101

How much time have you spent unsatisfactorily trying to make those plated screws black? You know - - burning them up in the forge, etching them with acid, painting them, etc. Simply take a clean jar or yogurt container, mix a box of screws with an ounce or more of Van's Instant Gun Blue, secure the lid and shake for 30 seconds. Pour out the spent bluing and discard. Dump the screws into a cotton rag or paper towel, blot dry and finish with WD40. Presto-beautiful black screws.

Bluing is a very nice finish for interior furniture and railings. The piece must first be sandblasted clean. Bluing can be applied by spray, brush or rag, then sealed by lacquer or wax. Bluing is also very good for blending in those (heaven forbid) ground arc welds.

#### SOURCE:

Van's Instant Gun Blue  
C.S. Van Gordon and Son, Inc.  
1815 Main street  
Bloomer, Wisconsin 545724  
(715) 568-2612  
\$30/gal plus shipping and handling  
Follow all manufacturer's instructions.



**DAVID**  
**THOMPSON**

**Dave's studies in iron  
give us inspiration to  
"keep on pounding".**

*"There must be  
some magic in that  
coal fire!"*

# More Dave Thompson



Dave and Rebecca Thompson and daughter, Ellis. The familiar face on the right is Darryl Nelson, Gee, he used to look different . . . WONDER WHY?

Dave T. doing what he does best, demo hot iron, techniques and ideas.

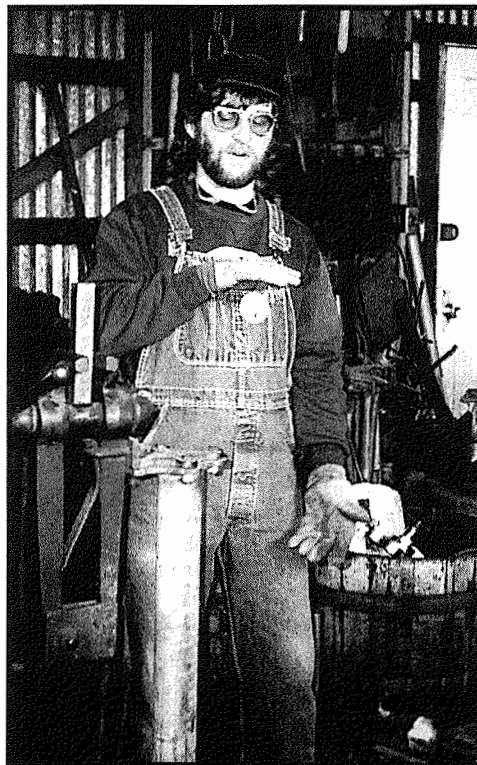


Photo by Vernell Henderson



## Whatsit??

Tom Richards brought this "whatsit." It's made by Stanley Tool Co. and they don't know whatsit either! Among all you blacksmiths, tool collectors, industrial workers and yard birds, there must be someone who knows?

It's about 36 inches tall. When the crank at the bottom is turned the top portion turns - - three axis at the same time - kinda like a souped up egg beater!



Dave Brandon's "Whatsit" is a hammer for "pounding" circular saws. Every sawmill had a "Saw Filer" to sharpen saws.

A circular saw must be "dished" when it is at rest. This dish shape is put into the saw by judiciously pounding the saw on a special saw anvil (a square/rectangle of 100#+ with a flat top). The saw was laid out flat, special straight edges moved about on the saw and strange hieroglyphics of chalk marked thereon. Then the saw was "pounded".

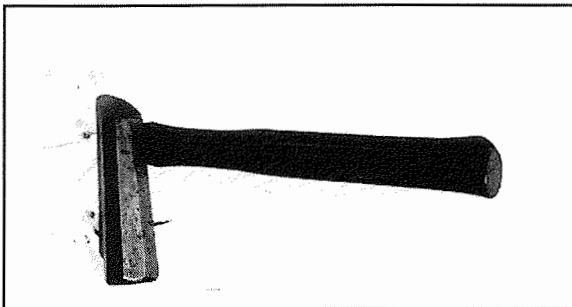
Just like blacksmith, the "struck" side of the saw moved farther than the "anvil" side, putting the desired dish shape in the saw. A Saw Filer had an assortment of hammer shapes and weights to help him stretch the saw surface with precision.

Precision?? "pounding" circular saws was pure art! And an expert artist/craftsman was highly sought after, courted and very independent! (Sounds like other artist/craftsmen who use hammer and anvil?) A straight saw will wobble to either side when it is at running speed. A properly dished saw will straighten up from centrifugal force as it reaches rim speed, but has enough "tension" from the dish remaining to keep it from wobbling. This changed for each saw size, R.P.M., type of timber and sometimes, it seemed to change out of pure orneriness!

A "pounded" saw was "Brought to Truth," and that's the truth! Sorry to be so long winded, but that's the whole story on your "Whatsit".

Don Kemper

Dick Underwood from Alaska says it's a dog head saw used to tension circular saw blades.



Regarding the whatsit on page 32, the one submitted by Dave Brandon is a tensioning hammer used by sawmakers, and saw filers. They were made by the major saw manufacturers and sold by the pound. I have listings in two old catalogs:

Henry Disston & Sons, 1918, third revised edition, page 78 - price \$2.00 per lb. (No hammer less than 2.5 lbs.)

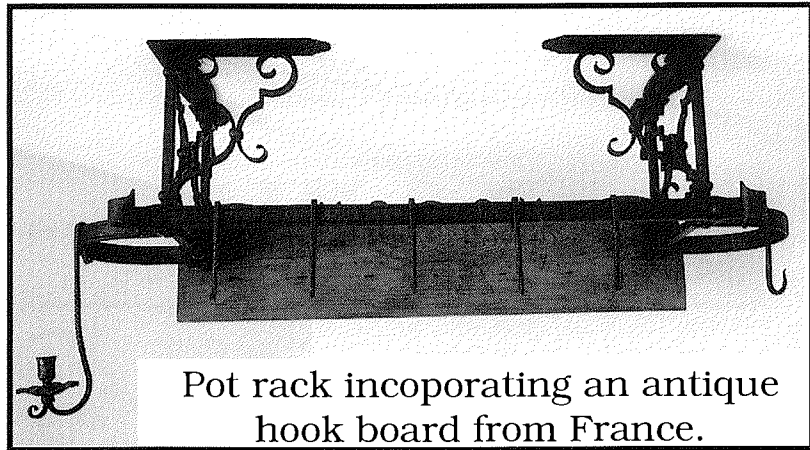
E.C. Atkins & Co., 1919, 18th edition, page 78, price per lb. 60¢, furnished any weight desired.

Both are illustrated.

Regards, Dick Naven



## JAPH HOWARD



Pot rack incorporating an antique hook board from France.

Japh Howard will be instructing a kitchenware and utensils workshop at Joe Elliott's Dry Canyon Forge on July 14-16, 1995. (See upcoming events.)

Japh has been employed at:

- ✧ 47 Productions - Forged iron interior furnishings
- ✧ National Ornamental Metal Museum - Artist/consultant
- ✧ Little Newsham Forge, England - Hand forged architectural ironwork with Brian Russell
- ✧ Richard Quinnell, Ltd., Rowhurst Forge, England - Architectural metal work and iron restoration
- ✧ Royal Restoration, Inc. - Restoration of 19th century chandeliers and sterling silver hollowware
- ✧ Security Iron Co., Inc. - Design, fabrication and installation of a production painting line system; restoration of iron gates for the Church of the Immaculate Conception
- ✧ By Hammer and Hand Architectural Ironworks
- ✧ Apprentice
- ✧ Independent subcontractor

His teaching accomplishments include:

Penland School of Arts and Crafts

River Bluff Forge Council

Southwest Artist Blacksmiths Association

Royal Bath and West Show, Somerset, England

Fire and Iron Gallery, Surrey, England

Louisiana Metalsmiths, Bogaloussa, LA



Pot rack detail

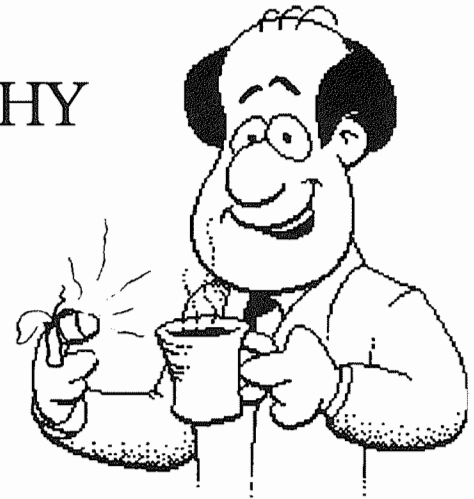
## AN ALOE IN EVERY SMITHY

A couple years ago I was forging some heavy round stock under a 4-B Nazel. I was wearing cotton, hot mill gloves. I noticed my right index finger seemed very hot, I assumed it was just radiant heat from the piece I was working, so I kept hammering. It got hotter, I looked down and my glove was smoldering a hole the size of a quarter! I immediately quenched my hand. It hurt. There was a huge blister, it looked like a well done hot dog over an open fire. So I iced it for a while and put a bandage over it. The blister broke that night, so I squeezed the fluid out and cleaned it. Then I started this routine:

- ★ Clean thoroughly with hydrogen peroxide
- ★ Apply aloe leaf
- ★ Bandage with sterile gauze
- ★ Work
- ★ Clean, apply Neosporin

Apply aloe, etc. . . .

I believe the aloe helped immensely. Take a 1 1/2" piece of aloe vera leaf and split it open. It's kind of jellylike in the



center, split the leaf skin back and apply gel to wound, leaf skin up. This moistens the burn, the skin of the leaf acts as a 2nd skin. The sterile gauze holds it all in place and protects it. After the burn started to heal, I would leave it uncovered at night. I always bandaged it for a day at the shop. I think I did this for about 3 weeks.

The burn healed beautifully. Complete use of finer, very little scarring, no pain during healing (unless I banged it). I think the regular cleaning and aloe applications made a difference. I highly recommend keeping an aloe plant in your shop. It soothes minor burns (and kids love it), as well as major ones. I hope no one burns themselves as I did, but if you should . . .

Dan'l Moore  
Coon Hollow Forge

## WRITE TODAY!

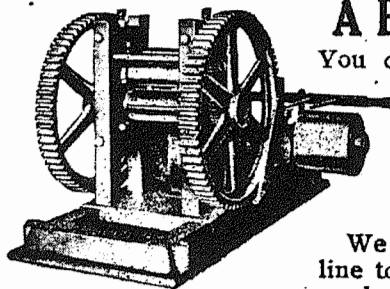
### A BIG BARGAIN!

You can compete with any auto spring factory with this

### STURGIS SPRING LEAF TAPERING MACHINE.

We are discontinuing this line to make room for other products. **Write Today!**

**AXELSON MACHINE CO., Los Angeles, Cal.**



WINTER NOVICE WORKSHOP  
AT DAVE THOMPSON'S

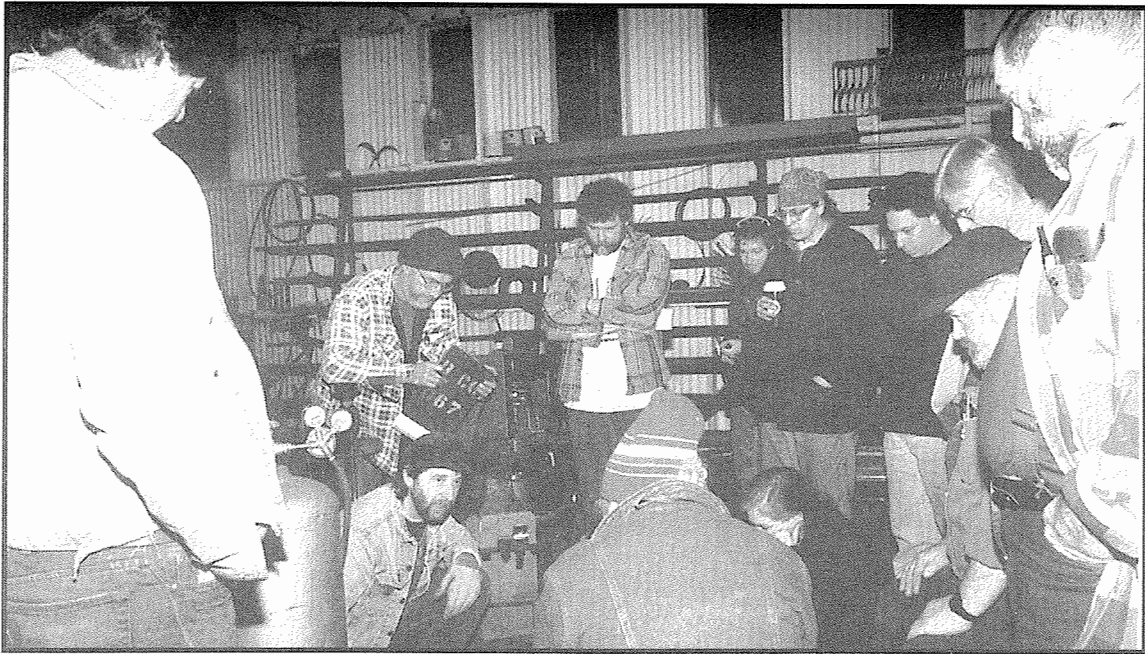


Group photo taken at the beginning of the workshop. Note the beautiful sculpture by Dave Thompson in the background.



Dave and Joe E. doing demos.  
"When I nod my head, you hit it."

## MORE NOVICE . . .



Intense discussion on the finer points of blacksmithing.



This photo taken at the end of an obviously very grueling workshop. Blacksmithing has a magical effect among other things on participants??#@?

Photos by Rebecca Thompson

# A PETER ROSS SPRING THING

By Bob Race

In the later part of May eleven of us pooled our resources and invested in having Peter Ross of Colonial Williamsburg visit Portland to give us lessons on the art of forging period kitchen utensils which would have been used in the food preparation at the hearth.

The lecture started around nine o'clock and several prototype tasting spoons were ready by noon. This method used a 1/4" x 1" x 4" piece of 1018 cold rolled steel where the first two inches were fullered down, then the handle drawn, followed by spreading the bowl to have a 3" diameter. One of Peter's suggestions of spreading is to create the valley in the center first, then climb the hills from the bottom up leveling out the remainder. The handle was then finished drawn and finished with a tang. When all filed to a nicely symmetrical piece, the bowl was sunk into a form provided by Ike. After lunch we were exposed to the creation of a spatula Peter introduced as a "Dolly Parton" shape. This was started with a 1/4" x 3/4" x 5" where the setup allowed for a 3" blade tapering imme-

diately to a 2" waist, this was sectioned by the first 1 1/2" and the next 3/4" for the whimsical pattern of the blade.

The last day, Monday, the whole morning was witnessing Peter construct an andiron which had a decorative collar welded to the top of the front leg. Parent stock for the front piece was taken from 3/4" sq. about

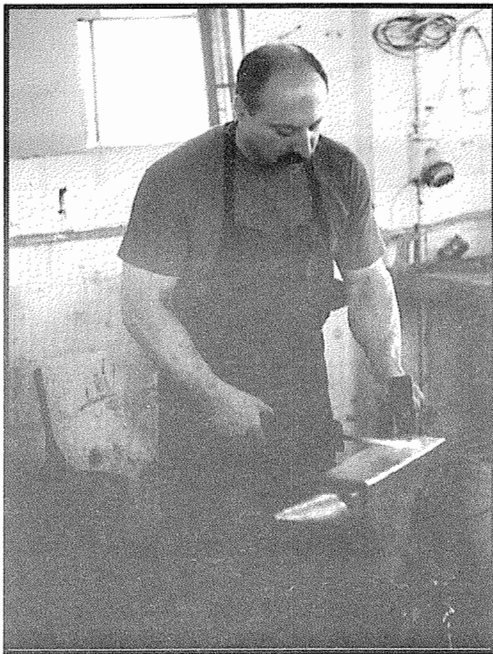
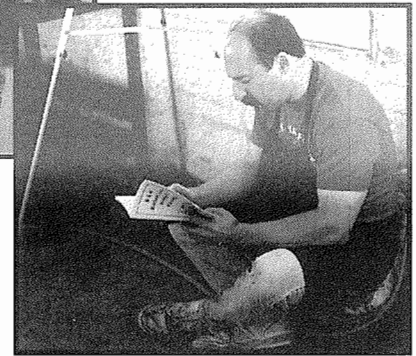
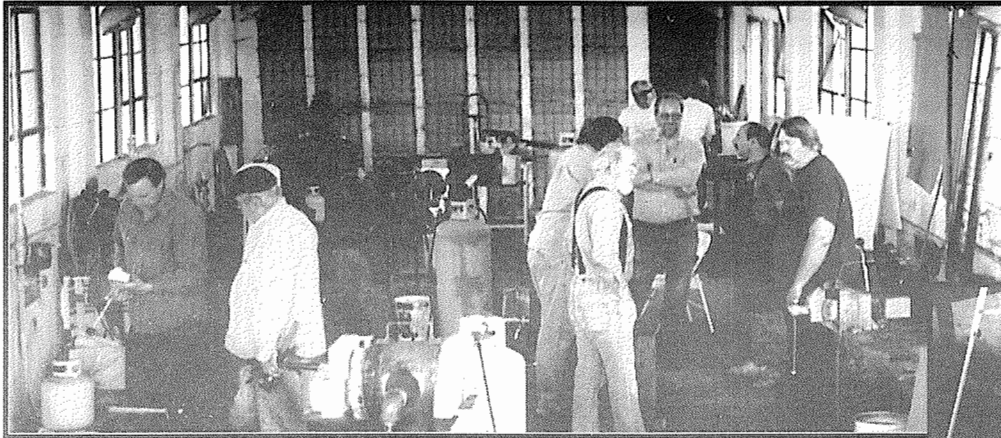
10 1/2" long and the first 1 3/4" split to make the legs. After the legs were spread and shaped, a small punch hole was made 3 5/8" from the base to drift a

rectangular mortise which received the tenon from the back piece. The remainder was necked down to 4" long except the last inch was left 1/2" sq. to which a piece of 1/2" x 1" wrapped and welded to form a decorative knob at the top. The back leg is at least 10" long and has a square bend going into the upright leg which is to be long enough to make that whole piece parallel to the floor. I believe only two of us actually finished this project. First was Eric Grip and then his companion, Harold Heia.

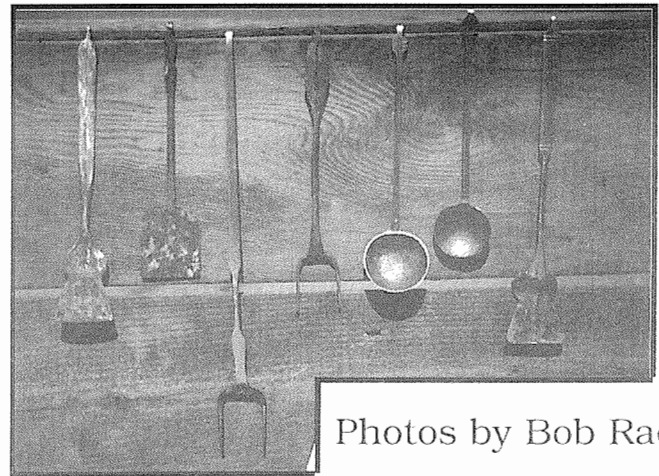
*Peter's skill in duplicating the iron crafts of 18th Century America makes him one of the most desired instructors in the country.*



## Peter Ross Workshop



Peter Ross  
at work.



Photos by Bob Race



Pictured are:  
Wally Albin,  
Ike Bay,  
Harold Heia,  
Eric Grip,  
Peter Ross,  
Dave Stearns,  
Steve Hampson,  
Doug O'Conner,  
Jim McGuire,  
Gordon Long,  
Hugh Eddy

## ACANTHUS LEAF SCROLL

*Acanthus: "A some sort of plant that grows in Greece, or something.... alot of decorative leaves done of this style are not really Acanthus leaf~ but~ it is styled after it.... just sort of got a catchall name to it."*  
by: Joseph Anderson

From the Hot Iron Sparkle, N. C. Chapter of ABANA.

- 1 • CHALK OUT LINE (FULL SIZE) SCROLL ON A PEACE OF SHEET METAL~ TO CHECK WORK ALONG  
• MILD STEEL BAR, 1 1/2" x 3/4" x 2'-00"  
• ALL HOT WORK
- 2 OFF SET
- 3 KEEP OFFSETS IN CHECK 23~10
- 4 MAINTAIN THICKNES OF OFFSETS  
\*A MUST\*
- 5 & 6 OFFSET~\*SEE 23
- 7 LINE WORK (a, b, c. HAMMER ORDER)
- 8 "NECK DOWN" OR "RAMP"~OPTIONAL~
- 9 LINE WORK
- 10 a. ONE-90° TURN "ORIENT TO BAR"  
b. DRESS OUT TURN
- 11 FIRST FULLER PASS
- 12 FULLER:  
a. EACH OFFSET~TWO PARTS  
b. SPREAD LEAF OUT~5/8" DEPTH
- 13 •NOTE~WIDE BENDS SLOW  
•NARROW BENDS FAST  
•HEAT CONTROL  
•SHAPE~ANVIL HORN / BENDING WRENCH  
•REPEAT 12b. AS NEED
- THIS OR THIS 14 NARROW FULLER~ GREAT SCROLL AS YOU WORK~ ATTEND 12.
- 15 FULL SIZE~15a TWO OR THREE TIMES LONGER THAN 15b.

*Artwork by: Al Andrews*



## BUILD A BETTER MOUSE TRAP? NOPE BUILD A BETTER TONG? YEP!



N.W.B.A.'s own Grant Sarver started Off Center Forge some time back. Grant's the one who sez . . . "When they plant me, I want, "He made a nice pair of tongs" on my stone. Well his tongs are more than nice. The "V" bit tongs he brought to the N.W.B.A. Spring Conference -- 60 pair -- were all sold at conference end -- and that's with 130 in attendance.

The tongs are "light enough to just hold me" as Clifton Ralph sez. Along with tongs, Off Center Forge makes hammer tools, punches, spring swages and rumor has it, a new light weight power hammer soon to appear. Grant is a great punster. . . I wonder what does Off Center Forge really mean? Grant said, "I just love to go to work in the morning with an attitude like that. You can expect good things to happen."

### Ball Swage

SSBA-08	1/2 INCH BALL	-----	45.00
SSBA-10	5/8 INCH BALL	-----	45.00
SSBA-12	3/4 INCH BALL	-----	45.00
SSBA-16	1 INCH BALL	-----	50.00

ORDER ANY THREE AND TAKE A \$15.00 DISCOUNT  
OTHER SIZES AVAILABLE  
(SHANK IS 1/2 BALL SIZE)

### Rope Swage

SSRO-08	1/2 INCH ROPE	-----	45.00
SSRO-10	5/8 INCH ROPE	-----	45.00
SSRO-12	3/4 INCH ROPE	-----	45.00
SSRO-14	7/8 INCH ROPE	-----	50.00
SSRO-16	1 INCH ROPE	-----	50.00

ORDER ANY THREE AND TAKE A \$15.00 DISCOUNT  
OTHER SIZES AVAILABLE

### Achnorn Swage

SSAC-10	5/8 INCH ACHORN	-----	45.00
SSAC-12	3/4 INCH ACHORN	-----	45.00
SSAC-14	7/8 INCH ACHORN	-----	50.00
SSAC-16	1 INCH ACHORN	-----	50.00

ORDER ANY THREE AND TAKE A \$15.00 DISCOUNT  
OTHER SIZES AVAILABLE

### Round Swage

SSRD-08	1/2 INCH ROUND	-----	45.00
SSRD-10	5/8 INCH ROUND	-----	45.00
SSRD-12	3/4 INCH ROUND	-----	45.00
SSRD-14	7/8 INCH ROUND	-----	50.00
SSRD-16	1 INCH ROUND	-----	50.00

ORDER ANY THREE AND TAKE A \$15.00 DISCOUNT  
OTHER SIZES AVAILABLE

### Swage blank

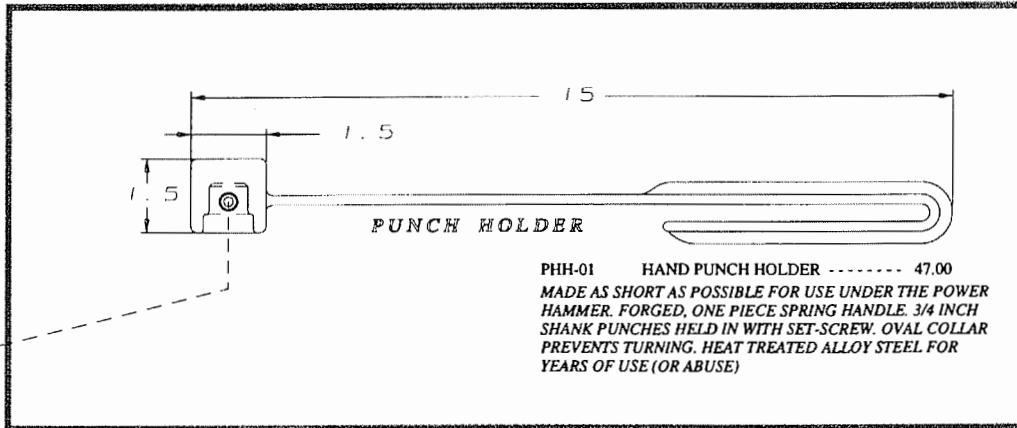
SSBL-01	2 X 2 SWAGE BLANK	-----	40.00
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TWO HALVES AS SHOWN ABOVE WITH SPRINGS  
FORMED AND PUNCHED INCLUDES RIVETS

### Tongs

TOVB-06	3/8 V-BIT TONG	-----	25.00
TOVB-08	1/2 V-BIT TONG	-----	25.00
TOVB-10	5/8 V-BIT TONG	-----	25.00
TOVB-12	3/4 V-BIT TONG	-----	25.00
TOPU-16	16" PICK-UP TONG	-----	25.00
TORI-08	1/2" RIVET TONG	-----	25.00





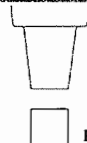
PHH-01 HAND PUNCH HOLDER ----- 47.00  
 MADE AS SHORT AS POSSIBLE FOR USE UNDER THE POWER HAMMER. FORGED, ONE PIECE SPRING HANDLE. 3/4 INCH SHANK PUNCHES HELD IN WITH SET-SCREW. OVAL COLLAR PREVENTS TURNING. HEAT TREATED ALLOY STEEL FOR YEARS OF USE (OR ABUSE)



## TAPER ROUND PUNCH

PRT-06	3/8" TAPERED ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRT-08	1/2" TAPERED ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRT-10	5/8" TAPERED ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRT-12	3/4" TAPERED ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRT-14	7/8" TAPERED ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRT-16	1" TAPERED ROUND PUNCH	15.00

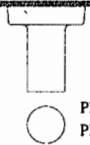
5" TAPER FOR EASY RELEASE, H-13 TOOL STEEL, Rc 54



## TAPER SQUARE PUNCH

PST-06	3/8" TAPERED SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PST-08	1/2" TAPERED SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PST-10	5/8" TAPERED SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PST-12	3/4" TAPERED SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PST-14	7/8" TAPERED SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PST-16	1" TAPERED SQUARE PUNCH	22.00

5" TAPER FOR EASY RELEASE, H-13 TOOL STEEL, Rc 54



## STRAIGHT ROUND PUNCH

PRS-06	3/8" STRAIGHT ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRS-08	1/2" STRAIGHT ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRS-10	5/8" STRAIGHT ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRS-12	3/4" STRAIGHT ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRS-14	7/8" STRAIGHT ROUND PUNCH	15.00
PRS-16	1" STRAIGHT ROUND PUNCH	15.00

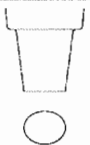
H-13 TOOL STEEL, Rc 54



## STRAIGHT SQUARE PUNCH

PSS-06	3/8" STRAIGHT SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PSS-08	1/2" STRAIGHT SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PSS-10	5/8" STRAIGHT SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PSS-12	3/4" STRAIGHT SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PSS-14	7/8" STRAIGHT SQUARE PUNCH	22.00
PSS-16	1" STRAIGHT SQUARE PUNCH	22.00

H-13 TOOL STEEL, Rc 54



## TAPER HAMMER EYE PUNCH

(SOON)



## BOBBER OR BOB TOOL

PBO-06	3/8" SPHERICAL BOB PUNCH	22.00
PBO-08	1/2" SPHERICAL BOB PUNCH	22.00
PBO-10	5/8" SPHERICAL BOB PUNCH	22.00
PBO-12	3/4" SPHERICAL BOB PUNCH	22.00
PBO-14	7/8" SPHERICAL BOB PUNCH	22.00
PBO-16	1" SPHERICAL BOB PUNCH	22.00

H-13 TOOL STEEL, Rc 54

ALL ITEMS SHIPPED REGULAR U.P.S.  
 PLEASE ADD \$5.00 PER HANDLE AND \$2.00 PER PUNCH S&H



24 Hour Toll-Free Voice & Fax: 1 (800) 99FORGING

1318 S. 83rd Street Tacoma WA 98408



## CALENDAR

### OF EVENTS

#### JULY

July 14-16: Japh Howard Kitchen Hardware & Utensil Dry Canyon Forge (Joe Elliott's) Redmond, Oregon. Contact person: Joe Elliott, (503) 548-2564.

#### AUGUST

August 14-18: The Art of Blacksmithing

Sponsored by North West School of Wooden Boat Building, Port Townsend, Washington. Fee \$500.00, register with North West School of Wooden Boat Building, 251 Otto St., Port Townsend, WA 98368, (360) 385-4948.

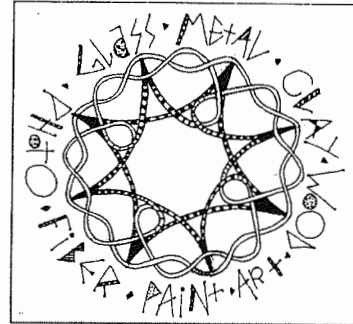
This five day course will not make anyone a professional blacksmith overnight, but will provide students with the basic blacksmith skills necessary to progress in the field. This workshop is off-site and held in Allyn, Washington at Old Cedar Forge. Limited 12 Students (Tools Optional).

August 17-20: Rocky Mountain Smiths Blacksmithing Conference at the Francis Whitaker Blacksmithing School in Carbondale, Colorado. Demonstrators: Francis Whitaker, Michael Saari, Nana Schowalter, Corky Storer, Nol Putnam and Nahum Hersom. \$125 for non members. Mail in registrations only. Contact Dan Nibbelkink, 800 S.E. 4th St., Loveland, CO 80537, (303) 667-6749.

## THINGS YOU MISSED

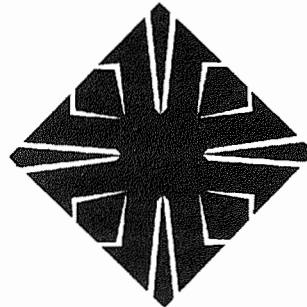
### OR THINGS TO SEE

### The Joe & Friend's Show



**DRY CANYON FORGE**  
128 E ANTLER REDMOND, OR 97786

On June 17th Joe Elliott and a few artist friends got together at Dry Canyon Forge and had some fun! Demonstrations went all day and into the night. Among some crafts displayed were photos, metalwork, textiles, raku, painting and glass. Then the Dry Canyon Filharmonhick took over the stage for some real rippin.



**RUSSELL JAQUA**  
GALLERY SHOWROOM

940 Water St.  
Port Townsend  
Washington 98368  
360/385-5272

If you get a chance to go to Port Townsend, be sure to check out Russell's new gallery. In addition to his outstanding work, N.W.B.A.'s own Dave Thompson and Jerry Culberson also have pieces in the gallery. As you wander through other shops in town you'll see more of Russell's handiwork.



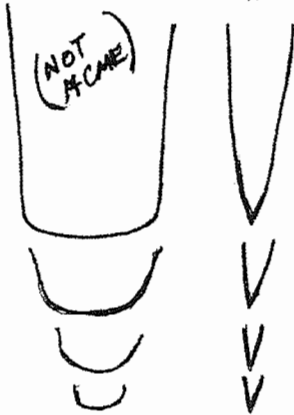
**N.W.B.A. FALL CONFERENCE**  
**OCT. 13-15 - WINTHRUP, WA.**



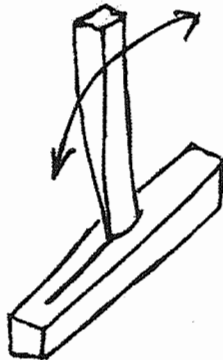
# OLD CEDAR FORGE NOVICE II WORKSHOP

## OLD CEDAR FORGE NOVICE WORKSHOP HOT TIPS

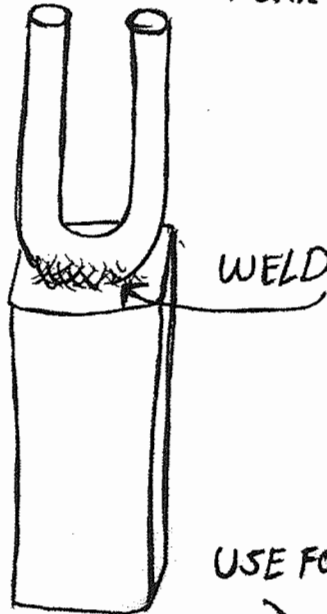
WALKING CHISELS  
THE SMALLER THE RADIUS  
" " " " CIRCLE



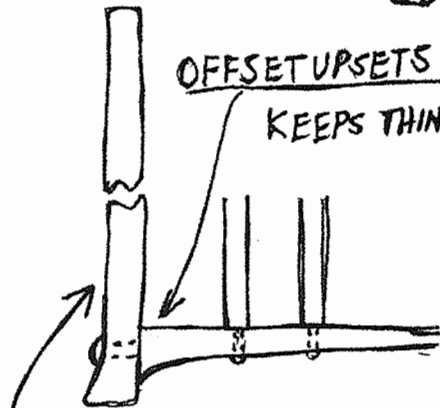
GATES



LITTLE TWISTER  
BENDING FORK



OFFSET UPSETS  
KEEPS THINGS SQUARE



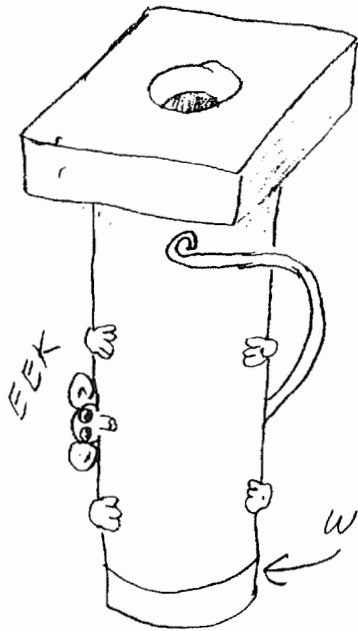
RULE OF THUMP

- ① TWICE AS BIG AS PICKETS
- ② ALWAYS BEGIN SLITTING FROM SAME SIDE OF BAR
- ③ MAKE PRACTICE PIECES
- ④ MEASURE - SLIT (TURN CHISEL) - DRIFT - AIR COOL - MEASURE AGAIN - ADD FOR GROWTH ON EACH HOLE

AS DEMO'D BY  
JERRY CULBERSON

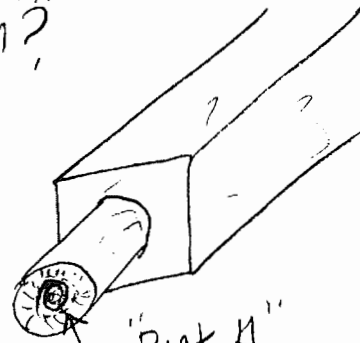
# HOT TIPS

# OCF Novice II Notes



MONKEY TOOL  
WHERE DO NAME  
COME FROM?

WELDED SOLID  
CAP



"PUKA"  
NOT HITTING HARD  
ENOUGH

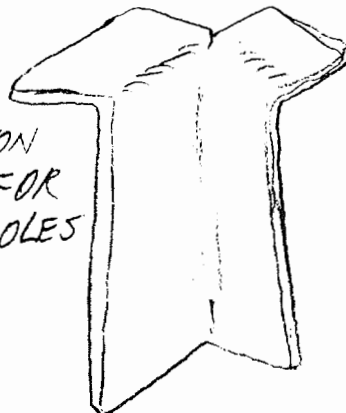
DOUBLE FULLER  
"ANTI FULLER" MAYBE LIKE ANTI BORAX?

REWORKED BALL PEN  
HAMMER

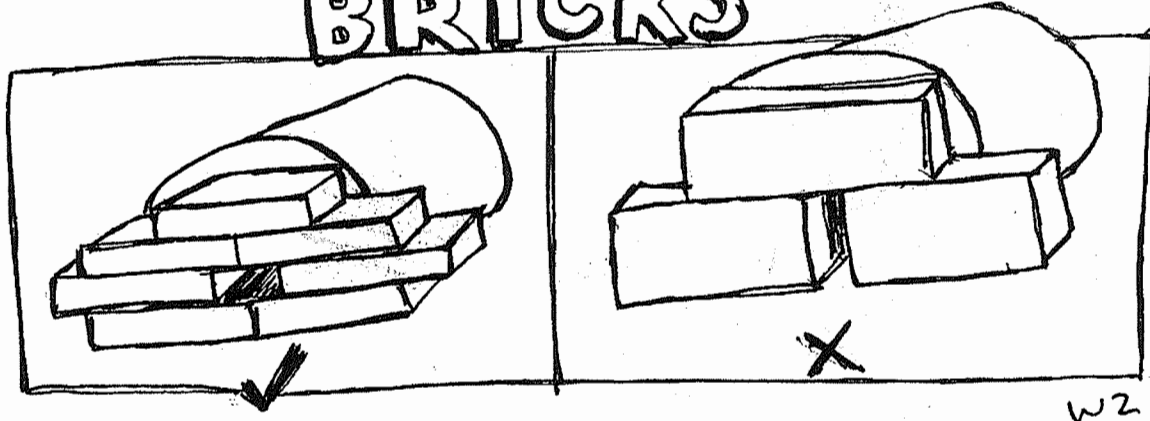


CROWN FOR  
WALKING

ANGLE IRON  
SLEEVES FOR  
HARDIE HOLES



# BRICKS



BRICKS WILL LAST LONGER IF USED  
AS DESIGNED, HEATED FROM THE  
EDGE NOT THE FLAT.

This little tidbit from  
field editor Wade Wade.



Dave Brandon sent this old photo of  
a blacksmith shop some time ago.  
Photographer, E Andrews, Douglas  
Alaska.



## ERIC GRIP **New Catalogue**

I've known Eric many years. Our paths cross at blackpowder shows, rendezvous or N.W.B.A. conferences. The fine twelve page catalogue designed by Karen, Eric's wife, is nicely illustrated and has a description of his wares with prices. It is important for customers to know what is available, the cost and who makes it. This catalogue is also a great idea booklet and I'm sure Eric's sales will grow as a result of this fine publication. To order, send Eric \$1.00 plus a 32¢ stamp to D & E Blacksmithing, P.O. Box 45185, Tacoma, WA 98445-1085, (206) 841-3952.

### D & E Blacksmithing

Eric Grip has been making quality, period ironwork in the Northwest region for over twelve years. You'll find him at area rendezvous camps, working at his forge; a wood, 1850's style forge with a bellows. Most of us, would recognize "Eric, the blacksmith", with his red beard and black hat, talking to you as he pulls on the bellows stick waiting for the iron to get hot.

Eric is primarily a self-taught blacksmith, whose interest in ironwork started in the Medieval period with swords and armour. Shortly after moving to the region, he became involved with blackpowder rifle clubs and rendezvous. Along with reading about the period's master, and his own trials and errors, he joined ABANA (Artist Blacksmith Association of North America and later, the local chapter of NWBA Northwest Blacksmiths Association). By 1982 he was making his own period ironwork to use at rendezvous along with other reproductions of ironwork from the mid 1800's period.

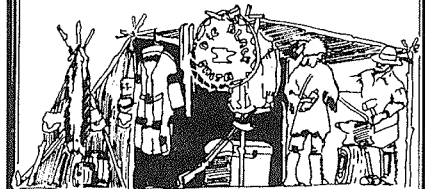
All the ironwork in this catalogue is hand forged, and where needed, forge welded, unless otherwise noted. Tomahawk and ax cutting edges are forge welded with inserts of high carbon steel, hardened and tempered. Eric offers a lifetime guarantee on all of his tomahawks to repair or otherwise replace if it should split. This, of course, is barring any abuse, like using your tomahawk to hammer in the tent pegs!

This catalogue is just a small sample of the items that Eric can make. Is there a knife that you've always imagined, but no one has? Or, how about a Damascus blade? These and many other one-of-a-kind items are a specialty of Eric's. Just give him a good description, and he'll enjoy the challenge of making that one-of-a-kind item for you.

We hope you'll enjoy using these items. And, if there is ever a problem, please be sure to let us know.

Thank you,  
Karen and Eric,  
Rendezvous forever!!

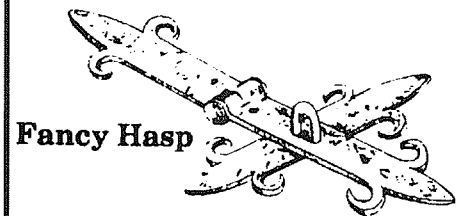
### D & E Blacksmithing Ironwork Catalogue



Catalog #1  
Spring 1995

\$1.00  
Catalog

### EXAMPLES OF SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS



Fancy Hasp



Fancy Handle

Door Latch



Staghorn Hinge

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**ADMIRAL STEEL L.P.**,  
4152 West 123rd St., Alsip,  
IL 60658-1869, (800) 323-  
7055. Knife Blade Steels:  
ATS-34 Stainless; 440C  
Stainless; HR 1084; HR  
1095; CRA 1095; HR 5160;  
O-1, A-2, D-2 (precision  
ground). In addition, Cus-  
tom Knife Blades laser cut to  
your specifications.

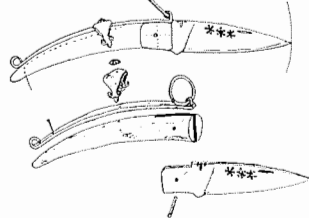
**BLACKSMITH WANTED**  
for Seattle metal furniture  
shop. Three years minimum  
experience. Responsible,  
references, excellent creative  
opportunities. Respond in  
writing to: 47 Productions  
Inc., 201 Terry Ave. N., Se-  
attle, WA 98109.

**BLACKSMITH WANTED**  
at Fort Nisqually Historic  
site, a restored 19th century  
Hudson's Bay Company  
trading post located in  
Tacoma's Pt. Defiance Park,  
part-time for summer 1995.  
Hours 10:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun. May 27 - Sept. 3.  
Salary \$6.65 hr. For applica-  
tion or information, con-  
tact: Fort Nisqually Historic  
Site, 5400 N. Pearl St. #11,  
Tacoma, WA 98407, (206)  
591-5339.

**FOR SALE:** 7' floor mount  
Canedy Otto heavy duty buf-  
falo forge drillpress. Excel-  
lent condition, circa 1906-  
1920, camel back style, flat  
belt, 4 speed power feed, 1  
HP motor (single phase)  
\$900.0 OBO. (360) 830-  
4498.

**WANTED:** 200lb. or larger  
anvil (no cast iron) in good  
condition for use by novice  
blacksmith. John Urban  
(360) 354-4859.

### *Antler and Iron II*



*A forty page booklet on building an  
antler handle Mt. Man folder, step by  
step. 100+ photos and illustrations.*  
\$14.00 postpaid, Wa St. Tx \$.96

\$1.00 for brochure

Gene Chapman, Bladesmith, P.O.  
Box 1038, Kingston WA, 98346

### **TOO LATE TO ACT,** **BUT FYI** **CALL FOR ARTISTS.**

The King County Arts Commission is seeking artists who create functional and decorative building components for inclusion in a juried slide registry. The deadline for entry is Thursday, June 8 by 4:30 p.m. Professional artists who reside in Washington state are eligible for this program. To receive a prospectus, call the King County Arts Commission Public Art Program at (206) 296-7580.

The Artist-Made Building Parts Project (AMBP) was developed in order to encourage design professionals, building developers and county construction managers to purchase building components such as tiles and concrete pavers, light fixtures, guardrails and integrated site furniture from local artists. The program consists of a juried slide registry, database and video catalogue which features the work of the selected artists. The registry materials are available for public viewing at the Arts Commission's Smith Tower offices during regular office hours. Approved registry artists are also eligible for direct purchase for County construction projects.

For additional information about the AMBP Project, please call Cath Brunner, Public Art Coordinator, at (206) 296-8680.

### **FRANCIS WHITAKER**

The Francis Whitaker Blacksmiths Educational Foundation is pleased to announce the publication of Francis Whitaker's biography. 125 pages with many photos. Available from: Centaur Forge, Norm Larson Books, John C. Campbell Folk School.

Autographed copies may be obtained from:

Francis Whitaker  
1493 Country Road 106  
Carbondale, CO. 81623  
(907) 963-9144

\$45.00 postpaid

Francis will be abroad until the end of June.

A limited Library Edition, leather bound, gold embossed, autographed and numbered is available for \$100.00 postpaid.

A video of Francis' work plus outstanding work from many countries is available. An introductory TV from NBC in Denver plus 120 slides. \$25.00 postpaid.

A stunning black and white action photo, 16' x 20', autographed for \$40.00 postpaid.

All profits from these sales go to support the work of the Foundation.

**FOR SALE:** Hand rail cap, half round and half oval bar. Ask for flier on sizes and prices FOB Portland, or N.W.B.A. Conference. Also FOR SALE: Rotary cast iron 2.5 gallon foundry tumbler with gasketed door. Refurbished, new motor and electricals, belts, painted, castors: \$450.00. Contact Dick Naven, (503) 245-3659.



## **N.W.B.A. Fall Conference**

October 13, 14, 15 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday), 1995  
Winthrop, Washington

Camping on site and at nearby Twin Lake Resort

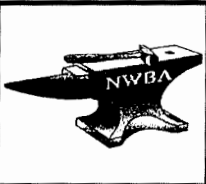
**LODGING:**

Marigot Motel	1-800 468-6754
Cewuch Inn	1 800 747-3107
River Run Inn	(509) 996-2173
The Virginian	1 800 854-2834
Winthrop Inn	1 800 444-1972

For further information contact the Winthrop Chamber of Commerce at (509) 996-2125.

Winthrop is on Hwy 20 east of the North Cascades National Park. A neat old cowboy town on a river, lots of restaurants, craft shops, saloons, and a general store. Make reservations early, it's the beginning of hunting season.

**HOT IRON NEWS**  
**GENE CHAPMAN, EDITOR**  
**P.O. BOX 1038**  
**KINGSTON, WA 98346**



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