

Hot Iron News

FIRST QUARTER 2020



www.blacksmith.org



Northwest Blacksmith Association

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

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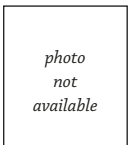


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NWBA Committees

FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE: John Karlick (Chair), Jim vonMosch, Clayton Tupper, Bear Diriwachter

- **Assets & Inventories Subcommittee:** Bhakti Sa (Chair), Pele Risley-Warnock
- **Auctions Subcommittee:** John Paul (Chair), Eric Sprado, Jim vonMosch, Andrea Lisch
- **Donations 501(c)3 Subcommittee:** John Karlick (Chair), Bhakti Sa, Jim vonMosch
- **Insurance Subcommittee:** Pele Risley-Warnock (Chair), Ike Bay

MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE: Kellen Bateham (Chair), Morgan Kirk, Lee Cordochorea

- **Youth Program Subcommittee:** Alair Wells (Chair), Pele Risley-Warnock, Rashelle Hams, Ike Bay, Spencer Knight
- **Archives Subcommittee:** Andrea Lisch (Chair), Darryl Nelson, Jeff Wilson, Peter Clark
- **Grants Subcommittee:** Clair Guy (Chair), John Paul, Steve McGrew
- **Library Subcommittee:** Lee Cordochorea (Chair), Spencer Knight
- **Board Training Subcommittee:** Lee Cordochorea (Chair), Dorothy Cordochorea
- **Safety Subcommittee:** Byron Johnson (Chair), Clair Guy, Morgan Kirk

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Bhakti Sa (Chair), John Huffstutter, Patricia Dawson, Clair Guy

- **Manuals Subcommittee:** Lee Cordochorea (Chair), Steve McGrew, John Huffstutter

EVENTS & PROGRAMS COMMITTEE: Silas Maddox (Chair), Kellen Bateham, David Tuthill

- **Audio Visual Subcommittee:** Lee Cordochorea (Chair), Mark Manley, Morgan Kirk
- **Mentoring Center, Education and Workshops:** David Tuthill (Chair), Silas Maddox, Bhakti Sa, Kellen Bateham
- **Swaptober IV (2020) Subcommittee:** David Tuthill (Chair), Silas Maddox, Kellen Bateham
- **Spring Conference (2020) Subcommittee:** David Tuthill (Chair), Silas Maddox, Kellen Bateham, Lee Cordochorea
- **Spring Conference (2021) Subcommittee:** David Tuthill (Chair), Silas Maddox, Kellen Bateham, Clayton Tupper
- **Safety Subcommittee:** Lee Cordochorea (Chair), John Paul, David Tuthill

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE: Jim Garrett (Chair), Clair Guy, David Tuthill

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

2020 annual dues: \$60 (foreign, \$70). Dues include quarterly subscription to Hot Iron News. Dues may also be paid online at <http://blacksmith.org/membership-payment-gateway/>

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

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On the Cover:

An Example of Anton Yakusehev's creative art.
Photo courtesy of Dan Bowyer

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ABANA 2020
June 3-6
Saratoga, New York

NWBA Board Meeting

April 25, 2020

1:00-4:00 p.m.

Longview Public Library

1600 LOUISIANA ST, LONGVIEW, WA

All current NWBA members welcome.

Feel free to join online -
connection info will be posted at

blacksmith.org/events/nwba-board-meeting-apr-25-2020

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A Word From Our President



Hola NWBA'ers,

I'm honored to announce that I have been appointed as the new president of our association. I'm looking forward to working with our Board of Directors and all of the talented and hard-working volunteers that make up the many committees that help the NWBA run smoothly. It is the collaborative effort of all the people and of those who worked hard before us that has brought our group to the heights it has achieved.

One of my main goals for 2020 is to assist and inspire all of you to take a more active role in the NWBA. We are a volunteer driven group and have so many talented members that all have something to bring to the table. Like so many non-profit organizations, it is a small handful of folks who do the largest amount

of work and I encourage all of you to find your own way to share the load. With 16 different committees and sub-committees, 2 conferences, 1 Cowlitz County Fair, and a brand-new Mentoring Center to run and staff, there are ample opportunities to find your own way to help the NWBA grow and thrive. If you have any interest in helping assist in any of these areas, please consult the committee list and contact the appropriate Chair... or get ahold of me directly and I'll find the best way to put your skills to work. This is your group and it takes all of us to make it succeed!

Now, about that brand-new Mentoring Center... have you seen it yet? I don't think I'm exaggerating by saying that it is vastly better than the old one. Tall ceilings, room to move around safely, a large and comfortable archive and library section, merchandise always on display, and so much more. By the time you read this, our first workshop will have been completed and I can only imagine it will be a pleasure in the new space. But with this new space comes new expenses that we must make up for. In fact, there are a few areas where the NWBA has been operating at a loss and we have had to make some tough choices to keep us moving forward.

Starting in July, all monthly Mentoring Center Events will have a price increase to \$20. This increase will help ensure the quality of upcoming demos remains high while also letting us continue to expand the services the Mentoring Center can offer. For those members who might find this increase a financial burden, we have created a new Mentoring Center Grant. This grant is in place to assure that financial difficulty is not a barrier for members and to assist them in continuing their metal working education while also giving them an opportunity to help the Mentoring Center function more smoothly. Details about this grant will be available at the MC starting in June.

The Spring Conference is nearly upon us and we've got a great lineup of things to do and see; Jim Austin will be traveling here to share a very well thought out axe build, local farrier and tool maker Riley Kirkpatrick will be showing us how to better outfit your tool arsenal, the Cook Shack will be returning along with a few competitions (keep checking the monthly emails for contest details), a new Youth Forging area, hands on workshops, repousse tap tap tapping, and a streamlined banquet and auction. It also sounds like there will be a couple of coal forging kits that will be showing up this year and we could use a few more folks to bring their own kits to really get Black Smoke Alley back into our lives.

In an attempt to offset rising costs the banquet pricing will be increasing to \$30 per ticket and camping will now be \$20 per night (the NWBA isn't really making money on either of these, but we need to stop losing a couple bucks per head). We are looking for volunteers to help work during the conference and would truly appreciate any help you have to give... please contact me if you want to help.

Before I sign off, I'd like to take a moment to honor the long years of service that Amy Mook has provided to the NWBA. She has gone above and beyond the role she was hired to fill, time and time again. Her hard work and wordsmithing talents will be missed as she puts her passion into her next endeavor. Although I have no doubt that our new editor Patricia Dawson and new Website and Social Media Director Clair Guy will be able to grow and expand on the legacy Amy has created, I don't think anyone could ever fully fill her shoes. Thank you for all you have done for the NWBA Amy, it truly was a pleasure working with you.

See you all at the Spring Conference!

Kellen Bateham

el presidente



A NOTE FROM YOUR COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

We launched the New Year by welcoming a new slate of board members and officers and extending a HUGE thank you to those who completed their term. Without a doubt, NWBA has been greatly enriched by those who have dedicated their leadership and service to the organization's success.

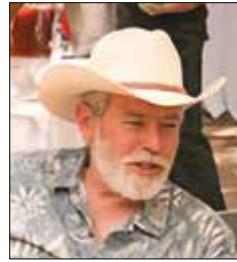
Have you been to our new Mentoring Center? It is great!!!! The Mentoring Center has been the scene of several excellent sessions these past few months which are highlighted in this month's issue of Hot Iron News. Thank you to photographer, Dan Bowyer for his amazing photo coverage of the events, Lee Cordochorea's willingness to share his notes as well as our demonstrators for sharing their expertise with the membership.

To assist in launching our "Hands-On" section of Hot Iron News we extend appreciation to NWBA member, Billy Ottaviani, who graciously offered to tackle the project by reviewing our archives and blacksmith resources for potential future articles. To make this goal a success we need your assistance. We are seeking members to lend a hand with the "How To" section by sharing tips, articles and photographs...fear not...we can assist with editing and formatting. Have an idea but not sure where to begin? Send it to Editor, Patricia Dawson at NWBAinfo@gmail.com and we can discuss.

Spring is just around the corner and with it comes our Annual NWBA Spring Conference scheduled for May 15-17 at the Cowlitz County Fair Grounds Event Center in Longview, WA. Our Board of Directors and Conference Committee members have been hard at work to plan an action-packed Conference weekend. This issue of Hot Iron News is filled with details to help prepare you for the conference. Learn more about our two featured demonstrators, James Austin and Riley Kirkpatrick, Hands-on-Sessions, fun competitions, the Schedule of Events and how to register for the conference. Be sure to check the website on a regular basis as our Website Manager, Clair Guy is diligently updating details for the conference as well as other upcoming Spring and Summer events.

Happy Spring to You!

- Patricia and Clair



TREASURER'S REPORT

James von Mosch

Profit and Loss: October - December 2019

ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE

INCOME	
General Income	
Membership Dues	4,025.00
Donations	500.00
Total General Income	4,525.00
Mentoring Center Income	
Event Fees	250.00
Merchandise Sales	957.00
Total Mentoring Center Income	1,207.00
Conference Income	
Vendor Fees	60.00
Registration Fees	3,110.00
Camping Fees	405.25
Total Conference Income	3,575.25
Total Income	9,307.25
Gross Profit	9,307.25
EXPENSE	
Telephone	19.00
Square Fees	112.67
General Expenses	
Bank Charges	10.00
PayPal Fees	143.10
Board Meeting Expenses	158.54
Communications Director	3,150.00
Insurance	909.00
Internet Fees	120.00
Licenses & Permits	100.80
Office Supplies	62.89
Printing & Publishing	1,397.58
General Expenses - Other	38.00
Total General Expenses	6,089.91
Mentoring Center Expenses	
Porta Potty Rental	176.85
Demonstrator Fees	1,000.00
Supplies	459.59
Total Mentoring Center Expenses	1,636.44
Conference Expenses	
Equipment Rental	500.39
Materials and Supplies	448.59
Hospitality	991.61
Camping Fees	-183.08
Conference Site Expenses	1,619.97
Total Conference Expenses	3,377.48
Total Expenses	11,235.50
Net Ordinary Income	-1,928.25
NET INCOME	-1,928.25

New Mentoring Center Update



ANTHONY, PETER AND THOMAS REICH

By Silas Maddox with photography courtesy of Dan Bowyer and Bill Dawson

For those of you who haven't heard, the NWBA has a new mentoring center. We didn't move far as we are right next door to our old facility. Our new mentoring center is great! We now have way more space, including a proper home to display our archives. Numerous members have pitched in to help with the move and make the new space into a true Mentoring Center. Stay tuned for classes coming up in addition to the monthly demonstrations and open forge.



A special thanks to a couple members. First, Bob Wilke for jumping in and running the new gas piping. Obviously the right man for the job, Bob took initiative and got our new gas system plumbed and inspected. Secondly, I would like to offer special thanks to Anthony Reich and his boys, Peter and Thomas for making and installing an entire trailer full of sound attenuation panels for the Mentoring Center! They recognized a need and without being asked completed a job that will have a lasting impact and dramatically improves the space for everyone. Anthony took decibel readings before and after installation and achieved a 30 decibel reduction with the new panels in place!

There have been too many generous members volunteering time and effort to name them all, you know who you are and thank you! The NWBA is a volunteer run organization and thrives on individual members taking initiative to make things happen, lets keep it going and make something special with our new Mentoring Center.

MENTORING CENTER POWER HAMMER CAMPAIGN

Your Support Needed

Longtime NWBA member Berkley Tack has arranged a deal that would allow the NWBA to buy an 88lb Striker Air Hammer for the Mentoring Center for \$5000. This is significantly below market value and would be a huge asset. The Board has decided to pursue this opportunity and will begin raising money immediately. This offer does not stand for long and we will need to raise the funds by the end of the Spring conference. Please consider donating generously! Major donors will be recognized on a plaque affixed to the hammer. Watch our website for details about how to donate online or feel free to send a check with a notation marked "Power Hammer Donation" payable to:

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



NWBA MEMBER, BERKLEY TACK

NWBA Wish Lists

2020 proves to be an exciting year as the Northwest Blacksmith Association increases efforts to serve new audiences as well as efforts to expand opportunities within our new Mentoring Service. You can join in the cause by assisting with donations of supplies and expertise. Examples of current program needs are highlighted below. Feel free to contact any member of the Board or email us at the contact links if you can assist. **Tax Receipts are available for Donated Items!**

YOUTH PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The NWBA created the Youth Program Committee as a means to invest in the future of our Association and to nourish growing passion and technical skill in the youngest members of our trade. To better achieve this effort, the Youth Program Committee has a need for dedicated teaching set ups that are fit for our young members' various sizes, as well as for traveling around. If you or someone you know has any of the following items to donate, please reach out to nwbayouth@gmail.com with pictures and descriptions!



AL BART GRANT RECIPIENT – YOUTH MEMBER, NICOLAS

- 2 Sturdy Pop-Up Tents
- 3 Anvils or Railroad Tie
- 3 Anvil Stands
- 3 Propane Forges w Burners
- 1 Post Vice
- 1.5 – 3 lb. Hammers
- Tongs fit for holding a variety of shapes, especially light weight ones for holding square and flat bar
- Mobile Tool Rack



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN BOWYER

MENTORING CENTER

With all the excellent services provided by our New Mentoring Center, it's in need of some resources too. If you have any of the following items to donate (that are in GOOD condition) or can offer your services toward accomplishing some much needed technical tasks, please send an email (with pictures and descriptions for physical donations) to [nwbainfo@gmail.com!](mailto:nwbainfo@gmail.com)

- Hand Brooms, Push Brooms, Dust Pans
- Swage Blocks
- Fabrication Table
- Quality Tool Chest
- Rolling White Board Easel
- SAE Allen Key Set
- Quality MIG Welder
- Electrical Services and Parts
- 4x8 Heavy Table
- Small Heavy Table
- Good Quality Blacksmith Tools (Top Tools, Hammers, Tongs, etc.)
- Landscaping Services

Election Results

2020-2021 NWBA Board Members

By Jim Garrett, Nominations & Elections Committee Chair

The ballots have been counted and we offer a hearty THANK YOU to everyone who cast a vote!! WOW, this year's election was a nearly clean sweep!

With 74 ballots cast, the count was:

Silas Maddox	74
Kellen Bateman	73
John Karlick	73
Pele Risley-Warnock	73
Morgan Kirk	72
Bhakti Sa	70
Alair Wells (write-in)	1



Board Officers were elected by the Board of Directors at the January 25, 2020 Board Meeting. Refer to page 2 for contact details.

ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 2020

PRESIDENT: **Kellen Bateham**

VICE PRESIDENT: **Morgan Kirk**

TREASURER: **John Karlick**

SECRETARY: **Bhakti Sa**

Directors at Large for 2020:

John Huffstutter

Silas Maddox

Spencer Knight

Pele Risley-Warnock

Clayton Tupper

Thank you, new and returning Board members for stepping up to guide NWBA! Thank you to all the members who voted! And, thank you to all our retiring Board members that are moving on to other things – Lee Cordochorea, James vonMosch, and David Tuthill. The NWBA deeply appreciates the commitment of our board members to our community and the efforts they make to help our association grow.

The next Board of Directors meeting of 2020 will be held Saturday, April 25th at the Longview Public Library.

All current NWBA members are welcome to attend.

Show Off Your Creations at the 2020 NWBA Spring Conference Gallery

It's not too late! There is still time to get to the drawing board to create a new project to display in our Conference Gallery or bring along something from past years that our new members haven't had a chance to view. Whatever your skill level, practical items to fine art, all pieces are welcome and appreciated!!!!

We are particularly excited to showcase our new Mentoring Center Gallery, which will offer more space for displaying of your work.



MARCH & APRIL

Mentoring Center Demonstrators

SILAS MADDOX

featured March Mentoring Center Demonstrator

The Mentoring Center event on **Saturday, March 28** will be taught by Silas Maddox. Silas will be demonstrating a Rolled Eye Hinge as shown in the examples below. Silas currently serves on the NWBA Board of Directors and enjoys working with the membership to create a program that fosters blacksmithing education and furthers the craft. You may recognize Silas from the Cook Shack at recent Conferences where he generously puts in many hours to bring shared meals to the membership.



SCOTT SZLOCH

featured April Mentoring Center Demonstrator

The Mentoring Center event on Saturday, April 25th will be instructed by Scott Szloch. Scott will be demonstrating forging a Tulip and Fleur de Lis from flat bar as shown in the examples he kindly shared. Some of you may remember Scott from our 2018 May Conference where he served as the Main Event local demonstrator.



Both sessions will start at 9:00a.m. followed by Open Forge time from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

The NWBA Mentoring Center is located at the Cowlitz County Expo Center/Fairgrounds; 1900 7th Avenue, Longview, WA. The events are open to all NWBA members. A \$10 admission fee is charged to assist with the program expenses.

Be sure to save March 28th and April 25th as you won't want to miss these two outstanding presentations!

BERKLEY TACK: *Production Techniques*

NOVEMBER MENTORING CENTER DEMONSTRATION • NOVEMBER 23, 2019

Notes courtesy of Lee Cordochorea • Photography by Dan Bowyer

- Berkley is a big fan of power hammers. He owns multiple power hammers, using each for different details. His most used ones are a 165# Wolf, a 120# Say-Mak and a 100# Little Giant. He seldom if ever changes the dies on the L.G. They are drawing dies similar to those on the Clay Spencer tire hammer in the Mentoring Center.



- All manner of tools can be used under flat dies - the tooling can be changed out quickly for multiple operations in succession.
- Bigger hammers require more sturdy foundations.
- The Anyang 88 is a (relatively) very safe hammer. It is smaller and very controllable. Power hammers are inherently dangerous. One must be extremely aware of what is going on. No one should use a power hammer without training on that particular model of hammer.
- Berkley's material for the demo was 5/8" round cold-rolled roughly 3 or 3.5 foot long. He heated two at a time. Berkley cites the composition of hot-rolled as more variable than cold-rolled. He finds cold-rolled is more easily worked, similar to AISI 1020.
- A36 is a performance standard rather than a composition standard. Alloy content increases in A36 as years go by because of more and more recycled content. A36 is more difficult to forge, but it does make good tooling if one uses super-quench.

- "Quick and dirty" leaves were put on the end of each bar under the tire hammer. The first heat was to make a "set-up." Berkley describes this as "a pointed blob on the end of a stick." A short square taper was drawn on the very end with a dozen or so blows. Next, he drew down a neck a few inches back from the tip. This neck was perhaps a quarter inch square tapering back into the parent stock over a foot or so. He concluded the set-up by lightly rounding the 1/4" section and forging the taper into an octagonal cross section.
- Time in making the necked area of these set-ups was saved by forging a square, then turning it on the diamond to forge a smaller square.
- The drawing dies act as a wedge to force the material in only two directions.
- Learning a given hammer and developing a "touch" for it is more important than the hammer itself. Berkley cites the work of a 70+ year-old smith making tools for mills at Hammered-On Forge & Machine Shop fifty years ago. Said smith worked a horribly wobbly 100# Little Giant with flat dies, but produced excellent work and lots of it.
- Just prior to drawing the leaves sideways under the tire hammer, Berkley tried them on the anvil. Leaves were rotated under the hammer rather than simply moving them side-to-side. This allows control over the shape of the leaf. One style was more spear-shaped and the other more heart-shaped.





- Edges of each leaf were then finished over the horn with a round-faced hammer.



- Stems were drawn under the tire hammer with the stock diagonally across the dies.



- Design was drawn in soapstone on a rusty 1/8" plate. Eleven of the leaves would be needed on five of the 5/8" stems with six little branches.



- Pieces were placed against the drawing and marked for cut location. Cut made with abrasive blade on chop-saw. Cut for the little branches is made on an angle to set-up for the weld.
- Viewers noted that Berkley always had a piece heating up while working on another piece.



- As always, Berkley's projects are beautiful.



BHAKTI SA: *Forging a Drop-Point Hunter*

DECEMBER MENTORING CENTER DEMONSTRATION • DECEMBER 21, 2019

Notes courtesy of E. Clair Guy

Bhakti Sa's December demonstration rounded out our 2019 MC Session schedule. He is a familiar face in the NWBA – he's been a member for three years, sits on our Board of Directors, and you'll even find him from time-to-time behind the registration desk at MC events.



For this MC session, he demonstrated how to forge a full tang, drop-point hunter out of 1080 steel – producing an excellent blade that's fit for carving, skinning, and other outdoor uses.



You'll notice between steps 3 and 6 that the tip of the blade takes a dramatic nosedive. As Bhakti explains, "The downward adjustment over the horn accounts for upward displacement during the drawing process as the blade is tapered."

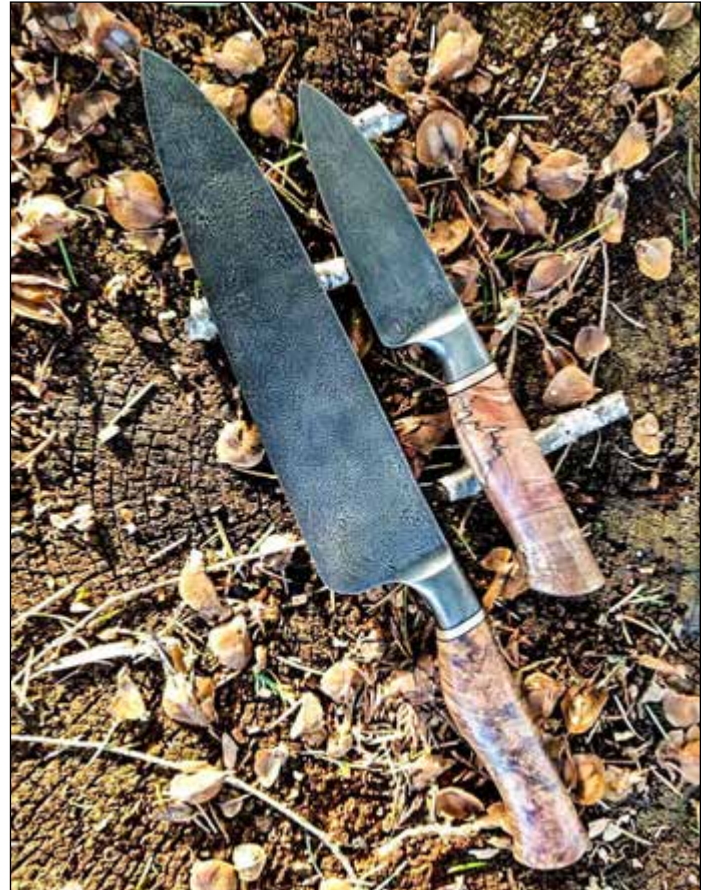


STEP 5**STEP 6**

To make the progression between steps 6 and 9, he begins drawing the blade at the heel and slowly moves toward the tip. He says this directional approach also helps counteract the displacement that occurs. Once the blade has been fully forged and tempered, he finishes his knives with wooden handle scales, using leather as a liner between the steel and wood.

STEP 7**STEP 8**

Bhakti's been forging knives for six years now. He first learned to forge and finish kitchen knives during a two-year apprenticeship with David Lisch, and the hard work he's put in can be seen in the quality of knives he produces. When asked what he likes most about forging in the new Mentoring Center, he replied, "I'm thrilled about the higher ceilings and newly installed soundproofing – events will be much more enjoyable now!"



For more information on Bhakti's work, check out his website at arachneforge.com

ANTON YAKUSHEV: *Forging a Scorpion*

FEBRUARY MENTORING CENTER DEMONSTRATION • FEBRUARY 20-21, 2020

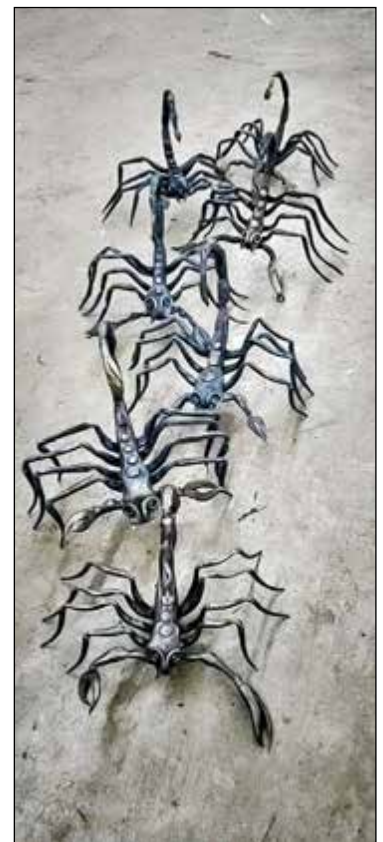
Notes courtesy of E. Clair Guy

On February 20th and 21st, six participants gathered at the NWBA Mentoring Center in Longview, WA for a two day workshop with Anton Yakushev. It was the first workshop held in the new space, and participants agreed that the experience taught them new approaches and techniques that they can apply to their work moving forward. Anton is a well-known artist-blacksmith who has been creating work for over 16 years. He studied at the State Social and Humanitarian University in Kolomna, Russia, where he began creating illustrative figures and forged animals. Anton's work has been featured in many publications and he has taught numerous educational workshops to artists of various skill levels.



The remarkable part about this class was that students of all levels attended the workshop and every one of them successfully forged their own unique scorpion sculpture. This was both a testament to their dedication to the project as well as the instruction that Anton provided.

At the end of the workshop, participants discussed the challenges they encountered, like how it was easy to overheat the delicate legs, which left them fragile and liable to snap in pieces during the twisting process.



They also discussed possible projects that could employ similar techniques as those they applied when forging the scorpion: spiders, lobsters, crabs, ants. Notes from the session are highlighted in the following section.

All in all, the workshop was a complete hit and the NWBA was honored to host such an enjoyable event, instructed by such a creative, masterful smith. Anton also stayed an additional day to serve as the Featured February Mentoring Center Presenter where he focused on sculpting metal heads.



SCORPION

NWBA
2020

THE HEAD

2.7 inches, 0.9 inches, 0.1 inches

Forge the following form, cut with chisel and pierce holes

3.1 inches, 0.2 inches

THE BODY

5 inches, 1 inch

Forge a tapered cone

Forge the checkered elements

Twist to the desired shape

Shape the final form

PEDIPALPS (PINCERS)

5 inches, 1/2 inch

Forge a blunt, tapered cone

Forge tapered shoulders

Cut with a chisel, then punch a hole (cutting machines and electric drills can be used)

FOUR PAIRS OF WALKING LEGS

7.8 inches, 0.3 inches

Forge a tapered cone

Forge tapered shoulders and punch a hole

PELE RISLEY-WARNOCK: *Two-Pronged Fork*

JANUARY MENTORING CENTER DEMONSTRATION • JANUARY 25, 2020



Notes courtesy of E. Clair Guy

Pele Risley-Warnock was our demonstrator for the first Mentoring Center Session of the year. For the demo, Pele instructed how to forge two different kinds of two-pronged forks. She said she truly enjoyed the audience's engagement during her demonstration and remarked that the new MC had such a brighter, more inviting feel.



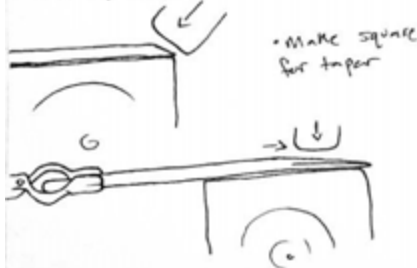
Pele's been a NWBA member for two years. In that time she's been extremely active in our community. She sits on the Board of Directors, is the Chair of our Insurance Committee, and Co-Chair of the newly formed Youth Program Committee. Pele is particularly poised to motivate our Youth Program, as she's introduced and instructed the craft to hundreds upon hundreds of young students during her years of work at Trackers Earth, in Portland.

Pele recently embarked on a solo journey, providing outdoor-based hands-on education for students of all ages! For more information on Pele's work, visit her website at www.class-room.com.

Forging a Two Tine
folded fork -
1/8" round stock @ 10"-12" length



① Point & Taper both ends, draw 2" to 3" - on far side of anvil



④ Flatten handle body & tines, tapering in thickness from eye to point.



② Bend in half over horn



Use horn to adjust until tine tips are even, do not let tines cross.

⑤ Shape tines on horn. Give double curve, and widen.



The curves should be comfortable for your mouth.

③ Twist in vice, tines down, with round bar.



⑥ wire brush, sand, & Enjoy!
Treat this fork like cast iron, oiling lightly to keep from rusting dry after every wash.



NWBA Spring Conference

FRIDAY, MAY 15 - SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020

Set up day ~ Thursday, May 14, 2020

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- **MAIN DEMONSTRATORS:** James Austin - *Swedish Socketed Axe*
Riley Kirkpatrick - *Tongs and Wooden Handled Tools*
- **HANDS-ON CLASSES:** Bhakti Sa - *Make A Throwing Knife*
Peter Clark - *Spoon Making and More*
Additional Sessions to be Announced
- **YOUTH WORKSHOPS** and **DISCOUNTED YOUTH REGISTRATION RATES!**
- **FREE REGISTRATION** to youth 12 and under; **HALF OFF** for those 13-17.
- **REPOUSSE STATION** ~ Friday and Saturday
- **ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY** Open for Viewing
- **GALLERY:** Bring your works to display in our gallery...showcase your latest creations.
- **AUCTION:** Help support NWBA with an entry in the auction (*Something hand-made, materials, tools or services*) and don't forget your checkbook!
- **BLACK SMOKE ALLEY:** Bring your solid fuel forge and set up in Black Smoke Alley to demonstrate and offer hands on experiences, or just enjoy forging at your own setup during the conference.
- **COOK SHACK CUISINE-** Great food available all week. Lend a hand as your schedule permits.
- **TAILGATE SALES:** Fill your pickup with tools and materials, sell them to fellow NWBA members and of course, buy enough of someone else's treasures to fill your truck up for the return home.
- **CONTESTS WITH PRIZES:** Join in the fun at this year's contest as we take a step back in time to enjoy a friendly competition at the "Forge and Throw Blanket Shoot" which is discussed on page 22.
- **AMAZING POTLUCK SOCIAL:** Please bring your favorite potluck dish and enjoy fellowship Friday evening. Our amazing cookshack chefs will be barbecuing pork and preparing an assortment of local vegetables to add to the dinner.
- **BANQUET:** Scheduled for Saturday evening this annual dinner and auction is always a great event. Be sure to order your banquet tickets no later than May 6 to guarantee a seat.
- **ONSITE CAMPING:** Available at the low rate of \$20 per night



RILEY KIRKPATRICK



JAMES AUSTIN

Online Registration Open Until May 6

<https://blacksmith.org/nwba-conference-registration-2020/>

Mail-in Registrations found on Page 24 ~ Must be postmarked by April 30, 2020

***You may register at the door for the conference;
however, banquet tickets and T-Shirts must be pre-ordered!***

Meet the Demonstrator: **JAMES AUSTIN**

We are looking forward to having James Austin join us as one of our 2020 Spring Conference guest demonstrators. Recently we had a chance to visit with James in preparation for the Conference. James was kind enough to share a bit about his background and examples of his work which are highlighted below.



How did you learn your craft? What did you use as your first anvil?

In 1982 I got an apprenticeship in the Bavarian town of Diessen near Munich in (then) West Germany. The shop was in the back of Walter Spensberger's old stone house and was outfitted with traditional blacksmithing tools, a coal forge and modern fabricating tools. The

shop produced railings and other architectural ironwork for the surrounding community. The quality of the work ranged from traditional forging work to ordinary fabrication.

When I came back to the Bay Area in 1988 I continued to learn a lot from my fellow blacksmiths in the CBA. I had brought some hand-forged anvils with me from Germany but acquired the bulk of my shop tooling here.

Where do you live and where do you work? What kind of shop do you have?

I have a live-work space in Oakland that has a mix of modern fabrication and machine tools, and both traditional and industrial blacksmithing tools.

What tool has changed or made your life easier in the shop?

Definitely the air hammer. I have a Nazel 3b with flat dies that I do most of my power hammer work on, and it can deliver all the power I need as well as sensitive, light blows. I have other, smaller power hammers, but the Nazel is my favorite.

What kind of work do you produce? Do you have a specialty?

I forge and fabricate architectural work such as smaller railings and house hardware, kitchenware and a few wood- and metalworking tools. I have a special interest in the traditionally forged axes and wood working tools of Scandinavia and northern Europe.



As your business has evolved how has it changed? How is it different from what you envisioned in the beginning? Is there a particular direction that you want to take your business?

When I started my first shop in San Francisco in 1990 I worked by myself or with a helper on a range of smaller projects for architects, designers and furniture makers. From about 1994 - 1999 I partnered with Frank Trousil to produce our own line of interior design products. We had from 3 to 5 employees and sold our products through trade shows. I set up my current shop in Oakland in 2000 to make custom design items and hardware for architecture and furniture.

Is there a particular type of work that you would like to pursue? Can you tell us whom you have worked with, or who might have had an influence on your work or style, who assisted you, or encouraged you in the craft?

I intend to focus my work more on the forging of historical tools for the wooden house building trades. I am compelled by the use of forge welding to assemble larger, more complex tools such as hewing axes, socketed chisels, draw knives, etc. I would also like to travel more to research these techniques and teach them back in the States. In this regard I look forward to learning more from the blacksmiths in Norway and Sweden – in particular, Mattias Helje in Dalarna County, Sweden. Mattias is a font of knowledge on the rich iron smelting and blacksmithing history of Scandinavia. He is an excellent and active historical blacksmith - and a great fiddle player as well.

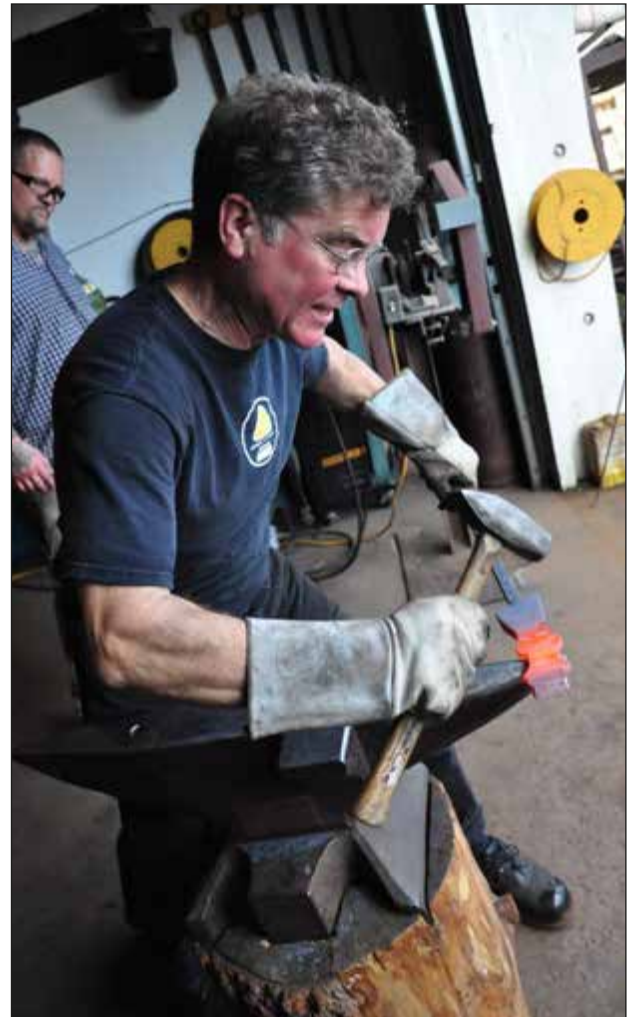
What kind of collaborative projects have you participated in, and with whom? What are some of the interesting things that have happened to you in your life as a blacksmith?

My life as an apprentice and journeyman blacksmith in Bavaria captivated me for 6 years. In my job I was able to work on some beautiful, modern blacksmithing projects designed by wonderful artists and architects for church restoration projects. In my free time I was able to pursue my personal, historical blacksmithing interest. Beyond that I loved exploring the centuries-old surrounding towns on bicycle, as well as the quiet countryside and tucked-away churches, chapels and pubs.

What do you expect to do in your demonstration at the conference?

I am preparing to forge a 19th century style Swedish carpenter's axe for the NWBA in May. It is a socketed axe and involves some interesting forming and forge welding techniques. It is also the basis for many, larger hewing axes done in the same style.

To purchase DVD forging tutorials or replica Viking Axes from James Austin visit: forgedaxes.com



Meet the Demonstrator: RILEY KIRKPATRICK

We are looking forward to having Riley Kirkpatrick join us as one of our 2020 Spring Conference guest demonstrators. Recently we had a chance to visit with Riley in preparation for the Conference. Riley took a moment from his busy schedule to share a bit about his background and examples of his work which are highlighted below.



.....
How did you learn your craft? What did you use as your first anvil?

I went to horseshoeing school the summer of 2010. That was my first time working hot steel on an anvil. My first anvil I owned was a 140# Peter WRIGHT.

.....
Where do you live and where do you work?

I currently live outside of Sheridan Oregon and am lucky enough to have a shop at home.



.....
What kind of shop do you have?

I have an old hanger that I have filled with some tools.

.....
What tool has changed or made your life easier in the shop?

A power hammer made my life a lot easier and work a little more fun.

.....
What kind of work do you produce? Do you have a specialty?

I mostly build tools for farriers. I tend to make more hammers then anything else.



As your business has evolved how has it changed? How is it different from what you envisioned in the beginning?

Since I started out shoeing horses, I thought that's all I would do. Now I spend more days in the shop then working on horses. I like the change but will always love shoeing.

Is there a particular direction that you want to take your business? Is there a particular type of work that you would like to pursue?

I have always like gates. Something about a huge ornate gate swinging effortlessly. I would like to make a few a year.

Can you tell us who you have worked with, or who might have had an influence on your work or style, who assisted you, or encouraged you in the craft?

The first person I saw make tools was Shayne Carter. He will always be the person that started that fire. Jim Poor has been the biggest help and influence I have had in my tool making.

What kind of collaborative projects have you participated in, and with whom?

Horse shoers tend to work alone. It is one of our faults and something I would like to change.

What are some of the interesting things that have happened to you in your life as a blacksmith?

I have had the pleasure of doing a lot of tool making clinics and demos all over the world. It has been one of the best things.

What do you expect to do in your demonstration at the conference?

I will be making some tongs and going over how to have the right tongs for what ever the project is. I will also be demonstrating how to make and design wooden handle tools with a project in mind.



AUCTION 2020 - Call for Donations

There is still time to forge a special item or rummage through the closet or garage for a treasure to contribute to our annual NWBA Auction. This year's auction will be held immediately after the NWBA Conference Banquet on May 16th at the Cowlitz County Fairgrounds Conference Center Building in Longview, WA.

Forge and Throw “Blanket Shoot”

By David Tuthill, Spring Conference Committee

Come one, come all, to the first NWBA forging event done in the “Blanket Shoot” tradition. So, what is “Blanket Shoot” tradition? In the early to mid-1800s trappers would gather each spring for a Rendezvous on their way to sell their furs. It was a grand event for those mountain men as most had been on their own battling Mother Nature thru the long winter months. As part of the Rendezvous festivities, they would hold a “blanket shoot” where everyone provided a prize which was placed on the blanket and the “Best Shot” got Bragging Rights. The winner of the shoot had first choice amongst the prizes on the blanket, Second Place shooter picked next and so on.

One of the reasons that I like this format for a contest, is that it stimulates interaction, and a healthy level of competition. You may make your projectile prior to conference, or you can make it at the conference. Winners will be announced at the general meeting. Interested participants will be given score cards, which will explain the scoring system, and will be given ten throws. The person with the highest score chooses first from the blanket, next highest score chooses second, etc. In the event of a tie, the highest scores will throw again for the tie breaker.

Participants are encouraged to bring the best prize that they can afford to contribute to the blanket, as intentionally being a cheapskate is considered bad form. This is an honor system-based event, so individuals will be trusted to honorably mark their scorecards. Cheating is frowned upon, but all bribes will be considered.



RULES:

1. All participants must make, or have made, their own projectile. Hawk, Axe, Knife, Spike, Shuriken, whatever hand-thrown object must be of sole-authorship. (no archery, no spears)
2. All throws must be made from behind the designated line. You may throw from further back, but not from in front of the line.
3. All contestants must honorably and accurately record their scores. (bribes excluded)
4. All contestants must bring an object or prize to lay on the blanket. Bring something that you would like to win, because you could very well leave with the same thing that you brought. Have fun with this part- it is a game after all!
5. Turn in your completed score cards at the registration desk for tallying, no later than 5:00 PM Saturday, or your score will not be counted.
6. In the event of a tie, there will be a three-throw tie breaker to determine the winner.

Spring Conference Cookshack Announces Menu Plans

The Cookshack will be returning for Spring Conference 2020! NWBA Member Mark Koffler has generously offered to donate a pig that he raised, and we will be cooking it up in lieu of gumbo for the Friday night event. We will also be cooking up some great veggies from our friends at Rabbit Fields Farm. Friday Night has always been a potluck so please show off your camp cooking skills or bring a side, snacks or deserts to share. We will provide the meat! Coffee will be hot in the morning and the Cookshack crew will be making meals throughout the weekend on a donation basis. Please bring your own coffee cup and mess kit. The Cookshack takes tremendous effort and if you are interested in volunteering or have home raised items to share please contact silasmaddox@gmail.com. See you in May!

2020 NWBA Spring Conference Schedule

May 15-17, 2020

Cowlitz Co. Fair Grounds Expo Center & NWBA Mentoring Center • Longview, WA

THURSDAY

6:00pm Early Arrival

FRIDAY

8:00am – 5:00pm	Registration Open
8:00am – 9:00pm	Library and Gallery Open <i>**Bring an item you've made to show in the Gallery</i>
9:00am – Noon	Main Demonstrator Riley Kirkpatrick: Tongs and Wooden Handle Tools
10:00am – 5:00pm	Repoussé Station Open
Noon-1:00pm	Lunch (Cook Shack Open all day – donations accepted)
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Main Demonstrator James Austin: Swedish Socketed Axe
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Hands On with Peter Clark: Spoons and More
5:00pm – 6:00pm	Community Potluck with BBQ Pork & Vegies prepared by our Cook Shack Chefs <i>*Please bring your favorite potluck dish to share and table service</i>
To Be Determined	Blanket Shoot (refer to page 22 for details)
9:00pm – Midnight	Open Forge at the Mentoring Center

SATURDAY

8:00am – 5:00pm	Registration Open
8:00am – 9:00pm	Library and Gallery Open
9:00am – Noon	Main Demonstrator Riley Kirkpatrick: <i>Tongs and Wooden Handle Tools</i>
9:00am – Noon	Hands On with Bhakti Sa: Making a Throwing Knife
10:00am – 5:00pm	Repoussé Station
Noon – 1:00pm	Lunch (Cook Shack Open all day – donations accepted)
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Main Demonstrator James Austin: Swedish Socketed Axe
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Hands On TBD: Watch our website for details
5:30pm – Finished	Banquet Dinner, Annual Meeting, Auction <i>(bring an item for the auction and your wallets!)</i>
9:00pm – Midnight	Open Forge at the Mentoring Center

SUNDAY

9:00am – 11:00am	Registration Open
8:00am – Noon	Library and Gallery Open
9:00am – Noon	Sessions TBD: watch our website for details
Noon - ???	Pack up, put away, load out, LEND A HAND

Schedule is Subject to Change
watch our website for updates

We will do our best to keep to this schedule, but sometimes changes need to be made. We will keep you informed to any changes as best we can.





NWBA combined Registration Forms 2020 MEMBERSHIP & CONFERENCE

May 15-17, 2020 in Longview, WA

USE THIS FORM TO REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE or NWBA MEMBERSHIP or BOTH

The Northwest Blacksmith Association is a Washington corporation and a 501 (c) 3 non-profit charitable organization founded in 1979. We have something to offer to anyone with an interest in blacksmithing, from the beginner to the serious professional. Members of the NWBA receive our award-winning newsletter, The Hot Iron News, the opportunity to attend NWBA semi-annual conferences, monthly Mentoring Center demonstrations and open forges, frequent hands on workshops and events, and the camaraderie and support of hundreds of blacksmith enthusiasts.

Current Membership in the NWBA is required for attendees of the conference. If you are not currently a member of the NWBA please include the Fee for Membership in your total payment. **If you are not certain about your membership status, you will be able to pay the dues at the conference registration desk.** 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 to arrive sometime in the 3 month period around the anniversary of your registering for membership.

THREE DAY FEES

Individual: **\$90** Household (at the same residence) **\$115**

ONE DAY FEES

Individual: **\$65** Household (at the same residence) **\$80**

BANQUET DINNER TICKETS: \$30 per person

How many meals? _____

Vegetarian meals (included in total of meals): _____

Dinner will be served to meal ticket holders only. Tickets are sold in advance and issued at registration. Dinner is buffet style, with main course choices.

T-SHIRTS: \$20 Each Small Medium Large
 X Large XX Large XXX Large

CAMPING FEES: Trailer camping hook-ups w/ water & electric - or - Tent camping: **\$20 per night** (Per vehicle or tent, NOT per person)

Registration MUST be postmarked by April 30th, 2020. The NWBA is not responsible for lost mail. Pick up your badges and dinner tickets at the registration desk.

No. of Meals _____	
x \$30 each = Meal total	\$ _____
Conference Fees Total	\$ _____
T-Shirt Total	\$ _____
Camping Fees Total	\$ _____
Membership Dues	\$ _____
\$60 in U.S.A.	
\$70 outside U.S.A.	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Member	
Grand Total	\$ _____

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; its 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. SW #185
Seattle, WA 98116

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

NWBA 2020 Calendar of Events

- March 28, 2020** Mentoring Center Demo: Silas Maddox-Rolled Hinges *Open Forge, Longview, WA*
- April 25, 2020** Mentoring Center Demo: Scott Szloch – Forging a Tulip & Fleur de Lis *Open Forge*
NWBA Board Meeting *Longview Public Library (or telecommute)*
- April 30, 2020** Spring Conference Mailed Registrations must be postmarked
- May 6, 2020** Last day for electronic registrations for Spring Conference
** May register also at the conference but can not guarantee banquet tickets*
- May 15-17, 2020** **NWBA Annual Conference** *Mentoring Center-Cowlitz Co. Expo Center*
 Guest Presenters: James Austin & Riley Kirkpatrick
- June 13, 2020** **Damascus Billet Workshop** by John Emmerling - 9am-5pm
Mentoring Center-Cowlitz Co. Expo Center. Size limited, preregister online - \$200
- June 27, 2020** Mentoring Center Demo TBD *Open Forge, Longview, WA*
- July 25, 2020** **NWBA Board Meeting** *Longview Public Library (or telecommute)*
- July 2020** **NWBA Mentoring Center Open House** – Cowlitz County Fair week

Any NWBA member is welcome to attend Board Meetings in person, or telecommute via “GoToMeeting”



Find the details of these events at www.blacksmith.org/events/
Submit your blacksmith events: www.blacksmith.org/submit-event

OTHER 2020 BLACKSMITH EVENTS

- April 11-13** **Beginning Blacksmithing** at Old West Forge *White Salmon, WA*
- April 18** **Beginning Blacksmithing** with Joe Vacho *Summit Arts Center*
- April 30-May 2** **California Blacksmith Assoc. Spring Conference** *Ferndale, CA*
- May 18-29** **Blacksmith Tools with Jeffrey Funk** *New Agrarian School, Bigfork, MT*
- May 23-25** **ABANA 2020 Conference** *Sarasota, NY*
- June 25-26** **Team Sculpture** with Haley Woodward *New Agrarian School, Bigfork, MT*
- June 29-July 10** **Wild Iron: Smelting & Geological Connections** *New Agrarian School, MT*
- July 13-24** **Hand Tools for Farm & Garden** with Jeffrey Funk – *New Agrarian School, Bigfork, MT*
- July 27-Aug 7** **Forging from the Natural World** with Jeffrey Funk *New Agrarian School, MT*
- Aug 10-21** **Blacksmith’s Tools** with Jeffrey Funk *New Agrarian School, Bigfork, MT*
- August 13-15** **Blacksmith Week 2020** *Government Camp, OR*
- Aug 24-28** **Making Axes** with Jeffrey Funk – *New Agrarian School, Bigfork, MT*
- Sep 4-Oct 21** **“40 Years of Blacksmithing in PNW”** Display – *Art Center East ~ LaGrande, OR*
- September 19** **“40 Years of Blacksmithing in PNW Live Demos”** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. *LaGrande, OR*

CALIFORNIA
 BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION
 ————— presents —————
 BEGINNER
 TO ARTIST

JOE KOCHES MEMORIAL CONFERENCE
April 30th-May 2nd 2020, Ferndale, CA

Before Joe passed in September 2019, he chose a group of world-class contemporary blacksmith artists to provide demonstrations, inspiration, and hands-on learning for all levels. Joe's gallery containing one of the finest collections of contemporary ironwork will be on display. Come to Ferndale to remember Joe and be inspired.

WWW.CALSMITH.ORG/CBA-EVENTS

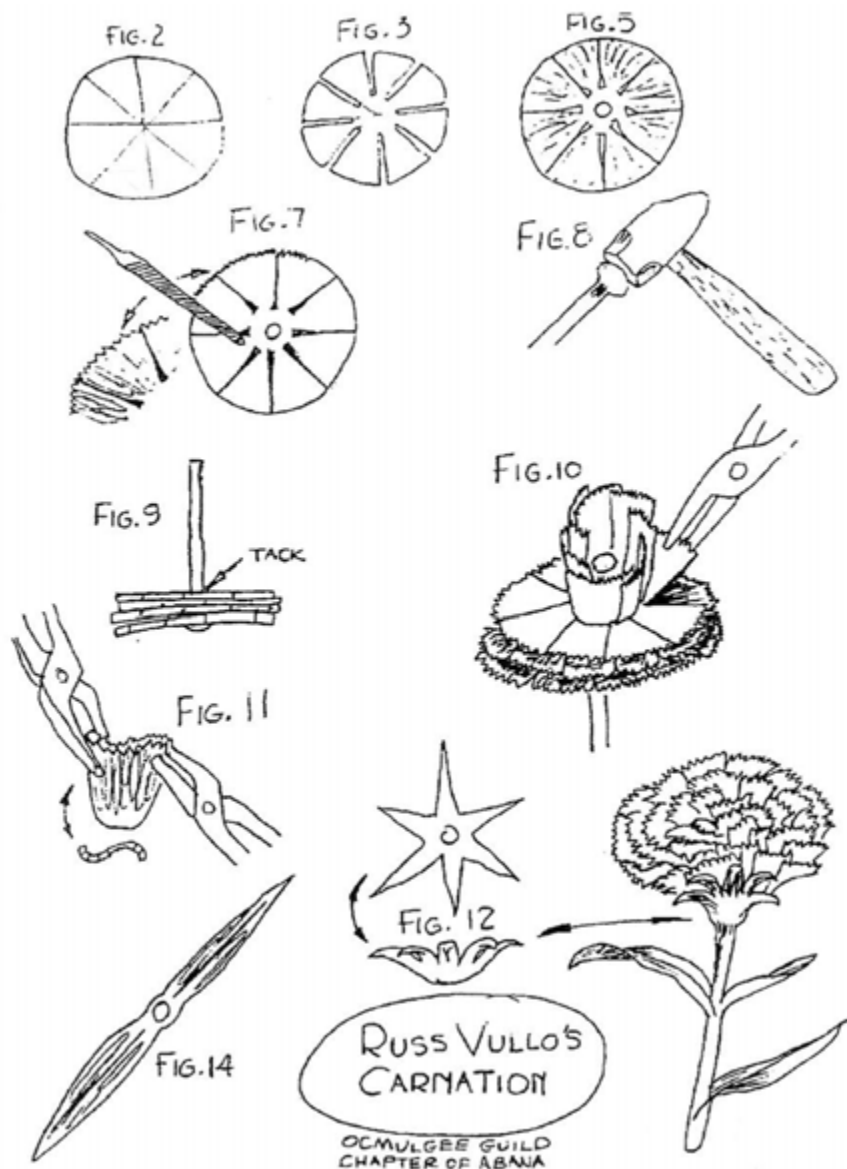
Russ Vullo's Steel Carnation

Ocmulgee Blacksmith Guild, Chapter of ABANA

Spring is in the air and yes, that means it is time to think about flowers. Well, not every flower starts in a seed bed as fellow blacksmiths know! Our thanks to NWBA member, Billy Ottaviani, who conducted an extensive review of our Archives in search of "How-To" articles highlighting flora. Today we revisit an article from our HIN 1996 Winter Issue offering tips for the perfect carnation which was originally shared by ABANA Chapter - Ocmulgee Blacksmith Guild.

If you are looking for variety in your garden, Billy points you in the direction of the following past issues for additional tips and ideas for your floral bouquet: 1994-W-pg 61; 1996-W-pg 38; 1997-W-pg 32; 2000-SM-pg 45, 2003-SP-pgs. 28-31 and 2008-2 pgs. 6-7 & 16-18. These articles can be found by visiting our NWBA website and clicking HIN archives for a complete listing of past issues. Be sure to visit our website for additional tips in the Resource Section of How-to Articles including "Wrapped Rose" and the Slide Galleries segment titled "Inspired by Nature - Flora."

DIRECTIONS FOR RUSS VULLO'S STEEL CARNATION



- Cut out 4 disks of 16-gauge sheet steel 2½" in diameter.
- Subscribe the disks into 8 equal segments. (Figure 2)
- Hacksaw cut to within ½" of disk center. (Figure 3)
- Thin disks edges by drawing out until diameter is 2¾".
- Texture disks with cross pein. (Figure 5)
- Drill ¼" hole in center of disks.
- File serrations in disk edges with triangular file. (Figure 7)
- Upset end of ¼" rod to form "rivet head." (Figure 8)
- Stack disks with textured side up and tack weld bottom of lower disk to the rod. (Figure 9)
- Heat disks with torch or forge and bend upward overlapping each other to form petals. (Figure 10)
- Put "S" curve in edge of each petal by twisting in opposite directions with two needle nose plies. (Figure 11)
- Cut out six-pointed star and drill center with ¼" hole and sink center into a cup shape. (Figure 12)
- Install onto rod under bottom disk and weld to rod. Grind and file weld smooth.
- Forge leaves with 1/8" round stock and weld to ¼" rod.
- Clean with wire brush, then heat to dark red and brush edges of petals with brass brill cleaning brush until gold colored.
- Apply clear protective finish of your choice.

PATRICK MAHER

Swaptoberfest III Demonstrator

Photography Courtesy of Dan Bowyer

NWBA was fortunate to have Patrick Maher share his talents as one of the 2019 Swaptoberfest III Demonstrators. Patrick resides in Seattle, WA where he works out of his own shop, Red Door Studios. Patrick also teaches blacksmithing across the region.



Patrick began his apprenticeship in 1992 in Seattle where he had the opportunity to work with many talented blacksmiths. He opened his first shop, Fireworks, in 1996 which later evolved into his current shop, Red Door Studios in 2000.

Patrick particularly enjoys working with bronze and copper since they are softer than steel. He appreciates the surface of the material and how beautifully it holds marks (which can

be both, good and bad) as every hammer strike shows. However, one must be careful of temperature with bronze and copper as it only takes a blink of the eye for a puddle rather than desired product. Patrick aims for a dull red and stresses the importance of removing your work the second one sees color.

During our Swaptoberfest III Conference Patrick walked us through the steps of how to sculpture steel into a basket of beautiful "Washington Apples." Our thanks to photographer, Dan Bowyer who captured Patrick's demonstration via the photo examples highlighted in this article.



Patrick began his demonstration by starting with the apple leaves and stems. He places veins in the middle of leaves and creates shaping by using the side of his anvil and noted that the sledge block also can be used for leaf shaping.



For close-up detail work, Patrick holds his hammer close to the head edge. His goal is to reduce material to approximately 1/4" at the stem and to then use the heel of the hammer when bending over the stem.

For the apple sphere, Patrick utilizes simple holders to keep the sphere in place while working. To begin the shaping of the apple he heats the sphere in two to three spots on the top with the torch. These hot areas are then tapped gently to create "dimples" or shaping like your typical Red Delicious apple's shape.



Northwest Skillet Company
and Art Center East
are pleased to announce

40 YEARS
OF BLACKSMITHING IN
THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

A gallery exhibit and **free** live
blacksmithing demonstration!

FEATURING

- A curated exhibit of forged ironwork from the NWBA demonstrator archives.
- Live blacksmithing demonstrators who will be working on a variety of projects highlighting the versatility of blacksmithing. Come watch as they make everyday tools as well as art pieces!

FREE ADMISSION!






Exhibit
September 4 - October 21, 2020

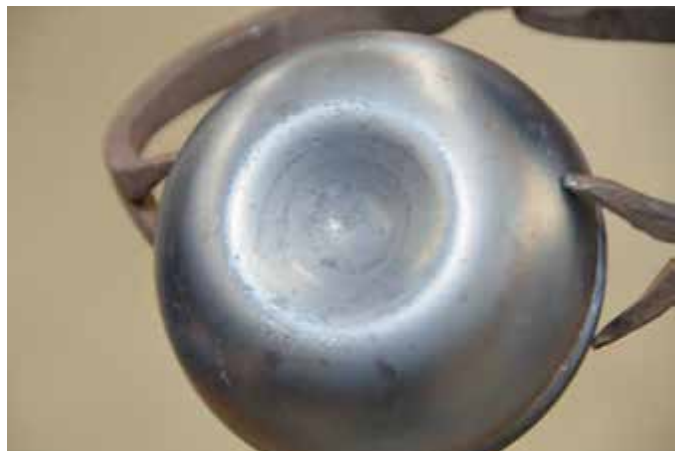
Opening Reception
Friday, September 4 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Live Blacksmithing Demo
September 19, 2020
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

More info at:
northwestskilletcompany.com/40yearsofblacksmithing

Event Location:
Art Center East
1006 Penn Avenue
La Grande, Oregon
artcentereast.org

Sponsored by:
Eastern Oregon Visitors Association
Union County Cultural Coalition
Union County Chamber of Commerce





Taper in the lower sides of the apple to create the desired shape and then flatten the bottom surface for stable display.

Once satisfied with the top and bottom shaping of the apple be sure to add a “dimple or two” on the apple sides.



Aim to create soft shaping as one wants to avoid hard edges or folds in the product. As a word of caution, Patrick advised observers to not allow water into the sphere’s holes when quenching as it results in hot steam in a hurry ~ a lesson Patrick learned the hard way!

Once Patrick is pleased with the top shaping of the apple he welds on the leaves. The bottom of the apple is then heated and shaped.

Patrick then sands the apple to create a smooth finished surface.



View more of Patrick’s work by visiting his website at reddoorstudiosllc.com

ALAN FLASHING

Swaptoberfest III Demonstrator

Photography Courtesy of Dan Bowyer

Alan Flashing was one of three guest demonstrators who graciously shared his talents during the NWBA 2019 Swaptoberfest III Conference. Alan resides in Oakland, OR where he enjoys creating forged and fabricated sculptures and basically enjoying the beauty of nature and having a good time. Alan indicated he has learned a lot in his shop from “trial and error” however, he headed us all in the right direction during his Swaptoberfest demonstration where spectators gained tips and techniques for making a beautiful “Angel” sculpture.



Alan indicated he spends a great amount of time on clean-up as work progresses. He uses a rasp in the wing area to add smoothness to the design before moving on to the base of the Angel body.



Without a doubt, this is a “Buddy” project as a striker’s assistance is required often throughout the construction. A four-hand operation, a striker aids in hot cutting the pieces removed from the form to create the wings and head area of the sculpture.



Alan started out by showing the basic outline of his design with initial cuts made for the session. He uses the hot chisel to make the curved cuts throughout the design.



Alan added detailing for the Angel wings to add interest to the piece and demonstrated how to form a curve to the wings while using the vise. He used a hot punch to form facial details to the sculpture.



Winterfest's Double Win: Anton Yakushev and Kellen Bateham's Life Circle

by E. Clair Guy

One of the annual highlights of Winterfest in Bend, Oregon is always the Fire Pit Competition. In this sprawling arena, crisscrossed by thousands of event goers seeking warmth in the fresh winter chill, blacksmiths and metalworkers put their skills to the test, competing to see who's created the most crowd-pleasing design and satisfying heat source. Some of this year's entries were built locally in Bend, others came from elsewhere in the Pacific Northwest, and one arrived from as far away as Alaska. Some of this year's fire pits were sculptural marvels, some made poignant philosophical points in addition to their beauty, and some were flashy, embedded with sound systems pulsing propane fire to a beat. All of the constructions were intricate and worthy of respect – but NWBA members Anton Yakushev and Kellen Bateham reminded the crowd that hammering steel into finessed forms (especially ones that glimmer with choice copper elements) can be a surefire way to win the hearts and votes of onlookers.

The work they produced, Life Circle, depicted the life of a salmon, from fertilized egg to decayed death and bones. Their detailed sculpture took home the People's Choice Award and the coveted Grand Prize, which included the sculpture's purchase by the City of Prineville, Oregon, where it will be publicly displayed.

Considering the sculpture's progression from patchwork spheres that degrade in form towards the salmon's mouth – seemingly frozen mid-breath – to the copper eyes flickering life in the reflected firelight, to the degradation of the physical form again – this time towards textured skin and bone – what they produced wasn't just a fire pit; it's a true work of art. It's a shared masterpiece, manifesting the progression and



connection of life and death while at the same time making space for the warmth and light of fire.

A fascinating fact about Anton and Kellen's double win is this: while some of the participants constructed their fire pits over the course of weeks or months, Anton and Kellen designed, forged, and assembled the products of their imagination over the course of two days. Sure, their 20 years combined experience and the deep camaraderie they share certainly played a part in the efficiency of their work, but when you consider how Anton mostly speaks Russian and Kellen mostly speaks English, it's apparent they both speak the language of metal fluently when working together at the forge.

Blacksmithing Schools Around the Northwest

Anvil Academy

305 N Main St,
Newberg, OR 97132

Web: <http://anvilacademy.info/>
Email: admin@AnvilAcademy.net
Phone: 503.538.8123

Offering instruction in basic and advanced blacksmithing and knife making

Bridgetown Forge

1812 North Columbia Blvd.
Portland, OR, 97217

Web: <http://www.bridgetownforge.com>
Email: arnon@bridgetownforge.com
Phone: 503.804.1524

New classes are being developed on a continuous basis, and classes to be offered in near future include: power hammer work, forging a cleaver, forging a sushi knife, hammer-making, and axe-making.

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P.O. Box 64
Government Camp, Oregon 97028

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Clackamas Community College

19600 Molalla Avenue
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Phone: 503.594.6000

Offering blacksmithing classes under the Welding Technology program.

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David Lisch

Yelm, WA
Web: DavidLisch.com
Email: classes@davidlisch.com
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Fire Horse Forge

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Ballard, WA 98107
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Incandescent Ironworks Ltd.

Spokane, WA
Contact Steve McGrew:
Web: www.incandescent-iron.com/blcl.html
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Phone: 509-456-8321

At Incandescent Ironworks I teach introductory and intermediate blacksmithing, introductory and intermediate knife making, and tailored instruction on selected smithing topics.

New Agrarian School

990 McCaffery Road
Bigfork, Montana 59911
Web: newagrarianschool.org
Phone: 406.837.4208

Instructors include: Jeffrey Funk and Haley Woodward

Old West Forge

PO BOX 2105
White Salmon, WA 98672
Contact Tim Middaugh:
Email: tim@oldwestforge.com
Phone: 509.493.4418

Current classes are listed at www.oldwestforge.com

Pratt Fine Arts Center

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

Thorne Metals Studio

13751 Daybreak Ln
Anacortes, WA 98221
Phone: 360.293.8257
Web: thornemetals.com
Current classes are listed at <http://learnblacksmithing.com>

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center

11275 SW Durham Ln.,
McMinnville, OR 97128
Located South of McMinnville on Highway 18 at the intersection of Durham Lane
Phone: 503.472.2842
Email: Events@YamhillCountyHistory.org
Web: <https://www.yamhillcountyhistory.org/yamhill-valley-heritage-center>

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.



Northwest Blacksmith Association

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

2020-2021 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 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; its 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.

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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.

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Mail to: Northwest Blacksmith Association
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NWBA AUCTION 2020 CALL FOR DONATIONS

Calling one and all! It is time to forge something or dig through the shop or closet to find a special treasure to contribute to our annual NWBA Auction.

All funds raised support our organization... a great cause! The Auction will be held on **Saturday, May 16th** immediately after the banquet.



Have an idea for a demonstration you want to give? We need able demonstrators to fill our Mentoring Center fourth Saturday of the month schedule for 2020.

Contact Kellen Bateham to discuss it: stochasity@gmail.com

ABANA 2020 Conference June 3-6, 2020 Sarasota, NY

ABANA 2020 Saratoga is on its way. It is THE blacksmithing get-together that you have been waiting for. We have a distinguished array of demonstrators in eight separate demo sites, a 20 forge teaching area, a youth teaching site, lectures, competitions, vendors, tailgating, family programs, members' gallery, auction and BBQ and the Blacksmith's Arm Pub. There will be a Saturday night dinner and coffee and donuts early mornings. Also there will be food available on site all four days. Whether you are a novice, a part-time smith or a full time professional there will be something for everyone, including time to sit and share ideas, techniques, and learn from each others' experience. Even for those who are just curious about blacksmithing this is the place to see smithing at its best. You won't find a better place for all things blacksmith whether you come for just a single day or the entire four days.

<https://abana.org/2020-conference-information/>

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