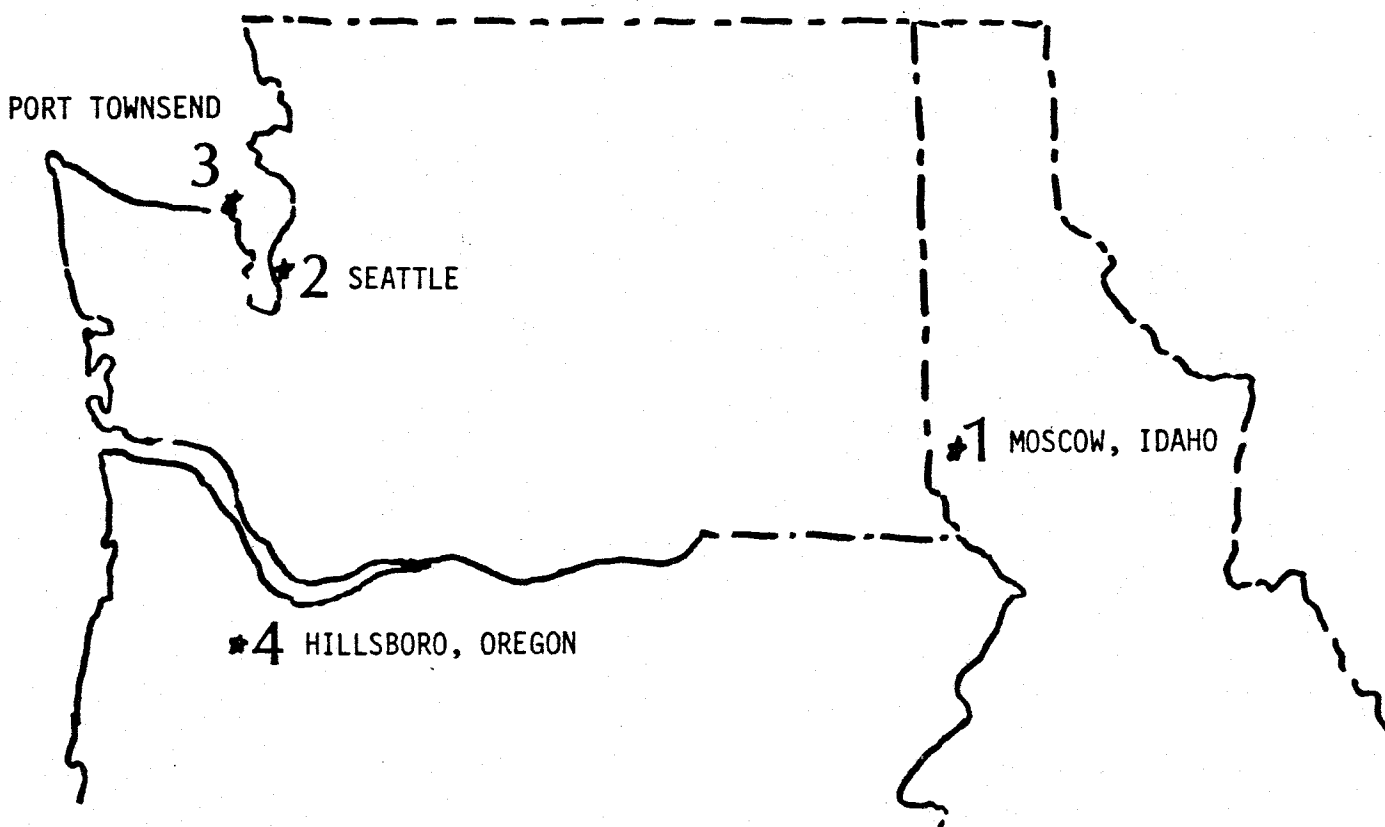


# May Is NW Metal Madness Month

*Spring Meet - Workshops - Open Forges*



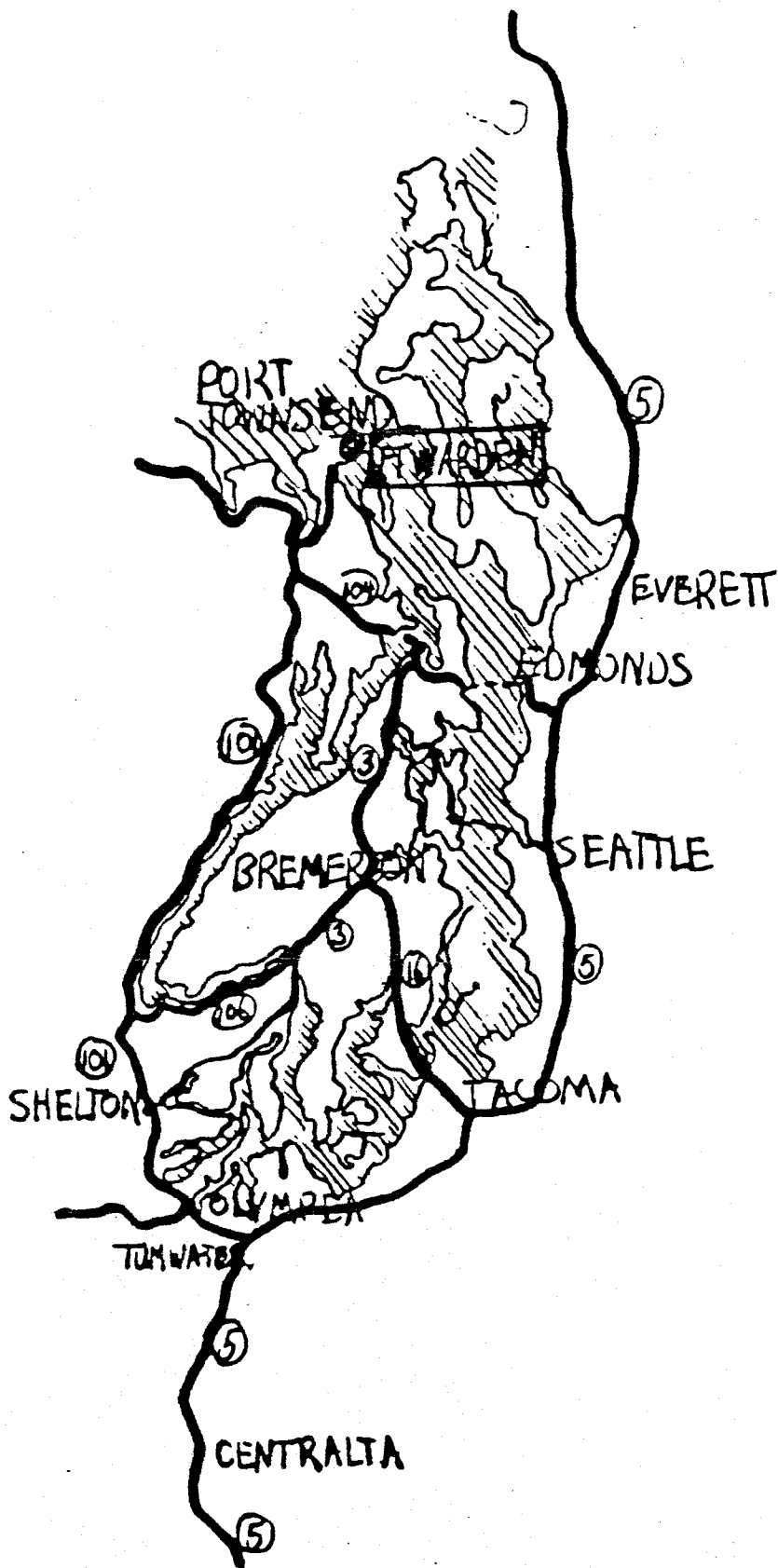
**1** MAY 4-5-6  
MOSCOW, IDAHO  
OPEN FORGE &  
CATAPULT WORKSHOP  
AT MARK SOLOMONS

**3** MAY 19-20  
PORT TOWNSEND  
SPRING MEET

MAY 21-22  
TOM JOYCE  
WORKSHOPS  
AT RUSS JAQUAS

**2** MAY 12  
SEATTLE  
OPEN FORGE  
AT JACK SLACKS

**4** MAY 26-27  
HILLSBORO, OREGON  
OPEN FORGE & HOG FEED  
AT IKE BAYS



Fort Warden is located in the town of Port Townsend, on the Olympic Peninsula about 60 road miles NW of Seattle. Several cross-sound ferry routes connect to SR 104, and the ferry crossing the Hood Canal. The various routes are well marked.

From the North, there is a direct ferry connection from Keystone to Port Townsend. From the Seattle area the shortest route is via the ferry to Winslow and then via the Hood Canal ferry. From Tacoma take SR 16 across the Narrows and then through Bremerton to Hood Canal. If coming from South of Olympia you can take US 101 all the way to the Port Townsend road, avoiding the ferries entirely.

Please remember that the ferries can be busy on weekends, so allow some extra time.

# Bay View Farm

Home of Rock Creek Shire Horses

Rt. 1, Box 909

Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

## OPEN FORGE AND PIG ROAST

May 26th (Sat.) and May 27th (Sun.)

OPEN TO ALL, NO CHARGE, SOME COME TO SEE, SOME COME TO DO,  
ALL ARE WELCOME

Open Forge at Bay View Farm 16 miles West of Portland. Go out Sunset Highway (#26-West) to Helvetia Road. Travel North on Helvetia to Phillips Road. Turn West on Phillips and the Open Forge is just past the intersection of Phillips and Valley Vista. Yellow anvil signs will clearly mark the way once you turn off the Sunset Highway (Hwy #26).

We have a large pasture to park vehicles. Chem toilets will be set up to make things easy. A large barn has lots of room for sleeping bags and our pig feed and chalk talks will take place in the barn.

Added attractions.... a  $\frac{1}{2}$  scale steam tractor, 100% operational.

Demonstration on what steam will do to the flexibility of wood. Several demonstrators, one on tool making, one on fancy work with tubing and pipe. The Harry Robinson School of Chain Making. Every person that wants to will be encouraged to make a link for the chain. Some of the more experienced smiths will spell Harry, helping people. A great chance for a beginner to get a little one on one instruction. At the end of the Open Forge we will have a chain with a hook at each end. Each link to be signed by the maker. 200 lb. roast pig potluck dinner, we provide the pig, you all bring the rest. Pig sandwiches the second day if any left. Chalk talk on tool steels by a metallurgist.

A new shed has been built to house the outside forge. The main shop has been expanded and will offer more room. No less than two forges going. We will promote in the Portland Metro Area heavily, and hope for some good press and TV coverage.

Buy, sell, trade.....swap meet atmosphere is encouraged. We also ask you to bring something for iron in the hat.

As hosts of an Open Forge, there is no way Kathy and I can pull off a fun event without your strong support. Once the pig, port-a-potties and other details are taken care of we are done. It's people that make these Open Forges special and we are hoping for a large turnout. Come early, stay late, eat well, bend a little iron, have the time of your life.



# Hot Iron News

By Corky Storer

Happy 5th Birthday to the Northwest Blacksmith Association! As amazing as that sounds to the people who were there at its' conception, it's true. We are five years old! Columbia River I was where it all began near Astoria, Oregon. A bunch of fledgling blacksmiths wanting to exchange ideas, inspiration and friendship got together to reap the benefits of group therapy or any reasonable manifestation there of. It's interesting to note that when the flame of a craft seems to dim to a flicker it will not be allowed to die out. The banning together of small groups, like the NWBA, in many parts of this country insure that blacksmithing would not become a dying ember. The essential ingredient is the few remaining masters willing to pass on, to interested minds and willing hands, the knowledge necessary to spark the renaissance. During a masterful demonstration of a forge weld or other intricate maneuver, to witness the looks of excitement, inspiration and enthusiasm on the faces of a group of aspiring smiths, it amazes me as to how this craft of crafts could fade to such a point. It is nice to see the billows breathe in new life!

By now you should know we have dubbed MAY the month

of Metal Munching Madness and Mania. There is so much going on! It will begin in Moscow, Idaho, or thereabouts, on May 4th, 5th and 6th where the tenth annual renaissance fair will be one of the many highlights. It could prove to be very interesting if the best laid plans of Mark Soloman develop. You see, if Mark is successful in replenishing the full stroke of life to his one thousand pound steam hammer, he intends to construct, with the help of many, a catapult capable of launching a mass the size of a volkswagon, the distance of a football field. Read that one more time, if you like, it's not a misprint! He is serious, he wants to have a catapult building workshop where the finished product will in fact launch a volkswagon or reasonable substitute some three hundred feet. Now if you are up for this type of technology and have your heart set on a catapult building workshop, call Mark Solomon to confirm the progress of this endeavor. Sounds like a hell of alot of fun, huh!

On May 12th, Saturday, from noon to 6:00 p.m., the blacksmith shop with your host, Jack Slack, will hold an open forge. Jack has a new side draft forge in operation and a

new hammer which he has promised will be running by the open forge. Jack is very excited with the operation of his water cooled side draft forge. If you have been reading about these or considering changing over to this type of operation this is your chance to acquire firsthand the knowledge you seek. There is always something new and interesting at Jacks, so plan to attend.

Next, our spring meeting on May 19th and 20th - our featured demonstrator will be Tom Joyce of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Those of you who caught a glimpse of Tom at the Hog Feed II should be ready for some more exposure to this young master. He truly is one of the hottest young smiths involved in producing very exciting iron work today. His appreciation for detail and technique is something to behold.

Tom is very personable and he puts a great deal of time and effort into his demonstrations. He is also very proficient at clearly and fully explaining what he is doing. Tom gives the viewer a complete picture of the demonstration. It's simple to come away with good notes and a clear overview of what you have seen.

Tom is an excellent demonstrator. I'm sure if you saw him when he was last in the Northwest, you will be excited to see him again. If you were not fortunate enough to see him before, don't miss him this time. This spring gathering is different this year in that you will be responsible for your own food and lodging. There will be a catered lunch on Saturday. The menu will consist of lamb, salad, bread and potluck (hot dish and desserts). The potluck dessert idea has been a real winner in the past, so plan to participate and bring a desert or any other dish you wish to add. The beer will be on tap and will be flowing. The cost is very reasonable and Fort Warden is a beautiful place. Remember to bring something for iron in the hat. Also, there will be a slide show Saturday night. It will be a full two days so come and enjoy! There will be a gallery for iron work so bring some of your work and display it so we can all share in what you are doing.

The following four days Tom will be conducting two workshops. May 21st and 22nd will be an intermediate workshop. There is still a few spots open so if you are interested, contact Daryle Nelson at

**Due to an abundance of work -- Tom is forced to cancel the Workshops.**

(206) 832-6280. On May 23rd and 24th will be an advanced workshop held at Fire Mountain Forge. That session is filled to capacity, but remember, there is still some space available in the intermediate class, so if you think you would like to attend, don't procrastinate any longer. You must supply your own tools, food and lodging. The cost is only \$50.00 per person, you can't afford not to attend!

Last, but definitely not least, Ike Bay is holding an open forge. The complete information is included in this newsletter. It will take place on May 26th and 27th in Hillsbrow, Oregon. There will be lots of demonstrations, plenty of room for sleeping bags, all necessary amenities (sana cans) and a 200 pound roasted pig, basting in his own juices over an open fire, plenty of beer and lots, lots more!

I told you May was going to be a full month! To review, if you are in Idaho on May 4th, 5th or 6th, and you happen upon a large contraption resembling a medieval catapult and a sign saying "volkswagon parking, beware!" don't be surprised because Mark may give you a ride you hadn't expected! The 12th of May in Pioneer Square at The Blacksmith Shop will behold Jack Slack's new baby, super forge. He claims it's hotter than his other forge ever thought of being. It's also going to be interesting

to see his business neighbors' reaction when he starts his new mechanical hammer! The glass blower next door should be most profound.

Our annual spring get-together I am sure will prove to be the best one we have had yet. Tom Joyce is very good at what he does and he is a wealth of information. The workshops to follow will include great strides of understanding for the participants, along with a real good time doing what we all enjoy, getting better at our approach to hot iron.

Then comes Ike Bay's open forge; last years dust didn't even settle when he started planning this years event. He enlarged the work stations, added sleeping bag space and lined up even more demonstrators! Last years media coverage was phenominal, the setting was beautiful countryside. It really is a "must-do" sort of an affair. Hope to see you all there!

Try and take in all you can of May's Metal Munching Madness, it will be worth the missed work days. Think of it this way, tell the boss you can get it all out of your system in just one month! He won't mind!

One more reminder, the first 100 renewals of their NWBA membership by May 15 will receive, absolutely free, the paperback book "The Practical Handbook of Blacksmithing and Metalworking" by Percy W. Blandford. This is a thick book, recently

printed with lots of information, normally selling for \$12.95. So renew by May 15 and receive this book absolutely free! This offer does not pertain to new membership, it's to benefit our loyal supporters. You will receive the book at the spring meeting, however, if you can't attend, it will be available at sites to be announced later. This book is not available at any store at any price, so act now (I heard that line on some late night T.V. show!). It will depend on your postmark if you are one of the first 100. The books left over after May 15 will be sold for \$6.00 each. So you can see, this is a special offer you will receive if you renew your membership, which you were going to do any-

way, right!! You will then receive this dandy book if you are one of the first 100 by May 15, so act now.

One last thing, if you plan to go to Wisconsin for the national conference, and would like to be part of a group from the NWBA, please call Daryle Nelson at (206) 832-6280. He has information regarding good ticket prices and other incidentals of the trip to the nationals.

KEEP YOUR FIRE CLEAN AND BRIGHT,  
YOUR TOOLS CLEAN OF RUST, AND  
YOU AND VULCAN WILL SMILE ON  
YOUR WORK!!!!

*Corky*

**REGISTRATION FORM  
NWBA SPRING MEETING**

**FORT WARDEN STATE PARK  
PORT TOWNSEND, WA**

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

NWBA Member	\$25.00	_____
non-member	\$30.00	_____
additional family members (children under 12 free)	\$7.50 each	_____
<b>Total enclosed for registration</b>		_____

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Please make check payable to NWBA and mail with this form to:

NWBA  
P.O. Box 81041  
Seattle, WA 98108

# ABANA

Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America



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## NOTICE

The full listing of over 2400 ABANA members,  
both USA and worldwide, is now available.

The list is alphabetical by name, includes  
complete address and numbers twenty-two two-  
sided pages. The fee per list is \$10.00,  
payable to ABANA. Send check or money order

to:

ABANA LIST  
c/o John Dittmeier, Membership Chm.  
6 W. Mt. Vernon St.  
Smyrna, DE 19977





*Northwest Blacksmith's Association*  
P.O. Box 81041 • Seattle, WA 98108

**REMEMBER, MAY IS RENEWAL TIME!**  
**Renew your membership in NWBA now**  
**so you will not miss your next Newsletter**

DON'T FORGET THE FIRST 100 MEMBERS TO RENEW BY THE 15th OF  
MAY RECEIVE "THE PRACTICAL HANDBOOK OF BLACKSMITHING &  
METALWORKING". YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR BOOK AT A MEETING,  
WORKSHOP OR OPEN FORGE.

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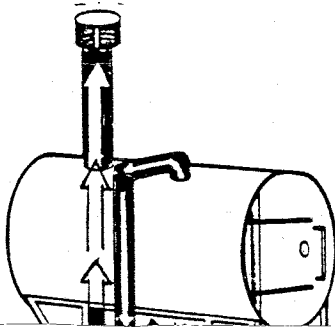
# The Dragon Fire Charcoal Retort



1020 S. Main  
Moscow, Idaho 83843  
208-882-6549

The Dragon Fire Charcoal Retort is a portable charcoaling system capable of producing up to 1200 pounds of charcoal daily. Its simplicity, flexibility, and clean operating characteristics allow for its usage of many different wood supplies in all types of working environments.

The Dragon Fire System is a retort in which the wood is destructively distilled. The retort chamber is heated from below by a wood fire, and from the flue gases which are routed thru the chamber. The gases that are evolved from the charring process are piped into the firebox for combustion, resulting in a highly efficient, environmentally clean process. Cycle time is approximately 24-30 hours; 8-12 hours of heating, the remainder in cooling.



#### SPECIFICATIONS:

Gross weight: 2100 pounds (trailer attached)

Dimensions: 8' height, 8' length, 5' width

Retort Capacity: 150 cubic feet

Construction: 304 Stainless Steel for all fire impingement surfaces. A36 steel for remaining structure.

- The retort is fully insulated and jacketed with galvanized steel.

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