

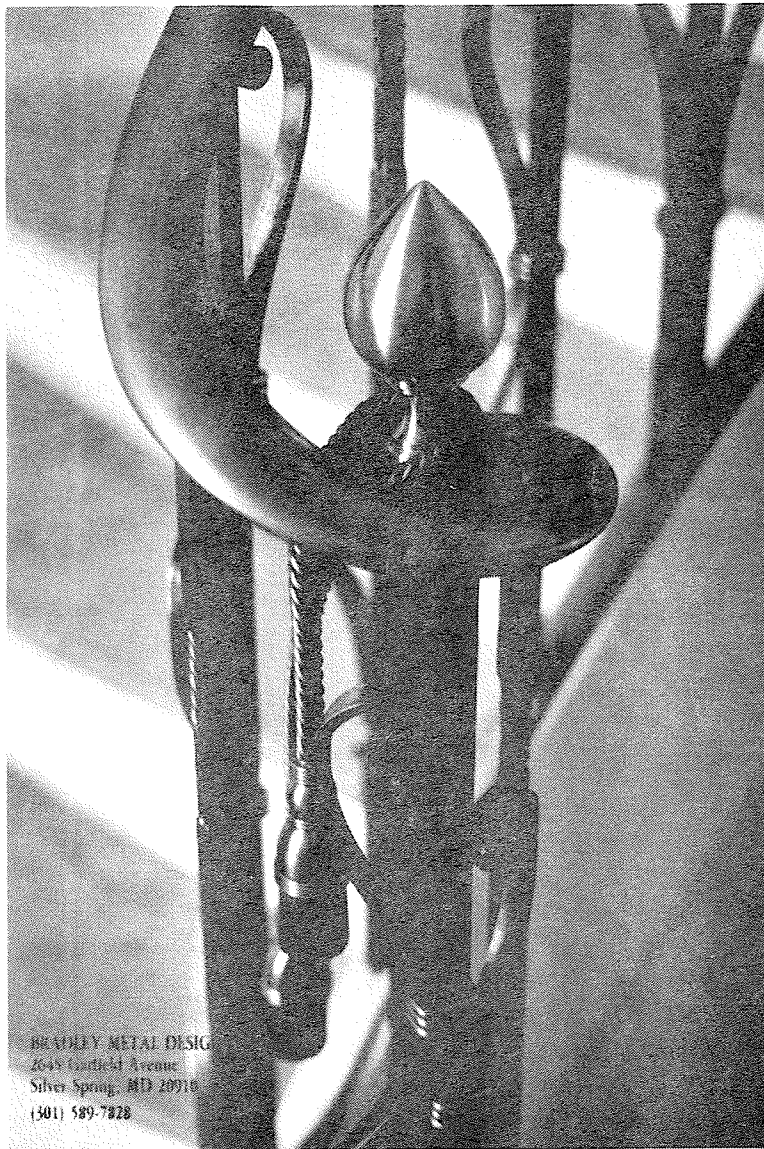
CHAPTER OF ABANA

# Hot Iron News

VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 1992

\$ 4.00 U.S.



## 1991 NWBA OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

NWBA  
P.O. BOX 81041  
SEATTLE, WA 98108

**President:**

Grant Sarver  
2311 Ross Way  
Tacoma, WA 98421  
(206) 572-7460

**Vice-President:**

Joe Elliott  
1926 SW 25th  
Redmond, OR 97756  
(503) 548-2564

**Treasurer:**

Tom Graham  
7545 - 45th NE  
Seattle, WA 98115  
(206) 523-5334

**Secretary:**

Ike Bay  
13085 NW Ridgetop Drive  
Portland, OR 97229  
(503) 645-2790

**Editor:**

Margaret Byers  
2311 Ross Way  
Tacoma, WA 98421  
(206) 572-7460

**Director:**

Jeff Holtby  
22929 Union Hill Road  
Redmond, WA 98053  
(206) 868-9531

**Director:**

Smokey Adams  
PO Box 311  
McKenna, WA 98558  
(206) 458-2777

**Director:**

Kent Rudisill  
2520 SW 45th Street  
Corvallis, OR 97333  
(503) 753-2543

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Front Cover:  
Stair Railing  
Brad Sliberburg

## PREZ SEZ

Is this a great summer or what? Beautiful weather, The A.B.A.N.A. conference out west here, and lots of activities planned. I've been horribly busy - business is booming, lots of tools to make, setting up some new toys, Clifton Ralph workshop at my place while we're working six days a week, ten hours a day, then the planning of fall conference. Wow, if there's no rest for the wicked, I must be damnable.

The Clifton Ralph workshop was FANTASTIC! What a high energy guy. Details at ten. Jeff Holtby did a great job putting this together. A prez pat on the back Jeff, and I promise never to mention .... Oops! I almost said the "p" word.

Looks like the novice workshop is filled again. You might get on as an alternate if someone drops out. Call Gene Chapman. Gene puts alot of work into these workshops; planning, organizing and coordinating. Many times the guy in the background doing these things gets overlooked, so..... Thanks GENE, from all of us. You're doin great! Hip, hip.... Gene Chapman, Jerry Culberson and Joe Elliott are able to get together on these about twice a year, so if you are interested get on the list.

Check your calender, DON'T forget Saint Murphy's day, patron saint of blacksmiths. Also October 3,4,5, FALL CONFERENCE! Have we got a show for you?! Brad Silberberg is a terrific blacksmith and demonstrator. Jerry Culberson is always fun to watch and hear. And you'll love Bernie Coski. Evening entertainment provided by you! Don't forget to bring an auction item! (where have I heard that before?) And your favorite dish. (Or my favorite dish... cheesecake!) And something for show-and-tell.(Optional)

Someone said I ramble, I don't think I ramble. Just a different thought process I guess. Where does ramble come from anyway? Sounds sorta like bramble - something that grows without direction, meandering. What's wrong with that I ask. Nothing, I answer.(Well! Whada

ya expect? I'm alone, of course I answer myself.)  
Ramble huh? Well.....

Friday night open forge at my place has been quite interesting. At no time have we had more than six or seven people.... plenty of room for more! Nice time for collective head-scratching. Some novice projects, some advanced projects, and some over-our-head projects. Lotsa fun, lotsa talk, good pizza. 5:00 P.M. till ???

Overheard: "It's not really an optical illusion, it just looks like one." I like this one "Close hood, strike arc. Close hood, strike arc." Kind of a chant I guess.

Congratulations, Clayton Carr, The new President of A.B.A.N.A. Hope you find it rewarding and satisfying (we all know it will be so interesting you'll hardly be able to stand it sometimes). I sent a small gift and thank you to out-going President Dorothy Stiegler from the N.W.B.A. (see photo in center-fold). Thanks, Dorothy, hope we see more of you at the local events.

There has been some interest in double bick (German style) anvils. Looks like we could pull off a 350-400lb. model for about \$2.00 per pound, cast in 4140/4150 alloy, machined and heat treated. Anyone interested call me at (206)572-7460. Need about twelve people.

Well, that's all from this end,



Grant (you can call me prez) Sarver

P.S. Whada ya say Karen? Gonna meet me at the Fall Conference? Oh! And congratulations!

AUCTION-AUCTION-AUCTION-AUCTION-AUCTION-AUCTION-AUCTION-AUCTION-AUCTION

### BLADE WORKSHOP

Receipts \$1440.00

#### Debits

Demo Fees  
 Expenses  
 Shop Rent 1477.06  
 Sanikan 91.00  
 1508.06

(-128.06)

### SPRING MEET 1992

#### Registration

60 Paid Attendees \$1440.00  
 Auction 1614.50  
 \$3054.50

#### Debits

3 Sanikans \$ 136.50  
 Stop Payment  
 (Roma Italia) 10.00  
 Plates, Cups, etc. 18.46  
 Travel 590.00  
 Demo Fees 1125.00  
 Shop Rental 650.00  
 Donuts, coffee, etc 98.68

TOTAL DEBIT \$2628.64  
 \$ 425.86

Respectfully submitted,  
 Tom Graham

### APRIL NOVICE WORKSHOP

Receipts \$1515.00

#### Debits

Demo Fees  
 Expenses  
 Shop Rent  
 Materials 1357.31  
 Food 437.38  
 Sanikan 119.65  
 1914.34

(-399.34)

### Calendar of Events

Oct 2-4, 1992 **NWBA Fall Conference**, Bernie Coski's, Tacoma, WA Contact Jerry Culberson, (206) 275-6769

January 1993 **Gas Forge Building Workshop**. At Grant Sarver's, Darryl Nelson teaching. Date not fixed. For a flat fee, participants are provided all materials and leave with a finished gas forge that they have made.. Event will be video taped. Plans and drawings done so non-participants can benefit. 20 person limit.. \$160.00

May 1993 **Spring Conference 1993**, Timberline, OR. Exact date is to be determined. Darryl Nelson event chair.

PLEASE NOTE: **Novice Workshops** will be held at Jerry Culberson's Old Cedar Forge in Allyn, WA October class is filled! Contact Gene Chapman 206-297-2495 for openings.

OPEN FORGE AT GRANT SARVERS SHOP, 2311 Ross Way, Tacoma every Friday from 5:00 P.M. til the cows come home! Come mangle iron on an industrial scale! Time for talk, chalk, and fun. There will be things for all skill levels, don't be bashful. The best part is the price - FREE! Please call in advance (572-7460) in case it's called because of, like, rain or?

# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

## NWBA BOARD MEETING

Conference call meeting starting at 9:00 p.m. lasting for approximately 2.5 hours.

President Grant Sarver called the Board Meeting to order and started in reviewing a number of issues. In attendance were; Grant Sarver, Joe Elliott, Ike Bay, Tom Graham, Jeff Holtby, Kent Rudisill, Smokey Adams, and Margaret Byers.

1. We have a little over \$6 thousand dollars in the bank (\$6191.09).
2. All benches have to be at Apex Forge for 26th, 27th, 28th, June workshop. They are in Eugene. Ike Bay will get them transferred.
3. The Swedgeblock order, although not an official NWBA event is in the closing stages. The items are here and being distributed.
4. T-shirts for fall event, feed data on sources to President.
5. Jeff Holtby is running the Clifton Ralph tapes and keeping them circulating.
6. August 14, 15, 16, High Desert workshop, Joe Elliott. Forging woodworking tools.
7. Ike Bay will be new Northwest editor and ABANA Liaison will write Clayton Carr and Anvils Ring.
8. Secretary will send out a ballot. Nominations are Dennis Prince, Murray Hart, Ike Bay,

Ben Atherly, Jerry Henderson to fill three positions. Will also remind each mailing of their membership status.

9. Jeff Holtby will continue on his special awards project.
10. Ike will write for powerhammer books.
11. Association will get some more "Edge of Anvil" books.
12. Bleacher project was started, President is heading this up.
13. With Tom Graham stepping down after long service we are considering combining Treasurer/Secretary into one position. Tom will still be keeper of the post office box.
14. Need to promote events, need to manage our money and event expenses talked over at great length. Ike will work up a budget - proposed and actual form.
15. Promote events, build up auction, means we still need material from events for newsletter. We are way shy on photos and demonstrator notes. **IT IS NOT THE EDITORS JOB TO CREATE THIS.** The Board and members do this.....we need a better effort.
16. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ike Bay

P.S.  
\$5.00 discount for auction items!!

# N.W.B.A. Fall Conference 1992

**BIG AUCTION!**

**OCT. 2, 3, 4, 1992**

Featuring: **BRAD SILBERBERG**  
 From Silver Spring, Maryland (you know, by the other Washington)  
 &  
**JERRY CULBERSON** B.S., N.W.B.A., U.S.N. (ret.), et al  
 From Allyn, Washington (the REAL one)  
 At the shop of  
**BERNARD COSKI**  
 in Beautiful Tacoma, Washington

This fall we will hold our Fall Conference (so it won't be confused with the Spring Conference which is held in the spring) in Tacoma at Barney & Linda Coski's place. You'll have to see this place to believe it! A home, a blacksmith shop, a machine shop, acres to roam on and wonderful machinery ALL OVER THE PLACE! Ladies, don't, I repeat, don't let the old man bring the checkbook!

Our feature demonstrator will be Brad Silberberg from the old country (the east). Brad's work has been featured in the Anvils Ring many times over the years and he has developed a distinctive style. Much in demand as a demonstrator, Brad was a big hit at the A.B.A.N.A. Conference in California this summer. (see article in this here issue)

Jerry Culberson, well known for his handlebar mustache, derby hat, culinary genius (garlic pie?), auctioneering, and blacksmithing will be demonstrating as well. Always well liked, Jerry has an easy going way of demonstrating and entertaining at the same time. Once he gets rolling though, LOOK OUT! Body armour is encouraged.

When he's not trying to sell you something, Barney Coski will give some short demonstrations on tool work and steel identification. He hopes to demonstrate a trip hammer he has been building. This is a real first class machine and should not be missed.

**POTLUCK DINNER**  
(Barron of beef will be served)

If your last name begins with A-G and you were born under the sign of Leo or your mothers maiden name was McFarland bring salad.

If you wear bib overalls with papers sticking out all around the top or wear a t-shirt of questionable taste (picturing an act of machination) bring a desert.

If your age is an even number or you have no siblings and hated your father bring a side dish (not your father!).

If you drive a BMW or your father drives a BMW or any of your relatives drive a Beemer or live in a spooky house on the other side of town have dinner at the Cliff House.

If any of the above makes any sense to you at all, bring a blank check for \$10,000.00 and see me first.

Let's see what happens if everybody just brings whatever they feel like bringing (isn't that what they do anyway?).

Camping space will be available at the site.

As usual please do not bring children under twelve years old.

Dogs will not be allowed as Barney has two large German shepards loose on the premises

Wives, girlfriends, or guests welcome as long as they don't bite! (nibbling O.K.)

No firearms! No armfires either for that matter....

**1992 FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

**October 2, 3, 4, 1992 at Tacoma, Washington**

**Registration and Fees**

I am a member of NWBA ( ) I am a member of ABANA ( )

Pre-Registered before September 15st \$25 \_\_\_\_\_  
After September 15, or walk-in \$30 \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse \$ 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
Children \$5 per child x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to NWBA and mail to:

NWBA  
P.O.Box 81041  
Seattle, WA 98108

**DISCLOSURE / ASSUMPTION OF RISK**

I hereby acknowledge that by attending the NWBA Fall 1992 Conference to be held on the property of Bernard Coski, DBA Coski Pacific Forge, I assume all risks, hazards and dangers that are present on the property by reason of its location, the terrain and the various equipment located on the property. I specifically waive and release Northwest Blacksmith's Association & Bernard Coski of any liability, loss or damage which may occur as a result of my presence on the property.

**ALL ADULTS MUST SIGN:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Print same: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ Print same: \_\_\_\_\_

Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Print same: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**REMEMBER! \$5.00 DISCOUNT FOR AUCTION ITEMS!!!!**



## BRAD SILBERBERG

Bradley Metal Design, Inc. produces custom designed decorative and sculptural metalwork, specializing in hand-hammered wrought ironwork. Metalsmith Brad Silberberg combines his sculpture and blacksmithing training to produce finely crafted furniture, lighting, railings, gates, fences, and other architectural metalwork in steel, bronze, copper and stainless steel. With nine years of metalworking and design experience, Bradley Metal Design, Inc. can help architects and designers to reproduce missing forged ironwork on historic restoration projects, or design and construct unique, well crafted metalwork to compliment any architectural project, in styles from colonial to contemporary.

Combining modern welding and machining techniques with the rich traditions of hot working metals with hammer and hand allows Bradley Metal Design to carry out any concept. Electric welding is used only when it can be blended to invisibility, while traditional joinery such as rivets, collars, and mortise and tenon joints are used as visual "punctuation marks" to enliven the design. Incised designs and surface textures from smooth to heavily hammered are employed to catch shadows and light to enhance the three dimensional possibilities offered by forged metalwork.



Working in all solid materials, Bradley Metal Design, Inc. has created stately, scrolled driveway gates that swing with ease on ball bearing hinges, garden gates and interior railings with naturalistic and stylized floral shapes, wine cellar gates, colonial chandeliers, window grilles, graceful curving balustrades, furniture combining metals with wood and stone, fireplace screens, and hardware. A variety of finishes are offered, from careful brush painting of exterior ironwork to natural oil and wax finishes on interior pieces in a range from pewter to velvet black. Copper, brass, and bronze can be mirror polished or given one of many patinas.

The main body of his work is architectural metalwork, so the form of the work (stair railing, gate, etc.) is already established. He tries to find new ways to work within the structural constraints of these forms while developing designs that are elegant and refined. The hot working of metals, such as forging and pressing, allow him greater freedom in both design and execution. In his purely decorative work, he is experimenting more with the ways that heated solid and hollow metal shapes are distorted when pressed and squeezed and how to control and enhance that distortion to create sculptural shapes. Brad was a featured demonstrator at the '92 ABANA Conference at San Louis Obispo, CA.

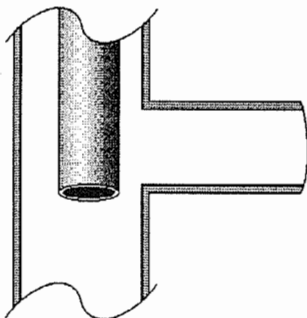
# Natural Gas Torch

By **Grampa Hersom**

Some explanation of sketches - Gas Air Torch

1. Gas-air tubes can be silver soldered into ferrule fittings instead of using flared fittings.
2. Gas-air tubes away from head can be lead soldered as per at valves. Insert copper tube and solder. See item 7 and item 9.

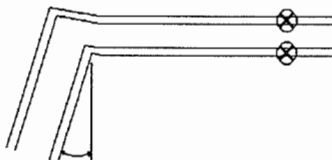
3. 1/4" copper tube inserted into Tee extends about even with bottom of gas inlet hole. Cut to fit.



4. Drill out bottom side of the Tee up to where 1/8" threads on top side are located. This makes a mix chamber area.

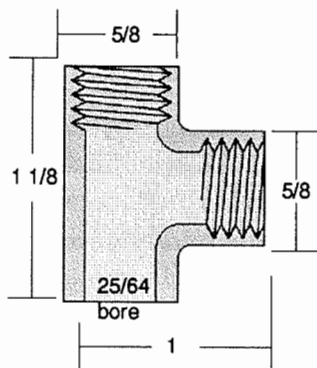
The 3/8" tube threads soldered to bottom of Tee may have to be shortened some so they won't close in top disc in 3/4" burner tube, (mine has 1/16" clearance and is enough.)

5. Gas-air tubes can be bent near head to a 10° angle or more.



6. Solder head pieces together before drilling holes in discs.

7. Valves can be small tubing valves 1/8" NPT one end - and 1/4" ferrule fitting other end - but solder tube in end after removing stem so you don't destroy packing about stem (also called instrument valves). No need for tube nuts when soldered. Valves to match tube sizes used.

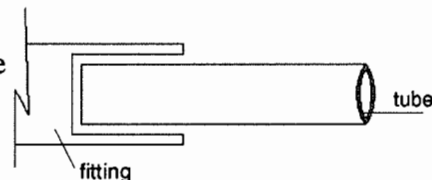


8. Brass block Tee - may have to fabricate and silver solder.

Some of these Tees have 1/8" male threads and 2 female threads if you can find them.

However, I think a malleable Tee would work very well if available (3 female threads) or make one from 5/8" x 1" bar, 1 1/8" long.

9. All lead solder joints interlocked type - tin ends, put together and solder.



10. These torches are good for soldering - coloring metal, annealing small parts and do not get as hot as acetylene which is an advantage for many jobs. I use mine for tempering colors, after hardening tools and for some jewelry making.

Gas pressure - house pressure, no regulator needed, but one way valve for safety.

Air pressure - I set my guage about 10 lbs.

11. Use acetylene Pop-back-valve in gas supply - for safety.

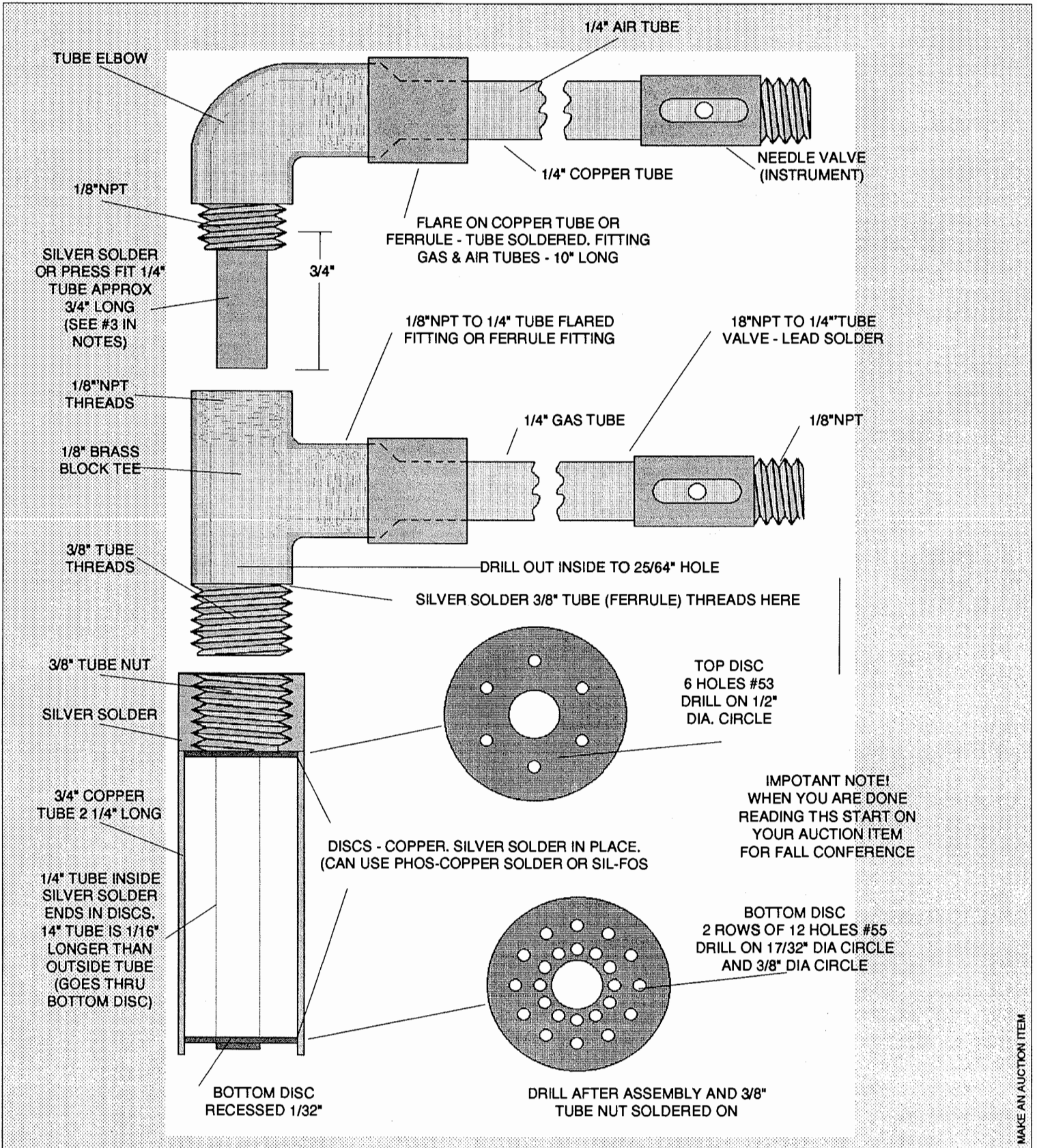
12. I cut acetylene and oxygen hose connectors in half, Tap out end to 1/8" NPT and screw on ends of valves - to fit my hose setup, left right hand threads.

Depending upon parts available in stores will determine how you build torch. Mine has flame from 3" long to about 8" long and 3/4" to 1" wide depending on gas and air volume and pressure used. There is no reason why malleable 1/8" Tee and a 1/8" street Ell - 2 brass tube fittings for 1/4" tube or 5/16" tube - 2 needle style valves and the burner tube fabricated as drawn won't work OK - and save money - Do not despair. If you can't find parts in brass - use iron, and copper tubes will still work. Also to make a larger torch just use larger parts 1/4" - 3/8" pipe size and 5/16" - 3/8" copper tube. These type torches need gas volume as gas pressure are low 1 1/2 oz or 7" water column. Valves must match tube size used to be efficient - Burner head can be 7/8" dia on larger torches, with slightly larger holes in discs.

**GOT THAT AUCTION ITEM DONE YET?**

# NATURAL GAS & AIR TORCH

-COPY OF ONE I USE-



MAKE AN AUCTION ITEM

# FLUXES

**Walt Hull**  
Editor, Blacksmiths Assoc. of Missouri

Some of us, including me, have been having trouble with recent versions of E-Z and Crescent fluxes. For those who don't already know, the Anti-Borax Co., makers of these fluxes since the memory ruins not to the contrary, was purchased by the Superior Flux and Mfg. Co. of Cleveland, OH in 1988. Shortly thereafter people started having trouble with the fluxes. I got a can of Crescent that proved literally to be worse than no flux at all. Discussions with Bill Pieh of Centaur Forge yielded credit for the can and the news that they were working on it. I was trying to weld fluxless or with borax when I got the following letter from Dan Nauman:

"FLOUNDERING IN YOUR FLUX?"

Greetings fellow smiths!!

If you've been having problems getting consistent results from recently purchased E-Z Weld (EZ), you're not alone.

Superior Flux Co., who several years ago bought the Anti-Borax Co., makers of the good old EZ, ran out of some of the ingredients used in that flux compound, and tried to duplicate those ingredients, but with limited success.

Several smiths, including myself, have been tearing their hair out after "missing" forge welds using the "New" EZ recipe.

As Superior Flux hasn't any facility to test their flux, I volunteered my services, as I was desperate to find a suitable flux.

The desirable traits of the old EZ were that you could weld at an orange-yellow or higher heat, it was consistent, protected the steel, and produced a seamless weld. These were the criteria for my search for a good flux.

Well, after several samples, several months, dozens of unsuccessful welds, and much trouble shooting with Blair Chidin, (Superior's new chemist), it appears we now have a flux on which we can produce welds in a manner and consistency worthy of replacing the old EZ. It's sample

number is #D1-68 and it's ingredients are in good supply at Superior Flux Co.

As with any new product, this one needs the blessing of a trial period, and lots of tests under different conditions and people. But, I am indeed impressed with this flux, and believe it is the answer to our forge welding woes.

If you try this new flux, please write to me at the above address, as I would like to know what the results are that other smiths encounter.

Thank you and happy forging!

Daniel M. Nauman, Bighorn Forge, Kewaskum, WI

I wrote Dan, and he gave me the number of Linda Cohen, inside sales manager at Superior. She sent me Crescent and EZ in sample sizes and the accompanying letter:

Dear Walt:

Superior Flux & Mfg. Co. bought the Anti-Borax Compound Co., on May 31, 1988. We transferred the operations from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Cleveland, Ohio and continued making their products according to the Anti-Borax formulas. Both EZ and Crescent contained a special slag, which comprised up to 50% of the formulas. A carload of this slag was purchased in 1966 and lasted until 1989. The company that sold Anti-Borax Co. this slag was no longer in business and all efforts to find a comparable raw material were unsuccessful.

Work on the EZ formulation has been continuous since we ran out of the old slag, but until recently modification of the EZ formula met with only limited success. The newest formulation EZ (D1-68HW) has been tested in the field by several blacksmiths and we are receiving great reports from the field.

Two letters, one from Dan Nauman sent to all ABANA Subchapters and one from Dave Staciak, are enclosed for your review.

We hope the problem with EZ (D1-68HW) has been solved. A free sample is available for your evaluation by calling Superior Flux or your local distributor.

(continued on page 21)

# NWBA BLADESMITH THING

by Gene Chapman

The NWBA Bladesmithing Demo's & Seminar were held May 2 & 3 at Dave Thompson's shop in Eugene, Oregon. Nineteen attended along with demonstrators Wayne Goddard, Dave Thompson and me.

Saturday morning was a bit chilly but Wayne Goddard and the Oregon sunshine soon warmed things up. Wayne began by going over some of the following topics. Why forge, what to forge, safety, gas forges, types of steel, metallurgy, forging temperatures, design, forging practices, heat treating, testing and sharpening.

Saturday afternoon I did my thing with show and tell on knives and knife making bench fixtures. Mostly those used on primitive antler handle folding knives, then forging and heat treating a folder spring and forging a mountain man fixed blade knife, something like this.



Saturday afternoon Dave Thompson gave a blacksmithing demo on the basics using his great (no smoke) coal forge. These blacksmithing basics are very important and will save time and frustration later on. Dave also made a neat basket handle letter opener/toad sticker dagger from seven strand prestressed concrete reinforcing cable.



Dinner was pizza at a local place. Lots of hot iron talk, good groceries and a few pitchers. Afterwards a tour of Wayne's suburban smithy. His latest toy is "Fat Albert" a 75 ton hydraulic

press. It makes steel pancakes from 3" ball bearings in short order. His shop is a full days tour in itself. Grinders, fixtures, leather, wood, steel, tools, mechanisms and goodies.

Around 9:30 PM found some of us back at Dave's for midnight hot iron. Oh, boy.

Four or five made their first forge weld. Ya-Hoo. The elusive forge weld. The first forge weld always ranks high along with other exciting memories of life.

Sunday morning I made a small belt axe and learned a great deal in the process - Murphy's Law.

Wayne then did more heat treating and forged a wavy blade (Kriss) dagger



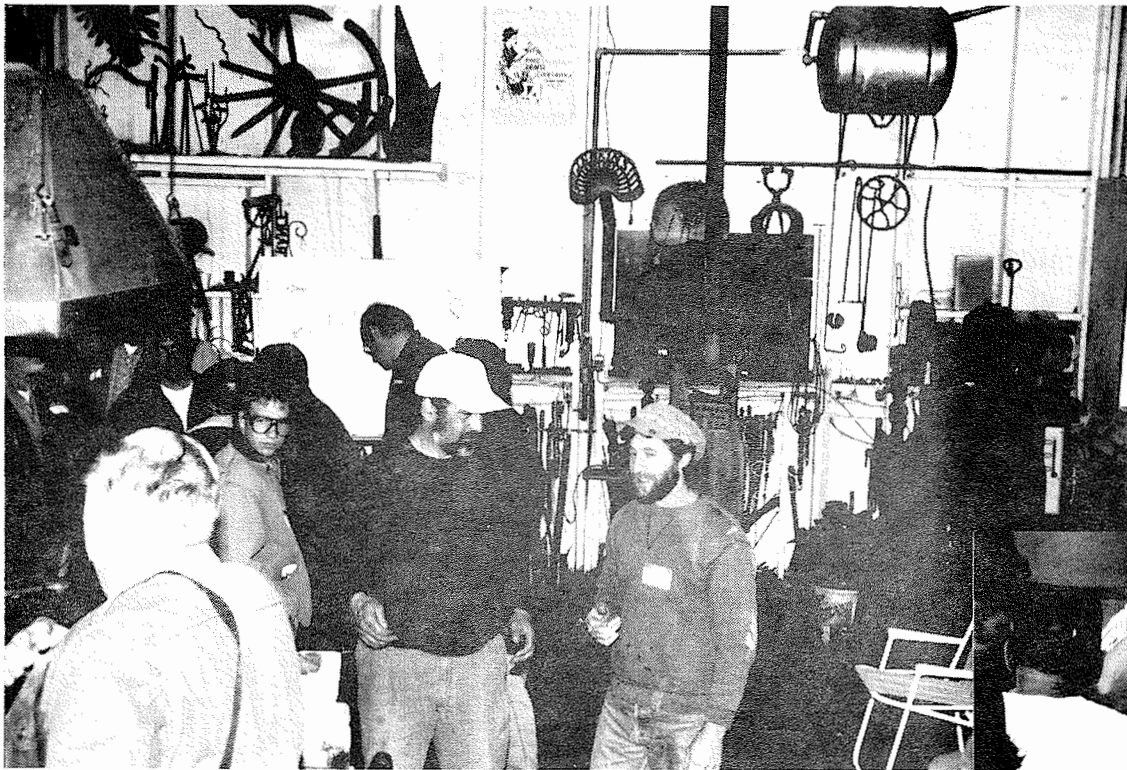
His down to earth teaching and attention to detail make knifemaking and heat treating a whole lot simpler.

Many thanks to Rebecca Thompson & Phyllis Goddard for helping and special thanks to Dave Thompson for opening his great shop up for this workshop.

Oops - John Brown, a knifemaker from California gave us some interesting demos on the ancient art of flint knapping, making arrowheads and spear points from obsidian and other rocks.

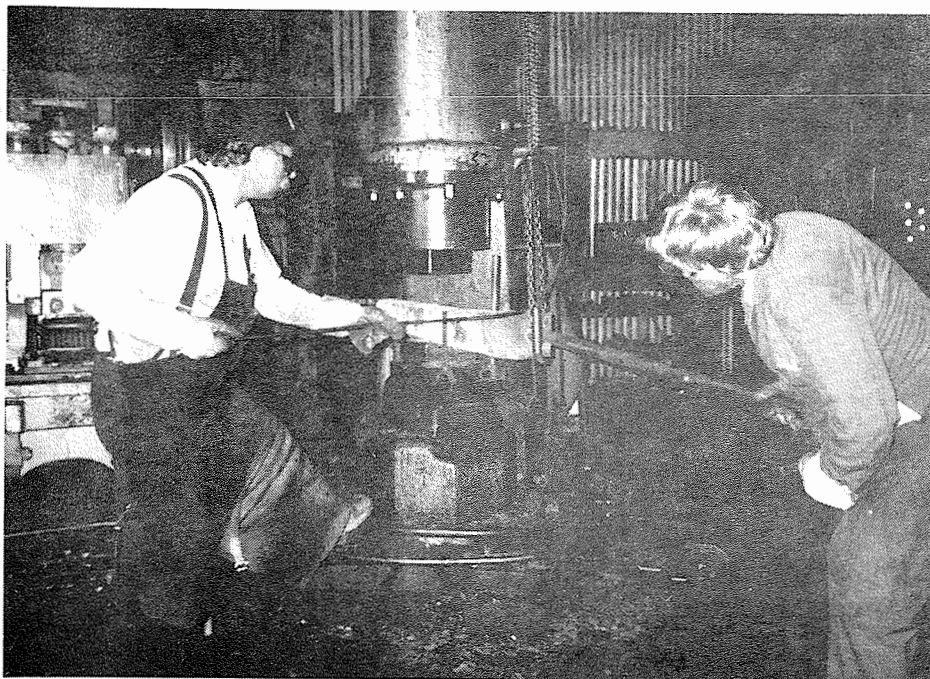
Thanks all who attended - Bring those knives and tools you've made to the Fall NWBA Conference for Show & Tell.

Gene



Dimitri Gerakaris and  
Thompson at Spring  
conference in Dav  
(photo by Lloyd He

Jerry Culberson tapering 6"  
square andiron with the help  
of "Prez" Grant Sarver  
(photo by Jerry Culberson)



Out-going A.B.A.N.  
President Dorothy  
with anvil bridge fr  
N.W.B.A.  
(photo by Gene Ch

and Dave  
ng  
e's shop  
edglin)

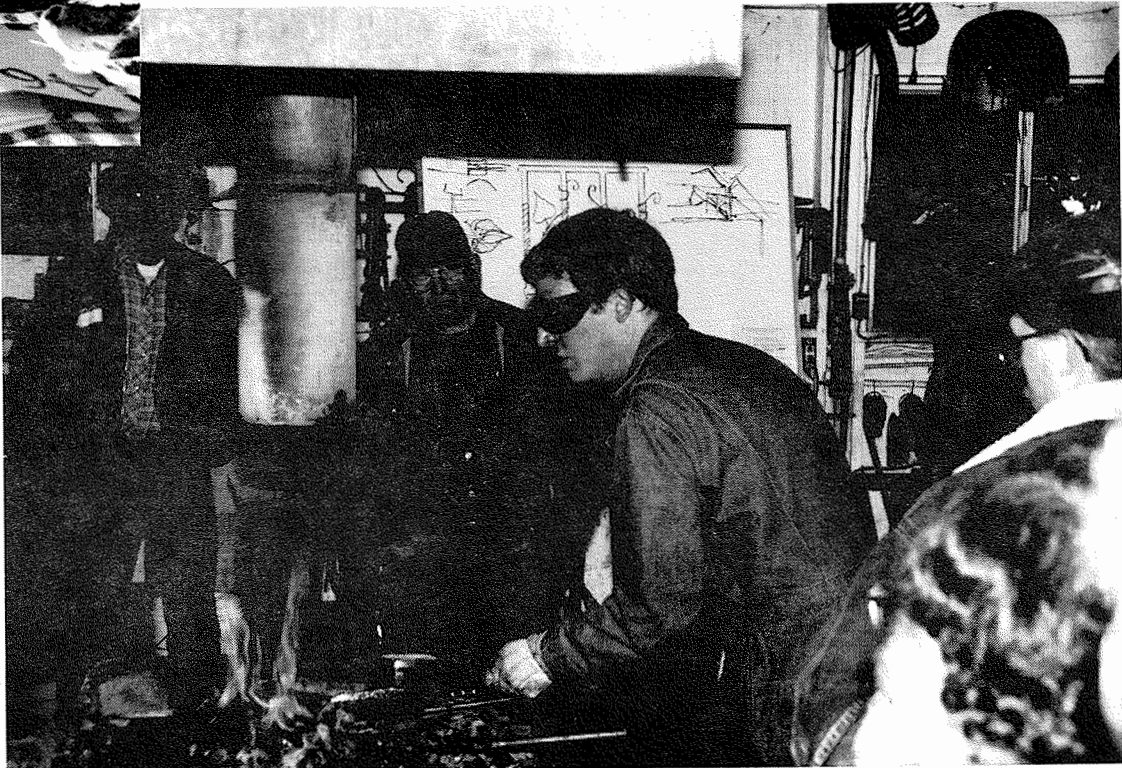


We are a rather diverse lot!  
Sign on Hwy 14 in WA  
(photo by Jeff Holtby)



Berkley Tack at the forge  
Spring conference  
(photo by Lloyd Hedglin)

.A.  
Stiegler  
om  
(chapman)



# HOW I SPENDED MY SUMMER VACATION

BY GRANT N. SARVER

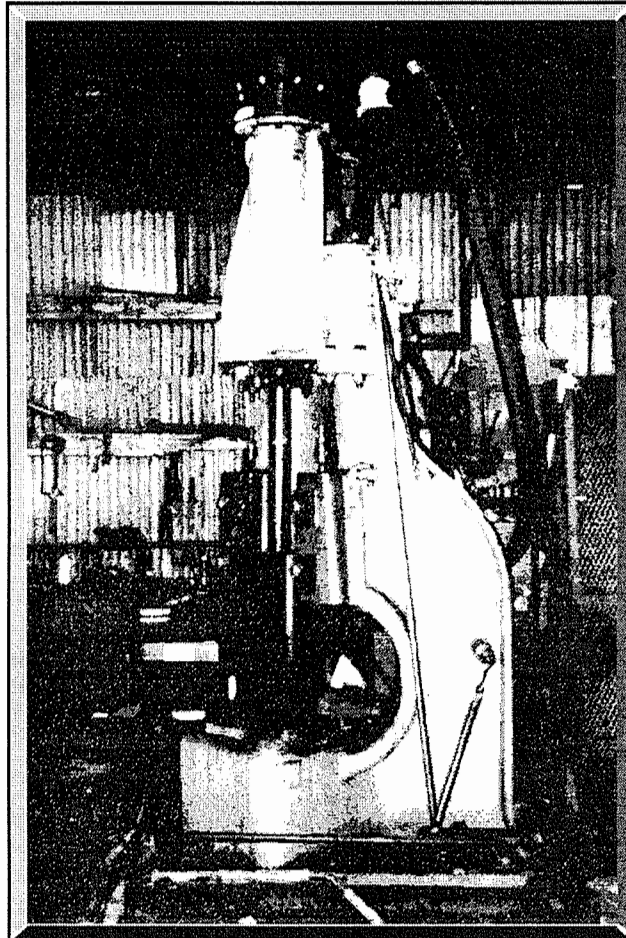
## SEVENTY-EIGHT AND FEELIN GREAT!

Been dragging this steam hammer around with me for about eight or nine years now, and finally got it set-up. Almost had it done for it's seventy-eighth birthday! Missed it by a couple of months, darn! The frame says BELL HAMMER. The tag says: Buffalo Foundry Co., Built 1-15-14.

A little background: This hammer turned up in a Seattle scrap yard for whom I do some forging. It sat in the yard for about a year before we made a trade for work. When delivered it was in a sad state indeed. What linkage there was that wasn't bent or broken was just plain gone. On the plus side, the hammer had a one piece frame and anvil and appeared to be quite large for a one piece hammer - the rod being three and one half inch diameter - the same size as on my fifteen hundred pound Erie!

In tearing the hammer apart some interesting facts turned up. The entire frame and upper work were cast steel - rare for that era. The upper works has raised lettering saying: Atlas Foundry, Tacoma, Washington. Hmm, now that's real strange! Close examination revealed that the original cylinder had been broken at the bottom of it's stroke and had been used as a pattern to cast a new one. The break having been filled with wood strips and plaster. Pretty costly repair job.

Weighing the falling parts (ram, top die, rod and piston) revealed a rated weight of over seven hundred pounds. Quite large indeed for a one piece hammer. All of the working parts seemed to be in excellent shape, probably rebuilt when the new upper works was cast. Another pleasant surprise was a four inch hole bored down the center of the anvil right under the bottom die. With a proper bolster die this should be great for upsetting.



In talking with the scrap company's driver I found this hammer had been removed from the Weyerhaeuser logging camp at Vale, Washington. How about that! Reunited with it's old roommate - my 500 lb. Nazel which I had purchased earlier from Weyerhaeuser had also come from the Vale camp!

Well, it's up and running now and I JUST LOVE IT, I DO, I DO, I REALLY DO! There's just something about a steamer that seems so, so right. Hard to describe just what it is, sorta like a Harley I guess. Kind of a spiritual thing. Don't get me

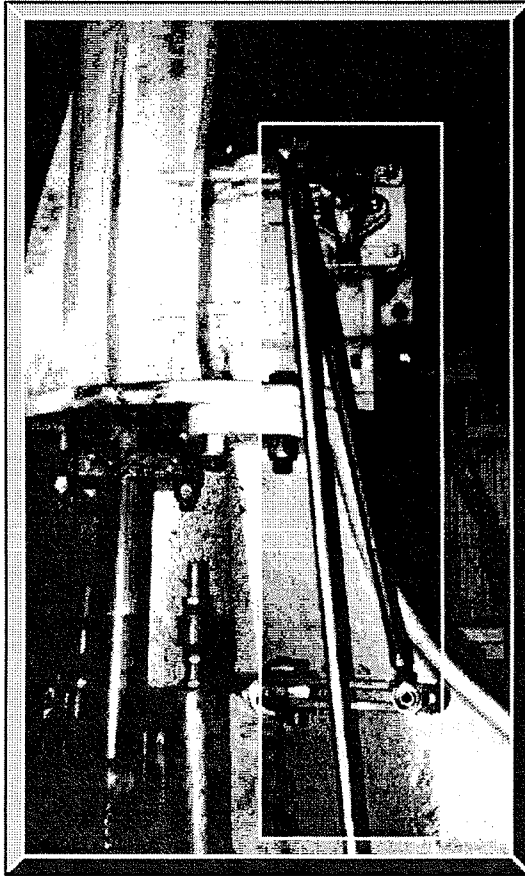
wrong, I like pneumatic hammers (still own three) and I've had intimate relationships with more than a few mechanical hammers, but that was just infatuation, this is the real thing!

Where was I? Oh yeah. Tech stuff. As I've done in the past I replaced the rings with urethane rings (Poly-Pacs From Parker Seals) made for air cylinders.



## or: BOY! AM I STEAMED!

Work Great! The original crash protection was the old spring arrangement that was supposed to catch the ram if it went up too far, not much help if the rod sucks out of the ram or breaks. Fortunately I had some parts from a 700 lb. Chambersburg that included a safety head - close to the same bore, Hmm, just might be able to shoehorn this baby on. Drill here. Zing, Bam! A little grinding there. Ugh! Oof! @#%\$\*&! No sweat. A modern hammer!



The old dies were fairly soft (36 Rc) and of the old pyramid style of about 5 in. by 10 in. I made new dies of alloy 4340 hardened to 50 Rc and straight sided to 7 in. by 11 in. What a nice surface to work on! More like a work bench than a die! And two feet of stroke too. Nuff room to cook four hot cakes, two eggs, and still have room for three strips of bacon! It did turn out that the bottom die had driven down about one sixteenth inch in front and as this hammer has no sow block I had to face the bottom die off at an angle to match it to the top die.

I usually prefer a one man operation at a hammer and so I added a treadle to operate the throttle. That steel frame sure made it easy, just weld brackets and shit wherever I want. I also connected a link from the throttle to the motion lever for better single blow

operation. With proper adjustment I can get dynamite single blows and very good reciprocating motion with no change in the linkage. I fabricated all the linkage from tubing and ball type joints for low friction and inertia. A hand lever added to the far side linkage allows me to operate the motion valve direct which can be used for single blows but is mostly handy for clamping work between the dies.

Having set up hammers in many different ways in the past (my last foundation had six pile driven thirty feet in the ground, forty yards of concrete and cost about \$25,000.00) I decided not to decide yet on this one. I've just set it on my concrete slab (approx. 8 ins. thick) bolted to about eight inches of timber. A channel iron frame is anchored to the floor just to corral it. The hammer can jump up and down (it does) but won't walk away (nice feature). I'll put a real foundation under it later. (When I get around to it. Yeah, right! Anyone out there got a round tuit?)



Early type of pyrometer (still in wide use)

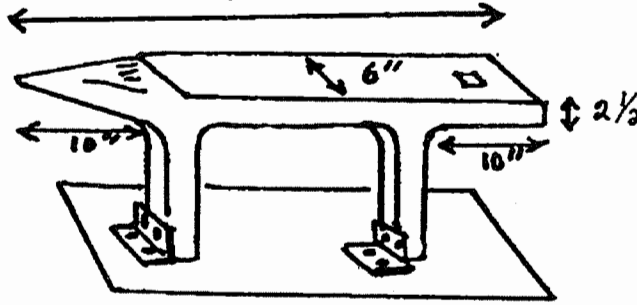
# BRIDGE ANVILS (HISTORICAL)

by Clifton Ralph

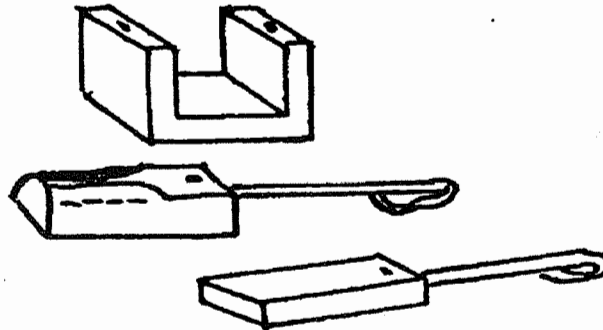
A recent article in the IBA paper about bridge anvils asked the question: What were they used for? I think it would be a good guess that they were used to help forge difficult shapes. Anyway, that is what we used the one we had in our shop for. We did not use the bridge anvil often, but when needed, it was a big helper and nice to have.

Before fabrication and die forging got to be a common thing, the blacksmiths in ship building, railroads, steel industry and civilization had to forge some complicated shapes, often from heavy material. One-hundred and fifty years ago they did not have the power and machinery we have today.

The bridge anvil we had was forged a long time before I arrived in the blacksmith shop. The two verticals and a horizontal were forged from one piece of steel. The verticals were riveted to a 3/4" flat plate, by using angle iron in the corners. This bridge anvil was made before the arc welder was a common tool. We used the bridge anvil for dressing the corners and adjusting the parallels on U shaped forgings.



**BRIDGE ANVIL ABOUT 2" LOWER THAN REGULAR ANVIL. TOP AND BOTTOM FORGED, THEN RIVETED TO A 3/4" PLATE WITH THE HELP OF TWO PIECES OF ANGLE.**

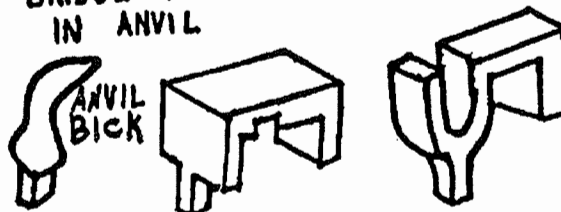


**POWER HAMMER BRIDGE TOOLS FOR RINGS OR U SHAPED FORGINGS**



**RADIUS SADDLE**

**BRIDGE TOOLS FOR HARDIE HOLE IN ANVIL**



Sometimes we would place a radius saddle on the bridge to adjust a radius section of a U shaped forging. For a wide U shaped forging the feet or waist on a regular anvil would prevent you from getting a corner on the face of the anvil.

The center section of the bridge anvil would take all of the force you could get from two 16# sledge hammers wielded by human power.

We also had a 4" x 8" face plate 4" thick sitting on two 12" x 12" timbers. This was used like a bridge anvil several times.

We had several different size bridge tools that dropped into the hardie hole on the anvil. The anvil bridge was used for wrenches and similar forked shaped forgings, in the same way the bridge anvil was used on a larger forging. I have one in my shop now that is a bridge tool and fork.

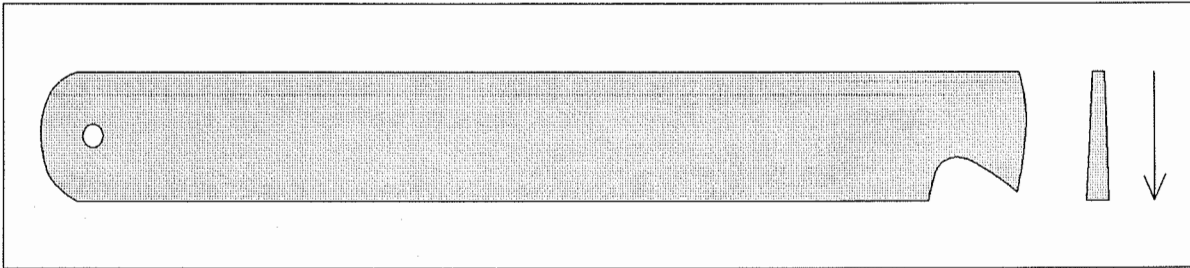
Reprinted from the Indiana Blacksmiths Association newsletter, The Forge Fire.

# THIS 'N THAT

## Sheet Metal Cutter or Auto Body Cutter By Grandpa Hersom

This cutter has cut up quite a few old washing machine bodies, etc.

I make them out of power hack saw blades (large ones). Grind as shown and hammer close to sheet metal with light blows with a fair sized hammer head that has a flat face to start cutter. Hold at an angle to puncture metal then straighten up and cut straight down - I also grind down back of blade with a slight taper for clearance. This is not an original idea - I have seen them made of auto spring leaves 3/16" thick but same shape.



I wear a welding glove on left hand and face shield for protection from flying pieces.

This cutter cuts a spiral curl as it progresses.

Sincerely,

P.S.

My friend, Bill Murray in Tuscon, Arizona says Repousse is an extention to the blacksmith trade. Giving smiths the ornate design capabilities of work without the hot forging techniques.

"Grandpa"

## Racer Forge Workshop or: Gentlemen, Start Your Engines

This summers gas forge workshop will be held this winter (probably January). Course instructor will be Darryl Nelson, the actual, factual inventor of the Northwest "RACER FORGE"

The most endearing features of this forge is that it is gut simple, easy to build, easy to control, and gets hot enough to forge weld diamonds in about three minutes! (Did I mention it's gut simple?)

I've seen these built for as little as \$2.63 in materials (plus tax).

Workshop will be held at Apex

Forge in Tacoma, Washington for space and equipment reasons.

Course fee is \$160.00. Each participant will take home a RACER FORGE of his or her very own. Includes propane bottle, regulator, AND five gallon of propane!

For the wannaby who doesn't wannaby a wouby you shouby taking this.

Why not go out and work on that auction item right now?

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Just call Darryl to sign up (206) 832-6280

## MAGNETIC TAPE

by Thurmond Chaffin

I have discovered self adhesive magnetic tape! It is available at craft stores and other sources. It comes in 1/2", 3/4", and 1" widths. The 1/2" size sells for 15 to 20 cents per foot. I used it on several auxiliary vise jaws -- wood, aluminum, brass, etc. -- and spacers that I use to prevent springing my post vise too much. It will stick to most anything. It is also good to hold drawings to a metal table, just lay it on top in strips. You don't even have to remove the tape. It seems to take the pressure of the vise without harm. Try it -- you'll like it!

(HIN Editor: try K-Mart's fasteners section, \$1.27 for 1/2" x 30", your grocery store, Pay'n Save, etc. in the sewing notions or crafts section. FabricLand has 1/2" x 30" for \$.99).

Reprinted from The Florida Clinker Breaker, May, 1992

## SHOP TIPS

by Brad Silberberg, Bradley Metal Design, Inc.

A math teacher-friend of mine recently opened my eyes to a great new tool for our shop. He casually mentioned that the Pittsburgh school system is lending students calculators that work with fractions as well as decimals. They are distributing a 115 function calculator made by Casio with all the trigonometric functions, etc. I tried to find this model locally with no success. Then I remembered that my friend said that he had heard that Radio Shack also had a calculator that worked with fractions. I made calls to Radio Shack locations and was told that no such model existed. The next week, I was at a local mall and stopped in to a "Shack" to see for myself. What I found was a model #65.935 Fractional- decimal, yard-foot-inch calculator. Not only will it do calculations in any combination of these units, convert back and forth from decimal to fraction (like: 5/8" to 0.625 and back), but it is solar powered to boot! I paid \$29 for it, and I know it will pay for itself when it prevents my next mistake in finding the width of two 1/2" bars with a 1 5/8" space between them, and frame members that are 11/16" thick, and. . . . .

I am having great success with a quick-change power hammer die system that eliminates the need for knocking wedges in and out to change tooling. Since the dies for my air hammer are very accurately machined to be very square and of equal size, I have made tight-fitting boxes of steel plate that slip over any of my hammer dies, and secure with large set screws. To the tops of the boxes I welded relatively thin, hardened tool steel die faces. Since the big die blocks are never moved, I can change working faces in seconds without having to re-align everything. With the blocks in place I lose about 3" of the stroke of the hammer, but it makes very little difference when forging stock up to 2" round. I can gain stroke length and power by removing one or both of the boxes, and then replace them in seconds to refine my forgings. So far, I have made one set of combination broad fuller and round edged flat dies, one set of combination taper and edging-up dies (for chisels, etc.), and a box to bolt down spring fullers, bottom swages, etc.

We got tired of tripping over extension cords on our shop floor, so we invested about \$35 and bought an overhead cord reel from W.W. Grainger. It has a 25 foot cord with a 3 outlet end, and it pulls out and retracts like a window blind. Just pull it down, plug in your tool, let it retract, and your cord is up in the air and out of the way. We hung one up over our layout table to plug in angle grinders, drills, etc. and we may add another.

**Beginner's Tip:** When making a hammer, never harden the entire head, Harden only the outer half inch or so of face and peen. Hardening the whole head often results in cracking the thin vertical sides of the eye. First, forge the peen end of the hammer, then carefully slit and drift the eye. Next cut the head off of the bar and dress up the face. Heat the head to a bright red and allow it to cool slowly to room temperature while buried in an insulating material. Shape the face and peen with files, grinders, etc. and polish smooth and shiny. Stick the

(continued on page 21)

# THIS 'N THAT

## JOHANN KOCH

PHOTO & ARTICLE BY CAL SCHULTZ

You didn't know Johann Koch (Yo-haan Coke) the lifetime blacksmith of Woodinville, Washington? Not to worry, most folks in the area knew him as John Cook. Mention his name and those that knew him either laughed or said, "John, he could fix almost anything."

John Cook was a maverick, a rugged individualist, a hard driving man. Who else in 1921 would drive a Model T Ford nonstop, aside from fillups, from Woodinville, Washington to Florida in just four days? (He went alone).



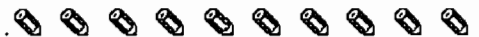
John was a blacksmith in the true sense of the word for he would take on any job. Such as; building up go-devil shear blades, repairing pitman connectors or making from scratch hardrock miner's picks, log stamps, single and double tree hardware, hay knives, furrow boards, and washtub repair to name a few. Working iron was his life... perhaps, that explains why he chose to put his beloved anvil where he did.

John provided a real service to the community for his work allowed others to do their work and to keep on moving. He was the only blacksmith on the eastside for many years. His shop was across from the cemetery in Woodinville. He now rests in the cemetery beneath the unique anvil "headstone". When it is dead quiet in the cemetery one can almost hear the ring of John's hammer as it comes down again and again unmercifully shaping red hot iron.

## HINTS continued

hammer face straight down into the fire and bring it up to hardening temperature about 1/2" back. Quench the face not quite up to the eye. Next, tie a piece of rag over the hardened face, and put the peen end down into the fire. Keep the rag wet with water from a dipper can. The peen should come up to heat quickly, and the wet rag will keep the face from tempering until it does. Now quench the peen up to the eye, occasionally dipping the face until both ends are cold. Temper the face and peen immediately to a dark bronze color with a propane torch.

Reprinted from the newsletter of the Blacksmith Guild of the Potomac



## FLUXES continued

Have a good day and best regards,

Linda D. Cohen, Inside Sales Manager

I have tried the new samples several times and find that I weld easily, seamlessly (If my fit is good) and in one heat. I dug out a little of my cache of the old EZ, and like it marginally better (the weld heat seems to last a little

longer). On a couple of welds (1/2" square bar scarf weld to 1/2" square bar) I tried the Whitaker twist-in-the-same-heat test, and they failed, but I never was much good at that.

The forge welding flux was only a tiny part of Anti-Borax' business, and Anti-Borax is but a part of Superior. It would have been easy for them to blow us off, and we owe them some thanks for the trouble they've gone to. Give Linda a call at 216-461-3315 and get your sample, and share your results with them. They've been very responsive so far.

--Walt Hull

Reprinted from the Newsletter of the Blacksmiths Association of Missouri, Oct/Nov 1991

# NATIONAL BLACKSMITHING CALENDAR

June 29-July 10 Toolmaking with Jeffery Funk. Penland School of Crafts, Penland, NC

July 3-7 Fundamentals of Blacksmithing with Charles Orlando, at Peter's Valley Craft Center, Layton, NJ

July 5-11 Early American Hardware with Jerry Darnell at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

July 10-14 Bladesmithing: Basics to Damascus with William Fiorini at Peter's Valley Craft Center, Layton, NJ

July 12-17 Kitchen Smithin' with Doug Hendrickson at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

July 17-19 Basic Techniques with Dan Easley at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

July 17-19 European Repousse and Metalworking with George Dixon, at Peter's Valley Craft Center, Layton, NJ

July 19-225 Basic Techniques with Dan Easley at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

July 20-24 1 Week Basic Blacksmithing Workshop with Rick Smith, Appalachian Center for Crafts, Smithville, TN

July 26-Aug 1 Architectural Ironwork (Interm/ Advanced) with Walt Scadden at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

July 27-Aug 12 Blacksmithing with John Medwedeff. Penland School of Crafts, Penland, NC

Aug 1-4 Plant Forms in Iron with John Graney. At Peter's Valley Craft Center, Layton, NJ

Aug 2-8 Basic Techniques with Elmer Roush at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Aug 3-7 Knife Making (Stock Removal) with Peter Jagoda at Arrowmont School of Crafts, Gatlinburg, KY

Aug 3-21 3 Week Blacksmithing Course at Turley Forge Blacksmith School, Santa Fe, NM

Aug 7-11 Cast Iron Workshop with Clifton Prokop. At Peter's Valley Craft Center, Layton, NJ

Aug 9-14 Forge Techniques, Beginner-Advanced with Charles Orlando at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Aug 14-16 Basic Techniques with Paige Davis at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Aug 14-17 Early American Forms with David Court. At Peter's Valley Craft Center, Layton, NJ

Aug 16-22 Basic Techniques with Charlie Fuller at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Aug 17-28 Forged Sculpture Elements with David Secrest. Penland School of Crafts, Penland, NC

Aug 21-24 Forged Iron Work for Kitchen with Douglas E Wilson. At Peter's Valley Craft Center, Layton, NJ

Aug 23-29 Basic 1800's with Clay Smith at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Aug 24-28 Damascus Steel with Charles Ochs, Texarkana College, School of Bladesmithing, Texarkana, TX

Aug 27-30 Mountain States Blacksmithing Conference at the Francis Whitaker Blacksmith Shop, Colorado Rocky Mountain Blacksmithing School, Carbondale, CO

Aug 28-30 Forged Tools for the Forge with Edwin Grove, At Peter's Valley Craft Center, Layton, NJ

Aug 30-Sept 4 Basic Techniques with David Tucciarone at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Aug 30-Sept 5 Blacksmithing with Douglas Wilson at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle, ME

Aug 31-Sept 4 Basic Blacksmithing with Jim Wallace. Penland School of Crafts. Penland, NC

Aug 31-Sept 4 Bladesmithing Lab with Jerry Fisk, Texarkana College, School of Bladesmithing, Texarkana, TX

Sept 9-19 Basic Bladesmithing with Robert Coogan at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Sept 11-13 Alabama Forge Council Annual Workshop & Conference at Tannehill State Park, AL Demonstrators: Doug Hendrickson, Chuck Patrick, Bob Patrick, Larry Wood. Auction and "anvil shoot".

Oct 2-3-4 N.W.B.A. Fall Conference Tacoma, WA. Brad Silberberg, Jerry Culberson, Bernie Coski

Oct 2-3 Fiber/Metal '92 Juried Exhibition, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St Paul, MN Deadline for slides June 15.

Oct 10-11 Florida Artist Blacksmith Association Annual Conference at Barbarville, FL

Oct 11-17 Interm/Advanced Bladesmithing with Jim Batson at John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Oct 12-30 3 Week Blacksmithing course at Turley Forge Blacksmith School, Santa Fe, NM

Oct 12-23 Introduction to Bladesmithing with Michael Conner,

# NATIONAL BLACKSMITHING CALENDAR

Texarkana College, School of  
Bladesmithing, Texarkana, TX

Oct 18-24 Interm/Advanced  
Project with Charles Orlando at John C  
Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Oct 25-Nov 7 Advanced with Clay  
Spencer at John C Campbell Folk School,  
Brasstown, NC

Oct 31 Blacksmith Auction at  
John C Campbell Folk School, Brasstown,  
NC

Nov 8-13 Basic Techniques with  
Elmer Roush at John C Campbell Folk  
School, Brasstown, NC

Nov 13-15 Basic Techniques with  
Elmer Roush at John C Campbell Folk  
School, Brasstown, NC

Nov 15-21 Traditional Iron Work  
with Ed Grove at John C Campbell Folk  
School, Brasstown, NC

Nov 29-Dec 5 Beg/Adv Forging  
Tooling with Johnny Kierbow at John C  
Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Dec 6-12 Beg/Adv Forging  
Tooling with Johnny Kierbow at John C  
Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC

Jan ?? Racer forge workshop  
Gas forge building with Darryl Nelson  
Tacoma, WA

## SCHOOLS THAT OFFER BLACK- SMITHING CLASSES

Allison's Wells School of Arts &  
Crafts  
PO Box 924  
Canton, MS 39046  
(601) 859-5826

Appalachian Center for Crafts  
Rt. 3 Box 430  
Smithfield, TN 37166  
(615) 597-6801

Arrowsmont School of Arts & Crafts  
PO Box 567  
Gatlinburg, TN 37738  
(615) 436-5860

Brookfield Craft Center  
PO Box 122 Rt. 25  
Brookfield, CT 06804

John C. Campbell Folk School  
Rt. 1 Box 14A  
Brasstown, NC 28902  
(800) 562-2440

Colorado Rocky Mt. School  
1493 Cr 106  
Carbondale, CO 81623  
(303) 963-2562

Cranbrook Academy of Art  
500 Lone Pine Road, Box 801  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013  
(313) 645-3300

Haystack Mt. School of Crafts  
Deer Isle, ME 04627  
(207) 348-2306

Penland School  
Penland, NC 28765  
(704) 765-2359

Peters Valley Craft Center  
CR 614

Layton, NJ 07851  
(201) 948-5200

Turley Forge  
Rt. 10 Box 88C  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
(505) 471-8608

Membership Application

Mail to:

Northwest Blacksmith's Association  
C/O Tom Graham, Treasurer  
PO Box 81041, Seattle, WA 98108

Membership Application:  New  Renewal  New Address?

Are you an ABANA member? Yes No

Annual dues are \$20 and include a subscription to Hot Iron News. Please make your check to NWBA and mail to the above address.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



Membership Application for:

ARTIST-BLACKSMITH' ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA  
MAIL TO:  
ABANA  
BOX 1181  
Nashville, IN 47448

Membership in ABANA includes a subscription to the Anvil's Ring, member discounts at conferences and on back issues of the magazines.

Full time student -	\$ 25	Regular member -	\$ 35
Family membership -	\$ 40	Seniors over 65 -	\$ 25
Overseas member -	\$ 45	Contributory -	\$100
Public library -	\$ 25		

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



# ABANA

Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America



P.O. Box 1181, Nashville, Indiana 47448  
Executive Secretary, Janelle Gilbert

Office Hours: 7:30-11:30am & 1:30-4:30pm  
Phone: (812) 988-6919

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE July 1992

Dear ABANA Chapters,

Dorothy Stiegler formally addressed the ABANA Board, in our meeting at San Luis Obispo, with her decision to step aside as ABANA President. Though I am sad to see her relinquish this position, I am honored to have been elected as the new President of ABANA to fill the remaining time for this office until the November Board Meeting. At that time, there will be another election for this position to be filled for the two year term. Ron Porter was elected to the 1st Vice President position and Jim Ryan was elected to serve as 2nd Vice President.

It was great to see many of you again at the June ABANA Conference in San Luis Obispo, California. This was an outstanding conference by any measure. The ABANA Conference Committee Chairman Mike Bondi, and the Site Committee Coordinators Robert Owings, and Chuck Simonian have a lot to be proud of. They put together a program that included several new features, including a knifemaking program organized by Phil Baldwin, a beginners workshop (with no less than 17 workstations!) organized by George Dixon, and an expanded business lecture program organized by Joe Pehoski. All of these programs could not have been pulled off without the dedicated efforts of Toby Hickman's volunteers wearing the green hats, self described as the "green slime!" These folks bent over backwards to make sure everything was ready and running smoothly.

A special thanks to the following companies for donating equipment for use at the sites: Centaur Forge, Ferrobriar Inc., Nesco, Powcon, and Stephen Bayder. Devon Shearer and all the folks at Cal Poly's Housing and Conference Services were invaluable for coordinating services provided by the university. There are many others who selflessly contributed their time and energies to make this a first class international event. Congratulations to all, you did good.

Summer is definitely here, and with it a host of activities guaranteed to keep your chapter busy! Don't forget to keep reminding your members about eye and hearing protection.

Blessings to all,

Clayton Carr  
ABANA President



**ABANA Chapter Liaison Committee**  
July, 1992

**A NEW CHAPTER!** - Congratulations to the Louisiana Metalsmiths Association, ABANA's newest Chapter! These inspired folks already have plans in the works for a joint conference with the Mississippi Forge Council at LAMA President David Mudge's shop in 1993, and it sounds like they have a great group started. Look for the addresses in the Presidents/Editors List. Welcome to ABANA, LAMA!

**DUTIES REORGANIZED** - Please send the ABANA Chapter Liaison copies of your newsletters to Chairman Ron Porter. Clayton Carr has stepped in to fill the ABANA President's position, and will no longer be producing this letter. Ron's address is: Ron Porter, R.R. 1 Box 64, Bunker Hill, Indiana 46914.

**ABANA UPDATES** - Have you sent a Chapter membership list to ABANA yet? The ABANA Office needs your lists as soon as possible! Please, if you have not sent your list in yet, send them on diskette in IBM ASCII, DOS text, or Macintosh format to Clayton Carr, Rt. 2 Box 2911, Kennewick WA 99337.

**GOOD NEWS FOR NC!** - Another bit of good news in the latest newsletter from the North Carolina Chapter of ABANA was that the North Carolina Department of Agriculture has agreed to build a new Blacksmith Shop for the State Fair, and for the use of Association members. Construction is expected to start within two years. Congratulations, NCCABANA!

**AND I THOUGHT IT GREW ON TREES** - The latest newsletter of the Pittsburgh Area Artists Blacksmith Association reports that former PAABA President John Steel is planning a gas forge building workshop soon. It was also reported that John's advance research and legendary acquisition skills have led him to the source for the expensive refractory materials; a mud pit on the Limpopo River. Good job, John, I always wondered about that...

**LISTEN UP -- THERE WILL BE A TEST!** - There was a great writeup in the last newsletter of the Minnesota based Guild of Metalsmiths on a class taught by Jim Blackburn on plate and bowl forming. What made this class unique was a test at the end of the class! There were thirty questions presented about plate and bowl forming that you should have known the answers to. Relax, the test was for fun! The article included two pages of excellent illustrations. (Hat's off to the illustrator "MB", whoever you are!)

**GREAT IDEAS** - The Northwest Blacksmiths Association has a great idea they are going to try out at their Fall Conference this year in order to get more auction items. They will be awarding prizes for the auction items in the following categories: Best Forged Piece; Best Other Craft Piece; Best Food Item; Best Tool; and Chintziest Piece! The last prize won't be awarded unless there's a "real deserving" entry.

**FINISHES AND PATINAS, PART II** - Once again, the Upper Midwest Blacksmiths Association newsletter was blessed with an article from Wana Schowalter on Finishes and Patinas. Wana took up from where she left off in the last issue, and covered patinas for copper in blues and greens, as well as some silver brazing techniques. These articles sum up what she learned at the John C. Campbell Folk School. Very nice!

**BABY'S TEETHING RING, PART II** - From the Florida Artist Blacksmith Association comes further clarification on the proper tempering procedure for the baby's teething ring made from a railroad spike. It seems that a proper heat treating flux consists of sugar and water, and that after an hour or so in a boiling pot, the piece must be removed from the mixture and air dried leaving as much of the flux on as possible! Many thanks and a tip of the hat to FABA member (and father of two...) Clyde Payton for this important tip!

**SHARE THE WEALTH** - Anvil's Ring Editor Robert Owings would be delighted to hear from you as soon as possible if you have photo's, comments or (dare I say) an article you would like to submit regarding any aspect of the 1992 ABANA Conference in San Luis Obispo, California.

The poor souls who couldn't make it to the conference would dearly love to hear what you have to say, and so would Robert! Write to him at Anvil's Ring, 230 Keokuk Street, Petaluma CA 94952. Also, congratulations to all who helped make it a success!

**THANKS** - To all the chapters that have sent their newsletters our way. Ron Porter, Chapter Liaison Committee, R.R. 1 Box 64, Bunker Hill, Indiana 46914.



## CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: 2) 50# LITTLE GIANT Trip Hammers, \$500, \$750. Anvils, Vises. Call Joe Elliott for info. 503-548-2564 Shop

FOR SALE: Lg. forge - vent hood, lg. anvil, long spring vise, swage block, bolt swaging dies, wagon tire roll, square hole punch, hardy hole tools, forge tongs(45 sets), hammers, flating hammers, chisel hammers, 25# trip hammer(new), oven, much more, antique lathe, Senca Falls, \$7500 for everything. Contact Jim's Welding, 10217 N. McAlister Road, Island City, OR 97850.

WANTED TO BUY: Sheet metal drop hammer (English Wheel) for body work. Contact Eric Hayes, 23294 SE 53rd Street, Issaquah, WA, 98027. Phone (206) 972-8978.

**STERLING SILVER PINS.** Limited quantities, NWBA Commemorative Pins, \$17.00 each. Contact Tom Graham, P.O. Box 81041, Seattle, WA 98108.

A LIMITED AMOUNT of New Mexico smithing coal available. \$280.00 per ton. \$16.00 per 100 lbs. Contact Corkey Storer at Heritage Forge, (206) 432-1468 Seattle area.

WANTED TO RENT - Part-time smith seeks space for shop. 400 sq. ft. minimum, between Seattle and South Everett. Call or write: Rob Snyder, 4809 NE 71st Street,

Seattle, WA 98115. 206 523-7209.

INBA ANVIL for sale. Never used. 197 lb. \$400.00. Ed LaCasse (206) 531-1516. 2812 E. 64th Street, Tacoma, WA. 98404.

The following offer was received from ANVIL Magazine, "Voice of the American Farrier and Blacksmith", an international monthly covering practical, technical, personal and humorous aspects of the industry. It is approximately 44 pages kinda in the style of THE ANVIL'S RING, but not affiliated with The ANVIL'S RING. Any of our members who subscribes to ANVIL through the NWBA will receive a one year subscription for \$30 instead of the going rate of \$40 - a 25% savings. To qualify for this arrangement, the subscription must be paid through our Treasurer, who in turn, will pay ANVIL Magazine.

### Editor's Column

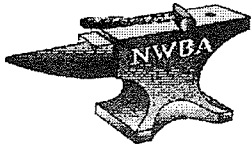
At the Spring Conference, our guest demonstrator, Dimitri Gerakaris, held the hat and a little girl drew a name for the two tickets to the next conference. I honestly didn't have it rigged, but Joe Elliott was the winner. Some people have all the luck. Joe has graciously disqualified himself from receiving the tickets. Just kidding, Joe, only if you promise not to scare me to death again.

I still need pictures, articles, comments, tips, etc. to make a good newsletter. I would like as many original articles from NWBA members as possible. I don't want to rely on reprints from other chapters. There are very worthwhile articles in other newsletters, but I would prefer they came from you.

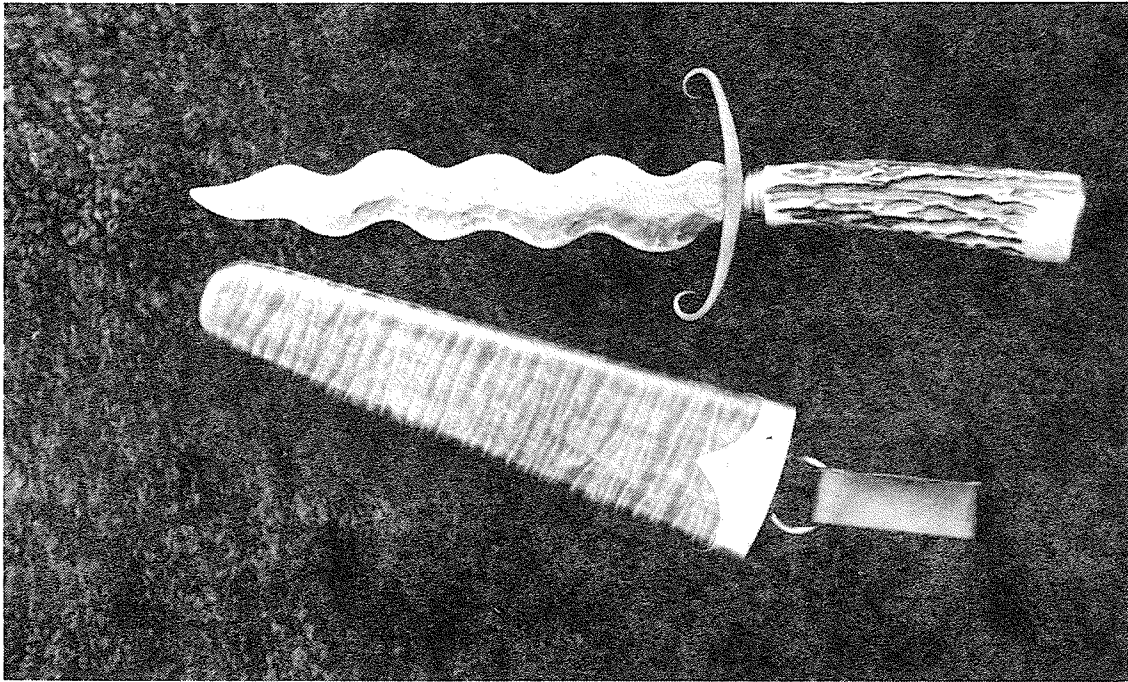
Thanks, Grandpa Hersom for all of the articles you have sent to me. I think I will reserve a page or two or three and call it "Grandpa's Corner". Now I've committed you so you have to continue sending articles in. You continue to amaze me with your vast knowledge of so many subjects! You are an extraordinary man!

Be sure to check the date on the label of your newsletter. This is your membership renewal date. If the date on your newsletter label is not correct, please notify either Tom Graham, PO Box 81041, Seattle, WA 98108 or Margaret Byers, 2311 Ross Way, Tacoma, WA 98421. IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED, PLEASE SEND IN YOUR \$20.00 RENEWAL, OTHERWISE YOU WILL BE DROPPED FROM MY MAILING LIST. Thank you.

Margaret Byers  
Editor



# Hot Iron News



KRIS KNIFE BY GENE CHAPMAN

PHOTOGRAPH BY GENE CHAPMAN

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HOT IRON NEWS  
MARGARET BYERS, EDITOR  
2311 ROSS WAY  
TACOMA, WA 98421

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