

CHAPTER OF ABANA

# Hot Iron News

VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION

SPRING 1993

\$ 4.00 U.S.



*Congratulations, Jerry & Ina  
January 25, 1993*

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# IN THIS ISSUE

NWBA Officers	Inside Front Cover
President's Message	4
Calendar of Events	5
Rail Cap Swage	6
Beau Hickory's Handle	7
Spring Conference Info	8
Photos	Centerfold
Penny Knives	16
Blacksmithing Schools	20
Hersom's Toy Shop	22
ABANA Presidential Message	23
ABANA Liaison	25
My Helper Slag	26
Classifieds	Inside Back Cover

Front Cover:  
Jerry & Ina Culberson  
Wedding Photo

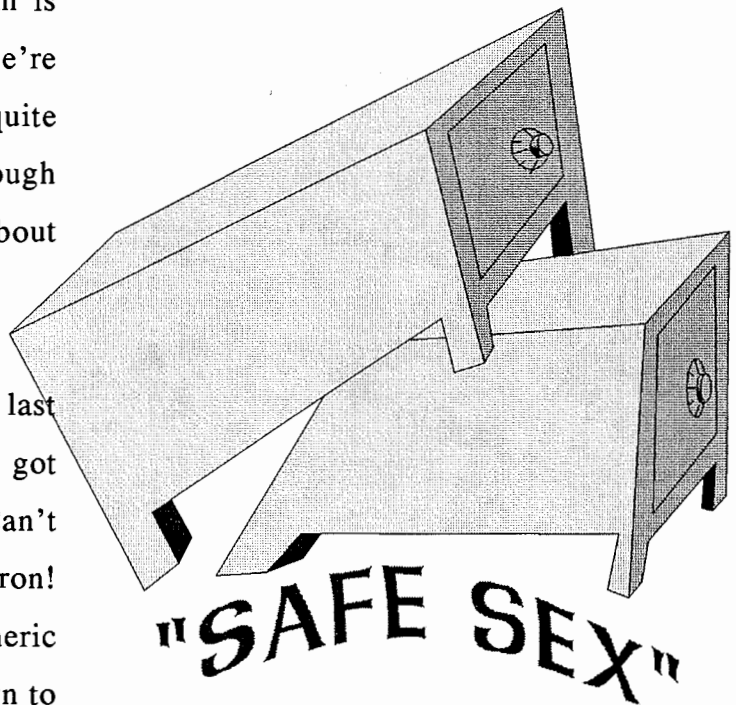
## PREZ SEZ

Can you believe it's fall conference time again? That's right, remember, we had the spring conference last fall, so-o-o-o-. Now, let's see, if this is the fall conference, then next fall must be spring conference, right? No! we'll be back in sync then, so it will be fall conference. Boy! I just don't understand how you guys get so damn confused! Many of you may have noticed that your Captain Midnight secret de-coder ring was needed to arrive at the correct date for the conference. Good job, I like to see that you're paying attention. (Hey, I'll bet Gene could make me a genuine Captain Midnight de-coder KNIFE. Wow, wouldn't that be keen?) Actually, the problem is with this whole spring-fall thing, because we're having the fall conference in the spring I (quite naturally) looked at the October calender. Enough about your problems now, let's talk about mine.....

Boy! We sure had some cool stuff at the last auction. Ol' prez went ape shit again. But Joe got the iron condom! Darn and double darn! Can't have it all I guess. A curse on you Red Baron! (Must be something it the air or atmospheric conditions or sun spots or something, I sit down to write a perfectly serious column and, well, I seem to sorta start puking all over the page.)*[maybe a*

*full moon. -Margaret]* Anyway, I sure hope we get as good a response with the next auction. Please send all complaints to Joe Elliot. If you don't have any complaints - think up something. Since I've been out of town most of the last six weeks, I don't have alot to write, or maybe I just haven't had the time, so double spacing is helping to fill up the page.

*Grant N. Satvet Jr.*



# Calendar of Events

April 12-14, 1993	POWER HAMMER/ART JONES CONFERENCE WORKSHOP
April 16-18, 1993	NWBA SPRING CONFERENCE - at Russ Jaqua's shop in Port Townsend, WA - Russ Jaqua event chair.
May 15-16, 1993	NORTHERN ROCKIES BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE at Dave & Babe Brandon's, Stevensville, MT
Oct 1-3, 1993	FALL CONFERENCE '93, St. Helens. OR

PLEASE NOTE: **Novice Workshops** will be held at Jerry Culberson's Old Cedar Forge in Allyn, WA as soon as he has 12 people registered for a class. Contact Gene Chapman (206) 297-2495.

**OPEN FORGE** At Grant Sarver's shop (APEX FORGE, 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 any skill level. Don't be bashful.. The best part is the price - FREE! Please call in advance, (206)572-7460, in case it's cancelled .

## PRESS RELEASES

The Japanese Garden Society, in cooperation with R. M. Martin & Associates, is sponsoring the first annual Garden Form and Function Exhibit to be held April 10-30, 1993 at the

Japanese Garden, Washington Park, Portland, Oregon.

The exhibition will be open to studio furniture and sculpture designers from the Northwest, to include British Columbia and selected guest artists. Interested designers are invited to call or write for further information regarding this exhibition. Specific details regarding eligibility requirements, fees, and show parameters will be identified by receipt of this newsletter.

For information contact: Reid M. Martin  
P.O. Box 10212  
Portland, OR 97210  
(503) 224-3074

# RAIL CAP SWAGE

by Berkley Tack

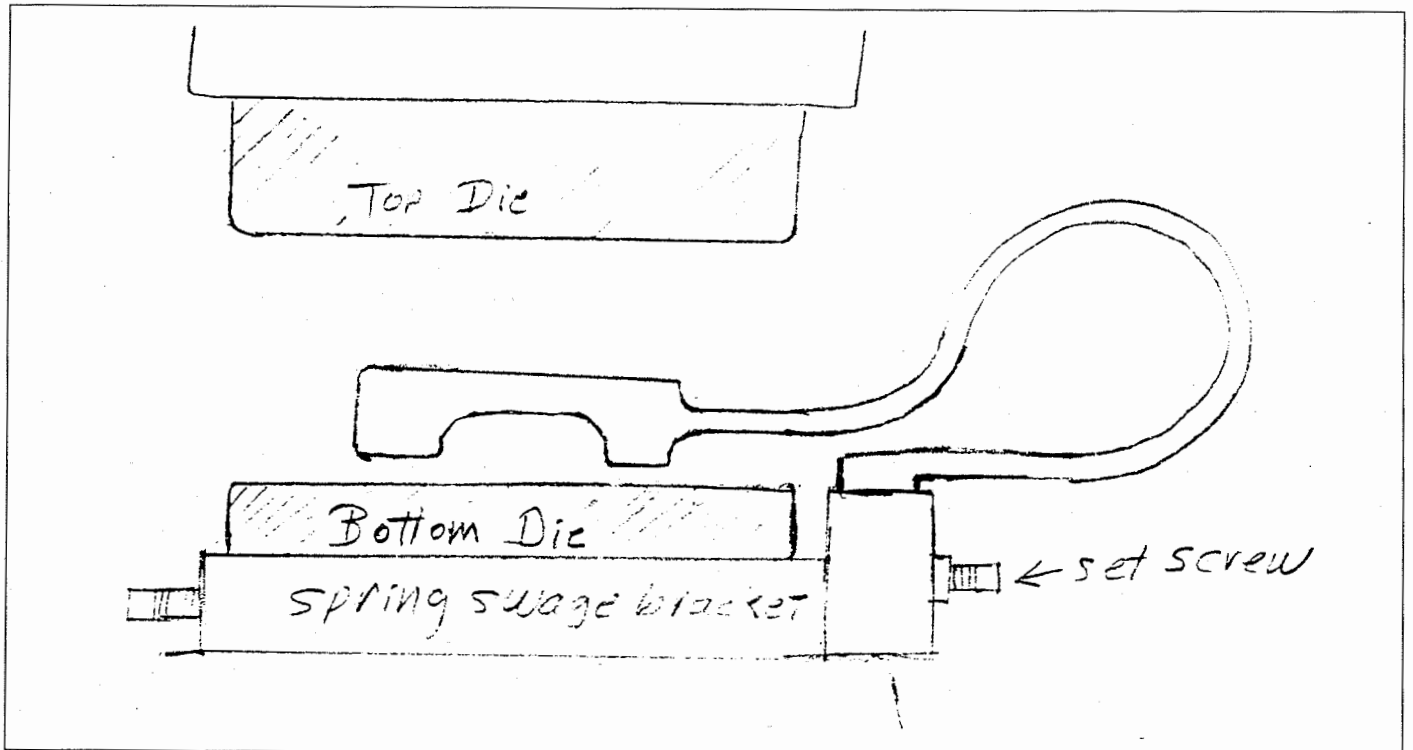
Recently I had a customer request "hand forged" rail cap on his handrails and railings. As the lineal feet added up, I knew I'd better turn to the power hammer. Here's what I ended up with.

First, I took a short piece of 1/2" x 1 1/2" flat bar and hand forged it to the heavily textured, round cornered look that I wanted. Then, I took a piece of 1 1/2" square high carbon steel (4140 would be good too) and forged the middle into a length of flat bar for a spring. The untouched blocks on the ends were then forged, one into a 1" square shank to fit into my spring swage bracket, (thanks Clifton Ralph) and the other into a flattened block a little narrower than my bottom die.

While the piece was still straight, I heated the block end and drove it with the power hammer down over the cooled piece of hand-forged rail cap until the hot steel contacted both dies and a good

impression was made. I then finished bending the spring as shown. After it cooled, I rounded all sharp corners with the hand grinder to avoid "chop marks". It was not heat treated.

To use it, I cut my bars in five-foot pieces and heat as long an area as possible. I then forge them directly on the bottom die with the swage right on top of the steel with minimal "bounce". I hit about three blows, move a couple of inches, hit three more, etc. The results will tell you what you're doing right or wrong. The bars can then be arc-welded into longer lengths, the welds artfully ground or hammered, and the finished rail has a nice textured look similar to your original sample.



# HICKORY'S HAMMER HANDLE

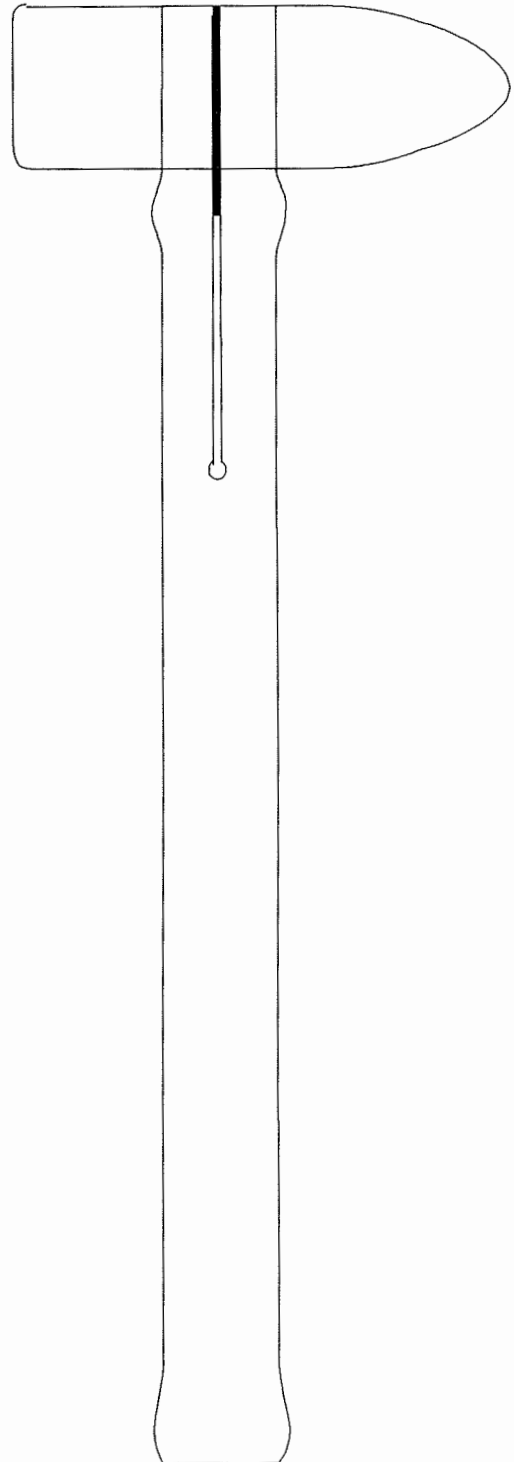
by John Dittmeier

At the 1980 ABANA Conference in Santa Cruz, CA, one of the demonstrators, Beau Hickory, revealed a simple device that should be welcomed by all smiths. He had sawed a kerf in the top third of the hammer handle, kept the kerf open with gasket material in the top two inches of the handle, affixed the hammer head in the conventional way and soaked the handle below the head in linseed oil for a week. The oil migrates through the wood and adds greater resilience to the handle. The result is a handle that flexes under the hammer blow. The shock of the blow is absorbed by the handle and not by the hand, arm and shoulder of the smith. For the past thirteen years, my Beau Hickory handle has served me well. My hand does not tire after repeated blows. With soft office skin, I can enter the shop after a month's absence and forge with strong blows without blisters. In fact, Beau admitted to the embarrassment of hands without callouses. I must confess the same.

My 1980 version did generate a crack proceeding from the one-third to the two-thirds mark. But, unlike a cracked baseball bat, there is no vibration. Another smith suggests a small drill hole at the base of the kerf to dissipate the splitting forces, as one does for a windshield crack. Although the wood fibers are linear, he is correct; the hole would spread the forces. Another suggestion came from Jim Fleming: drill a deep lengthwise hole in the base of the handle, fill with linseed oil and plug with a wood dowel. That oil will migrate from the very interior of the handle for even more flex.

My head is a German cross pein at 2.8 pounds with a long handle, shaved down from a new sledge handle. The shaft is whittled to a small diameter for a loose hand grip during the swing and its rebound.

Reprinted from the Florida Clinker Breaker, Feb. 1993



# PORT TOWNSEND SPRING CONFERENCE 1993

AT NIMBA FORGE APRIL 16,17,18  
(corrected dates)

RUSSELL JAQUA

PHIL BALDWIN

"DESIGN FOR PRODUCTION"

ART JONES

MICHAEL BONDI

#### MOTELS:

Aladdin's Inn at Port Townsend	206-385-3747
Harborside Inn	800-488-4230
Point Hudson Resort	206-385-2828
The Tides Inn	800-VAC-TOWN

#### VICTORIAN HOTELS:

Manresa Castle	800-732-1281
Palace Hotel	800-962-0741

#### CAMPGROUNDS/TRAILER PARKS:

Ft Worden State Park	206-385-4730
Jefferson County Fairgrounds	206-385-1013
Point Hudson Resort	206-385-2828

Port Townsend is considered the Victorian bed-and-breakfast capital of Washington and it also offers other fine accommodation, restaurants and unique shopping.

#### DINING:

Everything from McDonald's to elegant dining are within 2 miles of Nimba Forge.

For a very complete list of the motels, RV/camping facilities, museums, parks, antique shops, restaurants, etc., contact the Port Townsend Chamber of Commerce, 2437 E. Sims Way, Port Townsend, WA 98368, 206-385-2722. It also includes nicely detailed maps of the area.

**DON'T FORGET YOUR AUCTION ITEM!!!**

**SATURDAY NIGHT POTLUCK WITH BEEF!**

Everyone did great bringing whatever they wanted to the Fall Conference, so let's try that again.

**SATURDAY NIGHT POTLUCK WITH BEEF!**  
Everyone did great bringing whatever they wanted to the Fall Conference, so let's try that again.



**1993 SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

APRIL 16,17,18, 1993

Nimba Forge, Port Townsend, Washington

**Registration and Fees:**

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

Pre-Registered before April 1st		\$ 35
After April 1st, or walk-in		\$ 40
Spouse		\$ 5
Children	\$5 per child x	= \$
Additional \$20.00 for non-NWBA member		\$ _____
(To become a member)		
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>

**NOTE CORRECT DATES!!!**

**DON'T FORGET YOUR AUCTION ITEM!!!**

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 Spring 1993 Conference to be held on the property of Washington State Parks & Recreation, Ft. Worden, and Russell Jaqua, DBA Nimba 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 & Russell Jaqua 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

## **GODDARD AND CHAPMAN MAKE THE "BIG TIME"!!!!**

Wayne Goddard and Gene Chapman have agreed to co-demonstrate May 15 & 16, 1993 to help the newly formed "Northern Rockies Blacksmith's Association" get off the ground with the group's FIRST 2 day Conference.

Northern Rockies Blacksmith's Association was formed to serve the Idaho-Montana-Washington-Oregon (sure glad they didn't call it I.M.W.O.N.R.B.A. -Grant.) Region as an alternative source for the metal workers of the area.

NRBA has held a couple of formative meetings in 1992 at the shop of "world famous" Jeffery Funk in Big Fork, Montana and now the natural order dictates the Spring conference pass to the Brandon's shop in (soon to be world famous) Stevensville, Montana.

All our friends of the NWBA are cordially invited for a "down home" - backwoods - conference in the mountains this spring.

Don't forget your auction item

MAY 15 & 16 1993



# BLACKSMITH

## CONFERENCE

674 Porter Hill Rd. Stevensville, Mt.

Gene Chapman, Kingston, Va.

Bladesmith & Mountain Man

Demonstrating his antler horn folding knife

And Tooling Used to make the knife

Wayne Goddard, Eugene, Or. Bladesmith of

national fame

Demonstrating wire welded/ Damascus

blades & studies Of steel structure

call 777-3365 to reserve your spot

all this at Dave Brandon's Shop

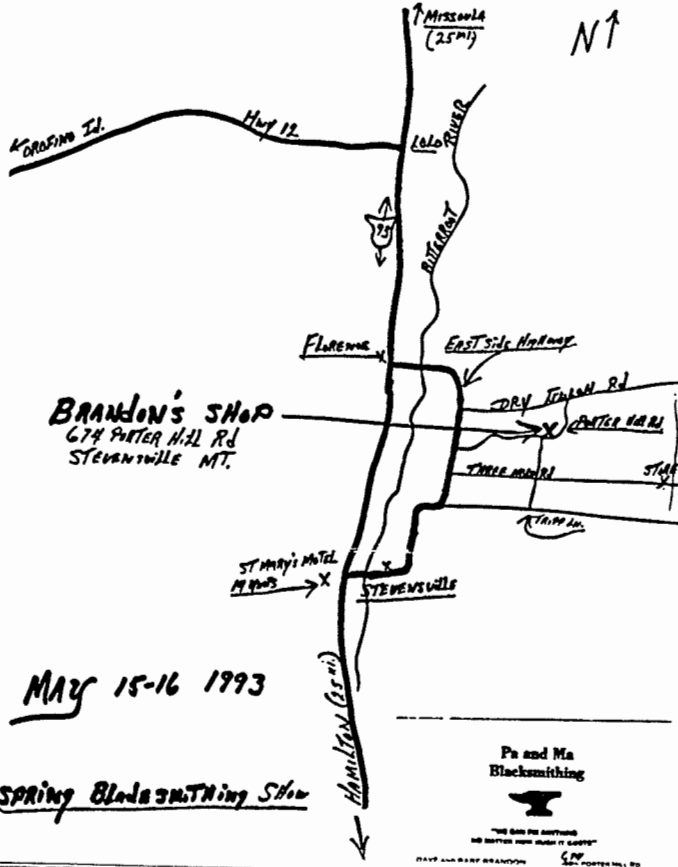
\$25.00 Fee for two days with these

two outstanding craftsmen !!!

bring something for the AUCTION !!!

MAY 15-16 1993

Spring Bladesmithing Show



Primitive camping in the yard

St. Mary's Motel 9 Mi. at Stevensville

14 units & RV Park (406) 777 2838

Missoula Motels (25 mi.) 48's Inn 251 2665 -

Super 8 1-800-800-8000--

Hamilton motels Town House Inn 363 6600--

Best Western 1-800-528-1234

POT LUCK Saturday - bring something???

Dave & Babe Brandon Your Hosts

BRING AUCTION ITEMS !!!!

## MESSAGE ON THE PREZ

by Richard Ballou & Tanya Sorenson

A recent arrest by the Pierce County Drug Task Force has netted one of the most notorious manufacturers of illegal substances in this area. Arrested on January 16 for the manufacture and possession of coke was Grant Sarver, don of the infamous NWBA cartel. Sarver is also suspected of involvement in the recent boom in the illegal nitrous oxide trade. Sarver denied this latest allegation in a recent interview, stating, "anyone with half a brain knows that using nitrous in a gas forge causes too much scaling." (And who would know better what having half a brain would be like!)

The coke charges, however, are damning. The task force confiscated 23 fifty pound sacks of coke hidden behind his East Tacoma shop. The goods were estimated to have a street value of approximately \$4.27.

A spokesman for Apex Forge expressed shock upon hearing of the charges. "We just never knew what he was doing out there."

An unidentified officer revealed this morning that the noxious black clouds settling for days at a time over the Tacoma tide flats were what first aroused his suspicions. Upon investigation, the officer noted that several members of the NWBA were seen spending large amounts of time in the shop "acting very mysteriously."

Meanwhile, Sarver will be out on bail shortly, pending payment of a \$10.00 bond. His trial is in April. The prosecuting attorney argued at the arraignment for a delayed date in order to arrange immunity and acceptance into the Federal Witness Protection Program for Sarver in exchange for evidence against other cartel members.

*Plagiarized from the Inland Northwest Blacksmiths Association News, April (Fools), 1992 (Tanya, I had to change the names to protect the innocent. I loved your whole newsletter, MB)*

## DON'T TRY IT ALONE

by Denny Kehl

I heard this story from an "Old Timer" and thought I'd pass it along. This story was his response to an inquiry from his insurance company:

I'm writing in response to your request for more information on my claim concerning "cause of injuries." I put "trying to do it alone," but you asked for more information, so I trust the following will be sufficient.

On the date of the accident, I was working alone trying to retrieve a 350 pound anvil out of the loft of a four-story building when I realized that it was too much for me to carry down the stairs by hand. So I decided to put it on a platform and lower it by a pulley which was fastened to the top of the building. I secured the end of the rope to my pickup bumper and returned to the 4th floor and loaded the anvil onto the platform and swung the platform out. I then went down and untied the rope from the bumper, holding it securely to insure the slow descent of the platform.

As you will note from the insurance claim form, I weigh 145 pounds. Due to the shock at being yanked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Between the second and third floors, I met the platform coming down. This accounts for the bruises and lacerations on my upper body.

I then proceeded rapidly up the side of the building, not stopping until my hand was jammed into the pulley, accounting for the broken thumb.

At approximately the same time, the platform hit the ground and the jar knocked the anvil off. Devoid of the anvil, the platform now weighed only about 50 pounds.

As you would guess, I began a rapid descent. In the vicinity of the second floor, I again met the platform on its way up. This explains the injuries to my legs and lower body. Slowed only slightly, I continued my descent, landing on the anvil. Fortunately, my back was only sprained, and the internal injuries were minimal.

I'm sorry to report, however, that at this point, I regained my presence of mind and let go of the rope, and as you can imagine, the platform crashed down on me.

I trust this answers your question. Please note that I am finished "trying to do it alone"!

*Reprinted from the INBA News, Dec. 92*

## ***"The Wire Damascus Hunting Knife, How to Do It"***

by Wayne Goddard

Available from Blade Publications  
Dept. 2002  
P.O. Box 22007  
Chattanooga, TN 37422  
Phone: (615) 894-0339 FAX (615) 892-7254

Cost: \$45.00 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling

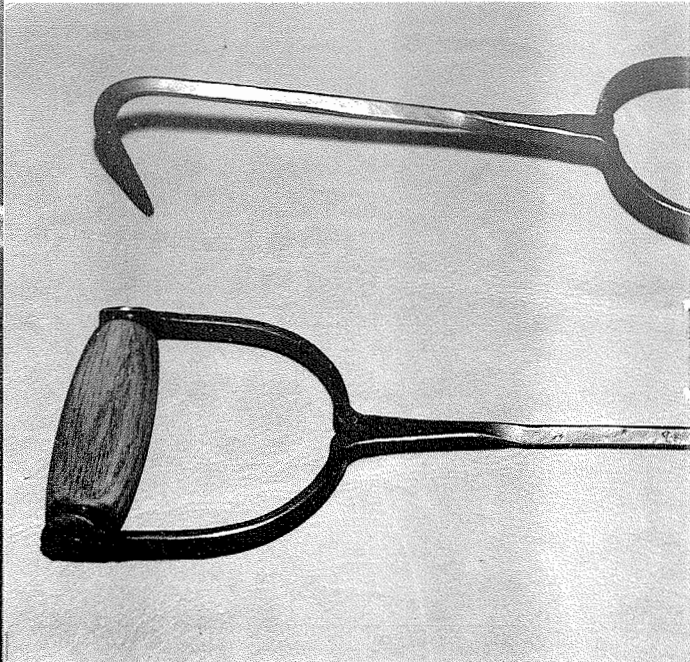
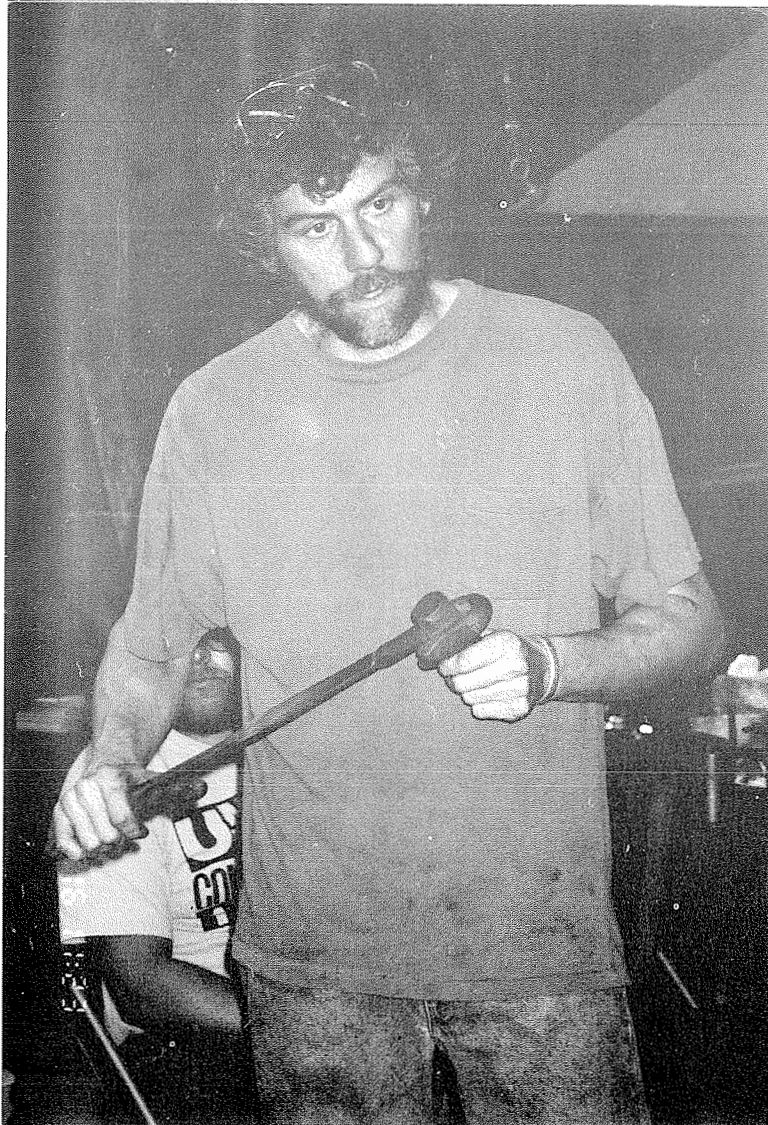
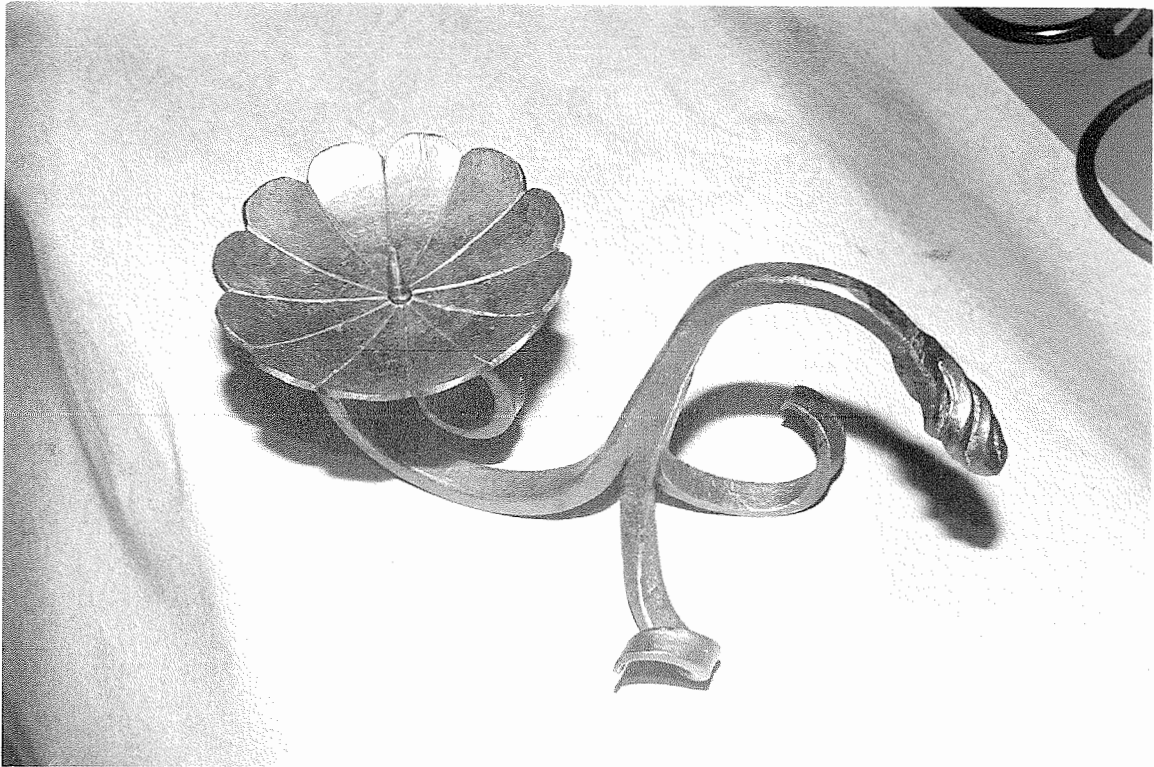
This video is chocked full of bladesmith goodies, it covers the entire spectrum, from basics to advanced methods and techniques used by Wayne in making a wire damascus knife. Included in the two hour tape are demos, tips, techniques useful to both blacksmith and bladesmith.

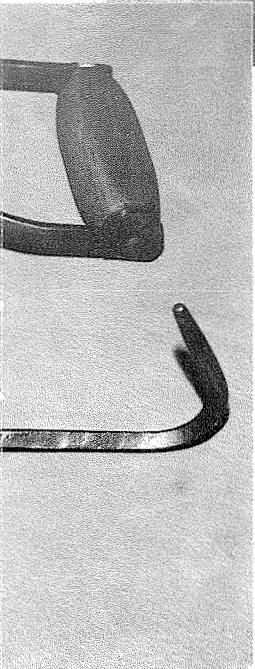
Topics covered by the tape are:

**ANVILS  
HAMMERS  
BLADE FORGING TECHNIQUES  
SAFETY  
FORGE WELDING WIRE DAMASCUS  
TESTING CABLE  
FLUX  
GUILLOTINE AND SPRING FULLERS  
HEAT TREATING (INCLUDING TRIPLE TEMPERING)  
WITCHES BREW HEAT TREAT OIL  
BLADE GRINDING  
ETCHING DAMASCUS  
BLADE FINISHING  
INLETING AND PINNING WOOD HANDLES  
SHARPENING**

This is one valuable learning video you can't afford to be without. Thanks, Wayne, for sharing all your years of expertise with us.







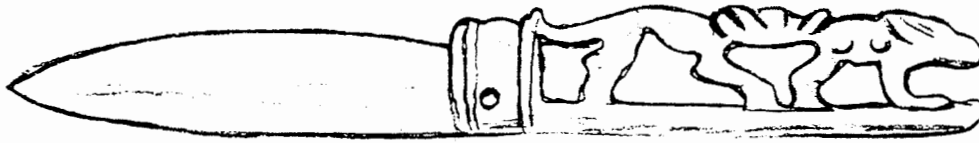
**Clockwise from top left:**

1. Candleholder by Jeff Holtby
2. Door latch by Dan'l Moore
3. Table by Dan'l Moore

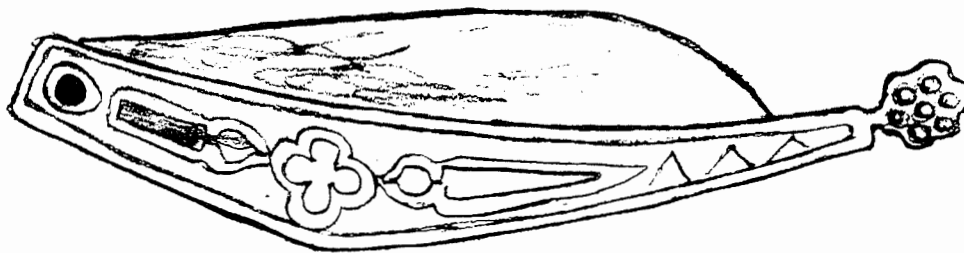
4. "Is not", "Is too", "Is not."
5. Hooks by Jeff Holtby
6. Joe Elliott, "Boy, that's hot!"

## PENNY AND CLASP KNIVES

Folding knives have been around a long time. When the Roman Empire expanded into Britian just over 2,000 years ago, they brought the folding knife. These had handles cast in bronze or carved from bone.



Roman folding knife with bronze handle depicting a rabbit pursued by a hound. 1st Century A.D.



This handsome folder handle is made from two sheets of copper alloy, engraved and pierced. 14th Century A.D.

Source - National Knife Magazine article by Simon Moore.

A type of folding knife, the "Penny Knife" was popular and inexpensive during the American Colonial period. The story goes, they cost a penny apiece.

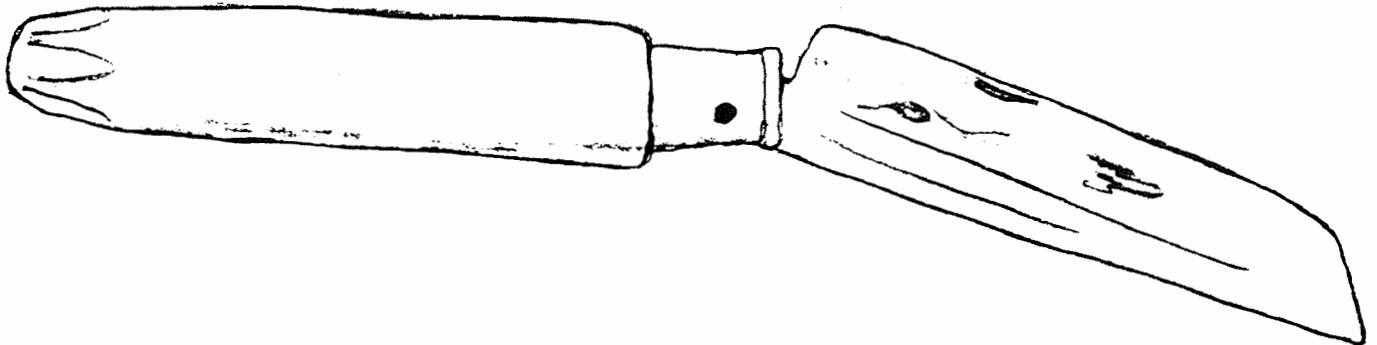
A list of required arms and accouterments for Massachusetts troops in 1775 from the journal of Arthur Harris of Bridgewater include "a jack knife" along with gun, bayonet, (sword, ax or tomahawk), powder, shot, balls, knapsack, blanket, canteen, and other items.

Jack knives are described in Levine's Guide to Knives and Their Values, by Bernard Levine, as relatively plain sturdy knives, standard Jack knives are single ended: they have their blade or blades hinged at one end. There are also a few stout double ended jack knife patterns."

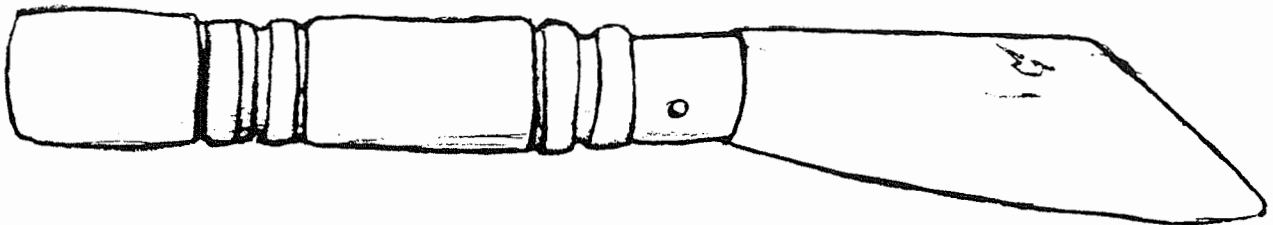
He also describes penny knives as "A modern adaptation of an old term for the simplest sort of jack knife, consisting more or less cylindrical one-piece handle, a blade and a pivot pin, with the hinged end reinforced by a sheet metal ferrule that functions like a bolster on a



spring back knife."



The drawing of a penny knife I acquired from my friend Wayne Goddard some years back. Probably home made and origin unknown.



This is a penny knife circa 1760-1900 from Swords and Blades of the American Revolution by George Neumann. Possibly from England.

This design could be easily adapted to a backspring folder by using a split tin bolster.

"Clasp knives were introduced in the New World not less than 250 years ago, both England and France supplied various types of clasp knives. They have in common, a single folding blade that engage the spring. Often protruding catches on the tang of these blades engage the spring and ensure that the blade remains open in use. The protruding knob or pin which constitute the catch also facilitate the releasing of the "Lock" when the knife is to be closed."

French clasp knives usually had a one piece horn handle with no liners.

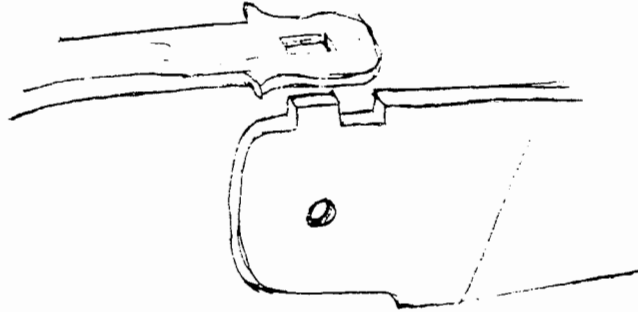
Source - Firearms - Traps and Tools of the Mountain Men by Carl P. Russell

Bernard Levine's book - Levine's Guide to Knives and Their Values, describes clasp knives as "A large single bladed jack knife which has an upwardly curved handle that tapers to a point. The term clasp knife for a large folder may be even older than the term jack knife."

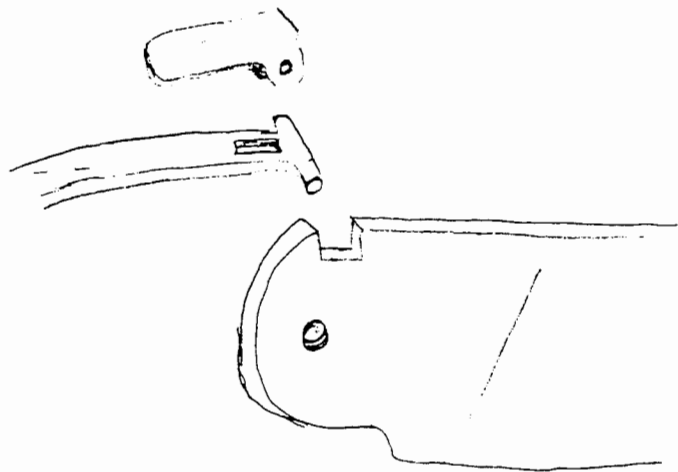
## PENNY AND CLASP KNIVES

Merriam Webster, the dictionary man, defines clasp knife - "a jack knife with a blade folding into the handle." Jack knife is defined as "a large strong pocket knife." The word clasp is defined as "To fasten together with, or as with, a clasp. To seize with, or in the hand."

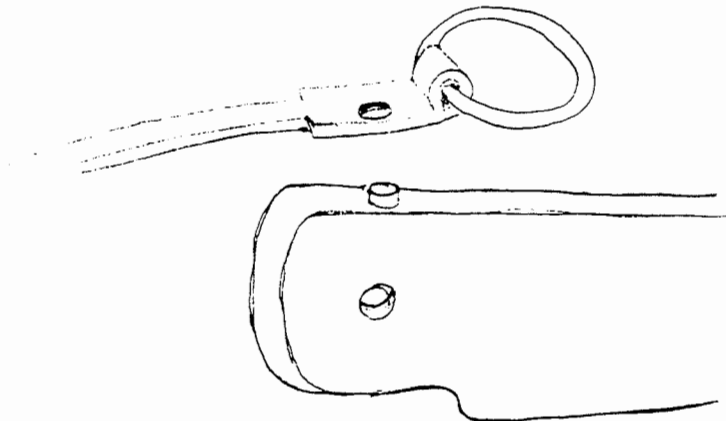
One modern Italian version has the spring recessed between liners and uses a lock like this.



A Mexican version has horn handles and a pivoting device to lift the spring for unlocking.

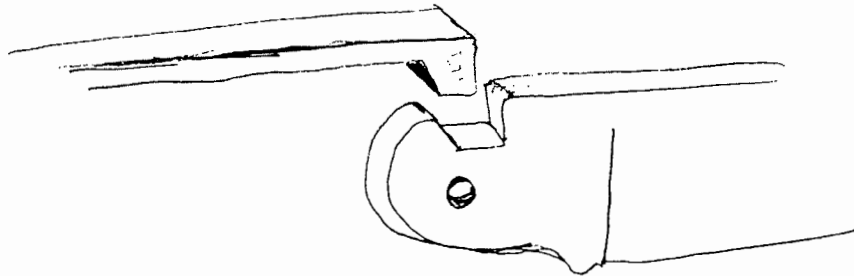


I own a unique clasp knife made by Fiddlin' Red. It has a locking action like this.



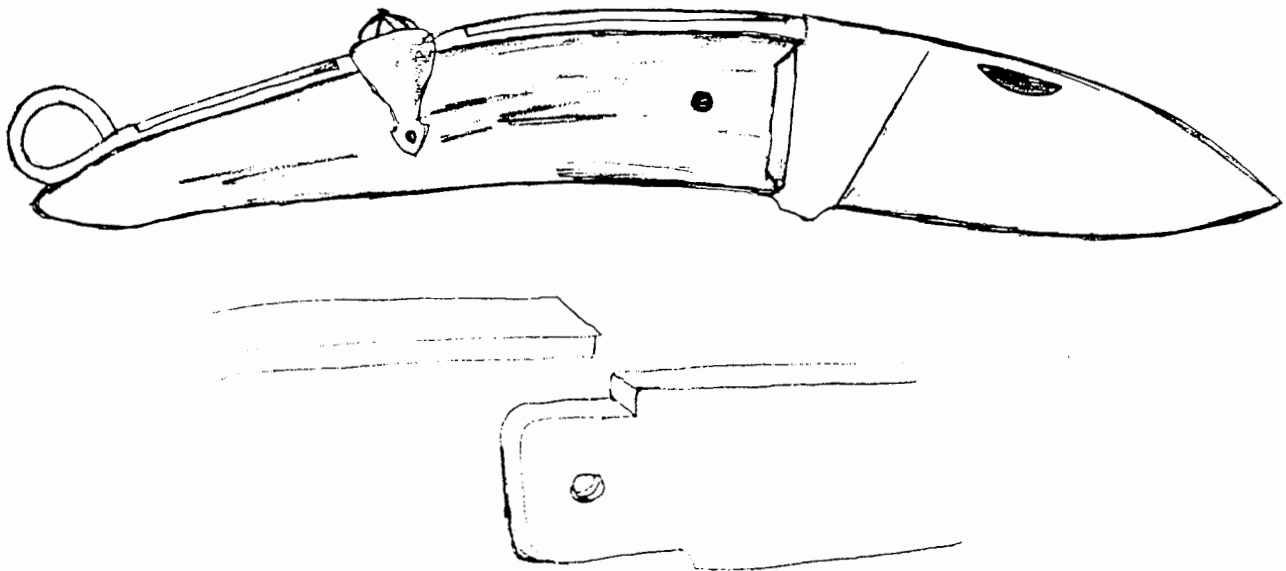
## by GENE CHAPMAN

A modern French version has a wedge shaped piece on the spring that engages the blade slot.



However it doesn't lock the blade. Forceful movement down on the blade disengages it.

The type of primitive clasp knife I like best has an external spring on the back of the handle.



Various methods for locking the blade in place have been devised, some more successful than others.

Folding knives have advanced in mechanical ingenuity from the early days. New designs still arise from man's fascination with folders.

I hope this provides some background and ideas to go out and make your old time folding knife. They are fun.

Gene Chapman



## BLACKSMITHING SCHOOLS OVERVIEW

### **Allison's Wells School of Arts & Crafts**

234 E. Fulton Street  
P.O. Box 924  
Canton, MS 39046 (601) 859-5826 or 1-800-489-2787

Allison's Wells School is a new effort to re-establish the oldest and largest arts and crafts school in the world. The school features a wide variety of courses in more than 25 categories, including 21 different blacksmithing courses. The school feeds and houses the students. There is also a gallery and an Artist Incubator to get fledgling businesses off the ground.

### **Anderson Ranch**

Attn: Brad Miller, Director  
P.O. Box 5598  
Snowmass Village, CO 81615 (303) 923-3181

### **Anoka-Ramsey Community College**

Art Department  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

### **Appalachian Center for Crafts**

Route 3  
Smithville, TN 37166

The Craft Center, in addition to offering workshops, is affiliated with the Tennessee Technical University and as such offers up to a Masters Degree in Fine Arts. Sometimes, excellent instructors are brought in specifically for the blacksmithing courses.

### **Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts**

P.O. Box 567  
Gatlinberg, TN 37738 (615) 436-4411

### **Art League School**

Attn: Gerri Gordon, Director  
105 North Union Street  
Arlington, VA 22314 (703) 683-2323

### **Bethel College**

S. Lukman, Art Dept. Chairman  
St. Paul, MN 55108

### **Brookfield Craft Center**

Dee Wasner, Registrar  
P.O. Box 122 (Route 25)  
Brookfield, CT 06804 (203) 775-4526

The Brookfield Craft Center is a non-profit school for professional craft education, founded in 1954. Courses for beginners, intermediate and professional craftsmen are offered, starting in mid-September and continuing through the end of November. Classes and workshops are scheduled on weekends and evenings so working people can take full advantage of them. Enrollment is strictly limited to ensure a high quality experience with individualized instruction. Tuitions vary.

### **Cedar Lakes Craft Center**

Tim Pyles, Director  
Ripley, WV 25271 (304) 372-7005

Workshops at Cedar Lakes Craft Center are offered from March through November with regional and nationally known blacksmithing and knifemaking instructors. Lodging and meals are available at this secluded retreat center.

### **College of St. Catherine**

Celine Charpentier  
Art Department Chairman  
St. Paul, MN 55105

### **Colorado Rocky Mountain Blacksmith School**

1493 County Road 106  
Carbondale, Colorado 81623 (303) 963-2562 or (303) 963-9144

Classes at the CRMBS began in the fall of 1989. There are six forges with tools and anvils. In addition to regular Blacksmithing classes taught by Will Perry, Francis Whitaker works with intermediate to advanced smiths on specific projects if accepted after submission of portfolio. Regular classes are for CRMBS students only and are arranged to suit the individual student, providing one on one instruction for architectural projects.

### **Connecticut School of Wrought Iron Design**

P.O. Box 8116  
Buckland Station  
Manchester, CT 06040 (203) 646-8363

### **Dollywood**

Blacksmith Shop  
700 Dollywood Lane  
Pigeon Forge, TN 37863-4101 (615) 428-9445 Ext. 248

The Dollywood Blacksmith Shop offers introductory and intermediate courses beginning January 1993 and continuing through March.

### **Glen Echo Park Classes**

c/o National Park Service  
7300 MacArthur Blvd  
Glen Echo, MD 20812 (301) 824-2161

### **Gould Academy**

P.O. Box 860  
Bethel, Maine 04217 (207) 824-2161

Gould Academy has offered Blacksmithing as an academic course since 1988. Blacksmithing is offered twice a year (two semesters). Their facilities include both gas and coal forges and four anvil stations. Design is a prerequisite along with the Blacksmithing courses. Emphasis is placed on the function and design of tools, hardware and utensils.

### **Hamline University**

Michael Price  
Art Department  
St. Paul, MN 55101

### **Haystack Mountain School of Crafts**

Stuart Kestenbaum, Director  
P.O. Box 518  
Deer Isle, ME 04627 (207) 348-2306

Haystack has one, two and three week sessions in Blacksmithing. Recent instructors have included William Fiorini, Douglas Wilson, Tom Joyce, Peter Ross, and Dale Wedig. Workshops have up to 10 participants. Scholarship aid is available.

### **John C. Campbell Folk School**

RR 1 Box 14-A  
Brasstown, NC 28902 (800) 365-5724

The John C. Campbell Folk School blacksmith shop features over 2,000 square feet of space, with 14 forging stations, a large selection of hand tools including individual kits, and other hand and power tools. Basic skills courses, specialty classes, and 2 courses in advanced techniques are offered in a weekend, as well as one and two week courses.

**Karl Schroen**

4042 Bones Road  
 Sebastopol, CA 95472 (707) 823-4057

Karl teaches two day workshops on traditional knifemaking with a forge, anvil, and hammer. He teaches about modern tool steels and finishing techniques. All tools and materials are provided. Two students maximum, \$200.00 per person. An apprentice program is also offered, which covers about a 2 year period and includes marketing, etc. Karl's classes continue year-round.

**Macalester College**

Stanton Sears  
 Art Department  
 St. Paul, MN 55101

**Minnesota School of Blacksmithing & Horseshoeing**

Anoka, MN 55303

The Minnesota School's blacksmithing program deals with both the technical and artistic nature of the craft. Interested persons are encouraged to send for brochures to help determine what courses they would be most interested.

**Montgomery College, Rockville Campus**

51 Mannakee Street  
 Rockville, MD 20850 (301) 279-5040

**National Ornamental Metal Museum**

Judy Wallace  
 374 W. California Avenue  
 Memphis, TN 38106

**Old Sturbridge Village**

1 Old Sturbridge Village  
 Sturbridge, MA 01566

Old Sturbridge Village features the "Crafts-at-Close Range" program. They offer a range of single day classes from beginning to advanced.

**Oregon School of Arts and Crafts**

8245 S.W. Barnes Road  
 Portland, Oregon 97225 (503) 297-5544

The Oregon School of Arts and Crafts is accredited by the National Assoc of Schools of Art & Design, offers a Certificate Program in Metal, emphasizing the mastery of complex techniques and the development of a personal aesthetic in the making of jewelry or small scale sculpture.

**Penland School**

Penland, North Carolina 28765 (704) 765-2359

Penland School offers courses in iron work ranging mostly from 4 days to 2 weeks. Classes cover iron work from toolmaking to sculpture. Scholarships are available. Undergraduate and graduate credit may be earned at Penland through East Tennessee State University & Western Carolina University. They also have an Artist-in-Residence program.

**Peters Valley Crafts Center**

Layton, New Jersey 07851 (201) 948-5200

Peters Valley Crafts Center offers a continuing series of workshops from basic courses to advanced techniques, typically lasting from 2 to 6 days. Equipment includes seven indoor forge stations, two power hammers, and 14 anvils. They also have a year-round Residency Program for 3 to 5 years, and an Assistantship Program, Memorial Day to Labor Day.

**Rhode Island School of Design**

Providence, RI (401) 331-3511

**Rochester Community College**

Terry Dennis  
 Art Department Chairman  
 Rochester, MN 55901

**South Puget Sound Community College**

Dorothy Stiegler, Director  
 2011 Mottman Road, S.W.  
 Olympia, WA 98512 (206) 273-8670 or (206) 753-3447

Forging Processes II - Dorothy Stiegler, Instructor; night classes only. Spring quarter, beginning and advanced forgings.

**Southern Illinois University**

Carbondale, IL 62901

Southern Illinois University, in addition to offering workshops, offers both undergraduate and graduate programs through its affiliation with the Tennessee Technical University and as such offers up to a Masters Degree in Fine Arts.

**Southwest Craft Center**

Ric Collier, Director  
 300 Augusta Street  
 San Antonio, TX 78205 (512) 224-1848

**Texarkana College**

2500 N. Robinson Rd  
 Texarkana, TX 75501 (903) 838-4541 Ext 237

**Touchstone Center for Crafts**

Marcene Clark, Exec Director  
 P.O. Box 2141  
 Uniontown, PA 15401 (412) 438-2811

Twenty years ago, several dedicated art enthusiasts established the Pioneer Crafts Council, now Touchstone Center for Crafts. The summer Appalachian Mountain campus program combines quality instruction, intimate classes & rustic housing to provide stimulating experiences for people of all levels of expertise in 7 studios. The blacksmithing studio includes a 100# power hammer but only 5 work stations, so reservations for week and weekend classes are at a premium.

**Turley Forge Blacksmithing School**

RR 10 Box 88C  
 Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 471-8608

Instruction given in the use of the coal forge, anvil, and accessory tools. Essential techniques are taught. Early on, the student will make fire rake and shovel used throughout the rest of the course. Other projects follow until the student has a thorough knowledge of the craft. Classes are 3 weeks long.

**University of Minnesota Art Dept**

Wayne Potratz  
 Art Department Chairman  
 Minneapolis, MN 55455

**University of Washington**

Metal Design Program  
 School of Art DM-10  
 Seattle, WA 98195 (206) 543-6016

Headed by Professors Mary Lee Hun and John Marshall, occasionally special 2 week summer workshops are held with invited instructors. The facility provides for non-ferrous, casting, design, sculpture, and larger scale fabrication. The smithing area has 4 gas forges, an assortment of tools, anvils, small mechanical & 300lb Chambersburg air hammers.

**University of the Arts**

Peter Solmussen, President  
 Broad and Pine Streets  
 Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 875-4808

**Washington University**

School of Fine Arts  
 1 Brookings Drive  
 St. Louis, MO 63130 (314) 991-2149

# GRANDPA'S TOY SHOP

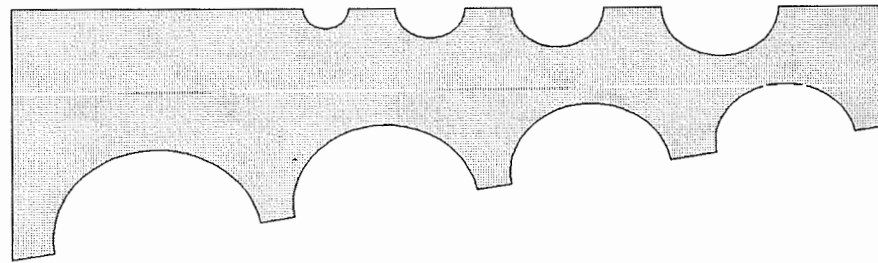
by "Grandpa" Hersom

I saw this tool at a conference in Colorado in 1990 and was made by Clay Spencer who has made by his own right lots of clever tools and gadgets. - "Yes, I am a copy cat also."

The slots in tool are made about  $1/64$ " wider than what the cold bar measures because a hot piece of iron is larger than cold.

The nice thing about this tool is you can make one to fit almost any of your work or jobs.

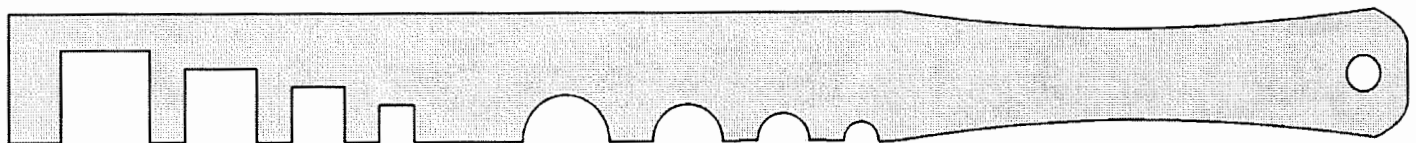
I have had a gauge with half round shapes for years to measure the repousse hammer head shapes I use. It is made of 16 gauge sheet and has sizes from  $1/4$ " to 2" radius. Again full size widths but only  $1/2$  diameter of a circle deep.



1. However any size width slot can be made.
2. The depth of slots are full depth of measure.
3. File off all corners at entrance of slots - sharp corners hang up.

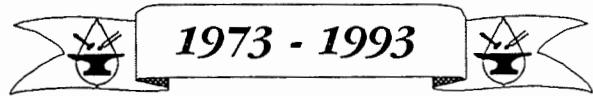
For forging tenons drill holes in center of bar - these holes can be exact size as most of the time by the time I checked - size - the iron was black heat.

"Grandpa"



# ABANA

The Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America now proudly celebrates it's 20th year!



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

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

## ABANA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March, 1993

Dear ABANA Chapters,

As you know, the forms to sign up for the *Blacksmith Registry* appeared at the 1992 ABANA Conference in San Luis Obispo, California as well as in the *Anvil's Ring*. We received a great response from the membership for the register, and the ABANA Office did a super job of putting the information together. The register will be used to refer calls that the ABANA Office routinely receives inquiring about commissioned blacksmith work. Thanks to all of those who requested to be in the register. It will help the ABANA Office immeasurably, and will help those seeking the services of blacksmiths qualified to help them out. As with all services of this nature, the information in the *Blacksmith Registry* will get outdated in time. If you have additions, or corrections to an original entry you sent us, simply send them to the ABANA Office so that they may be included with the next update.

We have another directory in the ABANA Office called the *Supplier List*. It contains the suppliers of various tools and materials around the country. If you are looking for something in particular and are having a rough time finding it, or need a few alternative sources, why not give the ABANA Office a call? They will be glad to direct you to some of the suppliers on that list. Likewise, if you have found a source for something that others in our community of friends might like to know about, please give us a call so that source may be added to our directory. It will help us all in the long run.

Have you ever heard that old saying "Well, that's the last thing I ever thought I'd see!"? It occurred to me after looking at the condition of a few chisels and hammers recently, that if someone tried to use them, it might just be the last thing they'd see! The tools we routinely use all require regular maintenance to stay in good shape. Any tools designed to be struck can become "mushroomed," which can send little pieces flying off the tool when you least expect it. Hammer handles start loosening up as soon as they're installed. Some folks soak their handles in various fluids to counteract that problem. Now that Spring is upon us, it may be a good idea to inspect your tools for signs of wear and tear. For that matter, take a look at your favorite pair of safety glasses -- are they looking a little tired? A pleasant Spring day spent getting your tools in shape might just prevent you from saying someday, "That's the last thing I saw..."

Farewell to the last signs of winter!

Warm regards,

Clayton Gary  
ABANA President

Membership Application  
Mail to:

Northwest Blacksmith's Association  
PO Box 81041  
Seattle, WA 98108

Membership Application:  New  Renewal  New Address?

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: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you an ABANA member? \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

Country: \_\_\_\_\_



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: \_\_\_\_\_

VISA or MASTERCARD # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks or money orders must be written on a US Bank in US Funds.





## CHAPTER LIAISON NEWSLETTER March 1993

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** - ABANA is celebrating its 20th Anniversary in 1993. *We've come a long way baby!* Look for exciting things to happen this year as we prepare for the '94 Conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

**LET YOUR WOMAN DO THE WALKING** - Members of the Inland Northwest Blacksmith Association (INBA) have found a way to spend more time in the shop and still find those hard to get tools they need. They draw sketches of special tools they need so their wives or girl friends can look for them when going to the flea markets and antique shops.

**NO JOKING** - Do you have any poems, riddles, one liners, jokes, or cartoons about blacksmithing? Send them to the Chapter Liaison Committee (address below) and we will compile them into a collection for everyone on the chapter list to enjoy.

**MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK** - Jim Ryan of Dubuque, Iowa has taken the editorship of the ABANA newsletter to be published between issues of the *Anvil's Ring*. This newsletter will be filled with tips, techniques and updates of interest to the blacksmithing community. This along with many new services to our members is a great reason to join ABANA. Look for an application in the back of your Chapter Newsletter or contact the ABANA Office for more information.

**WHITAKER RECOGNIZED** - This summer there will be a Francis Whitaker Show at the Smithsonian Institute. More information on this will be given as it becomes available. Plan to attend. The John C. Campbell Folk School has renamed their blacksmith shop to the Francis Whitaker Blacksmith Shop to honor Francis' efforts on behalf of blacksmithing.

**FLOATING BLACKSMITH SHOP** - The National Rivers Hall of Fame in Dubuque, Iowa invites blacksmiths to be guest on the "William Black" (sand dredge) moored in the Dubuque Ice Harbor. Supplies furnished free, just bring your favorite hammer. You can sell your wares to the public. To reserve a date, contact Bob Drury, P.O. Box 309, Dubuque, Iowa 52004 or phone (319) 557-9545.

**THE YEAR OF AMERICAN CRAFT** - The U.S. Senate passed resolution 218, designating 1993 as the Year of American Craft. Already slated for demonstration; "Saddle Making in Wyoming", "Glass Weekend", and "Caribbean Basket Adventure". The question was asked, "When will the blacksmiths get their turn?"

**BEALER FORGE** - Twenty years ago at Westville, Lumpkin, Georgia a group of blacksmiths gathered and ABANA was born. Today the forge is in need of repair. Any chapter or member of ABANA wishing to make a contribution to help rebuild the Bealer Forge at Westville should contact: Dave Fink, P.O. Box 805, Lumpkin, GA 31815. What a wonderful tribute to the man (Alex Bealer) that helped get it all started.

**THANKS** - ABANA appreciates the Chapters that send us their newsletters and updates so that we can help keep the lines of communication open. Submit your information to the ABANA Office and it will get out in the next monthly mailing.

**Please send all Chapter President and Editor changes to the ABANA Office or the Chapter Liaison Committee so we can keep our files updated.**

*Ron Porter*

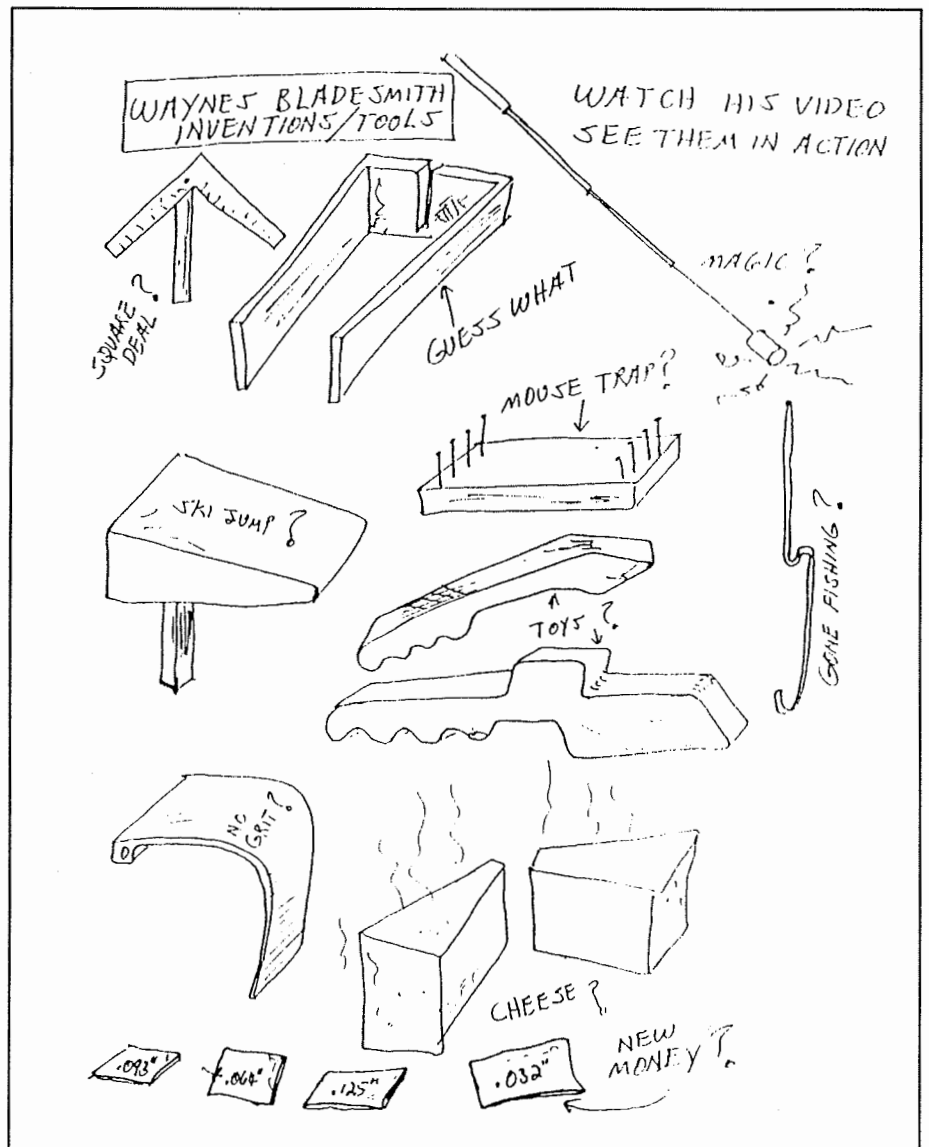
*Chapter Liaison Committee Chairman  
RR 1 Box 64, Bunker Hill, Indiana 46914*

# MY HELPER SLAG, YELLOW DOG AND HEAT TREAT MEAT

Some time back I used coal, ah that sweet aroma. Well every time I fired up, the neighbors big yellow dog comes over and sits in the shop door. Don't know if it's the blower whine or coal smoke he likes. Well Slag, my helper he is kinda slow, you know, upstairs, he is helping me with some corm knives. We got then forged, ground and ready to heat treat. Oil we use is all the drippings off the stove. It's kinda cold out and those drippings are set up hard. I get a heat on a bar and stick it in, smoke fire and the like, you know, heat up the stuff. Test the drippings, not with finger though, fried my index once, usually needs stirring. Got a scrap piece, pointy on the end, so while stirring I speared something, a hunk of meat. Looked like it was just fried, looks real good, just about lunch time you know. I tell Slag look at this, hand him the stirrer. Slag he looks and looks, turning it over and over. Now he's a licking his lips. I say "Slag don't eat that, probably tainted, been in that oil a year or better." He looks all goofy at me then at Yellow Dog, back at me and back at dog. Gives that stirrer a flick and that hunk of meat sails for the door. Yellow Dog he snaps that meat, gulps it down, same breath. Well we finish the corn knives and go to lunch. Funny thing, forge a running, Yellow Dog don't come back after lunch. Couple days go by an still no dog. Gets me kind of worried, always liked that dog. Then

Yellow Dog shows up one morning but sits about twenty feet away from the door. He won't come no closer no matter what we do. That's the blacksmith truth.

By Swedge B.



## CLASSIFIEDS

I presently have 50+ hrs of VHS tape taken at numerous Guild of Metal hammer-ins, one and two day seminars, 1992 Ozark Conference and the 1992 ABANA Conference. Some of the demos are by Paul Hubler, Eric Moebius, Tom Latene, Bob Bergman, Dorothy Stiegler, Jack Brubaker, Ivan Bailey, Rob Gunther, Clay Spencer, Fred Caylor, Jaroslov Valek plus many more talented people. I will copy any of these onto 6 hr VHS tapes. I am asking to exchange my tapes for yours hour for hour. If anyone is interested write me for a more complete list of subjects. Roger Degner, PO Box 27, Franklin, MN 55333. Phone# 507-557-2794. Best time is 6-6:30 Central Standard Time.

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.

David Norrie is looking for either full time or short term help to work in an architectural forging shop near Toronto, Ontario. Short term help would come in and work for the duration of a project, averaging from 1-3 months. Accommodation would be provided. People must be confident with basic forging skills as they apply to artistic architectural ironwork. If you are

interested call David at (705) 357-2714 or write to him at R.R. #3, Sunderland, ONT., Canada, 10C 1H0.

WANTED TO BUY: 50# Little Giant power hammer. This would be for a trade for a 150# Beaudry with a broken base. Might make a nice sharpening hammer when fixed. Call Berkley Tack, 503-556-7975

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

FOR SALE: Blackheat Welding Compound - no fuss, no mess. Weld from room temperature up to a black heat. Organic, manure based, aged, hardly any smell. See B.S. auctioneer next conference.

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.

Gene Chapman. See you there.

Sorry the last Newsletter was so late coming out, but I was sick since before Thanksgiving until after the first of February. Some of you that talked to me on the phone didn't even recognize my voice. I felt like I needed to die just to feel better. Grant, my right hand man, does all of the graphics. And HE was out of town (Florida, Virginia, DC, Las Vegas, you know, fun places) for five weeks out of six. This issue is so close to the last one because it has too much literal cut and pastes, and not enough contributions from our members.

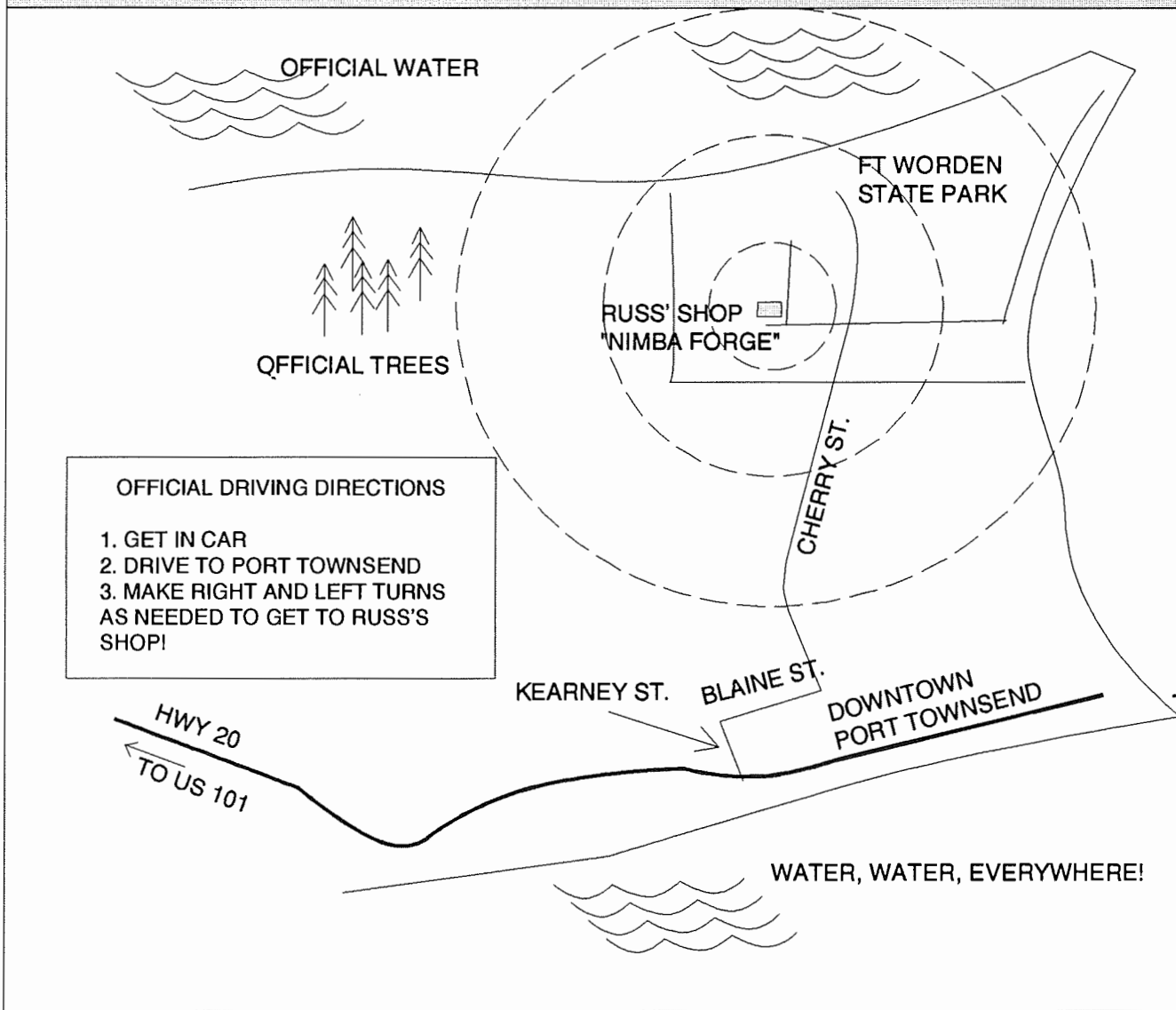
I will be at the Spring Conference if anyone would like to talk to me about becoming the new editor. I will stay until someone can be trained. I won't just dump it. I have enjoyed working on it, meeting all the great people, etc. etc., but I need to quit for personal reasons. When Smokey asked me to do this, I finally said "yes, but I was just a typist, not an editor. I would type as is, spelling and punctuation I would correct, but no editing." I like the writers' personality to come through, not mine. I also had no experience, but I could copy the format that Karen Wagner had developed.

Margaret

### Editor's Column

For contributing articles, photos, etc., the winner of a pair of Spring Conference Tickets will be . . .

# OFFICIAL SPRING CONFERENCE MAP



### OFFICIAL DRIVING DIRECTIONS

1. GET IN CAR
2. DRIVE TO PORT TOWNSEND
3. MAKE RIGHT AND LEFT TURNS AS NEEDED TO GET TO RUSS'S SHOP!

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

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