

Hot Iron News



THE VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION

First Quarter 2012





Northwest Blacksmith Association

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

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Quick Reference for NWBA Members

Submit articles, photos, how-to's to HIN:
nwbainfo@gmail.com

NWBA Website: www.blacksmith.org

For NWBA correspondence or membership, or to change your address (must be in writing) send to:

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

Annual dues: \$45 (foreign, \$50)

Dues include quarterly subscription to Hot Iron News.

Dues may also be paid online.

The NWBA logo, with the hammer poised above the anvil and the accompanying NWBA acronym, is a Service Mark of the Northwest Blacksmith Association, and is reserved solely for the use of the NWBA, except that anyone may use it to advertise or promote the events, publications, or mission of the NWBA, which is Education in Blacksmithing and Related Metal crafts.



Forge a Corkscrew by Steve McGrew

Find this and many other articles
on tips and tricks online at [www.
blacksmith.org](http://www.blacksmith.org)

Member Articles >

Steve's Smithing Tips & Techniques

Published on 03-11-2012

Join in the exchange, share your
blacksmithing experience and learn
from what others have posted.

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SPRING CONFERENCE

April 27th-29th, 2012

From the basics to advanced
smithing techniques, find it
all (and lots of like minded
friends) in Longview, WA.

See you there!

ON THE COVER



Railing by Gordon Williams

A Board meeting will
be held on Thursday,
April 26th at 5 PM at the
Cowlitz Convention Center,
Longview. All members
are welcome to attend.
The General Membership
Meeting will be held on April
29th, following Saturday's
dinner at the grounds in
Longview.

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Sitting on the Tail Gate with Bill...

Hi, my name is Bill Apple. To those that know me, hello, to those who do not, I would like to introduce myself: I am your new president, voted in by the board. I look forward to seeing old friends and making new friends as this journey begins. I have been a fixture at this get together for a number of years now. I am a hobbyist blacksmith with a real interest in improving my forging skills, and in this new position I hope



to help others with like interest. It is my goal to become a good blacksmith and help others do the same.

There are some new things happening, we are trying to stream line some of the old ways. We are going to implement pre-registration to try and get a handle on meals for Saturday dinner. It was always a guess, we either did not have an enough meals or paid for a bunch that we did not need, running up the cost of the conference. There is a cut off date for the pre-registration, April 17th, 2012. So if you want to be sure to get a meal, please register ahead of time it will really help out. Change is hard but we need to do this. I would rather we move ahead and adjust as we go than do nothing and just talk about it. A pre-registration form can be found in this publication, and online at www.blacksmith.org.

With that said, we are doing the same with T-shirts, and to encourage our members to help us out, if you pre-register you get a free T-shirt! It is also possible to order extra T-shirts online,

using the online conference pre-registration form. We will have a few extra T-shirts at the conference, but we are not going to pack old shirts around like we have in the past. The object is to be sold out by end the of the conference. You may still be able to get a shirt, but the number of shirts available at the conference will be very limited, so come and get yours early to make sure you get one.

The paperwork finalized! We are now officially a Non-Profit. My hat is off to all that made this happen, there were a lot of things going on to get us there.

I would like to touch on Grant's passing and say I think we are going to miss Grant more than any of us know. He was a real go to guy for questions on anything blacksmith related: machining, heat treatment of tool steel, and the list could go on for a long time. With his tooling not being for sale at conference we will miss the convenience and that tool we thought we could get next time. I had many great conversations through the years with Grant and many other blacksmiths. So, with Grant on my mind I would like to call the president's letter "sitting

on the tail gate." I think all of us have had some great times at these conferences, visiting and sitting on the tailgate with Grant and other smiths that have gone to the other side of the anvil. They are still with us as long as we remember them, I know I have a few stories of good times. My condolences to the Sarver Family.

Dean Mook and I are your next conference hosts, to be held at Cowlitz County fair grounds in Kelso Washington. We have a great line up of demonstrators: Gordon Wilson from the state of Arizona and Elijah Burnett from Poulsbo Washington. We also have a fantastic lineup of hands on instructors. This is going to be a great show.

We have been approached about a long term deal to have every other conference in this facility. The price is good, there are things to do in the area, there are

hotels and restaurants close by. Tell me what you think, I think it might be a great idea. Let's think about it, we will have to see how this one goes.

We are 501(c)3 status has been granted and the paperwork finalized. We are now officially a Non-Profit. My hat is off to all that made this happen there was a lot of things going on to get us there. Thank you to all involved.

Well I think that is all for now, happy forging .

Signing off, from south Kitsap, *Bill Apple*

A Note from the Editor *Amy Mook*

Spring Conference 2012 is coming soon, April 27th – 29th, I hope you have marked your calendar and have taken advantage of pre-registration and that free T-Shirt! This edition of the HIN has all the information you need to get you there; registration information, demonstrator interviews, where to stay and more. An NWBA conference is the ultimate place to meet other smiths, to share ideas, tools and tricks, to get in the fire and ***Just Hit It!***

With one Hot Iron News under my belt, and a scant 2 months serving as NWBA's website and newsletter editor, I am beginning to get the big picture of what the NWBA is about and how to best serve the vision of the organization. The mission of the NWBA as stated is:

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

With that in mind, I am formulating my approach to developing the website, our Facebook presence and Hot Iron News newsletter so that they work as a cohesive whole in support of the association's mission.

In the spirit of 'a picture is worth a thousand words', I am hoping to find, among our membership and your family and friends, some photography hobbyists who can take pictures at the Spring Conference (and other conferences, gallery shows of NWBA members' work) and are willing to share them with the membership via the Hot Iron News and web gallery. I can use images of demonstrations, work created at the conference, images of gallery and auction items, and images of people taking it all in. If you are or know someone who would be interested, bring your camera and a keen eye to the conference. Keep in mind that the images for the print newsletter need to be high resolution (300 dpi), so they can show up clearly. Also, it is important to get the



name of the artist-blacksmith and if applicable, the name of the piece or class where the picture was taken. I would be deeply indebted to your contributions, and the membership would be greatly benefited as well.

You are encouraged to submit articles, announcements, photographs, news, classified ads and letters. I will make every effort to include your submissions in the next edition of the HIN and/or on the website.

Look for changes at the website. In the months ahead I will be recreating the site so that it is easier to navigate, integrating more membership benefits and features, and making it a little easier on the eyes. With these new features it should be easier to find specific articles, search threads of conversation in the forum, find other NWBA members, and more.

Look for me at the Spring Conference, I'll be looking to introduce myself to you! ~ Amy Mook

Please send all of your contributions, letters and suggestions to:

By e-mail to: NWBAINfo@gmail.com

By mail: Northwest Blacksmith Association
42nd Ave SW #185
Seattle, WA 98116

Or, use the article submission forum on the website.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All articles, photos, letters, etc submitted to NWBA for publication may be published online at www.blacksmith.org or in the Hot Iron News, at the discretion of the Editor.

Tiny Hammers

By Lisa Geertsen

Tiny hammers, about 2 ½ inches overall, I made forty one of them. “What are they for?” “Are they real?” “You should make necklaces out of these!” Are some of the comments I’ve gotten. The very best one came from a small boy who said, “I know what these are! These are hammers for elves. I saw some elves in the forest this morning.” I’m sure he did!

Most of them are made from 3/8” mild steel square bar. Not tool steel, not hardened in any way. (But that’s not to say I didn’t consider it!) I did my best to forge them into the shapes of as many hammers as I could think of, including claw hammers. I found it most interesting to try and translate those shapes into such a small scale. I drilled a hole where the eye would be and hand carved handles out of walnut the carpentry shop across the hall from me was getting rid of. They were fun to make and that’s just what they’re for....fun. They aren’t to any sort of scale or for any sort of purpose. I had the thought to make them and got a little bit obsessed with it.

I love to see Darryl’s miniature blacksmith shop and all the small scale tools he’s collected and made over the years. He actually made the conscious effort to make them to scale and punch all the eyes in the hammers! I thought I would have been taking it too far if I did that, I guess I was wrong! Maybe the next time I make a batch I’ll do just that, so they are even more authentic. There was a week or so in our shop that Andy was forging actual hammers while I was forging the tiny ones, I must say that amused me more than I know how to tell you.

Thankfully it was just before the holiday craft sale season and I decided to see if they would sell as a novelty item. I did sell quite a few, but I admit to setting many of them aside as gifts I would be giving. I also admit to wanting to keep them all for myself. I nearly made a miniature tool rack to hold them all. And I just might still do that for the hammers I have left!



I know I’m silly for doing it, but sometimes it just feels good to make things that make you laugh. At least it does for me. So what are they for? They are for making people smile.

Punches, Drifts and Chisels: Some Ideas To Consider

By Hardie Swage

Author's Note: Most of what I write is information others have willingly shared; thanks to all of you, you know who you are.

In my desire to make some hammers there is a need to make better punches and drifts than I currently possess. So off I went, looking for the secret rules of punches and drifts and found that, rather than a secret formula, you just make and test and use. The result is that your eye and design evolves, and better tools are the results. Here are some terms/concepts from my search:

❖ **Drift:** a driven tool that shapes a hole in material. The hole can be any shape and the sides of both the drift and hole are most often parallel, with both ends of the drift tapered. The taper lets them be introduced and exit from the material by striking. Tapered drifts make tapered holes and often used on eyes for handled tools; by working from both sides to give an hourglass shape that when wedged, grips the wood handle to the tool head. If the hole is introduced into the hot material by a chisel cut; the drift end must be small enough to be introduced into the cut. A squared end on the drift allows it to be used as a punch. Punches drift and drifts can punch, it is not an either/or situation.

❖ **Punch:** a flat bottom, driven tool (handled or not) that is struck and pushes the material out of the way leaving a small “button” when worked from both sides. Can be straight or tapered. Leads to the oft quoted phrase “only a blacksmith can put a ½” hole in ½” stock. Punches also leave “suck” in the bar. The tool pulls material into the hole and does not leave a crisp edge. The sucking action is minimized with softer material. Punch at a high heat and/or use wrought or pure iron...they suck surprisingly little compared to mild or tool steels. The punch sides must be straight and equal on all sides (held to the light both sides match for straight and degree of taper); otherwise it will pull to one side. Punches are often made as combination tools that can act as both a punch and drift. You punch an undersized hole and then drift it out to the desired size/shape while taking out the “pooch” at the hole sides.

❖ **Chisel:** A driven cutting tool. When working hot material be sure your chisel has tapered sides and a radius cutting face to insure you do not “stick it” into the work. A chisel cuts and should leave all of the parent stock on either side, nothing is removed. Leaves a crisper edge to a hole than a punch.

❖ **Combo tools:** You could make a tool with a chisel point and a drift body. If it is not driven through the work, you may hurt the cutting edge when you drive it back out. Combo punches/drifts are very common but you still need to be attentive to distortion of the working end.



❖ **Hand held tools:** chisels, punches, etc. Taper working end, also the striking end. Dome the top by pinching it in a little. Feels good in the hand to have the mass in the middle and helps center the force of the blow. Ability or inability of striker to hit this taller tool squarely has a great deal to do with how well it works. Hitting the hand instead of the tool is not recommended.

❖ **Tong held tools:** Light tools transfer more of the hammers striking energy to the work. Holding by tong rather than hand can take advantage of this principal. The down side is that you loose sight distance with the shorter tools and holding the tool square to the surface to be cut or punched may take a little extra effort to master. This is more a factor in deep holes like a hammer eye. A second set of eyes always helps. A slight dome and pinch on the striking end works well here also. Some are tapered on both ends so they can be driven through but it is scaled down due to the shorter tool length.

❖ **Accessories:** You need tongs made to hold chisels and punches. The design I copied is a square in-side-jaws shape. The square is set on the diamond, 45° to the axis of the jaws. This shape holds round, square, octagon, Etc. very well. The jaws are easily bent over the near edge of the anvil to form the 90° inside bend needed. It's a simple two-step process; first bend out and then a little further down the jaw bend back 90°. If you are recycling an existing tong, spread the jaws 90° and then bend the tips inward at 90°. A second work aid is a set of pick up tongs. These have no other function than to pickup objects from the floor and return them to the anvil or forge. They tend to be light and easy to use (open and close single handed) and able to grip a variety of shapes. Any drift/punch tool you drive through or out of the work most likely will fall to the floor and must be retrieved while still quite hot.



❖ **Layout:** You need to mark your work well, so you can apply the tool to the proper place on the bar at a full heat. This is doubly important when working from two sides of the same bar as in a hammer eye. Make your marks so they can be seen easily when the bar is scaled and at a high heat.

❖ **Tapered punches, drifts:** These tapered tools are not driven through the material so the desired final shape of the eye is not on either end of the tool. The striking end is over sized and follows the straight but tapered sides of the tool, the striking end is domed/pinched and the sharp edges relieved. The length of the tool is made to fit the work, the forging steps and the holding method. The size of material to be punched or drifted is a major factor in tool design. Some small hammers I plan to make have a rectangle eye about 3/8" X 3/4". This shape is found at about 3/4 or more of the tool length from the working end. I hold them with tongs and then when the hole is well formed but not done, I mash the sides back down with the drift in place. At this point the hole supports the tool completely. So I must design tools that have enough of the end sticking out to have something to strike when I want to remove the tool and take a new heat. The mashing of the sides reduces the eye-bulge and lengthens the eye. I then drive the drift further to get a clean hole until the desired shape is formed. This is accomplished in the same heat or not. You can drive/mash as often as necessary to fit your design of the final object; giving no bulge, major bulge or any anything in between.

❖ **Cooling:** The larger the mass being cut, punched or drifted, the greater heat is transferred to the tool. A dull red on the tool is not that hard to get. Just because a tool is hot does not mean water bath is needed. Know your steel and know what will make it brittle, thus subject to breakage and chipping the next time you use it. The loss of an eye is a very steep tuition price for metallurgy/safety 101.



Paul Zimmermann
Kronengasse, DE

A Few Items from Our Online Gallery

<http://blacksmith.org/gallery/index.php>

Some archive images from the past conferences.



Dorothy Stiegler
Sutter Creek CA 1994



Tom Joyce, Santa Fe NM
Started at conference; finished at
OCF 1984



Angelo Bartolucci Italy
2002



Dan'l Moore
Kila MT 1994



Dave Thompson
Eugene OR 1995



Uri Hofi
Menashe IL 1999



Al Bart, Yreka CA 1989

Joe Elliott, Bend OR Tribute to Tom
Bredlow 1990 Spring @ Corvallis, OR

Francis Whitacker, Aspen CO 1982
@ Pt. Townsend, WA





Featured Demonstrators:

Gordon Williams

Elijah Burnett

JUST HIT IT!

First Forging

Black Smoke Alley

NWBA Repousse Station

NWBA Library

Midnight Madness

Gallery and Auction

and more...

Fellow blacksmiths, what a great opportunity we have once again, to create a great and memorable conference. We've got a couple of exciting, up tempo demonstrators this spring, and NWBA members with lots of enthusiasm and expertise to share. We are focusing on the basics of handwork and getting as many of our members involved as possible.

Please Pre-Register, through the online registration or by mailing in your registration, as soon as possible. This will help us to orchestrate the conference and banquet for the number of people who are attending with the greatest efficiency. To encourage you all to pre-register we are offering a free conference T-shirt with all registrations received before April 17th. Register early and reserve your T-shirt. Only a limited number of conference shirts will be available for sale at the conference (an effort to avoid the burden of unsold conference T-shirt inventory).

**Bring an Item for the MEMBERS GALLERY,
we want to see what you have been doing all winter.**

**Help support your NorthWest Blacksmith Association
by donating a hand crafted item to our auction.**

We hope to see you there!

Bill Apple, NWBA President and Conference Coordinator

Dean Mook, NWBA Board member and Conference Coordinator

DEMONSTRATORS

Gordon Williams: An energetic smith with many irons in the fire. Inspired by nature, Gordon will be sharing his skills, tips and techniques by demonstrating making a wide variety of items: Oak tree with raised knots, acorns and leaves, flower lag screws and decorative bolts, Indian arrow with copper, patinas, birds, texture swages and tools, large door pull with bronze finish... to name a few.

Elijah Burnett: Using all traditional methods of joinery in his work, including mortise and tenon, fire welding, and riveting. Elijah will demonstrate some organic pieces by request, and then will work on a contemporary piece toward the end.

HANDS ON INFO

Admission to the hands on classes is limited, selection is by drawing names. Submit your name when you check-in at the conference, the sign up area is near the registration tables. Each class is limited to six students. If you are picked a \$20 fee is required, unless noted at the time. If you do not win a place in class, you are welcome to stick around and take notes, OR bring your own setup – tools, forge and anvil, and get in the class free (must set up outside the class area). The drawings for the class will take place before the class. Winners must be present in the hands on area at the start of the class in order to retain the spot.

The Hands-on Instructors include Tri Ficker, Ken Mermelstein, Ben Cyzhold, Bill Apple, Berkeley Tack, Andy Blakney and Lisa Geersten.

HOT TIPS SUNDAY: Sunday morning will be a last chance question answer period with our demonstrators, including a short demo featuring their combined talents.

AUCTION ITEM DONATION: Get \$5 in Blacksmith Bucks for donating your hand crafted item, (can be spent toward anything within the NWBA; auction purchases, membership, T-shirt, anything!)

SAFETY GLASSES: Required of all attendees to wear at all times while observing or working in demonstration and class areas; \$2 fee or bring your own.

CONFERENCE FEES

Free T-shirt with Pre Registration. Register by April 17th and get a free T-shirt at the conference. There will be a limited number of T-shirts available for sale at the conference.

Three Day Conference Fees (attend the whole conference)

Member: \$65 plus \$20 Saturday dinner fee (optional)

Household: (at the same residence) \$100 plus \$20 Sat. dinner fee/person (optional)

New Member: (not previously in the NWBA) \$45, which includes a one-year membership and admission to the conference, plus \$20 dinner fee(optional)

One Day Conference Fees (attend only one day)

Member: \$40, plus \$20 Saturday dinner fee (optional)

Household: (at the same residence) \$50 plus \$20 Sat. dinner fee/person (optional)

New Member: (not previously in the NWBA) \$45, which includes a one-year membership and admission to the conference, plus \$20 Saturday dinner fee (optional)

Dinner Tickets: \$20 per person. Our banquet dinner will be served on Saturday night to meal ticket holders only. Tickets are sold and issued at registration. Dinner is buffet style, main course choices: roast beef, rosemary chicken, vegetarian lasagne, with salad and side dish selections. A limited number of meal tickets may be available for purchase on site. Pre-register to guarantee your meal.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 26 2012

Set up, trailers at fairgrounds, arrive early to help

5:00 PM - Board meeting

Friday, April 27, 2012

8:00 AM - Registration begins

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Blacksmith demonstration by Elijah Burnett

Hands-On class with Berkeley Tack

First Forging

12:00 - 1:00 PM - Lunch Break

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Blacksmith Demonstration by Gordon Williams

Hands-On class with Bill Apple

Repoussé Station

4:00-5:00 PM - First Forging

5:00-7:00 PM - Dinner (on your own)

Black Smoke Alley

Tailgate Sales

7:00 PM – 12:00 AM – Midnight Madness

Saturday, April 28, 2012

8:00 AM - Registration

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Demonstration by Gordon Williams

Hands-On with Tri Ficker

First Forging

12:00 PM -1:00 PM - Lunch Break

1:00-4:00 PM

Demonstration by Elijah Burnett

Hands-On with Ken Mermelstein

Repoussé Station

4:00-5:00 PM - First Forging

5:00-6:30 PM - Dinner Break (banquet dinner, tickets required)

6:00 -7:00 PM - General Meeting

7:00 – 9:00 PM - Auction

Black Smoke Alley

Tailgate Sales

7:00 PM - 12:00 AM - Midnight Madness

Sunday April 29, 2012

9:00 - 11:00 AM Hot Tips: A last chance question answer period with our demonstrators, including a short demo featuring their combined talents.

Noon- pack up

LOCATION

Cowlitz Regional Conference Center

1900 7th Avenue

Longview, WA 98632

360-577-3122

<http://www.thecenterofthenorthwest.com/>



Driving Directions to Cowlitz Regional Conference Center

Driving North

Take Exit 39 off I-5 at Kelso

Turn Left onto Allen Street

Follow Allen Street over the Cowlitz River

Take 1st Left after Bridge onto 1st Avenue

Turn Right onto Washington Street

CRCC located on the corner of Washington Street and 7th Avenue

Driving South

Take Exit 39 off I-5 at Kelso

Turn Right onto Allen Street

Follow Allen Street over the Cowlitz River

Take 1st Left after Bridge onto 1st Avenue

Turn Right onto Washington Street

CRCC located on the corner of Washington Street and 7th Avenue

WHERE TO STAY?

CAMPING

The Fairgrounds are ours to use. Trailer hook-ups w/ water & electric for \$15 per night. Dry camping in the Tent Barn, \$5 per night, Unsheltered Tent camping available \$5 per night.

Pay at registration desk, please.



Dry camping barn with covered outdoor area



Large Tent and Trailer camping area.

MOTELS and HOTELS

(Hotel fee information provided by the hotels, but not guaranteed by NWBA.)

Town House Motel Longview

744 Washington Way,

Longview, WA 98632

(360) 423-7200 ↑

Quoted Price: \$55

Notes: At a glance, Lake Sacajawea park · outdoor heated · jetted tubs · complimentary breakfast · guest room. Just a short drive to Mt. St. Helens, the AAA rated Town House Motel is conveniently located in Downtown Longview with easy access to I-5 and various attractions including Lake Sacajawea Park.

Red Lion Hotel Kelso/Longview

510 Kelso Drive

Kelso, WA 98626

Tel: 360-636-4400

Fax: 360-425-3296

Quoted Price: \$89

Notes: The Red Lion Kelso-Longview, Hotel & Conference Center is conveniently located off I-5 just 40 miles north of Portland, Oregon, 50 minutes from Portland International Airport and five minutes from Kelso Airport. They can arrange transportation to and from Portland International Airport.

Super 8 Kelso Longview Area

250 Kelso Dr, I-5 Exit 39,

Kelso, WA 98626-3112 US

Phone: 1-360-423-8880

Fax: 1-360-423-7956

generalmanager08089@wynhg.com

Quoted price: \$58.39 and \$53.39

Notes: Free Wi-Fi. Large-vehicle parking, 24-hour front desk service and in-room microwaves and refrigerators. Indoor pool and hot tub. Continental breakfast.

Motel 6 Kelso - Mt St Helens

106 Minor Road

I-5 at Exit #39

Kelso, WA, 98626

Phone: (360) 425-3229

FAX: (360) 423-4650

Quoted Price: \$49.99

Notes: WiFi available in all rooms at an extra charge.

Best Western Aladdin Motor Inn - Kelso

310 Long Avenue

Kelso, Washington, 98626-1114, US

Phone: 360/425-9660

Fax: 360/577-9436

Toll Free Reservations: 800-764-7378

Quoted Price: \$58.49, \$62.99 includes breakfast

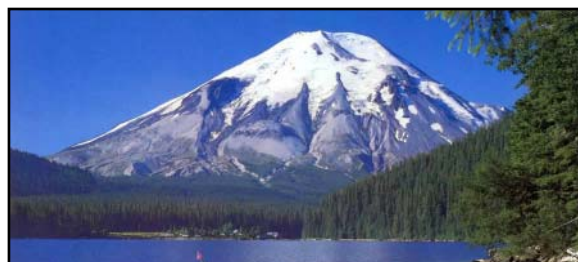
Notes: Pet-friendly Hotel Ratings: AAA-2 Diamond. Pet Policy: Pets allowed based on the availability of pet friendly rooms. Up to 2 dogs per room with a 80 pound weight limit. Pet rate is \$20.00 per day with a \$100 per week maximum.

LOCAL AREA ATTRACTIONS

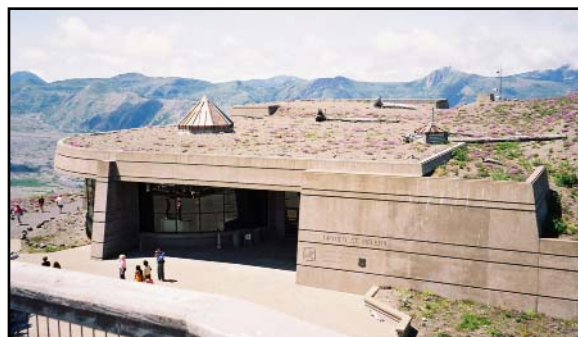
Kelso is 48 miles north of Portland, Oregon and 125 miles south of Seattle, between the beautiful Cascade Mountains and the Pacific Ocean (only 80 miles east of the Pacific Ocean), easy access to scenic outdoor recreation and city attractions.

Three Rivers Mall, Triangle Shopping Center, antique and outlet malls and casinos.

Mount St. Helens Volcanic Monument, Lake Sacajawea, the Lewis & Clark Trails, the Hoffstadt Bluffs Visitor Center, Ape Caves, the Forest Learning Center, the Johnson Ridge Observatory, and more.



Mount Saint Helens



Johnson Ridge Observatory

AIRPORTS

Kelso Longview Airport: 2.6 mi

Portland International Airport: 47.4 mi



Lake Sacajawea



Forest Learning Center

***Mail in Registration Form is on page 21
or register online at www.blacksmith.org***

Meet the Demonstrators

Gordon Williams

Where do you live and where do you work?

I live in Camp Verde Arizona, a beautiful place located 100 miles north of Phoenix and very close to Sedona. The name of my business is Victory Forge LLC, which is my full time blacksmith shop. I also have a school located at Pieh Tool Co. This is our tenth year.

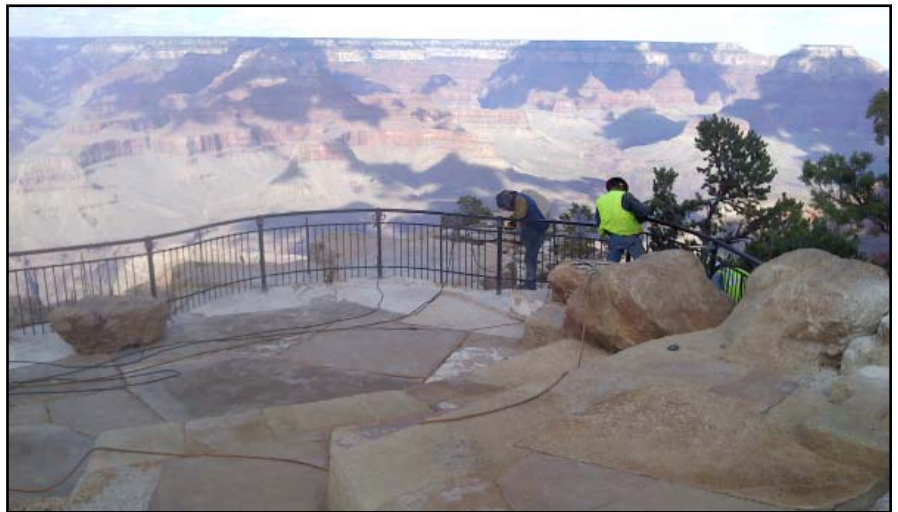


What kind of shop do you have?

What kind of work do you produce?

Do you have a specialty?

At my shop I do custom architectural smithing, that's a fancy way of saying I do everything from railings to hooks. I will attempt about anything, I guess I like being a little scared. The other part of my business is teaching, I love to teach, opening the window of blacksmithing to others or helping them with their skills makes me happy!



What style of blacksmithing do I do?

I want to do it all, but I guess I do lean towards representations of Gods handiwork, nature. I've lived on ranches a good part of my life and nature always humbles me.



Can you tell us who you have worked with, or who might have had an influence on your work or style?

I owe a lot to many people, I've been blessed. My father is my hero, and my mentor Allan Cressey who smithed until he passed at 91, were and are both my examples of fine gentlemen.



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

My demos are geared for information, that's more important to me than the projects. I hope to inspire others as I consider myself a slow learner and probably not the most talented, but hard work and repetition do create a certain amount of skill which people often mistake for talent.



I'll have a very active demo with at least two things hot at all times. Once looking for a consoling shoulder, I mentioned to my Grandpa that I had a lot of irons in the fire and none were getting hot...his words were, build a bigger fire then!

I can't wait to meet all of you.



Meet the Demonstrators

Elijah Burnett

Where do you live and where do you work?

I live and work in Poulsbo, Washington.

What kind of shop do you have?

I have a small but organized blacksmithing shop that only produces hand forged work.



How did you learn your craft?

I started out shoeing horses when I was fifteen years old . I got interested in blacksmithing in Winthrop with DJ Stull. I then did a 3 ½ year apprenticeship with Jerry Culbertson and about 1 ½ years with Russel Jaqua.

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

I produce all different kinds and styles of hand forged work. Everything from house hold items to railings and gates to public art. More and more my design and thought process leans toward more contemporary work, but I do a lot of organic themed work.



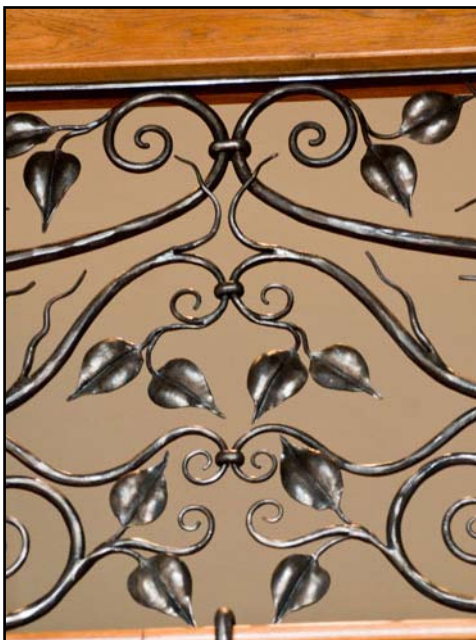
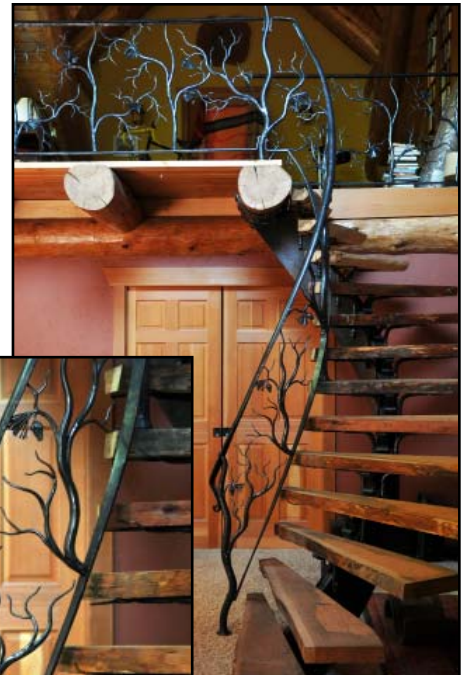


As your business has evolved how has it changed? How is it different from what you envisioned in the beginning?

My business has changed in the way that 95% of my work now is commissioned work. I have a product line that I keep up on that I think helps advertise what I do, but my time is more spent designing and working on bigger commissions. It is different than how I thought it would be when I first started, it is better! I had no expectations, just hope for a good future in blacksmithing.

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

I would like to pursue more contemporary work. I'm really in love with some of the new Italian work I see today. I really enjoy the variety of work that I do now.



Can you tell us who you have worked with, or who might have had an influence on your work or style?

The whole blacksmithing world has influenced me and my work. There is no one person, but to name a few is Russel Jaqua, Alfred Habermann, Tony Benetton, Angelo Bartolucci, Claudio Bottero. These few I really think push the idea of moving metal to a different level.





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

I will demonstrate some organic pieces by request, and then will work on a contemporary piece toward the end.

Looking forward to seeing everybody!!

Go to ABANA in July!



Visit Elijah's website: <http://www.burnettforge.com/>

WELCOME NEW N.W.B.A. MEMBERS

The NWBA wants to extend a warm welcome to the new members of 2011. As a member, there are many opportunities for you to become involved in the organization, as a volunteer or leader, and most importantly to just to learn. Welcome!

If we have missed you in this list, we apologize in advance for our omission.

Kenneth Aldrich	Don & Elsie Eckler	Martin Klug	Ed Omland	Gregg Swenson
Tom Allyn	Bill Evans	Joseph Koches	Valerie Park	Michael Tanner
Joel Attenberry	Michael Ferrazzano	Wendy Lawrence	Jamie Pelzer	Bob Tate
Zane Bacon	Anthony Francis	Henry Leinonen	Adam Plater	Nick Teague
Bill Baber	Carl Gatzke	Lorretta Lopez-Mossman	Barbara Praefke	Chuck Thacker
Daniel Barbour	David Gause	Aaron Loveitt	Rock Dog Productions	Jill Torberson
Josiah Barrett	Ann German	Trevor MacCay	Baltasar Puig	Herbert Upham
Ed Benson	Robert Gilbert	Allan MacIssac	Mark Pulver	Vance Viter
Jason Bjorkman	Eric Gindlesperger	Hazel Margarettes	Scott Rash	Clay Walker
William Bliss	John Hadley	John Massey	Gil Reyes	Jon & Jessica Walker
Baron Bloom	Rashelle Hams	Jim Mattern	David Richer	Alair Wells
Fletcher Bonds	Craig Hashimoto	Brian Mattis	John Rollo	Pete Wensley
Keith Boyd	Betty Henderson	Kevin McPherrren	Jeremy Sampson	Larry White
Anne Bujold	Harry Higuera	James Meredith	Mary Jo Sanders	Mark Wilder
Marcus Butler-Denman	Michael Hughes	Ian Mills	Lawrence Schultz	John Williams
Cameron & Yuri Button	John Huskinson	Denise Minard	Tom Schultz	Bryan Willman
Keith Carlson	Mike Jetton	Zack Moore	Brad Siebe	Paul Wills
Joseph Caramella	Catherine Kayne	James Mortisen	Steven Silva	George Wilson
Brian Clark	Charley Keller	Ronald Moss	Craig Sjostrom	Mark Witteveen
Nicholas Clark	Galen Kennel	Kit Nau	Dean Smith	James Wright
Matthew Davis	Hotte Kieseling	Victor Nolet	Paul Stanley	
Dale Dunford	JD King	Aaron O'Bryan-Herriott	Thomas Sterling	
Dennis Duseck	Del Kleffman	Ken O'Loughlin	Stuart Stern	

Sign Up Early

Avoid Long Lines

Get A Free T-Shirt



SPRING CONFERENCE 2012 PRE REGISTRATION FORM

APRIL 27-29 LONGVIEW, WA

FEES

Free T-Shirt with Pre Registration. Register by April 17th and get a free t-shirt at the conference. Only a limited number of shirts will be available for sale at the conference, register early to make sure you get one.

THREE DAY FEES

- ☐ Member: \$65
☐ Household: (at the same residence) \$100
☐ New Member: (not previously in the NWBA) \$45, includes a one-year membership and admission to the conference

ONE DAY FEES

- ☐ Member: \$40
☐ Household: (at the same residence) \$50
☐ New Member: (not previously in the NWBA) \$45, includes a one-year membership and admission to the conference.

Dinner Tickets: \$20 per person.

How many meals? _____

Dinner will be served to meal ticket holders only. Tickets are sold and issued at registration. Dinner is buffet style, main course choices: roast beef, rosemary chicken, vegetarian lasagne, with salad and side dish selections.

Free T-shirt size, select one: ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL
(one T-shirt per individual or household registration)

Extra T-Shirts \$15 each

____ M ____ L ____ XL ____ XXL

Return this form with your check as soon as possible.

All payments must be made in U.S. Dollars.

Mail entire page to:

NWBA
4742 42nd Ave SW #185
Seattle, WA 98116



NORTHWEST BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION
SPRING CONFERENCE 2012
LONGVIEW, WA

Last day early registration is accepted is April 17, 2012.

Pick up your badges and dinner tickets at the registration desk.

Camping fees must be paid in person at registration. (Trailer hook-ups w/ water & electric for \$15 per night. Dry camping in the Tent Barn, \$5 per night)

No. of Meals _____ x \$20 each =

Meal total _____

Conference Fees Total _____

Extra T-Shirts Total _____

Grand Total _____

You can also preregister online at www.blacksmith.org



NorthWest Blacksmith Association

The Northwest Blacksmith Association Is a Washington corporation and 501 (c) 3 non-profit charitable organization founded in 1979. Now over 600 strong and growing, our Mission is Education in Blacksmithing and related Metalcrafts. We have something to offer to anyone with an interest in blacksmithing, from the beginner to the serious professional.



Semi-annual Conferences



Hands-On Workshops

Members of the N.W.B.A. receive our award-winning newsletter, **The Hot Iron News** and the opportunity to attend N.W.B.A. events.

Name: _____

Dues are: \$45.00 U.S.
\$50.00 outside US

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

☐ New Member

☐ Renewing Member

Mail to: Northwest Blacksmith Association
4742 42nd Ave SW #185
Seattle WA 98116

NWBA membership is valid for one year, from the date of signup. Renewals are sent out on a quarterly basis, so look for your renewal letter a year later, sometime in that 3 month period.

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

... and a few more from our Online Gallery



Charles Lewton Brain, Santa Fe NM
Copper work: 1997



E.A. Chase 2001



Steve McGrew: Knife above
Door knockers below



Steve McGrew





Jim Garret Potato Holder
2010

Mark Manley 2011
LED Low Voltage landscape lights



Firelight Forge
Gate and Fence



Classes and Schools Around the Northwest

Earth, Wind, Fire & Ice Forge

Ridgefield, WA 360-887-3903

To register for a class contact Don Kemper at the number above.

Meridian Forge

Eatonville, WA

360-832-6280

Contact Darryl Nelson at firemtforge@hotmail.com.

Studio 4 Forging Facility LLC

3600 E Marginal Way S.

Seattle WA 98134

206-919-5431

email David Lisch:

studio4@davidlisch.com

More info can be found at www.DavidLisch.com
click on Studio4

Stumptown Forge

Beavercreek, OR.

(503) 632-2363

Contact Ken Mermelstein: kmermelstein@me.com

www.stumptownforge.com/

Thorne Metals Studio

13751 Daybreak Ln

Anacortes, WA 98221

(360) 293 8257

Current classes are listed at:

<http://learnblacksmithing.com>

Old West Forge

PO BOX 2105

White Salmon, WA 98672

(509) 493-4418

For additional details contact Tim Middaugh:

tim@oldwestforge.com.

Current classes are listed at www.oldwestforge.com

Send your school and class listings to:

nwbainfo@gmail.com

Editor's note: As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization there are limitations to how we are allowed promote our members' businesses. The listings will now include contact information and one descriptive sentence for your school, a policy subject to change.

To publicize your class you may send your event listing to the editor for inclusion in our online calendar. A short paragraph about the class and time, location, and fee information only please.

Please send information about your event listings to nwbainfo@gmail.com

Hot Iron News Classifieds are free to NWBA members. All others \$10 pre-paid. Classified ads are pulled after two editions unless otherwise noted.

Submissions Wanted: Please send all materials to:

NWBainfo@gmail.com or US Mail to:

NWBA, 42nd Ave SW #185, Seattle, WA 98116

Al Bart Grant Information & Application

The NWBA's Al Bart Memorial Grant is designed to enable our members to attend an educational program such as a workshop or class with the intention of learning something new and sharing that knowledge and experience within and/or outside of our association. Members are encouraged to download the attached application and learn something new.

Find out more details and download the application at our website:

<http://blacksmith.org/forums/content/520-Al-Bart-Grant>

The following events are viewable online on our calendar:

<http://blacksmith.org/forums/calendar.php>

To add your event to the NWBA calendar, send your announcement to nwbainfo@gmail.com

CURRENT CALENDAR EVENT LIST

April 1 Chikemin Forge Hammer In

April 26 NWBA Board Meeting

April 27-29 NWBA Spring Conference 2012

April 27-28 - CBA Sping Conference 2012

May 18 - 20 Meridian Forge Animal Head Class

June 22 -24 Meridian Forge Garden Gate Class

July 18 -22 ABANA Conference 2012

Take advantage of your membership benefits
and SEND IN YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE
WEBSITE CALENDAR AND THE HOT IRON NEWS.

Advertising Policy

Hot Iron News has revised its policy regarding advertising. We are now accepting ads for publication in the Hot Iron News, depending on space availability, which is very limited. See below for the pertinent information. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact editor Amy Mook at nwbainfo@gmail.com

****Advertising space is very limited in each issue, up to 2 pages total, and is available on a first come first serve basis****

Advertising Submissions

Mail to: NWBA
42nd Ave SW #185
Seattle, WA 98116

email to: NWBAinfo@gmail.com

Use the article submission forum on the website.

Advertising Rates For Black and White Display and Classified Ads

Cost per insertion,
for 1 issue and 4 consecutive issues.

	1x	4x
Full Page:	\$200	\$180
2/3 page:	\$140	\$126
1/2 page:	\$115	\$103
1/3 page:	\$75	\$68
1/4 page:	\$60	\$54
1/6 page:	\$40	\$36

All display ads need to be submitted digitally to the editor, by the deadline and print ready in one of the following file formats:

PDF, Adobe Photoshop .tif or .jpg, or Adobe Illustrator.

Grayscale, 300 dpi for best resolution.

Cropped sizes for the ads are as follows:

Full Page: 7.5" wide x 10" high

2/3 Page: 7.5" wide x 6.5" high

1/2 Page: 7.5" wide x 4.875" high

1/3 Page: 7.5" wide x 3.25 " high

1/4 Page: 3.625" wide x 4.875" high

1/6 Page: 3.625" wide x 3.25" high

Classified Ads: Free to members, \$10 for non-members
Classified ads are 50 words, text only.

Make items for donation to the auction at our Spring Conference, April 27-29, 2012, Longview, WA, in support of your organization, the NorthWest Blacksmith Association. Items auctioned for over \$250 win the donor of the item a paid year of membership.

Announcements that are of general interest to blacksmiths and not specifically in the business interest of an individual will be printed free of charge in the Hot Iron News, at the discrepancy of the editor and within the guidelines of the NWBA Board of Directors..

Submit your announcements for publication in the NWBA Hot Iron News and our website: www.blacksmith.org.

Mail to:

Northwest Blacksmith Assoc.
42nd Ave SW #185
Seattle, WA 98116

Or email to:
NWBAinfo@gmail.com

Or, use the article submission forum on the website.



The Steel Yard

6880 NE Columbia Blvd

P.O. Box 4828 • Portland, OR 97208

(503)282-YARD • FAX (503)282-7490

www.thesteelyard.com • sales@thesteelyard.com

**Open to the Public Mon-Fri 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday 8:00 AM - Noon**

**Rounds and Squares • Tubing and Pipe
Flat bar • Beams • Channel • Angles
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Plate & Sheet • Abrasives • Base Plates
Ornamental Iron • Metal Roofing**

We saw, burn, and cut to size • New and surplus stock arriving every day

Proud Members of the NWBA

**100
BEST
COMPANIES**
Oregon Business 2011

Now Accepting:
Visa, Master Card,
American Express

Announcements

Opportunity for Blacksmiths

The question of “what’s selling” has been a hard one to answer, until now. With the technology of a Facebook page for The Blacksmith Shop, we specifically will show what we are purchasing and what’s coming through the door. Thus answering the question. Once a month we will feature one of our artists from the Gallery and post their work that we have for sale. Keep in mind that what you see on our page is what we’re buying. No consignment. Our philosophy basically is if we’re not willing to put our money out for the product, why would we ask someone else to buy it. So our standards are pretty high. We hope this opens a conversation for the blacksmiths who produce a product.

blacksmith@foggy.net

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Blacksmith-Shop/308295409853>

<http://www.ferndaleblacksmith.com/>



ABANA 2012 Conference
July 18-21, 2012
Reunion on the Great Plains

Central States Fairgrounds
RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Opening Ceremonies:
Wednesday, July 18, 2012

**SMITH'S NAIL STUMP
TEACHING STATIONS
AUCTION
VENDORS
TAILGATING
DEMONSTRATORS
& THE GALLERY...**

The Black Hills offer many recreational opportunities so bring the whole family

www.abana.org

FULL DAYS OF FORGING DEMONSTRATIONS & EXCITEMENT ABANA style!

Saturday will conclude with a banquet & the CONFERENCE AUCTION!

REUNION ON THE GREAT PLAINS
ABANA
Rapid City, South Dakota
2012
North American Blacksmith Association of North America

ATTENTION! The NW Anvil 4 show will take place in the Pratt Gallery at the Tashiro Kaplan studios. The show will be part of Seattle's First Thursday Art Walk and will open December 6. More details to come.

If you are interested in showing your work in this show there are a few simple rules. You must be a current member of the NWBA, your artwork for the show must be metalwork and I need to know you want to be invited!

Invitations are sent out to members who are currently on the NWBA roster and who make the effort to make and bring their artwork to conferences. If I have somehow overlooked you and you would like to be invited, please don't be shy to ask me! My apologies to anyone that I've overlooked in the past, I'm happy to invite all who want to participate. All you have to do is reply yes to the invite and follow the instructions for the show.

Say hello to me at the spring conference or e-mail me at firelightforge@gmail.com see you in the Spring!

~Lisa Geertsen

The editor of the Hot Iron News wants your pictures and your articles.

To encourage you to take the time to write articles for the HIN the Board has decided to reward article contributors with a \$50 thank-you (for published **feature** articles) in “Blacksmith Bucks”! (That would be those wooden nickels we had at the last conference). These can be redeemed for anything in the NWBA!

You may use them for dues, conference registration, T-shirts – **anything!**

Hot Iron News



A publication of the Northwest Blacksmith Association
4742 42nd Ave SW #185
Seattle WA 98116

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USPostage
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Postmaster: Address Service Requested



Russell Jaqua
Blue Heron Weather Vane
Transit Station, Port Townsend, WA
featured in the Blacksmith Art Map in
the Gallery at www.blacksmith.org

