

Hot Iron News



THE VOICE OF THE NORTHWEST BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION

Third 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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August 20-26 2012

Come enjoy a week of blacksmithing on Mount Hood. The Blacksmith Shop is in the lower cabin, demonstrations on Saturday in the Museum.

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ON THE COVER



Photo by Jeff Wilson
 Photoshopped by Amy Mook
 (I chose this picture because I like the focus on the heat)
 Bill Apple at the Hammer In
 at Chikemin Forge,
 April 1, 2012

A Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 20th at 5 PM at the Enumclaw Expo Center. All NWBA members are welcome to attend.

The General Membership meeting will be held on September 22nd, following Saturday's dinner banquet at the Expo grounds in Enumclaw.

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Sitting on the Tail Gate with Bill...

Hello Blacksmiths,

Spring conference has come and gone, and although there are few issues to work through, we will be back in Longview next spring. Dean and I are getting that going now.

Let's move into more recent events...

Our very own Darryl Nelson was presented with the Alex Bealer award at



2012 ABANA conference in Rapid City South Dakota. This is the most significant prestigious award given by ABANA for the promotion of blacksmithing at all levels, not just ABANA. All that I can say is 'way to go Darryl'. We in the NWBA are very lucky to have a individual with your drive and passion for blacksmithing. Congratulations from the board and the membership, we all hope you have many more years doing what you love doing, and giving back what you have worked so hard to get, the Craft of Blacksmithing. THANK YOU! (to read more about the Alex Bealer award visit <http://www.abana.org/business/bealeraward.shtml>)

We have a lot going on in the NWBA; our outreach program is going strong at boy scout camp. Hahobas has been a hive of action with camp blacksmith Tracy Lauricella (known as John the Blacksmith at camp) and his crew. They have been busy with young scouts in the camp blacksmith shop. Tom Ferry got the ball rolling from our end with some donated equipment and volunteers from the NWBA. I am not sure who has been out to camp at this time, but Tracy is overjoyed with the support. I would like to see this outreach support turn this into a top notch program that keeps going. This is the future for the craft, to get these kids in the fire. And, I might tell you, these kids range in age from 14 to about 60, all with lots of

enthusiasm. Good job to all those involved. THANK YOU!

Fall conference on September 21, 22, and 23 is coming up fast, get registered now. Don't miss Master Blacksmith Brent Baily from Orland CA, who is going to be making tools of all kinds. He has quit a line of tools, take a look at his web site <http://www.brentbaileyforge.com/>. For our local guy we have Bob Kramer, Master Bladesmith from the Olympia area. His demo will be forge design and heat treatment.

Our very own Darryl Nelson was presented with the Alex Bealer award at 2012 ABANA conference in Rapid City South Dakota. This is the most significant prestigious award given by ABANA.

Any blacksmith that does not want to see this should just sell his tools now, it will get no better than this. This Master Knife maker has got heat treatment down! His website is <http://kramerknives.com/>

We are in the process of getting a monthly meeting going. If all goes as planned we will start having a day of forging at the Longview fair grounds on the last Saturday of the month. Darryl Nelson will give the first demo at this event, very fitting for charter member and Alex Bealer award recipient. There will be no charge. The plan is to get people in the fire and more interaction in our group. More information will be posted online, in the Hot Iron News

issues and in email updates. See you there.

I was at the Blacksmith swap meet 7/21/12. My hat is off to Andrea and Dave Lisch. This has turned into an event that a lot of people look forward to every year. There is always some good loot to be had and good people to see. THANKS Andrea and Dave.

I have talked to a lot of new members. If you have a new member in your area give them a little of your time, if you can, have

them over to your shop and help them get started. I know time is so valuable, but I remember being helped all along the way. We were all the new guy at one time.

Well I look forward to seeing every one at the fall conference. We are having it a little earlier than usual so the weather should be great. I hope to see a bunch of boy scouts there, it will be nice to see some young people getting started. If we all do just a little it helps us all out. There is no "I" in team.

See you at the tailgate,

*A blacksmith named Bill,
your humble president*



Treasurer's Report *by Darryl Nelson*

2nd Quarter 2012 4/1/2012- 6/30/2012

TOTAL INCOME	34,129.52
TOTAL EXPENSES	19,261.55
OVERALL TOTAL	14,867.97

A Note from the Editor *by Amy Mook*

It has been a busy couple of months for your Hot Iron News editor. Many of you sent in articles and photos, and lots of new projects have been undertaken by the NWBA. I had to make decisions of what to include and what to leave out, a good problem for an editor to have! If you have sent in an article or photos and they do not appear in this issue, don't worry, I have it at the ready for an upcoming issue of the newsletter.

In the meantime, I hope you find this issue full of good information about the fall conference and the demonstrators, the NWBA's involvement in Boyscout Camp Hohabas' blacksmith program, the hammer-in at Chikemin Forge, member projects and notes from several hands on classes... and there is still more that

didn't make it in these pages. I tell you it is an honor and an education to work as editor for the NWBA!

~ 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.

Grant Sarver Memorial Library

We all miss Grant Sarver, he was a fundamental part of the NWBA; he brought more knowledge of tools and the craft of blacksmithing to more smiths than just about anyone we can think of. One would be hard pressed to find any blacksmith shop that did not contain one of his tools, and probably most contain more than one. He generously shared his knowledge with other smiths, young and old, all hungry for the tips and advice which he spent countless hours experimenting with and perfecting. There is no way to replace the powerhouse of knowledge, skill and innovation that was Grant, the best we can do is honor his gifts, use his tools, remember him fondly and often, and pay forward all that he gave to the craft of the modern blacksmith.

One of the parting gifts the NWBA has received from Grant's estate is his large collection of

blacksmith books. The books have been added to the NWBA library, and are available to members of the NWBA to check out free of charge. In response to this generous gift of beautiful, some rare, and all useful books, and to honor the memory of all Grant gave to our organization, the Board of Directors voted to rename the library The Grant Sarver Memorial Library. Though there is no way to lessen the loss of Grant's passing, we can pass his legacy on every time a book is checked out from The Grant Sarver Memorial Library, and every time a new smith asks, "Who was Grant Sarver?" let's give them an earful!

Many thanks to the Sarver family for their generous gift to our library, and to Grant for all he was to each of us individually and to the NWBA.

Calling All April Fools

By Bruce Crittenden

Photos by Jeff Wilson

You may have seen this title on the NWBA web page in the hammer-in section. April 1, 2012 was the first annual hammer-in hosted by Chikemin Forge in Port Ludlow, Washington. About 12-14 people were present for a great day of hammerin'.

There were two coal table forges set up and available to attendees for the day. Others opted to use the gas forges. Some of the people at the gas forges elected to make a toaster fork, which later came in handy at the bonfire for a hot dog lunch.

The potluck lunch had a variety of yummy treats: hot dogs, Richard's pot of sweet chili beans (which was especially good and here's hoping he brings the same dish next time), salads, cookies, marshmallows, and many more delectable items.

Bill Apple, the NWBA president, attended and gave an excellent demo on forging a hardie tool from a jackhammer bit; one of Bill's specialties. Jeff Wilson got a great group of photos of many of those who attended and the activities of the day. Several newbies got their first taste of forging and it was inspiring to see the looks of satisfaction on their faces as their projects came together.

Chikemin Forge is a hobby oriented facility with light tooling and a laid back atmosphere. Bruce and Janice Crittenden invite you and your guests to the 2013 April Fools Hammer-in. Plan on bringing yourself, a lunch, or potluck snack to share, and spend the day with other blacksmiths. Remember, anything is possible, just be prepared for blacksmithing, food, friendship, dirt, fire and B.S. Watch the web page and calendar for next year's hammer-in events. Anyone can be an April Fool!!



From the left: Bruce Crittenden, Jim Garrett, Bill Apple and Richard Tinder



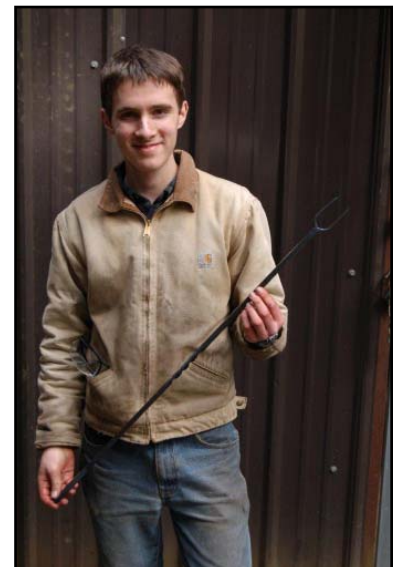
From the left: Marie Churney, Bruce Crittenden, Peter Lama, and Richard Tinder.



Jim Garrett and Bruce Crittenden.



Amy and Cam Button



Peter Lama



Guests Meredith, Cam Button, and Amy Button.



NWBA President Bill Apple demonstrating



Participants enjoying the company, campfire and food.
From left: Richard Tinder, Bill Apple, Marie Churney, Janice Crittenden, Amy Button, Jeremy Wilson, Meredith, and Ryan Wilson.

Editor's Note: If you have a blacksmith event that you would like to announce on www.blacksmith.org and in the Hot Iron News, please send information to nwbainfo@gmail.com

Hammer-ins are a great way to build community and blacksmithing skills.

ABANA Alex Bealer Award

Darryl Nelson Honored

One of our own and best, has been recognized for his lifetime achievements and contribution to blacksmithing.

Highlighting the opening ceremonies of the ABANA conference in Rapid City, SD were the presentations of the **Alex Bealer Award**, two were given this year. Darryl Nelson and Toby Hickman were honored by the ABANA membership for their years of contribution to blacksmithing.

Darryl is a founding member and current Board Member of the Northwest Blacksmith Association.



Toby Hickman and Darryl Nelson (right) receiving the Alex Bealer award at the ABANA 2012 Conference, Rapid City South Dakota.

photograph courtesy Jim Almy and ABANA

Building a Blacksmithing Program for Boy Scout Camp Hahobas

*Text and Photos by Tracy Lauricella
originally published online www.blacksmith.org*

The Beginning: Old Cedar Forge Workshop

In 2008, I attended a blacksmithing workshop by Jerry Culberson at Old Cedar Forge, with help from the Al Bart grant. I had been doing smithing on my own for a couple of years before that, but all my education was from books & videos, plus watching a few live demos. This was my first opportunity for hands-on instructor-led learning. The workshop was fantastic, and I met some great folks, and had the opportunity to get some instruction from Dean Mook and Tri Ficker, as they were assisting Jerry in running the class.

In May of that year, I invited my son's Boy Scout Troop to come to my home and learn the Metalwork Merit Badge. I tried to pass along many of the same lessons I had learned in Jerry's class. Since the badge requirements are remarkably similar to what we learned in the workshop, it was a great way to pass the knowledge forward. A dozen or so boys attended and had a great time learning to shape steel.

Hahobas Boy Scout Camp, 2008

Later that summer, when I prepared to take my son off to Boy Scout Camp, I had an idea. I phoned up the camp director and said, "How about if I bring my blacksmithing equipment up to camp and teach the metalwork merit badge for a week?" Needless to say, they were overjoyed to have me there. We didn't have any free buildings or structures to set up in, due to the short notice, but the weather was great, so we built our "smithy" by just setting up equipment in a clearing next to the lake. I taught metalworking to boys the whole week (in



Boy Scout Troop 53



Scouts working in the smithy, and studying "book work" at the picnic table.



I named the forge "Trogdor". The scouts would "wake up" Trogdor each morning by yelling his name after a count of 3.



Tracy "John the Blacksmith" Lauricella instructing scouts taking hot iron out of the forge.

between camping with my son's troop). While we were using a gas forge, there was something very appropriate about setting up in the shade under the trees. Longfellow's poem was often quoted that summer.

Getting serious about teaching at camp, 2009

The next year, I decided it was time to get serious about offering metalwork instruction at scout camp. We cleared some land and built a temporary structure- a 10x20 building with a tin roof and 4x4 posts to hold it up. I took 5 weeks off work and taught blacksmithing at camp for the entire camp season. I estimate we had around 100 boys come through the program that summer, and it was one of the highlights of camp. Things got a little crowded in the smithy sometimes, but we managed. It was a great summer- we even experimented with making our own charcoal, using an article in one of the old issues of



The smithy shelter.



A scout works on a pair of tongs.



Experimenting with making charcoal.

the Hot Iron News to teach us how. I was pleasantly surprised when I saw the article's author was Al Bart, as it gave me another chance to "carry forward" his knowledge.

More pictures of the 2009 season of camp can be seen at:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/tmib/sets/72157618993244139/>

Doubling our space, 2010

In 2010, we cleared more land around our "smithy" building and used canvas tarps to extend the working area. While we couldn't run forges underneath the tarps, it did provide cover from rain and sun for scouts to work. I welded legs onto a huge piece of steel and it became our table for the scouts to bang on when working. I even put a forge near it, and some scouts used the table for their anvil.

Since I couldn't take 5 weeks off work again, I was only at camp for two weeks, but I taught another adult staff member, and another youth staff (<18) how to run the program in my absence. They did well, and the smithing program continued for all 5 weeks of camp. I didn't get a count of how many boys came through the smithy that year, but I know it was more than the year before.

Here's some pics from the 2010 summer season: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tmib/sets/72157624443847943/>

A permanent smithy! 2011

We've determined that the temporary building we made won't suit our needs, so we're going to build a permanent building at camp to serve as the smithy, and to help continue the blacksmithing program for years to come. We were able to fund building construction partially through a grant from the National Order of the Arrow, but are still working on

fundraisers to finish building construction. It's our goal to have the building ready and usable before camp this summer. The new building will be quadruple the size of our original "temporary" shelter, and will be able to be secured so tools and equipment can be stored on-site, rather than having to haul them in each time. This will not only help the summer camp program, but enables us to use the smithy in the off season as well, since it won't take an entire weekend just to set up the facility.

Here are some pics from the 2011 summer season:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/tmib/sets/72157627149622017/>

A plea for help: tools needed.

Right now the program is surviving through the efforts of some dedicated volunteers, using equipment I made or donated. We have one "real" anvil, and a half-dozen railroad tracks on stumps for the scouts to use for anvils. We have two post vises and one bench vise. We have 5 small coal forges (mostly homemade) , and I hope to bring my homemade gas forge up to camp this year as well.

However, with the growing size of the program and the hope to expand to running weekend events in the off-season as well ,we need more tools and equipment. Even small things like tongs or other hand tools are very valuable.

If you have any extra equipment (anvils, forges, hammers, tongs, vises, hardie tools, swages, etc.) that you would be willing to part with, please let me know. (I can see to it that you get a receipt from the council if you want to claim the value of the tool on your taxes as a charitable donation.)

Even if you don't have extra tools to spare, please consider spending an evening making something to donate. Tongs and other tools are not difficult to make, but trying to produce enough tools for 20-30 boys to use takes some time.

Another plea for help: Funds.

As noted, we're working to build a permanent smithy at camp, and while the grant from the National OA helps immensely, we're not yet fully funded. Any donations to help the program would be welcome. If we exceed our goals and raise more than what is needed to build the building, any additional funds will go toward the program itself- for example to buy steel, coal, aprons, safety glasses, tools, etc.

2012 Season

Things are coming along well for the 2012 season. Bill Apple and Tom Ferry have been helping pull together some equipment for us, and the smithy is looking good. I'm very excited about this summer's season. We're still on the lookout for more tongs for small stock (1/4" square in particular) as well as hand tools (punches & chisels). These are things we can make, but time as always is a factor.

Follow up on Camp Hahobas Blacksmithing Program *by Amy Mook*

The NWBA received a generous donation of tools and equipment from the estate of Robert Holdaway, much of which was passed on to the blacksmith program at Camp Hahobas. In addition to those tools Bill Apple and Tom Ferry have donated time and tools to the program.



Peeling logs for the smithy.



Smithy construction underway.



Construction goes on under the new roof.

Among the things donated were:

2 vices on stands: built and donated by Bill

5 Anvils: 2 from Tom, 1 from bill and the others from the estate

4 complete gas forges with hoses and regulators

Assorted Hammers and Hand tools, Tongs, Aprons, Tool stand, Coal Forge (new Buffalo forge)

Now, it is hoped that the blacksmith shop at the camp will be enclosed so a permanent home can be made for all these tools, it is not ideal to have to move the tools in and out every summer, and if they are permanently housed at the camp there is more possibility for workshops to occur during the rest of the year as well as during the summer camp season.

Bill Apple has been very involved with the project this year, and if you want more information about how you can volunteer or what you might donate, contact Bill at 360-710-2248. Tracy Lauricella can be reached at John@JohnTheBlacksmith.US (The boys all know me as "John The Blacksmith")



Buffalo Forge donated by the NWBA.



Pedal Driven grindstone, an NWBA donation.



Tool Stand donated by NWBA- This amazing hammer & tong rack is made out of old wagon wheel rims & wood.

Western States Blacksmith Conference
And Blacksmith Wars World Championship ~ August 2013
*Returning to Mount Hood,
Don't Miss It!!*
Look for details in the months ahead.

Shel Browder at Meridian Forge, November 2011

by John Huffstutter

A note on the whiteboard, left during a break, read “Who is Peter?” Peter Ross is best known for his work as a master blacksmith at Colonial Williamsburg. But this article isn’t about Peter, it’s about Shel Browder. Shel apprenticed under Peter, and just retired after 30 years of smithing at Williamsburg. A handful of northwestern smiths gathered at Darryl Nelson’s Meridian Forge November 4-7, 2011, for a class offered by Shel. The theme: right angles in traditional smithing techniques.

There might be two types of smiths: those who relish using a caliper and the look of a finely scribed measurement on polished work, and those who enjoy the rough “an eighth of an inch is close enough” free-form work. The latter may shudder at the idea of making a traditional upset corner (you know, the one where the center punch mark turns into a perfect little line right at the 45 degree line of crisp inside and outside right angles, all surfaces parallel, no cold shuts or rounds). The former may loathe the idea of “cheating” by using visual techniques to make the corners look sharper. This class had “all of the above”—a nice mix of precision forging and “about” measurements, with some gas forge welding thrown in.

Colonial smiths, whether working by the piece or by the pound, seldom wasted time or material where it didn’t matter. Shel teaches a mixture of the pragmatic and the aesthetic, using techniques and tools (if not materials) available in the 18th century. When caught using a guillotine fuller on Day 2 of the class, he admitted that “Peter [Ross] would not have appreciated that—this is the kind of work he’d have preferred to see done on the anvil” (but check out Peter’s web site (peterrossblacksmith.com), where you can see a picture of Peter at his power hammer). Where possible, he also draws the distinction between today’s mild steel and iron. For instance, in making right angles, wrought iron can’t be bent in the vise because the heat sink at the corner creates a cool line where the iron fibers will tend to break or tear on the outside (tension side) of the bend. As we were to learn, gas forges and mild steel also do not weld like iron in coal—even with the practiced assistance of Darryl Nelson.

We started easy, with a simple 12-inch rule executed in 1” by ¼” stock, using a half-faced offset at the end of the bar to start a right angle, eventually creating a finger-hold that scrolls back along the rule to help keep fingers from the heat. The rule he uses measures right to left, reversed from normal—a surprisingly handy feature. For those of us with the desire, he also shared some whitesmithing (filing and engraving) tips for turning the rule into a nicely finished piece. Tip: file or engrave the marks, because nicking the marks in with a chisel will cause the piece to curve and lengthen. If you must mark with a chisel, straighten and re-measure each mark as you work from zero.

We learned how to visually sharpen the outside of a right angle corner by peening material into the corner. Shel taught three techniques: a one-sided “chisel” taper into the corner; a centered two-sided taper, and something someone in the class called a “golfer’s corner (using a set hammer or the edge or corner of the anvil to “divot”



Shel Browder at Meridian Forge, 2011



the outside corner to sharpen it. For those who prefer the uniform thickness and precision of the classical upset right angle, Shel would likely remind us that for utilitarian pieces like a shutter hook or gate hook, these techniques offered sufficient strength and visual appeal without unnecessary use of material or a smith's time—both were expensive in the day.

We moved from the shutter hook into making a strap hinge and pintle. The purpose of the right angle in the strap hinge is to create a barrel on a hinge that lies flat against a surface. On the pintle, the right angle both forms the weight-bearing surface for the hinge, and also is needed to direct the energy of the straight through the shank as it's driven in to the post or doorframe. Similarly, a right angle is needed on a carpenter's holdfast, again so the shaft can be driven straight into the doghole on a workbench. Another tip: when making a right angle, upset corner or not, don't go straight to ninety degrees, but work toward it as you finish the bend, to avoid making a crease or cold-shut on the inside of the corner—in both iron and steel, this creates a weak spot that will eventually break.

Shel talked a bit about what he called “Iron Forensics”—examining pieces to figure out “how'd they do that?” Three sets of box-joint fireplace tongs have Shel intrigued. He is puzzled enough to have brought his curiosity, and partially-formed conclusions—to the class. He pointed out that unlike work he's seen and done in the past, these three sets of tongs don't show the telltale signs of the joints having been file-fitted. Peen marks, lack of machining marks, and subtle hints (like an internal angle that no file could have made) indicate the joints were hot-fitted. Just how they were made is still challenging Shel. In the course of the class he admitted to still having a few questions about the steps involved. Yes, he said, it's a bit of risk bringing a project to a class without having it all figured out. On the other hand, smithing is a voyage of discovery for all of us; Shel's company makes for a comfortable journey. So, together we faced the questions: a general rule in smithing is to make the hard part first. These tongs involve two right angles creating a bow in each piece, and then joining the two pieces without filing either the male or female. Which part is harder? Make the right angle bends before or after slitting (or punching) and drifting the female piece? Fit the joint first, or later? Slit and drift, or use a slit punch and drift? And how to get the drift through the female joint at an angle? Check out the pliers-maker bolster for the last task, as an option to using the slightly open jaws of a post vise.



On iron versus steel and gas versus coal, the so-called “easy” and very strong cleft weld (in this case, in 5/8” square stock) proved less than foolproof. Shel said he'd always had good luck with this weld—but it was, after all, his second day using a gas forge. Discretion prevailed over valor for a couple in the class, who opted to try and fail in the privacy of their own forges. Hinges come in pairs, so this part of the class offered time to make a match to the first exercise, or do some white work on the rules.

During a break, Shel forged a human face in a piece of scrap, and commented that he's enjoying the luxury of not being limited to colonial work. He said he's interested in some of the stylistic forms he's seen in African work – primitive work that has almost a modern-art feel. After he solves the puzzle of those tongs...

Written and submitted by John Huffstutter, Quailside Forge, Cheney, WA
Photos by John Huffstutter

NWBA FALL CONFERENCE 2012: TOOLING AND KNIVES

SEPTEMBER 21 -23

ENUMCLAW, WA



A hammer by Brent Bailey

MEET THE DEMONSTRATORS

BRENT BAILEY

I wouldn't say finding this occupation was any accident, at least looking back at how it started. Everything I have enjoyed or aspired to do has been offered by this trade; traveling, self employment, working outdoors, a creative outlet, and working with my hands. 1996 was really the first year I began making things, not forging, but more fabricating with wood and metal.

Having a shop available had a lot to do with all this. There was an almost empty shop on our family ranch, the very place I was born and now live (Orland, CA), that wasn't really being used. Its a very rural location and quiet



Brent Bailey (front) with participants of a blacksmith seminar, Peru.

for the most part, besides the "ringin' of the anvil" (I couldn't resist saying that).

So now its 14 years later...I've been fortunate enough to travel, learn, share, see amazing things, and work with some great people. All of those things combined has produced a direction for me, not necessarily just tools, but a passion for process. Cultivating an idea and working through the different stages until its finished, enduring the



Brent demonstrating for a workshop in Peru, at steel company Aceros Arequipa.



Sculptural forged forms made by Brent, using a wide variety of techniques.

unforeseen things that occur, sometimes good, and many times...not so good.

There are many instances and people that have shaped my present interests, most notably, a trip to Zimbabwe in 2001. That was the first place I watched a hammer being forged. Since 2004 I have been working with a steel company in Peru (Aceros Arequipa), travelling there twice a year. Making time to experiment has also been important to my development as a smith.

I'd like all of the past 14 years, or at least the high points, to be represented somehow in the upcoming demo. I believe with a combination of forging and dialogue I can accomplish that, and share some of the things I have learned.

Thank you, Brent

Visit Brent's website at <http://www.brentbaileyforge.com/>

MEET THE DEMONSTRATORS

BOB KRAMER

Where do you live and where do you work?

Olympia, WA

What kind of shop do you have?

Knife Shop

How did you learn your craft?

After working in professional kitchens for 10 years, I traveled the country to learn the art of sharpening, and eventually opened a sharpening business in downtown Seattle, WA. After sharpening knives professionally for 5 years, I wanted to understand how the knives are made. So, I went to Bladesmith School in 1992. After experiencing the hand forging process and working with a coal fired forge I became hooked and knew that knife making would become a part of my life one way or another. I joined the American Bladesmith Society and made the decision to earn my MS stamp and 5 years later (1997) became one of the American Bladesmith Society's 120 Master Bladesmiths in the U.S.



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

Handmade Custom Kitchen Cutlery

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

Initially, my hope was to support myself with my craft without needing another job. From the start, my shop had a following because of the sharpening business, so adding the custom knives was successful. Today, I'm very fortunate in that my custom business is strong enough that I no longer need to sharpen and sell production knives to survive.

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?

My work is evolving to allow me to pursue more creative forms, which still involve forge welded materials as the core element, and are "one of a kind" pieces. I have a feeling that this direction has endless possibilities.

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

There is a tremendous amount of talent in the bladesmithing community today that I draw inspiration from and in some ways influences my work. Although I have not "worked" directly with these makers their talents have had an affect on me: Daryl Meier, The Montana Mafia, Ed Schempp, Bruce Bump, Tom Ferry, Hank Knickmeyer, Roger Berg, Connie Person, Anders Hogstrom, Tokihusa Iizuka and all the nameless designers who have produced designs for the big manufactures throughout the years.

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

I'm pretty sure I'll focus on forge design and heat treatment.

Visit Bob Kramer's website at <http://kramerknives.com/>



Knives by Bob Kramer

NWBA FALL CONFERENCE 2012: TOOLING AND KNIVES

SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2012

ENUMCLAW, WA

Come join fellow smiths for a long weekend of demonstrations, hands-on classes, a banquet, an auction of hand crafted blacksmith items. Bring your latest work to hang in the Conference Gallery, donate an item to the auction in support of the NWBA, your blacksmith association.

PRE-REGISTRATION: You can pre-register for the conference online until September 7th, qualifying you for a free t-shirt. If you mail in your registration after September 10th we cannot guarantee that we will receive your payment before the conference. You may still register at the conference but there is no guarantee there will be a place at the banquet for you, or a t-shirt available for purchase.

LOCATION: Enumclaw Expo Center.

Nestled in the foothills at the base of Mt. Rainier, this 72 acre setting is beautiful and versatile.

Directions and more information about this location: <http://enumclawexpocenter.com/directions.html>

HOURS:

Board meeting Thursday, September 20th, 5PM. OPEN TO ALL NWBA MEMBERS

Registration opens at 8 AM Friday September 21

Demonstrations begin at 9AM

DEMONSTRATORS:

Brent Bailey: Demonstrating Tools and Design Elements for Blacksmithing (subject to change).

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

Bob Kramer, Master Knifemaker: His demonstrating plan right now is to give a forge building demo which will consist of technology, materials and fuel economy. His day two plan is a heat treating demo (subject to change).

<http://kramerknives.com/>

HANDS-ON CLASSES:

Hands on Demonstrators: Ryan Wilson, Silas Maddox, Ben Czyhold, and Steve Howell

There will be 2 Hands-On classes on Friday and 2 more on Saturday plus a repousse demonstration on Saturday morning by Saign Charlestein. There are also plans to have a fifth hands-on class taught by an Al Bart Grant recipient on Friday evening, but this needs to be confirmed.

FREE T-SHIRT with Pre Registration

Register by September 7th and get a free t-shirt at the conference, one t-shirt per registrant, one only for each Family registration. Additional T-shirts can be ordered online for \$15 each. 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

Household: (at the same residence) \$100

New Member: (not previously in the NWBA) \$65, which includes admission to the conference and a one-year membership

ONE DAY CONFERENCE FEES (attend only one day)

Member: \$40

Household: (at the same residence) \$50

New Member: (not previously in the NWBA) \$65, which includes admission to the conference and a one-year membership

DINNER TICKETS: \$20 per person. Not Included in Fees above. Our banquet dinner will be served on Saturday night to meal ticket holders only. Tickets are issued at registration, some tickets will be available for purchase at registration at the conference, but there is no guarantee there will be tickets available. Order your tickets now to assure your place at the table.

Dinner is buffet style, main course choices: roast beef, rosemary chicken, the vegetarian option is vegetarian lasagne, with salad and side dish selections. Pick up your badges and dinner tickets at the registration desk at the conference.

ONSITE CAMPING

- \$24 per night per RV in the RV Park
- OR, on the grass field near the RV Park for dry camping for
- \$16 per night per RV or Tent.

*****Expo Center Camping reservations must be made through the Expo Center office,
Kristen Damazio at 360-615-5631*****

CAMPING NEAR THE ENUMCLAW EXPO CENTER

(there may be options available beyond what is given in this list)

The Dalles

Enumclaw, WA 98022

45 sites on 15 acres at 5,700' elevation; 19 tent, 26 RV/tent.
Bath: vaulted toilets, no showers.
Located 26 miles east of Enumclaw on State Highway 410
and 7 miles west of Mt. Rainier National Park

\$16-18/Night for single unit
\$8/Night for extra vehicle
\$5-50 day use fee

Silver Springs

Enumclaw, WA 98022

56 sites on 25 acres at 2,600' elevation; 16 tent, 40 RV/tent.
Located 32 mi east of Enumclaw on State Highway 410 and
1 mi west of Mt. Rainier National Park (North Arch)
Accessible, Flush Toilets, Campfire Rings, Firewood,
Fishing, Grills, Hiking, Kayaking, Picnic, Shelters, River
Access, Tent Pads, no showers.

\$18/Night for single site
\$9/Night extra vehicle fee
\$5-50 day use fee
\$32/Night group site

MOTELS AND HOTELS NEAR ENUMCLAW

(there may be options available beyond what is given in this list)

Kings Valu Inn

1334 Roosevelt Way E, Enumclaw, WA
Rooms begin at \$59.00
1 mile from Enumclaw city center.
Call Toll Free to Book 1-866-234-0762
~\$60-70

Econo Lodge Buckley

29405 State Route 410 East, Buckley, WA
Rooms begin at \$84.99
3 miles from Enumclaw city center.
Call Toll Free to Book 1-866-234-0762

Holiday Inn Express Suites Sumner

2500 136th Avenue Court East, Sumner, WA, 98390
866-538-0187
\$160-\$180

Park Center Hotel

1000 Griffin Ave, Enumclaw, WA, 98022
866-538-0187
69-\$99



NWBA FALL CONFERENCE 2012: TOOLING AND KNIVES
SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2012
ENUMCLAW, WA



Sign Up Early

Avoid Long Lines

Get A Free T-Shirt

Fall Conference 2012 Pre Registration form

September 21-23 Enumclaw, WA

FEES

Free T-Shirt with Pre Registration. Register by September 7th and get a free conference t-shirt. 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) \$65, includes admission to the conference and a one-year membership

ONE DAY FEES

- ☐ Member: \$40
- ☐ Household: (at the same residence) \$50
- ☐ New Member: (not previously in the NWBA) \$65, includes admission to the conference and a one-year membership

Dinner Tickets: \$20 per person.

Dinner will be served to meal ticket holders only.

Dinner is buffet style, main course choices: Marinated London Broil, Lemon & Herb Chicken, or as a vegetarian option, Vegetarian Lasagna.

Number of VEGETARIAN meals _____.

Number of non-vegetarian meals _____.

Total number of meals: _____.

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Signature _____

Return this form with your check by September 7th for a free T-shirt, and no later than Sept. 13th so the office receives it before the conference. Registration for the conference is available at the conference but there is no guarantee there will be banquet tickets available.

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

Mail entire page to:

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

Last day early registration is accepted is September 7, 2012.

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

Expo Center Camping reservations must be made through the Expo Center office, Kristen Damazio at 360-615-5631.

- \$24 per night per RV in the RV Park or on the grass field near the RV Park for dry camping for
- \$16 per night per RV or Tent.

IMPORTANT!!! RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I hereby acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in a conference, class, course, workshop or other form of instruction offered by Northwest Blacksmith Association, NWBA, and it's associates.

I understand that blacksmithing is an inherently dangerous activity that involves certain risks and dangers. I acknowledge and understand that those risks include the potential for bodily injury.

Nevertheless, in full knowledge and understanding of the above risks, hazards, or dangers, I freely, voluntarily and knowingly agree to assume those risks. By my signature below, I hereby agree to assume all responsibility for myself and my property and hereby release and discharge Northwest Blacksmith Association, NWBA; it's members, employees, representatives, associates, independent contractors, and board from any and all claims, demands, damages, expenses, and any other liability for injuries or damages of any description which may occur as a result of my participation in this activity. This Release shall be legally binding on heirs, my assigns, successors, estate, legal guardians, executors and me.

If I am signing this agreement on behalf of another person, I certify that all representations are true with respect to the participant and that I am the participant's legal guardian or custodial parent with full authority to bind the participant and myself to the terms of the Release.

I have carefully read this Release and fully understand its contents. I am aware that in signing this Release I am releasing and waiving certain rights that I may have and enter into this contract on behalf of myself and/or my family of my own free will.

THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY. BY REGISTERING FOR THIS CONFERENCE YOU ARE AGREEING TO THESE TERMS. DO NOT REGISTER IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT OR DO NOT AGREE WITH ITS TERMS.

No. of Meals _____ x \$20 each =

Meal total _____

Conference Fees Total _____

Extra T-Shirts Total _____

Grand Total _____

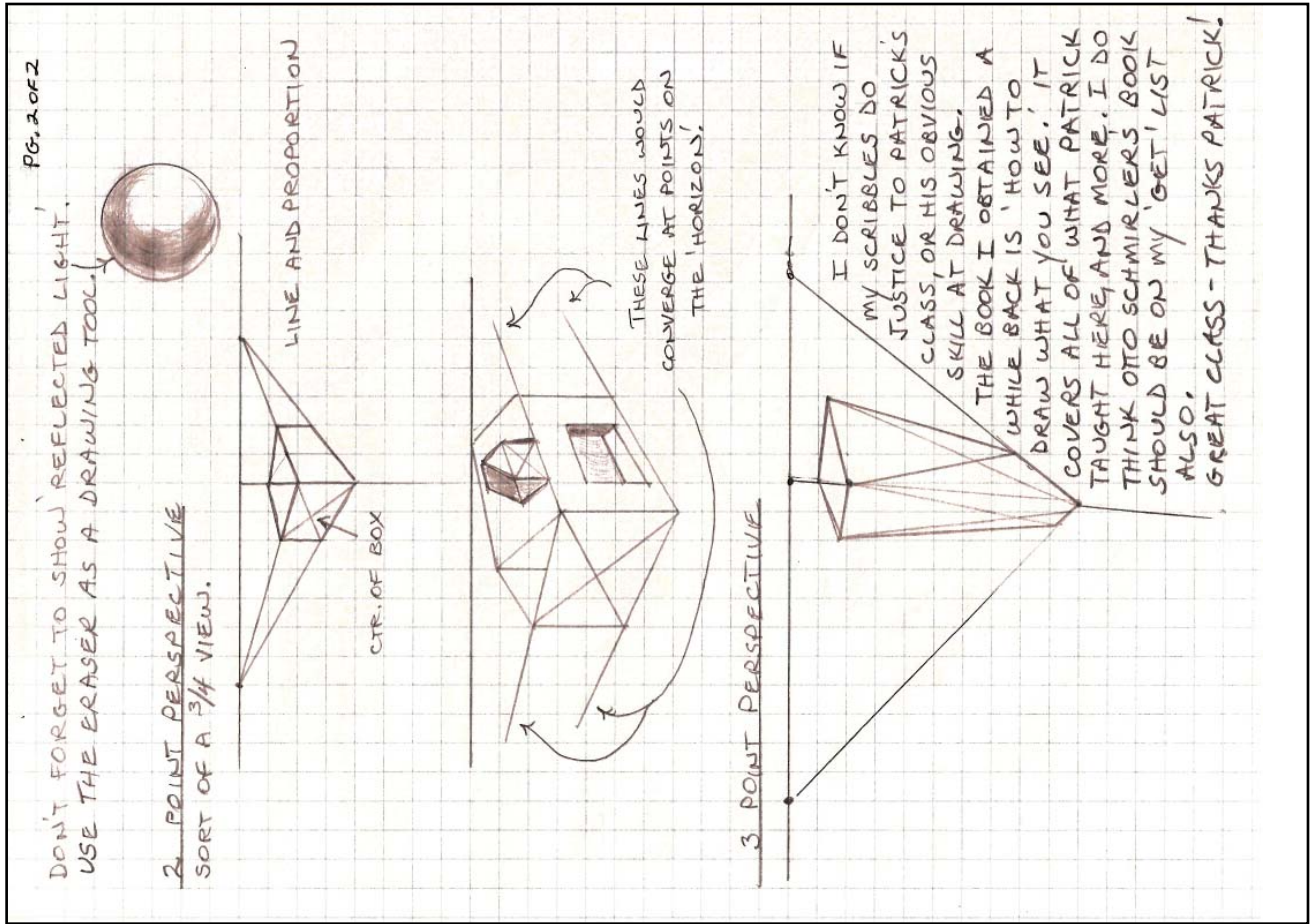
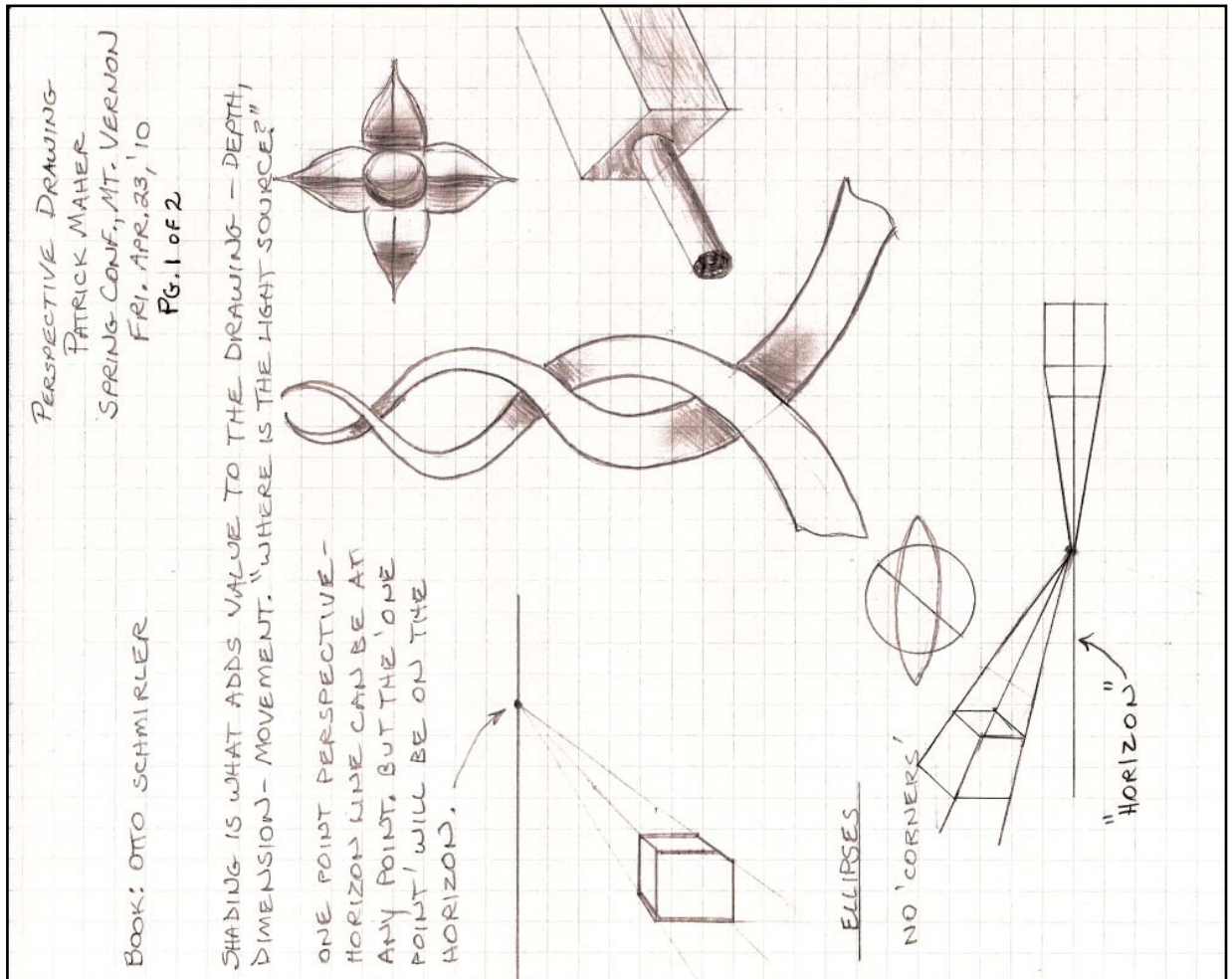
You can also preregister online at www.blacksmith.org

Perspective Drawing - Patrick Maher

Class Notes by Al Griswold

Spring Conference 2010, Mount Vernon

Friday, April 23, 2010



Hewing Hatchets *by Ike Bay*

It is well known from historical sources and from artifacts in the museum that large numbers of trade axes were made at Fort Vancouver. They were made in a variety of sizes, from small belt axes up to larger “felling” types that required two hands to operate.

Less well known is the manufacture and use of hewing hatchets. There are six artifacts in the Fort Vancouver collection (30654, 30647, 8932, 8933, 45931 and 3724) that represent this type. There are other artifacts that may also be of this hatchet type (cut off blade sections and poll addition pre-forms) but these classifications are not as certain as the ones listed above.

Hewing hatchets came in a variety of styles and sizes and some of their forms date back to the medieval period. They get their names from regions such as Kent Pattern or specific trades such as Wheeler’s, Boat Builders, Carpenters, etc. The references listed below will give you an idea of the wide variety of these tools used by trained craftsmen practicing a trade. In the Fort Vancouver/HBC era, using a hatchet for shaping wood was common in many trades and should not be considered an indicator of crude workmanship. In manufacture, form and function these hatchets were very different from general axe type tools. They are not general-purpose utilitarian tools like the trade axe.

The cutting edge of hewing hatchets are sharpened in the standard “V” or chisel beveled similar to a broad axe. Compared to trade axes, these tools are a more refined product with pronounced ears or lugs on the front and back of the eye.

The sequence drawing shows how the iron is moved from the eye walls to form the lugs. It also gives the eye itself more definition. The poll above the eye is pronounced and in the case of the artifacts in the collection, three of five show that material was added to build up the poll. It is unknown at this time if the add-on is iron or steel. All but one of the artifacts experienced production difficulties, meaning there is but one (3724) example of a finished hatchet. It has a very bold poll and is chisel beveled at the cutting edge. It was common for hatchets of this type to have a filed or bright finish. When you consider the number of trades (crafts) practiced at the Fort during the fur trade era, it is easy to understand the Fort’s blacksmith shop filling this need.



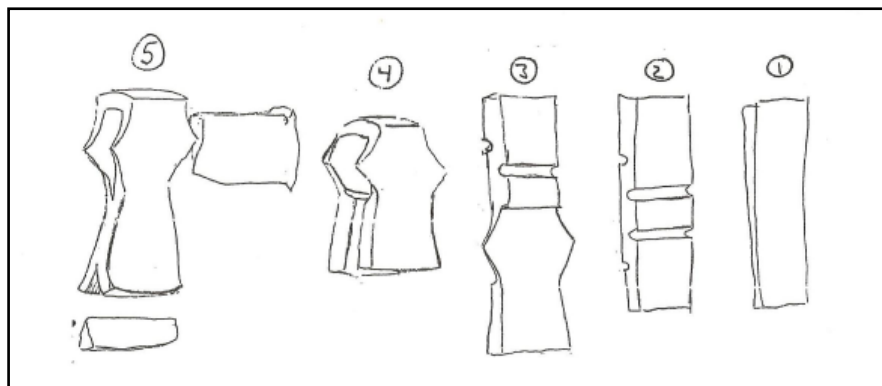
Complete Hewing Hatchet
Fort Vancouver collection #3724



Axe Preform
Collection #8933



Kent Pattern Hatchet



Hatchet Forming Elements

For more information see:

Tools for the Trades and Crafts, published by Ken Roberts Publishing Co. 1976

Smiths Key, Published by the Early American Industries Association, 1973

The Woodwright’s Guide, Working Wood with Wedge and Edge. Roy Underhill, UNC Press 2008



NWBA Member Project: Gated Driveway Entrance

Entrance Gate and Stonework: Designed and Forged by Jim Griswold

Stone work: David Blad and Chris Brown

Installed by: Brad Shnide and other local contractors.

Material: Mild steel

Finish: Sand blasted, flamed and sprayed with zinc oxide, then painted with epoxy primer and Bronze/Brown paint.

Size: 12 feet wide by 8 feet high, 2 - 6' x 8' panels

Additional info:

Numbers for address mounted on stone work: water jet cut black stone.

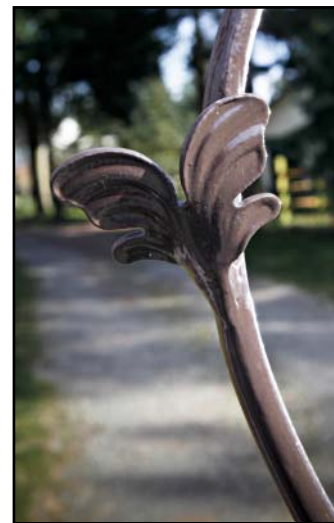
Gate has auto opening with ground sensors, key pad and hand relay control.

Location: Private Residence, Vashon Maury Island

Photos by Sam Van Fleet Photography

About the Artist Jim Griswold:

"I have been blacksmithing for 30 years. I have a part-time apprentice. I do commission work and some free lance art pieces. I started blacksmithing with Darryl Nelson and Terry Carson at Fire Mount Forge classes."



Blacksmithing 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.

Incandescent Ironworks Ltd.

Spokane, WA

509-456-8321

Contact: Steve McGrew:

stevem@incandescent-iron.com

www.incandescent-iron.com/blcl.html

Meridian Forge LLC

37010 Meridian East

Eatonville, WA 98328

360-832-6280

Contact: Darryl Nelson: meridianforge@hotmail.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

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3600 E Marginal Way S. #4

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

18054 S Boone Ct

Beavercreek, OR 97004

contact Ken Mermelstein:

503-632-2363 ken@stumptownforge.com

www.stumptownforge.com

Thorne Metals Studio

13751 Daybreak Ln

Anacortes, WA 98221

(360) 293 8257

Current classes are listed at:

<http://learnblacksmithing.com>

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

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

Please send information about your events, school and class listings to nwbainfo@gmail.com

CURRENT WEB CALENDAR EVENT LIST (<http://blacksmith.org/forums/calendar.php>)

August 20-26 Blacksmith Week, Arts Cabin, Mount Hood

September 8-9 Blacksmithing Intensive with Instructor Jorgen Harle, The STABLES

September 14-16 Northern Rockies Blacksmith Association's Fall Conference near Livingston, Montana.

September 15-16 Blacksmithing Intensive with Instructor Jorgen Harle, The STABLES

September 21-23 NWBA Fall Conference, Fairgrounds Enumclaw, WA

October 5-7 Valhalla Blacksmith Festival, Hidden Creek, near the Village of Salmo in British Columbia

October 26-28 Blacksmithing Demo, Stephen Mankowski, Colonial Williamsburg smith, Ft. Vancouver

November 2-4 Hands-on workshop, Stephen Mankowski at Meridian Forge, Eatonville, WA

December 6 Opening NW Anvil 4 at Pratt Gallery at the Tashiro Kaplan studios

August 2013 Western States Conference, Mt. Hood, Oregon

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



Northwest Blacksmith Association

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

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

The NorthWest Blacksmith Association is a Washington corporation and a 501 (c) 3 non-profit charitable organization founded in 1979. Now over 500 strong and growing. We have something to offer to anyone with an interest in blacksmithing, from the beginner to the serious professional.

Members of the N.W.B.A. receive our award-winning newsletter, The Hot Iron News, the opportunity to attend N.W.B.A. semi-annual conferences, frequent hands on workshops and events, and the camaraderie and support of hundreds of blacksmith enthusiasts.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I hereby acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to become a member of the NorthWest Blacksmith Association, NWBA.

I understand that blacksmithing is an inherently dangerous activity that involves certain risks and dangers. I acknowledge and understand that those risks include the potential for bodily injury.

Nevertheless, in full knowledge and understanding of the above risks, hazards, or dangers, I freely, voluntarily and knowingly agree to assume those risks. By my signature below, I hereby agree to assume all responsibility for myself and my property and hereby release and discharge Northwest Blacksmith Association, NWBA; its members, employees, representatives, associates, independent contractors, and board from any and all claims, demands, damages, expenses, and any other liability for injuries or damages of any description which may occur as a result of my participation in this organization as a member. This Release shall be legally binding on heirs, my assigns, successors, estate, legal guardians, executors and me.

If I am signing this agreement on behalf of another person, I certify that all representations are true with respect to the participant and that I am the participant's legal guardian or custodial parent with full authority to bind the participant and myself to the terms of the Release.

I have carefully read this Release and fully understand its contents. I am aware that in signing this Release I am releasing and waiving certain rights that I may have and enter into this contract on behalf of myself and/or my family of my own free will.

THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY DO NOT SIGN THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND RELEASE IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT OR DO NOT AGREE WITH ITS TERMS.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

*E-mail: _____

*(if you are already registered as a user at www.blacksmith.org your website user account will be updated to allow member privileges only if you use the same email address as the one used to register on the website)

Mail to: Northwest Blacksmith Association
4742 42nd Ave. S.W. #185
Seattle, WA 98116

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

Dues are: \$45 U.S.

\$50 outside U.S.

☐ New Member

☐ Renewing Member

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

Announcements



August 20-26 2012

Come enjoy a week of blacksmithing, camaraderie with fellow smiths and the beauty of Mount Hood.

The Blacksmith Shop is in the Lower Cabin, demonstrations on Saturday in the Museum.

Al Bart Grant Information

The NWBA's Al Bart Memorial Grant is now open to anyone interested in learning about and spreading the knowledge and interest in the art and craft of blacksmithing. With our new status of non-profit charitable organization comes the unexpected gift of sharing this opportunity with more people. It is the hope of the NWBA that The Al Bart Memorial Grant could enable interested persons 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. All interested persons are encouraged to download the 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>

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.



SUMMER 2012 WORKSHOPS

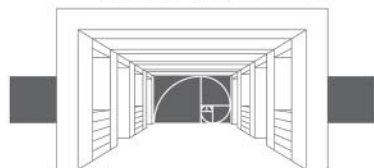
www.thestables-orcasisland.com

live + travel + learn = the STABLES

The destination for an immersion experience in art, craft and design.

Private, high-quality instruction is available to the individual, two companions or small groups up to 6 adults. Workshops are taught by the Resident Artists and by invited Guest Artists. The Summer 2012 offerings include 1-day to 4-day workshops in a variety of mediums. On-site housing is available at the Ranch.

the STABLES



design + craft EDUCATION

WOOD

- + bowls | furniture = *laura yeats*
- + stool making = *tom lee*
- + jewelry = *julia harrison*

MOSAIC

- + art | sculpture = *chris emmert*

METALS

- + blacksmithing = *jorgen harle*
- + sculpture = *patrick maher*
- + furniture = *bart turner*

WORKS ON PAPER

- + printmaking = *david w. simpson*

BLACKSMITHS DEPOT



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Hammers



Gas Forges



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Spring Swages
by Off Center Products
Made in the USA



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Blacksmith and Metalworker*

See our work at www.customforgedhardware.com

www.Blacksmithdepot.com

Kayne and Son

100 Daniel Ridge Road Candler, NC 28715 USA

Phone: 828 667-8868 Fax: 828 665-8303

International Shipping available • Inquiries welcome

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center, McMinnville, Oregon is looking for people to work its blacksmith shop before the public. No experience required, coal forge and hand tools set up. Contact Bonnie via bcmann5@frontier.com for details.

Advertising Policy

Hot Iron News is now accepting ads for publication in the Hot Iron News, depending on space availability, which is very limited. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact editor Amy Mook at nwbainfo@gmail.com

Download Ad Specification and Pricing Sheet online at:

<http://blacksmith.org/forums/content/600-Advertising-in-the-Hot-Iron-News>



The Steel Yard

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Plate & Sheet • Abrasives • Base Plates
Ornamental Iron • Metal Roofing**

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Proud Members of the NWBA

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COMPANIES**
Oregon Business 2011

Now Accepting:
Visa, Master Card,
American Express

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

If you have pictures from past conferences and NWBA events, or if you have great notes from a conference demonstration, or if you have pictures of a project that you want to share, PLEASE SEND THEM TO US, email to nwbainfo@gmail.com

or by mail to: Northwest Blacksmith Assoc., 42nd Ave SW #185, Seattle, WA 98116

Hot Iron News

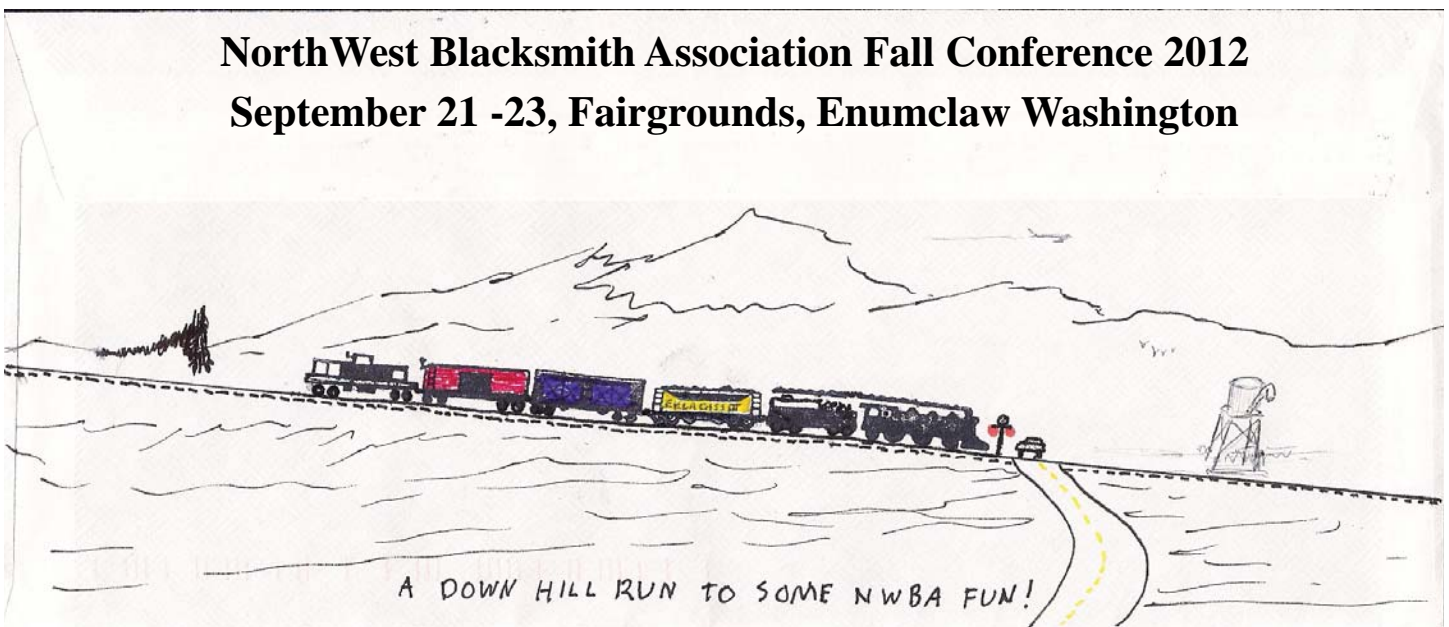


A publication of the Northwest Blacksmith Association
4742 42nd Ave SW #185
Seattle WA 98116

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North West Blacksmith Association Fall Conference 2012 September 21 -23, Fairgrounds, Enumclaw Washington



Envelope Art sent on a correspondence from E.E. Lacasse III, Swan Creek Forge, March 2011