



N.J.B.A. Newsletter

NJBA Volume 13, Issue 2 7/31/08
<http://njba.abana-chapter.com>

Editors Soapbox

Hi, We still have some great events for this year and we are working on next year. The Atlantic Coast Blacksmithing Conference is in September and will be more than worth the time to go. As editor I would appreciate some help in writing up events for the newsletter. You don't have to be a gifted writer just send me something about the event as I can't make all of them or remember everything. Larry Brown, Editor

Upcoming events for 2008

Get you calendars out and mark these events down. Please bookmark our web site and check for updated meet information. Remember most of our meets have an "Iron in the Hat" drawing, so be sure to bring something. Meet information starts on this page and continues on page 3.

August 3—10 Middlesex County Fair More information on this page .

September 12 - 14 Days of the Past Engine Show
Washington Crossing Park, NJ,
More info on page 3 .

September 28th Red Mill in Clinton NJ
More information on page 5.

October 5th Walnford Day
Information on page 3.

October 11 Peters Valley Pig Roast
Information on page 3.

October 18th—19th Sword making workshop
More information on page 6.

December Holiday Party—Information next newsletter

Atlantic Coast Blacksmithing Conference
September 4th through 7th, with Peter Ross
David Norrie and Mark Aspery.
More information on pages 7-9

Middlesex County Fair

August 4th – 10th 2008, East Brunswick NJ

NJBA will be providing public demonstrations during the Middlesex County Fair. Several smiths provided demonstrations last year to test the waters and judged the fair to be a great event. The organizers are very appreciative of our efforts and have provided a small stipend to defer costs. Those providing public demonstrations will be compensated for their travel.

If you can help, please stop by on Sunday August 3rd for set up, Sunday August 10th for tear down and/or the rest of week for demonstrations. We will have at least two forging stations set up.

Directions:

The Middlesex County Fair is located on Cranbury Rd. where it intersects Fern Roads in East Brunswick. Take Route 18 into East Brunswick, follow the directions for Cranbury onto Cranbury Road (Rt. 535 South), pass East Brunswick High School on the left, keep left at the fork, and continue on Cranbury Road for about three miles to the fair. 655 Cranbury Road.

For more information please contact:
David Macauley, 732-2-6-1568,
drmacauley@att.net

Notice

Recently NJBA member Jeff Morelli passed away. Any donations NJBA members are able to make to an educational fund for the benefit of Jeffrey's children would be appreciated. Donations should be written to "Morelli Children Fund" and sent to Mark Cubberley, 282 Main Street, Groveville, NJ 08620.

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

The NJBA Web Site!

The NJBA Web Site is up
and running at:
<http://njba.abana-chapter.com/>

The Newsletter is at:
<http://members.bellatlantic.net/~vze25jcc/index.htm>

or use the link on the NJBA web site
for the newsletter.

Official NJBA Address

**NJBA
P.O. Box 224
Farmingdale, NJ
07727-9998**

**Rather than use room in the newsletter,
All correspondence between
ABANA and NJBA is now being posted
on the NJBA web site.
If you cannot access it there, contact me
and I will send you copies.
ABANA is communicating again so
check it out**

NJBA Board of Directors

Directors information not
available on line

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

Old Time Engine Show September 12th, 13th, 14th

NJBA will again be at the Delaware Valley Old Time Power and Equipment Association's "Days of the Past" Engine Show at Washington Crossing State Park, in Titusville, New Jersey. Come on out and bring the family, there are hay rides for the kids, a metal heads flea market, and a lot to see. We will have a couple of forges going so bring a hammer, also if you have some items for sale we will have a table out. Come on out and join the fun. For more information check out their web site <http://daysofthepast.com>

Directions:

The Engine Show is located in Washington Crossing State Park off of Rt. 29 (River Rd.) South of Lambertville and North of Trenton signs are posted to show the way.

BLACKSMITH HAMMER-IN & TOOL SWAP At the Red Mill Museum Village

**Sunday, September 28th
10:00am - 4:00pm**

Details are on page 5, come out and have some fun! This will also be an election meeting, if you want to join the NJBA board let us know!

October Meet at Walnford Park

We will be demonstrating and holding a membership meeting at Walnford Park on October 5th. Walnford is also known as Crosswicks Creek Park and is in Upper Freehold, N.J Set-up starts 10:00, the event is :00 - 5:00.

Directions

· NJ Turnpike to Exit 7A, (I-195 east). Follow I-195 to Exit 8 (Allentown, Rt. 524/539). Turn

South onto Rt. 539 through Allentown (Rt. 539 requires a left turn where it splits from Rt. 524). Follow Rt. 539 to Holmes Mill Rd. Turn right. Follow to Walnford Rd. Turn right and follow 1 mile to Park.

· Rt. 9 to Freehold (West Main Street/Rt. 537 east exit). Northbound, turn left at exit; southbound, turn right at exit. Follow Rt. 537 west to Rt. 539. Turn right onto Rt. 539 west. Follow Rt. 539 west to Burlington Path. Turn left; follow to Holmes Mill Rd. Turn right; follow to Walnford Rd. Turn left and follow 1 mile to park.

Sword making workshop October 18th and 19th

NJBA Will be offering a two day sword making workshop lead by Master Swordsmith Mark Morrow. More information on page 6.

Outside of NJBA meets:

Atlantic Coast Blacksmiths Conference

Mark Aspery - David Norrie
Peter Ross

3 Days of Hot Metal at the
Ashokan Center, Olivebridge, NY .
September 4 - 7, 2008

This looks like its going to be a great conference, small and easy to see it all, so register early to get a spot! More information on pages 7—9.

Peters Valley Pig Roast

The only information I have is that it is scheduled for October 11th. Please check their web site <http://www.petersvalley.org/> for more information.

**Many Thanks To Nate Pettengil
who moved to New England and
still Volunteered to send out our renewal
notices. Lets make it worth his time and
send them in!**

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

NJBA Demo, Waterloo Canal Day Saturday June 21st, 2008 Waterloo Village, Stanhope NJ

NJBA performed public demo on Saturday June 21st, 2008 at Waterloo Village in support of the Waterloo Canal Day. The event was sponsored by the NJ Canal Society. They appear to be an easy going, yet well organized group who were easy to work with. They requested a demo while we were doing a demo at the Speedwell Village in Morristown. Well you could not have asked for a more beautiful day to have outdoor event. We had bright sunshine, and low humidity. Total attendance at the event was estimated at over 1,000. In addition to the NJBA demo, there were walking tours of the Morris Canal which traverses through the village, boat tours of the canal, children's games, some lectures and of course food.

NJBA members attending the event included: David Macauley, Bob Bozzay and Tom Tomczyk. Everyone made some simple items. We had several young men who helped run the bellows. We set up under large tree across from the existing blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop is closed and locked, but all of the tools, anvils, bellows and forges are still in the shop. Unfortunately, the shop will remain closed until the state of NJ resolves its legal dispute with the former foundation that interpreted the village. That foundation is bankrupt and is not interpreting the village any longer.

Unfortunately, given the position of the shop getting a trailer up to the shop or near it is not possible. David barely got his pickup truck positioned near to the demonstration site.

After the event closed the Canal Society hosted a barbeque on the grounds. Although

the NJBA demonstrators were invited, we could not attend due to other commitments. Many the organizers came up to us and expressed their appreciation for the demo. Apparently it was great draw. We were asked to participate again next year. Hopefully we will be able to demonstrate in the shop.

Submitted,
David Macauley

Employment

Creative Metal Fab

316 Courtland Ave

Stamford, CT. 06906

Fax: 203 325-8756

e-mail - jonpompea@cmfmetals.com

Architectural metal shop in Stamford, Ct. that specialize in custom blacksmithing work, ornamental work, structural steel work, and meticulous architectural work. CMF is seeking an experienced blacksmith to work in a custom metal shop. Must be experienced in forge, power hammer and anvil. Must be knowledgeable of hand forged decorative work such as railings, fireplace, table consoles, etc.. Pay will depend on experience.

Iron Studio Coordinator

Job at Penland.

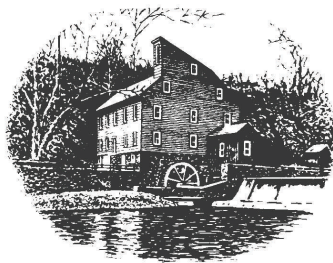
The job is listed on the Penland website.

It means real employment for some young smith. Here is where the job is listed:

<http://www.penland.org/jobs/iron-coord.htm>

**BLACKSMITH
HAMMER-IN & TOOL SWAP**
At the Red Mill Museum Village
Sunday, September 28th
10:00am - 4:00pm

*Hosted by the
NJ Blacksmith Association*



The day's activities will center at the Museum's Blacksmith Shop where local blacksmiths and the New Jersey Blacksmith's Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of the art and craft of blacksmithing, will have members on hand to demonstrate and sell their work.

Tool dealers and collectors are invited to tailgate, sell and swap their smithing tools and accessories. We are currently registering blacksmiths and tool collectors.

Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, and \$5 for children (6-12). Free for children under 6, museum members and for NJBA members.

Included in the price is admission to the Museum's historic buildings and exhibits.

The Red Mill Museum Village is located at 56 Main Street in Clinton, NJ.
For more information, or to register call the Museum at (908) 735-4101.

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

Sword Making Workshop October 18-19th 2008, Marshall Bienstock's Shop

NJBA Will be offering a two day sword making workshop lead by Master Swordsmith Mark Morrow on October 18th and 19th, 2008. The object of the workshop will be to make the wakizashi blade, Japanese short sword blade. The workshop will be offered for a minimum of 6 people and maximum of 10. Cutoff date is October 11th

The cost will be \$300 plus the cost of the tool steel - \$20 for 24 inch bar of 1075

Tools: need bring your favorite hammer and a good bastard file, 10 to 12 inch.

Tongs and anvils and forges (Sin or scraper) will be provided plus work station

NJBA will be providing gas forges and anvils, but students can bring their own equipment.



A previous class in 2004

The first day starts with introduction and short lecture and schedule of time and steps. Forging of the blade will start at 9 AM to 12 Noon at this time the forged blades will be normalized for filling and scraping. After lunch the blades will be filled and scraped prior to claying for heat treat. This will conclude the first day.

On the 2nd day in the morning the blades will need to be dried and then fired in the hardening process , then there will be a demo of how the blades will need to be finished, plus if time allows , the process of how to forge and fit a copper habaki or copper blade collar.

Note: This seminar is just on how to forge the blades and heat treat them not a finished blade , the student is responsible for all the finishing and final polishing. Forges will be for sale after the workshop. For more information contact: **David Macauley, 732-206-1568, drmacauley@att.net**

To register for this event please fill out the following information and include a check for \$50.00 made payable to New Jersey Blacksmith Association

-----Cut Here-----

Name:	
Address:	
Email:	
Phone:	

Please send your registration information and payment to:

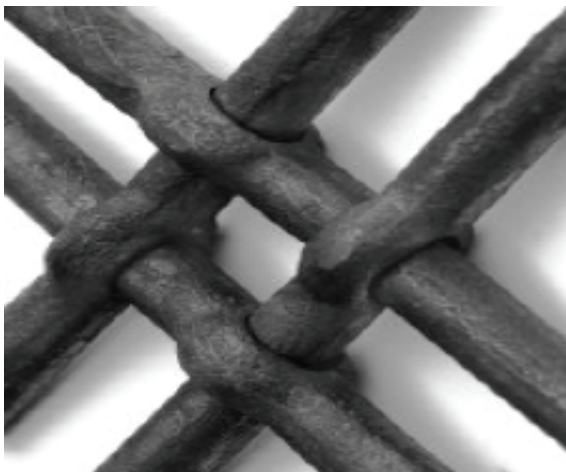
NJBA

PO Box 224

Farmingdale NJ 07727-9998

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

Announcing the First Regional Atlantic Coast Blacksmiths Conference



"A meeting of minds and friends
welded to a love of the craft."

**Mark Aspery - David Norrie
Peter Ross**

**3 Days of Hot Metal
at the
Ashokan Center,
Olivebridge, NY**

September 4 - 7, 2008

A Cooperative Event, Sponsored by:
Northeast Blacksmiths Association
New England Blacksmiths Association
Blacksmith Guild of Central Maryland

With the Support of:
Connecticut Blacksmiths
Capitol District Smiths
Berkshire Blacksmiths
Blacksmith's Guild of the Potomac
Pennsylvania Artist Blacksmiths' Association

Demonstrators

Mark Aspery

Mark is an European journeyman blacksmith, currently an Associate of the Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths in the United Kingdom. He currently owns and operates the Mark Aspery School of Blacksmithing based in Springville, California. Mark is an accomplished smith who, besides taking on private commissions, teaches throughout the US, and is authoring a series of books that teach the Blacksmith's craft. "My own style now is one of a semi-literal, flowing representation of the natural world, utilizing traditional methods of joinery where ever possible."

David Norrie

David, who has lived in Boulder, Colorado since 2001, operates a three-man shop that specializes in architectural ironwork commissions. His primary focus is in creating functional architectural iron work ranging from sculpture, furniture to gates and railings. David has demonstrated his blacksmithing skills and techniques all over the United States, Canada, and England. His commissioned work has been installed throughout North America; from West Palm Beach, Florida to San Mateo, California, as well as in Canada.

Peter Ross

Master of the Shop at Colonial Williamsburg's Anderson Forge for over twenty years, Peter Ross's interest in blacksmithing began while still in high school. In the early 1970's he volunteered at Old Bethpage Village Restoration in New York. He attended Rhode Island School of Design, then worked with Dick Everett of Connecticut who specializes in the restoration and reproduction of 17th and 18th century hardware and furnishings. In 1976, after several months of travel in Europe studying ironwork, Ross opened a one-man shop in Deer Isle, Maine where he concentrated on the restoration and reproduction of English hardware, tools, and cooking utensils from the 18th and 19th centuries. In 1979, he began as a journeyman blacksmith at Colonial Williamsburg and 3 years later was appointed Master of the Shop.

"Traditional objects combined fashion, function, and economy. The challenge was efficient use of iron and labor... so that early pieces are a delightful mix of simple, yet elegant solutions. Early work has a casual and spontaneous character that gives each piece life and charisma - even very repetitive things such as nails or door latches made by the thousands."

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A Stimulating 3 Days of Fire, Iron, & Fun Tentative Schedule of Events

Thursday Sep 4

1:00 PM Registration Begins
6:00 PM - 7:00PM Dinner
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Slideshow David Norrie

Friday, Sept 5

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Breakfast
8:45 AM - 11:45 AM Demonstrations Mark Aspery (P)
Peter Ross (T)
NOON - 1:00 PM Lunch
1:15 PM - 2:30 PM Mini Demonstrations - TBA
2:45 PM - 5:45 PM Demonstrations David Norrie (P)
Mark Aspery (T)
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Dinner
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Slideshow Peter Ross

Saturday, Sept 6

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Breakfast
8:45 AM - 11:45 AM Demonstrations David Norrie (P)
Peter Ross (T)
NOON - 1:00 PM Lunch
1:15 PM - 2:30 PM Mini Demonstrations - TBA
2:45 PM - 5:45 PM Demonstrations Mark Aspery (P)
Peter Ross (T)
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Dinner
7:15 PM - 8:15 PM Auction of Forged Ironwork
8:15 PM - 10:15 PM Slideshow Mark Aspery

Sunday, Sept 7

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Breakfast
8:45 AM - 11:45 AM Demonstrations David Norrie (P)
NOON - 1:00 PM Lunch
1:15 PM Silent Auction Ends
1:15 PM - 2:45 PM Pick up Silent Auction and IITH
1:15 PM Tear down begins

Your help in tear down will be appreciated

Demonstrators - staggered demonstrations to allow all attendees to see each demonstrator progress through various stages of their projects.

Education - A separate hands-on teaching tent operating throughout the 3 days, with qualified instructors and well equipped forging stations for those wishing to receive hands-on instruction as well as Lectures, and Slideshows.

Forged Ironwork - A Gallery and an Auction of Demonstrator and Attendee Forged Items.

Tools and Equipment - A variety of trade show, vendors, tailgate sales as well as an Iron-in-the-Hat lottery and Silent Auction throughout the weekend.

Ashokan Center - The site we have chosen has been the NBA's meeting place for over 30 years. It is a beautiful campus set in the wooded foothills of the Catskill, in the scenic Mid Hudson Valley of New York. We are offering a food plan, bunkhouse lodging and on-site camping.

Lodging

Bunkhouse plan is \$54.00 (includes 8% NY Tax) for Early registrants includes a bed in the heated building with showers and toilets. Blankets and pillows will be provided. Bring your own towels, sheets or sleeping bag. Capacity: 130*

Camping plan is \$32.40 (includes 8% NY Tax) A very large primitive camping area is available on the grounds for \$30 per person. There are no electrical, water or sewage hookups, and no dump station. Potable water, bathroom, & showers are located a short walk from the camping area.

Motels There a number of motels within 10 miles.

Food

Dining Hall plan is \$162.00 (includes 8% NY Tax) The full food plan begins at dinner on Thursday and ends at lunch on Sunday: 9 meals, unlimited beverages. Capacity: 160*

Food Vendors We plan to have fast food/lunch wagon vendors on site for those who do not wish to use the meal plan in the dining hall. There are also

Restaurants there are several within 10 miles

*Call Registrar to check Bunk/Food Availability

For details on Motels & Restaurants contact:

Ulster County Chamber of Commerce

www.ulstertourism.info 800-342-5826

www.ulsterchamber.org 845-338-5100

Nearby Towns: Shokan, Mt. Tremper, Woodstock, Hurley, Kingston, Phoenicia, Saugerties.

For more information on the Ashokan Center:

<http://www.newpaltz.edu/ashokan/>

Conference Option Price Chart

	Before	15 Jun	1 Aug	After
Option	15 Jun	1 Aug	25 Aug	25 Aug
1 Day	75.60	75.60	75.60	75.60
4 Day	108.00	124.00	140.00	144.94
4 Day/Camp	140.40	156.60	172.00	180.25
4 Day/Bunk	162.00	178.20	194.40	201.85
4 Day/Meals	270.00	286.20	302.60	322.60
Full/Camp	302.40	318.60	334.80	357.91
Full/Bunk	324.00	340.20	356.40	379.51

All prices include 8% NY Sales Tax

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Atlantic Coast Blacksmiths Conference Registration Form

Please Print Clearly

Name _____ Age if under 18 _____
Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

What do you consider your main Blacksmith Affiliate?
_____ ABANA Member? _____

Choose an **Option** from chart and the correct **Charge** from the columns based on when you are mailing your registration form in and enter them below. If Option is:

4 Day/Bunk or **Full/Bunk**

Circle your choice of bunk (Top - Bottom)

Bottom bunks go early so if you want one register early!

Also indicate your sex (M – F)

so we may slate you for the proper bunk room.

If Option is 1Day circle Day Choice: Fri / Sat / Sun

Note Sunday is only ½ Day as Conference ends at Noon

Option _____ Number in Party* _____ x \$ _____

= Total Enclosed \$ _____

Check number _____ Date _____

I understand that blacksmithing is a potentially dangerous activity and agree to wear safety glasses while observing or participating in any of the demonstration areas. I further agree to hold harmless the Atlantic Coast Blacksmiths, the Ashokan Center, and the Ashokan Foundation in the event of personal Injury.

Signature _____

Make checks payable to: Atlantic Coast Blacksmiths
Return your registration form and check to:

ACB Conference C/O Tim Neu
Ashokan Center
477 Beaverkill
Olivebridge, NY 12461

* Please copy and fill out a separate form for each member of your party and mail together if using a single check for payment.

Driving Directions to Ashokan Center

A. Start: Kingston Exit 19 RT-28 W

1. Follow the sign to Route 28 West / Pine Hill (quick right after the toll).

2. Continue on Route 28 West for 11.5 miles to the hamlet of Shokan.

3. Turn left at Winchell's Pizza (red building on left) onto

Reservoir Road. (Also, an arrow sign on your right for

"Olivebridge 4 Miles" points left for Reservoir Road.)

4. Cross the Ashokan Reservoir Bridge and continue to the stop sign.

5. Turn left at the stop sign onto Monument Road.

6. Bear right at the fork onto 28A.

7. Take the next left onto Beaverkill Road (just past the DEP police station).

8. Continue for one mile and turn right at the Ashokan Center sign on your right.

B. End: 477 Beaverkill Rd Olivebridge, NY 12461

To see a map go to;
www.acblacksmiths.org

For more Information

Tim Neu, Registrar, (845)657-8333

neutim@newpaltz.edu, neutim@ashokancenter.org

Ryan Blessey, Conference Chair, (203) 948-0463

ryanblessey@charter.net

Atlantic Coast Blacksmiths Website:

www.acblacksmiths.org

The Preservation of Fire



New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

Blacksmithing Workshops and Classes:

Peters Valley Craft Education Center
19 Kuhn Rd., Layton, NJ 07851 (973)948-5200
pv@warwick.net www.pvcrafts.org

Academy of Traditional Arts
Carroll County Farm Museum
500 South Center St. Westminster, MD 21157
(410)848-7775 (410)876-2667

Touchstone Center for Crafts
R.D.#1, Box 60, Farmington, PA 15437
(724)329-1370 Fax: (724)329-1371

John C Campbell Folk School
One Folk School Rd.
Brasstown, NC 28902
1-800-365-5724 www.folkschool.com

Brookfield Craft Center
286 Whisconier Road
P. O. Box 122
Brookfield, CT 06804-0122
203.775.4526

Open Forges

We are looking for members who are interested in opening their forges up to members as an open forge. This does not have to be a weekly forge as is Marshall's the others can meet once or twice a month. Please contact, Larry Brown, Editor.

We want to encourage all to join us at:

Monday Night Open Forge in N.J.

Marshall Bienstock is hosting an open forge in his shop at 7 pm almost every Monday night (Please call ahead on holidays to make sure , (732)780-0871)

Open Forge in Long Island

Sunday from 10:00 am to 6pm.
Starting the 1st Sunday in November until the end of April. Please call ahead to confirm and get directions. Ron Grabowski, 110 Burlington Blvd. Smithtown, NY (631) 265-1564
Ronsforge@aol.com

If any members have a forge at home and work in the evenings or weekends and want to open it up to help a few local guys, let me know, Larry Brown, editor, as we get requests from members who have a hard time traveling to some of the open forge locations.

Business Members

We would like to thank those who joined with our new Business Membership category .

Business dues are \$40

Please show them our support

John Choborda, Pine Barrens Forge
231 Morrison Ave., Hightstown, NJ 08520
609-443-3106 JChob@earthlink.net

Grant Clark, GWC Forge
PO Box 158 Perrineville NJ 08535
732 446-2638, 732 446-2638

Eric Cuper Artist Blacksmith
109 Lehman Lane, Neshanic Station, NJ 08853
908 642-6420 ericcuper@msn.com

Bruce Hay, Jr.
50 Pine St., Lincroft, NJ 07738

Jayesh Shah, Architectural Iron Design
950 S. 2nd St., Plainfield, NJ 07063
jay@archirondesign.com

Louise Pezzi, Blacksmith
1241 Carpenter St
Philadelphia, PA 19147
215 336 6023 pezziandjr@gmail.com

Search

I am looking for a #250 fisher anvil in good shape. If you have one for sale or run across one, contact me; Larry Brown, NJBA Editor. (718) 967-4776

BLACKSMITH TOOLS FOR SALE!

John Choborda

Has a large selection of tools for sale.

Anvils – Forges - Leg Vices—Blowers

Tongs – Hammers

and/or resurfaced Anvils

Call John for prices and availability

Evening 609-610-3501

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

Jay Close On Nail Making

(During his demonstration at the 2007 Guild of Metalsmiths Madness) Observed by Pete Stanaitis

Jay's approach to nail making is one of developing a productive process for turning out large numbers of nails to close tolerances. He says that it took him about 6 months of making some nails every day to get "good at it". He thinks his personal best ever was making 87 nails per hour. He also commented that he knew someone who could do 230 nails per hour.

Most period (Williamsburg period) nails were rectangular in cross section, not square.

One-third to one-half of the nail's shank should have parallel sides. They are not to be tapered all along their length. Nails tapered all the way just fall out, unless clinched. Jay says that "square nails" made properly hold better than round nails. "Nails should be made in one heat; the head must still be glowing when it is shaped."

First step is to draw the stock to a point, then never hit it again. Think in terms of the cross section of the nail rod when determining lengths of stock for shank and head.

Determine length of stock for shank, then shoulder stock on 2 sides and draw the stock between the shoulder and the point out parallel just enough to fit header (learn to do this without having to check fit in header since that would waste time and heat). Determine length of stock needed for head. Jay usually uses one cross-section length for the head. Once the head-stock length has been determined, nick 2 adjacent sides of the stock on an acute cold-cut hardy, not the kind with one flat side.

Learn to make the nicks ALWAYS on the same sides relative to the shank shoulders. Jay nicks the same sides as the shank shoulders, but he says that Peter Ross nicks the sides opposite the shank shoulders. Nick almost all the way through the stock. Note that this method of nicking leaves a point at the corner opposite the nicks. This little bit of extra stock will be used to fill in the head, which at this point is off center. Direct your first sliding "heading" blow at this point, drawing the point in the correct direction to center the head on the shank.

When placing the shank into the header, learn to always orient it the same way so your first heading blow always is always aimed the same way, with the same effect, that is to center the head over the shank.

Jay makes his headers from wrought iron with an oval-shaped WI dome forge welded on top of the wrought iron stock at the heading area. The wrought iron handle-stock is about 6 or 8 inches of 1/2 to 3/4 inch round or square. The W1 piece is about 3/4" of 3/4 round.

After shaping the handle to his liking, he welds on the W1. He drills or punches a small hole from the back of the header as a pilot hole. Then, after making an appropriate shaped rectangular-tapered punch, punched it through from the back side just far enough to produce the required shape for the nail shank's cross section. The hole tapers larger just below the tip of the header. This is to assure that the nail won't stick in the header. Some filing may be required to get the header to release the new nails properly. Obviously, a different header will be required for each different cross section of nail needed.

Guild of Metalsmiths Volume 31, No. 4, December 2007

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

DO YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO FORWARD E-MAILS?

From Bituminous Bits (Alabama Forge Council by Garland Johnston)

Do you wonder why you get viruses or junk mail? Do you hate it? Every time you forward an e-mail there is information left over from the people who got the message before you, namely their e-mail addresses and names. As the messages get forwarded along, the list of addresses builds, and builds, and builds, and all it takes is for some poor sap to get a virus, and his computer can send that virus to every E-mail address that has come across his computer. Or, someone can take all of those addresses and sell them or send junk mail to them in the hopes that you will go to the site and he will make five cents for each hit. That's right, all of that inconvenience over a nickel! How do you stop it? Well, there are several easy steps.

Try the following if you haven't done it before:

(1) When you forward an e-mail, DELETE all of the other addresses that appear in the body of the message (at the top). That's right, DELETE them. Highlight them and delete them, backspace them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second. You MUST click the "Forward" button first and then you will have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message. If you don't click on "Forward" first, you won't be able to edit the message at all. If you're on AOL, the best way is to copy/paste into a new e-mail. You can also put () around all the email addresses, and it will be a "Blind Copy" No one else can see who you've sent the e-mail to.

(2) Whenever you send an e-mail to more than one person, do NOT use the To: or Cc: fields for adding email addresses. Always use the BCC: (blind carbon copy) field for listing the e-mail addresses. This way the people you send to will only see their own e-mail address. If you don't see your BCC: option click on where it says To: and your address list will appear. Highlight the address and choose BCC: and that's it, it's that easy When you send to BCC: your message will automatically say "Undisclosed Recipients in the "TO:" field of the people who receive it.

(3) Remove any "FW :" in the subject line. You can re-name the subject if you wish or even fix spelling.

(4) ALWAYS hit your Forward button from the actual e-mail you are reading. Ever get those emails that you have to open 10 pages to read the one page with the information on it? By Forwarding from the actual page you wish someone to view, you stop them from having to open many e-mails just to see what you sent.

(5) Have you ever gotten an email that is a petition? It states a position and asks you to add your name and address and to forward it to 10 or 15 people or your entire address book. The email can be forwarded on and on and can collect thousands of names and email addresses. A FACT: The completed petition is actually worth a couple of bucks to a professional spammer because of the wealth of valid names and email addresses contained therein. DO NOT put your email address on any petition. If you want to support the petition, send it as your own personal letter to the intended recipient. Your position may carry more weight as a personal letter than a laundry list of names and email addresses on a petition. (And don't believe the ones that say that the email is being traced, it just isn't so!)

Some of the other emails to delete and not forward are:

1. The one that says something like, "Send this email to 10 people and you'll see something great run across your screen." Or sometimes they'll just tease you by saying "something really cute will happen." IT ISN'T GOING TO HAPPEN!!!! (We are still seeing some of the same emails that we waited on 10 years ago!)

2. I don't let the bad luck ones scare me either, they get trashed.

3. Before you forward an 'Amber Alert', or a 'Virus Alert', or some of the other emails floating around nowadays, check them out before you forward them. Most of them are junk mail that's been circling the net for YEARS! Just about everything you receive in an email that is in question can be checked out at Snopes. Just go to www.snopes.com It's really easy to find out if it's real or not. If it's not, please don't pass it on. In the future, let's stop the junk mail and the viruses.

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

This 2 page article reprinted from ABANA's Hammer's Blow Spring 2001
The Safe Shop

Preventing wrist injuries

Brian Gilbert

Earlier this year I took a Fall getting into my sailboat and broke my wrist. While going to rehab, I took the opportunity to find out more about wrist injuries and how to prevent them. For a blacksmith, any damage to the wrist pretty much shuts you down, as I discovered. Fortunately, my injury was pretty straightforward and responded well to physical therapy. Other problems, as I found out, are not so simple.

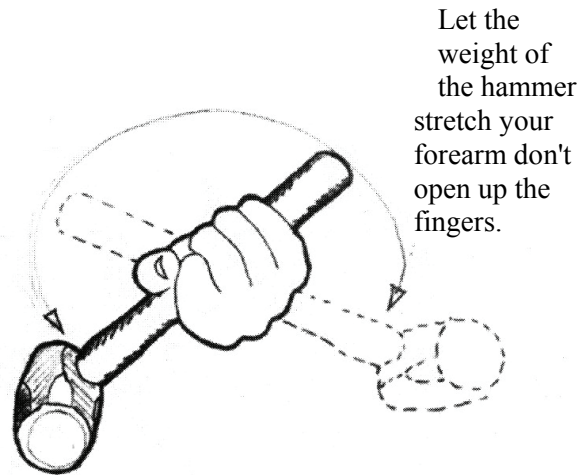
Tendonitis is a type of wrist injury that can be very difficult to treat. It's commonly caused by repetitive strain and overexertion, and newer blacksmiths can be especially susceptible.

When you're new, you don't know how much blacksmithing is supposed to hurt. The answer is, it isn't. It's OK for your muscles to be sore at the end of a session in the shop, but if you're hurting, especially in your joints, you're doing something wrong and could be setting yourself up for serious injury.

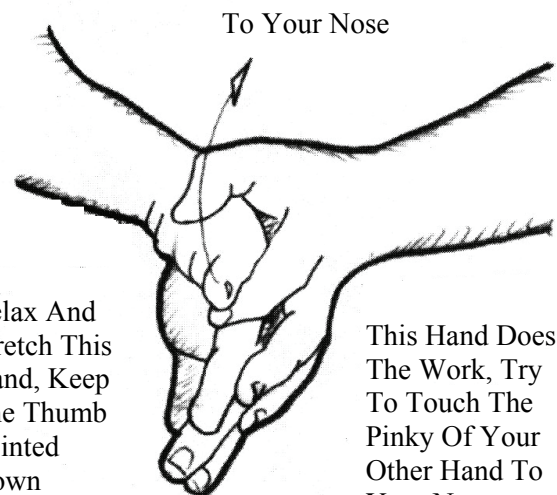
Tendonitis is one of the bigger problems that can develop. The tendons swell as a result of repetitive injury, and a common treatment is surgery followed by complete immobilization. It can take up to a year to recover.

I recently spoke with Jeff Mohr, a professional smith and instructor of mine. Jeff lost six months to tendonitis. I asked him what caused it, and he said he just plain overworked, and stressed it out. He didn't have surgery, but slowly recovered using alternating ice and hot water treatments. Since then, he's very careful with his wrist. He uses his power hammer whenever he can, and never enters any sort of hammering contest that occasionally takes place at conferences.

Alternating heat and cold treatments do work. During physical therapy my wrist was first loosened every day with fifteen minutes in a hot air and cornmeal bubbler, called a "Fluidotherapy machine." (An enterprising PT could make big money at a conference with one of these things ... it feels

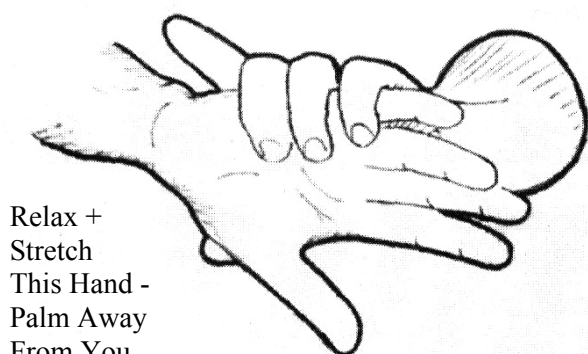


A forearm tendon stretch



A forearm tendon stretch

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter



Relax +
Stretch
This Hand -
Palm Away
From You

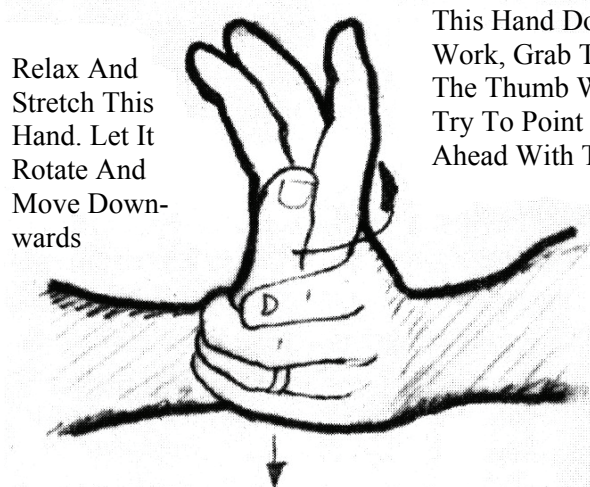
This Hand Does
The Work, Try
To Rotate The
Other Palm Out
And Upwards,
Pushing The Bot-
tom And Pulling
The Top

A wrist and forearm stretch

great!) You can get similar results with a hot water bottle. After an hour and thirty minute workout, I'd get fifteen minutes in an icepack.

Blacksmiths also need to watch out for tennis elbow, though I don't believe it's as serious as tendonitis. One of the main causes of tennis elbow is the "death grip, you should avoid holding the hammer too tightly.

There are a couple of ways that you can help prevent wrist injuries in general. First are general stretching exercises, which you can do before and after each session at the anvil, Second are strengthening exercises, which you can do while you're away from the forge.



Relax And
Stretch This
Hand. Let It
Rotate And
Move Down-
wards

This Hand Does The
Work, Grab The Base Of
The Thumb W/3 Fingers,
Try To Point Straight
Ahead With The Fourth

A wrist and forearm stretch

Stretching Exercises

There are several easy stretches you can do to warm up before work. One is to lay your palms flat on the anvil, fingers pointing ahead, and slowly lean forward, stretching your wrist tendons, Do this a couple of times.

Next, grab a heavy hand hammer... say, three pounds or so... and hold it by the handle, straight up and straight out in front of you Lay the hammer slowly over to

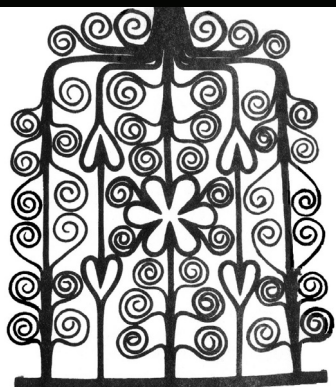
one side, and then the other, We're stretching the tendons that rotate the wrist here, with the help of gravity on the hammer head. You're also building upper arm strength as you hold a three-pound weight at the end of your arm.

Another really good stretch I remember from Aikido class. Directly in front of your face, hold one hand with the thumb pointing down, the other with the thumb pointing up. Keep your arms bent a little. Grab the thumb-down hand and try and rotate it towards your face, as if you were trying to touch your nose with your pinky.

Here's another to try. Hold one hand out in front of our face, palm out, and thumb pointing down. This is the hand that will get stretched. Take your free hand and grab the back of your other hand wrapping your fingers around the base of your pinky Your free thumb should push the base of the other thumb, and your elbows should be bent a little. Now, try to rotate your outward-facing palm up to the sky.

One last stretch that you can do is a little tough to describe. Hold your hammer hand directly in front of your face, palm facing towards you. Take your other hand and grab the back of your hammer hand by wrapping your fingers around the base of your thumb, and place the thumb of your other hand between the third and fourth knuckle. Now rotate the whole assembly downwards, and try to point your hammer-hand thumb straight ahead.

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Strengthening

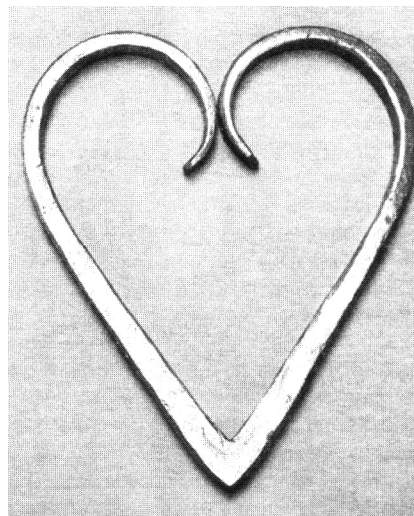
General strengthening of the wrist and forearm can help prevent injuries as well. This is the basic stuff... curls with an eight to twelve-pound free weight, for example. Spring-type gripper exercisers are handy, and you can keep one in your car. While I was undergoing physical therapy, they gave me a fist-sized lump of stuff that was basically silly putty. Working it with your hand for ten minutes a day can strengthen and loosen your fingers and hand.

Your hands are remarkable tools. You'll never realize just how amazing they are until you lose the use of one for awhile. I hope that doesn't happen to you, and taking a few moments to stretch and strengthen might help prevent problems. Talk to your doctor or a physical therapist if you have any questions. They can help design a specific exercise program tailored to your needs.

So what finally happened with my wrist? Well, after two months in a cast and six weeks of PT, I'm happy to report that I'm almost normal again, though I'm much more careful in the shop now. I don't slap around any three- or four-pounders like I used to (only on occasion, to be honest... I never was monstrously strong, though my grip strength was the highest my physical therapist had seen, I suspect that's common among blacksmiths) and I take frequent breaks. I'd say I can get 90%, out of my hammer hand. But it's especially noticeable when I stretch, as my broken hand hasn't nearly the same range of movement as the other. My orthopedist says that I can expect some arthritis later in life, but for now blacksmithing should be good therapy. Try some of these stretches out, and take

Heart Trivet

By Steven Spoerre

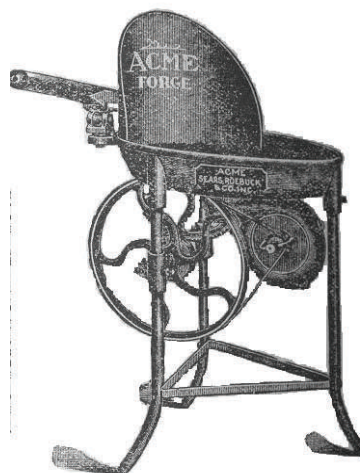


Create a 90 degree corner in a piece of 1/2" square stock at 7" to 8" from the end (refer to the Jan-Feb 2006 issue of the Upsetter for a how-to on square corners, or any good blacksmithing techniques book).

Measuring from the outside of the corner, draw out an 11" taper from 1/2" to 1/8", maintaining the 1/2" stock thickness, on both elements. Break all the edges. At this point stamp in a name, date, verse, etc. on the inside of elements if desired. On a 2" dia. bending jig, roll the ends toward the inside of the corner through approximately 270 degrees. When both ends are rolled and symmetrical, heat the 90 degree corner, place one side in the vise and bend the other side towards it until the arcs touch. Tweak the corner, sides and bends until you have a pleasing heart shape.

good
those

care of
hands!



New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

MUSEUM WAX FINISH

By Dave Vogel, Carlsbad, CA
From California Blacksmith, No. 07-02,
March/April 2007

Ingredients:

Boiled linseed oil -1 cup
Turpentine -1 cup
Japan Dryer -1 teaspoon
Beeswax -1 1/2 cups (a little more than 2
cakes)



Steve Maranhao's applicator and can of wax

Cautions:

This is a volatile and extremely flammable mixture! Use a hot plate, not an open flame.
Mix substance outdoors or with adequate ventilation.

Instructions:

1. Use a 2-quart saucepan (not from your kitchen)
2. Add linseed oil, turpentine and Japan Dryer to pan. Stir slowly to blend. Add Beeswax.
3. Slowly and carefully heat to melt the wax. As soon as it melts, stop heating. Pour into small paint can.
4. Allow to cool. It will cool and become a paste in a couple of days. Then keep sealed.

How to Use Museum Wax:

1. Heat piece to 200° - 300° F
2. Brush wax onto surface with a paint brush or wipe on with a cotton rag. The coating should smoke some.
3. Allow wax to soak into surface.
4. Wipe away excess.

This linseed/beeswax mixture will cure in eighty hours to form a hard, long-lasting finish suitable for household articles and interior locations. This recipe will last for years.

Materials Sources:

Home Depot - Japan Dryer, Linseed oil, paint can, turpentine. Ace Hardware - beeswax (cakes were \$1.99 in 2001) Rolled up and twine-tied blue jean legs make a great wax applicator. The business-ends burn off as it is used. Cut off the burned end before each use. You'll wear out several jeans before you need a new applicator.

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

From Volume 10 Issue 1, HAMMER'S BLOW, ABANA publication

Handy Vise Tooling

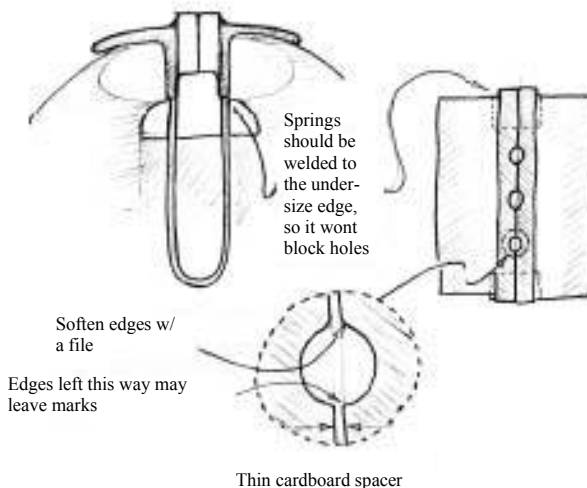
By Brian Gilbert

This design for vise tooling was sent to me by Phil Rosche in Summerville, South Carolina, and would be just the thing for upsetting round stock. With a little imagination, the same basic principle could be used to hold several different sizes of round or square securely in the vise while working it hot with minimal scarring.

The main elements are a couple pieces of angle, about 1/4" x 2", two pieces of 3/8" steel for pads, and some thin stock for the spring. There are probably several different ways to make this type of tool... here's how I did it.

I started with a bar of 1/2" x 1" for the jaws. I fullered the bar at 5" and folded the bar back on itself. Then I took another heat, shoved some stock in between the pieces, and hammered them together in a treadle hammer until they were almost closed, leaving perhaps a 1/8" gap. If you leave too big a gap, then the jaws won't effectively grip, but if you close the gap all the way, the piece will slip in the jaws. You can make several different impressions for different sizes of stock, both round and square. Remember to leave about an inch at either end for the springs. If you are making the tool to hold square stock, then be careful when pressing the stock into the jaws... it will attempt to rotate away from you as you hammer. Hold it with vise grips, and try to start it as nearly perpendicular (on the edges) as possible. Next, I clamped two pieces of angle iron into the vise with the fullered jaws in between and tack welded the jaws to the angle iron. I then warmed the whole assembly in the forge, and welded the jaws. I then got the whole thing hot, clamped in the vise, and hammered the angle iron down to conform the tool to the vise.

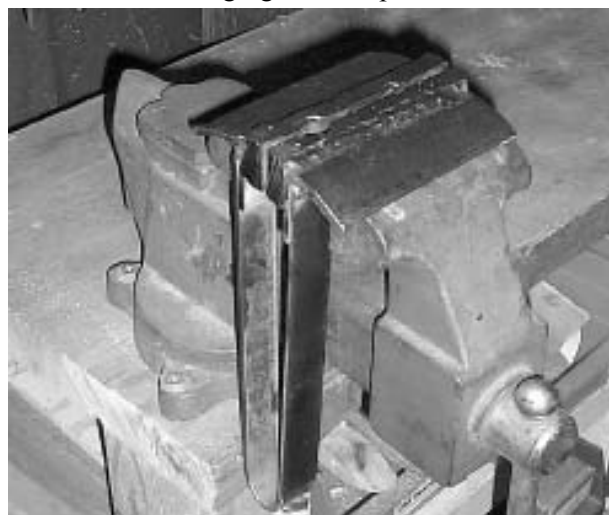
Now I welded springs to the tool, using a piece of 1/8" x 3/4". I used two springs, but one may work just as well. The last step was to cut the jaw free of the bar with a chop saw. I cut off the fullered end first, then trimmed the other end. I did it this way so that the jaws would stay in close registration. You need to dress the tool by grinding or filing away the raised areas on the jaws.



Vise tooling with drilled holes



Forging the vise pads



The completed tool

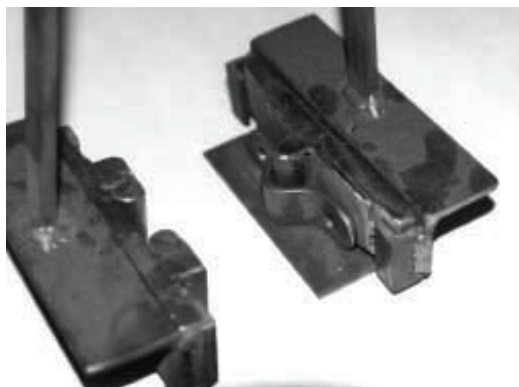
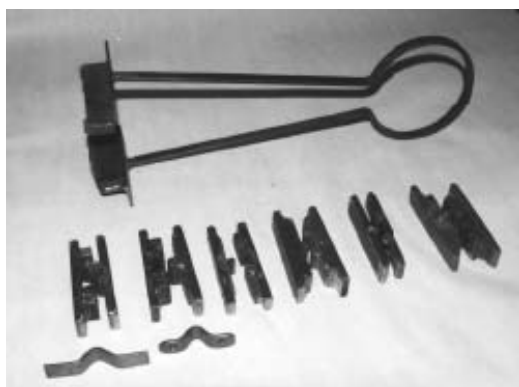
New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

If you plan on using this tool for round stock only, then you can machine the jaws cold and get a better fit. Space the jaws with a business card and drill for the correct size of stock. This method leaves sharper corners, so you'll need to soften these with a file. Conform the angle to your vise by heating it up, clamping it in the vise, and hammering down until you get it to lie fairly even.

Vise Tooling, Version Two

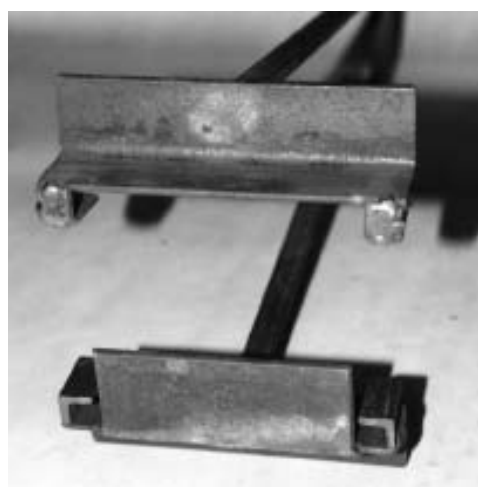
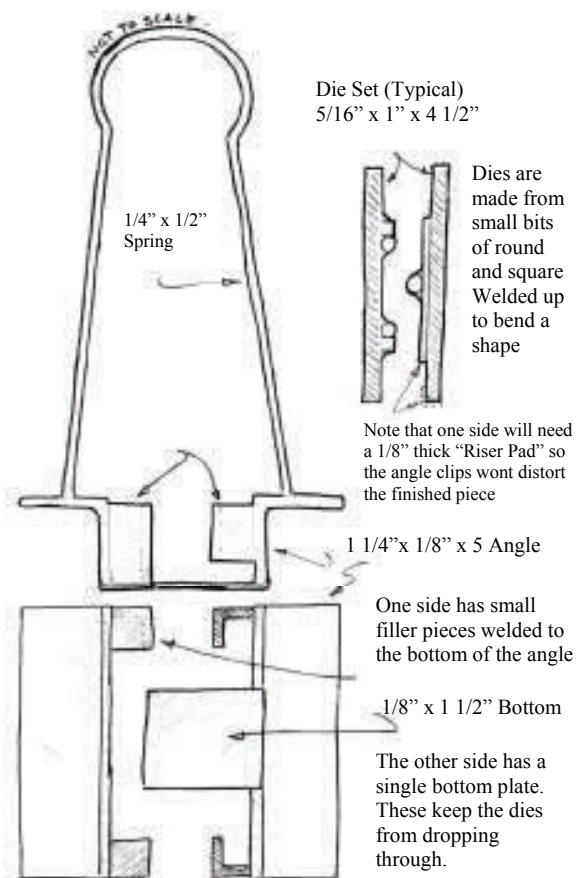
By Brian Gilbert

Along a similar vein to the tooling on the preceding page, this vise tool was designed by Mary Reid Gioia of Black Dog Forge in Seattle, Washington, who recently hosted the ABANA board meeting. Mary is the "Tool Queen" at Black Dog. (She showed me several neat designs that I'll present in upcoming issues.) This tool uses the vise as a mini press to make repetitive shapes using drop-in dies. These dies made small clips and collaring pieces that Mary used in her iron jewelry, but there are lots of uses for this type of tool. While exact stock sizes can be changed to suit, Mary's die holder was made from two pieces of $1/8"$ x $1 1/4"$ angle. The tiny side clips that hold the dies are $1/8"$ x $1/2"$ angle. It's important to note that some of Mary's dies had a $1/8"$ pad added so that the work being formed would clear these side clips.



Mary's die holder and dies

A die in the holder, and the piece it was designed to make



Bottom detail-note the filler pieces to keep dies from dropping

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Northeast Blacksmiths Association

Northeast Blacksmiths holds its meets twice a year at the Ashokan Field Campus in New York State.

The Ashokan campus is located in Olivebridge, N.Y., several miles west of Kingston, N.Y. The meets are held the first weekend in May and in the first weekend in October every year. The main demonstration is in the blacksmith shop and there is a "Hands On" workshop for beginners. A main demonstrator is brought in for each meet, food and bunk-house style lodging are provided as part of the cost of the weekend long meet.

Contact : Tim Neu

to register for hammer-ins

or subscribe to the newsletter;

Tim Neu, Ashokan Field Campus,

447 Beaverkill Rd.

Olivebridge, N.Y. 12461 [914]657-8333

For more information check out the web site; <<http://nba.abana-chapter.com/>>

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New Jersey Blacksmiths Association
Attn: Larry Brown, Editor
90 William Avenue
Staten Island, New York 10308



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