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THE FORGE FIRE

The Newsletter of the Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc.**An Affiliate Of The Artists-Blacksmiths' Association of North America, Inc.**

IBA is a Not For Profit Indiana Corporation recognized by the IRS under section 501(c)(3)

10:00 AM is the regular meeting time for IBA Hammer-Ins
with beginner training available at 9:00 AM.
PLEASE MAKE SURE TO ASK FOR HELP!

**If you would like an IBA membership application form,
please contact Farrel Wells, Membership Secretary
(765) 768-6235.**

BULK LOTS ARE AVAILABLE TO DEMONSTRATORS,
SHOPS, SHOWS AND OTHERS WILLING TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE.
WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP.

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More nearby resources and organizations for blacksmiths:

Rural Smiths of Mid-America:
Meetings are on the first Saturday
of each month
Call Moe Handy
(317) 862-5647 for details.

IBA MEETING SCHEDULE

Check the latest *Forge Fire* for monthly **IBA** revisions.

July 21 2012 **SOUTHERN INDIANA METEORITE MASHERS**

Aug 18 2012 **ONE ARMED BLACKSMITH SHOP**

Sept 8 2012 **SUTTON-TEROCK MEMORIAL BLACKSMITH SHOP**

Oct 20 2012 **WABASH VALLEY BLACKSMITH SHOP**

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- PG 9 GIRL SCOUTS
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- PG 11 VISE JAW SPACER

Dates to Remember

- July 18-21 ABANA Conference
Rapid City, SD
- August 3-19 Indiana State Fair
- September 21-23 Quad State (SOFA)

Editors Message

I suspect many of you were where thinking the June Forge Fire was never coming out. I got a little tied up after Conference and am finally getting it together. Speaking of Conference, this years Conference was spectacular.

I had the pleasure of video taping Clay Spencer's demonstration. He certainly made it look easy to create tooling for a power hammer or treadle hammer and then immediately forge an item or element for a larger project. We should have a set of DVD's in the library some time soon.

I did not have an opportunity to directly see our other demonstrators in action. I did notice they all held good sized audiences. Their finished products were top quality.

Speaking of top quality, this years Conference highlight was the Gallery of exposition and auction items. Old and new items were on display. Look on page 7 to see a sampling of the items that were on display. The auction was filled with the highest quality wares, which led to vigorous bidding. One successful bidder let out a shout of excitement, knowing he would be taking home a pair of tongs made by Charlie Helton.

The IBA recognized a number of members for their contribution to the IBA and to blacksmithing in general. I do not have the list of individuals who were recognized at this time. We will publish a complete listing of names and awards in the next edition. All awards were very well deserved.

If you look in the lower left corner of this page you will see some important upcoming events.

- The ABANA conference is set for mid July. Registration details are listed on page 10. The list of demonstrators and events is very impressive. I encourage you to look at the web site.
- Dave Childress is organizing the IBA presence at the Indiana State Fair. He will have further details about schedules in the July Forge Fire.
- Quad State details will be coming in future editions.

On August 18 Fred Oden will be demonstrating tong making at Maumee Valley. More details can be found on page 4.

IBA Satellite Groups and News

Sutton-Terock Memorial Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 2nd Saturday at 9 AM
Contacts: Fred Oden (574) 223-3508
Dennis Todd (574) 542-4886

Wabash Valley Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 2nd Saturday at 9 AM
Contacts: Doug Moreland (217) 284-3457
Max Hoopengarner (812) 249-8303

Maumee Valley Blacksmiths

Meet: 2nd and 4th Saturday
Contact: Clint Casey (260) 627-6270
John Schamber (260) 579-7303

Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild

Meet: 2nd Saturday at 9 AM
Contacts: Ted Stout (765) 572-2467

Whitewater Valley Blacksmiths

Meet: 2nd Saturday
Contact: Keith Hicks (765) 914-6584

Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths

Meet: 1st Saturday
Contacts: Doug Neukam (812) 259-4430
Steve Stoll (812) 486-9668
Kathy Malone (812) 725-3310

Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 2nd Saturday at 9 AM
Contact: Ray Sease (812) 522-7722

Fall Creek Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 4th Saturday at 9 AM
Contacts: John Zile: (765) 533-4153
Larry Singer (765) 643-5953
Farrel Wells (765) 768-6235

St. Joe Valley Forgers

Meet: 4th Saturday at 9 AM
Contacts: Bill Conyers (574) 277-8729
John Latowski (574) 344-1730

The Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

Contacts: Billy Merritt (812) 338-2876
Steve King (812) 797-0059
Jeff Reinhardt 812-949-7163

One Armed Blacksmith's Shop

Meet: 1st Saturday
Contact: Tim Metz (812) 447-2606

"Doc" Ramseyer Blacksmith Shop

Location: 6032W 550N, Sharpsville, IN 46060
Meet: 3rd Sunday at 2 PM
Contacts: Mike Kelley
Charles Gruell (765) 513-5390

Sutton-Terock Memorial Blacksmith Shop

Shop open at 9 AM.

Paul Flushmann and Tim Pearson were sent to Fred's shop to do the welding on our state project good job fellows!

Dan Davis came to make fire strikers and found out that spring steel so easy.

Levi Berkshire has completed the metal work for his boy scout blacksmithing badge. He told me that he is a cub scout now he has to wait two years to receive his blacksmithing badge when he moves up to boy scouts. Levi was to be baptized on Sunday so he made three large nails to take with him.

We had two new fellows come to try blacksmithing. They are Steve Weaver of Royal Center and Zachery Smith of Argos. Welcome fellows they both made S hooks and O rings and a leaf for our tree of friendship.

Hammered in Friendship
Fred Oden

This to let IBA members know that IBA member Edward I Friend of 3305 S. Michigan St. South Bend, In Passed away the morning of May 10,2012.

IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild

The Rocky Forge group was host to the IBA on May 19th at Ted Stout's shop. There were 28 in attendance with only 4 IBA members other than the Rocky Forge group. Though disappointing with lots of food preparation we still had an outstanding meeting. Melvin Lytton gave an informative demonstration on axe making. All along he lectured on what and why he was doing certain steps and told much of the history of the axe as it developed from Europe to the modern American axe of today. He is an exceptional demonstrator. Some of the guys worked on the forges making things later in the afternoon.

An auction of donated items was held to raise funds toward an addition to the Rocky Forge building at the Rainsville site.

It was fun having Clifton and Joan Ralph , Don Neuenschwander and Charlie Helton at the meeting. They always have so much to contribute at our meetings. Thanks to them for coming.

With the June conference coming up real soon and a large Amish auction June 9th, the June Rocky Forge meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be July 14th at our building on the grounds of the Illiana Steam and Power show grounds. Their show will be July 20 thru the 22nd.

Saturday May 26 Carol and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary with a large gathering of friends and family and lots of food. We would like to publicly thank Dominick Andrisani, KJ, Peter Cooper and his wife, Greg Searcy and Zachary Gaither for enduring the heat and demonstrating during our open house. They seemed to have fun making things. Over 150 guests really enjoyed the entertainment. Our thanks to the demonstrators.

Ted Stout

Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop

The Vernon Blacksmith Shop was ignited by Kenny Dettmer, who made a leaf-key ring. K.C. Reschar, a beginner, made a chisel. Austin Hastings ,also a beginner, made a Russian rose from $\frac{1}{4}$ " round stock. Handoko Santoso, another beginner, made his first "S" hook at our shop. He did rather nicely . I hope it isn't his only one. The life of our blacksmith shop is dependent on these young people to take over the legacy. Our base isn't getting any younger. We are encouraged to see young smiths step up to the anvil. We finished the day by K.C making an off the wall hook . Kenny had to reform a punch and instruct him how to use it. Everyone had a great time and helped clean the shop. See Ya at Tipton! Paul Bray

Tong Making Demo - Work Shop

After having to make 48 pair of tongs for the 4H group at Warsaw I have developed tools to make tongs on the anvil quick and easy. On the 18th of Aug. I will demo.these tools and have a hand out on how to make these tools at the Maumee Valley Blacksmith group.

After the demo. I will turn this into a work shop so that everyone can make tongs to take home. You will need to bring 3/8 or 1/2 in. rods 16 - 18 in. long and some 1/4 in. rivets.

John Schamber has told me that he will have some of this material available.

Hope to see all of you there.

Hammered in Friendship
Fred Oden

IBA Conference Follow Up from Jim Johnston

Well another year has passed another conference done. I have not heard any of the results as yet, but I feel confident that it was a rousing success. I need to express my thanks to so many that I can't remember who.

Bill Kendrick and Paul Boggs for their work with sound and video .

Joe Gobel and his lovely bride whose name I can't remember.

John Cummins for his help in the demos.

Keith Hicks , Bill Newman Eric Shotwell and Dave Kline for setup and the beginners class.

Dominick Andrisani and Ted Stout for the wonderful gallery they set up.

Carol Stout and Jennifer Hayden for acting as clerks for the auction.

Alvin Cave our stalwart auctioneer.

Jim Perkins, Honest Bob Cruikshank, Bill Conyers and his lovely daughter Jennifer Hayden for their great demos.

Charles Gruel, Ray Sease, Jamie Johnston for tireless work all weekend.

Larry Whitesell and his lovely bride for being everywhere for the entire week.

Kathy Phillips for putting up with her husband Gary.

I know there are omissions in this list, I apologize but assure you they are memory lapses not insults.

I would be remiss not to mention our two main demonstrators Elmer Roush and Clay Spencer. Both provided a lifetime of experience in a few short hours. Thanks to both of you.

I am really very grateful to this group in its entirety without you this would all be for naught. Thanks.

Also I must congratulate our award winners. You people made the group.

Thanks

Semper Ardens

Jim Johnston

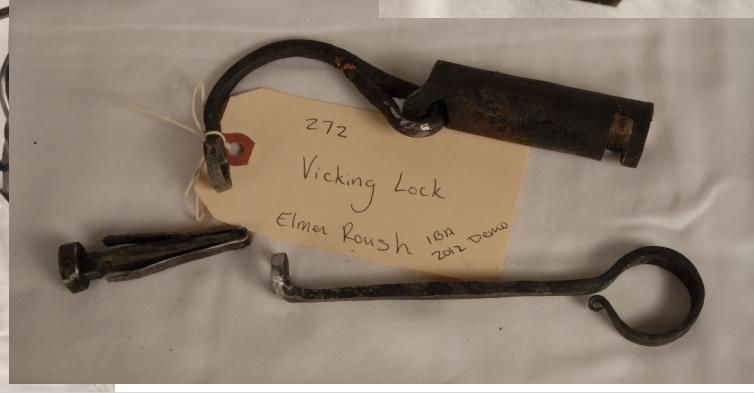
Conference Photos Courtesy of Jamie Johnston



Conference Photos Courtesy of Jamie Johnston



Gallery Photos Courtesy of Jamie Johnston



IBA participation at Camp Dellwood celebrating 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts.

Photos courtesy of John Steppe.



Francis Whitaker Blacksmith Scholarship

A \$700 scholarship will be available for the Traditional Joinery Projects class at the John C. Campbell Folk School, October 28 - Nov. 2, 2012 taught by Clay Spencer.

This scholarship is for Intermediate and advanced students who have a solid foundation in basics, can manage a coal fire and forge weld. Interested blacksmiths should complete the following application and mail it to Clay at 73 Penniston Private Drive, Somerville, AL 35670. Contact Clay at 256-558-3658 or clay@otelco.net on any questions. Include your name, address, e-mail and phone number.

1. Describe your blacksmithing experience, how many years, classes taken, jobs, kind of work you do, how many hours you blacksmith in an average month.
2. Goals for your blacksmithing career, what you wish to do as a blacksmith
3. Make a scale drawing of a proposed project (your original drawing, not copied from another source), Should show 2 or 3 views with stock sizes and specify proposed joinery. Include a cut list for the stock. This does not have to be the project actually made in the class.
4. Describe your participation in the blacksmithing community: teaching, demonstrating, craft shows, writing articles, belonging to and attending local groups, attending conferences
5. Explain why you need a scholarship to attend a class
6. Do you sell blacksmithing items you make? What type items? How do you sell?
7. Include at least 3, no more than 5, photos of some of your work.

The completed application should be e-mailed/mailed no later than September 15, 2011. Successful applicants will be notified by September 28, 2011. The money will be paid directly to the Folk School. You will be responsible for all other costs such as fuel fee, materials, transportation, etc.

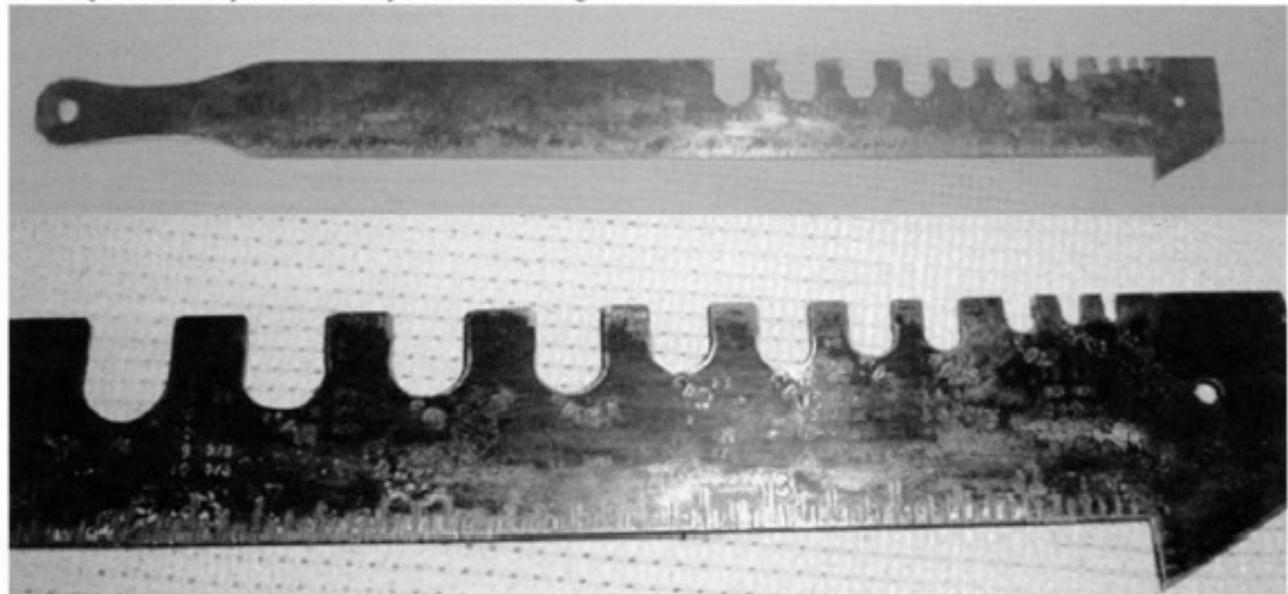
After the class you are requested to write a 2 page article explaining some of the blacksmithing techniques used in making your project, (include some photos or sketches) and send it to your state organization.

Shop Tips

by Bob Ehrenberger

This 1/2 page article reprinted from the newsletter BAM, Blacksmiths Association of Missouri. March/April 2012

This hot work "hook ruler" is made by cutting off the short leg of an old framing square leaving just enough to hook onto your work and measure it. I got the basic ruler from Joe Wilkinson as a meeting trade item. I then drilled a series of holes in it from 1/8" to 3/4" by 16ths and cut out the webs so I could use it as a thickness gauge. Each gap in the gauge is marked with a stamp of its size. This one is a bit hard to read because it is so dark, try to find a square with easy to read markings.



Infinitely Adjustable Vise Jaw Spacer

Michael Wollowski

In the photo below, you see an infinitely adjustable vise jaw spacer. I saw a vise jaw spacer that Clay Spencer made and wanted to build one for myself. His looked like a three dimensional cross and had six useable sizes. In the process of figuring out how to build it, I was wondering whether one could build one with more than six widths. After rejecting several designs, the idea of a circular wedge hit me. It provides infinitely many widths and affords extreme ease of adjustment: just turn the wedge to the desired size. Next, I had to solve the problem of how to hold it in the vise. Again, several ideas were rejected when the magnet occurred to me as the best option. It has several benefits: it moves with the vise jaws, it holds the spacer in its dialed-in position and when you are done with it, just place the magnet and wedge on the post.



The wedge is made from a 5" piece of $\frac{3}{4}$ " mild steel, forged into an 8" long wedge. The wedge tapers gradually to about 1/16" thick. When bending the wedge into a circle, it helps to bend the thick side first. The magnet is about 2" long and can be purchased at Harbor Freight.

ABANA 2012 Conference

July 18 - 21, 2012

Central States Fairgrounds 800 San Francisco St. Rapid City South Dakota 57701

Registration Fees

Before June 20:	\$275 Per Person - \$225 for ABANA Members
After June 20:	\$325 Per Person - \$275 for ABANA Members
Family members:	\$25 each for Spouse and Children 12- 17 (Under 12 Free)
Day Passes:	\$75.00 - Available at the Gate

For Details and Registration: <http://www.abana.org/Conferences/2012Conference.shtml>



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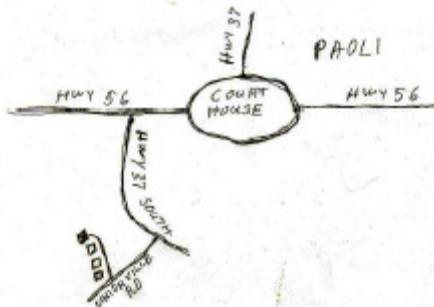
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First Class Mail

July 21 Hammer In Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

Steve King's Shop
1155 S Unionville Rd
Paoli, IN

Home of Steve King



August 18 Hammer In One Armed Blacksmith Shop

The Henry Breeding Farm
13730 North 100 West
Edinburgh, IN

Directions: I-65 take exit 76-B (US-31 North toward Edinburgh). About 3/4 of a mile turn right on CR 800 N. Turn left on CR 100 W. The Henry Breeding Farm will be on the left. Park