

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gary Phillips '18 President:
14800 N SR 167 N
Albany, IN 47320
(765) 789-8316
behere@netdirect.net

Steve King '18
1155 S. Paoli Unionville Rd
Paoli, IN 47454
(812) 797-0059
kngnives@live.com

Bill Conyers '19 Vice Pres
50964 Lilac Rd,
South Bend, IN
(574) 277-8729
billconyerssr@yahoo.com

Bill Newman '19
4655 Williams Rd
Martinsville, IN 46151
(317) 690-2455
ruralsmiths1@yahoo.com

Dominick Andrisani '16
3608 Capilano Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47906-8869
(765) 463-4975
andrisan@purdue.edu

Ted Stout '16
8525 W 700 S
West Point, IN 47992-9258
(765) 572-2467
stout8525@tds.net

James Johnston '17
Education Chairman:
806 Twyckingham Lane
Kokomo, IN 46901-1885
(765) 452-8165
kokomoblacksmith@comcast.net

Keith Hicks '17 Secretary:
5184 State Road 252
Brookville, IN 47012
(765) 914-6584
keithhicks2011@gmail.com

Librarian:
Larry Rosenthaler
8715 E. 375 N
Churubusco, IN 46723-9501
260-693-3267
lrosenthaler@gmail.com

Editor:
Bill Kendrick
1280 N 900 W
Seymour, IN 47274
(812) 445-3009
bill.d.kendrick@cummins.com

Treasurer and membership secretary:
Farrel Wells
8235 E 499 S
Dunkirk, IN 47336-8807
(765) 768-6235
fwells@frontier.com

Awards Chairman:
Charlie Helton
2703 South Water Plant Road
Westport, IN 47283
(812) 591-3119
heltoncs@frontier.com

March 2016

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)

9:30 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.

The Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc., its staff, officers, directors, members, and hosts and the *Forge Fire*, specifically disclaim any responsibility or liability for damages or injuries as a result of any construction, design, use, manufacture or other activity undertaken as a result of the use, or application of, information contained in any articles in the *Forge Fire*. The Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc. And the *Forge Fire* assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy, fitness, proper design, safety, or safe use of any information contained in the *Forge Fire*.

The Forge Fire is the newsletter of the Indiana Blacksmithing Association Inc. (IBA) IBA is an affiliate of the Artist-Blacksmiths Association of North America Inc. Permission is granted to other similar non-profit organizations to reproduce uncopyrighted articles originally appearing in *The Forge Fire* provided credit is given the original source.

More nearby resources and organizations for blacksmiths:

Rural Smiths of Mid-America:
Meetings are on the first Saturday of each month
Call Ron Gill
317-374-8323 for details

IBA MEETING SCHEDULE

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

Mar 19 2016 **IBA BUSINESS MEETING KELLY FARMS**

Apr 16 2016 **TBD**

May 21 2016 **TBD**

June 18 2015 **TBD**

INDEX

PGS 3&4
SATELLITE NEWS

PG 5
MISCELLANEOUS
ITEMS

PGS 6&7
STEVE KING
TOOLS TO MAKE
TOOLS

PGS 8&9
FEBRUARY
HAMMER IN
PHOTOS

PGS 10&11
POST VISE INFO

Dates to Remember

March 19
IBA Business
Meeting

June 3-5
IBA Conference

Editors Message

We had a big turn out at our February hammer in hosted by Ken Dettmer. The new shop was spacious allowing for good socializing without limiting the demonstration. The building was new, but the forge had the same strong draft, pulling the smoke sideways even at the initial lighting of the coal.

Steve King was the demonstrator. Steve had taken a class taught by Lyle Wynn on making tools to make tools. Steve went through the steps to forge a rounding hammer out of 2" round 1045. Steve explained that 1045 is relatively inexpensive, readily available and easy to heat treat. He said that he would like to try with something like 4140 to see how it turned out. Steve had Jeff Williams striking with a 12 lb sledge. The process started with punching and drifting the eye. The punch had beveled edge making it a cross between a slitter and punch. It produced a small oblong slug not usually produced with a slitter. The rounding hammer face was forged using a bottom cupping tool and top flatter. The eye drift was used to hold the work piece while forming the round end. A progression of top and bottom fullers were used to spread the eye "cheeks". The same top and bottom fullers were used to form trough lines between the eye and hammer faces. The finished hammer was quench hardened and then tempered with heated eye mandrels. Steve made the tempering mandrels from mild steel to avoid scale damage to his tool steel drifts.

Steve's article and photos taken at Lyle Wynn's forge are posted on pages 6 and 7. Photos from the February hammer in are posted on pages 8 and 9.

The **IBA Facebook group** now has **400 members**. This is an excellent forum to meet and exchange ideas with other blacksmiths. Some recent posts include:

- a new comer interested in learning blacksmithing
- several videos and photos of the February hammer in
- rare photo of JJ forging at a power hammer (1 hand, 1 foot, both eyes)
- several fine projects and some offerings to the metal gods

Our annual business meeting is coming up shortly. To my knowledge we still have one candidate with two board positions opening up. Jeff Reinhardt is an able blacksmith who brings a lot of passion for the art. If you are interested in the other board positon please come to the meeting.

Hopefully you are having fun working on the conference project of a wall hanging in a frame. The frame can be either wood or metal. Lots of latitude on the design critera, so be creative.

IBA Website: www.indianablacksmithing.org

IBA Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/IndianaBlacksmithingAssociation/

IBA Satellite Groups and News

1) Sutton-Terock Memorial Blacksmith Shop

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

3) Wabash Valley Blacksmith Shop

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

5) Maumee Valley Blacksmiths

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

7) Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild

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

9) Whitewater Valley Blacksmiths

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

11) Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths

Meet: 1st Saturday
 Contacts: Jim Malone (812) 725-3311
 Terry Byers (812) 275-7150
 Kathy Malone (812) 725-3310

13) Satellite 13

Meet: 4th Saturday
 Contact: Bill Newman (317) 690-2455

2) Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop

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

4) Fall Creek Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 4th Saturday at 9 AM
 Contacts: Gary Phillips (260) 251-4670
 Dave Kline (765) 620-9351

6) St. Joe Valley Forgers

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

8) The Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

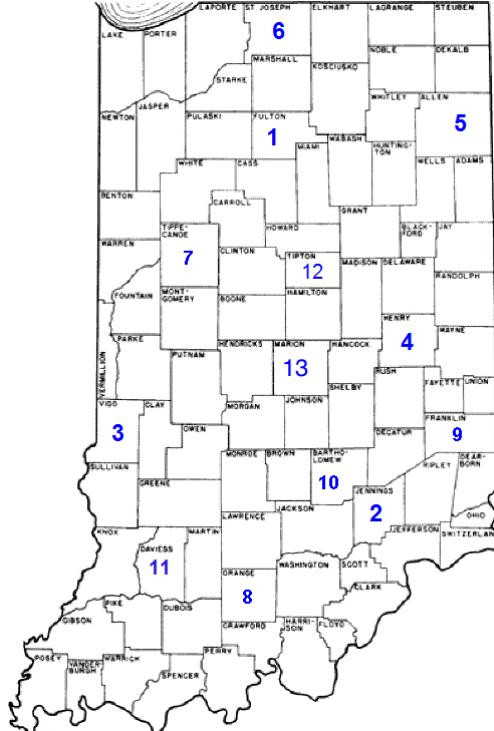
Contacts: Mike Mills (812) 633-4273
 Steve King (812) 797-0059
 Jeff Reinhardt 812-949-7163

10) One-Armed Blacksmith's Shop

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

12) "Doc" Ramseyer Blacksmith Shop

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



The Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

The meeting this month was at Jason and Andrea Hardins shop near Salem. Started out cold but the temps warmed as the day progressed. Great Iron in the hat. Many members picked up tool steel ordered and delivered by Aaron Baker, a big favor to all. Steve King demonstrated tong making, Mike Mills demonstrated making a Thor's hammer and a good time was had by all. Next meeting is at Dave Kunklers shop in Branchville, with the April meeting at Jeff Reinhardt's shop in Floyds Knobs.

Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop

No February hammer in.

March hammer in will be hosted by Pam and Kevin Welsh at 25619 Gill Rd., Nabb IN , 47147. This is a pitch in. Be sure to come and bring something for iron -in-the-hat too.

April hammer in will be back at the Vernon Shop

IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

Fall Creek Blacksmith Shop



11 members and two visitors showed up the beautiful Saturday. After introducing everyone we talked about the contest piece. 5 smiths brought there idea and drawings. We decided on an combination of two. Both sides of the forge was being used. Hammers, treadle hammer, and air hammer used on the project. After dinner we managed to complete the frame. Next month we start filling the frame with goodies. No iron-in-the-hat was held. Report by Dave Wells



One-Armed Blacksmith's Shop

(Update on Bartholomew County 4-H Blacksmith shop)

We have reached a milestone that should be noted. The last brick was laid on 2/20/2016 around 2pm. Although this is very pleasing we need a big push to get this shop functioning asap.

On our list to attack next is the electricity and the firewall.



New Book: Horses Need Not Apply

Hello! It's been a while and I just wanted you to know that I have released my new book Horses Need Not Apply. It features 11 Artists from Europe and North America . Their work and stories are captivating and I hope that you this new group of Smiths as much as I did working with them. It is available in B&W or Color.

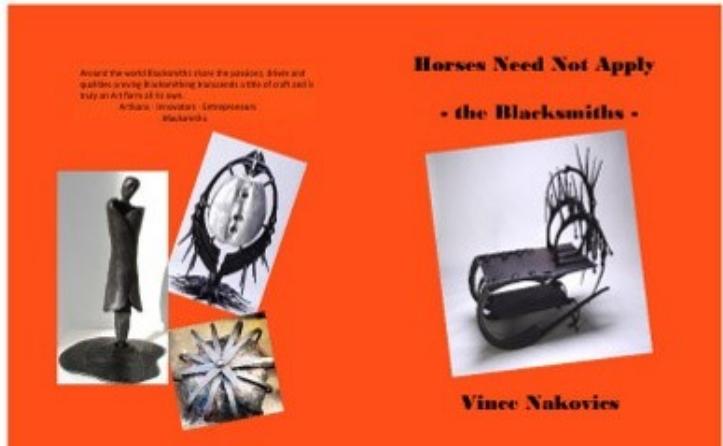
Available online:

B&W version at: <https://www.createspace.com/6125519>

Color version at: <https://www.createspace.com/6069414>

See ya at the Forge!

Vince Nakovics



Vince Nakovics

Tire Hammer Plans by Clay Spencer

Plans: Mail a check or money order for \$30US, or send \$32US to Paypal.Me/ClaySpencer. PDFs will be e-mailed outside US.

Beverly shear blades sharpened. Remove your blades and send in USPS small flat rate box with check for \$41US.

Contact:: Clay Spencer
73 Penniston Pvt. Drive
Somerville, AL 35670-7013
E-mail: clay@otelco.net.
Phone 256-558-3658

28th Annual Batson Bladesmithing Symposium & Knife Show

April 1-3, 2016

TANNEHILL IRONWORKS at Exit 100 off I-20, 11 miles West of Bessemer, Alabama

The Registration fee is \$75 for AFC members & \$100 for others
(for a one year Membership in the Alabama Forge Council).

Knife Show Table Fee and Tannehill State Park Fee are included in Registration.

Contact: Judd Clem, 111 Yorkshire Dr, Athens, AL 35613,
Phone 256/232-2645, or by e-mail, clem.judd@att.net.

Tool Making Class with Lyle Wynn

By Steve King

I had the chance last October to get to spend a week learning to forge tools. The class was called "tools to make tools" taught by Lyle Wynn in Brandon, MS.

This was a seven day, one on one class aimed at making tools to make hammers. Not sure what to expect, I was both nervous and excited. The class is offered with room and board included, which is what I chose. We forged long days but the week flew by.

I not only learned to forge many high quality tools, but brought home more than I could ever imagine.

We forged four hammers, two flatters, set hammer, two handled eye punches, hammer tongs, three drifts, three bottom fullers, two top fullers, two hot cuts hardies, one handled hot cut, cupping tool, and hump tools.



We also forged 16 or so hand punches to make leaves to flowers to bulldogs to horse heads. The largest forging was a five pound rounding hammer and the smallest a ladies ring with a forged leaf. We forged steel and copper, and learned scrolls and collating for making trivets.

The class was more than I expected and enough tools were made to pay for the class. I not only learned to make tools to make tools and hammers but learned a totally different way to forge. Lyle teaches forging where you control your piece from start to finish. It's a very efficient and controlled way to forge and took me several days to adjust to this style of forging with much more practice needed.

I learned a lot, ate a lot, and brought home a lot. One thing Lyle said that will stick with me is " if you find that something is hard, do it until it becomes easy".

I highly recommend this class and plan on going back soon. For class info and scheduling contact Lyle's wife Patricia through Facebook or by email at wynnhood@gmail.com.

Lyle, Patricia, Jesse and all the family and friends that stopped by were welcoming and fun to be around.



Photos from February Hammer In at Ken Dettmer's

Photos courtesy of Dave Wells



Photos from February Hammer In at Ken Dettmer's



This quarter page article is reprinted from Hot Iron News, Winter 1999

Tuning up a post vise: The observations of Peter Ross

by Hardie Swage

Too often the post vise is ignored, so loose sloppy action or poorly aligned jaws are lived with and remain uncorrected.

The most common problem is that the hinge bolt has been replaced with a smaller one thus making one jaw lower. This is the first item you check and may require a replacement. Tighten the nut as tight as it will go and back off about a 1/4 turn to allow the joint to work. If things are still too loose, heat up the joint sides and bring them closer together using the nut/bolt with the leg in place. The final adjustment is to make sure the jaws line up (left to right) when closed. Heat the movable leg above the joint area and bend to make the match. This requires the vise to be re-assembled when a section of this leg is very hot, do it carefully. Adjustment was made by applying pressure on the jaw area using muscle and body weight rather than a wrench. The finished tune-up should produce a vise that is tight and true and a pleasure to work. Peter has two post vises in his home shop. One about elbow height for file type work and a second mounted much lower to make the use of a hammer easy. Extra support on the bench edge can add stability to the vise, keeping it from moving side to side. Hopefully this is not your only vise.

The following information is reprinted from the Google Book:

METALWORKING

By Paul Hasluck 1904

PROPER HEIGHT OF VISE FOR FILING.

If men were all of the same height there would be no difficulty in regulating and determining the right height of the mechanic's vise, for it would be easy enough in each case to arrive at a standard which would serve equally well for all. There is, however, a considerable difference in the stature of men, some being above and some below the average height. A tall man would be compelled to stoop too much when

working at a vise of suitable height for a short man; and a short man would be obliged to stand upright and raise his arms to an inconvenient height if put to work at a vise at which a tall man could work with ease and comfort.

Four sketches that will assist in determining the correct height of a vise for every worker are given by Figs. 415 to 418. In Fig. 415 the vise is too low, and

the workman has to bend his knees and stoop too much over his work, and thus he loses power. In Fig. 416 the vise is too high, and this compels the workman to assume too erect a position and raise his arms too high, and in this case also power is lost. In Fig. 417 the vise is just at its right height, midway between the too low position in Fig. 415 and the

too high position in Fig. 416; and the position assumed by the workman is such as enables him to bring the whole weight of the body, or nearly so, to bear on the stroke, and hence the power exerted is at its maximum. The proper and most convenient height for each workman is obtained as in Fig. 418, when the top of the vise anvil or jaws is just high enough to touch his elbow when he stands erect and bends his arm as illustrated.



Fig. 415. Vise too Low.

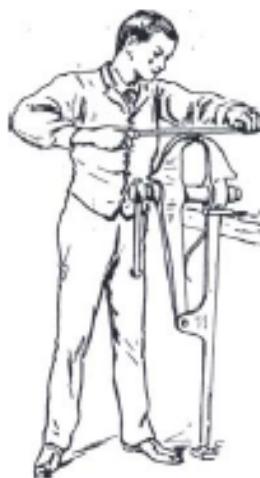


Fig. 416. Vise too High.



Fig. 417. Vise at Right Height.



Fig. 418 Testing Correct Height of Vise.

CORRECT POSITION FOR FILING.

The position at the vise to be assumed by the worker is a most important point to be decided before beginning filing proper. The vise should be fixed at the correct height, and so that the work held in its jaws will lie level. The worker should take up his position as follows: the left foot should be about 6 in. to left and 6 in. to " front " of the vise leg; the right foot should be about 30 in. to front—that is to say, 30 in. away from the board in a straight line with the vise post. This position gives command over the work, or, rather, over the tool, and is at once characteristic of a good vise man. The file must be grasped firmly in the right hand, by the handle. The left hand must just hold the point of the file lightly, so as to guide it, and, when taking the forward cut, a fairly heavy pressure must be applied, proportionate to the size of the tool in use and the work being done. Some workers, for full duty with, say, a 14-in. file, have the left foot near the front of the vise, while the right one stands at least 26 in. behind. On the forward stroke the front foot is relieved almost entirely of the operator's weight, which will fall on the file, while on the back stroke the front foot should take most of the weight, so that the file may be relieved.

HOW TO USE A FILE.

The art of filing a flat surface is not to be learned without considerable practice, and the following instructions, full as they are, can only serve as a guide to practical experiments. Long and attentive practice is necessary before the novice is able creditably to accomplish one of the most difficult operations that fall to everyday engineering work, and one which even the professional mechanic does not always succeed in. First, the vise must be of the right height, and then the proper position must be assumed, as already described to obtain the greatest amount of duty, a large file must be applied on the forward stroke with all the power the worker can put on it; or, if the file is small, with as much power as is possible without risk of breaking it. The end of the file handle should abut against the palm of the hand, so that the file is pushed, and not dragged. The file must be relieved of all pressure during the return stroke, or the teeth will be liable to be broken off, just in the same manner that the point of a turning tool would be broken if the lathe were turned the wrong way. It is not necessary to lift the file altogether off the work,

but it should have only its bare weight pressing during the back stroke. One of the chief difficulties in filing flat is that the arms have a tendency to move in arcs from the joints, but this will be overcome by practice. The preliminary file strokes should not all be made parallel one to another, but first at one angle and then at another, so that the file marks will cross and re-cross each other, which enables the file to cut more easily. Work which has been filed up properly will present when finished a flat, even surface, with the file marks running in straight parallel lines. Each stroke of the file will have been made to obtain a like end; whereas work which has been turned out by a careless or inexperienced workman will often bear evidence that each stroke of the file was made without any regard to all others, and the surface will be made up of an unlimited number of facets, varying in size, shape, and position. Amateurs who have never received any practical instruction in the use of files have generally a bad habit of pressing heavily on the tool continuously, during both forward and backward stroke, and at the same time work far too quickly. These habits, combined, will almost invariably spoil good work, producing surfaces more or less rounding, but never flat. The speed of the file may be made as quick as it can be pushed, providing the file is pressed to the work with all the weight possible, or, if a small one, with all the weight its strength will stand.



Please wear safety glasses
at all demonstrations!



The FORGE FIRE
Newsletter of the
Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc.

Farrel Wells *Membership Secretary*
8235 E 499 S
Dunkirk, IN 47336-8807

First Class Mail

Address Correction Requested
If Undeliverable return to
sender

March 19 Annual Business Meeting

Kelly Farms / Doc Ramseyer

6032 W 550 N Sharpsville, IN 46060

Located just west of US-31. Approximately 6 miles north of SR-28 (Tipton) or 3 miles south of SR-26 (Kokomo).

Please bring a dish to share