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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.
Contact **Michael Wollowski** (812) 232-2591 if you are willing to host or demonstrate for IBA

**Jan 21
2012**

**FALL CREEK BLACKSMITH SHOP
MIDDLE TOWN**

**Feb 18
2012**

**KEN DETTMER SHOP
COLUMBUS**

**Mar 17
2012**

**BUNKUM VALLEY
BUSINESS MEETING**

**Apr 21
2012**

WHITEWATER VALLEY



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Editors Message

Happy new year!

We finished out 2011 with a tremendous hammer in at Chaz Kaiser's. We had the usual big turn out. I think we had about 50 people in attendance. Thankfully Chaz has a spacious shop. Mark Thomas put on a great demonstration about how to demonstrate to the public. Mark kept everyone entertained as he educated us on how to prepare and work in front of the public.

The board held their regular December meeting at Chaz's. I have not received the minutes of the meeting. Look for them to appear in a future Forge Fire edition.

As noted in the December Forge Fire, we have two board of director positions that need to be filled at the March business meeting. If you are interested in serving on the IBA board, please contact Gary Phillips or one of the other current board members. Your candidacy needs to be known soon, as the ballot will appear in next months Forge Fire.

As you look through this months Forge Fire, you will see a number of spring activities are shaping up. Power hammer classes to special hammer ins are scheduled. I would like to highlight the Francis Whitaker scholarship on page 10. If you are interested in improving your skills in traditional joinery, this class and scholarship are great opportunities. I attended the joinery class several years ago. I was unaware of the scholarship at that time, but the class taught by Clay Spencer was a great experience.

At this time I want to make an appeal for articles. This year we have a featured theme to create a garden arch or arbor for the June Conference. In the spirit of competition, I would not ask anyone to divulge your project designs. Please share your knowledge of techniques and shop tips. Some ideas would include:

- 1) how to create large assemblies that have symmetry and balance
- 2) motif elements like flowers, leaves, scrolls, birds, etc
- 3) recommended joinery techniques
- 4) material selections and metal finishes appropriate for garden pieces

Ideas and articles can be sent via email to bill.d.kendrick@cummins.com or sent via regular mail to Bill Kendrick, 1280 N 900W, Seymour, IN 47274.

Visit the IBA website at: www.indianablacksmithing.org

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 Hoopengartner (812) 249-8303

Maumee Valley Blacksmiths

Meet: 1st Saturday
 Contact: Clint Casey (260) 627-6270

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) 255-6209

The Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

Contacts: Billy Merritt (812) 338-2876
 Steve King (812) 797-0059
 Shawn Gilley (812) 486-9113

One Armed Blacksmith's Shop

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

“Doc” Ramseyer Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 3rd Sunday at 2 PM
 Contacts: Mike Kelley
 Charles Gruel (765) 513-5390

Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild

ROCKY FORGE MEETING FOR JANUARY 14, 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Its hard to believe another year has passed. I hope you all have a great 2012 and the world will not come to an end. In case it does we should have more fun blacksmithing this year.

We are going to start this year on January 14th, in Ted's shop, with KJ giving us a demo on the making of a Norwegian knife. There are distinct differences between how the Norwegians make a knife and how we do it. This should be an informative and entertaining demonstration. Hope to see a nice turnout.

The meal will be a pot of vegetable beef soup, so bring something that goes well with soup. Suggestions might be cheese, crackers, bread, sandwiches, fresh fruit or vegetables, prime rib or prosciutto.

Be sure to bring premium items for iron in the hat and any show and tell items. Looking forward to a fun day starting with coffee and doughnuts at about 8:30AM. Support our organization and make yourself available.

Ted

Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop

The January hammer in will be a Paul Brays shop at 139 S. Park Dr, Seymour.

The February hammer in will be at Bill Kendricks shop at 1280N CR 900W (Jennings County).

IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

“Doc” Ramseyer Blacksmith Shop

December 18, 2010 was a good day for the Central Region. I went to the shop early to start up the forge fire and warm the anvil surfaces.

Stephen (Steven) Shaw was also early. He wanted to learn any he could about working iron. We talked while getting things going on some of the basics. JJ and Bill Nickols worked with him on spark testing for carbon content, hammer content, drawing out as well as other items. Steven also made an “S” hook with excellent shape and size.

Jason Carter and his son Jake had a high carbon bar of iron especially good for knife making. This takes a lot of drawing within the proper heat range.

Gary Langley had a hand full of large files with high carbon content. These are excellent for fire strikers. He started working on the striker but with the waning light, Bill started helping to get finished before complete dark. It was finished and looked good.

Talking of light. There is electricity run to the outside of the shop. We can use this into the shop if we can maintain a low profile of it in the shop.

Let us have a good year of BLACKSMITHING.

Sincerely,

Charles Gruell

Sutton-Terock Memorial Blacksmith Shop

The shop open at 9am.

Levi Berkshire worked on his fork and spoon for his Boy Scout Blacksmith badge. He has completed the spoon good work Levi.

Dan Davis started on a guitar stand. We hope that it turns out good then we will see if he will bring his guitar and play some music.

Paul Fleischman finally finished the ash tray that he has been working on for a year for his friend. I think that his friend had given up on Paul ever getting it done. Good work Paul what are you going to do for the next year?

Tim Pearson fine tuned the power hammer and helped Andy and Austin Williams put it to work. Thank You Tim.

I have put Austin Williams in charge of the design and construction of the Trellis for the state project. Austin is one of the boys in the 4H blacksmithing club at Kosciusko County. This boy is only 15 or 16 years old and brings some new ideals to blacksmithing. So you in the other groups will need your thinking caps on to compete with this boy.

Hammered in Friendship
Fred Oden

IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths

The Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths had our meeting on December 3rd. The weather outside was beautiful with gorgeous blue skies and just the right temperature. We had several people in attendance, around 16, with 4 potential new members. A lot of work was accomplished during the day. We had two forges going and kept them both busy all day along with all the other tools in the shop.

Doug, the forgemaster, and Jim, our new treasurer for next year, demonstrated how to forge weld an axe head the old fashioned way. There were several members who had requested to have a demonstration and some had never seen forge welding done before. They used wrought iron and leaf spring to make the billet and then forged it into an axe shape. It was very interesting to watch and learn



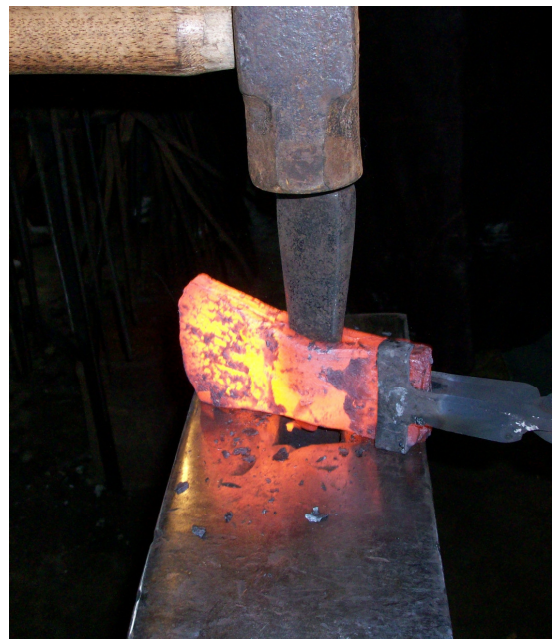
and we have several really good pictures of the action. They had the most awesome cave fire that lasted the entire day, we caught some pretty good pics of that also.

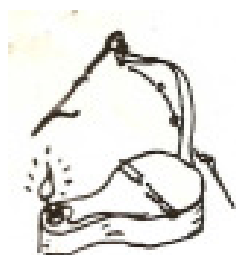


Aaron made two tomahawk heads, one he forge welded from a file and the other was a spike hawk he made from a ball pein hammer. Aaron also made a straight pein hammer and some leaf pendants. He used the press on his file hawk and his straight pein hammer. There were some in attendance that had not seen the press work so that was very informational also. Chuck was making oven pulls and spent most of

the day making those. I suspect some may be for Christmas presents. Athan brought a new young friend with him who had never been to a blacksmith shop or meeting his name is Skylar. The two of them spent the day making throwing knives for their own enjoyment. I saw them once or twice trying out the knives to see how good they would throw. I think the boys had a good time, they got to play in the fire, get dirty and make sharp things, every young mans idea of fun. Aaron and Doug worked on a basket handle fire poker and the new guys got right in and worked on a few things too.

We shared a good pitch in lunch, had good fellowship, everyone brought something for iron in the hat and we finalized our elections for next year. It was one of the best days we've had with everyone getting some work done, observing and learning from each other. Finally, as I always say "even if you have too many irons in the fire, don't lose your temper." ;)





EARLY AMERICAN LAMP "Betty Lamp"

®

BY: Raymond G. Phelps

Material: 1/16" or less sheet metal
about 8" square for body

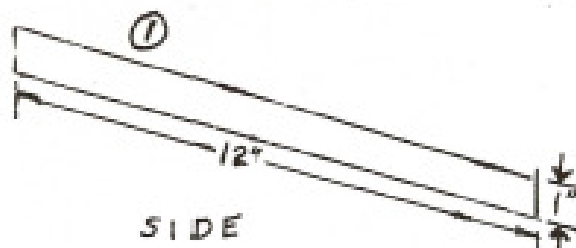
1/2" X 1/8" X 6" long for
handle

3/16" X 3/16" square X 8"
long for hanger

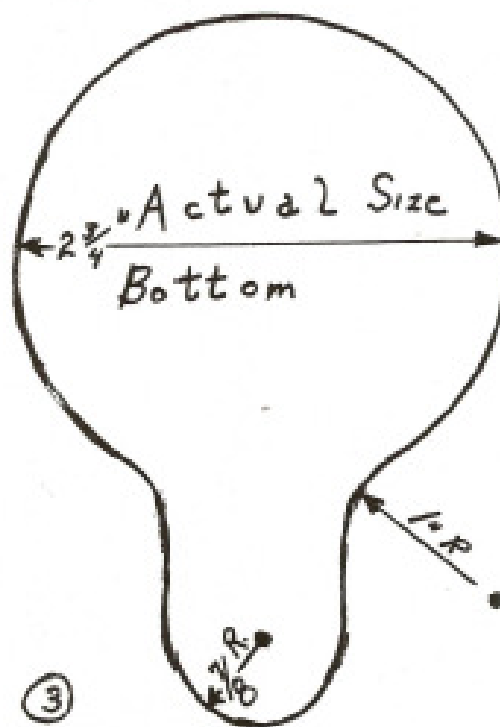
1/8" rod 10" long for hinge
pin and wick-pick

1/16" rod for chain links

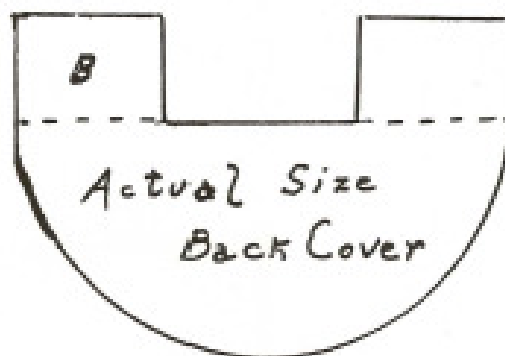
1/8" rivet



②

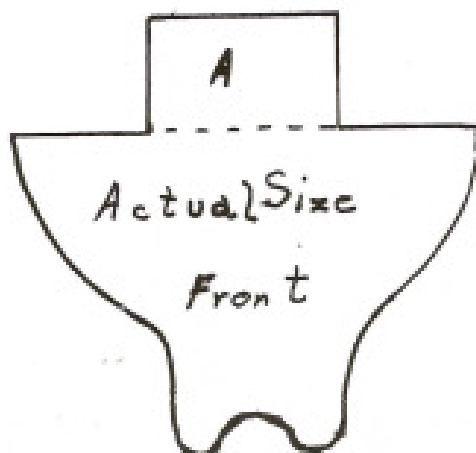


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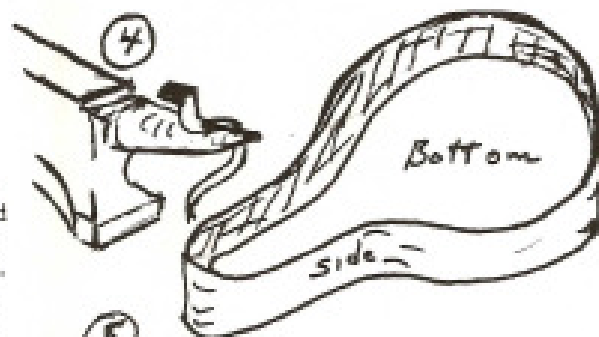
(Some parts are riveted, soldered,
or welded together, whatever is
available.)

1. Cut a 1" X 12" strip for the
part that wraps around form-
ing the sides.
2. Cut bottom out of sheet metal,
using tin snips, band saw or
etc.
3. Cut two parts out for hinged
top lid. (Parts 3A and 3B)

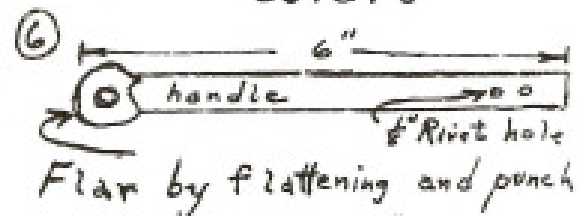


B

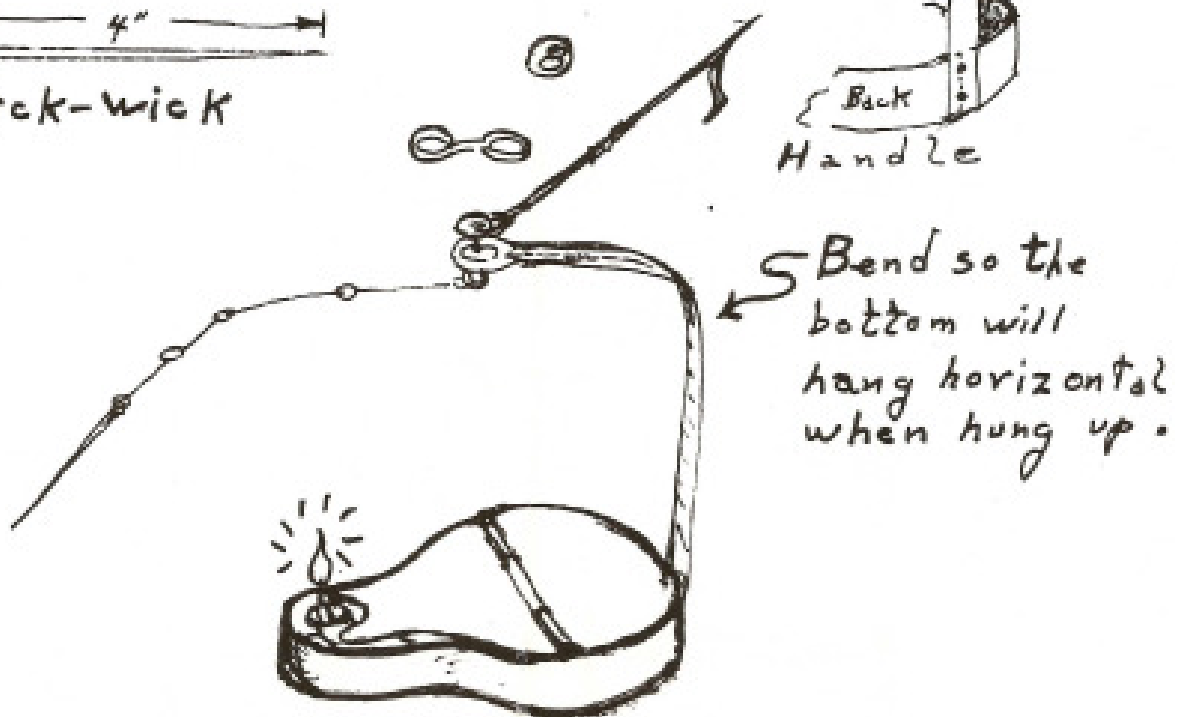
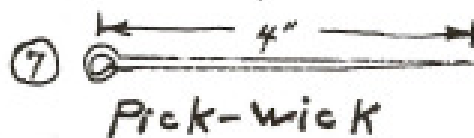
4. Solder side to bottom after being bend or formed over horn of anvil or mandrel.
5. The top front and back halves need to be bent in vise around 1/8" rod to form hinge. Then assemble the 1/8" rod for pin.
6. Flatten one end of handle and punch 1/4" hole for swivel links to go into. Other end to be riveted to body after being bent.
7. Bend eye on one end of 1/8" rod 4" long and sharpen other end to form wickpick.
8. Bend 1/8" rod to form figure eight with 90° twist. Hook chain and hanger throw eyes in handle.



Covers

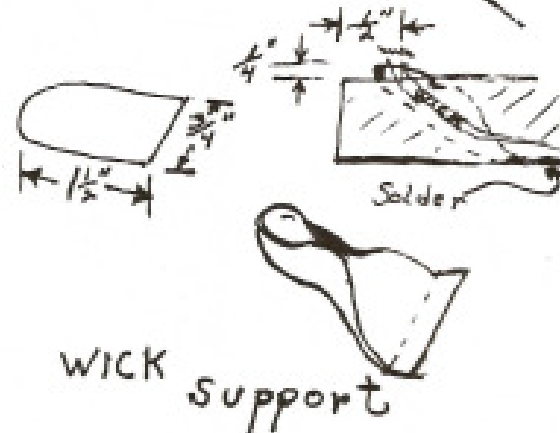
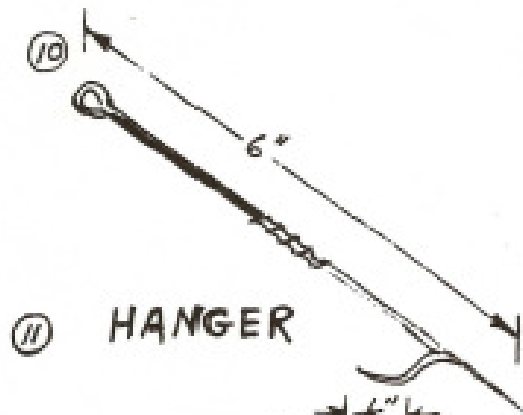
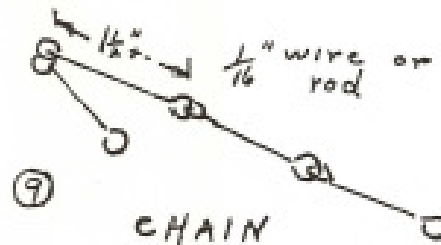


Flar by flattening and punch

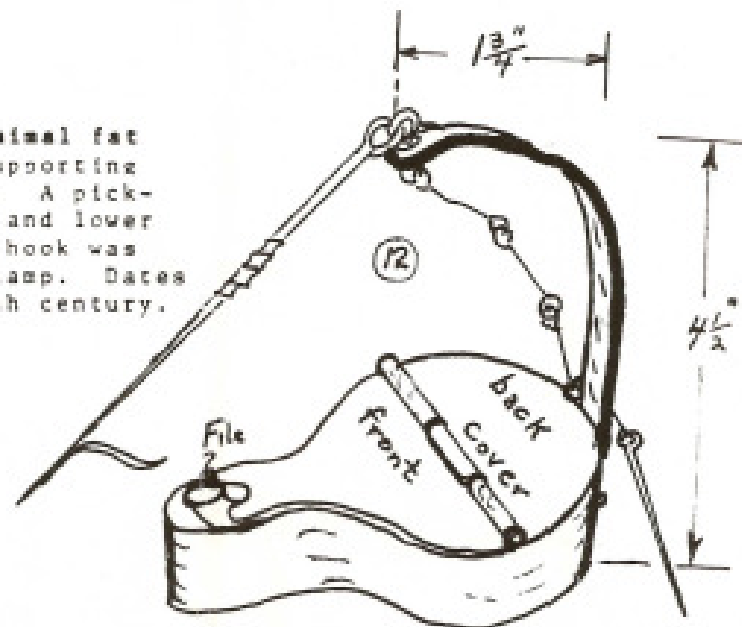


I

9. Make four links of 1 1/2" or 2" long chain with 1/16" rod with eye on both ends. Hook together.
10. Make the hanger out of 3/16" square stock. Point one end and bend over about 1" and weld like a small poker would be made. Put twist in center and eye on other end.
11. Bend wick support out of sheet metal and form with 3/8" hole. Solder flat end in place at the bottom. Wick needs to stick up 1/4" with center 1/2" back from front.
12. Solder back part of cover to bowl. File front part of cover to fit over wick spout.
13. You are ready to put a hot linseed oil and turpentine finish on it, or just flat black paint.
14. Install 1/2" wick into lamp. Add animal fat or kerosene.



The Betty Lamp: An animal fat burning lamp with a supporting wick and hinged cover. A pick-wick is used to raise and lower the cotton wick. The hook was used for hanging the lamp. Dates from 1850 to early 19th century.



LEARN HOW TO MAKE YOUR LITTLE GIANT POWER HAM- MER WORK HARDER THAN EVER!

Please join us March 16-18, 2012 for our annual Little Giant Rebuilding Seminar!

This class was first taught by our good friend Fred Caylor of Zionsville, Indiana. We carry on his tradition of teaching how to make Little Giants run well and hit hard.

This 2 ½ day class is a hands-on format. You will help transform a 25 LB Little Giant hammer from functional but sloppy condition into a well tuned, quiet, hard working hammer. Sid Suedmeier, owner of Little Giant, will share all his knowledge and experience gained from working with Fred and from 20+ years of repairing and rebuilding Little Giants.

An old style 25 LB Little Giant will be rebuilt during the class, and a new style machine will be on hand to demonstrate proper assembly and adjustment of both styles.

The class is held in our shop in historical Nebraska City, Nebraska. The city has a wide variety of cafes, outlets (including Pendleton Woolen Mills), antique and gift shops, orchards, wineries and museums.

IF YOU HAVE A LITTLE GIANT, THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

No experience is required to attend this class. Past students have ranged from age 15 to 90, and from all walks of life. Anyone who wants to learn will benefit from this class. We approach the rebuilding process using tools that can be found in the average home workshop.

If you are in the market to buy a power hammer, this class will make you an educated shopper. If you already own a Little Giant, or any other brand of power hammer, this class will teach you how to get the best performance possible.

The class costs \$95, refundable up to 7 days prior to the class; advance registration is required. We limit the class to 25 participants. The class starts at 9 AM sharp on Friday, and usually ends by Saturday evening. The schedule runs Sunday until noon in case we encounter any exceptional problems in rebuilding, and to answer remaining questions.

When we receive your registration, we will send you a city map, along with travel and hotel information.

Airports are located in Omaha (45 miles north), Lincoln (50 miles west) and Kansas City (125 miles south).

2012 REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Business name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email address: _____

PAYMENT

Check enclosed

Visa

MasterCard

Discover

American Express

Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

POWER HAMMER INFO

Brand: _____

Size: _____

Serial Number: _____

Please call or email if you have any questions, or prefer to register by phone. You can reach us at 402.873.6603 or lgiant@windstream.net

Little Giant is located at 420 4th Corso, Nebraska City, NE 68410.

Francis Whitaker Blacksmithing Scholarship at John C. Campbell Folk School

Two \$600 scholarships will be awarded for the Traditional Joinery Projects Class taught by Clay Spencer, April 11-16, 2012 .

Check class description at https://www.folkschool.org/index.php?section=dates&date_id=474

Students must be intermediate to advanced skill level and will be responsible for any expenses not covered by the scholarship such as meals, lodging/camping, materials and fuel fee.

Application Requirements

1. Describe your blacksmithing training/experience: any classes, demonstrations, jobs, commissions, craft shows, how much you work at your forge, etc.
2. Several photos of your work.
3. Drawing of the project you propose to do in class. It should be to scale showing stock size and joinery, no MIG or arc welding in project. Include list of material with sizes and lengths.
4. Goals for your blacksmithing, briefly.
5. Why you need scholarship help, briefly.

Your application will be graded against others received.

Send to Clay Spencer at email: clay@otelco.net, or 73 Penniston Pvt. Drive, Somerville, AL 35670, You may call 256-558-3658 or e-mail on any questions. Application must be received by March 1, 2012. Do not send before February 1.

Other scholarship for this class may be available from Francis Whitaker Blacksmith Education Foundation, in Colorado (contact me for info), from your local organization or ABANA.

2012 Forging on the River

The 2012 Forging on the River Conference to be held on the grounds of The Metal Museum, March 30 – April 1st, 2012. This year's conference features Alfred Bullermann of Freisothe, Germany - <http://www.bullermann.de/> - as well as Haley Woodward - <http://haleywoodward.com/home.html> - and Colby Brinkman of The Austin Metal Authority-<http://www.austinmetalauthority.com/> .

Alfred will be building an amazing bench to be permanently installed at The Metal Museum. Haley and Colby will amaze you with their tricks of the trade.

Conference registration features a deep discount for students at \$80.00 for the three days. Non-Student Registration is \$100 before March 1, 2011; \$135 after Feb. 28, 2011. One \$80 companion ticket may be purchased with each full registration. ALL MEALS ARE INCLUDED in the conference fee, so this is a huge bargain. You may enroll online at <http://www.metalmuseum.org/store/c/14-Forging-on-the-River.aspx>

To learn more visit <http://www.metalmuseum.org/FOTR> or email me—holly@metalmuseum.org

30th Annual New Salem Hammer In

April is just around the corner and soon it will be time for the 30th Annual New Salem Hammer In. We are proud to have held this event at Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site and to have had many great demonstrators throughout the years. 2012's hammer in will be held Saturday and Sunday, April 14th and 15th, starting at 10:00 AM each day. If you haven't been to the hammer in you have missed out and this would be a great year to start attending.



Tom Latané

Our demonstrator this year will be Thomas Latané. Tom has been working as a blacksmith creating original metalwork for over twentyfive years in his shop in Pepin, Wisconsin. Tom creates functional hand forged iron work in traditional Gothic, Renaissance, Scandinavian, and early American styles. Tom uses traditional tools and techniques, including chasing and repoussé, to forge original locks, tools, hardware, and candle fixtures.

Tom's demonstration will be on making open and closed dies for hand forging. These dies can be converted for use in the power hammer. There will be some chasing work in one or more of the dies. You can see photographs of two of his dies below.

Tom's demonstration will be great and will be something we can all use from time to time. I am looking forward to seeing all of our old friends there and hope to meet many new friends as well.

As this is our 30th year I thought it would be great if we brought back items made during past demonstrations so everyone can see what has been done by our other demonstrators. If anyone has items they'd like to share there will be a separate area to display them. For more information email me at bluestoneforge@gmail.com or call me at 309-368-7967.



Dies and hardware created by Tom Latané.

All photos furnished by Thomas Latané

Bluestone Forge
ATT'N: Hammer In
P.O. Box 1077
Galesburg, IL 61401

Registration Fee (before March 31, 2012): \$15/day
Late Registration or at the door: \$20/day
Saturday night dinner: \$5/person
Dinners available with pre-registration only

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____
Phone () _____ - _____ email _____

Early Registration Fee (\$15/day) _____
Late Registration Fee (\$20/day) _____
of meals @ \$5.00 each _____
Total enclosed _____

v Make checks payable to New Salem Lincoln League v



The *FORGE FIRE*

Newsletter of the
Indiana Blacksmithing Association,
Inc.

Bill Kendrick *Newsletter Editor*

1280 N CR 900 W
Seymour, IN 47274

First Class Mail

Address Correction Requested
If Undeliverable return to sender
With original address legible

Fall Creek Blacksmith Shop - January 21

3380 W 650 N, MIDDLETOWN, IN 47356

LUNCH WILL BE AT THE IRON KETTLE IN SULFUR SPRINGS.

SULFUR SPRINGS IS 3 MILES WEST OF IN. 3 ON US 36 AND APPROX. 12 MILES EAST OF PENDLETON ON US 36. GO NORTH AT THE FLASHING LIGHT (300W), TRAVEL NORTH FOR 1 1/2 MILES, TURN LEFT (WEST) ONTO 650 NORTH. JOHN'S HOUSE IS THE FIRST DRIVE.

CALL JOHN AT (765) 533-4153 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

Kenny Dettmer's Shop

February 18

15721 S 250W Columbus, IN

From the North: take I 65 S to Ogilville / Walesboro (exit 64) turn. right. Go to the 1st cross-roads (300 W). Turn left. Approx 1 mile to the "T". Turn left (600s). Go to 250W. Approx. 4 miles to a brick house on your left.

From the South: I 65N to Jonesville exit 55 turn. right, go to road 950 (in Jonesville). Turn left. Go to 250W turn. right. Kenny's house is approx 1/2 mile on your right .

Please bring a dish to share.