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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.

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*.

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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 Ron Gill
317-374-8323 for details

IBA MEETING SCHEDULE

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

**May 17
2014**

**SOUTHERN INDIANA METEORITE
MASHERS
SALEM, IN
(SEE BACK PAGE FOR DIRECTIONS)**

**June 6-8
2014**

**IBA CONFERENCE
TIPTON, IN**



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Dates to Remember

June 6-8
IBA Conference

June 13-15 Illinois
Valley Conference

Aug 1-17
Indiana State Fair

Editors Message

Folks this months hammer in will be hosted by the Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers at the shop of Jason Hardin. Several demonstrations are planned, including forge welding nickel meteorite.

I missed last months hammer in at Sutton-Terock. Jim Johnston shared some photos that are shown on page 6. All reports indicate I missed a very good hammer in.

As many of you know, John Zile continues to battle his illness. Please let him know you thinking of him. John is at Glen Oaks Health Campus, 601 West County Road 200 South, New Castle, IN 47362.

Pages 10 and 11 include some instructional material on bending and forming eyes. If you are like me and have difficulty getting the right length of material to forge the desired eye dimensions, the tips on page 10 will be helpful. The source is an old war department manual. It make me think my grand parents got more value for their tax dollars than I am.

I am repeating the flyers for the IBA Conference and Axe making class. These are excellent opportunities. Sign up, if you have not already done so. We are getting very close to Conference time. I expect Jim Johnston is getting nervous, as he usually does, with last minute details. Be sure to tell Jim what a fantastic job he does to plan and execute these events with top notch demonstrators.

Hope to see you at Conference, if not sooner.

A SPECIAL REMINDER to those who still have **IBA library** materials on loan; please get them returned so others can use them also. The annual conference at Tipton is a good time to bring them by the Library stand.

thanks,

Larry Rosentrader, librarian

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: 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

The Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

We met at Dave Kunkler's Shop In Perry County this month. Small turnout, but a good time was had by all. Another try was made at a very large wizard head and the tapering went much better when we used Dave's tire hammer with very aggressive fuller dies. We then hand finished and got as far as the eyes. Tooling has been tweaked and we have most of the tooling spot on. A great chili lunch was provided and was well appreciated by all.

IBA May Hammer In

Next meeting at Jason Hardin's shop on Mill Creek road near Salem. Aaron Baker will under the tutelage of Billy Merritt attempt to forge weld iron nickel meteorite. Dave Kunkler will also demonstrate and Jeff Reinhardt will have his Fold-a-forge trailer available as well for forging outside the shop if weather permits.

Address: 2631 So. Mill Creek Rd.
 Salem, IN
 47167

Any questions call Jason at (812) 620-0105

IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

Fall Creek Blacksmith Shop

9 members showed up. We worked on the cemetery sign most of the day. Dave Wells got Wesley Hale started on his first tong making. Wesley did a good job finishing them.----- Joe Goebel got started welding the two base plates to the upright support tubing. Dave Kline worked on bits and pieces of the sign. Eric Shotwell started welding the leaves and flowers to the three vines. After I got Wesley started on the tongs, I turned around and was surprised how much

progress was made on the sign. ? Maybe I am slow or they was fast.-----

No iron-in - the- hat was held, but Gary took up a donation for the club.



Dave Kline closed the shop while J.J, Charlie, Eric, and I headed to NewCastle to visit John Zile. John was in good spirits and talked about many things. It is almost a whole year, minus a few weeks, since John went in the hospital, only being home shortly for two hours on Thanksgiving Day.--Say a prayer for John and his family.



Reported by Dave Wells.



IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths

The Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths met on Saturday, May 3. First I apologize for not getting our notes in for our April meeting. Had to be back and forth with my Mom being in the hospital and time got away from me etc, etc. Anyway the weather was perfect for this meeting and we had a great turn out. We had a few visitors that came and shared fun and the meal with us. I know Terry and Joe Byers were working on a triangle dinner bell and it turned out great. Aaron Baker mentored Garrett Pickett in making a damascus blank.



Garrett did a fine job of listening and learning.

Garrett also finished up a sword he has been working on. Aaron demonstrated how to make leaves. Chuck Kryder was working on something because I saw him, but for the life I me I can't remember what. Jim Staley was making chisel out of McPherson struts. I know Dakota Smith got at least one of the outside forges up and running. The main attraction this meeting was a demonstration of horse shoe making by Justin Decker. He is a ferrier by trade and he put on a great

show. He had his gas forge, anvil and tools set up on a trailer and showed how he makes competition shoes. It was very interesting and we thank him very much for all his hard work. We had another great lunch together. We never have to worry about going away hungry. We have some awesome cooks that bring or send food and we are grateful. We had lots of fun with iron in the hat like we always do and that CJ Sauer is still one of the luckiest people around. There was a lot of



chattin' and chewin' going on, and story tellin', course I

don't know how much of it you can believe, especially when it involves Jerry Robinette, Alan Brazzel, Ron Tincher, Tim McNelis, Lonnie Salmon, Steve Stoll or Jim Malone. We really do have a great bunch of people that are a real hoot to be around and we appreciate them all. Until next time....Kathy Malone secretary.



Rural Smiths of Mid-America News

The May meeting was held at the shop of Gary Phillips in Albany, In. There was a good turn out with a lot of people there and a good iron-in-the-hat was held. Lunch was the Phillips famous potato bar, this is becoming a must do. More work was done on the chandelier. We are getting close to getting this done. There will not be a meeting in June do to the IBA Conference. Please attend this conference if you can.

There will be a 5th Saturday meet at the Blacksmith Shop in Johnson Co. Tractor club grounds. We will be working on getting the walls on the building. please come and help if you can.

The Rural Smiths will be doing a demo at the Johnson Co. Tractor Show on June 20-22.

Thank You

Ron Gill

Photos from April Hammer In at
Sutton-Terock

Photos courtesy of Jim Johnston



Reminiscences of Shipshewana

July 18 & 19

Shipshewana, IN



Volunteer Blacksmith Wanted

The historical society of Brown County is looking for blacksmith to work in the pioneer village in Nashville. They're open sat. and sun. from 1pm to 4:30 pm. This would be volunteer work.

Contact: Rita Simons at 812-988-7938 she will be doing the schedule

thanks

Jim Jessee



Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc.

34'th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TIPTON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
TIPTON, INDIANA
JUNE 6-8, 2014

Featured Demonstrators

Tom Latane	Pepin, Wisconsin
Allan Kress	Cullman, Ala-
bama	

with
Jamie DePriest and Charlie Helton

- ◊ **Tailgaters welcome**
- ◊ **Exhibit Gallery**



Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc.

Norse Style Axe or Hatchet Class



June 2-5
At Conner Prairie
Instructed by
Tom Latané



Cost: \$400 / Student

Contact: Jim Johnston
kokomoblacksmith@comcast.net
765-452-8165

Students should be able to forge weld and have good hammer stamina

BLACKSMITH PRACTICE EM 862 War Department Education Manual

Bending and Forming an Eye. One of the most common bending jobs in the blacksmith shop is that of forming an eye on the end of a rod. The following is a good method of making such an eye:

1. Heat the rod to a good red heat back for a distance of about 5 to 8 in., depending on the size of the eye.
2. Quickly place the rod across the face of the anvil with just enough of the heated end projecting beyond the edge of the anvil to form the eye. For exact work the length of hot iron that is to project over may be quickly measured with a metal rule. The iron should be placed across the anvil well up near the horn where the edge is rounded.
3. Bend the end down, forming a square bend, with a few well-directed blows. Work rapidly before the iron cools.
4. Heat the end of the stock and start bending the tip end around the horn. Work from the tip back toward the stem. Keep the iron hot throughout the part being bent; otherwise the bending will be slow and difficult, and the iron will not bend at just the places desired. If the square bend at the juncture of the stem and eye tends to straighten out, it is an indication that the end of the stock is not being kept hot enough while being bent.
5. Round the eye by driving it back over the point of the horn, noting carefully where it does not rest against the horn and striking down lightly in these places. Keep the iron well heated.
6. Center the eye on the stem, if necessary, by placing the stem flat on the anvil face with the eye projecting over the edge, and striking the eye. The stock should be well heated at the juncture of the stem and eye, but the eye itself should be practically cold. Such a condition can be produced by heating the whole eye and then quickly cooling most of the rounded part by dipping in water.

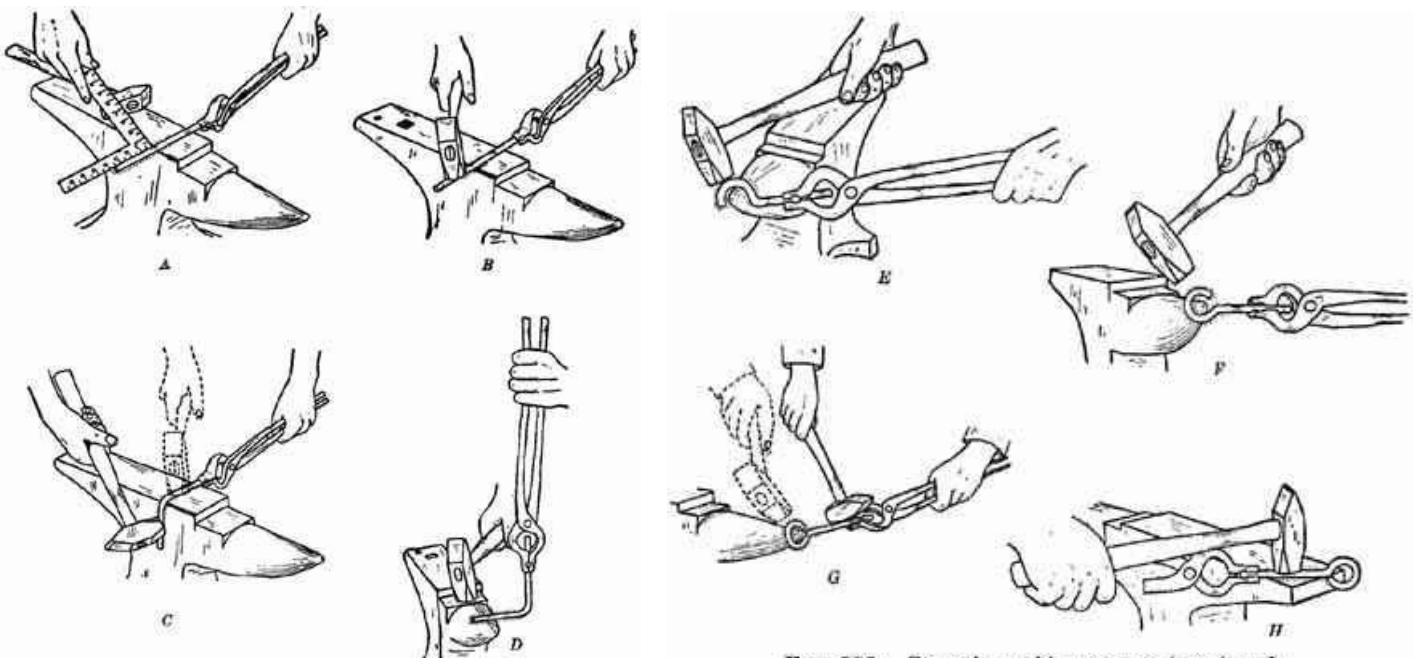


FIG. 255.—Steps in making an eye.

FIG. 255a. Steps in making an eye (continued)

Bending Flat Bars Edgewise. A flat bar can usually be easily bent edgewise by heating and placing over the horn and bending the two ends down slowly, using the hands if the piece is long enough, or two pairs of tongs in the case of short pieces (see Fig. 253). Sometimes the bending can be done easily by putting one end of the piece in the hardy hole and pulling on the other end (see Fig. 254). If the stock starts to buckle, it should be laid flat on the anvil and straightened. Hammering the outside edge of the iron when laid flat will tend to stretch it and therefore help with the beading. Once the bend is well started, hammering the piece on edge around the horn is not so difficult. The stock should always be firmly held, either by hands or with tongs, and the parts to be bent should be at a high red heat. Places not to be bent should be comparatively cold.

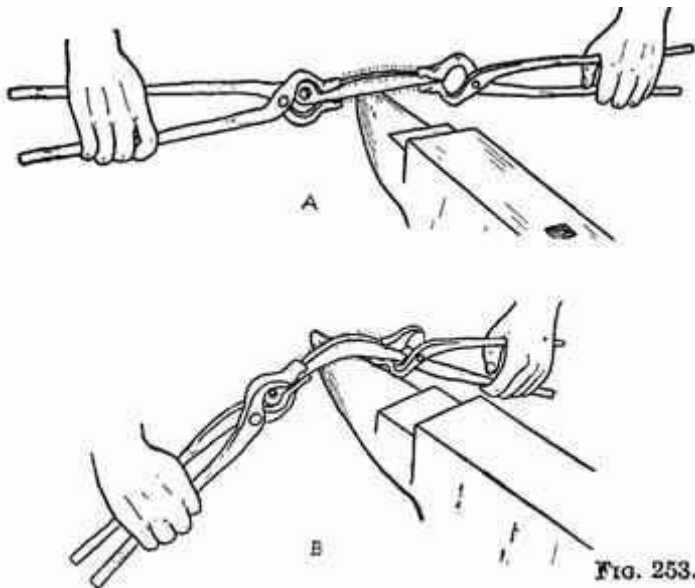
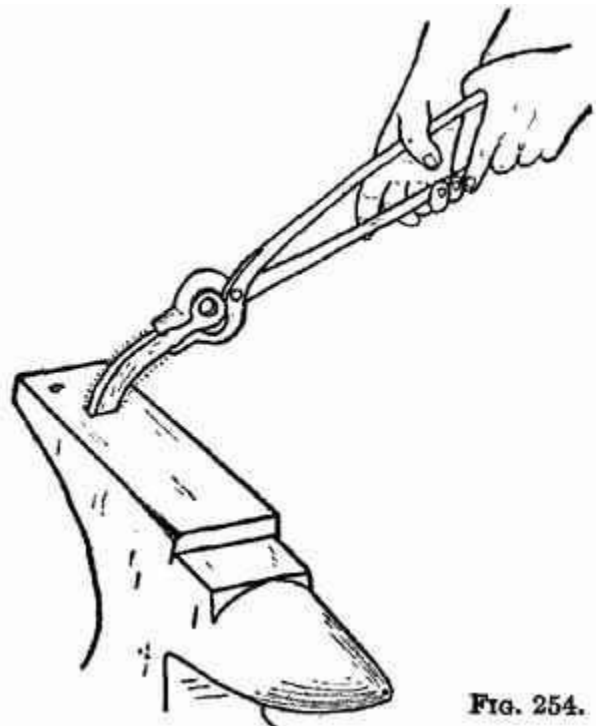


Fig. 253.-Flat iron may be bent edgewise by heating to nearly a white heat and bending slowly with tongs. This method is good in making flat chain hooks.

Fig. 254.-Bending of heavy pieces can sometimes be best accomplished in the hardy hole.





The *FORGE FIRE*

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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

May 17 Hammer In

Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers Shop of Jason Hardin

2631 So. Mill Creek Rd., Salem, IN 47167

Directions: From Salem, IN take IN-56 west about 3.8 miles.
Turn south on Mill Creek Road.
Travel about 1.2 miles and shop is on the right.

If you have questions call Jason at (812) 620-0105

Pitch in lunch