

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 '15 Vice Pres
50964 Lilac Rd,
South Bend, IN
(574) 277-8729
billeyconyerssr@yahoo.com

Bill Newman '15
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 Rosentrauer
8715 E. 375 N
Churubusco, IN 46723-9501
260-693-3267
rosentrad@cs.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

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.

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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.

Dec 13 2014	TED STOUT SHOP WEST POINT
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Jan 17 2015	TBD
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Feb 21 2015	TBD
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Mar 21 2015	BUSINESS MEETING DOC RAMSEYER SHOP
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President's Message

From the President

Remember that the December hammer-in is a week early. We will meet at Ted Stout's shop December 13, 2014. There will be a board meeting at the meeting. The board meeting is open to all members of the IBA. Board members please note we now have the capability to have meetings by conference phone calls. You may participate from off site if you cannot attend the meeting in person.

Hope you have your Christmas presents for others done.

Note to Fall Creek members, We will meet the third Saturday, December 20. We will be working on our garden bench for next years conference project.

Gary Phillips, IBA president

Editors Message

I am sad to report that Kenny Dettmer's shop was destroyed by fire the week before Thanksgiving. Some of the local blacksmiths are helping out to clean up and sort through debris for items that can be saved. Ken has traditionally hosted the February hammer in, with very high attendance. Condolences to Kenny. Hopefully he will back in a suitable shop quickly.

On a brighter note, the November hammer in was hosted by Jim Claar. Attendance was good, considering the artic blast of cold weather. Jim had his BIG wood stove going, so it was very pleasant inside. The highlight was watching Jim and his grandsons operate his large power hammer. The hammer mechanism is Jim's own design and very interesting. The action is similar to traditional helve hammers. A rotating cam (driven by an 18HP gasoline engine) raises the arm and attached ram. Heavy truck air suspension bags provide cushioning at each end of the stroke. The ram weighs in at 1100 pounds, so those of us who think 25 lb Little Giants are wonderful are out classed. Michael Wollowski provided a complete article on this hammer in the December 2013 Forge Fire. I encourage you to take another look at that article.

This months hammer in is being hosted by Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild at Ted and Carol Stout's house and shop. The Rocky Forge group will be conducting an auction during the hammer in to raise funds for their building project. Some auction preview items are shown on pages 5 and 6. Be sure to bring money. These are high quality items and should bring appropriate bids.

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

Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop

The Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop was opened by Bill Kendrick, who was very thoughtful and brought propane heaters, which were very welcomed. Kenny Dettmer continued to make chain for a display. This was educational for those who hadn't made chain and those who had. Jack was working on his tongs while Ray Dean experimented with a RR spike. Brian Simmons brought a tiller blade and was determined to turn it into a mini-machete. Ray decided that his RR spike was going to be an eagle and did pretty good at it.

This is the last hammer-in of this year at the Vernon shop. Our December meeting will be at Jim Watts, 1813 S. Co.Rd.175W, pitch in or local eatery. January meeting will be at Paul Bray's 139 S. Park Dr. Seymour, food provided.

We all regret Kenny Dettmer's loss which was very substantial. Words can't express our heartfelt feelings. He has a lot of work to do if you can help.

Paul Bray

IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

The Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

The November meeting was held on the Friday after Thanksgiving at Jeff Reinhardt's shop in Floyds Knobs. This is the annual Smoked turkey Hammer-in. Jeff smoked a turkey, and many others brought food and a fine repast was had. Jerry Robinette brought his wife bobby's special chicken and noodles, Pete Riddle brought meatballs and Mike Mills brought Pumpkin crunch. Others brought all the other dishes that make a meal complete. Had between 20-30 to attend and the shop was very full at times. A nice iron in the hat was held. The Wizard bike racks made for the City of Jeffersonville were picked up today and the officials stayed to visit and watch and join in the lunch. Looks as if the Brotherhood of Friendly Hammermen are wanted again for next years Steamboat days. Jeff Demonstrated a Messa lunna, and then Aaron Baker made one. Pete Riddle made a split cross, and then Jeff demonstrated forging Stainless steel making a handle for the "Chicken wacker" Butch Sparks brought to the meeting for a re-handle. Dave Kunkler made a conical punch for a new member to use on chain mail to punch rivet holes.

Next meeting will be at Dave Kunklers shop in Branchville.



Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild

Hello,

Tom Willoughby demonstrated several items at our last Rocky Forge Meeting, November 8th, one of the most prominent was his vulture. Gary Leeman did a good job capturing the process of making the vulture. It is attached and Gary said it would be fine to include in our various publications. Tom also expressed his okay to share the process. You can see his vultures on his website to get a better view of the finished product. He also made nice bracelets from 1/8" stainless welding wire by weaving, twisting and welding. They are very nice and I hope someone comes through with a similar set of drawings to show his process.

Hope to see Gary's drawings in our upcoming issues of the newsletters and Traditionalist. Thanks to Gary for the extra effort and to you guys for making it available for others to see.
Ted

(Editors Note: See pages 7 & 8 for the drawings)

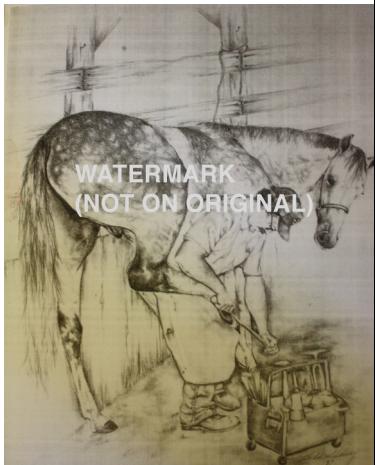
Rocky Forge Auction (at the December 13th IBA meeting)

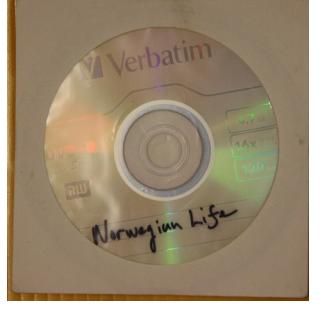
At the December 13th IBA meeting at Ted Stout's shop in West Point, IN, we will hold an auction of blacksmith gear. Shown below are photographs of a small selection of the many items that have been donated by our members. There is more to come. The proceeds will go to the Rocky Forge Blacksmith Building Fund. As many of you know, Rocky Forge has expanded its building in Rainsville, IN, to include a machine shop and wood shop in addition to its large blacksmithing shop. This last expansion has over-spent the clubs resources, and this auction will hopefully get us back in the black. There are some fabulous items, so please bring your wallets. We'll bring the donuts.

Two special auction items donated By Roger Davis:

1. Bardons & Oliver turret lathe: 1" collet capacity with lever closer; 600, 900, 1800, 3600 rpm (motor integral to spindle); spindle brake; 6" travel turret tailstock (6 holes @ 1"); several collets included (B&O pattern; Hardinge will make more); 220V 3-ph. Must be picked up at Roger Davis's shop (SE of Lafayette). Will help load to low trailer. Bar feeder included (needs stand). E-mail redavis@mintel.net for additional info.

2. Hydraulic shear: Powered hydraulic shear with an extra blade. ¾ hp, 120V single phase. Will cut ¼" x 3" HR steel in 3 seconds, and up to at least 5/8" round steel. Cuts 3/8" x 2", ½" x 1", etc.

		
Anvil clock, pencil drawing of Jim Keith, hammer heads, circular bending jig, small anvils, bending fork hardy, Jim Claar lap anvil.	Pencil drawing of Jim Keith. Donated by Jim Keith.	Rivet forge. Donated by Jim Keith

		
Hot cut hardy made by Ted Stout.	Tools owned by our dearly departed friend, John Haley	Vice mount circular bending jig
		
Jim Claar lap anvil, small IBA anvils, anvil clock	Fantastic Fire Pot made by Jim Claar	Another photo of Fantastic Fire Pot made by Jim Claar
		
2 T-shirts, and a tong made by Kenny Dettmer.	MAP Gas torch set	Norwegian Life DVD provided by KJ Groven
		
More tools owned by our dearly departed, John Haley	Hydraulic Shear front view	Hydraulic Shear side view

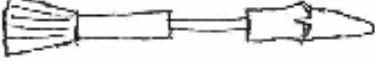
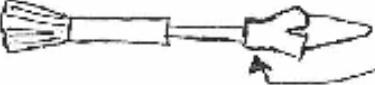
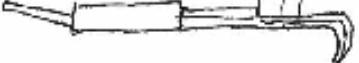
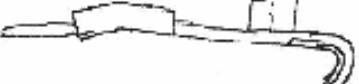
Tom Willoughby's Buzzard

Crown Point, IN by Gary D. Leeman

from his demonstration for the Rocky Forge
Blacksmith Guild Nov. 8, 2014

- 1.) 1/4" round stock, cut for beak portion
- 2.) forge down the beak, maintain width
- 3.) push back and angle the brow for eyes
- 4.) set the eyes Pupils are solid
Iris' are negative space
- 5.) fuller between the eyes
- 6.) eyelids formed by cut lines
- 7.) set down one or two eyebrows for a
mean look, frown or scowl while doing it
- 8.) point the beak (top view)
- 9.) crease sides of beak (side view)
- 10.) cut to set off the head portion
- 11.) cut to set off the neck portion
- 12.) fuller and draw out the neck

Buzzard Continued:

- 13.)  cut for tail
- 14.)  draw out tail to suit (top view)
- 15.)  Fuller both sides of head
- 16.)  Bend beak slightly more than 90°
- 17.)  put a bend in the body
- 18.)  put a strong droop in the neck
- 19.) Feet and wings made separately and welded on
- 20.) Feather texture on body and wings made with MIG welder
- 21.) Dimensions left off purposefully
- 22.) Breathing slits in top of beak



Jim Claar Hammer In

Featuring some very unique tools



Jim's Power Hammer



Angle "surface" grinder



Planishing hammer with plow spring



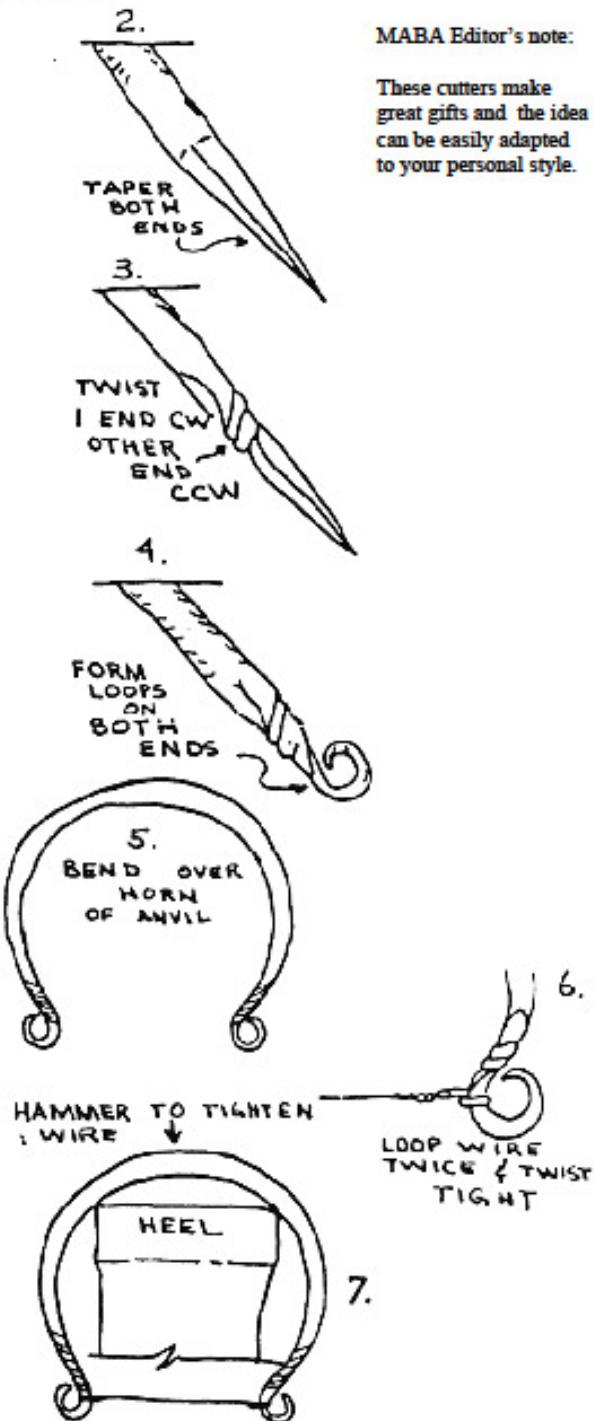
Variety of knives

Reprinted from the Blacksmith Association of Missouri Newsletter -1991

Making a Cheese Cutter

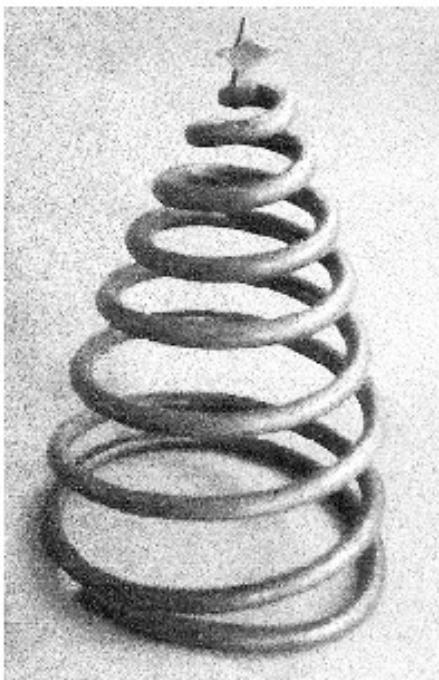
Here's a nice quickie project that has real customer appeal.

1. Start with a piece of 1/4" or 5/16" stock, either square or round, approximately 9" long.
2. Taper both ends an inch or so, whatever you think you'll need to make a nice loop on the end.
3. Twist the ends. Twist one end clockwise and the other counter-clockwise. You could also make decorative twists in the center of the handle at this time if you care to.
4. Then form loops on each end.
5. Bend into (GOD.....FORRID) a horseshoe shape by using the horn of the anvil.
6. Wrap a wire through one end of the loops twice, stretch to the other loop and wrap twice again. Wire such as .035 MIG wire, solid guitar or banjo strings, or solid piano wire work well.
7. Using the heel of the anvil, hammer the middle of the handle over the heel to tighten the wire.
8. Finish with a little vegetable oil to preserve the look you want.



MABA Editor's note:

These cutters make great gifts and the idea can be easily adapted to your personal style.



Christmas Tree

By Steve Anderson, a MABA member

Stock-

Large Tree: 1/4" round x 60"
Small Tree: 1/4" round x 40"

Taper down leaving 3/4" on end.



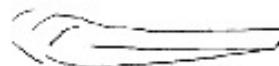
Place in vise and upset the end to about 3/8".



Bend the upset end to 90°, then wind 1/4" round stock into a tight coil, stopping about 4" from the end.

Heat the entire coil to uniform orange and clamp the end in a vise while supporting opposite side of the largest coil with tongs. Pull upwards on the center with a vise grips. As the first coil separates, use the tongs and a flat bit screw driver to support top of the coil as the next one pulls up. Continue to support, moving up as each coil separates. When the rings do not readily separate, use a flat bit screw driver to coax them apart.

Taper the last 3" of the tail end to a two sided taper.

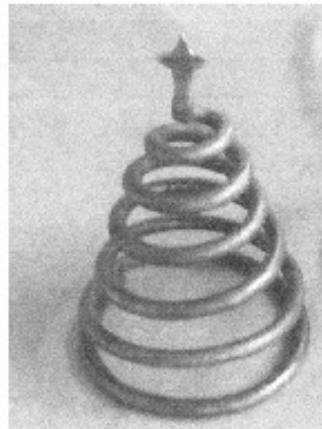


Then complete the last coil on the anvil horn.

Heat and flatten upset center to thin.

When it's cool, adjust the coils to form a symmetrical cone and file a star, cross or other ornament at the top.

Brass brush is optional and finish with wax, clear coat or paint.





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

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December 13 Hammer In

Shop of Ted & Carol Stout, West Point IN

From I-74, exit at Waynetown (9 miles west of Crawfordsville). Take highway 25 north thru Wingate. Proceed north to the flashing light where highway 28 intersects with 25 at Odel. (The sign reads Odel on both sides). Continue north for 2.5 miles to county road 700 South, turn west (left) on 700 south, Ted's shop is the first building on the left.

From Lafayette follow Highway 25 west to West Point. Proceed on 25 for 2.0 miles to road 700 south, turn west (right).