

The Anvil's Horn

A Publication of: The Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association

Issue No. 140

September, 2009

**Oak leaf and Acorn wall
sconce by Clark Martinek**



President's Message:

We had another very successful demo in Flagstaff in July; better attendance than was expected, and many new faces. The demos were excellent; thanks to Mark, Ray and Clark for their teaching, both during their demos and in the afternoon, working with smiths who tried their techniques. I was glad to see so many newer members working at the anvil, taking advantage of the opportunity to get help from more experienced folks.

I feel that AABA is in a rebuilding phase, and that it's going well. As you may know, our membership numbers have dropped this year, as people cut back in this severe recession. But recently we've been attracting new members, and I believe we should do all we can to befriend and mentor them in our craft. I've had two young smiths to my shop, (to practice making those cool horseshoe letter openers), and I hope the same is going on all over the state. Also a word to the new folks- call some of the smiths in your area and ask if you can visit their shop; I'm sure you'll get a warm reception.

Our next meeting will be at Bill and Karen Morris's shop in Camp Verde. They're wonderful hosts, and are kind enough to throw a Sat. night BBQ that's always a hoot. And Bill is merciful, always dispensing strong alcoholic beverages before starting to sing. Sometimes the coyotes howl to provide harmony.

Mark Finn, from Sedona, is our demonstrator. He did a great job 2 years ago, so we asked him for an encore. The shop tours that have become a tradition at this meeting are a popular extra added attraction; Camp Verde is a veritable hotbed of blacksmithing activity, and it's always interesting to see how other smiths set up their shops to work efficiently.

So, looking forward to seeing all of you in September. We can celebrate surviving another summer! Also, don't forget to send in your ballot; we need your input and feedback.

Ira

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AABA DEMO: September 19 & 20, 2009

Location:

Bill and Karen Morris'

195 Fort McDowell Place, Camp Verde, AZ

Phone: 928-567-2804 E-mail: azmorris195@msn.com

Registration: 8:30 a.m. **Demonstration:** 9 a.m.

Registration Fee: \$10 Members \$15 Non-Members

Demonstrator: Saturday: While working with clients in the Sedona area, Mark Finn has developed some interesting quick and easy techniques for creating “steel trees”. Mark will demonstrate several of these in the morning followed by hands-on work in the afternoon. Materials will be provided allowing attendees to gain practical experience in creating bark textures, knots, tree rings, and other botanical effects.

Sunday: A short demo followed by more hands-on .

Everyone is invited to donate to the “Iron In The Hat” with the proceeds going to our scholarship fund. A “Show and Tell” table will be available to display individual members’ works.

- **Accommodations:** Plenty of space is available at Bill’s for tent camping and *limited space* is available for dry RV camping. The Zane Grey RV Park is approximately 6 miles east on Highway 260 and there are several motels nearby.
- **Lunch on Saturday:** On your own. There are several restaurants and fast food places in the area.
- **Dinner Saturday night:** Bill and Karen will host a bring your own meat/fish and alcoholic beverage BBQ. Tossed salad, beans, coffee, soda, water, dessert, and music will be supplied.
- **Sunday breakfast:** coffee will be available, but breakfast will be on your own.
- **Numerous places of interest** are in the Camp Verde area including Pieh Tools, Ft. Verde State Park, Montezuma’s Castle, Montezuma’s Well, and the Cliff Castle Casino. Sedona and the Red Rocks are approximately 40 minutes away. On Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon the Camp Verde Farmers’ Market takes place 10 minutes away.

Directions to the Morris House

From Phoenix: I-17 North to General Crook Trail, Exit 285

Turn right at the stop sign at the end of the ramp. At the next stop sign, turn right onto Highway 260 East toward Payson. Drive east on 260 to Quarterhorse Lane the first right hand turn after you cross the Verde River bridge. Turn right onto Quarterhorse and drive to Ft Apache Road. Turn right onto Ft. Apache and drive to Ft. McDowell Place (first street on the left). Turn left onto Ft McDowell and drive to number 195 the white house with maroon trim on the left after the road curves.

From the East: Highway 260 to Quarterhorse Lane across Highway 260 from the Ranger Station and before you cross the Verde River. Turn left onto Quarterhorse and drive to Ft Apache Road. Turn right onto Ft. Apache and drive to Ft. McDowell Place (first street on the left). Turn left onto Ft. McDowell and drive to number 195 the white house with maroon trim on the left after the road curves.

From Flagstaff: I-17 South to Exit 287

Turn left onto Highway 260 East and drive to Quarterhorse Lane the first right turn after you cross the Verde River bridge. Turn right onto Quarterhorse and drive to Ft Apache Road. Turn right onto Ft. Apache and drive to Ft. McDowell Place (first street on the left). Turn left onto Ft. McDowell and drive to number 195 the white house with maroon trim on the left after the road curves.

As always, safety glasses are required.

July Demo Report: Flagstaff

Photos by Jason LaBrash



Above: Marc Larsen started off the morning with a knife forging demo.



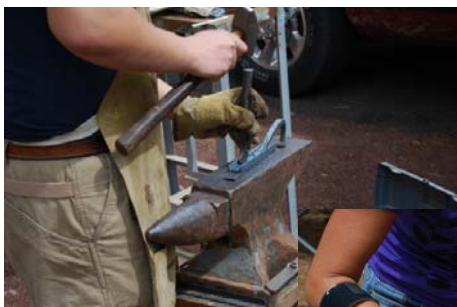
Clark Martinek went next. With a demo of a couple of architectural details made from channel



Ray Brown, followed (on the right). Ray made the forge poker below with a pineapple twist on the handle.



(Somehow, we didn't get photos of Clark's project or of Marc's knife. Our apologies.)



In the afternoon it was Hands-on. L: Clark puts a watchful eye on Bill

A little hot cutting. Roll the ear over the horn. Tapers the ears, add a little scrolling ...



...Collapse the center of the channel and you end up with a very cool detail which you had to be there to see.



With Lenny and Ivan both on vacation, Rich Rozinski took over the Iron-in the Hat and merchandise duty.



Clark brought this really cool, highly detailed little forge. As usual a lot of folks wanted to try forging a knife. Marc kept them headed in the right direction.



It happened to be Peter Sevin's 60th birthday, so Dave Hickson brought him a cake.. Peter struggled to blow out the firestorm of candles



The weather cooperated, everyone loved the projects and the demonstrators were great. There were some great Show and Tell items (Jay Kidwell's really blew me away). In all, it was a great day.



Bill Callaway Honored by ABANA - Bealer Award

By Len Ledet



The Alex W. Bealer Award is the highest honor ABANA can give to a blacksmith or person associated with blacksmithing. The award was created in honor of Alex Bealer, one of the founders of ABANA. Alex wrote the book, The Art of Blacksmithing, before ABANA was formed. It was published in 1969, a period of great decline for blacksmithing. The book became a catalyst that enabled isolated smiths to start networking and finding each other.

Several years later ABANA was formed through the efforts of Demitri Gerakeris, Alex Bealer, and others. Much work was done by Demitri to get ABANA established, but due to Alex's popularity through his book, Alex was used as the primary vehicle to get ABANA started.

Alex died unexpectedly of heart failure putting a shingle roof on a log cabin he was building and using his favorite tool, a *froe*. So, in his honor, ABANA, which was less than 10 years old, named

their most prestigious award, the Alex Bealer Award, after him and used the froe as its symbol.

The ABANA Bealer Award Committee is chartered to nominate the yearly recipient. The name is submitted to the ABANA Board for final approval. This year the froe was forged by the Colonial Williamsburg blacksmiths, Ken Schwarz and strikers. It has been engraved by master engraver Bruce LePage, an early ABANA member who is now a professional gun engraver; one of the best hand engravers of steel in the USA.

The award is not given lightly. It is given to someone who has helped preserve and promote the art of blacksmithing over an extended period of time.

This year, the Bealer Award is presented to Bill Callaway.

ABOUT BILL:

Bill's contributions to blacksmithing through his role in many events and activities are notable. In the late '70 Bill was key in establishing the *Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association*, an ABANA chapter. During the 80s he served as AABA president, secretary and newsletter editor for many years and was instrumental in the chapter's growth. He served on the AABA board for more than 20 years. Bill also was elected to the ABANA Board which he served on for eleven years, nine of which he was the Treasurer. Financially it was very trying time for ABANA, but with Bill's leadership, together with the Board the storm was weathered. While on the ABANA board, Bill was the originator of the idea for the HAMMER'S BLOW magazine. Bill was the organizer and leader of the 1986 Flagstaff Arizona ABANA conference. During the 80's Bill also began teaching blacksmith classes (where many got basic training). Also Bill involved the local chapter in city projects - one year the chapter donated and built gates and railings for a new park for the Phoenix Children's Hospital. Additionally for years Bill has been a very active board member of the local chapter. In 1999 Bill organized and was the leader for the very successful Phoenix Winter Fest. Once again Bill was the organizer and leader of another ABANA conference, the very successful 2000 Flagstaff Arizona Conference. Several years later Bill organized and ran three basic blacksmithing classes for "LADIES ONLY", a very well received offering. Bill's list of participation in and creation of events that has helped the Blacksmithing craft once again to shine, are many.

In Summary Bill's dedication to Blacksmithing and its enhancement for the past 30 years meets and exceeds all the requirements for the award. Congratulations.

Bill,

I wish I could present this to you, though any of your many friends in the smithing community would be equally honored to present it or be there when you get it. It was difficult for me ethically to be Chair Of The Committee when you receive the award for a couple of reasons. First, I know and like you. Secondly I started the Blacksmith Association of Missouri with your encouragement and advice and help. For that alone you deserved this award. But you were chairman of 2 ABANA Conferences, on the ABANA Board, started your group, and, helped so many smiths in all phases of blacksmithing, brought top world copper smiths to ABANA Conferences, world attention and changed the very lives of the people in their community.

There are many people who deserve this award, but I know of none that so many people literally demanded that you receive the award. So it is with great pleasure that I played my small part in getting this to you. Many others were involved. Some other froes were beautiful. This, to my knowledge is the very nicest we ever presented, and you deserve it so much. I am pleased to call you friend.

Bob Patrick

Bealer Committee Chair, 2009.



Dear Folks,

What a surprise to open my front door and find thirty-five of you standing there, all coming to see me receive the Alex Bealer Award. How can I ever thank all of you enough? It was really a special evening to have all of you with me in my home for a great memory.

What I really want to say is that this award is as much yours as it is mine. Many of you have worked for so long to make our association the absolute best in the country.

I have always believed that because we have so many dedicated people willing to step up and help, that it makes our association remarkable. Over the years I have seen many associations have problems, but our Arizona group always seems to run smoothly.

I am so proud that we now have two members on the national Board of Directors of ABANA. With all the problems ABANA has had in recent years I know Doug and Len will help the organization run more efficiently.

Again, I want to thank you all for being my friends and coming to share my surprise and delight. It was a special event in my life..

Very Best Regards,

Bill Callaway



LAP DANCES

By Barry Denton

Ha! I got your attention didn't I? Well, if you are going to make a good lap weld you must DANCE through it properly. I don't know why welding in the fire intimidates so many people, but the best way to get over fear is to confront it again & again. I think I can safely say that the lap weld is probably the most common and one of the easiest welds to make. We can discuss jump and faggot welds at a later date. Let's just get through the lap weld today.

Go out to your scrap pile and find a good piece of mild steel bar about 10" or so long. Make sure both ends are square to begin with. Since I always use rounding hammers I will describe the process using one. Also, I normally use a coal fire for this, but have made hundreds of these in a gas fire as well. The only difference is the type of flux you use. When your 10" bar is straight and the ends are square, stick one end in your fire. When it is orange place it perpendicular on the anvil's face shoving the end to the off edge of the anvil. With the flat side of your hammer begin to make a 45 degree scarf on the end of your bar. You have the bar on the edge of the anvil so the side of your hammer doesn't strike the anvil's face when you are scarfing. After reheating, scarf the other end of the bar from the opposite side. Next, I like to heat the entire bar and bend it into a ring. Overlap the ends of the bar about $\frac{3}{4}$ " with the scarfs opposite of each other. Now for the tricky parts that beginners seem to miss.

First of all put your bar back into the fire and reheat to orange. Pull the ring out of the fire and brush the lap clean with a tough steel brush, especially where the scarfs meet the bar. When it is clean pour a minimal amount of flux on the top and bottom joints only. You do not need a half can of flux all over the lap. All flux does is keep the oxygen out of your weld. Oxygen creates scale. When this has been done, place back into the fire until a welding heat has been reached. If you are using a gas fire the flux will begin to "crawl or shimmer". If you

are using a coal fire you will start to see some minor sparks emitted from the fire itself. At welding heat promptly place the lap on the center of the anvil face and strike lightly with the ROUND end of your hammer. This will drive the oxygen and impurities out of your weld so the steel can bond. Welding with the flat side of the hammer seems to trap the impurities inside the lap so you cannot get a good weld. In a coal fire you can easily weld in one heat. With the gas fire it may take two or three welding heats.

There are a few key steps in here. Get your laps tight. Before you apply flux clean your steel thoroughly. Use a minimal amount of flux on the edges of the scarfs. Get your steel to a welding heat. Weld with the round end of your hammer. Do it the same every time until you get the process down.

So, just what kind of lap dances did you think we were going to talk about?



Drawer Pull by Michael Sobrado. Check out dragonforgellc.com for Michael's impressive gallery.

Iron in the Desert, Dove Project Update

Dear Arizona Blacksmiths Artists:

Thank you for your support of the Area Agency on Aging, Region One, DOVES® program for older victims (age 50 and older) of domestic violence and elder abuse. DOVES® provides transitional housing for up to 2 years, food, clothing, job readiness training, case management and the necessities of daily living. At DOVES®, these victims gain self confidence and their wounds, both physical and emotional, begin to heal as they learn to be self reliant members of society.

Without this facility, many of the victims would either return to their abuser or be left to fend for themselves on the street. Most have few financial resources and experience overwhelming fear, shame and embarrassment at finding themselves in these circumstances.

Statistics reveal that 1 out of every 3 women in the U.S. will be a victim of domestic violence during her lifetime. This societal ill has until recently been hidden from the public eye. Older women in particular from a generational perspective have been made to feel that they are responsible for creating the trauma, and so they feel obligated to suffer in silence. No person of any age should be degraded by abuse. By creating public awareness through the DOVES® program, as well as ensuring the victim's opportunity for survival, we truly are giving abuse victims a second chance.

We appreciate your generosity and willingness to participate in the "Iron in the Desert" event and look forward to working with you to create awareness of your talents and support for DOVES®.

Sincerely,
Geiry Kroloff
Vice President of Community Relations
Area Agency on Aging, Region One
602-241 -6129/kroloff@aaaphx.org

A group of AABA members met with representatives from Dove's Inc. on August 11 with the goal of discussing the details for the Iron In The Desert. Here's the result.

Iron In the Desert will be an annual fundraiser for Doves Inc –this is the first. Doves has enlisted an excellent chef to apply his craft to create a dining event for area businesses and professionals. Actually, for anyone willing to contribute \$75 per meal, or \$500 per table of 10 for the privilege of attending. AABA members will set up to demonstrate and offer their crafts for sale during the event.

To participate, an AABA member will need to donate an item to Doves (100% of the proceeds from this item will go to Dove). Anything members sell during the event will be a 75 –25 split with Doves receiving 25%. Doves provide the cashier (they have the sales tax license and a credit card machine) and will send a check to each craftsman for his/her share within a couple days. Participants do not need to demonstrate, but they do need to be present.

For AABA members this is an opportunity to sell items you have made and to advertise your studio/ company/ art to folks who can afford to buy it. It is also an opportunity to support the efforts of a much needed program..

This year **Iron in the Desert** will be held October 24, at a large historic property in Cave creek. There is lots of space to set up several forging stations, but electrical power is limited.

Blacksmiths would need to be there from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The event starts at 4:00. Dinner at 5:00. They expect 200 – 300 people to attend.

We thought it would be interesting to make garden stakes with a Dove theme. However, any items, craft or art, that you think will sell or that you think might sell your company/studio will be welcome.

Doves will be advertising the event and would like to list the sponsoring blacksmiths in their ads. They would like to have your name, address, phone number, email, website and if possible, a photo of you and your work. They would like it ASAP to be able to include it in the advertising.

To sign up or for more info: contact Roger LaBrash before October 1.
602-716-9660 grizz@grizzlyiron.com

CALENDAR 2009-2010

September 18	BOD Meeting	Bill and Karen Morris'	Camp Verde
September 19 & 20	Demo Mark Finn	Bill and Karen Morris'	Camp Verde
October 24	Dove's Project		Cave creek
November 14	Demo	Grizzly Iron	Phoenix
December 5	Auction and Banquet	Sahuaro Ranch	Glendale
January 16 & 17	Demo Caleb Kullman	Sahuaro Ranch	Glendale
January 18,19,20	Workshop w/Caleb Kullman	Sahuaro Ranch	Glendale
March 20 & 21	Demo	Triangle R Ranch	Oracle

November 14:

Demo Challenge

A sculpture piece made with the following criteria, and any or all of the following, but not to exceed:

- 20 feet of ½ inch round stock
- 20 feet of ¼ inch round stock
- 10 feet of 3/4 inch square stock
- 10 feet of 1/2 by 2" flat stock
- 1 - 2' x 2' piece of sheet metal any gauge
- 1 - 1' x 1' piece of any of the following: copper, brass, stainless, or aluminum
- 1 additional item of any material, it can be already made.... ie: a pen....or it can be another medium like glass, wood, plastic, etc
- This can be an individual or team effort.
- Use your imagination, get a few friends (or not) be creative, and start forging.

Bring your creation to the November demo at Grizzly Iron. There will be guest judges.

Caleb Kullman Workshop

Caleb will be teaching a workshop at Sahuaro Ranch January 18-20. Caleb is the president of the Rocky Mountain Smith Blacksmithing Association in Colorado. His work is incredible. We'll have more info in the next issue. Save the dates, you'll want to attend!

Deadline: October 9 for the November issue of the Anvil's Horn. Earlier would be greatly appreciated. Articles, photos, notices, and ads can be emailed to: Danshammer@cox.net or mailed to AABA 2522 W. Loughlin Dr. Chandler,

Welcome New Members

Angela Jensen & Tim Wentworth
Wade Smith
Tom Lever
Bill Campbell

AABA Nominations: BOD & Officers

The nominees for officers for 2010 are:

President: Roger "Grizz" LaBrash

First VP: Mary Ann LaRoche

Second VP: Paul Diefenderfer

Secretary: Terry Porter

Treasurer: Len Ledet

Nominees for the Board of Directors:

Paul Gaffer, Bill Gano, Ivan Hill, Ron Kinyon, Doug Klunder, Rick Miller, Bill Morris

Continuing board members :

Pat Clark, Harold Hilborn, Jason LaBrash

2009 Auction & Banquet

Our annual auction and banquet is quickly approaching. This year it will be on Saturday, December 5, 12:00 noon at Sahuaro Ranch. We will have great food, awesome raffle prizes, beautiful auction items, and just a great time to relax with old friends.

Now would be a good time to start working on your auction item(s). Look for more news to come in the next Anvil's Horn and on AZ-blacksmith.org.

Education and Workshops

If you are interested in taking a class or building equipment in a workshop contact: Grizz (602-716-9660 grizz@grizzlyiron.com) or Richard Rozinski (602-803-7555 rrosinski@cox.net)

AABA Website: AZ-blacksmiths.org

Mesa Arts Center Fall Classes

**Blacksmithing Instructor: Michael So-
brado will offer two six week classes**

- Learn the basics of forging steel
- Student projects will include creating traditional forms in steel, such as leaves, tongs, chisels, scroll forks. Scroll candle holders, trivets or door knockers.

**711306-01 TH Sept 10-Oct 15 6-9PM
\$104 R \$124 NR**

**711306-02 TH Oct 22-Dec 3 6-9PM
\$104 R \$124 NR**

**Bladesmithing Instructor: Frank Chris-
tensen, one four week class**

- Beginning to advanced level.
- Learn to forge a knife blade to shape using a coke forge, hammers and anvil.
- Final shaping, finishing, heat treat and temper using both forge and kiln.
- Complete the knife with a handle.

711392-01

For more info or to sign up, call or visit the
Art Studios:

Mon-Fri 8:30am - 10pm

Sat 8:30am - 5pm During class sessions

Address: 1 East Main Street PO Box 1466
Mesa, Arizona 85211-1466

Telephone: Admin 480-644-6501

Be sure to include your email address on the
registration form so the instructors can con-
tact you.

Pieh Tool Announces Fall Class Schedule

Gordon Williams will be offering his beginning/
intermediate classes at the Bill Pieh Resource for
Metalwork on the following dates.

September 25-27

Oct 23-25

Nov 20-22

Dec 4-6

7 am - 6 pm

For more info or to sign up contact:

Pieh Tool Co.

661 E Howards Rd., Ste J

Camp Verde, AZ 86322

928-554-0700 or <http://www.piehtoolco.com>

***Check out the Randy McDaniel demo and
workshop information on page 15.***

Anvil's Horn Via Email

This service is available to members only and we
ask that you not forward the newsletter to non-
members. (You will still get your hardcopy in the
mail.) To sign up, email webmaster John Doss at:
jdoss@rock-n-rod.com

Roster Additions

Last month's AH included the 2009 roster. Some
folks renewed after the deadline, and Terry wants
to be sure there are we included. On page 18,
you'll find a couple corrections and quite a few ad-
ditions.

AABA New Member and Membership Renewal Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Professional blacksmith _____ Hobbyist _____ Farrier _____ Blades smith _____

Your main blacksmithing interest _____

Occupation or skill _____

Please check one:

Regular membership (\$30) _____

Family membership (\$35) _____

Mail to: Terry Porter
2310 E. Melrose St.
Gilbert, AZ 85297

Make Check Payable to AABA

Jesse E. Hawley: August 22, 1907–July 14, 2009

By Peter Sevin

Jesse E. Hawley, author of The Blacksmith and his Art, died on July 14, 2009, six weeks short of his 102nd birthday. Jess, as his friends called him, was present at and one of the founders of what I call the Great American Blacksmithing Revival.

Jess was born on August 22, 1907 in Oklahoma territory, the youngest of 10 children. When he was 2 years old his father moved the family to Wichita, where his mother and two sisters died in a cholera epidemic in 1909. Growing up in Las Vegas, New Mexico, he was raised by his father, a blacksmith and millwright. His



father, seeing his trades becoming less relevant in the modern era, encouraged his son to train as a tool and die maker. Subsequently Jess served an apprenticeship with General Electric in Indiana. Following his apprenticeship, he embarked upon a most remarkable career. One of his first jobs was with the Zimmer Corporation in Warsaw, Indiana, where he developed and patented medical equipment, including traction devices and a bonesaw which is still in use today. During this time he also worked several winters with a government hunter tracking mountain lions in New Mexico and managed to build his own airplane and learn to fly it. When the depression came he was able to keep his job, although at drastically reduced pay. Since he was one of the few bringing home a paycheck, he joined relatives and neighbors to pool their resources, growing their own food, and glean-ing crops. Jess told me that at times he thought that perhaps he had never lived better than during those days of the depression.

Due to respiratory problems he packed up his family and returned to the west in 1936. Arriving in Phoenix in 1938, he got his first job not

only due to his skill but also because he had more tools than the shop he had applied to. By the time WW2 arrived Jess was running his own shop and was awarded several war contracts. During the war his shop produced upwards of 60,000 mounts for .50 caliber machine guns and a special wrench which was used in every military vehicle. He once told me that his shop took two days off during the war; Christmas, 1944, and New Years Day, 1945, because “it looked like we were going to win it.” Following his career of running several tool and die businesses, Jess “retired” and followed his many interests, including blacksmithing. In 1970 he built a shop which was a replica of a turn of the century shop he had seen in Colorado. Due to illness he sold the shop several years later, but after his recovery he set up shop at home where he continued his work. In 1976 he published The Blacksmith and His Art, at a time when there was little of the information that is available today. Drawing on his own experience, his extensive library, and trips to Europe (he spent several months with some Spanish coppersmiths and blacksmiths, and time with English and

Scottish smiths), he wrote a book dealing with the history and development of the blacksmith. There are chapters on the smith as seen in the bible, in mythology, in literature, and as a subject of artists and sculptors. The book goes on to cover the tools and the seven basic operations of smithing with projects involving them. The book contains a lot of useful information, and the bibliography is incredible. In the year 2000 Jess gave the rights to the book to the Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association from which it is still available.

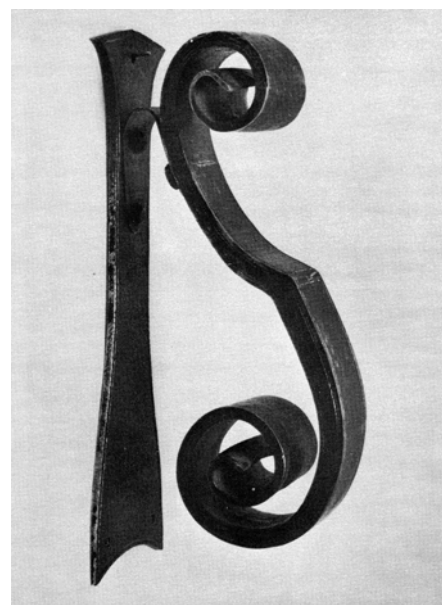
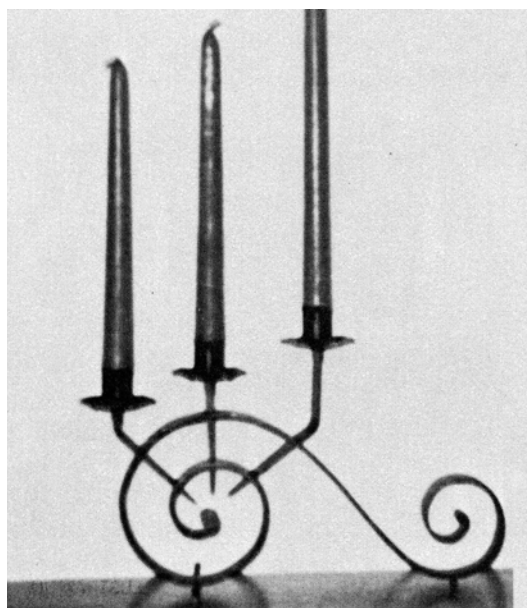
I met Jess shortly after the publication of his book. What followed was an intense education which resulted in his encouragement and support in establishing my own shop in 1978. Our relationship continued over the years as Jess went on to follow his many other interests. He studied photography and built some of his own cameras. He loved woodworking, especially making his own tooling and fixtures. He explored alternative energy, designing and building windmills and water wheels. He pursued weaving, coopering, writing a memoir and poetry. He was one of the first persons I knew to buy and use a computer. He was a man of insatiable curiosity and was a voracious reader. His ability to “cannibalize” old machinery to make new machinery and devices was uncanny. He had a close circle of friends whom he mentored and who used him as a source of advice and problem solving. If you couldn’t figure something out you called Jess. He could always be found in his shop working on projects and inventions. He possessed that formidable work ethic which built this country.

Our friendship deepened over the years and as he became frail I loved to hear him talk about his life. He was ardent in his desire to portray his formative years and the values that came with it; hard work, education, development of skills, and loyalty to friends, family, and country. In his later years he turned his mind once again to the development of alternative energies; wind, waves, and a high efficiency steam engine. Like many, Jess believed that solving the energy problem was the key to our future.

I consider my relationship with Jess one of

the great experiences of my life, and I think now that his greatest gift to me came in 1981 when he gave me a push and more or less told me “you’re on your own now.” At first I was somewhat resentful, all I could think was that I was in no way ready, but in retrospect I realize that in his wisdom it was the best thing he could have done for me.

Jess Hawley was a man who took his first trip in a covered wagon and lived long enough to be able to “google” all the information he could ever imagine. What came in between was an amazing life that could fill volumes.



*A couple pieces of Mr. Hawley's work from
The Blacksmith and His Art*

An Unplanned Pilgrimage

By Harold Hilborn

This summer my wife and I planned to take a little car trip through New Mexico and The Colorado Rockies to see some areas we had not seen before. When we were in Aspen I remembered about the Francis Whitaker Memorial Blacksmith Shop located on the Colorado Rocky Mountain School campus in Carbondale CO. It was late in the day on Friday, so we headed in that direction to spend the night in Carbondale.

We arrived at the school at about 3 pm and were happy to see that the blacksmith shop was open and people were working in it. I walked in and introduced myself to the instructor Elliott Norquest and asked if I could look around and take some pictures. He said yes and explained to me that this class was made up of a group of dis-



advantaged inner city high school kids from around the country there for a 5 week summer camp.

I started to look around and my adrenalin began to kick in as it sunk in where I was and what I was looking at. The name Francis Whitaker is known to almost all in the blacksmithing world. Everyone has a opinion of him, either pro or con. Which says something in itself.

As I walked around, I thought what a wonderful shop. It is a log building with a dirt floor covered in thick coal dust and a small bit of concrete around a desk area. There were 6 well equipped coal forging stations and no propane forges anywhere that I could see. The walls were filled with scrolling jigs, story boards, samples of every kind and hand tools. There was a very limited amount of power tools. A drill press, mechanical power

hammer, drill press, band saw, sheet metal brake, slip roll, hand hydraulic press, oxyacetylene rig and a old tombstone shaped Lincoln AC/DC welder.

In the very back was a tool room, 6 feet wide 25 ft long with shelving 8 ft tall, floor to ceiling

This is the holy grail of blacksmithing stuff. It had everything one could think of as far as blacksmithing tools and hardware goes. There were lots of old narrow boxes filled with hardware, some of which I had never seen before. It reminded me of Ollivander's wand shop in the Harry Potter movies.

I could have spent all day in there just looking at all the items and taking pictures. I stepped out of the room feeling a little overwhelmed at everything and realized this is what you collect after 77 years of blacksmithing. Elliott told me they keep it just like he set it up and you think he would step back in at any minute. But maybe he was still there?

I started to watch the class and realized Elliott was having a hard time getting around to help



the kids. They were learning to start their first fires and some were getting frustrated. (Some of us know how that goes.) I went up and asked him if he would like me to help and he enthusiastically said yes. So I dove in and started to have some fun.

I helped one young lady get her fire going. Then another young man. Then I came to a third young man and I looked at the forging area and realized this must be Francis's forge where he had done all his work. We cleaned his fire pot out and put in some fresh paper. I grabbed some coke then pulled some coal in around the paper with my bare hands and realized the coal was wet. I started laugh uncontrollably out loud because I had reminded myself of a story about Francis's coal and two AABA members. Everyone looked at me like I was losing my mind and the young man asked me what was so funny. I told him I was just happy to be here; having a good time and I truly was.

Once the fires were all lit they were all given a piece of bar stock to put in the fire and forge in to shapes of any kind. The young lady had forged a leaf shape which she did not realize. I helped finish it out. She was amazed when we finished her leaf.

After the two hour class was over I did not want to leave. I would say to all if you ever have a chance to stop by, you should do so. They also offer several workshops and a conference once a year. If you are able to attend any of these functions you won't be disappointed.



Randy McDaniel Demo and Workshop at Pieh Tool

September 26, 2009

Blacksmithing Demo with Randy McDaniel at Pieh Tool
Cost is \$100 (Lunch included)

September 27 & 28, 2009

2 day Blacksmithing Workshop with Randy
McDaniel at Pieh Tool

Cost is \$350 (all materials are provided)

Randy has taught basic and advanced workshops for more than twenty-five years. These include workshops at the University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA, Penland School of Crafts, J.C. Campbell Craft School, Appalachian Center for Crafts, New England School of Metalwork, Peters Valley Craft School and for many regional blacksmithing groups from coast to coast. Randy was also a lecturer and demonstrator for the Artist-Blacksmith Association of North America's International Conference at Alfred, New York in 1990 and at LaCrosse, Wisconsin in 2002.

Mr. McDaniel is the author and illustrator "A Blacksmithing Primer and A Course In Basic And Intermediate Blacksmithing". The Anvils' Ring" has featured Randy and his works many times over the years.

For more information or to sign up contact:
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Critters by Randy

Valerie Vostenak: Wins National Jewelry Award & is ABANA's Newest Board Member

In the last Anvil's Horn we introduced new AABA member Valerie Vostenak from Cottonwood. Valerie you might recall is a longtime blacksmith, metalsmith, and a fantastic artist. So fantastic, in fact, that she is the winner of - well, here's the press release:

"VOSTENAK studios is the 2009 winner of a national competition for new American jewelry designers. The Jewelry Design Business Development Grant is awarded to a new entrepreneur each year in recognition of design talent and business acumen. Owner Valerie Vostenak will receive a prize package including a \$6,000 grant of start up capital and supplies in recognition of her entrepreneurial skills and design talents."

In other news, Valerie, with a little arm twisting from other ABANA board members, decided to run for the ABANA board of directors. Many of you signed her nominating petition. Since there was a vacancy on the board she was appointed to fill that vacancy and is now ABANA's newest board member.

Valerie joins Doug Kluender and Len Ledet as Arizona representatives to ABANA.



Jewelry by Valerie

Dumb Things Not To Do

By Dan Jennings

Actually, this should fall into the smart things to do category.

Recently, while using my small inverter welder outside with an extension cord, it failed to start when switched on. I immediately unplugged it from the wall, took the connectors apart. Sure enough, a wire had come loose inside the plug on the welder, even though the strain relief was still tight and doing its job. I made the repair, tightened all the lugs and went back to work.

The very next day, my plasma cutter failed to start when switched on. This time, I found a loose hot wire and a burned through neutral lug. This required a trip to Home Depot for a new plug.

In relaying these issues to other blacksmiths I found that it is a pretty common occurrence, especially on welders. It seems that when an arc is struck the wires actually surge or jump from the high amount of current running through the wires. This surge can cause the wires to move in the connectors and come loose.

In my shop the electrical circuits are run in conduit. Quite often, especially when using the big stick welder, one can hear the wires rattle in the conduit. When I first built my shop, that movement of the wires caused a wire nut to fall off inside a metal junction box. There were sparks shooting out the hole that the bare wire had burned through the box, but the 50 amp, 220 volt breaker never blew (why do we need the welders when the bare wires would do the welding?)

I found that many electricians don't like wire nuts for these high current applications. I replaced the wire nuts with copper screw lugs wrapped in electrician's rubber tape and covered with electrical tape, all (including the advice) of which I got from Evergreen Hardware.

It would be a great idea to take all your welding plugs apart, inspect and tighten the wire lugs. A little prevention might keep you alive.

A Gift for a Gardener

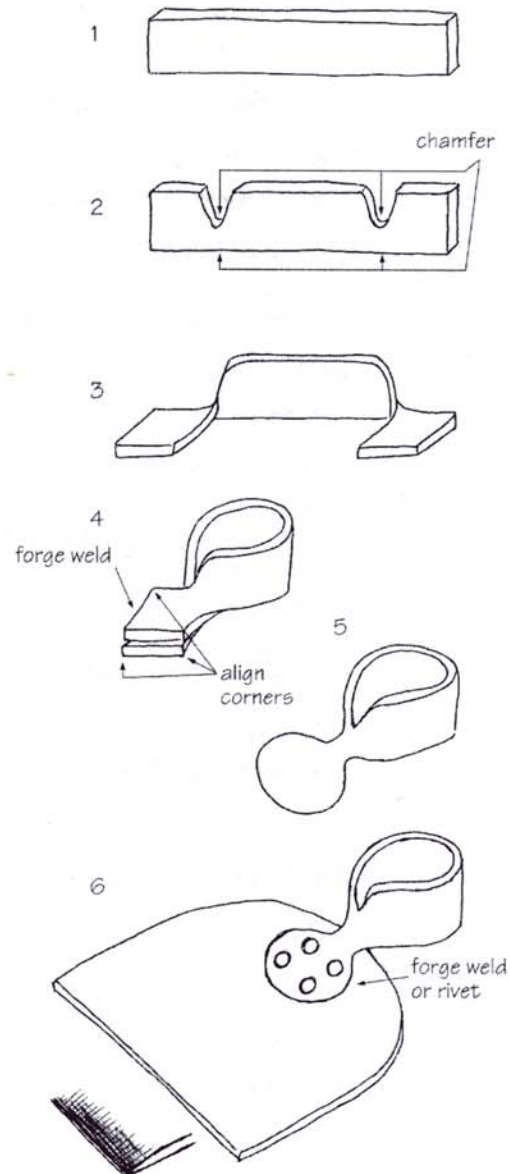
Reprinted from the California Blacksmith, No. 09-03, May/June 2009;
adapted from an article by Mike Meyer in the OKI Forgers April 2009 newsletter, Ohio

This traditional hoe design was inspired by Mike's visit to the Colonial Williamsburg Blacksmith Shop a couple of years ago. The method shown here was used to make various hoe styles – broad, garden, furrowing. Mike's instructions and drawings are for a garden hoe with an approximate blade dimension of $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 6" x 8". The strength of the hoe will depend on Steps 2 and 6. Mike's drawings show a round connecting tab that can be either welded or riveted. A triangular shape was also used.

You may think your favorite gardener does not need another hoe. But when you go out in the garden with your handmade hoe to help, a trade will be at the back of her or his mind, especially if your touch mark or initials are on it.

1. Forge square or round stock to approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{3}{16}$ " by about 7" long (or start with flat stock).
2. Fuller two notches on the same edge of the bar $1\frac{3}{4}$ " from each end. Do not fuller any deeper than two-thirds of the width, in this case 1". Smooth out, but do not remove, the upset that occurs from the fullering. The upset gives the hoe more strength.
3. Twist the resulting tabs so that they both lie 90° to and on the same side of the bar. (To reduce the opportunity for stress cracks, chamfer the back edge of the bar at the fullering points and the inside edges of the deepest part of the fullers before twisting.)
4. Curl the stock to create the eye while also overlapping the tabs. The meeting surfaces of the tabs need to be clean and free of scale. Align all the tab corners.
5. Forge weld the tabs together – a faggot weld – maintaining as much thickness as possible if the handle eye is going to be forge welded to the blade. Shape the tab to your preference – square, round, oval, triangular, heart or your own design.
6. Cut the blade to shape and file all sides to remove sharp edges before welding or riveting the handle eye to it. Two rivets should be at the back of the tab and parallel to the blade, where most of the stress occurs, and additional rivet(s) should be placed at the front of the tab.

Optional: Put a $\frac{1}{2}$ " chamfered edge on the top side of the working edge of the blade and straighten the edge again with a file. A hoe's edge should not cut you as a knife would.



ROSTER CORRECTIONS:

Evanson Keith & Jillene realwrought@gmail.com not redwrought.com

Holland Vernon vcdutch@q.com not g.com

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Keep in Touch With Free Newsletters on the Web

The following is a list of blacksmithing groups that have a Web site that offers a free newsletter that can be downloaded without having to join the group:

1. Balcones Forge www.balconesforge.org
2. Blacksmith Association of Missouri www.bamsite.org
3. Blacksmith's Guild of the Potomac www.bgop.org
4. Central States Metal Artisans <http://gpba.abana-chapter.com/>
5. Florida Artist Blacksmith Association www.blacksmithing.org
6. Kentucky Blacksmiths' Association <http://ky.abana-chapter.com/>
7. New Jersey Blacksmith Association <http://njba.abana-chapter.com/>
8. Northeast Blacksmiths Association www.northeastblacksmiths.org/
9. North Texas Blacksmiths Association - <http://home.flash.net/~dwwilson/ntba/>
10. Old Dominion Blacksmith Association www.odbsa.com
11. Southwest Artist-Blacksmith Association www.swaba-abana-chapter.org
12. Tidewater Blacksmith's Guild www.tidewaterblacksmiths.com
13. Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association www.wraba.com
14. Vancouver Island Blacksmith's Association www.viblacksmiths.com

Classifieds

Classified ads are free to members and can be submitted by email to: danshammer@cox.net

Miller 35 MIG welder. 230 v , excellent condition \$600.00
3500 psi pressure washer, 5 HP Honda, \$200.00
Steel workbenches 30 x 60 \$25.00
Boston gear right angle gear reducers.
Heavy Duty Dodge box speed reducer 15: 1 ratio.
Various size 3 phase motors.
Doug Kluender 602-818-1230

#5 Old World Anvils Flypress with factory stand, toolplate, some tooling. \$1300. Call Michael 480-529-0206. Email dragonforgeI@cox.net.

Kinyon Simple Air Hammer, 75#. \$1500 OBO.
Call Peter Sevin: 602-320-2384

L Brand Coke For Sale
\$22 for 50 lb Bag
S5 Tool Steel for Sale
1", 1 1/4" and 2" Round Available
12-14" Lengths. \$3 per pound
Call 602-716-9660

35 ton C frame mechanical press. Frame only. Would make a great hydraulic forging press.
\$100.00 OBO
Harold Hilborn 520-603-6723

New style Kinyon air Hammer "Mark 2". 30 Lb head weight, total hammer weighs 565 Lbs. This hammer was made to be portable, short and light weight It will run on a 3 Hp compressor. \$2900
Ron Kinyon @ 602-568-8276

If anyone is interested in a side draft coal forge, but don't have the time to build your own, I would love to build one for you.
Parts and labor cost will vary. Call Clark Martinek for details 602 323 4114.
See Page 13 of March AH for photo

Wanted: Someone "near" 43rd & Bethany Home area willing to teach an apprentice. I am 17, Sophomore, don't yet drive, ROTC student with my life back on track wanting to learn blacksmithing skills. Will work weekends for knowledge. Contact very new member Tim Wentworth at qm33@cox.net or 623-934-5511 Thank You.

Sources

Rocky Mountain Smiths have videos available of their conference demonstrators. Most of these are high quality edited, multi-camera videos. For more info go to:

Enco Metalworking supplies.
800-873-3626 or shop online at: use-enco.com

Bar U Bar Supply

The source for anvils, post vises, and other new & used blacksmith tools. Barry Denton ph 928-442-3290
email: barubarranch@gmail.com

IMS (formerly Capitol Metals). Full service supplier of Steel, Stainless, Brass, Aluminum, Copper. 5150 S. 48 ST. PHX. 602-454-1500

Pieh Tool Company Inc.

Blacksmith Supplies, Coal, coke, & Kasenit #1 in 1# cans,
661 Howards Road Suite J
Camp Verde, AZ 86322
888-743-4866 ,www.piehtoolco.com.

Scottsdale Farrier Supply

Mostly farrier supplies, but has hammers, tongs and other blacksmith goodies. Ph. 480-838-4455
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MSC Industrial Supply Co. is a mail-order supplier of all kinds of industrial & metalworking supplies. You can get a 4500+ page catalog by calling 1-800-645-7270.

Norm Larson Books

Sells hard to get blacksmithing and knife making books. 800-743-4766 email: larbooks@impulse.net

Brent Bailey. A blacksmith in California specializing in custom tools and ornamental forgings for artisans.
www.brentbaileyforge.com

Pacific Insulation Company

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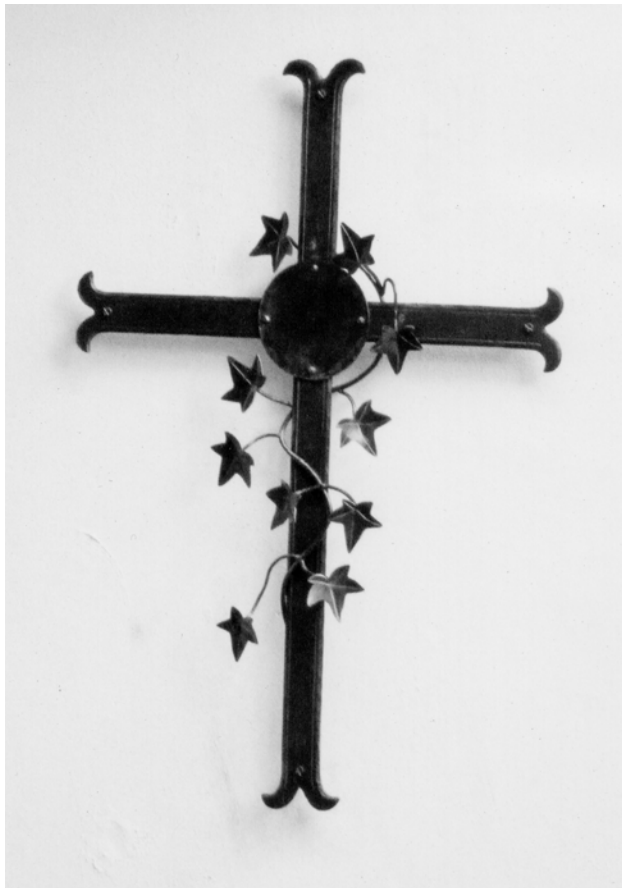
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In Memory

Duane Chellevold

Jess Hawley

Cross by Phoenix Forge