

The Anvil's Horn

A Publication of the Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association

Issue No. 221, March 2023



At the end of the day, after all the demonstrations are over and all of the displays and tailgate offerings have been checked out, one of the best parts of an event like the AABA Winterfest is simply getting together with other members and friends.

President's Message

Hello Blacksmiths,

Winterfest V was a great success. A big thank you to all who helped make it a great event. Without these folks it would not have been possible. The next time you see them please let them know how much you enjoyed the Conference and share your ideas to keep this growing.

We're organizing a crew to continue the Sculpture Tucson Barn improvements to suit our needs. This is a great way to put your mark on our Winterfest home. There are open forges followed by a BBQ lunch being planned also. Come out and be part of the fun. More details will be coming out as we coordinate with the Sculpture Tucson management.

Have you planned to attend any classes or other conferences this year? There are more and more classes being offered in Arizona and many are listed in this newsletter, so check out the center pages and the classified ads on page 18. I hope you can find a way to keep growing your blacksmithing skills and bring back something to share. If you're not able to sign up to a class or attend a conference, get out to your shop and make something.

The March President's Project is a candle holder for any size candle you choose. Let's see how much light we can put on this topic?

Forge On,

Steve Miller



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Material submitted for publication in the Anvil's Horn may be edited or rejected by the editor. Material submitted must be your own work, not plagiarized. By submitting material, you agree to allow AABA to edit, print, or post on the AABA website. You also give permission for the material to be reprinted by other blacksmith publications (i.e. publications of ABANA and of ABANA affiliates). **Copyright.** The creator may retain copyright for the work. If we publish a copyrighted item, consent of the copyright holder will need to be obtained before republication. **Graphics.** High-contrast, high-resolution digital picture files and original drawings are preferred, but we can work with lower-contrast, lower-resolution graphics.

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Demonstration: Saturday, March 18, 2023

Workshop: Sunday, March 19, 2023

Welding Technology Building
Mesa Community College
Mesa, AZ

Demonstrator: Brian Brazeal

Brian Brazeal will demonstrate forge welding: He brings a wealth of knowledge and information on a wide variety of blacksmithing tools and techniques delivered in a unique teaching style. Learning how to successfully forge weld will open up a wide range of forging options for your future projects.

Demonstration:

- Registration begins at 8:00 AM, the demonstration starts at 9:00 AM.
- Registration fee: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members,
- Tailgating is encouraged.
- Bring things for Iron-In-the-Hat.

NOTE: No folded tickets. Any folded tickets that are drawn will be thrown away.

- Bring things for Show-and-Tell. Don't forget to put your name on anything you bring for Show-and-Tell.
- Lunch is on your own. There are several good restaurants in the neighborhood.
- Tailgaters, please consider donating to Iron in the Hat.

Workshop:

- Forge welding
- Sunday, March 19, 2023, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- The fee for the workshop is \$100.
- Contact Richard Rozinski at 602-803-7255 or neongod52@gmail.com to register.

President's Project for March:

The March President's Project is a candle holder for any size candle you choose. Bring your candle holder Saturday morning and add it to the collection of other candle holders near the registration table. Plans for a very simple candle cup can be found on page 16 of this issue.

Remember Iron in the Hat

Thanks to all of you who have participated in Iron in the Hat. By purchasing tickets and donating items, you help support AABA events and projects. Items for donation can be a tool, piece of art, something you made specifically for iron in the hat, something you don't need in your shop, a great book, a t-shirt, a hat ... something an AABA member would enjoy.

Directions

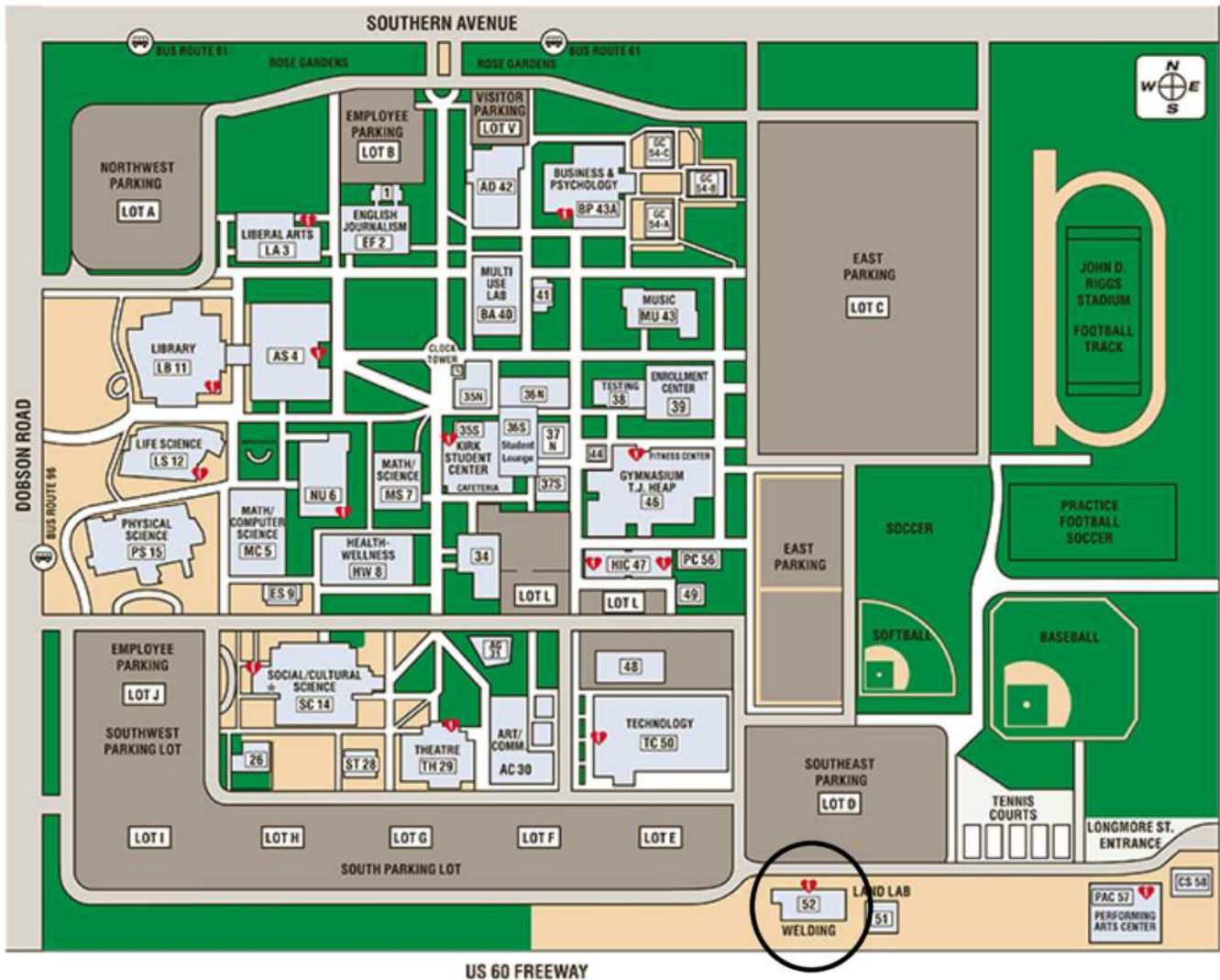
To the MCC Welding Technology Bldg.,

- I-10 to the Superstition Freeway (US 60)
- East (toward Mesa) on US 60 to Dobson Rd.
- North on Dobson Rd.
- Turn right (east) (almost immediately) on W. Solar Way.
- Follow W. Solar Way around (or through) the South Parking Lot to Bldg 52, the Welding Technology Bldg., on the S.E. corner of the South Parking Lot.
- See the map on page 4 for more details.

As always, safety glasses are required in the demonstration area.

Hearing protection, closed-toe shoes, and long clothes of natural fibers are recommended.

Mesa Community College



Other Events of Interest

GUEST DEMONSTRATORS

Jake James
Flavio Ortiz
Leah Aripotch
Ellen Durkan
Jay Burnham-Kidwell
David Roeder

- ▶ Hands-on Education
- ▶ Special Bladesmithing Area
- ▶ Youth Education Area
- ▶ Contests & Games
- ▶ Gallery
- ▶ Banquet and Auction
- ▶ Vendors and Tailgating
- ▶ On-site Meals
- ▶ On-site Camping

CALIFORNIA BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION

SPRING CONFERENCE

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF FORGING

2023

VISTA FORGE

The Spring Conference will host a great series of demonstrations, hands-on education, and fun contests and games for all skill levels, not to mention great food! The 2024 conference committee will host an epic family-style barbecue as well! Plan your trip now and check the CBA website for updates and registration

featuring the
Railroad Spike Challenge

The Railroad Spike Challenge lets blacksmiths forge a single common railroad spike into something new. What can you craft from a spike? Something Functional? Artistic? Inspiring?

This is your chance to exercise your creativity and have your work exhibited at the 2023 CBA Spring Conference.

Find out more at www.calsmith.org

Winterfest V Report

Bill Ganoe

Photos by Bill Ganoe unless otherwise noted.

AABA's Winterfest V was held January 19-21, 2023, at Sculpture Tucson in the Brandi Fenton Memorial Park in Tucson. It included four demonstrators, a teaching tent for students to get hands-on experience, Iron in the Hat, a Gallery for members to display some of their best work, a session where each demonstrator introduced themselves and talked a bit about their work and interests in general, a silent auction, a banquet Saturday evening, and awards featuring the Bill Callaway Award and the winner of the raffle for the Lost Dutchman's Treasure Chest.

Friday evening featured short presentations by each of the demonstrators about their history, their current work, and their interests. Jeffery Funk who runs the New Agrarian School in Bigfork, Montana where he teaches blacksmithing and rural crafts.

Jacques Gallant started things off on Friday morning demonstrating the restoration of a boot for an iron railing baluster. This boot helps to securely anchor the baluster to the staircase where the railing is installed.

Jacques' demo focused on recreating a square tube that would function as a stiffener at the base of the baluster. It can't be made by merely cutting off a length of square tubing, because it is actually what might be called a hollow truncated taper.

Jacques does a lot of wrought iron restoration - in part because there's more call for restoration work than contemporary art pieces. Jacques found restoration work quite interesting because it involves solving a lot of puzzles with question like, "How did they make this? What skills and processes were involved? Why did they do it this way instead of that?" As the demo proceeded, Jacques talked a lot about wrought iron, welding, and brazing.

Friday afternoon featured Jeffrey Funk, who runs the New Agrarian School in Bigfork, Montana where he teaches blacksmithing and rural crafts. Jeffrey made a hammer head for this demonstration. He explained in great detail about several of the steps in making his hammer. One of those steps was the quenching of the hammer head. Jeffrey advised turning on a hose and putting it in the quench tank before quenching the hammer head. This creates turbulence in the quench tank to promote uniform cooling of the entire hammer head.

In addition to making a hammer head in his Friday demonstration, Jeffrey gave a talk Friday evening about designing and building gas forges. (He also brought along one of his forges to be used by all of the demonstrators during Winterfest.) That forge had many interesting and useful features including

rapid heating of work pieces and being amazingly quiet.

One of Anna Koplik's specialities is forging cooking utensils with small, delicate features. Saturday morning featured Anna forging a spatula from a short piece of 1" x 1/4" flat bar. That required creating a wide, flat blade on one end of the bar, and drawing out a long, relatively thin handle from the rest of the bar. When you do this, you have to keep in mind the high stress at the transition point between the wide blade and the thin handle. One of the challenges of this kind of project is drawing out a long, thin, round handle from a relatively wide, flat bar. Anna's advice included drawing the handle out on the horn of the anvil and to keep flipping the work piece to minimize bending. To get from the thin, square handle to the octagon to round, Anna said to hammer all along each line. Instead of rolling and hitting each section. Since your hammer blows won't be perfect, the round section will get wonky if you roll it.

Another problem you will probably encounter with a project like this is uneven thinning of the blade. Anna's advice was to work from one edge to the other or to work along just one edge. No random thinning.

I didn't get a chance to watch much of Jonathan Wick's demonstration on Saturday afternoon, but I think I missed a great chance to learn more about sword making. Jonathan made a small sword Saturday afternoon and in the process he pointed out several features of various swords, why you would need them, how to test for how well they were made.

Saturday evening featured a great catered meal with beef, chicken, and vegetarian options. During the meal we had a chance to bid on items in the silent auction. At the end of the meal, the winning bids in the silent auction were announced, the winner of the Peoples' Choice award for entries in the Gallery and the winner of the raffle for the tools in the Lost Dutchman's Treasure Chest were announced, and the Bill Callaway award was presented to Fred Borchardt.

The AABA Bill Callaway Award recognizes those who give an extraordinary amount of time, resources and dedication to AABA and blacksmithing. It is named for Bill Callaway, who as its first recipient in 2005, set a very high standard. Since then, AABA has presented the Bill Callaway Award each year to various AABA members to recognize outstanding member contributions to AABA.

Winterfest V Report (Continued)

Photos by Bill Ganoe unless otherwise noted.

A big thank you from Richard and Steve to all those that helped make Winterfest V a fun and successful conference. We could not have done it without you.

Individuals:

Dave Hallikainen & Dusty
Beatrice Perret
Bill Ganoe
Ira Wiesenfeld
Len Ledet

Peter Sevin
Rich Greenwood
Sam Riuvera
Terry Porter
Anonymous Donor

Vendors

Big Blu – Andy & Jennifer Phillips
Holland Anvil – 3 donations, Greg



Partially finished baluster stiffener by Jacques Gallant which he used as an example for his demonstration on Friday morning.



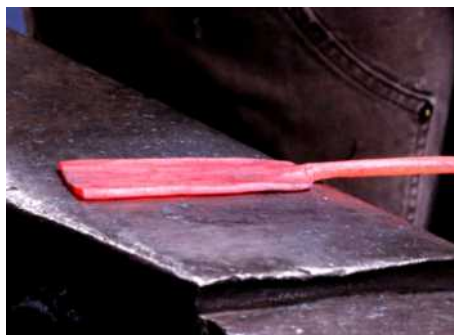
Jacques Gallant creating a truncated square taper from a short piece of round tube using a purpose-build hardy tool.



Hammer head by Jeffery Funk



Anna Koplik striking for Jeffery Funk. Jeffery recommended that strikers copy Anna's stance.



Anna Koplik working on the spatula blade after she forged the thin handle from 1" x 1/4" flat bar.



Partially finished spatula by Anna Koplik



The gas forge built by Jeffrey Funk which he loaned for use at Winterfest V



*Jonathan Wick checking progress on his sword
(Photo by Dean Farrington.)*



Jonathan Wick spent a good bit of time doing file work on his sword.

Winterfest V Report (Continued)

Photos by Bill Ganoe unless otherwise noted.



Len Ledet (left) explaining a point to students in the teaching tent.



The collection of tools in the Lost Dutchman's Treasure Chest



*The Bill Callaway award
(Photo by Michael Bondi.)*



Darla Selander



Jaime Escobedo



Jaime Escobedo



Darla Selander



Peter Sevin



Darla Selander



*Sunflower, Richard Rozinski.
Proceeds from the sale of this
piece will help to support
Ukraine.*



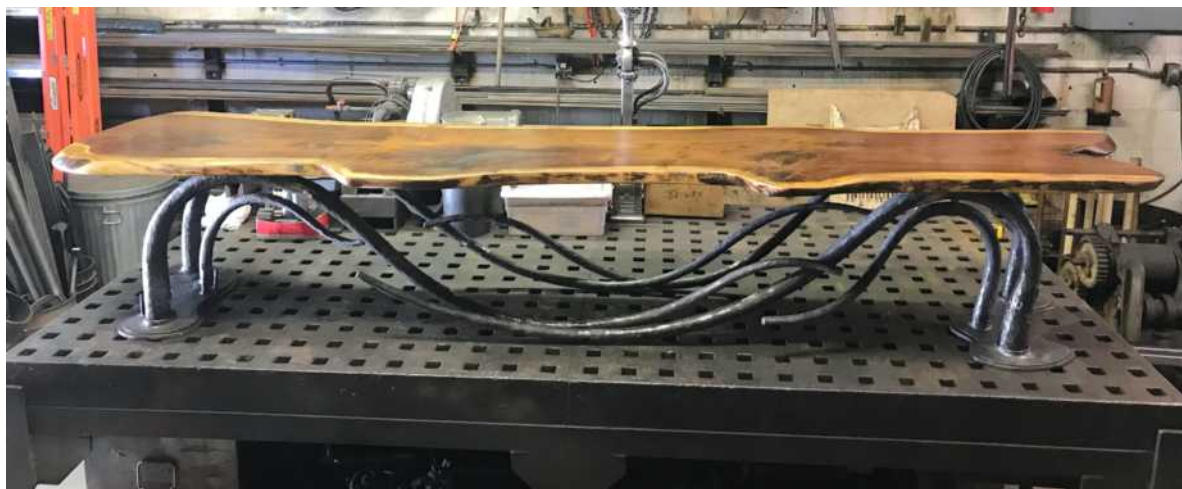
Ira Wisenfeld



William Ott

Members' Gallery

Brian Hughes



This is a bench that I made for a client last year. The top is a 10' slab of black walnut supplied by others. The boughs are forged from 3" square and round bars. Needless to say, it is very heavy. The photos were taken before the patina (dark brown with highlights) was applied.

Tips from a Pro By Paul Garrett

Paul Garrett is a well known smith that has made it his life. His skills and ability are a standard in the blacksmith world. He has been a staple at the Campbell Folk School for years, but has recently moved on to other opportunities. Paul works very methodically and with his experience comes words of blacksmith wisdom. He was one of the featured demonstrators at SOFA this year. He shared many tips and his easy going manner helped the viewers understand how and why he approaches his work in a particular order. The following will save you time and effort.

- ♦ One of the production items Paul makes for gift shops and retail sales is a cheese knife. He estimates he has made 3,000-4,000 over the course of time. He finds it to be a successful selling item because of the unique design and price point. Choose an article that is useful for most people, is a welcomed "gift" item, create an unique or pleasing design for the object, and set a reasonable price point for your item. It may take a while to develop your particular project, but when you do, it will be a winning item for sales.
- ♦ When using a power hammer drawing out metal, never go to the end of the bar, leave a bit unhammered. The metal will naturally push out from the center avoiding a cold shut.
- ♦ To make a good tool, you have to know how to use it. Paul believes if you are asked to make a tool, but are unfamiliar with its purpose, you have two choices: educate yourself on the tool and learn how to use it or decline the work. A poorly made tool is a reflection on you; a tool that becomes a favorite is well remembered.
- ♦ When you attend a workshop, make a "go bag". This bag of small tools will help you save time and aggravation. You will be the first one working if you take: chalk, a center finder, touchmark, angle finder, center punch, silver pencil, little crescent wrench, 6" combination square, deburring tool, ice pick, 2 sharpies (one that is sharp, the other one you lend out!) and a little wire. You will be glad you did!
- ♦ Use a drill hook (Photo, right) working alone to hold metal when cutting, punching, etc. You can adjust it according to your pockets. You can purchase them at Lowes or Home Depot.



This article was reprinted from the November 2022 newsletter of the Pittsburgh Area Artist-Blacksmith Association

Tool for holding sockets for bending radii

This is a tool I came up with 15-20 years ago. It enables me to make hooks or bend rod or flat narrow stock into a variety of radiuses. It is made out of an old junk adjustable crescent wrench I had. I cut it off and welded it to a piece of heavy tubing that fit my hardy hole. I ground one side to hold a 3/8" socket of any outside diameter and welded a small piece of spring steel to the other side for length and ground it into a piece to hold a rod or a curl on a hook. I adjust it for whatever I am bending. The pictures should explain things well enough for anybody able to electric or torch weld and use a grinder. After I welded the spring steel on I heated the area welded with a torch to red heat and let it air cool. I used a mig welder, but it could be welded however you normally weld steel.

In the photos I took two piece of 1/4" round rod, pointed them and forged a curl on one end. I adjusted the tool for the rod I was bending and then heated the rod. Since this rod was mild steel I cooled the curl in water before bending, and you pull hard on the rod towards you when bending to get a nice bend. I can change sockets and bend to any size in a socket set. I was going to make a better one, but this one worked so well I have just used it. I have an adapter to use 1/2" sockets on it as well. While I invented this myself, I am certain this type of tool has been made by many smiths as we are an inventive bunch. Doing production work gives a person a lot of time to think while doing repetitious work.

Bob Patrick 11/2/2022



This article was reprinted from the November 2022 newsletter of the Blacksmith Association of Missouri.

AABA Calendar 2023

March 19	Demo: Brian Brazeal, Forge Welding	Mesa Community College	Mesa
May 21	Demo: Liz Cameron, Heat Treating Sam Rivera, (Subject TBA)	Desert Metalcraft	Tucson
July 16	Demo: Dylan Cook	NAU	Flagstaff

Your dues for 2023 are due now!

Classes at Pieh Tool in Camp Verde

- Beginning/Intermediate blacksmithing classes taught by Dylan Cook

March 3-5, 2023

April 14-16, 2023

Registration is \$585.

Students will make several simple projects to take home.

- Knifemaking class taught by Master Bladesmith, Ray Rybar

No new classes were scheduled at press time.

Check the website for the next classes.

Registration is \$585.

Students will make one knife.

For full details call 928-554-0700 or go to <https://piehtoolco.com>

Xerocraft Makerspace in Tucson

Xerocraft, a Makerspace in Tucson at 6th St. and 9th Ave., is moving ahead to create a new blacksmith shop. It will be designed for teaching, doing, and developing blacksmith skills. AABA member Ed Snyder would appreciate your assistance in spreading the word, by any means, to anyone you think might be interested in getting started in blacksmithing or in building on their current skill set. Ed also needs help getting things set up and operational at Xerocraft in Tucson.

Anyone who thinks they might be interested should contact Ed Snyder at ejblacksmith@gmail.com. Interested responders will be contacted only if they have questions or as plans develop and they chose to be involved.

Deadline for the May 2023 issue

April 1, 2023 is the deadline submitting photos and articles for the May 2023 issue of *The Anvil's Horn*.

Send articles, pictures, etc. by email to:

editor@azblacksmiths.org

or by regular mail to:

Bill Ganoe, PO Box 40233, Tucson, AZ 85717

MCC Blacksmithing & Welding Class

The Mesa Community College blacksmithing program is an excellent deal - over 60 hours of instruction including material and propane! Spring classes started in mid-January 2023. Richard Rozinski and Michael Johnson is teaching various sections of the class during the week. Jaime Escobedo is teaching a section on Saturdays. Blacksmithing is listed as **WLD103** in the class schedule. Check the Mesa CC website later this spring for Summer and Fall classes. Classes fill up early, but waiting lists may be available.

For more information go to: www.mesacc.edu

Welcome New Members

John Binsfeld	Chandler, AZ
Matt Prante	Desert Hills, AZ
Rudolf Anderson	Gilbert, AZ
Jacob Janes	Gilbert, AZ
Matthew Swanson	Gilbert, AZ
Suzanne Dondero	Mesa, AZ
Levi Hogle	Mesa, AZ
Nicole Williams	Mesa, AZ
Zak Bonham	Phoenix, AZ
Ben Sabol	Phoenix, AZ
Brian Miller	Prescott, AZ
Dan Allaire	Scottsdale, AZ
Sloan Bruno	Sun City West, AZ
Stephen Grater	Tucson, AZ
David Hollenbeck	Tucson, AZ
Sean Lindsay	Tucson, AZ

We Need Your Help

Is there a project, tool, ornament you would like to see at an AABA demonstration? Is there a particular demonstrator you would like to see? Send your request(s) to the AABA 1st Vice President, Richard Rozinski, 602-803-7255 or neongod52@gmail.com

Is there a particular project or technique you would like to see in The Anvil's Horn? Is there a general topic you would like to see covered? Send your request(s) to the editor, Bill Ganoe, by email to:

editor@azblacksmiths.org

or by regular mail to:

Bill Ganoe

PO Box 40233

Tucson, AZ 85717

AABA Website: www.azblacksmiths.org

Open Forge: Tucson

Tucson is still working on plans for an open forge on March 4, 2023. If you are on the email list for southern Arizona, you will get a notice about the January open forge if the plans get worked out. If you aren't on that email list, send a request to editor@azblacksmiths.org

Open Forge: Grizzly Iron

Don't have a power hammer? Use one at Grizzly Iron, 1329 W. Lincoln St., Phoenix, Wednesdays from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM, more or less. Check <http://grizzlyiron.com/open-forge> or the **Grizzly Iron Open Forge and Workshops** group on Facebook for current details.

Open Forge: Desert Rat Forge (Phoenix area)

Paul Diefenderfer will host an open forge at Desert Rat Forge on Saturday, March 4, 2023 and Saturday, April 1, 2023, from 9 AM to noon followed by lunch (You gotta' buy your own.) at the world famous Big Earl's Greasy Eats in Cave Creek. Have fun with a propane or coal forge, flypress, powerhammer, widgets and gadgets.

Desert Rat Forge is at: 7645 E. Highland Rd., Cave Creek. 602-509-1543 or dief@phoenixrockgym.com.

Directions: From the center of Cave Creek – 4-way stop at Cave Creek Rd & School House Rd. Head north on School House 1.2 miles to Highland Rd (if you get to the 4-way stop at Fleming Springs you've gone a tad too far) . Turn right (east) on Highland After about 1 mile the pavement ends. Please drive slow to avoid kicking up dust. As the gravel road makes a turn to the left there will be a single lane gravel road on the right with a sign for 7645. Drive down this road for bit until you see the big anvil. You are there! Park in the pullout if there is room – please do not park on top of any vegetation! If no room, return to main dirt road, park along the north edge, and walk the 700 feet back to property.

If You Are Attending An Open Forge...

These open forges are part of AABA educational activities, but AABA does not provide funds for these events. They are hosted by our members for all of our benefit. So if you participate in forging, welding, use shop materials, or accidentally damaged something, please put something in the donation box to help our hosts with their expenses. Thank you! From all of your open forge hosts. **You will need to wear safety glasses. Hearing protection is recommended.**

Classes and Events at AABA Members' Shops

Desert Metal Craft

544 E. 24th St., Tucson, AZ

The schedule at Desert Metal Craft features a wide range of classes and workshops. Check the DMC website, <https://desert-metal-craft-108715.square.site>, for on-line events, details of specific events, and to register for each class or workshop

Grizzly Iron

1329 W. Lincoln St., Phoenix, AZ

The schedule at Grizzly Iron features a wide range of classes, open forges, and workshops. For the current schedule, prices, and registration check the website: <https://grizzlyiron.com/core-classes/> or <https://grizzlyiron.com/master-classes/>, or go to the **Grizzly Iron Open Forge and Workshops** group on Facebook.

12th Annual Botanical Blacksmiths at The Arboretum of Flagstaff



May 6-September 15, 2023

You are invited to be a part of this well loved and eagerly anticipated exhibit that showcases outdoor ironwork in a beautiful high country garden environment. All levels of artists are welcome to exhibit ironwork created for an outdoor garden setting. This is a chance to show and sell your work to visitors from across the country.

More information about the exhibit and how to sign up can be found in the March edition of the *Anvil's Ring*. Or feel free to contact Cathi Borthwick at 928-890-9609 or info@flagforge.com for application forms and exhibit information.

Sign up by April 16 and help make this the best exhibit yet!

Sign up details, including dates, and an entry form appear on pages 13 and 14 of this issue.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Botanical Blacksmiths and Friends 2023: Ironwork at the Arboretum

The Arboretum at Flagstaff
May 6 – September 15, 2023

The Arboretum of Flagstaff is looking forward to hosting the 12th iteration of this outdoor ironwork exhibit in Flagstaff. The exhibit will run much like it has in the past but The Arboretum has suggested some changes to bring more attention to the ironwork. It should be an exciting year for ironwork in the North Country!

As in the past, there are no restrictions on design or size, just that the work needs to be suitable for family viewing, be made for outdoor use, and fit in a garden setting. You can show work that has been at The Arboretum before but please refrain from entering any piece that was in the exhibit in 2022 so we can present a fresh look. Work should not be so large that it can't be manually transported to its exhibit spot. Please note the question on the application asking if you'd be willing to handle shipping/delivery of your artwork if this became necessary. This does not come up very often but it might determine if a sale is made. Unfortunately, The Arboretum doesn't have the ability to do shipping so it is up to the artist or the buyer to arrange for delivery.

Work may be offered for sale and the Arboretum takes a 30% commission on all sales. When a piece sells, the buyer is given the opportunity to take it with them rather than waiting until the show closes to take possession of the piece. Most buyers choose to take the piece with them. If they do take one of your pieces, you are invited to bring in a replacement piece to keep the show looking robust. Participating artists are also invited to put work in the Arboretum Gift Shop. They prefer work with a botanical or nature theme. Smaller pieces priced at \$100 or less sell best there.

While this show is a non-juried exhibit, you are asked to send in the application and photos/details about your work to aid in planning the layout of the show (also, good photos of the work submitted are much appreciated for use in advertising of the show). Please have the paperwork to Cathi by April 16. The work can be delivered starting April 29 and needs to be in place by May 5. Please coordinate with The Arboretum staff to make sure they know you are coming up. It is best if you can plan on coming on a Tuesday or before 9 to not overlap when they are open to the public.

Please send all the application information to Cathi Borthwick at info@flagforge.com. If you have questions please contact Cathi via email or at 928-890-9609. If it's easier to mail the application, please send it to Cathi at 118 Sherwood Ln. Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Calendar

April 16 - Deadline letting Cathi know you intend to participate and submit paperwork

April 29 - May 5 – Delivery of artwork

May 6 – Opening day of exhibit

September 15 – Exhibit closes

September 16 - Oct 31 – Pick up work

Important Information

*Artist is responsible for delivery, installation, and pick up of artwork. Don't count on help from the Arboretum staff although they have been helpful in the past.

*Artwork will be displayed in an outdoor setting. It must be able to withstand exposure to the elements and to the public.

*Artwork should be suitable for family viewing and be appropriate for a garden setting.

*Limited security is provided by The Arboretum at Flagstaff.

*Commission on artwork sold is 30%

Application for Botanical Blacksmiths 2023

Please complete and return by April 16, 2023 to:

Cathi Borthwick
118 Sherwood Ln
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

or email to:
info@flagforge.com

Artist Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Evening phone _____

Email _____

Are you willing to ship/deliver your work to the buyer if necessary? Y N
(You can add a charge for this service)

Artwork Submitted

(Images of work are not required but would be helpful if available)

1. Title _____

Dimensions _____

Weight _____

Description _____

Will work be offered for sale? Y N Price or value if NFS \$ _____

2. Title _____

Dimensions _____

Weight _____

Description _____

Will work be offered for sale? Y N Price or value if NFS \$ _____

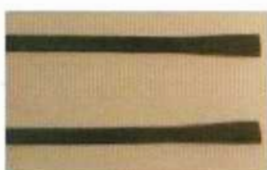
(Please add more sheets if you have more than 2 entries)

Heart Wall Sconce - by Jymm Hoffman

Materials: 3/8" Hot Rolled Square X 18" long
16 – 18 gauge sheet, 5" X 4
2 1/2" long rivets (3/16" diameter or smaller)

Since many people know much of my works are historical reproductions, I feel it is important to include a disclaimer. This is not a copy of an historical item. It is an item that Mark Bokenkamp of Loudonville, Ohio, showed me in the early 1980's. The original creator is unknown but believed to have been alive in the 1980's.

I normally make a pair of these at a time and they have sold more often as a pair than singles. Therefore, I normally start working on both at the same time, heart shapes first. I have found trying to match every step along the way is easier than completing one sconce then trying to match the completed one. The following dimensions are approximate, the key is making both alike. Some have heard me answer questions about how long or how thick by saying, "about that much."



Upset one end of each 3/8" bars to about 1/2" on the end tapering back to the 3/8" bar over about 11/2".

Start spreading to form an approximate outline of the sides of the heart shape. I use my cross peen to fuller out most of this, finishing with the face of my hammer to take out the marks and smooth it up. Some tricks in this process include working both sides as I spread it out. Also, a trick I learned from Peter Ross, Master Blacksmith at Colonial Williamsburg, is to flatten the peen on my hammer. Rounded and very narrow peens end up cutting the metal as it gets thinner. One of the first things I do to a factory made peen is flatten most of it, leaving a radius so there are not sharp edges. Also, another important trick is to focus the blows at the center and work out. Leave the edges thicker than the center until you are close to finishing spreading out the metal. Once I have the width of the heart to my satisfaction, I cool it off to start on the other end.



I taper both pieces down to about 1/4" square for about 5" long. I knock the corner down into octagon. I then put a shoulder on the end and punch the hole for a rivet. Bend and upset the corner for the candle holder and wax cup. Bend the curve around my horn. After getting the first curve to my liking, I mark the horn with soap stone as a guide for the second.

Twist both pieces. I normally mark my vise with soap stone where the end of the first sconce was held. For the other end I will either set a pair of dividers as a guide for the distance of the twisting wrench or simply keep the other sconce near by. Once the twist is nice and even, I bend the pieces so that they lay flat on the wall from the top of the heart through the twist to the start of the curve away from the wall. Let these parts air cool.



I start on the wax cups. I use my divider to strike two 4" circles, with a deep center punch mark in the sheet. I then trace my candle holder patterns and also put a deep center punch mark in the center.

Cut out the circles and candle holders with a shear. Clean off all burs and clean up the center of the candle holder with a 1/2 round file.

Sink the wax cups (technically raise them down) into my wedge block. I start at the outside edge and spiral down to the center. Take out any wrinkles as soon as you see them.



Peen the veins into the candle holders with a chipping hammer, cup them in the step of my anvil. Curl the ends, then finish forming them around a 3/4" diameter rod. Let

air cool.

Back to the heart shape at the top of the sconces. I use a half round file to finish the outside shape as well as cut the V into the top of the heart. Then I hot punch the nail holes. Let these air cool.



to

Drill or cold punch the holes in the candle holders and wax cups.

Assemble the candle holders and wax cups to the wall part. Put the rivet on the 3/4" bar that is still in the vice on the screw. Put the pieces on over the rivet. You can then get things to line up relatively well as you peen down the rivet.

Finish options: Cold application of tongue oil; a mix of equal parts of linseed oil, turpentine, and white vinegar; paste wax, or some kind of clear spray.



These always look best when mounted with hand forged nails.

Template for
Candle Cups
(Actual Size)





Artist-Blacksmith Association of North America

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