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On the Anvil NEWSLETTER

PHILIP SIMMONS ARTIST BLACKSMITH GUILD

Hello fellow blacksmiths!

The heat of Summer is starting to subside and hints of Fall are being felt in the evening! The days are still a little humid and hot but I do hope you are finding time to do some forging as the temperature gets more bearable.

As Meetings and classes are cancelled it's hard to stay motivated to keep learning and making. To mitigate the doldrums, in recent weeks I've decided to go to Darryl Nelson's animal head videos to improve my skills by making a Lynx and Bear head. Darryl's videos are really easy to follow and he breaks down the subject in small bites so it is easy to stay on track and see where you need to improve. The hard part really was making the tools as the proportions aren't easy to pick up on.

I've also been playing around with gas burners. I've always avoided building blown forge burners until now. I am amazed at the gas savings and heat that a blown burner will provide. A "blown gas burner" for those who do not know they are very similar to the traditional venturi but air is provided by a fan - hence the name. they are more forgiving to make but just as anything dealing with pressurized propane they are dangerous if you don't know

what you are doing. I am following the drawings made by Hans Peot (page 7), I'll also try to make an article as I build a new gas forge in the future to give some pointers.

Mark on your calendar the upcoming SBA Conference in May 13-16, 2021! Jesse Barfield is our representative on the SBA Board. Also, in April next year, ABANA is having their grand opening of our new ABANA Headquarters in Johnstown, Pennsylvania—near the home of our own newsletter editor!

In closing, the pandemic has exacerbated any other problems we may be having, be it financial, familial or health. If you could, please send a good thought or say a prayer for those in the Guild that are having any of these issues. Some of our member are pretty private, God will know who you are praying for...

Forge on, Garth!
Jody Durham

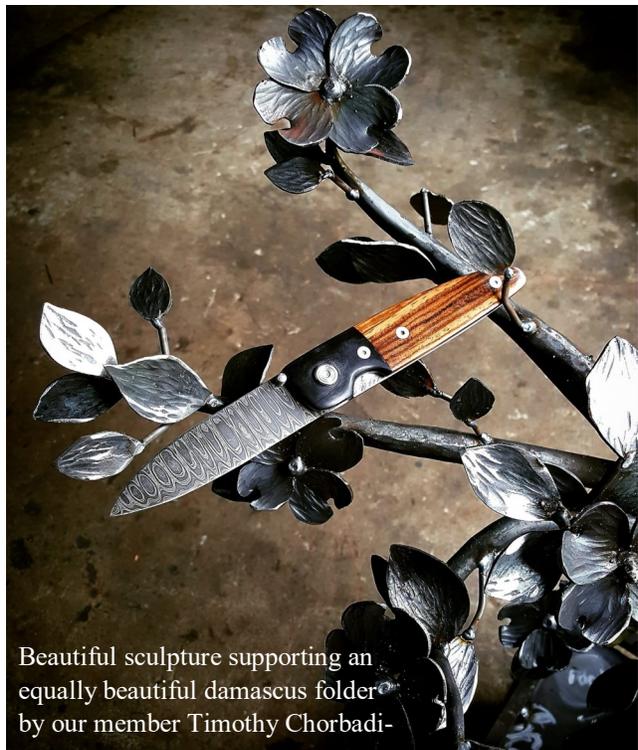
New Members

Zach Baker Derek Frye

Jim Carothers Kyle Stienecker

John Vanhorn

Welcome!



Beautiful sculpture supporting an equally beautiful damascus folder by our member Timothy Chorbadi-

Shop Tip -- Cleaning Your Work

Jim Carothers

Cleaning fire scale out of a blacksmith made scroll can be difficult. Paint or other finishes applied over scale often flake off later making your work look bad or making more work for you.

Photos 1 & 2: I use a die grinder and a shop made mandrel to remove scale from the inside of my scrolls. A piece of emery cloth or sand paper is put in the mandrel slot; the free end of the emery held; and the mandrel hand rotated in the same direction the tool turns to form a flapper type roll.

Photo 3: The mandrel is a piece of 1/4" cold finished round bar. It has a band saw or hack saw slot cut in one end.

This flapper type sander is also good for cleaning the inside of candle cups, tubing, etc. Be sure to wear safety glasses and a face shield when using this set up; a reduced air pressure and speed of the tool are good. You really don't need 10, 000 rpm to clean off scale and rust.



Jim is a new member to our Guild. He came bearing gifts in the form of the article above. Welcome Jim when you meet him, hopefully at Magnolia Gardens when we have our next meeting!

Twisted Cross

The first step after your cuts is to open the arms to create the cross. I've found that a rawhide or wood mallet and a hot cut hardy works best for the initial opening, moving to the horn then the face of the anvil as the opening progresses.



Once it's open you will cut the excess off of one of the long arms making it the top. I usually cut it to the same length as the two shorter arms.



Now that the cross is made the "twist" will be the next step. You will put two of the arms into a vise then twist or roll the other two arms down towards the center of the cross.

Remove the cross from the vise, flip it over and clamp one of the arms you just twisted.

Now you will twist the second set of arms in towards the center of the cross, twisting in the same direction as the first set of arms were. To finish off and tighten the twisted area gently tap the twist with a rawhide or wood mallet on the face of your anvil.



Twisted Cross (con't)

The final step is to clamp the long arm into your vise and straighten the arms into the shape of a cross. I've found that the best way to even the arms up after it's back into a cross is to drop one arm into your hardy hole and gently tap the arms that are on the anvil face until they sit flush.

You can do this with each of the arms until you're satisfied with the look of your cross.

Video Demonstration by Jered:
https://youtu.be/P_OQqbsFfa8



All the steps in one picture

Reprinted with permission from the California Blacksmith



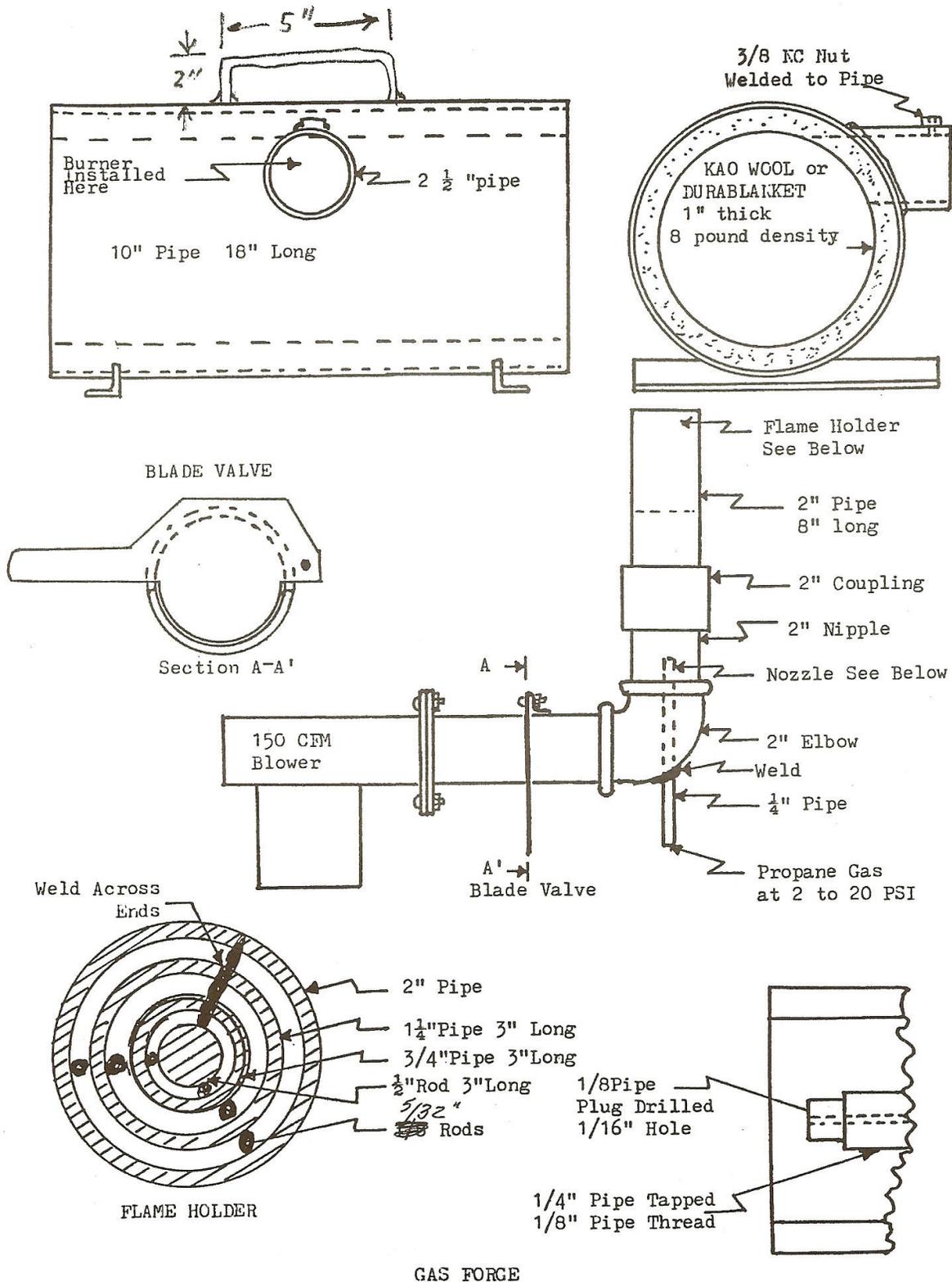
Here is a vise tool you might be interested in. It was presented on Facebook by Herb Gravitt of the Appalachian Area Blacksmith Chapter. The design is a Terry Sheridan post vise filing jig project. The work piece to be filed will be supported by the adjustable jig while being secured by the post vise jaws. Terry was kind enough to talk me through this project while sketching it out and showing me photographs of his filing jig. Maybe it will spur you into making one of your own! Barry



Here are the steps to making a Lyle Winn guitar bottle opener. I pulled it off the internet somewhere. It shows all the steps except the making of the tap that hooks the bottle cap. I put a picture of one of Lyle's banjos elsewhere in the newsletter. Barry

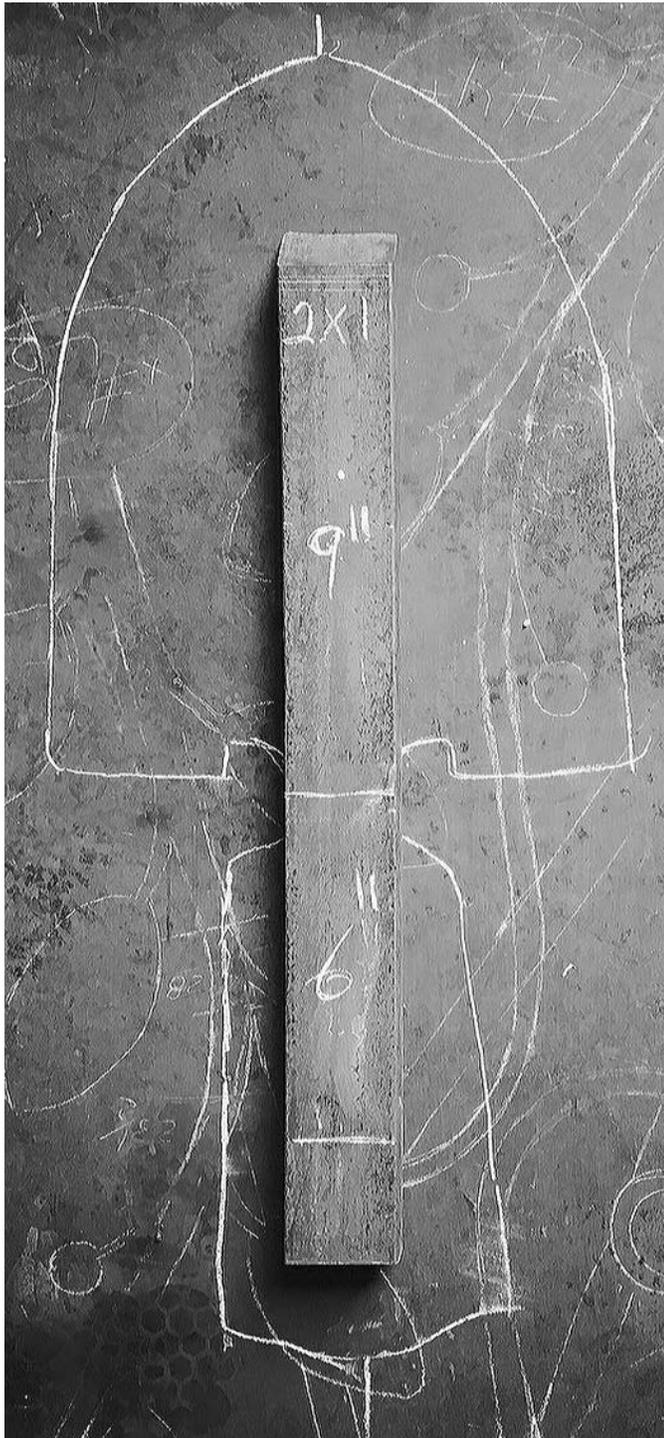


Below is the Hans Peot drawing to accompany the discussion Jody had in his letter. He claims to be using only 20% of the gas he was formerly using and is able to get the metal up to welding temp!

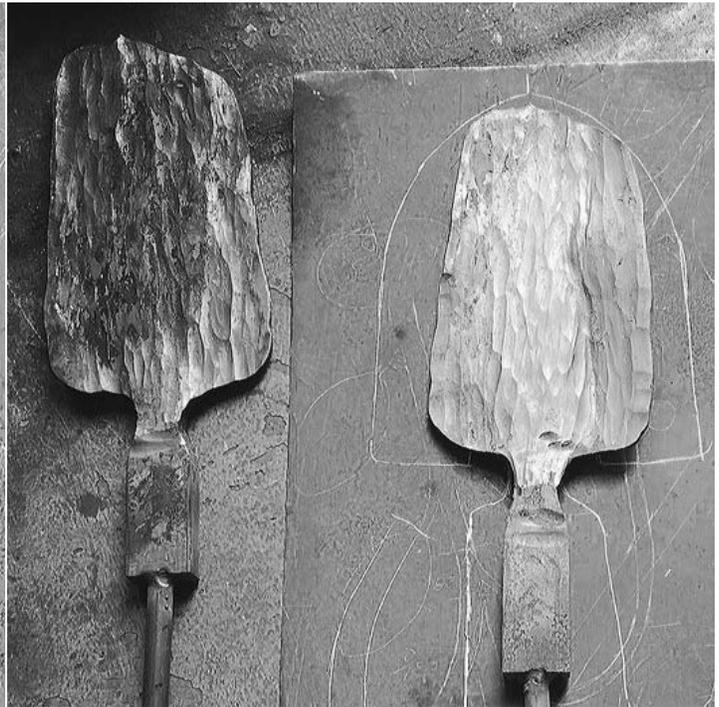


GAS FORGE

Shovel (continued from last month)



Start here



Start cross-peening blade.



Blade and handle wrap drawn out.

Shovel (con't)



Form ridge in center.

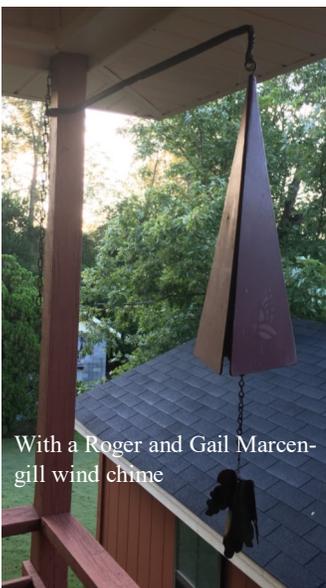


Trim to shape. Detail edges. Attach to handle.

Reprinted from the California Blacksmith

Big Hook for a 4x4.....Barry Myers

Here are a couple of hooks I made to hang stuff off the deck on the upright 4x4s. I had made some out of 1/4" square stock for reenactors to hang stuff on the 2x2s in their tents, so I thought that it would work for a 4x4. You can use them to hang a bird feeder, or for the hummingbirds, but our have graduated to holding wind chimes. Hope you find a use for yours. Barry



With a Roger and Gail Marcengill wind chime



I think the stock straight across the back would work as well, but a little scroll never hurts...



For Sale

Fire Bricks – Brand New, Industrial Grade. \$1 ea. Ed Sylvester 803.414.2487

Tire Hammer plans by Clay Spencer. Send Paypal for \$30US to clay@tirehammer.com. Or check/money to 73 Penniston Pvt. Dr., Somerville, AL 35670. I can mail a copy or email PDFS.

Beverly shear blades sharpened. Remove blades, mail in small Flat Rate box, include check/money order for \$50, includes return postage. clay@otelco.net, 256-558-3658 .

Forklift tine sections for striking anvils, \$30. Jody Durham, 864-985-3919 ironsmith@gmail.com

Fire Sale on Sewell Pea Coal, washed, **\$10** per 5 gallon bucket. Will also sell in bulk at lower prices. Derice Hochstetler, Aiken, [803-508-1326](tel:803-508-1326)

Todd Elder is offering Beginning Blacksmithing and Knifemaking Classes. Contact him at (864-978-7232)

Guild Coal: 3 buckets, \$30; 6 buckets or 30 gal barrel—\$45.00; 11 buckets - 55 gal barrel - \$ 60.00; 15 buckets - 1/4 ton - 70.00; 30 buckets - 1/2 ton - \$140.00; 60 buckets - 1 ton - \$280.00. Contact **Walt Beard 803-464-8483**

Upcoming events:

Griz Hockwalt is demonstrating at the Bart Garrison Agricultural Museum of South Carolina for special events and tours. The museum is located off of highway 76 in Pendleton S.C, across from Tri-County Tech. Griz will be demonstrating the first and third Saturday of each month beginning in October.

Weekend Class at Jaco Farm with Jason Lonon. Socket Chisel Project for intermediate and advanced smiths. Date to be decided, **possibly in NOVEMBER.** Todd Elder is contact (864-978-7232).

2020 Meetings: August 15, Historic Camden is cancelled

December, 12/12, Magnolia Gardens. Ray Pearre 843.860.0532

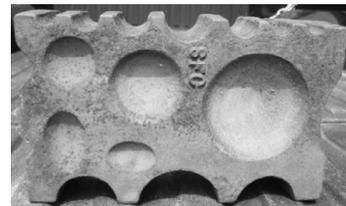


Richard Klaren, Walter Hill and Joe Marsh at the Historic Camden Forge in August

For those of you who wanted swage blocks, The Saltfork Craftsmen Artist Blacksmith Association sells them.

\$200.00

plus shipping.



They also sell

floor cone mandrels for \$200.00 plus shipping.

To order swage blocks or cones, contact **Nolan Walker at Nature Farms Farrier Supply in Norman, OK.**

405-307-8031



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Membership Application

___ New Member ___ Renewal

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

email: _____ Sponsor _____

Dues are \$15.00 per person/family, per year. **Make checks out to PSABG** Please remit to:

C. Ray Pearre, Jr., 4605 Durant Ave., North Charleston, SC 29405

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ASSMPUMPTION OF RISK

I acknowledge that blacksmithing and related activities are inherently dangerous and involve risks and dangers to participants and spectators that may result in serious injury or death. I have considered these risks and I knowingly assume them. I agree that I am responsible for my own safety during Guild events, including wearing appropriate clothing and protective gear and remaining a safe distance from all dangerous activities. I agree to hold Philip Simmons Artist Blacksmith Guild and guest demonstrators of our craft harmless from liability and expenses arising from of my actions and/or omissions.

When was the last time you paid dues?

There is a note below your address on the last page of our newsletters. It will say something like...

“Dues Last Paid – 2019” or “Dues for 2020” are due” or “Dues paid 2020”

This note is updated for each newsletter. We appreciate your prompt payments.

I hate this virus!

We are not meeting again in October.

Look forward to coming to Magnolia Gardens

December 12. Surely we will have a meeting then!

Banjo by Lyle Winn. If you make one, do what Lyle did and make a tenor. The real banjo aficionados may not think too much of tenors, but a 5 string is too hard to make...

