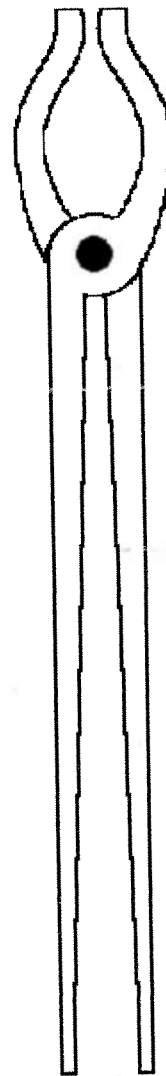
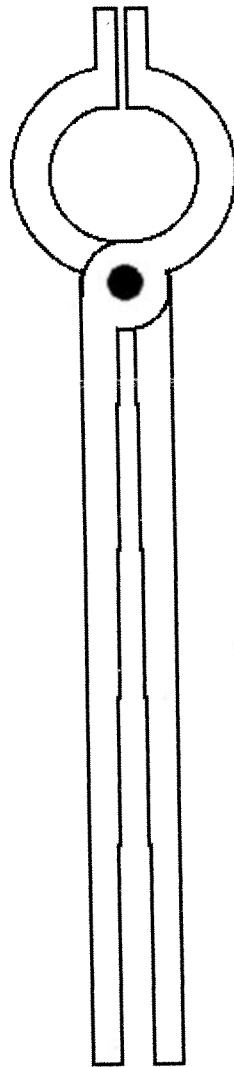




VOICE

APRIL

2014



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WEB SITE -- <http://anvil.impactyourweb.com>

UP COMING EVENTS

APRIL 19, 2014 - TIRED IRON TRACTOR SHOW, GENTRY, AR
TRADE ITEM - ITEMS TO SALE

APRIL 23, 2014 - DEADLINE FOR THE NEWSLETTER

MAY , 2014 - TBA

NEWSLETTER DISCLAIMER:

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BLACKSMITHS OF ARKANSAS
March 8, 2014

Thanks to Ed and Susan Osoris of Springdale for hosting the meeting and serving a great lunch. Ed's shop was very easy to find and had all kinds of metal parts and scraps laying around which is a blacksmith's dream. Ed had a forge up and running for our use. It looked a lot better than the two portables that were brought along by members. There was a lot of hammering going on throughout the day. It doesn't take much to make a bunch of guys happy.

The midday meeting didn't take a very long time but it was interesting. Ron Wells handed over the Jack Smith award to Dale Custer who deserved it. Dale was speechless. The award is pretty heavy. Dale will have to reinforce a wall to hang it up.

President, Justin, is still working on getting a hammer head making class together. There was also talk about a class on how to build your own power hammer. Each student would go home with his own hammer. There were several folks visiting. Ron Shierry was once a member and lives nearby. It was good to see him. Eric Willis visited and joined while he was there. His infant son, Hayden, was along too. Jerry Holmes visited and just happened to join, also. Jerry had his grandson along who watched Jerry at the forge most of the day. Jerry already makes knives.

Bryan Parsons handed out some information about next month's meeting at Gentry. It is held at the tractor show which is April 18, 19, and 20th. Our meeting is on the 19th but you may attend any of those days if you like. Hours are 8 to 5 on Friday and Saturday and 8 to 3 on Sunday.

Ron told me there were 22 members attending.

Harold



BOA

Blacksmith Organization of Arkansas

Dale Custer Wins THE JACK SMITH AWARD

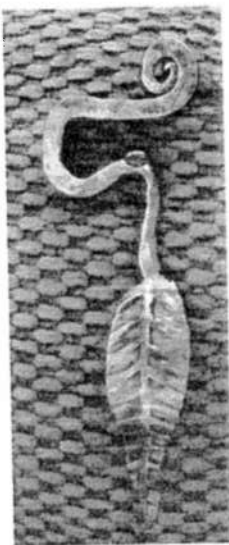
Presentation by Ron Wells to Dale Custer on March 8, 2014.

The Jack Smith Award was conceived by Bob Patrick and approved by the BOA membership to recognize members of BOA for their contribution to the organization. Members Bob Patrick, Tom Upton, David Egan, Harold Enlow, and James Brantley designed and executed the award. The award is called The Jack Smith Award in honor of Jack Smith for his extraordinary contributions to BOA.

Each recipient will keep the award for one year, each year beginning with the February meeting. Each year's recipient will be selected by the previous year's recipient. The award will be presented to the new recipient by the previous year's recipient.

This year's recipient has a long list of contributions to BOA. He very seldom misses a meeting and travels a long distance to the meetings. He was instrumental in organizing the new chapters of BOA and serves as Steward of the Little Rock Chapter. He thus attends and is active in two meetings each month. He attends the ABANA Conference each year. He handles the coal for the Little Rock Chapter. He has set up BOA's web site and nonprofit status. He currently serves as chapter steward, BOA ABANA liaison, BOA vice president, and BOA board member.

Harold, as a previous recipient, will you help me present the Jack Smith Award to this year's recipient, Dale Custer.

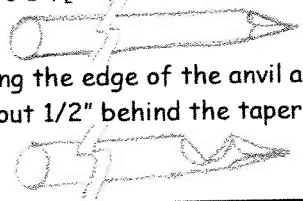


LEAF BOTTLE-OPENER

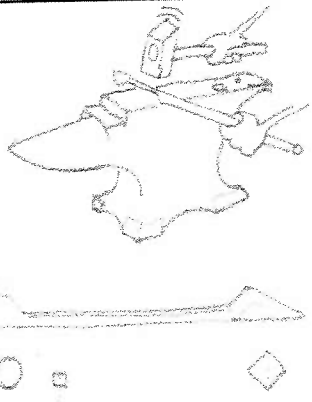
The February 2014 trade item for the Central Arkansas Chapter of the Blacksmiths of Arkansas (CACBOA) was a bottle opener or corkscrew. I am still loving the hardy tool I made for stamping out a leaf texture, so I decided to incorporate a leaf into a bottle opener.

1 Start off with a piece of square or round stock somewhere in the neighborhood of 1/2" to 5/8" thick by at least 5" long. 18" or so would be better, letting you hold the stock without tongs, but you'll only need about 5" for the bottle opener.

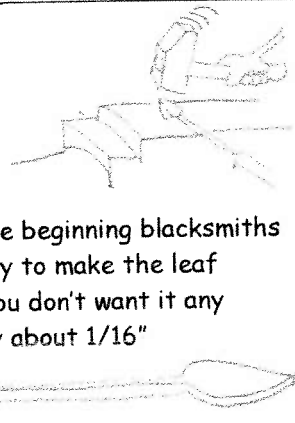
2 Using the far side of the anvil, put a taper of about 1" to 1 1/2" in the end of the rod. Then, using the edge of the anvil again, "neck" the rod in about 1/2" behind the taper.



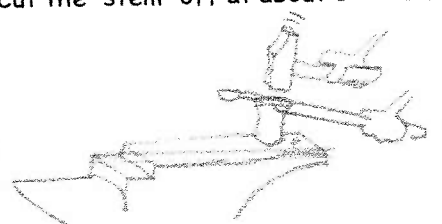
3 Using the near and far edges of the anvil, work the neck back into a stem about six inches long. Don't take it down as much as you would for a key ring—this still has to be stout enough to pry open a bottle. I left mine with about a 3/16" square cross-section.



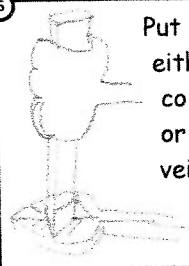
4 Now, just like you would typically make a leaf, take your hammer and mash the end down into a leaf shape. I think the typical mistake beginning blacksmiths make (I sure did!) is to try to make the leaf extremely thin. Really, you don't want it any thinner than a penny—say about 1/16"



5 Cut the "stem" off at about 5" to 6".



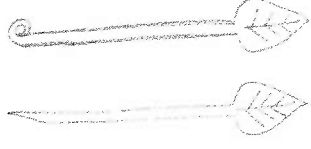
6 Put in leaf veins, either with a cold-cut chisel, or with a leaf-vein stamping tool.



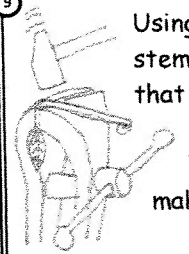
7 The result should be a longish leaf with a rather thick, square stem. If you have a touchmark, you can put it on the back of the leaf.



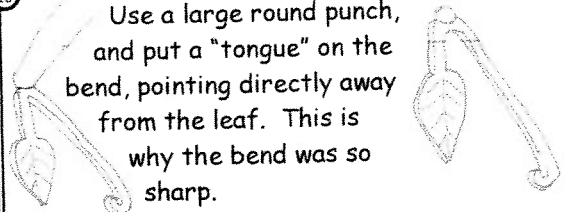
8 Taper the last 3/4" of the stem to the side (not to the front or back), and turn it over into a very short scroll.



9 Using a vice or the edge of the anvil, make a sharp bend in the stem about 3/4" beyond the leaf. Make the bend so that the scroll is facing toward the leaf. For reasons that should be clear in a minute, make the bend a good bit more than 90 degrees.



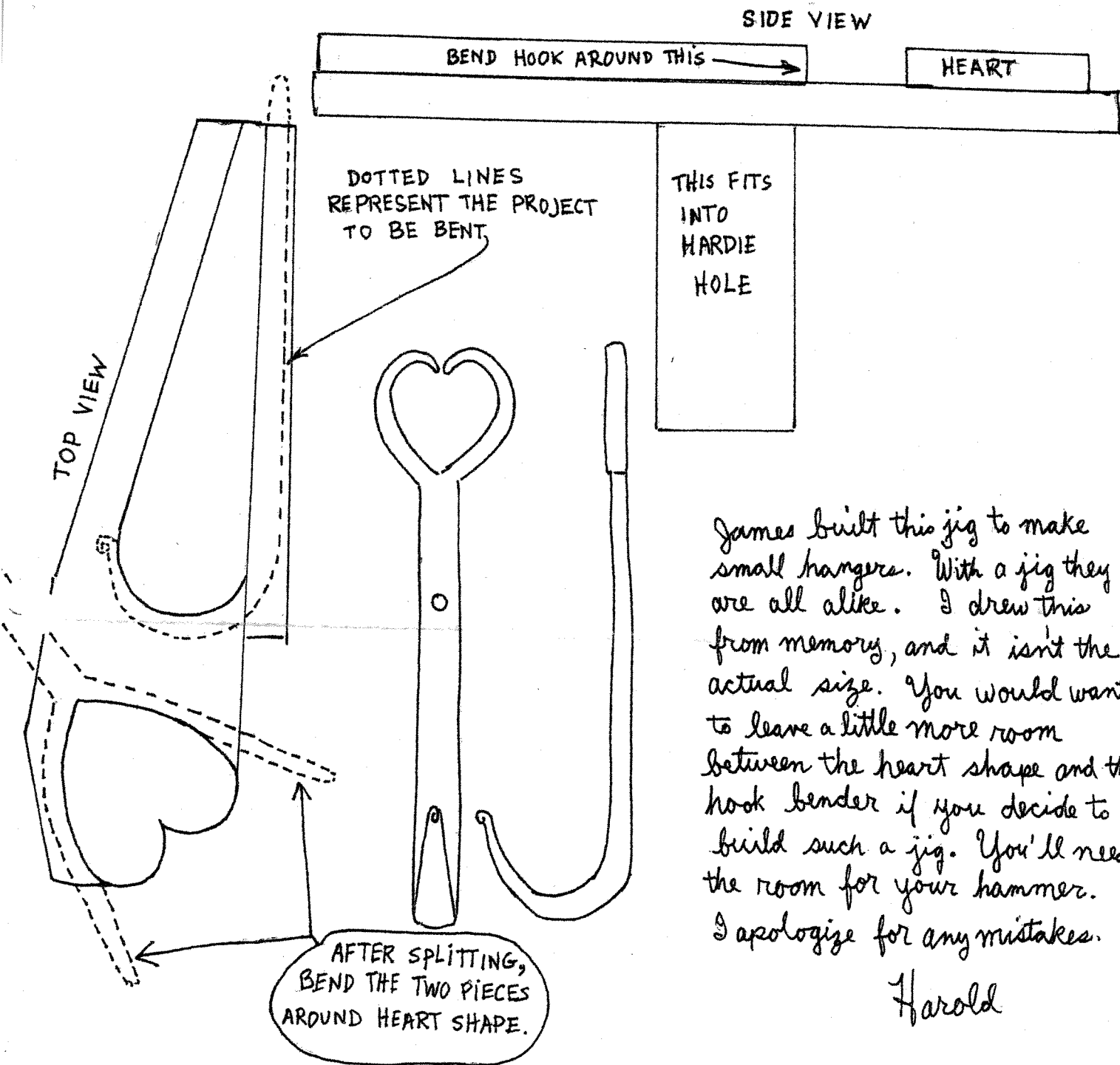
10 Use a large round punch, and put a "tongue" on the bend, pointing directly away from the leaf. This is why the bend was so sharp.



11 Using wrenches or a bending fork, curve the excess stem around and over the tongue, leaving enough room for a bottle cap. Take one last heat and put a little shape in the leaf, then wire brush it, put on some wax, and find something to open!



JAMES BRANTLEY JIG

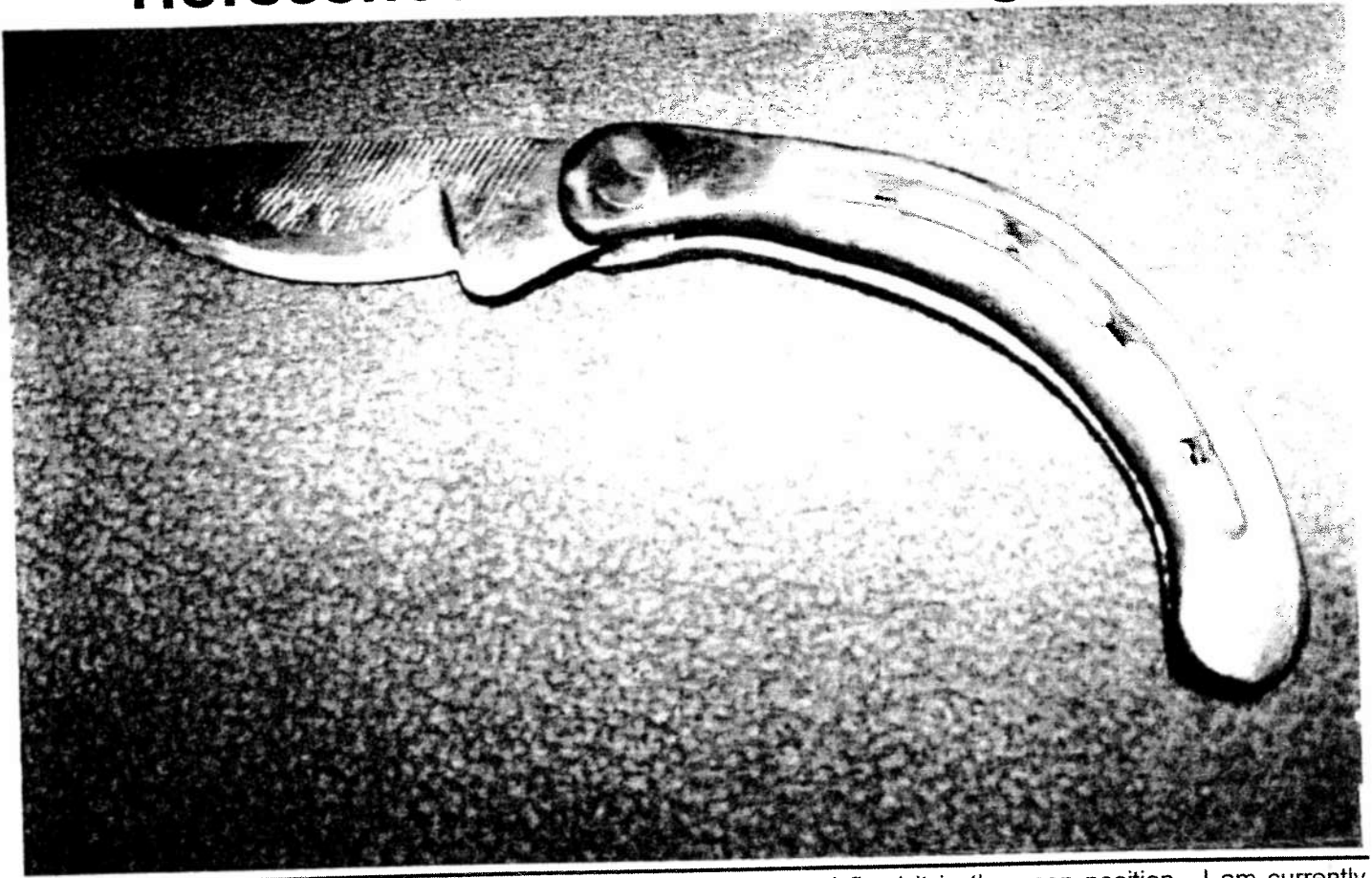


James built this jig to make small hangers. With a jig they are all alike. I drew this from memory, and it isn't the actual size. You would want to leave a little more room between the heart shape and the hook bender if you decide to build such a jig. You'll need the room for your hammer. I apologize for any mistakes.

Harold

A note: James loses a lot of sleep while he invents things. When, someday, we have a meeting at his house I'm sure he'd enjoy showing you some of his other inventions and jigs.

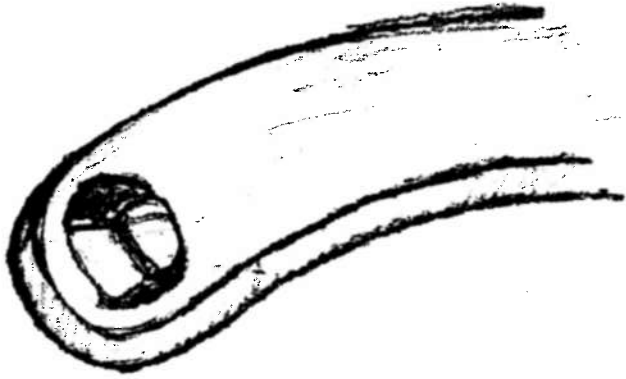
Horseshoe Handled Folding Knife



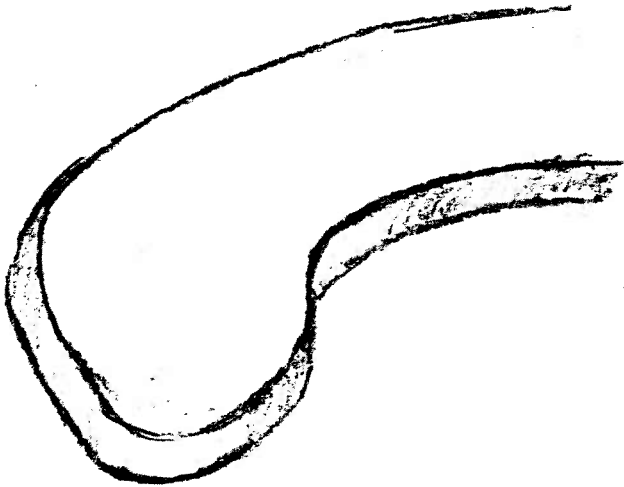
Horseshoe Handle Folder – This knife is actually a prototype that I fixed it in the open position. I am currently working on a horseshoe handle folder with a cable damascus blade but didn't complete it in time for the newsletter. If you follow the instructions in the article you should not encounter the problems I did with this first attempt.

When I first saw the instructions for a simple blacksmith folding knife in the New England Blacksmiths Newsletter it sparked the idea to make a folding knife with a horseshoe handle. I had been looking for something to make out of the horseshoes my nephew's father-in-law had given me when I visited with them in Missouri on the way back from the ABANA conference in Seattle in 2006. I had a Cable Damascus Knife with me and he also gave me some old cable he had. I promised that I would make him something in return for his generosity. I knew when he gave me the cable, that he was hoping for a cable damascus knife, and I wanted to incorporate one of the horseshoes he had given

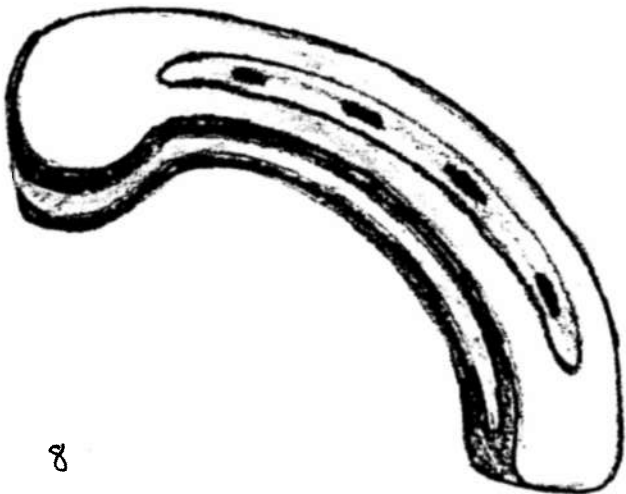
To make the Horseshoe Handle Folder, I started with a Shoe with Heel Caulks:



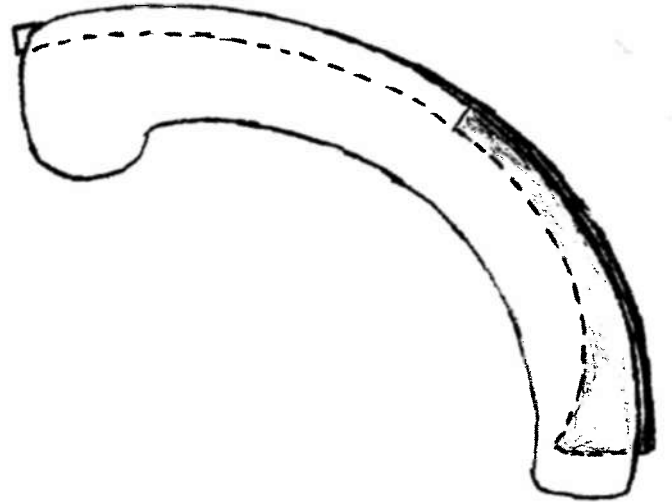
The Heel Caulks provide the necessary material to forge the Hinge Ends of the handle. You probably could use a shoe with out Heel Caulks by bending and upsetting the ends of the shoe to form this area.



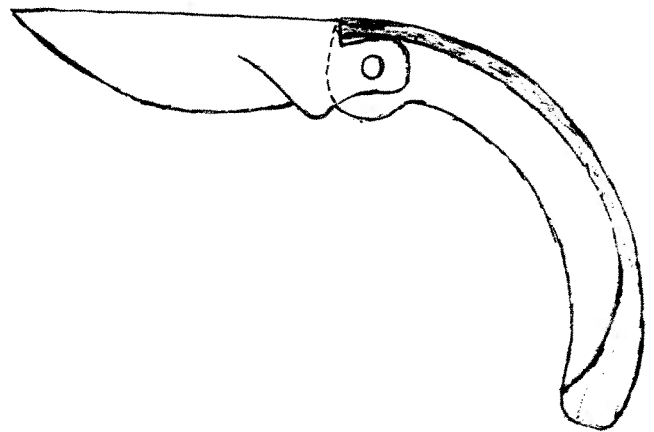
Next fold the shoe in half, lining up the Heel ends and using a spacer the thickness of the Blade you'll be making.



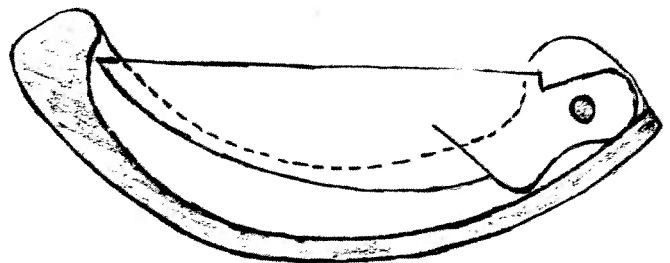
Next forge a Spring to fit into the back of the handle as shown. The shaded area is the portion that will be forge welded and should protrude slightly above the back edge of the handle to allow for finishing this weld.



Once Welded forge a blade to fit the Handle as shown here. I actually drew and cut out a Card Stock paper blade to check the fit in both the open and closed positions.



The shape of the handle must be taken in to account when designing the blade so that it will fit into the slot in the handle and protect the edge of the blade when closed.



CACBOA March 2014 Meeting Minutes

The February meeting of the Central Arkansas Chapter of the Blacksmiths Association of Arkansas (CACBOA) was held on March 15th at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) Applied Arts studio in Little Rock, Arkansas. We love meeting at the applied arts studio, with multiple gas forges and anvils, racks of tongs and hammers, helpful studio supervisors, and a coal forge and power hammer in a studio filled with art and architecture projects. It really gets the creative juices flowing. We try not to wear out our welcome, and typically only go there a couple of times a year – usually in July/August or December/January, since their facility is climate controlled. Save our more primitive outside forges for the spring and fall.

At the forge, we had a demonstration of the use of a Beverly Shear, followed by some practical hands on experience as we helped Dale update some candle-cups that had been leaking wax. During Lent, his church uses more primitive offertory equipment. If you haven't seen a picture of it before, ask Dale to show you the primitive pierced cross he made for the Lent processional, with assistance from Bob Patrick.

We had three new members in attendance, and after Dale's "Tom Sawyer" project, we broke into some one-on-one time with more experienced members assisting the newer members with some small projects, including leaf keychains and a railroad-spike knife. Unfortunately, I missed getting a picture of these projects – they turned out very nice.



In our business meeting, we discussed the organization and benefits of the Blacksmiths of Arkansas (BOA) and ABANA. Dale and I are signed up for the hammer class in April, and at least one of the new members expressed an interest in joining as well. Call Dale if you are coming from the Little Rock area and are interested in car-pooling. Dale and I are also planning on attending the ABANA conference this summer. I don't know about ride-shares, but if I find that anvil I'm dreaming about, I'm hoping Dale can haul it back to Arkansas in his truck for me!

Once again, we discussed demonstrating at some of the local events in order to increase awareness of blacksmithing past and present, and to attract new members. Two days after the meeting, we were contacted by the Faulkner County Museum and asked to provide a blacksmith demonstration at their November 1st Open House. They will have many other demonstrators of crafts and skills from the Arkansas territorial and early statehood period (1825-1875). If you are interested in assisting, contact Robert Fox. More details will be forthcoming as the event draws closer. Speaking of which, be sure to check out the recent changes to our BOA website at www.blacksmithsofarkansas.org. It is continuing to improve!



Finally, Dale reluctantly showed us the Jack Smith service award he received in recognition of his contributions over the last year. I've lost track of how many offices he holds now – Vice President of BOA, Steward of CACBOA, BOA webmaster, ABANA Affiliate representative – If BOA is doing something, odds are that Dale is in there helping. I know Dale is the force-of-nature that pulled me into our local chapter when I first started. Congratulations, Dale! Well deserved.

Our April CACBOA meeting will be held on the second Saturday of the month, rather than the third, due to a conflict with the annual antique tractor show in northwest Arkansas. Our April meeting will therefore be held on Saturday, April 12th, at the forge of Thurston Fox (my father) in Maytown, Arkansas. Directions will be emailed to CACBOA members. If anyone else is interested in joining us, contact me. The trade item is a gender-appropriate present for your significant other. I have two daughters who are always asking me to make them something, and I'm struggling for ideas that would appeal to the girls in my life.

- CACBOA Secretary, Robert Fox (rsfox@arkbluecross.com)

**DIRECTIONS TO
TIRED IRON OF THE OZARKS**

TIRED IRON IS LOCATED AT 13344
TAYLOR ORCHARD RD. GENTRY, AR
DIRECTIONS FROM HWY 412 AND
MOUNT OLIVE ST. IN SILOAM SPRINGS, AR
GO NORTH ABOUT 1.7 MILES ON MOUNT
OLIVE ST.

TURN RIGHT ON DAWN HILL RD. TO TAYLOR
ORCHARD RD { NOTICE SIGN IN THE "Y" }.

TURN LEFT ON TAYLOR ORCHARD RD.
GO ABOUT 2 MILES { STAY ON PAVEMENT }
ON TAYLOR ORCHARD RD TO SHOW GROUNDS.

DIRECTIONS FROM HWY. 59 IN GENTRY, AR
FROM THE TRAFFIC LIGHT AT HWY. 59, GO WEST
ON HWY. 12 { THIRD ST. } FOR ABOUT 1/2 MILE.

JUST PAST THE CITY PARK, TURN LEFT { SOUTH }
ON PIONEER LANE { FOLLOW SIGNS FROM THIS POINT }.
GO SOUTH ON PIONEER LANE FOR ABOUT 1/4 MILE TO
THE CORNER OF THE HIGH SCHOOL PRACTICE FIELD.

TURN RIGHT { WEST } ON SWEPCO RD.
FOLLOW SWEPCO RD THROUGH THE CURVES FOR
ABOUT 1 MILE.

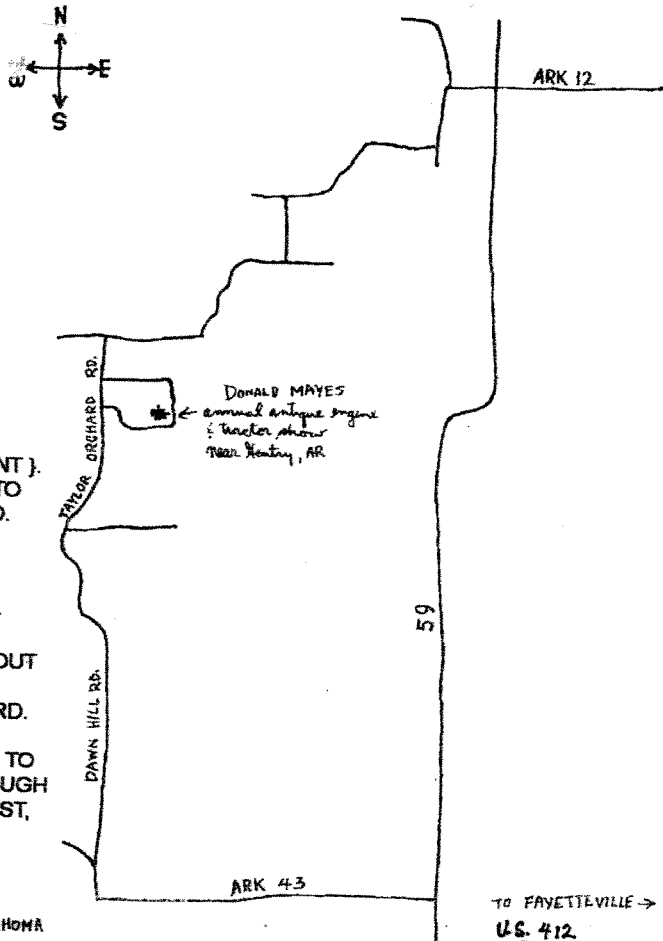
TAKE TAYLOR ORCHARD RD TO THE LEFT { SOUTH }
FOR ABOUT 1/2 MILE.

TURN RIGHT { WEST } ON MARION LEE RD. FOR ABOUT
1/4 MILE.

TURN BACK LEFT { SOUTH } ON TAYLOR ORCHARD RD.

STAY ON TAYLOR ORCHARD RD. FOR ABOUT 2 MILES TO
13344 TAYLOR ORCHARD RD. THE ROAD GOES THROUGH
CURVES, AND AFTER IT STAIGHTENS OUT TO THE WEST,
GO ABOUT 1 MILE.

TAYLOR ORCHARD RD. WILL TURN BACK TO LEFT
{ SOUTH } ABOUT 1/8 MILE TO THE SHOW GROUND
ENTRANCE.



ABANA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip/PC: _____

Country: _____

Type of Membership

- Regular \$55 Overseas \$65
- Student \$45 Contributing \$100
- Senior (65+) .. \$50 Library \$45

\$5 discount for two year memberships and renewals

ABANA Chaper Affiliation: _____

Application may also be made at the ABANA web site:

www.abana.org

E-mail: _____

www url: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Credit Card Information

- Visa Mastercard

Expiration Date: _____

Card# _____

Submit check, money order (US banks only), or by credit card: _____

Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc.
259 Muddy Fork Road
Jonesborough, Tennessee 37659

Phone: 423-913-1022, Fax: 423-913-1023
centraloffice@abana.org

Message from Ron
To All Three Chapters

Be sure to take a look at our website. It is continuing to improve. Some very industrious members are working diligently to make it even more complete.

The new BOA website can be found at

www.blacksmithsofarkansas.org.

Date: Thursday, March 20, 2014 7:03 PM

From: Glenn Owen <forgeontheridge@yahoo.com>

To: boa-editor@suddenlink.net <boa-editor@suddenlink.net>

Subject: April and May meeting

Our next meeting will be held on April 5 at Forge on the Ridge in Jonesboro from 8 till 4. The May meeting will be held on the 3rd at the same location. I would like to encourage everyone to attend as the weather will be better and we have been having very good meetings with those who can attend. I will demonstrate making a knife. I would also encourage those with a shop to host a meeting, you do not need anything more than a forge an anvil. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

Thanks, Glenn Owen
Forge on the Ridge Blacksmith Shop

Overhead and Other Stuff
by
Harold and Ron



“No, No, No, James, the trade item
this month is a **STEAK** turner!”

BOA

Blacksmith's Organization of Arkansas Membership Application

Are you an ABANA { Artist Blacksmith's Association of North America } member? _____

NAME _____ Membership Dues: \$25.00
per year DUE in January *

ADDRESS _____

PRIMARY PHONE # _____
{ CELL OR LAND LINE }

E-MAIL _____

Are you interested in blacksmithing for a LIVING? _____
HOBBY? _____

Special areas of interest

- KNIFE MAKING _____
- GUNSMITHING _____
- ARCHITECTURAL _____
- RESTORATION _____
- BUCK SKINNING _____
- MEDIEVAL _____

BLACKSMITH ORGANIZATION OF ARKANSAS

RON WELLS
HCR 32 BOX 141
MOUNT JUDEA, AR 72655

Or bring to the next meeting and give to

BOA membership is a family membership. For the payment of one membership dues all the members of a family would be afforded all the benefits and privileges of a full membership.

* If the dues are paid in the last three months { October, November, or December } of the year, membership is paid up for the following year.
If dues are not paid within the first three months { January, February, or March } of the year, the member is removed from the membership.

BLACKSMITH of ARKANSAS
124 BLUE CEDAR DR
BULL SHOALS, AR 72619

