



Sofa Sounds

Southern Ohio Forge and Anvil

Newsletter

August, 1993

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Unless otherwise noted all meetings will be held at the Studebaker Frontier Homestead on St. Rt. 202 about four miles north of I-70 and two miles south of the intersection of St. Rt. 571 and 202. Please do not park in the grass or block access to a production area. Donations of items to support the newsletter are always welcome. Finger food and cold drinks provided on a break even, honor donation basis. The forges at the homestead are available before and after the meeting for individual projects. Bring and wear safety glasses. Demonstrations are open to the public and are no charge. Meetings start at 1:00 PM

Upcoming Events:

August 7, 1993	SOFA MEETING at the Studebaker Homestead. Demonstrator will be Ken Scharabok doing one of his Ram's head pokers.
September 4, 1993 September 18-19, 1993	<u>Meeting Canceled - Labor day</u> Quad-State Roundup Demonstrators Kieth Kilby, Marte Cellura, Mark Bokenkamp, George Dixon, Bill Hahn, and Paul Hubler
October 3, 1993	SOFA MEETING at the Studebaker Homestead. Demonstrator will be Hans Peot demonstrating construction and use of a pattern burning machine.
November 6, 1993	SOFA MEETING at the Studebaker Homestead. Demonstrator will be Ron Turpin demonstrating a project to be announced later (still under development).

President's Message:

Well, its that time of year again and the announcement for the 1993 S.O.F.A. Quad-state Roundup are mailed. The board of directors have an early meeting before the regular SOFA meeting and set up a production line for mailing out the about one thousand notices. That's a lot of sticking mailing labels, inserting envelopes, and licking stamps. Ken Scharabok says his mouth still tastes like a dead horse's hoof from all the glue he swallowed. It's just another job the board deserves your appreciation for doing. We have been very fortunate to have a group of tireless workers for the last 10 to 15 years. When there is enough help the job goes quickly without an undue burden on any individual. We could use a few new faces in the crew of helpers, so if you enjoy doing some of the things that a club our size requires, let me know and we will appreciate sharing some of the chores. Don't worry, none of the duties are really that burdensome.

The Quad-state slate of demonstrators looks like a really exceptional group. I wish I could see them all, but that isn't possible for anyone attending. That's really the dilemma for anyone who attends, its too good and you can't be in all the places at the same time. Keith Kilby is a great knife maker, deserving of the fame he is acquiring, and yet is also an outstanding demonstrator. Marte Cellura was a fine blacksmith before he spent time with Albert Paley and his portfolio reflects his abilities. His sculpture and repousse demonstration should be worth the wait. Mark Bokenkamp has demonstrated at SOFA in the past and was brought back by popular demand. His colonial smithing and rifle making are the finest. George Dixon is one of the hottest demonstrators on the ABANA circuit and is highly regarded for his demonstrations on Ornamental Ironworking. Bill Hahn is one of the accomplished smiths in our sister club to the north - Northwest Ohio Blacksmiths (NOB). He will be leading the beginning and intermediate blacksmithing demo which is the core of our being. Paul Hubler is currently working with Jack Brubaker, another fine smith who needs no introduction to SOFA members. Paul was the smith who forged the great animal heads in the Minnesota Guild of Metalsmith's "Iron Menagerie" book. Should be very interesting. Overall a superb lineup that should have something of interest for every blacksmith regardless of skill level. Let me tell you, if you like smithing and don't find something in this lineup to fascinate you, go to your local car dealership - your motor isn't running!!!

Note the additions to our monthly demo schedule, and note that we have canceled the September normal meeting. The turnout for last years meeting on Labor day weekend didn't make it worthwhile. The Saturday following Labor day is a Quad-state workday where we get the forges ready and take care of other duties. Come and join us, its more of a fun day than a work day. Don't believe me? Well, hard work never hurt anyone, but on the other hand I never heard of anyone resting to death either.

One final announcement, Ron Van Vickle has asked for some relief for several years from the Secretary/Treasurer duties, but has remained on the job each time he was reelected. Hans Peot has offered to assume the duties immediately so send your membership renewals to Hans at: 6425 S. Scarf Rd., New Carlisle, OH 45344. I would like to express

my deep appreciation for all the help Ron has been in all of the jobs - way beyond just the duties of his office - for these last several years. You know that Ron and I have spent several years getting together to hammer, jaw, hassle Mary Anne, swap stories, and in general wreck his shop. A good buddy and a good worker. Thanks, partner.

Thanks also to Bill Burling for writing up the rose demo I did last month. Bill wrote 12 pages on my demo (I think it was only a 3 page demo), did his own illustrations, and donated it to SOFA. I'll try to get some copies made up for distribution at the Quad-state. The last page of the write-up Bill reserved for a method to break up a circle into equal segments using chords. Being a pattern maker by trade has its rewards and he is nice enough to pass them along. That page is worth the price of admission.

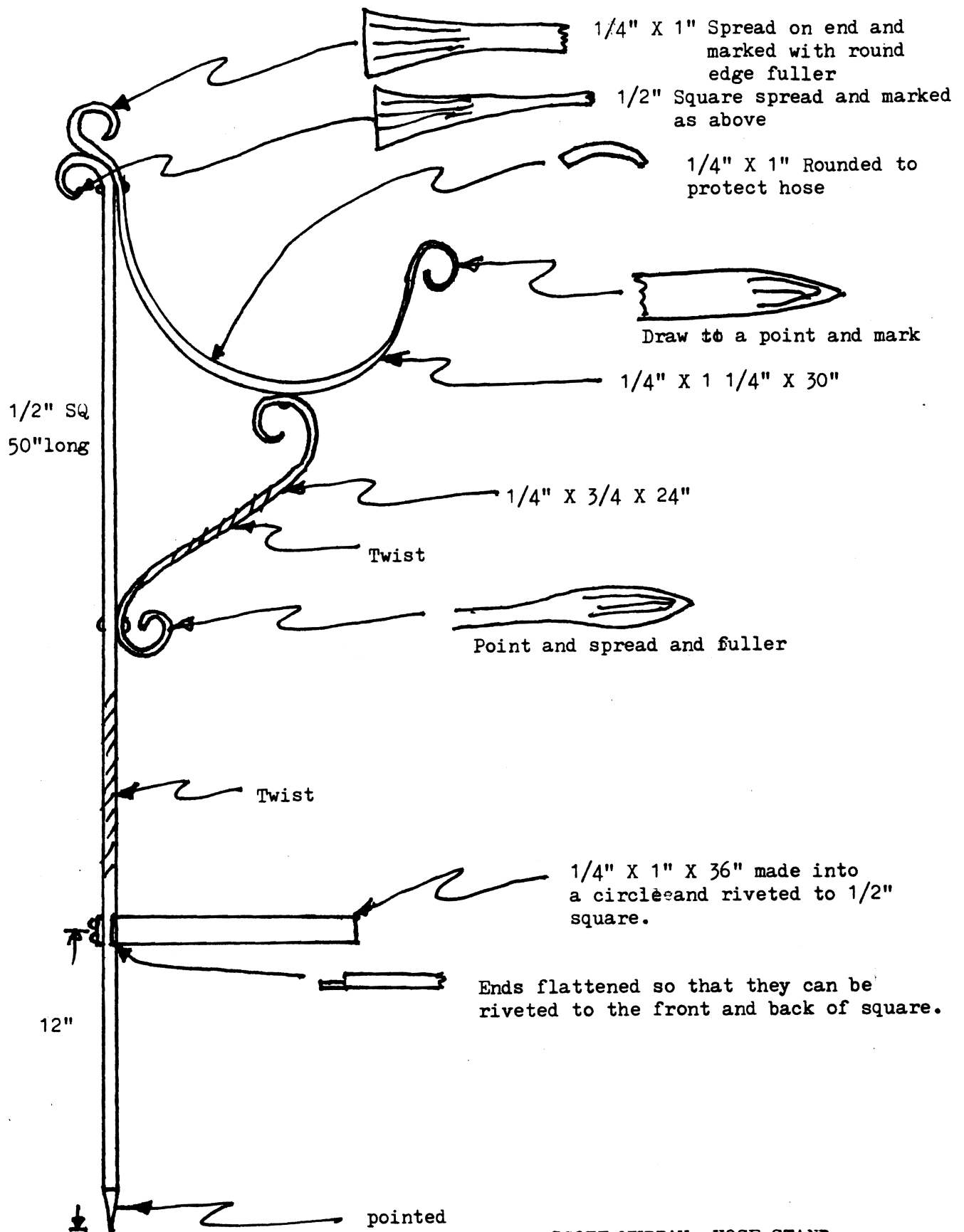
One more final note, I have an offer from Alabama Forge council copying the offer I think was started by the BAM Missouri group, to extend a free tuition to their Tannehill Conference for one SOFA member, on September 10-12, 1993. If you are interested contact a board member and we will draw a name for the lucky recipient. One condition; the attendee must report to us at a meeting on the trip. The SOFA member must supply his/her own transportation and lodging. Demonstrators are Jerry Hoffman, Charles Orlando, Walt Scadden, and Ellis Cameron.

Ron Thompson

SCOTT MURRAY DEMO: On July 10, 1993 Scott Murray demonstrated making a garden hose stand. He started by drawing a 1/2" square bar to a point. On the other end he flaired the end and fullered veins in with a 1/4" fuller. He then scrolled the end. Eighteen inches from the bottom he made a decorative twist in the 1/2" square bar.

He then made the brace at the bottom of the stake from a 36" piece of 1/4" X 1" material. He formed the ends so that they could be riveted on the front and back of the 1/2" square. This circle of material acts as a brace to prevent the hose stand from tipping forward. He next made the brace from a piece of 1/4" X 3/4" material by first pointing the ends and then spreading them to make them leaf-like. He veined them with the 1/4" fuller and then scrolled each end.

The top bracket where the hose would be coiled was made from a piece of 1/4" X 1 1/4" material. One end was spread, fullered and scrolled to fit over the 1/2" scrolled piece. The other end was pointed, fullered and scrolled. The piece was then rounded in a swage block so there would not be any sharp corners which would cut the hose.



SCOTT MURRAY HOSE STAND

RON THOMPSON DEMO, JUNE 5, 1993

Ron Thompson demonstrated making a rose from copper sheet. The copper sheet was copper flashing approximately .025" thick. He first started out by scribing circles on the sheet as shown in the sketch. After scribing he divided the circumference of 4 of the circles into 5 equal sections and the last two into 4 sections. These were scribed to the center. He then marked all of the corners where he planned to cut with small snips. The copper should be annealed and clean. He cut out each circle and then with the snips rounded the corners of the petals with the cut going to within $\frac{3}{8}$ " of the center. The sepal was cut as indicated.

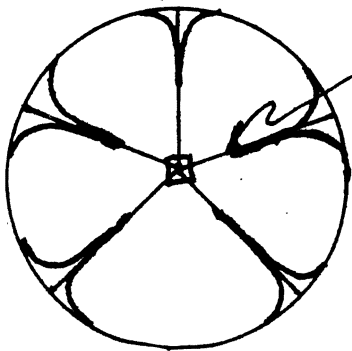
Each piece was then pierced with a small square punch approximately $\frac{1}{8}$ " square. The petals were placed on the end of a hardwood block and then punched with the square punch which knocked out a small square of copper into the hardwood block. The punch was rotated 45 degrees in each subsequent set of petals. Each set of petals on the side facing up was textured using the rough end of a small crosspein hammer.

For a stem he used a piece of No. 2 annealed copper wire. He necked down the copper about $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the end to form the stem. And then $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the end he drew down the end of the copper to about $\frac{3}{16}$ ". He then filed the end $\frac{1}{8}$ " square as shown in the sketch.

The individual pieces were then placed on this squared end starting with the sepal and driven into place using the $\frac{1}{2}$ " dowel with a $\frac{7}{32}$ " hole drilled in the end. The individual pieces were stacked as shown in the sketch each driven into place with the dowel. The protruding square copper was then cut off to $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the size of the square and riveted. When placing the petals on make sure none of the cuts line up. Each cut should be $\frac{1}{2}$ way between a petal.

Then, using a needle nose pliers, starting with the smallest one, bend up to form the petals of the rose. How they are bent and formed is pretty much up to the artistry of the individual. The finished rose was given to Jane Studebaker.





2 1/2"

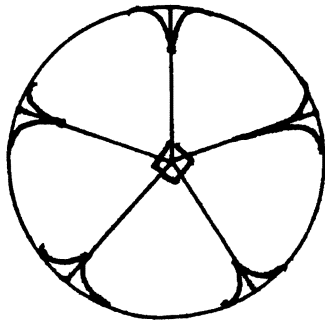
Cut to within 3/8" of center



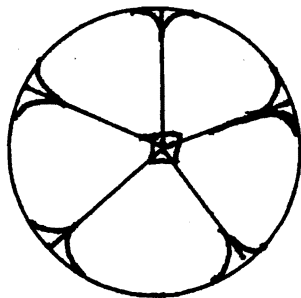
1/2" Dowel with 7/32" hole drilled in end



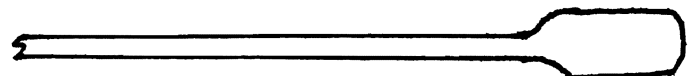
1/8" square punch



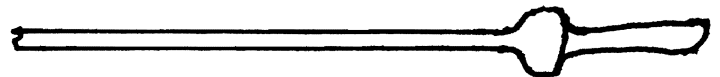
2 1/4" Diameter



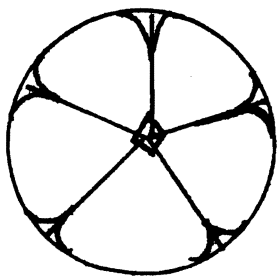
2 "



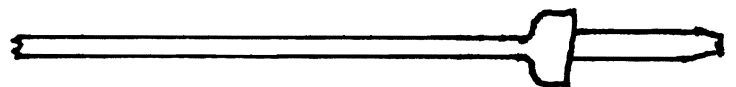
upset end



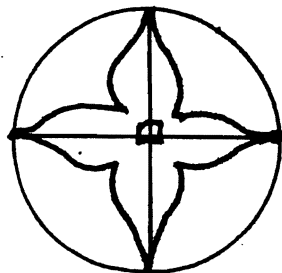
draw out end



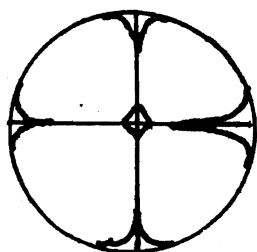
1 3/4"



file end square



1 3/4"



1 1/2"



Stack on stem and rivet

COPPER GREEN COLORING: In response to inquiries regarding coloring copper the following was researched:

Copper	1 oz.
Nitric Acid Concentrated	2 oz.
Ammonium Chloride	1/3 oz.
Ammonium Hydroxide tech grade	
0.9 specific gravity	2/3 oz.
Acidic Acid 3% solution	20 oz.

Dissolve copper in nitric acid outside to avoid the harmful gases given off.

Add remaining chemicals to copper/acid solutions.

Let stand for several days before use.

Brush on item to be colored.

Spray on coloring for copper:

Copper sulfate	1/2 oz.
Ammonium sulfate	1 pound
Ammonium tech grade	
0.9 specific gravity	1/4 oz.
water	1 gallon

Applied as fine spray and allowed to dry between coats - 5 to 6 coats are required. Patina starts in about 6 hours - let stand in weather and coloring will continue.

Antique green on copper:

Copper nitrate	4 oz.
Copper carbonate	4 oz.
Ammonium chloride	4 oz.
Water	1 gallon

Warm article as well as solution. Stipple it on metal with cloth or sponge. For color variation immerse in clean boiling water after antique green has developed.

Black on steel:

Water	1 gallon
Nitric acid	3/4 oz.
Copper sulfate	1 1/2 oz.
Selenious acid	1 oz.

Always add acid to water - never the other way. Dip highly polished steel into solution.



JANUARY, 1913



THE AMERICAN BLACKSMITH



The Blacksmith Preacher Rev. Robert Collyer

Rev. Robert Collyer died in New York City, November 30, 1912; and while he bore such titles as Doctor of Divinity and Doctor of Literature he will always be known as "The Blacksmith Preacher" to all members of the craft.

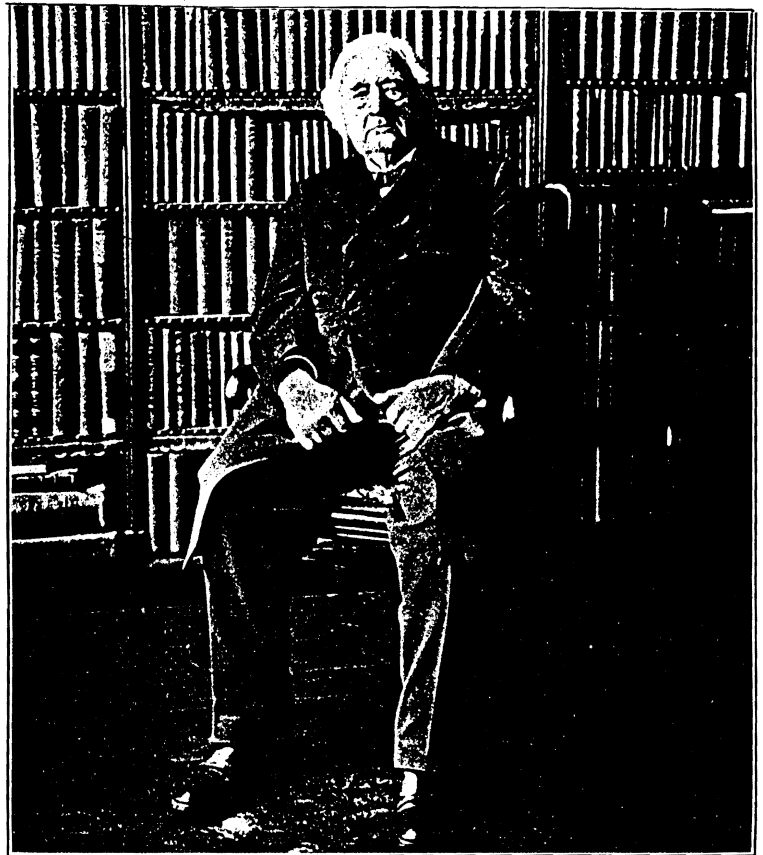
Robert Collyer was born in the little town of Keighley, in Yorkshire, England, on Dec. 8, 1823. His father was a blacksmith and it was only natural that the boy should turn to that trade to earn his living. Accordingly, in 1837, when Robert was 14 years old, he was apprenticed to a smith at Ilkley. We understand that the little shop in which Robert Collyer began to learn the trade is still standing in much the same condition as when he hammered on the anvil seventy-six years ago.

Here he worked at the anvil during the day, spending his nights lying by the forge, reading every book he could secure. His mother, who was a most lovable woman with a whimsical humor that gave pleasing color to the boy's personality, encouraged and aided him in his reading and studies.

One day a friend loaned the boy, now growing to manhood, a copy of Irving's "Sketch Book." After reading it his thoughts turned to America, but he was unable to realize his desire to come to this country until April, 1850. Just before sailing he married Miss Ann Armitage.

Two years before leaving England, Collyer drifted into a Methodist meetinghouse. He had suffered some sorrow, and found opportunity to lessen his burden by expressing his feelings. From that accidental start it became a custom for him to speak at irregular intervals. At times the town crier would announce on his rounds before church time, and between the clangings of his bell: "the blacksmith will preach this morning."

Upon crossing the ocean, Collyer found employment in Philadelphia where he worked at his trade for nine years, except during the panic of 1857 when he carried a hod and



THE BLACKSMITH PREACHER—REV. ROBERT COLLYER

broke stone on the turnpike for a dollar a day. In the meantime he was preaching on Sundays at nothing a Sunday.

In 1859 the blacksmith preacher was asked to come to Chicago and devote himself entirely to church work; and the first sermon he preached in that city was delivered in a little wooden building at Dearborn and Chicago streets.

During the Civil War, Dr. Collyer was temporarily relieved of his pastorate, to permit him to serve on the sanitary commission.

In 1869 a new church was dedicated which in the great fire of 1871 was destroyed. On the Sunday following the fire, Dr. Collyer held services among the ruins. In the course of his sermon he said his people must not pay him for the year to come—that he would take care of his family, even if he had to return to the anvil and make horseshoes. This statement attracted the attention of the trustees of Cornell University and they offered him \$1,000 for a horseshoe of his own making. He accordingly went to a shop, forged a shoe and sent it to the University where it is still a treasured souvenir.

The \$1,000 was the beginning of a fund that completed the present Unity Church building within the next two years.

In 1879, Dr. Collyer was called to New York to become Pastor of the Church of the Messiah. Upon reaching the three-score-and-ten he wished to resign, but he was made Pastor Emeritus.

Dr. Collyer occupied much of his time in recent years in writing and traveling. He always was strong physically as well as mentally. His knowledge was gained by study and observation, and while appreciating the value of the university he said that the great men in finance, politics, trade and art were those who studied in the school of experience rather than in the colleges of learning.

Dr. Collyer has lightened the burden of life for many, and while his titles indicated his high standing as a thinker, as a writer and as a scholar it is as the Doctor of Sorrowing Hearts that he appeared and appealed to the great mass of humanity. May the anvil and forge be the starting place of many, many more such men as Robert Collyer.

FIRE & ABANA FUSION

1994 CONFERENCE

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

To all Chapter Presidents and Newsletter Editors:

The 1994 ABANA Conference will be held in St. Louis, Missouri at Washington University. I am pleased to tell you that it is possibly the best overall facility ever for a conference. The central location promises a large turn out as travel will be less expensive for more people.

The Blacksmiths Assn. of Missouri (BAM) is the host chapter. BAM member Lou Mueller is the conference chairman and I am delighted to tell you he is a most capable organizer.

We are planning a ring project which invites all ABANA chapters to participate. This could be the first time all chapters have had the opportunity to do something together. Here's how it works! Every chapter is invited to make one of these rings, (description and instruction included) the rings will then be joined. There are several ways this could happen. One strong thought is to have Francis Whitaker pick six of his choice and assemble them at the conference. This group would make the conference logo. The balance would make one or more groups of compatible design. All ring assemblies will be sold at auction for conference income. Each chapter can choose any method they like to produce the ring of their choice.

It may help to know BAM's past experience with ring projects. There have been two. Each time the membership was asked to make one, then a meeting was held to assemble them and they were sold. One is a bed head board in a bed and breakfast, the other decorates a restaurant.

Doug Hendrickson asked several ABANA members across the country to make one and assembled them for the 1990 ABANA conference and it was a big seller at that years auction.

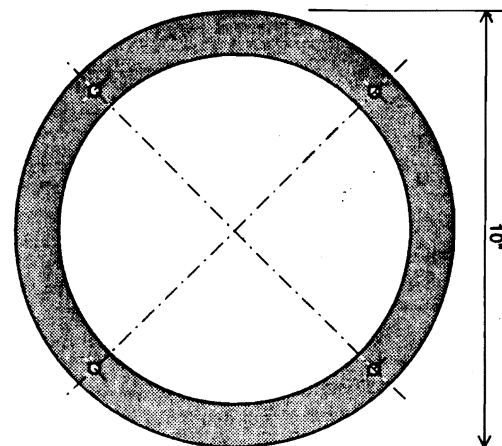
One suggestion would be to have a chapter project the way BAM did. Have a judging, send the winner to represent your chapter at the 1994 conference, take the rest and assemble them for a chapter fund raiser.

What ever method you choose we wish you good luck and hope to have 100% chapter participation.

The ring should be shipped to BAM by March 1, 1994 to allow time for preparation by conference time.

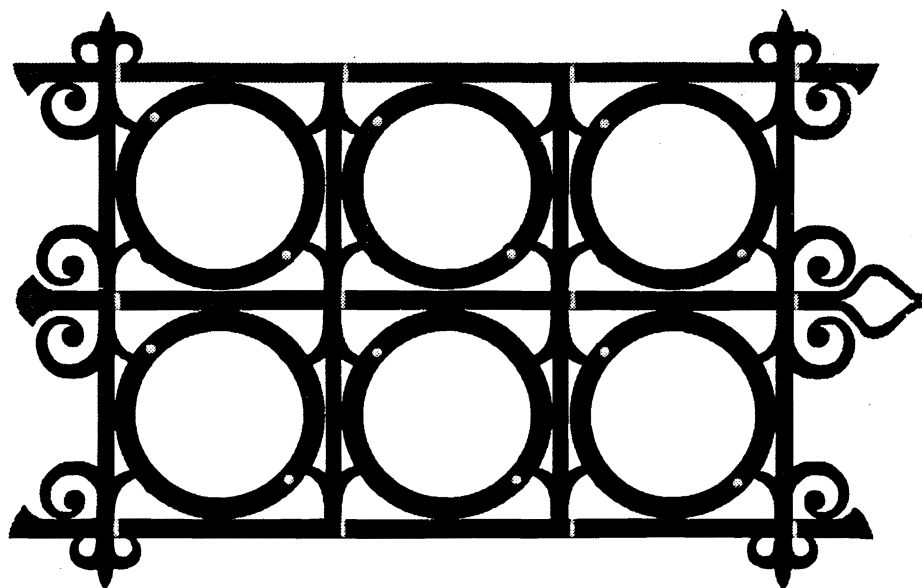
Thanks in advance for your help in making this joint project a success. Please feel free to contact me at (314) 438-4725 for other details or questions that you may have.

Tom Clark,
Rings Committee chairman for the 1994 ABANA Conference



The rings for this project serve as the outer border of whatever design use choose to occupy the negative space within the ring. The interior ironwork can be anchored to the ring in a fashion you deem suitable (rivets, collars, welds, etc). The only criteria is that the outer edge of the ring and the area around the mounting holes remain unobstructed (see framework illustration at right).

Edge bend 1/4" x 1" hot rolled flat. It should be perfectly round and exactly 10" in diameter. The mounting holes should not be drilled; they will be drilled just prior to assembly at the conference. See page 15, winter 1991 issue of the Anvil's ring for examples of work done for the 1990 ABANA Conference ring project.

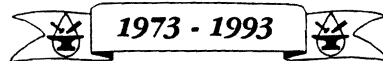


ABANA

The Artist-Blacksmiths' Association of North America now proudly celebrates its 20th year!

P.O. Box 1181, Nashville, Indiana 47448
Executive Secretary, Janelle Gilbert Franklin

Office Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Phone: (812) 988-6919



CHAPTER LIAISON NEWSLETTER

June 1993

ABANA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June, 1993

Dear ABANA Chapters,

We are in for a busy summer! We have never had as much going on in ABANA as we have this year. Consider the *ABANA/NOMM Invitational Exhibit* -- this is a first for us. This exhibit will pair the work of ABANA members with those individuals who have been their main influence. We very much appreciate the financial help we are getting from the members and chapters to support this very worthwhile undertaking. We are still not where we need to be financially to cover the expenses, such as shipping, photography and insurance, but we are making progress. Hopefully, we can establish ABANA member exclusive exhibits around the country as an ABANA tradition! You can contact ABANA Board members Joe Harris or Elizabeth Brim through the ABANA Office for more information.

Okay, even the best laid plans can go awry. Our regular ABANA billing was changed to reflect a special offer in connection with Centaur Forge, Ltd. Unfortunately, the billing is apparently being mistaken for commercial advertisement and being thrown away! This became obvious by the extraordinarily high number of members that made it to the "Drop List." We will make sure that all those who may have missed the billing for that reason have the opportunity to re-join with no interruption in service. In the meantime, better take a second look at that postcard before you toss it aside -- it just might be us!

Would you know what to do if one of your members suddenly needed CPR? Does one of your members have a medical condition you should know about? What if someone got cut or burned? Lonnie Stafford, President of the *North Carolina Chapter of ABANA* recently suggested that it would be a good idea if you encouraged members of your Chapter to take a first aid class. These classes are available almost everywhere by the Red Cross or your local fire department, often for no cost. A first aid kit can be assembled as a collective effort from your membership, or purchased from a local safety supply store. Being properly prepared for emergencies requires very little, and can mean the difference between tragedy and a minor pause in the program. Thanks, Lonnie!

Here's hoping you have a great summer!

Warm Regards,

Clayton Carr
ABANA President

RUSSIAN EXPERIENCE: Bob Jacoby (Florida Newsletter Editor) his wife and 2 children are taking a year to work in Russia for a group called The Citizen's Democracy Corps. He will be assigned to the Business Entrepreneur Program helping small industries convert from government to private ownership. We wish him luck in this endeavor and when he returns possibly we can persuade him to do an article about the Russian Blacksmiths he will visit over there.

ABANA NEWSLETTER: The first issue of the newsletter has been sent out to all ABANA members. This is going to be a great resource for blacksmiths and I urge you to get involved by joining ABANA. Not only will there be how-to articles but also event notices, a classifieds section and helpful information to keep you touch. You must be an ABANA member to receive a copy, so if you're not a member yet, call today!

BLACKSMITH SCHOOL REOPENS: Rob Gunter has reopened his Blacksmithing School at a new facility and location. For information and class schedules call or write: The Forger, 13 Innaha Road, Tijeras, New Mexico 87059 phone: 505-281-8080.

BOY SCOUTS: There has been interest shown by some Chapters in trying to get the Blacksmith Merit Badge reinstated. Anyone that would be interested in working on this project and coordinating the effort through the Chapters should contact the Liaison Committee. This would be a great opportunity to help educate today's youth about our craft and guarantee its existence into the 21 Century.

BULLSEYE RYAN: Tim Ryan (auctioneer, ABANA Board Member and Anvil shooter extraordinaire) issued a challenge to anyone interested in an anvil shoot competition to contact him. If you have never had the opportunity to witness one of these events you are really missing a treat. Tim does stress safety and if you contact him he will be happy to give you pointers on how it is done. Please don't try this until you have all the proper information. Contact Tim by writing or calling him at: Rt. 1 Box 83, Gordonsville, Tennessee 38563, (615) 683-8325.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR MONTH: The Chapter Liaison Committee would like to designate June as Newsletter Editor Month. Take the time to call, write or visit with your Chapter Newsletter Editor and let them know how much you appreciate the effort they are taking to keep the lines of communication open within your Chapter. The editor's job can be very demanding and takes a lot of dedication. Most likely you will be asked to contribute something to the newsletter and if you do, you will find it can be very rewarding and enjoyable. An ABANA thanks goes out to the Chapter Editors --you are doing a great job!

LOGO CONTEST: The North Carolina Chapter of ABANA has decided their group needs a logo. The entire membership has been ask to submit an entry to vote on the best one at their July meeting. The winning entry will receive a prize. This is a great way to develop a logo and give everyone a chance to participate in a Chapter event.

MOVE OVER MAMBO: Word has come down that Butch Sheely (Northwest Ohio Blacksmith) has perfected a new dance called "Dance With Anvils". So far only a select few members have been privileged to see it performed. We expect this to be the dance fad for '93.

ABANA RING PROJECT: The Ring Project has been formally announced for the '94 Conference and it looks like it will be a good one. We hope to see 100% participation by the Chapters with this and look forward to seeing the entries. Anyone that wants to make a project for the Conference Auction is encouraged to do so. This will help ABANA and allow us to do more to promote blacksmithing in the future.

ABANA appreciates the Chapters that send us their newsletters and updates. If your Chapter has any information that they would like circulated to all other ABANA Chapters, send it along to the ABANA Office and we will include it in the next monthly mailing.

Officer changes? Please send your Chapter President and Editor changes to the ABANA Office or the Liaison Committee so we can keep our mailing list updated.

Ron Porter, Chapter Liaison Committee Chairman
RR1 Box 64, Bunker Hill, Indiana 46914

ABANA CHAPTER OFFICER CONTACTS

JUNE 1993

ALABAMA FORGE COUNCIL:

Pres: Gavin Harris, Rt. 1 Greasy Cove, Gallant AL 35972, (205) 538-8029
Ed: Clay Spencer, 208 Metairie Lane, Madison AL 35758, (205) 837-6996

APPALACHIAN AREA CHAPTER:

Pres: David Oliver, PO Box 3452, Bristol, TN 37625 (615) 878-5712
Ed: James Corry, 6352 Wilder Rd, Hixson, TN 37344 (615) 870-3315

APPALACHIAN BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION:

Pres: Robert Elliott, Route 1, Box 62, Fairmont WV 26554, (304) 534-3685
Ed: Bill Mullens, RR 2 Box 2192, Fairmont, WV 26554 (304) 367-0698

ARIZONA ARTIST-BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION:

Pres: Joe Hernandez, 4223 N. Paso Rancho, Tucson, AZ 85745 (602) 743-9032
Ed: Mike Cooper, 3533 Banff Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85023 (602) 938-1495

BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION of MISSOURI:

Pres: Tom Clark, HC 87 Box 5780, Potosi MO 63664, (314) 438-4725
Ed: Jim McCarty, Rt 1 Box 20, Loose Creek, MO 65054 (314) 897-4111

BLACKSMITH GUILD of CENTRAL MARYLAND:

Pres: Mike Kaiser (no phone listed)
Ed: Albin Drzewianowski (410) 848-0731
BGCM Office, P.O. Box 592, Westminster, MD 21158

BLACKSMITH ORGANIZATION of ARKANSAS

Pres: Danny Sartian, P.O. Box 1483, Mtn View, AR 72560 (501) 297-4116
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BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION of WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Pres: Keith Harding, 25 Burnham Way, Girrawheen, Western Australia, 6064, No Phone
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BRINEVILLE FORGE COUNCIL

Pres: Paul Venema, 3729 Brandy Buck, Bennion, UT 84118 (801) 965-1142
Ed: Joan Venema, 3729 Brandy Buck, Bennion, UT 84118 (801) 965-1142

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Ed: Bob Thomson, 8095 Morningside Dr, Loomis, CA 95650, (916) 791-1236

FLORIDA ARTIST BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION:

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Ed: Bob Jacoby, PO Box 43332, Jacksonville, FL 32203 (904) 260-9735

GREAT PLAINS BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION:

Pres: Steve Hurlock (316) 522-8966
Ed: Matthew Willis (316) 456-2067
GPBA Office: P.O. Box 17613, Wichita KS 67217

GUILD OF METALSMITHS:

Pres: Bob Fredell, 3500 45th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55406 (612) 721-2298
Ed: Marcia McEachron, 420 N. 5th, Rm. 585, Minneapolis MN 55401, (612) 825-3644

ILLINOIS VALLEY BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION:

Pres: Jon Housour, R.R. 1 Box 372 Charterwood, Bloomington, IL 61704, (309) 683-2800
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