

November 2008

The Florida

Clinker Breaker

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association - Established May 18, 1985

Editorial Musings

Steve Bloom

The 2008 Conference is now history and I would like to extend a hearty 'Thanks!' to Mark Stone who spearheaded the event and to all of you who carried poles, stretched bungees, and helped with the setup, the teardown and the myriad tasks that made the conference function. It couldn't have happened without lots of help and that help is deeply appreciated. I'm writing this on the Monday after the conference, so details about the demonstrators, the attendance, how the auction went, etc. will appear in the December issue. Jerry Wolfe was kind enough to provide an overview via a set of pictures (Pg. 4 & 5), so if you weren't there, you can still get a feel for what went on.

Rex has created and staffed a committee to help the Program Chair identify and book demonstrators. You can help if you've got suggestions by sending them to Rex or giving the info to any Board member or any of the Coordinators. We could use the input so you can get what you want at conferences down the road.

I spent most of my time breathing coal smoke and bumbling around in the intermediate class area. The projects were a simple knife with a forged and twisted handle and a ladle with a stainless steel bowl. Everyone seemed to have a good time and most went home with a finished product and hopefully some new techniques about making finials, turning eyes, dishing with lead hammers and backyard heat treating.

The teaching trailer worked reasonably well with the only real glitch being that the blowers were way too powerful. At one point, a 3/8" thick stainless forge pot reached a bright red heat and part of the aluminum decking actually melted. By the time the trailer gets hauled out again, I'll have either dimmer switches and/or slide air gates installed and those should solve the problem. The breakdown anvil stands (see last month's issue) worked well - so I just need to make a couple more to complete the system. The trailer was easily towed by my mini-van and I was *really* appreciative of park-and-walk-away aspect on Sunday afternoon when I got home.

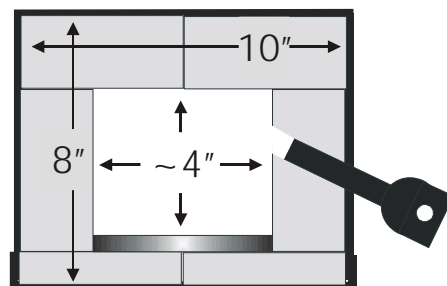
I'm teaching again next year, so what I need from you (if you

plan to take a class) is some idea of what you would like to do. We have to factor in the time span (3..4 hours) and the available equipment, but that leaves a whole lot we could do. Would you like to see a class on:

- Chest hardware -- hinges, handles, etc.?
- Candle holders with reflectors?
- Octopus towel racks?
- Pot racks?
- Sand casting?

One aspect I saw was that some of the students didn't have their own hammers. Now I don't about you, but I wouldn't want to rely on whatever hammers might be available. Do we need to have a clinic at one of the monthly meetings on hammers - how to heat treat, how to fit and adjust handles, etc.?

I had forgotten just how much fun it is to do knife work on a coal forge, so I plan to add a couple of small, single burner gas forges to the trailer. Is there enough interest to try to set up a workshop on gas forge construction? I'm envisioning a box using 6 3000 F refractory bricks (~\$20..\$25) and a shell of thin stainless with a single venturi burner. Approximate dimensions are shown in the drawing. The burner would be removable for ease of transport and a spare brick would act as the rear door. Depending on the price of stainless at the junk yard, I expect the damages to be in the order of \$40 (not including the adjustable propane regulator). With some preliminary prep work, I don't see why we couldn't knock these out in a day. So..interested? If so,



let me know. If there are enough folks interested, I'll setup a schedule and start collecting up front money.

The ball is in your court, so let me know what you want taught and what workshops you might want to participate in.

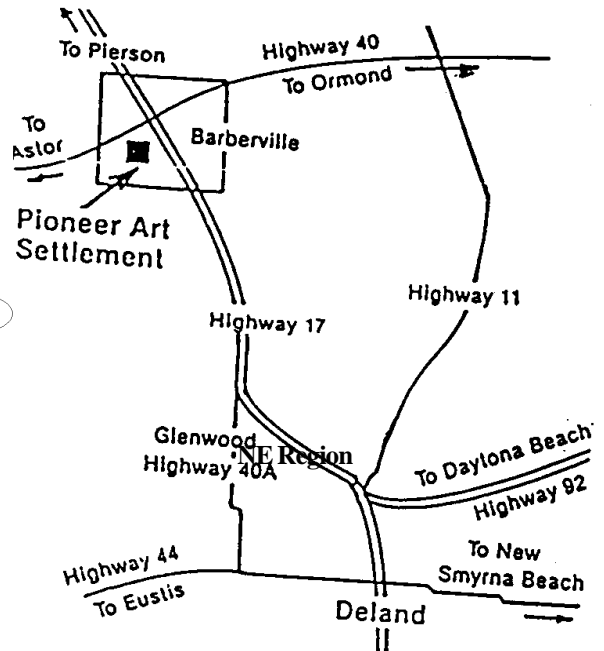
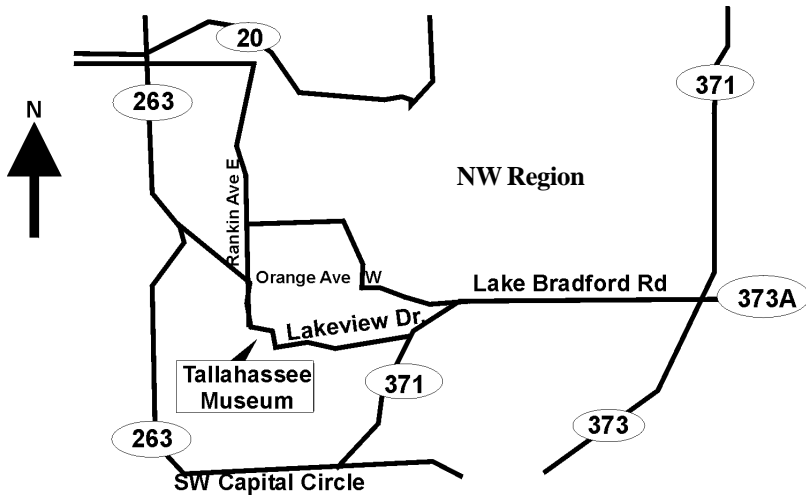
Upcoming Events

The calendar includes events of interest to the blacksmithing community. The regions have no boundaries - everyone is welcome everywhere. Come to more than one if you can. We hold regular meetings in each region on the following Saturdays of each month: NE-1st, NW-2nd, SE-3rd, SW-4th except for quarterly Statewide meetings. The actual dates vary so check the schedule below. Our meetings are informal gatherings around the forge. Prospective members are always welcome. Come for all or any part of a meeting, bring your tools or just watch. Most meetings run from 9AM to 4PM and you'll need to bring lunch if not otherwise noted. If you have any questions about meetings, please contact the Regional Coordinators:

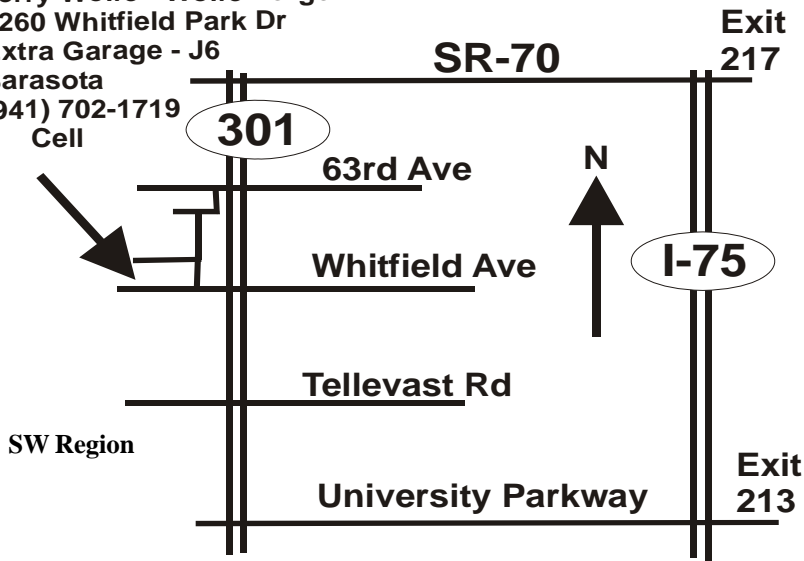
Northeast Region Ken Knight	352-339-0629	Ironken@AOL.com
Northwest Region Billy Christie	850-421-1386	chriswoodforge@embarqmail.com
Southeast Region Ed Aaron	561-748-9824	edaaron9824@bellsouth.net
Southwest Region Jerry Wolfe	941-355-5615	wolfeforge@juno.com

November 2008

- NE 01 Barberville - open forges
- NW 08 Tallahassee Museum of History & Natural Science at 3945 Museum Dr.- Mike Murphy demonstrating
- SE 15 Until further notice-Tanah Keeta
- SW 22 Wolfe Forge - Making "iron" Christmas ornaments and gifts - Candle holders, etc. Demo starting at 9AM, Lunch - Bring a dish to share and BRING an Iron in the HAT item.



Jerry Wolfe - Wolfe Forge
 2260 Whitfield Park Dr
 Extra Garage - J6
 Sarasota
 (941) 702-1719
 Cell



SE Region

Boy Scout Camp: from I-95 exit go east onto Indiantown Rd, go north (left) onto Island Way (1st traffic light). Stay on it until it ends at Country Club Dr. Go left—it ends at the entrance to Boy Scout Camp.

Current Events

Future Events

NOTICE: Special regional meeting FEB 28th at BOK TOWER in Lake Wales. See all of Yellin's iron work in the tower and around the grounds. Demonstration by George Dixon who worked in Yellin's shop. Reserve the date and stay tuned for additional details. More information by contacting Jerry Wolfe - wolfeforge@hotmail.com or 941 702 1719.

NW Dec. 13 Bill Adams of "Blind Hog Forge" at 1307 Shady Rest Road, Havana, FL

Report from the Northeast

Thurmond Chaffin

.Saturday was a beautiful day, with enough breeze to stem some of the heat. Forges were fired up and I assume objects were being fashioned for the FABA conference. Some were repairing tools of the trade and others were just visiting. We had a good turnout of members. I forgot to take my contribution to the tool kit that NE is putting together for the auction. People are getting excited about the conference. Hope the weather and gasoline hold out so that it will be the best yet.

Report from the Northwest

Billy Christie

September 13th was a beautiful day at Benny & Judy Prince's "Farmer's Heritage Museum" in Cairo, Georgia. We had 20 people sign in but more than that enjoyed the festivities.

Our demonstrator was Willard Smith from Blountstown, Florida and the project for the day was how to make a copper ladle with a copper handle. First a round disc was cut from a sheet of copper using a pair of tin snips. Then using a sedge block made from a piece of Dogwood, he sank the disc into the desired shape, starting at the outside and then working toward the center. For the handle he used a solid piece of heavy copper wire, which he forged out on one end to fit the dipper. This was then drilled & riveted together using #12 solid copper wire for the rivets. A reverse twist was put in the center of the handle and the other end was shaped where it fit your hand well and could be hung by. It turned out very nice. Then we got everyone busy making their own ladles. They all looked good.

The "Iron In The Hat" brought in \$66.

Lunch, as always, was delicious. Benny cooked up his famous chicken purlieu in a cast iron wash pot along with the delicious covered dishes. No one went away hungry.

Everyone enjoyed looking around at all the objects that are in the "Farmer's Heritage Museum" collection. Since our last meeting at the museum, Benny has moved in a log corn crib with a shelter on the side and he built a big, covered shed to help protect and display more items. He also has built a cattle gap at the gate and put a fence around the area to keep out the cows. This turned out to be an interesting piece of work. Happy Hammering!

Report from the Southwest

Jerry Wolfe

The September meeting activity was finishing our auction project of a coffee table. Tenons made; grill for decorative pieces assembled and table assembled. Come see how great it turned out.

The SW region has a library. Jim Tucker donated his personal collection of books, Anvil Ring magazines and Fabricator magazines. It's been cataloged by Jim Horne and they are ready for check out. I appreciate the donation and the help in organization.

Notices

Bok Tower Meeting

See Future Events!

FABA historian by Patty Draper

I have been appointed the historian of FABA. I step into Skeeter Prather's hard-to-fill shoes in accepting this position. Skeeter has turned over to me numerous photo albums, loose photos, newspaper articles and miscellaneous old stuff that constitute the FABA historical collection and archives. Please help me maintain and build this collection by sending me photos of FABA events and members (digital is okay too) and newspaper and magazine articles about blacksmithing in Florida, FABA events in your area, as well as information about awards you and other FABA members have received. Also, I'd like to hear your suggestions about what information FABA should keep in its historical collection and archives and how you'd like to see it used. My address is 5079 Sundance Lane, Tallahassee, FL 32309; e-mail me at applecrossforge@nettally.com.

For Sales & Want-Ads

BLACKSMITH COAL

\$35 per 100 lb bag (Pickup only) & details - Pioneer Settlement, contact the Settlement at 386-749-3353 (direct line to Gudrun in bookkeeping) or mail your order with payment to PSCA/COAL, P.O. Box 6, Barberville, FL 32105. Accepted forms of payment: cash, money orders, checks, MasterCard and Visa.

Wrought Iron

We are in the process of dismantling the 1887 Globe Elevator near the Duluth-Superior Harbor and reclaiming its old-growth pine. Among its other treasures are several hundred thousand pound of Real Wrought Iron rods ranging from 5/8" to 1-1/2" in diameter x up to 14'. We also have flat bars and millions of wrought (square) nails. Prices start at \$2 per pound. Call to check current inventory.

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Web site: www.wisconsinwoodchuck.net

2009 Blacksmith Calendar – New Style

This calendar contains many more images (48) and much more variety than prior calendars. The front cover shows an old photo of a blacksmith shop interior, and the rest of the calendar contains images from old blacksmith postcards from 1898 to around 1920. Included are child blacksmiths, frog and

ladybug farriers, an 1898 acknowledgment of an order for two Hay-Budden anvils, a 1906 invention announcement, shop exteriors with old cars and wagons, a tattooed blacksmith and other unusual images. The individually shrink-wrapped calendars were professionally printed using a 200 line-per-inch process, which yielded a near photographic result.
Year 2009 Calendars: \$17.00 each (1.. 5); \$15 (6..20); \$13 (21..39) & \$10 (40+)

CD with over 5500 Blacksmith & Anvil images :Contains a wide (very wide) variety of images collected from many sources over a period of years. They're arranged in 12 slide shows for easy viewing. You'll see anvils posed in every way imaginable. The images have been cleaned up using photo enhancement software, and many more unusual European anvils have been added. For Windows 2000 and later, not for Macs. CDs: \$17.00 per CD (1..5); \$12 (5+)

Set of 25 Blacksmith Postcards : This is not a new set of postcards. Only one set of 25 postcards has been produced. Postcards: \$6.00 per set (1..5); \$5 (6-25); \$4 (26+)

Calendars from Prior Years :Year 2008 calendars are available for \$8.00 each. Year 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002 & 2001 calendars are available for \$5.00 each.

Conference Pictures (thanks to Jerry Wolfe)



Demonstrator - Mike Saari



Demonstrator - Edgar Chattin



Demonstrator - Lewis Riggelman



Instructor - Ron Childers (RR Spike Knives)



Instructor - Steve Bloom (Ladles & Simple Blades)



Instructor - Jeff Mohr - broom making



Beginning Smithing



Waiting for the anvil shoot



Prize from the auction



Devotional service

Recognizing Juan Holbrook's contributions with a Ph.D



Anvil cookie cutter *TJ Harding*



Sketch out a drawing for the finished cookie cutter on a piece of cardboard.



You will end up with a piece of sheet metal that is similar to this.



Assemble the following tools: Tinsmith hammer, sheet metal vise grips, combination square, aviation snips, file, bending tools, a short piece of string and a sharpie marker.



Straighten the sheet metal with the hammer on a flat surface and remove all burrs with the file.



Use a piece of string to calculate the perimeter of the anvil cutter from the drawing and layout the appropriate length of 22 gauge sheet metal. Cut to size with aviation snips. Width is up to you, I use $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch to 1 inch for my cutters.



Mark layout lines using the combination square and a sharpie to guide the bending of the sheet metal.



Utilizing the vise grips and the hammer begin bending the sheet metal to the desired shape.



Compare your cutter with the drawing and if not satisfied refine the shape.



Continue to refine the cutter shape.



Weld the cutter and grind off the excess.



Use the bending jig to define the radius.



Heat the cutter to a dull red allow to cool to black and finish with olive oil. Now make your favorite sugar cookie batter, roll, cut and bake and share the finished product with your fellow blacksmiths

CANCELLED TRIP

Clyde Payton

From my house to your house
is a very wide GAP,
But wanting to do the trip,
I got me a MAP.

Then I bought me a CAR
that would go that FAR.

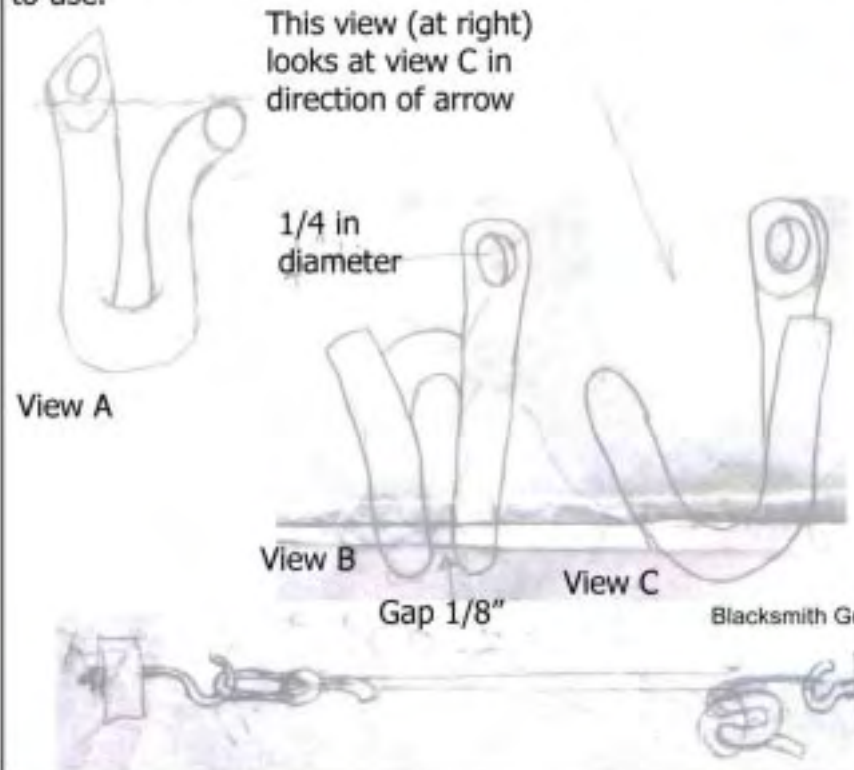
I washed it, I shined it,
and oiled my new MACHINE.

But now I can't afford
the GASOLINE!

Clothesline Quick Hitch

Brought to attention of Bill Wojcik at a demonstration

Date about 1940 material 5/16" round steel
For right hander- the mirror image is hard for right handers
to use.



Blacksmith Guild of the Potomac - Oct/Nov 2008

Gage Chart

Found by Bill Wojick

Blacksmith Guild of the Potomac - Oct/Nov 2008

Gage #	Steel	Stainless	Aluminum	Gage #	Steel	Stainless	Aluminum
7	0.179	-	-	19	0.042	0.044	0.046
8	0.164	0.172	-	20	0.036	0.038	0.040
9	0.150	0.156	-	21	0.033	0.034	0.037
10	0.135	0.141	-	22	0.030	0.031	0.034
11	0.120	0.125	-	23	0.027	0.028	0.031
12	0.105	0.109	-	24	0.024	0.025	0.028
13	0.090	0.094	0.093	25	0.021	0.022	0.025
14	0.075	0.078	0.079	26	0.018	0.019	0.022
15	0.067	0.070	0.071	27	0.016	0.017	0.019
16	0.060	0.063	0.064	28	0.015	0.016	-
17	0.054	0.056	0.058	29	0.014	0.014	-
18	0.048	0.050	0.052	30	0.012	0.013	-
				31	-	0.011	

A couple of examples:

Steel 19 ga. 4'x8' sheet.
 19 ga. steel is .042" thick:
 .042" x 48" x 96" x .28 lbs/ci = 54 lbs

Aluminum 19 ga. 4'x8' sheet.
 19 ga. aluminum is .046" thick:
 .046" x 48" x 96" x .10 lbs/ci = 19 lbs

USG (US Standard Gauge)

Gauge	No.	MM.	Inches
USG	1	7.142	0.2811
USG	2	6.746	0.2656
USG	3	6.35	0.25
USG	4	5.954	0.2344
USG	5	5.555	0.2187
USG	6	5.159	0.2031
USG	7	4.763	0.1875
USG	8	4.366	0.1719
USG	9	3.967	0.1561
USG	10	3.571	0.1406
USG	11	3.175	0.125
USG	12	2.779	0.1094
USG	13	2.38	0.0937
USG	14	1.984	0.0781
USG	15	1.786	0.0703
USG	16	1.588	0.0625
USG	17	1.427	0.0561
USG	18	1.27	0.05
USG	19	1.11	0.0437
USG	20	0.953	0.0375
USG	21	0.874	0.0344
USG	22	0.794	0.0313
USG	23	0.714	0.0281
USG	24	0.635	0.025
USG	25	0.556	0.0219
USG	26	0.478	0.0188
USG	27	0.437	0.0172
USG	28	0.396	0.0156
USG	29	0.356	0.0141
USG	30	0.318	0.0125
USG	31	0.277	0.0109
USG	32	0.259	0.0102
USG	33	0.239	0.0094
USG	34	0.218	0.0086
USG	35	0.198	0.0078
USG	36	0.178	0.0070
USG	37	0.169	0.0067
USG	38	0.159	0.0063

The Florida Artist Blacksmith Association (FABA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization whose purposes are to teach, promote, and preserve the art of blacksmithing. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. FABA publishes the Florida Clinker Breaker monthly, and FABA membership includes a subscription. We solicit correspondence and unpaid articles on any subjects related to FABA's purposes. ABANA chapter newsletters may reprint non-copyrighted material if it is credited to the author and this newsletter. You need the publisher's permission to reprint copyrighted material unless otherwise noted.

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FABA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association, Inc.
 Founding member Southern Blacksmith Association.
 Date _____ New Renewal

Name _____
 Address _____

 City State Zip
 Phone: Home _____ Work: _____
 E-Mail _____
 Spouse's Name: _____

Send application & a membership fee of \$25.00 to

Juan Holbrook, FABA Treasurer
 6418 NW 97 Court
 Gainesville, FL 32653

Make check out to FABA. Your FABA membership begins when we receive your payment and lasts one year. Membership is for a family.

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1st Class Postage

November 2008

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