



May 1993

Contributors:

Steve Bloom
John Dittmeier
Bob Jacoby
Bill Roberts

Ed Crane
J. C. Hawkins
Clyde Payton

The Florida Clinker Breaker

MADISON CONFERENCE

The Madison Conference is upon us! The conference, featuring demonstrators J.C. Hawkins, George Dixon, Hershel House, Russell O'Dell and Alfred Pendray will take place in Madison Georgia on Friday May 14th and Saturday May 15th. Thousands of hours of preparation have gone into this conference and it stands to be one of the best blacksmithing events in North America in 1993, so don't miss this opportunity!

Registration:

Before April 30th send \$50 to:
Gloria Corbet, Registration Chairman
16035 Umatilla Place
Umatilla, FL 32784

After April 30th send \$60 to:
Clay Smither, Treasurer
3007 Leafwood Drive
Marietta, GA 30067

Caution - Don't send anything to Gloria later than the 30th because she and Jim are heading up to Madison very early so Jim can get started on the setup.

NO DUES - NO NEWS!

If your mailing label is marked "Member Through 4/30/93" and you haven't sent in your \$15.00 membership fee, this will be your last issue. Please make checks out to the "Florida Artist Blacksmith Association" (FABA) and send to:

Roger & Carol Stuart, FABA Treasurers
Star Route 1, Box 207
Crescent City, FL 32112

MAY 1st NE MEETING CHANGE

The location of the May 1st Northeast Regional Meeting has been changed from Barberville to Allen Hardwick's shop in Altoona. See the map and preview in this issue for details.

GOOD NEWS / BAD NEWS

by Bob Jacoby, Clinker Breaker Editor

The good news is that I've found a job; the bad news (as far as the newsletter goes) is that the job is in Russia! Sadly, I'm forced to resign as Newsletter Editor.

On May 17th Donna, myself, and our two young children are moving to Moscow, Russia for one year where I'll be working for a group called the Citizen's Democracy Corps (CDC). The CDC has many different programs and the one that I'll be running in Moscow is called the Business Entrepreneur Program.

continued on page 8

BILL ROBERTS OPENS SHOP

FABA member Bill Roberts has taken the plunge and opened his own shop where he will earn his living as a metalsmith. Bill has been working with Ottoman Treasures building furniture prototypes based on original designs. Currently, Bill's work is on display in Highpoint, NC at one of the most important trade shows in the industry.

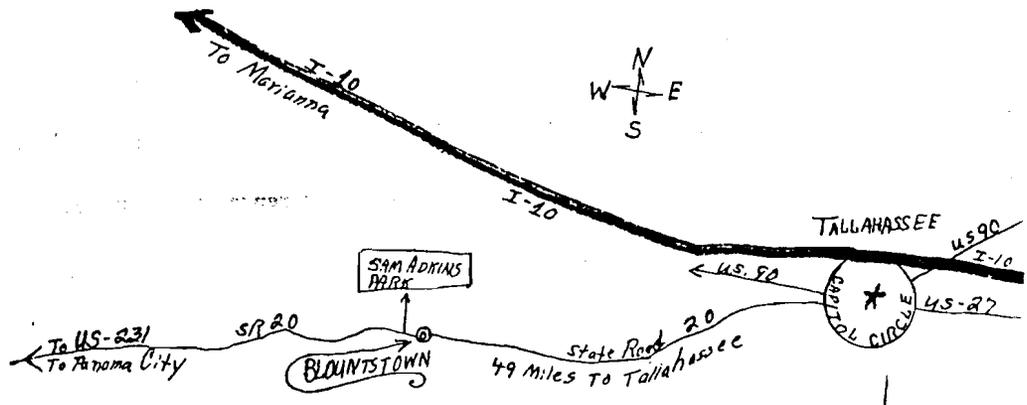
Bill's shop is located in the Ocala Office / Warehouse Complex at 3740 N.E. 40th Place (904) 351-5512 and he invites FABA members to stop by for a visit and tour.

Upcoming Events

- MAY 1 **NE Regional Meeting:** Allen Hardwick's shop in Altoona (map and preview in this issue)
NW Regional Meeting: No meeting in May - see you in Madison!
- MAY 14 - 15 **ABANA Southeastern Regional Conference - Madison, GA**
- MAY 15 **SE Regional Meeting:** Contact Ray Reynolds, SE Region Program Coordinator
- MAY 29 **SW Regional Meeting:** Crowley Museum - Sarasota, FL (map in this issue)
- JUNE 5 **NE Regional Meeting:** Tico Rubio will host the meeting at Barberville, FL (map in this issue)
- JUNE 12 **NW Regional Meeting:** Sam Atkins Park near Blountstown, FL (map and preview in this issue)
- JULY 3 **NE Regional Meeting:** Ronnie Fowler
- AUG 7 **NE Regional Meeting:** Walt Anderson
- AUG 14 **NW Regional Meeting:** Dr. Ed & Nancy Crane's shop - Tallahassee, FL
- SEPT 11 **NW Regional Meeting:** Jerry & Tycee Grice's shop near Tallahassee, FL. Jerry will demonstrate tool making under the power hammer.
- SEPT 10 - 12 **Alabama Forge Council Annual Conference, Tanneyhill State Park (West of Birmingham, AL)**
- OCT 9 **FABA State Conference:** Barberville, FL
- NOV 13 **NW Regional Meeting:** Dr. Skeeter & Lou Prather's shop in Tallahassee, FL
- DEC 11 **NW Regional Meeting:** No meeting planned - MERRY CHRISTMAS

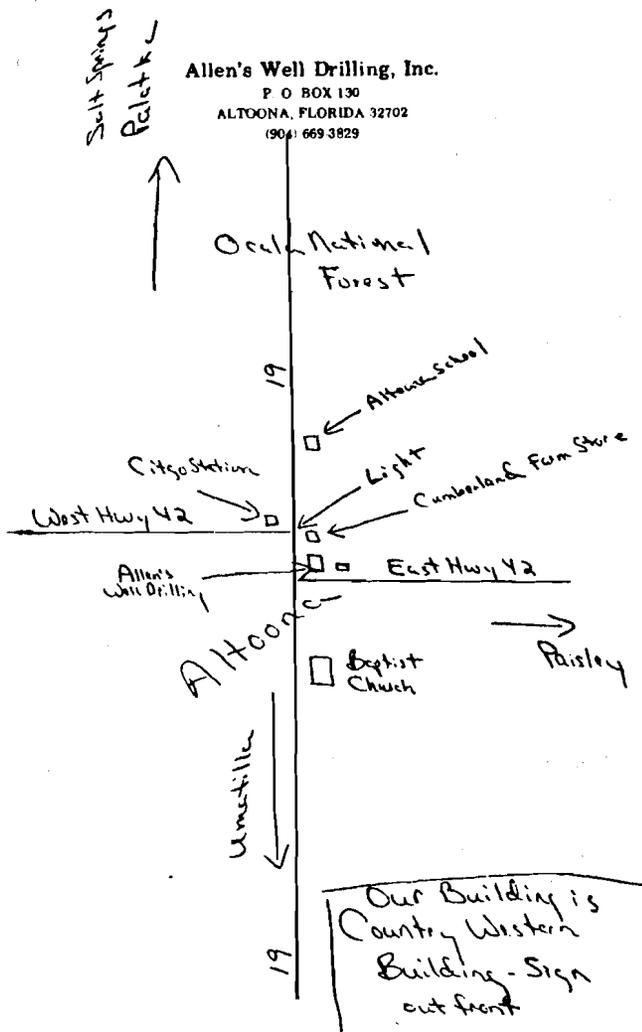
The calendar includes events of interest to the blacksmithing community. Florida Artist Blacksmith Association (FABA) sponsored events are highlighted in bold typeface. The regions have no boundaries - everyone is welcome everywhere. Come to more than one if you can. We hold regular monthly meetings in each region (except that we all try to get together at one Statewide Meeting each quarter) on the following Saturdays of each month: NE-1st, NW-2nd, SE-2rd, SW-1st. The actual dates may vary from month to month; check the schedule below. We also hold short board meetings at the quarterly statewide meetings, and a board meeting and general membership meeting at the annual conference. 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 lunch if you stay all day, unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions about meetings please contact the Regional Coordinators listed below:

Northeast:	Steve Bloom	(904) 528-6508 h; (904) 392-7279 w
Northwest:	Clyde Payton	(904) 997-3627 h; (904) 488-0577 w
Southeast:	Ray Reynolds	(407) 793-2452 h
Southwest:	Lewis Riggelman	(904) 521-3515 h; (813) 942-5454 w



Blountstown is 49 miles west of Tallahassee on SR-20. From the Traffic light in Blountstown go west one mile on highway 20. Look for a sign that says SAM ADKINS PARK. Turn NORTH and go 3/4 mile to the Blacksmith Shop.

NW Regional Meeting
 JUNE 12 9:00 AM
 Sam Atkins Park - Blountstown, FL

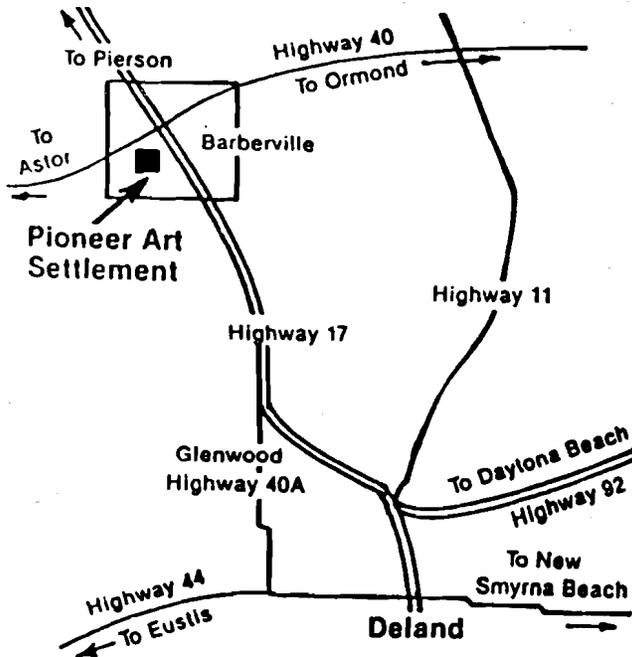


NE Regional Meeting
 MAY 1 9:00 AM
 Allen Hardwick's Shop - Altoona, FL

How To: GET TO THE CROWLEY MUSEUM
SARASOTA, FLORIDA
I-75 IS SUGGESTED IF POSSIBLE



SW Regional Meeting
MAY 29 10:00 AM
Crowley Museum - Sarasota, FL



NE Regional Meeting
JUNE 5 9:00 AM
Barberville, FL

MAY 1st NE MEETING PREVIEW - Treadle Hammer

by John Dittmeier

The May 1st NE Regional Meeting is an open meeting and we will fabricate one treadle hammer prototype in a class setting. The class will show everyone the fabrication steps and the various parts of the hammer. The prototype will reveal any design issues.

At the class and afterwards, we shall set small workshops where two, three or four of you, including one skilled welder, will proceed with the fabrication of the hammers. We will also arrange for any group purchase of cut steel and the assignment of parts fabrications among those FABA members who have signed up for the treadle hammer workshop.

The class will be at Allen Hardwick's shop in Altoona in Lake County. Bring beverages, lunch, safety glasses, goggles, face shields, welding helmets, wire brushes, chipping hammers, angle grinders and work gloves.

I invite anyone interested to videotape the class which will be useful for all subsequent workshops.

Finally, thank you for all of your comments and suggestions with regard to the treadle hammer design. We will build a plate steel base in lieu of the angle iron design. Also, the anvil will be one piece, not two parts and we'll add the safety chain not shown in my drawing.

JUNE 12th NW MEETING PREVIEW - Brick Forge

by Clyde Payton, Program Coordinator for NW Region

The JUNE NORTHWEST REGION meeting will be held on the second SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1993. This regional meeting will take place at the SAM ATKINS PARK near Blountstown, Florida. (See map in this issue) This meeting will be a workday for building a permanent brick forge for the park's blacksmith shop. We have held three previous workdays building this shop. The building is now up and dried in. Now we are ready to build the permanent forge station.

Dr. Ed Crane is going to supervise the construction of this forge because he built one for himself and it sure works perfectly. Masonry forge plans which appeared in previous issue of the *Anvil's Ring* will be used as a guide. The style will be a hoodless side draft, bottom blast. Willard Smith has volunteered to pour the concrete pad prior to our arrival so we will be ready to lay bricks when we get there.

This will be a great opportunity for you to learn how to build yourself a masonry forge so bring your favorite mortar trowel and come help us lay brick - we need all the help we can get. Try to get there by 9 AM if you can - lunch will be served. Bring your own coffee and drinks if you wish.

APRIL STATEWIDE MEETING - SUCCESS

by Clyde Payton, Program Coordinator for Northwest Region

THE APRIL STATEWIDE Meeting was held at Clyde and Vi Payton's blacksmith shop near Monticello, FL on Saturday, April 10, 1993. The weather was absolutely gorgeous and we all had a ball! Jerry Grice demonstrated the making of a bamboo free standing floor lamp with accompanying and matching sculpture piece. After this was forged from black iron pipe, stems and leaves were made and welded on. Then came the gold leafing - boy, was this a pretty piece!! It looked so much like a piece of real bamboo that I wanted to tie a hook and line on it and go fishing! Several smiths pitched in to forge the various parts. We had four forging stations going at the same time. Jerry is going to bring the finished product to BARBERVILLE in October and it will go into the auction.

Bill Roberts also brought some of his gold, silver, copper, and brass work to the meeting to show us how he does "leafing" - he sure does some pretty work.

Fifty-one people signed the registration pad - this was quite a turn out! We also signed up three new members.

Speaking of guests showing up, we had one very "unwelcome guest" to appear at this meeting - a four foot rattlesnake! While using the "convenience bushes" behind my shop a couple of fellows came out screaming for me to bring a hoe. I ran down with a hoe and that rattlesnake was promptly dispatched. (I also noticed that their pants weren't dry?) Anyway our taxidermist member, Bill Robertson, put this critter in an ice chest and took him home. Bill is going to tan the hide and enter it in the MADISON Auction.

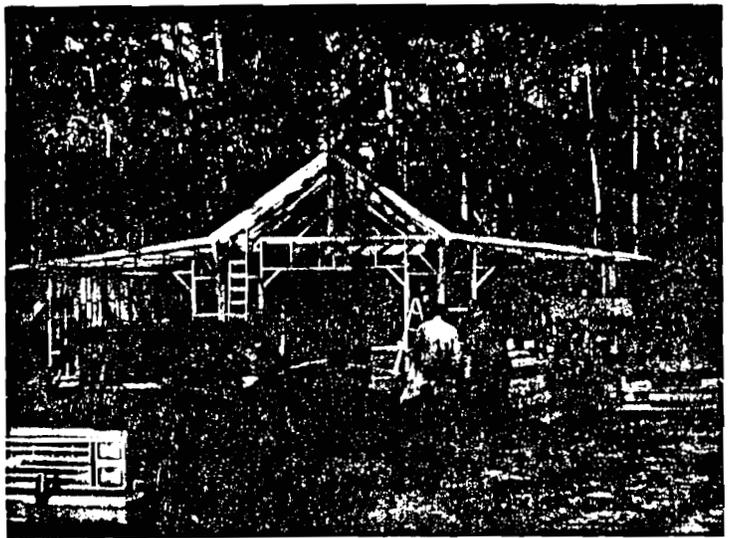
Thanks to all those who contributed to our wonderfully delicious lunch! Vi Payton, with the help of her mother, Virginia Horsley from Birmingham, Alabama, and several other ladies, served baked ham, baked turkey, hamburgers, 3 kinds of casseroles, other trimmings, and a variety of desserts - and I noticed that there wasn't much left either!

We covered several issues in our business meeting with Carol Stuart taking notes. The "tail gate" sales were brisk and lots of fun, and we made about \$150.00 in the buck-in-the-bucket drawing.

WE HAD A GOOD TIME!!

PYROMETERS FOR GAS FORGES

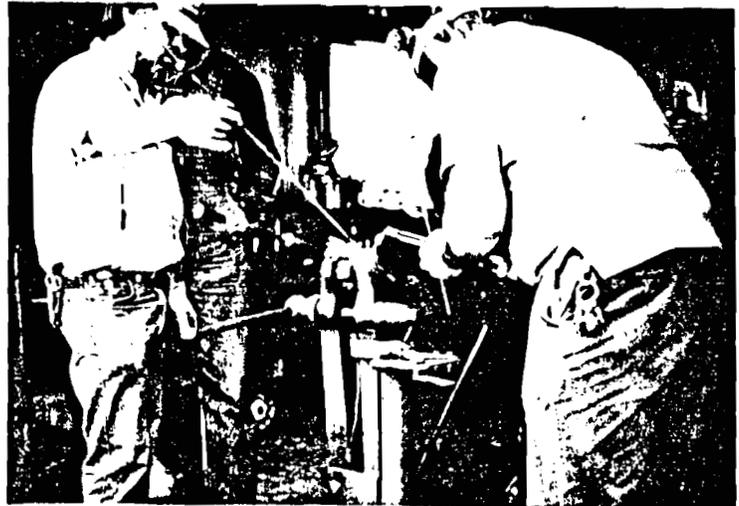
Steve Bloom has located pyrometers: The basic unit (meter & probe) is Model # 9-85 which comes with a 6' 3300 F probe for \$60.00. A high temp (3000 F) probe is available - Model # 14S4-1 \$17.00 plus \$3.00 S&H. Contact Condar Company @ (216) 527-4343 or write: Condar Company, 10500 Industrial Drive, Garrettsville, OH 44231



Blacksmith Shop at Sam Atkins Park
(photo by J. C. Hawkins)



April Statewide Meeting
(photo by Bill Roberts)

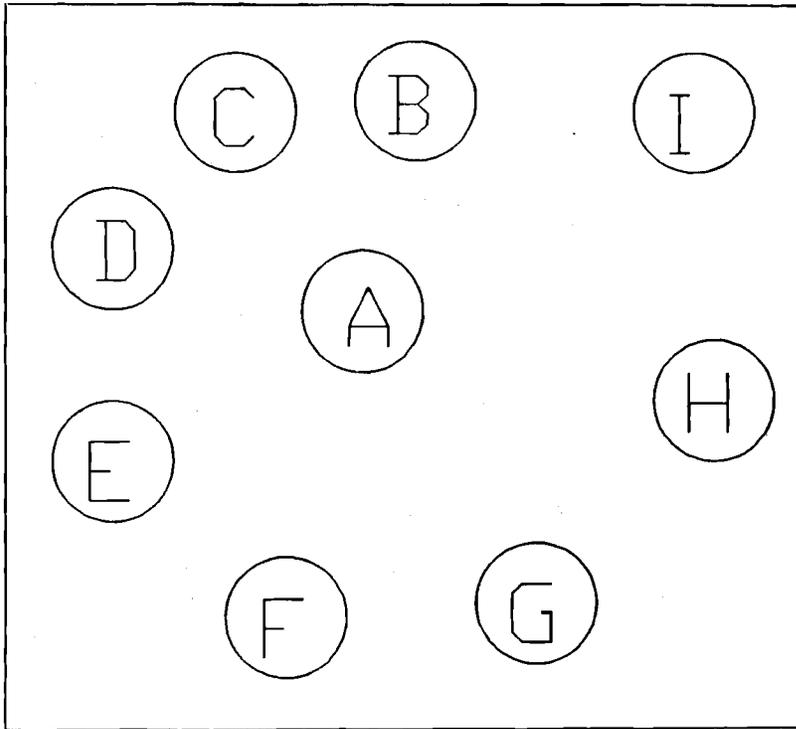
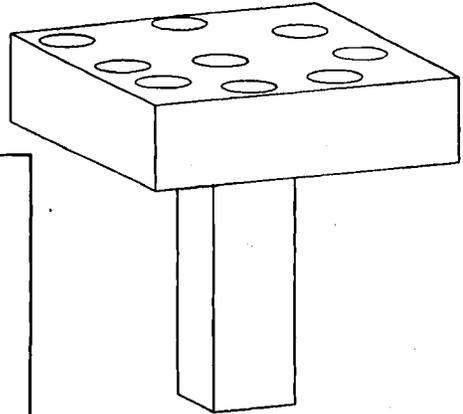


April Statewide Meeting
(photo by Bill Roberts)

"Universal" Bending Fork*

Steve Bloom
IronFlower Forge

If you've ever needed a bending fork but didn't have one of the correct size, you might find this unit useful. In a 4.2" x 3.75" x 1" block of steel, drill 9 5/8" diameter holes following the full-size pattern given below. Weld a length of square stock to the bottom which will fit in the hardy hole of your anvil (remember to bevel the square stock to get a good weld penetration). Cut a pair



of 3" long, 5/8" diameter "pegs". Reduce the diameter on one end of each peg for approximately 1" of length so that the pegs fit in the holes without binding. You now have a bending fork with 36 different spans between the "pegs", running from 0.26 to 2.87 inches (see the table below for the combination of holes which gives each span). If the stock that you're bending is too heavy for this jig, just scale up to 3/4" or 1" pegs. When using

this unit, watch out for heat transfer -- those pegs get WARM!

Distance between pegs when inserted into the indicated pair of holes								
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
B:	0.50							
C:	0.57	0.27						
D:	0.70	1.11	0.35					
E:	0.87	1.80	1.29	0.47				
F:	1.00	2.13	1.98	1.47	0.58			
G:	1.12	2.04	2.32	2.22	1.68	0.67		
H:	1.25	1.56	2.22	2.58	2.50	1.86	0.77	
I:	1.38	0.82	1.70	2.46	2.87	2.73	2.03	0.86

* another contribution to the 'I've never seen a jig I didn't like' series
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GOOD NEWS / BAD NEWS

continued from page 1

I will conduct initial assessments of small to medium sized Russian companies (companies employing under 2000 people). Based on my evaluations, the program will place American business volunteers on 3 month consulting assignments with the companies. The volunteers will work as Entrepreneurial Advisors to the host companies to help them stabilize and grow as the business environment changes from government ownership to private ownership.

The hope is that these efforts will help to foster democratic institutions and free markets. We have won the Cold War. By leading the largest peacetime military buildup in history, America drove the Soviet Union's economy into the ground. Certainly, we took our own economy to the brink of destruction in the process and individually Americans are probably economically worse off than they were in the 1960's. While we all feel the pain individually, our pain is a small price to pay for the end of the Cold War and the dawn of democracy around the world. I can think of no stronger force to secure long term freedom and peace for our children and our children's children than a robust interdependent global economy. We're very excited by the prospect of playing a small role in this important historical event.

But, Donna and I are sad to be leaving all of our friends and I feel especially bad to be stepping out of the Newsletter Editor's role after such a short stint. However, just think of it as FABA having a Russian correspondent!

I would strongly encourage anyone interested in the Newsletter Editor position to contact FABA President Tico Rubio at (904) 749-3327. The editor's position is great because of the newsletter exchange program. Each chapter of ABANA sends a complimentary copy of their newsletter to the newsletter editor of all the other chapters. What this means is that the FABA Newsletter Editor gets a free subscription of almost 50 newsletters from across the country and several from other parts of the world. One of the most enjoyable aspects of this job is that almost everyday I get a blacksmithing newsletter in the mail! You don't need to be an experienced blacksmith or seasoned FABA member to take on this challenge. In fact one of the advantages for a relatively new member is that you'll quickly get to know everyone and be at the center of the FABA lifeline.

The newsletter requires roughly 12 hours per month once it is up and running. The first one is difficult to get out because it's the one where you have to locate a printer and learn how to paste up. However, after I published the first issue, I've been able to get the newsletter out very easily. A personal computer is a help but, we've had editors who did everything on a typewriter. I couldn't endorse the position or the organization more highly - if you're interested please give Tico a call.

Airmail to Russia takes about three months so we have subscribed to a courier service that hand carriers first class US mail over to Moscow twice a week. We can be reached via regular first class mail at my new work address:

Robert C. Jacoby, Director
Business Entrepreneur Program - Moscow
Citizens Democracy Corps, Inc.
208 East 51st Street, Suite 295
New York, NY 10022

FABA MEMBER HONORED

FABA member Dr. Skeeter Prather was recently selected as one of the *Tallahassee Democrat's* Volunteers of the Year. Skeeter has worked with the San Luis Archaeological and Historic Site since 1988 and has been instrumental in the development and growth of the San Luis Living History Program.

Also, as chair of the building committee, Skeeter coordinated the construction of a re-enactment village, which now has three major and two minor wood and thatch buildings, which were all built by volunteer labor.

Skeeter is a charter FABA member and volunteers with the Florida Folklife program in White Springs. This recognition is well deserved, Skeeter is a wonderful man and one doesn't need to look very far to see the positive influence he has had on fellow FABA members.

ROBB GUNTER RE-OPENS SCHOOL

Robb Gunter, father of the infamous Sandia Gas Forge has re-opened his school of Blacksmithing at his new facility and location. For information and class schedules call or write:

The Forgery
13 Innaha Road
Tijeras, New Mexico 87059
(505) 281-8080

ANVIL SHOOT CHALLENGE

Colonel Tim (Bulls Eye) Ryan challenges all safe and sober anvil shooters to meet him in honest anvil shooting competition at the 1993 Alabama Forge Council Conference to be held September 10 - 12, 1993 at Tanneyhill State Park due West of Birmingham, Alabama.

During the 1992 Alabama Forge Council Conference Colonel Ryan is alleged to have pierced the eye of a bull's-eye located just five feet from the anvil's point of origin. The anvil is said to have traveled to unprecedented heights during its trip from launching anvil to aforementioned "bull" eye.

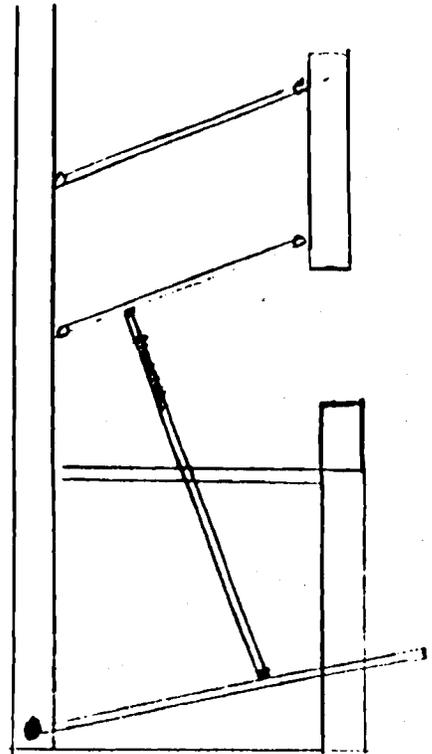
TREADLE HAMMER MODIFICATION

by Ed Crane Tallahassee, FL

Being a blacksmith who has no striker freely available, several years ago I decided to make myself a treadle hammer. I got the Anvils Ring plans and headed for the scrap yard. It was almost impossible to find the exact kind of metal specified, so I did a lot of improvising. I believe I ended up with one of the best treadle hammers I've seen. I made several minor changes from the original plans. I thought I would share one that I thought was unique in that I have not seen another hammer with this feature. (I've seen one or two dozen treadle hammers) I'll call it the Crane modification until someone challenges that.

Most treadle hammers I've seen, as well as the standard Anvils Ring design, have a single bar that connects the treadle to the lower support of the hammer. Although the ends are made so they rotate slightly to accommodate the slight change of angle when the hammer goes up and down, the bar is rigid so that your foot and leg stop just as abruptly as the hammer does as it hits the anvil. To accommodate for this discomfort I decided to make a modification that would soften the jolt to my leg, reducing the stress at the joints at the end of this bar, and let it keep going a little farther down.

The support rod on my hammer is made in two pieces. The top piece is a solid $\frac{3}{4}$ " rod that slides into the lower piece, which is a steel pipe. The two pieces are then connected by a fairly firm 10" spring, which has the same inside diameter as the pipe.

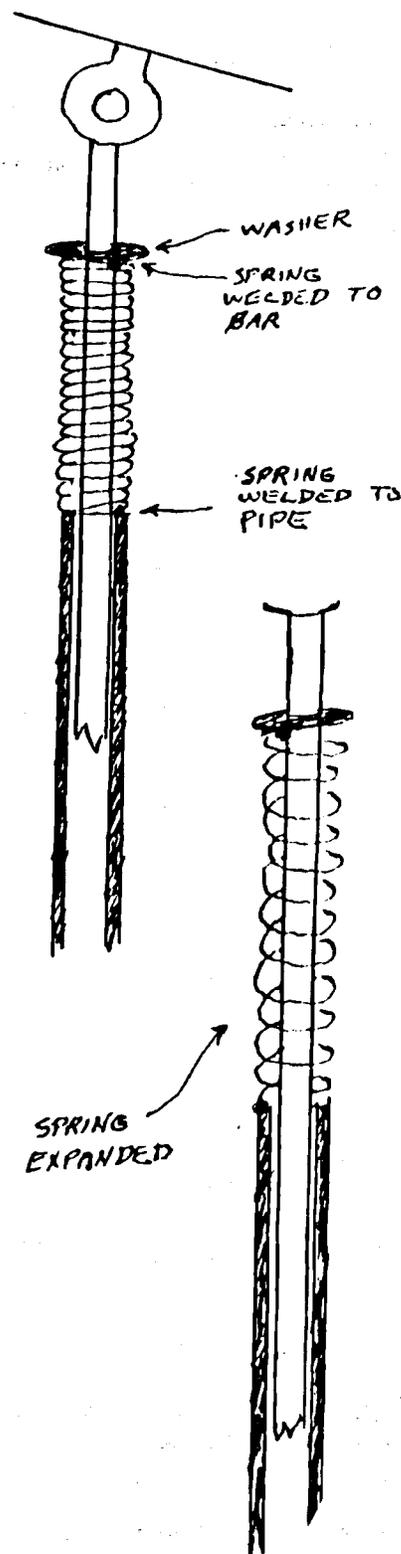


The exact stiffness of the spring will have to be tailored to the individual hammer depending on its weight. The ends of the spring are welded to the solid bar at the top and to the top of the pipe at the bottom. A large washer was also welded to the bar just above the spring for extra support.

(see diagram) The spring is compressed in its resting state. When the treadle is pushed down hard and the hammer hits the anvil, the treadle and your foot travel down two or three inches farther by stretching the spring thus easing the jolt to your leg.

Another interesting benefit to this modification is found when you wish to slam the hammer down with extra hard force. You find that when you push hard on the treadle at the top of the stroke, the spring stretches because of the inertia of the heavy hammer. Then the force of the stretched spring plus your foot power add together to produce additional speed and power to the hammer.

This modification has worked well for me. I have not found any disadvantages. Its not hard to build, but you have to experiment a little to find out what strength and length spring works best on your hammer. Try it, you'll like it.



WANTED: TRIPHAMMER FOR SHEETMETAL - YODER or PETTINGELL - These are two piece hammers that bolt to a post or a wall. If you've got one of the hammers please contact Steve Wooldridge, 1264 West 206th Street, Sheridan, IN 46069 (317) 758-6076

FOR SALE: CHAMPION LANCASTER BLOWERS (2) - The Lancaster model is the one with the full bell shaped cast iron stand. It's usually used in a permanent shop although it's "portable" if you're strong. One unit is in very good operating condition - everything is in nice shape and its even got a coat of primer on it. (\$100) The other is a project case however all the castings and gears are in perfect condition - it needs some new bushings pressed into the case (\$55) [\$135 for both] Pick up in Jacksonville. Bob (904) 260-9735

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association (FABA)
 Chapter of ABANA, Inc.
 Star Route 1 Box 207, Crescent City, FL 32112

President (92-93):	Tico Rubio	(904) 749-3327 h;
Vice President (93-94):	J. C. Hawkins	(904) 538-3348 h;
Secretary / Treasurer (92-93):	Roger & Carol Stuart	(904) 467-9031 h;
Newsletter Editors (93-94):	Bob & Donna Jacoby	(904) 260-9735 h;
Program Chair (92-93):	Bill Roberts	(904) 687-2959 h;
Past-President (91-92):	Lewis Riggelman	(904) 521-3515 h; (813) 942-5454 w
Trustee #1 (92-93):	Clyde Payton	(904) 997-3627 h; (904) 488-0577 w
Trustee #2 (93-94):	Pat Imbimbo	(904) 656-3494 h; (904) 488-4891 w
Trustee #3 (92-93):	Carl Austin	(813) 735-0257 h;
Trustee #4 (93-94):	Dale Kipp	(407) 793-0579 h; (407) 694-3779 w
Trustee #5 (92-93):	Steve Bloom	(904) 528-6508 h; (904) 392-7279 w

FABA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Name _____
 Address _____
 Home Phone _____
 Work Phone _____
 Spouse's Name _____

Are you interested in procuring:

- Anvil Coal Hand Tools
 Blower Forge Post Vise
 Other

Send this application and membership fee of \$15 (make checks out to FABA) to:

Roger & Carol Stuart, FABA Treasurers
 Start Route 1, Box 207
 Crescent City, FL 32112

FABA membership includes a one year subscription to *The Florida Clinker Breaker*. Membership year begins May 1; new memberships received after Jan. 31 cover the following membership year. Membership includes your entire family. You don't have to be a member of ABANA to join FABA although we encourage membership in both organizations.

ABANA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Artist Blacksmith Association or North America, Inc.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

I, _____, hereby apply for membership in the Artist blacksmith Association of North America, Inc. and enclose _____ as my annual membership dues. Checks must be US funds and made out to ABANA. Membership includes a one year subscription to *The Anvil's Ring*.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Membership | \$35 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time Student (one year only) | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (one vote) | \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (over age 65) | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas Membership | \$45 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributory Member | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Library Subscription | \$25 |

Visa / MC: Card #: _____
 Expires: _____
 Signature: _____

Call (812) 988-6919 to charge your membership to Visa/ MC, or make out a check to ABANA and send to:

ABANA
 PO Box 1181
 Nashville, Indiana 47488