



FLORIDA

BLACKSMITHING

NEWS

AUGUST 1985

NEWSLETTER OF FLORIDA CHAPTER
ARTIST - BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

HELLO FLORIDA BLACKSMITHS!!

TAMPA MEETING - JULY 27, 1985

What a great meeting hosted by Ray Nager at his metalsmith shop. I didn't get the count, but there must have been 30 or more in attendance. Ray has a fine shop. The main building is octagon in shape with 2 opposite sides open - cooled by a big fan at the center peak. Two large layout tables, a forging station, a Champion 50 pound power hammer, complete gas/electric welding and hundreds of blacksmithing tools are just some of the things in the main shop. The shop floor is planked (looks like cross ties) in an interesting pattern -- neat.

A large attached shed covers Ray's main forging station next to a fine #9 Beaudry power hammer. This forge is a large old Buffalo with cast iron legs and pan. He had a large American electric drive blower under a tool table next to the forge. Back of this was a Chambersburg (I think) steam hammer and a large Nazel air hammer, both in various stages of dis-assembly -- Good luck in getting these beauties operating, Ray!

Ray began demonstrating by talking about his preference of hand hammer. He makes his in the square face, cross pein European pattern and says 3 pounds is just right - $3\frac{1}{4}$ pounds is noticeably more tiring. A good hammer is vital and personal preference varies as to pattern, weight and handle size and length - take time to find the right one for your main metal moving and you'll enjoy it more.

Ray demonstrated making a fish design from a horseshoe. This design is very attractive and seems pretty easy to shape, especially with that #9 Beaudry. Ray showed a divider screen made of these horseshoe/fish at the Madison, Ga. conference in May. It was very attractive.

Ray then made a bird from bar stock about $\frac{1}{2}$ "x2", demonstrating how to split out the wings and legs and shape them. Some of Ray's work was displayed around the shop - a really nice coffee table, horse's head, architectural hardware and stainless steel bird cages.

Ray and his family had prepared a fine lunch of barbecued ribs and chicken with potato salad, baked beans and green bean salad. Everyone sat around the yard and shop and really enjoyed. Thanks a million to the Nagers for all their work!

After lunch Charles Oaks of Largo cranked up the forge for a damascus welding demonstration. About then it was time for the 2 pm business meeting. Secretary, Tycee Grice, does such a good job with the minutes we are reproducing them here for membership information.

~~LATE FLASH! We have 50 paid members in our Florida Chapter!~~

NEXT MEETING

August 24, 1985 at Doug and Becky Rochon's home near Ocala. Doug says his theme will be basic smithing at his back yard outdoor forge. The demonstrators will be Jim Tucker and Charter Murray. Their home is out in the country and there's a lovely oak grove where we can meet. Bring your picnic lunch and folding chairs. See map for directions.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Sept. 28 - Dave Ponsler's Wonderland Products Shop in Jacksonville

Oct. 26 - Clyde Payton's shop at home in Monticello - Fred Caylor demonstrating

Nov. 23 - Alva Hebert's in Orange Park - South of Jacksonville

LAST HEAT

Remember to bring your work to show and tools to sell/trade at our meetings. Bring an item for the "Buck-in-the-Bucket" drawing. Bring a friend and come on over to Doug and Becky's for a fine outdoor event!

FOR SALE

Tons of WROUGHT IRON. I just took out a bank loan that I can't afford to buy up 5 tons of wrought iron chain before a landscaper could string it across a parking lot. Each link when straightened out is 21" long of 1.4" material, or about 6 lbs. If you buy now, or before the note is due, I'll sell it by the ton for \$400 or by the link for \$1.50. I will have a sample piece at the next meeting.

Doug Rochon, P.O. Box 3232, Ocala, Fla. 32678, (904) 5912290.

FLORIDA CHAPTER OF A.B.A.N.A.

July 27, 1985, Tampa, Florida

Willard Smith called the meeting to order, and introduced officers.

Tycee Grice read the minutes from the last meeting. **Corrections** required: Motion made, seconded and approved to change wording from "wife" to "spouse" regarding associate members.

Treasurers report (Tycee Grice) reporting a balance of \$390.93 as of 7/26/85 with ~~44~~ paid-up members. Interest also drawing on bank account.

Walt Anderson spoke about everyone participating in naming our newsletter and exchanging ideas through the newsletter. Anything pertaining to blacksmithing.

It was brought up that the 4th Saturday in December is Christmas week. A motion was made, seconded and carried that no meeting be held in December due to the holidays.

Discussion on the Buck in the Bucket items donated. After several lengthy ideas, a motion was made that "A minimum of five tickets required to have a drawing; using 10 tickets for each item drawn, and multiplies of 10 tickets for each item. Seconded and carried.

Ray Nager apologized for Charle Murray not being able to attend and demonstrate.

Discussion regarding the 4th Saturday of the month being changed. The Georgia Chapter meets on the same date, thus causing conflicting interest. This was tabled for future discussion.

Willard read two letters regarding needing demonstrators list for A.B.A.N.A. and the Anvil's Ring needing a new editor. Positions are open for anyone interested in submitting their name.

Meeting was adjourned pending Buck in the Bucket drawing.

Respectfully submitted,

Tycee Grice
Tycee grice

Buck in the Bucket drawing:

59 tickets sold!

1. Fritz Wilder knife donated by Charles Ochs
2. Patrick Nager knife donated by Swede
3. Gloria Shaw 1857 horse hook donated by J. Reikert
4. Jim Blocker Book donated by Ben Ferguson
5. Patrick Nager Letter opener donated by Jerry Grice
6. Patrick Nager Honey & bee's wax donated by Swede
7. Patrick Nager Book donated by Ben Ferguson
8. Jimmy Tucker Hot set hammer donated by Doug Rochon
9. Jim Blocker Hammer donated by Walt Anderson
10. Becky Rochon *Another " " " " "*

After the drawings, Fritz donated the knife back to the Chapter for us to auction off when we have our "BIG" meeting of the year!!! We certainly appreciate that!

FLORIDA CHAPTER

ARTIST - BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

PRESIDENT - Willard Smith, Rt 1 Box 22A, Blountstown, FL 32424

VICE PRESIDENT - Ray Nager, 5712 W. Sligh Ave., Tampa, FL 33614

SECRETARY/TREASURER - Tycee Grice, P. O. Box 5914, Tallahassee, FL 32301

NEWSLETTER - Walt Anderson, 7 Soco Trail, Ormond Beach, FL 32074

FLORIDA BLACKSMITH NEWSLETTER
Walt Anderson, Editor
7 Soco Trail
Ormond Beach, FL 32074



Payton, Clyde
Rt. 3, Box 124D
Monticello, FL 32344

