October 2007

Contributors

Ed Aaron	Clyde Payton
Steve Bloom	Bill Robertson
Billy Christie	Jerry Wolfe
Ken Knight	

The Florida Clinker Breaker

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association
Established May 18, 1985

President's Corner

Bill Robertson

Last month I promised you some FABA history. FABA was founded in 1985 with the purpose of teaching and preserving the art of blacksmithing. Our first statewide meeting took place in the parking lot of a hotel in Tallahassee. From those humble beginnings, FABA has grown to about 300 members and has left its footprint across Florida. Below is a list of blacksmith shop sites on which FABA has had a direct influence. Some were built from the ground up by FABA members, like the shops at Barberville and Blountstown; all were equipped with tools purchased by FABA or individual FABA members and many hours of volunteer labor. Although many FABA members were involved with each site, I only have space enough to name those who were most influential with initiating the development of each site.

Key West: Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park (Cliff Rogers)
West Palm Beach: Yesteryear Village, South Florida Fairgrounds
Jupiter: Tanah Keeta Scout Reservation
Fernandina Beach: Fort Clinch State Park
Fort Meade: Florida Flywheelers Park (Carl Austin)
Sarasota: Crowley Museum and Nature Center (David Reddy, Lewis Riggleman)
Largo: Heritage Village (Carl Austin, Lester Hollenbeck)
Barberville: Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts (Walt Anderson, Bill Gitchner)
White Springs: Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park (Skeeter Prather)
Gainesville: Morningside Nature Center Living History Farm (Carl Van Arnam)
Tallahassee: Tallahassee Museum, Big Bend Farm (Jim Hollis)
Tallahassee: Mission San Luis (Skeeter Prather)
Blountstown: Panhandle Pioneer Settlement (Willard Smith)
Panama City: Junior Museum of Bay County

I think we have done a pretty good job meeting the "preserving" part of our purpose. At the same time we have created locations where we can gather for our regional meetings and use the equipment we've donated. That's where we have been. Next month I'll give you my thoughts on where we might want to go next.

Conference Bulletin The FABA annual conference is almost here! But we need help setting up the conference site as we only have from 2 pm on Thursday afternoon, October 11, until dark, to set up our tents, teaching stations, etc. Prior to 2 pm, students will be on the grounds and we can't set up until they've left. We plan to hit the ground running at 2 pm. Also, please don't forget that the settlement does not allow dogs on the premises.

Other Events On October 20, the Saturday following the conference, the annual Pioneer Day and Goat Day will be held at the Panhandle Pioneer Settlement in Blountstown. In addition, there will be an Antique Tool Show and Sale at the settlement on November 17 from 7:30 am to 1 pm.

===Conference Reminder==

GET PREPARED for our 2007 Annual Conference on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 12, 13, and 14 - at Barberville, FL. By now you should have received your conference brochure - visit FABA website - www.blacksmithing.org . If you have any questions please contact Clyde Payton 850-997-3627 or paytonforge@nettally.com

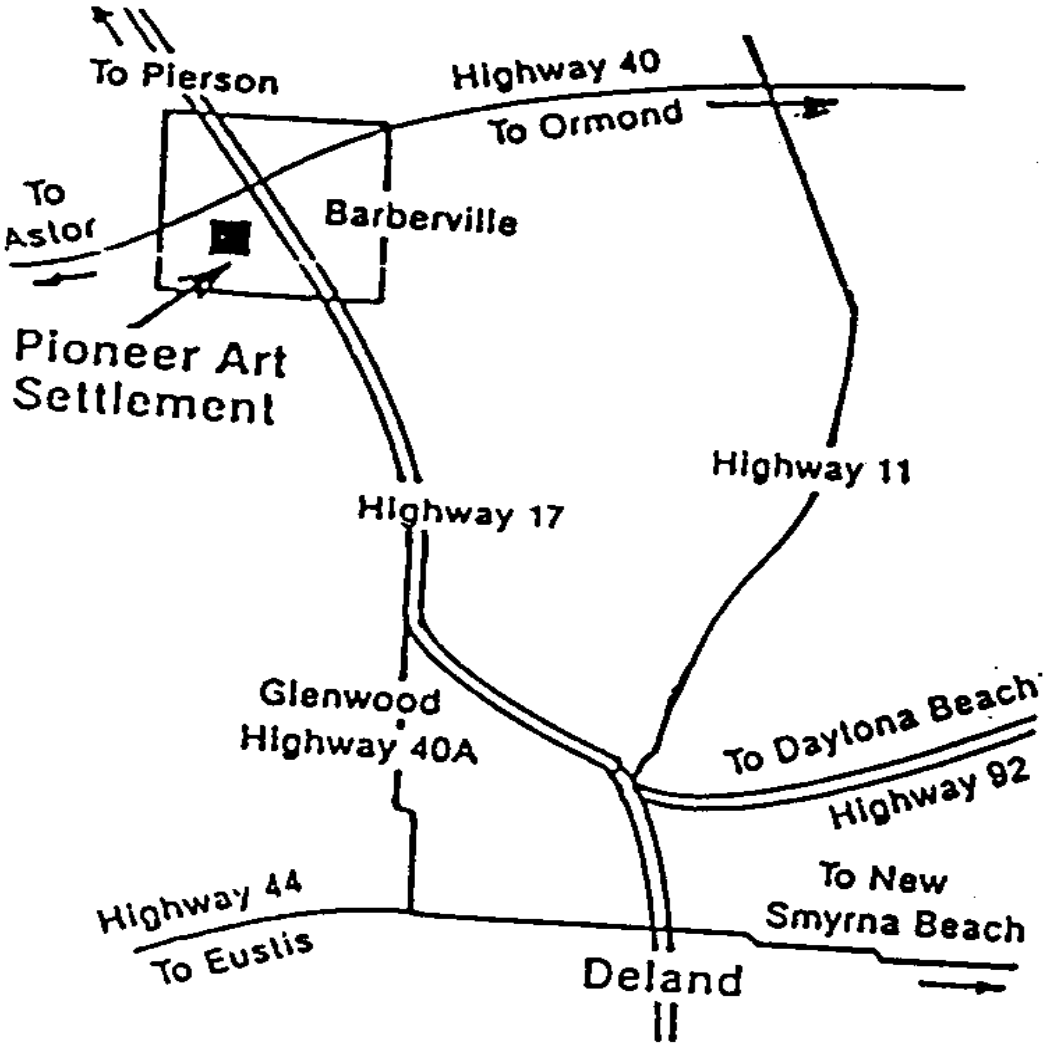
Upcoming Events

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-3rd, SW-last. The actual dates may vary from month to month; 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 a lunch if you stay all day, unless 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@earthlink.net**
Southeast Region:	**Ed Aaron**	**(561) 748-9824**	**EdandMickieAaron@aol.com**
Southwest Region:	**Jerry Wolfe**	**(941) 355-5615**	**wolfeforge@juno.com**

October 2007

NE 06 Barberville - Conference prep
NW 12-13 ***ANNUAL CONFERENCE***
SE 20 No meeting in Oct.
SW 20 Myakka River State Park - Assist Boy Scout to earn Metal Badge in blacksmithing. Need forging set ups and volunteers to teach. Call if you can assist **(NOTE DATE!)**



Future Events

SE Nov-Dec - 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.

NE Nov. 3 Barberville ,Jamboree 3rd and 4th

NE Dec. 1 Hardwicke's Home in Altoona

Report from the Northeast

Ken Knight

The Barberville Settlement hosted 18 NE FABA Members for the August meeting. Several forges were in operation despite the heat. Ronnie Fowler installed a treadle on the power hammer that he had fabricated earlier. The buck in the bucket drawing brought in $61 dollars. There was some tail gate sales going on. Looked like some good quality items. Everyone that came brought food, so needless to say we went away with full stomachs. Think we have some of the best dessert makers in the state.

Barberville meeting on 1 Sept. brought out 25 members and friends despite the heat, rain, and that it was ;Labor Day weekend. Thanks to every one that brought a covered dish the food was great. A few forges were being used and we saw fireplace shovels pounded out, and cheese slicer handle in the making. A special thanks goes out to Steven Estenson for the tent stakes he made for the upcoming Annual Conference at Barberville. We all had a great time, and the buck in the bucket netted $76 bucks so keep that junk { I mean fine items } rolling in. On 6 Oct. we will meet again at Barberville our main concern at that time will be pre-Conference check list, Tom Kennedy will head this activity.

Report from the Northwest

Billy Christie

Mike Bettinger's Welding in Tallahassee was where the NW region held its August 11th meeting. It was very hot and busy but also very interesting thanks to Mike Bettinger, John Williams (with Alabama Arts Castings), Jeff Crawford (with FSU Fine Arts Department) and all the great help that made this 'cast iron pour' such a big success.

They had set up a coke fired copula which used a ratio of 5 lbs. of coke to each 25 lbs. of cast iron, all of which had to be broken up into small pieces before added to copula in paper sacks. There were scratch blocks available so you could custom make your very own casting. Many different objects were poured, from bowls to small anvils. Mike's

bridge crane sure came in handy when pouring the large moulds.

Lunch was great thanks to Angelia Hobby, Mark and Terry Whitehead. We had a scrumptious lunch which consisted of Bar-B-Que, beans and covered dishes.

We had 47 people sign in but at one time I counted 62 in attendance. The Iron In The Hat brought in $112.00 plus a $20 donation toward expenses. Thanks to Linda Holbrook and Mark Stone for their help with our Iron In The Hat.

The NW regions project for the October auction is coming along nicely; all we need is your forged flowers that will be placed around the metal heart and arrow.

Thanks everyone who helped make this such a wonderful, educational meeting. I hope to see everyone at the October 12-14 Annual Conference in Barberville. Happy Hammering!

Report from the Southeast

Ed Aaron

Our August meeting was held at Eric Velleca's Shop with 11 in attendance. It proved very fruitful, completing our project and deciding on another project.

Our Sept. meeting will also be held at Eric's Shop where we will try to complete the other project. We have Don Shedlock to thank for us being able to complete the Aug project and he is also working on the Sept. project. Thanks, Don.. Also THANKS to Eric for letting us use his shop.

Our group has really worked together well to complete our projects.

Attention: This is to the members of the S.E. Region that haven't been to the last few meetings.. Since I procrastinate all the time, you may not have been aware of where our meetings will be held. I do try to get the FABA Web Page updated and call or e-mail the people that attend the meeting. But if any of you want to either call me or e-mail me with a request to be included, I'll be glad to call or e-mail you with updates on meeting locations or projects that we have going. We'll probably skip a local meeting for Oct. since Barberville (Conference) is going on. Back to Tanah Keeta for Nov and Dec. Please try to attend the Nov. meeting since the Scouts will try for the Metal Work Merit Badge. We need instructors..
As usual, anyone with a request for a specific demonstration or project, let me know and we'll see if we can do it.. Anyone wanting to host a meeting, let me know.

Report from the Southwest

Jerry Wolfe

The August 25th meeting was held at Wolfe Forge with Jerry giving a demo of reproducing a portion of a window grill at the Ringling Ca d'Zan home. This was a group of 4 C scrolls with "spikes" between that gives the appearance of a fleur de lie. The group also worked on the coal forge being made for the annual auction.

Notices, For Sales & Want-Ads

BLACKSMITH COAL AVAILABLE SOON!
Coal will be available at the FABA conference in October. The Settlement would appreciate advance purchases. $22 per 100 lb bag. (Pickup only)
Send money order to: Pioneer Settlement, P.O.Box 6, Barberville, FL 32105 Call for details: 386-749-2959

2008 Blacksmith Calendar

Thanks to Bill Miller in Rochester, WA, I was able to borrow enough old photos to produce a Year 2008 Blacksmith Calendar, which will likely be the last in the series. Like prior years, this calendar contains interior views of old blacksmith shops. Six old postcard views were added for a total of 18 images. The individually shrink-wrapped calendars were professionally printed using a 200 line-per-inch process, which yielded a near photographic result. A list containing available information for the pictures in all 9 calendars and 25 postcards will be included.

1-5 Year 2008 Calendars: $16.00 each
6-20 Year 2008 Calendars: $14.00 each
21-49 Year 2008 Calendars: $11.50 each
over 49 Year 2008 Calendars: $8.50 each

CD with 4000 Blacksmith & Anvil images

Contains a wide (very wide) variety of images collected from many sources over a period of years. They're arranged in several slide shows for easy viewing. You'll see anvils posed in every way imaginable. (For Windows only, not for Macs.)

1-3 CDs: $15.00 per CD; over 3 CDs: $10.00 per CD

Set of 25 Blacksmith Postcards

Note: This is not a new set of postcards. Only one set of 25 postcards has been produced.

1-5 Sets of Postcards: $8.00 per set
6-25 Sets of Postcards: $6.00 per set
over 25 Sets of Postcards: $4.00 per set

Calendars from Prior Years

Year 2007 calendars are still available for $8.00 each.
Year 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002 & 2001 calendars are still available for $6.00 each.

Shipping / Ordering

The prices shown above include the cost of shipping to a U.S. or Canadian address. Insurance is extra if desired. If interested, please send a check or money order to:
Gill Fahrenwald, P.O. Box 2323, Olympia, WA 98507
or PayPal to anvilman@orcalink.com

POW-WOW and FRONTIER DAYS
November 9, 10 and 11, 2007
1 Mile North of Folkston, GA on US 301
Old Time Blacksmithing with ***Juan Holbrook***, Native American Arts & Crafts, Native American Dancing, The North Fla. Wild West Show, Grey Squirrel's Lodges & Primitive Demonstrations, Train Rides for Kids, Excellent Food, Sons of Conferderate Veterans from Capt. Winston Stevens Camp #2041 Demonstrators,and The House of Flying Cards Magician Troupe

FREE Wilderness Camping, A Grand & Fun Time For All Demonstrators Welcome, Vendors Welcome. Contact: Chi Meeker: 912-496-4771

Directions: Take US 301 1 mile North of Folkston, GA. to Humphries Rd. Turn East - go 3/10 of a mile to Bill Knight Lane. Turn South and you are there.

500lb Anvil Raffle
Ed noticed in the ABBA newsletter that John Campbell Folk School is running a raffle with the prize being a 500 lb anvil. $5 per chance or 5 for $20. Check it out by going to www.folkschool.org and clicking on anvil give away.(if interested) Drawing Nov 3rd.

Personnel News -
For those of you who may have noticed that Kimmy Bloom was locomoting like a wounded duck for the last 9 months, she fnally has gotten a new hip, is recovering rapidly, and I'm going to have to start moving faster now....

An Exciting Challenge

Clyde Payton

Recently a doctor in Bainbridge, GA called me with a very interesting request – would I mount some antique blacksmithing tools in such suitable manner that they could be displayed in his office waiting room!?!?

Well, my resounding reply was a most audible YES. The doctor had purchased blacksmithing tools from me in the past and he seemed to like the way I mount stuff.

I traveled to his home work shop (he likes to make knives) where I loaded up these pieces – drove to my shop and immediately started to work.

The first operation was to clean everything – post vise, post drill, and a mouse hole anvil dating from the 1700's. The post drill was the hardest to clean up, but automotive degreaser, trisodium phosphate, and "elbow grease" works wonders. After cleaning the post drill I discovered that the original blue paint was pretty much in tact. After cleaning I applied two coats of clear urethane allowing the first coat to dry overnight. (Urethane is the ONLY finish I used).

I only had to make one replacement part for the post drill. However, I had to make several replacement parts for the vise. On the vise someone had used very crude pieces of angle iron and a jumble of hardware for the mounting arrangement. I had to forge out replications of the original mounting parts – mounting plate, mounting yoke, lock clip, wedge pin, and a couple of bearing washers for the screw.

Mounting the three pieces so that they would become suitable museum presentations proved to be a challenge.

* First, since they were going in the patient's waiting room, they had to be SAFE, (child proof).
* No grease or oil to spoil the carpet, and no odor.
* The mounts had to be stable to prevent toppling, yet they needed to be movable so that they could slide on carpet.
* The underneath of the mounts could not snag carpet or scratch floors.
* The mounts had to be replicated true to period and true to actual use – proper height, etc.
* They had to be so poised in the waiting room so that they would be unobtrusive, yet invite a welcome and friendly close inspection.
* Lastly they needed black framed placards hung on the wall beside each piece to give the tool's name, function, and provenance.

Mounts for the post drill and vise were built with rough sawed southern yellow pine, angle iron, antique hardware, and

antique cut nails. The anvil was mounted on a sweet gum log. Again clear urethane was used as the only finish. The dry wood took 3 coats – first coat was cut with turpentine.

When all was done Vi and I delivered them to their new home. When we placed them in situs (see photos) I don't know who was most proud – the doctor or me!

Tools and their REAL uses

(lifted from a post on the internet - opinions here do not reflect those of the editor or members of the FABA Board (since most of us are married) - Editor)

DRILL PRESS: A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, splattering it against that freshly-stained heirloom piece you were drying.

WIRE WHEEL: Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned guitar calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, "YEOWW S...."

ELECTRIC HAND DRILL: Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age.

SKIL SAW: A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

PLIERS: Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters. The most often the tool used by all women.

BELT SANDER: An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

HACKSAW: One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes

.

VISE-GRIPS: Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

WELDING GLOVES: Heavy duty leather gloves used to prolong the conduction of intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

OXYACETYLENE TORCH: Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub you want the bearing race out of.

WHITWORTH SOCKETS: Once used for working on older British cars and motorcycles, they are now used mainly for impersonating that 9/16 or 1/2 inch socket you've been searching for the last 45 minutes.

TABLE SAW: A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK: Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

EIGHT-FOOT LONG YELLOW PINE 2X4: Used for levering an automobile upward off of a trapped hydraulic jack handle.

TWEEZERS: A tool for removing wood splinters and wire wheel wires

E-Z OUT BOLT AND STUD EXTRACTOR: A tool ten times harder than any known drill bit that snaps neatly off in bolt holes thereby ending any possible future use.

RADIAL ARM SAW: A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to scare neophytes into choosing another line of work.

TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST: A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

CRAFTSMAN 1/2 x 24-INCH SCREWDRIVER: A very large pry bar that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end opposite the handle.

AVIATION METAL SNIPS: See hacksaw.

TROUBLE LIGHT: The home mechanic's own tanning booth. Sometimes called a drop light, it is a good source of vitamin D, "the sunshine vitamin," which is not otherwise found under cars at night. Health benefits aside, its main purpose is to consume 40-watt light bulbs at about the same rate that 105mm howitzer

shells might be used during, say, the first few hours of the Battle of the Bulge. More often dark than light, its name is somewhat misleading.

PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER: Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids and for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads. Women excel at using this tool.

STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER: A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws.

AIR COMPRESSOR: A machine that takes energy produced in a coal-burning power plant 200 miles away and transforms it into compressed air that travels by hose to a Chicago Pneumatic impact wrench that grips rusty bolts which were last over tightened 30 years ago by someone at Ford, and instantly rounds off their heads. Also used to quickly snap off lug nuts.

PRY BAR: A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

HOSE CUTTER: A tool used to make hoses too short.

HAMMER: Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent the object we are trying to hit. Women primarily use it to make gaping holes in walls when hanging pictures.

MECHANIC'S KNIFE: Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.

DAMMIT TOOL: Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling "DAMMIT" at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need.

Why Butcher Before You Set?

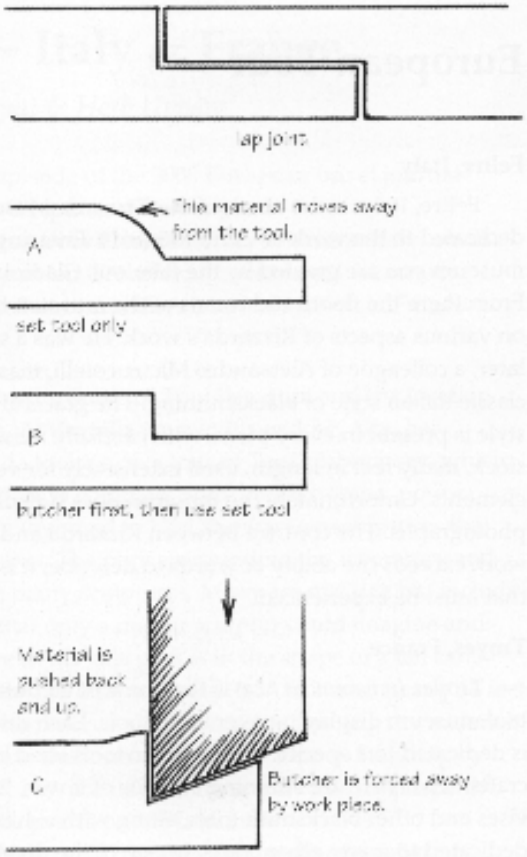
by Walt Hull, Lawrence, Kansas
From Blacksmith Association of Missouri, 2004

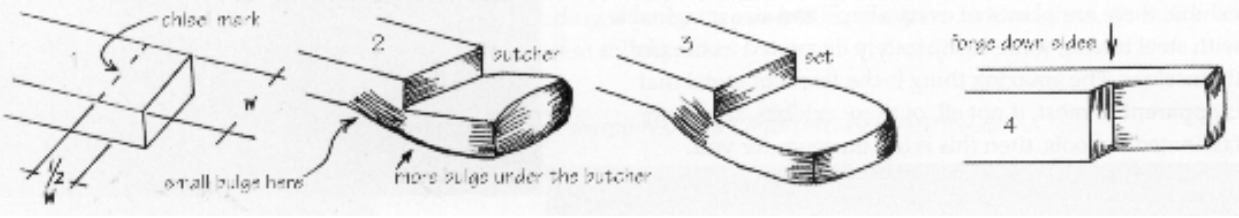
If you use a set tool to make a lap joint, the tool might not bounce if you have a hammer with very good control, if the work is very hot and if you hold the tool down very tightly. But you still need to use a butcher because as the tool forges the material down, it also draws it, so you will get **A** instead of **B**. The butcher actually upsets the metal a bit. The upset in **C** is pushed back into the bar when the hammer die (butcher or set tool) hits it. Also, the material is not simply pressed down under the butcher (and the set tool), but away in all directions.

The result is something like **2** after butchering and like **3** after using the set tool. I have exaggerated the bulges a little for clarity. The procedure is as follows:

1. Mark.
2. Butcher.
3. Set.
4. Forge down the sides.

Finally, square up the end with the hand hammer, hitting first the end, then the sides and then the end until it all comes out even. Ideally, it will happen just as you run out of heat, and you'll leave a nice smooth surface. ♣





Nuggets

By Charlie Orlando

Rules To Forge By

- Keep it straight as long as you can, for as long as you can.
- Keep a handle on it as long as you can.
- Use the lightest hammer for the job.
- Do the hardest things first.

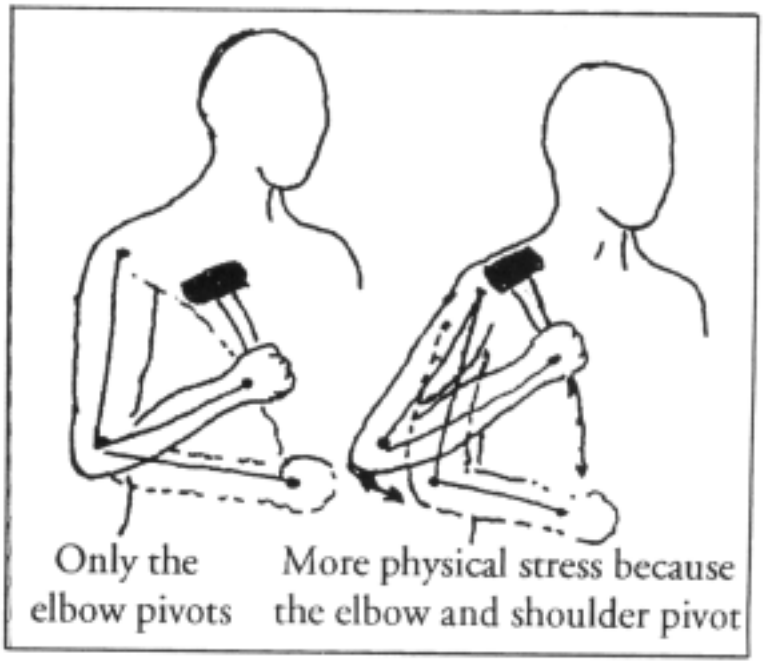
Economy of Motion

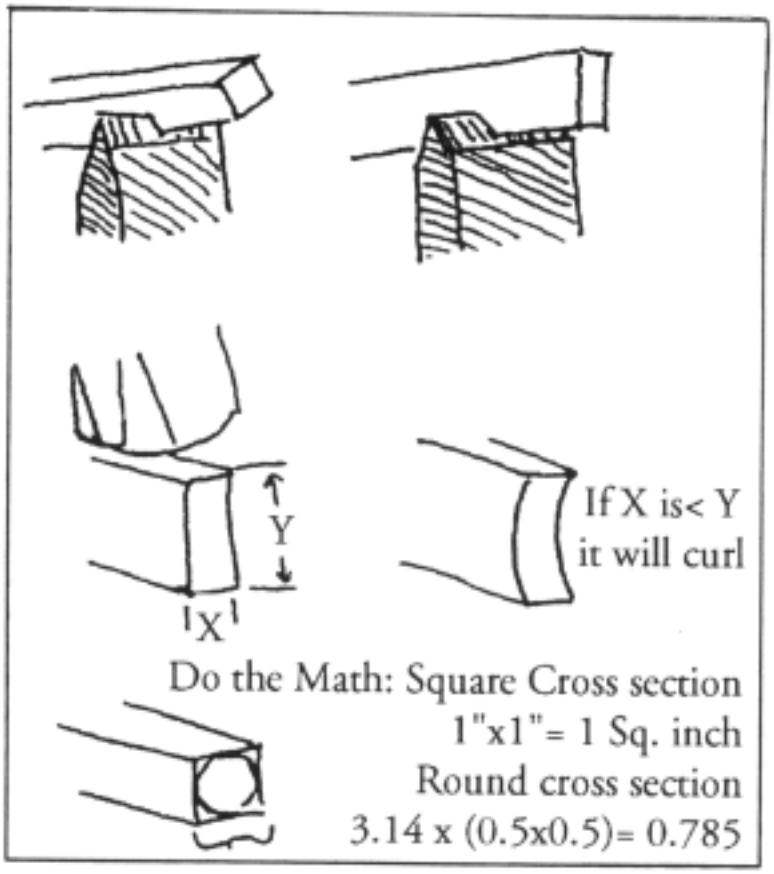
- Hit the hardest when it's the hottest
- Aim for the center of the anvil.
- Use only the muscles you need to accomplish the task. (for example, keep the elbow tucked in close to the body and pivot the arm at the shoulder for heavy blows and at the elbow for the lighter ones. That results in pivoting only one hinge rather than two for the same blow.
- Use the lightest hammer needed.
- Grip a hammer loosely when hammering. Throw it at the anvil, tightening you grip at the last moment.

Tips

- Always cut on smaller dimension before cutting on the flat.
- When drawing out, start at the end and progress inwards. It's easier to move the metal and to adjust the taper.
- Three– to– one rule: A rectangular bar whose thickness is less than one-third the width will curl when hit.
- Use Plasticine (available at art stores) to practice forging.
- A square bar will contain almost 25% more metal than the same size round bar.

Reprinted from The Hammers Arc, 7-9/ 03





The Florida Clinker Breaker

October 2007

FLORIDA ARTIST BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION
Juan Holbrook, Membership Records
6418 NW 97 Court
Gainesville, FL 32653

1st Class Postage

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.
Chapter of ABANA, Inc.

Date _____ New☐ Renewal ☐

Name_____
Address_____
_____
City State Zip
Phone:Home_____Work:_____
E-Mail_____
Spouse's Name:_____

Send this 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. You don't have to be an ABANA member to join FABA, but many FABA members are, and we encourage membership in both organizations.

If you do not wish to be listed in the printed FABA directory, please check this box ☐