



# Balcones Forge Dispatch

President's Corner

January 2014



I'd love to say we had a great time at the December meeting, but I can't because I was really only there for a couple of hours. I was stuck with Dad duty, both kids were sick and no child-care, so I didn't get to play with fire and metal that day. While I was there we had 3-4 new members sign up, we had a small "Iron in the Hat" auction, and lots of announcements.

Jim Elliot showed up with the library; thank you Jim. If you didn't know, Balcones Forge has an amazing library full of books, DVDs, and magazines, all of which can be checked out by members. The rules are let Jim know what you want (so he's sure to bring it), sign the check out card (so we know who has it), and enjoy it for the next month (all items are due by the next meeting). It's a great way to look at things you might want to buy for your personal use, see that video you've heard about, or get some inspiration for your next project. And while I'm thinking about it, we need a new librarian; it would be a wonderful way to help Balcones Forge and keep this valuable resource.

We have a lot of upcoming events and I'm excited about all of them.

January 18th we will be meeting at the Stevens Art Foundry in Bulverde, they have cast bronze sculptures for place like Notre Dame and the Texas Ranger Museum. This should prove to be a very interesting meeting.

## Meeting Date is January 18

*President's message continued on page 2*



### Officers

#### President

**Matt Czosnek**

[mattczosnek@gmail.com](mailto:mattczosnek@gmail.com)

512/609-9724

#### Vice-President

**Jerry Achterberg**

[treefarm@swbell.net](mailto:treefarm@swbell.net)

210/661-3293

#### Treasurer

**Rudy Billings**

[Rudy@BalconesForge.org](mailto:Rudy@BalconesForge.org)

512/461-7375

#### Secretary

**Laurie Wicker**

[lrwicker@gmail.com](mailto:lrwicker@gmail.com)

512/383-0874



### Editor

#### Vince Herod

[spotteddogforge@yahoo.com](mailto:spotteddogforge@yahoo.com)

512/253-6045

*President's message continued from page 1*

In February we will be at Steephollow Forgeworks in Bryan, for the Lee brothers annual demo. I'm hearing rumors of an iron smelt being done as well as demonstrations by Lyle Wynne, and the Lee brothers. This is always a fun event, with a good auction, good food, and great company. You will have a great time.

Mid-March we have are annual Spring Break event at Pioneer Museum in Fredericksburg. I don't have the exact dates yet but it will probably start on the 7th and run until the 15th. We will need to have people out there every day, and don't worry if you're just a beginner we will partner you with an experienced member. It's a great time and you stay busy all day talking anddemoing for the visitors. A final incentive is the free lunch for all the volunteers. So pleasecheck your schedules and come on out for the fun event.

March 29-30 is the Bluebonnet demo in Marble Falls with Mark Aspery. This is an event not to be missed, not only do we have a great demonstrator, but we have good food, and an amazing auction with all kinds of goodies from books to tools; heck last year we even had a cannon. I don't know what might be there this year but I do know it will be good.

As a final thought, if you have ideas for a meeting venue, a demonstrator you want to see, or you just want to help out please let ME know. This group functions as a volunteer organization only with YOUR input, we offer many fantastic events through the dedication and a lot of hardwork from our members, but we can always use more help and ideas.

Matt Czosnek  
President, Balcones Forge

## SECRETARY'S REPORT FROM DECEMBER



The meeting was held at the Zilker Park Blacksmith shop. The turn-out was good in spite of the cold and overcast weather, and included several new members itching to get at the forge and anvils in the shop.

There was a brief meeting of the group outside the shop for the Iron in the Hat auction and an update on several of our future meetings and obligations. The Pioneer Days celebration in Fredericksburg and the Bluebonnet Demo were discussed in particular as we have a strong need for folks to step up and assist in preparations.

Once the business was concluded, everyone made a beeline for the forge and began hammering away at various projects. As usual, there was much discussion of techniques and lots of impromptu demonstrating of various items. I was unable to stay for the entire day, but the brief moments of mingling with like-minded blacksmiths was truly invigorating and never fails to inspire me to try new things in my own work.

I was also pleased to meet a few new members who have expressed a desire to work in the Zilker Park forge on a more regular basis. The Park staff love to have us demonstrating as often as possible and this infusion of new blood is just the thing we need to keep this important resource open and working to bring in even more new members.

The Balcones Forge Newsletter is written by the editor except as noted. Balcones Forge, it's officers, members, contributors, editors and writers specifically disclaim any responsibility, or liability for any damage, or injury as a result of the use of any information published in the newsletter or demonstrated at a meeting or conference. Every effort is made to insure the accuracy and safety of information provided but the use by our members and readers of any information published herein or provided at meetings is solely at the user's own risk.

I was very pleased with the day's success and am looking forward to working with all our members to promote Blacksmithing as both a wonderful hobby and an exciting profession. The new influx of young members is a testament to our success in reaching those who will be the leaders of the Forge group in future years.

Laurie Wicker  
Secretary, Balcones Forge

### **JANUARY MEETING INFO**

Larry Stevens will host at Stevens Art Foundry on Saturday, January 18th.

Meeting start at 9:30a. Mostly show-n-tell right now, but working on a program.

[www.stevensartfoundry.com](http://www.stevensartfoundry.com)

Located at 31806 Bartels Rd, Bulverde, TX 78163

From Hwy 46, go about 4.5 miles South on Blanco Rd to Bartels.

From 1604, go about 12 miles North on Blanco Rd and turn left on Adams and then right on Bartels.

Larry has been casting for more than 40 years and now works exclusively in silicone bronze.

Be sure to bring your camera, lot of things to see.

### **A GREAT DEAL**

Balcones Forge has Mark Aspery Books!

All 3 volumes:

- I - Basic Blacksmithing
- II - Leafwork
- III - Joinery

\$50 each -- no tax, no shipping, normal price \$59

Send your requests to [Rudy@BalconesForge.org](mailto:Rudy@BalconesForge.org)

## **Attention Centaur Forge Customers**

OUR TEXAS STORE **HAS MOVED** TO SERVE YOU BETTER!!

New address:  
632 Ralph Ablanado Drive  
Suite 200  
Austin, TX 78748  
888-229-8877

How to find us:  
Traveling North on I-35, take Exit 227 toward Slaughter Ln.  
Stay straight to go onto S I-35.  
Turn left onto W Slaughter Ln.  
Turn right onto S 1st St.  
Take the first right onto Ralph Ablanado.  
Centaur Forge is on the left.

### **THE NEW BALCONES FORGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Matt Czosnek, President  
Jerry Achterberg, Vice President  
Rudy Billings, Treasurer  
Laurie Wicker, Secretary

John Crouchet  
Jim Elliot  
Vince Herod, Editor  
Alan Lee  
Jeff Lee  
Jerry Whitley

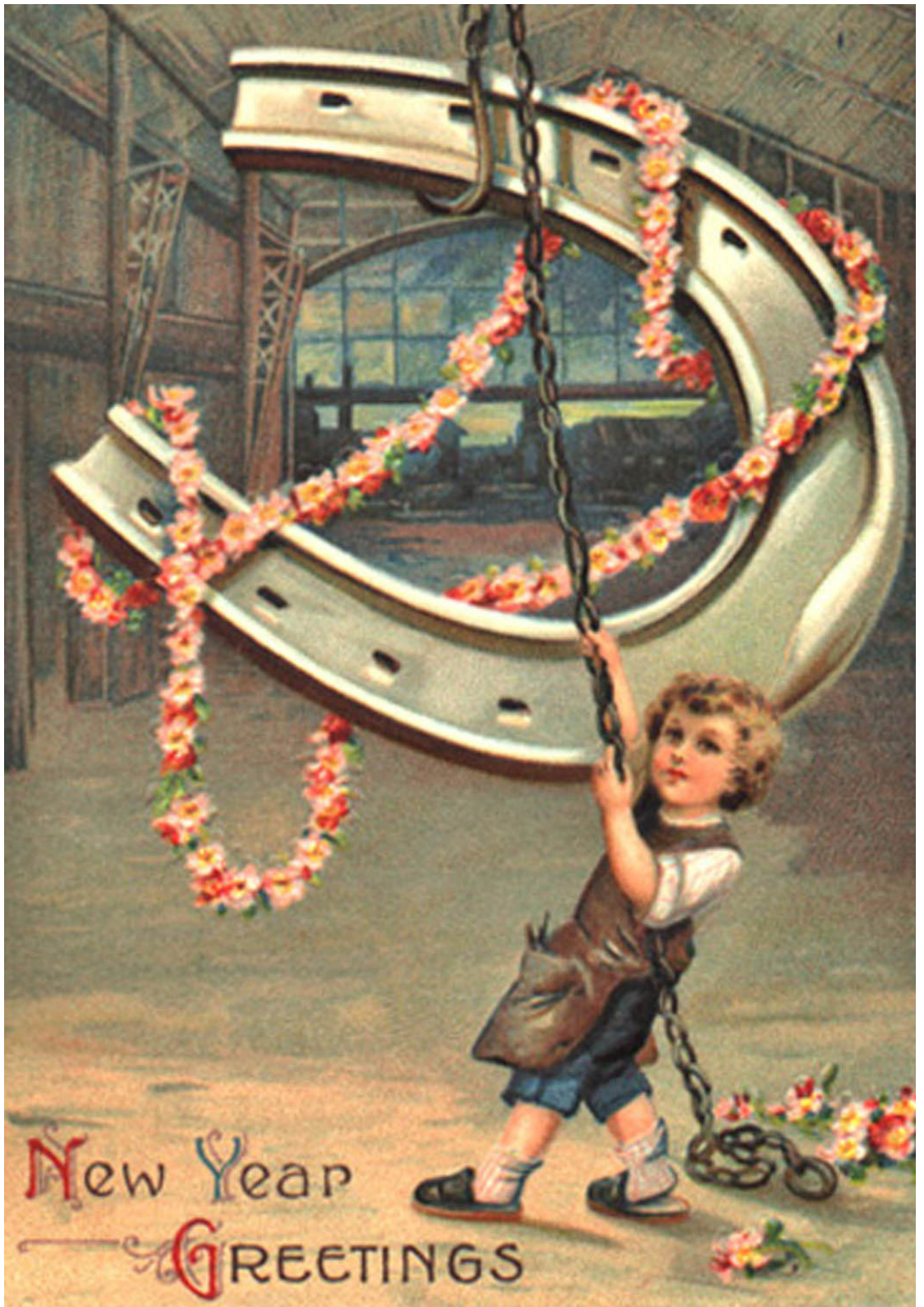


Was that Santa at the December meeting? Maybe, or it might have been Jim Schmidt!

*photo by Vince Herod*

W W W . B A L C O N E S F O R G E . O R G





New Year  
GREETINGS

# NEW BLACKSMITHING OPPORTUNITIES AT THIS YEAR'S BLUEBONNET DEMO

By John Crouchet

Mark your calendars for March 25th through 30th, 2014. You will not want to miss the new things happening at the Bluebonnet Demo.

**Mark Aspery** will return to Sycamore Creek Ranch this year to teach FOUR one-day classes on coal forge operation and traditional blacksmith joinery. (Check out his latest book: *Mastering the Fundamentals of Traditional Joinery*.) There will be all-day classes on Tuesday, March 25th through Friday, March 28th. Ten students will be allowed in each class. We will have a coal forge and anvil available for each student. (That's a lot of coal forges!) Do not miss this excellent chance to learn joinery from a master! Bring your favorite hammer and a lot of energy!

Free camping spots will be available all week around the pond on beautiful Sycamore Creek. Bring your tent or trailer and your fishing pole! Spring is a great time to be out in the Texas Hill Country under starry skies!

Friday night, show up at the shop for the Balcones Shrimp Boil, a party that has become a tradition! We would love to see you there!

Saturday, Mark Aspery cranks up another fabulous demonstration of the skills of a blacksmith! You will quickly see why this guy is famous! If you are interested in the skillful forging of red hot iron, you are going to love this demo! It is all about the traditional methods and tricks and fundamentals of working hot iron at the anvil! I promise you will come away with a new appreciation for this wonderful ancient craft.

Saturday evening, look for our annual Blacksmiths Barbeque Dinner and Auction. It's not just a big party! It is also our big fundraiser for the year that allows us to keep bringing you the greatest blacksmiths in America!

Wake up early on Sunday morning! You won't want to miss the free Cowboy Breakfast before Mark begins the demo again at nine thirty! By the time you head out on Sunday afternoon, expect to have a whole new perspective!

*If this is your first time to attend the annual Balcones Bluebonnet Demo, you are in for a treat. Marble Falls is a lovely little town sited right on Lake Marble Falls on the Colorado River just sixty miles northwest of Austin. You will find over FORTY restaurants in the Marble Falls - Horseshoe Bay area! This is tourist heaven! We are famous for antique stores and art galleries. Fabulous Longhorn Cavern, hideout of the outlaw Sam Bass, is just five miles away with tours every couple of hours on weekends! Bluebonnets? Are you interested in Bluebonnets? Folks, this Bluebonnet Country! And the end of March is exactly Bluebonnet season. Bring your camera, because your friends back home won't believe you!*

**Reserve your spot at the Bluebonnet Demo by sending the registration form (on the back page) to Rudy Billings.**



## JANUARY INFO

January comes from the Latin word *ianua* meaning door. It is named after the god of the doorway, Janus (*Ianuarious*).

January is known as the door to the year and is the first month of the year in the Gregorian calendar. It is one of the seven months that has thirty one days.

## TRADE ITEM

So you might ask “what is a trade item”? Well, the answer is, make one to take one! Except in the case of a competition trade item, each person who makes the trade item gets to take home an item made by someone else. The more folks that participate, the larger the pool of items. There is no arm wrestling involved; we use numbers pulled from a hat (or tin can) so the results are random.

January: Any item from nonferrous metal: copper, bronze, aluminum, lead...your choice.

February **competition** trade item: A hacksaw.

March: No Trade Item, instead make something cool for the auction, bring that extra tool to sell, and bring cash to buy it back.

## HOLIDAY SALE EXTENDED

THROUGH JANUARY:

Real Wrought Iron  
Up to 50% Off

It's time to stock up on high-quality Real Wrought Iron for next year's projects!

Wisconsin Woodchuck and Old Globe Reclaimed Wood have salvaged tons of iron rod from the historic 1887 Globe Elevator, and it's all on sale through the holidays. Discounts range from 20% to 50%. The more you buy, the bigger the break.

Some examples:

70 feet of 1-1/4" rod: was \$700, now \$420 (a 40% discount)

10 feet of 5/8" rod: was \$60, now \$40 (a 33% discount)

120 feet of 1" rod: was \$1,080, now \$540 (a 50% discount)

5 pounds of select 4-1/2" square-cut nails: was \$40, now \$30 (a 25% discount)

All prices are FOB Minneapolis. We'll be happy to get you a shipping quote.

Email ([davidhozza@aol.com](mailto:davidhozza@aol.com))

or call us (612-816-1540) for availability, a complete price list and the discount structure.

Sale prices in effect through Jan. 31, 2014, or while supplies last.

They're here, they're here! Our forge pots are in at Centaur Forge! Keep your eyes and ears open for a work day announcement. We have 10 forges to build before March and we could use some help. It will be announced at a meeting soon, by email and on Facebook; so come help! We'll see you there.

Matt Czosnek, President

## DO YOU KNOW?

The first power Hammer?

One of Leonardo Davinci's inventions circa 1497





# Bringing Back *Iron in the Hat*

Iron in the Hat is an old blacksmith tradition and it looks like its time has come again! At meetings of iron bangers across the country, expenses are often paid by auctioning off small tools, interesting bits of iron or tool steel, or even finished iron work, all donated by the very same blacksmiths who are bidding! Yes, it's a an odd tradition, but blacksmiths have never been known for doing things like everybody else does them!

If you have been to any Balcones Forge meetings lately, then you are well aware that our major focus has been on building up a set of ten coal forges, anvils, leg vises, and hand-cranked blowers to use for our annual Bluebonnet Demo hands-on seminars and for teaching and demonstrating anywhere and everywhere throughout the year. Our immediate goal is to have ten coal forges ready to go in time for the triumphant return of Mark Aspery this coming April.

Mark has graciously agreed to conduct all-day, hands-on blacksmithing classes in the days before the big demo, teaching the fine points and techniques of joinery and coal forge operation. Of course, this is a fantastic opportunity for us all to learn from a true master!

Ten new forges is a tall order. We expect to spend some serious money in the next few months in order to get this done. We have a plan, and now we need some MONEY!

Oh, yeah, that brings us back to Iron in the Hat. Please bring something for the auction to each meeting. (Yes, we will do this every meeting.) Also, bring a little pocket money. You never know what goodies may appear! If we all get behind this, we can raise some real cash and make some of these blacksmithing dreams come true. Keep us in mind and THANKS!

*John Crouchet*

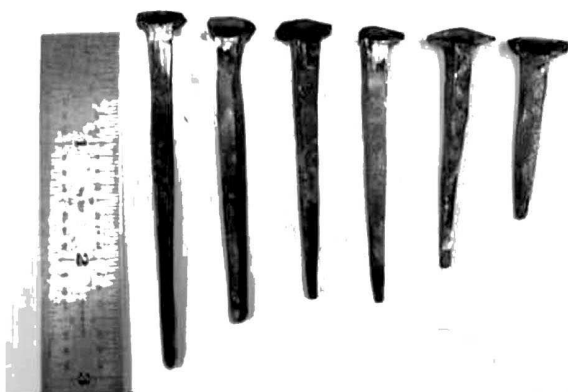
# Making Nails

By Dominick Andrisani

This year I participated as a blacksmith at the Feast of the Hunter's Moon in West Lafayette. I spent four days making nails (October 8-11, 2009). On the first rainy day, Thursday, I tore my hair out. The nail header would not release my headed nails and I was taking 4 heats per nail. My nail heads were either too big and ugly (I call these disasters Z-heads) or non-existent (I call these finishing nails).



On the second rainy day, Friday, I made a square punch and opened up the bottom of the square hole in the nail header a little bit. This allowed the header to release the nails cleanly without much more than a gentle tap and without quenching. I also decided to use a cold-cut Hardy tool and cut the



nails cold rather than taking an extra heat and using a hot-cut. These changes greatly speeded up my nail making.

On the first sunny say, Saturday, I decided to fit the tapered proto-nail in the nail header before cutting in order to accurately determine where to cut the nail in order to get enough metal to form the nail head. This ended my problems with Z-heads and finishing nails. I let the nail be whatever length the nail header indicated it wanted to be.

By Sunday I was routinely making a nail in less than 45 seconds. I started having some fun with the audience by asking them to time how long it took me to make a nail. My record was 29 seconds.

I would like to encourage smiths to practice making nails. Nail making involves some very basic blacksmithing skills (drawing out, cutting, and decorative shaping) and it makes a great demo. You can produce a finished product quickly, at low cost, and give something to the audience to take away and remember.

In the paragraphs below I describe a procedure for a making nails in two heats. Then I describe a fast procedure for making nails with two irons in the fire. I learned these basic methods from the late Tom Clark at the Ozark School of Blacksmithing. Tom was an incredible nail maker!

To start making nails you need some metal and a



matching nail header. I suggest 1/4 inch square stock and a matching 1/4 inch nail header. This

metal is cheap and readily available. A good discussion of nail making and nail header design can be found on the World Wide Web at the address listed in the reference. As mentioned I use a cold cut Hardy tool to cut the nail.



-- From *The Forge Fire Newsletter*, November 2009

## Procedure for making a nail in two heats

**Heat One (Taper and Cut):** Place the raw (untapered) stock metal in the fire. When the 3 inches near the tip are hot, take the stock to the anvil and taper the metal to a point of suitable length. Draw out the tip on the top of the anvil using the edge of the hammer or on the edge of the anvil.



In the drawing out process you will make ripples in the metal formed by the edge of the hammer on top or by the edge of the anvil on the bottom. After you have moved enough metal to form the taper, place the

piece on the top on the anvil and smooth out the ripples as you develop the straight square taper. If you are making nails for speed, do not worry so much about the length of the nail. The point should be straight and evenly tapered.

Slip the point of the taper into the nail header to see how long the nail wants to be. Place the tapered metal with header on the cold-cut hardy in the appropriate place. Line up the metal on the hardy to leave about 3/8 - 1/2 of an inch of material on the top side of the header to form a head. Remove the nail header while leaving the stock on the cold-cut at the measured location. Cold cut most of the way through the stock. Rotate the stock as you cold



cut so that you cut on all sides of the material. This helps to keep the material symmetric and helps create a more symmetric nail head. Do not separate the nail from the stock at this time or you will have to deal with a small piece of metal in the fire using tongs. Use the edge of the anvil and hammer to bend the tapered and partially cut portion to an angle of about ninety-degrees. Place the metal back in the fire with the tip pointed up so you can see the tip and insure that it does not burn. In this step you can use a hot-cut hardy tool but in my experience the nail is no longer hot enough for a hot cut. So rather than wasting another heat, I just cut it cold.

**Heat Two (Head):** When the tapered and partially cut piece is hot where the head will be, place the tapered end in the nail header and break it off with a



twisting motion. Place the header with nail on the anvil over the Hardy hole and make the head of the nail. The first few hammer blows should be directed



to make the metal centered on the stem of the nail. This may require some angled blows. Once the metal is centered it should take about five

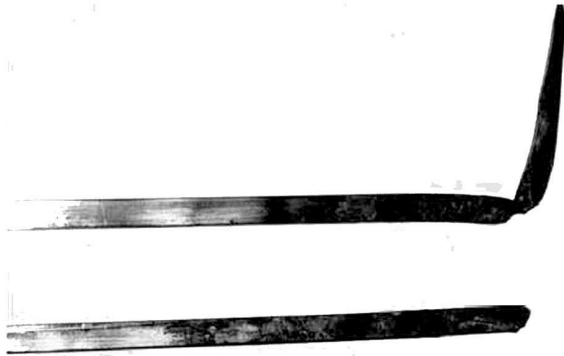
finishing blows to make a decorative head on the nail. The first four decorative blows form four facets on the four quadrants of the head. The fifth blow is in the center of the head and creates a pleasing head design. The domed design of the nail header facilitates these decorative blows.

If your nail header is properly designed and maintained (with no burrs in the opening) the nail should fall out of the header onto the floor. Generally you should not have to quench the nail and header although this will help extract a stubborn nail.



## Making Nails for Speed Using Two Irons in the Fire

**Preliminary Step:** Place two raw (untapered) irons in the fire. When the first iron is hot, taper and partially cut it and return it to the fire. At this point the first iron is tapered, partially cut but cold, and the second iron is raw (untapered) but hot. A helper is useful but not necessary to manage the fire and make sure the iron is ready when the blacksmith is ready.



**Step 1 (Taper and cut):** Remove the hot raw iron from the fire. Taper and partially cut the raw iron and return it to the fire. At this point you have two tapered and partially cut irons in the fire.

**Step 2 (Head):** Remove the now hot other iron from the fire and head the nail. Drop the hot nail onto the floor. Replace the remaining raw iron to the fire.



At this point you have completed a cycle. One iron is tapered, partially cut but cold, and the other iron is raw but hot and ready to be headed. *More importantly, there is a completed nail on the floor.*

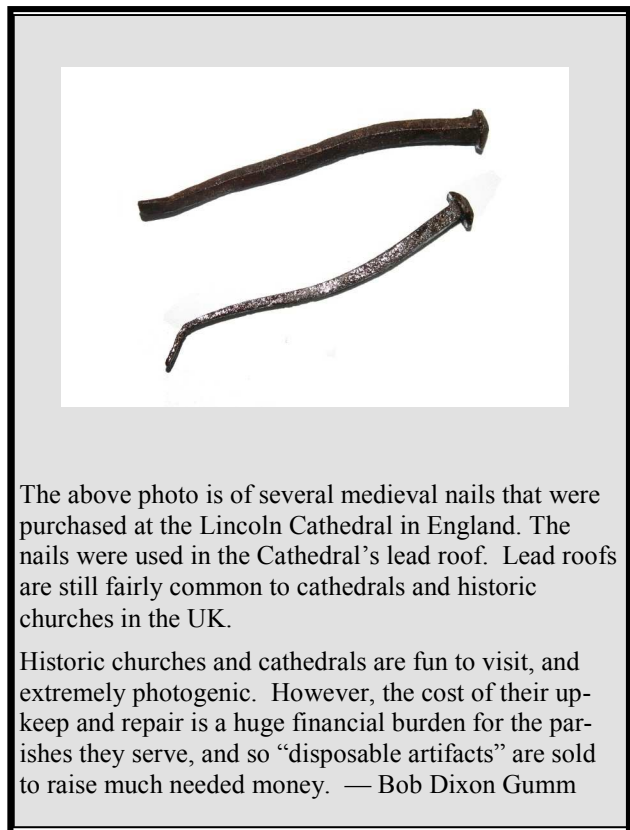
**Repeat steps 1 and 2** until you have made enough nails or your arm falls off.

It should be possible to make a nail in 30-45 seconds. That amounts to 80-120 nails per hour. The taper step should take about 25 seconds and the heading step about 5 seconds.

Happy nail making!

### Good Nail Making and Nail Header Reference

<http://appalachianblacksmiths.com/Documents/Making%20Nails.doc>



The above photo is of several medieval nails that were purchased at the Lincoln Cathedral in England. The nails were used in the Cathedral's lead roof. Lead roofs are still fairly common to cathedrals and historic churches in the UK.

Historic churches and cathedrals are fun to visit, and extremely photogenic. However, the cost of their upkeep and repair is a huge financial burden for the parishes they serve, and so "disposable artifacts" are sold to raise much needed money. — Bob Dixon Gumm

## FEBRUARY MEETING INFO

by Alan Lee

The 4th annual combined meeting of Balcones Forge, the Houston Area Blacksmithing Association, the North Texas Blacksmithing Association, and the Louisiana Metal Smiths Association will be February 22, 2014 at Steephollow Forgeworks in Bryan, TX. This year's celebration of blacksmithing will not only feature live demonstrations of skills, but also an IRON SMELT.

The Combo-Demo is committed to preserving and promoting the art of blacksmithing in a one day event open to blacksmiths of all levels and those interested in the art of blacksmithing. The Combo-Demo is an opportunity to learn and shop, display/sell your work, see old friends, meet new ones, and continue the tradition sharing the love of blacksmithing. While there is no charge, the event is sponsored by the generous donations of blacksmith art and tools to a live and silent auction at 11:30am.

The demos will feature Lyle Wynn from Mississippi, as well as Gerald Franklin from Oklahoma and Chris and Daniel Riffe from Texas; and, of course, Jeff and Alan Lee. James Johnson with Anyang Powers Hammers will demo one of his hammers. Almost the entire crew that attended Lee Sauders' iron smelt class in Oldenburg will be in charge of the iron smelt. They are all members of LAMA, HABA and Balcones Forge. Furnace will be charged at 10am and the bloom of iron to come out at 3pm. They learned the process to teach others.

Lyle Wynn will be offering classes of basic/intermediate blacksmithing the week prior for individuals and groups. Call or contact Alan Lee ASAP at 979-776-2864 or at [steepforge.com](http://steepforge.com) to reserve a spot in a class. Individual classes-\$250/day Group classes-\$125/day Classes will emphasize the efficient movement of metal.

The Combo- Demo forging competition is a "Hacksaw" this year. Winner gets bragging rights for one year. Show your skills and creativity and bring it! Also bring your latest forged creation for display or sale. Sell your old tools or buy some new ones. Vendors like knife makers and broom makers will be there.

- 8-9am sign in---meet and greet
- 9-11:30am greetings and begin demos
- 11:30am auction begins
- 12 noon BBQ lunch---donations only
- 1-4pm demos
- 3pm iron bloom comes out of furnace

Come and go or stay all day, but don't miss this one of a kind day of blacksmithing.

Event location: Steephollow Forgeworks, 7286 Mesco Dr., Bryan, Tx 77808

# LITTLE GIANT (AND OTHER BRANDS AS WELL)

## RE-BUILD CALSSES

### LEARN HOW TO MAKE YOUR LITTLE GIANT POWER HAMMER WORK HARDER THAN EVER!

Please join us for the 22nd annual Little Giant Rebuilding Seminar! Although we did pass ownership of Little Giant to our machinist, Roger Rice, this past summer, Sid Suedmeier will continue teaching the rebuilding class at his shop at 420 4<sup>th</sup> Corso in Nebraska City.

We carry on the tradition of our good friend Fred Caylor of teaching how to make Little Giants run well and hit hard.

The 2 ½ day class is a hands-on format. You will help transform a 25 LB Little Giant hammer from functional but sloppy condition into a well-tuned, quiet, hard working hammer. Sid Suedmeier, former owner of Little Giant, will share all his knowledge and experience gained from working with Fred and from 22 years of repairing and rebuilding Little Giants.

An old style 25 LB Little Giant will be rebuilt during the class, and a new style machine will be on hand to demonstrate proper assembly and adjustment of both styles.

The class is held in Sid's shop in historical Nebraska City, Nebraska. The city has a wide variety of cafes, outlets (including Pendleton Woolen Mills), antique and gift shops, orchards, wineries and museums.

### IF YOU HAVE A LITTLE GIANT, THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

No experience is required to attend this class. Past classes have been comprised of students, retirees, artists, welders, doctors, farriers ...anyone who wants to learn will benefit from this class. We approach the rebuilding process using tools that can be found in the average home workshop.

If you are in the market to buy a power hammer, this class will make you an educated shopper. If you already own a Little Giant, or any other brand of power hammer, this class will teach you how to get the best performance possible.

The class costs \$95, refundable up to 7 days prior to the class; advance registration is required. We limit each class to 25 participants. The classes start at 9 AM sharp on Friday, and usually end by Saturday evening. The schedule runs Sunday until noon in case we encounter any exceptional problems in rebuilding, and to answer remaining questions.

When we receive your registration, we will send you a city map, along with travel and hotel information.

Airports are located in Omaha (45 miles north), Lincoln (50 miles west) and Kansas City (125 miles south).

### March 21-23, 2014 REGISTRATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT

- Check enclosed
- Visa
- MasterCard
- Discover
- American Express
- Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 

### POWER HAMMER INFO

Brand: \_\_\_\_\_

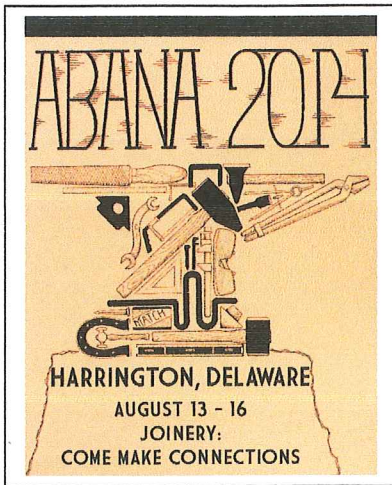
Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please call or email if you have any questions, or prefer to register by phone. You can reach us at 402.873.6605 or SidsShop@windstream.net.*

*Suedmeier Enterprises, 420 4<sup>th</sup> Corso, Nebraska City, NE 68410.*





# 2014 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

## August 13-16, 2014, Harrington, Delaware

Registration for the ABANA 2014 Conference is now open! Use this form or call 423-913-1022 to register. **Until 1/15/2014**, full conference registration is \$125 for current ABANA members. Non member registration is \$175.

I plan to tailgate \*  yes  no \*The Central Office will contact you with more information.  
 I plan to camp \*  yes  no

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ABANA ID # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (confirmation only) \_\_\_\_\_

**2014 REGISTRATION (PER PERSON): BEFORE 1/15/2014 \$175-NON MEMBER, \$125-MEMBER**  
**2014 REGISTRATION (PER PERSON): 1/16 to 6/30/2014 \$225-NON MEMBER, \$175-MEMBER**  
**2014 REGISTRATION (PER PERSON): AFTER 7/1/2014 \$275-NON MEMBER, \$225-MEMBER**

**Family Conference Passes:** Allows family members to accompany a full conference registrant at a much-reduced rate. A family is defined as a head-of-household plus his/her partner living at the same address and their children up to age 17.  
**Conference T-shirts included in registration fee, and can be picked up at the registration desk at the Conference.** Shirts are **adult only**, pocket, in the following sizes: Small, Medium, Large, Extra-large, 2-X large, and 3-X large.

T-shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_ (S,M,L,XL,XXI,XXXL) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF FAMILY MEMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40 EACH) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME OF FAMILY MEMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40 EACH) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME OF FAMILY MEMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40 EACH) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference Day Passes:** Good for all activities on a specific day. ABANA membership not required.  
**Color-coded passes at \$75 per day will be available at the Registration Desk.**

**Total Price includes Saturday Evening Dinner and Conference T-shirt** **TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK REQUIRED**  
 Each Person will be required to sign an Acknowledge and Assumption of Risk in order to be admitted to the Conference (including minors through a parent or guardian).  
*I acknowledge that blacksmithing and related activities are inherently dangerous and involve risks and dangers to participants and spectators that may result in serious injury or death. In deciding to attend the ABANA 2014 Conference, I have considered these risks and I knowingly assume them. I agree that I am responsible for my own safety during the Conference, including wearing appropriate clothing and protective gear and remaining a safe distance from all dangerous activities. I agree to hold ABANA, Delaware State Fairgrounds, and others involved in the Conference harmless from liability and expenses arising from my own actions or omissions. I agree that my admission to the Conference constitutes consideration for this acknowledgment.*

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**EVERY REGISTRANT MUST SIGN THIS FORM!**

Credit card orders (Visa/MC/Disc) can be faxed or mailed; be sure to sign this form. Fax: 423-913-1023  
 Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVVS \_\_\_\_\_

# Balcones Forge Bluebonnet Demo

featuring **Mark Aspery - March 29-30**

Please print clearly

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I prefer a hard-copy of the monthly newsletter mailed to me. I have added \$5 to the normal \$20 annual membership fee.

Current Member .....\$45 \_\_\_\_\_

2014 Membership if unpaid . \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 if you wish monthly newsletter mailed

Non-member .....\$65 \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I wish to become a BF member

Saturday Evening Meal ...\$15 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Please register by March 15\*\***

Make check payable to **Balcones Forge.**

Send to Rudy Billings,

12302 Indian Mound, Austin, TX 78758

**PLEASE READ AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING RELEASE FORM: FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED BY EACH MEMBER, GUEST AND PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF ANY MINOR IN ATTENDANCE.**

In consideration of the Balcones Forge Blacksmith Association providing demonstrators and making these demonstrations available and granting permission to enter the area of said demonstration, I, individually and as parent or guardian of the minor child attending such demonstration, hereby waive all claims for damage and/or loss to my person or property, or the person or property of such minor child, which may be caused by an act, or failure to act of the Balcones Forge Blacksmith Association, its officers, directors, agents or employees and the hosts and demonstrators. I understand that there are inherent dangers in blacksmithing and I assume all risk of all dangerous conditions in and about such demonstration and waive any and all specific notice of the existence of such conditions. By signing this waiver, I acknowledge that I have read and understand this waiver.

X

Date

Vincent Herod  
Spotted Dog Forge  
166 Granite Road  
Paige, TX 78659-4922

