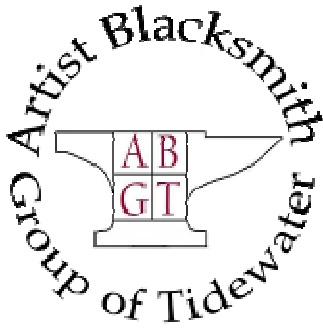


February 2011



Hampton Roads Hammer

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Director's Holler: Our Feb 12th Meeting was great. We were able to show some great techniques in making Eric's ring. The Ring Project will be completed for our 1st Anniversary Meeting in March. Everyone who signed on will have them done and then we will decide on a frame design for them, it will be awesome. I know we basically copied ABANA's ring project, but a good idea is worth repeating! Thanks ABANA.

It seems that we have agreed on our next project, The Garden Grille – Wash Day. We will now be moving into the final stages of design to enable the separate sections to be made.

Demonstration dates for this year are set for two events so far; Newport News Heritage Festival Oct 1st & 2nd, The Waterman's Museum, Yorktown Sept 17th.

Matt Sieber has officially accepted all of our funds and is now our Treasurer. Thanks again Matt.

Thanks to everyone for bringing something for lunch, especially Gitte Gentile, Paula LaPaugh and Brenda Hinckley.

Coal supply train is on track and will be moving out as soon as we resolve the container issue one way or the other. We discussed making a day trip to visit with the Heathsville Forge Group and I will contact them and make those arrangements, hopefully for April or May. We will be demonstrating basic broom making at our next meeting and I will get everyone an instruction sheet for that demo.

Thank you Eric for bringing the Drill Bit sharpening guide for our 1st Iron in the Hat. Matt won it, put it back because he didn't need it, so Joe is now the owner. Say thank you Joe. ☺

I was able to meet the challenge of welding some of my ring material and the resulting "Jaws of Love". You guys inspired a humorous and unique Valentine's gift. It is mine and Bianca's 32nd Valentine's Day. Look for the golden tooth, still together after the twisting and bending needed to make the ring into "Jaws". ☺ Hey Love's like that too!

See ya at the Forge!

Vince

Meeting Photos:



Discussing next group project



We actually fit into Joe's Smithy



Eric and Joe looking at his ring



Eric tuning up his ring



Tony working on a Copper Heart



Joe and Matt discussing PH techniques



Jaws of Love – started out as a simple welding challenge and turned into this. It was a lot of fun to make, I put a poem to it and Bianca loved it
Thanks Guys!



Jaws of Love

Matt slicing up a track section for Joe.



10" OD – 8" ID * Right on the Money!

Dan Boone's Pasture Party!

Matt sent me an email talking about the urge to go out and start cleaning and straightening up his shop. Imagine that, after seeing Dan Boone's shop. Home Depot and Lowe's need to take a look and see how stocking shelves is done!

We were treated to the talents of **Phil Heath of Blacksmith Guild of the Potomac** and one of the biggest and best Iron in the Hats ever. Now all this is fine, but while I was wandering around I noticed that I am looking at just about every Blacksmith or Metalphile that I have run across in the past year plus about 100 more, here all in one spot. It's great to see those that you haven't seen for a while and meet new friends too.

Tailgating was vigorous and many. There were anvils, vises, old stuff, and new stuff. *Mike Tanner of Yesteryear School of Blacksmithing* had his amazing jigs and tools making your work easier and faster. *John Elliot of Blacksmith Supply* with his cache of tools and books too! Judy Gardner of **Blue Moon Press** has one of the best assortments of Blacksmithing and metalworking books out there. *Eric Hinckley of Transamerican Antiques* was there for the first time. Eric was kind enough to allow me to put a few of my books out at his booth to sell. Eric has donated a colonial anvil, permanent use of a leg vise, supplied the materials for our demo rig and loaned us a pop up tent, as well as provide us many tools and materials at great discounts.

So what does Las Vegas have on Dan Boone's Pasture Party? Well for starters you can go home and tell everyone what went on and even show them!



Take a good look at this face... This is without drugs or booze! Joe is his name, be on the lookout. ☺



Anvils will fly at 9, 12, and 4!!
 order of events:
 1. Big crowd gathers behind shop.
 2. A very silly person gives Fay matches
 3. Loud people yell "FIRE IN THE HOLE"
 4. Dave Hutchison sticks his fingers in his ears.
 5. Fay runs away-fast.
 6. BOOM!!!



What's a pasture party without a few Booms!



Steve has a unique talent for having his back turned
 Shown here with Tom and Wade.



Phil Heath demonstrating – member BGOP

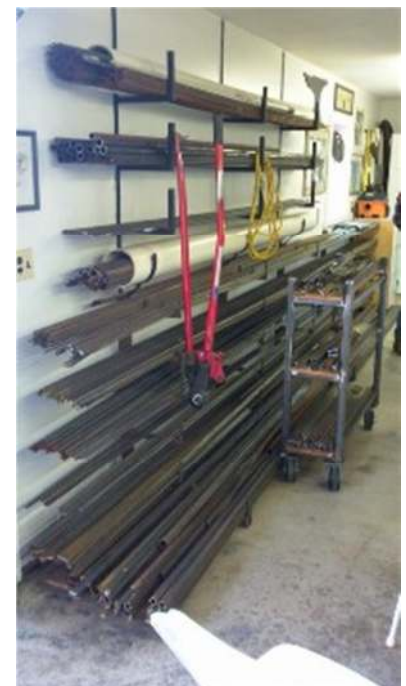


Nol Putnam signing Joe's copy



Is Emory helping Eric or just looking around?

Here are some photos of Dan's Shop. Take notes and go home and duplicate what you see here. You'll work better and be happier!



Everything here is clean, clean, clean. Dan tells us in his book that he cleans up before going to lunch and before retiring for the day. It shows!!!

tail in gear and make your own business happen. Don't be afraid to do the unorthodox. I think we all want to be blacksmiths or horseshoers because we are rugged individualists. Get out there and show the world just how rugged you are!



Metal Etching Workshop at Paul Dief's

After a postponed start—Paul got stuck in Florida on a job—the workshop was held May 27.

Paul has been experimenting with etching metal for quite a while and spent a very interesting morning explaining the what's, and how's. Materials needed are simple.

- A plastic container such as a 5 gallon bucket, a 55 gallon poly drum, a 275 gallon chemical container or even a stack of lumber covered with plastic sheeting.
- A 12 volt power supply such as a cheap battery charger.
- Washing Soda (Food City seems to be the easiest source) and water—about 1 cup soda per 10 gallons of water.
- A metal grid—rebar works.

The item to be etched is suspended in the tank; the metal grid is suspended next to it. The positive electrode is connected to the work piece and the negative is connected to the grid (don't let the battery charger clamps touch the liquid or they will etch away). Turn on the power and wait a few days. If you hook up the wires backwards the work piece will be cleaned of rust instead of etched.

Paul uses thick oil paint or sign maker's self-stick vinyl to mask areas he doesn't want etched.

Here are a couple of the results.



The Anvil's Horn

Most blacksmiths are aware of the obvious shop hazards such as burns, cuts and abrasions; but what about substances that cannot be seen or felt?

The following will clarify some signs and symptoms of immediate and long-term exposure to inhaled toxic substances as by-products of metal working. It must be understood that not all symptoms may be experienced, though common sense points out that chronic lung irritations may lead to more severe lung diseases.

One of the most common hazards for metal workers is the inhalation of high concentrations of freshly formed metallic oxide fumes from smelting, brazing, galvanizing, cutting and welding. This type of poisoning is known variously as metal fume fever, brass chills, metal ague, zinc chills, spelter shakes, or Monday morning fever.

Possible signs and symptoms (usually coming on from two to three hours after exposure) consist of profuse perspiration, a peculiar metallic taste in the mouth, dryness of the throat, cough, tightness in the chest, nausea, vomiting, severe general malaise, exhaustion, and an elevated temperature (rarely above 39°C or 102.2°F).

Zinc chloride fumes are most commonly responsible for metal fume fever as they are highly irritating to the respiratory system and may cause pulmonary edema from large acute exposure, or chronic bronchitis from chronic exposure.

Following is an abbreviated list of metals and their potential toxic effects:

Beryllium— High inhalation toxicity—chronic berylliosis may take from 1 to 20 years to develop and severely affects lung, liver, heart and kidneys.

Cadmium— Odorless fumes which can produce symptoms up to 12 hours later. Except for the occasional development of pneumonia, symptoms from inhalation disappear spontaneously 12 to 15 hours after onset. References suggest a single massive exposure may be fatal. Chronic exposure may cause lung, kidney and liver damage.

Chromium— If possible, avoid high inhalation toxicity. Chronic inhalation may cause allergic reactions, respiratory irritation and may cause lung cancer.

Copper— Copper acetoarsenite (verdigris, Paris Green). This pigment may cause arsenic poisoning symptoms, which develop 15 minutes to 1 hour after inhalation of dust or fumes. Severe exposure is characterized by nausea, vomiting, difficulty swallowing, acute abdominal pain, and in extreme cases, shock and dangerous kidney and liver complications.

Lead— Inhaled dust and fumes are 50-70% absorbed. Signs and symptoms of acute "plumbism" consist of a sweetish metallic taste in mouth, dryness of the throat, extreme thirst, dizziness and severe abdominal cramping. Even in small amounts it may damage a growing fetus and cause defects or miscarriage.

Manganese — May cause a disease similar to Parkinson's disease.

Nickel—Dust and fumes may cause skin irritation and allergies, "nickel itch", eye irritation and upper respiratory tract irritation. Oxyacetylene welding with nickel may cause the formation of highly toxic nickel carbonyl, which can cause severe lung irritation.

In addition to the above, silica containing grinding wheels can produce large amounts of free silica which is highly toxic by inhalation, causing silicosis (grinder's asthma). Wheels using synthetic formaldehyde resins as binders can produce highly irritating fumes. Therefore, use of silica carbide or aluminum wheels with rubber or shellac binders is advised.

To prevent these hazards, ongoing education of and by each artist-blacksmith is a beginning, and applying this knowledge is the answer. If these metals cannot be avoided, local exhaust systems and approved dust/fume respirators are advised.

This article is not a medical or definitive profile. (*Although 23 years old, it should raise your awareness of these dangers, Editor*) Information was obtained from the following recommended references:

1. B.C. Drug and Poison Management Manual 1984—Can. Pharm. Assoc.
2. Flints Emergency Treatment and Management— H.D. Cain, ed., W.B. Saunders Co. Pub.
3. Artist Beware— M. McCann Ph.D. Watson Guptill Pub.

Just a reminder that Paw Paw Wilson, Veteran, Blacksmith, Author of the Revolutionary Blacksmith was killed by this hazard, and he knew of and understood the dangers, be careful!!!! Ed. Thank you everyone for sharing this with us.

Mission Statement

We are an Artisan group that has joined together to make the most of our diverse skills and outlooks. It is our sincere desire to promote, encourage and show the public and other interested persons the tremendous contributions and skill of the traditional Blacksmith and the relevance of their contributions in the modern world. We provide continuing skills training for our members, along with a place to develop their artistic skills with like minded persons, regardless of the modern or traditional expression.

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Happy Haven Forge

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www.willwayforge.blogspot.com

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www.yesteryearschool.com

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www.jganvil.com

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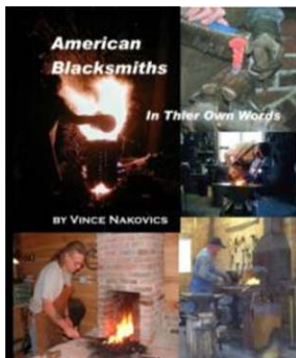
slapaugh@verizon.net

Remember that you are eligible for discounts through ABANA at Grainger, Artistian Ideas and others as well as group discounts for insurance. Thanks ABANA !!

Support those organizations that support us.

All ABANA Affiliate Organizations have permission to use articles in Artist Blacksmith Group of Tidewater's Hampton Roads Hammers newsletter in the promotion, education and interest in the art of Blacksmithing.

American Blacksmiths "In Their Own Words" and it is available for purchase for only \$17.95 via; www.happyhavenforge.com or www.artistbgt.com.



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