

HAMMER MARKS

Newsletter of the Kootenay Blacksmiths' Association

Winter 2009

MERRY CHRISTMAS



AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Minutes of KBA 2009 Fall Conference, Winn Valley Forge

Opening: Tony A. called the meeting to order at 3:50 PM, welcomed the participants and passed on Chris W's regret and greetings. Tony thanked everyone for coming, Gunner for hosting and Denise and Marcel for lunch. Twila A. will record the minutes for this meeting. (Attendance 18 Members)

Reports: Minutes of Spring Conference - Twila read the minutes from the spring meeting, Tony noted one correction, **the Spring Conference at Crawford Bay has been changed to the second weekend in May (8, 9)**, Bert L. moved for acceptance, Gunner J. seconded, carried.

Treasurers Report - Mona E. read her last treasurer's report (see attached), Wray W. moved for acceptance, John M. seconded, carried. Bert L. called for a round of thanks to Mona for her hard work. The books were turned over to Marcel L., our new Treasurer.

Library Report - We agree to continue to approve \$1000/yr for the Library Fund. Any one who has a title they would like to have the library purchase, contact Sandra Barrett at bl@cksmith.ca, Fernie Forge, 2087 Hwy 3, Fernie, BC, V0B 1M5.

Old Business: VIBA Coal Forges - Norm D. has completed repairs on both forges at a cost of \$300.00, parts and labor. Bert L. moved we pay Norm D. the full amount, Gunner J. seconded, carried. John M. will take one of the forges back with him and Harley T. has requested the second one to try out. A decision on the forge rental costs was deferred to the spring conference.

New Business: CanIron VIII - Brenda F. was approached by the CanIron committee to see if the KBA was interested in hosting CanIron VIII in 2011, after some discussion it was decided that since CanIron VI was in Victoria, CanIron VIII should proceed east to Ontario and then on to the east coast, before returning to BC. Brenda will inform the committee of our decision.

ABANA - The Artist Blacksmiths Association of North America has an opening on the Board of Directors and is also seeking candidates for an Experienced Web Master and an ABANA Endowment Fund Trustee, any interested ABANA member is asked to contact Doug Kluender, Chairman Election and Nomination Committee at dougkluender@msn.com.

Bert L. moved for adjournment at 4:20 PM, Norm D. seconded, carried.

Publishing Information

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www.wikismith.org

Wiki-Smith is an online collaborative encyclopedia dedicated to smithing: black, gold, silver and other metal working techniques.

This site was started in an effort to create a community of metalworkers sharing their knowledge in the crafts tradition. Wiki-Smith can become a powerful tool in pooling the knowledge and experience of thousands of metalsmiths. It's my hope that this will become a great resource for both the studio worker and the teacher. **It is in it's fledgling state so it needs your contribution to help it grow.** Add pages on techniques, materials, processes, metalsmiths, etc. Edit information to make it more correct or relevant. Help get the word out – disseminate this information to other metalsmiths that you know. If you have any questions, feel free to email me: arangalligan@gmail.com

Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous Year of the Tiger 2010

Chris & Michelle White, Tony & Twila Austin, Bert & Marcel Leblanc



'Tora'
Year of the Tiger 2010
© a.c.'tony'austin
Dragons' Rest Working Studios
Kimberley, B.C. Canada

Editorial :

First a heartfelt thank you to all of you responded to my plea for photos of your work. Getting info for a newsletter is not easy. Many times I resort to searching my own files to find interesting items. Writeemail me - I need shop tips, tooling, projects, and ideas.

KBA Treasurer's Report for the period March 31st 2009 to August 31st 2009

Opening Balance (as of March 31 st)		\$1998.86
Expenses:		
Host fees (2X\$150.00)	300.00	
Conference fees (hall rental, muffins)	92.00	
Demonstrator fee (\$600.00US) & \$120.00CAN	852.00	
Sow delivery (permit & gas)	140.00	
Office/newsletter supplies	225.60	
KBA donation to Riondel Rescue truck	200.00	
Refund to Harley Tomlin	25.00	
Bank service charges	8.00	
Bank reconciliation	1.10	
Total Expenses	\$1843.10	
Revenue:		
Sow auction	1628.00	
Auction	1389.00	
Memberships	500.00	
Registrations	725.00	
Extra dinners (6X\$12.00)	72.00	
Hat sales (3X\$10.00)	30.00	
Falkins Insurance refund	280.00	
Bank interest	.71	
Total Revenue	\$4624.71	
Closing Balance (as of August 31 st 2009)		\$4780.47

COPPER REPOUSSE`

CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS

Tony Austin, Dragon Iron Forge

This is something the whole family can do, if you were around in the 40's and 50's you probably remember the copper foil work they used to teach in grammar school and junior high.

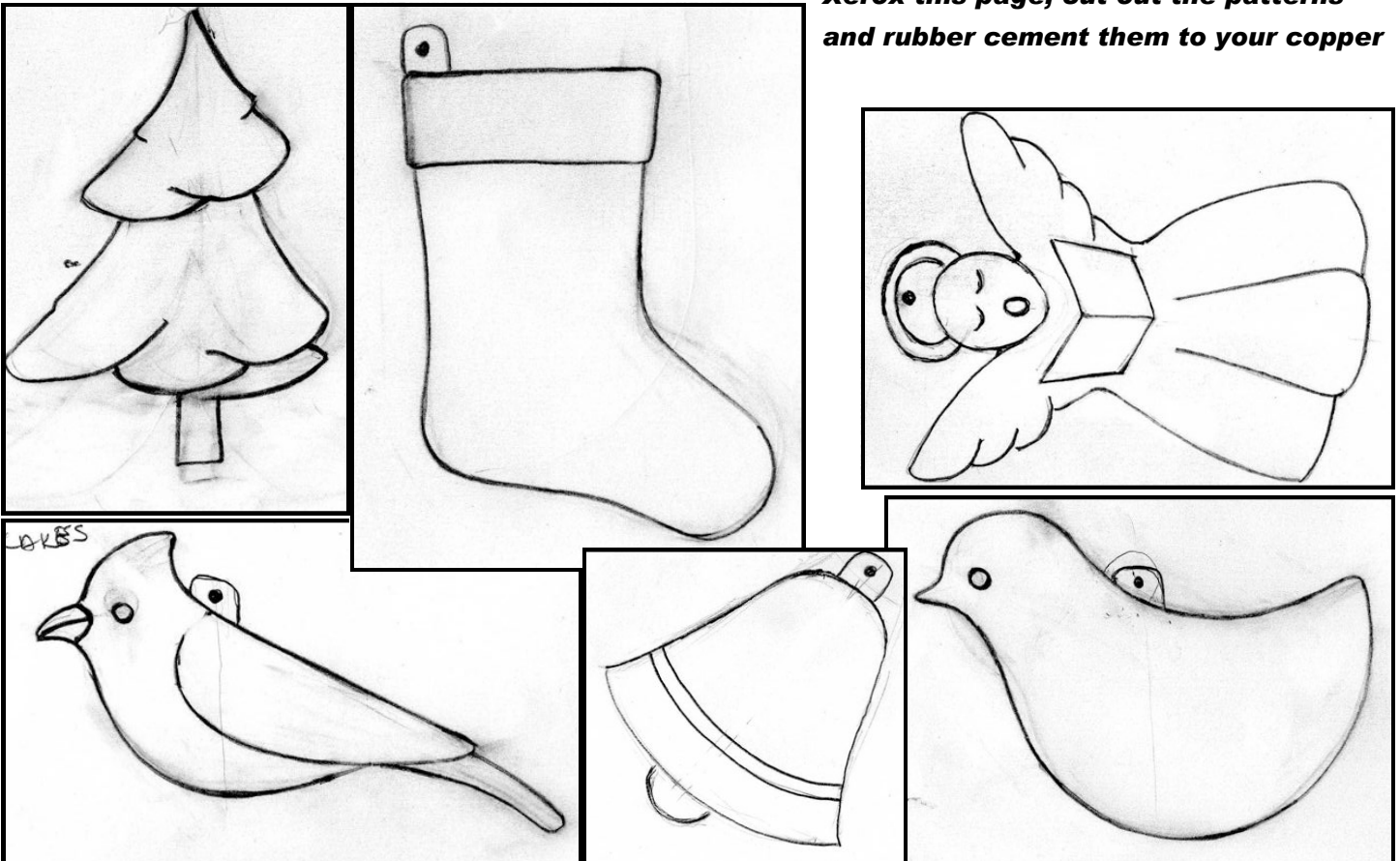
Tools: liner or straight blade screwdriver with corners rounded, light ball peen, rubber or newspaper pad and shears or old scissors. For aluminum foil you can use a ballpoint pen for a liner and rounded pencil end to push out.

Materials: I use 30 ga (.010) copper roofing sheet, if you don't have any copper available you can use extra heavy aluminum foil or hobby copper foil. Method : Rubber cement your pattern to the blank sheet set it on the pad and trace all the lines onto the sheet using a liner and a light hammer, you need only sufficient force to be able to see the line on the back of the sheet. Once all the lines have been set in the sheet, remove the pattern and remove any remaining rubber cement.

Next, turn the sheet over on the pad and working from the back push out the area between the lines using a small peen. Push out the areas you want to stick out the furthest first, then the next farthest, etc.

Now, turn the sheet over and working from the front retrace the outline to push the outside of the sheet down. Finally, cut out the ornament, finish the copper with a light wax or clear acrylic spray and hang it on the tree.

Xerox this page, cut out the patterns and rubber cement them to your copper



The Lone-(ly) Blacksmith Series

Tools, Tips and Ideas for the One-Man Shop

Tony Austin, Dragon Iron Forge

Tired of having your clamps fall off of diagonal set square stock and rounds?

Search through your scrap pile and make a couple of **clamp adapters**, the one below was made from a piece of 3/4"x1/8" flat bar 16" long and 2 pieces of 3/4"x3/4"x1/8" angle 1" long. It will hold 3/4" to 2" material.

The flat bar was bent around a 2" pipe, the angle pieces set on the corners of a piece of scrap 1 1/2" square tubing, clamped in the vise, squared with the flat bar and welded. Use whatever scrap material you have available that will fit the material you use most often. Make at least one pair so that you can use them to level a heavy bar on your bench.



Need A Matched Set?

Working on Cranbrook Ed (see pictures p. 10) I needed to make eight sets of ribs that would match for the left and right sides, the material was 1/2" square bar, ranging from 20" to 54" in length. To make them come out as close to the same as possible, I cut the lengths, checked them for true and tacked each pair together on the ends. I bent the sets using both a fly press and bending forks. When I cut them apart any discrepancies were trued over the anvil cold. I cut my work time in half and virtually eliminated my matching problems.

Grinders always cluttering up your bench?

The hanger shown on the right is 5" wide and 1" deep, it's easy to make and can be mounted anywhere. The hanger shown is made from a piece of 1/4" round bar approximately 16" long, it was made to hold a 4 1/2" grinder with a zip cut or grinding wheel attached.

First roll the ends for the screw-eyes. Next mark 3/4" below the eye, place in a vice with the eye down and make the first bend towards you. Then measure 1" below the first bend place in the vice with the eye pointing at you and bend up. Finally, mark the centre between the last two bends and bend the 'U' shape over your anvil horn cold. I put a small centre drop in mine by opening up my vice about 1 1/2

inches and hammering the drop in with a ball peen. For attachments such as a wire brush, measure the distance from the wire end to the grinder body, that will be the distance between the first and second bends, double that figure and add it to your length.



Blacksmith Group websites with free 'current' Newsletters: Balcones Forge www.balconesforge.org; Blacksmith Assoc. of Missouri www.bamsite.org; Blacksmiths Guild of the Potomac www.bgop.org; Central States Metal Artisans <http://gpba.abana-chapter.com/>; Florida Artist Blacksmith Assoc. www.blacksmithing.org; Kentucky Blacksmith's Assoc. <http://ky.abana-chapter.com/>; New Jersey Blacksmith Assoc. <http://njba.abana-chapter.com/>; Northeast Blacksmiths Assoc. www.northeastblacksmiths.org/; Old Dominion Blacksmith Assoc. www.odbsa.com; Southwest Artists-Blacksmiths Assoc. www.swaba-abana-chapter.org; Tidewater Blacksmith's Guild www.tidewaterblacksmith.com; Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Assoc. www.wraba.com; Vancouver Island Blacksmith's Assoc. www.viblacksmiths.com; Compiled by Bobby Floyd, Old Dominion Blacksmith Assoc.

KBA Members Gallery

Sandra and David Barrett - Fernie Forge - Fernie, BC



Knox United Church Centennial Balcony Railing - 38 " in length

Balcony Railing Knox United Church of Fernie

The polished bronze twisted bars with copper clips and rivets joining the double steel bows (with solid steel balls positioned beneath the bottom rail prevent flexing) were inspired by gates on the Royal Balmoral Estate in Scotland.

The Holy Trinity is represented by the stylized fleur de leis at the top of each drop forged cross. The crosses have been embellished by hand with 23 carat gold leaf to highlight the symbolic four corners of the world. A natural wax finish has been applied to the steel



Drop Forged Cross Detail

KBA Members Gallery

Patrick McIvor - Dancing Scot Forge - Castlegar, BC



**Taking Flight - 4'6" Wingspan
Peers Choice Calgary Stampede**



Spider - 23" Across - Inflated Plate



Bronze Mask - 24" High

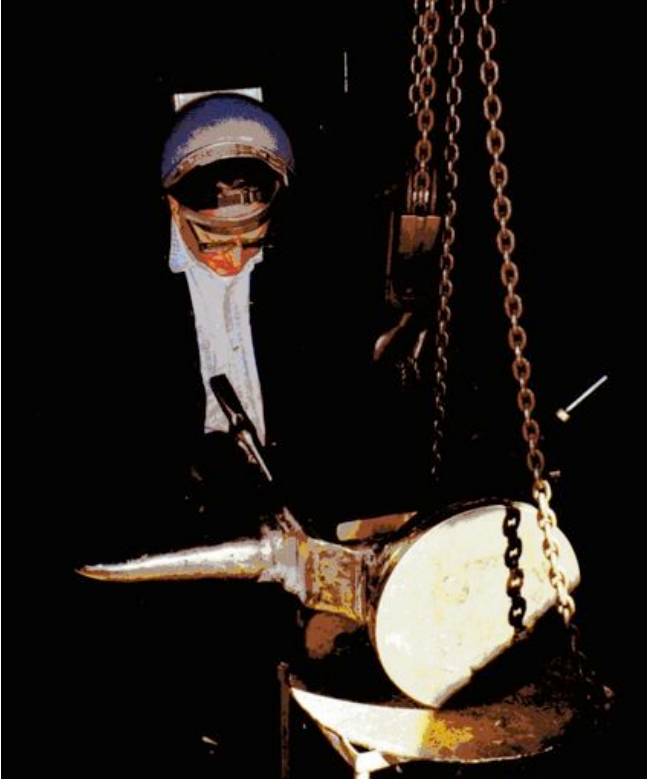


Dragon Boat - Steel & Copper

23"Lx11"Wx 22"H

KBA Members Gallery

Norm and Caroline Dolantz - Diamond D Forge, - Erickson, BC



**Norm Working
on a 350 lb
anvil**

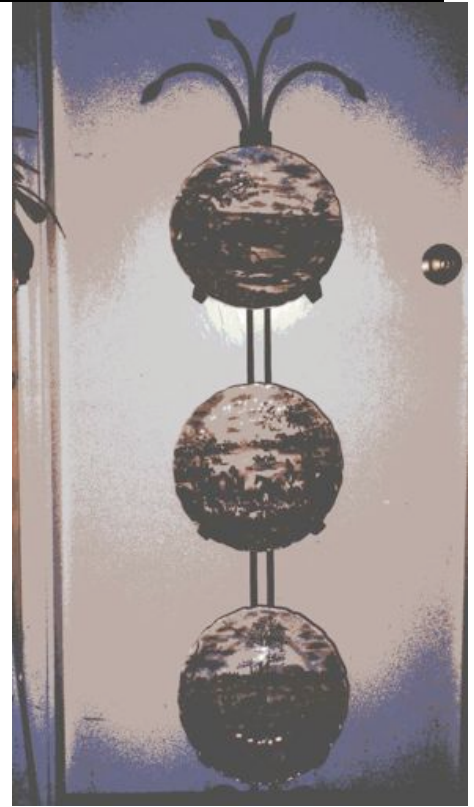


Plate Rack



Lizard



A Set of Copper Hurricane Candle Lamps

KBA Members Gallery

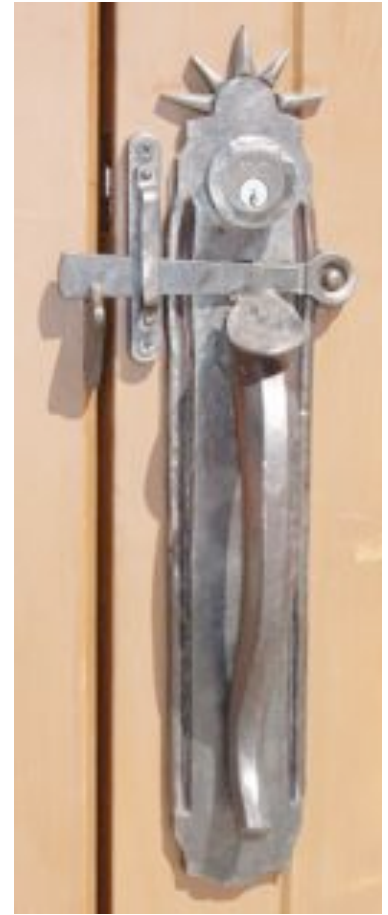
Ted Howell - Red Willow Forge - Summerland, BC



Fleur de Leis Hardware



Flowers and Vase



Star Hardware



Garden Gate Bolts and Hinge Barrels

Bolts - 40"x13/4" Barrels - 21/2"x9"

KBA Members Gallery

Twila and Tony Austin - Dragon Iron Forge - Kimberley, BC



Cranbrook Ed - 7'Lx3'Wx5'H 1200 lb

Frame - 1" hollow & 1/2 "sq bar Skin 14ga)

**1926 Escapee with one broken tusk, survived
in the wilds of the Kootenays for over a month**



Dragon Scale Dish - Mild Steel 8"Lx6"Wx1"H

**Maple Leaf Dishes - Mild Steel Repousse`
7"Lx6"Wx1"H**



Fall Hammer-in at Gunner Jorgensen's Win Valley Forge, Invermere, BC



Our Beaming Host



Dave Barrett Swaging



Dave West and Bert Leblanc



John Monteath forge welding



Ib Jenson and Wray Wright waiting a heat



The Cheerleaders - Denise, Twila, Carolyn and Marcel



The Firing Line

Newsletter of the Kootenay Blacksmiths' Association

ABANA 2010 Conference - Memphis, Tennessee, June 2-5, 2010

Registration is only \$199 for current ABANA members.

But this is valid only for registrations that get to the ABANA Central Office by NOON on December 30, 2009. After that the rates will be going up to \$235!

2010 Conference plus Regular membership (US, Mexico, Canada) 1 Year - \$249

2010 Conference plus Senior Membership (65+, US, Mexico, Canada,) 1 Year - \$244



You can register on-line at www.abana.org or by calling 703-680-1632.

CAMPING at the Agricenter Conference Site:

RV sites are available according to the Agricenter's regular policy; sites have water and 30A power hook-ups. Tent camping is available by special arrangement for the duration of the conference. (Campers must move out by noon June 6) Campers please note that no campfires or tent stakes are permitted. Max of 2 parties or 4 indi-

The 2010 ABANA Conference Demonstrators

Shelley Thomas - The Forge, Kew Bridge Steam Museum, Brentford (West London), England - Demo TBD; AMIT HAR-LEV and TSUR SADAN (of Israel) team forging demo; Joe Anderson (of NC) will do one demo on forged kitchen ware and 2 sessions on sculpture; Mark Aspery (of CA) will do tool-making demos; Gerald Boggs (of VA) will do a demonstration; subject Leaves; Dan Boone (of VA) will do 2 demo sessions on dragon's heads and his other products; Dan and Judy Boone along with Chris Holt and John Steel will do a round table talk and question session on how they market their wares; Phil Cox (of MO) will do a session "power hammers - getting the most out of them" including both mechanical and air hammers, he will also cover tips on checking used hammers and rebuilding them; Dan Nauman (of WI) will demonstrate repoussé ; Darryl Nelson (of WA) will do a demonstration forging of animal heads; Steve Parker (of IL) will demonstrate power hammer tools and forging; Tom Latane (of WI) will lead the "Meticulous Metalsmiths" forging a lock during the conference; Mark Aspery will run the "Green Coal" teaching station, with Darryl Nelson and Gerald Boggs.

Canlron VIII - Fergus, Ontario, July 28 - August 1, 2011

Web Site : <http://www.ontarioblacksmiths.ca/CANIRON> ; **Blog :** <http://caniron8.blogspot.com>



Kootenay Blacksmiths' Association Membership Application

Dues are \$25 per year: Please make check or money order payable to the KBA and mail Applications to:

KBA Membership, Marcel Leblanc, 155 Crerar St, Kimberley, BC, V1A 1J8

Name _____

New Member Renewal

Business Name _____

Are you an ABANA member

Mailing Address _____

Yes No

_____ Postal Code _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____ Email _____