

FORGE

Dedicated to the revival of the King of Crafts

Vancouver Island Blacksmith Association

www.viblacksmiths.com



2016 marks an new year, and that brings a new year of fairs needing new fresh blacksmithed art to be created for the fairs. If you have any great ideas that you would like to share send them on in. A new year also requires that you don't buy that gym membership that you are not going to use anyway, just forward to the blacksmiths instead. You can do your hot yoga at the forge.

If you Don't pay you Don't get to play.



Current Events:

Monthly meeting Sunday,
February 28, 2016 @ 11:00 AM

2016 Executive

President: Neil

Gustafson

VP: John Archer

Secretary: Charlie Low

Treasurer: Norm Norby

Editor: Brody Smith

Publishing Info: "Forge" is published monthly by and for members of the Vancouver Island Blacksmith Assoc. General Correspondence for VIBA: 1040 Marwood Ave, Victoria, BC, V9C3C4 (or directly to appropriate executive member). Permission granted for reproduction of any part of "Forge" provided credit is given to the original source, and the item is not marked 'copyright' or specifically stated to be for the sole purpose of "Forge". Unless otherwise stated, the editors are the authors of all material. Disclaimer Notice: "forge" makes every effort to ensure accuracy of the information contained therein, but the executive officers & general membership of the Vancouver Island Blacksmith Association including the editors, specifically disclaim any responsibility or liability for damages or injuries as a result of any construction design, use, or application of information contained in this newsletter. The use of any information is solely at the user's own risk.

Have something you would like added to the newsletter Email it. Arcingbrody@gmail.com



Secretary's Report By: Charlie Low

Show and Tell:

Neil brought in a picture of a couple of pine cones- it was only when you read the text that you found out the scales were former shovels, which put a whole different scale on them. As well, he brought a set of instructions for a power hammer.

Charlie L brought in a rather unfinished set of coat hooks. There were 2 plesiosaurs, only slightly in need of tweaking, and a bit of scrap that had intended to be an octopus. Unfortunately the choice of steel was poor- it was a hard stainless, former outboard motor driveshaft, and after welding it back together twice, the third time it broke, it was declared scrap, but was included to show the intent of the set. Mika brought in a hatchet, made of mild steel with a high carbon steel edge forge welded in, with an oak handle, and a forge rake with a rubic's handle.

Dan brought in a nail, S hook and spoons made for a kids demo. He was asking for suggestions as to what else would be interesting/useful/fun/quick. Aaron brought in tongs for flat stock, and holders for a toilet roll and paper towel roll.

New Members: Brad Dorn and Luke, Kevin Abbott and Terry Wiltshire.
New Business: Coal. We are going to need some in the near future. Quinsam Mine, our usual source has closed, but they may still be selling stockpiled coal for the next year or so.

Brian Colban knows of a pile of coal in Cloverdale that may be available. Roberts Bank may be a source. We have obtained coal from them before, finely divided, very high quality metalurgical coal. I think Teck mines may be the people to contact about it, but am not sure. Cominco and Fording were both mentioned in the discussion. Dan might be the person to sort this out, as he volunteered during the AGM to be our Lower Mainland Communications Officer.

Old business: Poppies: The pattern is available on the internet, or from John Archer. If we make them, John will coordinate and see that they get shipped.

Newsletter: Brody will take over from Charlie D. He can manage a full-scale newsletter quarterly, with minor updates on a more or less monthly basis.

Neil suggested getting Doug Roberts name on the plaque. Raynier has looked after that in the past.

Caniron: There is no hard news available, but next time it should be in the west. There was a suggestion to contact Gerard Laverty at Quantlan college farrier school and see if any interest could be generated.

Website: The caniron website is currently in Quebec, and they would like to pass it on. There was some consensus that there should be a permanent site, with a professional person keeping it current, even if it cost money.

New Business: Brenden suggested that it might be about time that the first aid kit was cleaned out and re-stocked.

Brody can order belts for the sander.

Individually, they tend to run about \$17.00 each, but by the box, between \$7.00 and \$10.00, so we should think about doing some bulk ordering. Ben mentioned that Canadian Knifemakers can supply them, with fairly minimal shipping costs.

Next production day: We did not discuss exactly when such a thing could happen, though it is likely coming up fast. Brody offered to put together a list of things that sell and are wanted for the fairs.

Meetings: The spring NWBA meeting will be in Longview WA May 6 to 8, and the ABANA meeting will be in Salt Lake City Jul 13 to 16. One can buy tickets for their iron in the hat draw. Prizes are an in-line treadle hammer, a tool box with tools, and a 100 lb anvil.

Interesting website: On instagram, cloverdale forge guy is making 366 different hooks, one each day.

Then we closed the regular meeting and opened the AGM.

Financial: We are nicely solvent.

Speaking of which, annual dues are due- \$50.00 each.

Election of officials: Neil continues as president, John as Vice president, and Norm as treasurer, while Charlie L comes back as secretary. Brody, as mentioned above, will look after the newsletter, and Dan will be in charge of lower mainland communications, and scrounging up a source of coal.

Neil mentioned that Jake James will be doing a demo in the spring, to practice for his appearances at ABANA and Australia- we get to be the practice audience.

Fair coordinators: most of us will continue, but John won't be able to look after Coombs, as he will be gadding about the continent, so we need someone to attend to it for him.

And with that we adjourned.

Now the question is what to make on production day? Here a just a small example from a larger list from Florida Artist Blacksmith Association. Check them out.

<http://blacksmithing.org/resources/howto/>

Animal head

Anvil Minature

Apple forging

Axe head

Ballerina

Bamboo forging

Bells

Bookends

Boot scrapper Railroad Spike

Bottle Opener

Candle Holder

Captive heart puzzle

Chain mail

Chandelier

Cheesecutter

Chili Pepper

Cork screw

Cross Railroad Spike

Dinner Bells

Door Knocker

Fire striker

Fireplace poker & rake

Flag holder

Forge a tree

Fork

Hanger

Hinge

Hoof pick

Ladle

Leaf

Nails

Pinecone

Raptor

Roses

Shamrock

Shovel

Swans

Trivet

Turtle

Valentine in black iron

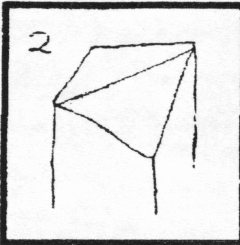
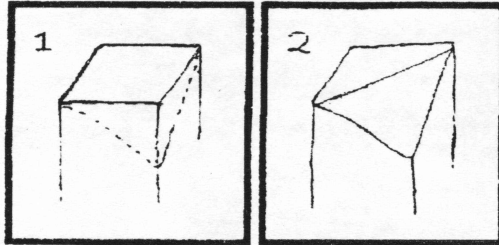
Watering can

Wizard's head

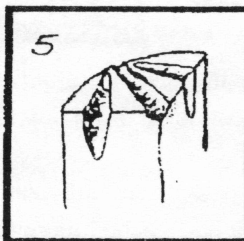
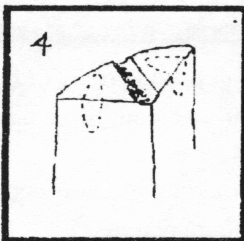
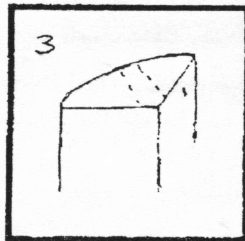
Xylophone

Frog on End of 1" Square Bar

by Bill Clemens
Reprinted from the newsletter of the
Northeast Blacksmiths Association

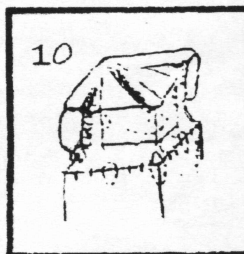
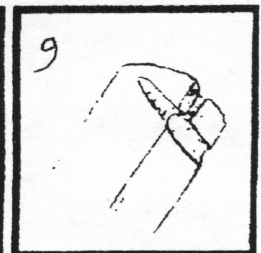
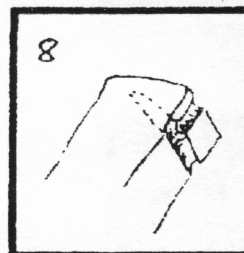
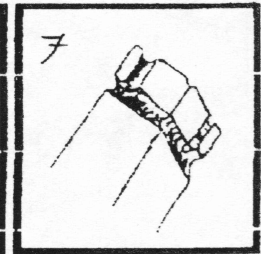
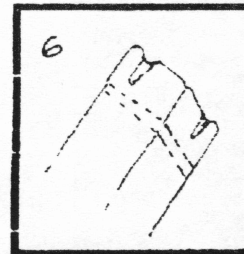


Heat #1 (in vise): Heat the end of a 1" square bar and place securely in vise. (1→2) Form the tail of the frog by hammering the rear corner of the bar down approximately 3/4 of an inch. (3→4) Next form a crease on the top of the head to define and separate the eyes using a round bar.



(4→5) Use the small end of the tear drop fuller held a 45 degrees to the top edge of the bar approx. 1/4" from the outside corner to separate the leg from the head, angling and rocking back towards the tail. Turn the small end down and deepen the separation of the front of the leg. Repeat on the other side of the head.

Heat #2 (on anvil): (6→7) With the bar held flat on the anvil, use the small end of the teardrop at 45 degrees on each corner rocking the tool upward and working across the bar to separate the head and leg from the feet. Complete the vertical separation of the head and leg down to this line. Repeat on the other side. (8→9) Now turn bar so tail is facing up. With the small end of the tear drop at 45 degrees on the corner and pointing towards the tail, complete the separation of the leg from the foot, rocking the fuller up working towards the tail in back. Repeat on other side.

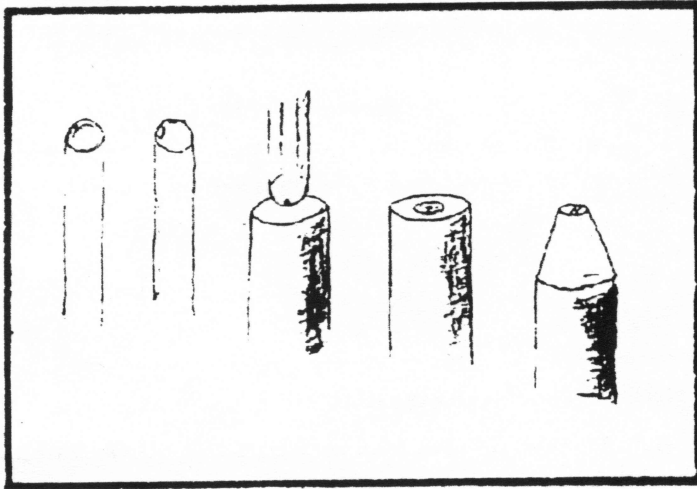


Heat #3 (in vise): (10→11) Hold eye tool on vertical edge of head just below top. Reseat tool after each blow to prevent double striking. Rock tool side to side to insure entire eye is formed. Repeat on other side of head. Use small end of teardrop to separate feet under chin and again on the center of each side to separate front and back foot. Use toe tool (or dull chisel) to form toes on each foot. Add mouth using small chisel and nostrils using center punch (11) Cut the frog off the end of the bar with a chop saw or a hack saw if you feel energetic!

Tools for Making Frogs

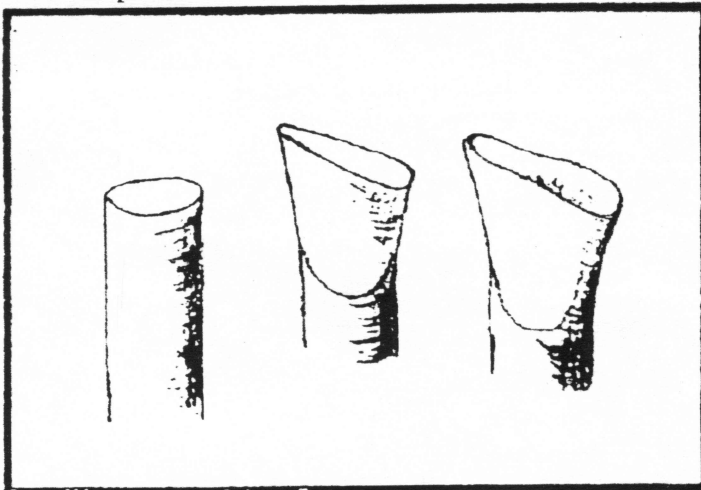
by Bill Clemens
Reprinted from the newsletter of the
Northeast Blacksmiths Association

Eye Tool



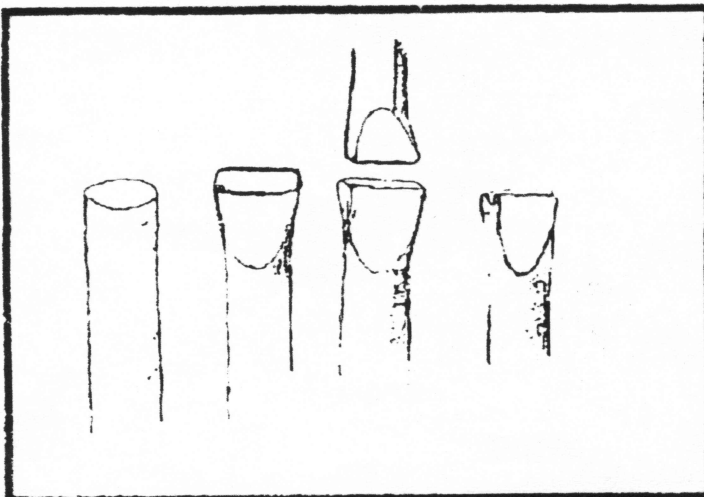
Forge/grind a round end on a piece of tool steel (I used a piece of 3/16" star drill). Add the pupil using a center punch. The end of this tool is what the finished eye will look like. Use this tool to punch the end of a 9 to 10 inch piece of 5/8" 5160 spring steel. Rotate the tool between blows to compensate for any irregularities in the tool and form a perfectly round eye. Finish the tool by carefully grinding the edge of the eye impression

Teardrop fuller



Forge the end of a 9 to 10 inch piece of 5/8" round 5160 spring steel into a teardrop shape. The smaller end will tend to extend down further while forging. Don't correct this. This will allow the smaller end of the completed tool to contact the work first and make fullering easier. Allow to air cool and finish by rounding with a grinder/sander.

Toe tool



I used a chisel to separate the toes on the first frogs I made, but this left the toes with sharp edges. First flatten the end of a 9 to 10 inch piece of 1/2" round 5160 spring steel to an oval shape approximately 1/4" across. Then divide the end with a small blunt rounded chisel approximately 1/8" thick. The shape of this chisel will be the shape of the toes. Finish by rounding the outer edges of the tool with a grinder/belt sander.

**Vancouver Island Blacksmith
Association Membership Application**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov/State: _____

Post/Zip Code: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Regular Membership.....\$50/year

Members are required to sign a liability
waiver. Make cheques and money orders
payable to:

Vancouver Island Blacksmith Assoc.
1040 Marwood Avenue
Victoria, BC, Canada.

**Artist Blacksmith Assoc. of North
America Membership Application**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov/State: _____

Post/Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Youth 18 and under..... \$20/year

Full Time Student.....\$45/year

Regular Membership.....\$55/year

Senior Citizen (Age 65+) ...\$50/year

Overseas Surface Mail\$60/year

Overseas Air Mail\$80/year

Contributory Membership....\$150/year

Educational Institution membership
\$250/year

Credit Card Payment.

Card No. _____

Visa Mastercard

Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

ABANA Central Office
259 Muddy Fork Road
Jonesborough, TN 37659

Phone: (423) 913-1022

Fax: (423) 913-1023

Email: centraloffice@abana.org



Have you seen something
that you want to share or
have something you would
like to write. We are
always accepting
freelancers send in
photos, upcoming events
shoot me an Email:
Arcingbrody@gmail.com