



FORGE

Dedicated to the revival of the "King of Crafts"

Vancouver Island Blacksmiths

www.vibblacksmiths.com



Production Day April 29th By Don Startin

Official start time 9:30, but come earlier and get busy if you have a key. Lunch will be served on the house, but donations always welcome! Don Moloney hopes to supply free beer, but the bar will be open on a pay-as-you-drink basis. If you haven't received a phone call from me about production day it means you weren't on my list. Please phone me to make arrangements to be slotted in, and/or get a line on what to make. If you can't make it on the day be sure to make some things in your home forge. If you can get them to us before production day you can win a prize at the pre-made items contest. Just leave them in the office CLEARLY MARKED. At present we have two slots unfilled, and they should fill up. It would be much appreciated if you would bring your own mobile equipment and set up shop on the grass. This year the power hammer is fully operational.
Pricing: Remember, you set the price on what you make. Don, Neil and ken

COMING EVENTS

- April 29 2007– VIBA Meeting and Production Day
- May 4, 5, 6, 2007– NWBA Spring conference in Enumclaw Wa.
- June 29-July 2 2007 — CanIRON VI

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will always advise if you are stuck on what to charge.
Labeling: Esoteric items should be labeled so that rookie smiths on the sales table at fairs will know what they are.
Loose ends: If I've missed something important, or you have questions contact Don at 477-5507 or cridstar@islandnet.com
Pre-made Items: Please try and bring something with you for the contest. One year the pre-made items grossed

2007 - Executive

President: Charlie Dowdeswell
478 2460

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Secretary: Clint Montgomery 360-6910

Treasurer: Raynier Pipke 743-9945

Librarian: Skip Kennedy 478-8172

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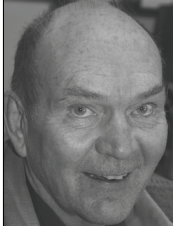
Submissions & Contributions

Submissions to "Forge" can be made at any monthly meeting or by snail mail to:

VIBA - The Editor
1040 Marwood Avenue
Victoria, BC Canada
V9C 3C4
OR
Email: dgillett@shaw.ca

President's Report

By: Charlie Dowdeswell



With recognition of all members past and present, a very big thank you as VIBA celebrates its **20th anniversary year**.

After an "oops" last month, both the March and the April report will be combined.

Another month is flying by but, if the axiom is true, we don't need to ask the question because we know we must be having fun. Lots of projects are on the horizon which will help to keep us all busy (happy) until well into the fall. The *Flying' Forge* is in for another serious workout.

With several years of dedication under his belt, Don Startin will be once more looking after the Production Day activities which will be held after the meeting on Sunday the 29th of April this year. Don would be very appreciative of some help with the organization and administration of the event with a view to that person taking over, or sharing, the responsibilities for next year. Anyone who is interested please get in touch with Don for details. Some of us have been discussing the possibility of more than one production day as we always seem to run low on quality Rodeo/Fair items. After the February meeting, we sorted the remaining sale items from previous years and it appears it that ideas regarding some refurbishing, some price reviewing and some tossing, seem to be in order for an 'after meeting' activity on the 25th.

For those who may not be able to attend on April 29, we welcome the items you may have produced at home. There is a list of items required to help in this endeavor.

It is very encouraging to see the volunteer response for Rodeo/Fair activity sheets that were passed around at the February meeting. Thank you. For those who had to check for prior engagements and family activities first, the volunteer sign up sheets for each demo are attached to the door of the shop. I know it is

sometimes difficult to sign up for dates far into the future, but it does make it much easier for the person(s) coordinating and the other volunteers if they have an idea of their numbers and of the times available. I'm looking forward to sharing as many of these demonstration days as I can manage because they're always so much fun.

The details are being managed and the structure for CanIRON VI is being hammered out by a core group of volunteers and, with the tremendous effort being put into this endeavor, a very successful event seems to be forming. The meetings that were taking place every second week are now being held every week as, like anything else of this magnitude, it seems that for every problem solved two more concerns pop up. I take my hat off to all of those volunteer members who are putting so much effort into making CanIRON VI the best ever.

I'm sure Galen would also be happy to hear from members who come forward to help with all of CanIRON VI's associated tasks as well. CanIRON VI, of course, is certainly the largest activity we have ever taken on and, for the privilege of presenting this international spectacular [which is less than three months away], there are many, many chores that need that need to be dealt with. The more volunteers that come forward early, of course, help us to get as much groundwork as possible completed in good time. This also means that important activities are not left to the last minute when it becomes difficult to address each item completely and satisfactorily without the hurry up and run around the maze syndrome. It's more fun too, when one is not frazzled.

The Certificate of Appreciation we received from the Metchosin Farmers Institute recognizing our service and support is certainly received with pleasant approval. It's always nice to know the positive affect we have on the community.

Well, that's about it until the meeting, see everyone on, or before, April 29th.

Happy 20th Anniversary VIBA and a successful CanIRON VI - YES!

Charlie

Secretary's Report

By: Charlie Dowdeswell

The meeting was called to order by President Charlie Dowdeswell at 11:07 a.m.

Show and Tell

1. Skip brought in a puzzle he discovered. [No one seemed to be able to solve it but if we can figure it out, we will probably add the puzzle to our collection of steel puzzles used at our demos.]
2. Charlie L brought in several knives.
3. Chad also brought a knife he had made.
4. Willie brought in a large draw knife.

Old Business

The minutes were adopted by Raynier and seconded by Don S. as presented in the Forge. There is no business arising.

New Business

1. Bobby Floyd, president of Old Dominion Blacksmiths Association sent their URL: odbsa.com.
2. The West Shore Art Council is having their "Spring for the Arts" show at Olympic View on April 26-27 and anyone interested in displaying iron work with a 'flower' theme, please contact Neil or the Council.
3. It was passed unanimously that we donate the wonderful little red welder buried deep in the depths, along with our regards, to Keith.
4. Don Startin led a presentation regarding production day to ensure 'all' would be ready for the event. Ray will once more be in charge of the barbecue, Charlie L. will ensure that the inside set up, the coffee, the grinder wheels and the drill bits are all ready and rarin' to go. Neil will make sure the flyin' forge is ready. Chad will organize prize procurement for judging various categories for the made at home items donated.

Treasurer's Report.

Raynier reports all is well!

CanIRON VI Committee Report

Neil brought us up to date on CanIRON VI preparation progress.

Follow-up discussion with much food for thought:

1. The outside magazine advertising cannot include registration forms but the Forge will have the registration forms for CanIRON VI included with the advertising.
2. Jake mentioned that the 'gate' blacksmithing classes will be held off until a later date. Please contact Jake for more information or if you're interested in these classes and helping to build a major item for the CanIRON VI auction. 250 642-6984 or jake@jakejames.ca
3. Items for 'iron in the toque' are needed and will be gratefully accepted by Jake, so go wild.
4. Lee Valley has offered to supply the CanIRON VI canvas goodie bags.
5. Jake will make some good tongs which will be available for use during CanIRON VI and later put up for sale at the CanIRON VI auction.
6. Neil circulated prototypes for the hatpin that seem to meet the approval of the group.
7. There was a presentation with regards to using the Legion Hall and some discussion vis-à-vis the CanIRON VI banquet site and what would work best. Unresolved
8. There's some discussion as regards the CanIRON VI

caps and the CanIRON VI T-shirts. A separate questionnaire was circulated with reference to logos and to T-shirt colours.

After some more general discussion, Raynier moved to adjourn the meeting and Ray seconded the motion - passed.

Production Day (continued from pg 1)

more than the stuff we made on the day! New members should not be bashful about attending. There are sure to be some empty spaces. Production day will give you an opportunity to work with a more experienced smith and increase your ability.

Last word: Quality rather than quantity is the order of the day.

Forge#1 Charlie, Steve, oyster shuckers and back scratchers

Forge #2 Don M and partner, camp triangles

Forge#3 Chad, Jacob, fireplace pokers and gate latches

Forge #4 Bruce, TBA Gate latches

Flying forge

Anvil #1 Jim, Steve, small key ring holders

Anvil #2 Raynier, pop can holders

Anvil #3 Dennis, screw-in hooks

Anvil # 4 TBA

Anvil # 5 Norm, Neil re-polish rusty stock

Bringing own forges

Willi- candle holder from pipe

Chuck- 2 RH, 5 LH steak flippers

Ian- wiener forks

Admin Jobs:

Bar-b-Que- Ray

Order steel on request- Don

Stats- J.P. and Joe

Coffee- Charlie

Beer, pop- Ray

Interior finishing area- Willi

Grinder wheel- Charlie

Charge battery on flying forge- Neil

Bring prizes for pre-made contest- Chad

Adventures with Planer Blades



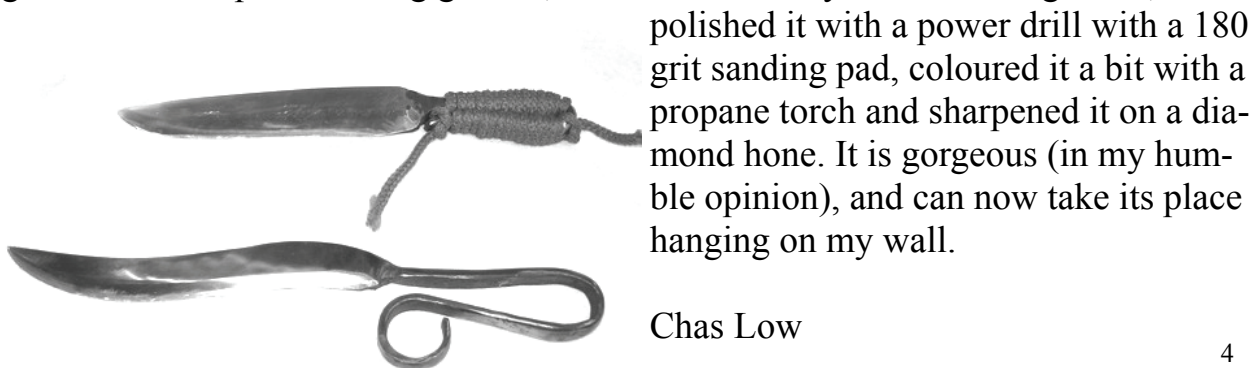
By Charlie Low

We have a bunch of planer blades in the shop. It occurred to me that something that hard should make spectacular knives. Derek was trying to make some, so I can't take credit for originating a very original idea. He was having problems- his blades broke under fairly minor stress. They also burned up quite regularly, which should have been a warning to me. Anyway, I decided to have a go. I took a short length, about 4 inches long, and set about forging it into a blade. At the time, I had a sprained shoulder, so I worked primarily on the power hammer, and found that if the metal was hot enough to move easily, it cracked and crumbled. I spent considerable time grinding cracks out of the rough bar, but eventually got it mostly crack free and formed it into a knife, with the handle curved under and curled into a ring for the fore-finger.

I thought it would look good with a jade insert in the opening of the handle. In the course of trying to install a piece of jade, I burned the handle in half, so now I have a knife with a very short, narrow handle, padded out with some macramé cord, and a rather small gouge. I am not a quitter, so I tried again, running into the same problems. This time, at the rough bar stage, I had a crack right across the middle which did not seem to want to be ground out. I put the bar in a vise and tapped it, and snapped it in half. A little further work and I had 2 perfectly good chisels, which can be used to cut hot steel, though I am planning to do wood work with them.



I am frequently unreasonably stubborn, so I tried again, paying very close attention to not getting the steel any more than orange hot. The knife turned out just about the way I had planned, and I did not try to get fancy with the jade this time. I ground it to shape on the big grinder, smoothed it on my home bench grinder, and



polished it with a power drill with a 180 grit sanding pad, coloured it a bit with a propane torch and sharpened it on a diamond hone. It is gorgeous (in my humble opinion), and can now take its place hanging on my wall.

Chas Low

Show and Tell

Photos by D Gillett



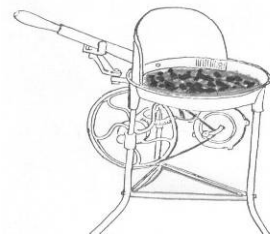
Cable knife by Chad



Draw Knife from a
VW axel by Willi



Puzzle brought by
Skip



Volunteer Job List & Time Line for CanIRON VI 2007				
Thursday 28 th	Friday 29 th	Saturday 30 th	Sunday July 1 st	Monday 2 nd
Registration Desk				
Thursday 4PM	Friday 9AM to 5PM	Saturday 9AM to 4PM	Sunday 9AM to 4PM	
4 people	6 people in AM	2 people	1 person	
<i>Liane Gustafson</i>	<i>Liane Gustafson</i>	<i>Liane Gustafson</i>		
	<i>Dave Byron all day</i>			
Gallery & Auction Desk				
Thursday PM	Friday 8AM to 5PM	Saturday 9AM to 4PM	Sunday 9AM to 4PM	
2 people	2 people	2 people	2 people	
		<i>Ian Crawford & his partner Judy 8 hrs.</i>		
Souvenir Table				
Thursday 4PM	Friday 8AM to 12PM	Transfer job to front desk		
1 person	1 person			
Iron In the Toque Sales				
	4 people	4 people	4 people	
	Anthony Cateaux			
Gate Keepers 2 gates				
	Friday 8AM to 5PM	Saturday 8AM to 5PM	Sunday 8AM to 5PM	
Morning	2 people	2 people	2 people	
Afternoon				
Camping, Parking, Tailgate Sales Directors				
Thursday all day	Friday 8AM to 12PM	When needed	When needed	
<i>Ken Butler</i>	<i>Ken Butler</i>	<i>Ken Butler</i>	<i>Ken Butler</i>	
<i>Clint Montgomery</i>	<i>Clint Montgomery</i>	<i>Clint Montgomery</i>	<i>Clint Montgomery</i>	
Grounds pick up and check toilets				
	AM & PM	AM & PM	AM & PM	
	2 people	2 people	2 people	
	<i>Benoit Laurent</i>	<i>Benoit Laurent</i>	<i>Benoit Laurent</i>	
Airport Shuttle and Hotel Shuttle for demonstrators only				
1 driver with van when needed.				

Demo Assistants (Forge Attendants)				
Thursday	10AM to 12 PM	9AM to 12PM	9AM to 12PM	Monday in AM
	2 people	4 people	4 people	2 people
	<i>Benoit Laurent</i>		<i>Benoit Laurent</i>	
	1PM to 5PM	1PM to 5PM	1PM to 5PM	
	4 people	4 people	4 people	
		<i>Benoit Laurent</i>		
Gophers & Fixers				
<i>Willy Tobler</i>	<i>Willy Tobler</i>	<i>Willy Tobler</i>	<i>Willy Tobler</i>	<i>Willy Tobler</i>
Teaching Station				
	On going	When needed		
	<i>Skip Kennedy</i>	<i>Skip Kennedy</i>	<i>Skip Kennedy</i>	
	<i>Don Startin</i>	<i>Don Startin</i>	<i>Don Startin</i>	
Notice Board Keeper				
Wade Wade	Whenever needed.			
Forging Competition Coordinator				
	After lunch and supper	After lunch and supper	After lunch	
Banquet Coordinator & MC				
		Saturday 7:30		
Auction Coordinator & Spotters				
			Sunday 4:45 PM	
			10 people	
Set Up and Tear Down				
Monday to Thur.	<i>Neil Gustafson</i>			Mon to Wed.
Lots of help needed	<i>Benoit Laurent</i>			

Galen has created this job list outlining the jobs that will need to be done. Only a few slots have names attached to them! Please call or e-mail Galen at woodhill@rkc.ca or phone 382-4667 and let him know where to put your name down

CanIRON VI Registration 2007

Registration can be done on-line, faxed or mailed. The deadline for mailing your registration will be June 10 so that there will be time for the mail to process and for it to be received. On line and faxed registration closes June 22. We will be accepting registration on site, at Luxton Fairgrounds, on Friday, June 29, at 9:30 a.m. The registration form shows the registration options available and their costs. The advance registration fee of \$295 applies until April 30, 2007; after this date the registration fee is \$345. We can accept Visa, Mastercard, cheque, money order or bank draft. Please note that these will be in Canadian funds so if you are having a money order or bank draft made up, have it converted to Canadian dollars and made payable to Vancouver Island Blacksmith's Association.

To mail your registration:

**CanIron VI Registration
1435 Courtland Avenue
Victoria, B.C. V9E 2C5
Canada**

To fax your registration:

250-385-8220

(please note this is a one person office, your information will be received by the registrar only).

On line registration and Gallery entry:

see "CanIRON & SPOUSAL Registration and GALLERY ENTRY Forms" on the website.

Meal packages are available and include Friday night supper, Saturday breakfast, lunch and supper, Sunday breakfast and lunch, and Monday breakfast. The Sunday night banquet is included in your registration fee. Camping will be available on site Friday, June 29 to Monday, July 2. Units must be self contained. There are no electrical hook-ups, no sani-station and no fires due to fire season. **Refund policy:** requests for refunds will be honoured if received in writing by close of pre-conference registration of June 22, 2007. Refunds will be issued after the conference and will be subject to a \$50 processing fee. No refunds will be issued at the conference.

Notes for Attendees: Demonstrations and teaching sessions involve hot iron, open fires and other physical hazards. Every effort will be made by the conference organizers to ensure safety precautions are observed throughout the site, but there may still be some risk for observers. Safety regulations that apply to attendance at this conference will be included in the registration package. All conference attendees will be expected to abide by these regulations and will be asked to sign a waiver form to absolve the conference organizers of responsibility for injury or damage while on the conference site.

ALL ATTENDEES MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH EAR AND EYE PROTECTION WHILE ATTENDING DEMONSTRATIONS AND TEACHING SEMINARS.

CanIRON SPOUSAL Registration Form

Name: _____
 Nickname (optional for badge): _____
 Affiliations or Organizations: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____
 State/Province: _____
 Country: _____
 Postal Code: _____
 Phone (& area code): _____
 Email Address: _____

Special needs during meeting attendance:

(please specify here if you have any special requirements such as wheelchair access or other)

Program Registration Dates and Prices (\$Canadian)

Friday June 29	Cost:	Will attend:
<i>Felting</i> 1:30 - 3:30	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Glass Bead Making</i> 9:00 - 12:00	\$125.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Lavender Wreath</i> 1:30 - 4:30	\$75.00**	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saturday June 30		
<i>Felting</i> 9:00 - 11:00	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Glass Bead Making</i> 9:00 - 12:00	\$125.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Exotic Herbs & Edible Flowers</i> 9:00 - 11:30	\$50.00**	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Paper Making</i> 9:00 - 11:30 and 1:30 - 5	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Victorian Ribbon Broach</i> 9:00 - 11:30	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Beaded Edged Soft Leather Pouch</i> 1:30 - 5:30	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sunday July 1		
<i>Reed Baskets</i> 9:00 - 11:00 and 1:30 - 5	\$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Easy Homemade Cosmetics</i> 9:00 - 11:30	\$75.00**	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Glass Bead Making</i> 9:00 - 12:00	\$125.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Paper Making</i> 9:00 - 11:30 and 1:30 - 5	\$140.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Metis Floral Beadwork</i> 1:30 - 5:00	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monday July 2		
<i>Lavender, Lavender, Lavender</i> 9:00 - 11:30	\$50.00**	<input type="checkbox"/>
All 4 classes by Lynda Dowling - special price	\$200.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Classes subject to cancellation if minimum numbers are not met. Fees will not be processed until minimum signup for class is achieved.

Total Fees payable to Vancouver Island Blacksmith's Association \$

Payment Options: Visa Mastercard Cheque Money Order Bank Draft

Card number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Card Identification Number: _____ *(found on signature side of card)*

Cardholder (print): _____

Cardholder Signature: _____

Note: if paying by cheque, money order or bank draft, please remember to enclose the cheque!
 mail to: **Vancouver Island Blacksmith's Association**
 c/o 1435 Courtland Ave.
 Victoria, B.C. V9C 2E5
 Canada

CanIRON VI Registration

Name:
 Nickname (optional for badge):
 Affiliations or Organizations:
 Street address:
 City:
 State/Province:
 Country:
 Postal Code:
 Phone (& area code):
 Email address:
 Number of accompanying family members:

Special Needs during meeting attendance: *(please specify here if you have any special requirements such as wheelchair access or other)*

Camping Details: Type of camping unit and total length

Conference Payment Options and Fees in Canadian dollars. Note: Family means spouse and each child up to age 17yrs

	On or before April 30 2007	After April 30 2007	X	# people	= Total \$ Canadian
Fees:	295.00	345.00		_____	_____
Per family member	30.00	35.00		_____	_____
Meal package per person	110.00	110.00		_____	_____
Camping per night	10.00/night	10.00/night		_____ nights	_____
Spousal Registration Total (from opposite side of page)					_____
Total Fees	<i>payable to Vancouver Island Blacksmiths Assoc</i>				_____

Payment Options: VISA, Mastercard, Cheque, Money Order, Bank Draft

Card number:
 Exp Date:
 Card Id Number:
 Cardholder name: