



FORGE

Dedicated to the revival of the "King of Crafts"

Vancouver Island Blacksmiths

www.viliblacksmiths.com



COMING EVENTS

May 27 2007—VIBA Meeting

June 29-July 2 2007 — CanIRON

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Venus at the forge of Vulcan

Vulcan, in Roman mythology, is the son of Jupiter and Juno, and husband of Maia and Venus. He was god of fire and volcanoes, and the manufacturer of art, arms, iron, and armor for gods and heroes. He is also called Mulciber ("softener") in Roman mythology and Sethlans in Etruscan mythology. His smithy was believed to be situated underneath Mount Etna in Sicily. At the Vulcanalia festival, which was held on August 23, fish and small animals were thrown into a fire. Vulcan's shrine in the Forum Romanum, called the Volcanal, appears to have played an important role in the civic rituals of the archaic Roman Kingdom. A statue of Vulcan located in Birmingham, Alabama is the largest cast iron statue in the world.

2007 - Executive

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478 2460

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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, V9C 3C4. (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 use 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.

Submissions & Contributions

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

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President's Report

By: Charlie Dowdeswell



With recognition of all members past, present, and future: a very big thank you as

VIBA successfully celebrates its 20th anniversary year

By all indications, our 20th anniversary year is also going to be one of our banner years. Very exciting times! The momentum is certainly picking up, and with 'the forge' and the 'flyin' forge' at the ready for our fair/rodeo visitations and demonstrations, along with the CanIRON VI preparations [seemingly at the stage where we solve one problem and two more appear], many of us are being kept fully engaged.

Production day was a great success with at least three extra portable forges being brought in, and along with the forges in the shop, all were all busy. Chad doled out the prizes for various and sundry categories while Ray made sure that the grill and condiment table, and all in attendance, were full. Thank you to all who attended for making this a very successful day.

As I had a long standing commitment, I was unable to attend the North West Blacksmiths Association Spring conference this past weekend but I'm looking

forward to hearing reports from the several V.I.B.A. members who were across the pond visiting our friends in Washington State. I'm sure everyone had a great time.

We have been graciously loaned the Mastermyr Collection that will be on display at CanIRON VI.

This, as you may remember, is the reproduction display of some ancient 'metal tools' that were unearthed in Scandinavia. I look forward to seeing 'how it was done' in ancient times.

Presenting us with a bit of a reality check, at our last meeting, Benoit presented a partial list of common sense shop and safety 'to do' type rules that we can tend to let slide over time. These are the things that all of us have, at some time or another, said, "I won't bother putting on/doing [whatever it is] just this once. Unfortunately, just this once, as we all know, can be just that, once, or even last. This is a good topic for next meeting that could be reflected on before hand and then developed into a short list to be placed on the wall of the shop as a gentle reminder for each and every one of us.

On another note, it is very refreshing to hear from members and friends who are offering to donate time, tools, and a variety of other items to help ensure our success for CanIRON VI. **It's goin' to be a party!** On that note, there are still



Secretaries Report
By Clint Montgomery

volunteer positions open for CanIRON VI. I know, I know, that traditionally, volunteers just sort of appear and that all of the volunteer positions will be filled and the work will get done, but let's all make it easier for the organizers and give Galen a call at 382-4667 or woodhill@rkc.ca and get those few remaining spaces filled. This way, every one knows which end is up and we can eliminate a lot of the last moment confusion. Thanks. For the most part, the huge effort being put into CanIRON VI with all of its bits and pieces seems to be progressing quite satisfactorily. A lot has been done, and a lot is left to do. However, with an air of confidence, I know we will do it. Just a little over a month and a half to go and CanIRON VI will take its place in our history book, along with the other successful CanIRONs I through V. Although we are already drawing heavily on our volunteer time, we also need work parties to help clean and prepare the Luxton Fairgrounds area for the Rodeo [which takes place next weekend]. Remember, this is what helps to pay our rent. Please give Neil Gustafson a call, either at home or at his shop for details. See you there, and again, thank you.

Happy 20th Anniversary VIBA
Charlie.

Meet your friends at
CanIRON VI
June 29 - July 2, 2007
Luxton Fairgrounds, Victoria BC Canada

VIBA meeting minutes April 29, 2007
The call to order was made at 11:20am by Charlie Dowdeswell.
Show & Tell

Dave Winestock brought in several items including an assortment of wall hooks he made from golf clubs, file handles that he made by using epoxy to install CO2 cartridges to the file tang, and historical pictures of European blacksmithing he acquired during his trip to Germany.

Frank Clayton brought in a cast statue of a blacksmith from Turkey.

Steve Hansell brought in a Snail shell that he made from fullered pipe.

There was also a unique hand hoe shown but unfortunately I am not sure who brought that in, my apologies.

Adoption of minutes

Jake moved that the previous minutes be adopted.
Charile Low seconded.

New Business

A letter was submitted from Benoit with regards to shop safety and cleanliness. This will be posted in the shop. Everyone should get their registration in for CanIRON right away. The price for registration goes up by \$50.00 after May 9th, 2007. **We need all members to step up and volunteer for a job at Caniron.** The Saanich Historical Society has offered to loan the club whatever tools we may require for CanIRON. Clint will be donating 2-3 tons of coal to the club.

Treasurer's report Raynier reports all is well.

CanIRON Committee reports Lapel pins have arrived, hats & shirts are looked after.

Registrations are starting to come in from around around the globe.

Raynier called for adjournment at 12:02pm
Charlie seconded, the motion was passed.

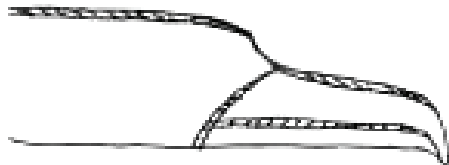


Darryl Nelson's Osprey Head



Use Flat stock - 1" x 1/4".

Start with a good preshape.



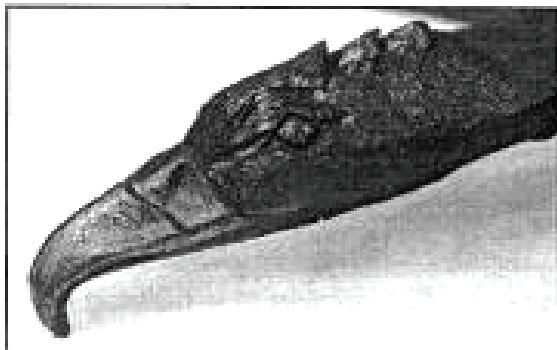
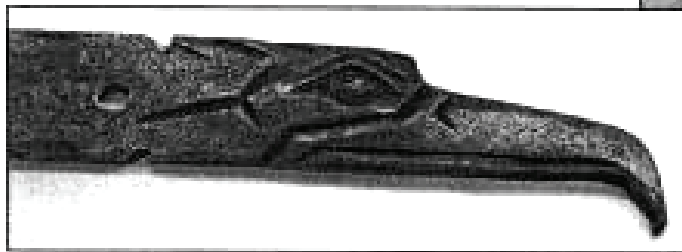
With curved chisel - outline the beak and cut in the mouth. Bend the tip of the beak down.



Darryl then uses a "Haida style" eye punch that he has fashioned for raptor eyes. Punch a nostril.



On a raptor there is a membrane that wraps around 1/3 of the beak. Cut this in with the chisel. Add lines for neck ruff.



Top left: flat eagle head. Top: Darryl punches in the eye on the full eagle head seen at left

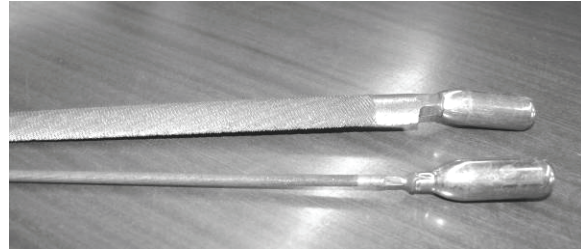
Show and Tell

Photos by D Gillett

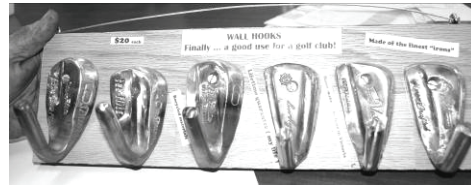


Benoit's steel butterflies
feeding on some rusty chain

steel snail



Dave's co2 cartridge handles
And golf club hangers



Ian's Asian cultivator



Frank's bronze smith



Roger's jumbo hinge

Production Day May 2007



The Boss



Finishing station



Making smoke



Hard at work



Nice candleholders

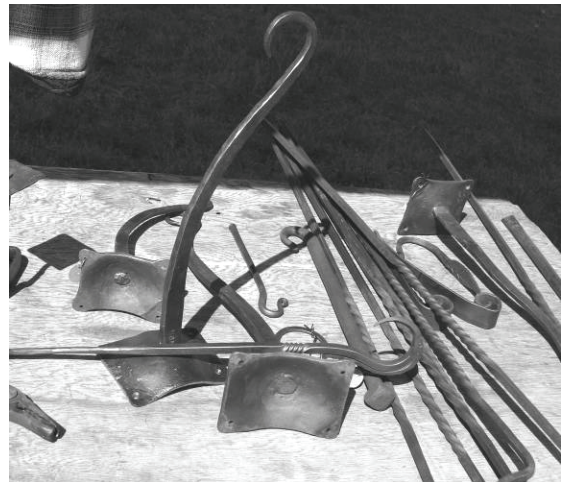
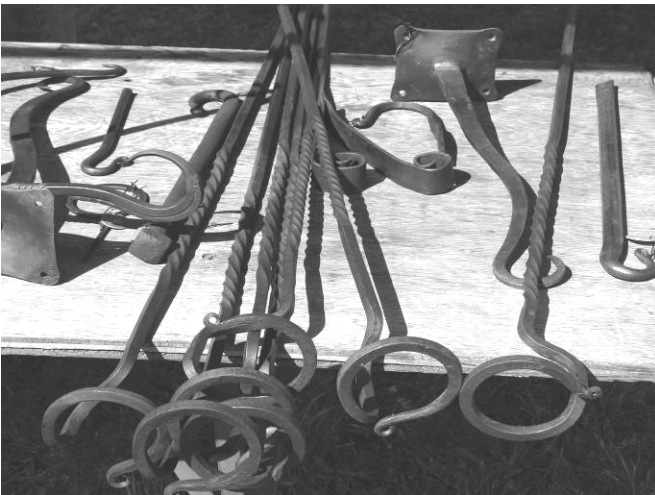


And fire



The Prize winning smiths

And the fruits of their labor



Production Day

By Don Startin

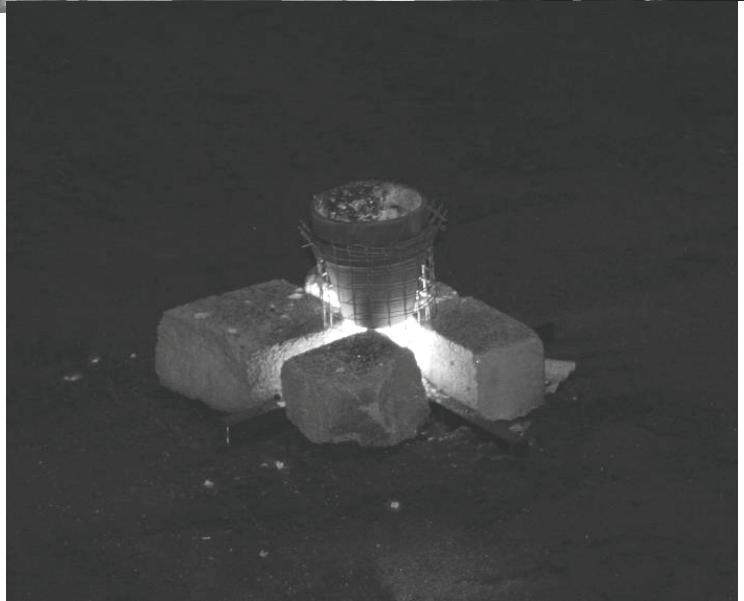
We were very lucky to have our usual sunny day, with a distinctly cold breeze to ruffle the papers on the stats table and cool the brows of the hard working smiths. We are glad to hear Clint has managed to rent a ranch in the far west which has a workshop, where he hopes to have a hammer-in one day. We hope that JP, Bruce, and Jacob will soon be fit again – we need you for CanIRON! An extra big hand to the members who brought in so many well made items, not to mention a re-sounding well done to members who came in and worked so hard to make the day a great success. Special thanks to Ray for putting on the Bar-B-Que, and Jacques for making a vast and sustaining tray of cookies laced with strawberries and grapes. Thanks Joe for helping out at stats and rushing out to get things we needed. Thanks Norm and Neil for finishing last year's stock , and Glen for touching up the welding on some plant hangers. It was also great to have Chad, who was the youngest member present, run the pre-made items contest.

It was a good solid work day we can all be proud of, but we hope that next year all the inside forges will be going, and the flying forge a well! The approximate value of the pre-made items was \$742 and the approximate value of items made on the day was \$820 for a total of \$1562. We are hoping the Nanaimo members will have some items for us when we arrive at the Coombs Fair, also pre-day and post-day items often come in.

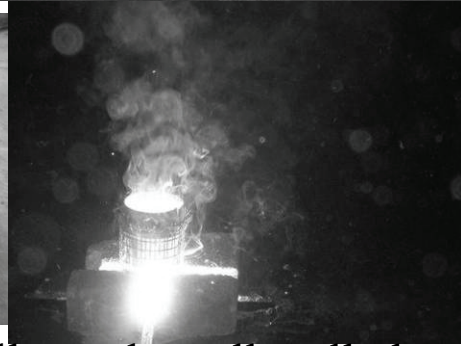
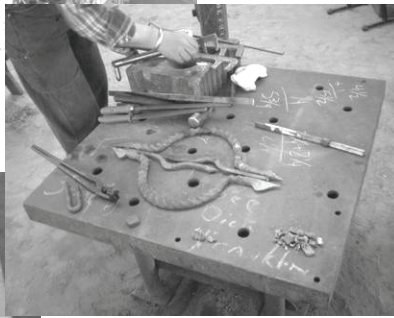
NWBA Spring Conference at Enumclaw WA



8 The demonstrators



Glass blowing



Really cool...well really hot
thermite welding demo



⁹ Auction tricycle

**Vancouver Island Blacksmith Association
Membership Application**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov./State: _____

Post/Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____

Are you a: New Member Renewal

Regular Membership \$30.00 Annually

Contributory Member \$100.00 Annually

Members are required to sign a Liability Waiver
Make cheques or money orders payable to:

**Vancouver Island Blacksmith Assoc. (VIBA)
1040 Marwood Avenue
Victoria, BC CANADA
V9C 3C4**

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov.: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____

Full Time Student.....\$35./year

Regular Membership.....\$45./year

Senior Citizen (age 65+).....\$40./year

Overseas Surface Mail.....\$60./year

Oversea Air Mail.....\$80./year

Contributory Membership.....\$100./year

Public Library Subscription.....\$35./year

Credit Card Payment

Card No. _____

Visa Mastercard

Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

by Phone: (706) 310-1030

by Fax: (706) 769-7147

Mail: ABANA, P.O. Box 816,
Farmington, GA, USA. 306380816



June 29—July 02, 2007
Victoria, B.C. Canada
Vancouver Island Blacksmiths Assoc
www.caniron.ca www.viblacksmiths.com

Canada's biennial blacksmithing conference will take place this year in the city of Victoria on beautiful Vancouver Island. It will be hosted by the Vancouver Island Blacksmiths Association.

Featured demonstrators include;

Richard Bent FWCB, Paul Thorne, Jake James, Daniel Orton, Joe Delisimunovic, Peter Fuller, Al Bakke, Renato Muskovic, Tony Austin, Doug Newell.

We also have a hands on forging/teaching area, repousse' teaching station, demonstrations by the Western Canadian Farriers Association and the Western Canadian Wheelwright Association.

We have arranged for hands on craft classes for spouse/family members, including basketry, felt making, mosaic art, quilting, fragrant wreath making, broom making, traditional metis beading and glass bead making.

Camping & R/V parking will be available on site, offsite dorm rooms at the Royal Roads University, b&b's and hotel/motel rooms close by.

Test your skills at the standards of **THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF BLACKSMITHS!!** (est. 1352)
As part of CANIRON VI we will be hosting an **ADJUDICATED GALLERY** as well as a **LIVE FORGING COMPETITION**.

Check out the website <http://www.caniron.ca/> for more info

