



# N.J.B.A. Newsletter

**NJBA Volume 7, Issue 4 2/01/03**

## Editors Soapbox

Well, we had a hot, dry summer and now a cold winter. I hope you are all trying to stay warm and keep the forge fires burning.

There are a lot of events coming up for us and in our area, so I hope to see you all somewhere this year, if not this Spring.

We still are looking for some items to be donated or to purchase some items for the NJBA trailer which helps make these events such a success.

Larry Brown, Editor

## Upcoming Events for 2002

Remember most of our meets have a "Iron in the Hat" drawing, be sure to bring something.

**February 23,** — Rich Wansor will be demonstrating on **Sunday, Feb. 23, at 10 a.m.** at Dick Gambino's shop in Garwood, Details on page 1.

**March 2**— Berkshire meet at Greg Phillips in Montgomery, NY. Details on page. 5.

**March 15** — Post Vise Stand Workshop at Mike Erdie's, Lawrenceville, NJ, Details pages 3 & 4.

**March 29 & 30** — Furnace Town Blacksmith's Guild at Snow Hill, MD. Fred Crist demonstrator and workshop leader. Details on page 6.

**April 26 and 27th**—Doug Learn has set up a demonstration at the Delaware Valley College A-Day for more information call Doug Learn at (215)-489-1742 <cjfdlearn@mindspring.com>

**May 31, June 1**—Eastern Regional Blacksmithing Conference "the Age of Iron" at Hancock Shaker Village in MA. More information to follow. Page 7.

**June 14**— Cold Spring Village in Cape May. Details on page 6.

**July 10—13** — Caniron in Hamilton Ontario, for those who want to travel a bit. Details on page 7.

**July**— Monmouth Fair, to Be Announced

**September 6**—Pig iron festival at Peters Valley. More info to follow.

**September 7**— Tool sale and picnic at Red Mill Forge in Clinton NJ. Details to follow.

## Feburary Meet

### At Dick Gambinos

### Shop in Garwood

Richard Wansor of Massachussettes will be our demonstrator for a meet at Dick Gambinos shop on Sunday, February 23 at 10:00. Rich will be demonstrating various architectural elements. Dick has arranged for a representative from Advanced Cutting Service, a water jet cutting company to attend the meet also.

Rich Wansor bio:

I have been a blacksmith for 17 years. Prior to that as a sculpture major at Parson's School of Design I gained a basic understanding of metals and the methods of working them. After graduating, I became interested in the more traditional methods of working iron and steel. After taking a weekend course on bladesmithing I was hooked. After reading all I could on the subject I built a forge and taught myself the rest. Over the years I worked mostly in living history museums. This gave me the time to explore and experiment with traditional forging techniques while getting A steady paycheck.

Rich Wansor

Directions on page 3:

# New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

Rather than use room in the newsletter,  
All correspondence between  
ABANA and NJBA is now being  
posted

## The NJBA Web Site!

The NJBA Web Site is up and running at:

<http://njba.abana-chapter.com/>

**Bruces' links to the ABANA site;**

<http://www.monmouth.com/~freeman/NJBA/abanawebsite.htm>

## Tip from the Forge List

I have found [www.carpenterdirect.com](http://www.carpenterdirect.com) to be a great source of toolsteel for a little blacksmith shop... no minimum size or bill size. 1-877-893-2100  
Brian Hall (From the Forge List)



## Official NJBA Address

NJBA, P.O. Box 195  
Howell, NJ 07731

## NJBA Board of Directors

**Marshall Bienstock**, June, 2003  
663 Casino Dr., Howell, NJ 07731

732-938-6577 732-780-0871  
mbienstock@worldnet.att.net

**Larry Brown**, Editor, June, 2003  
90 William Ave., Staten Island, NY 10308  
718-967-4776

lp.brown@verizon.net, brownln@hotmail.com

**John Chobrda**, June 2004  
231 Morrison Ave., Hightstown NJ 8520  
609-443-3106 609-396-9583  
JChob@earthlink.net

**Bruce Freeman**, June, 2004  
222 Laurel Place, Neptune, NJ 07753  
732-922-8408, 609-716-2827  
freeman@monmouth.com,

freemab@pt.fdah.com

**Jon Folk**, June, 2003  
P.O.Box 143, Old Bethpage, NY 11804  
516-625-5667. folkforge@worldnet.att.net

**Bruce Hay, Jr**, June 2003  
50 Pine St., Lincroft N.J. 7738  
732-747-4758

**Anton Holstrom**, June 2004  
26 Saddle Shop rd., Ringoes N.J. 08551-1510  
609-466-0349 antonholdstrom@msn.com

**Adam R. Howard**, June 2003  
c/o HHM, P.O. Box 5005, Clinton NJ 08809  
908-735-4573 [kunstschmeide@aol.com](mailto:kunstschmeide@aol.com)

**Josh Kavett**, June, 2003  
471 Casino Dr., Farmingdale, NJ 07727  
732-431-2152, [jakavett@aol.com](mailto:jakavett@aol.com)

**David Macauley**, Director June, 2004  
4 Patricia Ct., Howell, NJ 07731  
732-206-1568, 732-949-8422  
[drmacauley@att.com](mailto:drmacauley@att.com), [drmacauley@monmouth.com](mailto:drmacauley@monmouth.com)

**Jeff Morelli**, June 2003  
234 Rahilly Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562  
609-723-5990, 732-494-9061x1162

**Nate Pettengill**, June, 2003  
212 Hazel St, 2nd Floor, Rear. Delanco, NJ 08075  
856-764-5639, [nate.pettengill@lmco.com](mailto:nate.pettengill@lmco.com)

**Greg Phillips**, June 2004,  
Acorn Forge, 937 Route 17k, Montgomery, NY 12549  
(845) 457-5671, [suresign@frontiernet.net](mailto:suresign@frontiernet.net)

**Steven W. Rhoades**, June, 2003  
513 Harding Highway, Vineland, NJ 08360  
856-697-4144, [hotiron1@juno.com](mailto:hotiron1@juno.com)

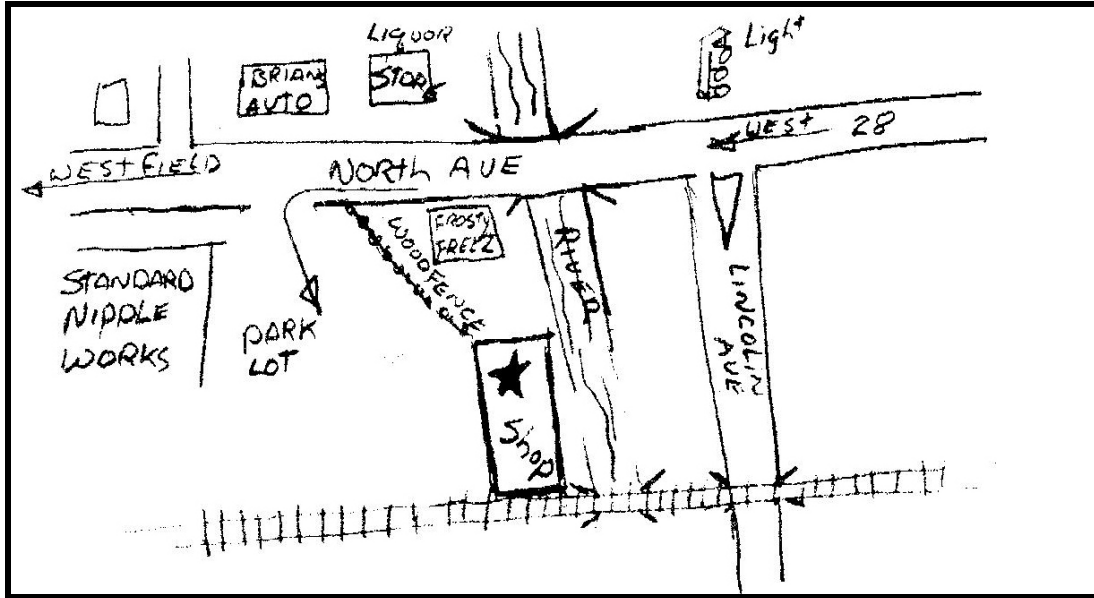
**Bruce Ringier**, June, 2003  
346 Rt.565 Wantage, NJ 07641  
973-702-8475 [wlkngb@yahoo.com](mailto:wlkngb@yahoo.com)

**Tim Suter**, June, 2004  
1112 Ladner Ave., Gibbstown, NJ 08027  
856-423-4417

# New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

## Directions to Gambino Metal Works

**Directions:** Gambino Metal Works is at 7 North Avenue in Garwood, NJ (Phone# 908-789-8500) Take the Garden State Parkway to exit 137, Cranford. Go right at end of ramp onto Rt. 28 West which later becomes North Avenue. Road dog legs through town of Cranford. Go seven or eight lights. You will then see a Frosty Freeze on the left. Immediately after crossing Lincoln Ave., make a left turn into the drive way of Standard Nipple Works. Gambino Metal Works is behind the Nipple Works and not visible from the street.



## NJBA Vise Stand Workshop

For all those who are interested in making a nice vise stand we are holding a vise stand workshop at Mike Erdie's shop on March 15th. This is a good opportunity to take home a nice vise stand for your leg vise. The cost is about \$40 each

### Leg Vise Stand

Materials:

CRS 8" C Channel

Steel Tubing 2 1/2" O.D., .150 Thickness

The tubes for the leg of the vise are welded to the legs of the stand (A) The legs of the stand are welded to the table. The critical height of table to tube for leg #1 is determined by your vise leg length. Also a template of the bolt pattern of your vise is needed to drill holes for the mounting of the vise or bring your vise and fit it to the stand. Also an optional tong or hardie holding bar can be

welded on. See Diagram and pictures on next page. If you are interested in making a stand for your self you have to contact Mike as soon as you can to help give him time to obtain the materials for the stands and set up for the workshop. If you just want to come out to help all are welcome to come and join in. Bring your own safety equipment, items for an Iron in the Hat and tailgating.

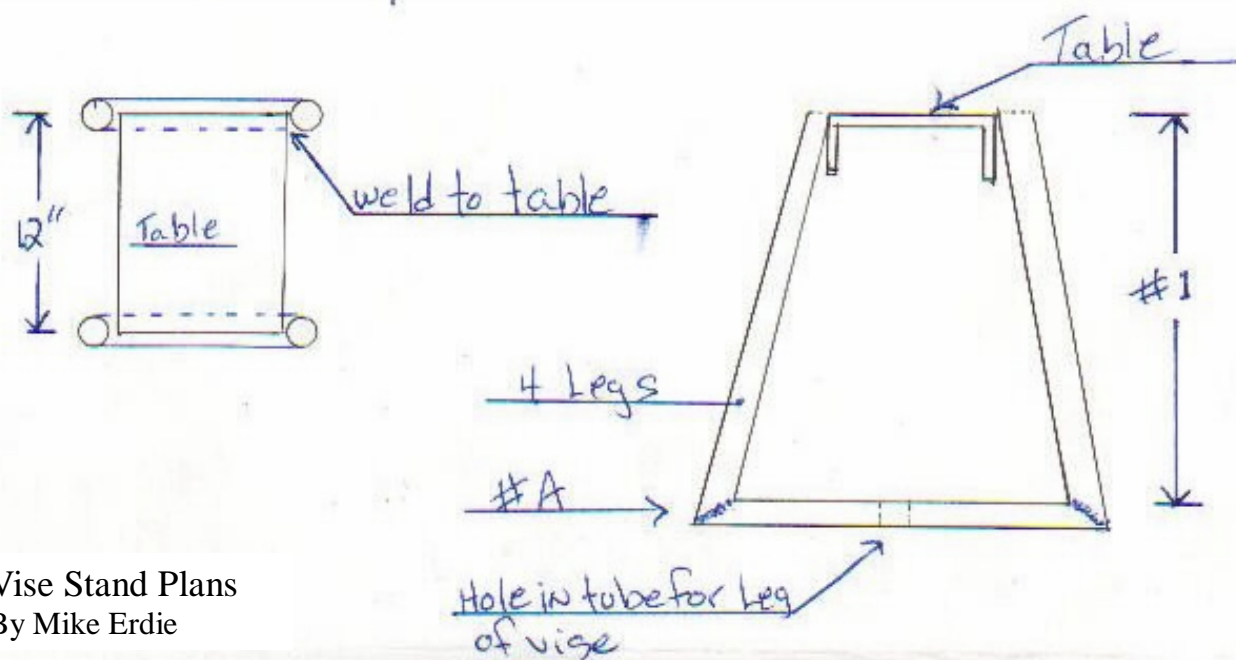
### Contact:

Mike Erdie  
Hollywood Garage  
29 Fairfield Avenue  
Lawrenceville, NJ  
(609) 882-4686

### Directions:

I 95 exit 7A Rt. 206 South, go approx. 2 1/2 miles Fairfield is on left (look for orange anvil) Mike's shop is on the left last building on Fairfield.

**Diagram and pictures on next page:**



Vise Stand Plans  
By Mike Erdie



## NJBA Holiday Party

Many thanks again to Marshall and Jan for opening their home to us during the Holiday season. We had a quick board meeting during the party, but otherwise we had a nice afternoon of eating and socializing.

## ABS New York Knife Expo and Hammer-in

Report by Tom Eden

Late September 2002 marked the return of the American Bladesmith Society (ABS) to New York State. Twenty years and more have passed since the early hammer-ins at the Ashokan campus. Some of

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this year's attending Mastersmiths were there back then and recalled those other times.

This year's event was held at the Camp Scho-dack retreat near small-town Nassau in upstate New York. The New Jersey Blacksmith Association had a big assisting presence with the demonstration trailer, dubbed the "Forge Wagon" by ABS Chairman Jim Batson. We provided the forges, anvils, and the necessary accouterments for the outdoor forging demos that went on all weekend. Participants, green and seasoned, were able to try forging. Every two hours a Mastersmith would rotate in to show technique and give insight and advice on the art of the forged blade. Some of the most highly rated Master bladesmiths in the world hammered on NJBA anvils!

Other seminars were held concurrently throughout the days. These included damascus patterns, mosaics, powder metals, heat treating, blade geometry, folders, grinding, finishing, cutting, and more. I heard "That class alone was worth the price of admission!" more than a few times during the weekend. Friday night had the 'Cutting Contest' which was a real fun event. The contestants have to chop and slice their way through two-by-fours, rope, T-shirts, soda cans (unopened), drinking straws, paper, and other challenging stuff, all while smiling! Yours truly managed to tie for second place (yes, there were more than three of us).

Saturday afternoon had the Knife Show and other demos open to the public. Rob Hudson made one of his trademark goat's head letter openers for the audience. Evening had the Auction with Col. Tim Ryan presiding. He did a super job for the fund-raiser. You really should see him in action, great entertainment!

These hammer-ins are a great way to learn and enhance your craft. The camaraderie and spirit is inspiring. This event is likely to be held next year, maybe closer to home.

The ABS smiths, many are part of the ABANA brotherhood, showed much admiration and thanks to the NJBA for the support provided. I was glad to have a part in this and to represent the NJBA.

Thank you,  
Tom Eden

Tom,

I would like to thank you and the NJ Blacksmiths for the support at the NY Expo. The Green Coal was the most attended and successful part of the NY Expo. Your forge wagon and tent set up impressed everyone. Hope we can do again. Thanks again.

James Batson, Chairman of the ABS Board

## Berkshire meet at Greg Phillips Shop in Montgomery, NY

The Berkshire Blacksmithing group will be having a meet at Greg Phillips shop in Montgomery, NY on March 2nd. The demonstrators will be Meagan Crowley and Susan Madacsi. Tailgating, Iron in the hat and an open table for displaying work and portfolios will be available.

Greg Phillips, (845) 457-5671,  
Acorn Forge, 937 Route 17k,  
Montgomery, NY 12549  
gphillips@hvc.rr.com

### Directions to Greg Phillips Shop

From NJ: Take the Garden State Parkway north into New York State. Pick up the NYS Thruway (Route 87), and take it north to exit 17 (Newburgh- Stewart Airport) after exiting and the toll booth DO NOT bear right onto Route 84, continue straight to traffic light at Route 17k. Turn right (west) onto Route 17k proceed about 9 mi to 937 Rt. 17k (Greg's house) it will be on the left, there is a sign in front of the house "A Sure Sign". The building behind the house has the second floor painted with rainbow colors. (For anyone that has been to the Orange County Farmers Museum the house is less than a mile past the sign for the museum.)

## Furnace town Blacksmith Guild

March 29 & 30, 2002

Demonstrator and Workshop Leader Fred Crist will be at the Furnace Town Foundation site, Snow Hill, MD. Fred Crist worked at the Yellin shop for eleven years. While working in the Yellin studio, he is attributed with rediscovering many of the processes and techniques that were developed by Samuel Yellin.

Fred Crist's demonstration in the morning on Saturday the 29th will focus on the forging techniques used by Samuel Yellin and his great collection of smiths. Fred will demonstrate how to forge a variety of different pieces using a number of Yellin techniques.

In the afternoon Fred will forge a grille that Samuel Yellin made for the Metropolitan Museum, which was filmed when Yellin made this framed scroll in 1924. Fred will lead the workshop on Sunday which will have each participant forge their own interpretation (or copy) of the processes demonstrated on Saturday. The workshop will be limited to 12 people who will come from these supporting chapters: Blacksmith's Guild of the Potomac, Central Maryland Guild, Mid-Atlantic Smiths Association, New Jersey Blacksmith Association, and Pennsylvania Artist Blacksmith Association.

The cost for the Saturday demonstration day is \$20.00 if your registration is received by 28 February 2003; it is \$25.00 if your registration is received after the 28th.

The demonstration day includes: coffee and doughnuts in the morning, all-day demo, and lunch. Iron in the Hat (please bring a iron goodie). We will have a table of Norm Larson's books for order/sale. Representatives of Keen Welding will be demonstrating. Tailgate sales are most welcome and encouraged.

The Saturday dinner costs an additional \$17.00. Reservation for this supper must be made no later than 19 March 2002 as the caterer requires an accurate head count. The supper will be served buffet style starting at 6 pm. The evening program to be announced.

The Sunday workshop will cost \$25, which includes materials and lunch. Each of the supporting groups: BGCM, BGOP, FTBG, MASA, NJBA, and PABA have 2 slots in the workshop. Because of the limited number (12) in this workshop, those interested should contact Ray Noble as soon as possible. After the list for Sunday workshop is filled, a waiting list will be formed to fill vacant positions if they occur.

Send registration form and check to:

Mark Williams, 114 West Federal Street, Snow Hill, MD 21863

(H)410-632-0914, (W)410-651-6431

<mewilliams@mail.umes.edu>

Make checks out to Furnace Town Blacksmith's Guild. Contact Ray Noble for the Sunday Yellin Workshop: Ray Noble, 27840 Oriole Road, Princess Anne, MD 21853. (H)410-651-0987, (W)800-220-3015 <nobler511@aol.com>

Call or e-mail Ray as soon as possible so that the workshop list can be completed.

## Historic Cold Spring Village

Historic Cold Spring Village will be having two events this year that include blacksmithing. May 24-25 & June 14-15, 2003. The first show is a new one for 2000, it is known as "All Hands-on Crafts" and teaches the public "How to lessons" by allowing the visitor to assist with the craft making. If possible, having someone from NJBA interpret your craft would be more than appropriate.

The second event is the good old stand-by "Tractor, Trucks and Trades." Please call for more information or email.

Sincerely, Shirley Stefanovicz, Special Events

Coordinator. 609.898.2300

shirleys@hcsv.org

NJBA will officially participate in the second event on June 14-15. This is our normal event and demonstration, the main part of which is on Saturday the 14th, with all who want to demonstrate Sunday coming back to finish the weekend. All those who want to come down to help Jerry in the shop during the first event may do so. Contact David Macauley.

## CanIron IV

Announcing CanIRON IV

"Come Share Our Fire"

July 10-13 2003

McMaster University

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Featured Demonstrators: Elizabeth Brim, Cairn Cunnane, Lloyd Johnston, Scott Lankton, Doug Newell, Charles Orlando, Eddie Payne, Dean Piesner, Jim Wallace, Doug Wilson.

Several forge areas in continuous operation, Juried and Open galleries of fine Ironwork, Trade Show, Tailgate Area all situated on the McMaster University Campus. Accommodations, Demo sites and other venues are all within five minute walking distance. Family programs will be available.

Demonstrations will be open to registrants only, however the Trade Show, Vendors Area Galleries and Lectures will be open to the general public. There will be extensive media promotion of the public portion of the conference as we are making a serious attempt to get blacksmithing in the public eye. This will be an excellent opportunity for your work to be seen outside the blacksmithing community. For information on exhibiting in either gallery please send a #10 self-addressed stamped envelope (Canadian or US postage) to:  
CANIRON IV, CanIron Gallery Curator, RR #1, 1484 Regional Road 17, Cayuga, Ontario, N0A 1E0

We are seeking donations for Iron-in-the-Hat and the Auction. Please send your donation to :

CANIRON IV, Auction Co-ordinator, RR #1, 1484 Regional Road 17, Cayuga, Ontario, N0A 1E0

Please indicate if you wish your item to be place in the auction or in Iron-in-the-Hat.

Registration and accommodation fees are being finalized at this time. To receive a registration brochure please send a #10 self-addressed stamped envelope (Canadian or US postage) to:

CANIRON IV, Registration Secretary, RR #1, 1484 Regional Road 17, Cayuga, Ontario, N0A 1E0

If you are interested in volunteering at CanIRON IV (sorry, no discounts on registrations or accommodations) please contact our volunteer coordinator Wolfgang Bleckert. You can e-mail Wolfgang at [bleckertk@golden.net](mailto:bleckertk@golden.net).

Ontario Artist Blacksmith Association

[www.caniron.com](http://www.caniron.com)

## Eastern Regional Blacksmithing Conference

Eastern Regional Blacksmithing Conference "the Age of Iron" at Hancock Shaker Village in MA on Sat/Sun May 31-June 1.

Sponsored by:

Berkshire Blacksmiths

Connecticut Blacksmiths Guild

Northeast Blacksmiths

New England Blacksmiths

No further information at this time, more will follow in the next newsletter

## Apprentice Standards

The following standards were developed by the APPALACHIAN BLACKSMITHS ASSOCIATION and registered with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, United States Department of Labor.

### SKILLS EXPECTED OF AN APPRENTICE

1. Drawing out: Draw out a bar to a point or dress an edge or point tool.
2. Upsetting: Upset to at least 1 1/12 times the diameter or width of a bar on the end and in the middle.
3. Bending: Make a ring out of bar stock or flat stock; forge a square corner right angle bend in square stock.
4. Punching, slitting and decorative punch work: Show an example of decorative punch work; punch a hole in a bar the same



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size as the width of the bar.

5. Drifting: Make a drift and use it to smooth, shape or enlarge a hole.

6. Mortise and tenon: Make an assembly from at least two separate pieces using this technique.

7. Collaring: Make an assembly from at least two separate pieces using this technique.

8. Scroll work:

Make two different types of scrolls.

9. Splitting: Split a bar with a hot cut in the middle or at the end of the bar.

10. Fullering, grooving, veining, set hammering:

Show examples of each or if used as an intermediate technique, describe how and why the techniques are used.

11. Riveting: Make two assemblies from at least two separate pieces for each assembly using hot riveting and cold riveting (pop riveting not acceptable).

12. Forge welding:

Show at least three different techniques.

13. Arc welding, brazing, soldering, oxyacetylene torch welding: Show an example of each.

14. Hot rasping, filing: Hot rasp the torch cut end of a bar to reasonable straightness and evenness; show a workpiece which has been filed to a smooth, flat surface; describe the types, care, and use of files.

15. Sinking, raising, metal spinning: Make or show a hemispherical or hollow object made from flat sheet using any one technique.

16. Grinding: Know how to use a body grinder (portable grinder), pedestal grinder, belt grinder, sharpening stones and abrasive papers; know the types of abrasive and how they are graded and classified; show an edge tool that you have sharpened.

17., Drilling, tapping, diework and threads:

Drill and tap a hole; thread the end of a bar with a die; know the common thread classifications; know the common drill size classifications and the care and use of twist drills.

18. Heat treating, hardening, tempering annealing, case hardening: Know how to properly anneal, harden and temper carbon tool steel; know how to case harden mild steel; know the colors for tempering; make or show a tool you have made that has

been heat treated that will cut or forge mild steel without breaking or deformation on the working end.

19. Heading: Head two bolts, one square headed and one hex headed; head a nail; head a rivet.

20. Cutting and shearing: Know how to use the hot cut, cold cut, hacksaw, tinsnips, or bench or floor shear; know how to use the oxyacetylene torch for cutting - demonstrate each technique.

21. Swaging: Swage a tenon or make the end of a square bar round using a swage.

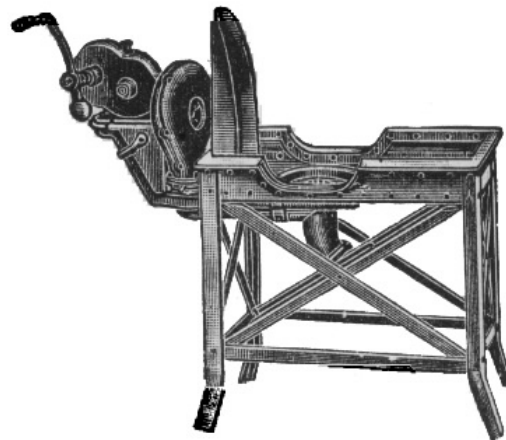
22. Twisting: Show two different twists in square bar.

23. Shop safety: Know first aid techniques for cuts, burns, abrasion and other shop related injuries; describe methods of hearing, sight and body protection and why they are necessary; know power tool and machinery safety including welding equipment safety.

25. Basic metallurgy: Know the properties and use of wrought iron, mild steel, carbon and tool steels and their classifications, cast iron, brass, copper, aluminum; know sheet and plate gauging for ferrous and non-ferrous metals.

26. Fire and fuel: Know the constituents of good shop coal; know the different types of coal fires and fire maintenance.

27. Jigs and dies: Make both a jig and a die for doing repetitive production work and show examples of work produced in them.





## Blacksmithing

### Workshops and Classes:

#### **Peters Valley Craft Education Center**

19 Kuhn Rd., Layton, NJ 07851 (973)948-5200  
pv@warwick.net www.pvcrafts.org

#### **Academy of Traditional Arts**

#### **Carroll County Farm Museum**

500 South Center St. Westminster, MD 21157  
(410)848-7775 (410)876-2667

#### **Touchstone Center for Crafts**

R.D.#1, Box 60, Farmington, PA 15437  
(724)329-1370 Fax: (724)329-1371

#### **John C Campbell Folk School**

One Folk School Rd.  
Brasstown, NC 28902  
1-800-365-5724 www.folkschool.com

#### **The Blacksmith of Trenton**

Alex Parubchenko occasionally gives classes at his shop in Trenton. Please contact Alex or John Chobrda at the shop, Phone # (609) 396-9583.

#### **Red Mill Forge**

Contact Adam Howard about workshops and per diem use of the shop (908)735-4573

## Coal

Coal is now available through Alex Parubchenko at his shop in Trenton. Please contact Alex or John Chobrda at the shop, Phone # (609) 396-9583.

## Open Forges

We want to encourage  
all to join us at:

### Monday Night Open Forge in N.J.

Marshall Bienstock is hosting an open forge in his shop at 7 pm almost every Monday night ( Please call ahead on holidays to make sure , (732)780-0871 )

### Business Members

We would like to thank those who joined with our new Business Membership category  
Please show them our support

#### **Ginty's Welding Service, Inc**

2 Lee Mack Ave., Danbury, Conn, 06810

#### **Timothy Miller, Artist Blacksmith,**

Bayport, Long Island, NY (631)419-1185

#### **Marshall Bienstock**

663 Casino Dr., Howell, NJ 07731  
(732) 938- 6577, (732) 780-0871

#### **Lincoln Wolfe**

11 Overlook Terrace, Bloomfield, NJ 7003  
(973) 338-3913

#### **John Chobrda**

#### **Pine Barrens Forge**

231 Morrison Ave., Hightstown NJ 08520  
609-443-3106 609-396-9583

## BLACKSMITH TOOLS FOR SALE!

John Chobrda at the  
Trenton Blacksmith Shop

Has a large selection of tools for sale.

**Anvils – Forges - Leg Vices**

**Blowers – Tongs – Hammers**

Will also repair and/or resurface Anvils

Call John for prices and availability

Daytime (609) 396-9583

Evening (609) 443-3106

Wanted: Donations for the NJBA Trailer

We need hand tools, files,

Tongs (Old, new and repairable),

Safety Glasses and assorted rivets.

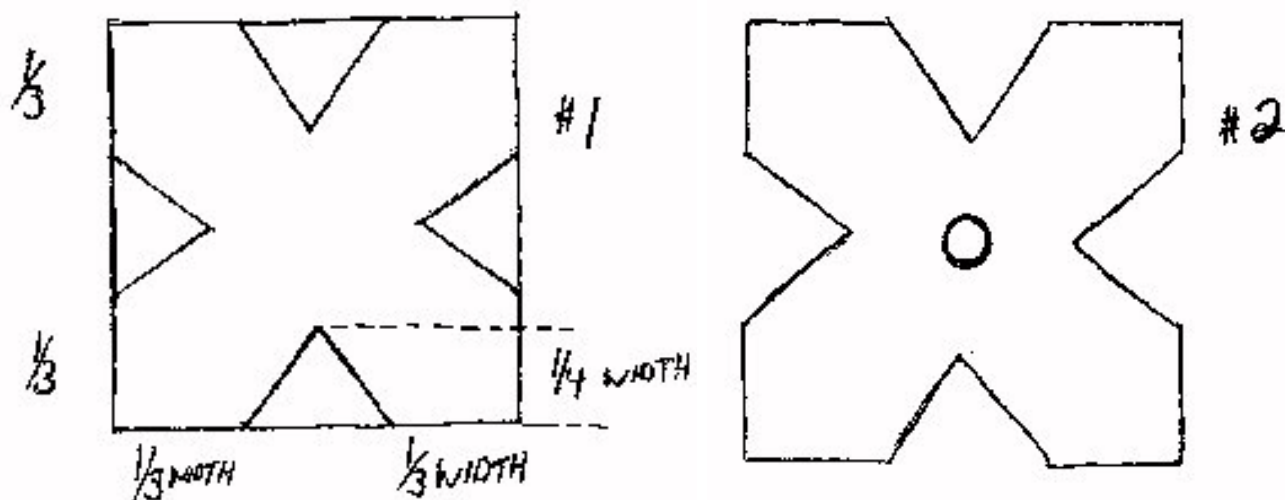
Look around and see what you  
have to donate.

Contact: Dave Macauley, Directors list, Page 2

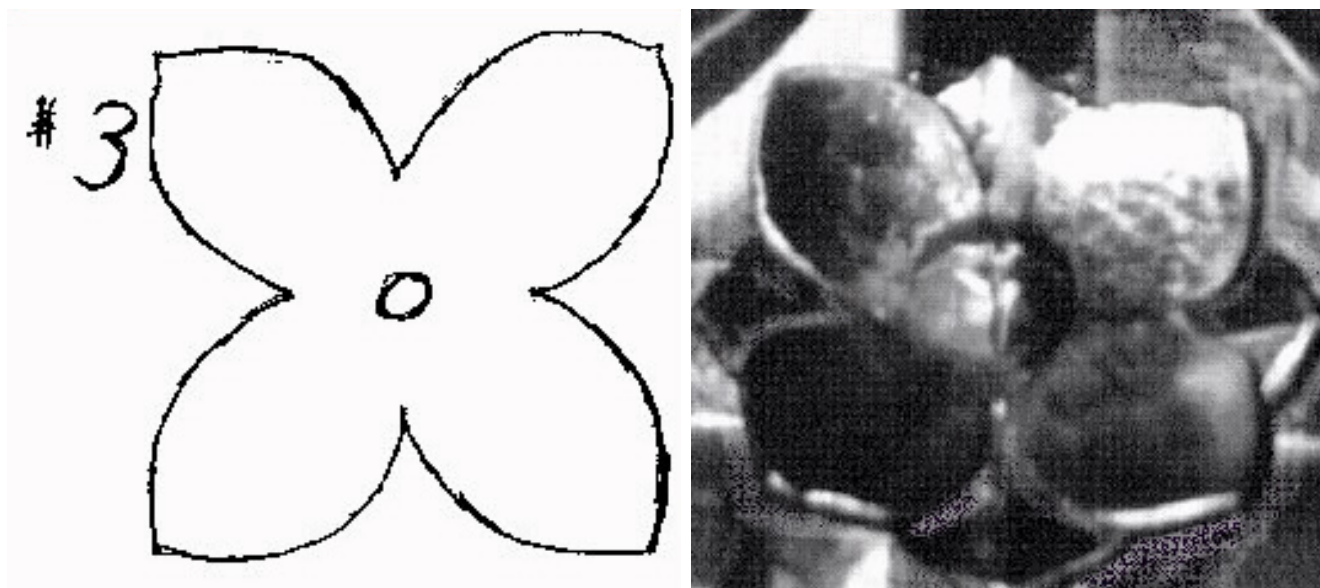
## A Simple Floral Motif

By Chris Waters of the South Alberta Chapter,  
Western Canadian Blacksmith Guild

Start with TWO pieces of 18 gauge mild steel squares, 3 inch by 3 inch, or size to suit. Layout as per diagram #1



Hot cut, hack saw, or other wise remove waste. Drill mounting hole on center. Forge out each petal using a rounding hammer or one with a good convex face. Take your time and shape each petal to produce nicely rounded edges; a little file work may be needed.



Slightly dishing the petal will give it more life. Descal and finish before placing the two pieces together. They are put together at 45 degrees to each other. Use a forged rivet or lag bolt. I find a ball head rivet looks good. Use for grill work, wood work accents or what ever. Enjoy, have fun