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To: HABA Distribution List

Re: July 19, 1997 Meeting Of The Proposed Houston Area Blacksmiths' Association (HABA)

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

Kip Coe hosted the sixth meeting of HABA. The location was the new Coe Forge. The day was very hot. Twenty one people braved the heat to get one of the first looks at Kip's new shop and see some of the new equipment demonstrated. Bill Epps and Larry Newbern worked with the new Sahinler power hammer and Kip demonstrated his new twisting machine. Jim Wheeler slaved in the hot sun and over some not so hot fires to complete the Camp Stew. The HABA generated \$ 31.59 from the July meeting.

### **HANDS-ON SMITHING**

Bill Epps started demonstrating with a piece of metal from a jackhammer bit. In about 30 minutes with the help of the Sahinler hammer, he completed a two pound slash peen forging hammer. That included the tempering and a new handle.

Bill's second demonstration was to create a leaf veining tool for use in the hardy. The stock was another piece from the same jackhammer bit. Each of these demonstrations not only showed off the Sahinler but showed how to forge and temper tool steel.

Bill wound up his formal demonstrating by creating a scroll using a scroll jig.

Speaking of scrolls, Larry Newbern then got into the act by creating a second scroll at the other end of Bill's demo piece. The difference between the two is that Larry created his to look like Bill's freehand.

Larry finished the day by demonstrating a ram's head letter opener. The piece included a rather tricky forge weld. As expected it was well done.

Kip finally got into the act by demonstrating his new twisting machine and circle bender. For those who had not seen this kind of equipment in use before it was an eye-opener. The new

twister did not perform as well as initially planned. The motor was a little under powered for the task. Kip says the problem is solved. He now has a 5 hp motor in operation and has no problem making a one inch square rod look as though it is threaded!

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

There was no business meeting in July.

## **CAMP STEW**

Jim Wheeler took on the task of preparing BBQ this month for Camp Stew. The job turned out to be a little more troublesome than expected. The weather was really hot. The fires for some reason did not want to cooperate. The result was the pork part of the pork and chicken lunch with beans did not hit the dinner plates. There was plenty of food for everyone however and it was good.

## **RAFFLE**

There was no formal Raffle at the July meeting. The ram's head letter opener that Larry Newbern demonstrated did go to a visiting smith for \$20. The smith...name unknown...just 'had to have it'. I am sure it will be an inspiration and I hope we see that smith back demonstrating his version in the near future.

## **CONCLUSION**

The sixth meeting of HABA was a first for the group. This was the first meeting at a shop with electrical power and the Sahinler hammer. Power tools put a whole new dimension on the art and craft of blacksmithing. Those of us who operate without power are probably rethinking our position...power really wouldn't be too bad after all!!

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

To Kip Coe for opening the Coe Forge and facilities for HABA.

To Bill Epps and Larry Newbern for demonstrating.

To Byrom Wehner for providing the doughnuts.

And to Jim Wheeler a little extra Special Thanks for making sure everyone had something good to eat.

## **NOTICES**

1. Heiner Zimmermann's Workshop is confirmed for August 23 and 24, the week after our August meeting. The Workshop will take place at the Coe Forge in Pinehurst, TX. The cost for the two days is \$50. Reserve a place by calling Kip Coe, at 281-450-7751 or Dave Koenig 281-855-2869. Enrollment will be limited to about 50 people.
2. Larry Newbern is looking for volunteers to demonstrate blacksmithing at the George Ranch Blacksmith Shop on October 25 and 26. Demonstrators are able to sell too. Call Larry for more details at 409-793-4362.
3. Steve Joslyn of Syracuse, NY will be demonstrating September 13 & 14, 1997 at Lakeview Lodge, Sid Richardson Scout Camp, Bridgeport, TX.

#### Workshop Description:

Discussion and analysis of natural forms and how to produce them. The group will be shown techniques for producing a variety of flora including oak and maple leaves, acorn and pine cones.

Participants are encouraged to bring a leaf or seed they would like to discuss. Also a discussion on critters with antlers: including ram, deer, elk and moose and how to produce them. Focus will be on process, approach and problem solving.

The cost of the workshop is \$116 for North Texas Blacksmith Association members and \$131 for non-members. The cost includes room and board.

Call Verl Underwood, 817-626-5909, for more details.

4. Peter Ross will be featured at The Louisiana Metalsmiths Association's (LAMA) annual event, *Banging on the Bayou IV*, October 4 and 5. The venue is Bogue Falaya Park in Covington, LA. Contact Buddy Leonard, 504-892-1137 for more information and registration.
5. Demonstration Opportunity!!!!

The Fanthrop Inn State Park is looking for blacksmiths to demonstrate at *Texian Days* September 27, 1997 from 10 AM until 5 PM. The park is located in Anderson, Texas. Demonstrators may sell.

For more information, call Jo Frances Greenlaw, Superintendent, at 409-873-2633.

#### 6. **Mail Issues!!!!**

HABA would like to update its mailing list. During the last couple of months I received two notes from people who decided they did not have the time they expected to be involved with HABA. They asked to be removed from the mailing list for the time being. If you are presently on the HABA mailing list and no longer wish to receive a copy of the HABA Letter, please send me a note and I will take you off the list.

If you are now receiving the HABA Letter via the U.S Mail and have an e-mail address, please send me a note with your e-mail address. I will send you the HABA Letter electronically and save a few bucks per year.

7. I recently heard of one person who got burned while working in his shop. Another person was struck in the face with a piece of metal flying off the anvil. Please remember to use personal protective equipment. Smithing is a whole lot more fun that way.
8. Be sure to visit the HABA Home Page:  
'<http://www.toptown.com/hp/dblock/haba/index.htm>'.

### **THE AUGUST 16 TH HABA MEETING**

The next HABA Meeting will be held at the Tudor Forge, August 16 1997.

Be sure to bring a pair of safety glasses with side shields and wear gloves where appropriate!

The focus will be hands-on smithing and impromptu demonstrations. So bring your forge if you have one.

Soda and water will be provided by HABA.

Lunch will be whatever you bring. Camp Stew will be put on the back burner (pun intended) until we get over some of this hot weather.

Bring your forge, Show-and-Tell items, Resources you would like to share with others and something for the Raffle.

### **IMPORTANT RAFFLE NOTICE**

A couple of the Raffle items for the next meeting include:

1. A Gift Certificate from the Louisiana Metalsmiths Association to attend the Peter Ross workshop, *Banging on the Bayou IV*, October 4 and 5, Bogue Falaya Park, Covington, LA.
2. A Gift Certificate from HABA to a HABA member to attend the Heiner Zimmermann workshop at Coe Forge, August 23 and 24. If a member has already paid for the workshop, the check will be returned.
3. There are a couple of other useful things like a piece of 12" square western cedar about 2' high, and about a 2' square styrofoam cooler.

A business meeting will be called to order when things hit a lull. (...might be a pretty busy day!)

Lunch about noon and then the Raffle. The Raffle will be earlier than usual so we need to catch as many people as possible.

Directions to the Tudor Forge:

Take 249 NW from Houston. Travel through the towns of Tomball, Decker Prairie and Pinehurst. After Pinehurst 249 changes to 1774. Stay on 1774. About three miles ahead on 1774 look for a Texaco station on the west side of the road. One half mile past the Texaco station, turn left or west on Tudor Way. You will find the forge about a mile down the road.

From the intersection of 1488 and 1774 in Magnolia, go south on 1774 about 4 miles. Look for Tudor Way. If you see the Texaco station you went too far.

Enjoy!