

Subject: HABA Update #104
Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 8:58:40 PM Central Daylight Time
From: Pete Farrell



You are receiving this email because at one time or another you have had contact or membership with HABA. If you do not wish to receive further emails please send me a message and I will remove you from the list. Likewise if you want to keep receiving these emails send me a message and I will be sure to keep you on the list.

This month we will be having our regular meetings at Armand Bayou Nature Center on the second Saturday and at the Magnolia Forge. See below for more information.

I receive a lot of requests for classes. Unfortunately, HABA does not yet have a formal class program. If you provide classes or know of someone who does so, please send me contact information and any other information that may be available on the classes. I will put together a referral page on the website to help respond to these requests.

I often receive requests for demonstrators and for blacksmiths who will do work on commission. To help me out in responding to these request please send me your name, email and phone number stating if you would be interested in receiving information about these requests. I will put together a mailing list specifically for notifying you about these requests. Please note that any interaction with the requesters will be a non-HABA sponsored relationship.

Be sure to check out the [HABA](#) page. The [calendar](#) has been updated with upcoming events.

Note that we are now putting a PDF copy of the HABA update email on the HABA web page. Click on The [HABA Update](#) to see it.

Most of the events are open to the public and we often team with other organizations such as Armand Bayou, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Barrington Farms (Washington on the Brazos), Lake Jackson Historical Museum, Brazoria County Historical Museum, Magnolia Train Depot (where we have built our own forge shop) and others around the Houston area.

We hold monthly meetings to which the public is invited to observe. If you want to

swing a hammer on hot iron bring safety glasses and gloves and \$20 to become a member (membership can be renewed at the end of the year) and covers all family members. All of our members are glad to show a new person the basics and answer questions (there are no dumb questions). Feel free to send me any questions about HABA or Blacksmithing and I will endeavor to find an answer for you. Comments and suggestions are also welcome.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

October 14: Second Saturday at ABNC. We will be making a hook and eye latch. See attached documents.

October 28: Last Saturday at the HABA Magnolia forge. More information to come.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 15 - 18: Mark Aspery will give a blacksmithing class. More information at this link <http://www.ntxba.org/2017hammer-in.php>

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[HABA on Facebook](#)
[HABA Website](#)

Hook and Eye Latch

A simple and common item used around the house, shop and farm is the hook and eye latch. It is used to secure gates, cabinets, doors, etc. It also uses several of the basic blacksmithing techniques of tapering, bending, drawing out and calculating materials.



We will be using $\frac{1}{4}$ " round stock. You will notice from the picture above that there are 3 eyes that need to be made. To calculate how much material is needed, we need to take into account how these eyes will be used. Basically, we need to be able to pass a $\frac{1}{4}$ " round bar through the eye without binding. So the size of the eye needs to be the width of the stock plus about an $\frac{1}{8}$ " inch clearance on each side. So that gives us an inside diameter of the eye of $\frac{1}{2}$ ". To this we need to add the thickness of the of the stock being used for the eye to get the diameter of the centerline of the stock used. In this case we add $\frac{1}{4}$ " to our $\frac{1}{2}$ " for a diameter of $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Using the formula for a circle, diameter times PI, we will get the length of the stock needed for the eye. Using an approximation of PI we get $3 \times .75 = 2.25$. We will round this up to 2.5 to make things easy.

We have 2 eyes, each of which will require 2.5" of stock plus 1" for the nail portion which comes to 6". Add to that one eye without the nail we need 8.5". We will use another 2.5" for the hook. Add to that

the length of the hook which can be variable. For our exercise, we will do a 5' length. So, our total stock will be 16".

We will start by making an eye on each end of the 16" piece and then cut the off. These will be the nail eyes. The nail is made by tapering and drawing out keeping a square cross section for them.

Next, make the hook by tapering and bending. Then make another eye but before closing it put one of the nail eyes in the eye.



Magnolia Forge, 4th Saturday Meetings.

426 Melton Street, Magnolia Texas

General Information

We are located at 426 Melton Street right next to the Magnolia Historical Train Depot. Please be aware that we are an open air, "off grid" shop, with no water, bathrooms or electricity (but we do have a roof!). Please dress appropriately for the outside weather (cotton, linen or wool clothing, leather boots, nothing synthetic that can melt) and bring drinks and snacks for your own comfort.

We meet on the 4th Saturday of most months. There are 3 exceptions to this: in April we open whenever the Depot Day is held (typically the 3rd Sat of April), and we also meet on the 2nd Sat. in Nov. & Dec. due to the scheduling conflicts most of us have with Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We open our doors at 9:00 AM (ish) and wind down in the afternoon - the exact time depends on the projects being worked on, normally around 3.

Schedule:

Start at 9am

Lunch at 12 to 1pm

3:30pm shut down forges and cleanup.

Directions:

From Houston take I-45 North to FM 1488 west about 16 miles into Magnolia then take Melton south two blocks. Park at the civic center. Optional route take beltway 8 to 249 north into Pinehurst where 249 become 1774 continue north into Magnolia take a right at RL Butler Street.

From the West take 290 in to 1488 exit go east into Magnolia then south two blocks on Melton Street.

For more information email Bob Nichols: rknichols4@hotmail.com

Magnolia Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/664821203656364/permalink/667334863404998/>



Monthly HABA Blacksmith Meetings

2nd Saturday of Each Month

**Armand Bayou
8500 Bay Area Blvd.
Pasadena, Texas 77507**

HABA will be holding a Blacksmithing meeting at Armand Bayou on the 2nd Saturday of each month. The focus of the meetings will be to have a group of interested members work their way through the controlled hand forging progression as a means of learning the basics of forging iron. The progression starts with the basic techniques for moving metal and shaping it. It eventually leads into advanced techniques. Along the way, participants will create various artifacts that are of use both in pioneer societies as well as the modern world.

To participate in the meetings one must be a member of **HABA** which only costs \$20.00 per year. This is to cover liability issues. The public is welcome to observe without charge and we will have displays of items made by members.

The meetings will take place in front of the hay barn next to the wood working shop. We usually have some good shade there and there is plenty of room for working. We will have at least 3 anvils, a leg vice or two and two forges. So if you don't have all the equipment we can share these.

Armand Bayou requests that we limit vehicle traffic between the hours of 9 AM and 4 PM. So if you are bringing something that needs to be transported be sure to arrive before 9 AM. Another reason to arrive before 9 AM is to be able to enter the area without paying the Armand Bayou entry fee of \$4.00 per person.

Details of each upcoming meeting will be announced in the HABA Update email. If you want to be put on the list send an email to pmforging@gmail.com.

Schedule:

- Saturday:
 - 8 – 9 AM – setup
 - 9:00 AM – Work through the lesson for the day.
 - 12:00 – Lunch
 - 1:00 – Continue the lesson of the day or work on individual projects
 - 4 – 5 PM – tear down

Directions:

On Bay Area Boulevard 7 miles east of I-45, approximately 25 miles southeast of downtown Houston, 30 miles northwest of Galveston, and on the southeast boundary of Pasadena. ABNC is the neighbor of



NASA/Johnson Space Center, University of Houston Clear Lake and the Lunar Planetary Institute, the Bayport Industrial complex and is surrounded by significant residential development.

General Meeting Information:

Safety glasses are a requirement! Hearing protection and gloves are recommended.

No shorts or opened toed shoes allowed for your own safety. It is recommended that clothing and glove be either cotton or leather – avoid synthetics.

Bring a chair to sit in.

You do not have to be a member to attend our meetings! Bring a Guest!

Minors are welcome but must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Bring your Membership Dues if you want to swing a hammer and are not a current Member!

For more information email Pete Farrell at pmforging@gmail.com