

NE Regional Report THE COUNTRY JAMBOREE

Bob Mancuso

The Country Jamboree at Barberville was well attended and all forges were running most of the time. Demonstrators showed various skills in blacksmithing. Much "black iron" was available for purchase as well as roses and knives. The weather was just right, not too cold and not too hot. Visitors watched and admired the items being made. Many visitors were intrigued enough to take an application and said they would like to be a member and learn the skill. A lady who was not a member, but had attended Campbell in Brasstown, stood at one of the forges and made herself a nail. Fred Kingery's picture appeared in the Volusia section of the Daytona Beach Journal. We all look forward to the publicity FABA gets at these activities. One more disk was made for the gate. Have you made yours yet? If not please get started and get it turned in so the gate will be covered with FABA member's skill represented and on permanent display.

Fred Kingery entered his iron roses in an art show. Although Fred's iron roses were admired by most people, they did not win. What did win was his "wooden egg with a rose bud inside". This resulted in a cash prize.

SE Regional Report

Charlie Stenmann

The meeting was held at Matty and Irene Spinelli's Shop near Okeechobee City, Florida. A total of 16 members and guest were in attendance. The day started out on the rainy side, but soon stopped and the day was cloudy. It turned out to be a great day to do some forging. Bryan Law came to his first meeting and really enjoyed himself. He also got some help on a project he is working on.

Matty was in his glory, showing off his air hammer that he got after last year's conference. He got himself a big blue air hammer, and it really works super well, and a lot of control. I do believe every one that came got a chance to try it out and so did I. Michael Barry and Harland Fisher each made a knife or letter opener out of railroad spikes. From what I saw they did a great job. Sarah McMurray Had some fun with the hammer. She flatten a railroad cleat the hammer sure did a job on it. Sarah did some work on her vise that she uses to hold shoes that she is working on. from last report the mod. she made is working great! Dennis Smith use the hammer to make a flattener to be used with the hammer. He did a great job making it. Jim Fagan did his usual thing, he beat out another knife blade.

As for lunch Irene made enough food for an army. However the lunch was fantastic and everything that she made was excellent. I hope Matty will do another meeting sometime soon, because I want to come back for seconds and bring a better appetite.

When I left at about 5 PM it started to rain again, so I guess you say the weather let us have a great day.

A short note on this year's conference. I want to say that all who took my class on the three legged table. You all did a great job and I want to thank those who stuck with it to the end. Also want to Thank Gerry Jamison for helping me with the class as well with building the first one. Thank You Gerry!

Rob Gunter's Super Quench:

This quench will allow you to make tools out of mild steel for limited use and short-run operations. It is reputed to harden mild steel to Rockwell C 43-45. Don't harden anything with over 55 points carbon to avoid cracking.

Ingredients:

5 gallons water

5 lbs salt

28 oz Dawn concentrate dishwashing liquid

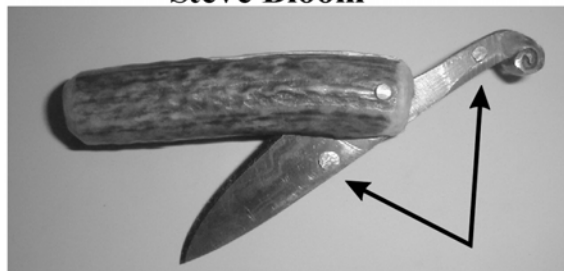
8 oz Shaklee Basic I (or other quality surfactant of approximate quantity for a 5 gallon mix) The unscented 7 oz bottle of Jet-Dry "liquid rinse agent" can be substituted. Simple Green is also reported to work.

Test the surfactant by dipping a 3" wire loop into it and suspend vertically in air. The bubble should last a full 30 seconds. Be sure to rinse the piece well after using the product to get rid of the salt.

Classified Ads

For Sale: Champion 400 blower. \$ 175.00. \$185.00 if I have to haul it to a meeting to sell it! Contact Bill Robertson at 850-681-0881 during the day or 850-668-2876 in the evenings.

Primitive Folder Hint Steve Bloom



Add copper rivets to act as 'locking' mechanism.
Set them until they just drag on opening & closing.