

FIRE & IRON

Northeast Blacksmiths Association

Spring 2018

Next Ashokan Hammer-In April 13th, 14th & 15th

Demonstrator

. Nick Rossi .



Spring Forging Project

The project for the Spring is a forged bottle opener.

Hands-On Workshop
Beginner and not so.

WANTED

Newsletter editor for Fire & Iron
Current editor will work with new editor to help get them started

Register Online

If you pay at the door it saves us the PayPal Fee
www.northeastblacksmiths.org

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President's Message

Our Fall Meet at Ashokan was a great success. We shared the facilities with New England Bladesmiths Guild, which certainly gave us a super-charged weekend! We had a great demo with Eric Schatzel forging some very fine historic tools including a stake anvil. Our Teaching Program was full and fired up. The knifemakers added to the level of excitement, plus we got to see their Sunday morning knife show. Looks like we will be sharing our Fall weekends with them in the future.

Right now we are working on a possible off-site NBA meet in Washington County N.Y. The facility has a new forging shop that looks pretty nice. This will be a hands on opportunity with instruction focusing on tongs, several styles. All participants will be able to take their tongs home or donate them to the 2020 ABANA Teaching Program. Save the date, June 9th. More info coming.

It needs to be said that our Iron-in-the-Hat lottery is lacking energy. We all need to work to upgrade the quality and quantity of our donations. Our table of goods pales in comparison to many of the other regional groups lotteries and auctions. Let's work on upping our game!

For the lottery, please consider bringing better tools, a piece of your own work, interesting items not specific to smithing. Remember, your contributions benefit the NBA, your organization!

Don't forget the ABANA Conference coming up this summer June 27 – 30 in Richmond VA. Go to the ABANA website for all the conference info, including the extensive list of demonstrators. There is still time to register www.ABANA.org

And lastly, please read the 2020 ABANA Conference update in this issue. We will be signing up volunteers to help at the conference during our April meet.

This is an exciting time for Blacksmithing. Interest and general awareness of our craft is growing. We have two excellent ABANA Conferences nearby to our area, one this Summer and again in 2 years. Our membership is growing with lots of new members. Let's all roll up our sleeves and get to work in our own workshops and also in ways that contribute to the growth of our group and the world of Blacksmithing!



Fire & Iron is the official newsletter of the Northeast Blacksmiths Association. The projects and processes described in the newsletter are potentially dangerous. The Northeast Blacksmiths and its members do not manufacture, distribute, sell, test, warrant, guarantee, or endorse any of the tools, materials, instructions or products contained in articles in the Newsletter Fire & Iron. The Newsletter Editors, Officers and Members of the Northeast Blacksmiths Association disclaims any responsibility or liability for damages or injuries as a result of any construction, design, use, manufacture or other activity undertaken as a result of the use or application of information contained in any articles or features in the newsletter Fire and Iron. The Newsletter of the Northeast Blacksmiths Association assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy, fitness, proper design, safety or safe use of any information contained in the Newsletter Fire & Iron.

2018 Spring Hammer-In

Our demonstrator for the Spring Meet is Nick Rossi of Portland, Maine.

Nick has taught Bladesmithing at the New England School of Metalwork since 2006. His interest in metalworking began as a boyhood fascination with knives and swords. By the time he was 15 he was working at one of Maine's largest cutlery shops and was soon introduced to custom knifemaking by a few local craftspeople.

He has his own studio where he creates one of a kind cutlery and jewelry. His work is influenced by Japanese, Southeast Asian and Scandinavian design as well as literature, fine art and nature.



In his own words: “From the time I knew that there was such a thing as a custom knife maker, I was sure that I wanted to be one. ... I assumed that metallurgy, machining and woodworking would be the knowledge base required but it was the peripheral knowledge that solidified my decision. Sociology, history, material science and industry became equally important to me. It became readily apparent that this ‘hobby’ would provide

me with several lifetimes’ worth of study and research. There was no turning back...”

Nick is a successful and popular instructor at NESM. In addition to the advanced classes he teaches, he does beginner classes where all the students go home with a completed knife.

The concept for Nick’s weekend demo is an easy approach to knife making, from start to finish. [Knife making for the Blacksmith: Cutting out the Fuss](#)





Nick will cover: efficient blade forging; blade shaping (without spending \$4000 on a belt sander); forged guards; file work (file fun); low tech heat treat (high tech performance); handle fitting and shaping; sharpening.

For more info on Nick and his knives:
<http://www.nickcrossiknives.com>

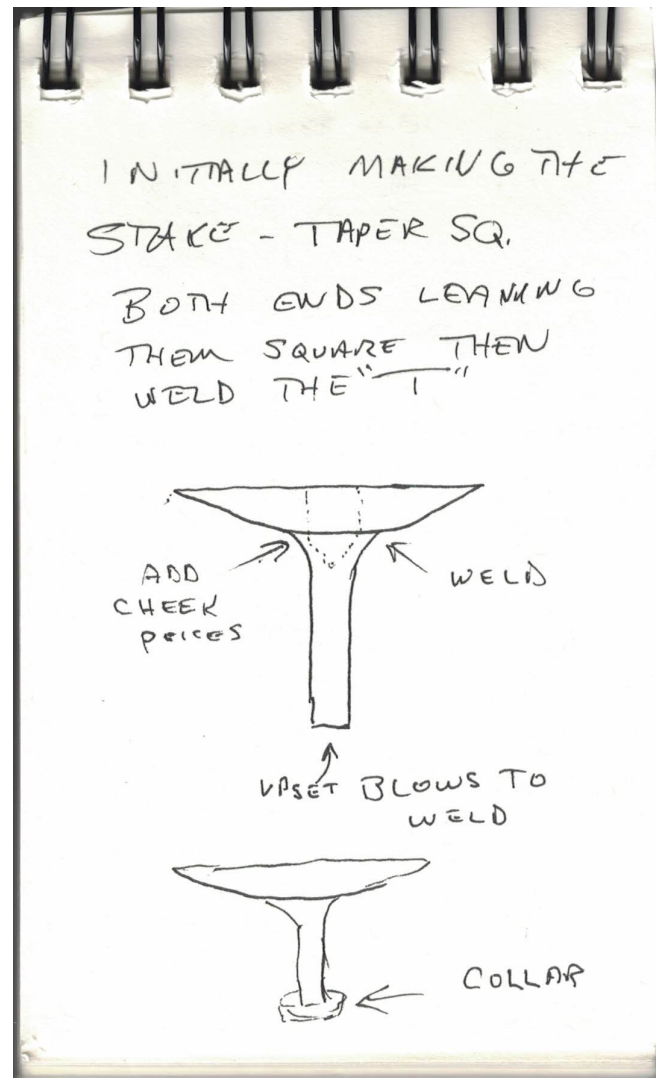
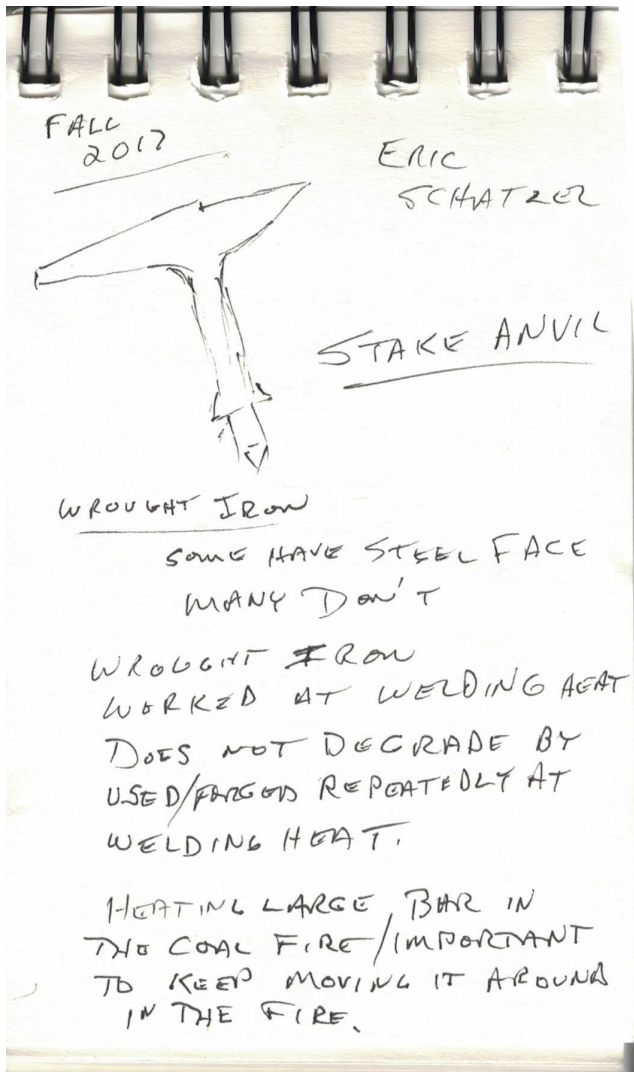


Don't miss this demo, Nick will give you enough info to go home and make your own knives with confidence.

Jonathan Nedbor

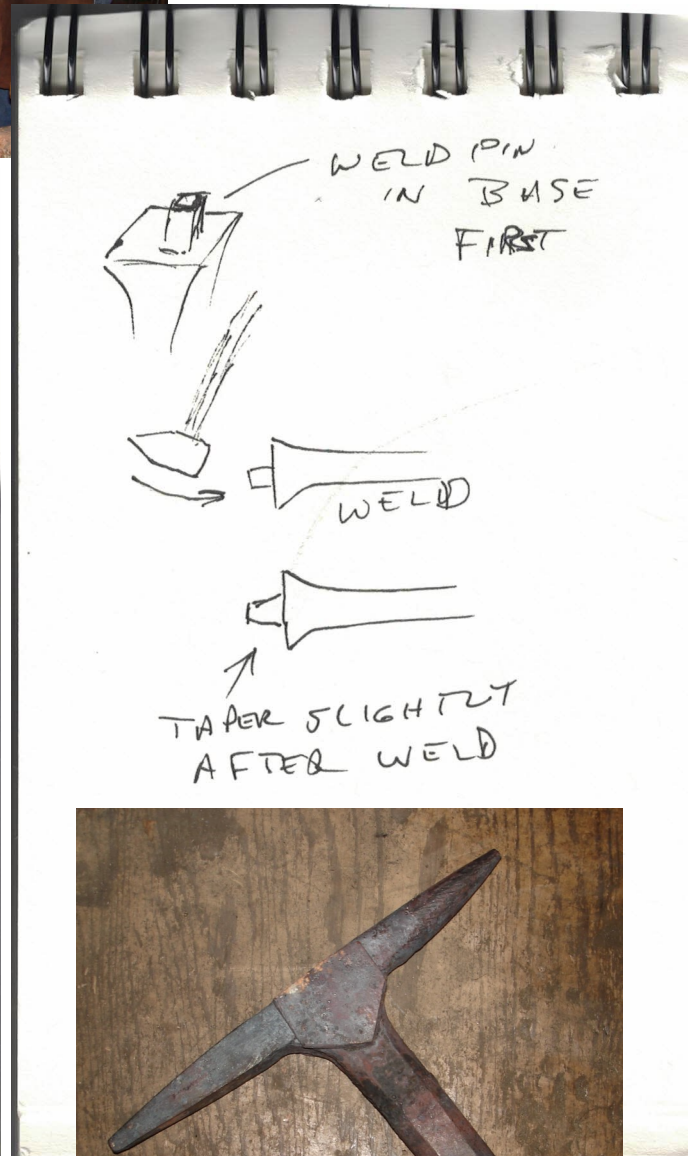
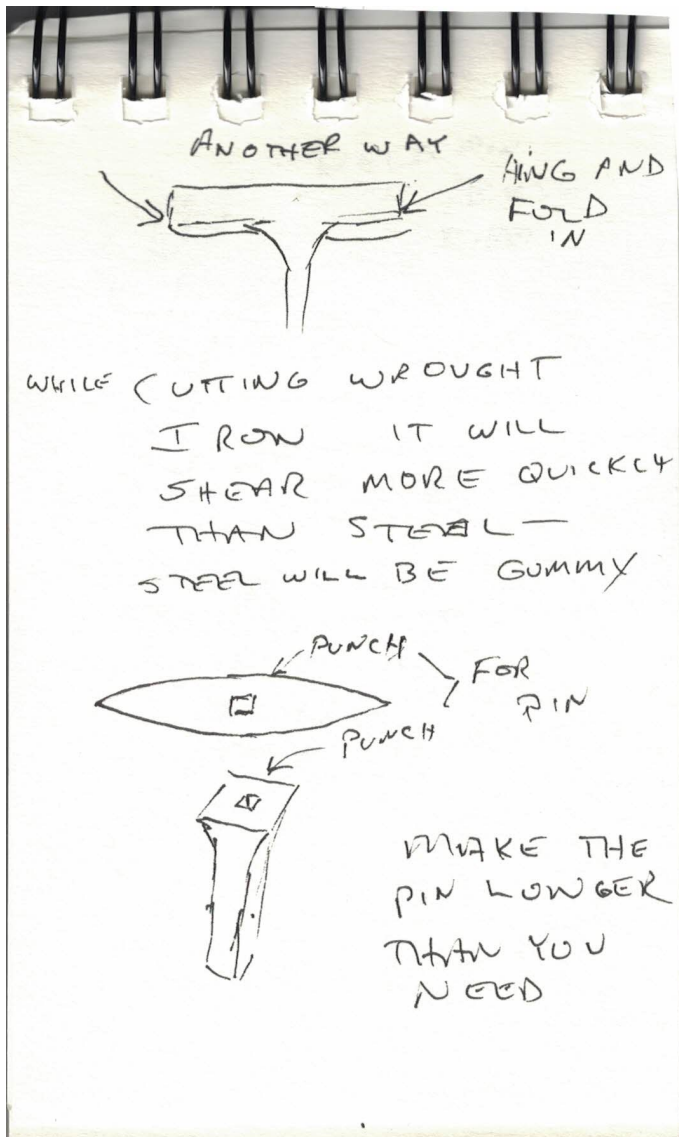
Fall Hammer-In

Our Fall demonstrator was Eric Schatzel. For his first project he made a stake anvil. Keeping with tradition he used wrought iron. He mentioned that some stake anvils were faced with steel but not all. He reviewed the different methods used to make stake anvils.





Tim Miller stands by ready to strike for Eric as he refines a taper.





Eric's second project was a scissors. As seen below, his demo was well received and kept everyone's attention.



The New England Bladesmiths were using the lecture hall so we had to improvise and hold the Iron-In-the-Hat out on the porch. It worked out fine.



Parking for tailgating is tight now that we can only park on the building side of the road however everyone managed to squeeze in.



The hands on program was busy and very successful. Thanks to Michael McCarthy and all who assisted.

Thanks also to everyone that pitched in to set-up and then clean-up. Finally thanks to the weather for cooperating to complete another successful NBA Hammer-in.



2020 ABANA Conference Update

ABANA Conference, Saratoga NY, scheduled for June __ __, 2020 at the Washington County Fairgrounds. At this time about 1/2 of the demonstrators are lined up.

The conference demos will focus on the 7 Disciplines of Blacksmithing: Art Smithing, Traditional Work, Tooling, Harnessing Power, Bladesmithing, Farriers' Art, Teaching.

We are working on a conference logo now so we can promote our 2020 Conference at this summer's Richmond conference where we will have an Info Table selling mugs, tee shirts, hats, etc. The Chamber of Commerce will also provide us with information packets on the Saratoga area to hand out.

New England Blacksmiths Assoc. is organizing meets to create the tooling needed for the 20 teaching stations planned for the conference. The group will make hand tools, tongs, fire tools as well as building 6 portable forges.

We need a few VOLUNTEERS from the Northeast Blacksmiths Assoc. in Richmond, June 27-30. Looking for some assistance at the Info Table, about 2 hours per person. We are creating a list and assigning slots to all who are interested.

Please contact me for volunteering, questions, suggestions.

Thank you,

Bob Menard-Blacksmith

Ball & Chain Forge

56 Warren Ave. suite 106

Portland, Maine 04103-1174

207-878-2217

www.ballandchainforge.com

NBA Fall 2017 Business Meeting Minutes, September 30, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:20 PM by Jonathan Nedbor, president.
Request for agenda items.

Minutes Spring 2017 meeting read. Minutes also posted on our web site

Old Business: Tim Neu - Purchased new equipment trailer for \$3,000, replaces old trailer. New trailer in good condition, good tires. Bladesmiths shared 1/3 of the cost, will share 1/3 of proceeds from the sale of old trailer.

*Tim to get two brooms to keep the trailer interior clean.

Discussion on ways to protect the interior of new trailer to minimize damage during loading, unloading, transport.

*Phil Clark will recommend materials, up to \$250, to protect trailer interior.

+ Motion made and passed

Old trailer to be sold to Jonathan for \$1,000

+ Motion made and passed

NBA Tool Ownership: Jonathan –letter sent to Ashokan Center’s lawyer regarding our ownership of tools and equipment. No response to date.

Alternate Meeting Sites: Attendance requirement at Ashokan now set at 50 person minimum. Possibility of booking with other groups to meet this requirement. Kelley Anson mentioned Dutchess County Fair Grounds, Peters Valley Craft School, Cuddeback Village and the Adirondack Folk School as possible alternate locations.

*Kelly will contact and report back at the next Hammer-In. Other members that have suggestions are urged to forward to Jonathan and Kelly any contact information for potential sites.

2020 ABANA Conference: Rand Condell – Needs (tools, supplies) and logistics for conference still being worked out. The need for improved communication between ABANA and Affiliates noted.

Spring Hammer-In: April 13-14-15, 2018: “Knife making start to finish” with demonstrator Nick Rossi from New England School of Metalwork.

Treasurers Report: Tim Neu – Bank Acct. \$9455

Motion to Adjourn

+ Motion made, passed at 9: 15

Respectfully submitted,

Hank Rehm, secretary



**The ABANA
2018 Conference
will be held in
Richmond, Virginia
at the
Meadow Event Park
Wed Jun 27 - Sat 30 Jun, 2018**

Featured Demonstrators include:

Patrick J. Quinn
www.patrickjquinn.com

Michael Dillon
www.dillonforge.com

Chris Shea
www.chris Shea.com

Andrew Kyte
www.kytemetalwerks.com

John Medwedeff
www.johnmedwedeff.com

Pavel Tasovsky
www.tasovsky.com/cz/

Zack Noble
www.zacknoble.com

Stuart Hill
www.stuarthillstudio.com

Susan Hutchinson

Teaching Tent

Mark Aspery, Gerald Franklin, Darryl Nelson, John McLellan and Gerald Boggs will be leading the Teaching Tent with an expanded format that will give more attendees the opportunity to participate in this well-received program.

ABS Demonstrators include:

Butch Sheely – Grand Rapids, OH
(basic forging and tomahawks)

J.W. Randall – Keithville, LA
(basic forging and mosaic Damascus)

Harvey Dean – Rockdale, TX (basic forging and some Damascus)

POMMs Demonstrators include:

Tom Latane' – Pepin, WI
Peter Renzetti – Clayton, DE
Tina Chisena – Wheaton, MD
Kim Thomas – Seville, OH
Kevin Clancy – Eldersburg, MD

Farrier Demonstrators include:

Jennifer Horn
Royden Bloom

Sponsored by: Farrier Product Distribution
<http://www.farrierproducts.com/>

Family Programs

Broom Making for the Blacksmith with **Jeff & Brook Mohr**
Repousse with **Kirk Sullens**
Basket weaving with **Mary Jo McCarty**
Leatherworking with **Brett Smith** of T Star Leather
Lamp Working with **Gina Aiken**
Acrylic Painting with **Carolyn Schallmo**
Copper Work with **Paul Roche**

Upcoming Events

March 24th...Spring Meet at Greg Phillips, 9 am to 5 pm. Tailgating is encouraged.

Location: 937 State Route 17K, Montgomery, NY...8 miles West of the intersection of I-84 and the NYS Thruway RT 87, the house & shop are on the left as you go West on Route 17K. Phone #845-590-5254

April 13th, 14th, & 15th , 2018

**Northeast Blacksmiths Association Spring Hammer-In
Demonstrator, Nick Rossi** See pages 1, 3, 14 & 15 for complete info.

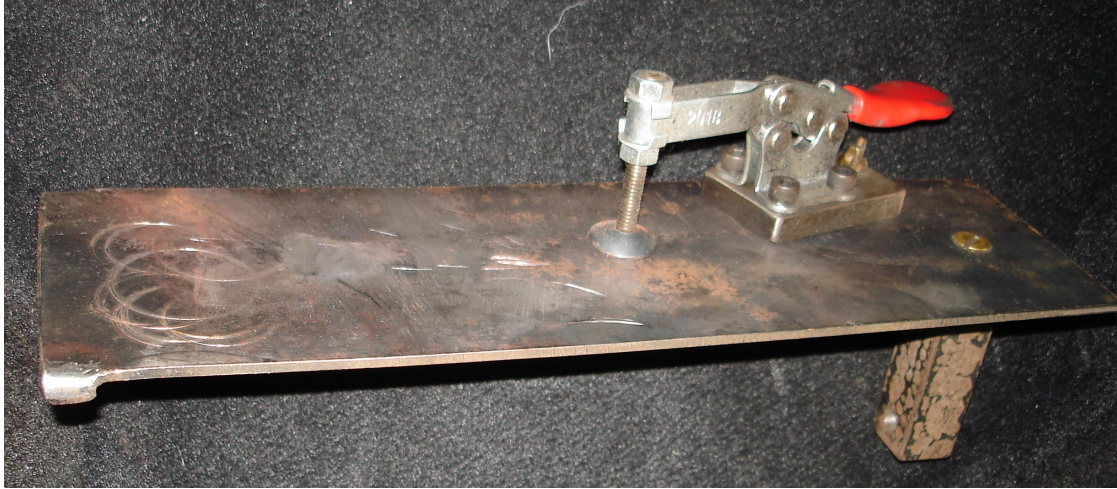
June 1,2,3...New England Blacksmiths Spring Meet, This will be a working meet to make tooling for the 2020 Abana Conference teaching tent. web site < <http://www.newenglandblacksmiths.org/2018/03/2018-spring-meet/#>>

June 9th New Jersey Anvil-repair WorkshopNJBA will be holding another of our famous participatory anvil-repair workshops on Saturday, June 9 in Howell, NJ. The price per anvil will be \$150 for ordinary repairs on edges, faces, and hardy hole, but additional charges may be assessed, depending upon the size and condition of the anvil. Participants will be expected to assist with the work involved. Participants should expect to have to grind the excess weld bead on their anvils themselves. Instruction in these tasks will be available. Contact NJBA Director Al Mottram (crankybellows@gmail.com) if you are interested. Please provide high resolution photos of your anvil edges, top, each side and bottom so we can estimate your repair costs. Assistance from nonparticipating members is also welcomed. *\Come see how we fix anvils!* Tailgate sales welcome. <https://www.njblacksmiths.org/>

June 27th—30th.....ABANA Conference <https://abana.org/>

Sept. 7th, 8th, 9th....New England Blacksmiths Fall Meet Mark Aspery demonstrator for updated info go to the web site < <http://www.newenglandblacksmiths.org/> >

Forging Project Winner



Carl Davison

The project was an anvil holddown, traditional or your own design.

Next Forging Project

The project for the Fall is a open to suggestions. Contact the Carl at the meet or send to carlrd@att.net



NBA Members Library

We have an extensive assortment of blacksmithing books / DVD's and VHS tapes for loan to members.

Fred Morse is our Librarian Contact <fmorse@frontiernet.net> (845)783-2049

You will have to pay shipping both ways or pick up and drop off items at the hammer-in

For a complete list go to our website

www.northeastblacksmiths.org

REGISTRATION Spring 2018 HAMMER-IN

On-Line Registration available at www.Northeastblacksmiths.org

If you can't register on-line fill out & mail in the form below

After April 1st
there will be a late
registration fee

Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

Check Package choice below Late = postmarked after Commuter package = no lodging.

- 1) ___ \$ 255.00 Adult weekend pkg. : 6 meals, 2 nights lodging, demo fee & dues. (Late \$275 after Apr. 1)
- 2) ___ \$ 225.00 Student weekend pkg. Student ID required: 6 meals, 2 nights lodging, demo fee & dues.
(Late \$245 after Apr. 1)
- 3) ___ \$ 210.00 Adult weekend commuter pkg. 6 meals, 2 day passes, demo fee & dues.
(Late \$230 after Apr. 1)
- 4) ___ \$ 180.00 Student weekend commuter pkg. Student ID required: 6 meals, 2 day passes, demo fee & dues.
(Late \$ 200 after Apr. 1)
- 5) ___ \$ 130.00 Adult Sat. pkg. 3 meals, demo fee, day pass, & dues. (Late \$ 140 after Apr. 1)
- 6) ___ \$ 100.00 Student Sat. pkg. Student ID required : 3 meals, demo fee, day pass & dues.
(Late \$110 after Apr. 1)
- 7) ___ \$ 135.00 Adult Sat. & Sun. Lunch pkg. 2 lunches, 2 day passes, demo fee & dues. (Late \$145 after Apr. 1)
- 8) ___ \$ 105.00 Student Sat. & Sun. Lunch pkg. Student ID required: 2 lunches, 2 day –passes, demo & dues
(Late \$115.00 after Apr. 1)
- 9) ___ \$ 90.00 Adult Sat. or Sun. Lunch pkg. Lunch, demo fee, day pass & dues. (Late \$100 after Apr. 1)
- 10) ___ \$ 60.00 Student Sat. or Sun. Lunch pkg. Student ID required, lunch, demo fee & dues.
(Late \$70 after Apr. 1)
- 11) ___ \$ 60.00 Adult Sat. or Sun. demo fee, day pass & dues. (Late \$70 after Apr. 1)
- 12) ___ \$ 30.00 Student Sat. or Sun. demo fee, day pass & dues. (Late \$ 30 afterApr. 1)
- 13) ___ \$10.00 Dues only

Make checks payable to: Northeast Blacksmiths Association
c/o Tim Neu
511 Beaverkill Rd.
Olivebridge, NY 12461

Please check box if you would like to
participate in the Hands-On Forging”
activity

Special Dietary Needs: Vegetarian _____ No Red Meat _____

PREREGISTRATION IS IMPORTANT ! Please fill out and return the registration form before April 1 , 2018.

Registration fee will be refunded 100% if you cancel by April 1, After this date, a 50% refund is available.

When: Plan to arrive to the Ashokan by 2:30 PM. Friday Apr.13 Seminar concludes after lunch on Sun. Apr.15

Student ID required for full time student discount rates .

For first time attendee's **Discount \$10**

Meals: Served buffet style with a vegetarian alternative. Please indicate on the registration form any special needs.

Lodging Lodging is bunk house style. Blankets & pillows are provided by the Ashokan Center. Bring your own linens or sleeping bag and toiletries. A separate bunk area will be reserved for couples. For those who may need more privacy, a rustic campground is available or we recommend: Reservoir Motel, Shokan, N Y 845-657-2002

Child Participation Scholarship

We have initiated a reduced rate for children that want to participate with their parents in the workshop. This is a limited offer and must be reserved ahead of time. Availability is on a first come first serve basis, Call ahead of time for qualifications and availability[845] 657-7553

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Spring 2018 HAMMER-IN AT ASHOKAN

Friday, April 13

2:30 PM - Arrival & shop setup
6:00 PM - Buffet Dinner & Registration
7:30 PM to 9:00 PM - Presentation by Nick Rossi

Saturday, April 14

8:00 AM - Breakfast
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Shop: Demonstration by Nick Rossi
Pavilion: Intro. to equipment, fire tending, and hands-on forging skills

12:00 PM - Lunch
1:00 PM to 1:30 PM - Iron-in-the-Hat drawing, Forging contest judging
1:30 PM to 5:00 PM - Shop: Demonstration by Nick Rossi
Pavilion: Hands-on basic forging skills continued

5:30 PM - Dinner
7:00 PM - Chapter business meeting .

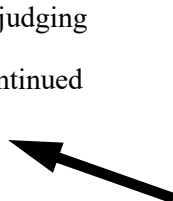
Sunday, April 15

8:00 AM - Breakfast
9:00 AM to 11:30 PM –Final demo / wrap up with Nick Rossi
11:30 AM to 12:00 PM - Shop clean up
12:00 PM - Lunch

Safety Alert

To participate in the Hands-on forging area you must

- Wear safety glasses
- Wear non flammable clothing, cotton / wool
- Wear shoes that cover your feet completely, leather.



Personal Release Form
(Please read carefully and sign)

I acknowledge that the blacksmithing activity I am about to participate in is a potentially dangerous activity. I understand that the activity has been organized and is being led by private individuals working as unpaid volunteers, and is not a program of the Ashokan Center. I take full responsibilities for my health, well-being, behavior, and experience during this activity. I agree to exercise appropriate care and awareness during the activity and accept this as my responsibility in consideration for permission to participate. I agree to wear appropriate protective clothing and footwear, and will use protective eyewear at all times while in and near the activity area. I understand and assume the risk and responsibility for any injuries or damages suffered by me arising out of my participation in this event, and any costs I may incur associated with such injuries or damages, or otherwise incurred on my behalf in the furtherance of my well-being or safety.

I release from any liability and surrender all rights to make a claim against the Ashokan Foundation, Inc., the Ashokan Center, Inc., the staff of the Ashokan Center, the members and officers of the Northeast Blacksmiths Association and the persons who are facilitating the event and other participants in the event, as a result of any injury, damage, death, or any other loss suffered by me. This includes any claims resulting from negligence (but not its willful or wanton misconduct) on the part of the property owners or staff of the Ashokan Center.

I have read and understand and agree to the above statements.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

In the event of an emergency I request and give permission to the organizers to contact the person listed below and to secure appropriate treatment at my own expense.

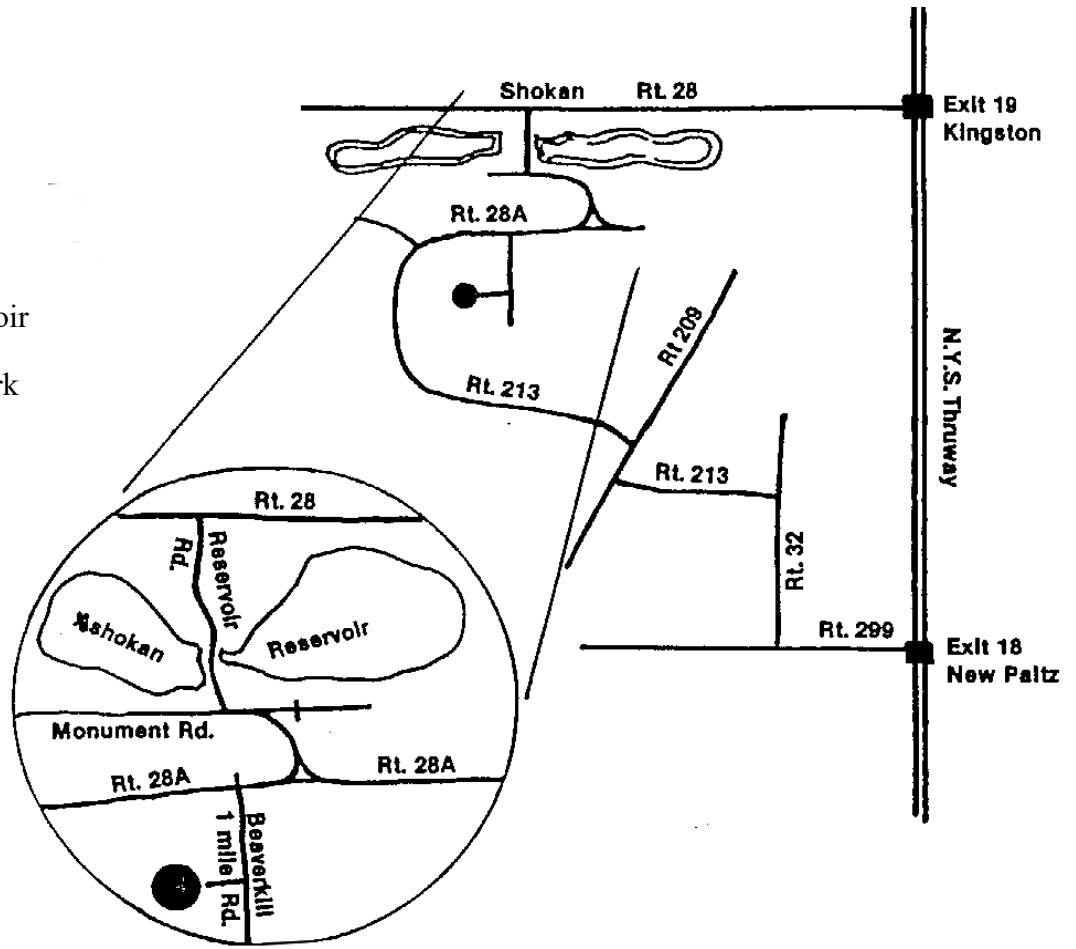
Name (please print) _____

Telephone number: _____

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Olivebridge, N.Y. 12461

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Ulster County, New York

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