



Balcones Forge Dispatch

President's Corner

September 2022

Greetings,

Thanks to all those who came out to the July Meeting . Special thanks to Caylor Forge who hosted us at his new place which has air conditioning. This was much needed for a July meeting. They have a great set up and store. If you are looking for some hand made knives and knife making and blacksmithing supplies this is the place to go in San Antonio. We conducted our iron in the hat with half the proceeds going to REFORGED. REFORGED provides knife making classes to veterans and first responders. Chad demoed making a knife which you can bid on at a future iron in the hat. So make sure you come to the meetings to see what you can get.

The word for August's meeting was HOT! We fired up the forges and had several old and new members hammer some hot steel. Many thanks again to Doug who allows us to use his shop to have our meetings. We maintained safety by ensuring all were taking breaks and drinking plenty of water. No casualties and everyone had a great time. Our youngest member Caleb was mentored by one of our knifemakers in the group and got to make a horseshoe knife. While Omar was learning to draw out a railroad spike into a steak flipper. Always a great time to hammer hot metal with this great group.

Our September meeting will be the Wendish Festival on SUNDAY September 25, 2022. Set up forges by 9:00 am with the meeting starting at 9:30 am. Located 6 miles SW of Giddings 1011 County Road 212, Giddings, TX. We will be setting up several forges to demo to the public and as always any member of Balcones Forge can take a turn in the forge. We will have several mentor smiths to work with anyone who wants to get in the fire and forge some.

Meeting is on Sep 25

Meeting starts at 9:30am

Sunday, Sunday, Sunday!

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President's Message continued.

Save the date for our October meeting on the 29th. This will be our Annual Memorial meeting. Our Demonstrator will be Lyle Wynn. Hosted by Jerry and Marsha Whitley at 295 CR 663 Devine, TX 78016. Jerry is also serving up some awesome barbeque (donations appreciated). For all of us hoarders and those who need tools and such we usually have a lot of donated items to auction off. Bring what you don't need or bring some money to buy what you do need.

Look forward to seeing ya'll at the next meeting. Keep forging.

John Meyer, President

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

Despite the heat the August meeting had a pretty good turn out. It seems to be cooling off a little so let's get to forging. The September meeting will be at the Wendish Festival in Serbin on the 25th yes that is a Sunday. This is always a fun event come on out and get in the fire. October as John mentioned is in Devine at Jerry Whitley's and Lyle Wynn will be our demonstrator he always puts on a good show. This is a great opportunity to learn. We are planning on having the November meeting at the furniture museum in Ne Braunfels on the 26th.

Aaron Tilton, Vice President

Upcoming meetings:

September 25th	Serbin
October 29th	Devine
November 26th	New Braunfels
December ???	????
January	Texas Blacksmith Conference in La Grange

More info in the two Balcones Forge Facebook pages. (You can check out the posts without having a Facebook account.)

<https://www.facebook.com/BFCTB/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/688735415468063>

SECRETARY'S NOTES JULY AND AUGUST MEETING

The July meeting was held at Caylor Forge in San Antonio. The meeting was a great event, and the auction was a success. A big thank you to Chad Caylor for hosting us. Caylor forge hosts Reforge which is a non-profit that is dedicated to teaching knife making to first responders and veterans. The classes are free for veterans and first responders. Chad and his friends demonstrated knife making techniques and donated a knife to Balcones Forge to be auctioned off at our October Meeting in Devine. If you need knife making supplies, there is a store that has many items as well as knives and forged items for sale.

The August meeting was held on August 27th at Blackhawk millworks in Zorn.

John Meyer opened the meeting at 9:30 am with introductions and a thanks to Doug Caroselli.

John talked about our next meeting at the Wendish Festival on Sunday September 25th at Saint Paul's church, 1572 CR211, in Giddings Texas. We have been demonstrating at this festival for some time and it is always a good time. There will be food and drinks available to purchase at the festival. We will be having an open forge as well as demonstrating for the festival attendees.

Come on out and join us!

John talked about our October meeting at Rustyk Forge in Devine. This is the 10th annual Demonstration and Memorial meeting held at Rustyk Forge. Jerry Whitley and family have graciously offered to host this meeting at their home. Lyle Wynn will be the demonstrator for this meeting and will likely show how to make jewelry. This one of our most attended meetings so please bring auction items and iron in the hat items.

Andy Quittner spoke about ABANAs plans to have a conference in Johnstown Pennsylvania commemorating the 50th year of ABANA. He indicated that the ABANA board is discussing the cost of the conference and proposing that there will be a team forging competition. If interested, please go to the ABANA website for more information as it becomes available.

The remainder of the meeting was open forge where one of our youngest members made a horseshoe knife.

Lance Jensen, Secretary

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The Texas Wendish Heritage Society Presents:
34th ANNUAL WENDISH FEST
SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Texas Wendish Heritage Museum &
 St. Paul Lutheran Church Picnic Grounds, Serbin, Texas
 Located 6 miles SW of Giddings @ FM 2239 & CR 212

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Schedule of Events

- 9:30 Drive Thru Meal Line Opens
- 10-2 Silent Auction
- 10-3 Exhibits & Demonstrations
- 10-5 Museum Complex is Open
- 10:30 Coffee Cake Bake-Off Entry Deadline
Meal Announcements & Prayer
Meal Line & Refreshments Open
- 11:30 Placi Kwas - Presented by St. Paul Students
- 12:15 Introduction of TWHS Scholarship Recipients
- 12:30 Coffee Cake Bake-Off Winners Announced
- 12:45 Live Coffee Cake Auction
(benefitting the TWHS Scholarship Fund)
- 1-4 Shiner Hobo Band
- 1:00 Children's Stick Horse Races
- 1:30 Children's Coloring Contest
- 2:00 Coloring Contest Winners Announced
SLCVFD Train Rides for the Kids
Snack Booth Opens
- 3:00 Washer Pitching (sign up at 2:30)
- 4:45 Cross-Cut Sawing Demonstration



FUN FOR ALL AGES!



DEMONSTRATIONS & EXHIBITS



Plan to wear your bonnet or straw hat in honor of our TWHS founders in celebration of our 50th year!
 (or get one at Wendish Fest)



We invite you to worship with us at St. Paul Lutheran Church, one of the *Painted Churches of Texas*
 English Service at 8:30 & German Service at 10:30

FEATURED ENTERTAINMENT



THE SHINER HOBOS BAND

For more information:

www.texaswendish.org 979.366.2441 museum@texaswendish.org

WWW.BALCONESFORGE.ORG

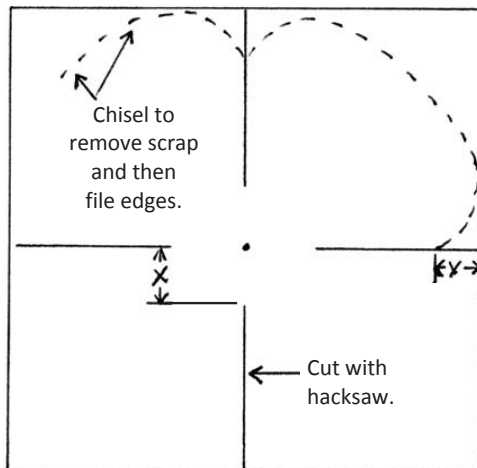
Two Simple Flowers

By Steve Anderson, a MABA member



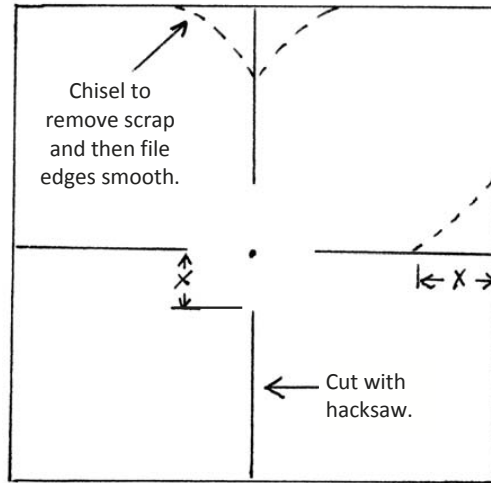
Stock size-16 to 10 gauge sheet steel.

Round Petal Flower



<i>Flower blank</i>	<i>Dimension X</i>	<i>Rivet size</i>
2 x 2	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{3}{16}$
3 x 3	$\frac{7}{16}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
$3\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
4 x 4	$\frac{9}{16}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

Square Petal Flower



Mark the flower center but don't drill the hole until after forging the petals.

Cut, chisel and file edges.

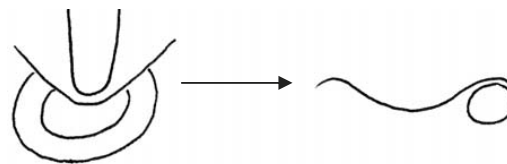
Bend the opposite petals down. And the other two petals up.



Use a cross pein hammer to spread and texture the petals.



Flatten the petals allowing them to overlap.



Cup the center of the flower down, then curl edges over. Time to drill the rivet hole.

Clean up the flower on a wire wheel, then clear coat and wax to seal.

Attach the flower to your project using a plain or decorated rivet.





Don't lean your tools against trees!

10th Annual Rustyk Forge Demo & Memorial



Saturday, October 29, 2022

At: Jerry & Marsha Whitley's
Rustyk Forge

295 CR 663
Devine, Texas 78016



We will fire up the forge at 9:00am
Our Featured Artist & Demonstrator will be
Lyle Wynn
11:30 – Memorial Ringing of the Anvil
12:00 Lunch

Barbeque Dinner will be served

(Donation to cover the dinner will be greatly appreciated)

**For those that would like to participate in the Open Forge,
we will have a shaded area set up away from the demo area.**

Bring your Forge, Anvil & Tools

**Please support Balcones Forge and this Event by bringing
something for the Auction.**

Bring your “Tailgate” & “Show & Tell” items.

Fine Print – To participate in the “Open Forge”, you must be a member and signed in on the sign in sheet.

We can get you signed up at the event with \$25.00 and a completed Registration Form.

I am sure that we can come up with a hammer or two, but if you plan to forge please try to bring your own tooling and stock.

Feel free to bring your anvil and forge.

All will need eye protection and hearing protection is highly recommended.



Vincent Herod
Spotted Dog Forge
166 Granite Road
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