



Balcones Forge Dispatch

President's Corner

June 2017



Greetings!

Welcome to summer. Looks like the heat is here to stay for a while, which makes forging a real challenge at times. We should all be aware of the dangers of heat exhaustion and heat stroke and know that hydration is not

just a suggestion. Never turn down a cool drink or miss a chance to just sit and cool off, and from my own personal experience, never try to treat dehydration with alcohol. It does not work.

Now for the point of bringing this up, we are starting our "to hot to forge" season. We are looking for members with other talents that do not require great amounts of heat. We have great woodworkers, leather craftsmen, painters, and jewelers. We even have a few "cold forgers" that can work without heat at all. Bring a sample of you "cold" work or you are welcome to demonstrate at the June meeting in Wimberly where Tom Leining will put the finishing touches on a rather large D-handled Bowie made from a very large rasp. This should be great demo, don't miss it. Don't forget to make some sort of "spoon" for the trade item.

Many thanks to the Crouchet's and William Bastas for putting on the tong-making demo at the ranch. William did such a great job of putting together so much information from so many sources about how to work (or not work) rebar. I for one will never look at rebar as junk metal again. It does have its place among the other high carbon metals. Also thanks to Jim Elliot and Tim Tellander for coming in early to set up the shop. I don't remember another demo where folks stayed so late to work on a demo piece. A sure sign of a great demo!

Meeting Date is June 24

President's Message continued on page 3.



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TRADE ITEM

The trade item for June is a spoon. Get busy; you still have time. This month is a competition so you get to keep your work and maybe get a prize and the admiration of your peers.

Some branding occurred at Hye.



Tim Tellander works the anvil at the April meeting in Hye.
photo by Jerry Achterberg



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President's Message CONTINUED

Be sure to bring your hot weather show-n-tell items to Tom's on the 24th (and your spoon).

See ya'll then!

Jerry Achterberg
Balcones Forge President

Fill this space.

We need your arti-
cles

Pictures

Want ads

Etc.

Thanks!



John and Carolyn Crouchet not only open their ranch up to Balcones Forge; they won the auction! The build crew is below. *photos by J. Achterberg*





William Bastas once again provided top notch instruction at the May meeting of Balcones Forge. His story board goes a long way in showing the process of taking rebar and turning it into tongs.

photos by Jerry Achterberg





Is it true that he now goes by Stan "Bulldog" Bryant?

photo by Jerry Achterberg

SAVE THE DATE

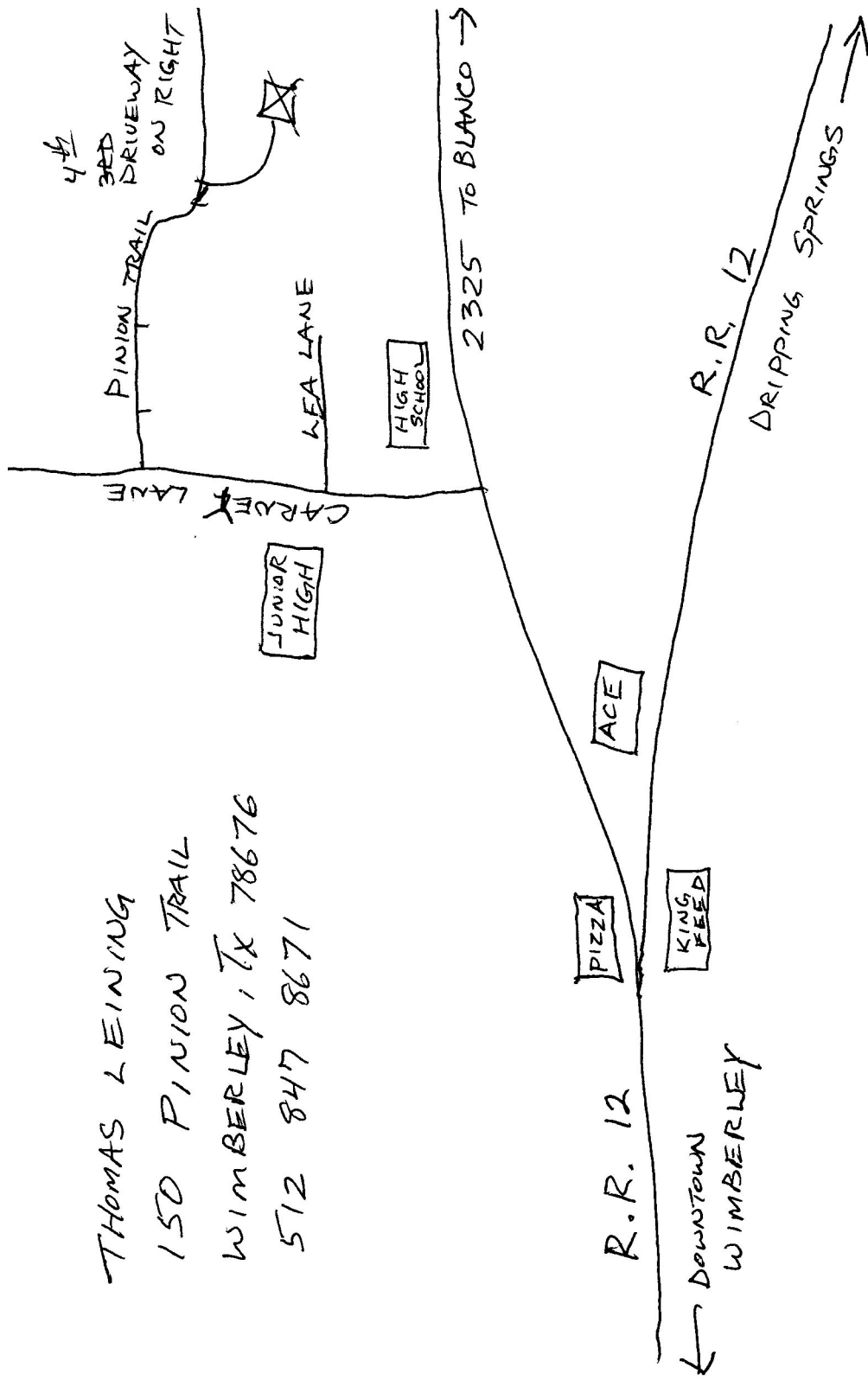
The Bluebonnet Demo for 2018 will be on April 7.

The demonstrator is

??????????????

Stay tuned for the answer!

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2018 Conference Poster Contest Voting

Vote for your favorite Poster. You may view larger images of the posters before voting at the ABANA website.

The individual submitting the winning Poster wins 2 free passes to the 2018 Conference. This Invitation can only be used once. If you forward this email to someone they will not be able to use it to vote.

Finally while we know everyone has multiple email addresses, we ask that you only vote once. If you do receive more than one voting invitation, please delete all but the one you use to vote

Thank you for voting. While anyone can vote, they do need to sign up to ABANA's Constant Contact message service and check the box to receive ABANA News and Announcements to receive an invitation to vote. Once they sign up they will receive a Constant Contact Email Invitation like this one which will allow them to vote once. After voting if they don't wish to receive additional emails from ABANA about ABANA and blacksmithing related events, they may opt out by clicking on the unsubscribe found at the end of their message.

Sincerely, Bill Clemens, ABANA Member Services, Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America



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