PHILIP SIMMONS ARTIST BLACKSMITH GUILD NEW SLETTER



Hi folks, Since Jody Durham (Incoming President) and Jesse Barfield (Outgoing President) were not at the Meeting, I am going to fill in. Jody, you will have the honor next time as you settle in to your new job. As usual we had a great meeting at LW Paul Farm. Bob Hill, Walter Hill and the Museum Staff are super hosts... THANKS! The chicken bog is always a treat and thanks to all those who brought sides and deserts, etc.

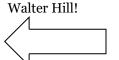
Walter did a fine demo, making a forge welded colonial belt buckle and a "squirrel cooker". There were a lot of very good items on the IITH table. We collected \$914.00...Thanks to all who brought items. Fire up your forge and bring a forged item to the April Meeting.

Jesse, you have served the Guild very well over the last 5 years. Under your leadership, we went through Madison 2017, our year to be the lead Guild, without a hitch and had a very good conference. We cannot thank you enough for your personal efforts on the Philip Simmons Gate. Jody has some big shoes to fill, thanks for stepping up.

Since I have the opportunity here, lets talk a minute about DUES. For recent new members, especially, and all members here are the facts about DUES.

Annual Dues are \$15.00 per year. They are payable in January/ February each year for the current calendar year. We take checks and cash; make your check out to PSABG.

NOT Burl Ives! It is Walter Hill!



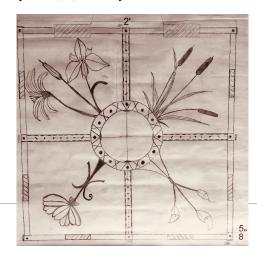
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A little over \$12.00 covers the cost of printing and mailing your 6 Newsletters. Dues paid by New Members joining before 1 Aug is applied to the current year. Joining after 1 Aug, Dues will be applied to the next calendar year. We do not mail out reminders. We do include in each Newsletter a note after your name in the address pane on the last page telling you the status of your Dues payment. What happens if you do not pay your dues? On Dec 31 each year those members that have not paid dues for that year are dropped from the Master Membership Directory and you will not receive a January/February Newsletter. If you wish to be Reinstated after 1 Jan, a reinstatement fee of \$15.00 (to cover the previous year) and Current Year Dues of \$15.00 should be sent to or paid in person to me. If you are unable to continue Guild membership or decide blacksmithing is not for you, let me know. This will save the Guild a little money by not sending you 5 newsletters before you are dropped from membership. Thanks for your sup-

Our current membership is at 189 with the following New Members added since our last newsletter; Alvin Cathcart, William Clifford, Britt Hilburn, Obadiah Kuebler, Jake Largin, John Medlin, and Austin Spence. Please make them welcome.

We still need volunteers for Green Coal instructors at the Madison Southern Blacksmith Association Conference. The dates are May 16-18. Gerald Alsbrook is making a toolbox for our contribution to IITH. Now we need YOU to help us fill it with tools. We have a good start with the donation of a fine crosspeen hammer by Mike Tucker. Ryan Callaway is taking on design and fabrication the Guild's portion of the Madison Project, a 2ft by 2ft grille. See the sketch herein . He is having three Hammer-ins at his shop in Greenville on 3/23, 4/6, and 4/23. If you want to contribute let us know.

C. Ray Pearre, Jr, Secretary/Treasurer



IRON IN THE HAT

Item	Donated By	Won By	Item	Donated By	Won By
Horseshoer's Rasps	Mackie Bryant	Robert Hill, V Garrett Still Joe Marsh Britt Hilburn	Pen Holder Helium Cylinder Copper Turquoise Earrings Fire Poker	Adrienne Butler Joe Marsh Tony Etheridge William Clifford	Raydon Brown Kevin Cook Niki Walker Barry Myers
Magnet Chip Pickup	Ray Pearre	Joe Marsh	Fire Rake	David Bush	Larry Woodland
Flint Stricker	Bob Hill	Keith Gunter	Hot Cut Chisel	David Bush	Adirenne Butler
Rat Tail Hinges	Barry Myers	Layne Law	Draw Knife	Tracy Hartfield	Niki Walker
Punch Hammer	Joe Marsh	Layne Law	Lawnmover blades	Meyer and Marks	LaDonna Burgess
Threaded Standoff	Joe Marsh	LaDonna Burgess			LaDonna Burgess
		Billy Joe Burgess			LaDonna Burgess
		Keith Gunter	Cowboy	Charles Meyer	ML Tanner
Great leather shears	Joe Marsh	Barry Myers	Iron Spike Nails	Bruce Hester	Clint Snider
		Robert Hill, V	Trivets and wooden spoon	Bruce Hester	Barry Myers
Pins	Joe Marsh	Lane Nordine	Cinch Bag	Kevin Cook	LaDonna Burgess
		John Mixon	Threaded Long Bolts	Kevin Cook	Keith Gunter
Touch Stool	Layne Law	ML Tanner	Spoke Shave	Will Rombilus	Ed Berry
Sterling Jewelry	Jamie Herndon	Bruce Hester	Air Tank	Al Jenkins	Charlie Meyer
Cable Damascus Knife	Meck Hartfield	Pat Walters	Soldering Iron	Al Jenkins	Pam Etheridge
Jimmy Suggs grill	Anne Suggs	John Tanner	Camo Pouches	Al Jenkins	Stanley Parker
Copper cup	Anne Suggs	Niki Walker	Coat Hook	Garret Still	Keith Gunter
Poker	Anne Suggs	Clyde Umphlet	Bee's Wax	Garret Still	Keith Gunter
Poker	Anne Suggs	Clyde Umphlet	Chain	Jason Jaco	Joe Marsh
Flame out	Anne Suggs	Joe Marsh	Steak Turner	Gerald Alsbrook	Garrett Still
Cross Necklace Earings	Keith Gunter	Jamie Herndon	Leaf	Jason Jaco	ML Tanner
Skewers	Lane Nordine	Clyde Umphlet	Hook	John Tanner	Clint Snider
Skewers	Lane Nordine	Clark Ard	History of the Rifle	Alice Jenkins	Keith Gunter
Tape Measure	Billy Joe Burgess	Keith Gunter	Belt buckle Demo Piece	Walter Hill	Anne Suggs
Cleaver	Mike Tucker	Keith Gunter	Squirrel Cooker	Walter Hill	Charlie Meyer
Silverware	Pat Walters	William Clifford			

CALIFORNIA BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION APRIL 25-27 NEVADA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Not seeing the Content you want? Submit requests for the kind of info and articles you are interested in, or better yet, submit an article yourself!



Trillium

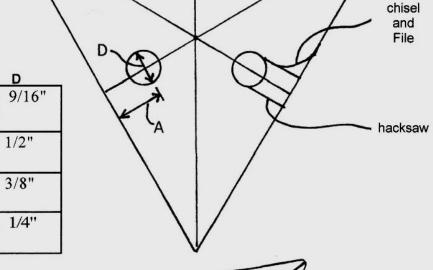
by Steve Anderson, a MABA member.

STOCK-12 gauge sheet steel.

For a cluster of three, cut one of each size. Other groupings as well as individual flowers can also be made.

	L	Α	D
LARGELEAF	5 3/4 "	7/8"	9/16"
MEDIUM LEAF	4 5/8"	3/4"	1/2"
SMALL LEAF	3 1/2"	1/2"	3/8"
FLOWER	3"	3/8"	1/4"

1. Use a narrow fuller to form the center vein in each leaf Then while hot, use a cross pein to create vein lines. Keep leaves symmetrical and lines radiating from the same point:



2. Cup centers (a forged ring works well), then curl leaves down over the horn while only curling the tips of the flowers slightly outward:



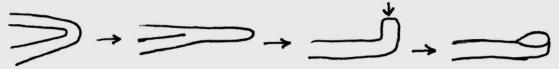


flower

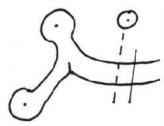


cold.

3. Forge a mounting frame from 5/16" round stock. Bend to a "V", forge weld and forge down to 5/16", then bend 1/2" up at 90 degrees and drive down to form a round disc 5/16" thick:



Arrange large leaf (with flower), medium, and small leaves to your liking, placing them close enough to hide the frame. Bend frame to line up with arrangement and cut off ends 1/4" beyond center of flower.



Bend ends up 1/2" then forge down to form 5/16" discs.

5.Drill discs for 3/16" rivet and countersink the back side. Drill center of leaves and flower (do not drill before forging). Make a 1/4" tall

spacer to slide over the rivet between the flower and large leaf to raise the flower up.

- 6. Before riveting, wire wheel all parts, use a brass brush to highlight the flower, and apply the first coat of clear coat.
- 7. Rivet the two leaves and the leaf with flower using a narrow rivet set that will not damage the leaves. Arrange to hide the mounting frame and to line up the flower so the petals fall between the leaves before riveting solidly.
- 8. Apply final coat of clear coat and 3 coats of wax.











For those individuals that do demonstrations for the public, there is always a need for some quick and easy projects. Transforming a common horseshoe nail into a botanical element can be a way to get the attention of visitors. Use a 3 1/4" horseshoe nail, this one was made by Capewell and also made in USA. It is a RH 12. Heat the head, hammer into a fan shape, forge the length, carefully soften the point, and scroll. This decorative element can be adjusted to wear on a chain, fashion as a book mark, or use your own idea.

Ginkgo biloba also known as the Ginkgo tree or Maidenhair tree, is the only living species in the family Ginkgoaceae, all others have been extinct. It is the oldest existing species in the world. In Japan, they are known to live 600-1,000 years. It is found in fossils dating back 270 million years ago, the time of dinosaurs. For landscapes today, they are known to adapt well to

urban environment, tolerate pollution, and confined soil spaces. Another benefit of this tree is that they tend to lose all their leaves in 24 hours after a hard frost. In the Fall, it is a great advantage for raking up leaves. The leaves are fan shaped and are not identical, some have a split in the fan".



Leaves are similar in shape but not identical. This allows for variety when demonstrating!

Try it for your fans!!!

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For Sale:

Fire Bricks - Brand New, Industrial Grade. \$1 ea. Ed Sylvester 803.414.2487

Tire Hammer plans by Clay Spencer. Send Paypal for \$30US to <u>clay@tirehammer.com</u>. Or check/money to 73 Penniston Pvt. Dr.,Somerville, AL 35670. I can mail a copy or email PDFS.

Beverly shear blades sharpened. Remove blades, mail in small Flat Rate box, include check/money order for \$50, includes return postage. clay@otelco.net, 256-558-3658.

Forklift tine sections for striking anvils, \$30. Jody Durham, 864-985-3919 ironsmith@gmail.com

Sewell Pea Coal, washed, \$11 per 5 gallon bucket. Will also sell in bulk at lower prices. Derice Hochstetler, Aiken, 803-508-1326

50# Little Giant \$3000 or trade for hydraulic press. Joe Marsh 843-229-5775

Todd Elder is offering Beginning Blacksmithing and Knifemaking Classes. Contact him at (864-978-7232)

Guild Coal: 3 buckets, \$30; 6 buckets or 30 gal barrel—\$45.00; 11 buckets - 55 gal barrel - \$60.00; 15 buckets - 1/4 ton - \$70.00; 30 buckets - 1/2 ton - \$140.00; 60 buckets - 1 ton - \$280.00. Contact **Mike Tucker** 803-316-3707

Upcoming events:

2nd Saturdays Blacksmith demonstrations at Roper Mountain Science Center, Greenville, SC, Anthony Palacino. contact.864-386-5546

3rd Saturdays Blacksmith demonstrations at Hagood Mill, Pickens, SC. Often, our own Griz Hockwalt.

March 30. **Hammer In at North Augusta Living History Park**. Contact Bob Kaltenbach 706-799-4703 Project and details to follow by email.

Fall TBD. **Beginners' Class at Magnolia Gardens**. Contact Ray Pearre 843-860-0532 Details to follow by email **2019 Meeting Schedule:** June 8—Marcengil's,

August—Camden

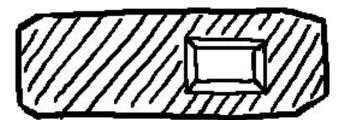
October—Lexington County Museum

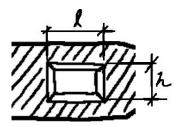
December 7—Ryan Calloway's in Greenville....It may live in infamy...

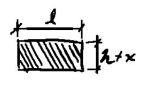
Tool Head and Handle Setting Technique By Tim Peel-Wickstrom of Iron and Thyme

Here is an interesting method for setting hammer heads onto handles Tim learned from Dave Friesen.

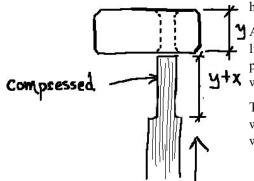
Drift a rectangular hole in the tool. Chamfer about 1-2 mm around the top and bottom of the hole. When cutting the handle to fit the hole, make it slightly thicker than the hole:







Compress the portion of the handle that fits into the hole by hammering it and then drive it through with a bit of the handle sticking out of the top of the tool head. Then either place the entire tool head with handle installed in water to swell the wood, or apply coats of tung oil to the top portion of the handle. This swells the wood fibres, ensuring a tight fit that won't allow the head to fly off the handle.



Another key, it seems, to prolonged use of large tools like the mukozuchi is a light handle. Many modern manufactured tools make overly heavy handles to prevent breakage from misuse. This adds unnecessary weight if the user knows what he's doing.

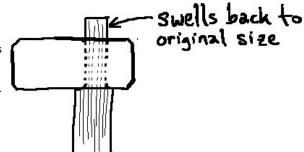
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This Youtube video demonstrates the striker technique that I practiced and used in the shop.







Close up shot of the mukozuchi sledge hammers. Photo credits: Dave J Friesen

Reprinted from The Newsletter of the Kootenay Blacksmiths

Isaac Granger A Virginia Blacksmith

Isaac Granger was born at Monticello in 1775, the third son of "Great" George Granger and Ursula "Queen" Granger. Ursula Granger was from Goochland County; Thomas Jefferson purchased her in 1773 because she was a favorite of his wife, Martha. In his youth, Isaac was tasked with light chores, including lighting cooking fires, hauling wood and opening gates.

When Jefferson was elected Governor of Virginia, the Grangers were among the staff -enslaved and free - that he took with him, first to Williamsburg and later, Richmond when the capitol was moved. They were there in Richmond when British forces under Benedict Arnold invaded. Isaac remembers,

"As soon as the British formed a line three cannon was wheeled round all at once & fired three rounds. Till they fired the Richmond people thought they was a company come from Petersburg to join them: some of em even hurraed when they see them coming: but that moment they fired every body knew it was the British. One of the cannon-balls knocked off the top of a butcher's house: he was named Daly not far from the Governor's house. The butcher's wife screamed out & hollerd & her children too & all. In



ten minutes not a white man was to be seen in Richmond: they ran as hard as they could stave to the camp at Bacon Quarter Branch. There was a monstrous hollering & screaming of women & children. Isaac was out in the yard: his mother ran out & cotch him up by the hand & carried him into the kitchen hollering. Mary Hemings, she jerked up her daughter the same way. Isaac run out again in a minute & his mother too: she was so skeered, she didn't know whether to stay indoors or out. The British was dressed in red. Isaac saw them marching. The horsemen (Simcoe's cavalry) was with them: they come arter [after] the artillery-men. They formed in line & marched up to the Palace with drums beating: it was an awful sight: seemed like the day of judgment was come. "Life of Isaac Jefferson, pp 6-7

The Grangers were taken prisoner by the British, along with many others, and were transported to the enslaved internment camp near Yorktown. They would remain there until the end of the Revolution. "And so the British carred them all down to Little York (Yorktown.) They marched straight through town & camped jist below back of the battle-field. Mr Jefferson's people there was Jupiter, Sukey the cook, Usley (Isaac's mother) George (Isaac's father) Mary the seamstress & children Molly, Daniel, Joe, Worm-ley, & Isaac. The British treated them mighty well, give em plenty of fresh meat & wheat bread. It was very sickly at York: great many colored people died there, but none of Mr Jefferson's folks." *Life of Isaac Jefferson*, p 9

When Jefferson became President, he took Isaac with him, apprenticing him to a Mr. Bringhouse, a Philadelphia tinsmith. Isaac would learn to make pepper boxes, graters, cups and to tin copper cooking vessels and sheets of iron. He learned quickly, and satisfied with his progress, the President sent him back to Monticello to set up a tinsmithing operation. Unfortunately, like so many of the industries at Monticello, it failed.

From there, Isaac would move on to blacksmithing and, eventually, the nailery at Monticello.

"Little George" Granger, Isaac's older brother, trained him as a blacksmith. He excelled in the nailery, and was among Monticello's most efficient nailers. He would also work extra hours in the forge, producing items for pay, such as the chain traces he made for Jefferson in 1796, for which he was paid threepence a pair.

Isaac left Monticello when Jefferson's daughter, Maria, married John Wayles Eppes (October 1797.) Jefferson gave Isaac, his wife and children to the newlyweds as part of the marriage settlement. Shortly after, Isaac and his family went to Thomas Mann Randolph (Maria's brother-in-law.) Whether Randolph bought the family, or hired them, isn't clear. We do know though that the transaction took place because Randolph needed a smith. Isaac would stay with the Randolphs for the remainder of his time in bondage, possibly returning to Monticello with them when the Randolphs moved in to help President Jefferson in his retirement.

We don't know how Isaac gained his freedom, but he did. He left Albemarle in the early 1820s, continuing to ply the blacksmith's trade in central Virginia. By 1847, when his memoirs were taken down by Rev. Charles Campbell, he was still working the anvil as a free man of color in Petersburg, VA in his shop "...not far from the Pocahontas bridge." (Pocahontas Island was a village along the Appomattox River.) It was the Rev. Campbell who "gave" him the surname of Jefferson—there's no evidence that Isaac Granger ever used the Jefferson name himself.

Isaac Granger, a Virginia blacksmith, died about 1850 in Petersburg.

Resources:

- Monticello.org
- "Life of Isaac Jefferson," Rev. Charles Campbell, 1847. Digitized copy, encyclopediavirginia.org
- "Old Plats of Pocahontas," Library of Virginia, virginiamemory.com

Reprinted from Central Virginia Blacksmith Guild

Turner Hammett

An update on Turner Hammett from his Dad: Turner is doing great . Thanks for asking and for all the thoughts and prayers. His checkups continue to show good results. May 25 will be 1 year since the transplant. He's currently working part time at Lowes and is hoping to return to the American College of the Building Arts next Spring to pick up where he left off.

When your spouse asks what they get out of this blacksmithing, tell them they can have the clinkers.

MAGIC CRYSTAL GARDEN

Watch beautiful crystals grow in this fascinating garden, also known as Depression gardens by some who grew up in the Thirties.

Ingredients:

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6 Tablespoons Salt Food coloring
6 Tablespoons Water Glass bowl
6 Tablespoons Laundry Blueing 5 or 6 pieces of clinker or charcoal
1 Tablespoon Ammonia
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Mix the salt, water, blueing and ammonia in a separate container. Put the clinker or charcoal in the glass bowl and pour the mixture over them. Sprinkle drops of food coloring on the clinker to give the garden color.

Set the bowl in a warm place. It will continue to grow until the liquid evaporates. If you wish to remove the garden, carry it very gently as the crystals are very delicate.

Reprinted from the Prairie Blacksmiths Association (coal works also!)

British Musket Tool

A project that can improve your hammer control for splitting and drawing out. Jymm Hoffman Ambridge, PA Pittsburgh Area Artist Blacksmith Association

Starting material: 3/16" by 3/4"
Finished overall size:
Approximately 3" tall by 3 1/2" wide
Wide blade Approximately 9/16" wide
Narrow Blade approximately 1/4" wide
Threaded blade, 1/4" wide at base, tapering to
blunt point to allow 10-32 threads



This musket tool was the "standard" pattern used by the British army for over 75 years with little change. After many request to reproduce these, I started to study as many originals as I could and colleagues started sending me photos and tracings of as many originals they could examine as well. There have been a few misinterpretations about musket tools found during archeological digs. For example, some thought the narrow leg of the tool would be used for pushing pins out of the stock in order to remove the gun barrels. This was due to a couple of musket tools being found in such poor condition that the threads were either completely gone of very hard to discern. One colleague had taken a trip to exam the collection in the Tower of London. He reported to me finding many musket tools in new condition, all of which had worms attached to the narrow and rounded third leg. I have since obtained a reprinted copy of Timmons Tool catalog from the 18th. Century. Indeed, the Y shaped gun tool in this catalog is shown with a worm attached, as well as other gun tools with worms attached. The conclusion we have made is it was simply a way to store the worm so it would be harder to loose. Several of us do discredit the idea of using the narrow leg as a pin punch to remove the barrels and promote the idea that the common soldier would have been discouraged to do this for fear of loosing the small pins while in the field. We also agree that this tool is more than adequate to change flints and remove the lock from the stock for basic cleaning. More than this would risk loosing valuable parts that would be too difficult to replace. While I have not seen the tools in the Tower of London to compare, of all of the ones on "this side of the pond," no two are exactly alike. Overall size varies from 3 1/2" by 4" as the largest and down to 2" by 3". Another area of variation is the leg that holds the worm. Some were wide enough that the threads were on the very end while others were so narrow that the threads were close to the base of the fork. There were less variations in thickness. I have also seen 2 of these that had 3 flat screw driver blades. While it is not necessary to produce these to machine shop tolerances and exactly alike, it is a project I encourage students to make several to see how close they can get them. For those wondering what a worm is: it is a cork screw type of device that would be attached to a ramrod for cleaning the barrel of these muzzle loading weapons. Most of these worms were made of 2 wires of about 1/8" rod, attached to a round "slug" to form a double worm. I have not had the time to take on

the task of figuring out ways to make the worm affordable yet. So here is the method that I use to make this pattern tool:

Start with a piece of 3/16" by 3/4" by about 30" long, long enough to not need tongs for the first few. I start to forge a double shoulder about an inch into the bar and drawing it down to about 3/16" thick by 1/2" wide at the shoulder and flaring it back out to 3/4" wide as the blade is thinned down to about 1/8". I use the corner of the hammer on the shoulder and the edge of the face as a fuller to speed up the drawing out process. Then cut off from bar about 1 1/4" from the shoulder, cutting all the way around the bar.









To make the other two legs of the Y, I prefer to use the splitting method I learned from Peter Ross for making forks. Use a very narrow chisel, hold the part to be split vertically in the vise and split while hot. I will also use the chisel to pry open the split and finish opening at the anvil while using a tongs to hold the wide blade near the split, which is also how I hold the tool to draw out the two legs of the Y, rounding one to be threaded.









After the tool is forged, I let it air cool, dress the screw driver blades with a file. Since these are made from mild steel, there seems to be just enough carbon to toughen them up by heating to orange then quenching in water. All of the originals that my colleagues and I have examined were made of wrought iron. I have not been able to ascertain if they were case hardened or not. A gunsmith friend offered the theory that it was easier to fix or replace the musket tool than it was to fix or replace a screw 200 plus years ago.

I always mark these so that if they are used and lost at an historic site they can easily be recognized as a reproduction. This has already happened with one of the Provincial Tools that I reproduce.

Philip Simmons Artist Blacksmith Guild

http://philipsimmonsartistblacksmithguild.com/

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Membership Application

		New Member Renewal				
Name	me:Address:					
	City:	State:	Zip:	Phor	ne:	
email	:	Sponsor				
	Dues are \$15.00 per p	00 per person/family, per year. Please remit to:			C. Ray Pearre, Jr.	
					4605 Durant Ave.	
				No	orth Charleston, SC 29	405

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ASSMPUMPTION OF RISK

I acknowledge that blacksmithing and related activities are inherently dangerous and involve risks and dangers to participants and spectators that may result in serious injury or death. I have considered these risks and I knowingly assume them. I agree that I am responsible for my own safety during Guild events, including wearing appropriate clothing and protective gear and remaining a safe distance from all dangerous activities. I agree to hold Philip Simmons Artist Blacksmith Guild and guest demonstrators of our craft harmless from liability and expenses arising from of my actions and/or omissions.

When was the last time you paid dues?

There is a note below your address on the last page of our newsletters. It will say something like...

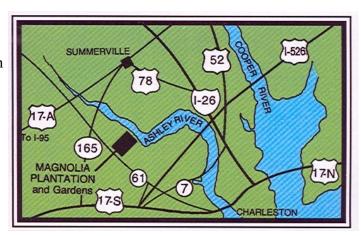
"Dues Last Paid - 2018" or "Dues for 2019" are due" or "Dues paid 2019"

This note is updated for each newsletter. We appreciate your prompt payments.

Come to Magnolia Gardens April 6, 10 AM!

Bill Creek and Ray Pearre are our hosts. Bring a side, drinks or dessert and something nice - maybe something you have forged for iron in the hat. Josh Weston—Forged in Fire Champion and once runner up, is going to demonstrate making a throwing ax! That is an ax that is much like other axes, but you throw it... Come and be amazed! It will be something really exciting!! Okay, maybe pretty exciting...

Sale of your blacksmith-made items to the public or our other members is welcomed!





Happy 'St Patrick's Day