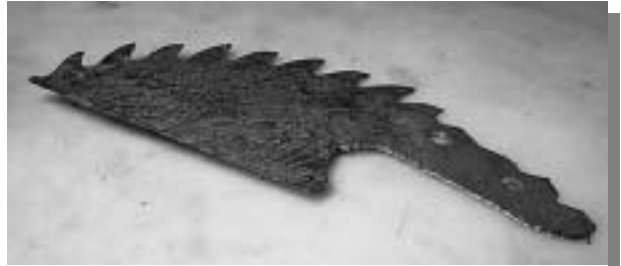


A friend and I drove to the Ripley conference from central New Jersey, a one-way distance of about 450 miles. British blacksmith Michael Malleson attended the conference and rode back with us. He was amazed that Americans would drive 450 miles, one way, for what was essentially a long-weekend event. For Michael, that was like driving the length of England and up into Scotland for the weekend. Ripley was a modest long-weekend jaunt from New Jersey, I explained. I was a hobbyist making the trip, and Michael wondered even more at that.

Ian Walker, Stonington, Maine



I did this demo: Forming with Acid. I recently found my demo piece and photographed it for you. The knife was etched in a 50% solution of nitric from an 8" circular saw blade. No tools were used on it. The form, rivet holes and taper in the blade were all etched. I remember very few people came near the demo because of the big yellow cloud. I used plastic tape and red enamel for the resist. I believe Dixon Tool Supply asked me to move further away from their display, which was inside a building about 50 yards from my area on the lawn.

Gary Noffke

## The 1982 ABANA Conference Revisited



Stuart Hill laid out the cutting lines for the Mollusk. After he began cutting the lines, he then passed the torch to let others work on the piece.

Stutler photos

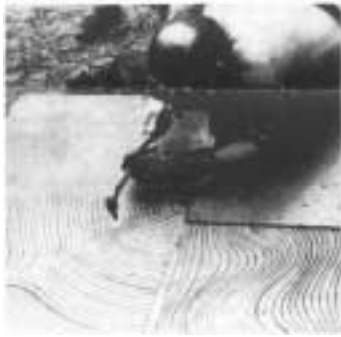


I was there.

My recollections are:

1. Sleeping in the dorms with blacksmiths.
2. Alfred Habermann's comment at his demo. When asked what he was making: "If it comes out good—a sculpture, if not a candleholder."
3. A late night extemporaneous demo with Jim Wallace and Jack Brubaker. Working on some spindle shapes one forged half the length of a bar and put it in the fire for a second heat. They finished each others piece and adapted the started design to their own. A very creative moment.
4. Joel Schwartz forging handrail material in an open faced die on a 50# Little Giant.
5. The first appearance of "The Unknown Blacksmith" in his paper hat. 1982 had a TV show (the Gong Show) that had a comic with a paper bag over his head, The Unknown Comic.
6. The first showing of the German air hammers, then known as Reiter.
7. Tom Bredlow doing Repousse on 16 ga. sheet.

Bob Bergman



Stuart Hill, cutting the design and standing with the finished "Mollusk", part of the ABANA permanent collection at the National Ornamental Metals Museum.

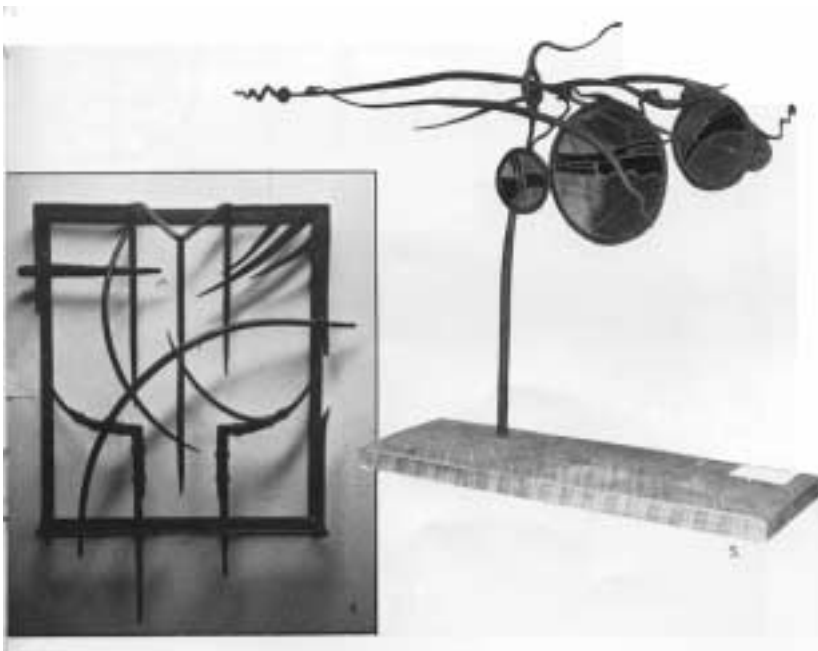
*Top photo: ABA Newsletter 1/83  
Right: Nat'l Orn. Metals Museum*



PHOTOS FROM THE SUMMER 1982 ANVIL'S RING

Column right: from top to bottom, Demonstrators Joe Volz, Thomas Markuson, Alfred Habermann, And the exhibit gallery.

Bottom:  
Forged steel by Joseph Brandon, Baton Rouge, LA  
Kinetic sculpture with glass by Jack Brubaker, Nashville, IN





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