Rocky Forge News

Condolences: Kathryn 'Irene' Keith, mother of Jim and Rick Keith passed away Nov, 8, 2006. Ted arranged for flowers to be sent in the name of the Guild.

Meetings

November

There will be no 2nd Saturday meeting of the group this month. Our next meeting is on the third Saturday, November 18th at 9:00. This is the IBA meeting and I hope to see a lot of you at this meeting.

Carol is asking for help preparing the dinner and covered dishes to supplement the meal. She is planning meatloaf and a hot vegetable. If any of you have a questions for her just call or e-mail.

For those of you at Dominick's meeting in October, remember we all left with six springs from the old dorm beds. We challenged each other to create something with those springs. Be sure to bring your creation to the meeting for judging. Also, bring iron-in-the-hat items that continue to give us a reputation of good material for the drawings. Some of the IBA drawings are somewhat skimpy.

Hope to see all of you at the meeting.

Ted

As an added bonus the IBA Library should be present at this meeting.

DEC

December

There will be no December meeting. We are urging all members to attend the IBA meeting hosted by Chaz Kizer Dec. 9 in Batesville IN. We will attempt to arrange car pooling for anyone so desiring. I have heard that Chaz has a truly inpressive shop and that seeing the shop may be worth the trip in itself. More concrete information next newsletter.

Smoke and Noise

Collected by David Childress

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From:  Peter  Fels  And  Phoebe  Palmer
<artgawk@thegrid.net>
Date: Oct 30, 2006 7:05 PM
Subject: Re: [TheForge
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The economic tool and material addicitive
tropisms are almost sexually seductive to
many  of  the  likes  of  us.   A modicum of
fear  in  the  face  of  ferrus temptations is
prudent.
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...A drunken P fels
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Forging in the Dark

Martin Paietta posted in "TheForge"

I was working in my shop Saturday cleaning stuff up and organizing. I also had to change two handles on hammers. While I was doing that I was finally able to smoke a cigar. About 5:00 I was able to get a hold of one of my neighbors to help me pull my new toy out of the Subaru. Friday I used my GI Bill money and bought a Miller 251. After I set that up and finally started to get to work on the dust pan I was making. I thought I would work on the handle which I was making a basket with four pieces of round stock. I got everything staged and was heating the rods and then the power started to flicker and was out. Well with the forge I was fine for light. I also had plenty of light from the piece when I brought it over to the anvil. I won't bore you with the steps I did for forge welding, but it was my first and second time and it was successful. Each time I was waiting for the heat I stood outside the garage and watched the wind blow the clouds. All I could think was wow that wind is blowing super fast. The other cool thing was seeing the moon so bright. After I made the welds I stretched out one end and narrowed it. I made a hook and looped the little end back. About the time I was going to close shop the lights came back on. It was just a very enjoyable evening.

Regards, Martin

Now for something completely different, what you get when you leave the newsletter completely in the hand of an Engineer.

I have two pieces that generated much interest in the online blacksmithing community. The first is on determining the angles at the edges of a truncated pyramid. At last count there were 34 postings on this. Most were on thew order of I should know this but I really do not remember. I am pretty sure this one is correct, but with thought and seeing what has come before the quality of both logic and presentation keep getting better.

Lamp Shade

Posted on "TheForge" by Bill Clemens

Mike,

1. I don't think your formula is correct.

For any case where S > H * sqrt(2) (or conversely H < S / sqrt(2)) then (sqrt(2) S / 2 H) is greater than one and arcsin is undefined. For the case where H = S / sqrt(2) slope of 45 degrees you get A = 180 degrees
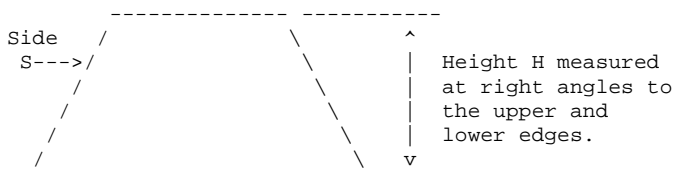
2. I looked at the websites Charles gave and found that:

http://www.josephfusco.org/Articles/Dihedral/Dihedral.html

seemed to fit best although it's drawings are not completely labeled. Using this site I came up with the following solution
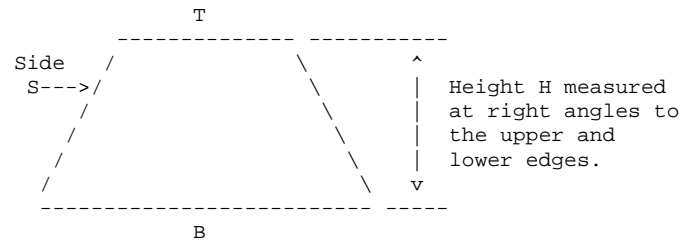
A= 2 * arctan (S/H)

using S and H as you defined them in your drawing:

```
        --------------- -----------
Side   /                \      ^
 S--->/                  \     |   Height H measured
     /                    \    |   at right angles to
    /                      \   |   the upper and
   /                        \  |   lower edges.
  /                          \ v
  ------------------------- -----
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(In case your mail reader messes up the ASCII sketch: S is the length of one of the angled sides. H is the right-angle distance between the two parallel sides.)

3. Also if you start with a given trapezoid lamp side:

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              T
        --------------- -----------
Side   /                \      ^
 S--->/                  \     |   Height H measured
     /                    \    |   at right angles to
    /                      \   |   the upper and
   /                        \  |   lower edges.
  /                          \ v
  ------------------------- -----
              B
```

where S and the Top (T) and Bottom (B) are defined you can determine the corner angle using the following formula:

$$A = 2 \times \arctan\left(\cfrac{1}{\sin\left(\arccos\left(\cfrac{B-T}{S\sqrt{2}}\right)\right)} \right)$$

4. I checked both of these against the example given in the website and get the same result as they did (101.54 degrees). They also work for the case where S = H (and B=T) where A = 90 degrees (Square Box) and also as H approached zero (B-T approaches sqrt(2) * S) the angle A approaches 180 degrees (flat frame)

for the case where H = S / sqrt(2) the result is A = 109.47 degrees

Bill Clemens

After that one I have something that I have tried to derive myself on several occasions and failed. Here is some simple and useful information.

DEC

Forge Geometry- calculating a radius

posted by Kirsten Fiorini on "TheForge"

I was trying to figure out how to accurately measure an existing radius for a curved railing. I came across this formula from

`http://www.johncglennon.com/papers.cfm?PaperID=17`

R = Lsquared /8m + m/2

Where:

R = the roadway curve radius, feet
L = the chord length, feet
m = the measured middle offset, feet

This particular website was actually demonstrating another method that was more appropriate for road work. But the formula above seemed like it would be fine for the curve I'm dealing with.

Does this work accurately for a railing curve, when you've got the curve all laid out, easy enough to measure? It gave a close, but about 3 inch different number than our rather inaccurate 2-people-pretending-to-be-a-compass method. I'm planning to go by the mathematically calculated number.

Is there a better way? Will that geometry give me an accurate result? Are there any other good websites or books on construction geometry?

Thanks, Kirsten

The next article is the best summary of ABANA that I have seen. As a small amount of background: A group of Blacksmiths are trying to put together an organization in Alaska. There does not appear to be any such group at this time. The state farrier's organization even seems to have disbanded. One point brought up was the debate about being an ABANA affiliate. This is a response with information. DEC

Jerry (and Dave, too...)

I noticed something in your exchange here... Dave, affiliates aren't "part of ABANA." That was the whole reason we don't have Chapters anymore. Chapters ARE a part of a parent organization, and can be sued. The affiliates are NOT a part of another organization... they're 100% independent and can do as they wish. There is a common perception that affiliates are connected to ABANA, but I want to remind all the editors that they aren't connected... ABANA doesn't make any decisions for affiliates, nor do they require any sort of membership or payment like most national organizations do. It's a voluntary exchange of information with the goal of promoting blacksmithing.

The ABANA members are a part of ABANA.

ABANA serves affiliates as a networking and information exchange... this list is an example of a service to affiliate editors. It's free and pretty much open to anyone, I think, who edits a blacksmithing newsletter, affiliate or not (I think that's true anyway... Dave Mudge can correct me here). Jerry, that's why you're able to be here... ABANA wants to help the blacksmithing community first and foremost.

Jerry... I'm reading in between the lines from your post that when you say "you don't know how it'll go" there are some folks your organization group who DON'T want to have anything to do with ABANA. That's certainly an understandable sentiment. But if that's the case, please remind them of this: If enough people adopt that thinking, then ABANA would cease to exist. Some folks believe that wouldn't be a bad thing, but of course, I can't agree with them. Here's why:

ABANA, despite all it's faults, does create resources for the blacksmithing community.

Should ABANA go away, resources that exist now will go away. This list, for example, will go away, and I think by the number of posts lately that it's at least SOMEWHAT useful. Another thing that would disappear is ABANAs back catalog of magazines and articles, which I'm trying to get republished. (If there's no more organization, there's no one to grant copyright. It might be available in 104 years thanks to Sonny Bono and the Disney corp, but that's another story.)

Believe me, I know (and Dave Mudge can back me up here) ABANA AIN'T perfect. There are plenty of things that could be done better. Some things ABANA does pretty well. (That Hammer's Blow magazine is pretty durn good, even though that Editor is more than a few bricks shy of a load.)

ABANA is limited in what kinds of services it can provide, just by the nature of the group. When you're spread all over the country, you can't do much for individuals like the local organizations can. ABANA publishes as much as it can (like magazines, plans, etc) but they do lots of little things that many people never notice that still help blacksmithing as a whole. For example? We've put press releases about any major blacksmithing event (like the conferences or Tom Joyce winning the MacArthur award) in as many national craft and art magazines as possible. You know who reads those? Architects and interior designers, for one. Maybe, just maybe, it's helping convince a few people that forged ironwork IS a legitimate art form, and IT'S WORTH PAYING FOR! This doesn't just happen... SOMEBODY has to write press releases, contact the magazines, gather photographs, make the whole package look professional, and send them out. ABANA pays for that.

The board (and the members, too) continually tries to come up with new ideas to serve the membership. Various members have totally different needs... weekend blacksmiths vs MFA professionals, for example. It's a tough balancing act.

But remember... if they don't want to be an ABANA affiliate, that's a valid choice, but they shouldn't expect services to always be there. There are NUMEROUS examples of non-members calling the central ABANA office, expecting their time and service. "We're sorry, this number is no longer in service" is a real possibility. All of a sudden, posts to TheForge and the editors list all bounce back. Sure, blacksmithing would survive, other lists would crop up... maybe (ABANA donates money to keep theForge up... I'm sure that all the posters on the forge would donate five bucks to keep the list open... RIGHT?). The local conferences would continue, and things would coast along. But it'd be a giant leap backward for the craft as a whole.

So please, when considering whether to be an ABANA affiliate, look beyond individual needs and consider what ABANA does for the craft as a whole. Like I said, it ain't perfect, but they work extremely hard, under difficult conditions, and do their best to promote the craft as a whole, with extremely little reward.

Thanks

BG
--
Brian Gilbert
Editor, the Hammer's Blow

While I am not a member of ABANA after reading this I am temped to spend the money and join. The publications are probably worth the cost even if the organization were not so important to the future of the Craft of Blacksmithing. If the old Scotchman that I am is will to part with the money maybe some more of the membership of the Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild should also be members of ABANA. I thank those of you who already are ABANA members.

Speaking of membership, I was wondering about getting a membership in ABANA and Rural Smiths for the sole purpose of getting the publications for our library. I know that Wabash Valley does this. For the Guild the investment is small and maybe even it would help me with filling and getting out the Rocky Forge News. - DEC