



## Spring Conference 2017: Education

### **Hands-On Education in The Big Barn**

Coordinator: Beth Holmberg

A cornerstone of Vista conferences, hands-on education will include an all-day workshop on Thursday, projects taught Friday through Sunday morning, and special youth events/space. To get it all in, we're even teaching a session on Friday evening! Come hit some metal with us-

### **Thursday: Tool Making Workshop!**

Thursday, All Day

SoCal ToolTeam: Kevin Lauritsen, Ken Kuhn, and Beth Holmberg

Spend a day at the conference swinging a hammer and fill in the gaps in your tool bag! We will focus on the tools you will need for the Friday-Sunday workshop projects (but we'll help with other variations). Instruction on Thursday will include Bill Stone's kit tongs, modifying tong jaws, hot cut chisels, center punches, round punches and more. Handling and heat-treating tool steels,



proper file use, and riveting are some of the skills covered. There will be lots of roaming coaches to support your success! Suitable for not-quite-rank beginners on up. Check the website for updates on details, including what (basic) tools you should bring.

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### Friday-Sunday Hand-On Workshops

Get your hands dirty, make something cool, and learn some new skills! We are planning at least six sessions of hands-on workshops, geared to beginner through intermediate blacksmiths. Each workshop includes a demo of the project, metal to bang on, and coaching while you forge. In keeping with the conference theme, every project taught involves joinery skills in some way. Check the website updates for skill levels and what tools you should pack! Here are the projects we have planned:

#### Folding Cooking Trivet

Friday Morning      Chris Ruiz

This clever trivet design folds up neatly to pack with your camping gear, but is sturdy enough for big dutch ovens! Includes a movable riveted hinge.



#### Blacksmiths Tongs

Friday Afternoon      Grant Loper

Have you forged *proper* blacksmiths tongs from square stock- no kit, no twists? This workshop includes making sturdy rivets from bar stock.



#### Penandular Cloak Pin

Friday Night (!)      David Shuford

How does a braveheart keep his plaid pinned on? With a bold forged iron penandular! The pin works via a sliding collar.





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### **Viking Chest Hinges**

Saturday Morning Jeff Hunter

Historic, yes, but also super useful for a toy box or tool chest. These hinges are a great introduction to connecting two bits of iron in a functional way.



### **Braided Iron Bracelets**

Saturday Afternoon Sharon Dodge

Make handsome wearable iron jewelry from old scraps! Lots of design riffing to play around with as you learn (or improve) forge welding skills.



### **Two-arm Hanging Candle Holder**

Sunday Morning Beth Holmberg

Learn the basics of hot-collaring while forging a useful lighting fixture for your camp or patio.



**N.B.** All workshops are subject to change.