

# Rocky Forge News

Volume 10, Issue 3 – March 2011

## Next Meeting: (3/12/11)

The March 12th meeting will be held at Ted's shop and based on our last month's discussion it appears what the membership wants most is to have forging time. So this month will be forge time. If weather permits we will setup outside and forge junk iron into useable products. Some of the junk iron will probably still be junk iron, but we can work on that aspect. That is why we come to learn.

Bring your tools and metal for iron-in-the-hat. For lunch we will order Pizza from Arnie's in Shadeland and split the cost between us. Bring your own pop or drink free water. If you would rather not have Pizza, then bring a brown bag lunch. (((Note: if you happen to choose fried chicken for your brown bag, then you better bring enough for everyone. That is just a friendly warning.)))

See you all on Saturday, March 12th, the coffee and doughnuts should be ready by 8:30. Ted

## Last Meeting: (2/12/11)

Sharing information about metalwork was a unique activity at our February meeting. We went around the table and most members shared something interesting with the group. It was a little like "Show and Tell" from school days.



Charlie shows clamparoo.



Brad's power hmr plans.

## IBA Voting

Please mail in your votes for IBA Board of Directors by the due date, March 14. The ballot is in the February Forge Fire on page 3.

## Scooter Project

Remember the old scooter that was brought to the iron in the hat back in June 2010. The following individuals took parts from the scooter with the intent of making something useful, beautiful or maybe a naked lady. Now it has been long enough and we should bring our finished masterpieces to show and share with our fellow members.

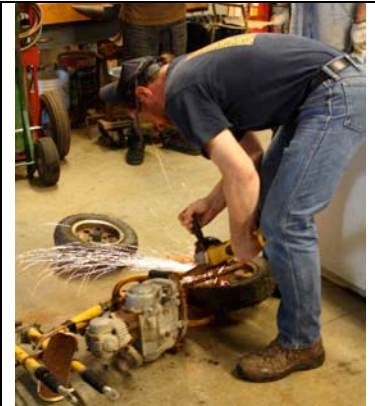
### Scooter Project Assignments

Rob Durrett	Front Axle
Greg Searcy	Handle Bars
Mike Ferrell	Rear Wheel
Josh Shumate	Kick-Stand
Jim Johnston	Rear Fender
Ted Stout	Drive Chain
Davey Hall	Aluminum Engine
Gene Hollingsworth	Aluminum Scraps
Ted Stout	Front Wheel

It should be fun to see what can be made from a piece of junk no one individual wanted to take as an iron in the hat prize. Photos below from the June.



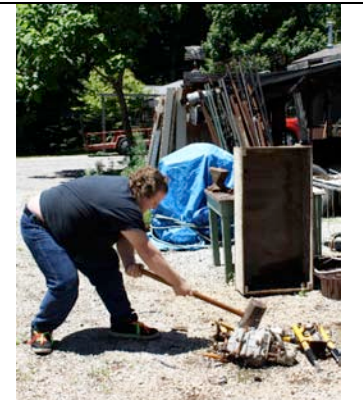
Davey cleans sctr piece.



Jeff cuts scooter.



Subtle disassembly.



Wear eye protection!

## Google Books: A Major Resource for Blacksmiths

A wonderful resource for blacksmiths is Google Books. They have scanned many books whose copyrights have expired and made them available in digital form on the Internet. Most of the free ones are old, but they often contain information about how blacksmithing was done in the old days. I found some great information about chain making and horseshoe making. The web site is

<http://books.google.com/>

When you get to that site, search for blacksmithing stuff and then look for listings that say “Free Google eBook.” You can download the free ones in pdf format. A search of “blacksmith” produced the following free books.

- *Blacksmith Shop Practice*, By James Cran, 1910,
- *Practical Blacksmithing*, Milton T. Richardson, 1888.

A search of “blacksmithing” produced

- Farm Blacksmithing, by James Meddick Drew, 1901,
- Machine Blacksmithing, by James Cran, 1910,
- Standard Blacksmithing, horseshoeing and wagon making, by John Gustaf Holmström, 1907.

A search of “blacksmithing guide” produced

- *The Blacksmith's Guide: valuable instructions on forging*, by James Francis Sallows, 1907.

## Dates to Remember

March 12, 2011: Rocky Forge meeting at Ted's.

April 9, 2011: Rocky Forge meeting.

June 3-5, 2011: IBA Conference, Tipton.

July 15-17, 2011: Illiana Antique Power Exhibition.

July 15-17, 2011: Upper Midwest Regional Blacksmithing Conference, Pontiac, Illinois.

Sept. 24-25, 2011: Feast of the Hunter's Moon.

Sept. 23-25, 2011: SOFA QuadState Conference.

July 18-21, 2012: ABANA Conf., Rapid City, South Dakota, "Reunion on the Great Plains".

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Rocky Forge members with sacrificial scooter at the June meeting of 2010. So this is what summer looks like!