

Rocky Forge News

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Next Meeting – October 8

Our next regular Rocky Forge meeting will be at **FOWLER PARK** which is about 5 miles south of Terre Haute. This is an IBA meeting hosted by the Wabash Valley satellite group. The meeting will start at 10:00AM, but I would suggest getting there around 9:00. Be sure to take items for iron in the hat and a lawn chair to watch the demonstration. I do not know what the lunch provisions will be so check the October edition of the Forge Fire to see what to do for lunch.

I encourage you all to attend this meeting because I know most of you have never been to an IBA meeting and the Fowler Park shop is really special. Be safe and enjoy the show. Ted

Car Pooling to Fowler Park

I will provide rides in my car for four people to Fowler Park. I will leave from Ted's Shop at 7:30AM sharp, so be there between 7:15 and 7:30. If there are others taking their vehicles we can, if you want, meet at Ted's and travel together. It takes about 90 minutes to get to Fowler Park from Ted's.

Dominick

SOFA 2011

Many of the IBA members were visible at the Southern Ohio Forge and Anvil Association (SOFA) bash the weekend of September 22 thru 26th. It was a fun time in the mud on Friday with a lot of idiots traipsing through the mud and rain looking for bargains. Dominick and I were among those idiots. It was fun! On Saturday the rain stopped and trading was in full swing. Everything any blacksmith could ever want was available, if you had the cash! There were all kinds of tools, metal and books available, and anvils galore. This year had to be the year for anvils, big ones, little ones, pretty ones, ugly ones and rare ones.

Friday evening's feature presenter was Albert Paley, a famous metal sculptor. Seeing him and the slides of his work would be on the level of meeting Samuel Yellin; Paley's work is nothing short of

incredible. Google his name and see what he has done.

The demonstrators were all very good, but for me the tailgating just kept calling. I did watch each one for a few minutes, but then I would think about something on someone's truck and head back over to it. It's a sickness you know.

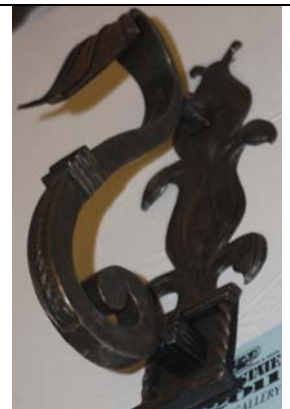
The gallery was exceptional this year, some of the work must have required many months to complete. Four photos are given below. I displayed three rotating swage blocks and the big anvil with a vice that Jim Clear made. Those items sure drew a lot of attention. Overall the gallery was one of the best yet.

We had a fun weekend dealing in the mud, seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

Make your plans this year for attending SOFA next year; it is the largest gathering of blacksmiths in the country. Ted



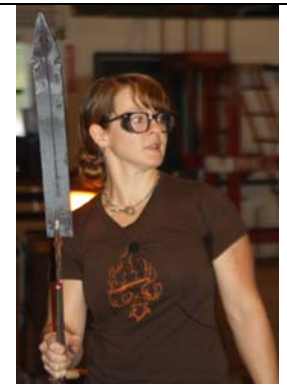
Steel flowers



Door handle



Lisa Geertsen demos.



This gal can move metal.

Indiana State Fair 2011 (Photos by Peter Cooper)



Peter the cooper



Jim Keith



Gene Hollingsworth



Rob Durrett in formal attire.



KJ



Ted and Jim

Dates to Remember

November 12, 2011: Rocky Forge meeting.
 July 13-15, 2012: Illiana Power Show
 July 18-21, 2012: ABANA Conf., Central States
 Fairgrounds, Rapid City, South Dakota, "Reunion
 on the Great Plains".

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