

Rocky Forge News

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IBA Conference-June 1-3

The 2012 IBA conference will feature nationally famous demonstrators Elmer Roush and Clay Spencer. In addition, Jim Perkins will do the Friday night demo and Jennifer Hayden and her father Bill Conyers will do a Saturday demo. Bob Cruickshank (the working man's friend) will round out Saturday.

and figure out how they were made. A limited number of glass cases will be available to protect those special items.

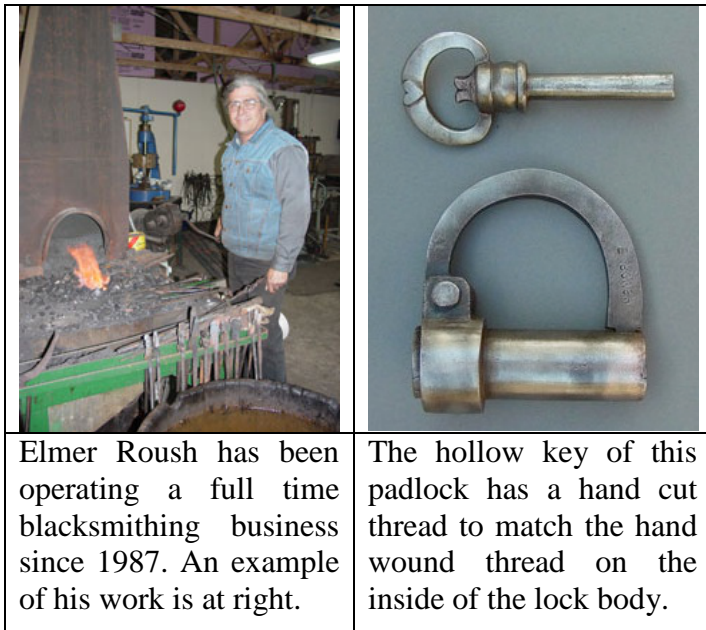
Please help us make this the very best gallery we have had yet!! We have a lot of talent in Indiana so let's show it.

Next Meeting – July 14 Show Ground in Rainsville

With the June IBA conference coming up real soon and a large Amish auction June 9th, **the June Rocky Forge meeting was cancelled.** The next meeting will be July 14th at our building on the grounds of the Illiana Steam and Power show grounds. Their show will be July 20 thru the 22nd.

Saturday, May 26, Carol and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary with a large gathering of friends and family and lots of food. We would like to publicly thank Dominick Andrisani, KJ, Peter Cooper and his wife, Greg Searcy and Zachary Gaither for enduring the heat and demonstrating during our open house. They seemed to have fun making things. Over 150 guests really enjoyed the entertainment. Our thanks to the demonstrators.

Ted Stout



Elmer Roush has been operating a full time blacksmithing business since 1987. An example of his work is at right.

The hollow key of this padlock has a hand cut thread to match the hand wound thread on the inside of the lock body.

Calling All Members to the IBA Conference GALLERY

Want to see a spectacular gallery at the IBA conference this year? Then let's do it. If we all pitch in, we can indeed show the "**Indiana Blacksmiths in Action**" by bringing in your items to show at the Gallery display. Eligible things to show are those items you made at home, whether recently or 30 years ago. We want to see what you have made. We also want to see what tools or tooling you have made so there will be a space to display those items. Hopefully, this will give those looking at it some "take home" ideas. The gallery can be an educational experience. We also will provide a display area for antique items made by the blacksmith. It is always interesting see those items



Carol and Ted Stout, married 50 years! Congrats

May 14 - History Day

The annual "History Day" at the Show Grounds on May 14th, was a great success. Five Rocky Forge members demonstrated their craft to several hundred school children from neighboring schools. This activity is an important part of our educational mission and for our promotion of blacksmithing as a craft and art form. Thanks to all those who helped.



Participants in 2012 History Day at the Illiana show grounds in Rainsville (Dominick Andrisani, Zach Gaither, Ted Stout, KJ Groven, and Peter Cooper).

Last Meeting with the IBA

The Rocky Forge group was host to the IBA on May 19th at Ted Stout's shop. There were 28 in attendance with only 4 IBA members other than the Rocky Forge group. Though disappointing with lots of food preparation we still had an outstanding meeting. Melvin Lytton gave an informative demonstration on axe making. All along he lectured on what and why he was doing certain steps and told much of the history of the axe as it developed from Europe to the modern American axe of today. He is an exceptional demonstrator. Some of the guys worked on the forges making things later in the afternoon. An auction of donated items was held to raise funds toward an addition to the Rocky Forge building at the Rainsville site.

It was fun having Clifton and Joan Ralph, Don Neuenschwander and Charlie Helton at the meeting. They always have so much to contribute at our meetings. Thanks to them for coming.

Dates to Remember

June 1-3, 2012: IBA Conference, Tipton, IN.

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

July 20-22, 2012: Illiana Antique Power Show in Rainsville, Indiana.

August 6-7, 2012: Rocky Forge works at Indiana State Fair.

September 14-16, 2012: Potawatomi Fest, Attica.

September 22-23, 2012: Feast of the Hunters' Moon

September 21-23, 2012: SOFA Quad-state Conf.

October 5-6, 2012: Gaither Fall Festival, Alexandria, IN.

Interesting Web Sites

IBA 2012 Conference Brochure (You really must attend):

<http://www.indianablacksmithing.org/2012IBAConference.pdf>

IBA 2012 demonstrator Elmer Roush has a great web site. Check out our world-class conference demonstrator: <http://www.elmerroush.com/>

Article about a 15 HP Reid Type A engine that iron sculptor and blacksmith Joel Sanderson uses to run the line shaft in his blacksmith shop:

<http://gasengine.farmcollector.com/gas-engines/A-REID-on-a-Line-Shaft.aspx>

Great video of building a 3,685 horsepower locomotive in 1928. Manufacturing processes include casting, machining, forging with a large power hammer, and cutting and welding with a torch. Fourteen minutes but worth the time spent: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcbTXIMSCwk&feature=related>

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Web Site: <http://www.rockyforge.org/> (previous newsletters can be found here).