

Rocky Forge News

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Next Meeting (11/08/14)

Last month we started the process of making two sunflower stalks with leaves and blossoms. When finished the sunflowers will be painted and installed at the Illiana Show grounds. Everyone pitched in and the design details were worked out based on actual sunflower stalks, leaves and blossoms. Some of the components were started and it seems like, when finished, we should have two very nice pieces that will mirror real sunflowers. Due to other events planned for our group over the next two months we probably will not be able to return to this project until the January meeting.

For the meeting this Saturday, November 8th we will have the honor of Tom Willoughby demonstrating for us. We are very fortunate to have such a high quality demonstrator for our meeting and be sure give Brad McCormick a big thank you for making the arrangements. Also, I would suggest you visit his website (www.willoughbyforge.com) to view his work. I am very excited to see what he has in store for us.

We will have Iron-in-the-hat so be sure to bring some nice things for that fund raising event. We always have such a good time during the drawing and the better the items the more competition and fun we have.

As for lunch I hope you all bring some nice covered dishes to pass. Recently, I feel we have slacked off in that area. We have a reputation to uphold within the state for having some very nice spreads of food, lets work to keep that reputation. Carol will make a pot of chili.

Please remember the December meeting will be hosting the IBA and we hope to have a demonstrator for that meeting as well. Also, as a fund-raiser for our building we are planning an auction of donated items. You are welcome to bring some items at this Saturday's meeting so that we can photograph them to advertise our auction in the "Forge Fire". Look around your shop and see what you can donate for this important fund raising event. Thank you.

Ted

ADVICE TO FOREMEN

When hiring a man, tell him what you expect of him. If he does not come up to the standard, after repeated trials, let him go. Do not abuse him

Have as little as possible to say to your men, and that on business only.

Do not take a piece of work to a smith and tell him how it should be done. Perhaps he knows more about it than you do; but if you see that he does not understand it, then a little advice is all right.

Keep a tidy shop by being tidy yourself.

Don't sit down yourself and issue orders for the men to stand.

If you promise a man an increase of wages, keep your promise, for if he finds you unreliable he will have no respect for you.

If you find a man is worthy, raise his wages. Don't wait for him to ask you for an increase, as some men would rather quit than ask for an increase of wages.

Don't come in late yourself and abuse your men for being late once in a while.

Don't abuse a man for not doing enough work if you see he is killing time; let him go and put another in his place.

A man who is always watching his foreman is a good man to let go.

Don't hire a man who smokes cigarettes, as there are plenty of good men who do not smoke them.

If conditions at home or up town are not pleasant, don't lay out your spite on the men – they are not to blame.

Don't lay off a man who has a family to support and keep one who is inferior and has no one depending on him, and who perhaps wastes his money foolishly.

A foremanship earned by hard work and strict attention to business lasts longer and is better than one stolen by underhanded methods. I have worked my way up to every good position I have held.

J. F. Sallows

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Works by Our Demonstrator, Tom Willoughby, Taken From his web site: Willoughby Forge and Studio


Guitar



"Eve" SOLD



"Under the Sea"



"Caduceus"

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

Check out Indiana Blacksmithing Association (IBA) on Facebook.

Dates to Remember

December 13, 2014: Combined Rocky Forge and IBA meeting at Ted's shop.

November 27, 2014: Thanksgiving.

Interesting Web Sites

Willoughby Forge and Studio: Iron Work and Wood Carving (Nov. Demo): www.willoughbyforge.com/
Kevin Caron Studios: www.kevincaron.com/