

# Rocky Forge News

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## Next Meeting: 10/8/2016

On **Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**, the Illiana Antique Power Association (Illiana) will host several hundred 4<sup>th</sup> graders for what is called "**History Day**" at the Rainsville show grounds. This event is a very popular and important outing for the children of the Benton, Fountain and Warren County Schools. During their visit we expect to have over 30 stations of active demonstrations going for the kids to learn about life in Indiana 100 years ago. This year the event has been recognized by the State Bicentennial Committee as an official bicentennial event. The bicentennial torch will pass through the grounds while the kids are there, so, with that in mind a large crowd of dignitaries and spectators is expected.

The Rocky Forge group will play a significant role in this event. Letters from past 4<sup>th</sup> graders who have attended previous History Day events demonstrates how important and impressive the blacksmiths were to these kids. In other words you guys made a great impression about blacksmithing, cooperation, and the Lewis and Clark adventure. We must strive to keep that interest alive and well for the future events.

**We will meet at the Rainsville show grounds on Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup>**, at 8:30-9:00 to prepare. It should not take long to get the building and surrounding area looking good. Bring rakes and leave blowers for cleanup. There is a possibility we may have a crew to move the mini-barn from my house to the show grounds Friday evening. The site is already prepared to receive it and repairs to the little building have been completed. If we get it there, we can move most of the stuff in the south west corner of our shop out and into the building. Out of sight and out of mind!! If we don't get the mini-barn moved we can still make that corner look more presentable. Maybe move some items into the little red barn.

The last and most important item is the number of volunteers needed on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. At

this time I have received far to many cancellations for help. Rob Durrett and Peter Cooper are firm, but blacksmiths at this point are nearly nil. We have a large enough group that I know we can put on a good show with lots of help. If we have 400 students there is no way I can handle all that alone. **So call me if you plan to be there on October 12<sup>th</sup>. We need some demonstrators and some to explain the trade to the kids.** I also hope to see a good turnout on Saturday. Being part of a not-for-profit group means you too must do your part to keep it going. It's not all about going to someone's shop and having fun then forgetting about it till next month and having fun again. We each must do our part to support the group.

After all said and done we should have ample time to do some forging on Saturday. So bring your tools, metal and some coal.

Several Illiana folks will be on the grounds Saturday for cleanup. It would be nice for us to assist them wherever possible. Carol has volunteered to prepare hamburgers and hot dogs for both the Rocky Forge group and the Illiana workers on Saturday. We are asking you and others to bring a dish to share. If someone would like to assist Carol that would also be good. Thank you all for whatever you can do.

Ted

## Last Chance:

### Rocky Forge Address Book

Rocky Forge is putting together an address book of our members for our members. There is a web site for you to provide your contact information and it is at the following URL.

<http://www.rockyforge.org/members.shtml>

Please click on this link and give us your contact information. It takes less than 60 seconds.

**Interesting Posts on the Facebook Page of the Indiana Blacksmithing Association**



Bill Corey: Fool in' around this afternoon so I made my first hinge.

Dave Wells: Rural Smiths at Kenny's. A good turn out, nice trade items.

Steve King: Fire rake with bottle opener.



Phoebe Ann Grahm: Today was a poker day. Starting to hammer out Christmas orders.

Dave Wells: The parrot can open bottle caps two ways. Beak and foot.

John Bennett: The last two days have been filled with sleigh bells, first batch of the season.

Daniel Sutton: I started forging some things for the Feast of the Hunter's Moon.



John Bennett: Veggie Choppers

Ron Gill: Been a long time since I made one of these.

Larry Whitesell: Since my brother tied the knot 50 years ago with his sweetheart I forged them a knot of steel.

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**Interesting Web Sites**

**Highlights: SOFA Quadstate 2016:**  
[https://youtu.be/mx0\\_nC\\_HAJU](https://youtu.be/mx0_nC_HAJU).

**John Bennett: Forging Basics 2- Pigtail scroll & turning a hook on the anvil:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-Fio6zPPHM&feature=youtu.be>