

ROCKY FORGE NEWS

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NEXT MEETING OF THE ROCKY FORGE BLACKSMITHS

The next meeting of the blacksmiths will be 9:00 A.M., March 13, at the **Dragon Anvil Forge**, located near Covington, Indiana. Bladesmith, John Paul Jenkins, makes custom knives and swords. He is located at 7572 Gobblers Knob road, northwest of Covington. See attached map. John Pual will demonstrate Damascus and other knife making skills. He has a nice shop with plenty of space.

There will be coffee and doughnuts available before the meeting. Lunch will be at the intersection of 63 and I-74. There are several restaurant options and it is only about 3 miles. After lunch anyone wanting to try a piece of Damascus will have their chance. Hope to see a good turnout.

TOUR OF TMF INDUSTRIES

Lloyd McGowen, owner of TMF and other companies, gave us a tour of his TMF plant on February 14th. We had 14 members and one guest (Harold Frost, president of the Rural Smiths of Mid America).

Everyone seemed to really enjoy the two plants and the huge inventory of large metal stock. TMF makes a lot of parts for Caterpillar and some John Deere parts. They work with mild steel, higher qualities of steel and they mill a lot of various steel castings.

Some of the equipment we saw in the second plant were high tech boring, threading and milling machines. Many of his machines are specialized and come from Germany and Japan. We thank Mr. McGowen for showing us his companies and spending the time with us.

DEMONSTRATER MAKES DONATION

The Rural Smiths of MidAmerica were entertained by Darrell Schultz with his talk about the African blacksmiths. As we know, his talk was a big success. Some of the smiths down there in Indy town are still tossing compliments his way.

The Rural Smiths offered to pay Darrell for his time, but he ask they make a contribution to the Rocky Forge Blacksmiths. At the February meeting of the Rocky Forge group, Harold Frost, president of the Rural Smiths, donated \$20 to our group for the building fund.

Thank you Darrell and we are proud to have you

TIME TO RENEW YOUR IBA MEMBERSHIP

Be sure to check your mailing label on the Indiana Blacksmiths Association news letter, the **Forge Fire** and renew your membership when expired. The fee is \$20 for a single member.

MEMBER MAKES DONATION TO THE ROCKY FORGE BLACKSMITHS

Randy Padish of Clinton, Indiana has tried several times to make our meetings. Working as an engineer at the Lilly plant near Clinton keeps him pretty busy and has made it difficult to attend. He did try once and got totally lost.

Another try resulting in an auto wreck.

We wish Randy the best on his next attempt.

We also want to thank Randy for his generous donation of \$100 to the Guild. His donation is earmarked for the building fund.

Hope to see you at the March meeting Randy.