

Rocky Forge News

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Next Meeting: Wizards (9/11/10)

Because of the State Fair commitment there is no August meeting of the Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild. Our next meeting will be September 11 at Ted's shop with Greg Searcy demonstrating how to make wizard heads and the tooling to make them.



Greg Searcy polishes wizard head on wire wheel.



Wizard head decorative nail.

We need input from our membership on what they would like for the 30-year party. Please call Ted or Carol with your ideas. While the blacksmiths are working (or playing) we need some ideas on spouse programs. Remember, this event will go on Friday October 15, Saturday and Sunday.

Remember your motor scooter project! At the last meeting we decided to photograph the scooter and dismantle it with a challenge for all those taking parts to bring something to future meetings that has been made from the scooter metal. Many smiths signed on to create something. So create!

Once we have the results of your scooter blacksmithing projects they will be photographed and a report published showing the results. I am

looking forward to see the creativity that comes from this project.
Ted

Last Meeting: (7/10/10)

The Rocky Forge group met the second Saturday of July to prepare for the Illiana Steam and Power Show the next weekend.



Rocky Smiths have fun chatting at July meeting.



Rob Durrett wins big at Delta Welding.

Illiana Show: (7/16/18/10)

We had an excellent turnout of members for the show and so many visitors in our building there was hardly room to walk down the 12-foot wide aisle. All of our craftsmen were busy doing their demonstrations and talking with people, it was so cool so see it happening. Examples were Greg Searcy and Randy Padish blacksmithing, Gene Hollingsworth doing metal slapping to form bowls and showing a lady (all day) how to do it.



Gene's bowls.



Jim's tent.

Peter Cooper was doing his cooperage with a large crowd observing him, Brad McCormick and his son, Dan Michael and his son, David Childress and Ted Stout were all blacksmithing. Charlie Terrell, one of our senior members, was making wire chain. On Friday Dominick Andrisani was forming copper with a good crowd observing. He made a really nice cross from copper for a gift to his mother in law in Greece.



Cross for Dominick's mother-in-law.



David and John Young take enjoy a moment of relaxation.

Jim Bolen had his encampment set up along with his traveling blacksmith shop and he too drew a lot of attention. Rob Durrett was set up to explain about his four year Lewis and Clark adventure and demonstration of fire starting with flint and striker. Rob is always a crowd pleaser.

We were glad to see the many IBA members who demonstrated their support by attending the show. We even sold some IBA 30 year anvils and some raffle tickets on the quilt.

Also at the Illiana Show the Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild presented to the Illiana Antique Power Association the weathervane made by its members. Gene Hollingsworth deserves the lion's share of the credit for the excellent metalwork. Ted Stout and Dominick Andrisani assisted Gene with the design, fabrication, and assembly.

Interesting Web Sites

National Ornamental Metal Museum:

<http://www.metalmuseum.org/>

Henrietta Verwey: Lady Blacksmith:

<http://ironsunset.com/index.html>



Dominick, Ted, and Gene with the "chicken".

Dates to Remember

August 6-22, 2010: Indiana State Fair.

August 17, 2010: Dominick demos at State Fair.

September 11, 2010: Rocky Forge meeting at Ted's shop featuring the wizard head of Greg Searcy.

September 24-26, 2010: SOFA QuadState Conference, Troy, Ohio.

October 2-3, 2010: Feast of the Hunter's Moon, at Historic Fort Ouiatenon Park near West Lafayette.

October 15, 16, 17, 2010: IBA 30th Anniversary Party at Ted's.

June 3-5, 2011: IBA Conference, Tipton.

2012: ABANA Conf., Rapid City, South Dakota.

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