

Rocky Forge News

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Next Meeting: (11/13/10)

Now that we have recuperated from the 30-year party, let's get down to doing some blacksmithing. With the Holiday Season coming up how about we devote our time at the next meeting to making **crosses, bells, and candlestick holders**? There are so many variations that we can let our artistic minds wonder and see what develops.

I have seen some very nice candlestick holders made by our members. Dick Fontaine has made some attractive ones. Dominick, Ted and others have as well. Please bring any examples of blacksmith made crosses, bells, and candlestick holders that you may have available for show and tell. Magazines and blacksmithing newsletters are good sources for ideas. Let us make one or two nice pieces for the holiday season on November 13th and take them home.

Carol is going to prepare pulled pork for sandwiches, so if you bring a covered dish to share we should not go hungry.

Bring items for iron in the hat drawing.

See you all on November 13th, coffee pot will be ready by 8:30AM.

Ted



Ted conducts last meeting in the new breezeway.

Last Meeting: (10/9/10)

Our last meeting involved preparing for the 30th Anniversary Party. More than 13 people showed up to help. Ted and Carol greatly appreciated the assistance.

30th Anniversary Party

October was the 30th anniversary of the Indiana Blacksmith Association (IBA) and a three-day celebration was held at Ted and Carol Stout's the third weekend of October. During that time approximately 40 forges were going along with metal smiths doing copper, brass, sheet metal and engraving work. Ellsworth Christmas was demonstrating the making of shake shingles from oak billets. The attendance was very good at around 200 during Saturday the peak day of events. A crew that varied from 6 to 10 worked on making an eight foot tall dogwood tree complete with leaves and blossoms for a memorial to one of our elder members grandsons burial site. The boy was sixteen when he was killed on a motorcycle, so the dogwood tree had sixteen blossoms.

The whole weekend was a great success with visitors from Norway, Alabama, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan and the Iliana Antique Power Association. Many reported this as the best blacksmithing event they had ever attended. Kathy Olin and her helpers served a wonderful meal on Saturday with compliments from lots of attendees. Thanks Kathy, Denny and crew!!

The copper weather vane was on display and drew a lot of positive attention and comments.

The winner of the t-shirt quilt was Darrell Schultz of the Purdue Agronomy Dept. He is also one of the members of the Rocky Forge Blacksmiths. He donated it back to Ted, who will hang it in his shop.

Ted

Fact-Smith Shop

Norway was recently named by the United Nations as the country with the best quality of life for a record matching eighth time

Photos from the 30th Anniversary Party

By Dominick Andrisani

I wrote a six-page article about the 30th Anniversary Party, which should appear in the IBA Forge Fire in November or December. Please look there for the story and plenty of photos. The party was lots of fun and very well attended. Over 200 people were there on Saturday. The food and company were great. I have included below some photos of interest to the Rocky Forge smiths.



KJ. Tex and Carol. Rob.



Ted and Don. Jack and Gene.



Jim Hale works on copper cross.



Greg Searcy smiths with young friend.



Brad McCormick makes a piece for flower.



Brandon is mentored by Clifton Ralph.

Interesting Web Sites

National Bureau of Standards Monograph 88 (Heat Treatment and Properties of Iron and Steel)
<http://digicoll.manoa.hawaii.edu/techreports/PDF/NBS88.pdf>

New England School of Metalwork
<http://www.newenglandchoolofmetalwork.com/index.php>

The ABANA Store:
<http://www.abana.org/store/Products.shtml>

Dates to Remember

November 13, 2010: Rocky Forge meeting.
December 11: Possible Rocky Forge meeting??.
June 3-5, 2011: IBA Conference, Tipton.
 2012: ABANA Conf., Rapid City, South Dakota.

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