

Rocky Forge News

Volume 11, Issue 1 – January 2012



Next Meeting – January 14

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

It's hard to believe another year has passed. I hope you all have a great 2012 and the world will not come to an end. In case it does, we should have more fun blacksmithing this year.

We are going to start this January 14th, in Ted's shop, with KJ giving us a demo on the making of a Norwegian knife. There are distinct differences between how the Norwegians make a knife and how we do it. This should be an informative and entertaining demonstration. Hope to see a nice turnout.

The meal will be a pot of vegetable beef soup, so bring something that goes well with soup. Suggestions might be cheese, crackers, bread, sandwiches, fresh fruit or vegetables, prime rib or prosciutto.

Be sure to bring premium items for iron-in-the-hat and any show-and-tell items. Looking forward to a fun day starting with coffee and doughnuts at about 8:30. Support our organization and make yourself available.

Ted

Last Meeting-12/10/11

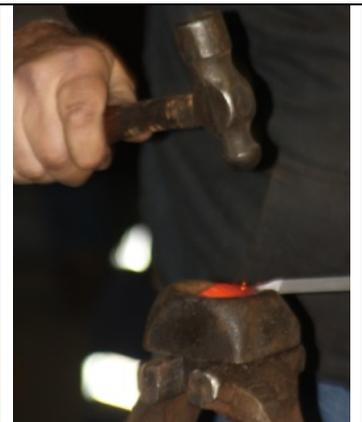
Our December meeting was held at Chaz Kaiser's shop in Batesville, Indiana. Demonstrator Mark Thomas gave suggestions for making a good public blacksmithing presentation.

One of his favorite objects to make in a demonstration is a leaf on a stem because it demonstrates many different aspects of blacksmithing, is quick to complete, and produces a finished product that can be given away or sold. His presentation included how to forge the basic shape on the anvil, how to add veins with a chisel, how to get a realistic shape using a leaf or rose mold, and how to finish the stem.

Mark's blacksmith shop is in Markle, IN and he is a frequent participant at the Feast of the Hunters' Moon. He is a full time blacksmith (he quit his day job as a welder to pound metal).



Mark demos leaf making.



Shaping in a rose mold.



Adding veins on the anvil with a chisel.



Production work (for \$) is helped with a bender.

Dominick Turns Wood with Gerry Williams, 12/21/12



Gerry Williams trims log with chain saw in his barn in Holton, IN.



Rough shaping on wood lathe is done with a roughing gouge.



Dominick's finished cedar bowl (8.5 in dia.). Very cool!

Interesting Facebook Sites

MT Forge;
Southern Ohio Forge and Anvil;
North Carolina artist blacksmiths and friends;
Falls City Ironworks, Lewis Meyer, Blacksmith.

Interesting Web Site

Mark Thomas' shop, MT Forge,
<http://www.mtforge.com/>
American Association of Wood Turners,
<http://www.woodturner.org/>

Dates to Remember

February 11, 2012: Rocky Forge meeting.
June 1-3, 2012: IBA Conference, Tipton, IN.
July 18-21, 2012: ABANA Conf., Central States Fairgrounds, Rapid City, South Dakota, "Reunion on the Great Plains".
July 20-22, 2012: Illiana Antique Power Show.
September 14-16, 2012: Potawatomi Fest, Attica.
September 22-23, 2012: Feast of the Hunters' Moon
September 28-30?, 2012: SOFA Quad-state Conf.
October 5-6, 2012: Gaither Fall Festival, Alexandria, IN.

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Ted, Greg and Dominick got together on December 23 to have some fun with hot metal. Greg worked on a candlestick holder that he subsequently finished at home. A photo of his beautiful piece is shown on the first page of this newsletter.