

Rocky Forge News

Volume 11, Issue 4 – April, 2012



Assembled blacksmiths at our March meeting before Iron-In-The-Hat.

Next Meeting – April 14

The next meeting of the Rocky Forge will be at the Boy Scout camp called Camp Krientein southeast of Brazil (see accompanying article at [right](#)). We will be there to give the Boy Scouts hands-on experience at blacksmithing. After Scout leader Dan Michael, made a plea for some help we just decided to move our April meeting to that site and help educate the future blacksmiths. Apparently it will be a large Scouting event with more than 70 Scouts and we are pleased to be a part of it.

Anyone interested in pitching in please give me a call at 765-491-2194. We will be there at 8:00 A.M. on April 14th. The Camp is 72 miles south and 1 hour and 45 minutes away, so we will need to leave my house by 6:15 AM.

The May meeting will be hosting the IBA on May 19th with Melvin Lytton (formerly with Conner Prairie) as our demonstrator. We will also have Iron-in-the-Hat and an auction of blacksmith tools, shop tools, shop cabinets, etc. Don't miss this one.

Ted

Spring Camporee

The Sugar Creek District of the BSA is having their spring Camporee at Camp Krientein on April 14. What we will be doing is manning a station that the boys will make something out of metal. Hooks, nails, fire strikers, camp devices, it's up to you and the boy. Please be at the camp around 8AM. There is a video that we'll be required to watch dealing with Youth Protection. The first crew will be at out station around 9:15. Lunch will be provided as well as Coal, and metal. Please bring your own tools and forges.

The camp director wants us to come through the EAST (not North) entrance. That is the one that goes to the staff parking lot and the dining hall. Remember we have the west side of the Activity Field, dead center of the camp. There are shelters in the camp at that location that are not shown on the map that I emailed you. The Order of the Arrow will provide supper on Saturday for all blacksmiths and reenactors. Period dress is encouraged. Doesn't matter what era really. If you have a set of bib overalls, that's fine. The most important thing is

to show up.

Our scoutmaster likes to say, "Let's blow there ever lovin' minds". I'm ready to do that. There were some really good ideas at our last meeting. Nails, lid lifters, S-hooks, fire strikers. There is no wrong thing. We have a time limit and a lot of youth, so keep it simple and on the theme of Louis and Clark. Let me know what metal to bring. I have 1/4, 1/2, 3/16, and 5/16 inch round and square and some flat but not much. Camp Krienstein address is at 6445 E. County Road 575 N, Center Point, IN 47840.

Dan Michael

Last Meeting-March 10

Last months meeting was an open forge with lots of activity. Greg Searcy made a very nice hot cut that he donated to our club toolbox for raffle. Guest John Bennett, donated two pair of tongs for the toolbox. John assisted a new member, Zachary Gaither, to make a knife from a railroad spike with the antler welding splatter that John is so well known. KJ helped Zachary put a proper ground edge on the knife. It turned out to be a very nice piece of work.



Dick Fontaine had an old metal travel trunk meant for a model T, but too tall for his roadster, so with the help of Gene Hollingsworth they shortened it by 8 inches. They did such a good job it looked factory made. Gene does magic with sheet metal. Many other projects were done that day and we all had a great time.

Ted

Dates to Remember

May 19, 2012: Rocky Forge meeting on the third Saturday with the IBA at Ted's.

April 28-29, 2012: Mountain Man Rendezvous, Brigeton, IN.

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.

Interesting Web Site

<http://www.diamondbackironworks.com/>,

Diamondback Ironworks, maker of the gas forge that KJ showed us at our last meeting.

<http://troop120.indylinux.org/Camps/krienstein.htm>, link to a map to the Spring Camporee site at Camp Krienstein.

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

