

Rocky Forge News

Volume 11, Issue 8 - August, 2012

Next Meeting – August 11 Show Ground in Rainsville

The next meeting of the group will be 9:00 A.M., August 11th at the blacksmith shop at the Rainsville show grounds. Brad and Greg have something good cooked up, so be ready to forge. Bring some good metal for Iron-in-the-Hat. For lunch Greg is making a pork loin. So bring something to complement that main course.

The Illiana show was a huge success for the Rocky Forge group, we owe a number of participants a big thank you for taking the time and expense to put on a great show in the blacksmith shop. For fear of omitting anyone I will not try to name all the guys who worked through the heat to entertain our show guests. I think all of them had a great time and produced some really neat items.

I want to publicly thank members of the "Rocky Forge" for the marble plaque honoring me as the "Indiana Blacksmith of the Year for 2011". It is a great honor and I really appreciate this group's acknowledgment of the recognition by awarding such a nice plaque. It will be prominently displayed in my shop.



Ted and Carol Stout, Dan Michael

Several of the Rocky Forge members will be demonstrating at the Indiana State Fair during August 6th and 7th. If you are there please look them up and say hello. They will be located at the "T" intersection on the northeast corner of the Pioneer Village pavilion. The photo below is of KJ at the state fair on Monday, August 6.



KJ and Dominick demonstrated at the Tippecanoe County Steam and Power show August 2, 3 and 4th. Their portable blacksmith shop is well built. Our guys made some fire tending tools for their shop. You may remember that John Haley used to work this shop for the Tippecanoe group. Ted Stout

Poems by Berton Braley

THE THINKER	From "Enchanted Machines"	LOYALTY
<p>Back of the beating hammer By which the steel is wrought, Back of the workshop's clamor The seeker may find the Thought- The Thought that is ever master Of iron and steam and steel, That rises above disaster And tramples it under heel!</p>	<p>Enchanted, in fact, with the only true magic— The magic that lives in the Brain, By which man has banished his drudgery tragic, The sweat and the toil and the strain, The magic that, seeking new visions, new courses, Knows not what "Impossible" means, The magic that harnesses infinite forces And builds these Enchanted Machines!</p>	<p>He may be six kinds of a liar, He may be ten kinds of a fool, He may be a wicked highflyer Beyond any reason or rule; There may be a shadow above him Of ruin and woes to impend, And I may not respect, but I love him, Because-well, because he's my friend</p>
<p>Ref: Virtues in Verse: The Best of Berton Braley available at Amazon.com</p>		

Dates to Remember

August 6-7, 2012: Rocky Forge works at State Fair.
August 11, 2012: Rocky Forge meeting TBD (?).
September 14-16, 2012: Potawatomi Fest, Attica.
September 22-23, 2012: Feast of the Hunters' Moon
September 21-23, 2012: SOFA Quad-state Conf.
October 5-6, 2012: Gaither Fall Festival,
 Alexandria, IN.

Interesting Web Sites

"Engines of Our Ingenuity" is a radio program that tells the story of how our culture is formed by human creativity. Hosted by John Lienhard, this audio archive of over 2800 episodes (with transcripts) explores the machines that make our civilization run and the people whose ingenuity created them: <http://www.uh.edu/engines/>. Episode 399 is entitled Early Metal. Episode 836 is entitled Iron Buildings. Episode 1317 is entitled Iron in America. Episode 1943 is entitled "Modern" Blacksmithing in 1902.

Metalwork by Samuel Yellin: Public Domain
 Photography by Angus Everton:
<http://www.bgcmonline.org/yellin/photoindex.html>,

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



Photo of several of our guys who blacksmithed at the 2012 Illiana Steam and Power Show.