

Rocky Forge News

Volume 11, Issue 9 - September, 2012

Next Meeting – **September 15** Show Ground in Rainsville

NOTICE MEETING DATE CHANGE: The next Rocky Forge Meeting will be **September 15th** at our Illiana Show grounds building in Rainsville.

The reason for the date change is created by the IBA having a board meeting on the second Saturday so we will meet on the 3rd. I hope this date change does not compromise anyone's schedule and as it turns out it may be more fun that weekend because the Illiana group is having what they call "Fun Day" on Sunday of that weekend. Starting Friday they will be camping, running their trains, tractors, etc. So having the blacksmiths during the same time should be more fun. Plan to camp out and enjoy the pitch in meal on Sunday.

For lunch let's plan on hamburgers and bring a covered dish of your choice. Someone want to volunteer to do the meat? The rest of us can provide the covered dish items. Our group has some creative cooks and wives who can do some good dishes. We are all looking forward to a "gourmet" hamburger meal. So we can judge how

much meat to buy let me know by email, text or telephone (765-491-2194) if you are coming, otherwise you may be short of food. Coffee and doughnuts should be ready by 8:30 and bring your iron in the hat items, show and tell and stories.

Ted recently bought out another blacksmith shop and has stuff for sale. I will bring some of those items in case you are interested. The person who had the shop made a lot of campfire items and flintlock guns so I will bring some of the examples and many of his patterns and jigs if you want to make copies. See you all on September 15th for a good day of pounding metal.

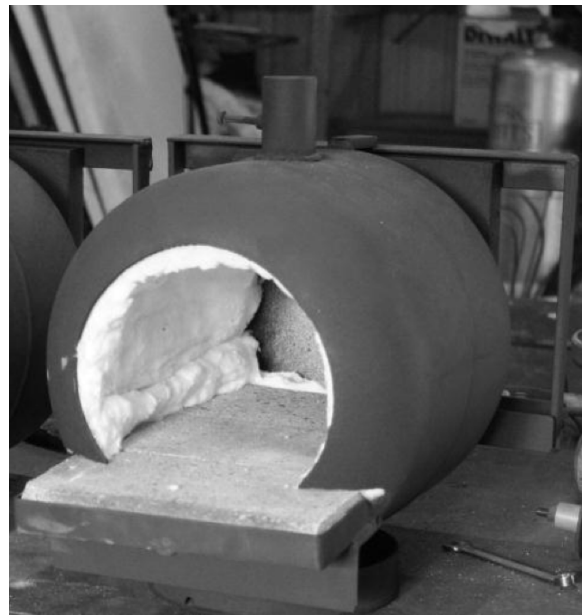
Ted Stout



Building a Single Burner Gas Forge

By John W. Bennett

Six years ago I needed to build four portable forging stations for the Parke County 4H Blacksmithing program. Each station would consist of an anvil, post vise and a forge. Since we did not have a permanent building to work out of and we needed to be able to work rain or shine I decided on the convenience and portability of a gas forge. I had built several gas forges for my shop based on information on Ron Reil's ABANA web pages so with a little adaptation I came up with these small gas forges with a small porch in front and sliding doors in the rear. They have served us well for 6 years with very little maintenance. They are fairly quick and easy to make. This article will show you how to make the forge body only. I will not get into burner design/building. You can choose to build your own burners or commercial burners are readily available from several sources on the web.



An 8-page article describing the 23 steps required to build the single burner forge can be found at the following web site.

<https://engineering.purdue.edu/~andrisan/Buffer/Rocky/PROPANE%20FORGE.pdf>

Photos from our August meeting at Rainsville



Dates to Remember

September 8, 2012: IBA Meeting, Sutton-Terock Memorial Blacksmith Shop.

September 14-16, 2012: Potawatomi Fest, Attica, Alexandria, IN.

September 15, 2012: Rocky Forge at Rainsville.

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.

October 13, 2012: Rocky Forge meeting at Ted's.

Interesting Web Sites

“Blacksmithing at French Creek Forge.” This site has numerous articles of interest to blacksmiths.
<http://www.spaco.org/bk.htm>

“California Blacksmith Association Safety Plan and Guide” http://assets.calsmith.org/cba-cdn/403/safety_original.pdf

Larry Zoeller gas burners:<http://zoellerforge.com/>

Ron Reil's Gas Burner designs:
<http://ronreil.abana.org/design1.shtml>

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