

Rocky Forge News

Volume 13, Issue 8 – August 2014

No August Meeting!

Next Meeting (9/13/14)

We will not have a Rocky Forge meeting in August. Several of us (Gene, Dominick, Peter, and I) worked the Indiana State Fair this past Monday and Tuesday and care not to spend any more time together for a while (just kidding). Actually many of our members were unable to attend on Saturday so we collectively decided to call off the meeting on 8/9/14.

The State Fair was well attended, and the blacksmith shop received a lot of attention from people of all ages. This year the two forges were improved with excellent side-draft hoods and the floor was leveled. Bill Newman, an IBA member in the Vernon Group, has done a great job shepherding the improvements.

We can't say enough good things about the Illiana show this year (see photographs on this page). The weather was ideal, the crowds were large, there was lots of interest about our craft, and many good items were made. A couple of guys worked like borrowed mules throughout the whole show.

The interest in our old machine shop equipment exceeded expectations. Next year they will see some of it running. One elderly gentleman was familiar with all the equipment. Seems he just lived around the corner from the old Odeham shop and worked there off and on. He is willing to help us any way he can. Several visitors offered to help make the equipment run. That is the enthusiasm we are looking to find.

The copper smithing, bucket making (Cooper) and Kickapoo wood carvers were all a big hit. More of those trades should be there for next years show.

Our thanks to Andy Hetrick, Josh Wheling and their crews for getting the building additions completed in time for the show. We also extend our thanks to Interstate Metal and Powell Lumber for their co-operation on pricing the building materials. With our strong business relationships the Illiana club and its members are encouraged to do more business with both of these suppliers whenever possible.

Our next meeting will be on September 13 with details forthcoming. See you then.

Thanks

Ted



Peter the Cooper is a bucketeer at the Illiana Show!



Rob teaches local history of the Lewis&Clark expedition

Indiana State Fair, August 4-5, 2014



Gene slaps copper with his unique leather covered lead slapper



Bill Newman and Ted make an ax. Bill provides the horsepower and Ted the finesse.



David making a key fob.



Dominick holds the three members of the Steele family that he made at Illiana and at the fair.

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

Dates to Remember

August 13-16, 2014: ABANA 2014 Conference, Delaware State Fairgrounds.

Rocky Forge Meeting (TBA): September 13, 2014.

September 26-28, 2014: SOFA QuadState

October 4-5, 2014: Feast of the Hunters' Moon

Interesting Web Sites

Kevin Caron Studios: <http://www.kevincaron.com/>