

Rocky Forge News

Volume 16, Issue 5 – May 2017

Next Meeting: 5/13/2017

We have a Rocky Forge blacksmith "Hammer-In" coming up Saturday May 13th at Ted's shop. The past few meetings have demonstrated the renewed interest in our hobby. Attendance has been very good and the number of active blacksmithing participants is good testimony of the interest. It is always rewarding for me to see such activity and so good to see our more advanced smiths working to lead the younger ones. We have a good group of members who like to share their knowledge and an eager learning group to suck up the information! What more could we ask?

The past two meetings I have given a 10 to 15 minute primer on different tools used at the forge and anvil (butcher and swage blocks), I intend to keep that tradition going and invite anyone else to volunteer for such a presentation. The idea is to introduce our audience to a review (or new to some) information about a tool, process or new item. At the May meeting I will briefly discuss the different types of steel designations. Hopefully, you will better understand when we throw out numbers like 52100, 5160 or 1085 steel what those numbers mean.

I am still waiting for volunteer help on the little barn at the Illiana show grounds and some work on the blacksmith shop. These projects need to be completed before the Illiana show the third week of July.

Speaking of the show I hope all of you can free that weekend up and participate in the 3-day show (July 21-23). Even one day would be very helpful. Put the dates on your calendars.

For the May meeting (5/13) we will start with coffee, tea, doughnuts and socializing around 8:30AM. A short meeting at 9:15 and open forge time starting around 9:30. Lunch will be around 12:00. Carol will not be here for the day so I will cook a pot of ham-n-beans for lunch. Bring anything you think would compliment the bean soup.

We will have an Iron-in-the-Hat drawing so brings items for that event.

Everyone enjoys the "Show and Tell" table so please bring some of your work, old tools or whatever you think would be of interest to show.

Hope to see you the 13th.

Ted

IBA Conference: June 2-4

Here is the link to the [Brochure](#) describing our 2017 IBA Conference to be held on June 2-4, at the Tipton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Tipton, Indiana. Conference demonstrators include: Coppersmith Robert Taylor, Brotherhood of Friendly Hammermen, Architectural Blacksmith Gordon Williams, and Spouse's Program with Connie Retter.

Rocky Forge Address Book

Here is the web site for you to provide your contact information to Rocky Forge.

<http://www.rockyforge.org/members.shtml>

Contacts

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Dates to Remember

May 20: IBA Hammer-In, Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop, Vernon, IN.

June 2-4: IBA Conference, Tipton, IN.

June 15-17: Rural Smiths meeting at Johnson County Tractor Show.

July 21-23: Illiana Show, Rainsville, IN

Sept. 24, 2017: Art on the Wabash, 10AM-4PM, Tapawingo Park, West Lafayette.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 2017: Feast of the Hunters' Moon.

June 27-30, 2018: ABANA 2018 Conference will held in **Richmond, Virginia** at the Meadow Event Park.

JUNKYARD STEELS

The following list describes some potential types of steel used for common junkyard items. This information was compiled from several sources, Machinery's Handbook, Country

Blacksmith, Blacksmith's Journal and Carpenter Technology Corp. Machinery's Handbook is an excellent source for heat treatment of these steels.

APPLICATION	Number	Letter	APPLICATION	Number	Letter
Agricultural steel	1080		Hay Rake Teeth	1095	
Axels	1040		Jackhammer Bits		S-5
Ball Bearing Balls	52100		Knives, machine		M2
Ball Bearing Races	52100		Knives, woodworking		O2
Band Saw Blades		L-6	Leaf Springs	1085, 5160	
Bits, Router		M2	Lock Washer	1060	
Bolts, anchor	1040		Mauls		L6, S2
Bolts, heat treated	2330		Mower knives	1085	
Bolts, heavy duty	4815		Music Wire	1085	
Brake Lever	1030		Nail Sets		L6
Cams		A6, S7	Plow Beams	1070	
Chisels		O2, O6, L6	Plow Disk	1080	
Clutch disk	1070		Plow Shares	1080	
Clutch Springs	1060		Pneumatic Tools		L6, A6, S7
Coil Springs, auto	4063		Punches-Cold		A2, O2
Coil Springs, truck	5160		Reamers		M2, O2, A2
Cold-rolled steel	1070		Roller Bearings	4815	
Connecting Rods	1040		Screw Drivers		L6, S2
Crankshafts	1045		Snap Rings	1060	
Cutters, Bolt		S2, S7	Spring Clips	1060	
Drifts		L6, S2, S7	Spring Steel, clock	1095	
Drills		M2	Steering Arm Bolts	3130	
End Mills		M2	Steering Arms	4042	
Fan Blades	1020		Taps		M2, O2
Files		W-2	Transmission Shafts	4140	
Gear shift levers	1030		Tubing	1040	
Gears, transmission	3115		Universal Joints	1145	
Hammers		L6	Valve Springs	1060	
Harrow Disk	1080		Wrenches		L6, S2

This information was compiled by the North Texas Blacksmiths Association. ABANA chapters may freely use it in their publications. Please credit NTBA, <http://www.flash.net/~dwwilson/ntba>

JUNKYARD STEEL (It's Approximate Carbon Content)

by John Korman

MILD STEEL

Most scrap bars, rods, angle iron, chain, some nails,* some bolts.*

Nails, spikes, horseshoes and most bolts are low carbon, i.e. between mild and medium.

HIGH CARBON

Coil and leaf springs, wrenches, torsion bars, hayrake teeth, picks, mattocks, railroad rails, axes.

Some reinforcing rod is made from railroad rails and is high carbon steel.

MEDIUM CARBON

Most shafting, tie rods, drive shafts, frame steel, crankshafts, piston rods, pump sucker rods, railroad spikes, most saws: circle & crosscut.

Avoid engine valves as some are sodium filled and are very dangerous when heated or impacted.

TOOL STEEL

Grader blades, plow points, drill steel, machine tools, files, rasps.

Classification of Tool Steels

Designation	Description or Notable Properties
W	Water hardening
S	Shock resisting
O	Oil hardening
A	Air hardening
D	Die steel, air hardening, high chromium
H	Hot work, chromium, tungsten, and/or molybdenum
T	Tungsten alloy, high speed steel
M	Molybdenum alloy, high speed steel
L	Low alloy, special purpose
F	Carbon-tungsten, special purpose
P	Mild steels, low carbon and other types