

# Rocky Forge News

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## Next Meeting, May 15, Illiana Show Grounds, Rainsville, IN.

What a year we have all endured!

If any of your family or friends succumbed to the virus we are truly sorry. Many groups continued to meet during the past year. I only know of one Indiana blacksmith who died from the virus. The IBA and ABANA did not support meeting during this pandemic. I choose to follow their recommendations.

The COVID virus has created a new normal and we're not even sure what that new normal will be. We have really missed seeing all of you and having the interaction at meetings. We trust your interest in the group remains strong.

I hope most of you have continued to hone your metalworking skills and learned from YouTube videos during all the time at home.

On a personal note, about the middle of March 2021, Carol and I were diagnosed with serious medical conditions. Carol has type 2 diabetes and is trying to adjust to Metformin and a new diet. I was diagnosed with bladder cancer and had surgery March 30. Living with a tortuous catheter for two weeks and not allowed to do anything is no fun! Pathology will not be available to us until Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

What all this means regarding my leadership to Rocky Forge cannot be said yet. It all depends on the pathology.

I would suggest a meeting at the Illiana show grounds on Saturday, ~~May 8~~ (now May 15). We'll send out another newsletter as more information becomes available.

Ted and Carol Stout

## Coal Available

Marty Mears has 50-pound bags of coal available for \$18 a bag. To buy this coal call or text Marty at 765-201-2836.

## IBA Conference Planning

The IBA Annual Conference in Tipton has been cancelled due to the pandemic. However, the IBA is planning three smaller regional conferences, one in the middle of the state, one in the south, and one in the north. Each will be modeled after the Tipton conference schedule of a Friday night short demo, Saturday demo's, perhaps a gallery, etc. These plans are evolving rapidly so stay tuned.

The first of these regional conferences is being organized by John Bennett for May 7-9, 2021, in Rochester, IN. Details should be posted in the IBA Facebook page and in the Forge Fire newsletter.

## Illiana History Day

In 2020 the Illiana History Day was a virtual event. Wonderful videos of the various historic places at the Show Grounds were prepared and are now on-line. Dominick did the demonstration on blacksmithing, and it can be found at the following link.

<https://illianaantiquepower.com/history-day/blacksmithing>

## Dates to Remember

**May 7-9:** IBA Regional Conference, Rochester, IN, details TBA.

**May 8, 2021:** Mother's Day.

**June 2021:** IBA Conference, Tipton, IN, CANCELLED.

**July 16-18, 2021:** Illiana Show, Rainsville, IN.

**September 24-26, 2021:** SOFA Quad-state, Troy, Ohio.

**May 11-14, 2022:** ABANA Biennial Conference, North Fort Worth, Texas.

## Contacts

**Forgemaster: Ted Stout** (stout8525@tds.net, 765-491-2194 cell).

**Newsletter Editor: Dominick Andrisani** (andrisan@purdue.edu, 765-463-4975).

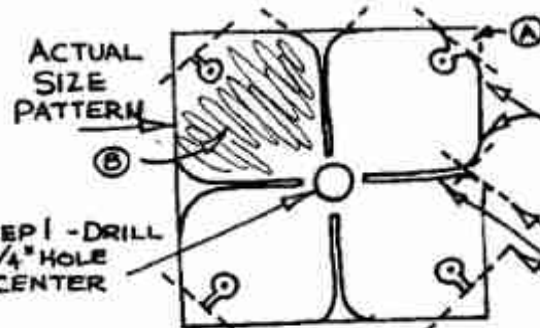
Reprinted from the May 2020 issue of the ...

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**THE BEGINNER CORNER**  
**BY DONNIE FULWOOD**  
**MAKING DOGWOOD FLOWERS**  
**OCCULGEE BLACKSMITHS GUILD**

**YOU WILL NEED:**

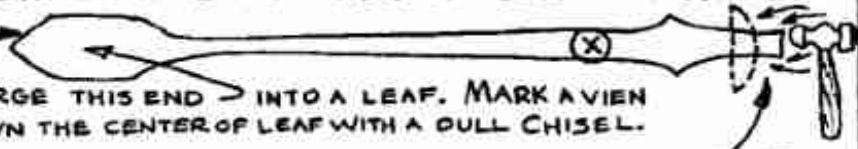
- A 2" x 2" x 1/8" PIECE OF FLAT MILD STEEL
- A PIECE OF 1/2" ROUND STOCK ABOUT 3" LONG
- A HACKSAW, DRILL, 1/4" DRILL BIT, 1/8" OR 3/16" BIT, 3 CORNERED FILE, CENTER PUNCH, CROSS PIEN AND A BALL PIEN HAMMER, A DULL CHISEL, AN ANVIL AND A HEAT SOURCE (TORCH OR FORGE). A VISE AND A PAIR OF TONGS OR VICE GRIP PLIERS IS NEEDED.



**FIG. 3**

- STEP 1 - DRILL A 1/4" HOLE IN CENTER
- STEP 2 - CUT CORNERS OFF OF 2x2 WITH HACKSAW
- STEP 3 - CUT 2x2 INTO 4 SEGMENTS, STOPPING 1/8" FROM CENTER HOLE.
- STEP 4 - CUT A V AT THE EDGE OF THE SEGMENT CUTS.
- STEP 5 - FILE THE V AND CORNER CUTS TO ROUND ALL CORNERS.
- STEP 6 - DRILL 4 1/8" OR 3/16" HOLES AT LOCATION MARKED C.
- STEP 7 - CUT FROM EDGE INTO THE 4 HOLES AND FILE (SEE A).
- STEP 8 - HEAT AND TEXTURE WITH PIEN AS IN B ABOVE.
- STEP 9 - SINK CENTER OF FLOWER BY PLACING OVER HARDIE HOLE AND STRIKING WITH BALL PIEN. (WITH FLOWER FACE UP.)

**STEP 10 - FORGE A PIECE OF 1/2" ROUND AS SHOWN BELOW IN FIGURE 2.**



**FIG 2**

- STEP 11 - FORGE THIS END INTO A LEAF. MARK A VIEN DOWN THE CENTER OF LEAF WITH A DULL CHISEL.
- STEP 12 - INSTALL COLD FLOWER ONTO YELLOW HOT STEM END AND CLAMP IN VISE AT X ABOVE. PEIN THE STEM END INTO A BUTTON OR MUSHROOM HEAD SHAPE THUS LOCKING THE FLOWER TO THE STEM. ADD TEXTURE TO THE COOLED BUTTON WITH RANDOM CENTER PUNCH MARKS. FOLD STEM IN HALF AS SHOWN IN FIG. 3. CLEAN WITH WIRE BRUSH THEN OIL.