

Rocky Forge News

Volume 21, Issue 1 – January, 2022

Next Meeting, January 8, At Ted's Shop

Hope you all had a good holiday season and are looking forward to a better year for 2022.

The good news for the day is the gas forge hoses were received and will be installed this first week of 2022. That means the forges will be tested and tuned for pickup at the next meeting,



which is Saturday, January 8th, at Ted's shop. For those who made a deposit the total cost is \$265, less your deposit. We prefer cash.

The meeting agenda has not been set as of this writing, but will be by meeting time, be sure to bring your bucket of tools. Since it will be cold I doubt any brave souls will venture to the outside coal forges. It would also be helpful to bring a full propane tank.

We will have an Iron-in-the-Hat drawing so bring items to add to this fun part of our day.

Also, if you have made any items to show, bring them along as I have a show tell area set up. That also includes things you may have found in flea markets, auctions or antique shops. It's okay to be proud of what you find and most of us are very interested.

Lunch will be a pot of ham and beans, so we appreciate your bringing dishes to add to the lunch. Thank you in advance for that.

Hope to see many of you on Saturday starting at 8:30 AM with coffee, tea and doughnuts.

Ted and Carol

Gas Forge Project Completed

Twenty-five propane gas forges have been completed and are ready for pickup. The total cost is \$265, less your deposit. Many thanks go to all those who have contributed their time and fortune to complete this project. Five Rocky Forgers who made up the backbone of the forge project team included Ted Stout, Randy Padish, Marty Mears, Gene Hollingsworth and Dominick Andrisani. Three cheers to the forge project team!



One of the 25 completed propane-powered gas forges made by and for the Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild.

Dates to Remember

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)

Meeting Review From November 13th

By Tim Lee

The November meeting was a blast. Ted kicked off the meeting with the wonderful news that the forges designed and built by guild members were in the final stages of assembly and soon would be ready to be purchased. During forge time one of the finished forges was in use for all to see. Once again, Gary Lehman displayed his demonstration skills and a bit of humor. He taught us how to make a touchmark and a bottle opener to use the touchmark on. This demo was especially interesting to me as I've been wanting to learn how to do this ever since I saw "T STOUT" on several pieces in the shop. Then we had a special guest, Kurt Fehrenbach, appear, and after lunch he used the guild-made forge and Ted's power hammer to forge metal shears and a swage tool that fit in a hardy hole. It was fantastic watching Kurt manipulate the steel with such ease and precision! In the meantime, other members made their own bottle openers and touchmarks. Thanks to Carol and other members for providing the delicious food. Thank you to all who contributed to Iron-in-the-Hat.



Kurt using the shears he made to forge the swage tool while Chuck gets his touchmark negative from the forge.



Carol, Mrs. Ames, and Mrs. Cocanower enjoy each other's company.



Gary shows how to widen the bottle opener hole without thinning the material too much.



Jay, Chuck, and Marty work on their touchmarks.



Everyone is impressed with William's hammer skills.



Ted points out an interesting feature of Kurt's Swage tool to Chuck and Chris.