

Rocky Forge News

Volume 21, Issue 5 – May, 2022

Next Meeting, May 14, At Ted's Shop

The next meeting will be at Ted's shop on May 14th. Our normal time is 8:30AM for coffee, doughnuts and social time.

This meeting will be an open forge time for you to apply the skills learned over the meetings during the winter months. Plan ahead for your project.

Be sure to bring your bucket of tools and items for Iron-in-the-Hat.

Caleb Dillman and his dad, David, are providing taco meat for lunch. Please bring items to go with tacos. Suggestions would be chopped tomatoes, onions, lettuce, avocado or guacamole, refried beans, Mexican rice, and Salsa. Carol will provide both soft and hard taco shells.

Looking forward to a fun meeting time. See you all on the 14th.

Ted and Carol, 765-491-2194

HISTORY DAY, Friday, May 13th

On this special day, the Illiana Antique Power Association will entertain close to 400 fourth graders



from many local schools. Rocky Forge members are part of the Illiana Association and will be demonstrating and educating the kids about our craft.

We need help that day. The kids will start arriving at 9:00 AM, and leave at 2:00 PM. There will be a 30-minute lunch break at 11:30, so bring your own brown bag lunch.

As of this writing we are of short help, please consider volunteering.

Coal Available

Marty Mears has 50-pound bags of coal available for \$20 a bag. To buy this coal call or text Marty at 765-201-2836.

Interesting Web Resources

History of Blacksmithing:

<https://www.oldfieldforge.co.uk/history-of-blacksmithing/>

Tools of the Trade: A History of Blacksmithing

<https://dragonfiretools.com/tools-of-the-trade-a-history-of-blacksmithing/>

Blacksmith:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blacksmith>

Dates to Remember

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

History Day #1 at Rainsville: Friday, May 13, 2022.

Illiana Show: Friday-Sunday, July 15-17
Wife's Birthday.

Illiana Fall Festival/Craft Fair/Swap Meet:
Saturday, September 17.

History Day #2 at Rainsville: Friday, September 23

Christmas in the Village: Friday and Saturday,
December 2-3.

Contacts

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Meeting Review from April 9th

By Dave Dillman

The April meeting started with a discussion on hardy tools you can make.



Ted and others had tons of ideas and discussions of items you can make from other items that will be beneficial and inexpensive to make. After the discussion



was over, the group broke into smaller groups and took turns making tools. The majority making spring fullers and some making cutoffs. Thanks so much to Gary for helping everyone in making hardy tools. If I only had a good anvil. But now I am prepared once I do. 😊

A spring fuller is started off by making the part which would go into the hardy hole. This was done by bending the rod at a 90 degree angle about 8 inches from the end. Bending the material back on itself at



about 6 inches and finishing with a 90 degree turn. Heating and bending over the doubled section forms a square area that can be used for the Hardy. All that is left is to put a bend in the rod forming the spring. See the picture for a dimensional view. The cutoff tool is very similar but instead of leaving a rounded rod to make them into triangles with the points towards each other.