

Rocky Forge News

Volume 22, Issue 5 – May, 2023

May Meeting Cancelled

We will not have a Rocky Forge meeting in May. Ted is having some health issues, and it is not wise for him to take the strain of hosting our blacksmith meeting this month. He is awaiting the implantation of some stents in his heart to eliminate some recent chest pain resulting from partial blockage of his coronary arteries. He is out of danger but is experiencing some fatigue.

Progress continues at our Illiana blacksmith shop. A prototype Y-shaped smoke handling system and super-sucker side-draft hood has been installed and tested. They worked GREAT!



Parts have been ordered from Snyder and Lehnen for five more Y-shaped ducts and they should arrive in a week or two.

Randy went to Nashville and picked up eleven more heavy-duty fire pots for our club. The new steel walls on our building are now complete and the overhead doors will be installed in the next several weeks.

Much more work needs to be completed before the Illiana Show on July 21-23, 2023.

- Installation of 5 more Y-shaped ducts,
- Fabrication of several more super-sucker hoods,
- Fabrication of several more forge tables,
- Fabrication of several more ash dumps for the forges,
- Making sufficient fire tending tools.

This is a truly exciting time for our blacksmith club, and we look forward to our June meeting and the completion of these tasks with your help.

By the way, please consider attending the [IBA Conference](#) in Tipton on June 2-4. You will learn a lot!

Contacts

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

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

Dates to Remember

[IBA Conference](#): June 2-4, 2023

[Illiana Show at Rainsville](#): July 21-23, 2023.

ABANA Conference: June 6-9, 2024, Johnstown, PA (Note: this date conflicts with the traditional date for our 2024 IBA Conference).

Work Goes on at Our Iliana Blacksmith Shop in Rainsville



Eric, Dan, Charles, Ted and Brad (from Snyder and Lehnen) install the prototype ductwork.



Super-sucker side-draft forge hood worked well on our new forge table.



Our building gets new metal siding. Overhead doors should be installed shortly.



New coal forge fire pots that we bought, and the ash dumps we added.