

Rocky Forge News

Volume 22, Issue 10 – October, 2023

Next Meeting October 14 (at Illiana Shop in Rainsville)

Hello Rocky Forge members. A hammer-in is scheduled for this Saturday, October 14th at the Illiana blacksmith shop in Rainsville. We will continue with the ABANA National Curriculum, and alternatively provide time for your own projects.

There will be an Iron-in-the-Hat drawing, so along with your bucket of tools bring items for the drawing.

Bring your own lunch and drinks as it is difficult to provide meals at this site.

At our last meeting we had several volunteers willing to accept assignments to further improve our building. Those are listed below, along with the name of the volunteers.

1. Ted: Work with Darrell Schulze on purchasing his tin-smithing stakes and slip roll. *Status:* We settled on \$400 and mailed the check to Darrell. Task is completed.

2. Greg Prather: Fill holes where rodents may be entering the building. *Status:* That job has been completed. Thank you, Greg.

3. Tyler: Try selling the new 4' fluorescent type LED lights that were donated by John Kummings. *Status:* Ongoing.

4. Eric Smith: Disposal of the big lights located in the shop rafters. *Status:* Ongoing

5. Marty Mears: Look into purchasing a new first aid kit for the shop. *Status:* Ongoing.

6. Purchase coal for the shop. *Status:* Completed by Randy Padish. He made a trip to Oden, Indiana and delivered 20 bags to the shop. They are in the little railroad building and need to be carried into the blacksmith shop. We owe Randy for the coal.

7. Dominick: Purchase from Purdue Salvage a double door metal cabinet, with shelves, to store kitchen items, etc. against rodents. *Status:* Ongoing.

8. Randy Padish: He may have a large tank suitable for trade with the welding shop for a smaller argon tank.

9. No volunteers: Ted has 8' foot folding tables for donation to the guild, but they will need to be removed and transferred to the Illiana shop. *Status:* Ongoing

10. Dan Michael: Provide serving items: large spoons, paper plates, paper towel, small coffee cups, sweetener, coffee mate, plastic eating utensils, etc. *Status:* Ongoing

Other outstanding projects include:

- Fabrication of 4 more coal forges.
- Restoration of several post vices and forge blowers.
- Design and build tables for the forging stations.
- Consider installing the hanging gas furnace for winter heat.
- Etc.!

As you can see it will take some time and money to bring the Illiana shop up to speed.

It's kind of like a home, it's always needing attention. I believe we will get there, and as we keep adding and improving we will become more and more proud of this new shop.

Hope see you all next Saturday for a fun time forging and socializing. See ya all Saturday.

Ted and Carol (765-491-2194)

Contacts

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Dates to Remember

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

History Day with the Illiana Antique Power Association: Fall 2023



Students and parents were very interested.



Youngsters listen intently.



The crowds were large at times.



Attendees were very well behaved.



Hot punch work. (All photos by Greg)



Demonstrating a dinner bell.