

ROCKY FORGE NEWSLETTER

Notes from the Forgemaster

We will have our regular meeting this Saturday, May 10th, at 9:00 with coffee and doughnuts at our Illiana shop. We will briefly discuss some old business and then some new business. Think about what our group can do to make an impact for the Illiana show in July. Bring your ideas to the meeting.

I notice that many of you lack certain tooling at your forging stations. Let's start making at least one new tool at each meeting. Make duplicates to paint one red so we can build our clubs tool chest. Painting handles red identifies them as belonging to Rocky Forge. Think about how we can keep these tools together and be made available when needed. If we have new members or visitors, they usually don't have tools, so this inventory could really help them as well as our own members.

The photo below is a very useful tool I found on Facebook. After all these years I wonder why I didn't think of it. If you've ever had a piece in the post vise and pound on it, you will understand its use. So often you just can't get the vise tightened enough to keep the piece from sliding. This tool does the job. It's a good idea to have several different lengths. This is an easy tool to make and well worth the effort. I'm calling this: the "**Tool of the Month**" for our May meeting.

We have a collection of tools from Darrel Schulze on a table at the south end overhead door. I've been working to restore some of them: tongs, hammers, hot cut hardy, and more tongs. The following photo of 5 tongs were my last bunch.

Food for Saturdays noon meal is always a chore to figure out, so this month we will do the brown bag deal. However, if someone comes up with something better we can make an announcement.

Hope to see a big turnout Saturday and remember Sunday is Mother's Day, so you might consider making something nice for the occasion.

Ted

765-491-2194

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Upcoming events

5/10/25 RFBG meeting at Illiana

5/17/25 IBA Hammer-In at Rob
Haugh's

6/7-8/2025 IBA Conference

Forgemaster Ted Stout –

stout8525@tds.net

Newsletter editor Dan Michael

anvildan@gmail.com

