

Rocky Forge News

Volume 3, issue 12 – December, 2004

Announcements

First the bad news, no December meeting, now several good newses;

Last Months Meeting: The joint IBA/ ROCKY FORGE meeting was maybe as much of a success as Ted was hoping, even though Ted had to buy a new power hammer to pull it off. There were about 60 attendees, 43 before the start of the demonstration even. Charlie Helton demonstrated slitting, forming, and tenoning for ornamental joinery. He had several handy holders and accessories that were almost as fascinating as the work. He ran out of time, of course.

After lunch, which was the best and biggest since last Christmas Feast, Tom Clark made nails including a big nail out of 2" diameter some really tough bar stock. It did not matter what he was making it was a wonder of tool use technique from how to hold the hammer to why those Hoffi hammers are worth the hundred dollars they cost. (Tom was there after delivering Ted's new power hammer and got drafted. I think that he enjoyed it too.)

Overall the meeting was very informative and enjoyable. The event had the highest attendance of any IBA meeting and Iron in the Hat brought in \$242 for the IBA - another record.

Ted sends thanks to the industrious souls that came and helped on November 13.

Upcoming Meetings

January: Demonstration of Patterned knife-making by Billy Merritt; Weather - permitting, Billy works for the highway department. The meeting will be at Ted's at 9:30 am. Bring Iron in the hat of interest to knife makers; Ted would like to get back as much of the demonstration fee as possible.

February : Joint meeting with Rural Smiths, demonstration by Shane Stiegmier. I think it will be on historical hinge making. This

meeting is also at Ted's but on the first Saturday, February 5,

Newsletter

Several things that I have been asked about that I would like to see in the newsletter:

Equipment or tools to buy, sell or trade; especially things for the beginner and the poor.

Projects- Things you have done, would like to do, or learn to do. Maybe even something you need help on or want to teach others.

Help wanted- for instance I have a disassembled round metal grain bin that will house my shop someday. I could use some more hands to bring someday closer.

Input from you- Articles, pictures, advise, anything that I don't have to create. I would like to make up a calendar with us as pictures and art.

The Rocky Forge News is now available by E-mail as well as on our website (<http://www.rockyforge.org/>). If you wish to receive the newsletter via E-mail sent Dave Childress a note at trollkeep@ccsdana.net.