

Rocky Forge News

Volume 9, issue 2 – February, 2010

Next Meeting (2/13/2010)

The next meeting is coming very soon and the excitement is expanding. We will leave my shop at 6:00 A.M. for a road trip to **Chandler's Coach Shop**. This is a chance to go back in time a 100 years and see how fancy carriages (like the Queen of England uses) were built. He makes everything in his shops, all the metal parts are forged by hand, the wood is cut, cured and sawed for the parts. They make the wheels from scratch and do all the lacquering, striping, etc.



Don't miss this one! Harley and his brother are getting up in the years so this shop will not be open many more years. You may never get this opportunity again!

So far Dominick and Ted are planning to drive. If we need more vehicles we could use a volunteer. The address is Harley Chandler, 4766 Woolper Road, Petersburg (or Burlington), Kentucky 41080

I was planning to take I-74 to the Cincinnati bypass (I-275). On the southwest side of the bypass is a turnoff that would take us to Harley's shops. Travel time is estimated at 3.5 hours.

We should arrive before around 9:30 for a time to get acquainted, have coffee and doughnuts. By 10:00 we will be on tour or see demonstrations. Bring your brown bag lunch so that we can spend the most time at his site.

We also plan to have iron in the hat with the proceeds going to Harley for his effort, so be sure to bring items for that drawing.

Please let me know if you intend to make the trip. There will be some other guests going as well, and I have opened it up to the IBA and RSMA. Call me on 765-491-2194.

Ted

Last Meeting (1/9/2010)



January's meeting on nail making was a huge amount of fun. There were about 20 blacksmiths present and many made nails of various shapes and designs.

Some of those nail makers (Kim Soladine, Jim Johnson, Bill Newman, Jeff Rattray, and Dominick Andrisani) placed their decorative nails in the new nail post pictured below.



We hope will get decorative nails from many more blacksmiths from around the state and region. The post will become a showcase for blacksmith work that is both utilitarian and attractive. Smiths who place a nail on the post must also sign the post register and indicate which nail is theirs.

Mokume Gane

Mokume Gane is a laminate made out of many layers of different color metals. The idea is similar to the patterning effect of Damascus steel only the metals in Mokume Gane tend to be more precious and colorful, like silver, gold and copper. Jewelry made of Mokume Gane has a very attractive patterned color. Check out the jewelry web sites listed below. The literal translation of Mokume Gane in Japanese is “wood-grain metal”.



At our January meeting Jim Johnson demonstrated how to make Mokume Gane out of five quarters. The result is pictured above.

Dates to Remember

February 13, 2010: Rocky Forge meeting at Harley Chandler's Carriage Shop in Petersburg, KT. Meet at Ted's shop at 10:00 AM.

June 2-5, 2010: ABANA Conference, Memphis, Tennessee.

June 25-27, 2010: IBA Conference, Tipton.

July 16-18, 2010: Illiana Antique Power Association Show, Rainsville, IN.

September 24-26, 2010: SOFA QuadState Conference, Troy, Ohio.

October 2-3, 2010: Feast of the Hunter's Moon, at Historic Fort Ouiatenon Park near West Lafayette.

Questions for the Curious

What is an **escutcheon**? (Not the medical definition)

Interesting Web Sites

Cal Lane: <http://acidcow.com/pics/6367-the-most-beautiful-smith-in-the-world-32-pics.html>.

Mokume Gane Jewelry by James Binnion (<http://mokume-gane.com/index.php>) and by Andrew Nyce (<http://www.andrewnycedesigns.com/>).

Other Newsletters

The following is a list of blacksmithing groups that have a Web site that offers a free newsletter that can be downloaded without having to join the group.
(Submitted by Kim Soladine.)

1. Balcones Forge www.balconesforge.org
2. Blacksmith Association of Missouri www.bamsite.org
3. Blacksmith's Guild of the Potomac www.bgop.org
4. Central States Metal Artisans <http://gpba.abana-chapter.com/>
5. Florida Artist Blacksmith Association www.blacksmithing.org
6. Kentucky Blacksmiths' Association <http://ky.abana-chapter.com/>
7. New Jersey Blacksmith Association <http://njba.abana-chapter.com/>
8. Northeast Blacksmiths Association www.northeastblacksmiths.org/
9. North Texas Blacksmiths Association - <http://home.flash.net/~dwwilson/ntba/>
10. Old Dominion Blacksmith Association www.odbsa.com
11. Southwest Artist-Blacksmith Association www.swaba-abana-chapter.org
12. Tidewater Blacksmith's Guild www.tidewaterblacksmiths.com
13. Western Reserve Artist Blacksmith Association www.wraba.com
14. Vancouver Island Blacksmith's Association www.viblacksmiths.com

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Web Site: <http://www.rockyforge.org/> (previous newsletters can be found here).