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June 2013

# THE FORGE FIRE

## The Newsletter of the Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc.

### An Affiliate Of The Artists-Blacksmiths' Association of North America, Inc.

IBA is a Not For Profit Indiana Corporation recognized by the IRS under section 501(c)(3)

10:00 AM is the regular meeting time for IBA Hammer-Ins  
with beginner training available at 9:00 AM.  
PLEASE MAKE SURE TO ASK FOR HELP!

If you would like an IBA membership application form,  
please contact Farrel Wells, Membership Secretary  
(765) 768-6235.

BULK LOTS ARE AVAILABLE TO DEMONSTRATORS,  
SHOPS, SHOWS AND OTHERS WILLING TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE.  
WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP.

The Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc., its staff, officers, directors, members, and hosts and the *Forge Fire*, specifically disclaim any responsibility or liability for damages or injuries as a result of any construction, design, use, manufacture or other activity undertaken as a result of the use, or application of, information contained in any articles in the *Forge Fire*. The Indiana Blacksmithing Association, Inc. And the *Forge Fire* assumes no responsibility or liability for the accuracy, fitness, proper design, safety, or safe use of any information contained in the *Forge Fire*.

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#### More nearby resources and organizations for blacksmiths:

**Rural Smiths of Mid-America:**  
Meetings are on the first Saturday  
of each month  
Call Moe Handy  
(317) 862-5647 for details.

#### IBA MEETING SCHEDULE

The IBA Board will hold a meeting at the Johnson County Horse Park on June 15.

July Hammer In is tentatively scheduled for Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers, but location has not been decided.

The IBA is the host for this years Upper Midwest Regional Blacksmith Conference at Pontiac, IL. Conference dates are July 19-21. Bill Conyers is the conference chair.

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**Dates to Remember**

July 19-21  
UMRBC (Pontiac)

August 2-18  
Indiana State Fair

Sept 27-29  
Quad State  
(SOFA)

**Presidents Message**

It is now two days after the 2013 IBA Conference. Every thing is back in the storage lockers and the fairgrounds are cleaned up. We had a nice conference. A big thank you to all who helped with the setup and tear down. Without you it could not be done. Our demonstrators were wonderful. Bob Patrick, John Bennett, Connie Retter, Michael Wollowski, Steve King and crew all did an excellent job. The banquet was very tasty and filling.

The Vernon Group presented the Paul Moffett award to John Zile. John is currently in he hospital and was unable to receive it in person. Joe Goebel took the award with him to give to John in at St. Vincent's in Indianapolis.

We presented Joe Goebel the 2013 Blacksmith of the Year award.

Jamie De Priest was awarded the 2013 Rookie Blacksmith of the year. She was presented with a free class at the John C. Campbell Folk School in North Carolina. This had been given to us anonymously to be used as we thought best. An anonymous donor gave \$100 if we took up an offering to help her with expenses. \$730 was collected in the impromptu offering which took place. Wow! We were all blown away by this amount. Jamie especially was surprised. I expect great things from her in the future. I believe we did a good deed which will have great impact on blacksmithing in the future.

We Are already working towards our 2014 conference. Our main demonstrators are chosen. They will be Tom Latane and Alan Kress. Connie Retter will return with her baskets for our spouses program. The 2014 conference dates are June 6,7 &8 at the Tipton 4-H Fairgrounds.

The UMRBA Conference at Pontiac, Illinois is coming up July 19, 20 & 21.I hope to see you there. The project for this conference is anything with a flower.

Keep your iron hot. Gary Phillips

## IBA Satellite Groups and News

### Sutton-Terock Memorial Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 2nd Saturday at 9 AM  
Contacts: Fred Oden (574) 223-3508  
Dennis Todd (574) 542-4886

### Wabash Valley Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 2nd Saturday at 9 AM  
Contacts: Doug Moreland (217) 284-3457  
Max Hoopengarner (812) 249-8303

### Maumee Valley Blacksmiths

Meet: 2nd and 4th Saturday  
Contact: Clint Casey (260) 627-6270  
John Schamber (260) 579-7303

### Rocky Forge Blacksmith Guild

Meet: 2nd Saturday at 9 AM  
Contacts: Ted Stout (765) 572-2467

### Whitewater Valley Blacksmiths

Meet: 2nd Saturday  
Contact: Keith Hicks (765) 914-6584

### Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths

Meet: 1st Saturday  
Contacts: Doug Neukam (812) 259-4430  
Steve Stoll (812) 486-9668  
Kathy Malone (812) 725-3310

### Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 2nd Saturday at 9 AM  
Contact: Ray Sease (812) 522-7722

### Fall Creek Blacksmith Shop

Meet: 4th Saturday at 9 AM  
Contacts: John Zile: (765) 533-4153  
Larry Singer (765) 643-5953  
Farrel Wells (765) 768-6235

### St. Joe Valley Forgers

Meet: 4th Saturday at 9 AM  
Contacts: Bill Conyers (574) 277-8729  
John Latowski (574) 344-1730

### The Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

Contacts: Billy Merritt (812) 338-2876  
Steve King (812) 797-0059  
Jeff Reinhardt 812-949-7163

### One Armed Blacksmith's Shop

Meet: 1st Saturday  
Contact: Tim Metz (812) 447-2606

### "Doc" Ramseyer Blacksmith Shop

Location: 6032W 550N, Sharpsville, IN 46060  
Meet: 3rd Sunday at 2 PM  
Contacts: Mike Kelley  
Charles Gruell (765) 513-5390

### Jennings County Historical Society Blacksmith Shop

The Vernon Historical Society Blacksmith Shop was opened at 7:00am. Bill Newman, Bill Kendrick, and Kenny Dettmer forged parts necessary for the mounting of a leg vice on the "Bill Newman" forging side of the forge. Bill is such an avid blacksmith, we didn't want anything to slow him down when he gets "on a roll". We are honored to have him at our shop. Carson Harrel forged a heart stake, a Russian Rose and an art piece for his mother, for mother's day. His mother, Martha, just happened to be present and for the first time ever, stepped up to the anvil and made one of the nicest "S" hooks anyone could ask for over the horn, (not on a fixture, like Ray Sease does). Doug, from the Whitewater group, forged a heart stake and used a double headed nail to make a miniature sword. (It was a cute little thing.) The fire place screen's final assembly was overseen by Harry Husby, aided by John Wendel, Ray Sease, Bill Kendrick, and Jim Watts. Ray Sease used various fixtures to demonstrate how to take a lot of the skill out of blacksmithing (when you can.) Bill Newman assisted Carson with his basics. During the month, Ray Sease, Gerald Williams, Kenny Dettmer, and Paul Bray demonstrated some basic blacksmithing skills and gave short lessons on early American blacksmiths to various students from three different schools, about 180 or so total. It is always a pleasure to pass on some of the knowledge of blacksmithing. I hope to see most of you at the conference, and enjoy your company.....and, oh yes, bring some money! Paul Bray

## IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

### The Southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers

The southern Indiana Meteorite Mashers met at Jason Hardin's shop this month. Had 2 new visitors who received beginners classes from Jerry Baughman. Christopher Raber mad stone cutting tools as that is another craft he pursues. Andrew made a penannular broach and a drive hook. Meanwhile the Brotherhood of Friendly Hammermen made a last big practice cross before Tipton. Jason's wife Andrea made a wonderful lunch of bar-b-cued chicken which was well received by all. Dave Kunkler and his



wife Donna made a birthday brownie for Jeff and Steve as their Birthdays were this weekend.

Next meeting at Jeff Reinhardt's shop in Floyds Knobs on the last Saturday in June.



## IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)



### Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths

The Bunkum Valley Metalsmiths met on May 4, 2013. Another great day of blacksmithing was enjoyed by all. We had 4 forges going and a lot of work was accomplished. Some of the guys used the Helve hammer to draw out billets. It sure makes short work of stretching out material. We had about 25 people in attendance. I am not going to go into details about who made what because I will miss someone for sure. It was another

good day with lots of chatting and chewing. Lunch together is always special and iron-in-the-hat is always a hoot. It is always good to see old and new friends and catch up with what is going on in their lives. Blacksmithing connects us together and



that is a good thing. Thanks to all who come and share food and their lives with us. Until next time.....

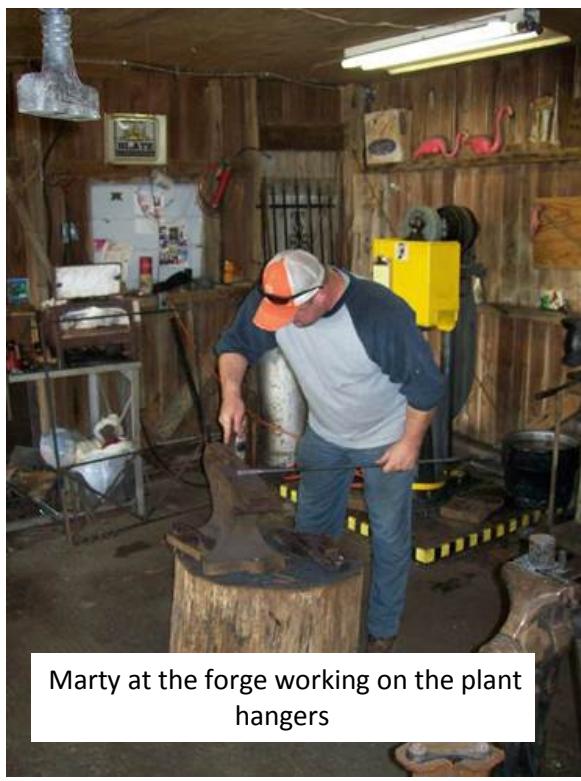
## IBA Satellite Groups and News (continued)

### Whitewater Valley Blacksmiths

Our May meeting was somewhat subdued by the fact that Joyce and Bobby were away on vacation but that didn't stop us from meeting at their smithy. Naturally we had their permission (and keys to the smithy) and we had to promise NOT to put one of Joyce's anvils in the Iron-In-The-Hat, but we managed to have a great meeting anyway. I'm not sure it's possible to have a hot fire, rusty metal, and a bunch of blacksmiths in the same room and not have a great time. Marty worked on a set of plant holders for Mother's Day with the help of his sons. Actually their help was more implied than "hands on" as they were busy keeping the local wildlife (the dogs and horses) entertained, but they did check in from time to time to make sure he was making significant progress. Our Iron-In-The-Hat generated more funds for our up-coming projects, even without Joyce's anvil, and the buffet was its usual outstanding success. Mark took a turn at the forge and worked on a combination iron and glass piece that he wanted to try. All-in-all, another fruitful meeting. We'll meet again at Joyce and Bobby's on the second Saturday in June, around 4:00 PM.



Only 5 Irons in the fire



Marty at the forge working on the plant hangers

iron and glass piece that he wanted to try. All-in-all, another fruitful meeting. We'll meet again at Joyce and Bobby's on the second Saturday in June, around 4:00 PM.



Mark's Free Form Iron and Glass. Maybe next time it will look more like a 4-leaf clover.

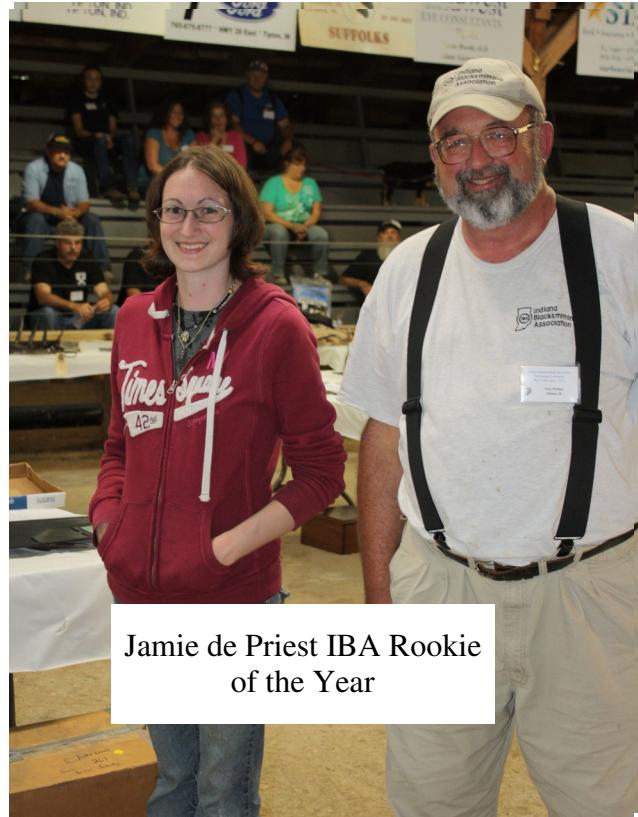
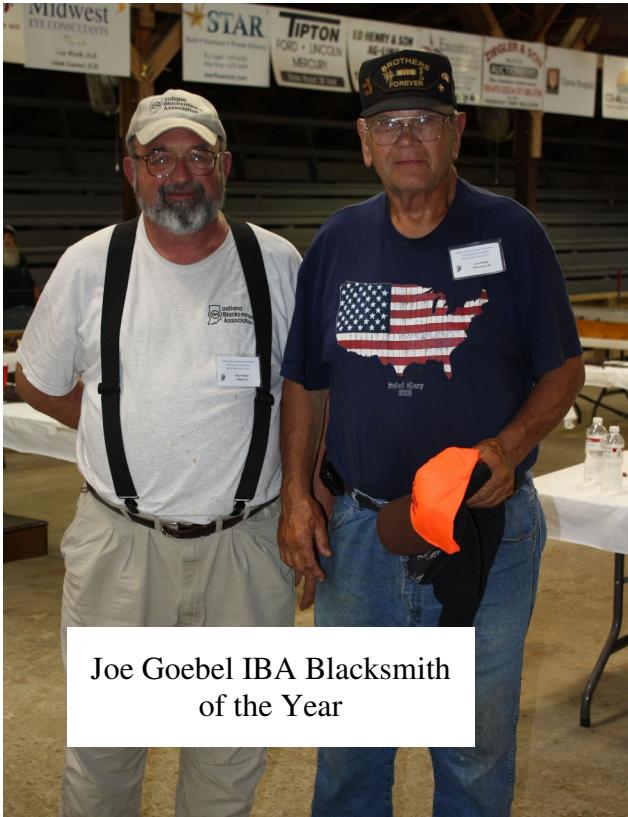
## May IBA Hammer In Hosted by Maumee Valley Blacksmiths



Photos courtesy of Jim Johnston



## 2013 IBA Conference Photos courtesy of Dominick Andrisani



Charlie Helton announces John Zile as 2013 Paul Moffett Award recipient. Alvin Capes presents the award to John.



## 2013 IBA Conference Photos courtesy of Dominick Andrisani



# 2013 UPPER MIDWEST REGIONAL BLACKSMITH CONFERENCE

JULY 19 THRU 21

## THIS YEAR'S DEMONSTRATORS:

- Jeff Farmer: Demonstrating techniques in his own inimitable style.
- Michael Bendele: Demonstrating on a 100 lb. air hammer.
- Pat Nowack: Pat is a metallurgist at Scott Forge. He will be demonstrating the forging of the exotic metals, such as titanium, aluminum, and several other high alloyed steels.

## ADDITIONAL DEMONSTRATORS:

- Each Club will have two of their members demonstrating (for approximately one hour) some special technique that they have developed. This will be in the beginner's forging area.

## BEGINNER'S CLASS

- There will be a beginner's class on Friday. Open Forges on Saturday.

## GROUP PROJECT

- Hopefully different groups of people or individuals will make flowers or flower arrangements for the auction. But anything that you want to make will be gladly accepted.

## AUCTION

- Auction guidelines are spelled out on UMRBC.org website.

## IRON IN THE HAT

- There will be iron in the hat. So please bring an item to put in the drawing.

## FOOD

- Jeannette Lawrence and her capable crew will be providing food.

## HOTELS

- QUALITY INN: 1823 W. Reynolds St., Pontiac, IL > (815)-844-4444
- BEST WESTERN: 1821 W. Reynolds St., Pontiac, IL > (815)-842-2777
- SUPER 8: 601 S. Deerfield Rd. Pontiac, IL > (815)-844-6888
- COMFORT INN: 1821 W. Reynolds St., Pontiac, IL > (815)-842-2777
- FIESTA MOTEL: 951 W. Reynolds St., Pontiac, IL > (815)-844-7103

## Heat Treat Furnace Available to IBA Satellite Group

When our local high school closed their metal working program 12 years or so ago (a crime in my opinion), I acquired their heat treating furnace. I have come to realize that I am never going to hook it up so I was wondering if anyone would be interested in it. It is a circa 1970's Johnson Gas Appliance Co. (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) furnace marked 142-5 although if you look at the following website:

<http://www.johnsongas.com/industrial/frn-hispeed.asp>

it looks like their current Number 120 Pedestal with Console.

If anyone is interested please contact me at: [jls.knox@gmail.com](mailto:jls.knox@gmail.com)

I would prefer it go to one of our IBA Satellite groups so the most people could get use out of it.  
Happy Hammering.

Jeff Sullivan

## Young Indiana Blacksmith (submitted by Ted Stout)

Here is an example of fine young man who has developed his skill of blacksmithing and even conveyed it to his high school peers. The following list of scholarships and awards were given to Zach at the Seeger High School Awards night, to which Carol and I were in attendance. He has accomplished a lot since I first tutored him in blacksmithing. It makes me proud to know him and I look forward to following his advancement into adulthood. Feel free to publish this information in either of our newsletters. We should use him as an example of our influence upon the younger generation.

Zach told me that you wanted info on the scholarships and awards he received. The following is a list of them. PSI IOTA XI Band Award, Warren County Music Boosters Scholarship, Warren Central Elementary PTO Scholarship, Hedrick Church of God Financial Education Scholarship, Lee White-hall Education Trust, Seeger/Steinbaugh Scholarship, 21st Century Scholar, 21st Century Scholarship Book Voucher, Indiana State University Achievement Scholarship, Indiana State University Laptop Scholarship

Please let tell everyone in the group thank you for all you have done for Zach with Blacksmithing and being mentors and role models for him. He has loved the time he has spent with all of you and hates that he has to miss so much. He did his Senior English research paper on Blacksmithing and took his forge in to teach the class how and what blacksmithing is. His teacher and the students loved it. Again thank you for giving him something he will get to enjoy the rest of his life and can share with others.

Karen Cheatwood (Zach's very proud mom)

Please also mention the influence that Jim Bolen, an active Rocky Forge member, had on Zach's blacksmith training. Jim played a big part in teaching Zach the "Art of Blacksmithing".

Thanks.

Ted



## The **FORGE FIRE**

Newsletter of the  
Indiana Blacksmithing Association,  
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