

Metallurgy Corner

Definitions

Hardness- Technically this means the resistance of a metal to plastic deformation, usually by indentation from a hardness testing machine. For practical purposes it means how well a metal will resist deforming in use. Like an old well made chisel, the cutting edge stays good while the other end is mushrooming.

The cutting edge is hard and the other end is soft.

Hardenability- Is the ability of a metal to be made harder by heat treatment. With steels this means how well it forms Martensite when quench from above critical temperature. Or more simply how hard it gets when quenched from a temperature where it is non-magnetic. Some steels will harden quite well while others will not harden at all, like a 1010 steel.

And remember as a general rule steel becomes more brittle as it becomes harder.

Any questions send to : John Latowski at aicoletrain@hotmail.com

ROCKY FORGE NEWS CLIP

The Rocky Forge group entertained visitors to the Illiana Steam and Power Show for three days July 20, 21, and 22. We had the best show ever, excellent weather, good exhibits and many tractors and small engines (over 150 each). Best of all we had more blacksmiths than we had equipment. There were up to 14 smiths with 8 forges and anvils. One of our new guys Greg Searcy made roses and other items. Gene Hollingsworth made tongs. Dominick Andrasini made a very nice shell bench with the back being patterned after the spiral of a conch shell. One of our big attractions is Rob Durrett giving his talk and demonstrations of the Lewis and Clark expedition, he portrayed Captain William Bratton, blacksmith for the original expedition. Also very popular is the blacksmith encampment set up by Jim Bolen. He literally lives blacksmithing for three days, a very nice display for the crowd. We appreciate Gary Leeman of the Rural Smiths of Mid America for his effort during the show. Traveling from Tipton he and wife spent the whole weekend at the show doing some creative blacksmith. Parts were made for a Silver Cane tractor and many other things of interest were fabricated. All members worked very and had a good time. We all missed Charley Terril and hope he makes a speedy recovery. As forgemaster, I am very proud of this group.

Due to working at the State Fair and other commitments we will be taking the month of August off and will resume our normal meeting times starting September 8th.

Ted Stout, forgemaster

FIRE ARTS STUDIO SHOW

Fire Arts, an artist studio and gallery in South Bend wants to host a show of Blacksmith's work from September 20 to October 20, 2007. There will be a reception October 11 at 5:00pm. If you have work you would like to sell or just show off this is an excellent opportunity. Fine Arts takes 30% on consignments so adjust your price accordingly. This studio attracts quite a lot attention and has good community support with patrons who buy artwork. This show also gives us members of the IBA the opportunity to educate the public about our craft. Contact John Latowski (574)255-6209 or at aicoletrain@hotmail.com or contact Fire Arts Inc. at (574) 282-2787 or at info@fireartsinc.com.