



Balcones Forge Dispatch

President's Corner

January 2024

Greetings,

December was a busy month. Jerry Achterberg donated a bellows to the Pioneer Museum in Fredericksburg that needed a little T.L.C., but I was able to get it working properly. If you didn't attend the December meeting at the Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture you missed a fun time. It was the first annual New Braunfels Renaissance Faire . It was an overwhelming success and a lot of fun. The January meeting will be held at the Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture In New Braunfels. The trade item participation was meager so we will carry the struck tool theme into January. Remember ya got to make one to take one. Hope to see y'all there.

A call for help.

Ok y'all I need some help. Participation in our meetings is dwindling. What are some things we could do to increase participation? What would you like to see more or less of ? What type of demonstrations would you like to see? Just some things to think about. We are considering hosting a hammer in on the first weekend in May. But I'm not sure we would have enough interest to justify it. I'd love to hear your ideas at the next meeting.

Aaron Tilton
President, Balcones Forge

Meeting is on January 13

Start time is 9:00



Officers

President
Aaron Tilton
txsmith4@att.net
210-415-7782

Vice-President
???

Treasurer
Rudy Billings
rudy@balconesforge.org
512-461-7375

Secretary
Lance Jensen
lancejensen707@gmail.com
707-330-7126



Editor

Vince Herod
spotteddogforge@yahoo.com
512-799-3636

Upcoming meetings and dates of interest

January 13th	Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture New Braunfels
January 27th.	Texas Blacksmithing Conference Lagrange
February 10th	Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture New Braunfels

SECERATARYS MEETING NOTES

The December members meeting was held on December 9th 2023 at the Texas Museum of handmade furniture. The meeting was called to order at 9am by Aaron Tilton president. Aaron asked for ideas on how we can increase participation. Currently we see the same people at our meetings and mainly board members.

There was discussion of a possible hammer in, but with the limited participation of members it may be too much work for the few who show up.

There was discussion as to selling some of the large anvil stands and some of the propane forges.

We need to organize a work day to move the bleachers from Jerry Whitley's ranch to the Handmade museum. This is going to require a large trailer and a lot of muscle, so if you have trailer to lend to the cause let Aaron or Stuart know.

The trade item for December was a struck tool, but due to limited participation this trade item was continued to the January meeting.

The museum held a Renaissance Faire and many of the Balcones blacksmiths performed demonstrations for the public as well as selling forged items. It appears that the blacksmiths were a big hit so look forward to being asked to participate next year.

The next members meeting will be January on 13th at the Texas museum of handmade furniture. The meeting starts at 9am.

The Texas Blacksmith conference will be held on January 27th at 250 west Fair Grounds Rd, La Grange Tx. I expect we will have a table at this event. This is a great hammer in involving antique motors as well as blacksmith demonstrations.

Lance Jensen, Secretary

More info in the two Balcones Forge Facebook pages. (You can check out the posts without having a Facebook account.)

<https://www.facebook.com/BFCTB/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/688735415468063>

W W W . B A L C O N E S F O R G E . O R G



The Balcones Forge Newsletter is written by the editor except as noted. Balcones Forge, its officers, members, contributors, editors and writers specifically disclaim any responsibility, or liability for any damage, or injury as a result of the use of any information published in the newsletter or demonstrated at a meeting or conference. Every effort is made to insure the accuracy and safety of information provided but the use by our members and readers of any information published herein or provided at meetings is solely at the user's own risk.

W W W . B A L C O N E S F O R G E . O R G

TEXAS BLACKSMITHING Conference



LIVE AUCTION
VENDORS
CLASSES

SPONSORED BY:
Moonlight Forge

WELL SHOD

with demonstrator
Riley Kirkpatrick

January 27, 2024
from 8am-5pm

Blacksmithing classes to be held on January 24-26. Sign up today at www.marklingblacksmith.com or simply scan the QR code!

Location:
250 W Fair Grounds Rd
La Grange, TX 78945



SCAN ME!

We're selling coal in Austin at Pioneer Farms living history museum.

I just got 22.5 tons of bituminous pea sized smithing coal shipped in from Pennsylvania.

We're going to run a sale through February at \$25 per 50lb bag. Starting in March the per bag price will go up to \$28. If you buy a pallets worth (50 bags / 1.25 tons) you'll get the \$25 sales price even past February. Hit me up if you have questions.

The coal is for sale through the museum. Hours are 10am-5pm Thursday-Sunday.

JOURDAN-BACHMAN PIONEER FARMS
10621 PIONEER FARMS DRIVE
AUSTIN, TEXAS, 78754, UNITED STATES
INFO@PIONEERFARMS.ORG
VOICE: 512.837.1215

<https://www.pioneerfarms.org/>

We don't offer shipping and you will need to load it.

Phillip Waters, Head Blacksmith

Vincent Herod
Spotted Dog Forge
166 Granite Road
Paige, TX 78659-4922

