

# Illiana News

May 2019

## A Letter from Our President

Hello to everyone,

It's mushroom picking time already, although plenty wet and chilly. I was finally able to sow the oats and grass seed on Monday, April 22. Very fortunate, as it has rained a plenty since then. A big thank you to Tony Martin of Martin Seeds, Pence, Indiana, for donation of seed oats and grass seed to Illiana.

Brooke submitted all invoices, receipts and necessary paperwork online to TAF, so hopefully the remaining \$12,500 grant money will be coming before too long.

We will be submitting an intent to request another grant application in the near future. If that is accepted, then I can put together estimates for other projects and hopefully they will be approved.

I have invited TAF staff to come to the grounds to see first hand how the grant funds have been spent for our grounds improvements.

The railroad crossing project should be completed in the next 30 days.

Also, at this time Mike Stetler and son are putting on the tile and rock to extend the height of the fireplace chimney.

As always, I am looking forward to another successful year for Illiana and that is due to all of your hard work and efforts that make it so.

***Thank You!***

***- Tom***

## Next Meeting

**The next meeting of the Illiana Antique Power Association is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Assembly Hall. Bring a dish to pass for the carry-in dinner.**

There has been a lot of track work done the last several weeks. The tracks have been removed from the southwest road crossing and the road is closed, awaiting the reconstruction of the crossing. Ties that are wood are being removed and replaced by the plastic ties. As of May 7th, the fasteners holding the rail to the old ties are being removed. In the next couple of weeks, weather permitting, all of the new ties will be installed and track leveling and ballasting will begin. During the winter season with rain, snow, and freezing, and the expansion of the earth caused by the weather, the track moves out of alignment and requires releveling, etc. With a half mile of track it takes a bit of time to do the required maintenance. Oh yes . . . we are having fun !



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## **Medical Update AED - REMINDER**

We still need to get everyone's CPR cards on file so we can get the AEDs.  
Please do so at your earliest convenience if you have one.

*Thank you,*  
*AED Site Coordinator*  
**Larry Sturgeon**

## **Our Condolences**

The club sends its deepest sympathies to Pete vonStein  
whose wife, Millie, passed away on April 3, 2019  
after a 3-year battle with cancer.

# Rocky Forge Blacksmith News

Submitted by: Ted Stout

What a spring this has been - rain, rain and some more rain. Not a good year for the farmers, but the mushrooms have been plentiful. Plentiful for some of those lucky ones. It looks like we will have a nice day this coming Saturday May 11th for another blacksmith "Hammer In". Carol and I are looking forward to hosting another meeting of the Rocky Forge group.

Our last meeting in April had a pretty good attendance with 55 young, older and old working on hot metal. I was especially impressed by a young mother who wanted to make a shingle froe and had absolutely no experience. With some guidance, she took home a froe with a forge welded eye that looked like she had been doing this for years. Those are the rewards of our effort. We also had many young people learning the art with mentors readily guiding them. Having our iron in the hat drawing before we light the forges seemed to work very well and gave some attendees metal to work with for the day. We will do the same thing at this meeting so bring your iron in the hat donations and come early.

The meeting Saturday will start at 8:30 with coffee, doughnuts and a social period followed with the iron in the hat drawing. I hope to have more coal forges available by Saturday and if you have a gas forge you can bring that would be helpful.

Since Carol is not cooking, lunch will be comprised of whatever you all bring. So if you want to eat bring a covered dish to share.

*Ted and Carol*

**Ted Stout (stout8525@tds.net, 765-491-2194 cell).**

## Reminder:

**May 31-June 2 - IBA Meeting, Tipton, IN.**

**June 8: Hammer-In** (probably at show grounds)

## Looking Ahead:

June 3-6, **2020:** ABANA Conference, Washington County Fairgrounds, Greenwich, NY (east of Saratoga Springs and north of Albany).

