

Northeast Regional News

by Bob Jacoby, Northeast Regional Coordinator

The June meeting was held at the Pioneer Arts Settlement in Barberville and it was hot outside, especially since there was no breeze. It was an open forge day and Steve Bloom and Chico worked on some knife blades. Chico, who is a professional boot maker, has been making knives for a while using the stock-removal method. Working with Steve, he forged his first blade out of 5160. Steve also forged a quick three-finger skinner blade. Did I mention it was hot outside?

We also reviewed the plans and saw sample parts of the Blacksmith's Helper that we're going to assemble in an upcoming workshop. We've had the intricate parts laser cut and they'll cost \$27/pair which should be the single most expensive part. I'm hoping that the total finished cost will be as low as \$50 but, it's heavily dependent on the cost of the other materials including the tool steel dies. At the outside, I can't imagine the completed Blacksmith's Helper costing more than \$80. At any rate, they retail for over \$200 and it's a tool that will last a lifetime. The \$27 for the frame parts has some margin built into the price so that we can build an extra Blacksmith's Helper to donate to Barberville for the October 1998 Annual Conference. The spots are filling up quickly so let me know if you're interested.

There will be no NE Region meeting in July because the first Saturday of the month falls on the 4th of July holiday. We had the "July" meeting on June 27th at Alex Klahm's shop in Ocala as described in last month's Clinker Breaker.

Don't forget to bring items for the Buck-In-The-Bucket to each meeting, we're trying to raise money to purchase a power hammer (hopefully a 50# Little Giant) for Barberville. To date we've raised \$882 (including \$131 from the Buck-In-The-Buckets at Steve Bloom's in May and Barberville in June). Let's keep up the good work!

COAL! COAL! COAL!

The Pioneer Arts Settlement in Barberville is trying to place an order for coal prior to FABA's Annual Conference in October. They're trying to raise some funds in order to do this so it would be a big help if you could prepay for the amount of coal that you want. The Settlement will issue coupons and you can pick your coal up throughout the year if it's more convenient. The cost of the coal is \$11 per 100 pounds and this is the good stuff - specially selected for its good blacksmithing characteristics. Please send your prepayments to:

Pioneer Arts Settlement, P.O. Box 6, Barberville, FL 32105

Festival in Welaka

Welaka is hosting a Steamboat Jubilee on Saturday, July 4, 1998 from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM. The program includes a Parade at 10:00 AM, River boating, Arts, Food, Music, Tall Tales, Sea Chanties, Florida History and Fireworks. For more information please contact Irene (904) 467-9800.

Southeast Regional News

by Charlie Stemann, Southeast Regional Coordinator

The May meeting of the Southeast Region was held on the 16th at Ray and Ann Reynolds' shop in West Palm Beach. Most of the people there were planning to demonstrate at the YesterYear Village the next weekend, so Mike McCoy spent some time making sure everyone had parking passes and entry information.

We then started to work on some ideas for the finishing parts needed for our project. Mike McCoy