

Viba May 26, '13

There was an initial discussion of our agreement with MFI- Neil has submitted a counter-proposal, stating that we will go on paying \$1200.00 a year, and will install a meter and pay for our own electricity. He expects some conclusion within a few weeks.

Show and Tell: Dave brought an interesting monkey wrench that he picked up in a thrift shop in California- because he is a senior he got 10% off the regular price of \$2.00, so it cost him \$1.80. It is an assemblage of slides and wedges, so that you can slide the lower jaw up and down with essentially no resistance, but it will lock when you want to turn a nut. It is a precision engineered item, probably made in Germany, by Schwartz Co. He has been unable to find any info about it on the internet.

He has also been making chess men, because his son has been giving him lessons- he is getting to the point where he is losing less badly. He brought in a couple of knights and some pawns, and some gilders paste to make some of them look bronze. He gave a demo after the meeting on the use of gilders paste. It is thinned with lacquer thinner- not paint thinner, and the steel needs to be slightly rough. If it is very shiny, the gilders paste won't adhere.

Charlie L brought in a 4 heart trivet, made from 3/8 square stock. To make each heart, 9 inch lengths are cut, and center punched at 5 1/2 inches to mark the middle of each piece. The ends of each piece are drawn out in a flat taper, maintaining the original 3/8 thickness from side to side, then a square bend is made at the center of each piece. The thin ends are drawn around to meet and make a heart shape, the sides of each heart are ground a bit to make an angle for the weld to take hold in, and the hearts are lined up and welded together. It can be given as a token of romance, or where the other person is not romantic, if you add a stem, it can be disguised as a 4 leaf clover. It will be mounted on a slab cut from the lid of an oak toilet seat.

Old Business: Bonnie would like us to plan on putting some art in the rabbit barn, for the Luxton fair, Sept 13 to 15.

There was talk of contacting Charlie Dowdeswell about doing the newsletter. There will have to be consultation with Tim and Brodie, who have volunteered, but are having trouble getting the newsletter up and running.

The rodeo was very good. Lots of people came out to demonstrate, we sold lots of blacksmith "Art"- so there will need to be another production day, probably at the June meeting, though if people find themselves standing at a forge wondering what to do, making things to sell is always a good option.

Neil was at the Saltspring Island plowing match. There was no plowing going on, but he had a chance to do some blacksmithing on charcoal. He found it works well. The differences from coal are that a deep fire is needed, and the air blow can be quite light but needs to be continuous.

The Coombs fair is having some significant anniversary, so Dave would like to provide club T-shirts to the people who turn out to demonstrate at it. Marj offered her parents place for camping and possibly even indoor accommodation. There are campgrounds nearby and some of us just camp on site. The dates for it are Aug 10 and 11.

Other dates of interest:

- The club picnic will be June 22
- Caniron will be in Quebec June 29 to July 1, plus travel time to and from
- Nanaimo VIX will be Aug 16-18
- Cobble Hill will be Aug 24
- but the NWBA Mt Hood meet is Aug 23 to 25.