



### **Wadena County Historical Society held their Annual Meeting**

Phil Ylitalo was the Guest speaker at the Wadena County Historical Society's annual meeting held Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup> at the UPTOWN.

Ylitalo, spoke to the membership on the history of blacksmithing and the definitions of the classifications apprentice, journeymen, and master, which were more prominent in Europe than in the United States. He also brought along two of the knives he has made using different techniques and a rose made from an old chair. Phil started to learn welding around the age of 9, his first real welding job was in North Chicago working on structural fabricating. He belongs to the Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths, they are a chapter of ABANA (Artist Blacksmiths Association of North America) and teach the art of blacksmithing.