

BLACKSMITHS' GUILD OF THE POTOMAC INC.

16th Spring Fling April 15–17, 2011

An invitation to Members & Friends of the Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac to attend our annual Spring Fling

Friday 3pm thru Sunday Lunch

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds

890 West Main Street

Berryville, Virginia 22611

\$60 pre-registration by 4/1/2011

\$45 Sunday morning only

\$75 fee at gate

Fee includes these meals:

Friday - dinner

Saturday - continental breakfast, lunch & dinner

Sunday - continental breakfast & lunch

Arrive early for

Friday night Dinner & Discussion with demonstrators

FEATURING

MATT WALDROP from Zirconia, NC.

www.northerncrestiron.com

and

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

(smiths to be named)

Demonstrations from these experts Saturday & Sunday
Iron-In-The-Hat raffles during lunch Saturday & Sunday
Auction before dinner on Saturday.

As always, there will be impromptu demonstrations, open forge, show and tell, shop talk, and meeting and greeting old friends and new.

** CONTEST **

As a salute to the late Paul Hubler (author of *The Iron Menagerie*), the contest will be a **functional object that incorporates animal imagery**. Big or Small we'll take them all – but it must be made this year and be signed by all who worked on it. Judging will be on creativity and workmanship; the decision of the judges is final. You must be present to win.

THE PRIZE: a refund of your registration fee; 10 free Iron in the Hat tickets for the Sunday drawing; and the option of auctioning the piece with 50% of the top bid to go to the guild and 50% to the winner.

SAFETY GLASSES must be worn by ANYONE watching the demos or working at an open forge. Extra glasses will be available on-site.

TO REGISTER: fill out both sides of the enclosed form, enclose it with your check made out to "The Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac" in the envelope provided, and mail to Connie Badowski. Do this as soon as possible, allowing us to get an accurate count for the meals and time to have all the name tags prepared. Email address is requested for confirmation purposes. There will be NO phone confirmation.

Guests, spouses and children are welcome to join us as long as they are registered. No charge for children under 16.

Registration deadline is Friday, April 1, 2011.

MORE DETAILS

TAILGATING: Starts at 3pm Friday. Remember to bring your surplus blacksmithing items to sell or swap.

IRON-IN-THE-HAT: We look forward to your donations of items such as tools, stock, books and shop supplies for the raffle. We will again have a special table of hand forged and signed work. This is a chance to win a fine piece of blacksmithing craft; please also bring an item to add to the selection. So that no one will miss any of the demos, drawing will pause when the demos start up. The remaining tickets will be pulled that afternoon and winners posted for later pick up.

AUCTION: There will be an auction of hand-forged ironwork just before Saturday night dinner. Please bring a donation!

DISPLAY TABLES: Those bringing an item for display will qualify for the drawing of a special prize. These pieces must be the original work of the maker, signed, and made within the past year.

DIVERSIONS FOR THE NON-SMITHS: those who enjoy life best without coal smoke and blisters are invited to gather in the dining hall between meals for a 'Stitch'n'Bitch' session.

ON BEHALF OF THE BLACKSMITHS' GUILD OF THE POTOMAC, INC., I invite you to join us and share the fun at our 16th annual Spring Fling.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL BRISKIN, President

BLACKSMITHS' GUILD OF THE POTOMAC INC.

16th Spring Fling April 15–17, 2011

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds
890 W. Main Street (Bus. Rte. 7)
Berryville, Virginia 22611

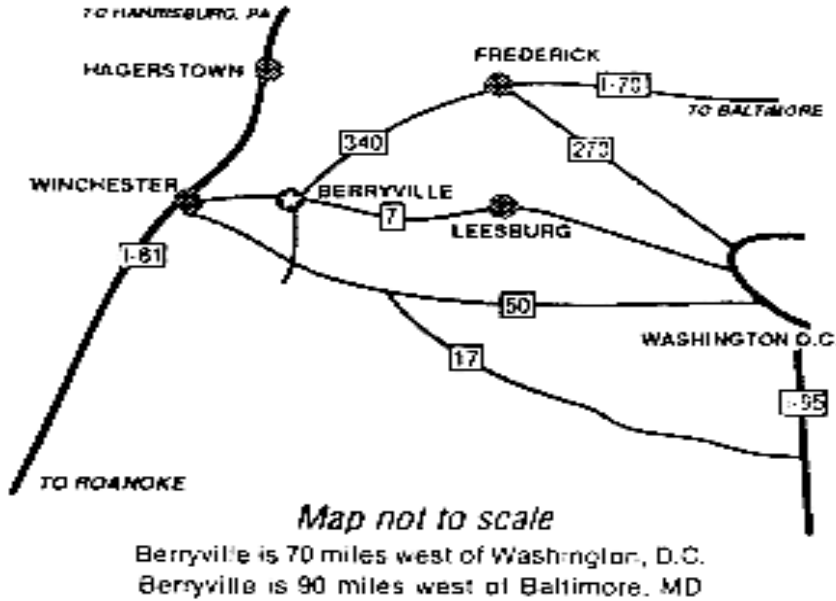
DIRECTIONS

From Washington DC

- Take I-66 West into Virginia
- At exit 67, take right onto Rt. 267 (Dulles Toll Road)
- Keep on toll road through the Dulles Greenway toward Leesburg, Virginia
- At Dulles Greenway exit 1A bear left onto Rt. 7 West.
- Continue past the first Business Route 7 (west) and past Route 340 for Berryville and turn Left at Business Route 7 EAST.
- The Fairgrounds are on the left in a quarter mile.

From Rt. 81

- Take 81 to Route 7 East (11.5 miles)
- Turn right onto Rt. 7 Business
- Turn left into Fairgrounds



CAMPING: There are plenty of dry (no hookup) camping sites for tents available on-site at no cost, and there are indoor restrooms in several buildings.

There is a charge for **ANY RV or electric hook-up, with fees administered by the fairgrounds staff (\$15/day with hook-up, \$10/day w/o hook-up). DO NOT send fee with registration.** The vehicle sites are on a first-come, first-serve basis, starting at 3pm on the 15th.

HOTELS: in Winchester, 8 miles west of Fairgrounds on Route 7

Hampton Inn Winchester-North

1204 Berryville Avenue (Route 7)
 Winchester, Virginia, 22601
 Tel: +1-540-678-4000
 Fax: +1-540-678-8277
 \$ 79/night plus tax*
 Book by March 25 & reference code BGP,
 Blacksmiths Guild of the Potomac.

Directions:

From I-81 N or S - Take Exit 315 to Berryville Ave/Rte 7 and turn right at the exit ramp. The hotel is on your right.
 From 522 North - Take Rte 37 North to I-81 South, after two miles take Exit 315 to Berryville Ave. The hotel is on the right.
 From Fairgrounds - Travel west on Route 7 for 8 miles and the hotel is just past the I-81 overpass and on your right.

Shoney's Inn

1347 Berryville Avenue (Route 7)
 Winchester, VA 22601
 (540) 665-1700
 \$50/night plus tax*
 Mention BGOP Spring Fling

Directions:

From I-81 Southbound- Take Exit 315 to Berryville Ave/Rte 7, and the hotel is across the street from the exit ramp
 From I-81 Northbound, take Exit 315 to Berryville Ave/Rte 7, turn right to go west, and the hotel is immediately on your left.
 From 522 North - Take Rte 37 North to I-81 South, after two miles take Exit 315 to Berryville Ave. The hotel is on the right.
 From Fairgrounds - Travel west on Route 7 for 8 miles and the hotel is just past the I-81 overpass and on your left.

BLACKSMITHS' GUILD OF THE POTOMAC INC.

Spring Fling 2011 Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY, SIGN ON BACK AND RETURN ENTIRE FORM

Name: (1) _____ \$60.00

Address: _____
Street

City State Zip

Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____ (for confirmation, by e-mail only)

Name(s) of additional party member(s) Please identify if attendee is under 16 years of age.

(2) _____ =\$ _____

(3) _____ =\$ _____

(4) _____ =\$ _____

(5) _____ =\$ _____

Please send this form and a check in the amount of **\$60 for the entire weekend per person** (children under 16 are free). A **\$15 late fee will apply after April 1, 2011**. Checks should be made payable to The Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac inc. and sent with this form in the enclosed envelope to:

Connie Badowski, 3113 Elmwood Dr., Alexandria, VA 22303

Note! The fee you pay for the Spring Fling constitutes voluntary associate membership for you and everyone in your party in the Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac inc for this event only. There are no other rights, privileges (including newsletter subscription), or other obligations granted or implied by this agreement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Camping? No Yes (how?) Motor home Trailer or Pop-up Tent Van/Truck

There is no fee for "dry" (tent) camping for those registered for Spring Fling. There are a limited number of sites with power hookups available for a fee on a first-come-first-served basis starting on the afternoon of Friday the 16th. **NOTE: there are FEES for ALL electric hook-ups and ALL RV'S.** Spaces *with* electric hookup are \$15/day, without electric hookup are \$10/day. **NO water hookups are available.** This is administered by the fairgrounds on site - DO NOT send fee with registration.

Tailgating? No Yes There is no charge for tailgating. However, you **must be registered** for Spring Fling, and **all tailgaters must make a donation to the Iron In The Hat raffle.** This is only for metalworking related items, not an open flea market.

(OVER PLEASE)

*****SAFETY*****

Blacksmiths are aware of the many various hazards associated with the craft. For your safety we require that you protect your eyes from flying sparks, particles, loose scale, etc.

**PLEASE WEAR EYE PROTECTION!
SAFETY GLASSES WILL BE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES IN DEMONSTRATION AREAS!**

For the safety and consideration of all attendees, all pets must be on a leash.

******* LIABILITY *******

The Spring Fling is a mini-conference by the Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac inc. for the purpose of promoting and teaching the art and craft of blacksmithing. While every reasonable effort to preclude injury to those in attendance and their property have been taken, it is recognized that there are inherent dangers associated with the craft, demonstrations and other common hazards of daily activity. Participation in the various activities of the Spring Fling is entirely voluntary and at your own risk. All who register and their guest(s) agree to release **The Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac, Inc.**, all demonstrators and staff, the Ruritan Fairgrounds, and all other persons or groups helping with the Spring Fling from all liability should any accident or injuries occur.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE ABOVE:

- (1) _____ / ____ / 2011
Signature
- (2) _____ / ____ / 2011
Signature
- (3) _____ / ____ / 2011
Signature
- (4) _____ / ____ / 2011
Signature
- (5) _____ / ____ / 2011
Signature

NOTE:

**You must wear at all times the name badge you will be issued at check-in, as it is what allows you to see the demonstrations and to be served the great meals we'll be having. In addition, it will show your registration number. This number is what you will use in the auctions, and for identifying your iron-in-the-hat tickets that you drop into the cups.
The badge also lets everyone know who you are!**

Diabetics and dieters should please check in with Bill Wojcik with any dietary requirements

**REMEMBER TO BRING AND WEAR YOUR SAFETY GLASSES WHEN
IN THE DEMONSTRATION AREA OR WORKING AT A FORGE SITE!**