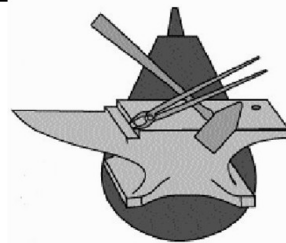


ALABAMA FORGE COUNCIL  
Proudly Presents The  
**27<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**AFC Blacksmithing Conference**

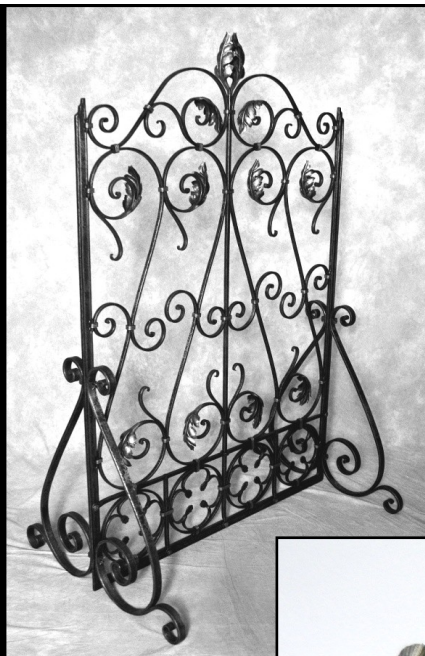
September 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> 2012  
Tannehill State Park in McCalla, AL

**Featured Demonstrators**  
**Tal Harris and Allan Kress**

Family Activities ~ Show & Tell ~ Beginners Classes ~ Iron Art Auction ~  
Iron-In-The-Hat and tool box drawing ~ Tailgate Sale Tables (designated sale area only)



**2012**  
**DEMONSTRATORS**



**TAL HARRIS**



**ALLAN KRESS**



## 2012 DEMONSTRATORS

### **Tal Harris**

Tal currently operates W. T. Harris Metalsmiths at his home in Waxhaw, NC. In addition to blacksmithing, he also has 30 years experience working with a company that makes high performance metals, primarily nickel and titanium alloys for the aerospace industry.

Tal began blacksmithing in 1980 while attending Appalachian State University in North Carolina, and in 1982, he attended the Frank Turley School of Blacksmithing in Santa Fe, for 6 weeks. He has since taken classes with Francis Whitaker, Clay Spencer, Peter Ross, and Tom Latane, at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Murphy, NC.

Additionally, he has instructed at the Campbell Folk School, and demonstrated at numerous Blacksmithing events, including the 1998 ABANA Conference in Asheville, NC. He also participated in special projects with Francis Whitaker at the 1994 and 1996 ABANA Conferences. In 2000 he led two one-week workshops in Queensland, Australia.

Demo's will basically convey the content of a week-long class on traditional joinery in two days. All demos will cover in great detail the manual processes, simple tooling, application and planning aspects of the joinery, included but not limited to: tenons, rivets, collars, pass-through and forge welding. Branching scrolls and quatrefoils will also be covered. The primary goal of the demos is to get blacksmiths interested in mechanical joinery, and leave confident in the belief it can be accomplished efficiently without complicated or expensive tooling and equipment.  
(Tal's demonstration will be at the Vulcan Pavilion.)

### **Allan Kress**

As an artist metalsmith Allan strives to learn as much as he can about traditional ironwork and add his own style to it. Inspired by nature, the work has an organic feel to it and occasionally a sense of humor. Being a practical person, he likes to add an element of functionality to the work when possible.

Since 1995 Allan has earned a living as a blacksmith. Working for himself has afforded him the time to travel and take classes from many well known Master Blacksmiths. Among them; Jerry Darnell, Clay Spencer, Walter Scadden, Peter Ross, Uri Hoffi and Francis Whitaker. He has been humbled and honored by those experiences.

When teaching at John C. Campbell Folk School and demonstrating at various conferences, Allan tries to engage everyone from the beginner to the Master Blacksmith. As an active member of the Alabama Forge Council, he served as President from 2003 to 2005 and is currently on the building committee. Allan has demonstrated for AL, MS, TN, N.W. GA, NC, TRI STATE (IN,OH,IL), NY, FL, and GA conferences. Also demonstrated at Kentuck Art Festival, Alabama Designer Craftsmen and Bloomin' Festival for over 10 years.

Friday the demonstration will cover power hammer tools — how to make, use and design them. Saturday the demonstration will cover designing and making animals and flowers. Among the animals will be the much sought after Scotty dog.

## *Family Program*

**Pre-Registration is recommended! Classes will fill-up fast. Don't miss out.**

**The minimum age is 15 years; younger ONLY if accompanied by an adult. We are sorry for any inconvenience, but the adult must stay with the youth during the entire class.**

Each class is limited to ensure personal attention.

All classes are beginner level with no experience needed or required!!!

### **Jewelry Making – Chain Mail Bracelet- Instructor: Allison Bohorfoush**

Choose from 3 chain mail bracelet patterns. Class fee includes enough copper for 2 bracelets. You will be able to finish 1 bracelet and possibly start another in class. These patterns are different from the ones offered a few years ago.

12 Students per class. Class Fee \$25.00 per student. Allison's class will be at the Batson Pavilion.

### **Scratch Block Art- Make your own scratch block art and have molten iron poured into it. Alabama Art Casting will instruct.**

Choose from 3 projects; platter, scratch block or Tannehill Frog. All 3 classes will be taught simultaneously. You may choose to do more than one.

Scratch block \$20., Platter \$40., Tannehill Frog \$50. (\$5.00 discount if you preregister for this class)

### **Green Coal– with Gary Cremeans, Forge Master of Montgomery Forge**

The AFC has teaching stations available for hands-on instruction by accomplished blacksmiths. If you are just getting started in blacksmithing, here is your chance to learn the basics from some of the best the AFC has to offer. A specific curriculum has been set for the students.

Class fee \$10 per student. 8 Students per class max. A specific area will be set aside for this class.

<b>Fri 8:30 -11:30 am</b>	<b>Fri 1-4 pm</b>	<b>Sat 8:30 -11:30 am</b>	<b>Sat 1-4 pm</b>
Scratch Block Art Batson Pavilion Green Coal	Chain Mail Jewelry Batson Pavilion Green Coal	Scratch Block Art Batson Pavilion Green Coal	Chain Mail Jewelry Batson Pavilion Green Coal

## **Friday Night Blast**

Bring your hammer and tongs to hold ½” square stock. Two sets of tongs might be helpful (hint, hint)!!! Our Friday Nigh Blast contest will be the longest draw with an added challenge.

The rules are simple. We will give you a bar of a certain length and in a pre-set amount of time make it grow in length. I will explain the extra twist to the contest on the evening of the event. This will be a great time for all, please consider participating. Prizes will be awarded!!!

# TANNEHILL STATE PARK

Sept 7th and 8th

## Fun Family Workshops!

During the Alabama Forge Council State Conference

**CHOOSE  
ONE, TWO, OR  
ALL THREE  
WORKSHOPS!**



Platter Workshop

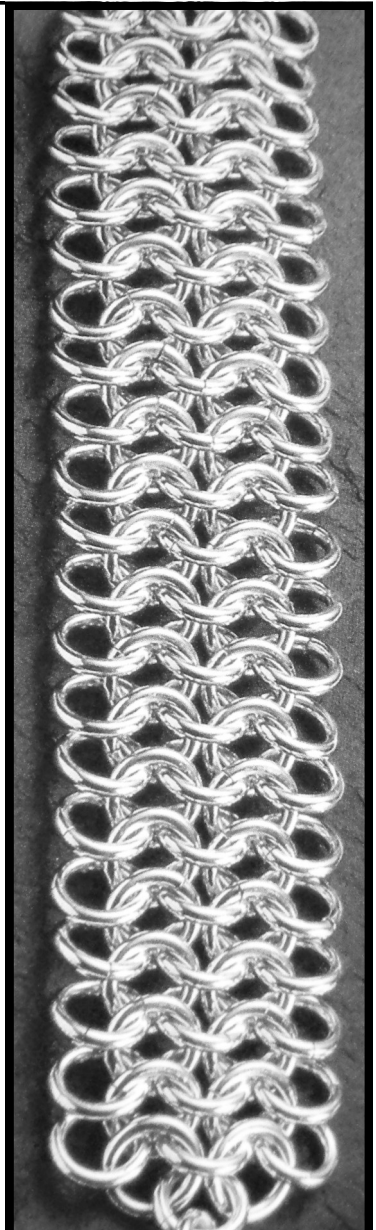


Scratch Block



Tannehill Frog

For more info Email Lee McKee at [mckeemetalarts@yahoo.com](mailto:mckeemetalarts@yahoo.com) or call (205) 434-8831



**Allison Bohorfoush will be teaching a copper jewelry class**

**Friday September 7th 1 to 4pm OR Saturday September 8th 1 to 4pm**

**\$25.00 class fee. Pick one of 3 chain mail bracelet patterns to make in class. Flat chain mail for the novice, round and open round for those who prefer a more challenging project. Work 18 gauge copper wire, dowels, pliers and wire cutters. You will be given instructions for all 3 patterns to take home.**

**Tools and copper for two bracelets will be provided by the instructor. For take home projects you may purchase extra copper wire and tools from instructor or find your own dowels of the same measurements.**

**If you have 18 gauge sterling wire you are welcome to bring it to work with but we will not be supplying silver. Other metals are not recommended for beginners.**

**To register contact: AFC Treasurer  
Judd Clem 256-232-2645 [clem.judd@att.net](mailto:clem.judd@att.net)**

## The Auction

Your donated items for the auction are very much appreciated. The auction proceeds are where the AFC generates its income to offer blacksmithing scholarships and to host the free workshops each year. The conference fees pay for putting on the conference but the auction is how we continue to provide the activities that further the art and craft of blacksmithing. Our auctioneer this year is Col. Anthony Goodrum. Remember, this is a charity auction, bid generously. **This year will also give out door prizes during the Auction. KEEP YOUR I-I-H-T TICKETS**

If you cannot attend we welcome your donations. Please send them to:  
Raymond Head – AFC - Auction  
138 Cone Lane  
Wetumpka, AL 36093

## The AFC is in need of donations of tools for the Tool Box, please be generous!!!

### *Iron-in-the-Hat & Tool Box Drawing*

This year the AFC will be conducting iron-in-the-hat & Tool Box Drawing to help raise funds for our educational programs. Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5, and 25 for \$20. Drawings will be held for items donated and the centerpiece is a blacksmith's toolbox. Any items for the general iron-in-the-hat or tools for the toolbox would be greatly appreciated. **AFTER THE DRAWING, DO NOT THROUGH OUT YOUR TICKETS! SAVE THEM FOR THE DOOR PRIZE DRAWING DURING THE AUCTION**

Please send iron-in-the-hat donations (if you cannot attend) to:  
Raymond Head – AFC - I I T H  
138 Cone Lane  
Wetumpka, AL 36093

## Tailgate Sale Tables

This year the conference will open on Thursday for tailgate sales. This day has been set aside for the buying and selling of tools and equipment at your leisure.

**Special note:** Unless you are selling directly from your camper please set up all sells tables in the designated area **only**. If you have any questions please contact Raymond Head for assistances.

**This is for the privacy and safety of your fellow campers.**

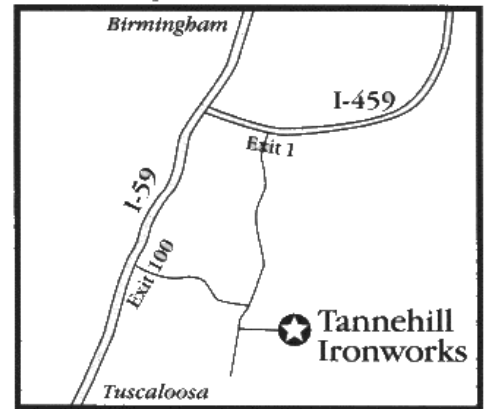
## Registration

Gate entry will begin **Wednesday (September 5<sup>th</sup>)** afternoon. Pre-registered attendees pay \$50 and **AFC membership is required**; AFC dues are \$25 per year and include 6 issues of the Bituminous Bits. **Registration at the conference will be \$60 plus membership for 3-days and \$35 plus membership for 1-day, per person. Again AFC membership is required** *Those attending the demonstrations or are setting up tailgate sales are required to pay the conference fee. Family members or temporary visitors need only sign the release and obtain a badge for TEMPORARY entry into the conference area. Family members, of a registered conference participant, attending family program classes only, are not required to pay the full conference fee.* **If you take up space at a blacksmith demo you must pay the conference fee.**

## Location

Tannehill State Park is located approximately 25 miles southwest of Birmingham. Take Exit 100 from I-59/20 and go east about 2 miles to the park or take Exit 1 from I-459 and go south about 7 miles, the park entrance will be on your right. The conference will be held in Farley Field at the extreme northern end of the park.

The blacksmithing demonstrations will be in the Forge and the Vulcan Pavilions. Plenty of bleacher and chair seating are available. The family and children's programs will be held in nearby tents and pavilions.



## Lodging

### **Camping**

Tannehill is one of the premier camping sites in the state. Campsites are available at the Tannehill Ironworks near the demonstration site on Mill Creek. Improved (water and electricity) sites, primitive camping and cabins are available. Check-in at the country store. For reservations and information, call the park at 205-477-5711 or <http://www.tannehill.org>

**Conference attendees are responsible for their own camping fee's**

## **BE AWARE!**

**No Alcoholic Beverages are allowed at Tannehill Ironworks State Park**

### **Hotels**

### **FOOTBALL WEEKEND REGISTER EARLY!!**

#### **Sleep Inn**

1259 Greenmor Drive  
AL-52 at exit 6 off I-459  
205-424-0000

#### **Comfort Inn**

5051 Academy Lane  
Bessemer, AL 35022  
(205) 428-3999

#### **Jameson Inn**

5021 Academy Lane  
Exit 108 off I-59/20  
205-428-3194

#### **Best Western**

5041 Academy Lane  
Exit 108 off I-59/20  
205-481-1950

#### **Wellesley Inn**

11170 Will Walker Rd  
Exit 89 I20/59  
(205) 556-3606  
(Across from Mercedes Plant)

#### **Holiday Inn Express**

5001 Academy Ln  
Exit 108 off I-59/20  
(205) 428-9972

For more information please contact: Raymond Head (e.m.forge@gmail.com)

## **Schedule of Events**

**Wednesday Sept 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Tail Gate Sales**

**Thursday Sept 6<sup>th</sup>**

### **Registration & set-up**

Tailgate Tool Sales (In designated sale area only)

**Friday Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 AM to 11:30 AM**

Featured Demonstrator – Allen Kress - Forge Pavilion

Featured Demonstrator – Tal Harris - Vulcan Pavilion

Green Coal – up to 8 students

Family Program– Scratch Block Art with Alabama Art Casters

**Break for Lunch**

**Friday schedule continued....**

**12:30 to 4:00 pm**

Featured Demonstrator – Allen Kress - Forge Pavilion

Featured Demonstrator - Tal Harris - Vulcan Pavilion

Green Coal – up to 8 students

**1:00 to 4pm**

Family Program– Chain Mail Jewelry with Allison Bohorfoush at Batson Pavilion

**7:00 pm**

Friday Night Blast - Forging Contest

**Saturday Sept 8<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 AM to 11:30 AM**

Featured Demonstrator – Allen Kress - Forge Pavilion

Featured Demonstrator - Tal Harris - Vulcan Pavilion

Green Coal – up to 8 students

Family Program– Scratch Block Art with Alabama Art Casters  
at Batson Pavilion

**Break for Lunch**

**Board of Directors meeting 11:30; Saturday (Vulcan Pavilion).**

**12:30 to 4:00 pm**

Featured Demonstrator – Allen Kress - Forge Pavilion

Featured Demonstrator - Tal Harris - Vulcan Pavilion

Green Coal – up to 8 students

**1:00 to 4pm**

Family Program– Chain Mail Jewelry with Allison Bohorfoush at Batson Pavilion

**4:30 Sharp**

**Iron-In-The-Hat – Auction - Awards Ceremony**

**Immediately after the Auction Alabama Art Casters will do an iron pour demo.  
This iron will be poured into all the scratch block art made during the conference**

**7:00 PM**

Playtime at the shop – Impromptu Demos and Open discussions about Blacksmithing.

**Sunday Sept 9<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 AM until...**

Special demonstration by Wayne Coe of Sunbright TN. Please stay and see what Wayne has a lot to teach you. If nothing else he can always use an extra heckler or two.

# Alabama Forge Council Conference Registration Form

## September 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, & 9<sup>th</sup> 2012

Please pre-register classes fill up quickly.

No shows will have their conference fee refunded minus any class fees. Pre-registration must be **received by Sept. 1, 2012**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Blacksmithing is inherently a dangerous activity. You are responsible for yourself and your visitors for using eye, ear, respiratory, and other personal protective equipment as required and safe work methods. The Alabama Forge Council, its officers, demonstrators, writers, editor and members disclaim all responsibility and/or liability for any damages, injuries or destruction of property as a result of any information published in the Bituminous Bits or demonstrated at conferences or meetings. Every effort is made to insure the accuracy and safety of the information provided, but use thereof is solely at the users own risk. By requesting or renewing membership or attendance at conferences or meetings, you are stating you agree with this release.

Additional Name Tags:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Mail This Form and Payment to:

**Tannehill 2012**  
**111 Yorkshire Drive**  
**Athens, AL 35613**  
**or call card info to Judd Clem – 256-232-2645**

### Schedule of Fees

**All Weekend:** Member Advance = \$50 Onsite registration = \$60  
 Non-Member Advance = \$75 Onsite registration is \$85 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**One Day Only:**  Fri.  Sat.  Sun.  
 Member Advance = \$30 Onsite registration = \$35  
 Non-Member Advance = \$55 Onsite registration = \$60 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Renewal:** \_\_\_\_\_ Years \$25/yr \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Fri AM Classes** (Mark 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Choices in case your 1<sup>st</sup> choice is full)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Attendee Names)

(Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Green Coal \$10 (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Scratch block \$20 (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Platter \$40 (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Tannehill Frog \$50  
 class total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( \$5 discount for early scratch block registration)

**Fri PM Classes** (Mark 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Choices in case your 1<sup>st</sup> choice is full)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Attendee Names)

(Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Green Coal \$10 (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Chain Mail Jewelry \$25 class total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Sat AM Classes** (Mark 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Choices in case your 1<sup>st</sup> choice is full)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Attendee Names)

(Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Green Coal \$10 (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Scratch block \$20 (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Platter \$40 (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Tannehill Frog \$50  
 class total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( \$5 discount for early scratch block registration)

**Sat PM Classes** (Mark 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Choices in case your 1<sup>st</sup> choice is full)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Attendee Names)

(Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ Green Coal \$10 (Qty) \_\_\_\_\_ chain mail jewelry \$25 class total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Fees Paid** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make Checks Payable to Alabama Forge Council)

Visa/MC Accepted: # _____  Exp. Date _____  Name on Card: _____  Signature: _____
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