

## DAN NICKELS MEMORIAL FOLLY AT THE FORGE



- WHEN:** July 14-16, 2023
- WHERE:** Hot Fire Forge  
2975 Montgomery Rd.  
Bellaire, MI 49615
- CONTACT INFO:** Derrick Bliss [hotfireforge@yahoo.com](mailto:hotfireforge@yahoo.com) ; 734-770-3241
- MAP:** Nearby accommodations (including campgrounds), restaurants, and points-of-interest: <https://goo.gl/maps/TL5au1sPbYTU55kWA> ; We have space for a few tent campers at the house. Please contact Derrick for more info.
- COST:** \$15 per person **PLEASE REGISTER NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2023**
- WHAT:** Derrick's shop forge, 2 gas forges, and 4-5 portable coal forges will be set up
- WHAT TO BRING:** Your favorite tools; a small hand-forged item to donate for Saturday's Iron-in-the-Hat auction; Safety glasses and closed toe shoes will be required in the forging area
- WHY:** Dan Nickels hosted several Folly at the Forge events at Black Rock Forge. Upon Dan's passing in December, his former apprentice Derrick decided to host a folly in honor of Dan at his own shop so that fellow blacksmiths and friends could gather to celebrate Dan's life and legacy.
- Dan truly valued the camaraderie and connection built between smiths who had a shared goal, and he traveled to blacksmith events all over the world in order to work on collaborative projects. Several years ago, Dan built and donated a bench in his father's name to the visitor's center at [The Botanic Gardens at Historic Barns Park](#) in Traverse City. We would like to use this weekend to create a similar bench to be donated in Dan's honor.
- All proceeds from Saturday's Iron-in-the-Hat auction will benefit the [Grand Traverse County Department of Veterans Affairs](#).
- SCHEDULE:**
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| <b>Friday</b>   | 5 - 8 pm<br>8 - 11 pm   | Open Forging (Dinner on your own)<br>Bonfire/Outdoor Movie (weather permitting)   |
| <b>Saturday</b> | 9 am -12 pm<br>12 - 1 pm<br>1 - 6 pm<br>6 - 8 pm<br>8 - 11 pm | Bench Project<br>Lunch on your own<br>Bench Project<br>Dinner ( <b>provided</b> ) & Iron-in-the-Hat auction<br>Bonfire (weather permitting) |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | 9 am -12 pm   | Bench assembly, closing, & group photo  |