



You are invited to attend the:
38th NOB HAMMER-IN
HELD AT AUGLAIZE VILLAGE
DEFIANCE, OH.
May 1-2-3, 2026

Sponsored by the Northwest Ohio Blacksmiths Club
www.nob-blacksmiths.org

Location: 12298 Krouse Rd. Defiance, OH. 43512
From US-24, Exit 22 / Baltimore St.—West to Krouse Rd. Left on Krouse Rd. across the RR tracks to Auglaize Village on the right.

The website for Auglaize Village is:
<https://vintagedefiance.com/general-1>

General Information

Registration: Please check in upon arrival at the event. Once checked-in you must wear your badge to show you have done so.

Raffle Piece: A handmade item, made by you, is required with registration. While we all love ironwork, any item made by you will be accepted. The proceeds from the raffle are used to help defray the Hammer-In expenses. If you are a beginner and want help with your required registration piece, ask any NOB member and they will be happy to assist you. The registration piece must be completed before the banquet on Saturday.

Auction Items: Donated items will be auctioned off after the raffle on Saturday evening. The proceeds from the auction also help to offset the cost of the event and also to support the club throughout the year. Auction items are not required but greatly appreciated.

Gallery Contest: The contest challenge is “Campfire Poker.” Specifically, a campfire/bonfire poker. Think sturdy, think large, think easy to use on an outdoor campfire.

The top three by popular vote get cash awards of \$50.00 each, voted on Saturday night.

Favorite Craft: This contest is for non-metal craft items. Anyone may enter and all crafts are welcome. Winners are chosen by a majority vote of the attendees on Saturday night.

Cash awards: 1st—\$50.00, 2nd—\$35.00, third—\$30.00, 4th \$20.00

Onsite Food Saturday and Sunday: The Auglaize kitchen staff will have breakfast and lunch available for purchase in the barn.

Blacksmith Coal: Dennis Coal Sales will have coal in 50 lb. bags available for sale on Saturday morning, first come first served. This is good blacksmith coal obtained for our use.

Lodging

Super 8: 1053 Hotel Drive. 419-782-8000

Comfort Inn: 1068 Hotel Drive 419-784-4900

Holiday Inn Express: 1148 Hotel Drive 419-784-0782

Hampton Inn: 1037 Hotel Drive 419-784-1515

Demonstrator Biographies

Main Demonstrator - Andrew Larson is a blacksmith/toolmaker from western Kentucky. He was originally drawn into the craft around the age of 11 with the desire to make knives. Over time he became interested in tools and a more fundamental-based approach, the likes of which is taught by Brian Brazeal. Along the way Andrew has had the pleasure of working with and learning from many people across the craft including Brian and Ed Brazeal, the House Brothers, Kurt Feherenbach, and many more. Today Andrew is a full time blacksmith specializing in tools of many varieties, including the occasional knife.

Hands-on class by Justin Hall: Justin Hall is a mechanical engineer specializing in the development of advanced transmission systems. His work includes detailed component design, functional analysis, manufacturing, metallurgy, heat-treat processes and testing. In addition to his engineering expertise, Justin has a background in welding and fabrication and began blacksmithing in 2020. He is a former president of NOB and currently serves as a member of the Board. For his class, Justin will guide participants through creating a Soapstone Holder.

Hands-on class by Chris Thomas: Chris is the president of NOB and has resided in Northwest Ohio since 2015. He has been blacksmithing for the last 7 years and smelting metal for the last 4 years. Chris was formerly the club secretary. Aside from blacksmithing, Chris is one of two agricultural educators for the Wauseon School District. Chris will teach the afternoon class on forged steak turners.

S.N.O.B Hands-on class by Heidi Klingensmith: Heidi Klingensmith is a homesteader and farmer from Tedrow, Ohio, where she lives with her husband. She and her husband are both members of NOB and do ironwork, in addition to gardening, canning, and animal husbandry. She will be leading a class on epoxy craft making for the spouses and anyone else interested during the demonstration hours on Saturday.

Friday Night

Please bring an item for the **Anvil Stew**, our Friday night supper. Vegetables or meats are always needed. Please also bring a dish to pass and participate in the food contest below.

Food Contest: Salads and desserts to compliment the anvil stew. Winners will be voted on Friday night during dinner, top four salads and top four desserts.

Cash awards: 1st—\$40.00, 2nd—\$30.00, third—\$20.00, 4th \$10.00

Theft Bingo: Bring 4 or 5 wrapped prizes (dollar value) or white elephant treasures. Everyone is welcome to play.

Saturday Night

The Saturday evening banquet will be a hog roast with the raffle and auction to follow.

Donated items for the auction are always appreciated. The auction has been a highlight of the Hammer-In and is a great fundraiser for the club. Raffle tickets will be \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00.

Forging Competition: Last year's winner is charged with the task of determining this year's challenge. He or she will announce the task at the beginning of the competition.

Cash awards: 1st—\$80.00, 2nd—\$50.00, third—\$30.00

2026 Hammer-In Daily Schedule

Friday May 01

- All Afternoon** Anvil Stew preparation - In the Pavilion
Open forging available after set-up is complete
- 4:00 - 5:00PM** **Registration Open** - In the Barn
- 5:30 PM** Anvil Stew - Potluck Meal - Food Contest - In the Barn
- 7:00 PM** Theft Bingo and Open Forging in Cane Press area

Saturday May 02

- 8:00 - 9:00 AM** **Registration Open** - Breakfast - In the Barn
- 8:45 - 9:00 AM** Opening Ceremony in front of the Blacksmith Shop
- 9:00 - 12:00 AM** Main demonstrator Andrew Larson - In Farm Museum
Hands-on by Justin Hall – In Cane Press area
Hands-on by Heidi Klingensmith – In the Barn
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM** Lunch - In the Barn
- 1:00 - 4:00 PM** Main demonstrator Andrew Larson - In Farm Museum
Hands-on by Chris Thomas – In Cane Press area
Hands-on by Heidi Klingensmith – In the Barn
- 4:30 - 5:30 PM** **Business Meeting in the Barn before Dinner**
- 6:00 PM** Banquet - Awards - Raffle - Auction - In the Barn
- 8:00 PM** Forging Contest - In Cane Press area

Sunday May 03

- 7:00 - 9:00 AM** Breakfast - In the barn
- 9:00 - 12:00 AM** Main demonstrator Andrew Larson - In Farm Museum
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM** Lunch followed by **Tear down and clean up. All help appreciated.**