

# Illinois Valley Blacksmiths Association

## 43rd Annual Summer Conference

June 13, 14, & 15, 2025 at Thresherman's Park, Pontiac, IL

*Demos: Friday Evening - member demo,*

*Saturday & Sunday - Tom "Pancho" Willoughby*

- Gallery – Display your talents. Show us what you have done.
- Tailgaters & Vendors are welcome. **They must register and pay conference fees.** (Suggest donation to iron in hat or auction)
- Trade Item – Flint Striker
- Iron in the Hat (bucket raffle style), Saturday – please consider something **nice** to donate.
- The Sat. night auction will consist of demonstrator items and donated items from attendees and guests. We encourage your generous support. No consignment or reserve.

### Pre-Registration helps us plan ahead.

Make checks out to: **IVBA**. Mail to: **Gary Riss, 1409 E. 2309<sup>th</sup> Rd., Streator, IL 61364**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Amt. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Fees Includes Spouse and Children under 18

Full conf. \$45.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Sat. only \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Sun. only \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Camper Electric Hookup \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

I understand and acknowledge that blacksmithing activities can be dangerous for participants and observers. I release IVBA, Central States Threshermen, officers, directors, staff, demonstrators, and participants from all liability and expenses arising from any accident, injury, or activity during the conference. I take responsibility for my own safety, and the safety of my family and guests.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_, (Parent or Guardian if under 18 yrs.)

### Tom Willoughby:

Tom Willoughby has been a farrier for 37 years. In that time, he learned the intricacies and characteristics of steel and how it moves. Although he has been working with steel for over half his life, he has been an artist his whole life. Tom can make words come to life in a song. He also has turned blocks of wood into intricate and beautiful works of art. He has spent countless hours working at and perfecting each talent.

Although he has had a workshop for years, Tom officially established Willoughby Forge two years ago. He built a shop to house the coal forge, plethora of tools, several anvils, the Big Blue air hammer, and a large worktable. Magic happens in this work studio as hand drawn ideas come to life in either steel or wood, or a combination of the two mediums.