2020 Tinsmith & Coppersmith Convergence
June 26th & 27th, 2020
Genesee Country Village & Museum

About the Village & Museum
The museum covers 600 acres and includes the Historic Village, the John L. Wehle Gallery and the Genesee Country Nature Center, all of which provide interactive programs, fascinating exhibits and special events.
GCV&M is the largest and most comprehensive living history museum in New York State – and the third largest in the United States. Chartered as an educational institution by the NYS Board of Regents, the museum offers opportunities to see, smell, taste, touch, explore and experience 68 historic buildings; more than 20,000 artifacts; wildlife paintings, drawings and sculpture spanning centuries; the living collections in our gardens, on our working farm and at our Nature Center; and the gorgeous landscape that first brought settlers to this region. Their web site is www.gvc.org

Lodging (16 Miles from Village)
We have 30 rooms blocked for our group under the name Tintinkers at the Microtel by Wyndham located at 905 Lehigh Station Rd, Henrietta, NY 14467. Reservation Phone Number 585-334-3400. The price for a room with one Queen Bed with the 14% tax should be $91.19 with a continental breakfast included. Cutoff date for the rooms is May 26th. Cancellation date is also 30 days in advance.

Camping (15 miles from village)
We have 10 campsites blocked for out group under the name Tintinkers at the Southwoods RV Resort located at 6749 Townline Rd, Byron, NY, 14422. Reservation Phone Number 585-548-9002. The cost is $36.00 per night with 3- amp service and water hook-up. No sewer hook-up but I’m told there is a dump station. NOTE: These camp sites are only held until March 15th so if you are planning on camping, make your reservations very soon. Many campgrounds in the area are already booked solid for the season.

Registration Form – Explanation and tips for completing the form (see example below):

1. Each Family pays the Convergence Registration Fee of $20.00 once. This fee is used for incidentals such as Table and chair rental, name badges, soda, water, ice and coffee during the day on Friday and Saturday, etc.

2. Each Person needs to pay for the weekend pass for entrance to the Village & Museum. This is $20.00 per adult and $10.00 per child. Enter the total number of each in the proper column and enter the total amount in the Event Column.

3. The Saturday Evening Social time and Buffet is optional. There will be a cash bar. The buffet will feature Chicken French served over a bed of pasta accompanied by roasted garlic mashed potatoes, green beans with red onion and red pepper, green salad, and assorted dinner rolls. Dessert will be Hot Apple Crisps served with freshly whipped cream. Also included are coffee and hot tea. The Cost per adult is $25.00 and $12.00 per child 4 – 12 years old. Enter the total in the appropriate column and enter the total dollars in the Event Total Column.

4. PayPal is available for a 3% fee. If you want to pay using a Credit Card via PayPal, fill in line 4 by multiplying the sub total by .03
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
The Village is open to the public daily from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM (closed Mondays). There are a couple of restaurants on the grounds for lunch as everyone is on their own for all lunches.

The Genesee Village & Museum has a free kids day on Saturday and Sunday so they expect a large turn out of the general public. They will allow us to sell our wares if anyone would want to do that. They do have a Tin Shop on site that will be demonstrating during the weekend and for a small fee allows a person to punch an ornament, so we do not want to do anything that interferes with that.

The tool swap and sale is a standing event at the Convergence and is usually on Saturday Morning. The details for this have not been worked out yet but hopefully it will happen. We usually have a pattern swap at the same time.

Everyone’s help is needed in pulling together and creating an agenda that is meaningful to all so send your suggestions for topics and what you are willing to present, explain, demonstrate, etc. the Convergence needs your help in making it meaningful for all.

History of the Group
This group was formed sometime around December 1990 with the first issue of a newsletter titled “Tinsnips” by Jim Nixon of Chardon, Ohio and was dedicated to the preservation of the art of Tinsmithing. Jim noted in the first issue that there were 13 paid members. Paid meaning that they sent Jim $15.00 (if memory serves me right) for a year subscription to the by-monthly newsletter (scan of some of the early issues are on the tintinkers.org web site).

Sometime in the mid 1990’s, Pat Cunningham from Madison, Indiana took over publishing the newsletter as Jim wanted to retire from the task. In the late 1990’s as the age of the computer and internet became more prevalent, Pat took the publication online by creating a web site using the Tinsnips name. The Tinsnips web site he created was like today’s Tintinkers.org. Sometime in mid-2006 the Tinsnips site was hacked, and the hacker deleted a lot of files and posted a lot of profanity and pornography on the site. Pat took the site offline until he could fix it. But time and other things got in the way of that so after about 6 months I decided to create the Tintinkers site so that the continuity was not lost with the understanding that when Pat got Tinsnips back online, I would shut down tintinkers. As you can see, that never happened.

As for the Convergences, the first one was in 2005 at Eastfield Village after Bill McMillen’s Class. I began organizing them in 2007 and have been doing it ever since. But now it’s time for the next chapter to be written.

2020 is the last Convergence that I will plan. Someone needs to step up and get involved and write the next chapter. With the onset of social media, the web site is seeing less and less traffic. People are not participating in the weekly chats anymore. Someone with new ideas and knowledge of new platforms needs to take over. I’m willing to turn over the web site to anyone that wants to continue it. I’m willing to help someone in the transition process whatever that is.

Please don’t let this fall by the wayside. Let’s write that next chapter. Contact me and let’s get this conversation going.

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