



January 2011

The Florida Clinker Breaker

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association - *Established May 18, 1985*

Presidents Message - January 2011

Jerry Wolfe



I would like to wish each of you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a very happy and productive 2011. The 2010 year was a great one in many respects but sad due to the loss of some of our members.

We had a GREAT celebration for our 25th anniversary and our annual conference in Barberville was a success. Let's continue to push forward and have an even better 2011. If each of us will help with a meeting, teach someone a new technique, make something for our Iron-in-the-Hat, or just attend the meetings and add support to those who work hard planning and organizing all the activities; then we will have a *great* 2011. Thanks to all of you who work so hard to make our chapter a success.

One of the major activities for 2011 is the Southern Blacksmith Association conference in Madison GA. Look at the SBA website for details (<http://www.sbaconference.com/>) more details will be coming out soon, but reserve the dates of 19th to 21st of May. The demonstrators will be George Dixon - traditional blacksmith - and Chuck Patrick - knife maker, so it's a great line-up.

Many of you have heard about the new blacksmith shop at John C Campbell Folk School. It has been named after Clay Spencer and is definitely an appropriate honor to Clay. They still have a need for some balcony pickets so if you are inclined to make

one or more; here are the specs - 5/8" square or round; Finished length 40" leave the ends plain; confine forging toward the center of the bar - no bigger than 4 inch width; wire wheel clean, no finish. If you need assistance in getting it to JCC Folk School; let me know.

Our new members for this month are: Jared Chatwood of Vernon; Wade & Eva Spooner from Waycross GA; Allen & Yvette Branch of Sebring; Mike Mesler & Susan Potts of Tallahassee; Brian & Barbara Robinson of Panama City; and Heather Hole of Deland. Welcome! SPECIAL NOTE to members - please get to know these new members and help them learn some new things.

One of the duties as President is to "**appoint or re-appoint a Regional Coordinator**" for each region. I am happy to report all of our coordinators agreed to serve another year. So please help your region's coordinator make the meetings beneficial to all who attend. Give a helping hand, open your shop for a meeting, volunteer to do a demonstration, etc. And especially THANK your coordinators for all the hard work they do each month: Mitch Widham NE; Billy Christie NW; Ralph Nettles SE; and Lisa Anne Conner SW.

We would like to do more in the way of "teaching blacksmithing" to those who are interested and there have been some proposals that will be acted on in the near future. To be able to teach requires both a teacher and a student - Which are you? If you are willing to teach, I would like to know about it, so we can put together some opportunities for

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Upcoming Events

The calendar includes events of interest to the blacksmithing community. The regions have no boundaries - everyone is welcome everywhere. Come to more than one if you can. We hold regular meetings in each region on the following Saturdays of each month: NE-1st, NW-2nd, SE-3rd, SW-4th except for quarterly Statewide meetings. The actual dates vary so check the schedule below. Our meetings are informal gatherings around the forge. Prospective members are always welcome. Come for all or any part of a meeting, bring your tools or just watch. Most meetings run from 9AM to 4PM and you'll want to bring a bag lunch if not otherwise noted. If you have any questions about meetings, please contact the Regional Coordinators:

Northeast Region	Mitch Widham	386-673-0174	mwidham@cfl.rr.com
Northwest Region	Billy Christie	850-421-1386	chriswoodforge@embarqmail.com
Southeast Region	Ralph Nettles	561-747-5489	ralphnettles@msn.com
Southwest Region	Lisa Ann Connor	813-977-3743	MelisandeAubrey@hotmail.com

January 2011

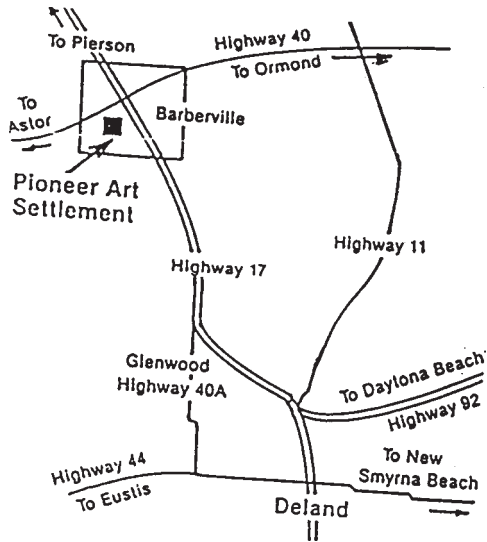
NE 08 Barberville - Note: this is the 2nd Sat of the month as the 1st is New Years Day.

NW 08 Jeff and Brooke Mohr's shop, Mockingbird Forge in Crawfordville, FL

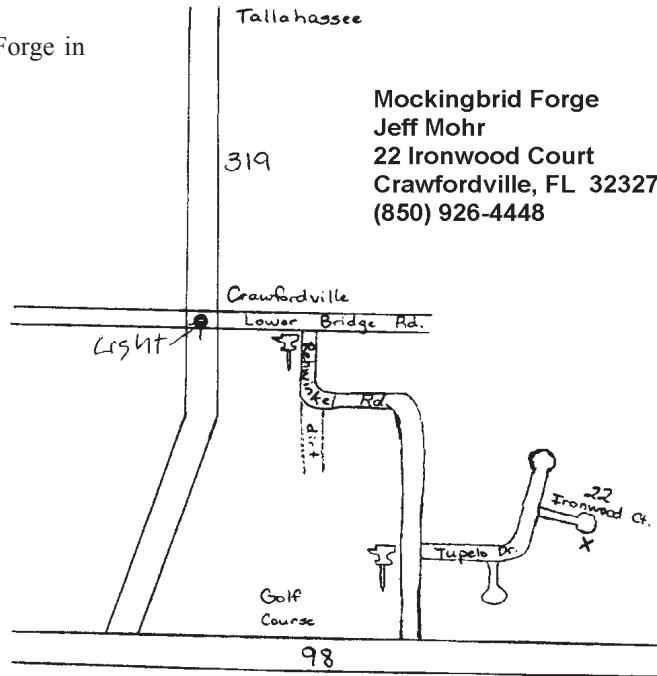
SE 15 Unknown

SW 22 Unknown

NE Region



NW Region



SW Region

Information not available at the time of deadline - Call the SW Trustee Lisa Ann Connor for information.

SE Region

Information not available at the time of deadline - Call the SE Trustee Ralph Nettles for information.

Future Events

- NE** Feb 5 Steve Estenson's, 120 Keystone Lane, Fruitland Park, FL
- NW** Feb 02 Juan Holbrook's in Gainesville, FL
- NW** Mar 12 Clyde and Vi Payton's in Monticello, FL.
- SE** No information.
- SW** Mar 26 Trez Cole's shop, Sarasota FL. Hammer making by Brian Brazeal. Please bring a covered dish to share for pot luck lunch and items for Iron-In-The-Hat.
- GA-SBA** May 19th-21st Southern Blacksmithing Assoc. conference in Madison, GA.



Report from the Northwest

Billy Christie



November 13, 2010 was another beautiful day for blacksmithing at the Panhandle Pioneer Settlement, in Blountstown, FL. We had 33

people sign in and quite a few visitors stopped by to check out the activities. We were glad to have our President, Jerry Wolf in attendance.

Our feature demonstrator was Will Manning; Will is the resident blacksmith at the Mission San Luis in Tallahassee. He won the Walt Anderson Scholarship and recently returned from taking a tool making/blacksmith class. This was taught by David Smucker at the new Clay Spencer Blacksmith Shop located at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC.

Will started by demonstrating the making and heat treating of a drawing knife. This was forged out of a piece of 5160, high carbon steel. The ends are forged out to a long taper (one at a time) and bent to the desired shape. Then he forged out the blade which was about 12" long and 1" wide x 1/4" thick. Oak handles are used; these are pre



drilled and a piece of 3/4" EMT is used as a collar to keep the handles from splitting when driven on hot. The tapered ends need to be long enough to stick out past the end of the wooden handles about 1/2", so that they can be bent over locking them on.

Basic Heat-Treating steps: 1 Forge; 2 Normalize (heat to above critical temperature & let air cool); 3 Rough Grind; 4 Heat slowly to just above critical temperature (Don't over heat); 5 Quench in water (brine), oil, or air – depending on type of steel. Keep the item moving in the quench?? 6 Temper – Always Temper; 7 Final Grinding –

Keep it Cool. The drawing knife was quenched in oil and turned out very well!

Will, also, made a metal scribe out of a piece of round W-1 steel, which was quenched in water to harden the tip. The heat treating can also be done in an oven at about 350 degrees for 1 hour for the drawing knife and 2.5 hours for something like a

hammer head. Thanks, Will, nice job.

There were some nice hand forged items and other interesting objects in the "Iron-in-the-Hat" drawing.

Thanks to Lloyd Wheeler for drawing the winning tickets and calling the lucky



(Continued Report from the NW, page 3)



numbers. We raised a total of \$146.00.

The Pioneer Settlement was having a wood stove cooking class going on and we were lucky enough to be able to enjoy the delicious

food that was prepared, plus the covered dishes.

Thanks to Linda Smith and all the cooks (our very own Sally Watson took the class). No one went away hungry.

After lunch John Watson went to work at the forge making two fire strikers out of high carbon steel. These were quenched in automatic transmission fluid with a small amount of diesel fuel mixed in. There was also a very, oily



dead rat (the rodent kind, not a smith) in the mix; but things still worked fine.

Thanks to everyone that helped make this another very interesting and educational meeting.

Happy hammering and...Happy Holidays!!



(Continued from President's Message, page 1)

those new members or interested folks who ask – How can I learn about blacksmithing techniques?

Sarasota will be hosting a statewide regional meeting on March 26, 2011; so put that on your calendar and come enjoy the Gulf Coast. Brian Brazael from **Brandon, Mississippi** will be the demonstrator.

The safety suggestion for January is JUST BE CAREFUL and do not “touch the hot end”.

If you have any ideas and suggestions you want your board to consider; please let me know. wolfeforge@hotmail.com or 941 355-5615

Jerry Wolfe

Report from the Northeast

Mitch Widham

The NE has not met recently so I do not have a write-up, our upcoming meetings are: the Annual Christmas meeting on 12/11 at Allen Hardwicke's.

Sat 1/8/11 at Barberville, Note: this is the 2nd Sat of the month as the 1st is New Years Day.

Sat 2/5/11 at Steve Estenson's, 120 Keystone Lane, Fruitland Park

Report from the Southwest

Lisa Ann Conner

There will be a big SW Regional gathering in March that Trez is organizing.

I can tell you our dates, but not the demonstrators yet: Saturdays, January 22nd and February 19.

**Florida Artist Blacksmith Association
Walt Anderson Scholarship**

This scholarship was established to honor the memory of Walt Anderson, one of our charter members. Its purpose is to further the craft of blacksmithing and is available to any FABA member in good standing. The award is limited to the actual cost or \$1000 whichever is lesser. It may be used for materials, tuition, lodging and transportation (paid at the rate of 43.2 cents per mile or the actual cost of public transportation, whichever is lesser).

A letter of application or a detailed email may be submitted provided the applicant answers the following questions:

1. What is your name, address and phone number?
2. How much experience in blacksmithing do you have?
3. How will this instruction help you with your blacksmithing craft?
4. What is the name of school you wish to attend?
5. What is the name of the course and the name of the instructor teaching the class?
6. What costs will be incurred (tuition, materials, lodging, transportation, etc.)?

Note: By accepting the Walt Anderson Scholarship the applicant agrees to provide a demonstration of skills learned and write a report of the learning experience, including "how-to" for publication in the Clinker Breaker. This next item not required but strongly suggested that an article made by the new knowledge be offered for auction at the Annual meeting.

Completed letters of application or emails should be sent to me: John Butler, Chair, FABA Scholarship Committee, 777 Tyre Road, Havana, FL 32333 or emailed to jgbutler@sprintmail.com.

Deadline for receipt is June 15, 2011. Three finalists will be recommended to the Board. The decision of the Board will be final. The successful applicant will be notified.

The Joke's On Us!

My grandfather worked in a blacksmith shop when he was a boy, and he used to tell me, when I was a little boy myself, how he had toughened himself up so he could stand the rigors of blacksmithing.

One story was how he had developed his arm and shoulder muscles. He said he would stand outside behind the house and, with a 5 pound potato sack in each hand, extend his arms straight out to his sides and hold them there as long as he could.

After awhile he tried 10 pound potato sacks, then 50 pound potato sacks and finally he got to where he could lift a 100 pound potato sack in each hand and hold his arms straight out for more than a full minute!

Next, he started putting potatoes in the sacks. *Submitted by Bob Oakes on http://www.4ironwork.com/fun_stuff.htm*

**Florida Artist Blacksmith Association Inc.
Balance Sheet
As of December 9, 2010**

	Dec 9, 10
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking at Bank of America-St	11,110.18
10003 · Wakulla Bank Credit Card Proces	960.58
10004 · The Vangaurd Group	26,523.14
Total Checking/Savings	38,593.90
Total Current Assets	38,593.90
TOTAL ASSETS	38,593.90
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	31,165.60
Net Income	7,428.30
Total Equity	38,593.90
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	38,593.90

Notes From All Over

From the late-night desk of your editor....

One of the wonderful things about being a newsletter editor, is that occasionally.... occasionally, someone sends you a really encouraging email. Amazingly enough, that happened this past week. Ron Childers, the coordinator/Trustee for FABA NW sent me a wonderful email, letting me know that he was personally working on one or two future "how to" tool making articles for the Clinker. [To which I say, "Yeah ho! I'm glad *someone* is thinking about doing original articles for the newsletter!" Hint, Hint!]

In his email, Ron spoke of how he uses the email edition of The Clinker Breaker to introduce prospective members and other interested people to FABA. It's simple. He prints out one or two of the latest emailed Clinkers and keeps them on hand. Then when he goes to a show, an event, a gathering or a meeting - just about anywhere he goes, in fact - he has some handy to give to people who seem interested in learning more about blacksmithing or FABA.

You know, put that way... it sounds so easy! Any of us who get the Clinker .pdf file emailed instead of a hardcopy Clinker USPS mailed can do that! So what's stoppin' you?

Here's a section of Ron's email:

I have received several "thank you" e-mails from people who became new members after introducing myself at various functions such as our meeting at the Tallahassee Museum. From what I've heard, we acquired several new members at the museum meeting. We had a jewelry maker, a glass blower and a cabinet maker among others asking about incorporating artist blacksmithing with their endeavors.

So don't keep your 'Clinker' to yourself... get out there and share it with others! Help FABA to grow and continue to teach the art of blacksmithing to new people and new generations!

Where in the World?



Do you like a good puzzle? Here's a great file photo from November 1993 of one of our FABA blacksmiths pounding on an anvil. Notice some of the interesting details around him. Is there anyone who can tell me not only who this is, but *where* in Florida and at what

event? Email your responses to editor@blacksmithing.org. Good luck! The first correct response wins an honorable mention in next month's Clinker *and* a prize. Oh, sorry - the person *in the photo* is automatically disqualified from this contest!

Notices, For Sales & Want Ads

BLACKSMITH COAL: \$35 per 100 lb bag (Pickup only) & details - Pioneer Settlement, contact the Settlement at 386-749-2959 or 386-749-2087 or mail your order with payment to PSCA/COAL, P.O. Box 6, Barberville, FL 32008. Accepted by Discover, Visa, MasterCard, and American Express.

SPECIAL NOTICE: We have heard that Barberville is "temporarily out of coal" but will be ordering more soon. Call before you go to pick up coal and verify that they have it on hand.

Do you love your "Clinker"? Don't want to miss a single issue? Here's good news! If you get the "snail-mail" version of the CB, you can quickly tell when you need to renew your FABA membership by checking your mailing label. Then you won't miss a single issue of Clinker Breaker.

Faires, Festivals and Pioneers!

Just as there are many different kinds of blacksmiths, so there are various kinds of faires, festivals and reenactments that feature period blacksmithing demonstrations. These 'fests' can be great places to share your art, make new smithing friends and find people who are interested in learning more about blacksmithing in a serious way.

Last year I chanced upon a small, medieval days event. It looked interesting, so I stopped. Yes, there were the typical colorful costumes, but I was more impressed by the booths of artisans. These were real craftsmen and women who plied their trade and apprenticed others to follow. Yet among all the weavers, bakers, carvers, candle makers, soap makers, tavern keepers and carvers... there was not one blacksmith. Everyone I talked to said they wanted a blacksmith in their 'community'; *but they simply did not know any smiths*. Several young men expressed an interest in learning blacksmithing, but had no one to teach them.

Here are two such upcoming events. Why not check them out? Who knows what kind of 'smithly' contacts you can make?

The Hoggetowne Medieval Faire

The Alachua County Fairgrounds is transformed into a bustling medieval marketplace for the 25th Annual Hoggetowne Medieval Faire - January 29-30 & February 4-6, 2011. Watch and learn as more than 160 artisans demonstrate their skills in weaving, blacksmithing, leatherworking, woodcarving, pottery and much more. For more info: www.gvlculturalaffairs.org/website/programs_events/HMF/medieval_index.html

Pine Castle Pioneer Days

Orlando, Florida, February 26th & 27th
This is the 38th year of the History Festival with historic buildings, traditional music, crafts, demonstrations, re-enactments, fun for kids and great barbeque. This year will feature the 70th Anniversary of the old Pine Castle Air Force Base and the men and women who served our nation during WWII. For more info: www.pinecastlepioneerdays.org/

Plan now for August 2011

Master Series Workshops at the New England School of Metalwork



Four nationally renowned Master Smiths from around the country will be offering their expertise to you through consecutive workshops during the month of August. Take one or all four. Dates, details and cost will be forth coming very soon. Don't miss your chance

to learn from Doug Wilson; Design Development, Peter Ross; Tooling up for Success, Jay Close; Traditional Architectural Ironwork and Dan Nauman; Gilding the Lily, accenting and adorning your work.

The New England School of Metalwork in Auburn Maine offers a unique metal-smithing program found nowhere else. A professional combination of both traditional and contemporary tooling, techniques and instruction. The studios are designed, run and maintained by professional blacksmiths. The diverse array of instructors provide students with many options and many disciplines of metalworking.

We operate year round and have various programs in **Blacksmithing, Bladesmithing and Casting**. We offer a Summer and Winter Session of workshops and occasional evening class as well as featured demonstrations and symposiums. All of these amazing opportunities will allow your innermost creativity to flow like never before.



For more info, contact the NESMW at 888-753-7502 or go to www.newenglandschoolofmetalwork.com

The Florida Artist Blacksmith Association (FABA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization whose purposes are to teach, promote, and preserve the art of blacksmithing. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. FABA publishes the Florida Clinker Breaker monthly, and FABA membership includes a subscription. We solicit correspondence and unpaid articles on any subjects related to FABA's purposes. ABANA chapter newsletters may reprint non-copyrighted material if it is credited to the author and this newsletter. You need the publisher's permission to reprint copyrighted material unless otherwise noted.

FABA Officers

President	Jerry Wolfe	941-355-5615	wolfeforge@hotmail.com
Vice President	Charles (Hippie) Pate	850-997-6986	-unknown-
Treasurer	Dorothy H. Butler	850-539-5742	Treasurer@blacksmithing.org
Secretary	Jim Labolito	850-567-6464	fernforge@comcast.net
Program Chairman	Mark Stone	850-668-9527	markham62@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Kim Wendt	561-436-8555	Editor@blacksmithing.org
Past President	Rex Anderson	850.997-2748	rexaanderson@embarqmail.com
Trustee NE	Kathy Thomas	386-985-4756	ramsheadstudios@bellsouth.net
Trustee NW	Ron Childers	850-878-8537	Ron@munlaw.net
Trustee SE	Ralph Nettles	561-747-5489	ralphnettles@msn.com
Trustee SW	Lisa Ann Connor	813-977-3743	melisandeaubrey@hotmail.com

Kim Wendt, Editor; 909 Laurel Rd; N. Palm Beach, FL 33408; (561) 436-8555 or k.wendt@att.net; <http://www.blacksmithing.org>

FABA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association, Inc.
Founding member Southern Blacksmith Association.
Date _____ New Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Work: _____

E-Mail _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Send application & a membership fee of \$25.00 to:

Dorothy H. Butler
777 Tyre Rd
Havana FL 32333

Make check out to FABA. Your FABA membership begins when we receive your payment and lasts one year Membership is for a family.

Don't list me in the directory

Send me the newsletter via e-mail