

SEPTEMBER 2011



Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Established May 18, 1985

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE – SEPTEMBER 2011

Jerry Wolfe

Our quarterly board meeting was held on July 21st and the significant decisions made were as follows:

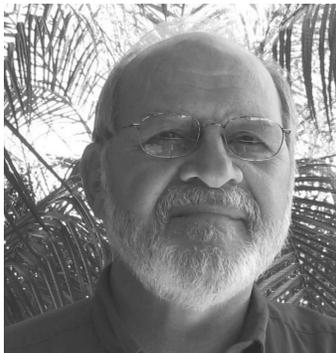
- ◆ Newsletter Editor elected for the unexpired term thru 2012 – Will Manning – Thanks for volunteering.
- ◆ Walt Anderson Scholarship recipient selected: **Sarah McMurray** – Congratulations!
- ◆ Donation toward medical expenses sent to Tim Ryan
- ◆ “Buy a Beam” for John C. Campbell Folk School was approved for \$1000

We had three “petals” remaining from our SBA Madison Petal project and decided to create a “work of art” for our annual Barberville auction. Ron Childers will coordinate the project.

If you want to contribute a petal or flowers – contact Ron.

Phone # 850-878-8537 / email ron@munlaw.net

Will Manning will be our Newsletter Editor and will be sending “print ready” documents electronically to our printer – Lithohaus Printers. As usual most information is sent to our editor via email service to Editor@blacksmithing.org. If you have hardcopy documents you would like published – those can be sent to Will at the following address: 175 Talmadge Street, Apt #2 Athens, GA 30605 / phone # 706-850-7988



Bill Coleman has initiated a new blacksmith training opportunity at Arc Angels Inc. as part of the Dunedin Fine Art Center.

www.dfac.org/classes/course-details.cfm?course_id=1312

Bill has asked for assistance with “blacksmith instructors” (paid) who will be available in September. If you are interested, contact Bill at WJColeman@aol.com.

I also want to mention other training classes available with Louis Riggleman at Ramshead Forge in San Antonio: www.ramsheadforge.com

Phone # 352-521-3515

Bill Roberts in Ocala: www.customdesignmetalarts.com

Steve Estenson in Fruitland Park: steven@foxwoodforge.com

Phone # 352-753-4873

Who did I forget? I hesitate to do this because I probably forgot someone.

The Alabama Forge Council is having their annual meeting at Tannehill State Park in McCalla AL on Sept 8-10. It’s always a good meeting and not too far to go for some.

SAFETY TIP: WEAR SAFETY GLASSES – I see pictures taken at blacksmith events and sometimes even the demonstrators or students are not wearing safety glasses. This is worse than driving down the street without your safety belt. It’s a well known FACT that steel particles are flying around; so protect your eyesight while doing any work in the shop.

A NOTE OF THANKS

As FABA members, Vi and I would like to thank those who volunteered to run for the five FABA vacant board positions for next term.

Four of which are uncontested incumbents who are seeking another term in their respective positions:

Jerry Wolfe, President

Ron Childers, NW Trustee, and

Jim Labolito, Secretary

Lisa Anne Connor, SW Trustee

Mr. John Watson is the only candidate for the Vice President vacancy – (...an editorial on John: he is a Master Chef especially in the bar-b-queing arena).

We would also like to thank our four regional trustees – Mr. Jordan Thomas, Mr. Ron Childers, Mr. Ralph Nettles, and Ms. Lisa Anne Connor for their work in seeking out volunteers for these board positions.

All these candidates are proven “tried and true” FABA members who will continue to give competent and devoted leadership to our fine organization. Please pledge your support and let’s ALL help them “pull the wagon”!

Clyde Payton

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS: Skeeter Prather email: luec@nettally.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

The calender 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	Butch Patterson	904-964-2499	bpattr@yahoo.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

FUTURE EVENTS

NE September 3 at Pioneer Art Settlement at Barberville. Ben Rogers will demonstrate how to make a raised vein oak leaf. In addition, he will discuss tuning your anvil to improve the rebound and working with sound while forging. Also, proper punching and upsetting. Open forges. Please bring a covered dish and an Iron-in-the-Hat item.

NW September 10 at Panhandle Pioneer Settlement in Blountstown, FL

SE September 17 at Tanah Keeta until further notice.

SW September 24 TBD
contact Lisa Ann Connor

October 7 - 9

FABA Annual Conference at Pioneer Art Settlement

NE November 5 at Pioneer Art Settlement at Barberville. Butch Patterson will be demonstrating how to stretch the iron to make a Cowboy Hat. Open forges will be available. Please bring an Iron-in-the-Hat item and a covered dish.

NW November 12 at Mike Bettinger's Welding Shop in Tallahassee, FL

NW December 10 at Rex & Mary Ellen Anderson's shop in Monticello, FL

NE - MEALS:

If you are interested in cooking and bring the main dish for lunch, bring your receipts and I will see that you are reimbursed at the meeting. Email or phone me and let me what month you

NW REGION



NE REGION



SE REGION

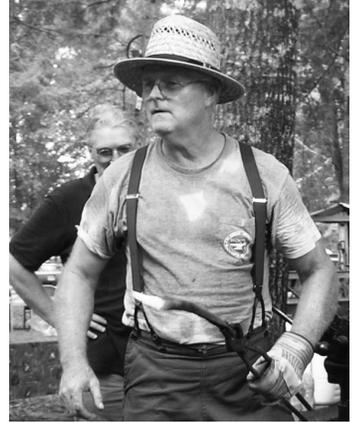


REGIONAL REPORTS

Report from the Northwest by John Watson & Billy Christie

The NW held its meeting on July 9th at Bennie and Judy Prince's Farmers Heritage Museum, on the North side of Cairo, Georgia. The weather was hot and the gnats were alive and well. A big thank you to whom ever it was that invented insect repellent. We were blessed with shade in and around the museum area.

The demonstration was conducted by John Watson and assisted by Danny Willis. John Boy started with a discussion on safety associated with smiting and why it is so important. Billy Christie spoke about the meeting and had a discussion concerning the Annual Barberville Conference and the need for an item from the NW for the auction. John Boy proceeded with the demonstration of making a snake out of a farrier's rasp. He showed the placement and need to fuller the file in order to get the head and neck properly proportioned. As the snake was nearing completion, Ron Childers jumped up and directed a short cut for making a set of rattlers, by twisting in several small fullered areas at the tail. (Wow it worked!) When the snake was completed it was auctioned off. Thanks to Mike Bettinger for the winning bid.



There were some nice hand forged items and other interesting stuff in the Iron in the Hat. Thanks to Dot Butler for drawing and calling the winning numbers and to everyone else that either donated items or bought tickets. We brought in \$ 175.00 in the drawing and \$ 30.00 for the snake sale. Nice work. Lunch was delicious, with fried fish, chicken wings and French fries, supplied and cooked and made finger licking good by Bennie & Judy. In addition to a number of side dishes and deserts that were brought. If any one went away hungry it was their own fault.



The attendance was great with 42 signing in and a few that didn't. We also had a reporter from the Cairo Messenger, Darrel Mudra. We ended up with a full page in the newspaper, complete with several pictures and a nice article about the museum and the blacksmith meeting.

In conclusion, we want to thank Bennie and Judy Prince for their warm welcome to their museum. The cooking and camaraderie allowed us to meet new people that were interested in our blacksmithing and their heritage museum. A BIG thanks goes to Johnny White for supplying the forge, anvil, vise and coal for the demonstration. Also, thanks to John Watson for the demonstration and to Danny Willis for assisting and to all those who attended to make this a fun filled educational and safe meeting.

We would like to wish the best to Will Manning who is moving up around Madison, Georgia. Happy Hammering.

Report from the Northeast by Butch Patterson

Even though the weather was blazing hot, we had a fantastic crowd of almost 40 people in Barberville at the Pioneer Settlement on August 6. Thurmond Chaffin and Alan Hardwicke had planned a casting demonstration. And the show must go on. The furnace, drags, copes, sand and tools were unloaded and setup. The aluminum was put into the furnace to melt (1,220 degrees). Since there was only one furnace, the brass had to be heated in a crucible in one of the forges. The brass melts at 1,800 degrees and it has to be brought up to temperature, so it takes a very long time.

The sand crew was on the opposite of the blacksmith shop conditioning the sand by added water and bentonite to make sand bond. However, the sand was not the correct type of sand and the mix was not cooperating enough to actually complete the casting. We will have another session to complete the casting demonstration. Thank you for your efforts Thurman and Alan.

Along with the casting attempts, we had Ben Rogers helping a young blacksmith, Preston Canavan, along with his dad, Mike. Preston is working on a project to make a Viking helmet. Mike asked me if someone could assist them making some rivets. I asked Ben and he was gung ho! Preston made headed rivets from a 1/2" round bar. He learned quite a lot from Ben and I learned a lot just by stopping by occasionally. Ben sure has a head full of metal working information. Thank you, Ben!

Lunch was perfect concerning the warm, huh, spell that H O T!) Two types of pasta salad along with cantaloupe, watermelon, and several deserts really fit the bill in the heat.

Our Iron in the Hat was a real hit. We had some very good items and a big crowd. It brought in \$122. We donated \$15 to the settlement for the use of their coal.

Our next meeting will be at Tinker's Forge with Ben demonstrating a relief oak leaf. We will be cooking hot dogs on the grill so bring along some baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, chips, dessert or something to contribute to our meal.

Report from the Southwest at Bethany & Patrick Ford's

Trez Cole brought his "little helpers" – twins Kennedy & Avery to the meeting. They were part of the entertainment for the day as they "dug into the coal bin"; colored pictures and ate their crackers from the floor with the dog along with all the other things kids do.

Trez Cole demonstrated making a bending fork; starting with a piece of flat stock. It's relatively simple once you go thru the steps. Butch Patterson came to our SW meeting from Starke and demonstrated making a forge poker. Thanks Butch for making the trip and the demo. Phil Pauley also showed his skills with forge welding while making a forge rake.

A special thank you to Bethany and Patrick Ford for opening their farm for our meeting.



FRANCIS WHITAKER BLACKSMITH SCHOLARSHIP

From Clay Spencer

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded for the Traditional Joinery Projects class at the John C. Campbell Folk School, October 30 - November 4, 2011 taught by Clay Spencer. Francis left some money at the Folk School to provide for scholarships for this class. It has grown to the point where we can award 2 or more scholarships each year.

This scholarship is for intermediate and advanced students who have a solid foundation in basic blacksmithing skills, can manage a coal fire and forge weld.

Interested blacksmiths should complete the following application and e-mail it to clay@otelco.net. Contact Clay at 256-558-3658, e-mail or 73 Penniston Private Drive, Somerville, AL 35670 on any questions.

Include your name, address, e-mail and phone number.

1. Describe your blacksmithing experience, how many years, classes taken, jobs, kind of work you do, how many hours you forge in an average month.
2. Goals for your blacksmithing career, what you wish to do as a blacksmith.
3. Make a scale drawing of a proposed project (your original drawing, not copied from another source). Should show 2 or 3 views with stock sizes and specify proposed joinery. Include a cut list for the stock. This does not have to be the project actually made in the class.
4. Describe your participation in the blacksmithing community: teaching, demonstrating, craft shows, writing articles, belonging to and attending local groups, attending conferences, etc.
5. Explain why you need a scholarship to attend a class.
6. Do you sell blacksmithing items you make? What type items? How do you sell?
7. Include at least 3, no more than 5, photos of some of your work.

The completed application should be e-mailed (e-mail preferred, regular mail accepted) no later than September 22, 2011. Successful applicants will be notified by September 28, 2011. Your application will be judged against other submissions to determine the winner. The money will be paid directly to the Folk School. You will be responsible for all other costs such as fuel fee, materials, transportation, etc. The school has dorm rooms and a campground.

After the class you are requested to write a 2 page article explaining some of the blacksmithing techniques used in making your project, (include some photos or sketches) and send it to your state organization.

Francis required that students prepare a drawing before the class and send to him so that any problems could be worked out before class. He emphasized that drawing was another skill that a successful blacksmith must acquire. You must be able to make a drawing to present a proposal for a client or draw your project on steel table so you can make it. Most everyone has done some sketching, doodling or drawing, it is nothing to be afraid of and your first attempts do not need to be professional. Just start sketching, sketching, sketching, refining your ideas until you figure out the joinery and stock sizes you think are right. Then start making it to scale, easiest way is to use quad paper. You can get large sizes, about 2' x 3', with 1" squares

Chances to win a scholarship have been 100% for the last 3 classes. Good luck.

26TH ANNUAL AFC BLACKSMITHING CONFERENCE

Alabama Forge Council Proudly Presents The 26th Annual AFC Blacksmithing Conference

September 8th 9th & 10th 2011

Tannehill State Park

McCalla, AL

Featured Demonstrators: Steve Parker And Robert Triplett

Family Activities | Show & Tell | Beginners Classes | Iron Art Auction | Iron-In-The-Hat and tool box drawing
Tailgate Sale Tables (In designated sale area only)

Contact: Judd Clem | 111 Yorkshire Drive, Athens, AL 35613 | 256-232-2645

ANNUAL FABA CONFERENCE - OCTOBER

Planning for our conference October 7th through 9th at the Pioneer Settlement for Art and Crafts in Barberville is in its final stages. We have an excellent lineup to keep your attention including Peter Happny as our Traditional Demonstrator and Master Bladesmith, John White. We also have Kirk Sullens teaching three classes on the Hollow Form Metal technique and with a six student max for each class you will want to sign up as soon as you receive your Conference Registration Brochure.

*We have added a Stained Glass class to our Family Programs with Lyle Herrick coming in to teach them. This is a great opportunity to watch and learn from Internationally recognized Smiths so take advantage and register for what will be a great conference.

We look forward to seeing you in October.

Mark Stone

FABA Program Chairman

Markham62@comcast.net

850-339-6061

MISSION SAN LUIS OFFERS WORKSHOPS

“Mission San Luis offers a wide range of educational programming for adults and children. Our workshops provide the opportunity to learn about 17th century Spanish and Native American crafts and lifestyles while expressing your creativity. Participants will gain the skills needed to craft materials or cook foods similar to those made by 17th century residents of Mission San Luis.”

Blacksmithing for Beginners

Join us at the Mission San Luis forge for an introduction to blacksmithing. Start the day learning to build and maintain a fire in a traditional Spanish-style forge. Using basic techniques of fire and hammer, create your own masterpiece: leave tired and inspired.

Ages 13 and up / Members \$60 / Non-members \$80

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Saturday, September 3
Saturday, September 24
Saturday, October 22
Saturday, November 5
Saturday, November 26
Saturday, December 3

Historic Cooking Class

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Ages 13 and up / Members \$25 / Non-members \$30

Saturday, September 17
Saturday, October 15
Saturday, November 19
Saturday, December 17

Become a member and receive discounts on workshops
by contacting Heidi Edgar at 850.245.6352 or
membership@missionsanluis.org.

NOTE FROM THE (NEW) EDITOR

Hi fellow members. I have resigned from Mission San Luis in Tallahassee and have relocated to Athens GA. Please stop by the Mission and harass John Pfund (Wednesday - Sunday 10am-4pm). He is a very public FABAs member and our support can go a long way! And now, down to business: I am hoping to add some variety to the Clunker Breaker. Some ideas:

To cater towards our beginning-blacksmith members, it's been suggested that we publish beginner level articles (this could be simple projects or how to get started on a budget, maybe a list of open forges) Another idea is catering to the young at mind by dedicating a section to cartoons and word games: something to involve the readers. Obviously that wouldn't work for the digital downloaders... and so I'd love YOUR thoughts. Please don't hesitate to email, call or write with suggestions, offers, comments, questions etc:

Will Manning
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Athens GA 30605

email: editor@blacksmithing.org
phone #: 706-850-7988

THE FLORIDA CLINKER BREAKER

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

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SEPTEMBER 2011

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 noncopyrighted 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
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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
Past President	Rex Anderson	850-997-2748	rexaanderson@embarqmail.com
Trustee NE	Jordan Thomas	352-473-5228	firebrandforge@hotmail.com
Trustee NW	Ron Childers	850-878-8537	Ron@munlaw.net
Trustee SE	Ralph Nettles	561-747-5489	ralphnettles@msn.com
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Editor	Will Manning	706-850-7988	editor@blacksmithing.org

FABA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association, Inc.

Date _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Name _____

Spouses Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail _____

Check here to receive newsletter by PDF _____

Credit Card Visa __ MC __ Discover __

V code _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____

Your FABA membership begins when your application and membership fee is received. Membership is per family and lasts one year. Send \$25.00 fee and application to:

Dorothy Butler, FABA Treasurer
777 Tyre Road
Havana, FL 32333

Any fees incurred by returned checks will be passed back to the member.