

# CLINKER



# BREAKER

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Established May 18, 1985

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# SBA gives preview of upcoming event

This month I want to do some reflection on the Southern Blacksmith Association (SBA) conference in Madison, Ga.

The first thing I want to say is "WOW!" The conference this year was full of great demonstrations, tailgate sales, family classes, relationship building, as well as the unexpected. I tried to take some pictures but realized after the fact that I did not take enough to do any justice to the event.



**Bob Stott at SBA**

The conference started on Thursday, May 16, and ended on May 18. For those of you who do not know much about this conference, it is conducted every two years, and Florida Artist Blacksmith Association (FABA) is one of the seven member organizations that form the SBA.

The next SBA conference will be at the same venue with FABA playing host in May 2021. With this in mind, I would suggest that each of you start to plan now to attend.

At this year's conference, Mark Asbery was the lead demonstrator. For three days, he demonstrated a number of different techniques with jaw-dropping ease as he exercised proper heat and hammer control in the moving of metal.

As a side note, Sylvia Andrassy, our Program Chairperson, is working to have Mark at our conference in the future.

We also had one of our own members, Bob Stott, working with other SBA member in the making of a Damascus blade.

There were a number of family classes, including gourd bowl making, brook making, bead making, and rose flower making, which I did. The family classes were well attended and well-received by class members.

There was one event that occurred that was totally unplanned and full of humor without anyone being injured or upset, and it is worth being told: We had five portable potties delivered and dropped at the main gate. Once the delivery was complete, we



**John Watson and the rose-flower-making class at SBA**

had the fork lift operator pick them up and place them at their needed locations. The FABA security tent was next to the staging site, with a good number of us under the tent watching the activity. None of us was paying much attention until the second unit was being lifted, and an arm came of the door. The fork lift operator quickly returned the potty to the ground, exited the fork lift and joined us under the tent. Then the lad in the potty was able to open the door and exit with such a look on face that it will be forever be held in our collective memories. Apologies were extended and accepted, and we all shared a good laugh, including the victim, and another good day was had by all.

**Think Safe and Be Safe,  
John Boy Watson**

## We Want YOU!

The Florida Artist Blacksmith Association is looking for several people to step up and take active roles with the group.

The first need is for someone to become Treasurer for our group. Kirk Sullens will continue as interim treasurer for the short term.

If you feel you can help FABA in this role, please contact Kirk at 352-357-7221. Please leave a coherent message if the answering machine picks up.

FABA is also in need of a Webmaster to handle the online needs of the group.

This new Webmaster would maintain FABA's current sites and help with the migration to the new Wild Apricot platform. If you can help, please contact Clay Schock at [cschock01@gmail.com](mailto:cschock01@gmail.com)



## In Memoriam: Cheryle Childers

Cheryle Childers, the wife of FABA trustee Ron Childers, passed away on May 14, 2019, of pancreatic cancer. She was born in Fort Scott Kansas, attended schools there and moved to Tallahassee in the 70s.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Melvin and Sharon Seaver. Survivors include her husband, Ron Childers, sisters Janice Seaver and Susan Hildebrand (Rick), and their children Brett and Kristen. Cheryle had two sons, Danny Smith and David Smith (Donna), and grandsons, Sammy and Adam Smith. She also loved her daughter-in-law, Cathy Forester.

She was a "cat lady" and really loved her rescued cats. She loved fishing, diving in the Gulf and the Florida Keys. She was an accomplished seamstress and an Avon rep. She caught a 14-pound bass in Lake Jackson but preferred salt water and was not afraid to dive with sharks. She did not want a service or flowers but her favorite charity was St. Jude Children's Hospital.

## Florida Artist Blacksmith Association (FABA)

is a not-for-profit organization chartered with the State of Florida and is dedicated to promoting and expanding the horizons of architectural, artistic and practical blacksmithing while preserving the rich heritage of this craft. FABA Officers and members assume no responsibility or liability for injuries or damage caused as a result of the use of any information, materials, design, techniques, etc. contained in this newsletter, our website, <http://www.blacksmithing.org>, our Facebook Page or provided at meetings or demonstrations.

**Contributions to FABA 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. Send to [editor@blacksmithing.org](mailto:editor@blacksmithing.org). Materials submitted must be your own work, and citations of others must be clearly identified. By submitting materials, you are allowing FABA to edit, print and post them to FABA's website. 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.

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## Calendar of 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 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and you'll want to bring a bag lunch if not otherwise noted. If you have any questions about meetings or events, please contact the Regional Coordinators:

Central Northeast Region	Heinrich Hole	386-848-6982	heinrich.faba@gmail.com
North Northeast Region	Ben Thompson	617-388-5695	thompsoncrafted@gmail.com
Northwest Region	John Pfund	850-528-3280	johnwpfund@aol.com
Southeast Region	Shaun Williams	954-274-4119	chevaliervaliant@yahoo.com
Southwest Region	Antony Fenn	617-320-4781	antony.fenn@gmail.com
Far West Region	Dave Sandlin	850-974-1548	traditionsworkshopinc@gmail.com

### Northwest Meeting, July 13

The July meeting for the Northwest Region will be held on Saturday, July 13th in Ochlocknee, Ga., at the home of Craig and Marcia Hines. Ochlocknee is about 10 miles north of Thomasville. Their address is 6340 Maddox Road, Ochlocknee, Ga. 31773. Craig can be reached at 229-574-5278.

Craig will be demonstrating for us, and there will be some opportunity for open forging. Kieran will grill chicken for lunch, and we should bring sides and desserts. I'll be sure to bring water and tea.

This is another first time meeting at a new place! Craig has a great shop with lots of room inside, but hardly any shade once you step outside. Kieran is going to bring a small shade tent to help with the grilling, but a couple more would really help, if anyone can bring them.

Bring chairs, if you want to be sure to have a place to sit, and a couple tables for the Iron in the Hat raffle would help, too. Don't forget to bring something for the raffle! There's plenty of room for parking and tailgate sales, too. I hope to see you there!

**– John Pfund,  
Northwest Coordinator**

### Far West Region meeting schedule

In June and July, we will conduct regular meetings at Butlers Countryside Farm (4112 Bell Lane, Milton, FL 32571).

For our June 22 meeting, John Pfund will be visiting from the West region and will be walking us through the steps for making a trivet similar to the one shown below. This is both an interesting and challenging project that teaches rivet joinery. Hope to see everyone at Butler's farm for this project-oriented event:



9 a.m. start the fires, 9:30 a.m. presentation, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. open forge.

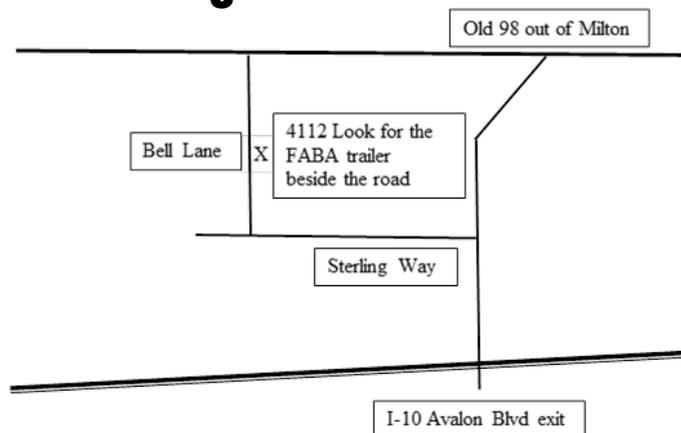
In August, we will meet on the THIRD Saturday, August 17th, to visit the blacksmith shop at the Baker Block Museum in Baker, FL. The museum director has promised us an informative presentation on the history of blacksmithing in west Florida, which will be followed with our regular workshop activities.

The September meeting will be at Traditions Workshop in Fort Walton Beach, with a focus on getting our trailer ready for the October FABA Conference in Ocala, FL.

In November and December, we typically don't have a fourth Saturday meeting here in the Far West due to holiday conflicts, but there are several blacksmithing demonstration opportunities on Saturdays: Nov. 2 - Farm Day near DeFuniak Springs, Nov. 9 - Pioneer Day at the Fred Gannon State Park, and Dec. 14 - Yule of Yesteryear at the Heritage Museum in Valparaiso, FL.

Contact David@TraditionsWorkshop.com if you want to participate or demonstrate at any of these extracurricular events.

**– David Sandlin, Far West Coordinator**



## Central NE Meeting, July 6

In July, I'll demonstrate some fire maintenance tools. One of them will include a weld and the other one will have 2 rivets.

We'll be touching on high temperature fire maintenance and punching 4 holes for rivets that must line up precisely.

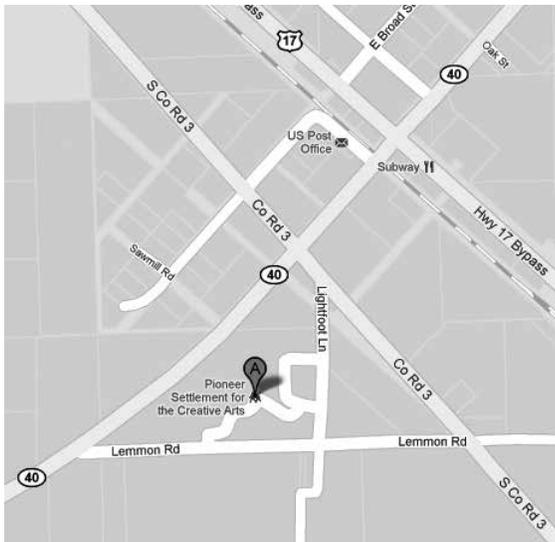
This demonstration will be covering all the techniques taught in the level 2 class at conference and more.

It'll be like a sneak peak at what you could learn to make yourself at conference.

So come on out and join us July 6th at 9 a.m. at the Barberville Pioneer Settlement for our next meeting here in the Central NE Region.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

**– Heinrich Hole, Central NE Coordinator**



## Southwest Meeting, July 27

For our July meeting we will continue with making equipment for the Southwest trailer.

The meeting will start at 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 27, at Tony Fenn's workshop and business, Scale Up Designs.

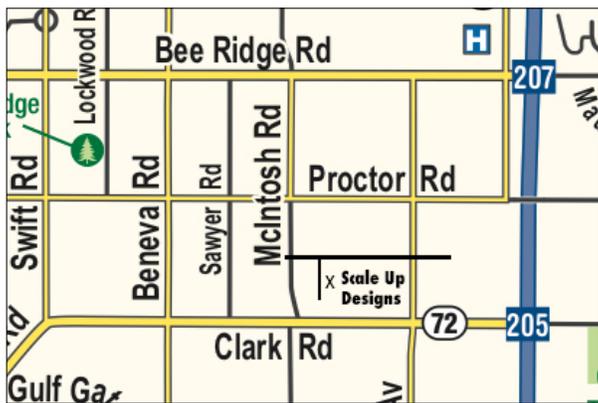
Trez Cole and Tony will continue with leading the effort to prepare coal forges and anvil stands for the trailer. This will involve a lot of welding, drilling and metal fabrication.

Members are welcome to come and roll up their sleeves and share in the effort, but there will be no demonstrations or forges lit.

Scale Up Designs is located at 5415 Ashton Court, Sarasota, Fl. The location is close to I-75 at Exit 205, but a little tricky to find. When on Ashton Road, turn onto Ashton Court at the blue Bishops Aluminum building. Go past several auto body shops and then around the bend. Scale Up Designs is located just behind CBS Roofing.

Tony can be contacted at [antony.fenn@gmail.com](mailto:antony.fenn@gmail.com) or 617-320-4781.

**– Tony Fenn, Southwest Coordinator**



## North NE Region schedule

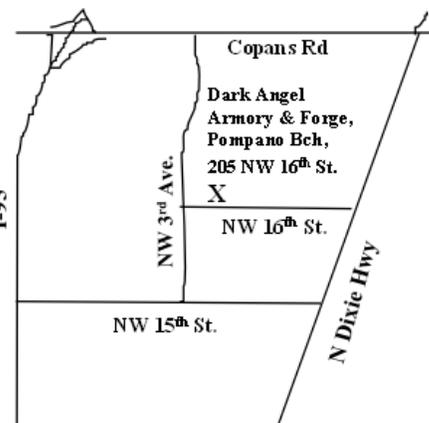
The North NE region will not have monthly meetings in July and August. However, I have spoken with Kirk Sullens, and we would like to organize a big group build day(s) at his shop in late summer. The goal will be to build equipment for the regional trailers and the conference, and we'd like to get as much participation as possible.

I'll be organizing these builds using the FABA group email list as well as the FABA NE Facebook Page. Look for updates here: [facebook.com/groups/FABA.NE/](https://facebook.com/groups/FABA.NE/) or you can contact me directly by email at [thompsoncrafted@gmail.com](mailto:thompsoncrafted@gmail.com).

I'm always happy to hear feedback on meeting content.

We're looking for hosts for the fall, so if you'd like to host a meeting please feel free to reach out!

**– Ben Thompson, North NE Coordinator**



## Southeast Meeting, July 20

Our July Southeast Region Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 20, at The Guild Urban Craft and Folk Art School/Dark Angel Armory and Forge at 205 NW 16th Street, Pompano Beach, FL 33060 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Just a heads up: Sylvia and I, along with 12 Guild/FABA members, will be traveling to Europe for two weeks attending the Hefaston blacksmithing conference in the Czech Republic and the Stia blacksmithing conference in Italy at the end of August and early September.

Sylvia and I will be getting married in Tuscany, Italy, in between the two conferences.

Therefore the August Southeast Region meeting will be moved up a week to Saturday, August 10, at 10 a.m.

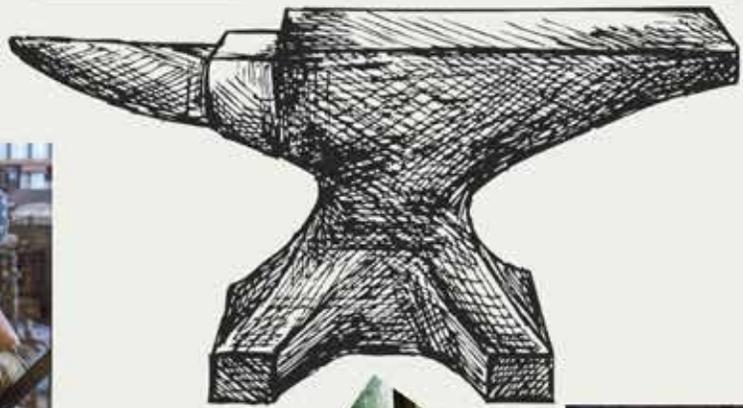
**– Shaun Williams, SE Coordinator**



# FABA

## Statewide Conference

# 2019



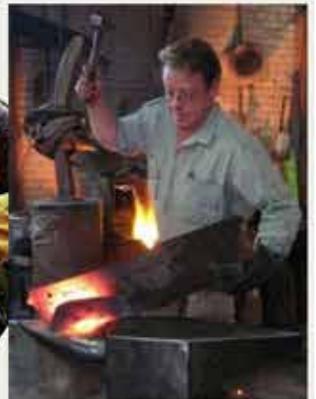
MONICA COYNE



DENNIS DUSEK



JOSE GOMEZ



DAVID PONSLER

## October 25-26-27, 2019

Hilton Ocala,  
3600 SW 36th Ave, Ocala, Florida 34474

**Registration Opens July 1st 2019**

[WWW.FABACONFERENCE.ORG](http://WWW.FABACONFERENCE.ORG)

Questions, concerns, suggestions,  
Vendors & Volunteers  
please contact the Program Chair at  
[Programs@Blacksmithing.org](mailto:Programs@Blacksmithing.org)  
For more details and registration visit the conference website.

Reprinted from *The Anvil's Ring*, Summer 2019

## The Function of Art

**By Monica Coyne of Redway, CA  
a Featured Demonstrator at FABA 2019 Conference**

In 2017, I was granted the Victor Thomas Jacoby Award from the Humboldt Area Foundation. The purpose of the grant was to support and encourage artistic excellence and the exploration of new ideas.

I went to my shop with a check for \$10,000 to make art, and I knew exactly what I would do with it. This grant gave me time and freedom to explore sculpture in my shop. Ever since I was a child, I have wanted to sculpt figures. The human body is composed of beautiful forms. People intrigue me.

As a blacksmith, I make functional things. I never thought of myself as a sculptor. But that is what I have been doing for years: Sculpting forms from steel. Throughout my career I have studied the versatility of forged steel and learned to balance the heavy character of steel using negative space. I pay close attention to the mass of the steel and the shapes that were contained and formed by that mass. I then use the space around the forged steel to complete the form. The space defines the edges, frames the form or lightens the sentiment of the piece.

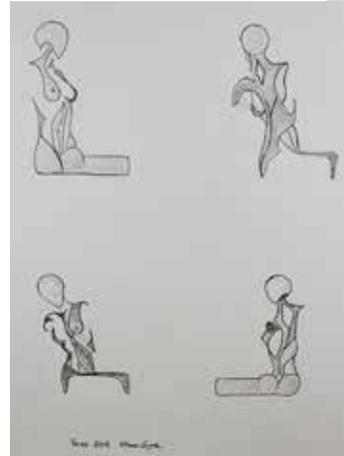
I knew I could use these ideas to create a believable human form. With all this information building up inside my head, I felt like a race horse at the gate. Having earned an investment in this idea, I had to make it happen.

Steel swells and stretches like human skin over muscle or fat. You can as easily forge the shape of a bone as you can the sagging skin of a jowl. Yellow-hot steel is soft and squishy. While working with it, it cools and hardens, creating tension. This tension is frozen in the final form. A relaxed human body is also soft. As the body moves, tension is created. A sculpture of a human form in motion is a depiction of skin, muscles and bones under tension, frozen in time.

The first piece I made was a female torso. I found a piece of C-channel near my house from an old bridge that was being replaced. I wanted the torso to come directly out of the C-channel. Negative space was created by the edges of the steel forms and kept the figure light and feminine, and balanced the weight of the bridge steel.

Taking the time to draw saves physical energy and fuel. Whether I am making a figure, a table or a gate, I begin the process by drawing the piece from all viewpoints. I must understand the work sequentially to successfully draw it. This exercise introduces my body to the idea in my head.

Drawing is extremely valuable when making three-dimensional forms. Drawing helps you to really see and analyze the form. Studying and drawing figures is important if your intention is to sculpt figures. Another advantage of drawing all viewpoints is that I expose myself to all angles and more of the



forms. I find that if I don't like the drawing of a form, nothing will be fixed by forging it. Often my drawing forms change greatly when forging. But I must start with something I like.

Proportion is the most important factor when making figures. Humans vary in size and shape, but knowing the standard proportions is an advantage. Most towns have life drawing groups. Even my tiny town has a group that gets together once a week, hires a model and draws. I have attended sessions (on and off) for 30 years. The practice is invaluable.

Transferring a two-dimensional figure drawing to a three-dimensional sculpture involves studying anatomy. There are books for artists on figure drawing and anatomy. A favorite is the *Master Class in Figure Drawing* by Robert Beverly Hale. There are also online figure drawing courses. One of the best that I have found offers an online anatomy course that has many free "Anatomy for Artists" courses. It is called Proko.com.

Because human parts are three-dimensional forms, I must think in three dimensions using forms that are manipulated cylinders, cubes, spheres and cones. I start with square-sided shapes and hammer and fuller them round. Avoiding flat shapes, I use the space created as part of the form.

I work alone with a propane forge, a coke forge, an oxy-propane torch, a Big Blu hammer with a gas-powered compressor, and two fly presses. Since I live off the grid, electricity in my shop is powered mostly by solar and hydro power, which is highly effective.

My next series of pieces explored the body from the breasts to the knee. I wanted to keep the process fairly simple. I started with two pieces of 3/4-inch square bar. The human body lends itself well to being divided length-wise at the center as the cleavage, the spine and the separation of gluteus maximus follow a line that splits the legs and centers the mouth and nose. I just had to find a way to attach these two sides together.

When I started my career as a woodworker, I was mesmerized by joinery. This passion for joinery has influenced my

# FABA Conference Preview: Monica Coyne

Reprinted from *The Anvil's Ring*, Summer 2019

metalwork. Since the rivet is the most iconic of the forged joints, it seemed to be the perfect solution. The rivet and the drifted hole offered me the opportunity to expand the material into a spherical breast shape that was very different than the form of the fullered buttock shape.

The next series of sculptures followed the knee to the foot. Feet are funny. Exaggerated gesture in a foot can set the tone of an entire piece. The body can be simplified into round, soft, plump shapes, and square or rectangular hard, bony shapes. The skin follows the muscles. When I planned out the foot, I extended the line created by the muscles of the feet up and into the calf. The bony protrusions of the ankle follow a line up into the bone of the shin.

I began to experiment with different joinery in the bases for the bodies. In the piece titled *Waved Off*, I divided the base into two parts. The bottom half attaches to the base with an angled tenon, while the top half has a pin that allows the piece to swivel. The bodies spin up and around, never quite able to land. The top and bottom of the base are attached with a removable perpendicular tenon and a wedge.

Hands get most of their dexterity from the muscles in the forearm. It is the sculpting of the muscles in the forearm that makes the hand look alive. There are three main muscle groups that originate in the hand itself. Although the fingers are the most obvious part of the hand, I like to focus on these three muscle groups. They create the mass below the thumb on the front of the hand, the mass below the pinky on the front of the hand, and the mass between the index finger and thumb on the back of the hand. These masses create the hollow of the palm. They create the landscape of the hand, changing shape as the hand moves.

No matter how long I work on a piece to change its form, it is still only a piece of steel. I can taper and fuller it, twist it



and stretch it, and the material does not change. If you look at the piece of steel and see a human form, then what I did was change your perception. My whole process involves pushing the steel bar around until I trick my mind into seeing muscles or a knuckle or a breast.

Making a human form is not very different from forging any other pleasing form in steel. Our brains are excited by the change in mass and the fluidity of the transitions. Our eyes will follow where the form leads. Use of line and space can create humor and gesture. The process of forging steel is especially successful in representing tension and force.

My human forms are not complete; the body returns to the bar. This refers back the idea of managing perception. I can change my perception of a piece of steel. I can use my imagination to see something that is not there. Can I change my perception of other things?

In my life, I have learned certain ways of doing things. I am inclined to think that those are the only ways. But that is only a perception. Almost every day now, I hear or read something about how drastically we are changing our environment. The Arctic ice cap is melting. We have been, and are still, drastically decreasing the diversity of life on the planet. We are causing the extinction of thousands of other species.

We humans have altered life on this planet like no other living thing that came before us. The bar of steel that I start with comes from one of our most extractive, energy-consumptive and environmentally destructive industries. But we need steel. Steel is a bedrock of our progress.

If I blink and look at steel differently, I can see other ways. I have no control over how steel is extracted or manufactured. But somebody does. And I have control of how I use steel. I can use my imagination to think of something that has not been there before. I can change my processes. I can recycle. I can use solar and hydro power instead of fossil fuels. I can talk with other blacksmiths and metalworkers about how they see the problem. I don't know what all of the answers are, but I know that the answers will only be available to me if I acknowledge my connection to my actions and use my imagination.

When I look at a partial human form coming out of a bar of steel, it makes me think about my connection to that extractive process. Everything I do is connected to my past and to our collective past. I did not intend to make pieces that made a statement. My intention was to forge figures. The process is very contemplative. The piece tells me when it is done, and in that finished piece, I can see what I wanted to say. ■

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## Regional Reports

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### Far West Region Report

Another wonderful day at John Butler's farm. Although our meeting made the newspaper with a page 2 "go and do" recommendation we had only 7 members in attendance on this Memorial Day weekend. Note to the club, competition with major holidays is not a good plan!

We started our meeting with a short demonstration for a "faggot weld" and then several members used this technique for their own projects following the demonstration. We also used some ½ x ½ square stock to make a couple of long handle hot cut hardy tools that will be kept in the FABA trailer.

A couple of the pointers from the forge welding presentation: Pre-heating the anvil will help ensure your welding success, not necessary if you've already been forging for a

while but a cold anvil will suck the heat out of your work quicker than you can imagine. Another important point is to move with all deliberate speed from the fire to the anvil, even a few seconds can make the difference between success and trying again. Go light on the flux, the more you pour on the more you have to pound out. Use light and fast taps to stick the weld, then come back with welding heat again to finish the job. Finally, fire management is important. Placing the metal to be welded in the neutral part of a clean fire that has a bright yellow glow helps ensure success; burning the metal will make the work almost impossible to weld. Get the metal to the same temperature as the surrounding coal and you're ready to go, the iron should look like butter on the table in August; yellow with a bit liquid on the surface.

— **David Sandlin, Far West Coordinator**



### Northwest Region Report

The June meeting in Blountstown was a great success.

The weather was overcast without much rain, so it was a lot cooler than if it had been a sunny day. Dave Sandlin gave us a very good demonstration of forge welding.

One of the ways I evaluate a demonstration is if it inspires others to give it a try, and we had five volunteers "trying it" on the open forges after the demonstration!

We had 31 people sign in, and \$115 was collected in the raffle. We had lunch and the raffle in an air conditioned cabin on the site. I had asked for everyone to bring lunch in a pot-luck style and they did, so we had more than we could eat.

A big "Thank you!" to Willard and The Panhandle Pioneer Settlement for their recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Michael and for continuing to provide us with an excellent place to hold our meetings.

— **John Pfund, NW Coordinator**

### Southeast Region Report

Hello everyone, and welcome to the July edition of the Clinker Breaker Southeast Region report. The dog days of summer are back, and we continue to soldier away in the oppressive heat with the occasional respite provided by the daily thunderstorms.

Sylvia and I along with several Southeast Region members — including Ki Harrison, James Kimball Davis, and Ralph and Nathan Nettles — attended the Southern Blacksmith Association conference in Madison, Ga., in May.

The day after we returned from the SBA conference, we had our monthly Southeast Region meeting. We had another quiet meeting with several hours of open forges, and I demonstrated several techniques of architectural forging.

— **Shaun Williams, SE Coordinator**

## Southwest Region Report

Our May 25 meeting was at Jerry Wolfe's forge with at least 15 in attendance.

Jerry demonstrated making "twisted handles." One was a "braided" twist made using a "Hen-rob" torch with gas saver. It was started with ¼" rods. He made a "loop / circle" with one, then start braiding alternately with the two rods / four ends. One of the young men assisted with the twisting.

The other handle was a "wheat pattern" handle – four ¼" rods; twisted in half; twisted two clockwise six turns; two twisted counterclockwise six turns. Then position the CW and CCW on opposing corners to give the wheat pattern.

The young folks helped with the twisting and hopefully fed their interest in blacksmithing. The ends were then forged-welded together to make a hook or a "useful tool" on the other end. It was a hot day but got the welding done in the coal forge without too much difficulty. The flux was ½ iron powder; ½ boric acid.

The iron in the hat had lots of useful items, including the demo pieces, raising \$85. We had sufficient food brought in, so no one went away hungry. Afterward, several folks did some projects or just some basic hammering to get the feel of blacksmithing.

Our trustee, Trez Cole, gave an overview of FABAs SW and what was planned for the months ahead. At least two families indicated an interest in joining.

### – Jerry Wolfe, past president

The Southwest group was lucky enough to have an extra demonstration on June 1st by a talented blacksmith.

Guillermo Mendoza of La Forja Antigua, Buenos Aires, Argentina, demonstrated pattern welding at Wade Chappell's workshop. He graciously demonstrated the making of a billet of pattern-welded steel from metal prep through to etching. Guillermo also brought many items that are destined to be shown at Blade in Atlanta.

We had a great turnout with several new members in attendance. It was a fantastic meeting with everyone picking up tips and great ideas. It's not everyday that an international bladesmith drops by to teach. Special thanks to Toby Byers for an outstanding pulled pork lunch, and Wade for hosting the meeting.

### – Albert Rasch, member



Guillermo Mendoza

## North NE Regional Report

By the time of publication, we will have completed our June meeting of the North NE Region on June 15th at the Florida Agricultural Museum in Palm Coast.

The format of this meeting was slightly different from recent ones, starting not with a formal demo, but instead having the entire day as a group work day toward a single project focus: the strap hinge.

The Old Florida Museum has just moved to the FL Agricultural Museum site and is rebuilding their Spanish Colonial Settlement and Educational Program. We thought it would be a great skill-building activity and fun to recreate some hardware for the project.

Other activity in the North NE has been focused around equipping our newly acquired trailer, woohoo!

The trailer was delivered to Jacksonville by Doug Hayes following the SBA conference in mid-May. Doug and the gang were able to acquire a number of key pieces of equipment at the conference, including a hand-cranked blower and post vise.

In addition, I attended what I see as a historic auction in late May and was able to acquire an additional two post vises for the group at a reasonable price.

The goal will be to have three fully functional coal workstations and associated equipment.

**— Ben Thompson,  
North NE Coordinator**



## Central NE Region Report

Good morning, FABA. At last month's meeting, tongs were the name of the game.

We learned about how to make universal tongs, which are the best at nothing, but are very useful as a first tong due to their versatility.

We had a pretty good turnout with about 15 people choosing to come out to enjoy each other's company and learn a bit about moving metal.

Iron in the "heat" brought in enough this month once again to fully cover our meeting costs and to grow our regional fund. This may soon enable us to try some more involved activities in our region. Who knows what the future brings? Oh wait, that's my job.

Next month I'll demonstrate some fire maintenance tools. One of them will include a weld and the other one will have 2 rivets.

We'll be touching on high temperature fire maintenance and punching 4 holes for rivets that must line up precisely.

This demonstration will be covering all the techniques taught in the level 2 class at conference and more. It'll be like a sneak peak at what you could learn to make yourself at conference.

So come on out and join us July 6th at 9 a.m. at the Barberville Pioneer Settlement for our next meeting here in the Central NE Region. I look forward to seeing you all there.

**— Heinrich Hole,  
Central NE Coordinator**



# THE FLORIDA CLINKER BREAKER

## Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Kirk Sullens, Membership  
18848 US Hwy 441 #180  
Mount Dora, FL 32757

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PERMIT 329

## JULY 2019

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**FABA Membership Application:** Membership begins when your application and \$30 membership fee is received. Membership is per family and lasts one year. Use your credit card to join or renew your FABA Membership via Paypal by going to [blacksmithing.org/membership/join](http://blacksmithing.org/membership/join) and clicking through the Paypal button. You do not need to have a Paypal account to use this feature. OR send the below application and your check to "FABA" for \$30 to:

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