

CLINKER



BREAKER

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Established May 18, 1985

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FABA coordinators deserve support

The heat of summer is now upon us, and for many of us, it reduces the amount of time we spend at the forge as well as any other outside activity.

With this being said we continue to have our monthly regional meetings, and this brings me to point of this writing. These activities are accomplished with the efforts of our Regional Coordinators. At this time there are six Regional Coordinators in the state who arrange these meetings for the education and enjoyment of our members and guests.



John Boy Watson

The Regional Coordinators have a daunting task each month and need to be recognized for the timeless efforts they extend each month for all of us.

As they set up each meeting, the first issue is choosing the location. Regional Coordinators have to give thought to the forge size, parking space, demonstration space, observation space, table space, water and restroom location — and this part of the location might have some issues with property restrictions.

The next item to address is the demonstrator, or demonstrators, because their goal is have a meeting that will inspire members to attend. They have to consider a meal for those attending, in a place that has plenty of seating, preparation space, and supplies such as drinks, plates, plastic ware, along with trash cans.

Once the meeting is over, the Regional Coordinator is responsible for the writing of a recap of the meeting, which is due to the Clinker Breaker Editor by the 10th of the month.

This is just a slight overview of the activities that the Regional Coordinators do each month to ensure each of us has a wonderful experience at each meeting.

What each of us needs to do is attend these meetings



to show our own commitment to their efforts, along with supporting them.

For the efforts of each Regional Coordinator, you are commended, and thanked, for your continued, inspired support of this wonderful organization, the Florida Artist Blacksmith Association.

**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



Membership Information

A note from FABA treasurer Kirk Sullens, who is recovering from heart surgery.

Dear FABA, I've gotten behind this month in my duties of adding renewals and new memberships made offline.

I apologize if you've been affected by my lapse, and beg your understanding as I try to catch up.

If your renewal or new membership has been delayed by my actions, your membership will be extended to compensate for the delay.

Thank you,
Kirk

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. 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.

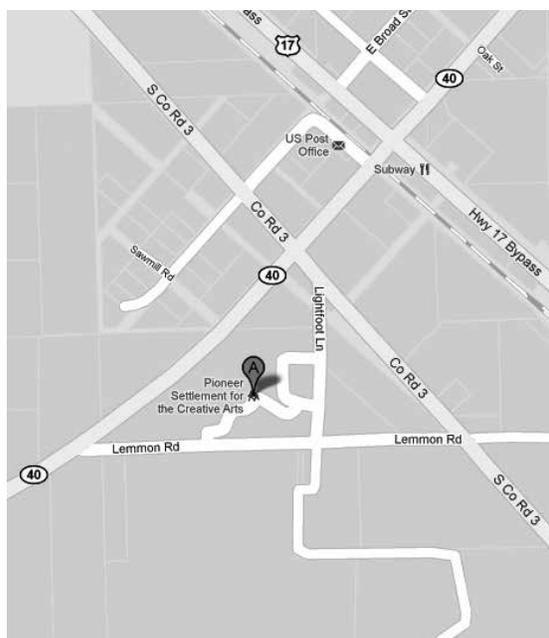
Table of Contents

- 1 President's Message**
- 2 FABA Announcements**
- 2 FABA Disclaimer**
- 3 Regional Coordinators**
- 3-5 Calendar of Events**
- 6 FABA Conference Info**
- 7 In Memoriam: Rex Anderson**
- 8-11 Regional Reports**
- 11 FABA Election Information**
- 12 FABA Officers/
Membership Application**

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



Central NE Meeting, Aug. 3

The next meeting in the Central NW will be at the Barberville Settlement starting at 9 a.m. Aug. 3.

It is my intention to find us a bonafide bladesmith to do a knife demonstration for us. It's been some time now since our last knife demo, so I figure it's time. I will be very interested in hearing from any bladesmiths interested in doing this demo. I can be reached at the number listed in the regional coordinator info.

Should I not be able to find a demonstrator, then no worries, I'll just show a farrier's rasp herb chopper. These are good-quality choppers that would serve any kitchen well. The herb choppers include a pretty long internal cut that has to get opened up and spread out into a handle, so it's got some pretty cool steps involved in its creation.

Don't forget that the demo item goes into Iron in the Hat so there could be some pretty good loot there this coming month. See you all there!

– Heinrich Hole, Central NE Coordinator

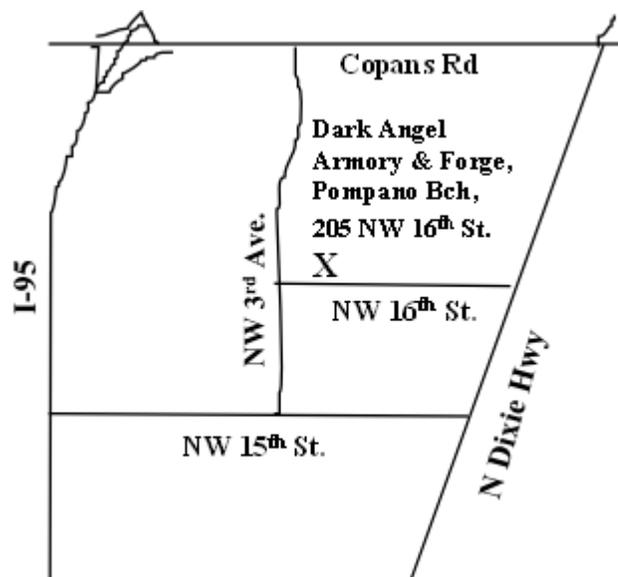
Southeast Meeting, Aug. 10

Sylvia and I, along with 12 Guild/FABA members, will be traveling to Europe for two weeks at the end of August and early September to attend the Hefaiston blacksmithing conference in the Czech Republic and the Stia blacksmithing conference in Italy.

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

Therefore the August Southeast Region meeting and potluck brunch will be moved up a week to Saturday, Aug. 10, at The Guild Urban Craft and Folk Art School/ Dark Angel Armory and Forge at 205 NW 16th Street, Pompano Beach, Fla., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

– Shaun Williams, Southeast Coordinator



Northwest Meeting, Aug. 10

Hello everyone, greetings from the Northwest Region. Our August meeting will be held on Saturday, Aug. 10, at the home of Roger Bell, 7685 Deepwood Trail, Tallahassee, FL 32317. This is another first-time meeting at a new place! Roger has been wanting to host a meeting for awhile now and is ready to take the plunge! Time to get the shop cleaned up and ready for guests! If you've hosted a meeting, you know what I mean! I'm going to bring out equipment and set up in the shade between the house and the lake. We're going to have a workshop where we make the first three tools of the Blacksmith Challenge. That's a hot set chisel, round punch and pair of tongs. I'm going to try to lead the workshop by making a set myself and have materials for others to do the same. You get to keep what you make and that's your start on the Blacksmith Challenge! How hard can it be? Bring your hammer and personal safety equipment, if you can. Kieran is going to bring the grill and cook beef brisket for lunch. We'll have buns to make sandwiches and water and tea to drink. Please bring sides and desserts and something for the Iron in the Hat Raffle. I'm still giving free tickets for items you have made and donate to the raffle and for pictures and reports that make it into the Clinker Breaker!

— **John Pfund, Northwest Coordinator**

Southwest Meeting, Aug. 24

In the heat of the summer, we will have one more meeting of the Southwest group to finish up the forges for the trailer.

Hopefully we will get the forges running at this meeting, and if so we will move to something a lot of our members have requested — some hands-on learning on making tongs under the instruction of Trez Cole.

BUT the location is "To Be Determined," as we need a space where we can fire up the forges and work outside in the shade.

Once I have found a suitable venue, the location will be announced via the FABA SW Facebook page in early August. If you need to contact me in August for more details, then please email me at antony.fenn@gmail.com

The meeting will start at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 24. We will have the usual potluck lunch and Iron in Hat at this meeting. Members are welcome to come and roll up their sleeves and share in the effort.

— **Tony Fenn, Southwest Coordinator**

North NE work days

As mentioned in the last Clinker Breaker report, I have spoken with Kirk Sullens, and the North NE Region would like to organize a group build day(s) at his shop in late summer. It is looking like this will be in late August, and it will most likely take two days. The goal will be to build equipment for the regional trailers and the conference, and we'd like to get a small team together to accomplish this.

I'll be organizing these builds using the FABA group email list as well as the FABA NE Facebook Page. Look for updates at www.facebook.com/groups/FABA.NE/ or you can contact me directly by email at thompsoncrafted@gmail.com if you're interested in participating.

Our upcoming NNE regional meeting schedule is bi-monthly with meeting dates on Sept. 21, Nov. 16 and Jan. 18.

If you're in the NNE region and would like to be considered as a host for one of these meetings, please reach out to me directly. I'm always happy to hear feedback on meeting content, as well. Thank you!

— **Ben Thompson, North NE Coordinator**



Photos by Andrew J. Welton and Ben Thompson

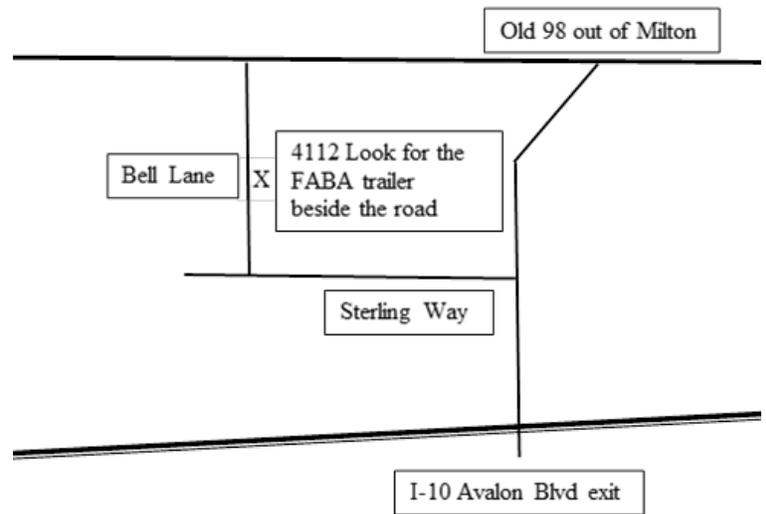
Far West Region meeting schedule

Our July 27th meeting will be at John Butler's farm (at 4112 Bell Lane, Milton, FL 32571), where we will have discussions and presentations on primitive smith work using a "dirt box" forge. David Sandlin found it necessary to build this type of primitive forge on his recent trip, recovering a few parts and a stake anvil from an abandoned blacksmith shed he found on the farm where he was staying, proving once again you don't have to have modern equipment to perform good work in this ancient and honored craft. His presentation will provide insights on what is necessary when forced to step back in time to do your work.

Hope to see everyone at Butler's farm for this historically oriented event; 9 a.m. start the fires, 9:30 a.m. presentation, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. open forge.

For those who are interested in visiting us in the panhandle, these are the planned events for the Far West chapter:

In August we will meet on the THIRD Saturday, Aug. 17, to visit the blacksmith shop at the Baker Block Museum in Baker Florida. 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 FABA events.

— **David Sandlin, Far West Coordinator**



Dirt box forge, prior to putting the dirt in. Note the only available pan was about 1" deep so dirt will make up part of the pot.



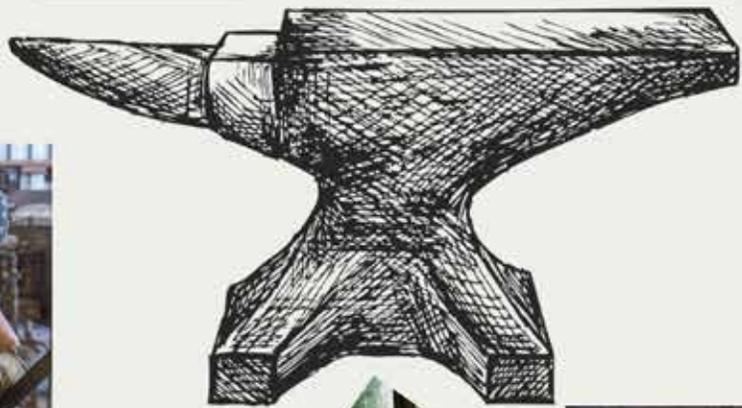
Stake anvil and assorted tools found in a blacksmith shed that had been abandoned for over 60 years.



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

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

WWW.FABACONFERENCE.ORG

Rex Alan Anderson

FABA's 9th PRESIDENT

NOVEMBER 2, 1959–JUNE 22, 2019

Rex Alan Anderson of Monticello, Fla., left us too soon on June 22, 2019, at the age of 59.

He was born in Atlanta, Ga., on Nov. 2, 1959. He graduated from Godby High School in 1978 and attended TCC. He met his bride at Forest Heights Baptist Church when they were 11, and he married Mary Ellen Wright on Oct. 12, 1985. He was a great husband, son, brother, uncle and friend to so many.

Rex was the National Judo Champion for the 16-year-old division. He was a licensed general contractor by 21, and soon became a roofing contractor. Rex was the owner of Anderson Builders and later joined the family business, Homeguard Inspection & Consulting Inc.

In his free time, he enjoyed hiking, hunting, fishing and blacksmithing. He was an active member of the Florida Artist Blacksmith Association, where he served as the group's ninth president, and the Alabama Forge Council, and he made many lasting friendships. He made treasured blacksmithed items that he shared with family and friends.

Rex was preceded in death by his father, Henry J. Anderson, and father- and mother-in-law, Joe and Mary Wright.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen; his mother, Betty; sister, Stacy Rouslin; nephews, Zach Rouslin (Christina Gloyd), Sam Rouslin (Aby); grandniece, Madeline Rose Rouslin; sister-in-law, Susan (Kris) Christie; brother-in-law, Joey Wright; and many other family members and friends.

Visitation will be Wednesday, June 26, 2019, at 3 p.m. with a memorial service to follow at Thomasville Road Baptist Church, 3131 Thomasville Road, Tallahassee, FL 32308.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the charity of your choice in Rex's memory.



Former FABA president Rex Anderson (center) and current president John Boy Watson barbecued chicken for the FABA meeting at Mike Luck's forge in May.



Former president Rex Anderson demonstrates at a FABA meeting.

North NE Region Report

A big thank you to everyone who came out to the North NE Regional Meeting on June 15th at The Florida Agricultural Museum in Palm Coast (floridaagmuseum.org).

Everyone had a great time, shared their knowledge and persevered through a really hot day.

Our project for the day was to make hinges for a few of the windows in the Spanish Florida-era structures in the Old Florida Museum's education settlement. We had 15 in attendance, including FABA Vice President Mark Stone, and the Teele Family get recognition for driving the greatest distance, up from Okeechobee.

There was plenty of food and camaraderie. Over lunch, we got some great feedback for future meeting content and scheduling.

**— Ben Thompson,
North NE Coordinator**



Photos by Andrew J. Welton and Ben Thompson



Southwest Region Report



We met at Tony Fenn's workshop and business, Scale Up Designs, in Sarasota, in June to make firepots. Yet again, we had a great turnout with 12 regions members attending.

Wow! We had a great time! Everyone really pitched in and threw themselves into the work. Fortunately, the weather cooperated with no rain and moderate temperatures in the low 90s.

We were able to put together five firepots for the forges we are building for the FABA-SW trailer. The objective is to be able to set up anywhere and have the capability to teach and demonstrate anywhere we can set up shop, as well as allow greater participation by members.

It's been wonderful to experience the incredible growth in this region in the past few months, there's a new enthusiasm and willingness to push the envelope and the group to new heights.

A big thank you to Tony for the use of his shop and to everyone who showed up to lend a hand.

— Albert Rasch, Southwest member



Southeast Region Report

Hello everyone and welcome to another wonderful edition the Clinker Breaker Southeast Region report. I'm happy to report that despite the oppressive heat, we had another successful Southeast Region meeting in June with 15 people in attendance. After I demonstrated making a three-branched scroll by forge welding, we had several hours of open forge time and a pot-luck brunch.

Also during our Southeast Region meeting, Sylvia and Tia did a lot of logistical planning and organizing for the upcoming FABa Conference in October.



Those of you who follow The Guild activities on social media may have noticed that this year we hosted a second annual youth summer camp. Attendance to our two week-long sessions was strong, and the children, aged 11 to 17, were talented and enthusiastic. All of the children finished their summer camp sessions with a strong feeling of

accomplishment and an excitement for learning more about the art of Blacksmithing. The parents have all expressed interest in attending FABa events, including future Southeast Region meetings and the Statewide Conference.

— **Shaun Williams, SE Coordinator**



Central NE Region Report

Good morning, my fellow smiths. We had ourselves another good meeting in July that was just filled with lots of good smithing discussion and suspense as I figured out how to make things the hardest they possibly could be in the demo.

On that note, I suggest you always give yourself at least more than 3mm space between holes that you're punching and keep appropriately-sized rivets on hand.

This month's demo was more a lesson on what to avoid than a lesson on what to do :) However, even with the extra hardship, a good fire rake/ hoe was produced and placed in Iron in the Hat. The Iron in the Hat table was covered by a library of info packets and copies of articles. Loads of information was available at our fingertips.



This is the place to be if you are looking to learn. There is no better place to grow as a smith than among our fellow smiths.

— **Heinrich Hole,**
Central NE Coordinator

Far West Region Report

It was a hot, hot day at John Butler's farm, but in spite of the heat, we had 9 members and guests in attendance under the pecan trees. John has always been a gracious host, and once again provided lunch (and coal) for the crew.

We started our meeting with a short discussion/demonstration by John Pfund on making a trivet using mortise and tenon rivet joinery. Riveting is an essential skill for the blacksmith journeyman program, and the mortise and tenon joint is a great practice for this skill.

After the presentation, most of our members used the open forge time to proceed with their own projects using the FABA power hammer and other tooling made available by FABA, John Butler and John Pfund. We have many knives in progress!

— **David Sandlin,**
Far West Coordinator

FABA Elections



Dear FABA Members,

It is the time for elections in 7 of our offices. These offices are as follows:

President _____

Vice-President _____

Treasurer _____

Secretary _____

Northwest Trustee _____

Northeast Trustee (1 year) _____

Southwest Trustee _____

If you would like to be a candidate in the upcoming election, please do one of the following:

#1. Send this form back to me with your name written on the line next to the office for which you wish to be considered as a candidate: Tia Kitchen, FABA Secretary, PO Box 542414, Greenacres, FL 33454

OR

#2. Email me with your intention to run and the office for which you wish to be considered as a candidate: secretary@blacksmithing.org

To give us adequate time to create ballots and get them sent out, we ask that you notify us of your intent to run for an office by Aug. 5, 2019. Ballots will be distributed in September 2019.

THE FLORIDA CLINKER BREAKER

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

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

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AUGUST 2019

FABA Officers

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Vice President	Mark Stone	850-339-6010	markham62@comcast.net
Treasurer	Kirk Sullens	352-357-7221	treasurer@blacksmithing.org
Secretary	Tia Kitchen	561-666-7266	registrar@blacksmithing.org
Program Chair	Sylvia Andrassy	561-757-1337	Sylvia.Andrassy@gmail.com
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Trustee NW	Ron Childers	850-556-8403	Ron@munlaw.net
Trustee SE	Ralph Nettles	561-906-2827	ralphnettles@msn.com
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WebMaster	Clay Schock		web@blacksmithing.org

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 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:

NAME _____
FAMILY MEMBERS _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ CELL _____ EMAIL _____
DATE _____ NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ I want B&W Newsletter by mail _____ OR Color Newsletter by Email _____

Kirk Sullens
FABA Treasurer
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Mount Dora, FL 32757