

CLINKER



BREAKER

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Established May 18, 1985

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Scholarship winner & new trustee named

As we March toward Spring, the flowers are starting to bloom, and Mother Nature is providing us with many examples of things we can reproduce in steel and/or other metals.

From the abundant plant life and flowers they produce to the birds and other wildlife we have all around us, we are never short of examples we can incorporate into our designs. Garden gates, wine racks, coffee tables, lamps, wall hangings, etc., are perfect canvases for incorporating Mother Nature's beauty. We are also blessed with well over 1,000 miles of coastline along with many lakes and rivers we can get ideas from.

An aquarium stand adorned with fish, grasses, octopi, or any other aquatic creatures would be a fantastic addition to anyone's home or business.

Get outside, take pictures or a pad and pencil to draw or write down what you see, then head back to your shop and recreate what you saw.

The Board has voted on the Jerry Grice Scholarship, and it was awarded to Doug Rogerson in the Southwest Region. He is already attending his choice of education at the Sarasota Technical College, taking an introductory blacksmithing class being taught by Trez Cole. He started on Jan. 25th, and the class runs through March 16th. Congratulations, Doug! We look forward to your Clinker Breaker write-up and demonstration in the near future.

It was a really tough decision, as all of the applicants were worthy of winning. We encourage those who did

not win to re-enter for the Walt Anderson Scholarship, which will be chosen and awarded in July. If you missed the opportunity for the Jerry Grice Scholarship, get your application submitted, as it is due by June 30th. A special "Thank You" to John Butler of Havana and JB Knives fame for his work as the Scholarship Chairperson.

We currently have one more position to fill on the Board. We need someone to step up and volunteer for the Program Chairperson position.

I believe we have a volunteer for the Southeast Regional Coordinator, but I have not spoken with him yet as of this writing, so I will leave him un-named for this issue.

Bill Harris has been approved by the Board for the Northeast Trustee position and needs your vote of approval. We look forward to working with Bill.

Don't forget, we have a joint Regional Statewide meeting between the NE and NW regions that will be held March 21-22 at Leslie Tharp's shop in Gainesville featuring Doug Wilson. I am looking forward to attending and watching what will surely be a great demonstration.

Saturday will feature demonstrations, and Sunday we are working on offering classes instructed by Doug. You can check out Doug's work and credentials at wilsonforge.com.

Have a great March, and keep your forges glowing, hammers striking and metal moving. Don't forget your eye and ear protection, and stay hydrated as our temperatures start to climb.



Mark Stone

Always think safety,
Mark Stone

Walt Anderson Scholarship 2020

This Florida Artist Blacksmith Association 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 the 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, lodging, transportation, etc.)?

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

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

Deadline for receipt is June 30, 2020. Three finalists will be recommended to the Board. The decision of the Board shall be final. The successful applicant will be notified.

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	Walt Anderson Scholarship
3	Regional Coordinators
3-4	Calendar of Events
5	Treasurer's Report
5	FABA Announcements
6-7	North FL Statewide Conference
8-11	Regional Reports
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			
Southwest Region	Antony Fenn	617-320-4781	antony.fenn@gmail.com
Far West Region	Dave Sandlin	850-974-1548	traditionsworkshopinc@gmail.com

Central NE Region Schedule

March's meeting is being united with the other northern regions to make a state level event.

April's meeting in the Central Northeast is also being canceled due to the spring frolic taking place in our regions home base. The Pioneer Settlement is having its annual Frolic the first weekend of April. It is a music and crafts demonstration event with vendors all about. I welcome you all out to attend this celebration of old times. If any one is interested in demonstrating blacksmithing for the event, please give me a text or email.

– Heinrich Hole, Central NE Coordinator



Far West Region schedule

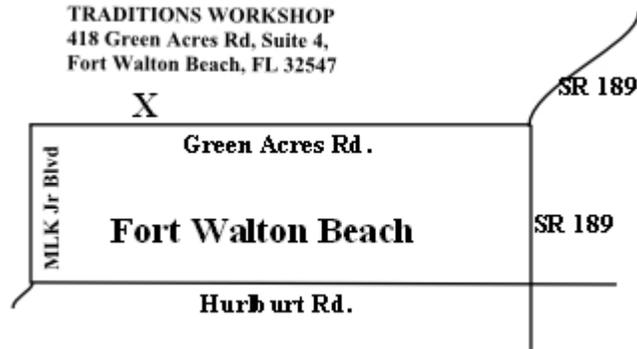
In the Far West, our next two meetings at Traditions Workshop will continue to support our members' work in the Journeyman handbook with focus on the use of welding equipment. On February 22nd, starting at 9 a.m., we will practice using the MIG welder, so bring your PPE! For March 28, plan on a session of arc welding. After our presentations (usually 9-10 a.m.), we will light the fires to allow members to work on your own project(s) or to continue to explore the information they have learned during the presentation. Let us know if you plan to attend by signing up for our event on Facebook @ "FABA Far West - the Panhandle Blacksmiths."

Other Far West events and happenings follow. Please contact David@traditionsworkshop.com if you want demonstrate or teach:

Gulf Coast Renaissance Faire, set up March 6th, gates open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Renaissance costuming required, and once again we will be using a primitive set up for forging.

Baker Block Museum, April 18th, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Even though it is the third Saturday, this will be the location of our FABA meeting for the month. We will be demonstrating

TRADITIONS WORKSHOP
418 Green Acres Rd, Suite 4,
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547



blacksmithing during the Baker Arts and Crafts festival using our regular equipment, less some of the big power tools.

June meeting will be hosted at Traditions Workshop so Christopher Mallet can teach a using grinders for shaping and sharpening.

May, July, August meeting locations are still TBD, but you can plan on more classes to help our members to reach their journeyman certificates. September will be preparation for the annual pilgrimage to Ocala in October, and of course the Far West hopes to be out in force for our annual conference!

– David Sandlin, Far West Coordinator

Northwest Meeting, March 14

The March meeting in the Northwest Region will be held on Saturday, March 14, at Mike Bettenger's welding shop. The address is 3440 Garber Road, Tallahassee, FL.

We're going to have a tong-making workshop. If you are not currently making your own tongs and using the tongs you've made, now is the time to start! For the easiest effort, we'll have pre made "EZ Tongs" that only need the jaws shaped and the bolt turned into a rivet to complete a pair of tongs. For a greater challenge, we'll have "No Tong, Tong"

blanks (a 20-inch piece of 1/4 X 1 flat bar with marks).

This is about a two-hour project. For this workshop, I'm asking everyone to bring their favorite tongs to show off and compare. If you've made them yourself, please come prepared to demonstrate how, time permitting. It's going to be great!

Mike's crew is going to grill chicken, and we should bring sides and desserts. Don't forget to bring something for the Iron in the Hat raffle and get free tickets for your handmade donations. Hope to see you there!

— **John Pfund, NW Coordinator**

Northwest Region Schedule

There will be more "Open Forges" and a chance to sell your wares in the Northwest Region. Aunt Louise's Farm is going to start their spring season in April. For the six weekends starting April 4-5 and ending May 9-10, they will be operating their "Bring the family out to the farm" experience from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and 2 to 6 p.m. on Sundays every weekend. We are invited to come out as much as we can to share our Blacksmithing with the public and for a chance to sell our own products. We're going to have the main equipment and work area set up and ready for the whole six weekends. All you have to do is bring your own hand tools and anything you want to display for sale. This is where we're going to hold our April meeting on Saturday the 11th. I'll give a complete forecast for the meeting in the next month's edition, I just wanted to get the word out about a chance to volunteer and get our Blacksmithing out to the people.

For more information, you can call me, John Pfund, at 850-528-3280.

Two open forges have been operating weekly for a long, long time. One is at Jim Labalito's house on the west side of

OPEN FORGES

Jim Labalito, 1314 Fernwood Drive, Tallahassee, FL; 850-567-6464

Jeff Mhor, 22 Ironwood Court, Crawfordville, FL; 850-528-7631

Millstone Plantation, 6500 Old Millstone Plantation Road, Tallahassee

For Millstone, call John Pfund at 850-528-3280.

Tallahassee. The forge is open every Monday and is close to get to, easy to find and great for beginners.

The other is Jeff Mhor's Shop in Crawfordville. Jeff's shop is a little farther to get to and harder to find, but it's a fully operating professional Blacksmith Shop! Jeff hosts his open forges on Wednesdays, but it's important to call him first to make sure he hasn't gone to a show.

Now for the new and third weekly open forges in our area, Millstone Plantation on Sunday afternoons, 12 to 5 p.m. Millstone is right off Thomasville road in the Killlearn area of

Tallahassee. — **John Pfund, NW Coordinator**

SW Meeting, Feb. 29 & March 28

The SW March meeting will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 28, at Jerry Wolfe's workshop.

John Boy Watson is coming South to be our demonstrator. It should be a "not to miss" meeting, as both Jerry and John are our two most recent past FABA presidents.

Please bring something for the pot luck lunch and an item for Iron In The Hat.

Jerry's workshop is just north of Sarasota airport at 2260 Whitfield Park Drive in Sarasota. Jerry can be contacted at 941-702-1719.

The SW meeting in February will be held on Saturday, the 29, at Crowley Museum and Nature Center just east of Sarasota, at 16405 Myakka Road. We will gather to support and

take part in the heritage festival.

We have plans to split into two teams. One team of more experienced smiths will work with Trez Cole on an alligator sculpture. A team of beginner smiths will be guided through making items such as S hooks as giveaways to the public.

Please come at 10 a.m. and be ready to join in and help swing a hammer with Trez Cole and Tony Fenn. We will be bringing the SW trailer and have forges and anvils available. You may also be able to work in the museum's forge.

Instead of Iron in the Hat, and bringing food to share, we are asking you to support the museum and pay the entrance fee. (\$20 this year). There will also be vendors for lunch and drinks. For information, call 941-322-1000.

— **Tony Fenn, SW Coordinator**

FABA Treasurer's Report

Greetings all,

As most of you know, I have only recently stepped up to the position of Treasurer and am still getting settled and learning the idiosyncrasies of our books and processes.

You recently saw an email from me regarding some changes in how we have been managing membership and conference payments. That was prompted by a decision from the company that manages our membership and conference payments and registrations and email and database management.

The company stated they would impose a 10% penalty to our fees, unless we transferred our payment platform to their online payment program.

The plan had been to make that change, but during the process, it became apparent that the payment service was not designed for nonprofit corporations and had stipulations that would not work for FABA.

So at the moment, we will NOT be transitioning from PayPal for payments. Instead we will be investigating other

management options that are more suitable to our membership and mission.

We hope to have that information before the conference, although in all likelihood we will continue to use our current platform through this year.

Essentially for all of you, nothing changes and you can disregard my earlier email.

The really good news is that FABA is still growing and doing well. Well enough that we are moving into a new category of nonprofit status that doesn't affect any of you, but will mean a more detailed and in-depth governmental financial review than we have had in the past.

Basically we will not be using the nonprofit equivalent of the 1040 EZ any longer, but moving up to a much more detailed tax return. Again, nothing that should impact any of you.

We appreciate your patience with our growing pains, and your board will do its best to minimize any problems.

— Doug Hayes, FABA Treasurer



Blacksmith Coke for Sale - Tallahassee area

This is good, clean-burning blacksmith coke – not much smoke or clinker. 50-lb. bag – \$20

I live about 6 miles south of Tallahassee. Call or email me to pick up. You don't want to know how much it would cost to ship a bag.

Mike Murphy
8537 Moore Woods Road
Tallahassee, FL 32305
850-294-1483
blacksmith@comcast.net

Shop For Sale

Philip Pauley (Dr. Phil) of Port Charlotte, FL, is selling his shop after 15 years.

He is selling all of the tools and equipment, including a power hammer, treadle hammer, coal and gas forges, welder, there is too much to list.

Please contact him to learn more or schedule an appointment.

Please contact Dr. Phil at 941-916-1729.

N. Florida Regional Statewide Meeting, Doug Wilson workshops set this month

Mark your calendars for March 21st!

Doug Wilson will be our featured demonstrator at the NORTH FL Regional Statewide Conference meeting, hosted at Leslie Tharp's teaching workshop, [Fe]ver Metal Art Center in Gainesville, FL. Everyone is encouraged to attend this special event regardless of experience level or regional affiliation.

This meeting will be well worth the trip from surrounding regions. Consider bringing someone new or someone who may be interested in becoming a FABA member.



Doug Wilson is a well-known blacksmith located in the remote area of Little Deer Isle, Maine. Doug is both a gifted smith as well as an instructor, and he regularly teaches at craft schools throughout the U.S.

Doug's ability to demystify complicated techniques and re-frame them as attainable goals for even the newest student is one of his many talents as an instructor.

His astute approach to both function and form is apparent throughout his work, which ranges widely from sculptural to architectural ironwork. You may be familiar with his wrapped stone pieces, or have seen his cleanly executed joinery projects. If you are able to attend this educational demonstration, you will be in for a treat.

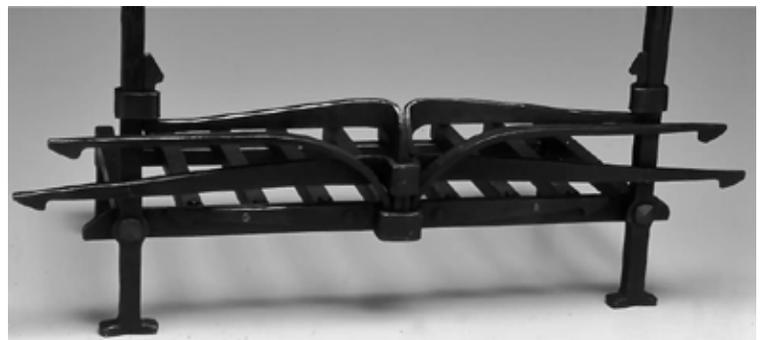
More information will be published at www.FeverMetalArtCenter.com and on the Northeast FB page: [facebook.com/groups/FABA.NE](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FABA.NE) so stay tuned.

For more information on Doug's work please visit www.wilsonforge.com.

SATURDAY Demonstration:

Doug Wilson excels in creating one-of-a-kind custom pieces that meet the highest mark in design and execution. Doug's comfort with traditional joinery is apparent in his portfolio and will act as a focus for his demonstration on March 21st.

For his demonstration Doug will begin by discussing the development of a design through a special method of sketching. Following his demonstration on drafting composition, he will begin to forge a multi-component piece that takes forms based on this design approach, and



highlights traditional joinery methods to combine each component.

Throughout this demo, Doug will demystify techniques that are often cause for much head-scratching for students. Some techniques that will be showcased are forge welding, mortise and tenon joinery, slitting and drifting, collaring, as well as team work with help of a striker.

This demonstration is intended to give insight and encouragement to a wide audience of blacksmiths, and topics beyond those mentioned will be discussed and possibly demonstrated, as time allows.

Stick around for the second day at the shop by registering for the Sunday workshop with Doug. Attendees should either bring a lunch or sandwiches will be provided for a suggested cash donation.

North Florida Regional Statewide Meeting



Please plan to bring an item for the expanded “Iron in the Hat.” One blacksmith’s trash is another blacksmith’s treasure! “Iron in the Hat” is a raffle of donated items. Often the items are things that one is tired of looking at taking up space in the shop. Items vary from antique steam engine gauges to new boxes of welding rod or pieces of saw blade and wrought iron. Blacksmithing-related clothing, books, CDs and other items are also welcome. Member-made, hand-forged items are encouraged!

Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5 or 15 for \$10 please bring cash to purchase your tickets. Bring a handmade item and get free tickets for your donation to the raffle.

SUNDAY, Hands-On Workshop:

Forging Box Jaw Tongs ~ with Forge Welded Bits~ start to finish!!!

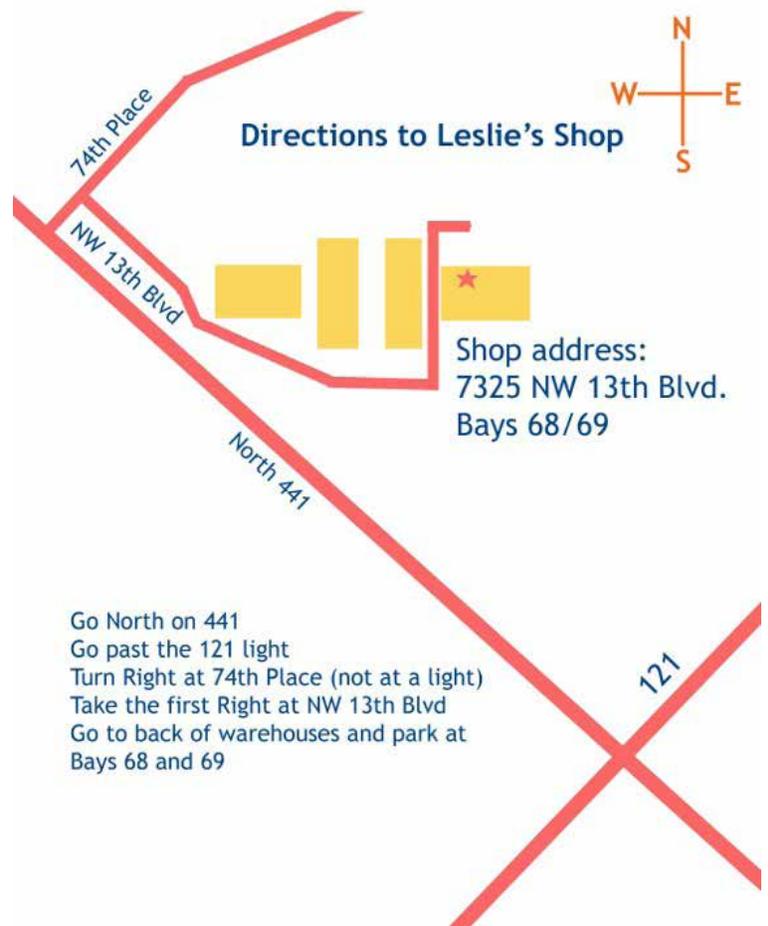
Note: As time allows, there will be an opportunity for participants to try out some of the techniques they saw on Saturday.

FABA Members receive \$15 off registration with coupon code FORGINGFEVER

Please RSVP by March 13th on the Facebook Event page or by email. If you have any questions please contact North NE coordinator Ben Thompson by email at thompsoncrafted@gmail.com or call 617-388-5695.

For information on location and how to register for the Sunday workshop with Doug, visit FeverMetalArtCenter.com or email LeslieTharpDesigns@gmail.com See the attached map for Leslie’s shop location, 7325 NW 13th Blvd, Bays 68/69, Gainesville, FL.

— **Ben Thompson, North NE Coordinator**



Central NE Region Report

Good morning, my fellow smiths,
We had another awesome monthly meeting in February. Thanks to Bob Tuftee, we had the privilege of getting to learn about how to make a wrapped axe head with a welded bit. His use of the vice to set welds was brilliantly executed. It is a thing I will have to try myself in the near future.

This meeting, we had many new people to introduce to the group, and I hope to see them all back again in the months to come. Open forges after lunch got utilized again for some personal work and growth of our members. It worked out well to be another teaching session.

It makes me so happy to see our region getting to fulfill its purpose of spreading the craft. Thank you all for coming out, and a special thanks to those of you who help contribute to our meal. It is appreciated.

March's meeting is being united with the other northern regions to make a state-level event. We hope to see you there! — **Heinrich Hole, Central NE Coordinator**



CLINKER BREAKER



Southwest Region Report

Twelve of us met at Tony Fenn's shop in Sarasota to work on equipment for the Southwest trailer.

There were several hours of hard work put in to clean up and paint anvil stands and the forges we had previously built. Several members got stuck in with angle grinders and wire wheels, and Tony set up a spray paint booth to coat everything with heat-resistant black paint.

The Southwest tent poles were also color-coded with paint so that we can recognize what belongs to our region when we break down the tents at the annual conference.

A shelf was also built inside the trailer for the spare tire and to generally help to make more room.

Thank you to all who turned out, it was great to catch up with everyone who attended.

— Tony Fenn, SW Coordinator



North NE Region Report

On January 18th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., we held our most recent North Northeast Regional Meeting.

The meeting was graciously hosted by Cameron Fisher and his family at Stepping Stone Farms, St. Augustine.

There were 16 attendees, and we raised a small amount of funds through donation.



The project was making sleigh bells and was held over from December, when our meeting was cancelled.

I conducted a morning demo on the sleigh bell process, tooling and tips and tricks. The group then broke up into teams of two per station and made two versions of the bell, small and large.

A big shout out to Matthew Hans-

necht, Creekside Ironworks, LLC (Green Cove Springs), for helping plasma-cut the blanks.

If you are in the North FL region and need plasma cutting done, look him up on FB @CreekHammer.

Doug Hayes and Cameron assisted a small group of folks who were starting out in the craft.

All in all, everyone had a great time and got plenty of time at the forge throughout the day.

– Ben Thompson, North NE Coordinator



Far West Region Report

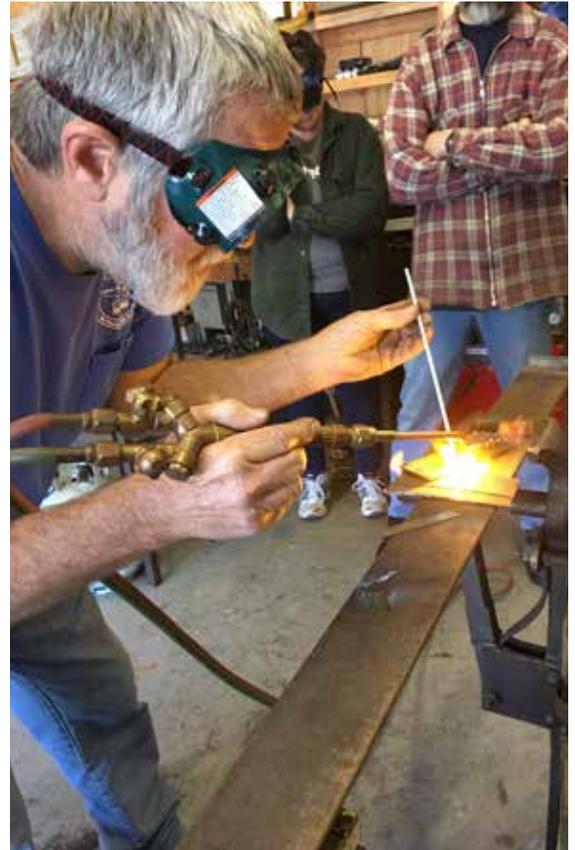
There must have been several blacksmithing resolutions for the New Year because we have five (yes 5) members who have decided to embark on the path to Journeyman. Knowing that we have so many folks who are willing to commit to this effort we decided to meet at Traditions Workshop for our monthly meeting for this month and for the next few months so our team members can gain access to the welding equipment that most folks don't have in their home workshops. This month's focus was on oxy-acetylene.

John Pfund came over from Tallahassee to visit but since he has 30+ years of fabrication experience while running his own shop he was quickly impressed into teaching our class. Each of our prospective journeymen was afforded an opportunity to use the torch to cut, braze and weld a couple of tokens.

We also had a few new prospective members visit and they participated in an abbreviated introduction to blacksmithing class supervised by farrier Jim Apple, another person with a wealth of experience impressed into a teaching role so the members of Traditions Workshop could faithfully discharge their duties as host for the event and prepare lunch.

All told we had six members, seven guests and five observers attend our event. It was a great Saturday for learning new skills.

— **David Sandlin, Far West Coordinator**



THE FLORIDA CLINKER BREAKER

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Doug Hayes, Treasurer
4255 US-1 S. Suite 18 #329
St. Augustine, FL 32086

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
Tallahassee, FL
PERMIT 329

MARCH 2020

FABA Officers

President	Mark Stone	850-339-6010	markham62@comcast.net
Vice President	Lisa Anne Conner	813-505-8041	GryfnSCA@gmail.com
Treasurer	Doug Hayes	910-330-7601	djhayes29@hotmail.com
Secretary	Tia Kitchen	561-666-7266	registrar@blacksmithing.org
Past President	John Watson	850-421-8005	circlejbar@gmail.com
Program Chair	vacant		
Trustee NW	Ron Childers	850-556-8403	Ron@munlaw.net
Trustee NE	Bill Harris	352-330-0181	wrabh01@gmail.com
Trustee SE	Ralph Nettles	561-906-2827	ralphnettles@msn.com
Trustee SW	Trez Cole	941-650-1068	nokomisforge@hotmail.com
Editor	Jennifer Jhon	954-328-6704	editor@blacksmithing.org
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 _____

FABA
Doug Hayes, Treasurer
4255 US-1 S. Suite 18 #329
St. Augustine, FL 32086