

April 2020

# CLINKER



# BREAKER

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Established May 18, 1985

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# FABA positions remain open

Already, we find ourselves approaching the month of April, and winter is officially over. The clocks have been moved ahead, giving an extra hour of daylight in the evening.

For the backyard blacksmith, that extra hour is an extra hour of fun and production. Though most of us Floridians don't experience much of a winter, we find the winter temperatures much more appealing to fire up the forge and pound some steel. We know the mercury is going to start tickling the tops of our thermometers in the next few months.

We currently have a need for a new Webmaster. Clay Schock will not be able to continue as our Webmaster, so if you have knowledge and experience of maintaining web pages, please consider volunteering for our open position.

We are also still in need of someone to step up and volunteer for the Program Chairperson position. This very important position is in need of a warm body to put together our conference. Plenty of help is always available, so you won't be in it alone.

Peter Hill has stepped up and volunteered for the Southeast Regional Coordinator position and has been planning and holding monthly meetings. We look forward to working with Peter, and he is a nice addition to the Board.

The Walt Anderson Scholarship will be chosen and awarded in July. We encourage you to submit your application for this great opportunity to learn from a school or instructor of your choosing.

The application deadline is June 30th, so don't hesitate to submit, it will come and go quicker than you realize. The applications will be reviewed by the scholarship chairperson and a final three will be submitted to the Board for a vote.

Have a great April and keep your forges glowing, hammers striking and metal moving. Don't forget your eye and ear protection, hydrate, hydrate and hydrate some more as our temperatures climb.



Mark Stone

## IMPORTANT ADDRESS CHANGE

In case you missed the information in the December Clinker Breaker, we now have a new FABA address.

Please **DO NOT** send any items to the old Mt. Dora address.

That box will not forward mail to the new address and so requires a special trip to pick up that mail.

Our new address is :

**Florida Artist Blacksmith Association**

**4255 US-1 South Suite 18 #329**

**St. Augustine, FL 32086**

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](mailto: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.

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## 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			
Southwest Region	Antony Fenn	617-320-4781	antony.fenn@gmail.com
Far West Region	Dave Sandlin	850-974-1548	traditionsworkshopinc@gmail.com

**Note: The COVID-19 Coronavirus outbreak has affected all events in the state of Florida. Please check with a regional coordinator before attending any FABA events this month.**

## FABA News & Announcements

### In Memoriam: Edward Jennings Tribble, Aug. 10, 1943 - Aug. 18, 2019

Ed was a native Floridian, born in Fort Lauderdale, who died last year in Tallahassee. Ed was a gifted artist, creating whimsical flying machines out of metal, found objects and wire, and sketching fanciful pen-and-ink drawings of the people and objects that inhabited his unique imagination. He was a member of the Florida Artist Blacksmith Association in the late 1990s and liked playing with fire and metal.

In his other life, Ed attended Wake Forest University, Louisiana Tech and Stetson University, eventually receiving his BA and MA in history from Stetson in 1968. He at-

tained a second master's degree (in Library Science) from Florida State University in 1969. He worked as a librarian at the University of the South in Seawee, Tenn., from 1969 to 1973, returning to Tallahassee in 1973 as the first professional archivist hired by the Florida State Archives, and eventually rising to the position of State Archivist.

He left the Archives in 1985 to co-found Florida Information Associates, Inc., an information retrieval service, where he worked until his retirement in 2018.

— **John Boy Watson, past FABA president**

### SBA Conference Update

Florida is the lead chapter for the Southeastern Blacksmith Association's biennial conference, which will be held May 13-15, 2021. We will be reaching out to a Bladesmith and a more traditional Artist Blacksmith as our main demonstrators. We will also have chapter demonstrators at two stations. We will be expanding the time slots for the chapter demonstrators to three hours instead of the 90-minute demonstrations we had at the 2019 conference. We have to come up with a theme for

the conference and have discussed an idea for the major project, which I should be able to disclose next month. As in the past few conferences, we will be having a Meet and Greet on Thursday evening, an AYCE seafood buffet for the Friday Night dinner before the auction, and blacksmith competitions. I will keep you up-to-date on details as they are hammered out. Pencil in the dates, even though it is 14 months away. It is always a great conference and a great time.

— **Mark Stone, FABA President**

## Northwest Meeting, April 11

The Northwest Region will hold its April meeting at Aunt Louise's Farm on Saturday, April 11th. The address is 8101 Waukeenah Hwy. Monticello, Florida. 32344. We were going to have an ongoing presence there each weekend in April and the first two in May, but their spring season has been cancelled due to the current medical situation. We're still going to have our meeting there, but they will not be open for their regular business.

For this meeting we're going to have a tong-making contest. The contest is, you start with some basic metal stock

shape and turn it into a pair of tongs by lunch. The tongs will be donated to the raffle and the one with the most tickets wins. It's OK to team up with one or more partners. There will be open forges for people who want to blacksmith but don't want to be in the contest. We will have someone cooking the main dish on the grill, and we should bring sides and desserts. Don't forget to bring something for the Iron in the Hat raffle. I hope to see you there!

— **John Pfund, NW Coordinator**

## SW Meeting, April 25

The SW April meeting will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 25, at Jerry Standifer's workshop.

Trez Cole will be our demonstrator. It is always worth attending when Trez is demonstrating as he has a wealth of experience and is a great teacher.

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

Jerry's workshop is north of Sarasota at 1808 8th St. W, Palmetto, FL. Jerry can be contacted at 941-713-1613.

— **Tony Fenn, SW Coordinator**



## Central NE

Good morning, my fellow smiths. There are no March or April meetings in the Central NE Region. Meetings will resume in May.

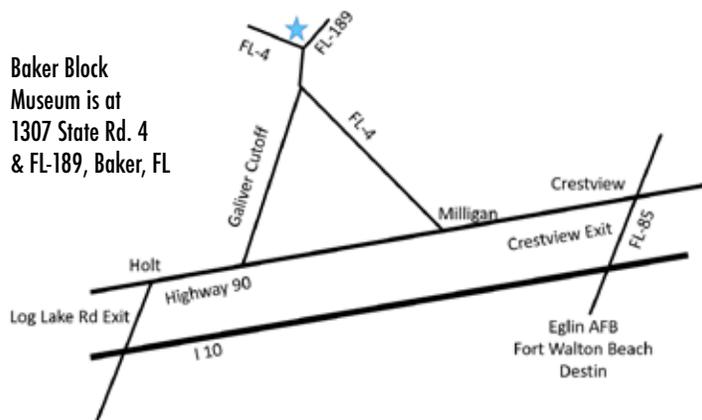
— **Heinrich Hole, Central NE Coordinator**

## Far West Region, April 18

In the Far West, our April meeting will deviate from our normal meeting date and be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month so we can assist the Baker Block Museum with their Arts Festival on April 18th from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., barring a coronavirus cancellation. We will be demonstrating blacksmithing all day, and you are encouraged to bring and sell your blacksmithing projects.

Our May meeting will return to Traditions Workshop and will be kicked off by a presentation by Jim Apple. Jim is not only a professional farrier, but also a professional re-enactor, having appeared on several TV shows and in multiple park programs. He will discuss the costuming aspects where our blacksmithing skills can help make a re-enactor step out of the past.

The June meeting will again be hosted at Traditions Workshop so Christopher Mallet can teach the proper use of grinders, belt sanders, and stones for shaping and sharpening.



July and August meeting locations/topics 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 in force for our annual conference!

— **David Sandlin, Far West Coordinator**



### North NE Meeting, May 16

Mark your calendars for May 16th!

This meeting will be hosted by Seth Satterfield (above) of Iron Artisan in St. Augustine, FL. Seth will give a morning demonstration on basic forging techniques, such as drawing out, forging a point, creating a bevel and forging a shoulder, and other tips and techniques. He will demonstrate all of these forging techniques through making a knife.

During the past four years, Seth has taught blacksmithing at Fort Menendez here in St. Augustine, and he has a passion for passing the craft on. We will have forges available after the morning demo and lunch. Seth would like attendees who are willing to be able to use these techniques in the afternoon forging session.

Seth will fire up the smoker and supply pulled pork for lunch. Attendees are asked to bring a side if possible. As we get closer to the meeting, check the FB Event page for more details coordinating who is bringing what side.

Don't forget to bring an item for the "Iron in the Hat." Member-made, hand-forged items are encouraged! More information is available on the Northeast FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/FABA.NE/>.

For more information on Seth's work, please visit <http://www.ironartisan.com/>

If you have any questions, please contact North NE coordinator Ben Thompson by email: [thompsoncrafted@gmail.com](mailto:thompsoncrafted@gmail.com) or phone: 617-388-5695.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by May 8th.

Location: 5895 Capo Island Road, St. Augustine, FL

#### About Seth Satterfield:

Florida artist blacksmith Seth Satterfield was born in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Although he spent many years in the mountains, Florida's beaches, climate and springs brought him to the sea.

Seth's initial introduction to skilled labor was working with his father as a carpenter building custom homes. Although custom home building was an occupation that he enjoyed and excelled at, it was a blacksmith demonstration at an ABANA (Artist Blacksmith Association of North America) meeting that ignited the creative fire that opened the door to the alchemy of blacksmithing.

This initial exposure is what drove Seth to pursue the craft of blacksmithing, with a passion and determination that only comes with the discovery of what it is you are meant to do in the world. It is this venue that allowed Seth to develop and hone his talent for visualizing a design that he is then able, by hand, with hammer and fire, to translate into three-dimensional works of functional art.

He is inspired by nature, architecture, his fellow craftsman, and most of all by the clients that motivate and challenge him to create something beautiful, original and unique.

— Ben Thompson, North NE Coordinator

## Blacksmithing Secrets: Making an eye

The material in this article originally appeared in 'Shopwork on the Farm', a textbook by Mack M. Jones, copyright 1945, McGraw-Hill

**Fig. 440.** Steps in making an eye.

A. Place a well-heated iron across the anvil with enough stock projecting over to form the eye. Where the eye must be made accurately to size, use a metal rule or square for measuring. Work rapidly.

B. Bending the projecting portion down, forming a right angle.

C. Finish the right angle bend by striking alternately on top and on the side, keeping the iron at a good working heat all the while.

D. Start bending the tip end around the horn, being careful to strike "overhanging" or bending blows.

E. Gradually work back from the end of the square bend.

F. Turn the eye over and close it up. Exert considerable back pull on the tongs to keep the upper part of the eye up off the horn. In this position the hammer can strike bending blows instead of flattening or mashing blows.

G. Round the eye by driving it back over the point of the horn. Carefully note where the eye does not touch the horn and strike down lightly in these places.

H. To straighten the stem of an eyebolt, place it across the corner of the anvil face and strike the high points while the iron is at a good working heat.

**Bending and Forming an Eye.** One of the most common bending jobs in the blacksmith shop is that of forming an eye on the end of a rod. The following is a good method of making such an eye:

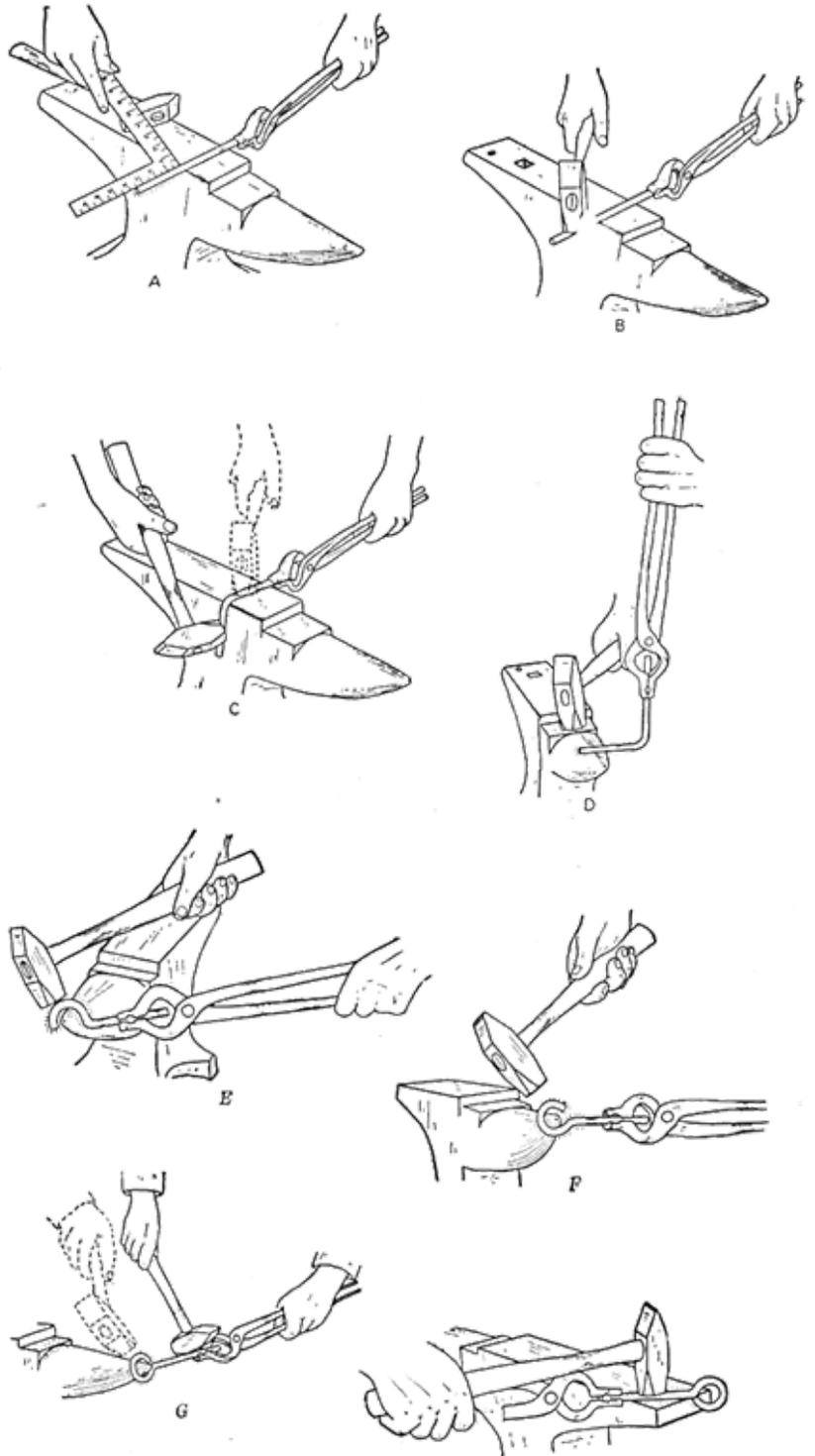
1. Heat the rod to a good red heat back for a distance of about 5 to 8 in., depending on the size of the eye.

2. Quickly place the rod across the face of the anvil with just enough of the heated end projecting beyond the edge of the anvil to form the eye. For exact work, the length of hot iron that is to project over may be quickly measured with a metal rule (see Fig. 440A and B). Place the iron across the anvil well up near the horn where the edge is rounded.

3. Bend the end down, forming a square bend, with a few well-directed blows (see Fig. 440C). Work rapidly before the iron cools. In finishing the bend, strike alternately on the top of the anvil and then on the front vertical side.

4. Heat the end of the stock and start bending the tip end around the horn. Work from the tip back toward the stem (see Fig. 440D, E, and F). Keep the iron hot throughout the part being bent; otherwise the bending will be slow and difficult, and the iron will not bend at just the places desired. If the square bend at the juncture of the stem and eye tends to straighten out, it is an indication that the end of the stock is not being kept hot enough while being bent.

5. Round the eye by driving it back over the point of the horn, noting carefully where it does not rest against the horn and striking down lightly in these places (see Fig. 440G). Keep the iron well heated.



6. Center the eye on the stem, if necessary, by placing the stem flat on the anvil face with the eye projecting over the edge, and strike the eye. Have the stock well heated at the juncture of the stem and eye, but have the eye itself practically cold. Such a condition can be produced by heating the whole eye and then quickly cooling most of the rounded part by dipping in water.

## Southwest Region Report

We had a great turnout and a wonderful cool day for the Heritage Festival at Crowley Museum. Over 20 of our members attended, and several were new members at their first meeting.

We brought the SW trailer to this event and used three of the forges we had built last summer.

Trez Cole led a team with a project of forging an alligator sculpture from 1¼-inch square stock. Wade Chappel and Ed Drapatin swung sledge hammers to upset a section for the body. Trez then chiseled cuts around the body and then twisted the whole thing with a huge wrench.

The tail was then tapered, chiseled and twisted in a similar manner. The head was then forged and the mouth was hot chiseled to open the jaws. Finally, the legs were hammered out.

The public was enthralled and entertained, and many kept checking back to see the progress throughout the day.

The two other SW forges were used for our members to sign up to make hooks

to hand out to the public. The forges were supervised by Doug Rogerson and Jerry Standifer to ensure safety was a priority and good technique was used. This allowed both experienced smiths and newcomers to all have a turn at hitting some hot metal. At my count, we turned out over 40 hooks.

Again thank you to Albert Rasch, who videoed and photographed everything for our Facebook page. A special thank you goes out to Susan Rogerson for providing a hot lunch for all of our members. We had a wonderful team atmosphere, and I think everyone's journey was worthwhile.

We didn't quite finish putting the alligator sculpture together, but Trez plans to finish it and bring it to a future meeting.

We are canceling our next meeting on March 28 to practice social distancing and keep our members safe. We are doing our part to stop the spread of this virus so we can get back to normal as quickly as possible.

— **Tony Fenn, SW Coordinator**



## Far West Region Report

Another great meeting of the Panhandle blacksmiths was held on February 22nd, with 19 members, guests and visitors in attendance.

We kicked off the meeting with another presentation on welding by John Pfund. This time John walked our members through the use of the MIG welder and sessions followed where our prospective journeymen got some hands on experience with this equipment.

Members then worked on individual projects while David Sandlin worked with two father/son groups who came for their first experience with blacksmithing. Nails and leaves were the order of the day, and both boys accomplished

their work with some striker help from their fathers.

FABA member Clayton Smith brought his Senior Class Project in, a pointed bar of steel that he hoped to make into a sword for High School graduation credit. Seeing as it was getting close to crunch time to meet the deadline, Clayton enlisted the help of the Far West chapter members to define the type of weapon he was trying to make and to refine the lines of the project. With help from Christopher Sandlin and the FABA power hammer, the rough shape of a sword and tang was drawn out in a single day, and Clayton is now on his way to a successful senior project.

Just a quick side note about the Gulf Coast Renaissance Faire and Pirate Festival: There were three blacksmith shops demonstrating at the festival, and although two of the demonstrators were not part of FABA, they were happy to direct



Billy Hay working to gain welding experience on his road to FABA Journeyman



Father and son, Pete and Bennet, working together to make Bennet's first nail.



Plenty of activity under the FABA tent for the Panhandle Blacksmiths.

people interested in learning about hands-on blacksmithing to our tent. We had 53 people provide us with email addresses, and they have been contacted with information about joining FABA and our upcoming FABA events.

— **David Sandlin,**  
**Far West Coordinator**



One happy camper - and future FABA member - after having made a "Mighty Hamster Sword"\* with Traditions Workshop during the Renaissance Faire in Sana Rosa county. (\*a 16 penny duplex nail made into a mini sword)

## Northwest Region Report

The March 2020 meeting of the Northwest region was held at Bettinger Welding. Daniel Schul began the demonstration, making a rams head out of a railroad spike. Then Jeff Mohr did a demonstration making tongs. After the tong-making demonstration, several attendees also made tongs with the assistance of Jeff, Daniel and a couple of other members. We had over 50 in attendance and \$225 collected with the Iron in the Hat drawing. After the drawing, we had lunch of chicken grilled at the shop by Mike Bettinger's master chefs along with several covered dishes. After lunch, several people stayed to finish the tongs they started. — **Ron Childers and Roger Bell, Northwest Region**



## North NE Region Report

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the North NE had to cancel its March 21 North FL Statewide Regional meeting.

The event is expected to be rescheduled, so please check out the NE FABA Event page for updates:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FABA.NE/>.

I also participated with four other Florida smiths in a weekend Tire Hammer Workshop in Robert, La.

The workshop was held at John and Nancy Perilloux's new crafts school <https://www.chappapeelcrafts.com/>.

The workshop was overseen by Clay Spencer and his team, following his 2012 design but with new modifications such as a 70-pound solid ram, 8-inch anvil, and many machined parts. There were over 40 in attendance and we made 28 hammers over the course of the weekend. (Whew!)

Our state and organization was well-represented with Jordan Borstelmann, Mitch Davis, Peter Hill and myself in attendance. It was an amazing experience!

If you're interested in attending a similar workshop, another will be held at The Virginia Institute of Blacksmithing, June 27- July 1, Waynesboro, VA.

Learn more at <https://vablacksmithing.org/>.

— Ben Thompson, North NE Coordinator



# Regional Reports



# THE FLORIDA CLINKER BREAKER

## Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Doug Hayes, Treasurer  
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St. Augustine, FL 32086

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## APRIL 2020

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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** 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:

#### FABA

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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY MEMBERS \_\_\_\_\_

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