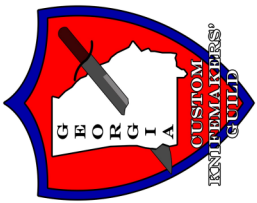


# Steel & Fire



January, 2020



**The Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild meeting was held at Olde Towne Cutlery store of Lee & Melissa Tigner in Cumming, Georgia. There were several clubs, knife makers and businesses set up at this event as Olde Towne Cutlery celebrated its one year Anniversary with an Open House.**

## The Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild

**Educating and informing the public about knife making  
Assisting, aiding, and teaching members, helping to develop their skill level,  
And how to promote their craft  
Establishing and following Standards of Conduct and Workmanship**

# Steel & Fire



Steel and Fire is the official publication of the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild. It is compiled and published in four issues annually. Compiled, published, and distributed by The Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild.

The Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild was formed to meet the needs of a growing body of custom knifemakers in the southeastern United States. The purpose of this newsletter is to serve as a medium of exchange for the members of the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild.

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**Advertising Policy:** The GCKG accepts no paid advertising as a matter of policy. From time to time, advertisements may appear that are deemed by the officers to be in the best interest of the Guild. Space for advertisement is offered free to Guild members who wish to promote a service or offer specific items for sale. The officers and editor reserve the right to edit advertisements for brevity. Members Only: Please submit ads to the editors at the address shown at the right.

Please address correspondence about this newsletter to the President or the Editor at the following addresses. Please direct requests for information about the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild to the President, Allen Surls, at the following address.

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## Notes from the President

Happy New Year and Happy Leap Year 2020. This will give everyone an extra day to work on making KNIVES! Here we are in a new decade of excitement, challenges and opportunities. A new year that I trust will prove most beneficial to all.

We can start with our Winter Guild meeting coming up on February 15th. Thank you to Charlie and Harry Mathews (Twin Blades) in Statesboro for hosting again this year. We know that this date may not be the perfect weekend for some, but what a Great way to spend Valentine's weekend in beautiful south Georgia!

As many of you know, two years ago at our winter meeting I had the great honor of being elected to this position as President of our GA Guild. This is an honor and a privilege that is now coming to its end with a two year term. So election at this upcoming meeting for President will be on the agenda in our business meeting. While this is not a re-election campaign, we do want to hear from any voting member wanting to run for this challenging and rewarding position. If you want to be President of the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild, please submit your name to us by email or make a post on the GA Guild Facebook page that you would like to run for office. Your name will be voted on in the process of election. I will accept another term as President if re-elected but want to ensure that anyone wanting to run has the opportunity to do so. You can be elected into office without attending this meeting if you want to run, so let us know.

New projects for this new year include:  
 Completion of our new website  
 Setting up Pay Pal for convenience of paying dues,  
 Blade Show display for our makers and  
 ICCE program advertisement with photos of three members knives...the **deadline for submission of photos is February 29, 2020**. Our graphics team will make the best presentation of your knife in our advertisement. Good luck,

See you in Statesboro...bring a friend.

Keep It Sharp!  
 John I. Shore

### UPCOMING MEETING:

The Winter meeting of the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild will take place on Saturday, February 15, 2020. The meeting location is the cabin/shop of Harry & Charlie Mathews, Twinblades, Statesboro, GA. There will be a Friday evening gathering for those that can attend. The address is 121 Mt Pisgah Church Road, Statesboro, GA.

Check the forum and the GA Guild FACEBOOK page for more information.

**Guild shirts** are available. Contact Nola Costin for more information on purchasing a shirt. Sizes include S, M, 2XL, and 3XL at a cost of \$16.00.

The newer shirts sizes L and XL are \$20.00 due to the increase cost in purchasing them. Shirts will be available for purchase at the meeting.

### Guild hats...

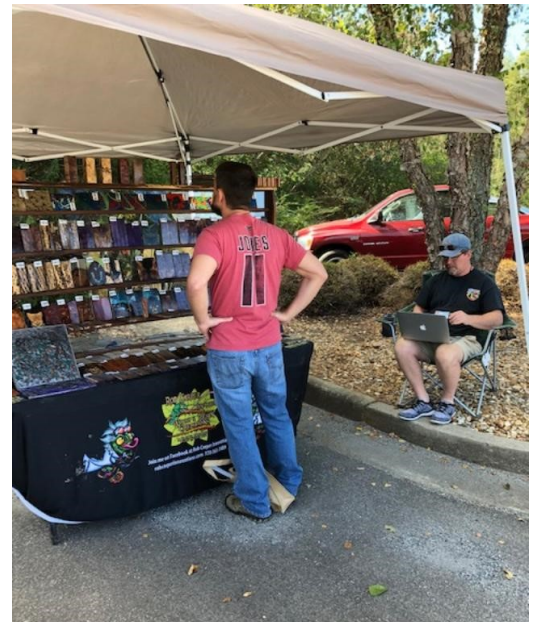
We still have GA Guild hats available for purchase. The cost of the hat is \$15.00.

There is just one style left to choose from at this time. More will be ordered.





Our fall Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild took place at Olde Towne Cutlery, the knife store of Lee & Melissa Tigner in Cumming, Georgia. There were several knife clubs, knife making businesses as well as individual knife makers set up at this meeting. A good time was had by all. Olde Towne Cutlery held drawing give-a-ways throughout the day.



Some of those that set up to display, sell and do demos at the Special Olde Towne Cutlery Anniversary Open House event on Saturday, October 12, 2019 were Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild, Pop's Knife Supplies, Rob Carper Handle materials, Wayne Hensley Custom Cutlery, Flint River Knife Club, Chattahoochee Cutlery Club, GA Bushcraft, King of Camo Lazer Engraving, and Ax Throwing by Southern Grind and more. There was lots to do and see at this event.







Visitors were given time to do hands on Scrimshaw at the Flint River Knife Club tents as well as many were able to forge out a small railroad spike into a knife and Craig Schneeberger or one of the club members would finish out the blade on the grinder.

## Demos



Dave Smith shared some of his leather talent with the visitors.



## More Demos

Mark Hopper of Goat'n'Hammer and Paul Brach also do some forging at this event.



In place of having a Scholarship knife or doing Iron-in-the-hat at this event, Will Dutton donated a knife and tickets were sold at 3 for \$5.00 to help support Olde Towne Cutlery's event. The winner of the drawing was Joshua Larson of Dahlonega, GA. His friend, Aaron Welch accepted the knife as Joshua was not able to return to the event.



Southern Grind sponsored Ax Throwing competition during this event at Olde Towne Cutlery.





Everyone was able to enjoy a barbeque catered meal while attending the event at Olde Towne Cutlery. The lunch was catered by Chris Smith. Yummy good food.



Remember, we need your help.  
If you can donate a knife to use  
for our Scholarship drawings  
for one of our  
upcoming meetings,  
please let Eddie Ray know .

See you on  
Saturday  
February 15, 2020





## Calendar

**The Winter, 2020 GA Guild meeting will be hosted by Harry & Charlie Mathews in Statesboro, Georgia. This will take place on Saturday, February 15, 2020. There will be a Friday gathering as well.**

**The spring Trackrock Hammer-In meeting will take place on March 13-14, 2020 in Blairsville, GA**

**The ICCE Knife Show in Fort Worth, Texas will take place on April 2-4, 2020**



**Flint River Knife club will have its Quarterly meeting/ Knife Show on Saturday, April 18, 2020 at the American Legion Post in Fayetteville, Georgia. They will have demos and welcome all to come and attend. Some table space is available to set up and sell/demo knife making skills. Contact Nola Costin for more details.**

**The Atlanta Blade Show at the Cobb Galeria will be held June 5-7, 2020**

### Knife Making Instructors List

**This will remain in the newsletter for those that are interested in taking a class on some aspect of knife making? Here is a reprint of the list of some members who can help you out.**

1. Joe Sangster-instruction on making pocket knives
2. Wayne Hensley-all phases of grinding & polishing.
3. Batson's at Tannehill State Park holds classes on various subjects. These are held on the first weekend in April.
4. Damon Lusky- Does a small training group in Dawsonville. Focus is on martial blades concepts.
5. Carl Rechsteiner-general bladesmithing & knife making instruction as well as leather work.
6. John C Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC
7. Charlie & Harry Mathews-basic knife making class @\$500.00
8. Stephan Fowler-basic class on forging a full tang hunter @\$425.00
9. Haywood Community College, Haywood/Canton, NC—ABS classes-check website for class schedule
10. Mark Hopper of Goat'n'Hammer Blacksmith Shop in Atlanta, GA. See their website for more information.

**Please inform our newsletter editor, Nola Costin, of any classes that you teach or anyone that you know of or a facility that holds knife making classes. She can list them here.**



**Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild  
John Poythress Scholarship Fund Application**

The John Poythress Scholarship Fund was established in memory of the founding President of the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild. John was taken from us unexpectedly in 2005 and this fund was created by family and friends in memory of his passion for the art of knife making. This Scholarship will put up to \$500 towards any knife related course which is approved by the Board of Directors. The money can only be used to pay the course tuition and any related supplies used by the student. Applicants should contact a member of the Scholarship Committee prior to attending a course to verify that the particular class, school or member knife-maker teaching the course has been approved.

There are requirements and obligations that the applicant must meet in order to receive this scholarship and he/she hereby agrees to the following terms:

- 1) The course must be attended within 1 year of approval unless waived by the Board.
- 2) Membership in the G.C.K.G. must be current and paid in full.
- 3) You must be a member of the G.C.K.G. for at least one year prior to approval.
- 4) Payment will be made after proof of satisfactory attendance is submitted.
- 5) You agree to demonstrate an acquired skill to the members of the Guild within 3 scheduled meetings after attending the course.
- 6) Applicants will not be eligible for another scholarship for three years following receipt of a previous scholarship.

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

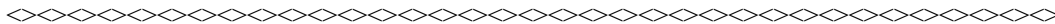
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date You Joined The G.C.K.G.: \_\_\_\_\_

What Course Are You Planning To Attend? \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that all of the information I have provided on this application is true and correct.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_