

# Steel & Fire



**Brad Vice, owner of Alabama Damascus Steel, attended the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild meeting held at Pop's Knife Supply shop in Braselton, Georgia. Brad is shown here with his selling crew member, Donna. Be sure to check out the Alabama Damascus Steel booth at the upcoming BLADE SHOW at the Cobb Galleria on June 4-6, 2021.**

## 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**



April, 2021

# 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.

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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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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 fol-

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## Notes from the President

Greeting everyone.

*Hoping that this finds you all happy and healthy after more than a year of the COVID restrictions placed upon us all. As we move into our summer months I'm sure many of us are in high gear preparing for the upcoming BLADE SHOW, set for June 4-6 at the Cobb Galleria center in Atlanta. For those that have never attended this huge event I would encourage each of you to consider attending this year's event! First one in two years. It's time to get out and see old friends and meet new ones.*

*The weekend prior to the Blade Show, there is going to be the first Custom Knife show going on in Nashville, TN (May 29-30). Hopefully this will be a very successful show. So if you want to make a trip up to the Mountains of TN, check that out as well.*

*On a sad note, our Treasurer of many years has decided to step down from this position leaving a very important position open on the Board of Directors for our Guild. We want to thank Marsha Brewer for her many years of service, dedication and professional performance as treasurer of the Georgia Guild. Her bright smile, stern "Let's get this done" attitude can compassionate handling of the training of new Presidents/Vice Presidents has been exemplary! My dear Marsha, you will be truly missed at our events. Our thoughts, prayers and undying gratitude for "job well done" can never repay you for your services to the Guild.*

*Special thanks again to the guys at Pop's Knife Supply for sponsoring our meeting this quarter. An excellent group of host, with about the perfect rendezvous spot in the state for a Guild meeting. Thanks guys!*

*Once again, good luck and safe travels for the summer, wherever your journeys may be. Good luck to all the makers at BLADE SHOW. We wish you a successful and blessed weekend. Drop by the GA Guild table and say Hi!*

**Keep it Sharp!**  
**John I. Shore**

### UPCOMING MEETING:

The spring meeting of the GA Guild will take place on Saturday, May 1, 2021 at Pop's Knife Supply shop in Braselton, GA. Meeting will start at 9:00.

There will also be a Friday evening gathering around 5:30 for those that can attend.

Address is 5450 Technology Pkwy, Suite 700, Braselton, GA.

### Cover Story:

Alabama Damascus Steel & Cutlery is owned and operated by Brad Vice.

They are located in the beautiful mountains of Jacksonville, Alabama.

They proudly forge their Damascus with the use of large air hammers and have a variety of patterns and blends of steel available.

If you want to see them in action, just contact them and set up a day to go to their shop. It is quite amazing to watch them at work!

See more pictures on page 10

**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 chose from at this time.



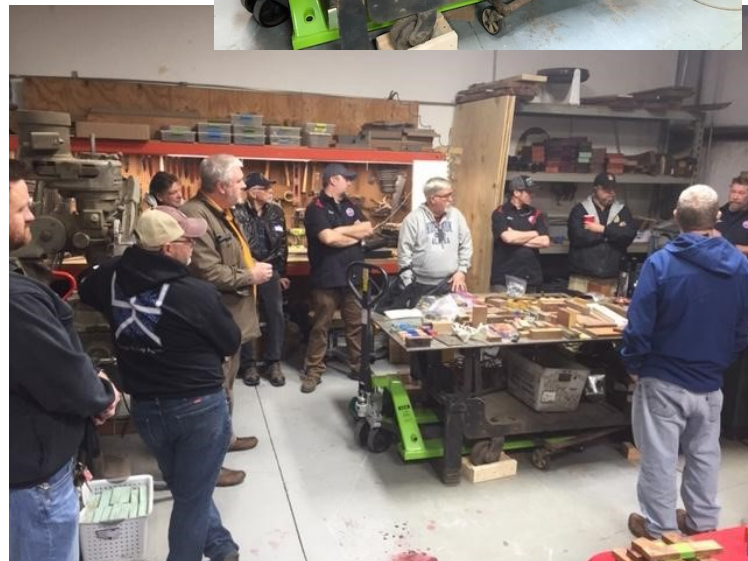
Our Winter Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild took place once again at Pop's Knife Supply shop in Braselton, Georgia. This event was hosted by Andy Roy, Allen Surls, Joey Berry, and Dirk Loots. Due some Covid issues with Harry & Charlie Mathews, the location had to be changed for this meeting. Thank you to Pop's Knife Supply owners for allowing us to hold this meeting at their shop.



**Remember to  
bring some-  
thing for the  
Iron-In-The-  
Hat table.**



Pops Knife Supply sells Wilmont Grinders along with their many varieties of handle materials, various steels, grinding belts and much more. Check them out while you attend one of our Guild meetings at Pops!



## New Juried members



**This guy is a hoot!  
I take the pictures for  
who gets juried into  
the Guild and with  
some disguise, I didn't  
realize he is one and  
the same...Ben Olsen  
from Flowery Branch.**



**New Member juried...  
Gary Lee Middlebrooks  
from Winder, Georgia**



**New Member juried...  
Rex A. Newell from  
Cleveland, Georgia**



**New Member juried...  
Chuck Scroggs from  
Gainesville, Georgia**

**Another New Member  
juried into the GA Guild is  
Brad Morris shown here  
with his son, Jesse Morris.  
They live in Dallas, Georgia**



**Demo –Question & Answer  
session led by Andy Roy and  
Joey Berry**



## **DEMO**

### **Scallop Belt Demonstration given by Joey Berry and Allen Surls**



***Scholarship Knife***  
**donated by Eddie Ray**  
**and won by Dan Eastland.**



Marsha Brewer, treasurer for the GA Guild, sets up to collect dues, get everyone signed-in, and sell tickets for the Scholarship knife and for Iron-in-the-Hat drawings. At this meeting she was joined by her granddaughter, Madison.



Scholarship Knife  
donated by Kent Disher  
and won by Jerry Costin.



Knife makers that  
attend our meetings  
often set up to dis-  
play and sell their  
products.

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 .



## Calendar

**Spring GA Guild meeting will be held on April 30-May 1, 2021 at Pop's Knife Supply in Braselton, Georgia.**

**The BLADE SHOW in Atlanta, will take place on June 4-6, 2021 at the Cobb Galleria.**

**The Batson Bladesmithing Symposium & Knife Show will take place on June 24-27, 2021 at the Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park., Alabama.**

**Fall Trackrock Hammer-In in Blairsville, GA will take place on September 24-25, 2021.**



### 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.

**See you on  
Saturday  
May 1, 2021  
Braselton, Georgia  
and bring something  
for Iron-in-the-Hat.**



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.



# ALABAMA DAMASCUS STEEL & CUTLERY

*"Your Complete Source For All Your Damascus Needs"*



A typical day for the  
working crew of the  
Alabama Damascus  
Steel & Cutlery