

# Steel & Fire



November, 2021



**This issue is dedicated to  
Dennis Harrell Bradley**

**March 14, 1947-August 27, 2021**

Dennis was a dedicated knife maker and talented artist. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. More pictures about Dennis as a member of the GA Guild in this issue.

## **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.

---

Steel & Fire is copyrighted in its entirety by the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild. Permission to quote small noncontiguous passages is freely given as long as appropriate citations are used. Permission to reprint, in whole or in part, must be requested from the Guild. Contact the editor.

---

Knife making and related endeavors are inherently dangerous crafts or occupations. The material contained in this newsletter is for information only, and is not intended to provide instruction. Therefore, the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild, its officers and editors specifically disclaim any and all responsibility for damage or injury that may occur as a result of the use of any information that is contained in this newsletter.

---

**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 fol-

## Guild Officers and Directors

President:	John Shore 1708 S. Palmetto Avenue Sanford, Florida 32771 407-878-9591 messermacher@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Eddie Ray 4957 T. Martin Road Gainesville, GA 30506 678-858-6201 raye38@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Nola Costin 1433 Denfield Court Lithonia, GA 30058 404-660-1709 nolacostin@bellsouth.net
Treasurer:	Cindy Acker 6766 Phillips Mill Road Douglasville, GA 30127 678-502-8883 cindyacker@bellsouth.net
Member-At-Large:	Dirk Loots 3020 Bentbill Crossing Cumming, GA 30041 240-409-6688 photo@dirkloots.com
Editor:	Nola Costin 1433 Denfield Court Lithonia, GA 30058 404-660-1709 nolacostin@bellsouth.net
Webmaster:	Dirk Loots photo@dirkloots.com
Director/Chairman, Poythress Scholarship Fund	Andy Roy 249 Brookcliff Drive Sugar Hill, GA 30518 andy@fiddlebackforge.com

## Notes from the President

Greetings everyone,  
Hoping that this finds you all happy and healthy. Can you believe it is November already? A great time of the year for hunting season, festivals, Thanksgiving, and Christmas is just around the corner. Like most makers, a very exciting and busy time of the year. I hope that all your orders are coming along well, or that you have them finished for the year so that you may relax and enjoy the season.

Time for our last meeting of the year, lots of things to cover at the Guild meeting this time. I sincerely hope that many of you will make the trek to Pop's Knife Supply in Braselton for the meeting. As per usual, Friday nite social and November 12th and our business meeting starting at 0900 Saturday morning. We want to welcome Walter Sorrells doing one of our demos and Igor Kaftanaty doing our other demo. Great demos so don't miss this opportunity to see them at this meeting.

Since our last meeting sadly, we have lost a dear friend and fellow maker, Dennis Bradley. A truly great man, husband, father, mentor, teacher and Knifemaker. Our thoughts and prayers for Beverly and their family and friends continue as we all remember Dennis and his contributions to this world. His influence and teaching will live on in the hearts and minds of all who loved and knew him. May he rest in eternal peace.

Our thoughts and prayers also for those among us that have suffered the painful and disabling effects of COVID during this past year.

With the upcoming holiday season, I would like to wish each and everyone a happy and joyous holiday season from all of us on the GA Guild Board of Directors. May you enjoy health, happiness, good will and be blessed in the season ahead.

Before our next meeting in February, those of you that wish to participate in our annual ICCE ad campaign will need to submit to the Board, your quality photos of your knife that you want considered for the ad. WE will select three knives from those submitted to represent our Guild in our full page ICCE show program. No cost, just submit a quality photo. Send your photo to shore-ji@yahoo.com or any of the Board members.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Pop's on the 12-13th.

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

### UPCOMING MEETING:

The fall meeting of the GA Guild will take place on **Saturday, November 13, 2021** at the shop of Pop's Knife Supply in Braselton, GA. There will be a **Friday evening gathering** for those that can attend...starting around **5:00**. **Saturday's meeting will begin at 9:00**. Address is **5450 Technology Pkwy, Suite 700, Braselton, GA**.

### Cover Story:

Dennis Bradley has been a member of the GA Guild for many years. He attended the Blade Show each year and many other related events such as the Trackrock Hammer-In in Blairsville, and most of the GA Guild meetings throughout the state. He will be missed by all.

**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 summer Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild took place on August 6-7th at the home/shop of Dennis and Beverly Bradley in Blairsville, Georgia. A great time was had by all that attended.

The following week after the Guild meeting, Dennis and Beverly headed to Iceland for a vacation...Dennis loved to travel and had wanted to go to Iceland as one of the trips on his bucket list. Previously, Dennis had been going through Chemo and Radiation treatments for cancer. He had completed all his treatments during the summer. While in Iceland, Dennis had some complications from his cancer treatments and passed away while in Iceland. This was hard on Beverly, his wife of 40 years, but his children were able to fly to Iceland and be with Beverly and their dad before his passing.

The knife world will truly miss Dennis and all his talents to knifemaking. Our prayers go out to Beverly and all the family.



Dennis liked to keep everything organized and had his schedule ready for the GA Guild meeting.





Remember to bring something for the Iron-In-The-Hat table.

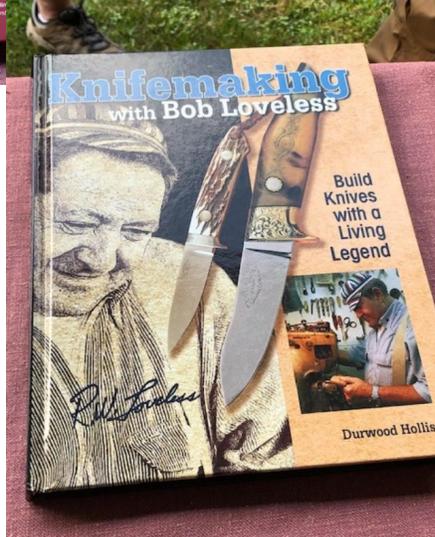
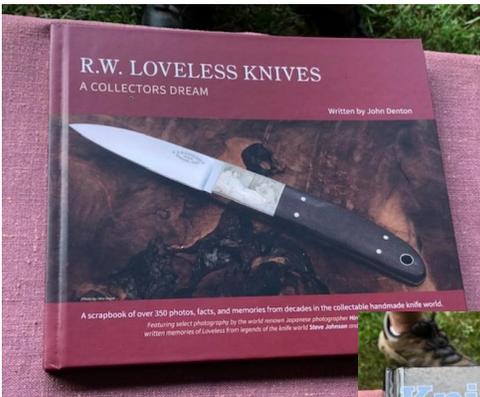
Beverly is bringing in the Chick-Fil-A lunch with the help of our VP, Eddie Ray.

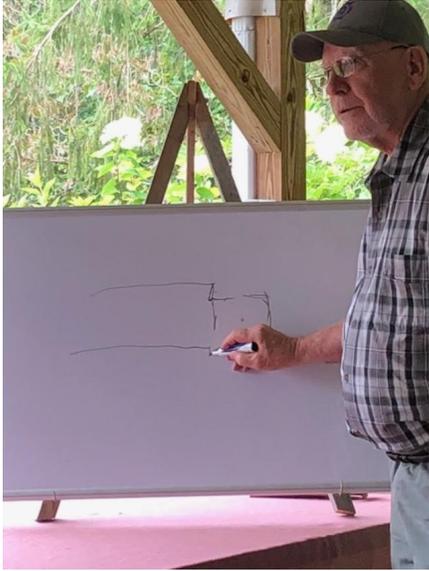


Always great food at the Bradley's meetings. Fresh vegetables and more...



# Demo –John Denton gave a demo/ talk about Loveless Knives and his collection.





**DEMO**  
P J Tomes gave a presentation on folders.



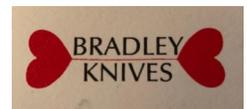
**Scholarship Knife** donated by Wayne Hensley and won by Jeff McCullough of Blue Ridge, GA.



### IN LOVING MEMORY OF DENNIS BRADLEY

Dennis Bradley was a man of many talents. He did knifemaking, leather work, scrimshaw work, file work and more. His interests included collecting and renovating motorcycles. He had many motorcycles in his collection. He enjoyed hosting the GA Guild meetings at his home/shop along with his wife, Beverly. The Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild sends thoughts and prayers to Beverly and to the family. Dennis will truly be missed by all.

Here are just a few pictures of past GA Guild meetings hosted by Dennis and Beverly



*Thank you Dennis and Beverly for the memories.*



Dennis Bradley at the Blade Show...we truly will miss you.



## New Juried member

Tommy Smith from Gainesville, GA

Tommy is not a new member, but was juried at this meeting.



## PAY YOUR DUES WITH PAYPAL

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYING DUES WITH PAYPAL

1. Go to paypal.com
2. Log into your account or set up an account if you don't have one
3. Choose **Send & Request**
4. Enter [GCKM2021@gmail.com](mailto:GCKM2021@gmail.com)
5. Enter the amount you want to pay
6. Hit **Continue**
7. Choose **Personal**
8. Hit **Continue**
9. Hit **Send Payment Now**

If you pay any other way through PayPal, there is a fee that is deducted from your payment and you will not get full credit for your dues.

Please contact Cindy Acker at 678-502-8883 or [gckm2021@gmail.com](mailto:gckm2021@gmail.com) with any questions.



Cindy Acker, our new Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild Treasurer, now has Pay Pal available to pay those dues.



## Calendar

**Fall GA Guild meeting will take place on November 12-13, 2021 at Pop's Knife Supply shop.**

**The Winter GA Guild meeting is being scheduled for February in Augusta, GA at the home/shop of Adam Reese. Date to be announced later.**

**Spring Trackrock Hammer-In in Blairsville, GA will take place on March 18-19, 2022**

**ICCE Show in Fort Worth, Texas will be on March 18-19, 2022**



### 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.

## REMINDER



**See you on  
Saturday  
November 4, 2021  
Pop's Knife Supply in  
Braselton, GA and  
Please bring something  
for  
Iron-in-the-Hat.**