

# Steele & Fire



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\*\*The upcoming meeting will be our first ever joint club meeting of the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild and the Flint River Knife Club. We have several demos and even some competition planned for this meeting. We hope that you can join us as we bring our two knife clubs together for a very exciting meeting. DON'T MISS IT!

## 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



September, 2025

# 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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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.

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## Notes from the President

### Greetings to Everyone!

I hope this finds you all doing well. We are just days away from our first ever joint meeting with the Flint River Knife Club at the shop of Jerry Costin in Conyers, on October 3 & 4, 2025. Jerry has some great demos and a friendly competition planned. We hope to see you there. As always meals will be provided.

Also, remember the fall festival at Pops' Knife Supply Shop on October 25th. I believe they still have tables available if anyone would like to set up and display and sell your work.

Jerry McJilton is seeking quality photos of your work so he can change out the cover photo on the Georgia Guild Facebook page every month. So, if you have some pictures, please send them to him.

I hope to see you at one or maybe both of the upcoming events...either at Jerry's shop for our joint meeting, or at Pops' for their festival. If I can be of help, or any board member can ever help in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Stay sharp!  
Eddie Ray

### UPCOMING MEETING:

Our Fall meeting will be a joint meeting of the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild and the Flint River Knife Club on October 3-4, 2025. This meeting will take place at the shop of Jerry Costin in Conyers, GA. There will be a Friday social starting around 5:00. Saturday's meeting will start around 8:15 with fellowship and coffee/juice/donuts/pastries. Meeting starts at 9:00. Address is 829 Commerce Drive SW Conyers, GA Unit 6-7A.

**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 only \$10.00. All shirts are now the same price, so get them while they are still available.

**PAY YOUR DUES WITH PAY PAL  
OR BY CREDIT CARD!!!**

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Cindy Acker, our Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild Treasurer, has Pay Pal available to pay those dues. Or you can pay by check or cash at our meeting. *We also can now do a credit card payment!!!*



The summer Guild meeting was held at the home/shop of Jerry McJilton in Blairsville, Georgia. A good time was had by all and of course there was plenty of good food on Friday evening and for Saturday's lunch. It was great to be able to sit outside and enjoy the great weather.



**Congratulations to  
Cindy and Dan Acker  
on their  
56th Anniversary**



**DEMOS—**

**Jerry McJilton did a demo on hand sanding a blade for a hand rubbed satin finish.**

**John Shore did a demo on blade sharpening technique.**



**Remember to bring something for Iron-In-the-Hat. Tickets are only 6 for \$5.00**



**An easy set-up to display your knives...by Tommy Smith**

***Scholarship Knife was  
donated by Tim Rowland  
and won by Frank Jones.***



**FYI—No New Members  
at this meeting.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS—**

**Joint meeting of the Flint River Knife Club and GA Guild at the shop of Jerry Costin, Conyers, Georgia on October 4, 2025. There will be a Friday social. 829 Commerce Dr. SW, Conyers, GA Unit 6-7A**

**Pop's Knife Supply 2nd Annual Fall Festival, Gainesville, Georgia, October 25, 2025**  
**Vendors needed, so contact Makenna at Pops if you need more information.**

**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. Batson's at Tannehill State Park holds classes on various subjects. These are held on the first weekend in April.
3. Damon Lusky— Does a small training group in Dawsonville, GA. Focus is on martial blades concepts.
4. Carl Rechsteiner-general bladesmithing & knife making instruction as well as leather work.
5. John C Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC
6. Charlie & Harry Mathews-basic knife making class
7. Stephan Fowler-basic class on forging a full tang Hunter.
8. Haywood Community College, Haywood/Canton, NC ABS classes-check website for class schedule
9. Mark Hopper of Goat'N'Hammer Blacksmith Shop in Atlanta, GA. See their website for more information. They are in the process of moving to Douglasville, GA.

**\*\*Please let me know if you would like to be added to or removed from this list.**

**REMINDER**

**See you on  
Friday & Saturday  
October 3 & 4, 2025  
In Conyers, Georgia.  
Jerry Costin's shop  
Please bring  
something for  
Iron-in-the-Hat.**



That's all Folks for this edition. Hope to see you at the upcoming JOINT club meeting!!

