

Steel & Fire



July, 2026



Cindy Acker, our club Treasurer and Secretary, keeps a watchful eye on the table for the Georgia Guild at the Atlanta Blade Show each year. We thank those who donated a knife for the benefit drawings held during the Blade Show.

More pictures inside this edition of the Steel & Fire Newsletter highlighting some of the Atlanta Blade Show 2026.

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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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.

Guild Officers and Directors

President:	Eddie Ray 678-858-6201 raye38@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Jerry McJilton 305-409-3828 jaimoeknives@yahoo.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Cindy Acker 678-502-8883 cindyacker@bellsouth.net
Member-At-Large:	Dan Acker 404-263-4497 dackerusa@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor:	Nola Costin 404-660-1709 nolacostin2127@gmail.com
Webmaster:	Dan Acker dackerusa@gmail.com
Director/Chairman, Poythress Scholarship Fund	John Shore 407-878-9591 messermacher@yahoo.com



After winning the competition at the joint meeting of the Flint River Knife Club & the Georgia Custom Knifemakers' Guild, Tony Crabtree took the knife home and gave it a more finished look.

Notes from the President

Good day to you all!

I certainly hope you all are having a great July and we are quickly coming up on our next meeting at the shop of Richard Gallagher in Blue Ridge (Suches), Georgia. We will have some great demos on Saturday. Richard and Jerry McJilton will be doing demos. Meeting dates are Friday evening, July 31st at 5 pm. and then Saturday, August 1st we will get started around 9 am.

This is one meeting location you don't want to miss. Great food and the views are amazing. If you have anyone who is wanting to join, encourage them to attend this meeting. If they want to get juried in to the guild, have them bring three knives they have made and we will get them juried in. I have been approached by two already, wanting to join, so hopefully, we will have a bunch to join up.

I hope all those who had tables at the Blade Show this year had a successful weekend. I hope you made some new friends too. I am hoping that the parking will be better next year.

During this stretch of hot & humid weather that we are having, I want to remind you all if you are working outside, stay hydrated and don't overdo it. Please take care of yourself and others.

Hoping to see you all at this upcoming meeting in Suches, Georgia, and if you need anything, don't hesitate to call me.

Blessings and safe travels to all.

Eddie Ray

UPCOMING MEETING:

Our Summer meeting of the Georgia Guild will take place at the home/shop of Richard Gallagher on Saturday, August 1, 2026. Saturday's meeting will start at 9:00. Friday night social will start around 5:00.

Address is 1025 Skeenah Gap Road, Suches, Georgia.

Remember that your annual dues are due each year in February. If you have not paid, please do so now so that you will not be removed from our list of members. The dues are \$60 per year unless you are 70 or over, then they are \$25 per year.

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

.....
: 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 Spring meeting of the GA Guild was held at Pop's Knife Supply Shop in Gainesville, GA. Pops was set up at the Atlanta Blade Show 2026 again this year.



Eddie Ray as President of the GA Guild, made several special presentations to some members of the Guild.



Good food in the making. Pop's always does a good job of fixing some very tasty food for the Guild meetings.



The Atlanta Blade Show 2026 is now history. Here are some of the pictures from that show.



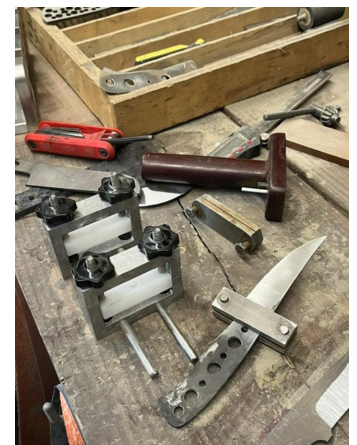
Can Jerry Costin's Bowie knife out do this light saber. The Atlanta Mountain Man says "Yes it can!"



Dirk Loots shared a special demo to show how to do ceramic and epoxy coating blades and baking it on.

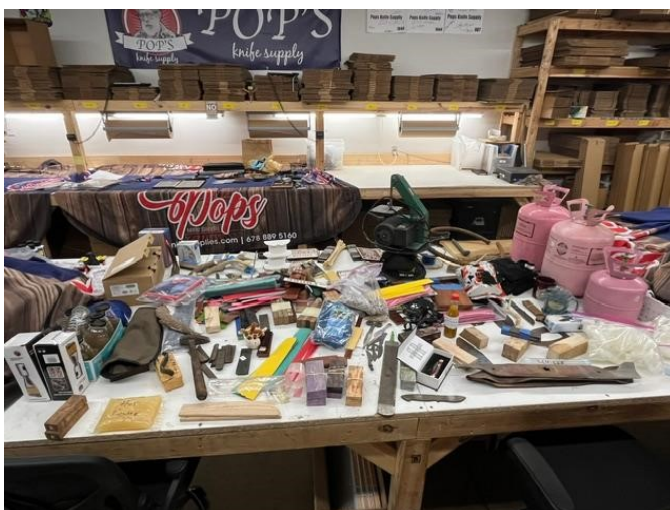


Walter Sorrells showed some of his tools that he has designed that helps knife making processes a little bit easier.





Pat Rabin from Marietta, GA, was juried in at the Atlanta Blade Show. Congratulations Pat and welcome to the GA Guild.



Remember to bring something for the Iron-in-the-Hat tables.



Scholarship Knife

Donated by Eddie Ray, sheath made by Scott Davidson

Please help by donating a knife for future Scholarship Knife drawings.



UPCOMING EVENTS—

Summer GA Guild meeting will take place on Saturday, August 1, 2026 at the home/shop of Richard Gallagher, in Suches, Georgia. Friday evening gathering also starting at 5:00. 1025 Sheenah Gap Road, Suches, GA.

Fall Trackrock Hammer-In will take place on September 18-19, 2026 in Blairsville, Georgia. Check it out on Facebook for 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. Stephan Fowler-basic class on forging a full tang Hunter.
7. Haywood Community College, Haywood/Canton, NC ABS classes-check website for class schedule
8. Mark Hopper of Goat'N'Hammer Blacksmith Shop in Douglasville, GA. See their website for more Information.

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

REMINDER

See you on
Friday & Saturday
July 31 & August 1, 2026
In Suches, Georgia.
Richard Galligher's home
Please bring
something for
Iron-in-the-Hat.



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

