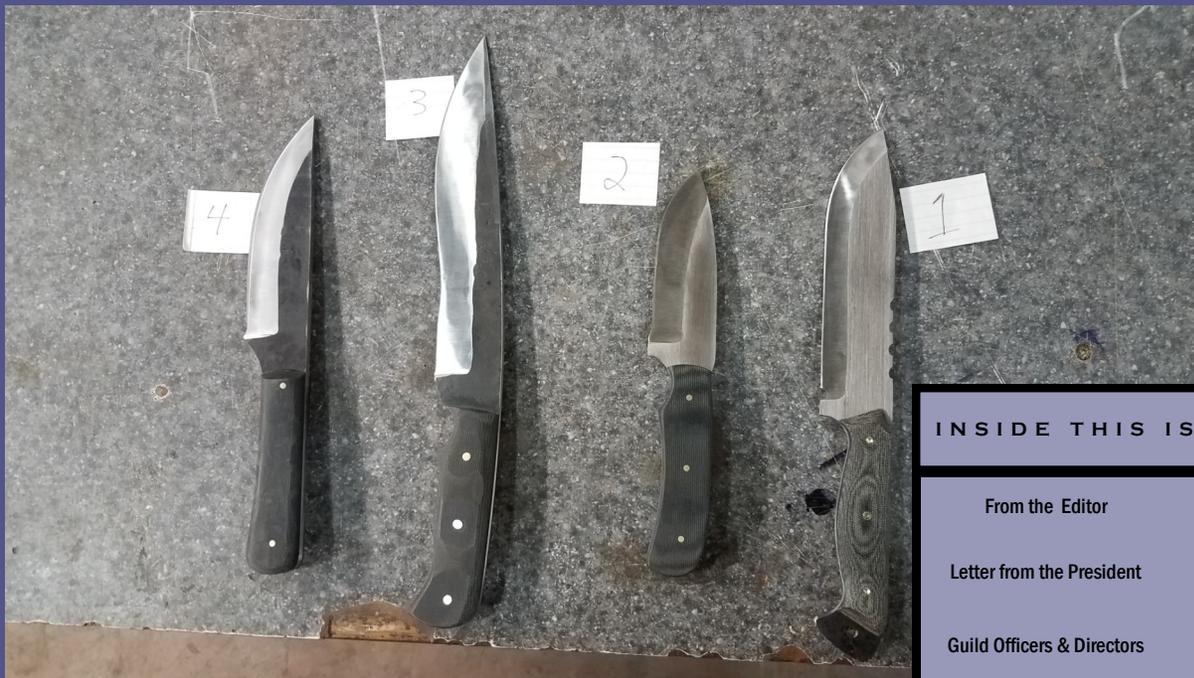


Billets & Blades

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE NORTH CAROLINA CUSTOM KNIFEMAKERS GUILD

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The next **North Carolina Custom Knifemakers Guild** meeting date: January 18, 2020 at MCC
- New Tee shirts are in come and get a couple



2019 King of the Guild build off knives. Come and see if you have what it takes to be the next King of the Guild.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Editor	2
Letter from the President	3
Guild Officers & Directors	3
2020 MCC Class Schedule	9-10
Upcoming meetings	11

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION AND OUR GUILD

Billets and Blades is the official publication of the North Carolina Custom Knifemakers Guild. It is compiled and published in four annual issues, with two additional special publication dates possible each year.

The North Carolina Custom Knifemakers Guild was formed to meet the needs of the growing body of custom knife makers in the southeastern United States. The purpose of this newsletter is to serve as a medium of exchange for the members of the NCCKG.

Billets and Blades is copyrighted in its entirety by the North Carolina 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. Please 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 for private instruction. Therefore, the North Carolina Custom Knifemakers Guild and its Officers and Editor 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 NCCKG 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 advertisements 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, please submit ads to the one of the board of directors listed on the following page.

FROM THE EDITOR

If you are a new member, please make sure that we have your correct email and physical mailing addresses. You may send this information to us via email.

If you are currently receiving *Billets and Blades* but are no longer interested in receiving it please let us know.

If you know of someone who may be interested in becoming a member, please let a board member know and we'll be happy to mail a copy of the current newsletter to that person.

Existing members, please check the website to verify that we have your correct information. Especially your correct email address so you may be contacted should the need arise. We are always in need of pictures, articles and ideas on how to make the website and newsletter better. Please contact a board member with any suggestions.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Letter from the President. Winter 2020

Well, another year has passed us by.

I hope everyone had a safe a joyful holiday. Looking forward to a fun and productive year with the Guild. We have plans for some nice giveaway's. Just do a Demo or write an article for the newsletter and you're in for a chance to win.

The Guild has secured a booth at the Blade Show in Atlanta. If you're interested in working the booth. Contact: Murphy Ragsdale. Come and hangout at the booth and sell some of your knives.

At the January meeting we will be having the King of the Guild competition. You will have 4 hours to build a knife. Forged or stock removal. With the supplies that are provided. The time includes heat treat.

Barry is in need of articles and demo's. They both will get you tickets for this year's give a ways.

Hope Everyone's Ready for a New Decade with the Guild

Andy Sharpe
President NCCKMG.

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2020 Montgomery Community College Knifemaking Schedule Spring

Tomahawk forging

Cost: \$316.60

Dates: Feb. 7-9

Capacity: 9

Instructor: John Hege

Forging a tomahawk is a great starter project for blacksmithing. Forging the head will introduce students to the basic practice of drawing & shaping steel as well as forge-welding and heat treating to harden the edge. Students will forge a traditional style "wrap-around" tomahawk head and will shape/ fit the handle form provided hardwood blanks. Then students will personalize & complete this "hawk" with traditional details & embellishments of their choosing. Open to all levels of experience.

Basic Belt grinding skills

Cost: \$204.60

Dates: Feb. 22-23

Capacity: 9

Instructor: Jones Brothers

Students will setup and use a 2x72 belt sander. Learn when, how and why to use specific attachments/ tooling, belts, speeds and techniques for knife making and gunsmithing.

Chef knife making

Cost: \$316.60

Dates: Feb. 28- March 1

Capacity: 9

Instructor: Ken Hall

During this 3-day chef knife class students will be instructed on how to make a chef knife. Topics that will be covered in class include: knife design, steel selection, heat-treating, knife grinding, blade finishing, handle selection, handle finishing, blade sharpening, and the use of equipment and tools used in making a knife. Materials and supplies will be provided to make a finished Chef knife using stainless steel. Simple wood handle material will be provided, but students are welcome to bring wood of their own choosing.

Basic knife making 101

Cost: \$346.60

Dates: March 5-8

Capacity: 9

Instructor: Ed and Tanya VanHoy

This is a class designed to teach the proper techniques of free hand grinding, it will cover hollow grinding, flat grinding, and basic knife scale installation. It is open to all levels of experience. Student's materials will be provided, all students will finish a fixed blade knife of the courses design.

Basic Knife Sharpening**Cost: \$140.60****Dates: March 21**

Capacity: 9

Instructor: Jones Brothers

Learn how to properly sharpen and maintain your knife blades by hand using sharpening stones. This hands on class will cover straight and serrated edges, honing and edge angles. There is no tool requirement for this class. Just bring your knives!!!

Intermediate knife making 102**Cost: \$346.60****Dates: April 2-5**

Capacity: 9

Instructor: Ed and Tanya VanHoy

- This class will cover all phases of fixed blade knife construction, students will finish one knife of their design, and designs will be approved with level of experience. All materials for class project provided. Class will be open to all level of experience and it is preferable that student have some knowledge of knife making or having taken Basic Knife making 101 helpful although not required. Students fill finish a completed knife.

Advanced knife making 103**Cost: \$356.60****Dates: May 7-10**

Capacity: 9

Instructor: Ed and Tanya VanHoy

- This class will cover more advanced methods of custom fixed blade knife making to include advanced grinding techniques and advanced handle installation including hidden tang. All materials for class project will be provided. Class open to all levels of experience. Some knowledge of knife making or having taken basic knife making 101 and intermediate knife making 102 helpful although not required. Students will finish a completed knife

What a great line up of classes for 2019! This list will be updated as more are announced.

Contact Montgomery CC for additional class information or to register for a class.

UPCOMING 2020 GUILD MEETINGS

Saturday January 18th, 2020

Location: Montgomery Community College

Saturday April 18st, 2020

Location: Montgomery Community College

Elections to be held for VP and a director.

Saturday July 18st, 201920

Location: Montgomery Community College

Saturday October 17th, 2020

Location: Montgomery Community College

Dues are due in October!

Events Include:

Board Meeting begins at 8:30am, to be followed by our General Business Meeting & Iron in the Hat

Demos:

Will be determined and published on the website prior to the meeting.

Blade Show — June 5-7, 2020

Contact Murphy Ragsdale for table information and volunteer to help!

If you are not a juried member and wish to become one bring at least three knives for the leadership team to review.

The **North Carolina Custom Knifemakers Guild** was founded in June of 1992. Our goals are to:

- Promote the craft of custom knife making
- Seek to constantly improve the craftsmanship of its members
- Provide an educational resource to anyone interested in the craft
- To encourage new makers and provide a forum for their training

Through public knife making and forging demonstrations by a group or individual members, we try to display the craft and to educate the public. It is our intent to raise the general awareness of custom made knives and the people who create them. That is why there is no cost to attend one of our meetings, and we welcome anyone with an interest in knife making.

Our quarterly meetings are organized around speakers and various demonstrations of activities important to our craft. These speakers and demonstrations are from our members or experts in the field who come as our guests. As a training resource, our Guild is prepared to present any aspect of our craft to organizations that feel it would be beneficial and informative.

