



Welcome to The Ocmulgee Blacksmiths Guild

The Ocmulgee Blacksmiths Guild is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and our mission is to promote the art and trade of blacksmithing, in both traditional and modern methods. We provide opportunities for teaching and learning about blacksmithing, many of the associated crafts, and the free exchange of creative ideas.

The Ocmulgee Blacksmiths Guild is an affiliate of ABANA, the Artist Blacksmiths Association of North America, and the SBA, the Southern Blacksmith Association.

This guide is to provide an overview of Membership benefits and offer a snapshot of helpful information – Do feel free to ask any Member questions not covered here.

- You will receive a Member Card signifying your active membership in our Guild Upon paying your dues in January of each year. This card will be provided to you by the Treasurer. Annual membership rates are \$25 for an individual or \$35 for a family group. Methods of payment accepted include cash, check, and PayPal. If utilizing PayPal, please choose the “Friends & Family” option, to avoid a handling fee being charged to our Guild. You may need to use PayPal from a computer in order to choose the **“Friends & Family”** option. PayPal payments are made to obgtreasurer@gmail.com In the notes section, please include your name, address, and phone number. Also, please include the membership year for which you are paying dues.
- General information can be found on our website and Facebook group and our Facebook business page. Here are the places you’ll be able to find information regarding meetings:
 - www.ocmulgeblacksmithsguild.org – OBG website
 - www.facebook.com/groups/OBGMembers – Facebook OBG Members Group
 - Member requests to this group will be approved by a group admin
 - You can post questions, comments and photos in the group

- Like our www.facebook.com/Ocmulgee-Blacksmith-Guild-103265266413337/ Facebook OBG Business Page (or simply search for Ocmulgee Blacksmith Guild) – You can like/follow the Business page, no need to join, but you will find more interaction in the member group.
 - If you have content you'd like to request or to be added to the webpage, please contact Nik Jett.
 - Coming in the future will be member only access to the webpage
- Guild Officers and Board of Directors Members for 2019:
 - Chris Harper, President
 - James Gardner, Vice President
 - Scarlet Thurston, Treasurer
 - Ingrid House, Secretary
 - Glenn House, Board Member
 - Nik Jett, Board Member
 - Adam Lavender, Board Member
 - Dennis Tingle, Board Member
- Standing Committees:
 - Scholarship Committee
 - Jim Guy, Director
 - Rob Thurston
 - Jim Archambault
 - Ways & Means Committee
 - Chris Andrews, Director, Merchandising Manager
 - Ingrid House
 - Scarlet Thurston
 - Membership Committee
 - Julie Harper, Director – 478-454-7623, membership.obg@gmail.com
 - Scarlet Thurston
- Our Home Forge is located at Dauset Trails Nature Center, 360 Mount Vernon Church Road, Jackson, Georgia 30233, phone 770-775-6798, www.dausettrails.com. Entry to Dauset Trails is free. The OBG mailing address is Ocmulgee Blacksmiths Guild, c/o Dauset Trails, P.O. Box 1246, Jackson, GA 30233
- Membership benefits include:
 - Right to offer ideas and vote.
 - Right to apply for scholarship drawings in February.
 - Access to the Guild Library
 - Access to Specialty Classes – Various classes offered through the Guild and taught locally, such as Coppersmithing, Knifemaking, Hammer-making, and others.

- Receive Calling Post message – a monthly recorded phone message with details about the next meeting date, location, time, events, and program.
- Open Forge – Forges, anvils, vises, and a wide range of tools available for use at most meetings.
- Iron In The Hat (IITH)
 - Attendees to meetings bring items to donate to the Iron In The Hat drawing. Tickets can be purchased for \$1 each or \$20 for 25 tickets. Bring a hand-forged item(s) and get 5 free tickets. Each item has a cup, if you want a chance to win that item, put one of your tickets in the cup. A ticket is drawn, and if it is yours, then you win that item.
- Youth Program:
 - Open to members and non-members, youth ages only.
 - Usually 6-8 students each session.
 - Requires parent or guardian in attendance.
 - Each youth has own instructor.
 - Introduction to Blacksmithing class content.
- Monthly Meetings are held the 1st Saturday of each month, such as:
(Official Schedule can be found here:
<http://www.ocmulgeebblacksmithsguild.org/meeting-schedule.html>)
 - January – Dauset Trails Nature Center – Scholarships applications.
 - February – Location varies – Scholarships drawings.
 - March – Location varies
 - April – Location varies
 - May – Location varies
 - June – Location varies
 - July – Jarrell Plantation State Historic Site – 711 Jarrell Plantation Road, Juliette, Georgia 31046, Phone 478-986-5172, <https://gastateparks.org/JarrellPlantation>.
 - August – Dauset Trails Nature Center – Annual Open Blacksmith Auction
 - September – Location varies
 - October – Dauset Trails Nature Center – Annual Terry Elerbee Hammer-In
 - November – Kitchens Road Old Time Family Festival, 370A Kitchens Road SW, Haddock, Georgia 31033, www.kitchensroad.com
 - December – Dauset Trails Nature Center – Annual Meeting of the OBG, Guild Officers and Board of Director Members elections, Annual White Elephant Christmas Party, bring a wrapped “hand-made by you” item (*please, no store-bought items*).
- If you are interested hosting a meeting at your forge, please contact any Guild Officer.