

## NWBA Swaptoberfest Demonstrators ~ October 3-5, 2025

### Pete Braspenninx

Joining us as our Featured Demonstrator on Friday and Saturday will be Pete Braspenninx, from Michigan. Pete is currently the owner of Phyre Forge. His work has been exhibited and published both nationally and internationally. Pete's work focuses on building shape and line through visual connections and joinery using traditional skills to make modern forms. Pete does architectural iron work as well as sculptural work. Pete plans to work on several different pieces to illustrate a variety of techniques during his demonstrations in Longview. Pete indicated that he plans to cover forge welding as a component of his demos. Learn more about Pete at [www.phyreforge.com](http://www.phyreforge.com).



### Kellen Bateham

A native Oregonian, Kellen Bateham has been a part of the NW metalworking community for nearly 20 years. What began as a hobby quickly turned into a career of making custom architectural ironwork. His work ranges vastly from large LED lit gates and signs to whimsical sculptures, to contemporary fireplaces and staircases. Kellen is drawn to projects that are complex and is especially excited to collaborate with other smiths, artists, and the public. A self-proclaimed non-profit junkie, he has served in numerous roles for multiple metal arts based non-profit boards. A former NWBA president, he has helped plan and lead dozens of conferences, workshops, and community forging events. Kellen will be a Featured Demonstrator on Friday and Saturday.



## Peter Reich

Joining us as Sunday's "Hot Tips and Tricks" Demonstrator will be Peter Reich from Salem, OR. Peter has been blacksmithing since 2018. Peter was fortunate to have the late Ike Bay serve as his first mentor at the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center and he has not stopped learning new techniques since that day. Peter has worked for and with several Northwest smiths including Silas Maddox, Kellen Bateham and Chuck Richards. Currently Peter is working for the metal sculptor, Matt Devine: <https://www.mattdevineart.com/home>. Peter enjoys producing a broad array of work, ranging from hammers, knives, hardware, locks to utensils. You can view his work at: [instagram.com/stdunstanstongs](https://www.instagram.com/stdunstanstongs) For the "Hot Tips and Tricks" demo on Sunday, Peter plans to share a variety of tips and tools he has found useful focused on knife making, tooling, and of course forging.



## Scott Szloch

NWBA is excited to welcome Scott Szloch as one of the Swaptoberfest Conference Hands-On Demonstrators this year. Noted across the country for his incredible talent and excellent teaching skills, Scott has been expressing himself using the traditional skills and techniques (with a few modern ones) of the blacksmith since 1992. Based in Shoreline, Washington he works at his business *Ironworks* as a full-time artist, blacksmith and fabricator specializing in custom architectural ironwork. Scott enjoys the process of forging mild steel and indicated he is always trying to learn, create new and interesting objects and push the material to its limits. Sculptural and functional ironwork for home and garden have been his focus. Scott's session will be held on Saturday morning from 9:00 – noon in the Mentoring Center.



