

# Monthly Newsletter



Oct./Nov 2022 | Issue 003 | Redeemed Steel

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our October/November issue highlights ministry partners in North America. We visit beautiful Colorado and Virginia and spend some time with some brand new smiths and some of the best in the world, all while sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and fueling the ministry of Redeemed Steel. We are pushing forward towards our goal of our first Trade School in Guatemala.

Go to [www.redeemedsteel.com](http://www.redeemedsteel.com) to get involved or to start giving.

Incredible Cause. Incredible Crafts. Redeemed Steel.

## Inside this Issue

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Zoweh is all about helping men to recover their identity in Christ. By helping men get their hearts back and forging redemptive brotherhoods, Redeemed Steel partners with the amazing group that is changing the world.

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An interview with Travis Leblanc of Alpine Custom Knives as we talk about his first ever Hammer In Event.

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We have officially broken ground on our Trade School in Guatemala.

# The HeArt of the Warrior Encounter West

Nestled amongst the aspen groves of beautiful Bueno Vista, Colorado, something dangerous is happening. Men are rediscovering who they are in Christ and realizing that they are not weak but strong. They are discovering that they are not broken but are remade. They are learning that if they know who they are, what they are, and the good that God is up to in their lives, then there is no force on earth that can stop them.

Men are becoming oriented. They are embracing their identities as beloved sons of God, Warrior Poets, and Elder Sages. They are beginning redemptive brotherhoods where men build each other up in a world that is seemingly trying to tear them down, and they are becoming kings in the fight for their families, identities, and the world around us. Dangerous, but for good.

Into this comes Redeemed Steel. A couple of our members, Billy Salyers and Britt Barnes, made a 2 day drive across the country, carrying several thousand pounds of equipment so that we could be a part of

“Helping men and women experience more love, more life, and more freedom by enjoying more intimacy, oneness, and connectedness with God and others.”



sharing the message that God desires to reshape the hearts of men. By using the craft of blacksmithing, the men present were invited to try their hands at forging a piece we call 2 Crosses 1 Heart. The idea behind this piece is Galatians 2:20 which says “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” (KJV).

The idea behind this simple sculpture is that Christ carries our cross so that we can share his heart. Not only did these men have a great time smithing, but we saw many of them experience genuine life change as a result of their time with the Redeemed Steel Team.

One man in particular shared that because of the impact Redeemed Steel and the men of Zoweh had had on his life that he had decided to surrender his life to Christ for the first time. Praise God for this eternal difference!

For more information about Zoweh or The HeArt of the Warrior Encounter, visit [www.zoweh.org](http://www.zoweh.org)



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## Member Spotlight Travis Leblanc

RS. Travis Leblanc is the Owner of Alpin Custom Knives in LaCrosse, VA. Travis Recently hosted a Hammer in event in support of Redeemed Steel. We followed up with an interview with him.

Q. Tell me a little about how you got into bladesmithing.

T. My childhood best friend was getting married and I was going to buy some matching knives for the grooms-men and I couldn't afford them. So, I made some knives myself. Then I started making scales until I could afford the equipment I needed. Then I moved to damascus steels and better techniques.

Q. Your handle scales are one of the things you are known for. Tell us about those.

T. I use live edge burl, like box elder, and cast resin, usually clear. It lets you see the patterns of the steel even through the handle.

Q. So is knifemaking your full time job?

T. Yes, after my dad passed away, I also run the family farm, so between the two, I stay pretty busy.

Q. How did you encounter Redeemed Steel?

T. We met at Blade Show and became friends. I ended up at the Hammer In at Yellow Rose Forge at the invitation of a friend. I didn't put the two together until I got there and recognized you guys.

Q. So you decided to have a hammer in this year yourself?

T. I wanted to help Redeemed Steel reach its goal for the Guatemala mission. I've always wanted to share my shop with others and that was enough fire to get me started. We not only met our goal, but exceeded it.

Q. What was that event like?

T. We started at 9 and did a battle of the bladesmiths with about 10 guys. We had burgers from my farm, and Ben Abbott did a Tong Forging demo. In a town of 4500, I figured 30-40 people would be great and we were closer to 100. I also got to spend some time with friends, celebrating my birthday. Grinders and forges were running and it was just a great day.

A buddy of mine was videoing and that can be seen at his youtube channel, Lift Arc Studios.

Q. The event was incredible. Do you plan to do another one?

T. Absolutely, it was one of the most fun days of my life. I can see it being a yearly thing.

Q. We talked alot about your dad's legacy as well and how he shaped you. Tell us about him.

T. He was the hardest working man I've ever known. He could fix or make anything. I learned so much for him in the 30 years I had with him. His honesty and workmanship helped me to be the kind of man inspired to make things of quality that are affordable and that help out your fellow man.

Check out Travis Leblanc at  
LeBlanc Custom Knives – <https://leblancknives.com>

# A Groundbreaking Start!

In September, we shared with you the vision for building trade schools in countries all over the world, starting in Guatemala. Today we are excited to announce that the work has begun. Does that mean we've met our fundraising goal? Not even close, but we are moving ahead in faith to begin the project, officially breaking ground and prepping to lay the foundation for what will become the very first Redeemed Steel Trade school.



The Official Groundbreaking for Redeemed Steel Guatemala, Ciudad Vieja

What's more, we have a plan that you can be a part of to make the full project a reality and then some.

We are seeking 250 people to join us with a monthly commitment of \$20 or more. If we reach this goal by December, the Guatemala Trade school project can be fully funded by the middle of 2023!

And, if we can reach our goal, we can begin building others schools in places of need all over the world, with the vision being a school every year, literally changing the world by empowering communities with the Gospel of Christ and a powerful education enabling them to rise from poverty to serve their homes, their communities, their countries and to accomplish the work God has for his people the world over.

We are currently planning mission trips to Guatemala for 2023 and major events in support of the work God has called us to there. For more information email us at [redeemedsteel@gmail.com](mailto:redeemedsteel@gmail.com) or call 828-289-6884.

Please join us as we change the world with the works of our hands and the words of our lips. We so love serving with each and every one of you!



Artist's Rendering of the School itself.

## How You Can Help?

To reach our goals, we need help. If 250 people will commit to giving \$20 a month, we will be able to build this school and others, maybe even a school every year.

[www.redeemedsteel.com](http://www.redeemedsteel.com)