Three-piece Buckle Class

Students will learn to design and make a steel buckle, keeper and tip. Techniques for mounting decorative designs made of copper, nickel, or brass on buckles or spurs will also be covered.

**Frank {Buddy} Knight** was raised on a ranch south of Marfa, Texas and learned from his father and grandfather to appreciate quality gear. Early on he wanted to work with his hands and spur making was a perfect fit. He built his first pair of spurs in the Vocational Agriculture Shop at Marfa High School when he was fourteen. His work has been displayed at The Trappings of Texas in The Museum of the Big Bend at Sul Ross State University Alpine, Texas, at The Western Folk Life Center in Elko Nevada, The Cowboy Classic in Phoenix Arizona, and The Trappings on the Llano at the Llano County Historical Museum in Llano, Texas. He demonstrated spur making at the 25th Texas State Folk Life Festival at the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio, Texas. Today Buddy operates a shop in Marfa, Texas. He produces bits, spurs, silver buckles, jewelry, and some ornamental iron.

Tools

1. 6” or 8” half round files
2. 6” or 8” flat file
3. Jewelers saw with 2/0, 3/0, or 4/0 saw blades
4. Hacksaw
5. Small ball peen hammer

Materials
1. StaSilv or High force 44 solder with flux from Brownells or Indian jewelers supply
2. 22 gauge nickel silver, copper or brass, sheet from Indian jewelers supply
3. 22 gauge mild steel sheet from Metal Fab Products in Odessa TX
4. 16 gauge mild steel sheet
5. 1/8” steel strap at least 3” wide and 6” long
6. 5/32” steel rod

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