



FORGE OF EPHESIANS LLC

POTTSTOWN, PA



www.forgeofephesians.net



<https://instagram.com/forgeofephesians?igshid=1609br0def0tp>

OUR STORY AND MISSION:

Many Americans struggling today with financial security, job satisfaction, mental health issues such as PTSD, depression, anxiety, and those struggling with chronic physical pain conditions constantly struggle with living successful and purpose driven lives. As a disabled veteran myself, I know this struggle well. When I was injured during my time serving in the US Army, my entire career plan was no longer a realistic goal so I began just finding work that provided a payrate substantial enough to barely make ends meet that offered halfway decent benefits so I would not have to use what small amounts of sick time I accrued on the job to spend entire days at a VA medical facility. I did not have the option to spend months to years in school to take advantage of my GI Bill resource nor did I even know what felt like a desirable career to seek further education within after my original path had been entirely uprooted by my injuries. This endless cycle continues to spin today but by finding one solution to my own feelings of hopelessness, I found restoration and a therapeutic tranquility through a hobby that led to an introduction to a vast consumer market that took interest in the crafts created through the hobby used to quell my mundane work life dissatisfaction.

I began using fire, steel, hammers, and passion to create functional pieces of art which people quickly started requesting if they were available for purchase. It was not long before I was invited to be a contestant on the very TV show that sparked my interest in the craft, Forged in Fire. I had heard many stories on the show from other veterans who testified about how the craft had helped them overcome a variety of struggles that came from their service so I decided to give it a try and see if it would work as well for me and it has only continued to exceed my expectations in both my physical and mental well-being but in my pursuit of using the craft to help not just other veterans, but every day Americans who are too often not reaching the best versions of themselves for a variety of reasons. Following my appearance on the show, the fans and judges humbled me beyond belief with their praises for my efforts and confidence in my skills. I did

not win the show but certainly felt as though I won the hearts of those who watch it and those who star in it. I knew I wanted to pay this fortune forward and use my newfound recognition to help others feel that same sense of accomplishment that changed my outlook on life after my episode aired. I realized the best way to give back was to not only share the therapeutic benefits of the craft with other members of my community that feel lost and without purpose but also offer them training and employment opportunities to make these custom cutlery products for prices that would be affordable for the average consumer market. Most custom pieces commonly cost over \$600 due to being made by a single craftsman with limited time constraints. My goal is to reach out to the forgotten people of society, the homeless, those with non-violent criminal records that are often recycled through the prison system due to their ineligibility for sustainable employment, and those simply stuck working in a position that leaves them depressed and feeling without a purpose in life.

I want to give the forgotten ones a chance to not only develop valuable trade skills through in-house instruction that would be subsidized through minimal payroll deductions during their learning process while creating custom products for the average consumer. They will then be offered a position as part of the team to help expedite production and further lower the production costs to become a valued asset of the company's core foundation while forging a brighter, more sustainable path for their own futures and well-being. This concept is not limited to metal working, I have contacts in multiple mediums of art and craftsmanship that have already offered their trade skills and talents to add to our training, product development and service offerings. One fellow craftsman currently onboard is a skilled woodworker who designs custom pens, furniture, and a wide variety of other products. Continuing to add different trades as the company grows will add to business sustainability and options for those looking for a second chance at a fulfilling career without the cost of trade school preventing their goals.

Once able to secure a commercial property we will have the necessary means to get started in training and production. Our competitors are not our fellow sole operating artist but consist of the companies distributing products found at box stores such as Bed, Bath and Beyond and online vendors like Amazon. Consumers who have always desired the quality and customization of handmade products will finally have the option to afford them over continually having only the budget to purchase disposable, mass manufactured outside of the country competitor products.

Reborn by Flames



Risen from The Ashes