



"The Bridge Anvil" is the Affiliate Newsletter from ABANA to better enhance and "Bridge" the continuing relationship between ABANA and its Affiliates. The goal is to better forge a future for the blacksmithing community through constant communication, discussion, and sharing of ideas.

Nothing but the truth...

ABANA Has NOT done enough to assist the Affiliates over the years. I know this first hand because I was the President of one for several years. There have been some great ideas and changes that never quite got off the ground in the past. Challenges within the limited budget, board involvement, and hard feelings from the past have all affected the relationship on both ends. That being said, this ABANA Board spent a long time at the last board meeting having a very honest discussion about this very thing. At the end of the discussion there was a unanimous and very resounding proclamation to begin a rebirth of this extremely important relationship. Things have been coming together to make some opportunities open up to better serve you. Let me point out a few things:

We have a new editor of the Anvil's Ring; a former Affiliate editor who recognizes the importance of the Affiliates and their representation in our publications. I encourage your event planning to entail someone to take some high resolution photos and write a report on it. It is time you get the credit you deserve for your awesome regional events in one of our publications.

With the savings in our budget, due to the editor change, there is some much needed review and research happening with our grants FOR Affiliates and individuals to help you do what you do best. As soon as this is ready we will put the call out!

With the renovations going on with the ABANA website there is research going into the possible creation of a secure area for editors to share newsletters and get the newsletter exchange back up and running online to combat the rising prices from the Post Office and the existence of so many worldwide Affiliates.

This leads me directly into exciting news on both the Bealer and Humble Awards. The committees are putting forth new procedures to open up the doors to suggestions from the Affiliates to better search out the MOST deserving members in our collective ranks. There will also be another press release concerning the details of this in the coming weeks. It is on the board's table and currently being reviewed for approval.

The ABANA Board has been taking a "best guess" approach with Affiliate Relations. It has been a broken system. I am encouraging each Affiliate to designate a "Liaison" to join an off-board Affiliate Advisory Committee to review and suggest ways ABANA can serve you better. There is no better way to hear what is being done wrong and right than from the source. Whomever your Affiliate chooses, elects, or appoints would be a welcome a well heard voice to glean direction from for future enhancements to ABANA. Please contact Peyton Anderson with your "Liaison" or questions: peytonanderson@abana.org, 434-390-6203.

This is YOUR ABANA! Please consider getting involved to help in the pursuit of preservation and education of this wonderful craft! This "bridge" is a two way street! With better traffic we can all serve our collective members better.

Yours in Service,
Peyton Anderson
ABANA President
Pro Tempore Public Relations Chairperson

. July 18-21st, 2012 . ABANA Conference . "Reunion on the Plains" .

The ABANA Conference is well under way of becoming the most memorable conference with the widest array of demonstrators from all over North America. Mexico, the United States, and Canada are all covered in the lineup. The only thing that can make this better is affiliate representation in the gallery, sponsor support, banner displays, and much more. The Affiliates are encouraged to set up an information table, at no cost, to share with everyone what you are doing. Feel free to bring your "colors" and display your banner too.

We are also looking for interested individuals and organizations to sponsor all aspects of the conference. With a monetary donation you can sponsor a demonstrator, tent, gallery, set up crew, and well, anything you think is representative of your affiliate. There are some specific amounts for certain aspects, but ABANA wants any support you can give. Your Affiliate name will be proudly displayed in the area of your support along with a listing in the conference booklet. Please contact Peyton Anderson if you are interested in supporting the conference:

peytonanderson@abana.org, 434-390-6203.

Feel free to also contact JoAnn in the Central Office for any information regarding the conference.

JoAnn Bentley

(423) 913-1022 or

centraloffice@abana.org

You can also stay up to date through the website:

<http://www.abana.org/Conferences/2012Conference.shtml>



Register online!!! <http://www.abana.org/Conferences/2012ConferenceRegistration.shtml>

MUCH needed website upgrades:

Bill Clemens, Jeff Dunkelberger, and Jim Bequette have been hard at work updating, fixing, and re-organizing abana.org. There is a survey going on right now to get some feedback to better direct these efforts. Please encourage your members to take a minute or two and visit the site to take the survey.

Like always, please update us with your current Affiliate information. We want visitors to the website to find YOU! We have an interactive Affiliate map and complete listing. Please let us know if our information is out dated.

Just for Affiliates:

Here are a few reminders of things we can do to help you right now!!!

- Free Event Calendar listing of your events!
- Free Banner Space to advertise your events!
- Free Constant Contact notification of your events!
- Free Affiliate Map for needing smiths to find you!
- Free use of the ABANA Curriculum!
- Care packages for your auctions and Iron in the Hats!
- Bulk ABANA Membership discounts!
- Free table space at the ABANA Conferences!

Bulk Membership Rates for Affiliates ONLY:

- 5 pack \$160 Download Details:
- 10 Pack \$300 [Bulk Membership PDF](#)

An Affiliate purchases a batch of vouchers that can be exchanged for a 1-year membership starting from the time the "winner" presents the voucher in to the ABANA Central Office. The vouchers expire 2 years after date of issue by the ABANA central office. **Contact the Central Office to order yours!**

FREE Conference Passes to Lucky Affiliates!!!

From now until June 1st ABANA is running an Affiliate Membership Drive. If your Affiliate can recruit 10 new ABANA members your Affiliate will receive one FREE Conference registration to do with what you please. If you get 20 new members you will get 2 FREE passes. That's right! Every 10 new ABANA members you can recruit will equal one free conference pass! There is NO LIMIT to the number of conference passes one Affiliate can get!

ALL participating Affiliates will get an ABANA care package sent to them after the conference with T-shirts, buttons, magazines, and more for you to use in your auctions and Iron in the Hat drawings.

All new members MUST inform the Central Office of their Affiliate designations (one Affiliate per new member) at the time of signing up to have it count towards your totals! Remember that Affiliates have bulk membership purchases too!!!

Central Office Contact Information:

ABANA Central Office
 259 Muddy Fork Rd.
 Jonesborough, TN 37659
 Phone: (423) 913-1022
 Fax: (423) 913-1023
centraloffice@abana.org

Anvil's Ring Editor:

Jim Almy
 1531 North Prospect Street
 Tacoma, WA 98406
 Phone: 253-879-8455 or 253-273-8848
areditor@abana.org

Hammer's Blow Editor:

Mark Aspery
 P. O. Box 523
 Springville, CA 93265-0523
 Phone: (559) 539-3351
hbeditor@abana.org

Public Outreach Pro Tempore Chairperson

Peyton Anderson
 6720 Military Rd.
 Amelia, VA 23002
 Phone: (434) 390-6203
peytonanderson@abana.org

ABANA New and Renewed Membership Form:

Name: _____ Membership ID# _____
 (For renewals, if known. Not required)

Street: _____ City: _____ State/Prov: _____
 Zip/PC: _____ Country: _____ Phone: (____) _____
 Email: _____ website: _____

- New
- Renewal Type _____ Amount \$ _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ CVVS _____
 _____ / _____

ABANA Affiliate: _____

Credit card orders can be faxed, be sure to sign this form. Fax: 423-913-1023
 Mail to: ABANA, 259 Muddy Fork Rd, Jonesborough, TN 37659 USA
 (Please pay by Check, U.S. Money Order or Credit Card)
 Phone: 423-913-1022 or join online at www.abana.org

Membership Rates

| Type | 1 yr | 2 yr |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|
| Regular | 55.00 | 105.00 |
| Senior | 50.00 | 95.00 |
| Foreign | 65.00 | 125.00 |
| Student (Full Time) | 45.00 | 85.00 |
| Youth (18 and Under) | 20.00 (Hammer's Blow Only – Non Voting Member) | |
| Contributory | 150.00 and UP | |
| Educational Institute | 250.00 | |