



Affiliate Letter September 2008

10/1/2008

To ABANA Affiliates and Affiliate Members,

The ABANA Elections have concluded and we have 5, going on 6, new Board Members. The ABANA board is making preparations to meet for the annual face-to-face meeting and we're working on 2 new programs for members.

ABANA Election Early Results

Jim Masterson, the ABANA Election Committee Chair has declared a result in the Bylaws referendum -- the Bylaws revision passed by a wide margin! The board members results will be announced after Chris Winterstein talks to each of those that ran for the board. So if you ran for the Board, contact Chris. The new board members will be announced on the ABANA Web Site and in the "Anvil's Ring" scheduled to be in your mailbox in early November. The 6th highest vote getter will take over Elizabeth Brim's seat, Elizabeth is stepping down to focus on a book on blacksmithing and other projects.

Board meeting date and location

The annual ABANA Board meeting will be held at The National Ornamental Metal Museum, 374 Metal Museum Dr, Memphis, TN 38106, October 31st 8AM, through November 2nd. All ABANA Members are welcome. Time to talk to new and old board members can be arranged during breaks.

Bookmasters closed, ABANA goods moving to VA Central office

The ABANA store is moving to the new Central Office and will be open for business again in mid October. Once that happens ABANA merchandise, books, plans and back issues will be available again. In the meantime you can call the central office and discuss your needs (703-680-1632) or email abana@abana.org.

Report from SOFA

ABANA Board Member and Treasurer, Linda Tanner reports from the recent SOFA conference held in Troy Ohio: "We couldn't have asked for better weather for this event and this has gone down as the biggest SOFA Event ever. They had over 1000 in attendance. Lots of tail gating for you to get and find any thing you could possibly want or need." ABANA Board Members Kim Saliba, Peyton Anderson and Linda were in attendance. Kim donated a box of Anvil's Ring back issues for their auction and it brought in \$100.00 for SOFA. Linda says, "I would say if you haven't attended a SOFA Event it is well worth the effort to go. It was fun times to get to see old friends and make the acquaintance of some new folks."

New Australian Affiliate

The Australian Blacksmiths Association (Victoria) is ABANA's latest Affiliate Group. This group is well established with roughly 110 members. They meet twice a month in the Melbourne, Victoria area. They have been established since 1989 and run basic blacksmithing, wrought iron, power hammer and knife making courses for members. If you visit Down Under, look them up, you are sure to receive a warm welcome. Check them out at <http://www.abavic.org.au>

Progress on the ABANA 2010 Conference

From Jill Turman, Conference Division Chair: "I am VERY happy to announce that Kate Dinneen has agreed to be the Chair for the 2010 ABANA Conference!!!! Many of you know Kate from her work on the 2008 BAM Conference. She brings lots of conference planning experience, great organizational skills and enthusiasm to this project." She is also a candidate for the ABANA Board and has agreed to serve as Conference Chair regardless of the election results. The theme of the 2010 conference will be "ABANA's Greatest Hits"

Reminder of ABANA's new Central Office Administrator

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Best Regards and please be in touch (pboulay@abana.org).
Paul Boulay
ABANA Affiliate Relations Board Member