



Balcones Forge Dispatch

President's Corner

September 2021



Greetings!

Hope everybody is doing well or as well as can be expected. We are not out of the woods yet but we are proceeding with caution. Please note that at all Balcones Forge events masks are at your discission and so-
cial distancing is encouraged. Summer is not over and we still have plenty extreme heat day before the first cool front. Heat stroke and heat exhaustion are both very real and could be fatal or result in permanent body or brain damage. Stay cool, take plenty of breaks and most importantly stay hydrated! The effects of dehydration become devastating with age and high heat. My doctor tells me that I should be drinking 64 ounces of water per day. That's 8 bottles every day. Don't forget the water!

Our next meeting will be at the Texas Heritage Wendish Museum in Serbin, Texas on SUNDAY, September 26th. Bring a forge and anvil and demo for the visitors. Also bring a chair and make something to donate to the silent auction that benefits the museum. Start time 9 am. Located at 1011 CR 212, Giddings (Serbin), TX. Good food will be available.

October 16th - Blackhawk Millworks in Zorn. Doug Caroselli will host. Several smiths will demo and Tim Tellander will be training a few young knifemakers. There will be some open forges if you want to get in the fire. Bring a chair. We will finish up around lunch time which will probably be in New Braunfels. Trade item - a wall hook made from a horseshoe. Google Maps info: 2780 Dreibrodt Rd, San Marcos, TX 78666 and 512-738-3578 if you get lost.

Meeting on September 26, 2021

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November 13th - Jerry Whitley's Rystic Forge in Devine. Memorial meeting. Jerry is still working on demonstrators and the menu. Henry Very is scheduled to do a tong making demo. Competition trade item - a flower that will be judged and added to a bouquet which will be auctioned. Bring a chair and your favorite beverage and something for the auction. Prize for the best. More to follow. Google Maps info: 295 CR 663, Devine, TX 78016 and 210-288-3961 – Jerry's cell. Meeting starts at 9am.

No meeting plans for December.

Time to start making plans for the 2022 ABANA conference in Denton, Texas May 11th – 14th. Check the web site for details: <https://abana.org/2022-abana-conference/> .

Balcones Forge call for help. We are looking for a few good hardworking people to help with the monthly activities like preparing meetings sites and materials for meetings and cleaning up after the events as well as taking over some the board vacancies. Some of our folks have just become too busy or just too damn old to carry on and need a well-deserved break. If you would like to help please give me a call at 210-842-3049 or email me at treefarm@swbell.net or contact one of the other board members.

I sincerely hope that all of you are doing well and wish you the best in this troubled time. Keep the faith and help those in need. Can't wait to see you guys again!

Jerry Achterberg – Pres. Balcones Forge



Roy Bellows (right) tells the story of his bed of nails while Tim Tellander considers if one would be comfy



You can win doorprizes (sometimes)



Host of the June meeting, Doug Caroselli (left) and Balcones President, Jerry Achterberg



Two youngsters get some time at the forge



Terry Estes was the featured demonstrator in June

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ABANA Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America
PO Box 462, Johnstown, PA 15907-0462 814 254-4817 exedir@abana.org
'The Foremost Metal Arts Association in North America.'



Thank you for supporting ABANA. There are many benefits to membership: *National retailer discounts, ABANA shop discount, access to all digital archives, exclusive invitations, educational videos and materials, voting rights, conference and vendor booth registration, and more!* Discounts can be accessed with log in through your email address.

Please provide an active email address.

Renew online and build your profile with your bio, shop information, touch mark, and photos of your work. You can also access your digital membership card on-line.

Email:	
Name:	
Business Name:	
Street:	City:
State/ Providence and Country:	Zip/ PC:
Phone:	Primary Affiliate:

Consider supporting ABANA in perpetuating the noble art of blacksmithing. Donate to:

FUND:	STEEL \$1-\$99	COPPER \$100	BRONZE \$150	DAMASCUS \$500
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General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grant & Scholarship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABANA Gallery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exhibitions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conference	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disaster Relief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Membership: Renewal **New Membership**

Print \$65 For North America: US, Canada and Mexico only. Publications will be mailed.

Digital \$55 Optional for North America. Outside of North America Publications sent electronically.

Membership includes FREE placement in a searchable 'Find a Blacksmith' database to connect to opportunities.

Check here to be included in the searchable on-line 'Find a Blacksmith Directory'

Credit Card Payment:

If different than above: Name on Card _____ Billing Zip _____

Credit Card Number _____ / _____ / _____ Expiration _____ CVV _____

TOTAL PAYMENT \$ _____

Signature _____ Charge Card Provided Check enclosed Money Order Enclosed

Credit Card Payments can be scanned and sent via email exedir@abana.org or call 814 254-4817. Checks or Money Orders should be made out to ABANA in U.S. funds and mailed to the address above. *Form revised March 2021*

EFFECTIVE APRIL 15, 2021

Movable Joist Hook

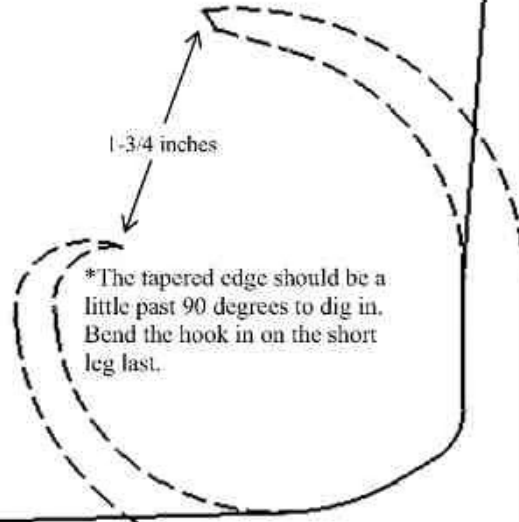
By Dan Jones, a MABA member



Start with 1/4 x 1 inch stock
5 inches long.
Make a slit 2 inches long.
Draw out the legs on anvil horn and shape.



Draw out to 3-1/2 inches.



*The tapered edge should be a little past 90 degrees to dig in.
Bend the hook in on the short leg last.

*Taper *only* this side.
Shape the end flat to form
an edge - *not* a point.

Draw out approximately 3 inches.
Then taper the end.



Should hold 100 pounds easily on a good 2 x 4-6-8.
Photo by Ken Glowski.

Draw out approximately 6 inches.

ARTIST-BLACKSMITH'S ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

ABANA

IRON TO
ART



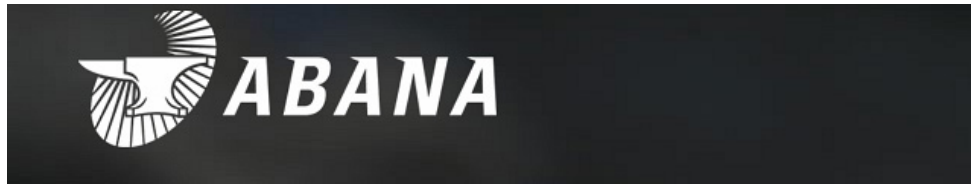
2021
JOHNSTOWN,
PA

A Festival of Blacksmithing

October 14, 15 & 16

Demonstrations by the best * Beginner classes for adults *
Beginner classes for youth * Vendors of new tools &
equipment * Vendors of books and video resources *
Tailgating of used tools & equipment * Blacksmith craft
booths * Gallery of ironwork (Bring yours) * Auction of
ironwork * Iron-in-the-Hat raffle * Tour of Center for Metal
Arts * Public tour of the Festival Saturday * Dedication of
the ABANA Home Office * Intro of the ABANA Executive
Director * Camping & RV parking * Food trucks and nearby
pub * and, always, camaraderie

Registration & full details are at
<https://irontoart.abana.org/>



ABANA Affiliate Newsletter - June 2021

Iron to Art Festival Tickets are on Sale, Register Early, Save Over 30%

The dates are set, October 14 through October 16, 2021. ABANA will host the Iron to Art Festival at our new headquarters in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Tickets are on sale now.

<https://event.abana.org>

ABANA would like to interest you in being a Craft Vendor at Iron to Art Festival This is our inaugural event in Johnstown, PA and ABANA wants you!!!!!! We are expecting 500 + visitors to the conference with 5000 visitors to Johnstown itself over this new 3 DAY EVENT and ABANA wants YOU to get in on the action. Rent a 12x12 vendor booth for the low cost of \$250 (for all 3 days), comes with electricity and if you're performing live demonstrations for your craft you will receive an ADDITIONAL ½ space for free to showcase your skills. There will be visitors and exhibitors from far and wide, what a perfect venue to showcase your crafts and passions. See ABANA.org, Iron to Art, then click on the vendor icon and we will SEE YOU THERE!!

JOIN THE FUN! VOLUNTEER at the Iron to Art Festival. Help out for a while behind the scenes and get a free t shirt! Email exedir@abana.org for more details! Volunteer opportunities, Indoor, outdoor, and tailgating spaces available. <https://abana.org/volunteers-needed/>

Business of Blacksmithing digital class taught by Leigh Morrell

The ABANA Business of Blacksmithing Classes are now complete. We are planning to make the class recordings available to members for purchase at the end of May, AND offer a new series on this topic! Please check our site for more details. If you have any questions, or an interest in classes like this in the future, please email the Executive Director at exedir@abana.org

Discount Providers

There are several vendors that value us as customers and offer discounts to ABANA Members. The ABANA website has a list of those vendors that we can support while saving a few dollars. There is a new offer, a grinder discount, for ABANA members from Beaumont Metals. See the ABANA site for more details. Please visit www.abana.org to find discounts under the marketplace / vendor page.

Share Your Stuff!

Remember ABANA is always willing to share affiliate activities, projects and photos. Send any information to exedir@abana.org

ABANA is creating a touchmark registry

ABANA is creating a comprehensive registry of touchmarks. To submit your touchmark, please check the ABANA webpage and follow the instructions. <https://abana.org/touchmark-registry/>

Sincerely,
Jerry Boyd
ABANA Affiliates Committee
Shop Helper
325-207-8253

July 2021

CALL FOR AFFILIATES

Any ABANA Affiliate groups that have teaching trailers/facilities available for unrolling the NC (National Curriculum) please respond to Affiliate Chairman, Chris Rowan (ironcloverforge@gmail.com) or the Education Committee (nc@abana.org)

A Reminder about ABANA Membership Options and Pricing

ABANA membership options and pricing changed as of April 15, 2021.

ABANA now offers two membership options: ABANA Digital or ABANA Print.

Each option offers the same membership benefits. The only difference is in the delivery method of ABANA's premier publications, the Anvil's Ring and the Hammer's Blow:

- ABANA Digital membership is available world-wide for \$55/year. (This is your only choice if you live outside of North America.) ABANA will send publications digitally to the member's e-mail address on file; no print copies will be mailed.

- ABANA Print membership is a \$65/year option for those whose mailing address is in North America (Canada-USA-Mexico); publications will be delivered to the Canada-USA-Mexico mailing address on file by the USPS.

The office has received a few checks in the mail using old forms which feature pricing and options no longer available. For example, the two-year membership option is no longer available. We regret any confusion this has caused to our valued members!

Moving forward, every effort will be made to contact those who mail in checks using old forms, and we'll inquire as to how you'd like proceed and/or to which membership option your payment should be directed.

Please be assured that existing memberships will be honored until they expire, at which point ABANA's

current membership pricing options will be available.

Thank you for being a valued ABANA member, and please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any questions.

Membership benefits include:

Publications: Four quarterly issues of the Anvil's Ring

Four quarterly issues of the Hammer's Blow Members-only access:

- to recent 5 years of digital publications

- to educational videos and materials

- to ABANA membership directory

Eligibility for education grants and scholarships

Option to join ABANA's 'Find a Blacksmith' module, searchable by the general public

Discounts: Conference registration, vendor booths, ABANA Store Voting rights, such as annual election of Board members to forge the future of blacksmithing

Participation in ABANA Board committees

Your Anvil's Ring and Hammer's Blow publications delivery is either by mail or by e-mail...

Janie Grela, ABANA, Executive Director:

PO Box 426, Johnstown, PA 15907 814 254-4817 OR emailed to: exedir@abana.org

August 2021

The Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America is holding a special 'Affiliate's Day' on the last day of the Iron to Art Festival in Johnstown, PA on Saturday, October 16th. This day is open to the general public and ABANA expects over 1,000 attendees.

ABANA will provide to affiliates:

-A table for each affiliate organization to put information out and sell small items

-If a group would like to hold a membership meeting during that day, ABANA will arrange a meeting room

-We ask affiliates to 'fly their banner' at the festival! Bring a banner and ABANA will hang the affiliate's banner at the festival

This is a great way to raise awareness for your organization, increase membership, provide opportunities for your members to sell their work, and meet to enjoy this inaugural blacksmithing event!

For planning purposes, affiliate leaders should email ABANA's Executive Director, Janie Grela at exedir@abana.org to reserve a table and list members who plan to attend. The general admission on Saturday is \$10 per person which should be reserved in advance on ABANA's website www.abana.org

Frank Turley's Workstation

Many of you have had the opportunity to study with Frank Turley at his Turley Forge Blacksmithing School in New Mexico. Frank Turley's school has been known as the "Granddaddy of Blacksmith Schools" opening in 1970 and was responsible for training some 1600+ students. Frank passed on November 12, 2020 from Covid 19. Frank was an asset to the blacksmithing community that will be forever missed. He gave me a good start and was a friend from the day we met.

I was able to negotiate with Juanita Turley (Frank's wife) to allow the Artist Blacksmith's Association of North America to purchase the demonstration/workstation and tools that Frank Turley has used to teach so many students for \$6,000.00, including transportation to Pennsylvania. The workstation, shown in the pictures, has a number of tools and unique items pertaining to Frank Turley's art as a blacksmith. The proceeds of the sale will be of great help to his family.

ABANA is has purchased the workstation for display at its new home in Johnstown, Pennsylvania; however, since this is an unbudgeted purchase ABANA is seeking donations from former students and others who would like to assist in keeping this remarkable piece of Blacksmith history alive and viewable by others for their inspiration. ABANA intends to display the workstation (either all, or part, depending on space constraints) in the entry area to its Johnstown home in the old train station. Frank Turley's Workstation will be part of the ABANA permanent collection, but as such it may not be on display at all times.

Thank you
Scott Kretschmer
ABANA Vice President

ABANA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Donations may be sent to ABANA PO Box 462 Johnstown PA 15907 or through the ABANA website by clicking [here](#).

Questions may be directed to Scott Kretschmer, ABANA Vice President: scottkretschmer@abana.org



LEARNHOW TO MAKE YOUR LITTLE GIANT POWER HAMMER WORK HARDER THAN EVER!

In 1991, Sid Suedmeier, having recently acquired the dusty remains of the Little Giant business, hosted his first Little Giant Hammer rebuilding class.

The class and Sid were taught by our good friend Fred Caylor of Zionsville, Indiana, at that time one of few authorities on these antique machines. As Fred grew older, Sid took over teaching the class, and has taught at best count 27 classes.

Sid sold Little Giant, the parts and repair business, to his long time machinist in 2013, and just this year the business made a move to our good and capable friends, David Sloan and Doug Klaus.

This 2 1/2 day class is a hands-on format. You will help transform a 25 LB Little Giant hammer from sloppy to sharp. This is the last class that Sid Suedmeier, intends to teach. He will be handing the reins over to David Sloan, who has attended at least 15 classes and has assisted Sid through the years.

An old style 25 LB Little Giant will be rebuilt during the class, and a new style machine will be on hand to demonstrate proper assembly and adjustment of both styles.

IF YOU HAVE A LITTLE GIANT, THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

No experience is required to attend this class. Past students have ranged from age 15 to 90, and from all walks of life. Anyone who wants to learn will benefit from this class. We approach the rebuilding process using tools that can be found in the average home workshop.

If you are in the market to buy a power hammer, this class will make you an educated shopper. If you already own a Little Giant, or any other brand of power hammer, this class will teach you how to get the best performance possible.

The class costs \$95, refundable up to 7 days prior to the class; advance registration is required. We will limit the number of students. The class starts at 9 AM sharp on Friday, and usually ends by Saturday evening. We will be available on Sunday until noon in case we encounter any exceptional problems in rebuilding, and to answer remaining questions.

When we receive your registration we will send you a city map, along with travel and hotel information.

School Dates October 15-17, 2021

2021 REGISTRATION

Name: _____
Business name: _____
Address: _____

Telephone: _____
Email address: _____

Since we no longer operate a business, payment needs to be by check or money order. Checks should be made out to Sid Suedmeier.

POWER HAMMER INFO

Brand: _____
Size: _____
Serial Number: _____

Please call or email if you have any questions, or prefer to register by phone.

You can reach us at 402.873.6605 or Sidsshop@windstream.net.

Sid's shop is located at 420 4th Corso, Nebraska City, NE 68410.



River Mill Paper

Vincent Herod
Spotted Dog Forge
166 Granite Road
Paige, TX 78659-4922

