



President's Message
Summer 2013

Communications and Sharing

Dear Members,

ABANA is 40 years old and we had a great convention in Columbus, Georgia to celebrate it! I thought this would be a good time for you to hear from our 2nd Vice President and founding member, Peter Renzetti.

Thank You,

David Hutchison

Well, here we are, after celebrating the 40th anniversary of ABANA on March 17, 2013; we look to our future with enthusiasm. At the convention, seven of the original “founding fathers” were able to attend. We installed a plaque on the forge door commemorating the event. The remembrances of our founding days and what inspired us to dive in deeper to discovery and sharing was very uplifting. The weather was perfect, as if we were blessed, and the demonstrations and presentations were inspiring. There were over 200 attendees at the Westville, GA site, with local groups demonstrating as well. The banquet had over 100 people with good food, great conversations, and wonderful memories to share. Sadly, as time goes on, there will be less of us founders to pass on what we know, and share what was given to us.

I was, and am, very proud to be one of the founding members. And I am doing my best to serve ABANA as a board member. I also think of ABANA as a team. We have to work together to advance ourselves and others. To promote, practice, and share all that we have for the future of the craft.

Communication is the key to any successful endeavor. We are here to serve the membership with information, resources, guidance, and inspiration. We ask that you, the members, share with us your ideas, tips of the trade, and articles of interest. Also, please share what (or who) inspired you to further your knowledge of the smithing trade.

We are working hard to improve and upgrade our website and resource network. We ask that you share what you have so that we can make it available to us all. Actively participating by sharing and passing on your inspiration (along with your renewal membership) is the glue that holds us together.

As the old saying goes, “united we stand, divided we fall.” Sometimes a few well-thought words mean more than volumes. My favorite is, “the more we share, the more we have.” What is really neat is that it works just as well in reverse—“the more we have, the more we share.” So take a few minutes, think about our team, send in your dues, articles to share, ideas, etc. —and tell us what is on your mind. We’ll listen and pass it on!!

Cheers,

Peter A. Renzetti 'The Unknown Blacksmith'