



President's Message
Winter 2014

Excited for the Changes

Just finished our yearly board meeting and I think it was a good one with lots of good discussion by our new board. I was reelected as president and I want to thank the board for that vote of confidence. I will continue to work for the good of ABANA. I know I have a good board helping me. Check the web site for the list of board members and committee chairs.

ABANA will need some new board members next year; election info in the ABANA Business section on page 8. Think about who would do a good job and encourage them to run. Don't forget to look in the mirror!

I want to remind everyone that ABANA has a youth membership for those 18 and under for only \$20. It is a nonvoting membership, and they receive the Hammer's Blow only. It would make a great gift for a grandchild or neighborhood kid who is interested in smithing but his parents are not. See the story on page 30 to read about what a wonderful difference a membership made to a young man.

There are some great changes in the future coming to both the Anvil's Ring and Hammer's Blow so be on the lookout for them. Watch for:

- the updates on the Education Grants & Scholarships Program and its easier-to-apply-for, easier-to-understand rules
- more features on our blacksmithing youth
- highlights from the affiliates and their events • and more!

Now for the conference . . . we have demonstrators from at least four countries and 17 USA states. They are listed on the website and are also introduced in this Winter 2014 issue. There is a wide variety of smith and artists so everyone should find something to interest them. Also, remember that the conference is happening within a one and a half—two hour drive to Washington, D.C. Make this an extended family vacation and enjoy some history!

CONNECTIONS—go to the website for a way to find ride share partners.

www.abana.org/eRideShare

The conference will continue to have more information available to you. For updates, please visit the website:

www.abana.org/2014

Keep Forging,

David Hutchison