

4/14/2009

To ABANA Affiliates and Affiliate Members,

New Conference Logo

The new ABANA Conference logo has a musical theme. "ABANA's Greatest Hits" pays homage to the rich musical heritage of our host city Memphis and to the sweet ring of the anvil when played by a smith. Check out the ABANA web site and come and see us June 2-5, 2010 in Memphis. We will make beautiful music together.

New Board Member

Andrew Blair was appointed to fill the board position that Kate Dinneen vacated. Andy practiced business law in Denver until his retirement in 2007 and was active with the Rocky Mountain Smiths. He now lives in Stevensville, Montana and is active with the Northern Rockies Blacksmith Association. No matter how many bad jokes there are about lawyers, it is always nice to have one at hand when needed.

The Australian Affiliate's Tree Project

Early February of this year Victoria, Australia suffered the worst national disaster to ever occur in Australia's recorded history. To honor those that have been lost to the devastating fires and the brave people who battled the elements, Australian Blacksmiths Association (Victoria) Inc., ABANA's newest affiliate is inviting blacksmiths from around the world to contribute to the tree project. Make a leaf and join smiths from around the world forming a memorial and for the spirit of renewal. Visit the ABANA web site and click on The Tree Project under Latest News.

Tom Clark Memorial Gate Project

BAM is also asking smiths from around the world to contribute a leaf for a memorial gate project to Blacksmith Extraordinaire Tom Clark. The gate is to be completed at the BAM Conference in Sedalia, MO on May 1-3, 2009. Tom was very dedicated to blacksmithing and made friends with smiths and enriched their lives wherever he traveled.

Iron 2010 Exhibit deadline extension

The call for entries deadline for the international contemporary blacksmith exhibition "Iron 2010" has been extended to May 29, 2009. The exhibit will begin at the National Ornamental Metal Museum during the ABANA Conference 2010 and travel to different locations during the next two years. See ABANA's web site for details.

Fellowships with Coubertin in France

The American Friends of Coubertin have announced the availability of training fellowships for Sept 2009 to July 2010 in metalwork (not jewelry) and stonework at the Coubertin Foundation outside Paris, France. This is a great opportunity for some in their early 20's. All expenses are covered at one of the leading traditional craft institutions in Europe. See the ABANA web site for details.

Please keep in touch.

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