



Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc.  
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**ABANA Membership Meeting**  
La Crosse, Wisconsin  
June 6, 2002

President Doug Learn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present:

Bob Fredell	Scott Lankton	Dorothy Stiegler
Will Hightower	Doug Learn	Chris Winterstein
Bob Jacoby	Murray Lowe	Clare Yellin
Jerry Kagele	Dave Mudge	
Dave Koenig	Dan Nauman	

The general membership in attendance was approximately 200 members

Motion #1:

Dave Mudge made a motion to accept the 2000 Members Meeting minutes from Flagstaff, Arizona as written and that they not be read in their entirety. Seconded by Lewis Meyer.  
**PASSED.**

***Treasurer's Report:***

Presented by Will Hightower

Will Hightower reviewed the financial record and reports for the ABANA membership. All records are on file in the Central Office. Will also answered several questions from the membership.

Motion #2:

Toby Hickman moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as written. Bob Fredell seconded the motion. **PASSED.**

President Doug Learn wished to thank Will Hightower for the outstanding job he has done as Treasurer for ABANA.

## **President's Report:**

### **2004 Conference Committee**

Presented by Doug Learn

Doug discussed the location and dates for the 2004 Conference. The proposed conference location is Richmond, Kentucky and the event will be held on the campus of Eastern Kentucky University.

## **Committee Reports:**

### *Internet Committee:*

Dave Mudge let the membership know that the experimental live web cam of the 2002 Conference was up and working and he welcomed comments from the membership about its effectiveness.

### *Publications Committee:*

Dorothy thanked the membership for their support. She discussed the change of editorships for both magazines and felt that they were both very successful. She also stated that the magazines were on time and on budget.

## **Member's Comments:**

#1. Bill Kauffman asked everyone to check their tickets for Iron-in-the-Hat as there were still many unclaimed items.

#2. Janice Koza complimented the organization on its educational mission and asked if there was a committee that was more targeted for the general public. Tom Clark commented that the greatest public relations tool was the membership.

#3. Terrance M. Rose wished to thank Al Butlak for his work on the Francis Whitaker memorial.

#4. Dave Mariette wished to thank the volunteers that made the opening ceremonies possible.

#5. Chris Winterstein made a call for volunteers to sit the galleries during the conference so that they could remain open longer.

#6. Jerry Culberson made a call for everyone to bring in their auction items as soon as possible.

#7. Rome Hutchins made a call for anyone that had Francis Whitaker demonstration tapes to please contact him. He will collate them and donate a set to ABANA.

#8. Larry Stevens made a presentation to the membership. He reviewed the pros and cons *The Anvil's Ring*, Vol 30 #3, and he also brought up the idea of promoting local talent through marketing items made as selected events. His report is on file in the Central Office.

#8. Larry Stevens made a presentation to the membership. He reviewed the pros and cons of *The Anvil's Ring*, Vol 30 #3, proposed that ABANA identify qualifications for a master smith and encouraged the promotion of local talent through marketing items made at selected events. His report is on file in the Central Office.

#9. Pete Renzetti made the comment that anyone voicing complaints should design a solution and implement it.

#10. Bill Callaway made a comment that both Rob Edwards and Brian Gilbert have done a fine job. He also mentioned that ABANA has no business getting involved in master smith type certification programs.

#11. Bob Jacoby made an announcement of the revised schedule for slide presentations for demonstrators.

#12. Brian Gilbert announced the change in schedule for the Newsletter Editors meeting.

#13. Dan Jennings asked that the Board of Directors introduce themselves. All Board members present did so.

#14. Janice Koza again stated that she is interested in developing a committee that will promote the education of the general public about blacksmithing.

#### **Motion #3:**

Toby Hickman made a motion to close the Membership meeting. Seconded by about thirty people. PASSED.

The Membership Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

#### **AWARDS CEREMONY:**

##### **JOE HUMBLE AWARD**

Doug Learn began the awards presentation. He discussed the purpose of the Joe Humble Award. Doug Learn presented the 1998 Joe Humble Award that was never publicly presented to Bob Thompson, Editor of the California Blacksmith's Association.

Doug Learn announced and presented the awards for this years 2002 Humble Award recipients.

Julie Pickett-*Forge Facts*-Rocky Mountain Smiths

Jerry Kagele-*Hot-Iron-News*-Northwest Blacksmiths Association

Tom Clark presented a special hammer to Angelo Bartolucci as a gift of friendship, inscribed with La Crosse 2002 and bearing Tom's touchmark.

#### **ALEX BEALER AWARD**

Toby Hickman introduced Tom Clark who made the presentation of the 2002 Alex Bealer Award to Bob Patrick of Everton, Arkansas.