ABANA'S GUEST ARTIST FROM ENGLAND, RICHARD C. QUINNELL, DR. CALVIN SMITH, PRESIDENT AND IVAN BAILEY, PROGRAM CHAIRMAN.
CONFERENCE REPORT PROGRAM

By Ivan Bailey

Those of you who were there know all that we did, but for the many who couldn't come, the conference seems to have been well worth while.

The old timers saw each other again and many of the younger smiths who were just getting started in their own shops at the time of the last conference brought slides and new work and most reassuring proof that the old art is growing apace under father Vulcan's protective gaze.

Many new faces were to be seen and for them the conference offered the most. Three and a half days of back to back demonstrating wore out all but the boldest spirits.

The conference started off on schedule with Dick Quinnell's slides and general introductions.

The Greenville Museum provided excellent facilities for slides and discussion. After seeing the extensive restoration and commission work done at the Rowhurst Forge, Mr. Quinnell began the practical demonstrations with some especially English forms of leaves and scrolls.

The Museum provided space for three forging areas. One was used for demonstrations and one for exhibitions for the public and the third for private experimentation. The private experimentation area found itself used for the creation of one of the finest bunches of iron grapes imaginable!

We gathered Wednesday night to show the sent in slides and embark upon a discussion.

The panel consisted of: Dimitri Gerakaris, Richard Quinnell, Phil Fike and Ivan Bailey.

Mr. Quinnell began the discussion by saying how new and exciting the work presented was. He then raised the question of viability of the craft as a profession. Several in the assembly rose to speak of the art, not in regard to its viability but rather to defend it as a life style—affording one a freedom of expression without regard to the work's saleability except to museums.

Dimitri then contributed by describing the relationship he has with people in his area whose primary interest is in Colonial work and explained how he is able to be creative within this type of professional framework.

Richard Quinnell then threw the ball to Phil Fike with a question as to how the search for individual expression and the sale of work to clients found its way to unity.

Phil played the Jew's harp in a zen-like response. Richard took up the question again himself and suggested that we may be self indulgent in producing works, which only a museum would be interested in. "How long will it be before all the museums filled up?" He further intimated that our newly reborn craft would suffer and perhaps never flower again unless we consider ourselves professional craftsmen who deal with a client-public rather than a museum oriented art-show group.

Time began to run out and Ivan Bailey closed the discussion with his description of his client-related shop in Savannah. He told how he attempts to realize his own creativity and at the same time work with the public and architects.

Everyone walked out talking so it must have been good!

continued ....
For Thursday's Program Dimitri Gerakaris did a slam-bam-thank-you-ma'am beginners instruction in elementary forge technique. Added to that was a masterfully done T weld forge. This was the first time that many of us had seen such a weld.

Then came Peter Ross & Co. substituting for Dick Everette who couldn't come. Peter and Tony did a fine demonstration of colonial door hardware. Here was real meat for those interested in colonial draw filed finishes on door latches. Many of us are unfamiliar with "white-smith" work (the forged work is finished through filing so that no scale is left showing, it goes right down to shiny metal!).

Peter and Tony also brought photographs of some of the fine colonial work that they're reproducing in their area. The tradition up east is so deep that they even clued us into the differences found between their area of Connecticut and those pieces from other parts of that state and surrounding areas.

Friday was the jam-packed day with one demonstration following on the heels of the previous one.

The day started off with a damascus steel panel. Ivan Bailey demonstrated the welding and related problems. The theory was elaborated upon by Daryl Meier who, as part of a group at S.I.U. is doing research on pattern welding and figuring out how to write one's name in damascus steel.

In the afternoon Cal Smith showed how to fuse iron to glass in split openings and David Wall did enameling on iron.

As a finale Richard Quinnel demonstrated some english scrolls, viz the ha' penny snub end and the fish tail.

Saturday was a restless day and getting close to break-down time.

A demonstration on inlaying began the show, then steel carving and finally the showing of slides of Samuel Yellin's work, a film made at last year's conference by Mariana Lanes and slides from an iron show at Brockport, New York.

Those who were left loaded forges, anvils, vises, assorted baggages and took down the platform tents. At 2:00PM one would never have known that a hundred people had participated, except that each one headed home with a year's worth of things to try, tools to make and a firm knowledge that he, as a smith, is not alone in the world.

NEW OFFICER

David Wall, due to mounting business obligations, has felt the need to step down as ABANA Secretary-Treasurer. We are indebted to David and will miss his talent and energy; however, we look equally forward to the promise of our new Secretary-Treasurer, F. B. Daniels of Madison, Georgia.

ANVIL'S RING TO EXPAND

It is hoped that more members will take advantage of this by submitting more ideas on "tricks of the trade", by asking questions of the same, and making general comments on the state of the craft, by submitting photos of their work for publication, by directing questions regarding availability of tools and materials, etc.

LIST OF MEMBERS

A complete list of ABANA members will be published in the September issue of THE ANVIL'S RING.
ON REGIONALIZATION

Due to a greatly increased membership over an ever-broadening geographical base, the need has been recognized to encourage regionalized activities of the membership.

But rather then try to institute arbitrary regional boundaries and activities, it is felt that at this point, it would be best for members to get together on their own, thus allowing the regionalization to evolve naturally.

Attention can be paid to recognizing the potential for future conference sites, for holding regional workshops, exhibits, etc., and to keep the national membership informed on these activities through reports to ABANA headquarters.

NEXT ABANA CONFERENCE SITE SOUGHT

We have set an arbitrary deadline this year of announcing the conference site and date half a year prior to its occurrence so that the membership can better prepare for attendance.

The ideal site will be one which:

1 - Would be easily gotten to

2 - Would have facilities for:

   a) At the forge demonstration (with regard to protection from inclement weather).

   b) Exhibition of ironwork (and in this regard we should strive toward the high standard set at the Greenville Co. Art Museum).

   c) Slide and movie projection

   d) Camping and motel accommodations (and that both should be as close as possible to each other).

   e) Easy and relatively inexpensive access to meals.

Sites already under consideration are St. Louis, Mo.; Cooperstown, NY; and Peters Valley, NJ.

Now would be a good time to make suggestions relative to potential sites as well as topics of demonstration and specific demonstrations you would be interested in seeing.

And above all, it should be understood that if we are to be able to put a good conference together, we will need a dedicated corps of ABANA members within striking distance of the site who would be willing to help set things up and see that things run smoothly! Please address all related ideas to Dimitri Gerakaris of Enfield, NH.

NEW ABANA BOOK FUND CREATED

Whereas attendance of the past conference exceeded all expectations, ABANA found itself in possession of Conference funds in excess of what had to be spent. Rather than request a $15 per head refund, as it was given the option to do, the membership in attendance voted to allocate $1000 to establish an ABANA Book Fund (the balance of $788.05 was allocated to the upgrading of the Anvil's Ring).

The book fund, headed by John Weichert of Indianapolis will seek to amass a collection of relative publications and make them available to the general membership at the most reasonable price possible. Proceeds from the sales of these books will be used to expand the book fund and to make it self-sustaining.

Also, $1000 of the surplus funds were approved for use of the Conference Committee, headed by Dimitri Gerakaris, to be used for investigating future conference sites and setting up future conferences.
The following is a list of those who attended the Greenville Conference with addresses for the convenience of those who wish to get in touch with them:

Abbott, William L.
5026 Rosslyn Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46205

Archer, Derek Stuart, Jr.
240 Melbane Street
Eden, NC 27288

Bailey, Ivan
Bailey's Forge
221 E. Bay Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Bealer, Alex W., III
873 Spring Street, N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30308

Beal, Mack
Dundee Road
Jackson, NH 03846

Brubaker, Jack
The Stoney Lonesome Bazaar
8 Antique Alley
Nashville, IN 47448

Brumfield, Gary *
Byrd, Joseph
1105 North Main Street
Enterprise, AL 36330

Carriero, Peter C.
Post Road Iron Works, Inc.
345 West Putnam Avenue
Greenwich, CT 06830

Cooper, Jay
Route # 1, Box 45 A
Cimarron, NM 87714

Crom, Ted
1525 W. W. 10th Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32601

Crymes, Tom
1661 13th Street
Columbus, GA 31901

Dance, Karl
P. O. Box 568
Rome, GA 30161

Daniels, Floyd B.
Box 287
Madison, GA 30650

Davis, David B.
920 Grand Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Davis, Roy
11 Sheridan Drive
Savannah, GA 31406

DeKoven, Iva
Charleston Landing
1500 Old Towne Road
Charleston, SC 29407

Dittmeier, John M.
6433 Rockshire Street
Alexandria, VA 22310

Dunn, Harvey L.
P. O. Box 85
Enterprise, FL 32763

DuVall, Henry H.
Route # 2, Box 237D
Watkinsville, GA 30677

Evom, Frank *
Fentress, Phil
Georgia Tech Box 31878
Atlanta, GA 30332

Fiske, Phillip
Department Art & History
Wayne State University
Detroit, MI 48202

Gasparini, William S.
345 West Putnam Avenue
Greenwich, CT 06830

Gerakaris, Dimitri
Mascota Lake
Enfield, NH 03748

Gichner, William W.
5510 Trent Street
Somerset, MD 20015

Gill, John
12776 Hartwell
Detroit, MI 48227

Griffith, Robert
Box 515
DeSoto, IL 62924

Gursky, Robert Steven
75 Thompson Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Hampton, E. Harold
P. O. Box 478
Monticello, FL 32344

Happny, Peter
224 Austin Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Hawley, J. E.
7801 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85020

Horrar, Charles B.
RR # 3, Box 84
Coryton, IN 47112

Hunter, Thomas
8633 Kohler Avenue
Savannah, GA 31406

Hurvitz, Daniel
General Delivery
Brownsville, MD 20715

Jaqua, Russell C., Jr.
191 Huntlow Road, S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Johns, Thomas
325 Maples Avenue
Hershey, PA 17033

Johnson, Webb
263 Mount Paran Road, N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30327

Johnson, Jimmy
Route # 5
Canton, GA 30114

Joseph, Hank *
Kasler, Barbara
3826 Warrington Drive
Charlotte, NC 28211

Kasler, Kurt
3826 Warrington Drive
Charlotte, NC 28211

Kayne, Steven J.
17 Harmon Place
Smithtown, NY 11787

Kidwell, Jay
1575 Tellassee Road
RR # 2
Athens, GA 30601

Kunstler, Philip
671 NE 77 Street
Miami, FL 33138

Labe, Bret I.
P. O. Box 7304
Richmond, VA 23221

Lauback, Jim *
McConnell, A. B.
RR # 1, Box 37
Danville, KY 40422

Maforana, Tom
Box 791, RD # 1
Montague, NJ 07751

Mann, Larry
130 S. Randolph Street
Lexington, VA 22450

Maples, Roy
Maples Forge
805 Parkway
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

Marks, Adele
Chicago Mobile Welding SVC
5318 North Elston Avenue
Chicago, IL 60630

Marks, Colman William
Chicago Mobile Welding SVC
5318 North Elston Avenue
Chicago IL 60630

Maugans, Russell
Box 301, Route # 1
Stockbridge, GA 30281

Meier, Daryl
700 West Walnut
Carbondale, IL 62901

Meighan, Pearse M.
1107 East Moorpark Avenue
Appleton, WI 54911

Miller, Larry
RFD # 2, Box 216-A
Fletcher, NC 28732

Mobley, John
Oak Summit Farm
6144 Cumming Highway
Buford, GA 30518

Moebius, Eric
Box 236, Route # 1
Mazomoni, WI 53560

Mysore, Socrates
Hercules Wrought Iron Works
8504 Lee Highway
Merrifield, VA 22030

Nelson, Jud R.
Sugar Valley, GA 30746

Nofke, Gary
Route # 1, Box 151
Farmington, GA 30638

O'Shaughnessy, Peter
1814 Floyd Avenue
Richmond, VA 23220

O'Shields, Patrick R.
234 Brookdale Avenue
Greenville, SC 29607

Painter, Joe
Route 18 Harrell Road
Knoxville, TN 37921

Palmer, O. W.
1157 Whitten Road
Memphis, TN 38134

Perrin, Tom
Peachbloom Hill Route # 4
Berea, KY 40403
Phillips, Roger  
300 Lookout Circle  
Larchmont, NY 10538

Pilkinton, Hunter M.  
Route # 1, Box 180  
Waverly, TN 37185

Polocz, Joseph  
601 Rowland Avenue  
Cheltenham, PA 19012

Procaskey, Michael  
1527 Catalina  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Raines, Bill  
Route # 1, Box 329 AB  
Hawthorn, FL 32640

Ray, Charles Hord  
RR # 1  
West Terre Haute, IN 47885

Rosenberg, Dr. Bernard  
723 Riverbank Road  
Stanford, CT 06903

Rosenberg, Steven  
RT 1, Box 33  
Mansfield Ctr, CT 06250

Rosenfeld, Edward M.  
Point View Farm  
Gurley, AL 35748

Ross, Peter *

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Rowland, Keith D.  
RD # 3, Route 910  
Allison Park, PA 15101

Sauer, Lee  
Route # 1, Box 253  
Lexington, VA 24450

Seyler, John Ely  
208 South Park Drive  
Jackson, MS 39211

Seyler, Sam  
208 South Park Drive  
Jackson, MS 39211

Shoffner, Carroll  
2701 Brandenburg Lane  
Newport, AR 72112

Smith, Calvin T. Dr.  
RT # 9, Lake Circle Drive  
Greenville, SC 29609

Smith, R. Mark  
Apt. # 4-B, 25 E. Main Street  
Palmyra, PA 17078

Sprocker, E. Wade  
1222 East 42nd Street  
Savannah, GA 31404

Stalskian, Gordon *  
Studebaker, Emmert  
6555 South State Route 202  
Tipp City, OH 45371

Sullivant, "Red", G. W.  
Route # 13, Box 110-2  
Oklahoma City, OK 73132

Thomas, Burl  
Route # 6  
Sevierville, TN 37862

Thompson, J. L., Jr.  
Route # 4, Box 230  
Sylvestre, GA 31791

Thornburg, Gene  
Drawer B  
Webster, NC 28788

Tinker, Mike  
805 Parkway  
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

Titcomb, Ralph M.  
Route 6A  
East Sandwich, MA 02537

Tracy, Russell R.  
1275½ Whittaker Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Van Arnam, Brent  
1805 S. W. 35 Square Place  
Gainesville, FL 32608

Van Arnam, Carl  
1805 S. W. 35 Square Place  
Gainesville, FL 32608

Van Arnam, Dow  
1805 S. W. 35 Square Place  
Gainesville, FL 32608

Varin, Roger *  
Wall, David S., Jr.  
The Forge & Anvil  
3271 Roswell Road, N. E.  
Atlanta, GA 30305

Wallace, Jim  
P. O. Box 147  
DeSoto, IL 62924

Weichert, John A.  
4724 Kingsley Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46226

Williams, Tim  
R. D. # 1  
Creston, OH 44217

Wilson, Thomas  
Wilson Forge  
110 East Bridge Road  
Cedarburg, WI 53013

Wuestenberg, Wayne  
Box 145  
Greenville, SC 29602

Yater, Wallace Mason, Jr.  
P. O. Box 51, Route 3  
Housetown Road  
Boonesboro, MD 21713

* Non-Members

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A wine bottle decanter by Dimitri Gerakaris, as shown in the exhibit of work by ABANA members at the Greenville Museum of Art.

Ivan Bailey, Program Chairman for the Greenville Conference, demonstrating how to create damascus steel. The pensive fellow on the left is Dimitri Gerakaris, ABANA's Vice President.
LETTERS FROM MEMBERS

Dear Alex:

In Greenville you asked me to send you information I had gathered on infra-red ray protection. There isn't a lot of information available but here goes.

At an annual eye examination my eye doctor told me that there is considerable evidence that prolonged exposure to a moderate amount of infra-red rays causes cataracts. He said that there is little precise data but that it is known that in occupations like glassblowers and furnace stokers on the old steamships (usually in the eye closest to the fire) there is a high incidence of cataracts. The American Optical Company cites a study done in 1950 in which there were 84 cases in a group of 1,050 glassworkers who had between 20 and 40 years of employment while there were none in the 430 men in the same plant with less than 11 years. Apparently there are also studies in which intense doses of infra-red have produced cataracts in laboratory animals.

Bausch & Lomb make three shades of safety lenses (3.2 mm thick vs. 2.2 for regular glasses) which protect against infra-red. The darker the lens the less infra-red transmission and the lower the general visibility. Their approximate figures are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lens Shade</th>
<th>Visibility</th>
<th>Infra-Red Transmission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rayban # 1</td>
<td>50-60%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; # 2</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; # 3</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Almost 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The lenses are a green tint and the distortion of natural colors is minimal particularly in the yellow and red range. I tried both the #3 and the #2 and was able to judge the temperature of the metal very well, even to forge weld. In fact, you can see the color better without the glare of the fire. The trouble with the #3 is that you can't see your work well enough when it's not illuminated by fire. The #2 seems perfect to me. It is a much lighter shade than most sunglasses and gives much truer color. I haven't seen the #1 but I'm told it has an almost negligible tint.

The various lenses are available in regular thickness as well as the 3.2 mm safety. The safety thickness are much heavier and might be a problem if worn all day. Since all lenses are shatter resistant maybe they're safe enough.

In New York my optometrist charged $16.00 including frames for the #3 and $26.00 for the #2 in frames I selected. Bausch & Lomb supplies the #3 ready made whereas the others have to be specially ground. These are nonprescription lenses.

Bausch & Lomb sells only through optometrists but they are very cooperative in supplying information to the public. The man in Rochester, N.Y., in charge of safety lenses is Doug Morse - phone (617) 338-6291. I'm sure that they can supply prescription lenses with the same protection.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Roger Phillips
30 Lookout Circle
Larchmont, NY 10538
TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Here are 4 examples of types of twists made in the Samuel Yellin shop. They may be used for table legs, frames for grills, banisters and newel posts and for other uses. The diagram below each shows the composition of the cross sections. All are made of a combination of rod, square bar, angle iron and flat bar. The twist on the left is composed of rod but is embellished with two square knots (because the rod was not long enough?). If anyone wants to know how to tie square knots in iron rod, write to THE ANVIL'S RING:

A most effective top and bottom FULLER wrapped into one can be achieved thusly: 1: Begin with a hot rolled, mild steel bar having the same radius as the fuller you desire. 2: Flatten the central section to less than 1/8" in thickness and roughly 8" in length, keeping this section as wide as possible and working your material down to a black heat (Illus. A). 3: Bend as illustrated (Illus. B). 4: Bring the circular section to a dull red heat and quench in a brine solution. 5: Re-heat above the coals to a point below incandescence (at which, approximately, oil will burn off) and quench again. You should now have enough spring in the affair (but not too much) so that you can place a hot piece of iron between the two concavities, strike above and thereby fuller above and below.

The purpose of the concavity is to keep the piece from moving sideways especially useful in conjunction with a drop hammer (Illus. C & D).

Dimitri Gerakaris
Enfield, N.H.

Max Segal
Philadelphia, PA
TRICKS OF THE TRADE  (continued...)  

Although I have always used a piece of wood stump, maple, etc., rather than a welded metal frame for an anvil support, the one that Ivan had brought for the set up at the Greenville Museum, was a great and new idea for me. It levels easily, is secure, etc. A 25 gallon drum, filled with sand to the necessary knuckle high anvil height, the anvil resting on the sand with a piece of stout plywood twixt the bottom of the anvil and the sand to prevent the anvil from working its way down into the sand.

Mack Beal  
Jackson, New Hampshire

Re Flux: Several oldtime Blacksmiths in the area recommend Muddaibers nests as excellent welding flux. Limited experiments suggest that it works - its composed of very fine sand particles.

Larry Mann  
Lexington, VA.

Short cuts to use in making pokers and barbecue forks:

This makes a simple but practical fire poker.

Use 7/16 or 1/2 inch hot roll round.

Scarf one end, lap about five inches, forge weld, form a long eye, then put one inch pipe through eye while poker is hot and twist to suit yourself for handle, for poker end lap back 2" weld and cut in two and form one point and one hook.

For barbecue fork:

5/16 cold roll round

Cut fork handle same as for poker handle and twist. Flatten 3" on other end. Split 2 ½ inches down center and draw out times according to your preference.

Jud Nelson  
Sugar Valley, GA.

ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER

Beginning in the September issue THE ANVIL'S RING will accept advertising under the following rates and conditions:

1 page (7" X 10") $60.00  
1/2 page (3-3/8" X 10" or 7" X 4-7/8") 35.00  
1/4 page (3-3/8" X 4-7/8") 20.00  
1/8 page (3-3/8" X 2-3/8") 15.00  
1/16 page (3-3/8" X 1-1/8") 10.00

Copy for ads must be prepared for printing with all elements pasted in position. Photographs must be in velox form (with dots), otherwise a charge of $10.00 will be made to prepare a velox.

Closing dates for advertisements will be the first of the month of issue.

Issues will be published in March, June, September and December.

Checks for the space must accompany each order.

Inquiries regarding advertising may be sent to THE ANVIL'S RING, 873 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30308.
BIBLIOGRAPHY
BY JOHN WEICHERT

Dear Alex:

Hope this finds you in good health. I want you to know Bill and I really did enjoy ourselves at the conference.

Alex, the following is a list of books some of the ABANA members may be interested in.

ENGLISH IRONWORK OF THE XVL1th and SVIIIth CENTURIES
By J. Starkie Gardner (Very Very Good)

WROUGHT IRON IN ARCHITECTURE
By Gerald K. Geerlings
Charles Scribner's Sons, New York (1957)

A HANDBOOK OF ART SMITHING (Very Good)
By Franz Sales Meyer
B. T. Batsford, 94, High Holborn (1896)

WROUGHT IRON
Fritz Kühn
Architectural Book Publishing Co.
New York

DECORATIVE ANTIQUE IRONWORK A PICTORIAL TREASURE
By Henry Rene D'Allemagne
Dover Publishing Co. Inc.
New York 1968

MODERN BLACKSMITHING AND HORSESHOEING
By John G. Holmstrom
Chicago, Drake 1916

COLONIAL IRONWORK IN OLD PHILADELPHIA
By Phillip B. Wallace
Architectural Book Publishing Co.

EARLY AMERICAN WROUGHT IRON (Three Vol.)
By Albert H. Sonn
Charles Scribner's and Sons 1928

Hope these will be of some help to some of the members. I will try to have more information for you by the time of the next Anvils Ring. Will also try to have information on some of the German books Ivan showed us. Will close for now.

Happy Forging

John A. Weichert

PHOTOGRAPHS OF CONFERENCE

Various photographs of people and exhibits at the Greenville ABANA Conference are scattered throughout this issue of THE ANVIL'S RING. Most were taken by Tom Jackson. Others were donated by David Wall. If room permits, we will continue to run photographs of exhibits at the conference throughout the year.

For succeeding issues we will want many photographs. Members are urged to send photographs of their work and equipment for future publication.

One of a pair of wrought iron, glass topped tables by Ivan Bailey. These were exhibited at Greenville and a week later at the AIA Convention in Atlanta.
AIA CONVENTION BOOTH, ATLANTA 1975

By IVAN BAILEY

A free booth was arranged for ABANA at the AIA Convention by David Wall through the architecture students at Georgia Tech. In exchange for the use of his shop for their project and a demonstration of forging to their students.

The booth looked quite respectable with a nicely painted sign and two hanging chandeliers as a background. A rear projection slide show was provided by several members. Unfortunately the unit was a borrowed one and we hate to look a horse in the mouth when we apologize for the melting of some of the plastic mounts. None of the slides themselves were burned and that speaks well for Kodak emulsions! Despite the several slide frame meltings several hundred architects walked by the booth, picking up cards and folders listing those who filled out the sheets at Greenville.

The architects would walk up to the booth either with amazed or bemused looks on their faces. Many said flat out that they were delighted to see iron work in a show otherwise devoted to plastic letters, LOF glass, Xerox copiers and shakertown shakes, not to mention the flagpole manufacturer who demonstrated his automatic flag raising motor complete (not part of the kit) with fan to make the flags wave.

We had simply put together a booth, which let the work speak for itself. Alex Bealer, David Wall, Ivan Bailey and Janet Bailey were there telling them about ironwork's rebirth in the twentieth century.

We also did a demonstration at the host chapter party and for the Architecture students at Georgia Tech. I felt personally as did David and Alex that the time put into the booth was well worthwhile. And I would recommend that ABANA try to get a booth for next year when AIA meets in Philadelphia. If we do, we'll ask for brochures, slides and cards for the presentation. Be prepared! The cards and slides are great. But these fellows are primarily interested in something 8½" X 11" that they can take back to the parent firm and put in the files.

The people who did all the drudge work this year and lost time from their shops made up for it in the number of inquiries in their area.

Those who might man the booth next year in the Philadelphia area will make extra hay likewise while still representing the group as a whole.

Should ABANA not be given a booth for free next year then it might be well worth while for 5 or 6 shops to go together and rent one themselves.

We made a very good impression this, our first year, and can make an even better one next year if we want to.

CAMPBELL FOLK SCHOOL OFFERS INSTRUCTION

Mr. Jim Kroeplin, blacksmithing instructor at the John C. Campbell Folk School has written that his school will offer 2 week courses for beginners during the summer. The curriculum includes upsetting, drawing out, forge welding, tempering, tool making, artistic techniques and other basic instruction. Any interested member may inquire for more information by writing Mr. Kroeplin at John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, North Carolina 28902.
SOME DRIFTING THOUGHTS

Our ABANA Conferences may be likened to building a fire in the forge.

The kindling was lit at the first meeting in Westville in 1973. Since the forge was new the only fuel available was green coal, but the very best quality shop coal, well wetted and well packed. At first it smoked a bit, but finally, under the blast of inspiration, the fire glowed white and ABANA was born.

At the second Conference in 1974, also in Westville, the fire had caught well and coking had begun. More green coal was packed over the hearth and the blast kept steady. We had not yet a welding fire, but one that produced good forging and anticipation of more sophisticated work.

It was at the Greenville Conference this year that the ABANA fire burned bright and white, a solid core of coke in its center, eminently suitable for welding ideas and people together, for joining dreams and reality.

Our fire will continue to burn well if we maintain it properly. If it begins to burn hollow, as even the best fire will eventually, we must hit it from the top with tongs or shovel, to fill the center with new coke; we must pile more green coal on the outside and keep it wet from the slack tub. Occasionally we might need to let it cool down a bit and remove the clinkers, if there are any.

But if we consider our membership as the good shop coal we use, our deep dedication and inspiration as our blast and ABANA as our forge, we can expect to keep our fire going for a long, long time, fulfilling its basic function of providing the heat that joins us all together.

LETTERS

The Editor:

I was most interested in learning more of the Association, and think your idea of widening the membership is excellent. I shall be pleased to mention it in our Handcraft Centre Bulletin, which goes out to craftsmen all over Nova Scotia, and may bring you a few new members.

In addition, the idea of bringing a meeting of the Association here is a great idea, and the place that comes instantly to mind as being ideal for such an event is the Fortress of Louisbourg, where, in fact blacksmiths have been "made" out of former miners, and are still at work on the incredible restoration. I would be interested in your reaction to that idea, and will be pleased to do anything I can to promote the idea with very helpful colleagues who work at the Fortress.

Please keep in touch, I shall be very interested to hear how you are doing as a group, and, if you have a newsletter or bulletin, I shall repeat information of interest to craftsmen here in case they can participate in any other workshops or events.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila R. Stiven
Chief, Handcrafts Instruction
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Nova Scotia, Canada

FLOYD DANIELS IS NEW TREASURER

Members are asked to direct any inquiries regarding membership, and dues or any business concerning the Secretary-Treasurer to the new man in the post, Mr. F. B. Daniels. Floyd's address is: Box 287, Madison, GA 30650.
Membership Application
ARTIST-BLACKSMITH'S ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA
Box 287
Madison, GA 30650

STUDENTS........$5.00 per year ( )
REGULAR MEMBERS..$15.00 per year ( )
CONTRIBUTORY.....$50.00 (and up) ( )

Name__________________________________________

Street__________________________________________

City, State, Zip__________________________________

Practicing Smith ( ) Artist ( ) Teacher ( ) Student ( ) Amateur ( )

Two finely wrought reproductions of medieval helms, by Jess Hawley, as seen at the exhibit of ABANA members' work at the Greenville Museum of Art.