

# *The Anvil's Horn*

**A Publication of the Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association**

Issue No. 182 September 2016



*Hammer raised copper bowl  
by  
Chris Contos  
ABANA 2016 Conference*

# President's Message

Wow! That is my one word summary for last month's ABANA conference in Salt Lake City. This is the first one I've been able to make. Two years ago I was rafting the Grand Canyon. Four years ago I was busy with a major life adjustment, etc. I didn't realize what I had been missing. I had such a wonderful time I do not plan on missing any more. Great inspiring iron work and tons of great people. I'm psyched to experiment with some of the ideas I saw. The 2018 conference will be in Virginia. I will be there. I hope to see a bunch of you there.

Until then keep on hammering!

*Paul Dief*

## The Editor's Notes

We offer condolences to Harold Hilborn whose wife, Nannette, passed away on August 7. Her memorial service was held on August 13 in Tucson.

At our July demonstration in Flagstaff I talked about using clean, white sand as flux for forge welding. As I said, I got great results, but I only tried it for a few welds in preparation for Flagstaff. If you already use white sand or you just try it out in the near future, I would like to hear about your experience with it. It certainly is cheaper than most commercial fluxes.

Also, at our July demo, I offered some tips to improve photos of your ironwork. When you can get a better picture by using background paper, adjusting the lighting, changing the angle you are shooting from, etc., that's great. But sometimes, no matter what you know or do, you have to settle for a photo that is less than perfect. I have to keep reminding myself that perfection is sometimes the enemy of the good.

And sometimes you just have to give up on a particular great shot or all the shots of a great object. After you take some shots at a show or distant gallery, when you get home you discover that the shots are unusable because you missed something important in the tiny preview screen on the camera. That was the situation when I had to give up on some photos from Salt Lake City and Flagstaff for this issue.

Do what you can, and go with your best effort. Keep your pictures coming for articles or the Gallery in the Anvil's Horn.

## AABA OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>President:</b>	Paul Diefenderfer, P.O. Box 7766, Cave Creek, AZ 85327, 602-509-1543, <a href="mailto:dief@phoenixrockgym.com">dief@phoenixrockgym.com</a>
<b>First VP:</b>	Jason LaBrash, 1329 W. Lincoln St., Phoenix, AZ 85007, 602-716-9660, <a href="mailto:jason@grizzlyiron.com">jason@grizzlyiron.com</a>
<b>Second VP:</b>	Steve Miller, 16251 N. 49th St., Scottsdale, AZ 85254, 602-989-6505, <a href="mailto:stevemiller.az@cox.net">stevemiller.az@cox.net</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Terry Porter, 2310 E. Melrose St., Gilbert, AZ 85297, 480-988-2070, <a href="mailto:trp555@prodigy.net">trp555@prodigy.net</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Len Ledet, 24200 N. Alma School Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85255, 480-502-9498, <a href="mailto:len.ledet@cox.net">len.ledet@cox.net</a>
<b>Web Master:</b>	Paul Diefenderfer, P.O. Box 7766, Cave Creek, AZ 85327, 602-509-1543, <a href="mailto:dief@phoenixrockgym.com">dief@phoenixrockgym.com</a>
<b>Librarian:</b>	David Bridenbaugh, 1923 W. Portobello Ave., Mesa, AZ 85202, 480-839-3672, <a href="mailto:melanie618@ymail.com">melanie618@ymail.com</a>
<b>Editor:</b>	Bill Ganoe, P.O. Box 40233, Tucson, AZ 85717, 520-326-5478, <a href="mailto:editor@azblacksmiths.org">editor@azblacksmiths.org</a>
<b>Directors:</b>	Bill Ganoe, Sarah Harms, Ivan Hill, Dan Jennings, Doug Kluender, Rodger (Grizz) LaBrash, James McLaughlin, Bill Morris, Sam Rivera, Peter Sevin, John Silvestre, Ira Wiesenfeld

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**Demonstration**  
**Saturday, September 17 and 18, 2016**

**Bill and Karen Morris' home**

195 West Fort McDowell Place, Camp Verde, AZ

**Demonstrators: Mike Riemer and Dylan Cook**



**ORBFEST 2016**  
**LIVE SEPT. 17**  
**THE BILL MORRIS AMPHITHEATER**

**Oso Blanco** **THE BLACKCAT SMITH'S**

*w/ performances by ~*  
*The Slitters*  
*The Benders*  
*The Drifters*  
*- a tribute band*

**ALL AGES!!!** **ALL AGES!!!**

**DOORS OPEN @ 9:00 a.m.!**



Registration begins at 8:00 AM Saturday, the demonstration starts at 9:00 AM.

Registration fee: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members

- Plenty of space is available for tent camping and limited space for dry RV camping.
- Lunch is on your own.
- Saturday night BBQ will be hosted by Bill and Karen Morris. Bring your own meat/fish/veggie burger and alcoholic beverage. Tossed salad, beans, dessert, coffee, soda, water and music will be provided.
- Tailgaters are welcome
- Bring something for Iron-in-the-Hat and the Show-and-Tell table.  
Be sure to put your name on anything you bring for the Show-and-Tell table. Get a name tag and pen at the registration table if you don't have a pen or tag with you.

Places of interest in the Camp Verde area include Pieh Tool Co., Fort Verde State Park, Montezuma's Castle, Montezuma's Well, and the Cliff Castle Casino..

**As always, safety glasses are required.**

## Remember Iron in the Hat

Thanks to all of you who have participated in Iron in the Hat. By purchasing tickets and donating items, you help support AABA events and projects. Items for donation can be a tool, piece of art, something you made specifically for iron in the hat, something you don't need in your shop, a great book, a t-shirt, a hat ... something an AABA member would enjoy.

## Directions to the Morris' place

195 W. Ft. McDowell Pl., Camp Verde, AZ

- I-17 to General Crook Trail, Exit 285
- Turn right at the stop sign.
- At the next stop sign turn right onto east AZ 260.
- Turn right on Quarterhorse Lane (first right east of the bridge) about 1/2 mi..
- Turn right on Fort Apache Rd.
- Turn left on Fort McDowell (first street on the left) to 195 which is the the white house with maroon trim on the left after the road curves.

## Our September Demonstrators

Dylan Cook was first introduced to the blacksmith trade through Mike Riemer, whom he apprenticed under for three years. He was, and is, continuously amazed by how Mr. Riemer manipulates and evokes life from the material. After his apprenticeship, Dylan moved his small shop to The Orme School and created a Blacksmith class for High School Students. The program was built around fundamental forging techniques with advanced students taking on artistic compositions. Each year, the classes designed and constructed an architectural installation for the Campus Beautification Initiative. Currently, Dylan is working out of his own shop, Oso Blanco Ironworks, in Prescott, Arizona.

Both of our demonstrators work with Brian Hughes in Prescott. Also, Dylan will be playing his mandolin Saturday evening.

## Coming Attractions

### 2016 AABA Annual Auction/Banquet

Our annual auction and banquet is just around the corner and will be on November 19! It will be held at Sahuaro Ranch at the Ramada near the Blacksmith Shop. We're working on the details of the food at the moment, but just know that there will be no registration fee this year. We want you to spend all your money on awesome ironwork! You'll have a chance to purchase some great ironwork from your fellow smiths.

But there won't be any items to purchase if no one brings them. If all you can make is a key chain or a bottle opener, we want it. But if you are willing to make a table or a mirror frame, we won't refuse them. All of your donated items will be auctioned off to raise money for the Reed Carlock scholarship fund.

Every year we have three categories for auction items: novice, intermediate, and advanced. The items are judged by the attendees and the winners are given an award. This year we are going to add an additional category that will be judged separately and auctioned off separately. The category will be Bottle Openers. This can be anything that

opens a bottle (your typical "soda" bottle, because we know that's the only glass bottles you smiths need opened), or it could be a cork screw, or it could be both. It can be as simple or as complicated as you want it to be, but it has to work! We will have a special "qualified" judging committee to judge the entrants and award prizes for the best bottle opener. So if you can't think of anything else to make, just make a bottle opener. We want to see what you guys come up with!

As always, we still need help with this year's auction and banquet dinner. We need help with everything from planning to setting up and tearing down. If you need something to do or you have something to offer contact Jason at 602-717-1459 or email him at [jason@grizzlyiron.com](mailto:jason@grizzlyiron.com).





## Upcoming Classes

### Art Jones Gate Workshop

October 28 - 30

Grizzly Iron, Phoenix, AZ

We will be building a set of driveway gates under the instruction of Art Jones. He will be setting up tooling to use under our power hammers, obi press, and hydraulic press as well as a bit of had work. I will show the process of setting up and welding the gate frames. Price TBD. Call Grizz at 602-716-9660.

### Douglas Pryor Chasing & Repoussé Workshop

November 4 - 6, 2016, 9am - 5pm Friday to Sunday

Hessen Iron Works, Tucson, AZ

Steve Grater reported that he has filled all the spots in the class at this point. However, he is keeping an interest list for anyone that would like to have the opportunity to fill spots if they come open. He has been taking and adding folks to this list in the order they contact him. He is also keeping the same list for folks who might be interested in another workshop in the future. So don't stop contacting him about this class.

Go to: [www.facebook.com/events/1741986982714058/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1741986982714058/) or email Steve at [hesseniron@gmail.com](mailto:hesseniron@gmail.com)

### Intermediate Damascus Class

November 25 - 27

Grizzly Iron, Phoenix, AZ

We will be covering stacking materials to come up with some interesting patterns. Forge the damascus using the power hammar and the press. We will show how to forge a skinning knife, hand grind on the belt grinder, heat treat, temper and handle the knife. As always with our classes if a knife does not suit your needs, let me know, we can forge a couple of other items! Prior experience very helpful. \$475

**\*\*\* This class is full as of publication date. Call Grizz at 602-716-9660 to get on the wait list or to get details about a possible repeat of this class in February 2017. \*\*\***

## AABA Library News

David Bridenbaugh, AABA Librarian

We have added two new books to our library. The books are Ironwork Today and Ironwork Today 2. These are the first two volumes in a series of four. These books feature a great variety of interior and exterior artwork. The photographs are excellent and they are accompanied by a short paragraph describing the artwork and artist. Both volumes are particularly interesting since they include the art work of several club members.

Volume 1 has a box/basket with lid and handle made by Maurice Hamburger. George & April Witzke have a gate that features birds flying in the upper half with a turtle and fish swimming in waves of steel on the lower half.

Volume 2 has several pieces by Ira Wiesenfeld including a rocking chair made with a tractor seat and other found and recycled objects. Rodger & Jason LaBrash have gate to a wine room in a private residence, George & April Witzke are back again with a grapevine fire screen and Scott Sweebe has some chili peppers.

Both books are available for check out at the demonstrations.

# July Demo Report

Bill Ganoe

*Photos by Bill Ganoe*

A cool, cloudy Flagstaff was the site of our July demonstration. About 35 people, including some NAU sculpture students, came to the Sculpture Studio on the NAU campus on July 30 to watch several short demonstrations by AABA members. Our host was Brian Painter, a professor in the NAU School of Art. This demonstration featured AABA members, who attended the ABANA 2016 Conference in Salt Lake City in mid-July, giving short presentations on things that they had found interesting at the ABANA Conference.

Ira Wiesenfeld started the program off. He noted that he, and many others, had really liked the aluminium forging demonstration at ABANA. He then moved on to forging a couple of bracelets from common wrenches. Ira said that the jewelry you wear can identify you to the world, so wear tools. He cautioned everyone to remove chrome plating before forging the tool. He said the plating could be removed with acid or by burning it off. Be sure you do the burning outside. Once you have removed the chrome, do something creative with the middle of the wrench: draw it out and taper it, twist it, etc.

He was followed by Steve Miller who forged a pair of scrolling tongs. Steve won 1st place in the intermediate division of the tong making competition at ABANA 2016 by making a great pair of scrolling tongs within the 75 minute time limit. He repeated his tong making for us in Flagstaff.

Steve finished at noon, and, of course, right after lunch, we had the iron-in-the-hat drawing. IITH items ranged from bottle openers to rusty cable for making cable damascus to a piece of mosaic damascus make by Ray Rybar.

After the drawing, Grizz demonstrated how to effectively, and safely, set up an oxyacetylene rosebud tip. He noted common problems including carbon fowling of the tip, using a tank too small to supply the volume of acetylene needed for a large flame, and adjusting the flame to burn too far back toward the tip, thus heating the tip rather than the iron you're working on. Grizz recommended Brown's Torch and Regulator Repair in Phoenix for advice and repairs.

Bill Ganoe did a quick summary of tips from

the photography workshop presented by Paul Boulay at the ABANA Conference. He noted that busy backgrounds can distract views from the ironwork you are trying to show off. Suggestions for reducing background clutter include using light gray background paper or moving around the ironwork to get a different viewing angle. Sometimes using flash can help to emphasize the ironwork or some detail, but there are times when flash can wash out desired detail. You could try covering the flash with a napkin or white hanky to cut down on the light or to get a softer, more diffuse light. Bill also reported on his successful use of white sand for flux while he was developing a forge welding demonstration. The sand he used is sold in plant nurseries and in the gardening sections of hardware stores and home improvement stores under the name White Sand Soil Cover by Mosser Lee.

Richard Rozinski closed out the day with a short demonstration of fold forming copper. He used 20 ga. binding wire to establish the initial folding lines on a sheet of 24 ga. copper. He would bend the wire in the desired shape, lay it on an annealed copper sheet, cover it with masing tape to keep it in place, and then he hammered it into the copper. This produced some half-round wire (good if you don't have a rolling mill) and grooves in the copper sheet that ensured that the folds would be sharp, well defined, and just where you wanted them.



*The sculpture studio at NAU*

## July Demo Report (cont.)



*Bracelet made by Ira Wiesenfeld from an open-end/box-end wrench.*



*Steve Miller, Jason LaBrash and Roger LaBrash team striking to draw out the reins on the tongs Steve was making.*



*Steve Miller at the Little Giant*



*Richard Rozinski demonstrating fold forming copper*



*One of Richard Rozinski's demonstration pieces.*



*Show and Tell:  
Knife by Jay Burnham-Kidwell*



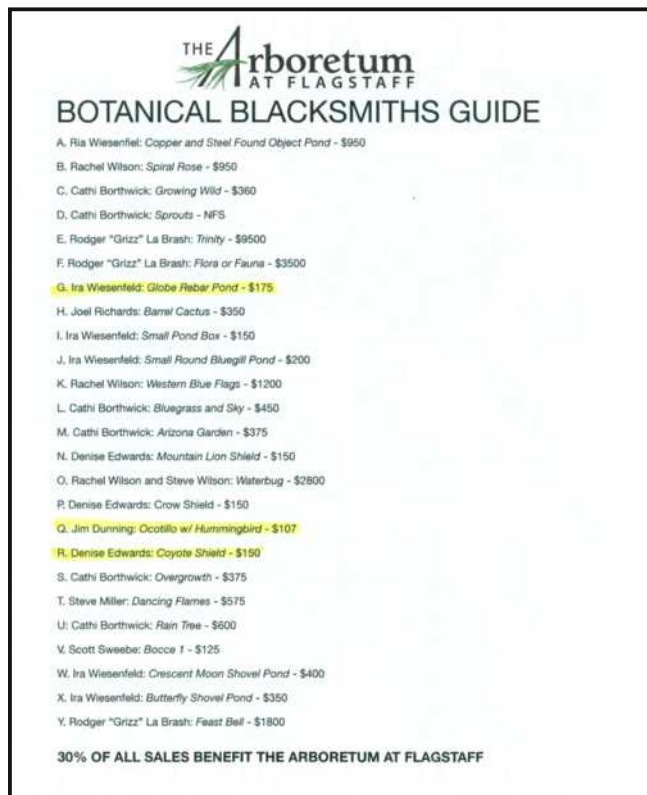
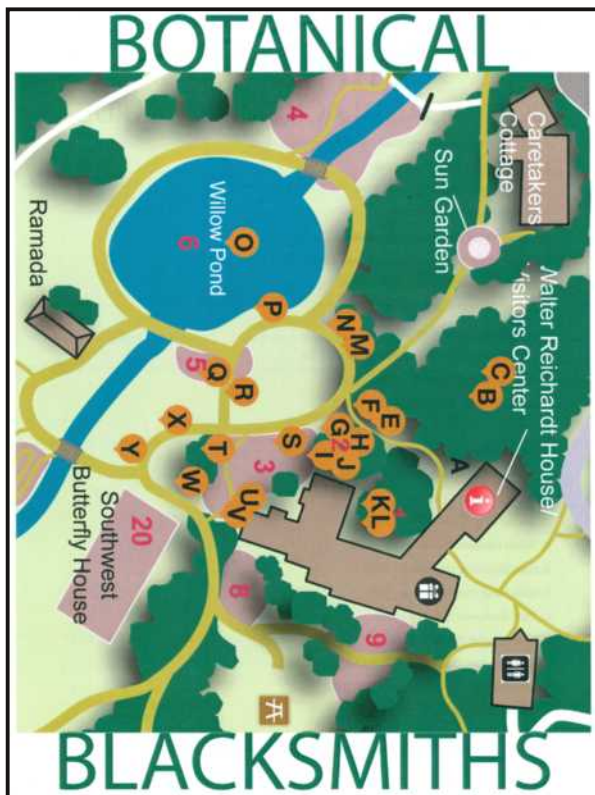
*Show and Tell:  
Dish by NAU sculpture student Ryan Bishop*



# Botanical Blacksmiths 2016

*Photos by Bill Ganoe*

The Botanical Blacksmiths exhibit at The Arboretum at Flagstaff officially opened on June 18 and will run through September 16. This is the 5th year that The Arboretum has hosted this exhibit and the 35th anniversary of The Arboretum itself. Thanks to the efforts of the staff at The Arboretum, Cathi Borthwick, and the individual artists, many of whom are AABA members, this is a very impressive show. Some of the pieces have already been sold, but most are still on display. The photos below are but a sample of the pieces in the exhibit. Maybe they will spur your own creativity and help you to develop a piece for next year's exhibit.



*Dancing Flames  
by  
Steve Miller*



*Trinity  
by  
Roger "Grizz" LaBrash*



## Botanical Blacksmiths (cont.)



*Bluegrass and Sky*  
by  
Cathi Borthwick



*Barrel Cactus*  
by  
Joel Richards



*Global Rebar Pond*  
by  
Ira Wiesenfeld



*Flora or Fauna?*  
by  
Roger "Grizz" LaBrash



*Arizona Garden*  
by  
Cathi Borthwick



*Mountain Lion Shield*  
by  
Denise Edwards

## Calendar 2016

September 10	Open Shop	Desert Rat Forge	Cave Creek
September 17 - 18	Demo, Riemer & Cook	Bill and Karen Morris' home	Camp Verde
October 1	Open Shop	Holy Hammer Ironworks	Tucson
October 8	Open Shop	Desert Rat Forge	Cave Creek
November 5	Open Shop	TBD	Tucson
November 19	AABA Annual Auction	Sahuaro Ranch	Glendale
December 3	Open Shop	TBD	Tucson
December 10	Open Shop	Desert Rat Forge	Cave Creek

### Classes at Pieh Tool Beginning/Intermediate Blacksmithing with Gordon Williams

Sept. 23-25, 2016

Oct. 21-23, 2016

Nov. 18-20, 2016

\$550 for three days of classes at Pieh Tool in  
Campe Verde.

For complete details call 928-554-0700 or browse  
to [www.piehtoolco.com](http://www.piehtoolco.com).

### Submit Your Touchmark

Submit a JPEG of your touchmark(s) to Steve  
Miller, [stevemiller.az@gmail.com](mailto:stevemiller.az@gmail.com), so it can be  
included in our AABA touchmark registry which  
will appear on our website soon.

### Ride Sharing

Interested in sharing a ride to a far off  
blacksmithing event to save on expenses or wear  
and tear on the old truck? Or would you like some  
company going to an AABA event just up the road?  
AABA VP Steve Miller is organizing a ride sharing  
exchange for AABA members. Email your requests  
or suggestions to [stevemiller.az@cox.net](mailto:stevemiller.az@cox.net)

### Deadline for the November 2016 issue

September 31 is the deadline submitting photos  
and articles for the January issue of the Anvil's  
Horn.

Send articles, pictures, etc. by email to:

[editor@azblacksmiths.org](mailto:editor@azblacksmiths.org)

or by regular mail to:

Bill Ganoe, PO Box 40233, Tucson, AZ 85717

### Welcome New Members

Steve Himmelberger

Phoenix, AZ

Mike Mooney

Phoenix, AZ

Nick Palaich

Phoenix, AZ

### MCC Blacksmithing & Welding

The Mesa Community College blacksmithing  
program is an excellent deal - over 60 hours of  
instruction including material and propane!  
Saturday (Jaime Escobedo instructor) and evening  
classes (Dan Jennings instructor) are available.  
Blacksmithing is WLD 103.

TIG, MIG, Arc, Gas, and Art classes are all  
available, as is certification in any of those welding  
methods at Mesa Community College, Southern  
and Dobson in Mesa.

Classes fill up early. For more information go to:  
[www.mesacc.edu](http://www.mesacc.edu)

If you try to register for any Welding Department  
classes on line, and you find all the classes are  
closed (full). Contact me (Dan Jennings) at  
[danshammer@cox.net](mailto:danshammer@cox.net) with the class number  
(time and days) of the class you'd like to take - I'll  
get an override number so you can sign up.

### Gordon Williams Blacksmith School

Gordon Williams teaches the regular 3-day classes  
at the Pieh Tool shop in Camp Verde.  
He is also teaching short (4-hour) classes and  
intensive 6-day classes at his shop near Camp  
Verde. Check out the details at  
[www.gwblacksmithschool.com](http://www.gwblacksmithschool.com)

# AABA Website: [www.azblacksmiths.org](http://www.azblacksmiths.org)

## Open Shop: Tucson

Harold Hilborn will be hosting an open shop on Saturday, October 1, 2016 from 9 AM to noon at Holy Hammer Ironworks, 5870 E. 14th St., Tucson. Contact Harold if you have any questions or suggestions at 520-603-6723 or [hhiborn@aol.com](mailto:hhiborn@aol.com)

## If You Are Attending An Open Shop...

You might not be aware but this, but these events are not funded by the AABA . They are hosted by our members for all of our benefit. So if you participate in forging ,welding, use shop materials, or accidentally damaged something. Please offer do donate to help out or help with the cost of replacing a item. Thank you! From all of your open forge hosts. **You will need to wear safety glasses. Hearing protection is recommended.**

## Open Shop: Grizzly Iron

Don't have a power hammer? Use one at Grizzly Iron, 1329 W. Lincoln St., Phoenix, 5 PM to 8 PM every Wednesday. \$20 each night. Call Roger "Grizz" LaBrash at 602-716-9660 to sign up.

## Open Shop: Desert Rat Forge (Phoenix area)

Paul Diefenderfer will host an open forge on , Saturday September 10, and Saturday October 8 from 9 am to noon, followed by lunch (You gotta' buy your own.) at the world famous Big Earl's Greasy Eats in Cave Creek. Desert Rat Forge is at: 40218 N. 78th St. Cave Creek. 602-509-1543 or [dief@phoenixrockgym.com](mailto:dief@phoenixrockgym.com)

Directions: From the center of Cave Creek (the 4-way stop at Cave Creek Rd & School House Rd.) head north on School House 1.5 miles to Highland Rd. (If you get to the 4-way stop at Fleming Springs you have gone a tad too far.) Turn right (east) on Highland. After about 1 mile the pavement ends. Keep going on the gravel road until the pavement starts up again. Turn right through the stone walls down a paved driveway. You are there!

(Dief will be working some temporary jobs in Florida on and off for the next few months. This will involve travel on Sundays, so he has rescheduled the next several open shops on Saturdays.)

## AABA Membership

Benefits for members include:

Member discounts at vendors around the state: See page 18 of this issue for more details.

Reduced registration fees at demonstrations and workshops

A one year subscription to the bi-monthly newsletter, *The Anvil's Horn*

Connection to members throughout the state who can answer questions and give advice

Free classified ads in the *Anvil's Horn* and on the AABA web site.

email notices when event details change or new events are scheduled on short notice.

### AABA New Member and Membership Renewal Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Professional blacksmith \_\_\_\_\_ Hobbyist \_\_\_\_\_ Farrier \_\_\_\_\_ Blade smith \_\_\_\_\_

Your main blacksmithing interest \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation or skill \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

Regular membership (\$35) \_\_\_\_\_

Family membership (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Terry Porter  
2310 E. Melrose St.  
Gilbert, AZ 85297

**Make Check Payable to AABA**



## Members' Gallery



*Entrance Table  
by  
Brian Hughes  
(photos by Alan Lade)*



*Eternal Light (Ner Tamid)  
in copper and steel for a synagogue in Tucson  
by  
Tidhar Ozeri  
(photo by Marty Johnston)*

# ABANA 2016 Report

Bill Ganoe

*Photos by Bill Ganoe unless otherwise noted.*

Over 1,000 blacksmiths, including several AABA members, spent mid July attending the ABANA 2016 Conference. It ran from July 13 - 17 at the Utah State Fair Park in Salt Lake City, Utah. It was an amazing four days loaded with demonstrations, lectures, workshops and chances to meet old friends and to make new ones. One person could take in only a fraction of the events.

I spent Wednesday evening at a lecture by Victoria Patti titled "Blacksmithing on the Internet". Victoria runs BlacksmithHER Radio ([www.blacksmithher.com](http://www.blacksmithher.com)) where she produces several on-line classes, webinars and podcasts of interviews with blacksmiths from all over the world. Victoria talked about ways of using the Internet for communication and teaching.

She was followed by a presentation by Clair Guy on the history of blacksmithing and a description of the efforts to restore the blacksmith shop at Historic Westville near Lumpkin, Georgia. That is the shop where Alex Bealer helped to organize the 1973 blacksmithing conference that led to the founding of the Artist Blacksmith Association of North America. (They are looking for donations if you are interested. Check out [www.westville.org](http://www.westville.org).)

Thursday morning I went to a demonstration by Monica Coyne who was doing forged dovetails. While she was forging dovetail joints, she offered suggestions for artistic design. Among the interesting tidbits was, "Make a drawing of your idea, then hang it up in your shop for a few days. Move it around, rotate it, and see if you notice anything new. Does inspiration strike?"

In the afternoon, I went to a workshop, "Photography for Blacksmiths and Other Metal Artists", presented by Paul Boulay. He had lots of tips to improve photos of your ironwork. One of the big problems for displaying ironwork is busy backgrounds that distract from the ironwork. Paul suggested trying to move around your piece and find a relatively uncluttered background if possible. If you're working in your shop or studio use light gray background paper. It can be found at most good camera stores. Another suggestion was to pay attention to shadows. Add or remove shadows to enhance drama. You may be able to use shadows to rally enhance a 3-D effect.

That evening I went to lectures and a panel discussion on "The Future and Direction of

Blacksmithing. The panel was made up of Heiner Zimmermann, Rick Smith, and Delyth Done. A quick take-away was that we need to do more to build public respect and a professional image. The consensus was that best way to do that would be to do more gallery shows. Other ideas included doing more public demonstrations and open studio events.

Friday morning found me at a forge welding demo by Gerald Franklin. He covered the basics well. For his work, he explained that he preferred a rounding hammer for welding. He referred to Mark Aspery's cow poop analogy. If you hit it with a softball bat, stuff goes out to the side. Gerald pointed out that if you hit it with a basketball, stuff goes out in all directions, not just to the sides. He compared a rounding hammer to a basketball which he thought would get more flux and crud out of the joint faster.

That afternoon I went to a lecture on Metallurgy by Bill Hochella. Among the subjects Bill covered was quenching. Be sure your quench bucket is as large as possible so it stays as cool as possible through several quenches. When hot steel is dunked in water, steam is produced at the steel surface. That layer of steam is called a vapor barrier, because it inhibits heat transfer resulting in slower quenching and a softer work piece. Swirling your work piece around in the quench bucket helps to break up the vapor barrier. It is fairly common knowledge that adding salt to your quench water results in a harder quenched piece. The salt precipitates out of the quench water onto the hot steel surface. But there is still water in the salt, and when the water is released, it does so explosively which helps even more to break up the vapor barrier, so more water reaches the surface of the work piece. (This is why a salt quench hisses more than plain water.) He also explained that you may want to be careful about not heating your work piece much beyond the transition point. Going well beyond the transition point results in larger grain size which results in lowered ductility which increases the chances of cracking.

The tong making competition was scheduled Friday evening. AABA second vice-president, Steve Miller, won 1st place in the Intermediate division with impressive scrolling tongs that he completed in the allotted 75 minutes.

## ABANA 2016 Report (cont.)

Saturday morning I went to a lecture by Craig Kaviar on Marketing Presentation: The Selling of Ironwork and How to Bring Customers to Your Doorstep. Kaviar felt that advertising was usually too expensive, especially for small shops. But he said that press releases can produce a lot of free advertising. Releases may help you get a short interview on local morning news programs. Sometimes it helps to call the stations, ask about the news shows and offer a story about an event (craft fair, gallery opening, etc.) that you have coming up. He also talked about social media like Facebook. He described social media as a dynamic business card. You need to keep updating your area often with new posts -- maybe every day or every few days. Also, you should hashtag your business name in your posts. ("Hashtagging" means putting a "#" in front of a name or term. Posts that have the same term hashtagged are grouped together in users' search results.) Kaviar wrote an article on "PR and the Art of Selling Ironwork" that appeared in the Winter 2016 issue of the *Anvil's Ring*.

Things started to wind down Saturday

afternoon as demonstrations were completed and displays were taken down and packed up. This was to allow the set up for the banquet and auction Saturday evening. The banquet was well organized and the food was great. The auction was also well run and resulted in many pieces displayed in the gallery the past two days being taken home by happy buyers. It also provided a good addition to the ABANA scholarship fund. See more details at: ([www.abana.org/resources/ScholarshipGrant.shtml](http://www.abana.org/resources/ScholarshipGrant.shtml).)

This was just a short overview of the ABANA Conference, but there is only so much room in print or online. And I didn't get usable photos of many of the demonstrations or great pieces the demonstrators turned out. If you want more, come to some of the AABA demos and ask people who went to ABANA 2016. And be sure plan to attend ABANA 2018 in Richmond, Virginia. (Remember, Steve Miller is coordinating the AABA ride share program. It may help you save a few coins getting to Richmond. See page 10 in this issue.)



*Most of the AABA members who attended ABANA 2016*



*Steve Miller at work in the tong making competition.*



## ABANA 2016 Report (cont.)

Some of the submissions of AABA members in the ABANA Gallery



*Roger "Grizz" LaBrash*



*Wade Smith*



*Ray Rybar*



*George Witzke*



*Ira Wiesenfeld*



*Richard Rozinski*

## Interesting Web Links

### Primitive Technology: Making a Forge Blower

A guy makes a primitive, though sophisticated, mechanical blower for a clay forge. Very clever!

[www.wideopenspaces.com/primitive-technology-making-forge-blower](http://www.wideopenspaces.com/primitive-technology-making-forge-blower)

### Shadow Sculptural Ironwork by

Mike Mumford, Ridgecrest, Calif.

In it's simplest terms, a Shadow Sculpture is an artwork which looks like one thing when viewed directly, but which casts the shadow of something else.

[www.roadrunnerforge.com/shadowsculpture.html](http://www.roadrunnerforge.com/shadowsculpture.html)

# A Blacksmithing Class for Syrian Refugees in Jordan

James Schremp

First a brief explanation of the Syrian Crisis. The country of Syria, with neighbors Iraq, Turkey and Jordan, is currently fighting a civil war. The leader of Syria, Bashar al-Assad, is fighting several different factions including Daisha and Isis. Isis has been making the news by torturing and killing Christian and Muslim civilians. The Assad regime is just as guilty committing atrocities against the civilian population and making them flee their own country to survive.

Most Syrians who cross the border into Jordan are held in refugee camps, such as one near Mafraq, Jordan, until a thorough background check can be done. When the true identity is verified, United Nation's identification papers are issued. To ease overcrowding in refugee camps, vetted refugees can move out of the camp by paying a tax or getting sponsored by a Jordanian citizen. Refugees cannot get a job because it takes work away from Jordanians. The Syrians must abide by all Jordanian laws, and any infractions will get them sent back to Syria. The Syrians live on whatever money they brought from Syria or financial aid from government or humanitarian organizations. This seems to be easy for them, but the population of Mafraq, Jordan has tripled making the price of food, rent and medical supplies soar in a country with limited resources.

I fell into an unbelievable opportunity to teach basic blacksmithing to Syrian refugees living in Jordan. It all started when a friend, Ellie Sawyer, was looking for people to teach crafts to Syrian refugees. Ellie had a vision while visiting Jordan on one of several humanitarian trips. She came up with the Jordan Project ([www.jordanproject.org](http://www.jordanproject.org)) to build affordable, self-sustaining apartments with a medical clinic and a community center set up for teaching crafts.

The Jordan Project works alongside the Alliance Church in Mafraq, Jordan. After contacting the church and getting limited support for setting up a blacksmithing class, I stepped up and went as a short term volunteer doing whatever was needed. This was in January 2016. The majority of the humanitarian relief work was distributing supplies to the Syrian refugees living outside of the refugee camps. The supplies were mostly propane tanks for cooking and heating, mattresses, flooring mats, blankets and propane heaters because it was cold in January (20 to 30 degrees F). Going to Jordan to

work with the church gave me the opportunity to sit in on several meetings about setting up the Jordan Project.

Bringing several small blacksmith items and having face to face interaction was a big boost and the pastor of the church, Pastor Noir, gave the go ahead to have a blacksmithing classes.

Setting up a blacksmithing class for Syrian refugees living in Jordan has some very unique challenges. First of all there is no blacksmith or farrier supply (although I did see a few horses) in Jordan. The second challenge is that the Syrians speak Arabic and very few of them speak English. But the biggest hurdle was how to get blacksmithing equipment to a country on the other side of the world. This is like doing a moon landing because equipment sent is not coming back. It is going to stay in Jordan.

But suddenly the problems and hurdles were getting answered. Brian Burns, a long term worker at the church, arranged for two anvils that I made and a forge that I made from AABA newsletter plans (Never thought your forge would be in the Middle East, did you.) to hitch a ride in a sea container with playground equipment going all the way to Mafraq,

Jordan. Another problem was answered when I met a young Jordanian who speaks perfect English and Arabic. He is interested in blacksmithing and is willing to translate. An answer for tools is that there is an Ace Hardware in Amman, Jordan, about 30 miles away. The prices are a little steep, but it beats dragging tools half way around the world.

One concern Pastor Noir had was that I had no experience teaching a blacksmithing class. So



*A truckload of humanitarian supplies*



*Jim Schremp with his Arabic translator and a Syrian refugee boy.*

## A Blacksmithing Class for Syrian Refugees in Jordan (Cont.)

upon returning to the States I held a blacksmithing class at my church in Yuma, Arizona. There were five guys who took the class and all were pleased with the class, walking away with several projects. Most of the students were snowbirds who left to go north as summer came on, so the next class will wait until the fall.



*Blacksmithing class in Yuma, AZ.  
Jim Schremp is on the left.*

I am currently raising more funds to go back to Jordan in the fall. Hopefully this endeavor will be a success. The good news is that people are excited to

learn a new skill, including Brian Burns. Brian purchased another two anvils and a forge out of his own pocket and had them shipped in the sea container.

There have been craft classes before. When my group was there three ladies from Holland taught a sewing class. However, this will be the first craft class for the men, which is really needed because not being able to work has left them depressed and caused a high divorce rate. Some men, being really discouraged because they are not allowed to work and provide for their families, simply give up and walk out on their wives and children.

For Syrians blacksmithing will not be just a hobby, it will be therapy and gaining self-worth as they learn to take scrap metal that is lying around and turn it into beautiful objects that can be used, sold or bartered to help support their families. Wish me luck!

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## Artist-Blacksmith Association of North America

Blacksmithing, the cornerstone of all crafts for centuries, has come back to life. Once rendered nearly obsolete by the Industrial Revolution and 20th Century technology, this ancient craft has undergone a contemporary renaissance. A new appreciation of the honest, enduring qualities of forged metal has developed.

At the heart of this revival has been the Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc., a non-profit educational association dedicated to the dissemination of knowledge about the art and craft. Started by a handful of isolated blacksmiths in Georgia in 1973, ABANA now serves nearly 4,000 members.

As part of your Membership Benefits you will receive 4 issues of the Anvil's Ring and 4 issues of the Hammer's Blow Magazine each year you are a member. These magazines can not be subscribed separately but are only received by our members. We have recently added a youth membership at a reduced rate, this membership available to those 18 or under includes a subscription to only the Hammer's Blow magazine.

Go to:

<https://www.abana.org/membership/index.shtml>

for membership forms and details.



# Classifieds

Classified ads are free to members and can be submitted by email to: [editor@azblacksmiths.org](mailto:editor@azblacksmiths.org). Ads will run for 3 issues. You can renew your ad if you need to run it after the third issue. Please let the editor know when you no longer need to run the ad.

## Will buy your unwanted

blacksmith or horseshoeing tools and supplies.

Barry Denton, 928-442-3290 any day before 7:00 pm.

## For sale

Propane forge, 2-burner, made in one of Doug Kluender's forge workshops.  
Miller Dialarc 250, power source for TIG or stick with cables, remote foot control, argon bottle and regulator  
100 lb. anvil  
Hand shear

Jack Friehe, 623-466-9889

## For Sale

FORGE-APRONS, the stylish blacksmith apron that can be Custom-Sized, Personalized or Customized with three designs to choose from and FREE shipping. Visit [forge-aprons.com](http://forge-aprons.com) or call James Patton, 575-313-4650

## Coal for Sale

Dragonforge Ironworks has bulk coal for sale. \$25 per 50lbs. Minimum order \$100. Small orders can be filled at our shop in Mesa. Larger quantities available up to 1 ton but are located at the Superstition Mountain Museum in Apache Junction.

Really great forging coal from the King Coal Mine in Colorado. Bulk only, chunk sizes vary from pool ball to bowling ball. Bring your own 5 gallon pails, 3 pails equals about 100 lbs.

Call Michael at 480.529.0206.

## Marketing Assistance

Blacksmith's Wife Marketing provides marketing and promotional services, in both digital and print, to the metal working community. Also providing website design and consulting services. Contact April Witzke at (575) 535-4766 or visit [www.blacksmithswifemarketing.com](http://www.blacksmithswifemarketing.com)

## Advantages of AABA Membership

IMS has offered AABA members two great opportunities. Thanks to members Doug Kluender and Wade Smith for the idea and contacts with IMS.

1) IMS has space for member metal work to be put on display in a glass case and on top of the cut metal rack inside the store. Contact Steve Miller, [stevemiller.az@cox.net](mailto:stevemiller.az@cox.net), to get your items on display. These items may be for show only or they may be offered for sale. Artists are responsible for any financial exchange. IMS will make a nice card to identify the piece, the artist, and the cost.

2) IMS is offering a 10% discount to AABA members. The discount is available at the Phoenix and Tucson stores. At the time of purchase tell the clerk you would like the AABA discount and provide your name and address. They will verify your membership with the list AABA supplies.

Don't forget that AABA members get discount pricing at the Vern Lewis Welding Supply stores in the Phoenix area.

# Classifieds

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## For Sale

Old Boice Crane floor drill press, 1/2" chuck. \$60.00  
1 hp 12 gallon 110 v. Sears air compressor, \$60.00  
1/2" thick steel plate table, 20"w,84"l, 36" h. Should be attached to floor or wall. It's top heavy. \$75.00  
1/4" thick L-shaped stainless steel plate. 7 to 8 sq ft of material. \$60.00  
No. 1 Dodge vertical mill w/ Allied Machinery Co. 3/16, 3/8, & 1/2" collets. Old, small mill. \$500.00  
6 monkey wrenches, wood handles, 7" to 15" long. \$60.00  
1 1/2 hp variable speed, 110v. motor, Old, very heavy. \$60.00  
  
Will help load, no delivery, as is.  
Moe Hamburger  
602-538-7905  
[hiron@cox.net](mailto:hiron@cox.net)

## For Sale

Side draft coal forge with SS fire pot, electric blower and 10' x 10" flue pipe.  
Champion round rivet forge with hand crank blower.  
Handle pump coal forge.  
Champion 400 hand crank blower.  
Buffalo cast fire pot.  
Clay Spencer treadle hammer.  
Harold Hilborn, 520-603-6723  
[hhiborn@aol.com](mailto:hhiborn@aol.com)

## For Sale

Titanium Tongs - All sizes and shapes, 50 pairs. Get them while they last. \$100 per pair.  
Bernhard Heer,  
715 205 8786

## Picture Rock

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## Forging Coke for Sale!

High quality L-Brand coke  
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Rodger or Jason, 602-716-9660

# Sources

## Tucson Iron and Metal

Steel, aluminum, stainless, copper and brass for sale by the pound. Open Monday - Friday 8 - 4:30. Also 1st and 3rd Saturdays 6:30 - 8 am. specifically for metal artists.  
690 E. 36th St., Tucson  
520-884-1554

## Bar U Bar Supply

Several 65 lb. & 85 lb. swage blocks for sale. Your source for anvils, post vises, and other new & used blacksmith tools.  
Barry Denton. ph 928-442-3290  
email: [barubarranch@gmail.com](mailto:barubarranch@gmail.com)  
[www.barubar.com](http://www.barubar.com)

## A Copper Rose Metal Art

Chasing/Repousse Pitch  
Debra Montgomery  
[www.chasers-pitch.com](http://www.chasers-pitch.com)

## Brent Bailey.

A blacksmith in California specializing in custom tools and ornamental forgings for artisans.  
[www.brentbaileyforge.com](http://www.brentbaileyforge.com)

## Pieh Tool Company, Inc.

Blacksmith Supplies, Blacksmith Classes with Gordon Williams, Milwaukee, Wilton & JET Tools, Air Hammers, Hand Hammers, Tongs, Books, Coal and Coke.  
661 Howards Road, Suite J, Camp Verde, AZ, 928-554-0700 and  
28255 N Tatum Blvd. Suite 1 Cave Creek, AZ, 480-626-0924  
[www.piehtoolco.com](http://www.piehtoolco.com)

## IMS

Full service supplier of steel, stainless, brass, aluminum, copper. Discounts for AABA members.  
5150 S. 48th St., Phoenix  
602-454-1500  
3757 E. Columbia St., Tucson  
520-441-5900

## General Insulation

High temp insulating materials, bricks, Kaowool and other refractories.  
3330 W Papago Street, Suite A Phoenix, AZ 85009  
Phone: 602-944-2249  
Toll-Free: (844) 866-1680

## Vern Lewis Welding Supply

Discount pricing for AABA members. Various locations in the Phoenix area.  
602-252-0341  
Dan, 602-316-4140, for tech support.

## Interstate Steel and Salvage

Specializing in Steel, Aluminum, Stainless Steel, Brass, Copper and some alloyed metals of all types, sizes and shapes. Cutting, Shearing and advanced Flow water jet cutting for all your project needs. Valley wide delivery. Let us quote your next large or small job!  
12129 W Peoria Ave, El Mirage  
602-944-2000

## AZ Tool Steel

520 S. 52nd Street #201  
Tempe, Arizona 85281  
Phone: 480-784-1600  
Toll Free: 877-795-1600

**Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association**  
**Attn: Bill Ganoe**  
**P.O. Box 40233**  
**Tucson, AZ 85717**  
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**The Anvil's Horn** is the official newsletter of the Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association. Published every other month preceding the bimonthly meetings of the Association, the newsletter is oriented toward anyone interested in blacksmithing and related forms of metal work. Membership is available at the rate of \$35 for individuals; \$40 for families and includes a subscription to the *The Anvil's Horn* for one year. Every attempt has been made to ensure accuracy of information appearing here, but no liability is assumed by the Association, its officers or editor for errors, damages, or injuries resulting from any design, use, construction or application of said information. Uncopyrighted material may be used freely by other similar organization provided proper credit is given. Any copyrighted articles appearing herein should not be reproduced without permission of the author. Matters relating to newsletter submissions, corrections, etc. should be addressed to the editor: Bill Ganoe, P.O. Box 40233, Tucson, AZ 85717, Tel: 520-326-5478, or [editor@azblacksmiths.org](mailto:editor@azblacksmiths.org).

For membership information or address change, contact: Terry Porter, 2310 E. Melrose St., Gilbert, AZ 85297, 480-988-2070, [trp555@prodigy.net](mailto:trp555@prodigy.net)



Advice from one of the demonstrators at ABANA 2016: "If you just can't seem to get your work piece hot enough, put it back in the forge and start a conversation with someone. Your piece will be melted in an instant."