

NOV 94

*The Florida Clinker Breaker*

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My present temporary address is;  
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Leesburg Ga. 31763-0008

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This paper is being put together and mailed from Albany, Georgia aprox 75 miles from Tallahassee. We are staying in our motor home here on a 6 1/2 Acre tract Real Estate investment property that needs some personal attention.

Thanks to Patty Drapers help of fowarding and getting the word out that we are here. Any thing sent to our permanent address of; P.O.Box 888 Homosassa Fl. 34487-0888 is being foward to us. It will be quicker to reach me by mail or phone here in Leesburg, a suburb of Albany.

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I am so sorry we missed the BARBERVILLE CONFERENCE. We enjoyed last years' so very much and were looking foward to this one with high hopes. Life somtimes throws us a curve when we least expect it and this was one of those times. The flood that devestated much of this area did not actualy flood any of our holdings or family but it presented the entire area problems completely unexpected. Contractors that could have been doing routine work for us are still tied up with emergency flood work. The church that our one son and family have been active in was completly Flooded out and it is several miles from the river. Lumber is scarce for our real estate project and workers are either non existent or greatly over worked.

On plus side though, every one seems to be pitching in and helping each other. For example one of our sub-contracters worked till dark over the week-end to get facia boards up so his less experienced people could finish roofing before it rains again. Another example, our son Tim has worked at his regular industrial job 18 days straight and half of these were 10 and 12 hour days.

I did not mean to ramble on that much but thought you might like to know why your editor seems so messed up lately.

Today Monday Oct 25 I recieved from Patty The labels ect and items for the newsletter

Tico Rubio our Pres has sent word to me via Patty Draper asking that I "PLEASE get the newsletter in the mail at least 10 days before his meeting on November 5

It is going to be real hard to do Tico.

Ralph

# Fairness in the ABANA Elections

by Pete Brandenburg

All ABANA members soon will receive an election ballot and a flyer that includes short statements from seven candidates who are running for five seats on ABANA's Board of Directors. Each year ABANA members elect five people to serve three-year terms on the fifteen-member ABANA Board. Members cast their votes for up to five candidates on the ballot, and the five who receive the most votes win.

An article about ABANA's upcoming election in ABANA's September, 1994, Chapter Liaison Newsletter inappropriately promoted three of the seven candidates for the ABANA Board election. The Chapter Liaison Newsletter is a publication of official ABANA business, chapter news, and other timely blacksmithing subjects, which ABANA sends to all chapter presidents and newsletter editors each month.

The article, "ABANA Board Election," praised the contributions of the three Board members who are running for re-election while ignoring their four challengers. This was a serious mistake. The article's one-sided discussion of the election may give the impression that the ABANA Board is endorsing its present Board Members and is using an official publication funded with your dues money to influence your vote. From my experience as a member of the ABANA Board of Directors for the last year, my personal opinion is that this is not true. While most Board Members are vocal as individuals about their favorite candidates, the Board of Directors absolutely does not endorse candidates and would never knowingly use ABANA's resources to tamper with an election. I believe that the article simply was an error in enthusiasm by one Board Member, who himself is running for re-election, and was caught up in election or newsletter deadline fervor.

Voting is important. When you receive your ABANA ballot, carefully examine all of the candidates' statements and cast your votes for the people that you feel have the best experience, character, and common sense to conduct the business of ABANA. Think about each person's vision for ABANA's future, talk to other ABANA members, and pick candidates who best reflect your own ideas about what ABANA should be.

ABANA is changing. Our membership has begun to grow rapidly and ABANA is beginning to respond better to its members needs. Your five choices in this election will strongly influence the direction that ABANA takes for the next three years.

PETE BRANDENBURG sent me this paper which is included in this issue since I did not receive it until the last issue was mailed. I find it very interesting, also timely. I will put my two cents in as well. Since I am not sure if the new editor will be in place before the next issue. Putting out this paper has been a great learning experience and a pleasant as well as hectic adventure. I am thankful to have had this opportunity. Personally I would like to see more new people become active and be offered more jobs. A surprise to me having served as pres of local AARP, PTA, Rotary and other service clubs that have one or two hundred dollars in their treasury was how much money our own treasury has. Seeing the ABANA pres brag of 4,000 members I at once multiply that by the average dues of \$35.00 and come up with an interesting amount.

It is very important that these organizations keep in touch with the members and that the members support the organization with their efforts and talents not just dues.

## FABA 1994 Annual Conference Pioneer Arts Settlement, Barberville, Florida

By most standards, the 1994 conference was an overwhelming success. In brief, some telling statistics:

- ◆ A total of 303 people attended the conference. There were 134 paid, registered blacksmiths, 18 free blacksmiths (demonstrators, spouses of family program instructors), 88 spouses, and 63 children in attendance. According to Gloria Corbett, conference registrar (and the Madison SE Regional conference registrar), the attendance matched that of the 1991 Madison Conference and approached the Madison conference's 1993 number of about 400 attendees.
- ◆ The auction brought in \$4,506; up from last year's \$2,959. The northwest region was responsible for \$551 of the total with its contribution of hand wrought tools and art made by FABA members at just two of the area's monthly meetings. These funds are critical to FABA's special programs, such as bringing nationally recognized demonstrators to our quarterly statewide meetings.
- ◆ Diverse offerings were the rule at the conference. In the family program portion of the conference, 102 individuals took classes ranging from broommaking and pottery to weapon or tool sheathmaking, dreamcatchers and flute construction. In addition, 38 individuals took classes in beginning blacksmithing and sharpening drill bits. Blacksmithing demonstrators covered traditional areas such as bladesmithing and colonial lighting and contemporary artistic applications such as inflatables.
- ◆ 26 new members were a welcome byproduct of the conference. We're glad to have them!

### CHAPTER NOTES

By Patty Draper, Secretary-Treasurer

1994 elections will be held during the month of November. Every member will receive a ballot in the mail on which to indicate his or her choice for each position. Every year, about one-half of the members of the board of trustees step down and their successors are elected by the members by written ballot. This year the four positions which will become vacant as of January 1, 1995 are vice-president, newsletter editor and two non-officer trustee positions. Nominees for these positions are:

Vice-President	Pete Brandenburg
Trustee (2)	Walt Anderson Doyle Conner, Jr. Bob Jacoby Bill Roberts Willard Smith
Newsletter Editor	Mike Murphy Bill Robertson

President Tico Rubio urges everyone to send in their decorative disks for the **Pioneer Arts Settlement gate**. Disks may not exceed 3-1/2 inch in diameter and may be decorated or rendered in any way you choose. The iron gates are being fabricated by FABA members for the settlement in Barberville, Florida. Tico hopes to complete the gate by the holidays this year!

There is still some coal for sale to members for \$10/100 lb. Coal may be purchased at the settlement in Barberville. Call Tico Rubio. This is good stuff!

## NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST

*Patty Draper & Bill Robertson, Northwest program coordinator*

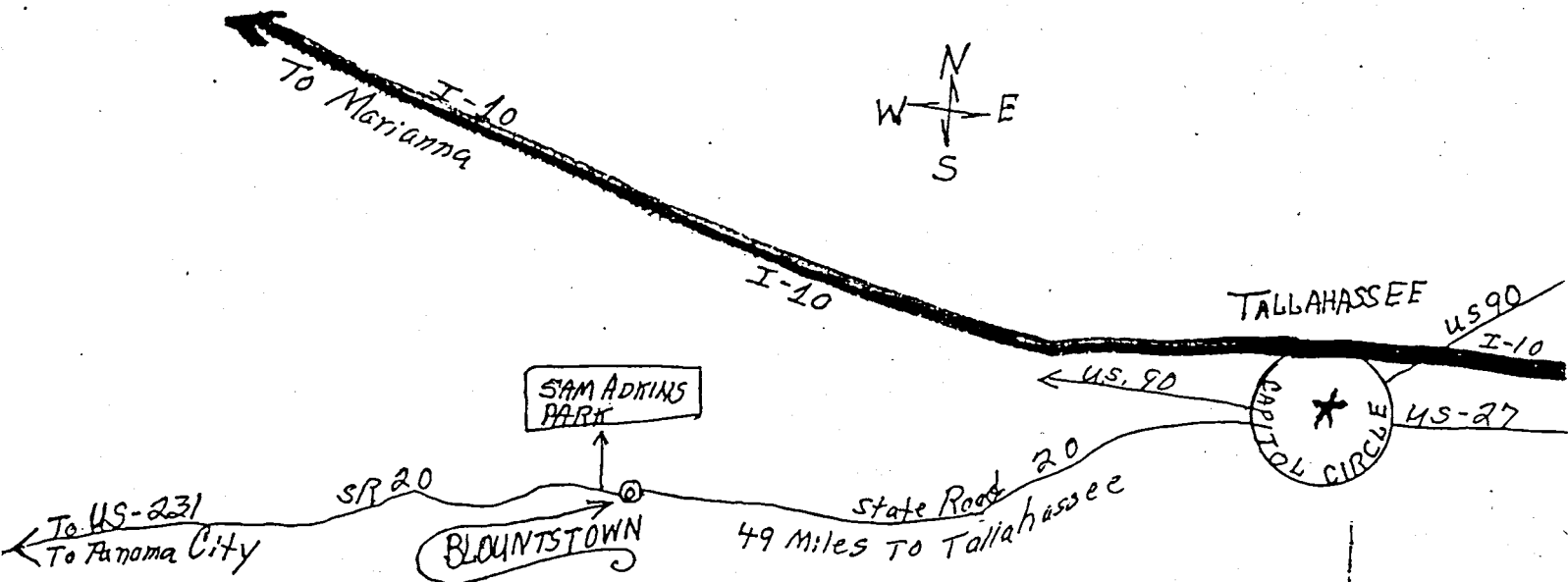
### *September's meeting notes*

A downright crowd attended the September meeting of the N.W. region held at Jerry & Tycee Grice's home/shop. Jerry, who owns Jerry Grice Welding and is the current president of the National Ornamental Metal Association (NOMA), gave the 25+ participants a brief introductory lesson in silver soldering, which he advocates as an alternative to brazing. Jerry also demonstrated MIG and TIG welding techniques. Jerry prefers silver soldering to brazing with brass because less cleanup is required. The silver flows into the space to be joined while brazing leaves a lot of extraneous material that usually has to be ground off. We all tested the weld and found it was amazingly strong. Jerry also demonstrated designs brazed on steel (the trick is that the brass doesn't flow across a line thickly chalked on steel).

The group then cooperatively planned and executed a coat rack for sale at the auction fund-raiser at the FABFA annual meeting (see related story in this issue). This was great fun since everyone who wanted to got to do something. For example, Dr. Skeeter Prather supervised the hook making; Rick Jay cut out decorative cactus designs with the plasma torch; and new member David Whiting made one of the hooks. Others wielding hammers were Jeff Valentine, Clyde Payton, Kris Bancroft, Patty Draper, Carl Woodard, Dr. J.C. Hawkins & Mike Murphy. Tycee and Jerry served up a beautiful, hearty spread for lunch.

### *Plan to attend the December meeting*

We will meet on December 10 at the Sam Adkins Park in Blountstown. The park is about a mile west of town on highway 20. Look for the sign on the right (see map in this issue). We will finish up the last bit of the brick work on the forge and install siding and other carpentry related things. So bring your claw hammers and be prepared to do some hammering. Lunch will be provided. For those of you who are considering building your own permanent forge this is a great opportunity to see how it's done.



Blountstown is 49 miles west of Tallahassee on SR-20. From the Traffic light in Blountstown go west one mile on highway 20. Look for a sign that says SAM ADKINS PARK. Turn NORTH and go  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the Blacksmith Shop.

# FLORIDA ARTIST BLACKSMITH ASSOCIATION, INC.

NOVEMBER 1994 EDITION

## NEWSLETTER

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT ('94-'95)	Tico Rubio	(904)749-3327
VICE-PRESIDENT ('93-'94)	J.C. Hawkins	(904)538-3348
SEC./TREASURER ('94-'95)	Patty Draper	(904)668-2876
PROGRAM CHAIRMAN ('94-'95)	Steve Bloom	(904)528-6508/392-7275(w)
TRUSTEE ('93-'94)	Pat Imbimbo	(904)656-3494/488-4891(w)
TRUSTEE ('93-'94)	Dale Kipp	(407)793-0579/694/3779(w)
TRUSTEE ('94-'95)	Carl Austin	(813)735-0257
TRUSTEE ('94-'95)	Clyde Payton	(904)997-3627
TRUSTEE ('94-'95)	Ray Roberts	(407)283-2611
NEWS EDITOR ('93-'94)	Ralph Kretzer	(912)888-9966

### REGIONAL AREA INFORMATION

NORTH EAST	Tico Rubio	(904)749-3327
NORTH WEST	Bill Robertson	(904)668-2876/681-0881(w)
SOUTH EAST	Ray Reynolds	(407)793-2452
SOUTH WEST	Lewis Riggleman	(904)521-3515

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 5	Pioneer Art Settlement	Barberville, Fl. Annual settlement Jamboree
Nov. 12	N.W. Meeting	Tallahassee Museum details & map, last issue
Nov. 19	S.E. Meeting	Ray Roberts host 6260 Markel St. Palm City (407) 283-2611 or 288-9267
Nov. 26	Crowley Nature center	
Dec. 3	N.E. Meeting	Pioneer Art Settlement Barberville making Christmas Presents
Dec. 10	N.W. Meeting	Sam Adkins Park, Blountstown
Dec. 17	S.E. Pete & Mary Brandenburgs Annual Family Holiday Party	299 Granada Rd. W. Palm Beach, Fl. 33401 (407) 833-2708 or 640-0445
Dec. 31	Crowley Nature Center	
Jan. 21	Statewide Meeting at Bo Davis and Sharon Blondet	617 S.W. 2nd Ave. Ft. Lauderdale, Fl 33315 (305) 541-1441 Guest Demonstrator will be Nol Putnam

Sorry I do not have maps for these. If you do not know how to get there call the numbers given or your regional

**FABA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in procuring:

- Anvil       Coal       Hand Tools  
 Blower     Forge     Post Vise  
 Other

Send this application and membership fee of \$15 (make checks out to FABA) to:

Patty Draper FABA secy/tres  
Applecross Forge Rt 7, Box 1082C  
Tallahassee, Fl. 32308

FABA membership includes a one year subscription to *The Florida Clinker Breaker*. Membership year begins May 1; new memberships received after Jan. 31 cover the following membership year. Membership includes your entire family. You don't have to be a member of ABANA to join FABA although we encourage membership in both organizations.

**ABANA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
Artist Blacksmith Association or North America, Inc.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby apply for membership in the Artist blacksmith Association of North America, Inc. and enclose \_\_\_\_\_ as my annual membership dues. Checks must be US funds and made out to ABANA. Membership includes a one year subscription to *The Anvil's Ring*.

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Membership                | \$35  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time Student (one year only) | \$25  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (one vote)      | \$40  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen (over age 65)      | \$25  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas Membership               | \$45  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributory Member               | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Library Subscription       | \$25  |

Visa / MC:      Card #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Call (812) 988-6919 to charge your membership to Visa/ MC, or make out a check to ABANA and send to:

ABANA  
PO Box 1181  
Nashville, Indiana 47488

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