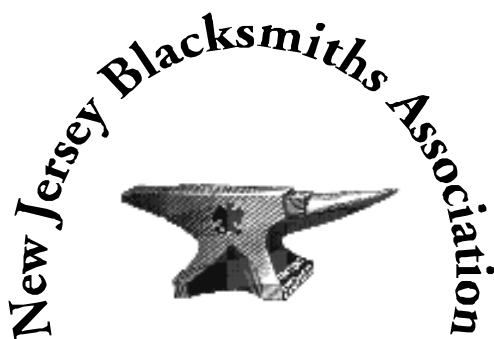




N.J.B.A. Newsletter

NJBA Volume 25, Issue 4 May, 2022

Editorial: Will *Anyone* Pitch in to Keep this Newsletter Going?

I am resigning as NJBA Newsletter editor effective this issue. I made this decision reluctantly, but the job is interfering with my own life and interests.

“So, what would I be committing to as Editor?” I hear you sigh. Well, for starters I’d help with the actual set-up of the Newsletter, as nobody would expect you quickly to acquire and master the software (I use MS Publisher, a photo editor of your choice, and a couple shareware PDF editors I could name. Mind you, if you’re already comfortable with such software, you’d be free to take over the Newsletter without interference from me.) But setting-up the content is the least of the task.

What the job involves is listing the upcoming events, including each of the “5 W’s”; accepting (and editing) any reports of recent past events, sometimes including *gently reminding* folks to *actually submit* such reports; selecting materials from other ABANA Affiliate newsletters for inclusion in ours (as per an agreement that dates back a quarter century); and including the membership-renewal form with each issue, and the ballot at least annually. *In the past*, the job also included emailing the Newsletter to the membership, and snail-mailing it to the dozen-or-so paid subscribers, but those jobs can be assigned to others.

The job immediately qualifies you to be elected to the NJBA Board -- and we’d actually prefer that you *do* join. This, in turn, gives you a vote in all matters concerning NJBA. (As per our bylaws, you cannot be paid *as an NJBA Director*, but the board *could* consider paying a wage for editing.)

Please contact me directly if you’d like to contribute to, edit or co-edit this Newsletter.

- Bruce Freeman

Editorial: Please Renew or Restart Your NJBA Membership !

The NJBA Board gave all members a one-year dues holiday to tide us over the pandemic. This action may have backfired: Our membership dropped precipitously over that interval. If we cannot attract new members or get members to renew, NJBA’s very existence is threatened.

We have a good thing going here. In *normal* times (like, when there’s no pandemic) we have open forge meets *weekly*, where we initiate novices in the art of blacksmithing and provide additional training and forge access to all members; we hold a number of other meets across the year -- including *two* this month (May 7 and May 14) -- and public demonstrations from time to time -- including one this month (May 15). As soon as I am no longer committed to issuing a quarterly Newsletter, I intend to resume leading tool-making workshops, as I have so often in the past. This is an exceptional level of activity for a group of our size, and you get access to all of this for a mere \$20 per year.

We have about 600 followers on Facebook, so perhaps some of those are not yet NJBA members and would like to join. Unfortunately, we have yet to achieve our goal of making membership and other payments to NJBA possible over the Internet (as there always seem to be complications to doing so) but we are still conscious of the problem and are working on it. In the meantime, we do accept personal checks and money orders and we accept cash payment in person.

In hopes of attracting back lapsed members, I am making a one-time exception to usual policy and sending this Newsletter by email to all recent members.

- Bruce Freeman

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

Upcoming NJBA Events

Sat., May 7, 2022, 10 AM - 4 PM

Jonathan Nedbor at EJOT

Jonathan Nedbor will be holding a demonstration at East Jersey Olde Towne Village, focused on colonial hardware. **Food** will be provided. An area will be designated for **tailgate sales**. An **Iron In The Hat** will be held, so please consider bringing items to donate! East Jersey Old Town Village recommends that you **bring your own chair**. For further information, please contact NJBA Director Ryan Amos.

East Jersey Old Town Village is located at 1050 River Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854.

Sat., May 14, 10 AM - 4 PM

Knifemaking Demo by Mark Morrow

Our friendly (?) local swordsmith will once again demonstrate knifemaking at Marshall's Forge (663 Casino Dr., Howell, NJ). Admission is free to NJBA members (but you can join at the door -- see last page of this Newsletter). An **Iron In The Hat** will be held, so please consider bringing items to donate!

Sun., May 15. Walnford Day 11 AM -5 PM

NJBA will demonstrate blacksmithing to the public at Historic Walnford, 62 Walnford Rd, Allentown, NJ 08501. We'll arrive at about 10 AM to set up the forge(s). Members are welcome to participate. Please contact Bruce Freeman or Marshall Bienstock so we'll have a count of those who'd like to demonstrate, so we can bring enough equipment. There *may* be some food available for demonstrators, but it's prudent to bring your own lunch as the nearest restaurants are 4-5 miles away.

Sometime this Autumn:

A Repetition of the Hammer-In at the Blacksmith of Trenton

Daniel Lapidow's a tour of The Blacksmith of Trenton (334 North Olden Avenue, Trenton, NJ), was under-attended due to some of use being snowed in. He plans to repeat the event this autumn. For more information, you can contact Daniel. (See Directors List.)



Rough-Cut Crane-Rail Anvils Available to NJBA Members

We are offering these rough-cut anvils to NJBA members for \$3/lb. Four such pieces are available:

- =2 ea. ~9.5" long and 28 lb, \$84.
- 1 ea. ~13" long and 38 lb, \$114.
- 1 ea. ~13" long and 40 lb., \$120

Purchases will be cash only. Please contact NJBA Director Marshall Bienstock if interested.

Report on the Northeast Blacksmiths Fund-Raiser for Ukraine

I wish to reach out to all those at the [Northeast Blacksmiths] Hammer in this weekend with a big thanks. We raised \$675 with an iron in the hat and thanks to the NEB group who voted to match that for a total of \$1350! Congrats to Ellen Durkan for bringing rock-stars status to our group. This iron in the hat was a record.

The money is going to our friends Olga and Sergiy in Ukraine for med supplies and vehicles. Sergiy Polubotko is a great smith and has demoed and worked around US. Now he is fighting for his freedom his life and for all free people.

I urge other groups to emulate what we did at the Ashokan center: Raise \$\$\$\$ money and awareness. And give !!!! Our money is insignificant to what the Ukrainian people are giving every day. We all scream to each other about freedom and rights from different viewpoints. Let's join in agreement that this is a real fight we must win. If you want a way to continue the fight and give a little feel free to contact me .

- Bruce Ringier

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

NJBA Board of Directors

Ryan Amos

Daniel Lapidow

William Barrett

Bruce Freeman

Marshall Bienstock

Mark Morrow

Bob Bozzay

Bruce Ringier

Larry Brown

Thomas Santomauro

Eric Cuper

Ben Suhaka

David Ennis

Dan Yale

Open Forge Meets

(See Rules, elsewhere in this Newsletter)

Monday Night Open Forge, Howell, NJ

NJBA Director Marshall Bienstock hosts an open forge meet every Monday evening at 7 PM, except major holidays. (Please call ahead, to Marshall or to Bruce Freeman, to make sure the forge will be open.)

Sunday Open Forge, Smithtown, LI, NY

From the beginning of November through the end of April, Ron Grabowski will open his forge in Smithtown, LI, NY, to NJBA members. Please call ahead to confirm and get directions: 631-265-1564. Ronsforge@aol.com

Please join us on-line
(see below).

NJBA's Official Address

NJBA, P.O. Box 224
Farmingdale, NJ 07727-9998

NJBA's Website:

<http://www.njblacksmiths.org>

NJBA Newsletter:

Will be found on our website (above). Look for "Current Newsletter" and/or "Newsletter Archive."

NJBA's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/njblacksmiths/>

NJBA's IForgeIron subforum:

Scroll down at <https://www.iforgeiron.com/>.

NJBA's subreddit:

[Reddit.com/r/NJBA](https://www.reddit.com/r/NJBA)

You can get a free Reddit account and post questions, links, pictures or whatever here.

We like to thank those who
joined NJBA as Business
Members:
Marshall Bienstock

New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

Cambria Iron Conference

September 17th 2022
at Center for Metal Arts
Johnstown PA

Registration

www.centerformetalarts.org

Featured Demonstrator

Zack Noble

On the 3000# Chambersburg

Additional Demonstrators

Nate Weiss, Erika Broas & Tim Lucas

from CORE to SURFACE
Juried Exhibition

Food Provided by Iron St Grill

@centerformetalarts

#cambriaironconference



Rules for Participation in NJBA Hands-On Events

These rules apply to workshops, open forge meets, demonstrations with hands-on components, etc.

1. Participation in NJBA-sponsored hands-on events is limited to adults (i.e., 18 years or older). This rule was effected as of December 4, 2016.

(Note: This policy **does not apply** to open forge meets and similar events *that are sponsored or co-sponsored* by youth-oriented organizations such as scouts, 4H groups, schools or other venues.)

2. Workshops are open only to NJBA members, but nonmembers may join by paying dues when they register.
3. All workshop fees are due upon registering. Any materials fee is not refundable. A workshop fee is refundable only if your place in the workshop is filled by another person.
4. If you only want to watch the workshop, the fee is half the listed workshop fee.
5. Workshops are intended for the purpose of teaching certain skills and/or completing certain projects, and are subject to the authority of the workshop leader or instructor. Accordingly (as per a vote of the NJBA Board on Jan. 28, 2018):
 - ♦ The participant shall work *only* on the project at hand and not on any other projects, *without exception*. (Note: Any NJBA member may attend an NJBA open forge meeting to work on his own project.)
 - ♦ Every participant will be required to follow the instructions of the workshop leader, especially any instructions pertaining to safety, or he may be ejected.
 - ♦ A person who has a history of failure to follow instructions may be refused admission to any workshop, at the sole discretion of the workshop leader.

NJBA Membership Renewal and Ballot

- 1) *Please Renew Now for 2022-2023.*
- 2) *If you want to receive printed Newsletters by mail, please also remit the \$10 subscription fee.*
- 3) *Please Vote for the Board of Directors.*

Mail completed renewal form and ballot, along with check for dues, to:
NJBA Election, P.O. Box 224, Farmingdale, NJ 07727-9998

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

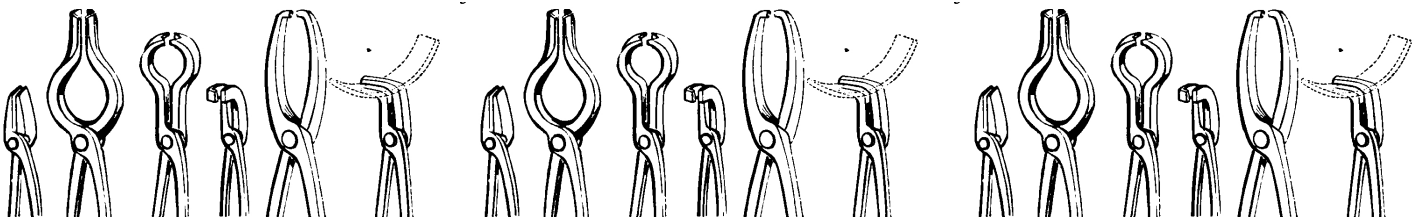
Phone Number(s): _____

Email address _____

Your correct Email address is essential if you don't care to pay \$10 extra for a mailed Newsletter! Please Print Clearly!

My check is enclosed: ☐ \$20 (regular membership dues), or
 ☐ \$40 (business membership dues)

For printed Newsletters: ☐ **\$10 subscription fee** (for mailed, paper copies of Newsletter)



Ballot for the Election of the NJBA Board of Directors

Vote for each Director by checking the box by his name.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Ryan Amos | ☐ Bruce Freeman |
| ☐ Billy Barrett | ☐ Daniel Lapidow |
| ☐ Marshall Bienstock | ☐ Mark Morrow |
| ☐ Bob Bozzay | ☐ Bruce Ringier |
| ☐ Larry Brown | ☐ Tom Santomauro |
| ☐ Eric Cuper | ☐ Ben Suhaka |
| ☐ Dave Ennis | |