



N.J.B.A. Newsletter

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<http://njba.abana-chapter.com>

Editors Soapbox

Hi, As editor I would appreciate some help in writing up events for the newsletter. We don't have much listed here but, we have some events coming up that are good opportunities for fellowship and to swing a hammer, so come out and enjoy.

Larry Brown, editor

We need some more activity from our members!

Recent events in the lives of some of our directors have made it hard for NJBA to be all it can be. We need more people to help out other than the same few doing everything. It would be great if we could have some of you helping scheduling meets that are local to you. You can see we do not have much to list here. Please talk to one of the directors to find out what you can do to help!

We are also looking for members who have a pickup and would be interested in helping bring the NJBA trailer to meets. If you are interested in helping please contact one of the board members listed on page 2. Larry Brown, Editor

Upcoming events for 2011

Get your calendars out and mark these events down. Please bookmark our web site and check for updated meet information. Remember most of our meets have an "Iron in the Hat" drawing, so be sure to bring something. Meet information starts on this page and continues on page 3.

February 5th—Meet at Eric Cuper's shop in Easton, PA. More information on this page and page 3.

Your membership expiration year is printed after your name. If it is 2009 or 2010 please rejoin before you are dropped from the mailing list!

Blacksmithing Demonstration
Eric Cuper and Daniel O'Sullivan at
Cuper Studios
Saturday, February 5, starting at
9am.

Eric and Dan will once again present a scintillating demonstration for NJBA, PABA, NOMMA, and others. All are welcome!

As always, there will be an Iron In The Hat, tailgating is welcome (try to leave parking spaces in front of the garage doors for tailgaters), and we'll crank up the heat. Coffee and Donuts will arrive at 8:30ish, demos starts at 9ish, lunch and IITH at 12ish, more demos from 1 until 4ish. We usually order out for lunch and request contributions. We will have bleachers but if you have a chair you prefer please feel free to bring it.

Shop address is 1301 Lynn Street,
Easton, PA 18042. Phone 610-438-8694.
Email: www.ericuper@hotmail.com



New Jersey Blacksmiths Newsletter

The NJBA Web Site!

The NJBA Web Site is:

<http://njba.abana-chapter.com/>

The Newsletter is at:

[http://
members.bellatlantic.net/
~vze25jcc/index.htm](http://members.bellatlantic.net/~vze25jcc/index.htm)

or use the link on the NJBA web site
for the newsletter.

Official NJBA Address

**NJBA
P.O. Box 224
Farmingdale, NJ**

07727-9998

Rather than use room in the newsletter,
All correspondence between
ABANA and NJBA is now being posted
on the NJBA web site.
If you cannot access it there, contact me
and I will send you copies.
ABANA is communicating again so
check it out

NJBA Board of Directors

Director information not available on line

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Blacksmithing Demonstration Eric Cuper and Daniel O'Sullivan at Cuper Studios Saturday, February 5, starting at 9am.

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The Demonstrators

Eric Cuper, an NJBA Board member, began blacksmithing at Peters Valley Craft Center in 1996 (which is where he first heard of NJBA). From there he attended Southern Illinois University at Carbondale to receive his BFA and MFA degrees specializing in blacksmithing. While at SIUC, Eric's forged sculptures were shown nationally and won several prestigious awards. His work can also be found in several books on forge work.

Since 2004, Eric has been operating Cuper Studios LLC in Easton, PA. Cuper Studios is an architectural metalsmithing company currently producing railings, lighting, gates, furniture, fireplace accessories, sheet metal work, sculpture, and other house jewelry. Check out www.cuperstudiosllc.com for some of Eric's work.

Daniel O'Sullivan received a BFA from Parsons School of Design, completed a traditional Ornamental Ironworker Apprenticeship followed by Stage Forge at the International School of French Wrought Ironwork in Muizon, France. He taught blacksmithing in County Mayo, Ireland, and worked for an exclusive European metalworking company. Daniel is now proud to be a Local 483 Union Ironworker and is on the Board of the NJBA.

Directions to Cuper Studios

Shop address is 1301 Lynn Street, Easton, PA 18042. Phone 610-438-8694.

Email: www.erericuper@hotmail.com

From NJ: Take 22 West into PA. After you leave the toll booth, stay in the right lane. Take the first right exit immediately off the bridge. Keep right around the exit and turn left at the stop. Follow this road (Larry Holmes Drive) through 2 lights and take the next left onto Lehigh Drive. Continue on Lehigh Drive and Lynn Street will be your first right with my building being the first big off white building with red trim on the right.

From PA: Take Route 22 East towards Easton. Take the 248/ 25th Street Exit. At the end of the exit turn right onto and follow 25th Street heading South. Turn right onto Lehigh Drive. After the intersection with a stop sign, Lynn Street will be the 4th left.

Snow rules. After last year's debacle we need to have a snow rule. If within the prediction it calls for more than 4" inches of snow at 18042, we will have to cancel the meeting so people don't feel the need to risk life and limb to come out. So as an example, 2-4" there is a meeting, 3-6" no meeting.

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Report on the Anvil Repair Workshop, Nov. 14, 2010

By Bruce Freeman

The day was bright and sunny and unseasonably warm. I arrived at about the stroke of 9 AM, which was a little later than I'd planned, as I had brought the donuts and had to get the coffee going. Most of the rest of the gang - over a dozen - was already present. Fortunately, the event coordinator, Bruce Hay, arrived about 10 minutes after me, so I got to heckle him.



But our tardiness made no difference because folks were already busy. Some folks were feeding a roaring wood fire in the fireplace, some were hauling more wood for the fire, some were grinding anvils in preparation for repair, others were setting up work tables for more grinding, etc.

About a week before, Marshall and I had done some preparation for the workshop. We'd set up a fireplace roughly six feet long and three feet wide by stacking cement blocks three high (about 20"). We placed scrap sheet metal as a heat shield inside of the blocks, an inch or two from the blocks, to prevent the

high heat from destroying the cement blocks. We took a 4" flue pipe, crimped one end and put air slots along one side, sank this most of its diameter in the sand along the centerline of the fireplace, and connected it up to ducting that we brought in from a blower at one end of the fireplace. We'd also gathered up a fair amount of wood, mostly the pieces not suitable for splitting into stove wood, and piled it up about 20 feet from the fireplace.



Just as I arrived, Marshall and others brought in the load guard from an old forklift, which they placed over the fire as a gridiron. Two pieces of angle iron were placed over the bottom portion of this guard. This gridiron made it possible to place the anvils over, rather than on the fire.

Three welding stations were set up. Marshall used a metal table inside his shop. Larry

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Brown was at a similar table just outside the shop door. Bruce Hay used the tailgate-lift of his welding truck. When I noted that Bruce had brought his own umbrella to shade him from the sun, but that poor Larry was standing in full sun (quite hot that day), I got a crew to help set up the pop-up tarp from the NJBA trailer to give Larry some respite.



Participants began by grinding their anvils in preparation for repair - mostly on the edges to chase out cracks. When ready, each anvil was placed upright on the fire and preheated to 400° to 500°F. We monitored the temperatures with Tempil crayons and with an IR "gun" (remote-reading thermometer), taking especial care that the horns and heels didn't overheat. As each anvil reached temperature it was taken off the fire and taken to a welding station for repair. If a welding station wasn't



available, we set the anvil on the sandy ground and wrapped it with 1" mineral wool.

Where only edges and corners needed building up, we used Lincore 55 (MIG) with C25 shielding gas or McKay Hardalloy 600 welding rods. Where underlayment was needed to build up bulk, we used McKay Hardalloy 250 welding rod. Where underlayment was needed on a cast-iron anvil, we used nickel rod. Larry had several varieties and used the one he felt was the most compatible. In one case, the face of an anvil needed building up, and a mixture of rods and processes were used.

Copper strips, 1/8" thick were used as dams on edges to help confine the weld to minimize clean-up afterwards. The same trick worked as well for hardy holes, but thin-wall



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copper tubing was not successful in the latter event, as it melted into the weld. After welding, anvils were reheated to 400° to 500°F, and then cooled.

When sufficiently cool, grinding was done to check welds or to finish the edges and surfaces. Across the day I couldn't help admire how like clockwork the whole affair was going. Even the newest members were actively participating, lugging anvils, checking anvil temperatures, etc. There were no deadbeats! There were a few observers, however - folks who were not participating, who did not bring anvils, but came for the camaraderie.

Participants:

Jack Callahan 1 anvil + membership
Bill Barrett 1 anvil
Tom Majewski 1 anvil
Dale Tinsman 1 anvil + membership
Doug Learn 3 anvils

David Markunas 1 anvil + membership
David Macauley 1 anvil + assist
Mark Morrow assist
Jose Torres assist
Bruce Freeman assist
Eric Von Arx assist
Marshall Bienstock 1 anvil (free) was welder
Bruce Hay welder and leader
Larry Brown welder and leader
Our apologies if we missed anyone's name while writing this up.

Damascus Workshop

Damascus workshop of Dec 11 2009
by Mark Morrow

The Damascus workshop of Dec 11 2009
The workshop went very well ,there where 9 participants out of the ten who signed up (see David for the list) (see Tom Majewski for Photos) we had 3 gas forges going and all three of the coal forges.



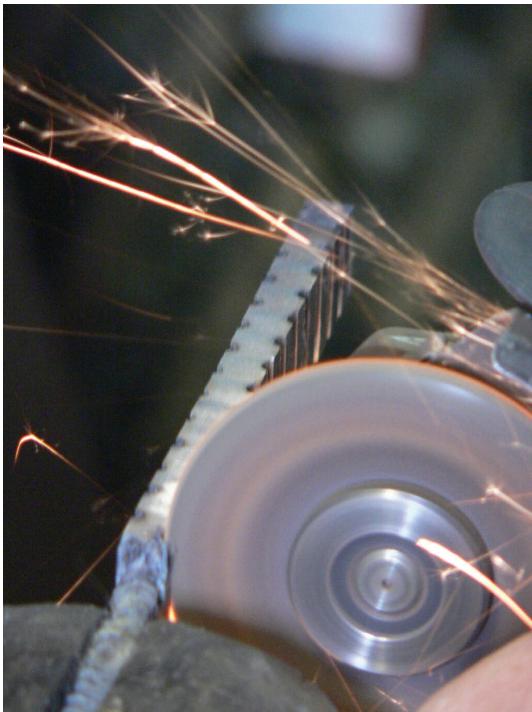
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I brought my air mini press to use in reducing the billets down , this little press was a big hit , I have plans to do a scaled out set of drawing for any who want to make there own , I built mine for less than \$200 . I will let you know when they are available. We worked till about 4pm before calling it a Day, Special thanks to

Marshall Bienstock , Tom Majewski , John Scancella , David Macauley and anyone else I forgot to mention

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Damascus Workshop of Dec 11 2009 by Larry Brown

Mark Morrow started the workshop by discussing the process he used to set up the knife billets. He then went into the types of steel to use and suppliers for them. He had pre-set up the piles of materials and welded handles to them so we were ready to go, to pick a fire or gas forge and get started welding. After the initial welding the billet was forged out to where we could complete the processes used to create the pattern we chose. The forging was then completed using a small press and by hand. We then did a light grinding to be able to check and show the patterns after etching. The etching was done and we all left with a billet we had completed.

Participants were: Bruce Freeman, Tom Majewski, Larry Fogg, Ben Suhaka, Ben Barrett, Joel Weiner, Larry Brown, Mike Cherry, Gary Harrison and Mike Krol