NCABANA (North Carolina chapter Artist Blacksmith Association of North America) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of men and women who practice and preserve the art of hand-forging and the skills of blacksmiths. Established in 1983 by 27 blacksmiths, we have grown to over 250 members.

The organization includes beginners, enthusiasts, hobbyists, professional blacksmiths, farriers, blade smiths, architectural fabricators, sculptors, museum interpreters, furniture makers, artists and craftsmen who utilize the skills of blacksmiths. All skill levels are welcomed into the organization.

NCABANA is an affiliate of the ABANA organization and the Southern Blacksmith Association.

Local Group Meetings

Triad Area Blacksmiths (Winston Salem)
Marshall Swaringen (336) 998-7827
marshall@swaringen.com

Southern Foothills Blacksmiths (Mooresville)
Steve Barringer (704) 660-1560
steve@powerhammerschool.com

Triangle Blacksmith Guild (Raleigh/Durham)
Randy Stoltz (919) 481-9263
rhstoltz@gmail.com

Brasstown Blacksmiths (Brasstown)
Paul Garrett (828) 835-8441
pdg86@hotmail.com

Wilkes Teaching Forge (Millers Creek)
Lyle Wheeler (336) 838-2284
ncchairmaker@gmail.com

Check our website or newsletter for current meetings and event schedules.
What Does a Blacksmith Do?
A blacksmith creates objects from steel, wrought iron and/or other metals. They heat and then forge the metal by using a hammer, anvil and other tools to shape, bend, weld, twist and cut. Blacksmiths produce objects such as hardware, gates, railings, light fixtures, furniture, sculpture, tools, agricultural implements, decorative items, cooking utensils, and weapons. While there are many people who work with metal, a blacksmith has a diverse knowledge of how to make and repair many things, from complex and ornate armor to common things like nails or chain.

NCABANA has diverse members that utilize a wide variety of blacksmith tools, styles and techniques. We have traditional blacksmiths that create museum quality colonial and other historical ironwork. There are artists who create award winning sculptures. Also, fabricators that create top quality handrails and gates.

Want to Learn to be a Blacksmith?
The best way to learn hand-forging techniques is to work with an experienced blacksmith, where you can get hands-on experience and advance your skills. Joining NCABANA is a great way to connect with other blacksmiths to learn different forging styles and techniques. NCABANA is also a great resource for information, tools, equipment, and supplies. We have local and statewide meetings held at various locations around North Carolina.

Visit www.NCABANA.org for the more information, including latest event and meeting details.

Benefits of Membership:
- Opportunities to learn techniques
- Meet other blacksmiths.
- Our Hot Iron Sparkle newsletter:
- The news of the organization, schedule and location of meetings, as well as informative articles on blacksmithing techniques, plans and valuable safety tips
- Access to our library containing many of the most authoritative books and DVDs on blacksmith techniques.
- Scholarships for members.
- Access to our Google group, a forum to share information.
- Placement of your business card on our website.

What Goes On At Meetings?
The meetings are usually a mixture of demonstrations of blacksmith techniques, shop talk about tools, safety and supplies, tool sales, and displays of members’ work. An "iron-in-the-hat" drawing is held to raise money for the scholarship fund. Often, forges are set up for beginners to try their hand and learn from the more experienced blacksmiths.

Where Can We See Blacksmiths At Work?
Members of ncabana regularly demonstrate at the Dixie Classic fair in Winston-Salem, North Carolina State fair in Raleigh and at various festivals throughout our state. Visit the NCABANA website for the schedule of blacksmith events. Additionally, blacksmiths interpret the traditional craft at living history museums such as Old Salem, NC and Colonial Williamsburg, VA.