

Interested in joining the board of the CBA?

The reality is that the CBA, like any volunteer organization, can only work if members step up and participate in the workings of the group. Many "seasoned" members have taken a turn, have you? Now speaking particularly to our younger members -- how will the CBA know what is or isn't working for you if you are not present and voice your views?

If you have learned from CBA sponsored demonstrations; if you have been instructed or inspired by something in the magazine; if you have enjoyed the company of fellow CBA members at Oktoberfest, Wayne's World, or a Spring Conference, please recognize that none of those things would have happened without a few good men and women working behind the scenes as board members.

Let me assure you that being a master smith or a full-time blacksmith are not requirements. Yes, we are fortunate to have some board members with those qualifications. Amateurs can and do participate effectively and are the majority of the CBA members. People who bring skills gained in business and other careers are needed and fortunately, we have some on the board with those qualifications. Let me put it this way, if you are a CBA member and you care about the organization, you are qualified to be a board member.

If you have questions about the process or the duties of a board member please contact me (vice-president@calsmith.org). You can nominate yourself or someone else whom you think would be a good board member.

Finally, my own experience is that being involved with both ABANA and CBA boards has yielded some very rewarding friendships. So isn't it your turn?

What you need to do is to let me know your decision and to provide a candidate statement to be printed in the CBA Magazine plus a photo – preferably in high resolution. We don't have much time. Send them to me (vice-president@calsmith.org) and Mike Mumford (editor@calsmith.org)

Vice-president@calsmith.org

Frequently Asked Questions:

If I am elected what will I need to do?

1. Participate in Board meetings. Meetings usually take 2 hours or so.
2. In normal times, the Board meets face-to-face twice a year – at Oktoberfest and Spring Conference.
3. On the phone board conference calls happen at least twice per year. Now there are Zoom conferences 6 times a year and usually on a weekday evening.
4. E-mails, including those requiring your vote, show up sporadically – usually before and after the main meetings. Please try to check for e-mail every day or two.

What is the term?

A board member term lasts two years. It starts at one Spring Conference Board meeting until ends at the Spring Conference Board meeting 2 years later.

Where's the fine print?

The organization's rules are the Bylaws as posted on the CBA website. Also, we have a Conflict of Interest policy that requires that you not participate in any decision that affects you personally. It is on the website too.

What should be in a Candidates statement?

Well, you've seen them in the CBA Magazine every January but here are my suggestions:

- A couple of paragraphs usually suffice.
- Introduce yourself; explain what blacksmithing and the CBA mean to you.
- Mention your role in CBA activities.
- Optionally, discuss what you want to work on to make the CBA better.

You are asking me to write this Candidate statement. What if I can't write?

Call me and I will help out with that.

Any hints for the photo?

The magazine needs a well-focused image with enough resolution (pixels) and contrast so it will print well. For a headshot, that usually means about a 1 MB or more file size. The purpose of the photo is to allow our members to put a name with a face.

What's the deadline?

The magazine cutoff is in mid-November so don't delay. Any questions, please call text or e-mail.

I am ready to help out with anything in this process. Just call or e-mail.

Thanks.

Vice-president@calsmith.org