Granite Industries of Vermont

Manufactured for:
Veterans Association
U.S. Government

ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY
5-8 X 5-8 X 5-2
ALL STEELED
BARRE GRAY GRANITE UNDER
5 ALUMINUM PLAQUES
WITH NAMES OF DECEASED

The Magazine of the Barre Granite Association
Greetings from the BGA. This issue of Barre Life Magazine marks the 30th anniversary of our publication. It goes without saying that a lot has happened in the industry this past 30 years. The first issue of the magazine began with a cover photograph of the Wells-Lamson Quarry and also had an article reporting that the minimum wage for granite cutters had reached $3.98 per hour. The magazine also had photos of the MBNA convention, which was held on January 21-27, 1972, in Miami Beach. One of the more interesting facts I read was how the Barre Guild Trademark, as it was referred to then, had been registered with the federal government on October 30, 1936. The 1972 issue of Barre Life stated, “Nearly 36 years later, the Barre Guild name continues to be a leading sales aid and standard of quality for the monument industry”. Well here we are 66 years later with the same commitment to quality and craftsmanship that BGA members had in 1936 and 1972; that commitment continues in 2002. One comment I receive from many people either at trade shows or cemetery exhibitions is the peace of mind that the Guild Seal brings. Of course, the guild seal has gone through some minor face-lifts, but the principle behind it remains the same. That principle is an assurance that our members will honor any problems that you may experience with your BGA member monument. What is even more evident is that we rarely receive calls from customers who are having a problem with the craftsmanship or quality of their monument. BGA members are experts in this industry. It amazes me that with all the competition we see in the global market today, our members are still looked on as the premier manufacturers of monuments. Barre Granite Association members have millions of dollars invested in property, plant and equipment and are major stakeholders in the granite industry. As such, their customer service is as high a priority as their craftsmanship.

I am particularly pleased with the number of photos submitted by our members for this issue. As you can see, the majority of our membership is participating in this issue of the magazine. You will also see the number of monuments being dedicated to the victims and firefighters of the September 11th attacks on our country. The Barre Granite Association is proud of the work done by our members and the association continues to stand behind our “Buy American” campaign. As I went through each issue of the Barre Life Magazine from the first issue, I saw the beautiful work done by our members over the past 30 years. I realized that the beautiful craftsmanship was present long before the first issue of this magazine. The craftsmanship and Barre Guild guarantee will continue into the future. I have no doubt that the Barre Life Magazine will celebrate 100 years of publication, just as the BGA celebrated 100 years as an association in 1989. Please call us if you have questions or comments you would like to share. I look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming trade shows.
Contents

3 The Connecticut Fireman’s Memorial
4-6 New Member & Supporting Member Profiles
7 Barre Granite Festival
8 Historic Photo / Back to Basics
9 B&B Monumental Engravers
10 Buttura & Gherardi Granite Artisans
11 Cochran’s Inc.
12 Colombo Stoneworks, Inc.
13 Culture Craft Sandblast Co.
14 Family Memorials, Inc.
15 Gandin Bros., Inc.
16 Granite Importers, Inc.
17 Hillside Stone Products, Inc.
18 Hutchins & Perreault
19 Joe’s Custom Polishing and Manufacturing
20 Kurjanowicz Sculpture Studio
21 Montpelier Granite Works
22 North Barre Granite Co.
23 Northeast Granite Co.
24 Peerless Granite Company, Inc.
25 Pepin Granite Company, Inc.
26 Rivard Granite Co., Inc.
27 Riverton Memorial, Inc.
28 Ron’s Custom Sandblast, Inc.
29 Tosi Custom Sandblast Co.
30 Twin City Custom Sandblast
31 Signs and Benches
32 Sculpture Show
33 Tips and Tricks - Granite Countertops
40 The Barre Guild Store

Cover:
The Connecticut Fireman’s Memorial - Impala Granite
Dimensions for the die are
12-0 x 1-6 x 6-0,
base is
14-0 x 2-6 x 1-0.
Story on Page 3.

Thank you for your positive responses to the Summer Issue. Working with Deanna Berns to create new design elements has been an exciting creative process. The goal of Barre Life is to provide you, the memorialist with useful knowledge and information.

The Connecticut Fireman’s memorial on the cover is a fitting tribute to those who gave their lives to save others. The story of the ten year process leading up to the fulfillment of this 8 ton vision is fascinating. Another solid block of granite weighing 10 tons was formed with five sides as a Pentagon 9/11 memorial to be unveiled first at the Pentagon, then placed at Arlington National Cemetery, by Granite Industries of Vermont (See Inside Front Cover). Anyone familiar with the industry has to respect the ability of our BGA member firms to handle such large projects, with many details and on schedule.

On the subject of handling large and heavy pieces of granite, a look inside at the newest and very technologically advanced plants in the world gives insight to how stone is transformed. Mark Gherardi of Buttura and Gherardi Granite Artisans talks frankly about his views on creating memorials and having a good time in the process.

Our tips and tricks focus in this issue is on granite countertops. Back to the Basics reviews sources of information and how to access information when you need it using the www.barregranite.org, BGA website.

This is the 30th Anniversary of Barre Life. We reflect on the rich cultural history of the Granite Industry in Vermont. Many of you, our readers, and your companies have been doing business with Barre Granite Association firms over these years. We welcome any memories from these years for possible future publication. Enjoy the fall and early winter. Visit Vermont if you get a chance.

Contact the BGA if we can help you in any way. All the best!

Jim Eaton, Editor
On a hot, sunny August day, complete with a full brigade of bagpipers and the Air National Guard providing a flying salute overhead, the Lt. Governor of Connecticut, M. Jodi Rell, officiated at the unveiling of the 10 ton, 12 foot long solid block of all polished Impala granite with a very realistic etching of firefighters memorializes those Connecticut citizens who lost their lives in service to others. Eight benches each represent a county of Connecticut.

Rich Tousignant, Michele Treaudeau, Jodi Rell, and Ernie Herrick

"How does a large civic memorial project like this take shape?"

Rich Tousignant of Adams Granite was contacted by Curtiss Memorials, Dick and Loraine Curtiss of Simsbury Connecticut in July of 1993. They went back and forth crunching over design ideas. Should it be an etching or a sculpture? Impala granite with an etching was decided on October of 1993 with a rough idea of the fireman on it. Then the project disappeared. It disappeared for about a year then; it was reactivated. More questions were asked. The Curtisses retired. Rich Tousignant received a call directly from the firemen committee chair, Ernie Herrick. The firemen committee was advised that a local memorialist would be very helpful. Michele Treaudeau at Volpe Monuments came in to assist in completing the design work. Details were finalized on all aspects of the project. Adams Granite Co. special ordered two sets of blocks to assure success. Fortunately, the back up block was not required.

The committee visited the Adams plant to view the sawing capacities and fabrication capabilities. Being able to handle that size stone, the main die at 21600 pounds, over 10 tons is a large project. Adams Granite Co. did all the fabrication, the lettering, and the etching was done by Doug Aja. Rich and Michelle were present for the groundbreaking ceremonies on June 12th. Volpe Monuments coordinated with Francis Tash and Rich Tousignant to do the setting.

Suggestions for facilitating large civic memorial projects
You have to have all your ideas down on paper. This project went through three design options. The total weight of the project is 36,000 pounds of stone, all Impala granite, all polished except for the base. The memorial is located at the Connecticut Fire Academy in Windsor Locks off I-91.
NEW MEMBER PROFILE

New Member Profile

Buttura & Gherardi Granite Artisans
AN INTERVIEW WITH MARK GHERARDI - BUTTURA AND GHERARDI GRANITE ARTISANS
By John P. Castaldo, BGA Executive Director, for Barre Life

(L-R) Paul "Dutch" Leendertse, Mark Gherardi, Mike Kamedy, Mike Calero, and Jack Brusa

BL What initially brought you into the granite industry? Was your family in the industry?

GHERARDI I am the third generation of my family to be in this business. I have worked in the plant since I was about 12 years old and always enjoyed working closely with my father. I was very fortunate to have him as a mentor. He still helps us out today.

BL When did you first start running your own company?

GHERARDI My father and I shared the management function of Lawson Granite. In the later years I was more active managing the core business. He was working our quarry in Hardwick.

BL You eventually sold your business to Rock of Ages. Why? What do you see were the advantages and disadvantages of that decision?

GHERARDI We merged with Rock of Ages because the plan was to become the preeminent wholesale memorial company in North America. At the time, we felt it was the right move for ourselves, our employees, and our customers. When Rock of Ages changed it’s primary focus to that of being a retail monument company, all things changed. I didn’t fit with the company as well as I had originally understood, so I decided it was time to move on. The advantage of having been at Rock of Ages is that I was exposed to many different manufacturing scenarios in Barre, Canada, and Elberton, each having something to teach. I also gained knowledge of certain elements of the business that we had never been previously involved with, such as the advantages of marketing a branded product.

The main disadvantage I can see from the whole thing was that, as with some of us who landed here at Buttura & Gherardi, many of our customers and employees did not fit the new retail company scenario very well. This caused some people hardship that we never intended, and I am truly sorry for this.

BL You recently purchased Buttura and Sons. What made you decide to purchase this company as opposed to starting a brand new business?

GHERARDI Buttura & Sons was a company with a solid reputation in the field that had many of the assets that I was looking for, but was in need of some different management skill and more volume. The property would allow us to make future expansions as needed, and the plant had enough sandblast capacity to immediately take in a large volume of work. The subsequent purchase of the adjoining Associated Saw Plant gives us almost 10 acres of land. The installation of all the new equipment has made us one of the most low cost and efficient companies in the industry.

BL As the new owner of Buttura and Sons, now known as Buttura & Gherardi Granite Artisans, what are your goals for this company? What do you want customers to think about when they hear "Buttura & Gherardi Granite Artisans"?

GHERARDI Our goal is to develop a network of retail memorialists throughout the U.S. who carry our products. Our main focus is to market our Heirloom brand of memorials. Although we do not require our customers to purchase the branded products, more than 50% are regularly purchasing Heirloom in this first year of its inception. We think that’s pretty amazing. We have really worked on developing a culture of “quality first” in the plant, and are having very few (and minor) problems now. I’m very proud of our people for taking on 5 times the volume through the plant in just 2 years, while still maintaining our quality standards, and control of service. Hopefully, our customers are associating the name of Buttura & Gherardi Granite Artisans with the finest quality and best service available anywhere.

BL You have been in the industry for a long time. What do you see as the “new” challenges for the industry and you in particular? How do those challenges differ from years ago?

(Continued)
GHERARDI The new challenges at manufacturing all center around maintaining the highest quality in our product while still remaining a low cost producer. The growing presence in the marketplace of imports puts much more pressure on those of us manufacturing in the U.S. We must be at the top of our game at all times because the world has a huge capacity to produce, and we are the highest cost producers. Our company has invested and will continue to invest millions of dollars to ensure that we will stay on the leading edge of both technology and design to keep our costs low and our quality high. When the advantages of overseas products are desirable, we have also invested heavily into a major warehouse of high quality imported India granite products.

BL What are the important characteristics that you feel will make Buttura & Gherardi Granite Artisans unique from other manufacturers?

GHERARDI Our uniqueness has to do with our sincere desire to get back to the old days of business when you knew ALL your customers as friends - the days before large companies and conglomerates. We will certainly become a fairly large company, but we have assembled a team of top shelf salespeople and draftsmen who are courteous and fully knowledgeable in the memorial products industry. As we grow forward, we will not lose sight of the fact that personal relationships are as much a part of this business as is the product. We are also one of the few remaining “full service manufacturers” offering everything from corner posts to mausoleums, all under in-house supervision and control.

BL Are there key people who work for you that you would like to comment on?

GHERARDI We are so fortunate to have the people that we do here at Buttura & Gherardi. Our people are our most important asset in this company. Fella Buttura, Mike Calevro, and Mia Calevro remain in key roles from the original Buttura & Sons. They are joined by Mike Karnedy, Jack Brusa, and “Dutch” Leendertse to form one of the most knowledgeable, courteous, and responsible sales and management staffs I’ve ever seen. The original crew in the Buttura plant is an excellent group that has been supplemented by the hiring of other highly skilled people. This truly is a team atmosphere here. Everyone is doing their very best to see that we deliver a top quality product, as ordered, on time - every time.

BL Where do you see the Barre granite industry going in the 21st century?

GHERARDI The industry in Barre will have to adapt and change with the marketplace in the future. There will always be a strong demand for top quality products in the marketplace. Our challenge is to hold and grow our position given the disadvantage of having higher costs than any other producing sector in the world. There will inevitably be major changes in the Barre area in the future. All I can tell you is that Buttura & Gherardi will be here making top quality products for many years to come. It is truly a great feeling for us to be back doing the things that we all love to do.

Buttura & Gherardi Granite Artisans
P.O. Box 606, Barre, VT 05641
800-451-3252/802-476-6646
Fax: 800-404-9991/802-476-5994
Markg@graniteartisans.com
Sofia Shatkivska  
Sofia’s Studios, Inc.  
(802) 883-5490

Sweet angels, exhausted firemen, realistic portraits and pastoral woodland scenes flow from Sofia’s diamond carbine tip. In an art form that does not allow a second chance, her etching skills display artistic excellence in hundreds of memorials. Her beautiful etchings are featured in many past issues of Barre Life. In this issue Sofia designed and etched the Montpelier Granite Works memorial on p. 21 and Sofia’s Studio created much of the etching on the Culture Craft memorial on page 13. Her artistry and style are highly respected in the industry.

In the Ukraine, Sofia studied many forms of art. In addition to etching, she creates intricate designs on Easter eggs, contemporary sculptures of stone and glass and water colors for gallery shows. She also finds time to give free art lessons to children in her community.

Many products and services are available to retailers. Park’s Industry Insight is a bi-monthly newsletter for the stone working industry. You can read it online or subscribe at their website at www.parkindustries.com. The website is worth visiting for information on all aspects of their operation from residential and commercial stone countertops, fireplaces and furniture to new and used equipment information.

The focus at Park Industries is summed up in their mission statement: “Our mission is to enhance the performance of Stone Fabricators in North America by developing, producing and providing quality products and customer attention.” Manufacturers and retailers can benefit from exploring what Park Industries can provide.

Peter Delphos  
Adams Granite Company

Adams Granite Company is pleased to announce the addition of Peter Delphos to its outside sales staff. Peter joined “Adams” January 1st of this year. Most of you may know Peter through his 10 years with Rouleau Granite Company.

We are very pleased to add Peter to our sales staff. He gives “Adams” a stronger presence in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, says owner Kerry Zorzi.

In a phone interview with Peter he shares his enthusiasm! “To represent Adams Granite is very rewarding. They have a long history of quality and service to our industry. Kerry has taken the business to a higher level by acquiring the former Lawson plant from Rock of Ages and I am very happy I can offer the Barre Guild Seal and Certificate to my customers again.”

Peter and wife Anne-Marie reside in Oakbrook Illinois near Chicago. Phone 800-257-3245 Fax 630-261-0271 Pager 888-852-1004

Park Industries - North America’s Largest Manufacturer of Stone Working Equipment  
www.parkindustries.com 800-328-2309

Park customers have over 5,300 machines in operation in over 20 countries. Park Industries’ headquarters and manufacturing facilities are located in St. Cloud, Minnesota, employing 155 people. The company is well known for their HYDRASPLIT stone splitting systems. Park’s Diamond Sawing Equipment provides stone cutting from 14” to 138”. They manufacture innovative edge shaping, polishing equipment and computer controlled shaping and profiling systems.
Fifth Annual Barre Granite Festival

Free ice cream was enjoyed by many at the Fifth Annual Barre Granite Festival. Volunteer scoopers included Jeff Martel, of Granite Industries of Vermont and Norm Akley, of Trow and Holden. Scents of food on the grill mixed with laughter as the children tried their skill at Bocce. This was all part of the celebration on September 7th. The festival was bustling with craftspeople involved with all aspects of granite at the site that is being transformed into the Vermont Granite Museum of Barre. If you have a chance next year, stop in and enjoy the festivities. Not only will have a great time, but learn more about the granite industry first hand.

Consider studying the art and craft of granite. Call the Museum for information about the Stone Arts School Programs:

802-476-4605
e-mail granitemuseum@aol
or write:
Vermont Granite Museum of Barre
P.O. Box 282, Barre, VT 05641

Classes on many aspects of the industry are now available.
**MEMBER NEWS**

Our supporting member investment firm, Edward D. Jones, tied for first, ahead of 19 other firms, in J.D. Power and Associates' first ever survey of customer satisfaction among full-service investors, according to Hans Asoera, the firm's Barre representative. "I am thrilled about our placement on the ranking" Asoera said. "Edward Jones is committed to providing a high level of service to our clients. We strive to align our resources so that we are focusing everything we can to support our relationship with our clients."

The firm, with over 8,500 offices and nearly 6 million clients offers a variety of investments, including certificates of deposit, taxable and non-taxable bonds, stocks and mutual funds. Hans Asoera's office is located at 322 N. Main Street, Suite 4, Barre, VT. The Edward Jones interactive web site is located at www.edwardjones.com

C. Robert Vigezzi of Ecclesiastic Design, Memorial Design, in Colchester Connecticut wrote thanking Barre Life for the Back to the Basics article on drafting. He "finds it impossible to obtain good tracing paper, single and two sided carbon paper, and other staples of the memorial drafting room." If readers have any resource information please let us know at Barre Life.

He also regrets "not helping Frank Kosich of Carst Memorials and Eddie Monti of A. Monti Granite Co. organize a school reunion of the Barre School of Memorial Art," which he attended in 1947. The BGA will gladly pass on information to assist in a reunion or former students contacting each other if former Memorial Art students mail their addresses to the office.

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**Access to information at the BGA web page.**

**www.barregranite.org**

*How did magician David Copperfield help restore Harry Houdini's vandalized grave?*

For the answer click on www.barregranite.org and link to stories at North Barre Granite. You will be surprised and delighted at the wealth of information you have access to at the BGA website. The Barre Granite Association site links you to "virtually tons" of information. This issue of Barre Life will be put on the web site.

Visitors to the BGA page and the links it provides will provide you with industry knowledge. Click on MEMBERS for information about members of the BGA. Links to some of the members' websites provide history, products and stories and reviews such as one about the 46 ton sculpture on Park Avenue in New York City are found at the North Barre link. The story of a 6 ft. computer laser etched, life sized image of George Washington is featured at the Cochran's Inc. website with a BGA link.

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**Back to the Basics**
BARRE GRAY DIE: 4-0 X 2-1 X 4-9
BARRE GRAY BASE: 5-9 X 0-6 X 2-9
Manufactured for:
Plainview Monument Co.
PLAINVIEW, NEBRASKA

CAPS: LIGHT BARRE 7-9 X 1-6 X 3-0 ALL STEELED, FLAT TOP, ANGLED INSIDE END CENTER CAP: LIGHT BARRE 9-10 X 1-6 X 5-0 ALL STEEL, FLAT TOP W/ ANGLED SHOULDERS, CARVED 1, LETTERED 1

COLUMNS: LIGHT BARRE ALL STEELED TURNED ROUND 1-0 DIA X 6-0 HIGH, S/B FLUTES

BASES: LIGHT BARRE 7-9 X 1-6 X 3-0 ALL STEELED, ANGLED INSIDE ENDS
Manufactured for:
Glory Road Memorials
MAMORA, NEW JERSEY

2-DARK IMPALA WINGS 2-8 X 0-8 X 3-4 POLISH 2 BALANCE ROCK PITCH
MEDIUM BARRE SUB-BASE 7-2 X 1-0 X 0-8 ALL STEELED
DARK IMPALA BASE 8-10 X 1-4 X 1-0 PFT WITH 2-1/2" POLISHED
MARGINS AND POLISHED PANEL FOR FAMILY NAME
Manufactured for:

W. S. Tegeler Monument Company

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

DIE: LIGHT BARRE GRAY 10-10 X 1-2 X 4-0
SUB BASE: 12-6 X 2-0 X 0-3 BASE: 14-7 X 3-0 X 1-2

Initiators - Rev. Dr. Ronald Lee Weagley and Alice Louise Hays-Weagley
Designer - Milt R. Hays - Naples Florida
Site - Rose Hill Cemetery - Hagerstown, MD
Executor - Randall Lynn Weagley - Elkridge, MD
A Real Team Effort!

THE GRANITE WAS CUT BY BROOKSIDE MEM.

Manufactured for SGOLBA MONT. WORKS PATTERSON, N.J.

DIE: 1-10 X 0-8 X 3-0 ALL POLISHED JET BLACK
ETCHING OF THE TWIN TOWERS DONE BY SOFIA'S STUDIO
THE S/B LETTERS BY CULTURE CRAFT
THE ETCHED FAMILY TREE AND ETCHED LETTERS BY COCHRAN'S INC.
BARRE GRANITE MEMORIAL WITH ALL STEELED DIE
AND STEELED AND ROCK PITCH BASE
SET IN BARRE'S HOPE CEMETERY
OVERALL SIZE 5-8 X 3-4
Manufactured for:
Samuel and Christina Roselli
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

DIE: MEDIUM BARRE 5-0 X 0-8 X 3-0
CUT PER DETAIL ALL STEELED
DEEP ROSES, HAND TOOLED FLUTES
ON A SEMICIRCLE RADIUS
BASE: MEDIUM BARRE 6-4 X 1-6 X 0-8 STEEL TOP
BALANCE ROCK PITCHED, 2" DUSTED MARGIN 4

Hand-carved figure done by Stanislaw Lutostanski
WWII Memorial
ALBANY, NEW YORK

Zimbabwe Monument
3,000 S.F. Thermal Pavers
Surrounding a Circular Fountain with Polished Granite coping inscribed with Battle Locations
Polished Inscription Panels
Lead up to the CENTRAL MONUMENT:
4-0 x 4-0 x 6-6
BASE: 10-0 x 10-0
Manufactured for:
Montshire Museum Science Park
NORWICH, VERMONT
LYNN WOLF ASSOC., INC. - LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
BREADLOAF CONSTRUCTION
DIE: 4-6 X 0-8 X 2-4 ALL STEELED, SERPENTINE TOP
CONCAVE ENDS, WITH NOSINGS
SANDBLAST CARVED 1 LETTERED 2
BASE: 5-6 X 1-2 X 0-8 ALL STEELED, DROP WASH
Joe's Custom Polishing and Manufacturing

RANDOLPH CENTER
VERMONT

DIE: MEDIUM BARRE WITH
BLACK INSERT 3-6 x 0-8 x 2-4
STEEL 2 BRP

BASE: MEDIUM BARRE 4-0 x 1-2 x 0-8
STEEL TOP BRP
Manufactured for:

Dellwood Cemetery

MANCHESTER, VERMONT

GOLDEN RETRIEVER

BARRE GRAY GRANITE

4-0 X 1-9 X 1-9
Manufactured for:

Pesavento Monuments

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

DIE: JET BLACK 5-0 X 0-8 X 3-0 POL WITH CUSTOM SHAPE
BASE: 6-0 X 1-4 X 0-8 PFT, BALANCE ROCK PITCH
Custom portrait etching on die by Sofia Shatkivska
Black, White and Colored Rose with Gold Leafing
Manufactured for:

Sprung Monuments

JET BLACK - ALL POLISHED - OVERALL SIZE: 2-0 X 1-0 X 4-0
JET BLACK DIE: 3-3 X 0-8 X 2-6 POLISHED, BALANCE ROCK PITCH
JET BLACK BASE: 4-0 X 1-3 X 0-8 POLISHED, BALANCE ROCK PITCH
BARRE, VERMONT
EMERALD PEARL
FULL BULL NOSE 1-1/4"
Manufactured for:

Arienti Monument Company

BARRE GRANITE

5-6 X 1-5 X 3-1

ALL STEELED

BASE: 6-7 X 2-5 X 0-10
Manufactured for:
Ronald Belding Monuments
GENEVA, OHIO

BELFAST BLACK
2-0 X 2-0 POLISHED AND COLORED
Manufactured for:

Wm. B. Snelbaker & Son

WOODBURY, NEW JERSEY

THE MONUMENT IS AFRICAN JET BLACK
5-0 X 0-6 X 5-3 POLISH 2 BRP

Etching by Wm. B. Snelbaker & Son
Memories created for the Ford family through

Oak Grove Memorial Company

MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

DARK BARRE DIE: 4-6 X 0-10 X 3-6 ALL POLISHED WITH ROUND FLUTED ENDS AND PATTERNED TOP CARVED BOTH SIDES
DARK BARRE BASE: 5-0 X 1-6 X 0-8 POLISHED TOP ROUNDED ENDS TO MATCH DIE AND 2” POLISH MARGIN ALL AROUND BASE

Memorial manufactured by member firm Joe’s Custom Polishing
Manufactured for:
Wearly Monument Co.
MUNCIE, INDIANA

NICHE PANEL 1-6 x 3-0  SANDBLASTED FLAT, SANDBLAST SHAPED AFTER TO EMULATE HAND TOOLED CARVING
Manufactured for:
Soufleris & Ciesco Memorials
TORRINGTON, CONNECTICUT

JET BLACK 2-0 X 0-8 X 4-6 ALL POLISHED STR TOP
TWO WINGS MEDIUM BARRE 1-6 X 0-6 X 2-0 ALL STEELED STR TOPS
BASE: 6-0 X 1-2 X 0-10 STEEL FLAT TOP, BRP - HAND ETCHED
How can we know the dancer from the dance?

memorization is especially appropriate in a remote area with only occasional supervision. The traditional memorial in the cemetery in New York and the bench overlooking an open valley are each important ways to remember and reflect.

The new bench and sign in front of the North Barre Granite Company weighs several tons. The elements in this beautiful piece could be modified for use in many city or corporate settings. For more information contact them with the Membership Directory information or stop by to see it for yourself.

When a customer asks about a memorial bench consider this innovative concept the Whelan family of East Hampton, New York came up with at their vacation property in Lyndonville, Vermont. A favorite line of poetry by W. B. Yeats was inscribed by Tosi Custom Sandblast into a classic granite bench crafted by Riverton Memorials. When the 40 grandchildren and 12 children enjoy the view they will have a special connection with a loved one.

A granite bench will last for centuries. Wood or even marble cannot stand the test of time. This form of
A Sculpture Show at the Adamant Music School in Adamant, Vermont featured the creative works of many local sculptors including Giuliano Cecchinelli (left) and BGA member John Hanna (right). Another show is scheduled for Summer 2003.

October is the month for STONE II. The 2nd Annual Show at SPA features the art of regional stone carvers.

This annual event is planned for next October as well. For information on shows in their gallery and art classes available contact Studio Place Arts, 201 North Main St., Barre, VT 05641
802-479-7069
www.studioplacearts.com
e-mail spa4arts@sovernet
Granite Countertops

**Fabricate a template** exactly the size you plan to install in granite. You cannot work from drawings. You have to work from templates. Luan plywood is the best material to create your template from. You can cut luan with a utility knife. It is not flimsy like plastic and it is waterproof, an advantage over paper or cardboard. You really should wait until the cabinets are in place so that when you cut your template you can be assured that every thing is going to fit properly, especially if you have combination angles. You have to be prepared to do your final granite cutouts on site. This requires a 7” diamond saw and basic hand tools. The most important thing is making your templates; putting them in place and making sure everything fits.

**Colors** A multi colored granite is a good choice. It will help to hide scratches, temporary moisture marks and it allows more choices for present and future color schemes. If you add a breakfast bar at a later date in jet-black granite it will coordinate.

**Construction adhesive** will hold the granite in place. Use silicon in the joints. The 25 pound weight of stone a sq. foot can require up to 8 men on a one piece center isle. A one piece center isle is very nice, but it may require a good crew to install it.

**Granite Importers and Hillside Stone Products** are excellent fabricators with a long history in this type of work. They know what they are doing. It is a high-risk business in which you have to get paid well for doing what you do. A third BGA member, **Northeast Granite**, recently has become very active in creating and installing granite countertops in Vermont resort lodges.

**Peerless Granite Company, Inc.** also creates countertops. See their countertops in color on page 24. Thanks to Rich Tousignant, chair of the Barre Life Advisory Board for his contributions based on several of his installations of granite countertops.

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**Tips and Tricks**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Contact Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Fax Numbers</th>
<th>Email Addresses</th>
<th>Websites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adams Granite Co.</td>
<td>Kerry Zorzi</td>
<td>P.O. Box 126, Barre, VT 05641</td>
<td>800-342-1070/802-476-5281</td>
<td>802-476-3027</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kzorzi@adamsgranite.com">kzorzi@adamsgranite.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:sales@adamsgranite.com">sales@adamsgranite.com</a></td>
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<td>Bernie LaJeunesse</td>
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<td>800-639-4024/802-479-1942</td>
<td>802-476-5146</td>
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<td>802-476-0200</td>
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<td>802-476-7542</td>
<td>802-476-0200</td>
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<td>Robert Couture</td>
<td>P.O. Box 383, Barre, VT 05641</td>
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<td>802-476-3511</td>
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<td>800-433-0617/802-584-3521</td>
<td>802-584-4053</td>
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<td>802-476-7349</td>
<td><a href="mailto:granimp@sover.net">granimp@sover.net</a></td>
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<td>Jeff Martell</td>
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<td>800-451-3236/802-479-2202</td>
<td>802-479-7917</td>
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<td>802-479-2508</td>
<td>802-479-5438</td>
<td><a href="mailto:staff@hillsidestone.com">staff@hillsidestone.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://WWW.HILLSIDESTONE.COM">WWW.HILLSIDESTONE.COM</a></td>
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<td>Richard Hutchins</td>
<td>P.O. Box 134, Barre, VT 05641</td>
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<td>802-479-5814</td>
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<td>Joe's Custom Polishing and Manufacturing</td>
<td>Gerard &quot;Jerry&quot; Perreault</td>
<td>395 Farwell St, Barre, VT 05641</td>
<td>800-787-4004/802-479-9266</td>
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