

# The Forum

May 2007



Vol. 9, No. 5

## Learn about treadle hammers & more at next Guild meeting June 13

A unique setting, to be sure, awaits you when you plan to attend the next Guild of Metalsmiths meeting on Wednesday, June 13. The venue is the James J Hill farm blacksmith shop in North Oaks. People who show up early will be treated to the historic tour by Guild member Carl Nordquist, who just happens to be the North Oaks village blacksmith and who helped restore the shop at the museum.

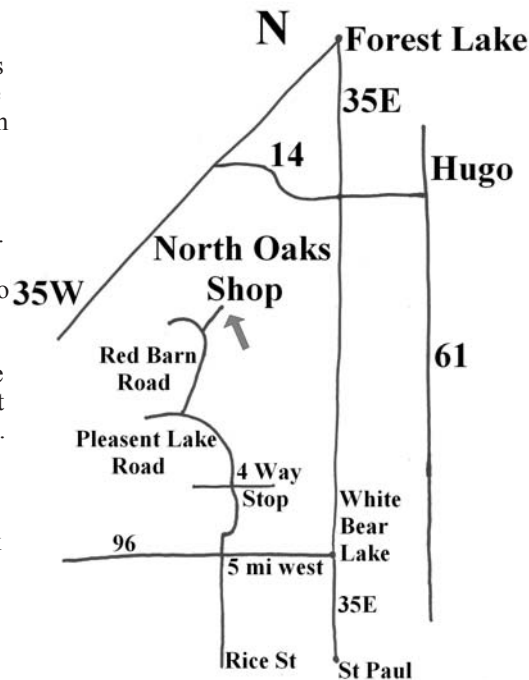
The program for June started out as an Education Committee discussion about the number of treadle hammers in The Guild that do not see a lot of use. Mindy Gardner did a nice showing of the tool when she demonstrated at the Madness, and long ago George Dixon did a nice Madness demonstration of the tool.

Herb Fick has talked Bob Walsh, Dave Mariette, Pete Stanaitis, and Jesse Gavin into offering to bring a few of their pet tools for treadle hammers to the meeting and demonstrate them.

We have space in the shop to show about three hammers. The differences in hammers is that people devise ways to make them safer, and they make tool carriers that make them very effective. They are not just for crushing cans.

We should have these people showing how to do a collar, make a leaf, do repousse', punch a hole, all showing how effective these things are if you put a bit of effort into tooling.

So mark your calendars now. This is your first opportunity to come sample the works of Nick Heinen, the new coffee guy and volunteer exceptionale! Potluck starts at 6:30, as usual.



## Forum deadline for June: Monday, May 21, 2007

The deadline for The Forum is always the third Monday of the month. If you have activities that will be occurring in the next few months and wish to have them published in the next Forum, please send them by Monday, May 21, 2007 to Georgia Myers, editor, by e-mail to:

[forum@metalsmith.org](mailto:forum@metalsmith.org)

(e-mails will be forwarded to Georgia Myers), or to

[gmyers@rconnect.com](mailto:gmyers@rconnect.com)

or mail them to:

**Georgia Myers**

**313 Dakota St**

**Lake City MN 55041**



*The Guild of Metalsmiths, St. Paul, MN, publishes the GoM Forum monthly. It is intended as a tool to further our educational mission, to keep members up to date on current happenings, to publicize projects and workshops, a place for all members to express their opinions, concerns, learn more about each other—in short, to help us run our organization.*

*For address change, or to submit comments, please mail to:*

*The GoM Forum*

*Georgia Myers*

*313 Dakota St*

*Lake City, MN 55041-1869*

*or e-mail to*

*[forum@metalsmith.org](mailto:forum@metalsmith.org) or*

*[gmyers@rconnect.com](mailto:gmyers@rconnect.com)*

## Guild educational grants

There is grant money available for Guild members to study intermediate and advanced metalworking techniques.

The Guild educational grant program is designed to bring new skills into the metalworking community. Participants are given money to pay for a portion of their expenses and are expected to learn some new or poorly understood skill, and then to share what they have learned with other members and the public through an article in our quarterly magazine, “The Metalsmith.” They’re also expected to lead a workshop on the topic (or other educational service approved by the board).

Application forms are available from the president or treasurer at a regular meeting, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

The Guild of Metalsmiths

PO Box 11423

St. Paul MN 55111

## Greetings all!

I'm building a mentoring resource list for the Guild and would like you to sign up. You don't need to have a wealth of knowledge or even a shop. Just be accessible to members or the general public for metal related guidance. If you'd like to be included in the database, contact me, and I'll send you a questionnaire.

Don Hammer  
15269 Upper 61<sup>st</sup> St. North  
Stillwater, Mn. 55082  
651-351-0869  
[carshaper@yahoo.com](mailto:carshaper@yahoo.com)

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## Beginning Blacksmith class C

The final beginners class of the season concluded on Saturday, April 14. The class consisted of 9 students this year, as we allowed a father/son team to utilize a single forge. We had a great time watching the students increase their skills during the course and, as usual, were amazed at the piece that they put together on the final day. Thank you, Don Hammer, for creating a new shovel blank former. It worked great. Thank you to all the instructors including **Herb Fick, Don Hammer, Charlie Bateman, Bill Krawczeski, and Roland Sigurdson.**



Front Row: Ben Geffers, Ruthie Murray, Bob Tjosteson, Levi Arneberg, Bill Krawczeski  
Back Row: Charlie Bateman, Joe Rud, Herb Fick, Tom Steinke, John Schwoch, Bryan Carlson, Jim Arneberg

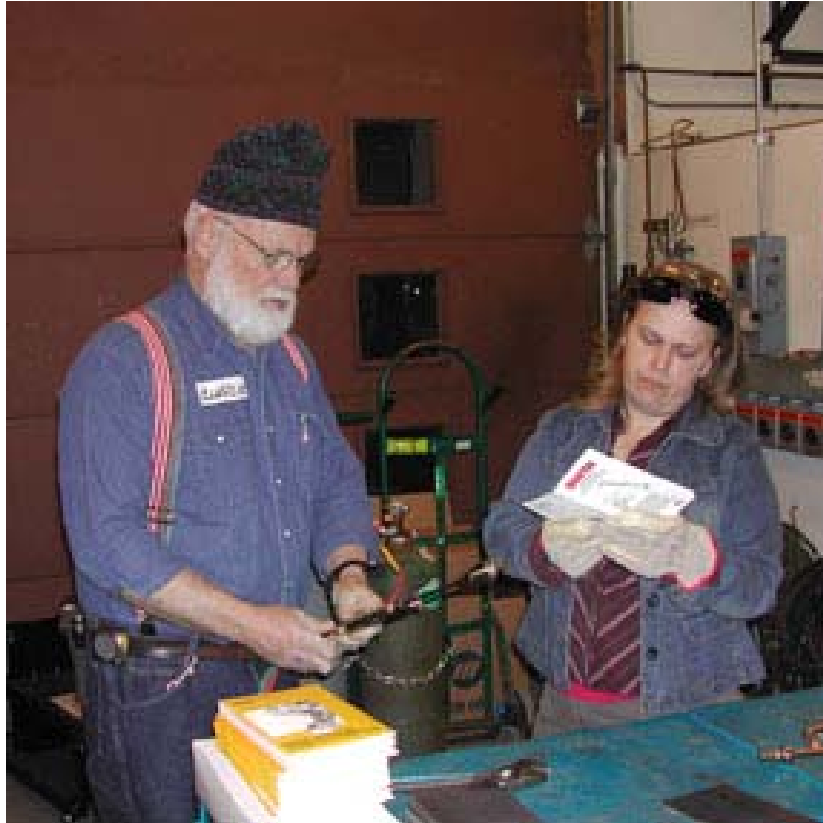
# Handled, struck tools class review

The last handled struck tools class seemed to be a hit because three hammers brought in by Jesse Gavin, Herb Fick and Guy Paton got the productivity of the class members way up. Thanks to Jesse Gavin for organizing the class, and to Herb Fick and Guy Paton for helping.

Below are photos illustrating the success of that class.

On the next page are some gratis photos submitted by Herb to fill some empty space. Thanks, Herb!





Charlie Bateman, left, learning how to use a cutting torch at the February Guild meeting.



Al Olson's  
bird

# NOTICE OF MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please look at the date by your name on your address label of this issue of The Forum. If that date has come and gone, it's time to renew your membership. For example, if it says "2006, Dec" your membership has expired.

## New members

Marty Lysdal  
9285 – 127<sup>th</sup> St  
Clear Lake, MN 55319  
320-761-0169

Revon Spratt

Bob Brown  
9260 Inver Grove Trail  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076  
651-457-0086

## Changes

Eric Turner  
[Eeturner21@yahoo.com](mailto:Eeturner21@yahoo.com)

Ann Rekkedahl  
[arekkedahl@yahoo.com](mailto:arekkedahl@yahoo.com)

Mason Owen  
[Mason.owen60@msn.com](mailto:Mason.owen60@msn.com)

Joy Virden  
72 College St Apt 5A  
Clinton, NY 13323  
[St11joy@aol.com](mailto:St11joy@aol.com)

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## Pure Iron: Samuel Yellin and Beyond

Touchstone Hammer-In Weekend

May 18-20, 2007

Touchstone Center for Crafts

1049 Wharton Furnace Road

Farmington PA 15 437

800-721-0177

[www.touchstonecrafts.com](http://www.touchstonecrafts.com)

Pre-registration fee \$40

Onsite registration fee: \$50

Tailgating free with paid admission

Call for more information and to make reservations to attend.

Hammer-in presenters include:

Clare Yellin, granddaughter of Samuel Yellin, now leads Philadelphia architectural and ornamental metalworking business founded by her grandfather in 1909; current president of ABANA.

Fred Crist, graduate of Philadelphia Colletge of Art, blacksmith since 1977

Kim Thomas, knifemaking, Damascus, specializes in restoration and reproduction of historical masterworks in iron

Alison Finn, taught sculpture at college level before trying blacksmithing in 1989.

## ATTENTION ALL GUILD MEMBERS!!!

MAKE PLANS TO SET ASIDE SOME TIME THE WEEKEND OF JUNE 8TH, 9TH AND 10TH, 2007.  
PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR A WEEKEND OF BLACKSMITHING AT THE NOWTHEN SHOW GROUNDS BLACKSMITH SHOP.

EVENTS TENTATIVELY PLANNED ARE:

- POWER HAMMER SEMINAR (SAFETY AND SOME HANDS ON TIME)
- GAS FORGE SEMINAR
- OPEN FORGE TIME
- TAILGATING
- AND????

SURE TO BE A GOOD TIME TO MEET WITH OTHER SMITHS AND EXCHANGE IDEAS, TO BOTH TEACH AND LEARN. BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR MORE UPDATES AS WE GET CLOSER TO JUNE.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS YOU MAY CONTACT:  
BRYAN STECKMAN AT 763-521-6917

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## News from Tunnel Mill...



June 16<sup>th</sup>, we have Nathan Robertson teaching a hammer making workshop. Everyone will leave class with a new hammer!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

June 23 & 24<sup>th</sup>, we have Roger Degner scheduled for a Basic Rotcroft Style Copper Vessel Class. Students will make three vessels; two straight and one tapered, from 2" copper pipe.

Class size for each is 8 students. We do still have openings in both Nathan's and Roger's class, call for information.

Carol 507-289-4189 or e-mail [jc-adams@msn.com](mailto:jc-adams@msn.com).  
(Not Guild-sponsored events)

## **Guild of Metalsmiths Program Committee Meeting Minutes**

Call to order: 7:00

Welcome new members.

Get Hicks and Heinen e-mail into the distribution list.

Motion to accept minutes by Phelps\_, second by \_\_\_ Kittleson, pass.

Tom Phelps did do again an article for the Forum soliciting a guardian for the coffee. No takers yet. Reduce to three jobs? There will be empty cups available.

Feb 14, 2007

Champion: Al Olson, Review and Thanks to Al

April 11 2007, Fort Snelling auditorium. Champion: John McDonald, will prepare publicity and get it to Moriarty. Location: Fort Snelling. John McDonald (Ghost Coordinator) has made the contact and did lock in the day. The contact is Kevin Milo. Wood did talk to The Minnesota Clockmakers Guild. Susan has a show and tell. Olson did talk to the Wood Workers Guild. Al would like to set up an outside demo for an intro to the wood and clock people. Al's task. Format of extended show and tell will be used. We will be graced by a presentation (Power Point) by John Yust who will also act as Master of Ceremonies for the program. Al Olson is working on parking lot demonstrations for the benefit of the invited guests. Publicity is in the Forum.

June 13 2007

Champion: Dick Carlson - North Oaks blacksmith shop (Carl Nordquist) Rice and County road 96 location in North Oaks. It was James J Hill Farm Four members have come forward offering to demonstrate treadle hammers and favorite tools. Dave Gavin, Dave Mariette, Pete Stanaitis and Robert Walsh.

August 8 meeting

Tom Phelps is the champion. Tom did contact Dave Olin. Dave would like a presentation on design. Possible presenters are Marcia, Judith Kjenstad, Curt Engstrom, Tom Latane, or Gene Olson/Chris Wilson.

October 10 meeting: Rod shop Kretchner? Corky will contact Kretchner

Madness/Fall Conference: Sept 21, 22 and 23 2007.

Demonstrators for conference: Jay Close: Traditional blacksmith recommend by Bob Fredell and Pete Stanaitis. Bob Fredell will meet and pick up Close. We need a host or we will need to put him in hotel. Howard Clark: Knifemaker Clark is not available. Pete will book him for 19, 20 and 21 Sept 2008. Pete has a budget. John Moriarty contacted Japhth Howard and has an agreement with him. John will find and forward a contract for Howard. Suggest AmericInn as a place to stay. Marty Hicks had offered to put together a single page flyer to post at events this spring by the next meeting. Not done. Not available at the meeting. John Moriarty will get this underway. Note for information referencing Myron Hanson and Tom Phelps as contacts. Rich Herman suggested having Martin Pansch (a member of the GoM) bring his trebuchet to the Madness. There are several issues relative to getting permission from the Bauers, researching liability issues, and the fact that Martin is in the Reserves and is subject to call-up at any time and may not be available next fall. Tentative approval was given for this. Martin is still on for this, assuming he is not called to service. Rich will stay on the trebuchet program.

## Program committee minutes continued

The Raffle was discussed for the Fall Conference. Last year we cleared \$516 from the raffle and it may not be enough to justify the effort. The committee has voted to can the raffle and put the effort into getting items for the auction. There are two forge pots.

### New Business Here

Rich Herman put together a proposal for the board. He now has a \$400 lighting budget to expand on last year effort. There is still a recommendation for the Education Committee to have another workshop to produce a Gate or other large item that would be auctioned at the fall conference. The item may be designed by John Yust. Would be nice to have it ready in time to display at the 2008 NMM conference. Education meets 22 March. Myron offers his shop for the design meeting and the forging could perhaps be a workshop at MSH. Rich and Herb will take it to the Education committee. Bill BTW™, Dick Carlson, Myron are offered as advisors. This has been done before so there is some structure to organize it. Ask to plan the workshop in November. Try to have the design for the Madness.

Minnesota Watergarden Society is soliciting a tabletop display from the Guild for their next meeting. This is 15 April at Southdale library. This is a meeting that starts at about 1:30 in the afternoon.

Next Program committee meeting is 19 April at the Hanson Conference Center.

Next committee meetings:

19 April	21 June	16 August	25
September	13 December		
17 May	19 July	13 September	15
November			

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 Myron moves, Tom Phelps second Submitted, Herb Fick

# 2007 schedule for Central Minnesota Blacksmiths

## Monday May 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>

Jeremy Knippel's Studio 30488 Cty. Rd. 3, Merrifield MN  
218-765-4171 – Weekend event & BBQ

## Monday June 4<sup>th</sup>

Jeff Anshus Studio-7567 Acorn NW, Royalton MN  
320-584-0021 - Basic Heat Treating Demo

## Saturday July 7<sup>th</sup>

Ken Zitur's Studio-37634 Cty. Rd. 9, Avon MN  
320-746-2557 – Riveting & Collaring Demo

## Monday August 6<sup>th</sup>

Russ Karasch's Studio-640 Chinook Ave. SW, Avon MN  
320-356-7125 – Russ always comes up with something  
interesting

## Monday September 10<sup>th</sup>

Bill / Kathy Studio- 251 Central Avenue South, Watkins  
(320) 764-2315-Bill will be giving a tour of his shop

## Monday October 1<sup>st</sup>

Brian Johnson's Studio-16777 Cty. Rd. 75 NW, Clearwater MN  
320-558-6898 Heat Coloring Demo

## Monday November 12<sup>th</sup>

Stewart Schwinghammer's Studio-22601 Fairfield Rd., St.  
Cloud MN  
320-656-9988 – New Shop Tour

## Saturday December 8<sup>th</sup>

Ken Zitur's Studio-37634 Cty. Rd. 9, Avon MN  
320-746-2557 – CMB Christmas Party

# Our neighborhood of smiths

*Check this page every month to see what's going on with our neighboring colleagues, and read about activities in their smithing groups.*

## **UMBA**

Visit <http://www.umbaonline.org/events.html>

UMBA DVD-R library

125 different titles

\$5 each, \$2 shipping per order

Never return them to library - [www.umbaonline.org](http://www.umbaonline.org)

## **Central Minnesota Blacksmiths meeting schedule**

Monticello, MN, 763-295-4632

See page 12 for updated 2007 schedule

## **Badger Blacksmiths meetings**

For information, call Don Hogenson at 715-265-4701 or email Richard

Prigge at [rcprigg@centurytel.net](mailto:rcprigg@centurytel.net)

## **Lake Superior Metalsmiths**

Lake Superior Metalsmiths (LSM) meet the fourth Saturday of the month at noon from October through April. The meetings are potluck at noon at Dave Hanson's house, 5873 Taft Road, Duluth, Minnesota, 218-721-4572.

## **Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths**

The NMM meetings are the first Monday of the month, often, but not always, at Keith Johnson's shop in Bemidji. Contact Keith for monthly specifics at [keith@greatriverforge.com](mailto:keith@greatriverforge.com). The Northern Minn. Metalsmith's website is up again, different name, [www.nmmetalsmiths.org](http://www.nmmetalsmiths.org)

## **Central Texas Blacksmiths**

To read their online newsletter, go to

<http://balconesforge.org/newsletters/feb07/feb07.pdf>

If that does not work, then just head to [www.balconesforge.org](http://www.balconesforge.org) .

## **Indiana Blacksmith Association**

IBA annual conference June 1-3 at the Tipton County Fairgrounds, Tipton Indiana. Demonstrators will be Steve Keesler, Bladesmith; Steve Williamson, Blacksmith; Clifton Ralph, Powerhammer; Kurt Feherenbach and Steve Parker assisting Clifton.

# Goings on...



## Events in May

- May 3, 4, 5, High Relief Chasing Class, Kirsten Stiles, Tunnel Mill
- May 9, Guild Board meeting, Myron Hanson's

## Events in June

- June 8, 9, 10, hammer-in at Nowthen show grounds. Featured event: Power Hammer Seminar
- June 13, Guild membership meeting at North Oaks Blacksmith Shop. (Guild-sponsored event)
- June 16, Nathan Robertson teaching hammer-making workshop at Tunnel Mill (not Guild-sponsored)
- June 23 & 24, Roger Degner teaching Basic Roycroft Style Copper Vessel Class (not Guild-sponsored)

## Events in July

- July 11, Guild Board meeting at Myron Hanson's
- July 27, 28, 29, Little Log House Power Show

## Events in August

- Aug. 8, Guild meeting at Dave Olin's shop in Mendota Heights

## Preview of the 2007 Madness!!

# Guild of Metalsmiths annual Fall Conference set for Sept. 21, 22, 23

Celebrating 30th anniversary of the Guild of Metalsmiths this year. Nationally known demonstrators Jay Close and Japhth Howard will be there! Mark your calendars now!

	<p>June 29-July 02, 2007 Victoria B.C Canada Vancouver Island Blacksmiths Assoc <a href="http://www.caniron.ca">www.caniron.ca</a> <a href="http://www.viblacksmiths.com">www.viblacksmiths.com</a></p>
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