

The Forum

January 2014



Vol. 16, No. 1

TGoM Traditions!

Traditions flourished at The Guild of Metalsmiths' annual meeting/holiday gathering on Sunday, December 15, 2013. It seemed a record number of our TGoM family greeted each other at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul that day.

Aromas from crockpots and fresh coffee in the kitchen penetrated the annual business meeting. After we learned who our 2014 board members, officers, and committee chairs would be, we watched as recipients of this year's awards shed tears of surprise when names were announced for three integral categories.

TGoM's highest honor, the Juaire-Hubler Award, was presented in absentia to Rich Herman by President Al Olson. His wife, Cathy, accepted. Rich is currently working in New York for Lockheed and was unable to attend the meeting. We settled for a promise that Rich would deliver his acceptance speech in person next year! This year, he said in an email: "I am very grateful to all the members of the Guild and count this as one of the most important events of my life. I feel very honored to be included in a group with the previous recipients of this award." Last year's recipient, Tom Latane, continued a tradition of forging the hammer affixed to the current plaque.

Juaire-Hubler Award **Rich Herman**

For all you have given of yourself, both in time and knowledge, for your many years of service to the organization, and for your enthusiasm for the craft of blacksmithing, the membership of the Guild of Metalsmiths present to you this, the highest honor to be given by the guild, now, and to others in the future in your name.

The Guild of Metalsmiths

An award that's presented occasionally to someone who TGoM has deemed worthy, is the **President's Award**. Personifying the term "worthy" is Sheri Stanaitis. Sheri's many years of coordinating family activities at our Fall Conferences stands as an excellent example of volunteerism for all of us. Sheri simply said, "It's been a pleasure!" Sheri received a plaque with these words,

In recognition for your outstanding contributions made in support of the Guild and its membership.

Our organization would not be what it is without your selfless gifts of time, support, and enthusiasm. Your service and continued dedication stand as an example for us all.

Not all great works are wrought in iron.

Finally, a **surprise tribute** from TGoM's Program Committee went to Irma Carlson, along with a token calla lily created by Myron Hanson. Irma's assistance has been legendary in the kitchen at TGoM meetings and conferences for countless years. We have all benefitted by Irma's attention to detail in organizing serving tables, making coffee and keeping coffee pots filled, baking cookies, and so many other behind-the-scenes tasks. We appreciate you, Irma!

TGoM past president and long-time member Rich Herman received the Juaire-Hubler Award, TGoM's highest honor. Rich's wife, Cathy, accepted the award at the December meeting from President Al Olson in Rich's absence.



Recipient of the President's Award was Sheri Stanaitis. TGoM recognized Sheri for her many valuable years of coordinating family activities at the Fall Conferences. Sheri was presented her award by TGoM President Al Olson.



A surprise tribute was presented by TGoM's Program Committee to Irma Carlson in appreciation of her many years of service with the "coffee mess." Irma holds a token calla lily created by Myron Hanson.



'Guild gear' is here!

Have you found your wardrobe woefully bereft of hammer or anvil-themed shirts? Have you been sipping a mug of your favorite French Roast coffee and thought, "You know, this would taste a lot better if my mug had the logo of my favorite metalworking 501C3 organization?" Well, friends, now you can do something about it.



The Guild has opened a "store" on Café Press, a website where you can set up your logo to be printed on shirts, mugs, glasses, and other goods for purchase. It allows us to make Guild merchandise available to the membership without the major outlay of cash and volunteer effort needed to sell them in a more traditional way. The Guild gets a small amount of money on each item, but mostly it is a way to make things readily available. There are currently two images available. One is our tried and true Guild logo with an improved, slightly rounded peen. The other is an anvil-in-an-anvil (double anvil) design made and donated by Chris Rand. Going forward, if people come up with additional original designs they would like to see available, it will be easy to add to the store. Here's the link to the online store:

<http://www.cafepress.com/TheGuildofMetalsmiths>

Our neighborhood of smiths

UMBA

Visit <http://www.umbaonline.ning.com>

UMBA DVD-R library

125 different titles

\$5 each, \$2 shipping per order

Never return them to library - www.umbaonline.ning.com

Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Jim Tweet
715-557-5236

jtweet01@yahoo.com

Newsletter editor: John Grump
715-835-0894

johngrump@att.net

Lake Superior Metalsmiths

Lake Superior Metalsmiths (LSM) meet the fourth Saturday of the month. Potluck at noon with meeting to follow.

Contacts are:

Charley Brown, President, CharleyRB@charter.net, 218-428-7906

Dave Hanson, Vice-President, Daveforge1@aol.com, 218-721-4572

Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths

The NMM meets the first Monday of the month at Lake Itasca Region Pioneer Farmers (LIRPF) show grounds,

1/4 mile east of the north entrance to Itasca State Park.

Contact Keith Johnson for monthly specifics at

keith@greatriverforge.com. The NMM's website is

www.nmmetalsmiths.org

Central Minnesota Blacksmiths (CMB)

Meet on the first Monday of each month. Potluck followed by demo.

Locations are different every month so please call or write for info

Contacts are:

President: Ken Zitur
1-320-746-2557

ken@kensiron.com

Brian Johnson
16777 Co Rd 75 NW
Clearwater MN 55367

1-320-558-6898

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New Members, January 2014

Thomas Stephenson, St Michael, MN

Kyle Pierson, Ham Lake, MN

Holiday Sale extended through JANUARY: Real wrought iron up to 50% off

It's time to stock up on high-quality Real Wrought Iron for next year's projects!

Wisconsin Woodchuck and Old Globe Reclaimed Wood have salvaged tons of iron rod from the historic 1887 Globe Elevator, and it's all on sale through the holidays. Discounts range from 20% to 50%. The more you buy, the bigger the break.

Some examples:

- 70 feet of 1-1/4" rod: was \$700, now \$420 (a 40% discount)
- 10 feet of 5/8" rod: was \$60, now \$40 (a 33% discount)
- 120 feet of 1" rod: was \$1,080, now \$540 (a 50% discount)
- 5 pounds of select 4-1/2" square-cut nails: was \$40, now \$30 (a 25% discount)

All prices are FOB Minneapolis. We'll be happy to get you a shipping quote. Email davidhossa@aol.com or call us [612-816-1540](tel:612-816-1540) for availability, a complete price list and the discount structure.

Sale prices in effect through Jan. 31, 2014, or while supplies last.

Smithsonian Institution Call for Entries!

The Smithsonian Institution is having a craft show in 2014. More info is available at the link below:

<http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1101903933417-222/Qwest-7.pdf>

TGoM can now accept Paypal and most major credit cards for annual dues payment

Mike Frattalone and Darryl Ponder have worked together to add a "Buy Now" button to the "Membership" page of our main website. See: <http://www.metalsmith.org/membership/>

This means the Guild can now accept Paypal and most major credit cards, in addition to paper checks, for the payment of annual dues. This should make it more convenient for members to pay dues.

If you have questions as to when your membership expires, that information is listed as part of the membership directory found on the online web forum in the "members only" section. Follow this link to log in:

<http://www.metalsmith.org/phpbb/viewtopic.php?f=143&t=162>

Don't miss February 12 membership meeting!



Make your way to the University of Minnesota campus, U of M Regis Center for Art, Foundry, and Metal Shops on Wednesday, February 12. You'll be fortunate enough to hear Wayne Potratz, Professor and Scholar of the College, talk and show images and video about the Cupola, Iron Sculpture, and the Tataru, Japanese swordsmithing.

Professor Potratz recently hosted an iron ore smelt with Taro Asano, a Japanese swordsmith from Hasima, Japan. He will officially retire in the spring after 44 years as foundry professor at the U of M. He spent those years casting metal and

teaching sculpture. His 27th annual (and final) Minnesota Turkey Iron Pour happened on Nov. 26.

Professor Potratz' foundry is located at 405 21 Avenue South in Minneapolis, in the center of the West Bank of the U of M. Watch for more details about this unique TGoM meeting in the February Forum. For details about Potratz and his remarkable career with the U of M, follow this link:

<https://art.umn.edu/people/faculty/profile?UID=potra001>



2014 TGoM board members, officers, and committee chairs

2014 Officers

Martin Pansch, President
Rick Wessling, Vice President
Mike Frattalone, Treasurer
Larry Wasmund, Recorder

Board

Marty Hicks
Darryl Ponder
Rob Murray
Jim Moenck
Gordon Barr
Jesse Gavin
Mark Lockwood

Committees

Publicity: Darryl Ponder, Chair
Programs: Marty Hicks, Chair
Education: Larry Wasmund, Chair
Long-Term Planning: Rick Wessling, Chair
Membership: Gordon Barr, Chair

You can help fill the blanks on the 2014 Guild calendar!



Folks, I would like to start filling in some of the blanks on our 2014 calendar. We already know membership meeting dates as well as dates for Guild classes (subject to change).

What I am looking for is those events that sometimes sneak up on us. I particularly want to list events we demonstrate at along with the "Point of Contact" information for those wanting help with demos.

In addition I would like to capture events that, while we might not be running them, would likely be of interest to our members. Things like iron pours, other groups' conferences, museum exhibits of the metallic persuasion, etc.

I am hoping this might help people be better informed and able to schedule their social calendar around the events they really want see or help demonstrate at. So if you are a demo champion or just know of an event of interest, please let me know. Either email me at blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com or call me at 612-599-4762.

— Martin Pansch, 2014 TGoM President

'Iron in the Hat,' anyone?

For those of you not on the Bellows or the web forum, awhile ago I suggested we try an "Iron in the Hat" event. In short, a theme is picked, everyone who wants to participate makes something in that theme. On the due date names are drawn and Person A gives his to Person B who gives hers to Person C, etc. I received a bunch of feedback so far via the Bellows, emails and in person and welcome anyone else with an opinion on the subject. Feedback has been positive with a few suggestions for themes and a couple alternate formats.

Suggested themes have included: tools in general, tongs specifically, trivets, or something more decorative instead of just functional.

An alternative format suggested was to open it to anything anyone wants to bring, something forged, used tools, excess material, etc and sell raffle tickets at a meeting. People can buy as many tickets as they want. If your number is drawn you can pick one item from whatever is left in the pile. This continues until all items are gone.

Another suggestion was to keep the theme and making aspect, as well as fostering mini get-togethers at members' shops for people to work on their entry and feed off each other's creativity. However, instead of a drawing giving the items to another participant the items are given to the Guild to auction off. Like the popular bottle opener contest last year crossed with a bunch of little hammer ins.

We could end up doing one or more of these or a combination of the best ideas of each. Give me a call or email and let me know your preferences. I can't guarantee your idea will be the direction it goes but there is a much better chance if you actually share it. I hope to have it ironed out and announced by next month.

Martin Pansch

blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com or 612-599-4762

Orientation Tips for new TGoM members

As new members of The Guild of Metalsmiths, you will enjoy lots of benefits. Check out these important and beneficial points.

- We sell coal at \$7.50 per 5-gallon bucket. TGoM's coal is stored at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing (MSH) (map below), 6250 Riverdale Dr NW in Anoka, MN. Our coal pile is behind the locked gates. When you go there, fill out the required form, the coal logbook, and pay Mike Frattalone, our treasurer. Get a key from the office during normal business hours or from a Guild instructor if the shop is open on a weekend for a class. The forms and log book are in the top drawer of the cabinet next to the door, just inside the workshop area. Send payment to Mike via check or give him a check at a meeting.
- We have a website that we're proud of at <http://www.metalsmith.org>. Inside the website at www.metalsmith.org/phpbb is a new web forum that you will need to register for to use. Click on the "register" on the upper left of the page and follow directions.
- We encourage you to join "The Bellows" email reflector service. This is where members can ask questions of other Guild members about projects, etc., and also offer up your own metalworking wisdom. Contact the webmaster at webmaster@metalsmiths.org if you wish to be included in The Bellows. There are currently 325 members subscribed. If you are currently receiving email from thebellows@metalsmith.org, then you are already signed up.
- The Guild's membership directory is online in the web forum. It is updated about every three months. Included is your own membership expiration date so you know when to pay your dues. Dues may be paid with a check or via PayPal.
- The first 58 issues of The Metalsmith, our quarterly nationally known magazine, are online in the web forum, with more being added weekly. Included are many articles from most of the major smiths of the Guild on projects, tips and tricks, and "how-tos." Check it out!
- Check out "Friends of the Guild" at <http://www.metalsmith.org/about/friends-of-the-guild/> and see the discounts that many area metalworking suppliers offer Guild members. Just in time for holiday shopping!
- Check out "Guide for New Guild Members" by Lou Groth and Gordon Barr located in the Guild of Metalsmiths section of the web forum.



**The Guild of Metalsmiths is an affiliate of ABANA:
Artist Blacksmiths Association of North America**

The ABANA 2014 Conference will held at the Delaware State Fairgrounds in Harrington, Delaware August 13-16, 2014

**** Early Bird Rates:** ABANA members have an opportunity to register before January 15, 2014, and save \$50.

Registration Fees:

ABANA Members - \$175 - **\$125 before 15 Jan 2014**
Late Registration - \$225 after 1 Jul 2014
Non-Members - \$225 - **\$175 before 15 Jan 2014**
Late Registration - \$275 after 1 Jul 2014
Family Members - \$40 each for Spouse, and Children 12- 17,
Children Under 12 Free

Follow this link to the ABANA website for full details:
<http://www.abana.org/Conferences/2014/Conference.shtml>

Delaware State Fairgrounds



Little Giant Rebuilding Seminar

Please join us for the 22nd annual Little Giant Rebuilding Seminar! Although we did pass ownership of Little Giant to our machinist, Roger Rice, this past summer, Sid Suedmeier will continue teaching the rebuilding class at his shop at 420 4th Corso in Nebraska City. We carry on the tradition of our good friend Fred Caylor of teaching how to make Little Giants run well and hit hard. The 2 ½ day class is a hands-on format. You will help transform a 25 LB Little Giant hammer from functional but sloppy condition into a well tuned, quiet, hard working hammer. Sid Suedmeier, former owner of Little Giant, will share all his knowledge and experience gained from working with Fred and from 22 years of repairing and rebuilding Little Giants.

An old style 25 LB Little Giant will be rebuilt during the class, and a new style machine will be on hand to demonstrate proper assembly and adjustment of both styles.

The class is held in Sid's shop in historical Nebraska City, Nebraska. The city has a wide variety of cafes, outlets (including Pendleton Woolen Mills), antique and gift shops, orchards, wineries and museums.

IF YOU HAVE A LITTLE GIANT, THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

No experience is required to attend this class. Past classes have been comprised of students, retirees, artists, welders, doctors, farriers ...anyone who wants to learn will benefit from this class. We approach the rebuilding process using tools that can be found in the average home workshop.

If you are in the market to buy a power hammer, this class will make you an educated shopper. If you already own a Little Giant, or any other brand of power hammer, this class will teach you how to get the best performance possible.

The class costs \$95, refundable up to 7 days prior to the class; advance registration is required. We limit each class to 25 participants. The classes start at 9 AM sharp on **Friday**, and usually ends by Saturday evening. The schedule runs Sunday until noon in case we encounter any exceptional problems in rebuilding, and to answer remaining questions.

When we receive your registration, we will send you a city map, along with travel and hotel information. Airports are located in Omaha (45 miles north), Lincoln (50 miles west) and Kansas City (125 miles south).

March 21-23, 2014 REGISTRATION

Name: _____ Business Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

PAYMENT

____ Check enclosed
____ Visa
____ MasterCard
____ Discover
____ American Express
Number: _____
Expiration Date: _____

POWER HAMMER INFO

Brand: _____ Size: _____
Serial Number: _____

Please call or email if you have any questions, or prefer to register by phone. You can reach us at 402.873.6605 or SidsShop@windstream.net.

Send registration to:
Suedmeier Enterprises
420 4th Corso
Nebraska City, NE 68410

Bronze Pour III: Bronze Casting, Pattern, and Mold Making

Saturday, April 5th, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Pattern Making Workshop.
Saturday & Sunday, April 26th & 27th. 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Mold Making.
Saturday May 3rd. 1:00 pm - Evening. The Pour.

Instructors: Marty Hicks and Don Halverson

Cost: \$120

Class size: 12

Location: Marty's (HIXWERX) Workshop, 2223 Stewart Ave, St. Paul, MN

Participants will be given masonite and plasticine clay to create their artwork, from which a mold will be made. **If you have something else that you'd like to cast we can negotiate.**

Everyone is welcome to the pattern making workshop which will give you an idea of what's possible to cast. We'll look at examples and talk about ways of creating a pattern to get a successful casting. We'll also give an overview of mold making including sprue and vent systems.

Mixing non-toxic, binded sand, we'll make two-part (cope and drag) molds, and cut sprues and vents. We'll be casting "Everdur"TM, a silicon bronze excellent for artwork and taking a patina.

You will need to bring: **eye protection, leather gloves, proper clothing, and any tools you have for working the mold.**

Everyone is welcome to the pour the evening of May 3, but there is a limit of twelve to cast a piece. Work will start early in the day but we'll light the furnace at 3:30 pm for an evening pour.

Important: Guild members have first dibs on taking this workshop. **However**, if slots are still open April 26, the workshop will be open to the public. Sign up and get your money in early!

Send your contact information and a check for \$120 made out to:

Marty Hicks
2223 Stewart Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55116

Contact Marty:
marty@hixwerx.com
651-492-0899

Acceptance priority for the class is determined by postmark.



Goings on...

A calendar of TGoM events at a glance

- Education Committee meeting dates vary. Contact Larry Wasmund, chair, for the next meeting.
- Program Committee meetings are the third Thursday of each month.
- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December for the holiday gathering. For most meetings a potluck meal begins at 6:30 pm and the business meeting begins at 7, with a demonstration or activity starting around 8 (times approximate).
- All board meetings are the second Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Potluck meal begins at 6:30, with meeting starting at 7 pm.



Events in January 2014

- Beginning Blacksmithing B1, Jan. 4
- Guild board meeting, Jan. 8
- Beginning Blacksmithing B2, Jan. 11
- Beginning Blacksmithing B3, Jan. 18
- Beginning Blacksmithing B4, Jan. 25

Events in February 2014

- Feb. 8, Beginning Blacksmithing C1, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Feb. 12, Guild membership meeting at U of M Regis Center for Art, Foundry, and Metal Shops
- Feb. 15, Gas Forge Workshop (tentative)
- Feb. 22, Beginning Blacksmithing C2, MN School of Horseshoeing

Events in March 2014

- March 8, Beginning Blacksmithing C3, MN School of Horseshoeing
- March 12, Guild Board meeting
- March 22, Beginning Blacksmithing C4, MN School of Horseshoeing

ELECTRONIC FORUM

If you have not been receiving an email notification that The Forum is available, please verify that we have your correct email address. Contact Gordon Barr at agbarr@aol.com.

Join The Guild of Metalsmiths

Send \$30 dues to the address below. Please circle if you want to be listed in our membership directory and/or check items you don't want listed.

The Guild of Metalsmiths
PO Box 11423
St. Paul MN 55111

List Me
in the directory
but don't list

Don't List Me
in the Directory

address - phones: home - work - fax - cell - email - web page
(circle items above you DO NOT want published)

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Primary phone: _____ Secondary phone: _____

All memberships are family memberships. Persons of all ages, professionals and hobbyists, are invited to join. We do not sell our mailing list.



Address Service Requested

Forum deadline for January, 2014: Monday, Dec. 16, 2013

The deadline for content in The Forum is always the third Monday of the month. Please send items to **Georgia Myers**, editor, by email to: gldmyers@embarqmail.com

The Guild of Metalsmiths on the web
Visit our website at <http://www.metalsmith.org>

Looking for something? Try the search engine. On our home page, at the top of the right sidebar, enter your query and click on "Search."

January 2014

Your membership expires at the date & month next to your name. Please send your renewal dues to the above address.

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.

Note: Information in this publication is provided as a service for our members. Members may submit items for sale and upcoming events that are considered relevant to our group, and they will be published as space permits. The Guild of Metalsmiths is not responsible for these items or events.

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