

# The Forum

February 2015



Vol. 17, No. 2

## February 11 TGoM meeting to be at Mississippi Welders Supply Company in Red Wing MN

Please join us on February 11 at Mississippi Welders Supply Company, 5211 Moundview Drive, Red Wing, MN 55066. The facility is right off Highway 61 just northwest of the city of Red Wing.

The people at Mississippi Welders are excited about the meeting and will have their welders and plasma cutters out for display. They will also be doing a demonstration on torch use and safety, and will be answering any questions you may have about their equipment.

As always, potluck dinner starts at 6:30 pm, with the business meeting beginning at 7:00 pm. Don't forget to bring your show & tell items. Demonstrations should commence around 8:00 pm.

John McDonald is the champion for this meeting, and if you have any questions, please give him a call at 651-269-6944

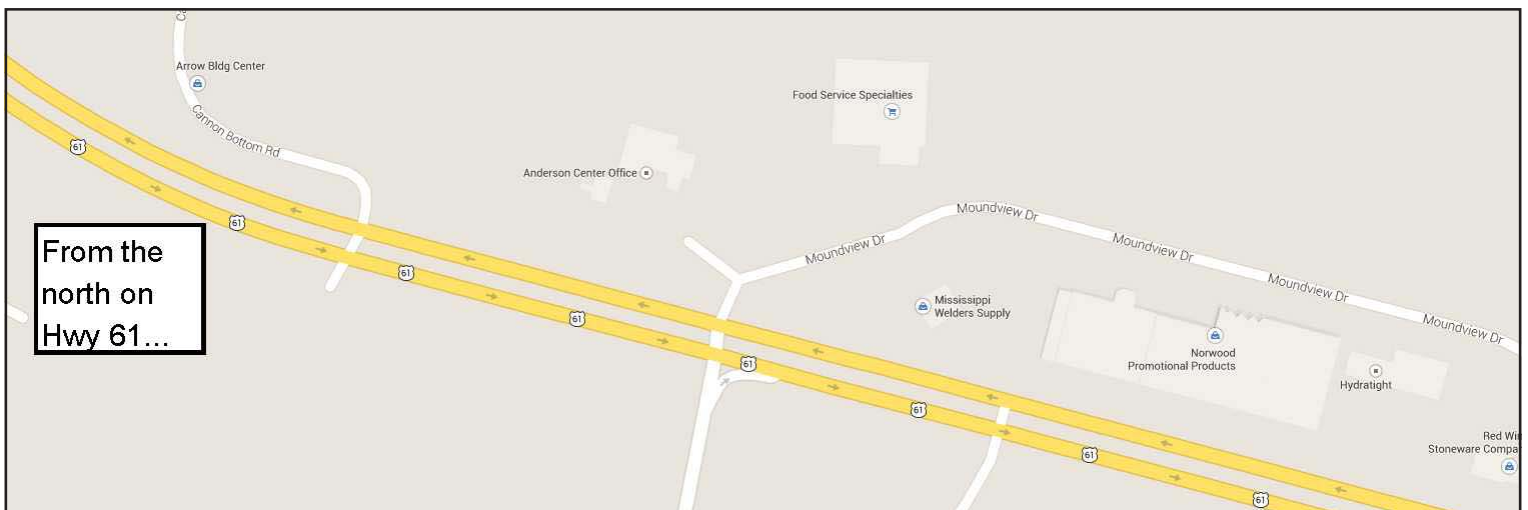
— Mark Lockwood, Program Committee Chairman



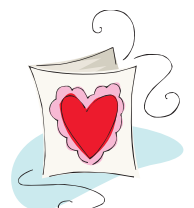
### Directions to Mississippi Welders Supply

**If you're coming from north of Red Wing,** go to Hastings and take Hwy 61S. Just before you get to Red Wing, there's an intersection where you'll see a large complex on your left that contains the Anderson Center. Take that left turn off Hwy 61, and then turn right on Moundview Drive. This is an industrial complex. Turn right again at Mississippi Welders Supply. Should be plenty of parking available.

**If you're coming from the south or west,** go to Red Wing, pick up Hwy 61 (Main Street) and follow it north out of town. Turn right at the Anderson Center intersection, then turn left on Moundview Drive.



## Happy Valentine's Day!



# Our neighborhood of smiths

## The Guild of Metalsmiths (TGoM)

All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December. For these 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).

President: Martin Pansch Vice-President: Rick Wessling  
[blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com](mailto:blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com) [rgwessling@gmail.com](mailto:rgwessling@gmail.com)  
612-599-4762 612-875-4420  
Our website is: <http://www.metalsmith.org>

## 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](http://www.umbaonline.ning.com)

## Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Jared Riesenweber Newsletter editor: John Grump  
715-983-5637 715-835-0894  
[tudweber@hotmail.com](mailto:tudweber@hotmail.com) [johngrump@att.net](mailto: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](mailto:CharleyRB@charter.net), 218-428-7906  
Dave Hanson, Vice-President, [Daveforge1@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:keith@greatriverforge.com). The NMM's website is [www.nmmetalsmiths.org](http://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

President: Ken Zitur Brian Johnson  
1-320-746-2557 16777 Co Rd 75 NW  
[ken@kensiron.com](mailto:ken@kensiron.com) Clearwater MN 55367  
1-320-558-6898

## TGoM now accepts 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>

# New Members, February 2015

Erik Peterson  
Job Sawyer, Excelsior, MN  
Paul Donohoo, Circle Pines, MN  
Craig Nelson, Apple Valley, MN  
Katelyn Matthes, New Brighton, MN  
Michael Adkins, Shakopee, MN  
Roberta Moeschler, Lino Lakes, MN  
Eric Lange, Rosemount, MN

## Thank you...

I want to thank all of the Guild of Metalsmiths members who have been supporting me over the past four years as I pursued my dream to become the St. Paul Winter Carnival's mistress of fun and frivolity, Klondike Kate. It was so nice to see so many familiar faces there at the contests cheering me on! And as my husband, Bob, always says--about blacksmithing (or my singing, I guess)--practice makes perfect... as this year I won!

Information on the Kates and their upcoming event schedule can be found at <http://www.klondikekates.org>! Hope to see you soon!



Shelley Brown, Klondike Kate 2015

## Help Needed

Anyone that would like to help me teach the boy scout blacksmithing merit badge at the Jackson Street Roundhouse on Saturday, Feb 7 and Feb 21, 8:30 - 4, please contact me.

Gordon Barr, [agbarr@aol.com](mailto:agbarr@aol.com)

## CanIron X

2-5 July 2015

Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, Canada

Canada's national blacksmithing conference, CanIRON X, is taking place this summer from July 2-5 on beautiful Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia, Canada. This is promising to be a truly special event featuring Albert Paley, Mark Aspery, Uri Hofi, Zeevik Gottlieb, Lorelei Sims, and Ian Hope-Simpson. You won't want to miss your chance to catch these great smiths together in the magical setting of Cape Breton Island. Check it out online here:

<http://canironx.ca/>

## Update your 'Guild gear'!

The Guild has opened a "store" on Café Press, a website where we set up our 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 items readily available. Items you can order range from multiple shirt styles and mugs all the way to field bags, water bottles, and even pajamas! Online store link:

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



# Struck Tools Workshop

## Saturday, April 11 2015

### 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

### Instructor: Jim Scott

Cost: \$50

Class size: 8

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 8)

The day will include:

Preparing a punch, a slitting chisel and a drift using approximately 5/8 inch stock. We will fabricate normal length (6 to 8 inches) hand held tools without handles. We will be hand forging as individuals. We will heat treat using oil. Material used will be GM automotive coil spring stock, presumed to be 5160 alloy.

**You will need:** your pet hammer, a second hammer for striking tools, hearing and eye protection and proper clothing. A variety of hammers will be available for trials.

This workshop is a valuable opportunity for practical hands on training in the preparation and restoration of tools. Blacksmiths need basic comfort with techniques for restoring and heat treating struck tools. We will focus on the use of color and the heating routine used in heat treating.

Students should have completed the Beginning blacksmithing course or have suitable background experience. Let us know if you are short on physical strength and we can accommodate you with smaller stock. For background, go to the meetings and ask those who have participated in the past Jim Scott classes. They are enthusiastic and often offer to help with the workshops. Jim has offered this training very successfully for many years now. Jim offers this in a one day workshop at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing on April 11 2015.

**Safety Equipment** – safety glasses, ear plugs and work gloves are mandatory. Other safety equipment may include: leather apron, cotton clothing, pants, leather shoes.

The stock and expertise is supplied by Jim. Arrangements made by Herb Fick.

**To register for this workshop, simply wrap your contact information in a check for \$50 written to The Guild of Metalsmiths and forward to:**

Herb Fick  
519 East Eighth Street  
Northfield, MN 55057-2508

Contact Herb:  
[herb@phyque.com](mailto:herb@phyque.com)  
507 663 0569  
507 649 1611 (cell)

Acceptance priority is determined by postmark. I'll bring the rolls, Bill the Welder© usually makes the coffee, and lunch is brown bag or local lunch counters. We ask Jim to travel considerable distance to offer this class. Early registration is encouraged.



# Quarters Mokume Class – Intermediate

## Saturday, April 18, 2015

### 9:00am – 4:00pm

### Instructors: Jesse and Dave Gavin

Cost: \$65

Class size: minimum 6, maximum 8

Location: Gavin farm, N6768 720th St, Beldenvillw WI (see map below)

Materials will be provided

**Tools needed:** Gas forge, vise, anvil, grinder and sanding discs, tongs – pick up, and for thin stock (less than 1/8"), hammer. If you don't have all of these tools, contact Dave or Jesse. Students will start off making a flat blank, progressing to a bowl. Time permitting; students will make a second blank to make a bracelet

**Safety Equipment** – safety glasses, ear plugs and work gloves are mandatory. Other safety equipment may include: leather apron, cotton clothing, pants, leather shoes.

**To register, send a check payable to The Guild of Metalsmiths for \$65 to:**

Jesse Gavin

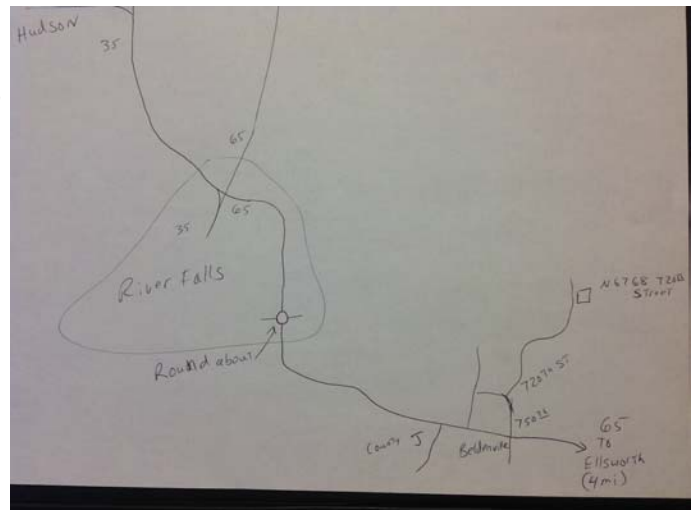
N8214 330<sup>th</sup> Street  
Spring Valley, WI 54767

Acceptance priority is determined by postmark.

For more info, contact:

Dave Gavin 715 821 9950

Jesse Gavin 715 808 5891 or [jagavin6273@hotmail.com](mailto:jagavin6273@hotmail.com)



# Poor Man's (or Woman's) Coal Forge Class

## Saturday, April 25

### 9:00 am to 4 pm

### Instructor: Martin Pansch

**Cost: \$40**

**Class size: 6 maximum**

**Location: Pansch farm (map below)**

It doesn't take much to make a decent coal forge if you know what you are doing. If you have some tools, a little know how and a nose for scrounging stuff you can make one for almost nothing. Sadly, most people just getting into blacksmithing often lack at least one of those. This workshop will provide students access to experienced smiths for guidance and the required tools for forge making. The main goal is for all participants to leave with a functioning coal forge so for the sake of time students might not get to do all their own work on the forge (i.e. weld, cutting, etc) but participants will get a chance to learn and do plenty. There are no skill prerequisites for this class but as with all Guild classes 1) It is open to all but Guild members take priority over non-Guild people and 2) minors (people under 18) are required to have a parent present with them during the class. So, if you are new to smithing and forge-less sign up and come on out. We'll have a good time, make some forges and learn from each other.

**Safety Equipment** – safety glasses, ear plugs and work gloves are mandatory. Other safety equipment may include: leather apron, cotton clothing, pants, leather shoes.

**Special Instructions:** A list of parts to scrounge for will be sent to the people who sign up for the class. Whether you score a lot of stuffs or come up dry won't prevent you from taking this workshop.

**Lunch Arrangements:** I'll have some burgers and brats to throw on the grill. If you have special dietary needs or are a picky eater you might want to bring your own food. There really isn't anything close by to grab lunch at.

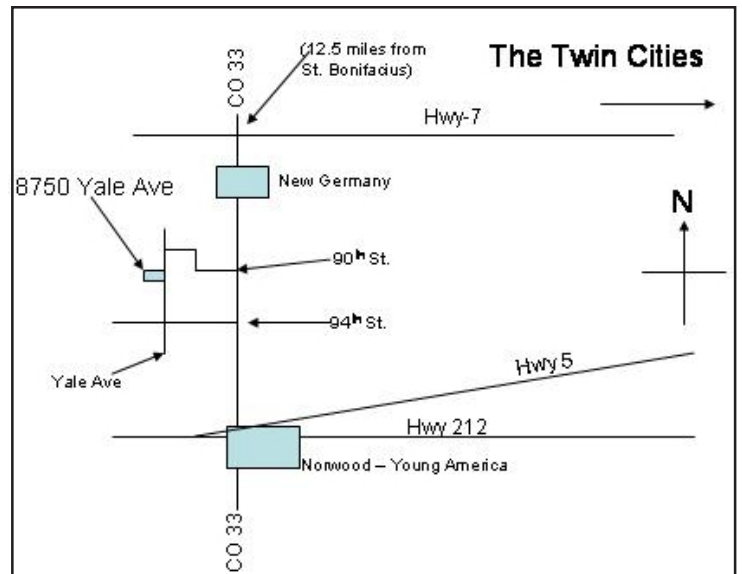
**To register for this class, send a check written to The Guild of Metalsmiths for \$40 to:**

Martin Pansch  
8750 Yale Avenue  
Young America, MN 55397

**Acceptance priority is determined by postmark.**

Contact Martin at:  
612 599 4762

[blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com](mailto:blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com)



**Map to Pansch farm**

## Bronze Casting, Pattern, & Mold Making

**Saturday, May 16, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm:**

**Pattern Making Workshop.**

**Saturday & Sunday, May 30 & 31. 9:00 am to 4:30 pm:**

**Mold Making.**

**Saturday June 6. 3:00 pm - Evening: The Pour.**

**Instructors: Hicks, Bettenberg, Brockman, Halvorson**

**Cost: \$120**

**Class size: 12**

**Location: Marty's (HIXWERX) Workshop, 2223 Stewart Ave, St. Paul, MN 55116**

We'll be casting silicon bronze into two-part (cope and drag) sand molds from your pattern. For beginners, a flat-backed clay pattern is recommended. However, **if you have something specific that you'd like to cast, let us know.**

Saturday May 16 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.

You will need to bring: **eye protection, leather gloves, and wear proper clothing.**

Send your check for \$120 made out to "The Guild of Metalsmiths" and your contact information to:

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

Contact Marty:  
[marty@hixwerx.com](mailto:marty@hixwerx.com)  
651 492 0899

**Acceptance priority for the class is determined by postmark.**



# THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors – January 14, 2015

Held At: Danish American Center, 3030 West River Parkway, Minneapolis

Call to Order: 7:04 pm by Martin Pansch

Members in attendance: Barr, Sheely, Hicks, Lockwood, Moenck, Murray, Pansch, Wasmund, Philips, Wessling. Missing:Gavin

Visitor: Mike Frattalone

Approval of previous meeting's minutes: Motion to accept by Barr, second by Murray. Motion passes.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer Report: Mike Frattlone for 2014

Financial Report for the 1-14-15 board meeting

Checking/savings \$47,299

Pay pal acct 6,000

Pay pal to be transferred 816

Sub total 54,115 (up 7666 from 1-8-14)

Remaining grants 8,140 (up 2806 from 1-8-14)

Discretionary fund balance 45975 (up 4860 from 1-8-14)

Expenses since last board meeting on 11-12-14:

Workshops 1,246

Metalsmiths 2,052

Forums 2 ea 81

Awards, flowers 428

Meetings 352

Office supplies 89

Dues overpayment 5

Trailer tabs 21

Total Expenses 4,274

Total Deposits 2,016

Members 332 (up 7 from 1-8-14)

Treasure's report was approved

## Membership Services Committee: Chair Barr.

Gordon did an extensive review of member retention of those who had taken the beginners class over the last ten years and found a fairly high retention rate(50%)(more smiths to share the Fun).

## Education Committee report: Chair -Wasmund, Vice Chair-Moenck

Larry said the new class calendar is being built/made, and made clear the beginners classes are going well. We seem to be getting more very young students and how to best work with this group may take some special consideration . Something we will look into in the near future

## Program Committee: Chair-Lockwood, Vice Chair-Murray

Mark stated the Feb meeting is all set but April had yet to be finalized. The planning is underway for the fall conference

## Communications Committee: Chair-Hicks, Vice Chair- Vacant

Publicity committee has renamed themselves "Communications committee" Marty stated the committee is putting together a tri-fold pamphlet about the guild to be able to hand out at various demonstration events.

## Long Range Planning Committee: Chair-Wessling, Vice Chair-

Rick brought up several issues, first was discussing ways to help ensure long term financial stability of the guild. A good discussion was started in that vein but no specific decisions made. Another was how we can/want to get more involved in the Jackson Street Roundhouse, and there is a plan being put together to present to the roundhouse board in March/April but lots of details have to be figured out.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Parsing out Mike's many jobs: this continues to be done as it is delineated what all he has/is doing.

Coal order : international market forces are continuing to make this a notable effort but it is underway and we hope to get more coal this spring.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Method(s) for class champions to be able to purchase supplies with Guild funds- Several suggestions were made. Further details will be developed off-line.

2015 Budgeting - Reviewed what committees should and shouldn't include in 2015 budget proposals.

ADJOURNMENT: 10-ish \_\_\_\_\_ Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, second \_\_\_\_\_.



## Warming by the forge...

The January 2015 program committee meeting was held as January thaw was upon us. The February meeting down at Mississippi Welding should be good, and appropriately the demo will be about welding safety. I hear they carry a variety of welding supplies and equipment, so lots of perusing should be had. Some of our neighbor Badger blacksmiths may be able to join us.

The April meeting still has to be worked out, but this should get sorted out soon. The June and August meetings we have locations set for but some of the other details have to be worked out. The committee meeting still was focused on the upcoming fall madness. We have had some setbacks but it is progressing all the time. There is some interest in trying to plan "field trips" to places that we can't have meetings at (for various reasons). If anyone has thoughts about a place to visit on one of these field trips, let us (the program committee members) know. Not sure how or if this might work, but it seems worth looking into.

Winter is still with us and will be for a bit, but as much as is possible, may your forges be hot and some sparks be flying.

— Derrick Phillips



*Tunnel Mill is located 85-100 miles south of the Twin Cities in the country five miles north of Spring Valley, MN on County Road 1.*

## News from Tunnel Mill

**Contact for full class details, costs, and registration:**

**Carol and John Adams**

**507-289-4189 or 507-289-5246**

**Email-[jc-adams@msn.com](mailto:jc-adams@msn.com):**

**Website: [www.tunnelmillcrafts.com](http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com)**

## Classes at Tunnel Mill for 2015

**Review:** the coffee mill class held by Tom Latane' in 2014 turned out to be a well attended and popular class. Students were happy with their time spent. In 2015 we look forward to new classes by familiar instructors. Tom will be teaching another class in May, but that is still being worked out. Also in 2015 we hope to put on another gypsy wagon workshop. Watch for more on that.

**Crab-Style Lock, Peter Ross, June 15-10:** Students will make a "Crab" lock based on an antique example originally made in Pennsylvania just after the Revolutionary war. This type was typically used inside a blanket chest with hinged lid. The lock involves a number of processes and uses a variety of skills and offers the opportunity for a variety of decoration and embellishment.

Starting with a finished key (either made by each student in advance or provided at the beginning of class), we will cover the basic layout, warding systems, making the parts, fitting, assembly and final tuning. This will involve forging the moving parts, including the spring, filing and fitting, and the common methods of hand production and assembling. Students will also be expected to make their own small punches and other simple tools.



Crab Lock

The emphasis will be on historic methods (simple hand tools) in both the forging and bench skills. We will also cover typical file decoration typically used in the late 18th century. Students should expect to spend more time at the bench than at the anvil on this project. Those who choose may use wrought iron.

Call or email Carol and John Adams at Tunnel Mill to inquire or to register for the Peter Ross class.

## Blacksmith classes offered by Ken Zitur

### Beginning Blacksmithing Classes:

Instructor: Ken Zitur

March 14 & 15, 2015

Class hours 9 - 4 each day

Cost \$125 (Price includes all materials)

Class location near Avon (St. Cloud area)

### Sledge Hammer Making Class

Instructor: Nathan Robertson

Feb 22, 2015

Cost \$125 (Price includes all materials)

Class hours 9 - 4

Class location near Avon (St. Cloud area)

### Mail check to:

MaryLou Zitur

37634 Co Rd 9

Avon, MN 56310

[mlzitur@hotmail.com](mailto:mlzitur@hotmail.com)

### Hammer Making Class

Instructor: Nathan Robertson

Feb 21, 2015

Cost \$100 (Price includes all materials)

Class hours 9 - 4

Class location near Avon (St. Cloud area)

Class size is limited.

Ken has been teaching blacksmithing classes for about 13 years. For more information, call with any questions

320-291-2075



*Note: This information 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.*

# Goings on...

## A calendar of TGoM events at a glance

- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October. Date for December will be announced. For these 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).
- Education Committee meeting dates vary. Contact Larry Wasmund, chair, for the next meeting: [poundedtreasures@gmail.com](mailto:poundedtreasures@gmail.com)
- Program Committee meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday of each month. Mark Lockwood is chair: [mark.lockwood@daikinapplied.com](mailto:mark.lockwood@daikinapplied.com)
- 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 February, 2015

- Feb. 7, Beginning Blacksmithing C1, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Feb. 11, Guild membership meeting, Mississippi Welding Supply, Red Wing
- Feb. 21, Beginning Blacksmithing C2, MN School of Horseshoeing

## Events in March, 2015

- March 7, Beginning Blacksmithing C3, MN School of Horseshoeing
- March 11, Guild board meeting
- March 21, Beginning Blacksmithing C4, MN School of Horseshoeing

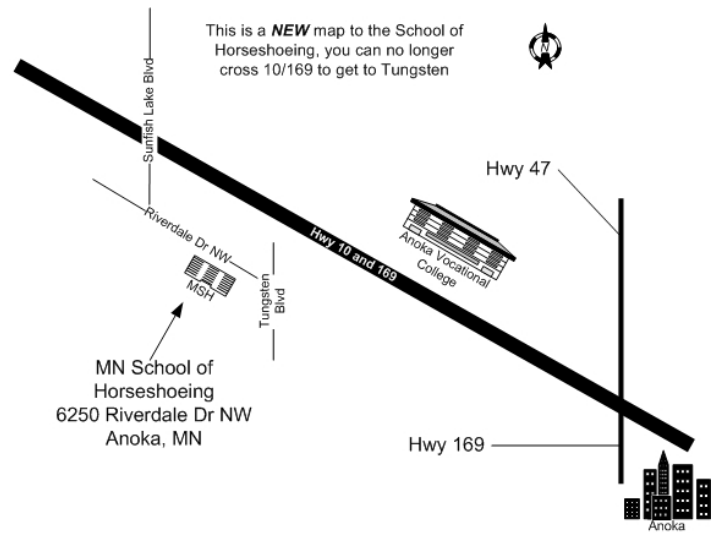
## Events in April, 2015

- April 8, Guild membership meeting TBA
- April 11, Struck Tools Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- April 18, Mokume Class, Gavin farm in Wisconsin
- April 25, Poor Man's Forge, Pansch farm

## Events in May, 2015

- May 13, Guild board meeting
- May 16, Spring Bronze Pour, Pattern-Making Workshop, Hixwerx Studio

## Map to MN School of Horseshoeing



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

**Don't List Me**  
in the Directory

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.

## 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](mailto:agbarr@aol.com).



Address Service Requested

**Forum deadline for March, 2015: Monday,  
February 19, 2015.**

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](mailto: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."

**February 2015**

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

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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.

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## **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