

The Forum

February 2017



Vol. 19, No. 2

Join your fellow Guild of Metalsmiths members and families for the next TGoM meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at Oxygen Service Company in St. Paul

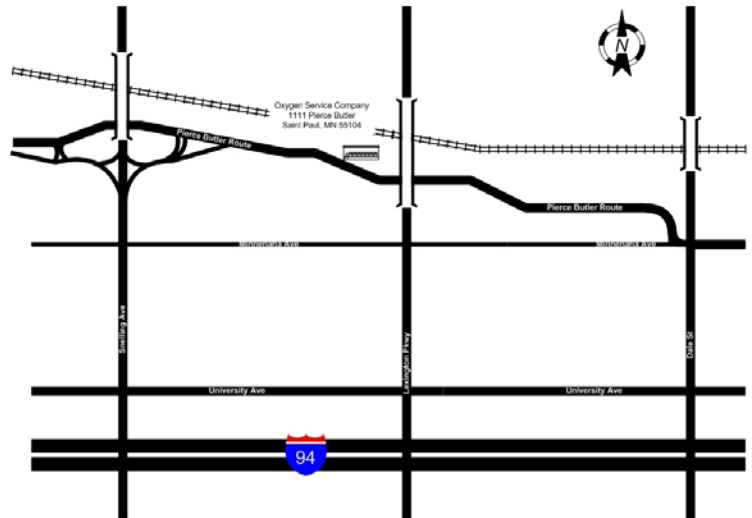
It's time to start looking forward to the next membership meeting of The Guild of Metalsmiths! Mark your calendar now for Wednesday, February 8, 2017. We'll meet at Oxygen Service Company in St. Paul (map at right), 1111 Pierce Butler Route.

Meeting champions John McDonald and Mike Frattalone tell us that the folks at Oxygen Service will show us their new array of "toys" and do a few demonstrations as well. Meet at the St. Paul location at 6:30 pm for our traditional potluck, with business meeting and show and tell following. If you have questions about this meeting, give John McDonald a call at 651-269-6944

Oxygen Service Company is a distributor of welding industrial supplies, welding equipment, industrial gases and specialty gases, and custom automation throughout Minnesota and Western Wisconsin. They have three Minnesota locations in St. Paul, Sauk Rapids, and Willmar. Check out their website at the link below:

<http://www.oxygenservicecompany.com/>

Oxygen Service Company
1111 Pierce Butler Route
St. Paul MN 55104



Latest 'Beginning Blacksmithing Class' graduates: 'B class'

The Guild of Metalsmiths is proud to announce our latest graduating "B class" of beginning blacksmiths pictured below. They are (left to right): Bill Crowder, Maria Widstrom, Max Widstrom, Dwight Vangstad, Lauren Staup, John Guenther, Leah Staup, Chris Falk, Matt Ronald, Cal Mergendahl, Gordon Barr (instructor). Not pictured: Esme Mergendahl. Gordon was joined by these smiths to assist in teaching the B class: George Auel, Denny Covington, Larry Hilton, Bob Johnson, Larry Nevin, Tom O'Donnell, Stephen Olivio, Wes Peterson, Derrick Phillips, Darryl Ponder, Adam Robrahn, David Skaurud, Larry Wasmund, Rick Wessling. Thank you to all!



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). To check your membership expiration date, see the mailing label on your latest copy of "Metalsmith."

President: Martin Pansch Vice-President: Rick Wessling
blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com rgwessling@gmail.com
612-599-4762 612-875-4420

Our website is: <http://www.metalsmith.org>

Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Don Hogenson Newsletter editor: John Grump
715-265-4701 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

President: Ken Zitur Brian Johnson
320-746-8161 16777 Co Rd 75 NW
mail@kensiron.com Clearwater MN 55367
320-558-6898

Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (CAFAC)

Quarterly blacksmithing classes, exhibits, and open house events
www.cafac.org email: info@cafac.org

Tunnel Mill Crafts

Blacksmith shop, traditional iron work, classes
4505 Highway 63 North, Rochester, MN 55906
507 289-4189 or 507 289-5246

John & Carol Adams jc-adams@msn.com,
<http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/>

Mississippi Forge Council newsletter:

<http://www.msforgecouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/UPSET-1-2017-1.pdf>

Guild member passes

It is with regret that we share the passing of long time Guild member Dave Hartwig. He had been a Guild member since 1979 and passed away on 10 January. We found out a day after the funeral. The family didn't want flowers, but the Guild sent a card.

The funeral service was Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017, at First Shell Rock Lutheran Church, Northwood, Iowa. Burial was at State Line Cemetery.

He was born Jan., 1949. David went to school in St. Ansgar and Mason City, Iowa schools, graduating from Mason City High School in 1967.

David was a man of many talents. He worked various jobs during his lifetime including engineering, construction and machine maintenance at Larsen Manufacturing, where he retired in 2014.

David had many hobbies. He enjoyed woodworking, fishing, and hunting, but his true passion was blacksmithing.

In 1969, he married Susan Braun of St. Ansgar, Iowa, and they resided in Northwood for 46 years. They had two children, Timothy and Angela.

Ring the anvil for him next time you are at the forge.

Jackson Street Roundhouse Demo Op

- The Roundhouse will be open Wednesdays and Saturdays 10 – 4 for the winter, until May.
- You can enter through the back gate.
- We now have a second forge setup outside.
- People that would like to work in the blacksmith shop these days are welcome to drop by.
- Any questions, call Gordon Barr 612-242-5827



ABANA

We are excited to announce our 2017 membership campaign drive and would like to ask for your help in spreading the news. As a gift to a first time member we will award (while supplies last) a copy of Francis Whitaker's book, My Life as an Artist Blacksmith.

ABANA is widely recognized as the preeminent organization of blacksmithing in the world. Visit us online at www.abana.org and like us on Facebook and Twitter. You may join ABANA or renew your membership by following this link:

<http://www.abana.org/membership/index.shtml>

Thanks for your support.

Eddie Rainey
ABANA President

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>



New class!

A Taste of Blacksmithing

Saturday, April 8, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Minnesota School of Horseshoeing (map page 8)

Instructors: to be announced

Class fee: \$40 members, \$50 non-members

Minimum students: 5

Lunch Arrangements: students should provide their own lunches, or fast food is available nearby.



Have you ever thought of being a metalsmith and bending, twisting, and pounding a special treasure? The Guild of Metalsmiths is now offering a one-day “taste” of the craft.

Please wear cotton clothing and bring safety glasses, hearing protection, and leather gloves.

The Guild will supply all tools and materials for the day.

We will begin with covering the most important safety practices, move into the art of fire control, hammer accuracy, and then onto several basic procedures of metal work. While not intended to replace the Guild’s 4-day Beginner’s Class, this offering allows those intrigued by blacksmithing to experience it firsthand before deciding to pursue the craft.

Everyone will take home samples of tapers, twists, and bends, as well as a functioning Drive Hook as pictured upper right.

To register, make a check out to “The Guild of Metalsmiths” and mail, along with your contact info, to:

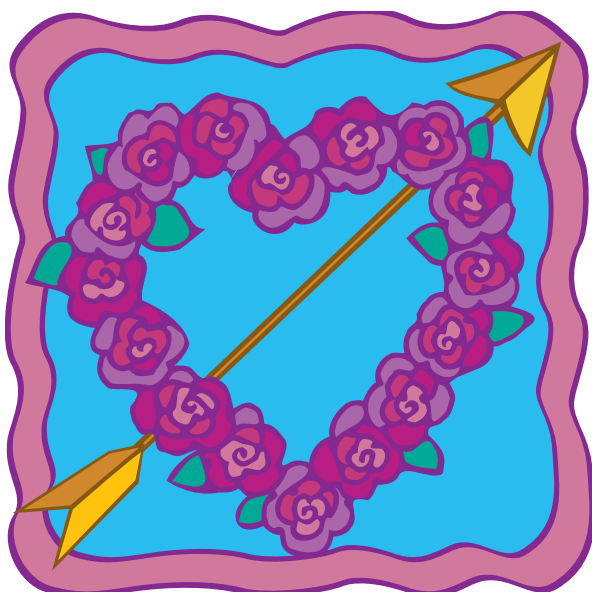
Christina Dodge

17645 Baugh St NW

Ramsey, MN 55303

Note: Acceptance priority determined by postmark.

Happy Valentine's Day!



Tuesday, February 14

Happy Ground Hog Day!



Thursday, February 2

THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors meeting-

Held At: Danish American Center, 3030 West River Parkway, Minneapolis. Call to Order: 7:04pm by Rick Wessling
Members in attendance: Barr, Bettenberg, Dodge, Lockwood, , Philips, Sheely, Wasmund, Wessling, Widenhoefer. Missing: Gavin, Pansch
Approval of previous meeting's minutes: Motion to accept by Barr, second by Wasmund. Motion passes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer Report: Grace Sheely-There have been issues with deposits-resolved. Grace will have notes for the next tres.
2016 financial recap- Needs expenses by committee-who pays what. We are up \$19,000, but will be buying coal this year. Looking for ideas for board to discuss-rainy day fund, long term planning, etc. Membership dues for Roundhouse-Wasmund makes motion to increase dues to \$250 from \$200, Lockwood seconds-Motion passes.

Membership Services Committee: Chair Barr. Nothing new

Education Committee report: Chair -Wasmund, Vice Chair- vacant

Status of recent and upcoming classes: "B" class underway. C & D classes coming soon.

Program Committee: Chair-Lockwood, Vice Chair-Murray

Status of February, March meetings-Next meeting at Oxygen Services

Report on securing Little Log House for 2017 Conference -still looking at contract with Little Log house, some delays in getting 1-year contract, then 5 year. Discuss idea of how to address contracts w/ Bauers, Deciding on next project for Fall conf.-looking at candle holder. Looking at a few ideas for demonstrators for conf.

Communications Committee: Chair-Bettenberg, Vice Chair- Vacant

Ponder has Metalsmith from 1976 to 2006 up on website. Disc.-all posted-can they all be downloaded. Bettenberg makes motion that security on website is adequate and that all Metalsmiths, up to 10 years old, should be open. Phillips seconds motion. Motion passes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Review and select applicants for Mark Aspery joinery class. Bettenberg makes motion to solicit info from officers, Philips 2nds, motion passes. Board members, officers to review applications and get data from extensive grading matrix to Wasmund by end of Monday.

Wasmund to have data to board by Friday. Membership Questionnaire/survey. Nothing new to report-Tabled until later date.

Discussion of Guild positions that need to be filled and prioritization. What should be pushed for next? Looking to train people in treasury, who to ping to take Darryl's job/web position? Minnesota Transportation Museum blacksmith shop expansion. Nothing new to report, Cost of adding 23" stack, roofing, equipment, electrical-who will pay?

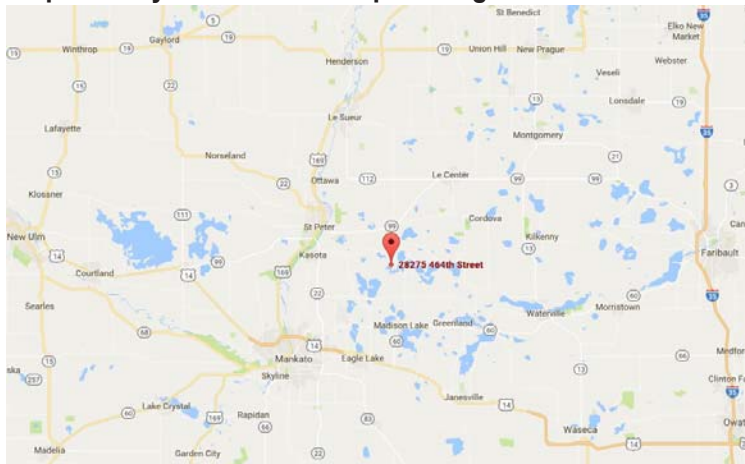
NEW BUSINESS:

Darryl Ponder wants \$110 for software upgrades and consulting to go from Version 6.6 to version 10 of the software that manages our Bellows and Forum mailing list. This might also fix the issues we have with some AOL and Yahoo addresses. Bettenberg makes motion to give Darryl the latitude to upgrade software up to \$300 without prior Board approval. Wasmund seconds. Motion passes. Discuss guidelines, formats, etc. for the committees' discretionary budget submissions that will be due for the March meeting

ADJOURNMENT: 9:17pm

Happy President's Day
Monday, February 20, 2017

Map to Larry Wasmund's shop for Beginners 'D' class



‘FORGED IN FIRE’

Lyle Wynn is a blade smith and member of the Mississippi Forge Council, an ABANA affiliate. Last year he applied to be a smith on the History Channel’s “Forged In Fire” TV program. He tells how he applied and what happened next. Lyle’s story is reprinted below from “The Upset,” the Mississippi Forge Council’s newsletter.



I saw an ad on Facebook asking for people to apply to be in the show. Without telling anyone, I went to the website and applied. A few days later, I got a phone call and was told to be prepared for a skype interview the following day. After the skype interview, I was then told the next process was the paperwork portion. After signing and returning all the releases, a background check was then done to make sure I was not a hoodlum. I did not hear back for about 7 weeks. When I did hear back, Stan Bryant and I were on our way to Salt Lake City for the ABANA Conference and would be gone for the next 5 days. They told me I would be flying to New York in seven days. I almost wanted to turn around and go home.

While I was in Utah, my family came over and helped prepare for what was going to happen in case I made it to the final round and they would be filming at my home. I got an email with all the flight information and headed to New York.

They pick you up at the airport where you end up meeting your opponents on the ride to the motel. I was picked up around 7:15 A.M. each day and would get back to the motel around 9:00 P.M. You would spend a lot of time in the interview room waiting for

the next time you would go back on the set to film. After each filming, there were lots of interviews where you would have to answer in present tense.

Overall, you are treated like Royalty and everyone is wonderful. I learned that whatever you make must be made to pass the test. That is the important thing. Whatever it takes to get past the tests should be considered prior to historically accurate. If you make it past the first two challenges, you fly home one day and the next morning a producer and camera man show up at your home. After 5 days, you pack up your weapon and they ship it to *Forged In Fire*. You then fly back to New York and go through the testing, deliberation, and elimination.

If you are a blade smith, it is worth applying. I had a blast and hope to return one day.

— Lyle

www.msforgecouncil.com

Mississippi Forge Council newsletter:

<http://www.msforgecouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/UPSET-1-2017-1.pdf>

Note: The information below is provided as a service for TGoM 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.

2017 Classes at Morgan Valley Forge

The name Howard Clark will sound familiar to most metalsmiths, especially bladesmiths. Howard was a demonstrator at one of TGoM's Fall Conferences a few years back. This master bladesmith has announced his 2017 class schedule on his website, and it's printed in condensed version below. Morgan Valley Forge is located in Iowa.

- 1) Each class is limited to four students.
- 2) A down payment of \$200 is required to hold a place in a class.
- 3) There is a welcome dinner provided on Sunday evening prior to the Monday start date.
- 4) On site accommodations are not offered. Please scroll down to the bottom of the class description page for a list of housing options in the area.
- 5) To register for a class email or call Christine - christine@mvforge.com - 515.966.2126
- 6) Registration Information required: Name, Mailing Address, Phone Number, Email Address

Place in class is on a first come first served basis. We reserve the right to cancel a registration and return the down payment if a class has filled prior to receiving both full registration information and down payment.

Down payments are accepted via - Check to Howard Clark, 115 35th Place, Runnells, IA 50237; PayPal to howard@mvforge.com; Credit or Debit card (We will email an invoice to you)

April 24 - 28, 2017 - Narrow Tang Knife Class

Basic Knife Making Class

Beginner to intermediate skill level.

Tuition \$700 per student for the week. Materials Fee \$50.

May 29 - June 2, 2017 - Tanto Class

Beginner to intermediate skill level.

Tuition \$750 per student. Materials Fee \$50.

Sept. 11 - 15, 2017 - Full Tang Kitchen Knife Class

Beginner to intermediate skill level.

Tuition \$700 per student for the week, \$50 Materials fee.

Oct. 9 - 13, 2017 - Understanding the "Ites"

Metallurgy for Blacksmiths.

Tuition \$1500 per student for the week. Plus \$100 materials fee.

Intermediate skill level.

Visit Howard Clark's website at the link below for full information, including detailed class descriptions.

<http://www.mvforge.com/classes-at-morgan-valley.html>



Tunnel Mill Crafts

We are located in southern Minnesota. Tunnel Mill was an old water powered mill. Built in 1869. Retired in the late 1920's.

Located on Bear Creek north of Spring Valley, MN.

Wooded 50 acres with a stream that runs through it. Now, it's a place for crafts people and friends to congregate, relax and learn some of our forgotten crafts.

2017 classes

Tom Latane' April 14-16, 2017

Ward box with complex configuration and fitting a key bit to the wards. A future class will address the creation of a lock.

Tom Latane' May 4-6, 2017

Bench vise, picture and info to follow.

1 of 2. Second class Spring 2018.

David E Cargo -May 13, 2017

Portable bread oven class.

Douglas Pryor, June 2-4, 2017

Master of Repouse and Chasing

Check out his incredible work on his website or you-tube.

Gypsy Wagon class, June 10, 2017

Ric Furrer August, 2017 date to be finalized soon. Check out our website for more information: www.tunnelmillcrafts.com

Contact us for more information....jc-adams@msn.com or 507-289-4189

Hosted by John & Carol Adams

Check out Ric Furrer at <http://www.doorcountyforgeworks.com/>

Watch the video at <http://www.youtube.com/user/RicFurrer>

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 Comm. meets first Wednesday of each month. Contact Larry Wasmund, chair: poundedtreasures@gmail.com
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday of each month. Mark Lockwood is chair: 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.



Map to MN School of Horseshoeing

Events in February 2017

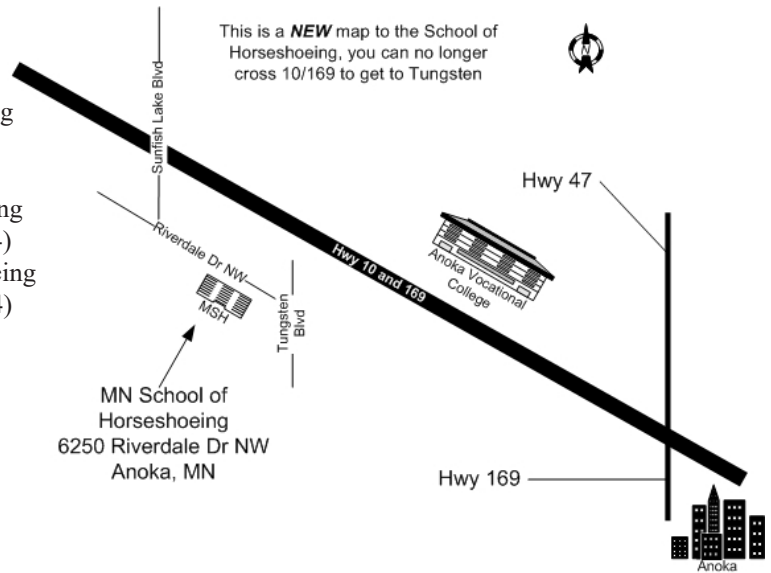
- Feb. 4, Beginning blacksmithing class C1, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Feb. 8, Guild membership meeting, Oxygen Service Company, St. Paul
- Feb. 11, Beginning blacksmithing class D1, Cleveland MN (map pg 4)
- Feb. 18, Beginning blacksmithing class C2, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Feb. 25, Beginning blacksmithing class D2, Cleveland MN (map pg 4)

Events in March 2017

- March 4, Beginning blacksmithing class C3, MN School of Horseshoeing
- March 11, Beginning blacksmithing class D3, Cleveland MN (map pg 4)
- March 18, Beginning blacksmithing class C4, MN School of Horseshoeing
- March 25, Beginning blacksmithing class D4, Cleveland MN (map pg 4)

Events in April 2017

- April 8, "A Taste of Blacksmithing" class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- April 12, Guild membership meeting, potentially Foci Glass



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.

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.



Address Service Requested

Forum deadline for March 2017:: Monday, Feb. 20, 2017.

The deadline for content in The Forum is usually 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."

February 2017

Your membership expiration date will show on the address label of your quarterly Metalsmith magazine.

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.

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