

March 2014



Vol. 16, No. 3

Important Announcement from TGoM's Program Committee

Because the ABANA Conference comes when our normal membership meeting would be in August, we have changed the date of the Corn Feed to August 6th. Mark your calendars. The venue will remain the same: Dan Pate's farm. Thanks,

— Marty Hicks, Program Chair

U of M professor presented at February membership meeting

It was a great presentation by Wayne Potratz of the University of Minnesota at the February membership meeting on producing steel using a Tatara furnace.

Just a reminder to those who may not recall, Joe Kramolisch wrote an article on the subject, and it was featured in the Sept 2009 *Metalsmith*. So, dig up your copy if you'd like to look over the topic, and if you weren't a member back then, here's a chance to find someone who was, and get to know them so you can borrow it!

— Beth Olson, Editor, Metalsmith

You have until June 11 to forge a tool for 'Iron in the Hat'

Folks

I would like to invite and encourage you to participate in the Guild of Metalsmiths' Iron in the Hat. After soliciting ideas from a number of members on the subject and organization, this is what the event is going to look like.

How it will run: Everyone who wants to participate will make something in the chosen theme. You will have from now until the

Iron in the Hat

June membership meeting to work on it. At that point everyone who has entered has their name put in a hat. Person A gets Person B's item. B gets C's. All the way until A gets Z's. You don't have to make it to the June meeting to participate, just let me know you are "in" and send a photo along of your finished piece so people can see what you made.

The subject is tools. Any kind of tool you want to make. Hammers, tongs, struck tools, guillotine tools, scrolling forks, etc. It can be forged, fabricated, cast, ground, whittled or made in any other manner. You can choose to either make something you have never done before and have been looking for an excuse to try or go for something you are comfortable making and try to outdo yourself. You don't have to make everything from scratch, repurposing an existing tool is acceptable, but keep in mind that part of the purpose of this it to get people to stretch their abilities and creativity.

The other purpose is for people to feed, vampire like, off each other's creativity and ability. To that end I would encourage people to get together to work on their projects. Once the glacier's recede this spring I'll host a weekend out at my place for anyone who wants to come out to western Siberia.

I am excited to see what people come up with.

- Martin Pansch blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com 612-599-4762



Professor Wayne Potratz gave a detailed presentation at the February meeting on producing blade steel using the ancient Tatara furnace process.

TGoM member Gabe Shackle (below) was proud to share his forged creations during "show n tell."



Myron Hanson and Dick Carlson collaborated on this copper rooster.



'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 Newsletter editor: John Grump 715-557-5236 715-835-0894

715-557-5236 jtweet01@yahoo.com

iohngrump@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, <u>CharleyRB@charter.net</u>, 218-428-7906 Dave Hanson, Vice-President, <u>Daveforge1@aol.com</u>, 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 1-320-746-2557 ken@kensiron.com **Brian Johnson** 16777 Co Rd 75 NW Clearwater MN 55367 1-320-558-6898

New Members, February 2014

Colin Stransky, Eagan, MN

Found Art Madness!

Yes, the Madness is still about seven months away, but this activity at seems to get more popular every year. If you didn't see all the folks out there enjoying it last year, it was like a swarm of metal hungry piranha. More piranha, er, people means more materials needed

I would encourage you do keep an extra 5 gallon bucket or two around the shop just for those interesting little bits that are too good to recycle. If we start saving bits and pieces now, there will be less of a mad dash in September to find stuff to fill the trailer.

If people have a tiny shop and can't waste space storing it between now and then, let me know. We'll figure out some place to store it and some way to get it there.

— Martin Pansch, TGoM President



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

Registration Fees:

ABANA Members - \$175

Late Registration - \$225 after 1 Jul 2014

Non-Members - \$225

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

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/Owest-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

Struck Tools Workshop

Date Saturday, April 12 2014 Time 9:00 am to 4:30 pm Instructor: Jim Scott

Cost: \$50 Class size: 8

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing



The day will include: preparing a punch, a slitting chisel, and a drift. These are 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.

Many of the Guild members have participated in the beginning blacksmith classes.

I (Herb) believe a valuable opportunity for follow on training is 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.

For background, go to the meetings and ask those who have participated in the past Jim Scott classes. They will be quite enthusiastic.

Jim will offer this comfort in a one day workshop at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing on April 12 2014. The stock and expertise is supplied by Jim. Arrangements made by Herb Fick.

Please wrap your contact information in a check for \$50 written to The Guild of Metalsmiths.

Send the package to:

Herb Fick

519 East Eighth Street Northfield, MN 55057-2508

Contact Herb if questions:

herb@phyque.com 507 663 0569

507 649 1611 (cell)

Acceptance priority for the class is determined by postmark.

Because we ask Jim to travel considerable distance to offer this class, early registration is encouraged.

Build a Gas Forge

Saturday, April 19, 2014, 9 am to 4 pm Instructor: Jim Moenck, 715-483-5054 jrmoenck@yahoo.com

Cost: \$175

Class size: minimum 6, maximum 8 with waiting

list

Location: Jim Moenck's shop: 2078 120th Ave,

Dresser, WI 54009 (map on page 5)

This is a one day workshop in which we will make a venturi burner style gas forge. The forge will be a single burner model. The body will be approximately 10" diameter by 12" deep, made from a round steel tube. This forge will be insulated with a 1" blanket of ceramic



fiber, coated with a cementuous finish for durability. Fire brick will be used for the floor and sliding doors on each end, making it possible to pass the stock through, to heat the center of a work piece. The forge sits in a saddle, and it bolted to it for stability. This forge is a simple, economical forge that is easy to transport and fun to use.

Class will be at held at Jim Moenck's new shop. It is located at 2078 120th Ave., Dresser, WI 54009. From the Twin Cities, take I35 north to Forest Lake to Hwy 8 East. Go across the St. Croix river into WI about 3 miles. Turn south on 208th, which is at the round-about by Menards. Go south 1 mile. 2078 is on your left just after the curve. If you see a lake on your right, you went too far. Use the gravel driveway to the shop. An anvil sign will mark the driveway.

Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class: Minimal tooling will be required. Students will be contacted prior to class if they need to bring any tools.

Safety Equipment – Safety glasses & ear plugs are mandatory. Other safety equipment includes: a respirator if you have one, cotton clothing, gloves, leather apron, and leather boots or shoes that come up over your ankle.

Lunch Arrangements: Bring your own lunch, or eat at a local establishment. There are several spots to eat east of Menards on Hwy 8. There is a microwave in the shop you can use to warm up food if you would like to. Bring your own beverages to stay hydrated during the day (non-alcoholic, of course).

To register for this class, send a check written to "Guild of Metalsmiths" for \$175 to:

Jim Moenck 2078 120th Ave Dresser WI 54009

Acceptance priority for this class is determined by postmark.

Poor Man's (or Woman's) Coal Forge Workshop

Saturday, April 26, 2014, starting at 9 am Instructor: Martin Pansch, (612) 599-4762

blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com

Cost: \$35

Class size: maximum 6 students 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

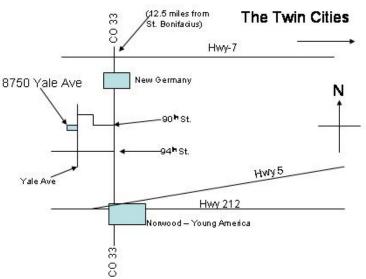
Lunch Arrangements: I'll have some burgers and brats to throw on the grill. If you have special dietary needs or are a picky eater you might want to bring your own food. There really isn't anything close by to grab lunch at.

To register for this class, send a check written to The Guild of Metalsmiths for \$35 to: Martin Pansch

8750 Yale Avenue

Young America, MN 55397

Acceptance priority for the class is determined by postmark.



Bronze Pour: 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", 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.

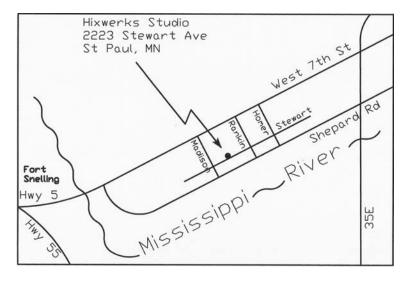
St. Paul, MN 55116

Contact Marty:

marty@hixwerx.com

651-492-0899

Acceptance priority for the class is determined by postmark.



Hammer Making Workshop

Saturday, May 3, 9 am to 4:30 pm

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Drive NW, Anoka, MN (map below) Instructors: Martin Pansch, Derrick Phillips, Steven

Olivo, Rob Murray, Jim Moenck, Bob Brown

Cost: \$45

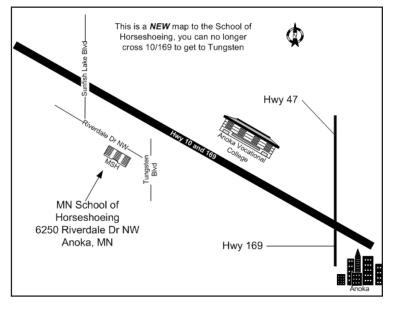
Class size: 8 students
What to bring: Students
should bring their own
favorite hammer. Safety
glasses and ear protection
are mandatory. Other safety
equipment should include; gloves, leather
apron (optional), cotton clothing, leather shoes
above the ankle.

Bring your own lunch, or eat at one of the local eating establishments.

Register for this class by sending a check for \$45 made out to The Guild of Metalsmiths, and send to:

Jim Moenck 2078 120th Ave Dresser, WI 54009.

Include your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address. If you have any questions, call Jim at_715-483-5054 or e-mail Jim at <u>irmoenck@yahoo.com</u>.



Sneak Peak! Next TGoM Membership Meeting April 9

Plan for the next TGoM membership meeting now! Wednesday, April 9 will take us to Nick Heinen's workshop at 220 Monroe St., North Hudson, Wisconsin 54016 (map below).

Nick will be our host as we join in our traditional potluck supper, get brought up to speed on our usual organizational business, and see what everyone has brought to "show n tell."

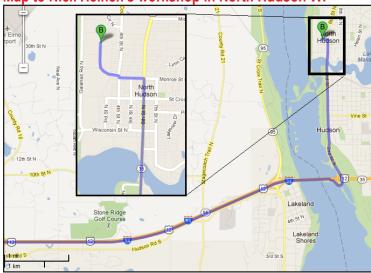


Tentative plan for a program during this meeting is bound to be a unique experience for all of us, no matter what age, level of interest, gender, or even place of residence. Nick says his shop is across the street from a gentleman named Lee Gihlike, who hand-builds restoration frames and motors for German turn-of-the-century racing cars. This man has invited us to join him in a tour of his shop, provided he's able to be there! He's not certain but he may be out of the country on April 9. We'll keep you updated on this plan, but be sure to circle April 9 on your calendar.

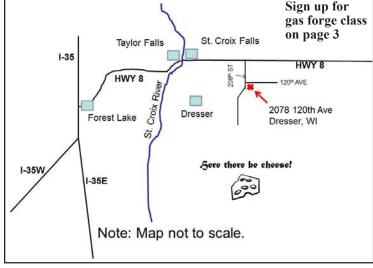
If Mr. Gihlike is not available, Nick says his forge will be hot, and he invites anyone to offer demonstrations of works in progress.

Plan to meet at Nick's shop on Wednesday, April 9 at 6:30 pm for potluck (bring a dish to pass), then business meeting at 7 pm, followed closely by show 'n tell, and then the rest we'll play by ear!

Map to Nick Heinen's workshop in North Hudson WI



Map to Jim Moenck's new place in Dresser WI





News from Tunnel Mill

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.

Contact for full class details, costs, and registration: Carol and John Adams 507-289-4189 or 507-289-5246

Email-jc-adams@msn.com;

Website: www.tunnelmillcrafts.com

Classes at Tunnel Mill for 2014

April 11, 12, 13: Wire Inlay in Steel, Tom Latane'

Students will start by forging a simple article to be decorated with wire inlay - a medieval key or Viking style sword hilt. While the scale is being pickled from the forging, tools will be forged for chasing the grooves that receive the wire. Demonstrations will show flush wire inlay; raised wire in lay; twisted wire inlay; inlaying of dots. After practicing a bit on scrap steel, students will decorate their forgings.

April 11: Beginning Tinwork, Kitty Latane'

In this class students will have the opportunity to make a variety of traditional items such as cups, candleholders and cookie cutters using tinplate shaped with stakes and mallets. Skills learned include cutting a pattern, wiring an edge, setting down a seam and soldering.

April 12 & 13: Punched Tin Lantern Class, Kitty Latane'

Students will start with a flat sheet of tinplate, trace and cut out a pattern, punch holes in a decorative design, bend and assemble pieces to make a traditional "barn" lantern. Lantern measures approximately 12" tall by 6" diameter. You will each leave with a tin lantern. Check out Tom & Kitty Latane's website, http://www.spaco.org/latane/TCLatane.htm

May 31: Brick Oven Class, David S. Cargo

Learn to build a non-mortared stacked brick oven. This is a hands on class; students will assembly the brick oven (which is approx 3' x 4' wide by 36" tall). It is constructed of 2.5" x 4.5" x 9" bricks.

June 7 & 8: Forge a Viking-Style Axe, John Adams

Students will start with a billet of steel, approximately 1/2" x 2" x 10". We will forge this billet to shape, fold and weld in a steel bit for the cutting edge. Then we will harden and temper. You will shape the eye for the handle and finish the axe. This will all be done in a coal fired forge. Handle will also be furnished. *Prior experience needed; we suggest having had some blacksmithing experience or having taken the beginning blacksmithing class.

June 21: Exploring Gypsy Wagons, John & Carol Adams

We will explore the construction of the Vardo or Gypsy wagon, a horse drawn wagon used by the English Roma people (Gypsies). John has constructed 2 beautiful Gypsy wagons to date, and is currrently working on numbers 3 & 4. Join us for a day of exploring Gypsy Wagon design options and construction techniques.

August 22, 23, 24: Making Damascus (layered steel), Ric Furrer, Door County metalsmith

Master metalsmith and sword smith Ric Furrer comes to Tunnel Mill to help us create the damascus steel of the early eastern world. Check out Ric Furrer at http://www.doorcountyforgeworks.com/ Watch the video at http://www.youtube.com/user/RicFurrer

Registration for these classes is open. To read full details, costs, and how to register, contact Carol and John Adams:

Email: jc-adams@msn.com

Phone: 507 289-4189 or 507 289-5246 Check out their website at http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com

CAFA

Damascus Steel Patterning with Rick Dunkerley

Dates: Wed-Fri, April 16-18, 2014; 3 day workshop \$650

Location: Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center, 3749 Chicago Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55407

Workshop Description: Meld together layers of mixed ferrous metals to make a billet which will be hammered to create unique patterns of your own choice. Each student will make a billet of Damascus steel to be used for knives or jewelry. Various techniques for patterning will be used to make unique and purposeful patterns. All skill levels are welcome, but some basic metalsmithing will be helpful

Register: www.Cafac.org/classes **Contact**: HeatherDoyle@CAFAC.org

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Goings on...

A calendar of TGoM events at a glance

- 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).
- Education Committee meeting dates vary. Contact Larry Wasmund, chair, for the next meeting.
- Program Committee meetings are the third Thursday of each month. Marty Hicks is chair.
- 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 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

Events in April, 2014

- April 9, Guild membership meeting, Nick Heinen's workshop, 220 Monroe St, North Hudson, WI 54016
- April 12, Struck Tools Workshop, MN School of Horseshoeing
- April 19, Gas Forge Class, Jim Moenck's new shop, 2078 120th Ave., Dresser, WI 54009
- April 26, Poor Man's Coal Forge Workshop, Pansch Farm

Events in May, 2014

- May 3, Hammer Making Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- May 14, Guild Board meeting

Events in June, 2014

- June 7 & 8, Spring Hammer-In, details TBA
- June 11, Guild membership meeting, tentatively set for Cliff Larsen's farm

ELECTRONIC FORUM

The Guild of Metalsmiths

PO Box 11423

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.

Don't List Me

in the Directory

List Me

in the directory

St. Paul MN 55111	but don't list address - phones: home - work - fax - cell - email - web page (circle items above you DO NOT want published)
Name:	
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 April, 2014: Monday, March 17, 2014

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."**

March 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.

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