

The Forum

April 2012



Vol. 14, No. 4

April 11 TGoM meeting to highlight discoveries of blacksmithing significance at recent Fort Snelling dig

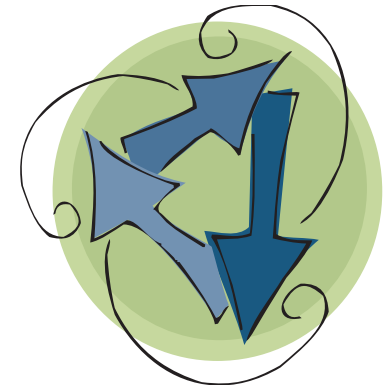
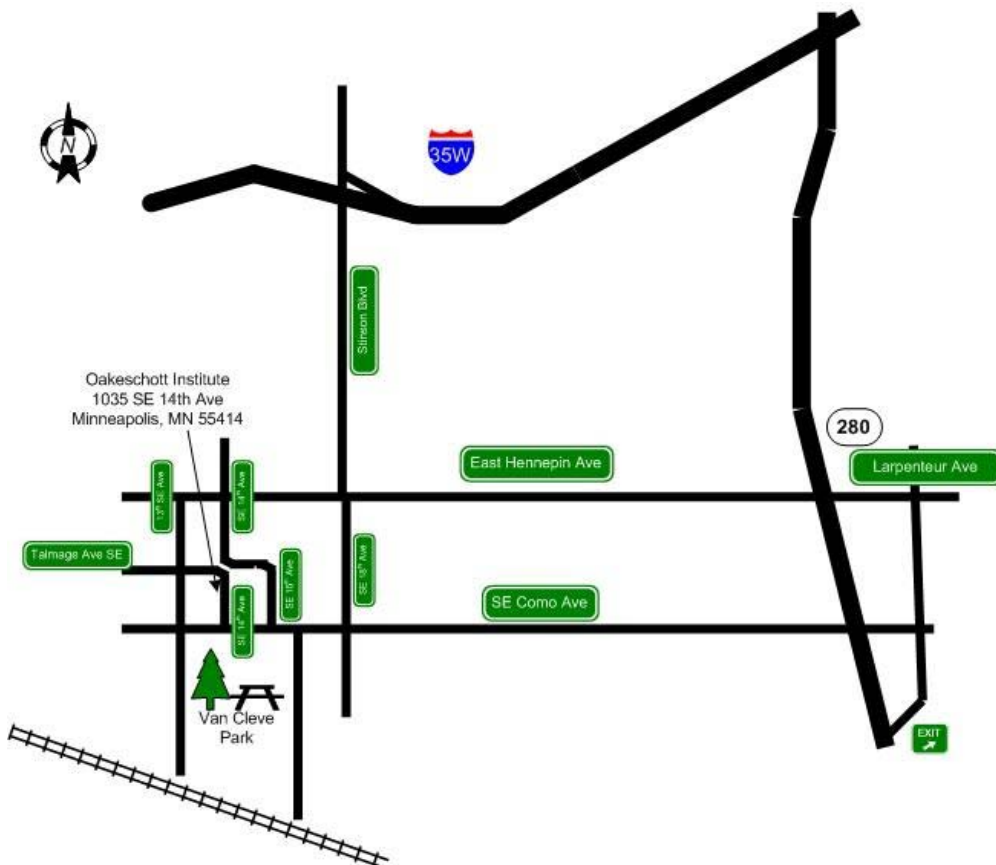
The April 11 membership meeting will be a presentation by Tom Sanders, a Guild member, who was instrumental in developing the interpretive program at the Historic Fort Snelling blacksmith shop.

In the 1970s an archeological dig was done and many artifacts were discovered in the blacksmiths shop. Tom was then part of the five year project to analyze what was found and begin to tell the story of who those soldier blacksmiths were, how the shop was set up, and what was made.

Tom has a background in archeology and blacksmithing, specializing in ancient technologies with a focus on native Americans and early American immigrants. He will share with us what was discovered at the Fort Snelling blacksmith's shop and what we can learn from what was found.

We'll gather for this meeting at **Oakeshott Institute** at 1035 SE 14th Avenue in Minneapolis (map below) for our traditional potluck supper at 6:30 pm. The business meeting follows, and then sit back to listen to Tom Sanders share what was learned during the five-year archeological dig. Should be fascinating, people! Susan Wood, meeting champion, suggests we all wear warm clothing, as the heat may not be turned on in the building. Visit the Fort Snelling website here:

<http://www.historicfortsnelling.org/>



TGoM Forum soon to be paperless!

Hey, the Guild is going paperless with The Forum by September. If you are currently not getting the monthly email when each new issue of The Forum comes out, then get an email address in to Gordon Barr (agbarr@aol.com) so that you can stay connected with the Guild. These email notices include the link to the Guild's website <http://metalsmith.org/> where you can download the latest issue...or any past issues, for that matter. Its easy!

Try to send Gordon your email address soon so you can ensure there are no problems.

Forum deadline for May: Monday, April 16, 2012

The deadline for The Forum is always the third Monday of the month. If you have activities that will be occurring in the next few months and wish to have them published in the next Forum, please send them by Monday, April 16, 2012 to Georgia Myers, editor, by email to:

gldmyers@embarqmail.com

or mail them to:

Georgia Myers
413 W Dakota St
Lake City MN 55041

Our neighborhood of smiths

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Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Brad Hegge

715-983-2131

heggeco@trivest.net

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:

Norm Groehler, President, 715-399-8151

normanwgroehler@centurytel.net

Jim Sage, Vice President, 218-525-7265

sageforge@cs.com

Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths

The NMM meetings are the first Monday of the month, often, but not always, at Keith Johnson's shop in Bemidji. Contact Keith for monthly specifics at keith@greatriverforge.com. The Northern Minn. Metalsmith's website is www.nmmetalsmiths.org

Note: The NMM Spring Conference is April 28 & 29 near Park Rapids. Contact Keith for details and registration information.

Central Minnesota Blacksmiths (CMB)

Meet on the first Monday of each month

Pot Luck 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

Welcome, New Members!

Dave Barlow, Maple Grove, MN
Sean Otto, Woodbury, MN
Karen Marchese, St Croix Falls, WI
Matt Hartman, BellePlain, MN
Emmett Cassidy, Hastings, MN

Lecture: Learn how actual 1790 automaton was restored

The "Draughtsman-Writer" built by Henri Maillardet in 1790

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, an automaton is:

"A mechanism that is relatively self-operating.

"A machine or control mechanism designed to follow automatically a predetermined sequence of operations or respond to encoded instructions."

If you have heard about or seen the academy award nominated movie *Hugo*, the mechanical figure in the movie is based on an actual automaton built by Henri Maillardet in about 1790. In 2007 this automaton was restored to working order by Andrew Baron, a designer and restorer of vintage mechanisms. The Minnesota Clockmakers Guild is co-sponsoring a lecture by Mr. Baron detailing the process and issues involved in the restoration of this complex piece of machinery. Pencil in the evening of Friday, May 4, 2012 to join us for a most interesting presentation. **One Night Only, May 4, 7PM.** \$10.00 general admission. Children 12 and younger free.

Hopkins High School

2400 Lindberg Drive

Minnetonka, MN 55305.

Contact TGoM member Susan Wood with questions 612 727 1752.

For more information: www.mwca.us/automaton

Sponsored by the Midwest Watch and Clock Association and the Minnesota Clockmakers Guild

For a quick look, go to the website of the Franklin Institute Science Museum, who owns the automaton at: www.fi.edu/pieces/knox/automaton/home.htm



Maillardet's automaton has one of the largest "memory" of any such machine.

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.

Agenda – THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors meeting–March 14, 2012

Held at: Danish American Center, 3030 West River Parkway, Minneapolis. CALL TO ORDER: 7:10 pm by Al Olson

Members in attendance: Olson, Frattalone, Rand, Moenck, Sigurdson, Barr, Hicks, Pansch, Ponder, Murray

Missing: Wessling

Rob Murray requests the floor to make an announcement that he is resigning from the board due to his new job which is second shift. The resignation is immediate and Rob excused himself from the remainder of the meeting. We wish him well.

AMENDMENT / APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES: Motion to accept by Pansch, second by Hicks. Motion passes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: Chair-Frattalone

CHECKING/SAVINGS	29,341 (UP 11,233 FROM 3-9-11)
REMAINING GRANTS	5,334 (UP 3,259 FROM 3-9-11)
DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE	24,007 (UP 7,974 FROM 3-9-11)

EXPENSES SINCE LAST BOARD MEETING ON 1-11-12:

METALSMITH	1,629
FORUMS (2 EACH)	397
MN SALES & USE TAX	848
WORKSHOPS	500
MEMORIALS	85
WEBSITE HOSTING RENEWAL	137
TRAILER TABS	22
OFFICE SUPPLIES	45
DUES OVERPAY REFUND	5
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,668
TOTAL DEPOSITS	2,063

MEMBERS 316 (UP 23 FROM 3-9-11)
COAL 26.6 TONS REMAINING

Education Committee report: Chair -Pansch, Vice Chair-Moenck

Knife class and anvil class are on. Beaver trap class is cancelled due to lack of interest. We are looking for guest demonstrators to host pre-conference workshops for 2012. Search will include looking into more technical /higher skill level topics for classes. Planning the 2013 calendar began; Beginner A & B sessions will be consecutive weekends, not every other. Possible tong class and gas forge classes.

Program Committee: Chair-Hicks

All is ready for the April member meeting at Oakeshotte. Continued outreach to learn what classes the members would like to have offered. June meeting at Little Log House threshing grounds. Dave Gavin has offered to demonstrate. August meeting at Dan Pate's with possible demo on forged animal heads. Fick to cook tasty pig again. CSPS hall rented for Sunday Dec. 2. Generated a 'boiler plate' of the contract used yearly for demonstrators.

Publicity Committee: Chair-Sigurdson, Vice Chair-Rand

More submissions to the Metalsmith please. Moving on plans to increase use of our website;possible interface to upload members images and text to the gallery and a new Bellows. Café Press store front nearly ready to launch.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

M. Hanson & R. Carlson talking to Steve Bauer about making the demonstrator building a full time/ equipped blacksmith shop for TGOM to host classes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Rob Murry resigns , see above. Discuss potential candidates that can fill his shoes.
- Review the Statement Of Work Proposal from web designer Craig Johnson. Next phase of website; New Bellows-discussion forum, create a Member List Database and training for people to manage it, enhanced Events Calendar. 20 hours @ \$25 =\$1000. Motion by Sigurdson to accept the Work Proposal, second by Hicks. Motion passes.
- Motion by Ponder to make Sept. 2012 the last paper copy of the Forum to mail, electronic only, second by Pansch. Motion passes w/ o dissent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Hicks just received an Artist Initiative Grant from the MN State Arts Board. Of 700+ applicants, he was one of about 173 awarded. Congratulations Marty!

Feeling hungry? . . . and the chocolate and nuts of a Snickers bar just isn't cutting it. Grab a Ponder Barr ;-) Its packed with the POWER of two great men that will keep you hammering all day long.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:10 pm, Motion by Ponder , second Barr, accepted without dissent.

Oxy Fuel Welding Workshop

Saturday & Sunday, May 5 and 6, 2012

9 AM to 4 PM each day

Registration: \$90 per person

Instructors: Myron Hanson and Bill Krawzewski

Held at Myron Hanson's shop in Eagan, MN (see map)

This course covers oxy fuel welding with an introduction to cutting and straightening. You should bring normal gear and safety equipment, and each student will be contacted on what else to bring.

The class runs two days and is limited to eight (8) participants. Cost is \$90 for the two-day class. Meals are available in the area, or bring your own lunch.

To reserve a spot at this Oxy Fuel Welding Class, send a check for \$90 payable to **Guild of Metalsmiths** to:

Jim Moenck

661 Dorland Road S

Maplewood, MN 55119

Email: jrmoenck@yahoo.com

Phone: 651-735-4461

1 Myron Hanson

Take I 494 to Dodd Rd/ MN 149 exit and go South, turn left onto MN 55 and turn right back onto MN 149.

Continue South to the sign that says Dodd Road and points right.

Turn right, cross the tracks and make an immediate left turn onto Dodd Road.

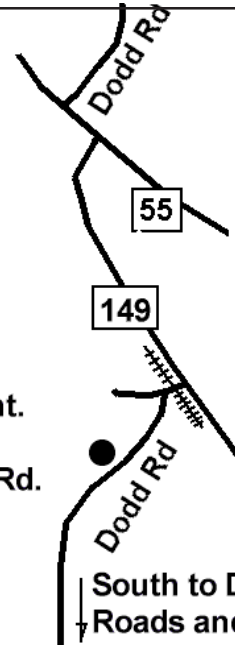
Myron's house is about .7 mi on the right.

Coming North on Dodd Rd from Cliff Rd its about 1.8 mi (~.75 mi North of Diffley Rd.

4015 Dodd Rd

Eagan, MN 55123-1612

Home phone: 651-454-3984



Hammer-Making Workshop

Date: Saturday, May 12, 2012

Time: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Instructor: Dick Carlson

Cost: \$45

Class size: 10

Location: Dick Carlson's Flint Lock Ridge Forge, Hastings, MN (map below)

Students should bring their favorite hammer.

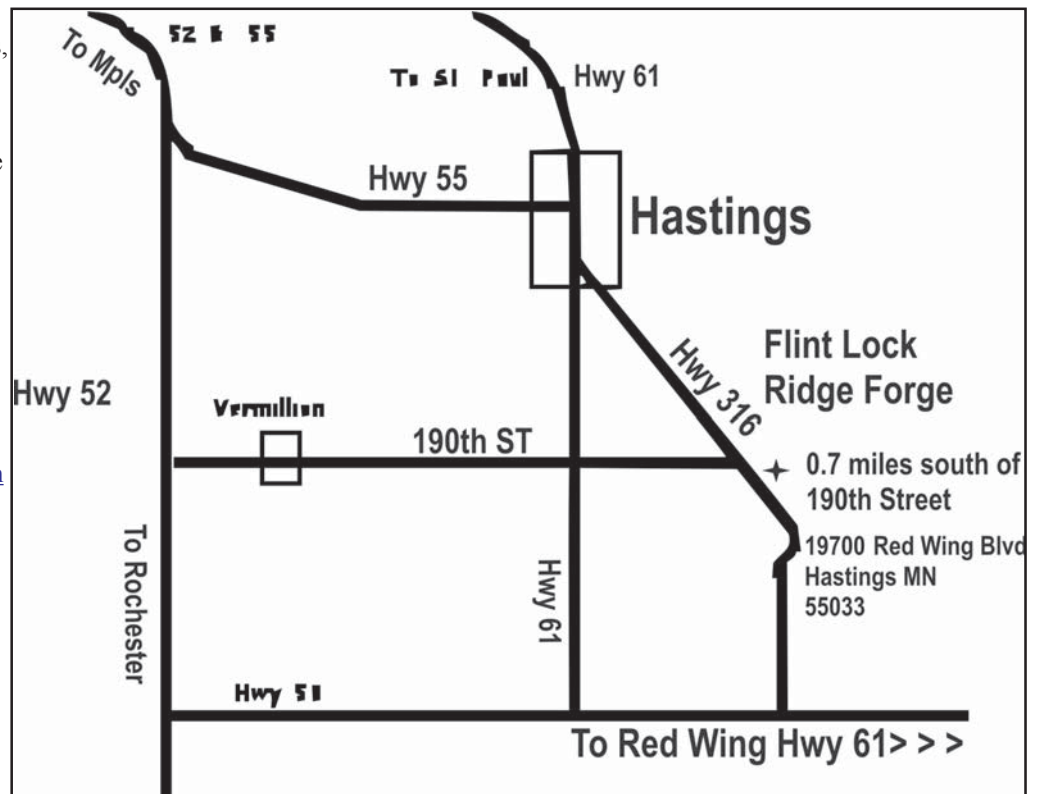
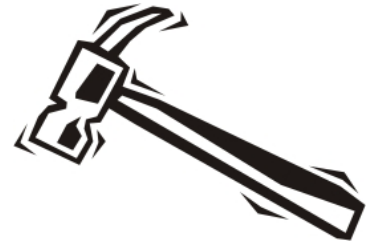
Safety glasses and ear plugs are mandatory. Other safety equipment should include gloves, leather apron (optional), cotton clothing, leather shoes.

Coffee and cookies will be available in the morning. Bring a bag lunch, or restaurants are also nearby in Hastings.

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

Dick Carlson
19700 Red Wing Blvd
Hastings MN 55033

Include your name, address, phone number, and email address. Contact Dick at 651-437-3329 or email blacksmith@onlinecarlson.com



Poor man's (or woman's) anvil workshop

Date: May 19 starting at 9:00 am

Instructor: Martin Pansch, 612-599-4762 blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com

Class fee: \$25

Max size: 6 students

Location: Martin Pansch's farm



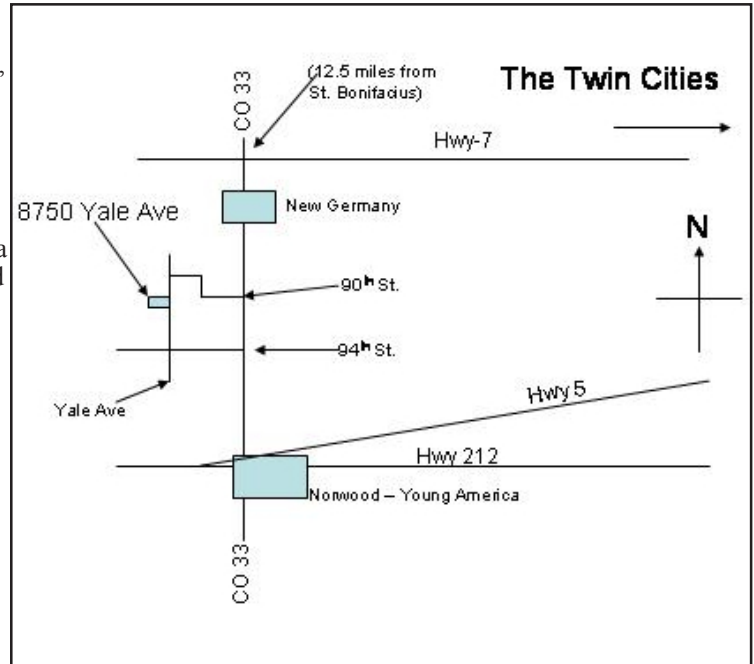
It doesn't take much to get started in blacksmithing. A bit of fire, a hammer, and an anvil. New smiths often get hung up on getting a "real" anvil, but for centuries master works were made on anvils that were little more than a lump of steel. In this workshop participants will cut and grind some salvaged steel pieces into a small, serviceable anvil. Everyone should leave with something suitable to start pounding hot steel on. If you stay in blacksmithing long enough you will almost certainly want to upgrade to a better anvil eventually, but if you are on a tight budget or aren't yet sure about your future in smithing, it is a good start. This workshop is intended for beginning smiths, so there are no prerequisite skills needed. If we finish ahead of schedule we might either try to make stands for your new anvils, or make hardies, or just fire up some forges and putter on whatever you would like to work on.

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

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.

To register, send a check for \$25 made out to The Guild of Metalsmiths and include your name, address, phone number and email address to:

Martin Pansch
8750 Yale Avenue
Young America, MN 55397
(612) 599-4762
blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com



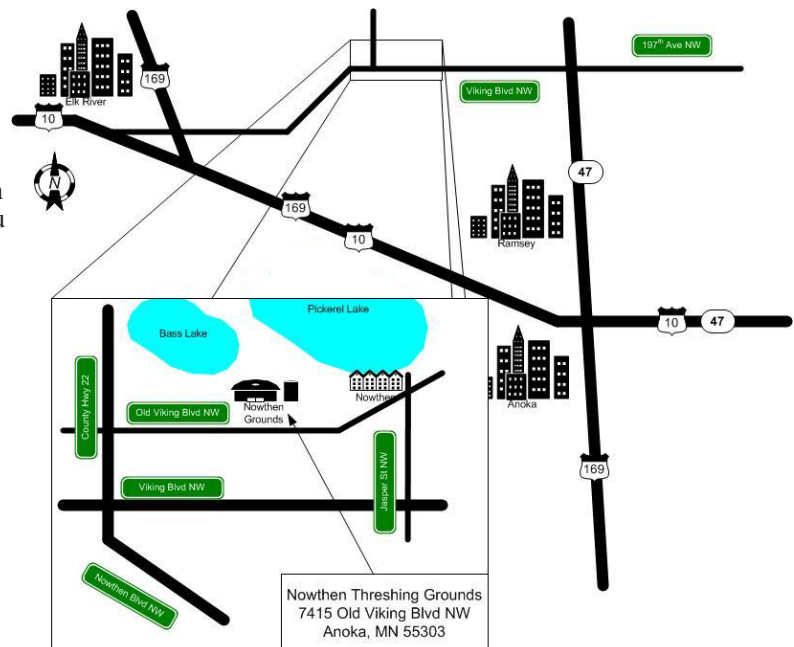
It's time for 7GoM's Spring 2012 Hammer-In June 1, 2, & 3!

The annual Spring Hammer-in at the Nowthen Historical Power Association Blacksmith Shop is on for this year. Come and hang out with a bunch of your friends and share/learn some new skills. Bring your own tools if you have them. Bring your own steel, scrap pieces ok.

This year we will have some demonstrations on making different bottle openers. If you have some cool techniques or design related to making a bottle openers you would like to demo, or if you have any questions about the Hammer-in, contact: Larry Wasmund 507-469-0205 or Poundedtreasures@gmail.com

There is no charge to participate in this event. The Nowthen Power Show grounds are located at 7415 Old Viking Blvd, Nowthen, Minnesota. (See map)

- ◆ Camping on-site is available Friday night and Saturday night on primitive sites
- ◆ Five forges are open for use
- ◆ Coal will be provided
- ◆ Beginners welcome
- ◆ Port-a-potties on site



TGoM Intro to Bladesmithing Class - full as of 3/22/12 with 1 on the waiting list

Dates: April 21 and May 5 (2-day class)

Instructor: Paul Widenhoefer

The is a two-day class. The first day will be April 21 at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, and the second day will be May 5 at the shop of Nick Heinen at 220 Monroe Street North, North Hudson, WI. See the calendar on TGoM's website for full description, maps, and directions for this 2-day class.



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 class registration:

Carol and John Adams, 507-289-4189 or 507-289-5246

Email: jc-adams@msn.com;

Website: www.tunnelmillcrafts.com

2012 Classes...

Tinsmithing, Kitty Latane', April 21 and April 22 (two one-day classes)

Come to Tunnel Mill and learn a century-old craft, Tinsmithing with Kitty Latane' from Pepin, Wisc. \$65.00 per day plus \$15.00 material cost. Limit of 10 students. Class 9am to 5pm. Bring sack lunch.

Seventeenth Century Battle Axe or Hewing Hatchet, Tom Latane', May 11, 12, & 13 (addtl. dates)

Note: April 20, 21, & 22 class has filled. Additional class May 11, 12, 13. Students will forge an axe with a tapered rectangular eye socket.

Crucifix Making Workshop, Bob Fredell, June 2 & 3

A number of years ago Bob saw Bernard Heer, a former Guild of Metalsmiths member who apprenticed in Switzerland, forge a crucifix. Having now made several himself, Bob now wants to share with others the making of a crucifix using this specific process.

Cage Head Brace, Peter Ross, June 4, 5 and 6

The cage head brace is a traditional alternative to the more fragile wooden head braces found in many old carpenter's chests. In this class we will make an iron cage head brace you will be proud to use in your smith's shop or wood shop for years to come.

Scissors Project, Peter Ross, June 8, 9, and 10

Students in this class will make a pair of scissors based on 18th century examples.

Peter Ross is the legendary master metalsmith who spent 21 years as "master of the shop" at Colonial Williamsburg. Visit his website at <http://peterrossblacksmith.com/>

NOTE: We have had quite of alot of interest in Tom Latane' and Peter Ross classes. Be sure to contact us and register if interested in a class, to secure your spot. **To see full descriptions of these classes and accompanying photos, visit the Tunnel Mill website at:**

<http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/Calendar/Calendar.htm>

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Goings on...



A calendar of TGoM events at a glance

- Education Committee meetings are the last Wednesday of each month.
- 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 April, 2012

- April 11, Guild membership meeting at Oakeshott Institute in Minneapolis, MN.
- April 21, 1st day Bladesmithing Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- April 28, Forging a Beaver Trap class, part two. MN School of Horseshoeing--CLASS CANCELLED!
- April 28 & 29, Northern MN Metalsmiths conference at LIRPF Steam Show grounds 27 miles north of Park Rapids

Events in May, 2012

- May 5, 2nd day Bladesmithing Class, Nick Heinen's shop in North Hudson, WI
- May 5 & 6, Oxy Fuel Welding Class, Myron Hanson's studio, Eagan, MN
- May 9, Guild board meeting
- May 12, Hammer-Making Workshop, Dick Carlson's Flint Rock Ridge Forge, Hastings, MN
- May 19, Poor Man's (or Woman's) Anvil Class at Martin Pansch's farm

Events in June, 2012

- June 1, 2, 3, TGoM Spring Hammer-in at Nowthen grounds
- June 13, June membership meeting at Little Log House show grounds

ELECTRONIC FORUM

If you have not been receiving an email notification that The Forum is available, these may be the reasons:

1. We do not have your correct email address.
2. Your SPAM filter is not letting the following email address thru: Your GOM Forum is ready@mail.vresp.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

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in the directory
but don't list
address - phones: home - work - fax - cell - email - web page
(circle items above you DO NOT want published)

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(optional items)
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Address Service Requested

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

April 2012

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Join The Bellows, our email discussion forum.
Information at:
<http://www.metalsmith.org/bb/TheBellows.htm>

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.

The Guild of Metalsmiths on the web:

Visit our website at <http://www.metalsmith.org>

Looking for something? Try the search engine. On our main page, just below the index table, click on “Search this Site,” and enter your query.

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