

The Forum

June 2012



Vol. 14, No. 6

Learn all about the art of 'Mokume gane' on June 13 at Little Log House show grounds

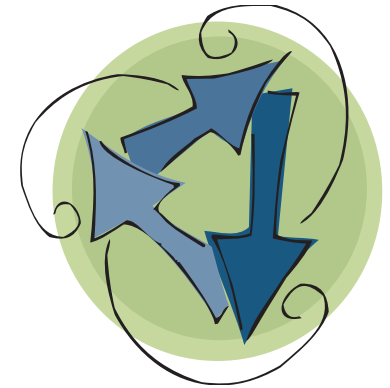
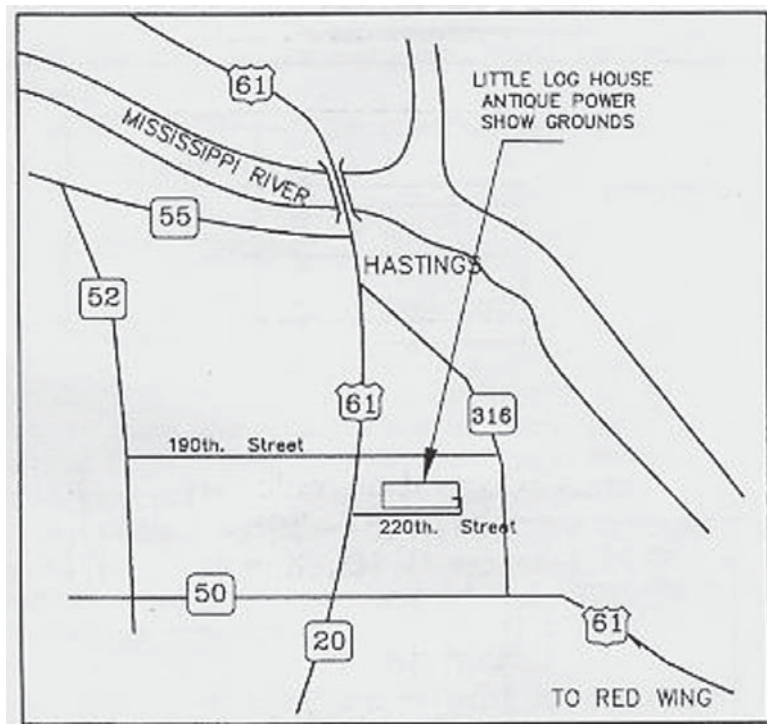
Be sure to reserve on your calendar the date of Wednesday, June 13 to join your Guild of Metalsmiths family at the Little Log House show grounds in Hastings. Potluck starts at 6:30 pm, with business meeting to follow at 7. Many of us have been to the Little Log House many times, but for those who haven't, see map below. You'll be impressed!

We'll meet at the pavillion on the grounds, and we can also enjoy the opportunity to view the stunningly vivid colors in the flower gardens there.

Long-time Guild member Dave Gavin has volunteered to show us how he creates items by using a unique method called "Mokume gane." Traditionally, Mokume is the joining of two or more precious or semi-precious metals. Dave will be demonstrating "money" Mokume, in which he makes jewelry from U.S. coins in a quarter denomination. Quarters contain silver, copper, and other metals. He will show the process and the tools he uses for the making of the "money" Mokume. He will weld them together, then draw them out, twist, flatten, and possibly make a finished piece. The photo illustrates a Mokume piece created by Dave.



See you June 13 at the Little Log House!



Reminder: 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 in living color...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 July: Monday, June 18, 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, June 18, 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

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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:

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

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

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

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!

Tinsmithing class opportunity in New York

Eastfield Village in New York near the Massachusetts border is a folk school venue. They sponsor a wealth of classes in traditional trades and domestic arts throughout the summer. The Village was created in 1971 by Don Carpentier, who first opened a blacksmith shop on the Village property. Go to <http://www.greatamericancraftsmen.org/index.html> for more details. Kitty Latane plans to take their Tinsmithing I class which is scheduled for June 4-8. She would be interested in carpooling if anyone else is interested in attending. Contact her at tlatane@centurytel.com

Feterl Shop Equipment & Estate Auction

Barb Feterl is having an auction of Dave's shop equipment on June 2. This is all of Dave's fabrication equipment and supplies and not his specific blacksmithing tools. Dave did a lot of welding and fabricating (trailers for gas powered welding machines), so he had drill presses, iron worker, crane, steel, saws, grinders, several welders, hand tools, etc. His blacksmithing tools will be determined at a later date. The address of his shop and auction is: 20953 416th Ave, Iroquois, SD 57353 That's about 15 miles east of Huron, SD.

Annual iron pour in Decorah, IA

The 9th annual "Down on the Farm" iron pour is a gathering of community with national artists who will help teach the process of cast iron sculpture. Included will be workshops in pattern making and sand molding. It's being held near Decorah, Iowa on June 20, 21, and 22. Address is 1421 200th St, in the rural farm setting of Roger Ludeking. Lodging and food will be available. Contact Kelly at krlmetals@yahoo.com, or phone 608-772-7369 or 563-382-4974.

Demonstrator opportunity in St. Joseph MN

I am a volunteer on the planning committee for Millstream Arts Festival in St. Joseph, MN (up by St. Cloud). We are gearing up for our Sept. 30 show and are in need of at least 2 or 3 iron/metalsmiths to exhibit and sell their wares. Booth fees are very reasonable. Applications and more information can be found at our website: millstreamartsfestival.org or email me with questions.

Mary Niedenfuer

millstream@millstreamartsfestival.org

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.

Warming by the forge...



Another month has come and gone, and the planning is always going on. The June 13 meeting is coming up quickly at the Little Log House show grounds in Hasting. Should be fun watching Mr. Gavin do his thing with quarters as well as other possible discussions about Mokume.

In July the ABANA gathering in South Dakota promises lots of info/fun to those who can make it.

The August 8 corn feed is much anticipated, and there were some discussions about a sheet metal demo there.

Then the big event is the fall conference September 14, 15 and 16. Some details are still being worked out, but everything is coming together, and it should be a great event again. The broom making class looks to be happening again, and the book dealer will be there. We might have the sheath making class as well. My wifem Asam will be giving a demonstration on Saturday as part of the family activities, showing soldering nonferrous rings, sizing texturing and a stone setting. Details will be in the brochure. The notice flyer is complete and the brochure is being finalized as we speak, working to make sure all interested affiliated groups get the notice in time for their members to make plans if interested. Still trying to get specifics about what the demonstrators might be demonstrating but all looks to be very interesting. Nothing specifically new, but getting down the proverbial brass tacks of the event. The meal costs will go up a little this year, but the event costs will stay the same (just restating).

In October we are back at the Jackson Street Roundhouse for some fun info about jigs and fixtures (which is which?). While we are there we can view the results of continued efforts of member volunteers at the round house.

— *Warming by the forge, Derrick Phillips*

Press Release...



New online store available to order TGoM merchandise

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 whole lot better if my mug had the logo of my favorite metalworking 503C organization?” Have you ever wanted your glass to declare to the world your interest in mashing hot metal as well as drinking beer? Well, friends, now you can do something about it.

The Guild has opened a “store” on Café Press. Café Press is a website where you can set up your design 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 just make things available to anyone who wants them. 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 Chris Rand made and donated to the Guild. 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.

Enough virtual flapping my gums. Any questions or suggestions for improvements, please let me know. Here’s the link:

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

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



Note: you'll find this link on the home page of our website also, second item under "Announcements"!

Fellow Members,

Have received the April Forum in high tech fashion half a world away while deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan for the last time of my career. It is one of those very welcome pieces of mail (or email) that reminds me that there are still sane lifestyles on this earth.

Thanks and best regards,

Jim Ricci

(James Ricci, 133 Airlift Wing, Minnesota National Guard)

FELLOW MEMBERS,

HAVE RECEIVED THE APRIL FORUM IN HIGH TECH FASHION HALF A WORLD AWAY WHILE DEPLOYED TO BAGRAM AIR BASE, AFGHANISTAN FOR THE LAST TIME OF MY CAREER. IT IS ONE OF THOSE VERY WELCOME PIECES OF MAIL (OR EMAIL) THAT REMINDS ME THAT THERE ARE STILL SANE LIFESTYLES ON THIS EARTH.

THANKS & BEST REGARDS

Jim Ricci

Fall Conference 'Tickler'

Pre-Conference Workshop features forge welding with a leading blacksmith!

This fall don't miss a rare opportunity to learn forge welding from a recognized expert in the field, Bob Patrick. During the two days prior to the Guild's 35th Annual Fall Conference, 13-14 September, Bob will be teaching students more than you would think possible on forge welding.

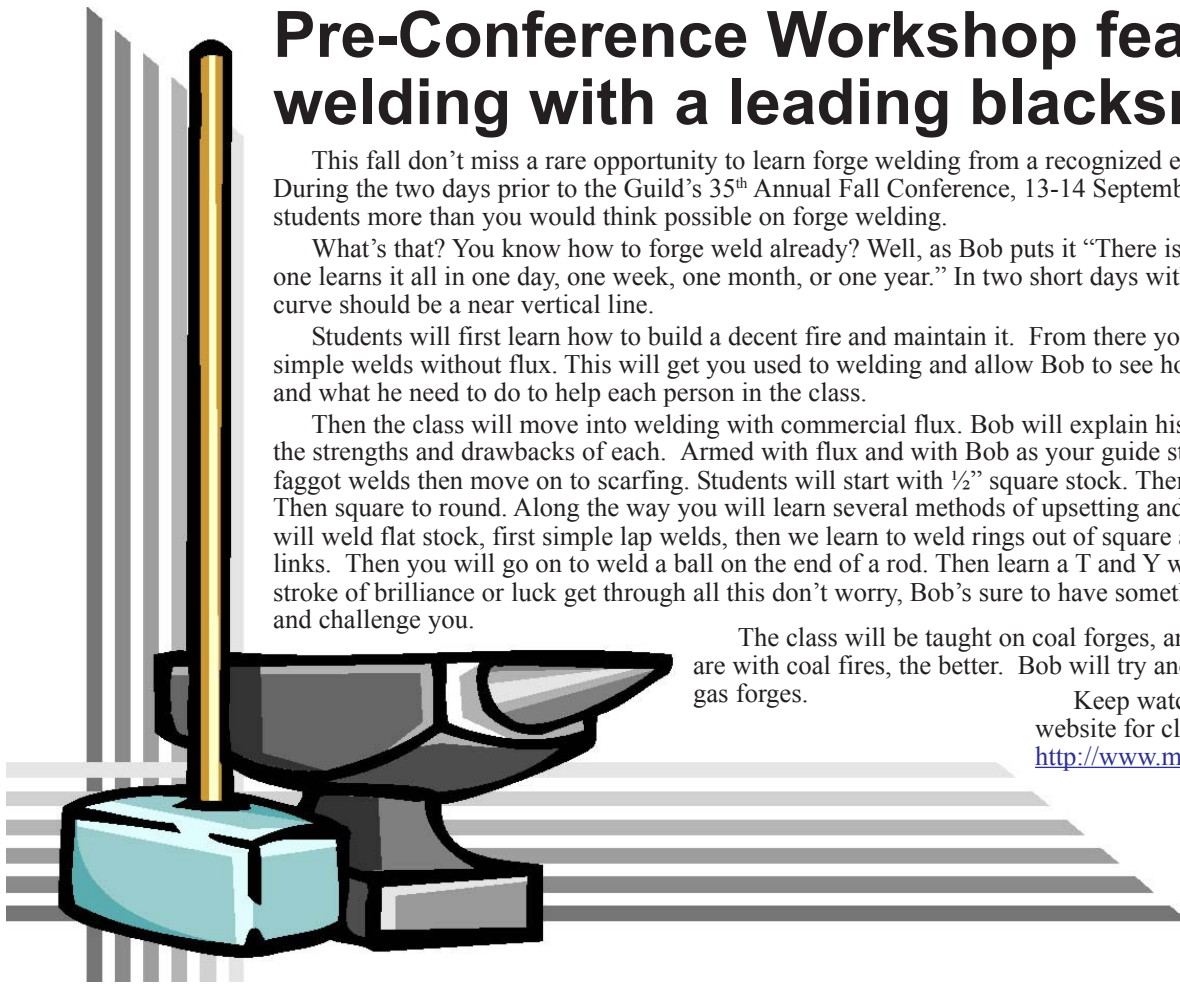
What's that? You know how to forge weld already? Well, as Bob puts it "There is a lot to learn in welding and no one learns it all in one day, one week, one month, or one year." In two short days with Bob Patrick your learning curve should be a near vertical line.

Students will first learn how to build a decent fire and maintain it. From there you will move on to welding simple welds without flux. This will get you used to welding and allow Bob to see how everyone maintains their fire and what he need to do to help each person in the class.

Then the class will move into welding with commercial flux. Bob will explain his thoughts on fluxes, including the strengths and drawbacks of each. Armed with flux and with Bob as your guide students will start with unscarfed faggot welds then move on to scarfing. Students will start with 1/2" square stock. Then moving on to 3/8" round. Then square to round. Along the way you will learn several methods of upsetting and when to use them. Next you will weld flat stock, first simple lap welds, then we learn to weld rings out of square and flat, and learn to weld chain links. Then you will go on to weld a ball on the end of a rod. Then learn a T and Y weld. If you, through some stroke of brilliance or luck get through all this don't worry, Bob's sure to have something in his bag of tricks to teach and challenge you.

The class will be taught on coal forges, and the more experienced people are with coal fires, the better. Bob will try and cover information welding in gas forges.

Keep watching The Forum and the Guild website for class registration opportunities:
<http://www.metalsmith.org>



ABANA Conference coming up July 18-21!

The Guild of Metalsmiths is an affiliate of ABANA--Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc. The ABANA national conference is scheduled for July 18-21 in Rapid City, South Dakota. "Reunion on the Great Plains" promises to provide you with a treasure trove of information

related to all types of metal art. It also promises to provide a variety of activities for family members. For full details and to learn how to register, go to

<http://www.abana.org/Conferences/2012Conference.shtml>

Registration must be completed by June 20 to avoid a late fee.



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

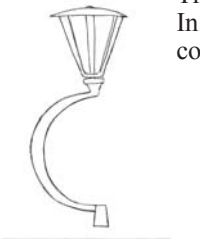
2012 Classes...

Crucifix Workshop, Bob Fredell, June 2 & 3



Bob Fredell, former Guild President and a firm believer in blacksmith education, will be teaching a Crucifix workshop at Tunnel Mill, June 2 & 3. Keeping with Bob's beliefs, he has volunteered to do this class at Tunnel Mill for a nominal fee, and so we are able to offer this 2-day class (food and lodging included for one night's stay) for the fee of \$135. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make this beautiful 1-piece crucifix originally taught by Bernard Heer. The 18" tall crucifix is made with one continuous piece of steel from the crown of thorns down and up to the three tips of the cross.

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/>

Hammer Class, Nathan Robertson, August 4

Nathan Robertson will come to Tunnel Mill on August 4 with choices from 1/2# to 2 1/2# stock (requests for larger stock accepted) many different styles also available. Nathan will demonstrate and guide us through making your own heat treated hammer. You will leave with a new complete heat treated hammer of your choice.

Class runs from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Cost is \$65.00 for the class including lunch.

To see full descriptions of these classes, 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 June, 2012

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

Events in July, 2012

- July 11, Guild board meeting
- July 18-21, ABANA Conference, Rapid City, SD
- July 27, 28, 29, Little Log House Antique Power Show, Hastings, MN, demonstrator opp.

Events in August, 2012

- Aug. 8, Guild membership meeting, Dan Pate's farm
- Aug. 10, 11, 12, Almelund Threshing Show, demonstrator opp.
- Aug. 17, 18, 19, Nowthen Threshing Show, demonstrator opp.

Events in September, 2012

- Sept. 12, Guild board meeting
- Sept. 13-14, Pre-Conference Workshop, Little Log House, Hastings, MN
- Sept. 14, 15, 16, Fall Conference "Madness", Little Log House, Hastings, MN

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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Address Service Requested

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

June 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