

# The Forum



June 2013

Vol. 15, No. 6

## Join the fun and fellowship at the next Guild meeting on June 12

To all TGoM members and guests and prospective members: The June 12 meeting is championed by Susan Wood, and will be held at Cliff Larsen's (the cook's) farm, 18190 Fischer Ave. Hastings 55033. Phone is 651 437 2124 or cell is 651 338 9747.

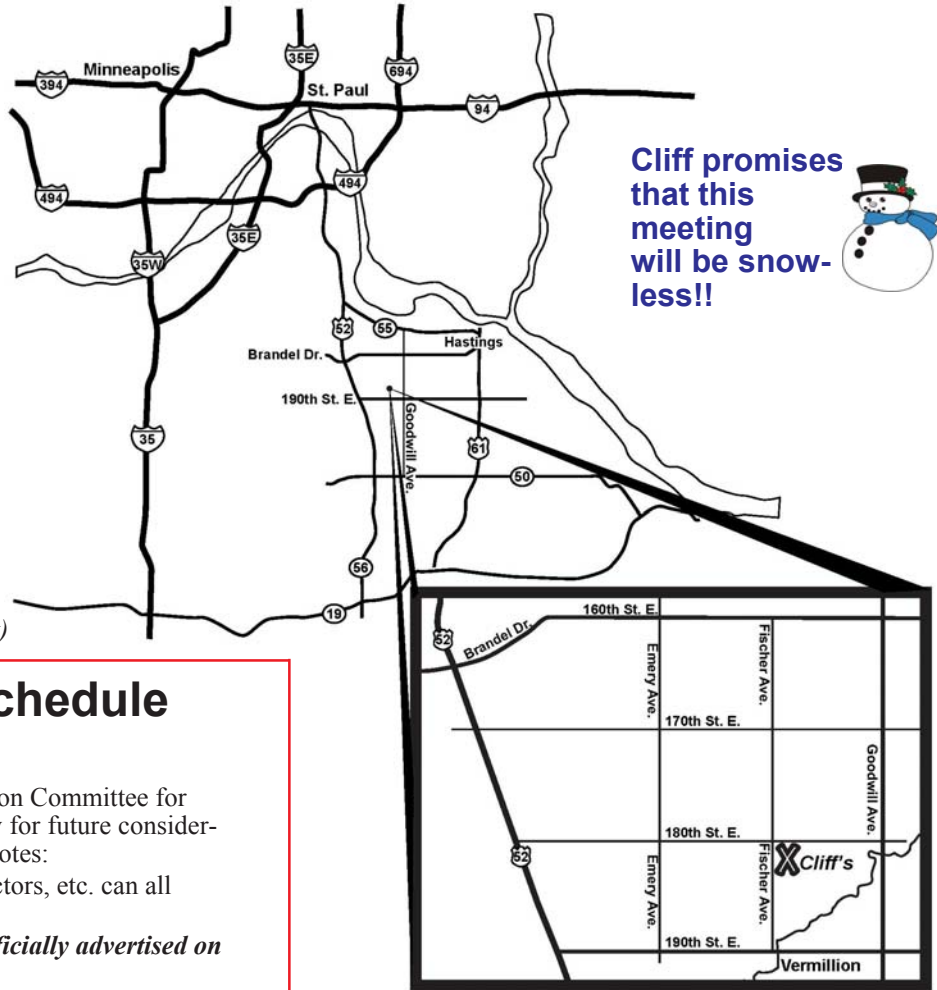
To get there from the north, go south on Highway 52 to 190th St, turn left or east two miles to Fischer Ave., then left a half mile north to the farm on Fischer Ave., just north of the small town of Vermillion. The farm is just past the gravel pit.

Tail gaters are welcome; bring your stuff to sell. There's lots of room. Also don't forget your show and tell items.

Jesse and Dave Gavin will have a demo on striking, with "play by play" commentary by Herb Fick. Cliff will have some forges set up, so come early and make something. He'll also set up his BBQ cooker, and will be cooking some chicken. Don't forget a dish to pass. Bring your significant other and have a great time.

Cliff is looking forward to this meeting. "I have never done this before, and I want you to have a great time here. See you at the farm!"

— Cliff Larsen (the cook)



## Tentative TGoM training schedule for 2013-2014

Below is an early schedule drawn up by the Education Committee for upcoming 2013-2014 classes. Mark your calendars now for future considerations. Committee chair Martin Pansch includes these notes:

- The calendar is tentative. Days, classes, instructors, etc. can all change.
- **No one can sign up for any class until it is officially advertised on The Forum**
- While currently non-Guild members can sign up for classes, Guild members take precedent. This means non-Guild members can get bumped from their seat in a class by a Guild member. Membership has its privileges.

### 2013

Sept. 14	Instructor Workshop	Rick Wassling	Jan. 25	Beginning Blacksmithing B4	Gordon Barr
Sept. 19-20	Pre-Conference Class	Mark Pearce	Feb. 8	Beginning Blacksmithing C1	Roland Sigurdson
Oct. 12	Beginning Blacksmithing A1	Al Lindholm	Feb. 14	Gas Forge Workshop	Jim Moenck
Oct. 19	Beginning Blacksmithing A2	Al Lindholm	Feb. 22	Beginning Blacksmithing C2	Roland Sigurdson
Oct. 26	Beginning Blacksmithing A3	Al Lindholm	March 8	Beginning Blacksmithing C3	Roland Sigurdson
Nov. 2	Beginning Blacksmithing A4	Al Lindholm	March 22	Beginning Blacksmithing C4	Roland Sigurdson
Nov. 2	Silver Wire Inlay	Tom Latane'	April 5, 2014	Poor Man's Forge	Martin Pansch
Dec. 7	Poz Tongs	Darryl Ponder	April 18,19,20	Guest Instructor	TBD
Dec. 14	Struck Tools	Jesse Gavin	May 3, 2014	Hammer Making	Moenck, Philips, Brown, Olivo, Pansch
<b>2014</b>					
Jan. 4	Beginning Blacksmithing B1	Gordon Barr	May 17, 18, 2014	American-Style Hatchet	Tom Sanders
Jan. 11	Beginning Blacksmithing B2	Gordon Barr	June 7, 8, 2014	Hammer-In	Larry Wasmund
Jan. 18	Beginning Blacksmithing B3	Gordon Barr			

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

### Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Jim Tweet  
715-557-5236

Newsletter editor: John Grump  
715-835-0894

[jtweet01@yahoo.com](mailto:jtweet01@yahoo.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 meetings are the first Monday of the month, often, but not always, at Keith Johnson's shop in Bemidji. Contact Keith for 320-monthly specifics at [keith@greatriverforge.com](mailto:keith@greatriverforge.com). The Northern Minn. Metalsmith'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. Contacts are:

President: Ken Zitur  
1-320-746-2557

[ken@kensiron.com](mailto:ken@kensiron.com)

Brian Johnson  
16777 Co Rd 75 NW  
Clearwater MN 55367  
1-320-558-6898

## New Members, June 2013

James Wagner, Bayport, MN

JC Banks, Creede, CO

### ABANA Announcement:

#### Then and Now: Metal Museum Apprentices

On View June 14 - September 8

The Metal Museum is pleased to present Metal Museum Apprentices, Then and Now on view from June 14 through September 8. Former apprentices from our metals shop will show recent work alongside work from their time at the Metal Museum. It's a rare chance to see direct connections between our metals shop and our galleries as we celebrate the history and influence of the apprenticeship program.

Open: Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm and Sunday, noon - 5 pm.

374 Metal Museum Drive

Memphis, TN 38106

For more information, call 901-774-6380 or visit

[www.metalmuseum.org](http://www.metalmuseum.org)

### ABANA announcement:

#### Adirondack Folk School First Annual Adirondack Forge and Hammer Week

August 10-18, 2013

Does the idea of hand-forging your own tools, hardware and decorative items sound like fun? Whether you've tried blacksmithing before or it's completely new to you, there is no better time to explore the craft than at the Adirondack Folk School's first annual Adirondack Forge and Hammer Week.

This event will be held at the Adirondack Folk School from August 10 to 18, 2013. Come work side by side with some of the most well-known and talented smiths in the nation such as Mark Aspery, Lucian Avery, Steve Joslyn and Michael McCarthy.

Are you an experienced smith or someone who has always wanted to give blacksmithing a try? You'll find a class to suit your skill level during this weeklong blacksmithing event. Choose from classes, free demonstrations and lectures to broaden your knowledge of blacksmithing.

The Adirondack Folk School teaches the traditional arts, crafts, and culture of the Adirondacks in a hands-on, non-competitive learning environment.

Visit the Adirondack Folk School online at [www.adirondackfolkschool.org](http://www.adirondackfolkschool.org), on Facebook, or call the school for more information at (518) 696-2400.

### Use TGoM's website as tool to keep informed!

The Guild of Metalsmiths maintains our own website, a fact that most of you already know. As we go more and more paperless, we'll use our website as a tool to help our members and the rest of the world keep informed on activities, educational opportunities, and all the information we can pile into the pages. Please take advantage of this technology to spread the word about "TGoM!"

<http://www.metalsmith.org>

# Bottle Opener CONTEST!



Bottle openers by  
Bob Brown and  
Hans Early-Nelson

As part of this year's Fall Conference, the Guild will be holding a Bottle Opener Contest open to all Guild members! Hand forged, cast, or fabricated metal openers will compete for \$200 in prize money. The prize money will be split three ways, first prize receiving \$100. Let's see your traditional or creative openers. All entries will be donated to the Guild auction Saturday night at the conference.

## Rules for the Bottle Opener Contest

1st prize \$100  
2nd prize \$60  
3rd prize \$40

- ◆ Contest open to all Guild members
- ◆ All entries capable of opening a bottle of beer (not twist-off)
- ◆ All entries donated to Saturday Night Auction
- ◆ All entries made of metal

### Judging:

- ◆ The entry getting the highest bid at the auction wins 1st prize.
- ◆ The entry getting the second highest bid at the auction wins 2nd prize.
- ◆ The entry getting the third highest bid at the auction wins 3rd prize.

**Bring out your  
creative openers!**

## Membership Directory now available online to 'members only'

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

On the home page, in the upper left hand corner, is a menu button entitled "Entrance to the Guild's web forum (click here)" that will take you to the new Bellows. Once there you may go to the upper left of the main Bellows page and either log on or register to participate in the new Bellows. Old Bellows user IDs and passwords no longer work and all must re-register to use the new Bellows.

The Bellows has a section for Guild members only. Only current Guild members in good standing have access to this section of the Bellows. Guild-only announcements, committee reports, back issues of the Metalsmith and other Guild-only information will be kept there.

The first five years of the Metalsmith are now on line in the Guild Members Only section of the web forum, with more being added. The Guild membership directory has also been posted online in the Members Only section of the web forum. We currently have 245 Guild members on the Bellows email reflector and 79 registered users on the web forum.

Please know that we plan to maintain a continually updated Membership Directory in the Guild members-only portion of the Bellows. The information listed will be: name, address, phone number, email address, and membership expiration date. This is the same information we use to send out the monthly Forum, the quarterly Metalsmith, and now the members-only directory for current members. You can read this directory information, you can print this information, but you cannot edit this information. Please know the Guild does not sell this information to anyone. Non-Guild members will not have access to this information.

If you do not want your personal information available to the other members on this members-only directory, please contact Gordon Barr at [agbarr@aol.com](mailto:agbarr@aol.com) with the specific information that you do not want on this list. You may opt out.

We are saving money by not printing and mailing this same information every other year, and the directory is always in an updated status, assuming you give us current information.

# THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors – May 8, 2013

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

Call to Order: 7:15 pm by Al Olson. Members in attendance: Olson, Frattalone, Barr, Pansch, Lindholm, Hicks, Wessling, Moenck, Wasmund, Gavin. Missing: Ponder. Visitor: Dave Mariette

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

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Special report/request from Dave Mariette with regard to the Society of North American Goldsmiths, their conference May 23 through 26th 2014 in Minneapolis, and the Guild's potential involvement as a side-bar. A discussion was centered on the possibility of a guild sponsored gallery on the night of the Crawl along with a possible demonstration. Dave will continue to meet with and discuss with the SNAG Planners.

### Finance Committee: Chair-Frattalone

Checking/Savings	38,872 (Up 8710 from 5-9-12)
Remaining Grants	5,334 (Same as last year)
Discretionary Fund Balance	33,538 (Up 8710 from 5-9-12)

Expenses since last board meeting on 3-13-13:

Workshops	2,428
Forums 2 ea	105
Conference	11
Metalsmith	1,743
Stamps	9
Total Expenses	4,296
Total Deposits	4,967

Members 308 (Up 31 from 5-9-12)

Coal 9.4 Tons of 24.3 Tons remaining

\*Board has authorized the purchase of an additional 24 tons based on the availability of the grade and size of the product we specified.

**Membership Services Committee: Chair Barr.** No current or significant changes to report.

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

The 2013-14 schedule is pretty much done, still need to schedule electric welding at Toll with Bryan Steckman.

Proposing a spring time class with Dan Nauman as guest instructor.

### Program Committee: Chair-Hicks, Vice Chair-Lindholm

June membership meeting will be at Cliff Larsen's shop near Vermillion, MN. Aug corn feed is at Dan Pate's near Dennison, MN. Oct meeting is at The Jackson Street Roundhouse in St. Paul. The December meeting date has been set for the 15 of December

Both demonstrators for the Fall Madness are set and under contract

### Publicity Committee: Chair-Ponder, Vice Chair-

Both the Forum and the Metalsmith were published since the last BOD meeting thanks to the great continuing efforts of Georgia and Beth! We currently have 261 Guild subscribers to the email reflector service. The web forum continues to grow steadily. We are averaging 68 visits per day and have had 786 unique visitors to the site. We have had visitors from around the globe including routine returning guests from Canada, UK, Russia, Norway, Czech Republic, Ireland, India and Italy. Guild members may now access the member directory in the member's only section of the Website. The software is ready to launch to use PayPal for online payment of dues. If this works well the board may decide to accept it for other transactions.

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

Continue the process of defining the Guild in preparation for setting goals and paths. We had a 45 minute brain storming session with notes taken and plans to divide into groups and work smaller segment that way and report back to the full board at future meetings.

Wessling/Olson continue to work on a shop layout and equipment requirements to assist Jackson Street Roundhouse in their fund raising endeavors. The board listed as many items as we could think of to be include in the layout.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Myron Hanson has offered to house the book library in his office and oversee it. The Guild needs to locate and attain or create shelving to fit in his specific available space.

Bob Brown has provided a list of 34 VHS tapes owned by the guild that do not have a DVD copy. The search is on to find available services or a program and equipment to create DVD masters of those tapes. All outdated books and video media will be auction off at the madness with all proceeds going towards replacement media.

## NEW BUSINESS:

The publicity chair would like to start sending out press releases about the Guild and its functions to the local press. The goal would be to get us in the Star Tribune and on a TV station or two with the purpose of promoting Metalsmithing.

Board's input: The sky is the limit as long as it promotes Metalsmithing and the Guild.

Motion to approve conference budget, Lindholm, second, Pansch. Motion was approved.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 10:30 pm, Motion by Barr, second Moenck, accepted without dissent.

Respectfully submitted

Larry Wasmund: Recorder

## Upcoming summer events!

Summer is approaching, at least on the calendar. With that come numerous summer events that are available to Guild of Metalsmiths members as opportunities to demonstrate their talents and share with the public the art and craft of metalsmithing. **This is an official call** to those members who sponsor a summer event to let The Forum editor know as soon as possible where and when your event is planned. We'll add them to the Metalsmith website calendar as well. Below are the ones we've already heard of.

✦ **Little Log House Antique Power Show**, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, July 26, 27, 28. Contact Dick Carlson for free tickets if you want to help out at the blacksmith shop: 651-437-3329, [blacksmith@onlinecarlson.com](mailto:blacksmith@onlinecarlson.com)

✦ **Nowthen Threshing Show**, August 16, 17, 18. Contact Bob Fredell for free tickets if you want to help out at the blacksmith shop, or come to the August Guild meeting: 763-389-5119, [bfredell@msn.com](mailto:bfredell@msn.com).



Reprinted from *California Blacksmith*, No. 13-03, May/June 2013

## I Thought Everybody Already Knew This! Smoothing Out a Twist ~ A Technique of Daniel Miller's

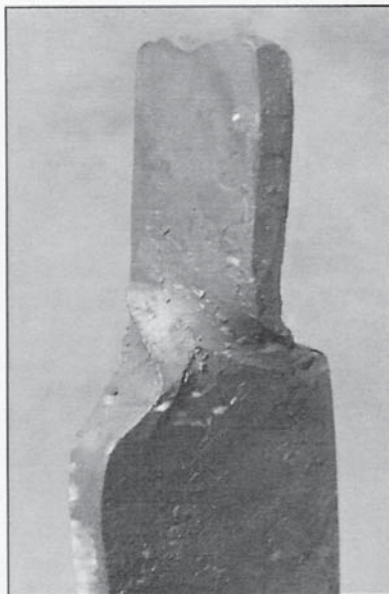
*by Mike Mumford*

Ever made a mistake, or needed a smooth transition at right angles? I made such a mistake recently, forming the basis for this note. On a piece of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 1" stock, I needed the end to be at right angles to the parent section, but I didn't want a twist. Rather, I wanted a smooth transition.

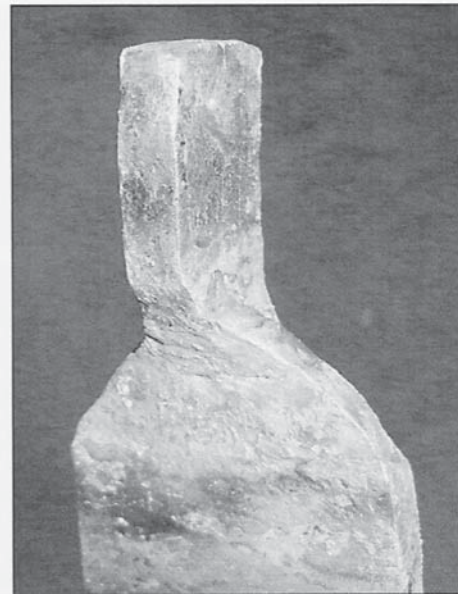
At a recent class by Daniel Miller at the John C. Campbell Folk School, Daniel told us how to fix this. Upset the twisted section, then hammer back to the desired contour.

The problem with twisting is twofold: First, there are ridges on the edges of the material, and second, there are valleys. If you just hammer out the ridges, there is no material to fill in the valleys. Daniel upsets the twisted area, giving more metal for the valleys.

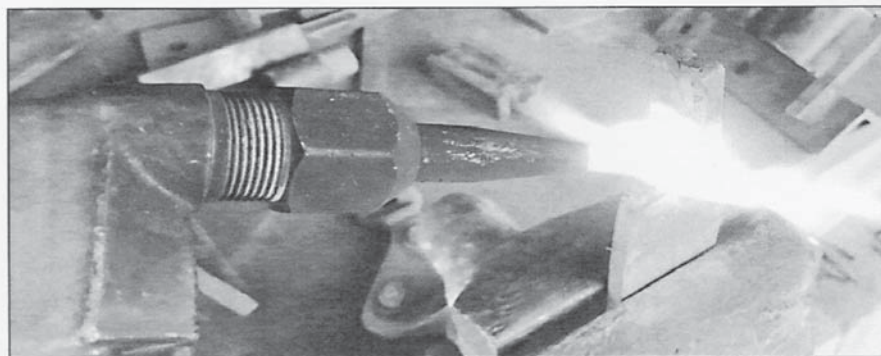
Dan uses a torch (gas/oxygen) so that he can heat only the section to be upset – heat locally, upset, heat again and then hammer to contour, repeating these steps several times. ♣



Before



After





## 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](mailto:jc-adams@msn.com):

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

## Classes at Tunnel Mill for 2013

☛ **Bob Fredell**, June 28, 29 & 30, 2013, Crucifix Making Workshop. A former Guild of Metalsmiths President and a firm believer in blacksmith education, Bob will be teaching this Crucifix workshop using a design originally created by Bernard Heer. Keeping with his beliefs, Bob Fredell has volunteered to teach this class at Tunnel Mill for a nominal fee, and so we are able to offer this 3 day class (food and lodging included (two night stay)) for a \$200 fee.

☛ **Nathan Robertson** - August 3, 2013, Hand Hammer and August 4, 2013 Sledge Hammer

☛ **Ric Furrer** - August 23, 24 and 25, 2013, Wootz Crucible Steel

To see full details, color photos, and how to register, visit their website at: <http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com>



*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.*

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## A Better Way to Cool Tools

by Randy Stoltz

Reprinted from *The Anvil's Horn*, Arizona Artist Blacksmith Association, Issue No. 148, January 2011

Both paraffin wax and beeswax have an excellent ability to absorb and store heat. Additionally both of these substances do not have a melting point, they have a melting range (i.e. they slowly liquefy over a range of temperatures not a single point like water). This makes wax a great medium for cooling punches, chisels, drifts, and other tools used to work hot steel, as it will cool and lubricate the tool without the risk of hardening it.

I have used a mixture of paraffin wax, beeswax, and powdered graphite to cool my punches and other tools for some time now and have had very good results. You can use all paraffin or all beeswax but I used a 50-50 mix since the paraffin is harder than the beeswax (and I had several pounds of it sitting around). I added the powdered graphite to improve the lubricating properties of the mixture. Graphite is a high pressure high temperature lubricant often used on dies or presses. It works very well on drifts to keep them from sticking. You can also use molybdenum disulfide powder for extreme lubricating applications but it usually costs a lot more.

To make the mixture I add one tube of the powdered graphite (.21 oz / 6 grams) to 2 cups of melted wax and pour it into a metal cup. Note that wax expands 5-10 percent when heated so leave some room in the cup.

Here is some additional technical information. Paraffin wax is part of a family of hydrocarbon compounds known as alkanes with the general formula of  $nH_{2n+2}$  that are solid at room temperature. Paraffin that is liquid at room temperature is known as mineral oil. Beeswax is not a single compound but is a mixture of several compounds with the base compound very similar to paraffin. Both paraffin and beeswax are solid at room temperature and have a flashpoint of 400° F. The melting range of paraffin wax varies with the exact compound but can be classified as low (125° F – 135° F), Medium (135° F – 145° F), and high (150° F – 165° F). Beeswax has a melting range of 144° F – 147° F.

# Goings on...

## A calendar of TGoM events at a glance

- Education Committee meeting dates vary. Contact Martin Pansch, chair, for the next meeting.
- 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, 2013

- June 1, Knife Sharpening Open House at Paul Widenhoefer's
- June 12, Guild membership meeting at Cliff Larsen's near Vermillion, MN.

## Events in July, 2013

- July 4-7, Forge 300 in Nova Scotia, international ABANA event, See <http://www.cbblacksmiths.com> for details.
- July 10, Guild board meeting
- July 26, 27, 28, Little Log House Antique Power Show, near Hastings, MN

## Events in August, 2013

- Aug. 14, Guild membership meeting at Dan Pate's, Corn Feed/Hog Roast
- Aug. 16, 17, 18, Nowthen Threshing Show, Nowthen, MN

## Events in September, 2013

- Sept. 14, Instructor Workshop, School of Horseshoeing
- Sept. 19-20, Pre-Conference Class, Little Log House grounds, Hastings, MN
- Sept. 20, 21, 22, TGoM Fall Conference at Little Log House grounds in Hastings, MN

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## 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).

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## 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.



Address Service Requested

**Forum deadline for July 2013: Monday, June 17, 2013**

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)

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**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.”

**June 2013**

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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**Note: 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.**

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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