

# The Forum

November 2012



Vol. 14, No. 11

## *Guild of Metalsmiths holiday meeting coming soon!*

2012 is the 125th anniversary of the CSPS (Cesko-Slovenský Podporující Spolek) organization, a group of Czech-Slovak immigrants who settled in the West Seventh Street area of St. Paul, MN. Prepare yourself for the best TGoM meeting of the year as we meet on Sunday, December 2 at the CSPS Hall for our annual festivities and our annual meeting.

- ★ Last year, John Adams was the recipient of the annual Juare/Hubler Award. Who will be so honored this year?
- ★ And be sure to bring all your “show-n-tell” items to this meeting. Be proud of your productions!
- ★ Another special feature of this year’s December meeting is an auction of demonstration items created by Bob Patrick at the Fall Conference, including a beautiful trivet with his stamp and touchmark! Help support the Guild!
- ★ Circle the date on your calendar now: Sunday, December 2, 2012.
- ★ Write down the address if you haven’t been there before: 383 Michigan Street in St. Paul.

Join us at 11:00 am at The Glockenspiel, just downstairs from the CSPS Hall, for some preliminary holiday cheer, and then around noon we’ll ascend to the hall together to set up the tables and chairs as we prepare for our annual holiday potluck. Just before that memorable feast, we’ll elect our officers and board members for 2013. Below is the 2012 list of officers and board members. We humbly thank them for their time and expertise with TGoM!

### **2012 Officers:**

Al Olson, President  
Rick Wessling, Vice President  
Mike Frattalone, Treasurer  
Chris Rand, Recorder

### **Board:**

Marty Hicks  
Darryl Ponder  
Martin Pansch  
Gordon Barr  
Roland Sigurdson  
Jim Moenck

### **Committees:**

Publication Services: Roland Sigurdson, Chair  
Program Services: Marty Hicks, Chair  
Education Services: Martin Pansch, Chair  
Long-Term Planning: as needed, Chair  
Membership Services: Gordon Barr, Chair

Be sure to attend the Dec. 2 meeting to peruse the new ballot and mark your votes for 2013!



## Opportunity to purchase powdered amorphous silica for flux

At the fall conference Bob Patrick demonstrated using Powdered Amorphous Silica as a flux for forge welding. I bought 25 pounds of it from Continental Clay in Minneapolis and bagged it into 2 pound packages (about the size of a sandwich ziplock bag), for 60 cents a bag. There was more interest than the 25 pounds I had, and it all sold by the October meeting. I will buy another batch and have it available at the Christmas meeting. If you let me know how much you want, I can make sure I get enough for everyone. If I buy 50 pounds the price per 2 pound bag will be about 50 cents.

Email: [anvilclock@gmail.com](mailto:anvilclock@gmail.com) (put flux in the subject heading)

Phone: 612-727-1300

— Susan Wood

## 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 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

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](mailto:ken@kensiron.com)

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

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## New Members, November 2012

Gary Roberts, N. Mankato, MN

Corey Mueller

Eric Lieder

Douglas Johnson, Hudson, WI

### For Sale

250# anvil in good condition, anvil stand, and assorted hardy tools, package price \$850. Contact Al Lindholm at 715-483-9540.

### Treadle hammer kit for sale

I purchased a treadle hammer kit from Discount Steel last year. Health issues prevented me from assembling the machine. My condition is chronic so I must dispose of the kit. The kit is complete w/plans & parts list. I invested \$350.00 & am willing to let it go for a reasonable offer. Interested individuals can contact via email leaving phone number: [gwsetterholm@msn.com](mailto:gwsetterholm@msn.com).  
Jerry Setterholm

### Winch for sale

Reconditioned Warn MB-3 winch with new roller fair lead, new 40 foot remote switch, and new mount. \$800. Call Richard Seaberg at 612-247-2475.

### ABANA Convention News

To help celebrate ABANA's 40th Anniversary, the first ABANA Convention will be held at the Historic Westville Village in Lumpkin, Georgia and at the Convention Center in Columbus, Georgia on March 15-17, 2013. Details here:

<http://www.abana.org/Conventions/2013Convention.shtml>

### TGoM's website is 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>

*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.*



*Happy Thanksgiving to all!*

# Tool Box Class

**Saturday, November 10 & Saturday, December 8, 2012, 9:00 am**

**Instructors:** Tom Sanders, 507-822-2792, [Thomas.Sanders@MNHS.ORG](mailto:Thomas.Sanders@MNHS.ORG) and Martin Pansch, 612-599-4762, [blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com](mailto:blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com)

**Cost:** \$90

**Class size:** 8 students maximum, 6 students minimum

**Location:** MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 4)

**Class description:** Are you still using a 5 gallon bucket to haul your tools to classes? How gauche! Sign up for this class and you can soon be toting your tools in style. In this class students will make all the hardware for their own wooden tool box. Parts include hinges, bale handles with plates and cotter pins, a hasp and staple and, of course, nails. On the first day of class students will be given the wooden parts of their box and begin making the hardware. There will be a month break before the second day of the class so students can customize and assemble their box in preparation for mounting hardware as well as any work they may need on the hardware they started. On second day of the class students will be taken through forging the rest of the hardware and mounting it on their tool box. This is a class for those with solid intermediate level skills. Students should be able to forge weld thin stock, have good hammer control and be able to control where they spread their steel. Students will be shown the basic functional hardware but may choose to get decorative with it (see Metalsmith photos of toolboxes made by Mike Fasold or Stephen Olivio for examples). Students should also have basic wood working skills and tools to be able to assemble their box at home.

**Bring to class:** Your favorite blacksmithing hammer, tongs for handling 1/8" flat stock, 1/2" square and round stock, files, 1/2" wide cold chisel, 3/16" round punch, hacksaw and any other tools you think might be useful.

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

**Other equipment:** Flux, drifts, nail headers, and hinge bending jigs will be provided.

**To register for this class,** send a check payable to Guild of Metalsmiths for \$90 to:

Martin Pansch

8750 Yale Avenue

Young America, MN 55397



## People:

As I was sawing the metal blanks for the handled struck tools class scheduled for 1 December I was struck with an odd thought. At this point, there are only three registered students. I have never had a class not filled a month preceding the date. Therefore, I must be doing something wrong!

To further entice students to take advantage of this wonderful offer that I already mistakenly priced too low, I have enlisted help. Now we have Bob Brown offering to join the teaching staff and include the use of his version of the treadle hammer in the bargain. This means the students get to try three of the current designs of treadle hammers.

So here is the current deal, people. Jesse Gavin, Dave Gavin, Bob Brown, and yours truly are ready to help you prepare handled struck tools while learning to be more comfortable with basic heat treating of a tool steel.

You have all admired and probably envied the craftsmanship of Jesse, Dave and Bob, Herb maybe not so much.

**This is your chance to learn from them. So join us.**

# Handled Struck Tools Class

**December 1, 2012, 9:00 am**

**Instructors:** Jesse Gavin, Dave Gavin, Bob Brown, and Herb Fick

**Cost:** \$50 per student

**Class Size:** Maximum 8 students; minimum 6 students

**Location:** MN School of Horseshoeing (Map page 4)

**Tools & Equipment:** Bring your favorite blacksmithing hammer, tongs for handling 5/8 round, 3/4 round and 1 inch square. Some tongs and punches are available.

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

**Other Equipment:** Grinding equipment will be supplied and shared. Some tongs and punches are available. You will prefer your own if you have them. Work blanks are supplied.

**Special Instructions:** Be on time. We need to get the work pieces done so we can spend most of the afternoon practicing heat treat.

**Class Description:** Learn some basics of heat treating tools. We will forge 5/8 and 3/4 inch round 4140 steel to make a punch and a chisel. Steel will be available to make a small hammer if your skill level allows. The tools have 5/16 inch wire handles and are shorter than a hand held tool. Treadle hammers will be used for forging. Find out if you need a treadle hammer by using them. The process starts by getting comfortable with punching and sizing holes in the stock. Then we shape the punch and then the chisel. After near final grinding we refine the grain of the metal before hardening and tempering the tool blank. Finally we artistically fashion the wire handle much like the illustration supplied. As time and skill level allow, students can fashion a small hammer from blanks and wooden handles supplied. The product of the day is the comfort gained in practicing punching and gaining the heat treating knowledge and skill needed to build, repair, and maintain working tools. You will also probably make tools that you will use and understand. Students should have completed the basics class of the Guild, or have an equivalent background.

**To register for this class:** send check payable to Guild of Metalsmiths for \$50 to:

Herb Fick

519 Eighth Street East

Northfield, MN 55057-2508



**Special  
Bulletin!**

# Make a pair of Poz-style tongs

Saturday, December 15, 2015, 9:00 am to 5:00pm

Cost: \$40 per student

Class size: Maximum 8, minimum 5

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing

Prerequisites: Blacksmithing basics class required or equivalent experience

Instructors: Darryl Ponder (952-401-3266), Gordon Barr, Bob Brown

What to bring: Your favorite hammer, slitting chisel if you have it, safety glasses, hearing protection. Wear natural fiber clothes and closed toe shoes. Other tools, materials provided.

**Class Description:** You are invited to spend a December Saturday learning how to make a pair of "Poz" style tongs while gathered around the heat of the coal forges at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing. Poz tongs, originally designed by a Mr. Richard Pozniak of Chicago, refined by Robb Gunter, and refined further still and championed by our own Monty Bygd, are versatile in that they can hold square, round, and flat stock all with a single pair of tongs. We will be making a pair of tongs designed to hold 3/8 inch square or round stock, or quarter inch flat stock.

We will be upsetting, slitting, drawing out, bending around some jigs, riveting, and generally having a good time. None of the processes is hard to learn and everyone will learn how to make these tongs while back in their own shop. Each participant should leave with a finished pair of tongs. One change for the class this year is that Gordon Barr has had some Poz tongs blanks cut for us at Discount Steel, so the long drawing out process we have been using for the reins will be reduced greatly in time and effort. Each student will receive two sets of blanks and will also learn how to make the tongs from regular fat bar stock if blanks are not available. Other tooling will be provided or made by you on site.

Send your check for \$40 payable to The Guild of Metalsmiths to:

Darryl Ponder  
18320 Byrnwood Lane  
Minnetonka, MN 55345

IMPORTANT! - Include your name, phone number, and email address with your check so I may contact you after receiving the payment! A check with no telephone number or contact information included does me no good!



## Learn details of sword-making heard at 2012 ABANA Conference

This past summer I attended a seminar by Ed Fowler a master knife maker in Rapid City, SD at ABANA's (Artist Blacksmith's Association of North America) national conference. One of Ed's students, Kevin Grey, a student at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, had taken Ed's knife-making class and did a write up of his results on the swords he was making. Kevin made several swords out of 52100 steel and dissected them to document the process changes.

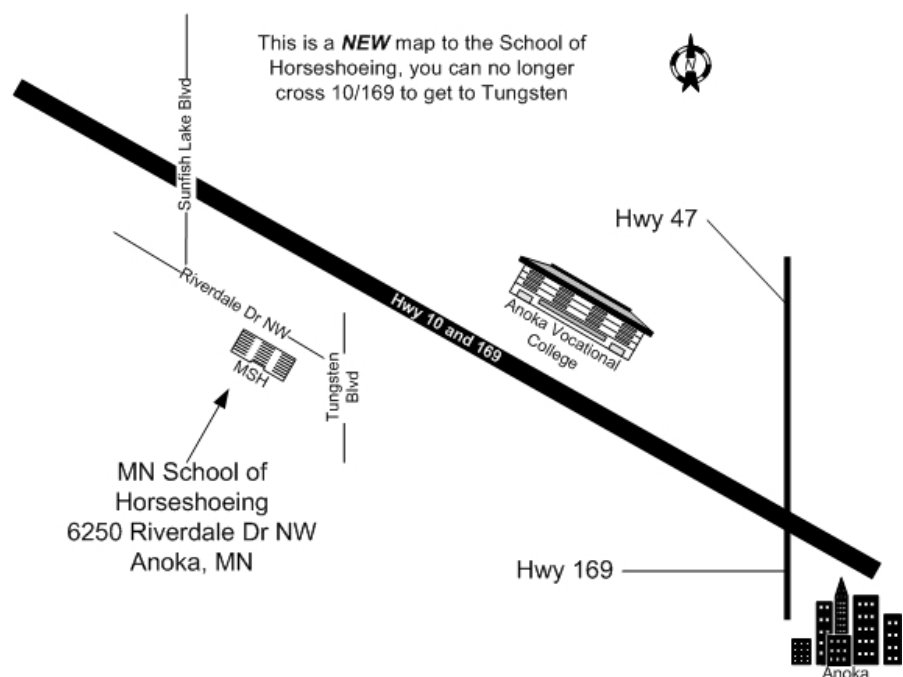
■ See links below to read two papers written by Kevin Grey.

I have asked Kevin's professor, Dr. Michael West, Department Head and Associate Professor Department of Materials and Metallurgical Engineering, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, if it is ok for our guild to post. Dr. West gave an ok but stated it is kind of a "hard" read. For those that may be interested, in my opinion this is close to state of the art heat treatment process for this particular material. Our thanks to Kevin Gray and Dr. Michael West. These documents are posted on the Guild's website.

<http://metalsmith.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Sword-Report.pdf> - 1.38MB PDF

<http://metalsmith.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Micrograph-timeline-updated-June-2012.pdf> - 6.48MB PDF

— Wayne Olson





## What we learned at the Minnesota Transportation Museum in October!

TGoM members were greeted by Charlie Brown when we held our October meeting at the Minnesota Transportation Museum, Jackson Street Roundhouse. We were treated not only to our traditionally sumptuous potluck meal, but also to a private visit to the museum and its variety of train-related objects, many of which are actual train cars

in various stages of restoration.

Museum staff welcomed us and shared their knowledge of the place, then joined us for supper! Afterward, many members who had brought jigs, as requested, shared their knowledge of the objects during "show n tell." All in all, the meeting was one you shouldn't have missed!

Thanks to Meeting Champions Nick Heinen and Charlie Bateman, two of the Guild members who volunteer at the museum to help restore these vestiges of past railroad life.



## Great opportunity to give back to TGoM!

It's time to pass the torch (or the plates and coffee cups)! In December my year of doing the coffee and potluck supplies will be complete. We need a volunteer for 2013 to take this on.

Call me at 651-702-0925 or email me at [michele.w.brennan@healthpartners.com](mailto:michele.w.brennan@healthpartners.com) if you'd like to know the details.

### Reasons to volunteer

- ✓ Great way to meet and get to know Guild members
- ✓ You get to attend all our fantastic membership meetings
- ✓ You get to be one of the first in line for all our wonderful potlucks

I'll hand off the supplies at the December (Christmas) meeting.

Thank you!

Michele



CAFAC

The Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (CAFAC) is a non-profit arts organization that fills a unique niche in arts programming for the Twin Cities region. Its focus is on fine and industrial art forms that are produced using heat, spark, or flame—collectively known as “fire arts”—including sculptural welding, blacksmithing, glasswork, jewelry making, and others.

CAFAC provides classes to anyone with an interest, from youth to adult and beginner to master-level artisans. We also offer studio rental facilities to working and emerging artists and feature a storefront gallery space.

Please visit our website <http://www.cafac.org> for upcoming class offerings and news.

CAFAC

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# 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 November, 2012

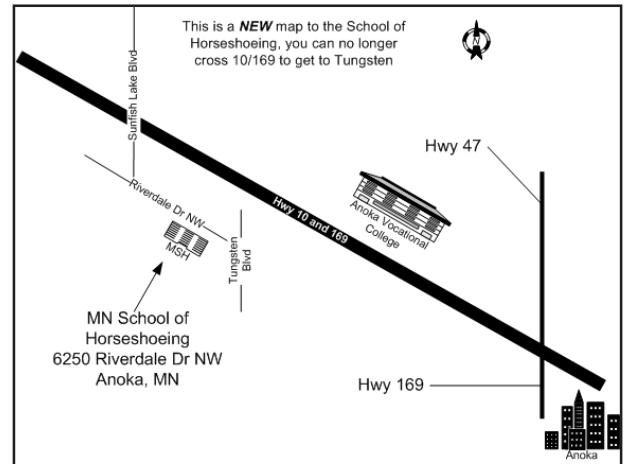
- Nov. 3, Beginning Blacksmithing A4 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Nov. 10, Tool Box Class, Part I
- Nov. 14, Guild board meeting

### Events in December, 2012

- Dec. 1, Handled Struck Tool class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Dec. 2, Guild membership (holiday) meeting, CSPA Hall, St. Paul
- Dec. 8, Tool Box class, Part II, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Dec. 15, Poz-Style Tongs class, MN School of Horseshoeing

### Events in January, 2013

- Jan. 5, Beginning Blacksmithing B1 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 9, Guild board meeting
- Jan. 12, Beginning Blacksmithing B2 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 19, Beginning Blacksmithing B3 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 26, Beginning Blacksmithing B4 class, MN School of Horseshoeing



## ELECTRONIC FORUM

If you have not been receiving an email notification that The Forum is available, verify that we have your correct email address. Contact Gordon Barr at [agbarr@aol.com](mailto: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.

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

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

## November 2012

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### Forum deadline for December.: Monday, November 19, 2012

The deadline for content in The Forum is always the third Monday of the month. Please send items for November by Monday, Oct. 15, 2012 to **Georgia Myers**, editor, by email to:

[gldmyers@embarqmail.com](mailto:gldmyers@embarqmail.com)

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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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### 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.

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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