

# The Forum

November 2017



Vol. 19, No. 11

## Annual TGoM holiday gathering Sunday, December 3 at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul, MN

Join your Guild of Metalsmiths friends and families for our annual holiday gathering at the CSPA Hall in St. Paul (address 385 Michigan St, just at the corner of West 7th and Western). The hall, as normal, will open at 11:00 am for us to start setting up tables. Please come and help, as more hands make lighter work for all. After the tables are setup, we usually share hors d'ouvres, so bring your favorites if you wish. Meeting champion Mike Frattalone promises there will be a few bottles of wine leftover from the Madness also available.

The business meeting is next on the agenda, along with election of new officers and board members. Your participation is key to this. That leads into show and tell and 'Iron in the Hat,' and probably an impromptu auction. By then, we'll all have worked up an appetite to sit down to our always delightful holiday potluck.

Start working on your 'Iron in the Hat' items now and note that the theme is miniature metalworking tool ornaments. See rules for this event below.

If you're a first-timer to this event, just go upstairs at the front of the building when you get there. An elevator entrance is also located on the side just off the parking lot. Bring your family!

Any questions about this meeting can be answered by contacting meeting champion Mike Frattalone at [icemanfratt@aol.com](mailto:icemanfratt@aol.com).

— Mark Lockwood, Program Committee Chair



## 2017 'Iron in the Hat' theme is miniature metalworking tool ornaments!

The theme will be miniature metalworking tool ornaments. Forget sugarplums. I have visions of a tree decked out in miniature tongs, hammers, anvils, dividers, shears, saws, travelers, etc. Sort of like Santa's elves went on strike and hung their tools in protest versus making one more Teddy Ruxpin (or whatever the kids can't live without this year).

### The rules are:

- 1) You have to make it yourself, or be a representative of a Guild member who made it but couldn't make the party. No bringing in something mass produced and purchased.
- 2) It has to resemble a metal working tool of some sort.
- 3) It has to be able to hang on a Christmas tree without falling off the branch, pulling the tree down, etc.
- 4) It shouldn't present any more of a hazard than normal ornaments (e.g. no forges with real burning coal, no razor sharp edges, no tombstone welder with real arc, etc).

I would also suggest that it take an hour or less to make your item as this is supposed to be a novelty, a metal sorbet to clean the craft person's palate, as it were.

### Reminder on how this works:

The short version is if you bring an item for the exchange you will go home with someone else's work. The names of who gets whose item are randomly drawn. If you find yourself really enjoying making mini-tools and don't want to stop at one, you might want to make an extra one for the auction so those folk who either didn't get lucky in the drawing or weren't able to make something will have a chance to deck their halls with something better than holly.

— Martin Pansch, TGoM President

### About the CSPA Hall...

The C.S.P.S Hall is the longest serving Czech-Slovak hall in continuous use in the United States. In 1977 The C.S.P.S. Hall was declared a National and State Historic Site. Visit their website at <http://www.sokolmn.org/> to learn all about this very interesting place.



Iron in the Hat

# Beginners Blacksmithing Classes 2017 / 2018

## Registrations are now open for the 1 day Level 2 Beginners class

Dec 9 MN School of Horseshoeing-map pg 8

Jan 13 Cleveland (see map below)

Dec 16 MN School of Horseshoeing-map pg 8

Jan 20 Cleveland (see map below)

Jan 27 MN School of Horseshoeing-map pg 8

Feb 3 MN School of Horseshoeing-map pg 8

This is a continuation of additional techniques and processes learned in the 2 day level 1 class covering Heat Treating, Scrolling, Bending, and Forge welding This path provides a common background skill set and terminology to improve the effectiveness of advanced classes. Students with prior experience can judge their proficiency when taking this class.

**Cost:** (covers everything you need, the facility, coal and metal)

\$60 members, \$65 non member

Minors (under 18) can share a forge with a guardian for an additional \$10 /day

**Location:** The classes are held at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Dr NW, just off Hwy 10 in Anoka near the Anoka Vocational College and in Cleveland, MN near Mankato.

To sign up for the one day Level 2 Beginners classes:

Choose the date you would like (with an alternate)

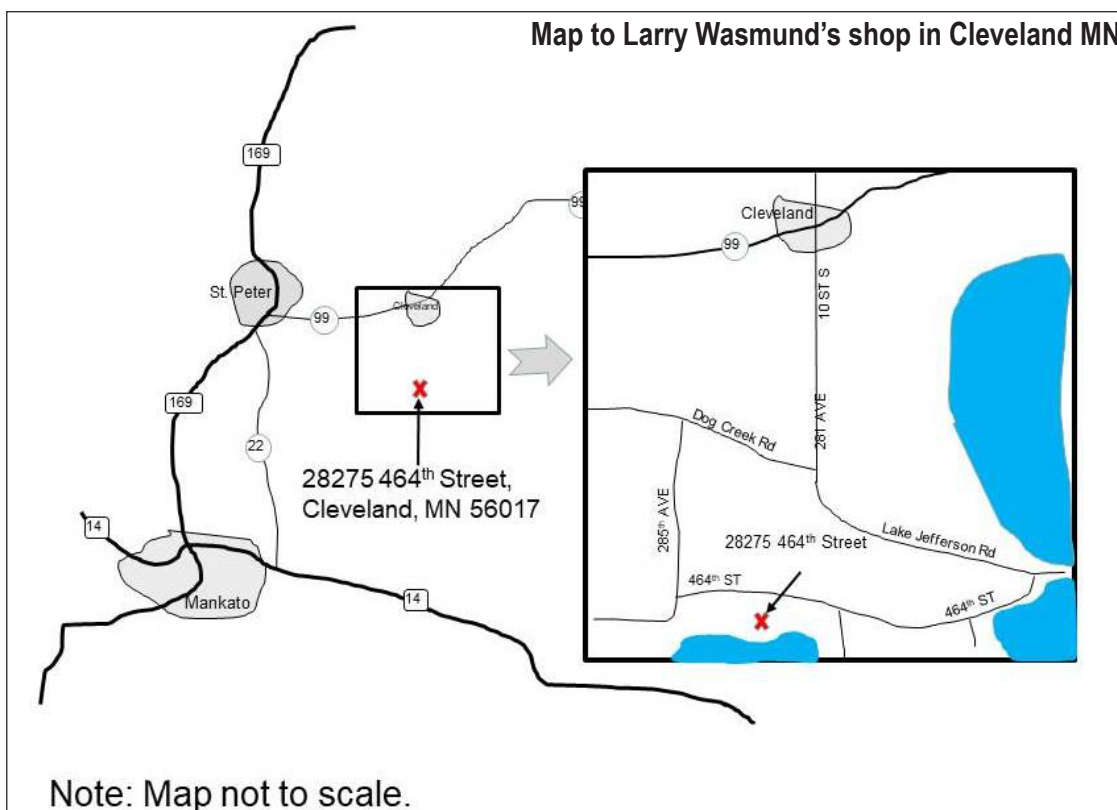
Send your contact info along with a check made out to The Guild of Metalsmiths to:

Gordon Barr

11021 27<sup>th</sup> Ave

Burnsville, MN 55337

[agbarr@aol.com](mailto:agbarr@aol.com)



## Our neighborhood of smiths

### The Guild of Metalsmiths (TGoM)

All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December. For these 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). To check your membership expiration date, see the mailing label on your latest copy of "Metalsmith."

President: Martin Pansch      Vice-President: Rick Wessling  
[blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com](mailto:blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com)      [rgwessling@gmail.com](mailto:rgwessling@gmail.com)  
612-599-4762      612-875-4420  
Our website is: <http://www.metalsmith.org>

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### Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Don Hogenson      Newsletter editor: John Grump  
715-265-4701      715-835-0894  
[johngrump@att.net](mailto:johngrump@att.net)

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### 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, VP, [duluthblacksmith@yahoo.com](mailto:duluthblacksmith@yahoo.com) 218-391-4466

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### Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths

The NMM meets the first Monday of the month at Lake Itasca Region Pioneer Farmers (LIRPF) show grounds, 1/4 mile east of the north entrance to Itasca State Park.

Contact Keith Johnson for monthly specifics at [keith@greatriverforge.com](mailto:keith@greatriverforge.com). The NMM's website is [www.nmmetalsmiths.org](http://www.nmmetalsmiths.org)

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### Central Minnesota Blacksmiths (CMB)

Meet on the first Monday of each month. Potluck followed by demo. Locations are different every month so please call or write for info

**President: Ken Zitur**      **Brian Johnson**  
320-746-8161      16777 Co Rd 75 NW  
[mail@kensiron.com](mailto:mail@kensiron.com)      Clearwater MN 55367  
320-558-6898

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### Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (CAFAC)

Quarterly blacksmithing classes, exhibits, and open house events  
[www.cafac.org](http://www.cafac.org) email: [info@cafac.org](mailto:info@cafac.org)

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### Tunnel Mill Crafts

Blacksmith shop, traditional iron work, classes  
4505 Highway 63 North, Rochester, MN 55906  
507 289-4189 or 507 289-5246  
John & Carol Adams [jc-adams@msn.com](mailto:jc-adams@msn.com),  
<http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/>

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## Missing item from Fall Conference

I had a Dan Pate special welding fixture at found art that never made it home.

I think this is the first time I've come home with anything missing from my kit. It may have looked like it belonged on the trailer.

It is a short, about a 2 1/2 inch diameter cylinder with three legs about 12 inches long with right angle pointed ends.

If you found it or know of its whereabouts, please notify Herb Fick at:

Herb Fick  
519 East Eighth Street  
Northfield MN 55057-2508  
507 663 0569 or 507 649 1611 (cell)  
[herb@phyque.com](mailto:herb@phyque.com)

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## Forge Welding 2-Day Class is FULL!

Saturday & Sunday, November 18 & 19, 9 am to 5 pm each day

Location: Minnesota School of Horseshoeing (map page 8)

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## Jackson Street Roundhouse Ongoing Demo Ops

Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9 am to 4 pm

You can enter through the back gate. We now have a second forge set up outside. People that would like to work in the blacksmith shop these days are welcome to drop by. Any questions, call Gordon Barr 612-242-5827

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## TGoM accepts Paypal and most major credit cards

The Guild accepts Paypal and most major credit cards, in addition to paper checks, for the payment of annual dues. This should make it more convenient for members to pay dues.

If you have questions as to when your membership expires, that information is listed as part of the membership directory found on the online web forum in the "members only" section. Follow this link to log in:

<http://www.metalsmith.org/phpbb/viewtopic.php?f=143&t=162>

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# Handled Struck Tools Workshop

Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Location: Minnesota School of Horseshoeing (map page 8)

Class fee: \$85

Minimum six students. Maximum eight students.

Instructors: Jesse Gavin, lead, assisted by Dave Gavin, Herb Fick, and probably others!



The tools made will be punches with a wire handle and chisels with a wire handle. We will offer the option to use treadle hammers supplied by the teaching staff. (Find out if you really need one of these by trying them.) Tools for the treadle hammers will be supplied.

Steel will be 5/8 and 3/4 inch round 4140 for the punches and chisels. Handles will be fabricated from 1/4 and or 5/16 round CRS.

The goal of the workshop is to produce students comfortable with the process of forging and heat treating tools from tool steel. The secondary goal is to have the students comfortable with the use of treadle hammers. We forge in the morning, heat treat and install handles after lunch.

We've accepted that most of the time is spent focusing on understanding the heat treat process. There will be enough stock so we can encourage you to make a couple of serious mistakes and still go home with real tools to use or to offer for the next "iron in the hat".

Power grinders are supplied by Duggan, Gavin, BtW © and Fick.

Bring your favorite hammers, tongs suitable for the stock if you have them, and eye and ear protection. Bring your basic safety gear (leather, cotton, gloves, and safety shoes).

The building will be open by 8 am, introductions and coffee will start at 8:30, in the shop by 9 AM. We usually finish just before 5 pm.

## History:

Last year we used three different treadle hammers for the eight students. For reference, probable students are invited to question former students including: George Auel, Wayne Olson, Jim Moenck, Larry Hilton, or Bob Brown.

This class has been going annually for quite a while and has always filled. Credit for that goes to Jesse and Dave.

**To register for this class:** put your name, phone number, email and residential address on piece of paper, fold it up with a check for \$85 made out to "Guild of Metalsmiths" and mail to Herb Fick, who will manage the class.

Herb Fick  
519 East Eighth Street  
Northfield MN 55057-2508  
507 663 0569 or 507 649 1611 (cell)  
[herb@phyque.com](mailto:herb@phyque.com)

Acceptance for this class will be prioritized by postmark.

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## 2017 Oxyacetylene Welding Class



Larry Hilton, Bob Brown\*, Myron Hanson\*, Wayne Olson, Anna Wagner, Amy Guindon, Bill Krawczeski\*, Thomas Guindon, Dick Carlson\*, Erik Hendrickson, Chad Hendrickson, Larry Wasmund. Not pictured: Seth Merritt\*, Christina Dodge\*.

\*Instructor or helper

# THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors – September 27, 2017

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

Call to Order: \_\_\_7:06pm\_\_\_ by Martin Pansch. Members in attendance: Barr, Bettenberg, Dodge, Gavin, Lockwood, Pansch, Philips, Sheely, Wasmund, Wessling, Widenhofer. Missing: \_\_\_ Visitor(s): Ryan Goeken,

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

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### ***Treasurer Report: Grace Sheely***

See separate detailed report. There was more revenue and more expenses from last year. \$11,000 in expenses for conference. Attendance was up, so were expenses. The coal pile has paid for itself this year. Suggestion was made to make sure we continue to have a good relationship with the Duggans (SOHS).

### ***Membership Services Committee: Chair Barr.***

Report on and recommendation for membership service. Membership up to 500, S! are overdue on membership.

### ***Education Committee report: Chair -Wasmund, Vice Chair- Bryan Carlson***

Pre conference classes post mortem- 1 Day class broke even

Status of beginner classes- Classes started on Sat., 29 trainers trained. Demos have been shortened increasing student time, Classes are filled.

Grinder class-25 signed up.

### ***Program Committee: Chair-Lockwood, Vice Chair- Vacant***

Status of October meeting venue change- venue changed to the Roundhouse-Derrick Phillips champion. Show and tell only-no demos, asking people to bring extra items for show, keeping descriptions limited.

December meeting

Conference post-mortem: Idea was introduced that we need more people doing more, things-those who had jobs were overwhelmed. We need more buttons. The scheduled worked well, we need more items added. We need more safety precautions for found art and updates to release form. Conference seemed to go well.

Changes to brochure-clearly state deadlines, especially meal could and that people can register at the door.

Possible prorated for volunteer workers to conference since they are not able to attend demonstrations, ot gifts for volunteers. Jobs listed for (new) members to volunteer, create job descriptions and have people sign up. Discussed hiring people to do jobs at conference, raise costs. Jobs included auction and catering.

April meeting possibly at CAFAC, Discussed possible meeting places for February meeting.

### ***Communications Committee: Chair-Bettenberg, Vice Chair- Vacant***

T-shirt sales are now making money-they are past the break-even point. Alissa and Peter are administrators for the Facebook site. The demo kits have taken a beating; should consider getting new ones next year and tubes to protect them. Status of simplified brochure-done

Status of Metalsmith handoff-Alissa is working on the new issue. Status of webmaster handoff - Complete, Ryan has taken over for Darryl, the Bellows, the email, and authorizing new members. New Guild signs. Debuted ad hoc signs at conference. Real one will be coming.

The survey results-145 completed-information will be collated by next meeting. \$409 was spent on new audio for Fall conference to a very positive response.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

New Membership Database-Ryan Goeken is moving forward with new membership database. Neon CRM software-he imported some info into it to see how it worked. The price seemed good-about \$50/month-discounts for longer plans, paypal waived with sign-up. Features-event registration, recurring payments, donations and volunteer coordination. The plan will be to roll out the new system in October. Wasmund motions to let Goeken set up the system for 3 years and have prog member trained in on use of new system. Barr seconds. Motion passes.

Discussion of Guild positions that need to be filled: Treasurer, Vice President, Program committee chair, Jesse Gavin's board position.

Credit Card payments for classes, membership and conference. Neon CRM software will be the membership database

Coal management-see treasurer report.

Looking at a few new facilities-We have a guild member investigating some sites.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

2018 conference venue and demonstrators discussion. Discussed looking at other possible sites for conference and demonstrators.

Consideration of Guild awards.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:01pm

# New additions to TGoM's library



Your library has new and wonderful books! Last year the board authorized some money for expanding the library. During the fall conference, we asked around for recommendations, and we purchased the following:

1 Mark Aspry-*Mastering the Fundamentals of Blacksmithing*-It's based on 120 hours of instruction in author's blacksmith school. Mark leads the student from the basic tenets of blacksmithing through to more complex projects. The book starts with blacksmithing principles and has a good section on safety. A lot of emphasis is on tool making, heat treating and using his/her own tools throughout the book. Each project builds upon the last. He has 10 chisel and punch projects, and 18 other more advanced ones that cover leaves, tongs, tendons and other things. Hardcover, 304 pages with 1200 photos.

2 Mark Aspry-*Mastering the Fundamentals of Leaf Work*. Mark begins with a leafing hammer followed by 13 other hammers, stakes and tooling, and then 18 types of leaves and flowers. Hard Cover, 300 pages with 1300 photos.

3 Mark Aspry-*Mastering the Fundamentals of Traditional Joinery*. A text for the intermediate to advanced blacksmith. This book demonstrates the techniques needed to complete a variety of joinery and the tooling required to do it. This is not a project book. Some of the subjects included in the book are heel tendons', collars, square corners, punching and drifting and tool making. This is the third book in a series designed to help the beginning blacksmith become skilled. Hardcover, 368 pages.

4 Percy Blandford-*Practical Blacksmithing and Metalworking*. This book shows one how to use metals, make tools, and demonstrates different techniques in forging. Blandford uses simple instructions and detailed illustrations that make it easy for the beginner to learn blacksmithing, while offering project variations complex enough to challenge even the experienced blacksmith. This book uses photographs to show finished projects and excellent line illustrations to demonstrate processes and alternative patterns. Softcover-360 pages.

5 Alex Bealer-*The Art of Blacksmithing*. This initially came out in 1969, the language is a little awkward, but it has a really interesting section on making weapons. Champion Blower Company and Little Giant are still doing business, and are listed as suppliers. Hardcover-438 pages 500 illustrations.

6 Thomas Wilson-*Thomas Wilson Ironwork Notebooks*. This is collection of 5,000 designs from Thomas Wilson's drawing notebooks from 40 years of blacksmithing. Wilson is a noted ironwork designer, master blacksmith, artist, sculptor, illustrator, author, and restorer. The designs here demonstrate the role that drafting and drawing play in artistic work. Some of the drawings are spontaneous, simple idea sketches; others are fully evolved renderings of works of art. From chairs to hinges, chandeliers to fences, and benches to belt buckles, The book is mostly reproductions of his sketch books, so lots of drawings and sketches (5,000 + designs), all very detailed. Some photos of actual forged items next to the sketches. 272 pages hardcover book

7 Donna Z Meliach-*Ironwork: Dynamic Detail*. This is "what I did" not "how to do it" book. It has 250 color photographs of contemporary iron objects, including flowers, grape clusters, leaves, and small and large animals. There are amazing scrolls, folds, twists, textures, and weaves not normally associated with iron. Hardcover, 159 pages

8 Lorelei Sims-*Organic Metalworking*-This is our second book by Lorelei. She starts out with the equipment she uses, and then demonstrates different ways to texture vines, make leaves, and grape clusters. She donated this book to us. Softcover-72 pages

**Questions?** Contact Jim Ricci at [jedricci@gmail.com](mailto:jedricci@gmail.com) or Richard Zielike at [richard@edinaclock.com](mailto:richard@edinaclock.com)

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*Note: The information below is provided as a service for TGoM 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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## Tunnel Mill Crafts

*We are located in southern Minnesota. Tunnel Mill was an old water powered mill. Built in 1869. Retired in the late 1920's. Located on Bear Creek north of Spring Valley, MN. Wooded 50 acres with a stream that runs through it. Now, it's a place for crafts people and friends to congregate, relax and learn some of our forgotten crafts.*



## Heads-up for 2018 Classes:

### May 2018

Tom Latane', Continuation of Vise class (Part 2)

### Peter Ross will teach Two 3-day classes.

One session will concentrate on hinges.

One session will cover hand tools, such as socket chisels, draw knife or other hand tools,

Dates to be determined.

### June 2018:

Douglas Pryor will return the first weekend of June to do a Repousee class.

### August 2018:

Ric Furrer will return to show us some more Damascus.

# Goings on...a listing of TGoM events at a glance



- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October. Date for December will be announced. For these meetings a potluck meal begins at 6:30 pm and the business meeting begins at 7, with a demonstration or activity starting around 8 (times approximate).
- Education Comm. meets first Wednesday of each month. Contact Larry Wasmund, chair: [poundedtreasures@gmail.com](mailto:poundedtreasures@gmail.com)
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday of each month. Mark Lockwood is chair: [mark.lockwood@daikinapplied.com](mailto:mark.lockwood@daikinapplied.com)
- 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 2017

- November 4, Beginners Level 1C-2 of 2, MN School of Horseshoeing
- November 11, Beginners Level 1D-1 of 2, MN School of Horseshoeing
- November 11, Beginners Level 1E-1 of 2, Cleveland MN
- November 12, Beginners Level 1D-2 of 2, MN School of Horseshoeing
- November 18, Beginners Level 1E-2 of 2, Cleveland MN
- November 18-19, Forge Welding class, MN School of Horseshoeing

## Events in December 2017

- Dec. 2, Handled Struck Tools Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Dec. 3, Guild holiday meeting/ party, CSPS Hall, St. Paul
- Dec. 9, Beginners Level 1F-1 of 2, Cleveland MN
- Dec. 9, Beginners Class Day 1 Level 2 , MN School of Horseshoeing
- Dec 16, Beginners Level 1F-2 of 2, Cleveland MN
- Dec. 16, Beginners Class Day 1 Level 2 , MN School of Horseshoeing

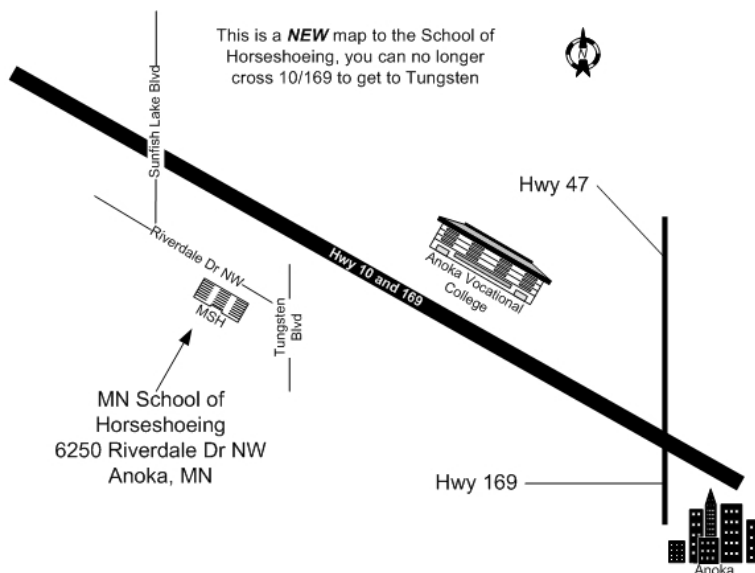
## Events in January 2018

- Jan. 13, Beginners Class, Day 1 Level 2 Cleveland MN
- Jan. 20, Beginners Class, Day 1 Level 2 Cleveland MN
- Jan. 27, Beginners Class, Day 1 Level 2 MN School of Horseshoeing

## Events in February 2018

- Feb. 3, Beginners Class, Day 1 Level 2 MN School of Horseshoeing
- Feb. 14, Guild membership meeting, details TBA

## Map to MN School of Horseshoeing



## 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.

## 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).



Address Service Requested

If you have items to be included in The Forum, please send them to Georgia Myers, editor, by email to: [gldmyers@embarqmail.com](mailto:gldmyers@embarqmail.com)

## The Guild of Metalsmiths on the web

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

Looking for something? Try the search engine. On our home page, at the top of the right sidebar, enter your query and click on "Search."

November 2017

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Your membership expiration date will show on the address label of your quarterly Metalsmith magazine.

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### TGoM now accepts Paypal and most major credit cards

The Guild accepts Paypal and most major credit cards, in addition to paper checks, for the payment of annual dues. This should make it more convenient for members to pay dues.

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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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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