

# The Forum

December 2011



Vol. 13, No. 12

## Celebrate the holidays with TGOM!

Be sure to set aside some time on your calendar for The Guild of Metalsmith's annual holiday potluck/election meeting. on **Sunday, December 11, 2011.**

A holiday tradition among Guild of Metalsmiths members continues this year as we gather at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul for our annual meeting and holiday celebration. Plan now to attend the most popular (and deliciously diverse) social event of the TGOM year! This annual gathering will once again be held at the Cesko-Slovanský Podporující Spolek (C.S.P.S.) Hall at 383 Michigan Street in Saint Paul.

Come early (11:00 am) to help set up the hall. We'll gather at The Glockenspiel, just downstairs from the hall for a glass of holiday cheer before we head up.

If you're a new Guild member, be sure to come to this fantastic celebration of food, comradery, and learning. Come early, help set up, enjoy some hors d'ouvres, and settle back for the events of the day to unfold. A general election of 2012 officers and board members is first on the agenda. The grand finale is the potluck meal, but before that you won't be bored by all the activities. Welcome!



## Great opportunity to give back to The Guild of Metalsmiths!

I'm looking for someone to take over the coffee pot/potluck supplies from me. I've done this job for 2 1/2 years and I'd like to pass it along to someone else for a while. With over 250 members in TGOM you shouldn't ever have to do it more than once. Let me know if you'd be willing to take on this responsibility for a year or so. Call me if you'd like to know the details. 612-715-5254 or email at [rolandsigurdson@yahoo.com](mailto:rolandsigurdson@yahoo.com)

**\*\*Great reason to attend all of our great membership meetings!! ("but Honey...I have to make sure the supplies get to the meeting!!")**

I'd like to hand off the materials at the upcoming Christmas meeting, if possible. Thank you for stepping up.

Roland Sigurdson



## Forum deadline for January: Monday, Dec. 19, 2011

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, Dec. 19, 2011 to **Georgia Myers**, editor, by email to:

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

or mail them to:

**Georgia Myers**  
413 W Dakota St  
Lake City MN 55041

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## Our neighborhood of smiths

### UMBA

Visit <http://www.umbaonline.ning.com> (NEW WEBSITE!)

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)

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### Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Brad Hegge  
715-983-2131

Newsletter editor: John Grump  
715-835-0894

[heggeco@triwest.net](mailto:heggeco@triwest.net)

[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:

Norm Groehler, President, 715-399-8151

[normanwgroehler@centurytel.net](mailto:normanwgroehler@centurytel.net)

Jim Sage, Vice President, 218-525-7265

[sageforge@cs.com](mailto:sageforge@cs.com)

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### 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)

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### 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

## New Members

Sam Sylvester  
Lino Lakes, MN

Brian Hill

Morgan Williamson  
Edina, MN

Eugene Thoma  
Harris, MN

Heinz Brummel  
Minneapolis, MN

Mike Reider

Thomas Neckvatal  
River Falls, WI

Steve Loscheider  
Ironton, MN

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## February meeting location set

The February 8 meeting of The Guild of Metalsmiths is tentatively set for Oxygen Service Company, 1111 Pierce Butler Route, St. Paul, MN 55104. More details will be announced in the January Forum.

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## Beginners Blacksmithing Classes for 2011 / 2012 are now full!

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## Blacksmith Demonstrators Needed

The City/Chamber of Morton will be hosting Birch Coulee Days on Aug. 31-Sept. 1-2 of 2012. We are looking for individuals to demonstrate blacksmithing. Call 507-697-6912 for details.

From:

Shirley Dove  
[mortoncityhall@mchsi.com](mailto:mortoncityhall@mchsi.com)

# Make a pair of 'Poz' style tongs!

**Where:** Minnesota School of Horseshoeing

**When:** Saturday, December 10, 2011

**Cost:** \$40 per student

**Class size:** Minimum 5, maximum 8. **NOTE: There are still 3 openings for this class as of Nov. 30!**

**Prerequisites:** Blacksmithing basics class required

**Instructors:** Darryl Ponder (952-401-3266), Gordon Barr, Rich Herman

**What to bring:** Your favorite hammer, safety glasses, hearing protection. Other tools, materials provided.

You are warmly 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 MN School of Hoeseshoeing! These 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, can hold square, round, and flat stock all with a single pair of tongs. We will be making a pair designed to hold 3/8 inch square or round stock, and quarter inch flat.

Each participant should leave with a finished pair of tongs. However, this will be somewhat dependent upon the experience level of the participant. I find that the drawing out of the reins (handles) takes some time, as does the accurate slitting of the stock when forming the jaws. If you are comfortable in these processes, you should be able to finish your tongs. We will be bending around some jigs, riveting, and generally having a good time. None of the processes is hard, and everyone will at least learn how to make these tongs while back in their own shop.

You will learn the simple tooling required to make a pair of these tongs and will receive reference material that you may use in the future after you leave class and start making additional Poz tongs on your own.

Bring your favorite hammer. Other tooling will be provided or made by you onsite.

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

**Darryl Ponder**

**18320 Brynwood Lane**

**Minnetonka, MN 55345**

**Include your name, phone number, and email address so I may contact you after receiving the check.**





## Agenda – THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors – November 9, 2011

Held at: Myron Hanson's house

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 pm by Rick Wessling

**Members in attendance:** Frattalone, Wessling, Rand, Mariette, Barr, Hicks, Pansch, Murray. **Missing:** Herman, Ponder, Sigurdson. **Guest:** Al Olson

**AMENDMENT / APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES:** Motion to accept by Murray, second by Barr. Motion passes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Committee-Mike Frattalone**

### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE 11-09-11 BOARD MEETING

CHECKING	34,933 (UP 18,076 FROM 11-10-10)
REMAINING GRANTS	5,334 (UP 2,909 FROM 11-10-10)
DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE	29,599 (UP 15,167 FROM 11-10-10)
EXPENSES SINCE LAST BOARD MEETING ON 9-13-11:	
CONFERENCE	6,684
WORKSHOPS	2,957
MEETINGS	118
STAMPS	93
OFFICE SUPPLIES	35
FORUMS 2 EA,	449
D & O INSURANCE	428
LIABILITY INSURANCE	428
TOTAL EXPENSES	11,192
TOTAL DEPOSITS	16,372

COAL 9.6 TONS REMAINING ACCORDING TO PAID RECEIPTS. Does not include the MN. School of Horseshoeing's take  
MEMBERS 252 (SAME AS LAST YEAR !)

**Education Committee report-Mariette, Vice Chair-Martin Pansch**

- Beginners Class A in session now and flowing smoothly with the Controlled Hand Forging curriculum.
- Discussion of the pre-conference workshop; all feedback was positive and it went so well that it may become standard for the conference. Good for the demonstrators and the students alike. Largest class attendance (20 people) due to 10 teams of 2 people.
- Intermediate Class will be 3 days long. Looking for instructors. Pre-class workshop for instructors on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> at the School of Horseshoeing; will review the curriculum and practice forging.

**Program Committee- Hicks, Vice Chair- Rob Murray**

- Successful and joyous membership meeting at the Jackson Street Roundhouse. GOM members have donated enough time to offset the rental cost for another meeting there.
- December meeting is ready. 2012 meeting possibilities are O.S.C. and Tom Sanders to lecture on an archeological dig of an old blacksmith site.
- Bob Patrick has verbally agreed to demo at 2012 Madness and pre-con workshop; contract in process.
- Possible subcommittee to be created to handle pre-con workshop; may be Prog-comm or Ed-comm or rep from both.
- Big up's to Derrick Philips for installing the vents in the trailer.
- Looking at work samples of people who can demonstrate non-ferrous forging for the conference.

**Publicity Committee- Sigurdson, Vice Chair- Chris Rand**

- The November Forum went out. The Metalsmith should hit the press soon and was delayed due to the editors computer crashing.
- The website is working better but certain sections need updating. Tom Barnett and Chris Rand have offered to do more updating and monitoring. Georgia Myers has offered to upload information on upcoming classes as the info come through to her. We are aware of the 'fairness' issue of those folks that have computer access and those that do not. The class information will be uploaded on the Ed-comm page when the Forum that contains that info is mailed out.
- Craig has fulfilled his contractual duties to build our website, he has gone beyond them.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Do we want to start accepting VISA payments via the website and PayPal? MOTION by Mariette to table this discussion for one year, second by Hicks, accepted without dissent.
- Guild Apparel best be printed at Café Press. Pansch is spearheading this investigation and has set up GOM site that was reviewed by the Board. He will conduct test-print of a few items to check quality. Rand to help in gathering and formatting the necessary artwork so that the site can be public.
- Review Liability Release form (waiver) to make sure it is proper. Wessling will contact Ponder and Tom to review it.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Juare-Hubler Award nominees.
- Discussion regarding Bill Hanson whom has photographs of Paul Hubler's metalwork to scan. More information needed.
- Election nominations; Motion by Mariette to nominate Hicks, Pansch as board members, second by Barr, accepted without dissent. Also nominated for board member was Jim Moenck and for Recorder, Chris Rand.
- Coal supply is low. Myron to test out coal he has and provide his opinion to Mariette who will soon begin the process of purchasing more coal.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9:22 pm, Motion by Pansch, second Hicks, accepted without dissent.



## *A letter from a TGOM member...*



Greetings, fellow members,



It has been brought up that some of the members of the guild might not be aware of the various happenings at committee meetings. So after some cajoling (thanks Myron) I have decided to at least shed some light on the "mysterious" happenings in the Program committee meetings. I am new to the guild (in only a year or so) so please forgive any repetition of info.



The November meeting just happened and we have been and continue to figure out what the future meetings will be about and where they will be. With the holiday party nearly upon us, all looks good (weather cooperating). The February and April meetings are being finalized and possible plans for the June and October meetings are being discussed. The largest project of the committee is planning of the Fall Conference, and that is well on its way. There is one demonstrator we are starting to finalize and are now trying to narrow down a second blacksmith and possibly a third demonstrator of non-ferrous smithing.

For those who might be interested, the people at the Jackson street round house are looking for more volunteer work to be done, contact them directly but let them know you are from the guild.

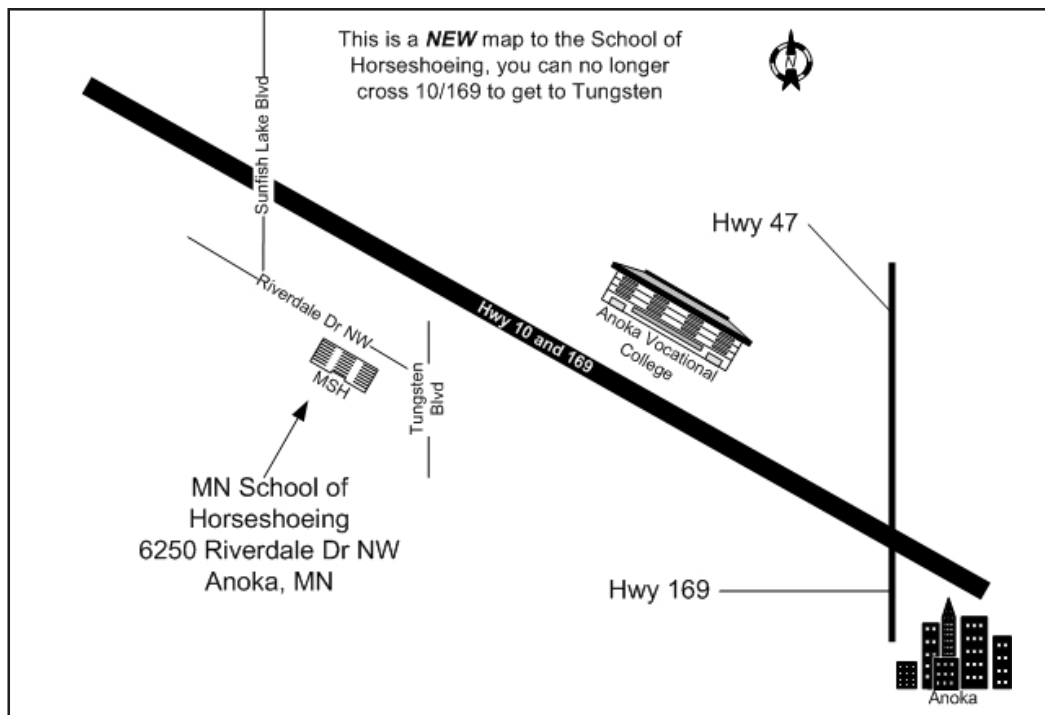
Every committee meeting I have attended over the last year has been, and is, full of lively and sometimes wandering discussions, but there is always information to be gleaned, camaraderie to be shared and often desserts to be tasted. Near the end of this meeting Nick started serving the wonderful apple crisp that Rob Murray had brought and then Cliff Larson brought out a very ornate (to me) mini forge and talked about a possible class to make one like it.

It is all of these things that keep me coming back, because as welcomed as I have been in the guild I want it to felt by everyone. It may be possible to learn and do all these things on one's own but I have so much more fun in a shared setting.

Just letting everyone know,

Derrick (an apprentice)

# SEASON'S GREETINGS



## 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)

## 2012 Upcoming Classes...

### Tinsmithing, Kitty Latane', April 21 and April 22, 2012 (two one-day classes)

Come to Tunnel Mill and learn a century-old craft, Tinsmithing with Kitty Latane' from Pepin, Wisc. Design and make your one of a kind tin cookie cutter and other simple tin projects, including flour scoops and candle scones. In this one day workshop you'll learn traditional techniques for cutting, shaping, and soldering tin plate. \$65.00 per day plus \$15.00 material cost. Limit of 10 students. Class 9am to 5pm. Bring sack lunch.

### Seventeenth Century Battle Axe or Hewing Hatchet, Tom Latane', April 20, 21, and 22, 2012

Students will forge an axe with a tapered rectangular eye socket. This shapely early form is made up of three pieces rather than the two used to produce an axe with a simple wrapped eye.

Parts will be forged to shape from 1/4" and 1/2" thick mild steel, forge welded together and further forged to refine. A high carbon steel bit will be welded between layers of low carbon steel, shaped, hardened and tempered. Students wishing to create a hewing hatchet may leave the blade thicker and less broad with the high carbon steel welded to one side rather than in the center of the edge. The low carbon body of the axe will remain soft enough that it can be decorated cold with punches (at home if there is not time in class) as the early ones were.

Class cost, time of day, and other details coming soon.

### Cage head brace, Peter Ross, June 4, 5 and 6, 2012

### Project to be determined, Peter Ross, June 8, 9, and 10.

Watch for more details coming soon.



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.

# Goings on...



## A calendar of TGOM events at a glance

- All Education Committee meetings are the first Monday of each month.
- All 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 December, 2011

- Dec. 3, Beginning Blacksmithing A4 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Dec. 10 Poz Tongs Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Dec. 11, Guild membership meeting at CSPA Hall in St. Paul

## Events in January, 2012

- Jan. 7, Beginning Blacksmithing B1 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 11, Guild board meeting
- Jan. 14, Beginning Blacksmithing B2 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 23, Beginning Blacksmithing B3 class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 28, Beginning Blacksmithing B4 class, MN School of Horseshoeing

## Events in February, 2012

- Feb. 8, Guild membership meeting tentatively set at Oxygen Service Company, 1111 Pierce Butler Route, St. Paul, MN 55104

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## 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](mailto:Your GOM Forum is ready@mail.vresp.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: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(optional items)

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Web page: \_\_\_\_\_



Address Service Requested

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

## December 2011

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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