

# The Forum

The Guild of Metalsmiths Monthly Notice  
February 2003 Vol. 5, No. 2

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## New editor of ‘The GoM Forum’ begins this month

Welcome to the February issue of “The Guild of Metalsmiths Forum.” With this issue, original editor **Gene Olson** has passed the role of editor to me, **Georgia Myers**.

As the months of 2003 go by, I’ll try my best to produce an appealing, informative, and entertaining newsletter. To fill Gene’s shoes will be impossible, so I’ll also do my best to create my own version of this newsletter, attempting to make it at least as unique as Gene’s has been since he initially created it a few years back.

My background in publishing newsletters began in 1987 when I volunteered to produce a new monthly publication for Olmsted County employees. I had been employed by Olmsted County in Rochester, Minnesota since 1986. As a result of that volunteer effort, I’ve been editor of that newsletter for the past 15 years!

With that background, I’m hoping I can use some of my experience in this newsletter, your “Forum.”

I am not a metalsmith myself, but more of a “wordsmith!” My husband, Gary, is embarking on his journey into the blacksmithing and metalsmithing fields as I write this. From him, I hope to become at least familiar with the vernacular and keep everyone up to date on what’s happening in the Guild of Metalsmiths.

I’ve already met many of you either at the December, 2002 potluck in St. Paul, or at the Fall Madness near Hastings. To meet many more of you is one of my goals as editor.

To fulfill the most important goal of keeping you informed about Guild activities, I depend on your communications with me. The next issue, in March, should contain news about what’s happened in February and news about what is scheduled to happen in March. Please send your news to me by Saturday, March 1 either via mail or e-mail to:

Georgia Myers  
313 Dakota St.  
Lake City, MN 55041  
forum@metalsmith.org

## This month in The GoM Forum...

- Welcome new members
- Want ads
- Directory updates
- Basic bladesmithing workshop
- New editor on staff
- News from LSM, Duluth
- Bridging the Arts Festival

## April activities...

If you have activities that will be occurring in April, please send them to Georgia Myers by Saturday, March 1. Guild members will read all about them in the March Forum.

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*The Guild of Metalsmiths, St. Paul, MN, publishes the GoM Forum monthly. It is intended as a community bulletin board, a place for all members to express their opinions, concerns, debate policy, propose projects and workshops—in short, to help us run our organization.*

*Your comments can be mailed to The GoM Forum, c/o Georgia Myers, 313 Dakota St., Lake City, MN 55041-1869, or emailed to [forum@metalsmith.org](mailto:forum@metalsmith.org)*

## 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. 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



## News from Great Lakes Metalsmiths...

To The Guild of Metalsmiths members:

I am sorry I haven't emailed you before to let you know how much we appreciated some of your members coming up to Duluth to help us set up the club. We do highly appreciate this. I will try to email you with our workshops and our meeting schedules.

We had a meeting last Tuesday, January 28th. Our meeting consists of a pot luck, that is family orientated a short business meeting and open forging starting at 6:30pm. People start arriving around 5:30 pm.

We had Mark Wedin demonstrating (riveting railings together with the forge). And we had Jack Rowe demonstrating (drawing temper out so you can work the steel and retempering).

We are in the process of getting a manifold system for the exhaust and the work stations set up. These will be set up before our next meeting on February 25th.

So far between the meetings we have had a workshop on tong making. Other workshops are in the planning stages.

We highly appreciate the Guild of Metalsmiths, with help on our coal and getting us going. Thank you very much.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or e-mail me. Thank you again.

Dave Hanson.  
L.S.M. Lake Superior Metalsmiths.  
[LSMboard@aol.com](mailto:LSMboard@aol.com)  
218-721-4572



## Welcome, new members!

**Sam Gash**  
RR 2 Box 42  
Plainview MN 55964  
507-876-9911  
[sgash@pngusa.net](mailto:sgash@pngusa.net)

**Ralph H. von Ruden**  
1793 132 St SE  
Menoken ND 58558-9630  
701-223-4773  
[rvrjvr@btinet.net](mailto:rvrjvr@btinet.net)

**Jim & Linda Armstrong**  
PO Box 128  
23767 Dewey St  
Bethel MN 55005  
763-434-1258  
[laughs-alot@att.net](mailto:laughs-alot@att.net)

**Alan Garber**  
2566 90th ST NE  
Monticello, MN 55362  
H763-295-4632  
W763-295-5070  
[garbs@soncom.com](mailto:garbs@soncom.com)

**Bill Barrick**  
2359 Doswell Ave  
St Paul, mn 55108  
651-644-6343

**Tim Garley**  
13295 Boutwell RD  
Stillwater, MN 55082

## Classified ads...

**Wanted** - Donation of any items or materials related to metalsmithing. Starting new coed group of Venture Scouts with focus on blacksmithing, Jewelry making, timber sports, and pioneering.

We have two forges but lack anvil, tools, knowledge, materials, and safety equipment. Our group draws from the Mound Westonka Area of Lake Minnetonka, a western suburb of Minneapolis.

The young people in our Venture Scout Crew range in age from 14 to 21. We have 13 members and are growing. Two of our members will be attending the Guild's beginning Metalsmithing class next month.

If you can help us in any way or know young people who would like to join us, please call or write.

William, Shirley, or Chris Bull  
4690 Tonkaview Lane  
Mound, MN 55364  
952-472-3088  
[bllbull@aol.com](mailto:bllbull@aol.com)

## Address

**New address:**  
Creative Ironworks  
1051 Hwy 92  
Verona, WI 53593  
Thank you for doing a great

## Basic Bladesmithing Workshop

### An Intermediate level workshop

**When:** Saturday, March 15, 2003  
The start time is 9:00 and the class will run until 4:00 with a break for lunch at noon.

**Where:** Minnesota School of Horseshoeing (map on back)  
6250 Riverdale Drive  
Ramsey, MN 55303

**Instructor:** Jim Moenck  
661 Dorland Road S  
Maplewood, MN 55119  
Phone: 651-735-4461  
Work: 651-439-3138 ext. 210  
E-mail [jrmoenck@yahoo.com](mailto:jrmoenck@yahoo.com)

**Class Description:** We will be covering Blade Shapes, Blade Forging, Hardening and Annealing, Grinding and Finishing. This is an intermediate level workshop.

(Tear off here)

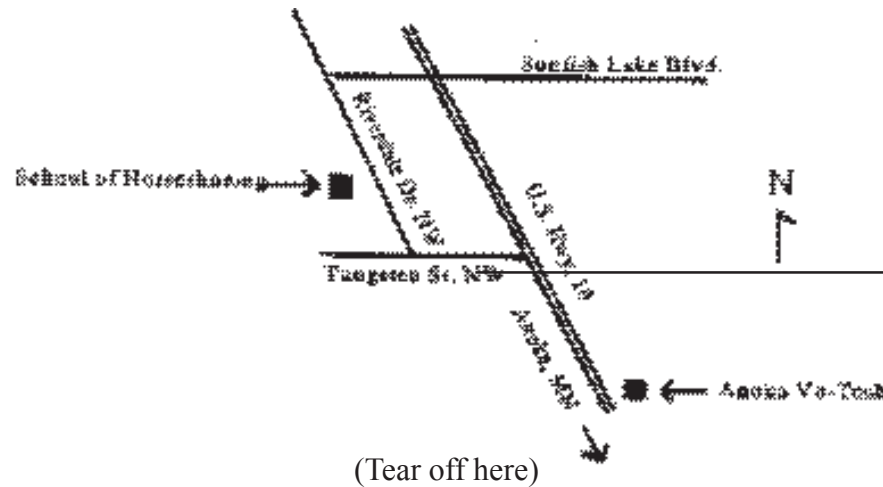
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To reserve a spot at this workshop, fill out the registration form on the other side and send your check for \$25.00 made out to the **Guild of Metalsmiths** to:

Jim Moenck  
661 Dorland Road S.  
Maplewood MN 55119

## Basic Bladesmithing Workshop...

Participants should have basic blacksmithing experience, or have completed the Guild of Metalsmiths Basics series. You need to know fire control and basic forging processes.

**What to bring:** Eye and ear protection. Cotton, wool or leather work clothes and work shoes no tennis shoes. Bring your favorite bucket of tools: hammers, tongs, flatter, coal rake. All materials will be provided.



## Basic Bladesmithing Workshop Saturday, March 15, 9 am to 4 pm

Make check payable to **Guild of Metalsmiths** and send to:

Jim Moenck  
661 Dorland Road S  
Maplewood, MN 55119

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Joining the Guild of Metalsmiths

You may join The Guild of Metalsmiths by sending your name, address and a check for your dues, (telephone number at home and work, email address, URL - requested but optional) to the following address:  
Guild of Metalsmiths  
P.O. Box 11423  
St Paul, MN 55111

Follow the link below to print out an application form...  
<http://www.metalsmith.org/inf/index.htm#Joining> or use the form on the inside back cover.

The annual membership fee is \$30.00 which must accompany the application for membership. All memberships are family memberships. Men, women, persons of all ages, professionals and hobbyists are invited to join The Guild of Metalsmiths.

If you do not wish to have your name published in the members directory, sent to members, please indicate this in your application. We do not sell our mailing list.



“A Taste of Minnesota” 4th of July Celebration is a gala event attracting over 400,000 visitors and includes stages for performing artists, food of over 60 restaurants, children’s area, 4th of July celebration, and much more.

The first “**Bridging the Arts Festival**,” a fine arts festival, will exhibit original artwork of excellent quality and will be located on the Wabasha Freedom Bridge in downtown St. Paul overlooking the Mississippi River. There will be \$10,001 in cash awards and a prize drawing for booth artists.

This could be an excellent venue for some of our Guild members to exhibit their own art, but hurry!. Entry cards must be postmarked by March 1. Media accepted include ceramics, fiber, glass, printmaking, drawing, jewelry, metal, mixed media, painting, paper, traditional photography, digital photography, sculpture, and wood.

There’s whole bunch of rules, so if you’re interested in exhibiting, check out the Web site: [www.tasteofmn.org](http://www.tasteofmn.org) or e-mail them at [tasteofmn@qwest.net](mailto:tasteofmn@qwest.net)

## Beginning Blacksmithing Courses

Due to the demand for a more comprehensive approach to learning the basic skills, we have been scheduling three separate classes, each meeting for four sessions. Each session is taught by a team of instructors so that there is usually one instructor for every two students. Below is the schedule for the final series of beginning classes.

## 2003 Guild Of Metalsmiths Class Schedule

|                  |                           |         |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Basics Class C-1 | MN School of Horseshoeing | Feb. 22 |
| Basics Class C-2 | MN School of Horeshoeing  | Mar. 8  |
| Basics Class C-3 | MN School of Horseshoeing | Mar. 22 |
| Basics Class C-4 | MN School of Horseshoeing | Apr. 5  |

Reminder from **Herb Fick**, lead instructor for the sessions listed above:

“Let’s remind the eight registered students that we have a highly motivated group of teachers ready to do a fine job for them!”



## Minutes from Guild of Metalsmiths Board Meeting

January 8, 2003

Call to order, 7:00 p.m.

Previous notes approved except for an error notation of \$300.

**Financial:** Mike Frattalone

Checking account of approx. \$15,000

Bulk mail account of \$ 1,100

~\$5,000 in grant money account

\$11,391.54 in discretaionary fund.

314 members

Trends: Available money is less than last year. Income for last year was down, result of lower income from Madness. Trend is down in number of members.

**Education Committee:** Johnson Ch, Moenck, VC, Bob Johnson reports-

Two day welding workshop was a success (Thanks, Dave!)

Beyond basics session was cancelled. Open forge before Christmas was cancelled.

Knife class by Jim Moenck was filled. Mike Blue’s knife workshop became a time, place, and insurance issue. It dies. Repousse’ class (by Wendell Bouchard, arranged by Myron Hanson) is overbooked by two. Will run 10-17 May at Hanson’s Entry for this is extensive, including about \$600 plus tools and workstation. Survey: Pete Stanaitis has survey out in The Forum. He will ask for more input at the Feb. meeting and later still in “The Metalsmith.” He is mapping the responses by interest and location.

**Program Committee:** Hanson, chair; ADams, VC; Carlson & Ford. Myron Hanson reporting: Rob Murray is contacting three demonstrators for the Fall Madness: Hershel House, Loralie Simms, and a Repousse’ person whose name escaped me. Discussion will be about whether or not to limit Fall Madness to two demonstrators. Discussion of retaining repousse’ person for extra time to do a workshop. Concept of workshop tabled until Rob sees how contact goes. Program committee to meet Jan. 23 at Hanson’s.

**ABANA:** Credit to Dave Mariette for article in “Anvil’s Ring.” Nothng else to report except recognition of the ABANA web site.

**Publicity:** Georgia Myers, Gordon Barr, Lynn Ford. We lose Gene gracefully.

**Old Business:** Table discussion on policy for guild sponsored events. Example: Guild loaned coal to Lake Superior group. Hanson moved to take on projects one at a time; second by Johnson.

**Committee Assignments:**

Education: Johnson, Moenck

Program: Hanson, Carlson, Adams, Ford

Publicity: Myers, Barr, Ford

Editorial: McEachron, Fredell, Fredell, Moriarity

ABANA Rep: Open

**New Business:** Stanaitis and Adams thinking Iron Bloom project as a speical event by the Guild. They have five people involved, and the project could take a year. Hanson motioned to sponsor the event, second by Johnson.

**Submitted:** Herb Fick