



By the calendar, spring has arrived—never mind those snowfalls we had in early April. The robins didn't mind!

We're looking forward now to another good year of artist/blacksmith activities. This paper serves as the public meeting forum for all Guild of Metalsmiths events, and within these pages are a variety of them.

Did you know that the Guild of Metalsmiths has a library of hard cover books? And that we have a librarian who will be happy to help you find just the right reference, resource, or specialty tome in the area of metalurgy, shop practice, or engineering.

Guild librarian **Susan Wood** announces that currently the Guild of Metalsmiths has about 60 titles in its lending library. Susan took on the position of Guild librarian at the beginning of 2003, and admits, "As new librarian I'm still guessing at how to make the library more accessible. For now, the four heavy totes (of books)

Ask
Our



Librarian!

will continue to show up with me at meetings, and members can sign out books using the 3X5 card system."

Susan says a wide range of subjects are contained in the library, including metalurgy, shop practices, and engineering. Also, there are welding process, jewelry making techniques, patinas, and, of course, blacksmithing and forge practices.

"I send a belated but heartfelt 'thank you' to North Dakota State University for donating twelve new titles to our collections," Susan stated.

So, at the next Guild of Metalsmiths meeting on June 11 (location unknown at this writing), introduce yourself to Susan and check out the assortment of titles in our library.

Forum deadline for May, 2003

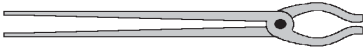
If you have activities that will be occurring in June, please send them by Monday, April 28, 2003 to **Georgia Myers**, editor, by e-mail to:

forum@metalsmith.org

or by mail to:

Georgia Myers
313 Dakota St
Lake City MN 55041

We'll try our best this month to get the May issue of "The Forum" out before the middle of April! Thank you.



The Guild of Metalsmiths, St. Paul, MN, publishes the GoM Forum monthly. It is intended as a tool to further our educational mission, to propose 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.

*Your comments can be mailed to The GoM Forum, c/o Georgia Myers
313 Dakota St
Lake City, MN 55041-1869*

or e-mailed to

forum@metalsmith.org

Vol 5 Issue 4

The GoM Forum

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).

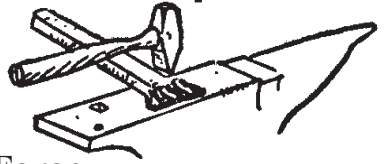
Application forms are available from the president or treasurer at a regular meeting, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

The Guild of Metalsmiths
PO Box 11423
St. Paul MN 55111

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Hammer Making Workshop

**Saturday, May 3
9:00 a.m.**



**Location: Flint Lock Ridge Forge
Dick Carlson, Blacksmith
19700 Red Wing Blvd.
Hastings, MN 55033 (see map on next page)**

Registration: \$26 for members, includes materials

**Presented by Dick Carlson, Myron Hanson, and
assistants**

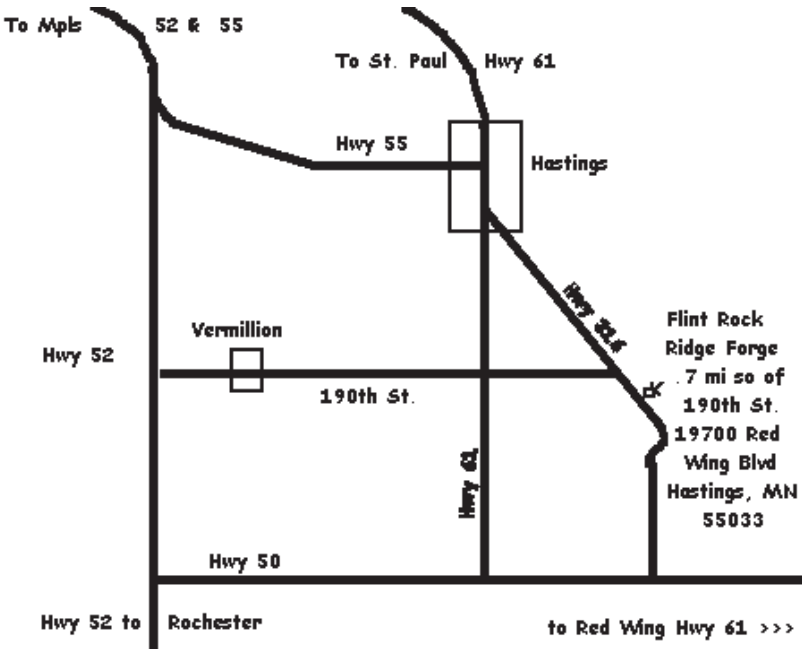
**Participants should bring gloves, hammer, and
ear & eye protection.**

**Also bring a bag lunch, or lunch will be available
for \$5 each. Coffee and cookies available in the
morning.**

**Register for Hammer Making
Workshop on back of this page.**

**Send check for \$26 made out to
Guild of Metalsmiths**

Map to Flint Lock Ridge Forge Hammer Making Workshop Saturday, Ma y 3, 9:00 a.m.



Cut here

To reserve a spot at this Hammer Making Workshop, fill out the registration form and send it with you check for \$26 made out to the **Guild of Metalsmiths** to:

Dick Carlson
19700 Red Wing Blvd.
Hastings, MN 55033

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Classified ads



Classified ads are free for members of the Guild of Metalsmiths. To place an ad in the May issue of “The Forum,” simply e-mail the editor (forum@metalsmith.org) or send a card or letter by Monday, April 21.

FOR SALE: Old cast iron forge table in perfect condition. 45” long by 31” wide with round fire pot hole. No legs, but holes are pipe threaded. \$100.00. Contact Tony at 763-561-2911, or check blacksmithtony2001@yahoo.com

The Minnesota Crafts Council fall show, which used to be Fiber/Metal is Oct 3, 4, and 5. Entry deadline is April, 18. Prizes, 125 artists in show. For more info, call 612-333-7789 or check <http://www.mncraft.org/>



Addressing the topic of loose hammer heads...

Jack Rowe, Saginaw, Minnesota, writes:

At the risk of causing an earthquake, forest fire, flood, avalanche, or tornado, I declare the “wet head” dead! The magazine, “Family Handyman” deals with loose hammer heads. Their conclusion is that soaking in brine or water causes “compression set,” i.e. permanent damage to the wood fibers, so when the handle dries out, it would be looser than before.

Another method is to drive the handle on holding the handle end up and giving it a couple of sharp hits, then putting the head into the vise, handle down, and spray painting the eye, then letting it dry. Repeat this until it won’t absorb any more. Turn the hammer up the other way and repeat spraying. Finish by driving existing metal wedges with a small punch or chisel.

News from ABANA - Artist-Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc.

REMINDER: ABANA Board elections are coming up soon.

Find details at: http://abana.org/business/abana_board.html

Bob Fredell, Chairman of Members Services Committee, ABANA, shares some interesting regional conferences coming up in 2003.

• **IronFest:** May 30–June 1, 2003, Grapevine Heritage Center, Texas.

Demonstrators—Toby Hickman, Susan Hutchison, Mark Pierce and William Roan.

For Information—Verl Underwood, 613 N. Bailey, Fort Worth TX 76107; vaunder@aol.com

• **CanIRON IV:** July 10–13, 2003, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

Demonstrators—Dean Piesner, Doug Wilson, Elizabeth Brim, Charles Orlando, Doug Newell, Scott Langton, Eddie Payne, Cairn Cunnane and Jim Wallace.

For information—(905) 772-2475;

admin@caniron.icomm.ca, www.caniron.com

• **Upper Midwest Regional Blacksmithing Conference:**

July 18-20, 2003, Thresherman's Reunion Park, Pontiac, IL,

Demonstrators—Clay Spencer, Kirk Sullen and Chuck Patrick. For information—(847) 746- 8689;

leebiewer@sprintmail.com, www.umrbc.com

• **Quadstate:** September 26-28, 2003, Miami County Fairgrounds, Troy, OH.

Featured Item For Work—Grill Work. For information—www.abana.org and go to Calendar of Events.

• **Appalachian Blacksmiths Association Fall Conference:**

October 18-19, 2003, Cedar Lakes Park, Ripley, West Virginia, Demonstrators—Tal Harris. For information

(304) 624-7248; anvilwork@aol.com; www.appaltnet.net

• **Kentucky Blacksmiths' Association:** November 8, 2003, Louisville Kentucky.

Program—The promoters state that this event is the largest ever exhibition of contemporary blacksmithing. Their hope is that it will become a traveling exhibition. Public demonstrations are planned. For information—(502) 589-0154;

ck@craigkaviar.com,

brionclinkingbeard@kentuckycrafts.org



‘Show and tell’ at February Guild meeting

Artist blacksmiths from the Guild of Metalsmiths lined up some items for show and tell at the February Guild meeting at Toll Welding.

These items, shown above, were presented by **David Mariette** (detail of sign bracket); **Noble Nygaard** (towel holders/hangers); and **Scott Richards** (Holey copper pipe). The creator of the knife is unknown. Thanks to **Charlie Bateman**, a talented lad, for sharing the photograph!

How to run for election to the ABANA board of directors

The Artist-Blacksmith’s Association of North America, Inc. (ABANA) is run by a board of 15 directors elected by the membership. These elected volunteers serve as officers, committee chairpersons and members of committees. Five of the 15 directors are elected each year for a three-year term.

To run for election, one is required to be an ABANA member in good standing and provide the following:

A nominating petition signed by at least 10 ABANA members submitted with photograph and candidate statement to the central office by June 15 of the election year.

ABANA Central Office, P.O. Box 816, Farmington, GA 30638

Upcoming Guild meetings

Wednesday, May 14

**Guild of Metalsmiths Board of Directors
meeting**

Myron Hansen's home

4015 Dodd Rd

Eagan, MN 55123

Guild of Metalsmiths meeting

Wednesday, June 11

Location not yet announced

NOTES...