

Goings on...



Events in December, 2003

- Sunday, Dec. 7, Guild meeting at Czecho Slovakia Protective Society (CSPS) Hall, St. Paul, MN, starts at 1 PM
- Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 13 & 14, Winter Seminar at Mike Blue's Cannon River Forge

Events in January, 2004

- Wednesday, January 7, Long term Planning Committee meeting 7:00 PM, Hanson Conference Center, Eagan
- Wednesday, January 14, Guild board meeting, 6:30 PM, Hanson Conference Center, Eagan

NOTE: If anyone has any events out there for January or February, please send to me by Monday, December 15 via either forum@metalsmith.org, or gmyers@rconnect.com

— *Georgia Myers, editor, The GoM Forum*

New feature....

Adopt - A -Flora

Do you have a flower garden that contains overgrown clumps of flowers that need to be separated and redistributed? Do you hate to throw away those products of your tender care and sweat? This new column in The Forum serves a purpose that will help you to share your extra plants and flowers with other members of the Guild of Metalsmiths.

Simply e-mail your intention to divide or share any of your beloved perennials to me, Georgia Myers, editor. I'll print them in this column in the next month's issue of The Forum, along with a phone number or e-mail where you can be reached. Terms of trade will be totally up to the people involved to work out among themselves.

For example, next April I will be dividing about a dozen day lilies, and I need adoptive homes for the extra plants I'll be discarding. E-mail me at gmyers@rconnect.com if you're interested in adopting my overflowing day lilies. They're all colors, from deep red to bright golden yellow.



The Guild of Metalsmiths Monthly Notice
December 2003
Vol. 5, No. 12

Preparing to welcome 2004

The new year of 2004 brings with it a new schedule of meetings for the Guild of Metalsmiths. Below is the annual schedule for both Guild member meetings and Guild board meetings as they are scheduled right now. Changes, if any, will be noted in the monthly notice, *The Forum*.



Guild member meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of every other month (except December), beginning in February. They usually begin at 6:30 PM with a potluck meal, then go on with the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Guild board meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of every other month, beginning in January. They also begin with a potluck meal and are followed by the business meeting.

REMINDER: The December 2003 Guild meeting is Sunday, December 7, 2003 at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul. See November Forum for complete details, including map.

2004 Guild meetings

February 11
April 14
June 9
August 11
October 13
December 5 (Sunday)

2004 Board meetings

January 14
March 10
May 12
July 14
September 8
November 10

Forum deadline for January: Monday, December 15

If you have activities that will be occurring in late January or in February, please send them by Monday, Dec. 15, 2003 to **Georgia Myers**, editor, by e-mail to: forum@metalsmith.org (e-mails will be forwarded to Georgia Myers) or mail them to: **Georgia Myers**
313 Dakota St
Lake City MN 55041



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.

*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*

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

Attention Young Blacksmiths!

Announcement from: LeeAnn Mitchell

Central Office Administrator
Artist-Blacksmith’s Association of North America, Inc

Matthew Catling, a television producer from Great Britain is working on a documentary series for the Discovery Channel which will explore the “Super Weapons” built by the ancient Greeks and Romans. In each program we’ll construct a life-sized working replica of these monsters.

The contenders include a giant siege engine with a 20 metre-long battering ram, an enormous catapult...and other strange devices which were at the cutting edge of military technology 2000 years ago.

Once constructed, we’ll test the awesome destructive power of these weapons against stone walls, wooden boats etc. We need to put together teams containing engineers, timber framers, blacksmiths and other experts who’ll design, build and test these ancient inventions...on screen.

Our candidates should be men or women with the following qualities:
* A high level of skill and imagination. Our team members need to be able to solve the manufacturing and engineering problems faced by their historic counterparts using only wood, rope, bronze and other historically accurate materials.

* An enthusiastic and outgoing personality. They must be comfortable with the idea of being part of a lively on-screen team.

* Teams should consist of “young men and women no older than their early thirties”.

The series will be filmed between February and March of 2004, probably at a Mediterranean location. We’ll put together a different team to construct each weapon. In each case this will involve 10-14 days of filming.

Interested individuals should send me a relatively brief email describing who they are and what they do. They should also include a photo, or a link to a photo. We’ll then contact the people who might work best in the teams we’re drawing up.

Darlow Smithson Productions is a leading producer of documentary programming. We make films for the Discovery Channel, PBS, The History Channel, the BBC, National Geographic and a number of other broadcasters.

Contact Matthew Catling
Darlow Smithson Productions Ltd
Highgate Business Centre
33 Greenwood Place
London NW5 1LB
Switchboard: 44 (0) 2074827027
Direct: 44 (0)207 4829620
Mobile: 07930 356367
email: matthew.catling@darlowsmithson.com



New committee

A new long-term planning committee was recently formed and held its first meeting on November 5 with eight members in attendance. Watch for more details about this in the future. Next meeting is January 7, 2004

NOTE:

There are still some openings in the beginning blacksmith classes two and three. Interested folks should contact Don Halvorson at 651-772-3087.

Dates for the second and third sessions of beginning blacksmith classes are these:

Workshop B

December 6, 2003
December 13, 2003
January 3, 2004
January 17, 2004

Workshop C

January 24, 2004
February 7, 2004
February 21, 2004
March 6, 2004

Classes are held at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Dr NW, Ramsey, MN 55303. If you're interested, give Don Halvorson a call.

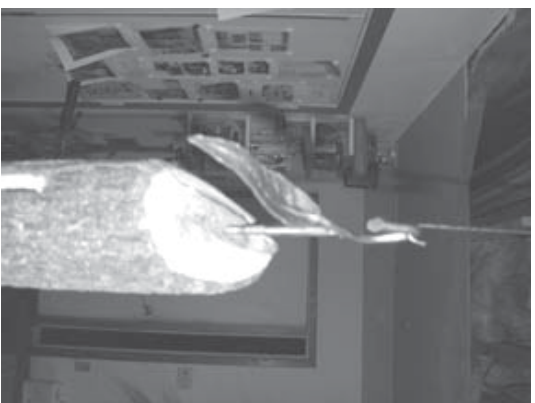
Herb's review of the fall conference right angle bend contest

I was using my prize hammer today and I love it. Thanks, Dave.

It occurs to me that a lot of the best people were more interested in showing me how to get it right than they were in competing.

That is nice, but it also would have been nice to see twenty different techniques demonstrated under the guise of a contest.

—*Herb Fick*



Attached leaf on suet feeder made by cutting a dovetail slot in a 3 inch walnut branch. Of course the leaf is made using the new Dave Marlette hammer.

2nd Annual Winter Seminar Cannon River Forge/Mike Blue

Location: 5847 318th Street Way, Cannon Falls, MN 55009

**Saturday & Sunday, December 13-14, 2003
Class begins at 0800-0830 Saturday**

Cost: \$75.00 USD. Coffee and donuts in the morning, and we are all going to dinner Saturday night on my tab.

Two sections of focus are basic folding knife assembly and finishing with RB Johnson and Terry Knipshield, and damascus and blade forging techniques with Randal Graham and myself. We are going to be working on completing an LP/venturi fired forge this session as well.

Beginners are welcome, and anyone whose been at this a while is encouraged to bring their forging or welding problems for help getting solutions. The intent is a small group atmosphere with the student leaving with something in their hand that they have done. For example: most everyone in the damascus welding group left with a completed billet and a forged blade last year.

Contact Mike Blue at CRF 507-263-5808 or email at truthforger@hotmail.com for further information, directions etc.

The class is filling rapidly so get your name in. Otherwise the spring hammerin is in the planning stages for May next year.



Guild of Metalsmiths Board 12 November 2003

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting

7:15 PM

Submitted by Herb Fick

Minutes from 3 September 2003 meeting approved as corrected.
Attending: Adams, Carlson, Fick, Fratalone, Hanson, Johnson, Mariette, Moneck.

Ford and Barr were absent:

Financial: Mike Fratalone

Correction to 3 September The Checking acct was \$19679.

Current checking acct: \$24578 from year earlier.

\$473 in bulk mailing.

The account including Bulk Mail has \$25051, or \$814 more than last year at this time.

Reserved for grant fund \$5002

Discretionary Fund balance \$20049 (\$1414 up over last year)

Cost of fall conference was approximately \$7000, down about \$3700 from last year.

The income from the fall conference was almost identical to last year.

Attendance at the fall conference was one more than last year.

Membership:

If we exclude 39 members who are delinquent non-renewals from July, August and September, 291 is the number of members. (21 down)

Goal: We have approx 4-5 tons in the pen (Mariette estimate).

The board did authorize approximately \$4400 dollars to buy coal.

Mariette has the ball. There was a coke sign-up sheet at the conference. Pea coke does not seem to have sufficient interest for the Guild to arrange supply. The board will put one more notice in the Forum. We will drop the subject if interest is not there.

Education: Bob Johnson and Jim Moenck

See adverts for Basic Classes

Basics are scheduled. The complete workshop schedule is on line

Instructor's workshop was 13 September

Two-day Oxy-fuel welding seminar is scheduled at Hanson's using Myron, Dick and Bill. 15-16 Nov. Oxy-weld class now has 11

students and is full.

Program: Myron Hanson

Next Program committee is 20 November.

Will focus on choosing demonstrators for fall conference.

* The committee will go over post mortem of fall conference.

November board meeting minutes, continued

* Will go over fall conference equipment requirements.

* Bauers discourage dogs for the next conference, particularly

where the food is.

* September 24 25 and 26 of 2004 is next fall conference.

Contact Dick Carlson, or Myron to volunteer. Carlson is 651-437-3329, Myron is 651-454-3984

December meeting is at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul. December 7 at 1 PM

We need suggestions for meeting places for general membership meetings. We usually have 60-80 people.

Publicity: Dave Mariette

Forum came out.

Web site updates are ongoing.

Georgia is keeping up the mailing list.

Gordon Barr is keeping the membership database.

Credit Union: There was a question of whether we should put Guild funds into a credit union. At the last meeting the motion was to

table until now. The credit union suggested was United Educators

Credit Union. Mike Fratalone did the spade work and reported.

There was no motion to pursue credit union membership.

Long Term Planning: (New committee) Dave Mariette

Long term planning committee met last week. Eight persons made the first meeting. The long term planning meeting minutes will be in

The Forum.

Bob Walsh wants to establish an art committee, and he wants to set something up with MCAD.

Major long-term issue discussed was facility. No conclusions.

Old business

Tape library distribution: Rich Herman asked for authorization to begin copying tape. He can copy guild or non-copyrighted tapes in our library. He can cost it so it does not become a net expense to the Guild. The tapes will be available to members, and Rich can decide if the quantities per request need to be limited.

New Business:

Juare/Hubler award is being prepared to the old artwork.

Address Change:

Dick Carlson has moved the Flint Rock Forge driveway to Pine Ridge Road.

Laura Ingalls Wilder days are 18-19 Sept 2004, (Third weekend in September. The date offered in the 3 September minutes referred to 2003.

Next board meeting is Jan 14 2004

Adjourn 8:30 PM