The Forum

June 2009



Vol. 11, No. 6

Nowthen Hammer-In just around the corner

If you haven't already heard, June 5 and 6 is the Nowthen Hammer-In. If you would like to pound some iron, here is a great chance! Nowthen has five forging stations for just that purpose. All skill levels encouaged to participate.

Friday night: social time and open forges

Saturday: Demonstrations by Pete Stanaitis. A 1 to 1 1/2 hour presentation on how to do a

demonstration, "Making the audience glad they came."

Cost: IT'S FREE!

Primitive camping available on site. Porta-pots only, and water hose to blacksmith shop. Questions: Contact Dave Mariette at 612-889-3291, or david mariette@anvildancer.com

Join fellow Guild of Metalsmiths members on Wednesday, June 10 for an inspiring look at the diversity of metal artistry

The June 10th meeting will be held at the Lisa Elias Metal Studio in northeast Minneapolis. The June meeting will begin with potluck supper at 6:30 at the address above. Be sure to bring your latest show and tell items to share. Or bring some of your earlier items to share again!

Lisa Elias is a self-employed metal artist creating metal work for individual homeowners, architects, and designers.

Inspired by traditional blacksmithing techniques, she creates elegant functional sculpture. She draws on simple organic forms, including vines and branches to fabricate her work.

A linear fluid touch allows her to create a diversity of sculpture from railings, fences, gates, and benches to light fixtures, arbors, and birdbaths. Untrained in formal methods of forged metal fabrication, Lisa has developed her own unique style. The true power of her artistry is her ability to harmonize the disparate elements of welded steel and organic forms into graceful sophisticated sculpture.

The studio is located at 1129 Van Buren St NE Minneapolis MN 55413 Phone: 612-362-0570

NOTE: Maps and detailed directions can be found on page 4.

Visit Lisa Elias' website at http://www.eliasmetalstudio.com/index.html

Forum deadline for July: Monday, June 15, 2009

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, June 15, 2009 to Georgia Myers, editor, by e-mail to:

gldmyers@embarqmail.com

or mail them to:

Georgia Myers 413 W Dakota St Lake City MN 55041

'The Forum' is online

To read an electronic (PDF) version of *The Forum* each month, go to our website, www.metalsmith.org.



New members

Justin White Duluth, MN

Mick Garrett Sandstone, MN

Jerry Rengo Hibbing, MN

Conner Brennan Maplewood, MN

Keith Nelson Minneapolis,MN

The Madness is coming! The Madness is coming!

So, have you marked your calendar yet for the Fall Madness – the Guild of Metalsmiths Fall Conference? The conference will be held this year on September 18th through the 20th at the Little Log House Power Show grounds, located six miles south of Hastings on Highway 61.

Friday afternoon is the Gallery setup; bring your best works to show off all of the great stuff you have made. This is a non-juried show; all items registered will be included in the gallery. If you have items that you showed in the past, please bring them again since there are always new members each year for which the items will be fresh. If you cannot make it Friday, gallery registration is open on Saturday also.

Friday night is the Grand Opening of the gallery. Come early for the potluck dinner and join your friends to tour the wonders of the Conference gallery.

Friday is also the opening of the tailgate area. If you need to buy or sell some equipment, the tailgate sales area is a great opportunity to exchange those hard-to-find smithin' tools. Sales are open all weekend, but the best deals usually go early.

Saturday is the main event with registration starting at 7:30 AM and demonstrations starting at 9 AM. This year we have two wonderful demonstrators – Mark Asprey from Springville, California and Mike Garrett from Helenville, Wisconsin.

In addition to the demonstrators, other family activities for the weekend include Found Art creation, Altoid Tin Repousse, Broom-making class with Mark Jackson, a Scandinavian spoon carving class with Del Stubb and magnetic art. There will be a materials fee of \$15 charged for the broom-making class and the fee has not been determined for the spoon carving class. It is preferred that you pre-register to make sure you get in the classes by contacting Sheri Stanaitis (2476 10^{th} Ave. Baldwin, WI 54002-7204 ph - (715) 263-2628).

If that isn't enough to keep you busy, browse the silent auction area to pick up that piece of steel you need or the other doodad you can't live without. And if you have an extra chunk of steel or a thingamajig you don't need, consider donating it to the silent auction. We are asking everyone that participates in a public demonstration this summer at a fair or power show, please donate an item to the auction and identify what event it was made at. Tools would in particular be appreciated for the auction.

And let's not forget the highlight of the conference, the Saturday Night Live auction. This is a major event of the year and provides you an opportunity to pick up some wonderful items for either your shop or your living room wall.

Now you may expect an opportunity to experience all of this would cost lots of bucks – well we will take it if you want to give it to us, but all we ask is a measly \$35 per family for the entire weekend or \$20 per family for a single day of the conference. Meal plans are available for \$37 for the weekend per person. Camping is available on the grounds for no charge except for a nominal fee if you connect your camper to the electricity.

More information on the conference will be showing up in your mailbox in a month or two.

— Rich Herman, Guild of Metalsmiths President



Elias Metal Studio 1129 Van Buren St NE Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413

94 From the west (via I-94 E / US-52 S)

- 1. At exit 229, take ramp right and follow signs for W Broadway Ave / CR-81
- 2. Turn left onto CR-66 South / CR-81 East / W Broadway Ave

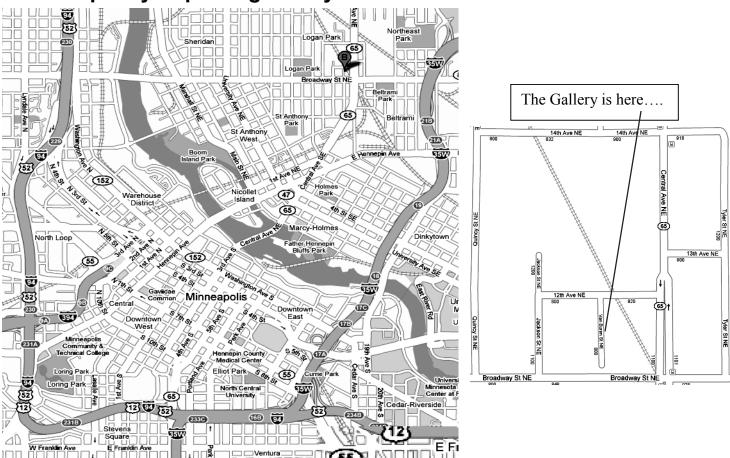
Pass MCDONALD'S on the left in 1.1 mi

- 3. Turn left onto Jackson St NE
- 4. Turn right onto 12th Ave NE, and then immediately turn right onto Van Buren St NE

94 From the east (via I-94 W / US-12 W / US-52 N)

- 1. Take ramp right for SR-280 North toward University Avenue / Pelham Blvd
- 2. Take ramp right for E Hennepin / Larpenteur Ave. W and turn left onto Hennepin.
- 3. Follow Hennepin Ave going west until you have crossed over 35W
- 4. Turn right onto Buchanan St. NE
- 5. Turn right onto Jackson St NE
- 6. Turn right onto 12th Ave NE, and then immediately turn right onto Van Buren St NE

There is plenty of parking. See you there!



- * 35W From the North: South of Hwy 36
- 1. At exit 21A, take ramp right and follow signs for Stinson Blvd / CR-27
- 2. Turn left onto CR-27 South / Stinson Blvd NE
- 3. Turn right onto CR-66 / NE Broadway St
- 4. Turn right onto Jackson St NE
- 5. Turn right onto 12th Ave NE, and then turn right onto Van Buren St NE $\,$
- * 35W From the South: North of University Ave / 4th St.
- 1. Take Hennepin Ave E. Exit and turn left / West at top of ramp.
- 2. In 1 block, turn right / north onto Buchanan St. NE
- 3. Turn left onto NE Broadway St
- 4. Turn right onto Jackson St NE
- 5. Turn right onto 12th Ave NE, and then turn right onto Van Buren St. NE $\,$

Vol 11 Issue 6 The GoM Forum Page 4

Minutes – THE GUILD OF METALSMITHS, Board of Directors – May 13 2009

Held at the home of: Myron Hanson, 4015 Dodd Rd., Eagan, MN 55123

CALL TO ORDER: 7:15 by Rich. Members in attendance:

Herman, Frattalone, Ponder, Lindholm, Rand, Upgren, Sigurdson, Barr, Mariette, Hanson, Asmus. Missing: none **AMENDMENT / APPROVAL** OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES: Motion to accept by Roland Sigurdson and second by Dave Mariette. Motion passes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee-Mike Frattalone		
DISCRETIONARY FUND BALANCE	\$9,072	(DOWN \$2,994)
REMAINING GRANTS	\$6,075	,
CASH TOTAL	\$15,147	
EXPENSES SINCE LAST BOARD MEETING ON 3-11-9:		
MEMORIALS, FLOWERS, CARDS	\$146	
WORKSHOPS	\$1,873	
MEETINGS	\$24	
FORUMS	\$628	
METALSMITH WITH DIRECTORY	\$2,394	
CONFERENCE	\$7	
STAMPS, ADDRESS CORRECTIONS	\$33	
LARSON ALLEN TAX PREP	<u>\$535</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,640	
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$5,249	
COAL 10 9 TONS OF 23 TONS DEMAINING		

COAL 10.8 TONS OF 23 TONS REMAINING

MEMBERS 321 (UP 17)

The Financial Report is available to any member upon request to Mike. The tax return was filed and paid. There was some discussion about saving money by using a canned tax program instead of an accounting firm. Darryl Ponder will investigate this option.

Education Committee report-Dave Mariette

Intermediate class to provide opportunities beyond the basic class, to span four Saturdays next fall, Oct 10, Oct 24, Nov 14, Nov 21. Treadle hammer workshop is still on. G. Barr, C. Rand and D. Ponder are working on finishing the prototype in the next few weeks. Once the Bill of Materials is finalized a cost will be calculated and the workshop date will be announced. Several new classes and workshops are planned for next year including: a tongs class, strap hinge class, coal forge workshop, hammer class, knife class, and gas welding. Date will be announced later.

Program Committee- Myron Hanson,

Mark Asprey and Tom Garrett demonstrators for the 2009 fall conference. June guild meeting at Lisa Elias' shop in NE Minneapolis. August 12- corn feed at Dan Pate's. Next program committee meeting 6/18/2009. Demonstrator agreement has been modified. Discussed possible demonstrators for 2010 Fall Conference. Discussed several upcoming meeting sites.

Publicity Committee- Roland Sigurdson, Chris Rand

Working out problems with emailing The Forum. Copies of the Metalsmith will now be sent electronically to affiliates and international. Based on information gleaned from the Financial Report and Membership Report, the average price to deliver the Forum to a member for one year is \$25.00. The average price to deliver the Metalsmith is \$14.00. Based on the \$30/year annual membership price, we are \$9-\$10 over budget for each member in regards to the Forum and Metalsmith alone. What this means is that these publications are being subsidized by revenue generated from classes put on via the Education Committee. While this has been the case for many years, it seems to the Publicity committee that monies generated from the classes could go to better use if possible. Discussed the possible need to increase membership dues. The website needs to be updated. Several options are being investigated. The Metalsmith is looking for articles. If interested in submitting an article, contact Roland Sigurdson.

Long Term Planning Committee - TBD

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Grants: Looking for appropriate projects and locating a grant writer. The school in Webster, Wisconsin was given an affiliate membership and a copy of the *The Beginning Blacksmith* manual.

NEW BUSINESS:

42 of the 72 back issues of the Metalsmith have been scanned and more are in the works (C. Rand). A DVD will be made available when this project is completed. Discussions about how to deal with our dwindling Discretionary Fund Balance. including cost cutting measures, removing color printing from the Metalsmith, adding different membership levels, and increasing membership dues were all mentioned as possible solutions. Discussed some type of sculpture or plaque to display the names of recipients of the Juare/Hubler award. A design is being studied.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next meeting of the board is July 17, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 PM, Motion by Myron Hanson, accepted without dissent.

For Sale

Guild member Erling Grumstrup at "Erling's Forge," 2497 170th St, Luck, Wisconsin. Phone 715-472-8327 has discontinued metalsmithing and is moving to a retirement home in California. He offers the following items for sale:

- √ Forge with adjustable pot, side drfat hood, and multiple speed electric blower, \$2500.
- Small Atlas metal cutting lathe on a stand with 3 jaw universal chuck and accessories. In good condition, \$300.
- √ A chest containing machinist/toolmaker's precision gages and measureing instruments. Includes several types and sizes of outside, inside, and depth micrometers, dial indicators, angle plate, parallel bars, etc. \$300.
- √ "Nu Tec" Plasma Cutter, 1/8 inch capacity, used very little. \$500.
- √ About one dozen blacksmith tongs, \$3 each.
- $\sqrt{2}$ leg vises, \$30 each.
- √ Heavy-duty 1/2 inch Shopmate electric hand drill, \$40.
- √ 12 drill bits with #1 morse taper shanks, \$3 each.
- ✓ A drawer box of various sizes of taps and dies, \$20.
- About 150 lbs. of steel round bar and flat stock, 1/4, 3/8, and 1/2 sizes in 8 and 10 foot lengths, \$35.
- √ Blacksmith's Helper stand, \$10.
- $\sqrt{}$ Box of Metalsmith magazines, \$10.
- √ Three inch ring binder of "Blacksmith's Jour nal," containing many smithing projects. \$10.
- √ Numerous other smaller items to be priced when seen by potential buyers.

For Sale

Screen for fireplace doors. .080 wire size, woven on one inch centers. 5 pieces for sale 18"X 24" each. Good looking screen. Cost new, \$200 plus shipping, sell all for \$75.00. Brand new.

Bob Walsh (715) 442-3102 robertwalsh@centurytel.net

Artistic blacksmiths needed!

We are searching for artistic blacksmiths to participate in the 6th Annual Forge-In Blacksmith Festival by competing or setting up shop on October 17, 2009 at Fitchburg Riverfront Park, Fitchburg, Massachusetts. We hope you might consider participating this year.

This event draws thousands of visitors each year and offers live blacksmith competitions and demonstrations for cash and prizes, children's activities, entertainment, food, and works by artists. Information, registration forms and photos can found at www.DiscoverFitchburg.com/blacksmithfestival.html.

Thank you for your time, Katrina Burton, Event Coordinator

* The Fitchburg Forge-In Blacksmith Festival committee is made up of volunteers from the community. All proceeds benefit the maintenance of Fitchburg Riverfront Park through the Fitchburg Riverfront Park Foundation, a 501c3 organization. This event is sponsored by Achla Designs (www.achla.com), the City of Fitchburg, the Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority, and with a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council through the Fitchburg Cultural Council.

Upcoming events...

Little Log House Antique Power Show July 25 & 26

Guild members are invited to join in staffing the blacksmith shop at the annual event held just south of Hastings, Minnesota. Contact Dick Carlson with questions.

Nowthen Threshing Show August 21, 22, 23

Guild members are invited to join in at the annual Nowthen Threshing Show in Nowthen, MN.

A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the August meeting. Passes for free admission will also be given out at the August meeting. If you can't be at the August meeting, contact Bob Fredell, bfredell@msn.com, to have a pass mailed to you.

Almelund Threshing Show August 7, 8, 9

Guild members are invited to join in at the annual Almelund Threshing Show in Almelund, MN.

Contact Carl Nordquist if you're interested. The blacksmith shop buzzes during this annual summer festival.

Demonstrators needed!!

Early Minnesota Trades August 8-9

Location: The Landing - Minnesota River Heritage Park, Shakopee, MN

(Formerly Murphy's Landing)

I'm looking for a couple folks to help with demonstrations at this event. They have a 'rustic' blacksmith shop and are interested in having a couple more portable forges going those days.

Please contact Roland Sigurdson (rolandsigurdson@yahoo.com or 612-715-5254)

Guild member to teach class

Tom Latane will teach a two day workshop at the Driftless Folk School in Hillsboro, WI, June 13 and 14. The first day students will forge a substantial thumblatch, striking for each other, then each finishing a handle. The second day will be spent forging as much of the back-latch group - lift bar, staple and keeper - as skill and time permit.

Call the registrar for information at (888) 587-6540 or see http://driftlessfolkschool.org.

Canlron V11

Late breaking announcement: The CanIRON VII pages are up on the Internet

Visit the website: http://www.caniron.ca

The Western Canadian Blacksmiths Guild is going to put on CanIron V11. The date is August 7,8 &9th. The location will be at Ness Creek, Saskachewan. More information to follow but I will say it is beautiful lake country, perfect for a holiday. There is room for on site camping @ \$10 per day. Also, there are Hotels, B&B's and cabins in the area.

We will have 4 or 5 top notch demonstrators doing their thing and we will also have demonstrators for knife making. We are going to have a Hands On project on the go as well. More information to follow on that.

The cost to pre register will be \$200.00 from now to July 1st then the price will increase to \$250. The phone number and address will be posted later. On site meals will be available at a cost of \$120 per person for the event, and again please make your intentions known as soon as possible.

As we proceed we will provide more information.

Larry Olm, President

One day Texturing Workshop with James Johnson

James Johnson has been working with Saltfork (Oklahoma), North Texas, Houston, and several other Texas ABANA Affiliates to get the word out on a one day demonstration at his shop on June 13th. This will be an all day event and he will open his shop and the hammers if blacksmiths want to try different hammers.

James is planning on showing the use of dies to create unique textures to sculptures or any type of blacksmith work. He will also be demonstrating the use of several types of power hammers in his shop (treadle, Little Giant 50, Anyang 20,33,88,165). James will also show how he uses the power hammers to make some of his copper work. You can check out his blacksmith site at www.johnsonmetalsmithing.com and the power hammer site at www.anyangusa.net

james@anyangusa.net 2956 CR 1370 Alvord, Texas 76225 (940) 627-4529

4th Annual The Blacksmith Guild of Virginia Hammer-In with Mark Aspery

The Blacksmith Guild of Virginia has a hammer in coming up September 4-5 with Mark Aspery. The registration form and flyer are on our website: www.blackamithguildofva.com

Classes and Workshops at The Yesteryear School of Blacksmithing

There are classes lined up with some of the best instructors in the country including Mark Aspery, Doug Merkel, Mark and Mindy Gardner, Jerry Darnell, and many others listed. There is also an online store for custom tooling and accessories. To visit the website Click Here www.yesteryearschool.com There you will find a huge listing on the classes offered.

Contact Information Yesteryear School of Blacksmithing 1918 West Virginia Avenue Crewe, Virginia 23930

Give us a call: 434-390-6203 or Email us: info@yesteryearschool.com

Vol 11 Issue 6 The GoM Forum Page 8

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



Kirsten Skiles, Instructor

1st session: June 12, 13, 14, 2nd session: June 25, 26, and 27 (NOTE: Still openings available in the latter class!)

The two classes can be taken independently. They do not both have to be taken together.

For the first session, we will work on a leaf form and turn it into a pendant. For the second session, students may either use their own design, or use one of Kirsten's (either a rabbit or a flower). That design will be turned into either a ring or pin. In both sessions, students will learn how to use a jeweler's saw to cut metal. The 2nd session will include basic hard soldering of sterling silver.

There will be tools to make. There will be lab fees to cover the cost of the silver, findings, solder, and flux. (approx \$20.00?) We will have torches to share and different handheld portable torch options.

A three day class would include making tools, the two day class tools would be furnished. Students will again need pitch bowls filled with pitch or small cast iron skillets filled with a small quantities of pitch.

Nathan Robertson, Instructor Hammer Class, June 20

Call or email for details and registration info. Call John or Carol @ Tunnel Mill 507-378-4983 or 289-4189.

Future plans:

Peter Ross will be coming to the mill in 2010. Also, Roger is still on for 2009, but no dates set yet.

We are still looking for ideas and input from YOU! What are your interests? How can we help? Call or email us!

Goings on...

...a calendar of TCOM events at a glance

- All Education Committee meetings are the first Monday of each month.
- All Program Committee meetings are the third Wednesday of each month.

Events in June, 2009

- June 6 & 7, G uild Hammer-in at Nowthen. Contact Dave Mariette with questions.
- June 10, Guild membership meeting at Lisa Elias Metal Studio in northeast Minneapolis.
- June 12, 13, 14, and June 25, 26 & 27, Kirsten Skiles at Tunnel Mill

Events in July, 2009

- July 17, G uild board meeting, Myron Hanson Conference Center, Eagan, MN.
- July 2 5 &26, Little Log House Antique Power Show, Hastings, MN. Contact Dick Carlson for details.

Events in August, 2009

- Almelund Threshing Show, Aug. 7, 8, 9. Contact Carl Nordquist with questions, <u>carlsanvil@centurytel.net</u>
- MN Zoo Family Fest, Aug 8 & 9. Contact Rich Herman with questions.
- Guild membership meeting & corn feed, Aug. 12, Dan Pate's. Details TBA
- Nowthen Threshing Show, Aug. 21, 22, 23. Contact Bob Fredell with questions, <u>bfredell@msn.com</u>

Events in September, 2009

- Rice County Gas & Steam Show, Sept. 5 & 6. More details TBA.
- Defeat of Jesse James Days, Northfield, Sept. 11, 12, 13
- Fall Conference (AKA The Madness), Sept. 18, 19, 20, Little Log House grounds, Hastings, MN

Our neighborhood of smiths

UMBA

Visit http://www.umbaonline.org/events.html

UMBA DVD-R library 125 different titles

\$5 each, \$2 shipping per order

Never return them to library - www.umbaonline.org

Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information is as follows:

President: Paul Branch Newsletter editor: John Grump

715-248-7788 715-835-0894 pbranch@frontiernet.net johngrump@att.net

Lake Superior Metalsmiths

Lake Superior Metalsmiths (LSM) meet the fourth Saturday of the month at noon from October through April. The meetings are potluck at noon at Dave Hanson's house, 5873 Taft Road, Duluth, Minnesota, 218-721-4572.

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. The Northern Minn. Metalsmith's website is www.nmmetalsmiths.org



Join The Guild of Metalsmiths

Send \$30 dues to the address below. Please circle if you want to be listed in our mmebership 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

Don't List Me in the Directory

address - phones: home - work - fax - cell - email - web page (mark items above you DO NOT want published)

Name:			
Address:			
Company Name:			
(optional items)			
Home phone:		Work phone:	
Fax:	Cell:		
Email address			

Joining The Guild of Metalsmiths?

Please introduce yourself. Each month we welcome new members to the Guild and offer them a chance to tell us a bit about themselves. (who you are, your goals as a metalsmith, the services you provide, products you make, etc.) Whatever you want to share is fine. So, give us a statement of interests/services up to 254 characters long (letters and spaces). This statement is also printed in the member directory (optional).

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.

Join The Bellows, our email discussion forum. Information at: http://www.metalsmith.org/bb/TheBellows.htm



PO Box 11423 St. Paul MN 55111

Address Service Requested

If your membership has expired, please send your \$30 membership dues to the above address.

June 2009

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.

For address change, or to submit comments, please mail to: The GoM Forum
Georgia Myers
413 W Dakota St
Lake City, MN 55041-1869
or e-mail to

forum@metalsmith.org or gldmyers@embarqmail.com

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 selfaddressed, stamped envelope to:

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