

The Forum

September 2009

Vol. 11, No. 9



Hear ye, hear ye, *the Madness* is right around the corner!

The Fall Conference of The Guild of Metalsmiths (TGOM) is just a couple weeks away: September 18-20 at the Little Log House Power Show grounds, located six miles south of Hastings on Highway 61.

Friday, September 18...Set Up Day

UPDATE! There will be potluck on Friday evening. Cliff Larsen has offered to prepare pulled pork for perhaps 75 people to share as potluck. He will obtain the pork, utensils, and baked beans, and probably some chicken breasts.

Members and hangers on are requested to focus on salad, veggies, desserts, and beverages. There will be a request for a cash donation. Sounds like a good way to get in the mood for the wine and cheese party for the Gala Gallery Opening a few minutes later.

Dinner will be at 5:00 PM. Set up crew note this so you can try to get your work done in time for dinner. Call your friends from the other groups and invite them to the Madness.

Saturday, September 19...Main Event Day

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 10th Ave. Baldwin, WI 54002-7204 ph – (715) 698-2895).

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.

Sunday, September 20...Final Day

Sunday is the final day of demonstrations, and your assistance at the end to help put things away would be appreciated.

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—order early for availability. 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 soon.

FOUND ART!!!!!!!!!!!!

I hope most of you have that 5 gallon pail of bits and pieces to bring for the found art project. We've had a lot of fun with this in the past years. There is a highly skilled group of volunteers ready to help.

Also think about Flatware. This is new this year: flatware and kitchen utensils, particularly of stainless, are needed. Joseph Anton, who showed so many neat pieces at the bicycle shop meeting, has offered to work with people who want to do flatware sculpture. He will even bring samples. Young people: do not be bashful about this. Corky has offered his small tig welder for that workstation. I've got a stock from a community garage sale, Mike Frattalone will check out the Salvation Army store.

— *Herb Fick and Rich Herman*

'Introduction to Scandinavian Spoon Carving'

This class will be available at the Fall Conference, scheduled for Saturday, September 19 at 9:00 a.m.. Call Sheri Stanaitis at 715-696-2895 or email her at spaco@baldwin-telecom.net. A well made spoon has a lot of hidden engineering. We will cover this, using green and dry wood, and practice many of the safe and strong ways to use traditional Scandinavian carving knives.

In 1991 Del Stubbs studied for a winter in Sweden with master carvers, and has taught many courses since. Today he is a carving knife tool maker - (www.pinewoodforge.com) There's room for 12 students at \$25 each. Del provides wood and tools. Register now by calling or emailing Sheri Stanaitis (info above). Email Del with questions at del@pinewoodforge.com.

Forum deadline for October: Monday, Sept. 21, 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, Sept. 21, 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

NEW MEMBERS

Lynn Meyer
West Salem, WI

Jim Doyle
St Paul, MN

Mike Mausolf
Lake St Croix Beach, MN

Heather Kainz
Cottage Grove, MN

Nathaniel Kale
Minneapolis, MN
Bruce Shilling

Greg Lind
Taylors Falls, MN

Kevin Toboja
Minneapolis, MN

Steve Tennant
Hudson, WI

Jeff Lohaus
Minneapolis, 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



Auction Items, I Beg You!

I'm on my knees again this year, folks! I am asking for one very small favor from all members who will be attending the Madness this year.

Please bring a piece for the auctions.

The Silent Auction.

Everybody has things around the shop/garage that someone else would want to buy. It doesn't even have to be metal, there is rarely anything left at the end as you have seen in the past.

The Saturday Night Auction.

I have been the Gallery manager since about 2001. It is really cool to see all the things that have been displayed and to talk with the members about the pieces. So many members donate the work to the auction, uh oh I feel it coming on, yup I was right. Please folks donate to the auction this year. The auction Saturday night is one of the largest contributions to the financial health of our group.

Metalwork is great, but you have seen for yourself all of the other things that have been auctioned off, so blow the dust off of everything in the shop and storage room and you will find something that you can't remember why you brought it home in the first place. Thanks for your time. Now I can get off my knees.

— Tom Phelps, Program Committee

Fall Conference reminder: Completed rings needed!

Ok folks, they asked me to write another article about remembering stuff again, so here goes. In a past article I asked a few people, including myself, to please complete the rings for the "Ring Project" that were due last year so we can auction them off. That was the deal, so get to work, including myself.

Up next, kinda the same but different, the rings that didn't win the spot on the gate also brought in much needed funding for our events and education, so we would ask of all to make a ring project large or small to be displayed in the gallery, then auctioned off. People said they wished there were more entries last year.

Now to finish this off, we are hoping that some of you would step up and make some tools. You know, chisels and punches, tongs and other items to donate to the auction. I know I just said it a minute ago but the Fall Conference is the number one contributor to the Guild and all that we do, so fire something up and get to it. (Including myself).

— Tom Phelps, Program Committee

TGOM October Membership Meeting Regis Center for Art with Professor Wayne Potratz Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Roland Sigurdson – Champion (rolandsigurdson@yahoo.com)

The Regis Center for Art opened in 2003 and houses the facilities and studios for the Department of Art in the West Bank Arts Quarter of the University of Minnesota.

Wayne Potratz, Professor of Art and Scholar of the College will give a short illustrated talk about the University of Minnesota Sculpture Foundry, including some of his research interests [Traditional Japanese Tatara and steelmaking; Southern Indian, Meso American, and Japanese clay molding for metal casting, and the Annual Minnesota Iron Pours].

During The Guild of Metalsmiths meeting, members will be able to tour the building, including the sculpture facilities [woodshop, metalshop, and foundry].

The Regis Center for Art is **405 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis** on the West Bank Campus of the University of MN. Located just off of Riverside Avenue and 21st Avenue. The foundry is in the east building [the Regis is two buildings on both sides of 21st Ave. S.] across the street from the ramp.

Parking is available at the 21st Avenue Ramp across the street from the building or at the 19th Avenue Ramp, two blocks west of the building.

Parking rates at the ramps are as follows:

\$3.00 < 0-1 hours

\$6.00 < 1-2 hours

\$7.00 < 2-3 hours

\$8.00 > 3-4 hours

Please join us for potluck dinner starting at 6:30pm, with membership meeting and lecture/tour beginning at 7pm.

August 12 meeting photos from Dan Pate's studio in the country...



Dick Carlson (left) is responsible for the delectable sweet corn we all got to enjoy at the August membership meeting. He's assisted here by another Guild member as they remove ears from the huge kettle of boiling water and prepare them with butter to be consumed by eager Guild members.



Bob Beck took over the carving duties at the August membership meeting as hungry Guild members waited for the juicy pork to hit the serving platters. The pork, provided and roasted by Herb Fick, was delicious.

So, you've taken the basics and think Blacksmithing is cool.
Now you think you're ready to make a commitment to it.
What! Are you nuts?
Turn Back! Turn Back! Before it is too late!
There's Still hope for you!

Introducing: Iron, Man, and Their Evolution

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL BLACKSMITHING WORKSHOP

Forged ironwork has been the king of metals from the earliest farming utensils, to forged components for the space program.

This intermediate level blacksmithing workshop will address forging skills with a historic overview.

An overview of the evolution of ornamental ironwork design will be covered. The participant will learn to identify processes specific to iron design and execution. The workshop will be a hands on forging workshop where each participant will forge a small ornamental iron grille to develop new forging skills.

This workshop is an intermediate level workshop, which means you will need to have: A. Completed beginners 1,2,3,& 4 or equivalent. B: Had some experience forging iron. Should effectively be able to draw a taper, upset, punch, and square bend. Forge welding is a plus, but we will be covering that in the class.

Dates: October 10th & 24th and November 14th and 21st.

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map below)

Cost: \$120

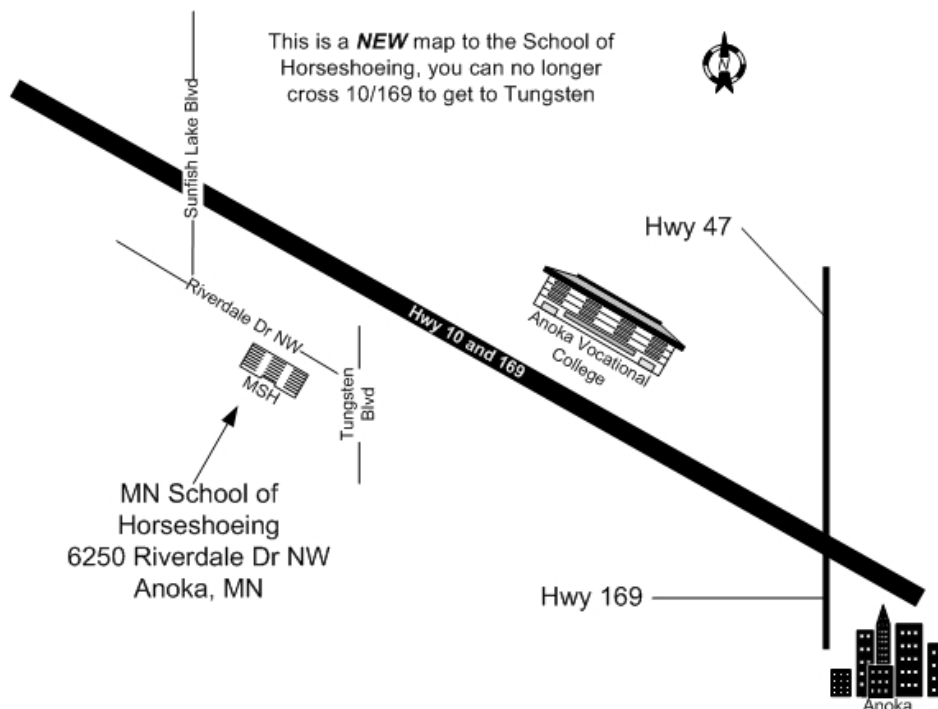
The processes included in the production of this grille will be:

1. Blacksmithing; an historical perspective.
2. Joinery and design concepts.
3. Fire management.
4. Forge welding.
5. Tool Making.
6. Mortise and tenon joinery.
7. Design execution.

Mail registrations to: David Mariette, 4020 160th Street East, Rosemount, MN. 55068.

Include a check for \$120 made out to, "The Guild of Metalsmiths."

Questions: David Mariette 612-889-3291 or email to david_mariette@anvildancer.com



Beginners Blacksmithing Classes 2009 / 2010

When: Classes are held on four Saturdays from 9 – 4. Three sets of classes are held this Fall, Winter and Spring. All 3 sets of classes teach the same information. You can choose either the A, B or C set of classes.

<u>A Class (FILLED)</u>	<u>B Class</u>	<u>C Class</u>
Sept 26 (FILLED)	Jan 9	Feb 13
Oct 17 (FILLED)	Jan 23	Feb 27
Oct 31 (FILLED)	Feb 6	Mar 13
Nov 7 (FILLED)	Feb 20	Mar 27

Cost: First, you must be a member. If you are not, you can join for \$30 per year. The workbook/study guide is \$15 and the 4 classes are \$105. This covers everything you need, the facility, coal, and metal.

Where: The classes are held at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Dr NW, just off Hwy 10 in Anoka near the Anoka Vocational College.

Why take the beginners basic classes: The beginners basic classes are designed to give everyone the same understanding of the basics, techniques and terminology. The basic classes are required before taking any of the many other classes the Guild offers. This enables those classes to concentrate on advanced techniques without having to spend time on basic concepts.

What you need to bring: Eye, ear and skin protection. This includes safety glasses, ear muff or plugs and suitable clothing which includes hard shoes, cotton or leather. Synthetic and polyester clothing will burn and melt. There will be sparks and brushes against hot metal.

Tools: Bring your favorite hammer. A small 1 to 2 pound ball peen hammer would work. We have various hammers for you to try and get a feel for what is comfortable. We have all the punches, chisels and tools you will be using but feel free to bring your own tools if you have them.

What you will learn: The first 3 Saturdays you will learn the basic techniques including:

Safety	Forging Dynamics	Hammer Techniques	Fire Building
Drawing out	Upsetting	Punching	Bending
Twisting	Heat Treating	Scrolling	Splitting

The fourth Saturday will be self paced to build a few items that will include each of the techniques you learned earlier. Instructors will help guide you thru any number of possible projects such as a forge rake, watering can, forge poker, spoon, shovel, etc. This is a good opportunity to try out all your new skills.

Who are the teachers: The instructors are all volunteers with a wide range of experience, talent, and stories. They range from just finishing the basic beginners class to 30 years experience. There is usually at least one instructor for every two students and many times we have had as many instructors as students.

Who are the students: The students come in all ages and experience. We have had 10 year olds and 70 year olds. There are always a few women in each class. Some students have never held a hammer before. Some students are skilled in other crafts, woodworking, glass, welding, pottery and want to learn more about metal work to work it into their craft. Some students are nearing retirement and want to learn a hobby. All share an interest in learning more about blacksmithing.

Typical day: Classes start at 9 but people usually show up much earlier to get the coffee brewing, have a donut, swap stories or show off recent projects. Feel free to bring projects you are working on to show. We break for lunch. You can either bring a brown bag or go out to a local fast food restaurant.

How can I learn more about the Guild or classes:

Call or email Gordon Barr 952-894-4821 agbarr@aol.com www.metalsmith.org

How do I join the Guild Of Metalsmiths?: Send \$30 for a one year family membership to: (make checks payable to “Guild of Metalsmiths)

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

How do I sign up for the beginning blacksmith classes? We start collecting names as soon as the classes are advertised in the July and August newsletters. The newsletter is usually sent out the first week of the month.

Send a check made out to “Guild of Metalsmiths” for \$120 or \$105 (book or no book) to:

Gordon Barr
11021 27th Ave
Burnsville, MN 55337

**Blacksmithing class at Driftless Folk School
Nov 7 & 8, 2009**

Forged Kitchen Utensils

Instructor :Thomas Latane

Students will forge a long handled fork and spatula which will be decorated by modest filing and chasing (stamped design). Pieces will be given a blackened wax finish. On the Saturday evening Tom will demonstrate forging chasing tools to stamp ornamental patterns. Some forging experience required. Less skilled students may concentrate on achieving the forms while more experienced students can focus on design and embellishment.

www.driftlessfolkschool.org

888 587 6540

P.O.Box 405

Viroqua, WI 54665

Class held in Hillsboro, WI

For Sale:

50# Little Giant Trip Hammer, 2 HP, Single Phase Motor, Serial Number 2686. Good condition, ready to use. \$2,500. Monticello, MN area. Call 763-232-3877

Class at Tunnel Mill SWAGES & DIES

Tom Latane' class

**October 9, 10 & 11, 2009. Friday, Saturday &
Sunday**

Students will bring their own anvil and stands or stumps to be fitted with the hardy tools made in this class. Tom will demonstrate making open dies and swages by direct chasing and by forging a pattern to be driven into the die stock. Dies demonstrated will include moulding, dragon foot (for use on tripods), and leaf designs. Students will be helped with other design ideas they may have. Tom will also demonstrate forming closed dies in a guillotine type tool for those who wish to bring such tools. If time permits we might do a class project and produce a larger die for use under John's large power hammer one evening.

Tom Latané has been creating original metalwork in his Pepin, Wisconsin workshop for over 25 years. Tom's hand forged ironwork is functional in traditional Gothic, Renaissance, Scandinavian and Early American styles.

Tom has been using traditional tools and techniques including chasing and repoussé to forge original locks, hardware, tools and candle fixtures in Pepin, Wisconsin, since 1983. Tom is also a skilled woodworker, and enjoys combining his talents with wood and metal.

Contact Carol and John Adams at jc-adams@msn.com or phone 507 289-4189.

TUNNEL MILL FALL GATHERING OCTOBER 3 & 4, 2009

It's that time of the year and we would like to invite you to the mill. There will be plenty of interesting demos, or just come and hang out, you are bound to learn something.

- Iron—we will be running the 500lb Little Gaint
- Saturday we will be running our ongoing Iron bloom project
- Copper—learn some texturing techniques
- Tie-dying, marblize, or bleaching-make your own t-shirt (I will have some available for sale)
- Quilting—bring your sewing machine.
- Make a table runner. Call for more information.
- Help us decorate the barn by painting a quilt block.
- ****NEW-** nearby cave tour with David Olin**
- Wine and cheese has become a regular for Saturday afternoon.

Directions to Tunnel Mill: Tunnel Mill is located 20 miles south of Rochester. Take Hwy 63 south to Stewartville, turn east on Hwy 30 to County Rd 1 (approx 5.5 miles). Turn south on County Rd 1. Follow CO RD 1 6.5 miles to Tunnel Mill on the left side of County Rd 1. (Call about camping on grounds) Lodging available in Spring Valley, 5 miles further south on County Rd 1; Shady Rest-507-346-2625—Spring Valley Motel & Suites—507-346-7788

REGISTRATION-Please fill out and return by September 25th, 2009

Name _____

Phone # _____

Weekend admission fee \$10.00 per person _____

Daily admission \$5.00 per person _____

Meals available for these costs

Sat morning _____ persons @ \$3.00 ea

Sat lunch _____ persons @7.50ea

Sat evening _____ persons @\$12.00 ea

Sun morning _____ persons @5.00ea

Sunday noon _____ persons @7.50 ea

POTLUCK-FRIDAY EVENING

WEEKEND RATE-\$40.00 ea

Send Registration to Carol Adams

4505 Hwy 63 N

Rochester, MN 55906

Questions call 507-289-4189 or 289-5246

NO PETS PLEASE

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 Wednesday of each month.
- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, October, and December. For each meeting 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. Most meetings are held at Myron Hanson's home in Eagan.

Events in September, 2009

- Rice County Gas & Steam Show, Sept. 5 & 6. Contact Myron Hanson.
- Fall Conference (AKA The Madness), Sept. 18, 19, 20, Little Log House grounds, Hastings, MN
- Beginning Blacksmith Class A1, MN School of Horseshoeing, Anoka, Sept. 26 (Filled)

Events in October, 2009

- Oct. 3 & 4, Fall Gathering at Tunnel Mill
- Oct. 10 & 24, Intermediate Blacksmithing at MN School of Horseshoeing
- Oct. 9, 10, 11, class at Tunnel Mill, Tom Latane with "Swages & Dies"
- Oct. 14, Guild membership meeting, Regis Center for Art, 405 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis
- Oct. 17, Beginning Blacksmithing Class A2, MN School of Horseshoeing (Filled)
- Oct. 31, Beginning Blacksmithing Class A3, MN School of Horseshoeing (Filled)

Events in November, 2009

- Nov. 7, Beginning Blacksmithing Class A4, MN School of Horseshoeing (Filled)
- Nov. 11, Guild Board meeting, Myron Hanson's in Eagan.
- Nov. 14 & 21, Intermediate Blacksmithing, MN School of Horseshoeing

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)

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in the Directory

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Company Name: _____

(optional items)
Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Fax: _____ 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.

September 2009

'The Forum' is online

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

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.

To submit comments, please mail to:

The GoM Forum

Georgia Myers

413 W Dakota St

Lake City, MN 55041-1869

or e-mail to gldmyers@embarqmail.com

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>

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