

# The Forum

December 2019



Vol. 21, No. 12

## Annual TGoM holiday gathering Sunday, December 8 at CSPS Hall in St. Paul, MN



Join Guild of Metalsmiths friends and families for our annual holiday gathering at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul (address 385 Michigan St, at the corner of West 7th and Western). The hall will open at noon. We usually share hors d'ouvres as people arrive, so bring your favorites if you wish.

The annual business meeting is first on the agenda, including awards, elections, and the normal business stuff starting at 1:00 pm and going on for an hour or so. Your participation is key to this. That leads into show and tell, and possibly an impromptu mini-auction. By then, we'll all have worked up an appetite to sit down to our always delightful holiday potluck.

If you're a first-timer to this event, just go upstairs at the front of the building when you get there. An elevator entrance is also located on the side just off the parking lot. Bring your family!

Any questions about this meeting can be answered by contacting meeting champion Mike Frattalone at [icemanfratt@aol.com](mailto:icemanfratt@aol.com).



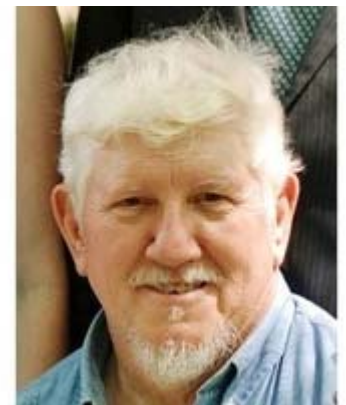
## TGoM member passes

The Guild of Metalsmiths learned on Friday, November 29 that one of our active members, Denny Covington, had passed away. Below is a copy of the obituary and details of funeral arrangements. The Guild extends heartfelt sympathy to Denny's family. We will miss him. He was a good friend.

*Dennis C. Covington, age 73 of Corcoran, passed away Nov 29, 2019. Dennis was born Nov 11, 1946 in Minneapolis to Marie and Ken Covington. He graduated from Robbinsdale High School and Brown Institute. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War. He retired in 2010 after working 35 years for the Robbinsdale School District.*

*Denny is survived by loving wife of 42 years, Nancy; children, Chris (Denise) Covington, Rebecca Covington and Melissa (Derrick) Covington-Damm; grandchildren, Emily and Ben Covington and Nadia and Simone Damm; sister, Wendy (Tom) Penna; nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by sister, Bonnie, and his parents. Thank you to the ICU departments at North Memorial and M. Health Fairview for their dedicated care.*

*Funeral 11 AM Friday at Immanuel United Methodist Church, 10025 County Road 101, Corcoran. Visitation 4 - 7 PM Thursday at Gearty-Delmore Chapel of Plymouth, 15800 37th Ave. N. and 1 hour prior to the service at church.*



Denny Covington

# Beginners Blacksmithing C session and D session Classes - Registration now open for January and February, 2020 3-day classes

- January 4, 11, and 18 in Ramsey (MN School of Horseshoeing) --map page 7
- February 1, 8, and 15 Cleveland (Larry Wasmund's shop)--map page 7

The beginners basic classes are designed to give everyone the same understanding of the basics, techniques and terminology. The basic classes or proficiency is 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.

This 3 day class covers the basics of: Safety, Tools, Fire Control, Forging Dynamics, Tapers (ribbon, fishtail, point), Twisting, Riveting, Shouldering, Upset, Cutting, Splitting, Punching, Heat Treat, Scrolling, Bending, Forge weld.

**Cost:** (covers everything you need, the facility, coal, metal tools and workbook)

\$180 for members, \$190 non members

Minors (under 18) can share a forge with a guardian for an additional \$30

## Dates and Location:

The classes are held on Saturdays at the Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, 6250 Riverdale Dr NW, just off Hwy 10 near the Anoka Vocational College or in Cleveland, MN near Mankato. See page 7 for maps of both locations.

## 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:

Tools are provided but if you have a favorite hammer, punches, chisels and tools, bring them along. 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.

## 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. Classes end between 3 and 5.

## To sign up for the three day Beginners classes in either January (C session) or February (D session):

Send a check made out to The Guild of Metalsmiths to:

Gordon Barr [agbarr@aol.com](mailto:agbarr@aol.com)

11021 27<sup>th</sup> Ave

Burnsville, MN 55337

(\$180 for members, \$190 non members)

Spotlighting a member of The Guild of Metalsmiths who has generously shared knowledge, talent, and time as a class instructor for TGoM.

*...sharing our passion for metalworking!*



## Meet the Instructor: Dave Mariette

Born and grew up Nordeast! Owned and operated his fabrication and forging business for 15 years making industrial fixtures to architectural iron.

Member of the Guild of Metalsmiths for, "a long time."

Twice past president. Board member fourteen years. Chaired education committee for four years.

Studied blacksmithing traveling far and wide. A list of mentors: Walsh, Latané, Whitaker, Pearce, Wilson, Hickman, Aspery, Gunter, Brubaker, Bergman, Hofi, Vikstrom, and Norrie, just to name a few.

Studied forgewelding under Bob Patrick at the Ozark School.

Retired.

Currently resides in Browerville, MN.

# Handled Struck Tools Workshop

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019, 8 am to 5 pm

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7)

Instructors: Jesse and Dave Gavin, Herb Fick, and others

Cost: \$85 Class size: max 8 students; minimum 6 students

The tools made will be punches with a wire handle and chisels with a wire handle. We will offer the option to use treadle hammers supplied by the teaching staff. (Find out if you really need one of these by trying them.) Tools for the treadle hammers will be supplied. Steel used will be 5/8 and 3/4 inch round 4140 AN for the punches and chisels. Handles will be fabricated from 1/4 and 5/16 round CRS.

The goal of the workshop is to produce students comfortable with the process of forging and heat treating tools from tool steel. The secondary goal is to have the students comfortable with the use of treadle hammers. We forge in the morning, heat treat and install handles after lunch.

We've accepted that most of the time is spent focusing on understanding the heat treat process. There will be enough stock so we can encourage you to make a couple of serious mistakes and still go home with real tools to use or to offer for the next "iron in the hat".

Power grinders are supplied. Bring your favorite hammers and tongs suitable for the stock if you have them. Bring your basic safety gear (leather, cotton, gloves, eye and ear protection and safety shoes).

Last year we used three different treadle hammers for the eight students. For reference, probable students are invited to question former students including: Gene Thoma, Bryan Carlson, Kathleen Cantner, Derrick Phillips, Wayne Olson, Jim Moenck, or Bob Brown. This class has been going annually for quite a while and has always filled. Credit for that goes to the Jesse and Dave.

**Tools and Equipment or other items to bring to the class:** Bring favorite hammers and tools or use ours.

**Safety Equipment:** Cotton clothing, gloves, hearing protection, safety glasses.

**Lunch Arrangements:** at local fast foods or bring your own

**To register,** put your name, phone number, email and residential address on piece of paper, fold it up with a check written to The Guild of Metalsmiths for \$85 and send to Herb Fick, who will manage the class.

Herb Fick

519 East Eighth Street

Northfield MN 55057-2508

Contact Herb with questions: 507 663 0569 or 507 649 1611 (cell)

[herb@phyque.com](mailto:herb@phyque.com)

Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark.



# Forge Welding 2-Day Class 2020

Saturday & Sunday, February 22-23, 2020, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm each day

Location: Minnesota School of Horseshoeing (map page 7)

Instructor: Dave Mariette

Cost: \$160 member, \$180 non-member

Maximum students: 8, Minimum: 6

Forge welding. So, you've seen it done. It looked so easy. Why doesn't it work for me, you ask? David will seek to dispel the mythical mysticism that seems to surround this technique and give you the tools you need to begin forge welding. Like many things, there is no magic bullet. It is a compilation of doing everything right, not just one thing. Starting from the ground up learning to manage heat, you'll begin with some basic welding, and as you gain some experience move on to a few more advanced welding configurations. Possible projects this year: a flux spoon, tripod, chain, leaves & tendrils "bouquet" and if time allows, a basket twist.

**Prerequisite:** Solid basic forging experience. We'll be using coal forges.

New this year- advanced forge welding skills option:

Have you taken this class in previous years, or done some simple welds but nothing since? David will teach advanced techniques (concurrently with the basics) for those who have done forge welding and would like to progress their skills. Please let us know when registering.

**Safety Equipment:** The usual. Eye and ear protection. No flammable clothing. Leather work boots. Since we are forge welding and there will be more sparks than usual, students should dress with that in mind. Bring an apron if you have one.

**Tools and Equipment:** Hammer & tongs (for stock sizes to be listed in an acceptance letter). As part of the cost of the class, students will be provided with their own wire "scratch" brush and a 1-lb. can of EZ Weld. Stock is provided.

**Lunch arrangements:** Bring a bag lunch or visit one of the area restaurants.

**To register for this class,** send a check payable to "The Guild of Metalsmiths" and your contact information to:

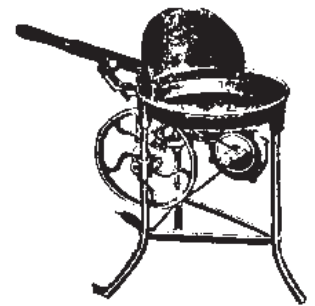
Christina Dodge

17645 Baugh St NW

Ramsey, MN 55303

Contact Christina with questions at (612) 741-9292 or email [christina.guildmbr@gmail.com](mailto:christina.guildmbr@gmail.com)

**Registration for this class will be determined by postmark and confirmed with an acceptance letter. Guild members have priority.**



# November 13, 2019 Guild of Metalsmiths Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Gordon Barr, Peter Bettenberg, Christina Dodge, Mark Lockwood, Larry Wasmund, Paul Widenhoefer, and Richard Zielike

Absent: Jesse Gavin, Taya Gavin, Martin Masters, and Derrick Phillips Guest: Wes Peterson

Meeting called to order at 7:15. Minutes: m/s Mark/Gordon, approved.

**Treasurers Report:** Fall conference generated approximately \$17,600 with expenses of about \$11,500. The live auction generated more income, even though attendance was slightly down. As of October 31, 2019 we had \$81,680.93 in all of our accounts. m/s Gordon/Peter, approved.

**Program:** Fall conference was down a little, and Leonardo's basement had 36 attendees. Tom Latane did an excellent demonstration. The Christmas party is all set for December 8<sup>th</sup>. Arms and Armor has lost their lease. Some issues with our fall conference facilities were discussed.

**Communications:** The December Metalsmith editor is Asa, and Peter will be the March editor. The committee will meet December 8<sup>th</sup>, just before the Christmas party starts. The Forum is doing well, and the website committee will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup>. No additional action has happened on the Iron Menagerie, but several publishers have reached out to us. The hand held microphone works well and we used a small mixing board for Valerie's class at the Fall Conference. Tee Shirt sales were up.

**Education:** Last beginners class had 4 students, but the Cleveland class was full. Joinery class is November 16 & 17, but the fireplace tools class is not full. Gordon and Christiana did a taste of blacksmithing class at Leonardo's Basement in 2-hour segments. The forges at the School of Horseshoeing have been repaired, but we will be replacing them.

**Membership:** We are at 275 paid up membership. Neon is working well, and most members are using it. At different times during the meeting we discussed individuals who were facing significant health issues.

**President's report:** Discussed the Little Log House. Larry met with them and offered a preliminary long-term lease with stipulations.

Nominations for awards were discussed.

Meeting adjourned by Larry at 9:12

Respectfully submitted by Richard Zieleke, Recorder

*Merry Christmas!*



## Our neighborhood of smiths

### The Guild of Metalsmiths (TGoM)

All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October, except December. For these meetings 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). To check your membership expiration date, see the mailing label on your latest copy of "Metalsmith."

President: Larry Wasmund Vice-President: Paul Widenhoefer  
[poundedtreasures@gmail.com](mailto:poundedtreasures@gmail.com) [pwidenhoefer@gmail.com](mailto:pwidenhoefer@gmail.com)  
612-599-4762 952-930-0070

Our website is: <http://www.metalsmith.org>

### Badger Blacksmiths meetings

Our contact information:

President: Dave Weiss Newsletter editor: John Grump  
715-379-5007 715-829-4559  
[diamondmetalworks13@gmail.com](mailto:diamondmetalworks13@gmail.com) [johngrump@att.net](mailto:johngrump@att.net)

Badger website: <https://sites.google.com/site/badgerblacksmiths/>

### Lake Superior Metalsmiths

Lake Superior Metalsmiths (LSM) meet the fourth Saturday of the month. Potluck at noon with meeting to follow.

**Contacts are:**

Charley Brown, President, [CharleyRB@charter.net](mailto:CharleyRB@charter.net), 218-428-7906  
Dave Hanson, VP, [duluthblacksmith@yahoo.com](mailto:duluthblacksmith@yahoo.com) 218-391-4466

### Northern Minnesota Metalsmiths

The NMM meets the first Monday of the month at Lake Itasca Region Pioneer Farmers (LIRPF) show grounds, 1/4 mile east of the north entrance to Itasca State Park.

Contact Keith Johnson for monthly specifics at [keith@greatriverforge.com](mailto:keith@greatriverforge.com). The NMM's website is [www.nmmetalsmiths.org](http://www.nmmetalsmiths.org)

### Central Minnesota Blacksmiths (CMB)

Meet on the first Monday of each month. Potluck followed by demo. Locations are different every month so please call or write for info

**President: Ken Zitur** **Brian Johnson**  
320-746-8161 16777 Co Rd 75 NW  
[mail@kensiron.com](mailto:mail@kensiron.com) Clearwater MN 55367  
320-558-6898

### Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (CAFAC)

Quarterly blacksmithing classes, exhibits, and open house events  
[www.cafac.org](http://www.cafac.org) email: [info@cafac.org](mailto:info@cafac.org)

### Tunnel Mill Crafts

Blacksmith shop, traditional iron work, classes  
Located 20 miles south of Rochester MN, near Spring Valley MN  
507 289-4189 or 507 289-5246  
Carol Adams [jc-adams@msn.com](mailto:jc-adams@msn.com),  
<http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/>

### Sandy Lake Forge on Raspberry Island

Blacksmith shop offering classes, workshops and more. See [raspberrylakefolkschool.blogspot.com](http://raspberrylakefolkschool.blogspot.com) for details or call: 218-851-6085

Gary and Janet Hill Raspberry Island  
50569 218th Place McGregor, MN 55760

# 2019 Joinery Class students - Nov. 16 & 17



Left-to-right: David Skaurud\*, Pieter Maas, Adam Robrahn\*, Martin Pansch, Adam Dauer, Jason Shockman, Doug LaBorde, Kevin Shudlick.  
Not pictured: Bob Brown\*, Derrick Phillips\*

## 2019 Beginning Blacksmiths from the November 'B' Class

Paul Kluskowski  
Aiden Bill  
David Scadlock  
Doug Penny  
Phillip Benzmilller  
John Barklow.

## Instructors

Larry Wasmund  
Chad Wilson  
Adam Dauer  
Bob Brown

## The Guild has a new address

The Guild of Metalsmiths  
PO Box 72

Hudson, WI 54016

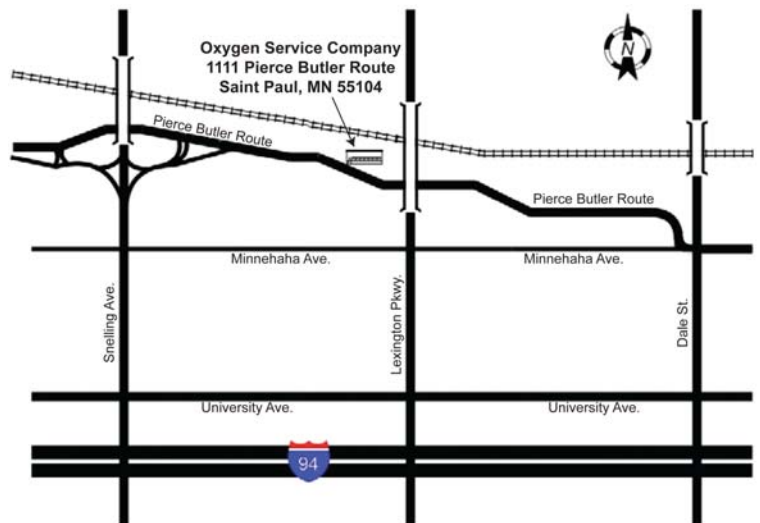
Please update your records! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me. Thank you!

Taya Gavin, Treasurer

[gavin1137@hotmail.com](mailto:gavin1137@hotmail.com) 715-781-4389

## Sneak Peak into February, 2020!

The February 12, 2020 TGoM membership meeting will be held at Oxygen Service Company, 1111 Pierce Butler Route, St. Paul MN 55104. Full details will be included in the January 2020 issue of *The Forum*. Mark your calendar now!



*Note: The information below is provided as a service for TGoM members. Members may submit items for sale and upcoming events that are considered relevant to our group, and they will be published as space permits. The Guild of Metalsmiths is not responsible for these items or events.*

## ***Tunnel Mill Crafts Sneak Peak of 2020 Classes and Events***

We are located in southern Minnesota near Spring Valley. For more information on any of the classes contact us at [ic-adams@msn.com](mailto:ic-adams@msn.com), or call 507-289-4189 Carol Adams.



### **Tom Latane' May 15, 16 & 17, 2020**

#### **Candle-Holder with Saw-tooth Trammel.**

##### **Class Description:**

Students will create a two candle chandelier with an integral saw tooth trammel for height adjustment. The teeth of the trammel will be forged over the edge of the anvil. The drip pans will be forged from the material at the ends of the cross arm and dished to receive the candle cups riveted in their centers.

The cross arm will be mortised to the trammel staff, a junction which can be ornamental with delicate scrolls above and below depending on the desire and skill of each student.

A stirrup at the bottom of the trammel and a swivel loop at the top will complete the project.

### **Kitty Latane' May 15, 16 & 17, 2020**

#### **Tin work**

### **Derek Olson and Tom Latane' May 18, 19, 20 & 21, 2020**

#### **Combination workshop, Wood & Metal**

Aumrey door with hinges..

### **Douglas Pryor tentative date June 5, 6th & 7, 2020**

### **Mark Aspery July 6-12, 2020.**

2-3 day classes with a free day in between.

Tools and small projects.

### **Ric Furrer August 21, 22, 23, 2020.**

(tentative date, possibly August 14, 15 & 16)

### **Fall Gathering October 2, 3, & 4, 2020.**

### **Tom Latane' October 9, 10, & 11, 2020.**

#### **Combination padlock.**

##### **Class Description:**

Students will produce a fist sized four wheel combination lock with a removable pin and a pivoting ball.

Rings will be formed and brazed to plates and letters or numbers stamped on the perimeter.

The plates will be pierced to fit over a rolled tube with a slot for the toothed spine on the retaining pin.

The plates will be cut to allow the spine on the pin to pass in the correct configuration.

# Goings on...a listing of TGoM events at a glance



- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October. Date for December will be announced. For these meetings 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).
- Education Comm. meets first Thursday of each month. Contact Christina Dodge, co-chair: [christina.gldmbr@gmail.com](mailto:christina.gldmbr@gmail.com)
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday monthly. Derrick Phillips, chair [derrick\\_phillips@q.com](mailto:derrick_phillips@q.com)
- 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.

## Events in December 2019

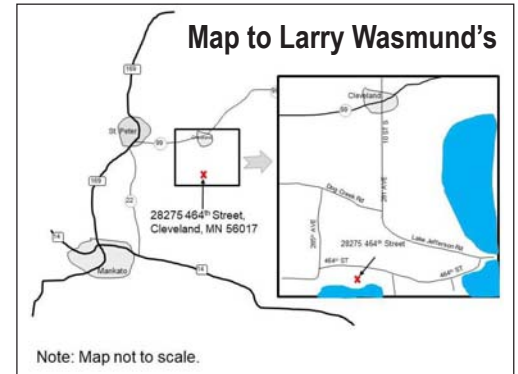
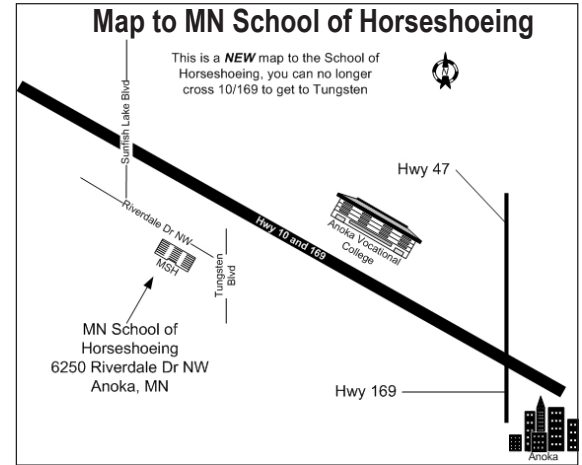
- Dec. 7, Handled Struck Tools Class, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Dec. 8, TGoM Holiday Meeting, CSPS Hall in St. Paul, MN

## Events in January 2020

- Jan. 4, Beginners Blacksmithing "C" session classes, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 11, Beginners Blacksmithing "C" session classes, MN School of Horseshoeing
- Jan. 18, Beginners Blacksmithing "C" session classes, MN School of Horseshoeing

## Events in February 2020

- Feb. 1, Beginners Blacksmithing "D" session classes, Cleveland, MN
- Feb. 8, Beginners Blacksmithing "D" session classes, Cleveland, MN
- Feb. 12, TGoM membership meeting, Oxygen Supply Service, St. Paul
- Feb. 15, Beginners Blacksmithing "D" session classes, Cleveland, MN
- Feb. 22 & 23, Forge Welding, MN School of Blacksmithing



## 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 72  
Hudson, WI 54016

**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  
(circle items above you DO NOT want published)

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

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary phone: \_\_\_\_\_

All memberships are family memberships. Persons of all ages, professionals and hobbyists, are invited to join.  
We do not sell our mailing list.

## ELECTRONIC FORUM

If you have not been receiving an email notification that The Forum is available, please verify that we have your correct email address.  
Contact Gordon Barr at [agbarr@aol.com](mailto:agbarr@aol.com).



Address Service Requested

If you have items to be included in *The Forum*, please send them to Georgia Myers, editor, by email to: [gldmyers@embarqmail.com](mailto:gldmyers@embarqmail.com) by the third Monday of the month, if possible.

## The Guild of Metalsmiths on the web

Visit our website at <http://www.metalsmith.org>

Looking for something? Try the search engine. On our home page, at the top of the right sidebar, enter your query and click on "Search."

December 2019

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Your membership expiration date will show on the address label of your quarterly "Metalsmith" magazine.

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### TGoM now accepts Paypal and most major credit cards

The Guild accepts Paypal and most major credit cards, in addition to paper checks, for the payment of annual dues. This should make it more convenient for members to pay dues.

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## The Forum

The Guild of Metalsmiths 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.

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## 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, "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 72  
Hudson, WI 54016