

'The Forum'

June 2020



Vol. 22 No. 6

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

Important Notices...

June 10 Meeting at JJ Hill Farm is Cancelled

TGoM Board of Directors gathered via internet on Wednesday, May 20th and voted unanimously to cancel our June 10 meeting in the interests of public safety. TGoM is primarily a social and educational organization, and there is nothing about our operation which can be considered essential to the economy. It is our desire to minimize the risks faced by our members, many of whom have underlying medical conditions that make them particularly susceptible to COVID-19. While the economy is slowly opening again, large gatherings are still discouraged. Given the limitations of time and technology, and the unique nature of our metalwork interest, we could not see a way to safely hold a membership meeting at this time.

We may visit the Hill Farm for a future membership meeting, but in the meantime we invite you to explore their website and pay them a visit yourself (socially distanced of course) once the farm is reopened to the public. <https://www.hillfarmhistoricalsociety.com/about-us.html>

Our board will meet again for a special session on or about June 10 to continue discussions about holding the August membership meeting and the Fall Conference in September, and in what form those events might occur. We thank you for your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times.

--TGoM Board of Directors

Education Committee Update

The Education Committee wants you to know that, while most classes and demonstrations are paused due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we're exploring ways to use the internet to share our craft and stay connected as a group. Watch for announcements soon about these new opportunities!

In the meantime, we encourage each of you to continue learning on your own and to contact any of us if you have questions. We are still here as a resource.

--Christina Dodge, Wayne Olson, Marty Masters, Herb Fick, Gordon Barr, Martin Pansch, Jesse Gavin



Also Cancelled:

■ The June Hammer-In at Nowthen has been canceled; also the tractor pull that usually happens that weekend. We might be able to reschedule later this summer, we'll see.

Fall Conference Contest: Fireplace/Firepit Tools

If you wish to compete, make a fireplace or firepit tool (or entire set of tools) to donate to the Guild's Saturday auction at the Fall Conference. Cash prizes will be awarded, but more importantly, you get bragging rights for the year!

Winners are determined by how much money their creation(s) earn in the auction. You can use any metal working technique. The only restriction is the finished piece(s) must directly interact with a fireplace or firepit.

Note from Tom & Kitty Latane'

We got a call yesterday from Fran Siftar, telling us that Al passed away in February. We met Al and Fran when Al was active in the Guild, in the 1980s, though we hadn't seen them at Guild events for quite a few years. He was a kind, generous man with an interest in blacksmithing. He worked with Bob Walsh when Bob's shop was in Minneapolis, and he collected ironwork as well as books and old paintings and engravings with a blacksmithing theme.

Stuck at home and tired of watching 'The Price is Right'? Why not share a project with our METALSMITH publication?

- ◆ What have you been working on the last few weeks?
- ◆ Do you have an heirloom piece that you are proud of?
- ◆ Do you know of a shortcut that makes a project easier?
- ◆ Do you recall a conversation, post, or event that should not be forgotten?
- ◆ Would you like to commemorate someone and their achievements?
- ◆ Already got some notes and photos of a project?

We can turn any of that into an article!

No need to stress - we are here to help. I would be happy to speak with you about your idea, visit you to take photographs, or even take dictation...while maintaining social distancing, of course!

Contact the METALSMITH Team at metalsmitheditor@metalsmith.org or give me a call.

Peter Bettenberg
TGoM Communications Committee Chairperson &
METALSMITH Lead Editor
651-777-5300

Guild of Metalsmiths Board Meeting

May 20, 2020-Note date change

Present: : Gordon Barr, Peter Bettenberg, Christina Dodge, Jesse Gavin, Taya Gavin, Mark Lockwood, Martin Masters, Derrick Phillips, Larry Wasmund, Paul Widenhoefer, and Richard Zielike.

Meeting hosted by Christina on Zoom.

Called to order by Larry @ 6:59 p.m.

Most of the meeting was spent discussing upcoming programs and the fall conference.

The June meeting is cancelled. M/Martin, s/Mark, motion passes.

Concerns about the fall conference included:

- Continued statewide (and county) lockdowns.
- Possible changes in venues.
- Demonstrator cancellations.
- Available food providers.
- Uncertain attendance.

The possibility of a 1-day conference with local talent and food trucks was also discussed.

After much discussion, it was decided to make the decision on the August meeting and the fall conference on June 10, 2020. M/Mark, s/Derrick, motion passes with Martin and Peter dissenting-both felt they should be cancelled now. Derrick and Richard are to advise the demonstrators and check availability for next year. Mark will send Taya a template for the contracts. Special antivirus wording might have to be added.

The Education committee will have remote meeting on May 28. The Program committee for May 21, was cancelled.

Metalsmith has most of the content for the next issue.

We have \$375 in memorials for Rich Herman.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:25 p.m. by Larry

Respectfully submitted by Richard Zielike, Recorder

Fancy Twisting Class

Saturday, June 20, 8:30 am

Location: Pansch Farm, 8750 Yale Avenue, Young America, MN 55397 (map below)

Instructors: Martin Pansch 612-599-4762 blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com

Jim Erickson 612-868-2050 jimbohotep@yahoo.com

Cost: \$45 per student Class size: Maximum students: 6 Minimum students: 4

In the words of the Beatles "Well, shake it up, baby, now, twist and shout"; and Chubby Checker (well... paraphrased a little bit)

They're twistin in Norwood
In Young America too.
They're twistin' at the Pansch Ranch
And they're waitin' on you.
So, baby, get ready
We're gonna twist with you.

If you want to learn how to do fancy twists as only the Blacksmithing Yeti and Jimbohotep know how, well, then you need to come to our class. This class is suitable for beginners.

Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class: Bring your favorite hammer, and tongs that can handle 3/8" and 1/2" stock if you have them.

Safety Equipment: Required: Hearing, eye, leather shoes, natural fabric clothes. Optional: loose-fitting gloves.

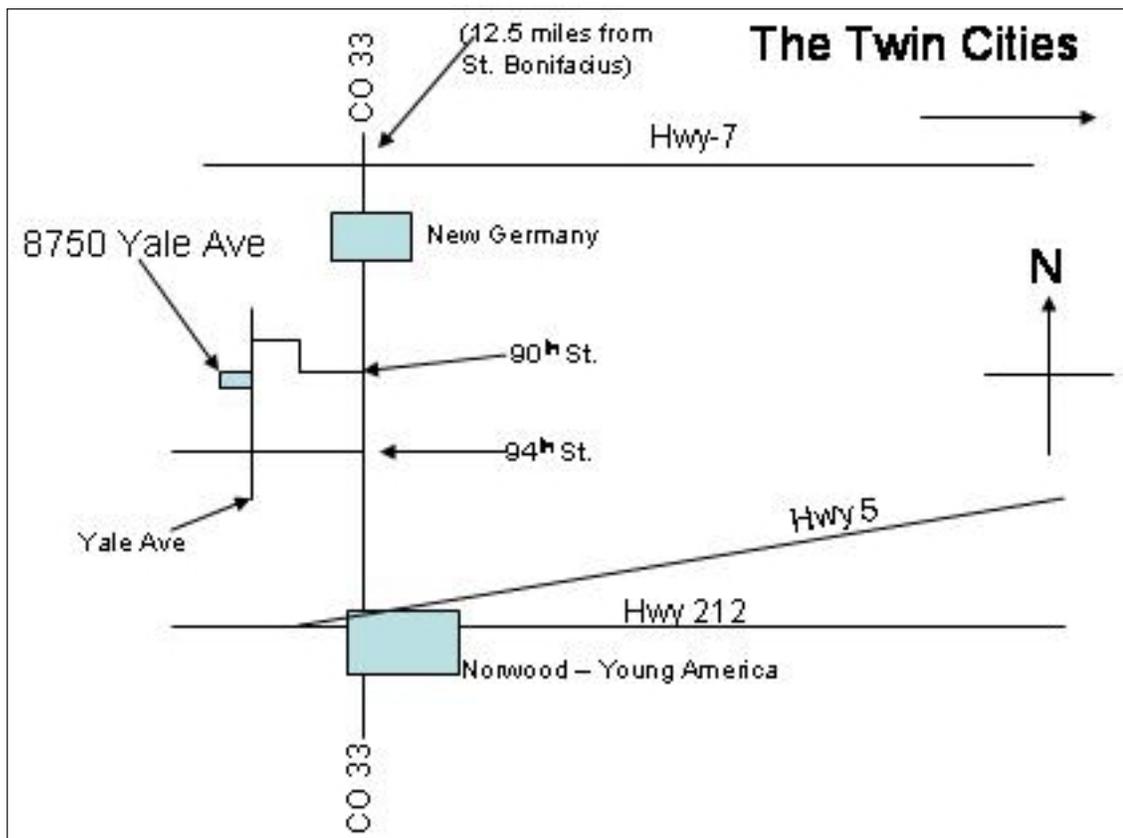
Lunch arrangements: Please bring your own.

To register for this class, send a check for \$45 written to "Guild of Metalsmiths" to:

Marty Masters
395 Bucher Ave
Shoreview, MN 55126

Contact Marty with questions at 651-285-8731 or mastersmw@yahoo.com

Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark.



Tire Power Hammer Build with Clay Spencer

Date and Time: Final build weekend will be 9-11 October 2020. Several pre-build weekends for preparing parts will be scheduled as well. **Note:** Final build weekend may end up being postponed depending on how COVID-19 is treating us in the fall.

Instructor: Clay Spencer (direct questions to Martin Pansch)

Cost of Build: \$2100.00 in three installments. The first check for \$1000 will secure your place in the build. Timing of the other checks will be discussed in meetings. We plan on scavenging as many parts and materials as we can for this build. Any unused funds will be refunded to participants after the final bills are paid. pro-rated based on how much they participated in the build i.e. if you don't show up to any of the pre-build workshops or assist in other meaningful ways and only show up to the final build weekend you should expect no refund. If costs run over for some reason we will address that with the group at that time.

Class size: Maximum students: 15 Minimum students: 10

Class Description: The Guild built Tire Hammers with Clay in 2007 and since then many have eagerly anticipated it happening again. If you are looking for a simple and effective entrance into the world of mechanical power hammers this is it.

This is a build versus a class. That means we are all working towards the goal of producing our hammers most effectively. Do not expect to learn how to do every step of making one. I expect most of us will learn a thing or two in the process. I learned a bunch at the last one and first got to know a lot of my Guild friends there.

There will be a meeting or two of all the participants discussing more details of what is needed and what each of us can bring to contribute to our group success. This ad is small and the project is big. I can't cover all the details here. If you have questions, call (leave a message if I don't answer and I will get back to you), text or email me.

If you are interested in helping but not signing up to build a hammer for yourself, let me know that as well. We had a lot of great help last time from folks who didn't go home with a hammer.

Note: We are in difficult times. COVID-19 is going to affect many aspects of this build. Don't get into this if you can't be flexible to necessary changes.

Location: To be announced. Within an hour of the Twin Cities.

Tools and Equipment or other items participants are to bring to the class. There is an extensive list of tools and equipment needed that will be discussed in meetings with the participants.

Safety Equipment – safety glasses, ear plugs and work gloves are mandatory. Other safety equipment dictated by the processes being performed.

Special Instructions: Oodles of them to be addressed in meetings with the participants.

Lunch Arrangements: To be discussed in group meetings

Class Manager: (Person to whom registrations are to be sent.) Make checks payable to "Tire Hammer Build."

Martin Pansch
201 Nevada Street
Northfield, MN 55057

Contact Martin Pansch with questions.

(612) 599-4762

blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com



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 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 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, 218-428-7906
Dave Hanson, VP, 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. The NMM's website is 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 Ziturf **Brian Johnson**
320-746-8161 16777 Co Rd 75 NW
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 email: 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,
<http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com/>

Sandy Lake Forge on Raspberry Island

Blacksmith shop offering classes, workshops and more. See raspberrylakefolkschool.blogspot.com for details or call: 218-851-6085

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

From the Guild Librarian

Well, now that you have had some free evenings, you might have had time to do some reading. In particular, perusing some Guild of Metalsmiths books that you might have checked out-in some cases, for years. So, if it's possible, could we make arrangements to have them returned?

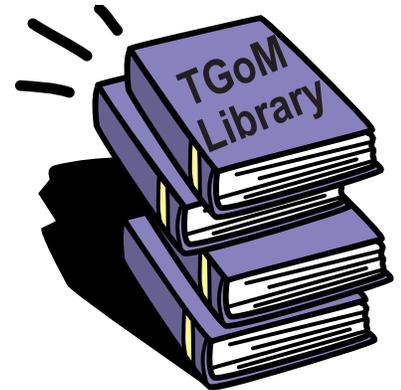
I took the time to go through our 200+ list of books, and I am looking for a number of missing books where someone didn't leave a card—or I lost it, which is just as likely.

Anyway, if any one of you has the following books, would you let me know?

Blades Guide to Knife Making, by Blade Magazine
Furnace Efficiency, by Peebles

Thanks! If you have any questions, or if you have any books to return, please email me at Richard@edinaclock.com.

— Richard Zielike, Guild Librarian



Reminder from our property manager...

If you've got guild property at your shop, or a demo site you work at, please send any info about it to tools.guildmbr@gmail.com.

Please send any questions to the above email address too.

Thanks,
Adam Robrahn

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 715-781-4389

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 2020 Classes and Events

We are located in southern Minnesota near Spring Valley. For more information on any of the classes contact us at

jc-adams@msn.com, or call 507-289-4189 Carol Adams.

Check the Tunnel Mill website for full details: www.tunnelmillcrafts.com



Douglas Pryor cancelled

Not this year, due to a scheduling conflict, but we are negotiating for one of his excellent teaching opportunities for the year 2021.

Mark Aspery July 6-12, 2020: cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic

Ric Furrer August 14, 15, 16, 2020

Three Day Damascus Knife Class \$450 per person

Fall Gathering October 2, 3, & 4, 2020

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

Combination padlock

Tom Latane' Oct 16, 17, 18 (rescheduled from May 15, 16, 17)

Candle-Holder with Saw-tooth Trammel.

Kitty Latane' Oct. 17 & 18, 2020 (rescheduled from May 15, 16, 17)

Tinwork

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
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday monthly. Derrick Phillips, chair DerrickPhillipsA3o3@gmail.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 June 2020

- June 6,7, Minnesota Military Days, Dundas MN CANCELLED
- June 10, Membership meeting at JHill Farms, North Oaks-CANCELLED
- June 12, 13, 14, Spring Hammer-in, Nowthen-CANCELLED
- June 20, Fancy Twist Class, Pansch farm-still on as of June 1-watch for updates

Events in July

No events planned for July

Events in August

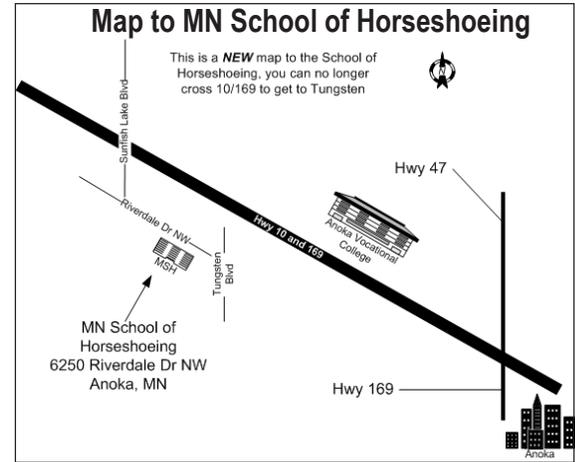
August 12, possible Guild membership meeting-watch for updates

Events in September

Sept. 18, 19, 20 possible Fall Conference-watch for updates

Events in October

- Tire Hammer Build-watch for updates
- Oct. 14, Guild membership meeting-watch for updates



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.



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 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."

June 2020

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

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.

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.

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