

'The Forum'

February 2021



Vol. 23 No. 2

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

February TGoM membership meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 10 will be virtual via Zoom

As posted in the January 2021 issue of *The Forum*, we will have a video tour of Pete Stanitis' shop in Baldwin, WI, and he will be on hand to answer questions after the video. Since we will watch the video through (about 30 minutes) and then have questions, if you have questions, please refresh our memories as to roughly when in the video the questions arose.

If you have items to share during our "show and tell" portion of the meeting, please stay online after the video and the question period. It's a popular part of the meeting!

Derrick Phillips is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: TGOM February membership meeting
Time: Feb 10, 2021 06:45 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 812 8210 3408
Passcode: forge

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 812 8210 3408
Passcode: 852933

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81282103408>

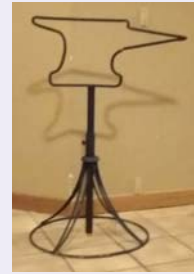
— From Derrick Phillips

Note that Zoom can be accessed from a computer, a tablet, a smartphone, and is even accessible via your 'landline' telephone to listen. TGoM members will receive an email from Derrick Phillips a few days before the Zoom meeting that includes links and instructions.

What is 'Zoom'?

Zoom is the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat, and webinars.

Zoom is a web-based video conferencing tool with a local, desktop client and a mobile app that allows users to meet online, with or without video. Zoom users can choose to record sessions, collaborate on projects, and share or annotate on one another's screens, all with one easy-to-use platform.



Ring the anvil for the passing of two members...

It seems that the only news I share with our membership is bad news. I write to inform the membership of the passing of two members. I am sadly ringing the anvil for the passing of Barb Hanson on January 15, wife of Myron Hanson. I was informed on January 20, 2021 of the passing of fellow member Jeff Suek on January 19, 2021.

Please keep their families in your hearts and prayers.

*Your humbled president,
Larry Wasmund*

Obituaries for Barb and Jeff appear on page 2

Memorial notices

In addition to the Guild members that have recently passed, many members have also lost loved ones. Some we know about - some we do not, so we will not try to list them all here. Please know that The Guild grieves with you.

We ask that all our members and allies keep each other in your thoughts and prayers. Beyond that, please take a couple minutes out of your day to contact a brother or sister Guild member. Extend that hand of friendship (virtually), because you never know who could really use your support this very minute.

— Peter Bettenberg, TGoM
Communications Committee Chair

We ring the prayer anvil for the passing of two of our members



Barb Hanson

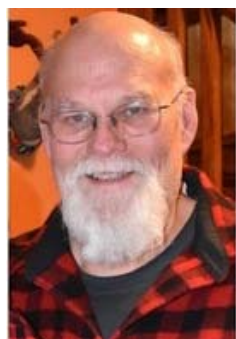
Barb Hanson, longtime TGoM family member and wife of Myron Hanson

Barbara Jean Hanson of Eagan, MN passed away on January 15, 2021 after a 3 and 1/2 year battle with Leukemia at the age of 74. She was born on March 24, 1946 in Red Wing, MN to Robert F. and Dorothy L. (DeRoy) Steffenhagen. She grew up on farms in the Frontenac, MN area. She attended the one-room country school in Frontenac, MN and Washington Elementary and Lincoln High School in Lake City, MN. She was the 1964 Homecoming Queen at Lincoln High School where she also graduated in June 1964.

She worked at the Royal Cafe in Lake City, MN where she met her husband, Myron C. Hanson. They were married on Sept. 23, 1964 at the St. John's Lutheran Church in Frontenac, MN. They lived in North Dakota, Florida and Wisconsin before settling in Eagan, MN. They raised two sons during their 56 years of marriage. They traveled to many states in the U.S. and several countries in Europe, and to Australia, visiting many historic venues as well as known sites of blacksmith history.

Barb is survived by her husband, sons; Xavier of Eagan, MN and Seth (Elsa) of Prescott, WI and grandchildren; Lauren and Justin Hanson of Prescott, WI. Brother, Darrell (Carole) Steffenhagen of Red Wing, MN, sisters; Norma (Michael) Nemeth of Red Wing, MN, Linda (Jerry) McNamara of Pine Island, MN and Debra Steffenhagen of Windsor, CA.

The visitation and funeral were held on Monday, January 25 at Trinity Lone Oak Church in Eagan, MN. Interment was at Frontenac Cemetery in Frontenac, Minnesota.



Jeff Suek

Jeff Suek, TGoM member

Jeffrey T. Suek, age 67 of Savage, MN passed away on January 19, 2021. Jeff was an active member of The Guild of Metalsmiths, having joined us on June 10, 2010. He is specifically remembered as providing valuable help during our annual Fall Conferences.

Jeff was preceded in death by his parents, Leander and Marietta Suek. Jeff is survived and loved by his wife of 42 years, Jane; children, Tom (Nicole) Suek and Kate Moore; grandchildren, Calvin and Vincent Suek and Brooklyn and Drake Moore, and their father, Cliff Moore; sisters, Sheila (Gordy) Wanshura and Wanda (Mike) Miho; brothers-in-law, Tom (Joan) and Mark Aasve; sister-in-law, Ellen (Joe) Classen, also by many nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

A private memorial service was held Saturday, January 23, 2021 at The Fathers House Church, Burnsville, MN, with a gathering of family and friends. The full obituary for Jeff can be found at this link:

<https://whitefuneralhomes.com/obituary/jeffrey-suek>

Jane Suek, Jeff's wife, sent the following message to The Guild:

"I wanted you to know that the plant and flower arrangement you had sent on behalf of the guild arrived safely at his burial site. It sits in the middle of our kitchen table where we can all enjoy it. It's a good reminder of the wonderful group of men and women he had so much fun knowing.

God bless you all.

With thanks,

Jane Suek"

Jeff's daughter, Kate Moore, has created a "Go Fund Me" page at this link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/love-for-jane-amp-jeff>

Guild of Metalsmiths Board Meeting

Via Zoom

January 13, 2021

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

Absent: Martin Masters

Called to order at 7:05 pm by Larry

Secretary's report-Approved

Treasurers report-Taya-Total available balance is \$77,777.38 (Business Checking \$8,620.10, Business Checking-\$4,495.07, Savings \$74,662.12). Balances show a \$1,400 decrease in assets from 2019, due to our free Zoom Fall Conference. One conference demonstrator is paid, and the other one hasn't submitted a bill. Our books balance. The coal is paid for-price remains \$7.00 a pail.

Program-Derrick-February meeting is Pete Stanaitis with a 40-minute shop tour. Announcements for the program will go out in several days. The April program is open at this time.

Education-Christina-Met Thursday, January 7. Preparing the 2021-22 calendar. Have enough instructors for the classes. The March beginning blacksmith class is full.

Membership-Gordon-Current membership is increasing and we are at 246 paid members. Discussed forgoing dues for a year, but we opted to continue with dues since we are still producing programs.

Communications-Peter- There was no November *Forum*, and December's was rather limited. The December *Metalsmith* is with Peter now, and Asa was the editor. Peter will edit the March issue. There was a lot of discussion of hosting more past issues of *Metalsmith* on the Internet and Internet security. We felt more information was necessary before coming to a decision. Peter will follow up. The new website is coming along, and we are looking for a more robust hosting service. Peter is planning on stepping down from the board at the end of this term, and will concentrate on editing *Metalsmith*.

Old Business-The Rich Herman memorials were discussed. At this time, members have contributed \$545 in honor of Rich. The board asked the Education Committee for a proposal. The Education Committee recommended the money be used to provide free classes to youth between the ages of 12-16 in a format similar to the Boy Scout Blacksmithing Merit Badge curriculum (using a coal forge, making a taper and a twist, sheet metal forming, work hardening, riveting and soldering). The take home project would be an ash shovel. Depending on the venue, there would be enough money for 12-36 students.

An outdoor June meeting was discussed with 2 different venue options. There wasn't enough consensus to make a decision.

Volunteer Coordinator-Kim-Minnesota Glove in West St Paul offers a 10% discount to Guild members. Membership cards will be printed on the back cover of *Metalsmith* for proof of membership. Kim sent postcards to expired members. We had request to use Guild cards for personal use.

New Business-We will prepare for our budget meeting in March.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Zielike, Recorder

Volunteer Opportunities

The Guild of Metalsmiths is a Nonprofit Organization Relying 100% on Member Volunteers.



Paul Widenhoefer and Larry Wasmund are creating a new committee and are looking for volunteers to join the team.

Position: Partnership Committee Members

Requirements/Qualifications: Outgoing personality

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities: The Partnership Committee will be contacting current site partners to maintain the ongoing relationships, research potential new site partners, make contact with potential partners, and start establishing a relationship.

Why Should You Join the Team? You will be able to contribute your ideas for potential site partnerships and learn about current site partnerships.

Contact

Paul Widenhoefer
952-930-0070
pwidenhoefer@gmail.com

Larry Wasmund
507-469-0205
poundedtreasures@gmail.com

*****Last Call for the Tire Hammer Build!!! We start buying supplies and building mid-February!!!*****

Tire Power Hammer Build with Allan Kress (Clay Spencer's tire hammer understudy)

Date and Time: Final build weekend will be 1-2 May 2021. Several pre-build weekends for preparing parts will be scheduled as well. Note: Final build weekend may end up being postponed depending on how COVID19 restrictions are treating us by then.

A few folks had to drop out of the tire hammer build for various reasons so we have 2 or 3 spots we can fill at this time. Call/email Martin if you are want details.

The Guild built Tire Hammers with Clay Spencer 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 got to know a lot of my Guild friends there.

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. COVID19 is going to affect many aspects of this build. Don't get into this if you can't be flexible to changes.

Instructor: Allan Kress (direct questions to Martin Pansch)

Martin Pansch
201 Nevada Street
Northfield, MN 55057
(612) 599-4762

blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com

Cost: \$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 on a 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. Make checks payable to "The Guild of Metalsmiths."

Class size: Maximum students: 15 **Minimum students:** 10

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 processes.

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

Review of New Book in TGoM's Library

Artisan Ideas has just published a book titled: *FORGED: Making a Knife with Traditional Blacksmith Skills* by Paul White. The Guild of Metalsmiths now has this book in our library, and it will soon be available to check out.

This book will teach you to hand-build a knife using the traditional method of blacksmiths of old — FORGING.

Traditional forging of a knife blade is a process which uses the ancient techniques of moving hot steel with hammer and anvil alone into a knife-form that is ready for filing, heat treating and sharpening, with no or very minimal electric grinding.

This book also teaches traditional fit-and-finish skills using only hand tools. It explains an ancient riveted full-tang handle construction system that surpasses modern methods.

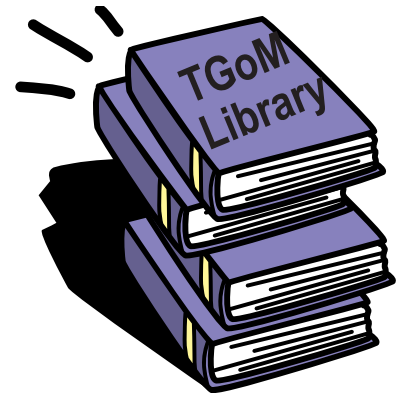
We think the book does an excellent job explaining the process of forging a knife but also in instilling enthusiasm for doing this the traditional way.

In the author's words; "In my early blacksmithing years, I was lucky to get to know some old smiths who wrangled hot iron every day just to make a living. They unselfishly taught me traditional blacksmithing skills and knife forging methods. Every time I use those skills and methods, I honor their friendships, and by teaching you, the reader, we keep alive the memory of those old-time iron pounders."

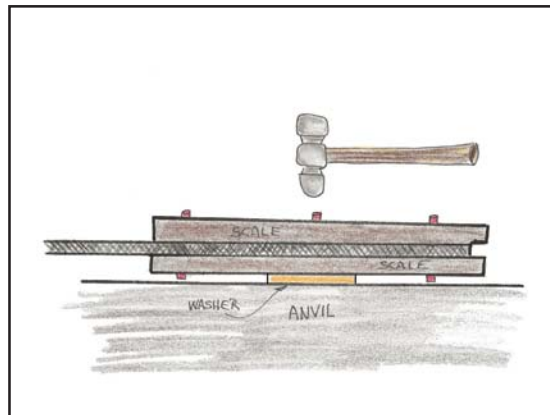
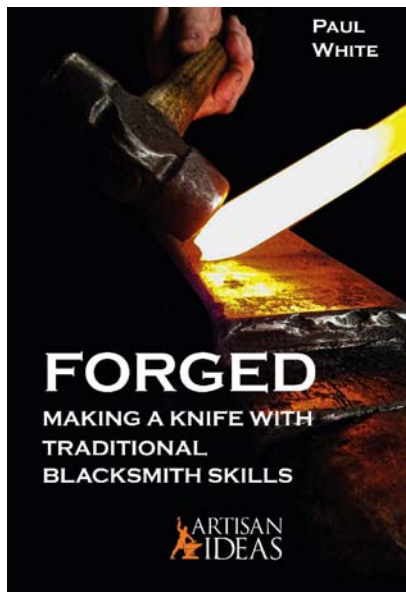
Hardcover, 132 pages, 150 photos and illustrations, \$29.95.

1) The book can be ordered from www.ArtisanIdeas.com

2) ABANA members who use the promo code "ABANA" while ordering from our site will receive a 5% discount.



Photos below illustrate the process described in this book



To check out this book, or others in the Guild's library, please contact TGoM's librarians, Richard Zielike: richard@edinaclock.com or Jim Ricci: jedricci@gmail.com

Notice from Center for Metal Arts in Johnstown, Pennsylvania

Center for Metal Arts is offering scholarship opportunities for some of our extended workshops in 2021. Our scholarship opportunities are for three of our week-long workshops:

- Fearless Forge Welding with Addison de Lisle,
- Intermediate Tool Making & Design with John Williams, and
- Fabricating & Forging Utensils with Erica Moody.

I wanted to pass along this great opportunity for you to share with your members, which was made possible by our numerous generous donors. The deadline to apply is February 1, 2021. Learn about the three week-long workshops and the instructors teaching them here:

<https://centerformetalarts.org/workshops/forging/>

and find an application for their scholarships at this link:

<https://centerformetalarts.org/week-long-workshop-scholarship-application/>

Patrick J. Quinn, Center for Metal Arts

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 Zitur

320-746-8161

mail@kensiron.com

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

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.

February events

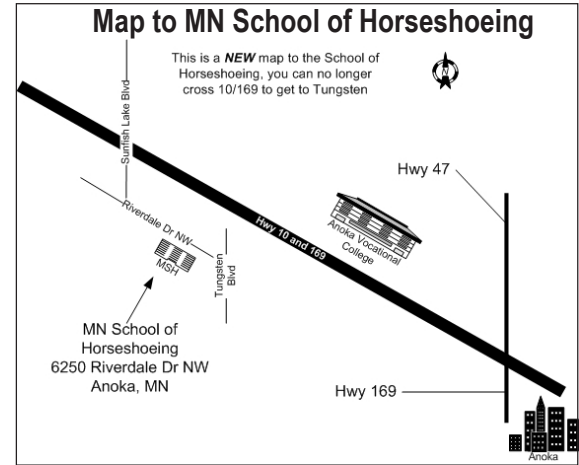
Feb. 10, TGoM membership meeting via Zoom

March Events

None scheduled as yet.

April Events

Apr. 14, TGoM membership meeting (details TBA)



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."

February 2021

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