

'The Forum'

June 2021



Vol. 23 No. 6

Visit our newly redesigned website at <https://www.metalsmith.org>

TGoM June 9 Membership Meeting Update

As was published in the May Forum, for the June meeting (barring any major changes in the pandemic) we will be gathering at "The Landing" in Shakopee. We are following the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines as to how many people we have in attendance. Right now that has been changed to 50 people indoors with social distancing, and no specific limits to outdoor gatherings. Because of this we no longer need to keep a list of those who plan on attending.

I appreciate very much those who responded to Kim and let her know. The recommendations also talked about those who are not yet vaccinated, and any one who is concerned continue to wear a mask at gatherings. Take care of yourself, and take care of others, might be another way to think of it.

I realize this is frustrating, troublesome and possibly other things, but the committee feels this is the most responsible way to have an in-person meeting at this time.

For the meeting itself Myron will bring a forge and demonstrate either leaf keychain fobs, or calla lilies, and Bob Brown will demonstrate the blown over leaf scroll, as was used in Mark Pearce's candelabra and is used in railings fences and grills.

There will still be No Pot Luck. Bring food & drink only for yourselves or eat beforehand. Again this is due to pandemic concerns. We have lost too many people to not take this simple precaution. We will need to socially distance ourselves, and we strongly encourage the use of masks.

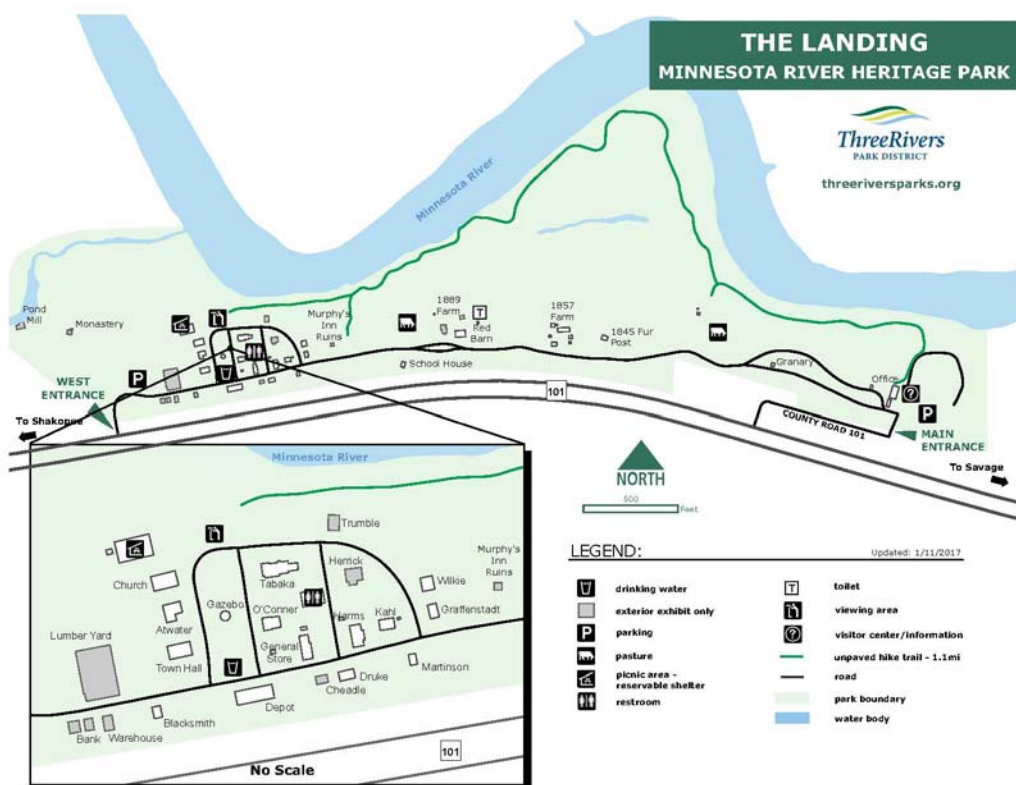
As I said last month I want to see everyone, but for a long time to come, not just right now.

I look forward to seeing folks. Thank you for your continued patience.

View the Three Rivers Parks website (of which The Landing is a part) at the link below:

<https://www.threeriversparks.org/location/landing>

— From Derrick Phillips



INSIDE...

TGoM Spring Hammer-In June 18, 19, 20

See page 2 for full details on the plan for TGoM to host our new spring hammer-in at the Nowthen Blacksmith Shop at the Nowthen Threshing Show grounds in Anoka MN.

Fall Conference Announcement Pending

Watch for an announcement regarding TGoM's annual Fall Conference in the days to come.

Volunteer Opportunity Available

The Education Committee is sponsoring the Rich Herman Memorial Blacksmithing Classes for The Scouts (ages 11-17). **See page 2 for details.**

Are you looking for Volunteer Opportunities?

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities and not sure whom to talk to? Contact: Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator at: tgom.volunteer@gmail.com or call 651-328-7219.

Annual TGoM Spring Hammer-In is On! June 18, 19, 20 at Nowthen

The annual TGoM Spring 2021 Hammer-In is scheduled for June 18, 19, 20 at the Nowthen Blacksmith Shop!

Days and times

- Friday, June 18: 7:30-11:00pm
- Saturday, June 19: All Day
- Sunday, June 20: 8am till 3:00 pm.

Hot stuff will be happening at the annual Spring Hammer-in taking place at the Nowthen Historical Power Association Blacksmith Shop (map below) where we will focus our efforts on the Fall Conference contest: Fire Place Tools.

Come and hang out with a bunch of your friends, make new friends, and share/learn some new skills. Beginners/Newbies highly welcome to come and try your hand at smithing.

Camping on-site is available Friday & Saturday night on primitive sites. Port-a-potties on site. Five forges are open for use. Coal will be provided.

Bring any examples you have to share with others. Bring your own tools if you have them. Some limited steel stock is available, but if you need specific sizes feel free to bring your own steel. Scrap pieces ok.

This year come as long as you feel comfortable and can maintain the state COVID-19 guidelines. If not comfortable, do not come. This event will hopefully give you some inspiration to help you to come up with your own design for the Fall Conference contest and help you learn how to make it.

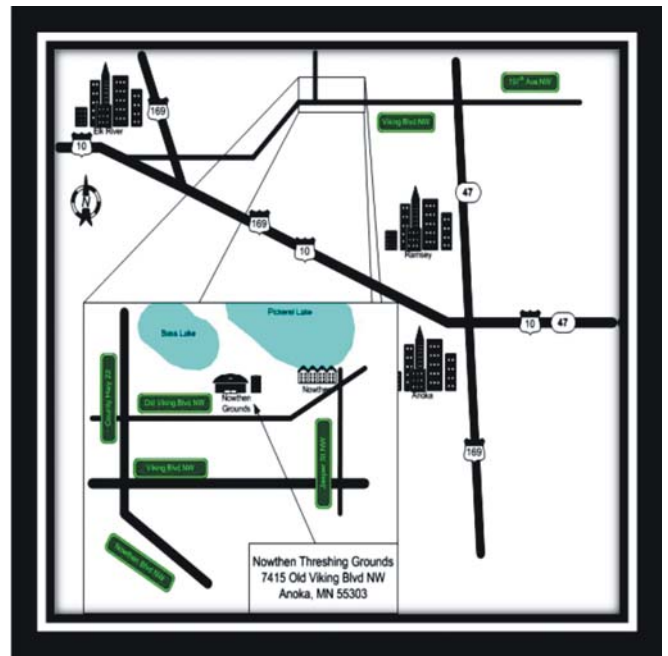
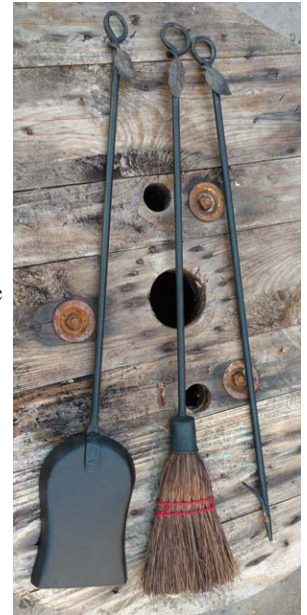
If you have some skills in the creation of fireplace tools and would like to demo or have any questions about the event, please contact:

Wayne Olson at 320.280.0100 wayneolson10@gmail.com.

There is no charge to participate in this event.

The Nowthen Power Show grounds are located at 7415 Old Viking Blvd, Nowthen, MN. A fine example of fireplace tools can be forged for the Fall Conference contest. I plan on arriving around 4:30 pm for anyone that wants to help set up. Your help is welcome.

See ya there!



Volunteer Opportunity Available

The Education Committee is sponsoring the Rich Herman Memorial Blacksmithing Classes for The Scouts (ages 11-17).

Position available: Instructor

Requirements/Qualifications: Intermediate blacksmithing skills. Comfortable teaching and assisting teenagers.

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities: Assist the lead instructor with teaching and demonstrating to the class. Help the students when they need it. Help with keeping a safe environment.

Why Should You Join the Team? Opportunity to share your blacksmithing skills and knowledge with young people.

Contact: Gordon Barr

agbarr@aol.com

Corn Cook Wanted!

The Program Committee is looking for a cook for the August Members Meeting.

Position available: Cook for the Sweet Corn

Requirements/Qualifications: Able to clean sweet corn and cook the sweet corn on an outdoor fire.

Specific Tasks and Responsibilities: Clean and cook 10 dozen ears of corn. Will need to have equipment to cook the sweet corn, a large kettle and fire source. Or contact Dick Carlson and make arrangements to borrow his equipment.

Why Should You Join the Team?: Everyone loves the cooks. Take over the task from Dick and Erma Carlson.

Contact: Kim Maas, Volunteer Coordinator

tgom.volunteer@gmail.com

651-328-7219

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

GUILD OF METALSMITHS' BOARD MEETING

MAY 12, 2021

BY ZOOM

Called to order @ 7:05 p.m.

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

Minutes: Motion to approve by Peter, seconded by Mark, motion passes.

Treasurer's report: Taya-Power hammer check of \$12,000 has not been cashed. We have \$31,437.73 in our two checking accounts and \$64,664.24 in our savings account for a total of \$96,101.97.

Membership-Gordon-We have 252 current members.

Communications-Peter-Had problems migrating the Forum using the new internet platform. **Metalsmith** content is coming in nicely with the next quarterly editors being Kim, Peter, and Asa, respectively.

Program-Derrick-June program is at the Landing in Shakopee, and we are working on the corn feed and the Fall Conference.

Education-Christina-There is a lot of interest in the Hammer-In at Nowthen. We will host 2 Boy Scout Merit Badge type classes for youth with the Rich Herman memorial money. The guild will pick up the cost of the port-o-potties for those events. The fall education calendar is set.

Most of the board meeting concerned the location for the fall conference and membership issues. Peter will check into the membership question. The board decided to confirm the fall conference location on a May 26th Zoom meeting.

Old business-Peter-We discussed reprinting **The Iron Menagerie**. We are trying to locate the original photographs, as the quality of the photographs has deteriorated with each reprint.

New Business-Peter-Recommended changing the Bellows server to Simple List for a cost of \$100. Motion to approve by Peter, seconded by Gordon. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Next meeting is May 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., by Zoom, to determine the fall conference location.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Zielike, Recorder

Membership Perks: Discounts



The following companies are extending discounts to The Guild of Metalsmiths members. You will need to ask for their Guild of Metalsmiths discount, show your membership card, and a Picture ID.

These discounts are a gift to us and can be taken away if they are abused. If you have a hobby shop, no problem. If you are a professional with a few employees, no problem. What is not fair, is turning yourself into a dealership by reselling/trading products that you have purchased with our discount or being a big company and using our discount for your bottom line. Please don't ruin this for everyone. These businesses deserve our recognition and patronage:

Please see The Guild of Metalsmiths website (<https://www.metalsmith.org>) for additional information regarding discounts and products available. The Guild of Metalsmith > Home > About > Friends of the Guild: Discounts.

Carhartt at Work Program

Mall of America
144 North Garden Bloomington, MN 612-318-6422
www.carhartt.com
15% on almost everything in the store, except Flame Retardant (FR) gear, which is 10% off whether you shop online or at Mall of America.

Carhartt at Work Program

Riverdale Village Mall
12680 Riverdale Blvd. Coon Rapids, MN
952-885-8000
www.carhartt.com
15% on almost everything in the store, except Flame Retardant (FR) gear, which is 10% off whether you shop online or at Mall of America.

Minnesota Glove & Safety & Bob's Workwear

West St. Paul, MN 651-552-8840
www.minnesotaglove.com
10% discount off merchandise not already on sale or discounted

Smith-Sharpe Fire Brick Supply

2129 Broadway St NE, Minneapolis, MN 612-331-1345
866-545-6743
www.ssfbs.com

The quantity of product purchased dictates the normal "Level" of discount. Smith-Sharpe Fire Brick Supply is offering one discount "Level" better to Guild members. It will vary with types of products, but may average about 10%.

Garelick Steel Company

Minneapolis, MN 612-521-8857 888-521-8857
www.garelicksteel.com
10% discount for members

Fastenal--No longer available

Mississippi Welders Supply

Seven locations between MN & WI. 800-657-4422
www.mwsc.com
See website or phone book for locations. 15% discount on gases and most instore items that are not already marked as a sale item or already at a discount from MSRP for members.

Toll Gas and Welding Supply

Eight Twin City metro locations. 763-551-5300
www.tollgas.com
See website or phone book for location near you. **15%** off of gases and most in-store items, for Guild members.

Oxygen Service Co.

St. Paul, MN 651-44-7273 800-774-1336
www.oxygenservicecompany.com
15% discount on gases and most items that are not already marked on sale for members.

Tire Power Hammer Builders: 2021

The Guild of Metalsmiths sponsored a tire hammer build championed by Martin Pansch, with helpers Myron Hanson, Rick Wessling, Dave Gavin, Jesse Gavin, and Rob Murray, among many others. Our first tire hammer build was in 2007, when we welcomed Clay Spencer, retired NASA engineer and blacksmith from Alabama, who has been refining the design and leading tire hammer builds for 15 years now, as our instructor. He has also demonstrated at two of our Fall Conferences.

Allan Kress is Clay's understudy on the tire hammer builds, trained to continue them when Clay is no longer interested or able to. Clay was on hand for The Guild's first tire hammer build. This time, though, Clay had gone into lockdown due to COVID-19. Luckily, he had been training Allan, with plans for him to eventually take over the hammer building business. Allan, also from Alabama, played the starring role for us.

We had 13 builders, shown in the photo below. In the beginning we had planned to start the build in October, 2020. Then COVID hit. Postponing to May 2021 worked instead. For a more animated and detailed write-up with photos by Martin Pansch of this build, watch for your June issue of *Metalsmith*, soon to be in your mailboxes.



The Tire Hammer builders. From left: Keith Spaniel, Paul Widenhoefer, Mike Dippel, Mark Lockwood, Roger Degner, Allan Kress, Mark O'Gorman, John Smith, Martin Pansch, Derrick Phillips, Dave Gavin, Doug May, Jim Ericksen, Rick Wessling, Jesse Gavin, Angel Mia Garza, Tomas Garza, Tomas Garza Jr. (Not Pictured: Myron Hanson, Rob Murray, and Jake Ferguson).



Finished tire hammer by Martin Pansch.

“A tire hammer is basically a home-built power hammer that uses a spare tire and pulley as the means to convert the power of an electric motor into a 50 pound head going up and down 270 times a minute.”

--Martin Pansch



Allan Kress (plaid shirt on the right) performing quality assurance on a completed hammer with several builders looking on hoping it will work.

Tunnel Mill Crafts 2020 Classes and Events

We are located in southern Minnesota near Spring Valley. For more information on any of the classes or to register, 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

Featured 2021 Classes

CHASED BOSS ON FERRULE and DECORATIVE JEWELER'S OR FRET SAW FRAME

Tom Latane'

June 5-7, 2021 and June 8-12, 2021

These two related classes will run consecutively. Though priority will be given to those signing up for both classes, either class could be taken singly.

CHASED BOSS ON FERRULE Length: 3 DAYS

Suitable for the handle of a tool or knife, this piece will be used on the saw frame by students taking both classes. Students will forge, heat treat and grind tools which they will then use to chase a stylized acanthus design on a bulbous section forged and filed on the end of a 3/4" bar. The boss will be drilled and chiseled to receive a tool tang before being cut from the bar. A ferrule will be fire brazed to the boss to complete the project.

DECORATIVE JEWELER'S OR FRET SAW FRAME Length: 4 Days

Designed to incorporate the boss described in the first class description, this frame can be fitted with a simpler ferrule by anyone not taking the other class. The frame will include a wider section at the top suitable for decorative profiling and piercing. The end opposite the handle will be fashioned with a square mortise to receive a threaded section with a wingnut for tensioning the blade. Both ends will have thumb screws for clamping blades.

DAMASCUS AXE

Ric Furrer

August 20, 21 and 22, 2021

Returning PBS Nova celebrity for his expertise with the Viking swords and his knowledge and experience in Damascus, heat treating, and pattern welded steel. You will should do axes with pattern-welded edges. Starting with a billet of mild steel you will forge out a mirror image axe shape in preparation for folding and welding.

Using this method we form the eye for the handle with the fold rather than a chisel and drift.

Once the axe blank is rough forged to shape you will weld up a small billet of layered steel which will become the inserted edge. In this way you get the experience of pattern-welding as well as axe making.

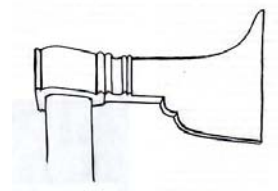
SMALL AXE HEAD for NORWEGIAN STYLE WALKING STICK

Tom Latane'

September 10, 11 and 12, 2021

Students will each forge a small axe head like those used on some eighteenth century walking sticks in Norway. These walking sticks were called Bergmannsstav in Norway where they are thought to have been introduced by German workers in the mining district.

The eye can be forge-welded or punched depending on preference.



Tunnel Mill Annual Fall Gathering

October 1, 2 and 3, 2021. Check back for details.

Directions to Tunnel Mill:

Tunnel Mill is located 20 miles south of Rochester Minnesota. Take Hwy 63 out of Rochester to Stewartville, turn east on Hwy 30 to County Highway 1 (approx 5.5 miles). Turn south on County Highway 1. Follow CO HWY 1 6.5 miles to Tunnel Mill on the left side of CO RD Call about camping on the grounds. 507-378-4983 or 507-289-4189, Carol Adams. Lodging available in Spring Valley, 5 miles further south on CO RD 1.

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.guildmbr@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.

June Events

- June 9, TGoM Membership Meeting, The Landing in Shakopee
- June 18, 19, 20, Annual TGoM Spring Hammer-In, Nowthen Blacksmith Shop

July Events

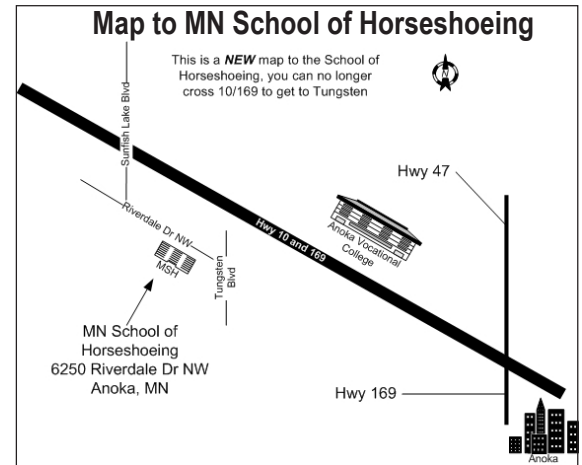
None scheduled

August Events

August 11, membership meeting/corn feed. Details tba.

September Events

Fall Conference 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."

June 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