

# 'The Forum'

October 2021



Vol. 23 No. 10

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

## **Alert! October 13 TGoM Membership Meeting Only Two Weeks Away!**

The Wednesday, October 13 membership meeting is at the Jackson Street Roundhouse.  
(193 W.Pennsylvania Ave, St. Paul, MN 55130)

For the meeting, we will not plan any demonstration due to the blacksmith shop being under reconstruction. Weather permitting, we may set up a portable forge outside the front door for a demonstration.

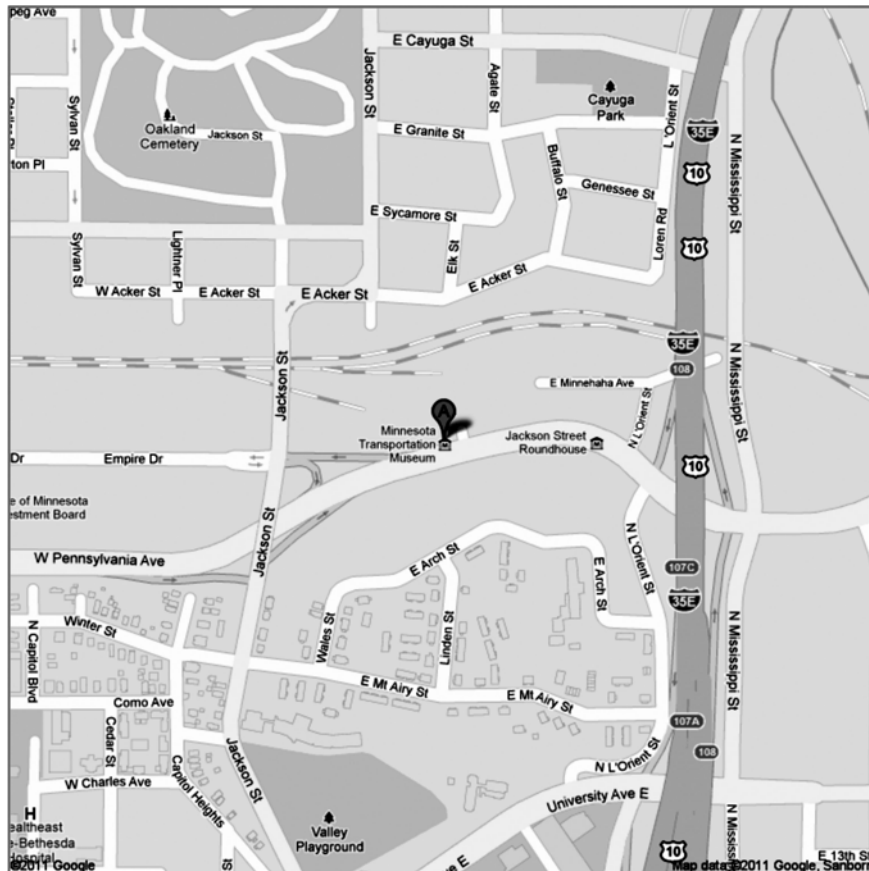
We invite all the members to bring items for show and tell. Please remember items that you have shown in the past may not have been seen by some of the newer members.

The usual potluck will start at 6:30 followed by a short business meeting, then show and tell. The champion is Gordon Barr ([agbarr@metalsmith.org](mailto:agbarr@metalsmith.org)) so contact him if you have any questions.

A couple years ago, a sprinkler system burst in the machine shop/blacksmith shop completely shutting it down. After years of cleaning up and re-organizing, you will see the progress of the rebuilding – it is not done but well on the way.

If you have never been to this location, it is loaded with history and activities for the entire family. Check out their website at <http://www.transportationmuseum.org>. If you look at <https://mtm.my-free.website/blacksmith-forge>, you may see some of the pictures of what the blacksmith shop looked like when Nick Heinen, Charlie Bateman and Gordon Barr created it in 2012.

### **Map to Jackson Street Roundhouse, 193 W. Pennsylvania Ave, St. Paul, MN 55130 at the Minnesota Transportation Museum**



### **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](mailto:tgom.volunteer@gmail.com) or call 651-328-7219.

### **The Guild's official mailing 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

### **Beginners Blacksmithing classes**

Registration is open for the three day Beginners Blacksmithing classes

October 2, 9, 16 at Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, Anoka, MN. Details on page 4 or visit our website at:

<https://www.metalsmith.org/education/>

# Joinery Class

## PART ONE OF THREE:

Saturday & Sunday, October 30&31, 2021, 8:30 am to 4 pm, both days

Location: MN School of Horseshoeing (map page 7)

Cost: \$130 Maximum 8, minimum 4 students

Class champion: Derrick Phillips.

This is Part One of three in a Joinery class series. PART TWO will be taught this spring as we continue to spread these skills.

The overall courses are skills based, to incorporate all that was learned in a class taken by the instructors and taught by Mark Aspery.

In this first 12 hours of instruction the student will learn the importance of proper tool making to accomplish successful joinery. We will concentrate this portion on forging tooling to perform ½” slot punching and drifting with ½” round and square drifts.

The class is open to all students that have taken the beginners class. Understand that if the student has not had a year or so of reasonably consistent practice this class will be extra challenging. Tooling requirements can be requested. All students signing up will be sent this info. To register for this class, send a check written to The Guild of Metalsmiths for \$130 to

Derrick Phillips  
2461 Como Ave  
St. Paul MN 55108

Contact Derrick with questions. [derrickphillipsa3o3@gmail.com](mailto:derrickphillipsa3o3@gmail.com) (3 o 3, as in the letter not zero)

Acceptance priority for this class will be determined by postmark.

Not sure what to do in the gap between The Madness and the Christmas Party?

## Come celebrate St. Clement's Feast Day with Beer and Blacksmiths!

### Observed on Saturday, November 20

Hosted by Torg Brewery and The Guild of Metalsmiths

St. Clement is (one of) the patron saint of blacksmiths and metalworkers. His feast day was a rare day off for these metal artisans when their toils at the forge were replaced by food and drink and the noise of the shop was replaced by the (one must assume off-tune) singing and toasting in pubs. Whether you are a smith or not, come join us as we celebrate this heritage!

**Where:** 8421 University Avenue NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

**When:** 11 AM to 11 PM (or whenever we run out of steam, some of us are getting old)

- First drink is free for Guild members! Non-Guild smiths get a buy-one-get-one token!
- Bring potluck food/snacks suitable for a gracing Feast of St. Clement!
- Bring show and tell items to impress your fellow Guilders and the non-smithing public!
- Bring your favorite clinker to vie for the title of King Clinker!
- sing Twankydiloo, make toasts, quaff\* good beer!
- Play Bocce Anvil and Pinch the Devil's Nose!
- Blacksmithing demonstrations (weather permitting)!

If we are lucky, Old Clem might even grace us with his presence!

**Questions?** Contact Martin Pansch, 612-599-4762, [blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com](mailto:blacksmithingyeti@gmail.com)

# 2021 TGoM Fall Conference turned out to be sensational!

After over a year of not seeing fellow TGoM members and families during an “in-person madness,” TGoM members and families did just that on September 17, 18, and 19! The 2021 Fall Conference was attended by an almost unexpectedly large number of folks. Huge thank yous go out to everyone (too many to name) who not only planned and implemented, but also attended this notable and historic event.

It was conveniently located in three buildings at the Pierce County Fairgrounds in Ellsworth, Wisconsin: the Seyforth Building for meals, the Kenny Heinz Building for demonstrators, and the Home Economics Building for Registration, Gallery, Library, and the Friday night “Gala!”

We enjoyed Saturday and Sunday demonstrations by John McClellan from California and Doug Swenson from northern Minnesota. Friday night after our fantastic potluck supper, they provided us with slideshows of their works as well as their individual backgrounds.

The Seyforth Building at the fairgrounds was perfect for our meals all three days. It not only contained a kitchen with serving window, but also a large dining room with tables and chairs belonging to the fair. Ours remained in our trailer!

For those of us who do not forge, there were at least two classes to keep us busy. Kim Maas presented a “cigarbox purse” class, and Kitty Latane’ presented a tin smithing ornament class. Check out the photos below for good illustrations.

The “found art” trailer was there on Saturday once again, thanks to Herb Fick and Don Hammer assisting with the welding. Numerous artistic products emerged from the “rusty junk” donated by members. Lots of new yard ornaments went home with folks!



2021 Fall Conference demonstrator Doug Swenson worked with strikers Derrick Phillips and Michael Quackenboss. On this particular photo they are hot cutting the upset end of a 2” round bar of 1045 to be finished as a Viking era stump anvil.



2021 Fall Conference demonstrator John McClellan worked at his forge in the Kenny Heinz Building on the Pierce County fairgrounds. He graciously donated his works to TGoM’s Saturday night auction.

## Fireplace Tools Contest Results

An event that has become a tradition during the madness is our annual contest to create a forged metal object that will be entered into a contest for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place cash prize. This year’s object was a fireplace tool. The following smiths were the winners:

- 1st: Dick Carlson, who received \$100 cash
- 2nd: Jack Lassiter, who received \$60 cash
- 3rd: Dave Gavin, who received \$40 cash

All proceeds from the auction were donated to the Guild.



TGoM Communications Services committee chair Peter Bettenberg presented a new t-shirt for sale at this year’s conference--shown above. He said the ironic reference to waking from the ashes referred to our dealing with the pandemic. Appropriate.

## Cigarbox Purses



Kim Maas taught a class in making purses from cigar boxes. She had a full class of 10 participants, along with Sheri Stanaitis, who sat in on the class to assist, since according to Kim, “Sheri was there for moral support, being it was my first time teaching something other than a Sunday school class.”

## Embossed and stamped tin hearts



Kitty Latane’ taught a class in tinsmithing, including twisted tinsel and embossed and stamped hearts. The class was full, with ten students. Shown above are six of the hearts created by the students.

# Beginners Blacksmithing Classes Fall 2021

Registration is now open for the three day Beginners Blacksmithing classes

**October 2, 9, 16 at Minnesota School of Horseshoeing,  
Anoka, MN**

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) must have a parent present. There will be no sharing of forges.

## Dates and Location:

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

## 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. A mask (non-synthetic) may be required for classroom demonstrations.

## 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 earlier to 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:

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

Gordon Barr  
11021 27<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Burnsville, MN 55337

[agbarr@metalsmith.org](mailto:agbarr@metalsmith.org)

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

# Volunteer Opportunity Available



**Position:** Member of TGoM Board of Directors - Communication Services Chair

**Requirements / Qualifications:** : Should possess solid communication, organizational, and people skills. Ability to completely serve a two year term.

**Specific Tasks and Responsibilities:**

**Attend bi-monthly Board of Director meetings.**

**Work with these volunteers to manage Guild communications channels:**

- Webmaster overseeing The Bellows email reflector and the Guild website
- Editor of The Forum newsletter
- Lead Editor of METALSMITH magazine
- A team watching our Facebook page
- A volunteer overseeing our merchandise on CafePress
- Create and manage Guild brochures, banners, and various content.
- Create and manage t-shirts and over merch for the annual Fall Conference

**Why Should You Apply?:** You would be a voting member of the board. You would get a better understanding of the inter-workings of the Guild. You can help guide the Guild for the next couple of years.

**Contact:** Peter Bettenberg [bettenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:bettenberg@hotmail.com)



## What's this NEON Database all about?

Ever wonder what the Guild knows about you?

- Your information is stored in a secure database known as Neon.
- You can access your personal information and update it as needed.
- You can block any information you don't want to be seen in the Guild directory.
- You can see the directory of all the Guild members.
- Snowbirds can have two addresses by dates so they never miss a mailing.
- You can renew your membership securely anytime.

You can access this database when you go to

[HTTPS://WWW.METALSMITH.ORG](https://www.metalsmith.org) under the MEMBERSHIP tab.

If you have never been here before, you can click on the CREATE YOUR OWN ACCOUNT and follow the prompts to create your ID and password.

If you have an ID and password, you can click on NEON CRM FOR EXISTING MEMBERS.

Once you enter your ID and password, you can see the pulldown menu to see all that is available.

From here you can update your information, renew your membership and see the directory.

If you have any questions, you can contact:

Gordon Barr at [agbarr@metalsmith.org](mailto:agbarr@metalsmith.org)

Monica Walczak at [membership@metalsmith.org](mailto:membership@metalsmith.org)



## TGoM 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

or  
Riverdale Village Mall  
12680 Riverdale Blvd. Coon Rapids, MN 952-885-8000  
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.

[www.carhartt.com](http://www.carhartt.com)

### Minnesota Glove & Safety & Bob's Workwear

West St. Paul, MN 651-552-8840  
[www.minnesotaglove.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.garelicksteel.com)

10% discount for members

### Mississippi Welders Supply

Seven locations between MN & WI. 800-657-4422  
[www.mwsco.com](http://www.mwsco.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](http://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](http://www.oxygenservicecompany.com)

15% discount on gases and most items that are not already marked on sale for members.

## 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  
320-746-8161  
[mail@kensiron.com](mailto:mail@kensiron.com)

### 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

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Information in this publication is provided as a service for our 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.

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## ***Tunnel Mill Crafts 2021 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](mailto:jc-adams@msn.com), or call 507-289-4189 Carol Adams.*

**Check the Tunnel Mill website for full details: [www.tunnelmillcrafts.com](http://www.tunnelmillcrafts.com)**



### **Tunnel Mill Annual Fall Gathering**

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

### **Exploring Forging Pattern-Welded ("Damascus") Steel**

**Jeff Harper**

Rescheduled to: October 8, 9 and 10, 2021

### **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



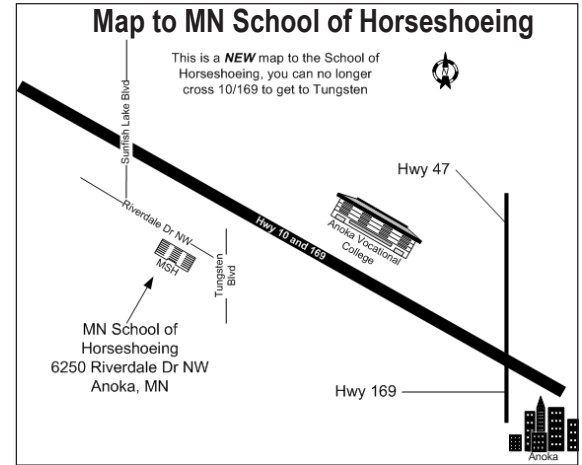
- All membership meetings are the second Wednesday of February, April, June, August, and October. Date for December will be announced. For these meetings a potluck meal begins at 6:30 pm and the business meeting begins at 7, with a demonstration or activity starting around 8 (times approximate).
- Education Comm. meets first Thursday of each month. Contact Christina Dodge, co-chair: [christina.guildmbr@gmail.com](mailto:christina.guildmbr@gmail.com)
- Program Comm. meetings are 7 pm the third Thursday monthly. Derrick Phillips, chair [DerrickPhillipsA3o3@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## October Events

- October 2, 9, 16 at Minnesota School of Horseshoeing, Anoka, MN, Beginning Blacksmithing classes
- Oct. 13, 6:30 pm, membership meeting, Minnesota Transportation Museum (round-house), map page 1.
- Oct. 30 & 31, Joinery Class Part 1, MN School of Horseshoeing

## November Events

- Saturday, Nov. 20, St. Clement's Feast Day, Torg Brewery, 8421 University Avenue NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432



## 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 <https://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."

October 2021

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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